SLUMBERING GOLD

by Aubrey Boyd

Fifteenth Installment

"And so, gentlemen of the jury, the Crown will prove that the defendants had a motive for the murder of this Siwash, and did in fact kill him."

The Crown Prosecutor, Wade, cast a heavy-lidded, mordant glance at the jury and sat down. By contrast, Garnet, at an adjoining table nearer the prisoners' dock looked like an urbane courtier.

The arrival of one of the first up-river steamers, some weeks before, had provided the accused men with their distinguished counsel. Garnet's mission in the North had proved to be a political one. Learning, when he landed, of the charge against the two partners, he had offered to undertake their defense.

Maitland looked older for the two months of prison life that had elapsed since his arrest. The shadowed look in his eyes, however, was not wholly due to the ordeal ahead of him; it came from one that was past.

A weather-beaten man he had never seen was being sworn in. Garnet had resumed his seat. Fallon's bulky figure slouched at ease toward the center of the row of witnesses. Nearer, Maitland's eyes rested on Peter, with the emotion which the sight of a loved and loyal friend brings to a man in trouble. A wave of tenderness brimmed his heart. Pete wore a summery frock of light blue; her golden hair was longer than he remembered it, and arranged in a more feminine fashion. It was his first glimpse of her in girl's attire, and she was altogether lovely.

Police records of the finding of the native's body that Spring in the breaking ice of Lake Lebarge, had established the fact of murder. The Siwash had been killed by a .44 bullet which struck him in the back. His corpse had been disposed of through an air hole in the ice, and had lain in his concealment through the winter. Its having floated finally to the surface was due to the rising warm currents from the lake bed.

Wade's first witness was a trader from the old post at Ogilvie on the Yukon. The trader told a very queer story, which went back into earlier Yukon days, and rehearsed the tale which the accused men had already heard from Drew.

While some of this testimony was open to objections, Garnet passed the witness without cross-examining, and Wade called a seasoned-looking officer of the Mounted Police.

Wade here produced the furs and mukluks Dalton had worn. He compared them with those taken from the body of the murdered Indian to prove, by an identical working of the bead ornaments, that they had been fashioned by the same native hand.

Garnet had passed this evidence without question. Wade called Corporal Cathcart to the stand.

Cathcart explained that the tracks tangled in an odd way through the timber that sheltered the camp, and were difficult to read. He told of finding a pool of blackening snow crystals near the head of the lake, covered but showing through in a dark shadow. He had then sought out the defendants and questioned them.

"They said they had met no Siwash, and showed an unwillingness to say anything more. When I asked them about the blood dust, they explained it as the blood of a caribou they had shot, and produced a fresh hide to prove it. Their carbine, a .44 calibre gun, had not been cleaned, and still showed a powder mark."

The witness told of his visit to the cabin in the wane of the blizzard, while Speed was being sent to Skagway. Before he reached the door, a Siwash dog had slunk out of his way around the cabin wall, and he caught only a storm-whitened glimpse of it. The discovery that the defendants had a malmute dog was, of course, startling, and a fact of great importance. Maitland, when asked where it came from, claimed to have found it astray, not long after his partner shot the caribou on Lake Lebarge.

"In the meantime, the Siwash's body was found in the breaking ice of Lake Lebarge, establishing the fact of murder.

"To establish our case against the accused men, it remained to be proved that they actually used the dog to trace its camp or origin, and that that camp was the hide-out of an unknown white prospector with a good secret. As was proved."

Garnet, after a brief address to the jury as to the circumstantial nature of the evidence, called the first, and so far as was known, the only witness for the defense.

Pete was unmistakably a very attractive girl; to this crowd of hard-living men she was something more rare and gracious than the words convey, or than may be imagined by any but men who have lived in frontier mining camps.

"Had you ever seen the defendants before they arrived in Skagway?" Garnet asked.

"No, sir."

"What was Owens' relation to you?"

"I suppose you would call him my foster father. I was raised at his ranch."

"Did he ever speak to you of your real father?"

"Only once. He spoke then as if Dalton were my father. Or anyway some near kin of mine."

"What did you do after Owens died?"

"I went over the pass to find Dalton and warn him. I sold a gold-mounted gun and some things I had for grub, and rode down the lakes looking for him. I didn't find anyone waiting, and didn't have much to go on, not even knowing what Dalton looked like. When the cold came, I met a rafting outfit who camped to cut timber a little way up the Teslin, and they gave me a job cookingg for them through the winter."

