Promptbook (copy 2). [ca. 1917-1918]

Schroeder, William A., 1888-1960; Young, Rida Johnson; Duncan, William Cary, 1874-1945
New York City: Jos. W. Stern & Co., [ca. 1917-1918]

https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/ZBPMT2JBWVG6G8W

H I S L I T T L E W I D O W S

A C T I

HIS LITTLE WIDOWS

ACT I

A C T I

S C E N E : A large private dining-room in a fashionable New York Hotel. Large folding doors with heavy portieres L. open on the bell-room and big windows C. Allow a glimpse of the typical New York street scene. Wide doors R. open on the hotel corridor. The hangings, furniture, etc. of the room give an idea of elegance. At the large banquet table placed across the stage from up R. to up L. are seated a number of young people sipping the last of their cordials laughing and singing etc. All the company are smartly dressed. End of story. Laugh) as curtain rises -

#1
Curtain Music

Jack standing

One moment. I have not told you this tale in a spirit of idle jest. It has a moral.

Biff

Don't spring morals on a festive occasion.

All

No! No!

Jack

The moral of this story is that no one is too great to go after money when he sees the glint of gold. (sits)

(Rising) Biff

Listen! Listen Jack's bursting with speech - let him have one burst. — sits

A guest

A cheer for the boy brokers of Broad Street. Lloyd, Greyson & Hale. — (all give a cheer)

All

Speech by Biff Hale. — cries of speech - speech

Biff

No! No! (Rising) Jack's going to do the talking. Whatever he says goes for me too.

2

NUMBER

Little Lady Opportunity

(After number and dance guests dance off, leaving Jack and Biff on stage.)

Jack

Ladies and Gentlemen on behalf of the young but honest firm of Lloyd, Greyson and Hale collectively-- (Business of applause and chatter)--and on behalf of my old and trusted friend Biff Hale--(Bows to Biff) (Biff rises and bows to Jack) and not forgetting our esteemed partner, Pete Lloyd ---(Loud applause) who by reason of his well-known bashfulness is not with us this evening--I wish to announce, using the words of our exclusive daily market letter, if you are looking for a safe and sound investment, get in on the ground floor of Cousin Kate copper.

All

Cousin Kate. Who's she?

Biff

Cousin Kate is the little lady who has put the firm of Lloyd, Greyson and Hale on Easy Street.

Jack

Yes, and we want all our ~~friands~~ friends to get in on it. Cousin Kate Copper is not to be the plaything of bloated capitalism. It is controlled, owned, financed by the firm of Lloyd, Greyson and Hale. We have shown our confidence in it. We have invested our own private fortunes. That's how we feel about it. We're back of it to the last ditch.

Biff

I don't like that ditch ~~idea.~~ thing!

Jack

It's the opportunity of a lifetime!

That's figuratively speaking. ~~And now that we have put you all wise to this wonderful opportunity, we will resume the festivities of the occasion. On with the dance. Let joy be unrefined.~~

← opposite page (for positions see Stage Guide)

(Business of guests rising, dancing and singing)

Number 2

Cut

I could dance, dance, dance forever,
And never weary, never--
Ah, that time could never, sever
That blissful harmony,
As I hold you in my arms dear,
How my heart beats 'gainst thine own dear!
You are mine, mine
When you dance the waltz with me!

(Chorous waltz off stage L.)

(Jack and Biff go L. to portieres of the ball-room. Men and girls dance off, laughing and talking, while the orchestra plays dance music. Jack and Biff are left alone on stage.)

Jack

Well, Biff what do you think of it? (X's L to C.)

Biff

I think we're a lot of come-ons. (Seated C.)

Jack

Come-ons?

Biff

These may be up-to-date business methods, as you call 'em but I've been figuring it up and this party's going to put an awful crimp in our bank roll.

Jack

Nonsense. Don't be a nickel nurser, Biff. Nowadays if you want to make money you've got to spend it.

Biff

On this bunch of song and dance artists?

Jack

Well, they've got friends, haven't they? And when I get Pete after 'em with Cousin Kate Copper --say-- it's the Twentieth Century Limited to Easy Street.

Biff

Yes, if somebody doesn't turn the switch. (X.L.) Everybody's leary of that mining stuff anyway. (X up stage)

Jack

Is that so? That just shows how little you know. Did you send that wire to your father?

Biff

I did.

Jack

Put it strong?

Biff

I did (X L.) "Great opportunity". We are selling Cousin Kate Copper at twelve and a half."

Jack

Good. Get an answer?

Biff

I did. "Congratulations. Who are you selling it to?"

Jack

(Laughing)

Well, never mind, Biff, that means nothing, doing business

with relatives is no good anyhow.
(Enter Pete Lloyd up R. looking around nervously and highly excited)

Jack

Well, Pete! Welcome to--

Pete

Ssh! (Looking around) Where are they? Gone?

Jack

No, dancing.

Pete

Dancing! (X to end of table) (Laugh off stage by guests L.)

Jack

What the devil's the matter with you?

Pete

Fiddle-ing while Rome burns.

Biff

Say, what the -- what do you mean, while Rome burns?

Pete

Nothing, nothing! We're ruined that's all.

Jack and Biff

Ruined?

Pete

Yes, ruined, busted, broke, down and out.

Jack and Biff

What do you mean?

Pete

Cousin Kate, Bluie.

Biff

I knew it. (To Jack) What did I tell you?

Jack

Oh, shut up. (To Pete) What about it?

Pete

Just got a wire from Lockwood --you know-- the mining engineer or expert or whatever you call it. It's all over boys. Cousin Kate's a bloomer.

Biff

She never bloomed. Good night!

Biff Jack Pete

Roots.

Jack
But Lockwood recommended it.

Pete
He thought it was all right but the vein ran out in 30 feet.

Jack
30 feet, we're sunk.

Biff
Sure. We're the kind of firm that would back a livery stable in Venice.

Jack and Biff
It's all your fault.

Pete
Mine?

Jack
Didn't you insist on our putting everything we had into it?

Biff
Didn't you say it was a sure thing?

Pete
(Dryly)
Well, it was.

Jack
We're not a firm, we're a benevolent society. We ought to be running a kindergarten.

Biff
We couldn't do it. The kids would steal our eye teeth.

Jack
We haven't cut 'em yet.

Pete
Say, hold on, wait a minute. This isn't getting us anything. Besides, I'm not worrying about us. (X L.)

Biff
Oh, you're not? (To Jack) See, he won't even do his share of the worrying. The quitter!

Pete
I'm not quitting, but I'm thinking about the people we got into this thing. Look at Aunt Mary, that six thousand was about all she had.

Jack
Aunt Mary's got nothing on my governor, he's in for fifteen thousand. Will he stand up on his hind legs and roar. Oh Boy.

Biff

Well, how about my sister Blanche. I persuaded her to put all her savings in Cousin Kate. $7,500.

Pete

Oh, it's all your fault. (X's L and sits down)

Jack

Now, look here boys, this is the worst blow we've had in our business career.

Biff

Business career!

Jack

But we've re-organized before after a smash and we'll do it again.

Biff

Re-organize, on what?

Jack

On our brains! On our energy! On our nerve!

Pete

Are you sure we've got all that?

Biff

We've got the nerve all right. But brains, I don't know.

Jack

Look here fellows, didn't we swear to stack together through thick and thin?

Biff

I don't mind the thick stuff, but I'm tired of the thin thing.

Pete

Jack's right. We can't go back on the old slogan. Come on boys. One for all and all for one. (X's C)

Biff

And all for nothing.

Jack

Nonsense! brains crushed to earth will rise again.

Biff

Yes and get slammed right down again.

Jack

Nonsense. All we've got to do is to get some backing. (X R) Biff what's our balance.

Pete

Nothing. I drew out our last dollar to buy another block of Cousin Kate.

(Business Jack and Biff blow up)

Jack

How about that uncle of yours in Salt Lake City?

Pete

Uncle Samuel? Nothing doing!

Biff

I thought you said he was a millionaire.

Pete

He is.

Boys

Well!

Pete

And I think he intends to remain one. But don't worry. We'll pull something and we'll continue on the old basis. What one makes all share, boys, and that goes. Remember, one for all and all for one.

(TRIO NUMBER) #3

As side by side we stand together,
Our Hoodoo's bound to have a fall
Don't worry - what's the good?
Just keep on sawing wood,
~~And~~ remember - one for all.

For business see stage guide

(Business three clasping hands. Hotel Manager enter upper R.)

Hotel Manager

Good evening gentlemen, I beg your pardon for intruding, but rules of the hotel, our cashier leaves at one o'clock and will deem it a favor if you'll look after your bill for the party before that time.

(Business putting the bill into Pete's hands)

Pete

We were just speaking about it.

Jack

We were getting anxious.

Biff

Yes it was beginning to worry us.

Hotel Manager

Oh don't worry; nothing personal I assure you. I trust everything has been satisfactory.

(Exit R.)

Pete

It has been up to this time. - The panic is on.

(Business each one looking at the bill horrified)

Pete

Well boys, this bill has got to be paid. How much money have you got?

Jack

I've got seven dollars.

Pete

Well I have three, that'll make ten.

Biff

(Reading bill)

Sixteen covers at ten dollars a cover, one hundred, sixty dollars, seventy-five dollars for Jass Band, twenty quarts of wine one hundred dollars, total three hundred and thirty-five ~~dollars~~. hard iron men.

Pete

That's enough.

Biff

Then there's the tips.

Jack

We may have enough for the tips.

Pete

Boys there's only one way out. We've gone it before and we'll do it again. Come on boys, one for all. Shell out.

Jack

(Taking off ring)

My ring my only possession.

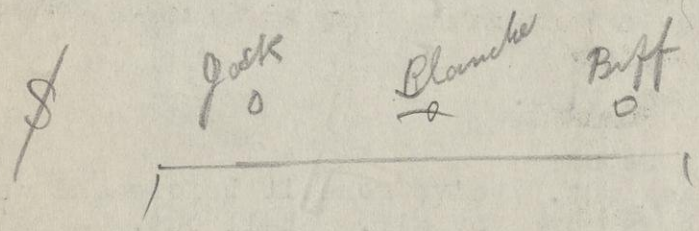
Pete

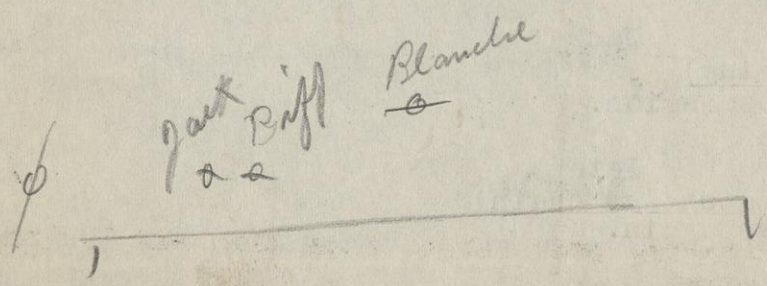
(Taking out watch and chain)

Here goes, good-bye again.

Jack

Come on Biff, cough up.


Jack
Blanche
Biff


Jack
Biff
Blanche

Biff
(Takes out Ingersoll dollar watch and hands it to Pete)
This is the worst cold I've ever had.

Pete
An Ingersoll, what good is that?

Jack
Now I'll go on a still hunt for a hock-shop. With love from Cousin Kate to Uncle.
(Laugh off stage L.)

Pete
I'm not going to stay here with that bunch of gigling girls. I'd rather be shot. Give me those things. I'll get the money on 'em. going up R.

Jack
You go and raise the money and raise all you can. follow pete up

Pete
I'll raise the money or I'll raise ---. I'll get the money -
(Exit R.)

Jack coming down C
Well Biff here we are.

Biff
Yes, but where are we?

Jack
Oh shake it Biff, shake it. RUE
(Enter Blanche Nale, a beautiful, very wholesome looking girl cheery and vivacious)

Blanche
Hello boys!

Jack to R-C- ß.
Hello Blanche!

Biff
(Blanche X's to Biff) L-C
'Lo Sis.

Blanche Biff cross to Jack ß
Where's everybody?
(Business of looking over table, then Xing and looking into dancing room)

Jack
In there dancing. Say, Blanche, It's a shame you didn't put in an understudy tonight, and get in on the dinner.

Blanche

Oh, you know I couldn't do that. Not on our last night in New York. Anyway I'm here for the finish.

Biff

We're finished all right!

Blanche

Biff, what do you mean?

