

*As Broadcast  
Taped copy*

Produced by -  
WILLIAM ESTY CO., INC.  
For - CAMEL CIGARETTES  
R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.  
WINSTON-SALEM, NO. CAROLINA

JIMMY DURANTE SHOW #12

DATE: DECEMBER 23, 1949  
(Taped Dec. 21, 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

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  
OH WHAT A TUNE FOR GROONING -  
(APPLAUSE)  
INK A DINK A DINK

AMECHE: Jimmy, Jimmy, you're rushing through your song. What's the rush?

DURANTE: STAND ASIDE, DON. I GOTTA MAKE AN IMPORTANT PHONE CALL.  
(RECEIVER UP - FEW DIALS)

DURANTE: HELLO? DURANTE OFFERS TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR IT.  
GOODBYE.  
(RECEIVER DOWN)

AMECHE: Jim what are you offering ten thousand dollars for?

DURANTE: THE MOST VALUABLE THING IN THE COUNTRY TODAY - CLARK GABLE'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK!

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. ✓

56

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

VINES: 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!

CONOVER: Make your own Camel mildness test. Smoke only Camels  
for thirty days -- and you'll see how mild a cigarette  
can be!

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

132

(MUSIC: -- BRIDGE)

CONOVER: (TENDERLY) When Christmas time comes this close, there's one thing most of us like to do. Take out a copy of Charles Dickens classic story, ... sit by the fire..and read.. "A Christmas Carol" to a little fellow on your knee who's just himself learning how to read... Well, that's what Don Ameche is doing as we look in on him.

AMECHE: (READS) And as the lights of the town twinkled in the snow, Tiny Tim turned and said, "Bless them every one."

(CLOSING OF BOOK)

AMECHE: (SIGHS) Well, that finishes it.

DURANTE: THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL, DON, READ IT TO ME AGAIN!

AMECHE: Gosh, Jim, you really go for that story, huh?

DURANTE: I LOVED IT FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY MISTLETOE DON BUT I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER, DON, I GOTTA GIVE YOU YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENT NOW.

AMECHE: Well, gee, that's awfully sweet of you, Jim.

DURANTE: HERE IT IS...I KNITTED IT ALL BY MYSELF.

AMECHE: But Jim, how could you knit? You don't have any knitting needles!

DURANTE: THE OTHER DAY A BALL OF YARN GOT TANGLED IN MY NOSE AND BEFORE I KNEW IT ... A SWEATER!

AMECHE: (CHUCKLING) That's right...with a needle like that, you could put the woolen mills out of business! But you're just making that up about your nose. You're ashamed to admit you've really been knitting.

DURANTE: WELL IT GIVES ME SOMETHING TO DO ON THE SUBWAYS. IN FACT WHILE RIDING HOME YESTERDAY I WAS KNITTING LITTLE BOOTIES FOR MY BABY NEPHEW BUT WAS I HUMILIATED!

AMECHE: What happened?

DURANTE: A LITTLE OLD LADY TAPPED ME ON THE SHOULDER AND SAID  
"MADAM DO YOU WAKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT WITH A  
MAD DESIRE FOR STRAWBERRIES!" ( I WAS SO MAD I PEARLED  
TWO INSTEAD OF ONE )

AMECHE: Well, thanks a lot Jim. It looks like a real nice warm  
sweater.

DURANTE: I COPIED IT FROM A PATTERN BOOK.

AMECHE: I'll slip it on. Wait a minute, this sweater has five  
sleeves.

DURANTE: HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT I COPIED IT FROM THE PAGE ON GLOVES!

AMECHE: Now what possible use could there be for a sweater with  
five sleeves?

DURANTE: IF YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW A COW THAT GETS COLD AROUND MILKING  
TIME SHE'S ALL SET FOR THE WINTER!

AMECHE: Well, Jim, since you gave me my present, I might as well  
give you yours. Here, take this watch.

DURANTE: DON, I'M OVERWHELMED BEYOND GRATITUDE.

AMECHE: (ENTHUSIASTIC) Look at it, Jim .. look at it. It's one of  
those new chronograph watches. This dial shows Greenwich  
Mean Time, this arrow shows standard time, a revolution of  
this dial equals a phase of the moon, this hand here tells  
the conditions of the ebb tides and this dial shows  
European time and that other one there shows Asiatic time.

DURANTE: HOW CAN I TELL HIM I'M JUST LEARNING HOW TO READ THE MINUTE  
HAND ON MY MICKEY MOUSE WATCH!..... ~~BUT DON LET ME THANK  
YOU FOR THIS CHRONOGRAPHICAL WATCH.~~

~~AMECHE: Jim, just wind it up ... it chimes a tune.~~

~~DURANTE: OKAY~~

~~(SLIGHT WINDING OF WATCH)~~

~~(MUSIC: (CELESTE) CHIMES PLAYING JINGLE BELLS)~~

DURANTE: ~~MY FAVORITE SONG ... MULE TRAIN!~~ BUT EXCUSE ME DON, I GOTTA RUSTLE ALONG TO DO SOME LAST MINUTE SHOPPING.

