

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
created by Geo. W. Trendle

RED LETTER
by Fran Striker

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Striker

Preston

King

Constable Blair straight

Jake Dolan heavy

Morley middle-aged business man

Randy 23 - straight

Ken 21 - straight

Pete heavy

FILE

while trying to solve a year-old robbery,
Sergeant Preston found himself unexpectedly
trapped by crooks who had to kill to keep
their freedom. Preston knew that he faced
death. What happened --? Well -- for
thrills and excitement, be sure (ETC)

Annrcr; It was evening in Redstone, a small town in a remote part of the Yukon Territory, when two men, whose faces were partially covered by bandannas, moved silently through the darkness toward the office of the Morley Mining Company.

Pete; (SOFT) Window shade's drawn - can't see inside.

Jake; (SOFT) No need to. I know the paymaster's in there makin' up the pay envelopes -

Pete; (SOFT) Prob'ly got the door locked--

Jake; (SOFT) We'll smash it in. See anyone around?

Pete; (SOFT) No. The street's deserted -

Jake; (SOFT) Hit the door with our shoulders when I count three. () Gun ready?

Pete; (SOFT) Yep.

Jake; (SOFT) One, two, (EFFORT) Three--

SMASH DOOR OPEN

Voice; (STARTLED CRY OF SURPRISE)

Jake; (HARD) Quiet or we'll shoot!

Voice; (PANIC) No, no, please don't shoot--

Jake; Lie on the floor, face down -

Voice; (PANIC|EFFORT) Yes yes, anything you say - (FADES)
take the payroll money, if that's what you want, but please don't kill me--

Annex; Later that night Morley came to the office and found the paymaster tied and gagged and the money gone. He quickly released his employee -

Morley; Joe, I hope you're not hurt--

Jake; I'm all right, Mr. Morley, but they got away with the money! There were two men - I couldn't see their faces -

Morley; Take it easy, Joe. We'll go to the constable--

Jake; They'll be caught when they try to spend that money, Mr. Morley - every bill was marked with my initials -

Annex; Though all the business men were asked to watch for the stolen money, none of it appeared - and there was not the slightest clue to the crooks' identity.

CAFE BG.

Annex; Months after the robbery, John Morley, owner of the Mining company, sat in the cafe with Ken and Randy Bates, brothers in their early twenties. The three had just finished their meal when Jake Dolan who owned the cafe approached the table--

Jake; (COMING IN) You payin' for the meals, Mr. Morley?

Morley; Yes, Dolan. I -

Randy; (CUT IN) No, Mr. Morley, it's my turn to pay--

Morley; But, Randy -

Randy; Here, Dolan. Take it out of this.

Dolan; Um. Twenty dollar bill -

Morley; Randy, I invited you and Ken to eat with me.
I'm the one who should pay -

Randy; Dolan has his money, Mr. Morley.

Dolan; Here's yer change. While I'm here, I'll pick
up these dishes -

ADLIB HANDLING DISHES

Morley; Well, thanks, Randy.

Randy; You're welcome.

Ken; Randy and I owe you a lot more than a meal,
Mr. Morley - you've been mighty helpful to
us since Dad died.

Morley; Your father was a good friend, Ken. I'm glad
I was able to help you settle his business affairs.

Randy; I don't know how we can ever pay you back-

Jake; (MUTTER) I'd like to do some payin' back-

Morley; What did you say, Dolan?

Jake; I said, I'd like to do some payin' back!(FADING)
One of these days I may have the chance-

Morley; I wonder what Dolan meant by that remark;
Randy, he looked straight at you!

