

# Floyd Gibbons'

## ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



### "Panic in the Dark"

HELLO EVERYBODY:

Here's the story of a cock-eyed railroad accident—so cock-eyed that everything seems to work just the opposite from what it should. You know, when anyone mentions railroad accident to me I immediately think of a collision. But Marcella Timer of Clifton, N. J., was in one once that not only wasn't a collision, but as a matter of fact, was just the opposite of a collision.

That sounds pretty doggone near impossible, and I know it. Two railroad cars coming together can cause a mighty serious accident. On the other hand, two cars getting farther and farther apart every minute—well—that ought to be just about the safest thing on tracks. But it was the ever-widening distance between two cars that threw Mrs. Timer right into the lap of Adventure and caused all the horror, and panic, and suffering that you're going to read about today.

Marcella's husband is a traveling representative for a New York firm. In the summer of 1925 he was covering the New England territory. The Timer's home was then in Ridgefield Park, N. J., but Marcella with her two children, a boy, six, and a baby girl not quite a year old, was touring New England with her husband.

It was about the middle of July and they were in Hartford, Conn., when the baby developed a colic and began running a high fever. Marcella decided to take the children home to Ridgefield Park. They arrived in New York on a terrifically hot day, crossed to New Jersey and got on a West Shore train at Weehawken about four-thirty in the afternoon.

#### Train Comes to Stop in Tunnel.

"I don't know whether you're acquainted with the West Shore railroad at this point," Marcella writes, "but it has a long tunnel under the city of Weehawken which comes out on the Jersey meadows about seven miles from where it begins. I had often



Passengers began to show signs of uneasiness.

been through this tunnel and had never given it a second thought." But many are the thoughts Marcella has given that doggone tunnel since.

She boarded the train for Ridgefield Park and found seats in the next to the last coach. The train started, and entered the tunnel as usual. It was about half way through when it began to slow down and came to a gradual stop. That wasn't unusual. Trains often did that. Marcella paid no attention to it and neither did any of the other passengers.

After a while the lights went out. That WAS unusual. The passengers began to get restless. A conductor was running up and down outside the coaches swinging a red lantern. A second conductor had stationed himself at the door. The day had been hot enough in the first place, but down there in the tunnel it was stifling. The windows of the cars were all closed to keep out the poisonous gases that filled the tunnel at all times, and what little air there was in the beginning was rapidly being used up.

The baby, whose fever had mounted, began to scream at the top of her lungs. Several other passengers began to show signs of uneasiness. Some of the men got up and approached the door, but the conductor would not let them pass, nor would he give any satisfactory explanation why the train was standing still in a dark and gas-ridden tunnel.

For a few minutes after that all was quiet. Then, suddenly, panic gripped the people in that dark, stifling car. One man leaped to a window and threw it open. "They can't keep us in here to suffocate like rats," he shouted. "I'm getting out!" He clambered through the window, and many others followed him. And almost immediately the coach was filled with the sulphurous, poisonous gases of the tunnel.

"Then," says Marcella, "terror such as I had never known before gripped me. My baby stopped screaming suddenly and became very still. My little boy leaned with unnatural weight against my side. In the pitch darkness everyone was gasping for breath. Some man shouted to everyone to lie down on the floor. I couldn't get down with the two children. But I prayed—and how I prayed!"

#### Coal Gas Fills Passenger Coaches.

"Women were fainting and men's lungs were wracked with a hacking cough that only filled them with more coal gas. I felt as if a hand of steel were gripping at my throat. Then I began to sink down into a dark, black pit of nothingness that seemed to be coming up to meet me. I tried to fight it off, but it seemed it was no use. Deeper and deeper into the gloom I sank. Subconsciously I felt the train jar and shake, but by that time it didn't mean anything. It is the last thing I remembered. Then I was unconscious."

Now let's go back and tell the part of the story Marcella didn't know anything about. What had happened was that a coupling had broken, and the front part of the train had gone on, leaving the last two coaches behind in the middle of the tunnel. It was the exact opposite of a collision, but the conductors realized that it was serious, nevertheless. One of them went out into the gas-filled tunnel with a red lantern to make sure that the cars weren't hit by another train, while the other tried to keep the passengers from leaving the comparative safety of the car.

When the front of the broken train reached the meadows, the loss of the two cars was discovered and an emergency engine was sent immediately. But it had taken 20 minutes to accomplish that, and in the meantime the passengers in those two stranded cars had breathed in a lot of coal gas.