AMECHE: Jim, you can't go now - have you forgotten? NBC has asked us to take part in a special Christmas broadcast.

DURANTE: THAT'S RIGHT - WE'RE GONNA BE INTERVIEWED RIGHT HERE FROM OUT HOTEL SOOT. <sup>Ameh: ↓</sup> I WONDER WHERE THIS GUY IS. MAYBE YOUR HOUSEKEEPER MRS. MATARATZA KNOWS. I'LL ASK HER. (CALLS) MRS. MATARATZA!

BERNER: (OFF MIKE) I'm a coming. (COMING UP TO MIKE) (SINGS)  
"Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way .... New York is low on water and there ain't no bath today. Hey!

DURANTE: AH MRS. MATARATZA YOU'RE CERTAINLY AMUCK WITH THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

BERNER: Yes, I'm just went out and bought a Christmas present for my husband. You know, we've a been married for a long time and we have a fifteen kids. So I'm a bought him this book.

AMECHE: What's the name of the book?

BERNER: "How To Live Alone and Like It!"

DURANTE: MRS. MATARATZA, IS THE MAN HERE FOR THE INTERVIEW YET.

BERNER: No. Now remember, Mr. Durante when you get on the radio, don't forget to tell them about my special recipe for Christmas Punch.

AMECHE: Is it any good?

BERNER: I'm make it for my husband every year. I'm put in two quarts of Rye, two quarts of Scotch and a pound of garlic.

AMECHE: What's the idea of that?

BERNER: The rye and the scotch knocks him out and the garlic lets me know what table he's under!

DURANTE: WITH THAT GARLIC, THE GUY'S GOTTA LIVE ALONE AND LIKE IT!...

AMECHE: But I --

(DOOR KNOCK)

BERNER: That's the man from the radio - I'm a let him in.

ALBERTSON: How do you do, Mr. Durante ... Mr. Ameche ... I'm Mr. Keller of NBC.

AMECHE: How do you

ALBERTSON: We have all our equipment set up in the next room and we're about ready to start. You know, besides the United States this program is being shortwaved around the world.

AMECHE: Well, that's swell.

DURANTE: WILL MY UNCLE LOUIE BE ABLE TO HEAR IT IN CHICAGO?

ALBERTSON: Why of course.

DURANTE: THAT'S FUNNY, HE LIVES IN PHILADELPHIA! (LAUGHS) I GOT A MILLION OF THEM, A MILLION OF THEM! (DON, I GOTTA SHOW THESE NBC GUYS THAT I'M FUNNY.)

AMECHE: (LAUGHS WITH HIM) ~~That's a good idea, Jim. (SLIGHT~~  
~~PAUSE)~~ When are you gonna start?

DURANTE: MR. AMECHE, ANOTHER REMARK LIKE THAT AND I'LL TAKE AWAY  
YOUR MOUSTACHE WAX!

ALBERTSON: Stand by, we're almost on the air. Now the first thing  
I want each of you to do is to wish everyone a Merry  
Christmas. Here we go. (ON) And now our world wide  
Christmas round up brings us to Hotel Astor, where our  
guests are Jimmy Durante and Don Ameche. First, a few  
words from Mr. Ameche.

AMECHE: Merry Christmas everyone. As we approach the Yuletide,  
I'd like to extend season greetings to everyone.

DURANTE: AND I'D LIKE TO ..

AMECHE: And to my cousins in California, my best wishes for a  
Merry Christmas and to my aunt in Duluth, a Merry  
Christmas also.

DURANTE: AND I'D LIKE TO ...

AMECHE: And naturally I wanna say Merry Christmas to my wife  
and children and also to my Mother in law.

DURANTE: AND I'D LIKE TO ..

AMECHE: In fact, I'd like to say Merry Christmas to every man,  
woman and child, no matter where they may be.

ALBERTSON: And now Mr. Durante, what would you like to say?

DURANTE: HAPPY NEW YEAR, CHRISTMAS IS OVER!



ALBERTSON: Isn't that wonderful, folks. And now, Mr. Durante since this program is really for the children, will you tell something of the memories of your adolescence?

DURANTE: I'LL BE GLAD TO TELL YOU ABOUT ~~MY ADOLESCENCE~~. I REMEMBER ONE CHRISTMAS WHEN WE WERE VERY POOR AND THERE WASN'T MUCH HEAT IN THE HOUSE. BUT I HUNG UP MY STOCKING BY THE FIRE PLACE ANYHOW.

ALBERTSON: And what did you find in that stocking the next morning?

DURANTE: MY FATHER, I TOLD YOU THERE WASN'T MUCH HEAT IN THE HOUSE!

ALBERTSON: Isn't that wonderful, folks. And now Mr. Ameche, ~~what about your recollections of the holiday season?~~

AMECHE: Well, the thing I can remember most clearly was the Xmas when I was four years old and grew a mustache.

ALBERTSON: You grew a mustache when you were four years old?

