

# The White Desert

BY COURTNEY RILEY COOPER.

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### From Our Last Issue

—and coal. Road will not be open for four or five weeks more under ordinary circumstances. This will mean death to many of us here, the wiping out of a great timber and agricultural country, and a blot on the history of Colorado. Help us—and we will not forget it.

"THE CITIZENS OF THE WEST COUNTRY."

"Sounds good." The telegrapher was busy putting it on the wire. Then a wait of hours. Then the wire clattered forth a message. He jumped.

"It's from the papers in Denver!" he shouted. "A joint message. They've taken up the fight!"

The snows still swirled, the storms still came and went. During this period of uncertainty Houston met Ba'tiste Renaud, returning from the lake region, to find him raving.

"Is not that the world is all unjust?" he roared. "I am the mad enough to tear them apart!"

"Who? What's gone wrong?"

"Ah! I pass today the Blackburn mill. They have the saw going—they keep at work when there are the women and the babies who starve, when there are the cattle who are dying, when there is the country that is like a broken thing. They know that we do not get our machinery? They know that they have a chance—for the contract?"

It brought Houston to a sharp knowledge of conditions. They had given, that the rest of the country might not suffer. Their enemies had worked on first with the new hope that the machinery necessary to carry out Houston's contract would not arrive in time.

A shout had come from the distance. Faintly through the sifting snow they could see figures running. Then the words came.

"They're going to open the road! They're going to open the road!"

A message bearer came from the station. "It's the M. P. & S. L. According to the message, the papers hammered the stuffing out of the Crestline road. The other road saw

ing this, because you would try to dissuade me if I told you personally. Don't be afraid for me—I'll make it somehow. I've got to go. It's easier than standing by."

"HOUSTON."

Then, his snowshoes affixed, he went out into the night. The storm clouds were thick on the sky again, the snow was dashing about him once more. He floundered aimlessly, striving by short sallies to recover the path from which the storm was driving him.

Dawn found him at last, floundering hopelessly in snow-screened woods, going on toward he knew not where.

A half-hour, then he stopped. Fifty feet away, almost covered by the changing snows, a small cabin showed faintly. His numb hands banged at the door, but there came no answer. He shouted, still no sound came from within.

The door yielded, and climbing over the pile of snow at the step, Houston guided his snowshoes through the narrow door, blinking in the half-light in an effort to see about him. There was a stove, but the fire was dead. At the one little window, the curtain was drawn tight and pinned at the sides to the sash. There was a bed—and the form of some one beneath the covers.

Houston called again, but still there came no answer. He was looking into the drawer, haggard features half-open, yet unseeing, one emaciated hand grasped about something that was shielded by the covers. Houston forced himself even closer. He touched the hand. He called:

"Agnes!"

The eyelids moved slightly; it was the only evidence of life, save the labored, irregular breathing. Then the hand moved, clutching. Slowly, tremblingly, Houston turned back an edge of the blankets—and stood aghast.

On her breast was a baby—dead!

CHAPTER XVII.

Soon water was boiling. Hot cloths went to the woman's head; quietly, reverently, Barry had taken the still, small child from the tightly clenched arm and covered it, on the little table. And with the touch of the small, lifeless form, the resentment which had smoldered in Houston's heart for months seemed to disappear.

"I'm sorry—Agnes. Don't be afraid of me. I'll get help for you."

"Don't!"

There was the dullness that comes when grief has reached the breaking point. "Dead. It died—yesterday morning."

Houston could say nothing in answer. Quietly he turned to the stove, red-hot now, and with snow water began the making of gruel from the supplies on the shelf.

Forcing himself to the subject Houston asked a question:

"Where is he?"

"Who?" Sudden fright had come into the woman's eyes.

"Your husband."

(Continued in Our Next Issue.)

He was looking into the drawn, haggard features of an unconscious woman.

a great chance to step in. It's leading the men and the rolling stock. They're going to open another fellow's road, for the publicity and the good will that's in it."

Two pictures flashed across Houston's brain; one of a snowy sawmill with the force working day and night, when all the surrounding country cried for help; another of a carload after carload of necessary machinery, snow-covered, ice-bound, on a sidetrack at Tolliver, with the whole, horrible, snow-clutched fierceness of the Continental Divide between it and its goal.

