

Floyd Gibbons



Adventurers' Club
Hello Everybody!

"Darkness Means Death"

By FLOYD GIBBONS,
Famous Headline Hunter

CIRCUS day! The hot, sun-baked city of Phoenix, Ariz., is all agog. Christy Brothers' big five-ring show is in town. See the parade. Count the elephants. Then climb up on the board seats under the big top and watch the clowns. See the performing bears; see the aerial gymnasts from Hungary and the acrobatic tumblers from Japan. Hot dogs—red lemonade—peanuts five a bag. And above all, don't miss Captain Bob Baillie and his dangerous, death-defying feat of bearding eight untamed African lions in their cage.

It's half an hour before show time, and here comes Joe Foley, one of the aerial gymnasts from Hungary, in his spangled tights, over to where Captain Bob is inspecting the steel arena in which he is to put his big cats through their paces before long.

Joe wants to know if he can string his trapeze over Captain Bob's arena for an act that goes on later in the show. Captain Bob says it will be O. K. with him, as long as Joe sees to it that his rigging is pulled up out of his way while he works his cats. Joe nods his head, but that isn't the end of it. You'll remember that trapeze later on in the story.

Captain Bob and His Big Cats.

And now we're all ready for the big thrill of the day—the big excitement in which Capt. Robert J. Baillie of Flushing, N. Y., earns himself the degree of Distinguished Adventurer to add to the other laurels he has won in a lifetime of daring deeds in the circus. The show goes on. Strike up the band. Blow the "spec" and let's jump right into the middle of the main attraction.

The big cats are in the open cage in the middle of the steel arena. So is Captain Bob. It's a hot day and cat animals get lazy in hot weather. They don't want to work, and when Captain Bob tries to make them, they get sulky. They're sulky now. See how they snarl and switch their tails as Captain Bob tries to herd them into their



Sultan Was Springing at Captain Bob.

corners. Sultan—the largest and ugliest of them all—crouches and tries to spring. Captain Bob pushes him back with his steel prod. The cats are all in their places now, but it's going to be a tough performance.

The act goes on. The cats paw at one another and balk at the jumps. The tension in that cage is terrific. Now—look, quick! Sultan has kicked over his pedestal. He's SPRINGING AT CAPTAIN BOB, and his deep-throated, ominous snarl shows that he means business. Captain Bob knows what's coming. He whips up his long, sharp, metal-tipped prod—gets it between himself and the lion. He checks the leap. Sultan is back on his haunches, ripping at the prod with both forepaws, trying to get past it and at Captain Bob.

All Right If He Kept on His Feet.

Let's go inside the cage with Captain Bob and see how he's feeling about all this. He's keeping his head—he knows he'll be all right as long as he can stay on his feet, and provided none of the other cats join in the fray. Luckily, the other cats are still keeping their distance—milling back and forth at the other side of the cage, growling in sullen rage. If they'll only keep away another minute—if only Captain Bob can KEEP HIS FEET—he'll get the situation back in hand again.

It begins to look as if he's going to do it, too. Sultan is getting tired of trying to chew off the iron tip of the prod. Slowly, Captain Bob's snapping whip is forcing him back on the pedestal. He raises his whip again. A feeling of satisfaction wells up in Captain Bob's chest. He's licked that cat again. He snaps the whip.

Lord! What was that? Something has ripped across Captain Bob's eyes—both of them. He's blinded by agonizing pain. Spots dance before them—THEN BLACKNESS. The whip drops to the floor as he covers his face with his hand. What was it? He feels no blood—no torn flesh. It couldn't have been the lions. They were too far away. But—no time to speculate now! No time to yield to the unbearable pains that are shooting across his eyes! Snap out of it, Captain Bob, you're in a fine fix. Your whip is gone. Your prod is hanging useless in your hand.

At the Mercy of Eight Lions.

YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY BLIND, IN AN ARENA WITH EIGHT UGLY LIONS, AND ONE OF THEM JUST WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO NAIL YOU!

