

Little
ORPHAN
ANNIE

Little Orphan Annie 36-xx-xx (1018)
“Mr Flint Is Selling Stock In Toll Bridge”

Show sponsored by Ovaltine
Originally broadcast in 1936

Cast

Little Orphan Annie
Joe Corntassel
Mr. Silo
Mrs. Silo
Mr. Flint
Announcer (Pierre André)

Little Orphan Annie

Music: **Organ Intro, then fades out**

ANNR: Well it's 5:45 now and time to hear about Orphan Annie's adventures. And all about Ovaltine too. And if you haven't tried Ovaltine yet, here's something I want to ask you. Do you get so fidgety and fussy in school that your teachers scold you for not paying attention? And then when your report card comes, do you get such poor marks that your mother and father worry about it, and perhaps scold you too? Well, maybe it's not all your fault. You know doctors say that some boys and girls don't get along so well in school no matter how hard they try because they're kind of nervous and high strung. And if that's your trouble, perhaps Ovaltine's the thing to help you. Because, every cupful of Ovaltine not only gives you important minerals and vitamins to help build you up, but it also brings you that special important vitamin you may have to have so you won't be so nervous. Yes sir. Ovaltine's helped lots of nervous boys and girls to feel better. So ask your mother to let you start on Ovaltine too. But the main thing is, to keep drinking it regularly, remember. It's the person who keeps on trying who usually wins out you know. And after a while, just see if you don't begin to feel better and find school lot's easier and perhaps you'll begin to get higher marks too. Nobody will scold you then. And your mother and father will be mighty proud of you. You just try Ovaltine. See what a big difference it may make.

But now, all you new 1936 members of Annie's Secret Society, attention. Right after tonight's adventures over, we are going to broadcast another important secret message in Annie's new 1936 secret radio code. So get your pencils ready, and be sure to keep listening.

And now for our adventure. Yesterday, Mr. Warbucks brought Annie, Joe, and Sandy home to the Silos. And believe me, it was a mighty happy reunion. The only sad thing about it was that Daddy Warbucks had to go right back to New York. And right now Annie and Joe are standing on the Silo's back porch looking across the farm and the fields. And if you don't think they're glad to get back, listen to what Joe's saying now.

JOE: Shucks. Just look out there Annie, across the barn yard and over those field towards the woods. Did you ever see anything so pretty in all your life?

ANNIE: Guess I never did Joe.

JOE: I'll say you didn't. With those patches of snow on the fields and the green and brown beginning to show through ...

SFX: **Cow noises (continue through next few lines)**

JOE: Boy o' Boy. It sure looks like home to me.
ANNIE: Yeah, me too.

JOE: Just listen to that cow. Isn't that the nicest music you ever heard?

SFX: **Rooster noises {continue over next few lines}, Cow stops**

ANNIE: Sounds pretty good alright.

JOE: And Boy o' Boy listen to that! Say, there was never anything sounded better to me than a rooster.

ANNIE: I guess I feel just the same as you do Joe.

SFX: **Cow starts up again. Rooster stops**

ANNIE: I guess we're just a couple of farmers.

JOE: I'll say we are. You know Annie ...

ANNIE: What?

JOE: When I went home yesterday ...

ANNIE: I bet your mother was glad to see you Joe.

JOE: Glad? She caught me right up in her arms Annie. And then she started crying. Shucks, guess I cried a little myself. And you know Annie, Peter and Paul cried too.

ANNIE: They did?

JOE: Sure. They were so glad to see me. Peter started it. And with being twins, I guess Paul thought he ought to cry too. Anyhow, it was swell people wanting you like that and being glad to see ya. It seems like the whole country side's glad to see us today.

SFX: **Cow noise. Door open.**

MRS SILO: Land sakes alive. What are you children standing out there on that porch for?

ANNIE: We were just looking around Mrs. Silo and being glad we're home.

MRS SILO: Appears to me that's a funny way to be glad. Now if you want to be really glad, come in the kitchen dear, now.

JOE: Boy o' Boy. I smell cookies cookin'.

MRS SILO: That's just what you do Joe Corntassle. Might've known, no matter how long you where away, you can still smell my cookies. Well, come and get 'em.

JOE: Boy will we! Come on Annie!

MR SILO: I thought you children would begin sniffing around Ma's kitchen pretty soon.

