

Audition Winners of Yesteryear



HAZEL ARTH
Contraalto,
Washington, D.C.
First Place Winner
1928 Audition



Miss CAROL DIES
Dayton, Ohio
Winner first award,
\$5,000 in Fourth National
Radio Audition



CARMEN ROSELL
Soprano, New Orleans, La.
National Finalist 1928 Audition



RAOUL E. NADEAU
New York City
Winner first award,
\$5,000 in South National
Radio Audition



GENEVIEVE IRENE ROWE
Soprano, Wooster, Ohio
First Place Winner
1929 Audition



DONALD NOVIS
Tenor, Pasadena, Cal.
First Place Winner
1928 Audition

IN ADDITION to most of the things native sons of the Golden West claim for California, the results of the four National Radio Auditions held since 1927 indicate they can assert the Golden State is the music center of the country. Seven out of the forty national finalists selected from tens of thousands of young contestants between the ages of 18 and 25 years by the Atwater Kent Foundation have come from California which leads all the states in the production of young aspirants to radio concert and operatic fame and fortune. And six of the seven finished either first or second in the national trials!

Ohio, the birth place of Presidents of the United States, can claim to be the only state that has produced two national first place winners, in the persons of Miss Carol Dies, soprano, of Dayton, who is being proclaimed throughout the country this month as the best young woman singer found by the 1930 Audition, and Miss Genevieve Irene Rowe, also soprano, of Wooster, who won the first place honor last year.

New Orleans, with its traditions of culture and artistic achievement extending back to the early days of American settlement, however, is the single city that has furnished the nation with ten per cent of its forty young finalists—four of the young immortals being from the quaint old southern metropolis.

Colorado and Texas may lay claim to having provided the nation with three each of the forty young singers and the city of Denver asserts itself as second to New Orleans with two of the Colorado three, one of them being Miss Agnes Davis, who won first place in 1927, the first year of the auditions. Illinois, Michigan, New York and Arkansas have provided two finalists each, and Pennsylvania, Oregon, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Missouri, Georgia, Rhode Island, Maine, New Jersey, Mississippi and South Dakota have each supplied one.

The inquiring reporter who conceived the idea of making a kind of box score of the four years of intensive search for young voices conducted by the Atwater Kent Foundation which has resulted in the turning out of a chorus of 40 especially good voices has also inquired what happened to the young people after they were discovered—and what use did they make of the opportunity and the funds awarded them by the Foundation. The purpose of the nation wide auditions, it was explained, has been to find where the best voices grow and give their possessors encouragement to go on to seek fame and fortune in radio work. To this end the Foundation has offered \$25,000 in cash awards as well as musical scholarships to the ten finally selected. The selection was made through a series of elimination auditions, local, state and geographical districts. There are five of the geographical districts and the young man and young woman selected from each of these constituted the national finalists who met in New York and sang in competition before musical experts to determine the division of the cash awards and scholarships.

More than a thousand communities held local auditions in 1930 which year had the greatest number of auditions and entrants. Another feature of the auditions the 1930 contest emphasized was the never-say-die spirit of the young singers of the country. In the state auditions more than fifty per cent of the contestants were those who had tried in previous auditions and failed, only to try again—and win. Four of the ten finalists this year, were singers who had tried before, one of them having tried out in all of the previous auditions!

The inquiring reporter's question as to what the young people have done with the opportunities for training and cash to see them through it, is answered in reports from the various national finalists of other years of their activities. The 1930 group have just started and will spend their next year or so in hard study as a result of their victories. Miss Dies, and Raoul Nadeau, baritone, of New York, the young man winner, both want to do concert work and Mr. Nadeau aspires to an operatic career. It would not be expected that the after-careers of the winners of other years would run along uniform grooves. Their accomplishments and successes have been as individual and versatile, as would be expected among thirty youthful personalities.

