

Featuring **THE BLACK HOOD**
TOP-NOTCH

NO. 18 AUG. 2/6/13

comics

IN THIS
ISSUE...

THE RETURN OF
the
SKULL!

10¢



New Smash
ADVENTURE
OF THE
WIZARD
with **ROY**, the SUPER-BOY



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

WOW! DID I HIT THE JACKPOT!

LOOK AT WHAT I GET FOR JUST ONE DIME!

THE BLACK HOOD IN THE CASE OF

"THE CORPSE WAS WRAPPED IN SEAWEED"! WAS THIS THE DREAD LORELEI, RETURNED, TO LURE SHIPS TO HORRIBLE DOOM ON THE ROCKS. OR WAS IT SOME HUMAN AGENCY, EVEN MORE HORRIBLE, THAT HAD WOVEN BARBARA SUTTON AND THE BLACK HOOD INTO A MESH FROM WHICH THERE WAS NO ESCAPE BUT DEATH!!!

STEEL STERLING

AND THE CASE OF "THE GREEN EGGS OF DEATH"! MANY WERE THE BODIES THEY FOUND, DEAD! AND BESIDE EACH WAS A CRUSHED CHINESE GREEN EGG. AND NOW DORA CUMMINGS HAD ONE OF THOSE SYMBOLS OF DOOM, WHILE A SLANT-EYED KILLER STALKED HER THROUGH THE STREETS OF CHINATOWN!!!

MR. JUSTICE

AND THE "MASS PRODUCTION ZOMBIES"! WHY DID THE WORKERS OF ALL THE UNITED STATES ARMAMENTS FACTORIES DROP DEAD AT THEIR JOBS, AND WHAT HAD CAUSED THEIR BODIES TO DISAPPEAR FROM THEIR GRAVES???

SERGEANT BOYLE

FIGHTING THE NAZIS WAS AN EVERYDAY JOB TO THAT DEVIL-MAY-CARE ACE OF THE BRITISH ARMY, SERGEANT BOYLE - BUT THE WAR TOOK ON A MUCH MORE SERIOUS COMPLEXION WHEN HIS OWN KID BROTHER LANDED IN THE HANDS OF HITLER'S HIRELINGS!!!

DON'T MISS THIS SMASH-ING NEW MAGAZINE,

JACKPOT COMICS

ON SALE ON ALL NEWSSTANDS!!!



THE BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY

A THICK FOG ROLLS OVER THE WATERS, BLOTS OUT THE MOON, AND CASTS A PALL UPON THE CITY. IT'S A NIGHT OF WEIRD DANCING MISTS THAT MAKES MEN QUIVER WITH UNEASINESS AND QUICKENS THEIR STEPS AS THEY HURRY HOME. AND OUT OF THIS THICK, MENACING BLANKET, A FIGURE TAKES SHAPE, BECOMES DISTINCT, WE SEE - **THE SKULL!**



SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING ME!



YES SKULL. ME, THE BLACK HOOD!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR GAME IS THIS TIME!



BUT I'LL STOP YOU BEFORE YOU START!



UGH!

NO YOU WON'T HOOD!



I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME. THE HOOD HAS DELAYED ME TOO LONG, ALREADY!



THE HOOD SPEEDILY LEAPS AFTER THE SKULL!



WHEW! SEEMS LIKE I'VE BEEN SWIMMING AROUND FOR HOURS, BUT NO SIGN OF THE SKULL I'VE LOST HIM, ALL RIGHT!



LATER- THIS PILING HAS KEPT ME WELL HIDDEN. THE HOOD'S GIVEN UP THE SEARCH. NOW TO GET TO THE SHIP. AH, A ROW-BOAT! PERFECT!



GOLLY! COULD'VE SWORN I SAW A COUPLE OF GUYS JUMP IN ABOUT HERE. GUESS I WUZ MISTAKEN.



YOUR MISTAKE, MY FRIEND, WAS IN SNOOPING INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S AFFAIRS!

ARRHH!



NOW TO GET TO THE SHIP AND SNEAK ABOARD WITHOUT BEING SEEN!



ON BOARD THE SHIP?

WELL, MEN, WE'VE ARRIVED IN AMERICA SAFE ENOUGH SO FAR WITH HIS MAJESTY'S CROWN JEWELS!



AS YOU KNOW, THE CROWN JEWELS ARE TO BE KEPT IN THE U.S. FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR. WE MUST BE AS QUIET ABOUT IT AS WE CAN TO AVOID PUBLICITY, THAT IS WHY WE WAITED UNTIL NIGHT FALL TO GO ASHORE. OUR FIRST DESTINATION IS THE PRIVATE HOME OF OUR OWN ENGLISH AMBASSADOR WHERE THE JEWELS WILL BE KEPT TEMPORARILY!



AVOID PUBLICITY, HA! AS THOUGH THE PRESENCE OF SUCH WEALTH COULD BE KEPT FROM ME - THE SKULL!



AS THE GUARDIAN OF THE CROWN JEWELS RETURNS TO HIS STATE ROOM FOR HIS BELONGINGS...



THE SKULL POSTED BEHIND THE DOOR, LEAPS OUT, AND...

DIE! DIE!

UR...R...R...



NOW TO DISPOSE OF THE BODY AND PROCEED WITH THE REST OF MY PLANS!



ARE YOU READY TO LEAVE FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S HOME, SIR?

ER...NO. I JUST REMEMBERED AN APPOINTMENT. YOU GO ON AHEAD. I'LL MEET YOU THERE, LATER!

MEANWHILE...

HELLO, BABS, WORKING KIND OF LATE, AREN'T YOU? MUST BE AN IMPORTANT STORY!

VERY, KIP. SO IMPORTANT THAT I'M NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO PRINT IT FOR A FEW DAYS!

LOOK BARBARA, I JUST ER... SPOKE TO THE BLACK HOOD. THE SKULL IS STILL ALIVE AND ON THE LOOSE!

WHAT! THEN IT WAS HIM I SAW A WHILE AGO!

SAW HIM? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THE EDITOR GOT A TIP THAT THE CROWN JEWELS ARE TO ARRIVE IN AMERICA TODAY. I WROTE UP THE STORY AND LEFT IT LYING ON MY DESK WHILE I WENT OUT FOR A MOMENT!

THE SKULL MUST HAVE COME HERE TO KILL BARBARA, BUT WHEN HE SAW THAT STORY, HE CHANGED HIS MIND. HE MUST HAVE BEEN OUT TO STEAL THOSE JEWELS WHEN I SPOTTED HIM!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW?

TO THE POLICE, AND YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO WARN THEM ABOUT THE SKULL!

AT THAT MOMENT IN THE RECORD ROOM OF THE POLICE STATION

WELL, I'LL BE! HERE'S THE RECORD OF A GUY THAT'S WANTED WE COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT!

KIP BURLAND! HE USED TO BE A COP BUT HE LOST HIS BADGE WHEN THEY CAUGHT HIM WITH STOLEN DIAMONDS. TRIED TO TELL US THE SKULL FRAMED HIM!... I BETTER SHOW THIS TO SARGE MCGINTY!

WHAT'S UP? WHY ALL THE EXCITEMENT?

RECOGNIZE THIS GUY, SARGE? HE GOT LOST IN THE FILES!

RECOGNIZE HIM? BE JABBERS! THAT'S KIP BURLAND! I'VE SEEN HIM A HUNDRED TIMES IF I'VE SEEN HIM ONCE! JUST WAIT TILL I LAY MY EYES ON HIM AGAIN!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE SKULL'S HIDEOUT -

IT WAS A LITTLE TROUBLESOME GETTING THESE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CROWN JEWELS - BUT WELL WORTH IT. THEY ENABLED ME TO MAKE PERFECT IMITATIONS OF THE JEWELS!

HARK! WHAT'S THAT? FOOTSTEPS! MUST BE THE HOODLUMS I AM EXPECTING TO HELP ME WITH MY PLANS! I'D BETTER GET THESE IMITATIONS OUT OF SIGHT!

AH, GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN. I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

ALL RIGHT, SKULL - WHAT DO YA WANT WITH US?

I WANT YOU TO HELP ME STEAL THE CROWN JEWELS WHICH HAVE JUST ARRIVED FROM ENGLAND. YOU WILL BE PAID WELL!

WHEW! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE HERE. BUT HOW'RE WE GONNA DO IT? THEY MUST HAVE A MILLION COPS AROUND!

I HAVE ALREADY ATTENDED TO THAT. I'VE KILLED THE CHIEF GUARDIAN WITHOUT ANYBODY'S KNOWLEDGE, AND WITH THIS RUBBER MASK DISGUISE OF HIM, I DEFEY DETECTION!

WULLY CHEE! THAT SKULL IS EVEN SMARTER THAN THEY SAY!

THE SKULL RELATES THE REST OF HIS PLAN.

YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TO DO, NOW?

IT'S A CINCH, SKULL. WE CAN'T MISS! SEE YOU LATER!

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE IN FER A NICE SLICE OF THAT FORTUNE, EH, JIGGER!

WE'RE IN FER ALL OF IT, BOYS. ONCE WE GET OUR HANDS ON THOSE JEWELS, WE'RE LAMMIN' AND THE SKULL CAN WHISTLE FER HIS SHARE!

FOOLS! STUPID FOOLS! AS THOUGH I'M NOT AWARE HOW THEIR LITTLE MINDS ARE FEVERISHLY PLANNING TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME. BUT I HAVE A LITTLE DOUBLE-CROSS OF MY OWN. THE SKULL SHARES HIS LOOT WITH NO ONE, HA, HA, HA!

INSIDE THE ENGLISH AMBASSADOR'S HOME...

I'M DELIGHTED TO HAVE THE CO-OPERATION OF THE AMERICAN POLICE. I FEEL QUITE SAFE NOW!

YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL AMBASSADOR. WITH US AROUND, YER JEWELS ARE AS SAFE AS A BABY'S MILK!



THIS IS BARBARA SUTTON, A NEWS REPORTER. BUT SHE AIN'T GONNA GET THE KIND OF NEWS SHE'S EXPECTING!

DELIGHTED TO KNOW YOU, AMBASSADOR! I HOPE MCGINTY IS RIGHT!

SO DO I!



