

Thurs. Mar. 5, 1931.

"AMOS AND ANDY"
by
Correll & Gosden
No. 920.

Today Andy is scheduled to take the witness stand in his own behalf. He has spent many hours with his attorney getting instructions as to his action on the stand. Attorney Smith, representing Madam Queen, has endeavored to locate Prince Ali Bendo, a crystal gazer, who was instrumental in having the original date of Andy's wedding postponed. As the scene opens now we find Amos, Andy and Lawyer Collins just outside of the court room during a short recess. Here they are:--

Amos---If yo' just stop shakin' Andy, ev'ything's goin' be alright. Ain't no use to git nervous.

Andy---I can't he'p from gittin' nervous, kin I?

Collins--I want you to remember everything I told you Andy.

Amos---Yo' heah dat?

Amos---Well, if you don't remember how you gotta act on dere, den you IS out o' luck.

Collins--I want you to think of all the things I've told you and during the direct examination I will ask you questions that you know how to answer. The only thing I do want you to do is to be careful under cross examination because the cross examination is very important.

Amos---Yo' heah dat?

Collins--And I don't want you to do anything that will incriminate you.

Amos---An' git dat in yo' head.

Andy---Whut kin I do dat'll make 'em cre-mate me?

Collins--No, I said incriminate.

Andy---Oh.

Amos---Well, don't worry 'bout dat---just think how yo' goin' act when yo' git on de witness stand---ain't dat right Mr. Collins?

Collins--Yes, if you can give a testimony that will help you as much as Amos did when he was on the stans, I think you'll come out alright.

Amos---De trouble is wid him, he's nervous, look at him.

Andy---Who wouldn't be? I gotta sit on dat chair in front o' Madam Queen an' all dat stuff.

Collins--The only thing I want to warn you about is the cross examination. Remember what you have said and don't contradict yourself.

Andy---Don't whut?

Collins--Contradict yourself.

Amos---You better 'splain dat to him too Mr. Collins.

Collins--In other words Andy, stick to your original statement and when you are being cross examined don't let Smith get you mixed up.

Andy---Oh, I kin handle dat sichiation alright. De only thing I'se worried 'bout is when I'se on de witness stand.

Amos---Well, dat's whut he's talkin' 'bout.

Andy---Oh.

Amos---Mr. Collins, you got a hard job---I feel sorry fo' yo'.

Andy---I wish somebody'd feel sorry fo' me---I got a hard job too.

Amos---I say you is.

Andy---Dis is de worst picklement dat I was eveh in.

Amos---You been in a lot of 'em too.

Collins--The whole idea is the thing we talked over today. You didn't want to marry Madam Queen.

Amos---Dat's de truth too.

Andy---Well, why was I regaged to her?

Collins--Because she led you on.

Andy---Yeh, dat's right, ain't it?

Amos---An' don't fo'git dat she ast you to write dem letters.

Andy---Whut lettehs?

Amos---De letters dat you writ her.

Andy---Well, whut's dat gotta do wid it?

Amos---Wid whut?

Andy---Yo' see dere, Mr. Collins---I wear myself out 'splainin' things to Amos. By de time I git on de witness stand I'll be weak in de head from 'splainin' to him.

Amos---'Splainin' whut to me?

Andy---Dat boy kin ast mo' questions.

Collins--Well, at the present time Andy, you better confine your efforts to your own testimony on the witness stand.

Andy---At de present time----I got dat much---whut was dat stuff afteh dat?

Amos---In other words----

Andy---Shut up, will yo'? Mr. Collins, YOU 'splain ev'ything to me.

Collins--I think we better go in and take a seat.

Amos---Come on.

Andy---I'm comin', ain't I? Ev'ybody's always hollerin' at me, "Come on somewhere."

Amos---An' don't talk so loud, yo' heah?

Collins--Take the same seats you've always had.

Amos---Yessah.

Andy---I wish I could stay in dat seat.

Amos---You is always wishin' sumpin', ain't yo'?

Andy---Dem mens on de jury---dey act like dey mad about sumpin'.

Amos---Sit down.

Collins--Don't forget everything I've told you.

Andy---Oh, I ain't goin' fo'git nuthin' dat you told me.
(quietly to Amos) Amos, whut is he told me?

Amos---Well, just wait till yo' git in dat chair an' do de best yo' kin.

Andy---Dat judge----he acts like he's mad. Ev'ybody's mad at me, an' I ain't done nuthin'. I'se regusted.

Amos---Quiet.

Collins--Alright Andy, don't forget what I told you.

Andy---'Bout 'em cre-matin' me?

Judge--(ffg) (raps) Quiet please. Mr. Collins, call your witness please.

Collins--Andrew Brown, take the witness stand.

Andy---Yessah.

(pause)

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

Judge--(ffg) Will the people in the back part of the court room be quiet?

Collins--Whut is your name?

Andy---Andrew Brown, wid a "H" in it----in de middle.

Collins--Andrew H. Brown. What is your occupation?

Andy---Nosah, I did not.

Collins--No, no, I say whut do you do for a living?

Andy---Oh.

Judge--(ffg) Will the witness answer the questions promptly. We've had enough delay in this trial.

Collins--Whut do you do for a living?

Andy---I runs de Fresh Air Taxicab comp'ny of America incorporulated, I runs a lunch room, of America---but dat ain't incorporulated. Den I doos a lot o' figgerin', like income tax.

Collins--Are you successful in business?

Andy---Whut's de matteh?

Collins--Have you made a success of your business?

Andy---Oh, sho'.

Collins--You are aware of the fact that Madam Queen is suing you for breach of promise.

Andy---Whut did yo' say I wear?

Collins--I say, you KNOW that the plaintiff in this case, Madam Queen, is suing you for breach of promise.

Andy---Yessah.

Collins--How long have you known Madam Queen?

Andy---Oveh a yeah. WAY oveh.

Collins--Now you first met her, where?

Andy---Gittin' a manana-cure.

Collins--Did Madam Queen say anything to you about coming back for another manicure?

Andy---Yes--an' no. Mostly yes.

Collins--What do you mean by that?

Andy---I did not---I mean-a---whut is it?

Collins--Did she ask you to come back to her beauty shop?

Andy---Oh sho', she told me dat I ought to have mo' manana-cures dan I is been gittin'. Dat's when I give her 50 cent.

Collins--In other words, she suggested that you should come back to the beauty shop for another manicure.

Andy---Yessah.

Collins--Did she ever ask you to write her a letter?

Andy---Yessah, she ast me to write her a letteh.

Collins--Is that why you wrote the letters?

Andy---Whut lettehs?

Collins--You said you wrote her letters. I'm asking you if

you wrote her because she requested you to do so.

Andy---Yes, an' no---mostly yes.

Collins--Did you spend any money by taking her out to dinner?

Andy---All de time.

Collins--Did you ever eat at her home?

Andy---If I would stop by de butcher shop an' bring de food, I'd eat dere.

Collins--And did you intend to marry her?

Andy---Well, to tell yo' de truth Mr. Collins, I said I did, but in de back paht o' my head, sumpin' kept tellin' me "don't do it." You know how dat is.