

# MASTER.

## "BLONDIE"

MONDAY, JULY 8, 1940

3:30 - 4:00 P.M.  
6:30 - 7:00 P.M.

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."

ORCHESTRA: (THEME...EIGHT BARS...THEN UNDER FOR!)  
*Good Evening Ladies & Gentlemen*

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.

"BLONDIE" 1-A  
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GOODWIN: ~~GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;~~ YOU KNOW, I OFTEN HEAR PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT CAMEL CIGARETTES. AND OF COURSE, THAT IS PERFECTLY NATURAL BECAUSE CAMELS ARE AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIGARETTE. BUT I DECIDED TO JOT DOWN A FEW OF THE VARIOUS COMMENTS THAT WERE MADE. IN A RESTAURANT THE OTHER AFTERNOON I HEARD:

WOMAN'S VOICE: (FADE IN) WHY DID I CHANGE TO CAMELS? WELL, I WANTED EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS IN MY SMOKING. I FOUND THOSE "EXTRAS" IN SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS.

GOODWIN: AND COMING HOME ON THE STREET CAR LAST NIGHT TWO MEN WERE TALKING:

MAN'S VOICE: (FADE IN) WELL, I SMOKE A LOT MYSELF. BUT I STAY ON THE SLOW-BURNING SIDE...THE CAMEL SIDE. CAMELS ARE Milder AND I LIKE THAT EXTRA FLAVOR.

GOODWIN: I COULD GO ON QUOTING FROM MY NOTES, BUT TO SUM IT UP BRIEFLY: ANY SMOKER WHO MAKES CAMEL CIGARETTES HIS STEADY SMOKE IS IN FOR EXTRA SMOKING PLEASURE...AND EXTRA SMOKING, TOO...PER CIGARETTE PER PACK. FOR THE "EXTRAS" IN SMOKING PLEASURE AND VALUE, TURN TO SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS...THE CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU THE "EXTRAS."

GOODWIN: ~~AND NOW FOR OUR REGULAR WEEKLY VISIT WITH THE BUMSTEADS.~~  
THAT TIRED BUSINESS MAN, DAGWOOD BUMSTEAD, TROTS  
BRISKLY UP THE PATH FROM HIS FRONT GATE...LICKING HIS  
CHOPS AT THE REALIZATION THAT IT'S JUST ABOUT TIME FOR  
DINNER...NOW HE THROWS OPEN THE FRONT DOOR (DOOR OPENS)  
...AND ANNOUNCES HIMSELF....

DAGWOOD: (CALLS) BLOOOOOONDIE! YOO HOO! (PAUSE) I'M HOME!  
(PAUSE...THEN HE CALLS UP THE STAIRS) ER -- YOO YOO --  
BLOOOOOOOOOONDIE! (LONG PAUSE TO EMPHASIZE SILENCE...  
THEN HE SPEAKS TO SELF) HMMP. THAT'S FUNNY. SHE  
USUALLY MEETS ME RIGHT AT THE DOOR...(TAKES BIG BREATH  
AND YELLS AGAIN) BLONDIE! (ANOTHER PAUSE...ABSOLUTE  
SILENCE FOR COUNT OF EIGHT AUDIBLE CLOCK TICKS) NOPE!  
NOBODY HOME!

BABY: (CLOSE AND QUIET) HELLO, DADDY!

DAGWOOD: (JUMPS) T-OOOO! HEY! WHERE DID...

BABY: DID I SCARE YOU DADDY?

DAGWOOD: ME...ER NO! ~~OH... WHERE DID YOU COME FROM SO QUICKLY~~

~~BABY: OUT OF THE KITCHEN, DADDY.~~

DAGWOOD: ~~HE.~~ HEY, WHERE'S YOUR MOTHER?

BABY: SHE'S OUT.

DAGWOOD: THAT'S WHAT I KNOW...OR ELSE SHE'D ANSWER ME WHEN I  
HOLLERED. BUT WHERE IS SHE OUT? I MEAN...OUT WHERE?

BABY: SHE WENT OUT WITH SOME LADIES. SHE SAID IT WAS A  
HEN-PARTY.

DAGWOOD: (LAUGHS) WELL WHOSE HEN-HOUSE DID THEY GO TO?

BABY: MRS. MCBUTTIER'S HOUSE, DADDY...

DAGWOOD: MRS. MCBUTTIERS EH? (LAUGHS) SOME HEN! HA!  
MRS. MCBUTTIER LOOKS MORE LIKE A POUTER-PIGEON. ER...  
DON'T QUOTE ME ON THAT THOUGH!

BABY: MOMMIE SAID SHE'D BE KIND OF LATE GETTING HOME.

DAGWOOD: (CONTINUES LAUGH...THEN SOBER) WHAT? ~~LISTEN...SHE'S~~  
~~IS SERIOUS!~~ WHAT ABOUT MY DINNER?

BABY: IT'S OKAY, DADDY. (PROUDLY) MOMMIE LEFT ME IN CHARGE.

DAGWOOD: OH...(TAKE) YOU? YOU DON'T MEAN MOMMIE TOLD YOU  
TO GET DINNER?

BABY: WELL...NOT EXACTLY SHE DIDN'T. BUT SHE SAID I WAS IN  
CHARGE OF EVERYTHING 'TIL SHE GOT BACK --- SO I THOUGHT  
UP GETTING DINNER MYSELF.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WELL IT WAS A NICE THOUGHT, BABY. I'LL LET YOU  
HELP ME! GOLLY, I HOPE SHE LEFT SOME STUFF IN THE  
REFRIGERATOR...

BABY: NUH-UH, DADDY. SHE CLEANED THE REFRIGERATOR THIS MORNING.

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOH!

BABY: BUT IT'S OKAY, DADDY. DINNER IS ALL READY!

DAGWOOD: EH? YOU ALREADY GOT DINNER ALL READY? I MEAN...

BABY: SURE, DADDY...I THOUGHT MOST LIKELY YOU'D BE HUNGRY  
WHEN YOU CAME IN...SO I FIXED EVERYTHING SWELL FOR YOU!  
IT'S ON THE KITCHEN TABLE.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I'LL BE DOGGONED! I -- I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD  
COOK!

BABY: COME LOOK WHAT WE'VE GOT, DADDY...IT'S ABOUT THE BEST  
DINNER WE'VE HAD FOR A LONG TIME...COME ON!

DAGWOOD: (DAZED) WELL, WELL, WELL!. SURE I...I'LL COME LOOK,  
BABY...

(MUSIC BRIDGE VERY BRIEFLY)

BABY: WELL, THERE IT IS, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. ER -- WHERE?

BABY: RIGHT THERE ON THE TABLE.

DAGWOOD: OH, SURE...I SEE!. UM-HMMM. ER -- WHAT'S THIS PINK  
STUFF, BABY DUMPLING?

BABY: THAT'S SOME KIND OF SOUP I INVENTED.

DAGWOOD: SOUP? IN A GLASS?

BABY: I MEAN IT'S INSTEAD OF SOUP. IT'S MILK WITH STRAWBERRY  
JAM IN IT.

DAGWOOD: OH...WELL -- WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO KIND OF SAVE THAT  
FOR DESSERT?

BABY: OH NO, DADDY -- I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR DESSERT!

DAGWOOD: I WOULDN'T WONDER. THE SOUP KIND OF SURPRISED ME! WHAT  
COMES BETWEEN SOUP AND DESSERT?

BABY: WELL FIRST I'VE GOT SOME BREAD AND JAM. SEE IT ON YOUR  
PLATE?

DAGWOOD: OH -- YEAH. I SEE. WHAT'S UNDER THE NAPKIN?