"Why did you leave them?" Garnet prompted.

"It was only a week or two before the break-up. I hadn't heard anything of Dalton, and was wondering what to do.

"That night I woke up hearin' a voice close to my bunk, on the other side of the tent wall. The voice was shouting to me above the noise of the storm, but it sounded dim. The words were something like, 'If you're Pete, get out of the North, and get quick! You're in danger. I'm in a tough fix . . . can't take you down river. For God's sake, keep clear of — —' The wind shrieked and the voice died away. I wasn't sure of what it said at the last.

"Soon after that, one of Fallon's men happened by the camp and saw me. I knowned Fallon was lookin' for me, and felt that this was what the warning meant. I saddled the mare and started for the coast.

"It was a heavy, cold trail. The going was easier on the level snow of Lake Lebarge, but Chiquita and I were both dead tired by then, and there's more than a day I'm not clear about. All the time I had a feeling of being followed or shadowed by someone or something.

"Then—I kind of lost count. I think I was in a river canyon when the storm broke. There were wild voices in it like wolves. I must have pulled the mare out of it and into the open when the storm struck. Then next thing I know I was in Mr. Maitland's cabin. The dog led him to where I'd fallen in the snow."

"Did you tell Maitland why you were making for Skagway in that weather?"

"No," sir."

"Why didn't you, Pete?"

"He and Speed had had a quarrel with Fallon before, and I didn't want to make it worse because of me. Or to mix them up in any trouble about Dalton either."

"During your stay at the cabin, did Maitland ask you any questions about Owens or Dalton, or his gold secret?"

"No, sir. Anything I told him was of my own accord."

"Did you feel safe there?"

"I felt as safe as if I was in—God's pocket."

The courtroom smiled a little at this homely but expressive miners' phrase.

Pete then told what had happened up to the arrest of the accused men in Dalton's camp.

"I will ask you one more question," said Wade, in the deep silence that followed. "Do you love the defendant, Maitland?"

Pete's gray eyes were shadowed. She bit her lip as she had done that day when she recovered from the throes of cold. Two big tears rolled down her cheeks. "I have told the truth," she murmured.

"I think, Your Honor," said Wade, "that the question has been sufficiently answered."

* * *

Next morning, when the court re-opened, Garnet produced an unexpected witness. He looked toward the rear of the courtroom and said, "Rose Valery."

At the name, Fallon came upright in his chair, startled out of the detachment. He turned his head in frowning unbelief.

But he was unnoticed by the courtroom as Rose approached the stand. Though the river had carried many rumors of her beauty, this was her first appearance in Dawson.

Indifferent to the crowd's stare, she looked at the accused men and then at Pete, with some inward, unreadable thought. Her dark eyes showed a glitter of fire when they crossed with Fallon's, who slouched back now, carelessly, while she was being sworn.

"Miss Valery," said Garnet, "where were you born?"

"I don't know," Rose answered. Her low voice had the quality of plucked harp strings.

"Where were you cared for as a child?"

"In the convent school at Notre Dame at the Mission Dolores in San Francisco. I was taught music and singing at the convent," Rose ventured, "until I was 15, but I was restless, and discipline only made me unhappy. I decided to run away, and did, and so became a professional singer.

"I had a plan of reaching the gold country. A little after dark I climbed over the convent wall at a place where a sloping barn roof touched it. I got on a street car at Guerrero Street. As I hadn't any carfare the conductor put me off at the second stop, two blocks below.

"A boy was singing in a high soprano voice in front of an open-air bootblack stand next the saloon, where the sports were getting shined up for the evening.

"It surprised me to see the men at the shoe-stand throw him money—even one half-dollar piece—for what wasn't really a good song, or very good singing, except for being strong and clear. While he gathered up the coins, I sang the refrain of the song. The boy was angry, but the men encouraged me, and we tried to sing each other down. As it was easier to chord with him, I sang alto, and our duet stopped the shoe-shining. When we finished, the men gave me a handful of silver; one of them handed me a dollar piece.

"I divided what I got with the boy, and then he wanted us to throw in together and play the corner, but I said I was going to Nevada to sing in the gold camps.

"The boy got excited and wanted to go. While we were talking it over, a shadow fell between us from the street lamp, and I found that the man who'd given me the dollar was standing there listening."

"'So you're headin' for Nevada?' he asked.

"When I agreed we were, he said he know all about the country; had been there not so long before and brought out a heap of gold, and he was going again, so he could give us a steer and see that we were treated right.

