

## AHC Immigration Symposium Held

“I didn’t know how much I didn’t know...”

UW American Heritage Center’s

Where Are We Now: Immigration Policy and Its Impact from a Wyoming and U.S. Perspective

On September 18, 2014, the UW American Heritage Center held a dialogue event about immigration issues from a state and national perspective. Our objective was to bring together panelists who could provide us with a variety of viewpoints on immigration policy and reform. We began the day with past and present reflections on the issues from U.S. Senator (Ret.) Alan K. Simpson, co-author of 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act. Senator Simpson has been involved with immigration policy for more than thirty years and, according to one symposium panelist, “deserves credit for navigating the immigration debate without resorting to nativism or demagoguery.”

Wyoming immigration issues were our next focus for discussion. UW College of Law Assistant Professor Suzie Pritchett provided an overview of the numbers involved, noting that the foreign-born share of Wyoming’s population rose from 2.3% in 2000 to 3.4% in 2010, a “growth pattern actually higher than the national average.” Manager of Jackson’s Wort Hotel, Jim Waldrop, added that Teton County’s population is now 30% Hispanic. The Wort recently hosted a Mexican Independence Day party with hundreds of attendees, an example, Waldrop explained, that “immigration and integration are real, and it is current in Teton County.” UW History Professor Phil Roberts reminded us that immigration is nothing new to Wyoming, observing that Europeans, Blacks, Asians, and Hispanics comprised 40.5% of the total population in 1870; 29.6% in 1880; and 26.1% in 1890. UW student José Rivas recounted his childhood experiences being caught up in an immigration raid, and his more recent difficulties pursuing higher education without proper citizenship documents. Bertine Bahige, a Congolese man who was a kidnapped child soldier for two years before his escape, related his new life in Wyoming and how the town of Gillette has responded to him with warmth and acceptance.

Jose Antonio Vargas presented his talk “Define American” at mid-day to a group of more than 160 UW (continued page 4)

(l to r) UW President Dick McGinity welcomed former US Senator Alan Simpson to the symposium. Simpson presented the symposium’s “Introductory Reflection.” Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas discussed his life as an undocumented immigrant. The morning panel presented various Wyoming perspectives on immigration issues.





Mark Greene

# From the Director

At the University of Wyoming all the units are engaged in strategic planning for the 2015-20 period. In my next newsletter column I will summarize our evolving goals for this immediate future. But part of the strategic planning process is assessing the success of the previous (or current) plan. I'd like to share part of that assessment with you, because it conveys important information about the activities and accomplishments of the AHC.

As part of our assignment from the university each unit was asked to give a précis of our current status. This is what the Center submitted:

- Despite reductions in both our public and private funding during the current strategic plan period (the reduction in our private funds was due entirely to substantial drops in interest on our endowment accounts), the AHC achieved important goals and continued to be on the leading edge of the archival profession. We are recognized as one of the largest and most active archival institutions in the nation. In terms of size, in just the past year we acquired 25 new collections (147 cubic feet) and 108 accretions to existing collections (235 cubic feet); we also accessioned almost one terabyte of born digital material.
- Large and diverse collections would be meaningless if they sat unused and particularly if they were not actively integrated into UW's teaching curriculum. The AHC's total research use for 2012-13 was 5,480, significantly higher than a recent national survey average of 4,218. Annually scholars and the public from all 50 states and a dozen nations access the collections of the AHC, helping to raise the national and international stature of UW.
- The AHC continues to serve many more undergraduate students than the national average: 1,461 undergraduates used the AHC, while the national survey mean was 861. The Toppan Library is itself an active teaching site, drawing in approximately 190 undergraduates each year; it truly welcomes (rather than merely tolerates) undergraduate users. Undergraduate research and inquiry-based learning constitute a form of personalized, connected education where UW—and the AHC—excel.

We were also asked to account for the full semester courses and special lectures provided by archives faculty during the 2012-13 academic year.

Our archives faculty teach a variety of 3-credit courses for the History department, usually cross-listed with several other departments and attracting students from several disciplines.

