

# Floyd Gibbons

## Adventurers' Club

### Hello Everybody!



"The Spark of Life"  
By FLOYD GIBBONS,  
Famous Headline Hunter

HERE'S Distinguished Adventurer Howard Hartling of Brooklyn, N. Y., and his yarn starts out like this. "Up on the surface we sat smoking. "One of the smokers asked me for matches and I passed my box to him. When he returned it I put it back in my pocket without looking at it. A match was never of much value to me UNTIL MY LIFE DEPENDED ON HALF OF ONE." Remember that Canadian mine disaster that happened up in Nova Scotia and took up so much space in the newspapers a while ago? Well, Howard Hartling is going to tell us the story of a similar misfortune that took place in the same mining district in August, 1900. As a young lad, Howard worked in the Famous gold mines in Halifax county, Nova Scotia. His job was on the 300-foot level where they were digging a new tunnel—a tunnel that was being dug around a deep pit filled with icy water so that the company could tap the gold vein that lay on the other side.

#### Smokers Borrowed His Matches.

Howard's adventure took place in that tunnel—but as Howard himself points out, it started up at the top of the shaft where a bunch of men sat around smoking and borrowing his matches.

Just about the time Howard's match box was handed back to him, the whistle blew and the men went down in the "cage" to the 300-foot level. They went to work and the afternoon wore on. The distant sounds of dynamiting reminded Howard that it was almost time to knock off, and he started for the mouth of the tunnel. As the sounds of exploding dynamite came nearer, he hurried his steps. He was turning into a cross tunnel leading to the shaft landing when the candle by which he was lighting his way flickered and went out.

#### Left in Pitch Black Darkness.

Only a little thing, the blowing out of that candle, but it left Howard in darkness, and darkness is one of the things a miner fears most. Once he took a wrong turning he might get into the old abandoned workings and be lost there for days—maybe forever. It wasn't exactly safe, either, for a man to stay below for long after the blastings started, and those explosions were coming perilously near. Hastily, Howard reached for his box of matches, and suddenly the darkness and the



A Hundred Feet of Icy Water Was Waiting.

dynamiting took on a new and terrifying significance. THE MATCH BOX WAS EMPTY—CLEANED OUT BY THE SMOKERS AT NOON!

"It was a little more than 300 yards to the landing," says Howard, "but that thousand feet had to be covered in pitch black darkness, by feeling my way along the foot-wall of the tunnel. There was no one near to get a light from. All the miners had gone out as their tasks were completed and before the blasting began for the day. Those explosions were coming nearer. I could smell the heavy, choking nitroglycerine smoke. I crept on slowly, but the fumes of the burning dynamite were getting more dense every minute.

They were catching my throat. Breathing was becoming more difficult. The walls were wet and mucky with slime that had been formed millions of years before. It oozed from the rock crevices and dripped down on the floor of the passage. I crawled along till I realized I had gone many yards and should be seeing the lights of the shaft landing. Then something inside of me seemed to shout "Stop!" I obeyed the impulse!

#### Lost in the Abandoned Workings.

"Underfoot the floor of the tunnel seemed unfamiliar. It dawned on me then that I had taken the wrong turning at the cross tunnel. I had entered the old abandoned workings. I WAS LOST!"

In his left hand, Howard still gripped his unlighted candle. If only he had another match. Again, something inside him began to prompt him—to urge him to make another search of his pockets. "Carefully," he said, "I wiped my muddy right hand on my coat and opened my vest. Carefully—very carefully—I made my search. In the upper right pocket I found half a match.

I couldn't tell which half it was, but I held the candle over in the shelter of my open coat. Where, in that damp tunnel, could I find a place to scratch this precious half of a match? Would it light? I thought of the buckle on my suspenders. I felt for it. With a prayer I tried that splinter of wood!"

Howard scratched that piece of match—and it lighted. Quickly he guided it to the candle. The wick sputtered but—IT LIT! Howard breathed a prayer of thanks. Then, with a light to see by, he began looking around him.

#### On the Brink of Water-Filled Pit.

Says he: "I held that candle aloft and let my gaze wander. I was in the old tunnel. Not 20 feet ahead was the old, abandoned, water-filled pit. A hundred feet of icy water was waiting for me. Another minute and I would have plunged to my death. A GRAVE 400 FEET UNDERGROUND! I almost collapsed at the thought!"

