

Sunday, 16 December 2018

# He's Walking

It's a bit of an overstatement to say everything Jack Benny touched turned to ratings, but there was a time when he sure helped. And we're not talking about his own show.

Jack made guest appearances on a number of radio shows-Fred Allen's may be the most memorable—but his presence on one particular programme helped a widow and the American Heart Fund. That's when Jack was the Walking Man on Truth or Consequences (to the right you see host Ralph Edwards and Benny).

Benny was revealed as the Walking Man after a correct answer on the March 6, 1948 edition of Edwards' stunt show. You can read a very excellent time frame on Martin Grams' blog. Two days before a widow from Chicago named Florence Hubbard blurted out Benny's name to Edwards, speculation ran through a newspaper column in the United Press.



# HEY, JACK BENNY! DON'T SAY YOU'RE THE WALKING MAN By ALINE MOSBY

United Press Hollywood Correspondent

HOLLYWOOD, March 4. - The suspicion that he might be "the Walking Man" dawned upon Jack Benny today. It isn't anything definite... but, uh, he's been thinking about it and, well, there have been a few things. Benny has something in common with 2,000,000 Americans. They've been thinking "the Walking Man" over, too, since he began to clop his feet and make noises on Ralph Edwards' "Truth or Consequences?' NBC radio show. [Mr. Edwards' show is heard at 8:30 P.M. Saturdays and Benny is heard on the same station at 7 P. M.

Guess who the feet belong to, and you collect \$22,000 worth of loot. This includes the usual car trailer, houseful of furniture, trip to Sun Valley, diamond watch, coat, etc.

Every Saturday night Edwards phones three people who've written the best letters on why they sent in money for the American Heart Association.

## Heifitz, Fidler or Devine

To date the show has collected than 2,000,000 letters and than a million bucks—an all-time radio record. For seven weeks unhappy guessers have made wild stabs at names like Louis B. Mayer and President Truman. Folks were in the lying-awake-nights stage—until last Saturday's noise clue. A squeaky violin.

We called up a guy who owns such a violin. Who, we inquired, did he figure 'the Walking Man' might be?

### **Bing Bong Bell**

"It might be me," he reflected.

"No!" we said.

"Yeah," said Benny. "You know, people have been stopping me on the street and writing letters asking me if I'm the Walking Man. The boys on my show have mentioned it, too.

"Oh, and Mary said something about it. I suppose we should have put the clues together, but we never listen to the program. We're usually out on Saturday nights. We haven't paid much attention to it, frankly."

"Bing bong bell church bells (Benny's program is on Sunday).

"It's ten and only one can tell" (tenth alphabet letter J is for Jack).

If Benny had, he might've figured out the riddle Edwards repeats like this:

"The master of the metropolis fits his name quite well" (Benny is the master of his radio-show valet, Rochester. That's the name of a metropolis in New York).

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# Blogs to See

#### Fernando Llera Blog Cartoons



Public Function Secretary creates new online platform to fight

corruption. - ©2019 fernandolleracartoons.com 10 minutes ago

# 🖺 Cartoon Research

Pondering "Pocahontas" - I think Disney's Pocahontas will seem better as time passes. While it is flawed, there is still much to recommend in it. Here's my opinion.

6 hours ago

# Rews From ME

Today's Video Link - Part of the Tony Awards ceremony vou never see at home is what goes on during the commercials. On the most recent telecast, host James Corden got Billy Por... 7 hours ago

## Rip Jagger's Dojo



Panther Girl Of The Kongo! - I have one word for vou in regards the

serial\* Panther Girl of the Kongo \*-- \*Crawdads\*! This movie purports to have monsters, but it turns out those cla..

8 hours ago

# **Movies with Michael**



Movie Review: Once Upon A Time ... In Hollywood -Michael's Movie

#### Are You Or Aren't You

Benny might also discover the horse-and-gunfire sounds on "the Walking Man" show could indicate his motto "Buck Benny Rides Again!" The Walking Man played Auld Lang Syne on the trumpet, too. Jack's last movie, he might recall, was "The Horn Blows at Midnight."

The mysterious gent also whistled "Annie Laurie" which begins, "Maxwellton Braes Are Bonnie." Benny's jalopy is a Maxwell. And the cat's wail could signify what violin strings are made of. "Come to think of it, I have been doing a lot of walking on my program lately. Mentioned 'The Horn Blows st Midnight,' too," said Benny. We said: "Well, are you or aren't you the walking

"Hmmmmmm," said Benny.

Posted by Yowp at 07:09

Labels: Aline Mosby, Jack Benny

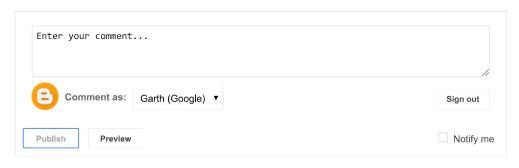
# 1 comment:



#### bgrauman 16 December 2018 at 13:32

Yes, two of "the boys" {Hilliard Marks and Milt Josefsberg} KNEW it was Jack, and he told Ralph Edwards his concern about them. Ralph told him to swear them to secrecy until the contest was over...which was a short time afterwards.

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Grade: A- Review: An affectionate (though not exactly uncritical) love letter to 60's cinema that is irresistible. If I were to give vou ...

9 hours ago

## Yowp



Scooter Looter Cycle -\*Scooter Looter\* is one of the Hanna-

Barbera cartoons that's chock-full of short cuts and the kind of cartoon that never would have been made the following... 1 day ago

#### E Termite Terrace headlines



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

Jerry hiatus, the monthly commercials are returning. This month we'll look at Popeye canning the spinach and advertising with other a... 3 days ago

### The World of Knight SATURDAY



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

5 days ago

#### Way Too Damn Lazy To Write A Blog



The Classic Comedy Rorschach Test - \* In

5 days 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...

6 days ago

### Peter Gray's Comics and Art



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

petergrayart

ist@gmail.com for prices

https://petergrayart.blogspot

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> .com/ Will update it like I do on facebook.

2 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

### 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

He Poses for his Portrait -

'He Poses for his Portrait' is the second of only two surviving Newlyweds cartoons Émile Cohl made in the United States. 1 day ago

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Creatures of the Haunted Ship

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