- In 2012-13, Rick Ewig instructed two three-credit courses. Archival Research Methods, HIST 4055/5055, had 15 undergraduates and two graduates. The graduates were both from the history department; undergraduates were from Social Studies Education (8), History (6), and English. For his Introduction to Public History, HIST2050, 8 students enrolled, 7 from history and 1 from political science.
- Anne Marie Lane's courses almost always have wait lists. For the 12-13 school year her three-credit course, "Book History: Special Topics ("15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Century Transitions"), HIST 4077/5077, had 18 registered students. Of those students three were official graduate auditors; 2 others were enrolled for graduate credit, and 13 were undergraduates.
- In addition, Anne Marie presented 19 special topics presentations (and accompanying interactive display of relevant books) to classes representing five departments: Museum Studies (minor), English, Art, Anthropology, Modern and Classical Languages. Our Reference Archivists presented 15 topical lectures to classes in seven departments: African American and Diaspora Studies, Elementary Education (2), Educational Leadership, Secondary Education, History (3), Art (5), Geography (2). In all, these classes contained 334 students, most undergraduates.

In addition to three-credit courses and special topic lectures, the professional archivists at the AHC provide bibliographic instruction (BI) to dozens of UW classes annually in a variety of disciplines.

- *The AHC works with 20 different departments and disciplines across every college at UW:* Art, African-American Studies, American Indian Studies, American Studies, Anthropology, Business Administration, Geography, History, Lab School, English, Law, Music, Nursing, Pharmacy, Political Science, Secondary Education, Sociology, University Studies, Women's Studies, Zoology. These BI presentations prepare students to return to the AHC for class assignments.
- Our Innovative Teaching and Research Grants

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support faculty developing new courses for their students using our holdings, which gradually builds the number of students using Center holdings.

- How active are our faculty in publishing scholarly papers, each unit was asked, specifically for academic year 2012-2013? Nine of our faculty authored eight articles, chapters, or books. There is no other set of archivists at a single institution in the US publishing more actively, including at Yale, Princeton, Michigan, Texas, UCLA, Library of Congress, National Archives, etc.

Finally, summarize the significant services our unit rendered to Wyoming citizens during academic year 2013-2014. This is a critical question for a land-grant institution. The AHC, in fact, energetically extends its collections and research to children and adult learners throughout Wyoming.

- Two thousand students in grades 6-12 from every part of the state benefit from Wyoming History Day, a program that improves overall learning and produces more educated and committed citizens. Beyond the needs of WHD, AHC faculty teach several workshops each year for K-12 teachers throughout Wyoming, on the benefits and successful approaches to employing primary sources in the classroom. Our continuing partnership with UW College of Education's secondary education department means we are also instructing the future K-12 teachers on the use and importance of primary sources in the classroom setting.
- Adult lifelong learners, in addition to their children and grandchildren, benefit from the Center's successful traveling exhibit program which, this fiscal year, extended to nine venues where they were viewed by approximately 40,000 visitors. For both students and adults, the AHC's website and its digitized collections site are truly the next best thing to being at the Centennial Complex. The AHC has been a national leader in "mass digitization," the commitment to providing sufficient digitized material to sustain serious research, rather than focusing on individual items.

Of course, the preceding touches on only a part of our activities and programs. Omitted are, for example, public programs such as author readings, fellows presentations, and support for We the People (like History Day, an ongoing project aimed at pre-college students, this one focused on learning about the U.S. Constitution). Nonetheless I hope this digest of some high points in our recent accomplishments gives you a better sense of the identity, character, and mission of the Center.

As any frequent or even occasional readers of our newsletter know, I believe firmly that the AHC is one of the finest repositories of its kind in the nation and that, moreover, we have the best set of archival professionals—and support staff—to be found anywhere. How can I so confidently assert our excellence? It certainly helps to have had the Center

recognized in 2010 with the Society of American Archivists' most prestigious honor, the Distinguished Service Award. But there is other evidence as well, and it arrives in my email box on an increasingly regular basis.

Let me cite a few of the kudos we have received recently, giving evidence that our faculty and staff are upholding a tradition of merit. From a long-distance researcher to our reference staff, May 2014: "Thank you so very much for your kind response to my inquiries and for providing an abundance of useful information. Your time and willingness to share your knowledge and insights is not what I usually encounter and it is most refreshing and appreciated."

