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For - CAMEL CIGARETTES  
R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.  
WINSTON-SALEM, NO. CAROLINA

JIMMY DURANTE SHOW #9

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 1949  
(Taped Nov. 30, 1949)

(REVISED)

JIMMY DURANTE

with

DON AMECHE

**AS  
BROADCAST**  
*Master*

NBC (New York Origination)

TIME: 9:30 PM EST

DIRECTOR: PHIL COHAN

CONDUCTOR: ROY BARGY

NBC PRODUCER: JACK KUNEY

CAST:

JIMMY DURANTE  
DON AMECHE  
VERA VAGUE  
SARA BERNER  
HUGH CONOVER  
JOHN GIBSON  
JACK ALBERTSON  
NANCY DOUGLAS  
PHIL KRAMER  
DONNY HARRIS

WRITERS:

NORMAN PAUL  
JACK BARNETT  
JACK ELINSON  
HAROLD GOLDMAN

(ORCH & QUARTET: C-A-M-E-L-S)

CONOVER: From New York Camel Cigarettes present the Jimmy Durante Show! Starring Jimmy Durante and Don Ameche with Vera Vague.

(ORCH: INKA DINKA DOO)

DURANTE: (SINGS) INKA DINKA DINK A DINK A DEE

A DINK A DOO A DINK A DEE

(APPLAUSE)

OH WHAT A TUNE FOR CROONING

INKA DINK A DEE A DINK A DOO

AMECHE: Ah, Jimmy, you're in gay spirits tonight. I'll bet you're <sup>this cold</sup> ~~still thrilled about that first snow we had in New York this~~ <sup>weather in New York really a great week.</sup> ~~week.~~

DURANTE: <sup>I'm really filled with the winter spirit. The other day</sup> ~~YES DON, THAT SNOW GOT ME SO EXCITED,~~ I RUSHED OVER TO MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, PUT ON MY ICE SKATES, DASHED OUT INTO THE ARENA AND FELL FLAT ON MY FACE.

AMECHE: How come?

DURANTE: THERE WAS NO ICE ON THE FLOOR, THEY WERE HAVING A BASKETBALL GAME!

CONOVER: Yes, it's the Jimmy Durante Camel Show with Don Ameche, Vera Vague, Roy Bargy and his orchestra, Sara Berner, the Camel Quartette and yours truly, Hugh Conover, transcribed and brought to you by Camel Cigarettes. ✓

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SINGERS: How mild,  
How mild,  
How mild can a cigarette be?  
Make the Camel Thirty-day test  
And you'll see!

VINES: ~~No throat irritation,~~ not one single case of throat  
irritation due to smoking Camels -- that's what noted  
throat specialists reported in a coast-to-coast test of  
hundreds of men and women who smoked only Camels for  
thirty days!

CONOVER: The smokers in this test averaged one to two packs of  
Camels a day. Each week, their throats were examined  
by noted throat specialists. These doctors made two  
thousand, four hundred and seventy examinations and  
reported: not one single case of throat irritation due  
to smoking Camels! That's how mild Camels are!

VINES: Make a note. Remember your throat. Try Camels today! / 44

(MUSIC: \_ BRIDGE)

AMECHE: You know, there's one thing about Jimmy .. he's not the shy type. I don't know how he does it, but ever since we got to New York, he's been getting his picture in the papers with every celebrity, and giving out interviews on every topic. For instance, the other morning, while Jimmy's housekeeper, Mrs. Mataratza, was preparing breakfast for us in our hotel suite, Jimmy was scanning through the newspapers as usual:

DURANTE: DON, HERE IT IS. PAGE THREE, DAILY MIRROR. A PICTURE OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN GREETING ME AT THE AIRPORT AS I ARRIVE ON THE CONSTERNATION.

AMECHE: Let's see. Yep ... it's amazing, but there it is. It says, "Truman calls Durante to his side in emergency." My goodness, Jim, what was the emergency?

DURANTE: MARGARET'S ON TOUR. BARKLEY'S MARRIED, AND HE'S GOT NO ONE TO TURN THE PAGES WHILE HE PLAYS THE MISSOURI WALTZ!

AMECHE: Jimmy, I still can't believe that you actually know all these celebrities. Why I ....

(PHONE RING)

DURANTE: I'LL GET IT.

(RECEIVER UP)

DURANTE: HELLO? THEY STILL WON'T LET YOU IN? YOU HAVE NO PLACE TO SLEEP? WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN SPEND THE NIGHT WITH US. GOODBYE.

(RECEIVER DOWN)

AMECHE: Now who was that?

12/2/49

DURANTE: FIELD MARSHALL MONTGOMERY, WITH THAT SKIRT AND BE-RAY  
THEY KEEP THROWING HIM OUT OF HIS ROOM AT THE YMCA! (THE  
FINAL HUMILIATION WAS WHEN THEY GAVE HIM A TOWEL MARKED  
HERS!)

AMECHE: Truman....Montgomery...who's next...Toscannini?

DURANTE: OF COURSE. HERE IT IS...PAGE SEVEN, NEW YORK TIMES. A  
PICTURE OF DURANTE AT THE OPERA WITH AR-TURO TOSCANNINI.

