

The Challenge of the Yukon -created by Geo. W. Trendle

Striker

TEAM MATES

Pot Luck

by Fran Striker.

Number: 808  
Date: 4/15

Preston and King

- Judy ..... Ingenue - 21.
- Steve Martin ..... 26, 27 - straight
- Jake Bascomb ..... Heavy #1
- Charlie Peters ... Heavy #2
- Ma Ridgely ..... Sweet old lady
- Voice ..... Bit
- Voice 2 ..... Bit

FILE

Yukon

TEAM MATES

Promo.

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Annor;

When a tunnel caved in, its owner died. Everyone thought it was an accident until Sergeant Preston learned the truth.

Jake;

All right, Preston. So you know we killed Dan Clark, but you're not going to do anything about it!

Voice;

There's going to be another cave-in, Preston. And you'll die just the way Clark did!

Annor;

Disarmed and helpless - without even King to aid him, Sergeant Preston faces four killers who know that their only hope for security lies in the murder of the Mountie. How can Sergeant Preston overcome such odds?

Be sure to listev -(ETC.)

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Number:

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(USUAL OPENING)

(CROWD B.G.)

Annor; When the boat from the States reached Dawson, an attractive girl of twenty-one stepped ashore and placed her handbag on the dock. She looked around as if expecting someone to meet her. Presently a bearded man with a weatherbeaten face approached and touched his hat.

Jake; Howdy, Miss. Are you expectin' to meet someone?

Judy; Yes, I am. Are you Jake Bascomb?

Jake; That's me. You must be Miss Judith Clark.

Judy; That's right. You wrote about my Uncle's death.

Jake; Yeah. Poor Jim. I was his right hand man. I sure lost a friend when he was killed. I told you in the letter about his will - leavin' you the gold mine.

Judy; Yes.

Jake; It's upstream some distance to the claim. Our canoe is waiting over yonder. I'll carry your bag.

(STEPS SUSTAINING AS:)

Jake; The young fellow standin' right over there is with me to help paddle. His name is Steve Martin.

Judy; I see him.

(CROWD NOISES FADE OUT)

Jake; You figure stayin' in the Yukon to run the mine?

Judy; I don't know, Mr. Bascomb, whether I'll run it or sell it.

Jake; Your Uncle put a lot of trust in me, Miss Judy. If you aim to stay, I can run things for you.

Judy; Thank you for the offer.

Steve; (BACK) Hi there. You must be Miss Clark.

Judy; That's right.

Steve; (COMING IN) I'm Steve Martin.

Judy; Yes, I know.

Steve; I'll hand you into the canoe.

Adlib; (GETTING INTO BOAT AND PUSHING OFF AS:)

Annor; With Judy settled in the bottom of the canoe, Jake took the seat in the bow while Steve Martin shoved off, stepped into the rear seat and picked up a paddle.

(RHYTHMIC SOUND OF PADDLES)

Annrcr; The two men paddled steadily without speaking. Steve Martin worked mechanically while his mind struggled to reach a decision. After half an hour he leaned forward and spoke over Judy's shoulder - -

Steve; (SOFT) Miss Clark. I've something to tell you. Move back so Jake won't hear me.

Annrcr; Judy turned and glanced at Steve. His serious expression caused her to obey without comment.

Steve; Your Uncle was not killed by an accident. He was murdered.

Judy; (GASP)

Steve; Jake Bascomb and a man named Charlie Peters killed him so they could take his gold mine.

Judy; (SOFT) B -but it was Jake who wrote ~~to~~ me. He said I had inherited the mine and suggested that I come here.

Steve; They're going to force you to sign a paper that'll transfer the mine to them. Then they'll kill you!

Judy; Why didn't you tell me while I was in Dawson?

Steve; I -- I was undecided. At first I thought I'd go along with Jake's plan, but when I saw you I - well, everything changed. I've been thinking it over. I can't let those crooks harm a girl like you. Believe me, Miss Clark, I didn't have a hand in your uncle's murder. I'm going to try to help you.

