

CAUGHT IN THE WILD

By ROBERT AMES BENNET



THE STORY

CHAPTER I.—As Alan Garth, prospector, is preparing to leave for his mining claim in the Far North, a plane lands at the airways emergency station...

CHAPTER II.—Through Garth's guidance the plane soon reaches the claim site. Huxby and Ramill, after making several tests, assure Garth his claim is nearly valueless...

Behind the backs of the three, Garth stepped clear from the alders and came forward, silent as a stalking lynx. Midway between the head of the plane and the spruce to which it was tied, he stopped and lowered his rifle, but down, to lean on the muzzle...

"Swing up that rifle, butt end forward," he ordered. "Why, what d'you mean?" Garth questioned, his mouth half agape. "I mean business," Huxby answered.

"I'm taking no chances. Put that rifle on the wing, or I'll fill you full of lead."



"Mad—mad as a March hare," muttered Garth. "Don't shoot." He lifted the rifle overhead, but forward, as ordered, and advanced, still gaping. He came within a step of the wing edge and opened. The girl was gazing at him with open contempt. He had been such an easy dupe. Her father looked grave, yet made no move to interpose when Huxby leveled the pistol and took deliberate aim.

CHAPTER III

Outbluffed. A man of iron nerve might have risked death from the leveled automatic of the mining engineer by taking a sudden dive under the wing of the monoplane. Once in cover, anyone quick with a rifle would have had an even chance against the holder of the pistol. Garth made no such daring break. He obeyed the order to lay his rifle on the wing top. "There you are," he said. "That should clear your head of your crazy notion I'm dangerous."

All you need do is stay right here and eat your fellow rabbits. As soon as we record our claims, we'll come back to replace your stakes with our own. "Yes," her father agreed. "No danger of an experienced prospector like you starving, this time of year. Wait here for us, and I'll pay you that two thousand dollars I offered." Huxby signed with his pistol. "There's your answer, boob. Now step lively. Cast off that line." Before the threatening muzzle Garth turned about and walked along the ledge to the tie tree. He passed the rope end through the tree loop and pulled loose the bite of the stay hitch. Had he then let go of the rope end, the taut line would have whipped the loop around the spruce trunk and set the monoplane adrift. Instead, he held fast. Huxby frowned and raised the pistol. "What are you waiting for? I told you to cast off. It's no use your whining. You don't suppose we'll pass up the chance to record that placer, do you?" "No," Garth replied. "You've shown your colors—hoisted the black flag. Only thing a woman is a woman. Let me suggest that you try your self-starter before I let go this time. I've heard that airplanes sometimes balk. If you can't get yours into the air in time, the wind and current will drift you down—like to those falls." "How sad! You dumb dupe, if you think I—"

He slid down with a splash into the swirling water. The engineer plunged upstream three or four steps to a split in the glassy-faced ledge. He clawed up the crevice and sprang to his feet on the rock shelf, drenched to the armpits by the milky water. But his right hand still grasped his automatic pistol. Once more Garth seemed to have acted the part of a fool. For a few moments Miss Ramill and her father had crouched motionless, dumfounded by the letting loose of the monoplane and its shove of Huxby off the ledge. Garth stood like an unconcerned on-looker. While the engineer was still struggling up out of the stream bed, Mr. Ramill took the rifle from his daughter and aimed it at Garth. "Take your time, Vivian," he called. "I have him covered." "Hu-wait," panted Huxby. "Leave him to me." He stood dripping till he caught his breath. A flint of the pistol barrel made sure it was free from water. He took a step closer to Garth, his eyes cold, his lips tightened in a bitter smile. "Another clever trick, Jack—and your last. I'll be generous and give you half a minute for your prayers." Garth eyed him gravely. "That is indeed generous. Shall I reciprocate by praying that you and Miss Ramill do not suffer too long from the tortures of flies and starvation? Mr. Ramill may possibly be able to get over the pass, though I doubt it. In any event, the first muskug will stop him. You and Miss Ramill probably will last for two or three weeks longer." Huxby glared. "You tricky devil! Clever, aren't you? Here is where you last less than a minute." "Yes?" Garth smiled. "I might suggest to Mr. Ramill that he reflect upon the inadvisability of murder in Canada. The Northwest Police always get their man. If he is unwary of the fact, I might appeal to the wondrous gentleness of Miss Ramill."

boots. Your father, I fancy, will prefer to wait here a while. For one thing, he knows that in his present condition, he never could climb the pass. In the second place, he has no desire to go down the other side on his uppers." Huxby looked from Mr. Ramill's flimsy oxfords to the girl's fashionable sport boots, and then at Garth's worn moccasins. "Well, Jack, what's the answer?" "That it's not well," Garth replied. "In the first place, you'll drop that name and tone in speaking to me. Am I understood?" Huxby stood silent, his eyes cold and lips tight drawn. But Mr. Ramill spoke for him, with decisiveness: "That is understood, Garth. We are all now in the same boat, and you are skipper. How about the shoe problem?" "Moosehide. We'll first shift along-shore to the mouth of the placer riff. It's the best place to camp. I'll then go on around to the muskug and collect some hides." "Don't be too sure of that," Huxby differed. "Keep hold of the rifle, chief. He'd streak out and leave us to hold the sack." "Haven't you realized yet that the joke is on you?" Garth inquired. "It's a question of trusting me absolutely, or not at all. Take your choice." Mr. Ramill handed over the rifle. Huxby's hand tightened on the butt of his lowered pistol. Garth gazed past him down the lake. "The plane seems to be edging over towards the east shore. There's a ford up here, Huxby. You're welcome to try for the plane. If you save her, I'll call it a break of the game in your favor, and we'll all ride out on the air."

feet with side line of State Highway to stake; thence N. 88° W. 300 feet with said side line of said highway to a stake; thence W. 160 feet with side line of said highway to a stake; thence N. 60 feet to a stake in center of Southern Railroad track; thence N. 52° E. 120 feet up the center of track to the Beginning, containing 10.71 acres, more or less, subject to the rights and easements of the Southern Railway. Said land will be subdivided into parcels and a map exhibited at said sale, and the property will be offered for sale in parcels and then as a whole, to the highest bidder. Sale made pursuant to an order of the Judge of the Superior Court, made at February Term, 1935, of the Superior Court of Haywood County in an action entitled, "Citizens Bank and Trust Co. et al. vs. Haywood Furniture Manufacturing Co. et al." and the sale will be subject to the approval of the Court. This the 30th day of November, 1935. J. H. HOWELL, Receiver of Haywood Furniture Mfg. Co. No. 419—Dec. 12-19-26-Jan. 2.

