





#### Leaders

ROBERT T. CONVEY. President and Treasurer of KWK (Thomas Patrick, Inc.), son of the founder of the station, whose youthful efforts to achieve radio reception with an old-style crystal set were responsible for his father's first interest in radio, learned the broadcasting business from the ground up. During the years when his father, Thomas Patrick Convey, was building and developing KWK, young "Bob" worked by turns in all of the various departments of the station, learning the business by actually doing it. Thus, at the death of his father in 1934, Robert Convey was especially fitted to take over the direction of the station's affairs and to manage the station with a wisdom born of understanding.

MRS. THOMAS PATRICK CONVEY, Vice President of KWK.

KULLIE

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## of KWK

The late **THOMAS PATRICK CONVEY**, founder of KWK in 1927
and its first President, was known and
respected as a radio pioneer throughout the country. He was also warmly
admired by his thousands of friends
and listeners in the St. Louis area. In
1925, Mr. Convey organized and
managed the original station KMOX
in St. Louis. With that accomplished,
he devoted the rest of his life to the
development of KWK. Mr. Convey
died in 1934. The principles of public
service established by Thomas Patrick
Convey still prevail in KWK's policy
under the leadership of his son,
Robert Convey.





MRS. JAMES O'HARE, Secretary of KWK.

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RAY DADY, KWK's Station Director and News Commentator, has always subscribed to the practice of working an idea hard until he gets another and better one. With that in mind he left his father's Ringgold County, Iowa, farm in the early 1920's, received his first college training at George Washington University, started to study law. Writing seemed a better idea, so newspaper reporting had a trial. Drama criticism caused Ray to read, analyze, cross-index Broadway productions for two years. Under St. Louis critic Henry Niemeyer, Ray learned more, decided KWK might use a drama review show, was auditioned and surprised by being taken on to review news. Thus, in 1934, KWK set up its pioneering news bureau. Soon Ray Dady was appointed to administrative duties, which left him less time for news, but gave him his present responsible position as KWK's Station Director.

V. E. CARMICHAEL, General Sales Manager, has packed his thirty-five years with experiences that far exceed those of most men of his age. Until he was twelve, he and his three brothers helped their father on his farm in Missouri's Nodaway County, then came up to Mound City to go to high school. Upon graduation from U. S. Hall School, "Mike" Carmichael was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point. An opportunity to work on a newspaper led him to leave "the Point" and join the Louisville Herald. Later, with the Ohio State Journal, the Montreal Herald and in various sales positions, he built the experience that led to KWK's sales staff in 1930. He was appointed sales manager in 1939.

ROBERT SAMPSON, National Sales Manager for KWK, started moving early in life. When he was three his school principal father moved his mother, Bob and his half-dozen brothers and sisters to St. Louis from Little Rock, Arkansas. Like Mr. Carmichael, he was appointed to West Point for an army education. Two years after his graduation in 1925, Bob resigned his commission as lieutenant of Coast Artillery for an advertising-publishing career with a North Carolina company. The combination of his experience and advancement there, and his desire to return to his home, brought him back to St. Louis in 1928 to found his own advertising agency. From this came a demand for his services in visual and radio advertising fields. He joined KWK in 1937.



JOHN TINNEA, as KWK's Program Director, is directly responsible for the selection and scheduling of all programs on the station, and is one of its most important executives. In 1930, John came to KWK to work on the famous "Just Around the Corner Christmas Club." He was then only eighteen, but the late T. P. Convey, impressed with his energy and obvious ambition kept John on as receptionist. It was the foothold he needed, and by a systematic program of reading anything and everything concerned with radio by asking questions and gathering information on all phases of the radio industry, he had soon made himself extremely valuable to KWK.



DAN SEYFORTH has done enough to fill this book briefly—Dan is KWK's Production Manager with a seasoned knowledge of music (he plays four instruments and sings) and drama (his mother was a Broadway musicomedy star, and Dan toured with shows for years). His radio career dates back to 1924, when broadcasting was an infant and Dan sixteen. Married? To sparkling singer-actress Tommye Birch.

CLAIRE HARRISON, continuity director, credits the depression for her start in radio. Forced to leave school through lack of funds Claire started writing for KWK early in 1933, after attending Beloit College and nibbling at tutoring, newspaper work, and advertising copy-writing.

