

# WHISPERING ROCK

by JOHN LEBAR

"Why, there ain't no doctor between here an' town—eighty-five miles!"

"Then we'll have to go to town for a doctor!"

"But not having no automobile we couldn't get there for—"

"Old Charley!" exclaimed the girl, "ride over to his place, and he'll go with us!"

"The horses is all turned out," complained Snaveley, "an' anyways I don't like to bother no neighbor— they don't bother me none no more!"

"You cold, clear-headed fury possessed the girl. 'Listen,' she commanded, 'you are to start for There's this minute and ride as fast as you can! Do you understand that?'"



"Mama, when is daddy coming home some more?" David would ask at bedtime.

Amazement shown in Snaveley's eyes as he saw the girl. "Then with a jump his pale eyes turned on Ann. Go ahead!"

The girl heard the feet of Ann's horse on the rocks ten minutes later. "There must have been a horse near the corral after all. Then she thought, idly, 'Snaveley was talking ceaselessly and intelligibly. She put David to bed without his usual good-night story. She seated herself by her husband's side and dragged after her. The silence of the hot night pressed close; the empty miles of motionless desert

made themselves felt, as if they, too, were concerned with what took place in the old abode. All the silent world seemed waiting, waiting. . . . Many times, bits of the road to town flashed through the girl's mind; she saw the twists, the hills, sand-bled arrows, shore stretches where speed was possible. The road was so very long. Twice it would have to be traveled before the doctor came. She knew that at best he could not arrive before six o'clock.

Suddenly the man's eyes opened wide; his voice was an imploring whisper, "Ruth! Ruth!"

The girl brought her free arm across his breast and laid her cool cheek against his burning one. . . . As a matter of fact, the sun was two hours high before Old Charley and the doctor finally arrived. Ruth Warren, with wide-eyed David in her arms, was sitting like an image of stone on the doorstep of the old adobe—starting at the live oak tree east of the ranch house. Kenneth was dead.

In the days which followed close upon her husband's death, Ruth Warren felt that she had separated into two women. The one she had always known went about her tasks almost as before—even smiled and played with David. The other Ruth hovered behind her, a black shadow—a half-crazed thing of grief and utter terror, wailing questions which had no answers. It was only by pretending not to know about this other Ruth that the real Ruth could keep her a little away. But at bedtime David invariably asked, "Mama, when is Daddy coming home some more?" Then the black shadow entered and became her very self.

At last, the question of what she must do became as strong and then stronger than the hovering shadow of grief and despair. One day Ruth went to Snaveley, as he was turning out his horse after the day's ride. Since the slight rain both he and Ann were in the saddle most of the day, Ruth had been glad.

"Mr. Snaveley," said Ruth quietly, "could I have a talk with you?"

"Eh? All right—go ahead."

"I thought you might want the ranch books to refer to," said the girl hesitantly.

Snaveley's eyes jumped to Ruth and back to his horse's head in silence.

When they had entered the living room of the ranch house Snaveley silently collected some papers and the old daybook, dumped them on the table, seated himself opposite Ruth and waited.

"The first thing I want to talk about," said the girl, "is the ranch earnings."

Snaveley nodded.

"How much do you think the ranch will earn this year?"

"We can figure it pretty close—can't tell exactly."

"Well, I've got about a hundred mother cows an' 'th' calf crop don't run more'n fifty per cent—" he paused and wrote out some figures. "That'll give us about forty or fifty sellin' calves—that's our increase for the year an' we can sell no more than that, without goin' down hill. Well, if we get thirty dollars for fifty head that's fifteen hundred dollars."

"For the whole year?"

Snaveley nodded.

"But couldn't a ranch as big as this—twenty thousand acres—accommodate more than one hundred mother cows?"

"It could. But cows cost money. Your brooder suggested on buying more—that's why he fixed up the windmill an' the tank an' all—but he claimed he could get hold of some capital."

"Couldn't we get some? Couldn't we borrow some money to buy cows so that there'd be more calves?"

"How?"

"Oh, I don't know—people do borrow money. Couldn't we say to some one, 'Lend us so much to buy cattle with, and then we'll give you the cattle make the money—we could give the ranch as security.'"

"No!" Snaveley's voice was a high-pitched shout of protest. "None o' that—none o' that. You don't know what you're gettin' into when you fool with that sort of thing! You'll lose the whole ranch to some cute sharper—that's what'll happen! No, Mrs. Warren, I don't feel that it would be wise to put the ranch up to borrow on. An' it's the law that both parties have to agree before anything's done with the property."

