The Free Press' Short Story

The Better Part of Valour

picture, Dad?" Jack Berrows

Borneo and the world's uncivilized places that occupied the limelight of Jack's interest, rather picture the elder Barrows had just drawn. These outposts had determined the choice of major studies in the middle west university from which the boy had just been graduated. His imnationt foot was eager to be treading the

"How soon can I be off, Dad?" had come the ardent question as Jack had swing into the officel "I'm rarin' to go!"

The president of the Hartley Museum slowly. "As soon, flon, as you are quite ready. The appointment to that field is yours, you know. I only want to feel that you are absolutely qualified."

here alde by side with you, for years? till I'm on more intimate terms with relinquished his with less grace. the ancient cliff dwellers than I am with my own classmates? How could I be now, motioning to his boots. "These, better prepared for my work? You mean | too?" you want me to take post-grad work, more ethnology, archaeology, biology?"

Walter Barrows had shaken his head new putts. in denial. He had narrowed his eyes. regarded his son quiszically. "I see a compromising "Yes!" At eight, a small boy is adrift in the lake you feel just a little sorry for us?" upon a floating cake of loe which broke | The Mexican adjusted his red banin the northern woods, far from the ed in a wide grin. "fil," he admitted. characteristic, 'Who's afraid?' A broken us back just enough to cover our nakedarm and leg are the rewards of a young | ness!" winner in an auto race furtively pulled an airplane at a county fair is enthusias- head. tically doing stunts which cause the audience to look the other way."

Dad?"

"You do not sco?" "It seems to me that fearlessness is work will take him into constant dan- prospect, first of all, for clothes!"

upon the letter he held, glancing down rushing to his line. Three days later showing beneath the dignited short dressed like primitives, feet bruised and from the first advancing Mexican, and mustache, "this letter from Dick Blair bleeding from sharp rocks, bodies smart. knocked him unconscious, before the gives me an idea. I believe you'd find ing from the scratches they had suffer- native had begun to cope with the sudden it eminently worth while to go down on ed from mesquite, chaparral, and cactus, turn of affairs. Blair turned to the next, the border and prospect about with him Jack burst out hotly. "If we had stood up who was upon him now, and fought him a bit before you go to the Orient. Y and fought the dirty greasers like regular like a wild thing! believe that would give you just the men, we shouldn't have to suffer this Jack ran foward, still uncertain of ingredients. Arrange on or in lettuce

preparation you need." Jack regarded his father in amazement; then broke into an incredulous glance. "No," he conceded, "probably the man who was grappling with his the dangers of the South Sen Islands! lucky to escape with our lives." The From what I read, tribes of the interior rebellion in Jack's eyes, and the set of a held himself outnumbered, and fied toof the Philippines are regular loungs determined jaw showed that the boy was ward the underbrush of the mountain lizards compared to Mexican bandits still unconvinced. in their present state of mind."

life among them in security.". with amused but respectful interest knowing that his reasoning unfailingly and when the warning came, he stopped nock of the gallant fighter which was probed deep and sure. " I don't know to kill if the singing was close by: other- without skin, entirely! why I shouldn't be willing to go, if wise he walked on. Other wild life of the you wish it. 'I ought to find adventure mountains he met first on the offensive, Jack hid about in the hills, little by

long is this prep course to last?" wrong in the picture."

himself following an old prospector in a dry gully between two rugged ranges fit. Jack Barrow's torture during these through the mountains of North Mexico the prospectors had found promising long days of hiding was entirely of the at a time when the far wiser course float, unmistakable evidence that some mind, however, for the head wound had for an American was to stay on his own where in the course of the waters which been but slight, and was healing proper side of the border. He smiled as he had washed it down was the ledge bear- ly. Dressing the other's neck was actual watched the seasoned miner swing up ing precious ore. Blair and Jack had suffering, and the boy could scarcely the trail with his easy stride. There come into the hills alone this time, un- keep from crying out whenever his eyes were holes through the crown of the hampered by faint-hearted Pedro or a fell upon the many handages. He realsombrero Blair wore, and a lobe was perverse burro, their scanty provisions ixed that those awful scars must always missing from his right ear. The slight upon their own backs, trusting to the testify to his folly. ' limp with which he walked had been plentiful game for much of their living. acquired but a few weeks ago when at- Each day found them farther and farth- taln himself no longer, and sobbed in tacked by bandits a short distance from er from divilization, fured on by the anguish. Blair would say in his kindly town on the American side, he had fuscinating evidence here and there that way, "Forget it, boy!" climbed a telephone pole, tapped the the lode was still beyond. wires, and phoned for help, meanwhile

