

EARLY HISTORY OF CLOUD COUNTY BY H.E. SMITH

IN BUSINESS HOURS

If I had done so I would have saved myself and others from these cruel losses and disappointments. "I have long since divined the cause of both your folly and mine, 'I replied.

"You have!"

"He spoke with a nervous throb in his voice. The color deepened in his face. He looked at me with something like startled suspicion in his eyes.

"Wine is a mocker," I said.

"Wine! What has wine to do with a copper mine company? He asked. "It had more to do with this one, I imagine, than you suspected." "He looked at me steadily for a moment or two. I saw his countenance change. As his eyes slowly to the ground a deep sigh parted his lips. "Good morning!" He said, an instant afterward, and strode away. "He understood me.

"Trouble never comes alone. With sixty thousand dollars taken out of your father's business, and nearly twenty thousand out of mine, we were both in peril. To reach port we must have a smooth sea and favoring winds. But we had neither. There came a sudden panic in financial circles; banks reduced their lines of discount, and rates of interest went up to ruinous figures.

Trade sympathized and fell off. Weak houses began to totter and go down, and stronger ones to show signs of trouble. I struggled, and sacrificed, and held on with desperate energy; but vainly. My boats went under.

**Register of Deeds
Judy Lambert
(Continued)**