had driven in from the sea, and was that his thoughts returned to the letmaking outdoors most uncomfortable. ter that was burning under his coat. He saw quickly that he'd have to Another girl figured in that letter, probe if he got any information, and he remembered, and for the first time uttered the question to which he had he became idly curious as to what she given some thought.

ne s from the hill country?" he ask- thought it was entirely probable that ed. His undertone was meant to in- the girl of the dining room could enspire confidence.

surely came from that way."

"If it is news about the mines used in payment for them.

on Sawtooth, consarn the luck!" dinner without going out into the was curious."

storm. "It's after hours," grambled the know." the eating room and my little gal figure that?" maybe will dish you out a short or- "She owns some of the richest der." He led the way to a room behind the office.

His "little girl" proved to be did not resemble her father in every respect, though she did speak with the same soft drawl. Her manner was that of a hostess rather than one serving a pay patron. In recent that he was unusually appreciative.

Except for his own, the dining of them. tables were deserted, and he took octhe prospect that they would one day is the part of real importance. ing through the coast cities he had I'll be that homesick." not noticed.

It was when she had gone to the

(Continued from Page 6) | kitchen for the "sinkers" with which he had elected to round off his meal might be like. Knowing the social "I trust, friend, that you had good limitations of a camp like Nome, he

lighten him. "The hill country?" inquired Du- "Do you happen to know a young woman named Yukona Grey?" he "Why, yes-the Sawtooth. The asked, when she had returned with blubber boy who brought your letter the doughnuts, as yellow as the gold which the men of the tundra often

you're seeking, I have none," said "I certainly do," answered the Ducane, with a tolerant smile. "The daughter of the house. "Every woletter was about a personal matter." man in Nome knows Yukona Grey. Phie lanky host frankly sighed his She was born somewhere up the great deappointment. "Before you've river after which she was named, and been here long you'll learn that gold mushed here when the town was nois the most personal thing in all these thing but a shack and a pair of igloos diggings. I can't seem to get a line on the beach. Do you know Yukona stranger?"

Ducane changed the subject by ask- "I've never seen her," responded ing if it would be possible to get Ducane; "but I've heard of her, and

"She's the unluckiest lucky girl I

disappointed Timmons; "but go into | "Unluckiest lucky? How do you

claims in the hill country," continued the proprietor's daughter, "but they have cost her her father and mother. full-grown woman, who fortunately They say she hasn't a relation in the world except a lonely grandmother. She'll visit with her when she goes to the States for Christmas."

The eyes of the Southern girl were years. Ducane had seen so few wo- filled with honest envy, and at the men who even approached refinement mention of the holiday something suspiciously like a tear welled up in one

"Are you regretting a Christmas easion to speak with her as she sat away from home?" he asked kindly. aside awaiting his further needs. He "Surely they'll celebrate up here. asked about her life in Nome, and I've spent Christmas in rough places was pleased with her frank avowal all over the world, but they were that it was a nightmare compared never too rough or end-of-the-earthy to what she had known "back in Ala- not to show something of the spirit bama," but quite endurable through of the holiday. After all, the spirit

"go home" with a fortune. He was "Oh, they'll have a celebration, all sorry that he couldn't tell her what right," the girl returned more cheerwomen were wearing "back in the fully. "Nome never overlooks a States." But in the part of Nevada chance to celebrate. But it won't be he had just left costumes were as -it can't be like Christmas down primitive as at Nome, and in hurry- home. I just know I'm going to cry,

"Tears of that sort won't run any (Continued in next issue.)

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