Sunday, 25 March 2018

Youth, Mary and Hospitals

If someone believes Jack Benny's radio shows in the final season, 1954-55, were weak, the reason could simply be lack of enthusiasm.

Benny had pretty much lost interest in radio after spending more than two decades on it. And listeners had lost interest in radio, too. They could see the big-time stars now, thanks to television. What did they need with a talking box?

Jack talked about radio and a number of other things in an interview with syndicated columnist Sheilah Graham in 1954. He told her he'd never play Vegas. He did. He worried about where new comic talent would come from. He needn't have. And it's interesting he points out Mary's ill health when his wife outlived him. By the way, Mary appeared with him on the final radio season but recorded her parts at home to be edited in later.



Age Does Not Wither Jack Benny By SHEILAH GRAHAM

North American Newspaper Alliance

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 27—The gals—from 5 to 50 and even 60—go for Jack Benny. Barbara Stanwyck took her television plunge with him; so did Claudette Colbert and Irene Dunne. As for Marilyn Monroe, I'm surprised she didn't ask Jack to go along on the honeymoon with Joe Di Maggio. She wouldn't go to Korea without him -before she married Joe, that is. And when I was lunching at Romanoff's recently with Jack, Portland Mason, the precocious 5-year-old daughter of the James Masons, waved frantically at Mr. Benny and hollered, "You're

Jack, who was 60 years old two weeks ago, doesn't know the secret of his charm for the fair sex, but he has me enchanted and I think I know why. He's been happily married to Mary Livingstone for 27 years, but there's still that old glint in his eye, and he's just as easygoing in real life as on radio and the TV screens. You relax, you shine, so you think HE'S wonderful.

"I don't feel 60," Jack confided. "I think the secret of looking young is to be working all the time on something you enjoy. Look how young George Burns looks, and Bing Crosby looked about 28 on my TV show. EVERYBODY looks like a kid!" glowed Mr. Benny.

I asked Jack how he got stuck with being 39. "It started years and years ago, when I was 36. I decided to stay 36 for several years. Some years later I became 37. Then 38. I've been 39 for five or six years and I don't think I'll get any older. There's something about 40 that's a little discouraging." Jack has starred on radio for 22 years, but he's about ready to quit the kilocycles.

 $\hbox{``I started in May, 1932,'' he recalled. ``But I don't know about next season. I'm not crazy about radio now and all the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season is season. I'm not crazy about radio now and the season is season in the season in the season in the season is season in the sea$ I'd like to quit. If I do, I'll step up my television shows to two a month. I'll film some, but most of them will be 'live.' One thing is sure-Mary (Livingstone) won't do any more radio or TV shows with me. She doesn't want to work any more. She hasn't been well. And everything happened to her lately. A box of matches exploded in her hand, burnt two fingers. She went to throw something in the waste basket, and put her back out of kilter. We have the house in Palm Springs, but Mary hasn't felt well enough for us to go there much this season." Most radio and television stars can't wait for the Summer hiatus to get away from it all. "But I can't stand still for more than eight weeks," Jack told me, "so I'll have to find something to do for the other five. He may do the Palace in New York-"but never Las Vegas."

Jack has entertained most of the Presidents-"since Lincoln," he added with a grin. When he was at the White

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Cartoon Research

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Way Too Damn Lazy To Write A Blog



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a Sunday in which temps hit 90 degrees Fahrenheit - rough on this weather wuss ... 12 hours ago

News From ME

Today's Video Link - Oh, you'll like this. Boy, will you like this. For a number of years at Comic-Con, I had the honor/privilege/thrill (it was many other things, as well) of ..

16 hours ago

Fernando Llera Blog **Cartoons**



Furopean Heat Wave expected to ease up as rain and

House visiting then President Truman with whom he was very palsy-walsy, Jack told him, "I'd give anything for an autographed photograph, Mr. President." Mr. Truman deadpanned, "How MUCH would you give?" He was at the Eisenhower inauguration and, when he visited Ike last year, the President told Jack: "I can give you a few minutes." But he "gave" him two hours!

I asked Jack what he was giving daughter Joan for a wedding present. "I'm giving her the wedding," he replied.

I'm invited, so I'll tell you how much poppa went for. The ceremony is scheduled next month and I've never seen Jack exhibit nerves in all the time I've known him—but I'll bet he quivers walking up the aisle. "She'll live in New York after the honeymoon," Jack revealed. "And I'm glad. I'll make Mary go to New York a little oftener."

We talked of television, which Jack loves. "Eventually it won't hurt movies," he prophesied. "People want to go out. But no one knows where the comedians of the future are coming from—they used to come up through vaudeville and burlesque. As George Burns says, young comedians have no chance to be off-beat. On TV with millions watching, they can't take a chance. As far as I see, there is only one great comic coming up-George Gobel-he's the best in years."

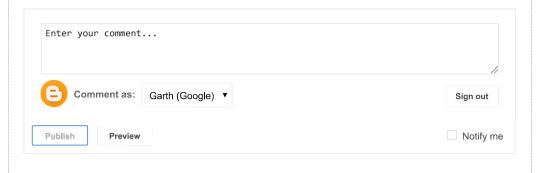
Jack will soon be going into the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital for his annual check up. "I'll stay a week this time. I love to rest in a hospital. I have a TV set installed, a radio, magazines, books, and have a wonderful time." The Bennys stay home four nights a week and, in pajamas and dressing gown, watch television in his bedroom. But, when it comes to practicing on the violin, Jack does that in his spacious bathroom. Mary can't stand the noise.

Posted by Yowp at 07:09

Labels: Jack Benny

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Movies with Michael



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Cowboy Church service. We begin our musical selection off with Roy Rogers and Dale Evans performing the Sout... 22 hours ago

Yowp



Explaining Cats -Hanna-Barbera made good copy in

1961. The proof is in a search through newspapers as Arnie Carr's PR department successfully pushed the studio's newest

1 day ago

Termite Terrace headlines



Popeve Cans the Spinach (Commerci al Corner) -Due to the Tom and

Jerry hiatus, the monthly commercials are returning. This month we'll look at Popeve canning the spinach and advertising with other a... 6 days ago

The World of Knight



AFTERNO ON - Nice view. I actually drew it into a panel

today. 1 week ago

Mark Kausler's CatBlog Racketty Ann's Mystery

Flight! - Here are pages 5 through eight of "Racketty Ann and the Lost World". There's delightful fantasy here as Racketty Ann and Bla Bla take a ride on the back o...

1 week ago

Peter Grav's Comics and Art



on my Art work...Origi nal art...prints for sale

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ist@gmail.com for prices https://petergrayart.blogspot

.com/ Will update it like I do on facebook. 3 weeks ago

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



Coming Soon To This Blog...

1 month ago

What About Thad? Chris Reccardi Interviewed

- I don't want to start a practice of publishing an interview every time someone from Ren & Stimpy dies, but Chris Reccardi (1964-2019) was too important a f... 2 months ago

E 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...
6 months ago

Kids, Eh? #1288: Bird Call - #1288: Bird Call 10 months ago

Cartoons, Model Sheets, & Stuff



Hothead Model Sheets -Here are a few model sheets from

the first Pete Hothead short. Released in 1952 and directed former Tom & Jerry animator Pete Burness. Ted Parmelee was the...

1 year ago

Dr. Grob's Animation Review

FernGully: The Last Rain Forest - Up until the rise of computer animation in the late 1990s, with powerful players entering the field (first Pixar, then Dreamworks, followed by BlueSky, Son... 2 days ago

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