

Floyd Gibbons

ADVENTURERS' CLUB

Hello, Everybody!



"The Human Target"

By FLOYD GIBBONS
Famous Headline Hunter.

TODAY'S story, boys and girls, is from Norman Daly. But first I want to tell you about an exciting little adventure of my old friend Jed Kiley. Jed lived for many years in France. One night when he and a friend of his were slumming in a tough French cafe in the Apache quarter of Paris, they began to notice they were getting dirty looks from the motley group of thieves and pickpockets who crowded every table.

An "Apache" is a French gangster. The name, as you know, comes from a tribe of American Indians noted for their cruelty. The French Apache is not a gunman, however, like his American counterpart but he is adept in the use of a long bladed knife which he carries hidden in the folds of his baggy clothes. He can throw this heavy knife with uncanny skill and pierce a victim's heart at 20 feet. He is also noted for his intense hatred of all foreigners.

Jed knew all this and as the Apaches had been drinking heavily, he saw that he and his friend were in real danger. Their table was far in the rear of the smoke filled room and if they walked out they might feel a knife in their ribs at any moment. And no one would know who had thrown it.

One table of roughs in particular were concentrating their hate on the Americans. There were five of them and they amused themselves and the others by heaping insults on the "American Pigs." Jed pretended not to understand French and began doing a little heavy thinking. He knew the Apache character and the pride they took in their skill with knives and hit on an idea.

Jed Gave the Boys a Target, Anyway.

Jed walked over to a door in the back of the cafe and taking out a one hundred franc bill, he pinned it to the door. Then, as 50 sullen eyes followed his every move, he announced in broken French that the bill would go to the man who pierced it first with a thrown knife.

Zowie! An avalanche of knives hit that wooden door with a splitting crash. Jed thinks many of them must have pierced the bill but he's not sure. He didn't wait to see. He and his friend went out the front door and up the street like a bat out of Hades!

And with Jed still running, let's leave Paris and go down to Nicaragua with Norman Daly and see what happened to him.

Pistol Shot Breaks Norman's Pleasant Reverie.

Norman spent five years as a member of the Chicago police force but, he says, it remained for the marines to give him his greatest thrill. He was a marine in Nicaragua in the summer of 1912 and one hot night as he lay



But Norman Knew It Wasn't a Bee—It Was a Bullet.

stretched on his back, puffing away on a glowing cigar, a sudden pistol shot disturbed his reverie. The shot was accompanied by an angry buzzing sound, as though a bee had quickly passed. But Norman knew it wasn't a bee—it was a bullet!

He started to straighten up when a voice growled at him to lie down and stay down and keep smoking. Another shot and a warning buzz made him obey. He recognized the voice as belonging to a rough Texan member of the outfit who was always quarreling with an equally tough pal of his about who was the best shot.

Norman also knew these two had been drinking. He quaked in his boots but he didn't dare move. He knew what it was all about now. His cigar was their target!

This Was No Vaudeville Act—This Was Real!

Bang! Another shot! Then another and another! The bullets buzzed by so close that Norman says he could smell them. But still his cigar remained in his mouth. He pursed his lips to get that lighted end as far out as possible and hoped the boys would shoot high. Two more bullets came fast and furious and Norman winced at each blast. He started counting them to keep his nerves from breaking.

When 12 had passed and that fatal 13 was coming up, Norman nearly swallowed cigar and all. Bang! Thirteen came and passed. It was a lucky shot for Norman—he still wasn't hit—but neither was the cigar! The next shot just passed under Norman's nose and then a shower of friendly sparks sprayed his pale face.

The cigar had burst—like a Roman candle—on the fifteenth shot! Whew! Norman sat up and wiped the beads of perspiration off his furrowed brow. He felt like screaming with relief but he couldn't get his breath. He looked around. An anxious group of comrades stood around him, watching with bated breath. He swallowed his heart and then, true to the traditions of the Marine corps under fire, he grinned.

"Nice shooting, boys," he said.
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The Semaphore

In 1793, Claude Chappe, a young French engineer, established between Paris and Lille an experimental line of semaphore telegraph stations. The essential features of his apparatus were an upright post on the top of which was pivoted a movable beam or cross arm carrying, at each end, another movable arm. The apparatus was so arranged that the positions of these three movable units could be changed, as desired, from within the tower on which the semaphore was mounted. Various combinations or sequences of these positions could be used, either for code phrase or alphabetical communication. Carlyle's "The French Revolu-

tion" gives a dramatic account of the telegraphing to Paris, by means of a line of Chappe semaphores, of the news of the surrender of the town of Conde. Chappe's system was widely used in France and similar systems were adopted in practically all European countries and in the United States.

Forest of Arden

Englishmen claim that Shakespeare's romantic forest in "As You Like It" is the Forest of Arden in Warwickshire, which fits the description. Belgians claim it is the Forest of Ardennes. Either may be right, for both forests are romantic and lovely.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers

Roseburg—The district attorney of Douglas county has instructed the sheriff to stop the operations of all slot machines and gambling devices throughout the county.

Coquille—By a vote of 125 to 34, voters of the South Slough district, Coos county, have voted against permitting cattle to run at large. They must be kept within fenced areas.

Hood River—Responding to protests from residents, the city council of Hood River is considering an ordinance barring all types of slot machine games from public places within the city.

Albany—The Santiam Fish and Game association has selected G. F. Cruisan of Upper Soda as caretaker for Clear lake. Several ballots were taken before a choice was made from 12 applicants.

