

In Memory Of A Great Comedian

In Dan Leno, England lost a man of genius whose untimely and melancholy end was yet another reminder that great wit is rare to madness near allied. Not that he was precisely a great wit; rather a great droll; but genius in his limits he certainly was, and probably no one has ever caused more laughter or cleaner laughter.

That was, perhaps, Dan Leno's greatest triumph; that the grimy sordid material of the Music Hall low comedian, which, with so many singers, remains grimy and sordid, and perhaps even becomes more grimy and more sordid, in his refining hands became radiant, joyous, a legitimate source of mirth. In its nakedness it was drunkenness, quarrelsomeness, petty poverty, witless wit, even crime; but such was the native cleanness of this little, eager, impetuous observer and reader of life, such was his gift of showing the comic, the unexpected, side, that it emerged the most suitable the gayest joke. He might be said to have been a crucible that transmuted mud to gold.

It was the strangest contrast—the quaint, old-fashioned, half-pathetic figure, dressed in his self-indulgent garb, waving his battered umbrella, smashing his impossible hat, revealing the quaint secrets of the slums; and the resultant effect of light and happiness, laughter irresistible, and yet never for a moment cruel at anything, but always with it. The man was immaculate.

In this childlike simplicity of emotion which he manifested we can probably see the secret of his complete failure in New York. In that sophisticated city his genial elemental raptures seemed trivial. The Americans looked for cynicism, or at least a complete destructive philosophy—such as their own funny men have at their finger-tips and he gave them humour not too far removed from tears. He gave them fun, that rarest of qualities, rarest far than wit or humour; and, in their own idiom, they had "no use" for it.

In the deserts of pantomime he was comparatively lost; his true place was the stage of a small Music Hall, where he could get on terms with his audience in a moment. Part of his amaz-

ing success was his gift of taking you into his confidence. The soul of sympathy himself, he made you sympathetic too. He addressed a Hall as though it were one intimate friend. He told you his farcical troubles as earnestly as an unquiet soul tells its spiritual ones. You had to share them. His perplexities became yours; he gathered you in with his intimate and impressive "Mark you"; and you resigned yourself to be played upon as he would. The bright security of his look told you that he trusted you, that you could not fail him. You shared his ecstasies too; and they were ecstasies!

No matter what Dan did to his face, his air of witfulness always conquered the pigments. It was the face of a grown-up child rather than a man, with many traces upon it of early struggles. For he began in the poorest way, accompanying his parents as a stroller from town to town, and knowing every vicissitude. This face, with its expression of profound earnestness, pointed his jokes irresistibly. I recollect one song in the patter to which (and later his songs were mostly patter) he mentioned a firework explosion at home that carried both his parents through the roof. "I shall always remember it," he said, gravely, while his face lit with triumph and satisfaction, "because it was the only time that father and mother ever went out together." That is quite a good specimen of his manner, with its hint of pathos underlying the gigantic absurdity.

Irish (of course) by extraction, his real name was George Galvin; he took Leno from his stepfather, and Dan from an inspired misprint. His first triumphs were as a clog-dancer, and he danced superbly to the end, long after his mind was partially gone. But he will be remembered as the sweetest-souled comedian that ever swayed an audience with grotesque nonsense based on natural facts.

From "A Wanderer in London" by E. V. Lucas.

Don't Let Lobsters' Feet Sing!

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MISSILE HOUND — Reporter Don Cosgrove "interviews" Dinggo, a five-year-old Weimaraner trained to track down small missile parts which bury themselves in the sand at White Sands Missile Range. The ports are sprayed with shark liver oil before the missiles are launched.

TABLE TALKS

Jane Andrews.

Folks who come to our house for dinner always ask how we cooked the vegetables, because they are invariably crisp and tasty, full of flavor, never flabby or overcooked, limp or watery.

We cook them with lettuce leaves. We explain, "with-out water."

First requirement for this is a heavy cast-aluminum saucepan or a casserole (glass or ceramic), with a tight, heavy cover, which Edrie Van Dore in the Christian Science Monitor.

Melt butter or bacon drippings in the container — or use salad or cooking oil if you prefer — about two tablespoons or more.

Place vegetables (frozen or fresh) in the casserole or saucepan, add seasonings but no water, and cover completely with leaves — at least two or three large ones, enough to cover completely the other vegetable. I use the outer leaves. It's important that they be wet, for this small amount of moisture provides the steam necessary for the cooking.

Now put the lid on, and set the pan over low heat, or the casserole in a slow (325°F.) oven, for about 45 minutes. You need to practice this method a little to learn your own timetable, but the results are well worth the effort. Peas, beans, corn, or any other vegetables are delicious this way.

Before they were being packed, frozen, in combination, we cooked our peas with fresh diced celery in this fashion, added shredded onion and green pepper to the carrots, or celery and green pepper to the corn.

