# Television Today

Ch. 2—WBBM-TV—Chicago
Ch. 4—WTMJ-TV—Milwaukee
Ch. 5—WNBQ—Chicago
Ch. 12—WREX-TV—Rockford
Ch. 7—WBKB—Chicago
Ch. 9—WGN-TV—Chicago
Ch. 27—WKOW-TV—Madison
Ch. 39—WTVO—Rockford
Ch. 33—WMTV—Madison

## TODAY'S BEST BETS

**12:15 p.m.—Playtime:** "Chen Wu and the Dragon King"—WMTV (33).

**2:45 p. m.—Drew Pearson:** with Pres. Fulgencio Batista of Cuba—WMTV (33).

**3 p. m.—Uplifted Heart:** "Help from the Hills," the Rev. Bernard Bartel—WKOW-TV (27).

**5:30 p. m.—You Are There:** "Burgoyne's Surrender"—WKOW-TV (27).

**5:30 p. m.—March of Time:** new program; "New Frontiers in Space"—WMTV (33).

**6:30 p. m.—Jack Benny:** with Bing Crosby, George Burns—WKOW-TV (27).


AMERICAN TV SERVICE

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3-1189


SUNDAY MORNING

8:30
1—Church in Home
9—10 Commandments
8:45
8—Christophers
9:00
3—Lamp to My Feet
4—Excursion
9—Morning Movie
9:15
5—Bible Time
9:30
2—Look Up and Live
4—This Is the Life
5—The Pulpit
7—Flight Plan
9:45
5—Christophers
10:00
2—This Way Up
4—Church Services
5—Live and Learn
7—Sunday Marquee
9—Outstanding Drama
10:30
2—Morning Matinee
5—Sunday Funnies
11:00
4—Comics
5—Theater
11:30
2—Contest Carnival
4—Movies for Kids
7—Faith for Today
9—Dick Tracy
33—Journal Funnies


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SUNDAY AFTERNOON

12:00
4—Roy Rogers
7—Johnny Jupiter
9—Action Theater
33—Roddy Mac
39—Youth Would Know
12:15
2—Your Future Home
33—Playtime
12:30
2—Garden Club
4—Ramar of Jungle
5—Frontiers of Faith
7—Amateur Hour
33—Spotlight
39—Frontiers of Faith
12:45
33—Accordionists
1:00
2—Theater
4—Say It With Music
5—Your Garden
9—Johnny Mack Brown
33—Matinee Theater
39—American Inventory
1:30
4—Zoo Parade
5—American Forum
7—Wild Bill Hickok
39—American Forum
2:00
2—Farm Town U.S.A.
4—Pride of the Family
7—Annie Oakley
9—Theater of Romance
13—Youth Takes Stand
27—Youth Takes Stand
39—President's Week
2:30
2—Man of the Week
4—Kukla, Fran Ollie
5—Kukla, Fran, Ollie
7—Hank McCune
13—Man of the Week
27—Man of the Week
33—Elmer Davis
39—The Big Picture
2:45
33—Drew Pearson
3:00
2—Juvenile Jury
4—Grenadiers
5—Excursion
7—Capt. Midnight
9—Showroom
13—Lamp to My Feet
27—Uplifted Heart
33—Roller Derby
39—Excursion
3:30
2—Tricks of Fate
5—Zoo Parade
7—Bob Atcher Ranch
13—Adventure
27—Adventure
30—This Is The Life
4:00
2—Omnibus
4—Hall of Fame
5—Hall of Fame
7—Super Circus
9—Theater at 4
13—Talent Parade
27—Catholic War Relief
33—Echoes from Eden
39—Chicago Symphony
4:30
27—Landscaping
33—Bill Build-It
4:45
33—Spotlight
5:00
4—Victory at Sea
5—Meet the Press
7—Cisco Kid
9—TV Showcase
13—TV Feature
27—J. Harper, News
33—Victory at Sea
5:15
27—Thompson Weather
5:20
27—Schermerhorn Sports
5:30
2—You Are There
4—You Asked for It
5—Roy Rogers
7—George Jessel
9—What's the Answer?
13—Johnny Jupiter
27—You Are There
33—March of Time
39—Meet Your Congress


TONIGHT AT 9 P. M.
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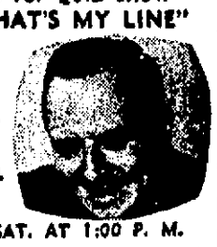
with JOHN DALY and PANEL



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL EVERY SAT. AT 1:00 P. M.


