

FINCH

Thanks, but I can't accept.

(BUD stops dead. EVERYONE looks at FINCH in astonishment.)

BRATT

(Crosses R. to FINCH below TWIMBLE)

Are you turning this job down?

FINCH

That's right sir. I think there is a man who is better qualified. A man who has been here longer than I. Gentlemen, I recommend Bud Frump.

BUD

(Caught off guard)

You're kidding.

TWIMBLE

(Crosses L. to BUD)

Bud Frump?

BRATT

(Crosses L. to TWIMBLE)

Well, this is something, ... I mean, surprise-wise. Well, as long as he feels that way ...

BUD

I'm going to call my mother and tell her.

(He exits L.)

TWIMBLE

(Crosses R. below BRATT to FINCH)

I don't understand.

FINCH

Mr. Twimble, let me explain. Knowing you has taught me a lot.

(Phone RINGS.)

BRATT

(Picking up phone)

Hello. Yes, J.B. This is Bratt.

TWIMBLE

(To FINCH)

It's the big boss.

BRATT

(He listens a moment)

Oh, I understand your problem, J.B. Actually, we had picked someone else. But it's all right, J.B. The young fellow we picked turned the job over to Bud. He thinks Bud is better qualified ... No, he doesn't seem to be out of his mind. He was explaining, about it when you called.

(To FINCH.)

Go ahead, Finch.

FINCH

(C.)

Mr. Twimble, the great thing you have taught me is that no individual is as important as the whole company.

BRATT

(Acting as a quiet voice announcer to BIGGLEY)

He says no individual is as important as the whole company.

FINCH

(Crosses above TWIMBLE to his L.)

The whole team is greater than any single player.

BRATT

(To BIGGLEY)

The whole team is greater than any single player.

FINCH

(Getting louder)

The whole crew is greater than any one oarsman.

BRATT

The whole crew is greater than any one oarsman.

FINCH

The whole salad is bigger than any piece of lettuce.

BRATT

The whole salad is ... Oh, you can hear him.

FINCH

The whole omelette is bigger than any egg.

BRATT

Isn't that great, J.B.? Sort of chokes you up, doesn't it? ... His name? It's Finch.

FINCH

(To BRATT)

F-I-N-C-H.