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helps you to  
"turn the corner"

## The Cow Puncher

BY ROBERT J. C. STEAD.

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### Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

Dr. Hardy, famous specialist, and his daughter Irene, meet with an accident while on a morning trip in the foothills of Alberta and find a refuge in the cabin of the Elden ranch where dwell David and his dissolute father. The girl and boy promise to meet again in the future. After his father's drunken death David goes to seek his fortune in town and loses all his money at a pool table. He is attracted by the singing of a choir girl in a church; then he attended a Socialist meeting. When delivering coal at the home of Mr. Duncan he is offered evening tuition in return for occasional services as a coachman. The first evening he discovers the choir girl in Edith Duncan. Under his tutor's careful direction David's education thrives. He becomes a reporter on the Call. One Sunday he told Edith the story of his life and his compact with Irene. David drops in with talk about "industrial development" and fires David's imagination. They form a real estate partnership. A boom follows, making David a millionaire, but he vaguely distrusts his partner. Roberta Morrison, compiler of the woman's page of the Call, comes to his office one evening and Dave orders dinner.

### CHAPTER XII.—(Cont'd.)

"This is all nonsense," said the doctor, impatiently. "There is nothing to it, anyway. The girl had to have some company. What if they did ride together? What?"

"They rode together? Alone?"

"They had their horses along," said the doctor, whose impatience had made way for sarcasm.

"Through the forest, I suppose," said Mrs. Hardy, with an air of one whose humiliation is complete.

"Oh, yes, through the forests, across the foothills, up the canyons, hours of it days of it weeks of it—"

"Stop! You are mocking me. In this hour of shame you are making jests."

"Call Irene."

The girl was summoned. Her fine face had lost some of its brownness, and the eyes seemed deeper and slower, but she was still a vision of grace and beauty as she stood, in response to their call, framed in the curtains of an arched doorway. Her quick sense caught the tense atmosphere, and she came forward with parted lips and extended fingers. There was the glint of light on her white teeth. "Yes?" she said. "What is wrong? Can I help?"

"Your father has confessed," said Mrs. Hardy, trying hard to speak with judicial calm. "Now tell us about your relations with this young Elden, this cow puncher. Let us know the worst."

Irene's startled eyes flew from her mother to her father's face. And there they caught something that restored their calm.

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and the mother had grown to hope that the old attachment had died down and would presently be quite forgotten in a new and more becoming passion. The fact is that Irene at that time would have been quite incapable of stating her relation toward Elden and its influence upon her attitude to life. She was by no means sure that she loved that sunburned boy of romantic memory; she was by no means sure that she should ever marry him, let his development in life be what it would. But she felt that her heart was locked, at least for the present, to all other suitors. She has given her promise, and that settled the matter. True, he had not come to claim fulfillment of that promise—and at times she scolded him soundly in the secrecy of her own mind for his negligence through all these years—but she was young, with no desire for a decisive step, and while she chafed under his apparent neglect she felt a sort of tingling dread of the day when he should neglect her no longer. One thing she knew—he had implanted in her soul a firm contempt for men of the set which Carlton typified. They would have thought Dave ignorant; but she knew that if Dave and Carlton were thrown into the wilderness on their own resources, Dave would thrive and Carlton would starve. Perhaps Dave's education, although not recognized by any university save that of the university of hard knocks, was the more real and valuable of the two.

Notwithstanding her contempt for him, the girl found herself encouraging Carlton's advances, or at least not meeting them with the rebuffs which had been her habit toward all other suitors, and Mrs. Hardy's hopes grew as the attachment apparently developed. But they were soon to be shattered.

Irene had gone with Carlton to the theatre; afterwards to supper. He was long past midnight when she reached home; she knocked at her mother's door and immediately entered. She was splendidly gowned, but her hair was dishevelled and her cheeks were flushed, and she walked unsteadily across the room.

