

**The New York Public Library
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
Billy Rose Theatre Division**

**Bert Green Cartoons
1920s-1948**

***T-VIM 2013-158**

Summary

Title: Bert Green Cartoons, 19200s-1948

Size: 2 linear feet (1 box)

Preferred citation: Bert Green Cartoons, *T-VIM 2013-158, Billy Rose Theatre Division,
The New York Public Library.

Biographical note

Cartoonist, animator and writer Bert Green (nee Herbert), was born in England on Jan. 28, 1885. He came with his family to the United States as a young child, later studying art at Pratt Institute and Chase Art School. After working as a cartoonist for several newspapers, including *The New York Herald*, *The World*, *The New York American*, *The New York Journal*, and *The Atlanta Georgian*, for ten years, in 1915 Green began to draw cartoons for motion pictures. He later turned to creating comic strips for newspapers and comic stories with illustrations, most notably *The Love Letters of an Interior Decorator*, fictitious letters from a bootlegger to his fiancée (later published as a book), for *Liberty Magazine*. During World War II, he served in the Navy, creating educational cartoons to explain complicated equipment. Green was married to Catherine Porter and had a son, Robert; after his first wife's death, he later married Evelyn Betts. He died Oct. 5, 1948 at the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital after an extended illness.

Scope and content note

This collection contains original cartoons, comic strips and drawings, mostly black and white, by Bert Green. Some of the pieces such as *Diana's Diary*, *The Doyle Family*, and *The Love Letters of an Interior Decorator* (also published in book form by Frederick A. Stokes Co. 1929), were published in *Liberty Magazine* during the 1920s and early 1930s. Also included are 2 sheets of cartoon panels for *Kids Is Kids*, possibly published in *Humdinger* (1947), as well as a 1941 comic strip of *Susie*, "from the *Liberty* serial of the same name." Among the several color drawings included are *Characters for Bert Green's Animated Movie Page* (1945), with directions for making the panels into an animation flip book, and a book jacket design for an unpublished book, *The Love Letters of Private McSwivel* (ca. 1948). It is unclear if Green's miscellaneous drawings, comic strips, etc. found in the collection were ever published.

Container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	<i>Ain't It the Truth</i> - Cartoon Panel, ca. 1920s Includes 2 ink with blue pencil drawings on stock, mounted on board; signed.
		<i>Bert Green's Animated Cartoons</i> , 1945
1	2	<i>An Arrow Escape</i> Starring Dare Devil Dan - Story by Bill Turner Includes 24 color panels on board, with instructions for animation on top; copyright statement on bottom.
1	2	<i>Characters for Bert Green's Animated Movie Page</i> - Sweet Sue, Dare Devil Dan, Little Bertha, Alex Smart (Includes 4 color and ink drawings on stock.)
1	1	<i>Dear Moitle</i> - Sketch with Text Re: "Horrorscope", ca. 1940s Includes pencil on stock sketch with letter signed "Joe" in ink below.
1	3	<i>How U-Boats Attack Convoys and Are Later Destroyed</i> - Ten-Panel Story, ca. 1941-1945 Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; "Drawn by Bert Green" on top; "Bert Green, The Lotos Club, 110 W. 57th St., N.Y." in pencil on lower left corner; tears on top perimeter.
1	1	<i>In the Good Old Summer Time</i> [sic] Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; "31 Bellows Lane, Manhasset, L.I." in ink on lower right corner.
1	1	<i>Kids Is Kids</i> - Cartoon Panels for Comic Story, [1947] Includes 2 sheets (pp. 1 and 3) of ink on stock drawings, possibly for <i>Humdinger</i> , vol. 2 #1, May-June 1947; 1 has pencil notes on verso.
		<i>Liberty Magazine Cartoons</i> , ca. 1927-1932
1	4	<i>Diana's Diary</i> - #2 - "He Was Tall, Broad -shouldered with a Pair of Navy Blue Eyes", 1932 May 14 Includes ink with blue pencil on stock; notes and <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp on front; sketch and label on verso.
		<i>The Doyle Family</i>
1	4	"He Has the Swiss Bell Ringers Lashed to the Monument," 1930 May 10 Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; initialed; "2nd Installment" and additional notes on front; <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp on verso.
1	4	201 (p. 60) and 289 (p. 59), 1930 Apr. 26 Includes 2 items: watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp on versos; 1 has notes on front of cartoon.
		<i>Love Letters of an Interior Decorator</i> , ca. 1927-1931
1	5	Part 12 Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on illustration board; signed; <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp on front; "Nov. 23" "p.49" also on stamp; "354" in upper right corner.
1	5	47th Spasm Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed "Bert Green / Tunis;" <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp with "May 4, p. 86" on stamp.
1	5	59 - "The window dresser stuck the pin in the live model's setus instead of the dummy." Includes watercolor and ink on paper; signed; portion of <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. label detached from verso - "He dressed you up like a fat salesgirl...[missing piece]...show window and when the window dresser...[missing piece]...stuck the pin in your tokus" typed on label.
1	5	64th Spasm - "He was awful nice - he asked me for my phone number" (Includes ink with blue pencil on stock.)
1	5	Spasm 72 Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; appears to be cropped; <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. label and stamp on verso; "Grabs a coupla knives off the nearest table and begins ?? me - Ida, Sweet As Apple Cider ([partially visible on front]) - All the [while] drummin like a professional with the knives" also on label; "Sept. 6" and "p.69" on stamp.

