

1/3/41

Master

"BLONDIE"

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1940

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

ANNCR: AH -- AH -- AH -- DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL -- ~~IT'S HOT~~ ^{Here's}
 "BLONDIE"...PRESENTED BY CAMEL -- THE SLOWER-BURNING
 CIGARETTE THAT GIVES YOU MORE FLAVOR, MORE MILDNESS, AND
 LESS NICOTINE IN THE SMOKE -- TWENTY-EIGHT PERCENT LESS
 NICOTINE THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE FOUR OTHER OF THE
 LARGEST-SELLING BRANDS TESTED.

MUSIC: (THEME)

~~NEWSBOY: (TYPICAL NEWSBOY VOICE IN BACKGROUND) EXTRA!...EXTRA!~~
 ANNCR: FOR EXTRA FLAVOR -- GET CAMELS!
 NEWSBOY: EXTRA!
 ANNCR: FOR EXTRA MILDNESS AND EXTRA COOLNESS -- GET CAMELS!
 NEWSBOY: EXTRA!
 ANNCR: FOR EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK, GET CAMELS -- THE CIGARETTE
 THAT GIVES YOU THE "EXTRAS." AND NOW THERE'S ANOTHER
 CAMEL ADVANTAGE THAT PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT. IN A
 FEW MINUTES YOU'LL HEAR ALL ABOUT IT!

GOODWIN: AND NOW FOR OUR WEEKLY VISIT WITH THE BUMSTEADS. WELL, THEY'RE LIKE A LOT OF FAMILIES AT ABOUT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. THEY'VE GOT THEIR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DONE -- AT LEAST IT LOOKS THAT WAY -- AND RIGHT NOW YOU REALLY CAN'T BLAME THEM FOR CONGRATULATING THEMSELVES FOR BEING ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE HOLIDAY RUSH...

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD.....

(RATTLE OF PAPER)

DAGWOOD: HUNH?...OH, YEAH, BLONDIE.

BLONDIE: AREN'T YOU GLAD WE DID OUR SHOPPING EARLY?

DAGWOOD: UH-HUH -- I GUESS YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT GETTING IT OVER WITH, HONEY.

BLONDIE: I'M GLAD YOU'RE WILLING TO ADMIT IT. THIS IS GOING TO BE THE FIRST CHRISTMAS WE'VE HAD WHERE EVERYTHING WAS PLANNED AND WENT OFF SMOOTHLY.

DAGWOOD: OF COURSE CHRISTMAS ISN'T HERE YET, BLONDIE.

BLONDIE: THAT'S JUST IT -- BUT WE'VE GOT EVERYTHING DONE ALREADY. NOW WE CAN JUST RELAX AND LET THE REST OF THE TOWN GO ALONG RUSHING AND WORRYING UP TO THE LAST MINUTE.

DAGWOOD: I THINK WE DESERVE A LITTLE VACATION AFTER WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH. I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE INSIDE OF ANOTHER STORE FOR A MONTH.

BLONDIE: WELL, YOU WON'T HAVE TO, DAGWOOD...WHERE'S BABY DUMPLING?

DAGWOOD: I THINK HE'S WRITING A LAST MINUTE LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS.

BLONDIE: WHY HE'S ALREADY WRITTEN *two. Three.*

DAGWOOD: HE'S NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES.

BLONDIE: YOU'VE GOT ALL HIS PRESENTS HIDDEN, HAVEN'T YOU?

DAGWOOD: SURE -- HE'LL NEVER FIND THEM. I THINK DAISY KNOWS WHERE THEY ARE, BUT DAISY WON'T TELL.

(DOG BARKS A COUPLE OF TIMES)

DAGWOOD: WELL, MAYBE SHE WILL. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND A THING SHE SAYS.

BLONDIE: LET'S SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE COULD HAVE FORGOTTEN... PRESENTS...CARDS TO OUR FRIENDS...PLUM PUDDING...NO, I GUESS NOT. WE CAN JUST TAKE IT EASY FROM NOW ON.

BABY: (CALLS FROM OFF) MOMMY! DADDY! ~~WHERE ARE YOU?~~

~~BLONDIE: HORN IN THE LIVING ROOM, DEAR.~~

DAGWOOD: DID YOU FINISH YOUR LETTER, BABY?

BABY: (COMING UP) YES, DADDY. SHALL I READ IT TO YOU?

DAGWOOD: YEAH -- I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT.

BABY: OKAY. (READS) "SANTA CLAUS, NORTH POLE...PERSONAL...."

BLONDIE: WHAT'S THAT "PERSONAL" ON THE ENVELOPE FOR?

BABY: WELL, I DON'T WANT HIM TO THINK MY LETTER IS JUST ADVERTISING.

BLONDIE: I SEE...GO ON, DEAR.

BABY: OKAY, MOMMY. (READS) "DEAR SANTA: FLASH! I HAVE BEEN A VERY GOOD BOY, ESPECIALLY THE LAST TWO WEEKS. FLASH! I ^{very badly need} ~~want~~ A SLID, ROLLER SKATES, A DRUM, AND THE OTHER STUFF I TOLD YOU ABOUT BEFORE. FLASH! DON'T FORGET DADDY AND MOMMY. ^{Flash} BABY DUMPLING BUMSTEAD."

DAGWOOD: THAT'S VERY GOOD, BUT WHAT ARE ALL THOSE "FLASHES" IN THERE FOR?

BABY: OH, THAT'S JUST TO KEEP HIM INTERESTED, DADDY.

(DOOR BELL RINGS)

BLONDIE: I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY THE MAILMAN, BABY. YOU CAN SEE WHAT HE HAS FOR US AND GIVE HIM THE LETTER TO SANTA AT THE SAME TIME.

BABY: ALL RIGHT, MOMMY -- I'VE GOT ~~THE LETTER~~ ^{IT} ALREADY STAMPED.
~~I'LL GIVE IT TO MR. DEASLEY. (TYPING)~~

BLONDIE: (LOW) I GUESS WE GOT EVERYTHING HE WANTED, DIDN'T WE, DAGWOOD?

DAGWOOD: EVERYTHING BUT THE DRUM. WE DECIDED IT WOULDN'T BE SMART TO GET THAT, *Remember?*

BLONDIE: YES. SEE HOW NICELY EVERYTHING IS WORKING OUT? NONE OF THAT LAST-MINUTE RUSH WE HAD LAST YEAR.

