

Siam and Mandy's New Year Resolutions



By SIAM CLODHOPPER

Yes, Mandy's laid in ergin wid the flies. It shore looks lack every year, she picks the most unnecessary time and season to git abed. She's ketch'd cold at everybody's hog killing she's been to but I don't tell her so. I'll bet you, Mandy Clodhopper has riddled enough chillins, tied end to end, to string around Johnston county a dozen times amost. And the neighbors through these parts, I sposes would go outen the hog killing business if it weren't fer me and Mandy helping them to kill 'em. They's depended on us so long. We started out two weeks afore Christmas to helpin' em as they come to us. We started over at Tim's first. He allus says away ahead he ain't gointer kill his'n till atter Christmas. Then he's apt to head the list by killing his first. Says he wants to be shore to git such help as me and Monday, and he's shore wait till atter Christmas something would be shore to stand in the way of his gittin' two of the best hog killin' hands in all the surrounding settlements. It is good this year that Me and Mandy had a chance of starting out in the hog killing business if she jest hadn't ketch'd cold. Fer we had jest three little razor backs that seemed to be a mite 'Ride bound, fer we meat another year, an' gittin' an early start in the hog killin' business kept us table surely well supplied with freshes. But seems that since we begun gittin' a few freshes all us neighbors what hadn't killed hogs ner had none to kill dropped in on us fer a meal or two. Pears there's allus sompin' a knowin' at each end of a fellow's progressibility. Bout time we thought we was layin' in a considerable supply of freshes and had a most decided not to raise any hogs at all next year, we was gittin' in such a supply of chittlins, sassage, cracklings and hagelets, they'd last us till long up into the spring and then we could sell aigs and git us a few strips of white Cincinnatty to bile with us summer garden vegetables. We could raise a few more chickens and make ends meet by making us corn last till housing time one year.

We hadn't mor'n got the idee in us heads afore company begun to pile in afresh, and it didn't only take all the freshes we had on hand but Mandy had to rush out atter dark or had me to rather, and slay two of her yearling size roosters she was savin' fer Christmas, in case any of the chillern should come. I fetched 'em in all right and dressed 'em. I was fearful I had made a mistake but I did not call Mandy to see if I had the right ones and so all went well till next day she seen the two roosters she sent me to fetch awakkin' around in the yard and bless me if I didn't think she was gointer git my goat right there afore 'em all. But Aint Nance Spivey was there and she tuck up fer me and laughed and said, "Why, Mandy, I surprise at you rufflin' up at Siam. Poor fellow, if I'd a been him I'd a retched in and got the fust ones I could a layed my hands on if they'd had gold combs and silver toe nails. And sich a crowd here to frustrate him." Well I got by fairly easy for the time being. Then on top of that, yearly meeting at the Creek meeting house broke loose on us the next Saturday which should abeen in September. Through somebody's carelessness it was put off till it looked lack nobody had no time to go, it was so nigh Christmas. But Mandy said we was jest obliged to lay down and go since brother Jiner had writ us a special notice and we had been the main church pillars for so many years. So Saturday morning at four o'clock we riz and got busy to meet brother Jiner at the yearly, feet-washing meeting at Sugar Creek meeting house. I says to Mandy that means that brother Jiner will be here fer din-

I stepped outside and axed him into the far and he said no, he was in a terrible hurry, that he'd run over to ax me and Mandy to help him kill his shoats. Mandy cracked open the door and bawled out, "That's jest lak you, Hank. Don't you know poor Jennie don't want hog killing strung all around on Sunday? Some men folks hain't got no respect fer their wives no how. Put off your hog killing and you and Jennie go to the yearly meeting today. Brother Jiner is going to hold feet washing at the creek meeting house."

Hank said, "Brother Jiner won't see me ner none of my folks today. He ort to a hilt his feet washing meeting while it was in season to wash feet, fer I wouldn't have my feet washed as cold as it is fer ham and eggs and besides he might expect me to ax him home with me, and Jennie hain't got no time to fool wid the preacher ner no one else till we git thru wid them hog doins. So I'll git on back and see if I can't git somebody else, Siam, if you and Mandy kaint come, though I hate blamed bad to know I'd eat a chit-lin that Mandy hadn't had a hand into. Ner I don't know who I'll git to stick and knock a hog lack you, Siam, since I've allus depended on you."

