

CALL of the WEST

BY R. G. MONTGOMERY

REGIN HERE TODAY

STAN BALL, an agent for cattle insurance, faces ASPER DELO in his office. Ball accuses Delo of having shot the activities at Three Rivers.

Ball says he is making a personal check. Delo says he personally will see that Ball does not make the check.

Upon leaving Delo's office, Ball says a girl from kidnapers. She proves to be Delo's daughter, DONA.

When Ball learns her name, he tells her he is STANLEY BLACK and slips away.

DUDLEY WINTERS, in love with Dona, agrees to go to Three Rivers and get Delo to come back. Dona gives him and at their first stop Dudley produces a marriage license and urges Dona to marry him, arguing that Delo will not go on a man hunt if they do.

Dona barely misses the marriage by meeting Ball on his way to Three Rivers. At the camp, Swergin, Asper's timber boss, tries to make Dona stay in camp, the slips away from Asper's he has ordered to watch her and ride.

She sees her father attacked and shot. Swergin comes to her rescue. Dudley and Swergin, both warn her not to ride alone as Ball will attack her as he has her father.

Dona goes out again and when she starts back finds she is followed. Her pursuer proves to be Swergin, who takes her back to camp in spite of the fact that she has him across the face.

Asper is much surprised to find Swergin is knocked out and his place robbed. Ball is blamed.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN (Continued.)

"That will make it just right," Dudley squeezed her hand and they entered the building.

ASPER was awake and the doctor had him propped up with pillows when Dudley and Dona arrived.

"Got me back in bed again," he groaned with a sour smile.

"Even thinks he's going to ship me back to town," Asper grunted and raised himself over on one elbow.

"No trying to get up," Dona warned. "You might have stayed up if you had behaved."

"That fool bonesaw has been teaching you," Asper protested, but he allowed her to pat his cheek and straighten his pillow.

"He simply wants to get you on your feet," Dona spoke soothingly.

Asper grunted and eyed Dudley. "You're going to take this young lady and return to the city," he informed Dudley in a voice that held much of its old authority.

"What about you? I'm having arrangements made to ship you along with us," Dona patted his hand.

"I'm staying here. There will be a trained nurse in tonight by stage and then you kids can clear out."

Dona bent over her father and shook her head firmly. "We three are going together. If you don't go—we stay."

Asper grunted. "I knew that before you spoke. Well, you youngsters stay, then. But you stick close to camp! No more jaunts like you took yesterday, young lady."

"Has Swergin been in to see you?" Asper nodded. "And I told him plenty! If he doesn't have that whipsaw strung up or tied up by tomorrow, I'm going to get up and that doctor can hang!"

Asper's face flushed and Dona clasped a hand over his mouth to stop further words.

"Dad, you must be quiet! You couldn't get up if you wanted to."

"That's what comes of having a woman and a doctor around," Asper grumbled. "If this was the old days, I'd have been on a horse two days ago, and had that whelp's hide by now."

"Swergin will bring him in," Dona assured him soothingly. "To Dudley she added, 'Wait out in the hall. I want to talk with you.'"

Dona told Dudley what the doctor had said and sent him to find Swergin. Dudley hurried away and Dona sat down outside the open door of her father's room to think.

She had to act rapidly and she would have to keep her father from guessing her plans.

THE upper reaches of Folly mountain are rugged and covered with scrub growth that has no commercial value. Tumbled rocks lie at the foot of towering granite walls and the spires above the walls etch themselves against the sky.

A lone rider mounted on a black horse slipped through the dense growth, keeping always to cover. His black mount seemed to know that they must proceed carefully.

She picked her way daintily through the down timber and heavy undergrowth, scarce ly making a sound.

Folly mountain had become a place of death for Stan Ball. His dark eyes peered out from under heavy brows and his handsome face looked drawn.

For two days he had been trying to leave Folly Mountain and get over to Blind River, but he had found men posted at every pass and along every trail. He would have to wait until the moonlight nights were over.

He was aware that, once he was outside, the Blind River outfit could give him only temporary shelter. He was branded.

Swergin had posted him as a murderer and made him a hunted man.

Stan patted the black's neck and whispered to her as they entered a slash in the great rock wall they had been following.

"We've got a lot of killings to our credit and we may have to add a few more. Tonight we ride down into Three Rivers for a few more supplies."

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

DUDLEY did not return with Swergin for half an hour. Dona sat where she could watch her father, who lay pretending to be dozing.

She was sure Asper was only pretending and that behind his half-closed eyes he was planning what he would do, once he was able to be up.

Swergin appeared from the doctor's cabin with Dudley at his heels and Dona arose.

She wanted to meet the timber boss far enough away from her father's room so that he could not hear what she had to say.

Swergin did not offer any greeting, but halted, grinning at Dona. His little eyes traveled over her with the same boldness that had made her shrink from him the first time they met.

"I want to talk about father," Dona began.