Sultan's growls bring him back to his senses. Blind though he is, his mind pictures Sultan getting ready to spring. He holds the prod up in front of him—reaches for his revolver. It's loaded with blanks, but the lions are afraid of it. He starts firing slowly on either side of him. That will keep them away for a minute, but six shots is all he has.

Captain Bob starts backing toward the side of the cage. It's the best he can do. Blinded, he can't find the door. His eyes still feel as though a red-hot iron has been drawn across them. He fires his last shot—and waits to be torn to pieces. Outside he hears the shouts of the cage men—the rasp of a gate being pulled up. He feels something rub against his side and strikes out at it with his prod. "The thing is hard; it gives out a wooden sound. He hears one of the cage men yelling to him to stay as he is. Then he realizes what's happening. Two of his men have gotten behind him. They're sliding prods through the bars to keep the cats away.

Other men are running the cats out of the arena. There's a stir in the seats. Spectators who have been holding their breath are letting it out now in a big, rippling sigh of relief. Someone helps Captain Bob out of the cage—into a car—off to the hospital. Half an hour later he can see again, although his eyes still hurt like the devil when he opens them.

One of the cage men tells him what happened. It was Joe Foley's trapeze. It had slipped down on its rigging—just low enough to be in the way of the whip when Captain Bob cracked it. It sent the whip lash bouncing back, right into Captain Bob's eyes. "It all happened a long time ago," says Captain Bob, "but I still remember—too clearly—how it feels to find yourself suddenly blind in a cage with a bunch of pretty tough cats."

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BRISBANE

THIS WEEK

New Italian Baby
By Permission of Unions
Some Things We Do Well
Throwing Out Kings

Italy expects a new heir to the throne in January. If it is a boy, and lives, and nothing happens to prevent, it will succeed in time its grandfather, the present King.

What rate Lloyds would charge to guarantee the succession is uncertain. Mussolini's rise from extreme socialism, the trenches and the hospital maintained the House of Savoy in nominal power. "After Mussolini what?" is one of many European questions.

Arthur Brisbane

Mr. Hull, Secretary of State, sailed for South America six hours late, to help bring peace to the world, or at least help set a good example on these two continents. He left a pier "double-picketed"; the strike tied up his ship, which had to bring six non-striking seamen out to the secretary's boat, waiting patiently near the Statue of Liberty.

After peace is brought to the world, the next step will be to bring peace to United States industry. You may read some day: "The House, Senate and Supreme Court could not meet; the President has moved over to the New Willard; the Amalgamated Order of Furnace Tenders let all the fires go out, while, in sympathy, the Electric union turned off all lights and the elevator men said sympathetically, 'No elevators.'"

There must be, for public necessities, including shipping that carries passengers and mails, some better plan than the strike plan, and one that would be just to workers.

This country makes some things better than any other country—automobiles, and moving pictures, for instance—and Englishmen know it. The late Irving Thalberg, vice president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, left 35,000 shares of Loew moving picture stock. As soon as the large block was offered for sale, Englishmen bought it all, by trans-Atlantic telephone, for about \$2,200,000.

Nicholas Schenk, head of Loew's, and its biggest stockholder, missed an opportunity, and knows it. Everybody across the ocean knows that this country is one NOT to be sold short, regardless of passing troubles.

It is said the royal tombs reserved for Spanish kings have been violated, some or all of the bodies thrown out. It would be a pity to offer insult to what remains of the truly great King, afraid of mice and spears, but not of any man—Charles the Fifth—if he also was entombed in the Escorial Pantheon.

Of the others, many would be more useful as fertilizer on some Spanish field than they ever were on the Spanish throne, and it is not necessary to weep over them.

London, with the biggest floating fleet on earth, is striving to "humanize submarine warfare."

That is like trying to humanize rat poison. Look at Spain and you see what will happen in the next war; everybody will kill as many as he can, as brutally as possible; you remember the Lusitania?