SUNDAY EVENING

6:00
2—Life with Father
4—Ozzie and Harriet
5—Paul Winchell
7—You Asked for It
9—Theater
13—Kit Carson
27—Life with Father
33—Shopsmith
39—Paul Winchell
6:15
33—Watch the World
6:30
2—Jack Benny
4—Mr. Peepers
5—Mr. Peepers
7—TV Teen Club
13—Jack Benny
27—Jack Benny
33—Mr. and Mrs. North
39—Opera Cameo
7:00
2—Toast of the Town
4—Comedy Hour
5—Comedy Hour
7—The Mask
13—Toast of the Town
27—Toast of the Town
33—The Mask
39—Comedy Hour
7:30
9—Faith of Fathers
8:00
2—Fred Waring
4—Television Playhouse
5—Television Playhouse
7—Walter Winchell
9—Rocky King
13—I Led 3 Lives
27—Foreign Intrigue
33—Playhouse
39—Television Playhouse
8:30
2—Behind the Badge
7—Peter Potter
9—Plainclothesman
13—The Web
27—City Detective
33—Doctor I. Q.
9:00
2—The Web
4—Loretta Young
5—Loretta Young
7—Break the Bank
9—Dollar a Second
13—All Star Playhouse
27—The Web
33—Hollywood Theater
39—Dollar A Second
9:30
2—What's My Line?
4—Newsroom
5—Victory at Sea
7—The Big Picture
9—Man Against Crime
13—What's My Line?
27—Your TV Theater
33—My Hero
39—Feature Movie
10:00
4—TV Hour
7—Biff Baker, U.S.A.
9—Television Theater
13—Weather; News
27—J. Harper, News
33—M. Griffin, News
10:20
33—P. Ekern, Weather
10:15
2—Movie Time
27—Thompson Weather
33—Industry on Parade
10:20
27—Schermerhorn Sports
10:30
5—Sports Star Time
7—Movie of the Week
27—Feature Film
33—Sun. Night Theater
11:00
4—Plainclothes Man
5—11th Hour Theater
13—Movie Time
11:30
2—The Late Show
4—Rocky King
12:00
4—News
7—Night Owl Movie
9—Show Biz
13—News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HARTFORD, Conn. (UP) — In the late 1930's a man walked into a downtown office and asked the receptionist, Mrs. Rose Hayes, how he could get a job. She told him where they were hiring farm help and lent him bus fare. Recently the same man came into her office and handed Mrs. Hayes some change. "I want to return 20 cents I borrowed 15 years ago," he said.


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# Today's Radio Highlights

## Religion

**8:30 a.m.—Capital Cathedral** (WIBA): "He Bore Our Sorrows," the Rev. C. A. Puls.

**9 a.m.—Bethel Lutheran** (WIBA): "That Mysterious Why!" the Rev. F. J. Schmidt.

**10 a.m.—Religion for Today** (WIBA): "Africa Aflame," Dr. Homer A. Jack.

**11 a.m.—Christ Presbyterian** (WKOW): "When Bread Seems Better than Life," Dr. Roy W. Zimmer . . . **First-University Methodist** (WISC): "Pathways to God—Nature," the Rev. Carl W. Stromberg.

**11:15 a.m.—First Congregational** (WIBA): "Shutout in a Storm," the Rev. Alfred W. Swan.

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## Discussion

**1 p.m.—Leading Question** (WKOW): new to this station.

**1:15 p.m.—Home from Abroad** (WHA): Pres. J. M. Klotsche, Wisconsin State college, on New Community school of Jugzenheim, Germany.

ANDREWS

**2:30 p.m.—Reviewing Stand** (WGN): "Our Spanish-Speaking Citizens — Problem or Asset?"

**7 p.m.—Drew Pearson** (WISC): predicting Democratic "dark horse" nomination.

**9:15 p.m. — Labor Sounds Off** (WIBA): Gordon Chapman, Richard Huffman on social security.

**9:30 p.m.—Meet the Press** (WIBA): T. Coleman Andrews, commissioner of internal revenue.

**10:15 p.m.—Ask Madison** (WIBA): James G. Marshall, Police Chief Bruce Weatherly, Ray F. Burt, Coroner Joseph Bloodgood, Fire Chief Edward J. Page, Arlo J. Anderson.

