

HOOSIER PHIL DUEY HITS RADIO HEIGHTS

NBC Baritone Spurns Life on Father's Indiana Farm to Seek Musical Career

Chance Plays Heavy Part in Success of I. U. Graduate Who Intended to Be Public School Teacher; Broadcasts Tonight, Tomorrow at 7.

BY RALPH NORMAN

BY chance and process of elimination, Phil Duey arrived on two NBC featured spots each week. The Hoosier-born baritone is to be heard with Leo Reisman's orchestra at 7 tonight, WEAF (WIRE), and again tomorrow night at the same hour, WJZ network.

Back on his father's (Macy's) farm, Phil began the elimination process. He cared nothing for milking cows, hated hitching up and working horses. Plowing, sowing, reaping—all were a pain in the neck to Farmer Duey's youngest of 11 children. So farming easily was eliminated from Phil's possible future occupations.

Only one phase of his boyhood did the farm boy really like—that was singing in the village church choir. He promoted a movement to have five choir practices each week, but less enthusiastic members dissented, so he saved music, like his best blue suit, for Sundays.

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With little money, Phil set out to get a musical education by attending normal school near home, taught in grade schools to get money to enter the Indiana University School of Music. In 1924, after supporting himself with a full-time job in the university library, he had an A. B. degree and a Phi Beta Kappa key, and was ready to be a public school music teacher.

Then chance changed his life. With much skepticism, he answered a fellowship announcement, took an audition, then for weeks heard nothing. In the meantime he married his boyhood sweetheart, Catherine Stroufe, and decided to go where a school board or trustee would give him a job. They were married May 29. On June 5 came a letter from New York—he had won the fellowship for music study.

Chance brought him his first radio opportunity when he was asked to substitute at the microphone for a sick friend. The original baritone lost his job and Phil has been in radio ever since. His earnings his second year were \$20,000. Before that he had lived on less than \$20 a week. He now plans, in addition to radio, which

GUY LOMBARDO has a host of devoted followers (the easiest way to know to start a radio argument is to be anti-Lombardo), but there is one fan who knows the Lombardo music-makers are the finest on this or the other side of Heaven and is ready to prove it, if you don't agree.

This fan hasn't missed a Lombardo broadcast, commercial or sustaining, in six years. He has listed the numbers played on each program on sheets bound in volumes—there have been more than 1000 broadcasts and 9000 numbers played—and on other sheets he has commented on each program.

On his large map are marked the bookings and travels of the organization, he has a phonographic record of every Lombardo recording, and he has, for his own amusement, written a 30,000-word history of the orchestra.

A printing plant copy writer by profession, his name is Michael Caracappa, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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