BABY: THAT COMES NEXT. IT'S SOME LEMON PIE THAT WAS LEFT  
OVER. I GOT SOME CHOCOLATE COOKIES TO GO WITH THE PIE.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. THAT THE DESSERT?

BABY: OH NO, DADDY. HERE'S THE DESSERT! MINT JELLY AND PEANUT  
BUTTER!

DAGWOOD: WELL -- THAT'S CERTAINLY QUITE A LAYOUT, BABY DUMPLING.

BABY: DON'T YOU LIKE IT? I WORKED PRETTY HARD TO GET IT  
READY.

DAGWOOD: OH SURE. I THINK IT SHOWS -- IMAGINATION ALL RIGHT!  
ONLY THING IS -- DON'T YOU THINK MAYBE WE OUGHT TO HAVE  
SOME MEAT -- OR VEGETABLES OR SOMETHING? EVERYTHING  
HERE IS KIND OF ON THE SWEET SIDE ISN'T IT?

BABY: YEAH BUT DADDY, LOTS OF TIMES WE HAVE MEAT AND STUFF  
WITHOUT ANY DESSERT EXCEPT JUST CUSTARD OR SOMETHING...

DAGWOOD: YEAH, SOMETIMES WE DO HAVE DINNER WITHOUT DESSERT...BUT...

BABY: WELL, -- SO I THINK FOR ONCE WE COULD HAVE DESSERT  
WITHOUT DINNER!

DAGWOOD: YEAH. WELL -- DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED IF I DON'T EAT  
VERY MUCH TONIGHT, BABY DUMPLING.

BABY: (SEVERELY) I'M AFRAID YOU'VE BEEN EATING BETWEEN  
MEALS AGAIN, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: OH NO. ALL I HAD SINCE LUNCH WAS A BANANA-SPLIT, AND  
A CHOCOLATE BAR. I -- I'LL TRY A LITTLE OF THAT  
MILK-AND-JAM-SOUP. (HE SIPS IT) HMMMM. YMM. THAT'S  
VERY GOOD.

BABY: THANK YOU, DADDY. ARE YOU SURE THERE'S ENOUGH JAM IN IT?

DAGWOOD: OH, PLENTY. PLENTY! IT'S VERY JAMMY. ER -- MAYBE I'D  
BETTER SAVE SOME OF MINE FOR MOMMIE TO TASTE.

BABY: I DON'T GUESS SHE'LL BE VERY HUNGRY, DADDY. THEY'RE  
HAVING STUFF TO EAT AT MRS. MCBUTTERS.

DAGWOOD: OH. SHE'S HAVING A TEA PARTY LIKELY. IT'S A FUNNY  
THING, THOUGH...YOU'D THINK BLONDIE WOULD HAVE TOLD ME  
SHE WAS GOING.

BABY: SHE DIDN'T KNOW IT 'TIL SHE WENT, DADDY! THE LADIES CAME BY AND SAID COME ON AND SHE WENT! THEY WERE ALL EXCITED!

DAGWOOD: HMMM. DID THEY SAY WHAT THEY WERE EXCITED ABOUT?

BABY: WELL, THEY ALL KIND OF TALKED AT ONCE...AND ONE OF 'EM SAID..."OUR FIGHT IS YOUR FIGHT," AND MOMMIE SAID, "UHUH," AND ANOTHER ONE SAID, "WE THE MOTHERS OF THE MAPLE AVENUE SCHOOL DISTRICT DEMAND TO BE HEARD," AND MOMMIE SAID, "OKAY," AND THINGS WENT ON LIKE THAT FOR A WHILE 'TIL FINALLY MOMMIE SAID, "WELL, IF WE'RE GOING TO DO ANYTHING, LET'S GET STARTED"...AND THEY WENT.

DAGWOOD: GOLLY, SOUNDS LIKE IT OUGHT TO MAKE A LIVELY TEA PARTY.  
(FAINT THUMPING ON DOOR)

BLONDIE: (OFF...MUFFLED) DAGWOOD! OPEN THE DOOR!

BABY: IT'S MOMMIE.

DAGWOOD: (GOING) YEAH. JUST A SECOND, HONEY! (DOOR OPENS) HEY!

BLONDIE: (IN, BUT STILL OBSCURE) TAKE SOME OF THESE BUNDLES,  
DAGWOOD!

DAGWOOD: GOSH, WHAT'S ALL THIS?

BLONDIE: (IN) THINGS FOR DINNER! I'M SORRY TO BE SO LATE...

BABY: WE'RE JUST HAVING DINNER, MOMMIE!

BLONDIE: WHAT? (INTAKE OF BREATH AS SHE SEES THE LAY OUT)

DAGWOOD: HAVE YOU BEEN FEEDING THIS POOR INNOCENT BABY JAM BEFORE DINNER?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- NO. SEE -- WE DIDN'T KNOW WHEN YOU'D GET HOME AND...

BLONDIE: WELL -- I'M HOME NOW THANK GOODNESS -- AND NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!

BABY: LISTEN, MOMMIE. IT WASN'T DADDY'S IDEA! YOU SAID I WAS IN CHARGE AND...

BLONDIE: IT WOULD SERVE YOU BOTH RIGHT IF I LET YOU EAT NOTHING BUT BREAD AND JAM WHILE YOU WATCHED ME EAT THIS CHICKEN PIE.

DAGWOOD: CHICKEN PIE?

BLONDIE: UHUH! I GOT IT AT THE LITTLE SPECIALTY SHOP FOR A TREAT. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS WARM IT UP.

DAGWOOD: OH BOY! COME ON, BABY...CLEAR THE TABLE!. WE'LL HAVE YOUR DINNER -- FOR LUNCH SOME DAY!

BABY: OKAY, DADDY. CHICKEN PIE! OH BOY!

BLONDIE: YOU MIGHT HAVE KNOWN I WOULDN'T LET YOU STARVE.

DAGWOOD: SURE...SURE. WE'LL SET THE TABLE, BLONDIE. (DRAWER OPEN) HERE, BABY. (SOUND OF SILVER BEING PLACED FOLLOWS UNDER DIALOGUE) WHAT DID YOU HAVE AT MRS. MCBUTTERS' TEA, BLONDIE?

BLONDIE: WHY WE HAD TEA. (OPENS OVEN) WAIT'LL I PUT THE PIE IN THE OVEN. THERE. (CLOSES OVEN DOOR) IT WAS A VERY SERIOUS MEETING, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. NO, WE WON'T NEED THE OYSTER FORKS ON, BABY DUMPLING! JUST THE REGULAR KNIVES, FORKS, AND SOUP SPOONS!

BLONDIE: WE'RE NOT HAVING SOUP.

DAGWOOD: NO -- BUT YOU CAN'T GET ALL THE GRAVY OUT OF A CHICKEN PIE WITH JUST A FORK! SOUP SPOONS, TOO, BABY. HERE -- I'LL PUT 'EM ON. YOU GO WASH THE JAM OFF YOUR HANDS.



BABY: OKAY, DADDY. (GOING) I HOPE THAT CHICKEN PIE WON'T  
BE ALL POTATOES!

DAGWOOD: LISTEN, BLONDIE. WHAT WAS ALL THE TALK BABY HEARD ABOUT  
"WOMEN OF AMERICA -- ARISE" OR SOMETHING?

BLONDIE: IT'S ABOUT THE MAPLE AVENUE ORDINANCE.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WHAT'S THE MAPLE AVENUE ORDINANCE.

