

Montana Rides Again

A RAPID-FIRE ROMANCE BY EVAN EVANS

SYNOPSIS: The Montana Kid and Brother Pascual, with the beautiful Rosita, are at the edge of the Valley of the Dead. They hope to rescue Mateo Rubira, condemned to the valley by General Estrada. Montana just has turned two men guarding a long string of new prisoners to fight a duel to the death; both men disposed of. Rosita explains to Pascual that perhaps he and Montana will be accepted by Juan-Silva, master of the valley, as guards in their place.

Chapter 35 SNARED

"WELL, will Juan-Silva believe you both?" asked Rosita. "Will he make guards of you? And even if he does, will that give you a chance to set Rubira free? How can I tell? There is one chance in ten thousand—and that's a good chance for Montana to take!"

Brother Pascual said: "Friend, how has this happened?"

"Two mad dogs. They took each other by the throat. The rest of what Rosita says—well, it's true enough. You see our ghost of a chance, Pascual!"

"To walk in—freely—to give ourselves into the hands of Juan-Silva?" muttered the friar.

"Well," said Montana, "I don't know a better way. And somehow, I'd rather take the first chance and die with it than to wait there in the hills, looking down into hell from the brink. The longer a fellow looks at the jump, the harder it is to take."

He could not help adding: "But why should two men go in, Pascual? Let me go alone. Whatever I can do, I'll try. And you wait out here—with Rosita—wait as many days as you have any hope—and then take her back to her people."

"I have no people," said the girl. "I have you. When you are gone, I have nothing. But you, Pascual, stay near with me. If we can't talk, we can pray. I've always wanted to be taught how!"

Pascual put his heavy arm over the shoulders of Montana.

"Brother," he said, "let us go in." "Rosita," said Montana, "there's no use talking to you—no use telling you that there's danger from Juan-Silva's wild devils of Indians. I know that. You'll wait out there for us with the horses. God bless you, Rosita."

"He knows nothing about me," said the girl.

"Child! Child!" reproved the friar.

"Hush and turn your head, Pascual," answered the girl. "I have to say good-by to El Keed."

They walked in together. Running water must have cut the twisting channel through the rock, but the river of the Valley of the Dead no longer flowed through the old outlet. It had found an exit underground at the base of the eastern cliff, what small part of the water was not used to irrigate the fields.

Not a hundred yards through that winding pass they came out upon a view of the valley floor. It was fat as leveling could make it, and from the fields, black with new water, arose a great steam into the morning sun. That was part of the mist which from a distance obscured the floor of the valley.

They could see the caravan of the condemned going slowly up the road into the valley, and mounted men rode before them and behind. But it was strange that even the Valley of the Dead should be unguarded at the entrance.

Unguarded! As the two stepped into the road, a half-dozen mounted men sprang their horses out from angling crevices in the rocks. They came at the friar and Montana with frightful yells, ropes whirling over their heads.

Such faces, grinning with such diabolic joy, the Kid had never seen, except for Felipe and Francisco, who now lay dead at the entrance to the valley. And a thunderclap of conviction struck him as he saw the friar with raised head calmly await the onrush.

He had come into the valley with a fanatic, not a quick-witted helper. And probably they were lost together. At least, to resist would be perfect folly. So Montana stood fast with the friar and three nooses whistled. He was caught about the arms at the hips; about the neck by a rope that burned his throat as it was drawn taut.

The friar was snared in the same fashion. And the leader of the party reined his Indian pony in front of the captives. He and his men were dressed exactly as Francisco and Felipe had been. The endless heat of the Valley of the Dead made more clothes folly. And always, in

climatic effects in sidewalk design is said to be due to two factors: (1) The development of fast color pigments in shades to match house, garden and landscape; (2) the opportunity provided by the modernization program of the federal housing administration to finance sidewalk improvement.

Two variations in pigmented sidewalk styles have been developed so far, vivid lines in patterns for entrance walks in stores and offices; more conservative colors for walks around the dwelling. Colors which rapidly are becoming popular for home sidewalks, from street to porch or paths around the grounds, are dark red, green, blue and brown. Variety is given in some cases by marking off the walks to simulate tiles, or by placing individual slabs in Diagonale or stepping-stone patterns. The cost of adding color to the finished walk, is said to be negligible.

Bring in your old gold. I pay the top cash price. Government License. Johnson the Jeweler.

POULTRY HOUSES MAY BE REBUILT THROUGH LOANS

Success in poultry raising depends to an extent on the chicken house. Production of eggs and healthy birds is contingent on whether the house is damp or dry, dark or light, crowded or roomy.

A poultry house so poorly constructed or so shabby that it is a menace to the health of the fowls should be remodeled or replaced. The work may be financed by a modernization loan available at any financial institution cooperating with the Federal Housing Administration.