- Randy; He's been sore at me ever since I testified when he was on trial for selling liquor to Indians.
- Morley; But that was just after Dolan came here and bought the cafe. It was nearly a year ago -
- Randy: That's right. But Dolan hasn't forgotten it.
- Ken: Randy's testimoney helped convict Dolan. He paid a heavy fine.
- Morley: Um. A man who carries a grudge that long, might be dangerous. (FADING) Better watch your step, Randy - he might make trouble for you-

CAFE BG UP, FADE INTO ADLIB BIZ
WITH DISHES DURING-

- Anncr; When Dolan noticed that a corner of Randy's twenty dollar bill had been torn off, an idea took form in his mind. He carried the dirty dishes into the kitchen and piled them on a table. Then, without a word to the dishwasher, hurried out through the back door-

DISHES OUT, AS DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE.
RUNNING STEPS AS

- Anncr; - and ran through the darkness, and across a vacant lot to the house where he lived with a hard-faced man named Pete -

DOOR OPEN AND CLOSE, EAST.

Jake; (BREAHHLESS) Pete, you got the key to the ironbound chest?

Pete; Sure, Jake. You know I always keep it with me.

Jake; (HURRYING) Unlock the chest!

Pete; What's wrong?

UNLOCKING CHEST AS

Jake; (HURRYING) Nothin's wrong. Unlock the chest!

Pete; (EFFORT) I am! () You got a chance to unload some of the marked money from the Morley holdup?

Jake; (HURRYING) Not exactly. Open the lid-

LID SQUEAKS

Jake; - I want ~~just~~ one of the bills from that payroll money. () Hand me that packet of twenties-

Pete; Here. (SIGHS) All this cash, an' we don't dare spend it-

Jake; (HURRYING) I want a bill that's just about as worn as this one-

Pete; Where'd you get that one?

Jake; (FAST) Randy Bates -

Pete; Corner's town off-

Jake; Yes! And I'm tearing the corner off this marked bill - so it'll look like the one Bates gave me -

Pete; I don't savvy-

Jake; This is the chance I've been waitin' for. I'm goin' to make Randy squirm! I'm goin' to claim he gave me money from the Morley holdup!

FADE IN CAFE BG

Annrc; Still seated at the cafe table, Morley lighted a cigar then said--

Morley; Have you boys any plans for the future?

Randy; Not yet, Mr. Morley.

Morley; Too bad you had to sell your father's store to pay off the debts--

Randy; Well - we're glad the debts are paid. We'll find jobs of some kind--

Morley; Randy, my paymaster is leaving to return to the states. I need an honest man to replace him. If you or Ken want the job - I'd be glad to hire either of you.

Ken; You take the job, Randy. I'm thinking of joining the Mounties.

Randy; You are? Ken, I didn't know that!

Ken; Well, there was no use mentioning it until I found out whether I could qualify.

Morley; Can you qualify?

Ken; I think so. Constable Blair thought I'd make a good Mountie. He suggested that I talk to Sergeant Preston-- he'll be visiting Redstone soon.

Randy: In that case, Mr. Morley, I'll be glad to take the job-

Ken: Dolan's coming back. () What do you want, Dolan?

Dolan: (COMING IN) I want to speak to your brother.
() Is this the twenty dollar bill you gave me?

Randy: I don't know, I -

Jake: (CUT IN) You oughtta remember if the one you gave me had the corner torn off-

Ken: It did have the corner torn off, Randy. I remember-

Randy: Yes. B,,t what of it?

Jake: Then this is the bill you gave me! That's all I want to know! () Morley, after your payroll robbery, you let it be known that the stolen cash could be identified. Remember?

Morley: Yes. The paymaster always put a distinctive mark on each bill - for identification in case of a robbery.

Jake; Take a look at this bill! There's the initials, J.C. written in the corner in red ink!

Morley; Great Scott!

Ken; Let me see!

Randy; (OVERLAP) Show me--

Morley; Here - the writing is small - hardly noticeable unless you're looking for it. This is the first of the stolen bills that has appeared.

Jake; I got it from Randy Bates!

Randy; (HEATEDLY) If you mean to say I stole the money--

Jake; I didn't say you stole it! But I say you handed it to me! Where'd you get it?