"Certainly, I understand that, Mr. Snaveley; and of course we shall agree on everything," she smiled her best. "We're not children looking for something to squabble about—we're owners of this fine ranch and we want to improve it."

"I wasn't complainin' none—that much'll keep me."

Ruth summoned all her courage. "But your share would only be a quarter of that amount."

"What are you hintin' at?" Snaveley half rose. "Let me tell you that I ain't got all that's coming to me by a long chalk! It takes all the ranch brings in to buy my grub. I'm the only partner that's workin' an' I figger my quarter is due me as clear salary."

Ruth's heart was thumping. "And I certainly agree, Mr. Snaveley—I think you have done splendidly, and if possible I'll see that you get your share of the money my brother took when he went to Mexico. It's not the point. We've got to make the ranch earn more, for both of us."

"The ranch can't. It'll bring in enough to keep the man that runs it, but it won't do no more without you buy some more stock an' put in a well so's the stock can live after you get 'em here."

Ruth fingers drummed nervously on the table top. No one would have guessed how near she was to breaking down. She didn't pretend to know anything about the ranch, nor the business of ranching—she only

knew that her interest in the ranch was all she had in the world—that David had no father. . . . She looked up. "But what can we do? We must do something."

"You mean you got to do something? I ain't needin' money—I been gettin' along for morn' fifty year. I don't reckon you can come anywheres near understandin' me when I tell you I don't want no money. The only good money ever done me was to give it to people so's I could get shot of 'em. Well—I'm a long ways from broke right now. You got a claim on this ranch. The only thing this ranch means to you is money; the only thing it means to me is a place to live by myself. I'll swap you one for the other."

"How much is my share worth, Mr. Snaveley; what will you give me for it?" The girl's voice was strained, eager.



She looked up. "But what can we do? We must do something."

A gleam of almost insane satisfaction lit Snaveley's face; he leaned forward and would have placed his hand on Ruth's arm had she not withdrawn it. "Now, Mrs. Warren, I think you're gettin' some sense. This ranch ain't no place for a woman an' a baby—it's a wild, lonesome country—mighty strange to you. Suddenly he stood up. "Mrs. Warren, I'll give you every cent I've got for your interest. Then you can get out. His voice, terrible and pitched high, ran westward in the small high, ray, you can go! You can leave me like you found me—you can go back to the stinkin' mess of people an' their low tricks an' their mean hog lives an' you can leave me. That's what I want an' that's what I aim to have! I can't abide people—I don't want no money, I don't want nothin' but peace! There ain't no peace 'mongst people, don't you know that?" His pale staring eyes bored through the girl. "—you come here 'cause you thought you could have money out of this place. Well, you can—I'll give you every cent I've got, an' it's more'n 'this ranch'll earn you in ten years. I'll give you near ten thousand dollars an' I'll give it to you now and you can go to-night! Yes," his voice rose to a scream, "you can go to-night! To-night you pore little lonesome thing! You don't belong here—I can't have you!"

(To Be Continued)

kindred creatures in the universe aggregate 36,500. In Canada well over 30,000 insects have been classified, of which more than 3,000 constitute a distinct menace to humanity. The destructive power of these insects is incredible. A conservative estimate of the damage they do to plant life, crops and other products in a single year is well over \$100,000,000, but what the loss would be if the staff of the Entomological Branch were to slacken their methods and machinery in fact devastation and utter ruin would soon follow. There is comparatively little of man's estate that is not subject to attack from some kind of insect pest.

The conference recently held brought together representatives of the Entomological Branch from the permanent and temporary laboratories and plant inspection stations throughout the Dominion, and gave

## Conference Of Entomologists

A conference of officials of the Entomological Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, from all parts of Canada, whose work is notably important from an economic point of view, was held in Ottawa from November 26th to 30th.

It has been computed that there are over 600,000 different varieties of insects in the world which have been studied and classified, and it is believed there are as many more species awaiting classification. The known group of animals, mammals, birds, snakes, fishes, frogs and

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### Cut Down Cost Of Elections

(By The Canadian Press)

MONTREAL, Dec. 11.—Measures whereby elections would become less costly formed the subject of an address by F. A. Monk to a local service club.

If the cost of elections were decreased it would be possible for many public-spirited citizens, who lack the means to become candidates under the present system, to seek election, said Mr. Monk.

Compulsory voting was advocated by the speaker, who pointed out that one of the greatest items of expense in elections is involved in getting voters to the polls. If a penalty were imposed for refusing or neglecting to cast a vote, each citizen would realize his responsibility and study the issues at stake.

