

November 24, 1932

Jack gets a phone call from his father (a nice autobiographical bit). Mary busily pretties up the office space. Jack and Ted Weems argue over music for the revue. Jack interviews a Scottish stage director.

STATION WABC

PROGRAM CANADA DRY GINGER ALE, INC.

AND DATE THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1932.

COLUMBIA NETWORK

TIME 8:15 – 8:45 P.M.

SIGNATURE – JOLLY GOOD COMPANY

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. FIT AS A FIDDLE | HARRIS |
| 2. SO AT LAST IT'S COME TO THIS | ROBBINS |
| 3. HOME | MARLO |
| 4. I'M SURE OF EVERTHING BUT YOU | KEIT-ENGEL |
| 5. LUCKY LITTLE ACCIDENT | BERLIN |

SIGNATURE – ROCKABYE MOON

CANADA DRY PROGRAM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1932.

SIGNATURE – JOLLY GOOD COMPANY

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and gentlemen, a half hour entertainment by Canada Dry – the Champagne of Ginger Ales. Canada Dry is now available in the large, as well as the regular size bottle for the home, and made to order by the glass at fountains. This program stars Jack Benny – the Canada Dry humorist – and Ted Weems' Orchestra.

Ted Weems opens the program with – “FIT AS A FIDDLE.”

1. FIT AS A FIDDLE

ORCHESTRA

ANNOUNCER

We will now take you to Jack Benny and his International Producing Company.

(TYPEWRITER)

(PHONE RINGS)

MARY

Hello, International Producing Company. Yes he's here....

Jack, you're wanted on the phone.

JACK

I'm busy....have them call back later.

MARY

You better answer it – it's your father.

JACK

All right, I'll take it....hello, Pop.....hello....how are you? I'm fine.....yeah, I had a little cold last week, but I'm all right now...yes, Dad, you heard me right. I'm producing a play and so far it's a headache....This is the Canada Dry Program, but since I started producing plays I find that aspirin is good too.....oh yes, we have the money.....

A Mr. Backer is schlepping us.....er, a Mr. Schlepper is backing us..... he's the angel!.....what's an angel? Why, an angel is the fellow that puts his money in a show and anything he gets back is gravy.....How have you been feeling, Pop? What's that? You have a little rheumatism. What are you taking for it? Oh, you don't want to sell it? I see...that was very funny, Pop..... Why don't you join our show?.....I get it. I get it.....

Say, how's Florence? Oh, she married a coal man? Congratulations! Free coal this winter isn't so bad, either....How's your business, Dad?....

Isay, how's business?.....Oh, you won't talk, eh? (LAUGHS).....

By the way, what's Leonard doing?.....Still loafing, eh? It's marvelous how that fellow can stick to one thing. He's bound to get there....

Well, Pop, watch for our show. Today we hire the actors.

Yeah, Pop.....Okay, Pop.....I see, Pop....good-bye, Pop....

(CLICK OF PHONE)

MARY Was that your Pop?

JACK Yes, Mary – how did you guess it?

MARY Jack, how do you like the ribbon I put on your waste basket?

JACK Say, this is a business office. Where's my pipe?

MARY Here it is.....I'm putting a ribbon around the stem.

JACK What did we spend today so far?

MARY Well, let's see.....We spent forty cents for stamps.....we got ten cents back on two large Canada Dry bottles, so that makes it only thirty..... five cents for pins, and I spent four ninety-eight for ribbons. I know you wouldn't mind, Jack ----- Don't you think the place looks cute?

JACK Yes.....I don't know what I'd do without the ribbons.

MARY And Jack, I think I'll have your desk painted a sort of a pinkish mahogany – or do you like the lavender?

JACK Mary, don't bother me.....call Ted Weems. He's in the Music Room.

MARY Will you hold your finger there just a second until I tie this ribbon?

JACK Mary, get Weems!

MARY Oh, all right.....if you don't care how your office looks.....

