

# The Gringo Privateer

By PETER B. KYNE

## SYNOPSIS

Kenneth Burney is on the job of general manager of the Gringo ranch upon the promise that he will be made partner in the ranch when the late Mr. Martin Bruce and Miguel Gallegos die. Burney is sworn to kill the late Mr. Martin Bruce, the father of the daughter, because interested in Burney's money and his bodyguard have just returned from town and Burney has just told the king of his encounter with Miguel Gallegos.

## CHAPTER XIX

"That neck Christian spirit of yours will get you killed by Bruce or Gallegos before you've had another chance to get rid of them," the king complained.

"Speaking of that, sir, what was the reason for the sudden change in your attitude and mercy your highness exhibited this morning? Yesterday you would have killed me and I delivered to you Miguel Gallegos in a shroud, but this morning you forbade the banes. May I respectfully remind your majesty that if I am to be hampered, even remotely, in this delicate matter, your prophecy is extremely liable to come true."

"Murder," the king replied maliciously. "You're not young and innocent to die a violent death. She made me play thumbs up."

Burney turned to the girl with a grave indication of his black pill. "It's nice to discover who cares, prince."

"Mr. Burney," the young lady replied frostily. "You are much too familiar on brief acquaintances. May I suggest you remember hereafter that you are merely one of the hired men or El Rancho."

"He's my general manager," her father objected. "and I'll not have him insulted. The first rights in general managers are vested in me alone."

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chita. The man who answered his cheerful "hello" was none other than Miguel Gallegos. "I hear," said Miguel Gallegos, "that last night you and your men were in such a hurry to leave town you abandoned your horses in the local livery stable and fled in a rented car."

"I had a suspicion you of Martin Bruce might send a couple of good wing shots around to the livery stable last night to surprise us when we came for our horses."

"Not last night. Early this morning," Gallegos assured him. "Well, you're a smart young fellow, Burney. I admire brains wherever I find them, so I simply had to tell you and compliment you on your strategy. Want to sell that pinto horse of yours, now that you've decided to leave the country?"

"No, not very much. I'm not leaving."

"His pretty prominent horse for such a prominent citizen as yourself is to be seen riding. People are recognizing you a long way off—say five hundred yards—and in the clean atmosphere of El Cajon Bonita that distance is just a trifle uncomfortable."

"Be careful. So you thought you'd bring that matter to my attention in the hope that it might influence me to sell, eh?"

"Well, I'll try anything once. Come to think of it I might as well get rid of that horse. What will you give me for him?"

"A hundred and seventy-five dollars."

"Not enough. Martin Bruce offered me a thousand for him, and if I sell him to anybody I'll sell him to Bruce. A prominent citizen like Martin Bruce on such a prominent horse—say at a thousand to twelve hundred yards—in the clean, bracing atmosphere of the sovereign State of New Mexico—and I'm here to tell you Gallegos, that range is highly dangerous with me behind a Springfield rifle. I don't have to use a telescopic sight, either."

"Too much for a new horse, I pass. The Martin Bruce in the neighborhood of the telephone you're using."

"Right beside me."

"Put him on the line," Mr. Helt, Mr. Bruce. Dress your offer for that pinto horse of mine still hold good?"

"Sure does, young fellow."

"I've got a thousand dollars to my credit in the Hutchins bank in the little box against a bill of sale for the horse and an order on my reliable keeper to turn him over to you. You shall have him a day or two before I leave this country."

"Sold," said Martin Bruce, and hung up.

"Poor old Rowdy," Burney soliloquized. "I suppose he'll get killed the day he hears Martin Bruce in action. But that's one of the chances I have to take. No one'd unless one cracks 'em."

Mr. Graydon came in then and they went over the ranch mail together. Graydon was making his successively with the ranch accounting system next, but Ken Burney's smilingly opposed that. "I'd just be the latter. I'm here solely for one reason; within the next sixty days that reason should no longer exist and I shall be on my way. You subscribe to enough reading matter for El Rancho, do you not?" he added, indicating a pile of newspapers still in their wrappings.

