

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon
created by George W. Trendle

FRAME-UP
Fran Striker

FILE

Number: 1236

Date: 3-17-55

Preston

King

Jim Boland straight

Jason Finley crook

Maxie crook

Joe Crook

Tom mine owner

FILE

FRAME UP

Annncr;

A manhunt took Sergeant Preston to a remote part of the Yukon and brought him face-to-face with killers in a six-gun showdown. For thrills and action, be sure - (ETC.)

Sergeant Preston of the Yukon

FRAME UP

by Fran Striker

Number: 1236

Date: 3-17-55

(USUAL OPENING)

Annrc; The Indian Ridge Mining Company located in a remote part of the Klondike Mountains, hired Jim Boland to transport ^{THEIR} ~~the precious~~ ore to Dawson. With his freight sled and dogteam, Jim made periodic trips to bring the ore from town and carry food supplies back to the mining settlement. On one of these trips he went to the Dawson headquarters of the Northwest Mounted Police to call on his friend Sergeant Preston.

(DOOR OPENS BACK)

Preston; Jim Boland!

(DOOR CLOSE, STEPS IN)

Jim; (FADING IN) Hello Sergeant Preston.

Preston; Glad to see you. Sit down, Jim. () How's everything at the mine?

Jim; (SITTING) First rate. () Have you seen my boss?

Preston; Tom Davis? No. Is he in Dawson?

Jim; He came in with me. () If you haven't seen him, you haven't heard the big news --

Preston; Big news?

Jim; Yep. (CHUCKLES) His daughter's promised to marry me.

Preston; Is that so! Well congratulations!

Jim; (LAUGHS) Thanks. I guess I'm mighty lucky to get a girl like Anne.

Preston; You deserve a fine girl, Jim. How does Davis feel about the engagement?

Jim; He told me he was pleased. He said he'd a lot rather see his daughter married to me than to Jason Finley.

Preston; Finley -- he's the company cashier and book-keeper, isn't he?

Jim; Yes. He's been seeing a lot of Anne during the past year. (CHUCKLE) It was sort of a contest between Finley and me.

Preston; I'm glad you won. When is the wedding to be?

Jim; We haven't set the date, Sergeant. But whenever it is, we hope you'll be there.

Preston; I'll be there! () As a matter of fact I'm planning to start for Indian Ridge tomorrow morning.

Jim; You are?

Preston; Yes. I'm going to look for two outlaws.

Jim; Oh!

Preston; Here are the handbills showing their pictures.

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Jim; Um- Joe Cahill and Maxie Steel. () Tough looking men, aren't they?

Preston; Yes.

Jim; Wanted for murder.

Preston; Seen anything of them?

Jim; No, Sergeant.

Preston; We've had word that men answering their descriptions stopped at an Indian village near your mining settlement.

Jim; I'll be on the watch for them.

Preston; Take those handbills with you, Jim. Post them in the camp.

Jim; All right. I'll ask Jason Finley to tack them up in the office where all the miners will see them when they come in for their pay.

Preston; Good idea.

Jim; Sergeant, are you taking your dogteam when you go to Indian Ridge?

Preston; Yes, of course. Why?

Jim; Would you be able to give Mr. Davis a ride in your sled?

Preston; Of course! I'll be glad to.

Jim; He wants to stay in Dawson overnight. If you'll take him back, I'll not have to wait for him. I -uh - (SLIGHT LAUGH) I'm sorry of anxious to get back -to Anne-

Preston; (SLIGHT LAUGH) That's understandable.

Jim; I'll be able to leave here right away and be in camp by tomorrow evening... that is, if you're sure it'll be convenient for you to take Mr. Davis.

Preston; Of course, Jim. Tell Davis to count on a ride on my sled.

Jim; Good. Oh, another thing, Sergeant - I'd like to raise a little extra cash before we get married, so I'm going to sell a couple of extra dogs.

Preston; Constable Blake is looking for a good ~~times~~ lead dog.

Jim; A Have a fine one. A well trained Siberian!