AMECHE: Give me that paper. Gee, it is you and Toscannini.  
Just look at that genius that shines from those deep  
artistic eyes, that magnificent brow, those delicate  
sensitive features, the long flowing golden curls.

DURANTE: YEAH. NOW LOOK AT TOSCANNINI, HE AIN'T SO BAD EITHER!  
BUT WHAT A GREAT TIME I HAD AT THE OPERA -- I SAT BETWEEN  
TOSCANNINI AND LADY VANDERBILT!! (EACH WITH OUR SEPARATE  
BAG OF POP CORN.)

AMECHE: Lady Vanderbilt? Why, she's the owner of that famous  
fifty carat yellow diamond ring.

DURANTE: YELLOW DIAMOND RING? HOLY SMOKES, I THOUGHT ONE OF MY  
POPCORN FELL ON HER HAND AND IT ATE IT! (a) *a: what happened?*  
*D: I ate it! (a)*

AMECHE: Oh stop kidding, I...oh no...Jimmy you gave out another  
interview at the opera. Look at this -- (READS) "When  
asked how he liked the opera, Mr. Durante replied that  
Rigelleto should be given at a burlesque show." Rigelleto  
at a burlesque show? Why?

DURANTE: IF YOU'RE GONNA WATCH SOMEONE RIGGLE THEIR LETTO, YOU  
MIGHT AS WELL WATCH 'EM RIGGLE IT RIGHT!

AMECHE: Jimmy, you're always talking about things you don't know about and some day, those interviews are gonna get you in trouble.

DURANTE: DON'T WORRY SO MEECH, MR. AMUCHE.

AMECHE: That's Ameche. Oh, what a place. You and your papers... and that housekeeper of yours late with breakfast as usual. (YELLS) Mrs. Mataratza, what's keeping the breakfast?

BERNER: (YELLS OFF MIKE) Hold a your horses, toothy!

DURANTE: AH, I'M SO GLAD I SENT HER THROUGH VASSAR!

BERNER: Here's a breakfast for both of you.

(CLATTER OF DISHES)

BERNER: That's a you oatmeal. Thatsa your orange juice. Thatsa you coffee. (SINGS) C-A-M-E-L-S.

AMECHE: What's that?

BERNER: Thatsa your bread and butter! (LAUGHS) I'm a funny too! I made a that one up in a minute.

AMECHE: It's a whole day's work for a chicken!

DURANTE: PLEASE...LET'S NOT STAND HERE AND BANDY LEGS. LET'S HAVE OUR BREAKFAST.

AMECHE: Yeah, I'm hungry. I'll dig into this oatmeal.

BERNER: I'm a glad you enjoy it, Mr. Durante and Mr. Amushee.

AMECHE: That's Ameche!

BERNER: There's Oatmeal on your mustache and it's a Mushee!

DURANTE: AH, DON, SHE'S ALWAYS MAKING FUN OF YOUR TEETH AND YOUR MUSTACHE. THANK GOODNESS SHE CAN'T PICK ON ME, I HAVE NO OUTSTANDING FEATURES!

~~BERNER: You said it, Schnozz!...Oh I'm bring you the morning papers and they gotta you right on the front page of the Tribune~~

~~AMECHE: Oh no! Let's see that one. (READS) "Durante says Donkeys should mate with Railroad engines." Jimmy, that's the craziest thing I ever heard of. Donkeys mating with Railroad engines? Why?~~

~~DURANTE: WHO KNOWS, IN A YEAR OR SO, "LITTLE MULE TRAINS."  
(I KNOW VAUGHN MONROE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ADOPT ONE!)~~

~~AMECHE: Oh, these interviews!~~

BERNER: Oh I'm just remember, there's a young a man outside from the newspaper. He wants to ask you some questions Before I'm leave, you want him to come in?

DURANTE: BUT OF COURSE -- I'VE BEEN EXPECTING HIM.

BERNER: O.K., areeva - ditchi.

DURANTE: AND A DITCH IN THE RIVER TO YOU, TOO.

AMECHE: Jimmy, don't give out another interview. I tell you one of them is bound to back fire.

DURANTE: BUT THIS IS JUST A KID FROM THE SCHOOL PAPER OF P.S. 33... THAT'S THE SCHOOL I USED TO GO TO AND THEY ALWAYS INTERVIEW THEIR SUCCESSFUL ALUMINUM.

AMECHE: Well, that's different. I guess no harm can come of it. Oh, here he comes now.

~~DURANTE: STEP RIGHT IN, SON. I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY FRIEND, DON~~

~~AMECHE?~~

~~AMECHE: How do you do?~~

HARRIS: How do you do. Now, Mr. Durante, may I say that meeting such a paragon of intellectual attainments as yourself leaves me with a feeling of trepidation comingled with exhilaration and spontaneous jubilation!

DURANTE: SON, WHAT GRADE ARE YOU IN?

HARRIS: The fifth.

DURANTE: NO WONDER I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIM, HE'S TWO GRADES AHEAD OF ME!

HARRIS: Well, now for the interview, Mr. Durante. Very soon, lots of girls will be graduating from P.S. thirty three. What would you recommend for the future mothers of America.

