

Floyd Gibbons'

ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"Monster Out of Hand"

By FLOYD GIBBONS
Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO EVERYBODY:

John J. Boner of Chicago has been firing a locomotive since 1906. He says that in that time he has had many a thrill—as what railroad man from engineer right along to conductor hasn't? But the biggest thrill in all John Boner's railroading career came to him on September 10, 1910, when he was firing an engine on the Milwaukee.

John was working west out of Perry, Iowa, and early in the morning he was called to fire on a double-header coal train. John was on the lead engine, and John Cunningham was the engineer. The train, John says, consisted of forty carloads of coal behind two Baldwin compound engines.

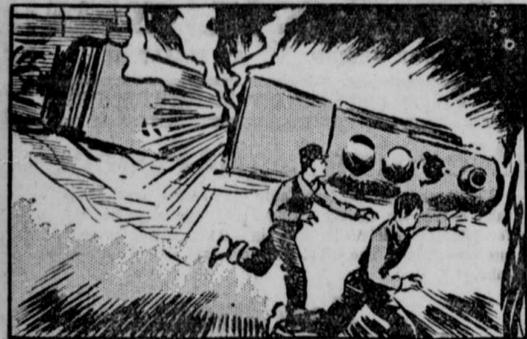
The train pulled out of Perry in some of the finest weather John had ever seen in his life. "The beauty of the day," he says, "seemed to impart something of its zest to our engines, and we made the wheels sing on those forty cars as we pushed the big locomotives along. From Perry to Council Bluffs, the road was all single track and water grades."

Up and Down the Water Grades.

For the benefit of us lubbers who don't know what a water grade is, John explains it to us. Those water grades get their name from the fact that a water tower is always set on the top of a hill whenever possible, so a train, after stopping to take on water, can get up momentum again by coasting downgrade. Water grades were just a series of ups and downs in the track, and with a heavy train you go as fast as you can turn a wheel down one hill in order to get up the next.

They cleared half a dozen of those grades, and everything was going fine. The train topped a hill east of Manning, Iowa, and John Cunningham opened the throttle and the train roared downgrade through a series of curves, gathering momentum for the next climb.

They were rounding the last curve, a mile east of Manning, when it happened. John was tossing a few scoopsful of coal into the firebox,



The Lead Engine Took a Nose Dive.

when all of a sudden he saw John Cunningham go into action. "He was grabbing for the whistle—grabbing for the brake valve—grabbing for reverse lever," says John. "and it seemed to me as if he was grabbing for all of them at the same time."

Off the Track at Full Speed.

"I jumped to the left cab window. I was just in time to see a section gang scattering to the fields—and in time to get a shower of ballast full in the face. We had struck a hand-car loaded with iron rails."

John reeled back under the force of the blow he had received. For a second or two the big engine seemed to be riding the rails. Then John felt the wheels bump off onto the ties. "The emergency brake," he says, "was almost useless. We had been tearing downhill and around those curves with the throttle as wide open as it was safe to have it on that particular stretch of track. Our speed was almost forty-five miles an hour at the time, and behind us were another locomotive and forty heavy carloads of coal, shoving us along with the momentum they had gathered in that downhill run."

There was no hope of stopping that train, and John says that there wasn't any possibility of jumping, either. The big engine was rocking and swaying so badly that neither John nor Cunningham could stand long enough to jump. "All we could do," he says, "was to grab whatever we could get hold of in the cab and hang onto it."

All that happened in just a couple of seconds, and things were happening so fast that John didn't even have time to think.

But afterwards he could recall vividly sensations that he wasn't even aware of at the time. "Was I scared?" he says. "I don't know. Things were coming so fast that I don't think I had time to be frightened. For more than forty feet we rode the ties, and then bumped onto a trestle bridge. We ran sixty more feet out on that, and then the lead engine—the one I was in—took a nose dive to the right, keeled over on her side and began sliding down a thirty-foot bank."

He Got Out Just in Time.

John and John Cunningham were still in the cab—still fighting for equilibrium—for a foothold that would give them a chance to jump. The engine slid down the bank and came to rest in a hog wallow beyond the right-of-way fence. The minute it stopped, John was at the window and on his way out, with John Cunningham crowding behind him.

They were out the window so fast that it seemed as if both of them had gone through together. But at that, they weren't a second too soon. Just as they cleared the cab, a steam tube let go—burst with a roar that cleared the cab out as clean as dynamite could have cleaned it, and two hundred pounds of steam pressure flooded the spot they had just left with hot, scalding death. Only a second's delay and both John and Cunningham would have died back there in the engine cab—cooked to death in an instant by the jet of live steam.

