Indiana Historical Radio Societi BULLETIN

Volume 13

March 1984

Number 1

Bottle Radio Is Beverage Ad

NOVEL are the uses to which radio has been put. Here is one that deserves a place near the top of the list of clever



As means of advertising beverage, a radio was put in bottle.

tie-ups. A large beveragemanufacturer approached the maker of a well known low priced radio set. and got him to adapt a set to a case that looks like the bottle the advertiser's beverage comes in. The result was a dummy case which resembled a large bottle of the well-known drink, with the added novelty of containing a radio set.

Modern Mechanix and Inventions for June

1934



OFFICERS

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FOR SOCIETY INFORMATION WRITE TO:

Vice President-For legal matters of the IHRS. Secretary-For general correspondance and membership applications.

Treasurer-For membership payments and address changes. (1984 dues are \$6.00).

Historian-For History of the IHRS and for donations of material for the scrapbook.

Please use a stamped, self-addressed envelope when requesting information.

INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY and ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

REGIONAL SPRING MEET - SATURDAY APRIL 14, 1984 at the

AUBURN -CORD-DUESENBERG MUSEUM in AUBURN, INDIANA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13: 4:00 PM - Early Registration at the Museum 7:00 PM - "Old Tyme Movie" and David Crocker's CROSLEY SLIDE SHOW, Museum Mezzanine

SATURDAY, APRIL 14:

- 9:00 AM Registration at the Museum SWAP MEET IN THE NORTH PARKING LOT
- 9:30 AM Register items for the OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST, Nelson & Tammy Preble.

OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST CLASSIFICATIONS:

- 1. Crystal Sets
- Crystal Sets
 Ham receivers to 1939
 Atwater Kent battery receivers 7. Ham transmitters to 1939
- 3. Crosley battery receivers
- 3. Crosley battery received.
 4. Operation Portable Radios 9. AC Receivers to 1933.
 10. Radio Advertizing Displays
- 10:00 AM SALE OF DONATED ITEMS for the IHRS Museum Fund. You are invited to bring surplus parts and sets for a good cause!
- 10:00 AM Register items for the afternoon auction. All items must be registered by 12:00 Noon.
- 10:30 AM CONTEST JUDGING. Best of show receives the GREBE TROPHY
- 12:00 Noon Lunch at the Museum "Filling Station".
- 1:00 PM AUCTION OF PERSONAL ITEMS. A 10% donation to the IHRS Museum Fund is expected.
- 4:00 PM "EARLY TRANSISTOR RADIOS" from the 1983 AWA National Radio Conference. The Regency Model TR-1 first Transistor Radio plus information on collecting early transistor radios made in the USA.
- 6:00 PM SOCIAL HOUR in the Museum Mezzanine Banquet Room.
- 7:00 PM BANQUET and OLD EQUIPMENT CONTEST AWARDS. Entertainment to be announced.

PREPAYMENT for the Banquet must be received before April 11, 1984. Banquet tickets are \$11.00 each. Make check payable to I.H.R.S. and mail to Del Barrett, 1517 Pacific Dr., Ft.Wayne, IN 46819. Make your own Motel reservations at the L & K Motel 1-800-848-5767 or at the Starlite Motel 219-925-0500, both on SR 8W, Auburn, IN 46706

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$3.00 AT THE DOOR (Includes Museum Admission from 4:00 PM Friday and all day Saturday).

ALL AWA, IHRS MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE WELCOME! Jerry Hueber & Del Barrett, Co-Chairmen

DECADES OF RADIO SOAPS

Radio soap operas entertained millions of faithful listeners during the golden decades of radio from the 1930s to 1960 and created many areas of collectables. Through depression hard times, war anxieties and postwar uncertainties, programs such as Backstage Wife, Just Plain Bill. Stella Dallas, Our Gal Sunday, Pepper Young's Family, The Road of Life. The Guiding Light, Life Can Be Beautiful, Young Doctor Malone, Lorenzo Jones, and many other favorites gave listeners 15 minutes each weekday afternoon of smiles, thrills, anxieties and romance with a little time off for commercials.

Two of the most popular soap operas began close to the same time in the fall of 1933, making 1983 the year of their golden jubilee. Each program continued an amazing 27 years. The two grand ladies featured on the programs are generally recknned the most famous characters in soap opera history. Ma Perkins and Helen Trent.

Ma Penkins was first heard on the NBC network Dec. 4,1933. Virginia Payne, a 23 year old doctor's daughter from Cincinnati, had the role of Ma and she continued to play Ma Perkins without missing a performance for another 7,064 broadcasts. "Everybody ready for Oxydol's own Ma Perkins America's mother of the air," said the announcer. And through the magic of radio we were instantly transported to Rushville Center, U.S.A., where Ma ran a lumber yard with her partner Shuffle Shober and raised her three children John, Evey and Fay. Ma had strength for every challenge, courage for every sorrow, compassion for all in trouble and solutions for most problems. Ma Perkins' front porch was America's favorite refuge in hard times.

The Romance of Helen Trent began on CBS Oct. 30, 1933, 35 days sooner than Ma Perkins. Virginia Clark, Betty Ruth Smith, and Julie Stevens were the actresses who played Helen Trent. The 7,222 episodes opened with banjo strumming and the whistled theme "Juanita." Then the announcer repeated an introduction thousands of loyal followers knew by heart: "The real life drama of Helen Trent who, when life mocks her, breaks her hopes, dashes her against the rocks of despair, fights back bravely, successfully, to prove what so many women long to prove in their own lives, that because a woman is 35 or more romance in life need not be over." Helen was a beautiful, successful dress designer in Hollywood. Destiny and the program's writers kept her in romantic hot water for 27 years. She had 30 suitors, some 24 proposals and no weddings. Her lovers had an amazing talent for catastrophe. They made Helen Trent the most accident-prone and trouble afflicted heroine in soap opera history. Helen Trent clearly needed what she couldn't have, the advice and assistance of soap opera's champion trouble remover, Ma Perkins.

The rise of television, the decline of network radio and changing American entertainment needs ended radio soap opera in 1960. Ma Perkins and Helen Trent were among the last to go. The last Helen Trent episode came June 24, 1960 with Helen promising to marry John Cole after his election to the U.S. Senate. Did she make it to the altar and happiness at last? The silent radios never said.

Ma Perkins said "Goodbye and may God bless you" to her devoted friends and neighbors across America on Nov. 25, 1960. She predicted happiness ahead for all of us if we live each day as it comes and "take the sting out of our sorrows" by always remembering the wonders of life and the world around us.

Soap operas had usefull messages for troubled times. They often may have served as escapist fare, but they provided uplift, relief and guidance, too. Ma Perkins and Helen Trent are missed. The proof is in how well they're still remembered more than 50 years since their beginning.

Roy Meador (E.T.)





The radio chassis, inside the Coca Cola radio shown on the cover, was a Crosley model 165. I could not find the circuit in the Riders Index. The radio was made in 1934.

Bits of Radio History

$F\Lambda DA$

Frank Angelo D'Andrea's driving ambition was to get rich. From the time at age 11 when he stopped helping his father, a junk dealer, make his rounds collecting scrap, he tried a series of jobs: newsboy, prizefighter (using skills acquired as a newsboy), helper in an electroplating shop, and finally a tool-and-die maker. This last position, at the Frederick Pierce Co. who did experimental work for inventors, led him to radio when they were asked by Dmil Simon to adapt a German-designed radio receiver for wartime production. After making a prototype, the contract was turned over to the De Forest Co. for production, and D'Andrea went along to supervise it.

In 1920 Andrea went into business for himself, making mechanical parts for Marconi and later radio parts for sale to amateurs. Shortening his surname, he adopted his initials F.A.D.A. for his new company. His crystal detector hit the market just when the 1922 radio boom got going, and soon he had a work force of 40 girls turning out 1800 a day, detectors which cost him 96 cents to make, and sold for 32.25.