Judy;

How?

Steve;

I don't know. Keep your chin up and trust me.

Judy:

C- can't the law do anything?

Steve.

The Mounties are spread mighty thin. Even if one did come along, he'd be alone against five men.

Judy;

Five?

Steve;

Yes. Jake, Charlie and I worked for your uncle. After his death Jake brought in three of his pals. They're at the mine right now.

Judy;

That makes six.

Steve;

I'm not counting myself. I'm not helping those crooks.

Judy:

Does Jake know that?

Steve;

No. But he suspects that I don't like murder. He's watched me mighty close.

Jake;

(BACK) What's all the palaver back there?

Steve;

(CALLS) Just getting acquainted with the new boss.  
That's all, Jake.

Jake;

(BACK) Cut the talk and 'tend to your paddlin'.

(PADDLING UP AND UNDER)

Anner;

The rest of the long, upstream trip was made in silence. Judy was badly frightened, but managed to regain a measure of composure by the time the canoe drew alongside a small dock near the house and gold mine.

PADDLING STOP. WAVES LAPPING.

Jake; (EFFORT) I'll step out of the boat, Steve. Then you hand those cases of canned goods to me.

Steve; Right. () I'll help you out, Miss Judy.

Judy; (SLIGHT EFFORT) I can manage, thank you. () There.

Steve; We bought some supplies while we were in Dawson.

(PUTTING CASES ON DOCK, AD LIBBED AS:)

Jake; Steve, hoist those cases to the dock. I'll go to the house and get a couple of the men to carry them in.

(FADING) I'll be right back.

Judy; (SOFT) Mr. Martin - you -you said these killers had a way to make me sign over the gold mine to them.

Steve; (SOFT) I'll tell you about it, Miss Judy. You see the house over there?

Judy; Yes.

Steve; All three of us who worked in the mine lived there with your uncle, and there was an old woman named Ma Ridgely, who did the cooking. The men are holding her a prisoner there.

Judy; Oh.

Steve; They plan to kill her, but not until you're on hand to watch. They figure to make you sign over the gold mine with the understanding that the old woman will be spared.

Judy; The -the beasts!

Steve; (EFFORT) There's the last of the cases.

(CASE TO DOCK)

Now's your chance - while Bascomb is out of sight.

Jump into the canoe and I'll cast off.

Judy; But I -- I don't know how to paddle a canoe.

Steve; You won't have to paddle. The current will carry you downstream all the way to Dawson. You yell when you get there. Someone will see you and get you to shore. Tell the Constable what I've told you.

Judy; ~~But~~ -- But what about you? Those killers will know you helped me escape. They --

Steve; Don't worry about me. Get in there and lie low.

Judy; All --all right.

Jake; (BACK) (YELL) Hey! What're you doin'?

Judy; (GASP) Jake sees you untying the rope!

Steve; Here you go! (EFFORT)

(RIPPLES)

Jake; (BACK) (YELLING) Come on, boys! The girl is escaping!

Charlie; (BACK) (YELLING) Bring a rifle! The girl is gettin' away!

Ad lib; (BACK) (YELLS AND SHOUTS)

(SCATTERED SHOTS BACK, AS:)



Annrcr; Caught in the current, the canoe moved downstream while Jake, Charlie and three other men came running from the house a hundred yards back from the dock. White with fright, Judy lay in the bottom of the canoe, but raised her head above the gunwale. She saw Steve Martin struggling with the men on shore. Rifles cracked and bullets struck the water close to the canoe. Then one shot hit the boat beneath the waterline.

