

Floyd Gibbons'

ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"The Man Who Came Back"

HELLO EVERYBODY:

There was a time when Frank S. Helmar of Shamokin, Pa., could get a kick out of ghost stories. But not any more. Frank says the old spook yarns leave him cold nowadays, and never again will any mere piece of fiction make the hair crawl up the back of his neck. For Frank went up against the real thing once, and now he knows what a scare really is. Hold onto your hats while Frank tells us about it, boys and girls—the strange tale of the Mumbling Ghost!

Quite a few years ago—when Frank had just passed his eighteenth birthday—he began to get that restless feeling that comes to most young lads his age—the itch to travel. It seemed to him that there wasn't any opportunity for a young fellow in the little mining and manufacturing town in which he had grown up. He was tired working in coal holes and hanging around with the same old gang under the street light every night, so one day, after work, he tucked a little bundle under his arm and, with a little lump in his throat, struck out over the hill toward the railroad tracks and points north, east, south and west.

Planned to Settle Down in Elmira.

Frank didn't know where he was going, and he sure got there. For five years he wandered about in practically all of the eastern states, working in a factory here and a restaurant there, doing odd jobs, and sometimes even landing in jail on suspicion of vagrancy. At the end of five years, Frank found himself working in a silk mill in Elmira, N. Y., and liking the job and the town so well that he was planning to settle down.

He had even subscribed to a newspaper back in Shamokin and ordered it sent to him in Elmira. But it was that newspaper that proved his undoing. For it not only set his feet to itching again, but also provided him with the most horrible shock of his whole life.

It was just a little paragraph, way down in the corner of a page, in one of the first papers that came to him from back home in Shamokin, but it made the tears fill Frank's eyes. His old pal, Jack Hasco, so the paragraph said, had been killed that day, and mangled beyond recognition. Frank felt pretty bad about it for two or three days, and thinking of Jack also made him wonder how his other old pals were getting along. And he decided to go back to the old town for a visit.

He arrived in Shamokin about midnight on February 14, 1929. The sky was dark and a storm was brewing. The wind blew fitfully and the



He mumbled in an outlandish language.

few people on the streets were wrapped up in heavy overcoats and hurrying to get in out of the cold. Frank pulled the collar of his own coat up around his neck and headed for the East Side, where he once had lived.

"It seemed strange to be back home again," he says. "I had expected to find the East Side improved, but it was still the same old hole, with its blind alleys and poorly lighted streets. I was heading into an alley near my old home when I saw a dark form coming toward me. I saw, as it approached me, that it was a man, and thought it might be some one I knew. As he came up to me I looked closely at his face.

One look at that fellow's face and Frank felt his body stiffen. "I let out an insane scream," he says, "and beads of perspiration began forming on my cold brow. My heart was beating violently! I was rooted to the ground! And that face was slowly coming toward me, its eyes bulging in surprise and a slight smile coming to its lips. Yes—you guessed it. It was my old pal—my dead pal, Jack Hasco—and he was mumbling! Mumbling something in some outlandish language that I couldn't understand!"

Falls Unconscious in Terrorized Flight.

Frank fought to pull himself together. Gathering up all the energy that was left in his weakened, trembling body, he let out another wild yell and, with a leap and a bound, he practically flew out of that alley. "Then I ran," he says. "Ran on and on, until everything turned black in front of me and I slid in a heap to the ground. When I regained consciousness strange faces were looking down at me. When I told them my story they looked incredulously at one another, said I was drunk, and walked away. I picked myself up, brushed off my clothing and moved on."

A little way down the street, Frank saw the lights of an all-night lunch wagon. A cup of coffee would go good after his experience, and it might help him pull himself together. He was sitting on a stool in the lunch room sipping his coffee when the door opened and another familiar figure came in.

But this time it was a LIVING figure. Baldy Williams, another member of the old gang. Never in Frank's life had the sight of an old friend thrilled him so. "Baldy!" he yelled. And Baldy said, "Why, Frank Helmar, where in the heck have you been all these years." And for the next few minutes they talked about Frank's travels, but Frank wasn't long in bringing up the story of his strange experience.

Friend Explains Weird Reunion.

As he talked on, he saw a twinkle come into Baldy's eyes. The twinkle turned into a broad grin. Frank wondered why Baldy was laughing at him. Did Baldy think he was drunk too? At last Baldy put up a hand and laid it on Frank's shoulder.

"Take it easy, Frank," he said. "Don't let this get you down. What you read in the paper about a Jack Hasco being killed is true enough, but there were two Jack Hascos in Shamokin. The one who was killed came from the West End. Our old pal, Jack, is just as much alive as you or I."