DURANTE: CHILDREN, WITHOUT 'EM MOTHERHOOD IS A WASTE OF TIME.

~~HARRIS: Well, a lot of boys will be graduating also. What would you recommend for the future fathers of America.~~

~~DURANTE: MOTHERS, WITHOUT 'EM, CHILDREN WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME!~~

AMECHE: Son, I know it sounds silly now, but when you get a little older you'll realize how stupid it really is.

~~HARRIS: I've aged four years already.~~

DURANTE: DON'T PULL ANY PUNCHES ON THE QUESTIONS, LAD. WITH MY KNOWLEDGE, I'LL BE GLAD TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP YOU CHILDREN FACE THE WORLD OF TODAY.

HARRIS: *Well what do you think is* O.K. ~~What would you adduce to be the least crowded field for specialization?~~

DURANTE: I DON'T KNOW.

HARRIS: What type of degree is potentially the most useful in commercial endeavors.

DURANTE: I DON'T KNOW.

HARRIS: What percentage of college graduates rise above the income level norm?

DURANTE: I DON'T KNOW.

HARRIS: Mr. Durante, should I stop?

DURANTE: OF COURSE NOT, HOW ARE YOU GONNA LEARN ANYTHING IF YOU DON'T ASK QUESTIONS!



AMECHE: Hang onto every word kid. This is one of his good days.

HARRIS: Well, Mr. Durante, I'm afraid this interview is useless. You see, our paper is putting out a special literary edition and I don't think you have anything to contribute.

DURANTE: WHY SON, I'M CHAGRINNED BEYOND AGHAST! ~~YOU'RE TALKING TO ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S FOREMOST LITERARY LUMINARIES.~~ WHY ERNEST HEMINGWAY CALLED ME IN TO HELP HIM WRITE "FOR WHOM THE BELLS TOLL." JOHN STEINBECK CALLED ME IN TO HELP HIM WRITE "THE GRAPES OF WRATH." THEN LANA TURNER CALLED ME IN.

HARRIS: But she never wrote anything.

DURANTE: I KNOW, I KEPT HER SO BUSY SHE COULDN'T GET STARTED!

HARRIS: Well! ~~This is more like it.~~ Now I've really got a story!

AMECHE: Jim, you're not going to let the kid go back and print that, are you.

DURANTE: CERTAINLY. ~~SON, YOU CAN QUOTE EVERYTHING I'VE SAID VER-BOTTOM,~~

HARRIS: Thanks and goodbye, Mr. Durante. I leave you with my fifth grade motto. "Onward to the sixth."

DURANTE: AND I LEAVE YOU WITH MY THIRD GRADE MOTTO. "BACKWARD TO THE SECOND!"

AMECHE: This is the last straw. America's foremost literary authority. You know very well the only book you have in your library is Arrowsmith... and you've been trying to get through that for twenty years.

DURANTE: I ADMIT IT WAS KINDA SLOW BUT AFTER STAYING UP FOR SIX HOURS EACH NIGHT, I FINALLY READ ARROWSMITH FROM COVER TO COVER.

AMECHE: Well, really.

DURANTE: YES, NOW THAT I'VE FINISHED THE COVERS, I HOPE TO GET INSIDE AND READ THE BOOK! ... BUT DON'T GET EXCITED, DON, THAT INTERVIEW WAS ONLY FOR A SCHOOL PAPER AND ABSOLUTELY NUTTIN CAN HAPPEN.

(MUSIC: \_ \_ BRIDGE)

AMECHE: Mrs. Mataratza, where's Jimmy? Isn't he around?

BERNER: He went down to his old school to buy a paper. He couldn't wait to see that interview he was give out.

AMECHE: Gee, he's kinda sentimental about that school. And to think he only went up to the third grade.

BERNER: Well that's a better than me and my husband did. After we was married we had to go to night school and during that time, we got a fifteen kids. So Im make my husband join the football team.

AMECHE: Join the football team?

BERNER: Yes, after having fifteen kids Im figure it's time he carried the ball! .. But I'm a goin into the kitchen now.  
~~I'm gotta finish plucking a chicken.~~

AMECHE: ~~Chicken huh? I hope it turns out good.~~

BERNER: ~~It may be a pretty old hen but I won't be able to tell until I pluck out the feathers.~~

AMECHE: ~~O.K., in the meantime...~~

(DOOR BUZZER)

Oh, there's the door. I'll get it... maybe it's Jimmy back from the school.

(DOOR OPENS)

VAGUE: Yoo hoo, Mr. Ameche.

AMECHE: It's Vera Vague.

(APPLAUSE)

VAGUE: I was in the neighborhood Mr. Ameche, so I thought I'd drop in. I've been shopping for a dress at Pierre's, and what a time I had getting fitted.

AMECHE: Troubles, huh?

VAGUE: Oh yes. They put one dress on me called, "Joi de Vive", featuring a narrow waistline. Then I tried on another one called "Paris Ecstasy" with a slim bodice. But finally, they gave me a dress that's just right for my figure.

AMECHE: What's it called?

