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tom of the disease.

Exercise ain't no good."

here," he remarked to the seeress. "1

The flare of conviction in her eyes,

followed by bitterness and hatred, told

"But mightn't there?" he persisted.

missarv.

"How do I know?" she rasped angri-

"And Amos Wentworth did," be

Now what is your private opinion-

"No: certainly not. Why should he?"

Struggle as he would with her,

know it. I've seen it work before."

him the scent was warm.

CHAPTER XVIII.

"Five Hundred Dollars a Potato." ERSUADING, bullying, and, at | day, in apprehension, Smoke and Shortimes, by main strength, men | ty examined each other's mouth for the were dragged from their bunks | whitening of the gums and mucous and forced to dress. Smoke membranes-the invariable first sympselected the mildest cases for the burial squad. Another squad was told off to supply the wood by which the graves were burned down into the frozen muck and gravel. Still another squad had to chop firewood and im partially supply every cabin. Those who were too weak for outdoor work were put to cleaning and scrubbing the cabins and washing clothes. One squad brought in many loads of spruce boughs and every stove was used for the brewing of spruce tea.

But, no matter what face Smoke and Shorty put on it, the situation was thing," Smoke answered. grim and serious. At least thirty fearful and impossible cases could not be | worth's immunity perplexed Smoke. taken from the beds, as the two men. Why should be alone not have dewith nausea and horror, learned, while veloped scurvy? Why did Laura Sibone, a woman, died in Laura Sibley's ley hate him and at the same time cabin. Yet strong measures were nec- whine and snivel and beg from him?

When the working gangs came in at a point to drop into Wentworth's cabin noon they found decently cooked din- at mealtime. But one thing did be ners awaiting them, prepared by the note that was suspicious and that was weaker members of their cabins under | Wentworth's suspicion of him. Next the tutelage and drive of Smoke and be tried sounding out Laura Sibley.

"That'll do," Smoke said at 3 in the afternoon. "Knock off. Go to your bunks. You may be feeling rotten now, but you'll be the better for it tomorrow. Of course it burts to get well, but I'm going to get you well."

"Too late," Amos Wentworth sneered pallidly at Smoke's efforts. "They ought to have started in that way last

"Come along with me," Smoke answered. "Pick up those two pails. You're not ailing."

went, dosing every man and woman freeze." with a full pint of spruce tea. Nor was it easy.

"You might as well learn at the start | left-accidentally, you know, mislaid | ed wrathfully, that we mean business," Smoke stated on the steamer?" to the first obdurate, who lay on his | She shook her head, as he thought, back groaning through set teeth a trifle belatedly, then added, "We nev-"Stand by, Shorty." Smoke caught er found any." the patient by the nose and tapped the solar plexus section so as to make the mouth gasp open, "Now, Shorty! Down ly. "I didn't have charge of the comshe goes!"

And down she went, accompanied with unavoidable spiriterings and jumped to the conclusion. "Very good. stranglings.

"We're covering this spruce tea route just between us two? Do you think four times a day, and there are eighty | Wentworth has any raw potatoes storof you to be dosed each time," Smoke ed away somewhere?" informed Laura Sibley. "So we've no time to fool. Will you take it, or must I hold your nose?" His thumb and Smoke could not bring her to admit forefinger hovered eloquently above the possibility. her. "It's vegetable, so you needn't That night, when the camp grouned have any qualms."

"I'll-I'll take it," she quavered Smoke went to Wentworth's unlighted "Hurry up!"

That night, exhausted as by no hard

fessed. "The way they suffer is awful. it. I think I'm getting touched. Put But exercise is the only remedy I can a raw potato in my hand and the dust think of, and it must be given a thor- is yours. Here, beft it"

he was that helpless."

"It only we had raw potatoes," egg, warm from contact with the oth-Smoke went on. "The vital, essential er's body. something is missing from that preparout of it."

the Browniow cabin don't croak before Grated and mashed up in a cup, skin mornin' 1 miss my guess."

