

SERIAL STORY

HIS CHRISTMAS CAROL

BY ADELAIDE HAZELTINE

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THE STORY: The terms of Andrew Dearborn's will specifying that his secretary, Carol, and any other employee, shall judge whether or not his playboy son Andy is sane...

HERRICK TAKES THE CREDIT

"I've been to Mr. Benson's office again, Carol," Andy said when he came to the office the day after Christmas...

"Our annual inventory starts Monday after New Year's, Andy. That's a week from Monday. She could talk of it calmly now. If the will weren't found, inventory need hold no terror for her..."

"That sounds complicated, but it should satisfy them," Andy agreed. "What record do we keep of the inventory?"

"Mr. Dearborn was old-fashioned enough to keep a big ledger for each year. It lists everything he inventoried. The ledgers are in the vault. Mr. Dearborn always referred to the preceding year to compare figures..."

"No, I don't need it yet. I know the combination of the vault if it's that big one on fourth floor."

"Then you can get it any time you want it, Andy."

They had been too absorbed in the conversation to notice that a customer had entered the office. Carol saw her first and recognized her as Mrs. Milligan of the sweater episode.

Mrs. Milligan was smiling. "Is Mr. Dearborn busy?"

"No-o," Carol said doubtfully, looking at Andy. She wanted to say something to prepare him for the visit. But she had no time.

"Oh, Mr. Dearborn?" Mrs. Milligan held a white-gloved hand toward him. "I want to thank you for your courteous letter and the check for the sweater. It shows you're doing the right thing. After all it wasn't so much as the \$3.95 as the principle of it. Your father used to say, 'The customer is always right, Mrs. Milligan. I see you're following in his footsteps. Your father was a fine man, Mr. Dearborn.'"

Andy was too perplexed to answer.

"I want to take back all that I said about not setting my foot in your store again, young man. You can count on me for a customer."

"That's fine, Mrs. Milligan," he managed to say. "I'm glad Dearborn's was of service to you."

Mrs. Milligan left and Carol waited tensely for Andy to ask her about the incident. What could she tell him? That she had disregarded his instructions, openly defied him? Without the will to make him understand her motives she would never forgive her.

But he didn't ask her anything about it.

And within two hours he had another visitor. This time it was Mrs. Grover about the bicycle.

CAROL'S eyes widened when she saw the little woman enter the office, a smile on her tired lips.

"The money you sent," Mrs. Grover began as she met Andy. "You have no idea what it meant to us!"

She has no idea what it's going to mean to me, Carol thought grimly as she rose and left the office. She'd walk through the store, go to the main office on some pretext. She needed time to think. How could she justify her actions without revealing the contents of the will?

She couldn't do that. She discarded the thought before it grew to a temptation. No, she'd have to admit her part in writing the checks and take the consequences.

"That's right," Andy told him. "I want to congratulate you on your good judgment!"

She supposed she should be grateful that Andy was so easily duped. At least it saved her unpleasant explanations for the moment. In the meantime the will might be found and she could come out in the open with all she had done.

And it would be found, she was sure of that. Mr. Dearborn had put it in some logical place. It began to look as if he had hidden it. Why, she could not guess. But, knowing him, she knew that a man of his exactness would make certain that sooner or later the will would be discovered.

She was so deep in her thoughts she didn't hear Andy come up behind her until he said, "Star-gazing, Carol?"

"Well, she wouldn't try to match his enthusiasm. She couldn't shrug off the way he was letting Mr. Herrick run the store. Every day she was becoming more convinced that the jury of six would have no choice but to disinherit him."

"No-o, thinking," she finally answered.

"About the party tomorrow night, I guess." He was sober now. "Are you going to wear a blue dress?"

A blue dress! The words startled her. They pulled her mind from dismal thoughts of the store's future to more happy ones of her own. She tried to be casual.

"A blue dress?" She gave him an impersonal smile. "Why? Is blue being worn this season?" She wouldn't let him know how vividly she recalled that dress and

his easy compliment. The wound was deep enough already.

He studied her. "I didn't suppose you would remember." "Remember?" The right shade of bewilderment in her tone denied the swift, sweet stab of pain the memory brought her.

(To Be Continued)

HOW IT IS MADE

After being boiled in water for a long time, meat falls to pieces and the substance which held the meat fibers together is dissolved in the water. This solution, when cooled, turns to jelly and, in turn, is ordinary furniture glue when dried.

LOTS OF PAPER

In the course of a year, each person in the United States uses an average of 50 pounds of wrapping paper, eight pounds of fine papers, 80 pounds of paper boards, 21 pounds of magazines and books, and 120 postage stamps.