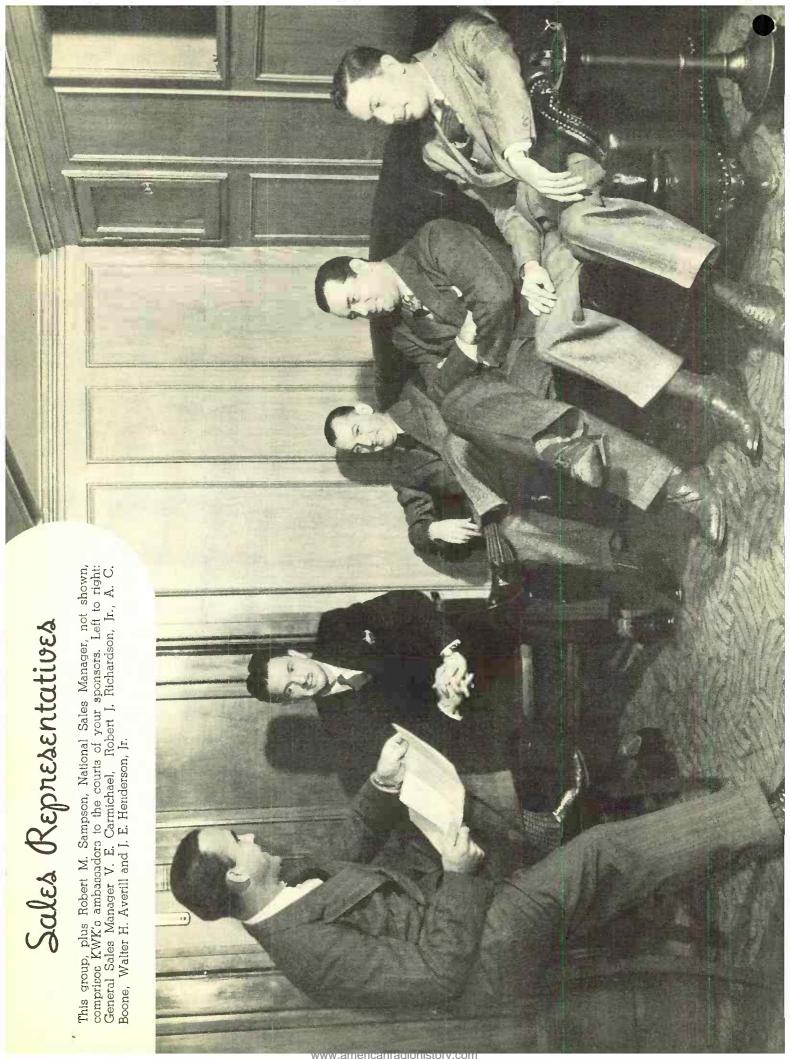
Below -ROLLA COUGHLIN received his L.L.B. degree from St. Louis University School of Law in 1926, but he followed music, instead. As Musical Director of KWK, Rolla can draw upon his talents as pianist, conductor and arranger. He has conducted several network musical shows and was business manager and assistant conductor of the late Irving Rose's orchestra for eight years.



**HELEN GROGAN** holds the seldom understood job of Traffic Managerher department must arrange each day's schedule of broadcasting so that the right program, with the proper announcer is performed in the correct studio at the exact moment specified. In 1929 Miss Grogan became the late Thomas Patrick Convey's secretary at KWK, and knows the mechanics of our station as a veteran.



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Above —

THE KWK AUDITING DEPARTMENT is headed by capable business-woman Lucille Stopple (right). Her assistants are Ruth Hofmann (center) and Bernice House (left).

I eft -

ALL TRANSCRIPTION OPERATORS at KWK are union musicians. These men are in complete charge of operating the finely balanced tables, the diamond and sapphire-pointed reproduction heads and sensitive transcription "platters". Chief operator Russ Kaiser stands in the center, flanked by "Red" Schiffer and Art Gruner, left and right.









## Administrative Staff





ESTHER HENSHAW, switchboard operator.

CARL HELM, traffic assistant.

DOROTHY KING, switchboard operator.



KATHRYN BREWER, copy typist.



LOUISE STEFFENS, receptionist





MARTIN BOWIN, KWK's Supervisor of Announcers and Newscaster, set out to be almost anything but a radio announcer. He had wanted to be a lawyer, had studied violin and piano for awhile and found that his services as a cost accountant returned a fair revenue. Accounting, although it seems farthest removed from radio performing, led him into it. Martin took an accounting job with WHK in Cleveland. One day he was asked to try his well modulated voice on a microphone and from then on he was an announcer. Soon he became Program Director at WHK and began accumulating some of the company stock and part ownership in the station. In 1935, however, Martin sold his Cleveland stock and came down to join KWK. His daughter and son are 20 and 17, respectively, and he claims to have "saved plenty" by marrying on his wife's birthday!

MYRON J. BENNETT was just emerging from college when he became a radio announcer. At the University of Wisconsin he had majored in journalism and had just dropped his "sheepskin" at home and started working for the Milwaukee Journal in 1927 when he was whisked through the city room into the newspaper's radio station and told to talk into a microphone. Myron took it seriously and progressed from there to other major stations and finally to KWK in February 1940. For relaxation, he turns to the other side of broadcasting—radio mechanics.



Right — **DON COCHRAN** was generally known as "Ronald Cochran" before he became an announcer at an Illinois station in 1936 and his co-workers dubbed him "Don". Of course, for some time he was referred to as "Mister" Cochran, too; that was while he was an instructor in physics at the University of Florida. His college dramatics experience and later Little Theatre work led to announcing, and then to our organization in 1939. As hobbies, Don says he "reads voraciously" and "writes sporadically", but with all the rejection slips received he still plans "The Great American Novel."



Above — BOB HITE is the latest comer to KWK's announcing staff. He moved here from WXYZ, Detroit, November 1, 1940. And Bob is the youngest on our announcing roster, as well—26. After a premedical course at Wayne University, Detroit, and selling everything from "cookies to insurance", he started as an actor on the Mutual network "Lone Ranger" and "Green Hornet" shows, graduated into a first-rate announcer at WXYZ. Then he applied for the KWK position he now holds. A bachelor, Bob likes to hunt, fish, play ping-pong and tennis, and act.