The biggest crowd seen in Washington greeted the President on his triumphant return to Washington, the White House and his job. For eleven days he will see only executive assistants and rewind the big machine. Those willing to serve their country for a consideration, or tell the President, free of charge, how it could be run better, must wait, probably until his return from the trip to South America.

Voltaire's learned Dr. Pangloss was wrong; it is not true that "all is for the best in the best possible of worlds."

In spite of all our wealth and prosperity, more mothers die in childbirth, in this country, than in any other "civilized" country in the world.

You know that better conditions are needed in America when you see photographs of the wretched two-room log cabin in the swamp bottomlands where Mrs. James Bridges gave birth to quadruplets.

According to Science Service, if whisky is subjected for seven hours to "intense sound vibrations," which means "a loud noise," the seven noisy hours will age the whisky as much as "four years in the wood."

Think what noise can do to the delicate nervous system of the human being if in seven hours it can add four years to the age of raw whisky.

Mussolini's order forbidding automobile drivers to blow their horns in Rome, "Use your eyes and your intelligence instead of your horns," should be copied widely.

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Velvets Remain Fabric Leadership

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



VELVET maintains its aristocratic leadership in the fabric world. It is still the most glamorous fabric in the world. As to being the most flattering let's leave it to your mirror to tell.

Now that the miracle of making velvet crush-resistant has been wrought, there is nothing more to wish for in the way of the fabric ideal for active daytime wear as well as for festive night occasion. Not to be wondered at, we are thinking, that the news of crush-resistant velvet is being hailed with exceeding great joy throughout the length and breadth of fashionland for this does it become a dependable, practical, everyday mode as well as a symbol of luxury and glamor for most any evening.

Chic Parisian women have adopted enthusiastically the tailored velvet suit with frilly, lacy blouses which are worn from luncheon on through the cocktail hour. Velvet combined with broadcloth is an outstanding fall fashion. Velvet is also widely used in revers, hembands, bindings, in collars and for buttons on wool, as in the town-country suit in clan plaid as shown to the right in the illustration. The hat is of matching velvet. Which leads us to tell you that "velvet with" is found in every type of suit from sports to the elegant dinner suits.

The fur-trimmed velvet suit is being shown in many styles—the tuxedo, the tunic, the short jacket and so on. These display rich furs, such as red fox, silver fox, Persian lamb and mink, in collars, revers, and most dramatic wide bandings (the rage this season) and clever manipulations on shoulders and sleeves.

The elegant velvet coat has the endorsement of fashion. It is found lavishly trimmed with fur, or untrimmed, with which one may wear one's own furs. It is a very smart coat for afternoon, for luncheon, bridge and cocktails and "don't dress" occasions.

In mentioning daytime fashions in

velvet, the tailored shirtwaist types that can be worn from morning to night have an important place. It shops, goes to the office and feels at home at the theatre or informal dinner party. Thus has the practicality of velvet been increased enormously by the development of the crush-resistant type. It is a charming little shirtwaist velvet dress shown centered in the group. A white leather belt and button contrasts smartly against the black velvet. A felt Spanish sailor with vari-colored bows adds swank, and the white glace kid gloves worn are the finishing touch.

A velvet afternoon dress with starched Venetian lace cuffs and collar heights its elegance with a star sapphire-and-diamond clip, as pictured in the foreground on the seated figure. The velvet bag with jeweled ornament interprets ace-high vogue. Milady also wears a star sapphire- and -diamond ring. Fashion is centering marked attention on handsome "rings on her fingers" this season. Again, white glace kid gloves with this costume, for that's another thing interesting the rank and file of fashionables nowadays—the return into high favor of handsome smooth kid gloves. For the elegant kid glove to keep company with just as elegant handbags of matching kid is one of the pet hobbies going the rounds. Accessory counters in the better stores are showing up this gesture for all it is worth. Which reminds us that raisin color gloves are stylish as can be. In the meantime, do not forget what we told you—that whatever the time the clock may strike you will find the smartest women wearing velvet.