AMECHE: I had to ... there wasn't much heat in our house either!

~~ALBERTSON: Isn't that wonderful, folks? Now Mr. Durante, let's continue down your memory lane.~~

~~DURANTE: WELL, I REMEMBER WHEN THEY THREW A XMAS PARTY FOR ALL THE KIDS IN THE THIRD GRADE. BUT I WASN'T INVITED.~~

~~ALBERTSON: Why not? Weren't you in the third grade?~~

~~DURANTE: I WAS IN THE THIRD GRADE BUT I WASN'T A KID ANYMORE!~~

ALBERTSON: Isn't that wonderful folks? ~~And now as we approach the close of this part of the broadcast,~~ will you, Mr. Durante and Mr. Ameche, exchange Xmas greetings with the children of the foreign lands who are listening. First to England.

1ST KID: (FILTER) Mr. Durante, a ripping jolly Xmas.

DURANTE: AND A RIPPING JOLLY CHRISTMAS TO YOU TOO.

ALBERTSON: And now to the children of Austria.

BOBBY: (FILTER) Froylichi Vee-nochten.

AMECHE: Froylichi Vee-nochten.

ALBERTSON: And now the children of France.

KID: (FILTER) Monsieur Durante, nous souhaitous a tous les Francais, petits et grands, nos meilleurs voeux pour Noel et la Nouville Anne. Bonne sante et bonne a tous!

ALBERTSON: Mr. Durante?

DURANTE: MY GREETING WILL BE TRANSCRIBED FOR A MORE CONVENIENT TIME!

ALBERTSON: Well, we conclude our portion of the broadcast ~~and that is all we will hear from Mr. Durante and Mr. Ameche.~~  
Isn't that wonderful, folks? ... Well, thanks a lot for the cooperation fellas ... May I wish you both a happy Yuletide.

DURANTE: AND WE WISH YOU A HAPPY MULETIDE.  
(DOOR SLAM)

AMECHE: Well, now that the broadcast is over, Jim, I guess you can be on your way.

DURANTE: WAIT A MINUTE, DON THAT BROADCAST STARTED AN IDEA RUNNING IN MY BRAIN. WHY DON'T WE GIVE A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR A BUNCH OF KIDS WHO NEVER HAD ONE.

AMECHE: Why Jim, that's a wonderful idea. We're away from home, but it'll seem like being with my own kids again.

DURANTE: YEAH AND WE CAN GET VERA VAGUE TO HELP WITH THE FESTIVITIES. BOY WHAT A PARTY IT'LL BE.

AMECHE: Yeah, spiced apples and peppermint sticks.

DURANTE: CHOCOLATE FUDGE AND POP CORN.

AMECHE: Roast Turkey and ...

DURANTE: CRANBERRY SAUCE.

AMECHE: Chestnut stuffing.

DURANTE: CANDIED YAMS.

AMECHE: Fruit cake.

DURANTE: ICE CREAM. WELL, LET'S GO, DON.

AMECHE: To see Vera?

DURANTE: NO, TO GET AN <sup>*Bicarbonate of Soda*</sup> ~~ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER~~, WE'VE BEEN MAKING PIGS  
OF OURSELVES!

(MUSIC: -- BRIDGE)

AMECHE: Well, this is where Vera lives... let's go in and tell her about the Christmas party.

DURANTE: YOU TELL HER, DON, I'LL GO DOWN THE HALL TO THE PHONE BOOTH. I GOTTA FIND A GROUP OF KIDS TO GIVE THE PARTY FOR. HAVE YOU GOT A NICKEL FOR THE PHONE?

AMECHE: Yeah - here.

DURANTE: NOW HAVE YOU GOT A LONG STRING?

AMECHE: What's that for?

DURANTE: YOU WANT THAT NICKEL BACK, 'DON'T YOU?

AMECHE: Oh, stop kidding - I'll see you later... Now let's see... this is Vera Vague's room right here. I'll ring the bell.

(MUSIC: CHIMES PLAY "HERE COMES THE BRIDE")

(DOOR OPENS)

VAGUE: Just hoping... just hoping!

AMECHE: Miss Vague!

(APPLAUSE)

VAGUE: Come in, Mr. Ameche, I was just mailing out my last batch of Christmas cards. I write my own poetry for them, you know.

AMECHE: Well, let's see one of those poems.

VAGUE: I'll read it to you. Listen...

Santa Claus sticks to his old fashioned reindeer  
But he can learn a lesson from someone else I fear  
Let him just take a look at Mayor O'Dwyer  
He proved it's never too late to take a flyer!  
(He showed he was able - and so did Gable).

AMECHE: Very nice, Miss Vague, very nice.

VAGUE: But Mr. Ameche, I'm glad you're here. I've been going out of my mind trying to figure out what to give you for Xmas. Is there anything special you'd like.

AMECHE: Well, I'm getting a little tired of shaving with an old fashioned straight razor. I could use one of those new Remingtons.

VAGUE: Oh that's ridiculous. How could you ever get your face in that typewriter!

