

CLERGYMAN COMIC SAYS SOUL SAVING EASED BY MIRTH

Hal Raynor, Gag Writer for Movies, Also Ordained Episcopal Minister—Holds Fear Is Poor Weapon

By Leicester Wagner
United Press Hollywood Correspondent
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—(UP)—The prime function of religion is to bring health and happiness. For this reason Hal Raynor does not feel it is at all incongruous that he is a regularly ordained Episcopal minister as well as a comedy writer.

When Raynor preaches, he is known as the Rev. Henry Scott Rubel. To his friends he is "Fiar Laurence," roly-poly and jovial.

Raynor was an accomplished actor when he and Frederic March attended the University of Wisconsin. The two wrote and starred in undergraduate shows. He came to motion pictures through associating with Joe Penner, for whom he writes radio gags.

Fear Poor Weapon
"I do not hold with those ministers who feel that fear is the best weapon of religion," Raynor said. "I go on the hypothesis that when you get people into a happy mood that you can then teach them more as they are more receptive."

"Every man and woman wants to laugh—to have fun. Religion should meet that want. Religion does not mean only in the pulpit but in everyday life as well. If a comedian on the screen or the radio can make some of the audience's life happier, then he has accomplished more than some of us ministers who dispel nothing but a gospel of gloom and despair."

"It is not necessary to be amiable to be funny. A comedian who is amiable is only relying upon the old behind-the-barn method of shocking to get his laughs."

Has Been Criticized
"I have been criticized at times because I have put aside my church cloaks temporarily to write what are known in show business as gags. In my heart I know I am doing the right thing. Because I feel that I am a 'missionary of health and happiness'—the medium of expression makes little difference, be it a theater or church."

"After all, if a minister lectures to an empty church, he does no good to anyone but himself. The motion picture can increase our church to include the world. I for one intend to take advantage of this great congregation."

Raynor took up writing to pay off the mortgage on his church, St. Michael's, in Berwin, Ill.

Paramount is considering Raynor's possibilities as an actor. The studios plan to give him the title role in the "Father Brown" detective stories written by Gilbert K. Chesterton.

BRITISH POSTMEN WILL USE PLANES

LONDON.—(UP)—Britain's postmen are preparing to take to the air in the near future when the first internal air-mail service linking up the principal cities of this country are inaugurated. Indications are that within the next few weeks the drone of the air-mail plane overhead will be as familiar a sound to millions of Britons as the postman's knock on their front doors.

A scheme for opening up regular air-mail services between the chief cities of Great Britain, which will revolutionize the whole method of carrying mails in this country, has just been announced by the Postmaster-General, Sir Kingsley Wood. When these services are put into operation it will be possible to send letters by air-mail between the principal centers of this country at the same charge as that for ordinary letters.

WILEY POST PIERCES AKRON STRATOSPHERE

AKRON, O.—(UP)—Wiley Post, jovial Oklahoma round-the-world flier, was first to pierce the stratosphere above this world rubber capital.

Flying without his special rubber suit designed to protect him in high altitudes, Post took his Winnie Mae up 38,000 feet above Municipal airport. It was a test hop, preliminary to his attempt to break the world's altitude record this fall at Chicago.

From 38,000 feet, Post turned off the motor and coasted to 28,000. "Then it got 20 degrees below in the cabin and I was plenty cold sitting there in my shirt sleeves," he grinned.

Narrow Escape
PENDLETON, Ore., Sept. 7.—(AP)—Jack Spell, 2 years old, had a narrow escape from possible serious injury today when an automobile knocked him down and passed over him. The lad fell between the wheels of the car, the driver of which failed to stop.

Good Looking People Are Usually Well

Clear skin—bright eyes—lustrous hair—these are almost always a sign of good health. There's a simple, easy way to help you keep well that you can prove to yourself in a very short time.

At least one meal a day eat Shredded Wheat, milk and fruit. Eat it for breakfast—it will help give you a clear head and happy morning. Or eat it for lunch instead of gulping down a sandwich

ROAD PROJECTS IN CRATER PARK AHEAD OF TIME

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK, Ore.—(Spl.)—Aided by favorable construction conditions, road projects in the Crater Lake area are far ahead of schedule and are nearing completion, a report from John R. Sargent, resident engineer, federal bureau of public roads, reveals.

Grading of the eight-mile unit of the rim road from the north entrance ranger station to Wineglass has been 65 per cent completed by the Von der Hellen & Pierson company of Medford. During the past month these contractors moved over 135,000 cubic yards of material. The contract calls for a removal of 400,000 yards. Numerous interesting earth and rock cuts have been made along this unit, showing the structure of the slopes of Mt. Mazama, the ancestral mountain of Crater Lake. Many layers of ash, pumice and lava are revealed.

The four-mile unit of the rim road to Cloudcap is over 80 per cent complete and will be finished before the end of the season by the Dunn & Baker company of Klamath Falls. Advertisements for bids are expected soon for the five-mile stretch from the summit of Cloudcap to Kerr Notch, including the moving of approximately 350,000 yards of material.

With this work all under way, only one stretch of the rim road remains to be constructed, and this extends from the Lost Creek ranger station to Government Camp, a distance of eight miles. It is not known when activities will begin on this unit.

The surfacing of the 14 miles extending from the Dalles-Calfelt highway to the north entrance and junction with the Diamond Lake road and expects to complete grading by the end of this season.

Oiling is also to start soon on a portion of the Union Creek-Diamond Lake highway, having an entire length of 23 1/2 miles as compared to the old distance of 28 miles.

RADIO ORCHESTRAS TO PURIFY SONGS

NEW YORK (UP)—Outstanding orchestra leaders of radio have banded together to purify the seductive music and songs of the air.

According to Dick Humber, originator of the idea, the orchestra leaders are going to beat the reformers and crusaders to the punch.

"They are after the movies now," Humber said, "and their next objective will be the radio. We'll beat them to it by censoring the music ourselves."

Rudy Vallee, Paul Whiteman, Ben Bernie, Guy Lombardo, Harold Sizer, and several other outstanding station welders have signified their determination to cooperate.

Humber said that any music that was too suggestive would be placed upon the black list by the association of orchestra leaders and banned from the air.

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