MRS SILO: Now look out Joe. Don't rush with them cookies. Their hot!

JOE: Shucks it's been so long since I had any home made cookies I don't care how hot they are.

MRS SILO: Here Annie, better have one of these cookies before Joe eats more than his share.

JOE: {mouthful of cookies} Boy o' Boy, they're good. I'll have another one.

MRS SILO: Appears to me Joe, you've got all you can handle in your mouth right now. Ha Ha. But, go ahead. It makes me feel like old times to see the two of you eatin' my baked goods.

JOE: Seems like old times to me too.

MRS SILO: I swear to goodness. Now that I've got ya both back, it don't hardly seem you've ever been away. Things are just the same as they used to be. Hmm, hmm.{chuckle} Both of ya hungry and eatin' up things as fast as I can cook 'em.

MR SILO: Naw, things ain't quite the same though Ma.

MRS SILO: Well, what do you mean?

MR SILO: Well, folks are the same, but things aren't. Since ya been gone, Simmons Corners has been going into big business.

ANNIE: Big business? What do you mean Mr. Silo?

MRS SILO: What Paw means Annie, that a man has come here from the city. A Mr. Taylor Flint, and he's going for things in a big way.

ANNIE: Things? What sort of things?

MRS SILO: Well, he's opened a new bank. As if one bank wasn't enough for Simmons Corners. And he's put up a big electric sign over it. As if signs could get people to have money in their pockets.

MR SILO: Now Ma, you're not lookin' at this in the right way. Mr. Flint's a big man. Besides his new bank Annie, all the time you and Joe have been gone, he's been startin' to build a bridge.

JOE: A bridge!

MR SILO: Yea, a bridge across the river. You see the way things are now, when folks want to go west, they have to drive clear down to Sun Field and cross the river there. But with this new bridge Mr. Flint's buildin', by payin' a toll they cross the bridge here at Simmons Corner. That means folks will save more than eighteen miles drivin' west.

ANNIE: That seems like an awful swell idea.

MR SILO: That's just what I've been trying to tell Ma.

MRS SILO: The idea may be alright Paw. It's the man I don't like.

MR SILO: Why, what's the matter with Mr. Flint, Ma?

MRS SILO: I don't know. Maybe nothings the matter with him. It's just that I don't seem to take a hankering to him. Maybe it's that stiff collar he wears or his city ways.

MR SILO: Now that's no reason for not likin' a person Ma and you know it.

MRS SILO: Maybe I do. But I still can't help my likes and dislikes can I?

MR SILO: Umm, don't know what you can help, but it don't seem to me ...

SFX: **Car noise**

JOE: Say, isn't that a car out there in the driveway?

ANNIE: I'll say it is. I can see it from the window. Leapin' lizards, it's the biggest car I ever saw in my life. It's bigger than any of Daddy Warbucks'.

JOE: I say it is. Shucks, look at it shine.

ANNIE: There's a man getting' out too. Jumpin' grasshoppers. He looks like the president or somethin' from the way he's dressed.

JOE: Boy o' Boy. Look at that long coat and that high silk hat. Gosh, whoever he is, he must be somebody.

MR SILO: It's Mr. Flint. That's who it is. It's Mr. Flint, the man who's buildin' the new bridge.

MRS SILO: Now what could he be wantin' here?

MR SILO: I don't know, Ma. But anyhow, he wants to come in.

MRS SILO: I guess you better let him in Paw.

MR FLINT: Good Day Mr. Silo. Good Day! I was passing by here, and I thought it might be well to come in and meet you. I want to get better acquainted with all the leading citizens in the county. So I thought I'd stop.

MR SILO: Well, come in Mr. Flint! Come in.

MR FLINT: Thank you. Thank you, I shall.

MR SILO: Uhh, this is uh Mrs. Silo, Mr. Flint.

MR FLINT: I'm mighty pleased to meet you Mrs. Silo. I've heard a lot about you in Simmons Corners, especially at the church. I'm a good God fearing man and I like to know church members.

MRS SILO: Well, now that's nice of you Mr. Flint.

MR FLINT: Not at all. Not at all. Since my venture into business here in Simmons Corners, one of the finest garden spots on this earth, I felt I want to get better acquainted with all the charming people who live here.

MRS SILO: Ha, Ha. I hardly know what to say Mr. Flint. You sort of take me by surprise. Meet Annie and Joe Corntassel.

MR FLINT: How do you do. How do you do. My, if there's anything I love it's children. I never was blessed with any myself, but that doesn't affect my feelings for them. I am mighty glad to meet you, both of you.

ANNIE: How do you do?

JOE: Hello.

MR FLINT: Two mighty husky bright children. My, you're to be congratulated Mr. Silo.

MR SILO: Well, you see they don't exactly belong to Ma and me.

MR FLINT: Well, just having them in your house tells me a lot about your character Mr. Silo. Anyone with two bright, young children like this around, couldn't help being progressive.

MR SILO: Well, I've always thought I kept up with the times.

MR FLINT: Of course you do. Of course you do. That's one reason I dropped in to see you. Now everyone tells me Mr. Silo, that you're one of the most prosperous citizens of our community. And, speaking of churches Mrs. Silo. It may interest you to know, that I have just donated a new pipe organ to our church.

MRS SILO: Land sakes. That's wonderful Mr. Flint. Simply wonderful.

MR FLINT: Why nothing at all, I assure you. Giving this organ to the church is a great pleasure to me. But speaking of the bridge Mr. Silo. We were speaking of the bridge.

MR SILO: Uh, yes, yes. Of course.

MR FLINT: Being one of the leading citizens, I thought I'd give you a chance to get in on the ground floor, so to speak. Now this bridge is going to be a community affair. Of course, I could finance it with a partner from New York. But I felt that you people who live here on this spot, should have a chance to share in the profits.

MRS SILO: That's mighty nice of you, Mr. Flint.

MR FLINT: Why not at all. Whenever I have an enterprise, I like the community to share in it. That's why I picked one of the other leading citizens. Uh, Luke Pool to handle the stock for me.

ANNIE: Luke Pool?

MR FLINT: Yes indeed. One of your enterprising businessmen. I thought it would be better if he sold the stock rather than I. In as much as you all know him.

ANNIE: We know him alright!

MR FLINT: I beg your pardon?

ANNIE: Nothin'.

MR FLINT: And so would you like to invest Mr. Silo? Oh, a few hundred dollars in a sure thing, just get in touch with either me or Mr. Pool. It's a marvelous stock you're buying, and you can't go wrong.

MR SILO: Buyin'?

MR FLINT: Why of course. All leading citizens of the county are buying Mr. Silo. And I know you want to be in on the ground floor with the rest of them. That's why I

dropped in, to give you this opportunity. Well, Good bye Mrs. Silo. So nice to have met you. I know we'll all enjoy the music of that new organ.

MRS SILO: Good Bye Mr. Flint. I don't know how we ladies will ever thank you for that wonderful organ.

MR FLINT: Why, pray don't mention it Mrs. Silo. The pleasures all mine. Well Good Bye children.

ANNIE: Good Bye.

JOE: Good Bye.

MR FLINT: Oh I'm thinking of donating the village a playground, children. With all sorts of things for you to play with. I know you'll like it. Well, Good Bye Mr. Silo. Come in and see me when you want that stock.

MRS SILO: My oh, my how I misjudged that man.

MR SILO: Misjudged him? What do you mean Ma?

MRS SILO: Why he's wonderful, simply wonderful.. Think of him donating that new organ to the church. Nobody in Simmons Corners has ever done anything like that before.

JOE: Shucks, they sure haven't.

MRS SILO: You must buy some of that stock in the new bridge Paw. If Mr. Flint's behind it, I am sure it must be a fine thing.

MR SILO: Well, I'll think it over Ma.

ANNIE: If I were you Mr. Silo, I'd think it over awful well.

MRS SILO: Why Annie, what ever do you mean?

ANNIE: All I mean Mrs. Silo, is that it strikes me Mr. Flint is a little too generous. People who go around giving things away like that, usually expect to get something back. And unless I'm wrong, they expect to get back twice as much as they ever gave.

ANNR: Well. What do you think of this Mr. Flint? Mr. Silo certainly likes him, doesn't he. And Mrs. Silo too. But say, do you think Annie's got the right idea about him? Do people who give things away, as Mr. Flint is doing, expect to get twice as much back? What do you think of Mr. Flint?

