

DELL

NO. 344

10¢

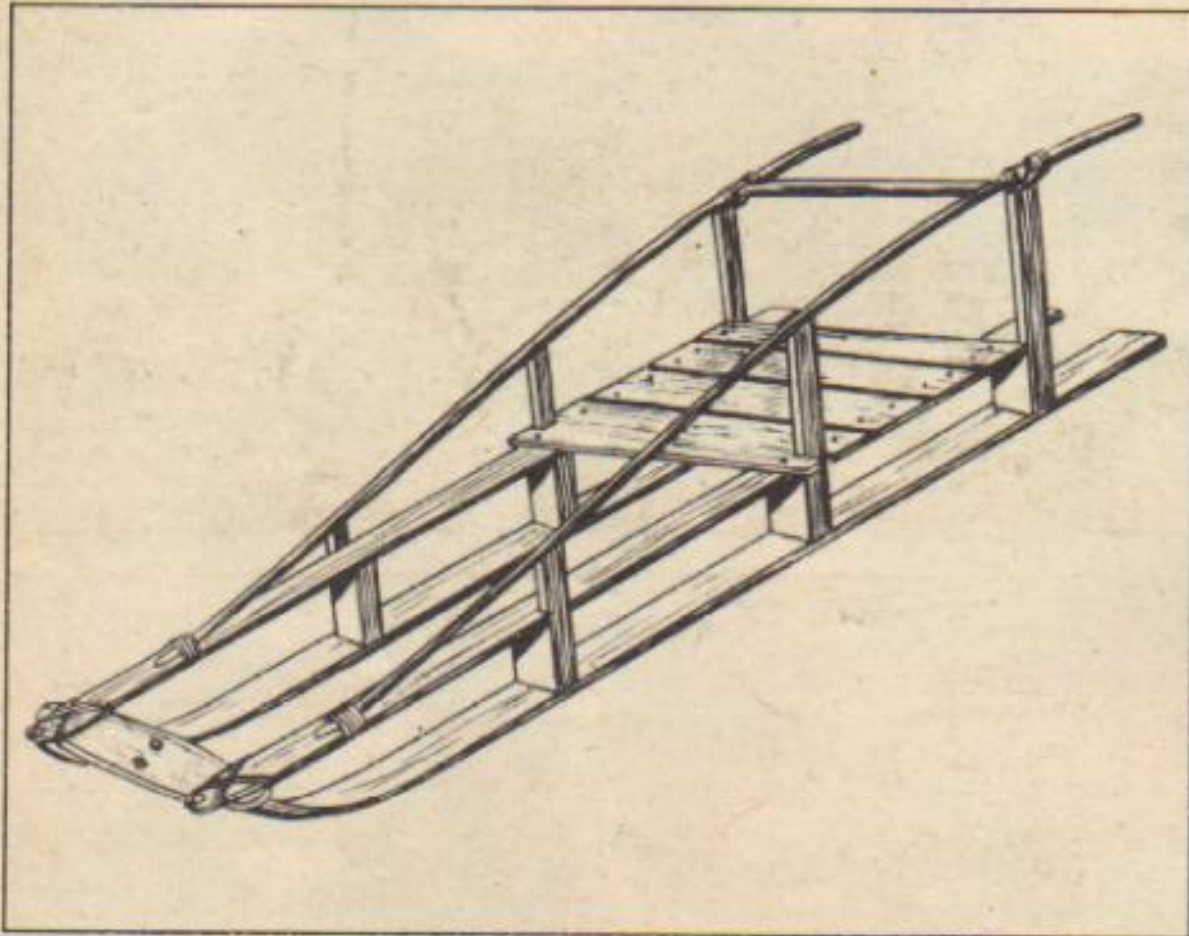
# Sergeant PRESTON

from CHALLENGE OF THE YUKON





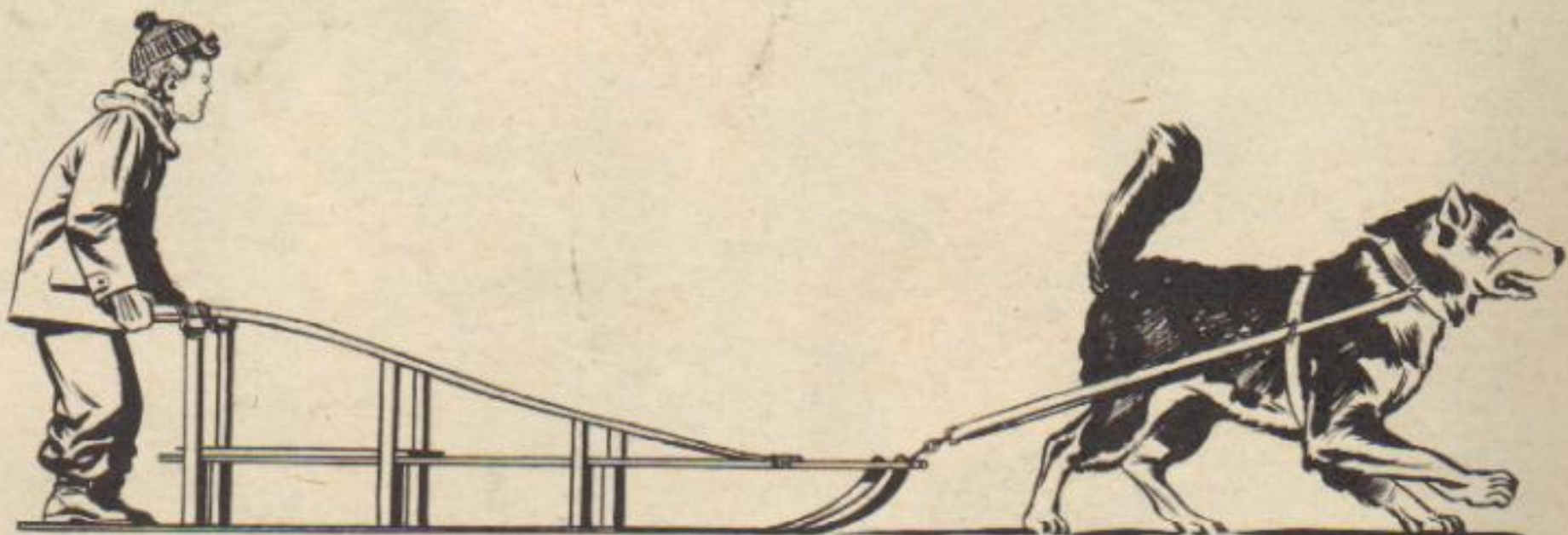
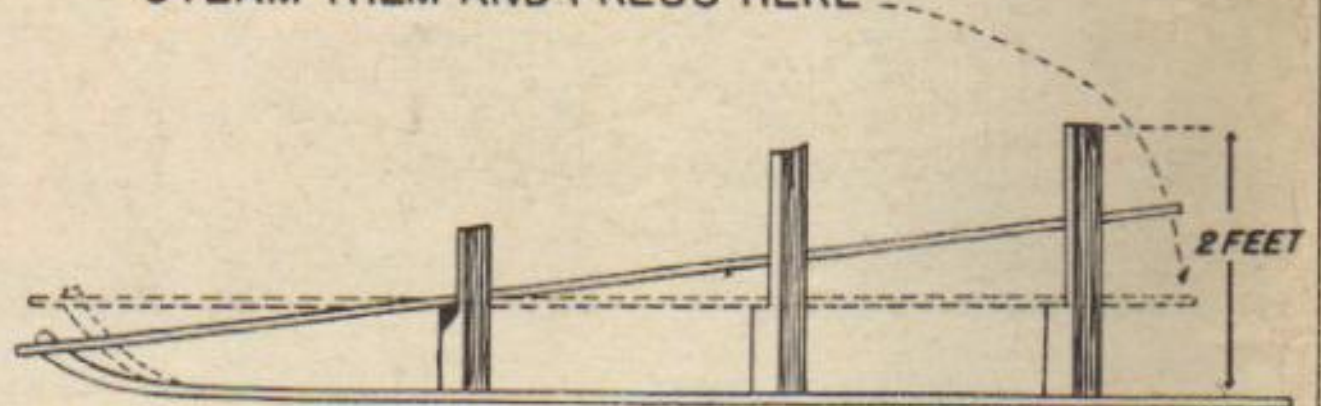
# BUILD A DOG SLED



**T**HE ONLY THING DIFFICULT ABOUT MAKING A DOG SLED IS MAKING THE RUNNERS. USE A GOOD HARD, SMOOTH WOOD SUCH AS MAPLE OR WHITE OAK. YOU CAN EITHER BEND THE ENDS UP IN FRONT BY USING THE FRAME OF THE SLED TO HOLD THEM, OR BY STEAMING THE WOOD AROUND A CURVE AND LETTING IT DRY IN THAT POSITION. MOST WOODS BEND EASILY IF YOU GET ENOUGH HOT STEAM ON THEM. IF YOU HAVE A PAIR OF OLD SKIS, THEY MAKE FINE RUNNERS, TOO. SINCE YOU'LL BE PUTTING MORE WEIGHT ON THEM WHEN YOU'RE DRIVING DOGS THAN YOU WOULD IF YOU WERE SKIING, DON'T FORGET TO USE PLENTY OF SKI WAX!

