

# WINDS of CHANCE

by Rex Beach

Published by Arrangement with First National Pictures, Inc., and Frank Lloyd Productions, Inc.

### THE STORY THIS FAR

Arriving as a miner to dig for gold in the Yukon, Pierce Phillips meets up with many strange persons on the trail across Chilkoot Pass to Linderman. First it is Tolson Dorset, a giant French-Canadian, then Tom Linton—and then the beautiful Countess Courteau.

He meets the Countess back across the Pass and arrives at the camp of the McCaskey brothers just as they are all arrested under suspicion of having stolen provisions from the other miners. At a hasty mob meeting the McCaskey brothers wrongly accuse Phillips of having committed the theft. And despite the protests of Tolson Dorset at such points in his direction, so skilfully have the McCaskeys covered their own trail, Mob rule prevails when Phillips attempts to explain his innocent participation.

### CHAPTER IV. (Continued.)

Phillips went on with his story and told of spending the night with Tom Linton, then of his return to Sheep Camp to learn that he had been robbed of all his savings. Corroboration of this misfortune he left to the oral testimony of the two brothers McCaskey and to the circumstantial evidence of Jim's bandaged head.

Jim McCaskey was next called and Pierce made way for him. The younger brother made a poor start, but he warmed up to his own defense, gaining confidence and ease as he talked.

In the first place, both he and Joe were innocent of this outrageous charge—an innocent as unborn babes—and this air of suspicion was like to another them. This Jim declared upon his honor. The evidence was strong, he admitted, but it was purely circumstantial, and he proposed to explain it away. He proposed to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; letting the blame fall where it would and leaving the verdict entirely up to his hearer. Joe would substantiate his every statement.

It was quite true that he and his brother had been Good Samaritans; they had opened their doors and had taken in this young man when he was hungry and homeless, but that was their habit. They had fed him, they had shared their blankets with him, they had helped him in a thousand ways, not without serious inconvenience to themselves. Why, only on the day before the speaker himself had volunteered to take the young man's earnings to Dyea for safe-keeping, thereby letting himself in for an unmerciful scolding, and suffering a semi-fractured skull, the marks of which would doubtlessly stay with him for a long time.

Phillips had left camp early the previous morning, to be sure, and he had not come home until an hour or two ago, but where he had gone, how he had occupied himself during his absence, where he had spent the night, of course the speaker had no way of knowing. Phillips was often absent at night; he came and he went at all hours, and neither Joe nor the witness ever questioned him, believing his statements that he was packing for hire. Neither his brother nor he had ever seen that sack of rice until it was uncovered by the posse, and as for the other plunder, it was all part and parcel

of an outfit which their guest had been assembling for some time. They supposed, of course, that he had bought it, bit by bit, with his earnings.

"That's all we've got to say," concluded the elder of the precious pair when he had finished. "You can judge for yourselves who did the stealing. Jim and I've got all the grub we want; this fellow hasn't any."

"Have you anything to say for yourself?" The chairman addressed himself to Phillips.

"I have," Pierce again took the stand. "You're making a great mistake," he said, earnestly. "These men have lied; they're trying to save themselves at my expense. I've told you everything; now I demand that you wait to hear the Countess Courteau or Mr. Linton. They'll prove where I spent last night, at least."

"Mr. Chairman!" A stranger claimed general attention. "I've listened to the evidence and it's strong enough for me. The grub didn't get up and walk away by itself; somebody took it. Grub is more than grub in this country; it's more than money; it's a man's life, that's what it is. Now, then, the McCaskeys had an outfit when they landed; they didn't need to steal, but this fellow, this dirty lawyer, he hadn't a pound, I don't swallow his countless story and I don't care a hoot where he went last night. Let's decide first what punishment a thief gets, then let's give it to him."

"Hear! Hear!" came the cry. "Hanging is good enough for thieves!" shouted the choleric individual who had so pointedly made known his distrust of Lucky Broad. "I say stretch 'em!"

"Right! Let's make an example!"

