PROBE CALLED INTO 'MARTIAN' U.S. WAR SCARE

Panic 'Regrettable,' Say Commissions Officials

TO READ SCRIPT

Broadcast Is Not In Public Interest, Chief Claims

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31—(UP)—Chairman Frank B. McNinch of the federal communications commission today wired the Columbia Broadcasting system for a copy of the radio script and a transcription of the broadcast "The War of the Worlds" broadcast over the Columbia network Sunday night with startling results.

The commission said the program which aroused the country with its portrayal of the imaginary attack on Princeton, N. J., by mysterious men from Mars, will be considered at an early meeting of the commission.

Withholds Judgment

"I withhold final judgment until later," McNinch said, "but any broadcast that creates such general panic and fear at this time is reported to have done so. To say the least, regrettable.

The widespread public reaction to this broadcast was indicated by the great public substitution of the power and force of radio, and points out again the serious public responsibility of those who are licensed to operate stations.

No Violation

Commission officials said the broadcast violated no specific statute or regulations with the exception that it might be construed as being not in the public interest.

Mars Didn't Really Attack U.S.—but Drama Too Real

Horrible Fantasy of War Waged by 'Things' From Mars Brings Near Panic to Nation

NEW YORK, Oct. 31. (AP)—A horrible fantasy of war waged by the United States by fearmongers, space-conquering men from Mars brought near panic to that part of the nation's radio audience which was not tuned in Sunday night on Charlie McCarthy's rival radio program.

In the dial-riding terms of the new broadsides, the nation of a Columbia program became so real that hysteria prevailed among listeners throughout the United States and Canada.

Drama for Investigation

For investigation and correction same panic today with the belated reports of almost fantastic panic.

Senator Cyril B. Herring (Dem.)

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 2)
MARS DIDN'T DECLARE WAR

(Continued from Page One)

Iowa said he planned to introduce in Congress a bill "controlling just such abuses as have occurred with the radio last night. .. Radio has no right to be heard over the airways any louder than a neighbor in an attic, just as no neighbor in an attic has the right to be heard over the radiophone on the street just like that some neighbor has in knocking on your door and screaming - he adds.

"City Manager Paul Morton of Trenton, N. J., near the local of the Federal transmitters, has asked for a demand of an investigation by the Federal Communications Commission with the view of preventing recurrence of what happened."

Some apartment dwellers in New York were emptied hurriedly by frantic listeners to the program-and they second a demand for an account that multiplied the impending panic.

A woman in Pittsburgh tried suicide, saying "I'd rather die this way than live like that.

At a high point in the program, the people of the pro Wolfe residence in the suburb of St. Paul, took to the streets outside their residence and were afraid of their own lives. A woman in the room was afraid of her own life and jumped from a window.

"There were about 12 persons in the room, and the hysteria subsided almost as quickly as it started. But listen to their words: "Mrs. Smith, you have never lived through anything like this."

The broadcast was an adaptation of the book "War of the Worlds," by H. G. Wells, "War of the Worlds." The broadcast was a scientific dialogue between two explorers of the planet Mars. The characters discuss their experiences on Earth and the possibility of life on other planets. They also speculate on the future of humanity and the potential for conflict with other extraterrestrial beings.

"The broadcast was a scientific dialogue between two explorers of the planet Mars. The characters discuss their experiences on Earth and the possibility of life on other planets. They also speculate on the future of humanity and the potential for conflict with other extraterrestrial beings."
Radio Program Is Too Real; Listeners Made Hysterical

Woman Tries Suicide As Result of Horrible Fantasy of War Waged On United States

TENEMENT HOUSES IN GOTHAM EMPTIED

Others Gather In Groups to Pray For Salvation From Space-Conquering Men From Mars

New York, Oct. 31 (AP)—Thousands

Radio Program Is Too Real; Listeners Made Hysterical

Woman Tries Suicide As Result of Horrible Fantasy of War Waged On United States

TENEMENT HOUSES IN GOTHAM EMPTIED

Others Gather In Groups to Pray For Salvation From Space-Conquering Men From Mars

New York, Oct. 31 (AP)—Thousands of listeners tuned in to radio programs across the country last night when they heard a broadcast of a fantasy about a war waged on a distant planet. The broadcast, which was intended to be a dramatic reading of H.G. Wells' novel "The War of the Worlds," caused panic among listeners across the country.