Randy; I got it yesterday when - (BREAK SUDDENLY)

Jake; (PAUSE) Well?

Morley; Go ahead, Randy. Tell us where you got the money.

Randy; I - I - uh - I don't remember--

Ken; Randy!

Jake; (OVERLAP)(LAUGHINGLY) That's a good one! He don't remember! D'you get so many twenty dollar bills you can't remember where they come from? Maybe you don't want to remember!

Morley; Randy, did you draw any money from the bank?

Randy; No -

Morley; You must remember where you got the bill -

Jake; Looks to me as if he's tryin' to protect the robber - if he's not the robber--

Randy; (HEATEDLY) I said I didn't remember where I got the bill!

Ken; Let that settle it! My brother's done nothing wrong! He doesn't have to answer questions!

Morley; You're right. We cannot force Randy to answer questions - but until he can remember where he got that bill, I think we'd better postpone further discussion about that job as paymaster.

Randy; I - I'm sorry, Mr. Morley.

Morley; So am I, Randy. Very sorry. Here's your money, Dolan.

Jake
Dolan; I reckon I'd better turn it over to the constable.

Morley; Suit yourself.

CHAIR SCRAPES

Morley; (EFFORT) Now I must be going. Thanks for the meal, Randy.

Randy; Y-you're welcome.

Morley; Goodbye, boys.

ADLIB: (GOODBYES)

Jake; (CHUCKLES) Looks like you're in bad with Mr. Morley.

Randy; (HEATEDLY) Dolan, you - you -

Jake; Now calm down. I was only doin' my duty as a citizen. The constable asked me to be on the watch for money with those initials written on it.

Randy; Maybe you wrote the initials on the bill I gave you!

- Dolan; (CHUCKLES) Guess I'd better take this bill to the constable. (FADES, CALLING) Hey, Whitey, take charge of the place till I get back-
- Ken: Randy, why wouldn't you tell where you got that bill?
- Randy: I - I couldn't -
- Ken: Why not? () Gosh, you looked and acted guilty as the dickens. Morley probably thinks you either stole the money, or you're trying to shield the man who did.
- Randy: Well I - I - () Ken, I'll tell you where I got the money if you'll promise never to tell anyone.
- Ken: I promise.
- Randy: Remember the tin box Dad gave to me before he died?
- Ken; Yes. He gave it to you because you were his oldest son. You said it held old papers - birth certificates - things like that -
- Randy: and a little cash -
- Ken; Yes. (SUDDENLY) Randy! Did the bill come from Dad's box?
- Randy; Yes. That twenty dollar bill was the only money in it.
- Ken; You don't think Dad robbed that payroll?

Randy; No! Of course not! But what would other people think, if I told where I got the marked money?

Ken: Um- I- I see the point-

Randy; Everyone would figure I'd hidden the rest of money when I learned that it was stolen -

Ken; Yeah - I can see that Dad's name would be ruined if you told the truth -

Randy; I'll stick to my story, that I can't remember where I got the bill.

Ken: No one'll believe you, Randy. People will think you're the thief, or shielding the thief-

Randy; I can't help what people think about me, but I'm going to make sure there's no suspicion pointing to Dad! Now let's get out of here!

BREAK

Annex; Though Randy refused to tell how he had come into possession of the bill with the torn corner, there was insufficient evidence for legal action. But Jake Dolan made it a point to see that nearly everyone heard of the incident in the cafe.

(FADE IN WIND B G)

Annex; About a week after the appearance of the stolen money, Sergeant Preston, accompanied by his great dog Yukon King, reached the town of ~~Forty~~^{REDSTONE} ~~My~~. As it was late in the evening he went directly to the home of Constable Blair and rapped on the cabin door.

(RAPS)

Const; (MUFFLED, CALLS) Coming!

(DOOR OPENS)

Preston; Hello, Blair!

(KING BARKS)

Const; Sergeant Preston - and King! Gosh I'm glad to see you! Come on in, both of you!

