Radio & Television

It's Low and It's Corny, And It's Pretty Funny, Too

By John Crosby

IF YOU'RE in the market for real low, corny comedy, something I have a deplorable weakness for, a couple of programs will supply it for you by the yard. One is the new Ken Murray show, the other the Ben Blue show (intermittently on the Colgate Comedy Hour).

Crosby

The new Murray show emanates from a replica of Hollywood and Vine and is not much different from the old Murray show except that it is only a half hour instead of an hour.

Comedians and dancers and occasionally small animals wander in unexpectedly from the wings and go into their antics without any clear provocation. The sketches, such as they are, drift along in a rudderless way as if the actors were making them up on the spot.

The quality of the entertainment is not anything that will stir up controversy in critical circles. Murray harbors the theory that what was good enough for your father is good enough for you and just possibly he's right. On his opening show, there was a parody of the Bing Crosby-Bob Hope "Road" movies, featuring Murray, a lot of pretty barelegged girls and a chimpanzee.

Then there was a muscle dance, one of those things where a man throws a girl in a skin tight outfit from here to there. Marie Wilson came on to utter some Malapropisms. Through it all Murray wandered about, fingering his cigar and emitting jokes about Bing and Bob and the Hollywood smog.

AS FOR BEN BLUE, he has been strolling the hinterlands with his particular brand of corn these many years and he can hardly be expected to change brands at this late stage of the game. The routines—whether he's trying to get into an upper berth or is playing the dumbest mind-reader on record—have all been seasoned under the suns of countless audiences. It would be unseemly to find fault with them now. Blue's style is a deadpan acceptance of almost all the screwball happenings that beset him, a style that has largely passed out of existence. Much of the Blue show will remind you of real old-time burlesque before that honorable institution got mired in the mud.

I especially liked him doing an eighteenth century minuet with June Havoc, two terribly unlikely customers to be engaged in such elegance. The sight gags, too, remind me of the old burlesque. A man with an apple on his head and an arrow clean through his skull will wander in. "Missed?" says Blue. "Yeah," says the other man with genuine regret—and wanders off.

It's so terrible it's funny.

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Wednesday Radio Highlights

WGMS — 1 p. m. Ash Wednesday Service; the Rev. Leslie Glenn of St. John's.

WTOP—2. Shelley Winters is guest counselor, giving advice to expectant mothers on how to keep busy when hubby is away.

WTOP—3:15. Peggy Ryan and Ray McDonald, dancers, are guests.

WCFM—7:30. John Carradine stars in "The Man Who Found Himself," the story of Van Gogh.

WTOP—9. Madeleine Carroll stars in "Wednesday's Child," story of a child victimized by divorce.

WASH-FM—9:05 and WWDC—9:30. "The Heritage of Home," drama about America in terms of American home life. Loretta Young is hostess on the program's sixth anniversary, making her eighteenth appearance on the show.

WOL—10. Francis Perkins, former Secretary of Labor and retiring Commissioner of the United States Civil Service Commission, discusses changes in Government.

WRC—10. Linda Darnell is guest of Bob Hope.

Hume's Musical Selections

(Today's music programs recommended by The Washington Post's music critic, Paul Hume.)

WGMS—11:05 a. m. Wagner: Parsifal Prelude; Palestrina motets.

WGMS—3:05. Debussy: Jeux; Preludes, Book II.

WGMS-FM—8:05. Mozart: G Minor Piano Quartet.

WGMS-FM—8:30. *National Symphony Orchestra under Howard Mitchell, with Howard University Choir. Weber: Euryanthe Overture; Vivaldi: Gloria Mass; Rimsky-Korsakoff: Capriccio Espagnol; Delaney: Night; Villa-Lobos: Chorus No. 10.

WASH—10. Elgar: Violin Concerto; Vivaldi; D Minor Concerto.

WOL—11:05. Bach: Sleepers Wake! Tschaikowsky: Symphony No. 6.

WGMS-FM—11:05. Vieuxtemps: Violin Concerto No. 4; Smetana: Wallenstein's Camp; Brahms: Academic Festival Overture.