I'LL PLANT MY MEN AROUND THE GROUNDS RIGHT AWAY!

GOOD!... I DO HOPE LORD ROTHMERE, CHIEF GUARDIAN OF THE JEWELS, RETURNS SOON!



OKAY BOYS! TAKE YER PLACES!

WHILE WATCHING FROM ABOVE...

HMM, THERE CERTAINLY ARE ENOUGH MEN PATROLLING THE GROUNDS!



BRR... IT'S CHILLY IN HERE! YES, CONFOUND THE LUCK! MY RADIATOR'S BROKEN AND I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET A PLUMBER HERE TO FIX IT!



I KNOW SOMEBODY-I'LL CALL HIM UP AND HAVE HIM RIGHT DOWN HERE!



HELLO! SLIM? C'MON OVER TO THE ENGLISH AMBASSADOR'S HOUSE RIGHT AWAY. I GOT A JOB FER YOU!



LATER -

HI YA, SARGE-WHERE I AM!

WELL, I'LL BE...

HA, HA, HA. FIRST PLUMBER I EVER SAW WITH A FULL DRESS SUIT!



SLIM GOES TO RETRIEVE HIS BAG OF TOOLS - AND PICKS UP THE WRONG BAG!



JUST THEN,

SAY, LORD ROTHMERE, THESE GUYS SAY THEY'RE SPECIAL GUARDS, 'N THAT YOU SENT FER 'EM!

ER, YES, I DID! CAN'T HAVE TOO MANY PEOPLE GUARDING THE CROWN JEWELS, YOU KNOW!



THESE GUARDS WILL BE ADEQUATE PROTECTION. THEY'LL STAY IN THE ROOM WITH ME. YOU POLICEMEN CAN GO BACK TO YOUR POSTS!

OKAY, SIR!



WELL, GUESS I'LL BEAT IT, TOO. GEE I WISH I COULD SHOW YOU MY BRAND NEW PLUMBING APARTMENT. MISS SUTTON!

HMM, MAYBE I'LL GO WITH YOU AT THAT. DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH EXCITEMENT AROUND HERE!



AND THERE MIGHT BE A NICE HUMAN INTEREST STORY I COULD WRITE ABOUT THE MILLIONAIRE PLUMBER. C'MON, LET'S GO!

YOU BETCHA!



SERGEANT MCGINTY, I'M GETTING WORRIED ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE. DO YOU THINK THAT PERHAPS THE SKULL...

OH! SO YOU HEARD ABOUT THAT GUY TOO, HUH? WELL DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM!



HE KNOWS BETTERN' TO TRY TO PULL ANYTHING ON ME. I'LL GO OUT ANYWAY, 'N FIND THE AMBASSADOR!



NO SOONER DOES MCGINTY LEAVE, THAN-

QUICK! GET THE JEWELS INTO THIS BAG



HAW HAW! YOU SURE WORKED IT SLICK, SKULL. IT WUZ A LEAD PIPE CINCH... SEE YOU AT THE HIDEOUT! S'LONG!





THE BIG-SHOT CHANGED HIS MIND. SAID HE HAD ENOUGH COPS, 'N HE DIDN'T NEED US!

YOU BET HE DOESN'T... WELL BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME!



AS THE SKULL'S HENCHMEN SPEED AWAY-

STOP! THIEVES! THEY'VE ROBBED THE JEWELS!



THE DIRTY... BLANK... BLANK... HE'S TRYIN' TO PULL A FAST ONE!... LET THE COPPERS HAVE IT!



THEN AS THE CAR PASSES BENEATH THE TREE THE HOOD IS PERCHED IN-



STRIKING OUT WITH TRIP-HAMMER BLOWS, THE HOOD SUBDUES THE THUGS IN THE BACK SEAT, THEN TURNS ON THE DRIVER.



THE CAR OUT OF CONTROL, CRASHES SPLINTERINGLY INTO A TREE!



OOO! I STOPPED THEM, ALL RIGHT, AND ALMOST STOPPED MYSELF TOO - PERMANENTLY!



THE POLICE SOON COME RUNNING UP-

HELLO, SARGE! WANT TO GIVE ME A TICKET FOR RECKLESS DRIVING?

NEVER MIND THE WISE CRACKS, HOOD. JUST HAND OVER THOSE JEWELS!



WHAT JEWELS? THESE ARE IMITATIONS! HERE, HAVE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

I'LL BE...! THEY ARE ALL RIGHT!

PHONEY JEWELS! CRIPES! THE SKULL OUT - SMARTED US!

WELL, HE AIN'T GONNA GET AWAY WITH IT. THAT ROTHMERE GUY IN THERE IS REALLY THE SKULL IN DISGUISE.

WHAT...! I GET IT NOW. HE WAS USING YOU AS A BLIND TO DRAW THE POLICE AWAY SO THAT HE COULD ESCAPE HIMSELF WITH THE JEWELS!

GREAT BAN-SHEES!



COME ON, QUICK! WE MAY STILL CATCH HIM!



TOO LATE! HE'S KILLED THE AMBASSADOR AND MADE A CLEAN GETAWAY!

WOW! WATTA MESS! ALL THEM TOOLS SCATTERED AROUND. SLIM, THE PLUMBER MUSTA DONE THAT WHEN HE TRIPPED ON THE RUG!



WAIT A MINUTE! I COULDA S'WORN THAT WHEN SLIM WENT WITH BARBARA TO HIS HOUSE, HE WUZ CARRYIN' HIS BAG. IF HIS TOOLS WUZN'T IN IT, THEN WHAT WAS?



WELL ANYWAY, WE'RE TAKIN' YOU ALONG HOOD!

SLIM CARRIED A BAG OUT OF HERE THAT WASN'T HIS OWN, MCGINTY SAYS!



IT'S ONLY A HUNCH, BUT MAYBE SLIM PICKED UP THE SKULL'S VALISE BY MISTAKE! IN THAT CASE, THE SKULL IS PROBABLY ON HIS WAY AFTER THEM RIGHT NOW!



SORRY, MCGINTY. JUST REMEMBERED ANOTHER APPOINTMENT - AT SLIM'S HOUSE!

COME BACK, YE SPALPEEN!



HEAVEN GRANT THAT I DON'T GET THERE TOO LATE. THE SKULL WILL MURDER THEM WITHOUT A QUALM!



WHILE IN SLIM'S HOUSE -

HOW DO YA LIKE 'EM, MISS SUTTON?

HA, HA! A PLUMBER'S PARADISE, SLIM, WITH ALL THESE RADIATORS







UGH!

SO YOU'LL PUT AN END TO MY CAREER, EH?



YOU'VE DRAWN YOUR LAST BREATH, HOOD! DIE! DIE!



JUST THEN—

OOO! THAT STEAM! IT'S SCALDING!



THE HOOD TAKES QUICK ADVANTAGE OF THE SKULL'S DISTRACTION.

POW



AT THAT MOMENT—

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, HOOD!



SO YOU TWO THIEVES QUARRELED BETWEEN YOURSELVES ABOUT DIVIDIN' THE SPOILS, EH?

MCGINTY, YOU NIN-COMPOOP, THE HOOD PREVENTED THE SKULL FROM ROB-BING THEM!



PIG'S EYE, HE DID! GET VER HANDS OUT. I'M PUTTIN' THE CUFFS ON YOU THIS TIME!

I GUESS YOU'VE GOT ME THIS TIME, MCGINTY.



HEY... WHA... HOW'D THAT HAPPEN?

THE HAND IS QUICKER THAN THE EYE, SARGE!



SO LONG MCGINTY. DON'T LET ANYBODY SELL YOU THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE



HELP! POLICE... I MEAN YOU GUYS! C'MERE, QUICK!

I'LL BE!... WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT, MIKE?



NEVER MIND ME. GET AFTER THE HOOD, QUICK! HE WENT OUT THAT WAY!



SEE HIM ANYWHERE AROUND, PAT!

NOPE - NOT A SIGN OF HIM.



WELL, ANYWAY WE GOT THE SKULL AND HE'S NOT GETTING AWAY. LET'S GO, BOYS!

TOO BAD THE HOOD DIDN'T CLAMP THOSE HANDCUFFS ON YOUR TONGUE, MC GINTY!



AS THE POLICE LEAVE...

WHEW! I THOUGHT SURE THEY'D LOOK BEHIND THE DOOR ANY SECOND!



SLIM! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YEAH, SURE! BUT PLENTY SORE BELIEVE ME!



I MUSTA FIXED THAT DAMAGED RADIATOR A HUNDRED TIMES AND IT ALWAYS KEEPS BUSTIN'!

HA HA!



KIP BURLAND! WHERE DID YOU SPRING FROM?

GEE! YA MISSED ALL THE FUN!

I'M NOT SO SURE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FUN FOR ME, SLIM!



YOU CAN DROP THAT MEEK ACT KIP. I KNOW WHO YOU ARE NOW!

YOU DO!



DON'T PLAY DUMB WITH ME, MR. KIP BURLAND. I WAS IN THE POLICE STATION WITH YOU. YOU KNOW WHEN MCGINTY WANTED TO ARREST YOU?

OH THAT! ER... YES... I CAME HERE ESPECIALLY TO THANK YOU!

WHEW! I THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT SHE KNEW I WAS THE BLACK HOOD!

FLASH!!! COME AND GET IT, BOYS AND GIRLS! IT'S YOURS FOR THE TAKING - A FULL-SIZED, FOUR-COLORED PORTRAIT OF THE SHIELD AND DUSTY THE BOY DETECTIVE, PERSONALLY SIGNED BY THEM AND SUITABLE FOR FRAMING-ON THE BACK COVER OF THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF **TOP-NOTCH COMICS!** LOOK FOR IT!

THE WIZARD

AND ROY THE SUPER BOY







WHAT? YOU'RE DRIVING A CAB? I SENT YOU HERE FOR A VACATION! WHAT'S THE IDEA?

AW GEE, I GOT LONELY WITHOUT A HACK, SO I GOT THIS ONE! GET IN, I'LL DRIVE YOU TO THE HOTEL!



I COULDN'T DO A THING WITH HIM, BLANE! AFTER ALL, I CAME ALONG TO WRITE ARTICLES FOR YOUR PAPER ON THE DAILY EXPERIENCES OF THE HERO OF THE FIFTH AVENUE HOLD-UP, NOT TO PLAY NURSE TO HIM!