But suddenly, Howard was on his toes again. A new blast, so close that it deafened him, reminded him that he still was not out of danger. "I dared not hurry," he says, "as my light might go out again, and this time I wouldn't have even half a match. Another blast and water began trickling in from the old workings. By the time I reached the cross tunnel it was half way to my knees. Then, at last, the lights at the hoisting shaft came into view through the murky smoke. A hoarse voice, choked from the fumes, bawled out, 'F'r Pete's sake hurry up. We're holding the cage. Where in heck were you? You look white as a ghost.' "And," says Howard, "I would have been one—only for half a match!"

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#### Discovery of the Tomato

It is not definitely known just when the tomato was found to be non-poisonous and edible or how the discovery came about, says *Pathfinder Magazine*. But tradition has it that it was a New England man who, despite the warnings and dire predictions of his friends, first ate of the "love apple" in this country. This fearless fellow is said to have been Michele Felice Corne, an artist whose best known paintings were those depicting naval battles of the War of 1812. And there stands in a cemetery at Newport, R. I., a monument to Corne, the man who took a chance and thereby performed a great service to mankind.

#### The Young Man's Measurements

The Society of Directors of Physical Education set the following standard of measurements of the physically ideal American student of 22: With a height of 5 feet 9 inches he carries a weight of 150 pounds. The girth of his neck, knee and calf are the same, with the upper arm one and one-half inches less. The girth of his thigh is one-half inch less than that of his head. His expanded chest is 40 inches, the girth of his waist 10 inches less, his hip girth almost the same as his unexpanded chest, while the breadth of his waist barely exceeds the length of his foot, and the stretch of his arms measures two inches more than his height.

## BRISBANE

THIS WEEK

Two March Side by Side  
Once All Walked  
In 75 Years, Much Done  
Another Milton Needed

Germany and Italy, meaning Hitler and Mussolini, are said to be working together closely. They are to control Austria, and Hitler's share in the control might not please that intensely Catholic country too well. Germany's influence will increase along the Danube. Germany and Italy combining make that possible, with nobody inclined to fight about it.

In return for recognizing Italian sovereignty in Ethiopia Hitler is to have important Ethiopian concessions.

A million years ago, when our ancestors went out seeking something to eat, preferably some feeble human being easily killed, everybody walked. Now nearly everybody rides. Across George Washington bridge over the Hudson river, opened five years ago, about 100,000,000 human beings have crossed in 31,000,000 automobiles, while fewer than 1,000,000 have crossed on foot. Buses alone carried 11,633,000 over the bridge.

How rapidly progress moves once it starts! Seventy-five years ago, both sides of our country were connected by telegraph for the first time. Now men talk around the world by radio. Seventy-five years ago they only talked across the continent, now they fly the continent and on beyond, across the Pacific ocean.

Those hostile to new ideas might remember that a little more than seventy-five years ago men were beaten for re-election to congress because, as the voters put it, "they were foolish enough to vote money to experiment talking over wires."

They were defeated for willingness to have the government try out Morse's electric telegraph idea.

Berlin reports that German book-sellers must sell, and Germans must read, only books that the government thinks they ought to sell and

read. The public will be compelled by "loving force" to read what is good for them.

That takes Germany back to the Seventeenth century, when the English government decided that Englishmen must read only what the government thought was good for them.

All books must be submitted and wait for approval before printing. Along came a man named John Milton with his book the *Areopagitica*, printed by him without anybody's permission, denouncing an infamous law that would control men's minds and freedom of thought. That settled it; the law died.

Somebody will kill it in Germany, in time.

In the Spanish civil war, hostages have been seized, on both sides, including many women, and are held with this threat: "If you kill hostages taken from my side, I'll kill yours."

England and other countries almost tearfully are begging both sides in Spain to exchange hostages instead of murdering them; the British government officially expresses the fear that women "are in danger of wholesale massacre." Nice civilization, is it not?

Dr. Bakst, young teacher of mathematics at Columbia university, thinks he has a sure formula for winning on horse races; "he tried it and won, 1,000 times, not with money, just mentally."

