

"BLONDIE"

Dick MacVind

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1940

4:30 - 5:00 P.M. PST
7:30 - 8:00 P.M. PST

MASTER

GOODWIN: AH -- AH -- AH --- DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL -- LISTEN TO
"BLONDIE"...BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE MAKERS OF CAMEL
CIGARETTES.

NEWSBOY: (TYPICAL NEWSBOY VOICE IN BACKGROUND) EXTRA!...EXTRA!!

GOODWIN: FOR EXTRA FLAVOR -- GET CAMELS!

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: FOR EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS -- GET CAMELS!

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: FOR EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK, GET CAMELS -- THE CIGARETTE
THAT GIVES YOU THE EXTRAS.

MUSIC: (THEME...EIGHT MEASURES, THEN DOWN FOR FIRST COMMERCIAL)

GOODWIN: BEFORE WE DROP OVER TO THE BUMSTEAD HOUSE TO VISIT CHIC
YOUNG'S FAMOUS CHARACTERS, "BLONDIE" AND "DAGWOOD," A
WORD FROM THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES.

GOODWIN: ALMOST ALL OF US HAVE SIMPLE LITTLE RULES OF SOME KIND
OR OTHER FOR DAILY LIVING AND FOR PLEASURE. I KNOW OF
A RULE THAT MILLIONS FOLLOW EVERY DAY. IT GOES LIKE
THIS: FOR THE EXTRAS IN CIGARETTE-SMOKING PLEASURE,
STAY ON THE SLOW-BURNING SIDE. AND WHEN YOU HEAR
SMOKERS TALK ABOUT SLOW BURNING IN CIGARETTES, YOU CAN
BE SURE THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT CAMEL CIGARETTES. HERE'S
WHY: IN RECENT LABORATORY TESTS, CAMELS BURNED
TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT SLOWER THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE
(CONTINUED)

"BLONDIE" 1-A
4/29/40

GOODWIN:
(Cont'd)

FIFTEEN OTHER OF THE LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED --
SLOWER THAN ANY OF THEM. AND THE EXTRAS THAT GO WITH
CAMEL'S SLOWER-BURNING COSTLIER TOBACCOS ARE MIGHTY
IMPORTANT TO A SMOKER. THERE'S EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA
COOLNESS. NATURALLY THE SLOWER THE BURNING, THE COOLER
AND Milder THE SMOKING. CAMELS ALSO GIVE YOU EXTRA
FLAVOR BECAUSE SLOW BURNING PRESERVES FLAVOR AND LETS
IT COME THROUGH IN THE SMOKING. AND ON TOP OF ALL
THAT EXTRA PLEASURE, CAMELS ALSO GIVE YOU EXTRA SMOKING
-- A PLUS EQUAL, ON THE AVERAGE, AS SHOWN BY THOSE TESTS,
TO FIVE EXTRA SMOKE PER PACK. SO FOR THE EXTRAS IN
SMOKING -- EXTRA COOLNESS, EXTRA MILDNESS, EXTRA FLAVOR,
AND EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK -- STAY ON THE SLOW-BURNING
SIDE. SMOKE CAMELS. PENNY FOR PENNY, CAMELS ARE YOUR
BEST CIGARETTE BUY!

GOODWIN: AND NOW FOR OUR WEEKLY VISIT WITH THE BUMSTEADS.
TODAY --- WE FIND BLONDIE...A PUZZLED EXPRESSION ON
HER PRETTY FACE...STANDING AT THE TELEPHONE...

BLONDIE: BUT --- LISTEN OPERATOR, THEY'VE GOT TO ANSWER! :
MY GOODNESS IT'S A BUSINESS OFFICE: IT'S WHERE
MY HUSBAND WORKS! SOMEBODY MUST BE THERE AT THIS TIME
IN THE MORNING! (FEEET HEARD RUNNING OUTSIDE) OH WAIT
A MINUTE! (DOOR BURSTS OPEN) DAGWOOD! WHAT ON
EARTH'S THE MATTER?

DAGWOOD: (PANTING) W...WA...WAIT! I...WAIT'LL I GET..MY
BREATH! (GASPS)

BLONDIE: NEVER MIND, OPERATOR. (HANGS UP)

DAGWOOD: OH..OH BOY! SOME...SOME EXCITEMENT! PHEW!

BLONDIE: I TRIED TO GET YOU AT THE OFFICE...BUT...

DAGWOOD: (BEGINNING TO FIND WIND) Wait'll I tell you. I...er...
GOT THERE A LITTLE BIT LATE THIS MORNING...AND RIGHT
AWAY THEY TOLD ME MR. DITHERS WAS LOOKING FOR ME. THEY
SAID HE'D LEFT TO COME OVER HERE!

BLONDIE: I KNOW. HE IS HERE!

DAGWOOD: AND SO THEN I SAID...(TAKE) HEY! HE'S STILL HERE?
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE IN COURT THIS MORNING!

BLONDIE: NOT UNTIL TEN O'CLOCK HE SAYS. LISTEN, DAGWOOD --- IS
THAT WHY NO ONE ANSWERS AT THE OFFICE?

DAGWOOD: SURE. I GUESS THEY KNOW HE'LL BE IN COURT ALL DAY.
HEY --- WHERE IS HE?

BLONDIE: HE'S OUT IN THE KITCHEN SIPPING HIS SECOND GLASS OF
BICARBONATE OF SODA.

DAGWOOD: OH GOLLY. HIS DIGESTION GONE BACK ON HIM AGAIN?

BLONDIE: I'M AFRAID SO. HE'S PRETTY EXCITED ABOUT TESTIFYING
IN COURT.

DAGWOOD: DID HE ASK FOR ME?

BLONDIE: EVERY TWO MINUTES SINCE HE CAME IN THE DOOR. WHAT'S HE WANT WITH YOU, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: OH, I GUESS HE JUST WANTS ME TO HOLD HIS HAND ON THE WAY TO COURT! YOU KNOW. KIND OF CHEER HIM UP.

BLONDIE: GOODNESS. I WOULDN'T WANT TO TESTIFY ON A WITNESS STAND.

DAGWOOD: (IMPORTANT) OH I DON'T KNOW. I'VE SEEN A LOT OF MOVIES WHERE SOMEBODY IS ON TRIAL...AND I ALWAYS KNOW WHAT I'D SAY IF I WAS DOING IT.

BLONDIE: DO YOU DEAR?

DAGWOOD: SURE! I'D LIKE TO GET A CRACK AT SOME OF THOSE SMART LAWYERS SOME DAY.

BLONDIE: MAYBE YOU'LL GET A CHANCE TODAY.

DAGWOOD: ALL YOU GOT TO DO IS KEEP YOUR HEAD AND...(TAKE) HOW'S THAT?

BLONDIE: MAYBE MR. DITHERS WANTS YOU FOR A WITNESS.

DAGWOOD: ME? NO HONEY! WHY I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS CASE -- ER -- DO I?

BLONDIE: I DON'T KNOW, DAGWOOD. BUT THE CASE IS PECK VS DITHERS.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. THAT MUST BE PRISSY PECK. WHICH ONE IS SUING WHO FOR WHAT?