Preston; Thanks. Come on, King.

(STEPS IN, DOOR CLOSE, CUT WIND AS:)

Preston; How've you been, Blair?

Const; Fine. And you?

Preston; Very well.

Const; I was mighty pleased when I received ^{WORD} ~~word~~ y ou
 were coming. Do you know how long it's been
 since you visited ~~Redstone?~~
~~Redstone?~~

Preston; About a year --

Const; Yes!

Preston; I've been on other assignments. And for a
 couple of months I was on duty in the Dawson
 headquarters.

Const; I'll put your pack here in the corner. You'll
 stay w ith me while you're in town, won't you?

Preston; If you have room.

Const; (LAUGHS) You know I have. () Sit down,
 Sergeant. I'll put the kettle over the fire.

Preston; Good.

(BIZ WITH KETTLE)

Const; I hope you'll be able to stay for a while.

Preston; Only a day or so. I have a lot of ground to cover.
 But while I'm here, I'd like to talk to the
 young man you mentioned in your last report.

Const; Who --?

Preston; The fellow who'd like to become one of us. I
 think you said his name is Bates --

Const; Oh -- Ken Bates.

Preston; That's it.

Const; I saw him yesterday. He said he thought it might be better if he chose another career--

Preston; Well, that's up to him.

Const; I'm sure he wants to join the force, but he's in an awkward position because of his brother.

Preston; What's his brother done?

Const; I don't know that he's done anything, but nearly everyone in town suspects he's in some way involved in a payroll robbery.

Preston;, I read your report about the Morley robbery. Is that the one?

Const; Yes. The young man's name is Randy. (FADING)
His father, owner of the general store, died recently--

Anncr; Briefly, Constable Blair told about the Bate's brothers - the bill that had been handed to Jake Dolan, and Randy's refusal to give information -

Preston; You think he knows who gave him the money, but he doesn't want that person to be suspected of the robbery. Is that it?

Const; That's how it looks to me.

Preston; Is it likely that Randy is trying to protect his brother, Ken?

- Const; . Knowing those boys as I do, I'm sure Ken would come foreward and admit that he'd given the bill to Randy, if that had been the case.
- Preston; That name -- Randy Bates, is familiar to me. I've read it somewhere --
- Const; Probably in my reports. He was a witness at a trial last year.
- Preston; Maybe that's where I read the name --
- Const; Jake Dolan's trial.
- Preston; Oh Yes! Randy's testimony helped convict Dolan of selling liquor to Indians.
- Const; Right.
- Preston; Is Dolan the man who received the marked bill from Randy?
- Const; Yes, and I wish you'd seen him when he came here with the money! He's had a grudge against Randy ever since the trial, and he sure gloated when he had the chance to put Randy on the spot.
- Preston; (THOUGHTFULLY) Had a grudge, eh?
- Const; Yes indeed.
- Preston; Dolan's a bad character --
- Const; He's behaved himself since he came here -- aside from the one offense --
- Preston; He was in trouble with the law in Whitehorse.

- Const; Before he came to Forty Mile?
- Preston; Yes. He did a short jail term for petty thievery and another for assault and battery.
- Const; Is that so?
- Preston; In both cases, revenge was the motive. He stole a watch from a man who'd won money from him in a poker game, and he waited in the dark to waylay and beat a young fellow who'd caught him cheating in another card game.
- Const; Vindictive fellow! It follows that he'd welcome opportunity the ~~chance~~ to make trouble for Randy.
- Preston; He might do more than welcome the ~~chance~~ opportunity.
- Const; Eh -?
- Preston; He might create the opportunity.
- Const; What do you mean?
- Preston; Let's say he waited and watched for the chance to get even with the man who helped convict him of illicit trade with Indians.
- Const; That's probably the case.
- Preston; Then Randy handed him a twenty dollar bill - that was distinctive because one corner was torn off.
- Const; Yes -?

