

FLASH THE LEAD DOG By GEORGE MARSH

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CHAPTER XII—Continued

"No," Then Gaspard's face suddenly sobered at a surmise which chilled his heart. "I go see," he muttered, leaving the fire.

Beside the stiffened body of their old comrade of the trails, Gaspard found Silt-Ear and Kona mourning the dead in the manner of their breed. Near them, ignored, the Indian lay rigid in the snow.

"By gar! Yellow-Eye! Poor ole Yellow-Eye!" muttered the boy, sadly shaking his head, as his eyes found the wound through which the life of the dauntless king-dog had ebbed. "You mak' beg fight—keel heem, affair he shoot you! Brave ole Yellow-Eye!" Gaspard knelt on the snow and, dropping his mitten, placed his hand on the great skull, with its bare fangs, and its slant-eyes glazed in death. "You were de good worker and de wise lead-dog—an' you die for Brock an' Gaspard. I weesh you pteece rabbit in de Happy Hunting Ground—Yellow-Eye."

With difficulty the saddened boy drove Silt-Ear and Kona before him back to camp. Reaching the fire, he nodded to the Cree. "Shot!" he muttered huskily in the Indian's native tongue.

"Shot!" came a weak voice from the blankets. "What you say? Who's shot—not Flash?"

"No, poor ole Yellow-Eye. Now you be still an' sleep, Brock."

"Yellow-Eye? Game ole Yellow-Eye I saw . . ." I saw . . ."

Then the dazed Brock slept.

In two days Brock's clouded brain had cleared from the effects of the glancing blow of the bullet across his skull and his strength returned, while Kona's shoulder was rapidly healing. Graphically Brock related the story of the ambush and the fight in the forest with the revenge of the dying Yellow-Eye, which Gaspard's bushcraft had already revealed to the curious halfbreed through the map of the snow. Hearing the shots far upstream, while he still followed the dog team of the Cree, Gaspard had boldly rushed him from the shore, learning to his surprise, that the boy had no intention of putting up a fight. According to the prisoner, who, strangely, seemed overjoyed at his capture, the two Indians who had ambushed Brock had come from little Carcajou lake to the east and evidently had reached the river barely in time to discover the approaching team of the white boy. The three with whom the prisoner had camped had not heard the firing or they would have turned back down-river. When Brock learned how Gaspard had found him guarded by Flash, who, in his grief, refused to share his dead, the eyes of the boy winked hard as his hand sought the massive head that lifted with pricked ears as Brock spoke his name.

Then, for Brock's benefit, the Cree repeated in his native tongue what he had already told the greatly excited Gaspard. "My name is Joe Nipissing. In the moon of the mating of the caribou, my brother and I hunted geese on the coast below Fort Severn. One day strange Indians came ashore to our camp from a large boat. With them was a bearded white man who offered us whiskey and asked us to go south to trap on this river, the Carcajou. My brother and I did not wish to go, but they stole our guns in the night and forced us. Three-four sleeps north, at the mouth of this river, the big white man with the red beard winters with his boat. They have a house of logs where the hunters bring their fur. Three hunters were sent to look for you and did not return, so the others are afraid. They say that a Frenchman called 'Black Jack' is hunting them."

"But your father, Gaspard? Does he know what—"

"He know—he know!" Gaspard's dark features worked under the strain, his eyes glittered with excitement and hope. "He say a Frenchman, a prisoner, sees at de beg camp. He has not spik to heem, but eet sees my fader! He sees alive, Brock! My fader sees alive! You hear dat?"

Thrilled, Brock wrung his partner's hand. "Golly, that's wonderful news, Gaspard, old partner!" It might be true—this story, thought Brock. Who could tell?

"Who are these people—these white traders? Where are they from?" Brock demanded, in Cree, of Joe Nipissing.

"They came from the west coast. They are bad men and many of their hunters are hiding from the Red Coats. That is why they are here."

"How do you feel, Brock?" demanded Gaspard.