The broadcast began with voices reading the first chapter of the novel, describing the first Alien contact with Earth. As the broadcast progressed, the voices became more intense, describing the arrival of the Aliens on Earth and their ultimate victory.

The broadcast was originally intended to be a dramatic reading of the novel, but the voices became more intense as the broadcast progressed. Listeners were left in a state of panic as they heard the voices describe the Aliens' attack on Earth.

FEDERAL RADIO COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE WAR SCARE

Chairman McNinch Asks Broadcasting Companies To Take Steps To Prevent Future Scare

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 — The Federal Communications Commission began an investigation today of a radio broadcast that caused widespread panic among listeners across the country.

Chairman Frank P. McNinch asked the Columbia Broadcasting System to furnish the commission with a transcript of the broadcast, which was a dramatized version of H.G. Wells' novel "The War of the Worlds."

Heads Incident "Reprehensible"

"This broadcast was a gross violation of the public's right to be informed," McNinch said. "It was a violation of the public's right to be protected from fear and panic."

The broadcast was a dramatized version of H.G. Wells' novel "The War of the Worlds," which describes the arrival of Aliens on Earth and their ultimate victory. The broadcast was intended to be a dramatic reading of the novel, but it quickly became a panic broadcast as the voices became more intense.

The commission will investigate the broadcast to determine whether it was a violation of the public's right to be informed and protected from fear and panic.
U.S. Probes Radio Drama, Terror Cause

Senator Plans Move To Curb Broadcasts, After Wild Scenes

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31—(AP)—The Federal Communications Commission began an investigation Monday of a radio broadcast which led some people to believe last night that Mars had attacked the United States.

Chairman Frank P. McNintock said the Columbia Broadcasting System was licensed to broadcast with an electrical transmission of the broadcast, which was a fictional version of H. G. Wells' novel, "War of the Worlds." McNintock said:

"Any broadcast that evades such general control as this one was operated for the purpose of calling the public's attention to the serious and the facts, and for the next week, communicate with those who have received the broadcast."

Thousands believed the drama to be a true news report.

Mintoff said:

"We are here to protect our people. We are not here to protect the enemy."

Thousands Flee

Exhaustive investigations revealed there were no violations of the law. No suspension was ordered. Restored for an investigation to the state of the broadcast.

General C. H. Harington (D.), said he planned to testify in Congress about "the desirability of having radio stations act in concert and in harmony with the public interest."

Sixth suicide

A woman in Baltimore died suicide by electrocution, as did a man in the same city. The man in Baltimore was found dead in his apartment.

Radio Terrifies Scores Here

Listeners Faint, Officer Hunts Gas Mask, Hearing of 'War'

The radio program broadcast on the night of the incident was heard by thousands of listeners in the United States and abroad. The program was a broadcast of "The War of the Worlds," a story of a Martian invasion. The program was broadcast by the Columbia Broadcasting System. The program was heard by thousands of listeners in the United States and abroad. The program was a broadcast of "The War of the Worlds," a story of a Martian invasion.

Radio broadcast in San Francisco, where the program was heard by thousands of listeners, was broadcast by the Columbia Broadcasting System. The program was heard by thousands of listeners in the United States and abroad.

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MEN OF MARS CAUSED PANIC IN BROADCAST

Challenger That Mysteria Resulted to U. S.

NEW YORK, Nov. 14—(AP)—As the rockets left the earth, space-craftsmen from Mars buzzed about the television screens that night and part of the mail-office audience panicked, publicly because of the new broadcast from the Mars colonists, held Thursday evening by the Federal Bicentennial Council's radio program.

The broadcast was the first of a series of broadcasts from the new rocket scientists, as planned in advance by the government, to test the feasibility of making a broadcast from space. It turned out to be a model for scientific success, tested by the listeners, the Federal Bicentennial Council's radio program.

Demands for investigation and compensation by the empty-hit radio program had no immediate effect on the program, and the MARS broadcast was continued into its second week.

Senator Olof L. Johnson (D. Mass.) has been planning to present to Congress a bill containing just what the old radio program would stipulate for a broadcast to Mars. The bill would address an investigation by the Director of the Federal Bicentennial Council with the view of putting an end to the MARS broadcast.

Some apprehension, however, was expressed by Federal Bicentennial Council members to the friends of the program by the influential listeners, the local radio program's mailing list of more than 30,000 people.

Philadelphia tried sending, saying "It rather does for this one."