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TYROLEAN KNIT

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



The charm of the gay Tyrolean colors is told in knitted fashions this season. A leading theme, resultant of the vogue for vivid peasant colorings, is the introduction of fetching hand-embroidery in the knitted realm. Of Austrian origin is the handsome black knitted costume pictured. The jacket especially interprets the color appeal of enlivening embroidery so characteristic of this picturesque people. This stunning black knit two-piece is distinguished with a Lanz of Salzburg jacket. It is authentic, therefore, of native dress. The knitting is done in a variation rib stitch and is yarn-embroidered in gay Alpine flowers.

PEPLUM THEME IN DRESSES FOR FALL

A costume may look quite conservative from the front but it may adopt surprising accents which are discovered when the wearer's back is turned.

A definite trend toward back interest in costumes is a feature of the styles of the autumn season. This is developed in many different ways, the peplum theme being most successful in furthering the silhouette. Lengths of the peplums vary but all of them have a back flare, some sweeping downward as well as outward.

Waistlines are somewhat lower at the back than, at the front, to place more emphasis upon the back of a garment.

Matching Accessories Are Not Considered Mandatory

It's time to shatter the illusion that all accessories should match. Bag, gloves and belt—scarf, gloves and bag—blouse, gloves and hat may be alike. Switch them around any way you choose, but don't have any more than three the same color. Keep your shoes neutral, black or brown, and you can't go wrong. Black is the one exception to the rule.

With a black outfit, all accessories may be black. But don't look too much like the bereaved widow—have a touch of color somewhere such as a clip, a string of beads or a bracelet.

Umbrella Pockets

Watch for umbrella pockets on fall coats. Usually these are executed in heavy silk, pleated and fared to resemble a folded umbrella.

Flower Pot Crowns

Flower pot crowns dominate winter hat styles.

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS

Items of Interest to the Housewife

A little salt added to pumpkin sauce will greatly improve the flavor.

To braise roasts, steaks or chops first brown the meat, then put in a tightly covered utensil with very little water either on the top of stove or in oven and continue cooking slowly until meat is tender.

To prevent that hard crust forming on left-over cooked cereal pour a cup of cold water over it before placing in the refrigerator.

To clean fireplace bricks, cover them with a paste made of powdered pumice and household ammonia. Let it dry for an hour, then scrub with warm soapy water.

After removing the tough portion of the center of a grapefruit and separating the pulp, place an after-dinner mint in the center of each half and chill. The mint gives the grapefruit a delicious flavor.

Cooked prunes stuffed with celery and nuts make a tempting salad. Stuffed prunes can also be used as a garnish for chops, roasts or steaks.

When "battered" crumbs are called for, the best way is to melt butter, add crumbs and mix well and then sprinkle over the top of food. If butter is merely "dotted" over the top it does not evenly mix with the crumbs.

Handle doughnut dough as little as possible. When frying, doughnuts should quickly come to the top, browned on under side, and they can then be easily turned to brown upper side. The fat should be kept of uniform temperature during frying; if too hot the doughnuts brown before they are cooked.

Comfort of Sleep

SLEEP! to the homeless, thou art home; The friendless find in thee a friend; And well is he, where'er he roam, Who meets thee at his journey's end. —Ebenezer Elliott

Great Deeds

GREAT deeds cannot die; They with the sun and moon renew their light For ever, blessing those that look on them. —Tennyson.

inside, and if too cold the doughnuts will be flat and grease soaked.

Baking soda is excellent for cleaning fish aquariums. Rub the inside with a wet cloth dipped in the soda, rinse and dry. It will remove all traces of scum and evaporation marks, as well as deodorize.

Place a frame of boards around the rose bed and fill in spaces between the bushes with leaves to protect them during the winter. A few evergreen boughs placed on top of leaves will keep them from blowing away.

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