"Hang him!" There rose a hoarse chorus of assent to this suggestion, whereupon the chairman stepped forward.

"All those in favor of hanging!" he began. But again he was interrupted by Tolson Dorset, who once more bored his way into the crowd, crying:

"Wait! I got something to say." He was breathing heavily, as if from a considerable exertion; perspiration stood upon his face; his eyes were flaming. He vaulted lightly to the platform, then flung out his long arms, crying: "You back lack crazy man. What talk is dis 'bout hangin'? You ain't no lawman!"

The red-faced advocate of the posse who had spoken a moment before answered him in a loud voice:

"I paid hard money for my grub and I've packed every pound of it on my back. You can take a man's life by stealing his matches the same as by shooting him. I want to see thieves on the end of a

rope."

Dorset bent down to him. "All right, n'aise! You want blood; we give it to you. Bring on dat rope. I'll put it on dis boy's neck if you'll do de pullin'. For me, I ain't care 'bout killin' nobody, but you—you're brave man. You hang on tight 'till dis boy he keek an' 'strangle; an' grow black in de face. It's rosin' mak you feel good all over!"

"I ain't do de trick, but—"

"Somebody mus' do de pullin'." Phillips grinned. "He ain't goin' hang himself. Mebbe you got pardner w'at lak give you hand, eh?" He raised his head and laughed at the crowd. "Monsieurs, you see how 'is 'it lak' brave man to hang a refer lak dis. Some day policeman's goin' to come along an' say: 'By Gar, I been lookin' for you long tam. De new judge at Dyea he tell me you murder a boy at Sheep Camp. 'S'pose you come wit' me an' do dis hangin' yours?' No messin' about, Mr. n'aise! Hinnion, we're good acquirable people, eh?"

Lucky Broad uttered a yelp of encouragement. "Handin' sounds better 'n it feels," he declared. "Think it over you family men. When you make your stakes and go home, little Johnny's going to climb onto your knee and say, 'Papa, tell me why you hung that man at Sheep Camp,' and you'll say, 'Why, son, we hung him because he stole a sack of rice.' Like hell you will!"

Polson Dorset regained public attention by saying, "Monsieurs, I got 'sprise for you." He lifted himself to his toes and called loudly over the heads of the assembled citizens. "Dis way, madame!"

From the direction he was looking their came a swiftly moving figure, the figure of a tall woman with straw-gold hair. Men gave way before her. She hurried straight to the tent platform, where Phillips leaned down, took her beneath her arms, and swung her lightly up beside him. "Madame de Countess Courteau," he announced; then with a flourish he swept off his knitted cap and bowed to the new comer. To those beneath him he cried, sharply, "Tak' off dese hat or I knock dem off."

The Countess, too, has evidently made haste, for she was breathing deeply. She flashed a smile at Pierce Phillips, then said, so that all could hear:

"I understand you accuse this young man of stealing something last night. Well, he was in Linderman. He brought me over today."

"We don't care so much about the rice; this stealing has been going on for a long time," a bystander explained.

"True. But the rice was stolen last night; wasn't it? The man

who stole it probably stole the other stuff."

"They're two to one," Pierce told her. "They're trying to say 'it off our me'."

The Countess turned and stared at the McCaskey brothers, who met her look defiantly. "Hah!" she exclaimed. "I haven't heard the evidence, for I was on my way to Dyea when Mr.—" she glanced thoughtfully at Polson.

He bowed again. "Dorset," said he; "Napoleon Dorset,"

—when Mr. Dorset overtook me, but I'm willing to wager my life that this boy isn't a thief. Again she smiled at Phillips, and she experienced a tumb of conflicting emotions. Never had he seen a woman like this one, who radiated such strength, such confidence, such power.

It was the elder McCaskey who next claimed attention. "You've made our spiel," he began; then he launched into repetition of his former statement of facts.

