

Thurs. Feb. 26, 1931.

"AMOS AND ANDY"  
by  
Correll & Gosden  
No. 914.

Yesterday in the Supreme Court Madam Queen took the stand to testify in her own behalf against Andrew Brown. She told from the time when Andy came in for his first manicure up to and including the time when he broke the engagement on that fatal night of December 31st. During her testimony her attorney led her to tell of how Andy proposed to her, how he kissed her for the first time and asked for her hand in marriage. Several times during her testimony she broke down and cried but even Andy's lawyer was forced to admit that she made a great impression on the jury. As the scene opens now we again find Amos and Andy seated next to their attorney in the Supreme Court. The judge has just taken his seat on the bench. Madam Queen, her lawyer, and witnesses are seated a few feet from the boys. Before starting the case the judge is looking over some papers on his desk. The courtroom is crowded. The jury is in the box. Here they are:--

Amos---(quietly) Dis heah's de day dat Brother Crawford's gotta git on de stand, ain't it?

Andy---An' if dat fat-head say anything about me I goin' knock his head off.

Amos---You can't do dat. You can't he'p whut he goin' say.

Collins--Don't talk too loud boys.

Amos---Yessah.

Andy---How do it look up to now Mr. Collins?

Collins--Well, it's nothing we can tell now. A great deal is going to depend on how you act on the witness stand yourself.

Andy---I ain't gotta git on dere today, is I? 'Cause I ain't brushed up on nuthin' today.

Collins--No, you won't have to get on today.

Andy---Good.

Amos---It's sumpin' funny 'bout dis whole thing to me.

Andy---Ain't nuthin' funny 'bout it to me. Dis is serious.

Collins--Madam Queen made a good impression on the jury yesterday and whether her crying was a fake or not, it looked very good.

Andy---To tell yo' de truth, I ain't neveh been dis rebarrased in all my life. She sit up dere an' tell all dat stuff about me.

Amos---Boy, ev'ything is comin' out now. Dis heah's de place dat dey bring out ev'ything too.

Andy---Ev'ybody in de cou't room is makin' fun o' me. Ev'vy time I look 'round at dat crowd, dey is all lookin' at me. Ain't no way we kin settle out o' cou't now, is it?

Collins--No, it's too late to settle out of court now. We'll just have to do the best we can.

Amos---Look like de judge is gittin' ready to do sumpin'.

Andy---Yeh, dere he go wid dat hammeh.

Judge--(ffg) (in distance) (raps twice) (clears throat) Quiet in the court room please. Mr. Smith, if you are ready, call your next witness.

Andy---Dere goes dat big bum Smith.

Collins--Quiet Andy.

Smith--(ffg) John Crawford, take the witness stand please.

Andy---I feel like punchin' de brotheh-in-law in de nose.

Amos---Will you shut up?

Bailiff--(cjc) (in distance) Do you swear that the testimony you are about to give in this case is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

John---(ffg) (in distance) I do.

Andy---(very soft) The fathead won't even look at me.

Smith--(ffg) What is your name?

John---John Crawford.

Smith--(ffg) Where do you live at the present time?

John---With my wife, and we live with Madam Queen.

Smith--(ffg) Are you related to Madam Queen?

John---Yes, I am her brother-in-law.

Smith--(ffg) Do you know Andrew Brown, the defendant in this case?

John---Yes, I know Andy.

Smith--(ffg) Did you know that Andrew Brown was married to Madam Queen?

John---Yessir, I knew that.

Smith--(ffg) I would like to have you telll the court and the jury how, where, and when you found this out. Go right ahead.

John---Well, your honor, and gentlemen in the jury, my wife an' myself lived up the country, and she was very unhappy, an' wanted to move to the city so she could be with her sister Madam Queen. Madam Queen had written my wife several letters stating that she was engaged to marry a man who owned a taxicab company by the name of Andrew Brown.

Smith--(ffg) And when did this happen?

John---About a year ago.

Andy---(whispers) He's a pal.

Smith--(ffg) Go ahead with the story.

