

Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB



HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!

"Triple-Barreled Thrill" By FLOYD GIBBONS Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO EVERYBODY:

Here's a yarn that packs thrills enough to last through a whole night. At least, it did for Mrs. Dorothy Murphy. Many years ago, Dorothy was living on a farm in the Chestnut Ridge section near the little town of Dover Plains, N. Y. She set out to drive to the railroad station three miles away, and before she got back she'd had enough adventures to last a life-time.

That was in February, 1914. Dorothy was just eighteen years old and going under her maiden name of Dorothy Daily. Her aunt had been spending two weeks with the family and it was she whom Dorothy drove to the train on that cold, February evening. Automobiles weren't so common then. What Dorothy drove was a surrey, drawn by an old, half-blind horse named Brownie.

The train pulled out of Dover Plains at 6:45 p. m., and Dorothy turned the horse around and headed for home. Already it was dark—a moonless, starless night. The way back lay along a steep, rough, unfenced country road that climbed for nearly three miles before it reached Chestnut Ridge. On one side of it lay thick woods covering an upward slope of the ground, and on the other was a steep declivity. For part of the distance, that declivity straightened out into a tall cliff. And there was nothing to prevent a carriage from going over it if it approached too close to its edge.

That was Dorothy's first thrill—the prospect of driving over that road in the dark. She hadn't thought darkness would fall so soon that night, and she was scared stiff of that cliff. As she drove along, and the darkness deepened, she couldn't see her hand before her face, and she gave Brownie a free rein, hoping that his instincts would keep him on the road.

Thoughts While Hurting Through Space.

They were going along the top of that cliff, and all was going well. And then, all of a sudden, Dorothy felt the wheels slipping over the edge. Poor, half-blind old Brownie had failed her. He had gone too close to the edge! The surrey gave a sudden lurch and Dorothy was thrown but into space!

Says Dorothy: "I clutched at the air as it slid past me, like a drowning man clutches at straws. My hands grabbed some bushes growing out from the side of the cliff and I hung on for all I was worth. And there I was, between earth and air, and with nothing to save me from death on the rocks below but my precarious hold on those shrubs."

Dorothy says that time has no meaning under such circumstances. The minutes seemed like years. Her arms were aching and her head was swimming. She could hear Brownie and the surrey wandering



"I was afraid I'd grow weak or faint."

off in the darkness. Evidently the old horse had pulled the surrey back on the road after she had been thrown out. For a terrible moment she clung to the bushes, and then her fingers encountered a branch of a small tree growing along the side of the cliff.

She caught it with one hand—then the other—and drew herself up over the cliff to safety. She lay on the ground for a while, sick and weak. Then, having recovered a little, she got up and stumbled to the road.

The Big Thrill Was Yet to Come.

Brownie and the surrey were nowhere in sight. Dorothy started walking toward home. You'd think she'd had enough adventuring for one night—but the big thrill hadn't even started. She had only walked a few steps when she heard a sound that froze her blood in her veins—the baying and yelping of dogs.

Dogs don't sound so dangerous—but Dorothy knew better. A short time before she had seen the body of a boy who had been killed and partially eaten by these same dogs. They were wild animals—descendants of dogs who had run away from their masters to live in the woods and had reverted to type. Every once in a while, in those days, packs of that sort appeared in the woods in various places throughout the country. And they still do, in wild, outlying regions.

A single dog would run at the sight of a man, but in a pack, and in the middle of winter when they were half starved, they would attack almost anyone. Dorothy knew all too well what would happen if this pack caught up with her. She turned, stumbling, into the woods and ran until she found a tree.

It was a tree with a low fork of its branches—one she could climb. She began pulling herself up into it. The yelping of the pack was coming nearer and nearer. She wasn't a minute too soon. She had hardly clambered into the lower branches when they were on the spot, yelping and snarling at the bottom of the tree.

She Couldn't Understand Why There Was No Help.

"And there I was," she says, "perched in the tree while the hunger-maddened brutes howled and snarled below. I still turn sick and cold all over when I think of that moment. The worst part of it was that I was afraid I'd grow weak or faint, or so numb from the cold that I'd fall out. I knew what would happen then."

Hour after hour Dorothy clung to that tree, wondering why her folks didn't miss her and come looking for her. Wondering why they didn't realize something was wrong when the horse and buggy came home without her. She didn't know that old Brownie, turning completely around in his struggles to haul the surrey back on the road, had wandered back to town and was spending the night in an open horse shed. Her folks thought Dorothy had decided to spend the night with relatives in town, as she often did, so they didn't worry. And all that night, she crouched in the tree racked by the cold and harried by terrible fears.

As the first streaks of gray appeared in the sky, the dogs slunk off through the woods, and when she thought it was safe she came down and crawled to the road. She couldn't walk, but a farmer, driving to the milk depot, found her in the road and brought her home.

