

The Ward of Robbers' Roost

By CRITTENDEN MARRIOTT
W. O. Chapman, WNU Service

SYNOPSIS

"Go Ahead" Morton, Virginia and Department of Justice operative, receives a letter from Tom Fair, bandit leader, urging that some one be sent to rescue Stella Morton, foster sister, from the gang. An enemy in the gang prevents Fair from helping the girl. The letter was intended for "Go Ahead's" father, who is away from home. "Go Ahead" decides to go himself. At "Robbers' Roost" Fair explains the situation to Stella, now sixteen years old. She does not want to leave Fair, for whom she has the affection of a daughter. Jim Barker, sheriff and aspirant for Stella's hand, directs Fair to run a shipment of arms into Mexico and bring back whisky. Unknown to Fair, Stella, dressed as a boy, accompanies the gang. The bandits' errand is successful and the party returns to Barker's ranch. Stella refuses a proposal of marriage by Wade, Barker's lieutenant. Wade declares he will force her to marry him. Wade attacks the girl and "Go Ahead" arrives on the scene in time to rescue her. Barker appears and is disarmed. Stella escapes to return to Barker's Roost. "Go Ahead" intercepts her. The girl explains the situation and the two ride away from their pursuers together.

CHAPTER VII—Continued

He and Bob were racing westward between the crests of two long ridges that ran parallel to their course about a mile away on either side. The two outlaw parties—Go Ahead had made up his mind that they were outlaws and that Bob was or had been affiliated with them—had changed their courses as soon as he and Bob had changed theirs and were riding slantingly to intercept them. Inevitably they were cutting down the interval and would certainly continue to do so for some time to come.

Go Ahead realized, that unless he could find some way out the race was bound to end sooner or later in favor of the pursuers; at any moment a single shot might do it by merely wounding one of the horses. Anxiously he stared ahead, to where a low distant rise seemed to cross their path. "Is there a rise ahead of us?" he asked, "or don't you know?"

"Sure I know. I wrote the map that the Lord used in building this country. It's a rise all right. If we can get over it we'll have a chance to get away, for there're miles of twisted country beyond that'll fool most of those fellows that are after us, maybe all of them. Listen, and I'll tell you about one or two turns. You never can tell when you'll want to know, you know."

The girl's voice showed not even a tremor. It ran along smoothly—as smoothly as if she were chatting about some indifferent subject under purely normal conditions. Glancing at her in wonder Go Ahead decided that she simply did not realize the danger. And in this he was right; Stella and the gang had been chased before and on such occasions had never seen anyone seriously wounded or caught; and she had come to believe herself and her friends immune.

Meanwhile, the outlaws steadily closed in from both sides. They did not fire, however; being on the flanks of the fugitives, who rode side by side, they could not fire at Go Ahead without running the risk of killing Stella, and even Kennedy's gang knew better than to do this. Besides, it seemed for the moment unnecessary. Their slanting approach, though it brought them nearer, yet inevitably brought them more and more directly behind the fugitives. Soon the one broad target would separate into two distinct ones. Then it would be reasonably safe to concentrate their fire on Go Ahead.

By and by single bullets, fired apparently by a single marksman on the left, began to whistle closer and closer to Go Ahead. Stella noticed this, and for the first time anxiety began to show in her manner. "That's Jim Barker shooting," she exploded. "He thinks he can shoot, and I guess he won't risk anybody else hitting me. I'm afraid I've got you into a fix."

"Humph! Maybe. Not much risk yet. Their chance'll come when our horses have to slow down in going up that rise while theirs are still running on the level. Once we get to the top we'll be all right."

Stella feared for Go Ahead, not for herself. After all, this had been none of his quarrel, she told herself. He had come into it solely in her defense. Of course others had defended her in the past, but they had been life-long friends and they had known that she was a girl. Go Ahead was a stranger who believed her to be a boy and who had yet taken her side against heavy odds. If he were hurt—

that Go Ahead would never consent to it and that to attempt it would merely lose them time. Under the circumstances, it was the sensible thing to do; but Stella, being a woman, knew without being told that it was the man's part to take fool risks for pride's sake, even though they brought him death, because the taking of them helped to build up the spirit that has saved and will always save home and country.

