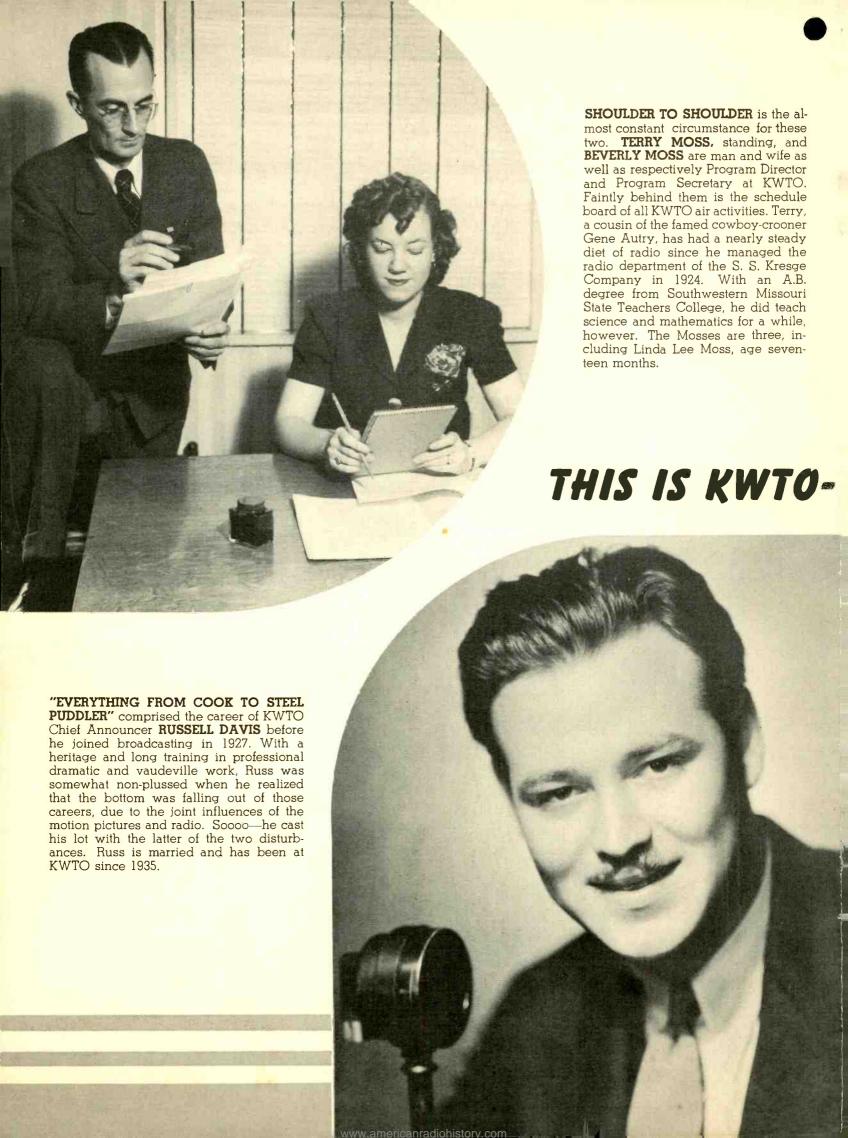


Copyright, 1940 by National Radio Personalities, Inc. Publishers — Peoria, Illinois — Litho in U.S.A.





PIPE DREAMS occupy a share of Announcer BILL RING'S time off the air—he collects them, and his assortment of some 173 pipes has been contributed by his listeners since he started radio as a singer on KGBX in 1933. Jovial and sturdy Bill is one of the Rotund Romeos, 'emcees" the Alpen Brau show, sings and picks a string or three on the bass fiddle. When Bill Ring was a "private citizen" folks down Dallas way knew him as Bill Ringenberg, which he shortened for radio brevity. Bill is 26 and has two fine sons.

GOLD MINER, SAILOR, chemist, surveyer, editor, actor, tennis professional, Announcer BOB NASH has pretty well filled his twenty-nine years. Born in St. Louis, Bob has worked his way around the world three times, studied at the University of Capetown, South Africa and at both Texas University and Yale. On the New York stage he has had four juvenile lead roles; in Hollywood he acted in eight RKO pictures. In 1932 Bob started radio announcing in Texas—the state of which his grandfather was governor during the Texas Revolution. He's single.

TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES "looked like a pretty good thing at the time" to Announcer BILL BAILEY when he was too young to know. High school and college in Oklahoma and Nebraska gave Bill plentiful speech training, so he reached for radio work. Up in Lincoln, Nebraska, he started as an announcer for a "direct-by-wire" program service, later "cracked" radio and came to KWTO in 1938 after having served as associate producer for two historical films over in St. Joseph. Bill, your "Man On the Street", is thirty and married.







Left—THE FLYING EVANGELIST scans the sky prior to taking off to visit one of his congregations in the Ozarks region. REV. FLOYD HITCHCOCK, heard over KWTO each weekday morning at 5:15, 7:00 a.m. Sundays, plans to earn his own pilot's license in the future.

Right—EACH SUNDAY MORNING
"Uncle George Earle", the "Man
Of A Thousand Voices", and 13year-old Howard Lee Arthur (left
and right, respectively), "The Great
American Boy", read the "funnies"
—to the delight of adults, as well
as children. Hundreds of birthday
requests and juvenile jingles are
sent each week. Young Howard's
playing and singing makes an interesting contrast to the dialect and
quipping of "Uncle George".



Left—BOUQUETS, CORSAGES and merchandise prizes go to the heartiest singers, best song g u e s s e r s, each time the ALL-OZARKS COMMUNITY SING gets rolling in the American Legion Auditorium. Lead in songs and good humor by "Emcees" George Earle and Jim Simmons, this free-admission festival rates as one of radio's happiest programs.



THE FAYE SISTERS. "Boots" (left) and "Bobby", had their first radio experience as amateurs with the "Weaver Brothers and Elviry" show early in 1939. Shhhhh—they aren't real sisters. "Boots" (17) is Grace Eloise Tartsch; "Bobby" (19) is Mary Genevie Brayfield.



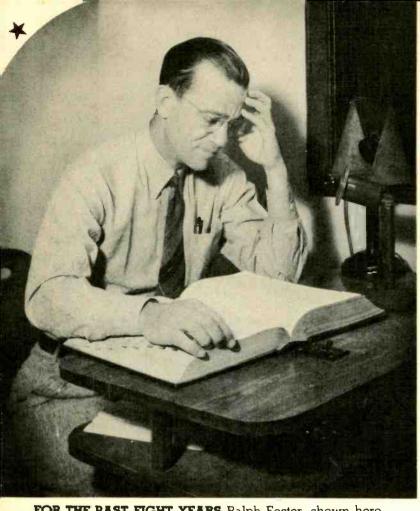
THE SCHAFFER SISTERS are actually that. Dora (left) is delaying her high school training a bit to get in some good hill-billy licks at the microphone, but sister Ann (right) has graduated. These Marshfield gals started at KWTO—and radio—last January 3.

Left — LONG-TIME PARDNERS in life as well as entertaining are The BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN BOYS. Jim and Bob Raines (right and left, respectively). Yes, here again the family connection enters KWTO's programs—Bob is Jim's father. The boys have real right to their "Blue Ridge Mountain" title, for they hail from Interior, Virginia. Jim attended military school for a while and then turned to radio with his dad twelve years ago. Thus, Bob and Jim have much in common—love for genuine hill music and a generous affection for fried 'possum and sweet 'taters. They've been KWTOers for two years and their daily mail is gratifyingly large.

Below — A FAMILY AFFAIR in more than title is the "GOODWILL FAMILY" program of sacred and folk songs. As shown here, "Slim" (left) is the brother of "Aunt Martha" (second) and uncle of Junior (extreme right). "Uncle George" (third from left) is not related; he's Rev. Guy Smith.









FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS Ralph Foster, shown here, General Manager of KWTO-KGBX, has conducted "THE OLD FAMILY ALBUM" program. This is all the air work Mr. Foster's time will permit these days, but Ralph used to do a deal more when the station was in St. Joseph. He says one of the high spots of the show is that it makes him get to work at 7:30 each morning.

"THE CHAMPION LIAR OF THE OZARKS" is the prideworthy title of JIM WEST. Jim's "slightly exaggerated" stories have won him popularity in the year he's spent at KWTO. This familiar character on the "Man On the Street", "Jamboree" and other shows, came up from Joplin last year with a wealth of stage and radio experience behind him.

THIS IS KWTO-560 ON YOUR DIAL

ANYTHING MIGHT HAPPEN when this crowd congregates for "JIM WEST'S JAMBOREE". The mythical "several thousand studio visitors", the tall tales and hearty music each afternoon are provided by (left to right) John Borowski, Clifford Miles, Junior Haworth, "Bobby" Faye, Aunt Martha Haworth, Jim West, "Boots" Faye, Willie Wells and John Thomas.





