

FILE

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon

Created by Geo. W. Trendle.

Number 981

Date 2/14/52

THE CASE THAT WAS NOT CLOSED

by Fran Striker

- Preston
- King
- Inspector....as before.
- Lola.....ingenue. Cafe singer.
- Wilson.....heavy
- Moose..... "
- Lefty "
- Carlson.....soft-voice crook.
- Blake.....small part. Doubled.
- Voice bits to double.

Names from World Atlas

*Pel has his story
Law doesn't want you 2*

Promo Case not Closed

Annncr; Now, here is Sergeant Preston.

Prest; Reporting for orders, Inspector.

Insp; Sergeant, When Spike Wilson was sent to prbison, he made three vows.

Prest; I remember, Sir. He swore to escape and to kill the girl who double crossed him.

Insp; Also, to kill you for arresting him! Well, he has escaped - and he's on his way to kill the girl!

Prest; If I work fast, Inspector, I may be able to intercept him.

Insp; In so doing you'll place yourself where he can keep his third vow! Yet, there is no alternative!

Enact; Sergeant Preston ^{-is} ~~was~~ prepared to meet a notorious kill in a final showdown - but he doesn't know that his enemy is accompanied by three other men - all of them deadly. Be sure to listen- etc

Challenge of the Yukon

by Fran Striker

Number 981

THE CASE THAT WAS NOT CLOSED

Date 2/14/52

(USUAL OPENING)

Annrcr; At the end of a long trail Sergeant Preston came to grips with the notorious outlaw, Spike Wilson. There was a hand-to-hand fight...a bitter struggle which the Mountie finally won. He arrested his man and said, -

Preston; This case is closed.

Annrcr; When Wilson went on trial Sergeant Preston was in court. Hot hatred flushed the prisoner's face when he saw the man who had beaten him to the ground. Again he seemed to hear the words that had marked the of his criminal career -

Preston; (FILTER) This case is closed.

Annrcr; Wilson was obsessed with a single thought. He heard little that went on in court. He was silent and sullen until the end when he was called to stand and face the court -

Voice; Wilson, you have been found guilty as charged in the indictment. Have you anything to say before I pass sentence?

Anncr; Wilson stood before the judge. Slowly his evil, blood-shot eyes turned toward Sergeant Preston.

Preston; (FILTER) (SNEAK IN) This case is closed - this case is closed- (SUSTAIN IN BG)

Anncr; Though the Mountie was silent, his voice assailed the outlaw's brain.

Preston; (FILTER)(OUT OF BG UP) This case is closed- this case is -

Wilson; (CUT IN EXPLOSIVELY) This case is not closed! Throw me into jail an' see how long I stay there!

ADLIB: (STIR)

Wilson; (FRENZY) I'll get out an' I'll get square with my enemies!

GAVEL ADLIBBING

Wilson; (BUILDING) I'll get you, Preston! I'll kill you!

Voice; ORDER! ORDER IN THIS COURT!

Wilson; (MORE SO) An' I'll get that girl who testified against me! No jail can hold Spike Wilson! Yuh hear that? I'll get out an' I'll get square!

BREAK

Anncr; Wilson was carried bodily from the court room and sent to prison to begin a term that would last for the rest of his life. It was several weeks later when Sergeant Preston and his great dog, Yukon King came into Dawson at the end of a routine patrol.

KING BARKING.

Anner; A constable was standing outside the door of the Mountie headquarters.

Preston; (COMING IN) Hello Blake.

Blake; Glad to see you, Sergeant. () Yes, King, you too. How are you fellow?

BARKS. SUBSIDE AS

Preston; All right, King. Quiet down. You talk too much.

Blake; Much snow in the back country?

Preston; Lots of it. And more coming. Is the Inspector in his office?

Blake; Yes. He's particularly anxious to see you. He-

DOOR OPENS.

Inspector; (SLIGHTLY BACK) Sergeant Preston!

