

BEHIND THE MIKE

Radio Should Train and Develop Its Own Stars, Eddie Cantor Declares

COMEDIAN CANTOR has something to get off his chest about this radio business, and since Eddie ought to know the talent end of the radio business pretty well, his opinions are important.

"I read with interest," Eddie writes, "that radio needs new personalities. Radio does need new talent, new blood. If no new comedy talent were to appear in the next few years the present comedians would simply sit back and do nothing, feeling secure in their positions."

"Granting that there is such a need, how can we explain the fact that it is not being filled? The explanation, I think, is that radio lacks patience. Talent can be developed but it is a slow and gradual process. It can't be done overnight."

New performers in radio are all babies. You don't expect a baby to do the mile in 1 minute 10 seconds flat. He has to crawl before he can walk, and walk before he can run.

"Major Bowes is doing a swell job. He has opportunities to people in the last year than all radio has given since its advent. Yet where are all the people who have come out of his amateur hour? What happens to them after they leave the units? It's a soft spot to step into the program as an amateur when the public knows you're an amateur. Competing with professionals is something else again."



"RECOVERY or Reprisal?" is to be Col. Frank Knox's subject for an NBC-WJZ broadcast at 9:30 tonight. The Chicago publisher is a possible candidate for the Republican nomination for President.

Sigmund Romberg week is to be celebrated by networks and independent stations beginning tomorrow, honoring the composer's twenty-fifth year of song writing.

Three orchestras, Ray Noble, Richard Himmer and Guy Lombardo, are to open the celebration program at 1 tomorrow afternoon on NBC-WJZ (WIRE).

A fractured knee cap will keep Ethel Barrymore from her engagement on Ben Bernie's Tuesday evening broadcast. Miss Barrymore recently fell, and now is confined to her bed. Bernie hopes to present the stage veteran on a future program.

Tampa night is to be heard on Major Bowes' amateur hour tomorrow night at 7, NBC-WJZ (WLW), and to convey its appreciation to the Major, the Tampa Chamber of Commerce sent him a four and one-half-foot alligator. "Tampa" caused considerable anxiety in the Major's office each time he switched his tail in his narrow wooden box, but he is safe (for the office staff) residing at the Aquarium.

"Sometimes I think some of the sponsors should have their heads opened up so others could see what makes them permit such extravagant introductions before the performers have made good."

"The audience is not impressed with such statements. It is antagonized by them. The public is never in sympathy with the great man. It sympathizes with the under dog."

"That is why I myself in my programs prefer to be the subject of cruel jibes rather than the person who delivers them. The adjectives of announcers describing an entertainer are the silver collar and platinum chain around the neck of the under dog. Take them away—and he's a mutt. The public loves the mutt."

Listeners are to hear two of the world's finest cellists tomorrow when Gregor Piatigorsky and Feuermann are guest-starred on the New York Philharmonic Symphony and General Motors program. Piatigorsky is to play the Saint-Saens A Minor Concerto with the orchestra under Hans Lange, via CBS (WFBM) at 2; Feuermann's selections are to be taken from the works of Popper, Dvorak, Saint-Saens and is to be heard at 9, with WIRE carrying the NBC-WJZ program.

"PERSONALLY, I have always welcomed competition. I have brought new people into my own programs. Look at Parkyakakas. He represents a new voice, a new face. He is an excellent comedian and often makes good suggestions. Sometimes I've been asked why I give others the funny lines in my shows. My answer is that I can stand competition, and when the day comes that I am afraid of competition I'll step out."

There is plenty of proof for Eddie's statements. Several of today's best comedians started with his guidance, many of them back in vaudeville days.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt is to honor Boy Scouts at 5:35 this afternoon with an address over a combined CBS-NBC chain (WFBM). The President will speak from the White House after being presented by Walter W. Head, president of the Boy Scouts. After this talk, Dr. James E. West, chief Scout executive of the United States, is to speak from New York.

