## HIS CHRISTMAS CAROL

BY ADELAIDE HAZELTINE

THE STORY: The terms of Andrew Dearborn's will specifying that his secretary Carol, and five ether employes, whall judge whether employes, whall judge whether or not his playboy son Andy is running the business according to his father's policy of farrying the forms, and her heart shins when Andy, carrently involved with steek Linda Julian, turns management over to unsernance with terms, and her heart shins when Andy, carrently involved with steek Linda Julian, turns management over to unsernance with termines when more heart he will lose the shows that unless Andy shows more heart he will lose the fair to charity by vote of the "jury" his late father's will provided for. Fenny-pinching Herrick turns down Illi Recco, an employe in love with Carol, or, and the their toll, Carol makes cash adjustments to several customers to uphold the store's reputation, knowing it will get her in trouble with Herrick hur will stand Andy in good atend when the will is good atend when the will is good atend when the will is found. Day before Christmas the toyland elevator falls, injuring news bo y Nicky. Buck-passing Herrick fires Illi. Illil, Carol and her roommate, Mary, go to see Nicky in Christmas day, fad Andy there. After he has gone, Nicky learns from them that Illi was not to blane for the civator accident.

### HERRICK TAKES THE CREDIT

CHAPTER X

'VE been to Mr. Benson's office again, Carol," Andy said when he came to the office the day after Christmas. "They tell me all my father's affairs will be tied up un-less we can find the will. In the meantime the court wants some kind of record of the store's assets on the day of his death."

"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 will give us the stock on hand. Then we can add the sales since Mr. Dearborn's death and subtract the involces to get the amount in the store the day he died."

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

"Mr. Dearborn was old-fash-foned enough to keep a big ledger for each year. It lists overything he inventoried. The ledgers are in the vault. Mr. Dearborn always

in the vault. Mr. Dearborn always referred to the preceding year to compare figures."

"Last year's record, then, would give the lawyers some idea of what to expect, wouldn't fit?"

"Yes. The 1940 ledger is on top. Shall I get it for you?"

"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."

"Then you can get it any time ou 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 sweat-

Mrs, Milligan was smiling. "Is Mr. Pearborn 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. Milli-

gan held a white gloved hand toward him. "I want to thank you for your courteous letter and the 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 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 "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 disabet lell him?

she tell him? That she had disregarded his instructions, openly defied him? Without the will to make him understand her motives

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. 25 Austral bird.

CAROL'S eyes widened when she

saw the little woman enter the office, a smile on her tired lips.

"The moncy you sent," Mrs. 28 So be it. 29 Age.

"You have no idea what it meant to use" 30 Pint (abbr

She has no idea what it's going She has no idea what it's going to mean to me, Carol thought grimly as she rose and left the office. She'd valk 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?

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. Firm in this resolve, she returned to the office to face Andy. But she found she need not have worried at all. For Mr. Herrick was in Andy's office and what he was saying cleared her of any connection with the cases.

"You're right, Andy," Mr. Herrick agreed. His voice was as

rick agreed. His voice was as

smooth as cream. "I knew we'd regret not returning the money to

HE knew we'd regret it! Carol suppressed a gasp. The colos-sal nerve of him!
"Well, I believe we would, Mr.

"Well, I believe we would, Mr. Herrick. Their attitudes today showed me how much they appreciated it. I'm glad you're loosening up a little,"

"Yes. After I thought it over I allowed the refunds, I didn't bother you with it. I know you expect me to handle such details."

That's right," Andy told him. your good judgment."

your good judgment."
His 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 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?" His voice was light, almost chearful. The result Carol

almost cheerful. The result, Carol supposed, of gratitude from Mrs. Milligan and Mrs. Grover. Gratitude he had no right to accept. 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 he was hecoming more convinced. she was becoming more convinced that the jury of six would have no choice but to disinherit him.
"No-o, thinking," she finally an-

"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 fu-

dismal thoughts of the stores fu-ture 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 viv-idly she recalled that dress and

his easy compliment. The wound was deep enough already. He studied her. "I didn't supne studied her. "I diant sup-pose you would remember?"

"Remember?" The right shade of bewilderment in her tone de-nied 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 it, 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.

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## **OPERA STAR**

HORIZONTAL 10 Malé singer. 1 Pictured opera 13 Heavenly body. 14 Rib. 10 Relates. 16 Relative. 17 Mister (abbr.) 11 Rodent. 12 Circle part. 19 Seek. 14 Exist. 21 Exaltation 23 Symbol for 17 Mine. 24 Electrical en-18 Exclamation gineer (abbr.). 25 Issue. 25 Australian 30 Dessert. 31 Secret foreign 26 The head. 42 Small VERTICAL particle.

43 Put on.

52 Upon. 53 Plant stocks.

57 Organ of

hearing.

55 Be indisposed.

59 Easter seasons

29 Age. 30 Pint (abbr.). 32 Attorney

(abbr.) 33 Threesome

utensil.

silkworm

measure.

35 Assam

agent. 35 Completes 36 Plant parts. 1 Music note. 39 One who gives 2 Sick. 40 Sign. 44 August (abbr.). 3 Cut lengthwise. 45 Toward. 46 Compass point 4 Student of 48 Beverage. 49 Apt. 51 Honey 47 Street (abbr.). 5 Transpose 50 Siberian river. (abbr.).

6 Deserves.

(abbr.).

(abbr.).

producer. 54 Tellurium (symbol). 55 Land measure. 56 Symbol for lithium. 58 Like.

nickel.



**OUT OUR WAY** 

By J. R. Williams

# NO, IT'S NO USE! I'D AS SOON HAVE YOU A GOOD EXAMPLE AS ME A BAD ONE! THAT WAY SHE'LL SAY I WAS TH'CAUSE OF PULLIN' YOU DOWN, LIKE ONE DIRTY APPLE -- I MEAN ONE BAD APPLE! LET'S NOT THINK -- I, GIT IN DEEPER WHEN I THIS OLIGHT TO MAKE HER LESS CETTICAL OF YOU, IF I GO BY YOUR HOUSE ALL RUMPLED UP LIKE THIS ONCE IN A WHILE WHEN I GOOD MEDICINE AND BAD

#### RED RYDER





By Fred Harman HOLD ON, SUH! MAY 1 JOIN YOU ON THE JOURNEY TO KON ... HOP ABOARD. THAT THRIVING METROPOLIS

OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoople

YEAH TTELL THE

RICHARD THE LION-

HEARTED .... WHEN

YOU WALLOWED IN

KEPT BLUBBERING

"OH POOR JAKE! I

HOPE HE DOESN'T

DROWN WEAR-

ING MY NEW

STATE OF

AFTER ME YOU

WHOLE STORY,

UNCLE JAKE!

UNCLE AMOS

IN THE

HAT, HUH?

OLD HATS

100

ONE OF

EGAD, JAKE, IF YOU WERE

NOT MY BABY BROTHER, I

WOULD THUMP YOU SOUNDLY!

ARE HERE! WHY, WHEN WE

THROUGH A PATCH OF THIN

WERE BOYS, DIDN'T I RIGK

MY LIFE TO RESCUE YOU

WHEN YOU CRASHED

.... TELLING JULIET I HID

MY HUMIDOR OF CHOICE

TOBACCOS BECAUSE YOU

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE



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 ---



By Harold Gray OH, SURE WANT TO LIVE AT SURE-WELL HIS PLACE-BUT HELLIABLE TO BE AWAY O COURSE I COULD -- QUITE A WHILE TRANSFER KHOW -- DELAYS --By Martin

**BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES** 





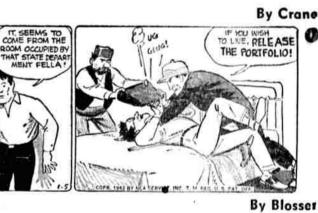


YOU SHOULD FEEL PROUD OF YOURSELF, YOUNG LADY, FOR YOUR PART IN FULLING HIM THROUGH! WE'D ABOUT GIVEL HAVE FOUR ARRIVAL MOLL! CAN PERDILY UNDERSTAND HIS KEEN DESIRE TO CARRY ON --

WASH TUBBS



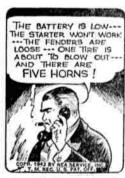




FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS









ALLEY OOP

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





By V. T. Ham'in