Salem Market Quotations

FRUITS
(Buying Prices)
(The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.)

Apples—All varieties, O grade, per bu.	.60 to .75
Bananas, lb. on stalk	.06
Hands	.06½
Calavos	1.65
Grapefruit, Texas pinks	3.75
Regular	3.00
Dates, fresh, lb.	.14
Lemons, crate	4.50
Oranges, crate	2.25 to 3.50

VEGETABLES
(Buying Prices)

Beets, doz.	.40
Cabbage, doz	.02
Carrots, Calif. crt., 6 doz.	2.75 to 3.15
Cauliflower, Calif.	1.50
Celery, Utah, crate	2.25
Celery Hearts, doz.	1.20
Lettuce Calif	2.00 to 3.00
Onions, boiling, 10 lbs. No. 2	.14
50 lbs.	.80
Green onions, doz	.40
Radishes, doz.	.45
Peppers, green, Calif.	.15
Parsley	.40
Potatoes local, cwt	1.50
50 lb bags	.50
Rhubarb, hothouse	.70 to .90
Spinach, Texas, 1.50, Ariz.	2.00
Danish doz.	.30
Hubbard, lb.	.01½
Turnips, doz.	.40

NUTS
(Price paid by Independent packing plant to grower)

Walnuts—Franquettes, fancy, 12c; medium, 10c; small 8c; orchard run, 8 to 10c. Walnut meats 25 to 30c lb.

Filberts—Barcelonas, large, 12½c; fancy 11½c; babies, 11c; orchard run 11 to 15c

Filberts—All moved out.

(Co-op Prices to Grower)

Walnuts—Price range, depending upon way nuts run in 14 different grades 11½ 12c Duchilly 1 cent higher.

HOPS
(Buying Prices)

Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb.	7 to .08
Clusters, 1938, lb.	19 to .21½
Fuggles, top	.23

WOOL AND MOHAIR
(Buying Prices)

Wool, medium, lb.	.22
Coarse, lb.	.22
Lambs, lb.	.18
Mohair, lb.	.23

EGGS AND POULTRY
(Buying Prices of Andresen's)

Large extra	.18
Medium extras	.16
Large standards	.16
Pullets	.12
Colored trys	.15
Colored medium, lb.	.14
White Leghorns, lb. No. 1	.10
White Leghorns, lb., No. 2	.08
Heavy hens, lb.	.14
Old roosters	.05

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price 2.18.

Co-op. Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 27c.
(Milk based on semi-monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.32.

A grade butterfat—Delivered 27c; B grade 26c; C grade 21c.

A grade print, 30c; B grade 29c.

LIVESTOCK
(Buying price for No. 1 stock, based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p. m.)

Lambs, top	8.50
Ewes	3.00 to 4.50
Hogs, tops	8.00
130-150 lbs.	7.50 to 7.75
210-300 lbs.	7.25 to 7.50
Sows	6.00 to 6.50
Beef cows	5.00 to 6.00
Bulls	5.00 to 5.75
Heifers	5.50 to 6.50
Top veal	9.00
Dairy type cows	3.50 to 5.00
Dressed veal, lb. (Midget)	.14
Hogs, top (Midget Market)	8.00

MARION CREAMERY Buying Price

Butterfat, A grade	.27
Leghorn hens, over 3½ lbs.	.12
Leghorn hens, under 3½ lbs.	.10
Roasters, 4 lbs. and over	.13
Fryers	.12
Colored hens, over 5 lbs.	.15
Stags, lb.	.06
Old roosters, lb.	.05

No. 2 hens 3c less; No. 2 springs, 5c less

EGG PRICES

Large extras	.18
Large standards	.16
Medium extras	.16
Medium standards	.11
Undergrades	.11
Pullets	.11

