

# EXIT

by Harold Bell Wright

**SYNOPSIS:** Pierre, seeking Anna, a beautiful woman, Bruce, reaches his desert camp where Bruce and Colorado Bill are awaiting gold. Unseen himself, he overhears Bruce admit stealing \$25,000 from the Orchard Hill bank and killing the cashier, for whose murder Anna's father is held. Pierre's purpose is to persuade Bruce to return to his wife, whom he had justly accused of an affair with Pierre. As Bruce, despite his companion's warning, obstinately lifts the canteen to drink the last water, Colorado Bill shoots him dead. Pierre battles and subdues Bruce's slayer. He plans to turn him over to the law for murder, return the stolen money and thus effect Anna's father's release. But Colorado Bill threatens, if arrested, to humiliate Anna by exposing Bruce's murderous role.

## Chapter 33 TWO DISCOVERIES

PIERRE arose and, keeping his eye on his companion, and his weapon ready, moved to Bruce's body and carefully searched the dead man's clothing, transferring everything that he found to his own pockets. This done, he stood gazing down at the still form on the ground as if lost in thought.

The other man moved a stealthy step nearer and instantly found himself covered by the gun in Pierre's steady hand.

"Don't make that mistake again," said Pierre sharply. "Get your pack—we're going. No, get your pack and shovel first. I can't leave Bruce like this. I couldn't tell Anna that we did not even bury him. You must dig a grave. Dig it there." He pointed to a spot a few feet away.

"Dig a grave!" the other exclaimed looking at Pierre. "I'll be damned if I'll do any such fool thing."

"You'll die if you don't," Pierre retorted coolly, raising his weapon.

"But think of the exertion in this heat!" protested the other. "Short of water as we are, you're crazy to think of such a waste of strength and time. We'll do well if we last to make Dripping Spring as it is!"

As well might the man have protested to an inanimate machine. Pierre Donovan forced him to do his bidding. While the other toiled with pick and shovel, Pierre sat on guard.

It was a gruesome scene—the desolate surroundings, the dead body, the murderer forced by the fear of death to dig a grave for his victim; the outwardly impassive and implacable watcher with his weapon ready for instant use.

The man's task was perhaps half completed when suddenly with a startled cry he threw aside his pick and went down on his knees. Pierre, thinking the man's action a ruse to throw him off guard, did not move.

The man sprang to his feet and, seizing his pick, used it for a minute with fierce energy. Again he half disappeared in the grave. An instant later he arose, beside himself with wild excitement. In his hands was a large piece of white quartz.

"I've found it!" he yelled, waving his arms. "To think that it was right here all the time! We've been walking over it—sleeping over it—we've made fires and cooked over it!" He roared with laughter; he danced a wild jig; he threw his hat in the air; he was mad with triumphant joy.

And all the time Pierre sat unmoved in watchful readiness.

"Come here, boy," cried the man; "come here and see!"

"I'm not interested," Pierre returned coldly, still thinking the man's actions a trick to entice him within reach. "Go on digging!"

For a minute the man looked at Pierre dumbly—he had forgotten the situation. Then he roared with laughter. "I'll say I'll go on. You poor fish! I've struck the lost Mother Mountain lode!"

"You're wasting your energy," said Pierre. "Flinch the grave so we can be on our way."

The man gazed at Pierre as if dumfounded that any one could be so stupid. Then he said sarcastically, "I suppose you know gold when you see it!" and tossed a piece of the white quartz at the young man's feet.

Pierre did not even pick up the piece of quartz. "I tell you I am not interested," he said. "Go on with your digging."

"Do you realize what this strike means?" cried the other. "Do you realize that there's millions in this vein, the richest ever discovered? Are you huns or are you a bloodless dummy?"

"I used to feel things," said Pierre. "I guess I'm dead—I'm sure that something is me is dead."

The other was quick to take advantage of what seemed to be a change in Pierre's mood. "I think I know what you mean, boy," he said in a tone of kindly sympathy.

"But listen, with a hundredth part of the wealth that's right here under our feet you could—you could build the most beautiful theater in the world to the memory of your mother."

Pierre started. "What do you know of my mother?"

"I know what Bruce told me," the other answered gently. "She was Harriet Noel. I remember seeing her on the stage once. 'Didn't she used to stand in the wings while you were acting your kiddie parts?'"