BLONDIE: I'M NOT SURE BUT I GUESS PECK IS SUING...BECAUSE MR. DITHERS TRIED TO GET THE NAME CHANGED FROM PECK VS. DITHER TO DITHERS VS. PECK. BUT THEY TOLD HIM THE OTHER MAN WAS THERE FIRST!

DAGWOOD: YEAH...WELL, IT WOULD BE JUST LIKE PRISSY PECK TO SUE MR. DITHERS. THEY'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING ABOUT SOMETHING.

BLONDIE: THAT NAME --- PECK --- IS AWFULLY FAMILIAR TO ME SOMEHOW, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: SURE. PERCY PECK THAT PUTS ALL THOSE STATUES IN THE PARKS. HE'S JUST A SHOW-OFF WITH MONEY.

BLONDIE: YES --- BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...I'M TRYING TO REMEMBER...

DAGWOOD: MR. DITHERS STILL CALLS HIM "PRISSY" LIKE THEY USED TO IN HIGH SCHOOL.

BLONDIE: OH -- THEY WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER?

DAGWOOD: YEAH. THAT'S WHERE THE TROUBLE STARTED. IN BIOLOGY B -- THEIR FRESHMAN YEAR.

BLONDIE: GOODNESS! YOU'D THINK THEY'D HAVE FORGOTTEN IT BY NOW.

DAGWOOD: WELL --- SEE -- PECK WON'T LET THE MATTER DROP. EVERYTIME MR. DITHERS WANTS TO BUY A NICE PIECE OF BUILDING GROUND AT A SENSIBLE PRICE...WHY PECK BUYS IT FIRST AT THE ASKING PRICE.

BLONDIE: WHAT DOES HE DO WITH ALL THE LAND HE BUYS!

DAGWOOD: HE PUTS STATUES ON IT.

BLONDIE: WELL, I NEVER! AND ALL BECAUSE OF A SCHOOL BOY QUARREL.

DAGWOOD: YEAH. WELL, BETWEEN YOU AND ME -- IT WAS MR. DITHERS STARTED IT. THEY CALLED HIM "DIZZY" DITHERS IN THOSE DAYS..AND...

DITHERS: (COMING IN) BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOOH. YES SIR. G -- GOOD MORNING!

DITHERS: PAH! IT'S A ROTTEN MORNING.

DAGWOOD: YOU'LL FEEL BETTER WHEN YOU GET PRISSY PECK UP ON THAT WITNESS BOX.

DITHERS: WITNESS STAND! YEAH...BUT HOW WILL I FEEL WHEN HE GETS ME UP THERE?

BLONDIE: WELL, DAGWOOD SAYS...ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS KEEP YOUR HEAD.

DITHERS: PAH! HE SHOULD HAVE MY HEAD!

DAGWOOD: YES SIR -- I MEAN NO SIR -- ER THANKS JUST THE SAME...

BLONDIE: (QUICKLY) ER --- DAGWOOD WAS JUST TELLING ME ABOUT THE TRICK YOU PLAYED IN SCHOOL...

DAGWOOD: YEAH. HA. IT WAS A SCREAM. MR. DITHERS PUT A TOY SNAKE IN PRISSY PECK'S SCHOLARS COMPANION.

DITHERS: NO, BUMSTAD. IT WASN'T A TOY SNAKE...IT WAS A LIVE TOAD...AND IT WASN'T HIS SCHOLARS COMPANION EITHER.

DAGWOOD: OH -- NO?

DITHERS: NO. I PUT THE TOAD IN HIS LUNCH BOX!

DAGWOOD: (LAUGHS)

DITHERS: (LAUGHS TOO...THEN SOBERS) OOOOOH. MY HEAD! LOOK HERE, BUMSTEAD...YOU'LL HAVE TO BE MORE ACCURATE ABOUT DETAILS WHEN YOU'RE ON THE STAND TODAY.

DAGWOOD: OH SURE...WHEN I'M ON...(TAKE) HEY! ON WHERE?

DITHERS: THAT WITNESS STAND.

DAGWOOD: T-OOOOH.

DITHERS: "ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS KEEP YOUR HEAD."

BLONDIE: IT'S JUST THE CHANCE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: IT IS NOT. I MEAN --- HOW IS IT?

BLONDIE: IT'S YOUR CHANCE TO PUT SOME SMART LAWYER IN HIS PLACE.

DITHERS: NEVER MIND THE LAWYERS...JUST CONCENTRATE ON BEATING PRISSY PECK.

DAGWOOD: WELL, SURE I --- I'D BE GLAD TO, MR. DITHERS...ONLY...SEE I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE FACTS OF THE CASE AND...

DITHERS: FIDDLE-DIDDLE! YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT IT! YOU WERE RIGHT
THERE!

DAGWOOD: YEAH...WHERE?

DITHERS: IN MY CAR WHEN THE ACCIDENT HAPPENED.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WAS I KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS?

DITHERS: NO, BUMSTEAD. CERTAINLY NOT...

DAGWOOD: WELL, THEN IT'S FUNNY I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

DITHERS: OOOOOH. AND I'M DEPENDING ON YOU TO CINCH MY CASE.

BLONDIE: IT WILL COME BACK TO HIM, MR. DITHERS. WHY I REMEMBER
IT PERFECTLY.

DAGWOOD: OH -- WERE YOU THERE, TOO?

DITHERS: NO NO! ...OOOOH WHAT A WITNESS!

BLONDIE: I WASN'T THERE, DAGWOOD -- BUT YOU TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT
THAT NIGHT WHEN YOU GOT HOME.

DAGWOOD: I DID, HUH?

BLONDIE: CERTAINLY YOU DID. THAT'S WHAT PECK'S NAME REMINDED
ME OF! YOU WERE SO EXCITED WHEN YOU CAME HOME THAT
NIGHT -- YOU KISSED DAISY THE DOG -- AND SCRATCHED BABY
DUMPLING'S EARS!

DAGWOOD: I DID? IT MUST HAVE BEEN A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT. WHEN DID
IT HAPPEN?

DITHERS: FOR HEAVENS SAKE, PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, BUMSTEAD. IT
WASN'T HARDLY ANY ACCIDENT AT ALL. DON'T GO SAYING IT
WAS. AND IT HAPPENED JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO.

DAGWOOD: (LIGHT BREAKING) OH! A YEAR AGO. NO WONDER I WAS A
LITTLE HAZY ABOUT IT.

DITHERS: HAZY? YOU WERE LOST IN A FOG.

DAGWOOD: FOG? YEAH...SEEMS TO ME I REMEMBER TELLING YOU NOT TO
DRIVE SO FAST IN THAT FOG.

DITHERS: NO, BUMSTEAD! I WASN'T DRIVING FAST AND THERE WASN'T ANY FOG!

BLONDIE: LET ME TALK TO HIM, MR. DITHERS! LISTEN, DAGWOOD! IT WAS ON GRAND AVENUE. AT THE CORNER OF PEACH STREET. MR. DITHERS WAS DRIVING YOU TO WORK AND...

DAGWOOD: WAIT...I'M GETTING IT...WE WERE SPINNING ALONG...

DITHERS: CRAWLING ALONG!

DAGWOOD: THAT'S WHAT I MEAN. WE WERE CRAWLING ALONG AND ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU SAW PRISSY PECK AHEAD OF YOU...

DITHERS: RIGHT!

