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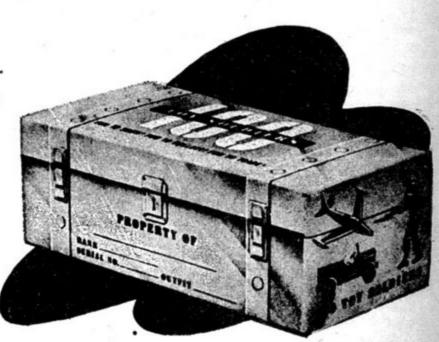
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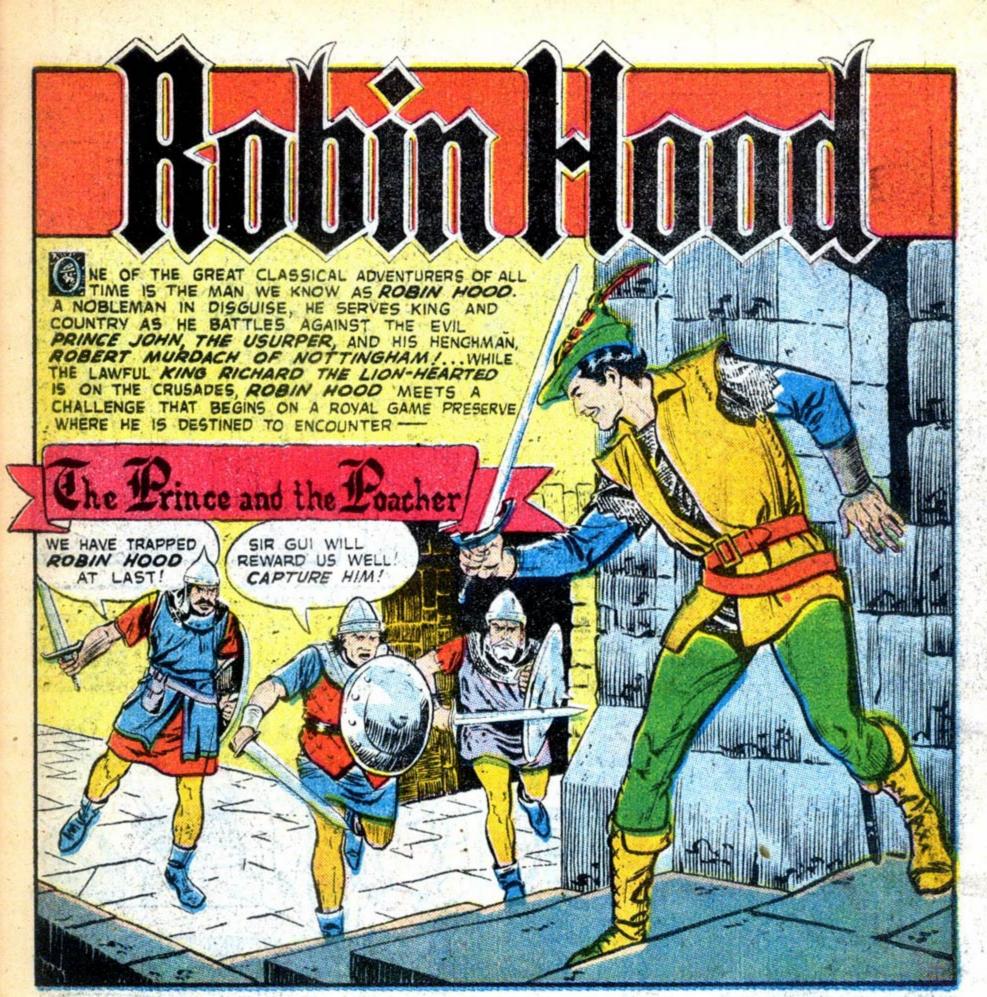
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IN REALITY, I AM LORD
ROBERT, EARL OF HUNTINGDON. I WAS ON THE CRUSADE.
TO THE HOLY LAND WITH OUR
RIGHTFUL KING, RICHARD
THE LION-HEARTED...
HE SUMMONED ME ONE
EVENING, TO SPEAK WITH
HIM IN THE ROYAL TENT...





