WTOP—12:05 a. m. Ippolitoff-Ivanoff: Caucasian Sketches; Tschaikowsky; Symphony No. 1.

*Live broadcast.

Wednesday TV Highlights

WMAL-TV—3:30. Col. Ruby Bryant, head of the Army Nurses Corps, is guest.

WTTG—7:45. "Tax Clinic," new series to run weekly through March 11, explaining income tax.

WMAL-TV—8:30. Pupils from Gaithersburg Elementary School demonstrate a typical day's activities at the Kindergarten level.

WNBW—8:30. "A Matter of Honor," story of a suspicion that almost ruined the life of Sam Houston.

WNBW—9. Jack Lemmon stars in Carey Wilber's "Snooksie," comedy about the troubles of a reporter.

WMAL-TV—9:30. Don Kellett, president of the Baltimore Colts, is guest.

WTOP-TV—10. Bobby Dykes vs. Joe Miceli in 10-round bout.

Walter Winchell

.... OF NEW YORK

Celebs About Town

Charles Laughton (one of The Bard's best friends) fleeing from an invite to visit the Press Room (at the Jelke Trial) to joust with "Gadzooks" Sala for the lens lads . . . Ethel Merman (whose film version of "Call Me Madam" is reported better than the show) convulsing Morton Downey, Ben Finney and Table 50 with her census-taker gag . . . Lowell Tmomas (mending from hishas 2nd Accident) wearing an elephant-sized white moccasin on his right pedal . . . Ann Sheridan, breaking in half, when she met any of Steve's pals . . . Benay Venuta, back from Girlywood via "Hazel Flagg," the hotcake which is selling like tickets . . . White House critic Doris Fleeson (in the Storkup) admiring table-neighbor Maureen O'Honey!

Sallies In Our Alley: Two lushes tumbled out of a midtown bar. Larry Gelbart vows he heard their dialog: "Wanna walk or take a cab?" . . . "Lesh take a walk and holler at people" . . . "Okay. You push. I'll shteer!"

The Orchid Garden: Pearl Bailey's "Toot, Toot, Tootsie" (Coral) . . . Mat Mathews' accordion swellodies via Godfrey's and Billingsley's programs . . . Irving Fields' piano magic at the Mermaid Room . . . Constance Carpenter in "King and I" . . . Toni Arden at La Vie En Rose . . . Eddie Davis' satire, "Man of Distinction," at Leon & Eddie's . . . H. Rushmore's decoration in the Feb. American Mercury for Gov't prosecutor Roy Cohn. Rates all the bravos for helping jail Red chiefs and Rat-Fronters.

Broadway Brevities: The big "Bravest and Finest" show (at the Garden, St. Patrick's Eve) proceeds go to widows and kin of cops and firemen slain in action. Clendenin Ryan ordered $10,000 worth of loges . . . Arthur Murray purchased $1,000 worth of pews for the families of heroes . . . $1,000 from Wilbur (Desert Inn, Las Vegas) Clark for tickets to war vets in local hosps . . . E. Cuneo sent $500 ditto . . . Dave Marx $1,000 box . . . Anon: $500 . . . Get your $1 up to $10 tickets at Mad. Sq. Garden (or any ticket brokerage, no extra fee) or from the glamour-gals in the night spots. They are from the top model agencies, the shows, and on the papers . . . Add hotels offering free suites to the more than 200 Cong. Medal of Honor Men due in town for that Show.

Sounds in the Night: At Nicky Blair's: "Was that guy's mother ever frightened by a check?" . . . At Blue Angel: "I s'pose they'll call Jelke: 'Sex Bad Boy'" . . . At Theodore's: "Please, I can't stand sympathy. Just gimme cash."

The Times Square Circle: The Runyon Fund thanks Chas. Antell's ABC-TV program ("What's Your Bid?") for its $3,500 donation.

Firm Set Up For Annuity, Du Ponts Say

CHICAGO, Feb. 17 (AP).—Two of the multimillionaire duPont brothers testified today they organized a Delaware corporation to provide one of them with a $900,000 annual pension on retirement.

