

TURNING the DIALS

By FRED H. RUSSELL

Christmas 1956 on WICC will be the brightest in the 30-year history of the radio station. The world's best-loved entertainers, in addition to the station's favorite staffers, will ring in Christmas with the happiest holiday ever. Christmas will be greeted with a variety of special programs highlighted by church services on Christmas Eve. At midnight WICC will carry the Mass from St. Augustine's Cathedral, celebrated by the Most Rev. Lawrence J. Sheen, Bishop of Bridgeport. St. Mary's Seminary choir of the Holy Ghost Fathers, in Norwalk, will be heard. Joseph Barber will provide the commentary.

At 11 p.m., the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service from the First Methodist church, Golden Hill street, with the Rev. William H. Alderson presiding, will be broadcast. The Sanctuary Choir will be featured throughout the service, which will be "Christmas in Scripture and Songs."


On Sunday, Dec. 23, from 7:30 to 8 p.m., WICC will carry selected portions of the Candlelight concert by the choral organization of Staples High school, to be given at Long Lots Junior High school in Westport: John Ohanian and Robert Estes of the

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Beethoven Tribute
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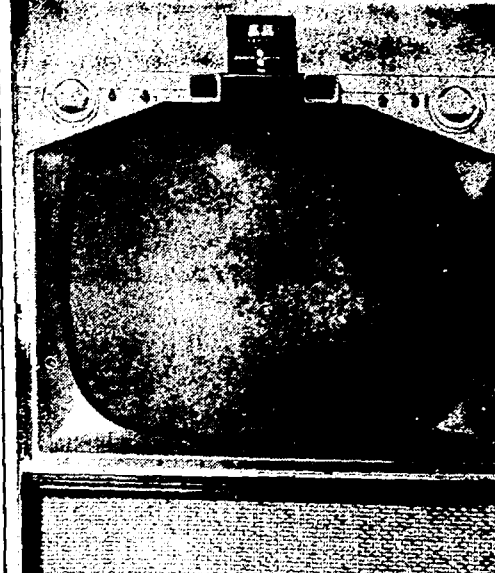
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will be featured on WNYC's "Keyboard Masters" series tonight at 8:30 o'clock. Soloist will be Ronald Hodges, talented young New York pianist, who will perform Beethoven's "Ecclesiastes" and "Sonata in A Flat Major."

Mr. Hodges, who is widely popular in both Europe and the United States, has won the first grand prize of the International Piano Competition sponsored by Radio Luxembourg.

Guest Book
"Christmas Food and Diets" will be the opening topic for the week when Barbara Hubbard appears as guest on Lydia Wells' "Town Topics" program over WJAB on Monday. The program is heard weekdays at 11 a.m.

The schedule for the remainder of the week includes Tuesday, Mrs. Harriet Carpenter discussing "Employment for Older Workers," Wednesday, Edward Dombrowski talking about the Bridgeport TB Society; Thursday, The Need for Skilled Workers will be the topic for Wesley Day of the Connecticut State Employment Service; and Friday, the Rev. Francis Fulop and three refugees will tell about "Escape from Hungary."

Midnight Mass
St. Anselm's Priory, a Benedictine monastery in Washington, D.C., will be the scene of a solemn high midnight Mass to be broadcast by NBC radio on Christmas Eve, starting at 12 midnight and continuing until 1:15 a.m. The Very Rev. Albin Boultwood, prior, will be the celebrant. The Rev. Bernard Theall, of the Catholic University of America, will deliver the sermon and the Rev. David Granfield will be narrator.

The order of St. Benedict, founded in the Fifth Century, has been noted throughout the years for its work to preserve the liturgy. The chants are in authentic Gregorian style.

Salute To Composer
Ruth Steinkraus will commemorate Ludwig van Beethoven's birthday, Dec. 16, 1770, on her "Music for a Sunday Evening" program tonight at 8 o'clock over WICC radio.

In mail received from program listeners, requests for Beethoven's music far outnumber requests for the music of any other composer.

Tonight the following compositions will be heard: "Prometheus" overture, "Ninth Symphony" with Toscanini conducting; "Pathetique" piano sonata and a string quartet.

Bernstein Conducts
Leonard Bernstein will return as conductor to the orchestra with which he first came to public acclaim, when he begins the first of his six weeks as leader of the New York Philharmonic symphony on CBS radio this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rudolf Firkušny will be soloist on the broadcast, and will play the Mozart "Piano Concerto in C Minor."