"Fine, my head's a bit sore but that won't keep me from traveling."

Gaspard smiled. "Tomorrow we start, eh?"

"You bet we do. I'll take Flash this morning and strike back into the timber to try my head and limber up my legs."

"Good! Joe and Gaspard got something to do now."

When Brock had left with Flash to stretch his legs, Gaspard and the Indian scraped the snow from between two boulders near the shore, and putting the body of Yellow-Eye on a sled, drew it to the river. There, later, Brock found them covering the great husky with heavy sticks of spruce

that he might rest, inviolate, safe from the profanation of prowling wolf or wolverine—from the teeth and claws of the vandals of the forest. Then Brock's eyes widened as they rested on a neighboring spruce from which the lower branches had been lopped.

"A lop-stick—for Yellow-Eye!" he exclaimed. "Gaspard, I call this pretty fine of you!" Going to the lop-stick spruce shorn of its lower branches in honor of the heroic husky, Brock read the Cree characters burned into the white blaze by his friend:

"The lop-stick of Yellow-Eye. He never missed the trail or hung back in the traces. To dog or man he never lowered his eyes. For his friends he died."

A lop-stick, the monument and tribute of the north, reserved for the celebration of the deeds of men, had been won by a dog.

CHAPTER XIII

The Trail to the Coast

With Joe Nipissing's team in the lead, carrying on the sled some of the caribou meat, fish and fowl, from the heavier load of the boys' toboggan, the next morning they pulled out from their camp to the river shore. There Gaspard stopped the two teams. Facing in silence the lop-stick spruce marking the grave of the Ungava who, in his superb strength and pride had led the dog team north from the Big Yellow-Log, Gaspard and Brock raised their rifles and fired the salute to the dead.

"A'voir, Yellow-Eye, mon brave!" called the halfbreed in his father's tongue.

"Good-by, old king-dog!" choked Brock. "You were a king—every shaggy inch of you! Good-by, Yellow-Eye!" As if they sensed the significance of the rifle shots, Flash, Silt-Ear and

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OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

The Breitenbush and Minto forest roads above Detroit will remain closed until the latter part of June, probably.

Deer in western Lane county are becoming quite tame and are appearing on the highway at several places.

Construction of a modern banking house at a cost of \$30,000 will be undertaken by the Bank of Lakeview, Lake county.

Several clips of Baker county wool have been sold to the Oregon City woolen mills at prices ranging from 32 to 35 cents a pound.

The Gleason Lumber company reports the sale of its sawmill near Sweet Home to parties who will continue to operate the mill.

Motorists on the Roosevelt highway recently witnessed a rare sight. A band of 20 elk were feeding a few yards from the road at Hunters Head.

Financially embarrassed by failure of timbermen to pay their taxes, the Klamath county court has suspended road work and the cruising of timber.

Guard Sawyers, veteran hunter and trapper of Elkton, has brought into Roseburg the pelt of his 100th cougar. It measured nine feet from tip to tip.

Sale by the forest service of 13,553,000 board feet of timber, mostly yellow pine, in the Deschutes forest to the Shelvin-Hixon company has been approved.

In sharp contrast with conditions in the Harney basin, residents in the country depending for water on Steens mountain will have all they can take care of.

Plans for the establishment of a Tule Lake hay growers' association, a cooperative marketing organization, are being discussed by Tule Lake homesteaders.

The business section of Corvallis has taken on a new appearance through the removal of telephone and electric light poles, which have been placed in the alleys.

Unless preventive steps are taken at once the weed problem will seriously menace Malheur farms. A car of calcium cholorate has been ordered for spray by the county agent.

A fire that burned the farm house on the Ward turkey farm near the Soldiers' Home in Douglas county also destroyed three large incubators, 700 eggs and 150 baby turks.

Two of the hotels of Tillamook have already been exhausted by reservations made by delegates to the annual convention of Neighbors of Woodcraft to be held on June 13.

