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Transcript of a sound recording in MS 608, WLBZ Radio Station Records, Bangor, Maine, 1931-1973

Title: Maine Broiler Day, part 2

Date: July 10, 1949

Recording number: D.16.28; CD 5, track 5

Length of recording: 12:05

(Jack Atwood and Jake Brofee served as hosts of the radio program.)

BROFEE: Now, before we have these coronation ceremonies this afternoon with Governor Payne, I just want to introduce to you the director of this coronation here at Belfast this year, Laurel Clements of Winterport and Bangor has really done a fine job, long rehearsals and getting the girls ready for this coronation, so it gives me a great deal of pleasure at this time to introduce Laurel Clements of Winterport.

CLEMENTS: Thank you, Jake. Thank you very much. I do hope everyone here has found this day as exciting and wonderful as I have. First I thought, oh, it's going to be an awful lot of work and I found it was but it's been worth it, really. It's been just swell. And I really feel sorry for our radio audience at this point because they can't enjoy it and no one has said yet about our nine pretty girls, I don't think, over the air, and they have been most cooperative. Oh, yes, Jack says he has. But we all got together last night and had a wonderful time at the Shrine Club and the girls looked real pretty then and they look even prettier today. They have been just sweet about it and I hope everyone is excited about it as I am. I practically can feel the suspense of it, when we get the judges' decision probably it will just be a sigh of relief or one thing or another.

BROFEE: Those are remarks from the, about the girls and everything.

ATWOOD: Thank you Laurel very much, and I think this girl deserves a great, big hand for staging this wonderful event up here today.

[The audience applauds.]

CLEMENTS: Thanks, Jack.

ATWOOD: I don't like to keep you in suspense out there. I think the judges have made up their mind, and deliberated for at least twenty minutes, but I would like to introduce the judges again to those in the radio audience and you here. Eben Wood of West Bridgewater, Massachusetts, a member of the New England Poultry Producers' Council, National Board of Poultry and Egg Producers and the International Baby Chick Association; Herschel Bricker, dramatic and public speaking professor at the University of Maine; and Andrew Christie of Kingston, New Hampshire, vice president of the International Baby Chick Association, and if I may use expression, those gentlemen know their chicks.

[The audience laughs.]

We have a gentleman here with us this afternoon who is not only a great administrator, he's a great fellow. He said that the trip is worth it for the broiler alone but he also loves being here with good

Maine people enjoying themselves in Maine's out of doors. I assume that the governor very shortly will know who the queen is, and he will come up and I'm going to let our chief executive name the young lady in person. So, ladies and gentlemen, it is with great pleasure now for me to introduce to you a grand person, His Excellency, the Governor of the State of Maine, Frederick G. Payne. Governor Payne.

[The audience applauds.]

BROFEE: Governor Payne is going to the platform to announce the winner of the 1949...

PAYNE: Ladies and gentlemen, I just want you to know that this must have been a pretty hard job for these three gentlemen who sat down front here and looked over these charming queens, or prospective queens, as they paraded across this platform, and I was just passed a slip of paper a few moments ago, in fact, I thought they'd hid something on me and made it a unanimous choice of all nine. But I now turn to the inside of this paper and I find written here the choice of the committee. The young lady who will be named the Maine Queen of Poultry, the Poultry Queen for 1949, is a young lady that I'm going to ask to step forward at this time... Miss Betty Perry.

[The audience cheers and applauds.]

BROFEE: Miss Betty Perry is a girl from Waldo County. I guess quite a few people are from that county here, so becoming a very popular choice among the crowd.

PERRY: Oh, I want to thank everybody and especially the judges. This is the happiest day, and I'll never forget it as long as I live.

PAYNE: Betty, I'm particularly pleased to place this crown upon your head and name you officially the Poultry Queen of Maine for 1949.

ANNOUNCER: Our governor, Governor Payne, is placing a crown upon Betty's head, and now the crown is upon her head, and also a robe around her and the...

PAYNE: Here we have her, and you know in keeping with all good things, I had the pleasure of taking a broiler, tearing it apart, and enjoying it, and if Betty will forgive me, I'd like to plant a kiss on her cheek.

[The audience applauds.]

ANNOUNCER: Now there's the queen for 1949.

PERRY: The judge is the most wonderful man that I ever knew.

ATWOOD: Could you say something else, Betty, too? How does it feel to be queen?

PERRY: Oh, I never expected it and I know all those wonderful girls will be just wonderful about it because I wasn't exp... I would have been if I hadn't been chosen.

ATWOOD: A very gracious queen, don't you think? Betty Perry of Lincolnville Beach, and Betty, good luck to you in your travels representing the Maine poultry industry in the future. We know you'll have a grand time, and we know that we'll be well represented with Maine's Poultry Queen of 1949. Thank you very much, Betty.

PERRY: Thank you. The chicken [undecipherable] couldn't be any better because [undecipherable] comes from but Maine.

ATWOOD: I think Betty's entering into the spirit very, very well. And now I wonder if our good band would play a rousing coronation march for us.