a enfouded target for whizzing bullets. danger, neither did he seem to avoid it. fruitless years, and turned in for the He simply treated it as if it did not exist. hight. A tire was soon, burning cheer-Jack reflected as he followed him fully before the shack. Jack set about ered. Twice that last day they had lain of rare beauty and charm. Delightfully higher and higher up into the Sierra cleaning the quali that had been shot prone like rocks among the brush while cool and refreshing. Never leaves a Madre Mountains. Two burros loaded during the afternoon. Blair untied his a bandit party passed almost over them. Vestige of stickiness. A velvety impoth with equipment, and a reluctant Mex- knapsack, and rummaged for comment Now in the edge of the foothills they ican, were the other two in this quest "I'm about to demonstrate to you, Son," sought shelter in the but of an old Making it truly rose-lenf in texture. All for an elusive vein of ore.

fear as he punched the stubborn burres mother used-" before him. . Had not the Rurales, the Mexican mounted police, warned them beyond were infested with bandits? "Bandidos!" he was whimpering.

swinging an impatient foot. threatening. There was no win of ore. to be as tame as this?

> Pedro answered his question almost immediately. For one tense moment the native paused before he rounded a thicketed promontory; then unceremonlously he abandoned the burns, and came rushing back. "Benorit Benori Bandidos They come!" And he darted into the underbrush like a wild creature.

> There was the thud of homes hoofs on loose rock, and immediately Blair and Barrows were surrounded by six armed

Loave It to me, Bont" Despite Dick Blair's comradely

Buenos dias, amigos!" the leader of the taken my degree? Haven't I worked demanded, first weapons, then clothes. "Oh, all right," answered Dick good-Haven't I gone into our own Bouthwest, naturedly, handing over his coat. Jack

"Estos tambien?" Blair was asking have followed!

"Bil" the leader answered with child-

picture of a child of two, climbing up When the two had given up every bit blood left in us!" He started in blind into the feed box before a blooded horse, of clothing, Blair looked up at the leader, sliding astride down its nock as the a twinkle in his gray eyes, a friendly animal lowers its head to eat. The same smile spreading over his bronzed face. child at three, is running with a band "Look at us, friend! How would you like of gypsies, fascinated by a covered wagon. to have to go home like this? Don't

off when he ventured beyond the dan- danna about his neck with growing emger line. This lad, a year latter, is lost barrassment. Gradually his teeth show-"Well, then, be a good fellow! Give

Spanish, partly in American, largely by rider dragged, as he urged his horse to for fruit salads. Just before serving "Well," demanded Jack, thrusting back kestures. Presently he had the whole a gallop? Suddenly the boy realized sprinkle this syrup liberally over the his dark red hair in which the curl still band laughing. Pinally they handed him the truth. The bandits were dragging fruit and lettuce. persisted, "what's wrong in the picture, two meager blankets, returned to Jack Dick Blair. his Ingersol watch with a disgrunted.

> "No buenos!" and rode off. "Well, glon," Blair said casually, "looks

Jack pulled his scanty blanket about head. Walter Barrows tapped his glasses him and curbed the words that were "Jack," he asked, a smile when the two entered Nogales, still

"And you worry about me facing not. We wouldn't be here. We were friend.

Blair's general attitude toward danger. "And yet Dick has spent his whole his disregard for it, Jack came to under- Easp whimsically when the enemies had stand and to share in the weeks that fled, "to be killed by a Mex." "Oh, well---" Jack studied his father followed. He little by little coased to enough to curb my impatience. How then disregarded. Gradually he forgot little and under cover fighting their way

Late one afternoon they came upon an abandoned shack, where perhaps some young blood is hot-" Dick Blair did not seem to court other prospector had spent fruitful or he amounced, "just how few ingredients Chinaman who hid them in his cellar dainty women invariably choose Persian

