

Montana Rides Again

A RAPID-FIRE ROMANCE BY EVAN EVANS

SYNOPSIS: The Montana Kid and Brother Panama have entered the Valley of the Dead and confronted Juan-Silva, its wretched and terrible master. They ask to be made guards hoping secretly they can rescue Maria Roberts, condemned to work herself to death in the awful heat of the mine by General Estrella. Panama has been taken away to a room; Montana has confessed there is a stone on his head, and Juan-Silva has agreed with Montana that he will kill all rivals dead.

Chapter 37
SHOOTING PEBBLES
A LOOK of wonder ran over the faces of the guards. They turned their heads ever so little towards one another. A glimmer of apprehension and relief came into their eyes. They had learned one new point in the endless riddle of their master's mind.

"And why have you wanted to ride through Mexico, up and down?" asked Juan-Silva.
"It is a great country, with plenty to see," said Montana. "And I have seen most of it!" he boasted.
"If you have seen it, why do you still come?"
"To see it all again, señor."
"And you are El Keed?" Even I have heard of him," said Juan-Silva. "Now, tell me the truth and I think there'll be no harm for you here in the Valley of the Dead. Why did you come here?"

The first stone disappeared at the top of its rise, the second as it began to fall, and the third when it was a foot from the ground. The guards drew in a gasping

breath in unison. Juan-Silva said: "That is very good. You are El Keed—I am almost sure. How can you make me quite certain, my friend?"



"Because ten thousand pesos are posted up for me."
"You were hunted, eh?"
"Every man in the mountains was cleaning his rifle. The cattle men were fixing their eyes for me. The shepherds, even, were whetting their knives."
"And at last they drove you in here for refuge?"
"I thought it was better to be a living man among the dead than a dead man among the living."
"Do you hear, my children?" said Juan-Silva. "This man is also witty. Very soon he will have me laughing. El Keed is known to be a pleasant fellow—and perhaps this is really El Keed. Think, then, if I catch in my hand, in one day, a friar and El Keed, walking together! But El Keed," he went on, "carries with him a magic pair of guns that never miss."
"Mine miss plenty of times," said Montana, frankly.

It was not heat that was making him sweat, now; it was the thought of joining those rows of chained laborers in the field.
"Set him free, foot and hand," commanded Juan-Silva. Juan-Silva dipped his hand and his withered arm into the water that ran before him and picked out one of the big, shining white pebbles. As soon as it was taken from the water the silver brilliance began to leave it.
"This is a bird. It takes wing. Shoot it, friend!" said Juan-Silva, and tossed the stone into the air.
The gun flashed into the hand of the Kid, but he missed that best moment when the stone hangs a trifle at the top of the throw. He missed it there; he missed it as it gathered speed in the descent; but his third bullet turned the rock into a puff of white dust when it was just above the ground.

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AIMEE'S DIVORCE DECREE IS SIGNED

LOS ANGELES, March 7.—(AP)—Sister Aimee Semple McPherson, the stirring evangelist, today was decreed a free woman in the world of romance.
David Hutton, poetry baritone, was at the door when the courtroom opened, to present in person the formal decree of divorce for the judge to sign. Judge Dudley S. Valentine came in and signed it.
"Never again for me," he said, explaining his haste in getting the final decree did not mean intention to find a new marital mate.

Jak Grove

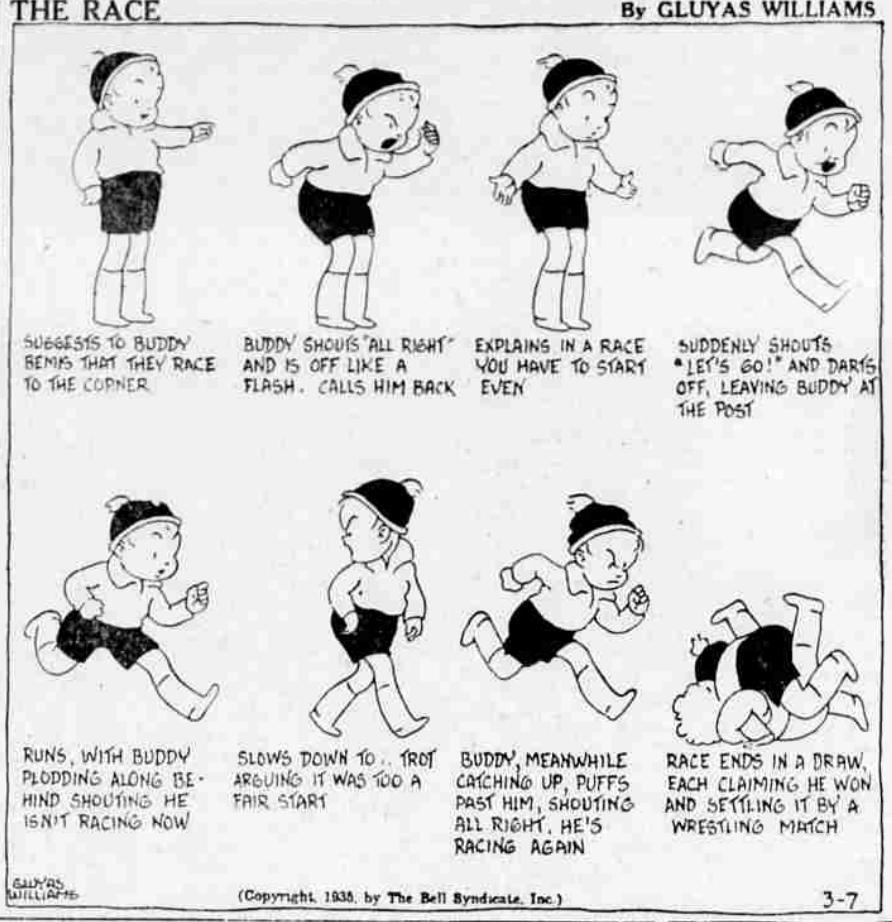
OAK GROVE, March 7.—(Sp.)—Mr. and Mrs. Bump and family of the Hollywood orchard have gone to Long Beach, Cal., to make their home.
Mrs. J. F. Lundy was called recently to Portland by the illness of her son, Herbert Lundy.
Mrs. Clare Shores is on the committee for a card party being given by the Eastern Star, at Jacksonville, March 11. Anyone wishing to attend please notify Mrs. Shores.
F. C. Sander went to Oakland, Ore., on business, March 6.
C. Aubrey Sander returned from Eugene March 6.
Oak Grove Neighborhood club met at the home of Mrs. S. D. Jones. The afternoon was spent in piecing quilt blocks. A meeting will be held at

