

Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"A Lightning Shave"

HELLO EVERYBODY: Now this is the story of a close shave—the closest shave John Pisano of Clifton, N. J., ever saw in his life.

Johnny has been a barber for the last 17 years, but he says he'd never had anything exciting happen in his shop until the summer of 1934.

"My wife," he says, "has been buying your paper ever since we were married, but neither one of us ever believed in contests. We thought they were all faked."

And now let's take a look at Johnny's yarn. He says it wasn't as terrifying as some of the stories he's seen printed in this column because it happened so fast and was all over so soon.

Back Door to Shop Brings Bad Luck.

Johnny's shop has a front and a back door—the back one leading to a pool room that is no longer used.

Johnny's wife is a little bit afraid of lightning. She had often told him about that door. She said lightning followed a draft, and that he ought to keep the back door closed whenever it began to thunder.

Johnny's shop has a front and a back door—the back one leading to a pool room that is no longer used.

Johnny's shop has a front and a back door—the back one leading to a pool room that is no longer used.

—A shower of bright, yellowish sparks coming out of the end of his razor.

never be telling this yarn to us today. And take my word for it, it's the dog-gonest thing that ever happened to any barber while at work at the tonsorial art.

It was along in the afternoon, and the sky was cloudy. There was no one in the shop but Johnny and his helper, and they were thinking about sitting down to a game of checkers until the sky cleared and the customers came out of their holes again.

Before the soap had begun to cream up, the storm broke. The rain came down in sheets, and the thunder, which had been a distant rumble before, now sounded like the report of a 16-inch gun going off right alongside your ear.

He spread the lather and rubbed it in. His helper was standing at the window, idly watching the water collect in the gutters.

Johnny picked up the razor—brought it down on his customer's face for the first long, sweeping stroke. Then, in the next second, everything in the world happened!

Johnny felt a sudden, numbing sensation in his right arm. A bright light blinded him momentarily, but as it died out a bit, he could see what had caused it.

The next thing Johnny knew, the razor was wrenched from his hand. It fell clattering to the floor. Johnny looked down at his customer. He lay in the chair rigid—stiff—and totally unconscious.

He stood trembling until his helper came and led him to a chair. Then he sat, dazed, while the helper soaked a towel in cold water and applied it to the face of the man in the chair.

So now, whenever the sky begins to cloud up, Johnny shuts that back door. And one of the things he and his wife agree most closely on is that little matter of lightning.

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Inventor of 'Death Ray' Refuses to Reveal Secret

It is possible that "death rays" may some day be used as an awful weapon of war, but Dr. Antonio Longoria, wealthy Cleveland, Ohio, scientist and inventor, who in 1923 perfected a "death ray" apparatus, will have nothing to do with recreating such a machine.

This Dr. Longoria made plain in a recent interview. He recounted that his apparatus had killed pigeons on the wing at four miles, and that he then destroyed the machine because of its danger.

"It's quite possible that someone may stumble across the particular electric wave I used," Dr. Longoria said. "I found it accidentally myself, and I certainly am not proud of the discovery. The machine killed small animals, and it could kill human beings just as easily."

"The ray lies in one of the unexplored frequency bands in the vicinity of the X-ray. It kills painlessly, without burning, by changing the

blood to a useless substance—as light changes silver salts in photography. But I don't like to talk about it, because it could wreck civilization. I'll have nothing to do with it. My hands will be clean."

Dr. Longoria said he first demonstrated his ray while working in California on a colored motion picture process, showing a group of scientists that the ray could kill rabbits even when the animals were encased in a thick-walled aluminum case.

Later, in Cleveland, he demonstrated that the ray would kill pigeons, he added.

"I could assemble such a machine again," Dr. Longoria said, "but I never shall. I have no drawings. The plans are in my head alone. My inventions have brought me wealth. I am interested now only in doing something to help civilization, which seems to be going backward instead of ahead."

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reviewed by CARTER FIELD

Preparedness spending vs. budget balancing is major political problem... Washington ponders problem of shipping war supplies... Garner's personal strength big factor in presidential situation.

WASHINGTON.—While it is extremely difficult to forecast what the effects of the European war will be on the presidential election campaign in the United States next summer, it has already insured a very important effect on the budget balancing situation.