Ambulances were waiting when they reached the mouth of the tunnel, to give first aid. "And maybe you think we didn't need it," says Marcella. "My little boy and I were revived almost immediately, but it was only with a terrific struggle that my little girl's life was saved." And if Marcella had to go through another railroad accident, I think she'd pick a good old-fashioned collision in preference to one of those trick accidents where the cars all go in different directions.

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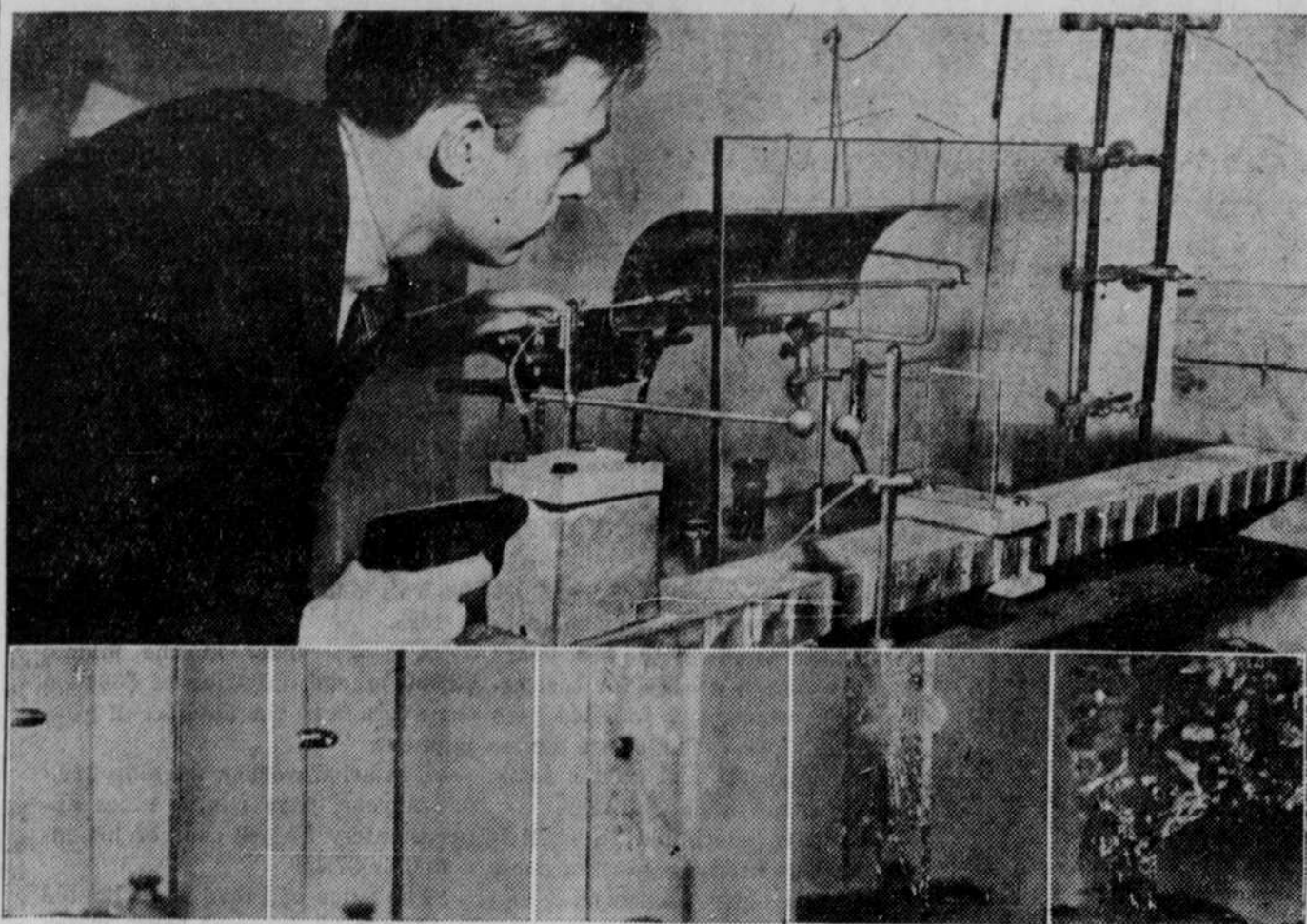
#### The Greatest Novelist

There is a wide diversity of opinion among even the greatest literary critics on the subject of the greatest novelist of all time, but John Cowper Powys in his "Enjoyment of Literature" says of Dostoevsky that he is as much greater than all other novelists as Homer and Shakespeare than all other poets: "For he is superior to the rest in all the main essentials of fiction. He is a greater artist, a greater psychologist, a greater prophet, a greater thinker."