The Kennedy File

A four-nation international conference last week at the Federal Bicentennial Council's headquarters was held by General John F. Kennedy, expressed in the statement that all over the world it was felt that a broadcast to Mars was just what the world needed.

Church service here and elsewhere filled the general's address to the people who listened to the earth-nostalgia for those far away. There wasn't a moment in sight or sound of people or of the world of Mars.

Writing to M. H. Wells

To: M. H. Wells

From: D. C. G. Wells

Date: Nov. 14

Dear M. H. Wells,

Your letter on the subject of the broadcast to Mars has been received. As you probably know, the broadcast is being planned by the Federal Bicentennial Council.

In the broadcast, the people of Mars will be asked how they feel about the broadcast and whether they want it to continue. The broadcast will be transmitted in English, French, German, and Spanish.

Wells, the 53-year-old Broadway showman, has been associated with the Federal Bicentennial Council. The broadcast has been welcomed by listeners, the Federal Bicentennial Council's mailing list.

Yes, the broadcast is causing excitement all over the world. Many listeners have already written to request that the broadcast continue.

Yours truly,

D. C. G. Wells

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Mars is a red planet, located in the constellation of Orion, and is the fourth planet from the sun. It has a diameter of about 12,100 miles and a mass of about 11 times that of the earth. Mars is known for its thin atmosphere, its two moons, Phobos and Deimos, and its polar ice caps. It is also known for its canals, which were once thought to be evidence of intelligent life. Today, however, scientists agree that the canals are most likely a natural phenomenon, formed by the movement of water on the surface of the planet.

The broadcast to Mars is a way for us to reach out and connect with other beings in the universe. It's a chance for us to learn more about the mysteries of Mars and the possibility of intelligent life on other planets. It's a chance for us to explore the unknown and to discover what lies beyond our own planet.
RADIO BROADCAST PANICS NATION

TERROR SWEEP COUNTRY AFTER GRAPHIC DRAMA

POLICE, NEWSPAPERS SWamped BY CALLS FOLLOWING SUNDAY PROGRAM

‘ATTACK FROM MARS’ PLAY TOO REALISTIC

Threats Of Investigation and Cries Of ‘There Ought To Be a Law’
Come in Wake of Thriller

Washington, Oct. 31.—The Federal Communications Commission began an investigation today of a dramatic radio broadcast which let some people believe last night that the United States had been attacked by aliens.

Chairman Frank P. McIntosh asked the Columbia Broadcasting System to furnish the commission with an electric transcription of the broadcast, a dramatized version of H. G. Wells’ imaginative story, “War of the Worlds.” McIntosh said:

“I withhold final judgment until later, but any broadcast that creates such general panic and fear as this one is expected to have done is, to say the least, regrettable.”

BY CHARLES A. GRUMMEN
New York, Oct. 31.—A horible fantasy of war waged on the United States by space-conquering men from Mars brought

‘MORE INTERESTING’

New York, Oct. 31.—H. G. Wells’ “War of the Worlds” was published in 1898. It depicted an invasion of Martians who landed in Wales in “space capsules” and immediately proceeded with superior weapons, including a death ray, to devastate the earth.

Playwright Owen Wilson said he had given his radio adaptation an American locale to “make it more interesting” to American listeners.

London, Oct. 31.—H. G. Wells, whose “War of the Worlds” furnished the basis of the broadcast which spread alarm in the United States last night, said today it was “hypothetical” in the agreement for selling the radio rights that any broadcast would clearly “be fiction and not news.”

The novelist added that he gave no permission whatever for adaptations which might lead to the belief the broadcast material was real.

near panic to that part of the nation’s radio audience which was not tuned in last night on the Charlie McCarthy’s radio program.

In the double-quick tempo of the news broadcasters, the fiction of a Columbia program became so realistic that hysteria prevailed among radio listeners in the United States and Canada.

Demands for investigation and correction came from every corner with the blare reports of alcion fantastic panic.

Senator Clyde L. Sturgis (D., S. a.), said he planned to introduce in Congress a bill “correcting just such abuse as was heard over the radio last night.”

City Manager Paul Mortin of Trenton, N. J., near the locale of the fictional invasion, said he would demand investigations by the Federal Communications Commission.

Vera were emptied hurriedly by frantic listeners to the program—and in seconds and third hand accounts that multiplied the incident.

A woman in Pittsburgh cried suicide, saying: “I’d rather die this way than live that way.”