BLONDIE: WHY DAGWOOD, DON'T YOU READ THE PAPERS?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- YEAH, BUT I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING ABOUT MAPLE  
AVENUE IN THE HEADLINES

BLONDIE: THAT'S JUST IT. THERE'S JUST BEEN SMALL ITEMS. MAYOR  
SNIPE AND HIS GANG ARE TRYING TO KILL THAT ORDINANCE  
BEFORE THE CITIZENS KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

DAGWOOD: WELL, IF MRS. MCBUTTER'S CROWD ARE TALKING ABOUT IT --  
THE NEWSPAPERS DON'T HAVE TO MENTION IT. MAYOR SNIPE  
MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP TRYING TO KEEP ANYTHING QUIET THAT  
MRS. MCBUTTER HAS HEARD.

BLONDIE: WELL -- BUT YOU SAY YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT IT.

DAGWOOD: NO, BUT I'M GOING TO...AND SO IS EVERYBODY'S HUSBAND WHO  
WAS THERE.

BLONDIE: WELL -- IT'S ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT  
IT, DAGWOOD. THE MOTHERS OF THIS TOWN ARE COUNTING ON YOU.

DAGWOOD: THEY ARE? WELL THAT'S VERY NICE...ER...WHAT FOR?

BLONDIE: TO MAKE THE SPEECH, DEAR.

DAGWOOD: MAKE A SPEECH? WAIT A MINUTE...WHAT SPEECH?

BLONDIE: THE ONE TO MAYOR SNIPE AND THE CITY COUNCIL ABOUT THE  
ORDINANCE!

DAGWOOD: TOOCH. HOW DID I GET INTO THIS?

BLONDIE: YOU WERE SELECTED -- UNANIMOUSLY! BY THE LADIES COMMITTEE.  
YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW POPULAR YOU ARE, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: NOW, LISTEN -- THERE'S SOME CATCH IN THIS THING SOMEWHERE!  
WHY DON'T THOSE GIRL-FRIENDS OF YOURS MAKE THEIR OWN  
SPEECHES?

BLONDIE: THAT WOULDN'T BE GOOD POLITICS, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: POLITICS, HUH? WELL I'M NOT MUCH GOOD AT POLITICS,  
BLONDIE. ALL I KNOW ABOUT POLITICS IS THAT ANY PARTY  
THAT GETS ME TO MAKE A SPEECH FOR 'EM IS ASKING FOR  
TROUBLE.

BLONDIE: NOW DON'T BE SO MODEST, DAGWOOD. I CAN PICTURE YOU  
MAKING A FINE SPEECH! ESPECIALLY WHEN I HAD IT ALL  
WRITTEN OUT FOR YOU.

DAGWOOD: I STILL THINK ONE OF THOSE WOMEN WOULD BE BETTER.

BLONDIE: NO -- IF WE LET ONE OF THEM MAKE THE SPEECH THE OTHERS  
WILL ALL BE MAD, BESIDES -- A MAN WILL MAKE A BETTER  
IMPRESSION ON THE COUNCIL.

DAGWOOD: I WON'T. EVERYTIME I GO TO MAKE A SPEECH -- THE INSIDE OF  
MY HANDS GETS ALL PERSPIRATION AND MY MOUTH GETS DRY.

BLONDIE: WELL YOU CAN HAVE A GLASS OF WATER AND PLENTY OF  
HANDKERCHIEFS. AND YOU HAVE LOTS OF TIME TO MEMORIZE THE  
SPEECH.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- HOW LONG DO I HAVE?

BLONDIE: WHY THE MEETING ISN'T UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

DAGWOOD: OH WELL THEN... (TAKE)... TOMORROW?

BLONDIE: THAT'S RIGHT. YOU HAVE ALL TONIGHT TO PRACTICE... AND IT'S  
NOT A LONG SPEECH, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: YEAH -- WELL -- ANYWAY -- IT WOULD BE KIND OF BETTER IF  
I KNEW WHAT THE SPEECH IS ALL ABOUT, WOULDN'T IT?

BLONDIE: I HAVE A LOT OF NOTES ON IT -- IN MY HANDBAG, DAGWOOD.  
YOU TAKE IT IN THE OTHER ROOM AND WORK ON IT...WHILE THE  
CHICKEN PIE IS HEATING.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I'LL LOOK IT OVER...

BLONDIE: IT'S WRITTEN ON MRS. MCBUTTER'S STATIONERY AND YOU CAN  
TELL IT FROM MY SHOPPING LIST BECAUSE IT SAYS AT THE  
TOP..."WHY MAPLE AVENUE SHOULD BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL  
TRAFFIC."

(MUSIC IN FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)

DAGWOOD: WHY MAPLE AVENUE SHOULD BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC  
(CLEARs THROAT) ERMMPH-HMMM! YOUR HONOR MAYOR SNIPE --  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- AND COUNCILMEN OF OUR FAIR CITY.  
ER -- FELLOW CITIZENS!

BABY: (RUNNING IN) DADDY WHAT ARE YOU HOLLERING FOR?

DAGWOOD: SSSHH, BABY. DADDY'S PRACTICING HIS SPEECH.

BABY: OH. ISN'T DINNER READY YET?

DAGWOOD: I DUNNO, I GUESS NOT. LISTEN -- YOU GO ASK MOMMIE ABOUT  
THAT WHILE I WORK ON THE SPEECH.

BABY: MOMMIE'LL CALL US FOR DINNER. ~~I'D RATHER~~ <sup>Can I</sup> STAY AND WATCH  
YOU, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: NO, BABY. IT KIND OF MAKES ME NERVOUS TO GET WATCHED.

BABY: YOU WERE WATCHING YOURSELF, DADDY. IN THE MIRROR!

DAGWOOD: WELL THAT'S DIFFERENT. I HAVE TO SEE HOW I'M GOING TO LOOK.

BABY: OH. WELL -- WHAT'S THE SPEECH ABOUT DADDY?

DAGWOOD: HUH? OH IT'S ABOUT WHY MAPLE AVENUE SHOULD BE CLOSED TO  
COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC.

BABY: UHUH. WELL GO ON, DADDY. WHY SHOULD IT?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- THAT'S WHAT I DON'T KNOW YET. I HAVEN'T  
COME TO THAT PART OF THE SPEECH.

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BABY: UHUH. WELL LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU GET TO THAT PART, DADDY.  
(GOES) I'M GOING TO SEE WHEN DINNER'S GOING TO BE READY.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...LET ME KNOW WHEN IT IS. ER -- NOW LET'S SEE.  
"WHY MAPLE AVENUE..." NO -- NO! I'VE BEEN OVER THAT!  
ER...HERE'S SOMETHING HERE, "I AM NOT GOING TO MUNCH ANY  
WORDS."

BLONDIE: (COMING IN) NO, NO, DAGWOOD!

DAGWOOD: AND FURTHERMORE (TAKE) ER...NO?

BLONDIE: NO...

DAGWOOD: THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS HERE! I'M NOT GOING TO MUNCH ANY WORDS.

BLONDIE: MINCE, DAGWOOD!. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MINCE ANY WORDS!

DAGWOOD: OH...I THOUGHT THAT SOUNDED KIND OF FUNNY. (READS AGAIN)  
I'M NOT GOING TO MINCE ANY WORDS ON THIS ISSUE, MY FRIENDS.  
INSTEAD I ASK ONE SIMPLE QUESTION: "SHALL THE  
JUGGERNAUT OF COMMERCE OVERRUN THE ~~HEALTH, CLARINNESS AND~~  
EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?" WHAT'S THAT MEAN, BLONDIE?