DAGWOOD: SO YOU TOOTED YOUR HORN....

DITHERS: RIGHT!

DAGWOOD: AND THEN...THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED.

DITHERS: YEAH -- BUT WHAT HAPPENED?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- THAT'S WHAT I DON'T REMEMBER.

DITHERS: (GROANS)

BLONDIE: NOW DON'T WORRY, MR. DITHERS! IT WAS SUCH A LITTLE ACCIDENT IT'S NO WONDER DAGWOOD FORGETS.

DITHERS: YOU OUGHT TO HEAR THE STORY PECK'S LAWYER HAS COOKED UP.

BLONDIE: IT DIDN'T AMOUNT TO ANYTHING! WHY PECK STOPPED WITHOUT PUTTING OUT HIS HAND...ER...YOU DIDN'T SEE HIM PUT OUT HIS HAND, DID YOU, DAGWOOD?

DITHERS: NO -- HE DIDN'T!

DAGWOOD: WELL...NO...I DIDN'T. I'M SURE OF THAT!

BLONDIE: GOOD. SO THEN WHEN PECK STOPPED SO FAST -- WHY NATURALLY MR. DITHERS CAR KIND OF ROLLED UP AND SORT OF NUDGED PECK'S CAR.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WELL, LOOKIT, BLONDIE...YOU REMEMBER SO MUCH BETTER THAN I DO. WHY DON'T YOU GET UP IN COURT AND TELL THE STORY?

BLONDIE: OH NO, DEAR. YOU WERE THE WITNESS.

DITHERS: CERTAINLY! LISTEN, BUMSTEAD...THE WHOLE OFFICE FORCE
WILL BE DOWN THERE TO SEE ME GIVE PECK A TRIMMING IN
COURT. YOU'LL BE A HERO IF YOU DON'T MESS THIS UP.

DAGWOOD: (SADLY) UHUI.

BLONDIE: (PROUDLY) JUST THINK DEAR.

DAGWOOD: (SADLY) I'M THINKING.

BLONDIE: I'LL GO OVER AND OVER IT WITH HIM, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: YEAH. AND THEN PROBABLY PECK'S LAWYER WILL ASK HIM IF
HE'S DISCUSSED THE CASE WITH ANYONE AND --- WHAT WILL
DAGWOOD SAY TO THAT?

DAGWOOD: (DEFIANTLY) I'D JUST SAY I DIDN'T TALK IT OVER --
EXCEPT WITH MY WIFE. AND I GUESS A MAN'S GOT A
RIGHT TO TALK TO HIS OWN WIFE!

DITHERS: YEAH. AND THEN THE LAWYER WILL ASK YOU WHAT YOUR WIFE
TOLD YOU.

DAGWOOD: AND I'LL SAY SHE JUST TOLD ME WHAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO
SAY. OOOH! NO!

DITHERS: NO. DEFINITELY NO!

BLONDIE: WELL CAN'T YOUR LAWYER STOP PECK'S LAWYER FROM ASKING THINGS LIKE THAT?

DITHERS: I DON'T KNOW. I -- I HAVEN'T GOT ANY LAWYER.

BLONDIE: WHAT?

DAGWOOD: NO LAWYER?

DITHERS: WELL I HAD A LAWYER BUT HE ADVISED ME TO SETTLE OUT OF COURT. SO I FIRED HIM!

BLONDIE: WELL THE LAW GIVES ANY MAN THE PRIVILEGE OF DEFENDING HIS OWN CASE DOESN'T IT?

DITHERS: YEAH. IF YOU CALL THAT A PRIVILEGE. (SIGHS) WELL I'M INTO IT NOW. COME ON DAGWOOD -- IT'S TIME TO GO.

DAGWOOD: YEAH BUT...YOU'RE COMING TOO, AREN'T YOU BLONDIE?

BLONDIE: YES DEAR...BUT I'LL HAVE TO CHANGE CLOTHES FIRST. YOU RUN ALONG AND I'LL JOIN YOU.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...YOU MIGHT PUT UP A LITTLE LUNCH AND BRING IT WITH YOU. I -- I FEEL KIND OF EMPTY ALREADY.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, DAGWOOD. HURRY NOW OR YOU'LL BE LATE FOR COURT.

DITHERS: YEAH..COME ON!

DAGWOOD: LISTEN...IF WE WERE BOTH LATE THEY MIGHT -- ER -- POSTPONE THE WHOLE THING.

DITHERS: NOT PRISSY PECK! (FADING) NOW LISTEN BUMSTEAD. I'M NOT PUTTING ANY WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH -- UNDERSTAND?

DAGWOOD: NO SIR -- I MEAN -- YES SIR!

DITHERS: BUT JUST REMEMBER THAT IT HAPPENED LIKE THIS -- (FADING MORE) -- WE WERE CRAWLING ALONG...AND PECK DIDN'T PUT OUT HIS HAND WHEN HE STOPPED...

(MUSIC IN AND UP FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)

(BABBLE OF VOICES)

(GAVEL...VOICES OUT)

JUDGE: ORDER. ORDER IN THE COURT!

PRY: IF YOUR HONOR PLEASE!

JUDGE: YES, MR. PRY?

PRY: AS COUNSEL FOR OUR HIGHLY RESPECTED FELLOW CITIZEN
MR. PERCIVAL PECK....

DITHERS: HA...YOU MEAN PRISSY PECK! (GAVEL)

JUDGE: SILENCE! PROCEED MR. PRY! AS COUNSEL FOR THE PLAINTIFF
...WHAT?

PRY: IF IT PLEASE THE COURT...I SHOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT
THIS COURTROOM BE CLEARED OF SPECTATORS. (LOUD BOOS...
GAVEL...SILENCE) IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE ROOM IS
PACKED WITH THE HIRELINGS OF THE DEFENDANT...DITHERS!

DITHERS: IT'S A LIE! (LOUD CHEERS) (GAVEL 'TIL SILENCE REIGNS
AGAIN)

JUDGE: MR. DITHERS! YOU HAVE BEEN ACCORDED THE PRIVILEGE OF
PLEADING YOUR OWN CASE IN COURT...BUT I MUST WARN YOU
AGAINST DISPLAYS OF ...AH...TEMPER.

DITHERS: I'M NOT LOSING MY TEMPER! (SHOUTS) I'M COOL AS A
CUCUMBER! (APPLAUSE)

JUDGE: (RAPPING AGAIN) SILENCE, MR. DITHERS, OR I'LL BE FORCED
TO HOLD YOU IN CONTEMPT OF COURT. (BOOS) (RAPPING
LOUDLY) SILENCE! (BOOS OUT) ARE THESE...AH...PEOPLE
FRIENDS OF YOURS MR. DITHERS?

DITHERS: I NEVER SAW 'EM BEFORE IN MY LIFE!

JUDGE: THAT'S VERY STRANGE. ARE YOU QUITE SURE THAT YOU KNOW
NONE OF THEM?

DITHERS: WELL...I KNOW THIS ONE! HE'S MY STAR WITNESS!
DAGWOOD BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: ER...MMMMMMME?

DITHERS: YOUR NAME IS BUMSTEAD ISN'T IT?

DAGWOOD: (SHAKING) I THER -- I THEE -- I THINK SO.

