

December 18, 1932

Jack announces news headlines, as he had done in September and October. The cast does a long and detailed parody of the recently-filmed adaptation of “Strange Interlude,” with Jack making clever comments parsing for listeners the differences between what the characters say out loud and what they are thinking. Kringelein shows up.

STATION

**WABC PROGRAM CANADA DRY GINGER ALE,
INC.**

AND DATE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1932

COLUMBIA NETWORK TIME 10:00 -- 10:30 P.M.

- 1. MEANEST MAN IN TOWN**
- 2. CONTENTED**
- 3. MY FAVORITE BAND**
- 4. WONDERFUL ONE**
- 5. HERE IT IS MONDAY**

CANADA DRY GINGER ALE INC. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1932.

SIGNATURE -

JOLLY GOOD COMPANY

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and gentlemen, a half-hour of sparkling entertainment by Canada Dry – the champagne of Ginger Ales. Canada Dry is a real ambassador of Christmas spirit – bubbling with good cheer. It 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.

1. MEANEST MAN IN TOWN

PAUL

Now, ladies and gentlemen, we bring you Jack Benny, the eyes and ears of the world.

JACK

Hello, news seekers..... this is Jack Benny, the Earth Galloper, coming to you with the late news events – thru the courtesy of the Morning Brown Taste..... all late dispatches dragged here by wire – rope –string and tattletale.... through the courtesy of – you said it! – The service that sees all, knows all and adds a hundred percent.... and tells you the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you..... Are you ready, folks? Here goes. First, prosperity news: which you will all welcome....

NEW YORK CITY – Times better. In one department store alone, twelve Santy Clauses went back to work this week. Salary eight dollars, room and beard.

DALLAS, TEXAS – Conditions no better here. Two congressmen-elect seen hitch- hiking to Washington..... Will arrive March fourth or hitch-hike back.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Women express desire to enter Congress. (Hm, hens to replace lame ducks. Oh well, news is news.)

World economics – CZECHO-SLOVAKIA promised to pay her war debt during next eclipse – not before or after.....

When GREECE was asked to make payment, she claimed she gave the money to Samuel Insull to bring back to us in person.....

[Ed. Note: More jokes about disgraced US industrialist Insull, in the news]

MONTE CARLO – Insull seen on one knee, rolling the dice.

ESTONIA owes us nine dollars. Willing to pay, but wants us to come over and get it. (Can't afford stamps, eh?)

LATVIA promises to pay us a hundred thousand kronen if FINLAND pays them..... if POLAND pays Finland... making it a triple play – POLAND to FINLAND to GEHRIG.....

PARIS, FRANCE – Latest note sent to President-Elect Roosevelt reads:

“FRANK: To be Frank with you,

We haven't got a franc. (This is Jack Benny at his best!)

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA – Film stars all going home for the holidays. Mickey Mouse will spend Chris-mouse..... with some friends in the cellar of a cheese factory.

JACK(CONTD) RENO, NEVADA – Frank Buck seen here on new expedition (Guess Frank will bring “em back a wife! How was that, Paul?

PAUL DOUGLAS Awful.

JACK BURLINGTON, VERMONT – Man, 95, elopes with girl, 82..... Parents furious.

GLASSOW, SCOTLAND—Three thousand Scotchmen badly hurt in “Give Till It Hurts” campaign.

DUNEEDEN, SCOTLAND Hey, Paul, Duneeden.....

PAUL Oh!..... When you're Duneeden..... You will find Canada Dry Ginger Ale, made to order by the glass, a most satisfying beverage.

JACK (You nearly muffed that one, Paul)

CURBSTONE, NEW YORK – Man throws lighted cigar in street, causing panic. Ted Weems now nursing two fingers.....

BOMBAY, INDIA –Mahatma Gandhi receives platinum safety pin for Christmas. He is fasting again..... finds bed-sheet too big and is now wearing a lady's handkerchief.

MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA -- Weather so cold here, people seen bathing in raccoon coats.