BETTER DRIVE TO THE BANK FIRST, MOE! I HAVE SOME TRAVELLERS CHECKS I WANT TO GET CASHED!

YOU BETCHA, BOSS!



YOU NEEDN'T WAIT! I MAY BE OCCUPIED FOR QUITE SOME TIME!

AW...I'LL HANG AROUND, ANYHOW!



WHY, YES...I'LL BE GLAD TO ACCOMMODATE YOU ON THOSE CHECKS! SIT DOWN, PLEASE!

THANK YOU!



JUST THEN, FOUR MEN GET OUT OF A SEDAN, AND ENTER THE BANK...



OKAY EVERYBODY! GET 'EM UP!

A...A HOLD-UP!

AND NOT A PEEP OUTTA ANY OF YOU!



HAND OVER THAT DOUGH FAST!

YES!..D. DON'T SHOOT!



ONE OF THE BANDITS TOSSES THE VALISE FILLED WITH MONEY THROUGH A WINDOW!

CRASH



WHAT'S THAT?

SOUNDS LIKE A WINDOW BREAKING! WE BETTER HAVE A LOOK!

CRASH

THE GIRL BANDIT, LIL, STATIONED IN AN ALLEY OUTSIDE THE BANK, RETRIEVES THE VALISE!



AND SAUNTERS UP CASUALLY TO THE FIRST CAB SHE SEES...

CAB, PLEASE!

SORRY, LADY, I'M WAITIN' FOR A FRIEND!



OH, PLEASE! I MUST GET TO MY SICK MOTHER AT ONCE!

G..GOSH! I GUESS MAYBE WE CAN MAKE IT BEFORE BLANE GETS BACK. HUH, JANE? DICKY HOP IN, LADY!

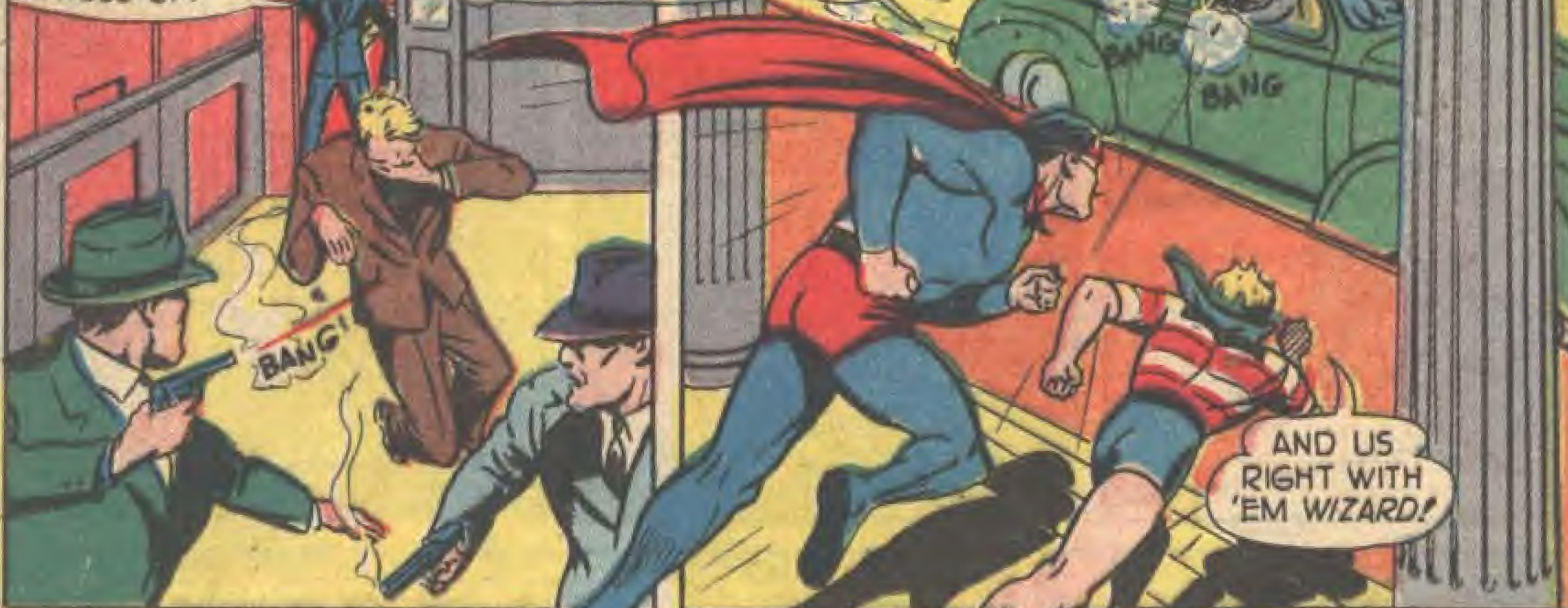


WHILE BACK IN THE BANK..

I'LL BE... ROY! IT'S A HOLD-UP!

QUICK BLANE! LET'S GET INTO OUR UNIFORMS!

THERE THEY GO!



AND US RIGHT WITH 'EM WIZARD!

A LITTLE TOO SLOW ON THE PICK-UP, EH, LICE? C'MON OUTSIDE SO WE CAN GET BETTER ACQUAINTED!

HMM... PECULIAR SPECIMEN! I'LL TAKE THIS ONE APART AND SEE WHAT MAKES HIM TICK!

NN..NO DON'T HIT ME!

YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR TEETH NEED A MASSAGE!





A COUPLE OF THE MICE ARE SCAMPERING AWAY!



SO I'LL SCAMPER RIGHT AFTER 'EM!



ONE SIDE, ROADHOGS!



SWEET DREAMS, PICKLE-PUSS!



LOOKS LIKE YOU DID ALL RIGHT FOR YOURSELF, ROY!

YEAH, WIZARD! I SANG 'EM A LUL-LABY AND THEY WENT TO SLEEP!



LOOK! IT'S THE WIZARD!

C'MON, KID! THE POLICE'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE!



MEANWHILE... THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GIRL I DON'T LIKE, MOE!

SHE LOOKS OKAY TO ME, JANE! IN FACT SHE LOOKS VERY GOOD!

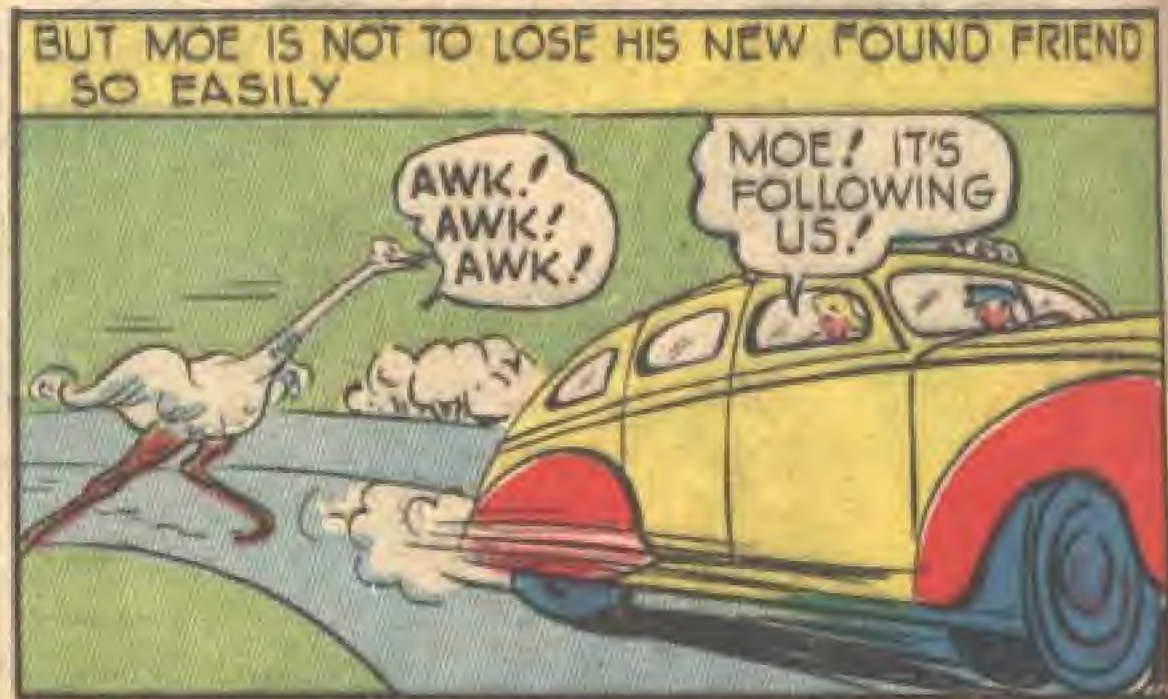


MOE! WATCH OUT! THAT OSTRICH!

I...I CAN'T STOP!

HONK HONK

SCREECH







KNOCK THEM TWO OFF, RIGHT NOW! THEN, WRING THAT OSTRICH'S NECK AND GET THE DOUGH OUTTA HIM!

YOU BET!

N..NO! Y..YOU CAN'T MURDER US IN COLD BLOOD! HELP!

?



AT THAT MOMENT...

ROY! I SEEM TO HEAR JANE YELLING FOR HELP! SHE'S IN DANGER OF SOME KIND!

GET ONE OF THEM SUPERVISIONS OF YOURS, WIZARD!



GREAT SCOT! DANGER IS RIGHT!

HOW... WHO?...

NO, YOU DON'T!



WHAT'S UP, WIZARD?

NO TIME TO EXPLAIN JUST FOLLOW ME!



OSCAR, THE OSTRICH, SENSES HIS FRIEND, MOE IS IN DANGER, AND...

OSCAR'S GIVEN ME A CHANCE TO MAKE A BREAK!

AWRK.. AWWRRK.. AWWK!

UGH!

