Farce-Fantasy Offering To Be Given Saturday Night

Arch Oboler Masterpiece Will Be Aired At 9 P. M. Via WEAF; Uncle Ezra To Give "Boy Who Didn't Pass" Poem

Arch Oboler has written the first comedy in his present series of plays and will present it over WEAF Saturday at 9 p. m. The farce-fantasy is entitled "Nero's Wife," and deals with the woes of an inoffensive little clerk who returns to his apartment after work to be welcomed by a beauteous dame in toga and diadem. The visitor insists that the clerk is a reincarnation of Rome's fiddling emperor and that she is his lawful spouse.

Complications ensue due to the fact that, in the 1800-odd years which have elapsed since her death, the Empress has forgotten whether she is Octavia, the pure and innocent first wife whom Nero divorced, exiled to the Isle of Pandateria and murdered; Acte, the Amazonian freedwoman who for a brief period tried to reform the Emperor by beating his head against the palace wall, or Poppaea, the bloodthirsty hell-cat consort of Nero's later years.

"The Boy Who Didn't Pass," that minor tragedy of the end of school, will be the subject of Uncle Ezra's poem on the National Barn Dance, Saturday at 8 p. m. over WJZ. For the rest, the program is dedicated to that season of the year when books are tossed in the ashcan, and bare feet signal vacation's arrival.

Among the musical highlights of the vacation party are "It's Vacation Time Again," by the ensemble; "Country Boy" and "Lazy," by the Maple City Four; "Barefoot Trail," by Joe Parsons; "The Woman in the Shoe;" by Ann Pat and Judy; "When You and I Were Schoolday Sweethearts," by Henry Burr, and a baseball medley by the Hoosier Hot Shots.

A strictly jitterbug rendition of "Stomping at the Savoy" with Bob Strong's orchestra rolling it down the groove, will be a hot musical highlight of Avalon Time Saturday at 7:30 p. m., over WEAF.

Other musical features of the show will include "on the Sunny Side of the Rockies," warbled by Red Foley, and "Don't Worry About Me," a solo by Janette. Foley and the chorus are scheduled for a performance of "Little Skipper" and Red Skelton, the show's funsmith, will pitch up the comedy against his dead-pan partner, Edna Stillwell.

A Cinerella Girl who will rise from obscurity next week-end to be feted in a whirlwind trip to New York will be interviewed by Parks Johnson and Wally Butterworth on the Vox Pop program Saturday, from 8 to 8:30 p. m., over WEAF direct from the RCA exhibit building at the New York World's Fair. The young lady is Ruth Mock, 23, a clerical worker of Mansfield, O., who won the trip when she was victor in a spelling bee. Her Vox Pop interview will be one of the highlights of the visit. Parks and Wally also will introduce her twin sister, Naomi, who will accompany her.

The Vox Pop broadcast will feature also the announcements of the first nominations received in the poll being conducted by Parks and Wally for the "American Father of 1939." The parent who is named this year will be presented by the Vox Poppers on their show of June 17, the eve of Father's Day.

Fred Waring's orchestra and entire company of entertainers will be featured in college fraternity and campus airs on an hour-long WEAF program Saturday, at 9:00 p. m., on which prominent speakers will discuss the college fraternity as an influence in American life.

The Waring organization, now vacationing at Shawnee-on-Delaware, Pa., and rehearsing for the new program opening on WEAF June 19, will come to New York for College Fraternity night, broadcasting from the Radio City studios.

Dr. Harry W. Chase, Chancellor of New York university, will be the first speaker. His topic will be "Schools Within Schools." He will be followed by Philip A. Benson, president of the American Bankers'-assn, whose subject will be "Training for Leadership and Cooperation."

At this date, it is anticipated that more than 15,000,000 people will hear Andre Kostelanetz' music in the Theme-bldg of the New York World's Fair. The figures are based on the fact that practically every visitor will visit the Perisphere.

Jack Johnstone, director of the "Johnny Presents" dramas, heard over NBC and CBS, is making application for a patent on a device which will eliminate the slightest disturbing noises in a broadcasting studio.

Mary Margaret McBride's substitute for the summer will be "Joyce Jordan, Girl Interne." Show will take over spot, starting Monday, July 3.

Real example of gratitude is given by Red Skelton, Saturday night comic. Dinty Doyle, New York columnist, saw his possibilities quite early and has been a consistent booster of Red's. When Doyle signed to play a week at Loew's State, Skelton, veteran vaude star, flew in from Chicago on Sunday to make a guest appearance for the scribbler.

Plans are being made for Edgar Bergen to take two weeks off the air in August for a tonsil operation. It will be Bergen's first absence from the radio since Dec. 16, 1936.

Conrad Thibault, noted baritone, becomes a permanent member of the cast of Mort Lewis' "If I Had a Chance" program over WJZ Tuesday, June 13, at 9 p. m. when four outstanding celebrities tell what they'd really like to do if they had the chance. Those to be interviewed by Mort Lewis include Eve Sully and Jesse Block, comedians; James T. Farrell, author who wrote "Studs Lonergan;" Ferde Grofe, composer of the "Grand Canyon Suite," and Lillian Hellman, playwright whose current hit, "The Little Foxes," is starring Tallulah Bankhead on Broadway.

One of O. Henry's famous short stories, "A Madison Square Arabian Night," will be dramatized on "Johnny Presents" as another in the series of "The World's Greatest Stories" over CBS Saturday, at 7 p. m. Adapted for the microphone by Max Marcin and directed by Jack Johnston, the story has a typical O. Henry surprise ending.

BEST BETS SATURDAY

P. M.

6:30—County Seat, WABC.

7:00—Johnny Presents WABC.

7:30—Saturday Variety Time, WEAF.

7:30—Prof. Quiz Quizzes, WABC.

8:00—The National Barn Dance, WJZ.

8:00—Phil Baker, Bottle and Beetle, WABC.

9:00—Arch Oboler's Plays, WEAF.

9:00—The Saturday Hit Parade, WABC.

STATIONS THAT MAKE UP THE NETWORKS

(Note: Refer to this box for stations of networks indicated after each program item. All programs are carried by key stations and basic chains or groups thereof unless specified.)

NBC-WEAF (RED): BASIC—East: weaf cbm kyw wlw wcae wesh wdel wccn wlbr wgy wjr wcsh wraw wtag wtam wtic wwj. **Mid-west:** ksd krlp wdaf wbzw wky wmaq wow wtmj. **South:** kprc kths kark kvoo wtsp wtaq wore wgbx wmbg wmc wsoc wsb wsmb. **Mountain:** kdyl koa