"What's the matter, Irene? What's the matter, child? Are you sick?" cried her mother, springing from her bed. "Oh, dear me, and the doctor is out!"

"No, I'm not sick," said the girl, brutally. "I'm drunk!"

"Oh, that," said her mother, soothingly. "Proper people do not become drunk. You may have had too much champagne, and tomorrow you will have a headache."

"Mother! I have had too much champagne, but not as much as that precious Carlton of yours had planned for. I just wanted to see how despicable he was, and I floated downstream with him as far as I dared. But just as the current got too swift for me, I struck the strain of providing for them in that fashion and at the same time accumulating a reserve for such an eventuality as had occurred was a matter which his wife could scarcely overlook."

About this time it came to the notice of Mrs. Hardy that when the late Mr. Deware had departed this life Mrs. Deware, with her two daughters, had gone on a trip to England to dull the poignancy of their bereavement. The Dewares moved in the best circles. Mr. Deware having amassed a considerable fortune in the brewing business. It was obvious that whatever Mrs. Deware might do under such circumstances would be correct. Upon the arrival of this conclusion Mrs. Hardy lost no time in buying two tickets for London.

(To be continued.)



## Woman's Interests

### Tested Recipes.

**Grape Conserve**—Half peck grapes, two oranges (juice), two lemons, one cup chopped nut meats, sugar equal quantities as you have mixture. Wash fruit, remove grapes from stems. Remove skins from pulp. Cook pulp until soft. Strain to remove seeds. Place the strained pulp and skins in the preserving kettle. Add orange and lemon juice.

**Mixed Pickle**—Two cups of string beans, two cups of wax beans, one quart cucumbers, one quart onions, one tablespoon stick cinnamon, one tablespoon whole cloves, half tablespoon of allspice, half tablespoon mace, half teaspoon celery seed, one and one-half quarts vinegar, two cups of sugar, one tablespoon mustard seed. Cook the vinegar with the spices and the sugar, then remove the spices. Cook vegetables in vinegar three minutes. Pack in sterilized jars and seal.

**Pickled Plums**—For sweet pickled plums wipe five pounds of plums with a damp cloth and prick each with a needle five times. Put two and a half pounds of sugar into a saucepan, pour over one quart of mild vinegar and add a spice bag containing one ounce each of whole cloves, allspice and mace and two ounces of broken stick cinnamon. Cook the spiced vinegar for seven minutes; after it begins to boil pour over the plums and let stand overnight. In the morning drain, cook the syrup for another ten minutes and again pour over the plums. Let stand for ten hours, reheat fruit and syrup to the boiling point, and after removing the spice bag store as for canned fruit.

**Plum Batter Pudding**—Make a batter from two lightly beaten eggs, ten tablespoons of flour, sifted twice, a pinch of salt, half a teaspoonful of baking powder and a pint of milk. Beat with an egg beater until full of bubbles. Remove the stones from a quart of ripe plums, cut in quarters, sprinkle well with sugar (about half a cup), place in a buttered baking dish and pour the batter over them.

**Bake in a hot oven for forty minutes.** Sprinkle the top with powdered sugar and serve hot with the following sauce: Cream four tablespoonfuls of butter with three-quarters of a cupful of powdered sugar and stir in the beaten yolk of one egg. Flavor with half a teaspoonful of vanilla extract.

**Make Soap From Meat Scraps.** Use any kind of old fat or rendered grease, kinds and crackings, also old spoiled fat meat.

Put fifteen quarts of rain water into an old kettle with not too hot a fire.

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fire under it. Into the water empty the contents of two cans of good lye, one-quarter pound of borax and two pounds of rosin. The rosin may be left out, but the soap will not harden so quickly. Let this mixture get hot and then add nine pounds of fat, rinds and crackings, and cook until like molasses, stirring constantly. The lye will eat the fat, rinds and all. Try some of the mixture in a saucer. If, when cool, there is no lye in the bottom, it is done. It can be left in the kettle and cut out in chunks when cool enough, which will be about one hour, if the weather is cold, or it may be poured into pans to cool.