Preston; Well I'll stop at your place and look it over.

Jim; I'll be looking for you.

(BREAK)

(WIND, EST., FADE UNDER:)

Annrcr; The following evening, the wind beat against the scattered buildings of Tom Davis' mining settlement. Most of the buildings were dark, but there were lamps burning in the office where Jason Finley sat at his desk brooding over the news that Anne Davis was to marry Jim Boland.

Jason; (MUTTER) I don't know what she sees in
him.

Annrcr; The wind drowned out the approach of Jim's
sled and dogteam. The cashier wasn't aware
that the freighter had returned from Dawson
until he heard the door-

(DOOR OPENS)

(WIND LOUDER)

Jason; Oh. It's you, Boland.



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

Jim; Yes. I just returned from Dawson.

Jason; Did Mr. Davis come with you?

Jim; No. He's coming with Sergeant Preston. He'll probably be here in the morning.

Jason; Um.

Jim; Jason, when I saw the office lighted, I thought you might be working, so I stopped to see you.

Jason; About what?

Jim; Anne Davis. I don't know whether she told you or not--

Jason; About promising to marry you?

Jim; Then she did tell you.

Jason; That's right. I -uh -- I congratulate you.

Jim; Thanks. I know you care a lot about her--

Jason; I hoped she would become my wife. As a matter of fact, I was about to propose to her when she told me she'd become engaged to marry you.

Jim; I know how you feel --

Jason; (SHRUGS) Oh well - one of us had to lose. Are you going to see her tonight?

Jim; Yes. That's why I came to the camp instead of going to my cabin. I left my dogteam behind the office where they're sheltered from the wind. If you don't mind, I'll leave them there while I call on Anne.

Jason; I don't mind - if they're quiet.

Jim; They'll be quiet as long as they're hitched to the sled. They'll just curl up on the snow and sleep until I'm ready to drive them home.

Jason; All right.

Jim; Oh - by the way, Jason, Sergeant Preston gave me these handbills. He'd like them posted in the office.

(RUSTLE PAPER)

Jason; Leave them on my desk. I'll take care of them.

Jim; Thanks. (FADING BACK) I'll see you soon.

(STEPS GOING BACK AS:)

Jason; Undoubtedly.

Jim; (BACK) Goodnight.

(DOOR OPEN, WIND)

Jason; Goodnight.

(DOOR CLOSE, CUT WIND)

AnnCR; For a long time after Jim Boland left the office to walk to the Davis home some distance away, Jason Finley sat at his desk trying to think of a way to discredit the young freighter so Anne would break the engagement.

Jason; (MUTTERS) I've got to do something. That girl will inherit the gold mine. She and the man she marries will be rich - and I want to be that man.

Annecr; Jason thought of several plans, but rejected all of them. Then he noticed the reward poster-

Jason; (MUTTERS) Too bad it's not Jim Boland who's wanted by the law. If Anne saw his face on a handbill, she'd - (BREAK) Maybe I could frame him for a crime - a robbery - - (BREAK) Yes! That's it! (FADING, THOUGHTFULLY) Frame him for a robbery --

Annecr; After a few minutes of deep thought, the cashier's face broke into a smile--

Jason; (MUTTER) I can do it! After the story I'll tell and after ^{THE} stolen gold is found in Boland's possession, he'll be accused of robbery, and there'll be no way he can prove otherwise -- (CHUCKLE) Here's where I break up Boland's engagement!

(CHAIR SCRAPES)

Annecr; Jason Finley walked across the office to the door of a big vault and started dialing the combination...

(SNEAK IN WIND, B.G.)

Annecr; Meanwhile, Joe and Maxie, the outlaws described on the handbills, walked across the snow toward the buildings of the mining settlement...

Joe; Maxie, it's dangerous to show ourselves in a camp like this!

Maxie; We're not goin' to show ourselves!

Joe; Can't tell who might be around in a mining settlement.

Maxie; We'll be careful. We need food, Joe. We've got only enough for a couple of days.