AMECHE: Well, we'll talk about that later. Now, Jimmy will be here in a minute and he's asked me to...

VAGUE: Oh, then we haven't got much time to be alone. How about a nice friendly holiday kiss?

AMECHE: Oh, come now, Miss Vague, you wouldn't wanna kiss a man with a mustache.

VAGUE: Listen, who ever heard of turning down a kiss just because there's a little mistletoe hanging above! ~~Oh Vera, you're shameless.~~

AMECHE: Miss Vague, that approach of yours would scare anyone away. Be sophisticated. If I was at all interested, I'd want a woman of the world.

VAGUE: But I am a woman of the world.

AMECHE: I mean this one! Miss Vague, why don't you make a resolution to stop chasing just any old battered, broken down, hulk of a man.

VAGUE: Well, alright, Mr. Ameche....but I'll miss you!

AMECHE: Oh, why do I always get into arguments with you. This is Christmas and I just came here to tell you that Jimmy and I are giving a party for a bunch of kids. Will you help us?

VAGUE: Why I'd love to. I'll write the Christmas play.

AMECHE: Well, I was thinking about doing that. You don't know anything about writing.

VAGUE: Oh, you silly boy. Why I was the one who wrote that famous play, "A Streetcar Named Gregory Peck."

AMECHE: That's a Streetcar Named Desire.

VAGUE: You desire what you want, I'll desire what I want!... But please, let me take care of the play.

AMECHE: O.K., I guess I'll make fixing the Christmas tree my department.

VAGUE: Well, I'm pretty good too. Look at that Christmas tree. I just finished trimming it.

AMECHE: Gee, it is nice.. you must have about two hundred ornaments on it.

(DOOR OPENS)

DURANTE: HIYA DON... GREETINGS OF THE SEASON, VERA.

AMECHE: Hi, Jim.

VAGUE: Bon Noel.

DURANTE: AND A BONY MOTEL TO YOU TOO! MY WHAT A LOVELY CHRISTMAS TREE. LOOK AT THOSE HUNDREDS OF BEAUTIFUL ORNAMENTS ON THAT LOVELY GREEN TREE. I'LL BREATHE IN DEEP AND INHALE ITS FRAGRANCE. (BIG INHALE)

(FALLING OF MANY GLASS ORNAMENTS TO FLOOR..  
BIG CRASH SOUNDS)

ANYBODY WANNA BUY A BARE TWIG!

VAGUE: Well, the tree doesn't really matter now. I'm too excited about the party for the kids.

AMECHE: Yeah, Jim, how did you make out?

DURANTE: DON WE'RE THROWING A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE WALNUT STREET BOYS CLUB. THEY'RE DOWN AT THE EAST SIDE.

VAGUE: The Walnut Street Boys Club?

AMECHE: Jim, they're the toughest kids in town. Maybe we ought to go find another group.

DURANTE: NO, THOSE KIDS ARE ENTITLED TO A CHRISTMAS PARTY JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

AMECHE: I guess you're right.

VAGUE: Yes, Jim.

DURANTE: IN FACT, I WISH PEOPLE WOULD THROW MORE PARTIES FOR KIDS, THAT CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IS WONDERFUL, BUT WE SHOULDN'T SAVE IT FOR ONE DAY.

(MUSIC: "JIMMY'S SONG "ISN'T IT A SHAME THAT XMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR" ...)

13<sup>74</sup>

Isn't it a shame Christmas comes but once a year  
DURANTE: ISN'T IT A SHAME CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR.  
WOULDN'T IT BE NICE IF IT CAME AROUND TWICE.  
SPEAKING JOY AND CHEER  
JUST WHEN EVERYONE FORGETS GOOD WILL TO MEN  
THAT'S THE TIME FOR JINGLE BELLS TO CHIME AGAIN  
NOW ISN'T IT A SHAME THAT CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE  
A YEAR.

(APPLAUSE)

1400



"THE JIMMY DURANTE SHOW" - #51 -10-  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1949  
R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY  
CAMEL CIGARETTES COMMERCIAL

1ST ANNCR: Say, Don, here's that Chemical Engineer you wanted to talk  
to -- Mr. Edward Paxton.

AMECHE: Hello, Mr. Paxton!  
(TAPE)

PAXTON: Hello, Don!

AMECHE: You made the Camel thirty-day mildness test under the  
supervision of a throat specialist. Is that right?

PAXTON: Yes, Don, I smoked Camels exclusively for thirty days --  
about a pack and a half a day. And each week, during the  
test, the specialist examined my throat.

AMECHE: And what did the specialist say?

PAXTON: He said my throat didn't show any sign of irritation from  
smoking Camels!

AMECHE: Well, I'm sure you were glad to hear that!

PAXTON: Yes, I was! I've always liked Camel's taste -- they taste  
better than any other cigarette I've ever smoked. And  
now I know that they're mild!

AMECHE: I gather you like Camels?

PAXTON: Smoke 'em all the time!