#### Many Uses for Heather

The heather which covers Scotland's great hunting moors once had more use than as a protection for grouse, in that Highlanders formerly used it for everything from walls to beds. Alternating with layers of mortar, it was built into the walls of houses and was also used for thatching. Comfortable beds were once made of it and it was also very popular as a pot scourer. Even a dye was extracted from heather and in Northern Scotland it was often twisted into fine ropes.

## Super Speed Pictures Show Bullet in Flight



Extremely rapid photographs, taken at one-millionth of a second, were demonstrated recently by Dr. F. W. Godwin of the Armour Institute of Technology. The process of photographing a bullet in flight (inset) as it breaks through a pane of glass was accomplished by shooting the bullet so that it passes just below two poles of a spark gap; the gases from the firing of the bullet trail the missile, thus setting off the spark gap, which in turn causes a discharge of 38,000 volts in a partial vacuum, for the necessary illumination. An ordinary miniature camera was used in the experiment.

### Pooch Guides Donkey in Daily Jaunt



Sandy, canine pet of a Margate, England, contractor, is a firm friend of the seaside donkeys, three of which are kept at local stables during their winter vacation. Here he is taking one of his friends out for a walk about the neighboring streets. A dependable pooch, Sandy is much in demand for donkey constitutionals.

### ROYAL REUNION



Three-year-old Lance, who was the center of a marital dispute between his parents last summer, being greeted by Count Haugwitz-Reventlow in St. Moritz, Switzerland. Lance's mother is the former Barbara Hutton.

### WINTER SPORTS FAN



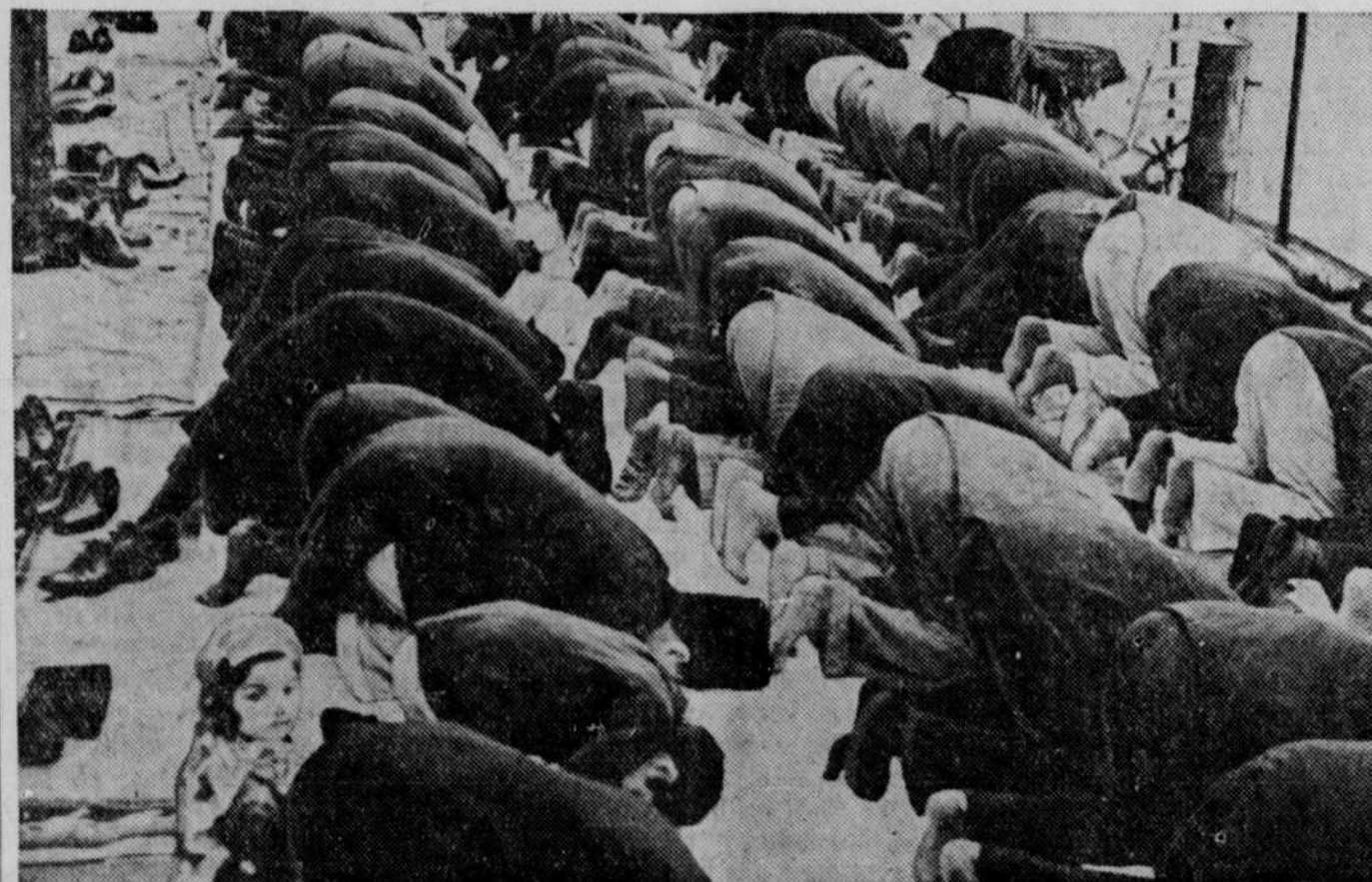
Premier Benito Mussolini, an ardent sportsman, both summer and winter, spins down a mountain slope on a pair of skis during a sojourn to Caminate, Italy.

