

of two, each receiving a radio hearing report. Ultrasensitive microphones and electronic sensors in the chair's headrest, back and armrests pick up heartbeat, pulse, breathing rate, galvanic skin response, blood pressure, nerve reflexes and other medical signs. A computer attached to the chair digests these responses, compares them to the normal standard and prints out a full medical report.

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Despite the fact that the year 2008 is only 40 years away—as far ahead as 1928 is in the past—it will be a world as strange to us as our time (1968) would be to the pilgrims. •

40 Years Ago

[Continued from page 100]

a low-fi era of 78 rpm records played on hand-cranked phonographs. Hit songs of the day were My Blue Heaven, I'm Looking Over a Four-Leaf Clover, Baby Face, Louise (popularized by young Maurice Chevalier) and Showboat tunes, Bill, Old Man River, Why Do I Love You, to mention a few that have endured.

Talking pictures—Jolson's Mammy and John Barrymore's Sea Beast—were novelties that some enthusiasts thought would put the silents out of business. Theater musicians were confident that audiences

Two systems, sound-on-film and sound-on-records, competed. The latter system often got out of sync and needed an operator in the audience who buzzed the projectionist to get back on the track. A hit picture of the year was Lilac Time, a silent movie with World War I background (we were only a decade removed from the Armistice). It starred Colleen Moore and a leading man who was a star from then on, Gary Cooper. All movies were black-and-white, [Continued on page 147]



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