When the elder brother had concluded the Countess again addressed the meeting. "You take it for granted that Phillips did the stealing because he needed grub," said she. "As a matter of fact he won't broke, he had a thousand dollars, and—"

"Say! Who hired you to argue this case?" It was Jim McCaskey speaking. He had edged his way forward and was scowling darkly at the woman. "What's the idea, anyhow? Are you stuck on this kid?"

(To Be Continued.)

### WOMAN HUNTER FINED

ROSEBURG, Ore. — Fines for game law violation were imposed on Mrs. Lena Stoble and her husband, Ralph Stoble, both of Camanche valley. Mrs. Stoble is a woman hunter who has a record equal to that of any man in the country. She is a crack shot and an expert in the woods, and has killed a great deal of big game. She was accused of having an untagged deer and of disguising the sex of a deer. She was fined \$50 on the first charge and \$75 on the second.

Her husband was fined \$35 for acting as a guide without a state license, and \$50 for wanton waste of game.



Look for the "Check Seal" on all electrical appliances. We sell them.

## H. & S. ELECTRIC

### CONTEST OPEN TO CHILDREN

All Union county high school and grade pupils are eligible to try for the \$200 in cash prizes offered in an essay contest to be conducted between now and Oct. 15 by the All-Oregon Exposition committee. It is announced today from the office of E. A. Sayre, county superintendent of schools.

Contestants will write on one of two general subjects: "Oregon-Made Products," or "The Educational and Cultural Values of Art." The essays are not to exceed 500 words in length, and are to be in the hands of the secretary of the exposition committee, 651 Court House, Portland, Ore., by Oct. 15.

Titles, provided they fall within the headings mentioned, may be chosen by the contestants to suit their particular essays.

The money is to be divided into two identical sets of prizes, one for high school and one for grade contestants, as follows: first prize, \$50 each; second, \$25 each, and third, \$20 each.

Material may be gleaned from libraries, specialist or other authorities, Oregon State library, at Salem, and University of Oregon library, and prepared materials on the subject that they will send contestants on application. For further information, the exposition committee may be consulted.

### Buddhist School for Women

TOKYO (AP)—Officials of the Sojii, head temple of the Soja sect of Buddhism, have decided to establish a Buddhist women's university in Tokyo at a cost of 1,500,000 yen. Work will be started early next year and completed within two years.



### Do the ESKIMOS HIBERNATE SIX MONTHS of the YEAR?

HERODOTUS, the ancient geographer and historian, thought so. We moderns know better, but some of us are still superstitious. For example, why do some people still believe that there is something mysteriously "better" about "eastern" motor oils merely because they cost more and are made in the east?

### Oil Superstition Fact Losing Ground

Zerolene costs less because it's made in the West—but that doesn't make it better; it's better because in practice it actually lubricates better. That's why Zerolene is successfully lubricating more cars in the Pacific Coast states—high priced and low—than any other oil made.

Zerolene will increase the gasoline mileage, reduce the carbon removal operations and maintenance costs and lengthen the life of any car in which it is used.

### Made from Selected Naphthenic Crude

Zerolene will do the same for your car. It is made from selected western naphthenic base crude (the best crude so far discovered for the manufacture of motor lubricants) by our high vacuum process, checked 15 times for quality, and specially filtered through 40 tons of Florida Fuller's Earth to give you an oil that's absolutely pure and safe.

Why pay tribute to a superstition? Insist on Zerolene. Always ask for ZEROLENE by name.

### Get the Facts!

A series of independent and impartial reports showing the experience of large users with Zerolene motor oil has been collected in our booklet, "Why Pay Tribute to a Superstition?" Ask any Standard Oil Company representative or Zerolene dealer for a copy.

Insist on Zerolene—even if it does cost less

### STANDARD OIL COMPANY (CALIFORNIA)



### IN THE PATH OF PROGRESS

To study any particular human mechanism properly and diagnose its ills is beyond the power of any one man.

Rapid scientific advancement demands specialists and complete modern equipment.

At the HOT LAKE SANATORIUM a competent staff of physicians and a well-equipped laboratory give each individual the best possible service.