Mr. Bernstein will conduct during the first two weeks the identical programs which had been selected for that period by the late Guido Cantelli. Mr. Bernstein has stated that he wished to keep the programs intact as a gesture to the memory of his late colleague. He will open the program with Beethoven's overture to "Prometheus," and will present Stravinsky's symphonic poem "Le Chant du Rossignol" and Ravel's "La Valse."

James Fassett will have as his intermission guests William Cacchiano, solo trumpeter of the Philharmonic, who will discuss and demonstrate how tone and pitch are achieved on the C trumpet, the B flat trumpet and the F trumpet.

Goings On
May Bradshaw Hays will cover a great deal of territory over WICC on her "What's Going On" program starting Monday and heard through Friday at 11:45 a.m., over WICC.

The schedule includes: Monday, "Collecting Old Eye Glasses," Allen Rubin; Tuesday, "Christmas Seal Campaign," Mrs. Roy H. Smith; Wednesday, "Employment Available Manpower," Wesley Day; Thursday, "A Christmas Story," Mrs. Charles Merritt; and Friday, "Christmas Carols," the New Haven Railroad Women's chorus.

Casadesus To Play
Robert Casadesus, the internationally famous French pianist, will be guest soloist on the "Telephone Hour" tomorrow night at 9 o'clock over WJAB radio, in a program devoted to the music by Brahms and Schumann.

SUNDAY RADIO TIMETABLE

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TELECAST TOPICS

By FRED H. RUSSELL

One of the best known faces in television is that of Ellen Heckart, the actress who co-stars with Greer Garson, Franchot Tone, Sidney Blackmer and E. G. Marshall in "The Little Foxes" on NBC-TV's Hall of Fame. The Lillian Hellman drama will be telecast this evening from 7:30 to 9 o'clock. Miss Heckart will portray Birdie, a sensitive woman reared in the tradition of the old South, who secretly turns to alcohol as a solace when she cannot face the disillusionment of her domestic life.

Expert delineation of off-beat personalities has contributed no little to Miss Heckart's fame. She scored as the frustrated teacher in the Broadway hit "Picnic," and as the alcoholic mother, in both the stage and screen versions of "The Bad Seed."

Born in Columbus, Ohio, Ellen studied drama at State University and then moved to New York to polish her technique at the American Theater Wing. Her first New York job was on "The Goldbergs," doing commercials. Her first job in the professional theater was a walk-on in a revival of "Our Town," after which she went on the road with "Janie." Later, she understudied Audrey Hepburn in "The Voice of the Turtle," and appeared in "Brighton Beach Memoirs," "They Knew What They Wanted," "Stars and Stripes," "The Traitor," "She Wrote," "Hilda Crane," and "The In Crowd." She also appeared in "Picnic," "The Bad Seed," and "A View from the Bridge."

A video veteran since 1947, when she acted on the second "Kraft Television Theater" telecast, she also appeared on "Suspense" more than 35 times in roles ranging from age 19 to 90. Fred Coe employed her in a variety of parts on his "Television Playhouse," and dozens of other television credits attest to her popularity in this medium. She is winner of the Sylvania Award for her excellence as a television character actress. Her stage honors include the Donaldson Award, the Daniel Blum Citation, and the Outer Circle Award, all for acting proficiency.

"Miracle in the Rain," "Bus Stop" and "Somebody Up There Likes Me" are among Miss Heckart's film appearances. She is married to Jack Yankee, an insurance broker. They live in Norwalk with their two sons, Marco, four, and Philip, two.

New Series
"Air Time '57," a new musical variety show starring Vaughn Monroe, makes its debut on ABC television Thursday, Dec. 27, from 10 to 10:30 p.m., presented by the Air Force Reserve under the auspices of Office of Information Services, Continental Air Command. The new series moves into the time period vacated by "Ozark Jubilee."