"AYE! THESE WERE MY OWN





























"WE ENDED OUR BOUT IN A SONG, AND AT MY URGING, FRIAR TUCK UNITED HIS FORTUNES WITH OURS.
ONE DAY I CAME UPON WILL SCARLET - MEETING HIM WITH BROADSTAVES, TOO!"





"THERE IS ALSO ALAN-A-DALE, WHOSE HARP KEEP THE MERRY MEN ENTERTAINED OF AN EVENING...



"AYE, AND OTHERS COME DAILY, SO THAT WE MAKE A STRONG FIGHTING LOYAL TO KING RICHARD, DEFYING THE EVIL USURPER AND THE ROBBER BARONS WHO'SERVE HIM..."

















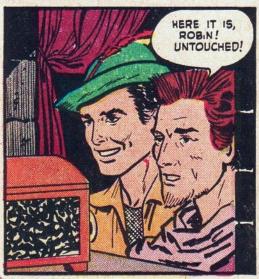




























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ISRAEL (above)-Beautiful Jumping Stag GERMANY Allied Military Gov't Set complete (right)

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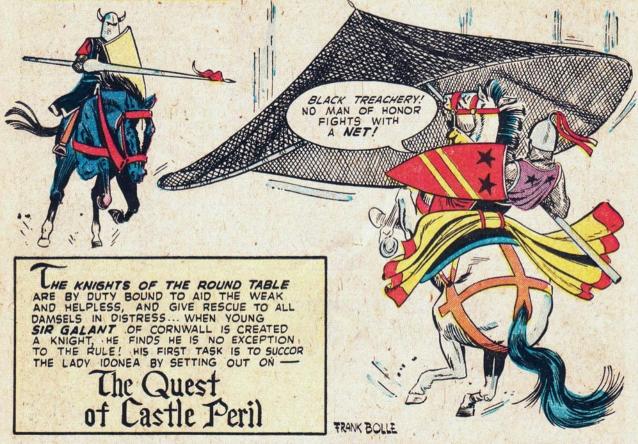
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SIR GALANT Round Table





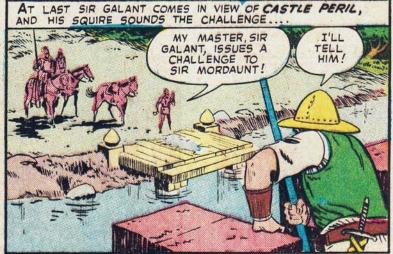
ALL NIGHT GALANT OF CORNWALL, YOUNG ASPIRANT TO THE ROUND TABLE, HAS KNELT BESIDE HIS NEW GOLDEN SPURS AND GREAT LONGSWORD THE CHAPEL AT CAMELOT ...











THE DRAWBRIDGE LOWERS. THE PORTCULLIS LIFTS, SIR GALANT AND THE LADY IDONEA RIDE INTO THE INNER BAILEY



SIR MORDAUNT IS A DARK GLOOMY KNIGHT. AS HIS SQUIRE SETTLES HIS HELMET ABOVE HIS HEAD, HE SMILES WICKEDLY....

15 ALL IN

YES, SIRE. THIS

WILL HAVE

NO CHANCE AT ALL AGAINST YOU!

A TRUMPET SOUNDS. THE CLATTER OF HORSES' HOOFS CLASH ON THE COBBLES! TWO SPEARS LOWER FOR THE CHARGE-



SUDDENLY A ROPE IS TUGGED! LOOSENED, A HUGE NET DROPS LIKE A SMOTHERING BLANKET ABOUT SIR GALANT!

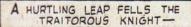




TIME IS AN ETERNITY BEHIND COLD STONE WALLS. AT LAST SIR GALANT FALLS ASLEEP, WHILE SILVER MOONLIGHT FLOODS HIS CELL... AND THEN —









A DENSE CLOUD PASSES BEFORE THE MOON, LEAVING THE DUNGEON DARK



FOR MANY MINUTES SIR GALANT WAITS, BUT WHEN THERE IS NO SOUND, HE INVESTIGATES AND FINDS

THERE'S ONLY A WELL BELOW...!











IN THE DAYS OF KNIGHTS

FOR readers who might be interested in knowing how men and women, boys and girls lived in the days of Robin Hood, we are beginning this information center about medieval life . . .