From one of UW's associate provosts, commenting on the participation of our Simpson Institute archivist in a seminar for developing a new University Studies curriculum for entering students, May 2014 (emphasis added): "It was just dynamite to have Leslie involved in the first-year seminar program last week, and I wanted you to know that. *She's working on a terrific proposal, and it's an inspiration to the other colleges and units to see AHC involved in this critical new program.* Thank you for your support!"

From a student intern, June 2014, whose entire life's course was changed by his work here and personal interactions with our staff:

"I just wanted to take a moment to say Hi and Thank You! This spring I graduated with my Master's in Library and Information Science. My time I spent working at the AHC and under you was a large part of my motivation to continue my education and begin a career in this field.... I hope to one day work within an archival facility. I just thought you should know of the impact that you and the AHC have had on me."

From an on-site researcher, to our reference staff, June 2014 (emphasis added): "*You guys are the best.* There is no more cooperative, efficient and helpful team than yours. I had a very productive week at AHC, and saw everything I needed to see — even with a day off in the middle. I intend to write to the university president and say just that."

There are more kudos, too, that don't get put into writing. Some are delivered directly to me, face to face: by both participants and attendees at our recent full-day symposium on immigration in both Wyoming and the nation; by researchers, for the quality of our collections in particular topical areas, such as economic geology, the comic book industry, and the Cold War; by audience members at our variety of lectures, presentations, and author readings (most recently a presentation about renowned mime artist Marcel Marceau's battles with the New York publishing houses); and by visitors to the small exhibits in our Loggia, our unparalleled collection of Alfred Jacob Miller artwork, and our stunning Rentschler Room (details about all these references can be found on our website, of course).

If you've never visited us, please consider doing so; come see why we're "the best."

# Immigration Symposium continued from page 1

students, faculty members, and Wyoming residents. Vargas is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who in 2011 publicly revealed his status as an undocumented immigrant. Since then he has become an activist and provocateur for immigration reform. Vargas provided the audience with a candid view of what it's like to live in the U.S. without citizenship rights. The effect on the audience was seen through comments such as, "I didn't realize the value of my U.S. citizenship" and "[Vargas] made a great point about making it a conversation, regardless of your views."

A broad national perspective was the focus of an afternoon discussion. When the panelists were asked for their thoughts on what is really behind the immigration debate, a range of opinions surfaced. For Jessica Vaughan of the Center for Immigration Studies, it is "whose interests are being served by the policy we have now or the policy reform proposals that have been put forward." Ramiro Martinez, a criminology professor at Northeastern University, feels that "the recent debate focuses on presumed threats, concern over economic competition, presumed issues related to political power, and misperceptions about criminal activity." For Jeremy Robbins, executive director of the Partnership for a New American Economy, it's a financial issue, "If you listen to the immigration debate and track where it's gone over the years, a large portion of it has to do with winning elections. What the debate is not about, just about ever, is the economy." Dan Stein, President of the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) explained that unchecked immigration hurts the working class and the debate should reflect that trend. For *Washington Post* columnist Ruben Navarrette, there is a fear driving some of the debate, that of "changing demographics."

The day wrapped up with closing remarks from UW Latina/o Studies Director Cecilia Aragón, UW Professor of Law Noah Novogrodsky, FAIR president Dan Stein, and Colorado State University Associate Professor in Ethnic Studies Maricela DeMirjyn. Each expert provided their view of the day's discussions. Their summaries ranged from social perceptions of immigrants as reflected in the panelists' presentations to costs the U.S. bears due to illegal immigration to a call for action on the issue by politicians and citizens alike.

It was a great day of dialogue, and we hope the dialogue will continue. Thanks to everyone who was part of it!

## Klausner Fellow Jeanine Thompson

**Jeanine Thompson**, the AHC's Bertha Klausner Research Fellow, presented her public talk, "From Storage to Stage: Using Archives to Research, Create, and Perform," in the Wyoming Stock Growers Room on October 14. During her time as the Klausner Fellow, Thompson researched the materials related to Marcel Marceau in the Bertha Klausner Papers.