**T**O BEND THE RUNNERS OR SKIS TO A PROPER ANGLE, SCREW ON THE UPRIGHTS FIRST; ATTACH THE FRONT END OF THE SKI TO YOUR LONG STRUT; PUSH DOWN ON THE BACK END AND FASTEN DOWN THE STRUT. NO NAILS SHOULD BE USED IN THIS SLED. USE SCREWS OR, STILL BETTER, NUTS AND BOLTS SINCE VIBRATION WILL EVEN PULL OUT SCREWS.

TO GIVE OLD SKIS MORE CURVE TO GO OVER ROUGH SNOW OR TO BEND RUNNERS YOU MADE YOURSELF, STEAM THEM AND PRESS HERE





# Sergeant PRESTON

IN  
DEATH WAITS ON  
THE RIVER



HERE SHE COMES,  
SERGEANT---THE OLD  
YUKON STAR ROUNDING  
THE BEND!

ENDING A ROUTINE PATROL AT FORTY MILE, SERGEANT PRESTON AND CONSTABLE WADE WAIT FOR THE RIVER STEAMER TO DAWSON CITY...

BURNING CORDWOOD INSTEAD OF COAL, THE OLD STERN-WHEELER IS THE COUNTRY'S ONLY MEANS OF SUPPLY DURING THE BRIEF NORTHERN SUMMER...



SERGEANT PRESTON!  
HOW ARE YOU?

HELLO!  
FINE, THANK  
YOU, BANNING!  
I HEARD YOU'D  
GONE OUT TO  
ST. MICHAEL!



SERGEANT, I WANT YOU TO MEET ELTON GAINES, SON OF DUNCAN GAINES, OF THE PACIFIC TRADING CO... HE'S UP HERE TO CORRAL THE BUSINESS OF SUPPLYING INDEPENDENT TRADING POSTS.

I'M GLAD TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE, GAINES! AS YOUR COMPANY AGENT, RUSS BANNING WILL HAVE WARNED YOU THAT YOU'LL MEET STIFF COMPETITION?

YES!



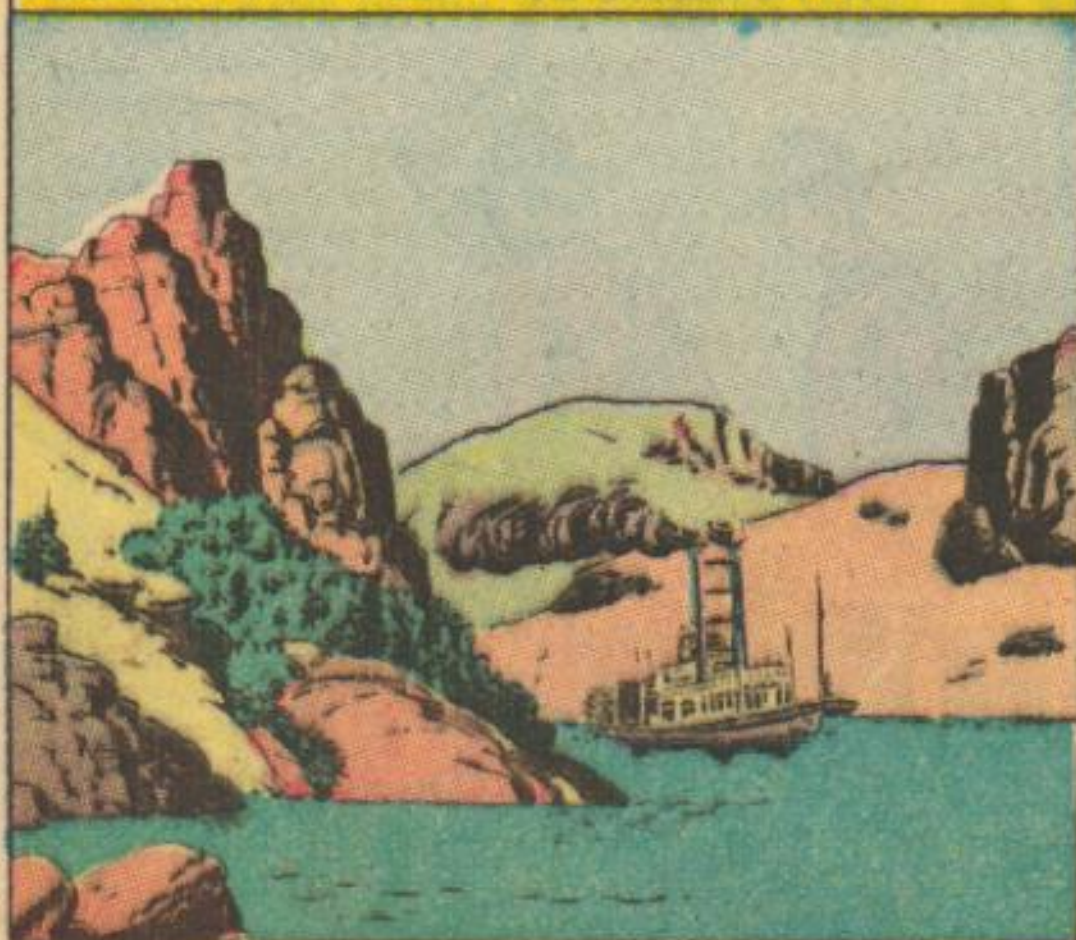
SPEAKING OF COMPETITION-- I GUESS A MAN WOULD GO FAR TO FIND ANOTHER DOG LIKE THAT ONE OF YOURS, SERGEANT!

RIGHT! IN ALL THE NORTH COUNTRY THERE ISN'T ANOTHER DOG THAT COULD MATCH YUKON KING!





LATER THAT DAY, THE YUKON STAR NEARS ROCKY POINT, NOT MANY MILES FROM DAWSON CITY...



AND ATOP THE CLIFF WAITS A HARD-EYED KILLER, WITH A TELESCOPE MOUNTED ON HIS RIFLE!



SHE'S COMING INTO RANGE!  
AND THERE'S BANNING  
WEARING A RED JACKET,  
LIKE HE SAID.

THE FELLER BESIDE HIM IS MY  
TARGET---YOUNG ELTON GAINES!  
THEY'RE THE ONLY TWO ON  
FOREDECK.



I'M AFRAID I'M BREAKING A  
SHIP'S RULE--BRINGING YUKON  
KING INTO YOUR WHEELHOUSE,  
CAPTAIN CORBIN!

YUKON KING IS THE  
ONE EXCEPTION TO  
THAT RULE---  
HEY---



--- THERE'S BANNING AND  
YOUNG GAINES ON THE FORE-  
DECK, WHERE NO PASSENGERS  
HAVE GOT ANY BUSINESS TO  
BE! THAT'S A RULE I DO  
ENFORCE.