"The second engine," says John, "bumped into our tender and turned off to the left, but the crew escaped injury in almost the same miraculous manner that we did. None of the coal cars piled up on top of either engine, as they usually do in such accidents, and that was almost another miracle. Since that time I've had many a spill and been in many a wreck. In some of them I've sustained injuries. But none of those close calls ever gave me anything like the thrill I got out of this one in which I wasn't even scratched."

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Drawings for the White House
Hoban's original drawings for the White House contemplated a building with wings. The central part only was erected. The design is said to have been suggested by the residence of the duke of Leinster in Dublin, but the resemblance is slight.

Caribbean Days of Week
Days of the week in the Spanish-speaking countries of the Caribbean are: Sunday, Domingo; Monday, Lunes; Tuesday, Martes; Wednesday, Miercoles; Thursday, Jueves; Friday, Viernes; Saturday, Sabado.

Invented Banjo Clock
The banjo clock was invented in 1801 by Simon Willard and so called because of its shape. It was an eight-day, non-striking pendulum clock. Willard obtained a patent for it in 1802.

Home of Scientific Nursing
Great Britain is the home of scientific nursing, opening the first training school in 1860. It was the home of Florence Nightingale, noted nurse. Though an age-old profession, nursing fared little better in the United States. Our first school began classes in 1903.

First to Say "I Came," Etc.
Julius Caesar in a letter to Amantius, announcing his victory over Pharnaces at Zela in Pontus, 47 B. C., was the first to say "I came, I saw, I conquered." In Latin it was "Veni, Vidi, Vici."

First Oil Painter
St. Bavo's cathedral in Ghent, Belgium, has one of the world's six greatest pictures, "The Adoration of the Lamb," by the brothers Van Dyck, one of whom is said to have invented oil painting.

Print Frocks Have Pleated Skirts

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



PLEATED skirts are here, and everywhere in the style picture. Judging from the signs, life from a fashion viewpoint is destined to be just one pleated skirt after another. Not that the slim, form-fitting skirt has been cast into discard, not at all. Nevertheless, the urge of the pleated skirt is tremendous for spring and summer and seeing how flattering, how youthful, how "new" it is (especially the idea of pleating gay silk prints) a true follower of fashion can do no other than to fall into step of the mode, by including at least one or more frocks in her collection that are very much pleated.

It's quite a revelation to see what pleating can do in the way of adding charm and variety to a gay silk print. Under the magic of artful printing an already attractive print becomes even more attractive, and one has only to glimpse the new style collections to realize with what unbounded enthusiasm designers are playing up the pleated theme.

The big idea in current styling is the dress of silk print that has been pleated and pleated to the limit. Especially featured is the print frock with an all-round pleated skirt, after the manner of the models pictured. The pleating may be knife-pleated stitched flat below the hips as the dress to the left is styled or it may be sunburst pleated as is the youthful frock to the right.

Stripes are the rage this season, and one of the most successful gestures in fashion's realm at the present moment is the pleating of striped prints. If you like stripes and if you like prints just try the two together and see what a lively

duet they will play. The smart gown on the seated figure is typical of the new pleat-stripe vogue. Here you see a highly significant fashion in the handling of a bayadere silk print in narrow stripes of multi-color flowerettes. The slip-on top is styled with an artful play on the stripes. The patch pockets are voguish accents, also the tie bow. The hat is of blue leather. Which calls to mind that accessories of colorful suede are tres chic with your spring costume or suit.

The other winsome frock is a junior model of black and white shepherd check taffeta with swing pleated skirt. The pert little bolero is of black taffeta. It has a box-pleated back. The blouse has a red ruching trim, red heart-shaped buttons together with white pique collar and cuffs.

The new silk prints are so perfectly fascinating it is scarcely possible to describe them. In addition to stripes in endless interpretations, there are floral crossbar patterns that have the coveted "new" look, and paisley effects that personify color glory, and silk prints that have a chintz patterning. None lovelier prints have been brought out this season than are the exquisite landscape designs that add to their lure in that they feature delectable pastel colorings.

There are dramatic black and white prints in the advance silk showings, the scroll patterns being especially smart. Huge scattered prints in gorgeous colors are leading for formal night wear, the black silk chiffons especially emphasizing distinguished large floral print motifs.

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SMART SILK PRINT

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



This dress refined and lovely and springlike in its colorings is made of a floral crossbar silk print which makes pink its key color, for pink you must know is queen among colors for this season. It is featured especially in accessory ways. The new little pastel pink veils capture your fancy at first glance. Then there are the smart silk prints with pink or black backgrounds with which you are supposed to wear pink costume jewelry. An important styling point registers in the gown pictured in that both bodice and sleeves are laid in solid pleats. The belt is cunningly devised combining black patent leather with the silk print. The pink feathers on the black beret match the print.