Klausner developed one of the first national newspaper syndicates during the early 1930s. The Independent Publishers Syndicate was the model for current features such as *Parade* and *This Week*. In 1938, she left her syndicate to become an agent for cartoonists and artists. By 1945, she decided to concentrate on representing writers and actors and founded the Bertha Klausner International



Bertha Klausner



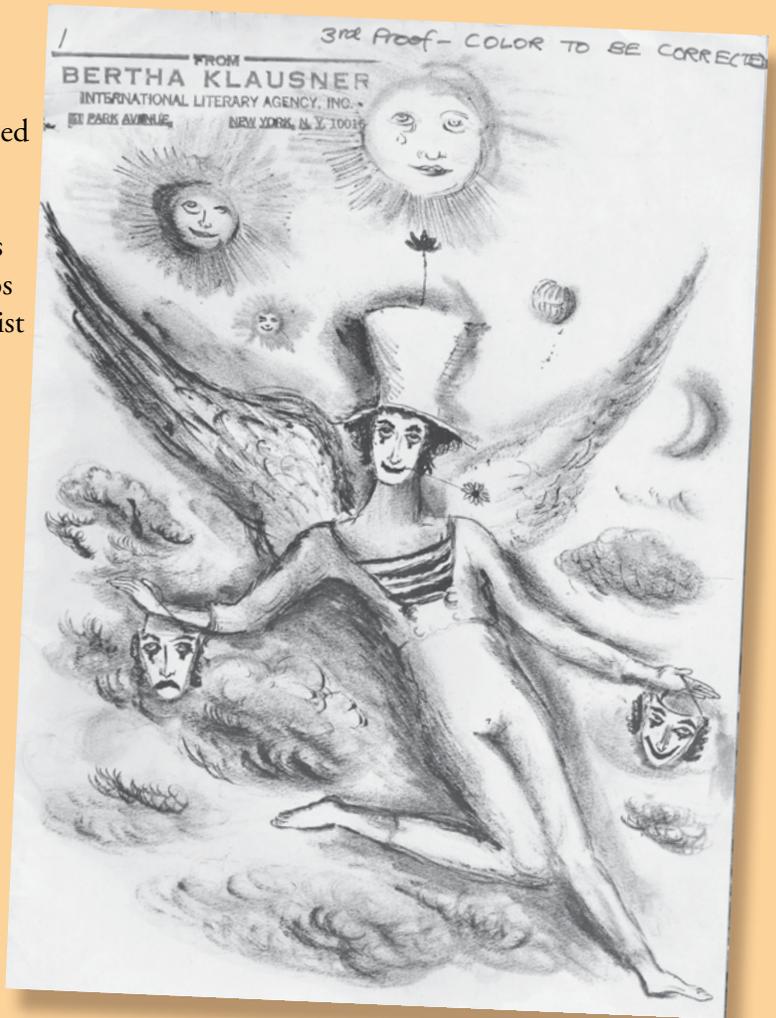
Literary Agency, Inc. She developed a wide reputation based upon her creativity, integrity, and dedication to promising writers. Her clientele included actors Basil Rathbone, Joe E. Brown, Lionel Barrymore, and Theda Bara, and authors Upton Sinclair, Anthony Burgess, Robert Payne, and Nikos Kazantzakis, and internationally known French mime artist Marcel Marceau.

Thompson is an Associate Professor and Movement Theatre Specialist in the Department of Theatre at Ohio State University and works professionally as a performer, choreographer, director, and deviser in modern dance, theatre, and mime. Her artistic studies include the University of Utah's Modern Dance and Theatre Departments and Marcel Marceau. Jeanine has taught seminars with Marceau, who directed her in three of her solo works and she was a guest at Marceau's mime school in Paris. During the past year, Jeanine led The Marcel Marceau Project, an interdisciplinary multimedia collaboration research project with six faculty members which resulted in a performance about the life and work of Marceau titled "There Is No Silence," which included live motion capture and 3-D animation. An exhibit of Marceau's artwork was part of the project as was the symposium "Making the Invisible Visible: The Contemporary Legacy of Mime."

In the Klausner Papers, Thompson found material related to Marceau's efforts to publish his written works, such as *The Story of Bip*, published in 1976 by Harper and Row. Bip was a character of Marceau's and he considered Bip to be his alter ego, who "stands in constant combat with a tragic-comic world beset by violence and technology." Marceau saw Bip as "a poetic and vulnerable hero, propelled through life in search of a better world." Marceau wrote the book and created the illustrations.

Thompson, during her talk at the AHC, shared images and stories of working with Marceau. She especially discussed the Marceau materials in the Klausner Papers and the close personal relationship that developed between Marceau and Klausner as revealed in their correspondence.