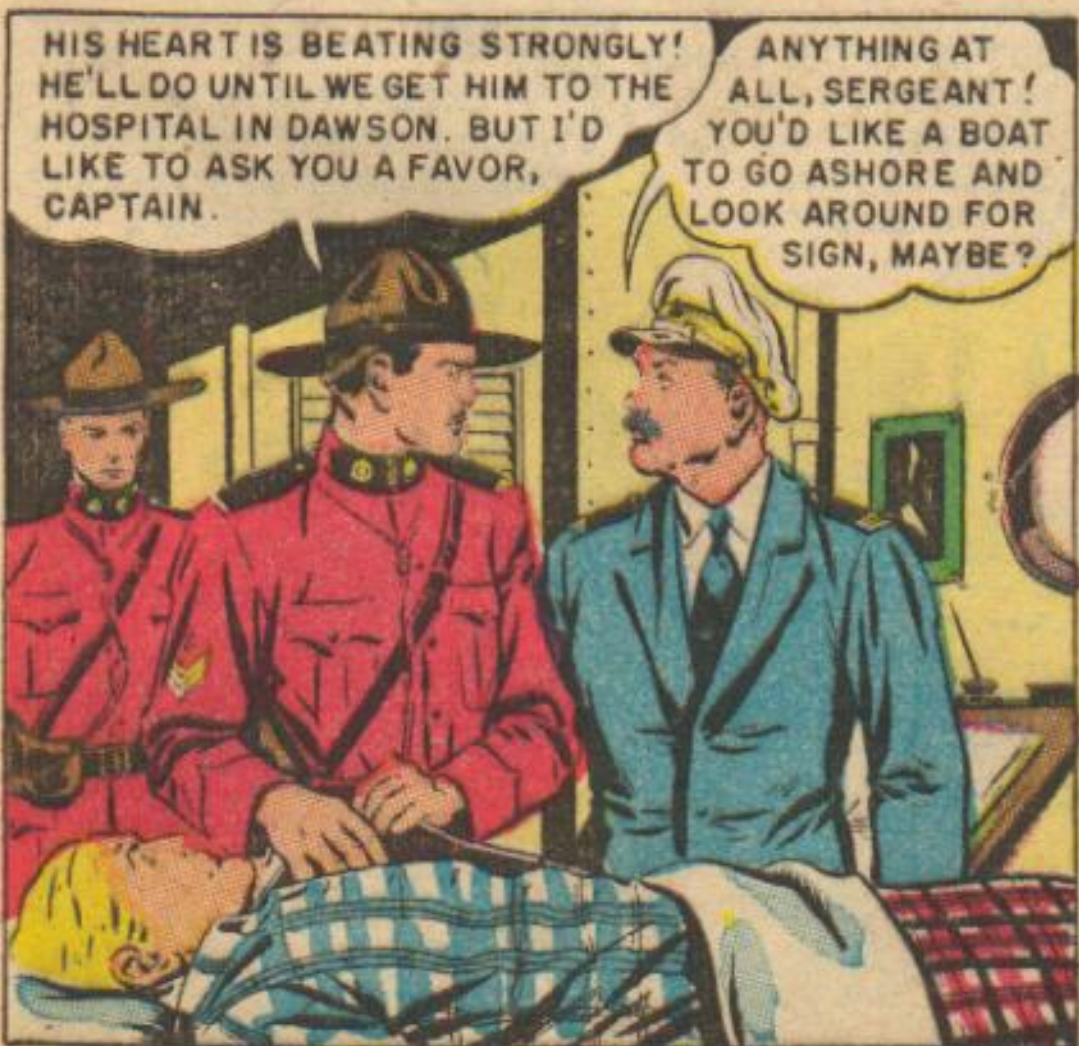
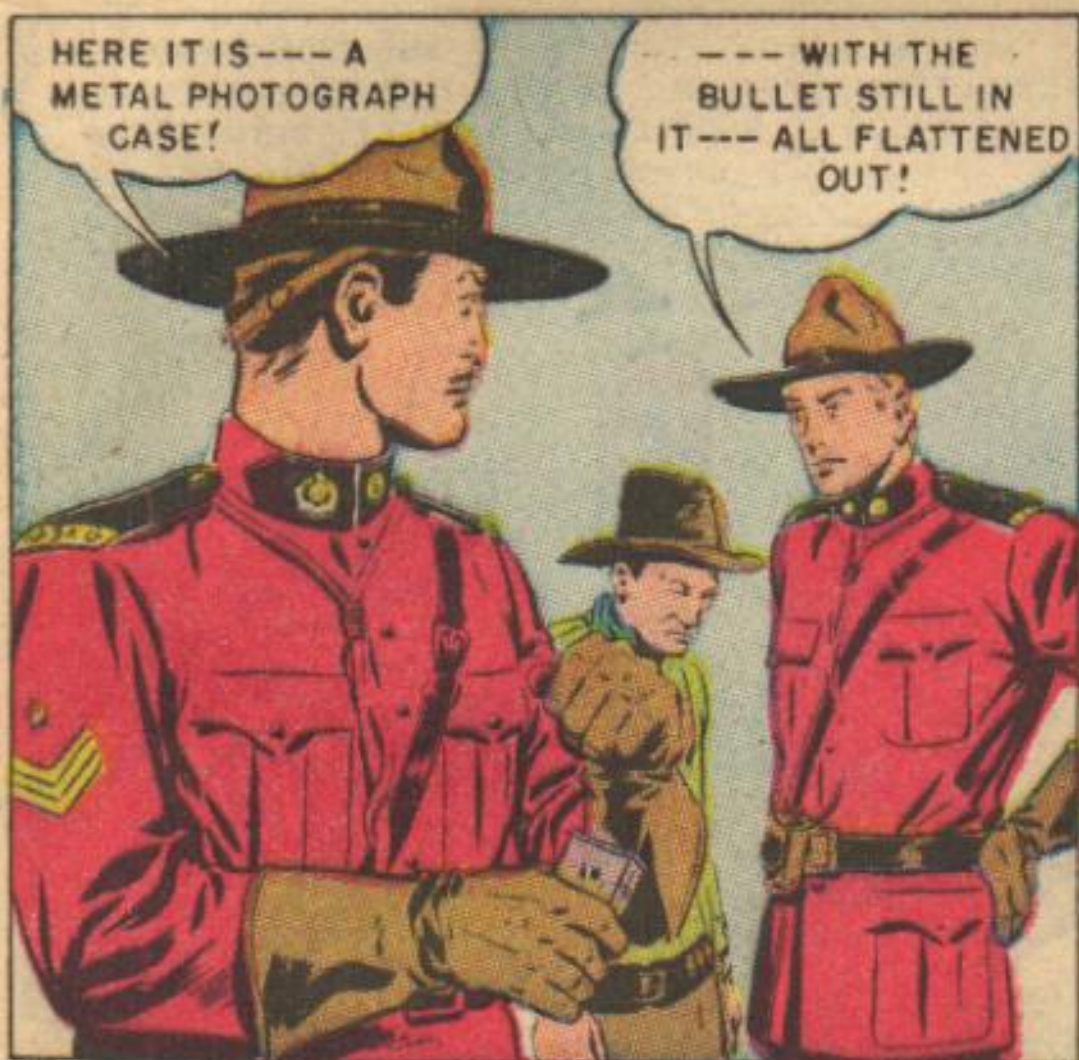
LOOK! SOME-  
THING'S WRONG  
WITH GAINES!  
HE'S HURT,  
OR, ---



HELP! SOMETHING'S  
HAPPENED---













BACK ON THE YUKON STAR...

JUST HOW DID YOU AND YOUNG GAINES HAPPEN TO BE UP IN THE BOW OF THE VESSEL, BANNING? THAT'S OUT OF BOUNDS FOR PASSENGERS.

I-- I DIDN'T KNOW! I WAS JUST POINTING OUT SOME LAND-MARKS!



BANNING LIED, ALEX! HE'S MADE ENOUGH TRIPS ON CAPTAIN CORBIN'S VESSEL TO KNOW THE RULES FOR PASSENGERS! WHEN WE ALL LEAVE YOUNG GAINES AT THE DAWSON HOSPITAL, I WANT YOU TO TAIL BANNING --- AND DON'T LET HIM SEE YOU!

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, SERGEANT!



SOME HOURS LATER, AFTER LEAVING HIS EMPLOYER'S SON STILL UNCONSCIOUS IN THE HOSPITAL, RUSS BANNING HEADS FOR THE RED DOG CAFÉ...



HUMPH! WELL, BANNING, WHAT HAPPENED?

NO DICE, BARMAN! GAINES IS IN DAWSON HOSPITAL WITH ONLY A BROKEN RIB!



YOU'RE CRAZY OR LYIN', BANNING! I SAW GAINES DROP-- AND MY GUN'S KILLED A MOOSE AT TWICE THAT RANGE!

I DON'T LIKE JOKERS, BANNING! TALK!