AMECHE: Thanks a lot, Mr. Edward Paxton.

1ST ANNCR: Friends, hundreds of men and women made the same test as  
Mr. Paxton. They smoked Camels exclusively, between one  
and two packs a day, for thirty days. Noted throat  
specialists, making weekly examinations, reported not one  
single case of throat irritation due to smoking Camels!

"THE JIMMY DURANTE SHOW" - #51 -19-  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1949  
R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY  
COMMERCIAL CONT'D

2ND ANNCR: Make a note. Remember your throat. Try Camels today!

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)

15 15

(MUSIC: BRIDGE)

AMECHE: Well, we were really excited about this Xmas party we were giving for the <sup>Walnut</sup> ~~Hooby~~ Street Boys Club. ~~We ordered trees and decorations and all the fixings, and had them sent up to the Club House.~~ The only thing that worried me was that I heard a lot of stories about how tough these kids were... and when we got near the Club House, I wasn't particularly encouraged.

(FOOTSTEPS CRUNCHING ON SNOW UNDER)

DURANTE: DON, DON'T LOOK SO WORRIED. I'M SURE WE CAN HANDLE THESE KIDS.

AMECHE: Well, I sure hope so. The people around here look pretty rough.

DURANTE: DON, YOU THINK THIS IS A TOUGH NEIGHBORHOOD? YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE NEIGHBORHOOD I WAS BORN IN. ANY GUY WHO WENT OUT WITH A GIRL WOULD GET ALL HIS TEETH KNOCKED OUT.

AMECHE: Really?

DURANTE: YEAH, IN THOSE DAYS I WAS KNOWN AS GUMMY BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!

~~AMECHE: Well, there's one thing about this neighborhood tonight. It's Christmas Eve and the snow is nice.~~

~~DURANTE: YEAH, IT BRINGS ME BACK TO MY YOUTH AND MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A YOUNGSTER AGAIN. I THINK I'LL MAKE A SNOWBALL,~~

~~AMECHE: Aw, Jim, you wouldn't know how to throw it after all these years.~~

~~DURANTE: DURANTE HAS NEVER LOST HIS TOUCH. YOU SEE THAT FIRE HYDRANT ACROSS THE STREET. WATCH ME HIT IT WITH THIS SNOWBALL.~~

AMECHE: You'll never hit that hydrant.

DURANTE: ~~OH NO? HERE GOES.~~

(SLIDE WHISTLE...DOG YELPS FADING OFF)

~~DURANTE: I JUST MISSED IT BY A FEW INCHES!~~

AMECHE: Oh, that's the Clubhouse right there. I hope Vera and Mrs. Mataratza get here soon. They're still working on that play.

DURANTE: THEY'LL BE HERE IN TIME. HEY LOOK DON, THERE'S A COUPLE OF KIDS IN FRONT OF THE CLUB HOUSE WAITING FOR US.

AMECHE: Well, let's go over and introduce ourselves.

DURANTE: HELLO, YOU FINE LOOKING YOUNGSTERS. MERRY XMAS...AND GUESS WHO I AM.

DAVID: (TOUGH) You can't be Santa Claus....you're carrying your bag in front of you.

DURANTE: IT'S CHRISTMAS AND NUTHIN'S GONNA PRETURB ME.

AMECHE: Listen, he's Jimmy Durante...and I happen to be Don Ameche.

~~BOBBY: (ALSO TOUGH) Hey, get a load of the teeth on this guy.....~~  
~~He looks like he was hid in the mouth with thirty two~~  
~~..snow balls!~~

~~AMECHE: (SOFT) son, you ought to watch your manners.~~

BOBBY: Ahhhhh, I bet you wear underwear.

DURANTE: AND LOOK AT YOU, YOUR FACE IS DIRTY AND THAT HAIR. IN FRONT IT'S HANGING DOWN OVER YOUR FOREHEAD, ON THE SIDE IT'S COVERING YOUR EARS AND ON TOP IT'S STICKING OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

BOBBY: So what?

DURANTE: I WISH I HAD YOUR PROBLEMS!

AMECHE: Well, come on kids, let's go in and meet the rest of the gang.

DAVID: O.K.

(DOOR OPEN.....SLIGHT CROWD NOISES)

DURANTE: SAY, DON, WHO'S THAT HUSKY MAN COMING OVER HERE WITH THE BASEBALL CAP AND THE SWEATSHIRT?

BOBBY: Ahhhh, that's our athletic director.

AMECHE: Look at him, Jim. What a man he must be to lead a tough bunch of kids like that. How do you sir? Just the way you carry yourself shows that you have authority and at a single word from you the kids jump to attention. How do you feel as the leader and boss of all these tough kids?

GIBSON: Oh they scare the pants off me!

DURANTE: WHAT A PHYSICAL DIRECTOR - A HUNDRED AND TEN POUNDS  
OF SOLID NUTTIN'.

AMECHE: Say, do you always have trouble with these kids?

