

Time was when you could go into a nice restorang and a feller or a girl organ player would be playing nice quiet music on a balcony. But them days is gone now. If you wanna hear organ music while you eat you have to go into a restorang with a bar where they is customers a-drinkin it up and most anybody can grab the mikerphone and sing whether they can sing or not, and then they is some of them Spanish gimmicks like morakkers and like that they can bang at, and the good old days is gone. One of the funny things that's happened is that they are puttin pipe organs in the Pizza Parlors, and the old gag about Have you had a Piece lately means have you heard the organ player play Let The Rest Of the World Go By or the Hawaii Weddin Song.

I was gassin it up with some of the boys a little while ago and we got to wonderin how many songs they is about eatin and drinkin and we got to makin a kind of a game out of it. We thunk up a lot of song titles that had food into them, but most of them is just drug in to show how much a feller's girl is like some food. Like for example "Your the Cream in my Coffee, your the Salt in my Coffee, your the Salt in my Stew" or "Ida Sweet as Apple Cider" or like that there. Or "Life is Just A Bowl of Cherries." Rodgers and Hammerstein they rote a song in So. Pacific about Cant Get You Out Of My Mind, but in it there idea was that Life was Just a Bowl of Jello. O Well, maybe Cherry Jello.

I guess maybe the all-time song about food would be "Yes We Have No Bananas" on account the man sellin the groceries says hes got String Beans and Onions and Tomatos and Scullions and All Kinds of Fruit and hes got Tomatos and Potatos. Then

they was a song Phil Harris sings about Thats What He Likes About the South, and one thing he likes is Ham Hocks and Grits. And then they was a old Southern song about a guy whose mouth watered when he sang about Kidney Stew, and how Pork Chops was divine, but what he liked most was Lamb, Lamb, Lamb. And for that matter they was Lawrence Tibbett and Nelson Eddy a-bellerin about "Shortenin Bread."

And then they is the songs about what people DONT like. For instance, "Mama Dont Like No Peas or Rice or Coconut Oil." Even in the old song called "A Cup of Coffee, A Sandwich and You", the guy says he dont need no Lobster or Wine. But the guy who really went all out was the guy who was nuts about coffee and nuthin else. He rote a piece called the Coffee Song and about how in Brazil they got to drink a lot of coffee on acct. they got an awful lot of coffee in Brazil. So No No No on tea or tomato juice or potato juice or cherry soda, and then it winds up with a sad story of how a Politicians daughter got fined 50 bucks for drinkin WATER, for gosh sakes.

Well, us fellers got a-goin and we couldnt stop. They was "Everything is Peaches down in Ga." and "The Peanut Vender" and "If I Knew You Was Comin Ida Baked a Cake", and "The Hostess With the Mostest" that Irvin Berlin rote about how she had a great big bar with Good Caviar, And another of them Rodgers songs from Carousel about "That Was A Real Nice Clambake."

But its when they get to drinkin that they really get enthossiastick. I dont mean Hard Licker, mostly tea and coffee and beer and wine. But we couldnt think of no songs about Milk and the only one about Hard Licker was "Cocktails For Two", but that dont count on acct. the Principal Ingredient was Intoxicatin Kisses. Fine thing. But startin with How Dry I Am and There Is A tavern In The Town and them Foreign Students singin Drink Drink Drink, mostly its about Tea and Coffee, with "Tea For Two" and "Coffee Time", and then some beer and wine like the Beer Barrel Poker and the Champagne Waltz and like that there. So thats all the songs we could think of about eatin and drinkin, and the whole subjeck has made me so hungry Im goin to knock off and buy me a two inch steak.

Closing Chord

RUTH CARSON, wife of Malar Records president Robert Carson, died on July 1 in a Los Angeles hospital of an apparent embolism. Private burial services were held in Los Angeles.

Ruth Carson was well known to organ buffs for several reasons. For the past decade the Carsons have lived in the 3/26 Wurlitzer organequipped Hollywood home built in the early '50s by the late Joe Kearns. They moved west from Chicago. The Carson home was the scene of many recording sessions, concerts, jam sessions and focal point for visting buffs, including 1969 ATOS conventioneers. Ruth wrote occasional articles for this publication and the BOM-BARDE, one being her impressions when Reginald Foort came to record his Reader's Digest disc. She was also a record luminary in her own right, operating the Essential Record company.

But it is for the boost she and Bob provided for the theatre organ career of Lyn Larsen that she will be best remembered. The Carsons promoted Lyn from the beginning and made possible his first recording, in fact, most of his recordings. Ruth managed



Ruth Carson enjoying her 'garden'. (Stufoto)