


**DELL**

Still 10¢

APRIL-JUNE

NO. 983



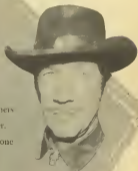
# HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL

Paladin learns,  
you  
can't do  
business  
with  
"A DEADLY  
PARTNER"



Find out what was  
causing the ore mine robberies...  
this was my job.

Each of the mine partners  
was suspicious of the other,  
and I trusted neither one



I found out, nearly too late,  
that one partner was  
deadlier than a rattler.



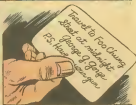
# HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL

## A DEADLY PARTNER

AS A NAME IS CALLED  
ACROSS THE LOBBY OF  
SAN FRANCISCO'S  
CARTON HOTEL, A MAN  
WITH AN UNUSUAL  
TRADE LOOKS UP.



WHY SHOULD ANYONE SEND  
ME MY OWN CARD? BUT MAY-  
BE THERE'S A MESSAGE  
ON THE BACK!



WHAT A SHAME! THAT'S PRECISELY  
WHERE I HAVE TO GO--AT MIDNIGHT!

WHERE IS  
FOO CHUNG  
STREET?

DOWN IN CHINATOWN!  
BUT **NOT** GO THERE! VERY  
**DANGEROUS** PLACE!  
'ESPECIALLY AFTER DARK!



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AS TWELVE O'CLOCK STRIKES...

I DON'T KNOW WHY I KEEP  
LOOKING BACK--UNLESS I'M  
TAKING HEY-BON'S  
WARNINGS MORE  
SERIOUSLY THAN  
I INTENDED TO!



MAYBE HE WAS  
RIGHT! I THINK I'M  
BEING FOLLOWED!



WELL, THERE'S ONE WAY  
TO FIND OUT!



WHERE?



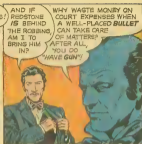
LOOKING  
FOR HER?



GET HIM!





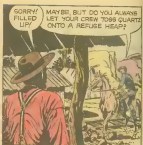


AS IF TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT...



A FEW DAYS LATER...







HOW  
FED  
UP?

FORGET IT! WHEN GORGE STAKED  
ME TO FINDING THIS CLAIM BY  
PUTTING UP ALL THE MONEY, HE  
ONLY ASKED ME TO MAKE A  
MUTUAL WILL WITH HIM SO IF ONE  
DIED, THE OTHER ONE WOULD  
GET ANY GOLD I FOUND!



WAS HE TRYING TO SEE IF I'D HELP  
HIM BECOME GORGE'S HEIR--OR JUST  
MAKING NOISE BECAUSE HE WAS TIRED  
OF SWINGING A PICK? WELL, A LITTLE  
MORE TIME SHOULD TELL.



NEXT DAY...

NOT FILLED  
YET, BRUTOR?

YOU NOT ONLY GOT  
MY JOB, NOW YOU'RE  
GETTING MY GOAT!



WE EXPECT A  
DAY'S WORK FOR  
A DAY'S PAY!

I'M GOING TO WORK  
YOU OVER FOR NO PAY!



DROP  
IT!





HOW CAN HE HELP ME GET RICH? I MAKE TEN DOLLARS A WEEK MORE THAN HE DOES! THIS SHOULD BE INTERESTING!



THAT NIGHT...

OVER HERE, PALADIN! I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SPOT US!

WHAT'S THE BIG SECRET?



ARE YOU PARTICULAR HOW YOU LATCH ONTO TWENTY GRAND?

ANYTHING OVER A HUNDRED DOLLARS MAKES ME FORGET ALL MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME!



THEN BE WITH ME TOMORROW WHEN I STOP THE GOLD WAGON ON ITS WAY TO SAN FRANCISCO!



WHAT IF THE DRIVER OBJECTS?

WHY SHOULD HE? HIS CUT WILL BE TWENTY THOUSAND, TOO!

YOU SOUND PRETTY CONFIDENT!



IT WORKED TWICE! YOU SAVED MY LIFE SO I'M ASKING YOU IN!

I'LL BE WITH YOU, PARTNER!



LATER... THE CHARACTERS OUT HERE ARE BEGINNING TO MAKE SHAKESPEARE'S MACBETH AND LADY MACBETH SEEM LIKE LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS!



NEXT DAY...

WHAT IF REDSTONE MISSES US?

HE WON'T! I TOLD HIM YOU ASKED ME TO RIDE ALONG TO HELP YOU BUY FEED FOR THE WORK MULES!



YOU'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING, HAVEN'T YOU?

FOR THIS KIND OF MONEY, I'M WILLING TO WORK HARD!