"On the car going downtown, he said something to the boy I couldn't hear, and gave him a gold coin. The boy got off, telling me he was going to buy some things and meet us later.

"I wasn't so sure about the man's looks. He was big, rather handsome, and sunburned. He said we couldn't start till morning, and he got me a room at a hotel near the Baldwin. He told me he wasn't going to Nevada. He didn't need to, and didn't want to."

"I was angry and disgusted. While he was sleeping, I got out. I still had some of the small change I'd sung for, and soon found that money was easy to earn that way.

"I bought a guitar and some clothes, and paid my own way to Nevada. One night I was playing a camp casino in Golconda when a woman who was drinking with a fuddled miner called me to their table to sing for them. She was half-drunk herself. Her face must have been beautiful once.

(Continued next week)

HELP KIDNEYS

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer backache, dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination, getting up at night, swollen feet and ankles; feel upset and miserable . . . use Doan's Pills.

Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended by users the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

IF YOU KNOW A COP WHO COMPLAINS

of Tired, Aching, Burning Feet

—tell him to shake Zeeta, the antiseptic deodorant powder into his shoes and rub it on his feet.

In 2 minutes his misery is over—excessive, offensive perspiration disappears, the burning sensation vanishes, cracked aching toes heal—he will shout for joy and bless you for telling him about Zeeta.

But be sure he asks for and gets Zeeta—there's nothing else that works so sure, so fast.

Doctors, chiropodists, athletic trainers recommend Zeeta for aching feet, water blisters, also for chafing and sunburn.

Your druggist or department store guarantees Zeeta to relieve you in 3 minutes or your money back.

Premium Quality Motor Oil Now On Sale Here

A new premium quality motor oil that will sell for 25c a quart has been announced by the Gulf Refining company. It will be sold by all service stations at the "Sign of the Orange Dia" in tamper-proof, refinery-sealed cans, as well as in bulk.

This new lubricant, Gulflube, is made by a scientific method of oil refining, known as the Multi-sol process. The process, although considered by scientists to be the finest of the several new selective solvent processes for refining oil, is actually simple to understand. Two cleansing fluids are used which act as "chemical policemen" in the oil. These separate the desirable qualities from the natural impurities. When they have performed their so-called "third degree," out comes the pure paraffine portion which is then thoroughly dewaxed and filtered.

The department of this process grew out of the great demand for a low-priced premium quality oil that would be capable of better withstanding the high speeds of the present-day day motor car. For years, Gulf engineers have been keeping pace with the rapid strides made in automotive design and have preceded the introduction of new engine designs with improved oils to meet such new engine requirements.

FORMER BAD MAN "GETS RELIGION"

Lumberton, May 16.—John Dial, 83, said to be the only survivor of the famous gang of Henry Berry Lowery that terrorized this section more than 60 years ago, became a member of the church Tuesday and was baptized in Lumber river, Jennings beach, Lumberton. Relatives had a big birthday celebration at Dial's home, five miles west of Luberton, afterwards.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

North Carolina, Wilkes County. The undersigned having qualified as the Administrator of the estate of Thornton Staley, deceased, and Susan Staley, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate or either of them, to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of April, 1936, or this notice will be plead in bar of their right to recover. All persons indebted to said estate, or either of them, please make immediate payment.

This 15th day of April, 1935.

B. F. STALEY,

Admr. of Estate of Thornton Staley, dec'd. and Susan Staley, dec'd. 5-20-6t

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of J. P. Holcomb, late of Wilkes county, this is to advise all persons who are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment to the undersigned administrator, and all persons who have claims against said estate will present same to the undersigned administrator on or before the 22nd day of April, 1936, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery.

This 22nd day of April, 1935.

LINVILLE HOLCOMB,

Administrator J. P. Holcomb, Dec'd. 5-27-6t.

NOTICE OF SALE

North Carolina, Wilkes County.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Mortgage Deed made and executed on the 18th day of December, 1925, by J. M. Jones, and wife, Senia Jones, to N. S. Forester, mortgagee, and the said Mortgage Deed being duly assigned to the undersigned Assignee, said Mortgage Deed being recorded in Book 137, page 153, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Wilkes County, and being made to secure the payment of a certain note of even date, and default having been made in the payment of the note as provided therein, the undersigned will therefore offer for sale, for cash to the highest bidder, at the Courthouse door in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, on the 10th day of June, 1935, at 12 o'clock noon, the following described real estate, to-wit:

A certain tract of land lying and being in Wilkes county, State aforesaid, in Lewis Fork Township, and described and defined as follows, to-wit:

1st Tract: Beginning on a stake on the west side of the highway at a culvert over the branch running north direction with the highway 90 feet to a stone; thence west direction 1.30 feet to a stake; thence South direction 80 feet to a stake in the side of the branch; thence down said branch to the beginning, containing one-fourth acre, this place known as the Blackburn Filling Station.