He turned and started on down the path. I was awful sorry not to go, fer I did want to hold to my reputation. About that time I hard the kitchen window shutter rattle and I heard Mandy holler, "Oh fer my stomach feels lack it ain't Hank, how many hogs air ye goin' to kill?" He hollered back, "jest five pigs." She says, "We'll shore be there by the crack of day. Have everything ready."

I could not imagine how she was gointer manage to go to both, a hog killing and a foot washing meeting too, at the same time. But I did know Mandy was a good planner; so I rushed on the feeding done so's to git wid back to the house to hear Mandy's States.

When we got back to Hank's, Jennie was dishing up the hash. She had about a peck of peeled-por-man's-friends, pertaters, on the table and a pot of piping black coffee. And such a blessing as did Brother Jiner ax, I never hearn Hank had gone off a step on business and cum in jest as we was winding up. He had eat a snack afore he went off and it was good he did, fer we lack to a made ends meet with that dinner. Brother Jiner called for a pair of old breeches to slip on to help with the hog work, said there was nothing he liked better to do. I was afraid it was all a bluff, fer I didn't see how he was gointer be able to bend around at all atter packing all that hash inside his shirt. But along and about eleven o'clock we'll he shambled around pretty swift as did the rest of us and wound to meeting. By pushing, we'll git up all the needable work that was necessary by sundown and was

fore meeting time. Jennie allus has a big pot of liver hash anyway and we'll fetch brother Jiner back to Hanks fer dinner for he is pertickler fond of haslett hash and he'll enjoy nothing better than to hang around that hog killing the balance of the evening. After dinner all hands will go to it and do on Sunday? Some men folks hain't got no respect fer their wives no how. Put off your hog killing and you and Jennie go to the yearly meeting today. Brother Jiner is going to hold feet washing at the creek meeting house."

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reputation or no reputation she weren't gointer run a free eating place fer the whole community no longer.

I says, "Amen, sister Mandy, less jine hands on that." And since Mandy's been all jail in with the flies she ketch'd running around imposing her self to the evils of the whole settlement, we've made no resolutions fer this year.

I've had all the in and out work to do, churning, milking, cooking cleaning up fer company that's not been a nigh. Mandy has to have about three courses of rubdowns a day and afore I git through one process its time to start on another. Its git her fixed and then make a dash fer the woods fer fresh pine boughs, lions tongue snake weed, and rosin drip; then rush back, bile, steam, and stev-tees, mixtures and rubdowns and the wust of the job is applying 'em. My! that's the wustest of all. Mandy scolds and says I never think to warm my hands, and that they feel lack a pair of batting cyards being drug across her chest. I don't talk back, but my how I'd like to, I know there's no job under the Sun as bad as a man tryin' to fill a woman's place especially when it comes to doctoring the family. When I had the flies last winter I felt lack Mandy weren't half tending to me and now since I've not had a chance to silk off me breeches ner shoes in several days and nights ner hardly hit a cheer in all that time, my mind's changed considerable.

Whar's all us neighbors?" I axed Mandy, "that we've been using and helping to spell all these many years?" She said I'd ort to, a sent some of 'em word. I says by-grab they already know it, I hollered and told Kizzie Cyarter the first day you was in bed and by gravy you know she's the community tattle box, and's been all over this neighborhood a dozen times since you've been sick. Ye know it. And Mandy, I've rubbed and greased and doctored ye twell I have got ye well on the way to diskivery. And here-atter, fer misery sakes, less look more after us own household, and be more charatable at home. In two more days, if Mandy keeps improving, I hope to have one more day's freedom. The wood pile is as clean as a whistle and a fuller ner it wouldn't a been nary bit more sin." Mandy broke out and said neighbors, or no neighbors dy's gitting iller and crosser.