GRAIN, HAY and SEEDS

Wheat, per bushel, No. 1 white, sacked	.65
Red	.65
Oats, grey, ton	28.00
White	25.00
Feed barley, ton	22.00
Clover hay, ton	12.00 to 13.00
Oat and Vetch hay, ton	14.00
Alfalfa, ton	15.00 to 16.00
Alsike Clover, lb.	.09 to .11
Red Clover, lb.	12½
Egg mash, No. 1 grade 59 lb. bag	1.60
Dairy feed, 80 lb. bag	1.30
Hen scratch feed	1.65
Cracked corn	1.75
Wheat	1.30 to 1.40

Traders Stay On Sidelines

Flurry on Buying Subsides With Watchers Eyeing Hopkins Move

NEW YORK, Feb. 23—(AP)—The stock market walked the tightrope today, with a faint leaning to the upside.

There was a momentary run of buying as Wal istreet studied the implications of Secretary Morgenthau' sstatement the administration was out to encourage business profits and was considering tax revision.

This flurry subsided quickly, however, and the market resumed the quiet drift in evidence before the Washington's birthday recess.

Indications the administration was planning to finance additional US defense expenditures out of borrowing, rather than extra taxation, were given an "inflationary" interpretation in some Wall street quarters. It was argued the combined effect of financing arms programs here and in Europe on credit in time would tend to raise commodity prices.

Traders on Sidelines

Traders, however, seemed inclined to remain on the sidelines until they could get a closer look at spring business trends in the United States and for opportunity to see how far Secretary Hopkins would go toward a business "appeasement" policy in his widely heralded Iowa speech tomorrow night.

The Associated Press composite price of 60 stocks held unchanged at 49.6. Transactions totaled 455,320 shares against 465,380 Tuesday.

Quotations at Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23.—(AP)—Produce Exchange:

Butter: Extras, 27c; standards 26½c; prime firsts, 26c; firsts, 24c.

Butterfat: 27½-28c.

Eggs: Large extras, 20c; large standards, 19c; medium extra, 18c; medium standards, 18c.

Cheese: Triplets, 13½; loaf, 14½c.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23.—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts, salable 250; total 410. Butcher classes 10c higher, generally steady. Range: Barrows and gilts, gd-ch,

140-160 lbs.	$7.85@ 8.35
do gd-ch, 160-180 lbs.	8.20@ 8.60
do gd-ch 180-200 lbs.	8.10@ 8.60
do gd-ch, 220-250 lbs.	7.85@ 8.35
do gd-ch, 250-290	7.60@ 8.10
do gd-ch, 290-350 lbs.	7.35@ 8.10
do gd-ch med 140-160 lbs	7.60@ 8.60
Packing sows, good, 275-350 lbs.	6.75@ 7.00
do gd, 350-425 lbs.	6.50@ 7.00
do gd, 425-550 lbs.	6.50@ 6.75
do medium, 275-550 lbs.	6.25@ 6.75
Pigs, fdrs and stkrs, gd-ch, 70-140 lbs.	8.00@ 8.50

Cattle: Receipts, salable, 50, total 60; Calves salable 10, total 50. Generally steady. Price range:

Steers, good 900-1100 lbs.	$ 8.75@ 9.25
do medium, 750-1100 lbs.	7.75@ 8.00
do com (pln) 750-1100 lb	6.50@ 7.75
Heifers, good 750-900 lbs.	8.00@ 8.50
do medium 550 900 lbs.	7.00@ 8.00
do com (pln) 550-900 lbs	5.75@ 7.00
Cows, good, all wts.	6.75@ 7.50
do medium, all wts.	5.50@ 6.75
do com (plain), all wts.	4.50@ 5.50
do low-cut-cut, all wts.	3.50@ 4.50
Bulls (yrlgs excld), good (beef), all wts	5.75@ 6.50
do medium, all wts.	5.50@ 6.00
do cut-com (pln) all wts	4.50@ 5.50
Vealers, choice, all wts.	10.00@10.50
do good, all wts	9.50@10.00
do medium, all wts	7.00@ 9.50
do cull-com (pln), all wts	5.00@ 7.00
Calves, medium 250-400 lbs	6.00@ 7.50
do com (pln) 250 400 lbs	4.50@ 6.00