~~DAGWOOD: SAY -- WHEN ARE WE GOING TO OPEN THE CHRISTMAS FUNDS? WE'VE BEEN SAVING IT A LONG TIME, YOU KNOW.~~

~~BLONDIE: WE'LL DIVIDE IT LATER, DAGWOOD.~~

~~DAGWOOD: OKAY -- I WONDER HOW MUCH IS IN IT?~~

~~BLONDIE: I HAVEN'T ANY IDEA.~~

BABY: (OFF) OH, DADDY -- SOME LETTERS FOR YOU. (COMING UP) AND A PACKAGE, TOO. LOOK.

DAGWOOD: LET'S SEE, BABY... I GUESS THEY'RE CHRISTMAS CARDS.

BLONDIE: WHO'RE THEY FROM?

(SOUND OF OPENING ENVELOPE AND PULLING OUT CARD)

DAGWOOD: HMMM.... "CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM ^{Margie} ~~LOUISE~~ AND ^{Dick} ~~JERRY~~."

BLONDIE: OH, GOODNESS, DAGWOOD! DID WE SEND THEM A CARD?

DAGWOOD: I DON'T THINK SO, HONEY... LET'S SEE WHO THE OTHER ONE IS FROM. OH, MY GOSH! IT'S FROM ^{Sally} ~~MARGARET~~ AND ^{Pancho} ~~SAM~~! WE DIDN'T SEND THEM A CARD, EITHER!

BLONDIE: TOOCH! I DIDN'T THINK WE'D FORGOTTEN ANYONE!

DAGWOOD: I TOLD YOU SO! I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD, DON'T GET EXCITED NOW! WE'LL JUST SEND THEM CARDS AND IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

BABY: WHO'S THIS PACKAGE FROM, MOMMY. IT SAYS, "DON'T OPEN" ON IT.

BLONDIE: IT MUST BE A PRESENT...YES, IT'S FROM ----- OH!

DAGWOOD: NOW WHAT?

BLONDIE: OH, DAGWOOD -- THE PACKAGE IS FROM UNCLE CARL AND WE FORGOT TO GET SOMETHING FOR HIM!

DAGWOOD: I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT! NOW WE'VE GOT TO GO THROUGH EVERYTHING ALL OVER AGAIN! *Every year its the same thing!*

MUSIC:

GOODWIN: *It looks as though the Bumsteads will*
~~WELL, I GUESS THE BUMSTEADS ARE OFF AGAIN, AND IT LOOKS AS~~
~~THOUGH THEY'LL BE RUBBING ELBOWS WITH THE REST OF US LATE~~
~~CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS IN SPITE OF ALL THE CAREFUL PLANNING...~~
(COMMERCIAL) *But Right now, the smoke is the thing*

MUSIC:

GOODWIN: THE NEXT TIME YOU LIGHT UP A CAMEL, NOTICE HOW SLOWLY A CAMEL BURNS. FROM THE FIRST PUFF THROUGH THE LAST, NOTICE HOW MUCH MORE FLAVOR THERE IS IN THE SMOKE. MORE COOLNESS, MORE MILDNESS, TOO! AND REMEMBER -- FROM THE FIRST PUFF THROUGH THE LAST -- THAT SAME SLOWER-BURNING CAMEL IS GIVING YOU A SMOKE WITH LESS NICOTINE. THIS ADVANTAGE -- THIS POINT ABOUT LESS NICOTINE IN CAMEL SMOKE -- HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY INDEPENDENT SCIENTISTS WHO TESTED FIVE OF THE LARGEST-SELLING CIGARETTES -- TESTED THE ACTUAL SMOKE ITSELF. THESE TESTS SHOW THAT --

VOICE: THE SMOKE OF SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS CONTAINS TWENTY-EIGHT PERCENT LESS NICOTINE THAN THE AVERAGE OF THE OTHER BRANDS TESTED -- LES NICOTINE THAN ANY OF THEM!

GOODWIN: AND WHAT'S IN THE SMOKE IS IMPORTANT TO YOU -- THE SMOKER. THE SMOKE'S THE THING. SO FOR EXTRA PLEASURES -- AND LESS NICOTINE IN THE SMOKE -- JUST LIGHT UP THE SLOWER-BURNING CIGARETTE. THE SMOKE'S THE THING... AND THE CIGARETTE IS CAMEL!

GOODWIN: IT'S A FEW MINUTES LATER, AND THE BUMSTHEADS ARE GOING THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS CARDS THEY'VE RECEIVED. GUESS WHY...

DAGWOOD: I TOLD YOU WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY OF OUR OWN CARDS LEFT.

BLONDIE: I WAS SURE WE ORDERED SOME EXTRA ONES, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: YES, BUT WE SENT THEM OUT TO SOME EXTRA PEOPLE WE THOUGHT OF.

BLONDIE: HERE'S A CARD SOMEONE SENT US THAT HASN'T ANY NAME ON IT. MAYBE WE CAN SEND IT TO ^{Sally Parcho} MARGARET AND SAM. WE CAN JUST WRITE BLONDIE AND DAGWOOD ON IT.

DAGWOOD: YEAH -- THAT'S FINE.

BLONDIE: OH, NO -- WAIT. I REMEMBER WHO WE GOT THIS FROM -- ^{Margaret Parcho's} THE ~~COUCHES~~ ^{COUCHES}. THEY'LL PROBABLY DROP IN AT ^{Sally Parcho's} MARGARET AND SAM'S AND IF THEY SEE THE CARD THEY SENT US THERE...

DAGWOOD: I KNEW IT! ^{Why is it} THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T WRITE THEIR NAMES ON THEIR CHRISTMAS CARDS ALWAYS LIVE ~~PRACTICALLY~~ NEXT DOOR TO THE PEOPLE YOU WANT TO SEND THEIR CARDS TO! IT CERTAINLY MAKES LIFE COMPLICATED.

BABY: (COMING UP) DADDY, I COULDN'T FIND ANY CHRISTMAS CARDS, BUT WHEN I WAS LOOKING IN THE CLOSET I FOUND THIS PACKAGE. IT RATTLES JUST LIKE A PAIR OF ROLLER SKATES.

DAGWOOD: WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT --- HEY, GIMME THAT! THE IDEA -- SNOOPING AROUND IN THE CLOSETS.

BABY: I WAS ONLY TRYING TO HELP, DADDY...DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE COULD BE ROLLER SKATES IN THAT BOX?

DAGWOOD: I HAVEN'T ANY IDEA.

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD, WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO BUY SOME MORE CARDS.

DAGWOOD: YOU DIDN'T FIND ANY WE COULD FORGE OUR NAMES TO, ^{huh?} ~~DID YOU?~~

BLONDIE: NO -- WE CAN'T GET OUT OF IT. BESIDES, WE'LL HAVE TO GO OUT AND GET A PRESENT FOR UNCLE CARL.