And here's a secret: a surprising texture is added to sliced cooked carrots if you add diced raw green pepper and slivers of crisp raw onion just before serving. The color accent is pretty too.

Incidentally, but importantly, do you plan your meals in terms of color? It's so easy and such fun to think of vegetables especially in terms of their color value, and it's nice to have a guest or husband remark, "That looks delicious!"

Probably, if the truth were known, that's how the well-known team of peas and carrots got together, hard-boiled egg

Times Have Changed In Tin Pan Alley

Richard Rodgers wrote his first song for a Broadway musical when he was 17. Forty-two years later he got around to composing his first lyrics, "No Strings," a new musical with the novel phenomenon of Rodgers words set to Rodgers music, opened a few weeks ago at 54th Street Theater.

Mr. Rodgers, his fellow professionals, and the public regarded his decision to try on a second hat as venturesome. There are 12 musicals currently on Broadway. In only two others has a composer dared to double on the lyrics.

We do indeed live in the age of the specialist. And when a composer and a lyricist — Fredrick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner, according to the legend, can walk into a Rolls-Royce showroom and casually write checks for two \$20,000 cars, who will dare suggest that he alone can fill both their jobs?

Is any man worth two Rolls-Royces?

At the turn of the century a singing writer named James Thornton wrote "When You Were Sweet Sixteen" for a profit of \$15, which — to make the vehicular comparison — might have brought him a new bicycle. If he had been so rash as to split the fee with a lyricist, he could have afforded the rear end of a second-hand tandem.

Behold the rise of the songwriter, from rags-times to riches. The day has long since passed when grammar teachers smirked over titles like "Alone Together." Only on the Twentieth fringe can they find target a ripe as the aforementioned Thornton's "It Don't See Like the Same Old Smiles."

Today's composer measures himself against Leonard Bernstein ("On the Town," "West Side Story").

Today's lyricist competes with a Pulitzer-prize poet (Richard Wilbur, "Candide").

Tin Pan Alley has become as apt dead phrase, applying to a world that has largely ceased to exist.

No one has contributed more than Richard Rodgers to this social, economic, and stylistic revolution in songwriting.

Now he has returned in just one respect to the older jack-of-all-trades tradition, and a New York reviewer solicitously wonders if double duty is "using some of Mr. Rodgers' compositional energy," by somebody else.

It is ironical enough to suggest one of those gently disillusioned songs that Mr. Rodgers writes so well... with lyrics of lady, by somebody else.

Lady on the Bus: "I didn't know what this pay felt like, business was all about until we got the first bill from the union repulsant."

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News of the Countryside

From The Record's Correspondents

ERIE

The hay-ride of Y.P.S. of Chalmers was a complete success on Thursday evening. It ended up with lots of sales.

Miss Annie Keen of Listowel spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell Easton and other relatives in the district.

Wilson McBurney is at time of writing a patient in General Hospital, Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Reg. House and family of Hagersville spent Sunday with her parents Mr. and Mrs. William List.

Miss Joan Willis has returned to Mount Hope to resume her teaching duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brunning of Hamilton visited with Mr. and Mrs. William Listowel on Tuesday.

Miss Mary Jane Nopper of Hamilton spent the week end with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Norris Nopper.

Mr. Walter Hill and Dwight spent a couple of days in Stratford in the past week with Mrs. Hill's father Mr. Coon.

RENTON

Mr. and Mrs. Monte Kitchen and family have returned home after spending the Easter holidays in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Mitchell and granddaughter Martha spent Sunday at Fenwick the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Orin Fisher and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Little of Simcoe spent Sunday at the home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. Reg. House.

Mr. Cameron Mitchell will entertain the Renton W. I. at her home for the May meeting.

ROCKFORD

Ralph and Bob Kirkwood of Burlington spent the Easter holidays at the home of their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Golding.

Mr. Ralph Kenny is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Peter Cosley, Mr. Cosley and family of Port Dover.

Mr. and Mrs. Reg Cook of Simcoe were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon North.

Mr. and Mrs. Star Golding and children spent Sunday with their sister, Mrs. Orange Ribble and family.

Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Lemon of Burlington visited on Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Golding and Bob.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Golding and Mr. and Mrs. William Lemery attended the reception on Wednesday evening in the Belgium Hall, Delhi, following the marriage of Miss Patricia Arthur to Andre De Bruyn of Delhi.

DEAD STOCK SERVICE

HIGHER CASH PRICES PAID for dead and disabled Cattle and Horses. More according to Animal.

PHONE COLLECT for 24 hour and 7 Day Services. Powered Equipment.

JACK PHIBBS, Hagersville Phone RO 8-5688 or

SPRING CREEK FUR FEEDERS Geo. Azagard, Brantford Licence No. 9260 Phone PL 3-6664

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CASH DISCOUNTS Liberal Allowances If Picked Up At Plant Large Warehouse and Stock

NO WAITING Prompt Delivery Service All Analysis and Materials

PHONE 1 (Reverse)

MISNER FERTILIZERS LIMITED

PORT DOVER, Ontario

ISSUE 15 - 1962

BEACH

Theatre, Port Dover

MATINEE Every SATURDAY at 2 P.M.

