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(Continued)

CHAPTER VII

San Juan Sends Word. They arrived at Castle creek, the south fork of the Rapid, above the eight-mile canyon and near where gold was discovered in June of the preceding year. Within two or three miles of where the Custer trail leaves the valley they halted for dinner. The spot was a small bar and, despite his haste to leave the band on the divide far behind him, Pyrites took time to wash out several pans of gravel. He said the bar would pay two cents to a pan in fine gold.

Dinsdale was not impressed and declared it would not pay for a many tobacco. His contempt diminished 1 when Pyrites tested another spot and found it to yield fifteen cents to a part. A second pan, luckily catching severs 1 small nuggets, he said would weight six dollars.

That night as they smoked before their tent Pyrites enlightened his friend as to the nature of traveling before them. At times they would be within four miles of Spring creek. and again twice that distance. Below the canyon was their objective, Rapid City, where several hundred miners were still pursuing their luck.

"Any good pickings in the canyon?" Nothing for us to by for there, but

we can, If we have time, test a yarn that's been floating through the bills ever since the first rush, that was known in frontier towns long before that: I'm speaking of the gold cached by one of the party that entered the hills way back in 'fifty-two and went as far north as what's now Deadwood Gulch.

"I've heard that ancient yarn dozens of times," wearily remarked Dinsdale. "A hundred men bound for California. Mineteen, quit' the main body at Fort Laramie to in restigate the gold stories told about the hflis. They reached a creek, where high water prevented

Deadwood Gulch. They struck it rich, but were surn unded by Stoux. Only one man escap ed. You see, I know it as well as you do. Queer how one man always escape i. Just one. And he always dies an er telling his story to some one. If two or more men escaped there wouldn't be any story, as the other survivors would speak and say

"Lie, not hing?" hotly cried Pyrites. "Tom Rer shaw did escape. He was out hunting when the Indians rushed the camp. He was returning with a deer why in the smoke from the burning shar ks and cabins warned him to be care tul. From the top of a bluff he

"This very creek?" broke in Pyrites.

"-So they pushed on and made

A gentle snore informed him that "If you can't keep awake when

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HALSEY ENTERPRISE

PAGE 3

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looked down and saw the whole business. He hid in the woods and lived off the deer meat till the Indians quit. Then he went into the burned camp and found a horse that had bolted into the timber. He uncached six hundred ounces of gold. Renshaw packed that gold to one of the heads of the Box Elder, not far from Deadwood Gulch, and hid it in a shaft his party dug before they entered the gulch." "How do you know all this?" skep-

tically asked Dinsdale. "Because Tom Renshaw, nearly starved and with his hoss played out, managed to reach the immigrant road.

He was out of ammunition and threw away his gun. He lived on chokecherries, roots, and the pulp of prickly pears. He traveled by night because it was too cold to sleep without blankets, and he slept in the daytime. One night he staggered into a hunting camp of Mormons on Green river, and told his story. Renshaw was fed and cared for, and after he got on his feet he disappeared. Probably his hardships killed him right after he quit the Mormon camp."

"But why haven't you tried for the cached gold?" Pyrites stared at him in great

scorn. Finally he exclaimed: "Me waste my time digging out ten or eleven thousand dollars' worth of gold when there's whole mines of it to be had for the taking? If I was a gambling man, as you seem to be. I'd tell you that the limit ain't enough to interest me."

"All right, partner," soothed Dinsdale; "we'll take time enough some time to corral that dust. It isn't to be sneezed at. But I've heard so many 'lost mine' stories I've quit taking stock in them."

"Still you've tried hundreds of times to make a flush. If we don't find that gold in the old shaft then some one's

been ahead of us." "I'm too sleepy to argue," yawned Dinsdale.

Pyrites eyed him shrewdly and haz-"I reckon your conscience wouldn't trouble you a heap if there was enough

money in a game. "Not a bit," promptly admitted Dinsdale. "Gamblers cheat and it's all right if they don't get caught. The main thing is-don't get caught. Lots of men are honest because they're afraid they'll get caught if they go crooked."

Pyrites chucked at this line of cynical philosophy and agreed.

"Lots of truth in your talk. But it happens that gold is what I'm keen about. I'm more interested in tracing float-quartz to the mother-vein than I'd be in the best herd of hosses ever run off. A hoss thief would ride slam-bang over a crack that held the price of a hundred hosses. I'd turn the hosses loose and dig down into that crack. San Juan Joe would quit the best pay gravel in these hills just to draw a busted flush. But how we talk! I wish we could take time to work up toward the Box Elder. Those high bars and narrow flats are just loaded with gold.

"But I know I can find something that's better'n anything I've struck yet. I never failed to do it in other diggings. Now there's silver! There's Bear butte. Judas! but there's a country for you. If Crook would ever come with the soldiers so we could get up there I'd show you sonce silver indications that would bulge your eyes. Injuns say that's where their thunder god lands when he drops drown to earth for a little visit. They neckon the ghosts of all dead Injuns are taken there to look at the rainbow stones and pretty shells and other rubbish before going to live in the real ghost land."

Dinsdale was asleep and had mis sed much of his talk. Shaking the Mfender's shoulder he advised:

man's telling you how to find a for-(Continued on page 4)

Halsey Happenings

(Continued from page 1) Miss Doris Lake visited her sister in Eugene Sunday.

Mr. Hoffman's meat market has been newly shingled.

Judge Bingham refused to modify the Armstrong divorce decree.

James Cook has the W. C. Smith farm. The Smiths go to Bandon. The Staffords got home Sun-

day night from a much-enjoyed two-weeks vacation. Mrs. Jake Houck committed suicide at her home near Waterloo Wednesday by taking poison.

Mr. and Mrs. James Drinkard drove to Albany Thursday evening o visit at the Z. H. Rudd home. Mr. and Mrs. Thad Young of Portland were also guests there. Mrs. Frank Gansle and daughter

Leila, in company with Charles Gansle of Engene, drove to Oregen City Sunday to visit relatives. The Albany Electric store, Hoflich and Willard, is expanding and moving from 202 West Second

street to the new Bikman building, at first and Lyon streets. W. L. Wells and wife and Lawrence and Mrs. Adda Ringo drove to Cottage Grove, where they visited Mrs. Ringo's father, R H.

Kenady, who is also a cousin of Mr. Wells Sunday. Representatives of Linn, Deschutes, Jefferson Crook counties at Bend last week formed a committee to work for the proposed road up the Santiam and into eastern

Oregon.

Grain growers were not the only ones surprised to find themselves so little injured by lack of rain this season. A. C. Armstrong visited his ranch t Oakland last week and found his sheep as fat as he could wish, and the streams surprisingly well-filled with the

ife-giving fluid. Wade Spurlin and family, from larrisburg, spent Sunday at the ome of his brother-in-law, Ralph Miller. His mother, Mrs Willam Spurlin, accompanied nim. His mother, Mrs. L. E. Mors of Salem, Mrs. Spurlin's mother, 87 rears old, was also a guest at the Miller home, Mrs. Mors was a dister of the late R. M. Wade, well-known hardware man of Portland. The old lady is bealthy and vigorous

Mrs. W. S. Koontz of Waterloo, instead of raising wheat and asking the government to artificially lift the price or bankers to lend her money, got two Toggenberg goats a couple of years ago. She bought more ater. Twenty-three kids have been born to them in the two years, some of them triplets and twins. She beats the "land of cheese, trees and ocean breeze" by selling cheese for 30 cents a pound and she gets 35 apiece for spare kids. takes about \$5 a head to winer them and in summer they lear land and board them-

selves. (Continued on page 4)