Headquarters for Bicycles Tricycles Wagons Lionel Trains POOLE'S BIKE SHOP 222 S. 7th. Phone 5520

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson. PINEAPPLES, IF POLLINATED, CONTAIN ABOUT 1500 SEEDS! IN HAWAII, FORTUNATELY, THERE ARE NO NATURAL POLLINATING AGENTS FOR PINEAPPLE PLANTS. QUINING ODDS. APPROXIMATELY 21 MILLION VISITORS SAW THE U.S. NATIONAL PARKS IN 1941. WE HOLD A WATCH TO OUR EAR TO SEE IF IT'S RUNNING. SAYS GEO. HEISTER, WATCHER, DENVER, COLO.

OPERA STAR

Answer to Previous Puzzle. HORIZONTAL: 1 Pictured opera star, 10 Relates, 11 Rodent, 12 Circle part, 14 Exist, 15 Beat, 17 Mine, 18 Exclamation, 20 Unit, 22 Leaner, 25 Australian, 26 The head, 27 Apicoseous plant, 28 So be it, 29 Age, 30 Pint (abbr.), 32 Attorney (abbr.), 33 Threesome, 34 Cooking utensil, 35 Assam silkworm, 37 Cloth measure, 38 Bustle, 41 Midday, 42 Small particle, 43 Put on, 44 August (abbr.), 46 Compass point, 47 Street (abbr.), 48 Neat, 50 Siberian river, 52 Upon, 53 Plant stocks, 55 Be indisposed, 57 Organ of hearing, 59 Easter seasons, 10 Male singer, 13 Heavenly body, 14 Rib, 16 Relative, 17 Mister (abbr.), 19 Seek, 21 Exaltation, 23 Symbol for nickel, 24 Electrical engineer (abbr.), 25 Issue, 30 Dessert, 31 Secret foreign agent, 35 Completes, 36 Plant parts, 39 One who gives, 40 Sign, 44 Weapons, 45 Toward, 48 Beverage, 49 Apt, 51 Honey producer, 54 Tellurium (symbol), 55 Land measure, 56 Symbol for lithium, 56 Like.

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams. THIS OUGHT TO MAKE HER LESS CRITICAL OF YOU, IF I GO BY YOUR HOUSE ALL SCUMPIED UP LIKE THIS ONCE IN A WHILE. NO, IT'S NO LIFE! I'D AS SOON HAVE YOU A GOOD EXAMPLE AS ME A BAD ONE! THAT WAY SHE'LL SAY I WAS THE CAUSE OF PULLIN' YOU DOWN, LIKE ONE DIRTY APPLE--I MEAN CAUSE BAD APPLE! LET'S NOT THINK--I GIT IN DEEPER WHEN I THINK!

RED RYDER

DON'T COME BACK WITH-OUT MY LIST OF VITLES, RED! SURE, DUCHESS AND I'M GOING TO CHECK UP ON CONNELL JULEP AND HIS MOSS SCHEME! 'S COLONEL'S MY GUEST AND A GENTLEMAN? DON'T YOU GO INSULTIN' HIS HONESTY! NO HARM CHECKIN' UP ON HIS HORSES AND KENTUCKY FARM--IF ANY!

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

THAT BOMBER GONE SOMEWHERE OUT ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC-- WARBUCKS, PUNJAB, THE ASP-- GIVEN UP AS LOST-- ONLY SAW IT IN THE PAPER THAT ONCE-- BURNED IT BEFORE SHE COULD SEE IT... SOME DAY, WHEN SHE'S OLDER-- BUT NO USE TELLING HER NOW-- SHE SEEMS HAPPY HERE-- WHY SHOULDN'T SHE STAY? IT'S BEEN A BRIGHTER, DIFFERENT HOUSE SINCE SHE CAME--

BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

DO YOU TELL THEM I WANT TO GO HOME! OVEN'S OKAY! KEEP YOUR SWINE ON CHUM! OH, DOCTOR! IT'S ALL JUST TOO WONDERFUL! YES! THE OPERATION WAS MOST SUCCESSFUL AND NOW-- AH-- I UNDERSTAND THAT THE YOUNG MAN IS RATHER ANXIOUS TO RETURN HOME. YES! WE LOVES IT SO DOWN THERE! DO YOU THINK WE CAN LEAVE SOON? I THINK SO! I'M SURE HE'LL RECOVER MUCH MORE RAPIDLY AT CARVEL HANOR-- YOU SHOULD FEEL Pleased OF YOURSELF, YOUNG LADY, FOR YOUR PART IN PULLING HIM THROUGH. WE'D ABOUT GIVEN HIM UP, YOU KNOW! BUT SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL, WELL, I CAN TENDLY UNDERSTAND HIS KEENS DESIRE TO CARRY ON--

WASH TUBS

HI, HO! ALWAYS THOUGHT I'D BE IN THE AIR FORCE IN CASE OF WAR, AND HERE I AM IN KHARTOUM... A CAPTAIN IN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BOUND FOR CHINA! OH, WELL! I'M SURE SEEING THE WORLD! 7,500 MILES IN TWO-- HELLO! WHAT'S THAT GURGLING NOISE?

