

COWBOY COMICS Nº 86

KIT CARSON

COWBOY COMICS LIBRARY—No. 86—KIT CARSON—KING OF THE WEST



64 PICTURE-PACKED PAGES 8^D

**"COWBOY COMICS"
PICTURE GALLERY**



ALAN LADD

(PARAMOUNT)

KIT CARSON *and the*

CITY KIDS!

THE LITTLE TOWN OF PRAIRIE BEND IS THE JUNCTION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST. HERE THE WAGON-TRAINS PREPARE FOR THE LONG TREK INTO THE VAST AND DANGEROUS WILDERNESS AHEAD OF THEM.

JILL AND JOEY - TWO ORPHANS - HAVE HIDDEN ABOARD A CATTLE TRAIN TO REACH HERE... THEY'VE GOT GREAT IDEAS OF A NEW LIFE IN THE GOLDEN WEST . . .



LOOK, JOEY!
REAL
COWBOYS!

THIS IS OUR
CHANCE JILL! IF
THEY'LL TAKE US ON
THAT WAGON-TRAIN
WE'LL SOON GET
OUT WEST!

THE KIDS RUN ACROSS TO WHERE
KIT CARSON AND BUCKSKIN ANNIE
ARE WAITING TO GUIDE THE WAGONS
ACROSS THE PRAIRIE . . .

WELL-I RECKON
THAT'S THE LOT!

THEN WE'LL
GIT MOVING!
START THE
WAGONS
ROLLING!

HEY!
MISTER!
TAKE US WITH
YOU!

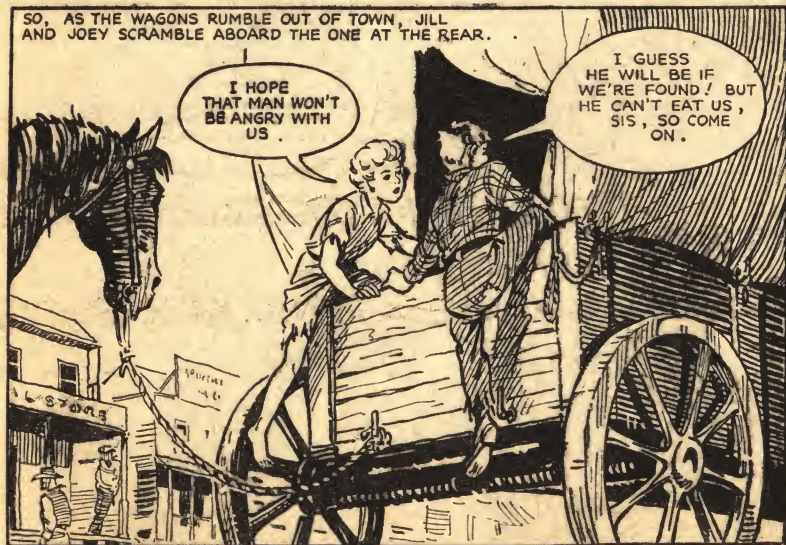




JOEY WRIGGLES FROM KIT'S GRASP, AND RUNS . . . AND KIT LETS HIM GO, BECAUSE THE PIONEER WAGONS ARE READY TO MOVE, AND THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE. FIVE MINUTES LATER . . .



SO, AS THE WAGONS RUMBLE OUT OF TOWN, JILL AND JOEY SCRAMBLE ABOARD THE ONE AT THE REAR.



SOME DAYS LATER, ON A RIDGE
OVERLOOKING THE CHIKOTA VALLEY,
A SCOUTING PARTY OF BLACKFEET
SIGHT THE APPROACHING WAGONS . .

SEE !
A WAGON-TRAIN !
AND WITH NO SOLDIER
ESCORT ! LET US TAKE THEM
BY SURPRISE AS THEY PASS
BELOW US, BROTHERS !



MEANWHILE IN THE REAR WAGON OF THE TRAIN, THE WAGONMASTER SPOTS JILL AND JOEY!



