

Montana Rides Again

A RAPID-FIRE ROMANCE BY EVAN EVANS

SYNOPSIS: Mateo Rubra and the Montana Kid have been shown a way into the fort of Duraya by Rosita. But before they could steal the emerald crown of Our Lady from General Estrada the governor, and return it to the church from which the governor had stolen it in the first place, they are surprised and forced to hide on a ledge outside the governor's bedroom. From that vantage point they hear the governor question Rosita, who is, he thinks, too beautiful to be good.

Chapter 22 Treachery

"O-H-O!" murmured the general. "Are you talking to me about marriage?"

"I'm talking to you about nothing," said Rosita.

"I could go—a general like Estrada—he could go to some big ranch-owner with a hundred thousand cattle—with rivers and mountains all of his own—a man like Estrada could find a man with a fortune and a daughter. Eh, Rosita?"

"Well, there are plenty of them."

"But let me tell you I am going to be rich in my own right. And then, Rosita—well, I have eyes and I've used them. Do you understand? You are enough for me in yourself."

She jerked around towards him. "Ah, is it that?" she asked.

"Well, look at me and say something. What do you see?"

"A big mustache," said the girl, calmly.

It seemed to Montana that the general would surely fly into a passion, but he only laughed.

"When I'm on horseback, I look better," he said. "But I'm not beautiful."

"No," she agreed. But she frowned.

"Then tell me—was it the truth you spoke to me tonight?"

"No," she said.

A little electric pricking spread across the small of Montana's back.

"I know it was a lie," said the general, gently. "But truth is always a welcome guest, even when it comes late. Who was it that you sent to the postern and told about the signal that would bring out the sergeant?"

As this she closed her eyes and bent back her head, as the Kid had seen her do before. But it last she looked at the governor again and said, "It was a gringo."

"A gringo? And he has come safely into this fort and gone out again?"

"He has stained his skin to make it darker. His hair is black. But his eyes are blue."

"Go on!" urged the general. "I shall have him if I have to ride a thousand miles to get him."

She shook her head.

"WHY do you say no?" he demanded. "Listen to me! If it is some outlawed man, I have friends among the bandits, also, shall use enough money to warm the cold hearts. Before long I shall learn his trail."

"It is El Keed!" she said, almost gloomily.

"El Keed?" the general repeated stupidly.



ful. However, there are beautiful things about me."

"There are the soldiers who are afraid not to follow you," said the girl.

"They have followed me into places, too. They have died like flies around me. Maybe they will die that way again. That is what I am afraid of. I am General Estrada. But because they are afraid to run away when I lead them, one day I shall be rich."

"Yes," nodded the girl.

"The finest province in Mexico—I shall ask for it, and it shall be mine. Shall we help ourselves to the plunder, then?"

"We?"

"Yes. You and I, Rosita. I speak from my heart. See what I am. Not beautiful. Not very young. But strong. There is a brain up here on top of the mustache."

"That is true," she answered.

"A BRAIN clever enough to see that Rosita is worth more than a rich girl. Tell me, then—are we to be married?"

"Well, perhaps we are," she said. "And then you will stop letting your eyes run this way and that?"

"I'll try to stop," she said. "It's hard to learn all at once."

She was hard as steel, bright as steel, cold as steel. There was no smiling about her now.

"Then we begin as friends, and hope to end as lovers!" he asked.

"We may end that way," said the girl.

"Time teaches us how to put up with ugly things," said the general. "When you hear the crowd yelling for me and when you see the horse dancing under me, then you will like me much better. But if we are friends, you know that there is no lying between us?"

ORCHARDISTS TO HEAR TREE PEST CONTROL IN MEETING WEDNESDAY

Orchard pest and disease control will be fully discussed at meeting of fruit growers to be held for that purpose on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 2 p. m., in the auditorium of the county court house, according to arrangements made by County Agent, L. P. Wilcox.

At this time of season each year a meeting is held for the purpose of discussing new methods and new materials, to the end that growers may be informed as to the changes taking place in the field of pest control.

Prof. F. C. Reimer of the Southern Oregon Experiment station will present information on the use of broadcast sprays as an aid in fire blight control. This subject is timely and should interest a large number of pear growers. L. G. Gentler, entomologist of the Oregon experiment station, will report on his experimental work pertaining to San Jose scale and codling moth control. Other specific troubles will be discussed if desired by growers in attendance.

All growers and other interested parties are urged to attend this meeting, which will start promptly at the time stated.

Nazarene Evangel Compels Interest Of Large Throng

Evangelist Elmer Gandy spoke last night to a packed house, from the topic, "Preparation Necessary to Meet Christ." As a result of his morning and night ministry there were about 35 professions of faith.

The artist-angelist interested his audience by making two beautiful landscape pictures from which he drew moral and spiritual lessons preliminary to his evening discourse.

This week is expected to be the climax of the series as widespread interest is being manifested throughout the city and its environs. The evangelist will be heard each night throughout the week, with the possible exception of Saturday.

VALUABLE HINTS FOR CAMERA FANS GAINED AT MEETING OF CLUB

Those who heard J. A. Perry tell his story, at the Camera club Tuesday evening, of a trip up the Fraser river, gained a new conception of the wilderness of western Canada. The motion picture, screened by an Eastman Kodascope, operated by A. H. Miller, of scenery such as the peaks of Jasper Park, one hundred miles distant, and of wild game were the next thing to an actual trip.

In the following meeting of the members of the club, Mr. Kroenert, assistant to Verne Shangle, a new member of the club, spoke on the influence of movie technique on lighting in general photography, and also gave practical points on getting characteristic expression in children's portraits. Safety from fire risk of the 16mm. film and the newer X-ray films, was demonstrated by Mr. Miller, who brought out also the improvement in movie photography by the use of a newer super sensitive panchromatic film.

A demonstration of a device for measuring shutter speed and direction and how to use an auto wheel for the same purpose was given by Thomas Radcliffe. An exhibit from Verne Shangle's studio showing many forms of photography was greatly appreciated.

Portraits of Mayor Porter, past Mayor Wilson, Amos Bug and others, were outstanding landscapes of the Poole home on the Applegate, and a fine Crater Lake

VANCOUVER BEER WAR BREAKS OUT AFRESH

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 18.—(AP)—Labor troubles which have confronted the brewing industry for many months, broke out afresh here today after two weeks of comparative calm.

Pickets were posted around the Star brewery here this morning as two union factions, the teamsters and the brewery workers, once again disputed jurisdiction over pickets.

Union leaders here said pickets were placed at the plants of all beer making plants identified with the Northwest Brewers' association, Portland and Salem breweries would be affected, it was said.

Be correctly ordered in an Artlist Model by Ethelwyn B. Hoffmann.

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By Hal Forrest

By EDWIN ALGER

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