

Fri. Feb. 20, 1931.

"AMOS AND ANDY"
by
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Realizing that the trial is scheduled to start next Tuesday Lawyer Collins is giving much of his time to the preparation of Andy's defense. As the scene opens now we find Amos and Andy in Collins' office. The lawyer is trying to instruct Andy how to act on the witness stand and how to conduct himself during the cross examination when Madam Queen's lawyer will no doubt attempt to find flaws in his defense. Andy is seated in a straight back chair with his back to the wall, Collins is walking up and down the floor, Amos is sitting near Andy. Here they are:--

Amos---Ev'ything Mr. Collins is tellin' yo' now, you gotta do.

Andy---Oh sho', dat's whut I GOIN' do.

Collins--(stern) Now Andy, I want you to tell me of you want me to go over this again for you.

Amos---You done told him ev'ything two--three times now.

Collins--Now Andy, I want you to sit there and imagine that you are on the witness stand. You have answered my questions as we had planned and now the Judge turns you over to M. Smith for cross examination.

Andy---Yo' want me to git up now?

Collins--No, no, I want you to sit on the witness stand.

Amos---An' Mr. Smith now is goin' ast you some questions, an' Mr. Collins wants you to answer Mr. Smith like he done told yo' to do.

Andy---Mr. Smith ain't heah, is he?

Collins--No, but I will ask you the questions FOR Smith.

Amos---See whut I mean?

Andy---O-o-oh, dat's whut yo' mean. You goin' cross-rezamin' me now while I sit heah.

Collins--Alright now. After Smith asks you a few

preliminary questions he will probably have in his possession your letters, and he will hand you a letter like this and say "Andrew Brown, did you write that letter?"

Andy---Yes, an' no.

Collins--No, no.

Amos---He want you to say dat yo' DID write it if yo' did write it.

Collins--Now, let's do this thing again. I'll use one of these letters here on the desk. And now I'm Smith---you're on the witness stand. I walk up to you an' say "Andrew Brown, did you write this letter?"

Andy---NOSAH.

Amos---No, no Andy, he wants yo' to tell de truth. You DID write de letter.

Andy---I did not.

Amos---Well, yo' done told us dat yo' did.

Andy---Dis letteh is writ wid a typewriteh---I used to write Madam Queen all de lettehs wid a pencil.

Amos---You can't do nuthin' wid him.

Collins--Of course I realize Andy that you didn't write that letter. I was just using that letter to give you something to hold in your hand.

Andy---Oh,---den you ain't talkin' 'bout DIS letteh.

Amos---No, he ain't talkin' 'bout de letter.

Andy---Well den, I'll put dis back on de desk 'cause I don't wanna git a lot o' things in de case dat's goin' mix me up. I was worryin' 'bout dat letteh.

Amos---Yo' just goin' have to beat it in his head---dat's de only way.

Collins--Well, in other words Andy, whut are you going to say when Smith says to you "Did you write dat letter?"

Andy---Well, dat repend on whut letteh he gimme, or whut he's talkin' 'bout, or sumpin'.

Amos---He's talkin' 'bout Madam Queen's letter Andy.

Andy---O-o-oh. When he ast me dat I'm goin' say "sho'."

Amos---Well, dat's better.

Collins--Now Smith will ask you this question. "Why did you write this letter?"

Andy---'Cause I was in love wid her, an' it's a love letteh.

Amos---No, no.

Andy---Listen Amos, Mr. Collins is tellin' me whut to do. You keep quiet. Pre-ceed Mr. Collins.

Collins---Your answer to that question Andy is the same answer you gave me when I asked you the question.

Andy---Whut's dat?

Amos---You goin' have a time wid him. I better order a lot o' hot soup right now fo' YOU.

Collins--You answered that question by saying that you wrote it because she asked you to write it.

Andy---Oh yeh. "I writ dat 'cause she told me to write it."

Collins--Now. Smith will possibly say to you something along this line. "You don't mean to tell this jury and this judge, that you put those sweet words together without meaning them???"

Andy---Well, in de fust place, he'll say tell de jury an' de judge. I ain't talkin' to dem. Dis is all conferential between Mr. Smith an' me, ain't it?

Collins--Oh no.

Amos---Ev'ybody in town goin' know it.

Collins--Well Andy, after having that long talk with you yesterday, I thought that it would be wise to give you a lot of this in writing so you can take it home and read it over, get with your friend here and see if it won't help you in understanding just what I want you to do when you're in court. Now, I only have one copy of this. I want you to return it to me after you are through with it, but I want you to stick as closely as you can to the wording in here and if you can't use these same words, stick to the thought because our defense is going to be built around the thought

that is written in these pages.

Amos---An' don't lose de thing neither.

Andy---Oh sho'.

Amos---Well, I guess you got sumpin' else to do Mr. Collins, so we'll git goin'.

Collins--And Andy, I want to see you again tomorrow at this same time and in the meantime maybe you can read that over and have a little better understanding of everything.

Amos---I'll see dat he gits heah.

Collins--I have other matters that I want to take care of now so you be here tomorrow at this same hour.

Amos---I'll 'splain it to him Mr. Collins--dat's alright. He's kind-a off today.

Collins--Well Amos, you tell him what I want him to do and help him with it as much as you can.

Amos---Yessah, I'll do it.

Andy---Well, I'll git goin' Mr. Collins. Yo' know I gotta git oveh to de office an' check up on ev'ything. Yo' know runnin' two comp'nies ain't no cinch.

Collins--Alright Andy--see you tomorrow.

Andy---So long Mr. Collins.

Amos---So long Mr. Collins.

Collins--(in distance) Goodbye Amos.

Amos---(to Andy) Whut in de world is de matter wid you Andy?

Andy---I tell yo' whut's de matteh wid me. I promised Sadie Blake I was goin' call her up a hour ago, an' I couldn't call her up in front o' Mr. Collins an' SHE goin' be mad, an' dat's been on my mind. I can't think o' nuthin' else but dat.

Amos---Tell me dis, do you know dat you is goin' to Court next Tuesday?

Andy---Cert'ny I know it---whut yo' think I worried 'bout?

Amos---Come on, let's git down de steps.

Andy---He git me in his office an' git me all mixed up. I know law too, He don't feel sorry fo' me or nuthin' else. I'd be betteh off wid Cook.

Amos---Well, git him if yo' want him. If you git him though I'se through wid yo'.

Andy---Well, Cook would feel sorry fo' me an' all dat stuff. Collins act like he mad 'bout a lot o' things.

Amos---Well, if I was in his place today, I'd-a got mad. You act like you didn't have no sense in yo' head at all.

Andy---Whut I want him to do is git me a happus cappus an' git me out o' dis thing. 'Stead o' dat he gimme all dis heah stuff to read.

Amos---Well, if you is crazy as I think you goin' be, when you git on de witness stand I feel sorry fo' yo', an' if you don't read dat an' learn sumpin' 'bout it, Madam Queen's lawyer's gonna tie you up in a knot.

Andy---I betteh git me two lawyehs---I'se gittin' scared.

Amos---Ain't no use to worry two of 'em. You 'bout to drive Mr. Collins crazy now.

Andy---Yo' see dis fellow Cook---if I had him workin' wid Collins, Collins could take care o' ev'ything INSIDE de Cou'troom, an' he could take care o' ev'ything OUTSIDE de Cou'troom. See, den I have 'em workin' inside an' out.

Amos---Whut is yo' pal goin' do on de OUTSIDE o' de court room?

Andy---He could be settlin' out o' Cou't, yo' see, while Collins is settlin' IN Cou't. When I talked to him dis mornin' 'bout de happus cappus, he told me dat was a great idea I had---he say I ought to have one o' dem-- he say he gits 'em fo' all his clee- ents.

Amos---Well, if you have Pal, I ain't even goin' to Court wid yo'.

Andy---De Kingfish thinks dat I ought to put Pal on a retaineh's feet, or sumpin'.

Amos---Whut does dat mean?

Andy---Yo' pay him all de time---dat's de only bad part about dat thing.

Amos---All yo' gotta do is listen to ev'ybody an' dey'll tell yo' whut dey would do if dey was in YO' place. All yo' friends try to he'p yo' an' dey all tell yo' sumpin' diff'ent.

Andy---Well----I gotta make up my mind.

Amos---You gotta make up yo' mind right now too 'cause I ain't goin' mess wid yo' no more. Whut is yo' goin' do? An' I wanna know right now, whut is yo' goin' do?

Andy---Well, I gotta do sumpin'.

Amos---Well, whut IS yo' goin' do?

Andy---Well, de fust thing I goin' do----lemme see---I goin' stop in dis drug sto' down heah an' call up Sadie Blake.

Amos---If all de men in dis world was like you is, all de women in de world would have to be lawyers to keep 'em out o' trouble.

Andy---Life is funny, ain't it Amos?