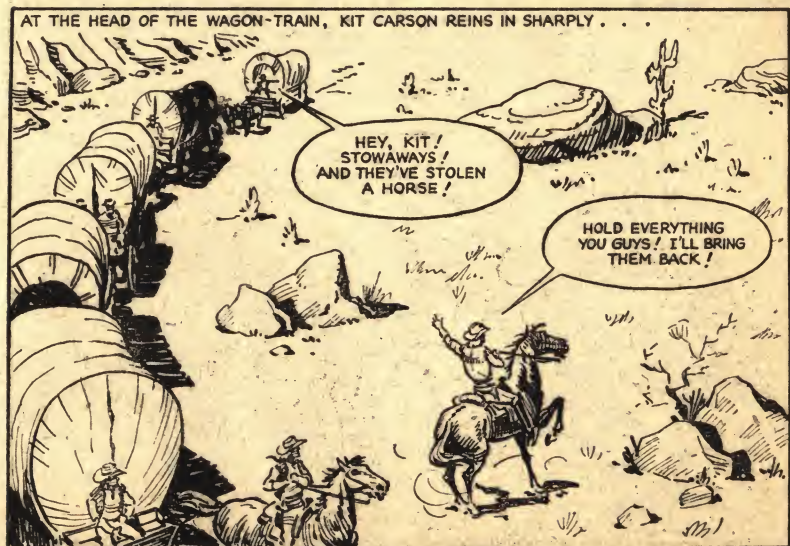
AS THE KIDS SCRAMBLE HASTILY FROM THE APPLE-BARRELS, BARNEY COLEMAN GRABS THEM

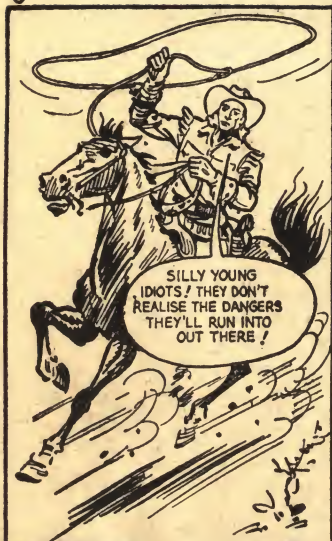
YOUNG FELLER, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THE LARRUPING OF YOUR LIFE, THEN YOU AND YOUR SISTER WILL BE SENT BACK TO THE CITY STREETS WHERE YOU CAME FROM!



THEN LIKE A FLASH, JOEY TWISTS FREE AND PUSHES A BARREL IN THE WAGONMASTER'S WAY







THEN THE REDSKINS SWOOP DOWN UPON THE HALTED WAGON-TRAIN!



Kit Carson

THE WAGONERS BLAZE AWAY AT THE
ATTACKING BRAVES . . .



THEN KIT HURTTLES IN FROM THE FLANK, SLINGING HOT LEAD WITH DEADLY ACCURACY!





AND A LITTLE LATER THE WAGONS MOVE ON AGAIN!

OKAY!
LET'S GO!



WITH THE CITY KIDS AT HIS SIDE, KIT RIDES AT THE HEAD OF THE WAGONS...

YOU NEARLY CAUSED A DISASTER THERE, YOU YOUNG BRATS! BUT YOU WON'T GET THE CHANCE TO DO IT AGAIN! WE'LL BE AT FORT MADISON SOON!

AW GEE, MISTER!
WE DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM!



SOON, THE WAGON-TRAIN NEARS
FORT MADISON . . .

THERE'S THE FORT.
WE'LL PULL UP OUTSIDE,
AND I'LL DUMP THESE PESKY
KIDS ON THEM . . .



KIT CARSON,
BY HOKEY!
HOW'S THINGS,
KIT ?

HIYA, MAJOR!
GOT STOWAWAYS HERE
KIDS FROM THE CITY . .
SEE THAT THEY'RE
SENT BACK ON THE
NEXT WAGON-TRAIN.
WILL YOU ? WE'RE
PUSHING ON .



KIT CARSON ! JOEY HEARS
THE MAGIC NAME AND GASPS !



THE MAJOR CALLS TO A SENTRY AS KIT REJOINS THE WAGON-TRAIN . . .



THE WAGON-TRAIN ROLLS OFF ALONG THE DUSTY VALLEY



BUT FROM A RIDGE, ACROSS THE VALLEY, THE REDSKIN SCOUTING PARTY ARE WATCHING . .



MOVING FAST ALONG THE RIDGE, THE REDSKINS GET WELL AHEAD OF THE WAGON-TRAIN . . .



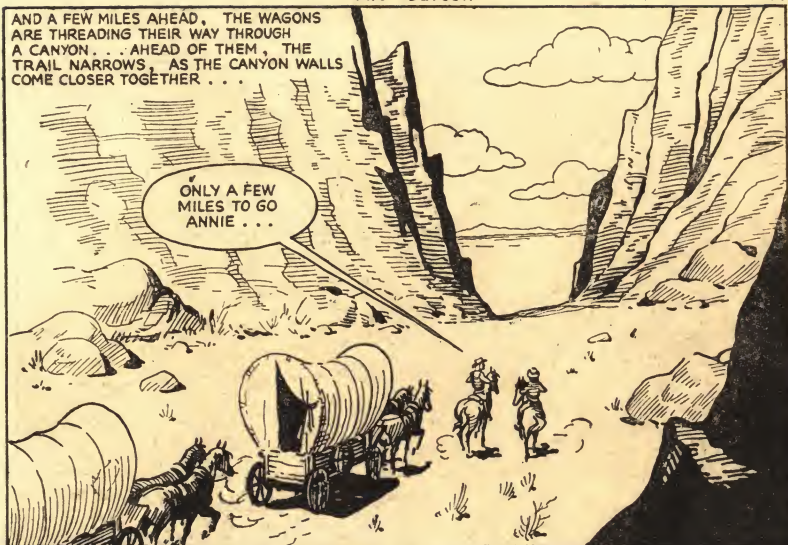
MEANWHILE ON THE FIRING-PLATFORM OF THE FORT, THE CITY KIDS GAZE OUT, A LUMP IN THEIR THROATS . . .



THEN YOUNG JOEY'S EYE FALLS ON A COIL OF ROPE..



AND A FEW MILES AHEAD, THE WAGONS ARE THREADING THEIR WAY THROUGH A CANYON . . . AHEAD OF THEM, THE TRAIL NARROWS, AS THE CANYON WALLS COME CLOSER TOGETHER . . .



THEN ANNIE GRABS KIT'S ARM WITH A GASP!



FOLLOW ME!
DEATH TO THE
PALEFACES!



KIT SEES THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE CHANCE FOR THE WAGONERS - THEY MUST RUN FOR IT !



KIT CARSON REINS IN AT THE NARROW MOUTH, AS THE WAGONS THUNDER OUT ACROSS THE OPEN PRAIRIE . . .