Sheep: Receipts, salable, 25; total, 130, steady. price range:

Lambs, gd-ch	$8.00@$8.40
do medium and good	7.25@ 7.75
do common (plain)	6.50@ 7.25
Ewes (shorn) gd-ch	3.75@ 4.50
do common (plain) med.	2.00@ 3.75

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23.—(AP)—

Wheat:	Open	High	Low	Close
May	68	68	68	68

Cash Grain: Oats, No. 2-38 lb. white, 28.25; No. 2-38 lb. gray, nominal. Barley, No. 2-45 lb. BW, 24.00. Corn, No. 2, EY shipment, 35.50.

Cash Wheat Bid: Soft white 68; western white 68; western red 67½. Hard red winter ordinary 67; 11 per cent 67; 12 per cent 69; 13 per cent 72; 14 per cent 76.

Hard white-Baart ordinary 70; 11 per cent unquoted; 12 per cent 70; 13 per cent 71; 14 per cent 72.

Today's car receipts: Wheat 102; flour 23; corn 1; oats 1; hay 1; millfeed 5.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23.—(AP)—Country meats—Selling price to retailers: Country killed hogs, best butcher under 160 lbs. 10-11c; veelers 15-15½c lb.; light and thin 10-12c, lb.; heavy 10-10½c lb.; lambs 15½-16c lb.; ewes 8-10c lb.; bulls 10c lb.; cutter cows 8-8½c lb.; canner cows 7-8c lb.

Live Poultry—Buying prices: Leghorn broilers, 1¾ to 1¾ lbs., 20c lb.; 2½ lbs., 20c lb.; colored springs, 2 to 3½ lbs., 15-16c lb.; over 3½ lbs., 16-18c lb.; Leghorn hens, over 5½ lbs., 15c lb.; under 3½ lbs., 14c lb.; colored hens, to 5 lbs., 18c; over 5 lbs., 16c lb.; No. 2 grade, 5c less.

Turkeys—Selling prices: Dressed, new crop hens 26c lb.; toms, 26c lb. Buying prices: New hens 24c lb.; toms, 24c.

Potatoes—Yakima gems, 1.15 cental; local 1.00-1.10; Deschutes gems, 1.25 cental; Klamath Falls No. 1 Gems, 1.25 1.55; California sweets, 1.80 1.60 for 50-lb. crate; Fla. 2.35-2.50, 50 lbs.

Onions—Oregon, No. 1, 1.35-1.50 per cental; sets 4½c lb.

Wool—Willamette valley, nominal; medium 22-23 lb.; coarse and braids, 22-23 lb.; lambs and fall 20 lb.; eastern Oregon 30-36½c.

Hay—Selling price to retailers: Alfalfa No. 1, 16.00 ton; oat vetch 12.00 ton; clover 11.00 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon 19.00; De valley 14.00 ton Portland.

Hops—New crop Clusters 19½-21½c lb.; Fuggles 23c lb.

Mohair—Nominal: 1938, 26-27 lb.

Cascara bark—Buying price, 1938 peel 5c lb.

Sugar—Berry and fruit, 100s, 4.90, bale 5.05; beet 4.80 cental.

Domestic flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25 bbl lots: Family patent, 49s, 5.55-6.15; bakers' hard wheat, net, 3.70 5.15; bakers' bluestem, 4.15-4.50; blended wheat flour, 4.35 4.60; soft wheat flour 4.00-4.15; graham, 49s, 4.30; whole wheat 49s, 4.75 bbl.

