

# The Battle-Cry

By CHARLES NEVILLE ROCK

The Call of the Conscience

Illustrated by C. M. Adams

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## CHAPTER XV.

When old Milt McBrier had said "Time hangs heavy that I'd cross hell on a rotten plan," for de 'em injury he had shot close to the mark. Bad Anse knew that the quiet-voiced old murder lord could no more free himself from guile and deceit than the rattle can separate itself from the poison which impregnates its fangs and nature.

When he had taken Milt's hand, sealing the truth, he had not been deceived, but realized that the compact



Young Milt Went Back to His House in the Cold Mists of Dawn.

was only a temporary one and was totally inoperative. Yet in Young Milt he saw possibility. He was accustomed to rely on his own judgment, and he recognized a clean and sterling strain in the young man.

He found the bread with a hard crust that was dash of his flesh and bone of his bone, but with an eye of prophecy he foresaw the day when a disrupted mountain community must fall under the conquest of lowland greed. He could never trust Old Milt, but he hoped that he and Young Milt, who would some day succeed to his father's authority, might stand together in that inevitable crisis.

This idea had for a long time been vaguely taking shape in his mind, and when he met Young Milt in the woods and proposed uniting to save Juanita's school he was laying the cornerstone for that future alliance.

At sunset Young Milt came, and he came without having spoken of his purpose at home. The night was sharp and moonless, with no light save that which came from the coldly glittering stars, and Anse and Young Milt crouched for hours, knee to knee in the dead thickets, keeping watch.

At last they both saw a creeping figure which was only a vague shadow moving among shadows, and they peered with straining eyes and raised rifles. But the shadow fell very still, and since it was only by its movement that they could detect it, they waited in vain.

What hint of being watched was given out no one could say. The woods were quiet, and the two kneeling figures in the laurel made no sound. The other men, waiting at their separated posts, were equally invisible and noiseless, but some intangible premonition had come to the shadow which had lost itself in the impenetrable blackness and began its retreat with its object unaccomplished.

Young Milt went back to his house in the cold mists of dawn. No shot had been fired, no life recognized, but the Havay and the McBrier both knew that the school had been saved by their joint vigilance.

Some days later the news of that night watch leaked through to Jerry Everson, who bore the tidings to Juanita, and she wrote a note to Anse Havay asking him to come over and let her express her thanks in person.

The mail rider brought her a brief reply penned in a hand of copybook care.

"I don't take any credit. I only did what any other man would do, and young Milt McBrier did as much as I did. Thank him, if you want to. It would only be awkward for me to come over there."

Respectfully, ANSE HAVAY.

Old Milt McBrier heard of his son's part in the watching of the school and brooded blackly as he gnawed at the stem of his pipe, but he said nothing. The boy had been sent away to college and had had every advantage. Now he had unwittingly but none the less surely, turned his rifle on one of his

father's hirelings bent on his father's work, for the oil-soaked kindling had been laid at Old Milt's command.

The thing did not tend to make the leader of the McBriers partial to the innovations from down below.

One day, when Juanita went down to the post office, which nestled unobtrusively behind the single counter of the shack store at the gap, she found a letter directed in a hand which set her heart beating and revived many old memories.

She climbed to the crest, sat down under the poplar, and began to read the letter from the man she had sent away.

He said that he had made a sincere effort to reconcile himself to her decision which exiled him. The effort had failed. He had been to the Mediterranean and the East. His letter concluded:

Can you not find it in your heart to be touched by my devotion? Not only happiness, but peace dwells where you are, and I am coming to you.

Do not forbid me, for I am coming anyway. I am coming because I must; because I love you.

She sat for a long time gazing off at the distance and shivered a little in the bite of the raw air. Then she looked up and saw a figure at her side. It was Bad Anse Havay.

He bowed and stripped off his coat, which, without asking permission, he threw around her shivering shoulders.