In the night he awoke, again thinking of it. Every possible hand that could swing a pick or jam a crowbar against grudging ice would be needed up there. A mad desire began to come over him, a strange, impelling scheme took hold of his brain. They would need men—men who would not be afraid, men who would be willing to slave day and night if necessary to the success of the adventure. Long before dawn he rose and scribbled a note to Ba'tiste Renaud:

"I'm going over the range. I can't wait. They may need me. I'm writing



whole world was one great thing of dreary white—a desert which there was life only that might be death, where the balance continued only as a faint instinct.

over this bleak desert went turned men, their lips cracked the cut of wind, their eyes red with inflammation, struggling and there with a pack of upon their backs that they reach some desolate home there were women and children stopping to pull and tug at the traps of steel and by main drag him into a barren spot the sweep of the gale had kept sound fairly clear of snow.

pro-ince crust of snow formed main snowfall, permitting needs to be pulled behind struggling, the world beneath had been in, to five places to a new one and with that.

Open it's open." The shout from the lips of the telegrapher, his arms as he ran from the that led to the stationhouse. "I've had Rawlins on the line!"

Houston had edged forward on the wire. Then take this to every newspaper in the

# The Good Old Stuff

By BERTON BRALEY

The novel realistic with an outlook pessimistic. Here, at present, quite a literary vogue; And there's always an attraction in a novel full of action. Where the hero gets the better of a rogue; Then the analytic study of a soul that's rather muddy Gives the hyper-cultured reader quite a whirl; But the novelist's endeavor that is popular forever Is the story of a Fellow and a Girl!

Tales of superheated passion are at certain times in fashion And the socialistic novel often scores; And the volume where cynic holds a sort of social clinic Is the thing one type of reader most adores; But the tale that hits all classes, from the high brows to the masses, And that acts our sleeping pulses in a whirl Is the book whose glamor hovers 'round a pair of youthful lovers, Just the story of a Fellow and a Girl!

How we joy to feel the splendor of a love that's sweet and tender, How we ache to make the lovers' pathway smooth; How we agonize to aid them when their troubles have waylaid them, How we'd like the chance to counsel them and soothe! Masterpieces grim and tragic lack this blithe eternal magic That makes all our hidden sentiment unfold; Oh there's nothing else that fills us with a happy glow and thrills us Like the story of a Fellow and a Girl!

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## MORE ACTIVITY IN INDUSTRIES

### Demand for Metals and Building Materials Most Noticeable

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Pronounced increase of activity was noted in many basic lines of industry throughout the country during April, according to the monthly review of general business and financial conditions issued by the federal reserve board.

The activity was particularly noticeable in the metal industries, the board declared, iron and steel becoming more active, many important copper mines reopening and the automobile trade showing a decided gain. Active demand for building materials, the board found, had a favorable effect upon the metals and other lines of industry, while the lumber industry, notably expanded operations.

In cotton textiles, however, the month was much less encouraging, widespread strikes reducing mill activity, although in the southern districts, mills generally continued to operate close to capacity.

## 100,000 QUARTS OF WHISKY FORFEITED

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Orders for the forfeiture of what was declared to be the largest amount of liquor ever affected by a single prohibition bureau decision, were approved Monday by Commissioner Haynes. The decision calls for forfeiture proceedings against about 3600 cases or more than 100,000 quarts of Scotch whisky shipped into this country by David Heilbron & Sons, Ltd., of Glasgow, Scotland, a large quantity of which was said to be consigned to the Lips Drug company of New York.

The whisky was brought into this country under permits for wine importation, the decision declared, under a concerted scheme to get as much Scotch whisky into the United States as possible before the terms of the Willis-Campbell anti-medical act became effective.

## SENATORS EXCITED BY APARTMENT FIRE

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Fire breaking out in the apartment of Senator McKellar of Tennessee, at the Portland, an apartment hotel at Fourteenth street and Thomas Circle, Northwest, Monday resulted in the turning in of four alarms, a great deal of excitement, a general exodus of guests, but little damage, except that caused by water.

Several members of congress, including Senators McKellar, Dillingham of Vermont, Cummins of Iowa, and Townsend of Michigan, made their home at the Portland, together with several members of the Japanese embassy staff. Miss Margaret Cummins, sister of the Iowa senator, who was confined to her bed by illness, was brought down to the lower floor.

Confusion resulting from the fire, caused several firemen and newspaper men to dash headlong into a large mirror, 20 feet wide, by 40 feet long, thinking it was an entrance into the cafe of the hotel.

