

December 4, 1932

Jack invites the radio audience to be revue backers. He interviews movie star “Reno Nevada” for the show’s lead, and he rehearses quite the love scene with Mary. Ted Weems is still angrily demanding a contract. Sid banters with Jack.

STATION WABC and

PROGRAM CANADA DRY GINGER ALE, INC.

COLUMBIA NETWORK

DATE Sunday, December 4, 1932.
TIME 10.00 – 10.30 PM (EST)

SIGNATURE – JOLLY GOOD COMPANY

- 1. LOOK WHO'S HERE**
- 2. TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS**
- 3. ONE MAN BAND**
- 4. I'LL NEVER HAVE TO DREAM AGAIN**
- 5. IT'S WINTER AGAIN**

SIGNATURE – ROCKABYE MOON

CANADA DRY PROGRAM

SUNDAY December 4, 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 "Look Who's Here".

1. LOOK WHO'S HERE

ORCHESTRA

ANNOUNCER

We will now hear from Jack Benny, who will tell you a few things about his show.

JACK

Hello you lovers of static....This is Jack Benny, president, general manager, treasurer, promoter, moocher, Gonniff, office boy, and actor of the International Producing Company Incorporated....investigated, fumigated, and brothers....of New York, London, and if things don't pick up we'll also be of Paris.....or maybe further.

I'm going to tell you all about our show, but please keep this a secret and don't tell anyone else.....You see, Schlepper, the backer of our first show, has been causing us a lot of trouble....He's always butting in.....and two people cannot run a business....Can they, Ted?

TED

Well, why don't you quit and let Schlepper run it?

JACK

Ted, remind me not to ask you again. (to mike) That was Ted Weems....our maestro.....the kind of a fellow.....well, if a woman wanted someone to mind her baby....she'd ask him.

Now instead of having any more backers for our show, we have decided on a new plan....we are going to run this producing company on a cooperative basis....and make all of you folks part owners.....We want all of you listeners to own a share of this company....it won't cost you a penny....now if you don't want to be a part owner and just want to see our show....a Canada Dry label won't keep you out....or if you happen to like Canada Dry with ice cream....you can still become a partner....but you'll have to send us a vest showing us that you've had the ice cream.....the ladies can send a vest-ette....Mary....what's a vestette?

MARY

Six people singing.

JACK

Thanks.....I'm going to tell you how our show stands.....so far we haven't got the actors, or the theatre, or the idea for the show.... still there's a number two company playing in Chicago already.....a number three company in San Francisco....and a number four company that won't tell us where they are....but they were last seen marching through Georgia.....Now so far.....to start with...we have thirty chorus girls...here's one right here....Hello Babe....

GIRL

SIR!!

JACK

We have twenty-nine chorus girls.

TWO GIRLS

We quit too.

JACK

Twenty-seven chorus girls....I'll keep you informed as we go along....You can even ask me questions.....We know we're going to make a lot of money....Only last week the advance sale for "Bubbles of 1932" was.....How much was it, Mary?

MARY

(whispering) Six dollars.

JACK

Seventeen hundred and thirty five dollars.....and the show is only rehearsing...How much money has this firm made so far, Mary?

MARY

Let me see.....(looks over books).....We've made thirty-five hundred dollars.....MINUS

JACK

Mary....I don't like you coming to this office with your nails polished so red.

MARY

That isn't polish.....that's the red ink I've been using.

JACK

Ha ha....she knows all the answers....In spite of bad luck at the beginning we're going to have a great list of stars in this show..... Mary.....mention some of the stars.

MARY

Er.....what?

JACK

Mention some of the stars.

MARY

There's Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, the evening star....and the Morning Sun...

JACK

Thanks Mary.....and remember folks....you are all stockholders in the International Producing Company.....Are you glad?

(LOUD KNOCK AT DOOR)

MARY

Come in.

(DOOR OPENS)

MAN Is this the International Producing Company?