BLONDIE: WHY IT'S VERY SIMPLE, DAGWOOD. YOU KNOW WHERE THE MAPLE  
AVENUE SCHOOL IS DON'T YOU?

DAGWOOD: OVER ON MAPLE AVENUE -- ISN'T IT?

BLONDIE: YES DEAR...AND MAPLE AVENUE USED TO DEAD-END JUST BEYOND THE SCHOOLHOUSE. BUT NOW THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE MOVING OUT THAT WAY...AND A LOT OF TRUCKS GO OUT PAST THE SCHOOL.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. COME TO THINK OF IT...I DID HEAR SOMETHING ABOUT MAPLE AVENUE THE OTHER DAY. OH YEAH! THEY MAY PUT UP A BIG FACTORY OUT THAT WAY...A FOUR STORY BAKERY WITH AN ACRE OF FLOOR SPACE...

BLONDIE: IMAGINE A FOUR STORY BAKERY COVERING ALL THAT GROUND. WHAT WOULD THEY BAKE IN IT, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: I HEARD IT WAS FOR MOTHER MCGILLICUDDY'S HOME MADE PIES. ER -- SPEAKING OF PIE --

BLONDIE: IT ISN'T HOT ENOUGH YET! NOW LISTEN, DAGWOOD, YOU SEE WHAT ALL THOSE TRUCKS RUNNING BY THE SCHOOL MEANS, DON'T YOU?

DAGWOOD: WELL -- ER -- NO.

BLONDIE: WHY, DAGWOOD. DO YOU THINK IT'S VERY SAFE TO HAVE THOSE TRUCKS GOING BY WITH THOSE CHILDREN GOING TO SCHOOL?

DAGWOOD: NOT IF THEY'RE PIE TRUCKS. THOSE KIDS WOULD ROB THEM BLIND.

BLONDIE: THAT'S NOT THE IDEA, DAGWOOD! I DON'T SAY TRUCK DRIVERS AREN'T CAREFUL. I KNOW THEY TRY TO BE...AND LOTS OF THEM ARE PARENTS THEMSELVES. ~~I DON'T SAY WE COULDN'T HAVE CROSSING GUARDS TO WATCH THE CHILDREN CROSS THE STREET -- WE COULD!~~ BUT THE SIMPLEST --- SAFEST WAY TO HANDLE THE MATTER IS JUST TO CLOSE THAT STREET TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC. !

DO AWAY WITH THE RUMBLE THAT WILL DISTURB LITTLE MINDS AT THEIR STUDIES. DO AWAY WITH ANY CHANCE OF DANGER!

DAGWOOD: YOU BETTER MAKE THIS SPEECH, BLONDIE. THAT COUNCIL WOULD LISTEN TO YOU ALL RIGHT.

BLONDIE: I WANT YOU TO MAKE IT DEAR. JUST REMEMBER, "GREAT OAK TREES FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW."

DAGWOOD: ACORNS? THERE'S NO OAK TREES ON MAPLE AVENUE -- THEY'RE ALL ELMS.

BLONDIE: IT'S JUST A SAYING, DAGWOOD. IT MEANS A CHANCE LIKE THIS ONE YOU HAVE MIGHT LEAD ANYWHERE. THE WOMEN IN THIS TOWN SWING A BIG VOTE, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: UHUH.

BLONDIE: IF YOUR SPEECH PUTS OVER THE ORDINANCE FOR US...THEY MIGHT ASK YOU TO RUN FOR SOME OFFICE SOME DAY.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I WOULDN'T WANT TO WASTE MUCH TIME IN THE COUNCIL. I'D KIND OF LIKE TO BE MAYOR THOUGH. WHEN YOU'RE MAYOR ALL THE COPS LAY OFF YOU...YOU CAN EVEN HAVE SOME COPS WITH MOTORCYCLES AHEAD OF YOUR CAR...

BLONDIE: YOU'D CERTAINLY MAKE AS GOOD A MAYOR AS OLD SNIPE.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- I SHOULD HOPE SO. WHY HE'S JUST A JOB-HOLDER. IF HE'D BEEN ANY GOOD HE'D HAVE RUN FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE BY NOW...PROBABLY BE IN THE STATE SENATE! THAT'S WHAT I'D HAVE DONE.

BLONDIE: OF COURSE YOU WOULD. I BET YOU'D BE GOVERNOR BY NOW...

DAGWOOD: YEAH. GOVERNOR'S A GOOD JOB TOO! HE HAS MILITIA INSTEAD OF JUST COPS.

BLONDIE: JUST THINK...GOVERNOR BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: WITH MILITIA! WHAT'S THAT TUNE THEY PLAY FOR GOVERNORS? (IMITATES BAND PLAYING "HAIL TO THE CHIEF") IS THAT IT?

BLONDIE: THAT'S "HAIL TO THE CHIEF" I THINK THAT'S JUST FOR THE PRESIDENT.

DAGWOOD: WELL -- A LOT OF GOVERNORS GET ELECTED PRESIDENT AFTERWARD (PAUSE...DREAMING) I ALWAYS LIKED THAT TUNE...

BLONDIE: WELL IF YOU'RE EVER GOING TO BE PRESIDENT YOU'LL HAVE TO HURRY, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: EH?

BLONDIE: I MEAN YOU'LL HAVE TO GET BUSY ON THAT SPEECH ABOUT  
MAPLE AVENUE FIRST...

DAGWOOD: YEAH...YEAH. I'LL GET RIGHT AFTER IT AND WHEN I GO IN  
THERE TOMORROW...I'LL LET EM HAVE IT! (BIG ORATOR NOW)  
FELLOW CITIZENS! (DEFLATES SUDDENLY) HEY -- WAIT A  
MINUTE. I WONDER IF MR. DITHERS WILL LET ME OFF FROM  
THE OFFICE TOMORROW TO MAKE THIS SPEECH?

BLONDIE: OF COURSE HE WILL WHEN HE KNOWS HOW IMPORTANT IT IS.

DAGWOOD: UHUH. WELL, IF HE DOES...I'LL SHOW EM HOW TO MAKE A  
SPEECH THAT IS A SPEECH. I WON'T MINCE WORDS!

BLONDIE: NO, DEAR.

DAGWOOD: STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER. THAT'S THE WAY TO LET EM  
HAVE IT. (BIG AGAIN) FELLOW CITIZENS! SHALL THE  
JUGERNAUT OF COMMERCE RUMBLE OVER THE RIGHTS OF OUR LITTLE  
ONES? FELLOW CITIZENS...THE ANSWER IS NO! A THOUSAND  
TIMES NO!

BLONDIE: APPLAUSE! (SHE APPLAUDS)

DAGWOOD: THANK YOU MY FRIENDS, AND I PROMISE YOU ALL THAT NEVER...  
NEVER SHALL I RETREAT ONE SINGLE STEP FROM THE STAND I  
HAVE TAKEN UNTIL....

BABY: (AWAY) DADDY!

DAGWOOD: UNTIL...

BABY: (COMING IN) DINNER'S READY!...

DAGWOOD: UNTIL DINNER'S READY...TOOOOOH...NO...

BABY: YES, IT IS, DADDY. I CAN SMELL THE CHICKEN PIE...

DAGWOOD: EH? OH. WELL I'LL FINISH THIS AFTER DINNER, BLONDIE...

BLONDIE: YES DEAR! OPEN THE DOOR FOR YOUR FATHER, BABY...AND WE'LL  
FOLLOW HIM OUT TO DINNER...

DAGWOOD: THANK YOU MY FRIENDS...ERHMMP.