YOUNG ROMANTICAL ADVENTURE is the featured theme of "BETTY AND BOB" on KWTO. With their entire cast, here, are "Betty" (Arlene Francis, extreme left) and "Bob" (Carl Frank, extreme right). Informal clothes are "the thing" during their broadcasts or rehearsals.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION by coast-to-coast sponsors was responsible for changing the name of the "Ozarkanna Corners" show to its current title, "THE LITTLE CROSSROADS STORE". Authored by George Earle, the program has had KWTO airing since 1934. Here in the cast of this story of rural life and philosophy are (left to right) "Chuck Wagner" (Al Stone), "Squint Thompson", "Chuck's" co-proprietor (George Earle), "Lizzie Liverwurst" (Catherine McKee), "Midnight" (air-acted also by George Earle), "Banker Darby" (not cast), "Squire Appleby" (Jim West), "Sheriff Pettifer" (Bill Ring) and "Wandy Pettifer" (Gloyd Thrailkill).





BEAUTIFUL AND BLOND BEVERLY YOUNGER plays the title part of ingenious "KITTY KEENE, INC." Though most of her life has been spent before the microphone or footlights, Beverly still believes a woman's place is in the home—if possible, and finances will permit.

TWENTY MILLION WEATHER WORDS is the record of your weathercaster's 2000 broadcasts over KWTO and KGBX in five years. Meteorologist CHARLES C. WILLIFORD started these broadcasts in 1935, after having been appointed head of the U. S. Weather Bureau Service in Springfield three years earlier. Mr. Williford's informational reports are informal and interesting and have won him a legion of friends.



AN ACCORDIONIST AT FOUR YEARS, MIKE DOSCH has had time aplenty to develop the musical talent he displays on his solo and program performances over KWTO. In 1925 Mike started radio in North Dakota and has been featured on major stations and the NBC network since. Mike likes to tear down accordions and rebuild them.

MASTER FARMER, POULTRY EXPERT, SCIENTIST, TEACHER AND LECTURER is the man who presents your daily mid-morning poultry broadcast—C. T. PATTERSON. Mr. Patterson who raises his own White Leghorns just west of Springfield, has received numerous rewards for the culture and judging of all types of poultry. He hobbies in microscopic photography.







Left —"THE LAUGH CLINIC" prescribes levity and music for all your mental ills each afternoon. From the studios of KWTO this group turns out everything from whirling Bohemian Band melodies to salon music to mix with the gags of Terry Moss and Willie Wells — standing left and right—and Russ Davis, who is not shown, due to "previous appointments".

Right — FROM THE LOFT of the Alpen Brau warehouse comes your daily merry-moment by THE ALPEN BRAU BOYS. The five boys with their guests — frequertly the famed "Weaver Erothers and Elvira" and other "names"—turn out the show. Left to right: Bill Mason, Fred Warren, Jane Lines (quest), Virgil Phillips, Eill Ring and Willie Wells.

Left — "THE MAN ON THE STREET" is really two men. Seen here in the midst of one of their daily crowds in front of Heer's Department Store are Bill "The man with the flowing white whiskers" Bailey, left, and Jim "Prolific Prevaricator" West. In 28 programs close to 20,000 cards and letters have been received, and persons from 39 states and many foreign countries have been interviewed.



visits Missouri towns this winter. The cast—including the "Hayloft Frolic" com-

Below - JEST ASITTIN' IN THE SUN . . . the six troupers of THE RHYTHM RANGERS' show relax a moment before taking up their instruments for another of their daily broadcasts. From the left side: John Borowski, Cliff Miles, Mike Dosch (in window), director Slim Wilson, Jim West and Willie Wells.

Center right—STRINGS IN SYNCOPATION is the purpose behind the tune-testing of "WILLIE, TINY AND CLIFF." From the left you see Carl "Tiny" Hunt, Clifford "Cliff" Miles and "Willie" Wells, whose unique stringed combination gives a different "stepping" interpretation to popular melodies.







LOOKEE ... MORE MAIL! Junior passes on a handful of fan-notes to Slim as they unpack for their "SLIM AND JUNIOR" program. Sacred music and folk tunes are the afternoon menu for this uncle-nephew duo—yeah, "Slim" Wilson is Junior Haworth's uncle.

FAMILIAR on KWTO and all about Springfield is organist GLEN STAM-BACH, who has lived, taught an performed both organ and piano music in southwestern Missouri for years. Glen, congenial, easy to laugh and talented is considered the ace in his art.

