



A "sourdough" prospector or trapper of the Yukon carries his namesake—a lump of sour dough—in his pocket or in some other handy container, when he is on the move. For this kind of transportation, the yeasty stuff is often mixed with flour to the stiffness of putty. In a pocket it may keep company with matches, rock specimens, thread and needle, a toothbrush and rifle cartridges. Any or all of these articles may become mixed up with it—or in the bannock bread which the "sourdough" camper bakes.

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WITH A RIFLE TOO LIGHT FOR THE HUGE GAME, PRESTON CLOSELY FIGURES HIS CHANCES.





















































































AS THE FIGHTING BEASTS WHIRL ABOUT, THE LITTLE FELLOW'S HEAD IS RAPPED SHARPLY AGAINST A ROCK BY THE CAT'S JERKING LEG...













































































THE FEW DARK HOURS OF THE NIGHT, PRESTON SPENDS



AGAINST THE TRICKY RIVER ...

ON HIS DANGEROUS TRIP ...













































































































## the

## ICE SHIP

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Arnuk, the Eskimo hunter, poised over the seal's air hole in the middle of a flat expanse of ice and waited patiently for the seal to come up for air.

At last, he saw a grey shadow appear in the water underneath the hole and his harpoon plunged downward as strongly as both his short, stout arms could drive it.

"Agh," he grunted in satisfaction, "tonight there will be much meat for us."

But, in that instant, he felt a dull trembling crack in the ice under his feet and even before he looked up he knew what had happened. The stretch of ice on which he was standing had cracked away from the great expanse behind him. Now he floated swiftly out to sea—toward the bitter North Pole where no man lives.

He looked back toward the land with one glance of agony and then bent again to his work. There was no way to return except across that ever-widening stretch of calm, blue-black water. His igloo lay there, his wife and waiting children. There was no help for it—he had to work fast. Though a strong wind was blowing out of the north, some ocean current in the water was carrying his small ice floe, along with several others, away from the shore ice at a rapid speed. If only . . . But there was no time to think of that. The ice floe was a scant fifteen feet across and soon it might break up into smaller pieces.

Only crying sea birds could see him as he used his wide-bladed knife to chop away at the edge of the seal's blow hole until it was large enough to pass the seal's body. He braced his feet and gave a mighty heave that drew the seal slithering onto the ice. He was lucky—the seal was over six feet long, an exceptionally large one. He set to work

again with his knife while the sea wind blew from the north.

Ismita, Arnuk's wife, stood on the shore and watched the grey-black water between her and the few pieces of floe ice that were already at least a mile out to sea. She had heard the ice break up and had come down to the shore filled with fear for Arnuk. And she had been right—he could only be far out there on the Arctic Ocean. She thought she could even see a black spot on one of the ice floes.

She could not believe her eyes! One ice floe detached itself from the others and began to move toward her. While all the others went on with the ocean current, one began to move against it. And surely—surely there was a brown spot on the ice floe that vibrated in the steadily freshening north wind.

Several hours later she still squatted there on the snow-covered ice but her eyes were smiling even though her brown Eskimo face was as stern as ever.

Before her, on the open water of the iceringed bay, was a tiny ship. It had a mast—Arnuk's harpoon shaft, and a sail—the fresh skin of a big seal, and a hull—a small ice floe. The only passenger was Arnuk who sat holding the mast upright with his stiffened, cold-deadened arms. Since the wind was right behind him, he had no need for a rudder and though the ice ship moved slowly against the ocean current, there was just enough wind to drive it forward toward the shore.

At last it touched the shore ice and she rushed forward to greet him.

"I am glad," she said, and helped him to step ashore.

"It is good," he said, taking care that the ice floe did not get away from him.

Working silently, they took the seal's meat from the ice floe and the big skin and the harpoon.

Immediately, the ice floe started to drift again—straight out to sea where Arnuk might have gone if he had not been the Eskimo hunter that he was.







MOUTH OF THE DEN.



HER TWO SNOWSHOE RABBITS!



NEETKA ATE ONE OF THE RABBITS IN ALMOST LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES TO TELL... THEN SHE GAZED FOR A LONG MOMENT OUT OVER THE VALLEY, STILL LOCKED IN WINTER'S ICE.



SUDDENLY THE THREE-WEEKS-OLD PUP HURLED HIM-



HE WAS STILL EXAMINING THE RABBIT WHEN HIS LESS AMBITIOUS BROTHERS AND SISTERS WERE BEING NURSED









WITH THE SECOND RABBIT IN HER MOUTH, SHE RE-

ENTERED THE DEN, TO BE GREETED BY GRAY BROTHER'S

THE HIS BIG COUSIN, THE WOLVERINE, THE WEASEL IS IN THE HABIT OF ATTACKING ANIMALS MANY TIMES HIS WEIGHT --- SO GRAY BROTHER'S BABY DEFIANCE MEANT NOTHING TO THE MARAUDER!