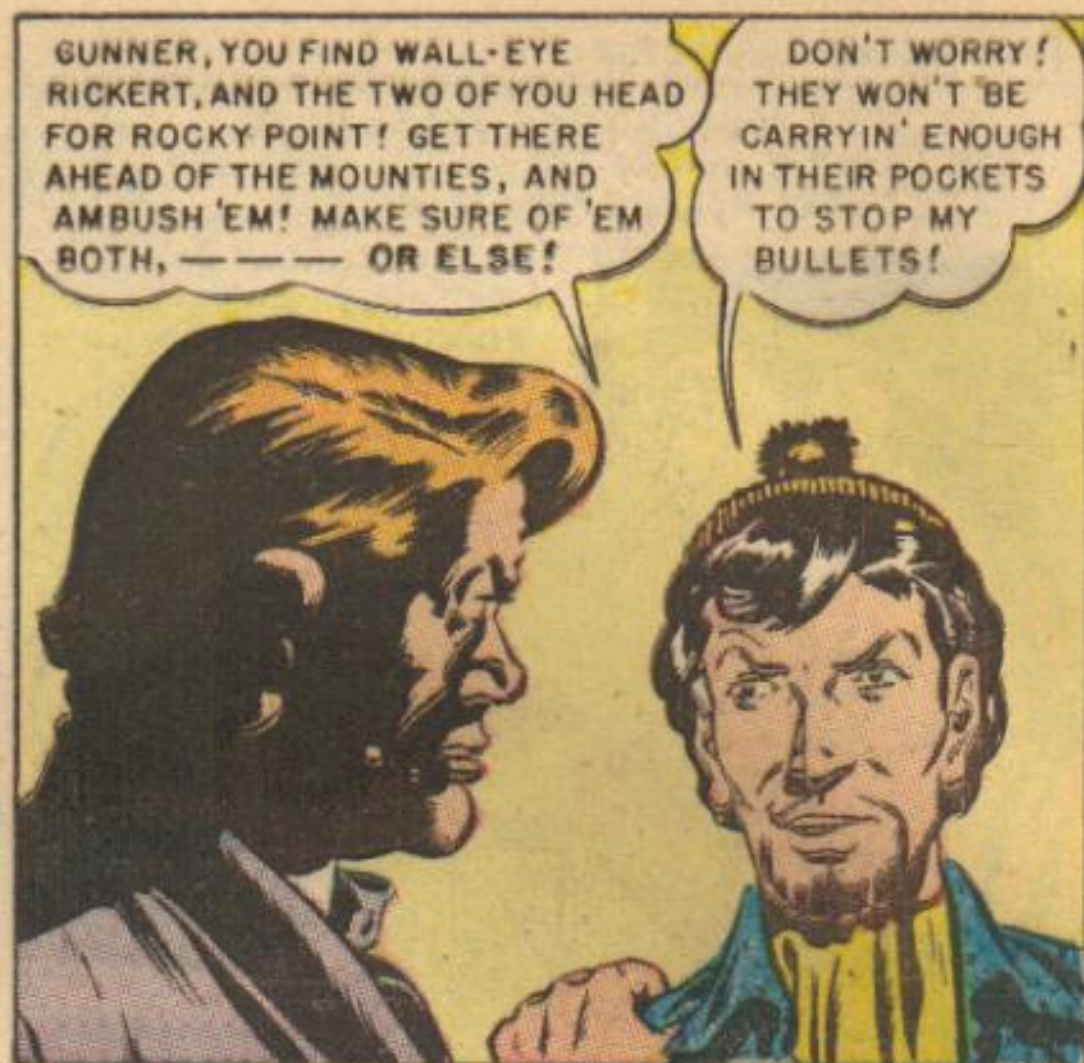
OKAY! THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH GUNNER DENKEN'S SHOOTING--- THE SLUG HIT A METAL PICTURE CASE OVER GAINES' HEART!



OF ALL THE BLASTED LUCK! THE KID WILL GET WELL AND HIS OUTFIT WILL CORNER THE FUR TRADE IN THIS TERRITORY! WE CAN'T RISK POTTING HIM AGAIN--- OR THE MOUNTIES WILL BE ON TO OUR GAME! THEY'VE GOT AN EYE ON ME, ANYHOW---



