

EARLY IN 1950 Alan was signed to WXEL-TV where he was featured on both afternoon and evening programs. When he changed over to a two-hour show, "Mid-day Movie," Alan's evenings were free and he signed with Radio Station WJW for a late night disc jockey program where he originated the idea of a "Moondog Radio Show" featuring recordings from the rhythm and blues field.

The first "Moondog" dance held in the Cleveland Arena in March, 1952, attracted a crowd of more than 25,000 people. "Moondog" dances later held in Cleveland, Akron, Canton, Youngstown, Lorain and Sharon, Pa., also attracted capacity crowds.

Alan wasn't always a disc jockey. He received his first training in radio at a radio school in Youngstown while he was a student at Salem High School. After his graduation from high school in 1940, he attended Ohio State University for two years.

His first start in the Radio and TV industry began in May of 1942 at Radio Station WSKT, New Castle, Pa.

Philadelphia's Radio Station WIBE was Alan's next place of employment. While there he was offered a job as sports announcer, and newscaster at WKBN, Youngstown. Alan left Youngstown to go to WAKR, Akron, for an assignment as newscaster, sports and staff announcer. It was being called upon to fill the spot of the station's leading disc jockey, who left suddenly without notice, that started Freed on his way to his increasing popularity as an entertainer.

In the five years that Alan spent in Akron he was recognized as the leading radio personality in the vicinity. Taking an active part in campaigns against juvenile delinquency, he assisted leading Akron industrialists and business men in raising funds for a half million dollar Community Center. It was in the spring of 1946 that Lew Platt became Alan Freed's manager and together they preented stage shows, name bands and concerts.