✦ ✦ ✦

## Variety

**6 p.m.—Jack Benny** (WKOW): what happens at home.

**7 p.m.—Bing Crosby** (WKOW): with Frank Sinatra.

**7:15 p.m.—Easter Seals** (WISC): Jack Benny.

**8:30 p.m. — Charlie McCarthy** (WKOW): and Peggy Lee.

✦ ✦ ✦

## Drama

**3 p. m.—World Theater** (WHA): "The Boy from Greece." . . . **UN Story** (WMFM): "Lifeline."

**3:30 p. m.—Proudly We Hail** (WMFM): "My Roommate, Ruth."

**4:30 p. m.—Detective Mystery** (WISC): "Poison-Phantom." . . . **Greatest Story** (WENR): "And When He Hath Found It."

**5:30 p. m. — Our Miss Brooks** (WKOW): Connie as a model.

**6 p. m.—The Shadow** (WISC): murder in unexplored cavern.

**6:30 p. m.—The Marriage** (WIBA): daughter opposes lawyer-father in tenancy case . . . **Bulldog Drummond** (WISC): "Alibi for Murder."

MARSHALL

**7 p. m.—Six Shooter** (WIBA): youth threatens battle with sheriff.

**7:30 p. m.—My Little Margie** (WKOW): Vern has a double.

**8 p. m. — Star Playhouse** (WIBA): Cyril Ritchard in "Great Expectations" . . . **Hall of Fame** (WKOW): Herbert Marshall as Edmund Burke.

**8:30 p. m.—Counterspy** (WISC: crimes in home for aged.

**9:30 p. m. — Civil Defense** (WISC): "The Evanston Story."

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## Music

**11 a. m.—Masterworks** (WHA): "Piano Concerto No. 1," Brahms.

**1 p. m. — Music in Wisconsin** (WHA): Robert Gruetzmann family of Black River Falls . . . **Symphonette** (WBBM): "Poet and Peasant" overture," "Love's Dream After the Ball," "Carry Me Back to Ol 'Virginny."

**1:30 p. m.—N. Y. Philharmonic-Symphony** (WKOW): Guido Cantelli, conductor; "Symphony in D," Cherubini; "Death and Transfiguration," Strauss; "Berceuse Elegiaque" and "Waltz - Dance," Busoni.

HAYWARD

**2 p. m. — 'La Traviata'** (WIBA): Licia Albanese, Thomas Hayward, Walter Cassel.

**3 p. m. — Concert Hall** (WKOW): Olvin Fjelstad of Norway, conductor; Abram Loft, viola soloist.

**3:35 p. m. — Listening Glass** (WKOW): "Emperor Waltz," "Rosalie," 'High on a Windy Hill."

**4:15 p. m. — Sunday Music Hour** (WHA): University Men's and Women's choruses.

**5:30 p. m. — NBC Symphony** (WIBA): "Barber of Seville" overture, "Pathetique" symphony.

**7:30 p. m.—Music Hall** (WISC): with Earl Wild, pianist.

**8 p. m. — Of These We Sing** (WMFM): Helen Traubel, Leroy Anderson, Andre Kostelanetz orchestra.

**9 p. m.—FM Concert** (WHA-FM): "Tafelmusick," Telemann. (WKOW): "I Hear a Rhapsody," (WKOW): "I hear a Rhapsody," "Siboney."