THEN, FROM SHELTER, KIT BLAZES AWAY AT THE ONCOMING REDSKINS AS THEY THIN OUT TO PASS THROUGH THE NARROW GAP . . .

BACK, YOU RED
SKUNKS! TAKE THAT!
AND THAT!



KIT'S ROARING GUNS TOPPLE BRAVES FROM THEIR HORSES, AND THE BLACKFEET REIN IN WILDLY!

WAUGH!
THE ACCURSED
PALEFACES ARE HOLDING
THE CANYON MOUTH!



THEN A LONE REDSKIN WORKS ROUND STEALTHILY, AND LEAPS DOWN UPON KIT FROM ABOVE.



KIT IS QUICKLY OVERPOWERED AND ROPED . . .



BUT AS THE REDSKINS GALLOP BACK INTO THE CANYON, THE TWO CITY KIDS APPEAR ON THE SCENE!

GOSH, JILL!
REDSKINS! HUNDREDS OF 'EM!
GET DOWN QUICK!
UNDER COVER!

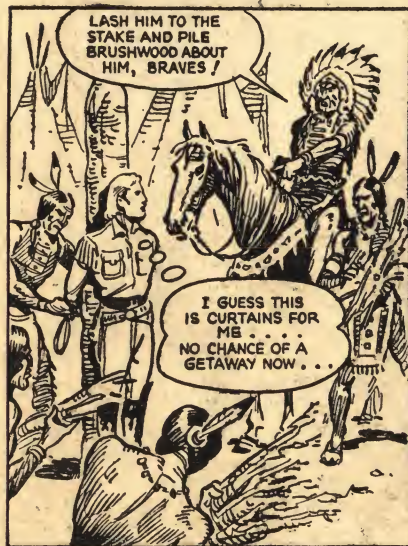
A black and white comic panel showing a boy and a girl in the foreground, looking out over a vast canyon. In the distance, a large group of Native Americans on horseback are galloping away across the canyon floor. The boy is on the left, wearing a plaid shirt, and the girl is on the right, wearing a dress. They are both looking towards the right side of the panel. A speech bubble from the boy contains the text: "GOSH, JILL! REDSKINS! HUNDREDS OF 'EM! GET DOWN QUICK! UNDER COVER!".

THEN JOEY GIVES A GASP AS HE CROUCHES WITH JILL, BEHIND A ROCK

KIT CARSON!
GEE, IT'S KIT CARSON
THEY'VE CAPTURED! THEY'LL
TORTURE AND KILL HIM FOR
SURE! GOSH, JILL, IF
ONLY WE COULD
RESCUE HIM!

A black and white comic panel showing the boy and girl crouching behind a large rock in the foreground. In the background, a group of Native Americans on horseback are galloping towards a man on a horse who is being captured. The boy is on the left, wearing a plaid shirt, and the girl is on the right, wearing a dress. They are both looking towards the right side of the panel. A speech bubble from the boy contains the text: "KIT CARSON! GEE, IT'S KIT CARSON THEY'VE CAPTURED! THEY'LL TORTURE AND KILL HIM FOR SURE! GOSH, JILL, IF ONLY WE COULD RESCUE HIM!".

SOON THE REDSKINS ARE GALLOPING DOWN INTO A ROCKY BASIN, IN WHICH LIES THEIR CAMP . . .



THEN THE PANTING KIDS APPEAR AT THE EDGE OF THE ROCK BASIN . . .



JOEY GRABS A TRIMMED SAPLING THAT IS LYING NEAR BY, AND



ONE AFTER THE OTHER, THE GREAT BOULDERS TOPPLE OVER THE EDGE, AND RUMBLE DOWN THE SLOPES. THEY GATHER OTHER ROCKS AS THEY GO, AND A SMALL AVALANCHE FALLS UPON THE REDSKIN CAMP!





BUT MEANWHILE, THE CITY KIDS
HAVE TAKEN COVER . . .



LOOKING FOR A PARTY OF
MEN - THE BRAVES DO NOT
SPOT THE TWO KIDS . . .



AND AS THE REAR BRAVE GALLOPS PAST...



THEN, CLINGING ONTO THE BRAVE'S HORSE, THE CITY KID GALLOPS DOWNHILL AT SPEED!



THE CHIEF AND WITCH-DOCTOR SWING ROUND IN AMAZEMENT!

WAUGH! A PALEFACE YOUTH! SLAY THE DOG! CUT HIM DOWN!



BUT AS THE SNARLING WITCH-DOCTOR SWINGS UP HIS SPEAR, THE KID LETS FLY ANOTHER STONE!



THE SNARLING CHIEF GRABS UP THE SPEAR!



BUT, SWINGING THE TOMAHAWK ABOUT HIS HEAD, THE PLUCKY KID HURLS IT!



JOEY'S AIM IS BAD! KIT WINCES AS THE RAZOR-SHARP TOMAHAWK WHISTLES TOWARDS HIM, AND THUDS INTO THE POST.



THEN THE SNARLING CHIEF HURLS HIMSELF UPON THE KID!