GIBSON: Oh yes indeedy! ~~The other day, I got into a terrible  
fight with a six year old kid and I got beat to a pulp!~~

~~DURANTE: COSH THAT'S TERRIBLE.~~

~~GIBSON: Yes, then she let her brother beat me too!~~

DURANTE: MONSIEUR ANEMIC, YOU OUGHT TO TRY TO BUILD YOURSELF UP.

AMECHE: Yeah, eat some of those body building breakfast cereals.

GIBSON: Oh, I don't like those. I tried one this morning that  
went snap, crackle, pop...and I just couldn't eat it.

DURANTE: WHY NOT?

GIBSON: It kept knocking me off the chair!

AMECHE: Now I know where I've seen you before. Didn't my canary  
once hatch you?

GIBSON: Yes...how about that? But I do wish I could build myself  
up.

DURANTE: WELL YOU HAVE GYMNASIUM HERE <sup>(Repeat)</sup> AND LOTS OF ATHLETIC  
PARAFINALYA..TRY LIFTING WEIGHTS. LIFT THE FIFTY POUND  
BELL BAR, LIFT THE HUNDRED POUND BELL BAR, LIFT THE TWO  
HUNDRED POUND BELL BAR.

GIBSON: Oh, you mad dreamer you.

AMECHE: What do you mean?

GIBSON: I can't even lift the nut out of a chocolate bar!

DURANTE: POOR GUY...TO HIM A PEANUT CLUSTER MUST BE A CATASTASTROKE!

AMECHE: Never mind, Jim. Come on..let's get the Xmas party  
started. Will you call the boys together please.

GIBSON: Allrighty...I'll just blow my whistle.

(FAIRLY WEAK WHISTLE)

GIBSON: There. Now again.

(MUCH WEAKER WHISTLE)

GIBSON: Oh, I can't go on.

AMECHE: Why not?

GIBSON: I'm bushed!

DURANTE: WAIT A MINUTE, I'LL CALL THE KIDS OVER MYSELF.. (CALLS)  
KIDS...HEY KIDS.

AMECHE: (CALLS) Come on, we're starting the party.

1ST KID: (FADING ON) Ah, we don't need your party anymore.

2ND KID: Yeah, we already ate up all the cake and candy.

AMECHE: But we're gonna do a Xmas play for you boys.

1ST KID: Xmas play? Ah, that proves you guys is sissies.

DURANTE: NO, WE'RE NOT SISSIES.

2ND KID: Yes you are.

AMECHE: Hey, Jim, look...here comes Miss Vague.

VAGUE: Oh, hello Don...hello, Jim...I hope I'm not too late.

2ND KID: You see, you are sissies. You brought your mother here to protect you!

VAGUE: Oh, this dear little boy is sharp as a tack ~~teight~~. If I only had a hammer.

DURANTE: MISS VAGUE, REMEMBER....THE XMAS SPIRIT. LET'S START THE PLAY.

VAGUE: O. K. I brought Mrs. Mataratza and the musicians from the show along.

AMECHE: That's swell. Everyone sit down...we're gonna begin.

1ST KID: O. K., we'll listen...

2ND KID: But we ain't gonna like it.

DURANTE: MAESTRO, A FANFARE.

(MUSIC: \_\_\_ SHORT INTRODUCTION)

DURANTE: GOOD EVENING..I AM THE NARRATOR. THE SCENE IS MERRY OLD ENGLAND. IN THE HARTH A FIRE BLAZES WHILE THE GOOD SQUIRE SITS IN HIS EASY CHAIR READING SHERLOCK HOLMES STORY, "THE HOUND OF THE BASKETBALLS!" NEXT TO HIM SITS HIS SPROUSE AND THEN...

1ST KID: (YELLS) Ah, cut the junk. Hey fellas...let's sneak into the movies and see Sam Spade.

2ND MAN: Yeah....this ain't no good.

AMECHE: Jim, we better do something fast. We gotta give them a Xmas play that they'll understand..in their kind of language.

DURANTE: OH, I GET IT. THEY WANT A XMAS PLAY ALONG THE LINES OF SAM SPADE. WELL, WE'LL GIVE IT TO 'EM. MAESTRO, A MYSTERY CHORD PLEASE.

*MUSIC: Mystery Chord*



AMECHE: (SAM SPADISH) I'm Don Ameche, private eye.

DURANTE: AND I'M HIS ASSISTANT ... JAMES DURANTE ... PUBLIC NOSE!

AMECHE: We call this caper .. the man who was afraid of Xmas or ...

(MUSIC: \_\_ MYSTERY CHORD)

AMECHE: The No-el Coward!

DURANTE: IT ALL STARTED ON XMAS EVE. I WALKED INTO MY OFFICE.  
SUDDENLY SOMEBODY FIRED TWO SHOTS AT ME.

(TWO GUN SHOTS)

DURANTE: I WHIPPED OUT MY GUN AND FIRED BACK. (LONG PAUSE) MY  
SILENCER WAS WORKING PERFECTLY! ... I WAS WORRIED, SO  
I CALLED FOR THE CHIEF. (CALLS) CHIEF .. CHIEF!