Right — TAYLOR GRANT was already a practicing attorney-at-law when he became an announcer at KWK in 1938, but there was an idea behind it all . . . as an attorney Taylor wanted to specialize in radio law, practicing before the Federal Communications Commission. This required additional school time, provided by the coveted Railroad Club scholarship which he won in 1936, but he had to eat, too. So your morning announcer works in radio half his time, studies radio and practices law the other half — and is married in between times. Taylor Grant (Edward H. Harman) believes he is the only practicing attorney - radio announcer.







KWK Addresses the Ladies

KWK

Ladies, this is CAROL GAY, who puts into her daily morning program of "This Woman's World" suggestions and comment based on a wide experience, a fine taste, and a down-to-earth understanding of practical home environment. Carol Gay's smart good sense has made her one of the most charming and gracious ladies you will ever meet. A degree in journalism from the University of Illinois started Carol into the career that wended through publicity and sales promotion, newspaper work, fashion reporting, book reviews, lectures and myriad contacts with the world's talented and accomplished people. Thus, in October, 1939, KWK welcomed her to its microphone to treat of subjects strictly feminine. While she thinks her KWK program is more fascinating than any other of her varied and interesting experiences, the consuming passion of her life is her family — Carol (11), Joan (9) and "the mister". She describes the family as . . . "four rugged individualists . . . a swell home if you like excitement". Specifying her partialities, she says: "I love to cook, am slightly insane about hats, don't like men with 'lines'."

Right — Carol Gay interviewing John Boles, star of stage and screen, at the Airport as he passed through St. Louis.

Below—Popular songstress **CONNIE BOSWELL** came to Carol Gay's microphone recently, as one of the numerous celebrities introduced to KWK's audience of women.





"Let's Help You Keep House" is no idle suggestion from HELEN ADAMS each afternoon. She is thoroughly capable of doing it. Helen is youthful and spirited, but embodies a practical knowledge of home economics that began when she was a school girl in Iowa. There was a time when Helen Adams wanted to become a doctor, "to be able to carry a stethoscope", but that ambition was momentary. After a good deal of experience in the family kitchen, she went down to the University of Missouri, took all their home economics courses and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Helen became a hospital dietitian, food supervisor in a large restaurant, director of a commercial kitchen. These were pretty large assignments for a young woman, but Helen knew how to roll up her sleeves and dig in—she had learned that by working her way through college. So when KWK looked around for the ideal combination of a young, experienced, practical food expert, Helen Adams fitted the picture perfectly and started her present KWK series October 1, 1939. She is the only St. Louis home economist on the air who is a member of the "American Home Economics Association" and the "American Dietetic Association". "Miss" Adams — she's married — likes to fish, putter around the farm she and her husband bought and collect autographed recipe books; someday she would like to build a house with a skylight — and have twins!



During the 1940 Food Show in St. Louis, **HELEN ADAMS** met many of her listeners and broadcast her daily program from the KWK booth in the Municipal Auditorium.

Interviewing Mr. H. B. Boyd, Chief Commercial Agent for the Railway Express Company, was one of HELEN ADAMS frequent "special features" to inform her listeners on varied subjects.





In the KWK News bureau, shown here, two men serve their entire time attending the news activity that links KWK with every corner of the earth and is the culmination of the reporting, editing and dispatching work of hundreds of expert journalists at home or abroad. These two men are LELAND L. CHESLEY, SR. (right), Editor of the KWK News Service, and JAMES L. WOODRESS, JR. (left), rewrite man and Chesley's assistant.

With nine and ten newscasts to prepare each day for KWK listeners, the finest facilities available have been arranged to cover every news front on the globe. From two United Press Association wires, operating three teletype machines at speeds as high as 60 words per minute, come stories that are given KWK dialers sometimes even before they are known in London, Berlin, Tokio or Naples! Local news is watched closely, through Police Radio reports and Mr. Chesley's myriad sources "on the inside"

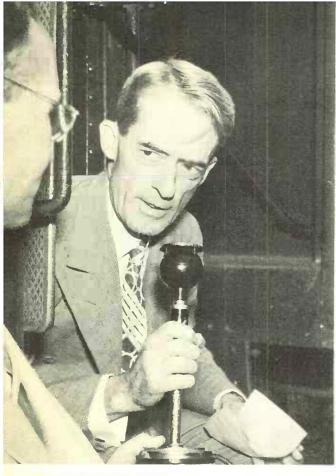
LELAND CHESLEY went from Grand Junction, Colorado, to the University of Colorado to study journalism. Years of reporting, writing, editing and serving as national news service correspondent brought Chesley into contact with the country's outstanding news "breaks" and leading personalities. He has run the gamut of interviews, from murderers to Col. Charles Lindbergh, Wendell Willkie to Pope Pius XII (then Cardinal Pacelli, Vatican Secretary of State).

In 1938 Ray Dady selected Leland Chesley as full time director of our News Bureau. He is also heard as KWK's commentator in the absence of Mr. Dady.

JAMES WOODRESS was serving as St. Louis correspondent for a dozen newspapers when Mr. Chesley appointed him to the KWK News Bureau a year ago. Quiet, youthful lim Woodress would have become a professor of English had not Chesley interfered; he was taking graduate work at Washington University, following a degree from Amherst College a year earlier.









