

Exit Tony Blount

by Sydney Parkman

CHAPTER III
GET AWAY

Two days elapsed before the look-for opportunity presented itself, and when it did it came entirely unexpectedly.

On the morning he was discharged from the infirmary he rejoined his squad and went out with them to work as usual, and by evening when the gang returned to camp he felt more dead than alive. Far from receiving any consideration, he was merely cursed sourly for his clumsiness; and the strenuous labour in the intense heat following upon his injury and a broken night almost caused him to break down altogether. Only the knowledge that this might mean a transfer to camp duties and a consequent abandonment of any hope of breaking away kept him on his feet at all. As it was the final run back to the camp brought him to the very verge of collapse, and when he was locked into his cell for the night he fell on to his plank bed in a fainting condition and remained there until morning.

His cell mates — there were three of them, including Christophe — ate his share of the evening meal thankfully without disturbing him, but the long rest more than compensated him for the loss of the food, and by the morning he had recovered himself almost completely.

A hunk of coarse bread and a tin mug of unsweetened coffee were served out in the grey of dawn, and before the sun had risen clear of the eastern horizon, the working squads had been mustered and chained in the compound and were departing at a shambling trot for the respective scenes of their labours.

The morning passed much as usual. Most of the men were engaged in clearing away the fallen trees and roughly dressing such timber as had been earmarked for the sawpit, but he and three others had been detailed to continue the work of felling, under one of the guards. He still had the big negro as a workmate, and together they were using a cross-cut on the bigger trees, while their two fellows cleared away the saplings and undergrowth with axes.

Throughout the long morning they toiled and sweated at the strenuous work with the watchful guard keeping an alert eye upon them from a few yards distance. He was a new man who had taken Marchand's place for the first time that morning, and, knowing nothing about his charges, he was more than usually wary. His sharp glances followed their every movement and he carried his rifle in the crook of his arm instead of slinging it as the others did.

The Englishman eyed him furtively at intervals as he worked cursing the chance that set this new broom over them just now. He had evolved no particular plan for making his getaway, for, as he had realised from the beginning, it would inevitably be a matter of chance, and in one respect at least he was fortunate in having been

Mystery Surrounds Gottwald's Death



The death of Klement Gottwald, 56, president of Communist Czechoslovakia, caused speculation among European diplomats over the sudden death of the satellite chief so soon after Stalin's disappearance of a second Soviet satellite dictator, Hungary's Premier Matyas Rakosi, who did not return to Budapest from Moscow after attending Stalin's funeral.

Chosen for this particular work. The others were all grouped in the open, where it would have been impossible to make a dash for the cover of the woods. But though circumstances favoured him so far, the suspicious watchfulness of the new guard rendered the advantage of doubtful value.

Nevertheless, the thought was constantly with him, and he had already made up his mind to act the moment he saw a chance. He had toyed with the idea of taking Christophe into his confidence and suggesting that they made the attempt together, but so far he had been prevented by circumstances from doing so.

On the previous day he had felt too ill to breach the idea, and now the guard gave them no opportunity for talking together. Actually, he had not made up his mind fully to do so in any case, for though he realised that two of them would stand a better chance of making an ultimate escape, it rendered the initial dash for freedom doubly risky.

Where one man could take advantage of a sudden opportunity it was doubtful whether two could act together so spontaneously. Also, there was the fear of treachery. Degraded by their conditions of life into a primitive savagery, it was impossible to count upon the loyalty of any man. The immediate prospect of currying favour by denouncing a fellow-prisoner would tend to outweigh the more doubtful prospect of a successful issue to the venture, and though he judged the negro to be at once more simple-minded and staunch than most, the risk remained.

At noon the signal was given to fall in again, and the prisoners were chained and fettered and marched off into the shade of a pandanus thicket for the midday soup. This had been brought out from the camp by two "trusties" accompanied by a guard, who served it out in tin pannikins to the manacled men. It consisted of a

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The capitol building in Washington holds a safe that must not be opened for a century. Why? Nobody knows; nor does anyone know what it contains. It was will- ed to congress in 1876 with the stipulation that it was not to be opened until 1976.