Donald Novis, Pasadena, California, tenor, who won first award of \$5,000 in 1928 has become a popular star in sound pictures. His sixth picture, "Eyes of the World" already has been released. He was presented this fall by Arthur Hammerstein in musical comedy. He has appeared in such sound picture hits as "Bulldog Drummond" with Ronald Colman; "Kathleen Mavourneen" with Sally O'Neil; "New York Nights" with Norma Talma; "Irish Fantasy," a musical picture based on the music of Victor Herbert, arranged by Dr. Hugo Felsenfeld, and "Monte Carlo," a recent hit. He is spending his spare time studying under the direction of the famous composer-coach, Frank LaForge.

Hazel Arth, the Washington, D. C., contraalto, 1928 winner, has done extensive concert and radio work, and is now heard every Sunday eve-

ning in the Catholic Hour through an N. B. C. chain. She is studying with Frank LaForge in New York.

Edward Austen Kane, tenor, of Atlanta, Ga., was recued from a business career after winning \$5,000 in the 1929 contest. He has done some concert work and is studying opera.

Miss Genevieve Rowe, the Wooster, Ohio college girl, who received the \$5,000 first award in the girls' division last year, continued with her college work and last June took degrees both in arts and in music. With this thorough groundwork she is now in New York studying for grand opera with Yeatman Griffith, a vocal pedagogue who has launched a long line of singers on successful operatic careers. Miss Rowe, along with other first and second place winners, has been heard during the Atwater Kent Hour.

Miss Agnes Davis, first girl to receive the Foundation's highest cash award—this was in 1927—is now in her second year with the Philadelphia Grand Opera. She opened the season singing in "Gianna Schicchi" by Puccini. On December 11th she was heard in "Thais" and later will have roles in "Lohengrin" and "Tannhauser."

Wilbur Evans, Philadelphia bass-baritone, has had two years at Curtis Institute and since he finished first in the men's division of the first audition in 1927, has sung upwards of fifty successful concerts in all parts of the United States. On the audible screen he has been featured by Fox Movietone and was starred in a musical comedy, "Bambino," on the Pacific Coast.

Winners of lesser positions in the national finals have gone on carving out successful careers for themselves with just as great promise as those who finished nearer the top. The case of Marie Healy, the Manchester, N. H. soprano, is interesting and typical. Miss Healy has sung over the radio repeatedly and has made innumerable concert appearances in New England, New York and the Mid-West. In between concert engagements, Miss Healy has continued her music studies in New York and Chicago. Last summer she broke the record of the Chicago College of Music by capturing the scholarships in both singing and dramatic art, each of which carried a cash award of \$1,000.

The second National Radio Audition gave young Wilfred Engelman, a Detroit choir singer, his first trip to New York. He placed third among the youths in the finals. This was but a prelude to greater things. Returning to Detroit he sang "Valentine" in "Faust" and "Silvio" in "Pagliacci" with the Detroit Grand Opera Company. For more than a year now Engelman has been in Milan, Italy, studying opera under Carpi.

Fifth among the girl finalists in 1928 the young Cuban, Carmen Rosell, with a fine New Orleans cultural background, has forged steadily ahead in concert work during the past two years. She is now a scholarship student in the New Orleans Conservatory of Music and Dramatic Art and is the leading soprano with Le Petit Opera Louisiana.

The inquisitive scribble who endeavored to get at the far-reaching facts of the auditions, however, found another phase to its activities not to be uncovered in the records of the national finalists—the ten young men and young women each year has favored with cash awards and scholarships. The broadcasting stations throughout the country are the custodians of these facts—and almost any of the larger broadcasting stations will show them to an investigator, the inquiring reporter found. There being four distinct phases to the national audition—local, state, geographical district and the national finals—what rewards, if any, come to those who lose?