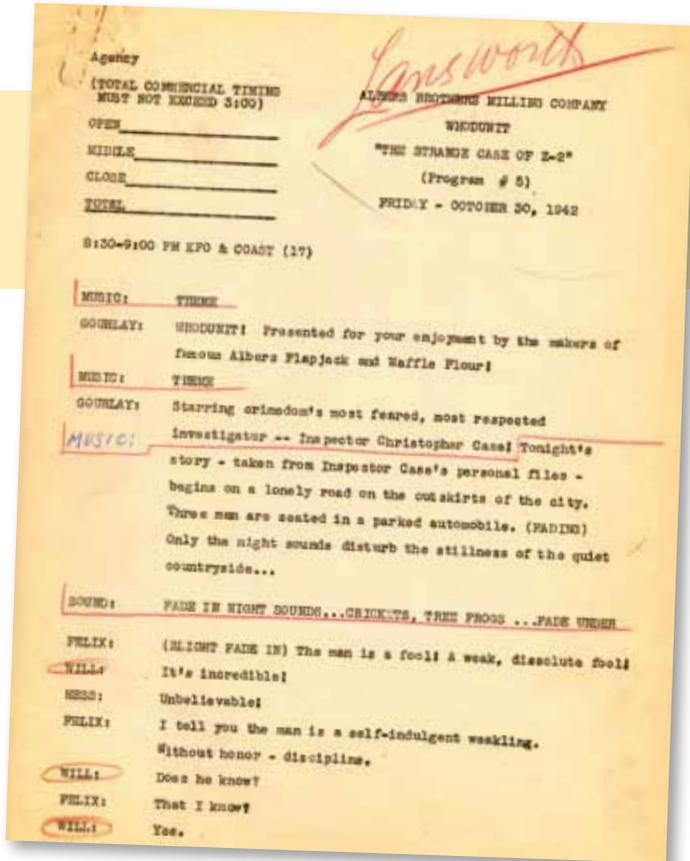
The Bertha Klausner Research Fellowship was funded by an endowment provided through the generosity of Samuel Klausner and other family members and friends and is intended to provide research support for a recognized scholar to facilitate the use of the Bertha Klausner Papers and other collections at the AHC.



Proof of *The Story of Bip* written and illustrated by Marcel Marceau. Bertha Klausner Papers.



AHC Director Mark Greene presented Klausner Fellow Jeanine Thompson a Charles Belden print after her public talk.



# Whodunit by Lew X. Lansworth

“Whodunit” has been used for many years to describe a mystery or detective story. The *Merriam Webster Dictionary* defines it: “a novel, play, or movie about a murder where you do not know who committed the murder until the end.” Who actually came up with the word is somewhat of a mystery. Journalist Wolfe Kaufman claimed in a 1946 article that he coined the word in 1935 or 1936 when he worked for the show business weekly *Variety*. Someone else claimed it may have been Sime Silverman of the same publication who coined the word. However it came about (that mystery may not be solved by the end of this article), writer-producer Lew X. Lansworth used it as a title for a radio show broadcast beginning in 1939 over Columbia’s Pacific Network.

*Whodunit* was described as “A Thrilling Mystery Drama” and “A New Exciting Kind of Quiz Game.” Sponsored by Albers Flapjack Flour, the first half of the show was an original radio mystery “produced with the finest actors,” while the second half

“The Strange Case of Z-2,” the fifth program of *Whodunit* during the 1942 season.

was a game show with contestants chosen from the studio audience. The contestants could possibly win up to \$35 by correctly answering questions derived from the detective story.

Lansworth spent months researching for the show. According to an article in the May 17, 1946, issue of the radio guide magazine *Fan Fare*, “Lew practically lived with the police for months, browsing around in laboratories, morgues, autopsy rooms and visiting the scenes of crime. Monday mornings found him an interested spectator in the front row of lineups. He learned police procedure and terminology.”

*Whodunit* completed its run in 1942, but not before Lansworth met his future wife. Jeanne Bates auditioned for the show in 1939 and became one of the stars of the series. Four years later, according to *Fan Fare*, Lansworth “proposed a more permanent and intimate relationship. She accepted him.” Jeanne went on to movies and later television, appearing in the 1943 film *The Phantom* and television series *The Twilight Zone*, *Laramie*, *Whirlybirds*, *Dallas*, and many others.

