Jolson Now Multi-Millionaire But Can't Tie In With Simple Life

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK—(AP)—There is a broadway saying that Al Jolson didn't invent hokum—he just found a way to put it in the bank.

And at 64 the king of Schmaltz is still a young man working overtime to keep the wolf from his door.

His fellow entertainers say, however, this isn't a necessity now—it's a habit. They estimate that nasty old wolf would have to chaw through $4,000,000 to $15,000,000 in greenbacks before he could cross the Jolson threshold.

I dropped in on the timeless mammy singer the other night and found him still as energetic as a boy on a pogo stick.

"Come in, kid," he said, Jaunty in a pigeon blue robe decorated with his initials in red. He bounced over to a hotel chair.

"This robe cost me $150,000," he remarked. "A broker gave it to me—but I bought some of his stock."

For the next hour Al kept up a running fire of wisecracks on his past, present and future. There's one thing about the old-time entertainers—they put on as good a show for one listener as they do for a packed house.

At the moment Jolson is still collecting from "The Jolson Story" and waiting for the golden harvest from "Jolson Sings Again" to roll in. He's in the spot of a man who can't make any more money by working—because of the tax laws—but he still wants to keep busy. Mr. Whiskers has got "sonny boy" crying uncle.

Tax Bill In 7 Figure

"I had to pay a million dollars in taxes last year," he grimmaced. "The worst thing is they want you to show receipts and data.

"I don't even have dis-A, how'm I going to show 'em data."

The phone rang in the bedroom. It was his wife, Earle, calling from California. Jolson's outraged voice echoed into the living room:

"What! Twelve hundred 'nd fifty? Wait until I get out there. Don't do a thing until then. I'll call you day after tomorrow. What, Dear? Awright. No. Awright. No.

Awright, dear, I'll call you tomorrow. Awright, tomorrow."

Al came back in, indignant.

"Can ya imagine. We're addin' a coupla small rooms. They want $1250 just to throw on some paint and hang a few draperies."

Jolson said he and his wife tried to live a simple live in the San Fernando Valley, but it was hard.

"You just can't lead a normal life," he grinned, "you have a butler, a maid, a cook, a place at Palm Springs—and they aren't deducs with the tax boys. And if you drive a jalopy out there, why they call you names.

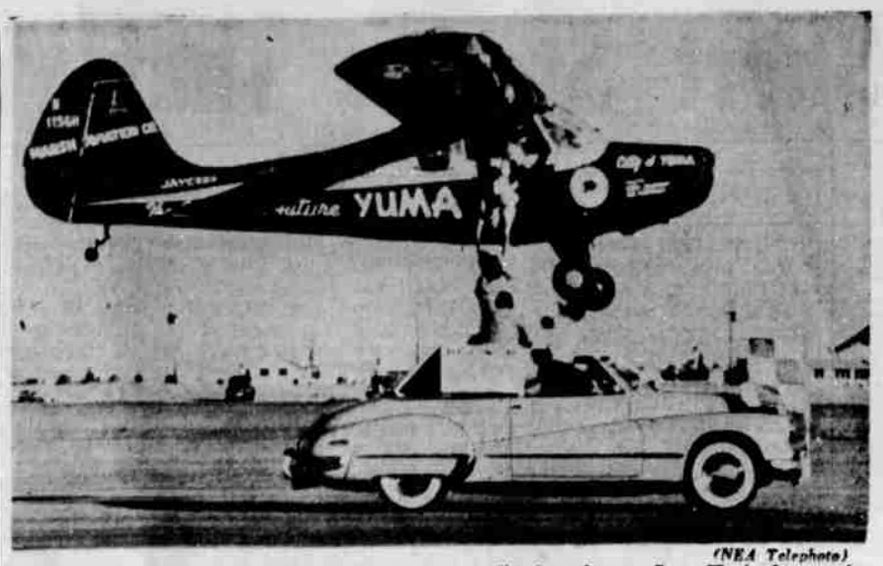
"If you can get away for anything less than $1,500 a week, I'll eat it."

