Miss Paloma's answer was unexpect-

Blaze was only momentarily dis-

mayed. Then he joined his visitor's

be it was next year I was thinking

about," Thereafter he confined him-

Dave had long since learned that to

Blaze's talk was never dull. He was a

his fancy was in full swing, there was

er's eye filled him with prodigious

amusement from his fabrications that

he himself enjoyed. Paloma's spirit

of contradiction was the only fly in

his ointment; now that his daughter

was old enough to "keep books" on

him, much of the story-teller's joy was

Of course his proclivities occasion-

ally led to misapprehensions; chance

acquaintances who recognized him as

an artful romancer were liable to con-

sider him generally untruthful. But

even in this misconception Blaze took

a quiet delight, secure in the knowl-

edge that all who knew him well re-

garded him as a rock of integrity. As

a matter of fact, his genuine exploits

were quite as sensational as those of

hitched a pair of driving mules to his

buckboard, preparatory to showing his

guest the glories of Jonesville, Dave

"Paloma's getting mighty pretty."

flower," he father agreed. "And she

runs me around something scandalous.

head. "You know me, Dave; I never

In spite of Blaze's plaintive tone it

was patent that he was inordinately

proud of Paloma and well content with

Jonesville proved to be a typical

Texas town of the modern variety, and

altogether different to the piccured

frontier village. All in all, the effect

fect, and its destiny roused his mad-

Odd Fellows hall, the Palace Picture

theater, with is glaring orange lights

ducted Law to the First National

somewhat ornamental director; then

other points of equally novel interest,

Everywhere he went Jones was

seemed to know him and to want to

"Some town and some body of men,

ch?" he inquired, finally, and Dave

"Yes. She's got a grand framework,

Jones waved his buggy whip in a

wide circle that took in the miles of

that certain people allowed I'd never

live to raise this town. Why, it used

me-except Paloma, and she used to

sleep with a shotgun at her bedside,"

"You sure have been a responsibil-

"But I'm as safe now as if I was in

Dave Law turns up some sur-

prising evidence against certain

Texans and he makes important

plans. It's all in the next in-

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The Ready Reckoner.

Grugs-Do you know any reliable rule

Stubbs-1 do. You take your income

-whatever that may be-and add it

for estimating the cost of living?

Blaze. She'll be most as big as Fort

Worth when you fatten her up."

"She's as pretty as a blue-bonnet

When, after supper, Blaze had

denied him.

his manufacture.

I cringe."

his serfdom.

shake his hand.

ity to her."

stallment.

HEART OF THE SUNSET By Rex Beach

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ALAIRE AUSTIN AROUSES THE BRUTAL COVETOUSNESS IN GENERAL LONGORIO'S NATURE AND HE BE-GINS TO PLAN ACCORDINGLY

Mrs. Alaire Austin, a handsome young matron, mistress of Las Palmas ranch, gets lost in the Texas desert and after an all-day struggle wanders into the little camp of David Law, a ranger, hunting a Mexican murderer. Circumstances force her to stay 24 hours in the camp. Law catches his man, kills another and escorts her home, "Young Ed" Austin, drunken wastrel, berates his wife and makes insinuations about the ranger. Austin is secretly in league with Mexican rebels. Alaire starts for her ranch La Feria, in federal Mexican territory, to secure damages for cattle confiscated by soldiery.

CHAPTER V-Continued.

band, senora, is an active Candele- in several leaves torn from a notebook, rista."

For a moment Alaire was at a loss; then she replied with some spirit: "We she had admired. are two people, he and L. La Ferla belongs to me."

"Nevertheless his conduct is regrettable," Longorio went on. "Probably evil men have lied to him."

For the first time Dolores stirred. She had watched her countryman with a peculiar fascination. Now she said, as if freed from a spell:

"Pah! Nobody pays heed to Senor Rd. We do not consider him."

Alaire turned upon her with a sharp exclamation, conscious meanwhile that the woman's tone, even more than her eloquent of surprise and curiosity, but he held his tongue.

"Am I to understand, then, that you rob me because of my husband's action?" Alaire asked.

"No. I shall help." Longorio beamed enthusiastically. "It shall be the object of my life to serve you, and you and I shall arrange this matter satis- did you drop from?" factorily. I have influence, believe me. Duty calls me to Nuevo Pueblo, and of my government." He rose to his straight." feet, but his eagerness soon gave place to disappointment.

