

FINDING AID

TITLE: Bil Keane Cartoon Collection

DATE RANGE: 1962-1989

CALL NUMBER: MS FM MSS-65

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4 Linear Ft. (2 boxes)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Bil Keane, October 12 1995.

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RESTRICTIONS: None

CREDIT LINE: Bil Keane Cartoon Collection, Arizona Historical Foundation

PROCESSED BY: Jared S. Jackson, October 22, 2004.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: The self-taught comic artist Bil Keane was born in Philadelphia October 5, 1922. He now resides in Phoenix, Arizona. Bil Keane started his career in the late 1930s, putting out a satirical magazine *The Saturday Evening Toast* with a couple of friends. After high school he got a job at the *Philadelphia Bulletin*. While serving in the Army in 1942-45, Keane drew for *Yank* magazine where he created the "At Ease with the Japanese" feature for *Pacific Stars and Stripes*. After the war, he returned to the *Philadelphia Bulletin*. Here, he created "Silly Philly", a weekly Sunday page based on William Penn, the founder of Philadelphia. In 1954, Keane started his humorous "Channel Chuckles" television cartoon, which ran for 23 years. In 1983 the National Cartoonist Society named Bil Keane cartoonist of the year.

Bil Keane was inspired by his family life to launch the "Family Circus" cartoon panel in February 1960. This very popular panel is now widely distributed by King Features, appearing in over 1500 newspapers. There are over 14 million "Family Circus" books in print.

Sources: "Family Circus" official site: www.familycircus.com
www.kingfeatures.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Original art for cartoons dating from 1962 to 1989. The cartoons are filed chronologically by the date as they appeared in syndication. Series I: 158, (5" x 8") daily "Family Circus" cartoons 1962-1983. Series II: 50, (11" x 26") Sunday "Family Circus" cartoons 1962-1989.

CONTAINER LIST:

Box 1	Title of Daily of Original Comics	Dates
	“Don’t tell Mommy about the F-L-W-O-R-Z-S we bought her for Easter.”	March 28, 1964
	“Call Daddy’s office and tell him the grass is getting too deep.”	June 16, 1964
	“NOW how many more days till we go on vacation?”	July 21, 1964
	“We’re not watching our weight.”	August 9, 1964
	“Vote Goldwater”	November 4, 1964
	“She did it?” “He did it!” “Him!”	November 13, 1964
	“ How did the lamb keep up with the school bus?”	November 24, 1964
	“It’s a salesman Mommy should we tell him you’re not home?”	February 23, 1965
	“Mommy says it should have been taken down with the Christmas wreath.”	July 15, 1965
	“Are we very mad at Daddy?”	November 11, 1965
	“Staying overnight? I never slept away from home till I went into the army!”	November 26, 1965
	“ Does Jeffy always kiss the TV set good night, ride Barfy to the bedroom, turn a somersault into bed, put cookies under his pillow...”	March 26, 1966
	“I’m trying to remember where I hid my scissors so the children wouldn’t get them.”	March 29, 1966
	“Time to set the Table”	April 20, 1966
	“I don’t think they were very hungry, Mommy they all flew away.”	July 20, 1966
	“I’m telling! Your foot’s wet—you didn’t wait an hour after eating!”	September 26, 1966
	“Don’t you think grandma would like this one better?”	September 27, 1966
	“He listening for germs.”	November 3, 1966
	“Don’t worry, daddy, we won’t tell mommy.”	November 15, 1966
	“How about this for Tom and Kay’s Kids? Last year they sent ours that ear-splitting xylophone.”	December 14, 1966
	“Torn Valentine”	February 14, 1967
	“Gee, mommy! PJ and I are playing Hide and Seek and I can’t find him anywhere!”	February 20, 1967
	“Is George Washington the one with the ponytail?”	February 22, 1967
	“Look at all those numbers! Daddy really must’ve been thinking!”	April 15, 1967
	“Hi, Daddy! It was an accident! Jeffy didn’t mean to do it!”	August 7, 1967
	“If we went to visit that rainbow, could we touch the colors?”	August 28, 1967
	“Oh that’s nothing. It’s just the cover off Billy’s ant farm.”	January 8, 1968

