## PAGE EIGHT



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CHAPTER XXV "Have some sense, boys. Van is something of Larry Keith's spirit Later Denny was in the kitchen, obliged to take this chance, but in you, after all." She was aware watching Van Cleve as he sat at the you-"

table trying to eat with his left "Chance!" The Colonel seized on flowing like a current through his hand. He was shaved and dressed in his gray flannel suit, the right sleeve of which hung empty. The back door of the kitchen sud-all that sort of thing. We'll stand "And still you're willing to take

denly opened and Revelry Bourne by, sir! We insist on going with a chance with me?" came in from the radio station. His you!"

gay buckskin costume accentuated the gravity of his face; his eyes were almost black with some sup-pressed emotion. He strode directly toward Van Cleve, who came ques-tioningly to his feet. But after one own risk. It's nearly eleven. I cast ook at the river captain's face, the doctor sank again into his chair and dropped his dark head on the up-turned palm of his uninjured hand. The men stampeded upstairs to get their belongings together. Denny stood alone in the living

I know," he said in a muffled tone. No plane available."

"That's not the trouble, Van. There's a hell of a gale roaring that must elapse before the Maid, along the coast—we don't feel it or some other boat, returned, she He laughed. "Little dark child, He laughed. "Little dark child, here because the coast range pro- was beset by a sense of let-down. any night's a lucky night when you tects us and no plane, either in Ketchikan or Juneau can take off until it's over. Dodson, of Ketchi-Already she felt the loneliness of those who are left behind. As she swung the door wide and Honey-jo was calling from the l kan, tried it when he got my mes-sage. He smashed a wing." Bourne placed a hand on the doctor's bowed absulder. "Looks as if we'll have to through the darkness. The sound to down to Wrangell on the Maid, ld man."

"Not much good, Rev." Van Gleve shook his bowed head. "We can't start till daylight, and it will be toe late to do what's necessary to give me a chance, when we get to have in it a sort of guidance.

at night."

"My crew is willing to take a chance with me. It's the only way to get you down there in time." "No, old fellow. I appreciate your courage, but I can't let you take such chances for me." Nevertheless Yan Cleve slowly stood up, hope My crew is willing to take a

Van Cleve slowly stood up, hope dawning in his dark eyes.

Bourne spoke calmiy: "I've been taking chances on the river ever since I was old enough to handle a steering wheel, Van." He spoke

quietly. "I'll take you down to-night. Will you go?" For a moment Van Cleve con-sidered the lean, blond face on a level with his own. "By God, Rev," he answered hoarsely, "I believe you can make it. I'll go." The two men went into the living

com to announce their departure. wous against the window

The party of hilarious hunters broke off to greet the doctor and were noisily demanding his "bear atory" when the outer door opened.

"Of course." With an effort at lightness she added, "I'm like the Bourne's further protests were lost in the chanting of the capering hunters. In the end he threw up both hands. "All right, you darned fools. Come along. But it's at your never be afraid when you are at the

wheel of the Maid." She felt a single pressure of his off in half an hour." hands before he released her.

"All right," he agreed. "Oh!" She drew a deep breath. "I room. She had been so certain of feel-wonderful! On the edge of leaving River House in the morning tremendous things about to happen.

She did not answer because As she swung the door wide and Honey-jo was calling from the livstepped out onto the terrace for a ing room door that the hunters were breath of fresh air, the sharp re- waiting to bid her good-by.

Aboard the Maid, Denny was

was like a summons to adventure. counting her bags piled on the floor As Denny stood there, the whisper of Bourne's cabin back of the pilotof the Stikine came seeping into house. He had insisted that she her consciousness through every channel of sense and nerve; weaving again that spell which seemed

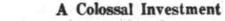
kine's mesmerizing flow; and after which was capped with gold. "It a moment she had another of those can't be done, that's all." unaccountable blank spaces of mind "Shakespeare" George, ancient eccentric of creeks and mountains, when the stream of her identity

seemed to merge and mingle with the fast, smooth current of that other stream sweeping dimly curred," he quoted. "Say, I'll lay through the dark. ten to one that the skipper makes it When the moment ended, she knew she had surrendered to some without losing a sliver off-"

long enough for me to tell you good-by." His words were light but she

stood—" "Sorry, gentlemen. Van Cleve's injury makes it necessary for him to reach a doctor to-night. I want you all to make yourselves at home here for a few days. I'll either be back myself to get you, or—I'll have another boat come up." The Colonel came forward, pro-testing, "But I say, Captain! We want to go now! Nothing to hold us, you know. We'll take our hats, the jolly old boiler, our departure, and continue the party on the boat. What?" don't set foot on the Maid to-night. This is strictly an emergency trip and—well, it's just out of bounds for little girls!" But not for this particular little girl!" abe insisted. Then, realiz-ing that he had it in his power to make her stay behind, she grew a little incoherent in her earnestness. "Oh, you must take me with you!" She stopped, at a loss for words to make him understand what she her-self did not understand. He placed a hand on each of her shoulders, holding her at arms' "tand by" to the engine room. A





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## By WAIT DISNEY

By SEGAR



**THIMBLE THEATRE-Starring Popeye** 

YA SAID YA KNOW'D THIS SWAB, CASTOR-

IM ALMOST

CERTAIN IKNOW

YOU CAN GO NOW, BOYS-YES, POPEYE, I HAVE THE

EFFICIENT

TTN

Sensitive About His Profile



knew she had surrendered to some "A good bet, Shakespeare!" mysterious sense of direction. She Bourne, making his way through mysterious sense of direction. She bourne, making his way through knew she was going to run the Sti-kine to-night with Captain Revelry Bourne. She turned to run back into the house just as the captain came out on to the terrace, dressed in his ordi-nary clothes. "Whoa, there!" he main captain crossed the gang-

way to the upper deck. He en-countered Shan in the shadow of the pilothouse, fumbling with the draw-string of his tobacco pouch. The old Indian pointed dramatically to the arp and Boom came arp and Boom came manded faces set and serious. Harp reported, "Ship's ready. "It isn't necessary, Captaing with "It isn't necessary, Captaing with answered gaily. "I'm going with you. Harp will get my things aboard quickly and—" "Nothing doing, young lady! You don't set foot on the Maid to-night. This is strictly an emergency trip this is strictly an emergency trip this is strictly an emergency trip the total doublers. "Oh, no, Shan, See!" He pointed toward the northern sky, alive with pulsin morthern sky, alive with pulsin

DETECTIVE ORGANIZA-TION ON EARTH

occupy his quarters; and she suspected that it was because he wished to have her near him in case of an emergency. Rising now and then above the "Time is passing. Life is passing. Live intensely while you may." To-night, she thought, every soul aboard the Maid would live in-"We'll start at once." "Start now?" Van Cleve looked up in amasement. "Why, man! It's dark! You can't run white water coast. And she would be lost in a tall, wolfish trapper in buckskins,

. . .

## What?" What?" Bourne smiled but his eyes re-mained grave. He shook his head. "Running the Stikine at night is a risky business, Colonel." He tried to explain just how risky, but the hunters promptly shouted him fown. Finally he said sternly,



KEEP AWAY FROM ME!! I'LL GIVE YOU A MILLION DOLLARS IF YOU'LL LET ME GO

A MILLION

IN STOLEN

MONEY, EH? SIT DOWN