

### Skelton May Drop TV Show After 1st 13-Week Stint

By BOB THOMAS  
HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Red Skelton may quit television after his first 13 weeks of this season are finished.

The carrot-topped comedian turned serious today as he discussed his future in TV. He had received a request from his sponsor to again present his show on a live basis. Since the beginning of the fall season, the Skelton show has been on film, and the quality of the shows has been rapped by the critics.

Skelton's reply to the sponsor's request: "He can either have a live comedian on a filmed show or a dead comedian on a live show."

He was referring to his experience on last year's program, his first season in the new medium. The comic was on the border of complete collapse.

"Now that Red's doing his show on film," remarked his business manager, "he can at least go home and sleep after a performance. Last year he'd finish a show and we'd take him to St. John's Hospital. When he came off stage, we'd put him on the couch and place an oxygen mask over his face."

"Red's show on film is getting better all the time. He just needs some time to get it into shape."

His TV director, Marty Rackin, pointed out the strenuous nature of the Skelton program: "Other comedians can introduce other acts and stay offstage for five or 10 minutes. But not Red. He's on stage nearly the whole half-hour. People expect it of him."

"We are on the live show we had costume changes that had to be done in 42 seconds. We'd have men waiting offstage with shoes to slip on Red's feet, another with a breakaway shirt and so forth. That kind of schedule was too much for one man to go through."

His advisers added that the filmed show is handicapped by the lack of music. Because the filmed version is expensive, there was no budget left for an orchestra. That has eliminated a variety of routines that require music.

Skelton himself remarked that the film version is just as hard to live in some respects. "The important thing is building up the studio audience to a peak," he said. "On the live show, I could do it in the half-hour. But when I take time out for a costume change now, I have to work hard to get the audience back up to the point where I left."

He was on the set of his new picture "The Clown," and he pointed out that it parallels his present situation. It is a remake of the old Wally Beery-Jackie Cooper film, "The Champ." Skelton was playing a scene in which a comedian comes on television stage after almost literally knocking himself out for the audience.

"This picture shows you exactly what could happen," he said. "The comedian in the story dies. And that's just what happened to me. What? Skelton doing a death scene in a movie? This sounded like his heaviest dose of dramatics in pictures. He admitted that it was the most serious film he had done since his MGM debut in "Flight Command," which starred Robert Taylor, Ruth Hussey and Walter Pidgeon.

"Of course, I've died in pictures before," added Skelton, who always leaves them laughing. "But that was always after the picture got into the theaters."



THEY LOVE A PARADE—Popcorn is almost forgotten by these youngsters at the opening parade of the 54th American Royal Livestock and Horse Show at Kansas City, Mo. The young trio were among the many thousands that line the parade route. Seated in the middle is 3-year-old Joseph Benton Green and to the right his sister, Mary Martha Green. The little girl at left is unidentified.

### Final Arguments Slated In Grammer Murder Case

BALTIMORE (AP)—Final arguments on the Grammer murder trial will be heard by Judge Herman M. Moser tomorrow. After that, the judge alone will decide if George Edward Grammer killed his wife, and if he killed her with "malice aforethought."

The prosecution, after successfully getting into the court record the statement Grammer made to police saying he hit his wife Dorothy May with a piece of pipe, sought to prove he killed her so he could marry an attractive 28-year-old New York secretary, Mathilda Mizibrocky.

The defense, on the other hand, attempted to disprove all the state's contentions. Grammer said on the stand he "made up" the statement to halt the questioning and so he could go home and get some decent food and rest.

And Defense Atty. Anthony S. Federico tried by his questions to imply that Miss Mizibrocky was no stranger to romances with men not to discussions of marriage.

Federico parried for an opening with such questions as: Did you have a week-end date with a man in Washington? Did you start with him over the week end New Year's Eve? ... Did you consider marrying a Canadian five years ago? ...

