

The girl stood for a moment with her see

"Then he'll come," said Mildred. It was twilight when Willis Marsh "I must think. I-I want to go Mr. Waybaud and Mildred seated in was rowed out to the yacht. He found away. Goodby." deck chairs enjoying the golden sunset while the old man smoked. Marsh exwatching her as she hurried away, plained that he had excused himself half suspecting the tears that were from his guests to go whither his inclimation led him and drew his seat close to Mildred, rejoicing in the fact Boyd saw "Fingerless" Fraser and that no one could gainsay him this privilege. Moreover, he had won the unfaltering loyalty of Wayne Wayhand, the dominant figure of the west. Nothing could keep him now from the success his ambition demanded. His complaisant enjoyment was interrupted at last by the approach of the second officer, who announced that a lady wished to see Mr. Wayland, "A lady?" asked the old man in sur-

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Cherry describes the salmon finheries and Marsh, the unscrupulous head of the Kalvik canneries. Kalvik canneries. Cherry owns a cannery sits. Emerson, George Balt and she go into partnership. Emerson describes his failure to "make good" in Alaska. Emerson kieses Cherry goodby. Dait, Fraser and Emerson nearly lose their lives in Katmal pass and miss the steam-er at Katmal on their way out to get capital.

naked.

After dreadful privations they catch the boat at Kadlak and are soon en route for Chickago. Emerson seeks Miss Mildred Wayland.

By REX BEACH

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING

CHAPTERS

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ters them.

ther, Wayne Wayland, is a millionaire Alton Clyde offers \$20.000 toward the can ther.

Carineries trust.

are partners. Hanker Hillard, Beaftle. fuses to lend Emerson Bloger. Cherry. who has arrived in Beattle, accepts a dis-

her friendly, relations with Hilliard. Cher-ry news Hilliard, who unexpectedly fur-niates the money. Marah causes a strike, delaying the loading of Emerson's ma-

chinery. Tialt's fishermen fight the strikers. Fra-ser shouts a striker and impersonates Emerson for whom a warrant is issued. "mercan escapes to Taivis. Starsh Fit-

Marsh builds a trap to prevent salmon from reaching Emerson's cannery alta. He is mysteriously stabled. Emerson is

Balmon begin their run, but Marsh hires

most invasions to kill Marsh. Cherry gwis a crew of Indians to help Emerson pack fils spinon natch. Emerson sus-pects Constantine, Cherry's Indian serv-ant, of attempting to kill Marsh. Cherry tells Ernerson Mildred doesn't lave him if

be a failure. Hhs takes little interest in

Chakawana, Constantine's pretty sister. has disappeared. Cherry asks Mildreit to help Enverson and demounces Marsh. Constantine learns Marsh wants to marry Mildred. Mildred becomes jenious of

Mildred filts Emerson, and her engage-Mildred fills Emerson, and ber sugar-ment to Marsh is announced. Wayland buys EL 000 worth of stock in Emerson's cannery, owned by Clyds and Mildred Marsh atlacks Cherry's character Cher-

"Tell me, why did he turn against you so suddenly? What made Miss Wayland angry with you?"

"I-1 would rather not."



my past is my own. It concerns no body but me." She saw the change in his face, and her reckless spirit rose. "Oh, I've shocked you! You think all women should be like Miss Wayland, Have you ever stopped to think that even you are not the same man you were when you came fresh from college? You know the world now; you have fusted its wickedness. Would

Sas and Emerson are engaged. Her fa-

Halt and Emerson meet Marsh in Chi-cage. Marsh is a suitor for Mildred's hand. Marsh tells Mildred about Cherry Malotts. He and Wayne Wayland plan a

Mildred learns that Emerson and Chermine."

The invitation from Hilling accepts a dar-mer invitation from Hillingd. Cherry discovers that Emerson is to marry Mildred. Marsh causes annoying delays for Emerson's party. Tacoma re-fuses Emerson a loan. Clyde suggests that Cherry can get the loan from Hil-lingd.

lard Emerson enrages Cherry by criticising

town. France is released and rejoins Em-

Emerson's faherman, clyde threatens to well his stock. Fraser is noncommittal to Emerson concerning Cherry's early life. Bait threatens to kill Marsh. Cherry

she will not help him. "Emerson's Eaking crews fight Marsh's. Wayland and Mildred arrivs at Kalvik. Emerson tells Mildred his cannery may

bis wors. Wayland approves of Marsh's crooked methods in fighting Emerson and threat-ens to cursh him financially. The salmon fill Emerson's traps. Balt criss. "We've

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Why? I'm your partner, and I ought to be told. You and George and will have to work together closer

than ever now. Don't let's begin by concealing anything."