They sought to refute Government charges they organized two Delaware corporations to gain and perpetuate duPont family control over the billion-dollar E. I. duPont de Nemours Co.

The brothers, Pierre, 83, and Irenee, 76, testified in Federal court in the Government's anti-trust suit against the duPont company, General Motors, the U. S. Rubber Co., and 33 individual members of the duPont family, charging restraint of trade.

The greater part of their testimony centered on the formation and purposes of the Christiana Securities Co., and the Delaware Realty and Investment Co., of Wilmington, Del.

Delaware was organized, they said, to provide Pierre with a $900,000 annual annuity on his retirement and to avoid the forced liquidation of his stock on his death.

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LeMay and Godfrey End Tour of Bases

PARIS, Feb. 17 (AP).—Gen. Curtis LeMay, head of the United States Air Force Strategic Command, and Arthur Godfrey, radio and TV star, finished a tour of American air bases in Europe today and left for the United States.

Godfrey accompanied LeMay on the tour, which included stops in the Azores. Rabat in Morocco, England and France. Godfrey, a United States Naval Reserve commander and pilot, said he "makes these two weeks tours of duty as a Reserve officer every six months or so instead of taking vacations."

Wednesday Television Programs

WNBW (NBC) 4	WTTG (DuM) 5	WMAL-TV (ABC) 7	WTOP-TV (CBS) 9
Today on Farm, 6:55; Dave Garroway, 7; Today in Washington, 8:55.			
Today in D. C. (Frank Blair) Margaret's Kitchen	Cartoon Theater Wolff at the Door		Hollywood Movie Theater "Ape Man" Boris Karloff
Ding Dong School Language Language	Cartoon Extra Early Bird Theater		Arthur Godfrey with Robert Q. Lewis Arthur Godfrey
Ask Washington Ask Washington Mrs. USA Mrs. USA	"Queen Of Broadway" Buster Crabbe Theater		Garry Moore Garry Moore Strike It Rich (quiz)
Guest Book Little Playhouse Little Playhouse	Newsreel Midday Chapel Take the Break	Midday Matinee "Flying Deuces" starring Jean Parker	Bride and Groom Love of Life S'rch for Tomor'w Guiding Light
Feat. Playhouse "Action for Slander" (film)	Feature Film "Murder By Appointment" (film)	Sherm's Showplace Sherm's Showplace	Allan Jefferys Allan Jefferys Allan Jefferys Allan Jefferys
Feature Playhouse I'stry on Parade Nancy's Notebook Nancy's Notebook	Take It Easy Shop the Town Dianne Cameron	Hollywood Matinee Hollywood Matinee Hollywood Matinee "Chinese Cat"	Double or Nothing Art Linkletter's Houseparty
The Big Payoff Welcome Travelers	Paul Dixon Show (records) (variety) (comedy)	Sidney Toler (film) Modern Woman Ruth Crane	Mike and Buff Mike and Buff Action in the Afternoon
Kate Smith Hour (variety) Kate Smith Hour (variety)	News: Art Lamb Aletha Acee Money Calling TV Disc Jockey	Miss Ruth Anne Miss Ruth Anne Miss Ruth Anne Miss Ruth Anne	Pick Temple's Cowboy Playhouse "Kid From Gower Gulch"
Hawkins Falls Gabby Hayes Howdy Doody Howdy Doody	News: Art Lamb TV Disc Jockey Money Calling A. Acee: News	5 O'Clock Theater "Secret Sinners" Jack Mulhall (film)	Pick Temple's Cowboy Playhouse The Early Show The Early Show
Footlight Theater "Lone Star Western"	News: Shop Shop the Town Moppet Movie Time for Beany	Family Playhouse "Dawn Rider" John Wayne News, G. Rash	"Return of the Rangers" Siegel: Weather News, Cronkite
Movie Quiek Quiz Little Theater Those Two News Caravan	Captain Video Captain Video Drew Pearson Tax Clinic	Jim Gibbons Show Jim Gibbons Show A Date With Judy	Mark Evans Show Mark Evans Show News, Edwards Perry Como
I Married Joan Cavalcade of America	Adventure Lady In The Death House" Jean Parker	Twentieth Century Tales Educating Your Child	Arthur Godfrey's Friends Garry Moore Arthur Godfrey
TV Theater "Snooksie" Jack Lemmon TV Theater	The Big Picture The Big Picture Pursuit Pursuit	Wrestling Wrestling Redskins Show Redskins Show	Strike It Rich Strike It Rich Man Against Crime
This Is Your Life Hit Parade (top tunes)	"Ghost And The Guest" James Dunn Pursuit	Wrestling from Chicago Wrestling	Boxing Dykes vs. Miceli Boxing
News, Harkness Cinema Playhouse "The Great Train Robbery"	News: Warren Night Owl Th. "Queen Of Broadway"	News, B'son Rash Sports; Theater "Once a Thief" John Stuart	News: Sports The Late Show "Mars Attacks the World"
	Buster Crabbe (film) News	(film) Midnight Theater	Late Show Late Show Late Show Late Show