First, there were the cas-THE HOUSES tles, big and made of stone. Here the sons and daughters of the kings and nobles lived. There was usually a moat (a stretch of deep water entirely surrounding the castle), over which was stretched the drawbridge. This drawbridge could be raised and lowered. Crossing the drawbridge, one would find himself in the towering gatehouse which also held the portcullis, a heavy iron grille that could be lowered to keep out enemies in time of war. A large open yard, called a court, a bailey, or a ward, and often flagged or cobbled, was where one dismounted. This courtvard was also used as a practice ground for young esquires and men-at-arms learning how to joust or use a sword and shield. As you can imagine, it was a very large place. Sometimes a castle had more than one of these big yards, and then they would be called an inner and an outer bailey.

The great hall was the most important part of the castle. Here it was that the people ate and lived their social life. A fire burned on stones in the middle of the hall, the smoke rising up to escape out of a louvered window or cupola in the roof. There were no fireplaces in the great hall until the times of Henry VIII. There were fireplaces, however, in the other rooms, for the people of this time depended on fires to keep them warm. Since there were no windows at this time—glass windows were restricted to churches and palaces—large draperies or tapestries were hung over the windows.

dows during the wintertime.

Besides the great hall of the castle, there was also the Ritchen, where the food was cooked, the pantry where the food was stored and prepared, and the buttery, where—strange as it may seem—was kept the wines and ales and beers that our forefathers drank. The chambers above were called solars. It was here that the large four-poster beds were placed, hung with drapes. The only furniture in the bed chamber was the bed, a few big chests in which to store clothes, and a few straightbacked chairs. A large room adjoining the great hall and below one of the solars, was the wood cellar. There were a number of beds in it where

guests could sleep. Despite its name, it was more like a big dormitory than a place to store wood.

At the castle there would also be a fine chapel, a barracks for the soldiers, and an armory where weapons and armor might be repaired. Then, too, since hawking was of such great interest and necessity in those times, there would be a small place called a mews, where the cages of the falcons and duck-hawks would be hung for their training.

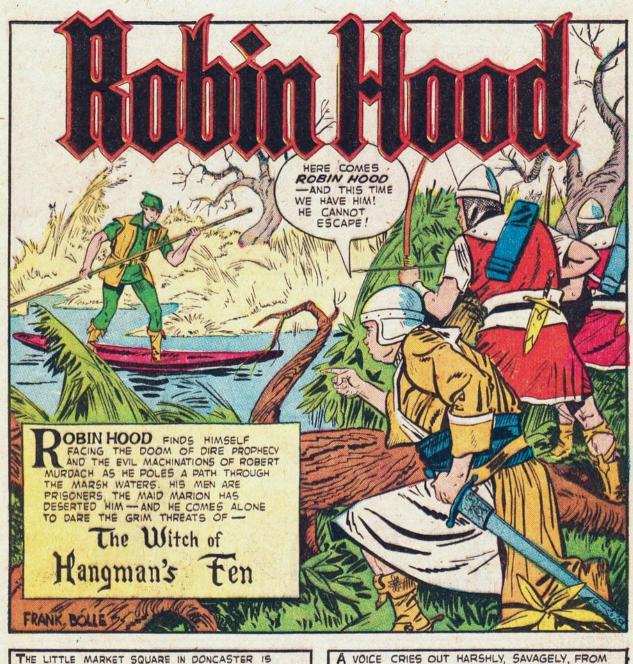
The manor house was a smaller sort of castle, but instead of being built entirely of stone, it was partially timbered. They were built almost always on one main pattern: the great hall in the middle and on each end the woodceller and solar above it, on the other end the kitchen, pantry and buttery. The solars and kitchen were heated by fireplaces. The great hall was heated by a huge fire in the middle of the hall. Deer antlers, flags of the manor lord and some of his retainers, old armor and shields, were hung on the wainscoted walls for decoration.

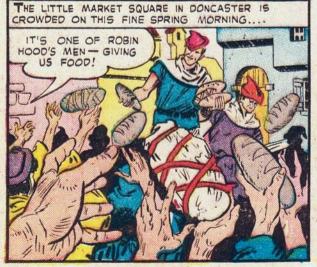
Town houses were built of timber. In London, some of these houses were quite fine, for here lived the wealthy guild merchants. They were built with overhangs over the streets. Usually there was a shop on the ground floor, where the owner conducted his business. Above this was the solar, and the hall. Stairs were usually built on the outside of the house. The kitchen could be either behind the business stall on the ground floor, or between the solar (used as a bedroom) and the hall, which served as a living room.

The houses of the poor and the country serfs and villeins who tilled the fields of the manor house were crude, one-room affairs of clay and wattle, with straw or thatched roofs. A stall was connected to this hut where animals such as a cow and a couple of pigs or chickens might be kept. People cooked on the dirt floor and a hole in the roof let out the smoke. (Naturally, where the smoke went out, the rain could come in!) Beds were skins under which were placed piles of grass.

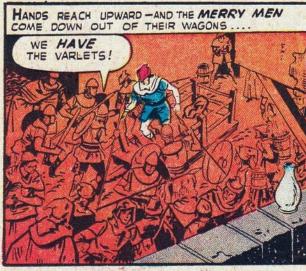
Living in those days was

not as easy as it is today!



































THEIR MONEY In the time of Charle-magne (768-814) the people of France used a silver coin called a denier. This coin lasted for several centuries, until the silver gros tournois of King Louis XIV (1226-1270). There was also a smaller coin called an ecu in use.

In England, they used the silver penny during the Saxon-Norman days. Coins are still in existence (in collections, of course) that bear the faces of Alfred the Great, Aethelred the Unready, and Harold II stamped on them. When William the Conqueror defeated this Harold at Hastings (1066) he had coins minted that showed his own face. This was called the silver penny also. In the year 1833, a great hoard of these silver pennies minted by the Conqueror were unearthed. Other English coins of these times were the silver groat, the halfpenny and the farthing.

During the years between 1100 and 1200 and for some time after that, this penny piece was known as the sterlingus. From this we derive our term for silver of quality. You have all heard of ster-

ling silver, I am sure!

The gold coin of England was called a noble. Edward III (1327-1377) was very interested in coinage. He caused this noble to be created to mark his military victories. This gold noble lasted well into Tudor times.

In discussing the coinage of Europe, we must always keep in mind the fact that all civilized Europe belonged once to the Roman Empire. The Romans had a splendid system of coinage, and it was on this that all later systems were based. When Rome fell (410) to the barbarians, the Dark Ages began, that were to last six hundred years. During this time only the old Roman coins were used, or whatever coins some great lord might stamp out for his own use. Most business in this time was done by bartering, or by belts of silver or gold crudely fastened together.

Many great noblemen, even well into the fifteenth century, could mint their own coins. This must have made it very hard on the economy of a country!

When the Crusaders fought in the Holy Land they used a coin called a saracenate. The Germans in medieval days used a silved piece called a denarius (after the Roman coin of that name), and a gold coin called an augustale. Italy was known for its ducats, silver grossos, gold florins, and silver testones.

Most all countries used copper coins for daily living. These were known as sols.

TROUBADOURS AND MINSTRELS

The troubadours and minstrels were wandering

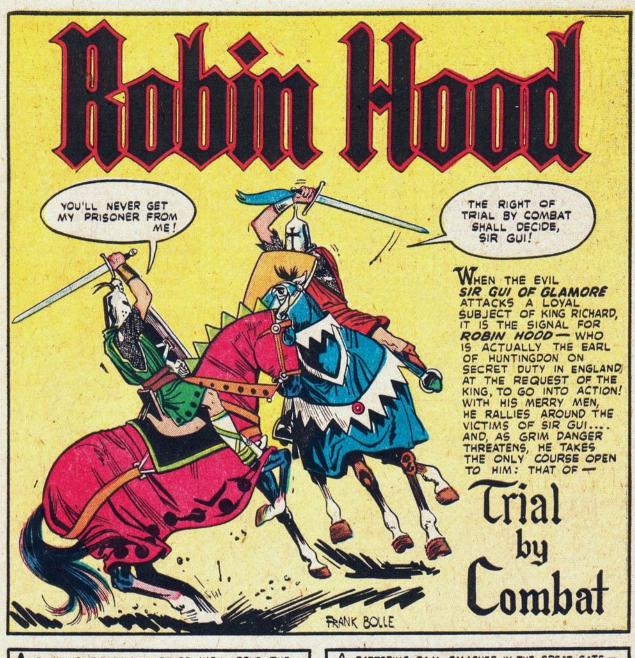
players of the harp and viol, flute and flagiolet, whose songs provided the entertainment at castle and manor house, in town and countryside. Most of their songs were ballads, in which they told the deeds of great daring of past heroes, such as Roland of France and King Arthur of England and his Round Table, or of Sigfried and Sigurd of Germany, the Cid of Spain and other fabulous figures.

It was through the troubadours and minstrels that these old stories were kept alive until they could be written down into the illumined manuscripts of those days (called psalters) and so find their way into the books of our own times. Each king or great nobleman had his own minstrel who recorded his gallant deeds and sang of them during the cold winter nights. It was a minstrel—Blondel—who rescued King Richard of the Lion-heart from Austria. Another minstrel, Rahere, grew so rich that he founded a hospital. One famous minstrel who lived in the thirteenth century was Adam de la Hale. He is credited with having created the first opera!

TRAVELING The old Roman roads that bisected the empire from Arabia to Britain were allowed to die out during the Dark Ages. Instead of fine, paved roads, there were only dirt highways and narrow bridlepaths connecting towns and cities.

In England, some of these roads like Watling Street and Icknield Way were kept in repair. In later medieval times, men were forced to give one or two days of their week to service on these and other highways.

Most travel was done on horseback. The ladies rode sidesaddle, on gentle horses called palfries. There were big wagons, some of them so large they needed eight wheels; for the moving of furniture and other necessities of life, when the Court went from one castle to another. One strange sort of wagon was the hammock cart, with a hammock strung between two uprights and mounted on a wheeled platform. There was also the litter, carried by slaves or servants, or strung between two horses. And there was the indispensable cart, with its two wheels and fenced sides, in which the farmer and the tradesman brought his goods to market.

















































THE JOUSTS GET UNDER WAY SOON THE CLANG OF SWORD ON SHIELD IS HEARD. IT MAKES A DEAFENING SOUND -





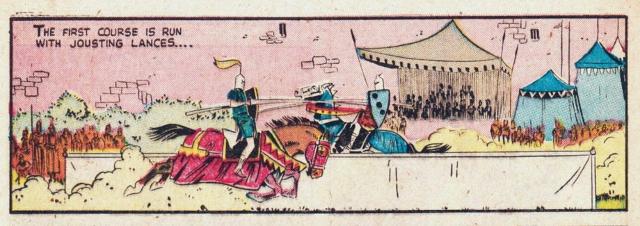


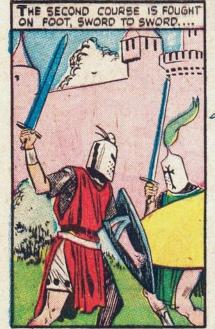












SO EVENLY MATCHED ARE ROBIN HOOD AND "SIR GUI" THAT NEITHER CAN WIN OUT OVER THE OTHER



THE EYES OF EVERYONE IN THE CASTLE ARE DRAWN TO THE COMBAT — SO THAT NO ONE SEES THE TWO MEN WHO ENTER THE POSTERN GATE —

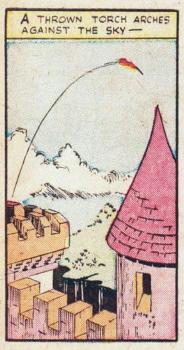


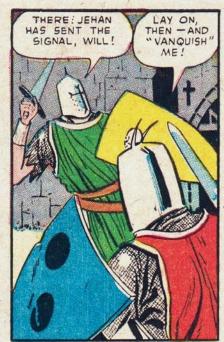




ROBIN HOOD BEARS THE
AUTHORITY OF KING RICHARD.
HIS DUTY IS TO HELP THE
OPPRESSED AND TO TESTIFY
AGAINST EVILDOERS WHEN
THE KING RETURNS. WE WILL
HELP HIM—AS HE HELPED
US! AND WHEN KING RICHARD
RETURNS FROM THE HOLY
WARS, HE WILL RETURN
BALLION CAPTLE TO US!



















The FUNman, Dept. C115. 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois



