= PASS" =

By William MacLeod Raine, Copyrighted by Thos. Allen,

"He's been living soft too long, don't you reckon?"
"No, sir, He just didn't have the sand in his craw to hang on and finish you off whilst you was rippin' up his laigs."

out to meet Chiquito. The pinto was an aristocrat in his way. He preferred to choose his company, was a little disdainful of the cowpony that had no accomp Usually he grazed a short distance from the remuda, together with one of Bob Hart's string. The two pon-ies had been brought up in the same

This morning Dave's whistle brought no nicker of joy, no thud of hoofs galloping out of the darkness to him. He rode deeper into the desert. No answer came to his calls. At a canter he cut across the plain to the wrangler. That young man had seen nothing of Chiquito since the evening before, but this was not

The cowpuncher returned to camp for breakfast and got permission of the rorgman to look for the missing

Barond the flats was a country creased with draws and dry arroyos. From one to another of these Dave went without finding a trace of the animals. All day he pushed through the cactus and mesquite heavy with grey dust. In the late afternoon ne gave up for the time and struck back to the flats. It was possible that the lost broncos had rejoined the remuda of their own accord or had been found by some of the rid-

ers gathering up strays.

Dave struck the herd trail and followed it toward the new camp. A horseman came out of the golden west of the sunset to meet him. For long time he saw the figure rising and falling in the saddle, the pony moving in the even fox-trot of the cattle country. The man was Bob Hart.

Found 'em?" shouted Dave when he was close enough to be heard. "No, and we won't—not this side

he asked quietly.

"A-plenty. I been ridin on the point all day. Three-four times we cut trail of five horses. Two of the five are bein' ridden. My Four-Bits hoss has got a broken front hoof. So has one of the five." 'Movin' fast, are they?"

You're damn whistlin.' Malapi off, looks like. They got friends there."

"Steelman and his outfit will pro-tect them while they hunt cover and make a getaway. Miller mentioned Denver before the race said he was figurin' on goin' there. May-

"He was probably lyin'. You can't tell. Point is, we've got to get busy. My notion is we'd better make bee-line for Malapi right away," proposed Bob.
"We'll travel all night. No use

wastin' any more time."

Dug Doble received their decision sourly. "It don't tickle me a heap to be left short-handed because you two boys have got an excuse to get

to town quicker.' Hart looked him straight in the eye. "Call it an excuse if you want to. We're after a pair of shorthorn crooks that stole our horses." The foreman flushed angrily. "Don't come belly-achin' to me

about yore broomtails. I ain't got "We know who's got 'em," said Dave evenly. "What we want is a rage check so as we can cash it at

"You don't get it," returned the

big foreman bluntly. "We pay off when we reach the end of the "I notice you paid yore brother and Miller when we gave an order for it," Hart retorted with heat.

'A different proposition. They hadn't signed up for the drive like you boys did. You'll get what's comin' to you when I pay off the others. You'll not get it before."

The two riders retired sulkily. They felt it was not fair, but on the trail the foreman is an autocrat. From the other riders they borrowed a few dollars and gave in exchange orders on their pay checks,

Within an hour they were on the road. Fresh herses had been roped from the remuda and were carrying them at an even Spanish jog-trot through the night. The stare came out, clear and steady above a ghostby world at sleep. The desert was a place of mystery, of vast space peopled by strange and misty shapes.

The plain stretched vaguely before them. Far away was the thin outline of the range which enclosed the valley. The riders held their course by means of that trained s:xth sense of direction their occu-

pation had developed.

They spoke little. Once a coyote howled dismally from the edge of the mesa. For the most part there was no sound except the chuffing of horses' movements and the occasional ring of a hoof on the baked

The gray dawn, sifting into the sky, found them still traveling. The mountains came closer, grew more The desert flamed again, dry, lifeless, torrid beneath a sky turquoise. Dust eddies whirled in inverted cones, wind devils playing in spirals across the sand. Tablelands, mesas, wide plains, desolate lava stretches. Each in turn was traversed by these lean, grim, bronz-

They reached the foothills and

behind the desert shimmering the trail, unsaddled, hobbled their the ponies wading fetlock-deep in they looked down from the other seed and purple flowers. In a deep horses, and stole a few hours' sleep, yellow, red, blue and purple flowers, side of the pass upon the lights of the punchers threw off back to the trail through a draw, locked in the dry heat as though the purple flowers. in the dancing heat. In a deep gorge, where the hill creases gave them shade, the punchers threw off back to the trail through a draw.

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ade of papier-mache. Closer at chapter v. and the undulations of sand hills retched toward the pass for which Supper at Delmonico's Interrupt

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stretched toward the pass for which they were making.

A mule deer started out of a dry wash and fled into the sunset light. The two D Bar Lazy R punchers its supper at Delmonco's. The restaurant was owned by Wong Chung. The long, stratified faces of rock estalling sun and became battlemented towers of ancient story.

The riders climbed steadily now, no longer engulfed in the ground swell of land waves. They breathed at air like wine, strong, pure, bracing. Presently their way led them into a hill pocket, which ran into a gorge of pinons stretching toward Gunsight Pass?

The stars were out again when strong in the mean-you, Charlie."

The two D Bar Lazy R punchers its leftuily.

The two D Bar Lazy R punchers its leftuily.

The restaurant was owned by Wong Chung. A Cantonese celestial did the cook refuge and suddenly acquired lack of understanding of English. If they called him Charlie or John or One Lung, he accepted the name cheerfully and laid it to a racial mental deficiency of the 'melicans. Now he decided to make a selection himself.

To be Continued to have seven persons are reported to have seven persons are reported to have been killed and many injured in the gold friend.

"Fired potatoes. Tea or clof."

The stars were out again when stretching toward constructions of the mean-you, Charlie."

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"Flied plotatoes. Tea or clof- Barnesboro, Pa.

"Coffee," decided Dave

agreed of them. "Warm mine."
"And custard pie." added Bob, "Aigs sunny side up," directed his

Arthur McGie

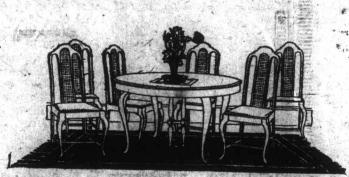


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of Malapi. Those scalawags didn't make camp last night. They kep' travelin'. If you ask me, they're movin' yet, and they've got our broncs with 'em." This had already occurred to Dave as a possibility, "Any proof?" The schol quickly "Any proof?"

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CLAPP-A very pretty ized in St. Pau Roslin, when M eldest daughter C. Carney, of bride of Mr. Corbyville. The formed by the L. Th., regtor was attended b M. Carney, whil sisted by Mr. bride was beau weding gown o with embroide crepe, with ha happy couple 1 honeymoon trip. a suit of navy b

FITZGIBBO

A very pretty at the home of M Murray, when h Steinburg becam Goldie Fitzgibb Bick officiating. tifully decorated roses and ferns. charming in a carried white i wreath of orang Verna Stinson acted as flower g and blue silk, white roses. The played by Mr. Cl ing the signing Ruth Riley acco Bessie Locke san

The groom's g a bar pin set flower girls, sign mation and popu couple was expres host of beautiful were the recipier ding ceremony guests sat down t the dining room the occasion. Th by motor for Me Eastern points. ling in a navy be hat to match. B of friends accompa ple on their voyage

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The road allows

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