✦ ✦ ✦

## Quiz

**5 p. m. — College Quiz Bowl** (WMAQ): Washington and Lee vs. University of Pittsburgh.

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## Baseball

**12:55 p.m.—Braves vs. Phillies** (WISC).

**3:30 p.m.—Cubs vs. Orioles** (WIND).

# Radio Timetable

SUNDAY

| | WIBA 1310 kc. | WISC 1480 kc. | WKOW 1070 kc. | WIBU 1240 kc. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7:00 | News; Organist | News; Morning Song | News | News; Marches |
| 7:15 | Sacred Heart | | Religion in News | Farm Service |
| 7:30 | Baptist | Ave Maria | Renfro Valley | Farm |
| 7:45 | Hour | Hour | Gathering | Frolic |
| 8:00 | Church of Christ | Wings of Healing | Renfro Valley | Mus. Clock |
| 8:15 | | | Rev. Bawden | Gospel Prgm. |
| 8:30 | Capital Cathe'ral | Old Time | Old Fashioned | Organ Music |
| 8:45 | Christ'n Science | Religion | Revival Hour | Bandstand |
| 9:00 | Bethel Lutheran Church | Radio Bible Class | Old Fashioned Revival Hour | Mid-Morning Melodies |
| 9:15 | | | | |
| 9:30 | Sunday Devotion | Voice of Prophecy | The Rev. Mr. Bodamer | Mid-Morning Melodies |
| 9:45 | Pet Corner | | | |
| 10:00 | Unitarian Soc. | Frank, Ernest | Healing Waters | Sunday Serenade |
| 10:15 | Reflections | Let Be Light | | |
| 10:30 | in | Message of Israel | Madison Catholic Hr. | Ev. Lutheran Church |
| 10:45 | Music | | | |
| 11:00 | News | First-Univ. Meth. Church | Christ Presbyterian Church | Bible Fellowship |
| 11:15 | First Congregational Church | | | Music Variety |
| 11:30 | | Melody Highway | | Old Timers |
| 11:45 | | | | |
| 12:00 | Joey Tantillo | News | News | News |
| 12:15 | News | Baseball Spec. | Social Security | Farm Hour |
| 12:30 | Hello Wisconsin | Baseball | Christian Brotherhood | Trio Time |
| 12:45 | Waltz Festival | Baseball | | |
| 1:00 | Catholic Hour | Baseball | The Leading Question | Trio Time |
| 1:15 | | Baseball | | |
| 1:30 | American Forum | Baseball | New York Philharmonic | Old Timers |
| 1:45 | | Baseball | | Jewel Box |
| 2:00 | 'La Traviata' | Baseball | New York Philharmonic | Old Timers Waltz Time |
| 2:15 | 'La Traviata' | Baseball | | |
| 2:30 | 'La Traviata' | Baseball | New York Philharmonic | Old Timers Waltz Time |
| 2:45 | 'La Traviata' | Baseball | | |
| 3:00 | Weekend | Baseball | 20th Century Concert Hall | Watertown on Parade |
| 3:15 | Weekend | Baseball | | |
| 3:30 | Weekend | Scores; Pinch Hit Parade | News; Music Mobilization | Freedom Story |
| 3:45 | Weekend | | | Melody Garden |
| 4:00 | Weekend | Pinch Hit Parade | Stage Struck | Melody Time |
| 4:15 | Weekend | | | |
| 4:30 | Weekend | Detective Mystery | Stage Struck | Here's to Vets |
| 4:45 | Weekend | | | Sunday Songs |
| 5:00 | U. W. Music | Headlines | Gang Busters | Sun Prairie Program |
| 5:15 | News | Three Suns | | |
| 5:30 | NBC Symphony Orchestra | Bob Considine | Our Miss Brooks | Serenade |
| 5:45 | | Sports Parade | | Jamboree |
| 6:00 | NBC Symphony Orchestra | The Shadow | Jack Benny | News |
| 6:15 | | | | Navy Band |
| 6:30 | The Marriage; News | Bulldog Drummond | Amos 'n Andy | Methodist Church |
| 6:45 | | | | |
| 7:00 | Six Shooter | Drew Pearson | Bing Crosby | Old Timers Jamboree |
| 7:15 | | Easter Seals | | |
| 7:30 | Sunday at Home | American Music Hall | My Little Margie | Old Timers Jamboree |
| 7:45 | | | | |
| 8:00 | Star Playhouse | Walt. Winchell | Hall of Fame | Old Timers Jamboree |
| 8:15 | | Taylor Grant | | |
| 8:30 | Star Playhouse | Counter Spy | Charlie McCarthy | Old Timers Jamboree |
| 8:45 | | | | |
| 9:00 | Serenade | Paul Harvey | Week in Wisconsin Cavalcade of Music | Proudly We Hail |
| 9:15 | Labor Speaks | News | | |
| 9:30 | Meet the Press | Civil Defense | | Rainbow Trio |
| 9:45 | | Elmer Davis | | |
| 10:00 | News | Club Badger | News | Silent |
| 10:15 | Ask Madison | | Mystery: This Is the Hour | Silent |
| 10:30 | My Favorite Music | Revival Time | | Silent |
| 10:45 | | | | Silent |
| 11:00 | News; Dream Time | Hour of Decision | News; Radio Cardinal | Silent |
| 11:15 | | | | Silent |
| 11:30 | Dream Time; News | Easy Street | Dance Music | Silent |
| 11:45 | | | | Silent |

**Starred programs are also carried on corresponding FM stations FM channels: WIBA-FM, 101.5 M. WWCF (WIBU), 94.9 M. WISC-FM, 98.1**

## Uncle Rays' Corner

# Plants Are Varied

If you paid a visit to the big island of Madagascar, of the western side of Africa, you would see several strange kinds of plant life. This island has about the same area as the state of Texas.