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, Feb. 23.—(AP)—(USDA)—Scattered transactions were being closed today on moderate quantities of domestic wools. Prices were firm on five territory wools at around 70 cents scoured basis for good French combing lengths and at around 68 cents scoured basis average to short French combing length wool in original bags. Graded half-blood territory wools in mixed lots containing staples and French combing lengths together were bringing 67 to 69 cents scoured basis.

Stocks and Bonds

STOCKS & BONDS
February 23
Compiled by The Associated Press

	30 Indus	15 Rails	15 Util	80 Stocks
Net Chg.	A .1	Unch	Unch	Unch
Thursday	70.7	20.3	37.8	49.6
Previous day	70.6	20.3	37.8	49.6
Month ago	67.8	18.9	35.5	47.3
Year ago	66.2	20.1	32.0	46.0
1939 high	77.0	23.8	38.3	53.4
1939 low	67.8	18.9	35.5	47.3

BOND AVERAGES

	20 Rails	10 Indus	10 Util	10 Forgn
Net Chg.	D .1	D .1	D .1	A .1
Thursday	59.0	99.4	94.5	61.4
Previous day	59.1	99.5	94.6	61.3
Month ago	57.6	98.8	92.3	59.8
Year ago	65.2	96.5	90.2	65.7
1939 high	61.7	99.6	94.8	62.7
1939 low	57.5	98.7	92.2	59.4

Wheat Prices Slightly Under

Surplus Stocks Are Cause of Hand to Mouth Purchases

CHICAGO, Feb. 23—(AP)—Resumption of wheat trading here today resulted in slightly lower prices reflecting decline sin foreign markets over the holiday and failure of reduced quotations on export wheat to attract importers.

Export busines sin domestic wheat remained at a standstill and only scattered sales of Canadian, Argentine and Australian grain were confirmed despite lower prices. Knowledge that big surplus stocks exist in major producing countries, traders said, encourages the hand-to-mouth policy of wheat importing nations.

Wheat lost as much as ½ cent at times during the slow session although improved buying on each dip. The close was unchanged to ⅝ lower, May 68⅛-⅝, July 68⅝-¾, while Winnipeg was off ⅜-½ after a corresponding decline yesterday when the Chicago market observed a holiday.

Other grains followed the actionof wheat, corn losing ¼-⅝, May 49⅛-⅜, July 50⅞-⅞. Oats were unchanged to ¼ off. Rye ⅝-½ down; lard 10-15 lower.

Gardeners' Mart

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 23.—(AP)—(US Dept. Agriculture).

Apples—Oregon Newtowns, med to lge ex fcy, 1.30-1.60; fcy, 1.25-1.35; unclass, f & f, 70-80c; Spitzenberg, fcy, 1.50-1.60; Wash. Delicious, ex fcy lge, 1.90-2.10; Winesap, medium to lge, ex fcy, 1.65-1.75; fcy, 1.50-1.60; combination ex fcy and fcy, loose, 3¼-3½c lb.; Romes, C grade, f & f, 75-85c; small, 50-60c; fcy, 1.35-1.40, loose, 3-3½c lb.; Ore. Delicious, ex fcy, 1.90-2.10.

Artichokes—Calif., 3.75-4.00; 75-80c doz.

Avocados—Calif., fuerte, 24-30s, 1.35-1.40.

Asparagus—Calif., 22-25c lb.

Bananas—Per bunch, 5½c lb.; small lots, 5½-6c.

Beans—Unquoted.

Brussels Sprouts—12-cup, 85-90c.

Cabbage—Oregon Ballhead, new crates, 2 2½c; Hubbard, 3c.

Sweet Potatoes—California, 50 pound No. 1 grade, 1.50-1.60.

Tomatoes—Ore. hothouse, 16 21c lb. Mexico 2.75-3.25; repacked 3.50-3.75; Fla., 2.75-3.00.

Spinach—Texas, 1.25-1.35 basket.

