# Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!

"The Color of Death"

TELLO EVERYBODY:

You know, if Death can be said to have a color, most people would say that color was black. Maybe a few of us would pick red as the most appropriate hue for some of the more violent forms of the thing. But to Elizabeth Murphy of Queens, N. Y., the color associated with death and danger -and adventure, is khaki. And khaki it will always remain to Elizabeth.

There's a doggone good reason behind Elizabeth's way of thinking, and that reason goes back to the days when she ed prosperity from war orders, inwas a girl in Ireland, living with her mother and dad. Back sisting that these will not be so great to July 6, 1921, when, if you'll remember, the Black and as expected. But the chief thing Tan revolution was going on in the Emerald Isle!

Maybe you'll remember, too, that that was a pretty tough revolution. The Irish fought a guerrilla warfare, and the English sent some pretty tough customers over to keep order. All through that mix-up, Elizabeth's family ran a pub, or bar, in the little town of Dingle, County Kerry, and on that fateful July day two "Tans," as the British troopers were called, walked in and called

"Tans" Start Drinking in Murphy Barroom. "We lived in the rooms upstairs over the bar," says Elizabeth, "and each member of the family, from mother and father on down, did his or her bit behind the bar. On this particular day mother and I were on duty, mother behind the bar and I on the outside handing trays of drinks around. The 'Tans' sat down and drank steadily, and after several 'small paddies' one of them began to get obstreperous and nasty, and poor mother tried to quiet him down by being extra nice to him."

But mother didn't have much success with the fellow. She had barely started talking to him when he began to get abusive, and then threatening. And mother thought it would be best to change the subject. The



surly fellow was wearing a pair of brand new khaki pants and in order to get his mind on something beside threats and violence she said, "You've got on a fine new pair of pants. That material would make a lovely skirt."

The fellow turned suddenly to Elizabeth. "Would you like a skirt made out of this stuff?" he demanded. And without thinking, Elizabeth said, "No, I wouldn't care for it." And the next minute she knew she had said the wrong thing!

"At the time I said it," she says, "I had no idea of casting any aspersion on the king's khaki, but this brave bucko flew into a rage. 'So you don't like the color, eh?' he shouted. 'Well,

I'll make you like it!' " And the next thing Elizabeth knew, he had her by the throat!

Crazed Soldier Terrorizes Daughter of Inn Keeper. "He grabbed me with his right hand," she says, "and he kept choking

and choking, and at the same time shouting over and over again, 'Do you like it?-Do you like it?' without even giving me a chance to answer. It would have done him no good if he had, for by that time my Irish temper was up and I'd prefer to choke rather than make a sign that I had the planes to Europe-from Newgiven in to him.

But all of a sudden Elizabeth heard something that cooled off that temper of hers. A revolver shot! At the same moment, the second "Tan" leaped up from the table where he had been sitting quietly all the time, caught hold of his partner and made him let go of Elizabeth's throat. And then Elizabeth saw the revolver. It was in the hand of her attacker. While he had choked her with his right hand he had fired that shot with his left. He had missed. The bullet had flattened against the hinge of the door. But now Elizabeth knew she was dealing with a man in a mood to commit actual murder-and she was scared to death.

The second "Tan" was remonstrating with the first. "Would you shoot the girl?" he was saying. The first "Tan" roared, "Yes, I'll shoot her. I don't care who she is!" Another argument was starting, and Elizabeth, thoroughly frightened by this time, tried to smooth it over. "It's all right," she said. "He wasn't aiming at me."

And again the wrong thing had been said. For the surly "Tan" whirled on her suddenly, whipped up his revolver again and cried, "You think so? Well, this time I won't miss!"

Then the battle started in earnest. The second "Tan" grabbed his arm and tried to wrest the gun from him, and at the same time he shouted to Elizabeth to run. "And boy," says Elizabeth, "I did run."

Elizabeth Escapes Clutches of Tormentor. She dashed out of the bar and into the house next door. The neighbors there had heard the shot and wanted to know what was the matter. Elizabeth didn't even stop to explain. She dashed through that house to the back door and out into the yard. And the neighbors, knowing

what sort of thing can happen in a country that is fighting a revolution, ran along behind her. There were three of them in that neighbor family. Elizabeth climbed the fence into the next yard, and they followed. That next yard led to a In Presidential Campaign carpenter's workshop, and the carpenter, and his workmen, when they saw four people dash through his place without even a word of explanation, decided they'd better run, too. Out in the street more people paign so soon to open if the old

joined in the panic. There was quite a little bunch of us, all on the run together," says Elizabeth, "by the time things quieted down and somebody shouted to us that the 'Tans' had left the locality and we would have no more to fear from them."