A poultry house should be roomy enough to provide 3 1/2 to 4 square feet of space for each bird; 8 to 12 linear inches of perch space should be provided for each, with perches level and 14 inches apart. Round perches cut from 1 1/2 to 2-inch pieces are best. They should be 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 feet above the ground with an approach for chickens that cannot fly up. A good arrangement is to nail perches to a frame hinged at the back so that it may be raised when the dropping board is cleaned.

Dropping boards should not be lower than 8 inches below the roosts. Otherwise chickens will run on them. They should be tight and well made. Nests are best placed where they are most convenient, with runways if necessary. They are often placed one row deep under the dropping board with the entrance in the back. Hens seem to lay better in the seclusion this arrangement affords.

A bottom of fine wire mesh has the advantage of sanitation. Floors of masonry with a wooden covering repel ground moisture and aid insulation. They are also vermin proof. The advantages of a southern exposure are well known by farmers and poultrymen. Several windows should be provided to admit sunlight. Excess windows, however, will admit cold air. A suggested ratio is 1 square foot of glass to 20 square feet of floor space. Windows should fit tightly to prevent drafts and minimize heat loss. Draftless ventilation and effective insulation will assure good air and an even temperature, both of which are essential to good egg production.

The basement is one of the most important, but often the most neglected part of a home. It should be dry and clean with plenty of light and good ventilation. Also, the modern basement should contain time-saving and labor-saving devices, and be partitioned off into suitable storage, work and recreation rooms.

The basement should be thoroughly cleaned, the floor repaired and refinished, and masonry walls painted and covered with a water-resistant material when necessary. Heating equipment should be reconditioned and obsolete plants replaced. Repair and paint openings and windows and install new ones where necessary to obtain better light and ventilation. Apply a ceiling to the under side of the flooring joists to assist in keeping the basement clean, for additional insulation, and to reduce the fire danger. If coal is used, be sure that the coal bin is made draftproof. Protect outside entrances to the basement by storm doors and coverings to keep out rain, sleet and snow.

The available space in the basement should be partitioned off to obtain the maximum use of the basement. A dry, clean laundry and drying room might be provided. Fruit, vegetable and storage rooms with sufficient shelves, cupboards and bins are necessary in most homes.

BASEMENT MAKES IMPORTANT ROOM WHEN MODERNIZED

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STATE ASKS RECEIVER IN LAKE BED DISPUTE

WASHINGTON, March 4. — (AP) — Oregon, through Attorney-General Isaac H. VanWinkle, today filed in the supreme court a motion for the appointment of a receiver in the dispute with the United States over the title to the beds of Malheur, Mud and Harney lakes, the Narrows and the sand reef division.

He declared it was necessary to bring into the controversy all private persons claiming an interest in the land in dispute. The names of the owners and the land which Oregon would bring within the jurisdiction of the supreme court is given in the motion.

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THE WORLD AT ITS WORST

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



THE GOOD BABY, WHO NEVER CRIES AT NIGHT, NEVER REFUSES TO FINISH HIS MILK, AND ALWAYS TAKES HIS NAP, AND WHO IS HELD UP AS AN EXAMPLE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, FINDS HIMSELF IN A HOSTILE ATMOSPHERE

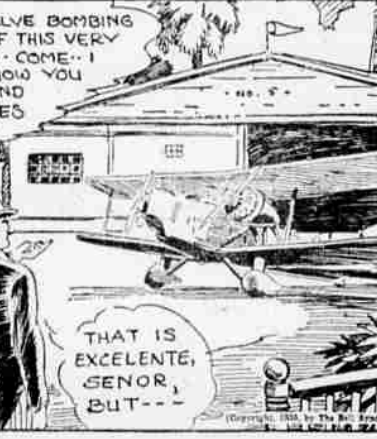
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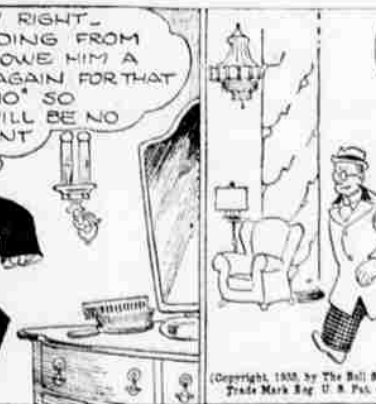
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BRINGING UP FATHER



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COLORS IN SIDEWALKS TO MATCH HOME GAINS FAVOR MODERN OWNER

As reports of plans for the general modernization and repair drive this spring reach the federal housing administration from all parts of the country, information is included that there is a trend toward color in sidewalks that comprises a part of the rehabilitation program in many sections.

Two variations in pigmented sidewalk styles have been developed so far, vivid lines in patterns for entrance walks in stores and offices; more conservative colors for walks around the dwelling. Colors which rapidly are becoming popular for home sidewalks, from street to porch or paths around the grounds, are dark red, green, blue and brown. Variety is given in some cases by marking off the walks to simulate tiles, or by placing individual slabs in Diagonale or stepping-stone patterns. The cost of adding color to the finished walk, is said to be negligible.

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