MARY Yes.

MAN I have a bill here for \$240. For stage effects...spotlights....and chorus girls' make-up.

JACK What firm did you want sir?

MAN The International Producing Company.

JACK I'm sorry.....This is the Hot-Cha Producing Company....Good day....(to audience) As I said before, ladies and gentlemen....you are now all partners in the Hot-Cha Producing Company.....Come Mary....How about a sandwich?

MARY Sure.....There's the door, Mister.

JACK Play Ted.....

2. TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS

ORCHESTRA

JACK Now folks.....this is Jack Benny.....your partner....looking out for your interests.....Mary, let's get down to hard work and get this show going.

MARY Well.....what do you want me to do?.....We're all out of red ink.

JACK Well.....we have a leading man arriving here from Hollywood this afternoon.....the greatest lover on the screen.

MARY From Hollywood?....Oh!.....I think that's swell!

TED Say Jack?

JACK Yes Ted.

TED How about me? Am I hired or what? All I have been doing here is rehearsing and playing your show numbers.....WHERE DO I STAND?

JACK In the next room, Ted.....This is the main office.

TED Jack, I've got to know something today.....I have other offers.

JACK I know Ted.....things aren't so good just now.....but just think Ted.....when the money starts rolling in you'll be riding in your own private yacht!

TED Well, water doesn't agree with me....I always get seasick....I WANT A CONTRACT!

JACK Well, you just stick along with us and before you know it you'll own your own toothbrush.

TED I have a toothbrush!.....I want a contract!

JACK Ted....did you ever hear the story about the two Scotchmen who walked into a restaurant?

TED AND JACK I WANT A CONTRACT!

JACK Come on Ted....Why don't you play ball with us until things pick up?

TED I don't like ball.....Do you know any other games?

(KNOCK ON DOOR)

MARY Come in.

LEADING MAN Is this the International Producing Company?

JACK NoJust Hot-Cha.....and it looks it.....What can I do for you?

LEADING MAN You sent for me.....I just got in from Hollywood.

MARY Oh!....Won't you sit down....Let me take your coat and hat....Is the window open too much?

JACK Mary!.....the typewriter!.....Oh yes.....What is your name again?

LEADING MAN I am Reno Nevada.

JACK Oh.....Ramon Navarro.....

LEADING MAN No no.....Reno Nevada.

JACK Oh...Reno Nevada.....Oh yes yes.....I know your brother....Akron Ohio.

MARY Jack.....don't insult him.....I think he's swell!

JACK Mary!.....Now Omaha....er...Reno.....Of course I know you were a big success in pictures.....and that women faint when they see you.....but just so I can tell my partners who are listening in.....Who were some of the stars you worked with?

LEADING MAN Well.....I worked opposite Joan Crawford.....and opposite Constance Bennett.....and I won two falls out of three with Garbo.

JACK How did you do with Strangler Lewis?

LEADING MAN

She's in my next picture.

JACK

My error.

MARY

Jack!....You'll hurt his feelings....I think he's just the man you want....He's so handsome!

JACK

I know Mary.....Now Salt Lake....er....Reno....What salary do you want for my show?

LEADING MAN

Four thousand dollars a week.

JACK

You don't want the Empire State Building thrown in?

LEADING MAN

Well.... I'm in the habit of getting that.

JACK

Well....this show will break you of that habit.

MARY

But that isn't too much for his type, Jack.

JACK

Mary... go dictate a letter to yourself... Now young man.... I have an

awful shock for you....I'll give you forty dollars a week.

LEADING MAN

Well I have a shock for you.... I'll take it.

JACK

It would have bene a shock to me if you hadn'tYou know.... I was once a Hollywood actor myself....You see folks?.... I saved three thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars right then.

(JACK AND LEADING MAN MUMBER OVER BUSINESS AND CONTRACT)

MARY

Oh he's hired!.... I'm so glad.... Gee! Won't the girls in Plainfield be burned up when they find out I've met Reno Nevada.... (MARY HUMS "HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN")

JACK

Now Reno....I know you're good and all that....but I must get a line on your work I want to know just how to place you.