AMECHE: Here I am, Durante.

DURANTE: WHERE WERE YOU ALL WEEK?

AMECHE: I've been laying low.

DURANTE: LAYING LOW?

AMECHE: Yes, the slats in my bed broke! ... But Durante, this is  
Xmas Eve. Any new capers?

DURANTE: NO, BOSS, NOT ONE SINGLE KIPPER! ...

IF WE DON'T GET ONE SOON, I'LL GO OUT OF MY MIND.

(MUSIC: \_\_ SERIES OF MYSTERY CHORDS)

AMECHE: And then it happened. She walked in. She was wearing a white satin evening gown over a turtle neck sweater.

DURANTE: SHE SPOKE. HER VOICE WAS SOFT AND SILKY.

VAGUE: Boys ... boys ... I've got a case for you.

~~AMECHE: Tell us about it.~~

~~VAGUE: Well, let me settle my nerves first. I need a smoke.  
Have you a match?~~

~~DURANTE: YES, HERE YOU ARE.~~

~~VAGUE: Thank you.~~

~~(MATCH STRIKING)~~

~~VAGUE: Ooooh, that match tastes awful .. next time I'll smoke  
a cigarette! ... But now let me tell you my story.~~

DURANTE: YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME ANYTHING. I'M A DETECTIVE. THE REASON YOU CAME HERE WAS THAT YOUR HUSBAND WAS SHOT AT SIX THIRTY SEVEN THIS MORNING BY A LUGER FIRED FROM A DISTANCE OF TWENTY TWO AND A HALF FEET AT A FIFTY DEGREE ANGLE AT THIRTY THREE AND A HALF WHIMBLEY DRIVE BY A MAN WEARING A BLACK ULSTER, PEARL GRAY GLOVES, SUEDE MOCASSINS, BLACK WHITE AND A SILK MUFFLER WHO ESCAPED IN A THIRTY NINE DOOZENBURG HEADING NORTHEAST. AM I CORRECT.

VAGUE: No.

DURANTE: JUST A STAB IN THE DARK!

AMECHE: Never mind. Start talking, sister ... tell us your troubles.

VAGUE: It's my uncle Scrooge. He's a rich miser and he fears that someone is trying to break into his house. It may mean gun paly. Are you good shots.

DURANTE: MADAM, I AM A PERFECT MARKSMAN. MR. AMECHE, HOLD ~~THIS~~

*little dime*  
~~CIGARETTE~~ AND I'LL SHOOT IT OUT OF YOUR HAND.

AMECHE: But I ...

DURANTE: DON'T FEAR. I WILL SHOOT THAT ~~CIGARETTE~~ <sup>dime</sup> SAFELY OUT OF YOUR HAND. HERE GOES.

(GUN SHOT)

DURANTE: ALLRIGHT, MR. AMECHE ... YOU MAY NOW PICK UP THE ~~CIGARETTE~~ <sup>dime</sup>.

AMECHE: With what? ... But come on ... we're off to Scrooge's house.

(MUSIC: -- BRIDGE)

AMECHE: We walked into Scrooge's house.

DURANTE: THE FIRST PERSON WE MET WAS STOOGES WIFE. SHE WAS VERY ENGLISH.

AMECHE: She spoke.

BERNER: (ITALIAN) Yes, I'm a Scrooge's wife. Ripping, tally ho, pip pip and all that sort of garlic.

DURANTE: THAT WAS THE BEST CASTING WE COULD DO!

BERNER: Well, I'll call a my husband. (CALLS) Oh Scroogy ..., Scroogy! Come down a here ... you mean old a miser.

MAN: (MEAN) Oh, there you go, nagging me again.

AMECHE: Start talking Scrooge. What's the caper?

MAN: I need help. Every Xmas, someone tries to sneak into my house and steal my money.

DURANTE: HE MAY BE HIDING RIGHT HERE IN THE HOUSE. I'LL SEARCH THE CLOSETS.

(DOOR OPENS)

DURANTE: NOBODY THERE.

(DOOR OPENS)

DURANTE: NOBODY THERE.

(DOOR OPENS)

DURANTE: NOBODY THERE.

(DOOR OPENS)

GIRL: (SEXY) Hello sweetie pie, baby doll, honey lamb.

DURANTE: THE LINE IN THE PLAY SAYS NOBODY THERE BUT I'M COMING  
BACK!

AMECHE: Scrooge, it's just a few minutes before midnight,  
Christmas Eve. If he's ever gonna come into your  
house .. nows the time.

(CLATTER AND LITTLE TINKLING OF BELLS)

MAN: Oh, I hear him. He's on the roof.

DURANTE: HE'S COMING DOWN THE CHIMNEY!

(SLIDE DOWN AND CRASH)

AMECHE: Why, it's Santa Claus. Roly Poly Jolly Santa Claus!

GIBSON: Merry Christmas, everyone!

