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Henry Burroughs

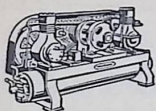
Struggle for Men's Minds



Seafood Store In Rhode Island Buys 3 New Compressors — Chooses Frigidaire

Building walk-in freezing and cooling rooms was a major project for Amoriggi Seafoods, Johnston, R. I. So the five Amoriggi brothers held a family conference to decide what refrigeration equipment to buy. "We chose Frigidaire because we thought it was the best," says Anthony Amoriggi (above).

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Radio

Ties Right!

The Men's Fashion Guild of New York almost wilted its starched collar. Lamented the male stylists: The men who appear in front of the cameras look like the wrath of Beau Brummell.

Chagrined, the maligned males admitted a certain amount of disregard for fashion conventions but explained it wasn't always their fault. Video lights and cameras do strange things. A light colored tie worn with a white shirt, for example, appears as one big blob of white; red and black turn gray.

After a luncheon get together with television big-wigs, the Guild had the solution. It tested fabrics, colors and patterns in front of the camera. This week it was building up a stockpile of television fashions. Now, if a man doesn't have a suitable suit for television, the Guild will lend it to him from its video wardrobe bank.

Dogdays Drama

Critics, applying the clichés of humorism to radio's summer programs, asked: Is the liver sluggish? It obviously was.

The Hooper toppers, aware that a slump in popularity comes every summer, were already, or would soon be, on vacation. Replacement programs were chiefly on the popular music side. A few comedies, some more quiz giveaways and whodunits were also being dubbed in.

Same Old Stuff. Early in May ABC launched a new summer drama series which was supposed to tell a "thrilling and exciting" story based on the rowdy, cynical newspaper reporters of the 1928 hit, *The Front Page*. This was the stage play written by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur, later made into a movie and revived on Broadway in 1946.

The new radio show keeps the title and the names of the fabled characters, notably Hildy Johnson. But the flavor of Chicago's roughhouse days is gone. *Front Page* is just another adventure story in ABC's book of cracked skulls (Thurs., 8 p.m. EDT).

Hildy was the trademark of an age in newspaperdom when a reporter lived by his wits, ate by his scoops and made up the rules as he went along. Hildy Johnson was criminal courts reporter for *The Chicago Herald and Examiner*, an important position in those days when crime was Chicago's chief industry. Hildy feared no man, defied his editor, badgered the mayor, berated the politicians. On the day of his funeral in 1931, the criminal courts building was ordered closed in respect.

Slick and Pat. As ABC's Hildy Johnson, Dick Powell is a blustering, slick-tongued reporter who takes no stuff from mayors or mobsters. In the first broadcast, he browbeat the mayor and his

editor (who burst into bitter tears), set out after an accused murderer, ran afoul of the mob and was beaten insensible.

At the end, Hildy had his scoop and the wrongly accused man safe in the composing room. But the mayor and mobster charged into the editor's office. The mayor drew a gun. The editor fainted. In the customary nick of time, the little old flower lady came in and practically disarmed the gun holder by herself.

Scoopless Days. Transported out of its original time element (by references to taverns with television and Shirley Temple's baby) and mottled with pearl-polished dialogue, *Front Page* is a pat copy and robbers story.

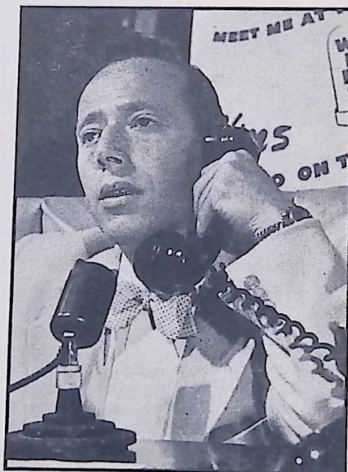
Who Is Jack Eigen?

Puzzled, irked fans had heard Fred Allen make remarks like this on every show the past season: "This must be a record shop. There's a big soft putty bust of Jack Eigen." New York studio audiences guffawed gustily at the mention of the name. But to listeners outside the knowing area of Manhattan, Jack Eigen was like Hollywood's La Brea tar pit.

Explained Allen: He needed a gag name in one of his scripts, picked on friend Eigen. Next to Jack Benny, Eigen has probably become the most-mentioned personality on Allen's program.

Jack Eigen is a disk jockey whose studio for his 12:30-4 a.m. show is the celebrity night club Copacabana (WINS, New York; once a week, WLW, Cincinnati).

Who He? In exchange for the publicity, Eigen keeps the Allen name before his wee hour listeners. On Fred's birthday, Jack repeatedly asked his listeners to telegraph greetings to the comedian. Not a word passed over the Western Union wires. One deduction: Eigen's listeners were probably wondering: Who's Fred Allen? Allen's retort: Eigen has no listeners; he puts them all to sleep.



Jack Eigen. "Fred stays up late to listen to me which explains those bags under his eyes." (SEE: Who Is Jack?)

Books

Vinegar Joe's Story

The British won't like it. Chiang Kai-shek won't like it. Quite a few high Army officers, both American and Chinese, won't like it. Thousands of readers will.

It is *The Stilwell Papers* (Sloane, New York: \$4), edited and arranged by Theodore H. White, who wrote *Thunder Out of China*. The papers consist of Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's daily journal, excerpts from letters to his wife and a few undated essays. They show why "Uncle Joe" was also called "Vinegar Joe"—Stilwell calls a spade a spade and occasionally he calls it a manure shovel. They show him as an honest, intelligent and strong personality who got kicked around.

Ant Hill. At the time of Pearl Harbor, Stilwell was summoned to Washington. He didn't like desk warfare. The rush, the confusion, the pomposity and play-acting of the "brass" irritated him. He wrote: "Someone with a loud voice and a mean look and big stick ought to appear and yell 'Halt. You crazy bastards. Silence. You imitation ants. Now half of you get the hell out of town before dark and the other half sit down and don't move for an hour.' Then they would burn up all the papers and start fresh."

Sent to hold Burma against the Japs, he took, as he told reporters, "a hell of a licking," but escaped capture by a 17-day hike through uncharted jungle to India.

Return. In India, Stilwell trained Chinese troops, took them back to Burma, beat the Japs and built the Ledo road, which broke the blockade of China.

Stilwell was recalled from China in the fall of 1944 because he insisted on American control of lend-lease in China. Chiang Kai-shek, he maintained, would have used it to fight the Chinese Reds instead of the Japanese. Brought back to this country, he was treated virtually as a prisoner, not allowed to talk to the press, and whisked in great secrecy to his home in Carmel, Cal.

Stilwell died in October 1946. It is gratifying that his fiery, human, and overwhelming self-exoneration has at last appeared.

One Side of War

The biggest splash yet in the puddle of World War II literature has just been made by 25-year-old Norman Mailer. Mailer's novel, *The Naked and the Dead* (Rinehart, New York: \$4) is a long, intense, probing foray into the lives of a group of soldiers engaged in jungle warfare in the Pacific. Drama, suspense, elemental realism, and beautiful writing are all here. There is also a one-sidedness. His soldiers are ignorant, bigoted, uncouth men who talk almost exclusively of sex in a language that leaves nothing unprintable. Both its merits and demerits will insure it best-sellerdom.

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