'He was interrupted by the sudden ap- parative safety of this but the American't pearance from behind the shack of an walted while the Ohinaman brought a a half mile back that the mountains old Mexican, naked, bruised, fronzied, rescue party from Nogales,

wo Americans learned that he was an seaten. He warned them of the danger pressed. they were in, urged them to get back to civilization. Then, accepting the blanket Blair gave him with a fervent underbrush, Intent only upon his flight, too frightened to stop for the food that

had been offered him. "It looks a little bad, Bon," Blair said dared refuse to drink a cup they gave thoughtfully, again occupied with his him because he did not like the stuff,

izzling frying pan. "Guess we can hold on the next test." em!" was his only comment. "It might be wiser to get away from the details of the tragedy, Jack sale

be guilty of running from them!" Blair dropped a spoonful of batter upon the heated stone, inhaled its navoriness appreciatively, and added, polgnant-

ly, "Or toward them!" The two men scaled themselves on the new assuring calm in their deptive. " ground before the fire, quite ready to do might have," Jack went on, "before I justice to their meal. Hardly had they went south. But I wouldn't now. You filled their plates, however, when there see, I've discovered what, was wrong in was the crashing of hoofs, through the that picture. That's why I came home. underbrush of a near-by draw, and four That child all his life, even after he was Mexicans rode forward at full speed, no longer a child, mistook recklosaness guns and machettes flashing.

and again, with brooding eyes, Jack his lesson. He will never forget that watched Dick Blair meet his enemies 'discretion is the better part of valor.' with a comradely hall. "You're just in At their first appearance, the younger | time!" he added, motioning to their fire. man's hand went quickly to the gun in "Tortillas! Qualif Steaming coffeet becomes lodged in the bronchial tubes, was his belt, and as reluctantly fell away at Come, partners! You don't want to harm others gather, and the awful choking of had removed his glassed Dick's cool but authoritative, "Don't pull us! We're good hombres! Come! Ext asthma results. Nothing offers quite such

Blair's friendliness was magnetic. The Kellogg's Anthma Remedy. The healing, savory odor of the hot food and drink roothing smoke or vapor penetrates, dark-skinned bandits offered no greeting, distractingly tempting, and a Mexican clears the passages and gives untold Qualified? Haven't I just and his dips curled insolently as he curtly is such a child! Gradually the hostility relief. It has behind it years of aucon the leader's face softened, and gleam- cess. It is the sure remedy for every ing eyes warmed to the Americano and sufferer. his food. A moment more the mun would have been won, and the others would SUMMER SALADS AND DRESSINGS

In that moment, however, Jack Harrows reached the limit of his endurance. Were he and Blair, two strong, hardy ish eagerness as he regarded Jack's shiny men, again to dedge the issue? Were they to beg for peace of a small handful Blair touched his trousers. "No to be of ignorant outlaws? "Not on your life!" the patient eyes of a man who has spent urged whimsically. "Not these!" 'The he burst out in hot protest to Blair's cloborate salads that are delightful for a life time at research work, and had Mexican's only answer was another un- friendly overtures. "We're not going to compromise again, not while we've red fury toward the leader of the bund. The whine of a bullet, precipitate as ful. Jack's hot words, was the Mexican's an-

head followed, and then darkness. was a struggle to remember. Sudden, monly used in ralads is the kind of solgnant recollection came, and with an the pommet of his saddle, was dragging in the salad are also very desirable from along on the ground behind him some- the standpoint of a dictitian. thing clumsy and heavy, an unwieldy The Mexican, however regarded his weight. Cautiously Jack raised his head dressings for different types of salads. off on an abandoned track. A pilot of spoils with greedy eyes, and shook his a little higher. The other Mexicans, A simple syrup made by combining the following behind their leader, distructed juice of two oranges and one lemon with Dick coaxed and persuaded, partly in his vision. . What was this object the several teaspoons of sugar is excellent

a necessery qualification for one whose as if we'd have to turn back to town and the blood that flowed from the wound tomato catsup, one-half teaspoon sugar,

What was this? The rope had broken! Dick Blair jumped to his feet on the instant, faced about, selzed the machette

his feet, whipped out his gun determin- and zerve with mayonnaise. Blair shot him a surprised and amused edly, and with its butt knocked away