"Oh, yes. Every Bardin Land and Cattle Company ranch subscribes to the leading newspapers published in the cow centres of the Southwest and the Pacific Coast. They tend to keep us in touch with conditions throughout the territory over which the Bardin ranches are scattered. For instance, I read last year in the Alturas (Citizen, of Modoc County, California, that there was a world of feed in that county and not very many cattle out it. Right away I wired the general manager of our Nevada ranch to motor over into Modoc and lease me a lot of available pasturage for a year. Then I shipped ten thousand head of feeders up there, because we had a short feed year down here. Grew them out, and made a nice profit."

(To be continued.)

Quite Safe

The prison warden noticed that one of his charges was not going his fair share of the work and he decided to reprimand him.

"Look here," he said, "you've been sentenced to hard labor, and you're doing hardly any work at all. What do you mean by it?"

The prisoner looked him calmly up and down.

"Well, anyway," he replied, "you can't shove me the sack."

A Coming Child

Mrs. Smithers entered her husband's den with their little offspring in her arms.

"Oh, John," she exclaimed, excitedly, "little Betty is beginning to talk!"

"Really?" said the proud father. "What have you been teaching her?"

"She's reciting 'Ba-baa, black sheep, have you any wool?'" his wife informed him.

"Does she really say that?" Smithers asked.

"Well, she doesn't say all that, but she's got as far as 'Ba-baa,'" said the proud mother.

A Trade Secret

"Mary," said young Mrs. Newlywed to her morning "help," "didn't I hear you quarrelling with the milkman early this morning?"

"Well, it wasn't what you'd call a quarrel," said the servant. "I was just inquiring after the health of the girl at the dairy who's ill."

"Yes; was that all?" asked the mistress.

"Well, I say to him, 'How's the milkmaid?' and he got so temper and said, 'You mind your own business. That's a trade secret.'" Mary explained.

## Earth-Eating Diet Still in Favor

Color, Odour, Flavor, Etc. Deciding Factors in Making Choice

Children who make "mud pies and cakes" would be considered fine cooks and chefs by many persons scattered over various parts of the world who still practice the eating of soils, clays and other earthy substances. Such is the comment of Dr. Berthold Laufer, curator of anthropology at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, who has recently published his book, "Geophagy," describing his researches on this subject.

Dr. Laufer's studies have carried him through many countries, and they deal with many peoples, both ancient and modern. His investigations begin with records of earth-eating in China and continue with an exposition of this practice in its various forms in Malaysia, Polynesia, Siam, Java, Australia, India, Burma, Siam, Siberia, Persia, Arabia, Africa, Europe and parts of Mexico and South and North America.

"As a rule, not every kind of earth is eaten," says Dr. Laufer, "but only those kinds which recommend themselves as to color, odor, flavor, softness and plasticity."

Xmas Lingerie

Since all girls love nice lingerie these are most acceptable Christmas gifts to a pair of new petticoats. These are made of very fine Simon, gorette, lace by point d'esprit, according to the fashioning of crepe de chine. They have enough fullness to make them a little short petticoat, all you need with some of the same or velvet dresses, but they have their fullness front and back and not on the sides, so that you can have the sweetest figure while wearing them. You can finish with a regular yoke pattern and cut it double or crepe de chine or flat crepe, finishing it at the top with hemstitching or lace or fine hand-seaming. Then you cut your lower portion to fit the yoke, any pattern will do, and allow extra width enough to make two rows of pleating for the front and two for the back. You can finish with a regular yoke or portions before you have hemstitched, either with hand hemstitching or a fine handseam of lace.

Washing Flannels

The problem of how to wash flannels without causing them to shrink can be overcome in the following manner: Prepare a warm, soapy lather of shredded soapflakes of some neutral brand, and boiling water softened with a little borax. Immerse the material in this, then knead and squeeze between the hands taking care not to rub or wring. Transfer to a fresh bath containing warm water to which a little olive oil has been added (a tablespoonful of oil to every gallon of water), then hang up, without wringing, to dry.

Abandoned Farm

The people it sheltered. Some can remember the farm on the hill. One blackened chimney. The chimney has fallen. The doors hang away. The roof is roofed with sky. Sweethearts advance upon its low walls. Where hedges have written in letters white serifs. The mountain is taking again for his own. Log and and punchion. And heap of stones. His creeping moss and running vine. Have buried path and garden spot. In summer evenings on the air. Brood lavender and bergamot.