VAGUE: "Battleground... Story of the Bulge!" Oh, toujours la loose caboose!

AMECHE: I suppose the stores are showing a lot of new fashions from Paris now, huh?

VAGUE: Mais oui. The one that's creating the most excitement is a special gown that has an adjustable plunging neckline.

AMECHE: What's that one called?

VAGUE: Raise the zipper, Princess Margaret, here comes Mama!.... But I'm so glad I bought that dress. I want to look good on my sightseeing trips around New York.

AMECHE: Sightseeing indeed. Miss Vague, I know very well that all you're interested in is men. I'll bet you haven't even seen any sights here in New York.

VAGUE: I have to!

AMECHE: O.K., where's Grant's Tomb?

VAGUE: Well, I haven't been there yet.

AMECHE: Where's the Statue of Liberty?

VAGUE Well...

AMECHE: Where's the Empire State building?

VAGUE: I haven't gotten around to that yet.

AMECHE: Where's City College for Men?

VAGUE: 75 East 14th Street, Circle 7200 and the locker room closes at six.

AMECHE: Miss Vague, college men are too young for you.

VAGUE: Well, I like that. I'll have you know I saw a man on the campus exactly my age.

AMECHE: I know, but that Statue of Thomas Jefferson won't do you much good. (LAUGHS)

VAGUE: Oh the Ameches have everything. Looks, talent, brains..too bad it all went to your brother Jim. But enough of this bickering. Isn't Jimmy around?

AMECHE: No, we're alone.

VAGUE: Oooh, I ~~haven't heard such good news since Humphrey Bogart announced that he wasn't going to behave!~~..How about a little kiss?

AMECHE: Miss Vague, you wouldn't want to kiss a man with a mustache.

VAGUE: Listen, when you're out on a hunting trip you don't mind jumping over a little hedge.

AMECHE: Miss Vague, I guess I'll have to tell you. You're not the type men go for. For one thing, you're made up too much.

VAGUE: Well, I'm naturally beautiful too you know. Here...I'll wipe off my lipstick, take off my rouge, remove my false eyelashes, take off my hairpiece. There. What do you think now?

(DOOR OPENS)

~~BENNER: Mr. Ameche, the old hen looks a pretty bad with the feathers off!~~

~~VAGUE: Oh, I can't believe I look so different without my makeup on.~~

~~AMECHE: But you do.~~

~~VAGUE: I don't believe it. Here comes Jimmy.. he'll recognize me without my makeup on.~~

DURANTE: HELLO DON, ~~HELLO MRS. MATRATZA...~~ AND HOW DO YOU DO SIR.

VAGUE: Jimmy, it's me...Vera Vague.'

DURANTE: OH, A THOUSAND PARDONS. I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE CAR. WITHOUT THE ACK-CESS-ORIES! BUT DON GET A LOAD OF THIS INTERVIEW IN MY SCHOOL PAPER.

AMECHE: Another one? Let me see. Oh, my goodness. "James Durante becomes P.S. thirty three's outstanding literary giant. Responsible for "Grapes of Wrath" and "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Jimmy .....

(PHONE RING)

VAGUE: Oh, there's the phone...

AMECHE: I'll get it.

(RECEIVER UP)

AMECHE: Hello? What's that? Oh no....it can't be....It's not possible. Oh no .... no .... no.

(RECEIVER DOWN)

DURANTE: WE CAN HARDLY WAIT, DON ... SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH ALL OF US!

AMECHE: Good news! I knew sooner or later that boasting of yours would get you in a jam. That was your old English teacher and since you're a genius, they've scheduled you to appear in a debate.

DURANTE: WE'RE NOT IN ANY TROUBLE, DON.

AMECHE: The whole student body and the faculty are going to attend.

DURANTE: WE'RE NOT IN ANY TROUBLE, DON.

AMECHE: Your opponents will be two college professors and the topic for the debate is Elizabethian literature versus Contemporary Modern Trends.

DURANTE: BROTHER, ARE WE IN TROUBLE!

VAGUE: Well back out, tell the school you can't do it.

DURANTE: NO, I CAN'T LET DOWN MY ALMAZ MAYTER!

AMECHE: But what about your lack of vocabulary and culture?  
You won't know what to say.

DURANTE: DONSIE DURANTE ALWAYS KNOWS WHAT TO SAY. LET ME TELL YOU  
MY FORMULA. —————

13 30

(JIMMY'S SONG...."WHO'S FOR TENNIS.")

"ANYONE FOR TENNIS"

VERSE:

SURROUND ME WITH THE HOI POLLOO

I'M AT EASE -- I'LL COME THRU

AT ANY FUNCTION I STAND OUT ALONE

WHY WITH THE LITERARY SET

I GET ALONG I NEVER FRET

CAUSE I'VE GOT A SECRET ALL MY OWN!

FIRST OF ALL MY MANNERS ARE PERFECT.

WHILE DRINKING TEA, I ALWAYS EXTEND MY LITTLE RIGHT PINKY.

THAT GIVES ME A PLACE TO HANG MY DOUGHNUT AND GIVES MY HOSTESS ONE  
LESS PLATE TO WASH!