MARTIN BOWIN, KWK chief announcer, interviewing Marvin McIntyre, secretary to President Roosevelt, when the Presidential special stopped in Union Station, St. Louis.

Fannie Brice, star of stage, screen and radio, being interviewed in her theatre dressing room.

### Special Events

When news is being made within the St. Louis vicinity KWK brings its listeners a first-hand account of the activity at the scene of the event. Special leased wires carry the story to KWK's control room and then directly to the transmitter and your receiving set. This, the "special events" division of KWK's service, is only partially represented on these pages, for in many cases the camera was entirely forgotten in the urgency of broadcast preparations.

**RAY DADY** interviewing Gypsy Rose Lee, famous striptease "artist" in her dressing room at the American Theatre.

A KWK special events crew broadcasting a description of the Fort Kncx Motorized Cavalry Unit as it passed through St. Louis. Left to right, seated: Ray Dady (with mike); Martin Bowin, KWK chief announcer; James Burke, KWK chief engineer (with earphones.)





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Senator Styles Bridges, former governor of New Hampshire and present Republican Senate leader from that state, spoke to a national audience on a KWK-Mutual hook-up from Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri.

Child prodigy Mary Christine Dunn of Bonne Terre, Missouri, with her mother and father. Special interview staged in child's home at Bonne Terre.



Special interview in the office of Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann of St. Louis with "One-Way Corrigan." Left to right: Mayor Dickmann; unidentified man; Corrigan; Leland Chesley, KWK news editor; Martin Bowin, KWK chief announcer.

ROBERT T. CONVEY, president of KWK, presenting a new silk guidon to Captain John Casey of Battery A, 128th Field Artillery, in a special ceremony at the Armory on the eve of the unit's induction into active service. Left to right: Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann (behind mike); Robert T. Convey; Unidentified soldier; Captain John Casey (holding guidon staff); Don Cochran, KWK announcer (in background).



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## KWK

Above -

Left to right: Dan Seyforth, production manager of KWK, Bonnie Baker and Orrin Tucker at a broadcast of the opening of the Zodiac Bar on the Starlight Roof of Hotel Chase December 1940.

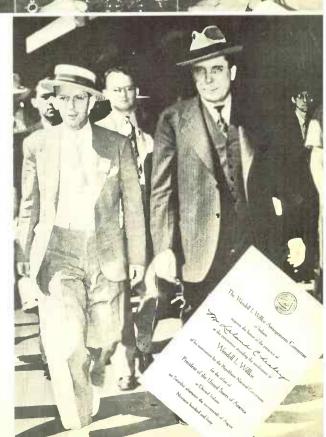
Right -

Jim Burke, KWK chief engineer monitoring, while Stewart Martin, former Cardinal second-baseman, and Pepper Martin, former Cardinal utility infielder and outfielder, chat over a KWK microphone at the Cardinal training camp in Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1937.

Right — Leland Chesley, KWK's News Editor, interviewing Wendell L. Willkie, Republican candidate for President, during the latter's visit to St. Louis in June, 1940.

"Coon-shoutin" "Cass Daly, comedienne who was highly successful at the St. Louis Municipal Opera, talking over a KWK mike.







## Ports Fronts

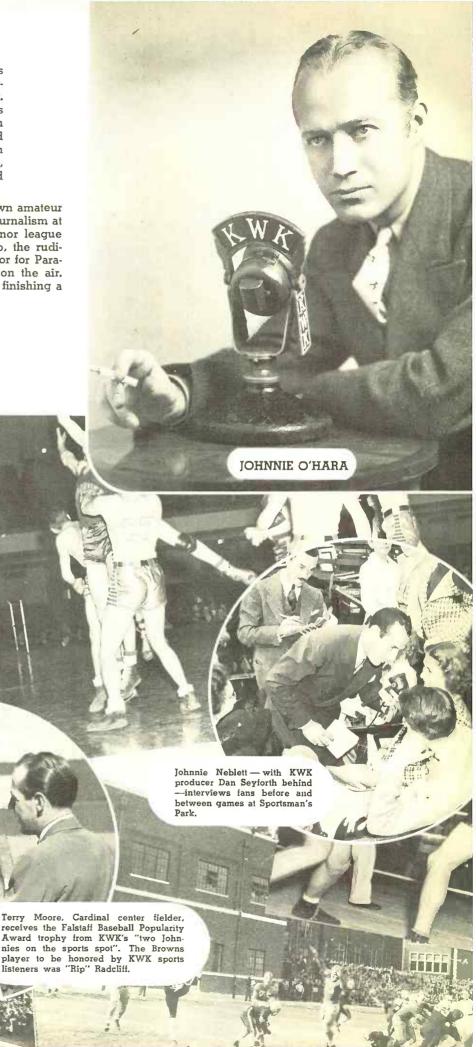
Browns; from the Arena where the flashing Flyers ium of whichever football team offers the best per-Municipal Auditorium; from the training camps of St. here St. Louisans have a close interest in a sports year the report of the pre-season Cardinal - Cuban ay from Havana; this, the only time a broadcast had tated special governmental approval, and cessation complish this detailed coverage of the sports fronts, I sports men in the country — Johnnie O'Hara and

