

BEHIND THE MIKE

Tickets for Major Bowes' Amateur Hour Broadcasts Difficult to Procure.

BY RALPH NORMAN

There came an anxious voice on the telephone to The Times Amusements department. "How?" it asked, "can I get tickets for Major Bowes' amateur hour next Sunday?"

Heads together, the men of the amusements department promptly arrived at several conclusions. Probably the best suggestion to the "voice" was that he ring up his friend in New York who is a director of NBC, then talk him out of "comps." That the "voice" had no such friend complicated matters. Then see a scalper and pay from \$1 to \$5, depending upon how easy you look for a ticket, was proposed next.

When the "voice" groaned at this, other practical suggestions followed. "Well, then, why not be an amateur and get on the program that way?" Or impersonate Major Bowes? Or with less effort, perhaps, just impersonate the "gong." But the telephone clicked, and we heard the "voice" no more. So, if the Major or the gong have a Hoosier dialect next Sunday evening, you'll know that one Indianapolis man has gained admittance to the amateur hour.

The ticket business is no joking matter to the major networks. Popularity of radio personalities, and the comparatively small seating capacity of studios make impossible accommodation of all persons wishing to see as well as hear broadcasts.

All tickets for Jack Benny's New York programs have been gone for weeks, although the comedian was back East for his first broadcast only last night.

Eddie Cantor gets four tickets for each of his three Sunday programs, the dress rehearsal which is public, the six o'clock broadcast, and the repeat broadcast for the West. But, he complains, his five daughters can't all come to the show together.

In pursuit of Toughy Hogan, son of Pine Ridge's public enemy No. 1, who disappeared on last Tuesday's broadcast, Lum and Abner will arrive in New York this afternoon, and are to make their 6:30 broadcast tonight from there, NBC-WJZ (WLW). Like Gracie Allen's search for her missing brother, the Pine Ridge pair's hunt for Toughy is bringing letters from various sections of the country, and Toughy has been reported "seen" in such widely separated places as Aurora, Ind.; Jonesboro, Ark., and Port Orange, Fla.

Lum and Abner are in New York again for the first time since 1933.

Douglas Fairbanks Jr., who returned only recently from England, is to be co-starred with Muriel Kirkland, stage and screen actress, in the Radio Theater production of "The Bride and the Sun Shines On." Miss Kirkland was featured on Broadway in "Strictly Dishonorable," and has appeared in several movies. CBS (WFBM) Fairbanks, Jr. will have the show at 8 tonight.

Senator L. J. Dickinson of Iowa is to speak from CBS's studios in Washington at 9:30 tonight on "The Electors' Choice." WFBM is not to carry the address.

United Mine Workers of America recently voted approval of a radio campaign to familiarize the nation with the views of its leader, Miner John Lewis.

Apropos of comment in this column on the new type of radio program promised by Sigmund Romberg at future Tuesday evenings are the following reflections on current broadcasting ideas. Write this OLD RADIO EDITOR:

"During the last two weeks I have been listening earnestly to the popular orchestras featured by many commercial programs. That is, I have been trying to hear them. But so many trick singers, so many tap dancers, so many comedies and hillbillies and combblowers have been introduced that the orchestra music is all but lost.

"This is the gingerbread era in radio, I realize. A sponsor feels that to attract attention he must spot his program with a vast variety of novelties. A half hour is not a half hour unless at least two or three of the week's batch of celebrities are given their chance to perform. It's no longer a privilege to broadcast. A celebrity expects it, his due, just as he expects it at 5 p. m. in his sherry and bitters.

"Meanwhile the orchestra leader sits and waits, ready to conduct his outfit if there only were time. Take the case of Paul

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 (700), WIRE (1400), WTAM (1670), WMAQ (670), and WSM (650). WGN-C-WJZ—WLW (700), WIRE (1400), WEPE (870), WLS (870), WMAQ (670), and WSM (650). CBS-WABC—WFBM (1230), WOVO (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.

MONDAY

4—Howard Neumiller (C) WFBM. Al Pearce (N) WEAF, WIRE. Eddie Cantor (C) WFBM. Ross Graham (N) WLW.

4:15—Patti Chapin (C). Tea Times Tunes WFBM. Jack Armstrong (C) WFBM. Radio Journal (N) WJZ.

4:30—Rose Room Melody WIRE. The Singing Lady (N) WJZ, WLW.

4:45—Goldberg (C) WFBM. Eddie Cantor (C) WEAF. Organ Annie (N) WJZ, WLW.

5—Bohemian WFBM. Buck Rogers (C). Flying Ace (N) WEAF, WIRE. Old Fashioned Girl WLW.

5:05—Army Band (N) WJZ.

5:15—Country Time WFBM.

5:25—Stage Relief Program (N) WJZ.

5:35—Bohemian WFBM. News (C) WEAF, WIRE. WGN-C—WLW.

6—Vanished Voices (C). International Broadcast (N) WEAF. WGN-C—WLW.

6:15—Charlatons (C) WFBM. Uncle Ezra (N) WEAF, WIRE. Chanticleer (C) WLW.

