Dave Henderson stirred uneasily on the edge of the cot. He drew his hand the edge of the cot. He drew his hand slowly across his eyes. He had wished from the start, hadn't be, that it might have been some one else rather than Martin K. Tydeman? But it had been deman's money, and the hundred sousand dollars alone was all that had inted, and Tydeman was dead now, had been dead two or three years, and on that score that ended it—didn't it? The dark eyes, that had wavered ab-gractedly around the cell, narrowed suddenly, and from their depths a moldering fire seemed to leap as suddenly into flame. But there was another score that was not ended! Bookie Skar-Baldy Vickers, Runty Mott and rest of Baldy's gang had ited spethe rest of baidy's gang had field spe-ciously, smoothly, ingeniously and with convincing unanimity. They had ad-mitted the obvious—quite frankly—be-cause they could help themselves. They had admitted that their intention had been to steal the hundred thousand dollars themselves. But they hadn't stolen and that let them out; and they oved that he, Dave Henderson, hadand that saved their own hides. Also they had not implicated Bookie Skar-Also

Their story had been very plausible: Runty Mott "confessed" that, on the morning of the crime, he had overheard Bookie Skarvan and Dave Henderson making their arrangements at the race course to get Tydeman to put up the money to tide Bookie Skarvan over the

He. Runty Mott. had then left at once for San Francisco, put the deal up to Baldy Vickers and Baldy's gang. and they had waited for Dave Henderson to arrive. Naturally they had watched sed prey from the moment of ds arrival in the city, intending to rob im when the money was in his posses-ion and before he got back to the race e that night; but instead of Tydeman turning the money over to Dave Henderson, as they had expected, Dave derson had completely upset their plans by stealing the money himself, and this had resulted in the prisoner's pted getaway, and the automobile hase which represented their own ef-

was half mocking, half umphant, and was mirrored in a grim the that flickered across his lips. He not denied their story. To every ort to obtain from him a clue as to had remained as mute and unresive as a stone; cajolery, threats. he hint of lighter sentence if restitution re made, he had met with silence. He had not even employed a lawyer. The court had appointed one. He had re-fused to confer with the lawyer. The awyer had entered a perfunctory plea

t very good reasons why he had red d to open his lips at that trial— e of them. In the first place, he vas guilty; in the second place there well, Millman was another he miss. The day after temorrow man's time was up, and Millman story; and in the third place—there was the hundred thousand dollars. There was to be no hedging. And he had not That was his ereed. Well, it hadn't it, that creed? The adred thousand dollars was almost his -there were only sixty-three days and bought it with his creed. ught it with five years wrung in blood id sweat from his life, five years that urned his soul sick within him. He said the price. Five years of sunhe had given for that hundred lollars, five years that had ight to bring the slouch of slavery and on to his shoulders, a cringe

was on his feet, his hands elenched knuckles cracked. And he there for a long time staring at door, and then suddenly he laughed his shoulders, and relaxed, laughed in a low, cool way, he had won, hadn't he, even that score? It was not often that enitentiary would do for a man this devil's hole had done for s lad entered it a crude, un-assistant to a crooked bookis education what he had achad run away from an school at ten; and he could place now, given the clothes hance, and pass anywhere for nan-thanks in a very large Charlie Millman.

Dave Henderson began to pace slowup and down his cell. Millman had understood, of course, just why I had so apt a pupil. He had explained to Millman that it had on the very beginning his plan the level of a hundred thousand the level of a hundred thousand hat was waiting for him when ut? Millman knew, of course, Dave Henderson, was up for; was about all. And Millman haps, and very naturally so, sl his, Dave Henderson's, thirst sh and education to the out. and education to the out-of the inherent good that in the coming to the surface f his better nature.

Millman, dp for two years

red a godsend, for there hadn't ch progress made along the lines her education' until Milaman me into the prison.

deception over justified? Espe-cially in love? This is the problem

The Fortune Hunter BY RUBY M. AYRES

Mistaken identity underlies the tangle of plot and there's a fascipating love theme as well. Begins Feday on Comic Page

help into a notorious resort on the night in which a much-wanted member of the underworld was hard put to it to give the police the slip—and Millman had unsuspectingly made himself the vehicle of the other's escape.

The details were sordid: the woman's story pitifully impressive; and Millman's chivalry had led him, innocent



"Was it only five years since he had

of the truth, to deprive the plain-clothes squad of the services of one of their best men for the period of several months while one of the slickest counterfeiters in the United States, and the woman with him, had made good their getaway. It didn't look innocent in the eyes of the police and Millman forts to intercept him.

