

Floyd Gibbons'

ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"Dead Man's Dole"

By FLOYD GIBBONS
Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO EVERYBODY:

Luigi Francia of Brooklyn, N. Y., says in his letter to me that he's not so good at composing a story. Well—you're not bad at it by a long shot, Luigi, but the point is that you don't have to be good at composing your yarn. This column is for Adventurers—not writers.

And you've got to admit that Luigi's yarn has all the elements of swell adventure story. First, look at the setting. Tripolitania, North Africa. Ain Zara, a small town 60 miles inland from the city of Tripoli—a town composed of about 3,000 Bedouin Arabs, and four regiments of Italian infantry. Luigi Francia was fighting in one of those infantry regiments in June, 1913, and that was an adventure in itself.

"We were constantly attacked at night by marauders," he says, "and we had many, many casualties. It was no fun getting hit with a slug from a Mauser rifle. No matter how slight the wound, it seldom healed. Tetanus set in, and then you died."

Attacks were getting so frequent around Ain Zara and casualties were so heavy, that the commandante of the garrison decided something ought to be done about it. The regiments were issued extra ammunition and a reserve supply of food, and the word went out that they were going to make a counter attack on the Arab tribes that had been doing all the marauding.

Captured by the Arabs.

After weeks of preparation, the Italians were ready for a surprise attack. One hot June night, Luigi's regiment got orders for a mass formation and a square of soldiers was thrown about the camp. Luigi, who was corporal major, was sent with 15 men on a scouting expedition



The Chief Told Luigi to Shave the Dead Man.

to an advanced post in the desert. When they sighted the Arabs, they were to give the alarm so that the regiments could close in.

"But I guess," says Luigi, "that we figured wrong. About twelve-thirty that night, we were the surprised ones, with a horde of Arabs popping up all around us, yelling Allah! Allah! and shooting as they advanced. It happened so quickly that we were surrounded and about a hundred of us taken prisoners.

"The hardships we endured at their mercy are unprintable. In a month, there were but 30 of us left. The others died from wounds, some starved. Others were butchered outright. The rest of us had to pump water, wash the Arabs' filthy clothes, eat grasshoppers and drink stinking water in dirty sand wells."

Ordered to Shave a "Corpse."

But one day, there came a diversion in the routine of that Arab camp. A big Arab came to the Italians and asked if any of them could shave. And Luigi said that he could. The Arab led him to the chief's tent, and there, on a pallet lay the chief's brother, stiff and cold. The chief gave Luigi a razor and a little soap and told him to prepare the dead man for burial.

"I started shaving him," says Luigi, "while outside, a thousand Arabs prayed to Mahomet, their prophet. I was so skinny from malnutrition and so nervous that I could hardly hold the razor straight, but I did my best. I was almost through when the razor slipped, jabbed into the stiff's neck, and to my surprise, the BLOOD BEGAN TO FLOW."

Luigi knew then that the man wasn't dead. He told the chief, and the chief put his hand on his brother's heart, but he couldn't feel any beat. Then Luigi told him to get a mirror. He held it in front of the man's mouth and it clouded. That settled it. He wasn't dead.

"Among us prisoners," says Luigi, "was a young man who knew medicine. I called him, and he pronounced the man to be suffering from sun-stroke, and said he could cure him. I don't know what he did, but in three days he had him up and walking around again."

Food and Freedom His Reward.

And after those three days, Luigi and the young doctor had a pleasant surprise. The chief called them into his tent and told them they had saved his brother's life. He was thankful, and to show that he meant it, he fed those two poor half-starved prisoners, gave them money, put them on a camel, and told them that they could go. With a supply of food and a girba full of water, they set out across the desert, the old chief's blessings ringing in their ears.

It took them two days to get out of the desert. The first place they hit was an Italian outpost at Cubella, about 90 miles from Tripoli. And there, as they approached, they were almost killed by machine gun bullets fired by their own comrades to whom, in their dirty yellow Arab garments, they looked more like enemies than anything else.

The commandante of that post listened to their story in amazement, and sent them back to Tripoli. There, after receiving medical attention, they were brought before the chief in command at the Presidio, and had to tell their story all over again. Both of them were given a six months' furlough with pay, and—well—many a soldier would go through that adventure all over again for that sort of a break.

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Classification of Snow

Besides classifying snow as either granular or crystalline, the flakes are classified as columnar or tabular. In a less technical category are powder snow (light and soft and good for skiing) and sand snow. The latter variety, reported by explorers, is so cold that it is not slippery. It is impossible to ride or slide on sand snow. Old snow may become "firm" snow, the latter consisting of the crusted forms. Red snow gains its peculiar hue from the dust through which it falls.

Children Born at Sea

When a child is born on a steamer in the middle of the ocean it takes the nationality of its parents. The flag of the vessel does not make any difference. If the ship were in territorial waters, and not on the high seas, that might make a difference. If a child were born to immigrant parents on a ship bound for New York just after it had entered the three-mile limit, it would probably take a ruling of the immigration service to settle the question of nationality.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, Dean of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. © Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for June 5

SERVING BY PERSONAL DEVOTION TO CHRIST

LESSON TEXT—Mark 14:3-11, 27-31.
GOLDEN TEXT—She hath done what she could. Mark 14:8.
PRIMARY TOPIC—Mary's Present to Jesus.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Mary's Love Gift.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Showing Our Love to Christ.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—The Heart of Christian Service.

"The love of Christ constraineth us" (II Cor. 5:14) was the all-sufficient moving force back of the greatest life of service rendered by any man. It is this personal devotion to the One whom we love "because he first loved us" (I John 4:19), which makes Christianity "different from all other religions. Christianity alone acts through this natural and deep hunger of mankind with a personalized religion which can be a satisfying joy and pleasure. Yet at this point Christians fail the most and make difficult the work of serving Jesus. They see religion as a job to be done, a form to be observed, a duty to be fulfilled" (W. R. King).