The unexpected assault upon his emotions threw Pierre momentarily off his guard. The other, seeing the opening, moved to make the most of it. But Pierre leaped to his feet, on guard again. The man stopped, but smiled as one who, knowing that the cards in his hand insure the final outcome of the game, might smile at his opponent's success in taking one trick.

"To hell with your gold!" cried Pierre with passionate earnestness. "Look what your talk of gold has done for poor Bruce there! Look what it has done for Martin Boy! Look what it has done for Ann! Anything that I could do with this gold as a memorial to my mother would be an insult to her."

"All right," returned the other calmly. "But I'm not going to turn my back on these millions. I'm going to put up a location notice if you kill me while I'm doing it."

As he spoke he took from his pocket book a printed form and proceeded to fill it in while Pierre, disconcerted by the man's confident manner and by the feeling that there was something back of it which he did not understand, watched him.

"There!" he said, when he had finished writing. "I have located this lode in your name, Bruce's and mine. I've put Bruce in so that his wife could have his share. You and Ann together own control—I take only one-third."

"Suppose you succeed in getting me to Red Butte and turning me over to the sheriff? That won't bring Bruce back or do away with the fact that he was a thief and murderer. I say that for Ann's sake we ought never to let her know how her husband died, or that he was guilty of that bank crime and was planning to let her father suffer for it. We will report that you and Bruce and I were together when we struck this lode; and that when we were on our way back Bruce wandered off the trail into Skeleton Sink. We'll say it was impossible for us to go after him because we were so short of water that we barely made it to the Spring ourselves. That story will go without question. With this fortune we have here we'll find a way to clear Ann's father. It will all be easy enough with these millions to help us."

Holding out the location notice the man approached Pierre. "Here," he said, "look this over while I fix up a monument for it."

Still smiling and covertly watching Pierre, he began piling up a little monument at rocks such as prospectors use to mark their claims.

Pierre kept him covered, took the paper from his hands and wondered uneasily at the triumphant smile on the man's face.

Pierre looked at the location notice: "Bruce Carey, Pierre Donovan, Roy Donovan."

"Roy Donovan—Roy Donovan!" Pierre rose slowly to his feet.

The other man faced him with a triumphant laugh. "Well, son, it's been a long time since we met. 'Are you Roy Donovan?'"

"Sweet thing you know."

"My—my father!"

Roy Donovan laughed. "That's another card in our little game, heh, kid? I somehow can't quite see Harriet Noel's boy turning his own father over to hang for murder, can you?"

With bowed head Pierre turned his back on his companion and moved listlessly toward the spot where he had left his canteen and pack.

Roy Donovan followed stealthily, step by step.

Dropping his gun, Pierre swung the pack over his shoulder and picked up the canteen. But he paused and, as if his strength were not equal to the anguish of the situation, he leaned heavily against the low, rocky wall, his face hidden in his arms.

The older man, moving swiftly, silently reached the gun. Another instant and the weapon was in his hand.

Meanwhile the law's wheels turn, and tomorrow a telegram brings consternation to Ann and Tony.

# COUNTY BRIEFS

## CENTRAL POINT

CENTRAL POINT, Ore., Aug. 6.—(Sp.)—Mr. and Mrs. John Gladden, Mr. and Mrs. Will Habacht and Rev. Ralph Knight of Oklahoma spent Monday at Crater lake.

Mrs. Jack Miller is recovering from an operation for appendicitis at the Community hospital in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. John McJinney spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Eldred near Butte Falls. They were joined by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Barr and Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Barr of Benton Harbor, Mich. A. S. Barr is a brother-in-law of Mr. McJinney. The Barr families are now stopping for a time in Grants Pass.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Miller of San Francisco arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin for a brief visit Friday. Mr. Miller is a brother of Mrs. Martin. The two families motored to Crater lake Saturday and after making several short visits with friends throughout the valley, continued on their return trip to California.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Richards, who have been living near Antioch, have moved to town and for the present are stopping at the J. B. Hamrick home. Mr. Richards has accepted the pastorate of the Baptist church in Medford.

Miss Neida Hardsack of Agate is a guest of Miss Evadna Mastey. They enjoyed swimming in Rogue river Monday.

A picnic party at the B. F. Stevens place near Rogue River was an all-day affair Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Marine, Mr. and Mrs. George Marine and daughter Gwendolyn, Mr. and Mrs. L. N. Swartz, Mrs. Elizabeth Burger, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin, E. E. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and daughter Barbara May. This gathering of old friends and relatives was in honor of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Marine, who expect soon to leave for their home in Alberta, Canada.