BLONDIE: (BEGINS TO HUM "HAIL TO THE CHIEF" -- MARCH RHYTHM)

BABY: (IMITATES THE BASS DRUM...THE PROCESSION GOES OUT TO THE KITCHEN AND DINNER AS...ORCHESTRA PICKS UP FOR BRIEF INTERLUDE)

BLONDIE: NOW DON'T EAT TOO FAST, BABY. I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER HELPING WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED WITH THAT ONE.

BABY: YEAH, BUT IF DADDY GETS A SECOND HELPING FIRST IT WON'T LAST.

BLONDIE: DON'T WORRY ABOUT DADDY. HE'S WORKING ON HIS SPEECH.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...I'VE GOT THIS DOWN PRETTY GOOD BY NOW. LISTEN  
HERE'S THE LAST PART...ER..."AND SO MY FELLOW CITIZENS...  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN AND MAYOR SNIPE! WE THE TAX PAYERS  
...VOTERS AND PARENTS OF THE MAPLE AVENUE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEMAND THAT THE EDUCATION OF OUR LITTLE ONES BE PLACED  
ABOVE THE SORDID CONSIDERATIONS OF GREED OR POLITICAL  
AMBITION. WE DEMAND THAT THIS COUNCIL PASS AN ORDINANCE  
THAT WILL FOR ALL TIME RETURN A RINGING YES TO THE QUESTION  
... 'SHALL MAPLE AVENUE BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC' "...  
GIMME SOME MORE CHICKEN!

BLONDIE: THAT'S FINE...NOW RIGHT AFTER DINNER YOU GO TO BED AND REST UP, DAGWOOD...AND THEN IN THE MORNING...

DAGWOOD: IN THE MORNING I'LL GET TO THE OFFICE EARLY...AND DEMAND THAT MR. DITHERS LET ME OFF...TO MAKE THIS SPEECH...

BLONDIE: WELL -- TRY TO DEMAND IT IN A NICE WAY, DAGWOOD...

DAGWOOD: OH SURE...I'LL JUST GO TO HIS OFFICE AND SAY...MR, DITHERS -- I'LL SAY...(FADING) ER...MR. DITHERS...

(BRIEF MUSIC BRIDGE)

(KNOCK ON DOOR)

DAGWOOD: (OUTSIDE DOOR) MR. DITHERS...CAN I COME IN?



DITHERS: THAT YOU, BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: YES SIR...LISTEN....

DITHERS: GO AWAY...I'M BUSY ON THE TELEPHONE.

DAGWOOD: YEAH -- WELL BUT THIS IS PRETTY IMPORTANT. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO SEE YOU ALL MORNING...

DITHERS: COME BACK IN FIVE MINUTES...AND TRY AGAIN.

DAGWOOD: (GOING) OKAY, BUT PRETTY SOON WILL BE TOO LATE...

DITHERS: FIVE MINUTES I SAID...(TO PHONE) HELLO...

SNIPE: (ON FILTER) YES, MR. DITHERS...

DITHERS: LISTEN SNIPE...WHO PAID YOUR CAMPAIGN FUND LAST TIME?

SNIPE: I TRUST I HAVE NOT BEEN UNAPPRECIATIVE, MR. DITHERS...

DITHERS: HAVE I ASKED YOU FOR ANY FAVORS UP TO NOW?

SNIPE: WELL -- AH -- NONE THAT I HAVEN'T BEEN HAPPY TO GRANT.  
MOST HAPPY.

DITHERS: THEN WHY IN THE NAME OF COMMON SENSE DON'T YOU KEEP ME INFORMED OF WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE...

SNIPE: I -- I DON'T FOLLOW YOU.

DITHERS: I MEAN THAT ORDINANCE THAT'S COMING UP TODAY...TO CLOSE MAPLE AVENUE TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC. I'M COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC AIN'T IT? I MEAN MY TRUCKS ARE?

SNIPE: DEAR ME...I WASN'T AWARE THAT YOU -- ER -- USED MAPLE AVENUE TO ANY EXTENT...~~AND THE WOMEN OF THE CITY ARE...~~  
MOST ~~PRESSING~~...

DITHERS: ~~LISTEN~~...I'VE JUST SIGNED A CONTRACT TO BUILD MOTHER MCGILLICUDDY'S HOME MADE PIE FACTORY ON THAT PROPERTY AT THE END OF MAPLE AVENUE.

SNIPE: DEAR ME...AND MAPLE AVENUE IS THE ONLY THOROUGHFARE LEADING INTO THE -- AH -- PROPOSED SITE ISN'T IT?

DITHERS: YEAH. HOW AM I GOING TO GET MATERIALS IN THERE WITH MAPLE AVENUE CLOSED?

SNIPE: IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT -- UNTIL THE NEW ROAD FROM THE EAST IS FINISHED.

DITHERS: THAT ROAD ISN'T HARDLY STARTED! LISTEN...KILL THAT ORDINANCE SNIPE.

SNIPE: I'D LIKE TO OBLIGE YOU, MR. DITHERS...

DITHERS: YOU'D BETTER OBLIGE ME TOO!

SNIPE: BUT WE MUST BE TACTFUL. AS FAR AS I KNOW...ONLY ONE VOICE WAS TO BE HEARD ON THE QUESTION...SOME ONE OF THE WOMEN I TAKE IT...WOULD YOU MR. DITHERS SPEAK ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE?

DITHERS: CERTAINLY. I'LL BE THERE...BUT LISTEN WHEN I TALK I WANT THE COUNCIL TO SIT UP AND TAKE NOTICE...WHEN THE OTHER CROWD TALKS I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY DO! GET ME?

SNIPE: YES...I...AH...GET YOU! IT MIGHT EVEN BE ARRANGED THAT A SMALL DEMONSTRATION WOULD INTERFERE WITH THE...AH... OPPOSING SPEAKER.

DITHERS: ATTABOY SNIPE. I'LL SEE YOU AT THE MEETING...(HANGS UP)  
NOW BUMSTEAD. (PAUSE) WHERE THE BLAZES HAS HE GONE?  
(YELLS) BUMSTEAD!  
(FEET HEARD RUNNING...DOOR OPENS)

DAGWOOD: READY TO SEE ME, MR. DITHERS?

DITHERS: READY? YOU'VE KEPT ME WAITING.

DAGWOOD: OH, WAS THAT YOU WAITING? I MEAN...I THOUGHT I WAS DOING THE...WELL...ER HERE I AM, MR. DITHERS.

DITHERS: WELL? NOW THAT YOU ARE HERE...WHAT DO YOU WANT?

DAGWOOD: I WANT TO GO HOME.

DITHERS: WHAT?

DAGWOOD: OH...I DON'T MEAN "HOME" EXACTLY. LISTEN, MR. DITHERS... I'VE GOT AN IMPORTANT DATE THIS AFTERNOON.

"BLONDIE"  
7/8/40

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DITHERS: YOU'VE GOT A DATE WITH SOME J.C. DITHERS COMPANY BUSINESS...  
RIGHT HERE IN THE OFFICE.

DAGWOOD: WELL...I'D COME BACK AND MAKE UP THE TIME I LOST...BUT THIS  
OTHER IS VERY IMPORTANT.

DITHERS: WELL THAT'S TOUGH --- BECAUSE I HAVE AN IMPORTANT DATE THIS  
AFTERNOON TOO. I'VE GOT TO GO DOWN TO THE CITY HALL TO A  
COUNCIL MEETING...

DAGWOOD: OOOOOOH. ARE YOU GOING TO THAT MEETING TOO?

DITHERS: HOW DO YOU MEAN "TOO"...DON'T TELL ME THAT'S WHERE YOU  
WERE GOING.

DAGWOOD: YES SIR! THAT'S JUST WHERE I'M GOING...I MEAN WAS GOING...  
I MEAN WHERE I'D LIKE TO GO! LISTEN THERE'S AN IMPORTANT  
THING COMING UP. A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN WANT TO  
CLOSE MAPLE AVENUE...TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC...AND...

DITHERS: BUMSTEAD!

DAGWOOD: YES SIR.

DITHERS: BUMSTEAD...I'M PLEASANTLY SURPRISED! I ADMIT IT. I DIDN'T  
THINK YOU HAD EVER HEARD ABOUT THAT PROPOSED ORDINANCE.

WELL --- I'M BIG ENOUGH TO ADMIT WHEN I'M WRONG I HOPE.

ER...WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT IT, BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: WELL, MR. DITHERS...I'VE GOT TO GIVE BLONDIE SOME OF THE  
CREDIT. SEE --- SHE READ ABOUT IT IN THE PAPER FIRST...

DITHERS: AND TIPPED YOU OFF EH? GOOD! THAT'S THE KIND OF LOYALTY  
I LIKE TO SEE! AND YOU WERE GOING DOWN THERE SINGLE-HANDED  
TO SEE THE RIGHT SIDE WIN, EH?

"BLONDIE"  
7/8/40

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DAGWOOD: YES SIR. I HAD A SPEECH ALL READY...

DITHERS: GOOD FOR YOU! WE'LL HAVE TO HEAR THAT SPEECH...ER...  
SOME DAY.

DAGWOOD: YES SIR...IT STARTS IN LIKE THIS...(TAKE)...ER...SOME  
DAY?

DITHERS: YEAH. FACT IS BUMSTEAD...THEY WANT A WELL-KNOWN MAN TO  
MAKE THAT SPEECH AND...THEY'VE SUGGESTED THAT I DO IT!

DAGWOOD: OH. WELL...THAT'S OKAY WITH ME. THIS -- ER -- THIS SPEECH  
OF MINE IS A PRETTY GOOD SPEECH THOUGH. LISTEN...YOU  
GOT YOURS ALL MADE UP?

DITHERS: WELL -- NO. I'LL JUST TALK OFF HAND. I...ER...I'M  
COUNTING ON A SYMPATHETIC AUDIENCE TO HELP ALONG. SEE?

DAGWOOD: OH, SURE. THE PLACE'LL BE PACKED, THEY TELL ME.

DITHERS: I KNOW IT WILL, BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW IT?

DAGWOOD: (BIGGY) OH -- I TRY TO KEEP MY EAR TO THE GROUND.

DITHERS: SURE YOU WEREN'T KEEPING YOUR EAR TO MY KEYHOLE? (LAUGHS)

DAGWOOD: EH?

DITHERS: SKIP IT BUMSTEAD. /JUST A JOKE./ I TELL YOU MY BOY -- YOU  
KEEP ON YOUR TOES LIKE YOU DID ON THIS ORDINANCE AND YOU'LL  
BE RUNNING FOR OFFICE YOURSELF SOME TIME...

DAGWOOD: YES SIR...I WAS THINKING JUST LAST NIGHT....

DITHERS: SOME OTHER TIME BUMSTEAD. RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOT THIS  
BUSINESS TO SETTLE. TELL YOU WHAT...SINCE YOU'VE TAKEN  
SUCH AN INTEREST...YOU COME WITH ME DOWN TO CITY HALL...

DAGWOOD: WHAT ABOUT THE OFFICE...

DITHERS: OH LET SOMEBODY ELSE EMPTY THE WASTEBASKETS TODAY DAGWOOD.  
I WANT TO REWARD YOU FOR BEING ON THE JOB, YOU COME HEAR  
MY SPEECH!

(MUSIC BRIEF INTERLUDE...SEGUE TO THEME)

"BLONDIE" 20-A  
7/8/40

GOODWIN: WE'LL RETURN TO THE BUMSTEADS IN A MOMENT BUT FIRST A WORD FROM THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES. CAMELS ARE AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIGARETTE. CAMELS GIVE YOU EXTRA MILDNESS, EXTRA COOLNESS, AND EXTRA FLAVOR. THE EXPLANATION GOES RIGHT BACK TO THE QUALITY OF THE TOBACCOS AND THE QUALITY OF THEIR MANUFACTURE. CAMELS ARE MADE FROM COSTLIER TOBACCOS...AGED WITH INFINITE CARE AND MATCHLESSLY BLENDED INTO A CIGARETTE THAT IS DEFINITELY SLOWER BURNING. YES, THIS ALL ADDS UP TO EXTRA MILDNESS, EXTRA COOLNESS, AND EXTRA FLAVOR. CAMELS ALSO GIVE YOU EXTRA SMOKING.

MAN'S VOICE: IN RECENT IMPARTIAL LABORATORY 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.

GOODWIN: AND TODAY, YOU'LL FIND THE EXTRA SMOKING IN SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS A MIGHTY IMPORTANT FACTOR. THE NEXT TIME YOU BUY CIGARETTES, REMEMBER THAT THE IMPORTANT "EXTRAS" IN SMOKING PLEASURE AND VALUE GO WITH SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS. PENNY FOR PENNY, CAMELS ARE YOUR BEST CIGARETTE BUY!

ORCHESTRA: (PLAY-OFF)

"BLONDIE" 20-B  
7/8/40

DAGWOOD: WELL -- HERE WE ARE, MR. DITHERS. (MURMUR OF FEMININE VOICES) GOSH. JUST PEEK IN THAT HALL. IT'S PACKED... LIKE I SAID.

DITHERS: LET'S SEE! HMMP. IT'S ALL FULL OF WOMEN!

DAGWOOD: SURE.

DITHERS: I...SORT OF EXPECTED A GOOD TURN-OUT OF SNIPES BOYS TO -- ER -- KIND OF BALANCE THINGS UP.

DAGWOOD: I GUESS THOSE WOMEN GOT HERE EARLY AND THERE WASN'T ANY ROOM FOR ANYONE ELSE. WANT TO GO IN NOW?

DITHERS: NO...ER...NOT JUST YET. LISTEN, BUMSTEAD...I'M NOT MUCH OF A HAND AT TALKING TO WOMEN.

~~DAGWOOD: YOU WANT ME TO MAKE THE SPEECH AFTER ALL?~~

DITHERS: NO...I'LL GO THROUGH WITH IT!...JIGGERS! HERE COMES ONE  
OF THE WOMEN OUT...

WOMAN: (DOUBLED BY BABY) OH HERE YOU ARE MR. BUMSTEAD.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...YEAH...ER...MISS ER...HMM...MR. DITHERS.

WOMAN: HOW DO WE'RE ALL WAITING MR. BUMSTEAD. (CALLS) GIRLS!  
MR. BUMSTEAD IS HERE!

(BIG APPLAUSE)

DAGWOOD: GOLLY. GO IN AND SHUT THE DOOR...MISS ER...WE'LL BE IN IN  
A MINUTE. (DOOR SHUTS) BOY. DID YOU HEAR THAT.

BLONDIE SAID I WAS POPULAR BUT...

DITHERS: I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT. I...I THOUGHT THE WOMEN WERE ALL  
AGAINST US.

DAGWOOD: HUH? OH NO, ~~BLONDIE LINED EM ALL UP.~~

DITHERS: WELL, THEN...~~THAT'S ALL RIGHT.~~ MAYBE I'D BETTER LOOK AT THE  
SPEECH OF YOURS BUMSTEAD...MIGHT GIVE ME A FEW IDEAS.

DAGWOOD: SURE. HERE IT IS. (PAPER RATTLE)

DITHERS: HMM. WRITTEN IN PENCIL...I CAN'T READ THIS WITHOUT MY  
GLASSES. GIVE ME THE GIST OF IT WILL YOU?

DAGWOOD: OH -- SURE. WELL IT STARTS OUT LIKE THIS..."MR. MAYOR...  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...FELLOW CITIZENS"...

DITHERS: UHUH. NOTHING NEW THERE...GET ON WITH IT.

DAGWOOD: I RISE TO GIVE YOU A PLAIN ANSWER TO THE SIMPLE QUESTION...  
WHY SHOULD MAPLE AVENUE BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC.

DITHERS: NOT BAD. RIGHT TO THE POINT. ONLY THING WRONG IS YOU  
LEFT OUT THE NOT.

DAGWOOD: EH?

DITHERS: THE NOT...THE NOT!

DAGWOOD: WHAT NOT?



DITHERS: DON'T BE SO DUMB BUMSTEAD. THE LINE SHOULD READ WHY MAPLE AVENUE SHOULD NOT BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC.

DAGWOOD: OH, BUT MR. DITHERS -- THAT WOULD SOUND AS IF WE DIDN'T WANT IT CLOSED.

DITHERS: EXACTLY. WE DON'T WANT IT CLOSED.

DAGWOOD: WE -- WE DON'T? ER...WHO...WHO DON'T?

DITHERS: I DON'T! SUFFERING CATFISH BUMSTEAD. DON'T TELL ME YOUR SPEECH IS ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THIS QUESTION!

DAGWOOD: YOU -- YOU DON'T WANT MAPLE AVENUE CLOSED TO...TO...

DITHERS: (GROANS) I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN THERE WAS A CATCH IN THIS! LISTEN YOU LUNKHEAD!...I'VE SIGNED A CONTRACT -- WITH A STOP-TIME CLAUSE THAT MAKES ME FORFEIT AND LOSE IF IT ISN'T FINISHED ON TIME. ~~THE CONTRACT IS TO BUILD A BIG RIE FACTORY AT THE END OF MAPLE AVENUE...~~ THE ONLY WAY MY TRUCKS CAN GET TO THE JOB IN TIME IS THROUGH MAPLE AVENUE... ONCE SHUT THAT OFF AND I'M A RUINED MAN.

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOH. THEN YOU -- YOU WON'T LIKE MY SPEECH...

DITHERS: YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE YOUR SPEECH...

DAGWOOD: OH, BUT -- GOSH MR. DITHERS...I'VE PROMISED TO! I PROMISED BLONDIE AND ALL THOSE WOMEN...

DITHERS: DO YOU WANT TO KEEP YOUR JOB BUMSTEAD?

DAGWOOD: WELL --- SURE...ONLY I...I CAN'T DISAPPOINT BLONDIE.  
(SHOUTS) SHALL THE JUGGERNAUT OF COMMERCE -- ER -- RUMBLE OVER OUR KIDDIES CAREERS?

DITHERS: EH? WHO'S A JUGGERNAUT? QUIET BUMSTEAD.

DAGWOOD: I WILL NOT. ~~I CAME HERE TO MAKE A SPEECH. BLONDIE WANTS TO HEAR A SPEECH AND SHE'S GOING TO HEAR IT...~~ (YELLS AGAIN)  
SHALL THE TYCOONS OF TRAFFIC RULE OUR FAIR CITY?

DITHERS: TYCOON ME EYE...

DAGWOOD: (YELLS) NO! A THOUSAND TIMES NO.

BLONDIE: (COMES IN FAST HUMMING) NO...NO A THOUSAND TIMES NO  
~~WE'D RATHER DIE THAN SURRENDER~~  
NO...NO A THOUSAND TIMES NO  
~~KEEP MAPLE STREET A DEAD-ENDER!~~

(GIGGLES) HELLO MR. DITHERS.

HELLO DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: HELLO. (SADLY)

DITHERS: PAH.

BLONDIE: WHY, MR. DITHERS...

DITHERS: YOU'RE IN IT TOO BLONDIE. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!  
HAVEN'T I BEEN A GOOD EMPLOYER TO DAGWOOD?...WHAT HAVE I  
DONE TO DESERVE THIS?

BLONDIE: WHAT DOES HE MEAN DAGWOOD?

DITHERS: I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I MEAN...

DAGWOOD: HE...HE'S ONE OF THE TYCOONS...

DITHERS: I AM NOT! I'M JUST A BUSINESS MAN WITH MY BUSINESS AT  
STAKE. IF I CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH THAT CONTRACT ON MAPLE  
AVENUE I'M FINISHED. THE PENALTIES WILL WIPE ME OUT.  
MOTHER MCGILLICUDDY'S PIES DON'T FOOL.

BLONDIE: OH, MY GOODNESS. YOU WANT TO RUN TRUCKS THROUGH THAT  
STREET?

DITHERS: I'LL SAY I DO. YOU TWO GO AHEAD AND MAKE YOUR SPEECH!...  
BUT WAIT'LL YOU HEAR MY SPEECH.

BLONDIE: NOW WAIT A MINUTE MR. DITHERS. WHEN DOES THAT CONTRACT  
EXPIRE?

DITHERS: FIRST OF SEPTEMBER.

BLONDIE: OKAY.

DITHERS: YOU THINK SO EH?

BLONDIE: I KNOW IT! DAGWOOD...I'VE GOT AN IDEA! YOU GO IN AND TELL MAYOR SNIPE THAT WE'LL BE IN IN A MINUTE...I WANT TO TELL MR. DITHERS SOMETHING.

DAGWOOD: (GOING) OKAY. I HOPE YOU'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA BLONDIE...

BLONDIE: IT'S A HONEY. LISTEN, MR. DITHERS!...SUPPOSE INSTEAD OF BOTH YOU AND DAGWOOD MAKING SPEECHES AGAINST EACH OTHER... JUST ONE OF US MAKE A SPEECH!

DITHERS: HAH? WHICH ONE?

BLONDIE: ME.

DITHERS: NOTHING DOING.

BLONDIE: NOW WAIT. SUPPOSE I COULD PROMISE YOU THAT MY SPEECH WOULD GET THE WOMEN OF THIS TOWN WHAT THEY WANT...AND AT THE SAME TIME GET YOU WHAT YOU WANT.

DITHERS: WE WANT TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.

BLONDIE: ~~BUT THAT'S JUST WHERE MY IDEA COMES IN:~~ SUPPOSE I COULD SHOW YOU THAT YOU WANT THE SAME THING...SUPPOSE I COULD BUILD A LOT OF GOODWILL FOR THE J.C. DITHERS COMPANY AND STILL LET YOUR TRUCKS RUN THROUGH MAPLE TO FINISH THAT JOB.

DITHERS: NOW YOU'RE TALKING SENSE...BUT HOW?

BLONDIE: WHY LIKE THIS...LET ME WHISPER... (SHE DOES)  
(MUSIC IN AND OVER THE WHISPER -- OUT)

SNIPE: (RAPS FOR ORDER) GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL! THE NEXT BUSINESS ON OUR CALENDAR IS THE ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC ON MAPLE AVENUE. AH...WE HAVE WITH US TODAY A BUSY MAN. A VERY BUSY MAN... ~~WHO HAS KINDLY COME HERE TO GIVE US OF HIS WISDOM ON THIS MATTER.~~ IN ORDER NOT TO WASTE HIS TIME...I'M GOING TO CALL FIRST ON...  
MR. J.C. DITHERS.

DITHERS: I PASS.

SNIPE: EH? HOW'S THAT?

DITHERS: I SAID I PASS. MRS. BUMSTEAD WILL SPEAK FOR ME.

SNIPE: EH?..OH...MR. BUMSTEAD...YOUR ER...RIGHT HAND MAN...

DAGWOOD: NO...NO. HE MEANS BLONDIE...MRS. BUMSTEAD.

SNIPE: OH, BUT I UNDERSTOOD...THAT IS...ARE YOU SURE MR. DITHERS  
THAT...

DITHERS: YES. LET HER SPEAK...FOR ME AND FOR THE...ER...LADIES.

SNIPE: DEAR ME...WELL THEN...ER GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL...MAY I  
PRESENT...ER...MRS. BUMSTEAD. (APPLAUSE)

BLONDIE: THANK YOU, MR..MAYOR...GENTLEMEN...AND MY FRIENDS. ~~YOU WILL~~  
~~BE INTERESTED TO HEAR THAT I REPRESENT~~ A VERY LARGE NUMBER  
OF VOTERS IN THIS CITY ~~WHO~~ ARE VITALLY INTERESTED IN THE  
QUESTION "SHALL MAPLE AVENUE BE CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL  
TRAFFIC?" THEIR ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS YES. ~~THEY FEEL~~  
~~THAT IT IS THE ONLY WAY TO BE SURE OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR~~  
~~CHILDREN WHO ATTEND SCHOOL THERE~~...THEY FEEL ~~ALSO~~ THAT A  
SCHOOL STREET SHOULD BE A QUIET STREET. I AM MOST HAPPY  
TO SAY THAT NOT ONLY THE FATHERS AND MOTHERS OF THE DISTRICT  
ARE ON OUR SIDE! THERE IS ONE MAN WITH US WHOSE OWN  
BUSINESS INTERESTS MIGHT BE INJURED BY CLOSING THE STREET  
TO TRUCKS. YET THIS MAN IS ALSO WITH US! I MEAN MR. J.C.  
DITHERS. (APPLAUSE)

DAGWOOD: GOSH, J.C. -- SHE WON YOU OVER. SAY THANKS...

DITHERS: SSSSH. LISTEN....

BLONDIE: IN TALKING TO MR. DITHERS HOWEVER...I CAME TO REALIZE THAT OTHER BUSINESS MEN HAVE THEIR SIDE OF THE QUESTION TO CONSIDER. I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT WE HAVE A SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM AS WELL AS OUR OWN. GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL...  
~~...OUR CITY IS GROWING BEYOND MAPLE AVENUE.~~ IT'S HIGH TIME THAT THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE PAVED ROAD INTO THAT AREA.

SNIPE: IF YOU'LL PARDON THE INTERRUPTION, MRS. BUMSTEAD...WE HAVE BEGUN CONSTRUCTION ON A NEW ROAD INTO THE AREA FROM THE EAST.

BLONDIE: THAT'S WHAT I KNOW. IT WAS BEGUN LONG AGO...BUT IT ISN'T GETTING DONE VERY FAST! BUT IF THIS COUNCIL WANTED IT DONE BY SEPTEMBER IT COULD BE DONE BY SEPTEMBER.

SNIPE: SEPTEMBER?

BLONDIE: YES -- DON'T YOU SEE? IF WE COULD OPEN THE NEW ROAD IN SEPTEMBER...WE COULD KEEP MAPLE AVENUE OPEN UNTIL SEPTEMBER WITHOUT RISK TO THE CHILDREN...BECAUSE SCHOOL DOESN'T OPEN UNTIL SEPTEMBER! THAT WAY EVERYONE WOULD BE HAPPY.

(APPLAUSE)

SNIPE: (RAPPING) HMM. I CONGRATULATE YOU MRS. BUMSTEAD...YOU HAVE SOLVED THREE PROBLEMS INCLUDING -- ER -- ONE OF MY OWN. GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL! ALL IN FAVOR OF OPENING THE NEW ROAD BY...AND CLOSING THE MAPLE AVENUE ROAD ON...THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER...WILL SIGNIFY IN THE USUAL MANNER.

VOICES: AYE.

SNIPE: (RAPS ONCE) IT IS SO ORDERED. (FRANTIC APPLAUSE)

(MUSIC)

(BUZZ OF VOICES IN BACKGROUND)

"BLONDIE"  
7/8/40

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DAGWOOD: GOSH BLONDIE...THAT WAS SWELL...

SNIPE: LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU AGAIN, MRS. BUMSTEAD.

DITTERS: THANKS, BLONDIE. NICE WORK!

DAGWOOD: ONLY THING WAS...YOU FORGOT THE PART ABOUT THE JUGGERNAUT.

SNIPE: WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP OUR EYE ON YOUR HUSBAND IF YOU EVER DECIDED TO MAKE HIM RUN FOR OFFICE MRS. BUMSTEAD.

WOMAN: I DON'T SEE WHY YOU DON'T RUN FOR OFFICE YOURSELF BLONDIE.

BLONDIE: ME? GOODNESS NO. MY HUSBAND IS THE HEAD OF OUR HOUSE. WHY I WOULDN'T HAVE TIME FOR POLITICS...RIGHT THIS MINUTE I OUGHT TO BE HOME...PUTTING THAT LEMON MERINGUE PIE IN THE OVEN...

DAGWOOD: LEMON PIE...OH, BOY.

DITTERS: LEMON PIE?

SNIPE: AH...DID YOU SAY LEMON PIE?

BLONDIE: YES...AND YOU'RE ALL INVITED -- WE'LL HAVE A VICTORY DINNER.

DAGWOOD: WITH BLONDIE'S LEMON PIE! LISTEN IF EVER I DO RUN FOR OFFICE, I WON'T GIVE OUT CIGARS TO THE VOTERS. I'LL GIVE OUT SLABS OF BLONDIE'S PIES. (LAUGHS) (ALL JOIN THE LAUGH)

(MUSIC IN "HAIL TO THE CHIEF")

(SEGUE TO THEME FOR:)

(CLOSING)

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!

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 --

*a Radio Extra.*  
~~WASH!~~ THE CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU THE "EXTRAS." AND HERE'S  
CAMELS INTRODUCE A NEW SHOW NEXT SATURDAY  
NIGHT -- UNCLE EZRA -- YOU'LL HEAR IT IN PLACE OF THE  
BOB CROSBY PROGRAM ON THAT NIGHT -- BUT DON'T WORRY, YOU  
CROSBY FANS, BOB MOVES TO A NEW TIME ON THURSDAY NIGHT  
WITH A NEW PERSONALITY -- BONNIE KING -- CONSULT YOUR  
LOCAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE TIME. SO DON'T MISS UNCLE EZRA  
ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND BOB CROSBY <sup>THIS</sup> ON THURSDAY NIGHT!  
NEXT MONDAY NIGHT <sup>at this same time</sup> IT'S ANOTHER EPISODE, IN THE DOINGS OF  
THE BUMSTEADS. THIS TIME THEY ENCOUNTER THE SUMMER  
HEAT WAVE. WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US IN THE LAUGHTER WHEN  
"BLONDIE COOLS OFF." THAT'S FOR YOUR RADIO ENJOYMENT.  
AND FOR YOUR SMOKING ENJOYMENT -- TRY CAMELS, THE CIGARETTE  
THAT GIVES YOU THE "EXTRAS."

ORCHESTRA: (THEME UP AND FADE FOR:)

GOODWIN: BLONDIE IS PLAYED BY PENNY SINGLETON AND DAGWOOD BY  
ARTHUR LAKE. THE "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.