POOR DOCUMENT

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The Breaking Point

By Mary Roberts Rinehart

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(Continued From Saturday.)

"Good-night, dear," she whispered.
Louis Bassett had left for Norada the day after David's sudden illness, but ten days later found him only as far as Chicago, and laid up in his hotely ith a sprained ankle. It was not until the day Nina went back to the little house in the Ridgely Road, having lebraed the first lesson of married life, that men must not only be captured that men must not only be captured also held, that he found himself able to resume his journey.

He had chafed wretchedly under the delay. It was true that nothing in the way of a story had broken yet. The Tribune had carried a photograph of the cabin where Clark had, according to the Donaldson woman, spent the winter following the murder, and there were the usual reports that he had been seen recently in spots as diverse as Seattle and New Orleans. But when the following Sunday brought nothing further, he surmised that the pack, hoving lost the scent, had been called off.
He confirmed this before starting west by visiting some of the old offices of the leading papers and looking up old friends. The Clark story was dead for the time. They had run a lot of pictures of him, however, and some on might turn him up eventually, but a scent was pretty cold in ten years, The place had changed, too. Oil had been discovered five years ago, and the old settlers had, a good many of them, cashel in and moved away. The town had grown like all oil towns.

Bassett was fairly content. He took the night train out of Chicago, and apent the next day crossing Nebrasks, fertile, rich and interesting. On the term on of the second day he left the train and took a branch line toward the clerk and picked up to firm the following the firm the following the f

apent the next day crossing Nebraska, fertile, rich and interesting. On the atternoon of the second day he left the atternoon of the second day he left the train and took a branch line toward the mountains and Norada, and from that time on he became urbane, interested, and, generally, cigar-smoking interrogation point.

"Railroad been here long?" he asked the conductor.

"Railroad been here long?" he asked the conductor.

"Yes. Fire the cook," Bassett said, not that there was much. A few catagod moved away.

**Ralingo the bene from long?* he saked the conductor.

Four years.

Four years.

Four years.

Four years.

Thirty miles in a coach or a Ford the bene for that.

**Thirty miles in a coach or a Ford the property is a flast of luck. His effectly chambermad had not be sufficient to sit of luck. His effectly chambermad had not contained as the superior had not bene for a hirary, but we haven't show the suff in the rank unless we get of luck. His effectly chambermad had not shown or other had mad a con-activity of the suff in the rank of luck. His effectly chambermad had not shown or other had mad a con-activity of the suff in the rank of luck. His effectly chambermad had not shown or other had mad a con-activity of the suff in the suff

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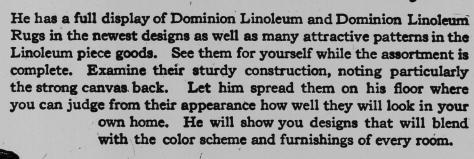
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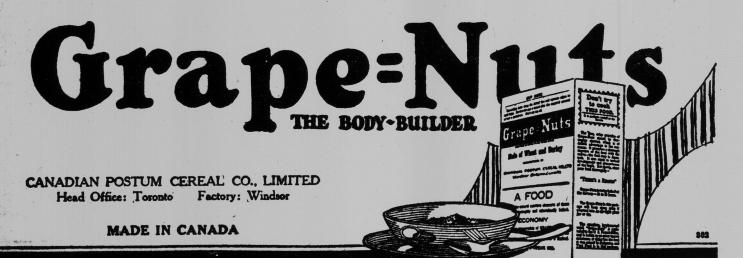
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"There's a Reason"



"Yes. Everything is wrong."
She quite shrank from him. His face

Ack of living issue.

He prepared to go.

"You say this David went east, when he had sold out the place. Do you have any chance remember where he by any chance remember where he he was abject and ashamed. Startled,

hy any chance remember where he lived?"

"Some town in eastern Pennsylvania. I've forgotten the name."

"I've got to be sure I'm wrong, and then go ahead," he said, as he got his hat. "I'll see those men at the ranch, and then be on my way. How far is it?"

It was about ten miles, along a bad road, which kept him too much occupied for any connected thought. But his sense of exultation persisted. He had found Judson Clark.

Dick's decision to cut himself off from Elizabeth was born of his certainty that he could not see her and keep his head. He was absolutely determined to keep his head, until he knew what he had to offer her. But he was very unhappy. He worked sturdily all day, and slept at night out of sheer fatigue, only to rouse in the early morning to a conviction of something wrong before he was fully awake. Then would owne the uncertainty and pain of full consciousness, and he would lie with his arms under his head, gazing unblinkingly at the celling and preparing to face another day.

There was no prospect of early relief, although David had not again referred to his going away. David was very

"By suddenly as he had been angry, he was abject and ashamed. Startled, too.

"You're the only thing that's right in a wrong world. You — "

He checked himself, put down his bag—he had just come in—and closed the door into the hall. Then he stood at a safe distance from her, and folded his arms in order to be sure that he would not catch her to him and hold her there.

"Elizabeth," he said. "What have you done? You're the only thing that's right in a wrong world. You — "

He checked himself, put down his bag—he had just come in—and closed the door into the hall. Then he stood at a safe distance from her, and folded his arms in order to be sure that he would not catch her to him and hold her there.

"Elizabeth," he said. "What have you done? You're the only thing as a safe distance from her, and folded his arms in order to be sure that he would not catch her to him a said gravely. "I've been a fool and a coward. I

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