



Sunday, 3 November 2013

Jack's Jokes

Today, if you want to check out a bunch of quotes, especially from popular culture, you can go to any number of web sites. Back in the 1940s, it wasn't so easy.

Fans of the Jack Benny got a hand in this matter from syndicated columnist John Crosby in this column that first appeared in newspapers on April 21, 1949. This isn't a "greatest hits" list; Crosby simply passed on some things he had heard in radio shows over the last little while.

Benny Joke Sets Record For Variety

By JOHN CROSBY

Jack Benny hasn't, as it is sometimes rumored, only one joke on his show. He has quite a few. But the changes run on his No. 1 Joke, the elder statesman of the jokes over there, are miraculously variegated. It seems incredible that one joke could be put in so many different contexts, but the writers manage. I have a little file of jokes on Jack Benny's stinginess that I've collected over the years, and I thought I'd pass them on for the sake of posterity.

Benny: Rochester, maybe you ought to go back to that golf course and look for my ball.

Rochester: Boss, why don't give up? We'll never find it.

Benny: Give up? Rochester, suppose Columbus gave up. He never would have discovered America. Then what would have happened?

Rochester: We'd be looking for that ball in Spain.

Professor: Monsieur Benny, you haven't paid me for your violin lesson.

Benny: How thoughtless of me. Have a chair.

Professor: You gave me a chair last time. Today I want the money.

Jimmy Stewart: No, Jack, I'd feel better if I paid the luncheon tab.

Benny: Well, if your health involved, okay.

Benny: Here's a nickel, Rochester. Telephone Phil Harris for me.

Rochester: Oh, boy! Look at the buffalo gulp for fresh air.

Rochester: Oh, oh. I dropped the nickel Mr. Benny gave me to phone. Doggone it, I can't see it anywhere.

Benny: Here it is. It rolled back to me.

Mary: For heaven's sake, Jack, why should you be worried? You must have millions of dollars down in your vault.

Benny: I know but I don't want to break up the serial numbers.

I've got others but I'd like to hurry along to another standby of the Benny show, the Maxwell joke.

Benny: Rochester, you know that picture of my Maxwell that hangs in the den? That's the first car I ever owned.

Rochester: That's the first car anyone ever owned.

Rochester: Why don't you trade in the old car for a newer model?

Benny: What for? This car takes us where we want to go.

Rochester: I know, but look how much older we are when we get there.

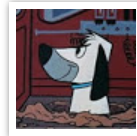
There are other jokes on the Benny program. There are actually three Phil Harris jokes—his illiteracy, his insobriety and his wife. And there's the Dennis Day joke.

Dennis (entering his house): Mother! Oh, Mother!

Voice: Your mother isn't here.



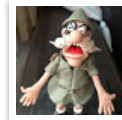
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Knox...and families of these comic artists can see these gems... - made with fimo clay I had ago and its not very easy to do...

2 hours ago

Fernando Liera Blog Cartoons



Vehicle Verification Centers of Mexico City will reopen in August with COVID

safety measures. - ©2020 fernandolleracartoons.com

3 hours ago

Movies with Michael

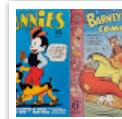


Cowboy Church #67 - Hello my friends and welcome back for another

service of cowboy church. Today's musical selection begins with Gene Autry singing *Dear Hearts and Gentle Pe...

6 hours ago

Termite Terrace headlines



Question for All You Cartoon Collectors! - OK so I've been doing some

looking around. Bosko apparently had a comic book and I'm wondering if any of you know of

Dennis: Who are you?

Voice: Your Father.

And there are odd jokes on that show, too, jokes that fit into no special category.

Benny: Phil, tell me, what did 10 doctors do about your headaches?

Phil: Plenty. First they gave me a complete physical. Then they gave me all the allergy tests. Then they checked my reflexes. Finally they psychoanalyzed me.

Benny: And did they find out why you have headaches.

Phil: Yeah, my band plays too loud.

Just one more joke, the Benny age joke, and you'd better appreciate it, too. These are \$1,000-a-week writers and there are four of them and the above is a two-year collection, representing roughly \$160,000 worth of brains.

Benny: Gee, this is a nice picture of me, isn't it? And it's in color.

Rochester: It would be even nicer if your eyelashes weren't gray.

Benny: My lashes aren't gray. It's just that my eyes are so blue they pick up lint.

It's a crime to put these jokes in print. They were written to be spoken with the expert inflections of Benny and the rest of his skillful cast. Still, every year I have to review Benny in some different way and this is the only thing I can think of this year. Reviewing Benny every year is almost as hard as thinking up a new joke about Benny's stinginess.

Posted by [Yowp](#) at [07:41](#)



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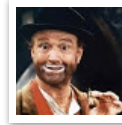
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additional covers you could share! ...

15 hours ago

[Way Too Damn Lazy To Write A Blog](#)



Born on July 18, 1913 - [Red Skelton](#) - *Today's post commences

with the Guzzler's Gin routine ...

1 day ago

[News From ME](#)

Sorry... - As far as I know, I do not have any diseases. I just have too much to deal with right now so I won't be blogging much if at all. I'm postponing all the web...

1 day ago

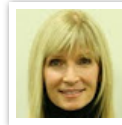
[Cartoon Research](#)

In His Own Words: H.T. Kalmus on Disney in [Technicolor](#) - Suspended Animation #276 Many references may be found regarding two-strip Technicolor. I have been guilty of discussing Walter Lantz's King of Jazz (1930)...

2 days ago

[AFRTS Archive](#)

[Mary Turner 1985](#) - Mary Turner today Mary Turner really rocked the house.



Normally when any of the jokes got a reaction, it'd be split.

The ones that were really liked wou...

4 days ago

[The World of Knight](#)



TONIGHT, 11:54 PM. - COPYRIGHT 2020 BY MILTON KNIGHT

4 days ago

[Yowp](#)



[Hanna-Barbera Birthday Did-You-Knows](#) - 63 years ago today, some

forms were signed by George Sidney, Bill Hanna and Joe Barbera creating what eventually became the biggest TV cartoon operation i...

1 week ago

[Supervised By Fred Avery: Tex Avery's Warner Brothers Cartoons](#)

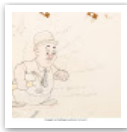
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Original animation drawing from Wabbit Twouble with color notations

for the ink and paint department. Release date: 12/20/41 Availability: Looney Tunes Gol... 3 weeks ago

Mark Kausler's CatBlog
The Lady and the Tiger - From the Cathy Hill Archive of Unpublished Comics comes "The Lady and the Tiger". This story was drawn before Cathy started the "Mad Raccoons" series. U... 4 weeks ago

What About Thad?
Cartoon Logic Podcast - And yet another distraction from this brick and mortar blog... I've entered the world of podcasting with renowned animation director and historian Bob Jaques... 10 months ago

 **Likely Looney, Mostly Merrie**
That's all, folks! - My posts have gotten thinner over the years. I'm aware of that. I've been hopeful for a long time, that I can remain active with blogging and sharing furth... 1 year ago

 **Dr. Grob's Animation Review**
The Flying Man - 'The Flying Man' is a very short absurdist film in which a man drops his coat to take a swim in mid air. Another man with a dog drops by, tries the same th... 2 days ago

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