CLOP

BUMP



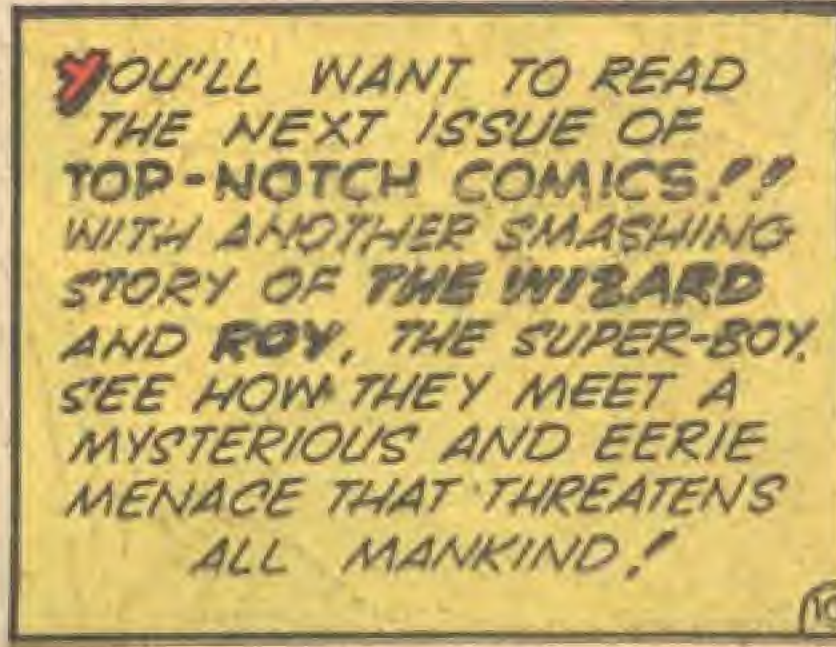
GOOD OLD OSCAR! HE'S RESCUED MOE, TOO! QUICK! GET INTO THE CAB!



THE BANDITS IMMEDIATELY GIVE CHASE...

THERE THEY GO! AFTER 'EM!





FRAN-FRAZER







UNWITTINGLY, HAL HALTS HIS PURSUERS.



WELL, I GUESS WE'RE LEAVING OUR TROUBLES BEHIND!

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY! TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S AHEAD!



WILL PLEASE TO HALT!



WOULD PLEASE IF I COULD! BUT I CAN'T!



HAL! THEY'RE COMING AFTER US!



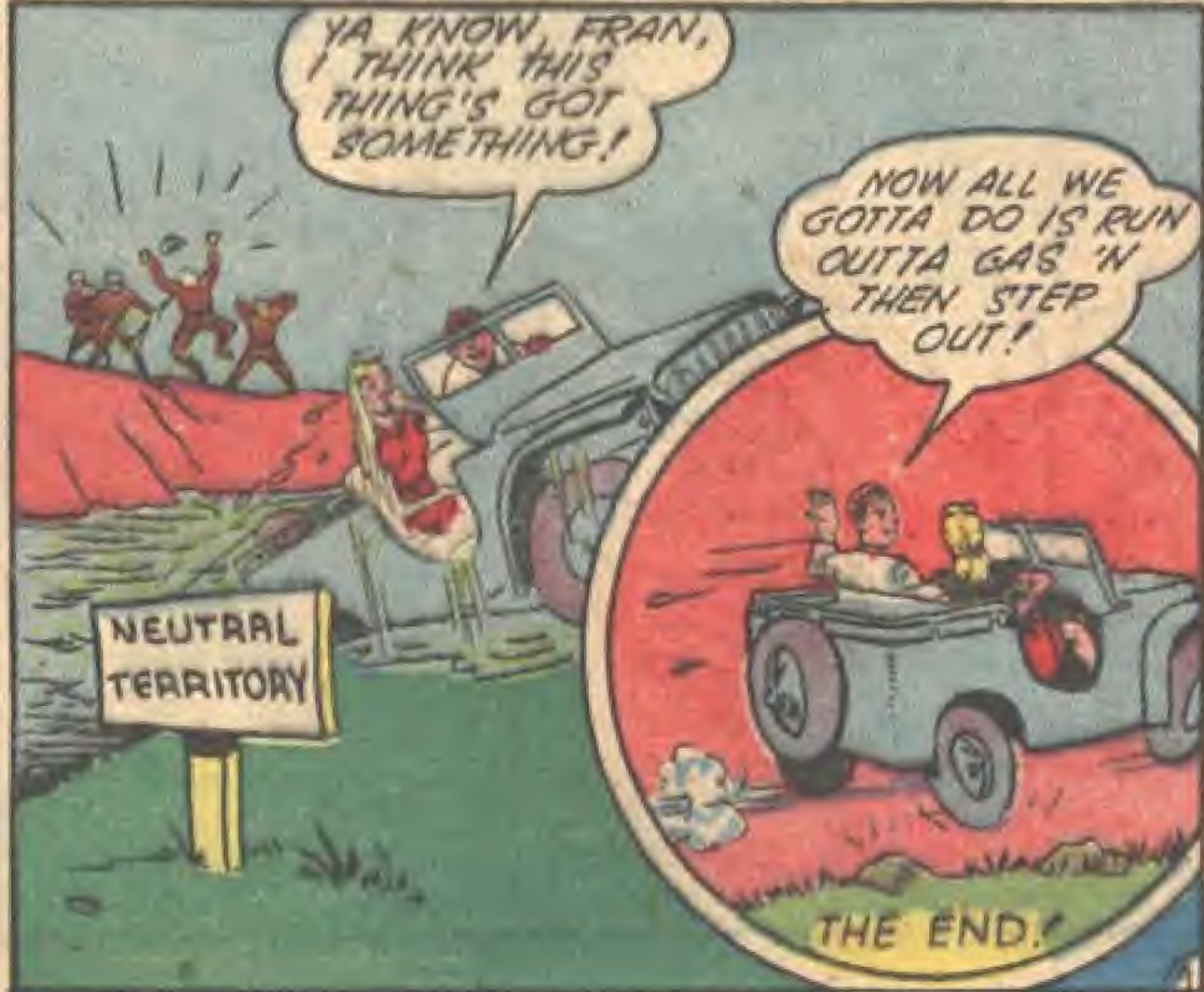
HA! WE HAVE THEM CORNERED! THEY MUST STOP NOW OR THEY DRIVE INTO RIVER!

YEOW!



TSK...TSK... MUCH BAD - NOW WE CAN NOT SHOOT THEM!

YA KNOW, FRAN, I THINK THIS THING'S GOT SOMETHING!



NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS RUN OUTTA GAS 'N THEN STEP OUT!

NEUTRAL TERRITORY

GURGLE

THE END!

KEITH KORNELL

WESTPONTER



KEITH KORNELL ALONG WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER WEST POINTERS, HAVE BEEN DRAFTED BY UNCLE SAM IN THE EMERGENCY DEFENSE PLAN. AT THE MOMENT HE IS SERVING AS A LIEUTENANT IN AN ALASKA DRAFT CAMP.



WHILE OTHER SKIERS OUT OF CONTROL.
KEEP GOING DOWNHILL UNTIL



DAD BLAST YE!
I'D LIKE TO SKIN
YOU ALIVE!



YOU'RE IN CHARGE! ALL
HUH! WE'LL GET THESE
IDIOTS OFF MY LAND
QUICK! I NEVER
DID SET ANY
STORE BY THESE
FOOL SKI-
CONTRAPTIONS



NOW HURRY UP! DADDY!
GET AND BE PLEASE
QUICK ABOUT! DON'T BE
SO RUDE!
THOS SOL
DIERS DID
N'T MEAN
ANY HARM!



AND BESIDES A STORM'S
BLOWING UP! THEY'LL
HAVE TO STAY WITH US
TILL IT
PASSES
OVER!



COME IN
BOYS

THANKS
MISS!

HIVA SIS!
GEE WE GOT
COMPANY,
HUH?



LATER!



MY LITTLE
BROTHER
BILLY JUST
TOOK SICK!
FATHER WAS
ABOUT TO GO
TO TOWN FOR
A DOCTOR!

SAY, HE
LOOKS A
LITTLE
FLUSHED!



JUDAS PRIEST!
BILLY'S TEMP-
ERATURE IS
MUCH TOO
HIGH! LET
ME HAVE A
LOOK AT
HIM! I HAVE
A ROUGH
KNOWLEDGE
OF DOCTORING!



WELL, HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH BILLY?

I THINK SO! HE HAS DIPHTHERIA SYMPTOMS! THERES STILL A CHANCE TO CHECK IT!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'M GOING BACK TO THE ARMY CAMP TO GET A DOCTOR!

WHEW! IT'S A REAL BLIZZARD! I HOPE I DON'T GET LOST!

BATTLING THE ELEMENTS AT THEIR FIERCEST, KEITH KORNEILL DAUNTLESSLY PURSUES HIS COURSE ON HIS MISSION OF MERCY!

DOCTOR CARSON! LIEUT. KORNEILL REPORTING, SIR!

AND SO, SIR, THESE ARE THE SYMPTOMS AS BEST AS I COULD MAKE THEM OUT!

IT'S DIPHTHERIA! ALL RIGHT! YOU'LL HAVE TO HURRY BACK WITH A SERUM. I'LL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY! I'LL WRITE AN ORDER!

WHILE BACK IN THE CABIN

BUT LIEUT. KORNEILL'LL BE BACK WITH THE ARMY DOCTOR SOON!

THE HECK HE WILL! HE'LL PROBABLY NEVER EVEN GOT THERE ON THEM SKI DO-DADS! I'M TAKIN MY KID TO THE VILLAGE DOC. 'N NO ONE'S STOPPIN' ME!

DAD! PLEASE DON'T GO. IT'S TWENTY MILES TO THE VILLAGE! YOU MAY GET LOST IN THE SNOWSTORM!

I'M GOIN, I TELL YA! MY SLED DOES'LL GET ME 'N BILLY THERE AFORE THAT ARMY SQUIRT EVEN REACHES HIS CAMP!

LATER KEITH RETURNS, AND...

HERE I AM FOLKS! HOW'S BILLY? SAY! WHERE IS HE, ANYHOW?

HE TOOK HIM TO THE VILLAGE DOCTOR IN THE SNOWSLED! WE COULDN'T STOP HIM!

GREAT GHOSTS THE VILLAGE DOCTOR WON'T HAVE ANY DIPHTHERIA SERUM! I'M GOING AFTER HIM!

