"The Leashed Guns of Circle L"

by Perry Westbrook

SYNOPSIS

Slim Loyale is paroled from prison after serving 18 months for a crime he did not commit. He returns to his Circle L ranch to find his father dead and sinister forces at work, trying to make him violate his parole so that he can again be railroaded to prison.

The Brockwells and their gang are plotting to gain possession of Circle L ranch and the property of Mona Hall, a neighbor and lifelong friend of Slim Loyale.

Slim discovers that Sheriff Starbuck has joined the plot against him. With the help of Dakota Blue and his cowboys, Slim Loyale defies the land-grabbers to do their worst.

CHAPTER XXI

Flying Lead

Lead whispered over and around him, one slug kicking his eyes full of dust. Still he held his fire gambling that without Starbuck to lead them the remaining members of the posse would break and run for it.

In this he was also right. Realizing that their leader was down, the posse gave back faster and faster, then finally turned and thundered away into the night. For a time Steve Owens and Charley Quinn warmed them on their way with the Winchesters. But presently Slim's voice, calling out, stopped all shooting.

Slim came through the darkness warily. "Dakota, yuh all right?" he called.

"Sittin' pretty, Slim," was the laconic answer. "They've all sloped. Bring the boys out, I've got Starbuck."

Slim exclaimed in surprise. "Leo Brockwell's back in the corral," he vouchsafed, as he came up. "Tisdale stopped a slug somewhere, but it can't be very bad; he's still cussin'." He raised his voice to a shout. "Hi, gang; come on over. They've pulled out."

Tisdale was the first to reach them. "Got a furrow from my wrist plumb to my elbow," he exclaimed with profane punctuations. "She's bleedin' some, but I've got my neckerchief wound around it. It'll keep for a time."

Steve, Charley and Oscar reported, unhurt, except that Oscar had had one boot heel shot off. He walked with a queer hitchity-hop that caused Steve to chuckle. "Ole step-an'-a-half Oscar."

"I'm Done For"

As Dakota scratched a match and bent over Starbuck, he was surprised to see that Starbuck's eyes were open. The sheriff groaned. "Listen close," he whispered. "I'm done for an' I know it. Don't hold it agin yuh, Blue, yo're a pretty good man.

"Time was when I was a square-shooter myself. But the glitter of money an' a lot of slick talk made a sucker outa me. However, I am to get some of the dirt off my shriveled soul. I ain't got long, but I'll do my best.

"Loyale, yuh were railroaded on perjured evidence. Arthur — George Arthur, he's got all the dope. Get holt of him an' make him talk. He's a coward, an' he'll come clean. An' yuh better skip out to town. Sarg Brockwell an' some more of his crowd are aimin' to rob the bank tonight. Arthur's idee—to keep yuh from loanin' money to the Hall girl.

"Arthur an' Brockwell been runnin' this thing. Schemed to make a cleanup on them Big Bend herds. But they made a mess of things, an' got me into it. Leo Brockwell's the man who's been holdin' up the Vasco stage." His voice turned drowsy and plaintive. "I'm cold—cold as hell. Get me a blanket, somebody."

Steve Owens, subdued and a little awed, ran into the bunkhouse. But when he returned with a blanket there was no need for it.

Slim Loyale made swift decision on the information Starbuck had given before he died. The bank hold-up did not exactly surprise Slim; for that matter, none of the information did. But it rendered his position all the more secure, to know that his conjectures had been right.

To Wipe Out the Stain

He had guessed that an attempt might be made to loot the bank. For that reason he had detailed Roy O'Brien and Stoney Sheard to guard it. But he knew the odds would now be greatly against them. They would need help, ferocious fighters though they were. So Slim turned to Dakota.

"Yuh an' me go to town, as quick as we can get there, Dakota," he snapped tensely. "Tisdale, yuh stay here an' let Oscar fix up that arm of yores. Steve an' Charley, get some lanterns an' clean up things around here. But keep yore guns handy. There's no tellin' but what that crowd, bein' desperate, might make another try. Grab a bronc, Dakota."

Dakota's own horse was dead, but he soon secured another, as there were several riderless ones stamping and snorting around. In a fast, ground-eating gallop, he and Slim headed for town.