### Peasant Boy 'Strikes' King Boris



As King Boris and Queen Joanna of Bulgaria stood on the steps of a Sofia cathedral, young boys paraded past and "struck" the king with thin staffs as a symbol of their wishes for the king's health and prosperity. Here the king is presenting silver coins to a young peasant boy.

## Mohammedans Prepare for Coming of New Year



Mohammedans will unite in sunset prayer services on February 20, to usher in their new year with picturesque religious observances. Shown here is a Moslem service at the Woking mosque in London, England. The slightly irreverent little girl in the left foreground pays little attention to the advent of the Mohammedan "ear 1358.

## Beauty Aids Not Intended For Children

By PATRICIA LINDSAY

MANY mothers write asking such questions as these: "Do you believe in permanent waves for young children?" "My child has a very pale face. When she goes to parties should I rouge her cheeks?" "My young daughter likes colored nail polish. She is only nine. Should I let her wear it?"

And once in a while I get a question which makes me gasp—"I want my child, who is now five years old, to have a perfect complexion when she grows up. Should I give her a facial once a week at a beauty parlor?"

Of course, my answer to all of those questions is "No—Definitely no!"

A child should be allowed to grow into an adult, unhampered. Her tender hair can be ruined with intense heat and harmful lotions; her skin can be marred for life by creams which were made for aging beauty, not virgin beauty; and how horrible to look at is a young child with lacquered nails or rouged cheeks!

If you wish your child to grow into a beauty be watchful over the fundamentals of a healthy body and mind. See that she is fed the foods that will nourish her. Foods that will strengthen her tiny bones and teeth. Foods that will keep her skin fresh as a dew-kissed petal.

Brush the darling's hair regularly, away from the scalp with a brush that is kept sterilized and used for her very own. Keep her scalp clean, free from rashes and dandruff. Try to discover a natural wave in her hair, and press it between your fingers while it is damp to encourage its curl.

### Self Neglect Never Justified

What mother failed to do was this. She neglected herself in order to shower daughter with much—much she didn't need. When daughter was at the going-out age, she saw other mothers who were attractive, who could speak on current topics and books, who were more or less companionable to their own daughters. By comparison her mother fell short. Didn't she? Yes, the doting mother failed to keep modern. Her offspring outshines her.

What these disappointed mothers should do, now that their daughters have grown, is to spend much more time thinking about themselves! Buy some new clothes, get a new hair-do and a few beauty treatments—if the budget will stand for them by crossing out daughter's ordinary provisions! Those will restore self-respect.

To restore self-assurance get active in something, preferably local, which will bring you out of the home into social activity. Read books, magazines, go to movies. Develop a personality—because you have drowned yours in your daughter's. Don't blame her. She is young and youth is ruthless! Win your own self esteem back and it will not be long before people will be saying, "Alice should be attractive and talented, just look at her mother!"

