

Gambler's Throw

by Eustace L. Adams.

SYNOPSIS: Jerry Calhoun and Nancy Wentworth, a musical comedy star, are held up by five men on a long island road, while Nancy is taking him to a gas station to get fuel for his stolen car. He starts to resist, in spite of the sight of a machine gun, but is stopped by a bullet. The next day he recovers consciousness in a hospital, with a temporary head wound. Reeves, a detective, tells him that Nancy was kidnaped and that two millionaires have also been captured. He implies a connection between the three cases. Nancy's captors are engaged to a rich man, which provides an additional motive besides her own love for her abduction, since her father could pay large ransom. Jerry, who is an airplane pilot with some experience, wants revenge upon the kidnapers and hopes to rescue Nancy. He leaves the hospital trying to decide upon a plan of action.

Chapter 3
ALLIES FOR REVENGE
JERRY stood at the top of the marble steps and peered about for a taxicab, hoping vaguely that one of the boys at the field would have come for him.

He glanced at a long black-and-nickel roadster standing at the curb, then stared at it more closely. No, it couldn't be, he decided; Emory Battles was in Boston.

He walked down the steps, crossed the narrow sidewalk and, bending low peered into the driver's seat. There, his face rest-



He read a statement to the reporters, describing the abductors' letter.

The newspaper men recalled that the conference was being held in the offices of Mr. Macomber's attorney. Last of all arrived Inspector Henry O'R. Mullanphy, of the New York police department.

Two hours later a waspish little man with beribboned nose glasses slipped into the reception room, clamped his hands smartly for silence and read a prepared statement to the attentive reporters.

"I am instructed to issue the following statement: "Mrs. Frederick Mallory, Mr. Wendell Hamilton and Mrs. Colburn Wentworth have each received in this morning's mail a letter purporting to be from the abductors of the two gentlemen and the lady who are known to have disappeared. With Mrs. Mallory's consent, we have caused her letter to be photostated and will presently supply each of you gentlemen with a copy. While each of the letters varies in details, one of them will, we hope, suffice. Inspector Mullanphy has authorized us to give you the following details as to the physical make-up of the letters themselves.

"They were written upon stationery which may be purchased in any stationery store and are enclosed in envelopes of similar paper. They bear postmarks indicating they were mailed at City Hall station, New York City, at or shortly before 5 p. m. yesterday.

"As you will presently observe, they have been hand-printed with pen and ink, thus making it impossible to trace the author by employing the services of a type-writer expert or an authority upon handwriting. It will be further noted that the missives were written, or dictated, by a person of obvious intelligence.

"In closing, I am instructed to say that a decision has been made to fulfill, in every detail, the demands that have been made. That is all, gentlemen. Those who attended the conference have left the building by another exit, since they do not wish to be interviewed."

(Copyright, 1932, Press)

The story is so unusual that readers are impressed by the popular intelligence of the gang-bust Jerry and Nancy try to out-wit them, when they

ing upon arms outstretched over the great slanting wheel, was Emory, noisily asleep. Jerry's pulses leaped. He would rather have seen this lanky, carefree, reckless pal just at that moment than any other man in the United States. He reached in and gave the sleeper a slap on the back. Battles straightened up with a start of surprise. For a moment he blinked, bleary-eyed, at Jerry, then smiled in a wide, contented grin.

"Hello, kid!" he yawned. "Are you a free man?"

His greeting was as casual as though it had been but a day since he had seen his closest friend, instead of nearly a year.

Tall, rather thin, with high forehead, straight nose and a scholarly mouth, one might have thought Emory a student taking a post-graduate course in philosophy at Harvard instead of a restless, headstrong youth whose passion was adventure and whose besetting vice was wanderlust.

As Jerry sank into the deep cushions, his friend slipped into the traffic and headed the throbbing monster toward New York.

"How did you get here?" demanded the battered pilot. "I thought you'd sworn off New York for ever and had gone home to get into the good graces of your stiff-necked aunts, uncles and cousins."

"I have and did," declared Emory, comfortably. "But when I read about your little to-do out here in the country, I thought I might be missing a bit by staying so far away from the excitement. Besides, the atmosphere of home was beginning to curdle my usually kind disposition.

"So last night I happened to read of your lapse from grace and knew it was time to be easing along."

"I jumped into the car, left Boston a few minutes after midnight and beat the train to the Grand Central by twenty-two minutes.

"Bright and early this morning I went to your flying paddock and found out where you were confined. Then I popped over to the hospital."

"How are you fixed for money?" inquired Jerry succinctly.

"Filthy with it," confessed his friend promptly. "How much do you want?"