Miss Elizabeth Scott and Myrtle Rossell were guests of Mrs. Dora Cameron of Jacksonville Monday.

Picnicers at Rogue River Tuesday were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Heesler and daughters, Lotus and Leatha, Mr. and Mrs. John Heesler and daughters Leola, Olga and Janice, Mrs. J. E. Rossell and little Barbara Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Marine of Canada and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Martin of Central Point were among the Crater lake visitors from here last week.

The pageant at the Christian church Sunday night drew a large crowd for so warm a night and the entire entertainment was highly creditable to every one of the young people participating.

Among the many swimming parties with lunch served on the river banks was one composed of the Lathrop, Patterson, Ashbury, Heath and Terrill families Wednesday.

Clifford and Carl Boswell drove down from Crater lake Saturday night, where they are employed on the rim road, for a visit with their mother and sister Wyanette, returning Monday.

Miss Mary Jones of Massachusetts, who has been visiting her brother, E. W. Jones and family for some time, left Wednesday for Red Bluff, Cal., to join her mother and visit other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. George March and daughter Delva have returned from a week's vacation trip visiting Mr. March's brother and family at Eugene, returning home by way of Bend.

Mrs. Dolly Love and children have moved to Medford for the convenience of the family, as all are employed there at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Coleman have moved to Prospect where Mr. Coleman has secured employment with Copco.

Miss Elizabeth Scott and Clarence Dunn spent Sunday in Klamath Falls, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Enders.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Root spent the early part of the week visiting Mrs. Root's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin, and Mr. Root's father. They were joined here by a sister of Mr. Root, who together with her son started on a trip north Wednesday, stopping at Roseburg, Longview, Wash., and other northern points, with a view of locating as soon as a desirable place is found.

Messrs. Milton and Coleman were down from Prospect Saturday night on a business trip.

The huckleberry crop is evidently good this year, judging from the quantity brought from the patch by Mr. and Mrs. Jake Myers and Mrs. James Cummings, who are generously distributing them to friends.

Clifford Peart of the Copco surveying crew at Prospect called on friends here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Hurd and family of Yuba City, Cal., who have been guests of the L. H. Smith family, left for their home Tuesday. Mr. Hurd may be remembered by old friends as the man from Iowa who installed the power plant at Gold Ray.

## EAGLE POINT

EAGLE POINT, Ore., Aug. 6.—(Special)—Mrs. J. A. McWhirring and son, Joe, Mrs. Edith Waldman and Mrs. Ratcliff went to Medford recently on Grant business.

Paul Haffard has moved his confectionery store to the place he formerly occupied next to the E. C. Faber grocery store, having given up his lease on the Bungalow dance hall.

Mrs. Enid Castor and Miss Sybil Castor of Phoenix, formerly of Eagle Point, were here recently calling on friends.

Freda Murphy arrived July 30 from Los Angeles for a visit with her mother, Mrs. Mary Leabo.

Mr. and Mrs. Marsh Garrett, have returned from a trip to Yellowstone National Park, Salt Lake, Reno and other points.

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Henderson returned this week from Prospect, where Mr. Henderson had been employed.

Mrs. B. A. Clark and Miss Esie Andrews motored to Oregon Caves recently.

Mrs. Robert LaRoque, Mrs. O. E. Henderson and Mary Hannaford were recent Medford shoppers.

Visitors the past week at the home of Mrs. W. L. Childreth were: Boyd Tucker and wife and mother of Trail; Mr. and Mrs. Nick Young, Mrs. Sarah B. Howlett, Hattie Howlett, Rose Whaley, Mrs. William Perry, all of Eagle Point; Mrs. L. O. Castor and Sibyl Castor of Phoenix; Mr. and Mrs. George Burton and two children of Klamath Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Burton are former Eagle Point residents and this is their first visit to Eagle Point in 40 years.

On August 1 a new rural mail route was instituted from Medford through Antelope and Eagle Point districts. The new carrier is Mr. Godlove.

William Bitterling returned Aug. 1 from the R. O. T. C. at Camp Lewis to remain here until fall when he will return to Oregon State College. While in the training camp he won a medal for marksmanship.

Lawrence Winslow was a guest recently at a dinner party given by Mrs. W. C. Clements in honor of the birthday of her nephew, Edwin Clements.

