

# The Sealed Valley

By HULBERT FOOTNER

Author of "Jack Chanty" (Copyright)

(From Wednesday's Daily.)  
There was the little grassy shelf in the bank where she had lain—the coarse voices of the men above profaned the scene horribly.

Ralph's face as he climbed the bank was serene. His greeting was as bland and offhand as a school-boy's. The four men were sitting on the ground playing "jack-pot."

As Ralph had pleasantly anticipated, their jaws dropped upon his appearance.

Only Stack answered his greeting. Cards in hand, the little man jumped up obsequiously, but Joe Mixer barked at him, and he sat down abruptly. Joe scowled at his cards like a hangman.

The game proceeded as if Ralph were not there. Ralph's cheeks began to burn at the implied insult, but he clapped his anger under hatches. He saw clearly enough that Joe was waiting for him to make an opening for a quarrel.

Drawing closer, he coolly overlooked the game. They had a folded blanket between them to play the cards upon. In lieu of chips they used matches. The half-breed was winning. He was a fine specimen of physical manhood a year or two younger than Ralph, with a bold, conceited face.

He scarcely took pains to hide his contempt for the three white men of his party, and Ralph observed that even Joe was inclined to truckle to him, like a bully to one whose strength he has not measured.

Stack was obsequious all around. In the third white man Ralph recognized Crusoe Campbell, a disreputable character well known up and down the river of that name. He had the reputation of being not quite right in his head, which he traded upon to his advantage.

His wits were good enough to play a crafty game of poker. So much for Ralph's observations. "A run outfit!" he thought grimly. When the cards were collected for a fresh deal Ralph asked coolly: "What are the stakes?"

"Nickel a match," answered Crusoe Campbell. "Give me the worth of that," he said, throwing a five dollar bill on the blanket. "You," he said, indicating the half-breed; "what's your name?"

"Philippe Bolwert," the breed announced swaggeringly. Crusoe Campbell and Philippe made room between them, and Ralph sat down. All looked covertly at Joe to see how he would take it. Joe, still scowling, kept his eyes down and said nothing. The game went on.

Ralph's bluff was as yet uncalled. Outwardly as cool as the ideal poker-player, Ralph was on the alert for an explosion. Under stress of excitement, his spirits soared like a bird taking wing. The corners of his lips twitched provokingly, and the shine of unhidden fire glowed in his dark eyes.

He bet recklessly; winning and losing with equal good humor. His good humor communicated itself to three of the other players. All men love a good gambler. The ill-assorted game became almost jolly. Only Joe grew more and more morose.

His face turned an ugly brownish red, and a vein stood out ominously on his forehead. When the explosion took place it was not directed at Ralph. Stack carried away by the appearance of general good feeling, during a pause while the cards were being shuffled had the misfortune to say, addressing Joe and Ralph: "You two ought to shake hands and let bygones be bygones."

Joe Mixer broke out on him so violently as to be almost comic. "You sneaking little two-faced informer!" he shouted with a whole string of oaths. "Keep your lip out of my affairs, will you? I'll learn you to talk to your betters! You make me sick with your lying palaver! Get out of this game anyway! You ain't man enough to play poker!"

Stack hastily retreated from the circle. The breed laughed. Crusoe Campbell quietly confiscated Stack's matches. "Give me another box of cigarettes out of your bag," the breed said curtly.

"A half-breed issuing orders to a white man and being obeyed!" thought Ralph. "Bring up a pail of water from the river," commanded Crusoe. The little man had already become the camp drudge it appeared.

Stack sat down at a little distance from the game with a childish assumption of injured dignity. During the deals Joe alternately chaffed and reviled him coarsely.

Ralph could not find it in his heart to feel very sorry for the little man. "He is a sneak," he thought. He kept his ears open for any word that might throw light on this obscure and curious situation.

After a while Stack said humbly: "Dr. Cowdray, if you please, I'd like to have a word with you before you go."

"I'm damned if you do!" cried Joe. "You'd like to play him off against me, wouldn't you, and me against him, and get your private pickings off the both of us! Me and Cowdray we ain't got no use for each other. We don't make no pretences. But you! You snide! You want to square yourself with him, don't you?"

you? After telling me you trailed him all the way from the coast!" "I have nothing to say to you!" cried Stack with a display of childish fury that caused all three of his mates to shout with laughter.

A light broke on Ralph. Trailing all the way from the coast! To learn this was worth having come for! But why anybody should want to trail him was more of a mystery than ever.