(BULLET HITS CANOE)

Judy; (CRY OUT)

(WATER SUSTAINING)

Annrcr; The boat filled with water and capsized as the current swept it around a bend. The water was cold and numbing but Judy had the presence of mind to cling to the overturned canoe. Minutes seemed like hours. Judy watched the bank slip past. Several times she tried kicking her feet in the hope of pushing the boat toward shore but without success. She became increasingly weak and realized that at any moment she would lose her grip and sink into the water. Then there was an open space in the shrubbery that grew along the river bank. She saw a man who wore the yellow striped trousers and the broad brimmed hat of a Mountie. Mustering her strength she cried out.

Judy; Help! Help!

(KING BARKING BACK)

Annrcr; Sergeant Preston and his great dog Yukon King saw the figure in mid-stream.

Preston; (BACK) (SHOUTS) It's a girl! Go on, King! Get her!

(SHARP BARKS, BACK)

Anncr; It was late in the spring and the snow was gone, so the Mountie had left his sled in Dawson and was traveling to the barracks with his dogs. But Judy didn't see the rest of the team. She had eyes only for the one great husky fighting the current and swimming strongly to her side.

Preston; (BACK) (SHOUTING) Grab that dog! Grab his harness! He'll bring you in!

(SPLASHING, CLOSE)

Judy; (GASPING)

Preston; (BACK) (SHOUTING) Let the canoe go! Grab the dog's harness!

Anncr; King felt a firm hand clutch his harness. On shore he saw his master moving downstream to keep abreast. The Sergeant's voice called out again.

Preston; (BACK) (SHOUTING) Bring her in, King! Bring her in, boy!

Annor; With Judy hanging on to his harness, King swam toward shore, fighting against the current that carried him downstream.

(WATER)

When he neared the edge of the river, Sergeant Preston waded in to help.

Preston; That's it, King. Great work, boy. Another rescue to your credit! I'll take over.

Judy; (BREATHLESS) Thank goodness I'm ashore!

Preston; Are you all right?

Judy; Oh yes. I -- I can stand if you -- you'll help me get to my feet.

Preston; (EFFORT) Do you think you can walk upstream as far as my camp?

Judy; I -- I'm all right. I'm just c-c-cold.

Preston; I'll build a fire as soon as we reach camp. Come along, King.

(BARK)

Judy; That --that wonderful dog. He --he saved my life.

Preston; Sure you're able to walk?

Judy; Y -y-yes. I -- I don't think I could have hung on to the boat much longer. Is --is it far to Dawson?

Preston; It's a very long way when you're waiting for the current to take you there.

Judy; Then it's lucky I saw you. Lucky for me. You —  
you are a Mountie, aren't you?

Preston; Yes. The name is Sergeant Preston.

Judy; Oh it is so cold. I -- I --(WEAK)

Preston; Steady!

Judy; They --they were shooting at me. They --they hit the  
canoe.

Preston; Don't try to talk now.

Judy; (WEAKER) The boat filled -- filled with water --  
capsized -- I -- I -- (PASS OUT)

(KING WHINES)

Preston; Fainted. (EFFORT) Have to carry her to camp.

(BREAK)

Annecr; In his camp Sergeant Preston wrapped the girl in warm  
blankets and built a fire. Meanwhile Judy had regained  
consciousness and her strength rapidly returned as she  
sipped hot tea. She watched admiringly while the  
Mountie went to work with his keen edged axe on the  
low boughs of evergreens. With skill that came from  
much experience he made a small lean-to where Judy  
could remove her outer garments that they might dry  
by the fire while she remained wrapped in blankets.

Preston; Now while your clothes are drying we'll talk. You're  
new to this country, aren't you?

Judy; How did you know?

- Preston; Your clothing is new and it was purchased in the States. Is your name Judith Clark?
- Judy; (SURPRISED) How did you know that?
- Preston; I heard that you were coming from the States to take possession of your uncle's gold mine.
- Judy; Did you know my Uncle?
- Preston; Slightly. I met him in town a few times -- and I saw him once at his gold claim.
- Judy; Then you knew that he was killed a few weeks ago?
- Preston; Trapped in a cave-in, wasn't he?
- Judy; No, Sergeant Preston. He was murdered.
- Preston; (SHARPLY) Murdered?
- Judy; Yes.
- Preston; Are you sure of that?
- Judy; I'm sure the man who told me would have no cause to lie.
- Preston; Who told you?
- Judy; His name is Martin.
- Preston; A fellow named Martin worked at the gold mine.
- Judy; Yes, and there were two others. Jake Bascomb and Charlie Peters. Martin said Jake and Peters killed my uncle.  
(FADING OUT) They intend to steal the gold mine, but they must have my signature before they can have legal possession.

Annex; (CROSS FADE) Judy sipped hot broth while she told about her arrival in Dawson, the trip upstream, and her escape with the help of Steve Martin. When she finished, the Mountie said - - -

Preston; According to your story, those crooks don't know whether you're alive or dead.

Judy; They know they struck the canoe with a bullet.

Preston; If they think you drowned, they'll probably murder Mrs. Ridgely.

Judy; (GASP) Oh, I hadn't thought of that!

Preston; You said they intended to use her to force you to sign over the gold mine.

Judy; That's what Steve Martin told me.

Preston; If Bascomb knows you're dead, he'll probably forge your name.

Judy; But he can't be sure I'm dead!

Preston; He may have one of his gang follow the river to find out. ( ) Miss Clark, you'll be able to keep warm and comfortable in that lean-to. Enough firewood is cut to last for several hours. King and the other dogs will protect you. As an extra measure I'll leave my carbine with you.

Judy; What are you going to do?

Preston; I'm going to your uncle's house.

Judy; But you can't go there alone! There are five killers in that house!

Preston; There's no one to go with me.

Judy; Can't you get help from Dawson?

Preston; No, Miss Clark. You see, you drifted only a couple of miles downstream before I saw you. It's just a short distance to the gold mine, but it's a long way to Dawson. And with Mrs. Ridgely's life at stake, there's no time to lose. () Here, King.

(WHIMPERS)

I'm going to leave you here on guard. Take care of the girl, King.

(WHIMPERS)

Preston; Miss Clark, leave the other dogs fastened to the line.

Judy; Sergeant Preston, if you must meet those killers, at least take your rifle. You may need it more than I!

Preston; If there's gunplay, my revolver will be handier than a rifle. Keep the fire going. Depend on King.

(WHIMPERS)

Sorry, fellow, but you can't go. You're needed here. See you later, King.

(KING, LOW GROWLS)





Annecr; King leaped ahead, charging straight toward the thicket where he knew the enemy was hiding. The outlaw, seeing the dog advance, rose from the ground to fire - ~~the~~ Sergeant Preston saw him...and fired first-

(SHOT)

Charlie; (CRY OUT) My hand--

Preston; You wanted gunplay!

Charlie; My hand is busted--

KING ADLIB SNARLS

Annecr; King leaped around the bush and closed with Charlie Peters--

Charlie (FRANTIC ADLIBS) Call off the dog - take him away - help me I tell yuh -

Preston; That'll do, King!

KING SUBSIDES

Charlie; What's the idea? Why'd you shoot me?

Preston; That's only a flesh wound on your hand! I fired to disarm you before you killed my dog!

Charlie; No No - I -

Preston; Isn't your name Charlie Peters?

Charlie; Wha- what of it?

Preston; You work with Martin and Bascomb. You sneaked along the river bank, keeping behind the shrubs. Why?

Charlie; N - n - nothing. I only --

Preston; You came downstream to learn whether or not Miss Clark still lived.

Charlie; Now listen, Sergeant --

(HANDCUFFS)

Preston; Hold still while I put these handcuffs on you.

Charlie; You can't arrest me! I've done nothin' wrong!

Preston; There's an accusation of murder against you, Peters. I'm taking you in custody until I learn more about it.