BESIDES WHEN I'M AROUND THE CONVERSATION NEVER LAGS

I'VE GOT ONE PHRASE THAT BRINGS IT BACK TO LIFE WHEN IT DRAGS!

CHORUS:

WHEN THE CONVERSATION'S DULL FOR WORDS I'M NEVER AT A LOSS

CAUSE WHEN THEY'RE THRU DISCUSSIN' PARIS AND VENICE!

I INJECT QUITE A SPARK

WHEN I CALMLY REMARK,

"ANYONE FOR TENNIS"

THEY ALL DISCUSS THE MARKET -- GOOD OLD WALL STREET AND SUCH

AND THEY ALL AGREE INFLATION IS A MENACE

BUT WHEN THESE SUBJECTS RUN DRY

LIKE A HERO I CRY

"ANYONE FOR TENNIS".

(MORE)



"ANYONE FOR TENNIS" - CONT'D

WHY WITHOUT EVEN TRYIN'

I'M A REAL SOCIAL LION

WITH ME THERE'S NOT A LULL FOR VERY LONG

IF I HAVE TO SPEAK TWICE... I FIND A CHANGE WORKS OUT NICE

SO I SWITCH AND SAY... "ANYONE FOR PING-PONG!"

AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW I CAN SAY IT IN SEVEN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.

AND IT COMES IN HANDY! THE OTHER DAY I TOOK A HIGH CLASS GIRL TO  
DINNER. WANTING TO SURPRISE HER, I ORDERED THE ENTIRE MEAL IN FRENCH.  
THE WAITER WAS SURPRISED TOO -- YOU SEE, IT WAS A CHINESE RESTAURANT!

WHY I NEVER MISS

AND MY SECRET IS THIS

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

PATTER:

ONE TIME SOMEBODY TOOK ME UP ON IT AND WE PLAYED THREE SETS,  
BUT THEN WE HAD TO STOP. THE HOSTESS WANTED HER MEAT BALLS BACK!  
WHAT AN AFFAIR IT WAS. ALL OVER THE PLACE THERE WAS NOTHING BUT  
INTELLECTUAL INDIGNITARIES.

ITURBI WAS IN ONE CORNER WITH STOKOWSKI TALKING ABOUT MUSIC. (CHORD)  
ATCHESON WAS IN ANOTHER CORNER WITH TAFT TALKING ABOUT POLITICS. (CHORD)  
BUT ALL EYES WERE UPON ME...

(LAUGH) I WAS IN A CORNER WITH THE MAID AND WE WEREN'T TALKING!

WHY I NEVER MISS

AND MY SECRET IS THIS

"ANYONE FOR TENNIS?"

(APPLAUSE) ✓

16 15

CONOVER: Say, Don, have you seen this year's Camel Christmas carton?

AMECHE: Well, I hadn't -- until just now - It's a mighty nice-looking carton!

CONOVER: There's a space right over here for your personal greeting.

AMECHE: Very nice! I think I'll get several cartons to give out this Christmas. Thanks for the tip, Hugh.

CONOVER: That's quite all right, Don. You know, Friends, Camels are always a welcome gift. Camel's costly tobaccos are properly aged and expertly blended for rich, full flavor and cool, cool mildness. Try Camels -- in your "T-Zone" -- T for Taste and T for Throat -- and see how thoroughly enjoyable a cigarette can be!

VINES: Among the millions who enjoy Camels are many, many doctors. More doctors smoke Camels than any other cigarette, according to a nationwide survey. One hundred thirteen thousand, five hundred and ninety-seven doctors were asked what cigarette they smoked. The brand named most was Camel!

DURANTE: AND I'D LIKE TO ADD....

I RIP OFF THE CELLOPHANE, OPEN THE PACK  
TAKE A LITTLE PUFF AND JUST SIT BACK  
GOING FROM JOKES TO THE GREATEST OF SMOKES  
FOLKS! WON'T YOU TRY A CAMEL! —

(APPLAUSE)

17'5"

(MUSIC: BRIDGE...)

AMECHE: Well, our boy Jimmy did it again. That interview he gave to the school paper set him up as a literary light and now he had to take part in a school debate on Elizabethian versus Modern literature. He talked Vera Vague and me into helping him with the debate, so my first move was to take Jimmy to the public library for some research on the subject.

DURANTE: DON, LOOK AT THIS LIBRARY. THE PLACE IS AMUCK WITH LITERATURE.

AMECHE: Well come on over here, Jim. This is where we get our library card.

DURANTE: O.K. BUT I HATE TO TAKE OUT ANOTHER BOOK. I FEEL I'M BEING DISLOYAL TO ARROWSMITH!

DOUGLASS: (SEXY) Hello boys, I'm the librarian.

DURANTE: GOODBYE ARROWSMITH, I FOUND SOMETHING WITH A BETTER BINDING!

DOUGLASS: Is there something you'd like to take out?

DURANTE: CAREFUL MADAM, A QUESTION LIKE THAT COULD LEAD TO A BENCH IN CENTRAL PARK! (I'LL GLADLY PAY YOU TWO CENTS FOR OVERTIME!)