Elizabeth says that now she looks back on it, she can see a certain amount of humor in the situation of half a town running because one drunken "Tan" had fired a revolver, but doggone if she could see it then. "I have always believed," she says, "that I owe my life to that "Tan" who interfered with the other one. And wouldn't it have been awful to have died all because of a pair of khaki pants?" (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Tom Thumb Presented to Royal Family in 1854 Stratton) was born at Bridgeport, Conn., on January 4, 1838. His parshowed no peculiarity until he reached the age of seven months, when he ceased to grow. In 1842 his mother took him to P. T. Barnum. At that time he was 28 inches in height and weighed a little more than 15 pounds, though he later increased in size. He was perfectly proportioned, active, and intelligent. His exhibitions proved a great suc-

Tom Thumb (Charles Sherwood | to the queen and royal family. In 1863 Tom Thumb married Lavinia Warren, a dwarf, and together they ents were of normal size and he traveled widely and gave exhibitions. He died at Middleborough, Mass., on July 15, 1883.

'Keep Fit' Program

The federal government has lent support to Australia's "Keep Fit" campaign by establishing \$5,000 annual subsidies for lectureships in physical education at the six Australian universities. The universicess and in 1854 he was taken to ties will be required to grant di-England by Barnum and presented | plomas in physical education.

#### NATIONAL **AFFAIRS**

Reviewed by CARTER FIELD

Laymen offset economists' gloom with war order prospects . . . Importance of embargo votes in presidential campaign . . . Washington hears that German army officers plotted Soviet tie-up.

WASHINGTON .- Most of the New Deal economists have not been optimistic about business and employment prospects for the coming spring. They have heavily discountworrying them is inventories. They insist that American producers have piled up tremendous stocks in anticipation of popular demand, that this demand has not increased in proportion, and that hence production must ease off. They are not predicting anything remotely resembling a crash, just an increase in unemployment.

These arguments are pretty nearly the whole case of those left wingers who have been screaming lately for a new spending orgy by the federal government. It is only fair to say at this point that this desire for federal spending, so essential in the eyes of most left wingers, is neither the chicken nor the egg in this case. Some of the government economists making this prediction of spring conditions are personally not in sympathy with spending at all. They are holdoversnot appointees given places at the suggestion of the Frankfurter-Corcoran-Cohen group.

But to the layman, so ignorant of statistics that he might have difficulty understanding one of the elaborate charts so dear to the economists, there is much skepticism about these gloomy prophecies. The war orders are very tangible. They are tremendous. They promise to grow bigger. Far from slowing them down, sinking of ships carrying the supplies to Britain and France will increase the demand, for every cargo sunk must be re-

clearly faced the British and French, they would still be compelled to keep on buying, and to buy twice as much as though the seas were clear! They have to defend themselves and eventually to win the war, as they see it, and though neither the British nor the French will like wasting money, money is not and cannot be the prime essential for a long time to come.

May Fly Planes to Europe To Avoid U-Boat Menace

Already there is talk about flying foundland-to circumvent the submarine menace. But it is obvious that the more serious the submarine menace becomes, and the more serious the menace of German bombing planes becomes, the more airplanes Britain and France will need -both to fight Nazi planes and to spot Nazi subs.

the whole situation with a cold economic eye, it is obvious that American factories producing planes, munitions and other sapplies for the allies are going to be kept pretty busy. It is just as obvious that the people working in those plants will have money to spend, and hence will buy things calculated to keep other lines of production occupied. The very argument so much used by left wingers as to the advantage of federal spending-in that the dollars spent keep right on circulating -applies with equal force to this war spending.

Besides, there will be heavy federal spending, even though no great new WPA fund or anything of the kind is voted by congress.

Embargo Votes May Figure

The Republicans are headed for a lot of grief in the presidential cammaxim of history, that one must judge the future by the past, holds good. The point is that an overwhelming majority of the Republicans in the house and senate voted against lifting the arms embargo. while the Democrats, also in overwhelming majority, voted to lift it.

The number of Republicans in the house voting against accepting the conference report-actually the final vote on the embargo-was 141. To these must be added four Republican members not voting but paired against it, which brings the total to 145. Only 19 Republican house members voted to approve the conference report, with one more, making 20, paired on that side. Thus the ratio is 71/4 to 1. Whereas the Democrats in the house voted 222 for the conference report, or for lifting the arms embargo, and only 29 voted against it, a ratio of about

It really amounts to this, that the Democrats voted to follow their leader, President Roosevelt, while the Republicans voted to follow their leaders, with almost an equal proportion of each party bolting

their leadership on the ballot. Now all this might readily become unimportant if certain things happened. But the chances seem at least 100 to 1 that these things will not happen before the nominating

conventions next June. Let us consider what these things could be. First, there might be peace before that time. But the chances for peace seem mighty slim, and growing thinner every passing day. To illustrate this, some bets were laid in mid-September that peace would come before November 1, this year. The odds were 10 to 1 against peace, but nevertheless there were takers of the long shot.