Again in the right place at the right time, Andrea was one of the New York manufacturers who banded together in 1922 to buck RCA and persuaded Prof. Alan Hazeltine to develop his Neutrodyne invention and license it to them. Fada was first to market a Neutrodyne, in March 1923, their four-tube, reflexed model 160, at 1120. It was soon joined by three kits: the 125 165A consisting of three tuned RF coupling transformer assemblies and two neutralizing condensers, the 164 166A four-tube reflex, and the 165.60 167A five-tube non-reflexed Neutrodyne.

In August 1924 the 167A gave way to an improved 169A kit with a symmetrical panel layout and binding posts moved to the rear. Next month a line of factory-built models appeared: the 175A five-tube, the 185A with built-in speaker, and the 195A three-tube reflex. The 160A was still available toc.

More than a year later, in Dec. 1925, the 175A and 185A were still being advertised, but both reflexed models had long since been dropped. Reflexing, a good idea on paper, did create problems, and by 1925 tubes were no longer so expensive to buy or to operate as they had been in 1923.

Andrea, by the way, continued to run his company until he died in 1965 at the age of 77.

References:

Men Who Made Radio, no.3, NY Herald-Tribune Dec. 26, 1926. The Road To Success, no.4, NY Post, Dec. 6, 1962. Elography in the NY Journal-American, April 25, 1965. Hazeltine the Professor, Harold Wheeler. Hazeltine Corp., 1978. Ads in Radio News, Radio Broadcast, other magazines and newspapers.

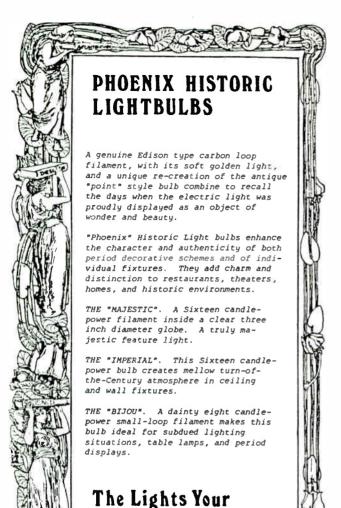
Alan Douglas











Grandfather Knew

MAJESTIC



IMPERIAL



BIJOU



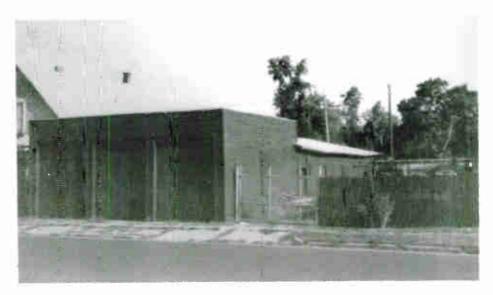
Reproduction historic lightbulbs are now available for authenticity in lighting your radio collection. There are four styles of carbon filament, glass tipped bulbs and two styles of "Mazda" straight side bulbs with zig-zag tungsten filaments. All may be used with dimmers as desired.

The price range is from \$4.50 to \$6.00 each. Send SASE for spec. sheet to: Bradford Consultants, 16 E. Homestead Ave., Collingswood, NJ 08108.

Dr. Ed Taylor



This is the house at 437 Masterson Ave. Ft. Wayne, IN where the Slagle radios were made in 1924 to 1926. See the last Bulletin for the story.



The Anylite Electric Co. building at 1418 Wall St., Ft. Wayne, IN as it appears today.

Private Brand Radios' History Interesting

by James A. Fred

In past stories I've written about old radios I have often referred to "Private Brand Radios". We all know about RCA, Philco. Atwater Kent, etc. Almost without exception the companies that used these brand names on radios made these radios in factories that they owned or controlled.

We also know about Sears Roebuck. Montgomery Ward, Western Auto Supply, etc. These companies were all merchandisers of radios, but did not manufacture them. The names used on their radios, ie, Silvertone, Airline, and Truetone were known as "private brands".

Simply stated we can say that a radio not sold by the original manufacturer with his name on the cabinet or dial, was

a "private brand" radio.