That sounded swell to Frank, but still he wasn't convinced. "But the mumbling!" he cried. "It was ghastly. Jack never talked like that!"

Again Baldy smiled—a little sadly this time. "Well, that's another thing," he said. "You see, Jack had an accident a few years ago, and he lost half of his tongue."

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'Vintage Years' for Perfumes

Everyone knows that wines have certain "vintage years" when sun, rain and all other conditions combine to produce grapes which give an unusually fine product. These years do not come frequently and a wine of a "vintage" year generally brings a much higher price. Few persons know that there are also "vintage years" for perfumes. These are seasons when climatic conditions are such that the flowers are more luxuriant, richer in fragrance, more abundant in variety. Many of the great perfume houses stock up in these vintage years, to protect themselves against crop failures, etc.

Indians Expert Tanners

Few animals have escaped the experimenting itch of the tanner. North American Indians are reported to have preserved the skins of 150 different species of animals. Even the skins of the seal, walrus, ostrich, alligator, snake, frog and shark have been tanned commercially. Bird and rodent skins are usually too small and fragile for wear. A morbid historical reference also excludes human skin from commercial tanning, although there is evidence that the weird ritual has been performed. In 1829 the skin of the murderer William Burke was preserved after his execution in Scotland.

WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

NEW YORK.—This writer, encountering Frederick Jagel of the Metropolitan Opera at luncheon the other day, quizzed him about his season at Buenos Aires, from which he recently returned. He thinks cultural penetration of South America might be more effective than our trade and diplomatic missions, in which he is inclined to believe we aren't getting anywhere.

South America has long had the idea that we were a nation of hard-boiled money-grubbers. Any creditable performance in the arts, he believes, will be our best line of export. He said he found the Argentines most generous and appreciative hosts. Once they find you haven't an extra ace in your cuff and you measure up to their standard of propriety, they wear their hearts on their sleeve.

Incidentally, Mr. Jagel's singing makes audiences weep, but no one meeting him ever feels sorry for him. He is a businesslike, compact Brooklynite, formerly an actuary with the Mutual Life Insurance company, long before he took his perch in the old red plush aviary, where, on occasion, he still hits high C.

As an actuary, young Mr. Jagel, charting other careers, began to think of his own career. He tossed his insurance job out of the window, found a backer, sang in movie houses up and down Broadway and proved to all and sundry that he had a voice. He studied with Portanova in New York and with Caladini in Milan. Making his operatic debut in Milan, in "La Boheme," he hit Rodolfo's high C with a bull's eye that greatly improved Italo-American relations. He sang for four seasons in Italy, before making his New York debut as Radames, on November 8, 1927. He knows about 40 roles, and 26 of them he can sing offhand and on the slightest provocation.

With the precision and clarity of a man trained in business, he tells you of the superiority of our South American competitors in their specialty of quid-pro-quo trade economics. Hence, his talk of "cultural penetration" isn't just ivory tower stuff. If Secretary Hull could sing as well as Mr. Jagel can talk international trade, he, too, would be in the Metropolitan.

Mr. Jagel thinks we have the making of a grand musical renaissance in this country, with talent, teachers and a fine national appreciation vastly enhanced by the radio.

Mystifier Says Mystagoguery Just 'Ain't So'

THE amiable white magic of John Mulholland once enabled me to deal myself four aces against another's four kings, which, of course, revived faltering hopes of the existence of kindly elves with whom Mr. Mulholland was wired in and whom he could summon in behalf of his friends. But now one of the cleverest magicians in the country—the cleverest, to this non-toe-seeing eye—publishes a book, "Beware Familiar Spirits," in which he banishes all trolls and makes all magic just manual dexterity and technique. It isn't exactly a debunking book. He leaves the door open for faith in the occult, if you think you have evidence, but, as to prevailing mystagoguery, he reduces it to fraud or to honest self-deception, aided by slow eyesight.

He sold school books and was a teacher of dramatics and industrial arts at Columbia university, before he became a full-time magician and vice president of Society of American Magicians. He has performed and lectured in about 40 countries.