LEADING MAN

Of course you know I am known as the greatest lover on the screen?

JACK

Yes....I understand that....But can you give me a rough idea of how you make love?.....Not too rough, of course.

LEADING MAN

Well.....I must have a leading lady.

JACK

Can't you do a little shadow boxing?

MARY

Jack.....Can I help?.....You know – just for the rehearsal.

JACK

No Mary.....you wouldn't do.

MARY

Well.....I just want to help you out Jack.

JACK I can see that Mary.....Well Mary.....maybe you will be all right for the rehearsal.....Newark.....er....Reno.....What are you going to do?

LEADING MAN Well.....first I put my arm around her four times.

BENNY What an arm!

LEADING MAN And then I make violent love to her.

JACK I see.

LEADING MAN And then I kiss her.

MARY I see.

JACK Well.....all right...Mary, this is Mr. Nevada...Mr. Nevada...this is Miss Livingston.

LEADING MAN How do you do.

MARY Gee!.....I feel as though I've known you all my life.

BENNY Mary!

MARY (very annoyed) What?

JACK Now don't waste any time on preliminaries.

LEADING MAN Righto!.... (SOUND OF CLEARING HIS THROAT)

JACK What's that?

LEADING MAN I'm practicing. (RUMBLING SOUND)

JACK Folks.....that's the leading man rolling his eyes.

(TRAIN EFFECT)

He's now breathing.....when does this start?

LEADING MAN Right now.....What is your first name, Miss Livingston?

MARY Mary.

LEADING MAN Oh Mary.....Mary.....Have things come to such a pass that we can no longer be friends? Don't leave me....Tell me that things will always go on as they were....How can I ever forget those tender moments in the moonlight.....Now can I even think of going on without you?....How....How.....

JACK (Sings) How deep is the ocean.....how high is the sky?

LEADING MAN Oh Mary.....tell me....promise me that you will never leave me.

JACK Don't worry.....she won't.

MARY Jack.....hold my pocketbook.

LEADING MAN Now you must say....."Oh Reno....how can I resist you?"

MARY Oh Reno.....how can I resist you?

JACK That's good Mary.....Are you awful?

LEADING MAN Oh, Susie.....

JACK Mary.

LEADING MAN Mary.....tell me that it was all a mistake....and that you really and truly love me.

MARY I love you.

LEADING MAN Kiss me.....kiss me!.....

(LONG PAUSE)

JACK (whistles) This is Jack Benny whistling....Mary....Oh Mary....Hey Reno!.....Oh well....Paul, would you like to say something?....Here's your chance.

DOUGLAS Yes thank you..... Canada Dry Ginger Ale is now made to order by the glass at all fountains.....and is very good with ice cream.

BENNY (softly) Mary.....Oh Mary.

DOUGLAS And don't forget that you can get a nickel back on each large bottle.

JACK Oh Mary!.....Mary!.....Hey.....why don't you two come up for air?.... Funny I don't see that kissing scene in this script....The way it was written it was just supposed to be a little peck.....Hey Mary!.....Oh well....play Ted.

3. ONE MAN BAND

ORCHESTRA

JACK Hey Mary!.....Oh Reno!.....For heaven's sake...Separate!.... Well....looks like I'll have to blast.

LEADING MAN Well, Mr. Benny.....how did you like my work?

JACK Just a moment now....Folks.....that was the finish.....and the time was four minutes and thirty-two seconds.

MARY Hello, Ma.....I'll be right home....I wasn't hurt a bit.

BENNY

Home....Looks like you'll be okay for this show.....but you can't have my secretary for a leading lady.....Mary....get back to work.

(MARY HUMS HAPPILY)

JACK

Hey Reno.....you dropped your toupee...Here.....Well stockholders....this is Jack Benny again....and so far we have a chorus and a leading man....Now all we need is a play.....the play's the thing.....

(DOOR SLAMS)

SID

Hello everybody.....How are you Jack?...Remember me....Your office boy?

JACK

Your face is familiar.

SID

Sid Silvers is the name.

JACK

Oh yes.....how have you been?

SID

All right.....Did you notice I'm late again?

JACK

Yes.....it is noticeable....Where were you?

SID

I was out looking for another job.....I couldn't find it so here I am,

JACK

If it's the last thing I do, I'll find you a job.....Now tell me, why are you late again?

SID

I'll tell you the truth....

JACK

Always tell the truth.....But don't overdo it.

SID

I did it for your sake, Jack. I went to see that act at the Ravioli Theatre to find some talent for the show and I saw the worst actress in the whole world.

JACK

That was my sister.

SID

Well...what I meant to say was....that she was all right....but the act was awful.

JACK

Yeah?.....I wrote it.

SID

Well.....what I meant to say was.....the act was all right....but the costumes were terrible.

JACK

Yeah?.....Well.....I selected them.

SID

Well.....the costumes weren't bad but that Ravioli Theatre was the worst place I was ever in.

JACK

There is no such theatre as the Ravioli.

SID Then I'm sorry I started it.

JACK Forget it.

SID I did.

JACK Sid, I want you to meet Reno Nevada....our leading man....This is Sid, our office boy.....No borrowing from each other.

SID Glad to know you.... You face is very familiar to me.

RENO Did you see that picture "Gold Dust"?

SID Yes.

RENO Well, I'm Reno Nevada.....the one that played it.

SID Well, I'm Sid Silvers.....the one that saw it.

RENO Well, gentlemen.....I'll see you later.

SID If you do, don't stop.

(DOOR SLAMS)

JACK Say Sid....you know that fellow will make our showHe's so popular with women that the girls he's been engaged to have formed an organization and adopted a college yell.....it's a scream...I tell you... he has "it".

SID Yeah?....He's certainly kept "it" a secret.

JACK You don't understand, Sid...Reno is a great lover.....And in the Spring, when a man's thoughts turn to love he'll be terrific.

SID The trouble is he thinks it's Spring every time he gets into a warm room.

JACK Don't worry.....till then we'll put him in camphor balls.

SID Jack....I'm not knocking the guy....and I can be fooled too....but he's the fellow that shaved me before I came into the office.

BENNY He did?...Well....we have no leading man, folks.

SID Jack, don't worry about a leading man....Actors can come and go... What this show needs is expense.

JACK We've had enough expense.

RALPH Avec-from-mare.

MARY & JACK Yes.

MARY That's my line..... Who are you?

LAUNDRY MAN I'm Joe, the Laundryman....Here's your laundry, Babe. Nine hundred and sixty-three dollars.

JACK (some dirt!)

MARY Give me five dollars and keep the laundry.

LAUNDRY MAN Give me a dollar and you keep it.

MARY I'll take half a dollar....and you keep it.

LAUNDRY MAN All right.

JACK (This deal is coming to you through the courtesy of Canada Dry Ginger Ale, made to order by the glass.)

SID No – expense – like in a mystery show.

BENNY You mean “suspense.”

SID Oh, is that what they call it? Here's what I mean. Why do King George and President Hoover look alike?

JACK Well.....why?

SID They both have beards except Hoover.

JACK Sid, you've got a lot to learn yet to be a half-wit.

SID You'll change your mind after you hear this one. Who loves you when you're a baby?

BENNY I know - they both have beards except Hoover.

SID No....but you're hot. Try again.

BENNY Well, who loves you when you're a baby?

SID Your mother.....And tell me, who loves you with a love like no other?

BENNY It can't be King George and Hoover again!

SID No, your mother! I'll ask you this last one. Who is it that has four legs, is painted green, flies, and looks like a bottle of Canada Dry Ginger Ale?

JACK You can't fool me this time, Sid. It's your mother!

SID No.

JACK Well, who is it?

SID That's the suspense. How do you like it?

(GLASS CRASH)

JACK

Folks, what is it that lies under the table breathing heavily with its eyes closed and has 3 bruises?.... You said it - Sid Silvers.... Go ahead, Ted.

4. I'LL NEVER HAVE TO DREAM AGAIN

(PHONE RINGS)

JACK

Ha, where's Mary?.....Mary!.....Oh, rehearsing again, huh?.....
What an organization this is..... Hey Sid.

SID

What's the difference between---

JACK

What – again?

SID

What's the difference between a wife and a pair of pants?

JACK

I know - you can go anywhere without your wife.

SID

That's funny..... I just thought of that.

JACK

I just thought of it too..... Get to work, Sid.

SID

Let me get this one off my chest ..What's the difference between a Chinaman, a cup of coffee and a taxi?

JACK

You started it.....finish it.

SID

They're all yellow.

JACK

Unless you like black coffee....Now Sid, before you go down for the last time I want you to stand in the outer office and tell people I'm not in. And I'm not in for you either.

SID

Say, I forgot to tell you.....Mr. Schlepper, the backer of the show, has been waiting out there over an hour and he's sore about something.

JACK

Yeah..... I got a slight hunch, Sid, that he wants his money back.

SID

I raise your hunch.

JACK

I'll call it..... You know, Sid, I'd like to give him back his hundred thousand because he's only a nuisance anyhow. How much have you got with you?

SID

Two dollars.

JACK Well, so we've got between us two dollars.....I don't think we can pay him today.....Sid, we'll have to make him believe that we've got some big offers for this show. Whatever I say, you make it double.

(KNOCK AT THE DOOR)

SCHLEPPER How long do I have to wait out here?

BENNY Hey, what's the idea?.....I'm the guy who puts in all the money and I can't even get in the office.

JACK Sit down, Schlepper.....I'm in the middle of a very important conference.....Now, Mr. Silvers, what do you think we ought to do about that half million dollar offer for the picture rights to this show?

SID I tore it up..... A million or nothing..... How about the foreign rights?

JACK Two million or nothing.

SID You said it. They can keep their million.

JACK How about the last rights to this show?

SID If we sold those, it would be our funeral.

JACK Right, Mr. Silvers.....Now, Mr. Schlepper.....

SCHLEPPER Well?

JACK You seem to be dissatisfied about the way this show is run.....Sid, give him his dough.

SCHLEPPER Wait a minute..... Who wants the money?.....I didn't even listen to you and I'm willing to take a chance.

JACK You're really willing to play ball with all of us?

SCHLEPPER Any time at all. But why don't you sell the rights already and make a quick turnover?

BENNY Oh! Starting again, are you Schlepper? Sid, give him a riddle.

SID What's the difference between a bottle of Canada Dry at the fountain and a nickel back in the bottle.

JACK What's the difference, Sid?

SID I don't know, but it's about time we mentioned it.

SCHLEPPER Don't bother me with riddles. I want to know about all these offers - European rights, picture rights.

JACK No, we were just thinking if a thing like that would happen how wonderful it would be.

5. IT'S WINTER AGAIN

ORCHESTRA

JACK

(TYPEWRITER CLICKING AND JACK WHISTLING)

Well, Mary, I guess we can go now. There's nothing else to do.

MARY

All right, Jack.

JACK

Well, how do you like the new leading man, Mary?

MARY

Oh, he's all right. You're keeping him, aren't you, Jack?

JACK

Yes.

MARY

(HUMS CANADA DRY THEME SONG)

JACK

Come on Mary.....Going, Sid?

SID

Yeah, Jack, I got another riddle for you. What's the difference between the new leading man and a pain in the neck?

JACK

I know - they both have beards, except Hoover.

[Ed. Note: Closing announcement is missing]