There is one other category of private brand radios and that is automobile radios. To my knowledge General Motors was the first automobile company to establish a wholly owned radio manufacturing plant. This was the Delco Radio Division located in Kokomo, Ind. It was established in 1936. For a brief time the same factory building was occupied by the Crosley Radio Corp. who made some Chevrolet auto radios. Even after Delco Radio went into production GM bought radios from RCA and Colon-

the majority of automobile name branded radios, ie, Ford, Chrysler, Hudson, Studebaker, Cord etc. So in effect we have private brand auto radios. In addition there were the after market private brand auto radios sold by chain stores, ie, Sears and Wards, and radios sold by auto accessory stores, ie, Western Auto, Bearcat, Pep Boys, etc.

Who then was the number one private brand radio manufacturer? Among my reference books I have one titled, Radio Troubleshooters Handbook. It is a third edition, published in 1943, written by Alfred A. Ghirardi. This book has a list of radio manufacturers in business prior to 1943 and the brand names used. Heading the list was the Warwick Mfg. Co., 1700 West Washington St., Chicago, Ill. They made radios with at least 40 different names on the cabinets or dials.

May I digress a moment with two interesting sidelights? In 1938 I owned a radio shop in Mishawaka, Ind. Since it wasn't a major appliance store I couldn't get any brand name radios to sell, ie, Philco, Zenith, RCA, etc. In order to cash in on the coming Christmas season sales I drove to Chicago to the Warwick Mfg. Co. I went to the sales department and ordered 24 radios from their sales display, paid cash, drove around to the shipping dock, and picked up the radios. The radios were small AM Prior to WWII Zenith and Philco made radios in nicely finished wooden cabinets, and cost wholesale between \$5 and \$9 each, depending on the number of tubes and other features.

Warwick Mfg. Co. survived (most of the others didn't) and later Sears Roebuck bought a controling interest, and for many years Warwick made most of the Sears television sets. Finally in the 1970s Sears sold its interest to Sanyo (a Japanese firm). The plant was moved to Arkansas and still builds Sears color television sets.

Other private brand companies in Chicago were: Clinton Radio Mfg. Co. with 11 brands, Wells-Gardner and Co. (still in existence) with 12 brands, Belmont Radio Corp. (bought by Admiral) with 10 brands, and Continental Radio and Television Corps. (later Admiral Corp.) with 16 brands. As far as I know Wells-Gardener is the only survivor of the 40 or more radio manufacturers located in the Chicago area in the 1930's.

Some companies, such as Zenith only make TV sets, other companies such as Hallicrafters were sold and operate in other states, Admiral Corp. was sold and manufactures TV sets in Canada. Chicago is no longer the radio manufacturing capitol of the United States. That title may now be held by Kokomo, Ind. The Delco Radio Division (now the Delco Electronics Division) still makes millions of auto radios each year.

© James Fred 1984



3-Tube Short Wave Radio Only \$3.25 (less toles, phoses, source).

A REAL property of the control of the control





FREE: New 1937 Catalogue











I found this ad in the Radio Magazine section of the Feb. 14, 1924 Chicago Evening Post:

Atwater Kent Radio Equipment - Model 5 - 5 Tube Receiving Set. This receiver includes Type 11 Tuner and 5-tube amplifier. The tuning arrangement affords great ease of operation and the two stages of audio frequency amplification give ample volume for Loud Speaker operation on both local and distant broadcast programs. The Complete set, wired, priced ... \$55.

This set complete with the following accessories: 1 Universal A battery, 4 Burgess B batteries Mo. 2158, 5 R.C.A. tubes UV201-A, 1 Atlas Loud Speaker, 1 Brandies Head Set, 1 Tungar Charger. Special today, Friday and Saturday: \$141.50. Convenient terms may be arranged.

Don't rush to buy yours. Plenty in stock!

I've seen many ads for AK 9, 10, and 12, but this is the first for a 5.

Walt Sanders Terre Haute.





GIRL IN A HORM?

This ad from the Chicago Evening Post Radio Magazine for June 1º, 1924, shows a Music Master Horn large enough for a young lady to be shown sitting in the opening. The caption reads "Scores of Chicago people are to be entertained and instructed by the happenings of the Democratic Mational convention in Mew York, thru the loud speaker to be installed in the Clizabethan room at the Congress hotel. Invitations have been issued to hundreds of persons, and hundreds more will drop in to hear convention proceedings at first hand.