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## QUEBEC'S SCHEME OF COLONIZATION

IMPROVES LAND, SELLS AT LOW PRICES.

Erects Buildings in Canton of Langis for Use of Carefully Selected Colonists.

In 1920 the government of the province of Quebec set aside the sum of five million dollars for the purpose of colonization and it is already setting about the expenditure of this money and making a serious bid for settlers on its rich unproductive tracts. Believing from its past experience that in the work of colonizing new lands there must be a certain amount of preparatory work so that the settler avoids the rigors and hardships of pioneering and is in a position to become productive and of greater value to the province in a much shorter time, the provincial government is blazing the way for the settlers who will occupy the lands in the spring of 1923.

This preparatory work surpasses the already generous arrangements of the government in its encouragement of agriculture in the province. Some millions of acres of farm lands have been set aside for the use of farming settlers which the government will sell to such at a minimum price of from 20c. to 60c. per acre. A few very easy conditions are imposed upon the purchaser in order to assure cultivation of the land. It is not sufficient to merely work the land; it must be cultivated according to the most approved methods. To ensure this the government has established schools of agriculture, co-operative societies, experimental stations, demonstration fields and farmers' clubs, and has expended nearly a billion dollars in agricultural subsidies. Not only does the provincial government sell its land at very low prices, but it does everything possible to improve it, providing for the construction of roads, bridges and other public works.

### The Beautiful Matapedia Valley.

The new colonization project, however, goes further than this. It has regard to the Canton of Langis, in the Matapedia Valley in the Gaspé peninsula, just north of the territory of New Brunswick. The valley of the Matapedia, a river which flows from a lake of the same name near the St. Lawrence, into the Baie des Chaleurs, is one of surpassing beauty and fertility, which has already become famous among fishermen of the Eastern United States, who come there each year and have established clubs—there. Now an attempt is to be made to develop it—agriculturally. The Matapedia Valley may be classed as one of the greatest of valleys, according to authorities, a region of smiling meadows and high mountains, past which the river winds its way.

Here, in the Canton of Langis, a certain number of colonization lots have been surveyed and mapped out. Men are at work clearing ten acres on each lot, and erecting on each potential farm a house costing about \$600 and a barn at a somewhat lower figure. As it is not intended to place any settlers on these lands until the spring of 1923, and the work is merely in process, it has not been determined what the exact cost to the settler will be, but on the authority of the provincial Minister of Colonization the settler will receive a farm at actual cost and the payments expected of him will be extended over thirty years. The province will safeguard itself against possible loss, and achieve the greatest amount of benefit for the province, by carefully selecting its colonists, and placing them on the land with the best possible assurance of success.

### A Steady Stream of Colonists.

Quebec is receiving a steady little stream of new colonists in spite of the rush to newer opened areas, and she is making a bid for more in an endeavor to bring under cultivation the millions of fertile acres which she still possesses in a virgin state. The agricultural production of the province in 1921 accounted for a value of \$1,238,813,000, and included practically every farm crop imaginable, horses and cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, bees, field crops, potatoes and root crops, orchard and small fruits, dairy products, wool, eggs, tobacco and maple sugar and syrup. An endeavor is being made to lure back to the old home the French-Canadian population which was drawn away in less prosperous times, whilst at the same time attract the British and United States immigrant. Quebec's agricultural value has been proved by many years of farming which stand to assure the future of its new colonization tracts.

### Can't Mix Up Babies Now.

It used to be the fashion in story plots to get the new born babies mixed up. Usually the heir to the dukedom landed in the servants' quarters and the servant baby grew up to be the heir to the dukedom—and the villain in the future, however, it's going to be less romantic—but more practical. They are beginning to make fingerprints of five-day-old babies in order to prevent mistakes in hospitals and institutions and the system will also serve as a means of identifying lost or stolen children.

Chile was the first South American state to construct railways.