# ROTARY RADIO AUCTION

## In Aid of CRIPPLED CHILDREN and other charities.

### THURSDAY EVENING DECEMBER 13th

#### 6.30 P. M. OVER C. H. G. K.

GOOD LAST YEAR — BETTER THIS YEAR

KEEP ABOVE DATE OPEN

A good opportunity to obtain many useful articles and at same time help a worthy cause. A full list of goods offered will be published in newspaper giving details of articles offered—the names of donors and values.

PLEASE KEEP THIS LIST FOR REFERENCE ON NIGHT OF AUCTION

All articles on list will be fully described and numbered. At 6.30 P.M. over station C H K auctioneers will call out first ten articles on list.

Take your phone and ask central for RADIO AUCTION (not necessary to give any number) and you are at once connected with Auction Rooms. Give to person answering the NUMBER of the lot of goods you are bidding on—the amount of your bid—your own name and address and your phone number. If time permits all bids received will be announced over radio otherwise only highest bids will be given. Articles will be announced and at third calling knocked down to highest bidder unless in case of a tie. Payment to be made the following day at a place to be announced later when delivery of goods will be arranged.

THREE SPECIAL DRAWING PRIZES. There are about 360 articles in all. As soon as 120 articles have been sold numbers up to this amount will be placed in a hat and one number drawn and the buyer of the article having the similar number will receive a SPECIAL CHRISTMAS TURKEY. This will be repeated with each remaining 120 articles giving three special prizes in all.

Goods offered will be on display in windows of various donors and there will also be special window displays at G. F. Heston's store, at the Prince Edward Theatre and the Patriot Publishing Co. If anyone should wish to know where to inspect any special article phone 148.

Advance bids may be made on any article on the list by phoning 148 or by writing N. D. McLean, C.H.K., but no article will be definitely sold before the regular auction and in the manner described above.

PLEASE AID BY TUNING IN AND MAKING YOUR BIDS PROMPTLY

YOU GET ENTERTAINMENT — GOOD VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY and at same time greatly aid CRIPPLED CHILDREN

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

## Province of Prince Edward Island

### Tenders for Material

Sealed Tenders, addressed to the undersigned, will be received at this office until noon of Saturday, December 22, 1934, from any person or persons willing to supply and deliver at the various sites, the following materials:—

- PRINCE COUNTY
- YEO'S BRIDGE, FOXLEY RIVER, LOT 11. 85 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 76 piles in 14 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 24 pieces 8" x 8" in 17 ft. lengths. 70 pieces 3" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 70 pieces 4" x 8" in 6 ft. lengths.
  - HALDIMAND BRIDGE, MAXIMVILLE, LOT 15. 376 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 200 piles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 100 pieces 8" x 8" in 17 ft. lengths. 250 pieces 3" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 200 pieces 4" x 8" in 6 ft. lengths.
  - DARNLEY BRIDGE, LOT 16. 110 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 88 piles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 40 pieces 8" x 8" in 17 ft. lengths. 100 pieces 3" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 80 pieces 4" x 8" in 6 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 1 (TIGNISH). 8,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 150 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 26 pieces 6" x 6" in 20 ft. lengths. 150 cedar posts 8 ft. long, not less than 6 ins. at small end.
  - DIVISION NO. 2 (ALBERTON). 7,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 150 cedar posts, 8 ft. long, not less than 6 ins. at small end.
  - DIVISION NO. 3 (HOWLAN). 5,000 F. B. M. of 3 ins. plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 200 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 20 pieces 6" x 6" in 20 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 4 (OLEARY). 5,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 100 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 20 pieces 8" x 8" in 20 ft. lengths. 60 pieces 6" x 6" in 20 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 5 (ELLERSLIE). 10,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 150 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 20 pieces 8" x 8" in 20 ft. lengths. 60 pieces 6" x 6" in 20 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 7 (MISCOOCHIE). 3,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 100 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 20 pieces 8" x 8" in 20 ft. lengths. 60 pieces 6" x 6" in 20 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 8 (CLERMONT). 10,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 3,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank in 17 ft. lengths, and not less than 7 ins. in width. 200 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 200 cedar posts, 8 ft. long, not less than 6 ins. at small end.
  - DIVISION NO. 9 (CENTRAL DEBEGUE). 15,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank in 17 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 5,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank, not less than 7 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 200 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 1/2 ft. lengths. 200 cedar posts, 8 ft. long, not less than 6 ins. at small end.