Swergin's thick lips parted in a grin. "Not a word about yourself?" He seemed to enjoy the flush that rose in her cheeks.

"We'll save that for later," Dona countered swiftly. "The doctor says Dad must not be excited. We are not to tell him the details concerning this affair with Ball. We may even have to tell him that we have captured Ball."

"You mean killed him?" Swergin cut in.

"You have seen the doctor?" Swergin nodded. "And if you want my idea, I think all this is a bum bet. Don't know that I'll be able to do it."

Dona flashed him a quick glance. "Why not?" She asked sharply.

"Well," Swergin seemed to be enjoying himself. "I am just a hired man. Old Asper hires me and pays me. I report to him and to no one else. I ain't got the habit of lying to my boss."

The big man clamped his mouth shut and waited for this thrust to sink home.

"You must promise!" Dona softened her tone and took a step nearer the hulking boss. Her lips parted pleadingly. "For my sake as well as Dad's!"

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Contract Bridge

BY W. E. M'KENNEY
Secretary American Bridge League

THE elimination or strip play is fairly common and almost every session of play will develop two or three opportunities to execute it.

Here is an interesting variation in which the declarer was obliged to plan the elimination from the very first trick, and finally, having exhausted the entries in dummy, cleverly forced an opponent to complete its execution.

The hand was played in the National Challenge Team of Four championship by Miss Elinor Murdoch, a former holder of the national women's pair championship.

♠ Q-5-4-3
♥ A-7-4
♦ 7-6-2
♣ K-6-2

♠ 10-2
♥ K-Q-J
♦ K-Q-5
♣ A-K-10

♠ 10-7-5
♥ 10-8-3
♦ 9-8-3
♣ A-K-J-9-7-6

♠ 9-8
♥ A-J-9
♦ Q-4
♣ 10-8

The Bidding

Miss Murdoch, in the South, opened with one spade which West doubled informatively. North bid

THIS turn made Dudley cut in. "You'll take your orders from Miss Delo." He spoke shortly and stepped forward aggressively.

"Who asked you to put in?" Swergin growled. "You'll be lucky to keep a whole skin around you if you stay here."

"Dudley," Dona laid a hand lightly on his arm. "Let me talk to Mr. Swergin. I think I can make him understand."

"No use wastin' talk. I ain't promisin' nothing. If Asper gets me on the carpet and opens up on me, I'm telling him facts and not a lot of rubbish."

"But you would lie to save his life!" Dona pleaded.

"I ain't saying; ain't making no promises," Swergin was firm.

"You certainly have changed the bold front you made when we first arrived. You were willing enough to tell Asper Delo where to step off!"

"Dudley could not withhold this sarcastic truth."

Swergin did not flame up. Instead he grinned suddenly. "Old Asper was a well man then and able to take it. I ain't lying to him, now that he's low."

Dona caught Dudley's arm. "Come, Dud. I have to get back to Dad." With a melting smile she faced Swergin. "You will at least promise to see me first, so that I can be there when you report to my father?"

"If you are not off chasing in the woods," Swergin grunted.

"When do you expect to report today?"

"I'm going out with two picked men and we figure to bring that pup in in a canvas tarp. We ought to be back by 6 tonight, if not sooner." Swergin squinted at the

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WASHINGTON TUBBS II

WHILE WASH AND EASY HURRY TO THE FRONT ON A TRAIN LOAD OF MUNITIONS—

SALESMAN SAM

When SAM SHOT AT A TARGET IN PRACTICE FOR HIS DUEL WITH HOWIE SELZ, HIS BULLET HIT A ROCK EVERLASTINGLY FEET AWAY AND THEN GLANCED OFF AND KILLED A BEAR!

C'MON, FELLA—WE'RE GOIN' TO TOWN! I NOT ONLY SHOT ME SOME STEAKS, BUT YOU LOOK LIKE A NICE, WARM WINTER'S OVERCOAT!

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Y'CAM BACK—NGAVE YOUR LIFE TO SAVE ME—OH, YOU POOR THING

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TARZAN AND THE ANT MEN —By Edgar Rice Burroughs

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At his side was the Bwana's golden locket with the great diamond set in it. For many days Usula remained until the man's strength came back; but his mind did not come back. And thus, in this condition, the faithful Usula led home his master.

They sent to England for a great surgeon to mend the poor thing that once had been Tarzan of the Apes. Jad-bal-Ja, the Golden Lion, growled when the man was wheeled near his cage. Korak, the Killer, paced the floor in dumb despair....

Khamis, the witch doctor, had searched vainly for Uhha, his daughter, since the River Devil had stolen her from the village of Obebe. Khamis was returning from another fruitless search, when his keen old eyes discovered something.

THE moment the delay decided the question in favor of the corral, Dona was up the steps and inside the door. She waved him a good-by kiss and was gone.

Dudley walked slowly down the pathway. He was torn between two courses of action. He wanted to go back and he wanted to go on.