Jack

(Trying to shut him up)

Biff!2

Biff

(To Jack)

Oh, what's the use of stalling?

(To Blanche)

Sis, as stock~~holders~~brokers, the firm of Lloyd, Greyson and Hale has departed for oblivion and points South.

Blanche

Biff! Jack!

Jack

That's right. We're done.

Blanche

Not--not the Cousin Kate Mine?

Biff

Just that.

Blanche

Oh, Biff, you told me if I'd put all my savings in "Cousin Kate" I'd make enough to buy that farm and retire from the stage.

Jack

Biff was on the square. He thought it was all right, we all did. We've got all our funds in. Blanche we're in an awful mess.

Blanche

Oh Boys! How selfish of me to think only of myself. I'm so sorry. Never mind my money. I can make plenty more.

Jack

But we do mind it and we're going to pay you back. You'll see.

Blanche

Of course, you will. I have faith in you boys. Now you're not

#4 Number-

"There'll Be A Rainbow in the Sky for You"

(Blanche, Jack and Biff)

to think a thing about my money. I'm going to forget it. There!

(Snaps her finger)

Where's Pete?

Jack

I thought it was about time you asked that. Pete's out on a still hunt--looking for a relative of ours.

Blanche

Won't he be here at all tonight?

Jack

Pete here, with this bunch of giggling girls, Now Blanche--I thought you knew him better than that? He'd rather be in jail and I wouldn't wonder if he were by this time.

Blanche

Wh--what an awful thought. If he is, you must go at once and bail him out.

Jack

I don't think he's full enough for that. X to L.C. (Back of Blanche)

Blanche

Oh, cheer up boys, fortune will smile on you yet.

Biff

Smile on us. Fortune is laughing herself to death at us now.

No 4 (See Stage guide)

~~Jack~~

~~Oh Blanche, why don't you go in and dance?~~ ~~Rewrite~~

Blanche Crossing to L.2.

(To Jack) after number)

Do try and find Pete and come and tell me the minute you find him.

(Exits in ball-room L.)

Jack

Fine Pete! That's a nice easy job.

Biff

Wonder how many hock-shops there are in this town anyway.

Jack

Wait I'll go and get the telephone book. That classified directory thing.

(Starts to exit Biff interrupts)

Biff

You're not going to leave me alone here.

$ use girls for this. Come on from
L. 2. & form ring in front
of table - Buffin C

Jack
Well you go and entertain the girls, but don't ball up everything. (Exit) R U E -

Biff
All right. Probably I could raise eight or tendollars among them.

~~(Business of Girls and boys dance on stage surround table)~~
~~(Biff in center)~~

Biff
Girls you have no idea of the business cares we men have. Why just this minute a big business deal has just gone through and Pete has just stepped out with the securities.

A Guest
Well, why let business interfere with pleasure.

Biff
Why, if that's the way you feel, I am with you.

#5 (Song Biff "OH! YOU GIRLS!)
X X X X X
(At the end of number, Enter Jack R. with telephone book crosses to end of table) L.

Insert lyric here see stage parade

Jack
Three pages of hock-shops, Goldstein, Goldberg-etc.

(Enter Pete)

Biff
Well!

Jack
What did you get?

Pete
I got left.

Jack and Biff
What!

Pete
All the pawnshops were closed.

Biff
Here give me back my watch.
(Pete gives Biff his Ingersoll watch)

Jack
Oh, hang your watch. This is awful.

Elders

o o o o o o

o

abijah o Pete o Buff o Jack

~~X (Elders) "Sodom and Gamorrah"~~

Biff
Awful if the newspapers get hold of this, Bluie.

(Buss Bell Boy off stage R.)

Bell Boy
Mr. Lloyd! Mr. Lloyd! (Enters) Mr. Lloyd!

Jack
Here, here boy. Who wants Mr. Lloyd?

Bell Boy
Some gentlemen, would like to see him, sir.

Jack
Show them in.

Pete
Creditors!

(Enter six elders R. crossing behind table except Abijah who comes down in front of table)

Number
"WE'RE SAINTS OF THE LATTER DAY" (For bus- See Stage Guide)

A.6 Abijah ~~Elders~~ x

We're on the track of Peter Lloyd,
For him we've searched this city,
And while we have been thus employed,
It's vice we've viewed with pity,
Like Sodom and Gammorrah--
Upon its ribald sights we frown,
With pain and holy horror!

(Holding up one finger and pointing at boys)

Alas! Alack! Woe unto thee,
Thou children of inquity!

(Elders) Refrain (Elders)

For we are elders, Mormon elders,
Saints of the latter day
We serve the eye that never sleeps
The dreaded Mormon eye, that keeps,
Watch ever on its prey
'Tis vain to fly, that awful eye,
No mortal can avoid,
And now that optic ominous
Is fixed on Pete Lloyd!

(All stare fixedly at the boys)

Abijah

Mr. Peter Lloyd.

Pete

(Weakly)
Absent.

Abijah

Thinkest thou we know not thee, you ~~what~~ wot not?

Pete

Who's a what-not?

Abijah

(Business, putting his hand in his pocket as if to draw a revolver. Boys shrink back. Abijah takes out photograph from his pocket)

Besides I have thy photograph.

Jack

Well!

Pete

Thou hast? I told you I shouldn't have had them taken.
(To the boys)

Jack

Well, suppose you have, what do you want of him, anyhow?

Abijah

Mr. Peter Lloyd, hither comest thou.

Pete

No, no! ~~Oh, sir~~, I~~'d rather go thither~~. Hither- goest thou!
(Starts to go. Jack interrupts him)

Jack

No, hither, hither.

Abijah

Thou art Peter Lloyd, ~~son~~ nephew of the late ~~William~~ Samuel Lloyd formerly of Salt Lake City.

Pete

(Meekly)
Yes sir.

Elders

(Look at each other)
Ah!

Jack

Well suppose he is. What of it?

Abijah

We have the painful duty of informing you -- that your Uncle ~~Samuel Lloyd~~ has recently passed away. leaving you heir to his estate of approximately three millions.

(Pete clasps his hand to his head, whirls around and falls flat on the floor. Jack and Biff, after a moment's astonishment relax their menacing attitude, approach Abijah and shake hands with enthusiasm, slapping him on the back, etc.)

Jack

Yes sir, I said to myself the moment I saw you "There's a fine upstanding generous looking man, and the rest of the sextet, too. Welcome, welcome, to you, one and all.

(Shaking hands with Elders)

Biff

(Walks over to Pete, shakes Abijah by the hand, turns and kicks Pete's feet)

Sit up Pete--take it like a man.

(Business of shaking hands with Elders)

Jack

(Lifting Pete)

Sit up Pete. Look at me. I'm not excited.

Pete

Let me ask him. (Goes to Abijah) Did you say millions or mellons?

Abijah

Three millions.

Pete

He says millions. That's what he said.

Jack

I heard him, I heard him.

Pete

And I was about to run away from him. Welcome!

(Kissing Abijah)

Biff

And I was going to quite the combination. Let me give you a little welcome, myself.

(Biff goes to Abijah making a fuss over him)

How soon can we get a little advance?

Abijah

You mean money?

All
Yes, money we could use it.

Abijah
Ah, that is the difficulty.

Pete Biff and Jack
Difficulty!

Elders
Yea, verily.

Pete
I knew there was a catch in it somewhere.

Jack
It was too good to be true.

Biff
You kissed him too soon.

Abijah
Before he receives the money- he must first fulfill the conditions of his uncle's will.

Pete Biff and Jack
Conditions.

Elders
Yea, verily.

Pete
Well, what are the conditions?

Abijah
Before I tell you there, I must swear thee to the strictest secrecy.
(Business of elders looking around room)
Dost swear?

Pete Jack and Biff
We dost.
(Business of elders forming a line back of boys)

Abijah
Wilst raise thy right hands?

Pete Jack and Biff
We wilst

Abijah
We swear by the power of the awful eye that if we should ever

betray this secret we shall be shadowed by the dreaded eye to the utmost reaches of the earth, that retribution shall overtake us--that we shall perish in the valley of hunger while the fowls of the aor shall pick the carrion flesh from our withered bones.

Elders

Bones.

Abijah

Remember if thou dost break thy oath, thou diest. Point finger at the two

Elders

Thou diest. Same bus

Pete

That's nice.

Abijah

Know thou young man that in the first place, thou must become a Mormon, and thou must reside in Salt Lake City and as you are your Uncle's only male relative, and he desires to perpetuate the name of Lloyd in Mormonism, you are to marry the widow of the deceased, and singular as it may seem, his widow is plural.

Pete

My Lord!

Biff

Wait a minute, that's carrying this thing too far, he can't even look one woman in the face.

Pete

Just a moment,
(Crosses to Abijah)
How many of her is she?

Abijah

That is immaterial, Brother.

Pete

Oh, is that so?

Abijah

Sufficient be it that they must be wed by thee.

Pete

More than sufficient. In fact, too much.
(Business turning away)

Jack and Biff

Listen to him, listen to him.

Pete

I'll listen, that's all.

Abijah

These are the conditions. If you cannot fulfill them, the entire estate goes to the Mormon Church and the widows will be cared for by the church home. What sayest thou?

(Business Pete starts to talk, Jack puts his hand over his mouth)

Jack

Oh, give him time to think.

Abijah

I am authorized to give thee four days in which to fulfill the conditions of the will. Within that time you must appear before me in Salt Lake City and if you have not married the widows by eight o'clock on the twentieth of this month---

Pete

What time is it now?

Biff

He'll be there.

Pete

I won't. I'll tell you once and for all that you and your Mormon can't scare me. I won't be a Mormon, so there.

Jack

But see here. If plural marriage is against the law, how are you going to pull it off?

Abijah

Ssh! We of the Loyal Community of Ancient Mormons, have our own methods. Leave it all to us. Fare thee well.
(Music cue)

Elders

Fare thee well.

(Business Elders exit R.) (Business of Jack and Biff congratulating each other, dancing around ad lib)

Pete

It's all over. I knew it was too good to be true. Marry a lot of widows for three millions? I'll starve first.

Jack

Nonsense, don't welch old man. You've got to do it. Think of your Aunt Mary.

Pete

At a widow a think? Nix!

Jack

And think of my father.

Pete

Think of him yourself, I have my own troubles.

Biff

And Blanche! Think of Blanche!

Pete

Oh don't -- please, don't!

Jack

Then think of three millions. Three beautifulbright glittering golden glorious millions.

Pete

What's three millions compared with a lot of wives. Oh, say I'm no blamed polygamist!

Jack

But it isn't polygamy out there -- they like it. Besides it's every man's duty to make as many women happy as possible.

Pete

Sure. That's why they only let us marry one.

Biff
Yes, but out there, if you marry a lot of women you're a saint.

Pete
Well, I'm damned if I want to be a saint. Besides, how the devil could a man be a saint with a lot of wives.

Jack
But think of us.

Biff
Yes, think of Jack and me. We're in on this.

Pete
Yes, you're in on the profits and I do all the work. No, I tell you once and for all, no, no, no. Women make me idiotic. I couldn't even propose to one widow.

Jack
You don't have to propose. —— —

Biff
My God, they're waiting to fall into your arms.

Pete
And I bet its some armful.

Jack
Well you can go and look the situation over, can't you? You owe that much to Biff and me.

Pete
I won't -- I won't be a saint!

Jack
Oh yes you will.
(To Biff)
Biff, I'll get a time table and look up the rate to Salt Lake City.
(Starts off)

Jack
Come on, let him think it over. He'll come to his senses when he realizes what it means, he will go.
(Business of Biff walking round table leaning over to Pete)
Three millions, one for all and all for one. Three glittering glorious golden millions.
(Exits R.)

Pete

(Soliloquizing)
Three million dollars.
(Blanche enters L.)

Blanche
Good gracious Pete. How long have you been here?

Pete

(Absently)
Three million years. Hello Blanche.

Blanche
Aren't you coming in to dance?

Pete
Dance? Me? With that bunch of baby vampires? You know me better than that.

Blanche
Look here, Pete, you're awfully foolish to be so afraid of girls. You cheat yourself out of a lot of good times.

Pete
Well I've always wanted to cheat somebbody, just to see how it feels.

Blanche
You know, Pete, you really don't appreciate yourself. You're very good-looking.

Pete
Oh now please, don't you, don't you josh me.

Blanche
I'm not. I like you and the other girls would too, if you'd only give them a chance.
(Coaxing)
Come on in.

Pete

(Backing) to R
Oh, no you don't.

Blanche
Well you needn't run away from me.

