

THE HOUSE OF MOHUN

By GEORGE GIBBS

Author of "Youth Triumphant" and Other Successes
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On the third floor a head poked out of an open door

WHO'S WHO IN THE STORY
CERRY MOHUN, up-to-date girl, rich and cunning, at once irritated and attracted by...
DAVID SANGREE, young American diplomat and war veteran, attracted by changes in manners and customs brought about by the war, but interested in Cherry. His modest funds are invested with her father.
MRS. MOHUN, who has successfully cultivated the social side of life.
BRUCE COWAN, a motorcar salesman, of cave-man type, of whom Cherry imagines she is enamored.
BOB MOHUN, son, is a typically reckless youngster.
GEORGE LYCETT, elderly chorist, philosophizing as the story develops.
JOHN CHICHESTER, whom Mrs. Mohun would like to call son-in-law.

ATTY'S joke. The obligations of friendship have no string tied to them. Why they're so significant, I'm desperately in earnest. That loan must be repaid. If your mother won't do it, you will have to—
 "She must."
 "Perhaps she will. But you'll need every dollar you can find. The money I offer you will help to pay some of your debts until you can move to a more modest neighborhood. What I propose is this: I have a house up in Cherry Hill. It's nothing much in the way of a house, but it will do. The people who occupy it have been willing to give me into short notice. I can arrange to have them out in six weeks if you say the word. The rent is only one-seventh of what it would be—and you needn't bother about paying me until you're ready. I've got enough."
 "I couldn't let you do this—I couldn't."
 "I shall consider your acquiescence the measure of our friendship," he continued.
 "Where you give all and I give nothing," she murmured.
 He laughed softly. "You can't measure friendship in money. Cherry. There are things that can't be bought by money. They're prizes only won by deserving effort. I attract your attention by falling from a horse, but I only hold it by getting on again—"
 "You see, if I hadn't broken my arm I should never have known how sorry you could be. That was really worth the price, but it wasn't information in the rest of my broken arm and your own increased feelings. These are prizes higher than the silver medals they give to do with the things of the spirit."
 As she was still silent he commended her to his pipe for a moment. "If you care for my friendship enough to test its value, now is your time. You are, I think, the one girl friend I have ever had in my life. When I first met you I was a mere mortal, but you brought me into the world of the broken arm and your own increased feelings. These are prizes higher than the silver medals they give to do with the things of the spirit."
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Are Flappers as Bad as They're Painted? Are Jazz-Boys All Limbs of Satan?
 venture, Sangree did not share it. He merely stared angrily down the silent hallway as they passed the landings. On the third floor a head poked out of an open door whence came the sound of male voices, and they both heard a comment made, the sound of an exclamation, followed by suppressed laughter.
 "Cherry was sniggering softly, but Sangree caught her elbow and hurried down the stairs.
 "Damn them!" he muttered.
 On the ground floor the elevator man was dozing on his bench, but he straightened as they passed him and Sangree felt the creature's gaze boring into his spine.
 "But he gave a gasp as they reached the friendly darkness. They walked rapidly and he saw them go.
 "Good Lord!" she gasped, with a sudden accent of contrition as the vehicle spun upon its way. "I never once thought of your reputation!"
 He laughed easily.
 "I should have, Ramesses. Will you forgive me? I didn't think—"
 "Nonsense."
 "Who were the people on the third floor?"
 "I don't know. But why the devil they couldn't have kept the door closed—"
 He grinned comfortably at her in the darkness.
 "But it doesn't matter in the least—since no one could possibly have recognized you."
 "Poor Mr. Sangree," she said. "If they call you a 'Dad'—"
 "They may. But the idea is rather absurd, isn't it?"
 "I don't think I like it, Ramesses," she finished soberly.
 At the house on Seventy-eighth street he saw her to the door, and after executing a promise that she would visit the house uptown with him in a few days, he dismissed the taxi and walked down town alone.
 To be continued tomorrow

Boy Killed in Lift Shaft
 Thomas J. Dolphin, fifteen years old, of 2041 Reed street, fell to his death through an elevator shaft yesterday in the factory of the Pell Brothers, label cutters, 52 and 54 North Sixth street. The boy was employed by the Hoelich Printing Company, 212 Dock street. He was delivering a load of paper to the third floor of the building when he accidentally backed into the open elevator shaft.

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PLANES SEEK TWO FLIERS
 Fear Felt for Safety of Colonel Marshall and Lieutenant Webber
 San Diego, Calif., Dec. 8.—(By A. P.)—Army aviation officers at Rockwell Field here were ready today to send a squadron of scout planes to search for Colonel Francis C. Marshall, attached to the staff of the chief of cavalry in Washington, and Lieutenant C. W. Webber, of the Air Service, who left San Diego at 9:15 o'clock yesterday morning in flight for Fort Huachuca near Tucson, Ariz., and had not been heard of early today.
 Fear was felt for the safety of the two officers, and the Rockwell Field officers planned to canvass the country in Southern California and Arizona. The officers were expected to reach their destination within five hours after they took off. Lieutenant Webber, an experienced cross-country pilot, was instructed to report by wire on arrival at Fort Huachuca.
 Colonel Marshall had been on an inspection tour of cavalry camps throughout the country and has used planes extensively on this mission. He commanded a brigade of the First Division in France during the World War.

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The Challenge of the Bootleggers

A saturnalia of bootlegging seems to be no exaggerated phrase to describe the startling state of affairs to which the Administration calls the nation's attention. Inspired Washington dispatches tell us that the present Prohibition enforcement methods are "debauching and debasing the entire country"; that the President is "deeply concerned over a belief that the moral fiber of the American people is deteriorating through the open disrespect shown for the effort to enforce Prohibition"; and that "the growth of bootlegging, the temerity of rum-runners, and the serious insinuations against Federal enforcement officers have been worrying the Administration for some months," until finally—"With Prohibition enforcement recognized as on the verge of absolute collapse in four States and in a condition of serious demoralization elsewhere in the country, President Harding considered to-day the issuance of a solemn public appeal to all good citizens to discourage bootlegging as a last resort to administer the law."

"One way to make Prohibition prohibit," declares the New York Evening Post, "would be to arrest some of the prominent and respectable people who buy what the bootleggers sell."

The leading article in The Literary Digest this week takes up the subject of the enforcement of the Prohibition laws and presents the opinions of leading newspapers as to ways and means.

Other news-features of current interest and importance are—
Democratic Plans to Win Next Time How the French-American Romance May Be Renewed
To Curb Reckless Aviators Whence Comes the Virtue of Cod-liver Oil? Hearing Two Thousand Miles With a Home-made Radio Set
An Anglican Move Toward Rome A Neighboring View of Woodrow Wilson Personal Glimpses

Loves and Hates of the Circus Elephant Governor Allen's Court Threatened The Test of the Irish Free State How Not to Catch Cold Mr. Hoxie's Talking Film Stories That Reveal Bernhardt Eastern Culture Draining the West of Ministers Anarchism and Cruelty—The Soul of the Russian Peasant Topics of the Day

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