(OPENS DOOR) Mr. Weems, Jack wants to see you. (DOOR SLAMS) (HUMS) “How deep is the ocean, how high is the sky.....”

JACK (HUMS) Oh, Canada Dry!.....(DOOR OPENS)

TED Do you want to see me, Jack?

JACK Yes, Ted, have a seat. I just want to talk to you about our show. So far we are getting started all right. Mr. Schlepper put up the money. We also have a good title, Bubbles of 1932.....now all we need is a good story and music, and nothing will stop us.

TED Well, I can take care of the music, Jack.

JACK That's what I wanted to see you about, Ted. I'm thinking of having the first scene laid way out West in – say, in Wyoming, and I want the chorus to sing an appropriate opening song. Now what would you suggest?

TED I don't know, Jack – let's seeer, er.....Wyoming.....how about Cheyenne?

JACK Hmmmmmm.....Cheyenne, Cheyenne, Harvest Moon up in the sky.....no, that won't do.

TED Couldn't you lay the scene in Vermont? Instead of Wyoming? I could give you a swell song for that.

JACK What's the song?

TED (SINGS) You Vermont for me....I was meant for you.....

JACK Ted, let's leave the show in Wyoming.

TED Well listen, Jack. I'll get something -- don't worry about that. But as long as I have got to start working, how about a contract?

JACK How about a what?

TED A contract.

JACK I'm surprised at you, Ted. You and I have known each other four weeks now, and you want a contract.

TED Well, it's merely business.

JACK Listen Ted – this is my show.....I'm giving you a job, and my word is my bond.

TED Yeah? Well, you know what bonds are worth nowadays.....Say listen to this number, Jack. It might be just the thing you want.

JACK Go right ahead, Ted. You listen to it too, Mary.

TED Oh, by the way, I saw all the boys' instruments tied with ribbons. I wonder who did it?

JACK I haven't the slightest idea.....play, Ted.

SEGUE INTO NUMBER

2. SO AT LAST IT'S COME TO THIS
SECOND ROUTINE

JACK Ted, that's great.....that song certainly fits a scene in Wyoming.

TED Well, don't worry.....I can make it fit. Now listen, Jack – one thing I want understood. If I'm going to take care of the music, I don't want anyone else butting in. That goes for you, too!

JACK Wait a minute, Ted, if you don't mind, I just happen to be running this show.

TED I know, but you can't tell me anything about music.

JACK Listen, Theodore – one more word out of you and I'll call up Paul Whiteman, and give him the job.

TED Whiteman wouldn't work for you.

JACK I know, but I can call him up. We're friends!.....And if you're going to take that kind of an attitude, you can quit right now.

TED Okay – I quit!

JACK All right, Ted – you can run the music...After all, it's your racket
.....Well, what do you think we ought to have for our first number?

TED None of your business!

JACK That's a nice title, but make the chorus good and snappy, Ted.

TED Oh, go cook a radish!

JACK (WHISPERING) Nix!.....there are ladies listening in.

TED I'll see you later – (WALKS AWAY) Someday I'm going to lose my temper.

(DOOR SLAM)

JACK Mary, did you hear me tell Weems where he gets off?

MARY Yes, Jack, but he'll write the music!Say, Mr. Schlepper called up and said he'd be right over.....and those actors you sent for are outside.....and somebody left a couple of scripts here for you to read.....and do you like this blue ribbon on the telephone or do you prefer crimson?

JACK Mary, let me see that script.

MARY Here it is!.....It's called "She Didn't say Yes....She Didn't Say No! Because She Was Deaf and Dumb".....cute?

JACK Huh-huh.

MARY I changed the idea all around.

JACK I see, Mary – and if you're unemployed tomorrow, it will be my fault.

MARY Gee, I never get credit for anything.

JACK Now let me see that first script.

“Tillie Water, who works in a glue factory.....wins a first prize in a radio contest and is given a trip to Europe. (WELL, it starts off nicely) While abroad, she meets a count....not a viscount, but a discount because he's ten per cent off.....