What He Preferred

Jones senior had just received his boy's school report from the headmaster. "What does this mean, Harold?" he said. "I've never known such a bad report."

On Second Thoughts

A country policeman caught a Welsh motorist exceeding the speed limit in the village high street. "What's your name?" he asked. "What's your driving license?" "I've left my license at home," replied the motorist, "but my name is Thomas Llewellyn Montgomery A. Brynawr."

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## What New York Is Wearing

By ANNABELLE WORTHINGTON

Illustrated Dressmaking Lesson Furnished With Every Pattern



Puffs at the elbow arouse new interest in sleeves of smart all-day frock of dark brown canton crepe. The necking is youthful. Failure makes the becoming rolled collar and trimming piece.

The circular fullness of the skirt is clever arrangement to make the hips appear slim. It's unusual! Its easily fashioned! Style No. 2805 may be had in sizes 16, 18 years, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 42 inches bust. Size 36 requires 44 yards 39-inch width by yard 27-inch contrasting and 13 yards piping.

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Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred, wrap it carefully) for each number, and address your order to Wilson Pattern Service, 78 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Wasplike Insects Wage War on Fruit Moths

War is now being waged on the Oriental fruit moth by a wasp-like insect that lays its eggs within the body of its victim. The wasp is being distributed in several eastern states by the United States Department of Agriculture and by the state agricultural colleges.

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## THE POINT OF VIEW

"Poor Bill!" Thought George—But Perhaps Bill Had the Best of It After All.

By Gerald Bowman

Bill married when he was twenty-five and George, who was about the same age, acted as best man—an office which he fulfilled with the unrefined efficiency that characterized him. He kissed the new Mrs. Bill at the correct moment, told himself that she was certainly a peach, but that Bill was an ass, and consumed precisely the amount of inexpensive champagne that could be relied upon not to result distressingly next morning.

When the Bills went to Toronto and George departed for America. For George, having saved carefully, had distinct ideas about a Big Future. He could afford to be enterprising; he was single.

The migrant prospered. He lived interestingly, happily, and at high pressure for the next ten years, and built up a profitable advertising business. He was proud of this child of his brains and energy—as proud as I'll was of his youngsters now, with the addition of the latest arrival, four in number.

In writing to announce the happy event, Bill voiced an invitation that scorching. "Why," he wrote, "don't you take a holiday soon, you beastly Yankee millionaire, and come over and stay with us? What we call the English summer will have rained itself into office in about four months, and by that time Betty will have drilled the new arrival, and the house, back to some kind of discipline.

George thought, "Dear old Bill! I'm disappointed. I don't see how a domestic woman can make a simpleton out of a bright, keen chap in a few years. If he can't see that, he can't see what it means, you might say, to the assistance of a harassed and untraveled father."

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## SALADA GREEN tea will give you most enjoyment

# "SALADA" GREEN TEA

'Fresh from the gardens'

Bill, who saw life as a garden that grew under one's hands and blossomed, to blossom again and give its fresh blooming in an endless chain to the long years of the future.

She thought of her four children, four new, fresh characters that had grown out of the strange who would go into the world with something of the sweetness of Bill's eyes blooming in their own, who would—she prayed—find love and plant fresh seeds to that infinite garden that she and Bill had started.

She sighed a little, and turned over. "Poor George," she mused, "he'll not all the success and money he ever wants, but he's blind to the greatest beauty of all the world. He'll never know what real happiness is."

"But George," she mused, "Poor Bill! Still, I suppose he's happy."—Answers

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## O. A. C. Winter Short Courses 1931

Live-stock and Field Crops	Jan. 5 to Jan. 31
Poultry Raising	Jan. 6 to Jan. 31
Beekeeping	Jan. 6 to Jan. 17
Drainage and Drainage Surveying	Jan. 6 to Jan. 17
Fruit and Vegetable Growing	Jan. 6 to Jan. 17
Floriculture and Landscape Gardening	Feb. 6 to Feb. 27
Factory Cheese and Buttermaking	Jan. 5 to Mar. 27
Milk and Cream Testing	Feb. 2 to Feb. 7
Ice Cream, (a) For Experienced Makers	Feb. 17 to Feb. 19
(b) For Inexperienced Makers	Mar. 30 to Apr. 4
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BACKED BY THE WHOLE DOMINION