

Down Stepney Way – Comic Sketch

Comedian 1 (*Gesturing to others*)

Well go on then, get offstage! I start this on my own. You know that.

Comedian 2 Alright, alright, keep your hair on, Sam.

Comedian 1 Good evening ladies and gentlemen. I won't keep you long. I know you're all very busy doing your bit for the war effort. Speaking of which, what about this rationing lark; isn't it a pain. I went into the butcher's yesterday – 'Jack', I said, 'what sort of meat have you got for me today, Jack?'. 'Well', he said, 'I've got mutton and venison - that's all. 'Is the mutton dear?', I said. 'Oh no', he said, 'the mutton's sheep and the venison's deer'.

(Enter Comedian 2 and 3)

Comedian 2 I say, I say.

Comedian 1 Not you again. You're not supposed to be on yet.

Comedian 2 I couldn't help overhearing you talking about the butcher.

Comedian 1 What of it?

Comedian 2 I went to the butcher myself yesterday. There was quite a queue, you know.

Comedian 3 Why's that, because of the rationing?

Comedian 2 No, Jack said his assistant had backed into the meat slicer and he got a little behind in his orders.

Comedian 1 Oh, shut up, wont you! That's disgusting.

Comedian 3 Well I went to the pet shop down the high street yesterday. Old Wrigley was there with that old cat of his. He said some little brat had been throwing stones at it over the garden fence. Wrigley said he'd teach him to throw stones at his cat. Thank you', said the boy, 'I've been trying for half an hour and haven't hit it once yet'.

Comedian 2 Don't remind me about pets. I reversed over Mrs Peacock's dog last week. Killed it outright.

Comedian 3 You never did! What on earth did you tell Mrs Peacock?

Comedian 2 Well, I told her I would replace the dog.

Comedian 3 What did she say?

Comedian 2 She said I could never replace her dog. I can't bark

Comedian 1 Last time I went to that pet shop there was a boy there pulling faces at this bulldog. I asked him why he was doing it and he said, 'well he started it'.

Comedian 2 Look you should have some respect for Captain Wrigley. He fought in the great war, you know. In fact, he's got a wooden leg to prove it. Says it hurts like hell.

Comedian 3 How can a wooden leg hurt like hell.

Comedian 2 It does when his Mrs hits him over the head with it.

Comedian 3 My old man was in the war too. A hero he was. He saved the lives of 500 men in his unit.

Comedian 2 Really? What did he do?

Comedian 3 He shot the cook.

Comedian 1 Hey, speaking of soldiers, did you hear about the two cockney soldiers who were writing home.

Comedian 3 What of it?

Comedian 1 One said to the other, 'here, how d'ya spell fought. The other one said, 'which fought d'ya mean? Would that be the fight ya fought in or the fort you fight in?' 'Neither', said the other, 'I mean the fought yer fink.'

Comedian 2 What did the nurse say to the wounded soldier she was wheeling to the operating theatre?

Comedian 1 I dunno. What did she say?

Comedian 2 She said, 'this is your lucky night, son. You're going to the theatre to attend an opening.

Comedian 3 Do you think she was good looking.

Comedian 1 How would I know?

Comedian 3 I knew a good looking nurse once. I said, if I were sick I'd love to be nursed by you. She said that what be a miracle.

Comedian 1 Why's that then?

Comedian 3 She worked on the maternity ward.

Comedian 2 Well I must be off now. I'm going to the pictures tonight.

Comedian 3 Last time I went to the pictures there was a party of school-kids in my row.

Comedian 2 So what?

Comedian 3 The teacher was a fierce old dragon. After the interval all these kids trooped back in in a long line. 'Excuse me, sir,' she said to me, but did these children trample on your toes on the way out.' Yes, I said, they certainly did. I thought she was going to apologise. Not a bit of it. 'Right kids,' she said, 'this is our row.'

(Producer interrupts sketch)