Joe; I know that-

Maxie; We'll try to ~~fix the vault~~ find where the food and supplies are kept, and help ourselves.

Joe; (TENSE) Maxie- one of the buildings is lighted-

Maxie; I see it.

Joe; Someone must be in there.

Maxie; We'll look thru the window an' find out.

(WIND UP & UNDER:)

Annrcr; A moment later, the two outlaws reached the small front window and peered into the office. They saw Jason Finley come out of the vault carrying a small leather pouch in each hand.

Maxie; (LOW) Looks like gold pouches-

Joe; (LOW) Yeah, he's carryin' 'em like they're heavy.

Maxie; (LOW) Takin' them into the back room. Now's our chance!

Joe; (LOW) Our chance?

Maxie; (LOW) Yeah! The vault's still open. We'll go inside and---

Joe; (LOW) But it's grub we're after.

Maxie; (LOW) If we've got gold, we can buy grub and everything else we need from Indians. Let's try the door. Maybe we can get inside before that man returns from the back room.

(FEW STEPS AS:)

Maxie; Have
~~Keep~~ your gun ready--

Joe; (LOW) Right.

(STEPS HALT)

Maxie; (LOW) Let's hope the door's unlocked.

(SOFT MOVEMENT OF DOOR)

Maxie; (LOW) (CUE) It is. () (LOW) Close it behind you. Don't make any noise.

(CLOSE DOOR SOFTLY)

Annrc; A moment later, Jason Finley returned to the office from the back room and found himself facing two armed men.

Maxie; Freeze, Mister! You're covered!

Jason; (STARTLED) Wha --

Joe; (OVERLAP) You heard my partner!

Maxie; H'ist yer hands!

Jason; Wha -what do you want?

Maxie; Gold!

Jason; (SUDDENLY) I know who you are! You're both wanted for murder!

Maxie; In that case you know we're not foolin'. Was gold in those sacks you took into the back room?

Jason; Y -you can't get away with anything here--

Maxie; (CUT IN) We're after gold! We intend to get it!
(EFFORT) Where is it!

Jason; (SHARP CRY OF PAIN) My arm! Let go- you'll break it -

Joe; Keep him quiet, Maxie!

Jason; (START TO CRY OUT, BUT CUT AS:)

Maxie; (EFFORT)

(HARD BLOW, FALLING BODY)

Joe; (GASP) Maxie - you hit him awful hard-

Maxie; He was goin' to yell!

Joe; Hittin' a man with a gun barrel that hard - you- you might've killed him!

Maxie; Keep an eye on him while I look for the gold.

Joe; There's probably plenty of it in that vault.

Maxie; (FADING BACK) I'll blame soon find out. If that feller moves, hit him again.

Annrcr; The vault was a big disappointment. Though the heavy iron door stood open, there was another door inside, and this was locked securely.

Maxie; Can't get anything out of that vault -

Joe; What about the sacks this gent carried into the back room?

Maxie; I'll go look for them. How is that critter?

Joe; He's alive, but he's still unconscious.

Maxie; Might be a good idea to finish him.

Joe; There's no need to do that. We could tie an' gag him an' he wouldn't be found until morning.

Maxie; Suit yerself. (FAI NG) I'll look for those sacks.

Anncr; Jason Finley was still unconscious, and had been tightly bound and gagged when Maxie returned empty-handed from the back room.

Joe; Couldn't you find the sacks?

Maxie; No! And I looked high and low.

Joe; I noticed you blew out the lamp back there.

Maxie; Yes, and I'm goin' to blow out this one ---just in case someone comes along.

(BLOW OUT LAMP)

Maxie; There! We should've done that when we first came in here. It's lucky no one happened along an' looked thru the window.

Joe; You sure you looked everywhere in the back room?

Maxie; I told you I did!

Joe; But hang it, Maxie, I know this man took the sacks back there, an' he came out without 'em.

Maxie; Well I don't know what he did with 'em.

Joe; Is there a back door?