STUDIES IN EBONY AND IVORY are turned out on KWTO by the two pianos of CHARLOTTE WOOD and PAUL MIT-CHELL. Charlotte, who hobbies in penand-ink drawing, studied piano in college privately, is single, twenty-eight. Paul has played for tenor Morton Downey and with Buddy Rogers' and Tommy Dorsey's bands. He is married and thirty; likes motorcycling.









WORLD FROM KWTO AND KGBX

Considered an important department of the KWTO-KGBX News Service is the job of keeping our listeners posted on the fluctuation of produce and securities markets. Through cooperation with Springfield market associations, KGBX and KWTO broadcast regular daily summaries of trading activity in livestock (Local, St. Louis, Chicago, grains (Chicago, Kansas City), butter and eggs (Chicago, New York), poultry (major markets) and the Curb and Stock Exchange.



EACHELOR OF JOURNALISM—and bachelor in the other sense, as well—is **JOE HAINLINE**, whose special department in the KWTO-KGBX News Service is Produce and Securities Market reporting. Jce, native of Springfield, included experience courses in truck driving and "soca-jerking" with his work for his degree from the University of Missouri last year. Although still no veteran in news work, Joe showed an early instinct for journalism and developed it at one of the best journalism schools in the nation. He is twenty-three, single.



www.americanradiohistory.co

Above — RADIO CITY'S NEWS ROOM of NEC newsmen work an "around-the-clock, around-the-world" shift to keep KGBX-NBC audiences supplied with immediate reports on world developments.

Right—NBC'S DIRECTOR OF NEWS and special events is youngish, energetic A. A. Schechter, here carrying on a two-way radio conversation with London as war strikes heavy scores against the world's largest city. In Schechter's hands is the job of keeping transoceanic news routes clear and operating, and coordinating the activities of hundreds of foreign and domestic representatives and a fortune in technical equipment.





Program Director for KGBX is **GEORGE EARLE WILSON**, smiling, clever master-of-ceremonies on many KWTO-KGBX programs. George Earle is 35 years old, a native of St. Joseph, Mo. His first job in radio was that of announcer of the "Poet's Corner" in St. Joseph. Previously, he had been a clothing salesman, minister, and miller. George likes tennis, swimming, boxing, and a host of other sports, sings in a bathtub-baritone, and wanted to be a boxer at one time. He has been known variously as "Squint Thompson," "Midnight," "Fuzzy O'Toole," and "Gumdrop" in various radio programs. George is married, has a wife and one son.

THIS IS KGBX-1230 ON YOUR DIAL

From baseball player to radio announcer, via vaudeville, is the story of **DAVE MANNERS**, 33-year-old native of Omaha, Neb., who now presides over many KGBX programs. Dave not only knows the announcing side of radio, but also the technical side, and holds his own Amateur Radio license, W6QBG. He entered radio from vaudeville when it became apparent that the latter field did not offer the possibilities of rapidly-expanding radio stations. Dave enjoys the reputation of being the hardest chap to arouse in ten states. He is single, good-natured, has the nickname "Sparky."

Another former operator turned announcer is **ROBERT** "BOB" PAGE, native Missourian, who says his current ambition is "to amount to something some day." Bob narrowly escaped injury from station operators when he told them he originally wanted to be an operator because it was a "soft job," but changed to announcing because it was hard work but satisfying. Before his radio career, Bob worked as salesman, soundman for Pathe newsreels, and various other jobs. He is married, has no children.

Popular AL STONE is one of radio's veterans. Since 1926,

when he started singing on WHB in Kansas City, Al, who

gets his name from his initials, "A.L.," has been doing

announcing, singing, and other radio work, the last seven

years at KWTO-KGBX. In addition to his programs and

announcing, Al directs keeping of the stations' transcrip-

tion library. He is married, has a son and two daughters,

Jeanne and Janice, who are also frequent radio performers.