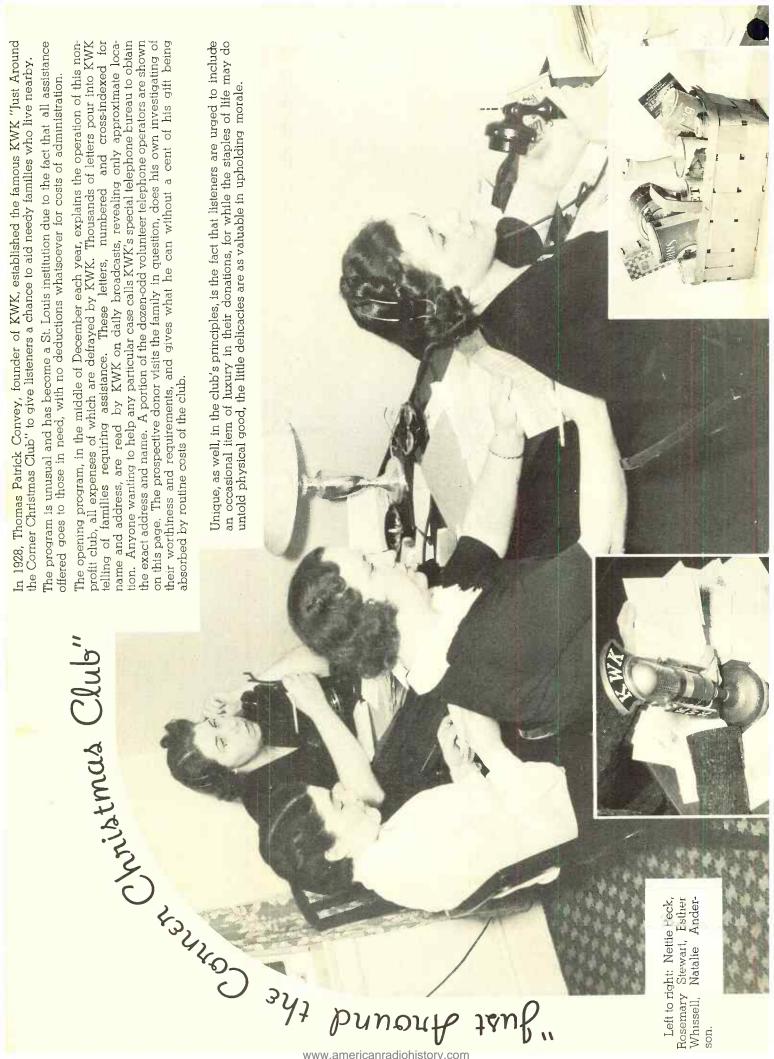
a ship's wireless operator. He had operated his own amateur d his desire to travel. Winters ashore he studied journalism at you could find him in shortstop position for minor league owed this unusual routine he learned about radio, the rudil. In June of 1936, after some time as sports narrator for Pararest is a story of his successful sports coverage on the air, the amateur radio, his son Jimmie (John James) and finishing a

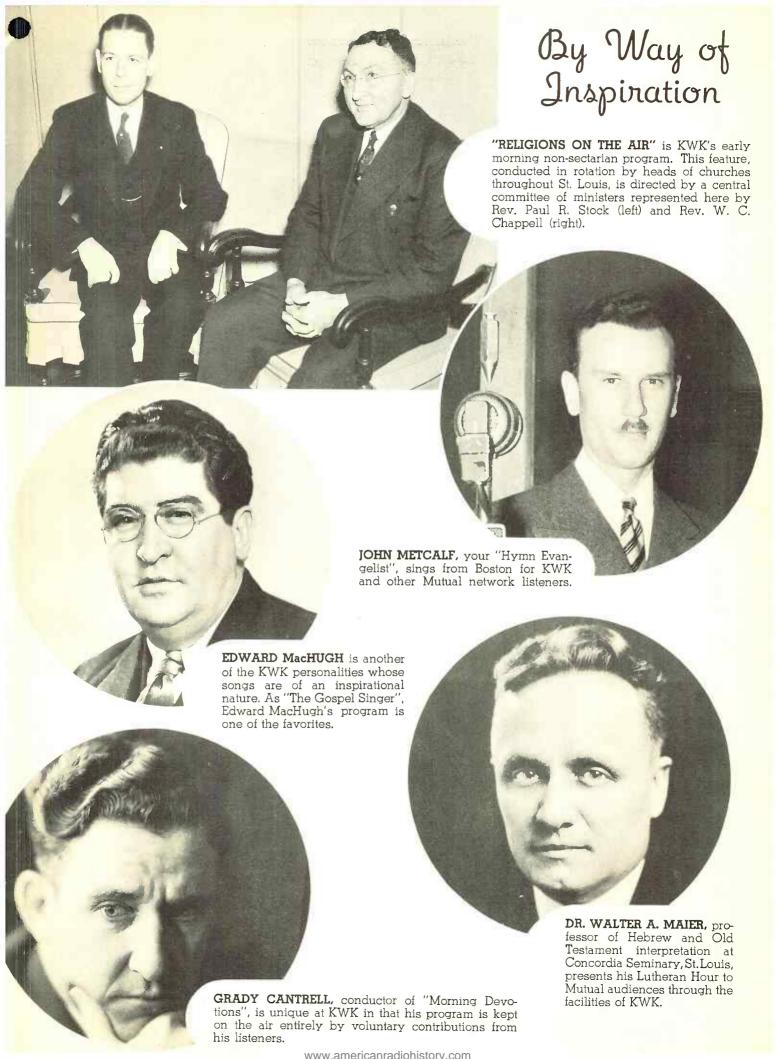
Johnnie O'Hara takes the "mike" to the dugout for comments from a visiting player.