Had he known it, Dona's words had seemed more tender than her heart dictated. She was planning, guided by a woman's instinct, against a great need she feared might soon arise. Swergin's obstinate actions made her fear that she might have to ask a lot of Dudley Winters.

OUT OUR WAY —By Williams

SPER showed a great deal of improvement that day. When he awakened for his medicine at 4 o'clock he was in high spirits.

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SALESMAN SAM

When SAM SHOT AT A TARGET IN PRACTICE FOR HIS DUEL WITH HOWIE SELZ, HIS BULLET HIT A ROCK EVERLASTINGLY FEET AWAY AND THEN GLANCED OFF AND KILLED A BEAR!

C'MON, FELLA—WE'RE GOIN' TO TOWN! I NOT ONLY SHOT ME SOME STEAKS, BUT YOU LOOK LIKE A NICE, WARM WINTER'S OVERCOAT!

WHERE TH' HECK DIDJA GET THAT BEAST, SAM?

SHOT IT, O' COURSE! AN' WITH ONE BULLET, TOO!

GEE, WHIZ! MEBBE I WAS A DUMMY TO CHALLENGE SAM TO A DUEL!

BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES —By Martin

SPOTS SPOTS

Y'CAM BACK—NGAVE YOUR LIFE TO SAVE ME—OH, YOU POOR THING

YOU'RE TH' ONLY FRIEND I HAD IN TH' WHOLE JUNGLE.....

YEAH?

TARZAN AND THE ANT MEN —By Edgar Rice Burroughs

Usula, the Waziri, crept closer, making no noise. The man was white and he was eating the carcass of a long-dead buffalo. Usula gave a cry of horror. It was the Big Bwana! Usula ran to him and raised him upon his knees.

At his side was the Bwana's golden locket with the great diamond set in it. For many days Usula remained until the man's strength came back; but his mind did not come back. And thus, in this condition, the faithful Usula led home his master.

They sent to England for a great surgeon to mend the poor thing that once had been Tarzan of the Apes. Jad-bal-Ja, the Golden Lion, growled when the man was wheeled near his cage. Korak, the Killer, paced the floor in dumb despair....

Khamis, the witch doctor, had searched vainly for Uhha, his daughter, since the River Devil had stolen her from the village of Obebe. Khamis was returning from another fruitless search, when his keen old eyes discovered something.

THE moment the delay decided the question in favor of the corral, Dona was up the steps and inside the door. She waved him a good-by kiss and was gone.

Dudley walked slowly down the pathway. He was torn between two courses of action. He wanted to go back and he wanted to go on.

Had he known it, Dona's words had seemed more tender than her heart dictated. She was planning, guided by a woman's instinct, against a great need she feared might soon arise. Swergin's obstinate actions made her fear that she might have to ask a lot of Dudley Winters.

HORIZONTAL

1 Men.
6 Pronoun.
9 Leaf of a calyx.
14 Swarming.
15 Kiss of peace.
16 Low evergreen shrub.
17 Packer.
18 Little devil.
19 One of the 12 apostles (Bibl.).
20 Aye.
21 Electrified particle.
22 Upright shaft. (Bibl.).
23 To question.
24 Rowing implements.
25 Bones.
26 Jesus was born in a — (Bibl.).
27 To immerse.
28 Violent wind.
29 Edges of reefs.
30 Witticism.
31 Horses' neck hairs.
40 Inspires reverence.
41 Bronze.
42 Owner of coat.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BLOOD APE OASIS
RAND ANILE TIDE
EWE TRUCKER DEED
AN MOAR LAG AS
S PAY DIP PACI
THAN WATER GRIN
SOS LIBERAL ACE
ETHICS TREATY
RD POLK CEEVET
RD PA LUM SE SR
IRE CORRECT PEA
CORN DELTA POND
EPAULET ANIMATE

VERTICAL

1 Mother of many colors.
2 Embryo birds. (Bibl.).
3 Strip of wood under wall.
4 Total.
5 Aurora.
6 Silk worm.
7 Kimono sash.
8 Attempts.
9 Bugle plant.
10 Gasified liquid.
11 Deputy.
12 To help.
13 Fractures.
14 Possesses.
15 Auctions.

13 Bird.
22 Native metal.
24 Snake.
26 Stout.
28 To embarrass.
29 Ocean.
30 Marble used as a shooter.
31 Farewell!
32 Dover property.
34 Unit.
35 Corded cloth.
36 Tree.
38 Jesus is hailed as the — by Christians?
39 Causes.
41 Since.
42 To clash.
44 Adventures.
45 Guides.
46 What guided the Magi to Bethlehem (Bibl.).
47 To impel.
48 Department.
51 Gem.
52 To pressage.
53 Angers.
55 Finish.
57 By way of.
59 Kava, a pepper.

6 1/2 MILES

The hill was six and three-quarters miles high, and the man spent four and one-half hours going up and one and one-half hours coming down.

WRIGLEYS

KEEPS YOUR TASTE FRESH

INEXPENSIVE SATISFYING