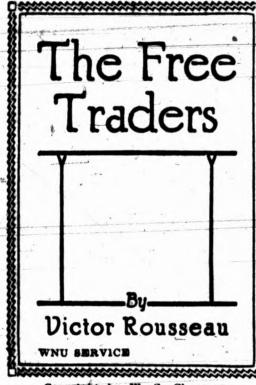
Business Block Laid in Ruins



One of the big business buildings of Santa Barbara, Cal., as it appeared after the earthquake had shattered it. Photograph sent over the wires of the American Telegraph and Telephone company.



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CHAPTER XXI Saved by Estelle

As the wall of the hut burst into flames Lee struggled with all his might to free himself of his bonds. But in spite of all his efforts he could not loosen them an inch.

He writhed until the cords drew blood from his wrists, and the thought of Joyce, lost to him at the last through Estelle's trick, inspired him to still more frenzied efforts, but equally in vain.

Suddenly a figure darted through the doorway. In his condition of semi-consciousness he was dimly aware that Estelle was crouching at his side, trying to unknot the ropes. It was impossible to see anything through the thick smoke that filled the interior of the hut, and Estelie's fingers. groping for the knots, were not strong enough to loosen them.

Still fought in a frenzy, maddened by Rathway's desertion of her, his blow, and Shorty's murder, hardly knowing why she was bent upon saving Lee when her whole life had gone down in ruin. Two walls of the hut were now in flames, and the whole roof was smouldering. Estelle screamed wildly into the empty air.

Lee tried to push her away. "Gohever mind me!" he tried to mumble now he's gone forever!"



Les Tried to Push Her Away. "Ge-Never Mind Me!" He Tried to Mumble Through His Gag.

an his gag. And he wondered why she, who had lured him there, was new trying to save him.

She bit at the ropes with her teeth, and even while she did so those screams continued to pour from her lips. At last, with a final, despairing cry, she collapsed at Lee's side.

Another figure staggered over the sill. It was Leboeuf. He came on, a moving piller of mud. The old indian, attracted by the fire, and hearing Estelle's cries, had at last succeeded in fighting his way out of the through the smoke, he bent down, felt

the cords about Lee's limbs and body

and, with his knife, quickly slashed

them asunder. and carried him outside. Estelle staggered out after him. In a few moments the fresh air revived them. But hardly were they outside the hut when the roof collapsed with a great crash, sending up a spout of sparks and brands. A huge banner of fire waved where the hut had been. The glowing brands, descending, set fire to the dead reeds. Lines of fire ran swiftly out into the swamp.

The sound of whinneying and plunging came from the stables, which were now discernible against the brightening sky.

"Monsieur!" cried Leboeuf, pointing. Estelle clung to Lee. "Wait! Wait!" she cried. But even in Lee's misery the instinct to save the animals came first. Leboeuf and he set off toward the building; staggering through the swamp, while the flery fingers of the conflagration reached out toward

"No! This way!" cried Estelle, running toward them.

She guided them along the little trail. In a few moments Lee and Leboeuf had unhaltered the animals, and led them to safety, the Indian carrying the saddles and bridles over

At the neck of the promontory Estelle grasped at Lee again. "He is gone!" she cried. "He has taken her to Lake Misquash in his motor boat. Oh, don't you care, that you stand there like that?"

Lee looked at her, despair heavy in his eyes. "So much," he answered, "that I shall follow him to the Arctic ice if hecessary. That is why there is no instant hurry, Estelle."

Estelle could not understand his calmness. "He made me deceive you," she cried. "He swore to me that he would take me away with him, leaving her in the hut with you. He said he would place a knife near you, so that you could see it when it grew light, and would be able to free yourself and her. He only wanted a few minutes' respite. I-I believed him, the perjured liar. He tricked me, and

She broke down in stormy sobs. Lee said nothing. At that moment, when everything seemed lost, and it was Impossible to save Joyce from the worst, he could only build up endless chemes for future retribution. He would pursue Rathway, if necessary, not only to the Arctic ice, but to the ends of the earth. But-it was too

That stunning realization kept him is still and silent as if nothing mattered at all.

All the while these thoughts passed through his mind he was walking with the others across the promontory. It was growing light now, but they could see no signs of movement in the huts opposite them. Lee quickened his footsteps, oppressed by a vague fear. Outside the huts he stopped, uttered

Father McGrath lay in a huddled heap. There was a bloody wound in his head. Lee threw himself upon his knees beside the old priest, sure that

he was dead. He took one wrist. Father McGrath was very far from being dead. He sat up with electrifying suddenness, and dealt Lee a buffet that knocked him backward. And the flow of language that streamed from his lips was, if not actually objurgative, decidedly picturesque.

Then of a sudden he seemed to realize where he was. He stared at Lee in dismay, looked wildly around

"Whaur are they? Ah, the-!" Leboeuf, coming up at this juncture with the two horses, uttered a melancholy grunt at the sight of the old priest, with his bloody head, and the prisoners gone. McGrath was in a raging fury.

It was not difficult to piece the story together. When Lee disappeared into the muskeg, Leboeuf, knowing that it was impenetrable, unless one possessed knowledge of the trails, hastened after him, leaving McGrath in charge of the nrisoners. Though McGrath remem-

bered nothing from that moment, it could be gathered that one of them had drawn a concealed pistol and

Whereupon, thinking him dead, the whole crew had rushed for the motor boat, but, frightened back by Estelle's screams and the sight of the two men there, whom they believed to be more of Lee's raiding party, they had swarmed down the landing place into

The whole night's work had gone for nothing.

Lee insisted on examining Mc-

head o' the McGraths saved them!". the old man lamented bitterly. "Twas an evil moment when ye consented to brring me wi' ye, Anderson!"

Lee tried to console him, but Mc-Grath appeared utterly despondent over his failure. It was in vain Lee told him that he did not need the members of the gang; that it was a good thing, on the whole, that they had

"Father," said Lee, "we've got to look the facts in the face. First, there's my duty as a policeman, to muskeg. Seeing the two forms dimly arrest Rathway for Pelly's murder, however far I have to follow him. He's broken for Lake Misquash, and I'm going to follow him there.

"Then there's Joyce. It's true she's He pulled the gag from Lee's mouth his wife," here Estelle tried to interrupt him, but he ignored her. His voice choked for a moment. "I must eliminate that fact from consideration. I'm going to start as soon as possible, and I propose to ride one of Rathway's horses. If Leboeuf is willing to accompany me, I'll take him as deputy."

> "Ah, Monsieur, I come with you, never fear!" answered Leboeuf, making a clucking sound with his tongue against the roof of his mouth.

And then Lee remembered that Leboeuf had a score of his own to settle with the fugitive, apart from the matter of Joyce.

"See, Monsieur!" said, the Indian, pointing to two pairs of snow shoes | ness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom strapped against the saddles. "I have of heaven."-Matt. 5:10. only to make up two packs from what | +. those men have left behind them in these huts, and we are ready to start together to the top of the world. We ride the horses till they can go no ficulties. longer. Then we take to the raquettes. And at last we catch him. He cannot escape us.

"Monsieur, there is no place in the world so small that he can hide in. nor no place so silent that we cannot hear him. My master came to me in a dream and told me so. He told me Jewish synagogue and preached, causall that has happened here, but I would not let you know. We catch to believe. The unbelieving Jews him by falling water. And she-she fred up the Gentiles to the most shall come to no harm. All this my bitter opposition. master told me."

The wizened, mournful face of the old man lit up with a sombre fire. Lee clapped him on the back.

"Good, Leboeuf," he said. "We'll start, then." He turned to the priest. "You will be able to make your way home, Father?"

"Trrust me for that, lad!" answered little more I can do for you, having bungled the game-"

He would not listen to Lee's en-

"Na', na', 'tis a sair end to the nicht's worrk," he said, "but let us thank God we've cleaned oot this nest o' snakes, enyhow, e'en if the serpent's gone. Aye, but ye'll catch him, led, and save that puir lassie fra' him," he continued. He spoke without much conviction, "Before I go, Anderson," he continued, "tis my purpose to clean oot this nest o' snakes completely. I'll e'en empty their barrels o' the feelthy stuff that they've been meexin' wi' the guid corrn, and. burn down these habitations."

Lee looked across the neck, where a dense cloud of smoke from the burning reeds hung over everything.

"Good!" he answered: "Make a clean sweep of it, Father, so that there'll be no chance of their coming back here at any future time. I guess you'li find oil in the storehouse. Now, Leboeuf, if you're ready-"

Estelle, who had been standing by, vainly attempting two or three times to inferene, came forward, placing her hand timidly upon Lee's arm. "You-you wen't hurt him? You'll promise me to do him no harm, whatever-whatever he may have done?" she pleaded.

"If it is possible, I promise you that I shall take him unharmed back to Manistree," Lee answered. "That is my duty; and it will also be my duty to require you as a witness."

She burst into tears. "Oh, he isn't altogether bad!" she sobbed. "He's ! good in his way. Nobody knows the good that is in him."

Perhaps that was the best tribute. that could have been paid Estelle. Lee, struck by a sudden thought, turned to the priest. "Father, you brought oxen and garlands ready to

with you," he said. "Aye," said McGrath. "Twas what 14-18). I was theenkin' mysel'." "You must go with him," said Lee,

and put his foot in the stirrup. Estelle clutched at him, and now the look in her eyes was one of resolution. "Lee-wait! There's something I must say to you! You remember what I was saying to you two nights ago, about it's not being necessary to-to kill him, to get that girl

from him?"
Lee only looked at her.