35 with high honors, having waited tables xed. In search of his bread and butter, ad his own dance band in college, too. came to KWK once, moved on to an Ohio ississippi wanted him to be a doctor, and es to watch a surgeon operate. After his e to "kinda stand quard" over one-year-

ulders













# The Scenes

THE RECEPTION FOYER of KWK on the ninth floor of the Hotel Chase.

Left -

**STUDIO A,** equipped for orchestral broadcasts, is visible from the observation corridor window at the right, and from master control room on the left.

Below Left — STUDIO B, smaller than studio A, accommodates solo music shows and talking features. The multiple telephone installations along the left wall are for special audienceparticipation programs. KWK maintains still another studio for the use of announcers and speakers.

Below -The OPERA HOUSE of the

Municipal Auditorium is at the disposal of KWK whenever programs require its use in the downtown section.



### KWK Activities

Right —

For audience attendance programs and special large features, KWK has access to the REGENCY ROOM of the Chase Hotel.

Right -

KWK's "nerve-center" is this TRANSMITTER OPERATIONS ROOM. Modern and efficient in design, this recent improvement in KWK equipment houses the 5000 watt transmitter (across rear wall) and power and amplification apparatus to send programs from KWK's nearby 390 foot tower. It is located near Riverside Drive in North St. Louis.



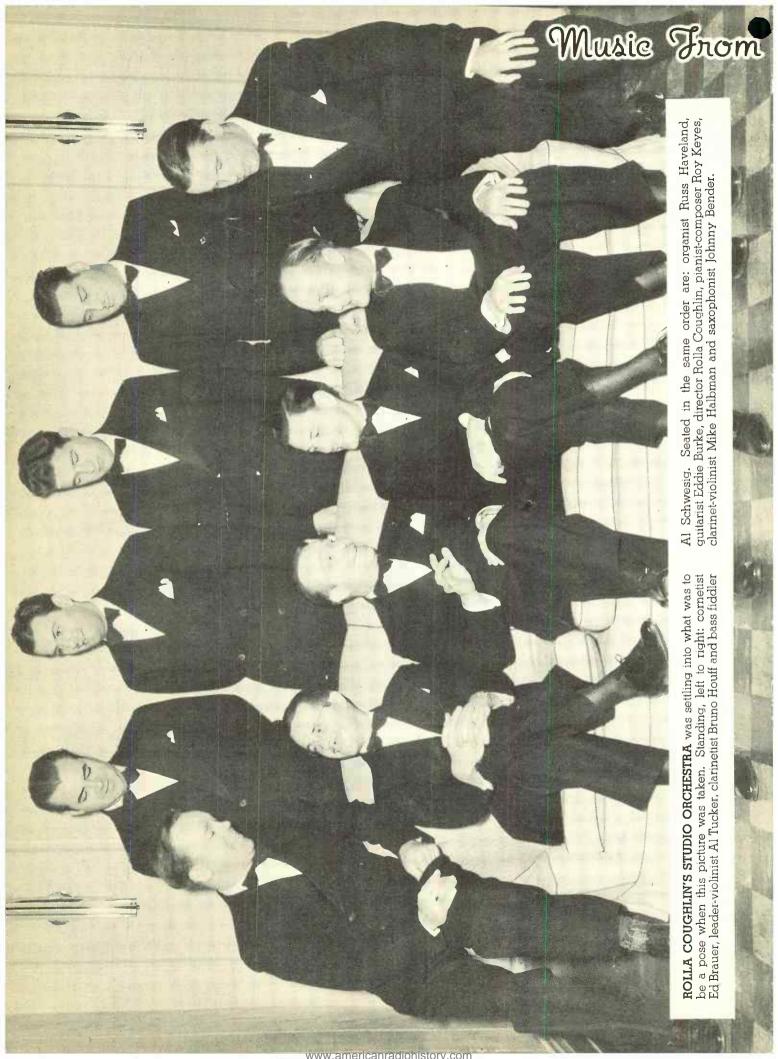


















Announcer Don Cochran and Al Sarli in full regalia for your afternoon "SWING CLINIC" program.



AL SARLI, pianist-arranger-conductor and "the Professor" of "The Swing Clinic".

Left — BILL FOREMAN has sung on two major networks, in Chicago's leading theatres and with Wayne King's orchestra, as a result of urging by some of St. Louis' best known band leaders. A clerk for the Mississippi Valley Trust Company, Bill understands a financial report and a music manuscript with equal ease, and can demonstrate additional talents with a violin or guitar. He is twentyseven and was married last summer.