Preston; How do you do, Inspector Maynard!

Inspector; I thought I recognized King's bark. Constable Blake, will you take charge of King?

Blake; Yes sir.

Inspector; Step in, Sergeant.

Blake; (FADING) Come with me, King.

ONE QUESTIONING BARK

Prest; Go ahead, King.

BARKS FADING - CUT AS-

DOOR CLOSE. STEPS CROSS FLOOR AS

Inspector; We'll talk in the private office. Did you bring back your sled and dog team?

Prest; Yes sir. I left the outfit at my cabin.

DOOR OPEN AND CLOSES AS -

Inspector; Sit down next to my desk, Sergeant. I have some news for you. (SITS DOWN) Grim news.

Prest; Yes ?

Inspector; Spike Wilson has escaped from prison. (PAUSE) Well, have you no comment?

Prest; (SLOW AND THOUGHTFUL) My fault!

Inspector; Your fault ? How is it your fault?

Prest; I should have had more evidence - evidence so there could have been no doubt about the fact that Wilson committed murder. He would have been hanged by this time.

Inspector; He'll hang the next time. A guard was killed during the escape.

Prest; When did he escape?

Inspector; Day before yesterday.

Prest; If I hurry, I may reach Kingston ahead of him.

Inspector; Kingston. That's two days from here.

Prest; Yes sir- and four days from the prison.

Inspector; Why do you mention Kingston?

Preston; There's a girl in Kingston, a singer who works in the cafe. Her name is Lola.

Inspector; Lola! Yes, I remember. She was a witness at Wilson's trial. Her testimony was very important.

Preston; More than that, Sir. She gave me information that led to Wilson's capture. She told me where I might find him! And Wilson knows it! That girl's life is in danger.

Inspector; Un-m. I hadn't thought of her. I've been thinking of the threat Wilson made against you.

Preston; Many crooks have threatened me, Sir.

Inspector; Yes - and many have boasted that no jail could hold them. In most cases such threats and boasts are meaningless. Wilson, however, made good his threat to escape -

Preston; I'd like to start for Kingston as soon as possible, Inspector Maynard.

Inspector; I'll give you a quick run down of the facts at hand. Three men whose faces were covered attacked the guards. One guard was killed. Two were wounded. During the fight, one of the attackers lost the handkerchief that concealed his face. He was recognized by one of the wounded guards. His face is on handbills, Preston. He's been wanted for a long time.

Preston; His name, Sir?

Inspector; Carlson. Jay Carlson, Alias -

Preston; (CUT IN SHARPLY) Baby-face!!

Inspector; Yes. Baby-face Carlson.

Preston; (GRIM) King and I nearly had him last summer.

Inspector; That's when you were caught in a landslide.

Preston; Carlson escaped because of that landslide. I thought he'd left the Territory.

Inspector; Obviously he's still around. He and Wilson as well as the two others must be brought in. That is your assignment.

Preston; Yes sir.

Inspector; We know that Carlson and Wilson are deadly! Their partners are probably just as dangerous. I hate to send you on this mission alone.

Preston; King will be with me.

Inspector; Yes- but I wish we could spare a couple of men. (SIGHS) We have so few men - to cover so much territory - () Well, I can only say, Good Luck - and may the Good Lord help you!

BREAK

Annex; Sergeant Preston left for Kingston with his dogs and sled as soon as possible. The second night found him camped on the trail about one day's travel west of town. And at the same time, north of town, Spike Wilson and his pals were camping in a cave-

Moose; We've covered a lot of ground since the jailbreak.
It was a good idea, Wilson, to travel on the river.
The wind kept that ice clear of snow.

Wilson; It was the only way to travel without leavin' tracks.

Lefty; But the lawmen are sure to figure we took to the
river-- they'll be lookin' for us--

Wilson; Lefty, you an' Moose don't know this country.
There's hundreds of branchin' streams along the
river. For all the lawmen know, we might've turned
off on any of 'em.