Preston; Dolan was asked to watch for the stolen money
- so he knew about the marking. He might have
marked a bill to frame Randy - (SUDDENLY) As
a matter of fact, he might have had one of the
stolen bills!

Const; (GASP) Do you realize what that would mean?

Prest; What?

Const; To have one of the stolen bills in his possession,
Doland would have had to be the one who stole
the payroll!

Presto Do you consider him above suspicion?

Const; No no, of course not. () By thunder, - in view
of Dolan's behavior in Whitehorse, your
reasoning is mighty logical. But why should
Randy refuse to tell where he got the twenty
dollar bill?

Preston; Because he knew it would make trouble for the
person who gave it to him.

- Const; Aside from his brother, I can think of no one he'd sacrifice his character to protect. ()
But I like your theory that Dolan's the payroll thief.
- Preston; It's possible.
- Const; I wish there were a way to learn the truth.
- Preston; (THOUGHTFULLY) Maybe there is a way.
- Const; (EAGERLY) How?
- Preston; By setting a crook to catch a crook.
- Const; I don't understand --
- Preston; Blair, Dolan and I have never met. In fact, very few people in ~~the~~ ^{REDSTONE} ~~the~~ know me by sight. with some borrowed civilian clothing, it would be easy for me to visit the cafe as a stranger in town.
- Const; Um-m - - unless you take King with you. People would be curious about the owner of such a fine dog and --
- Preston; (CUT IN) I'll leave King here with you.
- (SOFT WHIMPER)
- Const; (CHUCKLE) He heard his name. Look at the way he's eyeing us.
- Preston; He knows we're talking about him. () Have you some clothing I might borrow?
- Const; Yes, of course. But what's your plan?

Preston; I'll go to the cafe as a stranger - (FADING) -
and watch for the chance to speak to Jake Dolan
alone - -

(FADE IN CAFE B.G.)

Annrc; Later that evening, Sergeant Preston, wearing
clothing borrowed from the Constable - went to
the cafe and found it well filled with customers.
He sat quietly at a table in a dark corner until
most of the people had gone. Then, after making
sure that none who remained knew him by sight,
he moved to another table where Jake Dolan sat
alone -

Preston; You're Jake Dolan, aren't you?

Jake; Yes.

Preston; I'd like to talk to you. Mind if I sit down?

Jake; Go ahead.

(CHAIR)

Preston; Thanks.

Jake; what's on your mind, stranger? If it's credit
you want, or money ---

Preston; Neither. () I've heard a lot about you, Dolan?

Jake; That gives you the advantage. I don't even know
your name.

Preston; Call me Bill?

Jake; Where'd you hear about me?

Preston; In whitehorse - and other places. Among other things, I heard that you're generally in the market for a good proposition.

Jake; I hear a lot of propositions. Generally I'm not interested.

Preston; You interested in buying money?

Jake; Buying money?

Preston; That's what I said. For fifty cents on the dollar.

Jake; Stranger, I ---

Preston; The name is Bill.

Jake; Well, Bill, if you think you can unload counterfeit money on me --

Preston; I'm not talking about counterfeit money. It's perfectly good money.

Jake; Then why d'you want to sell it? what's wrong with it?

Preston; well- to be perfectly frank, it's money the law is watching for.

Jake; Where'd you steal it?

Preston; I didn't say I stole it.

Jake; Then how'd you get it?

- Preston; Dolan, I'm not admitting a single thing. I haven't even said I have the money. I just asked you if you'd be interested in a deal.
- Jake; Buyin' stolen money that the law's watchin' for? D'you think I want to go to jail?
- Preston; There's no reason why you'd go to jail. Hold the money for a while. You could even pass it out in change, and if the law happens to spot it, say you don't know who paid it to you.
- Jake; I don't like deals like that.
- Preston; Forty cents on the dollar. () You could probably spend the money in another part of the territory without any risk --
- Jake; You mean the law in this vicinity is on the watch for it?
- Preston; Yes.
- Jake; Then the cash was stolen near here?
- Preston; I told you I wouldn't admit anything!
- Jake; (TENSE & MORE INTERESTED) You got it with you?
- Preston; I'm not foolish enough to risk having it in my possession.
- Jake; How can the money be identified?
- Preston; Initials -- in red ink --

Jake; You're talkin' about the money from the Morley payroll robbery!