MARY Jack, I put that in myself.

JACK (Well, it can't hurt it any)....the count asks for her hand, and she also has an offer of marriage from the Earl of Carroll.....However, Tillie Water will not marry the earl as earl and water.....do not mix. (Interesting!)

So she marries the count and becomes a countess..... and Canada Dry Ginger Ale is made at all countess....

Mary, throw this in the waste basket.....What else have we got?

MARY Here's a college skit. You might like this one.

JACK Hmm, another one of those things!.....Helen Schmultback, the fair co-ed was in love with the quarter back of Hard Tech....She was a very pretty girl and could have had the half back or even the full back, but she was not greedy and was satisfied with the quarter back.....He promised to marry her after his team beat Notre Dame...but for fifteen consecutive years Notre Dame kept beating Hard Tech, the lowest score being seventy-six to nothing. So Helen got tired of waiting for her quarter back and bought a large bottle of Canada Dry Ginger Ale. She returned the bottle and who was in the store but her boyfriend, the quarterback, who caught her with the nickel back.....(STARTS TO YAWN)

Mary, this is awful.....anything else?

MARY (ALSO STARTS YAWNING) Yes, Jack. I read them all, and one is as bad as the other.

JACK (YAWNS) You might as well throw them all in the waste basket.

MARY I did.

TED I hate to keep you up – but I have to rehearse another number.

JACK Go ahead....say Ted, there's some cranberry sauce on your necktie.

SEGUE INTO NUMBER

3. HOME

(THIRD ROUTINE)

(TYPEWRITER CLICK)

(PHONE RINGS)

MARY Hello.....wrong number! (CLICK OF PHONE).....Say Jack, you've got an office boy here, and I have to do all the work. Where's Sid?

JACK I sent him out yesterday to dash a check, and he isn't back yet.

MARY What check?

JACK You know that hundred thousand dollars check that Mr. Schlepper gave us to back the show?.....By the way, isn't that a telegram you're holding?

MARY Yes, it's for you.

JACK Mary, when you have time, give it to me.....thanks....Oh, it's from Sid. It says "DON'T WORRY ABOUT MY NOT RETURNING WITH THE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.....THE REASON FOR THE DELAY IS I GOT IN A LONG LINE IN FRONT OF THE BANK AND IT TOOK ME TWO HOURS TO GET TO THE WINDOW....WHEN I FINALLY GOT THERE I FOUND OUT I WAS AT THE BOX OFFICE OF THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE.....

BUT DON'T WORRY I'LL FIND THE BANK. STOP.....IF I CASH THE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, DO YOU WANT IT IN BILLS OR SILVER?" SID

JACK Mary, take an answer.

"SID SILVERS, IN FRONT OF FIRST NATIONAL BANK, U. S. CASH CHECK IMMEDIATELY AND BRING THE DOUGH BACK ALIVE"

(KNOCK AT DOOR)

TED WEEMS Jack, there's a stage director here who wants to see you.

JACK What's his name?

TED MacTavish.

JACK Mac Tavish – send him in....Mary, hid the cigars and open the window. It will be very close in here.

BART DOYLE

How do you do, Mr. Mac Benny.

JACK

Call me Benny – you can save the Mac.

BART DOYLE

My name is Mac Tavish L. Mac Tavish.

JACK

Mac Tavish L. Mac Tavish, I see.....you part your name in the middle.....You ought to be part your hair in the middle.

BART

I can't.....I have an odd number.

JACK

Oh, you count your hair each morning.....so you're a stage director!

BART

I am.

JACK

What kind of shows do you produce, Mr. Mac Tavish?

BART

Well, I produced a show called “Free for All”which was a big hit in Scotland.

JACK

I see – it looks like we’re going to have five minutes of Scotch jokes right now – Mr. Mac Tavish, didn’t you direct a show called “Payment Deferred”?

