

# Floyd Gibbons

## ADVENTURERS' CLUB

### Hello, Everybody!



"Terror of the Tomb"

By FLOYD GIBBONS  
Famous Headline Hunter.

HERE'S the story of a man who dug his own grave—from the bottom up. He is Bernard F. Engelberger and the only man who knows how it feels to be old King Cheops' mummy. After seeing for himself what sort of a life old Cheops led, moreover, he's satisfied to be just plain Bernard Engelberger. Being shut up in a tomb doesn't strike Bernie as being much fun—even for an Egyptian.

It was all Bernie's fault and he'll be the first to admit it. It happened this way. Back in the winter of 1905 Bernie got a job with a construction company which was then laying the foundations for the Altman building on Fifth avenue, New York city. They put Bernie on as gang boss and since he'd had a good technical training and was able to read blueprints, they gave him an extra job setting foundation blocks with a leveling instrument.

Bernie had to work by fits and starts at that leveling job. All around the spot where he was setting the blocks, the dynamite crews were blasting big hunks out of ridges of blue granite rock that cover most of Manhattan island, and every few minutes he had to drop what he was doing and run for cover while another charge went off. It got to be pretty tiresome after a while—especially since Bernie liked the work he was doing and wanted a chance to stick at it for a while without interruption.

Finally there came a time when Bernie decided he wasn't going to run for those blasts any more. The foundation block he was working on was set in a deep hole and he figured that by lying down against the near side of the pit he would be safe from flying debris resulting from an explosion. So the next time the signal came to run for cover Bernie stayed right where he was.

#### Accident Seals Bernie in Living Tomb.

It was Saturday—just before quitting time. The blast that was coming would be the last one until Monday morning. Bernie, crouched down in the pit, heard the boom of the dynamite and then, to his con-



It was as neat a trap as Bernie ever was in.

sternation, saw a big slab of granite turn up on one end like a trap door on its hinges, and plopped down over the top of the hole in which he was lying.

It was as neat a trap as Bernie was ever in in his life. "I was lying on my stomach," he says, "and the legs of the leveling instrument, which was buried with me, prevented me from moving an inch. I yelled a couple of times, but no one answered and then I remembered something that just about scared me stiff. It was Saturday—pay-off day. They wouldn't find me until Monday at the earliest, and I could suffocate in that hole in much less time than that."

Bernie twisted his body about and looked around him. As the dust subsided he could see, to his relief, a few cracks through which the air was coming. At least he wouldn't suffocate. But he had no sooner decided that when a new worry arose to plague him. It started to rain and water was seeping down into the pit where he lay. If he didn't get out of there, he would be drowned like a rat in a trap!

#### Water Shows Him Weak Spot in His Prison.

For a minute he lay there in a stupor, wondering if this was to be the end of him. Then, a trickle of water, falling on his neck aroused him and, looking up, he saw something that caused new hope to spring into his breast. That water might be threatening his life, but it was also doing him a favor. For that little stream had shown him the weak point in his prison—the place where the cover was the thinnest.

Bernie reached into his breast pocket and found a little iron spike he used for adjusting his leveling instrument and began digging at the spot the water was trickling in.

"It was hard work," Bernie says, "and after hours of digging, I lost all track of the time. Every bone in my body ached and all I could think of was Monday morning, when my co-workers would come down and get me out.

#### Courage and Patience Save Bernie's Life.

"I fell asleep once from sheer exhaustion and woke up hours later, to go back to work again with my spike. After what seemed to be days of digging, I finally struck a little hollow space and the rain must have loosened the dirt around my legs, for all of a sudden a rock fell on my back, and I was able to move a bit.

"I must have fallen asleep again, then, for I woke up to find the hole half full of water. I went back to my digging then and had only worked a few minutes when a stream of water came shooting in that filled the hole up to my neck. Then I started to work in real earnest, trying to get out before I was drowned.

"By this time I was frantic. The hole I had dug was big enough to crawl out of, but I was pinned down so that I couldn't move. Finally I got hold of the upper part of the leveling instrument and using it as a lever, was able to get my legs free. Then, leaving one shoe behind me, I crawled out of that hole. It was 4 a. m. Sunday morning when I got loose again. It had taken me 14 hours to get out of the pit. But maybe I was lucky to get out of it at all!"

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#### History of Slavery in New World an Ugly One

The history of slavery in the New World is an ugly one, replete with stories of the inhuman cruelty which was often inflicted by slave-owners upon the unfortunate wretches who, through accident of birth, were doomed to a life of servitude. Probably nowhere were slaves more harshly treated than in the West Indies, declares a writer in the Philadelphia Record.