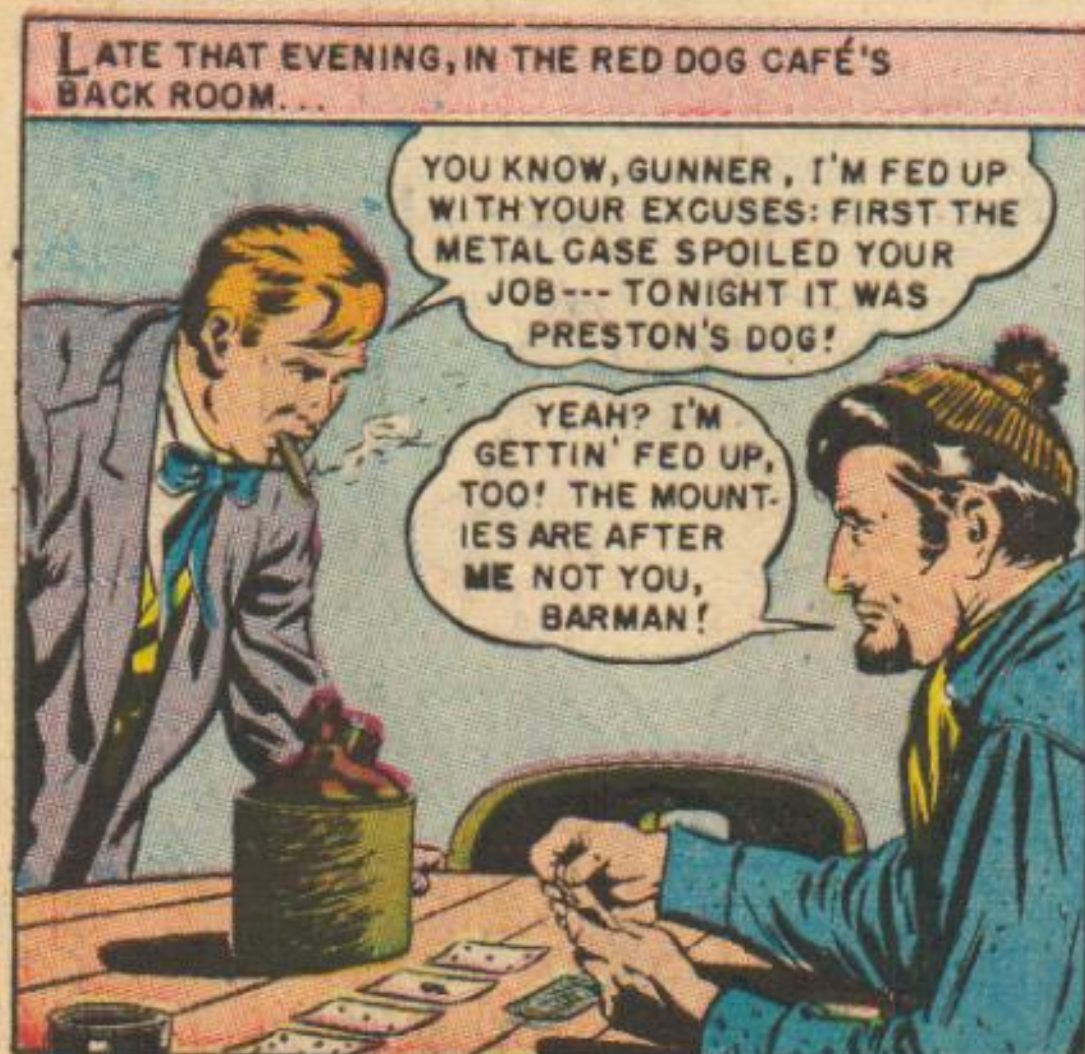








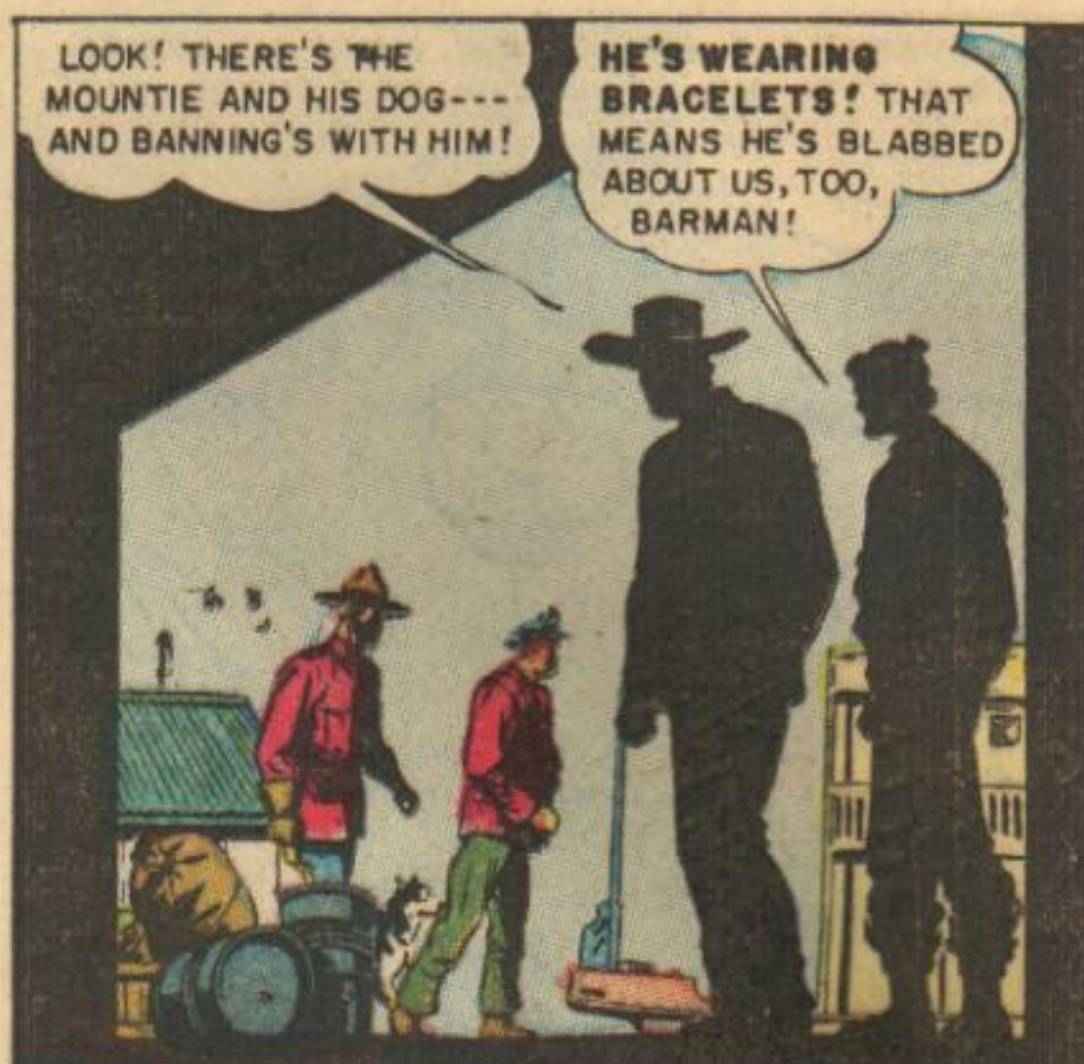














AS THE GREAT DOG YUKON KING HITS BARMAN'S LEGS, THE GUN ROARS HARMLESSLY...







HANDCUFF THEM BOTH TOGETHER, ALEX--- AND SEARCH THEM FOR ANY OTHER WEAPONS! I'LL BRING BANNING.

VERY GOOD, SERGEANT! THANKS TO BANNING, WE GOT THEM ALL!



BLAST YOU FOR A YELLOW, DOUBLE-CROSSING RAT, BANNING! IF YOU'D KEPT YOUR MOUTH SHUT ABOUT GUNNER SHOOTING YOUNG GAINES, WE COULD STILL HAVE CLEANED UP BIG ON THE FUR TRADE! NOW YOU'VE PUT US BEHIND BARS FOR---

SHUT UP, BARMAN! I NEVER BLABBED A WORD! BUT YOU---



THAT'LL DO, I THINK! YOU'VE JUST NOW GIVEN ME THE EVIDENCE I NEEDED TO---



--- PLACE ALL THREE OF YOU UNDER ARREST FOR CONSPIRACY TO MURDER ELTON GAINES, YOUR ONLY COMPETITOR FOR THE FUR TRADE OF YUKON TERRITORY! REMEMBER THAT ANYTHING YOU SAY MAY BE USED AGAINST YOU AT YOUR TRIAL!



WE'LL TAKE THEM ALONG TO JAIL, ALEX--- BUT KEEP BARMAN AND GUNNER DENKEN AWAY FROM BANNING --- OR WE MAY HAVE A REAL MURDER ON OUR HANDS!

I WOULDN'T DOUBT IT, SERGEANT!



HALF AN HOUR LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

YOU KNOW, ALEX, WE'D NEVER HAVE CLOSED THIS CASE WITHOUT YUKON KING... IN FACT, WE WOULDN'T BE ALIVE THIS MINUTE!

HE'S THE BEST POLICE-MAN OF US ALL, SERGEANT--- AND THAT'S THE TRUTH!



# Sergeant PRESTON

IN THE  
TELLTALE KNIFE

SERGEANT! YOU'VE GOT TO COME QUICK! DAVE HYATT HAS JUST MURDERED OLD MILO PERTH!

RRR-WUFF?

BE STILL, KING! SCARPY, ARE YOU SURE OF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

1951

I'M POSITIVE, SERGEANT! I SAW IT THROUGH THE WINDOW--- THE OLD MAN LYIN' ON THE FLOOR WITH A KNIFE IN HIS CHEST--- AND DAVE HYATT POKIN' AROUND THE ROOM LIKE HE WAS HUNTIN' FOR SOMETHIN'. SO I HEADED FOR HERE ON THE JUMP!

HEY! KEEP THAT DOG AWAY FROM ME, SERGEANT! HE'S FIXIN' TO GRAB ME!

THE SMELL OF FEAR ON YOU ANGERS HIM, SCARPY--- BUT DON'T WORRY! KING NEVER ATTACKS UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!

HARR-RR!

WE'LL FOLLOW YOU BACK TO MILO'S CABIN--- IT'S POSSIBLE THAT DAVE HYATT IS STILL THERE.

HE IS THERE STILL, SERGEANT! YOU GOIN' TO ARREST HIM?

THAT DEPENDS---



















THAT NIGHT... ON CONSTABLE WADE'S REGULAR  
ROUNDS...

HYATT! HEY!  
WHAT AILS  
YOU?



CAREFUL, CONSTABLE! LIFT YOUR  
PISTOL OUT WITH THUMB AND  
FINGER--- SLOWLY! THEN  
DROP IT, AND UNLOCK  
THIS DOOR.

VERY WELL---  
BUT I WARN  
YOU, YOU WON'T  
GET FAR,  
HYATT!



THAT PISTOL WASN'T LOADED,  
CONSTABLE! IF YOU SHOULD CATCH  
ME, THERE'LL BE NO GUNPLAY---  
BUT I'M GOING FAST AND  
FAR!



NOT FAR FROM THE JAIL... IN THE HYATT'S CABIN...

YOUR LUCK'S RUN OUT, ELLIS!  
UNLESS YOU'VE GOT SOME MORE  
CASH TUCKED AWAY...?

NOPE! YOU'VE  
CLEANED ME, BILL!  
BUT I'LL HAVE  
PLENTY WHEN I  
INHERIT MY SUCKER  
BROTHER'S CLAIM!



I'LL BE THERE WHEN THE TIME  
COMES, ELLIS--- WITH MY HAND  
OUT FOR THAT THOUSAND YOU  
OWE ME--- HEH, HEH!  
SO LONG FOR NOW!



FIVE MINUTES AFTER BILL SCARPY'S DEPARTURE...

D-DAVE! HOW IN  
BLAZES DID YOU---

NEVER MIND  
THAT,  
ELLIS!





I WANT A LOOK AT THAT I.O.U. PAPER WHICH YOU SENT ME TO MILO'S TO GET--- AFTER YOU FOUND HIM STABBED TO DEATH! YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE TOO SCARED TO GO AND LOOK FOR IT YOURSELF, EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD CERTAINLY INCRIMINATE YOU! BUT NOW I WONDER---



--BECAUSE JUNE TOLD ME THAT THE MOUNTIES SEARCHED MILO'S CABIN WITH A FINE-TOOTHED COMB --- AND FOUND NOTHING! ONLY MY KNIFE! WHICH MEANS YOU DID GET YOUR PAPER, AND SENT ME ON A WILD-GOOSE CHASE, SO THAT I'D BE CAUGHT!



NO! NO, DAVE! IT---IT WASN'T THAT WAY! I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING THAT WILL PROVE IT---

BE QUICK, THEN! THE MOUNTIES WILL BE ON MY TRAIL ANY MOMENT.