DAGWOOD: WHY CAN'T WE SEND HIM THOSE BOOKENDS WE NEVER USED. YOU KNOW -- THE ONES THAT ALWAYS FALL OVER AND DUMP THE BOOKS ON THE FLOOR.

BLONDIE: ~~DAGWOOD~~, UNCLE CARL SENT THOSE TO US LAST YEAR.

DAGWOOD: ~~WELL, I GUESS~~ THAT'S A GOOD REASON.

BABY: DADDY, I'VE GOT TO GO TO THE STORE TODAY. I WANT TO BUY A PRESENT.

BLONDIE: *Why to buy*
HAVE YOU GOT ENOUGH MONEY, ~~BABY~~?

BABY: YEP. I OPENED MY PIGGY-BANK.

DAGWOOD: WELL, LET'S GO THEN. I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN. THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH PLANNING THINGS -- THE PLANS NEVER WORK OUT. IF THERE WERE A LITTLE LESS PLANNING AROUND THIS HOUSE THINGS WOULD RUN SMOOTHER!

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD!

DAGWOOD: YES, DEAR -- LET'S GO.

MUSIC:

(COME UP ON DEPARTMENT STORE...PRETTY CROWDED)

BABY: DADDY!

DAGWOOD: WHAT IS IT, BABY?

BABY: LOOK -- THERE'S SANTA CLAUS *in the toy dept.*

BLONDIE: WHY YES, SO IT IS, DEAR.

BABY: BUT WE JUST SAW SANTA CLAUS OUTSIDE ON THE STREET -- RINGING A BELL, DIDN'T WE?

DAGWOOD: WELL, YES, BUT --

BABY: HOW'D HE GET IN HERE SO FAST?

DAGWOOD: YOUR MOTHER WILL EXPLAIN THAT, DEAR.

BABY: HOW'D HE DO IT, MOMMY?

BLONDIE: WELL, YOU'D BETTER ASK YOUR FATHER. HE KNOWS EVERYTHING.

DAGWOOD: WELL, BABY DUMPLING, YOU KNOW HOW SANTA TAKES PRESENTS TO BOYS AND GIRLS ALL OVER THE WORLD ON CHRISTMAS, DON'T YOU?

BABY: SURE, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: WELL, YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW SPEEDY HE IS IF HE CAN DO THAT, SO HE JUST RAN IN FROM THE STREET, I GUESS, AND THERE HE IS.

BABY: GEE, HE'S NOT EVEN BREATHING HARD, EITHER.

DAGWOOD: OH, NO --- SANTA'S IN FINE CONDITION THIS TIME OF THE YEAR.

BABY: HE CERTAINLY SEEMS TO FOOL AWAY A LOT OF TIME IN DEPARTMENT STORES.

BLONDIE: WELL, DEAR -- HE WANTS TO MEET ALL THE OTHER BOYS AND GIRLS.

BABY: HE OUGHT TO BE ^{just} MAKING TOYS ~~INSTEAD~~.

DAGWOOD: WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK TO HIM, BABY DUMPLING? HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE BUSY RIGHT NOW.

BABY: YES, DADDY -- I WOULD.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, DEAR -- WE'LL ALL GO RIGHT OVER.

BABY: IF HE DOESN'T GET BACK TO THE NORTH POLE PRETTY SOON HE'S NOT GOING TO GET MY LAST LETTER.

DAGWOOD: OH --- ER -- SANTA CLAUS...

SANTA: (COMING UP) MY, MY -- AREN'T YOU A RATHER LARGE LITTLE BOY?

DAGWOOD: WELL, I AM SORT OF -- HUNH?

BLONDIE: HERE'S THE YOUNG MAN WHO WANTS TO TALK TO YOU, SANTA. BABY DUMPLING BUMSTEAD.

BABY: HELLO, MR. CLAUS...DID YOU GET MY LETTERS?

SANTA: (BIG LAUGH) OH, YES -- YES, INDEED, BABY DUMPLING. NOW THEN -- WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS?

BABY: WELL, I WANTED A REAL AUTOMOBILE WITH A REAL ENGINE IN IT, BUT I GUESS YOU WON'T GIVE ME THAT UNTIL I'M OLDER.

SANTA: WHY OF COURSE I WILL, BABY DUMPLING. IF YOU WANT A REAL CAR, YOU CAN HAVE IT THIS VERY CHRISTMAS.

DAGWOOD: HEY -- HEY, SANTA -- TAKE IT EASY.

BABY: GEE, THAT'S SWELL!

SANTA: AND HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A SAILBOAT -- A BIG ONE?

BLONDIE: YOU WOULDN'T WANT A SAILBOAT, WOULD YOU, BABY?

BABY: OH, SURE, MOMMY, I'D LIKE ONE FINE.

SANTA: (LAUGHS) THEN YOU CAN HAVE IT! YES, SIR!

BABY: OH, BOY!

DAGWOOD: HEY, SANTA -- CUT IT OUT! YOU'RE LETTING YOUR ENTHUSIASM SWEEP YOU AWAY.

SANTA: (LAUGHS) OH, NONSENSE!...LET ME SEE WHAT ELSE FOR YOU -- A BICYCLE, AIR RIFLE, MOUTH ORGAN, ELECTRIC TRAIN, FOOTBALL, SKIIS, SKATES --

DAGWOOD: STOP! THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE CHRISTMAS.

BLONDIE: WE'D BETTER BE RUNNING ALONG, BABY DUMPLING.

BABY: GEE WHIZ -- JUST WHEN SANTA CLAUS WAS GETTING STARTED TOO.

SANTA: (LAUGHS) YES, IT'S A SHAME, ISN'T IT.

BLONDIE: COME ON, BABY.

DAGWOOD: (LOW) YOU'RE A FINE SANTA CLAUS! WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO DO -- RUN ME INTO BANKRUPTCY? A FINE THING!

SANTA: (LAUGHS) WHO'S GIVING HIM THOSE PRESENTS -- YOU OR I?

DAGWOOD: HUNH?

SANTA: AFTER ALL, I'M SANTA CLAUS. (LAUGHS)

DAGWOOD: THE IDEA! DOUBLE CROSSED BY SAINT NICHOLAS! WHY DIDN'T YOU PROMISE HIM A BLAST FURNACE?!

