

Tues. Mar. 3, 1931.

"AMOS AND ANDY"
by
Correll & Gosden
No. 918.

Madam Queen's attorney has called all of his witnesses and the attorney for the defendant has admitted to Andy that lawyer M. Smith has presented a very good case. Andy's lawyer realizes that Madam Queen's attorney expects to strike a few very hard blows to the defense before the trial is over. Up to now Lawyer Smith has only mentioned the verbal promises made by the defendant and just when he will introduce Andy's love letters is still a puzzle. As the scene opens now, both sides of the case are returning to the court room after a recess. Brother Crawford requested that he be allowed to come to court to hear Amos on the witness stand. We now find Andy and brother Crawford talking together before going into the court room. Amos spent the entire recess with Andy's lawyer and Andy is now waiting for the two to return. Here they are:--

JOHN STARTS

John---Well Andy, I know how you must feel an' although we is had our little arguments I want you to know that I hope everything comes out alright.

Andy---It's a mess up to now, ain't it?

John---Yes, things are pretty well balled up, I guess. Maybe Amos kin be of some help to yo' today when he gits on the stand.

Andy---Who's down at de lunch room while you is heah?

John---Well, Lightning is down there. I left dere about an hour ago an' Lightning said he could handle everything till I got back.

Andy---How come YOU down heah? You ain't goin' on de stand today, is yo'?

John---No I'm not going on de stand but I was talkin' to Amos early dis mornin' an' we were both busy an' he was gettin' ready to leave fo' court an' he said he wanted to talk to me before he went on the witness stand.

Andy---Whut'd he wanna talk to YOU 'bout?

John---I don't know whut he wants to talk to me about---I sort-a wondered dat myself.

Andy---He betteh keep his mouf out of it an' let de lawyeh handle ev'ything.

John---Oh, by de way, de Kingfish an' his wife were down at de lunch room dis mornin' an' wanted to know if dey could take care of de bizness fo' us while I went to court.

Andy---I done already told de Kingfish dat I didn't want him messin' wid de bizness, or his wife.

John---Well, de Kingfish told me dat you thought it was a pretty good idea.

Andy---No, no, dat was Amos. Amos said he thought it'd be a good idea, an' I got to thinkin' oveh ev'ything from de bizness angle an' I told de Kingfish dat I didn't want him or his wide to mess around de lunch room at all.

John---Well, I think you're wise.

Andy---'Course Amos talked to him 'bout it but whuteveh Amos said to him, I told him to say it 'cause Amos always askes me whut to say 'fore he says it.

John---Well, heah comes Amos now, an' de lawyer.

Andy---Yeh---I glad dey're back. Well, where is yo' been? Hello Mr. Collins.

Amos---Hello dere brother Crawford.

Collins--(cjc) Andy, suppose you come on in court with me now and Amos, you come in in the next minute or two.

Amos---Alright Mr. Collins. I'll wait heah. I'll be in dere in a minute or two.

Andy---An' don't be late. So long brotheh Crawford.

John---So long Andy--I'll see you later.

Amos---Well---how is ev'ything goin' brother Crawford?

John---Well Amos, just between the two of us, this trial is upset my wife so that she is very unhappy again.

Amos---Yeh, dat's tough. I guess you ketch it at home alright, don't yo'?

John---Yes, if it isn't one thing it's another Amos. Sometimes I feel like I've reached the end of my rope---den I say to myself "I guess everybody has de same thing though", an' I just go ahead an' do de best I kin.

Amos---Yeh, I feel sorry fo' yo' alright 'cause when yo' wife gits mad, she gits mad, don't she?

John---If Madam Queen doesn't win dis case, I don't know whut we're goin' do.

Amos---Tell me dis, brother Crawford---you knowed dat Madam Queen fainted de first day she got on de stand, didn't yo'?

John---Yes, I know she fainted.

Amos---I wanna ast yo' a question. Tell me why she fainted.

John---Well Amos, I can't tell yo'.

Amos---Why can't yo' tell me why she fainted?

John---Because I was at home dat night fo' a little while when lawyer Smith was dere an' I heard 'em talking about it, an' my wife told me not to mention it to a soul, an' if I did she would knock my head off, or something like that.

Amos---But she really fainted though, didn't she?

John---Oh yes, she passed out cold.

Amos---If I ast you a question, will yo' tell me de truth if I ain't astin' yo' too much?

John---Oh yes.

