

CLASSICS

Illustrated

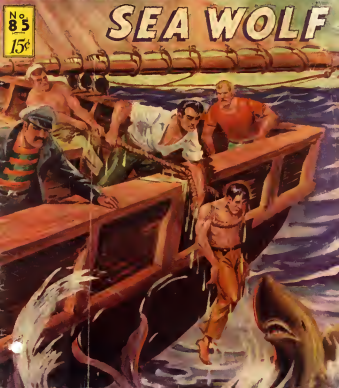
FEATURING STORIES BY THE
WORLD'S GREATEST AUTHORS

No
85

15¢

JACK LONDON'S

SEA WOLF



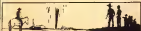
**Did you
know that...**

50 YEARS AGO

THE United States Army Nurse Corps was established by Congress as a permanent branch of the Army. Ranking next to the Medical Corps officers, the nurses were charged with medical and sanitary matters within the limits of their profession. First Corps superintendent was Mrs. Dito H. Kinney.



ON January 10, 1901, the Lucas gusher, world's most fabulous oil well, roared in at Spindletop field near Beaumont, Texas. Hurting derrick and drill pipe into the blue skies, the oil rose in a howling 200-foot column, spewing up 50,000 barrels of oil a day. The terrific strike not only launched the Texas oil boom; it destined oil to be the fuel of the 20th century!



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UNDER TWO FLAGS

By Ouida

IN NEXT MONTH'S

**CLASSICS
Illustrated**

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JACK
LONDON'S

SEA WOLF



WOLF LARSEN



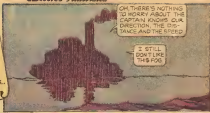
HUMPHREY VAN WEYDEN

MAUD BREWSTER



THROUGH A SERIES OF UNFOLDED AND SHOCKING EVENTS HUMPHREY VAN WEYDEN AND MAUD BREWSTER FIND THEMSELVES ABOARD THE 'GHOST', CAPTAINED BY THE CRUEL AND WILD WOLF LARSEN. THIS IS THE STORY OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL WEAKNESSES AND HOW, THROUGH EACH OTHER THEY FOUND A GREAT STRENGTH WITHIN THEMSELVES

ONE EARLY JANUARY MORNING, A HEAVY FOG BLANKETED SAN FRANCISCO BAY. ABOARD THE FERRY-BOAT "MARTINEZ" HUMPHREY VAN WEYDEN, LITERARY CRITIC, WAS SOMEWHAT ANNOYED BY THE CONCERN OF HIS FELLOW PASSENGERS.



OH, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. THE CAPTAIN KNOWS OUR DIRECTION, THE DISTANCE AND THE SPEED.

I STILL DON'T LIKE THIS FOG.

SUDDENLY A BEDLAM OF NOISE BROKE FORTH WITH BOAT WHISTLES AND HORNS BLASTING THROUGH THE FOG.



OUR RAFFLE WHEELS HAVE STOPPED!

THE FOG SEEMED TO BREAK AWAY AS THOUGH SPLIT BY A WEDGE AND



GRAB HOLD OF SOMETHING AND HOLD ON!

THERE WAS AN AWFUL CRASH AND THE "MARTINEZ" REELED OVER DANGEROUSLY. EVERYWHERE THERE WERE PEOPLE RUNNING AND WOMEN SCREAMING.



WE'RE SINKING! GET LIFEBELTS ON AND MAKE FOR THE LIFE-BOATS!

NOTHING WORKED IN THE Hysteria THAT FOLLOWED. THE LIFEBOATS COULDN'T BE LOWERED AND MANY PEOPLE JUMPED INTO THE ICEY WATERS AS THE "MARTINEZ" GAVE A LAST SHUDDER AND SANK.



THE SEA WOLF

SOON LATER, VAN WYDEN WAS PULLED FROM THE WATER, UNCONSCIOUS, BY THE CREW OF A PASSING SHIP.

"THAT'LL DO YER ON. CAN'TYS SEE YOU'VE BLOOMIN' WELL RUINED ALL THE GENT'S LEATHER SKIN OBE?"

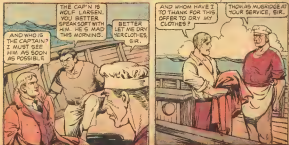


"AN 'OW YER DEELIN' NOW, SIR?"

"WATER-LOGGED."

"WHAT VESSEL IS THIS AND WHERE IS SHE BOUND?"

"THE SCHOONER 'GHOST' BOUND SEAL-HUNTING TO JAPAN."



"THE CAP'N IS WOLF LARSEN. YOU BETTER SPEAKSOF WITH HIM. HE'S MAD THIS MORNIN'."

"BETTER LET US DRY YER CLOTHES, SIR."

"AND WHOM HAVE I TO THANK FOR THIS DEBT TO DRY MY CLOTHES?"

"THOAS MARRAGE AT YOUR SERVICE, SIR."

"AND WHO IS THE CAPTAIN? I MUST SEE HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."



THE RESCUE BROUGHT JIM REYNOL FORWARD TO MEET THE CAPTAIN AND THEY CAME UPON A STRANGE SCENE.

THAT MAN IS ILL. MAY DO THEY SCOLD HIM WITH HATRED?

THE MAN'S DEAD WOLF LARSEN IS ANGRY BECAUSE HE'S LOST HIS MATE AT THE VERY START OF THE VENTURE.



DRINKING KILLED HIM!

THE CORPSE WAS SOON DISPOSED OF WITHOUT CEREMONY AND WAS FLOATED TO ITS WATERY GRAVE BY THE BRITISH CAPTAIN'S CURSES...



NOW I'M LEFT SHORT-HANDED.



WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

WOLF LARSEN'S LIFE ENDED IN SOON AS HE REBOARDER THE CAPTAIN WHO HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO HIS SHIP.

I AM A GENTLEMAN.



WHO FEELS YOU?

I HAVE AN INCOME ALL OF WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WHAT I WISH TO SEE YOU ABOUT.

THE SEA WOLF

YOUR FATHER EARNED YOUR INCOME, EH? I THOUGHT SO YOU STAND ON DEAD MEN'S LEGS. YOU'VE NEVER HAD ANY OF YOUR OWN.

YOU COULDN'T WALK ALONE BETWEEN TWO SHERRIES AND MUSTLE MEAT FOR YOUR BELLY FOR THREE MEALS.