Maxie; Yes, but it's locked.

Joe; Maybe he went outside somewhere and left the sacks.

Maxie; In the snow? Hardly! I figure there's a secret hidin' place in the back room.

Joe; Maybe that's the answer.

Maxie; We'll wait until this critter regains consciousness then persuade him to tell us what he did with the sacks.

Joe; He's likely to be unconscious for some time.

Maxie; We can wait. There's no hurry.

(BREAK)

Annrc; In the dark office, the outlaws sat on the floor close to the unconscious cashier for about a quarter of an hour. Then they heard the sound of dogs outside.

(DOGS OUTSIDE)

Maxie; (TENSE) They're behind the building.

Joe; We better find out if someone's comin in here.

Maxie; Come on an' be ready to shoot!

(FAST STEPS, DOGS FADING NEARER)

Annrcr; Joe and Maxie hurried thru the open door into the back room and heard the voice of Jim Boland-

Jim; (OUTSIDE) Up fellows - line up, boys --

Joe; (LOW) Someone's out there--

Jim; (OUTSIDE, AD LIB GIDDAP'S)

(DOGS FADING)

Joe; He's drivin' away.

Maxie; I'll open this door - the key's in the lock.

(UNLOCK & OPEN DOOR)

Joe; There he goes.

Maxie; Of all the-

Joe; Maxie, d'you suppose he spotted us in here?

Maxie; I don't think so, but I'll bet I know what became of those sacks!

Joe; What?

Maxie; I'll bet the critter I knocked out brought 'em back here an' put 'em on that sled.

Joe; Um-m.

Maxie; (EFFORT) Wait 'til I look at the snow-

Joe; So cark you can hardly see.

Maxie; Squat down an' you can see the tracks goin' out this door and comin' back.

Joe; Sure enough!

Maxie; Joe, the sacks we're after are on that sled,
as sure as you're born!

Joe; Why would they be on the sled?

Maxie; How do I know.

Joe; I wonder where that driver's goin' with 'em?

Maxie; I don't know that either, but I do know what
we're goin' to do. We'll follow that sled.

Joe; We can't see the tracks!

Maxie; We'll get out of this settlement and make camp
somewhere 'til it gets light.

Joe; I hope we'll be able to pick up the tracks.

Maxie; That shouldn't be hard.

(CLOSE DOOR, CUT WIND)

Joe; Goin' out the front door?

Maxie; Yeah. We'll go back the way we came, then circle
the settlement.

Joe; All right.

(STEPS AS:)

Maxie; In the morning they'll find the man we slugged.
He'll tell about us bein' here. If our tracks
are found goin' out the back door, it'll be known
that we're trailin' that sled.

Joe; That's so.

Maxie; We'll start out in the other direction, then
hide out trail before we start after the critter
with the sacks.

(STEPS HALT)

Joe; I guess this man is still unconscious! Maxie,
he said he knew who we are - D'you think it's
safe to leave him alive?

Maxie; What's the difference? We're dodgin' the law
anyhow. Let's go.

(STEPS, DOOR OPEN, WIND UP FULL
& DOOR CLOSE) (WIND FADE OUT)

(COMMERCIAL)

(FADE IN SLED & DOGTEAM)

Annrc; The following morning, soon after daybreak,
Sergeant Preston neared the Indian Ridge mining
settlement. His great dog, Yukon King had set
the pace for the strong dogteam and big Tom Davis,
covered by heavy robes, had ridden on the sled.

Preston; (AD LIB WHOA'S)

(DOGS & SLED HALT)

Annrc; The Sergeant stepped off the runners and spoke
to the owner of the rich mine.

Preston; Tom, are you awake?

Tom; Eh? (WAKING) Oh - (LAUGHS) I guess I've been
dozing. Where are we?

Preston; At the foot of the hill near your home.

Tom; Sure enough. Great scott, we made fine time.

Preston; The dogs have worked hard. I don't want to ask them to pull the heavy sled up that hill-

Tom; (EFFORT) Of course not! It's only a ten minute walk to the house. () Coming with me?