Certain plants of Madagascar are a danger to the comfort of people, to say the least. They hurt the skin far more than do the smartweeds or nettles which grow in some parts of North America.

The plants of which I speak are vines which produce pods with poisonous needles. Scores of needles, each about a quarter of an inch long, cover a pod. If a human being happens to strike one of his hands against a pod, the result is bad! The needles come out in much the same way as do the quills of a porcupine.

### Traveler Feels 'Fire'

One traveler, William Montgomery, was struggling through a dense jungle, when he made the mistake of running into a vine of this knd. Here is his account of the event:

**"My hands seemed to be on fire. My face and head burned as if they were being held against a red-hot stove. I struggled back to camp and the natives in my employ saw what had happened to me. They rushed to the river and got all the sand and mud they could carry. They rubbed this on my skin, and soon the stinging, poison hars, or needles, came out."**

Besides those terrible vines, Madagascar has several kinds of shrubs and trees which help people, instead of hurting them. These include silk bushes, traveler's trees and rain trees.

### Pods Provide Silk

Silk bushes provide material for cloth. Each bush has pods which are somewhat like those of milkweed plants. After the seeds mature inside the pods, the pods burst open and the seeds are ready to be blown about by the wind. Each seeds has about an inch of "silk" attached to it. Natives gather the thread-like material, remove the seeds and weave the thread into a soft cloth with a yellow color.

**A traveler's tree has long leaves which can be woven into mats. The leaves also serve as material for thatching the roofs of native huts. More interesting, however, is the fact that water collects about the stem of each of the gigantic leaves. A thirsty traveler may obtain several quarts of water from a single tree.**

The rain trees of Madagascar, are useful only to a very limited degree. If a person steps under one of them on a hot, dry day, he may be refreshed by a shower, or heavy mist.

To the natives, this seems like magic at work, but scientists have learned the cause. Instead of falling from the leaves of the tree, the "rain" comes from thousands of tiny insects. From time to time, insects of this kind send out drops of water-like liquid. The drops provide a shower of a sort.

### RACCOON INDEPENDENCE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (UP) — Mrs. E. A. Bowles' raccoon, Joe, got the upper hand in a truce she was forced to make with the pet because he escapes his cage too easily. Hungry after three days of freedom, the animal returned and perched on her garage roof, but would not consent to confinement. Now Mrs. Bowles must serve Joe his food on top of her garage.

## WHA—WHA-FM

SUNDAY

A. M.
9:00 Devotional Music
9:30 Cathedral Echoes; News
10:00 Symphony Hall; News
11:00 Masterworks of Music

P. M.
12:00 Sunday Musicale
1:00 Music in Wisconsin
1:15 Home from Abroad
1:30 Letter from Italy
1:45 From the Opera
2:00 Encore
3:00 BBC World Theater
4:00 Music
4:15 Sunday Music Hour
5:45 News

FM ONLY
6:00 Dinner Musicale
7:00 The Sampler
8:00 Sunday Night Concert
8:45 Letter from Italy
9:00 FM Concert
10:50 News (to 11)

## WMFM

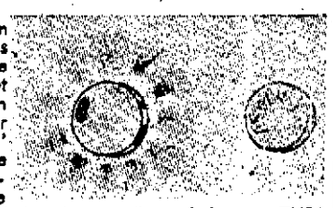
104.1 Mcs.

