



# FLOYD GIBBONS

## Adventurers' Club

### Hello, Everybody!

#### "A Mother's Defense"

By FLOYD GIBBONS  
Famous Headline Hunter.

THIS time, boys and girls, it's Mrs. Elizabeth Jacobs of Brooklyn, N. Y. Next time it may be you.

In 1927, Mrs. Jacobs lived in a secluded part of Ridgewood, in an apartment house that was the only one in that section at the time. A short block away was a cemetery which stretched out for about a mile. It was deathly quiet at night and the tombstones shining white in the moonlight made it seem more so. The very atmosphere of the neighborhood, Mrs. Jacobs says, gave one the creeps and none of the women would venture out after dark.

But this story has nothing to do with the cemetery. It only added to the fear of the tenants when one evening at dusk piercing screams of agony shattered the usual silence of the night.

#### Hearing Screams the Neighbors Rushed In.

Mrs. Jacobs nearly jumped out of her skin when she heard them. She rushed to the dumbwaiter and added her cries to the din. She knew the other tenants could hear her and she called for them to come to her apartment. In a few minutes several men and more women arrived and the group of neighbors located the screams as coming from an apartment on the first floor occupied by a young widow and her two infant children.

They burst in the apartment and a strange sight met their eyes. A strange man, dressed partly in woman's clothes, lay on the kitchen floor writhing in pain. A vapor rose from his wet garments as he thrashed about. He was obviously badly hurt. The two children, in a nearby room, awakened by the noise, were doing their part by crying lustily. The body of the widowed mother lay on the floor in the living room.

The whole incident was wrapped in mystery. The man was too delirious to answer questions, the children too young and the widow unconscious. Mrs. Jacobs says the whole thing gave her the "willies."

While the men tried to soothe the man, the women devoted themselves to the widow. She had fainted but soon revived and told the whole story. Let's reconstruct it just as it happened:

#### A Little Old Woman Knocked at the Door.

Mrs. Burke, the widow, had just put her babies to bed and was bolting their underclothes in a small washbottle on the stove when she heard a rap on the kitchen door. She opened the door and there stood a little old woman, bent over with age and shivering from the cold. Mrs. Burke's heart was touched at the pitiful sight and she invited the poor creature in to have a warm cup of tea and a bite to eat. The old woman thanked her and came in.

Mrs. Burke then drew up a chair for her and busied herself with the making of the tea. Suddenly as she turned from the stove her heart came into her mouth.

#### Criminal Disguised as Woman Terrorized Widow.

Her visitor was not a woman at all, but a man! She could see a man's pants leg hanging out below the tattered skirt! The man saw her consternation and stopped his acting. He jumped to



A Man's Pants Legs Hung Below the Skirt.

his feet and straightening up to his full height grabbed Mrs. Burke roughly by the arm.

"Gimme your money," he growled, "or I'll kill you." Mrs. Burke was terror-stricken. The thought of her two babies sleeping peacefully while their mother might be murdered made her decide not to resist. With the intruder holding on to her arm with a grip of steel, she led him to her bedroom and gave him her pocketbook. She told the thief it was all she had and begged him, for her children's sake, not to harm her. The man only laughed as he dragged her back to the kitchen. He looked at her hands.

"Gimme that ring," he demanded. The man's eyes narrowed. He twisted her arm cruelly. He forced her hand open and tried to tear the ring from her finger.

"Gimme that ring," he snarled, "or I'll cut off your finger." That threat was too much for the distracted mother. She wet her finger and started to remove the ring. But as she did her mind worked fast. The man she knew now was a desperate criminal. Desperate methods must be used to fight him. She spared for time like a boxer as she tried to think of a weapon. The wash boiler with the babies' clothes came to her mind! Perhaps!

#### She Hurlled a Steaming Wash Boiler Over Him.

The ring came off. She threw it on the floor. For a moment she thought the man was going to make her pick it up. If he did all was lost. But he didn't. His greedy eyes sought the ring on the floor. He bent down to pick it up.