Pete
I'm not running away from you.

Blanche
You told me the other night I was pretty and different from other girls.

Pete
Yes, but - er - er. You weren't all fussed up and looking so feminine then.

Blanche
(Laughing)
Oh, you can see when a girl looks nice, then. Pete! Do I really look pretty to you?

Pete
Pretty? You look positively dangerous, and -- and --

Blanche
Oh, go on, Pete. I never saw you so wide awake.

Pete
(Approaching her with an air of sudden
Such a -- such a -- well, if I wasn't -- I would -- but I can't. Now I have my thumb caught.

Blanche
Oh Pete, haven't you ever cared for any girl?

Pete
No, certainly not, you know I haven't.

Blanche
Oh dear, how much you've missed. It's great to be in love.

Pete
How do you know?

Blanche
Because I am in love.
(Music cue)

Pete
Who's the fellow?

Number
"My Love Is a Secret" #7
(Blanche and Pete)

Insert Lyric Here

(At the end of the number Pete is kneeling to Blanche. Enter Jlson up R. coughing) Jolson

Pete
You see its a Russian step, it goes this way.

Jlson Jolson · coming down R
Hope I'm not interrupting anything.

Pete
Oh, no, no just a little dancing lesson I was giving Miss ~~Hale~~ Hale.

(Pete back nervously off the stage bumping into table, putting hand into coffee perculator and taking it as he exits R.)

Blanche
Mr. Jolson.

Jolson
Sorry to butt in on you this way Miss Hale, but we are up against it.

Blanche
We are?

Jolson
All our chorus men have jumped the show. Won't go on the road. Can you beat it?

Blanche
That spoils the best number I have.

Jolson
And we're leaving for the Coast tomorrow?

Blanche
Well you'll have to get some more that's all.

Jolson
I suppose you think that's easy. I've been all over the town. I've only rounded up six.

~~Ø~~ follow Jolson over to L. as
Jolson exits L.

Jack

Blanche

Buff

~~Ø~~ + over to L. of C-

Blanche

And we need nine.

Jolson

Yes, and no false alarms either. Not for that big number of yours, Miss Hale. Well we have got to dig up a few more some place. Oh, by the way -- where's the girls?

Blanche

In there.

Jolson

Well I'll just slip in and make a special callfor the girls tomorrow morning. Oh what I wouldn't give for a few good chorus men!

(Exit Jolson, enter ball room)

(Enter Jack and Biff excitedly R. with map and time table)

Blanche

Oh, this is awful!

Jack

It'll take three days and three hundred dollars to take us to Salt Lake City and where are we going to get the money?

Blanche

Oh Boys, what do you think?

Biff

We don't think. We know.

Blanche

No, you don't. The chorus men I did my Johnny Number with won't go on the road with us.

Jack

What of it?

Biff

Why worry about chorus men?

Jack

The town's full of them.

Blanche

Not the kind for my number and of all the luck - when we have only three nights before we open in Salt Lake City.

Jack

Salt Lake City?

Pete

Biff

Jack

Blanche

Yes!

Biff

In Utah?

Blanche

Certainly.

Jack

Excelsior!
(Business of Jack and Biff excitedly)

Jack

Blanche you saved our lives.
(Jack crosses to Blanche, takes her by the hand, dances around)
We've found your chorus men.

Blanche

Jack, you don't mean you'll --

Biff

Sure, we mean it.

Blanche

But, boys, why should you?

Biff

Never mind why.

Jack

It's the one way we have found it square everything -- is it a go?

Biff

It's got to be, Sis, you've got to help us.

Blanche

I'll see Jolson and insist that he take you along.

Biff

Blanche, you're a dear!

Jack

You're a wonder.
(Business of Jack throwing his arms around her. Enter Pete R. catching them. Blanche exists) 12.

Pete O Jack O Biff O

Biff

Pete, we've got it!

Jack

I just fixed it for you!
(Crossing to Pete) R-Pete to L C

Pete

So I see, you're some fixer!

Jack

We leave for Salt Lake City tomorrow.

Pete

On what?

Jack

On the train with the Sorceress Company.

Biff

We've joined the troupe.

Pete

Not me?

Jack

Nonsense, it's the hand of Providence.

Pete

Then deal me a new hand.

Biff

Forget it. Salt Lake, or bust.

Pete

I'll bust.

Biff

You'll go.

Pete

Say what are you fellows thinking of?

Jack

Three glittering glorious golden millions.

Pete

Three gibbering, jabbering idiots.

(Enter Blanche)

$ Butt Jack Blan Jol

Blanche
Jolson's going to give you a chance, its all right boys.

Pete
It's all wrong. Count me out.
(Exits R. Business Blanche starts to go after him and is interrupted by Jack and Biff)

Blanche
Pete, Pete.

Jack
Never mind him Blanche.

Biff
No, he's a little off his feed just now, but he'll be there.

Jolson
(Off stage)
That's all right -- I just want to size the boys up.

(Enter Jolson, ad lib talking off stage
(Business of Blanche introducing Jolson to the Boys)

Blanche
Boys this is our Manager, Mr. Jolson.

Jack
How do you dom Mr. Jolson.

Biff
How do you do!

Jolson
I thought you said there were three.

Jack
There are.

Biff
Pete just stepped out.

Jack
Mr. Dillingham is trying to get him for the Century.

Biff
Don't worry about him.

Jack
He has us skinned a mile.

Biff

Oh yes.

Blanche

You will find these boys just what you want.

Jolson

I hope so.

Jack

Where do we get the tickets.

Biff

We want to go and pack our trunks.

Jolson

Hold on you're not hired yet, I want to see you dance first.

Jack

Naturally, naturally he wants to see that.

Biff

Oh, you want to see us dance, right out here.

Jolson

Yes!

Biff

Well certainly we'll dance for you just as soon as we join the troupe.

Jolson

You'll dance right now. I don't want to be stung by any false alarms, Miss Hale.

Jack

He's on! He's on!

Jolson

Run through your number Miss Hale, I'll see where they get off.

Jack

Right out here before the crowd?

Jolson

Yes!

Note # 8

for bus. see stage guide

(To Boys) Blanche
It's easy boys.
(To Jolson)
You know Mr. Jolson they might be a bit awkward at first.

Jolson
Oh I don't mind that I just want to get a line on them.
I'll go and call the girls.
(Exits)

Jack
Blanche you start it, I'll go and find Pete. Come on Biff.
(Both exit R.)

(Enter chorus L.)

NUMBER "JOHNNY COME FOLLOW ME" #8

BLANCHE

(Sings)
When I'm walking on the street
I've an air so shy and sweet
It makes the boys all say:

Boys
Oh, what a winner.

Blanche
I've a manner so demure
Downcast lashes that allure
But, ah I fear at heart
I'm quite a sinner.

All
A sinner: — Blanche —
I'm the clinging type, it seems,
That the men see in their dreams,
Just the kind to love a lord and master
But when he's on the string,
Then it's quite another thing.
For when he hits the pace I make it faster.

Refrain

$

Blanche Pete

Biff

Jack

Gilson

Johnny, Johnny, Johnny come follow me,
Johnny, Johnny, Johnny come follow me,
When I beckon you know the sign
When I call you must fall in line,
Dancing here, prancing there,
Everywhere you follow.
Johnny, Johnny, Johnny follow me.
Johnny, Johnny, Johnny follow me.
I will lead you to mirth and glee.
You'll have ~~to run~~ fun if you follow me
Come by jolly
Live for folly
Johnny come follow me.

(Three boys join in, they follow round the table)

Jolson

Wait a minute, back, back.
(Business of stopping boys)

Jack

Well that wasn't so bad.

Biff

Oh, we'll get it after awhile.

Jolson

I'm sorry Miss Hale, but they won't do.

Biff

Well what do you expect with one rehearsal.

Blanche

Oh,they can do a lot better than that.

Jolson

I don't want to be personalMiss Hale, but they're not worth a nickel a week.

Pete

I could have told you that!

Jolson

Boy.

Bell Boy + Enter R.U.E

Yes sir!

Boy enters with Jolsons coat

Pete Jolson Jack Blanche Buff

The three men look after him as he exits

Pete Jack Blanche Buff

crosses to L. looks off L-2-E

Jolson

Get me my coat. Now girls I want you down at the train early tomorrow. You know we have a long jump ahead of us and I want you at the train fifteen minutes before leaving time.

(Crosses R. boy gives him his coat)

Jack

Oh say, Jolson, don't we go?

Jolson

Not on my tickets! You boys would ruin my show.

Biff

Well what do you expect with one rehearsal.

Jolson

I know a fellow that's looking for a piano mover, I'll give you a note to him.

Biff

Kiss me, will you?

Jolson

Now don't worry Miss Hale, I'll get three boys when we ~~hot~~ hit Salt Lake City, besides it'll save me three fares. ~~Goo~~ Good night!

(Exit R.) U.E.

Biff

Well, what do you think of him?

Pete

I think that he has very good sense.

Blanche

Oh, boys, I'm awfully sorry, but I did the best I could. to C

Pete

Oh, that's all right we got what was coming to us. X to R

Jack

Oh, that's all right, we'll get there yet.

Biff

If we have to walk. to L.

(Music cue) Refrain of "That Creepy Weepy Feeling" sung by chorus with following lyric

NUMBER

Good-bye we'll have to say farewell to mirth and folly.

Good-bye your party has been good and
awf'ly jolly
Good-bye to dear old naughty Broadway
Good bye to all the merry and gay white way
Good luck, Oh boys we really, truly hate to
leave you
Good luck, We'll take your tips because we do
believe you
Good-bye, we're coming back some day
And believe us we're coming to stay!
chorus exit L-2 E. At end of march
figure see music #9. Blanche exits
with them

Chorus exit at end of march figures
see music cue

~~(Chorus walk off stage, boys shaking hands and saying "Goodbye")~~ Music continues through dialogue

-PPP.

Jack

Busted again.

Biff

Twice in five hours.

Pete

You know we have this supper to pay for by one o'clock.

Jack

What time is it now?

Pete

Oh, there's no hurry, we have five minutes to spare.

Jack

We are lucky if we don't land in Jail.

Biff

Boy get my coat, I'm going to get out of here.
(Boy comes out) R.U.E.

Boy exits for coat

Yes sir.

Pete

Remember, you're the Treasurer.

Biff

You remember you are the one that ordered this dinner, too.

Jack Calls to Boy off stage

Boy, get me my coat. Wait Biff I'll be right with you.

Pete

Say, what's the idea, I suppose you are going to leave me flat.

Boy enters with coats

Jack

No, we are going to leave you for security, while we raise the money. We'll come tomorrow and get you out.
(Business Biff looking through his coat taking out letters)

Biff

Say boys, this isn't my coat.

Boy

There are no more left. (Boy exit) R.U.E.

Biff

Can you beat that guy Jolson, he has gone away with my good coat and left this bum one here --

(Business of boys laughing)

I don't think that's funny, I don't see anything funny about that at all.

(Business of looking through pockets, finds wallet)

Pete

It's money, isn't it?

Jack

Holy smoke, one for all and all for one.

Pete

This stuff doesn't belong to us. Enter Hotel mgr - R.U.E.

Hotel Manager

Gentlemen, how about the money for this bill.

(Biff X's over, begins counting out money $50.00 bills until he reaches $350.)

Hotel Manager

Hold on, there's $15. too much.

Jack

That's all right, keep the change.

Hotel Manager

Thanks. I trust you found everything O.K.

Biff

We couldn't have found anything sweeter.

(Exit Manager) R.U.E.

Jack

Look, tickets, tickets for Salt Lake City. Biff here's your ticket; here's your ticket Pete.

Pete

I don't want it.

Jack

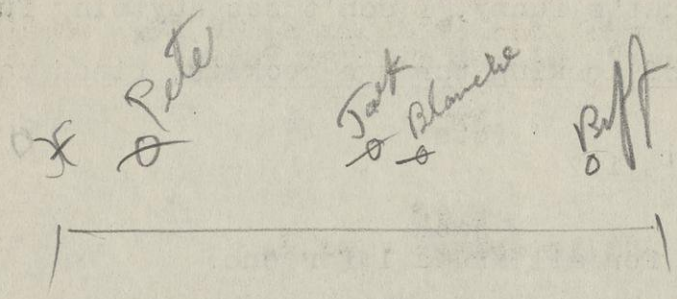
All right, I'll keep it, so I'm notworth a nickel a week.

Biff

He's going to give me a note to a piano mover.

Pete

Do you think we ought to do this?


