

The VOICE OF THE PACK BY EDISON MARSHALL

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WHISPERFOOT.

CHAPTER II.

Synopsis.—Warned by his physician that he has not more than six months to live, Dan Failing sits despondently on a park bench, wondering where he should spend those six months.

Shortly after nine o'clock, Whisperfoot encountered his first herd of deer. But they caught his scent and scattered before he could get up to them.

A fawn leaped from the thicket in front of him, startled by his sound in the thicket. The truth was, Whisperfoot had made a wholly unjustified misstep on a dry twig, just at the crucial moment.

He continued along the ridge, still stealing, still alert, but his anger increasing with every moment.

CHAPTER I—Continued.

For when all things are said and done, there were few bigger cowards in the whole wilderness world than Whisperfoot. A good many people think that Graycoat the coyote could take lessons from him in this respect.



A Full Twenty Yards Farther.

never try to do. He got out of the way politely when Stripe-back was still a quarter of a mile away; which was quite a compliment to the little animal's ability to introduce himself.

Shortly after ten, the mountain lion had a remarkably fine chance at a buck. The direction of the wind, the trees, the thickets and the light were all in his favor.

His body lowered. The tail lashed back and forth, and now it had begun to have a slight vertical motion that frontiersmen have learned to watch for.

But when scarcely ten feet remained to stalk, a sudden sound pricked through the darkness. It came from afar, but it was no less terrible. It was really two sounds, so close together that they sounded as one.

describe, as the far-off reports of a rifle. Just today Blacktail had seen his doe fall bleeding when this same sound, only louder, spoke from a covert from which Bert Cranston had poached her—and he left the lick in one bound.

Terrified though he was by the rifle shot, still Whisperfoot sprang. But the distance was too far. His outstretched paw hummed down four feet behind Blacktail's flank.

The long night was almost done when he got sight of further game. Once a flock of grouse exploded with a roar of wings from a thicket; but they had been awakened by the first whisper of dawn in the wind, and he really had no chance at them.

The larger creatures of the forest are almost as helpless in absolute darkness as human beings. It is very well to talk of seeing in the dark, but from the nature of things, even vertical pupils may only respond to light.

But still he remained, hoping against hope. After a futile fifteen minutes of watching a trail, he heard a doe feeding on a hillside. Its footfall was not so heavy as the sturdy tramp of a buck, and besides, the bucks would be higher on the ridges this time of morning.

For the first fifty yards the hunt was in his favor. He came up wind, and the brush made a perfect cover. But the doe unfortunately was standing a full twenty yards farther, in an open glade.

In spite of the preponderant odds against him, the charge was almost a success. He went fully half the distance between them before the deer perceived him. Then she leaped.

It is usually the most unmitigated folly for a cougar to chase a deer against which he has missed his stroke; and it is also quite fatal to his dignity.

She was lost to sight at once in the darkness, but for fully thirty yards he raced in her pursuit. If he had stopped to think, it would have been one of the really great surprises of his life to hear the sudden, unmistakable stir and movement of a large, living creature not fifteen feet distant in the thicket.

He didn't stop to think at all. He didn't puzzle on the extreme unlikelihood of a doe halting in her flight from a cougar. It is doubtful whether, in the thickets, he had any perceptions of the creature other than his movements. He was running down wind, so it is certain that he didn't smell it.

It was a perfect shot. He landed high on its shoulders. His head lashed down, and the white teeth closed. All the long life of his race he had known that pungent essence that flowed forth. His senses perceived it, a message shot along his nerves to his brain.

He sprang a full fifteen feet back into the thickets; then crouched. The hair stood still at his shoulders, his claws were bared; he was prepared to fight to the death. He didn't understand. He only knew the worst single terror of his life. It was not a doe that he had attacked in the darkness.

Setting a forest fire. (TO BE CONTINUED.) Umbrellas are great blockers. It's a case of put up or shut up.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY HAPPY

At a Cost of \$5,600 It is Found That County Treasurer Made a Mistake of 33 Cents in Four Years.

Fayetteville.—It cost Cumberland county \$5,600 to find out that its county treasurer made a mistake of thirty-eight cents in four years. Also to learn that the county owes the clerk of the court \$218.90 and the sheriff \$234.94.

The total liabilities of the county are shown to be \$916,549.11, with funds surplus of \$563,048. The total assets are \$1,479,079.23.

Charlotte.—A large rally will be held at the city auditorium for farmers and business men Monday morning, January 17, under the auspices of the American Cotton association.

Ex-Gov. Richard I. Manning, of South Carolina, will be one of the speakers. Mr. Manning is president of the corporation.