John---Madam Queen talked to us about coming to New York City and my wide was so unhappy in the country that I thought we would come down and bring the children. She told us at that time that she would soon be married to Andrew Brown, so on Labor Day of last year, Andrew Brown and his pardner Amos, together with Ruby Taylor and Madam Queen came to our home in the country to spend the day. While they were with us Andy told me that as soon as he could straighten out some of his banking and get all of his money together he was going to marry Madam Queen-----

Smith--(ffg) I would like yo interrupt you there just a minute. Did he tell you that he would not marry Madam Queen unless he could get his money together?

John---Oh no. He said that if he couldn't get his banking straightened out they would put off the wedding for a week or two but he wanted to get everything straight first.

Smith--(ffg) Alright, go ahead.

John---He then told me that he would like to give me a position with his taxicab company because he thought it would be nice for the two of us to work together, as long as we were married to two sisters, and he also said that we could all live in the same house in New York. I told him that my wife was very unhappy and we were having little quarrels as married people will have, and he told me that after he married Madam Queen, which would be in the next few weeks,----

Smith--(ffg) Yes, yes.

John---That he would try to make my wife be happy again by buying another taxicab an' letting me ride her around in it in the afternoon.

Smith--(ffg) Now I would like to interrupt your story just a minute.

Andy---(soft) When I git him I goin' hit him right in de face wid a pie.

Smith--(ffg) You and your wife came to New York City because you knew that Andrew Brown had asked Madam Queen to marry him.

John---Oh yes, I have heard him ask her that. In fact before they started calling each other Ducky wucky and sweet dumpling, Andy used to call her other sweet names, and I heard them talk about being married and how happy they would be.

Smith--(ffg) Did you know that Andrew Brown wrote Madam Queen love letters?

John---Yes I did.

Smith--(ffg) Did you ever read one of those letters?

John---Nosir, I did not, but Madam Queen read two or three of them to us.

Smith--(ffg) Do you remember if the letters said anything about marriage?

John---Let me think.

Andy---(soft) Kick him out de lunch room.

Amos---Shut up.

John---I remember one letter specially Andrew Brown said that he was so lonesome that he could not wait for the day when they would be married, and my wife, who has never liked Andy, said to her sister that she was making a mistake to give up all of her other friends for Andrew but I remember Madam Queen saying that she loved him and she wanted to make him happy by giving up her other friends and marrying him.

Smith--(ffg) Did you see Madam Queen prepare for the wedding?

John---Yes, the wedding was postponed two or three times and then it was set for New Year's day, and she prepared for the wedding for that time.

Smith--(ffg) Were you at the home of George Stevens, known as the Kingfish, when Andrew Brown informed Madam Queen that he would not marry her?

John---Yes, I was there, and at the stroke of midnight, when everybody was singing Andy called Madam Queen to one side an' told her that he would not marry her.

Smith--(ffg) What happened?

John---The party quieted down all of a sudden and Madam Queen had one of her spells, and went out of her head.

Smith--(ffg) What did Andrew Brown do?

John---He went out of the house when he heard my wife say "Where is Andy?"

Smith--(ffg) What effect did this have on the health of Madam Queen?

John---She went to bed, under the care of a doctor, for several weeks and was forced to close up her beauty shop.

Smith--(ffg) Why did the doctor have Madam Queen to stay in bed?

John---I heard the doctor say that it was such a shock that it weakened her so that she was not able to be up and

around.

Smith--(ffg) Cross-examine.

Andy---Where you goin' Mr. Collins?

Amos---Wait a minute, he goin' git up an' do sumpin' hisself.

Andy---Whut Mr. Collins goin' do?

Amos---Shut up.

Collins--(cjc) Mr. Crawford, in your direct examination, you stated that your wife did NOT like Andrew Brown.

John---Yessir.

Collins--(cjc) Why didn't she like him?

John---She said he was a big four-flusher.

Collins--Do you think that she would have made Andy's life unhappy if he had married Madam Queen?

John---If she would git on her high hoss she would.

Collins--You know that Andy knew of your wife's dislike for him, do you not?

John---Yes, I do---