"For heaven's sake be cheerful,"

in the morning not only was Jones time, into the frightful orifices that found to have hanged himself. A Shorty relieved each other at adminis- bave the rest." nightmare procession of days set in tering the potato juice, rubbing it into For a week, steeling himself to the the poor swollen gums where toose twos and threes he was compelled to precious elixir. knock off the workers. As he was By evening of the next day the searning, exercise was the last thing change for the better in the two pain the world for scurvy patients. The tients was miraculous and almost unsteadily at work, and a surplus half worst cases. In forty-eight bours, with

At the door he could hear her voice, said to Wentworth, "I've got boldings whimpering and pleading. "Just for me," she was begging as anywhere. I'll give you \$500 a potato Smoke entered. "I won't tell a soul." | up to \$50,000 worth. That's 100 pota-Both glanced guiltily at the introder, toes." and Smoke was certain that he was on the edge of something, he knew not Wentworth queried. what, and he cursed himself for not

saw the secress extering Amos Went. far from being cured.

worth's cabin and followed after her. "I'll tell you what I'll do," Smoke

in this country, and my paper is good

"Was that all the dust you had?"

"Shorty and I scraped up all we had.

But, straight, he and I are worth sev-

baying eavesdropped. "Out with it!" he commanded barsh- eral millions between us."

ly. "What is it?" What is what?' Amos Wentworth said finally. "Wish I had. That po- cryin' shame, just the same." asked sufferly. And Smoke could not tato I gave you was the only one. I'd name what was what.

I'd get this scurvy. I only sold it so well fast. Shorty and I are leaving in the country when the river opens."

Despite the cessation of potato juice. you. There's the trail. Dawson's eightthe two treated cases continued to im- een days' travel." prove through the third day. The un-On the fourth morning three corpses were buried.

vaded Wentworth's cabin, throwing you." him out in the snow, while they turned the interior upside down. Laura Sibley hobbled in and frantically joined them in the search.

Though the very floor was dug up. they discovered nothing.

they kept a steady watch on Went-

Another day passed, during which



"I'll give you \$500 a potato up to \$50,000

worth's movements. Several times of fresh potatoes on the steamer?" be burried back without the water.

"We did. But coming up the river cabin." Shorty said, "But where? Wild Water, you know." we sold them all out at a bargain at We sure overhauled it plenty." He Smoke caught two almost simulta-Fort Yukon. We had plenty of the stood up and pulled on his mittens. neous visions. One was of Joy Gas evaporated kinds, and we knew they'd "I'm goin' to find 'em if I have to pull tell, the other was of himself, in the Buy it!" From cabin to cabin the three men keep better. They wouldn't even the binne shack down a log at a time." midst of a bleak snow stretch under Never was a market cornered more Smoke grouned. "Now, mightn't intent, absent face, had not heard him. there have been a couple of odd sacks

Shorty."

"What's the game?" "Watch me, that's all," Smoke batfled. "I always told you, Shorty, that a deficient acquaintance with literature was a handicap, even in the Klon- going to make love to you, and if you dike. Now, what we're going to do dare to make love to me Wild Water came out of a book. I read it when I was a kid, and it will work. Comeon!" Several minutes later, under a pale gleaming, greenish aurora borealis, the

two men crept up to Amos Wentworth's cabin. Carefully and noiselessly they poured kerosene over the logs, extra drenching the door frame and window sash. Then the match was applied, and they watched the flaming oil gather headway. They drew back beyond the growing light and waited.

and slept or groaned and did not sleep. They saw Wentworth rush out, stare wildly at the conflagration and plunge "Listen to me, Wentworth," be said back into the cabin. Scarcely a minute day of trail, Smoke and Shorty crawl "I've got a thousand dollars in dust elapsed when he emerged, this time right here in this sack. I'm a rich slowly, half doubled over, his shoul "I'm fairly sick with it," Smoke con- man in this country, and I can afford ders burdened by a sack, heavy and unmistakable.

Smoke and Shorty sprang at him like a pair of famished wolves. They hit ough trial I wish we had a sack of And Smoke thrilled when Amos him right and left at the same instant Wentworth put out his hand in the He crumpled down under the weight "Sparkins, he can't wash no more darkness and befted the gold. Smoke of the sack, which Smoke pressed over dishes," Shorty said. "It hurts him so heard him fumble in the blankets and with his hands to make sure. Then he sweats his pain. I seen him sweat then felt pressed into his hand not he felt his knees clasped by Wentit. I had to put him back in the bunk the heavy gold sack, but the unmis- worth's arms as the man turned a takable potato, the size of a hen's ghastly face upward.

"Give me a dozen, only a dozenhalf a dozen-and you can have the Smoke did not wait till morning. He | rest," he squalled. "Just half a dozen," ed stuff. The life has been evaporated and Shorty were expecting at any time be walled. "Just half a dozen. I was the deaths of their worst two cases, going to turn them over to you-to-"An' if that young fellow Jones in and to this cabin the partners went, morrow. Yes, tomorrow. That was my idea. They're life! They're life! Just and clinging specks of earth and all, half a dozen?"

was the thousand dollar potato-a thick "Where's the other sack?" Smoke fluid that they fed, several drops at a bluffed,

"I ate it up," was the reply, unimnad once been mouths. Shift by shift peachably honest. "That sack's all corners eggs." had worked on the firewood squad was through the long night Smoke and that's left. Give me a few. You can

whole sack! An' them geezers dyin' choice of her. task. Smoke enforced the exercise and teeth rattled together and compelling for want of 'em: This for you! An' the spruce tea, and one by one and in the swallowing of every drop of the this! An' this! You swine! You bog!"

There was no sleep in camp that night. Hour after hour Smoke and When he sees I'm languishing for Shorty went the rounds, doling the eggs, and I know his mind like a book diminishing burial squad was kept believable. They were no longer the life renewing potato juice, a quarter and I know how to languish, what down and waiting. One day Smoke were temporarily out of danger, though the following day while one corner in eggs. He'll buy the corner, slept the other kept up the work.

There were no more deaths. The an immediacy that was startling.

loaded against scurvy for twenty years. ter in that hig bear voice of his 'Wai-Knowin' you, I've come to understand let, six eggs, soft boiled.' And the

"Gentlemen, I beg of you, listen to treated cases went from bad to worse. me," Wentworth whined. "I'm a stran- saying: 'Compliments of Mr. Wild Wa- to a good thing.' An' he did, too, a half hearted way. "Say, you fellows ger in this country. I don't know the trail. Let me travel with you. I'll give Then Smoke and Shorty together in you \$1,000 if fou'll let me travel with

"Sure," Smoke grinned maliciously. "If Shorty agrees."

"Who? Me?" Shorty stiffened for a supreme effort. "I ain't nobody. Wood comes to humility. I'm a worm, a get thrown off?" maggot, brother to the pollywog an child of the blowfly. I nin't afraid or ashamed of nothin' that creeps or erawls. But travel with that mistake son for \$3 and sell out to Wild Water secret. of creation-go 'way, man! I ain't at almost any advance. And then proud, but you turn my stomach."

And Amos Wentworth went away. alone, dragging a sled loaded with proson. A mile down the trail Shorty overhauled him.

"Come here to me," was Shorty's greeting. "Come across. Fork over

Cough up." quavered, shivering from recollection favor." of the two beatings, hand and foot, he had already received from Shorty.

"That thousand dollars, d'ye under stand that? That thousand dollars gold Smoke bought that measly potato with. Come through."

And Amos Wentworth passed the gold sack over. "Hope a skunk bites you an' you get howlin' hydrophoby," were the terms

of Shorty's farewell. CHAPTER XIX. A Flutter In Eggs.

I was in the A. C. company's big ral beckoned Smoke Bellew over to the dry goods counter.

Smoke obeyed her call with alacrity that performed nightly at the Palace Opera House.

"Things are dead," she complained with pretty petulance. "There hasn't been a stampede for a week. There's no dust in circulation. There's always standing room now at the opera house. And there hasn't been a mail from when he started out, water bucket in the outside for two whole weeks. In hand, for the creek they casually ap- short, this burg has crawled into its "Why didn't you bring in a supply proached the cabin, and each time he cave and gone to sleep. We've got to do something. It needs livening, and want to. But the thing right new is "They're cached right here in his you and I can do it. I've broken with

with accurateness and dispatch by the luctance at raising excitement with the "Just trying to remember something. | aid of Lucille Arral was too patent for ber to miss.