Lefty; How long you aimin' to stay with the river, Wilson.

Wilson; Right at this point the river turns. We'll have to
leave it if we're to go to Kingston.

Moose; You're goin' there on account of that girl - -

Wilson; Lola double crossed me. She put Preston on my
trail, then testified against me at my trial.
For that, she's gotta die!

Lefty; Wilson, maybe Moose and I are tenderfeet in this
Yukon country - -

Wilson; Yeah! You sure are!

Lefty; Even so, I'll bet the lawmen here figure things out
the same as in the States.

Wilson; What of it?

Lefty; They all know you blew your top at the trial. They
know you'll plan to kill the girl who double crossed
you. They'll be waitin' in Kingston for you to
show up.

Wilson; I've been thinkin' the same thing. (CALL) Hey, Carlson. You asleep?

Carls; (SLIGHTLY BACK) How can any man sleep while you three make so much chin-music?

Wilson; I want to talk to you. Come over here, Baby Face.

Carls; (COMING IN) Listen, Wilson, I don't like it when you call me that. See? I don't like it.

Wilson; All right, Sit down. D'you still carry that outfit of woman's clothes in your pack?

Carls; Yeah. Sure thing. With that outfit I go where I want an' when I want. See? I c'n walk through any town an' no one suspects me of bein' the man whose face is on handbills. See?

Wilson; Then you start early in the morning and go to Kingston! You'll be there by late afternoon.

Carls; I go alone?

Wilson; Yes.

Carls; Wearin' woman's clothes?

Wilson; You needn't put 'em on until your near the town. You go to the cafe. Fix some kind of story to get you inside Lola's room. That's upstairs over the cafe.

Carls; I savvy. I'm to do your murder for you. That it?

Wilson; That's it.

Carls; What's in it for me?

- Wilson; What's in it for you! Why you pint-sized little squirt. If I hadn't kept my mouth shut, you'd be danglin' on a hangman's rope. I might've won clemency by tellin' the law where to find you, but I kept quiet. For that you owe me plenty.
- Carlson; For that I brought these boys and broke you out of prison. That squares me, See? You want me to do your killing, you pay!
- Wilson; All right. Lola has an iron box in her room. It holds about five thousand dollars in cash and twice as much in jewelry. Bring it back here and I'll give you half.
- Carlson; It's a deal.
- Wilson; And don't try to run out with the cash. Bring it back here, Carlson, because it's just a beginning. It'll pay the expenses for some really big jobs I have in mind.
- Carlson; Good. I'll bring it back. Now what about Sergeant Preston? You swore to kill him. If I see him in town, d'you want me to - -
- Wilson; (CUT IN) I want to deal with Preston myself. I want to beat him to within an inch of his life, before I kill him. But Carlson -
- Carlson; Yeah?
- Wilson; If you think of a way to get him in this cave, unarmed an' with his hands tied, I'll give you my half of Lola's cash and jewels.
- Carlson; I'll see what I can do about that.

--- breakx-

Annex; With a pack that held woman's clothing, Baby-face Carlson left the cave early in the morning and traveled south toward Kingston. Meanwhile, Sergeant Preston headed east to reach the same community. It was late afternoon when the Mountie halted his team behind the cafe. He left Yukon King in charge of the dogs and hurried thru the back door.

DOOR CLOSSES. CAFE BG. SOFT.

There were only a few people in the cafe at that hour. Preston quickly spotted Lola in a corner talking to the pianist. He crossed the floor-

STEPS CROSSING FLOOR

Preston; (MUTTERS) Thank goodness I'm in time.

Lola; (FADING IN) Well look who's here! Mozart, you know Sergeant Preston, don't you?

Moice; Yeh. Howdy.

Preston; Hello. Mozart. Lola, I must speak to you alone. D'you mind, Mozart?

Lola; Breeze, Honey.

Voice; Yeh, sure. (FADES) I'll see yuh later.

Preston; Thanks.