Officials of the Pendleton Woolen Mills announce that on July 1 they will take up \$30,000 in first mortgage bonds sold to local people at the time of construction of the mills.

Sheep shearing around Harrisburg is well along and a part of the new crop is sold. The prevailing price has been around 35 cents. Very little contracting was done this year.

Plans for the construction of a five-story hotel in conjunction with the new Oregon Bank building at Klamath Falls were made public by N. E. Berry, prominent Washington business man.

The Salem city council, by a vote of 6 to 3, approved an ordinance granting to the Southern Pacific Transport company an exclusive franchise of the streets for bus service for ten years.

With only 235 votes cast out of a registration of 4116 the voters of Astoria have decided to issue bonds to the amount of \$97,500 to pay outstanding warrants. The vote was 153 yes, 85 no.

George Temple Thompson, 78, a resident of The Dalles for the last 46 years and at one time a colonel of the eastern Oregon regiment of the national guard, died at The Dalles recently.

Donald Melzer, two years old, was crushed to death under the wheels of an automobile backing out of a garage in Marshfield. The child tried to jump on the fender of a car driven by Lester Rhodes.

Commercial fishing on the Columbia river for the first month of the season has shown a considerable increase in returns as compared with May of 1923, according to packing companies.

A far-reaching program for beautifying the highways of Lane county, including cleaning up adjacent districts, erecting unsightly billboards and encouraging beautiful plantings, is being undertaken by the Eugene Garden club.

In anticipation of a dry year and consequent hay shortage on their own ranches, Lawen stockmen have purchased about all the loose hay that will be grown in the Voltaga district, paying generally \$5 a ton standing in the field.

Fence Posts

Almost any of the hard woods, including cedar and locust, if properly treated, may be used for making posts.

THE MARKETS Portland

Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, hard white, \$1.24; soft white, western white, \$1.06; hard winter, northern spring, western red, \$1.03. Hay—Alfalfa, \$21 per ton; valley timothy, \$22; eastern Oregon timothy, \$24@25; clover, \$20; oats, \$23; oats and vetch, \$23. Butterfat—43@44c. Eggs—Ranch, 26@31c. Cattle—Steers, good, \$11.50@12.50. Hogs—Good and choice \$10@11. Lambs—Good to choice, \$13@13.75.

Forty fire chiefs and fire marshals from the cities of Oregon and many of their wives were registered at Tillamook for the tenth annual convention of the Oregon State Fire Chiefs' association.

While clearing about the family plot in the Odd Fellows' cemetery in Marshfield, a Marshfield woman found four gallons of moonshine buried in the top of one grave. The liquor was turned over to police.

Carrots of strawberries have begun to roll from Hood River to intermountain points, where the Clark Seedling variety, grown there exclusively, has been in popular demand for more than 30 years.

The wage scale for strawberry pickers in the Hood River valley this year has been set at 19 cents per carrier of six hallocks. A bonus of 2 cents per hallock will be paid those who stay through the season.

A. Ritchie, Baker contractor, was the low bidder on a large contract with the reclamation service for work on the new Vale project in the vicinity of Harper, Malheur county. Mr. Ritchie's bid was \$55,578.

Owyhee, the new town that has grown up at the Owyhee damsite, is now the fourth largest community in Malheur county. It has a population of 400, of whom more than 200 are employed in construction work.

At the special election held in Gresham recently to determine whether Gresham would invest \$6500 in a new gasoline pumper for the fire department advocates of the plan won. The vote was 238 for to 43 against.

Carrying on his fight with the city council's street repair program Mayor Hoover of Roseburg has appointed a committee of citizens to make an investigation of the necessity of purchasing an expensive equipment as proposed by the council.

Motor vehicle accident reports, which under the previous law were withheld from the public, are now subject to inspection by newspaper reporters and other persons wishing to inspect them. The new law making the reports of public record went into effect recently.

The secretary of state received from the federal department of the interior a check for \$1230,74, which represents 5 per cent of the money from public land sales since the last apportionment in 1925. This money will be apportioned to the various counties for road construction.