	“ One Grandma says I look like daddy and our other Grandma says I look like mommy!”	February 27, 1968
	“I happened to mention that today was leap year day.”	February 29, 1968
	“I found the caps! They were under daddy’s pillow!”	July 5, 1968
	“Give up, daddy?”	July 8, 1968
	“We found the kitchen and the bedroom, but where’s the livin’ room and the bathroom?”	July 22, 1968
	“Please? Can’t we practice sleeping in the camper tonight?”	July 23, 1968
	“I guess some of us should ride with daddy. He’s probably very sad and lonely.”	July 24, 1968
	“Ninety cents, please. The lady at your back door just bought six.”	July 25, 1968
	“This is a good camping spot! Can we just stay here?”	July 26, 1968
	“Which way to Smokey the Bear?”	July 27, 1968
	“There it is! I see it! I see the lake!”	July 29, 1968
	“Daddy’s spilling my chocolate milk.”	July 30, 1968
	“Where can I ride my skateboard?”	July 31, 1968
	“Those guys are lucky! They get to sleep in a tent!”	August 1, 1968
	“Mommy! Look what we found in the lake! A nice, cold watermelon!”	August 2, 1968
	“Why does daddy just like to sit and look at the water all day?”	August 3, 1968
	“Mommy! Daddy! Will you keep talking so we can tell you’re still out there?”	August 5, 1968
	“Are you sure we’re parked on level ground?”	August 6, 1968
	“...and we’re missing “Lost in Space”, and “the Beverly Hillbillies” and “Run for your Life” and...”	August 7, 1968
	“This is a neat house, mommy! I wish we could live here all the time!”	August 8, 1968
	“Boy! Are we lucky it rained! This is the best part of the whole camping trip!”	August 9, 1968
	“Our mommy’s sick and tired of tryin’ to cook meal in that camper!”	August 10, 1968
	“Wowee! Our house looks BIG!”	August 12, 1968
	“The Thompsons are lucky. They’re leaving on Their vacation this Saturday.”	August 13, 1968
	“Then we ran out of gas twice, and PJ got stung by a bee, and I got ivy poison and Jeffy’s sunburn blistered, and Dolly got carsick...it was a neat vacation!”	August 14, 1968
	“I like sports, too. Going on a high swing is my favorite.”	September 28, 1968
	“Mommy! The clock in your bedroom is ringing! Should I answer it?”	October 25, 1968
	“Halloween costumes Scare PJ”	October 31, 1968
	“Mommy! That’s not the lever Daddy pushed.”	November 5, 1968
	“It’s the sitter who lets us stay up to watch Johnny Carson!”	February 21, 19689