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### HINT-OF-THE-DAY

#### Be Kind to Tender Skins

Plain soap and water is the most reliable of all skin cleansers, but there are some skins that do not react satisfactorily to this method of cleaning.

Some women find that when they use soap and water on the face there is a tendency to dryness and itching. Sometimes a slight rash will appear for a day or so.

Women whose skins react in this manner should avoid standing under the shower, and even for the tub bath it is advisable to cover the face and neck with a cream or vaseline. A generous coat of vaseline will repel all steam and water. When soap and water are used, it should be at a time when there is no irritation. The water should be tepid, never hot.

Use a wash cloth or complexion brush to wash well around the nose and mouth, as well as the face and neck. After a few moments remove the soap with cool water rinsing, cover the face and neck with a towel and pat dry.

Then apply a good smooth cleansing cream—one with a good oil base, and never the vanishing cream, which often has an alkali or soap base. After removing the cleansing cream, use a good tissue cream.

#### Just Say Adrenalin

There's dichlorodifluoromethane in your kitchen, even if you don't know it, and there's probably diphenylparaphenylenediamine, and para-isopropoxydiphenylamine and tetramethylthiuramdisulfide in your car. That first jawbreaker is the probable refrigerant in your refrigerator. The next three are curing, or accelerating or anti-oxidizing agents in auto tires. And if the doctor says so, you better get some 3, 4-dihydroxyphenyl methylaminomethyl-enexarbinol hydrochloride, from the druggist—but say adrenalin—it's easier, says an authority in the Philadelphia Record.

## CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

### TIMBER WANTED

CASH PAID FOR WALNUT LOGS OR TIMBER Midwest Walnut Co., Council Bluffs, Ia.

### SAFETY TALKS

#### Crossing the Road

HERE'S the modern counterpart of the ancient chicken poser: Why does a pedestrian cross the road—at the wrong places and without looking?

That's what the National Safety Council is trying to find out after an examination of its records which proved that at least a third of the pedestrians killed in rural areas and 40 per cent of those killed in cities were crossing at places other than intersections.

In 1937, the loss of life from these classifications mounted over the 5,600 mark.

## NEVER SLEEP ON AN "UPSET" STOMACH



Neutralize excess stomach acids to wake up feeling like a million

To relieve the effects of over-indulgence—escape "acid indigestion" next day—do this: Take 2 tablespoonfuls of Phillips' Milk of Magnesia in a glass of water—AT BEDTIME.

While you sleep, this wonderful alkaliizer will be sweetening your stomach... easing the upset-feeling and nausea... helping to bring back a "normal" feeling. By morning you feel great.

Then—when you wake—take 2 more tablespoonfuls of Phillips' Milk of Magnesia with orange juice.

That is one of the quickest, simplest, easiest ways to overcome the bad effects of too much eating, smoking or drinking. Thousands use it.

But—never ask for "milk of magnesia" alone—always ask for "Phillips' Milk of Magnesia."

PHILLIPS' MILK OF MAGNESIA  
★ IN LIQUID OR TABLET FORM

#### Our Relationship

Nothing will tempt a man to deal unjustly with his fellow men after his eyes have once been opened to the truth of brotherhood.—Samuel M. Jones.

## TRUE!

"Like lemons, Luden's contain a factor that helps contribute to your alkaline reserve. I prefer Luden's."



EDNA RIGGS, Lecturer, Los Angeles

LUDEN'S MENTHOL COUGH DROPS 5¢

#### Patience Brings Peace

Patience ought to be the first attribute of the man who loves peace.—Paul Painleve.

## NERVOUS?

Do you feel so nervous you want to scream? Are you cross and irritable? Do you scold those dearest to you?

If your nerves are on edge and you feel you need a good general system tonic, try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made especially for women.

For over 60 years one woman has told another how to go "smiling thru" with reliable Pinkham's Compound. It helps nature build up more physical resistance and thus helps calm quivering nerves and lessen discomfort from annoying symptoms which often accompany female functional disorders.

Why not give it a chance to help YOU? Over one million women have written in reporting wonderful benefits from Pinkham's Compound.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Have you anything around the house you would like to trade or sell? Try a classified ad. The cost is only a few cents and there are probably a lot of folks looking for just whatever it is you no longer have use for.