How Shrewd Political Observers Dope It Out

The logic of those betting on peace was that, having conquered Poland and obtained all the objectives over which the war started, Hitler would make a reasonable peace offer, and that France and Britain, hopeless of liberating Poland, would accept Hitler's offer.

The shrewdest political observers here believe that if the war is still going on next June and next November, politicians running for office will benefit by having cast a vote calculated to help Britain and France, and suffer by the reverse, except in a number of congressional districts so small as not to have much national significance. If the United States should meantime have gotten into the war, it is true, the pro-embargo side might be able to say "I told you so," but that would not be very good political medicine for a country in the fresh fury of a war fever, sound as it might be four years later.

Hear German Army Officers Plotted Soviet Tie-Up

One of the reasons being given in well-informed diplomatic circles here in Washington for the Soviet-Nazi pact is the utter distrust by the high German army officers of Italy. Not that they distrusted Mussolini's intentions. What they lacked confidence in was the fighting abil-Further, they regarded Italy as being highly vulnerable to attack by they figured that, as an ally, Italy would be a liability rather than an asset.

According to these reports, based on excellent authority, the high German officers had been plotting for the tie-up with the Soviet for many place the conception of the notion has told his own conviction Stalin finally became converted to the idea immediately after Hitler's famous purge. Up to that time he had doubted whether Hitler was sufficiently ruthless to stay in power long enough to be a real ally.

The two theories, coming from such widely separated sources, fit Sees Passing of together very nicely. Especially as the reports about the objectives, now accomplished, of the high German officers are that they did not convince Hitler of the soundness of their plans until just prior to the outbreak of the war.

"The process was very much like water wearing away rock," said one of this writer's informants. "Hitler did not accept the idea readily at all. When it was finally put to him, after a long process of letting him hear this or that report that the Italian army would be of no value, and this and that discussion of how vulnerable Italy would be to Starting from that, and looking at | British and French attacks, Hitler almost had a brainstorm.

"'What!' he shouted to the officers at this particular conference. 'Tie up Germany with the Commitern? Absurd.' But he had been set thinking about it, and pretty soon it became obvious that no other course could be followed.

"What the British and French were thinking about I cannot imagine. But every well-informed per-

High Army Officers Kept Pegging Away at Hitler

Every now and then, according to this version, some high army officer would be able to see Hitler for some reason or other. Always Albert Sarraut something would be said by the army representative to Hitler which would be calculated to make him Pacific the Next see the inevitability of the tieup with the Soviet, no matter what its cost. There was no need for similar work at Moscow. Stalin had been converted to the theory for several

years. An entirely new twist on the whole story has been brought back from Berlin by well-informed Americans with excellent connections since the outbreak of the war. This theory, not soundly substantiated but interesting, is that Hitler did not intend to keep faith with Stalin when he finally agreed to give his high army officers their way as to the tieup with the Soviet. The essence of this was that Hitler hoped to use the Russian alliance as a sure-fire stopper to prevent Britain and France from going to war. Then he hoped to block Stalin when it came to delivering, either in Poland, around

the Baltic, or in the Balkans. But destiny moved otherwise. Britain and France were allowed to get too far out on the war limb before they were apprized of the deal between Berlin and Moscow. So they started fighting. So apparently Stalin will get all he was promised without much danger of a

double-cross! (Bell Syndicate-WNU Service.)



### WHO'S **NEWS** THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

JEW YORK .- Rudolf Friml, mak-

er of melodies for 25 years, final-

ly gives credit to his collaborators. With the ouiji board, he's always Noted Composer with great Credits Ethereal composers, Collaborators and every once in a while they help him round out a score. He never knew why the "Song of the Vagabonds" just sang itself through in five minutes, faster than he could score it, until he learned that he had an ethereal spokesman, or spooksman.

His career, from the start on down to his present fifty-ninth year, is a testimonial to occult guidance, in planting him always in the highway of Lady Luck. In Prague, his birthplace, his father worked in a bakery. One day, his mother gave his father money to buy wood. Fates or phantoms guided him instead to a pawn shop, where he made a down payment on a tiny piano. Rudolf's mother was so angry she wanted to chop it to pieces, but the boy persuaded her to let him keep it. One day the owner of the bakery passed by, heard the lad playing beautifully and helped groove him into his musical career.