Preston; Right.

Jake; How'd you get it?

Preston; I told you I'm not --

Jake; (QUICKLY) All right, all right! You're not admittin' anything.

Preston; At least, not here. If you care to talk business I'll meet you somewhere else -- with no one else around.

Jake; I'm not sayin' I'll deal with you, Mister, but I'll meet you from some more talk.

Preston; When and Where --?

Jake; An hour from now, at the big rock, east of town.

Preston; Suits me. But don't try any tricks, Dolan. There's a bright moon, and I'll be able to see you coming. If you bring the law with you --

Jake; Don't worry about that!

Preston; I'll see you later.

(CAFE B.G., UP AND FADE OUT)

Annecr; Sergeant Preston left the cafe and waited in a dark alley across the street. A short time later, Jake Dolan left the establishment and hurried to his home --

(UNLOCK & OPEN DOOR)

Annex; with nervous fingers, he unlocked the door and went inside.

(DOOR SLAM) (FAST STEPS)

Annex; He hurried into a bedroom where a hard faced man lay sleeping.

Jake; Pete! Wake up! (EFFORT) 'wake up, d'you hear.'

Pete; (WAKING) Wha - who - - Oh, Boss.' what's wrong?

Jake; What's what I want to find out! Where've you been?

Pete; Me? I haven't been anywhere! Why - -

Jake; (EFFORT) Don't lie!

Pete; I'm not lyin'!' Quit shakin' me!

Jake; Has anyone been here?

Pete; No! What in thunder's got into you? What's wrong?

Jake; A stranger came into the cafe an' tried to sell me the Morley payroll money!

Pete; What -? How could he? You an' I both know that cash is locked up safe an' sound --

Jake; We thought it was. But the stranger must've got it --

Pete; He couldn't have.' We keep it in the chest and -

Jake; (CUT IN) Where's the key to the chest?

Pete; Here - under the pillow - same as always. (EFFORT)
Here it is.

Jake; I'll take a look in the chest. While I'm doin' it, you'd better get dressed. We may have some important business.

(FAST STEPS)

Anncr; Sergeant Preston, who had followed Jake Dolan to his home, stood outside the building, peering thru a window into the living room. He saw Dolan light a lamp, then fit a key into a strong iron-bound chest.

Preston; (MURMUR) Looks like my hunch was right.

Anncr; The Sergeant drew a gun from beneath his coat and moved from the window to the door. Meanwhile, Dolan opened the heavy lid of the chest --

(CREAKS)

Jake; (MUTTER) The stranger must've got the money somehow. He - (BREAK) No, the cash is here -

Anncr; Dolan reached into the chest and drew out several packets of ~~new~~ paper money --

Jake; (MUTTER) Looks like it's all here. () Now why'd that stranger --

(DOOR OPENS FAST)

Preston; (BACK) Hold it, Dolan!

Jake; (STARTLED) Huh - you --

Preston; (BACK) Right.

(DOOR CLOSE)

Jake; what's the idea of tellin' me you --

Preston; (BACK) Drop that money, then put your hands up!

Jake; So it's a stick-up, eh?

Preston; Do as I said!

Jake; All right, all right.

(DROP PACKETS)

Preston; (FADING IN) Now turn around and face the wall
while I see if you're armed.

Jake; I'm not packin' a gun --

Preston; I'll make sure! () Um - you told the truth.

Jake; If you think you c'n get away with robbin' me --

Preston; I'm not here to rob you. I'm here to see what
kind of money you kept in that chest.