ENOUGH! I WISH TO BE PUT ASHORE. I SHALL PAY YOU WHAT EVER YOU JUDGE YOUR DELAY AND TROUBLE IS WORTH.

NO, I'VE A DIFFERENT PROPOSITION TO MAKE. YOU'LL TAKE THE CABIN BOY'S PLACE FOR TWENTY DOLLARS PER MONTH AND BOARD. GO TO THE COOK AND LEARN YOUR DUTIES.

WHICH AGAINST HIS WILL BUT UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING ELSE, WILK WYDEN OBEYED WOLF LARSEN'S ORDERS. THE COOK'S ATTITUDE TOWARD WILK WYDEN CHANGED ABRUPTLY.

BLIMEY, IF YOU AIN'T A SLOB, NOT ARE YOU GOOD FOR ANYTY, I'D LIKE TO KNOW AND BY THE WAY FROM NOWON, YOU'RE TO CALL ME MR. MURDRIDGE.

VERY WELL, MR. MURDRIDGE.

WHILE HE HAD BEEN DRIVING VAN HEDDEN'S CLOTHES, MARRIDGE STOLE HIS PURSE. THE NEWCOMER LEARNED THAT ONLY BRUTE FORCE PREVAILED ON THE SHIP, THE MORAL ASPECT OF THE VERY WAS COMPLETELY OVERLOOKED.



"IF YOU THINK I'M A THIEF JUST KEEP IT TO YOURSELF OR YOU'LL FIND THE BLOODY WELL MISTAKEN YOU ARE!"

"NO ONE BUT YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN IT YOU DIED MY CLOTHES!"

ON WEYDEN, TO KNOW BRUTE FORCE HAD REVOLTING, CARRIED HIS COMPLAINT TO THE CAPTAIN



"I HAVE BEEN ROBBED, SIR."

"CONSIDER IT A LESSON. IT'S THE COOK'S PICKINGS AND DON'T YOU CONSIDER YOUR MISERABLE LIFE NORTH THE PRICE?"



"HOW CAN I GET MY MONEY BACK AGAIN?"

"THAT'S YOUR LOOKOUT YOU LEFT YOUR MONEY AROUND AND TRAPPED COOKEY, AND HE FELL YOU JEOPARDIZED HIS SOUL."



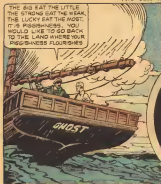
"BY THE WAY, DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE IMMORTAL SOUL?"



"I BELIEVE THAT LIFE IS IMMORTAL... WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?"

"I BELIEVE THAT LIFE IS A MESS. IT'S LIKE YEAST, A FERMENT, A THING THAT MOVES AND MAY MOVE FOR A MINUTE, AN HOUR, A YEAR OR A HUNDRED YEARS, BUT THAT IN THE END WILL CEASE TO MOVE."

THE BIG EAT THE LITTLE
THE STRONG EAT THE WEAK,
THE LUCKY EAT THE MOST.
IT'S FISHINESS. YOU
WOULD LIKE TO GO BACK
TO THE LAND WHERE YOUR
FISHINESS FLOURISHES



IT IS MY WILL TO
KEEP YOU HERE WHERE
MY FISHINESS PRE-
VAILS, AND KEEP
YOU, I WILL.



I COULD KILL YOU NOW WITH
A BLOW OF MY FIST FOR YOU
ARE A MISERABLE WEAKLING
... BUT I KEEP YOU. WHY?

BECAUSE YOU
ARE STRONGER



BUT WHY STRONGER? BE-
CAUSE I AM A BEER BIT
OF FERMENT THAN YOU? BY
THE WAY, HOW MUCH OF YOUR
MONEY DID COCKY
GET AWAY WITH?

ONE HUNDRED
AND EIGHTY-FIVE
DOLLARS, SIR.

AND ON THIS
ENTIRELY
DIFFERENT NOTE,
WOLF LARSEN
ENDED THE
DISCUSSION ON
THE MYSTERIES
OF LIFE.



AS TIME WENT ON, VAN WEYDEN LEARNED, FROM A SEAWHORE NAMED LOUIS, TO EXPECT THE WORST



"IT'S THE WORST SCHOONER YOU COULD HAVE SELECTED THE MATE WAS THE FIRST BUT THERE'LL BE MORE DEAD MEN BEFORE THIS SAILING TRIP IS OVER."

"DO YOU KNOW CAPTAIN LARSEN VERY LONG?"

"I KNOW HIM LONG AND WELL, TWO YEARS AGO, HE SAVED FOUR OF US MEN I WAS ON THE 'EMMA L', NOT THREE HUNDRED YARDS AWAY"

"WOLF LARSEN IS HIS NAME AND A WOLF HE IS, HE'S NOT BLACK-HEARTED--HE HAS NO HEART AT ALL"



"HOW DOES HE GET MEN TO SAIL WITH HIM?"

"HOW DO YOU FIND ME ABOARD IF 'TWEREN'T THAT I WAS DRUNK AS A PIG WHEN I PUT MY NAME DOWN? BUT HIND YOU, I'VE NEVER SPOKEN A WORD TO YOU ABOUT HIM."

"YOU MAY DEPEND ON ME NOT TO REPEAT ANYTHING YOU'VE SAID"





54 STRANGE CARD GAME TOOK PLACE ONE EVENING FOR SELDON IS A CAPTAIN FRIENDLY WITH A COOK



FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS, HOWEVER, MAN WEYDEN DID NOTHING BUT BAIT THE CAPTAIN'S TALE AND DISCUSS LIFE AND LITERATURE THREE BLESSED DAYS OF REST BUT A FRESH SAILOR WARNED HIM



WATCH OUT FOR SQUIRE'S MATE

HE'S RIGHT, THE CAPTAIN IS LITTERLY UNPREDICTABLE

JUST AS YOU THINK HE'S FRIENDLY TO YOU, HE SHIFTS AROUND, DEAD-HEAD AND COMES HOPPIN' DOWN UPON YOU A-RIPPIN' ALL OF YOUR FINE WEATHER SAILS TO RAGS



USE ENOUGH ON THE FOURTH DAY, LARSEN DROVE MAN WEYDEN FROM THE CASH AND BACK TO THE HATED GALLEY MURDICE'S DELUGE FOR MAN WEYDEN SHOWED ITSELF IN AN ATTEMPT AT INTIMIDATION. THE COOK SHARPENED A KNIFE EACH DAY AND LET IT BE KNOWN HE WAS PLANNING TO USE IT ON HIS ASSISTANT



I MUST BE SURE NEVER TO TURN MY BACK ON HIM

HE'S FRIGHTENED I CAN SEE IT IN HIS FACE.