Dr. West has been active in Scout work since its founding in this country.

In its 26 years 7,000,000 men and boys have been members of the Boy Scouts of America. There are now 1,300,000 active members. Local observance began last night with a Fa. and Son banquet by Troop 44, led by Scoutmaster J. J. McGowan.

Jean Rogers film actress, Friday announced her engagement to Jimmy Wallington, NBC announcer, and said they would be married in April. Engagement presents from Mr. Wallington were a diamond engagement ring and a platinum bracelet.

Young Polish Tenor to Be Heard on Air

New York, Feb. 8.—Jan Kiepura, Polish tenor of operatic and motion picture fame, is to be introduced to radio on Paul Whiteman's Musical Varieties at 8:45 tomorrow night. NBC-WJZ is to carry the program.

Mr. Kiepura is to sing four selections, three of them from his motion pictures.

The young tenor began his operatic career in Warsaw, and sang in Paris, Vienna, Brussels, Berlin and London. He was brought to Hollywood last year for his screen debut in "Give Us This Night," with Gladys Swarthout.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

LOCAL AND NETWORK DIALS

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

Member stations and kilocycles of the network are:

NBC-WEAF—WLW (600), WIRE (1400), WTAM (1670), WMAQ (670), and WSM (550).

NBC-WJZ—WLW (700), WIRE (1400), WEFR (870), WLS (870), WMAQ (670), and WSM (550).

CBS-WABC—WFBM (1250), WOVO (1160), and WBM (770).

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

SATURDAY

4—Boy Scout program WFBM, Metropolitan Opera (N) WEAF, WJZ, WIRE.

5—Musical Adventures (N) WLW.

6—Time Time Tunes WFBM, Jack Heller (N) WLW.

7—Vincent Lopez (Or.) C.

Kindergartern (N) WEAF, WLW.

8—Tribute to Dr. Talk (N) WJZ.

9—Vincent Lopez (Or.) WFBM. To be announced (N) WJZ.

10—Frederick William (C) WEAF, New York (Or.) N) WEAF, WIRE, Moods WLW.

11—Temple of Song (N) WJZ.

12—Discretion WFBM, Lewis (Or.) C. Science in Evidence WLW.

13—Aviation Talk WFBM, WIRE, WEFR (Or.) (C) WEAF, WIRE, WEFR.

14—President Roosevelt's Address (C) WFBM (N) WJZ, WLW.

15—Olympic Games (N) WEAF, WIRE.

16—Friends in the Air (N) WEAF, WEFR.

17—Bohemian WFBM, Popeye (N) WEAF, WIRE, Home Town (N) WEAF.

18—Man About Town WFBM, Carbonundum Band (C) WEAF, Hampton Institute (N) WEAF.

19—Message of Israel (N) WJZ.

20—Alfred Karger WLW.

21—Lily WLW.

22—Bohemian WFBM, Popeye (N) WEAF, WIRE, Home Town (N) WEAF.

23—Bohemian WFBM, R. F. D. Hour WLW.

24—Bohemian WFBM, Children's Hour (C) WEAF, WIRE.

25—Bohemian WFBM, Kentucky Mountain Work WLW.

26—News WFBM.

27—Music Club Program (N) WEAF, WIRE.

28—Your Hit Parade (N) WEAF, WIRE.

29—Bohemian WFBM.

30—Bohemian WFBM, Children's Hour (C) WEAF, WIRE.

31—Bohemian WFBM, Message of Israel (N) WJZ.

32—Bohemian WFBM, Alfred Karger WLW.

33—Bohemian WFBM, Merry Go-Round (M) WLW.

34—Bohemian WFBM, Your Hit Parade (C) WEAF, WIRE.

35—Bohemian WFBM, Children's Hour (C) WEAF, WIRE.

36—Bohemian WFBM, Children's Hour (C) WEAF, WIRE.

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