Miss Mizibrocky withstood the barrage, replying in quick, clear, sometimes almost haughty tones. She acknowledged that she went to Washington in November, 1951, but alone. She said she was met by a man. Questioned further by Federico, she replied: "I was in Washington for the week end and I stayed with friends. I saw this man whom I hadn't

### Russians Say Capitalists Back Both Ike and Adlai

WASHINGTON (AP)—Moscow is telling the Russian people to expect the worst no matter who wins the American election. The word is that either Eisenhower or Stevenson is sure to win and to a Communist one is just about as bad as the other.

This has been the Soviet line all along, that both major parties and their candidates "obey the will of American multimillionaires." A Soviet domestic radio broadcast, reported today by U. S. government monitors, brought the Russians up to date on the election campaign. It was a commentary by Valentin Zorin, Moscow's nominee for expert on American affairs.

The U. S. elections, said Zorin, "resemble a race in which all horses come out of the same stable, the owner of which will win regardless of which horse comes in first."

"In fact," he added, "whichever of the two bourgeois parties wins the election, their master, big capital, will win."

"Furthermore, election skirmishes between the two parties are being used by propaganda to deflect the attention of the masses from vital problems of present-day America and to conceal the bargain struck by the two parties on the main problems."

Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson, the Russians were told, is a millionaire who is backed by big Chicago banks and has connections with "such large New York concerns as Standard Oil, Aluminum Company of America, and others."

By nominating him, Zorin quoted the New York Daily Worker as explaining, the Democratic leaders were able to avoid "awkward questions" about the Truman administration.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, according to Zorin, advanced slowly in his military career until after he became aide to Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Later on, Zorin said, "Eisenhower became president of Columbia University, which he strove to convert into a barracks, declaring that the U. S. needs not scientists but hefty young fellows wearing a uniform and serving the guns."

The climax of Zorin's analysis was a report on the Progressive party, which he said was supported by all the democratic forces of the U. S. He said the Progressive party's presidential nominee, Vincent Hallinan, and its other candidates are being persecuted, but he declared that "no terror will succeed in intimidating progressive America."

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### Four Killed In Plane Crash

WINSLOW, Ariz. (AP)—The burned bodies of a 14-month-old polo victim and the three men who were taking the baby boy to Phoenix were recovered Wednesday morning from the wreckage of their crashed airplane about six miles south of here.

The plane crashed and burst into flames shortly after taking off from the Winslow airport on its mercy flight Tuesday night.

Killed were Jesse Gurule, 14 months; his father, Vicente Gurule; Jack Flynn, ambulance man; and Gerald E. Starr, pilot.

All were from Holbrook. Ages of the men were not known definitely, but they were in their 30's.

Cause of the crash is undetermined. It was suggested by Holbrook officials that it may have been due to the explosion of the oxygen tank which had been placed aboard the plane for the baby's use.

John Homsher, airways operations and tower man at the Winslow airport, said he watched the plane take off and turned away to file the flight plan. When he turned back, he saw flames, but no plane.

### Merrill Sets Garden Show

MERRILL—A Junior Fall Flower Show with dry materials will be held this coming Saturday, Oct. 25, at the recreation hall; time is 2 p.m. The show is sponsored by the Lost River Garden Club, and the public is invited.

Participating in the show will be Bluebirds, Campfire Girls, and 4-H Garden members. Prizes for the best arrangements will be given by the Garden Club. Judges will be Mrs. Melvin Bowman, Mrs. Clyde Hammond and Mrs. James Hammond.

Campfire and Bluebird girls will serve tea honoring their mothers and Garden Club members.

### Top Price For Hereford

MORO (AP)—Joe Principes, a Hereford bull offered by Lawrence Kenney of Moro, brought the top price of \$1,900 at the Mid-Columbia Hereford sale here Monday.

Mrs. C. E. Forrester of Golden-dale bought the animal. The top heifer price was \$930. It was for a female from the Fred Cox consignment, bought by Ernest Sires of Stanfield.

The 15 heifers sold for an average of \$415.67 and the 36 bulls for \$119 average. Total sales were \$27,806.

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