Williams Creek

WILLIAMS CREEK, March 7.—(Sp.)—Williams community has an active Townsend club of over 100 members, which meets on alternate Monday evenings at the community hall. George Sparlin is president; Lester Sparlin, vice-president; Clarence Coon, secretary; Harry Sorrel, treasurer; trustees, George Sparlin, Clarence Coon, Harry Sorrel, Mrs. George Sparlin, Mrs. Fixley, Lester Sparlin, Mrs. Emma Bryan, W. C. Fixley, Walter Jones and George Fields of Provolet. At the meeting, February 23, there were about 85 present. Sandwiches and coffee were served. On March 2 a dance was given at the Grange hall to raise funds for advertising, etc. At the next regular meeting of the club, March 11, pie and coffee will be served.
The show, "Lena Rivers," scheduled for the community hall Saturday night, was called off. Mr. and Mrs. Baxter will put on a show every Saturday night. They rent their films from a Portland film exchange and make a circuit each week with a different film. They have a large variety of films to select from and a machine with the most up-to-date improvement.
W. A. Mills and Mr. Bullington are working on the Murphy bridge.
Mr. and Mrs. Crow expect to leave soon. Mr. Crow has been working since last spring at the Weikel saw-mill.
Mrs. George Loveless has returned home from Canyonville, where she has been nursing in the J. F. Roy home.

THE RACE

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS
Mrs. Ann Smith, who has been in Oakland, Cal., since October, has arrived at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Heisman of Provolet.
Lewis Darrel of Ashland is visiting his mother, Mrs. Kenneth Vineyard, and his sisters, Jeannette and Virginia Nicholson.
Henry Hammond and Harold Vencil motored over to Myrtle Point last week. They were accompanied by Mrs. Orin Garner, who jotted her husband and they will make their home at Myrtle Point. Mr. Garner is fireman for a donkey engine in a logging camp.
Eugene Morrison worked Tuesday at the Cleve Wilson place, breaking gardens.
Much complaint is heard about the condition of the road from Murphy on up Williams creek. The holes are so many that a careful driver goes at a snail's pace, while the reckless ones just hold on and play that nothing busts. Almost everyone trades at Medford, preferring to drive the few extra miles and escape the jolts. Mrs. Fred Calkins and son Ray of Martinez, Cal., are at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cougle of Williams, for an extended visit.
Word was received of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fairweather of Rio Vista, Cal., Feb. 27. The little one has been named Chloe Margaret. Mrs. Fairweather will be remembered as Chloe Roberts. Mr. and Mrs. Fay Bristol were calling at the C. W. Roberts home Sunday afternoon.
Mr. and Mrs. Al Linquist, who have been living at Myrtle Point, have returned to Williams creek and are at the home of Mrs. Linquist's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Britton, at present.
Give your watch the "Micrometer" test "Free" at Johnson's, the only service of this kind in southern Oregon.



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THE NEBBES—That's What He Said



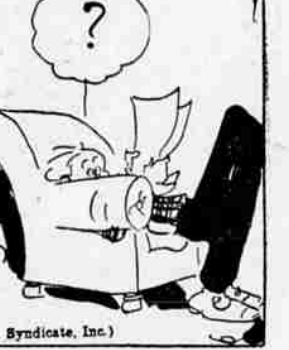
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BRINGING UP FATHER



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THE DAY I BOUGHT IT AND THE DAY I SOLD IT



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