Bunched Vegetables—Oregon, per doz. bunches: Beets, 40-50c; green onions, 25-30c; Jap radishes, 35-40c; lugs 1.00-1.25 per dozen; radishes, winter, 20c; kale, 40-50c; leeks, 30-35c; mustard greens 35-40c; turnips, 40-45c, celery root, 50c doz.; broccoli, 50-55c; Calif., parsley, 35-40c; Swiss chard, 35c; radishes, 35-40c; turnips, 40-45c; broccoli, crates, 2.25; beets, 50-55c per dozen; crates 2.00-2.15.

Root Vegetables — Rutabagas, 1.25-1.35 cwt., lugs, 25 50c; beets, 1.25-1.50; 35-40c for lugs; turnips, 1.00-1.25 per sack, lugs, 45-55c; parsnips, 60-65c lug, sacks, 1.75 2.00; horseradish, 15c lb.

Closing Quotations

NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—(AP)—Today's closing prices:

Allied Stores	9¾	Comwlth & Sou.	1⅞	Natl Dist	27
American Can	88¾	Consol Edison	32⅝	Natl Power & Lt	8⅛
Am For Power	2⅞	Consol Oil	8⅝	Northern Pacific	11⅛
Am Power & Lt.	6	Corn Products	63	Packard Motor	4
Am Rad Std San	15¼	Curtiss Wright	6⅝	J C Penney	83⅞
Am Roll Mills	18	Du Pont de N.	148	Phillips Petrol	38¼
Am Smelt & Ref	44¼	Douglas Aircraft	74	Press Steel Car	11
Am Tel & Tel.	156⅞	Elec Power & Lt	10⅝	Pub Service NJ.	35¼
American Tob B	84½	Erie RR	1⅝	Pullman	32¾
Am Water Wks.	13	General Electric	40	Safeway Stores	37¼
Anaconda	28¼	General Foods	39⅞	Sears Roebuck	71⅝
Armour Ill	5	General Motors.	47¾	Shell Union	13⅛
Atchison	34	Goodyear Tire	32⅝	Sou Cal Edison.	25⅛
Barnsdall	14⅞	Great Nor Ry Pf.	25¼	Southern Pacific	16¼
Balt & Ohio	6¼	Hudson Motors.	6⅝	Stand Brands	6⅞
Bendix Avia	27½	Illinois Central	16⅛	Stand Oil Calif	27⅝
Bethlehem Steel	69⅞	Insp Copper	13⅜	Stand Oil NJ	47⅞
Boeing Air	31⅛	Int Harvester	57⅜	Studebaker	7⅛
Borge Warner	24½	Int Nickel Can	52	Sup Oil	2¾
Budd Mfg	6¼	Int Paper & P Pf	40⅞	Timk Roll Bear.	45
Calif Pack	16⅞	Int Tel & Tel.	8⅝	Trans America	6¼
Callahan Z-L	1	Johns Manville	90½	Union Carbide	81⅛
Calumet Hec.	6⅝	Kennecott	36	United Aircraft.	41
Canadian Pacific	4⅝	Libbey O Ford	47¼	United Airlines.	12⅛
J I Case	83	Lig & Myers B.	105½	US Rubber	45⅜
Caterpil Tractor	46⅜	Loew's	47¼	US Steel	60⅜
Celanese	22½	Monty Ward	49⅝	Walworth	6⅞
Certain Teed	10⅛	Nash Kelvinator	7⅜	Western Union	20⅜
Ches & Ohio	35	Natl Biscuit	25¼	White Motors	10⅞
Chrysler	75⅞	Natl Cash	22½	Woolworth	47⅞
Coml Solvent	12⅞	Natl Dairy Prod	14¼		

Sprouts—Oregon, Wash., Marblehead, best, 1.50-1.75; ordinary 1.00-1.25; Calif. crates 2.00-2.20

Carrots—Local, topped, 60-70c; sacks, 100-1.25, bunched. Calif., 45-50c; crate, 2.45-2.80.