During the early days of the colony, thousands of negroes were seized in Africa and imported to work on the large plantations. The sufferings of these unfortunates is almost indescribable. They were packed like cattle in the pitch-dark, reeking holds of the slave ships, chained hand and foot to the walls and floors. Often pestilence broke out among them, and they were allowed to die and rot by the

crew, who, fearing to catch the disease themselves, lowered food and water to them through an opening in the deck. The ship resounded with the moans and prayers of the dying . . . the screams of a mother clutching a dead baby in her withered arms.

#### Warning Signs

Railways crossing Germany are to be indicated by three signs, the first a disk, with three red stripes being placed 240 yards from the crossing, the second, bearing two stripes, 160 yards away, and the third, with one stripe, 80 yards away.

#### Island Called Modern Paradise

Nauru island in the Pacific is only eight and a half square miles in area, but is said to be a modern paradise. It is without public debt and maternal mortality.

## BRISBANE THIS WEEK

Not Spoiled by Money  
Freedom of the Air  
500 Air Miles for \$6  
Jones Still Will Lend

Another airplane record. Howard Hughes, flying 18,000 feet up much of the way, came from Los Angeles to Newark in 9 hours 27 minutes 10 seconds. High up, where air resistance is less, using a super-charging engine and helping his own lungs with oxygen from a tank, Mr. Hughes beat the existing record held by Col. Roscoe Turner of 10 hours 2 minutes 51 seconds.



Arthur Brisbane

Mr. Hughes proves that being rich does not always spoil young Americans. He flew from ocean to ocean without a stop, 2,450 miles, at an average speed of 260 miles an hour.

Big broadcasting companies refuse to allow the Republican party to broadcast "laughable skits" on the "New Deal."

Now, or after some worth-while upheaval, "freedom of the air" will have to be dealt with as was "freedom of the press" when the Constitution was written.

For radio companies to say to the party in power, "Because you fear you we shall take you to every home in the country and let you say what you please, and shall refuse to give the same publicity to your opponents," might not suit the American idea.

It is good news that Henry Ford has gone back to airplane building. His last trimotor plane was produced in 1931.

His new two-passenger plane with V-8 engine turning the propeller 4,000 times a minute, carries 30 gallons of gasoline, with a flying range above 500 miles. Five hundred miles of air travel for \$6 worth of gasoline for two passengers would be cheap transportation.

Henry Ford will begin manufacturing planes seriously, "if and when conditions demand volume production worth while."

Jess Jones, chairman of Reconstruction Finance corporation, tells the banks that he will go on lending government money until they make credit and loans easier.

Mr. Jones says: "The big fellow, with unquestionable credit, borrows on his own terms, at low rates. Credit for the average business is too sparingly given, at much higher rates."

There is rioting in Porto Rico, numbers killed and wounded in various places. It is said a Porto Rico "Young Men's Party" has decided to separate Porto Rico from the United States, inspired perhaps by the departure of the Philippines.

It is supposed that this government will tell the "Young Porto Rico" gentlemen that they will not be allowed to separate, and might as well forget about it.

This country, in the way of protection, resources, education and civilization, is necessary to Porto Rico, and strategically Porto Rico is useful to the United States.

What would England say if Jamaica should announce "We wish to leave the British Empire?"

The beginning of the new year in Germany sees the death of 1,000 newspapers, "suspended" by official order because they opposed Nazi rule. Chancellor Hitler perhaps remembers Napoleon's statement: "If I granted liberty of the press, my government could not last three weeks."

He might also remember that some governments that refused liberty of the press have also failed to last. The government of the czars was of that kind. Sitting on the safety valve is one way, but not the safest.

Mr. S. L. Rothafel, known to theatergoers as "Roxy," is dead at fifty-three. While he slept his heart stopped, like a watch not wound. Men die too young in America, and weakened hearts kill many. Life spent without exercise or an adequate supply of oxygen explains the deaths. Man is physically a machine; his heart is the engine, and heart disease kills more useful men than any other disease in modern times.

"Little rains," which we should call hard rains in this country, interfere with Mussolini's operations in Ethiopia. Soon will come the "big rains," torrential downpours making roads impassable, except concrete roads. The Italians have built some highways. There are however, other roads, unknown to ancient Ethiopia—the roads of the air.

Mussolini's men may continue on those roads, with disastrous results for Ethiopia, in spite of rains, "little" and "big."