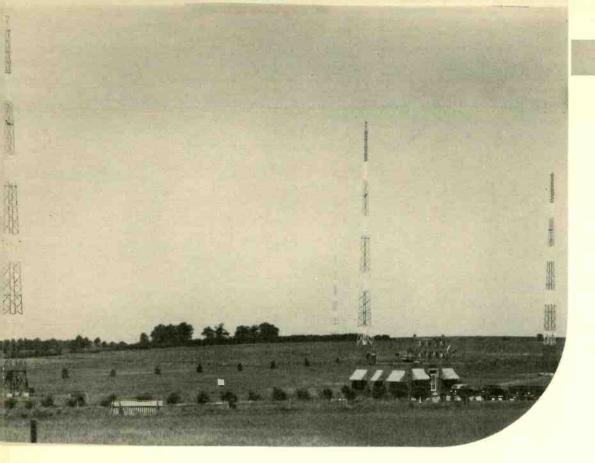


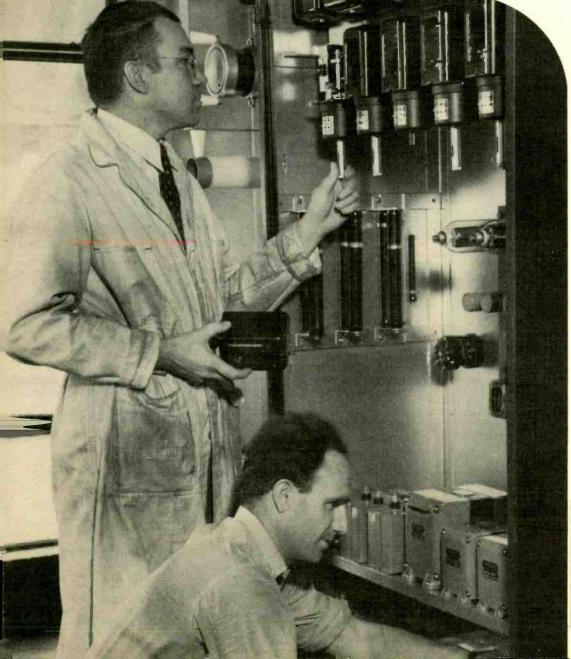
-WIDE XPERTS BX-NBC

NEWS ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION is presented KGBX-NBC dialers by these NBCommentators—the best news minds the world affords. Top, left to right — T. R. Ybarra, popular for his European Roundup; famed Lowell Thomas, who makes world events live in common language and human interest; Earl Godwin, authoritative savant reporting from Washington. Bottom, left to right: Maj. Gen. Stephen O. Fuqua, NBC's military expert; H. R. Baukage, scholarly news analyst in the Capital; and the renowned John B. Kennedy, distinctive newstylist in New York.









POWER AND MORE POWER

After many years operation on 500 watts power, KGBX has recently joined KWTO in the range of 5,000 watt stations. That means "power... and more power," and it's this essential quality that gives stations coverage as well as dependable, desirable reception.

Only one station in Missouri has more power than the two Springfield stations. None have more modern, more efficient equipment.

Many inquiries have been made asking why KWTO has but one tower, while KGBX has three. The explanation in all its ramifications is technical, but a "bird's-eye" view from a layman's standpoint is simple. The program broadcast from the KWTO tower goes to all directions with equal force. Hence, just one tower. But station KGBX operates on the same frequency (1230 kilocycles) as another station in Indianapolis, so at night, when radio waves travel farther, the station in Indianapolis and KGBX each use additional towers to reflect the station signal away from the other station, thereby reducing interference. In the daytime, KGBX operates with one tower only, broadcasting in all directions with equal power. But at night the tower to the southeast does the broadcasting, while the towers to the north reflect this signal to the south again.

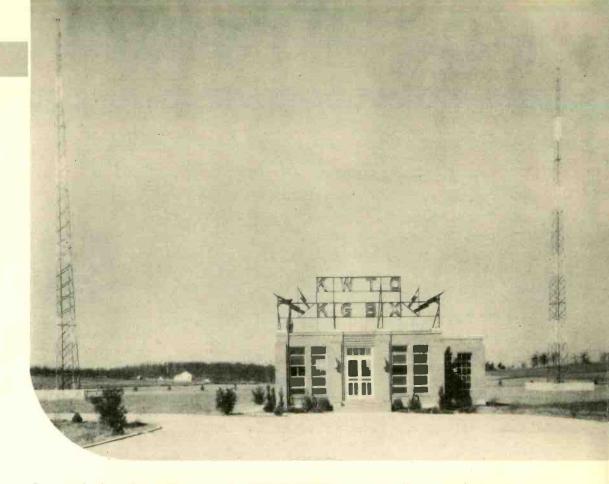
Above Left -

High above the rolling hills northwest of Springfield, the KWTO-KGBX towers live up to their name by "towering" to a helpht of 420 feet, in the case of the KWTO single antenna in the far background, and to more than 200 feet for each of the three KGBX antennae. More than 15 miles of copper wire is buried for the KGBX ground system alone, to insure satisfactory reception for district listeners.

<u>Left</u> —

Intricate equipment that is a puzzle to even many radio operators is being assembled here by Chiof Engilicor Fritz Bauer and Chief Operator Wayne Clay (kneeling), in the new KGBX 5,000 watt transmitter. This, and other KWTO-KGBX transmission equipment, was designed in its entirety by Bauer.