2nd Tract: Beginning at a cement head wall down the branch to the creek to the road; thence Southwest with the road to the beginning, containing one-half acre, more or less.

3rd Tract: Beginning on a stake at the road, running west 85 feet to a stake; thence south 85 feet to a pine; thence southward to the road; thence northward with the road to the beginning, containing one-half acre, more or less.

This 10th day of May, 1935.

N. S. FORESTER, JR.,

6-3-4t. Assignee.

"Pennsy" President

PHILADELPHIA . . . Above is Martin W. Clements, new president of the Pennsylvania R. R., succeeding Gen. W. W. Atterbury. Mr. Clements was former vice-president. He was born at Sunbury, Pa., in 1881 and entered the "Pennsy" service as an engineering rod man in 1901.

Question of Quantity

Judge: "You say you have known the defendant all your life. Now tell the jury whether you think he would be guilty of stealing this money?"

Witness: "How much was it?"

Somebody Blundered

"I hear your girl got married the other day."

"Yeah."

"Tough luck."

"Yeah."

"Who did she marry?"

"Me."

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of J. H. Jones, deceased of Wilkes county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Kings Creek, North Carolina, on or before the 15th day of April, 1936, or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 15th day of April, 1935.

O. M. JONES,

Administrator Estate of J. H. Jones, Dec'd. 5-20-6t

NOTICE OF SALE OF LAND

By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed on the 7th day of November, 1929, to the undersigned trustee, said deed of trust being recorded in Book No. 157, Page No. 81, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wilkes County, said deed of trust being given to secure the payment of a certain note, and said note and deed of trust having been assigned by Com Miller to C. E. Shepherd and default having been made in the payment of the note, the undersigned trustee will on the 30th day of May, 1935, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the Court House door in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, the following described lands lying and being in Wilkes County, described as follows, to wit:

Adjoining the lands of H. R. Taylor, R. J. Taylor and N. M. Handy, and being situated in Mulberry Township, Wilkes County, and bounded as follows: Beginning on a Hickory and running an east course with H. R. Taylor's line to a sourwood in A. M. Handy's line; thence with his line to the Big Road; thence with R. J. Taylor's line to a stake; thence to the beginning to be on same degree of H. R. Taylor's line from the Black Gum Corner and containing 20 acres, more or less. This being the same tract of land that was conveyed to A. J. Ballard by U. C. Owens and wife under date of April 8th, 1920, and being recorded in Book 114, Page 476, in the Register of Deeds Office for Wilkes County.

This 29th day of April, 1935.

EUGENE TRIVETTE,
Trustee for Com Miller,
C. E. SHEPHERD,

5-20-4t Assignee.

NOTICE OF SALE

North Carolina, Wilkes County.

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed on the 21st day of October, 1933, by and between Odell Wyatt and wife, Nettie Wyatt, to the undersigned trustee, said deed being to secure the payment of a certain note which is past due, and defaul having been made in the payment thereof, the undersigned trustee will offer for sale, at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, on the 4th day of June, 1935, at 12 o'clock noon, at the courthouse door in Wilkesboro, Wilkes county, North Carolina, the following described land, to-wit:

A certain tract of land lying and being in Wilkes county, and more particularly described as follows: Beginning on a stake in Nora Ellis' line (170.69 feet from her northeast corner), and running north 20 degrees 36 feet to a stake fence; north 69 degrees 24 feet east with Ridge street 50 feet to a stake; thence south 181.72 feet to a stake; thence south 74 degrees 56 feet west with Nora Ellis' line 50.23 feet to the point of beginning, containing 9,000 square feet, more or less, being Lot No. 11 in R. E. Shepherd's plot.

This the 3rd day of May, 1935.

R. G. CALL,

5-27-4t Trustee

Purlear News

PURLEAR, May 17.—It seems that the acreage of crops in this community may be limited this year with some of our farmers because of the continued rain.

Johnny, the two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Robison, who has been very ill, is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stancill, of Winston-Salem, accompanied by Mr. Spencer Watson, also of Winston-Salem, were visitors at the home of Mrs. Stancill's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Jas. T. Nichols, Sunday.