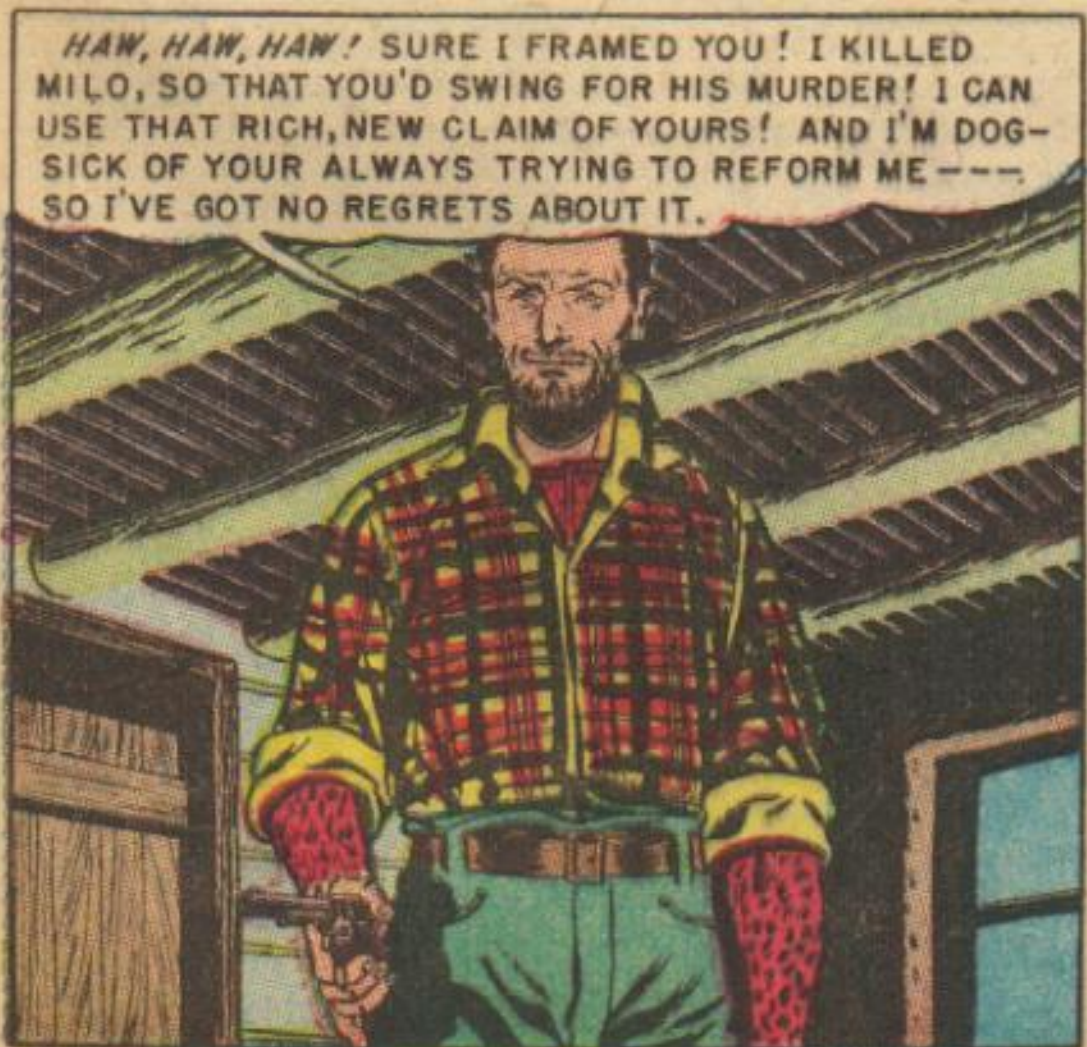


JUST HOLD THAT POSE, BROTHER MINE! I WANT TO DO IT WITH ONE CLEAN SHOT --- THROUGH THE HEAD!

WHY, YOU DIRTY--- MURDERER! YOU STOLE MY KNIFE TO KILL MILO PERTH! AND NOW---



HAW, HAW, HAW! SURE I FRAMED YOU! I KILLED MILO, SO THAT YOU'D SWING FOR HIS MURDER! I CAN USE THAT RICH, NEW CLAIM OF YOURS! AND I'M DOGSICK OF YOUR ALWAYS TRYING TO REFORM ME--- SO I'VE GOT NO REGRETS ABOUT IT.



SERGEANT--!

DROP THAT GUN, ELLIS--- YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

HUH?











SERGEANT PRESTON AND HIS GREAT DOG YUKON KING ARRIVE IN DAWSON, YUKON OUTPOST OF THE CANADIAN MOUNTIES, TO REPORT TO THE INSPECTOR AT THE END OF A PATROL...











ANDY JENKS IS A SHREWD MAN! IF HE LOANED YOU CASH TO INVEST IN MARTIN'S SYNDICATE, IT MUST BE ALL RIGHT!

MATTER OF FACT, PENNY, I DIDN'T TELL HIM ABOUT MARTIN! I LET HIM HOLD MY WATCH AS SECURITY!



OH, DAD! YOU WERE GOING TO ASK ANDY'S ADVICE!

I COULDN'T! IT'S GOT TO BE KEPT SECRET! IF THE WORD GOT AROUND THAT MARTIN AND HIS PARTNER WERE GOIN' TO BRING MACHINERY IN AND REFINER THE GOLD RIGHT HERE, IT'D SPOIL EVERYTHING!



WHY?

WE GOT TO CONTROL THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN! RIGHT NOW, WE CAN BUY THE CLAIMS CHEAP, BUT IF FOLKS FOUND OUT WHAT WAS GOIN' TO HAPPEN, THEY'D HOLD OUT FOR BETTER PRICES!



I DO HOPE MR. MARTIN IS ON THE LEVEL! I DON'T TRUST HIS PARTNER, CURLY LARSON! IT'S HIS EYES --- THEY'RE SHIFTY!

SAKES ALIVE! YOU CAN'T--- AH! HERE COMES MARTIN NOW!



HOWDY, MISS PENNY! HELLO THERE, JIM!

COME IN, MARTIN! I'M ALL READY FOR YOU! JUST GOT BACK FROM DAWSON WITH THE CASH FOR THAT STOCK!



FINE! I'LL MAKE OUT THE CERTIFICATE FOR YOU!

GOOD! THERE'S THE MONEY!





MR. MARTIN, ARE YOU SURE THERE'S GOLD IN THE MOUNTAINS?

SURE, MISS PENNY, WHY EVERYONE KNOWS THERE'S GOLD THERE!



YES, BUT --- BUT IT'S NEVER BEEN WORTH-WHILE TO WORK THE TUNNELS ---

BECAUSE OF THE SHIPPING COSTS OF THE RAW ORE, MY DEAR! BUT IF THE ORE IS REFINED RIGHT HERE --- AH, THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY!



HOW SOON ARE YOU GOING TO BUILD THE REFINERY?

VERY SOON! WE MUST BUY UP A FEW MORE PARCELS OF LAND, THEN WE'LL BE READY TO GO! I ---

WHO IN TARNATION IS HAMMERIN' ON THE DOOR LIKE THAT?



OH! IT'S YOU! WHAT'S THE EXCITEMENT, LARSON?

I'VE GOT TO SEE MR. MARTIN RIGHT AWAY!

WHAT IS IT, CURLY?



I'VE GOT TO TALK TO YOU! IT'S IMPORTANT!

ALL RIGHT! I'M THROUGH HERE! I'LL SEE YOU LATER, JIM!

Y-YEAH! SURE!