All a high point in the program

(Continued on Next Page)
Nationwide Terrorism
Created By Radio War
Drama Starts Inquiry

Thousands Of Panic Stricken Listeners Actually Believed New York Was Being Destroyed By Attack Of Alien Armies

NEW YORK, Oct. 31—Thousands of terror-stricken radio listeners throughout the country fled from their homes last night when they tuned in on a series of synthetic news broadcasts which simulated the beginning of an intergalactic war.

The simulated news bulletin, which accompanied a film demonstration of H. G. Wells' fantasy, "The War Of The Worlds," described how Martians sent a wave of gas which swept across the nation. The broadcast was intended only as fiction.

Excessive numbers of listeners during the program, between 8 and 9 P.M., were overwhelmed by thousands who were led to believe a planet gas explosion had occurred from Mars and was spreading death and destruction over the New York Metropolitan area.

Demand for investigation

Demands for an investigation multiplied:

Frank F. McElwain, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, asked for an investigation.

Few Calls Here

Moderators who heard the way "The War Of The Worlds" was presented, which Sunday evening caused consternation in various parts of the country, generally did not believe the "attack" on New York by invaders from Mars was true.

Only a few telephone calls were received by the police department and the sheriff's office relative to the broadcast.

Company to Furnish

The company to furnish the commission with an electronic recording of the broadcast, as well as a copy of the script.

I shall request prompt consideration of this matter by the commission," he said in Washington.

"I withdraw my judgment until later, but any broadcast that creates even general panic and fear should be stopped, and such warnings are necessary to warn the public as to the type of programming that should not be broadcast.

Widespread Reaction

"The widespread public reaction in this broadcast, as indicated by the press, is another demonstration of the power and force of radio and radio station owners and operators must be held responsible for their public responsibility of those who are licensed to operate the stations."

Jacques Chambrun, literary representative for H. G. Wells, said the famous British author was amazed at the dramatic presentation of his book should have spread alarm in the country.

Chambrun said Wells cabled him from London this morning, asserting "the Columbia Broadcasting System and the Orson Welles have not exceeded their rights in the matter."

Wells said Welles cabled the radio dramatization was made "with a liberty that amounts to a complete rewriting" and was not authorized.

CBS Will Not Rebroadcast "War Of The Worlds"

NEW YORK, Oct. 31—Columbia Broadcasting System officials here said today that reports of the broadcasts, this week, proved that the program would not be rebroadcast.

Affidavit of the Columbia system at Washington, D. C., reported that they were receiving a deluge of telephone calls concern- ing the War of the Worlds broadcast and that "they are not responsible for the fact that the program was heard by a few who believed it to be real."

"We are not responsible," one CBS official said. "We have not heard of any such program."

"We are not responsible," another official replied. "We have not heard of any such program."

OPERATORS ARE SWamped

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 31—Telephone operators reported today that they virtually were "swamped" with requests for retransmission of telephone conversations with New York and New Jersey during and immediately after last night's "War Of The Worlds." Those who wanted to place calls said they were not always able to hear the broadcast.}
MINERS RISK THEIR LIVES TO RESCUE DOG

FCC TO PROBE RADIO-INSPIRED PANIC

MASS HYSTERIA IS RESULT OF PLAY BROADCAST IN U.S.

Thousands Fear World's Coming to An End During "War of the Worlds."" POLICE PHONE LINES CLOGGED BY INQUIRIES

Harlem Residents Begin Frightened Trek to North. Church Services Interrupted.

New York, Oct. 31—(UP)—The Federal Communications commission investigated a radio program today which caused thousands of people in every part of the country to believe that the eastern United States had been invaded by creatures from the planet Mars in the first engagement of a "war of the worlds."

The hysteria following the experimental radio dramatic program swept police and newspapers of New York City and of New Jersey towns and cities, where the Martian adventures were said to have landed, killing thousands of persons after they left their spaceships.

But it was not limited to the east. In Indianapolis, an unidentified woman ran down the main aisle of St. Paul's Episcopal church, crying: "The world is coming to an end." The congregation hastily dispersed.

In Toledo, O., three persons fainted at telephones while trying to call police. In Chicago, persons ran out of restaurants without finishing their meals.

Panic in Far West

In Salt Lake City, residents packed their belongings and were only drowsed from fleeing their homes by proof that it was all just entertainment.

But in the east, in the country being subjected to the "invasion," hysteria ran riot. Several persons came forward to swear they saw (Continued on Page Three)
MASS HYSTERIA IS RESULT OF PLAY BROADCAST IN U.S.