Rocky Mount.—Creation of an aldermanic purchasing committee, instructions to the mayor to advise the county representatives in the legislature to secure permission from that body for the city to sell \$160,000 gas improvement and construction bonds as low as 95, and the selection of Mr. J. L. Suiter to succeed Mr. J. L. Horne, Jr., resigned, as alderman from the first ward were the outstanding features of the regular session of the board.

Durham.—More than 40 Durham Shrine's met in the local chamber of commerce rooms and organized the Durham Shrine club.

The Shrine's are planning for a banquet on the night of January 20, with Past Potentate William A. French, of Wilmington, and the potentates of the Oasis and Sudan Shrine temples as invited guests.

Wadesboro.—The Anson Sanatorium, the local hospital, has recently been enlarged by the addition of two large annexes. It is now one of the best equipped hospitals in the state.

Raleigh.—The North Carolina Master Printers' Association organized at Greensboro on December 8 for the betterment of the printing industry in North Carolina, will hold its second meeting in Raleigh January 19.

Goldensboro.—With quite a sum of money and other valuables on his person the dead body of McKaggy Wiggins, a well known farmer of Fork township, this county, was found in a field near Whitleys on the Southern railway, about eight miles from Goldensboro, with two pistol shot wounds over his heart.

Greensboro.—Henry B. Varner, of Lexington, must furnish counsel for Mrs. Florence Varner, his wife, with specific amplification of certain allegations against her character, Judge James E. Boyd, of the western district of North Carolina, federal court, ruled here.

Concord.—Frank Blackwelder, Tom Lefler and Luther Smith, three white men held in connection with the shooting of M. W. Allman, a prominent white man, have been carried to a jail in an adjoining county for safekeeping.

Kinston.—The health bureau here has drawn another ex-army man to direct its activities. Dr. Robert S. McGeachy, who has assumed charge of the bureau, was with the 120th infantry and other units during the war.

Asheville.—Elmer Hughes, aged 20, came to his death by accident, and was not murdered, as first reported, according to the finding of the coroners jury.

Cotton Mills Merged. Davidson.—At meetings of the stockholders of the Linden Manufacturing company and the Delburg cotton mills held here, it was voted unanimously by those concerned, to combine the mills under one management, as soon as the combination can be effected.

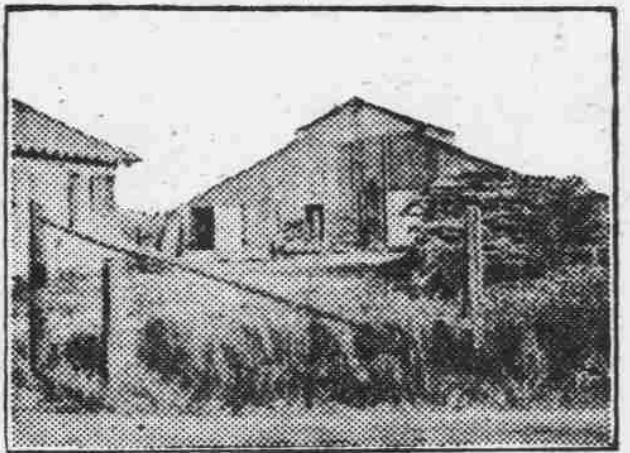
Want Direct Trade Relations. Durham.—Durham is considering direct trade relations with Czechoslovakia. Elimination of importer, jobber and middlemen, and of tremendous transportation overhead is contained in a suggestion received by the Durham Chamber of Commerce from Franz J. Schinkel, exporter of Haida, Czechoslovakia.

Home Town Helps

USE OF TREES AND SHRUBS

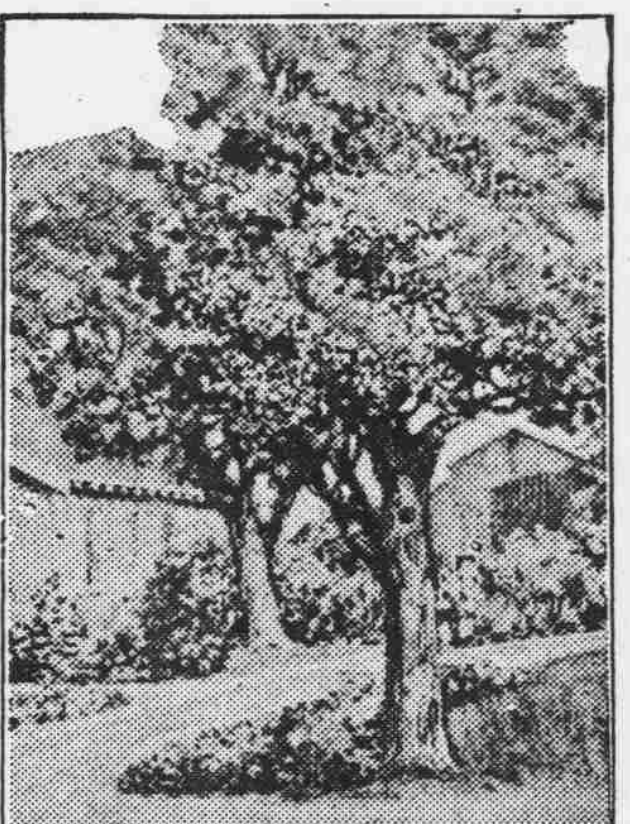
Effectively Employed, They Are of Immense Importance in Improving Appearance of House.