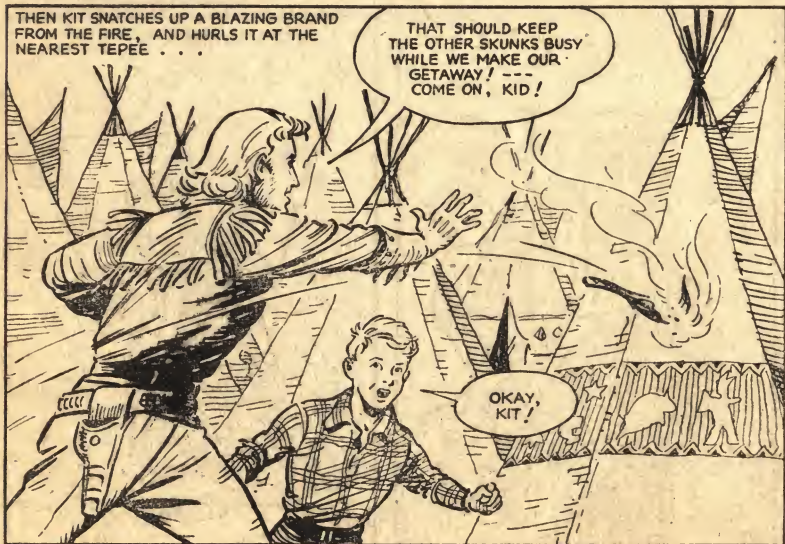


BY HOKEY!
THIS TOMAHAWK MAY
SAVE US BOTH!



KIT'S ROPES FALL AWAY, JUST IN TIME!





AS THUNDER RACES UP THE SLOPE
JILL JOINS THEM



AND AS THE WAGON-TRAIN NEARS THE NEXT
SETTLEMENT . . .



THEN BARNEY COLEMAN ON THE
REAR WAGON LETS OUT A ROAR!



BARNEY LEAPS TO THE GROUND AS KIT REINS IN ALONGSIDE . . .

HAND THEM OVER TO ME, KIT !
I'LL GIVE THESE
YOUNG BRATS SOMETHING TO
REMEMBER, THIS TIME ! IT'LL
BE THE LAST TIME THEY'LL
TROUBLE US . . .

HEY ! LET GO !
KIT'S MY
FRIEND...



HOLD IT, BARNEY ! THIS
KID JUST SAVED MY LIFE ! HE'S
A GOOD PLUCKY 'UN ! AND FROM
NOW ON, THEY'RE TAGGING ALONG
WITH ME ! THE WEST CAN USE
KIDS LIKE THESE .

WELL -
FOR CRYING
OUT LOUD !



THE TWO KIDS' EYES ARE SHINING AS THE WAGON-TRAIN ROLLS INTO TOWN . . .

GEE, IF THE KIDS BACK IN
THE CITY COULD ONLY SEE US
NOW ! RIDING WITH KIT CARSON !
THEY'D NEVER BELIEVE IT !

IT'S THE START OF A
NEW LIFE FOR YOU AND
JILL, JOEY !
WELCOME TO
THE WEST !



KIT CARSON

CAPTIVE of the COMANCHES!

THE TALK IS OF WAR AGAINST THE PALEFACES AS BLACK CLAW, WAR CHIEF OF THE COMANCHES, HOLDS A COUNCIL IN HIS MOUNTAIN CAMP, BUT HE KNOWS THAT THERE IS ONE MAN WHO CAN FOIL THE WAR-PLAN OF THE COMANCHES... AND HIS NAME IS KIT CARSON!

LET US RIDE OUT NOW AND SEIZE THIS PALEFACE SCOUT!

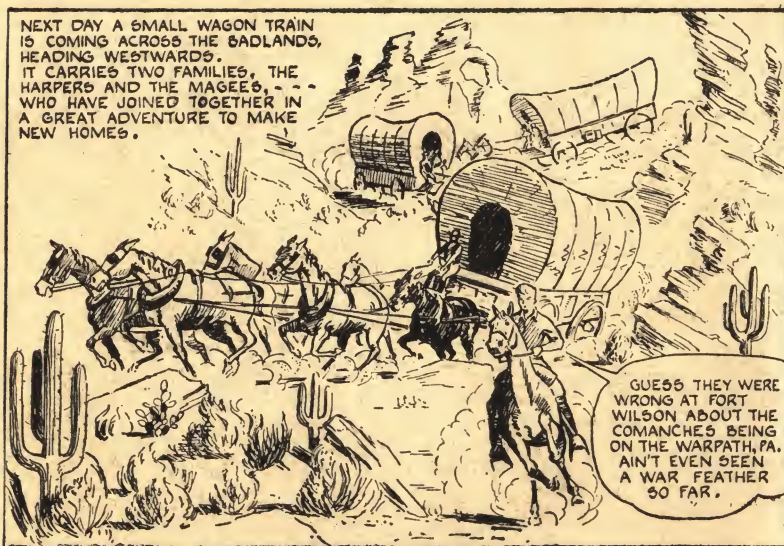
WAIT! HEAR MY WORD, MY BROTHERS!



BLACK CLAW, A MAN OF CUNNING, TELLS HIS PLAN.