- QUEEN'S COUNTY
- HALL'S BRIDGE, CROFTON, LOT 29. 50 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 50 pieces F.B.M. of 4" plank in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 24 pieces 8" x 8" in 17 ft. lengths. 10 pieces 3" x 5" in 16 ft. lengths.
  - DIVISION NO. 12 (HUNTER RIVER). 1,000 cedar posts, 8 ft. long, not less than 6 ins. at small end.
  - NORTH RIVER BRIDGE, LOT 32. 14,000 F. B. M. of 2" spruce plank, 8 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length. 6,000 F. B. M. of 3" hardwood plank, 8 ins. in width and not less than 12 ft. in length.
  - GLENFINNAN BRIDGE, LOT 35. 20 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. . . .
  - MCINTYRE'S BRIDGE, SAVAGE HARBOUR, LOT 37. 3,500 F.B.M. of 4" plank in 17 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 21 pieces 8" x 8" in 17 ft. lengths. 41 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 5 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths and not less than 4 ins. at small end.

- KING'S COUNTY
- FORTUNE STEEL BRIDGE, LOT 42. 13,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank in 17 ft. lengths and not less than 7 ins. in width. 96 pieces 4" x 12" in 16 ft. lengths, spruce. 32 pieces 4" x 12" in 18 ft. lengths, spruce.
  - MIDGELL STEEL BRIDGE, LOT 49. 3,000 F. B. M. 3" plank in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 32 pieces 4" x 12" in 16 ft. lengths, spruce. 2 pieces 12" x 12" in 15 ft. lengths.
  - FOX RIVER BRIDGE, GLADSTONE, LOT 64. 16 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 86 piles in 15 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 90 pieces 2" x 5" in 16 ft. lengths.
  - MURRAY RIVER BRIDGE, LOT 68. 17 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 70 cubic yards field stone.
  - STARBUCK FACTORY ROAD, MURRAY HARBOUR SOUTH, Lot 69. 26 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end.
  - SOURIS WEST BRIDGE, LOT 45. 20,000 F. B. M. of 3" plank in 17 ft. lengths, not less than 12 ft. in length. 10 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 40 piles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 65 pieces 2" x 5" in 17 ft. lengths.
  - LEWELLYN'S BRIDGE, STURGEON, LOT 61. 20 cords poles in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 4 ins. at small end. 14 piles in 25 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. at small end. 30 piles in 20 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 10 piles in 15 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end. 65 pieces 2" x 5" in 17 ft. lengths.
  - DEGROUS MARSH BRIDGE, LOT 55. 60 pieces round timber in 20 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. at small end. 50 pieces round timber in 9 ft. lengths, not less than 8 ins. at small end.

DIVISION NO. 19 (PEAKE'S STATION). 5,000 F. B. M. 3" plank in 16 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width.

DIVISION NO. 20 (ROSENEATH). 4,000 F. B. M. 3" plank in 18 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width.

DIVISION NO. 22 (GLEN WILLIAM). 5,000 F. B. M. 3" plank in 18 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 16 pieces 8" x 8" in 14 ft. lengths, hemlock. 30 pieces 8" x 8" in 10 ft. lengths, hemlock.

DIVISION NO. 24 (CAPE SPRY). 7,000 F. B. M. 3" plank in 18 ft. lengths, not less than 7 ins. in width. 50 pieces 4" x 12" in 16 ft. lengths, spruce. 100 pieces 2" x 5" in 17 ft. lengths. Material for Lots Nos. 1 to 3, No. 13, and Nos. 15 to 25, to be delivered at the site.

Material for Lots Nos. 4 to 12, No. 14 and Nos. 26 to 29 to be delivered in care of the Highway Superintendent of the Division, at the place named or at a central point in the Division.

Parties tendering shall tender SEPARATELY for the material for each bridge or lot, and may tender for the whole or any portion thereof. Tenders to be marked "TENDERS FOR MATERIAL."

Poles shall be of spruce or fir, well cleaned, straight and sound. Lumber, except where specified above, shall be spruce or hemlock, all square edged and sawn to the exact size specified, perfectly sound and free from warp or shakes.

Piles shall be of spruce.

Material for Lots Nos. 18 and 19 shall be delivered on or before the first day of March, 1935.

All poles and piles shall be delivered on or before the 30th day of April, 1935.

All other material shall be delivered on or before the 15th day of May, 1935.

Parties tendering shall submit a price PER CORD for poles; a price EACH for piles, round timber and posts; a price PER CUBIC YARD for field stone and a price per M. B. M. for sawn lumber.

All material shall be carefully inspected and measured before delivery is taken by the Department or payment made.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

L. B. MacMILLAN,  
Deputy Minister of Public Works and Highways  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island,  
December 8, 1934.  
L-3069-12-8-11-13-16-18-20-24

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