Slim knew human nature, and he knew that unless this full exoneration was made, there would always be some who would believe his incarceration had been legitimate. The only way to completely wipe out that stain against him was to get that confession from Arthur. Slim's face was grim as he considered it. He'd get what he wanted if he had to resort to Apache tricks to do it.

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE)

Newness That Slenderizes!

PATTERN 4025
By ANNE ADAMS

Most heartily you'll agree that slimness is a matter of lines and not pounds . . . once you try on this new Anne Adams afternoon frock! See—the panelling extends from the very hem to the shoulders, thus giving an illusion of greater height. To this most flattering of effects is added the most becoming of trims — soft ruffles! And you can imagine how gracious the bodice gathers will be, placed as they are at and near the bust line. Moreover, all this prettiness is stitched up with great ease, since the few pattern parts are quickly assembled, and the Sewing Instructor offers such worthwhile advice!

Pattern 4025 is available in women's sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 and 48. Size 36 takes 3 7-8 yards 39 inch fabric and ¾ yard ruffling.

Send Twenty Cents (20c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this Anne Adams pattern. Write plainly Size, Name, Address and Style Number.

Send your order to Anne Adams, Room 425, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Proves Girls Can Take Cold Weather

Science Again Says the "Weaker Sex" Has Been Mis-named

Men, when you see a pretty girl hurrying briskly down the windy, winter street in today's draughty attire don't feel sorry.

The girl can take it—much better than you can.

This is the conclusion of a group at Yale University school of medicine, where science found a biological explanation for the fortitude of the so-called "weaker sex".

Are Better Insulated

The report was presented to the convention of the society of heating and ventilating engineers, disclosing that the thickness of the "thermal insulating tissues" — or cold weather protection—of women is nearly double that of men.

And in hot temperatures, the report added, the girls don't begin to perspire nearly as quickly as their escorts, thus explaining why they can keep that fresh-as-a-daisy look while men wilt.

Fashion Flashes

Contrasts of colors such as yellow on black or navy and rose or flame red with white or black are to be good this season.

Plain chiffons in pleated, shirred and tailored styles will be seen in street length afternoon dresses for spring wear.

Coats and suits will be softer this year and shoulders will be smoother.

Slim and straight are both dress and coat of a Molyneux tweed ensemble in the deep brick rose called tanagra red. The fabric pockets are slung from the belt and the top of the bodice is fitted by darts in the fabric. Horizontal tuckings mark the coat. The felt hat is brown.

Fashions for spring for little girls say "There will be plenty of pleats."

Novelty Jewelry Brightens Frocks

NEW YORK.—For that frock that looks too dark in February, for the lapel of your tweed suit or coat, consider the newest novelty jewelry.

You can get enormous, delicately tinted simulated pearl clusters in necklaces, pins and bracelets. There are real, tiny sea shells, tinted yellow made into long, long necklaces, three-stranded bracelets and clips.

Colored tin makes the petals of other cluster jewelry—necklaces, pins and bracelets—in such colors as red, blue, purple, pink, rose or white.

Beauty for YOU

The Secrets of Good Looks by Barbara Lynn.

WHY GROW OLD-LOOKING?

The dread of "looking old" is a very real one to women, as my readers probably know from personal experience. And the desire to look youthful is equally vivid. Fortunately, there is not one of us but can take years off our appearance, by devoting a little more care to certain vital factors. Here are some points to study in relation to your own appearance.

MOUTH. Lines around the mouth often come from distorted facial habits. Avoid pouting. Apply a touch of rich tissue cream daily. And try this treatment—often. Close lips, fill your mouth with air and blow hard. A simple but remarkably effective method to keep mouth lines at bay.

EYES. Bright sparkling eyes speak of youth, and to keep yours clear and shining, use a drop or two of Murine every day. This will cleanse and relax your eyes. Each night smooth the skin around them with tissue cream, patting it in gently. Avoid undue eyestrain.

FOREHEAD. Scowling and frowning quickly weave a pattern of "ageing" lines. Perhaps your eyesight is none too good, or your feet pain you? Check these points. Curb any nervous habits, such as undue eyebrow-raising. When massaging with cream use a firm pressure—up and out.