And that, by golly, is something a thief should never do. In a flash Mrs. Burke acted. She picked the small wash boiler off the stove and before the thief could rise had hurled the boiling contents over his bent form!

Wow! No wonder the tenants heard screams! The badly scalded thief rolled on the floor in agony; the children woke up and cried and the mother, with her precious engagement ring safe, promptly fainted.

Of course, the police came finally and identified the man as an habitual criminal. They congratulated the brave little mother and took her attacker to jail.

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#### Olive Crop in Italy Has Much to Do With Business

"There is gold in the olive," says an Italian proverb, and it is true that in many parts of Italy prosperity depends upon the success of the olive crop. As, for various reasons, this success cannot be expected every year, notes a writer in the Montreal Herald, the trees are always watched with much interest and anxiety from the time of their flowering until the fruit matures.

Except in a few mountainous districts, olives grow everywhere in Italy, which leads the world in oil production and exportation. But Sicily and the neighborhood of Bari contain the greatest number of trees, although the best oil is produced in slightly cooler regions, as, for instance, in Tuscany.

Olive trees look very much the same the year round, since all the leaves never fall at one time. The flowers are small and white. The olives are very small until toward

the end of the summer, and do not contain oil before autumn. Most varieties of olives turn a dark purple when ripe.

In different parts of Italy different methods of collecting the fruit are employed but generally it is picked by hand and carried with as little bruising as possible in flat baskets to the mill. It must be kept dry and clean and pressed at once, otherwise it is likely to spoil.

#### Oldest Species of Tree

The oldest species of tree in the world is the ginkgo, or maidenhair. It has existed essentially unchanged for more than 10,000,000 years. Moreover, the ginkgo grows very slowly, many trees having required as long as 75 years to mature and grow fruit.—Edith Pulver, New York City, in Collier's Weekly.

#### Smallpox Once Expected

Until comparatively recent times smallpox was looked upon as an unavoidable affliction.

## BRISBANE

### THIS WEEK

More Years, More Cares  
Monkeys and Yellow Fever  
The King Sees Poverty  
Ancient Koran Found

The French have a saying, referring to a man's age, "One year more, one care more"—Un an de plus, un soin de plus.

European nations might take for their motto, "One treaty more, one more danger of war."

Italy, Austria, Hungary have a three-power treaty under which Italy guarantees Austrian independence against any attempt by Germany to absorb Austria, for instance. There is possible cause for war if any cause were lacking.

Sao Paulo, Brazil, worries about reports brought by health officers from the forests of the upper Sorocabana area. In that region, where mosquitoes are thick, explorers frequently saw "monkeys with high fevers" drop out of trees and die, dozens of them, victims of yellow fever.

Fortunately for Brazil cities, the jungle mosquito that bites monkeys and gives them yellow fever keeps away from cities. The fight against disease-bearing mosquitoes and rats would keep men busy, if they were not busy already killing each other in war.

Edward VIII, new king of England, visited the magnificently luxurious ocean steamer Queen Mary in Glasgow, then went from home to house, knocking on doors, visiting some of the worst slum dwellings in all his kingdom.

Later, talking to Lord Melchett, the king put the problem of England, this country and the whole world in these few words:

"How do you reconcile a world that has produced this mighty ship with the slums we have just visited?"

A marvelously illustrated ancient manuscript of the Koran, found in a shop of an antiquity dealer of Cairo, Egypt, was bought for fifty pounds. Heaven knows how many thousands of pounds it is actually worth.

The Koran is said to have been written by a highly educated Jew, who suggested ideas to Mohammed, the latter being unable to write.

It is possible, however, that angels, supposed to have revealed divine truth to Mohammed, also taught him to write.

Good news for tree growers, fruit trees or others. You may get rid of insect pests by hammering the trunks of trees with a riveting machine, such as is used in driving rivets in city skyscrapers.

