

A lively story of ranch-life on the Texas plains, in which men settle their accounts on sight with "six-guns"

MIDNIGHT OF THE RANGES

By **GEORGE GILBERT**

With frontispiece by George Gage

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It was a lucky thing for Old Man Peters that Ed Beltrane came riding into Coppered Jack, "just looking around" for a job, at the particular moment he did.

All the cards were stacked against Peters, and he needed help. Barnquist, the biggest cattle prince in the country — who held the sheriff and the law in the palm of his hand — had his eye on the valuable water rights on Peters' homestead. Barnquist's son had his eye on Peters' daughter, and between the two they meant to dispose of the old man and help themselves to his belongings.

But they had not counted on Beltrane and his big stallion Midnight, — a man of men and a stallion unsurpassed. So their plans did not work out exactly as they had expected, with the result that Coppered Jack quickly found itself the centre of a lively drama of Western life, in which bullets flew and men settled their accounts on sight with "six-guns," without waiting for discussion.

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