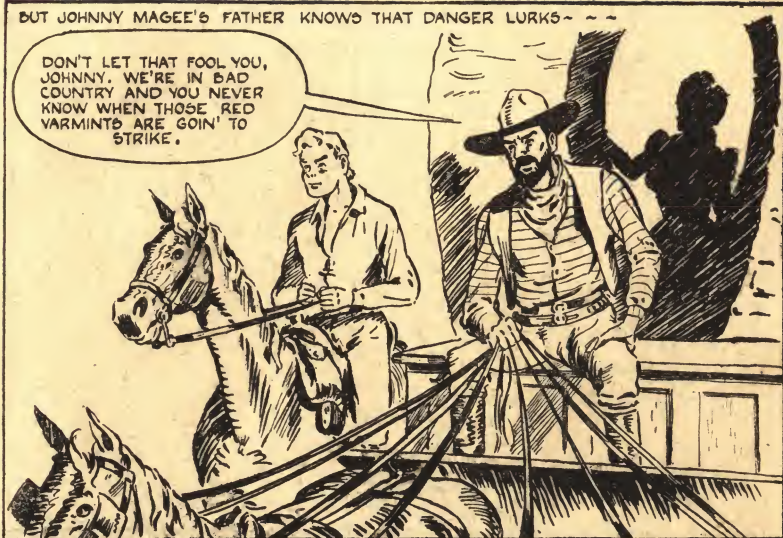


NEXT DAY A SMALL WAGON TRAIN IS COMING ACROSS THE BADLANDS, HEADING WESTWARDS. IT CARRIES TWO FAMILIES, THE HARPERS AND THE MAGEES, WHO HAVE JOINED TOGETHER IN A GREAT ADVENTURE TO MAKE NEW HOMES.



BUT JOHNNY MAGEE'S FATHER KNOWS THAT DANGER LURKS - - -

DON'T LET THAT FOOL YOU, JOHNNY. WE'RE IN BAD COUNTRY AND YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THOSE RED VARMINTS ARE GOIN' TO STRIKE.



NEXT MOMENT, THEY HEAR THE DREADED WAR CRY OF THE COMANCHES - - -

YIP! YIP!
DEATH TO THE
PALEFACES!



JOHNNY GRABS HIS RIFLE, BUT BEFORE HE HAS TIME TO FIRE A BRAVE DASHES IT FROM HIS GRASP. . . .



THE ODDS ARE TOO GREAT AGAINST THE HARPERS AND THE MAGEES. THEY FEAR MASSACRE..

SURROUNDED BY WHOOPING BRAVES,
THE WHITE FOLK ARE TAKEN TO
BUFFALO CANYON, THE STRONGHOLD
OF THE COMANCHES, WHICH IS
SURROUNDED BY UNSCALABLE
CLIFFS AND HAS ONLY ONE
ENTRANCE - - -



SOON THEY REALISE THEIR DEADLY DANGER AS CHIEF BLACK CLAW SPEAKS - - -

PALEFACES DIE IF
LONG HAIR SCOUT
NOT COME TO LODGES
OF BLACK CLAW!



AT DAWN NEXT DAY GENTRIES AT FORT WILSON HEAR THE DRUMMING OF UNSHOD HOOFES. IT IS A COMANCHE BRAVE ON ONE OF THE FLEETEST OF THE TRIBE'S PONIES - - -



WITH BULLETS HUMMING ROUND HIM, THE BRAVE MAKES OFF INTO THE HALF LIGHT - -



BUT O' DEERSKIN, LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF MESSAGE ON IT - - IN INJUN SIGN LANGUAGE.

BETTER TAKE IT TO THE MAJOR. MUST BE IMPORTANT.



SOON KIT CARSON, WHO IS IN THE FORT, IS CALLED TO THE COMMANDANT'S OFFICE.

YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO CAN READ THAT STUFF, CARSON. WHAT DOES IT SAY?

IT'S BAD NEWS, MAJOR, AND-- IT'S ABOUT ME.



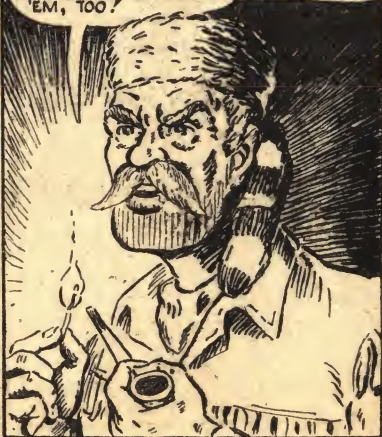
KIT READS OUT THE MESSAGE - - -

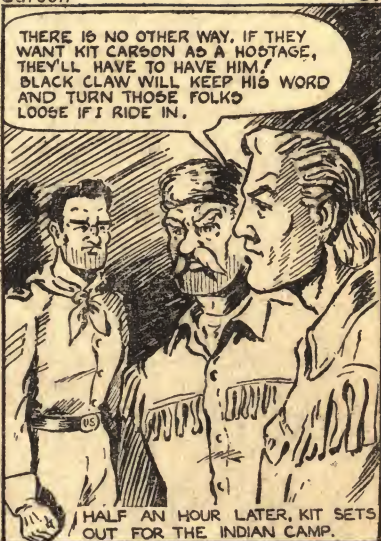
TO CHIEF OF LONG KNIVES: MANY PALEFACES, MEN, SQUAWS, PAPOOSES, PRISONERS IN CAMP OF BLACK CLAW, ALL DIE IF PALEFACE SCOUT CARBON NOT RIDE TO COMANCHE CAMP ALONE. LONG KNIFE SOLDIERS MUST NOT COME. EYES WILL BE WATCHING PALEFACES DIE IF LONG KNIVES RIDE PALEFACES FREE WHEN LONG HAIR COMES. THIS IS THE WORD OF BLACK CLAW.



'POSSUM CHARLIE, AN OLD TRAPPER WHO IS ALSO IN THE FORT, EXCLAIMS ANGRILY.

