

Glider Girl

By OREN ARNOLD

THIS STORY, Pat Friday is all excitement as the day for Captain Carr's transcontinental glider flight approaches. Last details are completed in the early hours of the morning before, and it's up to Pat to rustle up enough money for the trip—a detail forgotten in the rush of planning. Meanwhile, Loraine, who is to be the passenger on the flight, dresses languidly for the journey. She plans to sing her entrance, in 20 minutes late, for effectiveness, and is more concerned about the attractiveness of her hair than she is about the flight itself.

TAKE-OFF BY SURPRISE

CHAPTER VIII

CAPT. JAMES CARR, U. S. Army Glider Corps, and his young lady passenger were to be towed in the latest Victory model two-seater sailplane.

"We'll be approximately a half mile behind the motor ship," he reiterated to news men in a last interview this morning. "First stop will be at Cleveland."

"How do you land there, Captain?"

"I will simply cut loose from the tow line and come down at will. Probably soar over the city for about an hour first, for the public to see."

"Then down to the airport, hook onto the tow line again, and head west?"

"That's it. Chicago next."

"Whew!" the reporter breathed. "How's for thumbing a lift?"

Jimmy grinned. "Wish I could take you, old man. But listen—in a short time, maybe just a year or two, transcontinental sailplane flights will be common. I mean, with passengers, express, freight, everything. Military use at first, naturally. But after the war, wow!"

"Okay to quote you on that?"

"Sure! It's not theory, it's tested fact. I'm heading out right now to prove it again. Prove how passengers can be towed. We might as well have six sailplanes on that tow line. Or even 10. It's been done!"

Some of that, too, went into the microphones when Jimmy made his little farewell speech there on the rostrum. Publicly he accepted Colonel Furedy's good wishes, then saluted and shook hands with everyone. Some 15,000 people began cheering.

PAT FRIDAY was holding Jimmy's log book when he stepped down from the platform.

"And, Jimmy," she murmured excitedly, "here's a telegram from your mother, sending her love. And—and this is a little basket of fruits, from me. You might get hungry."

"Gee, Pat!" He inspected the fruits, packed in cellophane and tied ever-so-daintily. "Thanks a billion. And hold down everything for me. I hate to—gee, Pat!" He seemed to discover her violet eyes, then.

Several Army officers were approaching, and one of them boomed out.

"Three minutes of 11, Captain Carr," he said, ominously. "Yes, Colonel Furedy."

"What about it? Are you ready?"

"Yes, sir. Of course, sir!"

He strode off with the other uniformed men. The crowd of spectators watched them move toward the sailplane, a few yards from the official platform there. Newsreel men were maneuvering. Photographers squatted and squinted and climbed around. The nervous tension incident to the takeoff seemed to be gripping everybody. Up under half a mile was the tow plane, its propeller already turning. Engineers and mechanics moved here and there like so many busy ants, re-checking every point of ship, towline and sailplane for last-second perfection. Everybody knew that this flight would make aviation history.

There was a formal little discussion there beside the plane, with austere old Colonel Furedy being a trifle pompous. After all, this was his big day, too.

"Carr, you young devil," he addressed Jimmy rather genially, for him. "I want you to do this job up right! You understand?"

"Do my best, sir."

"I'm sure of that. I didn't pick you carelessly."

"Thank you, Colonel."

"Ah, another thing, Carr."

"Yes, sir?"

"If you do make it," the colonel's tone left it open to doubt, "I might, ah, say in advance that I intend to recommend you."

"Yes, sir? But I don't quite follow you."

"No promises, mind you. Not yet. I said 'if.' If you make it safely, and turn in a thoroughly millitary—that is—a proper piece of work all around. This assignment is not quite military, hmmm. It is a civil job, in a way. Public morale. Education. Good will. But we've been over all that."

"Right, sir."

"Then, confound it, if you want to be a major before you're 30 years old—hah! You follow me now, young spriggins?"

JIMMY saluted, grinning his thanks.