"I'm not thinking what you are thinking at all, thank you," she chided, with a laugh and a pout. "Take it from me, Mr. Smoke Bellew, I'm not will take care of your case. You know him. Besides, I-I haven't really broken with him. Wild Water thinks I've broken with him, don't you see?"

"Well, have you, or haven't you?" "I haven't-there! But it's between you and me in confidence.".

"Where do I come in, stalking borse

or fall guy?" "Neither. You make a pot of money, we put across the laugh on Wild Water and cheer Dawson up, and, best of all and the reason for it all, he gets disciplined. He needs it. He's-well, the best way to put it is be's too turbulent. He broke out last night again. Sowed the floor of the M. & M. with

gold dust-all of a thousand dollars. You've heard of it, of course." "Yes; this morning. But still I don't get you."

"Listen. He was too turbulent. I broke our engagement, and be's going Shorty-one of agitation masked by heart. Now we come to it. I like kindly just repeatin over how many eggs."

"But what have eggs and appetite got to do with it?" Smoke demanded "Everything, I like eggs. There's only a limited supply of eggs in Daw

"Sure. Slavovitch's restaurant has most of them. Ham and one egg. \$3: ham and two eggs, \$5. That means \$2 an egg, retail."

"He likes eggs too," she continued "But that's not the point. I like them have breakfast every morning at 11 o'clock at Slavovitch's. I invariably eat two eggs." She paused impressive ly. "Suppose, just suppose, somebody

She waited, and Smoke regarded her with admiring eyes, while in his heart "Ate 'em up!" Shorty screamed. "A he backed with approval Wild Water's

"You're not following." she said. "Go on," he replied. "I give up What's the answer?"

no matter what it costs.

"Stupid! You know Wild Water. of a spoonful at a dose, into the poor will be do? Why, be'll just start I could 'a' got them eggs for two a dozen graves were always burned the exhaustion of the potato, they ruined mouths of the population. And stampeding for the man that's got the throw it you hadn't butted in."

> most awful cases began to mend with 11 o'clock. Wild Water will be at the the corner. That's the big thing." pext table. He'll make it his business "Nary a potato," Shorty told the to be there. 'Two eggs, shirred,' I'll with a stub of a pencil on the margin whining, begging Wentworth. "You say to the waiter, Sorry, Miss Arral," of a three-year-old newspaper. ain't even touched with scurvy. You the waiter will say, 'they nin't no got outside a whole sack, an' you're more eggs.' Then up speaks Wild Wa- "Lemme give you the totals. You an' God. I always wondered why he let waiter says, 'Yes, sir,' and the eggs actly 973 eggs. They costs us exactly Satan live. Now I know. He let him are brought. Picture: Wild Water \$2.760. If we stick up Wild Water for "I haven't any potatoes," Wentworth live just as I let you live. But it's a looks sideways at me, and I look like \$10 an egg we stand to win, clean net a particularly indignant icicle and an all to the good, just exactly so, 970." "A word of advice," Smoke told summon the waiter, 'Sorry, Miss Ar-

Wild Water's. You see, miss, he owns from sound sleep by Shorty. as to be able to buy a passage out of a week, and there will be nobody to 'em.' Picture: Wild Water, trium-

sclous while he eats his six eggs. bringing two shirred eggs to me and if you're speculatin' I can put you wise Wild Water finished his own plate in ter, miss.' What can I do? What can Smoke, ery egg in the corner."

what station do I climb on to the chool eggs. Last thing Wild Water says to nothing. Go ahead, Shorty. Cook ticks ain't got nothin' on me when it choo cars or at what water tank do 1 Slavovitch is that he'll heat the head them up for him."

afterward, we'll let the inside history come out. The laugh will be on Wild visions sufficient to last him to Daw. subdued. You and I share the glory him up for 88. Eight dollars your Dawson wakes up with a grand ha.

the main street to his partner and course we'll let 'm pass the word of to "I don't understand," Wentworth crossed over. "I want you to do me a Wild Water. Am I right?"