LONEDALE, INDIANA – Bandits crack safe releasing four mice..... Mice were very thankful.

More Underworld notes – MANHATTAN, NEW YORK – Near – sighted gunman breaks into bank and finds out it is Tombs Prison..... He will be out in 1942.

NICE, FRANCE—Jimmy Walker seen traveling thru Europe. (Hmm. He must think he's till Mayor of New York)

Sport events -- MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, December 16th – Jimmy McLarnin knocks out Sammy Fuller in eighth round...December 18th – Fuller notified today.

NEW YORK CITY – Baseball owners meet. Owners of Yankees will trade Babe Ruth for Cleveland, Detroit, the White Socks and some cash.

OSSINING, NEW YORK -- Sing Sing football season over, but two players escape for touchdown. Were last seen on five-yard line in Alaska..... (Take it, Paul!)

PAUL DOUGLAS

EVERYWHERE, AMERICA – Canada Dry Ginger Ale is sold at all fountains, made to-order by the glass, and you get a nickel back on each large bottle.

JACK

You said it, Paul – Play, Ted!

SEGUE INTO NUMBER

2. CONTENTED (SECOND ROUTINE)

ORCHESTRA AND MISS MARSH

JACK

That was Miss Andrea Marsh, singing “CONTENTED.” Oh, Andrea.

ANDREA

Yes, Jack.

JACK

That was an awfully sweet number you just sang. I thought you did it beautifully.

ANDREA

Thank you, Jack.

JACK

You know, Andrea, I think each time you sing, you get better and better. I really mean it.

ANDREA

Oh, that’s awfully sweet of you, Jack.

JACK

No, I really mean it..... Don’t you agree with me, Paul?

PAUL

I certainly do.

JACK

And Paul, I want to tell you something, too. You’re not so bad yourself. You’re one of the finest announcers I have ever heard or ever worked with. You have a swell speaking voice and a great personality.

PAUL

Well – thanks very much.

JACK

And Ted, come over here.

TED

Yes, Jack?

JACK

And that goes for you, too. I want to tell you right here and now – how much I have enjoyed working with you.

TED

Well Jack, I like working with you, too.

JACK Yes, sir – you’re a swell fellow – a regular guy- and a great orchestra leader. And what a talented bunch of boys you have. The way Elmo Tanner whistles – Parker Gibbs – and country Washburn – and Red Ingels – in fact, all the boys. You certainly know how to pick them, Ted..... Boy! Am I glad to be with this gang. Now listen, fellows, I’m not telling you all this just because Christmas is coming and I need some shirts..... I’m telling you just how I feel.

CROWD I see..... We get it, Jack..... we get it.

TED Say Jack, I’ like to buy my baby something this Christmas – I don’t know what to get her.

JACK Your baby?

TED Yes. What would you suggest?

JACK I don’t know. Ted. How about a rattle?

TED No, she wouldn’t care for that.

JACK Well, how about a doll – you know, one of those walking, talking dolls?

TED No, I don’t think she’d care for that, either.

JACK Say, how old is your baby

TED She’s twenty-seven!

JACK Well, get her another orchestra leader....

ANDREA Jack, come over here a minute

JACK Yes – what is it, Andrea?

ANDREA Jack, what do you think I ought to buy for Ted, you know, I’ve been working with him so long

JACK Oh, I don’t know – what does he need?

ANDREA Nothing.

JACK That’s what I’d get him – always try to buy something a fellow needs.

MARY Jack, you’re giving everybody advice but me.

JACK Well Mary, what do you want to know?

MARY What would you get somebody for Christmas if you were me? He’s a master of ceremonies on the radio....

JACK Yes....

MARY And he's good-looking..... And he's a very good friend of mine.....

JACK Yeah.....

MARY What do you think I ought to get him?

JACK Well, first tell me who it is.

MARY It's Georgie Price..... he's the sweetest fellow. What will I get him?

JACK I don't know – see you later.

