Continuity Skits VI-X 1964

Western Michigan University

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Skit VI

Dunbar - A change (break in with four boxes again walking across stage this time in Masters robes and larger boxes) Elmer stumbling
After across, Dunbar continues.

A changing faculty culture is now in evidence. In the Western that was the faculty lived in rooming houses but today plans are being negotiated for a faculty club -

Stouge I (sing songy) Once the elite Were exceedingly neat, But now to succeed The elite must look beat.

Scene 1 (Table with several straight laced people around in chairs - a maid who carries in dishes and silver. A hall tree Woman rushes in gasping in surprise - consults watch on chest, turns to hall tree - hangs up wig - fluffs bobbed hair - (one person at the table tsk tsk tsk in disgust) goes over and seats herself. Appears to be just bursting with new but serving and plates keep getting passed by - hands them on bounces in seat with excitement - Finally starts --

She - Ooh, I just could hardly wait to tell you - (pause - during which every eye is on her) Did you knowww -

They - (in unison) (with fingers to lips) Shhhhhhh! You know Pres. Waldo said never to tell school business in faculty rooming houses.

Dunbar: Now we have a word from our alternate, or next week's, sponsor. That will be the week that will be.
The Western Saddle soap Company.

Stooge 1: If your skin is too tender and soft and delicate, if you suffer from the condition doctors call demisinfirma, if intermediate measures are inadequate, if you can no longer straddle the issue, then remember our motto: __________________

Scene 2

Stooge 2 repeats sing song above of Stooge 1

(two beatnicks are seated with feet on table counting money from the finest leather - labelled faculty club funds)

Beatnick 1 (whistles) Look what Jimmie put in!

Stooge 2: Get you off your burro, Dope; Save your skin with Saddle Soap.

Stooge 3: And soon your skin will be a match for the finest leather. Soon you will not suffer or complain no matter how often you have to ride to North Valley or Eastern Hilltop.

Western Saddle Soap is the Answer.

Stooge 1: And now we return to TW3.
Beat 2 - Jimmie who?
.. 1 - Miller
.. 2 - Figured he'd be a good touch. He'll do anything to keep the faculty from making (censored - turns head in stage)
(whisper) fools of themselves in public.

.. 1 - Yeah - Well, he's a pretty smart guy-
.. 2 - How so?
.. 1 - Look at his salary committee. He has convinced them that a man doesn't always get paid for what he knows but seldom escapes paying for what he doesn't know.
(Other looks blank - Beatnick 1 repeats and digs #2) Get it - ha ha.

.. 2 - Say did you hear how we got appointed to do this job?
.. 1 - No, how?
.. 2 - The faculty club group volunteered their services to a tooth brush company for pay.
.. 1 - No - Moonlighting ---
.. 2 - After six months of using bourbon flavored tooth paste the test group reported 40% more cavities -- and couldn't have cared less--
.. 1 - Our trouble seems to be that we expect a balanced world with people who aren't.
Dunbar — We pause for channel identification.

Stooge — Have you tried Carters Little Pills lately — That was the liver pill that was. Today through research of F.D.A. you can take them like nothing/ for anything.

Skit VII (Carter)

Theme Song — That was the Western that Was, The year was 28
Things started down the hill
The depression was moving in
Johnnie hadn't learned to read
Homer Carter came from Wayne
To build up Johnnie's speed.

Dunbar — Just as Mark Twain felt that one should never let his schooling interfere with his education, Homer seems to feel that a man's employment too often gets in the way of his work. This outlook is likely to result in Western seeing less of "Carter's little reading frills" and his Texas grandchildren seeing more of "Carter's little children's clothes."

Elmer — strum and play parady on My Merry Oldsmobile

1. Homer Carter has an Oldsmobile
   He drives to school every day.
   He's not a ten-o'clock scholar for
   He's early for work or for play.
   Each week he goes for a spin, you know;
   To teach at Niles and Holland, true.
   And when vacation days come 'round
   He heads for Texas, too.

Chorus

Come along and let's review
Some things Homer likes to do,
As down life's road he does fly
Psycho-educating you.
He writes books and papers, too;
Gives talks the whole world through.
But his pride and joy and his one true love
Is his merry Oldsmobile.
2. Young Johnnie Hill lacked in reading skill
'Til to the Clinic he came;
Where Carter's little reading frills
Put Johnnie back in the game.
Now when John ties up his shoes, you know,
And makes his bed
And feeds his pets,
He learns to read as he learns to speed;
And learns of Oldsmobiles

Chorus

Come along and let's review
Some things Homer likes to do,
As down life's road he does fly
Psycho-educating you.
He writes books and papers, too;
Gives talks the whole world through.
But his pride and joy and his one true love
Is his merry Oldsmobile.

Dunbar - In your T.V. Guiles you will note on page 6 the alleged titles of
some of the books written by Homer.

Stage 1 - But you can't tell a book by its title. Now take (holds up book)
"Teaching Individuals to Speed -

.. 2 - The inspiration for this is said to have come from his merry Oldsmobile.

.. 1 - Or "Effective Speeding" (holds up) - It is not clear whether this book deals
with words per minute or miles per hour.

.. 3 - And how about "Building a Successful College Career" - This book was
really intended for students, but faculty members bought up private copies so fast it was enough to keep Homer in the Oldsmobile class during the depression.