"I didn't aim to intrude on ye," he said slowly. "I didn't know ye was up here. Do ye come often?"

"Very often," she answered, folding the letter and putting it back into its envelope. "When I first came to the Widow Everson's I discovered this tree, and it seemed to beckon to me to come up. Look!" She rose and pointed off with a gauntleted hand. "I can stand here and see the fortifications of my two enemies. There is your place and there is Milt McBrier's."

She smiled with unconscious archness. "But I'm not going to let you be my enemy any more," she went on. "I've decided that you have got to be my friend, whether you want to be or not—and what I decide upon must be."

Bad Anse Havay stood looking into her eyes with the disconcerting steadiness of gaze that she always found it difficult to sustain, but his only response was a sober "I'm obliged to ye."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

### MENACE IS INDICATED.

Joplin, Mo., Jan. 13.—The Menace Publishing Co., of Aurora, Mo., and several of its officers were called into federal court here today for trial on charges of misusing the mails.

Indictments were returned against the corporation and Wilbur Phelps, Bruce M. Phelps, Theodore C. Walker and Marvin Brown, alleged to be connected with the corporation, in Joplin, Mo., on January 12, 1915.

The indictments charged violation of that section of the United States penal code prohibiting "the deposit or causing to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, any obscene, lewd or filthy book, letter, writing, print or other publication of indecent character."

Six counts in the indictment were leveled in items alleged to have been printed in the Menace, a weekly publication, alleged to have been distributed through the mail by the Menace Publishing Co. The seventh count concerned certain messages in a book entitled "The Pope, Chief of White Slavery; High Priest of Intrigue," of which the defendants were charged with being the distributors. The eighth count charged sending information through the mails as to where the book might be obtained.

### NEGRO HURT IN ACCIDENT.

Edgar Willis, the colored driver for Mr. Geo. H. Hurst, was painfully injured on Tuesday afternoon about 2 o'clock, when the buggy he was driving, and an automobile driven by Mr. W. Y. L. Marshall collided on Main Street in front of the city hall. Spectators state that Mr. Marshall was coming up the street and turned to go around a wagon and between it and the buggy driven by Willis which was on the right side of the street going towards Liberty street. The car and buggy collided, one wheel of the buggy being smashed. The horse tried to go forward but was pulled back by the negro, who although thrown to the ground was still holding the reins, and the buggy wheel passed over the negro's neck, going back and forward, several times before someone could reach the horse and hold it while the man was removed. Mr. Marshall, it was stated, did not stop his car at all after the accident.

The negro, while painfully bruised, was not seriously injured.

### ODANTA WAREHOUSE BURNS.

Oianta, Jan. 12.—A small warehouse with the entire stock of coffins and caskets owned by E. Willis was destroyed by fire Monday night about 11 o'clock. There was \$300 insurance on the building and \$150 insurance on the coffins and caskets. The origin of the fire is unknown.

At a meeting of the directors of the National Bank of Sumter yesterday the former officers were re-elected: President, J. P. Booth; vice president, D. D. Morse; cashier, Bernard Manning; assistant cashier, W. J. Crowson, Jr.

### WOULD ELIMINATE SCHOLARSHIPS.

Verner of Oconee Says State Schools Compete Unfairly With the Denominational.

Columbia, Jan. 13.—Senator Verner spoke at length yesterday in the upper house on the question of free tuition at State institutions, when Senator Sinkler moved to strike out the enacting words of the Verner bill to require all students attending State colleges and universities to pay not less than \$40 a session tuition and abolishing scholarships in these schools.

Senator Verner said he had not expected to speak on this subject yesterday. Taxes are getting higher and higher each year. He would rather talk anywhere than on the floor of the senate. Many persons who are able to pay tuition for their children perjure themselves in order to save a small sum of money. The janitors at the university were discussed. He expressed the opinion that the Carolina boys "put on airs." He did not think that free tuition at State institutions was fair to other colleges, and he wanted everybody to pay or everybody to get free tuition. Senator Verner referred to a pamphlet issued recently by the president of a denominational college in South Carolina. The senator did not think that tuition charges would keep any worthy boy out of college.