AMECHE: Jim, stop the fooling. Miss, we'd like to take out some books, so I guess we better make out a library card, huh?

DOUGLASS: Very well, I'll start with the cute little one. Your full name please

DURANTE: JAMES E. DURANTE.

DOUGLASS: What's the E for?

DURANTE: MUST I TELL?

DOUGLASS: Yes. What is it?

DURANTE: EAGLE, WHEN I WAS BORN, THAT'S WHAT THEY THOUGHT I WAS!

AMECHE: (LAUGHS)

DOUGLAS: Now your full name, you handsome devil you.

AMECHE: Don. L. Ameche.

DOUGLAS: What's the L for?

AMECHE: Lay off -- I'm married!

DOUGLAS: Well back to you Mr. Durante. What's the date of your birth, Mr. Durante?

DURANTE: DECEMBER FIFTEENTH, NINE A.M.

DOUGLAS: Nine A.M.?

DURANTE: YES, IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AT SEVEN, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO WAKE UP MY MOTHER!

DOUGLAS: Well, each one of you will need a reference. Mr. Ameche, do you have a reference.

AMECHE: Yes.....~~Mr. Durante.~~

~~DOUGLAS: Mr. Durante, do you have a reference?~~

~~DURANTE: YES...MR. AMECHE.~~

~~DOUGLAS: Mr. Ameche, what's your source of income?~~

AMECHE: I borrow from Mr. Durante.

DOUGLAS: Mr. Durante, what is your source of income?

DURANTE: HE PAYS ME BACK!

DOUGLAS: (SARCASTIC) Well, shall we go around again? But now I need some details. Mr. Ameche, hair?

AMECHE: Brown.

DOUGLAS: Mr. Durante, hair?

DURANTE: I BORROW FROM MR. AMECHE!

DOUGLAS: Well, what books would you like to take out?

AMECHE: Well, I'd like Swinburns's "Ancient Renaissance Literature.

DURANTE: YES, I TOO WOULD LIKE SWINBURN'S "ANCIENT AND RENNAISSANCE LITERATURE."

AMECHE: Ruskin's Essays on lyric interpretations of nineteenth century poetry.

DURANTE: YOU CAN ALSO GIVE ME RUSKIN'S ESSAYS ON LIRIK INTERPRETATIONS OF NINETEENTH CENTURY POETRY.

AMECHE: And then I'd like Dostiovsy's "Brothers Karamazov with a bibliography and glossary of transcendalism from Euripides and Thoosidides to Constantine Symonov.

DOUGLAS: Mr. Durante?

DURANTE: I BORROW FROM MR. AMECHE!

DOUGLAS: Well, I'll have to check and see if we have those books, but I'm afraid you'll have to wait till lunch hour. I can't leave my post now.

DURANTE: THAT'S NO PROBLEM. MR. AMECHE AND I WILL TAKE OVER YOUR DESK. WE'RE TRAINED LIBRARIANS.

AMECHE: Jimmy.....

DOUGLAS: Well, I guess it'll be all right. I'll be back in a few minutes.

AMECHE: Jim, we don't know anything about handling a library.

DURANTE: THERE'S NOTHING TO IT. HERE COMES THE FIRST CUSTOMER. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU FRAULIEN?

BERNER: I'm going on an overnight trip and I wanted something I could curl up with and yet wouldn't keep me up all night. What would you suggest?

DURANTE: A COCKER SPANIEL, THEY USUALLY GO TO BED AROUND TEN THIRTY! NEXT!.....

CONOVER: How do you do? I'm a law student. I was wondering if I could borrow Blackstone's briefs.

DURANTE: IF HE WON'T BE COLD WITHOUT 'EM, O.K.!

AMECHE: Jimmy, you're messing things up. And don't fool around with this man coming over. He looks like the outdoor type, a man of action. He probably wants a book on whale fishing or tiger trapping or elephant hunting. Er...what can we do for you sir?

GIBSON: I'd like a book on birds!

DURANTE: WHAT A SPECIMAN. I'LL BET MY NOSE ALONE OUTWEIGHS HIM!

GIBSON: I must have a book on how to identify the male and female humming bird. (SHY GIGGLE)

AMECHE: What difference does it make if it's a male or a female?

GIBSON: It matters a lot to another humming bird!

DURANTE: I TAKE IT YOU'RE A BIRD FANCIER, ~~MONSIEUR PUNY.~~

GIBSON: Oh yes indeedy. I feed a large collection of humming birds, but I haven't eaten in weeks.

AMECHE: How come?

GIBSON: They keep pushing me off the window sill!

DURANTE: YOU KNOW, YOU LOOK FAMILIAR. DIDN'T MY DOG ONCE BURY YOU?

GIBSON: Yes....how about that?...But give me the book please. I have to get back to my birds.

AMECHE: Is that all you ever do is stay home with birds. Don't you ever go out?

GIBSON: Just once. Mother forced me to take out...you should pardon the expression...a woman.

DURANTE: HOW DID IT GO?

GIBSON: That girl snuggled up close to me like one of my birds. Finally she put her face close to mine and puckered up her mouth.

AMECHE: What did you do?

GIBSON: What could I do.....I dropped a worm in it!