Cauliflower — Local, No. 2, 50-75c; Calif., No. 1, 1.25-1.30.

Celery—Calif., Utah, 2.00-2.25; white, 2.50-2.75; hearts 1.25-1.50.

Citrus Fruit—Grapefruit, Texas marsh seedless, 2.75-3.00; pink, 3.00-3.25; Arizona fancy, 1.75-2.00; Florida, ⅛ boxes, 54-64, 3.00-3.25; Calif., 1.80-1.90.

Lemons—Fancy, all sizes, 4.00-5.25; choice, 2.70-3.50; apple boxes, 1.90-2.00, Limes, 90c.

Oranges—California navels, 200-392s, 2.25-2.75; large, 2.50-3.75; choice and pp 1.85-2.10.

Cucumbers—Hothouse, doz., 1.25-1.75.

Eggplant—Calif., 11-12c lb.; lug. 2.00-2.15.

Lettuce—Calif., Imperial, iced 4-5 doz., 3.00-3.15, dry, 2.50-2.75.

Garlic—Ore., 8-10c; poorer, 6c.

Mushrooms—Cultivated, 1 lb., 30-35c.

Onions—Oregon yellows, 50-pound sks, US No. 1, 60-70c; larger 80c; 10-pound sacks, 15-16c; boilers, 10 lbs., 12-13c; sets, brown, 4-4½c, white 5-5½c.

Pears—Oregon, Bosc., loose, 50-60c; ex fcy, 1.25-1.35; Anjous, ex fcy, 1.60-1.75; Medford ex fcy, 2.50; Comice, ex fcy, 2.85-3.00.

Peas—Calif., 12-13c; hamp, 2.85-3.00.

Peppers—Fla., 12 14c; Mexico, 14-15c, crates, 4.50 5.00.

Potatoes—Oregon, local Russets and Long Whites, No. 1, 1.00-1.10; No. 1, 50-lb. sacks, 60-65c; No. 2, 35 38c; Deschutes No. 1 Russets, 1.15-1.25; No. 2, 2, 50-lb. 38 40c; Klamath No. 1 Russets, 1.25-1.40; Fla., New Bliss Triumphs 2.25-2.40 per 50 lbs.

Rhubarb—Ore., Wash. hothouse ex fcy, 1.00-1.10; fcy 90c-1.00; choice 80c; pie, 55-60c.

Squash—Oregon, Wash., Marblehead, 2 2½c; Hubbard, 3c.

Sweet Potatoes—California, 50 pound No. 1 grade, 1.50-1.60.

Tomatoes—Ore. hothouse, 16 21c lb. Mexico 2.75-3.25; repacked 3.50-3.75; Fla., 2.75-3.00.

Spinach—Texas, 1.25-1.35 basket.

Bunched Vegetables—Oregon, per doz. bunches: Beets, 40-50c; green onions, 25-30c; Jap radishes, 35-40c; lugs 1.00-1.25 per dozen; radishes, winter, 20c; kale, 40-50c; leeks, 30-35c; mustard greens 35-40c; turnips, 40-45c, celery root, 50c doz.; broccoli, 50-55c; Calif., parsley, 35-40c; Swiss chard, 35c; radishes, 35-40c; turnips, 40-45c; broccoli, crates, 2.25; beets, 50-55c per dozen; crates 2.00-2.15.

Root Vegetables — Rutabagas, 1.25-1.35 cwt., lugs, 25 50c; beets, 1.25-1.50; 35-40c for lugs; turnips, 1.00-1.25 per sack, lugs, 45-55c; parsnips, 60-65c lug, sacks, 1.75 2.00; horseradish, 15c lb.

Pinochle Club Ends Day Play

PERRYDALE — The pinochle club met at the home of Eleanor Gregg Wednesday afternoon with two tables in play. High score went to Mrs. Loel Kahle and low to Mrs. Mitchell. This was the last regular afternoon meeting, and the club planned two evening parties with the husbands present.