Lola; Anything w rong, Sergeant?

Preston; Lola, have you heard from Spike Wilson?

Lola; No! An' I hope I never do! That skunk played me for a sap!

Preston; Yes. I know he did.

Lola; He made me believe his pals had captured my sister on her way from the States. As the price for her safety, I had to help in some of his shady deals..

Preston; That's all in the past, Lola. You squared yourself with the law when you learned that your sister had never left the States.

Lola; Glad I was able to help jail that crook!

Preston; Lola- he's broken out of jail.

Lola; Spike Wilson? He's out- - () (GASP) Oh- -

Preston; He may come here.

Lola; Y-yes. He- he'll come here all right. He'll come to kill me!

Preston; That's why I wanted to talk to you. I'll fix it with your employer. If Wilson comes here, I'll be waiting in your room for him.

Lola; Oh -

Preston; Meanwhile, you'll be in hiding.

Lola; Where?

Preston; I'll take you to the home of the constable and his wife. How quickly can you pack your bag?

Lola; It'll only take a few minutes; but Sergeant, I hate to run from that rat, Spike Wilson. Don't you think it'll be all right to go on with my act as long as you're here to watch ?

Preston; Lola, I'd rather have you out of this cafe. No telling what may happen here.

Lola; All right. Anything you say is all right with me.

STEPS CROSSING FLOOR AS

Preston; I'll explain everything to your boss, then wait for you at the foot of the stairs.

Lola; Front stairs or back?

Preston; The back stairs. Then we'll slip out the back door and no one will notice you leaving.

FADE OUT SOUND DURING

Annrc; The cafe owner was glad to cooperate with Sergeant Preston. The Mountie gave a few instructions then went to the foot of the back stairs to wait for Lola. He was right beside the rear door and he could hear King barking-

SNEAKED IN BARKS .

Preston; (MUTTERS) King knows I'm here -

DOOR OPENS. A COUPLE BARKS.

Preston; Steady there, what's the trouble, King?

WHIMPERS.

No, no, fellow. You can't come in. Stay there with the dogs. I'll be with you in a few minutes.

DOOR CLOSES.

ADLIB WHIMPERS AND WHINES

Annex; The uncanny ability of dogs to sense the nearness of danger was possessed by Yukon King to an exceedingly high degree. The dogs of the team, still hitched to the sled, lay on the snow and watched their leader. They couldn't understand why King whined and whimpered at the closed door, trying to tell Sergeant Preston to be on guard.

KING STOPS.

Suddenly King became silent. He was tense in every muscle. His nose pressed close to the edge of the door. Beyond that door, close to his master, was a scent he recognized. But Sergeant Preston saw nothing familiar in the skirted individual who said --

Carlson; (SOFT) I'll not take a moment of Miss Lola's time, sir.

Preston; She'll be down in just a moment, Mrs. Uh --

Carlson; Mrs. Hawks is my name--

Preston; Mrs. Hawks. Can't you wait here to speak to her.

Carlson; The matter I wish to discuss is very private-- and personal. Intimate I might say -- if I might go to her room for only a moment--

Preston; Very well.

Carlson; Thank you -- thank you so much --

STEPS START UP THE STAIRS, FADING AS

MUFFLED YELPS AND BARKS SUSTAIN AS

Annex; Then King went wild. The trace of a scent that came thru the door reminded the dog of the end of a summer trail. It was the scent of an outlaw who had been tracked down, then lost because of a landslide. King knew what Preston had no way of knowing. The figure in woman's clothing who ascended the stairs was Baby-face Carlson.

BARKS FULL UP AND OUT

Annex; Our adventure will continue in just a moment.

COMMERCIAL

Annex; Now to continue.

FADE IN BARKS AND YIPES MUFFLED.

Annex; Sergeant Preston couldn't account for Yukon King's sudden frenzy of excitement. He glanced up the long flight of stairs. He heard the woman he knew as Mrs. Hawks rapping on the door of Lola's room. Then he turned back to the door -

Preston; (MUTTER) What's the matter with King.