> "Sure," Shorty said gallantly. "What is it? Let her rip."

"I want you to buy eggs for me"-"Sure, an' Floridy water an' talcum here, Smoke, if you want to go in for counter of the A. C. store. high livin' you go an' buy your own eggs."

"I am going to buy, but I want you to help me to buy. You go right straight to Siavovitch's. Pay as high as \$3, but buy all be's got."

"Three dollars!" Shorty groaned "An' I heard tell only yesterday that store at Dawson that Lucille Ar | he's got all of 700 in stock! Twenty one hundred dollars for hen fruit. Say Smoke, I'd sure do anything for you would not have been flattered by the your bedside day an' night an' wipe soubrette of the tiny stock company in'ly d-d if I'll squander twenty one hundred good fron dollars on hen fruit for you or any other two legged man

"They're not your dollars, but mine. egg in Dawson, in the Klondike, on the Yukon. You've got to help me out. 1 haven't the time to tell you of the in wardness of the deal. I will after ward and let you go balf on it if you to get the eggs. Now, you hustle up to Slavovitch's and buy all be's got. And then keep on. Nose out every egg in Dawson and buy it. Understand?

He glanced at Smoke, who, with an a cold arctic moon, being pot shotted quickly. In three days every known his arm in an excited grip. egg in Dawson with the exception of "What's eatin' you?" Shorty demand. aforesaid Wild Water. Smoke's re- several dozen was in the hands of Smoke and Shorty. The several dozen not yet gathered

> in were in the bands of two persons. One, with whom Shorty was dealing. was an Indian woman who fived in a cabin on the hill back of the hospital.

"I'll get her today," Shorty announced next morning. "I'll be back in a iffy, if I don't bust myself a-shovin dust at her."

In the afternoon when Smoke returned to the cabin he found Shorty. "What luck?" Shorty asked careless-

ly after several minutes had passed. "Nothing doing," Smoke answered "How did you get on with the squaw?" Shorty cocked his head triumphant ly toward a tin pail of eggs on the ta ble. "Seven dollars a clatter, though."

he confessed. "I offered \$10 finally," Smoke said. "and then the fellow told me ne'd already sold his eggs. Now that looks bad, Shorty. Somebody else is in the market. Those twenty-eight eggs are liable to cause us trouble. You see. the success of the corner consists in holding every last"-

He broke off to stare at his partner. A pronounced change was coming over around making a noise like a broken extreme deliberation. "Do you mind eggs you said the man didn't sell to you?" he asked.

"Twenty-eight."

"Hum!" Shorty communed to himself. "They's just exactly, precisely nor nothin' more or anything less'n twenty-eight eggs in that there pail settin' on the table, an' they cost, every dinged last one of 'em, just exactly seven great big round fron dollars a throw. If you stand in cryin' need of any further items of information I'm willin' and free to impart."

"Go on," Smoke requested. "Well, that geezer you was dickerin' with is a big buck Indian. Am I

to each question.

"He's got one cheek half gone, where a bald face grizzly swatted him. Am I right? He's a dog trader-right, eh? young glaut, entered and shook hands. His name is Scar Face Jim. That's so. ain't it? D'ye get my drift?"

"You mean we've been bidding"-"Against each other? Sure thing, egg in a coon's age." That squaw's his wife, an' they keep house on the hill back of the hospital.

you'd kept out. But it doesn't amount "Picture: I come into Slavovitch's at to anything. We anow that we've got | would slip them into his pecket and Shorty spent the next hour wrestling

> "There she stands," he said at last me has right now in our possession ex-

been saving it all the winter for feat | Wentworth. "These men are getting tall' be says, but them eggs is Mr. At 11 that night Smoke was routed

protect you when these men go after phant doing his best to look ancon- me; "Shorty, I want to speak to you ain't right." "Another picture: Slavovitch himself Nobody knows i sold 'em to you. But me," was Shorty's excuse.

I possibly do but smile at Wild Water? "Well, maybe it sounds moredible, tentatively, "Sell me, or lend me, or And then we make up, of course, and but that good thing was Wild Water give me, about a dozen of them eggs." be'll consider it cheap if he has been 'Charley. He's lookin' to buy eggs. He' compelled to pay \$10 for each and ev- goes around to Slavovitch an offers what a yearning for eggs is myself. him \$5 an egg, an before he quits ne's But we're not so poor that we have to "Go on, go on!" Smoke urged. "At offerin' \$8. An' Slavovitch ain't got no sell our hospitality. They'll cost you offen him if he ever finds out Siavo- But Wild Water laid a restraining "Ninny! You make that corner in wheres. Shavovitch had to tell in ne'd plained. "I don't mean cooked. I want day. You can buy every egg in Daw- sold the eggs, but that the puyer was them with the shells on "

"Slavovitch says to let him say the word to Wild Water, who's got the eggs. 'Shorty,' he says to me, 'Wild Water. His turbulence will be some Water'll come a-runnin. You can hold of it. You make a pile of money. And grandmother, I says. 'He'll fall for \$10 before I'm done with him.' Anyway, I told Slavovitch I'd think it over "Hey, Shorty!" Smoke called across and let him know in the mornin. Of

> "You certainly are, Shorty. First thing in the morning tip off Slavovitch. Have him tell Wild Water that you and I are partners in the deal."

In the morning Smoke chanced upon powder, if you say the word. Look Lucille Arral again at the dry goods

"It's working!" be jubilated. "It's working! Wild Water's been ground to Slavovitch, trying to buy or bully eggs out of him. And by this time Slavovitch has told him that Shorty and I own the corner."

Lucille Arral's eyes sparkled with defight. "I'm going to breakfast right now," she cried. "And I'll ask the heart of stone. And you know Wild hundred an' twenty iron deliars. Of If you had a cold in the head an' was | Water's heart is anything but stone | course, Wild Water, we're playla' fair, The man did not exist in Dawson who larin' with both arms broke I'd set by He'll buy the corner if it costs him one an' it's money back for bad goes. of his mines. Hold out for a stiff fig | though they ain't none. That's one notice of Lucille Arral, the singing your nose for you, but I'll be everlast | ure. Nothing less than \$10 will satisfy thing I never seen in the Klondike-a me, and if you sell for anything less, bad egg." Smoke, I'll never forgive you."

Shorty. It's a deal I have on. What | got of coffee, a smoking plutter of | want a few. I'll give you \$10 for a I'm after is to corner every blessed moose meat and bacon, a plate of couple of dozen. I'll give you \$20, but stewed dried peaches and called. I can't buy 'em all." "Grub's rendy!"

> Smoke opened the door for a breath tum. of frosty air and saw something that made him close the door hurriedly and he broke and dropped spinttering into to her on a platter shirred. That's the the pan. As he reached for a second egg Shorty gained his side and clutched

"Hey, what you doin'?" he demanded. "Frying eggs," Smoke informed him. breaking the second one and throwing off Shorty's detaining hand. "Get out



of the way, Shorty. Wild Water's coming up the hill, and be'll be here in five

"Shorty and I own the corner."

minutes." Shorty sat down at the table. By the time the expected knock came at the door Smoke was facing him across the taining three hot fried eggs.

"Come in!" Smoke called. Wild Water Charley, a strapping "Set down an' have a bite, Wild Wa-

the not pan and in several minutes guarantee of money back if it fails to placed them before his guest, who look ed at them with so strange and strain "And so could I," Smoke laughed, "If ed an expression that Shorty confessed afterward his fear that Wild Water carry them away.

> "Say, them swells down in the states ain't got nothin' over us in the matter of eats," Shorty gloated, "Here's you an' me an' Smoke gettin' outside \$90 worth of eggs an' not battin' an eye." Wild Water stared at the rapidly disappearing eggs and seemed petrified. "They-they ain't worth no \$10."

Wild Water said slowly. Shorty accepted the challenge. "A thing's worth what you can get for it, ain't it?" he demanded.