C'MON MUSH!



THEN THE OLD PROSPECTOR IS SIGHTED BY THE MOST VICIOUS OF ALL CREATURES IN ALASKA - A KODIAK BEAR!



AND WITH A SPEED BELYING ITS CLUMSY APPEARANCE THE CREATURE LUMBERS AFTER THE DOG SLED!

THIS HILL IS A SHORT CUT THAT DOGS COULD NEVER USE!



THERE HE IS I'VE CAUGHT UP WITH HIM! GREAT SCOTT! THERE'S A KODIAK BEAR FOLLOWING HIM!

THAT KILLER WILL TEAR HIM APART IN NO TIME! AND ME TOO, PROBABLY! BUT I CAN'T STAND BY AND WATCH!



ROAR!

JEHOS-EPHAT!



KEITH WITH SUICIDAL RECK-
LESSNESS, HURTTLES HIM-
SELF AT THE
SAVAGE BEAST!



UGH!
CAN'T GET
TO GUN... MUST
USE KNIFE!

AAARRRHHH!



MEANWHILE, THE PROSPECTOR
REACHES HIS
GUN AND....



BANG!

NICE SHOOTING
OLD TIMER, YOU
SURE SAVED
MY HIDE!

AND YOU
SAVED MINE,
SON!



GUESS I HAD YOU
SIZED UP
WRONG,
SON!

NEVER MIND
THAT!
FIRST
THING TO DO
IS GET
BILLY BACK
TO THE
HOUSE AND
INJECT
THE
SERUM!



THE SERUM IS
INJECTED INTO
THE BOY'S ARM!



LATER!

LOOK!
IT'S THE
DOCTOR!

HELLO
THERE!
IS EVERY
THING
UNDER
CONTROL



HMM! THAT SERUM SEEMS TO
HAVE DONE THE TRICK! FEVERS
MOSTLY GONE! GOOD THING
LIEUT. KORNELL RECOGNIZED
THE DISEASE! ALL OUR BOYS
MIGHT HAVE
CAUGHT IT AND
STARTED AN EPI-
DEMIC. AS IS,
YOU'LL HAVE
TO BE
QUAR-
ANTINED!



WELL I
CAN THINK
OF WORSE
THINGS
THAN
BEING
QUAR-
ANTINED
WITH YOU!



THE END

THE FIREFLY



HELP!
HELP!

THAT WAS
JOAN CALLING!
SHE'S ALIVE!

...THAT LOATHSOME,
ANCIENT KING OF EVIL, THE MUMMY..
HAS RETURNED TO LIFE!..AFTER
TAKING JOAN BURTON TO EGYPT..
WHERE HE PLANNED TO MAKE HER
HIS QUEEN, THE MUMMY WAS TURNED
UPON, BY HIS FOLLOWERS..AND THEN,
INVOKING AN ANCIENT CURSE, THE
MUMMY CAUSED THE TEMPLE TO
COLLAPSE AS HARLEY HUDSON, THE
FIREFLY, RACED ACROSS THE SANDS
TO JOAN'S RESCUE. AT THE MOMENT,
THE FIREFLY SEARCHES THROUGH THE
DEBRIS FOR JOAN'S BODY...

AND IT CAME
FROM UNDER-
GROUND!..ABOUT
HERE, I...YES!
HERE'S A
TRAP DOOR!

THE *FIREFLY* SWINGS OPEN THE DOOR, AND LEAPS DOWN A FLIGHT OF STEPS INTO AN UNDERGROUND PASSAGE!



THE MUMMY HEARS HIS PURSUER...

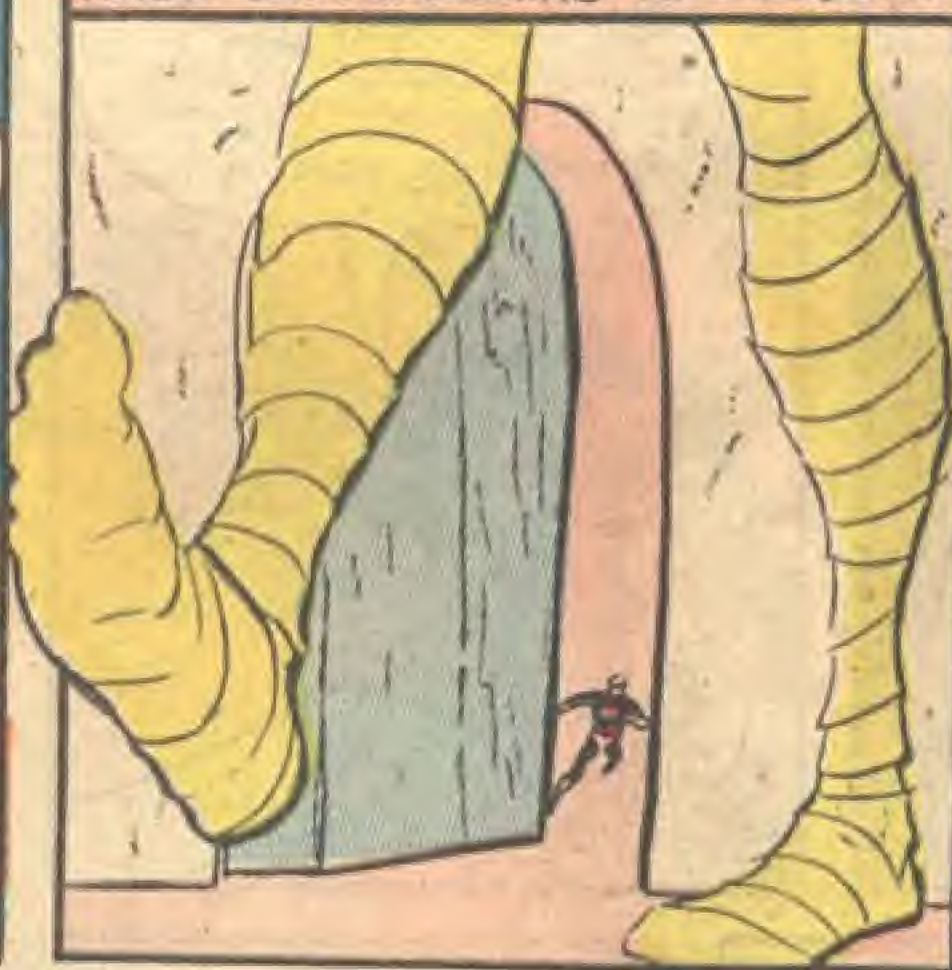
FOOTSTEPS!...BUT ALL MY FOLLOWERS ARE DEAD! COULD IT BE THAT THE *FIREFLY* HAS ARRIVED IN EGYPT?



NO MATTER! ONCE THROUGH THIS DOOR I PRESS THIS LEVER, AND SEAL FOREVER, THIS ENTRANCE TO THE SPHINX!



AS THE MUMMY RUSHES ON, THE HUGE DOOR BEGINS TO CLOSE...



THE *FIREFLY* REACHES THE DOOR JUST BEFORE IT CLOSES COMPLETELY!



THAT LEVER! I'VE GOT TO REACH IT!



NOW, IF I CAN ONLY MOVE IT THE RIGHT WAY!



HA! HA! HA! ONCE AGAIN I, THE MUMMY, HAVE OUT-WITTED THE *FIREFLY*! THIS TIME, I SHALL BE SAFE FROM HIM UNTIL THE END OF TIME!



THE MUMMY CARRIES JOAN INTO A STRANGE ROOM, NEVER BEFORE SEEN BY MODERN EYES



WHERE ARE WE?...WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

WE ARE DEEP IN THE HEART OF THE SPHINX! AND AS FOR WHAT I SHALL DO.. WATCH!



FACING A HIDEOUS, BIRD-LIKE IDOL, THE MUMMY BEGINS A CHANT..AND THE CLAWS OF THE IDOL RELEASE AN ANCIENT PARCHMENT!



THIS..MY QUEEN-TO-BE, IS THE RIDDLE OF THE SPHINX! THIS IS THE SECRET WHICH HAS BAFFLED MEN FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS! IT IS THE SECRET OF ETERNAL LIFE!



FOLLOWING THE DIRECTIONS ON THE DOCUMENT, THE MUMMY RAISES A CUP TO HIS LIPS..

THIS POTION WILL GIVE US BOTH ETERNAL LIFE! NOTHING CAN KILL US, ONCE WE PARTAKE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS CUP! FIRST, I SHALL DRINK AND THEN...



..AND THEN WHAT, MUMMY?

THE FIREFLY!



ONCE AGAIN, THE MUMMY AND THE FIREFLY CHARGE EACH OTHER....