Wednesday Radio Programs

	WMAL (ABC) AM 630 FM 107.3	WRC (NBC) AM 980 FM 93.9	WWDC (MBS) AM 1260	WTOP (CBS) AM 1500 FM 96.3
	News, 6, 7, 7:45, 8:30, Jim Gibbons, music, weather, sports news, 6:05-9.	Timekeeper, 5:30; News, 5:55, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00; Bob Reed, 6 to 9:30; Weather, 6:30.	Art Brown, 6: Voice of Washington, 7:30; Art Brown, 7:45; Gabriel Heatter, 8:55.	Mark Evans, 5:30; Mahoney, 7:30; Eddie Gallaher, 7:45; 9; News, 6, 6:30, 7, 8.
9	:00 Breakfast Club with Don McNeill (variety) :45	Bob Reed Bob Reed Kitchen Club Victor Lindlahr	Art Brown Art Brown Evans News; Art Brown	News of America You're the Top Elinor Lee Nancy Dixon
10	:00 My True Story :15 Story; Streets :30 Whispering Sts. :45 A Girl Marries	Welcome Travelers Welcome Travelers Double or Nothing Double or Nothing	Milton Q. Ford and Parrot Evans, News; Ford Milton Q. Ford	Arthur Godfrey with Robert Q. Lewis (comedy)
11	:00 Sherman :15 :30 Sherman Butler :45 Butler: News	Strike It Rich Strike It Rich Bob and Ray Dave Garroway	Ladies Fair Fair: Evans News Queen for a Day Queen for a Day	Arthur Godfrey Arthur Godfrey Grand Slam Rosemary
12	:00 Ruth Crane :15 Crane: Crocker :30 Back to :45 The Bible	News: Tornabene Nancy Osgood Nancy Osgood Music	Curt Massey Show Baukhage: Music Hazel Markel Paula Stone	News: W. Warren Aunt Jenny Helen Trent Our Gal Sunday
1	:00 Harvey, News :15 Music :30 Break the :45 Bank	Music Music Music Here's Archer	Milton Q. Ford Prize Party Evans News: Ford Milton Q. Ford	Road of Life Young Dr. Malone Ma Perkins Guiding Light
2	:00 News: House :15 Harold's :30 House :45 (music)	Here's Archer Look to This Day Dave Garroway Kukla, Fran, Ollie	Prize Party Milton Q. Ford Evans News: Ford Ford: News	2nd Mrs. Burton Perry Mason Nora Drake Brighter Day
3	:00 News: Sherman :15 Butler Show :30 Sherman :45 Butler: Crocker	Life Beautiful Road of Life Pepper Young Right to Happiness	Prize Party Milton Q. Ford News: Ford Milton Q. Ford	Hilltop House House Party House Party Home Folks: Cullen
4	:00 News: J. Strong :15 Jerry Strong :30 Jerry Strong :45 Strong: Crocker	Backstage Wife Stella Dallas Widder Brown Woman in House	1260 Club Willis Conover News: 1260 Club Willis Conover	Mark Evans Show (music) (philosophy) Evans: Robert Q.
5	:00 News: Jerry :15 Strong :30 (music) :45 (news)	Just Plain Bill Front Page Farrell Lorenzo Jones Doctor's Wife	1260 Club Willis Conover Wild Bill Hickock Hickock: Brown	Gallaher Matinee Gallaher Matinee Gallaher Matinee Gallaher: Cochran
6	:00 Star News :15 Gibbons: Butler :30 Sherman Butler :45 Sh'man Butler	News: Leif Eld Earl Godwin News: Sports 3 Star News	Bob Wolff 1260 Bandstand News: Melody Best in Bands	News: A. Jackson Curt Massey News: McDonald Lowell Thomas
7	:00 Butler: News :15 Elmer Davis :30 Lone Ranger :45 Ranger: News	Symphonette (Mishel Piastro) News: Beatty One Man's Family	Fulton Lewis Band: Berger Gabriel Heatter Newsreel: Moody	Beulah Junior Miss Jo Stafford Edward R. Murrow
8	:00 Record Shop :15 Sherman Butler :30 Record Shop :45 Sherman Butler	Walk a Mile John H. Faulk Great Gildersleeve (comedy)	Personality Time Personality Time News: 1260 Willis Conover	F. B. I. in Peace and War Dr. Christian Dr. Christian
9	:00 Mystery Thea. :15 (drama) :30 Crossfire :45 (interview)	You Bet Your Life Groucho Marx Big Story Big Story	1260 Club Willis Conover News: F. Theater Family Theater	Playhouse on B'way Playhouse on B'way What's My Line What's My Line
10	:00 News of T'row :15 Frank & Jack :30 News: Variety :45 Frank & Jack	Bob Hope Show Bob Hope Show News: Dangerous Assignment	Frank Edwards Personal Report News: Massey $500 Massey	The Lineup The Lineup Drama of The Courts
11	:00 News: Sports :15 Night :30 Watchman :45 Jerry Strong	News: Sports Hour of Dreams Lee Dayton Hour of Dreams	$500 Massey $500 Massey News: Massey $500 Massey	The World Tonight Wash'n: Sports Moondial Eddie Gallaher
12	:00 Jerry Strong :15 (music) :30 Joe's Club :45 music	News: Sports Stars in Jazz Palladium Orch. Palladium Orch.	$500 Massey $500 Massey News: Massey $500 Massey	News: Symphony Starlight Symph. Starlight Symph. 'Til 2 a. m.