The dark eyes were almost closed Charles Reith—to save the name of onged to bim back in New York. He place, and no amount of explanation could purify those surroundings. man had never said so in so many of the stolen money, words, but he was buying a little New York with two years' hard labor. And meanwhile he was supposed to be somewhere on a trading schooner in the out-of-the-way isles of the Pacific, or something like that-maybe it was Borneo on a hunting trip-he, Dave Henderson, didn't remember just precisely how the other had fixed it. It didn't The grim smile deepened. There had matter! The point was that they had matter! The point was that they had made willman one of the convict limited with the convict limited brarians in the prison, and Millman had become his tutor and his friend. The day after tomorrow Milltruth that lay belind Runty Mott's be gone. He was glad for Millman's time was up, and Millman would be gone. He was glad for Millman's

> Five steps and a half from the rear wall of the cell to the steel-barred door, and five and a half steps back again-over and over. He was un-accountably restless tonight both in body and mind. He had spent his five years, less the time that had been manumitted for good conduct, and less the sixty-three days that still remained, not altogether to his own disadvantage in an educational sense. In that respect he was satisfied he was now ready to leave the prison and make the most of that hundred thousand dollars—not as a "raw skate." blowing it to the winds, but as one who would make it pay dividends on those five years of servitude that represented its purchase price. It was enough, that amount, for the rest of his life, if he took care of it. It meant comfort, independence, luxury. He didn't want any more. That was the amount he had already fixed and decided upon even before the opportunity had come to take it. It was his first job-but it was equally his last. And it was his last because he had waited until, at the first attempt, he had got all he wanted. He wasn't coming back to the penitentiary any more. He was going out for good— in sixty-three days. Sixty-three days! He wanted no piker, low-brow life at the end of those

sixty-three days when he got out. He had had enough of that! That was one reason why he had taken the money-

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that had taken possession of both his waking and sleeping hours. And there came upon him now, as it had come again and again in these last months, that scene in the hospital when he had first opened his eyes to consciousness and they had rested on the face of the and they had rested on the face of the man who had run him to earth—Barjan, Lieutenant Joe Barjan, of the
Frisco plain-clothes squad. And Joe
Barjan's words were ringing in his ears
now; ringing, somehow, with a cursed
knell in them:

his heart. That hard, unyielding cot: these walls, that caged him within their few scanty feet of space; his keepers' voices, that lashed out their commands; the animals, of which he was
one, that toiled upon the eternal
treadmill of days whose end but foretold another of like horror and loathing

His hands gripped suddenly hard and His face, as he still paced the cell, grayed under the prison pallor. God, it had been long! Years of damnable torment that had shut him out from the torment that him the torment the torment the torment that him the torment the tor it had been long! Years of damnable torment that had shut him out from the freedom that he loved! It had been a paid for that hundred thousand dollars. But he had paid it! He had paid itpaid it! He had gone all the way-

His hands curled into knotted lumps. clapped his hand on Dave Henderson's

getting that hundred thousand dollars away from under the noses of the police and then giving the police the slip. And this, grown to monumental proportions in the last few months, rose before him now like some evil familiar that had taken possession of both his themselves attempted to steal the moncy? It wasn't unreasonable, was it? And he could afford to wait. The \$3000 from Square John Kelly would keep him going for quite a while! He was fool to let this thing madden his brain

knell in them:

"Don't fool yourself! It's a hell of a long time in the pen! And if you think you could get away with the wad when you get out again, you've got another think coming too! Take it from me!"

"Take it was the guard, probably, coming to rap old Tony Lomazzi over the knuckles. Dave Henderson stopped his restless pacing, and stood still in the center of the cell to listen. No, the longer; there wasn't talking any sound at all except that best-heal ringing on the An acute sense of the realization of iron flooring. The sound came nearer, the tangibility of his surroundings and Dave Henderson frowned in a puz-seized upon him and brought a chill to zled way. The guard was not alone,

He could distinguish the footsteps of two men now. It wasn't usual at this

more of the truth than Barjan ever hnew, or could know, that he had told. It had been a hell of a long time of the truth than bar told.

jan, of the Frisco plain-clothes squad-it was the scene of five years ago. That was exactly what Barjan had said then: "Hello, Dave!" And he had answered: "Hello, Joe!" But he did not answer

gone the limit. Was Barjan, right in one thing, right in that other thing as well—that at the end they would bent him?

now.

"This is a little irregular, Dave." said Barjan pleasantly: "but I wanted to have a quiet little chat with you, you know, before"—he stepped forward and

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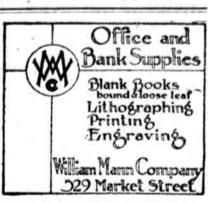
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shoulder, and laughed—'well, before you changed your address.' coutiness and the coarseness of that boot toe—but the significance was irribated by the significance was irribate kind of game. I'm talking atraight-and you know it. Come on now, Dave, pry them lips of yours apart, and come To be continued tomorrow

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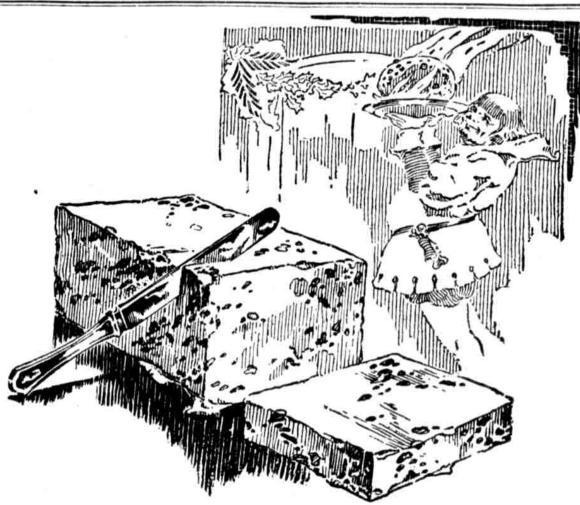
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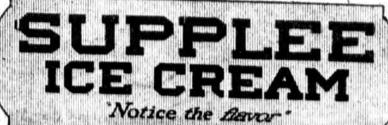
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