

## THE LADY OF THE CROSSING

all back." And then, as if astonished at hearing his voice thus, and suddenly shy, he added: "All right. You go over and tell him. I'll see you later. I must get on to the office. So-long."

Crossing the road Sam came to the smelter bridge, and as he stepped on to it he heard feet running behind him, and the fluttering sound of skirts.

"Mr. Haig! Mr. Haig!" someone called.

He wheeled, and saw Nance Webley.

"Oh, please don't think me interfering," she said, plunging into talk at end of her run, "or mad, or anything, but would you mind telling me what you are going across this bridge for?"

"Why, certainly," he answered, looking down at her worried little face with an expression on his such as Mildred never saw there. "I'm going to show the engineer that I'm quite safe." (Her clear and candid eyes were wide upon him.) "I've just come down from the summit after riding up in one of the buckets. I'm going to tell the engineer that we're both——"

"Both?"

"—Marsden and I—we're both all right."

She looked ever so solemnly at him.

"You've been!" she said. "You've done it already!"

"Yes. But what do you know about it?"

"Only that I couldn't get out of my head what Miss Henderson said yesterday at your ranch. I knew it was meant for Marsden, and—and—well, I wondered if——"