HERE COMES MURDICE, THE COOK. HE'S GOING TO KNIFE MAN WEYDEN



HE HADN'T GOT NERVE ENOUGH

FRIGHTED BY ONE OF THE SAILORS, MURDICE SLASHED THE MAN'S ARM FROM ELBOW TO WRIST.



I'M GOIN TO GET YOU, COOKY, AND I WENTN'T BE IN A HURRY ABOUT IT.

I'LL BE WAITIN' FOR YOU!



HE IS THREATENING TO KILL ME.

SO YOU'RE AFRAID OF HIM.

HEREAFTER, VAN WEYDEN WAS AGAIN INVITED TO THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE. THERE HE COMPLAINED OF THE COOK'S HOSTILE ATTITUDE.



I'M AFRAID OF WHAT HE MIGHT DO WITH THAT KNIFE, CAPTAIN.

I SEE. YOU'RE SO IMMORTAL IN YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL, YET YOU'RE AFRAID TO DIE.



WHY, MY DEAR FELLOW, YOU'LL LIVE FOREVER. YOU'RE SURE OF YOUR RESURRECTION. WHAT'S THERE TO BE AFRAID OF? COOKY CAN'T HURT YOU. HE CAN ONLY GIVE YOU A BOOST ON THE PATH YOU MUST ETERNALLY TREAD.



OR, BETTER STILL, WHY NOT GIVE COOKY A BOOST? WHY DON'T YOU STICK A KNIFE INTO HIM FIRST? THEN I'LL PROMOTE YOU TO HIS PLACE.

HE IS RIGHT. I MUST FIGHT MURDRICE WITH HIS OWN WEAPON. I'LL BORROW A KNIFE FROM LOUIS.



NEXT MORNING IN THE GALLEY, VAN WEYDEN AND MURDRICE STARED AT EACH OTHER AS THEY SHARPENED THEIR WEAPONS.

I WONDER IF HE CAN HEAR MY HEART POUNDING.

SHARPENED

A DWICE TO THE KNIFE-WHETTERS WAS FREELY GIVEN BY ONLOOKERS



LEAVE HIS
RIBS ALONE,
VAN WEYDEN

GIVE YER
BLADE, THE
"SPANISH
TWIST, COOKY.

PUT IT IN HIS
BELLY, VAN



ALL WOLVES, NOT
ONE WOULD ENTER
HERE IF HE WERE
LOOKED IN A
DEATH STRUMBLE

I THOUGHT I'D
FRIGHTEN THIS
NEWCOMER, BUT
NOW I'M A FOOL



NOT ONE OF THEM'S
THINKING OF MY FINE
COOKING, THEY'RE ALL
WISHING ME DEAD...
BUT I WON'T BE I'LL
FOOL 'EM



FINALLY MURDRIDGE BROKE THE
TENSION OF THE KNIFE-WHETTERS

WOT'S THE GOOD O'
BARKING A SHOW O'
OURSELVES FOR THEM,
MURR? SO COME
ON, LET'S SHAKE!

I'M WILLING TO
CALL OFF THE
DOG, BUT I
WON'T SHARE
YOUR HAND



COOKY IS
FINISHED!

FROM NOW ON
HE PULLS
IN HIS HORNS

VAN WEYDEN
RUNS THE
BALLEY!

GET OUT
OF HERE, THE
LOT OF YOU!

THE SEA WOLF

THE SEA WOLF'S BRUTALITY INCREASED AS THE "GHOST" DREW NEAR THE SEAL-HUNTING GROUNDS. JOHNSON PLAYED THE SLY SNAKE AND REPORTED THE SHIP'S FEEDS



A SHOOTING FELD THREATENS BETWEEN THE HUNTERS, MEN- PERSON AND SMOKE

LET IT BE KNOWN THAT WHOEVER SHE SURVIVED WILL DIE AT MY HANDS

HE'S AS OLD BLOODED AS A FISH



THEY COULD KILL AND EAT ONE ANOTHER IF IT WERE NOT THAT I NEED THEM FOR THE HUNTING

THE CAPTAIN WAS SURPRISED A WHOLE LATER BY THE DEMANDS OF ONE OF THE CREW

THESE OIL SKINS ARE NO GOOD I REQUEST THAT YOU GIVE ME BETTER ONES, SIR

I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING ELSE YOU DON'T WANT



THE CAPTAIN AND HIS FIRST MATE, JOHNSON BRUTALLY BEAT THE SALOR

THAT'LL DO FOR HIM JOHNSON. THROW HIM BELOW



IT WAS NOT MANY NIGHTS LATER THAT SOME OF THE MEN STRUCK BACK AT THE HALF-MAN WOLF BEAST THAT WAS WOLF LARSEN

OVERBOARD WITH HIM! GET THE WOLF NEXT!



THE MUTINEERS DID NOT RECKON WITH THE FULL STRENGTH OF THEIR CAPTAIN



THE MAN WITH ANIMAL STRENGTH, REVIVED BY THE COLD SEA, CLIMBED ABOARD BY THE ICE-LINE WHICH TRAILED BEHIND THE SHIP



WHERE IS THE WOLF?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I SAW HIM GO FORWARD



SO DID I GO FOR AID, BUT YOU'LL OBSERVE THAT I DIDN'T COME BACK THE SAME WAY



THE SEA WOLF

BEHIND HIS ATTACKER, LARSEN SILENTLY TOOK THE PULSE OF THE SLEEPER IN THE FORECASTLE.



IF HE IS FEELING SLEEP, HIS PULSE WILL BE RAPID.

THE MAN WHO ATTACKED ME HAS TO BE IN THIS FORECASTLE.



LARSEN CHECKED THE PULSE OF THE MAN BELOW, JOHNSON, THE MAN LARSEN AND JOHNSON HAD SO CRUELLY BEATEN, JUMPED HIM.



WE'VE GOT HIM!

GET A KNIFE AND WE'LL FINISH HIM AS WE DO THE REST.

THE SHINING LANTERN WAS SMASHED IN THE DECK, THROWING THE FORECASTLE INTO DARKNESS.

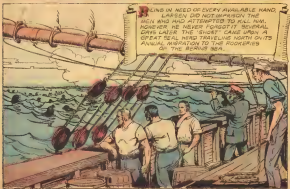


DOUBT? THE GODS LOCATE!