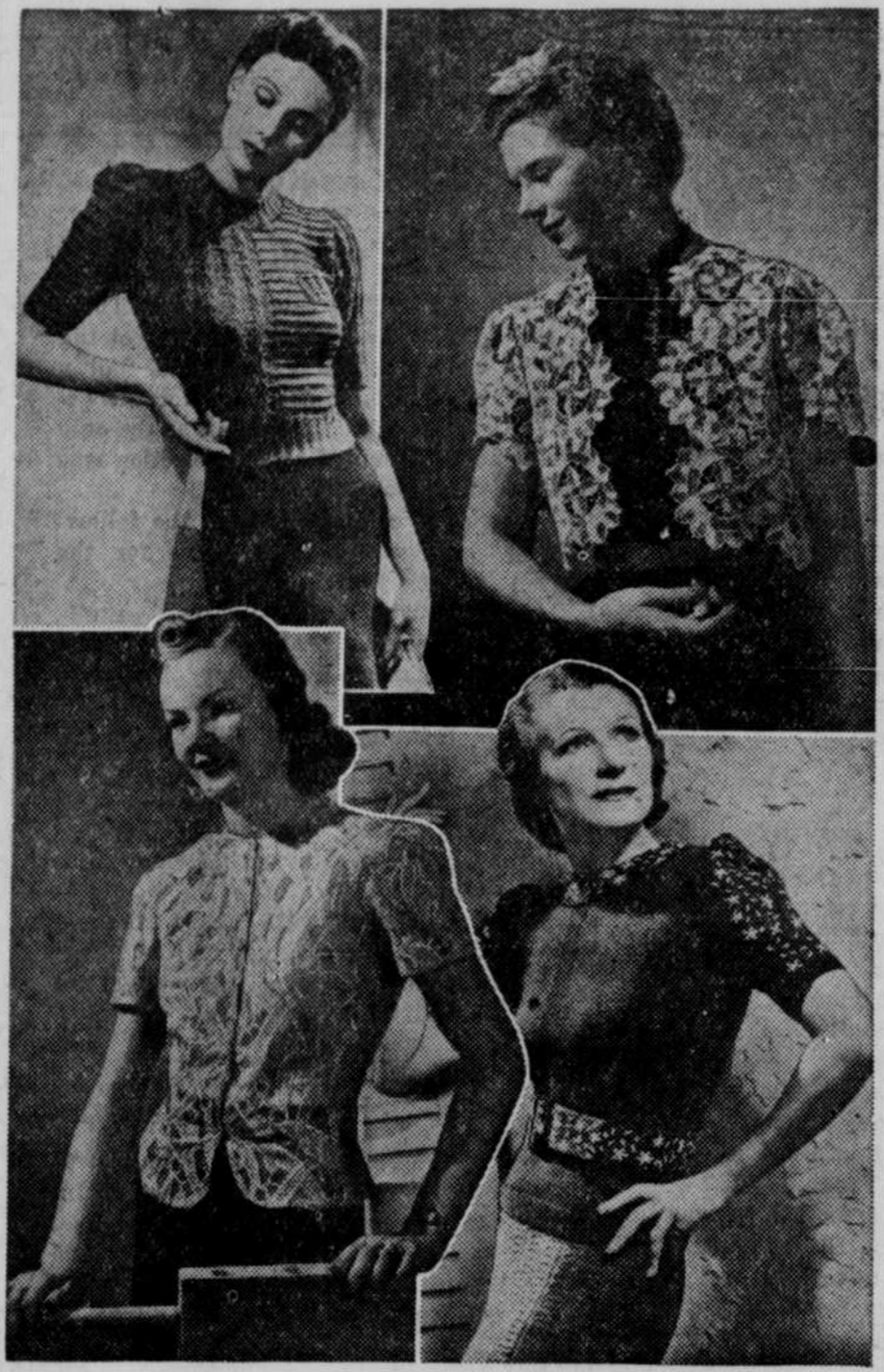
Nobody, anywhere, ever had more fun. He likes to shepherd four or five friends through a subway turnstile, with one nickel, making it reissue from the slot each time and click through the next man. That brings the change dealer roaring from his den. Mr. Mulholland hands him a half-dollar, the wayfarers take their train, and then the dealer finds he has an aluminum disk with a rabbit in a silk hat on it. He usually screams and butts his head against the wall. But, in each case, the subway already has its full count of sound nickels.

As to the above poker hands, it happened at a luncheon table of five or six men. Mr. Mulholland sent for a new deck of cards and asked me to shuffle them and deal four hands. It couldn't have been a trained deck. It was thoroughly shuffled. Mr. Mulholland never touched the cards, standing with his back turned a few feet away, and never said a word. The hands fell as he ordered, the orders apparently issuing silently from the back of his head.

Consolidated News Features, WNU Service.

Dress Charmingly Within Limited Budget; Here's How

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



HERE'S an encouraging word to the woman whose wardrobe upkeep must needs be held down to a limited budget. The skirt with contrast tops leads the style program this season. With the separate skirt or simple foundation dress and a flock of flattering sweaters, jackets and blouses tuned to occasion you can dress as well as the next one and not be extravagant especially if you "make your own."