Anybody can win mentally, they do it constantly at Monte Carlo and elsewhere, but nobody can win money, except accidentally—never in the long run.

A brave truck driver, name unknown, saw a lady with a difficult name, Mrs. Anastasia Adiuszkiewics, hanging from the ledge of a second story in Jersey City. Rushing to help, he caught her in his arms as she fell, then left, wanting no praise.

He makes up for many that do not give their seats to ladies in street cars.

An eighteen-year-old girl, alone and in agony, gave birth to a child; and, according to police, immediately killed it, dropping it from a roof. A jury convicted her of manslaughter, and the judge let her go on probation; she must report once a month to prove that she is behaving. Four jurors that helped convict her told the judge they regretted their verdict.

Every mother knows that the unfortunate girl, after her horrible experience and solitary agony, was at least as nearly insane as any shell-shocked soldier.

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## Flat Furs in Smart Trim for Suits

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



IF YOU are planning a new coat, costume-suit or daytime frock of handsome broadcloth (great favorite this season) or one of the new silks that looks like wool or any of the smart novelty wools, accented with trimmings of flat fur handled in clever dressmaker ways, you do well. The idea is right in line with smartest current style trends.

One of the outstanding gestures in fashion's realm today is the lavish and ingenious use of such furs as Persian lamb, astrakan, caracul and similar pelts, for borderings, for collars, panels, bib and plastron effects, for big revers and even for entire sleeves and novel pockets.

Also highly significant is the fact of a strong British trend influenced by the forthcoming coronation of King Edward VIII, that is evidenced throughout this season's fashions.

The models pictured carry the message both of British influence and the vogue for flat fur accents. They were selected from a collection of "classy fashions" presented by the style creators of Chicago in the wholesale district. The silk afternoon costume to the left is in royal wine shade, fashioned after the king's guard, trimmed in black astrakhan with typical old English collar, with three-quarter length coat of military bearing. The designful handling of the bordering down the front illustrates the intriguing manipulation designers are giving to the now-so-voguish flat furs.

The dress and cape-coat ensemble to the right is developed in a royal wine shade trimmed in smart black astrakhan with satin lined cape—a most charming costume for afternoon or street wear. The dress is tailored with long tight-fitting sleeves and also carries accents of astrakhan.

Chic versions of the very-new-flat fur trimmed gowns are created of gleaming black broadcloth with a bordering of Persian lamb outlining the very full circular hemline and collar, from which extends a matching fur border all the way down the front from neckline to hemline. Wear one of the fashionable high toques of the same Persian lamb with a dress of this description for stunning effect.

The big hue and cry this fall is for gray-on-gray coats, the smartest types trend to the use of gray caracul or Persian lamb on rich gray cloths of sterling quality, although gray kidskin and grayish moleskin comes in for a big share of the honors. The unique maneuvering of the fur adds to the zest of things. For instance a coat is apt to have a vestee that develops into a panel that travels the entire way down the front of the coat. Or perhaps the sleeves and the collar will be all of fur. The tricky ways of these stunning flat furs are too numerous to mention.

Cunning suits that sing a song of youth have hip-length pelum jackets with full "swing" skirts, all the edges being finished with windings of the Persian lamb or caracul if preferred. These are fashioned of broadcloth, duvetyne or velvet. Black is first choice, although the new autumn reds and greens and browns are competing most successfully for prestige. The latest thought is the fur-trimmed cloth or velvet dress sold with a matching fur muff.

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### LATEST CROCHET

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



Buttons down the back mark this advance style. Many of the newer dresses are crocheted in a quick lacy stitch that is most effective yet does not exact a heavy toll of time and patience to bring to completion. The dress shown is crocheted of knit-cro-sheen and will hold its shape beautifully. It is just the type to wear under coats this winter, and it will blossom out next spring gaily and becomingly and smartly wearable without a coat. You can turn this dress around and wear it frontways if you really wish.