SPOTLIGHT IS ON SUEDE FOR SPRING

By CHERIE NICHOLAS

If you keep step with fashion you are bound to wear suede this spring. It may be a coat you will choose or a jacket or perhaps an entire suit; even a dress for that matter for suede soft and simple as it now is, yields to dressmaker treatment beautifully. Then, too, the fact that suede comes in such luscious colorings adds to its lure, not only for the costume entire but for accessories as well.

You can get swank suede items that enhance one's costume as only suede can do. For instance the call is wide at present for bolero and sash "sets" of suede. As to the leather hat it is being made an outstanding fashion feature for spring. There are clever collar and girdle twosomes of suede in the neckwear showings that will enhance your costume with a striking dash of color. Just look into this matter of suede. It's worth following up.

Durbar Inspiration Seen in Silk Prints for Spring

The Indian influence, inspired by the coming Durbar, is apparent in silk prints. Actual Oriental patterns such as Persian and Paisley designs Cashmere patterns, already well established are new looking in pale colorings or in monotonies. These are varied with modernized versions of Oriental patterns which are larger and more open and often use a single classic Oriental motif, enlarged and spaced. Not Indian, but partaking of the interest, large outlines or the plaque idea in Moroccan and Algerian patterns use the elaborate fretwork patterns seen in North African mosques and allover Renaissance medallions.

Fashionable Trims

Cutout designs, transparent chiffon yokes and open work in vertical bands are trim for afternoon frocks.



WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

NEW YORK.—Many years ago, in South America, this writer was always hearing somebody mutter "Perros!" (dogs), as he passed by. It expressed dislike of all North Americans. Upton Sinclair's book, "The Jungle," about the Chicago packing houses, had been carefully mistranslated, in a widely circulated version, which made multitudes of South Americans believe all North Americans ate dogs. Even in remote jungle towns, I found European trade scouts and salesmen making diligent use of the book. It was the neatest trade propaganda trick of the century.

The one-sided battle has continued through the decades. Late reports are that South American radio stations are belting Uncle Sam with everything at hand, and, to the same degree, apostrophizing Italy, Germany and Japan.

For this reason, there appears to be more than meets the eye in the printed story of our new airway rearmament, and the assignment of a new short-wave channel for broadcasts to South America.

With Secretary Hull, Dr. L. S. Rowe, director general of the Pan-American union, pleads for "stronger cultural ties" in the first broadcast. Spanish translations follow the English version.

While all this is in the name of "peace and good-will," and official announcements carry no hint of a defensive propaganda war, it appears to be the answer—perhaps the only possible reply—to the widespread smearing campaign against the U. S. A. in Latin American countries.

The sixty-six-year-old Dr. Rowe is a happy choice to head America's "cultural," if not propaganda, outreach in this direction. He has become widely known and decidedly persona grata in South America in his 32 years of pleading and proselytizing for solidarity, friendship and understanding in the Americas.

He has fraternized with South Americans more than any other northerner, lecturing, writing, evangelizing and expounding his doctrines of friendly co-operation—always on the high plane of cultural and intellectual intercourse. He has been head of the Pan-American union since 1920, succeeding John Barrett.

LIFE begins at forty for Gracie Fields, English Music Hall actress, who curtsies to the king and becomes a commander of the Order of the British Empire. It is another Jane Alger story, this tale of the Lancashire mill girl who became the highest-paid entertainer in the world.

Her earnings from her 5,000,000 gramophone records, and from the stage and cinema have reached \$750,000 a year. Her film, "Mr. Tower of London," ran seven years.

She lives simply with her mother, who manages her affairs, and never has anything more than pocket money. Every so often she visits Rochdale, the mill town where she sang for pennies at the age of seven, and has a rollicking time, singing for her old friends.

She was a "half-timer" in the cotton mills, half the day in school and half at work.

In 1930, she made a brief appearance at the Palace theater in New York. It wasn't much of a success. She explained afterward that she had been warned in England that entire audiences in America chewed gum together and in time, with dreadful facial contortions. This frightened her and spoiled her act, although, she admitted, there was only one observable gum-chewer.

She was glad to land safely in England, where she is widely beloved and known as "Good Old Gracie."

Just a few days before her fortieth birthday, she returned home from a party at four o'clock in the morning. The milkman, the policeman on the beat and a street-sweeper ceremoniously handed her a morning paper with her name in the king's honor list. She is tall, blonde and merry.