Pete
Jack
Blanche
Buff

Jack
Try and stop us. Oh Biff don't you think we ought to have a little change?

Biff
Oh, pardon me, I was just thinking about it. Here's $50.00 for you Jack; here's $50.00 for you Pete.

Pete
No thanks.

Biff
And I'll take a little change myself.

(Off stage) Blanche enter L.2.E.
Thank you very much, good night! Oh, I'm so sorry boys.

(As Biff is counting out money, Blanche enters)

Jack
Oh, its all right Blanche, it's all right.

Biff
Say Blanche when you see Mr. Jolson, you give him this wallet and tell him if there is anything missing, we will make everything all right in Salt Lake City.

Jack
Maybe.

Blanche
Well what does this mean?

Biff
Don't ask any questions, everything is sweet and pretty.

Blanche
I will not say goodbye, but good night and good luck.
(X R. Exits) R.U.E.

All
God bless you.
(Business of Biff looking in Jolson's pockets, picking out three cigars)

Biff
Have a cigar Jack?

Jack
Don't care if I do.

Biff

Have a cigar Pete.

(Pete refuses, Biff puts a cigar in Pete's mouth. Biff and Jack light Pete's cigar)

(Business of helping Pete on with his coat, brushing him, giving him his hat, offering arms, all three start for the door, upper R.) (Jolson's voice off stage "The boy gave me the wrong coat) (Three boys rush to window and climb out. Jolson makes his appearance at door) after they are out of sight

C U R T A I N

HIS LITTLE WIDOWS

ACT II

" HIS LITTLE WIDOWS "

A C T 11

Scene

Elder Lloyds residence in Salt Lake City showing exterior of house upper stage R. with large front door and two down stairs windows, five windows up stairs. Six foot wall running from upper C back of house to stage L. with big gate opened Mormon Tabernacle in distance, seen thru tree on L.

Scene #9½ Opg Act II 16 bars

Act II

~~ACT II~~

Opening Music

~~(At rise of curtain five elders are seated about the stage. ABIJAH enters L.)~~ No. 9½

ABIJAH

Brothers, brothers!

(Business of elders gathering around down stage L.C.)

Read that!

(Handing telegram)

ELDER

(Reading telegram)

What Pete Lloyd is really coming to fill the conditions of his late uncle's will.

ABIJAH

He is and on the last day of the time limit. Bid the efficiating Elder to be ready to perform the wedding ceremony and be secret about it, brother!

ELDER

Aye, that we must be.

ABIJAH

The Mother Church has already heard rumors of our secession.

ELDER

Not secession brother, only loyalty to the old ideas.

ABIJAH

And the beautiful institution of plural marriage.

ELDERS

Yea, verily!

ABIJAH

But we must be cautious. The day is not ripe when we can shake the dust of this city from our feet and form a community of our own in far off Mexico. And if we could persuade Peter Lloyd to join us, think what it would mean with his three millions. I must inform the widows of the approaching nuptials.

(Goes to door of house and rings bell)

(Lucinda appears at upstairs window)

ABIJAH

Lucinda, inform your sisters of the glad tidings, the bridegroom cometh.

LUCINDA

Well, thank the Lord he has shown up.

ABIJAH
Ssh! This eagerness is unseemly.
(Raising hand to Elders)

LUCINDA
Oh, is that so. Well it may be unseemly to you Abijah Smith, but we are used to being married, we like to have a man about the house.

ABIJAH
Do not I visit thee often Sister?

LUCINDA
When it comes to a choice between a nice young husband with three millions, or being sent to live on the charity of the church, we don't have to stretch our imagination to know what we want.

ABIJAH
Remember Lucinda, you are to induce this young man to join our Loyal Community.

LUCINDA
See here Abijah. You produce the young man and I'll do the rest. You know me as a staunch believer in plural marriage. What's he like?

ABIJAH
Oh, he is very unlike your late lamented.

LUCINDA
Well, that's some comfort anyway.

ABIJAH
But be not too affectionate, the lad is young and bashful. It might be well to veil your face.

LUCINDA
Well, I like that.

ABIJAH
He may not.

LUCINDA
What's the matter with my face?

ABIJAH
Modesty is a great virtue sister.
(Look to Elders)

LUCINDA
Yes, but it is not what widows bank on.
(Closes window)

ABIJAH

I have instructed the young man to meet me here. I will enter and await him, Brothers!

(Exits into house. As door closes a laugh is heard by girls off stage left. Elder goes up the wall, looks over and comes down turns and says) Music through dialogue Starts here

ELDER

What's that? Can I believe my eyes?

(Laugh off stage)

Strange women, Brothers!

(Coming down R.C.)

Dinna look, it is blasphemy.

ELDERS

Aye, verily.

(Laugh outside)

ELDER

Ssh! Brother Abijah.

~~(Business of Elders looking over wall. Girls sing outside)~~

Girls (Climb on wall on other side of wall)

ELDERS

This is the best that we ever struck
This is the time that we are in luck.
Though we are married
We're still in the ring.

Girls

Oh you naughty thing!

(Slapping elders on wrists)

This is the place that we want to stay.

ELDERS

We hope that you will never go away,
We are quite willing your friends to be,

(Girls come down off wall and enter L.)

(Two girls enter L. run up to Elders who are looking over wall and girls dance on from L. singing)

Girls and Boys and Elders

This is the best that I ever struck,
This is the time that we are in luck.

ABIJAH

Though I am married
I am still in the ring.

Girls

Oh! you naughty thing,
This is the place that we want to stay.

ELDERS

We hope that you never will go away,
The time of your dear life we'll give,
Come along, Come along, Come along.

Girls
Oh you naughty thing!
This is the place that we want to stay.

ELDERS
We hope that you never will go away.

Girls
We'd be contented here for all our lives.
Come along, Come along, Come along.

music continues to here

Abijah
May I ask fair damsels what you would here.

1st Girl
We're the girls from the "Sorceress" Co.
(Turning to the tallest elder)
And may I ask who you are?

Elder
The Loyal Community of Ancient Mormons.
(Laughter among girls)

2nd Girl
Mormons! Oh! so this is a harem.
(Business of Elders trying to shut the girls up)

Abijah
Not so loud, pretty dears.

1st Girl
You will find us pretty dear before you are through with us.

Abijah
Wouldst have a husband, little one?

2nd Girl
I can find plenty of husbands, I am looking for a single man.

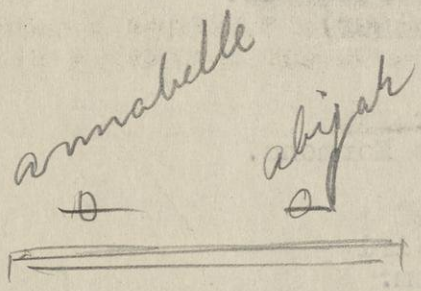
Abijah
Ah! But in our community all men are eligible.

Elders
Aye, verily.

Abijah
Whenever a man gets a revelation he takes a helpmeet.

1st Girl
It works the other way where we come from.

Abijah
Yea.


annabelle
abijah

1st Girl

Yea. Whenever a man takes a helpmeet he gets a revelation.

Abijah

Oh you revelation.

(Business of Elders turning and walking up-stage)

Brothers! Brothers!

(To girls)

Repair thee to thy hotel where I will join thee presently and we will hold sweet converse.

(Girls start to exit and as last girl goes she does a hula dance. Abijah imitates. Elders come down, Abijah turns and says)

Entertain well the little dancing damsels from the East who knows they may be right for conversion.

(Elders exit L.) (Abijah starts to dance around stage, Annabelle enters R x's to C. and Annabelle speaks)

Annabelle

Abijah!

Abijah

Ah, sister Annabelle.

Annabelle

(Making little courtesy)

Abijah

Hast heard the glad tidings. Thy bride-groom cometh.

Annabelle

Oh please! Please! I don't want to hear about it.

Abijah

Thou the youngest and most charming of the late lamented's wives--

Annabelle

I was never his wife. Thou knowest that very well.

Abijah

You were sealed to him for eternity, but his sudden death made you his wife in name only.

Annabelle

It isn't fair, it isn't fair, Abijah please get me out of this, let me remain a widow.

Abijah

Impossible child, do not despair, with thy charm and beauty thou canst easily become his favorite wife.

Annabelle

I don't want to, I won't, you'll see.

Abijah

Sister Annabelle, wait and see the young man and you'll be sorry for not having taken my advice.

Annabelle

That is always the way with you old folks, you are continually giving advice, why? exit to R.

Abijah

Well, possibly because we are too old to set a bad example. exit to House R.

(Enter Biff and Jack L.)

Jack

There he goes, go after him Biff, hurry up.

(Biff sits on the sun dial breathless, Jack pulls him up)

Biff

Say look here, why don't you run yourself.

Jack

I have got to see Abijah and arrange matters, I only have a few hours.

Biff

And you have me running all over the State of Utah.

Jack

Beat it; you big walrus. (exit R. 2. Biff)

(Enter Abijah from the house, seeing Jack)

Abijah

Ah you!

Jack

Well here I am, been looking all over for you, didn't expect to see me here did you, well I'm Johnny on the spot.

Abijah

Well, what of thy friend, Pete Lloyd.

Jack

He will be here just as soon as Biff can catch him, I should say find him.

Abijah

I judged from our conversation in New York that there might be some uncertainty about his willingness to accept the terms of his uncle's will.

Jack

Uncertainty! Oh no, he cheerfully agrees to everything, and the widows Lloyd, they live here?

Abijah

This is their abode.

Jack

Pete is going to like this place. Can we sign the agreement right now?

Abijah

This is simply a preliminary meeting to allow the contracting parties to become acquainted.

Jack

Preliminary?

Abijah

Yes.

Jack

When does the real fight come off?

Abijah

Fight? Oh!
(Tickle him in the ribs)
He must marry the widows by eight o'clock tonight or the entire fortune reverts to the Mormon Church.

Jack
What's the idea of your boosting this marriage along? And you a Mormon?

Abijah
Can you keep a secret?

Jack
I am bursting with them now.

Abijah
In the event of my inducing Pete Lloyd to go through with this ceremony, I am to receive $50,000., according to the terms of the will.

Jack
Say no more, I get you.
(Turning L.)
This is an open game.

Abijah
Are you quite sure that the young man will go through with it?

Jack
Of course, he will, he is keen for it.
(Looking off R.)
See here he is coming now, joyfully, gaily.
(Biff and Pete are talking off stage R.) (Biff drags Pete on)

Biff
Come on in here.
(Pete seeing Abijah starts across to him, saying "These men--)

Pete
These men are trying to force me --
(Jack steps in front of him)

Jack
Don't mind a word he says.

Biff
He's a little train sick, he'll be all right for the wedding.
(To Pete)
Come, buck up, old man -- you promised you'd go through with it. Remember our creditors.

Abijah
What is this? Thy friend seems to be here under protest.

Jack
Protest, nothing of the kind. He was afraid he wasn't going to get here in time. Now, as you are the executioner -- I mean executor of his uncle's will -- we hereby state that we have produced according to the terms of the will, mark thee, the party of the first part.

$ insert Here.
Marigold - Wisteria - Golden Rod
Peach blooms Mayblossom and
Tulip - Dahlia - -

Biff

And having produced said party, we would like a little advance.

Pete

Yes, yes, that's what we want, an advance?

Abijah

You would like a little money, all in good time, all in good time, brother.
(To Pete)
Young man, have you considered this matter seriously?

Pete

I haven't slept a wink since you left New York.

Abijah

Thou hast decided to marry the widows?

Pete

For the second time, how many of her is she?

Abijah

Thou shalt see for thyself --
(Music cue)
Even now they come.
(Widows come in one by one, calls them by names of flowers)
(The last one enters being Lucinda)
And --

Pete

And cactus.

Jack and Biff

Remember - one for all -- all for one. Exit L -

(Pete starts to exit, but is stopped by Abijah. Abijah takes Pete center)

Abijah
Sisters, I commend to your fond love and protection your future husband, Peter Lloyd!

Widows
Husband! (all curtsey)

Abijah
Where are Marilla and Annabelle?

Pete

My God, are there more?

Lucinda

They refuse to come.

Abijah

Then I will go and chasten their mutinous spirits.

Pete

Don't leave me alone.

Abijah

I leave thee with thy new found joys, peace be with you, come sisters.

Lucinda

I prefer to remain.

Pete

If you go, take her with you.

Abijah

As you wish sister. exit to R-

Lucinda to pete

I want to go with you.