Senator Sinkler said: "You are right, sir, when you say there is a vice and that some people get scholarships unjustly." But Senator Sinkler added that he would ask the senator from Oconee to draft a bill to remedy the situation and not to abolish scholarships. Senator Sinkler told the senate that at a recent meeting of the board of trustees of the university a committee was appointed to look into this matter and he invited Senator Verner to meet with that committee. Further debate was postponed until after third reading bills today.

### FRAUD IS ALLEGED.

Free Scholarships Under Fire in House Also.

Columbia, Jan. 13.—A remedy to the "evil" existing in State institutions by reason of the beneficiary scholarships was proposed yesterday in the lower house by Mr. Hutto, who in his bill sought to create the office of a commissioner, at an annual salary of \$1,200 a year and traveling expenses, whose duty it would be to investigate and pass upon all beneficiary scholarships in the institutions of higher learning in the State. It was said that the bill would not deprive any boy or girl in need from obtaining a scholarship, but that it would keep parents "comfortably off" from perjurying themselves to get free tuition for son or daughter.

Mr. McCullough of Greenville called attention to the conditions of receiving free tuition and said that the problem of remedying the evil had come before the board of trustees of the University of South Carolina. He said that he was on a special committee to evolve a solution of the vexing problem and asked that the bill be recommitted so that the matter might be taken up with greater deliberation. Mr. Boyd also spoke in favor of the bill, citing a few instances where comparatively rich parents had signed the "pauper certifi-

cates" in order to get son or a daughter into a State institution without paying fees.

On motion the bill was recommitted, retaining its place on the house calendar as a second reading bill.

### POLICE MUST QUIT CARDS.

Charleston, Jan. 12.—Two marked reforms affecting Charleston policemen at the station house, especially indicated in two orders issued to the department by Chief Black were among his first official acts. The orders forbid card playing and all other games of that description at the station house, and smoking by any officer while in uniform.

The first order issued will affect the officers who have been accustomed to pass the time when off duty in the lounging room of the police station, playing cribbage, set-back, seven-up and other like games. Many of the policemen who have seen years of service are experts at cribbage. With smoking abolished by the second order of Chief Black, the policemen will have to devise some other means of entertaining themselves while waiting to go on duty.

Ossining, N. Y., Jan. 13.—Angelo Leggio, who was under sentence to die for murder, cheated the State by hanging himself in the death house today.

### RUPTURE EXPERT HERE.

Well Known to Leading Physicians Who Indorse His Methods.

W. B. Sealey, the noted rupture specialist of Philadelphia, is sending his personal representative to Sumter for one day only to minister to the needs of the ruptured public, thoroughly equipped and prepared to deal with the most difficult cases. Interested parties can consult him free at the Hotel Claremont, Tuesday, January 25, 1916.

Sealey's Spermatic Shields Truss, as used and approved by the U. S. government and the Czar of Russia, will retain any case of rupture perfectly, affording immediate relief and close the opening in a short time on the average case. It produces results without surgery or harmful injections. No leg straps to irritate and soil. No binding of hips. Clean and durable. Examination and advice free. Personal references on request. Cut out and keep for reference. Home office, 1027 Walnut street, Philadelphia. —Advt.

### AUCTION SALE.

Hagood, S. C. Will sell at public auction on January 20th, at 11 o'clock the personal estate of Miss Emma A. Saunders: 7 hundred bushels of corn, 2 hundred bushels of oats, 600 hundred bushels of peas, 1,300 bales of hay, 40 bushels of wheat, 5 tons best planting seed, 8 mules, 5 calves.

Farming implements, consisting of reaper and binder, mowing machine, wagons and other equipment.

MRS. HARRIET R. EBERHARDT, Executor.

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