GET BACK! THAT DUST COULD MEAN THE WAGON'S COMING!



BUT IF THE DRIVER KNOWS WE'RE HAVING A PARTY HERE, WHY HIDE?

BECAUSE IT MAY NOT BE THE GOLD WAGON AND WE DON'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE US!



LO-LOOK WHO'S DRIVING! THAT ISN'T MY PAL--IT'S REDSTONE!











QUICKLY, PALADIN EXPLAINS HOW GORSE HIRED HIM...

I'M ALMOST CERTAIN BRUTOR EVEN STAGED THAT MINE ACCIDENT SO HE'D SEEM IN MY DEBT AND COULD OFFER ME A GET-RICH SCHEME! BUT HE WAS IN GORSE'S PAY, TOO -- TO MAKE ME SHOOT YOU!

I--I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HAVE YOU ANY PROOF THAT GORSE HIRED YOU?

I GUESS THE COST OF HIGH-LIVING MADE GORSE DESPERATE ENOUGH TO FIRST TRY ROBBING HIS OWN GOLD WAGONS THROUGH BRUTOR AND THEN PLAN TO KILL ME TO GET MY INTEREST IN THE MINE! BUT HOW CAN I PROVE IT?

THIS BOOK WILL DO THAT!



NOW MAYBE YOU'LL LISTEN TO ME!



SOON...

THIS BOOK PLATE PROVES THIS IS GORSE'S COPY! I RECKON YOU HAVE MET HIM, AFTER ALL!

AND I THINK HE HAS PLAYED US BOTH FOR SUCKERS LONG ENOUGH!

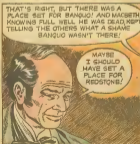


THAT COPY OF "MACBETH"?

YES! YOU SEE, I'M AS ANXIOUS AS YOU ARE TO BRING GORSE TO JUSTICE-- BUT AFTER I COLLECT MY TWO THOUSAND DOLLAR FEE FROM HIM! THIS BOOK WILL HELP US ACCOMPLISH BOTH JOBS!



A FEW DAYS LATER...





# HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL

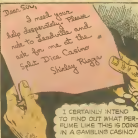
WHEN YOUR GUN IS FOR HIRE, YOU END UP DOING A LOT OF STRANGE JOBS, BUT ONE OF THE STRANGEST, TURNS OUT TO BE RUNNING A GAMBLING CASINO AND... PLAYING WITH LOADED DICE!



WHY ARE YOU HOLDING THE MAIL TRAY SO FAR AWAY, HEY-BOY?

YOU SMELL, WHY, MR. PALADIN!

YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S SCENTED! AND EXPENSIVE FRENCH PERFUME, AT THAT!



I CERTAINLY INTEND TO FIND OUT WHAT PERFUME LIKE THIS IS DOING IN A GAMBLING CASINO!

LATER IN LEADVILLE ...



WHICH WAY IS THE SPLIT DICE, MISTER?



WHY THE SPLIT DICE, STRANGER? IF YOU'RE FOR ACTION, TRY THE ACE!

I'M LOOKING FOR THE SPLIT DICE!









BUT WITHOUT MY GUN!

THERE'LL BE NO VIOLENCE! AT LEAST, NONE THAT I'LL BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR!



THAT'S FINE, BUT WHAT IF ONE OF ACE'S HANDS GOES FOR HIS--

I THOUGHT YOU READ THE CARD I RETURNED TO YOU!



HAVE ONE WILL TRAVEL

PALADIN BARBERS



YOU WIN! BUT IT WON'T BE EASY!

DOING THE RIGHT THING RARELY IS EASY, MR. PALADIN!



THAT EVENING...

THAT BIG FELLOW THERE LOOKS RE-ASSURING! LET'S GO IN!

RIGHT! SEEMS SHE'S HIRED SOMEONE LIKE HIM MAKES ME FEEL WE'LL BE SAFE INSIDE!



BUT AS THE SPLIT DICE CROWDS UP JUST DOWN THE STREET, ACE JOHNSON LIGHTS HIS CIGAR...

WHEN NATTY SEES THIS, THE SPLIT DICE SHOULD EMPTY FAST!





AND AS THE GUNFIRE ENDS...



NEXT MORNING...



NOT EVEN A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP HAS HELPED ME COME UP WITH A WAY TO GIVE THE SPLIT DICE!



**LOOK OUT!**



**WH-WHAT!**



JEDOSHAPHAT! DID YOU SEE THAT?  
NATTY MISSED HIM BY JUST A HAIR! AND NO THANKS TO NATTY'S DRIVING!



THE GENTLEMAN JUST ASKED FOR A PASSENGER--AND AN ANGRY ONE!







LATER...



WITH THE SHERIFF BEING JOHNSON'S PARTNER, WE CAN'T EXPECT MUCH HELP FROM HIM! DID YOU SEE WHO SHOT YOU, MR. RIGGS?

NO--HE CAME UP FROM BEHIND ME!



DID YOU HEAR HIS VOICE? THAT MIGHT GIVE ME A LEAD!

I'M AFRAID NOT! I JUST REMEMBER HEARING A SHOT--THEN WAKING UP HERE!



THEN I'LL HAVE TO DO SOME DIGGING ON MY OWN! WITH THE SHERIFF LINED UP AGAINST ME, MRS. RIGGS, I'LL THANK YOU FOR MY GUN!

NO! THAT STAYS IN MY OFFICE!



THE SHERIFF IS NO FOOL! HE KNOWS I'LL BE POKING INTO CORNERS! HE AND JOHN-SON WILL BE GUNNING FOR ME!

YOU MAY QUIT IF YOU LIKE, AND I WON'T BLAME YOU, BUT I'LL NOT HIRE ANYONE TO USE VIOLENCE! GUNS PUT RON THERE!



I'LL QUIT WHEN THE JOB'S FINISHED THE RIGHT WAY! GOOD-NIGHT!

SHIRLEY, YOU AREN'T MAKING IT EASY FOR HIM!



NEXT MORNING...

NATTY, PICK UP YOUR CHIPS FROM ACE AND RIDE! YOU'RE THROUGH!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN THROUGH?









AS PALADIN STARTS FOR ACE JOHNSON,  
NATTY'S RAISED HAND REACHES FOR  
A CONCEALED KNIFE...





A PLEDGE  TO PARENTS

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## WESTERN CAFES



I'VE FOUND I CAN GET A LINE ON A TOWN BY HANGING MY HAT IN ITS MAIN CAFÉ. I'VE BEEN IN SUCH FAMOUS ONES AS THE CAFÉ IN HAYS CITY WHERE TOM CUSTER USED TO COME SHOOTING IN AND JUMP HIS HORSE UP ON A BILLIARD TABLE.



"THE WORD JOINT" ORIGINATED IN DOGGE CITY, KANSAS WHERE THERE WAS ONE CAFÉ TO EVERY SIXTY PEOPLE. THE MOST FAMOUS WAS THE LONG BRANCH.



EARL BARN'S DEADWOOD CASINO BECAME RENOWNED WHEN WILD BILL HICOKER WAS KILLED WHILE PLAYING CARDS. FOR ONCE, HE DIDN'T SIT FACING THE DOOR.



"THE JERSEY LILLY IN TEXAS IS A COMBINATION OF COFFEE AND CASINO, WITH BAR, GAMING TABLES AND JURY BOX. JUDGE ROY BEAM SERVES DRINKS AND JUSTICE.



"THE GRAND CENTRAL CAFÉ OF ELLSWORTH BOASTS THE ONLY LINCSTONE SIDEWALK IN THE WEST, BUT ITS HOT SIDEWALKS THAT DRAW THE CROWDS TO MOST CAFÉS."

## THE MOTHER LODE



"OUT OF SAN FRANCISCO, MY CALLING CARD HAS TAKEN ME TO SUTTER'S MILL, THE SITE OF CALIFORNIA'S BIGGEST GOLD STRIKE. BEFORE 1848, WAGON TRAINS OF PIONEERS, STOPPING TO TRADE AT SUTTER'S FORT, HAD MADE HIM RICH - HE'D HIRED INDIANS RAISED CATTLE, GREW CROPS, RAN FLOUR AND LUMBER MILLS TO SUPPLY GOODS FOR TRADE.



"WHEN WORKMEN DISCOVERED GOLD AT HIS LUMBER MILL, SUTTER TRIED TO KEEP THE NEWS QUIET. HE DIDN'T WANT PROSPECTORS INTERFERING WITH HIS TRADING POST.



"THE NEWS LEAKED THOUSANDS SWARMED TO MINING CAMPS WHICH SPANG UP NORTH AND SOUTH OF SUTTER'S MILL IN THE RICH SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS.



"LIVING IN LEAN-TOS, TENTS OR EVEN IN THE OPEN, MINERS PAID \$400 A BARREL FOR FLOUR, \$4 A POUND FOR SUGAR, WHILE A FEW MINED OVER \$5,000 A WEEK IN GOLD.



"I'VE HIDDEN THE LENGTH OF THE MOTHER LODE, AS IT IS CALLED, ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY MILES OF GOLD PAYDIRT EMBEDDED IN A VEIN OF QUARTZ, ONE MILE WIDE."