

# Jockeys Finally Catch Up With WOR-FM's Disks

By VAL ADAMS

Radio station WOR-FM, which has been broadcasting rock 'n' roll music without interruption by announcers, will add the chitter-chatter of four disk jockeys, beginning tomorrow. A station official asserted, however, that WOR-FM would not become a "screaming station."

The disk jockeys are Murray (the K) Kaufman, Scott Muni, Johnny Michaels and Bill (Rosko) Mercer.

Robert S. Smith, vice president of the WOR-AM-FM-TV division of R.K.O. General Broadcasting, announced yesterday that contract terms had been agreed on by the FM station and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, which represents the disk jockeys. The minimum weekly salary for performers on WOR-FM will be \$175, a little less than half the scale applying to WOR-AM.

Last July, when WOR-FM began a program format separate from that of its AM affiliate, it declined to use the disk jockeys because its contract with the union stipulated that

performers on FM must receive the same minimum pay as those on AM. Since then the station had been negotiating with the union for a separate contract permitting a lower scale for FM.

Mr. Smith said WOR-FM had received thousands of letters and calls of approval since it had been broadcasting rock 'n' roll music. Asked why it was necessary to present disk jockeys after the format had met with such approval, he replied:

"We don't want to be just a jukebox. We cannot serve the public without voices. They are necessary to present news, weather reports and other information. Also, a station can't be successful commercially without announcers. But we will not be a screaming station. We will not emulate our friends at WABC and WMCA, but will broadcast in a more civilized manner."

Mr. Michaels will present his first program on WOR-FM at 6 A.M. tomorrow. Throughout the day he and Mr. Muni will alternate in three-hour blocks of time. Mr. Kaufman will broadcast each day from 6 P.M. to

midnight. Mr. Mercer will conduct a program broadcast from midnight to 5 A.M. each morning except Monday from Cheetah, a discotheque at 1680 Broadway, near 53d Street.

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## 'Perry Mason' Again?

Gail Patrick Jackson, executive producer of the "Perry Mason" television films, confirmed a report yesterday that the Columbia Broadcasting System had approached her about the possibility of making a new series of films in color.

No decision has been made. But, if "Perry Mason" is revived, a new actor would succeed Raymond Burr, who played the defense attorney for nine years. Mrs. Jackson said Mr. Burr had other commitments and would not be available.

The C.B.S. network discontinued "Perry Mason" at the end of last season. It put most of the one-hour films in syndication but withheld 40 that have not been repeated for possible use on the network.

Mrs. Jackson said she was

also having discussions with another network that had expressed interest in Perry Mason and in several other characters in Erle Stanley Gardner's mystery stories. She declined to identify the network.

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## Smothers Brothers Move Up

Michael H. Dann, senior vice president of programs for the C. B. S. television network, said yesterday that Tom and Dick Smothers, the singing comedians billed as the Smothers Brothers, had been asked to have their variety show ready for a January debut. They recently signed a contract to head a one-hour weekly show that C. B. S. was considering for a premiere next fall.

Mr. Dann said the network now wanted the brothers to begin taping their show in January, although no decision had yet been made to put it on the air at that time. It was reported, however, that one time period under consideration was 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. Thursday, which now is occupied by "Jericho," a World War II adventure series.