

# NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE STUDIOS

By SIDNEY LOHMAN

**T**HE National Broadcasting Company's two new mobile color TV units will make their debut under actual broadcast conditions when they are used to televise, in color, the Tournament of Roses parade in California on New Year's Day.

Recently delivered, the units are the only ones of their kind in existence and were made under the direct supervision of O. B. Hanson, vice president and chief engineer of the National Broadcasting Company. They are thirty-five feet long, eight feet wide and ten feet seven inches high. Painted white, they are decorated with color TV's three primary colors—red, blue and green.

The two vehicles constitute a single operating unit. They have complete audio, video and control-room equipment for three color camera pick-ups and operate with a technical staff of eight, not including the drivers. They are equipped with highway telephones and auxiliary power generators of 40 kilowatts capacity. The control-room unit has built-in air conditioning.

The chassis were made by the Available Truck Company of Chicago, and bodies were manufactured by the Gerstenslager Company of Worcester, Ohio.

**NOVELTY:** Art Carney, better known perhaps as man-of-all-work on the Jackie Gleason Show, will play the part of George Axelrod, author of "The Seven Year Itch," tomorrow night from 10 to 11 when "Studio One" presents "Confessions of a Nervous Man," over the C. B. S. television network.

Mr. Axelrod, himself, will narrate the comedy-documentary which deals with his mental processes during the time between the closing curtain of "The Seven Year Itch" opening night and the arrival of the papers with the critics' reviews.

"Studio One," which has been using well-known artists and cartoonists to create its title cards, has assigned this show to William Steig, who draws "Small Fry" and other characters for the New Yorker Magazine.

**RELIGIOUS DRAMA:** "The Hanukkah Story," a dramatic program explaining the historical

background of the "Festival of Lights" celebrated in Jewish homes this year from December 2 to December 9, will be televised over Channel 7 this afternoon from 4:30 to 5. The program will be entirely in English with original ballads bridging the story from scene to scene. Ceremonial ornaments used have been loaned by the Jewish Museum. The cast will be headed by Herbert Rudley, Murray White, Selma Halpern and 11-year-old Michael Mann.

**INSPIRATIONAL:** "Give Us This Day," a series of five-minute inspirational talks by leaders of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish Faiths in New York City, will be offered by Channel 2 seven days a week at sign-on and sign-off starting today. The time will be divided equally among the three faiths. The Protestants will have Monday and Thursday; the Jewish group Tuesday and Friday and the Catholics Wednesday and Saturday. One of every three Sundays will

be given to a different faith, starting today with the Catholic group.

**ITEMS:** Perry Como, Martha Raye and Ben Blue will be featured performers on N. B. C.-TV's Sunday night Comedy Hour on Dec. 13 substituting for Abbott and Costello, originally scheduled. Lou Costello is still ailing. The comedy team, however, is booked in for a January appearance.

Margaret Truman who has performed on TV as a singer, actress and as a comedy foil, will broaden her field by appearing as, of all things, a contestant on "Name That Tune," over N. B. C. tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. Her winnings will be turned over to her favorite charity.

Claudette Colbert has contracted to do a series of films for television. The movie star will appear in a situation comedy format with the first show going before the cameras in Hollywood during the first week in January.