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"AMOS AND ANDY"
by
Correll & Gosden
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Last night, Andy had dinner with Sadie Blake and her mother. He forgot about the engagement and Sadie's mother called him at 8-30 and Andy immediately rushed over. In addition to Andy's trouble with Madam Queen he is the chairman of the financial committee at the lodge hall and during the month of January the lodge was \$160.00 short and the executive committee demands that Andy give them a report and account for the \$160.00. As the scene opens now, we find Amos in the taxicab office talking to Ruby Taylor over the phone just before Andy drives up in front with the taxicab. Here they are:--

Amos---(phone) Well, I tell yo' whut we could do honey---hello honey, kin yo' hear me alright?----Well, I was goin' say, we might talk to Aunt Lillian tonight an' see whut she think 'bout it, I don't know----uh-huh----Is yo' heard from yo' papa lately?-----He is huh?-----Yeh, it would be nice if he COULD come to New York, maybe we could have a little talk wid him----Do yo' think he IS comin'?-----Yeh, well I cert'ny wish he WOULD come heah---uh- huh---I wouldn't know how to start though, I---dat would be a hard job fo' me to talk to yo' father 'bout it----I see Andy drivin' up out in front now wid de taxicab----well honey, I'll be over tonight an' we kin talk it over an' see whut we'll do---

Andy---(fading in) Well, whut's goin' on now? Who is yo' talkin' to--- whut is it about?

Amos---(phone) Well alright honey.

Andy---Oh.

Amos---(phone) Well, I'll see yo' tonight---alright sweetheart--- goodbye.

Andy---Now, 'fore yo' staht on me, lemme tell yo' one thing. I is been up since 6 o'clock dis mornin' messin' 'round dat lunch room, an' I been drivin' dat taxicab since 1 o'clock, an' it's 5 o'clock now an' I gotta rest.

Amos---Well, I ain't hoppin' on yo'.

Andy---De bottoms o' my shoes is so thin dat when I push down on dat pedal it pushes right through on my foot, an' de brakes on de car needs rejustin'. She's switchin' 'round on de side when I stop her.

Amos---Well, we'll fix it.

Andy---Whut's de matteh wid you? You ain't had not argument wid de brotheh-in-law, is yo'?

Amos---No, I ain't had no argument wid him.

Andy---Dis mornin' while I was workin' in de lunch room dere, de pie man come in---wanted to know whut kind o' pies we wanted. I ordered a lot o' diff'ent kind o' pies---den I say "Leave me one custard pie."

Amos---Bought ONE custard pie?

Andy---AN' I made up my mind right den an' dere dat if brotheh Crawford opened his mouth to me I was goin' hit him right in de face wid de custard pie.

Amos---How'd yo'-all git along together dis mornin'?

Andy---Oh, we had little arguments all mornin'.

Amos---Whut about?

Andy---Well, dis mornin' he was standin' dere an' I was makin' change, or puttin' some money in cash register---he told me dat I was keepin' de draweh open too long an' messin' 'round wid de money too much. Told me to just put de money in an' close it up.

Amos---Well, HE spends enough time when HE puts some money in dere. Ev'vy time he puts some money in dere, he counts all de money dat's already in dere.

Andy---He was tryin' to tell me dat any bizness man will tell yo' not to mess 'round de cash draweh longeh dan yo' gotta---or sumpin' like dat.

Amos---Lightnin' was tellin' me dat you got arguin' wid him in de kitchen.

Andy---Well, I went back dere an' I seed him nibblin' on sumpin' in front o' de ice box so I say to him "Whut you nibblin' on?". He say he's samplin' de cheese.

Amos---He always samplin' sumpin', ain't he?

Andy---I told him, I say "Cheese is cheese, ain't no use to sample dat- --you know whut 'tis." Den he say sumpin' made me mad, I fo'git whut 'twas.

Amos---Oh well, don't argue wid him.

Andy---Whut's de matter wid you Amos?

Amos---Oh, I don't know Andy, I just had a long talk wid Ruby. I wanna git married, dat's whut I wanna git.

Andy---Listen Amos, lemme give yo' some revice.

Amos---Yo' better give yo'self some.

Andy---Yo go ahead an' git married, you goin' be sorry. Dat's goin' bust de two of us up fo' one thing, an' you goin' miss me.

Amos---Why is we gotta bust up?

Andy---Well, I ain't goin' have you married, comin' down tellin' me dat yo' wife say dis---it be zackly like brotheh Crawford an' his wife.

Amos---No, it wouldn't. Ruby wouldn't have nuthin' to say 'bout our bizness, 'less she thought it would he'p us.

Andy---I don't need nobody to he'p us---'special' no gal.

Amos---Ruby's papa is comin' to New York I think in de next week or two.

Andy---Whut yo' mean, he goin' move down heah?

Amos---No, he just comin' down to see Ruby. While he's heah I'd like to talk to him, but I hardly know how to talk wid him.

Andy---Talk to him 'bout marryin' Ruby huh?

Amos---Yeh, I'd like to marry her alright---I don't wanna do it 'less he think we ought to do it. He been so nice to me 'bout ev'ything, I wanna try to be fair wid him if I kin.

Andy---Don't git all down in de dumps 'bout de thing.

Amos---Oh, I ain't down in de dumps Andy. De only thing is, I'se in love wid her---I know she love me---both of us wanna git married---if I was makin' more money I'd say alright, but I hate to ast her to come on git married now

'less we know whut we doin'.

Andy---Well, some time when we got mo' time I'll sit down an' talk to yo' 'bout it an' tell yo' whut yo' ought to do.

Amos---Whut is dat you got?

Andy---Yo' 'membeh dat REpo't I told yo' I was goin' write fo' de lodge?

Amos---You mean 'bout dat \$160?

Andy---Yeh, de mo' I think 'bout dat, de crazieh I think dey is. Just 'cause I happened to be chairman of de financh committee an' dey lose \$160 somewhere dat I ain't seed, or had nuthin' to do wid, dey want ME to tell 'em where it is or sumpin'.

Amos---Yeh, dat IS funny alright. When yo' goin' give 'em dat REport?

Andy---Well, I gotta make a copy of it 'fore I send it out 'cause 'membeh I told yo' hereafteh we goin' keep a copy of EV'YTHING.

Amos---I thought you bought a piece o' carbon papeh.

Andy---I did buy a piece, but I couldn't git de papeh in de typewriteh 'cause de typewriteh was rusty, so whut I done was to write de REpo't out in longhand an' afteh I finished writin' de thing out, I found dat I had de carbon papeh upside down an' I was writin' on de back o' de fust page---den I had to copy de whole thing oveh again. Den de second time I writ de REpo't I had de carbon between de sheet I was writin' on an' anotheh sheet o' papeh an' I fo'got dat de second sheet had to be even wid de fust one, so when I finished wid dat I'd been writin' all oveh de same spot.

Amos---Well, whut is dat yo' got dere?

Andy---Dis is de REpo't dat I'se gonna send 'em but I gotta make a copy of it to keep heah myself.

Amos---Yo' got a piece o' carbon paper---why don't yo' do it?

Andy---Well Amos, to tell yo' de truth, I done had so much trouble wid dat piece o' carbon papeh dat I think we'd be quickeh or fasteh 'round heah if we would just write ev'ything twice an' not mess wid dat papeh.

Amos---Well, read me de REport yo' goin' send to de lodge.

Andy---Well, I done told yo' how I started out de otheh day 'bout de ex-zeck committee an' all dat---dear brothehs-----den I say heah "De Kingfish REpo'ts to me dat you want a REpo't, so enclosed on dis piece o' papeh is de follows"---I thought I might as well be all bizness wid it.

Amos---Yeh, if dey lost money over dere dey can't hold yo' fo' it, kin dey?

Andy---Dey THINK dey kin hold me, but I'se tellin' 'em heah.

Amos---Go ahead, read it.

Andy---Den I say heah "Disregardin' de money dat was lost, I has dis to say---I don't know nuthin' 'bout nuthin' or nuthin' else 'bout de money, an' as chairman of de financh committee, I will he'p you look fo' it, but I kin tell you now I don't know where 'tis. An' moreoveh, an' nevah-de-less, I ain't neveh seed it, an' besides dat I resigns as de chairman of de financh committee hereafteh stated above," an' boy I wanna tell yo', when dey git dat, dey got sumpin'.

Amos---Yeh, dey got sumpin' to figger out, I guess.

Andy---If my lawyeh eveh git back from Albany I goin' read it to him, let him know dat I got some sense too.

Amos---Is dat all of it?

Andy---No, I got some mo' heah. Yo' want me to read yo' dat again?

Amos---No, no, I don't wanna heah it.

Andy---Dat's good, ain't it?

Amos---Well, it's sumpin'----I don't know if it's good or not.

Andy---Den I say heah "If yo' books don't balance, if you will debit heah an' credit dere, ev'ything ought to be alright. An' if it's de money dat you can't find, den dat's diff'ent." I might as well 'splain a little book-keepin' to 'em while I'se writin' dis.

Amos---Well, I guess dey know book-keepin'---whut dey want is de \$160 d at dey's short.

Andy---You can't beat dat bunch. Dey didn't take in but \$170, an' dey done lost 160 of it. Dat's WAY off balance, ain't it.

Amos---Dat makes de books lop-sided.

Andy---Listen to dis---I starts a new para-giraffe heah, I says "I kin see de pickle-ment dat you is in, but don't git ME in it. If you is off balance do de best you kin---remembeh de old slogan "Any old porch in a storm."

Amos---Well, dat's tellin' 'em.

Andy---You know Amos, de Kingfish is tryin' to run de lodge an' do a lot o' otheh things at de same time. He ought to know by now dat you can't burn two candles at de same time.

Amos---Well, whut else yo' say?

Andy---I just say, "Don't fo'git dat I quits an' REsigns so leave me out of de pickle-ment. Hopin' you find it but doubtin' you will. Yo's truly."

Amos---You ought to sign it Rose Pedals Andy.