OPEN ING DOOR AS

Preston; (SHARPLY) King! You must stop that noise. You -

WILD SNARLS FADING FAST

Preston; (SHARPLY) King!

Annex; The dog leaped past the Mountie and streaked up
the stairs.

Preston; King! Come back here!

RUNNING STEPS ON STAIRS AS

Annex; The dog paid no attention. Preston ran up the
stairs two at a time. He reached the top and
saw King at the far end of the hall, charging
the figure who stood at Lola's door. Carlson's
hand came from beneath the woman's coat holding
a knife. King grabbed that arm in his teeth as
the force of his attack sent Carlson's sprawling
to the floor.

STEPS RUNNING ALONG HALL.

SNARLS FADING IN AS

Carlson; (WILD CRIES FADING IN) Get away, you cur, get back.
Call off this dog!

Preston; (SHOUTING) King! What's wrong with--

Annex; Preston didn't finish! He knew what was wrong.
Carlson, struggling on the floor, had lost his
wig and the shawl that had covered his head.
His coat had fallen open revealing a man's clothing
and a gunbelt.

Preston; Carlson! Baby-face Carlson!

Carlson; (PANIC) Call off this dog! Call him off!

Oreston; Down King! I'll take over!

KING SUBSIDES.

Lola; W hat's going on here?

Preston; I'll take that knife, Carlson. And the gun- ()
Now stand up and I'll see how handcuffs fit your
wrists!

Lola; Hey! I've seen that face on handbills! That's
Baby-face Carlson!

Preston; Yes, Lola!

(HANDCUFFS)

Carlson; Those cuffs are too tight!

Preston; They'll be removed when you're behind bars!

Lola; What's up, Baby-face? Why the masquerade?

Carlson; Don't call me that!

Preston; Carlson, you helped Wilson escape from prison!
Where is he?

Carlson; I'm not talking. See?

Preston. Did Wilson send you here to murder Lola?

Lola; Is that what he did? Why the dirty, yellow skunk.

Preston; He fooled me, Lola. If it hadn't been for King- -

Voice; (BACK) Hey, the boss wants tonknow what's all the
excitement up there!

Lola; (CALLS) It's all right, Mozart. Everything's
under control.

Preston; (CALLS) Mozart, will you find the constable and ask him to come and take charge of a prisoner?

Voice; (BACK) Sure thing.

Preston; (CALLS) Tell him it's Baby-face Carlson!

Carlson; Stop callin' me that! I don't like it. See ?

Preston; Carlson, what's left of your life holds many things you'll dislike. Including a sentence to hang for the murder of a prison guard.

Carlson; No, No - I - I -

Preston; Now let's go into Lola's room while we wait for the constable. I'll try to persuade you to talk about Spike Wilson.

Lola; Let me borrow that knife you took from him. I'll persuade him to talk!

Preston; He'll talk, Lola. () Come on, King.

ONE BARK

(CUE) He'll talk.

DOOR CLOSES.

Annrc; Carlson proved to be surprisingly stubborn. Sergeant Preston questioned him fruitlessly until the constable arrived. In jail, both the sergeant and the constable continued the questioning. Midnight found the prisoner still muttering- -

Carlson; I'm not talking!

Annorp Miles north of Kingston, in the cave, Spike Wilson found it impossible to sleep. It was midnite when he threw aside his blankets and shook Moose and Lefty awake-

Wilson; (EFFORT) Come on, wake up. Wake up the two of yuh!

Moose; (WAKING) Wha- what's up?

Lefty; (WAKING) Is it time to get up already?

Moose; What's the idea, Wilson?

Wilson; Listen to me, both of yuh. I've been thinkin' things over. Maybe I made a mistake in sendin' Carlson to Kown alone.

Moose; A fine time to think about that.

Lefty; Too late to do anything about it now. Why d'you think you made a mistake?