### STREET TWEED SUIT HAS LONGER JACKET

The conventional street suit of tweed is made this year with a longer jacket that is nipped in at the waist and then flares out in a basque. For country or sports wear, the more classic suit lines are used, with many three-quarter or full-length top coats shown over full or divided skirts. One house goes further and makes a bloomer dress of tweed. The dress is cut on severe, tailored lines, high at the neck and with long sleeves. Instead of a skirt, the dress ends in well-cut bloomers, which come several inches below the knees. A se ren-eighths sport coat of matching tweed completes the bloomer costume.

### Silk Satins Outstanding

Vogue for Autumn Wear  
From morning to night during the coming weeks style-alert women will be wearing silk satins, judging from the emphasis accorded this fabric in the Paris openings. Plain and novelty weaves are both endorsed.

Sleek satin afternoon frocks under modish broadcloth coats are especially good form. Satin blouses with wool suits are also in high fashion. Printed silk satin in a pin motif or printed in a fligree patterning are among the new showings. Eyelet embroidered satin is also a new feature.

#### New Stocking Note

After a summer of light beige stockings, black heels strike a note that seems fresh and new. They are two-thread chiffon, with black heel, sole and toes, and seamed with black thread.

#### Contrast Important

Color contrast is important this season in sports costumes, skirts and sweater often being of different tones. Scarfs and belts also carry out color contrasts on knit.

## Three Certain Winners



THREE candidates for your approval, good on any ticket. Put your "machine" to work and you will win the vote of any group, however critical, with these fetching frocks especially designed for women who sew at home. Correctly styled, accurately designed and cut, they combine smartness with utility and offer the solution to many wardrobe problems.

Pattern 1966, the jacket ensemble, is a smooth, flattering model, as slimming as it is smart and serviceable. The graceful neckline and jabot conceal those extra pounds above the waistline and the panelled skirt is slick and slenderizing. Worn with or without the clever box jacket, this number in any sheer wool or crepe or velveteen will assist you to put your best foot forward and make a successful appearance. Designed for sizes, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, and 50; size 40 requires four and one-fourth yards of 54 inch fabric.

Pattern 1874, the beguiling house frock, features a panelled yoke with the yoke and sleeves

cut in one. There is gathered fullness in the waist, a shawl collar, and one or two patch pockets for your household trinkets. Easily put together with the aid of the detailed, step-by-step instruction guide, this is a morning frock which will survive the day with honors. The pattern is available in sizes 14, 16, 18, 20; 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, and 44. Size 18 requires four and one-half yards of 39 inch fabric.

Pattern 1800, the graceful smock, is formed with just eight simple pieces including the pockets, collar, and cuffs. The contrasting yoke is unusually effective, the sleeves are full and graceful, and there is an air of sophistication about the design not often found in a garment so practical and useful. Send for size Small (bust 34-36), Medium (38-40), or Large (42-44). Size Medium requires four and one-half yards of 35 inch material.

Send for the Barbara Bell Fall Pattern Book containing 100 well-planned, easy-to-make patterns. Exclusive fashions for children, young women, and matrons. Send fifteen cents for your copy.

Send your order to The Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., 367 W. Adams St., Chicago, Ill. Price of patterns, 15 cents each.

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### OF INTEREST TO THE HOUSEWIFE

A stick of wax and a brush of oil will do much to take the curse off furniture scratches. The wax will fill in the scars and the oil will darken the wax.

When making bread and butter pudding, sprinkle each slice of bread with grated coconut instead of currants, and strew some on the top. This will make a change from the ordinary pudding and will be found very tasty.

When you are basting roast beef, a tablespoon of brown or white sugar added to the gravy improves the flavor and color. Salt should never be added to stews, soups and boiled meats until after they are cooked. If put in at first it toughens the fiber of the meat and takes out the juices.

Soap should not be rubbed directly on flannels and woolens. Wash them in soapy water and rinse in clear, lukewarm water to preserve the soft texture.

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### "Quotations"

Some of us lose faith in other people because we have found ourselves out.—Claude Lorraine.

Worry is the thin stream of fear trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained.—Arthur Somers Roche.

Fight when you are down; die hard—determine at least to do—and you won't die at all.—James H. West.

A certain dignity of manners is absolutely necessary to make even the most valuable character either respectable or respected in the world.—Lord Chesterfield.

Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you.—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

The best cure for a little information is more knowledge.—Nicholas Murray Butler.

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