Today's Features

8:00-MONITOR: Entertainment and information until midnight WJAB

9:00-CHURCH OF AIR: The Rev. Dr. Raymond L. Leighton, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Hollywood WJAB

10:00-INVITATION TO LEARNING: Lord Byron's Don Juan will be discussed WJAB

12:00-CARAVAN OF STARS: American Jewish variety show WJMG

1:00-NEW MUSIC: Dorothy Nixson and Frank Gussner, Holly Beres and Neil Patrick Harris WJAB

2:00-PRO FOOTBALL: Detroit Lions vs. Chicago Bears WOR

2:00-SIMPSON: Conductor Niels Gade's "Piano Concerto in A minor" WJAB

2:05-DISCUSSION: The Money Market is hot WJAB

3:00-NY PHILHARMONIC SYMPHONY: Leonard Bernstein conducts WJAB

3:30-CAROLING HOUR: The Very Rev. Mr. John Z. Dougherty speaks on "The Temple and the Church" WJAB

4:05-50th ANNIVERSARY: Symphony No. 3 (E-flat Major) by Giuseppe Verdi WJAB

4:05-WORKSHOP: Drama WJAB

4:30-SUSPENSE: Howard Duff in "The Eye Witness," a drama WJAB

5:00-ENTERTAINMENT: The Case of Nancy Drew, a drama WJAB

5:30-GREATEST STORY: The Heart and the Treasure, Biblical drama WJAB

5:30-JOBNEY DOLLAR: The Rasmusen and the Rasmusen WJAB

5:30-STUDIO SERIES: Philippe Leconte, pianist, is featured WJMG

6:05-THE STORY: Larry Haines in "Cold Feet, Tied Hands" WJAB

6:30-AYE MARIA HOUR: The story of St. Ignace of Loyola, Appointment with Maroon WJAB

6:30-CUNESCO: Western adventure drama WJAB

6:35-NET THE PRESS: Dr. Paul Zedden, Jr.,'s ambassador to the United States, is guest WJAB

7:00-JACK BENNY SHOW: Comedy WJAB

7:05-ADVENTURES IN SOFIA: Program of high fidelity WJMG

7:30-LIVE BOX SET: Peter Foster and other guests WJAB

7:30-Music Hall: Richard Tucker, Lucie Arnoux, Yvonne Bryner and Yvonne Bryner WJAB

8:05-NEWS OF '56: Top 10 stories of the year recorded WJAB

8:05-SYMPHONY HALL: by symphony No. 4 by Tchaikovsky WJMG

9:00-FACE THE NATION: General Albert W. Gruentzer, former US Army commander, Europe, is guest WJAB

9:05-OPERA HOUSE: La Comtesse by Joseph Duval WJMG

10:05-CHURCH OF AIR: The Rev. Robert T. Marsh, minister of the Reformed Church in Bridgeport, N. Y. WJAB

10:30-AMERICAN FORUM: Monte Nudo on "The American WJAB

11:05-LOCAL NEWS: From The Post and Telegram WJAB

youngsters in which they display their hobbies. NBC will telecast the New Year's Day parade in Pasadena for the Rose Bowl game, but not for the game itself. That will be in black and white because they don't have enough equipment. Know anyone with a spare color camera? It now begins to look as if Pat Weaver is cooking up some foreign television production deals. According to NBC the latest (Continued on Page Eleven)

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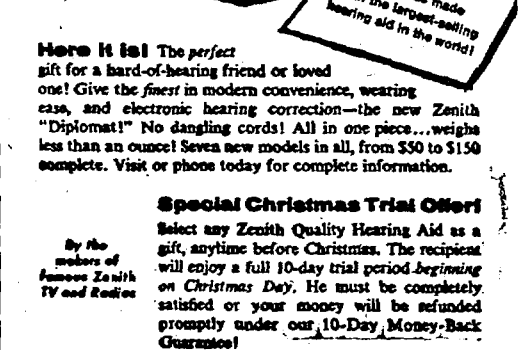
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FACES QUESTIONS
Senator William F. Knowland (R-Calif.), a key figure in the United States domestic and foreign affairs, will face questioning by 12 top reporters on ABC-TV's "Press Conference" program tonight at 8:30 o'clock.

GAMES ON WPX
The New York Yankees have signed a contract for three years with WPX for the televising of all home games and an undetermined number of road games over Channel 11.

SUB BASE ASSAULT
"Counterblast," the story of the German attempt to starve the British people through unrestricted submarine warfare, and the British RAF Bomber Command's decisive night assault on the port city of Hamburg, will be chapter six in CBS television's "Air Power" series tonight at 8:30 o'clock.

A legend of King David will be presented on the "American Jewish Caravan of Stars" over WJMG today at 12:30 p.m. The dramatization, entitled "Music of the Clouds," was written by Sam Dana and will star Gil Mack.