FEET. An elastic walk shows youthfulness. Wear shoes that are large enough, and forswear pointed toes! Cramped feet develop corns. If you have corns, don't be a martyr, but get a good corn plaster.

Next week's article will outline other points to watch to avoid that "ageing look." In the meantime, write for confidential beauty advice. The following leaflets may be obtained by sending a 3c stamp for each one required: Facial Care; Bust Development; Superfluous Hair; Feet Care; Underweight; Slimming; Reducing in Spots; Fascinating Eyes; Hand Beauty; Glamorous Hair.

Please address your letter to: Barbara Lynn, Room 421, 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto, Ont.

Of INTEREST to WOMEN READERS

"I LOVE YOU" WITH COOKIES

Here is a charming way to say "I love you" on St. Valentine's day. Home-made cakes and cookies, attractively packaged will reveal your true feelings and carry your message in a most practical manner.

Frosted brownies crowned with small cinnamon candies, old-fashioned cookies topped with bittersweet chocolate and decorated with heart-shaped cookies or little heart-shaped candies make an ideal and economical gift.

Brownies

3/4 cup sifted cake flour
½ teaspoon baking powder
1/3 cup butter or other shortening
2 squares unsweetened chocolate, melted
1 cup sugar
2 eggs well beaten
½ cup chopped walnut meats
1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder and dash of salt and sift again. Add butter to chocolate and mix well. Add sugar gradually to eggs, beating thoroughly; then chocolate mixture and blend. Add flour and mix well. Bake in greased pan, 8x8x2 inches, in moderate oven (350 deg. F.) 35 minutes, or until done. Remove from pan and cool on cake rack. Spread with boiled frosting. Cut in squares. Makes two dozen brownies. Place cinnamon candy on top of each square.

Seven Minute Frosting

2 egg whites, unbeaten
5 tablespoons water
1½ cups sugar
1½ teaspoons light corn sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla

Combine egg whites, sugar, water and corn sugar in top of double boiler, beating with rotary egg beater, until thoroughly mixed. Place over rapidly boiling water, beat constantly with rotary egg beater, and cook seven minutes, or until frosting will stand in peaks. Remove from boiling water. Add vanilla and beat until thick enough to spread.

St. Valentine's Cookies

2¾ cups sifted cake flour
2 teaspoons double-acting baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sugar
2 eggs, well beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup butter or other shortening

Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder and salt, and sift again. Cream butter thoroughly, add sugar gradually, and cream together until light and fluffy. Add eggs and beat well. Add vanilla. Add flour and blend. Chill 10 to 15 minutes. Roll ⅛ inch thick on slightly floured board, cut with large floured cutter. (Cut about 1/3 of dough with heart-shaped cutter). Place on ungreased baking sheet and bake in hot oven (400 deg. F.) 10 to 12 minutes. Makes 2½ dozen cookies.

For the St. Valentine's gift, spread Bittersweet Coating on tops of round cookies, pressing heart-shaped cookies or heart-shaped candies into chocolate before it hardens.

Bittersweet Coating

2 squares unsweetened chocolate
2 teaspoons butter

Melt chocolate and butter over hot water and blend. Cool slightly and spread on tops of cookies.

How Women in Their 40's Can Attract Men

Here's good advice for a woman during her change (usually from 38 to 52), who fears she'll lose her appeal to men, who worries about hot flashes, loss of pep, dizzy spells, upset nerves and moody spells.

Just get more fresh air, 8 hrs. sleep and if you need a reliable "WOMAN'S" tonic take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made *especially for women*. It helps Nature build up physical resistance, thus helps give more vivacity to enjoy life and assist calming jittery nerves and those disturbing symptoms that often accompany change of life.

Pinkham's is WELL WORTH trying.

For Eczema -- Skin Troubles

Make up your mind today that you are going to give your skin a real chance to get well. Go to any good drug store and get an original bottle of Moone's Emerald Oil—it lasts many days because it is highly concentrated.