BUT THE CAPTAIN DID ESCAPE IN THE DARKNESS AND RETURNED TO ASSERT HIS AUTHORITY.



YOU SCUM! YOU'LL PAY FOR THE ATTEMPT ON MY LIFE! I'LL BREAK EVERY MOTHER'S SON OF YOU BEFORE YOU LEAVE THIS SHIP!





THE SHIP
KEPT PACE WITH
THE SEAL HERD
AND THE MILLERS
TERRING IT WAS
MANTON SLAUGHTER
AND ALL FOR
WOMEN'S
SAKE



THE DECKS
WERE COVERED
WITH MOOSE AND
SEALS. THE
SCURRIES RAN
RED THE MEN,
LIKE BUTCHERS,
WERE BUSY
REMOVING THE
SKINS FROM
THE SEA
CREATURES
THEY HAD
KILLED

THE SIX BOATS OF THE "GHOST" SPREAD WIDELY APART
AND OFTEN WERE FROM TEN TO TWENTY MILES FROM THE SHIP



ONE DAY, WHEN THE SMALL
BOATS WERE ALL OUT



"IF A SQUALL
IS THREATENING
SHOULDN'T WE
DEPART THE PORTS
TO RETURN?"

"NO, I HAN
A SQUALL!
OLD MOTHER
NATURE'S
GONG TO GET
UP ON HER
HIND LEGS
AND HOWL"

SOON THE FULL FURY OF THE STORM BROKE. AFTER HOURS OF TORTUROUS SEARCH, ONE OF THE BOATS WAS PICKED UP BY THE CREW IN CONTACT. LATER, ANOTHER WAS DISASTROUSLY OVERTURNED WITH THE CREW HANGING ON FOR DEAR LIFE. AFTER MUCH HARDWORK, THE MEN AND BOAT WERE BROUGHT ABOARD THE "SHOOT".



SOME HOURS LATER, ANOTHER CAPSIZED BOAT WAS SIGHTED BUT WITH NOT A MAN NEAR IT. AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE OTHERS, LARSEN DECIDED TO SAVE IT.

I'LL NOT BE BOBBED OF MY BOAT BY ANY STORM EVER BREWED BY THE DEVIL!



THE BOAT WAS BROUGHT IN, BUT AT THE COST OF ONE SAILOR'S LIFE AND AN ASSORTMENT OF INJURIES TO OTHERS.

WE'VE GOT INJURIES, CAPTAIN. KERRFOOT HAS A CRUSHED FINGER AND MURKIDGE HAS THREE BROKEN RIBS.

WE'LL AMPUTATE THE FINGER AT ONCE, MR. VAN WEYDEN. MURKIDGE CAN WAIT TILL MORNING AND WE'LL TRY TO SET HIS RIBS.



FOUR DAYS LATER, THE "SHOOT" MET A FLEET OF SEALING SHIPS. THESE WERE ALSO SEARCHING FOR LOST BOATS. THE "SHOOT" RECOVERED TWO BOATS AND THREE CREWS FROM OTHER VESSELS WHICH HAD RESCUED THEM. SO THE TOTAL LOSS WAS ONE BOAT AND FOUR MEN.



THE SEA WOLF

THE MILLIONAIRE TURNED SAILOR, WIN WEYDEN, HAS FAST BECOMING A SEAMAN WORTHY OF HIS MATE'S RANK.



ONE DAY, WIN WEYDEN WAS APPROACHED BY ONE OF THE SAILORS, LEACH WHO HATED THE CAPTAIN.

"MR. WIN WEYDEN, HOW FAR ARE WE OFF THE COAST, AND WHAT ARE THE BEARINGS TO YOKOHAMA?"

"WEST-NORTHWEST AND FIVE HUNDRED MILES AWAY."



THAT NIGHT LEACH AND JOHNSON DESERTED THE "GHOST" IN A SEAL BOAT AND STOLE AWAY TOWARD THE COAST OF JAPAN.

"WE'LL PICK UP A SCHOONER IN YOKOHAMA."

"IF WE CAN GET AWAY FROM WOLF LARSEN I'M THINKING HE'LL BE LOOKING FOR US."



WOLF LARSEN WAS FURIOUS AT THE DESERTION OF LEACH AND JOHNSON. HE KEPT THEM ON CONSTANTLY AT THE MASTHEADS SEARCHING THE SEAS FOR THEIR BOAT.

"I'LL GET THOSE TWO MEN IF I HAVE TO SEARCH EVERY FOOT OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN!"



THE SEARCH WAS PERSISTED RELENTLESSLY AND ON THE THIRD DAY...



THE 'GHOST' HEADED TOWARD THE BLACK SPECK THAT BOBBED ON THE WATER



THE CREW LINED THE RAIL AS THE SHIP DREW NEAR THE BOAT.





WHEN THE STRANGERS WERE ON BOARD...

MR VAN WEYDEN, TAKE THE LADY BELOW AND SEE TO HER COMFORT.

THANK YOU, SIR. MY NAME IS MAUD BREWSTER.



THE SHIPWRECKED MEN WERE ASSIGNED TO THE CREW IMMEDIATELY.

WHEN WILL WE PUT INTO YOKOHAMA?

HAR! IT'S EARLY SEEN YOU DON'T KNOW WOLF LARSEN.

YOU SEN'S ARE OLD NEW SHIPWRECKED.

THE MEN WERE EXPECTING TO REACH LAND THIS MORNING. GAD! YOU'D BE DEAD BY NIGHT!

OUR CAPTAIN IS A STRANGE MAN. I BEG YOU TO BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING.



BUT I ALWAYS THOUGHT SHIPWRECKED PEOPLE WERE GIVEN EVERY CONSIDERATION.

I WISH MERELY TO PREPARE YOU FOR THE WORST IF THE WORST SHOULD COME.

TOO BAD WE SIGHTED THOSE SHIPWRECKED PEOPLE. THEY'D HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF IF THEY HAD REACHED LAND.

THEY'D NEVER HAVE MADE IT, SIR. WE'RE WORSE THAN ANOTHER FLOTTA.



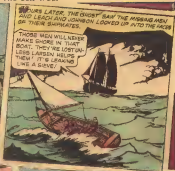


THAT'S A PROMISE, OR AM I AN ATHLETE?