Dorothy says she's written this story for us other adventurers to read, but she adds, "Usually, I don't think of it if I can help it."

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Naming Wall Street

Wall street in New York City received its name from a wall built across one end of Manhattan island. In 1652 Gov. Peter Stuyvesant built a palisaded wall or stockade across the southern end of Manhattan island to protect the little Dutch colony of New Amsterdam against a threatened attack by the British. Wall street received its name from the fact that it follows the line of this wall. The last remnants of the wall, which contained gates at what are now Broadway and Pearl street, were removed about 1890.

Camels Used in Australia

Camels have been in use in Australia for nearly a hundred years, and are found hauling wool to railway sidings from "out-back stations" in West Australia. Twelve to fifteen are hitched to a huge truck. An old gold miner from Ballarat recounted how camels were used to pull the stage coaches from Melbourne to the mining towns before the railways were built. The stage coaches were duplicates of our own in the "Deadwood Dick" days. And alongside the driver rode an armed guard for protection against the outlaw "bush rangers."

'Way Back When

By JEANNE

WALT DISNEY WAS A MAIL CARRIER

WHAT are the secret ambitions of those who serve us, particularly those whose occupations are mechanical or lonesome enough to allow their minds to drift often into the realms of fantasy?

Walt Disney is an example. Born in Chicago in 1901, his first job was as a mail carrier there, at the age of sixteen. As a little boy he liked to draw, and he liked to draw animals; but the famous creator of Mickey Mouse had to make a living delivering mail. He had no chance to express his creative genius until after the World War, when he obtained a job as a commercial artist in Kansas City. In his garage, he experimented with animated newsreels called "Local Happen-



ings," which he sold to Kansas City moving picture theaters. He followed these with a series of fairy tales for local clubs and church gatherings.

This modest success prompted him to try Hollywood, where he started in an unpretentious little building far from the big studios. There he created "Oswald, the Rabbit" but after making 26 subjects, he and his backer separated. The backer owned the rights to "Oswald, the Rabbit," which is still being shown in the theaters, and Disney was left without his most promising character. Out of this adversity was born "Mickey Mouse" and the "Silly Symphonies."

Today, Walt Disney employs a staff of artists to draw his characters but he is, himself, the voice of Mickey Mouse.

PICTURE MAGNATE WAS A PEDDLER

IT'S fun for the young man who was born to be president of his rich father's company: a month in the shop, a month clerking, and then general manager. But consider the discouragement and heartaches of the boy too poor for an adequate education, too poor for nourishing food or decent clothing, too poor to meet people with influence. That such boys, possessing only courage, ambition and brains, can still rise in America is this country's strongest defense against fascism and communism.

William Fox was born in Tulchva, Hungary, son of a small shopkeeper who extracted teeth as a side-line. The family moved to



America when William was nine months old, and settled in an East Side tenement district of New York City. His first job was at the age of nine, when his father, who was out of work, made stove blacking in their small tenement and William peddled it from door to door in the neighborhood. Later he sold candy lozenges at the Third Street dock and at Central park on Sundays. At the age of fourteen, he was forced by poverty to quit school. He obtained a job in a clothing firm and rose to be foreman in charge of lining cutting, at the magnificent salary of \$8 per week. To augment his earnings, he bought umbrellas and peddled them in front of theaters on rainy nights. With \$1,800 savings accumulated through many privations, he started a cloth examining and shrinking business, when he was twenty-one, and at the end of the second year invested his profits in a nickelodeon or five-cent motion picture house. Twenty-five years later he headed the great \$200,000,000 corporation which bore his name, including a picture producing company, distributing agencies, and thousands of theaters throughout the United States.

Who knows for what high position that peddler who calls at your door may be preparing. William Fox rose from the same start.

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STAR DUST

Movie • Radio

By VIRGINIA VALE

EVELYN DAW is going to play the lead in her very first picture, and as if that were not enough to make her Hollywood's Cinderella of the week, she tops it by being a girl who can keep a secret.

For six months she has known that she was going to be given a big screen opportunity and she hasn't told a soul. Even so, when she learned that her big chance was to be nothing less than prima donna opposite James Cagney in Grand National's "Something to Sing About" she nearly swooned. Victor Schertzinger, well-known composer and the motion-picture director who gave Janet Gaynor her first chance and Grace Moore her second, is responsible for Evelyn's opportunity.

Carole Lombard still has a sleek town car, a limousine and a roadster or two, but she isn't using them much these days. Every afternoon when she finishes work at the studio, up drives a station wagon all filled with fishing paraphernalia and driven by Clark Gable and off go the two most irrepressible merry-makers of Hollywood. She claims she likes the station wagon better than the limousine and she'd rather go fishing than attend a fashionable party. Clark agrees with her.