At the age of 10, he had published a barcarolle. In the musical conservatory of Prague, where he ity of the Italian army and navy. studied under Antonin Dvorak, he teamed up with Jan Kubelik. They were playing at a concert which Britain and France. Altogether Daniel Frohman happened opportunely to attend. He took them to the United States for a tour of 80

Whether or not Mr. Friml was just an amanuensis for spirits, his compositions streamed along rapidly-"Glorianna," "The Firefly," "Kayears. Some of the authorities tinka," "High Jinks," "Music Hath Charms," "The Vagabond King," For example, if a situation should in German army circles as far back and a whole album of others, none arise under which every other cargo as 1923. W. G. Krivitzky, in his ar- of them seeming to be of ghostly exported to Europe were destroyed, | ticles in the Saturday Evening Post, | inspiration. Hollywood still keeps

> H. GORDON SELFRIDGE, the Anglo - American merchant prince, visiting this country, makes it a tossup between communism

> H. G. Selfridge and ruinous Queried about communism Success Idyll

overrunning Europe after the war, he asks, "What of it? What is the difference between communism and a society where a tax takes half of the income and a surtax the other half?"

He says the day of initiative and enterprise is past. He is an authority on that subject. Sixty-two years ago, he swept out a store in Ripon, Wis. Two years later, he was an errand boy for Marshall Field & Co. in Chicago, and a partner when he quit, in 1904. Punch ribbed him mercilessly when he opened his store in London, and the smart salons were full of clever mots about the American invader. He made them like him. He hired as head of his dress department Lady Afflick, who had thought up the cleverest jokes about him.

Here in 1937, he was optimistic about Europe and the world in general. Now he says, "The opportunity to achieve and to show results son in Berlin knew what was going has been eliminated all over the world."

A LBERT SARRAUT, French minister of interior, swings on the French Reds with a spiked club. He links them with the Germans and promises to sweep them from all "vil-Tough One Day,

lages, municipalities, cities and towns." And he means to do

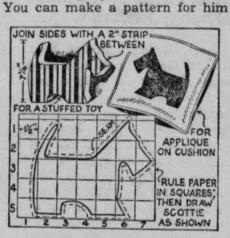
just that. M. Sarraut, as governor-general of French Indo-China, was regarded as a hard-fisted and implacable colonial administrator. Returning to his country villa in France, he read Tolstoy, and renounced all belief in force. When he became minister of interior, his enemies, catching him thus off guard, swarmed all over him. He resigned from the ministry and said:

"I find now that I have no desire to smite hip and thigh those who do not think as I do. You gentlemen take over the job and see what you can do with it."

He again became minister of the interior, but offered his resignation when King Alexander was assassinated in Marseilles. But, taking the premiership, he again swung his war club, hotly denouncing obstructionists and meddlers. Alternately tough and conciliatory, he is a veteran of the rough-and-tumble of French politics. A vacation, in his garden, where he is given to reading and meditating, is apt to bring on the Tolstoyan mood. (Consolidated Features-WNU Service.)

#### Gay Scottie Pattern For Pillow or Toy

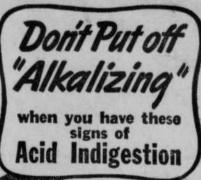
By RUTH WYETH SPEARS BY FAR the most admired toy in a gay and modern nursery was a red and black striped Scottie with a gleam in his button eye. This pattern was used for an applique for Sonny's pillow which met with enthusiastic approval. By this time it seemed obvious that a Scottie might solve the Christmas gift problem for any number of people. So here he is.



yourself by following the diagram. By ruling the paper in either larger or smaller squares, you may make a dog any size desired. A tiny applique is amusing for a bathrobe or jacket pocket.

NOTE: Readers who are now

using Sewing Books No. 1, 2 and 3 will be happy to learn that No. 4 is ready for mailing; as well as the 10-cent editions of No. 1, 2 and 3. Mrs. Spears has just made quilt block patterns for three designs selected from her favorite Early American quilts. You may have these patterns FREE with your order for four books. Price of books-10 cents each postpaid. Set of three quilt block patterns without books-10 cents. Send orders to Mrs. Spears, Drawer 10, Bedford Hills, New York.





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PHILLIPS' MILK OF MAGNESIA

## Which are the only cough drops

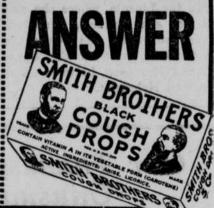
Vitamin A? (CAROTENE)

Respect Your Host

bread ye eat.-Proverb.

Never speak ill o' them whose

containing



To bear is to conquer our fate. 1—Thomas Campbell.

WINTER DOUBLES DRIVING ACCIDENTS Don't Take Thances!

• When winter dumps snow and ice on roads and highways, the crash rate goes up. Lives are lost. People are injured. Cars and trucks require expensive repairs. Accident costs are tremendous. Even the most careful drivers are in danger. A quick, safe stop may be necessary any second. Play safe. Don't gamble. Keep tire chains in your car and truck and be ready for stormy weather.

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