AHE, A PROMISE, BUT THERE WAS A HOOKING DEVIL IN HIS EYES AS HE SPOKE IT. I DON'T TRUST HIM!



I'LL NOT LAY HANDS ON THEM, NO--NOR WILL I HELP THEM, FOR I'VE NO NEED OF THEM, DOWN YOU BREAKING OBEDIENCE!



FOUR HOURS LATER, THE "GHOST" SAW THE HIDING MEN AND LEACH AND JOHNSON LOOKED UP INTO THE HEAVEN FOR THEIR SHIPMATES.

THOSE MEN WILL NEVER MAKE SHORE IN THAT BOAT. THEY'RE LOST UNLESS LARDEN HELPS THEM! IT'S LEAKING LIKE A SIEVE!



THE BOAT'S BOTTOM SHOWED BLACK IN A BREAKING CREEK AND IN THE NEXT INSTANT, LEACH AND JOHNSON WERE STRUGGLING TO REACH THE "GHOST".



AS HIS HAND HAS EXTENDED TO THE DESERTING SEA MEN, AND IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE SEA HAD HIDDEN ALL TRACE OF THEM!



THOSE SEAMEN! YOU LET THEM DOWN LIKE RATS!

I KEPT MY PROMISE, I NEVER LAID MY HANDS ON THEM!

ENTER MAUD BREWSTER APPROACHED WOLF LARSEN.

WHEN SHALL WE IMPROVE IN NOKOHAMA?

IN FOUR MONTHS, POSSIBLY THREE IF THE SEASON CLOSSES EARLY.

I-I THOUGHT-- I WAS GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT NOKOHAMA WAS ONLY A DAY'S SAIL AWAY. IT-- IT IS NOT RIGHT.



IT MAY BE YOUR MISFORTUNE THAT YOU HAVE TO STAY WITH US, BUT IT IS OUR GOOD FORTUNE.

IF AS YOU SAY YOU WERE JOURNEYING TO JAPAN FOR YOUR HEALTH.

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MR. VAN WEYDEN?

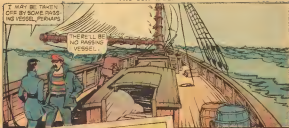
I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT IT WILL IMPROVE NO BETTER ANYWHERE THAN ABOARD THE "GHOST".



WE'RE VERY HOSPITABLE ON THE "GHOST". MR. VAN WEYDEN HAS DISCOVERED THAT, ANYTHING TO MAKE A GUEST FEEL AT HOME.

EVEN TO THE FEELING OF POTATOES AND THE BAKING OF BREAD.





IT MAY BE TAKEN OFF BY SOME PASSING VESSEL, PERHAPS.

THERE'LL BE NO PASSING VESSEL.



I HAVE NO CLOTHES, NOTHING. YOU HARDLY REALIZE THAT I AM UNACUSTOMED TO THE CARELESS, VAGRANT LIFE YOU AND YOUR MEN SEEK TO LEAD.

THE SOONER YOU GET ACCUSTOMED TO IT THE BETTER.

I'LL FURNISH YOU WITH CLOTH, NEEDLES AND THREAD. I HOPE IT WILL NOT BE TOO DISGRACEFUL A HARDHIP FOR YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF A DRESS.



BUT LARSEN SEEMED TO RESENT HIS ROMAN PASSENGER'S EASY MANNER AND POSE IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION.



BY WHAT RIGHT DO YOU LIVE WHEN YOU DO NOTHING TO DESERVE LIVING? HAVE YOU EVER EARNED A DOLLAR?

AT PRESENT I EARN ABOUT EIGHTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS A YEAR.

LARSEN AND VAN WEYDEN LEARNED THAT THEIR PASSENGER WAS A WRITER.



WELL, THERE'S NOTHING SMALL ABOUT THE 'GHOST.' CONSIDER YOURSELF ON SALARY DURING THE TIME YOU ARE WITH US.

OLD LARSEN HAD WARNED THE COOK ABOUT HIS UNCLEARINESS AND THREATENED UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT IF HE DID NOT PERFORM.

I'VE GIVEN YOU BAKING, COOKY, AND NOW YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE YOUR MEDICINE!



FEAR GAVE SPEED AND STRENGTH TO MURDOCK AS HE FLED HIS TORMENTORS.



THE COOK SOUGHT SAFETY IN THE MEN RIGGING BUT LARSEN'S ORDERS SENT MEN ALOFT TO BRING HIM DOWN.



AT LAST, THE UNFORTUNATE COOK WAS SEIZED AND BROUGHT DOWN TO THE DECK.



THE SEA WOLF



ON BOARD THE SHIP THE MEN WERE HERRY AT THE EXPENSE OF THEIR COMMISSION. IN THE ICE WATERS, THE COOK LOOKED FEARFULLY ABOUT HIM FOR A SIGN OF BLACK PING, HIS CRIES FOR AID WERE LOST IN THE SHOUTS OF THE CREW!



WHEN THE SHIP'S STERN LIFTED, MURKINSE CAUGHT HIS BREATH. WHEN THE STERN DIPPED, HE SAW BENEATH THE WAVES. THOUGH HE COULD NOT DROWN, HE SUFFERED THE AGONY OF HALF-DROWNING.



SUDDENLY ABOARD SHIP ONE OF THE CREW SPOTTED DANGER!

SHARK HO!

HAUL IN!
LIVELY! ALL
HANDS TOLE!



HAUL ME IN!
HURRY!
HURRY, HURRY!



HAUL!

HEAVE!

LIVELY LADS,
OR HE'S
DONE FOR!

HO!



THE COOK'S BODY LEFT THE WATER, SO DID THE SHARKS.

YEOUWW!!



THE ANGUISHED, HALF-CRAZED MURGEE SLAMMED HIS TEETH INTO LARSEN'S LEG, BUT THE CAPTAIN OPENED MURGEE'S JAW AND STOPPED FOOD...

THE COOK CAME IN LIKE A FRESH-CATCHED FISH ON A LINE. HIS RIGHT FOOT WAS MISSING, AMPUTATED NEARLY AT THE ANKLE.



EGOT IN!

HIS FOOT'S OFF!

GET A TOURMOUT! STOP THE BLEEDING!

WOLF LARSEN YOU'VE DONE FOR ME!

DO, MAN! THE SHARK WAS NOT IN THE RECKONING...