MARY Gee, I don't know what's the matter with Jack lately..... You can't even ask him a civil question.

3. MY FAVORITE BAND (THIRD ROUTINE)

JACK And now, ladies and gentlemen, for our usual unusual surprise. As I've been telling you for the past seven months, some night we would turn out with a real treat..... something for your money..... something you can tell your children about (and if you can tell your children anything nowadays, you're a better than I am – if I had children)..... All right, sez you, what is it? Well, folks, tonight we are going to offer none other than that famous play “Strong Interlude”, by that great author Sullivan O’Heel.... With the original cast that ran fifty-four consecutive minutes from Bridgeport..... was finally caught, and crowned with the Pulitzer Prize – which, at that time, was a baseball bat. Of course, you all know that this play was first presented by the Actors Gelt..... and had for its leading man, Lynn Fontanne -

PAUL And Canada Dry Ginger Ale is sold at every Fontanne.....

JACK (That was Paul Douglas, folks – who is paid to annoy me)

Of course, you all remember “Strong Interlude” as a stage production. However, in this picture version, the leading parts were played by Norma Barber and Coral Gables. (That’s the best I can do with you, Clark.) However, we have improved on the picture by hiring our own cast. So you see, we bring this cast to you at great suspense and from the looks of things we will be lucky to get our money back. It is already past ten o’clock, and we haven’t sold the first row yet.

Now before we go any further, I want you to meet the cast so you will know who's talking. Here is the cast, all well-known..... to their families. First, Miss Nina Leeds – who thinks out loud – played by Mary Livingston. (SOUND OF APPLAUSE) And now Ned Darrell follows. (Do you get it, Nina leads and Ned follows?) And here's a little Gordon... Don't be bashful, Gordon..... Say something.

RED INGELS

(CHILD'S VOICE) Hello, folks.

JACK

And now Gordon, twenty years later.

RED

(HEAVY VOICE) Hello, folks.

JACK

Our play will begin immediately after the next number – entitled “Wonderful One,” played by Ted Weems who is wonderful, too..... (Wasn't that good, Ted.)

SEGUE IN TO NUMBER

4. WONDERFUL ONE (FOURTH ROUTINE)

ORCHESTRA & ELMO TANNER (WHISTLING)

JACK

That was “Wonderful One,” whistled by Elmo Tanner. And now for our own version of that famous play “Strong Interlude.” And remember, folks- this is the play where the actors say what they mean, and also what they think. (Of course, what you think isn't include in our play.) Now I'm going to stand right here by the microphone and help you out..... All right Ted, music. Curtain.

(ORCHESTRA PLAYS SOFT WALTZ MUSIC)

MARY

(HUMS “JOLLY GOOD COMPANY”)

(KNOCK AT DOOR) Come in.

PARKER GIBBS

(AS MESSENGER BOY) Telegram for Mrs. Leeds.

MARY

Give it to me, quick, Hm, news from the front. I hope my husband wasn't hurt.

JACK

(Her husband is Gordon, the first.)

MARY

Oh, my heavens!.....Gordon's aeroplane crashed, flying over front. He was killed!

JACK

(now here's what she thinks)

MARY

Great I'll collect his insurance, then watch me step out.

JACK (Now what she says.)

MARY He's gone. Poor boy! I Can't stand it. I'll go mad! Oh, I loved him so much.

PARKER Any answer, lady?

JACK (The guy was killed, and he wants an answer.)

MARY No answer..... Here, boy!

PARKER Thank you, lady. You're very kind.

JACK (And now what the messenger-boy thinks)

PARKER What a cheap dame! Slips me a dime for walking three miles with this telegram. If I get another wire for her, I'll tear it up..... Good-bye!

(DOOR SLAM- PHONE CLICKS)

MARY Hello, operator.....(MORE CLICKING) Operator, give me..... hello, Sam, is this you?

JACK (Wait until you get the number.)

MARY Oh Sam, I called to tell you that I've good news for you Gordon just passed out..... Yes, I know you're crazy about me, and at last we can be together. I know you love me and I love you too.

JACK (His whole family is crazy – remember the picture?..... Now here's what she thinks.)

MARY I can never love that boloney. I only called him because he'd come over anyway. I can't stand the sight of him.

JACK (Ah, but here's what she says.)

MARY Yes darling, it's you and only you that I love. Come over at once.

(SMACKS SMACKS SMACKS (PHONE CLICKS)

(KNOCK ON DOOR)

Come in, Sam. (DOOR OPENS)

JACK (Hmmm, he got here awfully quick. But remember, this is a half-hour program. We must make short cuts.)

RED INGELS (PLAYING SAM) Nina, my darling – I'm so happy to see you. When will you marry me?

JACK (Now what he thinks.)

RED (exactly same as before) Nina, my darling – I'm so happy to see you. When will you marry me?

JACK (Well, there's one guy who says what he thinks)

MARY How any woman can be tied to you, I don't know. What a dead pan! Gee, I wish I never had to see you again.

RED Well, if that's the way you feel, good-bye.

JACK (Wait, Sam! That's only what she thinks)

RED Oh! Pardon me.

JACK (This is what she says.)

MARY Yes Sam, Darling – I'll marry you. I really do love you, and this is the happiest day of my life.

JACK Miss Leeds is finally on the road to happiness.

PAUL And every road leads to the Soda fountain for Canada Dry Ginger Ale – with the nickel back on the large bottle.

JACK (That was very good, Paul – and I wish you'd do that oftener..... Now what I think – I wish there were some way to get rid of that guy)

PAUL What's that?

JACK (That's only what I think, Paul.)

(ORCHESTRA PLAYS STRAINS OF MENDELSSOHN'S "WEDDING MARCH")

JACK (They got married while I wasn't looking..... Oh well, on with the play.)

WASHBURN (CHILDS VOICE) Hello, Momma..... Hello, Daddy.

JACK (Wait a minute, Gordon. You're not born yet. That's in the second act.)

WASHBURN That's my daddy and momma.

JACK (Later.)

RED INGEL Oh my darling, you look so pale. What seems to be the trouble?

MARY I have a terrible headache. Please call the doctor.

RED All right dear. I'll stop in at Dr. Ned's on my way to the office.

MARY Thank you dearest. And please take the dog out with you.

(DOG BARKS – WOOF! WOOF! WOOF!)

JACK (That's what he says – now what he thinks.)

(DOG GROWLS)

JACK (Now what you listeners think – I wish we hadn't stayed home tonight..... And now what I think – you're perfectly right.....

Well folks, I have to leave you now as I play the part of Dr. Ned.)

(HEAVY KNOCK AT DOOR)

MARY Come in. (DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE)

JACK (AS DR. NED) Hello, Nina.

MARY Oh, Doctor Ned. I'm so glad you came.

JACK My darling!

MARY I could hardly wait till Sam got out of the house.

It is you I love -- only you.

JACK Oh dearest, why did you marry that pup – that weasel ? You know how much I have always cared for you.

MARY Oh, I don't know why I did it. I was lonesome, I guess. Besides, he had a ring – which is something nowadays.

JACK Well anyway, dearest, let's forget everything. At last we're alone -- you and I alone. (FUMBLING AND SCRATCHING SOUND AT DOOR) What's that noise?

MARY Why nothing, dear.

JACK (That's what she says – now what she thinks.)

MARY (Gee, I hope he doesn't look in that closet. Why did that fool have to make so much noise?)

JACK There's someone in that closet! (Now what I think – who cares?)

MARY There's no one in there. Please believe me.

JACK (That's what she says)

MARY (I hope he doesn't look in that closet.)

JACK (That's what she thinks.) Who are you in that closet? If you don't open that door, I will!

(DOOR OPENS)

(MARY SCREAMS)

addition, you make a small deposit on each bottle, but this deposit is refunded when the bottle is returned.

Now, next Thursday night at 8:15, 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