The Hot Lake Sanatorium  
Dr. W. T. Phy.  
Owner and Director.

### M. O. PLAYERS TO COME HERE

La Grande playgoers will have the pleasure of seeing the Moroni Olsen players at the Arcade theater on Wednesday, September 23, in "Pygmalion," which is the first offering of this circuit repertory company for the season of 1925-26, it is announced. "Pygmalion" is a comedy by George Bernard Shaw. Shaw takes the ancient fable of Pygmalion and his statue, and makes it into life. Liza Doolittle, a cockney flower-girl, is trained by a scientific teacher into a brilliant and beautiful society woman. But other things happen also. "Pygmalion" is said to be Shaw's funniest comedy.

Last season in New York City, George Bernard Shaw's play, "Candide" headed all the lists of the best and most successful plays of the season. It is a fact worthy of note that the Moroni Olsen player opened their circuit repertory company two years ago with this very same play, "Candide." In choosing "Pygmalion," another of Shaw's brilliant comedies, for the opening play in their third successful season in the northwest, they feel that it will meet with even more universal success than "Candide" did.



## "Check Seal"

Electrical Appliances ARE better. See Us.

### La Grande Electric Co.



### An Inexpensive New Frock

In your last Fall's wardrobe are probably a number of dresses that are stylish and thoroughly serviceable—if you give us the opportunity of cleaning and pressing them.

A dollar or two is a small amount for a charming new frock—yet that is all that is required for those garments. You'll be surprised how fresh and smart-looking they are when we deliver them.

The more particular people of La Grande refuse to be satisfied with anything less than WARDROBE Quality of Service.

PHONE US—WE CALL FOR AND DELIVER YOUR ORDERS.

### The Wardrobe Cleaners

Next to Penney Co.

### "September" Spells "Cold Weather Coming"

To most people, and any day JACK FROST may give you a poke in the ribs.

A TON OF UTAH ABERDEEN COAL now and then and your bin will be full before you know it.

Sawyer-Holmes Merc. Co.  
Phone Main 17

### Before you Build or Buy a Home insist on "Check Seal" Electrical Wiring



Check Seal APPLIANCES Carried By EASTERN OREGON LIGHT & POWER CO.

# Firestone

## Double the Mileage at Half the Cost

Only a few years ago a 32 x 4 cord tire listed over \$50.00. Today, you can buy the highest quality 32 x 4 tire—a Firestone Gum-Dipped Cord—for about \$26.00.

Last spring crude rubber cost tire makers around 40 cents a pound. Today, it is over 90 cents a pound.

It was not so long ago that 7,500 miles represented the average life of a cord tire, while today, 15,000 miles—and more—is only the usual performance for a Firestone Gum-Dipped Cord.

Due to large, concentrated production, specialized machinery and simplified factory methods, together with economical distribution, Firestone is able to keep tire prices low—no matter where the price of crude rubber goes.

And, because of special Firestone processes, chief among which is Gum-Dipping, motorists are today getting thousands of extra

miles by using Gum-Dipped Cords. Gum-Dipping is an exclusive method used by Firestone. It is an extra process, carried out in special Gum-Dipping plants, after which the cords are put through the usual calendaring machines. Gum-Dipping insulates and impregnates every fiber of every cord with rubber, and practically eliminates internal friction and heat, and builds strength and endurance into the tire.

In the day-in and day-out service of taxicabs, buses and trucks—on the cars of hundreds of thousands of motorists everywhere—Gum-Dipped Cords are giving unheard-of mileage, dependability and satisfaction.

Get ready for the coming months of slippery pavements and bad roads. Assure yourself of greater safety, comfort and economy by equipping now with Firestone Full-Size Gum-Dipped Balloons.

MOST MILES PER DOLLAR

Perkins Motor Co. La Grande, Oregon  
Imbler Garage Imbler, Oregon  
Trail Service Station Union, Oregon  
W. W. Binford Elgin, Oregon

AMERICANS SHOULD PRODUCE THEIR OWN RUBBER.