In addition to washing our bodies and clothes soap is used for cleansing wounds, to cut down heat and friction in metal workings, and to process leather and to clean and polish jewelry. So you see, soap plays a big role in modern-day life.

Beside the torch of liberty what other object does the statue of Liberty in New York Harbor hold in her hand? She holds a tablet on which is inscribed the date of the Declaration of Independence.

It is estimated that there are between 60 and 70 million lights in New York City, not counting street and office lights. Indeed, New York is the city of lights.

In olden times the people of Europe drank wine and honey, for 30 days after marriage. The moon has always been linked up with romance, and of course romance with weddings — hence the word honeymoon.

Down in the depths of the ocean lives the ribbon fish so called from its ribbon-like shape. Though several feet in length it is not more than two inches thick.

Tracing the story of trousers backward we have pants, tunic, knee breeches, pantaloons. Before thin, watery mess with a minimum of tough meat and vegetables floating in it, and another hunk of coarse, grey bread. Having no utensils, he solids were picked out with the fingers, and the greasy, lukewarm liquid drunk like tea.

To be continued

These two men and women were long flowing robes.

What are the seven wonders of Prince Edward Island?

- (1) Sand dunes of the North Shore.
- (2) The color of its soil.
- (3) Its crooked railroad.
- (4) Its summer climate.
- (5) The fertility of its soil.
- (6) Hospitality of its people.
- (7) Its quiet, peaceful atmosphere.

By keeping the temperature to 20° F. frogs can be kept in a state of hibernation for many years.

Touching glasses together in drinking toasts or confidential chats, now is called "hob-nobbing". The first part of the word — that is "hob" — used to be the flat part of the open hearth where water and liquors were kept warmed; and the table, at which drinkers sat was called a nob — hence "hobnobbing".

A Prince County woman wants to know if there are white blackberries, and if so, what are they like.

Yes, indeed, Madam. White blackberries were developed by Luther Burbank of California. They grow quite large in size and taste like our common red raspberries. Some California farmers feed the white blackberries to their cattle.

Hockey and lacrosse are very old games, but neither is as old as the bowling game.

The game was originally played on the bare ground and there is every reason to believe that it was played by the people of the "stone age."

This game has made such progress in recent years that nearly all up-to-date bowlers alleys have mechanical pin setters instead of pin-boys.

If someone were to ask you the colors of the rainbow could you name them correctly without looking at the next line? Try it.

They are what? Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, indigo. That makes seven colors, and eight persons out of ten can't call or name them correctly. Why? Because more people are color blind than you'd suppose.

The rainbow's beautiful colors are caused by the reflection and refraction of the sun's rays from drops of falling rain, or mist.

Some of the big pine and beech trees that grew in this Island in pioneer days had to be split in the woods with powder before they could be loaded on sleds.

The big trees of our Island province were magnificent specimens of their kind. What a pity the axemen and disease exterminated them root and stem!

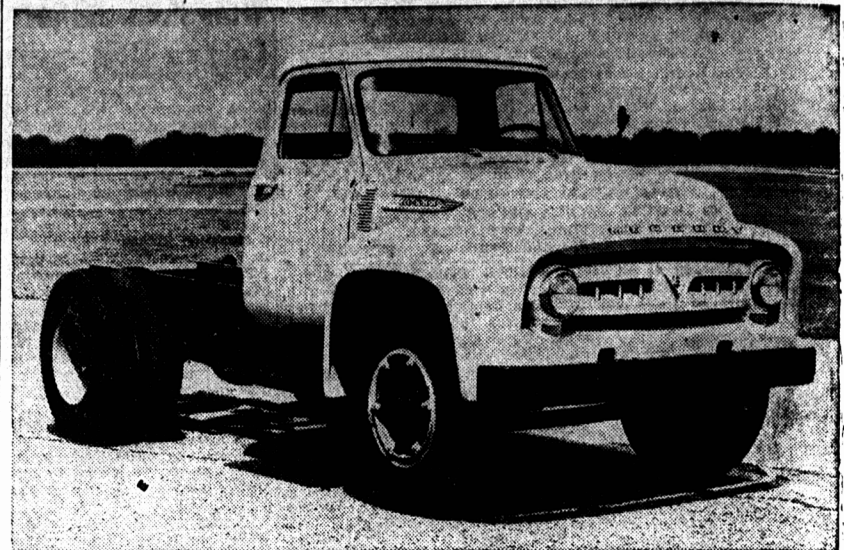
It was my privilege to look upon a few of the big trees which grew in Lot 65. As a young lad I often accompanied my grandfather to those happy regions, and helped to trim their mighty branches after the men had laid them low.