SANTA: ~~I'M SORRY I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT.~~ *Good idea* CALL THE YOUNGSTER BACK HERE. *and I will*

DAGWOOD: NOTHING DOING! YOU'RE A MENACE -- THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE. I HOPE YOU GET YOUR WHISKERS CAUGHT IN A ZIPPER! WHY I'D LIKE TO TAKE YOU AND -- I'D LIKE TO STUFF YOU UP A CHIMNEY! GOODBYE!

BLONDIE: (OFF) COME ON, DAGWOOD...

DAGWOOD: I'M COMING...A FINE SANTA CLAUS.

BABY: (COMING UP) GEE, DADDY -- SANTA CLAUS CERTAINLY IS A SWELL GUY, ISN'T HE?

DAGWOOD: ER -- YES...BUT I WOULDN'T EXPECT TO GET ALL THOSE THINGS HE PROMISED YOU. WE'VE GOT A VERY SMALL CHIMNEY, YOU KNOW.

BABY: OH, I'LL STAY UP AND LET HIM IN THE FRONT DOOR.

DAGWOOD: OUR LIVING ROOM'S A LITTLE SMALL FOR A SAILBOAT, TOO.

BLONDIE: BESIDES, BABY -- THERE ARE A LOT OF LITTLE BOYS WHO NEED TOYS MORE THAN YOU DO. YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE GREEDY, WOULD YOU?

BABY: I GUESS NOT.

DAGWOOD: THAT'S GOOD. (SIGHS) FOR A WHILE I WAS WORRIED.

BLONDIE: (SIGHS) SO WAS I.

BABY: WHY WERE YOU WORRIED?

BLONDIE: OH, WE WERE JUST WORRIED, THAT'S ALL...NOW LET'S SEE, DAGWOOD -- YOU'RE GOING TO GET A PRESENT FOR UNCLE CARL, AREN'T YOU?

DAGWOOD: YEAH, I THINK I'LL GET HIM A COUPLE OF NICE HANDKERCHIEFS.

What practical

BLONDIE: THAT'S ~~GOOD~~ -- SUPPOSE WE MEET YOU AT THE HANDKERCHIEF COUNTER THEN.

DAGWOOD: OKAY, HONEY -- I'LL BE THERE...(FADING)

BLONDIE: NOW WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO, DEAR?

BABY: I WANT TO BUY A NECKTIE FOR DADDY. I'VE GOT THE MONEY RIGHT IN MY POCKET.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, DEAR -- WE'LL GO OVER TO THE MEN'S DEPARTMENT NOW.

MUSIC:

(DEPARTMENT STORE EFFECT DOWN FOR THIS SCENE)

BLONDIE: OH, CLERK....

CLERK: YES, MA'AM -- MAY I HELP YOU SELECT A TIE?

BLONDIE: WELL, NO -- BUT MY LITTLE SON WANTS TO BUY ONE FOR HIS FATHER. WILL YOU TAKE CARE OF IT WHILE I'M GETTING SOMETHING ELSE?

CLERK: AH -- ER -- YES, OF COURSE, MA'AM...RIGHT OVER HERE, YOUNG MAN.

BLONDIE: I'LL BE BACK IN A LITTLE BIT, BABY DUMPLING...(FADING)

BABY: OKAY, MOMMY.

CLERK: NOW LITTLE BOY, HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS TIE?

BABY: IT'S FUNNY, ISN'T IT? (LAUGHS)

CLERK: HMMM. WELL, HOW ABOUT THIS? LOOK AT ALL THESE PRETTY DOTS.

BABY: IT MAKES ME DIZZY.

CLERK: YOU DON'T LIKE IT, EH?

BABY: NO.

CLERK: SO YOU'RE GOING TO BE DIFFICULT...ALL RIGHT -- HERE'S TWENTY TIES. DO YOU SEE ONE YOU LIKE? *here*

BABY: NO!

CLERK: HERE'S TWENTY MORE -- CERTAINLY YOU LIKE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE TIES, DON'T YOU?

BABY: YES. I LIKE THIS ONE.

CLERK: AH -- AT LAST!

BABY: BUT DADDY WOULDN'T LIKE IT.

CLERK: OH-H-H...NOW, LOOK, LITTLE MAN -- I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU FORTY MORE TIES -- FORTY, MIND YOU. ^{now} ~~AND~~ PLEASE ^{try and} SELECT JUST ONE THAT BOTH YOU AND YOUR FATHER LIKE.

BABY: OKAY. WHERE ARE THEY?

CLERK: RIGHT HERE. THERE'S TWENTY IN THIS BUNCH -- AND TWENTY IN THIS. LOOK AT ALL THESE COLORS -- STRIPES, CHECKS, DOTS -- THERE'S EVERYTHING HERE...NOW WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?

BABY: I DON'T WANT ANY OF THEM.

CLERK: HOW DO YOU KNOW -- YOU HAVEN'T EVEN LOOKED AT THEM!

BABY: DADDY WOULDN'T LIKE THEM.

CLERK: HOW DO YOU KNOW HE WOULDN'T?

BABY: I KNOW -- THAT'S ALL.

CLERK: HOW? HOW? HOW?

BABY: DID YOU KNOW THAT THAT'S THE WAY AN INDIAN SAYS HELLO?

CLERK: ~~STOP CHANGING THE SUBJECT!~~ WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOUR DADDY WOULDN'T LIKE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE EIGHTY TIES?

BABY: DADDY ONLY WEARS BOW TIES.

CLERK: TAAAAAAH!

BABY: HAVE YOU GOT ANY BOW TIES?

CLERK: YES-S-S-S!

BABY: LET'S SEE 'EM.

CLERK: WELL, HERE'S ONE, BUT YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT, WOULD YOU?

BABY: NO. I WANT A BOW TIE.

let's not be hasty

now try and

CLERK: THIS IS A BOW TIE. IT HAS TO BE TIED -- THAT'S ALL.

BABY: OH. THAT'S A BOW TIE.

CLERK: BELIEVE ME, LITTLE MAN, IT IS. *a bow tie.*

BABY: HOW MUCH IS IT?

CLERK: A DOLLAR AND A HALF.

BABY: HOW MUCH IS THAT IN PENNIES?

CLERK: PENNIES! ~~THIS IS TOO MUCH.~~ IT'S A HUNDRED AND FIFTY
PENNIES, AND ~~THREE~~⁵ PENNIES TAX.

BABY: OKAY.

(JINGLE OF COINS)

CLERK: SHALL I COUNT THESE PENNIES FOR YOU?

BABY: NO, I'LL COUNT THEM MYSELF....

(PLINK OF PENNY ON GLASS COUNTER....ANOTHER
AND ANOTHER AS HE COUNTS)

BABY: ONE PENNY...TWO PENNIES...THREE PENNIES...