Wilson; He'll have his hands on a lot of cash an' jewelry belongin' to Lola. Maybe he'll hightail with it instead of comin' back.

Lefty; I thought about that, but I figured you knew what you were doin'.

Moose; Aw he knows better'n to double cross you, Wilson. He knows you c'n tell the law where to lay hands on him - you c'd do it by letter without showin' yourself-

Wilson; He might head for the border.

Lefty; There's nothin' we can do about it. Let's get back to sleep.

Wilson; Yes there is, Lefty. And you and Moose are goin' to do it. You're goin' to Kingston to check on Carlson.

ADLIB: (DEMURANCE)

Wilson; No argument. Pack your gear.

Moose; You mean, tonight?

Lefty; Now?

Wilson; Right now.

Lefty; Can't we wait till daylight? Look outside. It's snowin' hard! The trail will be covered.

Moose; We're not used to travelin' in this country.

Wilson; Shut up, both of you! You have a compass. Just head straight south. There'll be a little hollow in the snow where the trail is..But even if you lose the trail, you'll come to Kingston by goin' south.

ADLIB: (GRUMBLING)

Wilson; If you meet Carlson, come back with him. If you don't meet him, look for him in town.

Moose; What if he's left town in the direction of the border?

Wilson; Then go to the law an' hand over a note I'll write. If he double crosses me, I'll see that he's caught for it before he hits the border!

Annex; It was nearly daybreak when Sergeant Preston made his way through the slow falling snow to the home of the constable. He opened the door and closed it softly. By the light of an oil lamp turned low he saw Lola asleep in a chair. King lay on the floor at her side. The Mountie signalled the dog to remain quiet, then touched the girl lightly on the shoulder-

Preston; Lola - -

Lola; (STIRRING) ...run over that chorus, Mozart -

Preston; Lola.

Lola; (WAKING) Huh - oh - Sergeant Preston.

Preston; (LOW) Keep your voice down. I don't want to waken the constable's wife.

Lola; (LOW) She's in the bedroom. I was waiting to hear from you. Just come from the jail?

P reston; Yes.

Lola; Carlson talk?

Preston; No.

Lola; Where's the constable?

Preston; He'll remain on guard until the deputy relieves him.

Lola; So Baby-face wouldn't talk!

Preston; No. But I think I'll find Spike Wilson without Carlson's help. To reach here when he did, Carlson must have traveled directly from the prison after Wilson's escape.

Lola; So?

Preston; I'm going to head due north in the hope that Wilson is waiting somewhere along the trail.

Lola; King should be able to follow Carlson's back trail.

Preston; I'm leaving King here with you.

Lola; That's not necessary. I'll be all right.

Preston; I think it is necessary, Lola. Wilson may come here wearing a disguise - or he might send someone else to kill you.

Lola; You're going to travel alone?

Preston; I'll take my sled and dogteam.

Lola; How soon are you leaving?

Preston; Right away. You stay in this house and keep King at your side.

Lola; If you say so. But before you go - bend down here -

Preston; Want to whisper something? (BENDING)

Lola; No, Preston. (KISS)

Preston; (SURPRISE) Oh -

Lola; That's for luck.

Preston; ! Well u h - uh thanks, Lola. (FADES) Thanks for your good wishes.

DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE.

KING WHIMPERS.

Lola; Be quiet, King. You've nothing to cry about.
Preston is your man, (SOB) You lucky dog.

BREAK

Annex; Sergeant Preston headed north from town. Meanwhile
Moose and Lefty had been on the trail since shortly
after midnite. Wading thru a six-inch depth of
newly-fallen snow, they made poor time. Noon found
them with their journey only half completed. Sergeant
Preston and his dogteam, traveling about three times
as fast was also near the half-way point. Moose and
Lefty saw him coming -

START APPROACHING DOGTEAM

Moose; Lefty - it's a Mountie driven that team.