Many of the logs were so large that only one could be got onto a sleigh. Indeed, such a log was a full load for one horse.

It didn't take many of the big trees to make a winter's supply of fuel. What fuel that was! Even after the passing of many years I still can recall the big logs, the old crosscut saw, and two boys on one handle while grandfather guided the other. Helping to saw the big logs was part of every farm boy's duty during the winter months — a sort of morning and evening task before and after school hours. But that was not all — the old-fashioned wood box had to be kept filled and how those Waterloo stoves could eat fuel!

When I drive across country today I look in vain for the great piles of firewood that stood neatly packed between house and barn, and although "the smoke goes up

MANY NEW FEATURES OFFERED IN 1953 MERCURY TRUCKS



Covering the widest range of models and specifications in the history of the Mercury Truck line, the new, 1953 Mercury trucks, including the M-300 5 ton above, will be publicly introduced March 20. An important innovation this year is the introduction of fully automatic transmissions or

touch-o-matic overdrive as optional equipment in the light duty Mercury truck models. Yet another feature is a new, much roomier cab with outstanding visibility and comfort for the driver. They will be on display in Mercury-Lincoln-Meteor dealerships across Canada.

May Invite Tito To The United States

LONDON, (AP) — Informal United States sources said Tuesday

night President Tito of Yugoslavia may be invited to visit the United States as an outgrowth of his current talks with British government leaders. Tito has already indicated he would welcome an invitation to visit the U. S.

The world's largest paper mill is located at Corner Brook, Newfoundland.

MOBILE LIBRARY

TORONTO, (CP) — The bookmobile owned by suburban Etobicoke, which has been travelling the streets since 1950, will be replaced by a larger vehicle because of the increased demand. The present travelling library handles 1,800 volumes but the new one will carry 2,500 books.

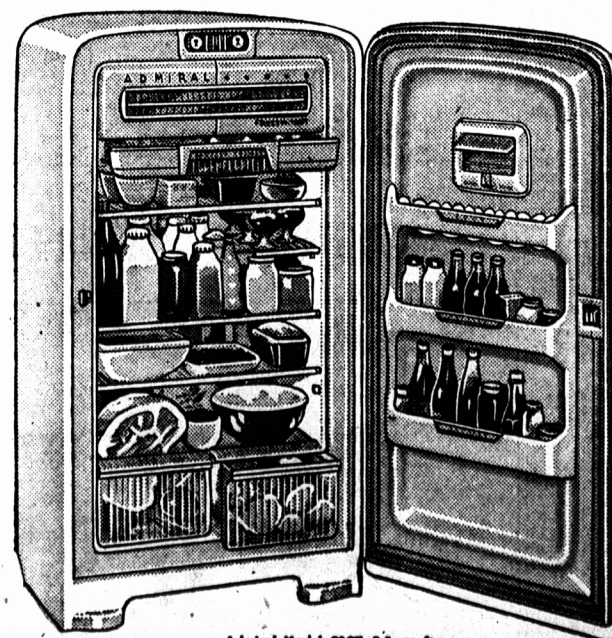
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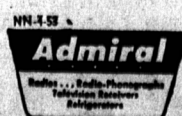
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