JUDGE: TAKE THE STAND, MR. BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: YOU -- YOU MEAN -- NOW?

DITHERS: CERTAINLY. GET UP THERE -- AND TALK!

GOODWIN: (LIKE CHEER LEADER) COME ON BOYS. BUMSTEAD'S GOING IN FOR DITHERS.

OMNES: (START SOFT AND BUILD) B-U-M-S-T-E-A-D. BUUUUUUMSTEAD!
(CHEER) (GAVEL) (JUDGE...PRY...GOODWIN YELL ORDER...
ORDER)

JUDGE: (AS TUMULT DIES) CLEAR THE COURT! THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS!

GOODWIN: (AS BAILIFF) OUTSIDE...COME ON! EVERYBODY OUT!
(SHUFFLING FEET BEGIN...A CHAIR IS OVERTURNED)

JUDGE: (OVER ABOVE SOUND) DISGRACEFUL! FROM ITS INCEPTION THIS WHOLE CASE HAS BEEN CONDUCTED LIKE A RIOT IN BEDLAM! ~~YOU, MR. DITHERS... AND YOU, MR. PECK...~~ HAVE DEPORTED YOURSELVES LIKE SCHOOLBOYS. INSTEAD OF TESTIMONY I HAVE HEARD NOTHING BUT AN EXCHANGE OF PERSONALITIES! YOUR STORIES HAVE AGREED IN NO SMALLEST PARTICULAR! (SHUFFLING FEET FADE OUT SLOWLY) I WANT TO WARN THE NEXT WITNESS...MR...AH...BUMSTEAD -- THAT UNLESS HE CAN CONVINC ME THAT HE IS TELLING THE TRUTH -- THE WHOLE TRUTH -- AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH HE WILL BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO TRIFLE WITH THE DIGNITY OF THE LAW! ERHMP. IS YOUR WITNESS READY, MR. DITHERS?

DITHERS: HE CERTAINLY IS, YOUR HONOR. DAGWOOD BUMSTEAD!

JUDGE: WELL? WHERE IS HE?

DITHERS: WHY -- RIGHT HERE YOUR HONOR. (LOOKS) OOOOH! HE -- HE
WAS RIGHT HERE A MINUTE AGO!

JUDGE: YOUR TALENTS APPEAR TO BE WASTED IN THE LAW, MR. DITHERS.
YOU MIGHT DO BETTER AS A MAGICIAN ON THE STAGE. A
CROWDED COURT ROOM FULL OF PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW TURNS
INTO A CHEERING SECTION FOR YOUR WITNESS...AND THEN IN
THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE THE WITNESS -- AH --
DEMATERIALIZES!

DITHERS: DOES WHAT?

JUDGE: VANISHES MR. DITHERS. AND I MIGHT ADD THAT THE
PATIENCE OF THIS COURT IS FAST VANISHING ALSO...AND YOUR
CHANCES OF WINNING THIS CASE ARE ALREADY PRACTICALLY --
AH -- IMPERCEPTIBLE!

PRY: IF THE COURT PLEASE. I MOVE FOR A DECISION FOR THE
PLAINTIFF -- MY CLIENT -- MR. PECK!

DITHERS: NOW WAIT A MINUTE. GIVE ME TIME TO FIND BUMSTEAD.
HE CAN'T HAVE GOT FAR AWAY!

JUDGE: I WILL GIVE YOU A RECESS OF JUST FIVE MINUTES,
MR. DITHERS. (GAVEL)
(MUSIC IN FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)

BLONDIE: YOO-HOO, DAGWOOD. WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE IN THE
CORRIDOR?

DAGWOOD: OH...THE JUDGE KICKED US ALL OUT. HA...HAH. NOW I
WON'T HAVE TO TESTIFY -- I HOPE. YOU BEEN WAITING LONG,
BLONDIE?

BLONDIE: YES, BUT I DIDN'T MIND. MR. TANGLE HAS BEEN SHOWING ME PICTURES.

DAGWOOD: WHO? PICTURES OF WHAT?

BLONDIE: OF THE CUTTEST BABY. JUST ^{6 1/2 years} ~~EIGHT~~ MONTHS OLD. AND ALREADY IT HAS A BIG TOOTH RIGHT IN FRONT.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. IS THAT MR...ER...

BLONDIE: TANGLE! YES. YOO-HOO, MR. TANGLE. COME AND MEET MY HUSBAND.

TANGLE: (COMING IN) DELIGHTED I'M SURE. I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU, MR. CRUMHEAD.

DAGWOOD: BUMSTEAD. YEAH -- THANKS. MY WIFE TELLS ME YOU HAVE A YOUNGSTER ^{6 1/2 years} ~~EIGHT~~ MONTHS OLD.

TANGLE: AND LARGE FOR HIS YEARS -- ER -- ^{year} ~~MONTHS~~, I MEAN. JUST A MINUTE...I'VE GOT A LITTLE SNAPSHOT HERE THAT'LL GIVE YOU A ROUGH IDEA, MR. PLUMDEAD.

DAGWOOD: BUMSTEAD. SAY YOU OUGHT TO SEE OUR BOY.

TANGLE: YOU DON'T SAY...NOW THIS IS CHUBBINS!

DAGWOOD: WHO?

TANGLE: MY BABY...CHUBBINS WE CALL HIM. JUST A -- A PET NAME, MR...ER...

DAGWOOD: BUMSTEAD. YEAH THAT'S CUTE ALL RIGHT. TAKE IT YOURSELF?

BLONDIE: OH YES, DAGWOOD, HE TAKES ALL HIS BABY'S PICTURES -- RIGHT ON HIS FRONT LAWN....

DAGWOOD: HE DOES EH? WELL I REMEMBER WHEN BABY DUMPLING... THAT'S OUR BABY...

TANGLE: MY FRONT LAWN GETS THE SUN YOU KNOW. I'M OUT THERE ALL DAY LONG...

BLONDIE: AND EVERY DAY, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WELL WHEN BABY DUMPLING WAS ~~EIGHT MONTHS~~ ^{eight} OLD...
I SAID TO HIM ONE DAY...

DITHERS: BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: BUMSTEAD I SAID...TOOOOH...NO!

DITHERS: WHAT THE NAME OF JUMPING JOE JEEPERS ARE YOU DOING OUT
HERE?

DAGWOOD: OH...JUST...ER...LOOKING AT BABY PICTURES.

DITHERS: BABY PICTURES! OOOOOH!

BLONDIE: THEY'RE SIMPLY FASCINATING, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: LISTEN...THE JUDGE HAS GIVEN ME FIVE MINUTES TO GET YOU
ON THAT STAND...AND THREE MINUTES ARE GONE NOW.

DAGWOOD: ME?

DITHERS: YES, YOU!

DAGWOOD: WELL, BUT -- I DIDN'T THINK...

DITHERS: YOU NEVER DO.

TANGLE: YOU GOT A LAW SUIT ON, MR...ER...?

BLONDIE: DITHERS...THIS IS MR. TANGLE, MR. DITHERS.

TANGLE: DELIGHTED. ARE YOU ANY RELATION TO HARRY SMITHERS?

DITHERS: THE NAME IS DITHERS. AND I CERTAINLY HAVE GOT A LAW
SUIT ON...AND I HAVEN'T ANY TIME TO LOOK AT BABY PICTURES.
COME ON, DAGWOOD.