BART

No, but it's a corking idea.....A few years ago I directed a play in London, and in the first act a Scotchman is seen having dinner with six people. When dinner is over, the Scot asks the waiter for the check.....

JACK

Oh, “The Miracle!”.....I remember that play.

BART

Yes, that's it.

JACK

Oh sure I recall it – in the first act, the Scot asks the waiter for the check, and the next day a ventriloquist is killed!

BART

That play was a great success on the Continent!

JACK

Will you have a cigar, Mr. MacTavish?

BART

Yes, thank you.

JACK

Have you got a match?

BART

Here's one.

JACK

Mary, the cigars!

BART

You know you have much better cigars here than we have in Scotland.

JACK

Oh yes- what Scotland needs is a good five-cent box of cigars!

MARY I'm sorry Jack, we're all out of cigars.

JACK Oh, that's too bad.

BART That's all right.....just give me back the match. I'm going to a smoker tonight.....Now Mr. Benny, I have a few very good ideas for your revue. I'd like to start your show with a big ocean scene.

JACK An ocean scene!.....that will be very expensive, won't it?

BART Oh no, I just want to get the effect of salt air.

JACK Salt air?

BART Yes – I wave a herring in front of the audience.

JACK I get it!

BART From that, we go into a scene showing a Scotch tea party.

JACK I get it – a cup of tea and five saucers.

BART Yes, and then we should have a big dance number, but we will need ten cents worth of crepe paper to decorate the stage.

JACK Ten cents worth of crepe paper – oh, I see – you want to make this an extravaganza.

BART Well, you need one big splash in the show.

JACK All right, I'll plunge – you know, Mac, you've made me start thinking like you. I was going to do a fan number with all the girls waving a hundred fans. Now I'll just have one fan in the middle and wave all the girls under it.

BART You're getting the idea Mr. Benny.

JACK At least I'm close!

BART It looks to me like this show of yours will run right thru the summer.

JACK Oh yes, we can open it in Freeport.....(THAT's just to keep up with our Scotch jokes).....and we save railroad fares by traveling in automobiles.

BART With freewheeling.

JACK Yes, that's the spirit.

BART I've got another good idea, Mr. Benny.....All persons over seventy years of age will be admitted free.

JACK Yes, if they are accompanied by their parents.

BART

That's it! You're getting the idea exactly.

(CLICKING SOUND)

JACK

Mary, why did you put the lights out?

MARY

Well, I figured you could talk just as well in the dark and save electricity.

JACK

What – you too?.....Gee, this must be catching...put the light on and we won't pay the bill. That's better.

BART

Well, Mr. Benny, do you think I can put on your show for you?

JACK

You're just the man, and I'll give you a down payment. Suppose I give you a check for a hundred dollars and if the show is a big hit, I'll sign it.

BART

That will be fine.

JACK

Make out a check, Mary.

BART

Thank you.

JACK

By the way, what brought you over here today? This is a holiday – Thanksgiving.

BART

Not in Scotland, me lad.

JACK

No Thanksgiving in Scotland?

BART

No, Thanks-receiving.....Thanks-receiving.

JACK

Hmm....rehearse another number, Ted.

SEGUE INTO NUMBER

4. I'M SURE OF EVERYTHING BUT YOU

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1932.

ANNOUNCER

When you order Canada Dry from your dealer, remember, it is now available in the convenient and economical large bottle, as well as in the familiar twelve-ounce size. Remember too, that with the exception of a few localities where freight rates do not permit, you pay for the contents only. That is, twenty-cents for the big-five-glass bottle, or twenty-five cents for two regular twelve-ounce bottles. In addition, you make a small deposit on each bottle, but this deposit is refunded when the bottle is returned.

Now next Sunday at ten, eastern standard time, you will hear another Canada Dry program featuring the same artists. Don't forget - every Sunday at ten, and every Thursday at 8:15.

SIGNATURE ROCK A BYE MOON