Pete

If you do you'll have to go some.
(Pete runs off L. widows follow saying)

Widows

Husband, Husband.

Lucinda

(Runs to Court, gets butterfly catcher)
Well he won't get away from me.
(Exit L.)

(Enter MARILLA and ABIJAH from the house) R

Marilla

Well I hope he runs all the way back to New York.

Abijah
That's not the proper spirit, sister. (R.C)

Marilla (C)
Well, I want you to understand right now if you make me marry Peter Lloyd, I will run away too.

Abijah
Why not see the young man, and give him a chance, Marilla?

Marilla
I won't give him a chance, I will give him the certainty of a lot of trouble if he marries me.

Abijah
That will not deter him. When a man marries he expects trouble.

Marilla
Besides I don't fancy being one of eleven wives.

Abijah
Now Marilla, in matrimony you never get what you fancy. But be not discouraged, with your charms and beauty you could easily become his favorite wife.
(Annabelle has entered out of the house, overhears the conversation)

Annabelle
Oh Elder Abijah, that's just what you said to me. R of Aby-

Marilla

Oh, he did?

Abijah

Did I? I believe I did. Well, both of you could become his favorite wives.

Marilla
I absolutely refuse to marry him, but if I did I would be his favorite.

Annabelle

That would be for his her to decide.

Marilla

Allright, you can have him all for yourself.

Annabel

But I don't want him.

Marilla

But I freely give him to you.

Annabel

And I freely give him back to you.

Abijah

There he is! Now Marilla see the way you have affected this dear sweet meek dove Annabelle.

Marilla

Oh, you don't know Annabel.

Annabel

Sister I like not thy tone.

Marilla

Oh piffle!

Annabel

I would not use such language as "piffle"

Abijah

Oh there is nothing quite so dreadful as "piffle" Remember the proverb my sisters, "a soft answer turneth away wrath."
(Annabel crosses to Marilla and they embrace)

Annabel

Oh Marilla.

Marilla

Annabel!

Abijah

How is mere man to understand women when they don't understand themselves.

Marilla

Oh but we do understand ourselves perfectly.

Annabel

It would be well for you to understand that we will never marry him (Exit L.)

Abijah

There are depths to Annabel. Marilla I would a word with thee.
(Marilla crosses R. and snaps finger in Abijah's face)
Marilla I like not thy manner, nor thy conversation, thy snapping nor thy "piffle" I always said it was wrong for thy parents to send thee East to be educated, thou art a bad, naughty, naughty little girl.
(Abijah exits in house, Marilla sitting on porch lower right says)

Marilla

Oh, I'm so miserable, so miserable!
(Music cue)

"I NEED SOMEONE'S LOVE" #11

No one to love and kiss me --
No one I know will miss me --
I need someone's sympathy
~~I'm sighing, I'm almost dying~~ → I know there is someone somewhere
~~For someone~~ who could care for me.
Somebody

REFRAIN

I'm so ~~xxxx~~ sad and blue,
Oh, so lonely too,
Won't somebody pity me,
Take my part -- take my heart?
Someone there must be,
Who could care for me.
Treasure me all else, above,
I need someone's love!

(At the end of song JACK enters, talking to himself)

Jack

Three glittering glorious millions.
(Sits on sun-dial, hears Marilla weeping softly, looks about as if to find a kitten, sees Marilla)

Jack

Why, what's the matter little girl?

Marilla

I'm not a little girl, I'm a woman.

Jack

Why, so you are, I could tell that by your crying. Is there anything I can do - who is making you miserable?

Marilla

Everybody.

Hack

That's the man I am after. What's his name?

Marilla

(Business, mumbling)

Jack

Oh, a foreigner?
(Marilla starts to go in the house)
Please don't go.

Marilla

But I don't know you, sir.

Jack

That's easily remedied, my name is Grayson, Jack Grayson.

Marilla

I suppose you are a friend of that horrid, mercenary Pete Lloyd, who has come out here to marry his uncle's widows. I think it's shameful.
(Coming down steps R.)

Jack

Shameful, it's cruel. Have you seen the widows?

Marilla

Why yes, I know them.

Jack

Then you understand? I think this mormon business is terrible.

Marilla

I hate it, I hate the whole thing.

Jack

Of course you do, I could tell that by looking at you.

Marilla

I hate men.

Jack

I could tell that by looking at you too.

Marilla

How?

Jack

Because only pretty girls can afford to hate men.

Marilla

Oh!

Jack

So you're a manhater? Perhaps you haven't seen the right kind.

Marilla

Oh yes, I have, I was educated East.

Jack

And you like Eastern men?

Marilla

Ah-ah!

Jack

Say, let's sit down and talk this thing over.
(Marilla starts to shy away, turns and sits down)

Marilla

What are you doing here?

Jack

O--I'm a missionary, a matrimonial missionary, and I have a feeling that if you will put yourself in my hands I can do something for you. Do you know from the very first moment I saw you there was something went wrong with me here, something--
(Marilla turns her head and sighs)
I'm slipping. I never saw such eyes, never -- I give you my word.

Marilla

You mustn't talk to me like that and you mustn't look at me like that.

Jack

The way your hair curls around your cute little white ear, it is turning pink now --

Marilla

What, my hair?

Jack

No, your little ear.

Marilla

(Puts her hand on the sun-dial)
I think you're awful.

Jack

I never felt this way before. Is that your hand? I found it lying there, you know I could tell it is your hand by all the pretty little fingers on it.

Marilla

You mustn't, please let me pass.

Jack

Pass with the hand I'm holding?

Marilla

You mustn't -- please let go my hand.
(Business of putting other hand in Jack's)

Jack

I think you are wonderful, May I ask your name?

Marilla

Marilla.

Jack

Now, isn't that funny, I always wanted to meet a girl called Marilla, in fact I have always said if I met a girl with a name like that, I should love her.
(Business of kissing her hand)
I am gone! What are you doing tonight?

#11½ to Refrain of "I Want Someone's Love"

(Song and dance and Marilla exits into the house. Jack stands at door and says)

Jack

I love her, I love her, I am mad about her.
(Biff enters L.)

Biff

How do you get that way? Well, I like that. Here I've been running all over this town in pursuit of duty and you -- you--

Jack

Biff! I have met the most wonderful girl in the world. I am going to marry her. Biff she is wonderful. She's marvelous.

(Both saying)

She is a doggone dangerous girl.

Jack

Oh shut up.

Biff

Can you beat that, here is Pete running around loose and here we have only a couple of hours to get all these millions and you are yelping around about a skirt. What does it matter whom you marry? That isn't going to get us a dime. You have no sense of duty as I have. I'm going on the trail again. I'm Pete's friend, I wouldn't desert him for the most beautiful girl in the world as tired as I am.

(As he has been talking to Jack, he goes toward L. and turning he meets Annabelle who has entered) L. 2.

No sir--not for--not for--

(He watches Annabelle as she X's with downcast eyes)

For Heaven's sake, get on the job, and find Pete. I got to rest. Oh Daddy, Oh Jack you will have to find Pete.

(Sinks on bench)

Jack

I'm going -- I'm going.

(Annabelle rises and X's to R. meets Jack C.) who-

(Raises hat)

Excuse me, miss---

(Annabelle courtesies and passes him silently)

Jack

How do you do? Oh! good-bye.

(As Annabelle X's)

Oh that's it is it? That's right be foolish, be foolish, gee its great to be foolish.

Biff

(Motions Jack off stage)

(Annabelle fans herself on bench R.)

Rather warm, today?

(You are seated on bench upper R.)

Annabelle

(Turns in her chair)

(Her back to Biff)

Biff

No, getting colder, I notice, we are going to have snow. Excuse me.

(Starts to X stage L.)

(Stop about C.)

Annabelle

A-hem! A-hem!

(Biff makes quick turn and looks at her inquiringly)

Biff

Oh, not my signal--guess I'm on the wrong switch.

(Turns to go again)

Annabella

Ahem!

Biff

Did you speak?

Annabella

Nay, verily brother, I spoke not.

Biff

Sure you didn't say something?

Annabelle

Nay!

Biff

There's a bad cough lost 'round here some place.

(Comes close to her)

Thank you I'll move right in. Haven't I met you some place before?

Annabelle

I know not brother, Hast thou?

Biff

I don't know, hast?

Annabelle

Thou hast a good face, brother.

Biff

What!! It is a bit full.

Annabelle

And thy form is divine.

Biff

Say what are you doing, kidding me?

Annabelle

I know not thy strange language brother, but thou pleaseth me.

Biff
You are the cutest little apple dumpling I ever did see (aside now for some fast work.) What are you doing tonight?

Annabelle
Maybe thou art strange here?

Biff
I was at first but I am getting along nicely now.

Annabelle
But if thou be a stranger -- we must not talk together.

Biff
All right, we won't talk together, we'll each take turns.
(He moves closer to Annabelle)

Annabelle
It seemeth I am crowding thee.

Biff
Oh, I don't mind, I rather like it.

Annabelle
Still it is not the nicest thing to do.

Biff
No, but its all right for a start.

Annabelle
Our young men sit at the opposite side of the room from our young ladies.

Biff
Do they? Our young men must be awful boobs.

Annabelle
Whence comest thou?

Biff
Gee! I love to hear you talk. I comest hence.

Annabelle
From whence?

Biff

New Yorkest.

Annabelle

New York. Oh I am so glad you come from New York. You know oft-times when my sisters are in a frivolous mind we talk of New York.

Biff

Great heavens no. You have sisters?

Annabelle

Oh yes, many.

Biff

How many?

Annabelle

Really, I have never counted them.

Biff

How do you know when they are all in?

Annabelle

Our brothers look to that.

Biff

You have brothers?

Annabelle

Oh, many.

Biff

I hope they're nice quiet fellows.

Annabelle

They are. Those that I am acquainted with.

Biff

(Rising)
Haven't you met all your brothers?

#12 ~~Insert this at end~~

~~NUMBER~~

"Kiss, Kiss, Kiss!"

(Biff and Annabelle)

off stage cries of annabelle come after number

Annabelle

Verily, no.

Biff

Oh, I am worried about you, you are apt to get lost among your family.

Annabelle

Why should you worry, a man so great and commanding.

Biff

Little girl, you are going to spoil me. (Cries off stage, "Annabelle" Annabelle")

Annabelle

Oh, I must go, they are calling me.

Biff

Not before you tell me where I'm going to see you again. Honest--I'm struck in a heap -- you've got me going.

Annabelle

Going? Yet you linger.

Biff

Sure, I am a lingerer, I'm simply stunned. I believe there is something in this affinity business. I knew the moment I saw you that -- that.
(Shouts nearer) "Annabelle! Annabelle."

Annabelle

Oh, I must go. Do not follow me.

Biff

I won't -- I'll go with you.

Annabelle

Leave me. Please leave me!

Biff

Impossible, you're the first girl who ever saw anything in me and I can't afford to lose you.

Annabelle

If you go now, I will meet you in ten minutes by yonder pond.

Biff

I am so happy now. I could kiss my dentist.
(Exit) R (Four widows enter L.)

1st widow

I can see what's going to happen to us, we will go to the church home.

2nd Widow

What do we care?

3rd Widow

I suppose the dancing girls are more his style. I wonder if there are any new dances they could teach us.

4th Widow

There never will be until we find some new animals.

#13 (Animal song by four widows) Song & ~~Lucinda~~ L.L.

(Lucinda brings Pete in L. at end of butterfly catch)

the widows rush for Pete

Pete

Help! Help! Murder!

Widows

He's mine. He's mine.

Abijah

(Coming out of house)

Sisters! Sisters! Why this unseemly riot?

Pete

Riot? It's a barbecue.

Abijah

Patience! Patience! My sisters, this thing must be done decently and in order. Enter Lucinda with two of her children L.

Peter

Tellthem I refuse. I give up everything. I don't want the money. I want peace.

Abijah

What, you refuse after seeing these beautiful pledges of love?

Pete

They're not my pledges.

Lucinda

Peter. I am only a delicate woman but I am a woman of determination. If you will trust me, I will stand by you to the death.

(Annabelle steals off R.)

Pete

Oh! Death where is thy sting?

Lucinda

Come on husband.

Pete

But, I am not your husband and won't be.

Lucinda
Can you look me in the eye and say that?

Pete
When I look you in the eye I can't say anything.
(To Abijah)
But I can say to you as the trustee of my uncle's estate you can give the money to the Mormon Church. I can't go on with it.

