

# Oregon Daily EMERALD

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## On the Air...

### Radio Comedy Programs Not So Funny Anymore

By Don Collin

Ever stop to analyze some of the radio comedy programs? If you ever do you'll begin to wonder how and why—how some sponsors would have the guts to foist these programs off on the public and why the public tolerates being boxed in the ears with such humor.

Take Jack Benny's program (Sunday, KERG, 4 and 9:30 p.m.) He dragged the public through the same monotonous routine again last Sunday. The first 10 minutes was all this column could take (fortunately somebody turned on an electric shaver.) In those 10 minutes Benny told two "base jokes." From this all else flowed.

The program started out by the telling of announcer Don Wilson's error in giving the commercial over Benny's TV show. Wilson mixed up the LS slogan and said, "Be lucky, go happy." From this Benny and cast were unable to extract 9 or 11 guffaws from the audience. (This figure varies because at times only the goons in the audience are the ones to laugh and this must be subtracted out of any statistical study. Often, it's some other underling who is getting some previous quip.)

Then along came Phil Harris and his error of putting a cherry

in a martini. This was good for another three or four laughs.

So what did the first 10 minutes amount to: Two jokes by Benny, twelve or fifteen laughs by the studio audience, nine or ten thousand dollars expended by the sponsor, hundreds of thousands of cigarettes smoked during the millions of hours hungrily spent by the radio audience awaiting a trace of humor.

Steward Alsop taking Walter Winchell's (KUGN, Sun. 6 p.m.) during the latter's respite... Met season extended until mid April.

Standard Hour (KUGN, Sunday, 8:30 p.m.) presents William Primrose as soloist. Orchestral numbers will include "The Overture to the Marriage of Figaro," Brahms "Hungarian Dance No. 5" and Excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony... N.Y. Philharmonic (KERG, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.) plays Schumann's piano concerto... Verdi's "Otello" on Met (KUGN, Saturday, 11 a.m.)

Some of the grad students on campus interested in starting a Graduate club. Oregon is only large school on Pacific slope without one... Overheard at ADPI fireside, "If the coon-skin cap runs for president the slogan ought to be 'Kefauver and Crime'"... Speaking of poli-

tics, wonder how Republican this Mock Convention is going to be with a Demo chairmanship platform and resolutions committee... Dr. Dull and U of O's World Parliament of religions in Newsweek (Feb. 4).

Basketball again on KASH this weekend at 8 p.m.... Fights (KUGN, Friday, 7 p.m.) feature a 10 round welterweight battle between Chico Vejar and Johnny De Fazio.

Statistically radio has been doing good in face of TV. Radio times sales in 1951 were \$484,400,000 an increase over the record year of 1950... ABC recently added seven new stations, 14 since last summer, for a grand total of 312. Most are affiliates like KUGN which joined up July 1, 1946.

Another campaign story on "Mr. President" (KUGN, Monday, 7:30 p.m.) It's about a soldier-president who said "I intend to make no move to obtain the nomination. If nominated in spite of myself, I shall not actively campaign." Its kind of a counterpart to "If elected I serve and if served I will go peacefully."... If you haven't figured out who the president is by now and want to know before Monday, KEX carries the same program Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

## What Advantage in Secrecy?

We didn't realize what we were starting when we ran that editorial feature on deferred living in the big Dad's Day edition of the Emerald.

Just about everyone we questioned seemed to be pretty strongly in favor of the deferred living program. That was especially true in the case of the freshman dormitory counselors.

This favorable consensus of opinion should have pleased the administration which pushed in "the DuShane Plan" for freshmen. But now it looks as if someone among the "upper brass" wasn't happy at all.

No sooner had the Emerald gathered its results than the counselors were advised in a meeting to remember that they are members of the administration and that it is expected that they go along with the decisions of that administration if they are interviewed in the future.

This wasn't a threat. It was more along the line of a gentle reminder of just who butters the counselors' bread.

But what brought this on?

The counselors didn't make this an opportunity to rant against "the system," despite the fact that they were assured of anonymity. Being mature individuals, they gave truthful and, as it happened, favorable accounts of the deferred living program. In the process they made a few criticisms that surely were not harmful in being brought into the open.

We agree that a man owes a certain responsibility to his employer. He must not irresponsibly attack the conditions surrounding his employment. But a certain amount of harmless criticism and constructive comment should be considered an asset.

We're sure that the people in the office of student affairs don't wish to hide some deep, dark, dastardly deed. They are just acting in a manner that is all too typical of university administrations—"Keep this to ourselves and don't burden the students with it."—D. D.

## They Make It-- We Pay It

Pity the poor phone company.

That's what some students cried recently when we suggested that coin boxes in our living organizations imposed an unfair financial burden on students.