BLONDIE: IT MIGHT PAY YOU TO LOOK AT THESE PICTURES, MR. DITHERS...

TANGLE: OH, THE PICTURES ARE JUST AN AMATEUR'S EFFORT. BUT
CHUBBINS IS A REMARKABLE BABY. WHY ONLY THE OTHER DAY...

DITHERS: LISTEN, MR. WANGLE...

TANGLE: TANGLE. MORTIMER TANGLE.

BLONDIE: MR. TANGLE TAKES THE PICTURES ON HIS FRONT LAWN.

DITHERS: I DON'T CARE IF HE TAKES 'EM AT THE NORTH POLE. I'M BUSY.

BLONDIE: BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE HIS FRONT LAWN IS.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I'LL BITE. WHERE IS YOUR FRONT LAWN, MR. SPANGLE?

TANGLE: TANGLE. MORTIMER TANGLE

BLONDIE: HIS FRONT LAWN IS AT THE CORNER OF GRAND AVENUE AND PEACH STREET.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WELL THAT'S A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD...BUT...(TAKE) HEY!

DITHERS: THAT'S WHERE OUR ACCIDENT HAPPENED.

TANGLE: OH YES. THAT'S A BUSY CORNER, MR. WITHERS.

DITHERS: DITHERS...BUT LET THAT PASS. LISTEN -- WERE YOU OUT ON YOUR FRONT LAWN ON THE MORNING OF MAY NINETEENTH -- A YEAR AGO?

TANGLE: OH YES. OH MY YES. I'M OUT THERE EVERY MORNING... WITH CHUBBINS.

DAGWOOD: HEY -- DID YOU SEE THE ACCIDENT?

TANGLE: WELL, I'LL TELL YOU...

DAGWOOD AND DITHERS: YES?

TANGLE: WE HAVE SO MANY ACCIDENTS AT THAT CORNER. AT LEAST ONE
A DAY...THAT WHEN I HEAR A CRASH I HARDLY BOTHER TO LOOK
UP.

DITHERS: OH, *she cut in when he could help her, and he didn't look up!* BUT I DID.

DAGWOOD: YOU DID?

BLONDIE: NOW AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU MET MR...TANGLE!

TANGLE: THANK YOU!

DITHERS: I'LL BE GLAD TO MEET HIM IF HE SAW WHAT I WANT HIM TO
SAW -- SEE.

BLONDIE: DO YOU REMEMBER THE ACCIDENT, MR. TANGLE?

TANGLE: PERFECTLY. AS I SAID TO LAWYER PRY AND HIS CLIENT --

DAGWOOD: HEY! ARE YOU THEIR WITNESS?...

DITHERS: (GROANS) A SPY!

BLONDIE: OH, I DON'T BELIEVE MR. TANGLE WILL TESTIFY ON THE WRONG
SIDE.

TANGLE: CERTAINLY NOT. I OFFERED MYSELF TO THEM BUT THEY WERE
VERY RUDE.

DITHERS: HA. RUDEST PEOPLE I EVER MET.

TANGLE: NOT A BIT INTERESTED IN CHUBBINS.

DITHERS: PECK NEVER HAD A BABY IN HIS LIFE.

DAGWOOD: PRY NEVER WAS A BABY.

TANGLE: WHILE ON THE OTHER HAND THE ER -- GLUMWEDS...

BLONDIE: BUMSTEADS...

TANGLE: THANK YOU...ARE SUCH FINE YOUNG PEOPLE!

DAGWOOD: THANK YOU.

DITHERS: SO YOU'LL TESTIFY FOR ME, EH?

TANGLE: WILLINGLY, MR. BROTHERS...

DITHERS: DRITHERS...I MEAN DITHERS. NOW ARE YOU SURE YOU
REMEMBER THE RIGHT THINGS?

TANGLE: ABSOLUTELY. I HAVE PRACTICALLY A PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY.

DAGWOOD: SWELL. GO AHEAD AND TELL US...JUST WHAT YOU SAW.

DITHERS: (EAGERLY) YEAH. GO AHEAD.

TANGLE: GIVE ME A MOMENT -- I SEE SO MANY ACCIDENTS AT THAT
CORNER! OH, YES...THE CASE OF SPECK VERSUS JITTERS.

DAGWOOD: NO NO...

DITHERS: QUIET! THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH. WHAT DID YOU SEE?

TANGLE: I RECALL AS THOUGH IT WAS YESTERDAY. STANDING THERE IN
THE SUNSHINE -- FOCUSING MY CAMERA BY A HIGHLIGHT ON
CHUBBINS FRONT TOOTH...

DITHERS: (GROANS)

BLONDIE: SSSH. GO ON, MR. TANGLE.

TANGLE: WHERE WAS I?

BLONDIE: CHUBBIN'S FRONT TOOTH.

TANGLE: AH YES...WHEN SUDDENLY I CHANCED TO LOOK UP.

DITHERS: GOOD.

DAGWOOD: SWELL.

TANGLE: AND THEN I SAW IT ALL! FLECK WAS DRIVING LIKE MAD...

DITHERS: THAT'S RIGHT...

TANGLE: DRIVING A HUGE OPEN CAR -- BRIGHT PURPLE IN COLOR...

DAGWOOD: PURPLE?

TANGLE: WELL...HELIOTROPE...AND AS HE TORE BY -- YOU
MR. FEATHERS GOT OFF THE EASTBOUND BUS!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOH.

"BLONDIE"
4/29/40

-18-

DITTERS: HE SAW THE WRONG ACCIDENT! COME ON, BUMSTEAD. YOU'RE
MY LAST HOPE!

DAGWOOD: (GOING) BUT LISTEN...I...I BET I GET ALL BALLED UP ON
THAT STAND.

DITTERS: (GOING) IF YOU DO, BUMSTEAD. I WILL PERSONALLY THROW
YOU SO FAR OUT OF MY OFFICE THAT YOU WILL BOUNCE PAST
THREE NEW JOBS!

(MUSIC IN AND SEGUE TO THEME FOR)

(COMMERCIAL)

"BLONDIE"
4/29/40

18-A

GOODWIN: ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS SMOKERS DISCOVER WHEN THEY TURN TO SLOWER-BURNING CAMEL CIGARETTES IS THAT CAMELS ARE SO NOTICEABLY MILDER AND COOLER. THERE IS A VERY SIMPLE EXPLANATION FOR THAT EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS; IT'S A WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT CAMELS ARE THE CIGARETTE OF COSTLIER TOBACCOS. AND THE FACT THAT CAMELS ARE SLOWER BURNING WAS CONFIRMED BY IMPARTIAL LABORATORY TESTS. IN THESE TESTS CAMELS BURNED TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT SLOWER THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE FIFTEEN OTHER OF THE LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED -- SLOWER THAN ANY OF THEM. NOW IT STANDS TO REASON THAT THE SLOWER A CIGARETTE BURNS, THE COOLER AND MILDER THE SMOKING. CAMELS, BEING SLOWER BURNING, GIVE YOU EXTRA COOLNESS -- EXTRA MILDNESS -- EXTRA FLAVOR, TOO. AND ON TOP OF ALL THAT EXTRA PLEASURE, CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK. CAMEL'S TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT SLOWER BURNING; IN THE TESTS JUST MENTIONED, MEANS A SMOKING PLUS EQUAL, ON THE AVERAGE, TO FIVE EXTRA SMOKE PER PACK. IF YOU LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WHERE CERTAIN STATE CIGARETTE TAXES ARE IN EFFECT, YOU CAN SAVE THE COST OF THE TAX THROUGH SMOKING CAMELS. IF THERE ARE NO ADDED TAXES WHERE YOU LIVE, THE SAVINGS ARE ALL YOURS. SO REMEMBER, FOR THE EXTRA IN SMOKING PLEASURE -- TURN TO SLOW-BURNING CAMELS. PENNY FOR PENNY, CAMELS ARE YOUR BEST CIGARETTE BUY!