Those attending the last ball game in Medford were: Doc and Henry Henshaw, Mr. and Mrs. William Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stoner, Mr. and Mrs. Robert LaRoque, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ashpole, Merritt Brown, George Weyman, C. P. Davies, William Lewis, Tom Lewis, R. G. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. John Lucas.

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Clark left August 3 for Butte, Mont., to visit Mrs. Clark's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Carlisle. During their absence E. A. Mianer will reside in their home and look after the property.

Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Barnes and daughter, Frances and Verna Matthews left recently for Crescent City. Mr. Barnes will remain there under doctor's orders for some time. Mr. Barnes returned August 2. During his absence Mr. and Mrs. Verna Matthews took care of the ranch.

Funeral of Stewart Rice took place August 2 at Galva, Ill. Mrs. Eva Rice, grandmother of the deceased, remained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Tingler. Mr. Tingler will take Mrs. Rice and the family over to Los Angeles to meet Mr. and Mrs. Vane Rice when they return from Illinois.

Billie Taylor of Portland visited Donald Ashpole recently.

Miss Esie Andrews, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Clark, has returned to her home in Vancouver, Wash.

## JACKSONVILLE

JACKSONVILLE, Ore., Aug. 6.—(Sp.)—Mrs. Ike Coffman spent the last week camping at Star gulch.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Ward have as guests their daughter, Mrs. G. E. Mason and children of Glendale, Cal. Mrs. Leslie Goke returned recently from Modesto, Cal., where she was called by the death of her father.

Herman Offentbacher of Applegate was in Jacksonville for supplies Tuesday.

Minna and Jim Marsh of Eureka, Cal., are visiting their uncle, John Marsh, and wife, and also Mr. and Mrs. Jake Shafer and family.

Twenty-one men and boys from Jacksonville left Tuesday to fight fire near Aspen Butte in Klamath county.

Mrs. Glenn Lee and children have returned from a few days at the Harris home near Sterling.

Lee Port of the Star ranger station was here on business Monday.

Prof. Milton E. Coe of the Jacksonville public school, has rented the residence formerly owned by C. E. Applegate and will move there soon from Medford.

Miss Alice Baker and Miss Dorothy Nyland of Eugene were visitors last week of Miss Lois Reedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Reedy here.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hubbert came down Sunday from their mines above Copper, Ore., for a few weeks in Jacksonville.

Mrs. Barney Phillips from Squaw lake was in town this week.

W. H. St. Clare of eastern Oregon have moved into the VanWinkle home and plan to work in the fruit.

Ralph Fox and family have moved into the V. T. Wilson home on Fifth street.

Fred Silder has rented the South Fourth street, Julia Williams on North Fourth street. Fred Silder and Mrs. Silder are attending the Seventh Day Adventist convention in Medford this week.

Newt Haskins from the Rich district is spending the week in town with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Shafer had as guests at dinner Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Will Davidson of Talent.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clagston and

## New Brand On Medford Mail Planes



Following recent consolidation of Pacific Air Transport with other Boeing lines and National Air Transport to form United Air Lines, the familiar Pacific Air Transport insignia on the side of the four-passenger mail planes which carry mail between Seattle, Medford and San Diego, is being replaced with a new United Air Lines insignia, as shown on the side of the plane in the accompanying picture. Flying on the Pacific Coast airway, Pacific Air Transport planes have contributed a total of 4,000,000 miles to the recently established record of United Air Lines, whose planes have flown 30,000,000 miles during the past five years. Pacific Air Transport flies two daily schedules between Seattle, Medford and San Diego, one of them being an overnight, mail-passenger service operated with planes of the type shown in the accompanying picture, while the other is a daylight passenger-mail schedule flown with trimotored transport planes.

family have rented the residence next door to the telephone office, owned by George Little.

Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Sanden and children, accompanied by friends from Medford, enjoyed a picnic supper, followed by a swimming party near the McKee bridge, Sunday.

Miss Vivian Card is employed as waitress at the Black Cat cafe in Medford.

Mrs. Fred Foot and son, Frank Weinwright, of Medford were visitors Sunday of Grandma Faucet, who is now staying at the home of Mrs. L. J. Combest.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Fosdyce of Medford called here Wednesday.

Misses Elizabeth Scott and Ordetta Baswell of Central Point called on Mrs. Wilbur Cameron Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Prevost of Medford, accompanied by her sister, Miss Barbara Horvorka of Los Angeles, were dinner guests of Mrs. Amy Dow Sunday.