Preston; Not right now, Tom. I'll visit you later.

Tom; Which way are you going?

Preston; Straight ahead. I want to call on Jim Boland and look at some dogs he has for sale.

Tom; You know where his cabin is?

Preston; Yes. I've been there.

Tom; I've tried to persuade him to move into our settlement, but he hasn't wanted to leave his place. (CHUCKLES) He may change his mind after he's married.

Preston; He probably will.

Tom; You'll come to the settlement later, Sergeant?

Preston; Yes.

Tom; I'll be looking for you. Thanks for the ride.

Preston; You're welcome! (AD LIB GIDDAP'S)

(DOGS & SLED START, FADE)

(SNEAK IN STEPS ON SNOW)

Annrcr; Tom Davis walked up the short, steep hill to the settlement. On the way to his home he passed the office building and glanced thru the window.

(STEPS HALT)

Annrcr; He halted abruptly when he saw a man's form lying on the floor.

Tom; Great scott! It's Finley!

(QUICK STEPS, DOOR OPENS)

Tom; (CUE) Tied and gagged - and the vault door open!

(QUICK STEPS CROSS FLOOR)

Annrcr; Jason Finley had been conscious for hours. After giving up a struggle to free himself, he had spent the time in deep thought. He realized that he could use the attack upon himself as part of the plan to make trouble for Jim Boland. () Tom Davis removed the gag -

Tom; There, Finley. I'll cut the ropes and have you free in no time.

Jason; (TRIES TO SPEAK) B - bos -- I - I --

Tom; You'll find it hard to speak after being gagged. Just take it easy! () There! Now rub your wrists while I get help.

(QUICK STEPS)

Tom; (CUE) (SHOUT) Hank - you Hank!

Voice; (BACK) Yes sir!

(QUICK STEPS)

Tom; What happened, Finley? Who did this?

Jason; (DRY THROAT) Tha - that freighter?

Tom; Not Jim Boland!

Jason; Y -yes - he came here last night while I was working - His face was covered- but I recognized him-

Tom; You mean to say Jim Boland tied and gagged you?

Jason; Yes- he held a gun - I struggled, but he knocked me out- when I came to, I was tied and gagged - and- and the lamp was out-

Tom; I can't believe that of Boland! () I want all the details! But first let me help you to a chair. (EFFORT) Come on -

Jason; (MOAN) My head-

Tom; Steady. There now - sit down.

Jason; (SITS) He- he left his sled and dogteam behind the building -said he was going to call on your daughter- a little later he came in thru the back door and caught me off guard.

Tom; Boland?

Jason; Yes.

Tom; The vault is open. Did you open it?

Jason; Yes sir - I opened the outer door- to get the books

Tom; The inner door is still closed.

Jason; There were two sacks of gold - the cash we keep on hand for the payroll - in the outer compartment - Are they still there?

(STEPS AS:)

Tom; (FADES) I'll see.

Jason; Boland saw them there when he stopped in here - to leave a couple of handbills-

Tom; (BACK) The sacks are gone.

Jason; Then Boland stole 'em!

Adlib; (MEN COMING IN) What's wrong, Boss? (ETC.)

(STEPS COMING IN AS:)

Tom; Men, Jason Finley was knocked out and two sacks of gold were stolen!

Adlib; (REACTION)

Jason; Jim Boland did it!

Adlib; (MORE REACTION)

Tom; I'll want more than your word for that, Jason!
 () Men, take care of Mr. Finley. ^{I'M GOING} ~~Take you and~~
~~TO CALL ON JIM BOLAND.~~
~~Ready come with me. We're going to call on Boland!~~

(BREAK)

Annex; In due time, Sergeant Preston reached Jim Boland's cabin which was about ten miles from the mining settlement. He ate breakfast with the young freighter, then the two men took Preston's lead dog out of harness, tied it behind the cabin and hitched one of Jim's dogs in its place.

(AD LIB DOGS B.G.)