"Thank you," said Alaire, "but I must first go to La Feria and get all the facts.'

"Senora! It is a wretched journey. See !" He waved a contemptuous geswait upon you. In my company you enjoy the highest courtesy-"

have Dolores and Jose to look after e." Alaire indicated Sanchez, who stood with admiring eyes fixed upon his hero.

"Yes, mi general," Jose exclaimed, eagerly, "I am here."

Longorio scrutinized the horsebreaker critically. "Your name is-?"

"Jose Sanchez." "You look like a brave fellow,"

Jose swelled at this praise, and no doubt would have made suitable answer, but his employer held out her hand, and General Longorio bent over it, raising it to his lips. He called one of his subordinates closer and ordered that a lieutenant and six soldiers be detached to act as an escort to Mrs. Austin's party. "Senora, the hours will drag until I may see you again and be of further service. Meanwhile I shall be tortured with radiant drenms. Go with God!" For a second time he bowed and kissed the hand he held, then, taking Jose Sanchez intimately by the arm, he turned to the

Dolores collapsed into her seat with an exclamation. "Caramba! The man is a demon! And such eyes. Uf!"

Delores was interrupted by Longorio's voice beneath the open window. The general stood, cap in hand, holding up to Alaire a solitary wildflower which he had plucked beside the track. your adorable eyes-blue like the zens asked him where his men was,

cate bloom in Alaire's fingers and was

"Cuidado!" breathed Dolores, "There is blood on it; the blood of innocents, He will burn for a million years in hell, that man."

Jose Sanchez came plowing into "Look, senora!" he cried. "Look what the general gave me," and he proudly displayed Longorio's service revolver. Around Jose's waist was the cartridge belt and holster that went with the Since he knew that Blaze possessed a weapon. "With his own hands he thorough knowledge of this section and "Jose, something tells me you are a devil for bravery. Guard your mistress this afternoon. with your life, for if any mishap be-

her a small package, saying : "The general commanded me to hand down a man of weaker fiber.

you this, with his deepest regard," Alaire accepted the object curiously. "I was coming to that. Your hus- It was small and heavy and wrapped and it proved to be nothing less than

> "God protect us, now!" murmured Dolores, crossing herself devoutly.

the splendid diamond-and-ruby ring

CHAPTER VI.

Blaze Jones and His Neighbors.

Blaze Jones rode up to his front gate and dismounted in the shade of the big ebony tree. He stepped back and ran an approving eye over another animal tethered there. Of course the youths of this day were nothing like the youths of his own, and yet-Blaze let his gaze linger fondly on the highbred words, had enlightened Longorio to mare and her equipment-here at least some extent. His lifted brows were was a person who knew a good horse, a good saddle and a good gun.

As he came up the walk he heard Paloma laugh, and his own face light-"gallery" he uttered a hearty greeting.

Law uncoiled himself and took the ranchman's hand. "Hello, Blaze! I self-married a Mexican, you know." you shall return with me as the guest been ordered down here to keep you

"Pshaw! Now who's been giving you orders, Dave?"

"Why, I'm with the Rangers." "Never knew a word of it. Last I heard you was fillbustering around with the Maderistas."

with the square-hewn, deep-lined face lap of luxury. In the last outfit we will be safe. Upon my honor, you will of a tragedian, and a head of long, curly hair, which he wore parted in a "Of course. But I must go on. I line over his left ear. Jones was a character, a local landmark. This part of Texas had grown up with Blaze, had edged his way very close and now and he possessed a splendid indifference to the artificial fads of dress and manners. He was plainly an outdoor man.

"So you're a Ranger, and got notches on your gun." Blaze rolled and lit a tiny cigarette, scarcely larger than a wheat straw. "Well, you'd ought to make a right able thief-catcher, Dave, only for your size-you're too long for a man and you ain't long enough for a snake. Still, I reckon a thief would have trouble getting out of your reach, and once you got close to him- How many men have you killed?"

"Counting Mexicans?" Law inquired with a smile.

"Nobody counts them." "Not many."

"That's good," Blaze nodded and relit his cigarette, which he had permitted promptly to smolder out. "The force ain't what it was. Most of the boys nowadays join so they can ride n horse cross-lots, pack a pair of guns, and give rein to the predilections of a vicious ancestry. They're bad rams, most of 'em."

"There aren't many," said Paloma. Dave tells me the whole force has been cut down to sixteen."

"That's plenty," her father averred. 'It's like when Cap'n Bill McDonald was sent to stop a riot in Dallas. He "See!" he cried. "It is the color of came to town alone, and when the citisapphire gem." He placed the deli- he said 'Ain't I enough? There's only one riot.' Are you workin' up a case,

"Um-m-yes! People are missing a

ot of stock hereabouts." "It's these blamed refugees from the war! A Mexican has to steal something or he gets run down and pore. Alaire's car, tremendously excited. If it ain't stock, it's something else." Dave Law's duties as a Ranger rested lightly upon him; his instructions

method of "working up" his evidence, buckled it about me, and he said, its people, it was partly business which had brought him to the Jones home

Strictly speaking, Blaze was not a fails her I shall cut out your heart rancher. He had speculated heavily in to have a finger in the ple. I'm interwith my own hands.' Those were his raw lands, and for several years past ested in the bank, the sugar mill, the very words, senora. Caramba! There he had devoted his energies to a gi- hardware store, the ice plant- Say, gantic colonization scheme. It was by Nor was this the last of Longorio's no means a small operation in which size. D'you know what I made out of dramatic surprises. Shortly after the he was engaged. The venture had it last year?" train had got under way the lieutenant taken foresight, courage, infinite hard in command of Alaire's guard brought work; Blaze was burdened with re-

But his pet relaxation was reminis- habit called upon his daughter for ence. His own experience had been verification. "Didn't I, Paloma?" wide, he knew everybody in his part of the state, and although events in ed, and came with equal emphasis: his telling were sometimes colored by "No, you didn't, father. The miserable his rich imagination, the information thing lost money." he could give was often of the greatest value-as Dave Law knew.

After a time the latter said, casually, laughter. "How can a man get along Tell me something about Tad Lewis." without the co-operation of his own Blaze looked up quickly, "What do household?" he inquired naively, "Mayyou want to know?"

"Anything, Everything," "Tad owns a right nice ranch be- self to statements which required no ween here and Lus Palmas," Blaze corroboration. aid cautiously.

Paloma broke out impatiently, "Why hold Blaze Jones to a strict accountdon't you say what you think?" Then ability with fact was to rob his soto Dave: "Tad Lewis is a bad neigh- ciety of its greatest charm. A slavish bor, and always has been. There's a accuracy in figures, an arid lack of ford on his place, and we think he imagination, reduces conversation to knows more about 'wet' cattle than the insipidness of flat wine, and he cares to tell."

"It's a good place to cross stock at keen, shrewd, practical man, but somelow water," her father agreed, "and where in his being there was con-Lewis' land runs back from the Rio cealed a tremendous, lopsided sense Grande in its old Spanish form. It's of humor which took the form of a a natural outlet for those brush-coun- bewildering imagery. An attentive autry ranchos. But I haven't anything dience was enough for him, and, once against Tad except a natural dislike. He stands well with some of our best no limit to his outrageous exaggerapeople, so I'm probably wrong. I usu- tions. A light of credulity in a hearally am."

"You can't call Ed Austin one of our mirth, and it is doubtful if his listenbest people," sharply objected Paloma. ers ever derived a fraction of the "They claim that arms are being smuggled across to the rebels, Dave, and, if it's true, Ed Austin-"

"Now, Paloma," her father remonstrated mildly. "The regulars and the river guards watched Lewis' ranch till the embargo was lifted, and they never saw anything."

"I believe Austin is a strong rebel sympathizer," Law ventured.

"Sure! And him and the Lewis outened, for his daughter's merriment was fit are amigos. If you go pirootin' contagious. Then as he mounted the around Tad's place you're more'n apt steps and turned the corner of the to make yourself unpopular, Dave. I'd grieve some to see you in a wooden "Dave Law! Where in the world kimono. Tad's too well fixed to steal cattle, and if he runs arms it's because he's a 'galvanized Gringo' him-

> When mealtime drew near, both Jones and his daughter urged their guest to stay and dine with them, and Dave was glad to accept.

"After supper I'm going to show you our town," Blaze declared. "It's the finest city in south Texas, and growing like a weed. All we need is good Blaze seated himself with a grateful farmers. Those we've got are mostly ture at the car, crowded to congestion. sigh where the breeze played over him. back-to-nature students who leaped a Blaze sighed and shook his shaggy "There is no food; you have no one to He was a big, bearlike, swarthy man drug counter expecting to light in the



Believe Austin Is a Strong Rebel Sympathizer."

sold there wasn't three men that knew which end of a mule to put the collar on. But they'll learn. Nature's with 'em, and so am I. God supplies 'em with all the fresh air and sunshine they need, and when they want anything else they come to Old Blaze, Ain't that right, Paloma?"

"Yes, father."

Paloma Jones had developed wonlerfully since Dave Law had last seen her. She had grown into a most wholesome and attractive young woman, with an honest, humorous pair of brown eyes. During dinner she did her part with a grace that made watching her a pleasure, and the Ranger were vague, and he had a leisurely found it a great treat to sit at her table after his strenuous scouting days in the mesquite.

"I'm glad to hear Jonesville is prosperous," he told his host. "And they say you're in everything."

"That's right; and prosperity's no name for it. Everybody wants Blaze the ice plant's a luxury for a town this

"I've no idea." "Twenty-seven thousand dollars!" sponsibilities that would have broken The father of Jonesville spoke proudly, impressively, and then through per cent."-Rickmond Times-Dispatci.

Secretary of State Pool is in St. Louis on business connected with the manufacture of automobile plates.

The April reports of the state institutions show that there were 4,969 inmates in the list at the end of the

Threatened inundation of the Platte valley, caused by high water in Wyoming, Colorado and northern Nebraska, is causing some uneasiness in the state engineer's department.

Only a little over \$400 has been spent so far out of the \$50,000 appropriation which the legislature placed at Governor Neville's disposal for enforcement of the prohibition law.

Deputy Revenue Collector Hildebrand says sentiment in Nebraska is strongly in favor of compliance with the new schedule of war taxes, and that they will be met with no attempt

The university extension service has called upon every woman and girl in the state to volunteer their services in teaching canning, and schools will be held in twenty-seven towns and cities to drill them in that duty.

More than \$130,000 is being refund. ed to the oil companies doing business in Nebraska for excess fees collected under the oil inspection law over their protest while the suit which they brought was pending in the supreme

Dean Roscoe Pound of Harvard university law college will deliver the commencement address at the state university, taking the place of General Pershing who had to cancel his engagement on account of war duty in

Rumors of a campaign against subscriptions to the Liberty loan have Boston. Sold everywhere .- Adv. caused the state council for defense to issue a statement characterizing the move as treason, and that it will be treated as such and punished to the fullest extent of law.

Valuations of school land in western Nebraska, which will be sold, will be raised an average of \$5 per acre, if the state board of public lands and buildings follows the recommendations of Secretary of State Pool and Land Commission Shumway.

Owing to inability of the rallroads to meet traffic demands, it is more than probable that the peace celebration that was to have taken place at Vicksburg this fall will be called off. and many Nebraska veterans of the civil war will suffer decided disappoint-

Drill has been suspended at the university because of the calling away of Sergeants Allen and Wirth, who have had charge of the work since Captain Parker left. The sergeants have reno definite assignment as yet, but will be instructed what to do in a short time.

Governor Neville's attention having been called to the labor law making nine hours a day's work for women, says he does not believe the law will be enforced in the case of those women who will be called upon to take men's places during service in the

Plans are about completed for holding regular military drill in connection with the summer term at the university. Prof. C. J. Frankforter of the department of chemistry, who has been active in the formation of a definite plan for summer drill, has made this announcement.

Adjutant General Phil Hall is recelving many letters from young ladies throughout the state asking what they can do to aid recruiting in the national guard winch must be up are being advised to encourage their sweethearts and brothers.

Summer school classes in Red Cross work, for which students will receive full credits, will be started at the university of Nebraska in June. A lecture or a demonstration will be given every day, according to the course outlined by Prof. A. A. Reed, director of the summer school. The course will last eight weeks.

It will cost the state of Nebraska \$4,-000 to replace the blooded stock at the level prairie on all sides. "We've got | Lincoln asylum, condemned because the whole blamed state to grow in. of tuberculosis. Nineteen cows and And, Dave, I haven't got an enemy in one prize bull were found to be sufferthe place! It wasn't many years ago ing from the disease, and they were worth an average of \$133 per head. to be that nobody dared ride with

No more students will be allowed to withdraw from school for war emergency, Dean Engberg announced last week. The total number to leave since the proclamation of war was 1.027, of whom practically a thousand were

For a \$2,000 bond, bonding companies are asking \$50 per year premium. or 21/2 per cent. Druggists are refusing to take out permits to keep alcohol or to be bonded in the companies, as they claim that is about five times the rate charged on ordinary commercial bonds.

Ten university men who enlisted in the "mozquito fleet" a short time ago have been ordered to report to the Lincoln headquarters. It is probable that hose men will be sent to the Atlantic oast for training in a short tirea.

GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE FRECKLES

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as the prescription othine — double strength — is guaranteed to remove these homely spots. Simply get an ounce of othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and gain a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for the double strength othine, as this is sold under guarantee of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Adv.

His Threat.

A month or two after the war star ed a collier entered a large hotel on Tyneside and ordered refreshments, saying: "Big prices noo; An might as weel be a big man.'

On discovering that the walter was a German, the irate pitman, choking with anger, leaped to his feet, ran the affrighted Teuton to the door, and assisted him into the roadway with his foot, and then, wheeling round upon the trembling, expostulating proprie-

tor, he spluttered: "Man, if ivvor ye dare te set a thunderin' Jarman te wait on me ngyen, An'll twist ye an' him roond yor aan necks, an' ram th' pair o' ye haafway doon yor pan throats until that's nowt te be seen ov ye but th' ends ov yor dirty shirt-collars stickin' oot ov yor bloomin' red eyes. Noo ye knaa whaat te expect if ye de l''-London Tit-Bits,

HEAL ITCHING SKINS

With Cuticura Soap and Ointment-They Heal When Others Fail.

Nothing better, quicker, safer, sweeter for skin troubles of young and old that itch, burn, crust, scale, torture or disfigure. Once used always used because these super-creamy emollients tend to prevent little skin troubles becoming serious, if used daily.

Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L,

Much Too Much.

We eat too much. We heat too much. We try too much to beat too much. We growl too much. We scowl too We play the midnight owl too

We ape too much. We gape too much, and dally with red tape too much. We treat too much, and cheat too much, and fear to face defeat too

We buy too much. We lie too much, and snivel and deny too much. We save too much, and slave too much, with one foot in the grave too much.

We sit too much. We spit too much, wear shoes too tight to fit too much. We mess too much and dress too much; in sixteen suits or less to much.

We spite too much. We fight too much and seek the great white light too much. We read too much. We speed too much, hit dope and use the weed too much. We drink too much, We prink too much. I think we even think too much .- Oscar Schleif, in

LIFT YOUR CORNS OFF WITH FINGERS

How to loosen a tender corn or callus so it lifts out without pain.

Let folks step on your feet hereafter; wear shoes a size smaller if you like, for corns will never again send electric sparks of pain through you, according, to this Cincinnati authority. He says that a few drops of a drug

called freezone, applied directly upon a tender, aching corn, instantly relieves soreness, and soon the entire corn, root and all, lifts right out. This drug dries at once and simply

shrivels up the corn or callus without even irritating the surrounding skin. A small bottle of freezone obtained

at any drug store will cost very little to war strength by July 15. The girls, but will positively remove every hard or soft corn or callus from one's feet. If your druggist hasn't stocked this new drug yet, tell him to get a small bottle of freezone for you from his

Short With the Bores.

wholesale drug house,-adv.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot, who recently celebrated his eighty-third birthday in Cambridge, has always had a short way with bores.

In a hotel one day a bore tack-

Doctor Eliot and talked straight ahead for ten minutes about classical literature, the best hundred books, ten-foot shelves, and so forth. "I tell you," Doctor Eliot interrupted

warmly-"I tell you, man, there are no mussels to compare with the abilens. mussels you get in 'Frisco." "No doubt," said the bore, "but what

has that got to do with what I was talking about?" Doctor Eliot yawned.

"What were you talking about?" he

Just Reversed. Doctor-Did be take the medicine 1 prescribed for him religiously? Nurse-No, sir; he awore every

It's hard for the girl who throws herself at a man's head to make a hit.

Granulated Eyelids. Eyes inflamed by expo-sure to Sun, Dust and Wind es fyellemedy. No Smarting. just Eye Comfort. At Druggists or by mail 50c per Bottle. Murine Eye Salve in Tubes 25c. For Book of the Eye FREE ask Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago