

SHE DIDN'T BUY ANYTHING

She was a treasure of a wife who brought her money home ... From the NY Recorder 1985

"So you were out shopping, eh?" gasped Mr. Newwed at dinner last evening, in their cozy new home on Columbus Avenue.

"Yes, dear, and I want to tell you all about it."

"I - I gave you \$50. I believe," he murmured, swallowing a double allowance of cafe noit.

"You did, Charlie, and that's just it. I started for the shopping district at 3 o'clock, and have been trotting up and down ever since. You have no idea how much we women have to contend with."

"Humph! Tell me about the bargains."

"There was a half-rate sale in one place; the loveliest goods you ever saw. So cheap, too. Then there was a 'knock out' counter in another store, where they were fairly giving things away. I never saw such bargains! Then there was a fire-and-water sale across the way, and the way things went was astounding. Then there was a 'clearing-out' sale in the next block. And a 'bankrupt sale' near by. And a 'marked-down list' only a block away. And a 'half-off' sale over on -- "

"Great jumping Caesar's ghost!"

"Yes, and I attended them all. Oh, such astonishing bargains!"

"And I suppose that now I'll have to announce a 'half-rate' sale on my personal effects, and a 'knock-out' sale on my salary, and a 'closing-out' sale on my bank book, and a 'cast-off' sale with my uncle, and a 'gone-to-grass' sale on the kitchen fixtures -- just to equalize the pressure, eh?"

"Charlie, you ungrateful wretch. I was about to say that I considered myself a jewel! After all the careful teachings of mamma, just as if I couldn't save your money, and --"

"Well, they all say that."

"I-I didn't buy a thing. Here's your \$50 bill."

"What's that?"

"That's what I said!"

"My angel," he gasped, dropping his fork, "forgive me, I have wronged you!"

"I didn't use your money but I ordered a wagon-load of nice things and had them charged. So there!"