"For the occasion the Music Master company has loaned the hotel its mammoth loud speaker, the largest that has ever been made. This horn is 12 feet high and is over eight feet across the front. The hole, out of which the sound comes, is six feet in diameter. The accompanying illustration shows a young lady sitting in this opening. A regular unit, such as used on any loud speaker made by this company, is used in this horn. The great amplification comes from the shape of the horn and the materials in it that tend to throw the sounds out farther than the average loud speaker does."

Apparently the reporter did not realize that nearly two years earlier Magnavox had constructed a 35 feet long wooden horn with an opening 12 feet square, which is much larger than the Music Master horn. The Magnavox horn was installed in Dora Park, California, where it carried music throughout an area of 20 square miles! (See Radio News for August, 1922.)

The Music Master horn described above was played into a 5-tube home brew receiver constructed and operated by C. G. Vlahos, using the Bremmer Tulley "Mameless" circuit when installed at the Congress hotel.

Walt Sanders Terre Haute

Indianapolis 1984

This secretarys report was submitted by Marilyn B. Johnston.

The February 1984 meeting of the IHRS was called to order by the President Robert Shuck. There were 60 members and guests present.

Del Barrett gave recognition to K. D. Ross, author of WOWO The Birth of a Station.

Treasurer, Diana Heathcote, presented the Treasurers report. We now have 13 new members, with a total of 173 paid up 1984 members.

Jerry Hueber will reserve the hospitality room at Auburn. Mr Hueber will need three judges, who have been members of IMRS for at least three years.

Dr. E. E. Taylor gave a report on the Indiana Museums request for the IHRS to set up a display of Indiana made radios in the museum.

After comments by Joe Willis and Glen Rogers President Shuck called for a committee to evalute the Ron Scranton Trophy rules. The committee will be composed of Walt Sanders, Don Johnston, Joe Willis and Frank Heathcote. Mr. Heathcote suggested that the rules for the Ron Scranton Trophy be included in the next Bulletin.

Indianapolis 1984 (Continued)

The Ron Scranton Trophy Committee will make a report at the summer meeting.

Mr. Willis gave a brief outline of the Radio Fest '84 combined meeting with ARCA to be held in Elgin, IL on June 21-23. 1984, Fliers have been mailed.

President Shuck adjourned the meeting.



From The Mail Bag

WANTED: schematic diagram for a Knight (Allied Radio) portable combination record player and wire recorder, 78 RPM with built-in phono oscillator for AM radios. I can not find a model number, need help. Thomas J. Schuren, 810-38th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705.

FOR SALE: Zenith model 10S464-AC, 10 tube, console radio, 3 band tuning, 6 push buttons, large black airplane dial, Radiorgan Tone Color Blended with 6 buttons, plays very well and cabinet is in fine shape. If interested call 317-962-6775, or write to Max Follingsworth, 329 So. 31st St., Bichmond, IN 47374.

MICHIGAN ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB. The next meet of the MARC is to be held May 5 1984 from 8 AM until 1 PM at the Marshall Street National Armory in Lansing, MI. Pre-regristeration is \$4.00, registeration at the door is \$5.00. Further details can be had from Jim Clark, 1006 Pendleton Dr., Lansing, MI 48917 or phone 517-323-9595.

* * * ATTENTION * * *

Closing dates for Radioads are as follows.

June issue: March 30 1984

September issue: August 30 1984

December issue: November 30 1984

RADIOADS

WANTED: collector would like to purchase or trade for early Adams-Morgan or Paragon equipment, Literature, and Detectors, Randall S. Renne, 1020 Idlewild Drive, Dixon, ILL. 61021.

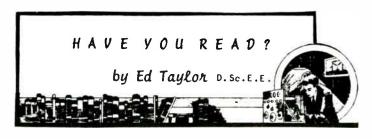
WANTED: early USA made transistor radios, especially those made in Indiana, including the Regency TR-1 and the Medallion. Will pay a good price or trade early battery radios from the 1920's. Jerald Hueber, 6316 Winnebago CT., Fort Wayne, IN 46815.