"Lee, I may never see you again. I ing their hearts with gladness want you to forgive me for all the wretched, miserable wrongs I did you 22). fired, felling McGrath and stunning in the past. Lee, if it's any consolation-I know it can be none-but I did love you once. I knew I was unworthy of you, but it wasn't all fake and sham."

"Never mind, Estelle," said Lee "All that's long past."

"I should have told you aboutthe York boats, and made good their dare to. You-you idealized me. You and could never have been." "Estelle!-

"If you hadn't put me upon a ped-Grath's wound, and discovered that it estal I should have found courage to was a mere graze along the temple. tell you that Kean had been my The bone had turned the glancing lover, that I cared more for youthen. I should have kneeled at your "Ave, 'tis the thick head o' the Mc- feet and begged you to forgive me. Graths saved me, and 'tis the thick I ran away with him because I was afraid of you, and I have hated you -and hate you still-because of the

> "Please don't say any more, Ea telle-" Lee tried to interpose,

wrong I had done you."

"You think that I'm a woman with a score of loyers, and the sonly been one man in all my life, Lee. Because— I'll tell you now. Jim Rathway is Kean. And his wife's still alive-at any rate, she was alive when he went through that marriage ceremony with Joyce. Alive and not divorced from him. That makes Joyce yours!"

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.)

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Lesson for July 19

THE GOSPEL IN LYSTRA

LESSON TEXT-Acts 14:1-28. GOLDEN TEXT-"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteous-PRIMARY TOPIC-Paul Heals

JUNIOR TOPIC-Paul Stoned at Lys-INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOP-

IC-Going Forward in the Face of Dif-YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOP-IC-Tribulations and Triumphs of Missionaries.

I. Paul and Barnabas Preaching at Iconium (vv. 1-7).

Their experience here was similar to that at Antioch. They entered the ing a multitude of Jews and Gentiles

1. Their Manner of Preaching (v.

This is suggested by the little word 'so" in verse one. They so spake that a great multitude believed. They were true preachers. Only that which brings conviction of sin and induces decisions for Christ can be truly called preaching in the Biblical sense. It is not Father McGrath, "I dinna doot but enough to merely bring the truth to they'll be anxious for me, and it's the people. It must be brought in such a way that men and women will decide for Christ. This is also true of the Sunday school teacher.

2. Their Attitude Towards Opposi-

tion (v. 3). This is suggested by the word "therefore." Long time therefore they tarried. The opposition did not prevent their preaching, but incited them to continue preaching.

3, The Lord Accompanied Their reaching With Miracles (v. 3). Since the opposition was so fierce, the Lord granted special help which was needed. 4. The Effect of Their Preaching

(v. 4). The multitude of the city was divided. Where men faithfully preach

the gospel, there will be division. 5. Paul and Barnabas Assaulted

The Jews and the Gentiles united in this assault. Being apprised of their effort, they fled to Lystra and Derbe. II. An Attempt to Worship Paul and Barnabas as Gods (vv. 8-18).

1. The Occasion (vv. 8-10). It was the healing of the lame man. God's gracious power shown in healing this lame man occasioned a new difficulty. That which ought to have been a help was turned into a hindrance. This was a notable miracle. The man was a confirmed cripple. He had never walked. On hearing Paul preach, faith was born in his heart (Rom. 10-17). When Paul perceived that he trusted Christ, he called with a loud voice that all could hear for the man to stand upright. The cure was instantaneous for he leaped up and walked (v. 10).

2. The Method (vv. 11-13). Barnabas they called Jupiter and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Jupiter must take her back to the mission offer sacrifice unto these men (v. 13). 3. Their Efforts Frustrated (vv.

> This foolish act was happily averted by the tact of the apostles.

> (1) They denied that they were divine beings, and declared that to worship beings with like passions to themselves was criminal.

(2) They directed the people to turn away from these vain things unto the living God who made heaven and earth, and has left witness of Himself in that He has always done good, giving rain and fruitful seasons, and fill-

The was employed the state of the

III. The Stoning of Paul (vv. 19-

Wicked Jews from Antioch and Iconium pursued. Paul with relentless hate to this place where they stirred up the very people who were willing to worship them a little while before. This shows that satanic worship can soon be turned into satanic hate. This hatred took form in stoning Paul and about the man, Kean, but I didn't dragging him out of the city for dead. God raised him up, and with undauntthought me something that I wasn't ed courage, he pressed on with his missionary duties, bearing the good tidings to the lost.

IV. The Organization of Churches in the Field (vy. 23-28).

Evangelization with Paul did not mean a hasty and superficial preaching of the gospel, but the establishment of a permanent work. Elders were appointed in every church. The work of the missionary is not done until self-governing and self-propagating churches are established on the field

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