

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF BUBBLE GUM

While some authorities still maintain the first chewing gum was developed by American pioneers in the 1800's, recent research by this writer has revealed some startling new findings. Indeed, gumologists throughout the country were shocked to learn that gum was actually invented as late as 1955. The inventor was, curiously enough, this writer's great aunt, Buelah Mae "Bubbles" Lawrence.

It all started when Bubbles was a teenager in school. Like all great inventors she was constantly driven by a singular, all-consuming ambition. Her ambition was to find something that would really stick well underneath the cafeteria table. Oh, sure, she tried the usual things - macaroni, pork chops -but they just wouldn't do. One day in an inspired moment she had a thought, "What the hey! I'll invent bubble gum!" A few hours later in chemistry lab she made her great discovery. She found her new product not only stuck well on cafeteria tables, but also on shoes, theater seats and retainers.

But selling her new product was a sticky problem.

"What else can this gum of yours do? Who wants something that just sticks on stuff?" her very first customer asked.

"Er..." Bubbles hesitated, "I'll bet it makes a great roll-on deodorant. Here, try it!" As you can imagine, the result of this little experiment was really the pits.

Weeks later as Bubbles was recovering in the hospital, a nurse got tired of Bubbles incessant talking and shoved a wad of the new product in her mouth. Well, the rest is history.

In later life, Bubbles, an amateur musician, sought to record her achievements in song. Though her works remain unpublished, some of her inspired titles appear below:

### THE COMPLETE UNPUBLISHED GUM SONGS OF BUEHLA MAE "BUBBLES" LAWRENCE

#### BROADWAY SHOWSTOPPERS

I'M GONNA WASH THAT GUM RIGHT OUTA MY HAIR  
I'VE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO HER GUM  
LOVE THEME FROM "ROMEO AND CHEW-LIET"

#### THOSE FABULOUS FIFTIES/SIXTIES

PUT YOUR GUM ON MY SHOULDER  
DON'T STEP ON MY BLUE SUEDE GUM  
I WANNA HOLD YOUR GUM

#### SEASONAL

O GUM ALL YE FAITHFUL

#### BIG BAND FAVORITES

CHATTANOOGA CHEW CHEW  
CHOMPIN' AT THE SAVOY

#### STANDARDS

I'M IN THE MOOD FOR GUM  
I'VE GOT YOU UNDER MY SHOE

for Jari

# BUBBLE TROUBLE

or THAT'S THE TROUBLE, TROUBLE, TROUBLE  
WITH MY BUBBLE, BUBBLE, BUBBLE, BUBBLEGUM

Two-Part, accompanied

Words and Music by  
STEPHEN L. LAWRENCE

Tragically, in a 50's style (♩ = 72-84) even eighths

*mf* All voices unison

I  
II

I get in trou - ble and I'll

Tragically, in a 50's style (♩ = 72-84) even eighths

PIANO

*mf*

*Red.*

tell you how: — When I blow bub - bles peo - ple

*cresc.*

have a cow. —

Oh, won't you help me 'cuz I'm

hav - ing some ma - jor prob - lems with my bub - ble gum!\_

*rall.*

*f*

*rall.*

9 Tempo di 50's rock 'n' roll (♩ = 144) ♩ =  $\overset{\frown}{\underset{\frown}{\text{3}}}$

I Bub ble

II *f* Buh, buh, buh, buh, buh, — buh, buh, bub-ble, bub-ble Bub - ble

9 Tempo di 50's rock 'n' roll (♩ = 144) ♩ =  $\overset{\frown}{\underset{\frown}{\text{3}}}$

*f* *gva* *mf*

15

gum, I want my bub - ble gum. I need my bub - ble

gum, I want my bub - ble gum. I need my bub - ble

15

gum. I love my

gum. I love my buh, buh, buh, buh, buh, — buh, buh, bub-ble, bub-ble.

19 *f*

1. I pop a bub-ble and it's on my face, my hair, my el-bows, hon-ey,  
 2. I blew a bub-ble sev-en in - ches wide, A re - al beau-ty much too

*mp*

19 Bub - ble gum. Buh, buh, buh, bub - ble

ev - ery place. If that's not bad e - nough, I'm  
 big to hide. I tossed it up to see if

gum. Buh, buh, buh, bub - ble

ground - ed, too. I on - ly tried to teach our pek - in - ese to chew!  
it would float, but, oops, it land - ed on my mom's chin - chil - la coat!

gum. Buh, buh, buh, buh.