(HANDCUFFS)

That'll hold you for the time being.

Charlie; Listen, Sergeant. I was lookin' for the girl - just as you said. We were downright worried about her. Maybe she told you how the canoe slipped away from the dock with her in it --

Preston; She told me a lot of things. One of which was the way you put a bullet thru the canoe.

Charlie; What's all wrong! That --

Preston; Peters, if you were on the level, there would be no reason for you to sneak along the river bank, keeping out of sight behind the brushwood. Now hold still while I bandage your hand.

Charlie; Wha -what are you going to do with me?

Preston; I'm taking you with me while I go to the Clark mine and talk to Bascomb - Martin and - (POINT) Mrs. Ridgely!

(BREAK)

Annex; It was the season of increasingly long days and short nights. Sergeant Preston set out with his prisoner in the gathering dusk, leaving King and the other dogs with Judy Clark. He forced Charlie Peters to walk ahead on the trail upstream.

(STEPS SUSTAINING)

Preston; You may as well understand your position, Peters. When we get close to the Clark cabin, I intend to gag you and tie you to a tree while I talk to Bascomb and his pals.

Charlie; You've got me all wrong, Sergeant Preston. I've done nothing wrong.

Preston; If that's true, you have nothing to worry about.

(STEPS SUSTAINING, FADE OUT AS:)

Annex; Meanwhile, inside the house where Clark had lived with his men Bascomb sat at a table. Steve Martin and Ma Ridgely sat tied to crude chairs in one corner. There were three other men in the room — three killers — friends for whom Bascomb had sent soon after the death of Dan Clark.

Voice; How long are we goin' to sit around like this, Bascomb? Why don't we get rid of these two and be done with it?

- Ma; That's what I'd like to know. You might just as well kill me now as later.
- Jake; Take it easy, Mrs. Ridgely. Maybe we won't have to kill you at all. Maybe Charlie Peters will bring the girl back here alive. Then if she signs over the property to me, I'll let you go.
- Ma; That's a lie, Bascomb. You'll have to kill me -- and Judy Clark as well! You wouldn't dare let either of us go because you know I'll tell the law how you killed Clark.
- Jake; I didn't kill him. He was caught when his tunnel caved in.
- Ma; The tunnel caved in because you weakened the timbers so they'd collapse as soon as Clark fired blasting powder.
- Jake; The law would have a hard time provin' that. I'm not afraid of the law.
- Steve; You'd better be afraid of the law, Jake Bascomb.
- Jake; You shut up, Steve! You already talked too much. If you hadn't double crossed me to help that girl escape you wouldn't be where you ~~are~~ right now.
- Steve; Bascomb, I'm just prayin' I'll have a chance to tell the law about you.
- Jake; The law won't get here.
- Steve; There'll be law if Judy Clark gets to Dawson.

- Jake; Don't count on any law, Martin. That girl was clinging to a water-filled canoe in mid-stream. She can't survive until the current carries her to Dawson. Before that she'll go numb with cold - lose her grip on the boat an' drown.
- Voice; We're wastin' time waitin' for Peters to bring her back alive.
- Jake; Can't tell. She might have been washed ashore somewhere downstream.
- Voice 2; Mighty little chance of that.
- Voice; Jake, if she's dead, how can we get the property?
- Jake; Same way we'll get it if she refuses to sign it over. I'll forge her name. I'd rather have her genuine signature on the paper, but I'll forge it as a last resort.
- Voice; (GRUMBLING) Well, you're the boss.
- Jake; Glad you recognize that. () Now boys, there's no use of all of us stayin' awake all night waitin' for Charlie to get back. Two of us can stand watch while the other two get some sleep. Lefty, you and Hank turn in. Me and Joe will stand watch for four hours - then we'll call you so you can take your turn.
- Adlib; (AGREEMENT)
- (SHUFFLING STEPS)
- Ma; (LOW) Steve, they --they will kill both of us, won't they?