Below — Talented BETTY BARRETT has only recently returned from a successful engagement with the National Broadcasting Company in Chicago, singing to coast-to-coast audiences. Only fifteen, Betty already has ten years of radio experience, for she started piping her songs into a microphone when she was five. "Miss B" has had to share her time between the microphone and text book for some time, and still has a couple of years to go.



sixteen-year-old star of her own show on KWK, will always list July, 1940, as the turning-point in her life. Visiting friends in Arkansas last summer "Dottie" took an audition on a local station and was hired at once. But the summer ended and she had to return to St. Louis and high school, so she bundled her new-found confidence into KWK, was heard, liked, and signed, and is





Lovely Joan Blondell, star of "I Want A Divorce," throws the switch for her broadcast dedicating Mutual's new West Coast studios. Standing with her is Mutual's vice-president Lewis Allen Weiss.



Morey Amsterdam and "housemaid extraordinaire, Annie Botts" (Mabel Todd),talk over a domestic situation on the MBS-KWK "LAUGH 'N' SWING CLUB" broadcast.

### Variety Programs From KWK

William A. Bacher, chief of all programs and production for MBS in Chicago, inaugurated and produces "The Chicago Theatre of the Air" as well as many other Mutual variety features.

Two of the "DOUBLE OR NOTHING" cast, affable emcee Walter Compton (right) and singer Frank Forest, discuss the fine point of timing on the MBS-KWK dollars-for-wisdom show.





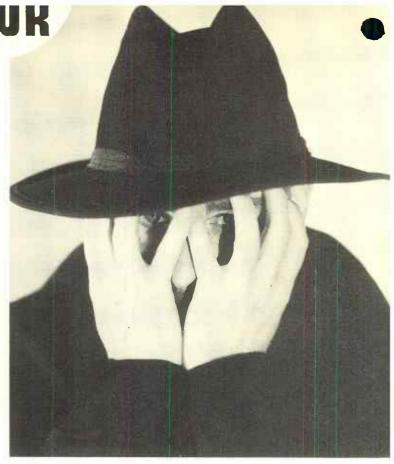
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**PEGEEN FITZGERALD**, fashion expert of "HERE'S LOOK-ING AT YOU", is assisted by Richard Willis, beauty analyst, in telling MBS-KWK listeners how to improve their appearance.

A tense moment for Alice Hill and Marvin Mueller, who play the respective roles of "Gail Carson" and "Peter Quill" in the MBS-KWK drama "PETER QUILL".





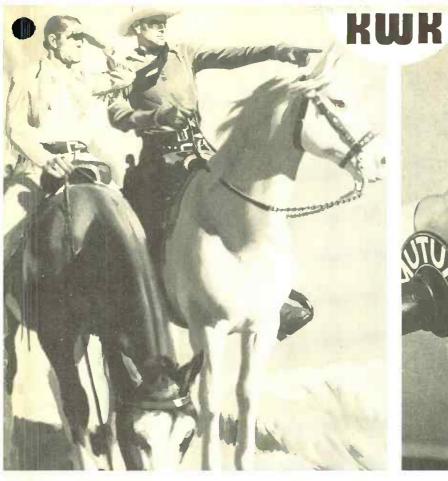
"THE SHADOW", fancy-capturing MBS-KWK mystery serial, is enacted by this hand-masking gentleman, Bill Johnstone. The invisible racket-buster is assisted by Marjorie Anderson as "Margot Lane".

## Variety Programs

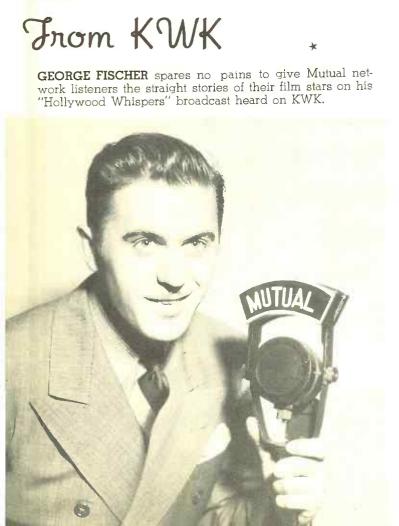
Ed Prentiss fills the title role in the Mutual-KWK aviation serial, "CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT".

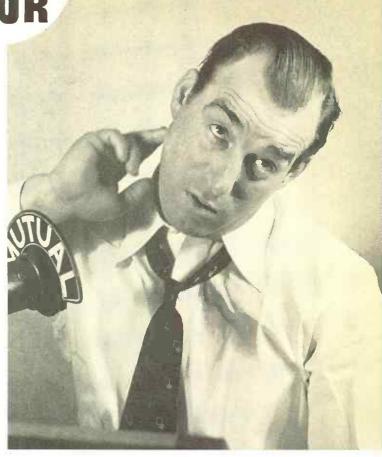


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"THE LONE RANGER" and "Tonto" on their famous horses, "Silver" and "Scout" heard in the MBS-KWK adventure series.





Jimmie Scribner, author, director and all the actors of the Mutual script show "THE JOHNSON FAMILY".



Betty Caine plays the part of Mary in your transcribed KWK serial drama "THE LIFE OF MARY SOTHERN".







Above—
Bob Emery (center with hand extended toward boy) as he conducts Mutual's "THIS WONDERFUL WORLD" program heard by way of KWK.