Preston; If he works well with my team, Jim - I'm sure Constable Blake will be satisfied.

Jim; Good.

(KING BARKS)

Preston; All right, King. You set the pace. Line 'em up, boy.

(DOGS BARKING)

Jim; You'll find the country west of here a good place to try out the lead dog.

Preston; Right. ^{I'LL BE BACK SOON —}
 ^ (AD LIB GIDDAP'S)

(DOGS & SLED FADE AS:)

(BREAK)

Annecr;

At that moment, Joe and Maxie ^{WERE} ^{ING} followed the tracks of Jim Boland's sled. The wind had blown light snow over them and they were barely perceptible. Progress was slow, but each moment brought them nearer to the cabin. In the meantime, Tom Davis headed for the same destination, but by a shorter route over a tree covered hill. He reached the cabin and rapped on the door.

(RAP ON DOOR, DOOR OPENS)

Jim; (SURPRISED) Mr. Davis!

Tom; Jim, I want to talk to you!

Jim; Come right inside.

(STEPS IN, DOOR CLOSES AS:)

Jim; Sergeant Preston's out trying a new lead dog, but he'll soon be back.

Tom; I want to ask you some questions!

Jim; Yes sir. Is something wrong?

Tom; Yes! () Last night when you called on my daughter, where did you leave your sled and dogteam?

Jim; Behind the office building. I stopped there to see Jason Finley.

Tom; Did you see him?

Jim; Yes. I talked to him and gave him some handbills, then I left.

Tom; Did you see him again before you left?

Jim; No sir. The office was dark, so I figured he'd quit work and gone to his living quarters.

Tom; He was attacked!

Jim; What -?

Tom; Struck on the head, then bound and gagged. And two sacks of gold were stolen. He names you as the attacker!

Jim; Mr. Davis! That's not true!

Tom; I hope it's not true, but the evidence points to you, Jim. We found footprints going from your sled to the back door of the office, then out the back door to the sled.

Jim; Those couldn't have been my footprints! I didn't use the back door at all!

Tom; We found other prints from your sled - where you went around to the front door - and where you came from my home-

Jim; Someone else must have gone thru the back door!
I tell you, Mr. Davis, those weren't my footprints -

Tom; I'll admit they couldn't be identified, they were nearly filled in with snow.

Jim; If you think I'd steal gold -- or knock out
Finley --

Tom; Jim, I - I don't know what to think. It's
Finley's word against your's.

Jim; If you want to search for the stolen gold,
you're free to do so. I -

(DOOR OPENS FAST)

Adlib; (STIR)

Joe; Get yer hands up!

Maxie; You're both covered.

Jim; Joe Cahill and Maxie Steel!

Joe; He knows us, Maxie.

Maxie; Keep yer hands high!

Jim; Do as he says, Mr. Davis! These men are killers!
Sergeant Preston's been looking for them. Their
pictures were on the handbill I left with Jason
in the office.

Maxie; So that's how he recognized us!

Jim; How who recognized you?

Maxie; That skinny galoot in the mining office.

Tom; Did he recognize you?

Maxie; Yeah!

Jim; Then you-

Maxie; (HARD) Save it! We're after those sacks he put on your sled.

Jim; What sacks?

Maxie; Don't try to bluff us! He put two leather sacks on your sled and we're here to get 'em!

Jim; Mr. Davis! Did you hear that?

Tom; I heard it! () How do you men know Finley put two sacks of go - er -- two sacks on this man's sled?

Maxie; We're not here to answer questions. We're here for gold!

Joe; Where is it?

Maxie; Talk fast or we'll let you have it! We don't have to be afraid of a gunshot bein' heard in this neck of the woods! We won't just slug you and leave you tied and gagged--

Tom; Then you - you slugged Finley - the man in the office -

Joe; Stop stallin'!

Jim; I haven't unloaded my sled! If any sacks were put on it last night, they're still there.

Preston; (BACK) Drop those guns!