DURANTE: WELL HERE'S YOUR BOOK ON BIRDS SIR. GOODBYE.

GIBSON: Thanks. I must fly away now. Tweet-tweet.

AMECHE: I hope he doesn't lay an egg on the way out. Oh, here comes the librarian back. Gee, she hasn't got the books with her.

DOUGLAS: Sorry, boys, I couldn't find any of those books you wanted.

DURANTE: IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'VE STILL GOT MY BOOK ARROWSMITH.

AMECHE: Jimmy, don't you realize what's going to happen? You haven't got a chance in that debate. You've just read page one of Arrowsmith....your opponents have read thousands of books .. they're graduates of three universities...~~they can quote every volume of Shakespeare by heart.~~

DURANTE: DON, NOW I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE DEBATE.

AMECHE: You should be.

DURANTE: YEAH, THEY MAY BRIBE THE JUDGE AND WIN IT UNFAIRLY!

(MUSIC: \_ \_ \_ BRIDGE \_ . . . \_ . . . \_ . . .)

(BABBLING OF VOICES)

DURANTE: DON ... VERA .... I'M GETTING NERVOUS.

VAGUE: Yes, the debate is almost ready to start.

AMECHE: Listen, I have good news. They made me moderator so I'll keep Professor Gordon from talking...he's the brilliant one. You just keep arguing against Professor Roth.

DURANTE: O.K. DON. OH, I JUST SPOTTED BY OLD ENGLISH TEACHER MISS BERNER AND I'M WORRIED. THIRTY YEARS AGO, BEFORE I LEFT SCHOOL, I HID A SPOILED FISH SOMEWHERE IN THE CLASSROOM.

AMECHE: What a thing -- hiding a spoiled fish in the classroom.

VAGUE: Well that was thirty years ago! Oh, here comes your teacher now.

DURANTE: ER...HELLO MISS BERNER.

BERNER: Hello James ... we give up...where is it!

~~DURANTE: IT REALLY MUST BE SOMETHING. I HEAR EVEN THE TEACHERS ARE PLAYING HOOKEY.~~

AMECHE: Never mind that. The debate is about to start.

BERNER: Yes, James, the topic is...."Resolved: Modern Literature is superior to Elizabethian literature." ~~You're to take the affirmative and the Professor will take the negative.~~

~~DURANTE: VERY WELL, MISS BERNER, BUT THERE'S ONE THING I WANNA KNOW.~~

~~BERNER: What?~~

~~DURANTE: AM I FOR IT OR AGAINST IT!~~

~~BERNER: For it. Now Mr. Ameche, will you make the opening announcement please.~~

AMECHE: Very well. Members of the faculty...boys and girls.

CAST: (SMATTERING OF APPLAUSE)



AMECHE: In the debate we are about to hear, the negative will be taken by Professor Clayton Roth, Harvard, 1912 to 1916, and Professor Robert Gordon, Oxford University, 1916 to 1920. And taking the affirmative will be Mr. Durante third grade, nineteen twelve to nineteen twenty one!

~~DURANTE: (THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE.)~~

AMECHE: Assisting Mr. Durante will be Vera Vague, City College for Men. Oh, here's a special note. ~~The faculty has asked me to announce that the winner of this debate will receive the James E. Durante Memorial dunce cap!....~~ Professor, you may begin.

ALBERTSON: Thank you. I will prove that Elizabethian literature is superior. Consider first the field of poetry. I quote. "I arise from dreams of thee, in the first sweet sleep of night, when the winds are breathing low and the stars are turning bright." Shelley....1840 ... England. Can you match that in modern poetry, Mr. Durante.

DURANTE: OF COURSE. I QUOTE. "ARE YOUR WHISKERS ROUGH AND BIG ...WOULD SHE RATHER KISS A PIG" ...BURMA SHAVE SIGN, ROUTE SIXTY SIX, TEXAS!

ALBERTSON: I refuse to accept that example.

VAGUE: Then here's another lovely example of modern poetry. "Do you want a date that's heaven, call Applegate 867"...Vera Vague, wall of phone booth, forty ninth street!

AMECH: Now your viewpoints, Professor Gordon?

KRAMER: Thank you. Statistics show that---

AMECHE: Thank you, Professor Gordon. Mr. Durante.....

~~DURANTE: AS A FURTHER POINT FOR MY SIDE, I QUOTE ANOTHER FAMOUS LINE. "SOMETHING IS ROTTEN IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK!"~~

ALBERTSON: ~~That's Denmark!~~

DURANTE: ~~YOU'VE NEVER BEEN IN MISS BERNER'S CLASS ROOM!~~

ALBERTSON: ~~I still say it's Denmark.. I refer you to page sixty six of Hamlet.~~

DURANTE: I REFER YOU TO PAGE ONE OF ARROWSMITH!

ALBERTSON: What's on page one of Arrowsmith:

DURANTE: CHICKEN SOUP, I RED IT WHILE EATING DINNER TODAY!