At last the up-slope began, gentle at first, but swiftly steepening. The laboring horses, spurred hard, strove to maintain their pace but could not do it. Slower and slower they climbed.

Behind, the bandits, coalesced in one big group, came rapidly nearer; their bullets, no longer fired by Barker alone, whistled by the left-hand side of the double target. It was only a question of seconds till one should go home.

Stella did what she could, closer and closer she pressed to Go Ahead's side, despite his equally persistent efforts to sheer off and thus diminish her risk of catching a bullet aimed at him. But she knew in her heart that all she could do was useless.

Against the brass sky but with dawning hope in their hearts, the two raced across the few yards of level ground and turned downward. Another spring would take them out of sight. They took it, but as they took it Go Ahead's horse staggered and, carried by his impetus, raced a little downward and then toppled and fell, while Go Ahead, warned in time, sprang free.

Nevertheless, when only a few minutes later the bandits reached the crest they saw only one dead horse and another riderless one running northward and downward into the dip. Go Ahead and Stella had both disappeared.

Bewildered, the foremost outlaws drew up their panting horses on the crest and stared wonderingly at the narrow and shallow valley beneath



Go Ahead and Stella Had Both Disappeared.

them from which the fugitives had so mysteriously vanished. Sandy and wholly bare except for a few scattered tufts of stunted grass it seemed to offer no possible place of concealment, and its ends, though not very distant, seemed yet altogether too far away to have allowed the fugitives to reach them on foot in the time allowed. And that they must have done so on foot, if at all, seemed evident from Go Ahead's dead horse and Stella's riderless one.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Mrs. Hemans' Poem Had Foundation in Fact

Mrs. Hemans' poem, "The Boy Stood on the Burning Deck," which thrilled the imagination of childhood for two generations, had its origin in an actual happening that constitutes a page in history. It was while Napoleon's expedition to Egypt was in progress that the English sent Lord Nelson, the sea's most famous warrior, to annihilate the fleet. This Nelson so nearly accomplished that only four of the French vessels escaped sinking or capture.

A bullet had ended the life of the French admiral, and the flagship was wrapped in flames. But Louis Casablanca, the captain, who was wounded so badly that he could keep his feet only by clinging desperately to the rail, stoutly refused to leave his post.

All who could get into a boat or swim had deserted the flagship and its heroic captain, with the solitary exception of a boy of ten—his son. The lad had hidden behind a coil of rope until the last boat had gone, then he went to his father's side. Commands and entreaties were of no avail; the boy remained, supporting the wounded man with an arm about his waist. The English sailors forgot the lust of battle, checked their fire, and cheered, and some of them wept as the enemy ship settled lower in the water and finally disappeared beneath the waves.—Detroit News.

Found Antique "Mine"

Much has been said and written about places to go in search of antiques. The American traveler in his enthusiasm for the wealth of supposed antiques which he finds in every English city, is likely to be led astray by the hundreds of shops which lie along the beaten track, and may pass up completely the out-of-the-way places where the real article may be found.

A traveler says that he struck a veritable mine of riches in a little-frequented town in the Interior. Going down for golf he discovered a real antique shop "right off the map in the heart of the country."—Antiquarian Magazine.

Now Be Honest

Laugh at the hoary old custom if you will, but probably even now your subconscious mind is toying with a good resolution or two.—Woman's Home Companion.

The Kitchen Cabinet

(By 1524, Western Newspaper Union.)
Life's a pudding full of plums,
Care's a canker that benumbs,
Wherefore waste our eloquence
On impossible solution?
Life's a pleasant institution,
Let us take it as it comes.—Gilbert.

CANDIED FRUITS

To the one who loves fruit, and color, the luscious boxes and baskets of candied fruits which are in the markets so plentifully in the southern states, are most appealing. The price has always been so prohibitory that the large majority have not felt able to afford to buy. But now that we learn how to prepare these fruits in our own homes, and many are doing it, the prices are gradually lowering. The fruits of any particular locality may be candied as well as the fruits of the South. Kumquats, loquats, pineapples, apricots, prunes and oranges as well as grapefruit. Cherries are grown in all parts of the country and are especially nice when candied.

For the large fruits, peel and core and cut into halves. Puncture the smaller fruits in several places with a wooden toothpick. Cook all the fresh fruits in water, but see that they are kept unbroken. This water may be used to make further sirup. Prepare at least twice as much sirup as fruit to thoroughly cover. To one cupful of light corn sirup add two cupfuls of water, bring to a boil and pour over the fruit. Cover with a plate if the fruit floats. Allow this to stand twenty-four hours. Then pour off this sirup, measure it and to every four cupfuls add one-half cupful of sugar. Bring to the boiling point to dissolve the sugar and pour back over the fruit. Allow to stand twenty-four hours, drain again, measure and add to every four cupfuls one-half cupful of sugar, boil and pour over the fruit. Stand twenty-four hours, repeat this process, adding the half cupful of sugar each time for six times with an interval of twenty-four hours between each, until the sirup is thick like honey. Let the fruit remain in this sirup a week in a cool place. Drain and place on wire screen where the air may circulate around it and protect from flies. Pack when it is not sticky in waxed paper lined baskets or boxes. Cover and put away in a cool place.

The pits and stones are removed from such fruits as cherries, prunes and apricots before the candying process is begun.

Measure the fruit in a crockery dish large enough to hold it and the sirup to cover it.

Foundation Cake.
With a foundation recipe for cake to use as a base, one may vary the recipe and have a dozen varieties.

Cake No. 1.—Take one-fourth cupful of shortening, one cupful of sugar, two eggs, one and one-half cupfuls of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-half cupful of milk and one teaspoonful of lemon or vanilla extract. Cream the shortening, add the sugar and mix well, then the well-beaten eggs, the flour sifted with the baking powder and salt added alternately with the milk, beating well, add flavoring and pour into greased pan.

Cake No. 2.—Take three-fourths of a cupful of shortening, one and three-fourths cupfuls of sugar, four eggs, two cupfuls of flour, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one cupful of milk and one teaspoonful of vanilla. Mix as No. 1, except the eggs; the whites and yolks are beaten separately and the whites are folded in at the last.

For a nut cake add one cupful of finely broken nut meats to the batter just before putting into the pans.

For raisin cake add one-half to three-fourths cupful of raisins to the batter—four times first.

For chocolate, add two squares of melted chocolate to the batter with one tablespoonful more of milk.

If a marble cake is desired, divide the batter and stir in the chocolate batter when in the pan; put it in alternate layers with the white.

For cup cakes, bake in gem pans in a hot oven.

For layer cake bake in layers in a hot oven and use any desired filling.

Butter Frosting.—Take one-third of a cupful of butter, add one and one-half cupfuls of confectioner's sugar gradually, beating well; add one-half teaspoonful of flavoring and one tablespoonful of milk. Spread on the top and sides of the cake.