One of the outstanding facts of the 1930 audition, as already disclosed, is that reward does come to those who lose, in the conviction that each of them has something to be developed, in the knowledge that their gift must be further developed and in the inculcation of a spirit to try again. As has been stated, the 1930 records show that more than 60 per cent of the state winners this year were singers who had previously tried and been found wanting in one or

more necessary qualifications but who, after further study, had won in another trial. These the reporter found, were very real rewards in the form of encouragement to individuals and to communities to continue their participation and support.

But there is still another phase—the actual and material rewards of some of those who lost in the audition itself; who failed to go further than the state or district trials. And this phase presents an interesting commentary on the very lively interest in, and encouragement of, young talent by the existence of radio broadcasting centers.

Like in all other centers of popular entertainment, a constant flow of new material is necessary for broadcasting stations and a constant improvement of old material is essential to maintenance of public esteem. Broadcasting stations, like newspapers, sell space. In newspapers, it is space in inches. In broadcasting stations it is space in time. Both institutions are supported by their sales of this space and both depend on popular fancy—as reflected in circulation for newspapers and in habitual listeners for broadcasting stations—to determine the value of the space they have to sell.

Therefore the annual recurrence of the National Radio Auditions brought into broadcasting studios hundreds of new and unheard of singers from the listener areas of the stations—areas in which it was very much to the advantage of the station to have a special interest. Each state audition has been broadcast and listeners have acted jointly with professional judges in the selection of the winners. The result has been that not only has each of the annual auditions brought into radio stations in each of the states a group of young singers never before heard of—but each has brought to the station the best young singers from large numbers of communities within their broadcasting area—the best, as selected by competition.

Therefore each local audition, in a general way, and each state audition, in a very positive way, has called to the attention of radio program-makers not only the very best talent in the state, but talent from sections of the state which it was of material and business importance, should be interested in the station and which should be established as habitual listeners. Hence rosters of staff talent of stations in all sections of the country will be found to include the names of perhaps hundreds of these young musicians, now engaged at regular salaries and providing the listeners of those stations with regular programs. Statistics of what this amounts to are almost impossible, but inquiry of broadcasting officials in different sections of the country disclosed the fact that the auditions have supplied each of them with from one to five new voices—and in some instances with young people of artistic bent whose talents as instrumentalists or announcers were developed after their voices, first heard in national audition competitions, had called the attention of the stations to them.

An outstanding example of this is found in the person of George Beuchler, one of the best known announcers of the Columbia Broadcasting System, whose voice is also heard in baritone recitals through that system from coast to coast. Young Beuchler was a student in Washington, D. C., when his attention was called to the 1928 National Radio Audition. He entered and with his baritone voice won the District of Columbia audition. That was the same year Miss Hazel Arth, also of Washington, D. C., the only contraalto to win a national competition, carried away the first national prize.

Beuchler represented the nation's capital in the geographical district competition with Miss Arth, and though she won he lost. Returning to Washington he was offered and accepted a position with Radio Station WRC, managed and operated by the National Broadcasting Company. Later he went to the Columbia Broadcasting System where he is now employed as an announcer and artist.

The KITCHEN CABINET

(©, 1921 Western Newspaper Union)
If the power of evil has never been so manifest in the world before as it is today, the power of God has never been so apparent.—John Jay Chapman.

TASTY DESSERTS

To the majority a meal is not finished or at all satisfactory unless some form of dessert is served. It may be a few stuffed dates, or a bit of fruit fresh or dried, and a handful of nuts. Whatever it may be the meal is well rounded and more enjoyed when something sweet finishes it.

Prune Whip.—Pick over, wash and cover with cold water, two dozen hours cook in the water in which they were soaked. Remove the stones and put the pulp through a coarse sieve. To the pulp add one-half cupful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of lemon juice, the grated rind of half a lemon and one-third of a teaspoonful of salt. Now fold in the whites of six eggs which have been beaten stiff. Turn the mixture into a buttered baking dish, set in a pan of water and bake until firm in a moderate oven. Serve with a boiled custard or with sweet cream.