	“Why do you always taste the thread first?”	March 18, 1969
	“It’s not there yet. You can’t April Fool me!”	April 1, 1969
	“Don’t look!” You should Never look at the sun!”	April 2, 1969
	“This is far enough, Mommy! We can walk the rest of the way to the bus stop by ourselves!”	September 2, 1969
	“You may eat one thing!”	November 1, 1969
	“Jennifer and Rita shouldn’t even be in kindergarten’ cause they don’t know how to button yet.”	November 6, 1969
	“Dolly, get the egg beater out of the bathtub; Jeffy bring me the measuring spoons from the sandbox; Billy, those minnows will have to move out of the mixing bowl...”	November 22, 1969
	“I know it’s Phoenix, Arizona and Detroit, Michigan, but what’s Omaha’s last name?”	May, 3, 1972
	“Aw, Daddy! That’s the fourth town we’ve gone through without seeing a good place to stop for Lunch. We’re Hungry!”	August 1, 1972
	“Mommy, can Kathy go on vacation with us? She wouldn’t take up much room.”	July 21, 1973
	“29,999.9—Now watch, everybody---there it goes! 30,000.0! Hold it there, Daddy! Look at all the ZEROES!”	July 23, 1973
	“There’s another on and another! Aw, Daddy, can’t you steer around those poor bugs?”	July 25, 1973
	“Aw! Do we hafta stop and get out again, Daddy?”	July 26, 1973
	“PJ can’t go in there! He;s not a Girl!”	July 28, 1973
	“Ahh! Feels good to sit down!”	July 30, 1973
	“Mommy, will you tell Jeffy to stop bumping me while I’m Crayoning?”	July 31, 1973
	“Let’s just forget about having a fire in the fireplace.”	August 3, 1973
	“Daddy, you have some dirt right here.” That’s a Moustache! I’ve been waiting for somebody to notice.”	August 7, 1973
	...Four...Five...WOW! Daddy made that stone skip SIX times! How many can you do, Mommy?”	August 8, 1973
	“There they are, Daddy! There are those fishies we were trying to catch!”	August 13, 1973
	“This is my side of the road. You look on your side.”	August 14, 1973
	“Why can’t we, Mommy?”	August 15, 1973
	“If I pretend I’m asleep, too, do I get carried in?”	August 16, 1973
	“Why do you keep saying I’m ready for a vacation, Mommy? We just got back from one.”	August 17, 1973
	“And here’s where I fell off a log and this from swimmin’ into a rock and here’s some ivy poison and ...”	August 18, 1973
	“First, you’ll notice that, contrary to what you may have heard, I do not have horns, two heads or wear a swastika.”	November 29, 1973
	“I said “Merry Christmas” to the mailman, but he didn’t look too happy.”	December 13, 1973

	“Now it’s even beginning to smell like Christmas.”	December 17, 1973
	“A super-burger, three french fries, one large coke, a small root beer...No, that’s Two French fries, Two large cokes... make it Three...”	July 22, 1974
	“Which Grandma is it? The one that wears lipstick or the other one?”	July 25, 1974
	“It’s almost dark, Mommy. Shouldn’t you and Daddy be getting into the house now?”	July 31, 1974
	“Don’t lock the back door’ cause somebody might want to come in and see what time it is or something”	August 1, 1974
	“Now how many hours till it’s morning?”	August 2, 1974
	“Look, Mommy! I found a little hunch work!”	May 28, 1975
	“Mrs. Bombeck said we look just precious!”	May 31, 1975
	“Mommy likes to talk to her plants ‘cause they never talk back.”	October 3, 1975
	“Why didn’t they finish that bridge, Daddy?”	October 11, 1975
	“Oh, come let us adore me...”	December 20, 1976
	“Santa comes down the chimney’ cause if he came through the door it might slam and wake everybody up.”	December 23, 1976
	“My feet don’t reach the pedals.”	July 4, 1977
	“Why must you always be a bad guy?”	July 14, 1978
	“Billy! You better hold Daddy’s hand so that if an animal escapes it won’t eat you!”	June 4, 1979
	“If the chimp is the smartest of all the animals do they pay him the most money?”	June 6, 1979
	“They remember even longer than Mommies.”	June 7, 1979
	“I bet he’d be easy to ride. Look at the handlebars.”	June 8, 1979
	“The sign says ‘Dromedaries’ but they sure look just like camels.”	June 11, 1979
	“He’d have an awful time getting’ a sweater on.”	June 13, 1979
	“Come back, dolly. He’s not through looking at you.”	June 14, 1979
	“Jeffy went back to say goodbye to the gorilla.”	June 16, 1979
	“I like the inside of an orange, but not the crust.”	February 27, 1981
	“But I didn’t Ask Grandma for a piece of her cake. It was her idea.”	March 10, 1981
	“It’s raining, Mommy. We’ll need our underbrella.”	April 6, 1981
	“Mommy! Jeffy’s going to eat off one of your collector’s plates!”	May 19, 1981
	“That man said an X-rated word.”	May 29, 1981
	“Jeffy! It’s the Goodyear rocket.”	June 6, 1981
	“Look, I’ve bitten out Idaho!”	June 24, 1981
	“Water!”	July 6, 1981
	“Here comes a customer, Mommy! Are we open for business.”	September 12, 1981
	“Why does Grandma get a question mark on her cake instead	March 16, 1982