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That's why I know she'll soon be well. It'll be jest lack some of us crazy neighbors, though as soon as they find out she's able to be on her feet, again to rush over Sunday fer dinner. Heres wishing everybody a happy new year and our advice for 1928 is, when ye are sick, down or out don't pin your coat too tight to no neighbor's fault-tall.

NOTICE OF RE-SALE
Under and by virtue of the authority contained in that mortgage deed dated March 11, 1925, by J. T. Hales and wife, Sallie Ann Hales to the undersigned, recorded in Book 149, page 226, Registry of Johnston county, default having been made in the payment of the bond thereby secured, a raise of the bid made at the prior sale having been made the undersigned mortgagee will on Thursday, Jan. 12, 1928, at 12 o'clock M. at the courthouse door of Johnston county offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, the following lands, to-wit:
Situate in Beulah township, said county, and beginning at a stake in J. T. Stancil's line, J. W. Woodard's corner, and runs with said line S 2 W 96 poles to a pine in J. W. Woodard's line N 86 W 43 1/2 poles to a stake; thence N 2 E 96 poles to a stake in J. T. Stancil's line; thence S 87 E 43 1/2 poles to the beginning, containing 26 acres, more or less and being lot No. 1 in the division of Conard Hales, deceased.
This Jan. 23, 1927.
H. FITZGERALD & SON, Mortgagee.
ED F. WARD, Attorney.

SALE OF STANDING TIMBER
By virtue of authority vested in me under a mortgage from Wilbur M. Lee dated November 29, 1927, registered in book 197, page 531, default having been made in payment of the debt thereby secured, I will, on the 1st day of February, 1928 at 12 noon at the courthouse door at Smithfield, N. C. offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash all the merchantable timber which is situated upon that certain tract of land in Bentonville township, adjoining the lands of L. V. Massey, Carson Hayes and others, beginning at a black gum on Mill Creek, Carson Hayes' corner and runs North 144 poles to a pine, Carson Hayes' corner, then East 36 poles to a stake in Buzzard Pond, J. M. Massey's corner thence with his line north 23 West 34 poles to a stake, J. V. Massey's corner, and thence south 16 east 202 poles to a stake on Mill Creek, thence down the meanders of said creek to the beginning, containing 89 3/4 acres, more or less.
Together with the right and privilege to enter upon said lands

and to cut and remove said timber for a period of one year from and after the 16 day of November, 1927, and also to exercise all such rights and powers as were conferred upon said Wilbur M. Lee under a timber deed from W. A. Massey and wife which is registered in book 175 at page 292.
Dated this December 30, 1927.
J. H. FUSSELL, Trustee.
R. C. LAWRENCE, Attorney for Trustee, Lumberton, N. C.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
By virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain mortgage deed, executed on January 20, 1926, by W. F. Watson and wife, Emma Watson, to Barnes-Lamm & Company, recorded in Book No. 208, at page 13, public Registry of Johnston county, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness therein secured, the undersigned mortgagee, will offer for sale at public auction for cash on Monday, January 23, 1928, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 o'clock p. m., in front of the courthouse door in Smithfield, N. C., the following described real estate:
A town lot situate in the town of Kenly, N. C., and being Lot No. 1, in Block A. B., of Plat No. 2, town of Kenly, of the J. C. Grady subdivision of the lands of Lottie Watkins. Said lot having a 70 feet frontage on Railroad street, and running back to the Watson line 125 feet, said lot being a corner lot on said street, and being the identical lot conveyed by J. C. Grady and wife to W. H. Pittman, the deed to which is recorded in Book H, No. 13 at page 233, Johnston County Public Registry, to which reference is made for more accurate description.
This December 19, 1927.
BARNES-LAMM & COMPANY, Mortgagee.

RHEUMATISM
While in France with the American Army I obtained a noted French prescription for the treatment of Rheumatism and Neuritis. I have given this to thousands with wonderful results. The prescription cost me nothing. I ask nothing for it. I will mail it if you will send me your address. A postal will bring it. Write today. PAUL CASE, Dept. F 281, Brockton, Mass.

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