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## Formals of Choicest Silk Taffeta

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



FOR the very elegant formal gown silk taffeta of most exquisite quality registers as first choice among women of patrician taste. The idol of the hour is silk taffeta in white and silver.

This flair for white taffeta is confirmed at every high-society formal gathering, so far this winter. The vogue includes versatile types, silver striped or dotted white taffeta being among the favorites. Matelasse white silk taffeta presents a pleasing diversion from the metalized effects.

Plain white taffeta starred with rhinestones is also a fabric high-light. Designers are playing up quantities of fancy stitching not only in immediate fashions but indications are that spring styles will make stitching an outstanding trimming feature. White silk taffeta designedly stitched with silver is one of fashion's happiest gestures, in answer to the call of the mode.

The illustration pictures a debutante who attends the opera in a white evening dress of superlative silver faconne taffeta. It has a deep V front and back and an unusual shoulder treatment. A jeweled clip and bracelet accent the simple splendor of this silk gown.

The all-black evening gown is given new prestige when it is fashioned of pure silk taffeta of highest quality as dramatically as is the model pictured. It is the very personification of elegance. Just how many yards of gleaming taffeta it took to achieve the bands of self-ruching on the skirt and bodice and for the graceful lei in the same ruching which encircles the throat and drops to the waistline at the back, we would not venture to say, but whatever the amount, it's worth it to produce so

striking, so fetching a gown as is this. Note the bracelets worn over the long black gloves.

For the evening gown of exclusive men, brocades in white with either metal or color or both for the most gorgeous types, are much sought after by those who love the loveliest. Silvered white moire also is a great favorite in the realm of handsome evening silks.

Leading designers are also turning the spotlight on very exclusive looking silk prints, making them up in jacket ensembles of utmost formality in many instances. The gown is fashioned with extreme décolletage, the skirt touching the floor, or the new street length which is fashion's latest whim for the dinner gown. Usually the jacket is of the basque genre, varied now and then with a smart bolero model. Both printed taffeta and printed crepe feature for this new trend in the formal realm.

In citing best-loved silks for the formal gown, sleek, suave flattering satin must be mentioned. White satin is outstanding and pink comes next. For the most part these regal satins are made up with a sophisticated simplicity that is very striking.

Then there are the lovely white silk crepes and chiffons. Their high standing in the array of lovely materials for dresses to wear to formal functions is unquestioned. Some white crepes are starred with rhinestones. Others stand for beauty unadorned. Sans trimming of any sort they depend on a sparkling Juliet cap and a glittering evening bag or a jeweled belt plus elaborate sandals for effect.

© Western Newspaper Union.

#### HAIR ORNAMENTS

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



Now that the vogue for elaborate hairdress is meeting with widespread approval for formal occasion, the use of ornaments, feathers, and especially the little Juliet caps which are so flattering, is established. Rhinestone clips are especially liked in that they are not merely beautiful but they are practical and useful in that they keep stray locks in check. Note the pretty bowknot rhinestone clip enhancing the coiffure shown at the top. An algrette fantasy adjusted to one side of the head as pictured below, interprets the mode effectively.

#### COLORED HOSIERY TREND CONTINUES

The colored hosiery trend continues. You may not care for wine, green and navy stockings and you may cling stubbornly to your good old beige tones, but there's no denying that color has crept into the stocking box, in spite of us.

A recent hosiery fashion show accentuated stockings to match the color of your costume, for both daytime and evening.

The hosiery in the usual sheer chiffons went in strong for wine and dark green tones, to match the favorite renaissance colors of the season.

Dark red and jug brown were other daytime colors sponsored. For evening wear, delicate pastels were featured, in colors to match the gown.

Petal pink, Alice blue and ice green were among the new colors shown. The colored daytime stockings had black heels and toes, to accentuate the sheer appearance of the hosiery.

#### Tailored Blouse Is Done in Wide Variety of Moods

The tailored blouse for sports wear or with a tailored suit is done in varied moods. There are youthful blouses of soft silk crepes in pastel colors, with simple club collars and perky bows for trimming, grand for wear with plaid woolen skirts or with tweed suits. Then there are shirtwaist blouses of delicate silk crepe de chine, with jabots, and frills trimmed with fine lace, perfect to wear with a perfectly tailored suit.

#### Golden Eyelids

Milady's newest fad for evening wear is golden eyelids, according to Helena Rubenstein, beauty authority, who has returned recently from Paris with gold dust costing the small sum of \$35 an ounce.

