

Tiny Balloon to Explore Stratosphere

Radio Device to Aid in Search for New Cosmic Data.

By United Press

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—University of Chicago scientists are working with gadgets and gauges to perfect a baby stratosphere balloon which they hope will garner new secrets about the cosmic ray.

While Professor Arthur H. Compton, Nobel prize physicist and one of the country's foremost students of the mysterious cosmic ray, is in Europe, his associates are perfecting the automatic radio recording balloon. Already tests have been successful.

The day before he left for Europe, Professor Compton stood on a gravel covered roof at Ryerson laboratories at the university and sent the first ten-foot balloon on its trial flight. It soared more than fourteen miles, according to those who watched it through a telescope, and then burst.

Dashed to Bits

But before its contents were dashed to bits, the automatic radio broadcasting device had sent its precious record back to the receiving set.

Scientists studied the ink smeared strips of paper and said the experiment had shown that it was no longer necessary to send a man on a stratosphere flight. The equipment designed under the Nobel prize physicist had proved its worth. Additional perfections now are being worked out.

Barometer Key Instrument

For instance, the barometer, which will play a key part in determining the intensity of the cosmic ray at various levels of the atmosphere and stratosphere previously shut off automatically at fourteen miles. If the present tests prove workable, readings will continue until the balloon bursts. This will give information that no man has ever gathered because none has gone up that high in a manned balloon.

When Professor Compton returns in the spring, additional experiment will be made and new data may be learned from the mysterious cosmic ray.

Banjoleers Become Nationally Known

The Banjoleers, Don and Lee Hancock, for many years a featured musical act on WGY's wavelength, are winning national recognition as a result of the network distribution of their weekly Saturday program at 9:45 a. m.

The Banjoleers are also on WGY only, Monday and Wednesday at noon and Thursday at 11:30 a. m.

Each program is a clever mixture of stage and picture hits, old melodies and occasionally something of a semi-classical nature. Saturday, they have scheduled a medley of "It's Ray Ray Raining," "I've Got Sand in My Shoes" and "Moonglow."

The old time medley will be "Love's Old Sweet Song" and "When You and I Were Young Maggie."

With Billy Rose, tenor, as vocalist, the Banjoleers will offer "Somebody Stole My Gal." The concluding number will be Sousa's "Semper Fidelis."

BLUES SINGER BOOKED

Annette McCullough, blues singer of WGY, will be offered to the NBC-WEAF network in a quarter hour of song at 10:15 Saturday morning. With John Finke as her accompanist, Miss McCullough will sing "My Whole Day Is Spoiled," "Unless Your Heart Is Mine," "Now That You're Home" and "May I?"

KEYHOLES LIGHTED

By United Press

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 17.—At last! Hunting for the keyhole in the dark may soon be eliminated—if home owners install the keyhole lights exhibited here in the Electric and Radio show. It's just a miniature bulb set in the door directly above the hole.

LIGHTNING FREAK

By United Press

SUNBURY, Pa., Oct. 17.—Lightning played one of its peculiar tricks at a farm near here. A bolt during a thunderstorm struck a single stalk of corn in a field, burning it to a crisp. Other stalks around were undamaged.

Lux Theater to Offer Helen Hayes in 'What Every Woman Knows' Star of Stage, Movies and Radio Will Be Featured Next Sunday.

Helen Hayes, one of the greatest stage and screen actresses of the present day, will be starred in "What Every Woman Knows," the second full hour production of the Lux Radio theater, at 1:30 p. m., Sunday, over a coast-to-coast NBC-WZJ network.

Playing the part of Maggie Wylie, the same role in which she was featured during the two years "What Every Woman Knows" thrilled Broadway in 1926 and 1927, Miss Hayes will be supported by Kenneth McKenna, who played opposite her in the Broadway run, and by Jock McGraw, John Gregg, Charles Coburn, Adelaide Prince and Vera Hurst.

The Lux Radio theater series, which staged its premiere last Sunday, with John Boles and Miriam Hopkins in "Seventh Heaven," is presenting each Sunday full hour versions of celebrated plays which have established box office records and first rank dramatic talent re-

cruited from Broadway and Hollywood.

"What Every Woman Knows" was first played in the United States by Maude Adams in 1908. It is the story of Maggie, a young Scotswoman, whose two brothers, fearing that she is destined to become an old maid, pay 300 pounds to a rising but penniless young man for the promise that he will marry Maggie at the end of five years.

The young man is elected to parliament and keeps his bargain. Maggie feels he had married her because of the bargain, but finally proves to herself and him that he fell in love with her desperately.

Miss Hayes made her first appearance on the stage in 1908 as the Boy Babe in "Babes in the Woods" at the National theater in Washington. Since then she has played twenty-five important parts on the legitimate stage exclusive of her brilliant work in motion pictures and radio.

Log Cabin Show Goes on Air From Tiny Hollywood Studio

Lanny Ross and Associates Work in Tense, Atmosphere Each Wednesday.

A tiny, intimate studio just off the RKO lot in Hollywood is the place from which the half-hour Lanny Ross show comes to NBC radio listeners every Wednesday night. And it's exactly because this studio is so small and so casually appointed that Lanny, his cast, musicians and members of his production unit have a grand time putting over the program.

Working with 3,000 miles between them and the commercial interests behind the show, the Log Cabin Company workers have a sense of adventure when they go on the air equalled only by their awareness of the responsibility upon them.