He determined to find out. Meanwhile the game went on with four players. The fortune of the cards changed, and Joe Mixer began to win, principally from Ralph. His good humor was restored.

This was as good a way to get square as any. As Ralph's pile of matches melted away, Joe triumphed insolently. He doubled and trebled the ante whenever it came to him. Finally he said: "A dollar to draw and two to play! Does that scare you off, Doc?"

"Not at all," said Ralph coolly. "This is mild beside the play in New York clubs."

"Well, it ain't hard to win all you've got," snarled Joe. "Three cards," said Ralph to the dealer. "This is my last hand."

He had been dealt a pair of aces. He drew another ace with a pair of sixes; and a comfortable little satisfaction warmed his breast. His face was like the sphinx's.

Joe Mixer drew two cards. Ralph, watching him narrowly saw a tiny spark of satisfaction light his eye when he looked at them, and guessed that he held three and had drawn a pair. Revenge was as sweet to Ralph as anybody.

Joe bet in a small way, and Ralph raised him modestly. The others had dropped out.

Joe raised again, and Ralph followed suit. Joe seeing that he was not to be shaken off began to plunge. Ralph's matches were exhausted long ago, and he threw the money on the blanket, raising Joe a dollar each time. Joe began to breathe hard and his face became as pale as a butcher's face may, except his ears which remained a furious crimson.

He raised Ralph five, and finally ten dollars at a time, hoping to bluff him out. Ralph covered his bets with a smile, and each time raised him one. A respectable little hill of greenbacks grew on the blanket.

Crusoe and the breed eyed it hungrily. Finally when it came to Joe's turn he stopped. Beads of perspiration had sprung out on his forehead. "What's the matter?" asked Ralph innocently. "Are you scared off?"

"No!" cried Joe with an oath. "Ain't got no more money," he added sheepishly. "Don't carry it on the trail. Will you take my I.O.U.?"

Ralph shook his head. "A cash game you said. I'll take back my last raise and call you instead."

Joe with a great air of bravado laid down three kings and two queens. Ralph made believe to be dumfounded. Joe grinned and reached for the money with a trembling hand; whereupon Ralph counted out his three aces, and his pair of little ones.

"It's a shame to take all you've got," he said softly. "Continued in Thursday's Issue"

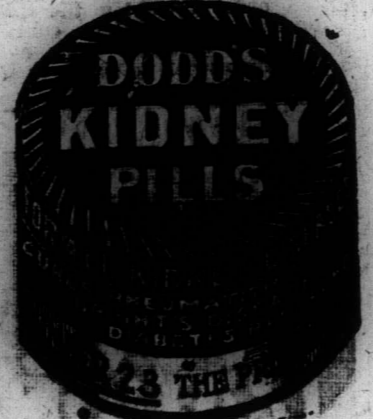
### LIKELY FORCED OUT.

By Courier Leased Wire  
Berlin, Nov. 21.—Via London—Herr Schwander, minister of economics has been relieved of office and awarded the Order of the Royal Crown, second class, it is announced officially. Baron von Stein, under secretary of state, has been appointed to succeed him. Herr Radowicz, formerly director of the Press department, has been named under-secretary of state. Friedrich von Payer, the vice chancellor, has been made a member of the Federal Council.

An Amsterdam despatch on Monday said Herr Schmander had resigned on account of secret opposition of the bureaucrats.

### HUNS AWAY BEHIND.

By Courier Leased Wire  
Berlin, Nov. 23.—via London—An official statement by the Admiralty today says: "A German submarine, under command of Lieut. Wendlandt destroyed a British monitor and destroyer off the Syrian coast on November 11." The British Admiralty on November 14, announced the sinking of a British destroyer and a small monitor by an enemy submarine while the British craft were co-operating with the British army in Palestine. Thirty three men were reported missing from the two vessels.



# OFFICIAL PROSPECTUS

The Proceeds of this Loan will be used for War purposes only, and will be spent wholly in Canada

The MINISTER OF FINANCE offers for Public Subscription

## Canada's Victory Loan

Issue of

\$150,000,000, 5½% Gold Bonds

Bearing interest from December 1st, 1917, and offered in three maturities, the choice of which is optional with the subscriber, as follows:

- 5 year Bonds due December 1st, 1922
- 10 year Bonds due December 1st, 1927
- 20 year Bonds due December 1st, 1937

This Loan is authorized under Act of the Parliament of Canada, and both principal and interest are a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The amount of this issue is \$150,000,000, exclusive of the amount (if any) paid for by the surrender of bonds of previous issues. The Minister of Finance, however, reserves the right to allot the whole or any part of the amount subscribed in excess of \$150,000,000.