"How much will you spend," countered the other, "to have a lit-

A house occupied by a Mr. Crawford broke into flames about the same time as the barn, was a total loss and a second barn in the same block and all its contents also were gutted by the flames.

For Channel Improvement.
WASHINGTON, July 13.—(AP) The secretary of war today recommended to congress that Multnomah channel, formerly known as Willamette sloop, extending from the Willamette river at Portland to the Columbia river at St. Helens, Ore., be improved at an estimated cost of \$20,000, with \$9,300 annual maintenance.

AUSTRALIA PROPOSES CACTOBLASTUS STATUE

BRISBANE, Australia.—(AP)—Premier Moore of Queensland proposes in all seriousness to erect a statue to "cactoblastus," an insect which destroys the cactus and prickly pear. Cactus was spreading over millions of rich acres when the insect was imported. Now farmers are returning to lands which the plants had made unfit for crops.

Name G.O.P. Group To Head Campaign

CHICAGO, July 13.—(AP)—Fifteen members of the republican national committee were named today as an executive committee to aid in directing the campaign for the re-election of President Hoover and Vice President Curtis.

YOUNG GOLFERS GIVEN SPECIAL RATE AT CLUB

To encourage Medford's young golfers, and to enable those vacationing to keep up on their game, the directors of the Rogue River Valley Golf club have established a special rate for players between the ages of 18 and 21 years for the summer season.

Escaped Prisoner Wounded, Captured

WALLA WALLA, Wash., July 13.—(AP)—Ellis Woodard, escaped prisoner from the Washington state penitentiary here was captured today near Cottonwood, Idaho. He had a leg wound from a bullet fired by Idaho officers. Hunt for W. D. Moxley, fellow fugitive, continued.

HORSES REPLACE AUTO IN JOHN DAY DISTRICT

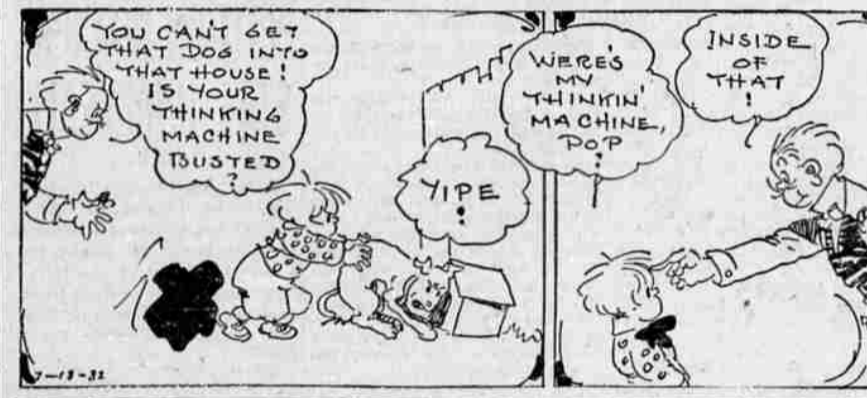
JOHN DAY, Ore., July 13.—(AP)—Assertedly because of the cost of automobile license, the horse is experiencing a revival in this district. Farmers are taking their produce to two with horse teams, and one farmer came here last week in a sedan-drawn by a team of horses.

By GLENN CHAFFIN and HAL FORREST

TAILSPIN TOMMY—Tommy Puts Two And Two Together!



S'MATTER POP—A Loose Screw



By C. M. PAYNE

BOUND TO WIN—"Big Feet's" Schemes



By EDWIN ALGER

THE NEBBS—Presto—Chango



By SOL HESS

MUTT AND JEFF—Too Severe A Test



By BUD FISHER

STATE GRAIN RATE HORRID EXAMPLE

SEATTLE, Wash., July 13.—(AP)—Railroads and shippers today made a demand at the second day's session of the interstate commerce commission hearing here for a uniform basis for grain rates in intra and interstate shipping.

A. Burton Mason, San Francisco, attorney for the Southern Pacific railway, said the lack of a uniform basis for rates within and between states was one of the serious obstacles and a basis for difficulty in the Pacific northwest.

FIREBUG BLAMED IN DALLAS LOSS

DALLAS, Ore., July 13.—(AP)—Four fires, two of which were stated by authorities to have been set by incendiaries, destroyed property valued at more than 2000 here very early this morning.

The Dallas fire chief was conducting an investigation of the fires today and assistance of the state fire marshal was being sought. Neighbors reported seeing two men in an automobile near the destroyer property an hour before the first alarm was sent in at 1:45 a. m.

BRINGING UP FATHER



By George McManus