There has not been any doubt, since the war broke out, that the United States would tremendously increase its expenditures for military purposes. Sharp increases in the army, navy and marine corps enlisted strength have already guaranteed that, with the reconditioning of the more than 100 World War destroyers contributing its quota.

But that is just the beginning. There is going to be a tremendous boost in the appropriation this winter for airplanes, for training airplane pilots, and maintenance of a larger air force. There will be, in all probability, further authorizations for more enlisted men and officers in the army, navy and marine corps, entirely aside from the increase in personnel in the air forces of all three arms of the service.

Running into more spectacular figures, however, will be the new navy building program, and new defenses for Panama, Hawaii and certain points on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, not to mention Alaska.

There is very little opposition to all this. But consider for a moment just what it does to the hopes for balancing the budget! Not that there were really any such hopes.

Spending-Debt Issue May Wreck Next Administration

This spending-public-debt issue is the one on which most politicians privately agree the next administration will be wrecked. It is the reason so many senators and representatives say the next President will be a one-termer.

Their theory is very simple, and applies to any Republican who might be elected just as well as to any Democrat. The next President must either go on with spending more than the government takes in or he must cut expenditures drastically.

So the next President will be faced with the problem of whether to cut, and infuriate the farmers, or the unemployed, or all three, or to go on spending, and scare the daylight out of the folks who are worrying about what will happen to this country if the federal debt goes on mounting.

This last may sound far-fetched and academic to some readers, but a brief confidential talk with any shrewd politician may surprise them. Just a few days ago Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. told newspaper men that the treasury would not issue checks after the federal debt had passed the present legal limit unless congress changed the present law limiting the debt.

Imagine the debate in the senate when that bill comes up! And the newspaper headlines and editorials about it!

Changing of Ships' Flags Arouses Severe Criticism

There is no doubt that Roosevelt's foot slipped a little on that business of permitting ships of the United States lines to change their flag to that of Panama. Actually the President thought the idea was good. Neither he nor Secretary of State Cordell Hull foresaw the public reaction, and apparently gave little thought to what the world in general would think. But, having noticed the domestic buzz saw, they stepped promptly away.

People are talking here about congressional indignation and political consequences, but the extreme probability is that this will be purely academic not only at convention time, next June, but even when congress meets in January. A lot of water will have flowed under bridges, meantime, and there will be far less certainty than that the idea had the President's complete approval than there is now.

Some of the criticisms of the plan—which was perfectly legal, of course—are rather amusing. As a matter of fact one of the most successful shipping companies in the history of the United States is a fruit company which, back in 1909—go way back before even the World War problems—was operating a fleet of 76 vessels. Of these only four were under the American flag. Most of them flew the Union Jack

or the flags of the three Scandinavian countries. They operated them under other flags because it was cheaper to do it that way. The present system of encouraging shipping, of course, with what virtually amounts to federal guarantees, makes the notion of transferring ships flying the United States flag to other registries just a little cockeyed. But the present system did not contemplate a war. Most of all it did not contemplate a United States law which would forbid ships flying the American flag to take part in the highest paying commerce in the world—that of carrying supplies to the belligerents.

Will Leave Plenty of Trade For United States Vessels

Actually, of course, ships of other nations will be drawn to that commerce by the incentive of profit—insurance at high rates covering the risk and being paid for by the customers—which will soon leave plenty of ocean-carrying trade for the American ships. United States ships, in short, will do the least profitable business, taking the places of ships of other nations attracted to the more profitable trade.

That is all right with congress. Had there been a vote on that simple proposition alone, unencumbered by the arms embargo repeal, the vote for it would have been ten to one. But it is a little tough on the men who were trying to build up an American merchant marine.

But what the President really was interested in was not to provide cargoes for United States ships, but to insure a steady flow across the Atlantic of American-made planes, tools, munitions and supplies of all sorts, from cotton to guns.

As a matter of fact he would have greatly preferred to have congress go back to international law, and took the "cash and carry" provisions only because he had to in order to get the arms embargo repealed. Right now a new plan for a steady flow of war supplies is being worked out. What it will be nobody knows as this is written but it will be done. The administration is resourceful. Remember how the AAA changed into a soil conservation project after the Supreme court decision? The advisers capable of solving that legal knot are not going to be stumped by the failure of the plan to hoist the flag of Panama on the United States Lines boats.

Garner Real Candidate for Presidential Nomination

It has been a long time since there has been any real doubt that John H. Garner would be a real candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination at the national convention next June, and in some of the primaries to be held in the spring. Yet so little had been heard about his candidacy for the period including the extra session of congress, and the hectic war news which preceded it that some had assumed the Garner candidacy had died a natural death.

Garner has two tremendous elements of strength—will have three if President Roosevelt gives him his blessing instead of fighting to nominate himself or some one more openly New Deal in economics and associations. First, Garner has, for reasons which can be assumed since there is little doubt of the accuracy of the general statement, a very wide public confidence.

The second element of strength possessed by Garner is the friendship and confidence of most of the Democratic politicians. This was never better demonstrated than in the house of representatives in the special session of congress. Garner virtually took over the direction of that fight, and by his personal influence turned what might have been a very bad situation from the administration's standpoint into a real victory.

Garner Sensed Situation And Went to Work Himself

Garner sensed that situation even before the newspaper men began to count noses—to add polls of this delegation to those of that—and find out that the vote was apt to be dangerously close. Realizing the danger, Garner wired Sam Rayburn, Democratic leader of the house, to hurry back from Texas and get on the job. Then he went to work himself.

It was long association, inspiring friendship and confidence which made this so effective. But in the course of the nearly 40 years in which Garner has been a factor on Capitol Hill, hundreds of Democrats have passed through the house and senate, and gone back either to private life or offices back home which appealed more to them.

There are lots of flukes in politics, of course. But on the whole an election to the house means a good deal as to the influence and position of the man elected. This does not entirely disappear even if he retires to private life. Some vestige of influence remains. Garner probably has more friends of this sort, of varying degrees of importance and weight, scattered through the country than any living man.

All this cannot be added up to make the result that Garner could defeat Roosevelt for renomination if the President went after it. There is no way of telling how such a fight would work out, though most observers in Washington would bet on the President. But there is a growing number of Democrats important in the party who hope the President will not seek a third term.

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

DR. GODFREY LOWELL CABOT, donor of the Columbia university prizes in journalism, awarded to two South American editors, gets top rating in this department's war-time listing of men of good will, as against the disturbers and trouble-makers.

Dr. G. L. Cabot Listed High as 'Lamplighter' of men of good will, as against the disturbers and trouble-makers.

The experimental house, being pictured in the newspapers, as scientists seek to trap sunlight and store it in the cellar for winter use, is traceable to Dr. Cabot. In 1937, he gave Harvard university \$615,773 to carry forward some of his ideas about storing solar energy.

He has been a generous patron of aviation, learning to fly a seaplane in his late years, inventing a system by which a plane can pick up fuel in flight, and is now governor and former president of the National Aeronautic association.

A native of Boston, he attended M. I. T. two years, was graduated from Harvard in 1882, and laid the basis of his fortune manufacturing lampblack in Worthington, Pa., in 1887, branching out in gases and carbides.

Our War Boom No Bubble, Says D. W. Douglas

DONALD WILLIS DOUGLAS, president of Douglas Aircraft, Inc., of Santa Monica, Calif., says war orders for American planes, and the spurt in building, won't end with "boom-bubble."

Mr. Douglas is in the midst of a strictly orthodox aviation career, without any stunting or barnstorming. A Brooklyn boy, he was grooved quietly through the M. I. T. and into the Glenn Martin plant, as chief engineer.

He will get an important niche in aviation history as the designer of the first plane to lift his own weight. That proved him an expert on the pay-load, an advantage which he has pressed hard.

Gypsy Smith, Once Militant, For Persuasion

GYPSEY SMITH, a full-blooded Roman Gypsy, born under a hornbeam tree in England 78 years ago, is the world's most famous evangelist, now preaching in New York. He turns from militancy to persuasion.

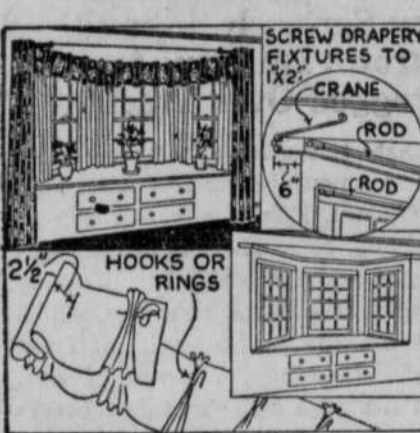
For 60 years he has carried a clothes-pin as a symbol of his personal salvation. He and his father made clothes-pins. An old lady bought some and gave him a Bible. He was 18 years old then, had never slept under a roof, and was unable to read, but he taught himself with the Bible.

His name was Petulengro, and he couldn't spell it when he first learned to read. He believes great wars and disasters will end when we have become "masters of small things," but that faith and religion must be of ever widening scope. It must be persuasive rather than militant evangelism, he insists.

He has given up "scolding and frightening" people. On this, his thirty-fifth visit to New York, he preaches "love and hope."

(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

HOW TO SEW by Ruth Wyeth Spears



of the bay and extending 6 inches over the walls at the sides as illustrated will solve the problem.

WITH the holidays almost at hand everyone seems to be giving curtains a thought. An enthusiastic reader of Sewing Book No. 3 writes, "I have a bay window in my dining room that has always been a problem to curtain. Right now I would like to make pinch pleated drapes of figured damask to hang from cranes to the floor. I would also like a valance."

The sketch at the lower right reveals the difficulty. The space between the top of the windows and the top of the bay made it impossible to hang the draperies as desired. A 1 by 2-inch strip of wood nailed next to the ceiling

Ask Me Another A General Quiz

- 1. What is the origin of the army term "furlough"?
2. How often has the United States sent soldiers to foreign lands?
3. What is meant by a Jerusalem pony?
4. What tree sometimes grows a foot a day?
5. In Europe what is meant by a pension?
6. What is a bull session?
7. What is the largest single real estate mortgage in America?
8. A victim of autophobia is afraid of which: speed, solitude or automobiles?
9. What are four nicknames for the United States flag?
10. How fast can a swallow fly?

The Answers

- 1. "Furlough" comes from the Dutch "ver lof" meaning "for leave."
2. More than a hundred times during its 163 years of existence.
3. A donkey.
4. A bamboo tree.
5. A boarding house.
6. An informal group discussion of miscellaneous topics.
7. One covering a loan of \$44,300,000 made by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. to Rockefeller Center in New York city.
8. Solitude.
9. Stars and Stripes; Star Spangled Banner; Old Glory; Red, White and Blue.
10. A mother swallow, taken from her nest and put in a cage with an identity mark on her foot, was carried by a car a distance of 79 miles in a direct line, and released. She arrived home in 43 1/2 minutes, having flown at the rate of 108.5 miles per hour.

NOTE: Readers who are now using Sewing Books No. 1, 2 and 3 will be happy to learn that No. 4 is ready for mailing; as well as the 10 cent editions of No. 1, 2 and 3. Mrs. Spears has just made quilt block patterns for three designs selected from her favorite Early American quilts.

INDIGESTION Sensational Relief from Indigestion and One Dose Proves It

If the first dose of this pleasant-tasting little black tablet doesn't bring you the fastest and most complete relief you have experienced send bottle back to us and get DOUBLE MONEY BACK. This Bell's tablet helps the stomach digest food, makes the excess stomach fluids harmless, and lets you eat the nourishing foods you need. For heartburn, sick headache and upset so often caused by excess stomach fluids, making you feel sour and sick all over—JUST ONE DOSE of Bell's proves speedy relief. 25c everywhere.

Time for All Things To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the sun.—Eccles. 3:1.

CLOTHESPIN NOSE Sensational extra help for colds—with LUDEN'S! These famous cough drops not only help soothe throat, but release a menthol vapor—rich, with every breath, helps penetrate clogged nasal passages, helps relieve "clothespin nose!"

LUDEN'S 5c Menthol Cough Drops

Moderation Moderation is the silken string running through the pearl-chain of all virtues.—Fuller.

IT'S FUN TO POP JOLLY TIME POP CORN GUARANTEED TO POP

MERCHANDISE

Must Be GOOD to be Consistently Advertised BUY ADVERTISED GOODS

CAMELS BURN SLOWER AND GIVE ME EXTRA SMOKING PER PACK—MILDER, WITH A BETTER TASTE! Camels LONG-BURNING COSTLIER TOBACCOS Penny for Penny Your Best Cigarette Buy