Principal and Interest payable in Gold

Denominations; \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000

Subscriptions must be in sums of \$50 or multiples thereof.

Principal payable without charge at the Office of the Minister of Finance and Receiver General at Ottawa, or at the Office of the Assistant Receiver General at Halifax, St. John, Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary and Victoria.

Interest payable, without charge, half-yearly, June 1st and December 1st, at any branch in Canada of any Chartered Bank.

Bearer or Registered Bonds

Bonds may be registered as to principal or as to principal and interest.

Scrip certificates, non-negotiable, or payable to bearer, in accordance with the choice of the applicant for registered or bearer bonds, will be issued after allotment in exchange for provisional receipts. When these scrip certificates have been paid in full, and payment endorsed thereon by the bank receiving the money, they may be exchanged for bonds, when prepared, with coupons attached, payable to bearer, or registered as to principal, or for fully registered bonds when prepared, without coupons, in accordance with the application.

Delivery of interim certificates and of definitive bonds will be made through the Chartered Banks.

Bearer bonds with coupons will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000, and may be registered as to principal only. Fully registered bonds, the interest on which is paid direct to the owner by Government cheque, will be issued in denominations of \$1,000, \$5,000 or any authorized multiple of \$5,000.

Subject to the payment of 25 cents for each new bond issued, holders of fully registered bonds without coupons, will have the right to convert into bonds of the denomination of \$1,000 with coupons, and holders of bonds with coupons will have the right to convert into fully registered bonds of authorized denominations without coupons, at any time, on application to the Minister of Finance.

Surrender of Bonds

Holders of Dominion of Canada Debenture Stock, due October 1st, 1919, and of bonds of the three preceding Dominion of Canada War Loan Issues, have the privilege of surrendering their bonds in part payment for subscriptions to bonds of this issue, under the following conditions:—

- Debenture Stock, due October 1st, 1919, at Par and Accrued Interest.
- War Loan Bonds, due December 1st, 1925, at 97½ and Accrued Interest.

(The above will be accepted in part payment for bonds of any of the three maturities of this Issue.)

- War Loan Bonds, due October 1st, 1931, at 97½ and Accrued Interest.
- War Loan Bonds, due March 1st, 1937, at 96 and Accrued Interest.

(These will be accepted in part payment for bonds of the 1937 maturity ONLY of this Issue.)

Bonds of the various maturities of this issue will, in the event of future issues of like maturity, or longer, made by the Government, other than issues made abroad, be accepted at par and accrued interest, as the equivalent of cash for the purpose of subscription to such issues.

## Issue Price Par

Free from taxes—including any income tax—imposed in pursuance of legislation enacted by the Parliament of Canada.

Payment to be made as follows:

- 10% on December 1st, 1917
- 10% on January 2nd, 1918
- 20% on February 1st, 1918
- 20% on March 1st, 1918
- 20% on April 1st, 1918
- 20% on May 1st, 1918

A full half year's interest will be paid on 1st June, 1918

The Bonds therefore give a net yield to the investor of about:

- 5.61% on the 20 year Bonds
- 5.68% on the 10 year Bonds
- 5.81% on the 5 year Bonds

All payments are to be made to a Chartered Bank for the credit of the Minister of Finance. Failure to pay any instalment when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture, and the allotment to cancellation. Subscriptions accompanied by a deposit of 10% of the amount subscribed, must be forwarded through the medium of a Chartered Bank. Any branch in Canada of any Chartered Bank will forward subscriptions and issue provisional receipts.

In case of partial allotments the surplus deposit will be applied toward payment of the amount due on the January instalment.

Subscriptions may be paid in full on January 2nd, 1918, or on any instalment due date thereafter under discount at the rate of 5½% per annum. Under this provision payments of the balance of subscriptions may be made as follows:

- If paid on January 2nd, 1918, at the rate of 89.10795 per \$100.
- If paid on February 1st, 1918, at the rate of 79.46959 per \$100.
- If paid on March 1st, 1918, at the rate of 59.72274 per \$100.
- If paid on April 1st, 1918, at the rate of 39.90959 per \$100.

Forms of application may be obtained from any branch in Canada of any Chartered Bank, or from any Victory Loan Committee, or member thereof.

The books of the Loan will be kept at the Department of Finance, Ottawa.

Application will be made in due course for the listing of this issue on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges.

Subscription Lists will close on or before December 1st, 1917.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,  
OTTAWA, November 12th, 1917.

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