

BEHIND THE MIKE

New Romberg Program Expected to Test Popularity of 'Stunt' Broadcasts

BY RALPH NORMAN

ARE variety programs as regular features of commercially sponsored "best" broadcasts on their way out? Is the public tiring of frills and furbelows in its radio entertainment? Would it prefer just good music for a change from the "dressed" present-day programs?

Sponsors are pondering these questions. They are wondering if they aren't wasting money using an expensive orchestra for a background for celebrities and trick performers.

For this reason considerable attention is directed in broadcasting circles to Sigmund Romberg's new program which is to be aired the first time Tuesday evening. Romberg plans to use no artificially created background, as a "club," "hotel" or "theater," nor is there to be a publicized list of "names" to be introduced. Instead there is to be music, with brief number announcements.

Romberg's program may mark the beginning of the decline of the variety shows, of "fun in the studio" which will at the same time reduce the cost to the sponsor. But the sponsor only provides the money. The radio audience will decide.

A preview of a new movie, "These Things Happen," is to be given Hollywood Hotel listeners at 8 tonight, CBS (WFBM), when Miriam Hopkins, Joel McCrea and Merle Oberon are to be Dick Powell's guests for an hour. Miss Hopkins and Mr. McCrea have been heard on previous Hollywood Hotel broadcasts, but tonight will mark Miss Oberon's first appearance on the program.



Miriam Hopkins

Fred Waring, who is playing in Chicago this week, tonight plans to honor his former Scoutmaster in Tyne, Pa., who is celebrating his 25th anniversary in that position. The Pennsylvania cast, to feature the "Boy Scout March" on their 8:30 broadcast over NBC-WJZ (WIRE).

Lennie Hayton is to return to radio as musical director for Ed Wynne's show Feb. 13—his birthday. Comedy at Vice President Garner's dinner for President Roosevelt was provided by George Burns and Gracie Allen; last year the late Will Rogers was principal entertainer. A flood of protest letters followed Red Nichols' introduction by radio as "king of swing"—the announcement meant "king of swing" was a practical joke engaged for Parkyakarkus, who contributes a Greek accent to Eddie Cantor's jamborees, a Greek-speaking valet; Parkyakarkus couldn't understand a word he said. Gladys Collet's husband, Dr. Joel Pressman, treated Mary Livingston for laryngitis which kept her off the Sunday evening broadcast with Jack Benny. Lawrence Tibbett, between numbers, sits with head low to make easier the flow of blood to his head and throat, making singing easier.

HOW much are two songs, each played once over a 66-station network, worth to the copyright owners? The Remick Music Corp., Warner-owned firm, has filed suit in Federal Court against CBS, charging infringement of copyrighted songs, "The Old-Fashioned Mother of Mine" and "Some Sunny Day," demanding damages totaling \$670,000 for the alleged infringement.

Since Singin' Sam was deprived of his theme song by the copyright restrictions, amateur composers have flooded his mail with tunes to take his place. One ambitious writer even wired the lyrics

Music

BY JAMES THRASHER

"Tristan and Isolde," Richard Wagner's music-drama of deathless love, is to be presented from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera House tomorrow afternoon. Singing the title roles are to be Lauritz Melchior, Danish tenor, and Kirsten Flagstad, sensational Norwegian soprano, whose Wagnerian performances at the "Met" have evoked critical and public acclaim reminiscent of the golden days of Lilli Lehmann, Nordica and the brothers de Reszke.

Mr. Melchior, who has been heard as guest soloist on the Ford and General Motors programs this winter, recently was re-engaged by Sir Thomas Beecham for London's Covent Garden Opera season in May. He is scheduled to appear in two complete cycles of Wagner's "Ring" and four performances of "Tristan and Isolde."

Tomorrow's opera broadcast, which begins at 12:30, is to be on both NBC chains and carried locally by WIRE. The supporting parts are to be sung by Ludwig Hoffmann as King Mark; Karin Branzell, Brangäne; Julius Huehn, Kurwenal; Arnold Gabor, Melot; James Wolfe, the Steersman, and Hans Clemens, the Shepherd. Arthur Bodanzky is to conduct.

Jessica Dragonette, Rosario Bourdon's orchestra and chorus and a quartet are to join tonight in a program which ranges from Wagner to Noel Coward. Miss Dragonette is to offer two songs from Coward's "Conversation Piece," the aria, "Cinna's Tu le Pays," from Thomas' opera, "Mignon," and "Kathleen Mavourneen."