Left — The principals of your "LEW LOYAL" thriller: (left to right) Patty Wallis ("Betty True"), Bret Morrison ("Uncle Mack") and Jack Bevins ("Lew Loyal").

Right — Donna Reade (left) plays "Jane" and Marge Calvert (right) is "Judy" in the story of "JUDY AND JANE", one of KWK's electrically-transcribed serial stories.

KWK



"LOPEZ SPEAKING", and conducting his ever-popular band in his characteristically suave manner for your KWK Mutual headline feature, "The Show of the Week".



Intriguing **BEA WAIN** has long been a favorite interpreter of popular ballads with Larry Clinton's band, heard through the Mutual Broadcasting System over KWK.

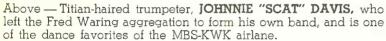
### KWK Music From Mutual

BOB STANLEY, youthful maestro who conducts a carload of Mutual musical shows—"Jazz Nocturne", "Barnstormers", "Continental Revue" and others—for the MBS-KWK audiences.

Mutual's song siren who becomes a triple-threat on the KWK dial spot. Charming **BENAY VENUTA**, who writes, conducts and solos her own show each week.







Right — "THE MUSICAL STEELMAKERS" features these two young singers; Lovely Dorothy Anne Crowe, eighteen-year-old mezzo-soprano, and tenor Ardenne White.

Right—"King of Swing" BENNY GOODMAN is only one of the nation's musical monarchs whose bands set your dancing tempo on the coast-to-coast MBS-KWK dance shows in the evening.

Below — JANET BLAIR, beautiful contralto singer, graces the performances of the late Hal Kemp's dance band over the KWK-MBS network facilities.







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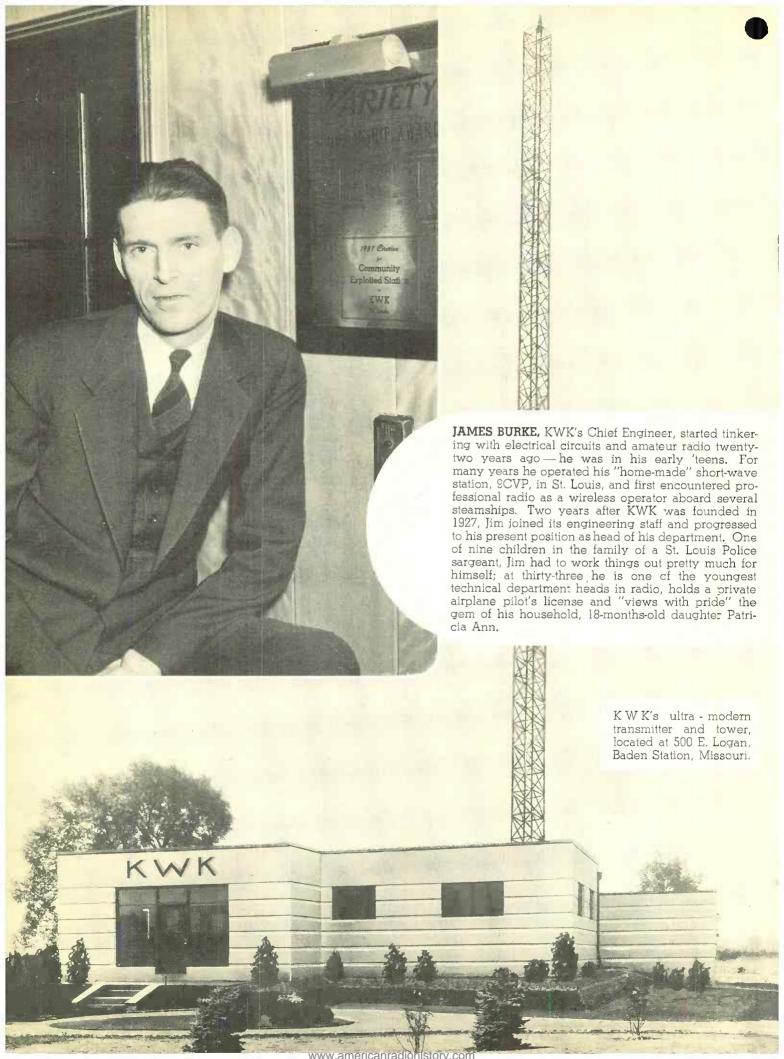
Above — MAXINE GRAY, song stylist whose appeal has taken the fancy of both Hollywood and Broadway, is another delightful musical feature of KWK and the Mutual network.

Left — Still another representative of the "pick of the pack" bands heard on KWK, is RAY NOBLE, renowned English composer - conductor - arranger.

Left — "For eye or ear, she knows no peer" — sparkling **ANN BARRETT** enhances the talented company on the MBS-KWK "The Show of the Week".

Below — Taking the helm of Mutual's "Show of the Week" is tall, dark and handsome BUDDY CLARK, master-of-ceremonies. His songs, Vincent Lopez's music and Ann Barrett's ballads make the







KWK STUDIO CONTROL OPERATORS. Left to right: Kenneth Hildenbrand, Herbert Sigman, Harvey Smith and Robert Nickles. Seated: Frank Stengel.

KWK TRANSMITTER CONTROL OPERATORS. Left to right: Wells Chapin, Ernest Vogel, Nick Zehr and William Ludgate.