6:30—Singing Sam (C) WFBM. Lum and Abner (N) WFBM, WLW.

6:45—News WFBM. Education and News (N) WEAF. Drama Guild (C) WFBM. Lois Ravel (N) WLW.

7—Monk (C) WFBM. Music Hall (N) WEAF. Fiber McGee (N) WJZ, WLW.

7:15—Marine WFBM. Lombard Road (C).

7:30—Educators (C) WFBM. Nelson (C) WEAF, WIRE. WLW.

7:45—Folks and Fun (C) WFBM.

8—Radio Theater (C) WFBM. Minstrels (N) WJZ, WLW.

8:30—Grace Moore (N) WEAF, WIRE.

Tale of Today (N) WJZ.

9—Wayne King's Or. (C) WFBM. Contended Hour (N) WEAF, WIRE. Court (N) WJZ.

9:30—March of Times (C) WFBM. Radio Forum (N) WEAF. Music Box (C) WIRE.

10—Lil Amigos WLW.

10:45—Milton Morgan's Or. (N) WJZ.

10:45—Musical Moment WFBM. Old Folks (C) WIRE.

11—Myrt and Marge (C) WFBM. Enoch Litt's Or. (N) WEAF, WIRE. News (N) WJZ.

11:15—Lamour (N) WJZ.

11:30—Harry Soskin's Or. (C) WFBM. Phil Ohman's Or. (N) WJZ.

11:45—Happy Long WIRE.

12 Mid—Clyde Trask's Or. WLW.

12:15—WJL Osborne's Or. (M) WJW.

12:45—Enrico Madriguera's Or. WLW.

The rural rural libraries play in farm communities is to be discussed by Carl H. Milam, secretary American Library Association on the Future Farmers of America program at 11:30 tomorrow morning, NBC-WJZ.

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Best Short Waves

TOKYO—3 P. M. Japanese and European music. JVM, Nagasaki. 2:30—Souvenirs of Songs WLW.

2:30—Way Down East WLW.

2:45—News WFBM.

2:45—Romance in Rhythm (C).

2:45—Happy Jack (N) WEAF.

2:45—Kathryn Keiser WLW.

2:45—Edward MacHugh (N) WJZ.

2:45—Gothamire (C) WFBM.

2:45—Dinner Children (N) WJZ.

2:45—Clark Dennis (C) WFBM.

2:45—Livestock Reports WLW.

2:45—News Flashes WLW.

2:45—Harlan Brothers WFBM.

2:45—Iida Bailey Allen (N) WEAF.

2:45—Rose Room Melody WIRE.

2:45—Shirley Temple WLW.

2:45—Painted Dreams (M) WLW.

2:45—Popular Careties WFBM.

2:45—Helen Bryan (C) WEAF, WIRE.

2:45—Jacob Tarshish (M) WLW.

2:45—Mrs. Farrell's Kitchen WFBM.

2:45—Dinner Children (N) WEAF.

2:45—Divino Trio WLW.

2:45—Music Guide (C) WFBM.

2:45—Freddie Miller (C) WEAF.

2:45—Cheerio WLW.

2:45—Summary of Programs (N) WJZ.

2:45—Salon Musicale (C) WFBM.

2:45—Music Clock (C) WFBM.

2:45—Organ Rhapsody (N) WEAF.

2:45—Music WLW.

2:45—Harmonica WFBM.

2:45—Bingo WLW.

2:45—Broadway Cinderella (M) WLW.

2:45—Voice of Experience (C) WFBM.

2:45—Martha and Hal WIRE.

2:45—Acme Program (M) WLW.

2:45—Captivators (C) WFBM.

2:45—Sophisticates (N) WJZ.

2:45—Irene Taylor (M) WLW.

2:45—Acme Broadcasts (N) WEAF.

2:45—Merry Macdaps (N) WEAF, WIRE.

2:45—National Farm and Home Hour WLW.

2:45—Weather Reports WLW.

2:45—Five Star Jones (C) WFBM.

2:45—Home and Garden Hour WLW.

2:45—Baker's Album WFBM.

2:45—George Hall's (C) WIRE.

2:45—Farm and Home Hour (Continued) (N) WJZ, WLW.

2:45—Flyin' Section WFBM.

2:45—Marine WIRE.

2:45—Ideal Reports WIRE.

2:45—Patricia and Paul WIRE.

2:45—Castles of Romance (N) WJZ.

2:45—Midway Meditation WFBM.

2:45—Radio Gossip (C) WFBM.

2:45—Music Guild (N) WEAF, WIRE.

2:45—Dinner Children (C) WFBM.

2:45—Golden Melodies (N) WJZ.

2:45—Your Health WLW.

2:45—Between Bookends (C).

2:45—Walter Hickman (C) WIRE.

2:45—Music and Comedy WEAF.

2:45—Words and Music (N) WJZ.

2:45—Learn to Sing (C) WFBM.

2:45—Men Who Made History WLW.

2:45—School in the Air (C) WFBM.

2:45—Music and Dance (C) WFBM.

2:45—Golden Melodies (N) WJZ.

2:45—Vivian Davis (C) WFBM.

2:45—Betty and Bob (