POOR FOLKS! THAT MUST BE THEM TWO FAMILIES I MET IN TH' BADLANDS. LITTLE KIDS WITH 'EM, TOO.







BLACK CLAW GIVES THE ORDER TO RELEASE THE MAGEES AND THE HARPERS. FOR CRUEL THOUGH HE IS, HIS WORD IS HIS BOND.



AT FORT WILSON, 'POBSSUM CHARLIE' HAS HAD AN IDEA WHICH MIGHT HELP TO SAVE KIT.

I'VE GOT AN IDEE I KIN FIND 'MY WAY INTO BUFFALO CANYON BY A SECRET WAY, MAJOR. I DUNNO EVEN THAT IT GOES ALL TH' WAY INTO TH' CANYON ~ BUT IT'S WORTH TRYING.

TRY IT!
I'LL GIVE YOU
LIEUTENANT
COLE AND
HIS TROOP.



AN HOUR LATER 'POBSSUM CHARLIE' AND A TROOP OF CAVALRY ARE CLIMBING THE LOWER SLOPES OF A GREAT ROCK RIDGE ~

SEE THAT CAVE MOUTH, LIEUTENANT? BEHIND IT THERE'S A WHOLE LOT OF CAVES AND TUNNELS. I'VE NEVER BEEN ALL TH' WAY THROUGH, BUT I GOT A HUNCH THEY GOES RIGHT THROUGH TH' RIDGE ~ AN' COMES OUT IN BUFFALO CANYON.

LEAD ON, 'POBSSUM!
WE'RE READY
FOR ANYTHING!





MEANWHILE IN THE WAR CAMP OF THE COMANCHES ~ ~



TORN BY CHAPARRAL THORN, WHIPPED BY TWIGS AND BRANCHES, JOHNNY CREEPS THROUGH THE UNDERGROWTH, HEADING BACK FOR THE COMANCHE CAMP.



IF I KIN GET NEAR ENOUGH, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO CUT HIM FREE. AN' AT LEAST WE COULD BOTH GO DOWN FIGHTIN'!

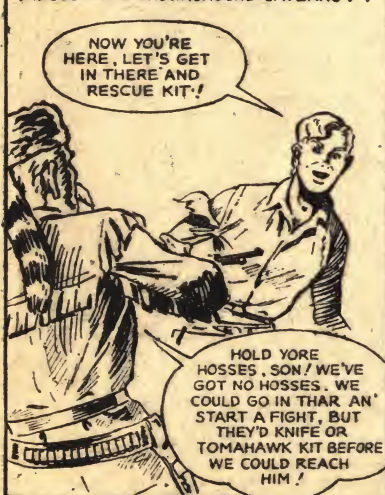
THEN, AS JOHNNY REACHES A POINT WHERE HE CAN LOOK DOWN ON THE CAMP... HE SUDDENLY HEARS A LOW CALL...



PSST! HEY, SON, COME OVER HYAR!

JEEPERS! WHITE MEN! HOW'D THEY GET HERE?

'POSSUM CHARLIE AND HIS PARTY TELL JOHNNY HOW THEY HAVE COME SAFELY THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND CAVERNS...



NOW YOU'RE HERE, LET'S GET IN THERE AND RESCUE KIT!

HOLD YORE HOSSES, SON! WE'VE GOT NO HOSSES. WE COULD GO IN THAR AN' START A FIGHT, BUT THEY'D KNIFE OR TOMAHAWK KIT BEFORE WE COULD REACH HIM!

O.K. THEN I KEPT MY EYES OPEN WHILE I WAS IN THE CAMP COME WITH ME, MISTER, AN' I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO SAVE KIT!

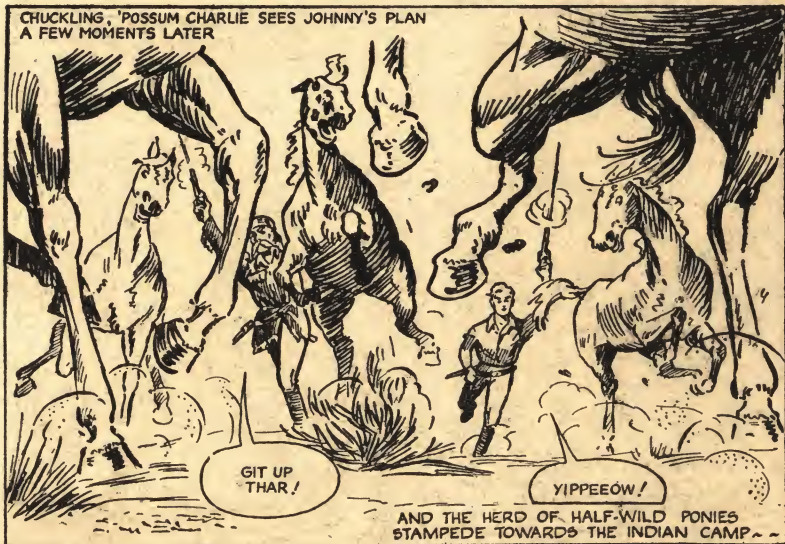


I'M WITH YOU SON. BE READY TO COVER US, LOOTENANT.

SKILFULLY HIDING THEMSELVES IN THE BRUSHWOOD, JOHNNY AND POSSUM CHARLIE WORK THEIR WAY AROUND THE CAMP UNTIL . . .



