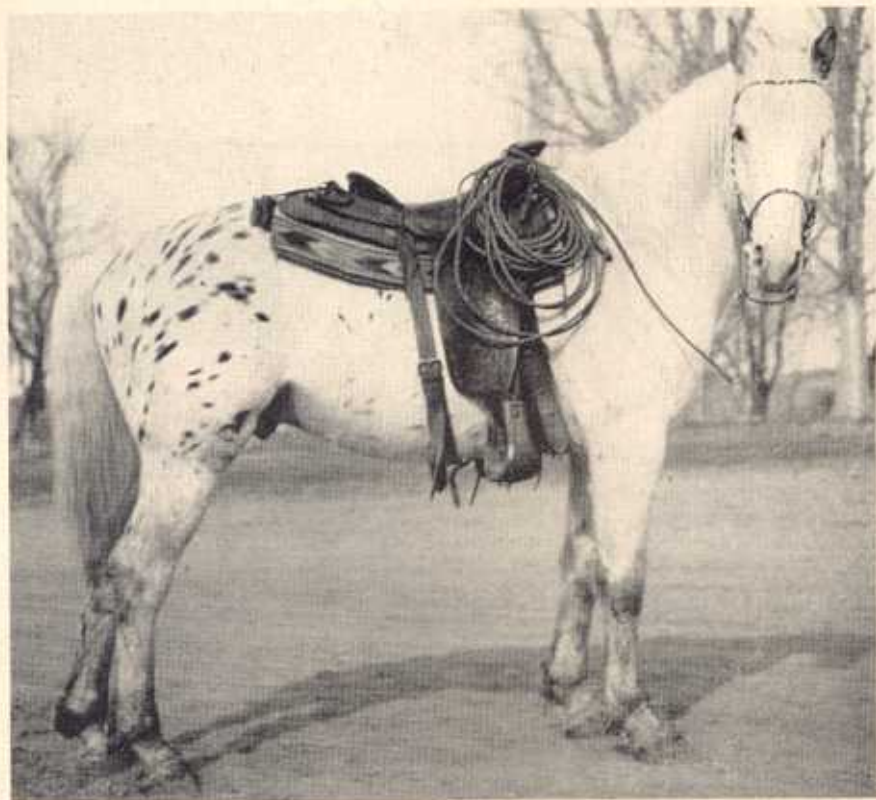


# OUTSTANDING

By Robert L. Peckinpah

## APPALOOSA BLOODLINES

FIFTH INSTALLMENT — "OLD PAINTER"



EL ZORRO #108 (owned by Norman Brown of Smith, Nevada) traces to OLD PAINTER through KENTUCKY GIRL #3 and MARVELS ANGEL #4. EL ZORRO sired SPOTTED EAGLE #208 in 1946, another popular stallion of this bloodline. Mr. Brown reports that EL ZORRO is siring some outstanding colts for him on his Smith Valley, Nevada ranch.

Claude J. Thompson of Moro, Oregon, is perhaps the oldest breeder who is still producing in a direct line from one horse. Producing stallions of his own breeding, from mares of the same breeding, with very little outside help. And to be successful at this, one must be an astute judge of horseflesh; Mr. Thompson has been very successful. There are others who have bred Appaloosa as long as he has, but none have ever placed the faith in one stallion as he did, and few, if any, took the painstaking trouble to set their "pedigrees" down on paper as he did for posterity's sake.

In the early spring of 1927, Thompson was on the lookout for a suitable spotted stallion for his mares. In the late spring of that same year he relates that . . . "I noticed a bunch of mares and foals in a pasture close to the Columbia River Highway some 30-40 miles east of Portland. I was so impressed with the foals, I traced their sire and found him west of Fossil, Oregon, among the Buttes adjacent to the old Chas. Busby ranch, running in a very large pasture with a bunch of mares" . . . Old Painter,

snow white with black spots over the hips, at that time belonged to Fred Busby, the son of Chas., and was a six year old. For the record, he was first noticed as a colt around Prairie City and Fossil, Oregon, following a white mare who was used as a pack animal and who was owned by an old prospector. The colt was taken for a grubstake or gambling debt and subsequently sold to Fred Busby. The story on his sire, although it never has been actually substantiated, was that he was a bay stallion, half "thoroughbred" and half "standardbred".

Thompson never owned Old Painter but immediately after he first noticed him, leased him for a year and bought one of his sons, Young Painter, then 18 months old who was out of a black mare named Dusty Bell. She was sold later and was used in a Prairie City bucking string. The next spring his mares foaled the fillies, Marvel and Snowflake No. 2. Babe No. 1 was foaled on the Busby ranch at the same time and was afterwards purchased. Marvel died as a yearling. Thompson raised several sons by Young Painter, Old Painter's most famous son,