Steve; I reckon so, Ma Ridgely. They'll kill us the same way they killed Dan Clark -- so it'll look like an accident. And if Peters brings back Judy, she'll die with us -- after she assigns her property to Bascomb.

Ma; I'm glad you didn't go along with their murder plans, Steve.

Steve; I thought Dan's death was really an accident until a couple of days ago when Jake was boasting. I didn't have a hand in it.

Ma; I'm glad, Steve -- glad your conscience is clear.

(BREAK)

Anner; Yukon King felt that he had been left out of important business when Sergeant Preston left camp with his prisoner. For some time he lay quietly on the ground. His ears were alert and his eyes wide open while his nose rested on his front paws. From time to time he glanced toward the girl seated just inside the lean-to near the fire. Presently a feeling of uneasiness swept over King. Some sixth sense told the dog that he should be at the side of his master. He began to whimper softly. Then he rose to his feet and started pacing the length of the rope to which the dogs of the team were tied at intervals.

(INCREASING HOWLS OF DOGS)

The other dogs caught King's mood. One or two raised a voice in protest. <sup>AT RESTRAINT.</sup> The others joined in.

~~King~~

(DOGS HOWLING)

Judy; (APPROACHING) Quiet. Quiet, King. Quiet - all of you. What's the matter with you fellows?

(HOWLS INCREASE. WHIMPERS CLOSE)

Annex; King gripped the girl's skirt in his teeth and tugged gently in an effort to tell her that he and his team mates should follow their master's trail.

Judy; No, No, King. Stop that. Low down and be still.

Annex; Instead of obeying, King trotted to one end of the rope to which the dogs were fastened. He pulled on the knot then looked at Judy. Then he repeated the performance. More than ever now he felt that Sergeant Preston needed help. Finally the girl shrugged her shoulders and said -

Judy; All right. I'll release them.

Annex; Judy could no longer ignore King's plea. She released each dog in turn while King leaped and barked instructions to his mates -

BARKS AND HOWLS UP AND OUT.

Annex; After Peters had been gagged and tied to a tree, Sergeant Preston moved toward the cabin. He knew better than to count on help from Steve Martin. Steve might have been killed. At best, he would be a prisoner. The mountie decided on a strategem that he hoped would give him the upper hand. Loosening his gun in its holster he rapped on the door, then stepped back.

(RAP ON DOOR)

Annex; Inside the cabin, Bascomb and the others grew tense.  
One said —

Voice; (LOW, TENSE) D'you suppose that's Charlie Peters?

Jake; No. Charlie wouldn't rap.

Voice 2; Then who is it?

Jake; Hold your guns ready. I'll find out. (CALLS) Who is it?

Preston; (MUFFLED) Step outside, Bascomb!

Jake; (CALLS) Who are you?

Preston; (MUFFLED) I have some news about Charlie Peters.

Adlib; (LOW STIR)

Jake; (SHOUTS) Open the door and walk in!

Preston; (OUTSIDE) I must speak to you out here — privately!

Voice; What do you make of it, Bascomb?

Voice 2; D'you suppose that girl could have reached Dawson and sent a lawman up this way?

Jake; I don't see how, but I'm taking no chances. Lefty, you go out the back way thru the woodshed, then circle the house so you can cover the man outside. Now make it fast. Get going.

Voice; Right.

(STEPS GOING BACK)



Preston; (OUTSIDE) Are you coming out?

Jake; (CALLS) Be right there! (LOW) You two boys stand over there behind Steve Martin and Ma Ridgely. If either of them tries to make an out cry, rap 'em on the head.

(SHUFFLING FEET)

I'll see what that critter wants.

(DOOR OPENS)

(SLIGHT WIND)

Annex; For a moment Jake saw no one. Sergeant Preston was standing in the darkness away from the light that spilled thru the open door.

Preston; Over here.