Lefty; Take it easy, ^{Moose.} ~~heathen~~. The law's got nothin' on us.

Moose; Not unless Carlson was caught- an' arrested- an'
squealed.

Lefty; He might've been caught, but he'd never squeal!

Moose; Just the same, I'm goin' to keep my hand near my gun!

TEAM COMES IN AND STOPS AS

Preston; (BACK) (ADLIBWHOAS)

Lefty; (SOFT) Let me do the talkin'. Maybe we can learn
something about Carlson.

Preston; (COMING IN) Hello there.

Lefty; Hi,

Preston; Going to Kingston?

Lefty; Yeah. Is that where you came from?

Preston; Yes. You'll find the trail heavy.

Lefty; Maybe you know a friend of mine in Kingston - a girl by the name of Lola -

Preston; Oh - yes. I know her.

Lefty; You do, eh? How is she?

Preston; She was very well when I left town a few hours ago.

Moose; She was?

Preston; Yes. Why do look surprised?

Moose; Oh uh- uh-

Lefty; (CUTIN) Y(see, Officer, we heard that a - uh- a crook had gone to Kingston - to uh- tuh rob Lola-

Late PM
Preston; (SLOWLY) He tried to. But now he's in jail. His name is Carlson. He and two other men helped in a jailbreak. Where did you two come from?

Moose; (SUDDEN) Get 'em up, Mountie!

Preston; Eh ?

Moose; HIGHER! Take his gun, Lefty. He's wise to us!

Lefty; Moose, you fool!

Moose; He's wise I tell yuh! Take his gun.

Lefty; All right -

Preston; ~~I had only a shred of suspicion that you were
Wilson's pals. Now I'm sure of it.~~

Moose; Yeah? ~~We'll keep your hands high.~~ (Get his
handcuffs, Lefty.)

Lefty; Here they are. Gimme your hands, Mountie.

HANDCUFFS ADLIBBED

Moose; He's got to drive this team, so fasten his hands in
front.

Lefty; That'll hold him! Now keep him covered, Moose,
while I find the key to those bracelets an' make
sure he's not packin' a second gun.

Moose; No use of us goin' on to Kingston. We'll report back
to Wilson an' take this lawman with us.

Lefty; Here's the key to the handcuffs - likewise a card-
() Hey, Moose!

Moose; Huh?

Lefty; This identifies the Mountie. Spike Wilson will sure
be pleased when we get back. This is the man he's
swore to beat to within an inch of his life!

Moose; You mean -

Lefty; Sergeant Preston!

BREAK

Annex; Sergeant Preston ran behind the sled with his wrists held together by handcuffs. Though he could grip only one handle at a time, he managed to drive. Though he was not fastened to the sled, he knew that there was no hope of escape by sudden flight, because Moose and Lefty, riding in the sled, watched every move. They would shoot before he could travel five yards. Late afternoon found the men still far from the cave. Moose called an order to halt.

Preston; (WHOAS)

~~Moose;~~ Get up, Lefty, an' stretch your legs.

Lefty; We're we stoppin' ?

Moose; Because I'm just about starved! You keep an eye on the Mountie while I build a fire an' fix us some hot grub.

Lefty; Now you're talkin' !

Annex; Preston watched with interest as the tenderfeet went about the business of building a fire. He saw Moose scrape away the snow beneath the spreading branches of a huge evergreen and gather broken twigs into a pile. He was about to warn Moose-

Prest; That's a bad-

Annex; Then he stopped abruptly. He saw a faint hope that the inexperience of his captors might be turned to good advantage.

Moose; What were you goin' to say, Mountie?

Prest; I was about to tell you how to build a fire. But you probably want none of my advice.

Moose; That's right, Preston. I want none o' your advice!
I'll have a whoppin' fire in no time!

Anncr; The fire was started. As Moose brushed away more
snow and found more wood, he added it to the flames.

Moose; Get a good fire, let 'er burn down to coals, an'
then we start the cookin'!

