

The Philadelphia Inquirer Stations

lio History

WFIL WIDENER BUILDING PHILAOELPHIA 7. PA

As WFIL celebrates its 25th anniversary in broadcasting, the staticn becomes Philadelphia's first complete radio institution, offering its public both standard and FM broadcasting, facsimile, and television.

WFIL is proud of its quarter of a century of prouress and we desire that our listeners be just as their area, "FIL as it stands as a public spokesman for their area," TFIL as it, the station has been guided by a philosophy, To that end, the Walter H. Annenberg, editor and publisher of The Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Any radio station merits its franchise only by virtue of its service in the public interest. Ito one is program. tune to a radio station or to listen with a planned pro-it is only by supplying the listener of the highest if is only by supplying entertainment of the highest gram of information and entertainment or triends."

This is the formula which has been followed by WFIL under the ownership of The Philadelphia Inquirer and it is the formula which we will continue to follow in the future.

DEAR LISTEMERS:

Compliments of:

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Roque Clipp Roger W. Clipp General Manager



It was in 1919 that Roger W. Clipp built the first radio receiver that the state of Maryland had ever seen. Even after he had been graduated, in the class of 1925 of the University of Pennsylvania, he was not content to leave radio. After a few years in insurance and banking, he joined NBC in New York and he had become the assistant manager of the network's owned and operated stations when he became WFIL's business manager in 1935.

In the last ten years, Mr. Clipp has sped the station's progress through his knowledge of broadcasting and his dynamic personality. The station has never taken a back seat among the hundreds of outlets in the nation. WFIL always has been first to try the new, first to admit a plan's success or failure. As general manager of WFIL, Roger W. Clipp has become one of broadcasting's most respected authorities. He was one of the Founding Fathers of the Broadcast Measurement Bureau. The National Association of Broadcasters has named him to innumerable boards of investigation and research. Constantly he is sought by leading broadcasters for his opinion of new ideas and operation plans. His thinking has made WFIL a model for broadcasters to follow.

A large part of the progress pictured by this book has been, a result of the foresight of Roger W. Clipp. As the station points with pride to its call letters and its record, it singles out its leader—as the person who has done most to make "560... First on Your Dial in Philadelphia."

lio Histor



1 MALE QUARTET: This vocal group was heard on WFI on March 17, 1922, the first day of broadcasting in Philadelphia. HAL SIMONDS, third from left, is still with WFIL.

In 1947 Radio Station WFIL celebrates its 25th year in broadcasting. On March 17, 1922, when radio first came to Philadelphia, WFIL's predecessor, WFI, went on the air. In 1935, WFI and WLIT, two of the city's first stations, merged to become WFIL.

In its quarter of century of progress, WFIL has been affiliated with all but one of the major networks — the NBC Red and Blue Chains, Mutual, Crosley, and its present web, ABC. Likewise, it is the key station of the Quaker Network, founded more than a decade ago to link Pennsylvania stations into a single hook-up.

From its original single-studio set-ups in the Strawbridge and Clothier Store (WFI) and Lit Brothers (WLIT), WFIL has grown to occupy the entire 18th floor of the Widener Building.



3 NEW HOME: When WFIL dedicated its new Widener Building studios in 1938, neighboring City Hall carried this greeting.



2 EARLY TRANSMITTER: The first WFI broadcasts came from the Strawbridge and Clothier Store . . . those of WLIT, from Lit Brothers. Together they became WFIL in 1935. ED DARLINGTON and DICK DELP were among WFI's first engineers. Both are with WFIL today.

In November 1941, WFIL launched the city's first commercial FM outlet, still the pacemaker among Philadelphia's Frequency Modulation stations.

In 1947, WFIL went on the air with television and facsimile stations to become Philadelphia's first complete, four-way broadcasting service.

A quarter of a century is a long time in any one life, and in WFIL's it has been 25 years of constant progress, a quarter of a century of broadcasting that has brought Philadelphians the finest in programs and engineering. Truly, WFIL is "First On Your Dial in Philadelphia."

NEW VOICE: At the same time, WFIL dedicated its new 1,000 watt transmitter in Southwest Philadelphia.



5 FIRST OFFSPRING: In 1941, this tower atop the Widener Building was erected for the city's first commercial Frequency Modulation station . . . now familiar to everyone as WFIL-FM.



NEW ERA: Under the ownership of The Philadelphia Inquirer, WFIL is constantly expanding its facilities. At the ground-breaking for a new television studio building, Louis E. Littlejohn, Chief Engineer; Roger W. Clipp, General Manager; Walter H. Annenberg, Publisher of The Inquirer; Kenneth W. Stowman, Television Director, and Joseph A. First, Inquirer Vice President, officiate.



