

Victor Borge

(Continued)



Headquarters for 10 months of year is farm in Connecticut where Borge raises poultry.

One of the few times a member of the audience left Borge speechless was when young Victor was first brought to the theater to see his father perform. His attention was wandering as the performance began, and his mother tugged at his sleeve to point out his father on the stage.

The lad glanced at the performer, looked away, then did a double-take. Standing up on the seat, he shouted gleefully: "Hey, that's my daddy." It stopped the show—and it even stopped Borge, momentarily.

The Borges live on a former game preserve near Southbury, Conn.—about 100 miles north of New York City. Borge has turned the 400 rocky acres into a New England gold mine.

When the Borges moved into the charming white colonial home, it seemed to Victor that all this land should be put to some useful purpose.

"All we could raise were stones," he pointed out, "and the market was no good for that. So we switched to hens."

Started as a modest sideline, Borge's poultry farm now employs 50 people and processes more than a million birds each year. Four years ago, one small room was used to process the birds; today the buildings cover two acres.

"Besides hens, we raise pheasants, geese, and other fancy birds," says Borge. "Everything but turkeys. What entertainer wants turkeys? My

friends asked me what I knew about raising pheasants. I told them I didn't have to know anything. The pheasants already know all about it!"

The family headquarters for 10 months of the year is their Connecticut farm. The other two months—usually in the Summer—are spent in baronial splendor at a Danish castle which Borge bought in 1956, shortly after he was knighted by King Frederick IX of Denmark. As a boy, Borge often walked near the gates that guard the estate, wistfully eyeing the castle that was once the home of three Danish kings.

"The best the castle ever had was three kings," says Borge irreverently. "Now—with us—it has a full house."

Hollywood, apparently, isn't for the dynamic Dane. A conversation regarding the motion-picture industry went like this:

Q. Have you considered doing anything for the movie people?

A. Yes, but they haven't considered me.

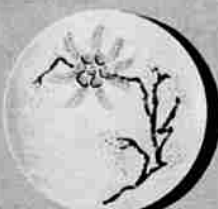
Q. I suppose it would be difficult for you to play anyone but Victor Borge in the movies.

A. Well, since nobody else is playing me, I might as well be doing it myself.

Which proves that it's impossible for Victor Borge to remain serious. Millions of people are fondly hoping that he'll never change.



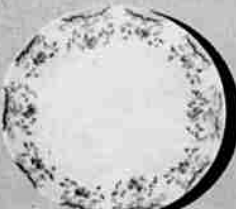
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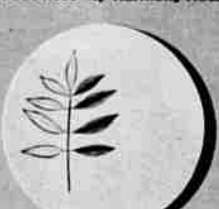
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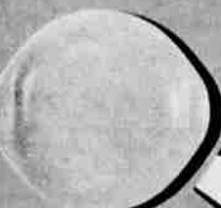
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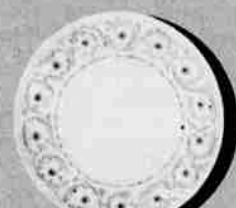
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