Toasted Sponge Cake With Pineapple.—Cut stale sponge cake into slices one-half inch thick, then cut with a biscuit cutter rounds the size of pineapple slices. Spread these rounds with butter and sprinkle with sugar, set into the oven until delicately toasted and glazed. Drain the pineapple slices, add to the sirup one-half cupful of sugar, one tablespoonful of lemon juice, the grated rind of half a lemon. Add the pineapple and heat to the boiling point, cook two minutes. Reduce the heat and keep hot ready to serve. Place a slice of the pineapple on each piece of cake and pour over the sirup. Serve at once.

French Fried Onions.—Mix and sift one cupful of flour, one-half teaspoonful of salt, two-thirds of a cupful of water, beat until smooth; add two tablespoonfuls of cooking oil and fold in one stiffly beaten egg white. Slice ten or more onions one-eighth inch thick and separate into rings. Soak in milk to cover one hour. Drain and dry, dip in the batter and fry until a light brown. Drain on soft paper.

Nellie Maxwell

Australian Ballot Now Universal in America

Australian ballot is the name given to a system of secret voting. The name arose from the fact that the essential features of the system were first introduced in 1858 in South Australia, one of the states of the Australian commonwealth, says an article in Pathfinder Magazine. A system of voting modeled after the Australian system was adopted in England in 1872. In the United States this method was first employed in local elections at Louisville, Ky., in 1888, and in the same year Massachusetts adopted secret voting for all state elections, beginning in 1889. The Australian ballot, in one form or other, finally was adopted by every state in the Union and it still is employed except where it has been supplanted by voting machines, which retain the essential features of the Australian system.

According to the original Australian system, the names of all candidates appeared on the same ballot, which was compiled, printed and placed at the polls under the direction of public officials and at public expense; in other words, the ballot itself was strictly official. The system had a threefold purpose—to prevent dishonesty in counting votes, to insure absolute secrecy and to protect the voter from outside influence while casting his vote. These were accomplished by giving each voter a separate ballot and compelling him to go alone into a booth where he indicated his choice by making a mark opposite the names of the candidates whom he preferred. The ballot then was folded and dropped into a ballot box.

Its Cost Prohibitory
Beryllium is almost a third lighter than aluminum, so hard that it will scratch glass, acid-resisting except to hydrofluoric acid, it has remarkable powers of alloying, and its production is at present prohibitively expensive.

Fiction in Literature
Fiction is the same essence of poetry as well as of painting; there is a resemblance in one of human bodies, things and actions which are not real and in the other of a true story by fiction.—Dryden.

He Could Get a Headlight
Diogenes had a most difficult task in finding an honest man. If he were to return to the job he would have an equally bad time in locating a lantern. Thus do we progress.—Fort Worth Record-Telegram.

Artist's Task
The life of an artist is one of thought, rather than action; he has to speak of the struggles of mind, rather than the conflict of circumstances.—Hone.



Idea Worked!

Wise mothers find the things that keep children contented, well, happy. Most of them have found they can depend on one thing to restore a youngster's good nature when he's cross, fretful, upset.

The experience of Mrs. Wm. Charleston, 903 Gilmore Ave., Kansas City, Kans., is typical. She says: "I have used California Fig Syrup with Annie and Billy all their lives. Whenever they're constipated or bilious it has them comfortable, happy, in a jiffy. Their wonderful condition proves my idea works."

Physicians endorse the use of pure vegetable California Fig Syrup when bad breath, coated tongue, dullness, feverishness, listlessness, etc., show a child's bowels need help. Weak stomach and bowels are toned by it; a child's appetite and digestion are improved.

The genuine always bears the name California for your protection.



CHEER FOR THE CHICKEN-HEARTED
"I'm afraid of my life," the timid citizen complained to his lawyer. "Why, she's even threatened to attack me with an ax."
"Huh! Why worry? Did you ever see a woman try to chop a stick of wood?"—Philadelphia Star.



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"For 12 years, sir?"
"Yes, I purchased a chair on the installment plan in 1918."—Judge.



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