Two newcomers to Hollywood are setting Hollywood fashions and everyone is wondering just how far these new trends will go. Sigrid Gurie, the exquisite young Norwegian actress whom United Artists imported to play opposite Gary Cooper in "The Adventures of Marco Polo" goes in for simplicity. Louise Hovick, most famous of strip-tease artists in her burlesque days when she was known as Gypsy Rose Lee, goes in for conservatism. She won't pose for pictures in bathing suits, shorts, or even negligees.

Nick Foran's brother Jimmy graduated from Princeton medical school just a few weeks ago and walked right into a contract to act in pictures for Universal. Buddy de Sylva who is producing a musical extravaganza called "Merry Go Round" saw Jimmy doing some impersonations of Washington politicians and was so amused he persuaded him to postpone his career in medicine for a while. Jimmy will certainly be welcome on the Universal lot.

Grown-ups in Hollywood may plead for a chance to watch Robert Taylor or Joan Crawford or Luise Rainer at work, but children unanimously beg to be allowed to visit the Grand National lot. There is a reason, or rather a lot of them. Grand National is rapidly acquiring a see made up of the most talented animals in Hollywood.

All over the country picture fans are enthusiastic over Claudette Colbert's grand comedy, "I Met Him in Paris," but in Hollywood it looks as if the run will never end, because the same people come back to see it again and again. Almost any night you can find in the audience Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Taylor, Marlene Dietrich, her husband, and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

Opal Craven, known to radio listeners from coast to coast as "the Lullaby Lady" of the Contented Hour has been appearing professionally in the entertainment world since she was seven. With Frank Black and the Continentals she shares top billing on this concert program that has a run without interruption for more than five and a half years. In private life Opal Craven is the wife of a prominent Chicago insurance man. She began singing lullabies in real earnest about a year ago when her husky son was born.

ODDS AND ENDS—Joan Crawford's idea of grand fun is to go down to a radio station when her husband or one of her friends is broadcasting and join the mob of offstage noises. . . M.C.M. has found a way to finish Jean Harlow's last picture "Saratoga," using only long shots of a double. The preview audience approved mightily. . . Paul Robeson lifts his magnificent voice in song in "King Solomon's Mines," making this giddy thriller a picture not to be missed under any circumstances. . . And don't miss any of Edgar Bergen's shorts with his priceless dummy Charlie McCarthy. Incidentally, his Sunday night radio program with W. C. Fields almost makes up for Jack Benny's absence from the airwaves, doesn't it?

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Ask Me? Another

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

1. Has the population of the United States increased or decreased in the last ten years and how much?
2. What is the world's longest airline?
3. How many people have lived since the beginning of recorded history?
4. For what countries did the United States coin money last year?
5. What was the beginning of the motion picture industry in Hollywood?
6. Do the cold waters of the temperate and frigid zones contain more plant and animal life than do the warm waters of the tropics?
7. How does the Maxim silencer work?
8. Why do sharks fight back down?

Answers

1. A census of population was taken in this country in 1930 and the next will be taken in 1940. Any other figures that may be given are simply estimates. The United States had a population of 122,775,046 in 1930; the estimated pop-

ulation on July 1, 1935, was 127,521,000, showing an increase of nearly five millions in five years.

2. The world's longest air line is that between Amsterdam, Holland, and the Dutch East Indies, 9,000 miles away. There are two departures weekly at each end of it.

3. The eugenics department of the Carnegie institution estimates that 30,000,000,000 people have lived since the beginning of recorded history, some 6,000 or 7,000 years ago.

4. For Cuba, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Colombia and San Salvador. This coinage totaled 72,180,449 pieces.

5. In 1907 Selig opened the first California studio in Los Angeles. The first picture was the "Count of Monte Cristo" in 1,000 feet. Soon after that time other motion picture studios in New York opened California studios.

6. More plant and animal life per square mile is found in the cold waters of the temperate and frigid zones than in the ocean waters of the tropics.

7. The Maxim silencer is a tubular device attached to the muzzle of a firearm that renders the discharge practically noiseless. The device has an interior spiral which, permitting the ejection of the gases by causing them to rotate before escaping.

8. Because of the peculiar conformation of the shark's mouth, it is necessary for it to turn on its back when attacking an object at the surface of the water. A shark's mouth opens below its snout on the under side of its body and it is, therefore, unable to bite anything directly above it without turning over.

A Refreshing Drink

IN THE summertime, cool drinks are so grateful to parched young throats. Here is a cold cereal drink you can mix in a jiffy. It is very refreshing and nourishing to boot.

Quick Cooler.

2 level teaspoons Instant Postum
1 cup cold milk

Combine ingredients in beverage shaker or in glass jar with tight top. Shake thoroughly until all cereal is dissolved. Sweeten to taste and serve. Serves one.—Adv.

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