

The Quality Tea "SALUDA" ORANGE PEKOE

Chapter XLIV: Juanita escapes from the sheriff. Weber, meanwhile, invades Bartle's room. As he examines the books and letters, Valdez enters and takes them away.

CHAPTER XLIV
"I haven't any objections to your looking at these things," he drawled. "If you'll give them back to me and let me go."

"You have no objections?" El Caballero Rojo's laugh was a sarcastic snort. "Put those books on top. Be careful, Saboteur."

Clark Weber obeyed. He watched the velvet-clad man stalk to the chair. Weber's every nerve and muscle were under rigid control, for he knew that when he moved it must be with the speed of light. He saw one gaunt hand seize paper and the other move for the top ledger.

"Now," he told himself.
Pete Haskell rode down Gold Creek's main street flanked by Luke Wallace and Tim Callahan, and with the cavalcade of ranchers behind them they saw that the shade in Bartle's living quarters was drawn, and that a light glowed behind it.

Haskell pulled up his horse. "It was agreed that I speak to Bartle alone," he reminded.

"Yep," Wallace nodded. "I'll ride on the boys—but not far from the bank. Get on with it, Pete. Good luck—for Bartle's sake."

The range veteran got from his horse and strode toward the bank. He lowered and chin down. Sherlock Lande would certainly be on his heels after this night's work. He burt the woman to think that Lande would move heaven and earth—yes, appeal to the governor, if need be—to get the noose around the neck of the woman's ringleader.

He raised his hand to knock at Bartle's outside bank. The hand dropped. He gaped, then blinked.

"There was only one thing about the figure he saw through the glass door that stood out more than the scarlet neckerchief the man wore. That was the wisp of smoke curling and fading about the ceiling. It came from a gun in the hand covered by a glittering gauntlet.

Halfway down the stairs was the body of a man. Papers littered the steps. Even now the scarlet-masked apparition was scooping them up—and at Haskell's elbow stood Lake Wallace, demanding to know why the woman could not get in. Then Wallace saw his hand swooped on his gun.

"El Caballero Rojo!" he yelled. "What?" Haskell's eyes were on an angry whisper. "Plenty important, those papers, or he wouldn't have himself like that to get them."

"That's not Bartle on the stairs," replied. "I'm beginning to think this gent in the velvet and things is in cahoots with Bartle. He's the one who has been hitting and burning in the valley, for Bartle, curse him!"

"Quiet! Let's see what happens," said. "You, Aunt Maria! Stop him! He's getting back upstairs—he's getting away!"

Wallace whirled, ran to the other ranchers, barking orders. "Form a ring around the building! A pair of you stand guard each trail out of town. El Caballero Rojo is in the bank!"

It must have been a sixth sense that warned Michael Valdez of the closing jaws of a trap. Even as he hurriedly glanced at the ledger of the landowner he heard Wallace's voice. Split seconds were precious time. And even as Luke Wallace ripped out his orders, Valdez went over the sill of the window he had left open.

Clutching the edge of the porch roof, he swung himself into space and dropped to the ground in a crouch. He looked round the bank almost double, looking more like a giant round ball than a man running. He disappeared behind the bank, shouting as they saw the open window. Hastily vaulting into the saddle, Valdez turned the roan quietly, watching the two ranchers. Guns in hand, they stood watching Bartle's open window, waiting for the intruder to emerge from it to the porch roof where they could feed him lead.

Swiftly Valdez was picturing the four ways out of Gold Creek for a man who must ride hard. Death lurked in all of them.

North would be the shortest way to safety. If he could escape the bullets of this pair now within a stone's throw of him, he had an even chance to get out of town alive.

A rancher behind the bank whistled about to face the stalls in the barn. To the other he whispered: "Hear somebody back there?"

"Thought I heard—"
A gun flew up. It cracked. Once twice—again. The other rancher blazed four shots at a streaking rider who looked fantastically like something sailing wild in a gale. Only four flashing legs proclaimed it at least part horse, and the whole writhing object, dimly aglitter, disappeared behind another building as suddenly as it had come from behind the bank stable.

A cry went up in the street. From the north two ranchers rode swiftly, guns ready, headed for the bank. In an alley three buildings away from still agley, Michael Valdez touched his blue roan gently with his heels.