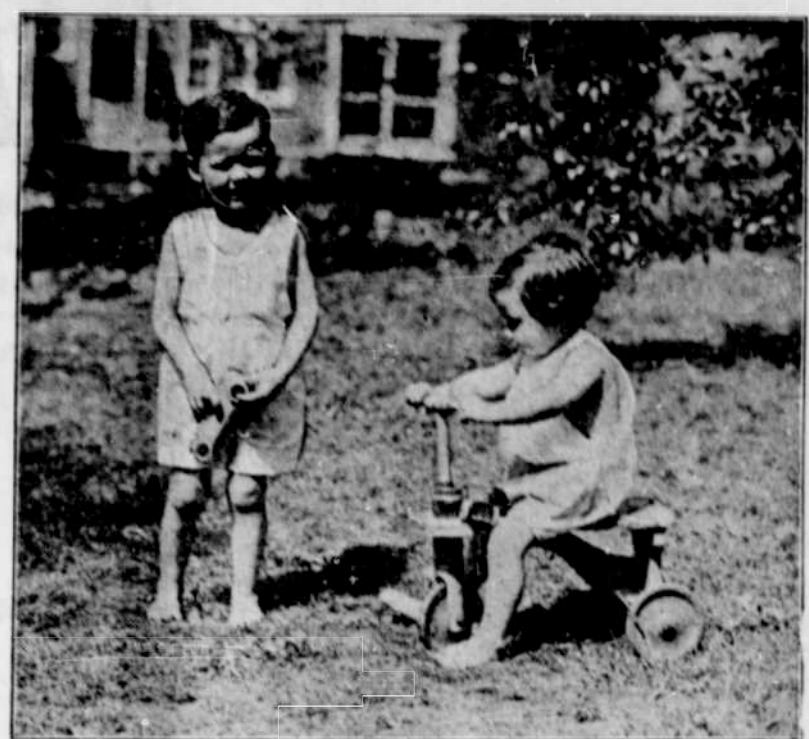
Boiled Frosting.—Take one cupful of sugar, one-half cupful of water, one egg white and one-half teaspoonful of vanilla. Beat the egg white stiff, cook the sugar and water until honey-like, then add two or three tablespoonfuls to the egg white, beating well. Return the sirup to the heat and boil to the hair stage, dip a fork into it, and if it bears remove and pour over the egg; beat until cool, add the flavoring. If frosting becomes too hard add a tablespoonful of boiling water, half a teaspoonful at a time.

Nellie Maxwell

Plant Generates Gas
The plant known as dittany generates gas which can be lighted. It is covered with glands that secrete a volatile oil, which in hot weather evaporates, making the air about the plant inflammable. It grows in southern Europe and central Asia.

Cleaning Paintings
To remove fly specks from oil paintings try washing them with warm suds made with a pure soap that does not contain lye, using a soft cloth.

SUN BATHS IN BACK YARD ARE IN ORDER



Children Playing in Sun Suits.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

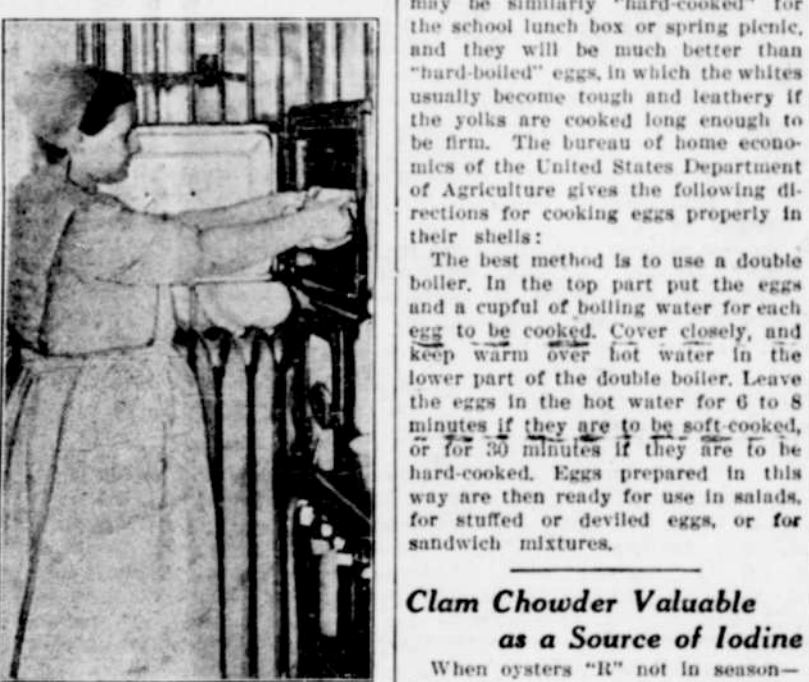
Sun baths in the back yard are in order for this sturdy three-year-old and his sister, half his age, who is learning to manage her first kiddie-car. Both children are dressed in sun suits which permit a large amount of sunlight to reach their skin. Neck and arm-holes are cut low, and the tops are made of transparent material. The bottom part may be made of colored suiting or any printed cotton fabric, which the child may enjoy choosing for himself. The trouser legs are as plain and as short as possible. Features that make these suits comfortable and convenient are the wide shoulder straps, which do not cut or slide off, and the lapped shoulder fastening. Allowance for growth is made at the shoulder by providing a second buttonhole which will permit the garment to be dropped an inch or two. Barefoot sandals may be worn to protect the soles of the feet.

LET ELECTRICITY DO KITCHEN WORK

Installation Has Brought Many Conveniences.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Electricity may be supplied to farm homes either by individual plants, by community power plants, or by a company which operates the lighting or trolley system in some nearby city. Wherever it has been installed it has brought innumerable conveniences with it. No one is more ready than the busy farmer's wife to avail herself of electric aids if she can obtain them. Californians have been especially quick to see what electricity could do for the farm home in addition to lighting it and operating power farm machinery. A recent report from California received by the United States Department of Agriculture



Pennsylvania Farm Kitchen Electrically Equipped.

states that there is more electricity used on the farms of that state than in all others put together. In a questionnaire on household conveniences returned by 5,264 California farm households to the General Federation of Women's Clubs, it appeared that over 3,500 had, and used, electricity. The illustration shows an electrified farm kitchen in the East, in Lancaster, Pa. The housewife here has not only an electric range, but also an electric toaster, a vacuum cleaner, a washing machine and an electric iron. Running water is brought to the house by electric power, supplied from a co-operative electric power plant which uses an old mill pond for generating electricity.

Nuisance of Roaches

Roaches will not frequent rooms unless they find some available food material, and if such materials can be kept from living rooms and offices or scurrilous care exercised to see that no such material is placed in drawers where it can leave an attractive odor or fragments of food, the roach nuisance can be largely restricted to places where food necessarily must be kept.

HOUSEHOLD NOTES

- Snailgilt yellows white silk.
- Fine steel wool will remove starch that sticks to an iron.
- Before washing silk dresses, outline badly soiled spots with basting thread.
- Before dyeing cloth, be sure that it is perfectly clean. Dye will not conceal grease or soiled spots.
- Blas tape turned under and hemmed to the dress makes a simple and effective trimming for children's summer frocks.
- Shades of gray are usually more becoming to the elderly woman than black, which tends to emphasize the lines of the face.
- Early childhood is the time when lasting health habits are being formed. Parents who know this will bend every effort to help their children form good ones.

CAP AND BELLS

DEVELOPMENT

"Less than two years ago," said the professional booster, with a wide sweep of his arms to include a new outlying area of his city, "this was all farm land."

"Is that so?" said the visitor, who was somewhat artistic and had a sense of beauty, as he looked over the shacks, pools of stagnant water, abandoned motor cars, and so on. "Is that so? That's too bad."

Quite All Right
The elderly lady was comfortably ensconced on the first green of the public golf course.

"Do you think that's a very safe place to sit, ma'am?" asked an approaching golfer.

"Oh, yes, it's perfectly all right," beamed the dear lady, "you see, I'm sitting on a newspaper."

MADE HUSBAND HOT

She—They say clothes make the man.

He—I know his wife's clothes make him hot under the collar.

Wouldn't Fit
Mrs. Teilit—Cousin Dorothy, you know, always wanted to have a little baby daughter so she could name her "June."

Mrs. Askit—Yes. Did she do it?
Mrs. Teilit—No. The man she married was named "Bugg," and it wouldn't do, you see.

In Other Words
Patron—My watch which I bought from you has stopped. What is the matter with it?

Jeweler—It is a victim of what the doctors call "cachexia."
Patron—What in the world does "cachexia" mean?
Jeweler—It means it's run down.

Earning a Living
"You wish to earn your own living?"
"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne.

"Your tastes are luxurious."
"There lies the trouble. I don't believe that I could be content with the sort of living I'd be able to earn."—Washington Star.

HOW HE KILLED 'EM



Dubb—"He's a lady killer." Blubb—"Yes, keeps 'em out all evening dancing and never buys 'em anything to eat."

