

## The Bickersons – New Puppy (1-12-1947) Page 1

**Anncr:** And now \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as John and Blanche Bickerson with \_\_\_\_\_ as brother Amos in “The Honey Moon is Over”.

### MUSIC

**Anncr:** The Bickersons have retired. As usual Mrs. Bickerson tosses restlessly, while her husband John, insomniac extraordinary, provides this audible testimony of his constant wakefulness. Listen.

**John:** SNORING – SNORING-SNORING with high pitch.  
SNORING – snore with laugh

**Blanche:** For the love of heaven, what is he doing?

**John:** SNORING – snore with high pitch

**Blanche:** (speak through snoring) John.

**John:** SNORING

**Blanche:** John.

**John:** (Snore Cut off) hmm.

**Blanche:** What’s the matter with you?

**John:** hmmm?

**Blanche:** You’re making the most frightful noises. What’s the matter?

**John:** What’s the matter Blanche?

**Blanche:** Are you in pain?

**John:** I’ve got a terrible headache. Haven’t slept a wink.

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- Blanche:** You've been sleeping like a felled ox.
- John:** Shhhh. Head ... aches.
- Blanche:** You wouldn't have such a headache if you didn't take so many cocktails before dinner. Why do you do that John?
- John:** Always... Always do it.
- Blanche:** Why?
- John:** No good to eat on an empty stomach. Put out the lights  
Blanche.
- Blanche:** The lights are out. How would you know anyway with that sleep shade on?
- John:** Well something's flashing in my head. Ohhh.
- Blanche:** Take an aspirin.
- John:** OK.
- SFX:** **Aspirin Bottle open. Bottle cap taps glass on table.  
Chewing aspirin.**
- John:** Mmmm. Feel better all ready.
- Blanche:** How can you chew those things like that. Wash it down with something.
- John:** Alright.
- SFX:** **Bottle hits top of Glass**
- John:** Ahhh.
- Blanche:** John Bickerson. You washed it down with bourbon.
- John:** You lied to me. You got the lights on.

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**Blanche:** Yes, I'm gonna keep them on. Sit up. I wanna to talk to you.

**John:** Please Blanche. I can't sit up. My head will fall off. Why do you always have to talk in the middle of the night?

**Blanche:** When else can I talk to you. You come home for dinner and bury your head in the paper. Never a word out of you. And you tell me you have to go to bed early because you have insomnia.

**John:** Well I have. It takes me hours to fall asleep.

**Blanche:** It took you all of thirty seconds tonight.

**John:** Well this was a good night. Good Night... **SNORE**

**Blanche:** John.

**John:** **SNORE**

**Blanche:** John.

**John:** Hmmm?

**Blanche:** I went over to the Marvin's new baby this afternoon. It's a beautiful child. Do you know their first one is over a year old?

**John:** {Pause} I hope so.

**Blanche:** He's been walking since he was eight months.

**John:** He must be awful tired... I am too.

**Blanche:** Children are such a blessing.

**John:** Hmmm.

**Blanche:** It's wonderful to watch them grow up. You'd be surprised how many childless couples are adopting children.

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**John:** {Pause} I'd better have another aspirin.

**SFX:** **Bottle hitting glass.**

**John:** Boy have I got a headache... umm.

**Blanche:** John...

**John:** Hmmm.

**Blanche:** Don't you miss the patter of tiny feet around the house?

**John:** No I don't Blanche. Children are wonderful alright, but you have to be able to afford them. All this talk of adopting ...

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining**

**John:** {John speak over puppy whine.} Of adopting...

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining {continued}**

**John:** What the devil is that?

**Blanche:** What's what?

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining start again**

**John:** That! Put the lights on.

**Blanche:** John.

**John:** Blanche... Don't tell me that you went out and, and ...

**Blanche:** It's only a dog silly. I got a little puppy.

**John:** A dog? What do we need dogs for?

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining start again**

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**John:** Where's the aspirin?

**SFX:** **Bottle hitting glass. John Chew on aspirin.**

**John:** What did you get a dog for?

**Blanche:** Now don't get hysterical.

**John:** Where is that little beast. I can hear it but I can't see it.

**Blanche:** He's right there in the bureau. I've got him in your shirt drawer.

**John:** You put him in there with my shirts?

**Blanche:** He won't suffocate. The drawer's open.

**John:** Blanche. You know I'm allergic to dog hair. It gives me sinus trouble. Where's the aspirin?

**Blanche:** You are just a big hypochondriac. You image those allergies like you do your insomnia.

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining**

**John:** {**John talks over puppy**} I tell you I'm allergic to dogs. They make me... make me... {**John sneezes**}. See. Get rid of that thing. He'll whine all night and keep me awake.

**Blanche:** The man said he'll keep quiet if you give him one of those worm pills.

**John:** Well where are they?

**Blanche:** On the night table by your bed.

**John:** How do you give a dog...? Where?

**Blanche:** There on the night table by your bed.

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**John:** There's nothing here except the aspirins.

**Blanche:** The aspirins are in the medicine cabinet.

**John:** How can they be in the med... Blanche. What have I been eating? No wonder my headache won't go away! Why do you do these things to me? Send for a doctor!