Here's hoping the suggestions offered in the accompanying illustration will prove an inspiration to get busy sewing, knitting and embroidering on a wardrobe of pretty things that will carry you triumphantly through the season from the dress standpoint.

Let's start with the right skirt to wear with the right top accompaniment. It is easily possible to carry on a well-dressed appearance with two skirts in one's wardrobe, a wool or crepe for routine wear plus a velvet or handsome crepe or slipper satin weave for more formal wear. However, you can go as far as you like in laying in a supply of skirts and then not have too many if you go a lot. A tweed, a colorful plaid, a pleated-all-round type, a smartly fashioned crepe or satin for day with a floor-length velvet or crepe for evening formality, are none too many.

Of course, with your tweeds and your plaids you will want a swank utilitarian sweater. The model pictured to the left in the group is easily knit. You will love it because it is so unusual. It has style distinction written all over it in that it is knit in a different way, using two patterns that contrast a vertical and horizontal handling. A soft wool yarn in a delectable deep raspberry pink is used for the knitting of this clever sweater.

If it's something a wee bit dressier you are wanting, a touch of gray hand-embroidery will do just that. See what can be done in the way of intriguing embroidery in the sweater blouse below to the right. The model pictured is knitted of rust red wool and the embroidery is done in riotous flower colors.

Coming to the dressier modes, handsome laces of every type and description make the news headlines for blouse and jacket and bolero fantasies in a big way. It's almost like magic the way a bit of lace transforms into a jacket or blouse masterpiece and even if you are not an expert in making things, a charming jacket-bolero or bolero as pictured can be put together with little effort. A collection of lace tops will array you glamorously wherever you go.

A lace bolero does wonders in dressing you up, and does it click charmingly with last year's frocks! It is never so welcome and useful as at the tail-end of winter when you are feeling a bit jaded with dark dresses and feel the need of something to perk them up. The carickmacross lace bolero which you see pictured above to the right will sound a refreshing new note for your wardrobe. Scalloped all around the edges it silhouettes effectively against the background of a black dress in either street or evening length.

A dress-up jacket-bolero to be worn with skirt or suit lends allure to your formal afternoon or evening costume. You can get the fine leaf-patterned lace that fashions the jacket-bolero pictured below to the left in ravishing colors or in black. The glittering rhinestone buttons complete the formal look.

© Western Newspaper Union.

In Sleek Satin



Slipper satin in dark or evening shades is playing an outstanding role for dine and dance wear. It is fashionable either in dark or pastel shades. Youth is in the red this season and no mistake about it. This time it is in gorgeous ruby red sleek satin.

Give White Bead Embroidery Trim

Among newcomers in the field of popularity are very attractive black dresses for afternoon wear that are prettified with white bead embroidery. The character of the embroidered motifs are unique. Sometimes the embroidery is done around the neckline in the new neck-lace effect. Likely as not there will be a dash of the white beadwork on the girdle or belt.

The newest of the new is for a single spray of flowers to be worked on the bodice top with not a vestige of white beads showing elsewhere. The effect takes place of a flattering corsage worn on the left front shoulder.

Patterned Hats

Patterned fabrics in colorful designs are being shown in the mid-season hats. They are striped cotton that are East Indian in feeling, as well as small cotton plaids.

Touch of Color

The woman who clings to the preference of black costumes this season is likely to add a touch of color by means of gloves.

Flounces

Flounces offer the most sensational developments in coat and dress silhouettes that have appeared in many days.

White Metal Ear Clips

A Paris woman has ear clips of a very white metal on which her initials have been engraved.

Women Must Utilize Their Natural Gifts

By PATRICIA LINDSAY

SOMEONE has said, "No beauties are born, all are made." And what hope and encouragement to all women lie in that statement! True it is that few of us are born beautiful but persistency in making the most of what Nature endowed us with does make us attractive. And after all, it is the interesting-looking woman today, rather than the pretty-pretty, who is recognized and toasted as the modern beauty. The woman who has developed her natural gifts by being beauty-loving and beauty-seeking.

One of the days when one's earnest devotion to good looks was frowned upon, or when doctors voiced their disapproval of cosmetics. Today it is considered a woman's duty to society to be as lovely as possible and leading physicians believe strongly that the healthy, normal woman should keep astride of her times and make herself most attractive.

No matter what your age, your occupation, your circumstances, you owe it to yourself as a woman, and to those around you, to make the most of your feminine heritage. Husbands and children alike unconsciously dote on wives and mothers who have not allowed themselves to become duds. Proud is the child who can produce a personable mother to show his friends and schoolmates.