The orchestra is to feature the overture to "Rienzi," by Wagner, and compositions by Nevin and Friml. The concert, over the NBC-WFAB network at 7, is not carried here. Local listeners might try WTAM or WMAQ.

An opportunity to hear one of the most beautiful of chamber music compositions, the F Minor Quintet of Cesar Franck, is to be afforded in the Music Guild program tonight, through MNC-WFAB at 9:30. The performers are Egon Petri, noted Dutch pianist, and the NBC String Quartet.

to Sam, explaining that the notes would follow by air mail.

Local Boy Scouts are to participate in a broadcast from the stage of Block's auditorium at 10 tomorrow morning, station WFBM, in honor of National Boy Scout week. The regular Block Saturday morning broadcast is open to the public, and a special invitation this week has been extended to all Boy Scouts.

Gulliver is to be the character Ed Wynne is to play in his new Thursday evening series, tentatively scheduled to begin next week. Information first came from the studios that Wynne would appear in an entirely different role, but rumor has it now that the Wynne programs are to be exactly like the ones he always has done, which were, in turn, like his stage performances.

MOTHER AGAIN TO PAY HONOR TO MAINE HERO

Navy Recruiting Staff to Attend Memorial Here Feb. 16.

For the last 38 years a sailor who died in the U. S. S. Maine explosion has been honored with memorial services, and again this year, Mrs. J. J. Keys, mother of Harry Keys, victim of the disaster in 1898, will do homage to her son.

The services are to be held at the Fletcher M. E. Church, Feb. 16, and the personnel of the Navy Recruiting Station here will attend. Mrs. Keys sends flowers each year to be placed beneath the picture of her son in the recruiting station here.

LOCAL AND NETWORK DIALS

Abbreviations: N—National Broadcasting Co.; C—Columbia Broadcasting System; M—Mutual Broadcasting Co.; Or—Orchestra.

Member stations and kilocycles of the network are: NBC-WFAB—WLW (700), WIRE (1400), WTAM (1070), WMAQ (670), and WSM (650). NBC-WJZ—WLW (700), WIRE (1400), WSM (670), WLS (870), WMAQ (670), and WSM (650). CBS-WABO—WFBM (1230), WOWO (1160), and WBBM (730).

When there is no listing for a station at quarter and half-hours, its preceding listed program is on the air.

FRIDAY

4—Symphonies (C) WFBM. Congress Speaks (N) WEAF, WIRE. Nicholas Mathias's Or. WJZ. Ohio Club Federation WLW. 4:15—Tea Time Songs WFBM. Buddy Clark (C). Breen and de Rose (N) WJZ. Jack Armstrong WLW. 4:30—Dan Kelley (C). Tom Mix (N) WEAF. Rose Room Melody WIRE. Singing Lady (N) WJZ, WLW. 4:45—Goldbergs (C) WFBM. Ruth and Rose WIRE. Orphan Annie (N) WJZ, WLW. Terry LaFrance (N) WEAF. 5—Bohemians WFBM. Buck Rogers (C). Flying Time (N) WEAF, WIRE. Old Fashioned Girl WLW. 5:05—Animal News (N) WJZ. 5:15—Ann Winters (C). News (N) WEAF. Lee Gordon's Or. (N) WEAF, WIRE. Mary Small (N) WJZ, WLW. Evening Concert WLW. 5:30—Butler Forum WFBM. News (N) WEAF, WIRE WJZ. Eric Madriguera's Or. WLW. 5:35—Olympic Games (N) WEAF, WIRE. King's Guard (N) WJZ. 5:45—Kallenborn (C) WFBM. Andre Carlon WIRE. Lowell Thomas (N) WJZ, WLW. Capt. Tim (N) WJZ, WLW. 6—Len Riley WFBM. Amos 'n' Andy (N) WEAF, WLW. Dinner Concert (N) WJZ, WIRE. 6:15—Lazy Dan (C) WFBM. Uncle Ezra (N) WEAF, WIRE. Capt. Tim (N) WJZ, WLW. Liliac Time WLW. 6:30—Edwin C. Hill (N) WEAF, WIRE. Liliac Time (N) WJZ, WLW. 6:35—Olympic Games (N) WEAF, WIRE. King's Guard (N) WJZ. 6:45—News WFBM. Boake Carter (C). Fox Pur Trappers (N) WEAF. Strange as It Seems WIRE. Young New Yorkers (N) WJZ. Dates in History WLW. 7—Red Horse Tavern (C) WFBM. Cities Service Concert (N) WEAF. Irene Rich (N) WJZ, WIRE. Jack Randolph WLW. 7:15—Wendell Hall (N) WJZ, WIRE. Singing Sam WLW. 7:30—Broadway Varieties (C) WFBM. Kellogg Prom (N) WJZ, WLW. Sportsman WIRE. 8—Hollywood Hotel (C) WFBM. Waltz Time (N) WEAF, WLW. Al Pearce (N) WJZ, WIRE. 8:30—Waring's Pennsylvania (N) WJZ, WIRE. Court of Human Relations (N) WEAF. Music Box WLW.

Best Short Waves

BERLIN—5:15 p. m.—Foundation Anniversary. DJC, 49.5 m. (6020 kc.). LONDON—6 p. m.—"Books to Read." GSC, 31.3 m. (9580 kc.). BERLIN—6:15 p. m.—Olympic winter games. DJC, 49.5 m. (6020 kc.). LONDON—9 p. m.—Dragons and All That. GSD, 25.5 m. (11,750 kc.).

9—Champions (C) WFBM. First Nighter (N) WEAF, WLW. Roy Shields (N) WJZ, WIRE. 9:30—March of Time (C) WFBM. Music Guild (N) WEAF. Musical Moments WIRE. Col. Knox (N) WJZ, WLW. 9:45—Musical Moments WFBM.

10—Myrt and Marge (C) WFBM. George R. Holmes (N) WEAF, Golden Gloves WIRE. News (N) WJZ, WLW. 10:05—Dorothy Lamour (N) WJZ. 10:15—News WFBM. Louis Armstrong Or. (C). Phil Levant's Or. (N) WEAF. Ink Spots (N) WJZ. Joe Reichman's Or. (M) WLW. 10:30—Louis Lowe's Or. WFBM. Herbie Kay's Or. (C). Jack Little's Or. (N) WEAF. Emily Coleman's Or. (N) WJZ. Jan Pierce's Or. (M) WLW. 10:45—Jesse Crawford (N) WEAF. Anson Weeks' Or. (M) WLW.

11—Indiana Roof WFBM. Vincent Lopez's Or. (C). Henry Busse's Or. (N) WEAF. Golden Gloves WIRE. Shandor (N) WJZ. Joe Reichman's Or. (M) WLW. 11:30—Ruby Newman's Or. (N) WEAF. Guy Lombardo's Or. (C) WFBM. Phil Ohman's Or. (N) WJZ. Moon River WLW. 12—Clyde Trask's Or. WLW.

12:15—Jack Hytton's Or. (M) WLW. 12:30—Anson Weeks' Or. (M) WLW. 12:45—Eric Madriguera's Or. WLW.

Europe Extends Its Broadcast of News

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Daily short wave news broadcasts from Europe are increasing rapidly, both in number and extent, according to the Short Wave Institute of America. There now are 24 daily transmissions in English between 3:30 in the morning and 10:20 at night, and 25 broadcasts are made in other languages.

Each of the 49 news broadcasts is an item in an international program, and enables listeners more easily to identify stations. European stations find their largest short wave audience in the United States.