CLERK: OH WHY WASN'T THIS A CHEAP TIE?

BABY: FOUR PENNIES...FIVE PENNIES...SIX PENNIES.....

(BOARD FADE OR SHORT BRIDGE)

BABY: (COME UP) A HUNDRED AND FORTY -- UH --

CLERK: A HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE -- NINE COMES AFTER EIGHT.

BABY: ~~A HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE. A HUNDRED AND ---~~ *the more you waste me have my place - 1 penny - 2 penny*

CLERK: *Mr. K* A HUNDRED AND FIFTY -- AND ~~THREE~~⁵ PENNIES HERE FOR THE
TAX. *Oh all right, we'd* I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D MAKE IT.

BABY: WHERE'S MY TIE?

CLERK: RIGHT HERE...YOUR MOTHER'S COMING NOW -- THANK YOU AND
GOODBYE!

BLONDIE: (COMING UP) DID YOU PICK OUT A NICE TIE FOR DADDY?

BABY: YES -- WE HAD A LOT OF FUN, TOO.

BLONDIE: THAT'S GOOD. HE SAID HE'D WAIT FOR US BY THE HANDKERCHIEF COUNTER. LET'S SEE IF HE'S THERE NOW.

MUSIC:

(SOUND OF CROWD AROUND COUNTER)

BLONDIE: BABY, DO YOU SEE DADDY ANYWHERE?

BABY: NO, MOMMY, I DON'T.

BLONDIE: WELL, HE CERTAINLY OUGHT TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.

BABY: ASK THE MAN, MOMMY.

BLONDIE: BEHIND THE COUNTER? ALL RIGHT...OH, CLERK! CLERK!

DAGWOOD: NOW LOOK, LADY, I'M NOT THE --- BLONDIE!

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK OF THE COUNTER? WHERE'S YOUR COAT?

DAGWOOD: THAT'S THE TROUBLE. I WAS GETTING WARM IN HERE SO I TOOK IT OFF AND PUT IT ON THE COUNTER. IT FELL BACK HERE AND WHEN I WENT BACK TO GET IT THE CROWD WOULDN'T LET ME OUT AGAIN.

BLONDIE: WELL, FOR GOODNESS SAKE, DAGWOOD -- SQUEEZE YOUR WAY OUT NOW. WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK HOME AGAIN.

DAGWOOD: I CAN'T GO YET.

BABY: WHY NOT, DADDY?

DAGWOOD: LOOK! LOOK WHAT I'VE GOT IN MY HANDS!

BLONDIE: OH -- WHERE'D YOU GET ALL THAT MONEY?

DAGWOOD: FROM PEOPLE. THEY THOUGHT I WAS A CLERK AND THEY GRABBED HANDKERCHIEFS OFF THE COUNTER AND JAMMED THE MONEY IN MY HANDS. I COULDN'T STOP THEM.

BLONDIE: DIDN'T YOU TELL THEM YOU WEREN'T A CLERK.

DAGWOOD: YES, BUT THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE ME. THEY THOUGHT I HAD JUST LOST MY CARNATION AND WAS TIRED OF WAITING ON PEOPLE. WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THIS MONEY?

BLONDIE: COME OUT HERE AND GIVE IT TO ME -- I'LL SEE THAT THE RIGHT PERSON GETS IT.

DAGWOOD: OKAY...PARDON ME, LADY -- LET ME THROUGH HERE...OUCH! MY SHINS!...HEY! LET ME THROUGH...OOOH! HEY!...I MADE IT!

BLONDIE: GIVE ME THE MONEY AND I'LL GIVE IT TO A FLOORWALKER.

DAGWOOD: OKAY...GEE, I CERTAINLY GOT A GOING-OVER IN THAT JAM.

BABY: YOU'RE PRETTY MUSSED, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: I KNOW IT.

BABY: DADDY -- WHAT DID YOU DO WITH YOUR TIE?

DAGWOOD: MY TIE? WHY I'M WEARING IT RIGHT HERE WHERE IT USUALLY -- HEY! IT'S GONE! (YELLS) I'VE BEEN ROBBED! SOMEONE STOLE MY TIE! WHO TOOK MY TIE! GIVE ME MY TIE BACK!

Baby: There he goes again, Mummy!

MUSIC:

DAGWOOD: WELL, THANK GOODNESS WE'RE HOME AGAIN.

BLONDIE: I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D MAKE IT.

BABY: I THOUGHT WE WOULD.

DAGWOOD: HMMMM...YOU SEE, BLONDIE, IT'S JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN SAYING ALL THE WAY HOME. IF I HAD A MOUSTACHE, PEOPLE WOULD RESPECT ME MORE AND I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD ALL THAT TROUBLE BEHIND THE COUNTER.

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD, LET'S NOT TALK ANY MORE ABOUT THAT MOUSTACHE.

DAGWOOD: BUT I WANT TO RAISE ONE. I'D LOOK DISTINGUISHED.

BLONDIE: WELL, THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO MISLEAD PEOPLE. I DON'T
WANT YOU TO LOOK ~~DIGNIFIED~~^{distinguished}. I LIKE YOU THE WAY YOU ARE.

DAGWOOD: RONALD COLMAN HAS A MOUSTACHE. IT MAKES HIM ROMANTIC.

BLONDIE: GROUCHO MARX HAS ONE, TOO.

BABY: SO HAS MR. FUDDLE.

DAGWOOD: BLONDIE, PLEASE LET ME RAISE A VERY SMALL MOUSTACHE.
IT'LL BE MY CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

BLONDIE: I'LL THINK IT OVER, DEAR.

DAGWOOD: THAT'S GOOD.

BABY: YOU'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE NOW, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: I REALLY OUGHT TO HAVE ONE, BLONDIE. MY FACE DESERVES A
MOUSTACHE.

BLONDIE: WELL, I THINK I KNOW BEST ABOUT THAT.

DAGWOOD: YEAH, BUT YOU KNEW BEST ABOUT PLANNING OUR CHRISTMAS
SHOPPING AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TODAY! WE HAD TO BUY CARDS
AND ANOTHER PRESENT AND I LOST MY TIE AT THE STORE AND ---

BLONDIE: NOW, DAGWOOD, DO YOU WANT ME TO GO OVER SOME OF THE LITTLE
MISTAKES YOU'VE MADE IN THE LAST MONTH OR SO?

DAGWOOD: ER -- WELL, WE'LL JUST DROP THE SUBJECT THEN.

BLONDIE: THAT'S BETTER.

BABY: WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO NEXT?