BROFEE: I want to say that a highlight of this Maine Broiler Day these nine lovely young ladies have been selected from their local contests throughout the state to represent their poultry producing counties in a quest for the title of Maine's Poultry Queen for 1949. Now the contestants for this poultry honor this year was girls Betty Perry from Lincolnville Beach who just became queen, from Waldo County, Arline East, Fox, of East Holden of Penobscot County, Beverly Rollins of Hallowell, Kennebec County, Genola [undecipherable] of [Sharp?] York County, [Murielle?] Olson, Skowhegan, Somerset County, Frances Hawks of Gorham in Cumberland County, Beverly Hatch of Auburn and Androscoggin County, also Edith Hunt of Thomaston, that's down in Knox County, and Janice Mitchell of Waldoboro in Lincoln County. Those are the nine queens. Now this coronation program, as I said, under the direction of Miss Laurel Clements of Searsport, uh, Winterport, is a dramatic instructor in Bangor school assisted by William Johnson of Belfast, Harold Stone of Belfast, and this appropriate and unique poultry setting in this park has provided a scenic background for this coronation program. Now this is the second annual Broiler Day activities here for the state of Maine and we hope that we have many, many more.

Time did not permit during this broadcast to bring you all of the celebrities from the poultry world that were here today. As I said on the broadcast, we have people here from Maine to California. The poultry buyers, the poultry shippers and hatchery men from down in Delaware, Maryland, New York State, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, there's people here from practically every state in the union. In fact there's cars here from all of the New England states as well and you know our good neighboring states of New Hampshire and Massachusetts do ship a lot of poultry all over the country as well.

Now if you haven't attended this second annual Broiler Day this year, have not been here last year and not here today, we hope a lot of you people that are listening in will come next year because we know that this will be an annual event each year in this Pine Tree State. With all our visitors here, we know that there's no chance in the world for us to promote better poultry than right here at this time. And right now the pictures are being taken with Governor Payne and the new queen this year, Betty Perry of Lincolnville Beach. I'm sure that she'll do a grand job in promoting the Maine poultry industry. I do want to say that she'll be going around to many parts of the New England states, also out of the New England states, to promote this broiler business and I'm sure that she'll do a good job. I'd like to turn this back to Jack Atwood, the Master of Ceremonies.

ATWOOD: Well, Jake, I wanted to catch your eye for a moment because I think we have a little time to go and there are some things unsaid. I believe you mentioned that the queen is on the stage now and they are taking newsreel pictures, loads and loads of pictures of her up there, and she's a charming young lady. There was one thing I was going to ask you, Jake, and we happen to have a little time. Did you say anything about that sauce, the barbecue sauce they use on the uh, on it, and how they applied it, and also those pails of butter? Why don't you say something about that? That was an interesting feature. We went down to the pit this morning when the photographers and newsreel men were taking pictures of this pit and I don't know whether you mentioned that, but I think that an interesting thing, because those poultry-men kept that poultry just as succulent and juicy as could be all the time it was being broiled. Say something about that sauce. Is it wishbone sauce, that what they call it?

BROFEE: Yes, Jack, they call that the wishbone sauce and I understand they used over 90 pounds of butter in the making of that sauce this year at the Broiler Day festivities and as you say, they go around with a brush broom, or a little brush, and they start sprinkling all over the broilers as they cook them in the pits and it keeps them moist and more succulent so we all can really have, it keeps the flavor right in the bird as it's cooking over those charcoals. And the pits this year, they were a little longer this year than they were last year, Jack, I noticed they built an extension out of those pits from what they had here last year and the thing went along a little faster than it did last year because we had a good many people to work in the pits. It was faster cooking than it was last year.

ATWOOD: Well, some of those cooks are listening in, there's one more thing I did hear down there, Jake, that before they placed the broiler on, they dipped it in this wishbone sauce and then they kept applying it with the butter all through it so any of you cooks out there that want the secret of Maine broilers, that's the way to do it, but you have to have 120 foot pit and a lot of charcoal to equal the Maine broiler we had today.

Well, we've had a wonderful time down here, Jake, I understand we have just about a minute left to go. Is there something particular that you would like to say in closing? I believe we haven't time, so I would like to say just one word before we close, that personally I've had a wonderful time on Maine Broiler Day and I shall certainly be here next year and I know that 4,000 people will be here and I should say 4,000 more. Now here's Jake Brofee to sign us off.

BROFEE: I'll be here, too, Jack, I hope, next year. I had a swell time again this year, this is my second time. And now we close this broadcast of the Second Annual Broiler Day and Coronation of the 1949 Poultry Queen. These activities have come to you direct from the City Park in Belfast. We hope you will enjoy this broadcast which has been a public service program of the Maine Broadcasting System stations and the affiliated station WHEM in Presque Isle. Now this is Jake Brofee, Agricultural Director of the Maine Broadcasting System, wishing you a very pleasant good afternoon.

[Transcript ends.]

For more information about this transcript, audio recording, or other materials in Special Collections at the University of Maine, contact:

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