Amos---Did she faint 'cause she saw sumpin'?

John---Well Amos---yes---an' dat's all I kin tell yo'.

Collins--(fading in in distance) Alright Amos, come on in right now.

Amos---Yessah Mr. Collins, comin' in right now.

John---Well, I'm going with yo' Amos---see if I can find a seat.

Amos---I wanna talk to yo' some more 'bout dat faintin' bizness brother Crawford.

John---Well Amos, I can't tell yo' any more.

Amos---Come on, let's git in dere. (quietly) Where is you goin' sit? By yo' wife?

John---No, I'm not. By the time she finishes kickin' me on de shins, I'm black an' blue.

Amos---Well, I'm goin' over heah an' sit down.

John---I'll see yo' later Amos.

(pause)

Amos---(to Andy) Git up Andy, you'se in my seat0---don't make no diff'ence though, sit dere an' I'll sit over here.

Collins--Well, how did you come out?

Amos---Sumpin' tells me dat I'se on de right track, I don't know.

Andy---Whut yo' talkin' 'bout?

Amos---I been talkin' to brother Crawford 'bout Madam Queen faintin', dat's whut.

Andy---Well, de way I feel now, when I git on de witness stand, I goin' do de same thing.

Collins--Quiet boys.

Judge--(ffg) (raps) If attorney for the defendant is ready, call your first witness. Will the people please stop talking in this courtroom?

Bailiff--(cjc) Quiet in the courtroom please.

Andy---Oh--oh---good luck to yo' Amos.

Amos---Yo' DO git kind-a nervous, don't yo'?

Collins--(cjc) Amos Jones, take the witness stand please.

Amos---Yessah.

Bailiff--(cjc) 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?

Amos---Yessah.

Bailiff--Sit down.

Amos---Thank yo'.

Collins--What is your name?

Amos---Amos Jones.

Collins---And where do you live?

Amos---I live on 134th Street.

Collins---What business are you in?

Amos---I'se in de taxicab bizness, an' de lunch room bizness.

Collins--And who are you in business with?

Amos---Well, in de taxicab bizness, me an' Andy Brown is pardners, an' in de lunch room bizness, me an' Andy an' John Crawford is pardners.

Collins--How long have you known Andrew Brown?

Amos---Ever since we was little children together. We was raised up together down on a farm near Atlanta, Georgia.

Collins--In other words, you know Andrew Brown very well.

Amos---Yessah. VERY well.

Collins--Does Andrew Brown ever tell you any of his personal business?

Amos---All of it----an' not only me, he tells ev'ybody.

Collins--Did you know that Andrew Brown and Madam Queen knew each other?

Amos---Yessah.

Collins--Did Andy ever tell you that he was in love with Madam Queen?

Amos---Yessah, I believe he DID tell me he loved her.

Collins--Did he tell you that Madam Queen loved him?

Amos---He say he didn't know fo' sure. He always thought that she was in love wid somebody else.

Collins--Would you tell the court and the jury some of the things that Andy has told you concerning Madam Queen.

Amos---Well----he went over dere fo' de first time to git a manana-cure an' come back an' told me dat Madam Queen cut

his finger nails off, an' told him, while she was doin' it, dat she was lonesome. Den he told me dat he told her dat he ought to have a manana- cure twice a week. Den he said dat she charged 50 cents fo' de manana-cure an' she would tell him about some cheap skates dat only give her a quarter tip, so den Andy say he didn't wanna be a cheap skate so he start givin' her 50 cents fo' de manana-cure an' 50 cents tip. Den dey start havin' dates together an' at dat time Andy say dat she was goin' wid a travelin' salesman dat sold raincoats. All dis happened before Andy was in de lunch room bizness, an' he wasn't makin' much money wid de taxicab comp'ny, but we used to be in de taxicab office together an' Madam Queen would call up an' say sumpin' 'bout goin' out to supper together an' Andy spent ev'vy dime he made takin' her to shows an' buyin' her sumpin' to eat.

Collins--Did Andy always ask her out to dinner?

Amos---No, a lot o' times he used to tell me dat he didn't wanna take her because he used to say she used to eat like two hosses.

Collins--Did you and Andy ever discuss the love affair?

Amos---Yessah.

Collins--And what was the substance of the discussion?

Amos---Well, Andy couldn't believe she loved him, and neither could I-- -an' I told him dat she was after his money, an' he told me dat he thought de same thing, an' another thing-----