## Wrap-Around Makes Good Utility Frock

PATTERN 2539



2539

Does household routine demand that you be the first downstairs in the morning? Then here's a frock that makes it possible. A jiffy wrap-around, with smart shirtwaist air, is grand for general utility wear from early morning until you've time to change. Easy to make, it slips on as smoothly as a coat, opens out flat for ironing, and no petticoat is necessary with it due to the generous over-lap in front. Unequaled for comfort and slenderizing effect.

Pattern 2539 is available in sizes 14, 16, 18, 20, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48. Size 16 takes 3 1/2 yards 36-inch fabric. Illustrated step-by-step sewing instructions included.

SEND FIFTEEN CENTS (15c) in coins or stamps (coins preferred) for this pattern. Write plainly name, address and style number. BE SURE TO STATE SIZE.

Address orders to the Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., 243 W. Seventh St., New York City.

## Smiles

#### Better Choice

Judge—You can take your choice, \$10 or ten days.

Prisoner—I'll take the money, your honor.

#### Longitude Defined

"Tommy, my son, what is longitude?"  
"A clothes line, daddy."  
"How do you make that out?"  
"Because it stretches from pole to pole."

#### Truth at Last

Film Star—Yes, I said I wanted a home with at least ten children.  
Friend—My dear, what makes you say such foolish things?  
Film Star—The publicity department.—Film Fun.

#### The Easy Epithet

"Father," said the small boy, "what is a demagogue?"  
"A demagogue is a man who can persuade people to listen to arguments with which they do not agree."

#### Guilty, Without a Doubt

"I had the right of way, yet you say I was to blame for this smashup."  
"You certainly were."  
"Why, officer?"  
"Because his father is mayor, his brother is chief of police, and I'm to marry his sister."—Stray Stories.

## All Around the House



Keep the temperature of the room in which house plants are grown at 60 or 65 degrees. They do not thrive in a room that is too warm.

To clean a white fur carriage robe heat sawdust in the oven and when very hot rub well into the fur. Several applications may be necessary before it is clean. Brush in the open air until all the sawdust is removed.

Before washing colored handkerchiefs for the first time soak them for ten minutes in a basin of cold water to which a tablespoon of turpentine has been added.

When two glasses become wedged together place cold water in the upper one and set lower one in warm water. They will then separate with little effort.

Slip several slices of bread under the rack on the bottom of broiler pan when broiling steak. The juices drip down and when meat is done the bread is toasted a delicate brown. Serve with the broiled steak.

Ferns grown in the house will have a rich green color if a teaspoon of household ammonia is added in a quart of water and poured over the ferns once or twice a month.

The cut surface of a lemon will remove marks made by matches on painted walls.

Indestructible garden labels may be made during leisure hours in the winter. Use tin or copper scraps cut the size of a small paper tag and mark with india ink.

Sprinkle a cake with cornstarch before icing to prevent icing running off.

Add cranberry juice to lemon gelatin to make it a deep red color. Add white gelatin is in liquid form. © Associated Newspapers.—WNU Service.

## HEALTHY PERSONS LESS LIKELY TO LOSE THEIR JOBS

Persons in good health who keep themselves as free as possible from physical handicaps are less likely to join the ranks of the unemployed than those handicapped by physical defects.

This is the conclusion of a study of the physical condition of unemployed persons carried on by the Employment Stabilization Research Institute of the University of Minnesota. The study is reported by Dr. Harold S. Diehl, director of the Students' Health Service at the University, to the United States Public Health Service.

Other conclusions include:  
1. Those who lost their jobs early in the depression had more physical defects and handicaps than those who were "let out" later on.

2. Overweight is a handicap for women in holding and finding jobs, but is not for men.

3. More men 10 per cent or more underweight were found in the unemployed of the professional and white collar groups.

4. Major defects or diseases having relation to unemployment include:

- a. Defective vision.
- b. Impairment of hearing.
- c. Dental decay.
- d. Impaired locomotion.
- e. Suspicious chest findings.

Being dropped from the payroll was seldom based on physical condition, Doctor Diehl pointed out. Employers merely dropped the least efficient workers first. While poor health handicaps ability the conclusion can also be drawn that a person who neglects his health is likely to be careless and inefficient on the job.—Science Service.

#### QUITE PROPER



"You allowed that young man to kiss you. That was very indiscreet."  
"Not at all. I had looked up his financial standing."

#### No Regrets

"I'm sorry—I quite forgot your party the other evening!"  
"Oh, weren't you there?"—Stray Stories Magazine.

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