6 V.E. DAY: Mayor Bernard Samuel rings the historic Liberty Bell. WFIL has originated many of such significant programs for the listeners of the coast-to-coast ABC network.



THE FUTURE: A WFIL project nears completion. In 1947 the station erected two new transmitters, three antennae, and a new studio building in one of the greatest expansion programs in the history of radio.

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HOW PROGRAMS

. . . holds a conference with his staff, FLORENCE BENDON, HELEN BAUER, GRACE KENNY, and NANCY CAMPBELL.

JACK STECK, Program Director . . .

V

Production Manager PAUL FRAILEY sends his staff, RUTH STEPPACHER and CLAIRE Mc-MULLEN, into action.



Most of WFIL's programs require a wide variety of sound effects, as exhibited by HAROLD JOHN-SON . . .

MRE BORN ...



. . . and innumerable rehearsals at least two hours for every quarter hour show.



Announcer ALLEN SIONE lakes the cue, the show is ready for production and is

... transcribed by CHARLES WRIGLEY and JOHN THOMAS in the recording room ...



Finally the Traffic Department schedules the program for an actual WFIL broadcast. MISS CAMPBELL gives the information to DICK PAISLEY. BILL GARDNER, left, keeps a complete record of every broadcast heard on WFIL.

... for final audition and approval by STECK, MISS McMULLEN and JOHN SCHEUER.

FROM THE STUDIOS





"TEEN-AGE TIME"



The WFIL String Ensemble.

NORMAN BLACK



EMMANUELINA PIZZUTO



LETITIA RADCLIFFE HARRIS in "Keys To Happiness."





Family Is Listening!



MELODIES TO REMEMBER. "The Choraleens", WFIL's famous 'teen-age girls' chorus, are featured on the coast-to-coast ABC Network. SKIPPER DAWES, right, is director and narrator; JIM FELIX, left, the announcer, and MIL SPOONER is at the organ.



FRANCIS DAVIS Weatherman



RONALD COLMAN's "Favorite Story"



HAYLOFT HOEDOWN, the WFIL-ABC barn dance broadcast. ELTON BRITT, inset, heads an all-star cast.





Yours For Better



"Breakfast Club"





"Ladies, Be Seated"



"The Listening Post"



'Break The Bank''



"Breakfast In Hollywood"

World Rac

Listening On WFIL-ABC



"Metropolitan Opera"



"Theatre Guild On The Air"



"The Boston Symphony Orchestra" conducted by DR. SERGE KOUSSEVITZKY



"America's Town Meeting Of The Air"



"Sunday Evening Hour" conducted by DR. KARL KRUGER dio History



"Abbott and Costello"

In an average 24-hour day, in any day, in fact . . . our listeners want to know about floods, fires and market reports. They want to hear from governmental leaders, from the reporters on the scenes, and from the stars who visit Philadel-phia. The WFIL microphone is dedicated to the needs of the people. On this page you will see examples of a radio station in action, with the interests of its listeners up permost in mind at all times.



"Philadelphia and Suburban Town Meeting" - just one of WFIL's programs designed to inform the public and to seek solutions through discussions of vital local and national issues. Here GEORGE V. DENNY, JR., retired Supreme Justice OWEN J. ROBERTS, and JOHN D. SCHEUER, JR., open a forum broadcast.



IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

"This Week In Philadelphia" is brought to WFIL listeners each Sunday covering the highlights of the week's news by transcriptions, dramatizations and narrations.



WFIL serves the public both on and off the air. During a newspaper strike the station set up a com-plete telephone information center giving the public the services they would normally get from their newspapers and which they had been denied. Pictured here are BARBARA HUSSIE, FRANK KNIGHT, BILL FARREN, MARGE KEISER, and DICK KOSTER



of the Department of Radio, Speech and Theatre at Temple University, and WFIL's Educational Director, heads the nation's most advanced educational program for training radio personnel.



"Studio Schoolhouse"—Each school day thousands of Philadelphia children are educated through the use of WFIL programs. The station prepares a de-tailed teacher's manual each year outlining every program and furnishing guidance in the in-school use of the WFIL broadcasts.



ROGER W. CLIPP, General Manager of WFIL, and DR. ROBERT L. JOHNSON outline the WFIL-Temple radio education plan while DR. HUNTER looks on.

Education is a word that works two ways in the broadcasting world. Per-sonnel must be trained for a place in radio and radio, in turn, lends itself to the instruction of students in every branch of learning. From both perspectives WFIL has set a pattern for the rest of the industry.



... FOR SPORTS



JOE PAGE, JOE DIMAGGIO and a young prize winner join KELLETT and MOOREHEAD on the "Sports Clinic."

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DON KELLETT

HARRY WISMER





"Jacob Reed's Schoolboy Sports Show."