1	5	82 Includes watercolor and ink on illustration board; signed; <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. label and "May 9th 31" in pencil on verso.
1	5	Delusion - "Who blew in but your old man with a lovely black eye" Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; <i>Liberty</i> Magazine stamp with "Jan. 2, 1931, p. 47" on stamp; possibly for <i>Love Letters of an Interior Decorator</i> .
1	5	<i>The Frantic Atlantic</i> - "I had to go to Europe to attend the Bootleggers Convention at the Haig & Haig. That's where the Leak of Nations was signed." Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed "Bert Green on board S.S. <i>France</i> ," label with typed caption on front; <i>Liberty</i> Art. Dept. stamp and "July 13" "p. 73" on verso.
1	5	"I suspected the little guy talkin through a garden hose" Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on paper; signed "Bert Green / Hollywood," <i>Liberty</i> Magazine stamp on front with "Sep. 29, p. 72" on stamp.
1	5	"When the Arab squirted out Lists [sic] Dream of Love on the gas pipe, the eel got fuller nonsense" Includes ink on stock; signed "Bert Green / Morocco," <i>Liberty</i> Art Dept. stamp on front with "Decorator, March 16, p. 68" on stamp.
1	5	Untitled (Movie Set) Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on illustration board; signed "Bert Green / Hollywood."
		<i>The Love Letters of Private McSwivel</i> , ca. 1948
1	6	Book Jacket Design Includes color on board design for unpublished book by Bert Green.
1	6	Four-Panel Cartoon Strips Includes 2 items, both ink on stock with blue pencil and signed; both are letters to "Dear Lulu" from "Mike;" 1 regarding battle practice; the other regarding dumping garbage in the General's office.
1	1	Pigtails - Cartoon Panels, undated Includes 2 items, both ink on stock; signed; (subject of 1 is a bridge party with little girl figure pasted over with white paper; subject of 1 is pet cat).
1	1	Rough Color Scheme for Poster (Unfinished), undated (Includes watercolor and ink on paper.)
1	6	<i>Snooper</i> , ca. 1930s Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on illustration board; signed.
		<i>Susie</i> - From the <i>Liberty</i> Serial of the Same Name, 1941
1	6	Nos. 1-3 includes 3 items, all are ink on stock; signed; all are letters to "Dear Dora" from Susie regarding traveling to New York for a show-business career.
1	1	"What do you say we do the dishes, just for the fun of it?", ca. 1930s Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock; signed; "From Bert Green, E. Norwalk, Conn." in pencil on lower left corner.
		Untitled
1	7	Four-Panel Cartoon Strip Re: Jimmie and Castor Oil, ca. 1930s? (Includes ink on stock.)
1	7	Leprechaun or Gnome Figure Looking at Book with Magnifying Glass, ca. 1935 (Includes color on board.)
1	7	Movie Sets, ca. 1940s Includes 2 items: watercolor (grey) and ink on illustration board (1 with plane crashing into house; 1 with urban scene with visitors); signed "Bert Green, Hollywood."
1	7	Rube Goldberg-Type Device with Horseshoe Magnets on Pulley and Man Hitting Mallet, ca. 1930s? (Includes watercolor (grey) and ink on stock.)