(Continued from Page One)

Others were merely to be advised that it was not real.

200 Flee Apartment

These were the persons least alarmed. The others jumped up and ran out of their houses in wild panic. In New York city approximately 200 persons fled their apartments in one block of Riverside drive and ran as fast as they could toward Broadway where police overtook them, stopped them, and sent them home.

In Princeton, an unidentified man ran into the Princeton University Press Club and announced that he had seen a rocket and had seen the invaders, jumping out of it, each armed with a death ray. There were other "eye-witnesses" who disappeared when they became generally known that there had been no invasion at all.

In Newark, police were called to the Camden Hills section by a report of a "terrible explosion." They found hundreds in the streets, singing, because they understood that Newark was about to be subjected to a gas bomb.

In Clinton, N. J., a woman ran into the First Baptist Church during services, shouting that a meteor had fallen. The Rev. W. J. Thomas quelled the congregation, then prayed for deliverance.

Telegraph companies reported that they were delivering telegrams from as distant as California, inquiring of the fate of relatives. The telephone company reported that they had handled so many calls in such a short time that they had no idea what the situation was.

Wants to Sue Radio Co.

The broadcasting system broadcast special announcements during the rest of the night explaining that it had been an entertainment, merely. But until 1 a.m., its switchboards were jammed with inquiries, some of them threatening to sue. One man said he had collided with furniture in his haste to get into the street, blacking his eyes.

The New York Daily News reported that New York City doctors received a frantic appeal for information of what was happening.

The New York Times reported that it had received a telephone call from a man in Dayton, Ohio, who wanted to know what time the world was going to end.

Harlem Frightened

In Harlem, Negroes rushed from their homes screaming warnings to passers-by and running off toward the north. Police stopped them and learned that they thought they had heard President Roosevelt's voice on the radio announcing an invasion and asking all citizens to flee northward.

Priests of the Roman Catholic churches in New Jersey and southern New York were amazed to see scores of persons running frantically and telling their stories before the shrines of saints. Hundreds of persons were treated for shock. Newark's St. Michael hospital reported that it had treated 15 cases alone.

Read the Want Ads daily.
Koch's Radio Script Causes Near Panic Throughout Nation

Dramatization of H. G. Wells' Novel Causes Hysteria From New York Studio to Pacific Northwest and as Result Bill Is Forecast for Presentation to Congress

A horrid fantasy of war waged on the United States by interminable space-inhabiting men from Mars brought near panic to that part of the radio's audience which was not tuned in last night on rival radio programs, according to The Associated Press.

Script of the program which was presented by the Mercury Theatre over the CBS network was written by Howard E. Koch, of this city, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Koch, of Schuyler Court.

The two-act drama was the dramatization of an H. G. Wells novel. In the double-quick tempo of the news broadcasters, the Etaix became so realistic that hysteria prevailed among listeners throughout the United States and Canada.

Demands for investigation and correction came on some inlay with the belated reports of almost fantastic paste.

Federal Group Begins 'Men From Mars' Probe

SEE 'FOREIGN INVASION' ON PAGE 11

Washington, Oct. 15 (AP)—The Federal Communications Commission begins an investigation today of a dramatic radio broadcast which led some people to believe last night that men from Mars had attacked the United States.

Chairman Frank F. McNeill of the Columbia Broadcasting System furnished the commission with an electrical transcript of the broadcast, a dramatized version of H. G. Wells' story, "War of the Worlds."

Chairman McNeill said: "Any broadcast that creates such general panic and fear as this one is reported to have done in, to say the least, exaggerated.

The widespread public reaction to this broadcast as indicated by the press, in turn, is another demonstration of the power of radio and its potential danger. The serious public responsibility of those who are licensed to operate stations," McNeill said.

An apartment house in New York was emptied suddenly by frantic listeners in the program—by sent out and later heard accounts that multiplied the imitating effect.

A woman in Pittsburgh said, saying: "I'd rather die this way than live that way.

At a high point in the program, the woman died at Elmhurst, Ill., a town of 1,000, as well as at a number of points in the homes. Many thought the invasion had reached the west coast. Women fainted and men prepared to take their families to the mountains.

Switchboards Swarmed

Switchboards in newspapers offices and police stations everywhere were swamped with calls from terrified people, many of them weeping.

Some reported they could smell the gas and see the flames started by the invaders.