Lucinda
(Frigidly)
Mr. Lloyd, one word before we go. When I was a young girl in Calais, Maine, my maiden aunt presented me with a small pink card on which was printed the following in gold letters: "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned." Before I am through with you, you will realize the truth of the quotation.
(To widows)
Come my sisters.
(Widows start off) (To Pete)
Do not forget that a woman never forgives.
(Exits dramatically with her children, preceded by the other widows. Pete stands helplessly looking after her)

Abijah
My son, I am shocked.

Pete
Well, I got a few volts myself.

Abijah
To think that you should refuse these fragrant blossoms of love.

Pete
I don't like flowers, I never did.

Abijah
So young, so tender.

Pete
Young, tender. How about the cactus?
(Enter JACK)

Jack
Are you going to back out again?

Pete
No, I am not going to back in, no, I pass, the limit is too high, take the pot you win.

Abijah
Peter, pause and consider the wonderful advantages of plural marriage.

Pete

Just name one of them.

Jack

Tell him Abijah.

Abijah

There are many which one wouldst like to know?

Jack

How many wives have you?

Abijah

Fifteen.

Jack

Fifteen, how old are you?

Abijah

54.

Jack

Fifteen wives and 54 years old and look at him.

Pete

They'll get him in time.

Abijah

Besides, thy life is not blighted with monotony. Thou canst dwell at ease in many different homes out here.

Pete

That can also be done in New York.

Jack

Pete, you are taking this thing entirely too serious. You will get used to it.

Pete

Well if it's so good, why don't you come in on it?

Abijah

Think of the joy of being greeted by your eleven dears when you come homeat close of day?

Pete

Suppose you don't come homeat close of day, suppose you come home at opening of day?

Abijah

That's a joy I never experienced.

Pete

Can you imagine an argument with eleven wives over some

trivial matter as staying out late at night? It is hard enough to frame a story for one.

Jack
But now don't you see, you don't need to stay out.

Abijah
Besides if thou dost, there is a law of our sect that no wife shall speak to her husband unless first spoken to.

Pete
Well that's the best thing you've said.

Jack
You see it does look better.

Pete
Yes, but it has to look a whole lot better.

#14

"A WIFE FOR EACH DAY IN THE WEEK"

1.

Abijah-Now women as a sex, the little darlings,
Abijah-In wisdom, charm and beauty yield to none,
Jack---All the virtues, they have had 'em.
Jack---Since the days of Eve and Adam.
Pete---But you can't expect to find 'em all in one.
Jack---Every man is looking for the perfect woman --
Jack---To find her is the problem of his life.
Jack---But the wisest proposition.
Abijah-Is to get her by addition,
Pete---In other words, a "combination wife".

REFRAIN

Abijah-One wife for Monday, a shy little miss,
Jack---One wife for Tuesday, who's bold,
Abijah-One wife for Wednesday, to cuddle and kiss,
Pete---Pick me out one for Thursday, who's cold!
Abijah-One wife for Friday, your money to save,
Jack---For Saturday's wifey to spend!
Pete---And Sunday --?
All----On Sundays with all you will have
A nice quiet homelike week-end.

11.

Abijah-Now if some day your taste inclines to high-brows,
Abijah-You talk of Shaw with clever number Three;
Pete---But the moment conversation,
Pete---Fails to meet the situation,
Jack---Call up Four and taxi to a tango-tea!

Abijah-When at number Two's you find the dinner hopeless,
Jack---It never needs to worry you at all,
Abijah-If the soup is not nutritious,
Abijah-You will find the fish delicious,
ABJ&Jack-At Number Six's just across the hall!

REFRAIN

Abij--One wife for Monday, the washing to do,
Jack--One wife for Tuesday, to mend,
Abij--One wife for Wednesday, to bill and to coo,
Pete--And on Thursday I'll have one to lend!
Abij--One wife for Friday, to send you away,
Jack--With Saturday's wife to play golf,
Pete--And Sunday--?
All---To church with them all on that day--
Pete--I see where I take a day off! for Encore 3rd Verse

(Elders enter L. Officiating Elder speaks)

Abijah

Brother!

Elders

I have come to perform the sacred rites of matrimony.

Abijah

The young man is ready.
(~~Enter brothers~~)
(Elders enter into the house)

Pete

Who are they, the grave diggers?

Abijah

Peter, the widows await thee.

Jack

'Tis a far far better thing you do than you have ever done.
(Shaking hands with Pete)

Pete

'Tis a far far better rest that I go to than I have ever known.
(Exits R. turns and sees Jack and Abijah congratulating each other. Abijah and Jack enter into the house)
(Enter BIFF and ANNABELLE R.)

Biff

If you hadn't shown up, you know I would have stayed in that pond water and all.

Annabelle

Oh brother, thou art too rash thou must be more patient.

Biff
I am too impatient, it's getting me nervous.

Annabelle
Oh do I make thee nervous brother?

Biff
Sweetie, I am so nervous that if I didn't have hold of you I would fall right down.

Annabelle
Oh brother.

Biff
Oh sister. (Embraces her)
(Enter Jack from house) R

Jack
Biff, Biff, Pete is going through with it, I've got him inside, I've got him cinched.

Biff
Oh, Jack, go away, I am nervous.

Jack
Nothing can stop him now, $3,000,000 and I am the one you can all thank.

Marilla Enter from house
Jack--Mr. Grayson, please don't let him take me--

Jack
Take you? Why, Pete is going to marry the widows, I fixed that.

Marilla
But I am one of his widows.

Jack
Oh, this is awful and I made him promise. Biff, Biff, my Marilla is one of Pete's widows.

Biff
Well really that's too bad, I'm awfully sorry.

Marilla
Annabelle that horrid Peter Lloyd has consented to marry us.

Biff
Marry us?

"THAT CREEPY WEEPY FEELING"
(I Loved You The Moment We met)

Ist Verse

Say did you feel as I did when I met you?
Of course I knew at once my heart was won
So surely Fate would never separate,
Two hearts that have begun to beat as one

CHORUS

Somehow, I feel that creepy weepy leapy feeling
Somewhere, within my heart a kind of smart is stealing,
Someone, just looked straight into my eyes,
X Somehow it lifted me up to paradise,
Somehow I like that creepy, weepy, leaping feeling,
Somewhere, within my heart a kind of smart is stealing,
Someday I know I'll get you yet,
For I loved you the moment we met.

2nd VERSE

Don't go away for I can't live without you,
I'll never leave you dearie, that I vow
Do not forget that moment when we met,
I seem to feel that creepy feeling yet.

~~X Some glimpse for me of real love~~
X See lyrics of Prairie Land

Annabelle
Oh brother, I couldn't bear to tell thee, but I am one of his widows too.

Biff
You are. Great scott, this is impossible. Jack, Jack, what do you think, Annabelle is one of Pete's widows.

Jack
You don't say so, too bad, too bad.

Biff
This thing has got to stop. Annabelle and I are in love, we fell in love with each other right in the pond. Pete has got to back out.

Jack
You bet he has, I won't allow it.

Biff
One for all.

Jack
And we for ourselves.

Marilla
And we for ourselves.
(Xing to Annabelle)

#15 Number ~~"CREEPY WEEPY FEELING"~~ ~~(For lyric See opposite page)~~
Annabelle, Marilla, Jack + Biff
(Enter Blanche and Jolson) L 2

Blanche
Boys I call this disgraceful, don't you know there is a rehearsal called for tonight and that we are opening here tomorrow--

Jack
Blanche I hate---

Jolson
Say what do you think I am running here, a matrimonial agency.

Biff and Jack
Oh get away, fade away.

Jolson
Not on your life, you fellows forced yourselves into my Company and I stood for it. Well it won't go, see. This is what I get, all my chorus girls chasing around town with a bunch of undertakers. How do you think I am going to put my show over?

Blanche

Never mind that now.
(To the boys)
Where is Pete and who are these girls?

Biff

Well if you want to know they are two of the girls that Pete is going to marry tonight.

Blanche

What?

Jolson

Two?

Blanche

Pete marrying?

Marilla

We don't want to marry him.

Jack and Biff

Of course they don't, you can see that.

Annabelle

I think he ought to be satisfied with the other nine.

Jolson

Nine?

Blanche

Nine? If this is your idea of a joke, its a pretty poor one.

Jack

Blanche, its no joke, Pete has to marry his uncle's widows to get $3,000,000.

Jolson

Three million what?

Biff

Dollars.

Blanche

I don't believe it.

Jolson

He is going to get $3,000,000 and I have been treating him like a regular chorus man.

Biff

Yes you fat head.

Jolson

Fat head is right.
(Sits on sun-dial)

Blanche

I don't believe he'll do it. You are trying to force him into it. Where is he?

Jack

In the house.

Blanche

I'll rescue him.

Jack

I'll attend to that.

Blanche

The thing is illegal anyway, I will inform the authorities.

Pete

(Enters out of the house)
Blanche! Blanche!

Blanche

Pete, you shall not do this dreadful thing.

Peter

Oh you know I don't want to Blanche.

Jack

Just a moment Pete, you'll excuse us Blanche.
(Take Pete down to C.)
Now Pete, Biff and I have been thinking this thing over seriously.

Biff

Yes, we have had a heart to heart talk.

Jack

And we both realize that we haven't been fair to you.

Biff

No, we've been selfish andwe admit it, andwe are asking too much of you.

Pete

Wait, wait, I don't know what you are both talking about, or what you are driving at, but when you are all through, I am going to be the loser, ain't I?

Jack

Well -

Biff

Yes.

Pete

I thought so. Well now that we understand each other, what do you want me to do?

Jack

We have decided that your happiness is at stake Pete and we wouldn't be friends to stand by and see you marry all these widows.

Pete

Well what's struck you fellows?

Biff

We simply couldn't do it.

Jack

And in any event you are not going to marry these eleven widows. It's too much.

Biff

Yes, ten is enough for any man.

Jack

Nine are enough.

Pete

What does it all mean?

Blanche

It means they have fallen in love with these two widows of yours.

Pete

Ahem and the two prettiest ones too, so that's it, is it? Get away from my wives you home breakers.

Jack and Biff

Home breakers?
(Jumping up)

Pete

You were all for the creditors when it didn't hit you, weren't you and now it's different, well the creditors can go hang.

Jack

They can before you marry my Marilla.

Biff

Or my Annabelle.

Jolson

Wait a minute everybody, what is there in it for me if I get Pete out of this marriage and land the cash too?

Jack

The Noble Peace Prize.

Pete

$10,000.

Jolson

All right, you're on. Now here's the scheme. Let Pete go through with the wedding stunt. I'll go and put the United States Authorities next and as soon as the knot is tied they will breeze in here and declare the whole thing illegal, See.

Jack

Great!

Biff

Immense.

Blanche

No, no.

Jack

Why not? They will expressly states that the money is to be handed over to Pete the moment he marries the widows, but he doesn't have to live with them, see, its a whale.

Marilla

But if you inform the United States Authorities we will all be arrested.

All

Oh beans!

Annabelle

Wait, wait! You only have to get word to some high authority of the church. Now there's Mr. Bayard lives just down the road the third house. Pointing L.

Marilla

Oh yes, get him. He inforces the new laws. He will have the marriage annulled quietly.

Jack

That's the idea, are you game Peter?

Pete
Well it sounds fine, are you positive they will annul it immediately?

Annabelle
Oh yes, they have done it before. But don't let Abijah hear about it.

Jack
Abijah will never stand for any annulment, there's too much in it for him.

Pete
Remember the oath.

Blanche
I don't like this.

Biff
We haven't any time for argument.

Jack
It's a cinch.

Pete
So was Cousin Kate Copper, but I believe Jolson's right. I don't know why we didn't think of this before. All right, I'll take a chance.

Jack
Fine, Trot along Jolson and show up here promptly with that Bayard guy at 8:00 o'clock.

Pete
If you are late, good-bye to that $10,000.

Jolson
Never fear little one, when I undertake a thing I always do it, I'll be here three minutes to eight.

Jack
Don't come too soon, remember he has got to be married in order to get that money.

Jolson
All right, eight o'clock sharp. I'll be here with bells on. exit L.

Jack
Make them wedding bells.

Lucinda
I'll find him. (Off Stage)

~~X during dialogue moments~~

~~Swing off stage~~

~~of~~ Enter Elders L 2 S.

Elders

" " " " " Blanche

Jack

Biff

Pete

Cactus.

(Marilla and Jack hide up stage, Biff and Annabelle down stage R.)

Lucinda Enter from House

Why Peter I left you resting.

Pete

I am still resting.