"Well, perhaps you had better know the whole thing." said Boyd slowly. "Mildred does not like you. Her father's mind has been polsoned by It seems they resent our Marsh. friendship. They believe all sorts of things."

"So I am the cause of your trouble after all."

"They blame me equally-more than you. It seems that Marsh made an inquiry into your-well, your life history -and he babbled all the goasip he heard to them. Of course they believed it, not knowing you as I do, and they misunderstood our friendship. But I can expinin, and I shall, to Mildred. Then 1 shall prove Marsh a Har. Perhaps I can show Mr. Wayland that he was in the wrong. It's our only hope."

"What did Marsh say about me?" asked the girl.

She was pale to the lips.

"He said a lot of things that at any other time I would have made him swallow on the spot. But it's only a pleasure deferred. With your help I'll do it in their presence. I don't like to tell you this, but the truth is vital to us all, and I want to arm myself." Cherry was silont.

'You may leave it to me," he said "I will see that Marab sets e otly. you right."

"There is nothing to set right," said, the girl wearly. truth, I dare say." "Marsh told the

"The truth! My God! You don't know what you're saying!" "Yes, I do." She returned his look

of shocked horror with half hearted defiance. "You must have known who I am. Fraser knew, and he must have told you. You knew I had followed the mining camps. You knew I had lived by my wits. You must have known what people thought of me. 1 cast my lot in with the people of this country, and I had to match my with with those of every man I met. Sometimes I won, sometimes I did not. You know the north."

"I didn't know," he said slowly. "I never thought-I wouldn't allow my.

ned toward the river. Then she said:

trembling amid her lashes.

It was not until supper time that questioned him about his quest for an heiress

"Nothing doing in the heiress busireplied the adventurer. DIVER." ÷1. couldn't stand the exposure."

"They were cold, ch?"

"Yep! They weathered me out." "Did you really meet any of those people?

"Sure! I met 'em all, but I didn't catch their names. I 'made' one before I'd gone a mile-tall, slim party with cracked ice in her voice."

Boyd tooked up quickly, "Did you introduce yourself?

"As Chancy De Benville, that's all. How is that for a drawing room monaker? She fell for the name all right. but there must have been something phony about the clothes. That's the trouble with this park harness. If I'd wore my youp and fish' and my two gallon evening hat I'd have passed for a gentleman sure. I'm strong for those evening togs. I see another one latera little maduro colored skirt with a

fat nose." "Mias Berry."

"I'm glad to meet her. I officed her out of a rowboat and told her 1 was Mr. Yonkers of New York. We was breezing along on the bit till Clyde

broke it up. He called me France, and it was cold in a minute. France is a cheap name anyhow. I'm sorry 1 took it."

"Do you mean to say it isn't your real name?" asked his companion in genuine bewilderment.

"Naw! Switzer is what I was born with. Bay it slow and it sounds like an air brake, don't it? I never won a bet as long as I packed it around. and Fraser hasn't got it beat by more than a lip."

"Well!" Boyd breathed deeply. "You are the limit."

Speaking of clothes, I notice you are dressed up like a fruit salad. What is it-the wacht?"

prise. "Yes, sir. She came alongside in a small boat just now with some natives. I stopped her at the landing, but she

says she must see you at once." "Ah, that woman again!" Mr. Wayland's jaws snapped. "Tell her to begone. I refuse to see her."

"Very well, sir." The mate turned. but Mildred said suddenly: "Walt! Why don't you talk to her,

father?"

"That creature? I have nothing to say to her." Mildred leaned forward and called to the ship's officer: "Show her up. I will see her."

"Mildred, you mustn't talk to that woman!" her father cried. "It is very unwise," Marsh chimed in

approbenaively. "She isn't the sort of person"-

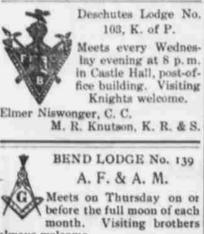
Miss Wayland chilled him with a look and waved the mate away, then sank back into her chair.

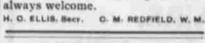
"I have talked with her already. assure you she is not dangerous,'

Willis Marsh squirmed uncomfortably in his seat. He fixed his eyes upon the knot of men at the starboard rail. Then, with a sharp indrawing of his breath, he leaped up and darted down the deck,

(To be continued.)

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