Jake; You --

Preston; Stolen money, eh? Money with a paymaster's
initials written in red ink --

Jake; Now listen, Bill - or whatever your name is --

Preston; The name is Preston. Sergeant Bill Preston of
the Northwest Mounted --

Jake; (CUT IN SHARPLY) A Mountie!

Preston; That's right!

Pete; (BACK) That's all we need tuh know!

Preston; (SURPRISE) Eh -?

Pete; (BACK) Drop yer gun!

Jake; Good work, Pete. I figured you'd take care of things.

Pete; (BACK)
/ Drop it, Preston -

(GUN FALLS)

Pete; (FADING IN) You'd better pick it up, Jake.

Jake; (EFFORT) I got it. (LAUGHS) Now, Preston -- the shoe's on the other foot! Thought you were smart in makin' me think the cash was gone! You wanted me to come here to check on it--

Preston; Yes, and that's just what you did.

Jake; Yeah, that was a smart trick to find the money -- but there was one thing you didn't figure on. You didn't know I had a partner livin' here with me.

Pete; You know what that means, don't you Preston?

Preston; It means I'm arresting two men instead of one.

Jake; You're not arrestin' anyone! Not now or ever! You're thru!

Preston; I've heard that before.

Jake; You're hearin' it now for the last time.

Pete; Sh'd I drill him, Jake?

Jake; No, no, don't shoot. Makes too much noise.
Where's your knife?

Pete; Right here in my belt.

Preston; Just a minute! You're both under arrest for
the robbery of the Morley payroll. You'll more
than double your jail terms if you add the
charge of attempted murder.

Pete; Attempted murder, my eye! This is the real
thing! (EFFORT)

Anncr; As Pete lunged, Preston dodged with lightning
speed - then threw himself at Jake's knees --

(FALLING BODIES)

Anncr; Throwing out his hands to break the fall, Jake
dropped Preston's gun.

Pete; (WILD YELL) I'll get yuh this time!

Anncr; Pete charged with the knife extended, but the
Sergeant kicked his wrist --

(BLOW)

Pete; (HOWLS PAIN)

(KNIFE CLATTERS)

Pete; (WILD YELL) Now I gotta shoot yuh --

(SHOT)

Jake; (SCREAM OF PAIN)

Annecr; Pete fired the gun in his other hand, but he shot wildly. His bullet struck Jake instead of Preston, and by then the Sergeant had his own gun!

SHOT. GUN FALLS.

Pete; (TELL)(PAIN) My arm!

Preston; Stand still or I'll fire again!

Pete; (YELLING) No no, don't shoot - don't shoot again.
I quit -

Jake; (WAILING) Help me, help me, I'm dying-

Preston; You're not dying, Jake. You're just hit in the shoulder!

Jake; Do something! I'm bleeding to death!

Prest; I'll bandage both of you - after you're handcuffed!

DOOR OPENS FAST - MEN IN

ADLIB: (COMING IN)

A nncr; While Preston handcuffed his prisoners, the door swung open and a number of townsmen rushed in -

ADLIB: (What's the gunplay - I heard shooting, etc)

Preston; It's all right, men! I've just captured the crooks who stole the Morley payroll!

ADLIB: (EXCITED STIR- FADING OUT)

Annor; The following morning Randy Bates came to the constable's office with his brother and gave a full explanation of his behavior. Preston and Blair listened sympathetically, then the Sergeant said-

Preston; Did you tell Morley why you refused to say where you got that twenty dollar bill?

Randy; Yes sir. And he said, maybe I did the wrong thing, but he liked loyalty - and he hired me.

Preston; Good. I think Constable, there's nothing more for us to say.

Const; No sir. I guess everything's taken care of - thanks for coming in, boys.

Ken; Just a minute, Constable - I'd like to talk to Sergeant Preston about becoming a Mountie.

Const; Good!

Prest; Very well, Ken. Let's discuss your future, now that the Morley case is closed.

THEME