GOODWIN: AND NOW WE RETURN TO COURT WHERE DAGWOOD IS ON THE STAND
...MOPPING HIS BROW AND LISTENING TO THE COURT'S OPINION
OF THE TESTIMONY THUS FAR...

JUDGE: THIS CASE SHOULDN'T BE CALLED PECK VERSUS DITHERS. A
BETTER TITLE WOULD BE ANNANIAS VERSUS MUNCHAUSEN. ~~IN MY~~
YEARS ON THE BENCH ~~I HAVE NEVER LISTENED TO MORE FANCIFUL~~
TESTIMONY FROM TWO PRINCIPALS ~~IN AN ACTION.~~ AS FOR THE
PRESENT WITNESS...MR. -- AH -- BUMSTEAD MAY BE
ENDEAVORING TO TELL THE TRUTH...BUT AS FAR AS HIS ABILITY
TO GIVE AN ACCURATE PICTURE OF EVENTS IS CONCERNED HE
MIGHT QUITE AS WELL HAVE BEEN ANOTHER MAN IN TWO OTHER
PLACES...HE APPEARS TO BE HOPELESSLY CONFUSED...

DITHERS: I OBJECT.

JUDGE: OH, YOU DO?

DITHERS: WELL, I MEAN...MY WITNESS MAY BE JUST A LITTLE CONFUSED
BUT I CAN STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT IF THIS OTHER GUY...

PRY: I OBJECT. IF THE COURT PLEASES I AM NO GUY.

JUDGE: OBJECTION SUSTAINED. BE MORE CAREFUL OF YOUR LANGUAGE
MR. -- AH --

DITHERS: DITHERS. NOW LISTEN, BUMSTEAD...IT'S ALL VERY SIMPLE --
SEE? YOU WERE IN MY CAR...AND I WAS DRIVING VERY SLOWLY.
WASN'T I?

PRY: OBJECTED TO AS AN EXTREMELY LEADING QUESTION.

JUDGE: OBJECTION OVERRULED.

PRY: BUT YOUR HONOR. IF THE MAN DITHERS IS TO BE ALLOWED TO PUT
WORDS INTO THE MOUTH OF HIS WITNESS...

JUDGE: IF HE CAN GET ANYTHING OUT OF HIS WITNESS IT WILL BE A
RELIEF, MR. PRY. PROCEED, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: WELL GO ON, MR. BUMSTEAD...WHAT HAPPENED?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- YOU --- ER --- TOOTED YOUR HORN KIND OF.

PRY: I OBJECT TO THE PHRASE "KIND OF" EITHER HE DID TOOT HIS HORN OR HE DIDN'T?

DITHERS: OF COURSE I TOOTED IT.

PRY: I OBJECT. ARE YOU TESTIFYING OR IS BUMSTEAD?

DITHERS: NOW LISTEN, PRY...

JUDGE: (RAPS WITH GAVEL) GET ON WITH THE CASE.

DITHERS: WELL -- GO ON, BUMSTEAD. WHAT DID YOU THINK WHEN YOU HEARD ME TOOT THE HORN?

PRY: I OBJECT. THE QUESTION CALLS FOR A CONCLUSION OF THE WITNESS.

JUDGE: OBJECTION SUSTAINED. NEVER MIND WHAT YOU THOUGHT MR. -- AH --

DAGWOOD: BUMSTEAD.

JUDGE: THANK YOU. JUST TELL US WHAT YOU SAW.

DAGWOOD: WELL WHEN WE HIT PECK I SAW STARS.

DITHERS: I OBJECT. I MEAN...WE DIDN'T HIT HIM HARD.

JUDGE: LET YOUR WITNESS TESTIFY, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: GO ON, BUMSTEAD...TELL HIS HONOR WE JUST NUDGED PECK.

PRY: I OBJECT. HE'S COACHING THE WITNESS AGAIN.

DAGWOOD: HE IS NOT! ANYWAY HE DOESN'T HAVE TO...BECAUSE I REMEMBER THAT PART.

JUDGE: OH YOU DO?

DAGWOOD: YES, SIR...I REMEMBER THAT PECK STOPPED WITHOUT PUTTING
OUT HIS HAND.

DITHERS: AHA.

DAGWOOD: YEAH. AND NATURALLY WHEN HE STOPPED SO FAST -- WHY
MR. DITHERS' CAR JUST KIND OF ROLLED UP AND SORT OF
NUDGED PECK'S CAR.

DITHERS: ATTABOY.

JUDGE: JUST A MOMENT. I'M CURIOUS TO KNOW, MR. BUMSTEAD ---
WHAT CAUSED THAT SUDDEN BURST OF MEMORY ON YOUR PART.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?

DAGWOOD: WHY I REMEMBER THAT PART BECAUSE BLONDIE TOLD ME.

DITHERS: TOOOOH.

PRY: AHA.

JUDGE: BLONDIE TOLD YOU? WHO IS BLONDIE?

DAGWOOD: THAT'S MY WIFE. SHE -- REMEMBERS EVERYTHING.

JUDGE: MANY WIVES DO. WAS YOUR WIFE IN THE CAR WITH YOU,
MR. BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: BLONDIE. WHY NO SIR. SHE WAS HOME WITH BABY DUMPLING.

JUDGE: THEN I'M AFRAID THAT HER MEMORY WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD.
THE CLERK OF COURT WILL STRIKE OUT ALL THAT PART OF
TESTIMONY WHICH IS HEARSAY.

PRY: I MOVE THAT THIS WITNESS'S ENTIRE TESTIMONY BE STRIKEN OUT AS BEING IRRELEVANT, INCOMPETENT, IMMATERIAL AND OBVIOUSLY THE RESULT OF COACHING BY HIS WIFE.

JUDGE: DON'T CROWD YOUR LUCK, MR. PRY! YOUR WITNESS WAS NO ROSE! ANY MORE QUESTIONS, MR. DITHERS?

DITHERS: WHAT'S THE USE?

JUDGE: THEN THE DEFENSE RESTS?

DITHERS: I WON'T GET MUCH REST --- BUT I'M THROUGH WITH BUMSTEAD IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN?

DAGWOOD: CAN I GO HOME NOW?

PRY: NOT QUITE YET, MR. BUMSTEAD. I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK.

DAGWOOD: I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU AT ALL.

PRY: I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO.

JUDGE: YOU'LL HAVE TO ANSWER UNDER CROSS EXAMINATION.

DAGWOOD: OH, GOSH.