Lucinda

Annabella, Marilla what does this mean, you should be decked for the bridal.

(Annabelle and Marilla exit)

Come Peter your clothes are ready.

(Drags Pete into the house) R U.C.

(Music starts off stage, wedding march)

Blanche

(Coming down stage)

Oh what time is it?

Jack

10 minutes to eight. Looking at watch ~~Ø~~

Biff

Good Lord, I had no idea it was so late. go up to window R

~~Abijah~~ Elder X exit to House R

Brothers summon the brides.

Jack

They are all assembling, I think they are going to do it now.

Blanche

Oh, its dreadful, no money in the world is worth it.

Biff

(Looking in at window)

There's my little dumpling, they are putting a rotten wedding veil on her.

Jack

Oh my Marilla, this is agonizing.

Blanche

There is no use, I won't do it, I won't stand here and see Pete made a sacrifice of, for the sake of money. I am going on there. I am going to protest. X to House R

(Business of Jack and Biff interrupting her)

Biff
I tell you these old geezers are not to be interfered with.

Jack
Abijah as good as told me if we squealed we would have our flesh torn from our withered bones.
(~~Music cue~~)
(~~Abijah off stage~~.

Biff
We have just got to wait for that Bayard fellow and Pete has got to be married to get that money.
Abijah off stage - to music #16
Silence all, the time is near.
So let the happy groom appear.
(Singing of wedding music inside of the house)

Blanche
Oh, look, I can't see if Pete is there.

Jack
They are bringing him in now, he is as white as a sheet.
Wedding music sung in house
See the happy, happy, bridggroom,
Proudly he appears to meet his dears,

His own now

See the happy, happy bridegroom
Happy be this day, make way,
Here comes the groom,
Here comes the groom,
~~Jot~~ Joy to him alone we are singing now.

GIRLS
See the happy, happy, happy bridegroom,
Proudly, proudly happy he appears,
He comes to meet his dears,
See the happy, happy groom,
Here comes the groom. Here comes the groom. Here comes the groom.
We're singing joy to him alone.

Biff
Cactus is holding him up.

Jack
Is he married and burned? He is kissing my Marilla.

Blanche
What time is it?

Jack
Six minutes to eight.

Biff
He has switched to Annabelle.

Jack
Biff, Biff, we are both even, Lucinda is kissing him.

Blanche
Its all over now, they have pronounced them man and wives.
(Elders come out of house saying)

Elders
Good night brothers, good-night sisters.
(Followed by Lucinda and Abijah)

Lucinda
Thank you brotner for making the ceremony short, I don't think our husband would have lasted through a long one.

Abijah
Guard well your husband this night, I like not the desperate look in his eyes.

Lucinda
Fear not brother, the young man shall not be wanting for comfort.

Abijah
I get you sister.
(Abijah exits L. Lucinda goes into room)

Blanche
I wonder what's keeping Jolson.

Jack
What are we standing around here for, why don't we do something? Think of Pete up there with all those widows.

Biff
I am thinking, I could be arrested for what I'm thinking.

Blanche
Get an officer.

Jack
Yes, get a cop.

Biff
That's right, you go to town and dog one up.

(Noise of touring car)

Jack

He's coming!

Biff

I knew it! What did I tell you?

Jack

Come on, Jolson old boy!

Pete

(Entering from house)

I'm married. Where's the annuller?

Jack

It's all right, Pete -- here he is.

Blanche

Hurry up!

Jack

Come seven, come eleven!

(Enter cop)

Cop

Are you fellows waiting for a guy named Jolson?

Jack

Yes.

Pete

Where is he?

Cop

Pinched for speeding. He's in for the night.

Pete

Oh lord!

Lucinda

(Coming from house)

Come husband.

(Grabs Pete. Wedding music to bring down curtain)

Curtain.

#17

Jack
What, while Pete's in there with my Marilla, go yourself.

Biff
And desert my apple dumpling.

Blanche
You are two of the most selfish boys I ever saw, I'll go myself. Oh Pete.

Biff
Oh Annabelle.

Jack
Oh Marilla.

All
(Shaking fists toward L.)
Oh Jolson'.

opposite page

Pete
(Opening window)
What's the delay?

Jolson
(Running on L.)
I got back as soon as I could. Is he married yet?

All
Yes.

Pete
Where's the annuller?

Jolson
He has left for New York.

Elders
"Aye, verily"

Wedding Music

CURTAIN

Bks made -
Parts to be made

HIS LITTLE WIDOWS

ACT III

merillo

HIS LITTLE WIDOWS

ACT III

Interior of Lloyd's residence showing the stairs leading up to the window room. Down stage around balcony. Two large doors upper C. Door to bedroom R. Door to dining room L. Door U.R. Entrance to the Garage back of dr

No. 10

OPENING ACT III

$ L.P.A.B.J.B

Pete: Now I've wedded all of you,
I fear I cannot fight it through,
I'm not that kind of a man at all,
For I was pushed- I did not fall,
Into this Mormon Harem.

Widows: We'll be there ev'ry day,
With a kiss at your breakfast tray,
We'll bring our hubby his dressing gown,
Give him a hug as he's leaving for town,
If you crave for a shave,
We don't know but we'll try,
And when you are weary,
At bed-time my dearie,
We'll all sing a lullaby.
(Yawns)

Pete:- Please girls don't try,
I never go to bed, I sleep standing up instead,
So now, I vow,
And if you desire, you may retire.

2nd Verse

Widows I will read when you're blue,
Little stories of love to you,
I'll warm your slippers and brush your hair,
Make you so comfy you'll not have a care,
All the way ev'ry day,
Our faithful watch we will keep,
A cradle we'll buy you,
And all will sit nigh you,
And rock you away to sleep,
(Yawns)
You must be very weary,
My ducky, my deary,
(Yawns)

Pete:- Oh no, not so,
I really must mention,
That I don't like attention.

(Good)

Interior of Lloyds residence showing the stairs leading up to the widow rooms. Seven doors around balcony. Two large doors Upper C. Door to billiard room.R. Entrance to the dining room I. Setee stage I. with stand lamp back of it.

windows extra end of #18 to R.

#18

A C T III

(~~for lyric of opening number~~ see opposite page)

(After Opening Number - LUCINDA enters, R. C.)

Lucinda

My poor dear little husband, forgive me for leaving you so long!

(JACK, BIFF and BLANCHE enter upper L., followed by ABIJAH) through C door

Pete cross to R.C.

Jack, Biff, Blanche, ~~welcome! Welcome!~~ any news? Where's Jolson?
(Tries to embrace ~~all three~~)

~~What kept you so long?~~

Biff

He's still in jail and he ought to be. Only one thing to do and flunked it.

Abijah

We have been arguing with thy friends, brother, we have invited them to join in the wedding festivities in the hope of convincing them to join our cummunity.

~~Jolson~~

~~Not me! Don't ring me in on that cummunity thing, I've got a wife and three children now.~~

~~Abijah~~

~~A goodly start, brother!~~

~~Jolson~~

~~It will be a goodly finish if my wife hears of it!~~

Blanche

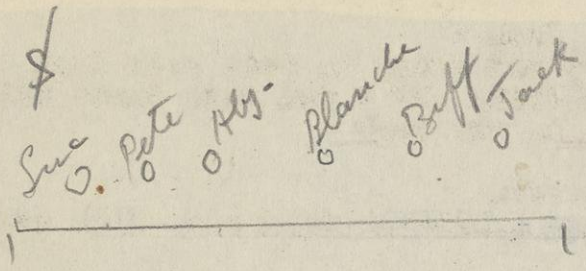
The Loyal Community is starting for Mexico tomorrow, Pete and they're going to take you with them.

Pete

I won't go! Now look here, Bije, I'm not going to Mexico.

Abijah

Thou hast brought it on thyself, brother Lloyd, by conspiring with thy friends to annul this marriage.


Sue
Pete
Aly
Blanche
Buff
Jack

Jack

Say, look here now, we're not going to join your fool community and neither is Pete. If a man with three millions can't be independent, who can?

Pete

Yes, and I want that three millions right now, I've earned it.

Abijah

Quite so, thy inheritance will be handed thee in due time.

Biff

It's due time now, by my watch!

Abijah

Do you think I go about with millions in my pocket? His stocks and bonds are in the safe deposit and will go with me to Mexico.

Pete

Yes, you can bet your life they will, if I go! According to the agreement we were to get the money as soon as he was married.

Abijah

The will states that I can use my own discretion and I have decided to pay him the money in Mexico.

Blanche

Well, now, see here. What security has he that he will get the money if he goes to Mexico?

Biff

Yes, what security has he?

Abijah

You trust me, dost thou not?

Jack and Biff

We dost not!

Blanche

Well, I do. But Pete has performed his part of the agreement by marrying the widows, and he is entitled to those three millions right now!

Abijah

Nay, nay.

Boys

Yea, yea!

Pete

It's the only way you can hold me in this house overnight.

Lucinda

Say no more, I fear you have married us for mercenary motives.

Pete

Lucinda, how can you say such a thing?

Lucinda

I am pained at this discussion, of money on our happy wedding night.

Jack

Biff, look here---aren't we a few widows shy?

Biff

Yes, that's what I've been thinking.

First Widow

Our sisters, Annabel and Murilla, have refused to join the wedding festivities.

Second Widow

They have hidden themselves in their rooms.

Jack and Biff

She's true to me!
(Running up the stairs)

Lucinda

Young man, where are you going?

Biff

Just exercising!

Jack

Just playing!

Pete

Do you mean to tell me that I've got to go to Mexico to get my money?

Blanche
If you go to Mexico, I'm going too!

All
What!!

Lucinda
Our family is rather large as it is, sister.

Abijah
What does it matter, one wife more or less?

Blanche
Why, you dear thoughtful, old daddy!

Abijah
When you speak like that I feel like taking under my protecting wing the entire female population!

Biff
This bird may be old, but he has young ideas.
(Biff and Jack exit R)

Abijah
If you say the word, thou shalt go along with me to Mexico!

Blanche
Oh, Abijah, this is so sudden!

Elder
(Enters L. C. - hurriedly)
Elder Abijah, Elder Abijah, the dancing damsels are outside of the big gate, and insist upon coming to the wedding.

Abijah
Don't let those girls in. If this marriage becomes known, we'll all be in danger of the penitentiary.

Elder
We tried to persuade them, but they wouldn't listen.

Abijah
Tell the guards to keep them out.

(Enter GIRLS, all chattering)

Pete
Go away, let me alone, what's all this?

Abijah

One moment!

Girl

Hello, grandpa!
(BUSINESS of Hula dance)

Abijah

Stop that! Who informed these damsels of this wedding?

First Girl

Why, our old Johnnies told us.

Abijah

Who told them?

Elders

We---we didn't tell them, we only said we were coming here to a wedding tonight!

Abijah

Brothers, beat it!

Second Girl

Which one is the bride?

All

Yes, trot out the bride.

Lucinda

I am the bride!

Abijah

Yes, this is the bride, the only bride. The others are the bridesmaids. Exit up c to L.

Lucinda

My husband, I am sure, is deeply gratified for this call. But now we must bid you good night.

Girls

Goodnight!!

Pete

Oh, no! I er---er let 'em stay. Let's all make a night of it.

Blanche

Oh, yes - these are all our good friends. They must stay and drink a toast to Pete's happiness.

IN CABARET LAND.

1st VERSE

Blanche

Oh, come, and you and I will Stray, along the gay White Way,
Come where it's never night, but ever day,
Come sing a Honolulu lay
Come to that land of laughter gay, A Cabaret!

CHORUS

In Cabaret land those wicked, wicky wacky girls are simply grand,
Hawaiian dames with eastside names and excelsior hair!
They dance with nothing on their feet, in lingerie of shredded wheat,
And no one knows what they sing about, and nobody cares
Don't go away, stay till break of day and hear the Eukelele play,
It gets you going no knowing what you'll do or what you will say,
When Rag Quartettes and Jassbo coons, sing melancholy, baby dollie,
hottamalie tunes,
In the land of the midnight cabaret.

2nd VERSE

Oh, come where hearts are light they say, a Lobster Square cafe,
Come where the tango queens are on display,
Arrayed in naughty negligee
Come where it's always pay, pay, pay, A Cabaret!

Lucinda

Well, perhaps 'tis as well. Come, Pete, we have dismissed all our servants for the evening. You shall help me serve the wine.

Pete

Wine? Well, it it's just the same to you, I'll take a little plain ether.

(Lucinda drags Pete off R.)

First Girl

I don't blame him, poor thing!