## SLAIN WIFE TAKES BLAME DURING TRIAL

MONROE, Va., May 2.—Roger D. Eastlake, chief naval petty officer, took the stand Monday for direct examination and cross-examination in the trial of Miss Sarah E. Knox, Baltimore nurse, charged with the murder of his wife, Mrs. Margaret L. Eastlake of Colonial Beach, last fall. Eastlake was indicted with Miss Knox for murder but was acquitted at a separate trial last December.

During his testimony Eastlake admitted intimacy with Miss Knox and said his wife had told him of relations with Dr. Mason Knox, the defendant's brother, who died more than a year ago. He also declared he had informed his wife of his relations with the nurse.

Subsequently, however, he admitted he had continued relations with the nurse but said the intimacy "ceased at the end of 1920."

## BRYAN ACCEPTS BID FOR SCHOOL SPEECH

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 2.—William J. Bryan announced Tuesday that he has accepted the invitation of the international Sunday school convention to speak here in June.

An earlier invitation was withdrawn but following protest the program committee for the convention last week rescinded its action and again

## will eliminate "strays" or foreign disturbances.

Engineers for private radio manufacturing and broadcasting firms also report activity in the study of static elimination. They are only awaiting the dog days, when static will be so troublesome as to make it almost impossible to receive signals.

Then will be the ideal time for their experiments.

## RADIO PRIMER

CONDENSER—A reservoir or storage for electricity. Stored electricity from it is used whenever a break occurs in the electrical circuit. It may be either variable or fixed. Its capacity is measured by the microfarad.

# Radiographs

### VARIOMETER BIG AID TO WIRELESS SET

### to Increase Power of Crystal Detector Is Explained

BY R. L. DUNCAN  
Senior Radio Institute of America

It is a matter of increasing the power of a crystal detector set with a vacuum tube.

Introduce a variometer in the aerial for the loose coupler.

Amateurs have done this and received telephone and spark signals at a distance twice as great as with the loose coupler.

A variometer represented by No. 1 diagram, may be constructed roughly explained or may be purchased for about \$1.50.

A variable condenser may be connected in the aerial circuit. This condenser should be of 25 plates or .0005 microfarad capacity.

In the drawing is the crystal of galena. Always bear in mind that you will probably have to

### HOOR-UP

several pieces of the mineral being obtained one that is suitable for wave detection.

It is the head phones shunted across the condenser. These should be of 2000 to 3000 ohm resistance.

Lead an aerial 100 feet long, and using all the equipment needed, should not be more than \$25. All these parts can be used on other sets. It would be good to construct a set of radio as a set along these lines.

## MOTHER, LET RADIO TAKE CARE OF BABE FOR YOU



BABY GEORGIA MOSES "LISTENING IN."

Another use for radio! Keeping baby happy and contented. Mrs. A. L. Moses, of Seattle, Wash., says it's the best substitute for mother's arms she has found.

All he does is to set little Georgia beside the radio receiving apparatus, attach the head phones, tune in a broadcast concert and then go about her own work. Mrs. Moses says she's had no worry since she bought this "toy" for baby.

The only difficulty at first, says Mrs. Moses, was in keeping Georgia from putting some of the pieces into her mouth. But she soon learned the best way to prevent the baby from tasting everything was by keeping the whole radio set intact.

# Your Paint Dollar is Divided

*It Does Not All Go For Paint The Painter, Too, Must be Paid*

Saving a few cents per gallon on the cost of the paint has but little effect on the immediate total cost of the paint job—but—

—recall please that cheap paint has only a short life—that, with it, early repainting is a certainty, while using a good paint, like McMurtry Mixed Paint, means no more repainting for several years.

Perfectly plain isn't it that the ultimate cost of using McMurtry Mixed Paint shows a tremendous saving over any paint that hasn't the staying qualities that we build into our paints?

It is the high percentage of white lead, the correct percentage of zinc oxide and the pure linseed oil that we put in McMurtry Mixed Paint that accounts for this staying quality.

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## McMurtry Mixed Paint

For Sale by  
**MINNOCH GLASS & PAINT CO.** 2372 Washington Avenue Ogden, Utah  
**WHEELWRIGHT LUMBER CO.** 2451 Quincy Avenue Ogden, Utah

invited Mr. Bryan to speak. Bryan's opposition to higher criticism of the Bible and theory of evolution was said to have been the reason for withdrawal of the original invitation. The lecturer reiterated his conviction that there were no apes in his family tree.

# A reflection of good coffee,

**Hills Bros Red Can COFFEE**

The original vacuum packed COFFEE

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