.. 2 - "Yearning to Read" (dreamily) Here we have a story about Johnnie
who wanted to read but couldn't learn to do so until he had learned
at the clinic to make his bed, tie his shoes, and feed the pets.

.. 3 - Yippee - Get this one "Reading Horrors" - A Carter anthology of
traumatic speed reading experiences.

.. 1 - The moral of this one is that one should read highway signs in
their proper order.
Dunbar - When Carter inks his next book here are some suggested titles which have just been received as the result of a nation wide Name the Book Contest: Effective Power Accessories Why Johnnie Can't Drive The Penalties of Reading Racing Forms It is not too late to send in your suggestions. Your nearest Oldsmobile dealer has the necessary forms. Be sure your entry is post marked not later than mid-night May 22. Don't send them to me. Send them to someone else.
Dunbar: While Homer has the practical problem of naming his latest book the University must face some practical problems too—what will they find to fill the positions of the two housemothers who are retiring?

(Desk and two chairs—seductive creature slinks in to Archie Potter and requests job)

She: (Chewing bubble gum) I'd like to apply for a position.

He: What position did you have in mind.

She: What have you got?

He: Well, now, let's see (picks up long list that unrolls into audience) Hmmm

She: Say, (sitting down) Ain't you got two of those "storage moms" retiring?

He: Storage Moms?

She: Yeah, you know—the dames that live where you store the college kids—

He: Oh—Ho—You mean the dormitories—Hmmm—Yes, we are losing two wonderful housemothers, Mrs. Hoekje and Mrs. Hiekly—Would you like to apply for a housemother's position?

She: Well actually I didn't have in mind being a mother—(trails off)

He: (Worried) Perhaps I overemphasized—

She: (hesitantly) C-C-Could I be sort of re-named? You see I'm used to responsibility but the title is important.

He: What did you have in mind?

She: What else but (looks around, stands, swings hip) Madam!
SKIT IX

Dunbar: And again from our sponsors;

Stooge 1: Look! Here is your chance to live free. Charming, manicured income colonial. Tenants furnished. Just too good to be true for only $20,000. Call Buelke and Lindeman, Inc.

Joyce: That was the Western that was,
When in 1928,
A young buck from Iowa State
Came to Paw Paw With his mate.
As a man of many parts,
He was tops in Industrial Arts.

Dunbar: Carl Lindeman has long been known as one of the most popular and helpful critic teacher who has placed the tools of learning in many hands. He has always counselled students who carry chips on their shoulders to get jobs in lumber yards where the chips wouldn't be noticed. In addition Carl possesses many special skills -

Stooge 1: Hickory Dickory Dock, (sing songy)

2. Tick Tock
3. That man can fix a clock
2. Tick Tock
1. When the clock won't run
3. He sure has fun
1&3. Hickory dickory dock
2. Tick tock

Dunbar: 1947 is an important year in the career of Carl for it was in that year that he pioneered the driver education program in this region - with no released time, and no additional pay.

Stooge 3: What? No $50,000 research grant or foundation?
Dunbar: A word from our sponsor -

Stooge: Realtors Disqualified Housing Corporation is proud to bring you the next portion of the program and exciting news for campus women over 21 -

We now have available for your occupancy choice basement apartments, near furnaces, one entrance only, beer parties permitted nightly, men may enter by laundry chutes, no exits. Neighbourhood not wired for sound. Local agents: Buelke and Lindeman Inc.

Joyce: That was the Western that was
Teaching and preaching were his game
Alonzo Goldsmith is his name
From toil with oil
To math education
And distributing black gold
As an avocation.

Dunbar: Here is (boxes go across stage again in bachelor robes and bigger boxes)
Here is a man who has retired to teaching as a hobby. "That was the Western that Was" salute you Abe Goldsmith.

Stooge: Our salute is a puzzle. How many words can you identify as related to the oil industry.

Abe is a Pure and Humbel man
Who hails lately from Sohio
He's a Firebird with high Standards
Has run a Marathon from the Gulf of Texaco
To Mobil Oklahoma
It can be Seen Clearly that he may Excell
In Shelling out City Services from the pulpit
But we hope that his first long vacation trip
After Be-retirement can be to Sunoco, Arabia -
on a credit card.

Dunbar: Those of you who identified 14 words related to the oil industry are now eligible to solve the most perplexing problem of all at the Western that is - What are the rolls of east and west campuses?

With registration skyrocketing east and west campuses are moving to new locations - west is in Kalamazoo - east is in Nigeria. And the problem is shall special education be in Nigeria and general education in Kalamazoo?
Stooge 2 - Students and faculty interested in specialized education will find opportunities unlimited on our Nigerian campus.

Stooge 3 - Well, as verified by the red herring committee, whether education is generalized or specialized, it is all made of ticky tacky and it all comes out just the same.

(buses go across stage again in blue robes and huge boxes - Elmer playing. Turn boxes and they are labelled special Ed. and General Ed.)

Box carriers move through audience toward stage to escort retirees to hall platform

Dunbar: GE or SP - "progress is our most important product."

Joyce: That was the Western that Was
Now that Western that is
Will greet you in the hall
Our Trio will be there too
To make this a happy adieu
Stick around - but we're all through

Peacock closes and lights turn to spot the retirees being escorted to throne room.