BILL CORUM

DON DUNPHY

From the World Wide facilities of the Associated Press and United Press.

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ARKERT







(1) Mayor BERNARD SAMUFL, right, interviews MILTON REYNOLDS and Captain BILL ODOM after their round-the-world flight.

(2) U. S. Senator FRANCIS J. MYERS interviewed by JOE NOVENSON.

(3) Champion JOE LOUIS tells TOM MOOREHEAD of another victory.

(4) OWEN J. ROBERTS, retired Supreme Court Justice, wins the coveted Philadelphia Award.

(5) Special Events Director WILLIAM A. FARREN, aboard a U. S. Navy submarine during a crash dive operation.











(6) U. S. Senator EDWARD MARTIN as he proclaims a state-wide election victory.

(7) DAVE KAIGLER and GEORGE KOEHLER on the spot for an upstate flood broadcast.

(8) New Jersey's Governor ALFRED DRISCOLL, left, discusses a victorious campaign with an aide.

(9) Pennsylvania's Governor JAMES DUFF interviewed by GEORGE KOEHLER upon his election.

(10) JACK STECK gets the inside Hollywood story when FRANK CAPRA and JIMMY STEWART come to town.













LOUIS E. LITTLEJOHN, Chief Engineer.



TECHNICALLY

A group of WFIL's engineers pose for the photographer at a staff picnic. Left to right: PAT I YNCH, JIM STEWART, BILL NEILL, FRANK KERN, (back row) and DICK SEITZ, CHARLES COLMAN, JACK SCHANTZ, and ED. DARLINGTON (front row).



Transmitters: WFIL has many of them, for AM, FM, and TV. ED DARLINGTON inspects the FM output mechinization.



A control room that really handles productions in two studios sounds complicated—not so for Engineers RALPH WARD and WALTER KUBILUS.



A WFIL transmitter is checked by WOODY DIONNE and SAMUEL CAPLAN before the station goes on the air.

SPEAKING ...



MCR . . . that means "Master Control Room". Local, network, and remote broadcasts are tied together to give you a continuous pattern of programs. JACK SCHANTZ, CHARLES COLMAN, and CHESTER GEISE make the necessary connections.



Beauty Helps — BILL LORAINY checks in with MARY ANN STETZ, secretary to the Chief Engineer.



Maintenance is important when hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment determine the quality of every broadcast. WALT BURGER and DICK SEITZ start work on a modification. Every studio program requires an engineer. Here, WOODY DIONNE shows how, while GEORGE SCHISSELBAUER exhibits a wire recorder — indispensable for remote broadcasting activity.



Although WFIL is on the air 20 out of 24 hours in each day, someone must guard the equipment during that short interim. That is the task of LEW STEVENS.

SALES



ABOVE: WFIL's competent sales force discusses sponsor possibilities for a new radio program. Left to right: HAL SIMONDS, JACK SURRICK, MAX SOLOMON, and DOUG MacLATCHIE.

BELOW: With the station's salesmen contacting advertising agencies, DEBORAH ADAMS, SURRICK, MacLATCHIE and DEE OLVER prepare necessary contracts and commercial arrangements. (Inset) JOHN E. SURRICK is WFIL's Sales Director.



PROMOTION

Newspaper and magazine adverisements, car-cards, billboards and radio announcements inform listeners of what they will hear on WFIL. Here GEORGE KOEHLER and MARGE KEISER study a new display.

WALTER WINCHELL

MEI

Buukh

WFIL's promotion of its programs has won for the station the highest awards in broadcasting. JO ANN COX and FRANK KNIGHT exhibit just a few of the station's many awards.

BELOW: The station's Advertising and Promotion Department plans a campaign to inform the public of a new WFIL program. Left to right are JIM QUIRK, VIRGINIA KLAUS, FRANK KNIGHT, DICK KOSTER and JO ANN COX. (Inset) JAMES T. QUIRK, is Director of Public Relations and Promotion for WFIL.



BEHIND THE

.



The visitor to WFIL's Widener building studios will be sure to meet IRENE SMITH, studio receptionist, shown here in WFIL's spacious lobby.

Or a telephone call to Rittenhouse 6-6900 will bring a cheery "WFIL" from MARY ETLAR or SUZANNE SULLI-VAN.

> "Off the Air", Announcers FRED WEBBER, GEORGE CAHAN, and ALLEN STONE chat informally.



LOUISE CADGE (right) of the Sports Department, talks things over with VIRGINIA KAUFMANN, secretary to ANICE IVES.



You may see a program in the making. EDMUND (SKIPPER) DAWES can write the words or the music while ETHEL RIDER lends a hand.