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Smallest Book Claimed.

What is claimed to be the smallest book in the world has been written by a war veteran suffering from shell shock at Munich, Germany. It is half the size of an ordinary postage stamp, three-quarters of an inch thick and contains 96 pages. The tiny volume has 10,989 letters, each one-fiftieth of an inch in height.

Fashions Bloom in Spring



EXCEPTIONALLY smart new things for yourself and your daughter, that you'll enjoy making right now, and wearing on into the summer. Yes, even if you've never done much sewing, you'll enjoy working from our simple, easy-to-follow patterns, each accompanied by a complete and detailed sew chart. Hundreds of beginners are saving money, and creating really individual clothes, by making their own this season.

The Charming Basque.

Here's a perfect design for slim, youthful figures. The snug basque top, above a full, rippling skirt, is dramatized by little puff sleeves. Think how delightful it will look, made up in a plain or printed material, either one, but choose something colorful, because it's such a gay, young little dress.

Little Girl's Dress, With Doll.

Yes, this pattern brings you directions for making the little girl's dress, the doll, and a dress for the doll just like her small mama's. Just think how all that newness will make your little daughter dance with joy. The child's dress is a darling, with its full skirt, pockets, puff sleeves and round collar. Make it up in printed percale or gingham. Old-fashioned rickrack braid would be pretty to trim it.

The Classic Shirtwaist.

This is distinctly a woman's version of the indispensable shirtwaist dress, gracious, slenderizing and dignified. The shoulders are beautifully smooth and the skirt has exactly the correctly tailored, straight effect. It's so easy to make, and looks so smart, that you'll want it now in sheer wool or light-weight flannel, and later in tub silk or linen.

The Patterns.

1471 is designed for sizes 12 to 20 (30 to 38 bust). Size 14 (32) requires 4 1/2 yards of 39-inch material, with 3/4 yard of contrast for collar. Belt not included.

1411 is designed for sizes 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. Size 3 requires 1 3/4 yards of 39-inch material, with 3/4 yard of contrast for collar, and 1 1/2 yards of edging to trim. Doll's body is included in the pattern. Sixteen-inch doll requires 1/2 yard of 35-inch material, with 3/8 yard for doll's dress, and 3/4 yard of edging.

1207 is designed for sizes 34 to

Favorite Recipe of the Week

Pineapple Cream for Plain Cake.

MANY times the dessert question is a difficult one to decide upon, and there are other times when there is some pound cake, gingerbread, or plain butter cake left that needs to be made interesting to tempt the family. When these two situations meet, you will find that pineapple cream to serve over slices of any one of the kinds of cake will be just the trick to produce a lovely dessert.

Pineapple Cream.

8 oz. can crushed pineapple
1/2 pint pastry cream
1/4 cup marmalade, jam or jelly
Drain the juice from the pineapple and save it to use for something else, or just drink it. Whip the cream until stiff. Blend the cream with the drained pineapple and the marmalade, jam or jelly. By varying the kind of jam used the whole tone or flavor of the cream can be changed, and you will find any flavor blends well with the pineapple. Serve the pineapple cream over slices of the chosen cake.

This is a splendid dessert to serve for a bridge party or a nice luncheon as well as for the family.
MARJORIE H. BLACK.

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS

When Handling Hot Glass.—Handle hot glass cooking utensils with a dry cloth or pad; damp or wet cloths are apt to cause them to crack.

Prepare for Spring.—Now is a good time to collect cigar boxes or make flats for planting seeds indoors.

Cleaning Kitchen Utensils.—To remove the smudges from utensils used over an open flame rub with crumpled newspapers, then apply a few drops of kerosene to the paper and rub the kettle until it's clean. Wipe with more dry paper. Do not let any of the kerosene get inside the kettle.

Saving Sheets.—To salvage sheets that have been torn down the center, tear them completely apart, sew the selvages together, and hem the edges.

Improving Cocoa.—The flavor of hot cocoa or chocolate may be improved by adding one-fourth teaspoon of vanilla to each cup of milk.

MEN LOVE GIRLS WITH PEP

If you are peppy and full of fun, 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. WRITE-OUT FAIL from your druggist—more than a million women have written in letters reporting benefit. Why not try LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND?

Buoyant Youth
Youth, with buoyant hopes, turns, like marigolds, toward the sunny side.—Jean Ingelow.

Smokers know that
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Menthol Cough Drops 5¢

"... soothe a raw throat instantly."

Without Horrors
War is delightful to those who have had no experience of it.—Erasmus.

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