THURS., FRI., SAT. May 3, 4, 5

"X 15" (COLORSCOPE)

CHARLES BRONSON, BRAD DEXTER

"BROKEN LAND" (COLORSCOPE)

JODY MCREEA

MON., TUES., WED. May 7, 8, 9

"GOODYE AGAIN" (RESTRICTED)

EDMUND BERGMAN, JYVES MONTAND

"Little Runaway" CARTOON

DRIVE-IN SIMCOE

On No. 24 Highway Just North of No. 3

FRIDAY, SATURDAY May 4, 5

"TWO RODE TOGETHER" (RESTRICTED)

James Stewart, Shirley Jones

"HAVE ROCKET WILL TRAVEL" (RESTRICTED)

THE THREE STOOGES

"UNTRAINED SEALS" (RESTRICTED)

MONDAY, TUESDAY May 7, 8

"HOMICIDAL" (ADULT)

John Corbett, Patricia Breslin

"WARRIOR" (RESTRICTED)

TECHNICOLOR

Ervin Mathews, Tina Turner

"LITTLE BOY BIG HORN" (RESTRICTED)

WEDNES., THURS. May 9, 10

"MISSOURI TRAVELLER" (RESTRICTED)

Walt Disney with Billy DeWilde

"YOU HAVE TO RUN FAST" (RESTRICTED)

Craig Hill, Elaine Edwards

COLORED CARTOON

TECHNICOLOR CARTOON

LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

(continued from page one)

When 21 members of his family from Campbellville, Hamilton and Jarvis motored to his home and completely surprised him on his 74th birthday. Mrs. Smith was hostess. A bountiful turkey and ham dinner with birthday cake and all the trimmings was enjoyed by all. It was also the occasion of his grandson Ronald's Smith's 15th birthday. Everyone left later in the day wishing him many more happy birthdays.

BOWLING TROPHIES AWARDED

The Church League bowling group concluded the current season on Monday night with a banquet at the American Hotel. More than forty were in attendance. President Ed Craddock presided and trophies were awarded as follows: George Anderson, Team, League Champions; Norman Graham, Team, Play-Off Winners; Ladies' High Single, Monica Montague; High Triple, Doris Graham; High Average, Mabel O'Mahony; Men's High Single, Wilfred Hyland; High Triple, Ed Craddock; High Average, Norman Graham. Entertainment followed the dinner.

BRIDE-ELECT HONOURED

Miss Shirley Harris, a bride-elect of this week, was guest of honour at a miscellaneous shower held on Saturday night at the home of Mrs. Bert Falls. About twenty ladies of the neighbourhood attended. The evening was spent in contests and games. A dainty lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Miss Myrtle Johnson. Personal good wishes were extended to the guest of honour.

Federation Facts

(By Allan Murray)

(Intended for a previous issue)

The annual Daffodil Luncheon sponsored by the Women's Committee of the Haldimand Federation of Agriculture was again this year an unqualified success. Mrs. Marjorie Freeman Campbell of Burlington, the guest speaker, is a lecturer, writer and historian. She chose as her topic "Who says Canada's History is Dull?" and told a number of stories concerning people in our Canadian

At The Churches

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Rev. Ronald J. Warren, Minister
WESLEY UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, May 6th, 1962
10:00 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Divine Worship
Sermon—"Mobilising The Spirit"

GABRIEL UNITED CHURCH
9:45 A.M.—Divine Worship
11:00 A.M.—Sunday School

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
Rev. Howard D. Smith, B.A. Minister

KNOX CHURCH, JARVIS
10:00 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
The Acts of the Apostles
(1) "The Unfinished Work of Christ"

CHALMERS (STONE) CHURCH
10:30 P.M.—Sunday School
2:30 P.M.—Worship Service

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
Rev. K. N. Brunton, Rector

past, pointing out how much more interesting our history could be made. Her talk was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number of women present. The long-awaited protection for employers of farm labour is now available through our company, C.I.A. It is called "Farm Work Accident Insurance." It will form an optional addition to the Farm Liability policy. You will recall that due to the increased premiums for Workmen's Compensation, farmers have been asking for an alternative protection, and through our Insurance Committee asked our Company to prepare a program. For further information on this new coverage and all your insurance problems, contact your local C.I.A. agent.

The United States farmers have tremendously increased their production and have correspondingly lowered their production costs. But their position has not improved. This is due to the over-growing part played by middlemen, processors and distributors. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the farmers share of the consumer's dollar was 38 cents in 1961, as compared to 48 cents in 1958. The other 62 cents went on processing, transportation, retailing and the like. It is therefore natural that farmers tend more and more to integrate these activities through their co-operatives, and establish direct contacts with the consumer. Only in that way can their position really be improved.

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