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

GOING TO THE BLUE ROOM AGAINST HIS FATHER'S WISHES, FRECKLES IS NOW STUCK FOR A BILL HE CAN'T PAY... YES, MR. MCGOOSY, THERE WERE FOUR OF THEM, AND THEY STARTED WALKING HOME A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO! WE'RE HOLDING THEIR CAR AS SECURITY UNTIL THEY CAN PAY THE CHECK! WOULD YOU MIND DESCRIBING THE CAR, PLEASE? THE BATTERY IS LOW-- THE STARTER WON'T WORK-- THE TIRE PRESSURE IS LOOSE-- ONE TIRE IS ABOUT TO BLOW OUT-- AND THERE ARE FIVE HORNS!

ALLEY OOP

HELP ME GET TO KING JOHN, AND I'LL MAKE IT WELL WORTH YOUR WHILE! OKAY! IT'S A DEAL! SO THAT'S THE LUG THAT'S BEEN MAKIN' LIFE SO TOUGH FOR ALL MY ENGLISH FRIENDS? Pssst! HEY, YOUR MAJESTY WAKE UP! WOT'S THIS? EH? WHO DARES DISTURB MY REST? WOPPO THE BUTCH! AYE, MY MONARCH, I TRIED TO REACH YOU SOONER, BUT YOUR DUMB CASTLE GUARDS JAILED ME AS AN IMPOSTOR! I FAILED TO RECOGNIZE ME... MY HAIR, YOU SEE... WHY IT'S WHITE AS SNOW? WOPPO! TH VERY GLY I CAME HERE TO GET? AN I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM EITHER?

OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoople

EGAD, JAKE, IF YOU WERE NOT MY BABY BROTHER, I WOULD THUMP YOU SOUNDLY, TELLING JULIET I HAD MY HUMOR OF CHOICE TOBACCOS BECAUSE YOU ARE HERE! WHY, WHEN WE WERE BOYS, DIDN'T I RISK MY LIFE TO RESCUE YOU WHEN YOU CRASHED THROUGH A PATCH OF THIN ICE? YEAH? TELL THE WHOLE STORY, RICHARD, THE LION-HEARTED, WHEN YOU WALLOWED IN AFTER ME YOU KEPT BLUBBERING. OH, POOR JAKE! I HOPE HE DOESN'T DROWN WEAR-ING MY NEW SKATES! HERE IT IS, UNCLE JAKE! IT WAS UNDER ONE OF UNCLE AMOS' OLD HATS IN THE CLOSET! UNDER HIS HAT, HUH?

By Fred Harman

HOLD ON, SURE MAY I JOIN YOU ON THE JOURNEY TO THAT THRIVING METROPOLIS OF MAVERICK? I RECKON-- HOP ABOARD, COLONEL! HAY! POOLUM EVERYTHING!

By Harold Gray

I'VE BEEN THINKING, ANNIE-- YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS ANY MORE SCHOOL-- HOW ABOUT IT, SHALL WE GO AND MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS? ER-- WELL-- OF COURSE, DADDY OUGHT TO BE BACK SOON, AN THEN-- OH, SURE-- YOU'D WANT TO LIVE AT HIS PLACE-- BUT HIS LIABLE TO BE AWAY-- ER-- QUITE A WHILE-- THESE TIMES-- YOU KNOW-- DELAYS-- SURE-- WELL, I COULD ALWAYS TRANSFER, LATER ON--

By Martin

YOU SHOULD FEEL Pleased OF YOURSELF, YOUNG LADY, FOR YOUR PART IN PULLING HIM THROUGH. WE'D ABOUT GIVEN HIM UP, YOU KNOW! BUT SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL, WELL, I CAN TENDLY UNDERSTAND HIS KEENS DESIRE TO CARRY ON--

By Crane

IF YOU WISH TO LIVE, RELEASE THE PORTFOLIO!

By Blosser

MARY-- FRECKLES WAS AT THE BLUE ROOM!

By V. T. Ham'in

HAVING GAINED ENTRANCE TO THE CROWN'S HEAVILY-GUARDED HEADQUARTERS ONLY TO LEARN THAT WOPPO THE BUTCH, KING JOHN'S ACE GENERAL, HAD NOT YET RETURNED, OUR HERO SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO AFTER BIGGER GAME, KING JOHN HIMSELF.