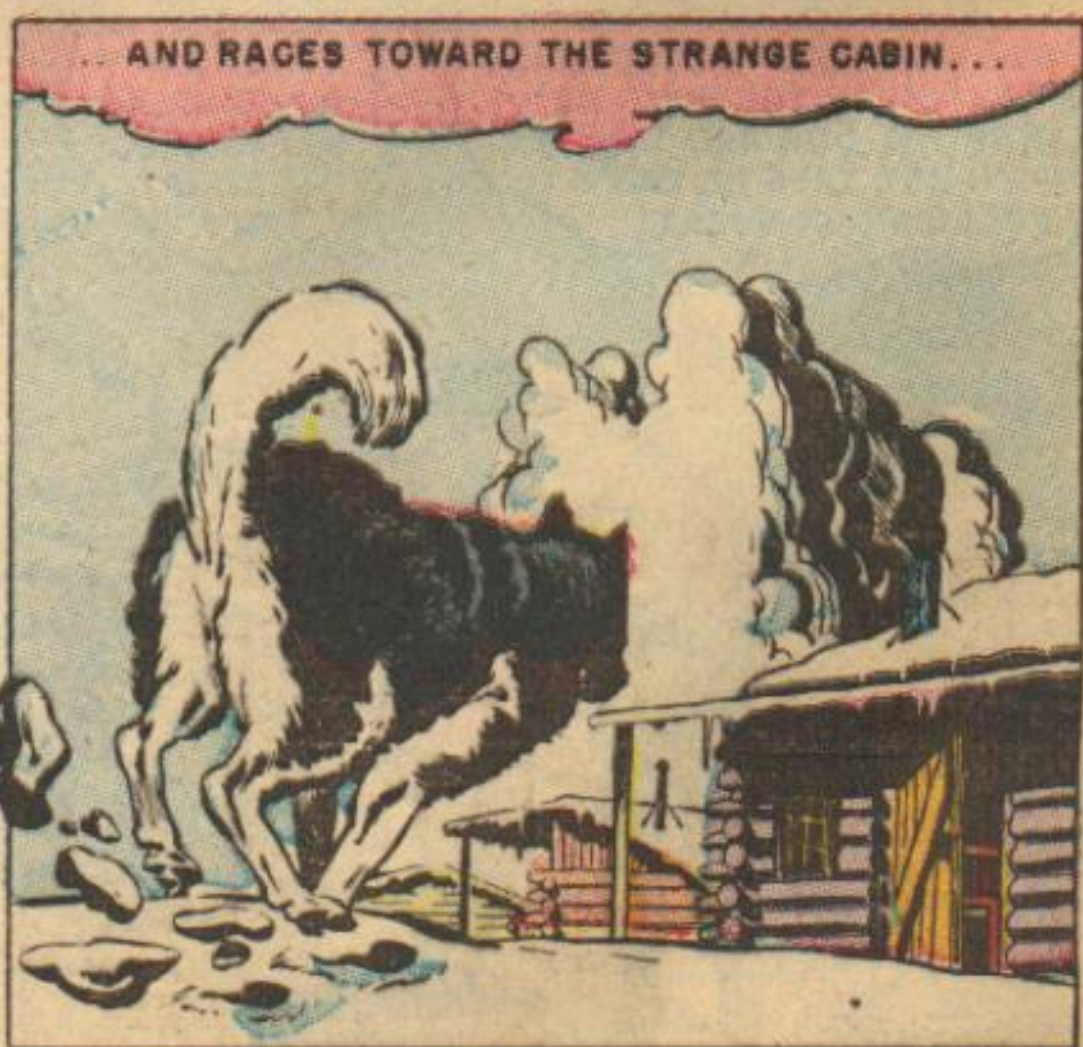
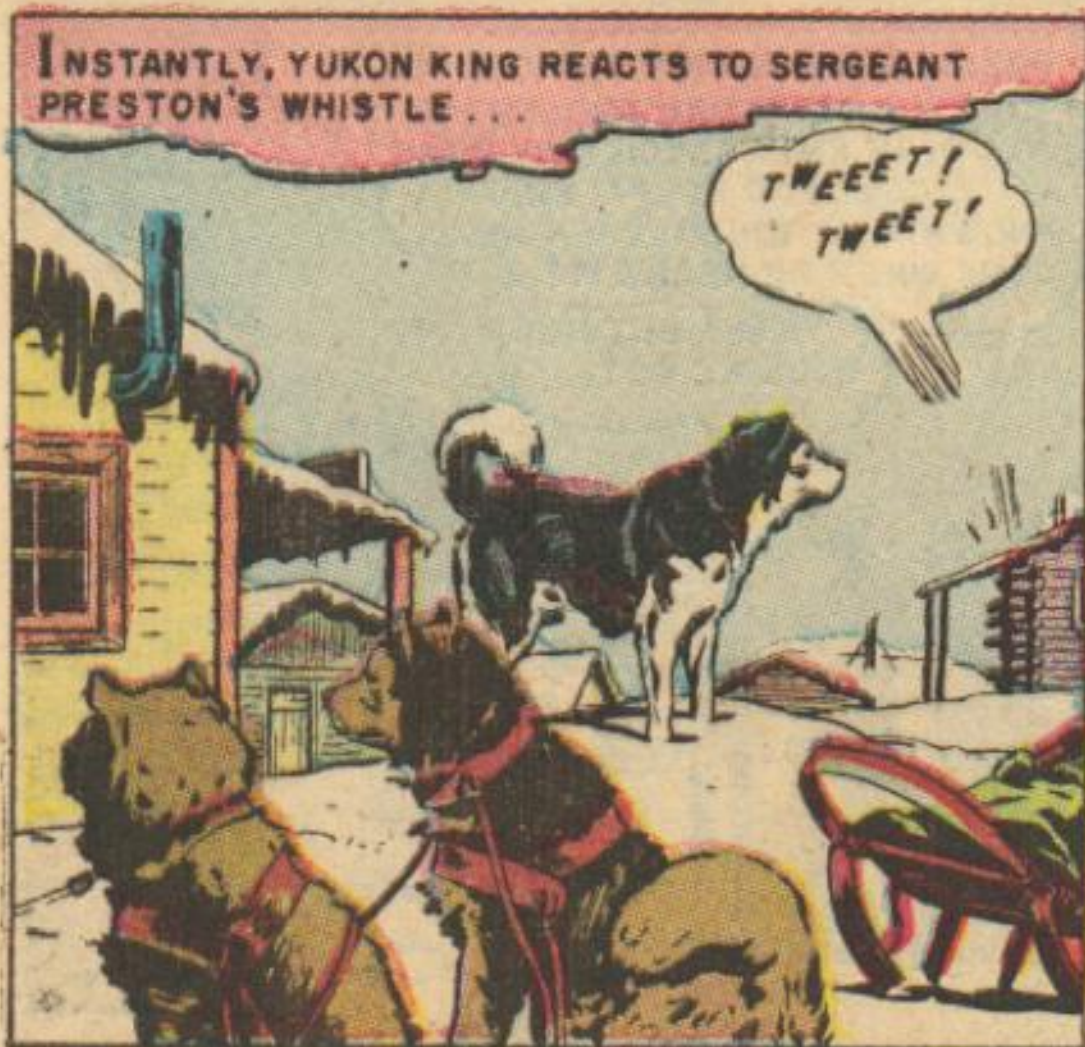
COME WITH ME TO MY CABIN! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE! SERGEANT PRESTON OF THE MOUNTIES JUST CAME INTO TOWN!

PRESTON! I'VE HEARD OF HIM! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE? THIS IS OFF HIS PATROL!

















THE CABIN'S DESERTED!  
LOOKS LIKE THEY FLEW  
THE COOP!

IT SURE  
DOES!



A SHORT WHILE LATER, ON THE TRAIL LEADING  
SOUTH...

WHY ARE WE STOPPING? EVERY  
SECOND MIGHT COUNT!

THAT DOG HAS BEEN  
WORKING ON THE CRATE.  
I WANT TO SEE IF  
THERE'S ANY CHANCE  
OF HIM GETTING FREE!



LOOK AT THE WAY HE'S  
TORN THOSE SLATS AWAY!  
IF HE GETS FREE, HE'LL  
KILL US!

YEAH! I DIDN'T  
FIGURE ON ANYTHING  
LIKE THAT! C'MON,  
LET'S TAKE THE  
CRATE OFF THE  
SLED!

GR-R-R!



WE CAN LEAVE IT HERE!  
BY THE TIME THE DOG  
GETS FREE, WE CAN  
BE MILES AWAY!

CAN'T TAKE ANY  
CHANCES ON THAT  
DOG GETTING  
FREE!



I'LL JUST SHOVE THIS  
CRATE OVER ---

NO, CURLY! YOU  
JUST CAN'T KILL  
THE DOG! HE'S---



NOW THERE'S ONE  
MORE THING,  
MARTIN ---

WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN, CURLY?







LATER, BACK AT BALD ROCK...

NO TRACE OF KING, BUT I DID FIND OUT ABOUT MARTIN'S SYNDICATE — — — SAY, HERE COMES KING IN A BIG HURRY!

AR  
1RF! F!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, KING, BUT YOU WANT TO TAKE ME SOMEWHERE, SO LET'S GO!



AND, AS THE LONG NIGHT FALLS...

IT'S GETTING DARK, I HOPE WE'RE GETTING CLOSE — — — UH--OH, FIRE AHEAD!



HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S WOUNDED!



I'M SERGEANT PRESTON, AND FROM THE DESCRIPTION I HAVE, I'D SAY YOU'RE MARTIN! WHO SHOT YOU?

YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M MARTIN! CURLY SHOT ME, THE DOUBLE-CROSSER! YOUR DOG SAVED MY LIFE, EVEN AFTER WHAT WE DID!



MARTIN TELLS THE WHOLE STORY, THEN...

WITH THAT GOOD FIRE YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT UNTIL I GET BACK! I'M GOING TO TRY TO OVERTAKE CURLY BEFORE IT GETS TOO DARK!

HE'S HEADED FOR CONNER'S CREEK! GO STRAIGHT THROUGH THE CANYON AND YOU'LL CUT OFF MILES!











KING'S VERY MUCH ALIVE, CURLY! AND SO IS MARTIN! YOU BUNGLED THE JOB IN EVERY WAY! YOU'RE THROUGH, CURLY, FOR GOOD! NOW TURN YOUR TEAM AROUND--- WE'RE HEADING FOR BALD ROCK!



NEXT MORNING, WITH CURLY IN JAIL AT BALD ROCK...  
ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE YOUR STOCK CERTIFICATES ARE IN THE CAFÉ, MARTIN! I'VE AN IDEA THAT MIGHT HELP!