Mrs. A. G. Lewis and son Carroll, who are camping in Prospect, where Mr. Lewis is employed, spent a couple of days this week in Jacksonville.

Ruth Rebeback lodge met Monday evening, Miss Ella Parks, Miss Zoia Griffing, Miss McLane of the Medford lodge were visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Klum of Oakland, Cal., and Mrs. Lewis Ulrich of Medford called on Mrs. Alice Ulrich Monday.

Miss Violet Olson spent the first few days this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Adams in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Thompson of Klamath Falls, accompanied by Mrs.

Nettie Thompson and son Junior of Medford, were dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Keegan.

Word was received of the death of Grant Shell at Sacramento, Cal., July 3. This is thought to be the Grant Shell who was a former resident of Jacksonville.

Preston Card returned Monday from a two days' stay at Crater lake.

Mrs. G. O. Sanden and her Sunday school class of the Presbyterian church are planning a picnic for Saturday evening at the Girl Scout camp on Applegate.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ulrich of Bellview district visiting relatives here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Knight and Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Dunnington spent Sunday fishing up Little Applegate river.

Mrs. Thresa Dews accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jennings on a trip to Crater lake Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Dunnington were in Grants Pass Sunday.

Mrs. Winnie Gailatin of Yreka was a Sunday guest of Mrs. E. Dunnington. She also attended the Eastern Star picnic at this place.

T. E. Dunnington and son Tommy were in town Monday for supplies from Squaw lake, where they and Mrs. Dunnington are camping for a few weeks.

Theron Applebaker, who is working at Prospect, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Applebaker.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Houch and her mother, Mrs. Blah of Medford, called on friends here last week.

Mrs. L. S. Ettinger and son Bobby also Mrs. Nicewood of Medford were Sunday callers on Mrs. Leonard Lyons.

Mrs. E. B. Watson of Portland is guest of her niece, Mrs. Frances Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hearn of Phoenix were recent visitors of their aunt, Mrs. Dora Harbaugh, here.

The Jackson county bridge crew has been disbanded for a time and the men are engaged in other work.

## RATE BATTLE PLANS MAPPED FOR PROBE

SALEM, Ore., Aug. 6.—(AP) Members of the Washington department of public works will arrive here today to confer with Charles M. Thomas, public utilities commissioner, in making final plans for the presentation of the northwest's protest against the 15 per cent freight rate increase. The Oregon executive committee yesterday, representing 37 shippers over the state, outlined the state's program for the hearing.

The protestants to the proposed rates will be given a three-day hearing in Portland, beginning August 12. The interstate commerce commission advised the Oregon commissioner some time ago.

STAYTON—Decking, widening and other improvements completed on bridge across Santiam river at this place.

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## BIG DAIRY DISPLAY PLANNED FOR FAIR

SALEM, Aug. 6.—(AP)—To complete plans for an outstanding dairy products exhibit at the Oregon state fair the Oregon Creamery Operators' association will meet in Salem, today with Max Gehlhar and other officials of the state department of agriculture.

Plans for the meeting indicate 25 creamery operators will be present from every part of the state. Gehlhar said the meeting has nothing to do with the milk war, since the operators are all butter producers.

Salem—Bond issue proposed for obtaining new water supply for city.

## PORTLAND GOLF LINKS OFFICIAL FOUND DEAD

PORTLAND, Aug. 6.—(AP)—A victim of carbon monoxide poisoning, A. E. Carlson, 33, former secretary-treasurer of the Riverside Golf club here, was found dead in his closed garage yesterday. His automobile engine was running. The garage was tightly closed.

Mrs. W. C. Howe said Carlson rented the garage Saturday, asking her if there were any cracks in it. Carlson was unmarried and is believed to have had no relatives here.

Hood River—Plans completed for completion of proposed \$40,000 hospital.

## PROSPECT

PROSPECT, Ore., Aug. 6.—(Sp.)—Mrs. Rube Moore is caring for her sister's children while their parents are ill in a Medford hospital.

The daily vacation Bible school closed a very successful session Friday with a picnic at Union Creek. Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Putney of Medford were in charge, assisted by Mrs. John Hakkepp.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Chapman and family are spending the huckleberry season on Huckleberry mountain, picking huckleberries. The crop is very light this year.

The British Isles have more than 3,000 motion picture houses, with England accounting for nearly 4,000.

Oakland—Construction of new school gymnasium nearing completion.