We just didn't realize the increasing costs of telephone equipment, installation and service, the objectors said. We should be happy we're only paying a dime a call.

We aren't... especially after reading a news item in the Oregon Labor Press dealing with 1951 American Telephone and Telegraph company profits.

Seems AT&T (not including its subsidiary, the Bell System) made more money in 1951 than any other year in its history, despite a 30 per cent tax boost. The company cleared \$327,120,000 in 1951, compared to ONLY \$286,802,293 for 1950.

Earnings per share went up from \$10.40 to \$10.45.

And Pacific Telephone and Telegraph—the company that forced the coin boxes upon us—is just one small part of this huge monopoly.

This rising cost of living sure is tough on the phone company... but it's tougher on us.

## The King Is Dead

King George VI passed away early Wednesday morning.

This was big news yesterday morning on campus... and throughout the world. When you heard it—on the morning newscast, in your Far East class, from a fellow student—you were struck by its import... important because George VI was the king of England, a world power. And that just about sums up your feelings, probably.

But not so with the British. To them their king is more than a man in a governmental position.

He's a symbol... of the power and glory that is the heritage of the British Empire. And to the British he was extremely important as a personality, as a living representative of the nation that is England.

He had no real governmental power. In his speech today Churchill will proclaim no sweeping policy changes due to the Accession of Elizabeth.

But, you see, the English do not think of him in terms of foreign policy decisions and domestic laws. They have lost their beloved monarch and they are deeply and sadly moved.

We sympathize... as best we can.

## The Iranian Situation

Emerald Editor:

I am writing regarding Phil Johnson's column in the Feb. 4 issue of the Emerald.

Since the nationalization of oil in Iran there have been many questions which have puzzled the American people, especially Mr. Johnson. There were many facts which led the Iranian people to that decision. I shall present some of them to you so you may be able to understand the reality of the situation.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil company had been treating the Iranian government and its people very poorly. While the company has made billions of dollars, the Iranian people have not benefited from the company's development. During these fifty years, what England has paid the Iranians is nothing compared to what American oil companies have paid to the Arabians.

Also, the company has always interfered in our internal political affairs. The Iranian employees were paid very little compared to the amount paid her own British employees. She did not even pay Iranian employees enough for them to have bread and cheese to live on.

In contrast to the Persian employees, one could see British employees enjoying every comfort, air-conditioned buildings, cars and high wages. These are all signs of England's domination over the Iranian government during the last century.

It is important to see that, while the Iranian government is struggling to earn the facilities for improving the life of its people it is charged unfairly by the American press and Mr. Johnson as being fanatic, even Communistic.

Anyone who is familiar with Middle Eastern affairs will realize that the oil crisis was not born overnight. For many years Iranian people have been trying to show the injustice under which they have been suffering and to open the oil fields to the peoples of the whole world. The great dangers, illiteracy and starvation, are all results of British domination, not only in Iran, but also in all the Middle Eastern countries.

It is wrong to believe that the leadership of Dr. Mossadegh is ruining the Iran people. We were getting practically nothing from the company.

About three years ago a proposal was suggested to establish better relationships between the two countries, but Britain was in power and ignored the matter.

## -- Letters to the Editor --

Lately, realizing the seriousness of the problem, she proposed a larger amount of payment, but she did not know that it was too late.

By now I hope, Mr. Johnson, that you understand what I have been saying, but I would like to tell you that you are still too young to understand politics. I sometimes wonder if you have been drinking your bath water before you started to write the article on "Egyptians, Iranians Discovering Hate Doesn't Make Best Policy."

If you got your information from the United Press or other news services, I would like to tell you that they misrepresent the real news and problems. I would be very glad to know how much do you know about Russia, Communism, Iran, oil situation, Suez Canal and the middle eastern countries as a whole. Do these words mean a scoop of mashed potatoes and a piece of meat loaf, Mr. Johnson?

I still do not blame you, Mr. Johnson, for your opinion because you have been living in an almost free land and have been

having every facility, such as air-conditioning, modern heating systems and many more. Therefore, you cannot realize the problems of those who do not even have a ruined hut to sleep in or of those who die from the cold on winter nights or those who die from hunger. Whom do you think is responsible for these? You, the ones like you, and British Government.

To conclude, Mr. Johnson, I have a question and some advice for you. First let me know the reason you fill the bellies of British people and on the other hand the British government sends war equipment to Red China to fight you and kill your brothers in Korea, in spite of having her own soldiers there. My advice is that the next time you to express your opinion on any problem it would be better for you to consult someone better informed than yourself.

I would also like for you to know that we Iranians do not hate the British people, but just the British government.

Said Nehorayan  
Iranian Student

## Could This Be Oregon?



"If ya ask me the fraternities, sororities and dorms aren't feeding so well as they used to."