PRY: IT WON'T TAKE LONG, MR. BUMSTEAD. JUST ONE LITTLE POINT. YOU HAVE SAID -- UNDER OATH --- THAT MY CLIENT -- MR. PECK --- STOPPED SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT PUTTING OUT HIS HAND TO SIGNAL HIS STOP.

DAGWOOD: AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK HE BACKED UP ON US!

PRY: NEVER MIND WHAT YOU THINK. DID HE OR DID HE NOT PUT OUT HIS HAND?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I -- I DIDN'T SEE HIM DO IT.

PRY: AH -- YOU DIDN'T SEE HIM. BUT CAN YOU SWEAR OF YOUR OWN KNOWLEDGE THAT HE DIDN'T. ANSWER YES --- OR NO.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I DIDN'T SEE HIM.

PRY: DID HE? YES OR NO?

DAGWOOD: GOSH HOW CAN I SAY YES OR NO WHEN I DON'T KNOW?

PRY: EXACTLY. YOU DON'T KNOW, MR. BUMSTEAD...AND I'LL TELL YOU WHY YOU DON'T KNOW...AND WHY YOU DIDN'T SEE HIM PUT OUT HIS HAND. NOW I SHOW YOU THIS NEWSPAPER. LOOK AT IT.

DAGWOOD: WELL, I -- HEY! THIS IS MY PAPER!

PRY: EXACTLY. IT HAS YOUR NAME ON IT. IT WAS DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR ONE MORNING NEARLY A YEAR AGO. THE DATE TELLS US THAT IT WAS ON THE MORNING OF THE ACCIDENT. IS THAT RIGHT?

DAGWOOD: YEAH...I OFTEN WONDERED WHAT BECAME OF MY PAPER THAT DAY.

PRY: I CAN TELL YOU, MR. BUMSTEAD. YOU LOST IT AT THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT. IT WAS FOUND BY THE POLICE. OPEN AT -- THE FUNNY PAGE!

DAGWOOD: YEAH. WHAT OF IT?

PRY: JUST THIS. YOU WERE READING THAT FUNNY PAGE WHILE RIDING IN DITHERS CAR...YOU WERE READING UP TO THE VERY MOMENT OF THE -- ER -- CRASH! WEREN'T YOU?

DAGWOOD: YEAH, SURE...LOOK...I ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW HOW THIS COMIC CAME OUT!

DITHERS: BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

PRY: NO, NO, MY DEAR MR. BUMSTEAD...YOU'VE SAID EXACTLY THE RIGHT THING. THANK YOU.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- YOU'RE WELCOME BUT...

PRY: THAT'S ALL, MR. BUMSTEAD.

DAGWOOD: THANKS. CAN I GO NOW?

PRY: CERTAINLY. NOW YOUR HONOR, I MOVE...

JUDGE: JUST A MOMENT. I AM IMPRESSED BY MR. BUMSTEAD'S FRANKNESS IF NOT HIS -- ER -- BRILLIANCE. THE FACT THAT HE DIDN'T SEE YOUR CLIENT PUT OUT HIS HAND DOESN'T PROVE THAT HE DIDN'T PUT IT OUT...

PRY: EXACTLY...

JUDGE: BUT -- IT DOESN'T PROVE THAT HE DID! THIS COURT IS PRONE TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A STRONG ODOR OF FISH ABOUT THIS CASE. IT WANTS TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT. HAVE YOU ANY OTHER WITNESSES, MR. PRY?

PRY: NO, YOUR HONOR.

JUDGE: AND YOU, MR. DITHERS?

DITHERS: NO...WAIT A MINUTE. YES. I -- I THINK SO. THERE'S A MAN NAMED -- NAMED...WHAT WAS THAT FELLER'S NAME BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: WHO? WHAT FELLER?

DITHERS: TAAAAA! THE BABY MAN.

DAGWOOD: OH HIM? WHY HIS NAME WAS -- ER -- MANGLE WASN'T IT...

DITHERS: I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME. BUT I CAN FIND HIM.

JUDGE: YOU HAVE LOST THE POWER TO ASTONISH ME, MR. DITHERS. NOTHING WOULD SURPRISE ME ANY MORE. I MARVEL AT MY OWN PATIENCE...BUT I WILL DECLARE A RECESS UNTIL TWO THIS AFTERNOON. IF YOU CAN FIND "THE BABY MAN" AND BRING HIM HERE...AND IF HE CAN REALLY TELL THIS COURT WHAT HAPPENED ON THE MORNING OF MAY NINETEENTH, 1939, HE WILL CLAIM A TIRED OLD MAN'S UNDYING GRATITUDE! (RAPS) COURT'S ADJOURNED!

(MUSIC IN FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)

(MOTOR RUNNING...THEN OUT...CAR DOOR OPENS...SLAMS)

DITHERS: CORNER GRAND AND PEACH. THIS IS TANGLE'S HOUSE.

DAGWOOD: YEAH AND THAT'S HIS LAWN...

DITHERS: I HOPE WE FIND HIM HOME.

DAGWOOD: I HOPE WE FIND BLONDIE! HEY! THERE SHE IS...COMING OUT THE FRONT DOOR.

DITHERS: HI!

DAGWOOD: HI, BLONDIE! (FADING) WHAT DID YOU COME OUT HERE FOR?

BLONDIE: (FADING IN) SSSSSH. CHUBBINS IS ASLEEP!

DITHERS: WHERE'S TANGLE?

BLONDIE: WATCHING CHUBBINS SLEEP.

DAGWOOD: WE NEED TANGLE DOWN AT COURT.

BLONDIE: NO, YOU DON'T, DAGWOOD. EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT.

DITHERS: EH? WHAT'S ALL RIGHT ABOUT IT?

BLONDIE: WELL -- I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT HUNDREDS OF PICTURES OF
CHUBBINS ON THE LAWN...

DITHERS: (GROANS) BLONDIE...GET YOUR MIND OFF BABY PICTURES...

BLONDIE: (CALMLY) AND I HAVE SOME PICTURES HERE THAT WILL INTEREST
YOU, MR. DITHERS...

DAGWOOD: NO -- LISTEN DEAR...MR. DITHERS DOESN'T LIKE BABY PICTURES.

BLONDIE: HE'LL LIKE THESE -- ON ACCOUNT OF THE BACKGROUND.

DITHERS: BACKGROUND?

BLONDIE: YES -- LOOK. EXHIBIT A -- PICTURE OF CHUBBINS ON LAWN
WITH BACK TO STREET.

DAGWOOD: HEY! LOOKIT WHAT'S IN THE STREET! ISN'T THAT PECK'S CAR?

BLONDIE: YES...AND THAT OBJECT JUST BEHIND IT IS THE FRONT END OF
MR. DITHERS' CAR.

DITHERS: YOU MEAN -- THIS WAS TAKEN JUST BEFORE THE -- ER -- NUDGE
I GAVE HIM?

BLONDIE: THAT'S RIGHT. MR. TANGLE DATES ALL HIS PICTURES, TOO, SO
THIS IS EVIDENCE OF JUST WHAT HAPPENED THAT MORNING.

DAGWOOD: OH BOY!

BLONDIE: EXHIBIT B. ANOTHER PICTURE OF CHUBBINS...FEATURING THE
RIGHT EAR...TAKEN A SECOND OR SO LATER...THIS SHOWS
MR. DITHERS' CAR NUDGING MR. PECK'S CAR.