27

Each pop - ping bub - ble is the same to me: a chew - y trag - e -

Bub - ble gum. Buh, buh, buh, bub - ble

27

31

dy. That's the trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble with my bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble

gum. That's the trou - ble, trou - ble, trou - ble with my bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble

31

1. gum. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. It's

1. 2. *mf*

36 nev - er, nev - er \*coo - ool to chew your gum at \*schoo - ool, our

36 *mf*

40 mu - sic teach - er would re - la - ate.

*mf*

40 But I would nev - er †ti - re of

\* pronounced with slight "50's" break between articulated "o" sounds  
 † pronounced 'tah-eeuhr' with slight "50's" break between groups of sounds  
 SV 9119

*f* And now I have de-ten-tions 'til I grad-u-ate.  
*f* chew-ing gum in \*cho-ir. And now I have de-ten-tions 'til I grad-u-ate.

The first system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "And now I have de-ten-tions 'til I grad-u-ate." and "chew-ing gum in \*cho-ir. And now I have de-ten-tions 'til I grad-u-ate."

44 *f* Each pop-ping bub-ble is the same to me: a chew-y trag-e - dy. That's the  
*mp* Bub - ble gum. Buh, buh, buh, bub - ble gum. That's the

The second system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic for the vocal lines and a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Each pop-ping bub-ble is the same to me: a chew-y trag-e - dy. That's the" and "Bub - ble gum. Buh, buh, buh, bub - ble gum. That's the".

48 trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble, with my bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble gum. \_\_\_\_\_  
 48 trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble, with my bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble gum. \_\_\_\_\_

The third system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble, with my bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble gum. \_\_\_\_\_" and "trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble, with my bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble, bub-ble gum. \_\_\_\_\_".

53 Slower, with feeling (♩ = ca. 104)  
*mp*

*rall.*

*rall.* Soloist(s) *f*\*

53 Slower, with feeling (♩ = ca. 104)

*with drama*

One fate-ful night by the

*rall.* *mf*

Oo

rail-road track, I dropped my gum I just had to get it back! Then that

With amazed horror

† Short dramatic pause

*f* Ah! So I

scream-ing to-co-mo-tive crushed it, smashed it with a roar! So I

† Short dramatic pause

*f*

*8va*

\* This section is to be spoken, or to use a more contemporary term, rapped, with great feeling. One or more male or female soloists may be used, just as long as they're good BubbleGum Rappers.

\*\* A point of interest: As the dramatic intensity heightens, the careful observer will notice how the background syllable changes from "oo" to the more emotional "ah". So skillful is the composer in the use of the "ah" syllable, that his publisher often refers to him as the "Wizard of Ahs".

† Historical note: The musical expression "Short dramatic pause" was first coined by the inventor of bubblegum, Buehla Mae "Bubbles" Lawrence. She originally used this expression in reference to her pet kitty who had short dramatic paws.



10  
59 A tempo, cheerfully (♩ = ca. 144)

picked it up, stretched it out and chewed it some more!

59 A tempo, cheerfully (♩ = ca. 144)

picked it up, stretched it out and chewed it some more!

61

*f* Bub - ble gum. I want my

61

*f* Bub - ble gum. I want my

*mf*

bub - ble gum. I need my

bub - ble gum. I need my

bub - ble gum. I love my

bub - ble gum. I love my

buh, buh, buh, buh, buh, buh, buh, bub - ble, bub - ble.

69 *f*

Each pop - ping bub - ble is the same to me: a

*mp*

69 Bub - ble gum. Buh, buh, buh,

*mf*

73

chew - y trag - e - dy. That's the trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble with my  
 bub - ble gum. That's the trou-ble, trou-ble, trou-ble with my

*f*

73

bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble  
 bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble, bub - ble \*(Chomps)

*cresc.*

*submp*

\*(Chomps) gum! *ff*  
 gum! *ff*

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