SCENES AT WFIL



The business office handles all financial transactions with sponsors as well as the station's payroll. HELEN MACKIEWICZ, KATHERINE KNOPF and BETTY KINT-NER are WFIL's bookkeepers and HARRY L. ATKINSON (inset) is Business Manager.

Key man on WFIL's administrative staff is JOHN D. SCHEUER, JR., who, as Operations Assistant, coordinates program, engineering and sales activities.

Thousands of listeners write to WFIL. In the mail room WALTER STEVENSON, JIM BURKE, and MILTON MOST handle the mail as well as the printing of programs and schedules.



Such an avalanche of mail requires an elaborate filing system. ETHEL CASE and BETTY ADAMS keep correspondence in order.



Secretary to the General Manager is the position of CHARLES J. KEYS, shown here with RUTH STEP-PACHER.

THE NEWEST AND FINEST . .



In 1947 WFIL-TV, the Television Station of the Philadelphia Inquirer, inaugurated television service on Channel Six in Philadelphia. The newest member of the WFIL broadcasting family brings to the see-and-hear medium the same fine programming so characteristic of the station. Technically, Philadelphia's televiewers can look to WFIL-TV for the benefits resulting from the newest video equipment as operated by the highest skilled personnel.

KENNETH W. STOWMAN, Television Director.

WFIL-TV will have the Nation's most modern television studio building at 46th and Market Streets, adjacent to the famous Philadelphia Arena.



. . TELEVISION BY WFIL-TV



HARRY KRAUSE and BILL LAWRENCE, WFIL-TV's newsreel team.



Sports: WFIL-TV is televising the City's greatest sports events. Football by Temple University and Villanova College; Basketball by the Warriors; Ice Hockey by the Rockets; Tennis, Golf, Boxing, Wrestling, Horse Racing — All major sports on WFIL-TV.



Atop the Widener Building, 500 feet above the street, WFIL-TV's antenna transmits the station's programs.



A skilled technical staff mans the station. DAVID J. MILLER, JR., Assistant Chief Engineer in charge of Television, discusses transmitter operation with DICK MARSHALL and BILL NEILL.



The WFIL-TV camera televises a studio program.



Frequency Modulation is enabling listeners to hear the full, rich quality of music almost as it sounds in the studio. Announcer NEIL HAR-VEY puts the WFIL-FM String Ensemble on the air.





The WFIL-FM control room. RAY RODGERS, CHESTER GEISE, and FRANK UNTERBER-GER, JR., man the transmitters.





FELIX MEYER is program super-

visor of WFIL-FM.



Hit-Run Killer Jailed

The super-t of a task that struck had half of 5-verar-old Rebecce. Rowenberg early toxin later in default of \$10 000 nail. The super-t, charged with drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and other guilations of the motor code, as well task that drawten drivening and the code of the and other guilations of the motor code as well the other drawten drivening and the code of the task that the other drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the task that the drawten drivening the args of the drawten drivening the args of the drawten drivening

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JEWS MAY HAVE SAT NEW YORK -Grail Bittain agreed with the binied Sates today that jew should be given a voice in the United National Sobiest on Phalestine There evaluation additional sobiest on the Sate sobiest. Social Creat Retain on the Utiliad Sates califier their ensurement of Jewah represen-ting with a location state on the Assem-by, told the 4-sation stereoug committee that it would be making a drastic disparitive fram-ment practice it is given the free is a voice in the that up that jew is and on legal objections to the solid be making a drastic disparitive fram-ment practice in the void before the solid that up that jew is not on legal objections to the Assemble of the solid before the Assem-vice, offered a formal proposal table of Assem-by for drahmartime to the Assemble of the Assem-by of drahmartime to be the Assemble of the Assem-by of drahmartimes to a tided on the Assemble of the Assemble

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This is how your facsimile edition will be "broadcast" and sent into your home via "FAX".

A facsimile edition of the Philadelphia Inquirer as broadcast over WFIL-FM. Philadelphia Inquirer artists and writers at work on a Facsimile Edi-tion under MERRILL PANITT, seated at the table, left.



World Rad

Much has been accomplished in broadcasting's twenty-seven year history. During twenty-five of those years, Radio Station WADL has helped to shape that now-famous radio story. This booklet tells our radio listeners something of the part that WGIL has played. Likewise, it discloses many of our plans and our promises for the future. For the first time in Philadelphia, citizens are offered four broadcasting services by a single institution. Those accomplishments you expected from WQDL in the past, you may now count on from WQJL-QM, WQJL-TV, and WQJL-With this thought, we leave you. Thank you for your continned loyalty and your wholehearted cooperation which of X also. have helped to build the WQIL of today. In turn we pledge ourselves always to do our utmost to be deserving Radio Station 11992 of your friendship.

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The Philadelphia Inquirer Station

Widener Building Philadelphia 7, Pa.