SUNDAY

A. M.
8:00 Wake Up to Music
8:15 News; Wake Up to Music
8:30 Comic Weekly Man
9:00 Tops in Pops
10:45 Songs of our Times; News
11:00 Perry Como
11:15 Country Church of Hollywood
11:30 Bashford Methodist Church

P. M.
12:00 News; Memory Tunes
12:30 Luncheon Music; News
1:00 Luncheon Music
1:15 Sacred Heart Program
1:30 Let's Go to Town
1:45 Guest Star; News
2:05 Madison Hit Parade; News
3:00 UN Story
3:15 Family Doctor
3:30 Proudly We Hail
4:00 Favorite Drama
4:15 Hour of St. Francis
4:30 Frontier Town
5:00 Prophet with Homer
5:30 International Federation
5:45 Phil Reed; News
6:00 Netherlands
6:15 Package of New Records
6:30 Most Sold Records; News
7:00 Pinto Pete
7:15 Serenade in Blue
7:30 Old Timers Party; News
8:00 Of These We Sing
8:15 Here's to Veterans
8:30 Barbershop Harmony; News
9:00 Music Mystery
9:30 Air Force Reserve; News
10:00 Wayne King
10:15 Lombardo Land
10:30 One Oh Four & One Club
10:58 News (to 11)


Hear Better With An ASPIRIN TABLET?



Well no, not exactly with an aspirin tablet . . . But there is a TINY, TINY device made available to TONECRAFT, not much larger than an aspirin tablet, that can be the answer to your "hearing headache." We know you will want to see the new development for yourself. But just to show you we are serious, here is a (pictured above) comparison of the new TX90 receiver and an aspirin tablet, actual size. Here is your chance to stop advertising your deafness. Supplies of the TX90 are necessarily limited and deliveries will be made in order of reservations.

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## The Sunday Spotlight: a Guest Column

# For a Streamlined Madison

By ALLEN J. STRANG
Member, American Institute of Architects

The exhibit on city planning which opened last Wednesday and which will continue through March 31 at the Madison Free Library gallery, is stimulating to anyone interested in Madison's development.

In this exhibit, sponsored jointly by the Madison Art Assn. and the Madison division of the Wisconsin Architects Assn., you will see an idealist's plan for a streamlined Madison, prepared in 1934 by William V. Kaeser, architect and planner, and you will also see in detail the down-to-earth, step-by-step planning by the city planning engineer's office.

STRANG

A portion of the exhibit is devoted to a display of drawings of new building projects by Madison architects which will further change our city's already rapidly developing physique. Our town has come of age, all right, with problems galore for the city planner, the architects, engineers, and municipal officials charged with coping with these problems.

**The one feature of city planning which has always struck me between the eyes is the time lag between the planning and the realization of that planning. An architect under normal conditions sees his designs develop from sketches on his drafting board to steel and glass and stone in a few years time at the most. The planners who are trying desperately to guide the growth of our cities may wait from a quarter to a half century to see their dreams realized many maybe never have their plans followed.**

For example, Harlan Bartholomew, nationally recognized city planner from St. Louis, who proposed the boulevarding of S. Park st. in 1923, waited a quarter of a century to see his plans materialize. The wheels of government grind slowly, particularly when expensive land acquisition is often involved, along with endless approvals, political pressures, and many other obstacles.

The time lag and the frustrations become discouraging to many, who are sometimes inclined to let their towns and cities grow without a plan. It would possibly surprise you to know, for example, that the great and booming city of Houston, Tex., had no zoning ordinance until two or three years ago.

**Madison's leaders have been far sighted in this regard. As early as 1908 John Nolan was hired to make Madison's first city plan. Our present park system is to quite an extent, the result of this planning. Bartholomew's plan of the twenties contributed to a considerable degree to our street development; Ladislas Segoe was retained in 1938 to completely study Madison's development problems and to prepare guiding plans, a zoning ordinance, etc.**

With the establishment of the office of city planning engineer a few years ago and the hiring of a full time staff headed by Walter Johnson, we are able to keep abreast of Madison's development problems much more effectively. This office, working closely with other city departments is keeping our zoning ordinance and building code up-to-date, has master plans for school development, parks and highways. Such planning must necessarily have a realistic relationship to the city's operating budget. The mayor and the council must examine the city's commitments and resources before embarking upon any long range capital improvement program.

In studying the planning engineer's devolpment maps of the Madison Metropolitan area, it becomes apparent that coordination is needed between the city and the many satellite municipalities lying around it. Whether or not these villages and towns decide to annex to the city, there should be an active, functioning board composed of officials from these areas, meeting periodically to discuss mutual problems and then to cooperate in solving them.

We have come a long way in the last 50 years; let's go a lot further in the next 50!