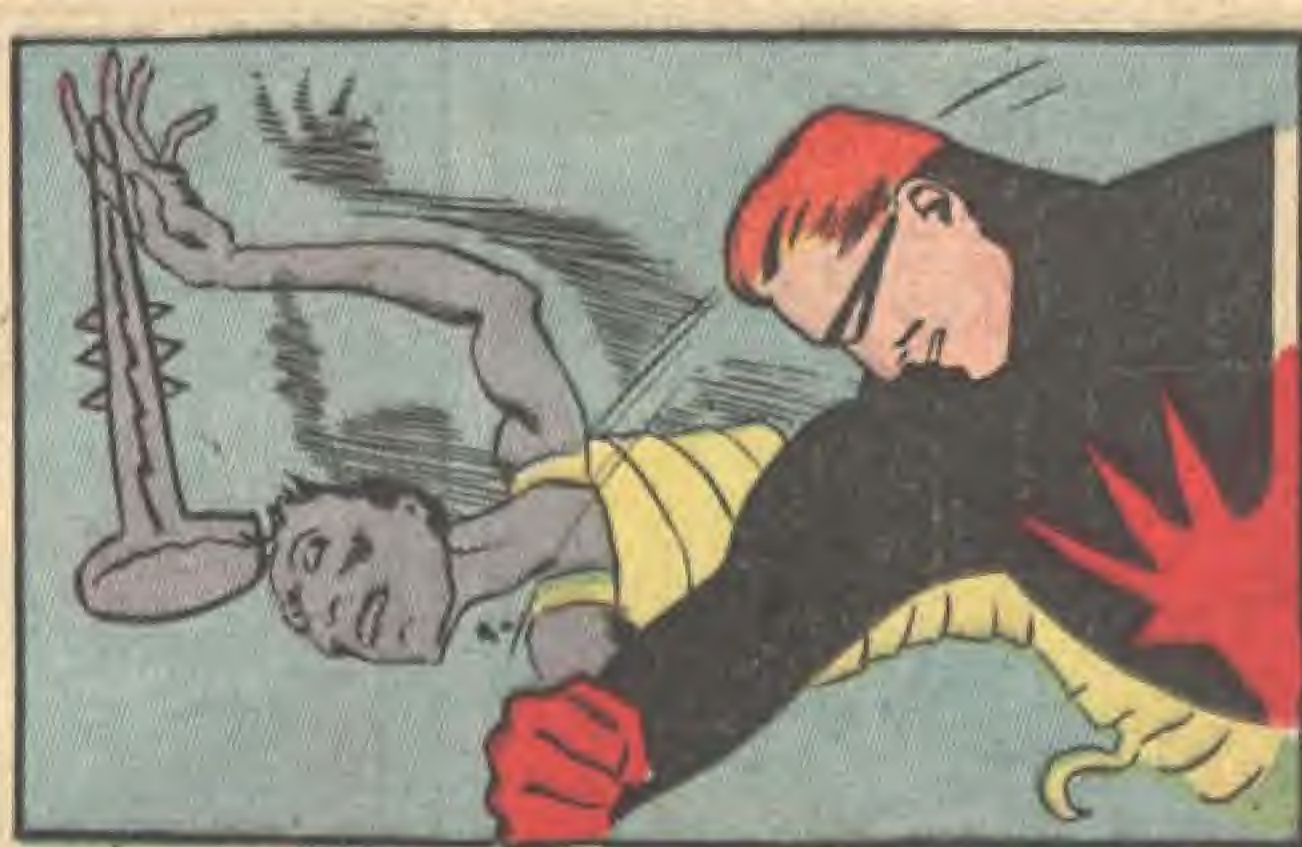
THIS TIME, FIREFLY, THERE CAN BE NO ESCAPE FOR YOU! I SHALL KILL YOU!

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!





THE MUMMY SEIZES A HUGE CLUB, AS THE FIRE-FLY DRIVES HIS SHOULDERS INTO HIS FETID BODY!



THE FIREFLY STUMBLES BACKWARDS...

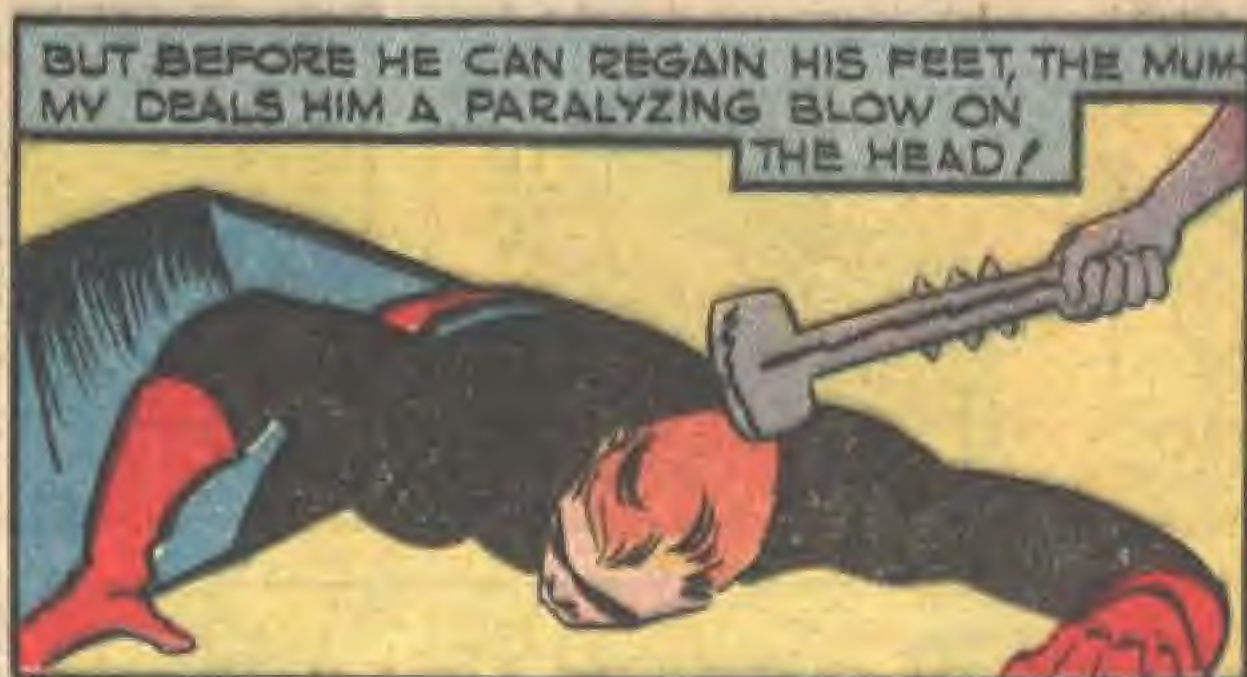
HA! THIS IS THE MOMENT I HAVE HOPED FOR!



THE MUMMY PUSHES THE GEAR FORWARD, AND A STONE BLOCK DROPS BENEATH THE FIREFLY!



AT THE LAST SPLIT-SECOND, THE FIREFLY TWISTS HIS BODY, ARCHES HIMSELF ACROSS THE AREA-WAY AND CLINGS DESPERATELY!



BUT BEFORE HE CAN REGAIN HIS FEET, THE MUMMY DEALS HIM A PARALYZING BLOW ON THE HEAD!



MY HOUR OF COMPLETE CONQUEST IS AT HAND!



LOOK WELL, JOAN, MY BRIDE-TO-BE. LOOK AT YOUR LOVER!

IT IS THE LAST TIME YOU SHALL EVER SEE HIM ALIVE!



A FEW MINUTES LATER THE FIREFLY REGAINS HIS SENSES!



JOAN! THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE STILL SAFE! IN A MINUTE I'LL HAVE THESE BONDS LOOSE!



THE MUMMY! WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?



HE'S DEAD, FIREFLY! HE TUMBLED THROUGH THE DOOR TO HIS DEATH BELOW!



AND THAT'S THE END OF THE MOST EVIL THING THAT EVER WALKED THE EARTH!



THE FIREFLY HURLS THE VIAL INTO THE MUMMY'S FINAL RESTING PLACE!



NOW WE'LL SEE THAT THIS THING IS SEALED FOR GOOD! HE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THERE!



JOAN AND THE FIREFLY LEAVE THE SPHINX...

I'VE NEVER APPRECIATED FRESH AIR AND SUNLIGHT SO MUCH IN MY LIFE!

AND I'VE NEVER APPRECIATED YOU MORE!



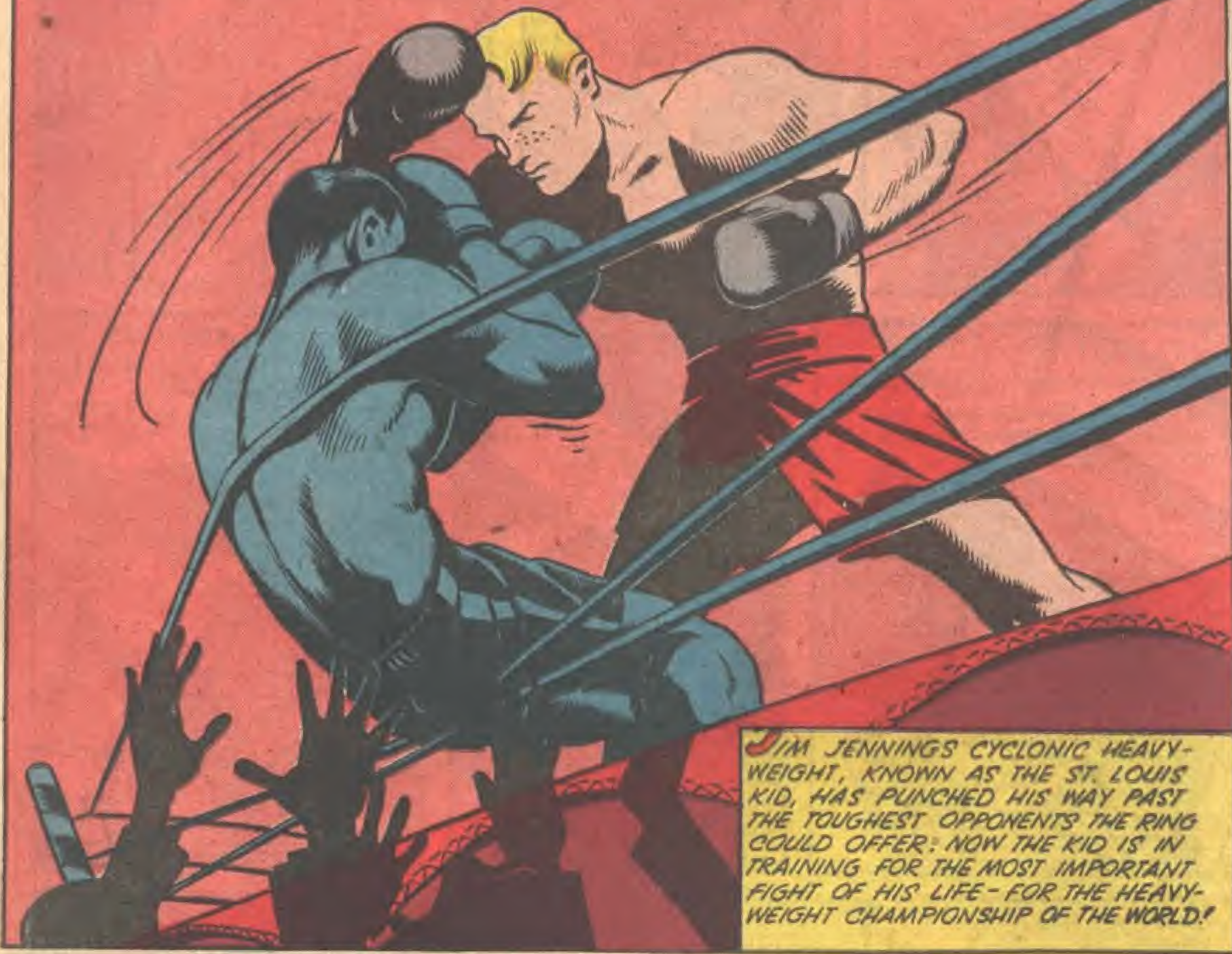
THAT SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE LOVE'S YOUNG DREAM!