The first will be March with Mrs. Orville Kurtz, Mrs. Loel Kahle, Mrs. Dave Byerley and Mrs. Bob Mitchell as hostesses, at the Byerley home.

"KIT CARSON - Avenger"

By Evelyn Wells

SYNOPSIS

At 19, Christopher Carson—Kit Carson, as he would be known—found himself, with a price upon his head, in Taos, New Mexico, to which he had fled from Madison County, Kentucky, his birthplace. Apprenticed by his mother to a saddler, Kit had run away, drifting into Taos over the Santa Fé trail in the spring of 1826. Three years later, he met Ewing Young, a captain of trappers, who was preparing to lead a party westward toward California. Ostensibly the men sought vengeance against hostile Apaches. Actually they sought the contraband fur of the beaver. Kit convinces Young that he would be a valuable addition to the buckskinned cavalcade.

CHAPTER II

Kit Carson ran for his rifle to display it proudly to the older trapper. Young looked down its shining bore with a frontierman's appreciation for well-kept steel.

"It's a fine gun," admitted the captain, hefting a small bag of brass rivets slung to the bullet pouch. "But what these be for?"

"Indians," said Kit. "I notch my score with them: A rivet in the stock for every dead Indian!"

His fingers drew over two rivets in the stock of his rifle. Young knew then he had chosen well this lad to ride with his mountain men.

Forty odd they prepared to ride next morning out of Taos. Kit saddled a leather colored mare from Young's corral. "Maid of Taos" he called her with boyish romanticism. Little did Kit know then of a true maid of Taos, born that very week in this ancient Pueblo, who would grow to womanhood and clutch at his heart with her soft hands! Before that babe became woman there would be much adventure for Kit Carson.

Romance was waiting ahead for him on the California trail.

Romance faced him now, a mantilla over hair sleek as onyx, red lips curled wishfully.

"You ride from us, Chreestoforo? Leave Taos?"

He cinched the saddle girth with hands suddenly unsteady.

"Sure, little one. Injun vengeance!"

"You come back, Chrees?"

The need of response tore him. Kit dared not look at this girl wrapped in her gay shawl, bright as a cactus flower against the gray walls of Taos. Seeing her, could he leave Taos with its ancient dances and throbbing songs, its festivals and pony races, its *aguardiente* (fire water) that stung a young man's senses, its warm Latin lips that taunted? Taos—"sky city of the plains," half Mexican and half Indian—was the Paris of primeval North America.

Give up its joys for the unknown trail to fight savage tribes and savage beasts, hunger and wilderness and death? For one second the slender lad in buckskins turned to the girl. His whole being turned to her.

But he was Kit Carson. The urge that had carried him West drove him on. He did not touch her. He muttered a swift farewell in a voice grown suddenly mature.

"Adios, corazon."

And he was gone beyond the hard-beaten square, one with the mountain men, long haired, long rifled, buckskin clad, riding with short stirrups ready for danger. With a gesture born long ago in Spain the girl drew her bright shawl across her face in resignation. Kit might turn back to Taos—never to her. She sensed that, turning her head away.

But other women smiled for Kit riding out of Taos. Other girls of Mexican blood waved from deep adobe windows. Pure blooded Indian maids, supple as willows, did not wave their farewells from the flat gray rooms . . . for farewells, every Indian knows, are bad medicine. It was a disgrace, too, to show emotion. Hearts might blacken with hatred or grow white with love but the face must remain impassive. Yet a warm love shown in many eyes for the "Muchacho Americano" since young Kit had become the darling of gay Taos in three years.

The trappers rode out of Taos, California bound. In Young's company were French and American and Canadian trappers. Foremost among them were James Higgins, François Turcote, Jean Valliant, Anastase Courier and James Lawrence. They traveled northward toward Raton Pass, to allay the suspicions of the Mexican authorities, then turned in their tracks and hurried over deserts scarcely touched before by white feet. Priests and soldiers penetrated this land in 1851 for Spain but the Indian had conquered again. This great barren country slept beneath the sun. Young's men camped on the edge of the Grand Canyon, the second white men to look into its multi-tinted chasm. They hurried through the land of the Navajo.