—But Don't Be Extravagant!

But in seeking beauty, I do not advocate spending the rent or grocery money on expensive treatments or a flossy wardrobe. No indeed. If you can afford such luxuries well and good, but don't encourage frowns and wrinkles and a distorted mind by fretting over what you cannot have. You can exercise your body into a pleasing figure just as well in your own home as you can in a costly studio. Current newspapers and magazines offer sound advice on meticulous grooming and body care, so there is little excuse for you to moan because you have not the wherewithal for frequent visits to beauty salons.

Every woman's budget, however, should allow for occasional visits to a reliable physician to check her general health and diet, and also



Myrna Loy epitomizes the charm for which women should strive. An arresting, smiling personality, an interest in her work, and a piquant beauty, enhanced by scrupulous grooming.

For a few good cosmetics—specific aids for ailing skin or hair and those necessary to preserve personal daintiness. To these, every woman has a right—they assist her mentally.

But just as pertinent as cosmetics to a woman's loveliness is the right approach to living. Gracious thoughts and characteristics, an active interest in something other than herself and her home, a desire to be an inspiration to society, rather than a burden. Such attainments certainly enhance the charm any woman creates by being pleasing to look at.

Keep Child's Mind Active

If you are truly concerned about her beauty you cannot fail to keep her mind active and growing. What nonsense to allow her to concentrate on make-up! Teach her simple daily groomings. Fill her day with small duties and childish pleasures. Let her grow! Every child loves to be read to. Every child loves to paint and draw pictures. Think up new activities that will teach her to be self-reliant.

There is no beauty as appealing in all the world as a child's beauty. It must be held sacred. It must not be scarred by stupid parents who feel that artificial beauty aids can possibly make their child more attractive!

Body health, skin health, mental health are the goals to be reached. Help your child by concentrating on those. She will grow to lovely womanhood, happy in the knowledge that her parents were wise parents who did not sacrifice her youth needlessly.

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Easy Cutwork Will Delight the Beginner



Pattern 6237.

Anyone who can do simple buttonhole stitch (that's all cutwork is) can have lovely linens such as these. Here are a number of motifs suitable for those smaller useful linens—scarfs, towels, pillow cases and tea cloths. Begin now. Pattern 6237 contains a transfer pattern of 14 motifs ranging from 3 by 3 inches to 3 3/4 by 15 inches; materials needed; color schemes.

To obtain this pattern, send 14 cents in coins to The Sewing Circle, Household Arts Dept., 259 West 14th St., New York, N. Y.

CONSTIPATED?

Here is Amazing Relief for Conditions Due to Stagnant Bowels. Nature's Remedy. If you think all laxatives act alike, just try this at once. It is so mild, thorough, refreshing, invigorating. Dependable relief from constipation, flatulence, indigestion, headache, bilious spells, tired feeling when associated with constipation. Get a box of NR from your drug store. Make the test—then if not delighted, return the box to us. We will refund the purchase price. That's fair. Get NR Tablets today. NO TO-NIGHT (NON-TOXIC) ALWAYS CARRY THEM WITH YOU. QUICK RELIEF FOR ACID INDIGESTION.



Every Opportunity A man must make his opportunity, as oft as find it.—Francis Bacon.

How Women in Their 40's Can Attract Men

Here's good advice for a woman during her change (usually from 38 to 42), who fears she'll lose her appeal to men, who worries about hot flashes, loss of pep, dizzy spells, upset nerves and moody spells. Get more fresh air, 8 hrs. sleep and if you need a good general system tonic take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made especially for women. It helps Nature build up physical resistance. Trust helps give more vivacity to enjoy life and assist calming jittery nerves and disturbing symptoms that often accompany change of life.—WELL WORTH TRYING!

Fool Lures Fool A fool always finds a greater fool to admire him.—Boileau.

Don't Sleep When Gas Crowds Heart

If you toss in bed and can't sleep from constipation and awful GAS BLOATING remember this: To get quick relief you must get DOUBLE ACTION. You must relieve the GAS. You must clear the bowels. Adlerika is just what you need because it acts on the stomach and BOTH bowels—quickly and gently clear the bowels of waste matter that may have caused GAS BLOATING, sour stomach, sleepless nights and indigestion for months. Adlerika relieves stomach gas almost at once. Adlerika usually acts on the bowels in less than two hours. No waiting for over-night relief. Adlerika does not grip, is not habit forming. Get genuine Adlerika today. Sold at all drug stores.

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Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery. Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder may be burning, scanty or too frequent urination. There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS