





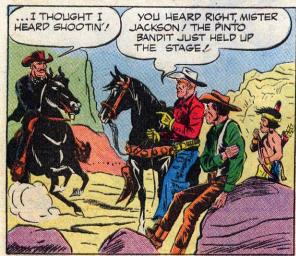
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MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO













































I'LL LET YOU KNOW





WELL, IF YOU DON'T





















































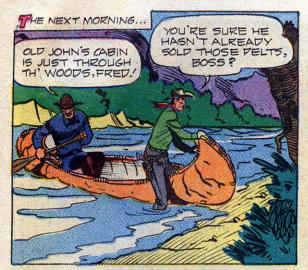






































































THE WEST THAT LIVES FOREVER

FRONTIERSMAN IN NAVY BLUE by FEE MAN



Dozens of motion pictures, novels, television and radio programs have dramatized the exciting discovery of gold in California. But the incredible story of how the first gold from Sutter's Mill was brought to the East has rarely been told in detail.

The hero of this amazing adventure is a young Navy midshipman, Edward Fitzgerald Beale, who traveled alone a distance of over three thousand miles from California to Washington via Mexico.

At the time of the Sutter gold discovery, in 1848, Beale was stationed aboard the United States steamship "Ohio." His superior officer, Commander Jones, selected him to carry word of the discovery to the capitol, urging him to arrive ahead of an Army officer who carried the same message and who was leaving at the same time.

as today, a warm-hearted rivalry

sample

m, but since Navy reguations gave no authority for the purchase, he had to secure the ore on his own. Oddly enough, quinine was valued at a much higher price than gold, and because Beale had a large quantity of the drug in his possession, he was able to trade it for a more than equal quantity of the precious ore.

After hurried preparations, the young midshipman was ready to begin his race. Besides the gold ore, he also carried with him several government dispatches, four six-barreled revolvers, and a knife.

At the time of Beale's journey, the transcontinental railroad was unheard of and even cross-country roads were a dream of the future. To make such a trip through an unchartered wilderness often took as long as six or eight months. But there were other routes which were much quicker. One was by ship around Cape Horn, the southern tip of South America. Another was across Panama and a third was through Mexico and then by ship to one of the Gulf States.

Upon learning that his Army opponent planned to go by way of Panama, Beale decided to take the shorter route through Mexico. For this rough journey, he dis-

d himself as a Mexican; and since he well tanned by the sun and spoke excellent Spanish, he hoped to pass through the country unobserved.

Upon reaching Mexico, Beale quickly learned that the roads were infested with countless bands of ladrones or highwaymen. Once he was held up by three unarmed robbers. But when the outlaws were suddenly confronted by two American revolvers and

a young man with fierce determination, they soon turned on their heels and fled.

After his second experience with holdup men, Beale wondered if he would ever reach his destination alive. So, to insure the safety of the important military dispatches he was carrying, he took the responsibility of opening each one and making copies. He sent the copies by mail to the American Minister at Mexico City. Then, once more, he pushed on, traveling day and night with little rest or food. He stopped only to change horses at small posts scattered at distant points across the country.

Soon it was the rainy season. Many of the roads were almost impassable, and the dry creekbeds quickly swelled into raging torrents. As each storm blew itself out, another, more powerful than the last, came to take its place. Night and day they continued in all their fury, blocking the roads with uprooted trees and great avalanches of stone and mud. Bridges that crossed the flooded rivers were washed out. Time and again Beale was forced to swim through treacherous streams, exerting every ounce of strength to keep from being dragged beneath their murky depths. Several times he lost his way in the blinding rain. At night, he followed the gutted road by the incessant flashes of lightning. For seven long days the storm lashed the countryside. On the eighth day, Beale arrived in Mexico City literally encased in mud.

Yet despite all the delays, Beale's progress was rapid. He was nearly at the half-way mark—much closer than his opponent who had traveled by ship along the Pacific Coast to Peru and had to make his way North again to Panama.

From Mexico City, Beale traveled Southeast toward Vera Cruz, located along the Gulf of Mexico. On the way, he was up again by outlaws, but he managed other daring escape by dashing his horse down an almost precipitous mountain side.

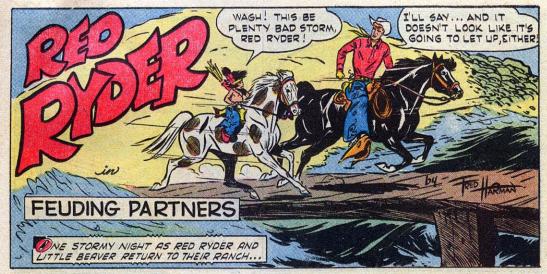
In sixty hours, Beale reached Vera Cruz. From there, he boarded a sloop of war and crossed the Gulf of Mexico to Mobile, Alabama. Within minutes after arriving at Mobile, he was on a stagecoach

headed along the rough corduroy roads toward the nearest railroad, several hundred miles distant. Once aboard the train, the remainder of Beale's journey was comparatively easy. With the worst part of his trip behind him, he had time to relax. At last, he entered the city of Washington—two months ahead of the delayed army messenger.

News of the Sutter gold strike was received in the Capitol with mixed reactions. Instead of earning the highest praise for his daring deed, Beale was laughed at and publicly ridiculed. In order to obtain further proof of Beale's story, other messengers were sent to California by land and by sea to bring back more specimens.

But Beale did not wait for these messengers to return. Instead, he pushed on to New York where men were not such unbelievers. There, he was welcomed with wide-eyed enthusiasm. Almost at once, the migration to California began. Those who could not gain sea passage or were unable to pay the price, crossed the country by foot or in rickety wagons. The entire world was soon startled by the California discoveries. Thousands of immigrants left their homelands, drawn to Sutter's Mill by the magical word - GOLD. People from all walks of life and of all nationalities came. Within the year, about 42,000 immigrants arrived in California by land and more than 30,000 by sea - a total of over 72,000 people - nearly three times the present population of Santa Fe, New Mexico. These were a hardy people, all struggling, fighting and eventually blending into a pertype that was to make California the

adventurous career of Edward Beale. During his life, he made six coast-to-coast journeys and lived to become one of the greatest of all American frontiersmen—a true hero of the early West.

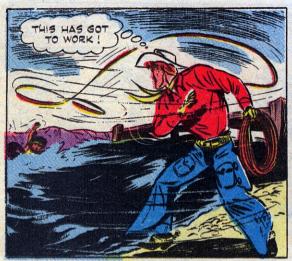
















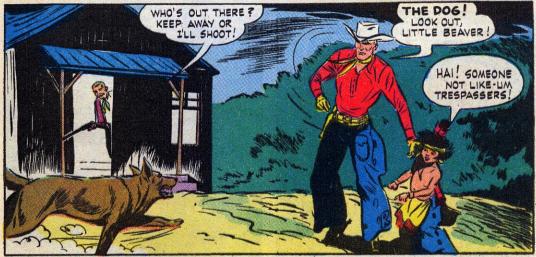


































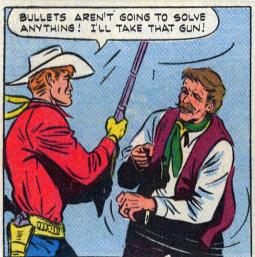
















ME SLEEP-UM
PLENTY SOUND!
NOT HEAR-UM
ANYONE!

I RECKON WE ALL DID!
BUT THIS OUGHTA
PROVE CLEM
WAS THERE!









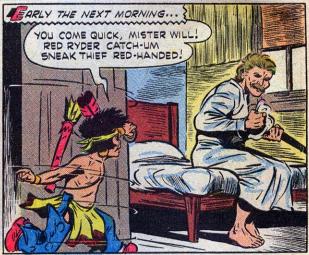




MAYBE NOTHING! BUT I'D

TAHW



























CAPTURED WHEN THEY WERE VERY YOUNG ...

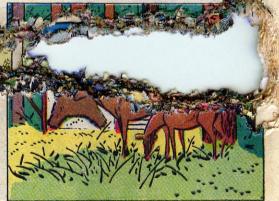
... AND BROUGHT BACK TO THE TRIBE TO BE REARED IN CAPTIVITY!



N ORDER TO HAVE FEATHERS FOR THEIR TRIBAL CEREMONIES, THE PUEBLO PEOPLE OFTEN KEPT

... WHILE SEVERAL TRIBES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARE KNOWN TO HAVE TAMED SMALL HERDS OF WILD DEER!





QUIRRELS, WOODCHUCKS, AND RACCOONS WERE THE FAVORITE PETS AMONG INDIAN BOYS...



PREFER SMALL CROWS AND CHIPMUNKS!



OMETIMES A HUNTER MIGHT RETURN TO THE VILLAGE WITH A YOUNG BEAR!



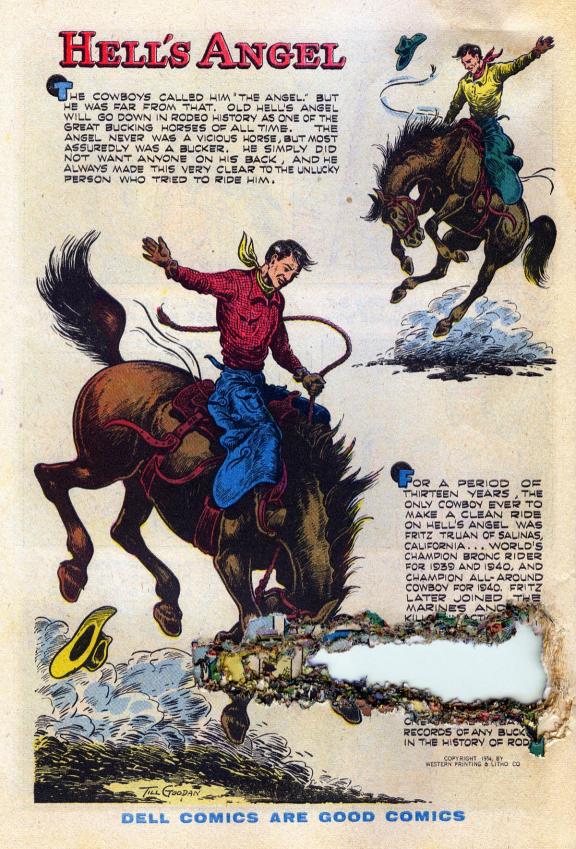
ND AS THE CUB GREW TAME,
THE OLDER BOYS FOUND A NEW
OPPONENT ON WHICH TO TEST
THEIR WRESTLING SKILLS!



OR THE INDIANS BELIEVED THAT, IF TREATED KINDLY, THE ANIMALS WOULD RETURN TO THEIR HOMES TO TELL THE OTHER ANIMALS THAT MEN







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