# DESERT GOLD



HARPER AND BROTHERS COPYRIGHT TOX

The fugitives were entering a desolate, burned-out world. The waste of sand began to yield to cinders. The horses sank to their fetlocks as they toiled on. A fine, choking dust blew back from the leaders and men coughed and horses snorted. But the sun was now behind the hills. In between ran the stream of lava. It was broken, sharp, dull rust color, full of cracks and caves and crevices, and everywhere upon its jagged surface grew the white-thorned choya.

Again twilight encompassed the travelers. But there was still light enough for Gale to see the constricted passage open into a wide, deep space where the dull color was relieved by the gray of gnarled and dwarfed mesquite. Blanco Sol, keenest of scent, whistled his welcome herald of water. The other horses answered, quickened their gait. Gale smelled it, too, sweet, cool, damp on the dry air.

Yaqui turned the corner of a pocket in the lava wall. The file of white horses rounded the corner after him. And Gale, coming last, saw the pale, glancing gleam of a pool of water beautiful in the twilight.

Next day the Yaqui's relentless driving demand on the horses was no longer in evidence. He lost no time, but he did not hasten. His course wound between low cinder dunes which limited their view of the surrounding country. These dunes finally sank down to a black floor as hard as flint, with tongues of lava to the left, and to the right the slow descent into the cactus plain. Yaqui was now traveling due west. It was Gale's idea that the Indian was skirting the first sharp-toothed slope of a vast volcanic plateau which formed the western half of the Sonora desert and extended to the Gulf of California. Travel was slow, but not exhausting for rider or beast.

Thirty miles of easy stages brought the fugitives to another waterhole, a little round pocket under the heavedup edge of lava. There was spare, short, bleached grass for the horses, but no wood for a fire. This night there were question and reply, conjecture, doubt, opinion and conviction expressed by the men of the party. But the Indian, who alone could have told where they were, where they were going, what chance they had to escape, maintained his stolcal silence. Gale took the early watch, Ladd the ash that of the morning. The day broke rosy, glori- so another night passed. ous, cold as ice. Action was necessary to make useful benumbed hands wrapped in blankets.

It was a significant index to the day's travel that Yaqui should keep a blanket from the pack and tear it into strips to bind the legs of the



Mercedes Must Ride; but the Others Must Walk.

and the knife-edged lava. That Yaqui the others must walk.

notch, where two streams met, a nar- mated and then frozen. row gully wound and ascended. Yaqui led Diablo into it, and then began the Ladd. "But my eyes are no good." most laborious and vexatious and painful of all slow travel.

The disintegrating surface of a lava | movin' streak down there." hed was at once the roughest, the hardest, the meanest, the cruelest, the stood beside Mercedes, who sat mowinding way to and fro in little steps | Sol's saddle. here and there along the many twists of the trail, up and down the unavoid- the lava but the innumerable dots of able depressions, round and round the choya shiring in the sun. Gale swept holes. At noon, so winding back upon his glass slowly forward and back. House records of several months itself had been their course, they ap- Then into a nearer field of vision crept standing when he shook hands with reared to have come only a short dis- a long white-and-black line of horses 1,400 persons in a recent reception.

tance up the lava slope. It was rough work for them; it was terrible work for the horses. Blanco Diablo refused to answer to the power of the Yaqui. He balked, he plunged, he bit and kicked. He had to be pulled and beaten over many places. Mercedes' horse almost threw her, and she was put upon Blanco Sol. The white charger snorted a protest, then, obedient to Gale's stern call, patiently lowered his noble head and pawed the lava for a footing that would hold.

The lava caused Gale toil and worry and pain, but he hated the chovas. He came almost to believe what he had heard claimed by desert travelers-that the choya was alive and leaped at man or beast. Certain it was when Gale passed one, if he did not put all attention to avoiding it, he was hooked through his chaps and held by barbed thorns. The pain was almost unendurable. It was like no other. It burned, stung, beatalmost seemed to freeze. It made useless arm or leg. It made him bite his tongue to keep from crying out. It made the sweat roll off him. It made him sick.

Moreover, bad as the choya was for man, it was infinitely worse for beast. A jagged stab from this poisoned cactus was the only thing Blanco Sol could not stand. Many times that day, before he carried Mercedes, he had wildly snorted, and then stood trembling while Gale picked broken thorns from the muscular legs. But after Mercedes had been put upon Sol Gale made sure no choya touched him.

The afternoon passed like the morning, in ceaseless winding and twisting and climbing along this abandoned Gale saw many waterholes, mostly dry, some containing water, all of them catch-basins, full only after rainy season. Little ugly bunched bushes, that Gale scarcely recognized as mesquites, grew near these holes; also stunted greasewood and prickly pear. There was no grass, and the choya alone flourished in that hard

Darkness overtook the party as they unpacked beside a pool of water deep under an overhanging shelf of lava. It had been a hard day. The horses drank their fill, and then stood patiently with drooping heads. Hunger and thirst were appeased, and a warm fire cheered the weary and footsore fugitives. Yaqui said, "Sleep." And

Upon the following morning, ten and feet. Mercedes was fed while yet | miles or more up the slow-ascending lava slope. Gale was in the rear of all the other horses, so as to take, for Mercedes' sake, the advantage of the broken trail. Yaqui was leading Diablo, winding around a break. His head was bent as he stepped slowly and unevenly upon the lava. Gale turned to look back, the first time in several days. He thought, of course, of Rojas in certain pursuit; but it seemed absurd to look for him.

Yaqui led on, and Gale often glanced up from his task to watch the Indian. Presently he saw him stop, turn, and look back, Ladd did likewise, and then Jim and Thorne. Gale found the desire irresistible. Thereafter he often rested Blanco Sol, and looked back the while. He had his fieldglass, but did not choose to use it.

"Rojas will follow," said Mercedes. Gale regarded her in amaze. The one of her voice had been indefinable. If there were fear then he falled to letect It. She was gazing back down the colored slope, and something about her, perhaps the steady, falcon gaze of her magnificent eyes, reminded him of Yaqui.

Many times during the ensuing hour the Indian faced about, and always his followers did likewise. It was high neon, with the sun beating hot and the lava radiating heat, when Yaqui halted for a rest. The horses bunched and drooped their heads. The rangers were about to slip the packs and remove saddles when Yaqui restrained

them. He fixed a changeless, gleaming gaze to look afar.

did not mount Diablo was still more cry—the one Gale considered involun- their locks and saved their self-respect significant. Mercedes must ride; but tary, or else significant of some tribat trait or feeling. Yaqui pointed down The Indian led off into one of the the lava slope, pointing with finger gray notches between the tumbled and arm and neck and had-his streams of lava. At the apex of the whole being seemed to have been ani-

> "Shore he sees somethin'," said "I reckon I ain't sure of mine," replied Jim. "I'm bothered by a dim

Thorne gazed eagerly down as he most deceitful kind of ground to tionless facing the slope. Gale looked travel. The fugitives made slow and looked till he hurt his eyes. Then progress. They picked a cautious, he took his glass out of its case on

There appeared to be nothing upon

and men. Without a word he handed the glass to Ladd. The ranger used

it, muttering to himself. "They're on the lava fifteen miles down in an air line," he said, presently. "Jim, shore they're twice that an' more accordin' to the trail."

Jim had his look and replied: "I reckon we're a day an' a night in the lead." "Is it Rojas?" burst out Thorne

with set jaw. "Yes, Thorne. It's Rojas and a dozen or more," replied Gale, and he

looked up at Mercedes. She was transformed. She might have been a medieval princess embodying all the Spanish power and passion of that time, breathing revenge, hate, unquenchable spirit of fire. If her beauty had been wonderful in her helpless and appealing mo-

ments, now, when she looked back

white-faced and flame-eyed, it was transcendent.

Gale drew a long, deep breath. The mood which had presaged pursuit, strife, blood on this somber desert, returned to him tenfold. He saw Thorne's face corded by black veins, and his teeth exposed like those of a snarling wolf. These rangers, who had coolly risked death many times, and had dealt it often, were white as no fear or pain could have made them. Then, on the moment, Yaqui raised his hand, not clenched or doubled tight, but curled rigid like an eagle's claw: and he shook it in a strange, slow gesture which was meracing and terrible.

It was the woman that called to the depths of these men. And their passion to kill and to save was surpassed only by the wild hate which was yet love, the unfathomable emotion of a peon glave. Gale marveled at it. while he felt his whole being cold and tense, as he turned once more to follow in the tracks of his lenders. The fight predicted by Belding was at hand. What a fight that must be! Rojas was traveling light and fast. He was gaining. He had bought his men with gold, with extravagant promises, per haps with offers of the body and blood of an aristocrat hateful to their kind. Lastly, there was the wild, desolate environment, a tortured wilderness of red stage most somberly and fittingly colored for a supreme struggle be-

Yaqui looked back no more. Mercedes looked back no more. But the other looked, and the time came when Gale saw the creeping line of pursuers with naked eyes.

A level line above marked the rim of the plateau. Sand began to show toiled the cavalcade, still very slowly advancing. At last Yaqui reached the rim. He stood with his hand on Blanco Diablo; and both were silhouetted against the sky. That was the norse, dazzlingly white in the sunlight, with head wildly and proudly erect, mane and tail flying in the wind, made a magnificent picture. The others toiled on and upward, and at last Gale led Blanco Sol over the rim. Then all looked down the red slope. But shadows were gathering there

and no moving line could be seen. Yaqui mounted and wheeled Diablo been blown out in holes from a few rods in width to large craters, some shallow, others deep, and all red as fire. Yaqui circled close to abysses which yawned sheer from a level surface, and he appeared always to be turning upon his course to avoid them.

The plateau had now a considerable dip to the west. Gale marked the slow heave and ripple of the ocean of lava to the south, where high, rounded peaks marked the center of this volcanic region. The uneven nature of the slope westward prevented any extended view, until suddenly the fugitives emerged from a rugged break to come upon a sublime and awe-inspiring spectacle.

They were upon a high point of the western slope of the plateau. It was strange to Gale, and perhaps to the others, to see their guide lead Diablo into a smooth and well-worn trail along the rim of the awful crater. Gale looked down into that red chasm. It resembled an inferno. The dark cliffs upon the opposite side were veiled in blue haze that seemed like smoke. Here Yaqui was at home. He moved and looked about him as a man coming at last into his own. Gale saw him stop and gaze out over that red-ribbed void to the Gulf.

Gale divined that somewhere along this crater of hell the Yaqui would make his final stand; and one look into his strange, inscrutable eyes made imagination picture a fitting doom for the pursuing Rojas.

(To Be Continued).

- When an American offered the Passion players of Oberammergau a on the slow descent; but did not seem | million dollars for the privilege of filming the Passion Play without a Suddenly he uttered his strange change in cast, the players sacrificed and honor. Owing to the depreciation of the mark, the temptation to v a sacred tradition was great. . .. on Long's philosophy is that riches do not bring contentment and happiness, two assets the players now possess. - Fingerprints are now sent by radio by means of the Belin system.

ter of a telegraph operator of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, is an American vocal prodigy, according to the decision of the directors of the Metropolitan Opera Company. She is to study for four years before attempting seriously to become a great artist.

-President Harding broke White

SHE KEEPS BUCYRUS DRY.



Her name is Miss Georgia Hopley and Bucyrus is in Ohio. Miss Hopley is s id to be the only woman prohibition agent in the United States.

FOR SICK MASONS.

Plans Being Made to Build Tuberculosis Hospitals.

"Establishment of a chain of sanatoria throughout the United States for members of the Masonic order suffering from tuberculosis-tne whole enjagged lava and poisoned choya, a terprise to involve an estimated expenlonely, fierce and repellent world, a diture of \$12,500,000 for construction and the care of 5,000 sufferers with an annual expenditure of \$5,000,000 for operation will be recommended to the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas at its annual meeting at Waco on December 5, 6 and 7 by the tuberculosis sanatoria commission of the grand lodges of Texas, Arizona and New Mexico.

This is a commission appointed by the grand masters of the three states in the little lava pits. On and upward named, under authority of resolutions adopted by the grand lodges to prepare a plan for the establishment of tuberculosis sanatoria, for the care of concumptive Masons who come to the southwest seeking restoration to outlook for a Yaqui. And his great health. These resolutions were adopted at the last meeting of the respective grand lodges.

Robert J. Newton of San Antonia, chairman of the tri-state commission, made the following statement about its work and recommendations:

"The National Tuberculosis association, estimates that there are 4,700 culosis every year.

United States.

atorium care. And the pity of it is that the fraternity then spends more for the care of the widow and orphan than it would have cost to save the father.

"The commission will recommend the establishment of a chain of sanatoria around the country, with a total of 5.000 beds, one of these institutions to be built in western Texas, one in New Mexico, one in Arizona, one in California, one in Colorado, in order to secure the benefit of the different altitudes and different climatic conditions, instead of centering them all in one position. There will be one in the Asheville section of North Carolina which is a resort for tubercular 'patients, and one will be located in the Saranac Lake region in New York, another locality famous for cures of that dread disease. There will also be an institution located in the middle west convenient to the large centers of population, and one in either North or South Dakota, and in the Pacific

- Lancaster December 22: Alleging conspiracy among the defendants to wreck and ruin him financially, socially and professionally, Charles D. Jones of Lancaster, today filed an action for damages in the court of common pleas deaths among any group of 2,500,000 here in the sum of one million dollars males, 20 years of age and older, from against Leroy Springs, John T. Stevaway. The others followed. The tuberculosis annually. The latest re- ens, H. R. Rice and William J. Shecter Yaqui led them into a zone of craters. ports show a total Masonic population national bank examiner. The bill of The top of the earth seemed to have of 2,640,000 in this country, and of this complaint was placed in the hands of number more than 5,000 die of tuber- Sheriff Hunter, and will be served on Springs, Stevens and Rice immediate-"It is estimated that there are nine ly and on Shecter as soon as he can living cases for every death, but this be located in the state. The bill of is a very conservative estimate. There complaint is one of the longest ever is every reason to believe that there filed in the court of common pleas are more than 50,000 living cases of here, and is divided into many allegatuberculosis among the Masons of the tions. The chief features of these allegations are that Jones charges that "How many of them need the help of the defendants entered into a contheir brethren in their fight for life no spiracy to wreck and ruin him and one can say. Many of them, if given that Shecter entered into an agreehospital care and treatment would re- ment with Springs, Stevens and Rice cover and be able to resume support of to give confidential information about their wives and children. Many die the plaintiff in his examination into because they lack the money for san- the affairs of the First National bank,

# bank examiner's report was fabricated

of falsehoods and was drawn in a con spiracy with the defendants. Further allegations in 'dr. Jones' complaint are that in the trial here last March before Judge Bowman, Shecter certified felsely against him. It is generally understood here that all these charges will be specifically and vigorously denied by the defendants.

of Lancaster of which Jones is presi-

dent. The complaint alleges that the

-The big six-story Trust building in the 200 block of South Tryon street Charlotte, was destroyed by fire Sunday morning. The Pledmont building and the Brockman building near by were also severely damaged. The loss is estimated as between \$350,000 and \$400,000.

#### NORTH CAROLINA BUCKWHEAT

DON'T BE FOOLED with "Just as good." Buy the Best-VOTAN COF-FEE.

MILL FEED for your hogs.

LARRO DAIRY FEED-the kind that your cow likes and that will IN-CREASE the supply of milk.

PERRI WALLA TEA-Best yet. BARBADOES MOLASSES-Purest.

TREAT YOURSELF to a Rubbe Tired Buggy for Christmas.

CARROLL BROS.

WE TAKE THIS MEANS of thank ing you for your liberal patronage for the year 1922. In fact for all the years

to handle a good line of

HEAVY AND FANCY GROCERIES Plantation Supplies, Hardware, Fertilizers, Building Material of all kinds, Galvanized Roofing, Shingles, Brick.

PY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. Cotton Seed Meal, \$2.50 a sack.

We have a good line of Fire Works for the Boys, such as Roman Candles, Fire Crackers, Tornedces, and Candles, Candle WE WISH YOU ONE AND ALL

YORK SUPPLY CO. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

### THE CITY MARKET

Phone No. 74 GOOD MEATS of all kinds.

Let us have your orders now for

CHRISTMAS OYSTERS

We buy Hides.

THE CITY MARKET

GEO. A. SHERER

#### GOODRICH TIRES

We have a full line of the

#### Goodrich Fabric and Silvertown Cord Tires.

Tires have already advanced in price, and we are sure of another advance soon. Now is the time to buy your full needs in Tires and Tubes.

Try Our Service.