A California inventor patented the process. This writer proposes to try it on a New Jersey orchard at the earliest possible moment. The riveting is said to loosen the insect pests, after which it is easy to wash them off with a strong spray of water, no chemicals needed. To save the tree from injury, it is probably desirable to put several thicknesses of old automobile tires or tubes between the bark and the riveting machine.

There is plenty of money in this country, billions of it, Jesse Jones will tell you, but it is not circulating, as unhealthy for money in a country as for blood in your veins.

You know the strange, perhaps true, story of a man who unwittingly passed a counterfeit \$10 bill. It went through the hands of ten individuals, paid for \$100 worth of goods, and came back to the man who originally passed it. He identified and destroyed it.

One hundred dollars' worth of debts had been paid, nobody was any the worse. Money is a queer thing.

Do not give "living toys" to your children for Easter presents. Many parents and friends thoughtlessly give children helpless living creatures, easily hurt—live chicks, or newly hatched ducklings.

The helpless creatures are roughly treated, mutilated, fortunate if they happen to be promptly killed, by children that know no better.

The hard-working, intelligent Swiss nation is said to be disturbed by the prospect of another war as by none other.

Every Swiss under fifty is armed, trained and ready. Even in the big war nobody tried to invade Switzerland—too much hard climbing, and the conqueror would not know how to run the hotels, even if he acquired them.

The immediate business of this country is to find some way of controlling flood waters—probably not impossible.

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## Fabric Accent on Pretty Woolens

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



SUIT yourself this spring—It's quite the smartest thing to do. To state it more emphatically, a suit or "compose" ensemble tailored of handsome woolen weave is a fashion "must" this spring. You are not the type to wear a suit? Before you jump at conclusions see the endless variety of suits in the spring style parade.

There's a whole family-tree of suits in the fashion picture, related as far as the perfectly stunning woolens that fashion them, yet entirely different in the final analysis of color moods, silhouette and general style. If you are too heavy at the waistline to wear one of the trim little man-tailored short-jacket suits, there is a consolation prize awaiting you in the picturesque cape-and-skirt models tailored of some one or other of the gorgeous tropical woolens that make color glory and novel weave their theme. Such a costume is pictured to the left in the illustration. This is a Bruyere ensemble of a nubby gray and green mixed summer tweed.

The classic tailor developed in men's wear suitings is an outstanding fashion, with definite preference for the single breasted type with its flattering sweep of long lapels. Both hard and soft finished worsteds are used in these suits, with sharkskins, herringbone weaves, distinct checks, chevrons, serge types, monotone and chalk stripe flannels and wool gabardine all important.

Men's checked worsted is the practical fabric for the good looking spring suit to the right in the picture. It has a classic single-breasted three-button jacket with traditional flap pockets and a slim straight skirt. The back panel of

the jacket and the skirt are correspondingly slashed at the sides.

The new mixed or compose ensembles are appearing with coats in contrasting color and fabric. The "baby reefer" of fingertip length with double-breasted closing and man-tailored styling of lapels and pockets is frequently seen in cover cloth, or in wool gabardine, in beige, tan, navy or gray worn over tailored suits or with the one-piece dress of contrasting woolen. A reefer coat of the sort described centers the group shown. It is tailored of a very fine wool gabardine. Note especially its new length. The latest "baby" swagger coats also adopt this new length, also a hip-length.

The newest tweeds (in the lead for travel and country wear) are in rich deep colorings accented with flecks and nubs of contrasting shades. There are also many soft lovely tweeds in natural and pastel colors with over-patternings in bright color. Casual assemblings are smart in informal suits, the skirts frequently being in monotone or flecked tweeds and the jackets in gun club patternings, hound's tooth or shepherd checks or conservative glen plaids.

A leading fashion is the adaptation of the masculine morning suit with striped skirt and oxford gray jacket in men's wear worsted, frequently bound with braid. Another favorite in this class is developed in men's wear flannel with pearl gray skirt and steel gray jacket with revers of the lighter skirt fabric.

