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RADIO RETURNS TO THE '40S

By **BOB MacKENZIE**
Tribune TV Critic

If you can tell Helen O'Connell from Helen Forrest, if you remember Frank Sinatra singing "All or Nothing at All," if you know the lyrics to "That Old Black Magic" — then you are a musical old-timer, and a prime customer for "The Pop Chronicles Presents the Forties."

This is a 12-hour cavalcade of good old tunes, pop music history and historical asides — featuring 114 voices from the 1940s, including those of Humphrey Bogart, Adolf Hitler, Franklin Roosevelt, Jimmy Van Heusen, Judy Garland, Bing Crosby, the Sons of the Pioneers, Ella Mae Motse, Bob Eberly . . .

KSFO carries the first six hours today, beginning immediately after the Forty-Niners

game this afternoon. The second six-hour session follows next Sunday.

All the top songs from 1940 to 1945 are on the schedule — drawn from the Billboard Magazine "Hit Parade" selections such as "Moonlight Serenade" by Glenn Miller, "Friendship" by Artie Shaw, "Jersey Bounce" by Benny Goodman, "My Prayer" by the Ink Spots, "Perfidia" by Xavier Cugat, "I'll Never Smile Again" by Tommy Dorsey with Frank Sinatra and the Pied Pipers, "Sentimental Journey" by Les Brown and Doris Day.

The list goes on and on: "The Trolley Song" by Judy Garland, "I'll Get By" with Harry James and Dick Haymes, "Paper Doll" by the Mills Brothers, "Long Ago and Far Away" by Bing Crosby, "As Time Goes By" with Dookey Wilson and Rudy Vallee, "Racing With the Moon" by Vaughn Monroe.

"The Pop Chronicles" series is produced and hosted by John Gilliland, who introduced the series in 1969 with a marathon program tracing the history of popular music from the 1950s through the 1969.

But the brainstorm, or the moment that caused it, came nine years before when Gilliland then a rock jockey on KILT in Texas, found he could no longer stand the music of Frankie Avalon, Annette Funicello and Fabian. As he tells in the book, he quit his job muttering to himself, "How in hell did music get to this state?"

To find out — and to make a radio show that could keep him in green stuff — Gilliland



JOHN GILLILAND
Hosts 'The Forties'

called wrote and flew around the country to talk to and record the people who made the music of the '50s and '60s.

This first edition of the Pop Chronicles was a success on radio stations around the country. Gilliland was naturally moved to a further question: "How in hell did music of the '50s get to THAT state?"

Two further years of research and 77 interviews went

Continued on Page 24

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