Miss Doris Nichols, who has spent a few weeks at home, returned to Winston-Salem Sunday to a position that was awaiting her.

Rev. A. W. Eller filled his regular appointment at Purlear Sunday, delivering a helpful and inspiring sermon.

Miss Esther Faw visited her brother, James Faw, in Wilkesboro last week-end.

Bahia in Brazil is a diamond trading center.

The first lumber mill was made in 1629.

WAKE UP YOUR LIVER BILE—

WITHOUT CALOMEL

And You'll Jump Out of Bed in the Morning Rarin' to Go

If you feel sour and sunk and the world looks punk, don't swallow a lot of salts, mineral water, oil, laxative candy or chewing gum and expect them to make you suddenly sweet and buoyant and full of sunshine.

For they can't do it. They only move the bowels and a mere movement doesn't get at the cause. The reason for your down-and-out feeling is your liver. It should pour out two pounds of liquid bile into your bowels daily.

If this bile is not flowing freely, your food doesn't digest. It just decays in the bowels. Gas blooms up your stomach. You have a thick, bad taste and your breath is foul, skin often breaks out in blotches. Your head aches and you feel down and out. Your whole system is poisoned.

It takes those good, old CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS to get these two pounds of bile flowing freely and make you feel "up and up." They contain wonderful, harmless, gentle vegetable extracts, amazing when it comes to making the bile flow freely.

But don't ask for liver pills. Ask for Carter's Little Liver Pills. Look for the name Carter's Little Liver Pills on the red label. Resist a substitute. 25c at drug stores. © 1931 C. M. Co.

Travel By Bus

Three buses daily are now operating on a schedule through North Wilkesboro to Winston-Salem and Bristol, Va. Buses leave North Wilkesboro for Winston-Salem and points east at 9:45 a. m., 3:30 p. m. and 7:20 p. m.

Leave North Wilkesboro for Bristol 8:30 a. m., 2:30 p. m. and 7:00 p. m.

At Winston-Salem direct connections are made with Greensboro, Raleigh, Richmond, Norfolk, Danville and all points North. At Bristol connections are made for all points west. Leave North Wilkesboro 9:00 a. m., 2:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m., for Lenoir, Morganton, Marion and Asheville.

East bound buses make direct connection for Statesville, Charlotte and points south.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL LOCAL AGENT

GREYHOUND BUS LINES

TELEPHONE 216 NORTH WILKESBOO, N. C.

IMPROVE YOUR HOME NOW!

No Down Payment

No Mortgage

Lowest Interest Rates

Through co-operation with The National Housing Program we can repair or modernize your home NOW and you can pay in easy monthly installments extending over a period as long as 36 months.

Why not inspect your home carefully for needed repairs and improvements? Then make a list of the repairs or improvements required to put your home in first-class condition. We'll be glad to check your property with you, giving you an estimate. Phone, write or call. No charge or obligation.

Wilkesboro Mfg. Co.

Home Grown Plants

Well Started and Stocky Plants That Will Grow and Make Big Crops.

Cabbage Plants, Bermuda Onion Plants—Early and Late Varieties

100 Plants ..... 25c 500 Plants 80c
1,000 Plants $1.50

SWEET POTATO PLANTS

Porto Rican, yellow meated; Southern Queen, white.

100 Plants ..... 20c 500 Plants $1.25
1,000 Plants $2.25

TOMATO PLANTS, SWEET PEPPER, CELERY

From Seed Beds Priced as Follows: Now Ready

12 Plants ..... 20c 100 Plants 60c
25 Plants ..... 25c 500 Plants $2.00
50 Plants ..... 40c 1000 Plants $3.50

Early varieties of Tomatoes—Earliana, June Pink, the New Break O'Day, Wilt Resistant. Later varieties—Brimmer, Marglobe, Stone and Golden Ponderosa.

Golden self-bleaching Celery, Ruby King and Pimento Sweet Peppers, Cayenne Hot.

Will have ready May 10th transplanted Tomato and Pepper Plants that are well started, large plants with good roots. Very early.

12 Plants ..... 35c 50 Plants 80c
25 Plants ..... 45c 100 Plants $1.50

We pack all plants in damp moss, insuring delivery in fresh condition. All plants delivered postpaid.

Prices at beds are lower. Come and get them if you can.

ABSHER'S PLANT FARM

NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.

Farm 2 Miles North of Town on Concrete Highway 18