BLONDIE: WELL, WE'LL HAVE TO GET OUR CHRISTMAS TREE ALL FIXED UP.
TOMORROW'S THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

DAGWOOD: IT'S GOING TO BE A SWELL TREE. I GOT IT AT A BARGAIN, TOO. 75¢

~~ONLY A DOLLAR AND A HALF.~~

BLONDIE: WHO DID YOU BUY IT FROM, DAGWOOD? YOU DIDN'T SAY.

DAGWOOD: I DON'T KNOW. HE WAS JUST A MAN WITH AN AXE IN HIS HAND.

BABY: I'LL GO GET IT, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: ALL RIGHT, BABY.

BLONDIE: NOW, DEAR -- DO YOU WANT TO ADDRESS THE CHRISTMAS CARDS
FOR ^{Margie} MARGARET AND ^{Dick} SAM, AND ^{Sally} LUCILLE AND ^{Pamela} JEMMY?

DAGWOOD: YOU DO IT, HONEY. YOU KNOW HOW YOU ALWAYS SAY NO ONE CAN
READ MY HANDWRITING.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT -- I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO DO IT, ANYWAY.

BABY: (OFF) DADDY! DADDY! (COMING UP FAST) SOMETHING AWFUL
HAS HAPPENED TO THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

DAGWOOD: WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID SOMEONE STEAL IT?

BABY: NO, IT'S STILL THERE, BUT IT'S ALL NAKED!

BLONDIE: WHAT?

BABY: ALL THE LEAVES HAVE FALLEN OFF IT.

DAGWOOD: LEMME SEE!

BLONDIE: OH, I HOPE YOU'RE WRONG, BABY.

BABY: IT'S OUR TREE ALL RIGHT, MOMMY. AND IT'S STANDING RIGHT
OUT IN THE BACK WHERE DADDY LEFT IT -- RIGHT IN ITS
BIRTHDAY CLOTHES.

DAGWOOD: TOOCH! LOOK OUT THE WINDOW, BLONDIE.

BLONDIE: OH, DAGWOOD! WHY THAT TREE MUST HAVE BEEN DEAD WHEN YOU
BOUGHT IT. THERE ISN'T A NEEDLE ON IT.

DAGWOOD: BUT THE MAN TOLD ME HE'D JUST CUT IT, AND HE HAD THE AXE TO PROVE IT, TOO.

BLONDIE: AND LOOK -- I THINK THE TREE WAS SAWED OFF AT THE BOTTOM ANYWAY.

DAGWOOD: I'M BEGINNING TO SUSPECT THERE WAS SOMETHING CROOKED ABOUT THAT MAN.

BLONDIE: WELL, I'LL GET ANOTHER TREE AT THE GROCERY STORE. CHRISTMAS CERTAINLY IS GETTING COMPLICATED FOR US, ISN'T IT?

BABY: IT CERTAINLY IS.

BLONDIE: YOU TWO CAN GO UP IN THE ATTIC AND HUNT FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS. THEY'RE IN A CARDBOARD BOX. I'LL BE BACK IN A LITTLE BIT.

DAGWOOD: IF YOU SEE A MAN WITH AN AXE, DON'T GO NEAR HIM!

MUSIC:

BABY: GO AHEAD WITH THE STORY, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: THE LIGHT'S PRETTY BAD UP HERE IN THE ATTIC, BUT I GUESS I CAN READ SOME MORE. (READS) "PHIL SWEEPED HER INTO HIS ARMS, AND HE KNEW SHE LOVED HIM DEEPLY. HER EYES WERE LIKE DEW-WET VIOLETS, AND HER LIPS WERE LIKE ROSE PETALS. 'OH, PHIL, DARLING,' SHE MURMURED SOFTLY. 'PHIL, MY DARLING!'"

BABY: GEE, THAT'S GREAT, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: YEAH. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO GET MARRIED IN THE END, DOESN'T IT?

BABY: YEAH...GO ON.

DAGWOOD: LET'S SEE. "PHIL FELT HIS BLOOD POUNDING IN HIS TEMPLES,
Baby: Why do they?
Dagwood: Never mind!
HIS BREATH WAS COMING FAST, EVERY FIBER IN HIS BODY
THRILLED WHEN HE HEARD HER SAY -- "

BLONDIE: (OFF) DAGWOOOOOOOD!

DAGWOOD: HEY, THAT'S NOT RIGHT. THAT'S NOT IN HERE.

BLONDIE: (COMING UP) DAGWOOD -- WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU READING
TO BABY DUMPLING?

DAGWOOD: OH, JUST A LOVE STORY IN ONE OF THE OLD MAGAZINES UP HERE.

BABY: THEY'RE SWELL, MOMMY.

BLONDIE: WHERE ARE THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS?

DAGWOOD: WHAT DECORATIONS?
is that?
...OH, YEAH -- THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.
WELL, YOU SEE, WE STARTED LOOKING FOR THEM, AND --

BLONDIE: I KNOW -- YOU PICKED UP THE MAGAZINE. WELL, ~~PUT IT AWAY~~
~~NOW.~~

~~BABY: MOMMY, I WANT TO KNOW HOW THE STORY CAME OUT.~~

~~DAGWOOD: SO DO I...JUST A SECOND -- I'LL FIND THE END OF IT.~~

~~(FLIPPING PAGES)~~

~~DAGWOOD: HERE IT IS. "THEY KISSED, AND IN THAT KISS WAS A PROMISE
OF LOVE THAT WOULD BURN BRIGHTLY LONG AFTER THEY WERE
MARRIED -- A LOVE THAT WOULD LAST THROUGH ETERNITY."~~

~~BABY: I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OLD MAN WHO HAD ALL THE MONEY?~~

~~DAGWOOD: I DON'T KNOW -- IT DOESN'T SAY.~~

~~BABY: FOR A WHILE I THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO MARRY HIM.~~

~~BLONDIE: (SIGHS) (IT SEEMS I JUST CAN'T TRUST YOU TWO OUT OF MY
SIGHT. I'M AFRAID WE'LL NEVER BE READY FOR CHRISTMAS.~~

DAGWOOD: OH, SURE WE WILL, BLONDIE -- EVERYTHING'S TAKEN CARE OF NOW.

BLONDIE: YES, I HOPE SO.

(RUSTLE OF PAPER BOX ACROSS FLOOR)

BLONDIE: HERE ARE THE DECORATIONS IN THIS BOX. LET'S TAKE THEM DOWNSTAIRS AND GET OUR NEW TREE DECORATED.