Jolson has a formula for staying young—the same formula mentioned long ago by Aristotle, "nothing in excess."

"I don't overeat, and I don't oversleep," he said. "And Harry Truman gave me a good tip. He told me, 'if you quit, you die.

"I know it sounds corny, but what I'd like to do is go home and play with my kids. I don't know how.

"I'm a bigger success than I ever was. Now I want to sit down and play—and I don't know how. That's what I want—and I don't want. I'm a ham. I have to keep onsinging, even if it's only in my bathroom."



(NEA Telephoto)

ENDURANCE MARK NEARS—Crewmen in car pass supplies to endurance flyers Woody Jongeward and Bob Woodhouse as they cruise low over the airfield at Yuma, Ariz. The two young businessmen, intent on breaking the existing record, passed the 900-hour mark at this point, leaving 110 hours to go.

Pledges At OSC Believed Record For Sororities

By ROD NEWLAND

Oregon State college's 16 sororities set what is believed to be a new record, when they pledged 314 of the college's coeds as a climax of a two-week rushing period. This is nearly 50 more pledgings than last year at this time.

The Douglas county girls are: pledging Alpha Gamma Delta, Joyce Carolyn Graham of Roseburg; Delta Delta Delta, Lorraine Losee and Cynthia Sue Turner, both of Roseburg; Gamma Phi Beta, Connie Joyce Groshong, Sutherlin, and Susan Jean Moischenbacher, Roseburg; Sigma Kappa, Mary Lee McKinney, Roseburg.

The pledging was a climax to a grueling two weeks of pressure and an extremely full social schedule, on top of the scholastic obligations since school has started.

Only 26 of Oregon State's 28 fraternities participated in the second rush period of the fall term. Those 26 fraternities pledged 79 more men, which, added to the 299 of last week, made a total of 378 men compared to 409 the same time last year.

The only one from Douglas county to pledge in the second rush week was James Poirot of Roseburg, who joined Delta Tau Delta. According to the Inter Fraternity Council rules, the men's rushing is closed now until Oct. 15, when informal rushing will begin.

Bob Fullhart, Reedsport, was defeated by 15 votes for the office of treasurer in the class of '53 election at Oregon State college. He was defeated by Doug Engberg of Los Angeles. Dick Pedranti was elected Rook president over Jerry Plucket, Corvallis by a slim eight-vote margin.

The percentage of Americans who own life insurance increases as the income increases, with 45 per cent of those earning under $1,000 a year owning policies and 91 per cent of those earning $7,500 or over owning them.

Oakridge Mayor Denies Misconduct Charges

EUGENE, Oct. 5— (AP) —Mayor L. F. Gerspach of Oakridge pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of disorderly conduct before Justice of the Peace George Boughey in Justice court.

No trial date has been set for the town's mayor, who is also the village blacksmith, and who is accused of making improper advances toward a woman and using bad language. Cerspach requested that his bail of $250 be lifted and Boughey granted the request.

Harold F. Halstead, proprietor of the Chicken Inn at Oakridge, filed the complaint against Gerspach, alleging that the incident occurred in his cafe on September 20.

Stories In News-Review From Journalism Class

News accounts of Roseburg Senior high school activities appearing the last two weeks in the News-Review were written by members of the school's journalism class. Taught by Frank Purdy.

The following are the writers for that period: Frank Moffett, Howard Burnette, Dale Carlson, Mary Campbell, Lola Bird, Janet Stookey, Dolores Burley, Rose Bond and Dick Cumpston. Others will be assigned to write stories later in the school year.

Mountain Climb Fatal To Japanese College Boys

TOKYO, Oct. 5— (AP) —Six of eight Japanese college boys died over the weekend trying to climb 6,477-foot mount Tanigawa, 100 miles north of Tokyo in the Mikuni range.

The frozen bodies of the six have been recovered by rescue workers.

The office of United States Attorney-General was organized by an Act of Congress in 1789.