	of a number?"	
	"That's money is for a rainy day. Can I spend my money now?"	April 28, 1982
	"He's not coming unraveled, Dolly. He's spinning a web."	June 14, 1982
	"Mommy, a feather fell off your tree."	July 16, 1982
	"This pot isn't any good. It has a hole in it."	June 30, 1982
	"Mommy, a feather fell off your tree."	July 16, 1982
	"This chicken is better than the Colonel's, Mommy. You oughta be a General!"	September 30, 1982
	"We've been in this part already already, Mommy. I remember this vent."	October 21, 1982
	"Why do I always have to be what Billy was last year?"	October 30, 1982
	"Mommy, the san is all down stairs now."	November 24, 1982
	"They shouldn't have been dropping that bread. That's littering!"	December 4, 1982
	"When you and Daddy ordered me was I in stock or did you have to put me on back order?"	March 1, 1983
	"I go peanut butter on John Denver."	March 10, 1983
	"Disco some more, Daddy!"	March 18, 1983
	"Mommy's countin' to 10!"	March 26, 1983
	"They wear stripes to make themselves look taller."	March 28, 1983
	"How much longer till we goeth home?"	April 2, 1983
	"It'd be hard to put any 'raffiti on That fence."	April 19, 1983
	"This is where Mommy puts all the stuff that doesn't belong anywhere."	April 30, 1983
	"Jeffy kicking a tree, to make his toy plane fall down."	June 3, 1983
	"...and it's caffeine-free, too!"	June 15, 1983
	"When you out ice cream on it it's called pie Alamo."	June 30, 1983
	"Boy! You'd need a lot of rope to hang a swing from that!"	July 4, 1983
	"These are the baggage tags they put on Daddy when he was in the Army."	July 21, 1983
	"Which is this, Mommy, a lasso, a Lariat, a noose or a rope?"	September 7, 1983
	"I can hardly wait to go to church tomorrow. They're havin' a bake sale after!"	October 1, 1983
	"That white smoke sure is pushing' that plane real fast!"	October 18, 1983
	"Wait right here, Daddy, and hide behind the tree."	October 31, 1983
	"Can we go around to the houses where nobody was home last night?"	November 1, 1983
	"Who's responsible for this old half-eaten sandwich in the piano bench?" "Not me." "Not me."	November 11, 1983
	"Why didn't Santa use his reindeer and sleigh instead of a helicopter?"	November 25, 1983
	"Now we have to go back to January and start all over again!"	December 31, 1983
	"Grandma! Your TV gets the same shows as our TV!"	January 20, 1984