Jake; Oh. I didn't see you. Speak up fast, Mister. Tell me what you - - (GASP) (TENSE) A mountie!

Preston; (LOW) Yes, Bascomb. The name is Sergeant Preston. Keep your voice low.

Jake; What do you want?

Preston; I'm investigating the death of Dan Cleak. (EFFORT) I'll take that gun.

Jake; You got it.

Preston; I know you have a few men inside the house. You're to walk thru that door ahead of me. If anyone starts gunplay, you'll be in the way of bullets.

Jake; Now see here, Mountie, there's no call for you to treat me like a murderer.

Preston; With the odds against me, I take no chances.

Voice; (BACK) Get your hands up, Mountie!

Jake; Good work, Lefty. (CHUCKLES) Now I'll take back my gun, Preston -- and likewise yours. (EFFORT) There. Now we'll go inside. That's where you wanted to be, isn't it?

Preston; That's right, Bascomb. But I don't care to go inside while you two have the drop on me. I'd rather have it out - (VIOLENT EFFORT) - right here!

(BLOW)

Jake; (GRUNT)

Voice; (EFFORT) No you don't!

(S CUFFLE) (GRUNTS) (ETC.)

Annrc; As a desperate measure, Sergeant Preston ducked to one side and jabbed a hard fist into Bascomb's stomach. He caught both outlaws off balance, but his advantage was only momentary.

Jake; (YELL) Don't put a bullet in him! Take him alive!

Voice; (EFFORT) Right!

Jake; Grab his arms!

Annrc; The two remaining outlaws rushed from the house to end what small chance Sergeant Preston had to conquer Jake and Lefty. A smashing blow caught the Mountie on the chin.

## (SMASHING BLOW)

Voice 2; That did it!

Annrc; Sergeant Preston was dazed and limp, but not unconscious. He staggered, and would have fallen but for the support of the men who held his arms. Thru the open doorway he could see Steve Martin and Ma Ridgely tied to chairs, and he heard Jake Bascomb saying - -

Jake; You two fellows go inside and drag Ma and Steve into the kitchen. I don't want them to tell too much to the Mountie.

Adlib; (MURMURS, FADING BACK)

Jake; Thought you were smart, eh Mountie?

Preston; (WEAK) If I don't get you, Bascomb, someone else will.

Voice 2; Boss, I don't like to have a hand in the murder of a Mountie.

Jake; There'll be no murder. It'll just be another tunnel cave-in. Just another accident.

Preston; You won't get away with it, Bascomb. Miss Clark knows how her Uncle died.

Jake; Oh, so she's alive, eh? You met her!

Voice; That's what brought you here!

Preston; Yes, she's alive. And well guarded.

Jake; What's her word against the world of all the rest of us?  
( ) Take him inside, boys. We'll tie him, then move all three of our prisoners to the cave.

Voice; Come on, Mountie.

(DISTANT HOWL)

Voice; Wait a minute, Boss. Was that a dog?

(HOWLING BACK)

Jake; Dog or wolf I can't be sure. What's the difference?

Annrc; Sergeant Preston recognized the deep throated voice of the great dog Yukon King. His strength was returning rapidly, and though his brain was clear, he couldn't understand why King had left the camp. He wished there were some way to turn back the dog who would have no chance against four armed men.

(STEPS ON FLOOR)

(DOG HOWL NEARER)

Jake; Come inside, Lefty, and close that door.

Voice; Dog or wolf, whatever the critter is, he's coming closer -- coming from the other side of the house.

Jake; Well stand there and watch for him if you're a mind to!

(KING COMING IN SNARLING & BARKING AS:)

Voice; There he is!

Annrc; Standing just outside the door, Lefty saw the great dog leap into view around the corner of the house.

(SHOT)

He fired once, but he fired too fast. His bullet went high.

Annex; King leaped and knocked him sprawling.