The third Mexican wheeled about, be

"I never was born." Dick managed to Jack could not answer. He was re-

listen for the sound of the rattlesnake, garding with horror and compassion the Tortuous days followed as Blair and

to expect bandits around every curve, back to their own land. They must "Come back," sald Barrows, with his If they came, however, he was sure he travel slowly because of Blair's bruises slow smile, "any time you find what's would meet them, not with conivocation, and a wrenched knee. There was the as Blair had done, but on the defensive, constant fear of poisoning in their Jack was now in the grip of the age- wounds which they could dress but super-So it was that Jack Barrows found old adventure, the search for gold. For ficially with their small emergency out-

When once in a while he could con

"But it's all my fault-" "Don't you suppose that I know that

. "And reckless!" Jack finished bitterly. The partners came at last to the open quisite for every discerning woman plains upon, which the mountains bord- Perfect in results. Oreates complexions Pedro, the Mexican boy, was the only are necessary to make pancakes that while hostile Mexicans stopped at his Balm. It imparts that subtle distinction wary one in the party. He quaked with will melt in your mouth, the kind your very door. His native importurbability so characteristic of the elegant woman. forestalled any suspicions. In the com-

old peddler who had been robbed and he found the older man sober and de

"What's up. Dad?"

"It's Grimes," answered Mr. Barrows, mentioning one of the Museum men who had been heading an expedition into

"Orlmes! You mean-?"

He knew the act symbolized unfriendli-Jack placed the tender quall in the ness in their code. His-his body comes

When father and son had discussed quietly, "I know just what is in the back "I shouldn't like to think that we'd of your mind, Pather. You are telling vourself that I would have done just

such a thing. Walter Barrows' ayes sought the other's

questioningly. The younger brown eyes met his with

for courage. But," Jack spoke uncor-The Americans aprang to their feet, tuinly, "but he knows now, He's had

quick and positive relief as Dr. J. D.

By Helty Burclay

Many women fail to zerve a daily salad because for some reason or other they seem to look upon the salad dish as something rather difficult to prepare.

This is by no means true. There are special occasions, but on the other hund. there are scores of salacks that may be prepared from ingredients usually on hand that are very delicious and health-

The saind is the kind of light dish one swer. An angry pain at the side of his needs on a hot day, but do not for a moment imagine that it is lacking in When he finally opened his eyes, there food value. The sugar, which is so comquick-energy food needed to pep up a effort the boy tried to raise his head. languid diner. The minerals, salts, and The bandit leader, a rope tant from vitamins of the fruits or vegatables used

Learn how to prepare several kinds of

A tomato dressing is good on any An awful sickness almost overpowdered salad green or on cooked vegetables. the young American. With shaking This calls for six tablespoons saind oil, hand he wiped from his face and eyes two tablespoons vinegar, one tablespoon caused by the bullet which grazed his and a little salt, pepper, and cayeneall mixed thoroughly together.

PEA SALAD

1 can poas 3 tablespoons sweet cucumber pickles

2 tablespoons grated cheese I tablespoon finely minced onion

1 'teaspoons sugar

Drain the peas. Cut the cucumber pickles in small pieces. Combine all the

ROBY APPLE BALAD Select medium-sized apples, pare and core. Cook in a covered pan in enough sirup made in the perpertion of 3 cups water and 1 cup sugar to cover the apples. Red cinnumon candles added to the sirup give the apples an attractive rose color. After cooking, chill the apples and fill them with cream cheese which has been mixed with salt, paprika, and a little finely chopped green pepper. Or form the cheese mixture into balls, roll in ground nuts and place beside the apples. Serve on lettuce with mayonrate or French dressing.

CHICKEN AND TOMATO BALAD

136 cups tomato juice 3 tablespoons cold water

3 tablespoons gelatin 1 tablespoon sugar

2 cups cooked chicken, diced

3 alices onion 2 cups small green peas, cooked Salt and pepper

Boak the gelatin in the cold water. Strain the juice from cannod tomatoes. Heat the sugar and onion with tomato luice. Beason with aslt and pepper. Add gelatin and stir until dissolved. Strain out the onion. Pour a little of the tomate mixture into wet mould. When firm, add a layer of chicken. Cover with another layer of the tomate and set in a cold place to get firm. Then add the peas and rest of the tomate. Ohli Turn out on lettuce. Serve with may-

Perstan Ralm—the ideal toilet ru-

OLD ONE BOBS UP AGAIN

"Which travels faster-heat or cold?" "Heat, because you can catch cold

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