Anncr; Preston watched the flames leap higher and higher,
reaching toward the branches overhead, with their
heavy weight of new snow -

FLAMES CRACKLING.

Lefty; That fire sure feels good, Moose.

Moose; Yep. That wood's plenty dead. It'll burn down fast.

Anncr; Unobtrusively, the Mountie prepared for his
desperate gamble for freedom. He moved so he
stood near Lefty, with Moose in a line behind Lefty.
He watched the fire - and the branches above. He
knew what every experienced woodsman in snow country
knows - that in a moment the melted snow would
~~mainly~~ loosen from the branches and fall in great
clods on the fire. It happened!

FALLING SNOW

Moose; Hey - look -

Anncr; For an instant, both outlaws were diverted.
Preston leaped!

BLOWS AND SCRAMBLE

Lefty; (JARRED) Hey -

Moose; (Yell) Watch yerself -

Annrcr; He charged Lefty. Lefty fell against Moose.
Both went down off balance!

ADLIB: (LEMME UP. GET OFF. LOOK OUT ETC)

Annrcr; Preston didn't hesitate. He drove a boot into
Lefty's stomach -

Lefty; (WILD GASP)

Annrcr; Then raised both hands clenched above his head and
brought them down with sledge-hammer force on the
top of Moose's head.

BLOW

Preston; That's a starter!

Moose; (GASP)

Annrcr; When Preston's hand's came up, they held Moose's gun!

Preston; Now I'll take charge!

Lefty; (YELL) Not while I - -

TWO FAST SHOTS

Lefty; (SCREAM IN PAIN)

Preston; Hold it or I'll break your arm! You too, Moose!

Moose; Don't shoot! Don't shoot, Preston!

Preston; Then raise your hands and do as you're told!

Moose; Wha- what're you goin' to do with us?

Preston; !First, you're to remove these handcuffs, then you're
to help me capture Wilson. ~~After that, we'll see.~~

~~BREAK~~ MUSIC - *Burst.*

Annex;

Spike Wilson ~~waited~~ ^{wanted} as the hours dragged
slowly. Beyond the mouth of his cave, the snow
had stopped falling ^{when darkness came, and now} and the moon lighted the
vast expanse of white. ~~After hours of waiting~~ ^{Presently}
he heard a dogteam approaching - and then a
familiar voice called-

DOGTEAM COMING IN

Preston; (ADLIB WHOAS)

Wilson; (MUTTERS) That's Preston's voice!

Moose;

(BACK)(CALL) Hey, Spike. ~~Come out and see the~~
~~surprise we brought you!~~ *Here's Prest.*

Annex;

~~Wilson gripped his gun and advanced cautiously.~~

Lefty;

~~(NEARER) It's the Mountie you wanted. We used his~~
~~own handcuffs on him.~~

Wilson;

~~Boys, I can't believe it, but I'm glad you did it!~~

~~(CHUCKLES)~~

Annex;

As Wilson left the cave he
~~The outlaw saw his friends seated on the sled - and~~
~~Preston behind it with his hands close together!~~
~~Then the Mountie moved fast -~~

Preston;

~~Drop the gun!~~ *Hands up, Wilson*

Wilson;

(STARTLED) What the-

Preston;

~~DROP IT!~~

King Sparks

Wilson; (WILD RAGE(ADLIB)

SHOTS

Wilson; PAIN)

Lefty; That's just the way he drilled my arm! Wilson should know better'n to open fire when Preston holds a gun.

Wilson; You- you double-crossin' - -

Preston; You'll find it is your pals who we ar the handcuffs, Wilson. For you, I have some rawhide to tie your wrists.

Wilson; Yuh sold me out! You double crossin' -

Preston; You, Wilson, are wanted for the murder of a guard. For that you'll hang. These men, by helping lure you from that cave, may get nothing worse than life in prison. Now turn around and put your hands behind your ba ck! Lola will be glad to know this case is closed.

theme