



Sunday, 7 December 2014

Why Benny Helps

Jack Benny supported a number of causes over the years. He's best known for his support for symphony orchestras and their homes, playing benefit concerts for them all over North America.

He was also one of a number of comedians who raised money for the state of Israel. The country awarded Eddie Cantor its Medallion of Valor in 1962. No doubt that's what's being referred to in this story in the *Canadian Jewish Chronicle* of April 18, 1962.

The article's second-last paragraph explains, in a few words, why Benny's radio and TV character was so popular.



JACK BENNY TELLS HOW HE BECAME INTERESTED IN ISRAEL

By FRED SILVER

IT WASN'T Sunday—it wasn't a television show. What was Jack Benny doing there?

Eddie Cantor was supposed to be there. His seventieth birthday and the Israel Bond organization was going to honor him with a medal.

Jack said Eddie Cantor wasn't well and asked him to come instead. Called him on the phone. "Jack, you are the greatest comedian in America."

"I knew he was saying that just to get me to go," said Benny.

"Why don't you get Jessel?" asked Benny.

"Jessel," screamed Cantor—"he makes too many speeches. You know one of James Mason's cats died and when Jessel got through with the funeral oration, what didn't that cat do for Israel! Like Sophie Tucker said, some rabbis become comedians, but Jessel is the case of a comedian who has turned rabbi."

"Why don't you call Danny Kaye?" asked Benny.

"I did," said Cantor.

"Hm-m," said Benny.

Jack Benny got interested in Israel when he was sent to entertain the troops around Greece, he got leave to visit Tel Aviv.

Then Cantor asked him for a contribution for Israel.

Jack Benny took out a check blank and signed his name. "Eddie," he said, "you fill in the sum."

Eddie Cantor wrote in \$25,000.

Benny is stingy only on television.

"I've been making so many speeches for Israel bonds," Jack says, "they are beginning to call me the Jewish George Jessel."

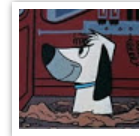
Jack says he would be a better violinist if the golf courses around Beverly Hills were shut down.

His ambition had been to be a violinist. His father gave him a violin and a monkey wrench. "Plumbing is a good business, too," he said. Jack didn't do anything with the monkey wrench. He played around with the violin for some time. In his first theatrical role, in a melodrama called "From Opera to Ragtime," Jack played the role of a suffering violinist. In the Navy, too, he appeared as a fiddler when his battleship put on a musical revue, but he found he got more response from his words than from his tunes.

Back in civilian life, he was billed as Bennie K. Benny, but this was often confused with Ben Bernie, the name of a performer of some national renown, so the name was changed to Jack Benny.

In Hollywood, they say he is a great worrier, that he "lives on coffee and finger nails," but his sponsors never

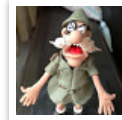
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Peter Gray's Comics and Art



Spencer Jordan's amazing work... we are hoping artists like Ian

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...

1 hour ago

Fernando Liera Blog Cartoons



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

safety measures. - ©2020 fernandollercartoons.com

3 hours ago

Movies with Michael

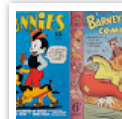


Cowboy Church #67 - Hello my friends and welcome back for another

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

5 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

worried about him and millions of people find him a weekly tonic. He seems soft and easy like music. He is famed for his time sense of timing his pauses. Timing is very important in music and the violin may have helped him to that. He works hard to get that smoothness. He doesn't simply assign the job to his writers. They sit down together for days and slowly hammer it into shape. Jack Benny says that in his role he seeks to "encompass about everything that is wrong with everybody." The people see themselves in a mirror. He restores them to their humanity. Jack Benny has a deep sense of humanity. That is why he is so ardent in his work for helping build Israel.

Posted by [Yowp](#) at [07:02](#)
Labels: [Jack Benny](#)

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additional covers you could share! ...
14 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 jocks 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



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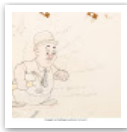


Hanna-Barbera Birthday Did-You-Knows - 63 years ago today, some forms were signed by George Sidney, Bill Hanna and Joe Barbera creating what eventually became the biggest TV cartoon operation i...
1 week ago



Supervised By Fred Avery: Tex Avery's Warner Brothers Cartoons

Wabbit Twouble: A Small Addendum to An Outstanding Podcast -




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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