I HOPE SO, SERGEANT! I FEEL BAD ABOUT THIS BECAUSE I USED TO BE A TOP-NOTCH ENGINEER! BUT I'M WILLING TO TAKE MY PUNISHMENT!



ALL YOU PEOPLE WERE DEFRAUDED! YOU KNOW THAT BY THIS TIME!

YEAH!

WE KNOW!

I'LL SAY!



YOU ALL CAN HAVE YOUR MONEY BACK! FIRST, I WANT TO TELL YOU ONE THING! MARTIN'S IDEA IS SOUND AND HE ADMITS HE'S BEEN WRONG! IF JIM HARPER WERE TO HANDLE THE MONEY AND MARTIN THE ENGINEERING---

SAY! THAT MIGHT WORK!



FOLKS, I BELIEVE THAT MARTIN WILL DO A RIGHT GOOD JOB! I ALWAYS LIKED THE MAN! CURLY WAS THE REAL CROOK! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

SURE!

OKAY, JIM!

A GOOD IDEA!



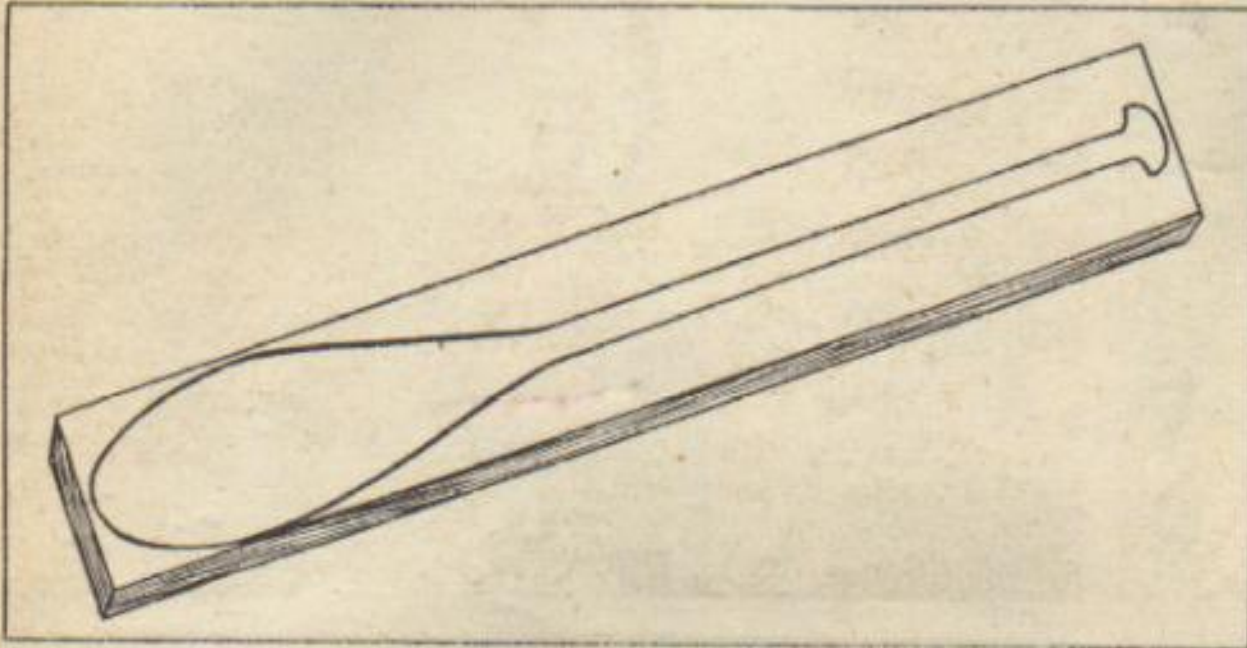
ALL I CAN SAY IS: THANKS FOR GIVING AN OLD FOOL ANOTHER CHANCE!

ARF! ARF!

C'MON, KING, BALD ROCK IS PEACEFUL AGAIN! LET'S GO HOME! THIS CASE IS CLOSED!

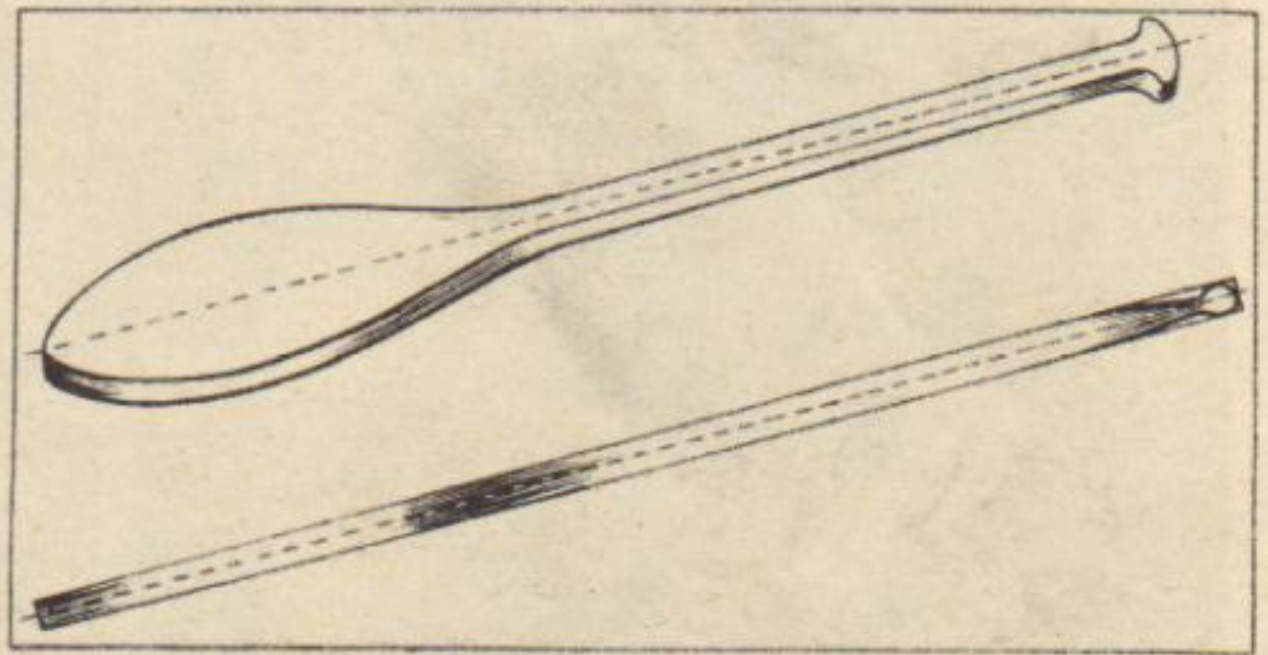


# CARVE YOUR OWN PADDLE



THE EASIEST WAY IS TO TRACE THE OUTLINE OF THE PADDLE FROM ONE ALREADY MADE. USE ANY STRAIGHT-GRAINED HARDWOOD LIKE WHITE CEDAR, SPRUCE OR MAPLE, 3/4" THICK. IF YOU DRAW YOUR OWN SHAPE, MAKE THE PADDLE AS LONG AS THE DISTANCE FROM YOUR ARMPIT TO THE GROUND.

NOW SAW THE PADDLE OUT AROUND THE PENCIL LINE WITH A JIG SAW. BE CAREFUL TO MATCH BOTH SIDES. IF YOU MAKE A SMALL MISTAKE WITH THE SAW ON ONE EDGE, MATCH THE MISTAKE ON THE OTHER EDGE AND IT WILL LOOK INTENTIONAL.



DRIVE NAILS THROUGH PADDLE AND MUSHROOM THEM ON THE OTHER SIDE.



ROUND IT OUT WITH A JACKKNIFE, PLANE OR DRAW KNIFE. THEN SAND IT DOWN SO IT'S REAL SMOOTH. YOU CAN COVER THE BOTTOM OF THE PADDLE WITH A SHEET OF SOFT COPPER, BENT OVER AND FASTENED WITH COPPER NAILS. THIS PREVENTS SPLITTING FROM THE THIN BLADE EDGE IF IT'S FASTENED SECURELY ENOUGH.



A GOOD PADDLE SHOULD BE PAINTED. DECORATE IT WITH INDIAN OR MARINE DESIGNS IN COLORED PAINT, BUT BE SURE TO COVER THIS WITH VARNISH OR SEVERAL COATS OF SHELLAC SO THAT THE WATER DOESN'T ROT THE WOOD





These Alaskan moose are the biggest of their kind. The big bull in this picture has horns with a spread of seventy-seven and

five-eighths inches. The males often fight duels during the mating season.

*Courtesy of the American Museum of Natural History, N. Y.*