WANTED: new or used vacuum tubes- any vintage- I buy them by the bushel or the peck. Send list and SASE to: Tracy B. Sands III, 1520 W. Juno St. C. Anaheim, CA 92802.

WANTED: any information, ie, wiring diagram, etc. on "Lionel" 4 tube radio with 37, 38, 6C6, and 6D6 tubes. Ken Frankenberry, 410 Sadler St., Point Marion, PA 15474.

WANTED: information on a "Telomonic" 6 tube radio, tuning is by 3 flat, intersecting coils that rotate. Send to: A. C. Stoddard, 1502 Briar Wood Rd., Lansing, MI 48917, Phone: 517-321-1598.

WANTED: operating manual/instructions on use of Kennedy 281 and 521 combination; early incand escent electric light bulbs; type UV-217, West. Elect. type "M" tubes. B T Wooters, 8303 E. Mansfield Ave., Denver, CO 80237.



STEVE SEARS ACE ANNOUNCER

by William B. Levenson 1948

Mysterious codes. the strange behavior of a radio announcer, a gang of smugglers - exiting adventure woven into an interesting and highly informative account of radio broadcasting. Behind the microphones of a radio station are numerous staff members who remain unknown to the listening audience. Their work, bowever, is vital to the entertainment and education of the radio listener as well as to the success of the broadcasting industry.

This book will provide the reader with an insight into radio station organization and operation. Steve Sears' knowledge of radio was that of a typical listener until he had a chance to go behind the scenes of Station WBAK, where he learned to escape the consequences of a cunning plot by a vicious group of criminals. STEVE SEARS, ACE ANNOUNCER will hold the reader's interest to the very end.

A limited number of copies of this illustrated juvenille radio novel (hard-bound with dust jacket) are available for \$4.00 each postpaid from Ed Taylor.





RADIOADS-Continued

WANTED: old or unusual telegraph keys or bugs. Especially interested in early Camelbacks and spark era keys. Would like pre-1925 bugs. Gil Schlehman, 335 Indiana, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Phone 312-968-2320.

WANTED: a horn speaker for a Federal Radio Corp. Ortho-Sonic Electric type G 10-60, TRF 2-2, table model radio, 1928, S#30253. Write: Harold Johnson, 734 Carter Rd., Arkadelphia, AR 71923.

FOR SALE: available March 1984 a 14 page list of Radio Magazines and Literature. Send \$1.20 in money or stamps to; Gary B. Schneider, 9951 Sunrise Blvd., #R-9, North Royalton, OH 44133.

FOR SALE: Kennedy 281, Radiola V (model AR885) Westinghouse RC, Ace type V, and many others. Randall S. Renne, 1020 Idlewild Drive, Dixon, IL 61021.

FOR SALE: Booklet that cross references the Trade Names of Pre-WW II Radios to their Manufacturer or Distributor. Send \$2.95 post paid to cover my cost. "RADIO ACTIVITY" c/o Lawrence T. Anderson, 3453 Balsam N. E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

SPEAKER REPAIR SERVICE: reasonable prices, but prefer to trade my work for antique radios or related items. Field coils must be good. Send SASE. Hank Brazeal, 545 Shades Crest Road, Birmingham, AL 35226.

WILL TRADE: Ace type V for several 3 or 4 tube AC-DC radios in wood or steel cabinets. James Fred, R 1, Box 41, Cutler, IN 46920.

To late to Classify

TRADE: good WD-11 for .00035 mfd three-gang Remler variable condenser. MUST BE REMLER. Don K. Johnston, R 1, Box 218-A, Windfall, IN 46076, 317-945-7735.

FOR SALE: AK 60 in Keil 6 leg table, best offer. Philco and RCA mid 30's modified cathedrals. Hardin McCauley, 8471 Patterson, St. John, IN 46373.

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Montgomery Ward & C.

The Oldest Mail Order House is Today the Most Progressive