"North, pronto!" he muttered. Gold Creek hummed behind him. Over his shoulder he saw riders joining the eddy at the bank door. Their anguished yells still echoed in his ears when the lights that were still agley in the town were blotted out by darkness. And no threatening thud of hoofs sounded behind him.

Back in the cowtown Luke Wallace, who by virtue of having taken abrupt command had superseded Pete Haskell as the guiding hand of the ranchers, had heard the guns bark behind the bank.



Sunday School Lesson

By Rev. R. Barclay Warren.
From Malachi to Christ
Malachi 3:1-5:1-2-5-6
Luke 1:76-79.

Golden Text — Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people.
— Luke 1:68.

During this quarter we have been studying the captivity and return of the Jews. On Nehemiah's second return to Jerusalem Old Testament history closed. The thread is taken up again by Gospel writers more than 400 years later.

The history of the Jews during these 400 years of silence is gleaned from other sources. For a century they continued under mild Persian rule. Then came the era of Alexander the Great, to whom Jerusalem meekly surrendered. On his death the domain was divided. At first Judea was under the domination of the Egyptian rulers and then later of the Syrian kings. One of these latter, Antiochus Epiphanes, a prototype of Hitler, massacred 40,000 Jews and defiled the temple. Revolt followed and the Jews gained their independence. Then the Roman Empire arose and they were again subjugated. This was the situation when Jesus was born.

Malachi's is the last voice of the Old Testament. He foretold the

Name It And You Can Have—\$100—Whoever submits the best name for this new knitting design will win \$100 from the Canadian National Exhibition. The colors used are navy, green, red, yellow and light blue, and the fancy ends of the scarf are in all colors. It was done especially for "The Ex" by the well-known designer Mrs. N. Jarvis Allen, former Betty Jane Pike, recently chosen "Miss Beautiful Toronto." You don't have to go to the C.N.E. to enter your name either. There's no age limit and boys and girls are eligible for the prize as well as adults. Just send along your suggested name for the design to The Women's Division, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto.

ANNE HIRST Your Family Counselor

Difference in / ges
A 17-year-old girl is distressed. She has got herself engaged to a young man who is 25. Her mother, she tells me, feels he is too old for her. What should she do?

More than half of your inquiries are answered in this column. Write to me when you need help. I will be glad to help you. Write to me when you need help. I will be glad to help you. Write to me when you need help. I will be glad to help you.

Don't be engaged yet. Take at least two more years to grow up. Then you won't be so apt to regret it. Date this young man if you mother agrees, but date others too—and save your promise to him until you realize what it means. I don't believe you do now.

Girls of 17 should be having fun—not tie themselves down with even a promise to marry any young man. If you are impatient to be engaged, tell Anne Hirst why. Maybe she can help. Address her at 121-123 Street, New Toronto, 10.

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Years And Temperaments
Ordinarily, it is well that a man be older than the girl he marries. Most girls develop earlier than young men do, and a difference of five or even 10 years between them is not, in my opinion, too great. A man nearing 30 should know what he's doing. If this man wants this girl, he should be willing to wait until she is old enough to know what she's doing. For most girls of 17 think through their emotions. They fall in love, and so eager are they for marriage that they cannot weigh such mundane angles as temperamental differences. They know they enjoy being with a certain boy or man, and they only think how wonderful it would be to be with him all the time.

Stay With Crowd
It is almost impossible for girls of this age to know their own minds. Far wiser it is not to enter into any engagement at all, to date others too, stay with the crowd, and know the experiences which the next few years will bring. They will develop, in personality and character, rapidly during those years. At the end of them, they will have a better chance of knowing what they seek in marriage—besides just being together.

So many girls who marry at 16 or 17 regret it in a few years. Housework is never done, and they keep their heads tied down, they keep up with the husbands they married such a little time ago. They miss the good times they used to have, and wish with all their hearts they could have them again. They mourn their lost freedom. So they write me they want a divorce!

I do not claim that no girl of 17 should marry. Occasionally some of them are mature beyond their years. They fall in love,

ITCH CHECKER

For quick relief from itching caused by insect bites, use ITCH CHECKER. It is a powerful antiseptic and soothes the skin. It is available in all drug stores.