THE SHARK WAS NOT IN THE RECKONING. IT WAS MAN-PLAY SOMEWHAT ROUGHER THAN YOU HAVE BEEN USED TO, BUT STILL MAN-PLAY. THE SHARK WAS NOT IN THE RECKONING. IT WAS PROVIDENCE.



1 **OLDFATHER** PLANNED HIS REVENGE ON THE SHARK THE SEA BEAST WAS EARLY CAUGHT BY BAITING A HOOK WITH FAT SALT-PORK AND HAULED ABOARD.

2 **THE SHARK** WAS HUNG AS A GATE THE MAIN RIGGING AND ITS JAWS PRIZED APART.

NOW WE'LL PAY BACK THE SHARK FOR ITS DAMAGE TO OUR COOK.

OPEN ITS JAWS AND WE'LL GIVE IT SOMETHING PROPER TO CLOSE THEM ON.

3 **A STAKE** SHARPENED AT BOTH ENDS, AND SO ASSERTED THAT THE SHARK'S JAWS WERE UNABLE TO CLOSE. THEN THE HOOK WAS CUT OUT.

HE'LL NEVER BITE ANOTHER SAILOR...

HE'LL NEVER BITE ANYTHING AT ALL!

NOW OVER-BOARD WITH THE BRUTE...

4 **THE SHARK** WAS RETURNED TO THE SEA, HELPLESS, DOOMED TO LINGERING STARVATION AND DEATH.





SOMETIME LATER

IS IT TRUE THAT CAPTAIN LARSEN PERMITTED TWO OF HIS MEN TO DROWN?

IT IS TRUE



AND YOU DO NOTHING TO PREVENT IT?

I WAS UNABLE TO PREVENT IT. IS A BETTER WAY OF PHRASING IT.

HE SEEMED DISAPPOINTED BY MY UNHESITATING REPLY

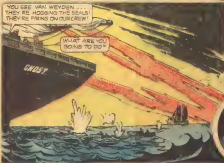


WHAT WOULD YOU ADVISE? THAT I KILL THIS MAN, LARSEN? OR SHOULD I KILL MYSELF?

NO, NOT THAT. BUT WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MAN, LARSEN, IS A MONSTER. DON'T AROUSE HIS ANIMOSITY. BE QUITE FRIENDLY WITH HIM, DISCUSS ART AND LITERATURE WITH HIM. YOU WILL FIND HIM AN INTERESTED LISTENER AND NO FOOL. AND TRY TO AVOID WITNESSED, AS MUCH AS YOU CAN, THE BRUTALITIES OF THE SHIP. WE HAVE NOT THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT THIS MAN. WE MUST TRY TO WIN BY CRAFT. DO AS I SAY AND YOU WILL SOON FIND THAT I AM RIGHT.







JUST THEN, A BULLET STRUCK THE MAST ABOVE THEIR HEADS.

HAUD PERHAPS YOU HAD BETTER GO BELOW.

I LIKE YOU A HUNDRED PERCENT BETTER FOR THAT YOU'RE FIT TO BE THE WIFE OF A PIRATE CHIEF.

NO, I'LL STAY HERE.



THEN LARSEN BEGAN FIRING AT THE "MACEDONIA'S" BOATS. AND HIS AIM WAS DEADLY.

THAT'LL DO FOR ONE OF THEM. I WOULD THAT IT WERE DEATH LARSEN.



HE'D SHOOT HIS OWN BROTHER!

ARRIVING TACTICALLY AND BRAGGADOCIOUSLY, THE "MACEDONIA" IS CATCHING UP WITH US, SIR. AND THEY HAVE A CANNON ABOARD.



YOU'LL USE HER IN THE FOG AHEAD, FROM THERE ON, IT'LL BE CLEAR SAILING.

THE "MACEDONIA" IS CATCHING UP WITH US, SIR. AND THEY HAVE A CANNON ABOARD.



THE "GHOST" RAN DOWN ONE OF THE "MACEDONIA'S" BOATS.

TAKE THOSE MEN ABOARD AND STAY IN THE HOLD.

PREGNANT AND CAPTIVE BECAME FRIENDS AS WOLF LARSEN PASSED LIQUOR AND THEY TO CELEBRATE HIS VICTORY OVER HIS BROTHER.





THE SEA WOLF

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, VAN MEYDEN HAD THOROUGHLY CALLED AFTER A FULL NIGHT OF STEERING WHILE MAUD HAD SLEPT.

YOU CANNOT STEER DAY AND NIGHT, SO, PERHAPS YOU'D BETTER TEACH ME. THEN WE CAN STAND WATCHES AS THEY DO ON SHIPS.

I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN YOU SEE I'M JUST LEARNING MYSELF.



BATER IN THE DAY

I WISH I HAD THOUGHT TO BRING LARSEN'S CHRONOMETER* AND SEXTANT*.

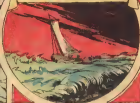
ARE WE OFF OUR COURSE?



I'M AFRAID SO, BUT BOATFERRY WILL FIND OUR WAY.



WAVES PASSED THE LITTLE BOAT WITH ITS ATYFUL PASSENGERS TOSSED ABOUT ON THE STORMY SEAS LIKE A BOBBING-CORN.



FARTHER AND FARTHER TO THE NORTHEAST WAS THE BOAT FLUNG BY STORMS AND SOULS, AND THEN, AS OUT OF HORNERS

MAUD SAID: THERE'S LAND!





"CAN YOU SWIM?"

"NO."



"NEITHER CAN I. WE MUST GET ASHORE WITHOUT SWIMMING IN SOME OPENING BETWEEN THE ROCKS."

"I DO BELIEVE IT IS A ROCKERY."

IN PLACE WHERE SEALS WERE TAKEN, UNDER THE PROTECTION OF ICE, NOW THEY ARE SHIPWRECKED MEN.



BY A STROKE OF GOOD LUCK, THEY FOUND A BEACH TO LAND ON AND MADE THE BOAT SECURE.

"I THINK OUR FIRST NEED IS A CUP OF HOT COFFEE."

"ANYTHING HOT. I'M FROZEN INSIDE AND OUT."

THEY FOUND THE ISLAND COMPLETELY UNINHABITED AND KNEW THEY WOULD HAVE TO SPEND THE WINTER THERE. MEN REYDON AND MAUD BEGAN THE BUILDING OF TWO SEPARATE HUTS, AND STOCKED THEM WITH SEAL SKINS FROM THE ANIMALS THEY KILLED. THE FAT OF THE SEALS WAS USED FOR LIGHT AND HEAT.