MUSIC:

DAGWOOD: BOY, THIS IS GOING TO BE A DANDY CHRISTMAS TREE. WE HAVEN'T GOT HALF OUR DECORATIONS ON IT AND ALREADY IT LOOKS SWELL.

BLONDIE: YOU JUST BE CAREFUL ON THAT LADDER.

DAGWOOD: HA! DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. REMEMBER HOW I PAINTED THE GARAGE ON THIS LADDER LAST SUMMER?

BLONDIE: YOU GOT MORE PAINT ON THE LADDER THAN THE GARAGE.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...NO!

BLONDIE: WHERE'S BABY DUMPLING?

DAGWOOD: I SENT HIM DOWN TO THE BASEMENT TO GET SOME WIRE. I'LL NEED IT TO GET SOME OF THESE THINGS ON THE TREE.

BLONDIE: YOU'RE SURE WE WON'T NEED SOME NEW DECORATIONS?

DAGWOOD: OH, NO. WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH ALL THAT WE HAVE YOU WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO SEE THE TREE.

BLONDIE: WELL, I WANT TO SEE THE TREE.

DAGWOOD: COME TO THINK ABOUT IT, SO DO I...

BABY: (COMING UP) I FOUND THE WIRE, DADDY.

DAGWOOD: JUST PUT IT DOWN BY THE TABLE.

BABY: I FOUND THIS PACKAGE, TOO. LISTEN! IT RATTLES LIKE ROLLER SKATES!

BLONDIE: OH, HEAVENS!

DAGWOOD: HEY! GIVE ME THAT PACKAGE!

(COMING DOWN STEP-LADDER STEPS)

BLONDIE: LOOK OUT WHERE YOU STEP, DEAR! *Don't tell me*
Dagwood: DAGWOOD -- DON'T PUT
YOUR FOOT ON THAT BOX OF DECOR --

(CRUNCH OF FOOT ON CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS)

BLONDIE: OH, DAGWOOD! *Mum* YOU'VE SMASHED THE *whole box of* DECORATIONS!

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOH! HOW COULD I SEE THEM?

BABY: DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE ARE ROLLER SKATES IN THIS
PACKAGE, DADDY?

DAGWOOD: LET ME HAVE THAT RIGHT NOW.

BABY: HERE YOU ARE DADDY.

(DOORBELL RINGS)

BABY: I'LL SEE WHO'S AT THE DOOR... (FADING)

DAGWOOD: EVERYTHING HAPPENS TO US! NEXT YEAR I'M GOING TO
CAMPAIGN FOR A SAFE AND SANE CHRISTMAS AND LET THE
FOURTH OF JULY TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.

BLONDIE: I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GET SOME NEW DECORATIONS NOW.

DAGWOOD: YEAH...WELL, WE NEEDED SOME NEW ONES, ANYWAY.

(LAUGHS) YOU KNOW, BLONDIE -- SOMETIMES I DO THE
DARNDDEST THINGS.

BLONDIE: I GUESS WE ALL DO.

BABY: (OFF) MORE CHRISTMAS CARDS, MOMMY.

DAGWOOD: BRING THEM IN HERE, BABY.

BABY: (COMING UP) HERE YOU ARE --THEY'RE IN PRETTY
ENVELOPES, TOO.

BLONDIE: WHO'RE THEY FROM, DAGWOOD?

"BLONDIE"
12/23/40

-22-

DAGWOOD: TOOOH! I KNEW IT! TWO MORE PEOPLE WE DIDN'T HAVE
 ON OUR LIST! NOW IT'S GOING TO START ALL OVER AGAIN!

BLONDIE: TOOOOOH!

MUSIC:

GOODWIN: WELL, THAT'S THE WAY THINGS HAPPEN TO THE BUMSTEADS.
 I WONDER WHAT'S NEXT. ~~MAYBE THEY'LL OPEN THAT~~
~~CHRISTMAS FUND THEY'VE BEEN SAVING SO LONG...~~ WELL,
 WE'LL KNOW IN A MOMENT, BUT FIRST...

(COMMERCIAL)

MUSIC:

GOODWIN: ~~IN JUST A MINUTE, WE'LL RETURN TO THE BUMSTEADS. RIGHT~~
~~NOW~~ -- THE SMOKE'S THE THING. AND THE GRAND THING
ABOUT THE SMOKE OF SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS IS THAT IT'S
EXTRA MILD -- EXTRA COOL -- EXTRA FLAVORFUL -- AND
CONTAINS LESS NICOTINE. YOU SEE -- INDEPENDENT
SCIENTISTS TESTED THE SMOKE ITSELF OF FIVE OF THE
LARGEST-SELLING CIGARETTES. AND THESE SCIENTISTS FOUND
THAT ---'

VOICE: -- THE SMOKE OF SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS CONTAINS
TWENTY-EIGHT PERCENT LESS NICOTINE THAN THE AVERAGE OF
THE OTHER BRANDS TESTED -- LESS NICOTINE THAN ANY OF
THEM!

GOODWIN: NOW THAT REMINDS ME -- IF YOU HAVE ANY SMOKERS ON YOUR
LAST-MINUTE CHRISTMAS LIST, REMEMBER THEM WELL -- WITH
CAMELS, DEALERS ARE FEATURING TWO HOLIDAY PACKAGES OF
CAMELS -- THE REGULAR CARTON IN A BLUE CHRISTMAS
WRAPPER, COMPLETE WITH GIFT CARD --- AND THE CAMEL
"FLAT FIFTIES" IN A RED CARDBOARD CHRISTMAS HOUSE.
EACH PACKAGE CONTAINS TWO HUNDRED SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS.
REMEMBER -- GIVE CAMELS AND YOU GIVE THE EXTRAS IN
SMOKING FUN. HAVE MORE FUN YOURSELF THIS CHRISTMAS --
SMOKING CAMELS!

~~BLONDIE: AND SIXTEEN CENTS FOR ME... NOW THEN -- DO YOU KNOW
WHAT WE'VE GOT TO DO? GET THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS
ON THE TREE.~~

~~DAGWOOD: OH, THAT'S EASY, HONEY -- JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!~~

GOODWIN: IT'S A LITTLE AFTER DINNER. THE NEW CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS ARE UP. BLONDIE AND DAGWOOD ARE PUTTING LIGHTS ON THE TREE. AT THE MOMENT, BABY DUMPLING IS NOT IN SIGHT.

~~MUSIC:~~

BLONDIE: BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUT ALL THE LIGHTS ON THE FRONT OF THE TREE AND NONE ON THE BACK. THE TREE'S PRETTY SHAKY AND IT MIGHT TIP OVER.

DAGWOOD: I'M WATCHING THAT, BLONDIE.

BLONDIE: WE CERTAINLY WOULDN'T WANT TO PUT ALL THOSE DECORATIONS BACK ON IT AGAIN.

DAGWOOD: I DON'T THINK I'D LIVE THROUGH IT...NOW I'LL PUT A FEW LIGHTS ON THIS BRANCH...

BLONDIE: THAT'S ^{PUTTING} GOOD...DAGWOOD, DO YOU THINK BABY DUMPLING IS ON TO US?

DAGWOOD: HUNH?

BLONDIE: I MEAN, DO YOU SUPPOSE HE KNOWS THOSE ROLLER SKATES HE WANTED ARE IN THAT PACKAGE HE KEEPS FINDING?

DAGWOOD: I'D HATE TO EVEN GUESS, HONEY?

BLONDIE: YES. SOMETIMES HE'S SO SMART I THINK HE'S SORT OF A SMALL-SIZED COLLEGE PROFESSOR.

DAGWOOD: BLONDIE, THERE ARE TIMES WHERE OUR SON FRIGHTENS ME... WELL, I GUESS WE'RE ABOUT READY.

BLONDIE: (CALLS) OH, BABY -- DO YOU WANT TO COME IN AND SEE THE CHRISTMAS TREE ALL LIT UP?

BABY: (OFF) I'M COMING, MOMMY. DON'T DO ANYTHING UNTIL I GET THERE.

DAGWOOD: NOW I'LL STAY RIGHT BY THE TREE, BLONDIE, AND YOU TURN THE LIGHTS IN THE ROOM OFF AT THE SWITCH.

BLONDIE: ALL RIGHT, DAGWOOD.

DAGWOOD: THEN I'LL PLUG THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS ON AND WE'LL SEE HOW IT LOOKS.

BABY: (COMING UP) ARE YOU ALL READY, DADDY?

DAGWOOD: YES, BABY...YOU SIT RIGHT IN THAT CHAIR AND WATCH... TURN THE LIGHTS OUT NOW, BLONDIE.

(CLICK OF SWITCH)

DAGWOOD: AH! NOW THEN --

BLONDIE: CAN YOU FIND THE LIGHT SOCKET ALL RIGHT IN THE DARK?

DAGWOOD: OH, SURE -- IT'S RIGHT HERE SOMEWH -- (HE GETS A POKE) YAHOOOOO! HELP! BLONDIE!

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD -- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

DAGWOOD: TOOOOH! YES -- I JUST GOT A *poke!*

BABY: WHEN ARE THE LIGHTS GOING ON, DADDY?

DAGWOOD: IN JUST A SECOND NOW...OKAY -- HERE THEY GO!

MUSIC: (PIZZICATO PLINK, PLINK, PLINKS IN ASCENDING SCALE FOR EACH LIGHT AS IT GOES ON...THEN HOLD LOW TREMELO ON STRINGS)

BABY: OH, DADDY -- THAT'S SWELL!

BLONDIE: DAGWOOD, IT LOOKS BEAUTIFUL! IT'S A WONDERFUL TREE!

DAGWOOD: YEAH, IT DOES LOOK 'PRETTY GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

MUSIC: (THEN A PLINK)

BLONDIE: OH -- OH -- THERE GOES ONE OF THE LIGHTS!

MUSIC: (AND WITH DESCENDING SCALE PLINKS...THE LIGHTS GO OUT)

BABY: NOW THEY'RE ALL OUT.

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOOH! WELL, I THINK I KNOW WHERE THE TROUBLE IS.
IT'S IN THAT RED BULB. IT'S A LITTLE LOOSE. I'LL
FIX IT.

MUSIC: (PLINK...THE SAME NOTE FOR THE LIGHT THAT WENT OFF)

DAGWOOD: AH -- SEE WHAT I TOLD YOU?

MUSIC: (AND WITH PLINKS FROM THE STRINGS THE REST OF THE
LIGHTS GO ON...HOLD TREMELO AGAIN)

BABY: GOOD FOR YOU, DADDY!

BLONDIE: I THINK THIS IS THE LOVELIEST CHRISTMAS TREE WE'VE
EVER HAD.

DAGWOOD: SO DO I.

BABY: BOY -- WAIT TILL ALVIN FUDDLE SEES IT.

MUSIC: (PLINK...ANOTHER NOTE THAN THE ONE USED FOR THE RED
LIGHT THAT WENT OUT)

BLONDIE: OH, DAGWOOD -- THERE GOES A GREEN LIGHT NOW.

MUSIC: (AND OUT GO THE REST OF THE LIGHTS MUSICALLY)

DAGWOOD: TOOOOOH! THERE GOES THE REST.

BABY: ARE THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SUPPOSED TO GO OUT
LIKE THAT, DADDY?

DAGWOOD: I'M NOT SURE ANYMORE...JUST A MINUTE NOW -- I THINK
THIS'LL FIX IT SO THEY'LL STAY ON.

MUSIC: (PLINK...AND THE REST OF THE LIGHTS GO ON...MUSIC
GOES INTO SOME CHRISTMAS NUMBER)

BLONDIE: OH, THAT'S FINE!

DAGWOOD: NOW THEY'RE GOING TO STAY ON...YES, SIR -- THAT'S A
PRETTY SWELL CHRISTMAS TREE.

BABY: ONLY ONE MORE DAY UNTIL CHRISTMAS! BOY, I CAN HARDLY

Dag barks!
Dagwood: WAIT TO SEE ABOUT THOSE ROLLER SKATES.
Daisy - keep away from that tree!
BLONDIE: (LAUGHS) WELL, AT LAST WE'RE READY. CHRISTMAS, HERE
COME THE BUMSTEADS!

MUSIC: (UP)

"BLONDIE"
12/23/40

-29-

GOODWIN: WELL, I GUESS THE BUMSTEADS WILL BE PRETTY BROKE AFTER THIS CHRISTMAS, BUT DON'T WORRY FOLKS...TUNE IN AGAIN AT THIS SAME TIME NEXT WEEK AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO BLONDIE AND DAGWOOD WHEN, "BLONDIE GETS RICH QUICKLY."

ORCHESTRA: (MUSIC UP BRIEFLY)

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

THE "BLONDIE" ORCHESTRA WAS DIRECTED BY BILL ARTZT WHO ALSO CREATED THE SPECIAL MUSICAL EFFECTS.

THE MAKERS OF CAMEL CIGARETTES AND THE CAST OF "BLONDIE" WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

THIS IS THE COLUMBIA...BROADCASTING SYSTEM.