"Yes, but-you can't est eggs like "I just seen Slavovitch. He says to that," Wild Water objected. "It-it

about them eggs. I've kept it quiet. -We just dote on eggs. Smoke an'

can do me a great favor." he began "Sure," Smoke answered. "I know

"So that you can carry 'em away?" "That's the idea."

"But that min't hospitality," Shorty objected. "It's-it's tradin"."

Smoke nodded concurrence. "That's different, Wild Water. I thought you just wanted to eat them. You see, we went into this for a speculation."

The dangerous blue of Wild Water's eves began to grow more dangerous. "I'll pay you for them," he said sharpy. "How much?"

"Oh, not a dozen," Smoke replied, "We couldn't sell in dozen. We're not retailers; we're speculators. We can't break our own market. We've got a hard and fast corner, and when we sell out it's the whole corner or nothing."

"How many have you not and how much do you want for them?"

"How many have we. Shorty?" Smoke inquired.

Shorty cleared his throat and performed mental arithmetic aloud. "Lemme see. Nine transferd an' seventy, three minus nine, that leaves nine hundred an' sixty-two. An' the whole waiter for eggs and be so pinintive shootin' match at \$10 a throw will when there aren't any as to melt a tote up just about aine thousand six

Wild Water shook his head sadiv and That moon, up in their cabin, Shorty | belped himself to the beans. "That placed on the table a pot of beans, a would be too expensive, Shorty, I only

"All or none," was Smoke's ultima-"Look here, you two," Wild Water suid in a burst of confidence. "I'll be dash to the stove. The frying pan, still | perfectly honest with you, an' don't let hot from the moose meat and bacon, it go any further. You know Miss Arhe put back on the front tid. Into the rai an' I was engaged. Well, she's frying pan be put a generous dab of broken everything off. It's for her I butter, then reached for an egg. which want them eggs. I want to give them

> way she likes 'em." "Do you want 'em ninety-six hundred an' twenty dollars' worth?' Shorts

> queried. "Aw, listen to reason." Wild Water pleaded. "I only want a couple of dozen. I'll give you \$20 aplece for 'em. What do I want with all the rest of

them eggs?" "I should say Miss Arral's worth the price of the eggs," Smoke put in

quietly. "Worth it?" Wild Water steed up in the heat of his eloquence. "She's worth a million dollars. She's worth all the dust la Klondike. But cont afu't no call for me to gamble \$10,000 on a breakfast for her. Now, I've got a proposition. Lend me a couple of dozen of them eggs. I'll turn 'em over to Slavovitch. He'll feed 'em to her with my compliments. She ofn't smiled to me for a hundred years. If them eggs get a smile for me I'll take the whole boiling off your hands,"

"Will you sign a contract to that effect?" Smoke sald quickly, for he knew that Lucille Arral had agreed to smile. Wild Water gusped. "You're almighty swift with business up here on the hill," he said, with a hint of a snarl,

"We're only accepting your own proposition," Smoke answered. "All right; bring on the paper; make It out hard and fast," Wild Water cried in the anger of surrender.

(To Be Continued.)

low Is the Time to Get Rid of Three Ugly Spots.

Do you know how easy it is to remove those ugly spots so that no one will call you freekle-face?

Simply get an unce of others, louble strength, from your druggia. Smoke nodded and continued to nod table, and before each was a plate con- and a few applications should show on how easy it is to rid yourself of freckles and get a benutiful comolexion. The sun and winds of February and March have a strong tenter," Shorty invited. "Smoke, fry him | dency to bring out freckles, and as a some eggs. I'll bet he ain't scoffed an result more othine is sold in them months. Be sure to ask for the double Smoke broke three more eggs into strength othine, as this is sold under 1emove the freckles.

## FOUND.

FOUND-Between Plattsmouth Wagon and Auto bridge and this city. an auto lamp. Owner may have same by calling at this office and paying for advertisement.

FOR SALE-Four five-room, one seven-room cottages, on easy payments. Acreage close-in for rent and sale. Windham Investment & Loan Co. 2-25-d&w-tf