McMinnville—Woodsawyers of McMinnville will be required to pay a city license of \$5 this year instead of \$10 as in the past. The reduction was made in answer to the claim of the sawyers that their income has been reduced in recent years because wood already cut is being hauled into town.

Roseburg—A stubborn cow in the cattle herd of J. B. Stobie at Camas Valley had two antipathies—one toward its owner's dog, the other toward being loaded onto a truck—and the former was used as a ruse to overcome the latter at roundup. The truck was backed to an incline and the dog, inside of it, was put to barking. The angered cow, making a rush for the dog, leaped onto the truck.

Coquille—Dennis McCartney, owner of the Coquille sawmill, reports he has concluded negotiations for sale of the plant to the Smith Wood Products company, which operates a mill near Coquille. The Coquille mill had been operated the past year by the Prosper Mill company and William Sweet under lease, but the lease was surrendered. The Smith company announced it would modernize the plant, installing a new refuse burner. The two plants will work in co-ordination.

Salem—State Fire Marshal Hugh H. Earle announced the launching of a statewide home fire prevention campaign through the rural schools. Rural schools will be visited by a deputy state fire marshal who will conduct rigid inspection, fire drills and illustrated lectures covering common fire hazards. The activity was launched as a result of the successful campaign conducted during fire prevention week in the cities, which brought about the removal of \$4,000 fire hazards, Earle stated.

Astoria—Attilio Pusterla, noted Italian artist who pictured the history of early Astoria on the famed Astoria column, will arrive here before June 1 to undertake the repair of the damage done by wind and rain, according to advices received by City Manager James Conville from E. D. Litchfield, New York architect who designed the column. Three months will be required to do the task, Pusterla estimates. He will use new colors and new materials required in the Sgraffito method for redecoration of the tall monolith.

Astoria—Announcement has been made here by the Columbia River Packers' association that a contract has been let to Martanic & Anderson, Puget Sound boat builders, for one of the largest and finest fish carriers engaged in the salmon industry on the Pacific coast. Cost of the boat fully equipped is expected to be in excess of \$50,000. It will be 98 feet long, 25 feet in beam and 13 feet in depth. It will be about 250 tons gross and will be powered with a 300-horsepower Diesel engine. It will be able to carry about 800 boxes of fish.

The Dalles—The Columbia river, standing at 3.5 below the "zero" mark, was believed to have reached the lowest stage ever seen by white men. At least the river never has been so low since records were kept, or in the memory of old-time river men here, according to W. L. Crichton, official government observer and himself a former steamboat man. The extreme low water here, attributed to the prolonged cold spell that has checked melting of snow in the mountains, has exposed a sand bar in the upper harbor that previously was known only to navigators.

Round-Up Dates Set

Pendleton—Dates for this year's Round-up were set for September 10, 11 and 12 by the Round-up board here.

Constructive Suggestions or Complaints: Which Get Results?

First Method Fosters Good Will; Second Causes Annoyance.

There are two ways of accomplishing things which one has to get done. One is to complain that things are not as they should be. The other is to make constructive suggestions and request that they be followed out. The first method is apt to annoy the person conferred with. The second appeals to his sense of justice, and, if the suggestion is a good one and within reason, it is generally heeded. Assuming that, in both cases the thing gets done, in the first instance, annoyance prevails, while in the second, good will is fostered. You will remember the old adage that you can catch more flies with molasses, than vinegar. In other words you can get more accomplished by keeping good tempered and sweet, than by getting annoyed and sour tempered.

Getting Things Accomplished.

It is well to remember these methods for family use, and for civic purposes. It does not mean that one can get things done merely by being good natured. There must be a plus to it. There must be continual effort in the right direction, until the point is won. And when there has been no hard feeling created, and the matter is seen to, there is likely to be a feeling of satisfaction on the side of both parties, each being pleased that a good thing has resulted.

It was by the recommended method that a woman succeeded in getting a bench put on a waiting station platform. She appealed to the correct authorities, telling of the genuine need for such a bench, as tired persons found it almost more than they could endure to stand from ten to twenty minutes, more or less, according to the connection of one car with another at this junction. At first, came a note stating that her request had been noted, and formally thanking her for letting them know of her wish; nothing more, and nothing was done.

It was only after repeated appeals, and continued assertions that the company would be treating their patrons with consideration by putting the bench at the place suggested, that finally she succeeded. And now not only are her own trips to the city made less tiresome, but hundreds of other persons daily find the seat a blessing.

Another instance comes to mind. Repeated accidents of major and minor severity occurred at a certain

Difficulties Inject Spirit and Vigor in Chosen Work

The way to find joy in one's work is to find something one wants to do, enjoys doing. Then one can work with aim and purpose. When one likes his work he can work against difficulties.

For such a one difficulties animate rather than slacken his endeavors. He is also to work with perseverance and patience.

city corner, by autos colliding. A woman requested the city to install STOP BEFORE CROSSING signs by the curb at each corner of the cross street. Since her request was heeded, fewer catastrophes have occurred, and there need be none, if only motorists would heed them. She did not complain, but she made a good suggestion in a good way, and won her point to the comfort of all but the reckless.
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WOMAN'S AILMENTS

Mrs. L. E. Dixon of 2819 Chestnut St., Everett, Wash., said: "I was weak and sickly when I was developing into womanhood, I lost weight, became irritable, had headaches and terrible cramps. I realized my system was becoming weaker each time and that a tonic was necessary. I tried Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and it was not long until I was eating better and feeling better." New size, tablets 50c., liquid \$1.00 & \$1.35

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