Then all at once the colonel frowned. "Where is your passenger, Carr?" Several men looked at watches. "It's 10:58 o'clock!"

"I—I—I don't know, sir. She ought to be here!"

"Hmmm!" Colonel Furedy's tone spoke volumes.

Jimmy's eyes were searching the crowd. Honestly, he hadn't had time to talk with Loraine. Not since a minute yesterday morning when they went over the essential details. But Loraine was capable, responsible. She knew what was going on. Jimmy sent an orderly rushing through the crowd to look for her. He himself began to look frantically around. He glanced at his watch; 40 seconds more had raced by. This

Leadership is not a thing to be assumed lightly, and it is precisely because it requires capacity to carry responsibilities that the demand for capable leaders—in government, in business, and in the professions—seems invariably to exceed the supply.—President Everett Case of Colgate U.

Out of the bomber of the last war came the long-distance commercial plane; out of this war's bomber the giant plane of the future is emerging.

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

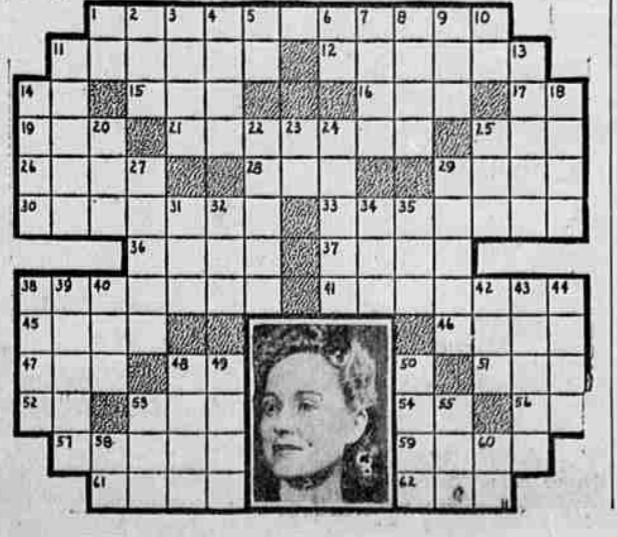


SCREEN ACTRESS

ANSWER: Member of a religious sect, deriving its name from Nestorius, patriarch of Constantinople.

NEXT: What is the most popular nature hobby?

1. Tunisia	2. Bizerter	3. 20 Station (abbr.)
4. Nile	5. Nile	6. 22 Nostrils
7. Nile	8. Nile	9. 23 Upon
10. Nile	11. Nile	12. 24 Rows
13. Nile	14. Nile	15. 25 Exist
16. Nile	17. Nile	18. 27 Spot
19. Nile	20. Nile	29. Arabian chieftain
21. Nile	22. Nile	31. Russian village
23. Nile	24. Nile	32. Before
25. Nile	26. Nile	34. Pillar
27. Nile	28. Nile	35. Piece out
29. Nile	30. Nile	38. Milligate
31. Nile	32. Nile	39. Occurrence
33. Nile	34. Nile	40. Born
35. Nile	36. Nile	42. Footlike part
37. Nile	38. Nile	43. Landed proprietor
39. Nile	40. Nile	44. Sea eagle
41. Nile	42. Nile	48. Variable star
43. Nile	44. Nile	49. Fruit
45. Nile	46. Nile	50. Protected
47. Nile	48. Nile	53. Fold
49. Nile	50. Nile	11. Be buoyed up
51. Nile	52. Nile	55. Sun
53. Nile	54. Nile	13. American composer
55. Nile	56. Nile	58. She
57. Nile	58. Nile	60. Measure
59. Nile	60. Nile	



Out Our Way

By J. R. Williams



Our Boarding House

With Major Hoopla



HOLD EVERYTHING!



Red Ryder

By Fred Harmon



CHEERY EMBROIDERY SHOWS BUSY KITTENS



Freckles and His Friends

By Blosser



Wash Tubbs

By Crane



Boots and Her Buddies

By V. T. Hamlin



Allep Oop

By Martin



Little Orphan Annie

By Harold Gray