**Blanche:** Don't carry on so. If they're good for a dog, they won't hurt you. Go to sleep.

**John:** Go to sleep she tells me. Here I am dying from dog poisoning. My, my head is splitting...

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining {Puppy whines through John's line}**

**John:** {John Talks over puppy whining} She knows I'm allergic to dogs. Hides the aspirin. And makes... AH, SHUT UP!

**SFX:** **Puppy stops Whining with one last whine.**

**John:** I don't know. Get up so early. Never get another wink of sleep as ... as long as... {SNORE} {SNEEZE}  
{SNORE}{SNEEZE}

**Blanche:** John... John.

**John:** Hmmm.

**Blanche:** Gesundheit.

**John:** Thanks.

**Blanche:** I can see how much sleep I'm gonna get tonight. We'll have to get rid of the puppy.

**John:** Now you're talkin'.

**Blanche:** I want you to take him down to the dog pound.

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**John:** OK. I'll do it on my way to work.

**Blanche:** You go in the opposite direction.

**John:** Well I'll go out of my way.

**Blanche:** You say it but you won't do it. You better take him now.

**John:** What?

**Blanche:** Go on. Get up. Take the puppy to the dog pound.

**John:** Blanche are you out of your mind? It's after two in the morning.

**Blanche:** They're open all night. Go on. Get up and take him.

**John:** Well I've never heard of such a thing. You know I went to bed with a splitting headache and had to take a dozen worm pills to fall asleep.

**Blanche:** You'd take the dog to the pound quick enough if Gloria Goosebee asked you to.

**John:** How do you always manage to work the conversation around to Gloria Goosebee?

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining**

**John:** SHUT UP !

**SFX:** **Puppy Stops Whining with one last whine**

**Blanche:** Well if you wouldn't shout so much, maybe the puppy would be able to sleep.

**John:** Ahh. What's the use. Good Night.

**Blanche:** I thought it would be nice to have a little dog, especially when we move into our new apartment.

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**John:** Still have a year to go on this one.

**Blanche:** Our lease expired Friday.

**John:** I renewed it yesterday.

**Blanche:** I cancelled it this morning... Amos is raffling off the apartment for me.

**John:** That's a good idea .... AMOS IS WHAT?

**Blanche:** Amos sold five hundred tickets at two dollars a piece and the winner moves into our apartment tomorrow.

**John:** Oh Blanche, No! I, I don't believe it. We'll be on the street!

**Blanche:** Amos said he'll find us a new place in a jiffy.

**John:** Jiffy? Haven't you heard there's a housing shortage? Where would he find a place?

**Blanche:** Well I bought a ticket myself. It's a wonderful chance. Lovely three room apartment, large kitchen, big closets. It's worth two dollars, and we might get it.

**John:** Get it? We've got it now!

**Blanche:** I know. But even if we don't win we get the thousand dollars Amos collected for the rest of the tickets.

**John:** Look Blanche. I gave the landlord a twelve hundred dollar bonus to renew the lease. So now I'm out two hundred dollars and I've got no place to live.

**Blanche:** Sounds like pretty poor business to me. Why do you make such deals?

**John:** Now look Blanche...

**Blanche:** The trouble with you John is that you're too conservative.

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**John:** Look Blanche...

**Blanche:** If you'd pick up some of the deals that Amos has, we might be able to live as nicely as he does.

**John:** Blanche.

**Blanche:** He's been living at the Biltmore Hotel for a year.

**John:** He sleeps on a billiard table. Look out. Where's my slippers.

**Blanche:** What are you gonna do?

**John:** Let me get to that phone. I'll show ...

**SFX:** **John runs into furniture.**

**John:** Owww! Oooo, Oooo. Put on the lights.

**Blanche:** The lights are on. Open your eyes.

**John:** Ohh. Here's the phone. I know it's gonna ring, and I want to be ready when it does.

**SFX:** **Phone Ringing. Pick up phone.**

**John:** Hello.

**Woman:** Excuse me...

**John:** Drop Dead!

**SFX:** **Slams down phone receiver.**

**John:** Wait a minute. Wait a minute. That wasn't Amos.

**SFX:** **Door Bell Rings.**

**John:** I'll get it. I'll get it.

**SFX:** Door open.

**John:** Amos.

**Amos:** Hi Jacco... Whatta you doin' up this time of night?

**John:** Packin' Amos. We're moving. Haven't you've heard?

**Amos:** Why aren't you gonna invite me in? I'd like to look the place over.

**John:** You mean ...

**Amos:** Yep. I won the raffle. Darndest luck I ever saw.

**John:** Who drew the ticket Amos?

**Amos:** Fair and square. I wouldn't take a chance having some phony draw it, so I drew it myself.

**John:** What a coincidence... GET OUT OF HERE!

**Amos:** What's the matter with you Jacco? You've got a thousand dollars comin'. And if you're worried about a place to live, I'll rent you the garage. You haven't got a car anymore, you know.

**John:** Get out of here before I hit you with a cleaver.

**Amos:** OK Jacco. You don't have to get sore.

**John:** You better give the money back to people you sold tickets to or you'll have a lot of explaining to do.

**Amos:** Not me brother. You'll have to do the explaining. I'll tell them you won. Good Night Jacco.

**John:** That guy will wind up on a chain gang as sure as ...

**Blanche:** Was it Amos? Who won?

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**John:** I did. Now at last I can go to sleep in my own bed without worrying.

**Blanche:** No you can't dear. The dog's in there.

**SFX:** **Puppy Whining**

**John:** The ... Awww, Nuts. I'll sleep in the garage.

**MUSIC**