CHUCKLING, POSSUM CHARLIE SEES JOHNNY'S PLAN A FEW MOMENTS LATER



AS THE STARTLED BRAVES LEAP TO STOP THEM, THE CAVALRY
LIEUTENANT AND HIS TROOPERS COME IN SHOOTING



AND IN THE CONFUSION KIT CARSON IS
STRUGGLING TO
FREE HIMSELF.



THE STRONG, SEASONED RAWHIDE ROPES
BINDING KIT ARE UNBREAKABLE, BUT SUDDENLY
AS HE HEAVES WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH . . .



BUT STILL HE IS BOUND TIGHTLY TO THE STAKE. STAGGERING OFF BALANCE, HE FALLS TO THE GROUND, BUT STARTS ROLLING OVER AND OVER TOWARDS A NEARBY FIRE . .



WITH THE DIN ALL ROUND HIM OF SHOTS, YELLS, THE THUD OF HOOFES THE WHINNYING OF PONIES AND THE CRASH OF FALLING TEPEES, KIT USES THE FIRE TO FREE HIMSELF . .



AS KIT LIES, GRITTING HIS TEETH WITH THE AGONY OF THE FIRE, HIS RESCUERS DASH INTO THE CAMP, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION CAUSED BY THE MADDENED PONIES





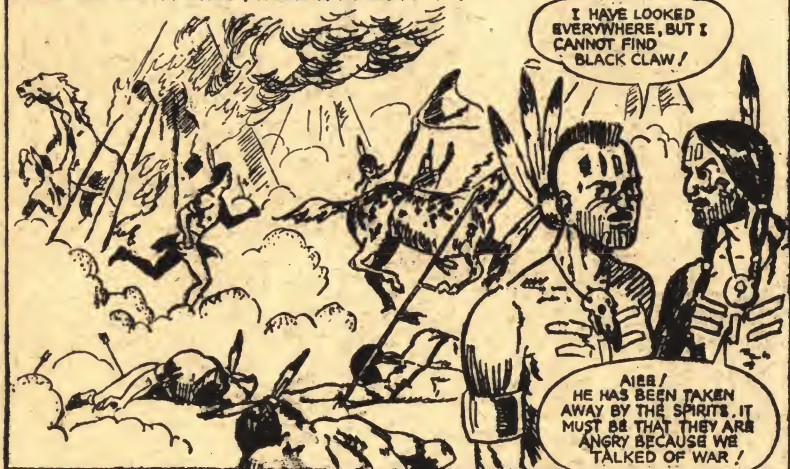
BUT BLACK CLAW KNOWS WHY THE ATTACK HAS BEEN MADE ON HIS CAMP. HE IS MAKING FOR KIT CARSON, AND AS THE SCOUT FREES HIMSELF AT LAST AND SCRAMBLES TO HIS FEET.







BUT DOWN IN THE WAR CAMP THERE IS STILL UPROAR AND CONFUSION, AND OF BLACK CLAW THE MIGHTY CHIEF, THERE IS NO SIGN.



AFTER MAKING THE PERILOUS RETURN JOURNEY THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND CAVERNS, THE PARTY OF PALEFACES RIDE IN THE MOONLIGHT TOWARDS FORT WILSON . .



AND IN FORT WILSON THERE IS A GREAT BARBECUE TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF KIT CARSON AND THE REUNITING OF JOHNNY MAGEE WITH HIS PARENTS AND FRIENDS . .



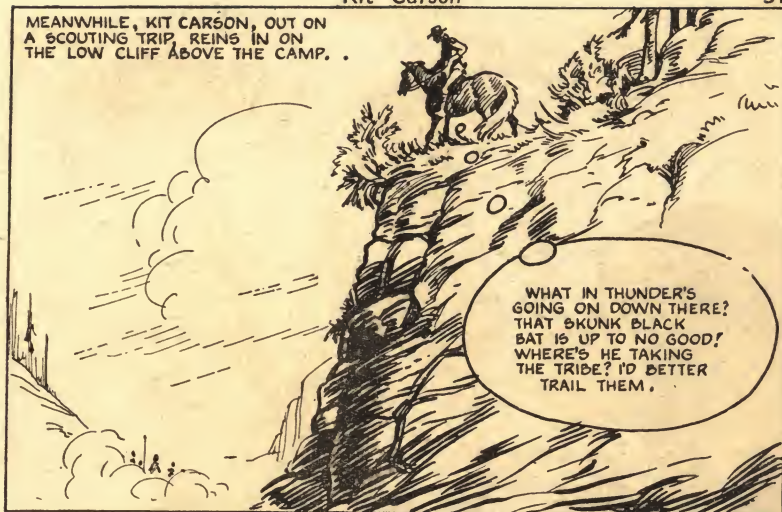
KIT CARSON *and the* **CHIEF'S DAUGHTER!**

WISE OLD CHIEF TRUE HEART,
A FRIEND OF THE WHITE MAN,
HAS LEFT FOR A MEETING OF
CHIEFS, MANY DAYS DISTANT,
AND IN HIS ABSENCE THE
SCHEMING UNDER-CHIEF, BLACK
BAT, HATER OF THE PALEFACE,
RULES IN HIS STEAD. . .

NOW IS OUR CHANCE
TO MAKE WAR ON THE
WHITE DOGS! WE WILL
STRIKE SWIFTLY FROM
PLACE TO PLACE!
THERE WILL BE
MUCH LOOT!
FOLLOW ME, BRAVES!