Lanny is never off his feet for a moment. Harry Salter, his musical director, works frantically, the reports say. And Ken Sisson, musical arranger, is on hand at every rehearsal and every broadcast, even though he works far into the night on his scores.

Bringing unknown talent to the microphone for the first time, also lends a taut sense of excitement to Lanny's musical program. Last week when slim, blonde Betty Borden a Los Angeles society girl (that isn't her real name, by the way) made her air debut on the Log Cabin show, every one in the studio was as excited as the girl herself.

Muriel Wilson, Helen Oelheim to Sing on Showboat Program

Soprano and Contralto Will Appear Together by Request.

Ever since Muriel Wilson, soprano, and Helen Oelheim, contralto, sang a duet a few weeks ago, the fans have been requesting that these two voices be heard together again. And that's just what will happen tomorrow night, aboard Captain Henry's Show Boat when this imaginary entertainment craft docks at the tri-cities, Rock Island, Moline and Davenport. The girls will sing, "The Sweetest Story Ever Told."

Of course, all of the Show Boat regulars will be on the program, Lanny Ross, singing from Hollywood, Conrad Thibault, Molasses 'n' January, the Show Boat Four, Maria, Tiny Ruffner and Gus Haenschen and his orchestra.

The latest report on Charley Winniger is that he will not retire from his role as Captain Henry until after the broadcast of Nov. 1.

Two Types of Songs to Make Up Program

Equally famous for their presentations of old-fashioned ballads and fast songs with a good rhythm, the Three Kings include both in their broadcast over WBBM, Chicago at 9:45 to 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Leading off with that current favorite, "The Big Bad Wolf Was Dead," the singing trio continue with "An Old-Fashioned Waltz" and "Beautiful Ohio," concluding with "I Want to Be Happy" and "Tea for Two."

Witmer and Blue will be heard in their famous two-piano arrangements of "Wild Honey" and "The Continental."

CHANGED BY MARRIAGE

David Mendoza, who was "Our David" of old Roxy Gang at the Capitol theater in New York, would have been a doctor if his wife hadn't decided that a medical course would delay their marriage. So, they were married when Mendoza was 21 and he became one of radio's veteran conductors.

X-RAY FINDS FLAWS

By United Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 17.—At one time railroads used to depend upon track walkers to find flaws in the steel rails. Now a rail detector car, which virtually X-rays every inch of the tracks, does the work quicker and more efficiently. Flaws, invisible to the eye, are detected immediately.

Old Songs Found to Be Most Liked

Harold, Dean and Curt, the Vagabonds of WGY, devote a large part of each day in the preparation of unusual arrangements of current songs that fit their type of program. However, they have found that it is the songs which have been their favorites longest that their listeners most frequently request. On their personal appearances also the call from the audience is most frequently for "Lamp Lighting Time in the Valley" or for their own special arrangement of the tongue twister "MacDonald's Farm."

DRAMA SCHEDULED

By Times Special

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 17.—The University of Texas Longhorns will be the subject of a radio drama which will be presented on October 22 at 8 p. m. by WSM as one of the series of college programs which is being presented twice each week, on Mondays and Fridays. The program is being presented through the co-operation of the University of Texas and the educational department of The National Life and Accident Insurance Company under the direction of E. M. Kirby.

GUEST STAR BOOKED

Ann Heath, Cleveland song bird, will be the third guest star on the "Open House" program with Freddy Martin's band. Each Sunday over CBS. Martin will give a local performer from a different city his or her first network opportunity.

Sleuths of Radio Trace Down Noise

Two British Scientists Find Atmospheric Have Tails.

By United Press

LONDON, Oct. 17.—Radio atmospherics grow tails, according to two British scientists.

Like puppy dogs, some have long tails and some have short ones. Apparently, however, it is the long-tailed variety which are responsible for the worst howls and cracklings, which split the ears of radio listeners, especially on summer evenings.

The two radio sleuths, who have been tracking down atmospherics and getting the lowdown on their whole family history, are Professor E. V. Appleton, of King's College, London, and R. A. Watson Watt, superintendent of the radio department of the national physical laboratory.

They have taken photographs of atmospherics at every stage in their existence. They have discovered that when an atmospheric is born it is all head and no tail. By the

time it reaches a radio receiver some thousands of miles distant the atmospheric may be the possessor of a tail 500 miles long. The result is a long drawn out howl emerging from the set.

According to these scientists, there is a special type of tail which produces a melancholy wail with a drop in pitch at the end. This is one of the long-tailed variety.

Atmospherics, these two radio detectives told a scientific gathering here, carry their sting in their head and not in the tail.

The head consists of waves short enough to affect wireless sets. The wave length of the tail always falls within the range of frequencies which can be heard by the human ear. It generally results in the kind of static noise known as a "whistler."

First Prize Won by Bob Pierce's Bulldog

Bob Pierce, WGY's Old Man Sunshine, is happy. His radio assistant, an English bull dog named Bozo, has won first prize at a regularly sanctioned dog show. Bozo takes his laurels calmly and modestly but his master button-holes all his acquaintances to show the handsome ribbon. Even the fact that Bozo was the only bull dog entered in the show does not dampen Old Man Sunshine's enthusiasm. As he points out, it's a good manager who knows how to find soft spots for his fighter or his dog.

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