We need to renew that devotion to Christ which expresses itself in true worship. Prayer is too often asking for things; praise, thanking for things (unless we become so engrossed with them that we forget to return thanks); and worship, which is a coming to God in adoration and thanksgiving for what He is rather than what He can give, is forgotten. Our Heavenly father wants us to show love toward Him. The act of Mary was pure personal devotion and worship, and its fragrance lives to this day.

I. Wasted—But Eternally Saved (vv. 3-9).

The dark hours of betrayal and death were before our Lord. All around Him was hostility. Even in the inner circle of the disciples there was misunderstanding and bickering. Mary (to be distinguished from the sinful woman of Luke 7) with the quick intuition of an understanding woman's heart knew what He was passing through, and with a magnificent act of love stood by Him in the fellowship of His sufferings. Dr. Morgan points out that it was "an impulsive act . . . born of the prodigality of love daring not to calculate." In the words of verse 9, Jesus declared that the gospel and that which this woman had done were to "stand side by side with each other forever. That keen intuition of love, that uncalculating outpouring of love, was Godlike, and an act in fellowship with the act of God by which a world is redeemed."

Judas, who was a thief, said she had wasted money that should be used for the poor (John 12:6). The other disciples thought well of his argument and murmured against her. But Jesus commended her. To be thrifty and frugal is commendable, but there are times when the heart should speak without being silenced by the drawing of purse strings.

II. Saved—But Eternally Lost (vv. 10, 11).

Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. He "made" some money. The fact that he did it by betraying the Son of God may be worse in degree but is not worse in kind than the betrayal of the youth of our land by those who make merchandise of their eternal souls. A recent news item from England declared that church organizations were making money out of properties publicly known as centers of prostitution. The leaders deplored the situation, but said they could not prevent it without losing the income of the property. Why not lose every cent rather than be party to the betrayal of any man or woman?

III. Bold Words—But Weak Actions (vv. 27-31).

Verses 12-26 tell of the gathering of the Lord and His disciples for their last passover and for the establishment of the Lord's supper. As they left the sacred meeting and went out into the Mount of Olives Jesus foretold His betrayal and His coming denial by the disciples.

Peter, quick with his tongue, and bold in spirit, spake swelling words of devotion and assurance. Sadly the Lord foretold his threefold denial of that very night. Again Peter and all the disciples declared their willingness to die with Him. They undoubtedly meant what they said, but reckoning without the weakness of the flesh they failed Him.

The lesson that is written large in this story for you and for me is, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (I Cor. 10:12).

AROUND the HOUSE



Items of Interest to the Housewife

After Peeling Onions.—Dry mustard rubbed on wet hands after peeling onions removes all odors.

Preserving Books.—To keep books on shelves or in cases in good condition, sprinkle occasionally with powdered camphor.

Identifying Sheets.—If you use sheets of two different sizes, one for single and one for double beds, fold sheets for double beds in a large square and those for a single bed in smaller squares. You will

then have no difficulty in finding the right sheets.

Improving Canned Fruits.—Always open canned fruits an hour before serving. Fruits become richer in flavor after they have absorbed oxygen.

To Clean Picture Frames and Glasses.—Wash with warm water and ammonia (a teaspoonful to a quart of water). For gilt frames, use the water in which onions have been boiled, as it will restore their brightness.

HOW to SEW

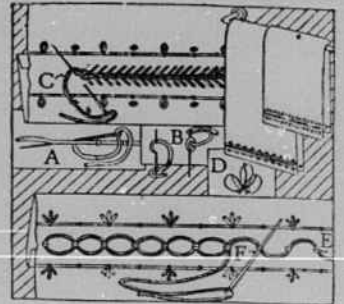
By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

THESE borders you will find easy to make. All six strands of six-strand mercerized embroidery thread are used. Crease 1/4 inch hems first. Draw threads of the material to make straight guide lines for the embroidery. Sew the hems by hand after the embroidery is done.

The top border is royal blue and turkey red. To make the straight lines at the sides, couch blue thread in place with red as at A. The loop stitches along the edge are made as at B. The vertical loops are red and the smaller horizontal loops blue. The fish-bone stitch in the center is made in red as at C.

The lower border is light yellow and orange. The edge lines are yellow, couched in place with orange. The alternating groups of yellow and orange ray stitches along the edge are made as at D. For the center chain make evenly spaced yellow stitches in double thread as at E, then weave orange thread through them as at F.

Readers who have received their copy of Mrs. Spears' book on Sewing, for the Home Decorator, will be pleased to know that Book No. 2 is now ready. Ninety embroidery stitches are illustrated; fabric repairing; also table settings; gifts; and many things to make for yourself and the chil-



dren. If you like hand work you will be pleased with this unique book of complete directions for every article illustrated. Price 25 cents postpaid (coin preferred). Ask for Book 2 and address Mrs. Spears, 210 S. Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill.

Preventing Quarrels

Two things, well considered, would prevent many quarrels; first, to have it well ascertained whether we are not disputing about terms, rather than things; and, secondly, to examine whether that on which we differ is worth contending.—Colton.

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If you are peppy and full of pep, men will invite you to dances and parties. BUT, if you are cross, lifeless and tired, men won't be interested. Men don't like "quiet girls." For three generations one woman has told another how to go "smiling through" with Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It helps Nature tone up the system, thus lessening the discomforts from the functional disorders which women must endure. Make a note NOW to get a bottle of world-famous Pinkham's Compound today WITHOUT FAIL from your druggist—more than a million women have written in letters reporting benefit. Why not try LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND?

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