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#### TRICKY GLOVES

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



As front page news novel fabric gloves are "it" in a big way this season. Not only are gloves creating a sensation because of their startling colors but they are given to tricks that are as practical as they are intriguing. A really wonderful idea is the glove with a zipper pocket in the left wrist to hold your small change. See it in action as pictured above. Another cute idea is the glove with an unbreakable crystal inset on left wrist (see picture) so that your wrist watch is visible without turning back the cuff. This year there is an endless variety of beautiful mesh glove fabrics of bemberg brought out.

#### SPRING HATS REVEL IN TOASTED TONES

In addition to black and plenty of navy blue—especially a dark purple shade—the prominent colors in hats for spring and early summer are toasted tones, blond tortoise shell, burnt straw, natural beige, fawn, tomato red and soft tints of washed blue, as well as tones of grayish blues on the slate side.

Bright red is used a great deal in combination with black, with navy blue and with white. The greens are represented by soft tones of reseda.

Pastel tones in general are foreseen for spring and summer, and among them is a soft shade of pale faded pink that is sponsored by all the leading milliners. This color is called old pink by certain houses and ashes of roses by other designers.

#### Fashion Notes

Hellum is the spring fashion name for oyster-white tone.

The popular thin smock is certainly a joy for the housewife. Babylike rompers are shown for beach wear by some French designers.

Tiny flower turbans and gay belts will touch up your dark dress costume.

A modernized directoire influence appears in some of the new evening gowns.

White pique plays a leading role in trimming on spring clothes as well as hats.

Hip-length flowing jackets, with all the fullness in the back, are worn this season.

An enormous velvet bow worn on the left shoulder is used to trim a graceful satin evening gown.

Petticoats made of bright prints on a dark crepe ground are smart to wear beneath your dark tailored suit.

Most important of the color fashions is the accent on colored gloves, flowers, belts, even in hats, to be worn with black or navy costumes.

## Tall Tales

As Told to:

FRANK E. HAGAN and  
ELMO SCOTT WATSON

#### Buckle's Bad Break

COWBOYS who rode the Montana range knew him only as Buckle. That nickname is explained by the fact that he was just about the best rider that ever forked a bronc. Plenty of the wild ones had tried to pile him but he just remarked sadly "Bad horse, shouldn't go bucky-bucky!" and stayed right in the saddle. But even the best of riders is likely to hit the dirt when his horse steps in a prairie dog hole.

That's what happened to Buckle one day when he was out riding the range alone. His horse's neck was broken so the animal didn't move after it fell. Nor did Buckle move—much. Just his leg was broken and it was pined under the dead weight of the horse. Whenever he tried to wriggle it free, a sickening pain almost made him faint. Of course, he shouted for help. But there was no one within 127 miles so his shouts weren't heard.

Night came and with it a chill wind that cut to the bone. Not far away a wolf howled and a moment later it was answered by another and another and another. Buckle knew what that meant. He decided it was time to do something. But what? Let Buckle himself answer: "What did I do? Why, I finally had to walk eight miles to find a pole thick enough and strong enough to pry that darned boss off my leg."

#### The Duel That Failed

O. S. CLARK of Attica, Ind., went to the Texas Panhandle when it was wild and woolly. There he met Clay Allison, a famous gun-fighter who told him about the strangest duel he'd ever seen. It was between two frontiersmen who didn't like the color of each other's hair. So they agreed to fight it out with long rifles—stand back to back, then each take ten long steps, turn and fire.

The duel began. Each with his right eye drew a bead on the other's left eye—it wasn't sportsmanlike to shoot out the other man's right eye and thus spoil his aim. They fired at the same instant but neither bullet took effect.

They shot a second time—a third—a fourth—and a fifth. Still nothing happened. In fact they kept shooting until each man had used up 20 cartridges. "There's something spooky about this," said one. "Shore is!" said the other. "Maybe we ain't supposed to kill each other."

"Reckon we'd better call it off and shake hands," suggested the first. "Suits me!" said the second. They started toward each other, each one taking ten long steps so they would meet face to face where they had parted back to back. As they met and clasped hands, one exclaimed "Ouch! Something's burnin' through my boot!"

They looked down. There on the ground was a pile of melted lead. The mystery of the bullets that failed to kill was solved. So accurate had been their aim that their bullets had met midway with such terrific force that they melted each other and dropped to the ground. Clay said he knew this was true because he saw the place on the ground where the melted lead had been and there wasn't a speck of grass growing there.

#### Truthful Election Costs

AN OHIO law requires candidates for office to file a report of all expenditures in their campaigns. Sometimes these reports are not always truthful.

But the man who ran for sheriff of Perry county a few years ago turned in a report that no one could doubt. It said:

"Lost 1,340 hours of sleep thinking about the election. Lost two front teeth and a lot of hair in a personal encounter with an opponent. Donated one beef, four shoats and five sheep to county barbecues. Gave away two pairs of suspenders, four calico dresses, \$5 in cash and 15 baby rattles.

"Kissed 126 babies. Put up four stoves. Kindled 14 fires. Walked 4,076 miles. Shook hands with 9,508 people. Told 10,101 lies and talked enough to make in print 1,021 volumes.

"Attended 16 revivals and was baptized four times by immersion and twice by other ways. Contributed \$50 to foreign missions and made love to nine widows—five grass and four sod.

"Hugged 40 old maids. Got dog-bit 39 times. Lost the election by 353 votes."

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#### U. S. Marines Enlistment

To be eligible to join the United States Marines the applicant must be an American citizen between the ages of seventeen and thirty-five years. Parents' consent must be given for the enlistment of a boy under twenty-one. The United States Marine corps is a branch of the United States navy, with headquarters in the Navy building, Washington.

## Rome Has Staircase Upon Which Christ Once Trod

One of the most interesting ceremonies on Good Friday in Rome takes place near the Lateran palace, where the devout ascend the Scala Santa on their knees. Tradition says that these 28 steps were taken from the house of Pontius Pilate, and that Christ therefore had climbed them several times.



**Men of Humor**  
Men of humor are always in some degree men of genius; wits are rarely so, although a man of genius may, amongst other gifts possess wit, as Shakespeare.—Coleridge.

## NEW KITCHEN STOVE MAKES ITS OWN GAS

Housewives Marvel at Coleman Range That Lights Instantly Like City Gas—Cooks a Meal with 2c Worth of Fuel

A new kitchen range that offers every cooking convenience of the finest city gas range is now available to housewives, wherever they live.

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Safety Range. This new stove makes its own gas from ordinary, lead-free gasoline. A patented method of carburization converts liquid fuel into gas, much the same as in present day automobile engines. The Coleman Range lights instantly, like city gas. Its fuel-saving Band-A-Blu Burners, another of Mr. Coleman's outstanding developments, produce a clean, clear blue flame, so hot that a low flame does all ordinary cooking. Tests show an average family meal for five takes about 2c worth of fuel. Coleman Ranges are finished in gleaming porcelain enamel. Their pleasing colors combine outstanding beauty with unequalled performance.

Readers of this paper wishing full information about these wonderful new Coleman Ranges will receive beautifully illustrated literature and a valuable stove check chart by simply addressing a post-card to Mr. W. C. Coleman, Dept. WU-236, Wichita, Kansas.—Adv.

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## No Need to Suffer "Morning Sickness"

"Morning sickness"—is caused by an acid condition. To avoid it, acid must be offset by alkalis—such as magnesia.

#### Why Physicians Recommend Milnesia Wafers

These mint-flavored, candy-like wafers are pure milk of magnesia in solid form—the most pleasant way to take it. Each wafer is approximately equal to a full adult dose of liquid milk of magnesia. Chewed thoroughly, then swallowed, they correct acidity in the mouth and throughout the digestive system and insure quick, complete elimination of the waste matters that cause gas, headaches, bloated feelings and a dozen other discomforts.

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