## Crosby on Radio and Television

# Korean Correspondent's Report

By JOHN CROSBY

Just got a letter from my Korean correspondent, Matt Melko, and I'm terribly pleased to report that he has risen from Private to Private First Class. "I didn't get it by going to school or direct commission or anything like that either. I worked my way up through the ranks."

CROSBY

And he goes on to say:

"In your business you probably have to sit around and listen to old-timers reminisce about how much better or tougher things used to be. Somebody named Dempsey supposedly could have beaten Joe Louis and somebody else named Clara Bow is supposed to have more of whatever it is than Marilyn. Boring stuff.

**"But over here it's different. You have a lot of hills that look like a lot of other hills, a tent, and a potbellied stove. We do have a radio, it's true, and I have a one-eighth interest in it which entitles me to listen to one inning of a ballgame each day.**

"But to hear a ball game, with the time difference, you have to get up at 3 a.m. and to an American League fan 3 a.m. doesn't seem like a reasonable hour. For Brooklyn fans and Giant fans, I realize, it wouldn't seem so unusual.

"But no one can listen to the radio all the time so we sit around the stove and talk. (This is likely to happen to any sizeable group if no television set is present.) And since you can say all there is to be said about Korea while one washpan full of water is heating up, we end up by talking about how things used to be. That is to say, we reminisce. Have you ever heard young-timers reminisce?

✦ ✦ ✦

"One night in the I and R tent, Matthews and Hiller and Hound Dog Thomas got talking about the good old days in radio. There was the Lone Ranger, for instance. Now there was a guy who always flubbed his opportunity. He had come into town, driven out the rustlers, saved Miss Jean's blind father from being lynched, and when Miss Jean looked around to reward him, he was heard to be riding off in the distance with a hearty 'Hi-you Silver!'

"'Father—the masked man who saved us, where did he go?'

"'He's gone, my child. He never waits for thanks.'

"'But who—who was he?'

"'He is known, my child, (hushed pause) as the Lone Ranger.'

"(From a distance) 'Hi-yo Silver!' and the swelling of William Tell overture. Even now I get goose pimples thinking of it.

✦ ✦ ✦

"There were other persons we used to listen to. There was the Green Hornet with his faithful Japanese valet Kato, who overnight after Pearl Harbor, became a faithful Filipino valet.

**"And poor Jack Armstrong, the all American boy, who never could seem to get through Hudson High School. I got through high school before he did and he had an 8-year head start on me.**

"There were Amos 'n' Andy way back when they had a 15-minute daily program. You didn't listen much yourself but your folks did and everybody else's folks must have, too. There wasn't one among us who wasn't familiar with the phrase 'Buzz me, Miss Blue.'

"And finally, when all the kids programs have been laid in mothballs, it will be discovered there are two Henry Morgan fans in the crowd. Old Henry Morgan fans. Not Henry Morgan fans who remember way back when Morgan was doing a half hour show with Arnold Stang but those who remember back before then, when Henry Morgan was doing his 15-minute monologue opposite Lowell Thomas—'Anyone who's listening to Lowell Thomas is a rotten egg. Hello, anyone.' (Editor's note: I remember way, way, way back when Morgan was on at 10 in the morning).

✦ ✦ ✦

"And then somebody would tell how he came on for some cold tablets with such a bad cold that he kept interrupting himself to sneeze. Or how he pointed out that the hole in the Life Savers were really cheating you out of candy. Or how he forgot that he had commercials and played them all together at the end of the program.

"The late '30s and early '40s. The turn of the decade. Those really were the days for radio programs, weren't they?

"By-y cracky!

"Sincerely

"MATT MELKO."

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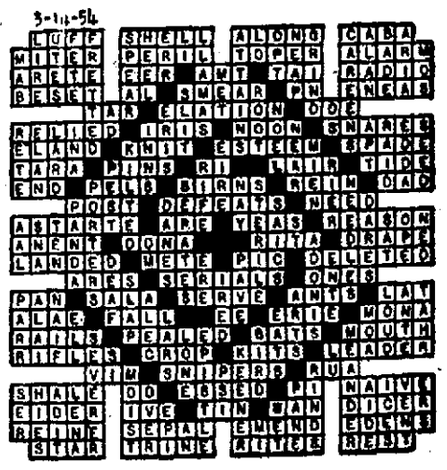
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