

The Mutual Manhattan VARIETY CAVALCADE

Souvenir Program



HOTEL ASTOR

TIMES SQUARE

NEW YORK

Clifton A. Feddington and Saul Lebowitz

present

The Mutual Manhattan
VARIETY CAVALCADE

in a live broadcast from the Hotel Astor's Algonquin Room, Broadway
Between 44th and 45th Streets, New York City

December 21, 1942

with

GINGER BROOKS, GENEVA LEE BROWNE,
ANN COLLIER, B.J. GIBSON, CONNIE MILLER,
RAY OWEN, NEAL TILDEN

and

JOHNNY CANTONE

featuring

THE ZOOT DOUBLEMAN ORCHESTRA

Keyboards

Zoot Doubleman

Ladyfingers McLaughlin

Trumpets

Pieface Minelli

Toots Schoenfeld

Biff Baker

Phil Bentley, Bass

Neeley "Flap" Kovacs, Drums

Snookie Davenport, Reeds

Scoops Millikin, Trombone

Musical Direction, Zoot Doubleman

Vocal Arrangements, Niles Doubleman

Orchestrations, Sidney Neumark

Musical Staging and Stage Management, Lou Cohn

Doorman for the Algonquin Room, Mr. Arthur Bailey

Technician, Stanley Gallagher

HOLIDAY BROADCAST MUSICAL NUMBERS

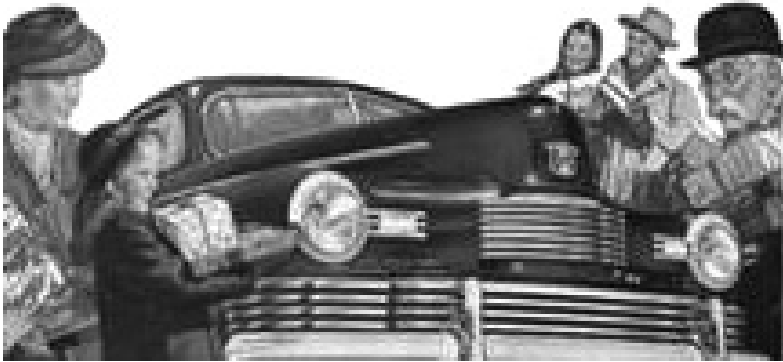
<i>(I've Got a Gal In) Kalamazoo</i>	Clifton Feddington, Variety Cavalcade
<i>Hey Daddy</i>	Connie Miller
<i>Love Is Here to Stay</i>	Johnny Cantone
<i>That Old Black Magic</i>	Ann Collier
<i>Ain't She Sweet</i>	Variety Cavalcade
<i>How About You?</i>	B.J. Gibson, Connie Miller
<i>Blue Moon</i>	Ray Owen
<i>Rose of the Rio Grande.</i>	Geneva Lee Browne
<i>I'll Never Smile Again</i>	Johnny Cantone
<i>Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.</i>	Geneva Lee Browne, Connie Miller, Ginger Brooks
<i>Blues in the Night</i>	Ginger Brooks
<i>Jingle Bells</i>	Biff Baker, Variety Cavalcade
<i>I Got It Bad (and That Ain't Good).</i>	Geneva Lee Browne
<i>You Go to My Head.</i>	Johnny Cantone
<i>The Five O'Clock Whistle</i>	Connie Miller
<i>Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas</i>	Ann Collier
<i>Strike Up The Band</i>	Variety Cavalcade
<i>I'll Be Seeing You</i>	Variety Cavalcade