The very first application will give you relief—the itching of Eczema is instantly stopped—eruptions dry up and scale off in a very few days. The same is true of Itching Toes and Feet, Barber's Itch, Salt Rheum and other skin troubles.

Remember that Moone's Emerald Oil is a clean, powerful, penetrating Antiseptic Oil that does not stain or leave a greasy residue. Complete satisfaction or money back.

Orange Pekoe Blend
"SALADA" TEA
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How Hitch-Hiker Meets The Queen

Canadian Works Way to Britain, Joins R. A. F., Attends Reception

Leonard J. (Bill) Anderson, 22, of Moose Jaw, Sask., is the hero of what should be called "Hitch-hiker meets Queen."

In June last, Bill threw up his job as an engineer and set out for Ottawa to join the Royal Air Force. Turned down owing to a minor eye defect, Bill and Roy Holton, of Ottawa, who was also rejected, hitch-hiked to Montreal, and then "punched" cows on a cattle boat to earn passage to the Old Country.

Bill worked as usher in a London theatre while Roy took a job in the London fire brigade.

Now A Pilot Officer

While awaiting an opening in the flying force, at Canada House in London young Anderson met Lady Princess Ryder who took him under her wing as a protege and some time after being posted to the R. A. F. depot at Reading he received an invitation to attend a reception at Seaford House, Belgrave Square.

There he was presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, who inquired graciously how he liked the flying service and whether he was returningn to Canada when his term of engagement ended.

It was a real thrill for the erstwhile hitch-hiker and usher. He is now a pilot officer and will shortly proceed to Egypt for flying service.

Royalty Can't Visit Quints

If the Dionnes' Guardians Wish The Quintuplets to Be Seen By King and Queen, They Must Go to Sudbury.

Canadian government authorities have revealed that no provision has been made in the royal tour for a stopover at Callander or at the home of the Dionne quintuplets.

Reports reaching Ottawa from London said that the Queen had expressed desire to see he quints, but external affairs officers pointed out that the itinerary, which already has been approved, does not include such a visit.

If the quints' guardians wish the quints to be seen by Their Majesties they will have to visit Sudbury, it is understood.

Nervous? Headaches?

WOMEN who are nervous, weak, or have headaches or backaches may need Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It calms the nerves, benefits the female organs, improves nutrition. Mrs. Harry Simon, 9 Walter St., Brantford, Ont., says: "I was weak, didn't sleep soundly and at times my stomach would become so upset that I could hardly eat. I would have nasty headaches and be so nervous sometimes that I could cry. But Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription made me feel like a new woman. It stimulated my appetite, I had no more trouble with my stomach and regained my normal weight and strength." Get it in liquid or tablets from your druggist today.

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Teach Your Child To Love Nature

Parents Are Advised to Prepare Offspring For Life In a World of Machines

Children should be taught to know and love nature, Dean Douglas Clarke, of the Faculty of Music of McGill University, declared last week.

"The world today is mad," said Mr. Clarke. "It is madder than we have ever known it. It is not at its maddest. On this side of the Atlantic, while there is comparative peace, there is the worship of machinery and efficiency. In the East and the West, the passion is for domination and racial aggrandizement. For what seems ages, we have seen Spain torn to shreds. China is in the same position.

"Don't Let Them Be Cogs"

"The relentless drive and competition, the cooling and hardening of sentiment and the looseness with which obligations are held, are driving us to the machine age," he added.

As a remedy, Mr. Clarke suggested that children be saved from being caught up in the cogs of machinery. They should be taught to admire nature, he said, and the best literature should be made available to them.

First Aid To Cold Sufferers

These Pictures Tell You What to Do for Amazingly Fast Relief

Just Be Sure You Get "Aspirin" Tablets. You Will Feel Better in a Hurry

The simple way pictured above often brings amazingly fast relief from discomfort and sore throat accompanying colds.

Try it. Then—*see your doctor*. He probably will tell you to continue with "Aspirin" because it acts so fast to relieve discomforts of a cold. And to reduce fever.

This simple way, backed by scientific authority, has largely supplanted the use of strong medicines in easing cold symptoms. Perhaps the easiest, most effective way yet discovered.

Demand and Get "ASPIRIN" TRADE-MARK REG.