IT IS, JOAN! THE MOMENT I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD, I REALIZED HOW MUCH YOU MEANT TO ME!



A SHORT WHILE LATER, JOAN AND THE FIREFLY TAKE OFF IN THE FIREFLYER AND HEAD BACK TO AMERICA... INTO THE TEETH OF ANOTHER NEW AND EXCITING ADVENTURE.

THE ST. LOUIS KID



JIM JENNINGS' CYCLONIC HEAVY-WEIGHT, KNOWN AS THE ST. LOUIS KID, HAS PUNCHED HIS WAY PAST THE TOUGHEST OPPONENTS THE RING COULD OFFER: NOW THE KID IS IN TRAINING FOR THE MOST IMPORTANT FIGHT OF HIS LIFE - FOR THE HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD!



GEE! DUNNO WHATSA MATTER WITH ME. I FEEL KINDA DROOPY LATELY!

WHAT YOU NEED IS A VACATION KID! YUH BEEN WORKIN' TOO HARD!



I BEEN A LITTLE PEAKED MYSELF LATELY, SO I BEEN LOOKIN' OVER A COUPLA TRAVEL BOOK-LETS! HERE'S ONE OF 'EM!

HMM! MAYBE POP'S RIGHT, WINDY!

EVEN IF THAT WIND-BAG WUZ RIGHT, HED BE WRONG!



BERMUDA! JUST THE PLACE FOR ME TO FINISH UP MY TRAININ'! THAT'S WHERE WE'LL GO, WINDY!

I'LL GO ALONG AN' KEEP AN EYE ON YA, KID!

WHAT! I'D SOON-ER TAKE ALONG A COUPLA RATTLE-SNAKES THAN THAT OLD TROUBLE-MAKER!

AW, POP WON'T GET US' INTO ANY TROUBLE THIS TIME, WINDY! GO ON HOME 'N GET MARY TO PACK TOO POP WERE'RE TAKIN' HER WITH US ON THIS TRIP!

OFF THE COAST OF BERMUDA IS ANCHORED A LUXURIOUS YACHT WHICH IS TO PLAY A VERY IMPOR-TANT ROLE IN THE KID'S LIFE!

ON BOARD, THE CAPTAIN TALKS WITH GREGSTONE DYKE THE OWNER.

YOU LOOK WORRIED, SIR!

WHY SHOULDN'T I BE? I STAND TO LOSE MY FORTUNE IN THE STOCK MARKET!

AND THAT'S NOT THE WORST! MY DAUGHTER HAS TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THAT PHONY COUNT SHEKELS, A FORTUNE HUNTER IF EVER I SAW ONE.

WHEW! I'M GLAD WERE HERE AT LAST! WELL LET'S GET OURSELVES SETTLED IN A HOTEL!

YEAH!! 'N WE GOTTA FIND A PLACE FER YOU TO TRAIN!!

ER... I'M KINDA HOT! I'M GONNA TAKE ME A DIP!

ALL RIGHT! BUT STAY OUT OF TROUBLE

AND REMEMBER, YOU CAN'T SWIM, DADDY!

TEE HEE! ISN'T HE CUTE?

AH... AHHEM! HIYA GIRLS! GOIN' SWIMIN'! MAYBE I CAN SHOW YOU HOW!

SUCH A BIG HANDSOME MAN!

NO! WE WERE GOING SURFBOARD RIDING! CAN YOU TEACH US THAT?

WHY, I WUZ PRACTICALLY BORN ON A SURF-BOARD!





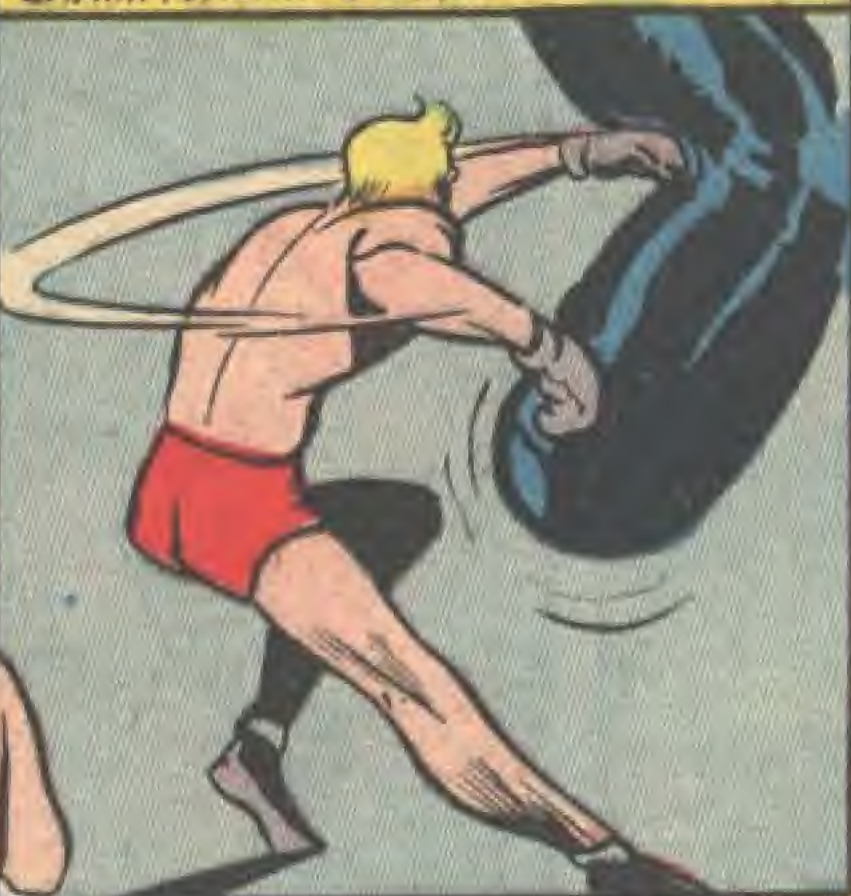


I THINK YOU'LL FIND EVERYTHING YOU NEED HERE!

WOW! WHAT A LAYOUT!

C'MON, KID! LET'S GET RIGHT DOWN TO WORK!

THE KID RESUMES TRAINING FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT...



WHEW! I GUESS THAT'S ENOUGH FER ONE DAY! I SURE WORKED UP A SWEAT!



MR. DYKES SAID THE SHOWER WAS AT THE END OF THE HALL! SAY, I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE ARGUIN' ABOUT!

YOU DON'T EXPECT TO BELIEVE SUCH SILLY STORIES, JOHN!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S STILL TRUE!



THIS FORTUNE HUNTER IS MARRYING YOU FOR YOUR MONEY, CLARISSA, BUT HE WON'T GET ANY BECAUSE I'M ABOUT TO BE WIPED OUT ON THE STOCK MARKET!

BAH! THEES EES A TRICK TO GET RID OF ME, BUT EET WON'T WORK!

OF COURSE IT WON'T! THE COUNT LOVES ME FOR MYSELF... NOT FOR MY MONEY!



AS MR. DYKES WALKS OUT...

ER..I COULDN'T HELP HEARIN' WHAT YA SAID ABOUT BEIN' BROKE!..IS IT TRUE, MR. DYKES?

IT WILL BE SOON! I'VE GOT TO RAISE \$50,000 TO COVER MY MARGIN IN ONE WEEK...AND I HAVEN'T A CENT IN CASH!



GEE, I COULD GET THAT DOUGH IF HE COULD WAIT UNTIL I FIGHT TH' CHAMP! I OWE MR. DYKES A LOT! FIRST, HE SAVED MY LIFE, 'N THEN HE WUZ SO REGULAR TO ME!



LOOK, MR. DYKES I KNOW HOW I CAN GET YOU THAT MONEY!

KID, YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER!..IF ONLY MY DAUGHTER WOULD FALL IN LOVE WITH A MAN LIKE YOU, INSTEAD OF THAT FAKE COUNT!



THE KID MAKES IMMEDIATELY FOR THE NEAREST PROMOTER...

GOLLY...WINDY'D HAVE A FIT IF HE KNEW WHAT I WUZ GONNA DO!



WHAT? YOU WANT ME TO GET YOU A QUICK FIGHT? BUT, YER ALREADY SIGNED FER A SHOT AT THE 'CHAMP.' YOU'LL FORFEIT IT!

THAT'S MY BUSINESS! ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS GET ME AN OPPONENT AND BALLYHOO TH' MATCH!



BUT THERE AIN'T ANY ONE FIGHTER AROUND WHO COULD EVEN MAKE YOU WORK UP A SWEAT!

ALL RIGHT, THEN GET ME TWO GUYS, EVEN THREE! ANYTHING!... I'LL FIGHT 'EM AND WINNER TAKE ALL!



HEY! THAT'S NOT A BAD STUNT, THE ST. LOUIS KID FIGHTING THREE MEN!... WHY, IT'D DRAW A COUPLE HUNDRED GRAND!.. OKAY! IT'S A DEAL, KID! BUT IF YA LOSE, YA DON'T GET A CENT!



LATER...
EXTRY! ST. LOUIS KID TO FIGHT THREE AT ONE TIME! READ ALL ABOUT IT!



SUFFERIN' CATFISH! WHAT'S TH' KID GONE 'N DONE? HE'S BLOWN A TITLE SHOT! HE MUST BE OFF HIS NUT!