It sometimes happens that barns are necessarily of greater size than the dwelling, and so have the appearance of being more important. Yet



Unightly Barns.

the building of chief importance always is the home. That fact can be made plain by manifesting special regard for the appearance of the house.



With Trees and Shrubs.

of interest—the home. The illustrations show how the scheme may be carried out to the best advantage.

EASY TO GROW GRASS LAWN

Perfect Greenward May Be Quickly Realized by the Use of Novel English Method.

It is proverbially a slow business getting a good grass lawn in a garden, but a new English idea makes it possible to secure a fine stretch of verdure just as one would buy a carpet at the stores.

The site is well prepared, being made perfectly level, and special attention is given to getting the soil so that it is a favorable rooting medium for the little plants. Then the grass mats are put down on sections, these being closely fitted together.

Trees Beyond Valuation. Ten million dollars' damage annually is done to the shade trees and hardy shrubs of the country by shade tree insects, according to estimates made by the bureau of entomology, United States Department of Agriculture.

It is very difficult to estimate the money value of the shade trees and shrubs of the country, but a very conservative estimate would place their value at \$1,000,000,000. These figures were reached after extensive correspondence with the forestry and other authorities of states and municipalities.

City Has Right Idea. A campaign to beautify school surroundings has been started by the architectural-engineering department of the public schools. About \$35,000 will be spent this year. It is announced. A. D. Weeks, director of the department, says that from a landscape standpoint Detroit schools rank poorly in comparison with eastern cities though they compare favorably in architecture.

Feel All Worn Out?

Has a cold, grip, or other infectious disease sapped your strength? Do you suffer backache, lack ambition, feel dull and depressed? Look to your kidneys! Physicians agree that kidney trouble often results from infectious disease.

A South Carolina Case. J. W. Erskine, retired farmer, 640 N. Fant St., Anderson, S. C., says: "There was a pain through the small of my back and I was often so sore and lame I could hardly straighten after bending. My kidneys didn't act right and I had to get up often during the night. I used Doan's Kidney Pills and they entirely cured me."

Get Doan's at Any Store, 60c a Box DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS FOSTER-MILBURN CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.



Vaseline Carbolated

Reg U. S. Pat Off

An antiseptic dressing for cuts, sores, etc.—A necessity where there are children.

AVOID SUBSTITUTES

CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO. State Street New York

For CROUP, COLDS, INFLUENZA & PNEUMONIA Mothers should keep a jar of Brames' Vapomenthia Salve on hand. When Croup, Influenza or Pneumonia threaten the delightful salve rubbed well into the throat, chest and under the arms, will relieve the choking, break congestion and promote restful sleep.

PARKER'S HAIR BALM Removes Dandruff—Stops Hair Falling—Restores Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair—60c and \$1.00 at Druggists. Hiram's Chem. Wks., Fairport, N. Y.

HINDERCORNS Removes Corns, Calluses, etc., stops all pain, ensures comfort to the feet, makes walking easy. 25c. by mail or at Druggists. Hiram's Chem. Wks., Fairport, N. Y.

ASPIRIN Name "Bayer" on Genuine



Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin prescribed by physicians for twenty-one years and proved safe by millions. Take Aspirin only as told in the Bayer package for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve Bayer Tablets of Aspirin cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.—Adv.

The Iron Hand. "Of course there is no such thing as woman's supremacy." "Think not? From the time a boy sits under a street-light playing with toads until he is blind and old and toothless he has to explain to some woman why he didn't come home earlier."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Try, Natural FRUIT AND GRAPE COMBINATION Promotes Jaded Appetites

Soak 1 envelope Calumet's Granulated Gelatin in 1/2 cup cold water and melt over steam; add 1/2 cup sugar, 1 pt. Grape Juice, and the juice of 2 Oranges and 1 Lemon strained. Mould in sherbet glasses and set in cold place to harden. Garnish with whipped cream. Serves eight.