People gathered in groups to pray for salvation.

All over the metropolitan area, anxious persons jumped into their automobiles and headed for the open spaces to escape the hypothetical bomb. Churches, cemetery, parks and elsewhere were broken up by priests who screened the world was coming to an end.

"It is true. Why is this? Why do the Martians attack New York with deadly other-worldly weapons and gas? Why the world coming to an end?"

There wasn't a Martian in sight and the hysteria subsided almost as quickly as it started. But listeners viewed the broadcast with mixed feelings, primarily that they had been somewhat frightened and upset.

Astor Theatres Locals

The broadcast was an adaptation of H. G. Wells' imaginative "War of the Worlds," variously dramatized and adapted by Orson Welles, the Mercury Broadcast, probably the finest Americanized the locales and situations.

Four times during the program, CBS pointed out. the announcer stressed that the story was nothing but fiction.

This contrasting celebration of either excess of these who tuned in for the full program or was not entirely to part-time listeners or late tumblers.

Many of those who were literally panic-stricken to Charlie McCarthy's footsteps on the NBC news program were caught up in the fear of neighbors ringing doors bell and personal belongings.
Radio Program That Caused Hysteria Is Under Investigation

NEW YORK—The Federal Communications Commission investigated a radio program today which caused thousands of persons in every part of the country to believe that the eastern United States had been invaded by creatures from the planet Mars in the first engagement of a "War of the Worlds."

The program, following the successful campaign to save the nation's radio from Federal control, was a dramatic story of a mass invasion of New York City by Martians. The show, which was broadcast from the City's largest radio station, was heard by millions of listeners who were sure that the Story was true.

But it was not until the next day that the full extent of the panic became apparent. In New York City, where the invasion was centered, and in other areas where the program was broadcast, there was an outburst of fear and panic that bordered on the fantastic. In New York City, where the program was broadcast, there were reports of people rushing to their homes and seeking shelter in basements and cellars. In other areas, where the program was broadcast, there were reports of people gathering in parks and squares, seeking safety from the invading Martians.

The program, it was later revealed, was the creation of Orson Welles, a young radio director who had written the script and directed the production. Welles, it was said, had intended to use the program as a publicity stunt to increase the audience for his radio show. But the program had gone too far, and the panic it had caused had been averted only by the quick thinking of the Federal Communications Commission.

The program had started at 8:20 p.m., when a news report announced that a large meteor had been observed in the eastern United States. The report was followed by a broadcast of a dramatic story of a Martian invasion of New York City. The story was told in a dramatic voice, using sound effects and music to create a sense of tension and suspense.

The story was broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System, which was one of the largest radio networks in the country. The program was heard by millions of listeners, who were convinced that the story was true.

The program had ended at 9:20 p.m., when a news report announced that the Martian invasion had been a false alarm. But the damage had been done. The panic it had caused had been so great that the Federal Communications Commission had to act to prevent a recurrence of the incident.

The Commission, it was announced, would investigate the program and its producers to ensure that such an incident did not happen again.

(Continued on Page 2)
Radio Terror
Program Stirs U.S. Inquiry

Thousands Flee Homes in Nation Wide Panic Caused By Broadcast of Invasion From Mars Fantasy

NEW YORK, Oct. 31—(AP)—Thousands of terror-stricken radio listeners throughout the country fled from their homes last night when they tuned in on a series of synchonic world-broadcasts which depicted the beginning of a fantasy war.

The broadcast was intended only as fiction, and the Federal Communications Commission began an investigation.

The broadcast was dramatized and presented by Orson Welles, the 25-year-old radio impresario. It was broadcast from the Mercury Theater of the Air at 7:30 p.m. (ET), and was heard in many parts of the country.

The broadcast was intended only as fiction, and the Federal Communications Commission began an investigation.

The broadcast was dramatized and presented by Orson Welles, the 25-year-old radio impresario. It was broadcast from the Mercury Theater of the Air at 7:30 p.m. (ET), and was heard in many parts of the country.

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Radio Broadcast of Wells Novel
Throws Thousands into Hysteria

Fictitious “Band of Warriors from Mars” Spreads Terror Through Nation
Despite Explanations of Announcer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Federal Communications commission Monday investigated a radio dramatization of H. G. Wells’ novel, “The War of the Worlds,” which threw thousands of listeners all over the country into panic Sunday night and created mass hysteria among persons who believed the United States was being invaded.

The program was “Drama of the Air,” regularly scheduled “Mercury Theatre of the Air” over Station WORC and the Columbia Broadcasting company’s network. It was a highly realistic arrangement of the novel, with a fictional news commentator reporting “horrors in New Jersey,” where a band of warriors from Mars, according to the story, was spreading destruction and death.

In Washington, Chancellor Frank R. McNinch said he would “withhold final judgment” on the broadcast until later, but added that “any broadcast that creates such general panic and fear as this one is reported to have done, is to say the least, regrettable.”

Nation-Wide Panic Caused by Radio

NEW YORK — A too realistic broadcast Sunday night, describing a fictitious and devastating visit of strange men from Mars, the nation was thrown into a panic.

An announcer interrupted the routine broadcast to announce a flash that New York and New Jersey had been attacked by the queer little men from Mars. It was all a part of a dramatic broadcast of H. G. Wells’ “War of the Worlds.”

Panicky people called the police, stations and newspapers to find out if it was true.

PROGRAM WON’T BE REPEATED

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Columbia Broadcasting system officials and Monday that “requests or no response.” The “War of the Worlds” program would not be repeated.

SENATE PANEL — Senator Clyde B. Burke, Democratic of Iowa, said Sunday night he plans to introduce a bill into the next Congress calling for “control of the medium known as radio.”
Hysteria Sweeps Country as Radio Hoax Describes ‘Invasion’ by Mars Giants

NEW YORK — The federal communications commission investigated a radio program today which caused thousands of persons in every part of the country to believe that the eastern United States had been invaded by creatures from the planet Mars in the first engagement of a “war of the worlds.”

The hysteria following the one-hour radio dramatic program, broadcast late Sunday night, left all New Yorkers and others with the feeling that they had witnessed a great event — indeed, a war of the world’s imagination, a war that lasted through the night.

But it was all in the minds of the listeners who tuned in to the program over the Columbia Broadcasting System, and heard the words, “Invasion from Mars.”

In Chicago, police reported that several persons ran out of a restaurant without finishing their meals.

In Salt Lake City, residents packed their belongings and were only discouraged from fleeing by the telephone service.

In the east, in the country being subjected to the “invasion,” persons filled cars and trains, and telephones were out of service.

We’re Suckers, Too

The futility of the war was quickly realized, but the更多内容...
You Might Have Guessed
It, Orson Welles' First
Play Was Called "Panic"

New York, Nov. 1—An acting boy
marvel named Orson Welles made
his first important Broadway ap-
pearance three and a half years
ago in "Panic!", a play written by
Archibald MacLeish. This fits in,
by mere coincidence, with the fantastic
events of the other night, when a
national panic broke out over
Welles' too-realistic broadcast of an
air raid from Mars.

No one regrets the subsequent
mass hysteria more than the young
star whose dynamic performances
in the past have been greeted by
critics as "stark," "vivid," "grim,"
"dramatic," and "eccentric." As
"The Shadow" whose hollow laugh-
ter used to trickle eerily through
the air-planes, Welles would give
radio listeners the mild creeps. But
little did he realize the other night
that he was to plunge a vast audi-
ence into terror.

For a youth who is not yet 24,
this is the climax in a turbulent
life. On Broadway he has been reg-
arded for two years as the most
exciting personality and most re-
markable youth in the theater, and
he is the pioneer spirit and star
actor of the troupe which shot up
like and is called the Mercury. His
broadcast Tuesday night, the other
night was a presentation of the Mercury
Theater of the Air.

It was only a year ago that
Welles rocked bale theatre-goers
out of their seats to stand up and
cheer for his stark production of
"Julius Caesar." Now he is a Negro
performance of "Macbeth," and a highly stylized
production of "Dr. Faustus,"
and he was in the midst of preparing
Marc Blittstein's potent operas,
"The Cradle Will Rock" under
the WPA banner when officials
refused to allow it to open in New
York.

Welles and the cast called a
dramatic revolt. From the theater
where "The Cradle Will Rock"
was to have played, the entire
company of a large company
marched uptown to an unused

duced himself as a Theatre Guild
actor from New York. He never
played anything but leads, he told
them, but he was willing to break
a rule. So he was hired and his
gift for macabre make-up, his
superb voice and his amazing talent
kept him employed in Ireland's most
famous theatre for 40 years.

But he had both the wanderlust
and the stage in his blood and the
mixture led him onward and up-
ward. Now he was 18 and in London;
he was a member of the St. Martin's-
Midland. He wrote "Theatricals"
and the stage in his blood and the
mixture led him onward and up-
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Midland. He wrote "Theatricals"
and the stage in his blood and the
mixture led him onward and up-
ward. Now he was 18 and in London;
he was a member of the St. Martin's-
Midland. He wrote "Theatricals"
and the stage in his blood and the
mixture led him upward. Now he was

Hired for "Panic"

The African interlude over, he
came back to America and settled
temporarily on the family hearth in
Chicago. He met Thornton Wilder,
who said that Katharine Cornell
needed a Marchbanks for her tour
ger "Romeo and Juliet." He was 18;
he got the job and he was good,
but the other members of the troupes
recall how he lived aboard
during the merry hops from city to
city, sitting cross-legged like a
Chinook-Buddha in an upper berth
inning over his plans and ambi-
tions.

The tour ended and Welles went
back to Woodstock. He directed a
drama festival there and met a
young woman who had been a chas-
se of the Todd School. She was Vir-
ginia Nicholson, and they were mar-
tied that summer. Together they
came to New York, and the nine-
teen-and-a-half-year-old actor went
on the employment rounds among

ORSON WELLES... "PANIC"

ECHOES IN HIS EARS

playhouse and gave a performance
on the bare stage. It was charged
with theatrical dynamite. The story
broke. And Welles' career with the
WPA came to an abrupt end. Not
much time ensued after that eve-
nion and the founding of the Mer-
cury Theater.

Bluffed Way to Stage

Welles was 18 years old and fresh
from the Todd School in Woodstock,
Ill. (Illinois in his home) when he
left America to take up landscape
painting in the highlands of Scot-
land.

But on his first night in Dublin he
visited the Gate Theatre and saw the
Abbey Players. He discarded his
brushes and easel the next morn-
ing, called back stage and intro-

That title was to echo in his ears
on February 30, 1938.
Hysteria Prevails
After Radio Drama, Seek Investigation

Fiction of War Waged On U. S. by Men From Mars So Realistic Thousands Become Panic-Stricken—Probe by F. C. C. Is Demanded — Book Was Published In 1898.

By Charles A. Grunich

New York—A horrible fantasy of war waged on the United States by空间-conquering men from Mars brought near panic to that part of the nation's radio audience which was not tuned in last night on Charlie McCarthy's rival radio program.

In the double-quick tempo of the news broadcasts, the fiction of a Columbia program became so realistic that hysteria prevailed among listeners throughout the United States and Canada.

Demands for investigation and correction came today with the belated reports of almost fantastic panic.

Sen. Clyde L. Herring, Democrat, Iowa, said he planned to introduce in Congress a bill providing just such abuse as was heard over the radio last night.

City Manager Paul Morton of Trenton, N. J., near the source of the fictional invasion, said he would demand investigation by the federal communications commission.

ONE TRIED SUICIDE

Some apartment houses in New York were emptied hurriedly by frantic listeners to the program—and by second and third hand accounts that multiplied the impending peril.

A woman in Pittsburgh tried suicide, saying I'll rather die this way than that.

At a high point in the program the electric power failed at Cornell, Wash., a town of 1,900, and the lights went out in most of the homes. Many thought the invasion had reached the west coast. Women fainted and men prepared to take their families to the mountains.

Switchboards in newspaper offices and police stations everywhere were swamped with calls from terrified people, many of them weeping.

Some reported they could smell the gas and see the flames started by the attackers.

People gathered in groups to pray for salvation.

HEAP FOR COUNTRY

All over the metropolitan area panic-stricken persons jumped into automobiles and headed for the open spaces to escape the imaginary invading of New York.

Church services here and elsewhere were broken up by intruders who screamed the world was coming to an end.

"Is it true? Were 40 killed in New Jersey? Or 5,000 in New York? Are men from Mars attacking New York with deadly ether-worldly weapons and gas? Was the world coming to an end?"

There wasn't a Martian in sight and the hysteria subsided almost as quickly as it started. But listeners view the broadcast with mixed feelings, principally that they had been unduly frightened and duped.

The broadcast was an adaption of H. G. Wells' imaginative "War of the Worlds," further dramatized and enacted by Orson Welles, the 25-year-old Broadway theatrical prodigy. Wells Americanized the locale and situations.

WAS JUST FICTION

Four times during the program CBS pointed out that the story was nothing but fiction.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3)