Navajos, startled from their spring hogans (huts) by the white band, could not dream that the dark-skinned blue-eyed lad riding by his captain would be hailed in history as their conqueror!

"You ride from us, Creestoforo? Leave Taos?" she asked. "Sure, little one. Indian vengeance!" explained Kit.

The Taos men left the Navajo country and crossed the land of the peaceful Zuni Indians, and entered that part of the vast lonely region that would be known as Arizona. They followed dark brackish rivers where beaver toiled . . . adobe and stone ruins of long dead civilizations . . . tall rocks that bore messages written in a language forgotten thousands of years before. In that arid region of yucca and sage brush they burned the spines from barrel cactus and fed their wearying horses. Unseen Indians stole the traps they set, and by night the black wolves howled around their camps.

Down the wide drying channel of the Salido River, tributory of the Gila, they picked their way warily. For this was the region of the Apache, bloodthirsty Arab of the Western Plains.

The Apache knew no friendship and no law. For centuries this barbarian tribe had stormed down from the north to harry the peaceful Pueblo Indians. They spread terror from the Yellowstone to the Rio Grande. They fought the Spaniards who first came to the great desert and the Mexicans. The few Americans who had penetrated West knew their fury.

Kit Carson was first to sight the enemy, one May dawn. His quick eyes saw them rounding a low mesa against a blood-red sky. Two hundred small men on small fleet horses, they were naked and befeathered, their painted faces shining like demons in the blinding light.

"Apache!" Kit cried, reining up the Maid beside Young's horse. "Apaches riding the war trail, Cap'n!"

The Apaches had seen the whites. They halted, their feathered head dresses quivering against the sky. From their plaited saddles swung grim trophies common to the plains in the past century—long scalp-locks, black and crimson souvenirs of recent slaughter.

Kit thought swiftly, "Probably from heads of their enemy, the Navajo."

Young pulled his beaver hat lower. He said without turning his head, "Shall we attack?"

It was both question and command. The boy Kit was first to cry "Aye." He knew Indians fight in ambush and not in the open and they could bewilder the Redskins by striking first.

The white men were outnumbered five to one. Young plunged his horse forward. The trappers struck between yucca and giant cactus for the mesa.

As they rode, a shout came from the hill—hideously from two hundred savage throats. The keen of mad wolves was in it, the scream of torture, the howl of hatred.

Instantly, Kit recognized a nerve-shattering noise he had never heard before.

Inhuman, terrible, like no other sound on earth, it was the war cry of the Apache!

The fury of that dreadful cry stung Kit Carson. It sent him with heels spurring the Maid up the slanting sand.

The Indians charged down the mesa, painted devils on horses wild as they. Sand flew under their horses' hooves in waves.

Twenty yards lay between red and white. Kit saw the painted death-lines on the grinning faces of two hundred warriors. He thought, "Torture—if they get us!"

But he dared not feel fear. Fear, Kit had been taught by Indians in Taos, threw out a sharp scent perceptible to Indian nostrils. The scent brewed cruelty in savage hearts. So Kit rode on with jaw set, tawny hair flying under the wide beaver hat.

"Now — back!" shouted Young suddenly.

The trappers jerked their horses around as if fleeing. Young shot his horse between the forty riders and led them racing along the cactus-studded mesa. A long arm of sand—the ambush they needed—shot forward to receive them. Behind it the trappers flung the bridles under their horses' feet to hold them, and flung themselves to the top of the dune. They lay hidden, rifles cocked, while the storm of Apache hooves rounded the mesa.

"Fire!" shouted Young. "Leave me the Chief!"

(To be continued)

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