DITHERS: YEAH, BUT I WISH WE HAD A CLOSE UP...

BLONDIE: WE HAVE -- EXHIBIT C. AT THE EXACT MOMENT OF THE BUMP...
MR. TANGLE MUST HAVE LOOKED UP...HIS CAMERA CLICKED AGAIN...
THIS TIME CHUBBINS DIDN'T GET IN AT ALL...BUT BOTH CARS
DID...VERY CLEARLY...AND BOTH DRIVERS! ALSO THE PICTURE
OF A GIRL WALKING ON THE SIDEWALK.

DITHERS: LOOK! PECK HASN'T GOT HIS HAND OUT! I TOLD YOU SO!

DAGWOOD: HE ISN'T EVEN LOOKING WHERE HE'S GOING!

BLONDIE: NO. HE'S GOOPING AT THE GIRL!

DITHERS: THAT'S ALL I WANT TO SEE. THE JUDGE CAN'T GET AROUND THIS.
WE WIN! GIMME THAT PICTURE. ANY MORE NONSENSE FROM PECK --
AND I'LL SHOW HIS WIFE THIS PICTURE!

BLONDIE: DON'T YOU WANT TO THANK MR. TANGLE?

DITHERS: SURE...I'LL GO IN AND WRITE HIM A CHECK FOR THIS SNAPSHOT
THAT WILL MAKE HIM THINK I'M SANTY CLAUS...

BLONDIE: IF YOU REALLY WANT TO PLEASE HIM...JUST ADMIRE CHUBBINS.

DITHERS: (GOING) I WILL...LEAVE IT TO ME.

DAGWOOD: GIVE IT THE WORKS.

BLONDIE: WELL, DAGWOOD...NOW YOU WON'T HAVE TO GO BACK ON THE WITNESS
STAND...NOT IN THIS CASE, ANYWAY.

DAGWOOD: I -- I'M KIND OF SORRY IN A WAY. I WAS JUST GETTING THE
HANG OF IT. IF I HAD ANOTHER CHANCE, I BET I COULD GET
THAT LAWYER SO TWISTED UP HE WOULDN'T KNOW HIS NAME.

BLONDIE: MAYBE WE'D BETTER MOVE OUT TO THIS CORNER WHERE THEY HAVE
AN ACCIDENT A DAY...I...DAGWOOD! LOOK!

(SOUND OF SPEEDING CAR...SCREAM OF BRAKES)

DAGWOOD: AN ACCIDENT! HEY...LOOK OUT! (A CRASH...SILENCE) BOY,
WHAT A WALLOP!

(SOUND OF VOICES IN ALTERCATION VERY BACKGROUND)

BLONDIE: WE WERE WITNESSES TO THAT, DAGWOOD...NOW WHEN YOU GET ON
THE STAND...

DAGWOOD: (STARTLED) WHO? ME? NOT A CHANCE...I DIDN'T SEE A THING!
HEY, COME ON IN TANGLE'S HOUSE --- BEFORE THEY SEE US
LOOKING!

(MUSIC IN AND SEGUE TO THEME FOR:)

(CLOSING)

GOODWIN: IN JUST A MOMENT, WE WILL TRY AND GIVE YOU A BRIEF
SYNOPSIS OF NEXT WEEK'S "BLONDIE" STORY, BUT FIRST,...

NEWSBOY: (TYPICAL NEWSBOY VOICE IN BACKGROUND) EXTRA!...EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA FLAVOR.

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS.

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK. TRY CAMELS --
THE CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU THE EXTRAS. CAMELS BRING
YOU TWO OTHER GREAT SHOWS EACH WEEK. ON SATURDAY, THERE'S
"LUNCHEON AT THE WALDORF" WITH ILKA CHASE. YOU'LL FIND
IT A NEW HIGH IN DAYTIME ENTERTAINMENT -- ON SATURDAY
NIGHT TUNE IN AND HEAR BOB CROSBY AND MILDRED BAILEY
FEATURING MUSIC WITH A "HEARTBEAT." AND NEXT MONDAY NIGHT
AT THIS SAME TIME, TUNE IN ON "BLONDIE." WE THINK YOU'LL
GET A CHUCKLE OUT OF DAGWOOD'S EXPERIENCE ON THE WITNESS
STAND.

WELL, THAT'S A TIP FOR YOUR RADIO ENJOYMENT. AND FOR YOUR
SMOKING ENJOYMENT EVERY DAY -- TRY CAMELS, THE CIGARETTE
THAT GIVES YOU THE EXTRAS!

ORCHESTRA: (THEME...UP AND FADE FOR:)

GOODWIN: "BLONDIE" IS WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ASHMEAD SCOTT.
THIS IS BILL GOODWIN, SPEAKING FOR THE MAKERS OF
CAMEL CIGARETTES...GOOD NIGHT.
THIS IS THE COLUMBIA...BROADCASTING SYSTEM.

GOODWIN: IN JUST A MOMENT, WE WILL TRY AND GIVE YOU A BRIEF
SYNOPSIS OF NEXT WEEK'S EPISODE, BUT FIRST --

NEWSBOY: (TYPICAL NEWSBOY VOICE IN BACKGROUND) EXTRA!...EXTRA!
EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA FLAVOR.

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS.

NEWSBOY: EXTRA!

GOODWIN: CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK. TRY CAMELS --
THE CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU THE EXTRAS. FOR YOUR SMOKING
ENJOYMENT TRY CAMELS. AND FOR YOUR RADIO ENJOYMENT,
REMEMBER.

VOICE: STARTING THIS FRIDAY NIGHT ON THIS SAME NETWORK AL PEARCE
GOES ON THE AIR FOR CAMEL CIGARETTES.

GOODWIN: SATURDAY -- LISTEN TO "LUNCHEON AT THE WALDORF" WITH
ILKA CHASE.

VOICE: SATURDAY NIGHT -- HEAR BOB CROSBY AND MILDRED BAILEY.

GOODWIN: THERE ARE FOUR GREAT SHOWS WEEKLY ON THE AIR FOR CAMEL
CIGARETTES.

NEXT MONDAY NIGHT AGAIN TUNE IN ON "BLONDIE," WE THINK
YOU'LL ENJOY DAGWOOD'S NEW INTERPRETATION OF HAMLET IN
HIS FIRST HOME MOVIE PRODUCTION. ~~THAT'S A TIP FOR YOUR~~
~~RADIO ENJOYMENT. AND FOR YOUR SMOKING ENJOYMENT -- TRY~~
CAMELS, THE CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU THE EXTRAS!

ORCHESTRA: (THEME...UI AND FADE FOR:)

GOODWIN: (BLONDIE IS PLAYED BY PENNY SINGLETON -- DAGWOOD BY
ARTHUR LAKE. *Theme*)

OUR BLONDIE ORCHESTRA IS DIRECTED BY BILLY ARTZT WHO ALSO
CREATES THE SPECIAL MUSICAL EFFECTS.

THIS IS BILL GOODWIN SPEAKING FOR THE MAKERS OF CAMEL
CIGARETTES...GOOD NIGHT.

THIS IS THE COLUMBIA...BROADCASTING SYSTEM.