KWTD-KGBX



A marvel of modern efficiency, the KWTO-KGBX transmitter house is built of brick, and is lined on all sides with windows. The longest radio station transmission line in the world connects it with the KWTO tower more than a mile to the northwest. Neon signs identify it to all passers-by on highway 13, in front of the transmitter site. Visitors are welcome at all times.

Inside the KWTO-KGBX transmitter house, gleaming floors and white-tiled walls surround spic-and-span equipment of the most efficient type. The KWTO 5,000-watt transmitter is in the center while the smaller black box in the foreground is a "monitor," whereby operators can listen to whatever programs are going on. An operator is at the transmitter-house 24 hours a day.







Although he has worked on 23 different stations, smiling **JIM SIMMONS** likes Springfield best, and because of his long service here is a favorite with district listeners. He is a brother of Robert Simmons, tenor with the Revellers Male Quartel of NBC and CES fame. Jim sings as well as announcing; as a matter of fact, his first job in radio was as a baritone soloist. He is married; has one son, James Ragain, 19 months old

From the Deep South comes **YVETE**, singing star of the NBC-KGBX program bearing her name. She features popular American and modern French songs, together with Southern folk ballads. Yes, she's a real native of Dixieland.

A regular visitor at breakfast tables throughout the nation is DON McNEILL, master-of-ceremonies on the BREAKFAST CLUB on N3C and KGBX. He has won many popularity contests in the field of national sustaining programs.

Emily Post to the contrary, albows are decidedly in order on the **UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ROUND TABLE PROGRAM**, heard on KGBE and NEC. The idea is to keep the speakers in microphone position. In this picture they are, left to right, Walter H. C. Layes, associate political science professor; Harold Deutsch, history professor and Hugh M. Cole, military expert.







WALTER BLAUFUSS, veteran NBC orchestra conductor of **BREAKFAST CLUB** and **FARM AND HOME HOUR** fame, is also a composer. Songs to his credit include "The Isle of Golden Dreams," and "Golden Sands and Silvery Sea."

The swap-shop is in full swing on the **SEVEN-UP RADIO EXCHANGE**, when **GEORGE EARLE WILSON** (left) and **DAVE MANNERS** get together in the KGBX studios. Before them they have descriptions of various items offered for sale or trade by KGBX listeners. George is "really giving something a selling," according to Dave, and the two of them enjoy the program as much as the audience does.



The "Louisiana Lark" is **JACK BAKER**, NBC **BREAKFAST CLUB** tenor, known with McNeill and Blaufuss wherever NBC fans gather. His consistent good nature is as big an asset as his voice.

Charming, youthful **EVELYNN LYNNE** came from Texas to Chicago, so that NBC-KGBX listeners might hear her sing on the **BREAKFAST CLUB** and other programs. Chicago radio engineers recently elected her the "Aamph Girl," meaning "Oomph-Girl-Plus."







Specializing in popular and semi-classical numbers, the "CHARLOTTEERS" broadcast to a regular audience on KGBX each Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening at 6:15. Charlotte Wood is director and pianist for the program. In our picture, they are, left to right, Merriam Dufflemeyer, cellist; Carl Hunt, violinist; Willie Wells, guitar-player; Charlotte Wood; and Clifford Miles, bass.

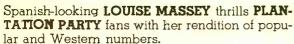
The dulcet tones of the Christ Church organ serve as softly-blending background each Sunday evening for the altar program of **DR.SEARS FREDRICKS RIEPMA.** The program is of an inspirational type, with Charlotte Wood as organist.

Handsome JOHNNY GREEN directs the orchestra on the "JOHNNY PRESENTS" program on NBC and KGBX. Noted for his compositions as well as his orchestra directing, Johnny started out as a "boy pianist." He formed his own band shortly after leaving college, and achieved rapid fame.











From his most famous expression, you'd never expect this friendly, pleasant smile to belong to this guy. He's Whitey Ford, the "DUKE OF PADUCAH." who always winds up his humorous bits as master-of-ceremonies on PLANTATION PARTY with the statement, "I'm heading for the wagon. These shoes are killing me." Whitey is a veteran performer, owner of one of radio's most extensive "gag" libraries.

There's no doubt about it pretty **GINNY SIMS** has asked the old Professor a puzzler. But fast-talking **KAY KYSER**, who conducts the **KOLLEGE OF MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE** on NBC and KGBX, is sure to find a quick way out. The wit of Kay Kyser, together with his outstanding music, combine to gather laurels for this program.