Maxie; (STARTLED) What the-

Jim; (CRY OUT) Sergeant-

Maxie; (EFFORT) I'll kill-

FAST SHOTS

Maxie; (HOWL OF PAIN)

Preston; (SHOUT) Take 'em, King!

(WILD SNARLS)

Adlib; (STIR)

Anncr; Maxie's fast shot drilled the sleeve of Preston's coat, but the Sergeant's bullet brushed the knuckles of the outlaw's gun hand. King had closed in on the other killer and had a firm grip on his arm.

Joe; (WILD YELLS) Leggo - leggo yuh cur-

Preston; Drop your gun!

Joe; (WILDLY) I've dropped it! I've dropped it!

Tom; I'm holding this crook, Sergeant!

Preston; That'll do, King! Down, boy.

(KING SUBSIDES)

Jim; Sergeant, these are the killers you wanted-

Preston; I recognize them, Jim!

Maxie; (WHIMPERS) My hand - look at it - you shot me-

Preston; And now I'm going to handcuff you! Watch 'em, King.

(GROWLS)

(AD LIB HANDCUFFS)

Tom; Sergeant, it's a good thing you came when you did!

Preston; They forgot to close the door, so I could see their backs, and see you and Jim with your hands up. () Now your hands, Joe-

(HANDCUFFS)

Hoe; You wouldn't have me if it wasn't for that dog! He didn't give me a chance to shoot-

Preston; The shooting days are finished for both of you!

Tom; Sergeant, will you bring these crooks to the mining camp before you take them to jail?

Preston; Why-?

Tom; Because I think Jason Finley tried to frame Jim for a robbery. I'd like you to help me question Finley.

(BREAK)

Annrc; Later that day, in the mining company office, Jason Finley was confronted by Sergeant Preston, Tom Davis and Jim Boland. He squirmed uneasily and made a number of faltering explanations --

Preston; Stop lying, Finley! Both of the prisoners confessed to knocking you out, tying and gagging you -

Jason; It's just as I said -- I - I was working here- when Boland came in-

Preston; (CUT IN, HARD) I have two prisoners locked in the storeroom. They saw you carry the gold sacks into the back room and return to this office without them. Your tracks go from the back door to Boland's sled - then return to the door!

Jason; If -if you found the gold on Boland's sled, it -it should be evidence that-

Preston; (CUT IN) We found it there - right where you hid it beneath the robe

Jim; You tried to frame me for robbery!

Tom; No more lies, Finley!

Jason; I - I -

Preston; Let's have the truth! I HAVE 2 MEN READY TO TESTIFY AGAINST YOU.

Jason; (EXPLODES) All right, I did try to frame Boland! He had it coming! What right's he got to steal the girl I planned to marry! If it hadn't been for you, Boland, Anne would become my wife!
(BREAK DOWN SOBBING) You took her away from me!
I - I'd do more than frame you to get ~~her~~ her!

Preston; That's it, Davis.

Tom; Yes I - I don't know what to do about him.

Preston; Do you think he should go to jail?

Tom; I -- I don't know.

Preston; What do you think, Jim?

Jim; I don't care whether he goes to jail or not?

- Tom; What do you recommend, Sergeant?
- Preston; Nothing would be gained by jailing him. I think it would be better to discharge him and let it go at that.
- Tom; Very well. () Did you hear that, Finley?
- Jason; Wha - what?
- Tom; You're going to get off easy. You'll be paid to date and given until evening to get out of this settlement. Now get out of this office and start packing!
- Jason; (SNUFFLE) Y-yes sir--
- (DOOR OPEN & CLOSE)
- Jim; He's mean and scheming, but I feel sorry for him.
- Preston; Well, I'll start back for Dawson. Jim, I'll tell Blake he can do no better than buy your dog.
- Jim; Thanks.
- Tom; Must you go back so soon, Sergeant? Can't you stay for a while?
- Preston; No, Tom. I'll return for the wedding, but I made this trip to search for two killers. I have them, so there's no excuse to stay here longer. The case is closed.