OTHER STANDARD STATIONS
WGMS—570 kc.—6:30 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WPIK—730 kc.—7 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WARL—730 kc.—7 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WGAY—1050 kc.—7 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WUST—1120 kc.—7 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WFAX—1220 kc.—7 a. m. to 5:45 p. m.
WOOK—1340 kc.—5 a. m. to 1 a. m.
WEAM—1390 kc.—6 a. m. to 1 a. m.
WOL—1450 kc.—Around the clock.

FM STATIONS
WRC-FM (Channel 230—93.9 mc.—5:30 a. m. to 1 a. m.
WTOP-FM (Channel 242—96.3 mc.—5:30 a. m. to 2 a. m.
WBUZ-FM (Channel 244—96.7 mc.—3 p. m. to 9 p. m.
WASH-FM (Channel 246—97.1 mc.—12:30 to 11:15 p. m.
WOL-FM (Channel 252—98.7 mc.)—1:30 p. m. to 1 a. m.
WCFM (Channel 258—99.5 mc.)—5 p. m. to 11 p. m.

FM STATIONS
WFAN (Channel 260—100.3 mc.)—5 a. m. to 9 p. m.
WWDC-FM (Channel 266—101.1 mc.)—7 a. m. to 2 a. m.
WGMS-FM (Channel 278)—103.5 mc.)—6:25 a. m. to 1 a. m.
WARL-FM (Channel 286—105.1 mc.)—5:30 a. m. to 2 a. m.
WUST-FM (Channel 292—106.3 mc.)—6 a. m. to 9 p. m.
WMAL-FM (Channel 297—107.3 mc.)—6 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.

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