CHANGE OF LIFE?

Are you going through a change of life? If so, you need a good doctor. Dr. L. E. Pinkham's Compound is a powerful medicine for all the troubles of middle age.

DOES INDIGESTION WALLOP YOU BELOW THE BELLY?

Help Your Digestion! Take Dr. L. E. Pinkham's Compound. It is a powerful medicine for all the troubles of middle age.

Wool - Blankets - Wool

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... TABLE TALKS ...

"Jam" and "Jelly" More This Year!
Jam and jelly making can be a home-making thrill for today's housewife. Now, the jam and jelly making can be a home-making thrill for today's housewife. Now, the jam and jelly making can be a home-making thrill for today's housewife.

quantities—do not double recipes—cook only for the special occasion. And—having selected a recipe from a reputable source—do trust its correctness, and use the amount of sugar given. Pectin jams and jellies call for more sugar per cup of fruit than the old-fashioned recipes; but a pound of finished jam or jelly contains no more sugar than a pound made the long boil way.

Here's why—The "set," a jelly must have certain definite proportions of fruit acid, fruit pectin and sugar. In the older method, it was necessary to boil the mixture until enough water evaporated to concentrate the pectin naturally present in the fruit, to the point where the mixture would "set." In those cases where fruit is naturally rich in pectin (as for example, grapes and raspberries) this point is more quickly reached. When the fruit is low in pectin, longer boiling is required—and sometimes there is not enough pectin to make a satisfactory "set," no matter how long the mixture is boiled. By adding commercial pectin—a concentrate of the pectin naturally present in the fruit—the proper concentration is reached very quickly, with practically no evaporation of the fruit juice. That explains why you get more jam and fruit, when you use added pectin, it also explains why more sugar is called for, per cup of fruit, than for the old-fashioned method. Actually, you use no more sugar per pound of finished jam or jelly.

Don't be disturbed if some of your mixtures do not set the day they are made, the recipes take into account the fact that many jellies grow progressively firmer for a week to a month after they are made.

Counties in Denmark are subdivided into 1,300 parishes, each administered by a parish council.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

By Gwendolyn F. Clarke
This might be called "Sunday on the Farm" because it is typical of what often happens on any ordinary farm. You see, Sunday, theoretically, is a day of rest. But some how the livestock don't always fall in with the idea—as you will realize when you have read a little further.

The work of the day was almost done. Partner and son Bob were milking; young John was busy for the day and I was out in the driveway speeding a paring guest. As she started her car I looked toward the road and there I saw four horses turning in at our gate.

I went down in the car to head the horses back where they belonged. But I was too late. By the time they were heading across the field, I was in the middle of a yodeling, a little grass there wasn't much harm they could do, providing I could keep them from getting into the grain field, the gate which was wide open from the heavy rain the night before.

It was a bad case. I didn't want to call the men—milk is one job at which farmers do not like to be interrupted. So, since the horses were at the end of the field I thought it was safe to wait until the milking was done. But I charged my mind when, glancing toward the road again, I saw our neighbor's cattle were also on the loose, including the bull. It was proof positive that across the road there was no one at home.

Of course, I went down to the road again. There were cattle everywhere—on the road, in the lane and in two fields. My first thought was to get them all in one place. I was a little dubious as to how the bull might act so I looked around for a means of escape should he appear at all belligerent. I knew he was supposed to be with a stranger you could never tell.

And don't expect to keep a lawn in good shape without a properly sharpened lawn mower. Dull blades tug at the grass instead of shearing it, and are particularly hard on a new lawn. The still delicate root systems may be considerably damaged with a dull mower although, for that matter, even old lawns will suffer if the ground is moist when the cutting is done.

Stalk Garden Weeds
Once planted and growing, about the only summer care the garden should need be thinning, weeding and cultivation. If the soil is very dry and if at all possible soak the garden once a week. Bear in mind that one good soaking, whether with vegetable, flowers or lawn, is worth a dozen sprinklings. A little chemical fertilizer applied carefully according to directions is also a good thing at this time. It will hurry along growth and with vegetables will increase tenderness.

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