DURANTE: SCROOGE YOU SILLY FOOL. ALL THIS TIME YOU WERE TRYING  
TO KEEP THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS OUT OF YOUR HOUSE.

AMECHE: But you can't do it, Scrooge. Sooner or later, it'll  
find a way in.

MAN: I guess you're right.

GIBSON: Well, I've got other places to stop at. So long, fellas..  
Up Donder .. Up Blitzen ... oh, I can't go on ,.. I'm  
still bushed.

DURANTE: AND SO ENDS THE CHRISTMAS CAPER!

(MUSIC: \_ \_ \_ PLAYOFF)

(APPLAUSE)

1ST KID: Hey, that was pretty good, you know.

2ND KID: Yeah .. we learned a lot about what Christmas means.

VAGUE: Well, thank you, Children.

BERNER: Glad you a liked it.

AMECHE: O.K., now that the play is over, kids ... get in line  
and we'll distribute the presents.

DURANTE: YEAH, I'LL START GIVING THEM OUT.

1ST KID: Wait a minute, you can't give out the presents ... you  
ain't Santa Claus.

DURANTE: NO ... BUT I'M SANTA CLAUSES PARTNER.

2ND KID: Who are you? ✓

(INTO SONG "JIMMY DURANTE-CLAUS")

25 '5

"JIMMY DURANTE CLAUS"

DURANTE: I'm JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS

GROUP: HE'S THE PARTNER OF SANTA CLAUS

AMECHE: *Show you*  
HIS TOY BAG ISN'T ON HIS BACK AS HE GOES THRU THE SNOWS.  
HE'S GOT A BETTER PLACE IN FRONT--HE HOOKS IT ON HIS NOSE!

GROUP: MEET JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS

DURANTE: I'M THE PARTNER OF SANTA CLAUS

VAGUE: GEE, YOU GOT ME PUZZLED  
I RECOGNIZE THAT BRAIN- DEAR!

BERNER: I'M NOT SURE, BUT SOMEHOW HE LOOKS LIKE  
THE LEADING REINDEER!

GROUP: THE PARTNER OF SANTA CLAUS  
IS JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS!

GROUP: JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS --  
JINGLE ALL THE WAY

AMECHE: OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE DURANTA CLAUS' SLEIGH!

GROUP: JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS  
SANTA'S ON HIS WAY.

DURANTE: THERE'S A WATER SHORTAGE  
SO I DIDN'T SHAVE TODAY

GROUP: HE'S JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS

DURANTE: I'M THE PARTNER OF SANTA CLAUS  
IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS EVE WE KNOW SO UP AND DOWN THE HALL

AMECHE: NO CREATURE'S STIRRING AND BEFORE OLD SANTA COMES TO CALL!

GROUP: WE'D LIKE TO WISH A MERRY XMAS TO YOU ONE AND ALL FROM:

AMECHE: DON AMECHE!

VAGUE: VERA VAGUE!

BERNER: SARA BERNER!

(MORE)

QUARTET: THE CAMEL QUARTET

BARGY: ROY BARGY

DURANTE: UMBRIAGO

GIBSON: ME TOO  
*Group: and Camels*  
GROUP: AND JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS

DURANTE: IN PERSON

ALL: JIMMY DURANTA CLAUS!!!

(APPLAUSE) ✓

27<sup>17</sup>

"THE JIMMY DURANTE SHOW"

#51

COMMERCIAL:

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

1ST ANNCR: 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!

2ND ANNCR: Say, for those last minute Christmas gifts -- get Camels. They come in a gay Christmas carton, all ready to give!

ANNCR: Each week, the makers of Camels send gift cigarettes to serviceman's and veterans' hospitals. This week, the Camels go to: Veterans' Hospitals, Mountain Homes, Tennessee and McKinney, Texas ... U. S. Army Station Hospital, Camp Kilmer, New Jersey .. U. S. Naval Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida.

More than one hundred ninety-million free Camels have now been sent to servicemen, servicewomen and veterans. ✓ 2812



(MUSIC: \_ \_ WHO WILL BE)

AMECHE: Good night and Merry Christmas Jim. And on  
behalf of the makers of Camels may I say A Very  
Merry Christmas to all our listeners.

DURANTE: THAT'S MY WISHES TOO, DON. MERRY CHRISTMAS  
EVERYONE AND MERRY CHRISTMAS, MRS. CALABASH -  
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU 'NEATH THE MISELETOE.

(Q) ✓

28 38

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. ✓

2850

ANNCR: For the pipe smokers on your list, give Prince Albert, the National Joy Smoke. The one-pound tin comes in a special Christmas carton! ✓

2856

(MUSIC: \_ \_ \_ SNEAK)

CONOVER: Camel Cigarettes also invites you to listen to "The Screen Guild Theatre" every Thursday evening over these same stations. On Thursday, December twenty-ninth, they will present...

*It's a Wonderful Life*  
*starring James Stewart, Donna Reed and Victor Moore*

Be sure to listen. ✓

2915

(MUSIC: \_ \_ \_ UP)

(APPLAUSE) ✓

2925