Proof Enough
Beatrice—And they say he is awful illiterate, my dear.

Millicent—Oh, yes, he has written two popular songs to my knowledge, you know.

The Candid Poet
The guests had thoroughly enjoyed the evening of recitations by a local poet. He was the last to depart. The hostess wrung his hand and said: "Poets are born—"

"And," he interrupted, "not paid."

Who'd Have Thought It?
"Haven't you heard? Mary just married Bill Hendricks."

"Bill Hendricks? Not really? Why, that was the man she was engaged to!"

Proper Securities
"Jones wants to borrow five dollars from me. Is he good for that amount?"

"Yes, with proper securities."
"What would you suggest?"
"A chain and padlock, a pair of handcuffs, and a watchdog."

Company Cook
"Did you get a medal when you were in the army?"

"Nope; nobody appreciated my cooking."

Just a Shell
Weste—I hear you've built a new home.

Easto—Yes, but I don't know whether it's going to be a manor, villa, hacienda or gloom—my wife hasn't bought the furniture yet.

In Touch With Royalty
"Do you know, I was quite close to royalty yesterday, uncle!" said Peggy.

"Really?" said uncle.
"Yes," said Peggy. "I was stung by a queen bee!"



The Woman Driver

I like to drive with Champion Spark Plugs because I know I'll not be annoyed with engine trouble due to faulty spark plugs.

Champion is the better spark plug because it has an exclusive silicon insulator specially treated to withstand the much higher temperatures of the modern high-compression engine. Also new patented solid copper gasket-seal that remains absolutely gas-tight under high compression. Special analysis electrodes which assure a fixed spark-gap under all driving conditions.

CHAMPION Spark Plugs

Tolado, Ohio
Dependable for Every Engine

Structure With Room for Twenty Thousand

Twenty thousand workers, besides thousands of other persons, visitors and shoppers, will be accommodated in the huge New England building which has been started in Boston. The structure will cost \$21,000,000, will occupy 130,000 square feet of ground area and will be twenty-five stories high at the peak, tapering off to the familiar set-back style which has become popular in large American cities. Besides offices, the building will have a big department store to occupy ten acres of floor space, a permanent exhibition hall to display New England industries, and in the sub-basement will be automobile parking space. Elevators will convey the machines to the street level. A steel-supported awning will protect pedestrians from rain on all four sides of the building.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.



NURSES know, and doctors have declared there's nothing quite like Bayer Aspirin for all sorts of aches and pains, but be sure it's genuine Bayer; that name must be on the package, and on every tablet. Bayer is genuine, and the word genuine—in red—is on every box. You can't go wrong if you will just look at the box:



Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer, Manufacturer of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid

Held for Hitting Elephant

Engineers in India have hazards that are unknown to other railroaders. For running into an elephant on the Eastern Bengal railroad the engineer was arrested and charged with a "negligent act." It was not a wild elephant—it had a rider, who was killed.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Qualified
Manager—Can you sign up to high C?

Pretty Blonde—No, but I can klick higher than that.

Manager—What are your terms?—Detroit News.

Backbone of Rails

About 5,000 miles of the Pan-American railway have been completed. This is approximately half of the line as originally surveyed.

Don't think that because you can fool some people that others can't fool you.

FIRST AID TO BEAUTY AND CHARM

Nothing so mars an otherwise beautiful face as the inevitable lines of fatigue and suffering caused by tired, aching feet. ALLEN'S Foot-Balm, the Antispasmodic, Healing Powder, insures foot comfort. It is a Toilet Necessity. Shake it in your shoes in the morning, slip all day—dance all evening—then let your mirror tell the story. Trial packets and a Foot-Balm Walking Doll sent Free. Address Allen's Foot-Balm, Le Roy, N. Y. In a Pinch, Use Allen's Foot-Balm.

For Mosquito Bites, Sting of Bees and Venomous Insects

HANFORD'S BALSAM OF MYRRH
Mosquito Balm for first relief if not ailed. All dealers.
V. N. U., PORTLAND, ORE. 27-1928.