"THIS HUT IS BETTER THAN ANOTHER BOAT!"

"IN THE SPRING, WE CAN IMPROVE ON OUR HUTS."

THE SEA WOLF



UPON ARISING ONE MORNING, VAN WEYDEN WAS STARTLED BY THE SIGHT OF THE "BOAT" ON THE BEACH.

"IF LARSEN IS ABOARD, I MIGHT KILL HIM IN HIS SLEEP."

AFTER ARRIVING HIMSELF WITH A KNIFE AND A LOADED SHOTGUN, VAN WEYDEN SEARCHED THE SHIP.



SHE'S DESERTED THERE'S NO ONE ABOARD HER.



COMING AROUND A CORNER, VAN WEYDEN WAS SUDDENLY FACE TO FACE WITH WOLF LARSEN.

WELL, WHY DON'T YOU SHOOT?

VAN WEYDEN WAS STRUCK DUMB WITH SHOCK AND ALMOST FEAR.



YOU CAN'T DO IT YOU WOULDN'T KILL AN UNARMED MAN.

I KNOW IT.



THERE ARE SEALS HERE THEY WORE ME WITH THEIR BARONS. IT'S A ROBBERY, THE KIND OF THING I'VE HUNTED FOR YEARS.



THE MARINATION SAVED THE LINES AND BEEN ALMOST COVERED. JUST ENOUGH WAS LEFT TO HOLD THE SAILED TILL GREAT STRAIN WAS PUT ON THEM. WHEN A HEAVY WIND DREW UP THE MASTS SWAYED.



AFTER TAKING OFF SOME PROVISIONS VAN WEYDEN WENT AWAY. HE AND MARDU KEPT AWAY FROM THE "GHOST" AND LARSEN KEPT AWAY FROM THEM ONE DAY.

THERE'S MARDU AND COFFEE ABOARD HER AND I'M GOING TO GET SOME OTHER SUPPLIES TOO.

IT MAY BE DANGEROUS. PLEASE BE CAREFUL OF THAT MASTER.



WHEN ON BOARD, VAN WEYDEN REMOVED THE TRAP DOOR IN THE CABIN TO GET SUPPLIES FROM THE HOLD.

LARSEN'S COMING.



LARSEN ALMOST FELL THROUGH THE OPEN TRAP DOOR.

THE MAN WAS SOME BLIND.



LARSEN HAD ALREADY SUDDENLY GONE BLIND.

WE KNOW THAT I'M ABOARD. WE THINK I'M DOWN IN THE HOLD GETTING SUPPLIES.



HE'S PILING THOSE CHESTS ON THE TRAP DOOR TO KEEP ME PRISONER IN THE HOLD.

BLIND? MAYBE, BUT I'LL HAVE YOU UNWEYDEN AS A PRISONER OF THE "GHOST".



IF THESE BOARDS DO NOT CRACK, HE'LL NEVER HEAR ME. LET HIM THINK I'M DEAD.



MAN WEYDEN WENT BACK TO
MIND AND MADE HIS REPORT

THAT AFTERNOON MAN WEYDEN RETURNED TO THE
SHIP AND SPOKE TO LARSEN, WHO HAD SURPRISED
TO FIND HIM NOT A PRISONER .

IT'S TOO BAD
THE "GHOST"
HAS LOST HER
MASTS. WE
COULD SAIL
AWAY IN HER

I WONDER,
I WONDER!

IT'S YOU IS IT? SO YOU
ROOLED ME THIS MORNING.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I WANT TO PUT THE
MASTS BACK ON THE
SHIP AND SAIL AWAY!



I COULDN'T
TO TAMPER
WITH MY GUN

YOU HAVE NEVER
CONSIDERED MORAL
RIGHTS DEALING
WITH OTHERS. YOU
DON'T SUPPOSE I'LL
CONSIDER THEM
DEALING WITH YOU!

I TELL YOU AGAIN!
YOU'D BETTER
LEAVE THINGS ALONE!

DON'T YOU
FARE TO ESCAPE
AS WELL AS WE?



NO I INTEND
DYING HERE

WELL, WE
DON'T!



DESPITE LARSEN'S OPPOSITION, MAUD AND VAN WEYDEN, WITH MUCH HARDSHIP, RAISED THE FIRST MAST.

LARSEN WAS THREATENED TO SINK THE VESSEL OR GET FISTED!

IF WE'RE TO ESCAPE THIS ISLAND WE MUST FIGHT HIM, PRISONER!

LARSEN BOOMED TO GET VAN WEYDEN WITHIN THE REACH OF HIS STRONG HANDS. SHE SAID HE PRETENDED TO HAVE A CONVULSION.

I MUST BE CAREFUL HE MAY BE PRETENDING.

I'LL STRANGLE HIM WHEN HE COMES NEAR.

MAUD SCREAMED AS SHE SAW WOLF-LARSEN GRAB VAN WEYDEN BY THE THROAT.

SUDDENLY THE DEATHEN VAN WEYDEN'S THROAT RELEASED AS LARSEN COLLAPSED FROM HIS EXHAUSTION. VAN WEYDEN ROLLED OVER AND AWAY FROM LARSEN AND REGAINED HIS FEET.

YOU MUST NEVER TRUST HIM AGAIN.

NOW THAT WE HAVE HIM HELPLESS, HELPLESS HE SHALL REMAIN. THERE ARE HAND-CLIPS IN HIS CABIN.





LARSEN HAD SUFFERED A PARALYTIC STROKE AND WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY HELPLESS

IT'S ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT YOU'LL RECOVER, LARSEN

THERE'S NO LONGER NEED FOR HANDICUFFS I'M A PARALYTIC NOW



JOHN NEYDEN AND MAUD WORKED HARD AT PUTTING THE SHIP IN ORDER ONCE AGAIN

WHEN WE RETURN HOME, WE CAN ESTABLISH OURSELVES AS SHIPWRIGHTS.

IF OUR PLAN WORKS!

THE WOLF WAS PARALYZED BUT NOT TOO HELPLESS TO ATTEMPT THE SHIP'S DESTRUCTION ONE AFTERNOON



FIRE!

THE WOLF IS NOT YET COMPLETELY DEAD!

LARSEN HAD SET FIRE TO HIS MATTRESS IN AN ATTEMPT TO BURN THE SHIP



NO YOU WON'T, LARSEN!

I'LL DESTROY BOTH OF YOU YET!

THE SEA WOLF



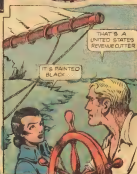
BUT WHEN MAUD GOT TO WHERE LARSEN LAY



BUT LARSEN HAD SAID THAT VERY DAY



AS THEY SPOKE A SMALL STEAMSHIP APPEARED ABOUT TWO OR THREE MILES AWAY.



BEFORE LONG THEY WERE ON BOARD THE CUTTER, LOOKING BACK TOWARD THE ISLAND THEY CALLED ENDEAVOR ISLAND.



The End

NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSICS *Illustrated* EDITION, DON'T MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL, OBTAINABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

JACK LONDON

JACK LONDON was born in San Francisco, California on January 12, 1876. His earliest metaphors were of work and responsibility. His parents were poor and could not offer their restless son the benefits of a formal education.

In his **SOME EARLY RECOLLECTIONS**, London wrote, "I have no recollection of being taught to read or write—I could do both at the age of five—but I do know my first school was in Alameda before I went out on a ranch with my folks. As a ranch boy, I worked hard from my eighth year.

"At fifteen, I was a man among men, and if I had a nickel, I spent it on beer instead of candy. Now, when my years are doubted, I am out on a hunt for the boyhood which I never had."

London had a vivid imagination and a great desire for adventure. At the age of fifteen, he "left" home. He stresses that he did not "run away" from home.

He went out to San Francisco Bay and joined up with some oyster pirates. He had many narrow escapes with the law and, one day, he found himself on the side of the law—hunting the oyster pirates. He later shipped out with a seal-hunting expedition and when he returned to the United States, he took odd jobs. These included coal shovelling, longshoreman work and newspaper delivery. He tramped through the United States, was put in jail for vagrancy and finally, returned to Oakland, California.

At the age of 19, London entered high school. He earned his keep by working as a janitor. During the year spent in school, he wrote for the school magazine, *Study*, work, writing—that was the way Jack London spent his youth.

He crammed for three months more and passed the entrance exams given by the University of California. After the first half of his freshman year, he found working in a laundry during the day, writing at night and attending classes too

difficult. He had to leave school.

Believing himself a failure, London went off to the Klondike to prospect for gold. There in the North, with its great void of human companionship, London had time to think.

It was in the Klondike that he gathered his material for **WHITE FANG** and **CALL OF THE WILD**.

Just as suddenly as he came to the Klondike, he left. His path was clear before him. He knew that he must record what he had thought, felt, done and seen. Thus far, he had been directing his burning energy toward physical labor, now, he would direct that same energy toward writing.

Jack London took pride in "a hard day's work well-done." He made sure that his life was a productive one. In 1900, his first book was published. After that, he turned out a great number of novels, stories, articles. His creative mind was continuously at work.

London was a self-disciplined man in spite of his wanderings and seeming unsteadiness. He maintained a rigid schedule and worked continually. He did not depend upon inspiration.

He had an amazing talent for vivid description. In his stories, you can almost hear the howling of the wind and the snap of a twig in a still forest. His stories are filled with the wonders of nature. Many of the anecdotes he recorded were derived from his own experiences.

Jack London's interests went beyond his chosen work. He was fond of sports and took delight in boxing, fencing, swimming, riding, yachting and even kite-flying.

He lived his life fully and gave of himself and his wealth unostentatiously. He never did find his lost boyhood nor was the prime of life his to enjoy.

He died on November 22, 1916, after a tortuous and prolonged illness. He was then only forty years old.



PIONEERS OF SCIENCE NICHOLAS COPERNICUS

Key Man in the Study of the Solar System

LIKE a triple play in baseball, which is created by the second player picking up the thought and action of the first player and continuing the thought and movement to the third player, so was the true science of astronomy created. It was the work of three men, covering a span of about 1500 years: Claudius Ptolemy (Egyptian), Nicholas Copernicus (Pole), and Johann Kepler (German). And like the pivot man in baseball, Copernicus was the key man in this combination. For, without his work, the effort of the first man would have been useless and the findings of the third man would never have been possible.

Copernicus was born February 19, 1473 in Thorn, Poland. After completing his preliminary education at Thorn, Copernicus studied medicine at the University of Cracow. He took additional courses in theology, mathematics and astronomy. The study of the planets fascinated him.

After becoming a doctor, he went to Bologna, Italy, where he advanced his study of astronomy and also studied Church law. While still in Italy, he was appointed a Canon in the Cathedral of Frauenburg, Poland. Before returning to Poland, he went to Rome where he lectured on mathematics and astronomy.

In Poland, Copernicus became a very active man. As a doctor, he was fortunate to have the richest people in town as patients; but he spent most of his time giving free medical care to the poor. However, he spent all the spare time he could on the study of astronomy, the subject he liked best of all.

Copernicus thoroughly read the works of Ptolemy, the first man to believe that there was planetary movement. Up until then, astronomy was shrouded in superstition. The experts believed that the planets stood still unless they were moved by the various gods who controlled them.

By his long and careful studies of the



heavenly bodies, Copernicus disagreed with Ptolemy's theory that the earth was stationary, the center of the universe, and that the sun, moon and stars moved around it.

Assuming that the earth rotated, Copernicus continued his study of the planets, and after long deliberation, created his own theory. He believed that the sun was the center of the solar system and the earth, like the other planets, turned on its axis and revolved about the sun. He

tabulated a time table as to how long it would take each planet to make a complete revolution around the sun. These were his figures: Mercury completed the revolution in 87 days, Venus in 224, Earth in 365, Mars 1 year and 321 days, Jupiter 11 years and Saturn 29 years.

These remarkable and accurate findings were made with crude measuring instruments a hundred years before the invention of the telescope.

Although Copernicus knew that the planetary orbits were not circles, he could not explain their form, nor exactly how the planets revolved around the sun. This was reserved for Johann Kepler, who completed the natural history of the subject at the end of the 16th century. (A biography of Kepler appears in a different issue of CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED.)

But as we evaluate Copernicus, we see that he stands on the boundary line of a new era in the understanding of astronomy. The belief in his time was that the earth stood still. He smashed that fallacy, but so great was that conception, that for years, Copernicus dared not publish his theory.

His book, *Concerning the Revolutions of the Heavenly Bodies*, was completed in 1540 but was not published until May 24, 1543. Fortunately, he was able to see his life-time of hard work realized. He died only a few hours after the first printed copy was placed in his hands.