After World War II, Lansworth stayed with the format of *Whodunit*, but the new show was titled *Murder Will Out* (which means that bad deeds cannot be kept secret forever). It still combined a mystery with a game show. This

(continued page 7)

Promotional pamphlet for the radio show *Whodunit?* Lew X. Lansworth Papers.



# Planned Giving

Tyler Spear, Major Gift Officer, UW Foundation

I've been hooked on our region's history. I guess that's why the American Heritage Center seems like such a natural fit for me; a shared passion for where we've come from and where we're going.

*Centennial*, a novel by James Michener, was my first connection to the history of our region. As a student in Mr. Parker's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class, I learned the real history of our area through the lens of this book-turned-miniseries. Pasquinel, the fictional trapper who "wore the red knitted cap of Quebec," brought to life Jacques Laramée, the fur trader who traveled to Wyoming in 1815. From then on, I've been hooked on our region's history. I guess that's why the American Heritage Center seems like such a natural fit for me; a shared passion for where we've come from and where we're going.

In both book and miniseries, the Arapaho use the phrase, "Only the rocks live forever." While describing their relationship to the land and to each other, the tribe known as, "Our People," stumble upon a real truth – while only the rocks live forever, there is a chance for you and I to leave our own legacy – a story that can someday be told to future generations.

I challenge you to consider the American Heritage Center when planning your own legacy. Whether through gifts that pay you income (annuities or trusts), gifts that you make today (memorial gifts or donor advised funds), or gifts that make an impact after your lifetime (charitable bequests, property, or beneficiary designations), your generosity provides a lasting legacy for both the AHC and you.

The American Heritage Center exists to provide historical context for future generations about what life was like during a particular era. Giving of both historical materials and of funds allows the AHC to maintain and grow their mission. In addition to legacy giving, I also encourage you to continue to support the AHC on an annual basis with those day-to-day dollars that allow Mark Greene and his excellent staff to continue to excel in so many areas.

Thank you for your continued support. It is both my honor and privilege to partner with the American Heritage Center. If you have any questions regarding, or wish to include the AHC in your legacy giving plans, please contact me at 307-766-3901 or [speart@uwyo.edu](mailto:speart@uwyo.edu).

## Whodunit continued from page 6

time the contestants from the audience, two women and two men, received war bonds and special "Gold Detective Certificates." One thing he discovered during the show was that women made "better amateur detectives than men!"

Lansworth died in 1981 and two years later Jeanne Lansworth donated his papers to the AHC. His collection contains correspondence, scripts, research notes, photographs, publicity materials, and newspaper clippings documenting his career as a radio writer and author. The collection is available for research for whomever would like to learn more about the *Whodunit?*.



Reverse of promotional pamphlet. Lew X. Lansworth Papers.



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 OF THE STARS ON  
**Whodunit?**

**Whodunit?**  
 THRILLS!  
 DRAMA!  
 MYSTERY!  
 A BRAND NEW KIND OF  
 RADIO ENTERTAINMENT

*Photo from the  
 Archives*

Lew X. (Xavier) Lansworth created the radio show *Whodunit?* in 1939. He was born in France and came to the US in 1909. During the 1920s he worked as an Irish stage comedian, wearing a red wig, baggy trousers, large shoes and presenting a number of "lusty monologues." He began working in radio in 1930. Lew X. Lansworth Papers.

**AUTHOR, DIRECTOR...**  
 Lew X. Lansworth. For 13 years a producer of top radio shows, Lansworth both writes and directs "WHODUNIT".

**LAST WEEK A MURDERESS...**  
 next week a nurse! So goes the exciting radio life of pretty Jean Bates, portrayer of many important "WHODUNIT" feminine roles.

**RADIO HEART OF THE WORLD**  
 in an apt title for Columbia Square in Hollywood. Here, amid reatitificially perfect facilities, "WHODUNIT" broadcasts originate.

**ALBERS MILLING CO PRESENTS**  
**WHODUNIT THURS 7 30 PM**  
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EVERY STATE IN THE NATION is represented in the crowds that await admission to "WHODUNIT" broadcasts.