Genial HORACE HEIDT presides musically at "POT O'GOLD" time on NBC and KGBX. Heidt was well-established as a top-flight bandsman before the "Pot O'Gold" program with its sensational rise to stardom among radio shows carried him right along to front-rank fame.











CONGRESSMAN DEWEY SHORT. Missouri's only Republican congressman in recent terms, speaks over KGBX in an NBC nation-wide broadcast, prior to an address by the minority leader, Congressman Joseph Martin. The address was made from White City ball park.

There's a world of difference in appearance between the smooth-shaven chap below and the costumed, made-up **UNCLE EZRA** usually pictured in radio releases. But they're one and the same Uncle Ezra. With the popular barn dance favorite below is Cecilia, also a favorite on the program.





Making a habit of rhythm without a ripple, **THE SMOOTHIES** are one of the nation's favorite trios, featured on NBC and KGBX. They sang over KGBX when appearing in Springfield with Tommy Dorsey's Orchestra. They're, left to right, Charlie Ryan, Babs Stewart, and Little Ryan.

Deems Taylor (right), genial composer-commentator-critic, irons out with colleagues final details for the "MUSICAL AMERICANA" broadcasts featured on NBC and KGBX. Raymond Paige (left), conducts the orchestra. Kenneth L. Watt, producer and director, explains a point, while boking over his shoulder is NBC diction expert, Milton J. Cross.





Saturday afternoon is **KIDDY CLUB** time in the KGBX studios, with George Earle Wilson, left, as master-of-ceremonies, and Charlotte Wood at the piano. Proud parents watch their talented off-spring perform while friends and relatives listen in. Above is a typical turn-out, with Chauncey Tucker's Symphonettes featured. Tucker is directing, right.

CIVIC BROADCASTS play no small part in the KGBX Schedule. Junior Chamber of Commerce members preside here, with Announcer Bob Nash, left, Coach Howard Blair of STC, Herb Wallburg of the Junior Chamber, and Coach Andy McDonald of STC. Standing in the middle behind the mike are STC pep-squad members and with just his head showing, Junior Chamber Member Dick Smith.



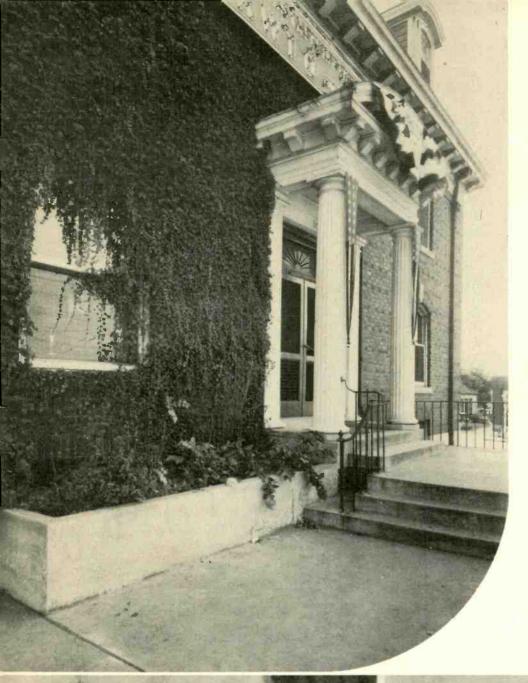


No more fitting name than "CO-EDS THREE," could be chosen for this charming trio. They're Drury students, who formed their musical group just for fun, but clicked in radio when they auditioned at KGBX. Left to right they're Annabelle Heard, Martha Gilbert, and Jean Hogg. Their arrangements are done by accompanist Charlotte Wood.

A yearly feature at KWTO-KGBX is preparation for the CHRISTMAS PARTY. Funds raised through this gigantic entertainment in the Springfield Shrine Mosque go to buy food for Christmas baskets for needy, deserving families. Thousands of people turn out for each Christmas Party, as the picture above shows.





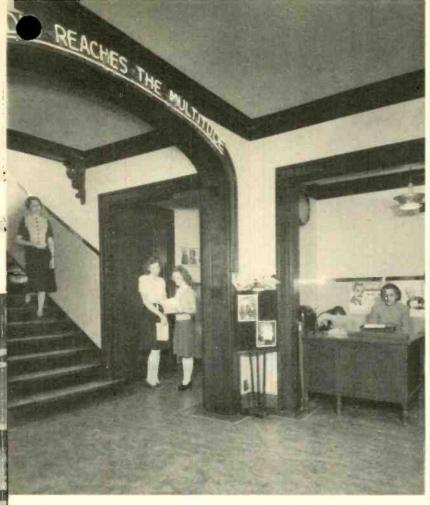


THE SCENE OF IT ALL

KWTO-KGBX studios are located in a former residence, vine-covered and beautifully decorated, on St. Louis Street in downtown Springfield. The main front entrance is pictured here.