Widow

He'll never get away from Lucinda!

All Widows

We can't!

Second Widow

Oh, what I wouldn't give for what you girls have!

Third Widow

Just one more fling at the gay life. Just to see a cabaret again.

Blanche

You come to New York sometime, and I'll show you.

#19 (Number.....CABERET LAND) ~~(X for time see page opposite)~~

(After Number - enter JACK and BIFF - call Annabelle and Mirilla from balcony)

(ANNABELLE makes appearance 3rd door from L.)

Biff

Come on down.

Annabelle

No, I can't.

Biff

Aw, come on.

(Ad lib Biff and Annabelle)

Jack

They'll have to look quick. We're going to take you away from here.

Marilla

Where?

Jack

No place in particular — anywhere away from this gloom factory!

Biff

Gee - wouldn't I like to find a real live restaurant —

Jack

With big eats.

Biff

And a little of this!

(Dance business with Cumatilla)

Jack

And a little of this!

(Same business with Marilla)

NUMBER #20

"I'm Crazy About the Way you Dance with Me"

Biff

~~(After number)~~

Thats the idea! Come on!

Jack
The coast is clear and now is the time to make our get-a-way.

Murilla
We can't run away in these clothes.

Annabelle
No, we must dress.

Biff
No time for that now, come on.

Annabelle
Oh, I can't, you know brother, I am wedded.

Biff
Wedded, nothing - wait 'till I get to town and then we'll get a real sky-pilot.

Murilla
Oh, Jack, suppose we're seen?

← opposite page

~~Jack~~
~~It's all right, it's dark out there. Come on.~~

(All four start to exit, upper C., meeting ABIJAH coming in the door C.)

Abijah
Ah!

(All walk down stage)

There's something back of all this.
(BUSINESS of Girls coming out from behind Boys)
Playing fast and loose with your friend's wives!

Biff
It's being done!

Jack
Every day.

Biff
Nice evening. Going for a little walk. Beyond the pond, you know.

Jack

Yes; you see, we want to talk sense to these girls. They don't like Pete and we want to tell them what a good fellow he is.

Biff

Yes, we're going to put them wise to a good thing. Come on.
(Four exit, C.)

Abijah

I like it not!

Pete Enter R.

'Bijh, Bijh, call her off----

Lucinda

(Enters)
Peter, you must remember a man's wedding night is not his night out.

Enter Jack & Biff

(Noise off stage ~~as JOLSON enters with BIFF and JACK~~)

~~Jolson~~ Jack

Say---look here---what's the idea? You've got guards at the gate. They won't let ~~me~~ us out and ~~I've~~ we've got to get back to town.

Biff

Yes, what's the idea? —

Abijah

Excite not yourselves, brothers. In vulgar parlance, thou art up against it.

(BLANCHE enters, excitedly)

Blanche

Boys, do you realize we're all prisoners, here?

Pete

Prisoners?

Jack

Yes, there's a line of thugs about the place.

Abijah

Yes, I think it best to keep you here until the community is safe on its way to Mexico. In fact, I am thinking of taking you all with us.

All

What!

Jack

Do you think we're going to trot behind you like a flock of Pekinese tea-hounds? Now you take my advice and let us out of here quietly.

Biff

And when I get out I'm going to blatt out like a sheep.

Abijah

Nay, nay brother.

Biff

All right, I'll neigh then!

Abijah

When thou leavest here, thou wilt be in peaceful slumber to awaken beyond the border of Mexico. You are all here for the night,so make the best of it.

Lucinda

Our house has scant accommodations for so many guests, - but there is the billiard room, two of you would be quite comfortable on the table. The other on the bench.

Pete

Anyone can have my room!

Lucinda

No, husband---no foot shall tread those sacred precincts but yours.

(Enter ELDERS)

(To Blanche:)

We have prepared a couch for you in the dining room, Miss Hale. Now we must retire.

Pete

What do you mean, we?

Lucinda

I can plainly see our husband is weary.

Pete

Weary? I was never so wide awake in my life!

Lucinda

Goodnight, brothers, goodnight friends. Au revoir, dearest!

Pete

Au revoir, Cactus!
(To Boys)
Biff, Jack---if you must leave me alone---take her with you.

Jack

Nox vomica!
(Three exit, R.)

Pete

Take her, 'Bije, and I'll give you a half of my fortune.
(Raises hand)
"Nay verily, I beat you to it."

Abijah

Now that thy friends are safely disposed for the night, I will bid thee a fond good night.

Elders

Sweet dreams to thee.

Pete

Night-mares to you!

Elders

Peace be with you.

Pete

I don't want anyone with me, I want to be alone.

Elders

Yea, verily.

Pete

Will you ~~Please~~ stop your cheering.

Abijah

Sister Lucinda---click the latch.
(BUSINESS of latch clicking off stage - Brothers depart - exit Elders)
Ah, Peter! Thy wedding night! Coochie, coochie, cooch!!
(Exits, R.)

Pete

(Business of turning out light)
Lucinda click the latch!
(Imitating Abijah)

Lucinda

Fear not, dearest, it is locked, we shall not be disturbed.

Pete
The vampire is vamping for her prey!
(Xes C. till after Number)

Lucinda
Peter!

(aside) Pete
She has her periscope - You should be asleep by now!

Lucinda
So should you, dearie!

Pete
I'm not weary enough, besides, I never go to bed without a little game of solitaire.

Lucinda
Oh, no!

Pete
Oh, yes! I love my little game of solitaire.

Lucinda
But cards are ungodly. And we have none in the house.

Pete
Well, I always carry my own little pack.

Lucinda
Girls, girls, the time has come for concerted action. Put him to bed!
(The GIRLS rush out of rooms - take Pete bodily into his room C.)

(BIFF and JACK enter R. - they sit on bench down R.)

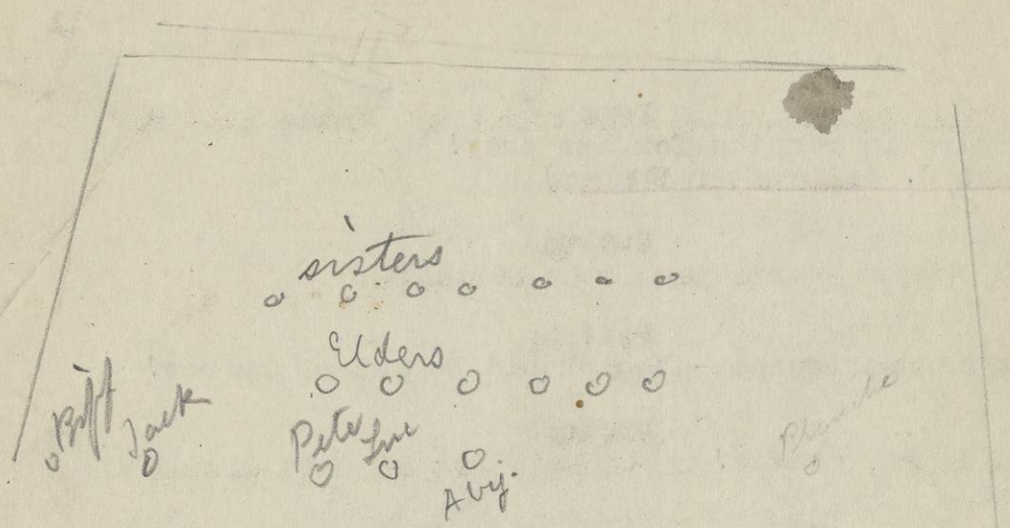
Biff
All for one!

Jack
Three millions, it's worth it.

Biff
Now see what you've done! He's up there with all those brides. What are we going to do?

Jack
I know what I'm going to do---watch him.

NUMBER- "Pete's Escape" #21.
(Pete, Lucinda and Widows)



Enter Biff
Jack & Blanche

At finish of business with number all exit. Guards enter.

Guards

Twelve o'clock and all is well

(They go into dance number

(After NUMBER.....bell rings R., enter ABIJAH) from L-U.C

(Abijah beckons ELDERS on) all down C

all sisters on from balcony & other entrances except Annabelle & Marilla

Abijah

Lucinda, sisters---we have been betrayed!

Lucinda

Betrayed! What do you mean?

Abijah

Some one has informed the authorities of this plural marriage.

Lucinda

What?

(Pete bangs on door)

Pete

Let me out! Let me out!

(Lucinda unlocks door and lets him out)

Lucinda

Come out, our worm!

Pete

I may be a worm, but I've turned!

(Calls: ~~Jack~~ ~~The Tiger~~

Biff, Jack, Blanche! See here, Abijah, how about my three millions?

Boys

Yes, yes, we want our money!

Abijah

(Calmly)

And how wilt thou get it?

Pete

By law. Yes!

(General murmurs of excitement)

And if I am not in my hotel by one o'clock the authorities will be here to know the reason why!

Biff

You're up against it. Fork over, come on or we'll holler our heads off!

Jack, Biff and Pete

Yes, we want our money!

Abijah

Not so loud, I have your three millions, or its equivalent.

Pete, Jack and Biff

Equivalent?

Abijah

Thy uncle left all his fortune in valuable securities.

Jack

Anything will do.

Biff

As long as its hockable!

Pete

Bonds are as good as money.

Abijah

There are your three millions.
(BUS. of handing over package of bonds)

Pete

Is it all here?

Abijah

Every penny. Three million dollars in securities.

Pete

What securities?

Abijah

Cousin Kate Copper!

(Business of all blowing up)

Pete

Cousin Kate Copper! That mine is no good.

Biff

Why, the vein ran out in thirty feet and never did come back.

guards

elders

chorus. ladies

wives

Buff Jack Peter Jim Hogan

Yolande marilla annabelle

everybody on for finale.

Abijah
Things have changed, brother, Cousin Kate Copper is now selling above the hundred mark.

Jack
Do you mean to say that it's good?

(BLANCHE comes down C. with ANNABELLE and MURILLA)
& chorus ladies

Pete
Blanche! Cousin Kate---you tell her---I can't talk.

Blanche
Well, I can. Here are two little widows who want their marriage annulled.

Abijah
Marriages annulled!

Murilla
Or this little widow will go out and tell all she knows.

Annabelle
And this little widow will tell all her sister forgets!

Abijah
(Utters exclamation)
Sisters! Sisters!

Both Widows
Oh! Piffle!

Pete
Girls, you don't want me, do you?

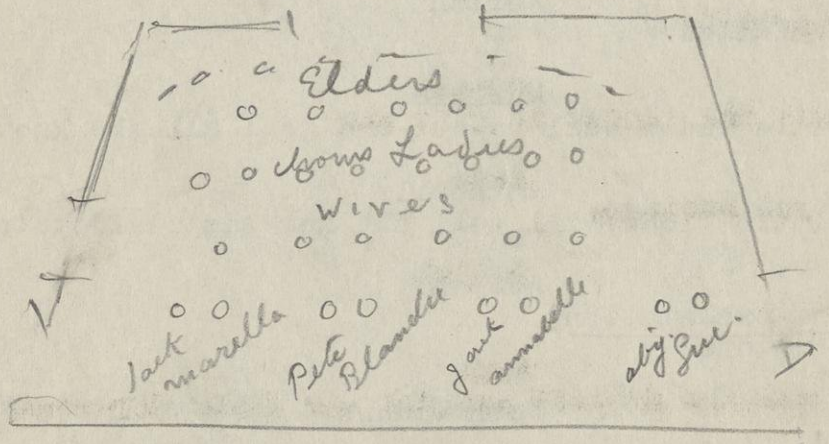
(~~Girls~~ Annabelle & Marilla)
Certainly not.

Pete
Thanks, wives, thanks!

Abijah
This marriage cannot be annulled except by the consent of all the parties concerned, and Lucinda has not spoken.

Pete
Now, Lucinda, you don't want me, do you?

$ marilla x to Jack
Biff x " amabille
Blanche to c to Pete



Lucinda

Any husband is a wonderful thing to possess. But after this night----you inanimate little rummy! X to L.C.

Pete

Lucinda, those are the sweetest words you've spoken to me!

Abijah

After this, I agree to annull the marriage. $.

Boys

Great! Fine!

Abijah

But for a consideration.

Pete

What consideration?

Abijah

Anything you may choose to give me.

Pete

I'll give you Lucinda.

Abijah

Oh, piffle!

Pete

The three million dollars are for the three musketeers!

Biff

One for all---

All

All for one!

(ENSEMBLE and FINALE of "Creepy, Weepy" refrain)

C U R T A I N

merillo