KRAMER: But statistics show that --

AMECHE: Thank you Professor Gordon. ~~Miss Vague.....~~

VAGUE: ~~I will prove the flaws in Elizabethian literature as William Shakespeare said -- er -- er -- er -- oh, what is the difference -- he's dead anyway!~~

ALBERTSON: ~~Shakespeare wrote great poetry. I refer you to page eighty six of MacBeth.~~

DURANTE: I REFER YOU TO PAGE TWO OF ARROWSMITH.

ALBERTSON: What's on page two of Arrowsmith.

DURANTE: THE NOODLES, THEY SLIPPED THROUGH!

KRAMER: But statistics show that --

AMECHE: Thank you, Professor Gordon. ~~Mr. Durante.....~~

~~DURANTE: THE MODERN WRITER HAS MORE HEART BREAKS. FOR TWENTY YEARS HE WORKS ON HIS BOOK. - HE STARVES IN A GARRET - HIS WIFE LEAVES HIM - BUT FINALLY HIS MASTERPIECE IS FINISHED AND HIS BOOK IS PUBLISHED... AND WHAT HAPPENS.~~

ALBERTSON: What?

DURANTE: SOME BUM BUYS IT AND IT ENDS UP UNDER THE SHORT LEG OF A DINING ROOM TABLE!

ALBERTSON: If you're speaking of hardships amongst authors, let's ~~go back to page twenty four of Balzac's Life in a Garret.~~

VAGUE: Let's go back to pages one and two of Arrowsmith.

ALBERTSON: Why?

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VAGUE: I want some of that chicken soup. I'm hungry!

KRAMER: I must speak. I must speak. Statistics show...

AMECHE: Thank you very much, I....

BERNER: Mr. Ameche, you haven't been fair. We demand that you let Professor Gordon speak.

DURANTE:(ASIDE) DON, WE'RE LICKED. HE'LL WIN THE DEBATE FOR THEM.

AMECHE: I know... but go ahead Professor Gordon. What do statistics show?

KRAMER: That it's usually found in the drainpipes.

VAGUE: ~~Found in the drainpipes?~~ What are you talking about.

KRAMER: That's what I've been trying to tell you. I'm the plumber and I was sent here to find the spoiled fish!

DURANTE: SAVED BY A MIL-DOOD MACKERAL!

(GAVEL RAPPING)

BERNER: The Professors are disqualified and the award for the debate goes to Mr. Durante. Mr. Durante, as the winner, will you make the closing speech?

DURANTE: OF COURSE. TO YOU CHILDREN OF THE THRID GRADE, I HAVE ONE BIT OF ADVICE. "E PLOOR-I-BUS U NUM AND SIC SEMBRA FID-ALE-IOUS."

BERNER: What does that mean?

DURANTE: DON'T GO TO THE FOURTH GRADE - THAT'S WHERE I HID THE FISH!

(MUSIC: PLAYOFF)

(APPLAUSE) ✓

2703

SINGERS: How mild,  
How mild,  
How mild can a cigarette be?  
Smoke Camels and see!

CONOVER: No throat irritation, not one single case of throat  
irritation due to smoking Camels -- that's what noted  
throat specialists reported in a coast-to-coast test  
of hundreds of people who smoked only Camels for thirty  
days. That's how mild Camels are!

VINES: Make a note. Remember your throat. Try Camels today!

CONOVER: Each week, the makers of Camels send free cigarettes  
to various veterans' and servicemen's hospitals  
throughout the country. More than one hundred ninety  
million Camels have now been sent to servicemen,  
servicewomen and veterans....This week's gift Camels  
go to: U. S. AAF Station Hospital, McDill Field,  
Florida....U. S. Naval Hospital, Long Beach, California...  
and Veterans' Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi. ✓

27 5-3

(MUSIC: -- WHO WILL BE)

(MUSIC: \_ \_ WHO WILL BE )

AMECHE: Ah, Jim, I really enjoyed that trip back to your old school.

DURANTE: YES, DON, IT MADE ME SO SENTIMENTAL, I GOT OUT MY OLD THIRD GRADE CLASS BOOK. HERE'S A PICTURE OF MY CLASS TAKEN WHEN I WAS NINE YEARS. I BET YOU CAN'T PICK OUT WHICH KID IS ME.

AMECHE: Well, let me see it. Why, that's you right there.

DURANTE: WHAT'S THE USE, IT WASN'T ANY SMALLER IN THOSE DAYS EITHER!

AMECHE: (CHUCKLES) Goodnight, Mr. Durante.

DURANTE: GOODNIGHT, MR. AMECHE .. GOODNIGHT FOLKS...AND GOODNIGHT MRS. CALABASH WHEREVER YOU ARE.

(MUSIC: \_ \_ UP)

(APPLAUSE) ✓

28-2

COMMERCIAL:

CONOVER: The Jimmy Durante Show was transcribed and directed by Phil Cohan, and brought to you by Camel Cigarettes. Listen in again next Friday night when Jimmy Durante, Don Ameche and Vera Vague will be back on the Jimmy Durante Camel Show from New York. ✓

28<sup>57</sup>

(APPLAUSE)

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(MUSIC: \_ \_ SNEAK)

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Be sure to listen. ✓

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(MUSIC: \_ \_ UP\_)

(APPLAUSE) ✓

29<sup>25</sup>