Linn county's second free annual fair will be held September 11, 12 and 13, it has been decided by the executive committee. L. E. Arnold, who managed the fair last year, has been re-engaged. It is tentatively planned to restrict dairy cattle exhibits to animals certified as free from diseases.

At a special election recently the people of Junction City school district voted \$26,000 bonds to pay off the school debt and erect a modern grade school building this year. The old indebtedness amounts to \$10,000, and the remainder of the money from the sale of the bonds will be used to construct the building.

Arrangements for the annual reunion of Benton county pioneers, June 23, are being made. The reunion will be held in the Bellfountain park. The old Bellfountain brass band, which has been together for 30 years, will furnish music under Professor W. T. Nicholls of Albany, who was the teacher 30 years ago. The members of the band are scattered all along the coast, but have promised to be on hand.

The old trolley cars, passenger coaches and freight cars of the defunct Medford - Jacksonville railway, originally a steam road and later electrified, have been junked by the City of Medford, the present owner of the roadbed and steel. The old rolling stock was run out on a spur and burned to get the scrap iron. The more modern engines and freight and logging cars were sold by the city several years ago.

An order to inspect all fish ladders and report any not in the best condition has been issued to all deputy game wardens by State Game Warden Clifford, who says the law compelling ladders to be in shape will be rigidly enforced.

Motor vehicle registration fees during the period January 1 to May 31 aggregated \$6,727,925, as against \$6,969,220.87 for the entire year of 1923. Receipts for May of this year were \$291,360.90 as against \$253,933.62 in May last year.

BRITAIN TO TEST NEW DIRIGIBLES

One Will Visit Canada, Other Goes to Egypt.

London.—The world's latest and most expensive experiment in aircraft construction will be given its first test soon when gas is blown into the bags of the R-100 and the R-101, Great Britain's new \$4,000,000 airships.

Sir Samuel Heare, British air minister, recently announced in the house of commons that the two new airships would make flights to Canada and India in the fall if the trial flights were successful. Air experts of the world perked up their ears at this announcement for Great Britain's failure in these two ventures may mean death for future airship construction.

The R-100, the air ministry has decided, will go to Canada, while the R-101 will make the first long flight to India and Egypt, where arrangements already have been made for handling the ship. It is understood here that the R-100 might include the United States in its itinerary if Washington extends an invitation.

But so far Sir Samuel has refused to divulge when the shed tests and first trial flights will be held. Previous delays, and subsequent questionings in parliament, have made him cautious. It was learned, however, that the bags will be filled some time in June, after which the first local flights will be made.

The construction of these two 5,000,000 cubic feet gas-filled airships is rapidly nearing completion after innumerable delays occasioned by changes in plans and the addition of many new devices which never before have been employed on giant airships. The R-101, in particular, represents several radical departures in the construction of the steel frame and in the arrangement of the interior.

As the R-100 is fitted with ordinary petrol engines, it was selected for the flight to America, whereas the R-101, equipped with Diesel engines, is more suited to the warm atmosphere which will be encountered on the flight to India and Egypt.

Pope Limits Use of New Vatican Money

Rome.—Officials of Vatican City will continue to receive their salaries in Italian money after the papal government's new money is issued, it was understood.

The papacy's own silver and gold coins will be few and their use limited. Gold coins of 20 lire value and silver coins of 5 lire value (about \$1.05 and 26 cents, respectively) are planned.

The coins will be used to purchase Vatican City stamps, to pay entrance fees to the art galleries and fees to the holy congregations, especially to the congregation of sacraments in cases of annulled marriages.

Robber Splits Loot So Creditors Can Get Pay

San Francisco, Calif.—Kind heartedness of a robber mixed with the oratory of Herman Krieger reflected satisfactorily upon the latter's creditors. Krieger told police a man came in to his house, drew a pistol, and forced him to give up \$85. He said he pleaded with the man not to take all the money because he had to meet some bills.

"All right, guy," the robber answered; "we'll split it."

The robber counted out \$42.50 and gave it back to Krieger.

The next day the creditors got their money.

Gives Away Old Shoe With Diamonds in Toe

San Francisco, Calif.—The fun started when Mrs. A. J. Jadge discovered her husband had hidden her diamond ring and his diamond stickpin in an old shoe—the old shoe she gave to the Salvation Army two days before.

The brogan search that followed Mrs. Jadge's discovery surpassed in excitement the annual city Easter egg hunts by far and was successful.

Salvation Army workers found the shoe among thousands of others and, what was better, found the \$3,500 worth of jewelry.

Begs for Life Term

Minneapolis.—Raymond Askley told Judge E. A. Montgomery he had proved a failure at everything, including being a burglar, and asked for a life sentence so he would have something to eat every day. The judge agreed.

\$15,000 Frogs Are Loot in Robbery

Toledo, Ohio.—Toledo's latest robbery, involving two frogs valued at \$15,000, is shrouded in mystery.

Dr. Robert Wald, owner of the high-priced amphibians, told police they were stolen from their tank in the rear of his home. Raised on artificial food and imported from Louisiana, the hoppers were the subjects of an important experiment, intended to prove whether amphibians could be raised in artificial surroundings in sufficient number to warrant commercial investment.

Who Wants to be Bald? Not many, and when you are getting that way and losing hair, which ends in baldness, you want a good remedy that will stop falling hair, dandruff and grow hair on the bald head BARE-TO-HAIR is what you want. W. H. Forst, Mfrg. Scottsdale, Penna.

Who Can Recall Days of the Singing School?

The passing of winter recalls an institution that flourished in the Middle West, as it had in earlier days farther east—the old-fashioned singing school, says the Omaha World-Herald.

It ran its course in the earlier '80s, and was at its best in the '70s. Little is ever heard of this pleasant educational feature. It flourished mostly in small towns and rural districts, ending with an entertainment at the school-house of a town hall, where the singing teacher exhibited his wares in the shape of bass, tenor, alto and soprano voices that had been trained with the aid of the old-time tuning fork.

Singing masters were difficult to obtain. Sometimes a traveling teacher taught, generally having schools in several different localities, all easily reached, but not conflicting. Notes and scales were first taught, written on a blackboard. Singing of simple tunes by note came next. Eventually came the songs with words.

Views Future of World With Pessimistic Eye

Dr. Frederick Graves in an article entitled "2000 A. D." in Chambers' Journal, discounts the anticipation of those who expect the evolution of a race of supermen living rosate and perfect lives. Remarkable on the strain of modern life, he says that it has been predicted by medical men that the wear and tear of existence will make the world little better than an asylum of nervous wrecks in a hundred years more. There is the more serious threat of a state of strife in which not only cities but perhaps nations will be passed out of existence by laboratories.

More armies and navies will be obliterated before they have a chance of deploying into action, according to Doctor Graves. It might well happen that such another calamity would paralyze or even destroy humanity and civilization together.

New Use for Airplane

Dealers in fruit, garden produce and flowers in Holland have solved the problem of transporting their perishable stocks, by the use of airplanes. Two new freight planes will be put into operation soon between Amsterdam and London. Airplanes have made it possible for London residents to enjoy at dinner strawberries picked that morning in Holland.

U. S. Breakfast Bill

Young America, which dabbles with its breakfast and eats its cereal under protest, faced a tremendous total of breakfast foods as a result of the manufacturing of 1927. The total in pounds for wheat was not found, but for other grains was well over the billion mark, the Department of Commerce census indicates, and the value was \$150,644,063.

And So It Goes

Another tendency of the age is embodied in the remark of the young homemaker that her third child was born between the second payment on the radio and the eighth payment on the car.—Greenfield Republican.

Slipped Her Memory

Film Star—So pleased to meet you. Let me introduce my husband, Mr.—What's-his-name.—Ottawa Citizen.

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