BUT INSTEAD OF CRINGING,
THE PUP MET THE WEASEL'S
LEAP HALFWAY — — WITH
AMAZING COURAGE!

THE FIGHT WAS BRIEF! GRAY BROTHER, BATTLING TO PROTECT HIS SMALLER BROTHERS, QUICKLY DOWNED HIS RAUCOUS ENEMY --- AT THE EXPENSE OF A SLIGHTLY TORN EAR!



AS HER PUPS GREW MORE ACTIVE, NEETKA TOOK THEM OUT HUNTING GROUSE... IT WAS QUITE EXCITING FOR HIS LITTLE BROTHERS AND SISTERS — — BUT GRAY BROTHER WAS SOON BORED.



HE STRUCK OUT ON HIS OWN, ONE DAY---TOWARD THE SOUND OF STRONG TEETH CUTTING WOOD! THE BIG BOAR BEAVER LOOKED LIKE INTERESTING GAME TO GRAY BROTHER.



HE MADE A GOOD STALK --- AND RUSHED THE BIG RODENT OFF ITS FEET.









--- AND CAME UP, HALF CHOKED WITH WATER! HE HAD LEARNED A LOT ABOUT BEAVERS IN JUST HALF A MINUTE.



HE SCRAMBLED OUT, WET AND ANGRY, TO FACE HIS FAMILY'S SILENT LAUGHTER --- AND THE GAME HE HAD DESPISED!



THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER AND FALL, GRAY BROTHER
OUTGREW HIS BROTHERS -- YET, BY THE TIME WINTER
GRIPPED THE VALLEY AGAIN, ALL WERE READY TO JOIN
THE PACK WHICH KOBUK LED -- -



BY THE BEGINNING OF HIS THIRD WINTER, GRAY BROTHER WAS WITHIN FORTY POUNDS OF HIS GREAT SIRE'S WEIGHT --- FAR BIGGER THAN THE AVERAGE TIMBER WOLF, AND WELL FED...













BUT NOTHING IN THE NORTH CAN MATCH THE STRENGTH OFA BIG GRIZZLY! SLIM NEETKA WENT FLYING FROM THOSE MIGHTY PAWS — — EVEN AS HER SON, GRAY BROTHER, FOLLOWED THROUGH!

REACHING FOR GRAY BROTHER, THE BEAR EXPOSED HIS HINDQUARTERS TO ATTACK BY THE REST! IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIS NERVES...





GRUMBLING AND SNARLING, HE MADE FOR A BIG ROCK, SOME FIFTY YARDS DISTANT, WHERE HE COULD PROTECT HIS BACK.





ABANDONED!



WAIL VOICING HER GRIEF!



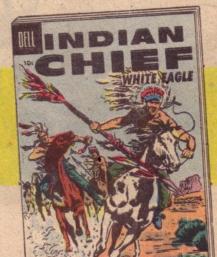
A SNARL OF CHALLENGE DREW GRAY BROTHER'S GAZE TO THE PACK! CHAKO, KOBUK'S RIVAL FOR LEADERSHIP, WAS CLAIMING THE KILL!











First In Battle -- First In Peace!

## INDIAN CHIEF

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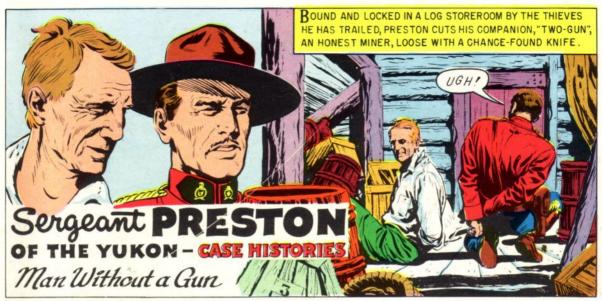


## WALRUS HUNTING

In the old days, before Eskimos were able to get rifles, the taking of even one walrus was a task for a hero, because the walrus is an animal who fights back. A wounded one can be as dangerous in the water as a polar bear is on the ice. A ton of fighting fury, with tusks twelve to eighteen inches long, a thick, tough hide, and a tiny brain—a bull walrus has taken the life of many an Eskimo.

But nowadays the Eskimo hunters go out in a big motor boat, armed with rifles, and plan to come back loaded with walrus meat. Their method is to locate a herd of walrus on a floating "ice pan" by the grunting and roaring of the bulls. This sound can be heard for miles. The next and more difficult job is to get within rifle range unseen—or else the walruses may dive.

Landing on the ice pan may be the best way to approach one herd. Gliding up in the boat may be best for another. Suddenly the .30-06 rifles crash in a steady, rolling fire. The curviving walruses plunge to safety in the sea. . . And that night the loaded boats chug back to the village, rich in meat, hides and ivory! Without meat, the Eskimo would starve. Without ivory to carve and sell, he would have no money; and without the walrus hides, he would have no boats to hunt in.













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