#### J. H. CARROLL

#### Big Aluminum Sale Now Going On

The state of the s
2 1-2 Qt. Percolators \$1.00
8 Qt. Berlin Kettles \$1.00
6Qt. Berlin Kettles \$1.00
6 Qt. Berlin Kettles \$1.00
Large Roasters\$1.00
2 Qt. Milk Kettles \$1.00
21-2 Qt. Water Pitchers \$1.00
Syrup Pitchers 60 Cts.
Double Boilers90 Cts.
6 Qt. Sauce Pans \$1.00
4 Qt. Sauce Pans
6 Qt. Preserving Kettles \$1.00
Aluminum Ware Will Be Higher—Buy while it is at Bottom Prices.
COUPLIEDN CASH

**JUUI I IILKIN** STORE G. C. DEESE, Manager

#### Trade Street. ROCK HILL, -

#### For Christmas Trade--We have a full line of Apples

Oranges, Bananas, Grapes, F. Grapefruit, Currants, Dates. of customers have gradually grown.

WE EXPECT TO BE IN BUSINESS in 1923 at the same stand and will do our best to make it to your interest to trade with us. We expect to continue

full line of fancy crackers. HEAVY GROCERIES

We have a full line of Heavy Gro-ceries at all times and will be glad to sell you your Sugar, Flour, Coffees, etc., for Christmas. FIRE WORKS

W. F. JACKSON Mackorell-Ferguson Go.'s Old Stand.

## BUICK

AUTOMOBILES

SOLD BY

#### We want your good Veal CITY MOTOR COMPANY

ROCK HILL, S. C.

G. W. SHERER Opposite Postoffice. Telephone 231



### GREATLY **IMPROVED** SERVICE

BETWEEN

AUGUSTA

COLUMBIA

AIKEN -:0:-NEW YORK WASHINGTON

#### SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM ONE HOUR AND THIRTY MINUTES

- AND THE EAST -

Quicker Schedules

Effective Sunday, December 17, 1922

	No. 32	"A"	UGUSTA	SPECIA	AL''	No. 31
	(Read Dow	n)	Total Control			(Read Up)
	1:30 PM.	Leave	AUGU	STA	Arrive	1:15 PM.
	1:40 PM.	"	AIK	EN	**	1:10 PM.
	2:30 PM.	44	TREN	TON	"	12:15 PM.
ŧ	3:16 PM.	"	BATES	11/2-274	44	11:20 AM
	3:53 PM.	- 11	LEXIN	COUNTY COUNTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF TH	44	10:41 AM.
	4:35 PM.	ü	COLUI	Name of the Control o	**	10:05 AM.
	5:34 PM.	44	WINNS		**	9:00 AM.
	6:19 PM.	"	CHES	Mary Control of the C	**	8:11 AM.
1	6:52 PM.	44	ROOK	35 TO 10 TO	44	7:40 AM.
		44	CHARL		44	6:55 AM.
	7:55 PM.	Arrive			Leave	7:00 PM.
	7:30 AM.	Arrive	BALTIMOR			5:30 PM.
,	9:05 AM.		PHILADELPH			3:20 PM.
	11:13 AM.	"				1:10 PM.
	1:30 PM.	44.	NEW YOR	( P.RR.)		11131 0116
	CONCIOTO	MODE	N OTEEL D	MANILLI	DRAWI	NG ROOM

CONSISTS-MODERN STEEL PULLMAN DRAWING ROOM CARS WITHOUT CHANGE-MODERN STEEL DAY COACH-ES FOR ALL MEALS.

No. 32 Connects at Washington-

8:05 P. M. COLONIAL EXPRESS, Arrive Boston BUFFALO DAY EXPRESS, Arrive Buffalo ...

Double Track Line Atlanta, Charlotte and — Washington —

For Information, Pullman Reservations, Etc., Apply to Ticket Agents.



GETTING MEASURED FOR THE SPEAKER'S CHAIR.

Mrs. Winifred Mason Huck, whose father, the late William E. Mason, was both United States Senator and Representative from Illinois, is seen here occupying for the moment the Speaker's chair in the House. She was elected to Congress from Chicago last month to take the seat of her father. She is the third woman to be sent to Congress, the first being Jeannette Rankin and the second "Aunt" Alice