SATURDAY

A. M. 6:30—Chuck Waton WFBM. Organ Revue (C). Jolly Bill and Jane (N) WEAF. Pollock and Lawnhurst (N) WJZ. Morning Devotions WLW. 6:45—Morning Devotions WIRE. Yoichi Hiroaka (N) WEAF. Sunbeams (N) WJZ. News WLW. 7—Early Birds WFBM. Sparrth (N) WEAF. Revue WIRE. Morning Devotions (N) WJZ, WLW. On the Air Today WFBM. 7:05—Lyric Serenade (C). 7:15—News (N) WEAF. Good Morning Melodies (N) WEAF, WIRE. Walter Cassel (N) WJZ. Divano Trio WLW. 7:20—Martha and Hall (N) WEAF. 7:30—Freddie Miller (C). Cheerio (N) WEAF, WIRE, WLW. 7:45—Summary of Programs (N) WEAF. 8—Bandwagon (C) WFBM. Organ Rhapsody (N) WEAF, WIRE. Bandjokers Club (N) WJZ. American Family Robinson WLW. 8:15—Stragglers (N) WEAF, WIRE. 8:30—Rhythm Jesters WLW. 8:45—News WFBM. Man of Manhattan (C). Streamliners (N) WLW. 9—Bill and Ginger (C) WFBM. News (N) WEAF, WIRE, WJZ. Virginians WLW. 9:05—Bradley Kincaid (N) WEAF, WIRE. 9:15—Freddie Miller (C). Vass Family (N) WEAF, WIRE. Music Clubs WLW. 9:30—Let's Pretend (C) WFBM. News (N) WEAF, WIRE. Marie de Ville (N) WJZ, WLW. 9:45—Originalities (N) WJZ. Livestock Reports WLW. 10—Block's Juniors WFBM. Cincinnati Conservatory (C). American Schools (N) WEAF, WIRE. Honeydoers (N) WJZ. Painted Dances WLW. 10:15—Norsemen (N) WEAF, WIRE. Wendell Hall (N) WJZ, WLW. 10:30—Marimba Band (N) WEAF, WIRE. Whitney Ensemble (N) WJZ, WLW. 11—Pettis' Or. (C) WFBM. Merry Madcaps (N) WEAF. Ho-fo-Nu Cluo WIRE. Simpson Boys (N) WJZ. Luncheon Dance WLW. 11:15—Musical Rhapsody (C) WFBM. Genia Fioravanti (N) WJZ. News, Financial Notes WLW. 11:30—George Hall Or. WFBM. International Week-end (N) WEAF, WIRE. Farm Bureau Federation (N) WJZ, WLW. 12—Moon—Hoosier Farm Circle WFBM. Jack Shannon (C). News (N) WEAF. Contrary's Or. (N) WEAF, WIRE. Farm Bureau (Continued) (N) WJZ, WLW. 12:15—Jack and Jill (C). 12:25—Ideal Reporter WIRE. 12:30—News WFBM. Buffalo Presents (C). Gene Beecher (N) WEAF. Ideal Reporter WIRE. Old Skipper (N) WJZ. News, Financial Notes WLW. 12:45—Midday Meditation WFBM. Metropolitan Opera (N) WEAF. WIRE, WJZ. Eric Madriguera's Or. WLW. 1—Al Rob's (C) WFBM. Metropolitan Opera (N) WEAF, WIRE, WJZ, WLW (To 4:30). 1:30—Tito Guizar (C) WFBM. 1:45—St. Dunstan's Singers (C) WFBM.

Guess Who It Is!



No, you're wrong. It's only Fred Waring, (above), distracted by the arduous routine of his radio and daily stage programs. Mr. Waring and the Pennsylvanians are to broadcast at 8:30 tonight over NBC-WJZ (WIRE).

DE PAUW JOINS GROUP TO AID NEW TEACHERS

Organization to Hold First Meeting Tomorrow at the Lincoln.

GREENCASTLE, Feb. 7. — De Pauw University today was a member of a new teachers' placement association which includes 17 Indiana institutions. First session of the organization is to be held tomorrow at the Lincoln in Indianapolis.

Approximately 300 De Pauw students who are filling teacher's requirements will be affected. The plan provides for the establishment of a co-operative association among all Indiana universities, colleges and normal schools for the placement of their graduates. It will facilitate placing of Indiana graduates in state high and elementary schools, it is believed.

Nine Indiana colleges and universities, two teachers colleges and six normal and special schools already have joined the association. Colleges and universities represented are De Pauw, Butler, Earlham, Evansville, Indiana Central, Indiana University, Purdue, St. Mary's-of-the-Woods and Notre Dame. G. H. Clevenger, Ball State Teachers College, is to preside at the Indianapolis meeting. Dr. Earl C. Bowman, professor of education, is to represent De Pauw at the conference.

GIVEN 5-YEAR TERM FOR STEALING COAL

Third Man Released by Judge of Putnam Circuit Court.

GREENCASTLE, Feb. 7.—Everett Sandy was sentenced to one to five years in Michigan City prison and fined \$1, and August McAvoy was given a 30-day sentence and a \$10 fine for stealing coal in Cloverdale. The men pleaded guilty in Putnam Circuit Court.

Lew Green, father of nine children, pleaded not guilty to charges of receiving stolen property in the same case. He was released.

FACES MURDER CHARGE

Salem Man Indicted for Death of Restaurant Owner.

SALEM, Ind., Feb. 7.—The Washington County Grand Jury last night returned a first-degree murder indictment against Clifton Martin in connection with the fatal shooting of Asa Welch, cafe proprietor. Welch was wounded in the abdomen when he attempted to halt an argument between Martin and another man in front of his establishment Jan. 25. He died six days later.

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Night Till

9

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