Adlib; (CONFUSION BEGINS TO BUILD)

Annex; Then King was thru the door and he was not alone. The other dogs were right behind.

(SNARLS, GROWLS, YELLS & SHOTS)

Annex; The room was filled with powerful huskies, leaping and dodging as they attacked the men who tried to bring their guns to bear.

Preston; Take 'em, boys! Take 'em!

(SHOTS(DOGS, SCUFFLING, BANGING FURNITURE, ETC.)

Annex; There were scattered shots - -

(DOG YELPS)

CLOSED IN

-- one dog was hit but the others quickly ~~seized the~~  
~~guns~~ ~~arms~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~outlaws~~ ~~in~~ ~~their~~ ~~powerful~~ ~~jaws~~. Jake momentarily broke loose. He had dropped his own gun, but now he snatched the Mountie's weapon from his belt as Sergeant Preston leaped forward.

Preston; No you don't, Jake!

Annex; He put all his strength into a smashing blow to the killer's jaw.

(BLOW) AS:

Preston; That'll hold you! (EFFORT)

(FALLING BODY, DOGS SUBSIDE TO SNARLS AS:)

Annex; Jake went down. Preston reclaimed his gun, and held it ready, but the fight was over. The dogs had done their work. The outlaws lay flat on the floor, disarmed and wild-eyed with panic as they stared at the threatening fangs so close to their throats - -

Preston; That's all, boys! Quiet, King. Quiet, all of you!

(SUBSIDE)

Preston; You men, stand up. The dogs won't hurt you unless you resist. Line up over there and face the wall. You, too, Jake!

Adlib; (GRUMBLING)

Annex; Preston held his gun in readiness and kept a sharp watch on the outlaws as he opened the kitchen door. Behind his back he heard Steve speak -

Steve; Look, Ma Ridgely! He's captured all the crooks!

Preston; I have a knife, Martin. I'll cut that rope around your wrists.

Steve; Just free my hands and I'll take care of the rest.

Preston; Good.

Ma; Sergeant you have four of the crooks, but there's a fifth one. His name is Charlie Peters.

Preston; He's already a prisoner, Mrs. Ridgely. I'm taking him and Bascomb in for murder and the others for attempted murder. ( ) Your hands are free, Steve.

Steve ; Thanks, Sergeant.

Preston; Save the ropes to tie the prisoner's hands. Meanwhile I'll keep them covered.

(BREAK)

Anncr; Steve Martin tied the hands of Jake and his three companions then held a gun on them while Sergeant Preston examined the wounded dog.

Preston; Just a flesh wound. You'll be all right, fellow. I'll put a dressing on that when we have more time.

Anncr; The wounded dog and King remained in the house while the rest were turned out of doors. Preston brought Charlie Peters from the tree where he had been tied and as he entered the house he heard the voice of Judy Clark.

Judy; (APPROACHING) Sergeant Preston! Sergeant Preston!

Preston; Miss Clark!

Judy; (COMING IN BREATHELESS) I - I've run almost all the way!

Preston; Come in and close the door.

Steve; Miss Judy! Thank goodness you're alive!

Ma; Are you all right?

(DOOR CLOSES)

Judy; (BREATHELESS) Yes, yes I'm all right. ( ) Oh — you've captured them all!

Preston; I don't know why you and the dogs left camp, but I'm very glad you did.

Judy; It was King's idea. He tried to tell me to untie the dogs and when I didn't, he chewed the rope that held them. They came here, and there was nothing for me to do but follow.

Preston; King, I told you to stay with the girl.

(KING WHIMPERS)

Ma; Sakes alive, don't scold him! If he hadn't brought his pals here - we'd all have died!

Preston; I'll not scold him, Mrs. Rigely. He doesn't often disobey - and when he does it's generally for the best.

(KING WHIMPERS)

Good work, King. You've done your part. We'll take these crooks to Dawson - then this case will be closed.

(BARKS)

THEME