CLIFTON A. FEDDINGTON, with his partner, Saul Lebowitz, has been producing *The Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade* since its inception six years ago last week. It's been a long climb for Clifton and his *Cavalcade*. He began at WHK in Cleveland in the much-acclaimed children's program, *Let's Have Lunch with Mr. Cliff*. Then, on to Philadelphia where local radio audiences tuned in nightly to a community radio theatre group, The Feddington Players. Then, in 1935, with seed money from sixteen sponsors, Mr. Feddington landed a fifteen minute musical variety show called *Stars in Heaven* which featured his recent singing discoveries, Ann Collier and Johnny Cantone, the Zoot Doubleman Quartet and Neal Tilden. In 1936, Mutual expanded the show to a half-hour and re-named it *The Mutual Half-Hour of Singing Stars* and the team added its first Gibson brother, Bobby. Just last January, through a deal with New York's WOV Radio, the show became the hour-long *Cavalcade* we love today and tonight's show is the last in our first season. Mr. Feddington also is President of Clifton Records (the signature series), which will be into production as soon as the ASCAP strike is settled.

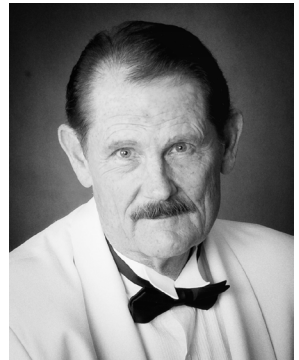


Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade L-R: Ann Collier, Neal Tilden, Ginger Brooks, Connie Miller, Clifton Feddington, Johnny Cantone, Zoot Doubleman, Ray Owen, Geneva Lee Browne, B.J. Gibson

YOU'LL BE AHEAD
WITH *Nash*



JOHNNY CANTONE first excited listeners in his native Brooklyn, New York, where Johnny opened the '39 Pro-An Duckpin Tourney with his version of The Star Spangled Banner. Since then he has sung "The Anthem" at hundreds of sporting events (including his own unsuccessful attempt to unseat the defending welter-weight champ Eldon Dwight). Now "featured vocalist" with WOV's *Cavalcade*, Johnny has come a long way from those clubs in Jersey where he fronted bands for five years before the *Cavalcade* happened along. "The Tone" hopes to begin his acting career with his upcoming engagement to read Odets with Harold on *Don McNeill's Breakfast Club* in March. He also hopes to be able to spend more time with his wife, Angel. Soon.



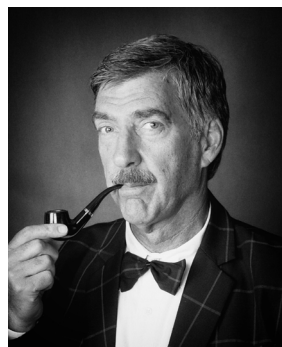
GINGER BROOKS moved everything to New York in the fall of 1940. It was only a year until she landed the coveted position of microphone monitor at WACL. But it wasn't long before she was cutting records for Artie Shaw. But her real forte was singing so she left the technical position and became an overnight success as the only singing waitress and stacker at *Romeo's Spaghetti House*, where our stage manager and choreographer, Lou Cohn, discovered her. Ginger's favorite color is red.



GENEVA LEE BROWNE began her show business career at The Cotton Club in *The Hot Chocolates Revue*, and later, with Earl "Fatha" Hines. In 1939, she moved to Kansas City where she formed her own jazz quintet, *The Kansas City Browne Boys*, and, until this fall, entertained listeners there nightly at The Chesterfield Club. Since September, she has recorded for Victor, Okey, and Vocation Records and has just signed a contract to sing with Jimmy Lunceford's Orchestra. She has also been offered a film short with Louis Armstrong and Ethel Waters to be shot at The Cotton Club where she began singing six years ago which will feature a song she has written and performed as part of her set with her group nightly at the Onyx Club.



NEAL TILDEN's career with some of the greats and many of the near-greats is pretty much history now. The grueling singing lessons, the one-night stands, until he exploded on the vocal horizon with Nestor Nugen's *Tornadoes* at Tarrytown's Cafe O'Ola. On to greater heights, and the fabled nine-week tour of '34 with the late, great Wes Westerley, who after losing Neal, lamented, "It was like losing a horn." Neal has been with the *Cavalcade* since before it was even a twinkle in Clifton's eye, and he still keeps a hand in club singing, and a hand in radio singing, and a hand in stage acting too (he was recently up for the role of the understudy to Gil Strutton, Jr. in the Broadway smash *Best Foot Forward*). But his first love is the *Cavalcade*, and he says he's delighted to be handling vocal chores with an "O.K. outfit" like ours. "Thanks, Neal!"

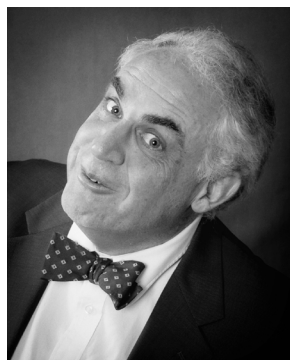


ZOOT DOUBLEMAN comes to WOV fresh from a USO tour of training bases in sunny California, a duty she gladly performs to support our troops. A founding member of *The Chuck Cabot Orchestra*, Zoot owes her entire musical career to the genius of Mrs. Pearl Fishman. She has played sessions with such well-known bands as Art Lathan's *Bearcats*, Irv Fein's *Fabulous Three* and Murray O'Toole's *Rover Boys*. A serious musician at heart (she attended Brooklyn College), her new composition, *Zoot Suite*, is scheduled for performance in the near future at Carnegie Hall or in Pittsburgh.



Zoot Doubleman Orchestra L-R: Phil Bentley, Neeley "Flap" Kovacs, Zoot Doubleman, Ladyfingers McLaughlin, Scoops Millikin, Toots Schoenfeld, Biff Baker, Snookie Davenport, Pieface Minelli

RAY OWEN has a long career of seemingly endless talents. From the critically acclaimed "third quizmaster" on *KFJ's Questions, Please*, to the corny magician of *WBAL's Vaudeville at Noon*. And who can forget *WTAM's Live from Cleveland*? Ray also co-starred with Nigel Nooley in the RKO short *Shelby's Millions*. But possibly Ray's greatest gift is his interpretation of "the ballad" and it is there that Ray becomes an indispensable member of the *Cavalcade*.



ANN COLLIER was singing with her sisters in Montclair, New Jersey when she was only seven. When she went away to school, she worked on WJSV's *Dr. Pepper Parade* on Sunday nights and was offered tours with Claude Thornhill and the *King Biscuit Entertainers*. In '35, she returned to her native Montclair and sang with dance bands there where she was discovered by WOV's own Clifton Feddington and swept into New York and into the limelight of his *Cavalcade* where she was "featured vocalist" for three years. She has been with the show for six years now and we hope she'll be here for six more. Ann lives with her four year old son Matthew on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.



B.J. GIBSON is the youngest of the singing Gibson brothers, who began their musical careers in New Orleans in 1932 (B.J. was fourteen) in an act their father named *Three Boys and a Harmonica*. With his brothers "over there," B.J. packed Bobby's harmonica, Buddy's sweater, and his father's arrangements and went up tot New Haven where he is a Senior English major at Yale's Branford College. he comes into New York every week though to do the show, keeping up the Gibson tradition, and is now singin' and dancin' and smilin' his way into the hearts of radio listeners everywhere. "Welcome aboard, B.J."



CONNIE MILLER comes all the way from Ogden, Utah where she studied tap, ballet, and ballroom at Madame Stephen's Dance Academy. At age ten, she and her mother lived in Los Angeles and while she was working as a script girl for Columbia Pictures she kept the crews entertained with her imitations of Shirley Temple and Margaret O'Brien. After not being cast as Robert Young's daughter in *Joe Smith, American*. Connie and her mom came to New York and auditioned for Clifton at WOV. Now the youngest member of the *Cavalcade*, Connie hopes one day to become a Rockette.

