

Johnson Out of Radio Acting Contest Finals

Stan Johnson, Lomita mailman and USC drama student, was out of the grand finals of the Phillip Morris company's acting competition today after another contestant scored 91 per cent on the coast-to-coast radio show Tuesday night.

Johnson, who was due home yesterday, had scored 91 to lead the third quarter competition and, prior to this week's show, was in line for a crack at the \$2000 awards in the grand finals.

However, there was some consolation for the young thespian. For his appearance as a costar with Loretta Young on the Christmas show of the "Phillip Morris Playhouse on Broadway" Johnson received a round trip to New York, all expenses paid, a \$250 guest fee, and membership in the American Federation of Radio Artists.

Tuesday night, Julie Strong, an Indiana University junior, eliminated Johnson from the finals when she co-starred with Adolph Menjou in "Stage Door."

RAIN NEEDED

From 10 to 20 tons of water must fall upon planted corn land to produce one bushel of harvest.

Professors To Speak at PV College

Three faculty members of Palos Verdes College are planning a series of lectures which will be held in the auditorium on the Rolling Hills campus during the next four months.

The professors are Camille R. Honig, Ph.D., who will discuss the Psychology of American Foreign Relations on Jan. 8 and Jan. 22; Hans N. von Kober, Ph.D., who will lecture on Understanding the Oriental Point of View on Feb. 12 and Feb. 26; and Frank B. Weir, who will speak of contemporary art on March 11 and April 1.

Time of the lectures is 8 p.m. with an admission charge of 50 cents for each.

He Blames the Rain

Judge Hods Court From Hospital Bed

Judge John A. Shidler held court from a hospital operating table last Saturday morning. He blames it on the rain.

The jurist, Judge of the Gardena Justice Court, heard five prisoners enter pleas to various charges as he was getting about 30 stitches in his left hand.

Chronologically, the story goes like this: Each morning that his court is in session, Judge Shidler drives into his regular parking spot near the court building, locks his car and, with briefcase in hand, strides into the judge's chambers.

Saturday morning, however, he drove up to his usual parking place to find it was fender deep with water.

So, the judge drove his car into a lot behind the court building and parked.

"I got out of the car and started around the front to go into the courtroom when my foot slipped on some clay," the judge said. "I threw out my left hand to break my fall and it landed on a broken bottle," he continued.

Followed then a fast trip to the Park Emergency Hospital at 2319 West Compton boulevard. "I could see I was going to be there quite awhile," Judge Shidler related. "So I asked to have the prisoners sent over. They had to be back in the county jail by 11:30 in order to be fed," he said.

The judge said he didn't know about the prisoners he heard, but that holding court in a hospital was certainly a new experience for him.

He reported that his hand should heal up in "a month or so."

Grand Regent To Conduct Ceremonies

Mrs. C. E. Lowellen of Redondo Beach, grand regent of Our Lady of Victory Court, Catholic Daughters of America, will be the installing officer during public ceremonies when new officers will be inducted to direct the program of the Altar Society of St. Margaret Mary parish for the ensuing year.

The meeting will be held in St. Margaret Mary School on Eshelman avenue at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Jack McKinnley of 22903 Eshelman avenue will succeed Mrs. Walter Kunath as president and other officers to support the president-elect are Mrs. Manuel Andrade, vice president; Mrs. Dallas Henry, secretary; Mrs. Peter Haboush, financial secretary; Mrs. Dan Kimball, treasurer and Mrs. Jean Ferrar, publicity director.

Prefects in charge of activities for the various guilds of the Altar Society will also be installed as follows: Mrs. Juliana Lapkowski, Santa Margherita; Mrs. Frank Kovachovich, St. Lucy; Mrs. William Janse, St. Theresa; Mrs. Dallas Henry, St. Jude; Mrs. Marie Moore, St. Margaret Mary and Mrs. Mildred Cox, St. Mary.

Mrs. Raymond Hill and a committee representing St. Joan of Arc Guild will serve refreshments following the meeting.

Luncheon Fetes PTA Board

Mrs. Claud Hill, president of 188th Street PTA, entertained her board at a Christmas party at the school. She was assisted by Mrs. Raymond Abernathy.

A very pleasant afternoon was spent, with everyone participating in games. Prizes were won by Mesdames Leon McMillon, Mary J. Hawks and B. H. Cotran.

Following the gift exchange, Christmas cake beautifully decorated by Mrs. Ernest Tanner was served with coffee. For a refreshment table motif Mrs. Hill chose a seasonal theme featuring evergreen branches and poinsettias.

Attending were Mesdames Claud Hill, Raymond Abernathy, Mary J. Hawks, B. H. Cotran, Jack Farmer, Louis Cadal, Harold Sprankle, Oliver Lang, B. H. Cotran, Bill Davis, B. J. Brannon, Leon McMillon, Raymond Pickett, Samuel Dow and Arden Cleminson.

Party Honors Mrs. H. Evans

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Mobra, of 17040 Atkinson (North Torrance) gave a surprise birthday party Sunday for her mother, Mrs. H. Evans, of 1851 Lomita boulevard at the family home.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Giacetto, and son of San Pedro, Mr. and Mrs. H. Evans and son, Mr. and Mrs. H. Spencer and two daughters all of Lomita.

A buffet style dinner was served and a blue and yellow cake was cut by the guest of honor, who received many lovely presents.

Roger Wagner Chorale to Be Presented

The Southland's own Roger Wagner Chorale, which in the space of six short years has become one of the nation's most outstanding singing groups, will be presented here in concert under the direction of Roger Wagner on January 8 at the San Pedro High School auditorium, 10th and Leland streets, under the sponsorship of the San Pedro Philharmonic and Artists Association, Inc. The concert is the third in the 1951-52 subscription series, and will begin promptly at 8:30 p.m.

In the past two seasons alone the Roger Wagner Chorale has sung important engagements with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Los Angeles Musical Festival Orchestra, and tracks of eight motion pictures, notably the hit films "Joan of Arc" and "Come to the Stable." The chorals is started each Sunday afternoon on the "Tapes of Melody," radio program broadcast over KNX.

The chorus has been signed by Alfred Wallenstein for four appearances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra during 1951-52. It will be heard in performances of the Beethoven "Don Quixote" and Beethoven's great Mass Solemnis.

Information concerning memberships in the San Pedro Philharmonic and Artists Association, Inc. may be obtained from the president, Mrs. Robert E. Carson, or the following area chairmen: Mrs. Nadine Farrar Nickel or Mr. Abe Milstein.

School Group Entertained At Luncheon

The executive board of North Torrance Elementary PTA was hostess at a luncheon for teachers and school personnel of the North Torrance Elementary School in the spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. Barton Davidson on Monday, December 17.

Snow-encrusted Santas, reindeer, snowmen and Christmas angels carried out the holiday theme, and the "Ohs and Ahs" evoked the delight of guests present who included:

Mesdames Bolinger, Willis, Loomis, Goldsmith, Marchante, Surace, Hardesty, Cole, Robinson, Pilgrim, Hedgecock, McKelvy, Massie, Bergman, Ross, Sale, Schindele, Hale Odell, Walker, Marshall, Park and O. Marshall, son, Kelly, Payne, McBee and Davidson, and Misses Kent, M. Marshall, Park and O. Marshall, and Messrs. Robinson, Schindele, Ackerman, Clouch, Center, Evans, Mullany, McBee and Davidson.

Additional Festivities

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Beale and Mrs. Bridget Coy expected as their holiday guests his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Beale of Vandergrift, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Beale and Wendell of Whittier, and Mr. and Mrs. David Beale of Torrance.

Entertained at dinner Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Garner were their son, Sgt. John Robert Garner, stationed at San Diego on Air Force recruitment duty; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Easter of Corona; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Calkins of Eagle Rock and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Garner, Nancy and Jerry of Torrance.

At the George Baer home on Cota avenue, 28 family members were seated at the dinner table on Christmas day. Included were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Colonel C. Kenney, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gatlin and sons, and Ambrose Lund, all of San Bernardino; Mr. and Mrs. Guy Davis and family, Fontana; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kenney and family, Chatsworth; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Christian and son, and Mr. and Mrs. James Davis (Donna Baer) and daughter, of Torrance.

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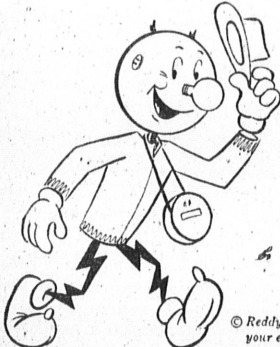
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