

The Listener Talks Back Night Jockeys Outdo Drivel of Dawn

By WILLIAM L. DOUDNA (State Journal Radio Editor) For a guy who is a radio editor and is expected to write a certain amount of radio criticism each week, I haven't heard much radio during the period supposed to be covered by this material.

Unfortunately, I have happened to listen to a couple of soap opera episodes. Unfortunately, too, all that the psychologists have written about is just too, too true. There may be some that aren't drivel, but I haven't heard them.

On the Records

Are the Popular Records Getting Better?

Maybe it's imagination, but it seems to me that the popular records produced since the first of the year have been of a higher quality than had been the case for several months before.

This applies not only to the performance, but to the musical ingenuity and the mechanical reproduction, too.

Among the top discs of recent weeks: Dinah Shore: "Forever and Ever," a waltz tune growing rapidly in popularity.

Modernaires: "Busy Doing Nothing," a happy tune from the recent "Yankee" and "Johnny Girl."

Herb Jeffries: "It's Easy to Remember," by Rodgers and Hart, and "A Dreamer With a Penny," another tune, introduce this singer to Columbia records.

Peter Yorke orchestra: "Songs to Remember," an album of eight favorites, played in the dinner-music style with a British accent.

Dinah Shore: "Always True to You" and "So in Love," both from "Kiss Me, Kate." The first, a hillbilly satire, is infectious and Dinah does well by it.

Tony Pastor: "Saturday Night Mood," clever novelty number with vocals by Tony and the Clooney sisters, coupled with "Grieving for You," with Rosemary Clooney making the old tune sound new.

Frank Sinatra: If it weren't for the backing of the Phil Moore four gives Frankie on "Why Can't You Behave?," this would be on the list.

Xavier Cugat: "Con Maracas," one of the best tunes going to do in the month, with a strong lumba heat; arrangement of "Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater" is only slightly Latin in style, but it's a nice orchestration of the nursery rhyme.

Modernaires: "Busy Doing Nothing," a happy tune from the recent "Yankee" and "Johnny Girl," another rhythm number, show off the group at its best.

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Highlights of Today's Radio Broadcasts, Classified

Religion 8 a.m. - Church of the Air (WBBM): Charles G. Sharp, Christian Scientist, on "Be Thou Clean"...

SUNDAY Broadcast schedule table with columns for WIBA, WISC, WKOW, WIBU, WBBM, WENR-WLS, WGN, WMAQ, and WHA/WHA-FM. Includes times and program titles for various stations.

From the Funwaves

"What are the boys in Los Angeles going to do while you're away in Europe?" Tommy Bartlett asked a pair of pretty young ladies on a recent Welcome Travelers program.

"Miss us," was their simultaneous reply.

Sam (Clowning) Cowling, the chief heckler of ABC's Breakfast Club, has inserted the following fiction and fact into Sam's Almanac:

"Women drivers can be very healthy and still take a turn for the worse."

Following is one of Sen. Ford's favorite stories, one he told recently during a broadcast of Mutual's "Can You Top This" program:

First wife: "Have you read any fiction lately?"

Second wife: "Yeah. I just got a letter from my husband."

SAPPHIRE: George, you wasn't always so critical of my piano playing. I remember one time, before we was married, when you come to Momma's house for dinner. I played after supper and you was so entranced you leaned over de piano all evenin'.

KINGFISH: Entranced? I was doubled up from your Momma's cookin'.

"Amos 'n' Andy."

JANE: Dear, I just need \$198.50 for that cute cloth coat I want to buy.

MR. ACE: Now, listen—

JANE: It was \$250, dear, but it was marked up.

MR. ACE: You mean marked down.

JANE: No, it was marked up. That's why I'm getting it cheap. I have to send it to the cleaners.

"Mr. Ace and Jane"

HOWARD: How do you make a peach cordial?

SHELTON: Take her out to dinner.

"It Pays to Be Ignorant"

HERB SHRINER

"I was lookin' through one of these government tax booklets and I see that from now on a married man will be able to split his income with his wife for tax purposes."

That probably means that the government will get half his income and his wife the other half."

HERB SHRINER

Dave Garroway, NBC disc jockey, m. s., reports a friend of his, a tree surgeon, was working on a tree and his foot slipped. According to Dave, that's the only case in medical history where a doctor fell out of a patient.

Tom Moore asked a Ladies Be Seated contestant to take a letter from the Lone Ranger with this clue: "You are at best on a horse." The confused lady's answer: "Lady Godiva."

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Your Birthday

BY STELLA SUNDAY, MAR. 13—Born today, you have one of those lightning-quick minds that can come to a conclusion at a woman's notice.

Fortunately, your analysis is keen and your first decision is usually the right one. Because of this you are apt to be a few steps ahead of your nearest competitor and can get the rewards.

Your one failing is that you desire perfection and if you fail to reach what you believe to be the very best, you become despondent. You worry too much about past failures. Don't let yourself do this for you waste precious energy in moaning over "spilled milk."

You are one of those who is called "lucky," since you always seem to land on your feet. Too few realize that the stars have given you very keen perceptions and that you are using them.

You women are especially good at planning entertainments and will make excellent hostesses either in your own home or at clubs and civic affairs. You are highly attractive to the opposite sex and will have many admirers. It is very likely that you will make what is called a "good marriage."

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

Monday, Mar. 14

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21) — If planning business expansion, make your plans very carefully. Consult experts and get all the facts first.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20) — Romance is sure, but nothing much else seems to be. Be thrifty and not too adventuresome in making expenditures.

TURES (Apr. 21-May 21) — Morning is definitely unstable, so

postpone important matters until after lunch for best results.

GEMINI (May 22-June 23) — Be optimistic about the future, for it can be about as you make it. Plan well and results are good.

CANCER (June 23-July 23) — Discretion is necessary. Be calm in a crisis and all will go moderately well even in trouble.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) — Haste can only cause an accident, so take your time. Slow, accurate progress is best now.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — In addition to your income through past efforts it is possible if you work things right today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't make hasty decisions and you can avoid being unjust to those with whom you work. Be tactful, too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23) — More than average care in both personal and business matters is called for if you are to avoid conflict.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22) — A disappointment in romance may be yours. Don't let it upset you too much. Fortitude pays off now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)

Phil Hamburger Writes About Radio

A soon-to-be-published book by Philip Hamburger discusses radio, including Norman Corwin, Gabriel Heatter, Mary Margaret McBride, Martin Block, and the breakfast programs. The book, "The Oblong

Adventures of New York, Judge Learned Hand, and Elizabeth Kingsley and the author's reports on Italy, Yugoslavia, and Argentina.

Wierck Award Tietjens Prize

Peter Wierck, author of "Terrior and Decorum" has been awarded the Eunice Tietjens memorial prize for 1948. The prize is given annually by Poetry: A Magazine of Verse.

Dr. Wierck, a recent recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship, is professor of history at Smith college.

Wrong Toot Brings Protest

Who says that radio listeners aren't alert to flaws? NBC sound effects technician Virgil Reimer recently had a call on Dorothy Lamour's Variety theater for a train whistle. Reimer dug into the big NBC recorded sound effects library and came up with a healthy toot.

The drama went off well, but Reimer was no end started to receive later in the week a letter from the diesel engine division of General Motors stating that some 15,000 workers are up in arms over the program. Shades of Casey Jones! It developed that Reimer had used the effect of a steam whistle when the dialogue plainly stated the train was a diesel.

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