S. 15° 30' W. to the BEGINNING. The foregoing lands being also the same parcels or lots of land conveyed in a deed from Jerry Linder to J. T. Coman and wife, Grace Coman, to A. J. Buchanan, dated August 12, 1924, and recorded in Book 63, page 241, Record of Deeds of Haywood County. Being also the same lots of land conveyed in a deed from A. J. Buchanan (widower) to J. E. Morran, dated April 4, 1927, and recorded in Book 74, page 356, Record of Deeds of Haywood County, to which deeds and records reference is hereby made for a full and complete description of said lots of land. SECOND TRACT: BEGINNING at a stake in the West margin of road, Northeast corner of lot No. 129; thence N. 71° W. with the line between lots Nos. 123 and 124, 85 feet to a stake; thence N. 8° E. 175 feet to a stake, corner of lots Nos. 130 and 131; thence S. 70° 20' E. with line between lots Nos. 130 and 131, 84 feet to a stake in West margin of said road; thence S. 30° W. with West margin of said road, 12 feet to a stake; thence S. 6° 30' 164 feet to the BEGINNING, being lots Nos. 124-125-126-127-128-129-130 of the Linder Coman sub-division near Lake Junaluska, N. C., as per map and survey made by J. W. Seaver, January and February, 1924, and said map and survey being duly recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Haywood County, in Map Book "B," Index "L," being also the same lots conveyed in a deed from Jack Smith and wife, Ella Smith, dated January 1st, 1930, and recorded in Book 80, page 358, Record of Deeds of Haywood County, N. C. Sale made pursuant to the power of sale conferred upon me by virtue of that certain deed of trust executed by A. J. Wyatt and wife, M. L. Wyatt, dated March 1st, 1932, and recorded in Book 52, page 18, Record of Deeds of Trust of Haywood County, N. C. This the 22nd day of November, 1935. A. T. WARD, Trustee. No. 416—Nov. 28-Dec. 5-12-19.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST Under and by virtue of authority contained in a certain deed of trust executed by W. E. Allen and wife to The North Carolina Bank and Trust Company, Trustee, on the 10th day of December, 1930, recorded in Book 27, page 213, Registry of Haywood County, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby, the undersigned Commissioner of Banks, having succeeded to the rights and duties of the said Trustee, will offer for sale, at public auction, for cash, in front of the Haywood County court house door on Tuesday, December 17th, 1935, at twelve o'clock noon, certain pieces of land lying and being in the town of Waynesville, Waynesville Township, Haywood County, State of North Carolina, and described and defined as follows: Adjoining the lands of J. C. Allen on the West, D. M. Killian on the South, and Mrs. Lizzie McNewton heirs on the East, and Hassie Street on the North, and fully described as follows: BEGINNING at a stake in the Southern margin of Hassie Street, Northeast corner of J. C. Allen lot, and runs thence with the Southern margin of Hassie Street, N. 59 deg. E. 100 feet to a stake, Northwest corner of Mrs. Lizzie McNewton's heirs lot; thence with the line of said lot S. 31 deg. East 150 feet to a stake; thence S. 59 deg. W. 100 feet to a stake; thence N. 31 deg. East 150 feet to the Beginning. Being the two lots of land described in a deed from E. A. Allen and husband, J. C. Allen, to W. E. Allen, dated Nov. 1, 1929, and being the same two lots described in a deed from W. B. Phillips, et al. to E. A. Allen, dated January 26, 1910, and recorded in Book 29, page 22, record of deeds of Haywood County. Dated this 12th day of November, 1935. GURNEY P. HOOD, Commissioner of Banks. No. 412—Nov. 21-29-Dec. 5-12.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE ON MONDAY the 16th day of December, 1935, at the Courthouse door in the Town of Waynesville, North Carolina, at twelve o'clock, noon, the undersigned will offer for sale at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate: BEGINNING at public road on top of a ridge in S. M. Redmond line at the corner of the Dan Field, thence down watershed of said ridge to Camp Branch to a locust on east side of said branch 30 feet below spring now used by said Grover C. Rogers; thence a southeast course or nearly so a straight line to a rock on top of a ridge; a peculiar rock which is split in four places with a cross mark on north side; thence down said ridge with the watershed to where ridge forks, to a stake; thence down middle or left hand ridge with the watershed of same to a locust on brow of ridge near some rocks and pointed by a white oak and pine; thence west to beech on bank of branch; thence with the meanders of Camp Branch to the Dam; thence up the river to S. M. Redmond's line; thence with said S. M. Redmond's line to the BEGINNING, containing 75 acres, more or less. SAID SALE being made to the request of the holder of the indebtedness hereby secured and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust dated 1. May, 1933 and made by Grover C. Rogers and wife, Fannie Rogers, to the undersigned Trustee, the same being of record in the office of the Register of Deeds of Haywood County, North Carolina, in Book of Deeds of Trust 29, at page 162, et seq. This the 18th day of November, 1935. T. W. FERGUSON, Trustee. No. 413—Nov. 21-28-Dec. 5-12.

HIGHER LEARNING The toughest Federal prisoners are sent to Alcatraz, the island prison in San Francisco Bay. Last week Sanford Bates, director of the Federal Prison Bureau, revealed that twenty-five of the Alcatraz inmates have found a new interest; they are taking correspondence courses from the University of California.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Max M. Bryant, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of Max M. Bryant, to file same with the Clerk of the Superior Court of Haywood County, or me, on or before the 23rd day of November, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of such claim.

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of W. M. Hargrove, deceased, late of the County of Haywood, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at her home at Canton, N. C., R. F. D. 2, on or before the 29th day of November, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of W. M. Hargrove, deceased, late of the County of Haywood, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at her home at Canton, N. C., R. F. D. 2, on or before the 29th day of November, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

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