

**'MASCOT'**

## **Work Is Fun For Kitirik**

**BY KITIRIK**

Seven years ago, I walked into a television studio for the first time. I didn't even know what a television camera looked like.

Now, I have the privilege of working in one of the foremost and best-equipped television stations in the country.

After winning an audition to become Channel 13's mascot in 1954 when the station went on the air, I was at the studios most of the day to give the station identification between shows. Since I was on hand, they, one day, asked me to introduce a children's cartoon show.

### **Kids Enjoyed It**

The children seemed to enjoy my work and the cat suit I wore as the mascot of the Black Cat station, and now I'm doing more than 3½ hours of shows each week on six different days of the week.

Boys and girls started visiting the show until we had to stop the practice at our old station as we began to outgrow the facilities. Soon, we may invite the youngsters back again to be on the show.

Many things have been added to my programs since my career began. We present tips on safety and conduct for the youngsters, stage contests and present special guests that are interesting to young viewers.

### **Special Shows**

We have "Kitirik's Clubhouse" for a half-hour five days a week, Monday through Friday at 4:45 p.m., and, on Saturdays, Skipper, the ringmaster, and I visit Nod, the clown, in "Kitirikville," where he lives.

The most gratifying part of my work, perhaps, is my personal appearances. At civic functions, store galas and hospitals, I get to meet the children face to face, and the look of happiness on a sick child's face more than repays me for the time I spend away from my own family to do my very exciting job.

It's wonderful to have a youngster say: "Hi, Kitirik, I see you every day on TV." I hope they'll go on saying it for many years to come.