MEANWHILE, KIT CARSON, OUT ON A SCOUTING TRIP, REINS IN ON THE LOW CLIFF ABOVE THE CAMP.



WHAT IN THUNDER'S GOING ON DOWN THERE? THAT SKUNK BLACK BAT IS UP TO NO GOOD! WHERE'S HE TAKING THE TRIBE? I'D BETTER TRAIL THEM.

THEN NOKOMA, THE CHIEF'S DAUGHTER, RUNS TO STOP THE BRAVES.



STOP! THIS IS AGAINST MY FATHER'S ORDERS! WE ARE AT PEACE WITH THE PALEFACES! I FORBID THIS!

ASIDE, GIRL! WE RIDE!

SO NOKOMA IS SWEEP ASIDE, AND THE BRAVES RIDE ON. THEN, AS THE GIRL CALLS ANGRILY AFTER THE PARTY, A HUGE SHAPE LOOMS UP BEHIND HER!



IT'S YOUNG NOKOMA!
AND SHE'S IN A BAD
SPOT, BY HOKEY!
I'VE GOT TO DO
SOMETHING, AND
FAST!

OH,
A GRIZZLY!



KIT LAUNCHES HIMSELF FROM THE CLIFF-TOP IN A TREMENDOUS LEAP!



LOCKED IN THE SNARLING BEAR'S GRASP, KIT ROLLS OVER AND OVER, GRABBING FOR HIS GUN!



AT THE SOUND OF THE SHOT, THE BRAVES HALT AND SWING ABOUT.



KIT STAGGERS TO HIS FEET, PANTING, TO BE THANKED BY THE GRATEFUL NOKOMA.

THEN THE BRAVES THUNDER BACK AT THE GALLOP, AND BEFORE KIT CAN ACT, HE IS SEIZED AND DRAGGED INTO THE REDSKIN CAMP!



BLACK BAT SPEAKS SOFTLY, EYES GLEAMING!



SO KIT IS FREED, AND PLACED ON THE SEAT OF HONOUR. THEN THE BRAVES BEGIN A WILD DANCE AROUND HIM.



IN THE MIDST OF THE CEREMONY, BLACK BAT RAPS OUT A SUDDEN COMMAND, AND KIT FINDS HIMSELF SURROUNDED BY A RING OF MENACING SPEAR POINTS.

DO NOT
TOUCH YOUR GUN,
PALEFACE DOG, OR
THE GIRL DIES!

THEN THE BRAVES
SEIZE KIT AND TIE
HIM TIGHTLY TO THE
CHAIR OF HONOUR..





NOKOMA IS BRUSHED ASIDE BY THE YELLING BRAVES. THEN, LASHED TO THE CHAIR OF HONOUR, KIT IS CARRIED DOWN TO THE RIVERSIDE IN STATE, SURROUNDED BY CHANTING REDSKINS, LED BY THE CUNNING BLACK BAT. . .

KIT IS PLACED ABOARD A HUGE RAFT, AND THEN THE FUNERAL PYRE IS LIT.

YOU ARE HONoured, PALEFACE, TO BE GIVEN THE FUNERAL OF A CHIEF. LIGHT THE FIRE! AND CUT LOOSE THE RAFT, BRAVES!

YOU SKULKING RED VARMINTS!



FLAMES CRACKLE UP AS THE RAFT
IS SWEEPED AWAY DOWNSTREAM.

THE WIND'S FANNING
THE FLAMES! THIS
SURE LOOKS LIKE
CURTAINS FOR CARSON
UNLESS I CAN DO
SOMETHING - FAST!

GRITTING HIS TEETH, KIT TWISTS SIDWAYS AND
THRUSTS HIS BOUND WRISTS INTO THE BLAZE!

THUNDER FALLS
ARE RIGHT AHEAD!
THERE'S ONLY ONE
CHANCE! IF I CAN
ONLY - BURN THESE
ROPES THROUGH -
AAGH! - THEY'RE
GIVING WAY!



RIPPING HIS CHARRED BONDS FROM HIM, KIT TAKES A LAST-SECOND HEADER FROM THE RAFT AS IT PLUNGES OVER THE ROARING FALLS!



BATTLING HIS WAY TO THE BANK,
KIT STAGGERS ASHORE, PANTING. .



MEANWHILE, NOKOMA AND HER
TRUSTY OLD SERVANT SPRING TO
THE CAMPFIRE. . .



THEN BLACK BAT AND HIS BRAVES BURST INTO THE HOLLOW. . .

AIEE! SHE TRICKS US! SHE SENDS FOR HELP FOR HER ACCURSED PALEFACE FRIEND! SEIZE HER, BRAVES!



AND ON A DISTANT HILLTOP, CHIEF TRUE HEART REINS IN AND SWINGS ABOUT, AT A CRY FROM ONE OF HIS TRUSTY BRAVES.

FAR BEHIND THEM, ABOVE THE PINES, RISE THE SMOKE SIGNALS OF DISTRESS!



BACK TO OUR HUNTING LODGES, MY BRAVES! SWIFTLY! SOMETHING IS WRONG! FOLLOW ME!



AND BACK AT THE
REDSKIN CAMP.



LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING
KIT FLASHES TO THE ATTACK!







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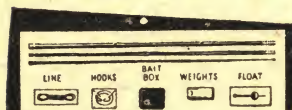
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