

# Master Of Unique Musical Instrument Set With Allen

## Theremin Virtuoso To Be Interviewed Wednesday Night; "Ask It Basket" Plans Unusual Program

Miss Clara Rockmore, theremin virtuoso, will be interviewed as Fred Allen's "Person You Didn't Expect To Meet" and will play that novel electrical instrument on "Town Hall Tonight" Wednesday at 8 p. m. over WEAJ.

Invented a decade ago by Leon Theremin, a Russian, the theremin makes melodic sound with the assistance of the surrounding atmosphere. Different tones are produced by the operator standing in front of the instrument, which resembles a refrigerator, and moving his hands thru the air.

As a second feature of the program, Allen will lead the Mighty Allen Art Players thru a mystery titled "Murder in Cafe Society," while also on hand will be Portland Hoffa, the Merry Macs, the Town Hall Quartet directed by Lyn Murray and Peter Van Steeden and his Troubadours.

Contestants will be asked to make animal-imitations, recite poetry backwards and do other "incredible feats" during a round of puzzlers entitled, "Anything Can Happen," on Jim McWilliams' Ask-It Basket program over WABC Wednesday, 6:30 p. m.

McWilliams is inaugurating this round as a regular feature to provide an informal "let-your-hair-down" atmosphere, in which listeners may participate as if they were at a party. Tried out on the studio audience last week, the feature was so successful that McWilliams decided to include it in the program as a regular weekly feature.

Other features will include another special basket of questions on famous Americans and a round on current events.

Elsa Maxwell, America's most renowned hostess, will teach Neil Sparks, Ken Murray and Jimmy Wallington how to throw a real bang up party on the WABC Star Theatre, Wednesday. Priscilla Lane, guest star for the dramatic portion of the program, will appear in "Avenue A," an original playlet written especially for her by Arch Oboler.

The musical portion of the program will feature the radio premiere of "Melancholy Mood," by Kalmar and Ruby, sung by Frances Langford. She will also sing "I Cried For You" and Gene Autry's newest song "Paradise in Moonlight." Kenny Baker will sing "Ain't Cha Comin' Out Tonight" and "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes." The musical background will be supplied by Dave Brockman and his orchestra who will also play a new arrangement entitled "Español Cami."

America's largest prison break—the escape of Malloy Kuykendall and thirty other desperadoes from the Oklahoma Granite Prison on February 17, 1935—will be dramatized on Gang Busters, Wednesday at 7:00 p. m., over WABC. Details of the break will be related by a law enforcement officer in an interview with Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf.

Kuykendall, in a conspiracy with Edward Stamphill and D. L. Baker, Jr., fomented a riot at the prison, seized the Sunday prison visitors and used them as hostages in escaping. Twenty-eight other prisoners joined them.

William Seabrook, author of "Asylum" and other best sellers, will discuss his spare time pursuit of voodoo and black magic on Dave Elman's Hobby Lobby Wednesday at 7:30 p. m., over WJZ.

Also on the program will be Jean Bates, of Grinnell, Ia., who was recently crowned Iowa hobby queen by Gov. George A. Wilson; Mrs. Harry M. Gordon, of Venice, Calif., who runs an animal refuge; Robert Pike, of Great Bend, Pa., whose hobby is collecting epitaphs, and a group of children from New York City who are learning to sing grand opera.

An 18-year-old freshman at Grinnell university, Miss Bates

### BEST BETS WEDNESDAY

**P. M.**

- 6:30—George Jessel in a Jamboree, WJZ.
- 7:00—One Man's Family, WEAJ.
- 7:00—Gang Busters Dramatic, WABC.
- 7:30—Tommy Dorsey Music, WEAJ.
- 7:30—Paul Whiteman and Band, WABC.
- 8:00—Fred Allen Town Hall, WEAJ.
- 8:00—The Theatre of Stars, WABC.
- 9:00—Kay Kyser's College, WEAJ.

was crowned "Queen of the Hobbies" by Gov. Wilson as a climax to the Iowa "Hobby Lobby Week." Miss Bates spends her spare time collecting sleigh bells and playing tunes on them.