	“I’ll always love you, Grandma. Even when I’m a hundred!”	January 27, 1984
	“They can make us learn all this stuff now, but as soon as soon as I’m old enough I’m gonna forget!”	March 9, 1984
	“That’s the stern, and this is the bow.”	June 1, 1984
	“I guess crickets only know that one tune.”	June 22, 1984
	“What was the name of that place where we saw the mules, Mommy? The Grand Canyon!”	July 5, 1984
	“PJ eating ice cream on Daddy’s shoulders.”	July 21, 1984
	“Is there any hope of teachers’ strike this year, Mommy?”	September 4, 1984
	“I can’t crayon when you’re drivin’.”	September 20, 1984
	PJ littered! He threw this shoe out the window!”	September 27, 1984
	“This caterpillar isn’t walkin’. He’s just winklin’ along.”	October 17, 1984
	“Aren’t we getting’ one with lights?”	December 11, 1984
	“...And if there’s no snow then Santa comes by bus.”	December 14, 1984
	“Why are we here again, Mommy? We were just here yesterday.”	December 21, 1984
Box 2	Title of Sunday Original Comics	Date
	“Gee, Daddy with all these things to play with around her, why do you call this place your work?”	January 26, 1964
	Thanks for oiling my bike daddy!	June 7, 1964
	“Further Back Daddy, Further, Okay...”	June 14, 1964
	“How about a nice relaxing old fashioned family picnic?” Sounds wonderful.”	July 5, 1964
	“There’s the most beautiful sight of all.”	August 30, 1964
	“Mommy Guess what I have behind my back? Ahhh! You guessed it!”	January 31, 1965
	“We had popcorn and two sodas! Then we had some ice cream candy, and...”	May 29, 1966
	“Today PJ took his first Step!”	July 10, 1966
	“Church sing hymns”	November 20, 1966
	“Halloween custom imagination.”	October 29, 1967
	“Easter egg hunt.”	April 14, 1968
	“Why do we have to wait in the car.”	June 2, 1968
	“Look out Point”	August 4, 1968
	“Happy house, Sad house.”	August 11, 1968
	“I don’t want to take a nap! I’m not tired!”	January 12, 1969
	“Mommy may I help myself to a cookie, and each of my friends?”	March 30, 1969
	“Sky Ride Spectacular View”	August 24, 1969
	“You clean up that plate young man! There are thousands of starving children in china who’d give anything to taste those carrots!”	February 3, 1974
	“I will now collect your homework and remember what I said—Everybody better have it done... No excuses!”	April 20, 1975
	“Don’t put that nickel in your mouth! You don’t know where	June 22, 1975

	it's been!	
	"Be sure to take in the passing sights – the things of beauty! They'll be stored in your treasury of memories forever."	August 3, 1975
	"Who wants to come with me and help buy our Christmas tree?"	December 14, 1975
	"Boy old Mrs. Klink is a tough teacher!"	February 15, 1976
	"He won't eat a thing he just doesn't seem to be hungry."	November 14, 1976
	"Super bowl Sunday"	January 9, 1977
	"Hold it! Hold still while I take this picture! Don't move! Come on Everybody hold still!"	September 18, 1977
	"We play over there at recess an' you go in that door if you're late an no running in the hallway..."	February 18, 1979
	"Mommy when can I go horseback riding?"	May 27, 1979
	"The pitchers flipping Mommy."	April 20, 1980
	"Is this our house or our home Billy?"	March 22, 1981
	"Why did you cut down that good old tree mister?"	February 22, 1981
	"Could we go over to the play-ground so I can play on the stuff, Mommy please?"	June 7, 1981
	"Ever have a song running around inside your head?"	January 24, 1982
	"I've been calling you for five minutes!" "You have?"	August 8, 1982
	"Guess where our grandmother went on her vacation."	April 18, 1984
	"Today we're going to the zoo to see all the animals!"	April 20, 1983
	"Schools out! A whole summer vacation!"	June 12, 1983
	"Vintage cars" Wonder if anybody ever rode in it?"	January 29, 1984
	"Politics at Home."	October 21, 1984
	"Now folks, a bit of nostalgia..."	September 29, 1985
	"I thought there might be a hidden treasure in that old trunk of grandma's."	May 18, 1986
	"A day at the zoo."	March 29, 1987
	"Been there doe that!"	April 5, 1987
	"I like the first day of school cause we find out who our new teacher is, but after that I'm ready for home."	September 6, 1987
	"It's all in the way it's said."	October 4, 1987
	"Slower!" "Wait for me!" "How it really happened."	May 15, 1988
	"TV Watch"	September 11, 1988
	"Monsters! Daddy! I'm scared of the monsters!"	January 22, 1989
	"Poor Daddy. He looks sick."	February 26, 1989
	"Why is everybody so tired? We haven't done anything all day but ride in the car!"	July 16, 1989