One of the busiest departments of any popular commercial radio station is the mail room. Here is Dorothy Davis sorting through a light run of personal mail after the bulk of the day's commercial mail has already been carefully sorted, hastily packaged, and expressed to various advertisers.









The KWTO-KGBX home's east front entrance is enhanced by Dorothy Sourbeer, stenographer, and Catherine McKee, bookkeeper, caught by the radio-photographer returning from lunch. Iron railings and vines add to the beauty of the building.

The station reception room not only provides a convenient, comfortable resting place, but also entertainment in the way of pictures of station entertainers. Hal Hubert, editor of National Radio Personalities, which prepared this book, is in the center with Carl Ward of KWTO-KGBX left, and Mary Kennedy, bookkeeper, right.



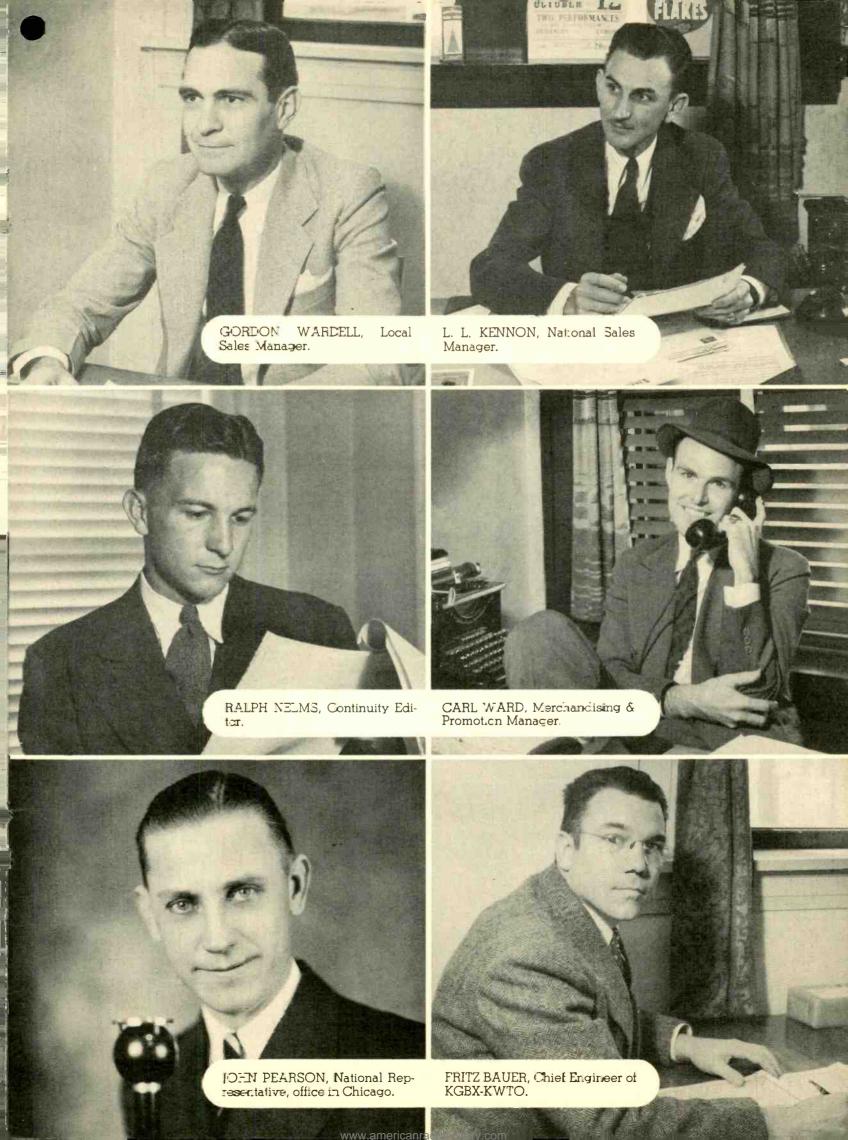


KGBX-KEYS TO ORGANI-ZATION KWTO

R. D. FOSTER, General Manager of KGBX-KWTO.



C. A. JOHNSON, Business Manager.





www.americanradiohistory.com