Five sweet songs will shift the Tommy Dorsey program away from the swing standard when the trombone maestro broadcasts from Raleigh, N. C., Wednesday. The program will be played before a large audience on the stage of the Ambassador theatre and will be heard over WEAJ at 7:30 p. m.

Tommy will play four swing tunes, in addition to the ballads, and one unclassified composition. There is also under way a movement to compose a new song titled "Is This Town Named for the Cigaret, or The Cigaret for the town?" but Tommy sees a commercial taint in such a lyric.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Eastern Standard—Subtract One Hr. for CST, 2 Hrs. for MT—P. M.  
(Daylight Time One Hour Later)

(Changes in programs as listed due to last-minute network corrections)

- 5:00—Our American School—nbc-weaf
- News; Dance Music Orch.—nbc-wjz
- Broadcasting News Period—nbc-wabc
- 5:05—Edwin C. Hill Talk—nbc-wabc
- 5:15—News; Malcolm Claire—nbc-weaf
- Adrian Rollini's Orchestra—nbc-wjz
- Howie Wing on Aviation—nbc-wabc
- Sucker School Feature—nbc-chain
- 5:30—Names Make News—weaf only
- The Romance Lyrics—nbc-red-chain
- Three Jesters and Peg—wjz-wbz-wgy
- Dance Music Orch.—nbc-blue-chain
- To Be Announced (15 m.)—nbc-wabc
- "Front Page"—wtk-wspd-weae-wbb
- 5:45—Bill Stern on Sports—weaf only
- Lyrics from Romance—nbc-red-chain
- Lowell Thomas Talk—nbc-wjz-basic
- Lynn Brandt, sports—nbc-blue-chain
- Barry Wood & His Music—nbc-wabc
- 6:00—District Attorney—nbc-weaf-ca
- Easy Aces, Dramatic Serial—nbc-wjz
- Amos & Andy, Skit—nbc-wabc-east
- To Be Announced—nbc-chain-west
- Fulton Lewis, Jr., Talk—nbc-chain
- 6:15—Ink Spots Quartet—nbc-weaf
- Mr. Keen, Dramatic Serial—nbc-wjz
- Lum and Abner Dramatic—nbc-wabc
- 6:30—Revelers—weaf-kyw-wbz-wmt
- Dancing Music Orch.—nbc-red-chain
- Geo. Jessel in a Jamboree—wjz only
- Dancing Music Orch.—nbc-blue-chain
- Jim McWilliams and Quiz—nbc-wabc
- Lone Ranger Drama—nbc-wor-east
- Front Page rpt—wlv-wgn-kstp-kxok
- 6:45—Dancing Music Orch.—nbc-weaf
- Sam Hatter on sports—wlv-wgn-kwk
- 7:00—"One Man's Family"—nbc-weaf
- Melodies from Microphone—wjz only
- Ray Shield Radio Review—nbc-blue
- Gang Busters Dramatic—nbc-wabc
- Chicago Orchest. Prog.—nbc-chain
- 7:15—Jimmy Walker, Talk—wjz only
- Ray Shield cont.—nbc-blue-chain
- Dancing Music Orchestra—nbc-wgn
- 7:30—Tommy Dorsey Music—nbc-weaf
- Dave Elman Hobby Lobby—nbc-wjz
- Paul Whiteman and Band—nbc-wabc
- Welcome Neighbor Prog.—nbc-chain
- 8:00—Fred Allen Town Hall—nbc-weaf
- The Horse and Burgie Days—nbc-wjz
- The Theatre of Stars Hr.—nbc-wabc
- Cincinnati Concert Orch.—nbc-chain
- 8:15—John Steele Comment—nbc-wor
- 8:30—Winks for the Martins—nbc-wjz
- Percy Faith and Orchestra—nbc-wor
- 9:00—Kay Kyser's College—nbc-weaf
- Ransom Sherman & Prog.—nbc-wjz
- Raymond Paige's Concert—nbc-wabc