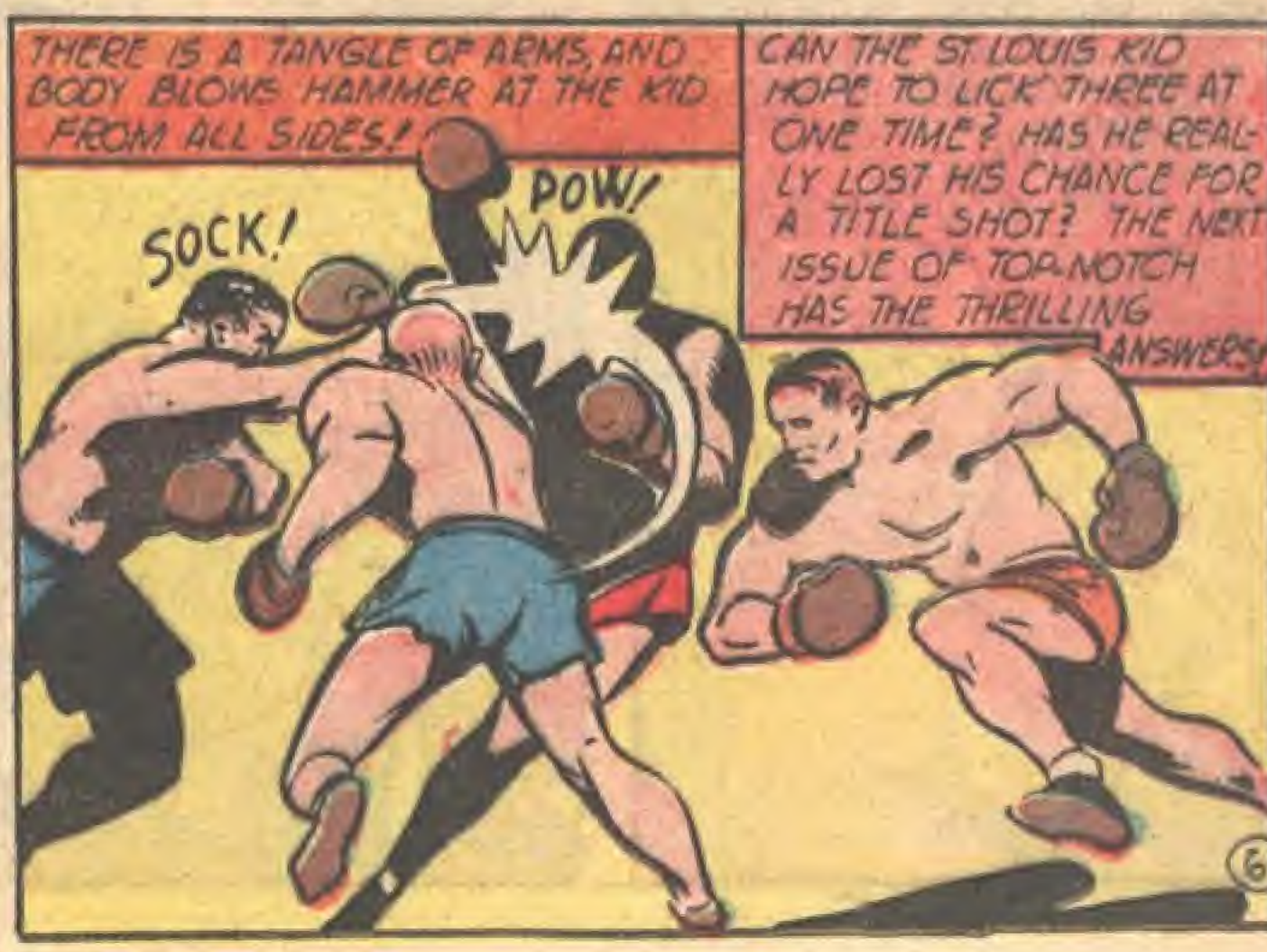
IT'S ALL MY FAULT! HE'S DOING THIS FOR ME!



THE NIGHT OF THE FIGHT ROLLS AROUND, AND THE THROG POURS INTO THE STADIUM UNTIL THEY'RE HANGING FROM THE RAFTERS!



THE OPENING GONG, AND THE STRANGEST FIGHT IN RING HISTORY IS ON!



THERE IS A TANGLE OF ARMS, AND BODY BLOWS HAMMER AT THE KID FROM ALL SIDES!

CAN THE ST. LOUIS KID HOPE TO LICK THREE AT ONE TIME? HAS HE REALLY LOST HIS CHANCE FOR A TITLE SHOT? THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH HAS THE THRILLING ANSWERS!

WINGS JOHNSON

OF
THE

Air Patrol



BRUCE BROWN, A BRITISH SPY, IS OCCUPYING A HAUNTED HOUSE ON THE GERMAN-HELD FRENCH COAST. FROM HERE HE SENDS OUT MESSAGES. THEN ONE DAY WINGS AND HENRY PICKED UP HIS DISTRESS CALL... AND ARMING THEMSELVES WITH HECTOR, A SKELETON, FLEW TO THE HAUNTED HOUSE AND GOT INSIDE WITH BRUCE JUST AS THE NAZIS CLOSED IN AROUND THEM!

THE GERMANS ARE OUTSIDE, BOYS! THEY'LL BE IN HERE IN A MINUTE! HURRY...WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

YOU SAID THIS CHATEAU IS FULL OF SECRET PANELS, AND PASSAGE-WAYS, DIDN'T YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT, WINGS!

WELL, WE'LL MAKE GOOD USE OF THEM! BUT FIRST...

WE'LL ATTACH THIS WIRE HERE AND THEN, INTO THAT CLOSET! THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING TO PUT HECTOR!







HENRY DRAGS THE UNCONSCIOUS SOLDIER INTO THE SECRET PASSAGE!



ON THE UPPER FLOOR, TWO MORE NAZIS CAREFULLY ADVANCE....



SUDDENLY, A CARVED OAK BUREAU SWINGS OUT FROM THE WALL!



AS WINGS ADVANCES FROM THE BUREAU, BRUCE SNEAKS OUT FROM A PANEL IN THE OPPOSITE WALL!



MEANWHILE, THE SOLDIER WHO ESCAPED FROM HENRY DASHES TOWARDS THE CAPTAIN...



CAPTAIN! CAPTAIN!
THERE'S A GHOST
IN THERE!

WHAT?

THERE ARE NO SPIRIT
BEINGS IN THE WORLD!
HOW MANY TIMES HAS
THE FUEHRER TOLD YOU
WE HAVE NOTHING
TO FEAR!



BUT I SAW
THE GHOST
WITH MY OWN
EYES, I TELL
YOU.

BAH! I
SHALL GO
IN THERE
AND SHOW
YOU WHAT A
COWARD
YOU ARE!



HENRY SEES THE CAPTAIN ENTER...

OH BOY! HAN
OFFICER! THINGS
ARE JOLLY WELL
GETTING BETTER!



WHOOO!
YO HOOO!

ZUM
DONNERWELTER
WAS IST?



BUT AS HENRY RUSHES THE
STARTLED CAPTAIN, HIS SHEET
SLIPS, REVEALING HIS UNIFORM!



SO! A GHOST, IS IT?
SINCE WHEN DO GHOSTS
WEAR THE UNIFORM OF
THE ROYAL AIR
FORCE?



WH..WH..WHAT? OHMYGOSH!
WINGSIE!! OOOH...
WINGSIE!



UPSTAIRS IN THE PASSAGEWAY...

THATS HENRY!
WHAT IN THE
@X!!*@!!
HECK IS THE
MATTER WITH
HIM?

MAYBE HE
SAW HIMSELF
IN A MIRROR!



YOICKS! I'LL
'AVE TO GET IN-
SIDE TH' BLINKIN'
SECRET PASSAGE
H'OR I'M H'A
GONER!

SO! A SPY?
DISGUISED
AS A
GHOST!

HENRY, IN HIS HASTE RAMS INTO THE
WALL INSTEAD OF THE SECRET PANEL

OH
WINGSIE!

WINGSIE IS
IT? YOU'LL
SOON BE
SPROUTING
WINGS! I'M
GOING TO
KILL YOU!

SH! QUIET,
BRUCE, HE DOESN'T
SEE US YET!

PLAYING
SOLDIER WITH
THAT SWORD,
EH?

WINGS AND BRUCE MAKE QUICK WORK OF THE
OFFICER...

SOCK!

NOW, LET'S GET
THEM OUT OF HERE,
INTO THE PASSAGE-
WAY BEFORE...
LISTEN!... WHAT
WAS THAT?

THE REST
OF THE NAZIS!
THEY'VE HEARD
THE RACKET AND
ARE COMING TO
INVESTIGATE!
QUICK! INTO
THE CLOSET!

AS THE REST OF THE SEARCHING PARTY RUSHES INTO THE ROOM..



AT THAT MOMENT, HECTOR COMES SLIDING OUT OF THE CLOSET!



DEATH TO ALL WHO DARE SET FOOT IN THE HAUNTED CHATEAU!



WINGS JOHNSON AND HENRY FIGHT ON WITH THE R.A.F. IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TORNATCH COMICS!

BOB PHANTOM



WALT WHITNEY AND HIS SECRETARY, JINX FRIDAY, ATTENDED A BOXING BOUT TO WATCH JOHNNY NAPOLEON WALT'S FRIEND, AS HE WON ANOTHER MATCH. SHORTLY AFTER, JOHNNY STAGGERED INTO A NIGHT CLUB AND DIED AT WALT'S FEET... HIS BODY RIDDLED WITH BULLETS. THEN TO ADD THE FINAL HORRIBLE TOUCH, IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE BOXER'S HANDS WERE CUT OFF! AND AS JINX AND WALT, ALIAS BOB PHANTOM, CLOSED IN ON THE BOXER'S MANAGER, JERRY LESSER, JINX WAS KIDNAPPED BY LESSER, AND LEFT TO STARVE TO DEATH IN AN ABANDONED WAREHOUSE!!

-Pat-



LESSER ISN'T AT HIS OFFICE AND HE ISN'T AT HOME! WHERE ELSE MIGHT HE BE?

AT THAT INSTANT, LESSER IS ENTERING THE OFFICES OF THE WALKER INSURANCE COMPANY.

HOW NICE EVERYTHING IS WORKING OUT FOR ME!



HOW DO YOU DO? I'M MR. LESSER AND I...

OH, YES! MR. WALKER IS EXPECTING YOU! GO RIGHT IN!



HELLO, LESSER! I HEARD ABOUT THE UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT TO YOUR BOXER, JOHNNY NAPOLEON!



I...I FEEL VERY MUCH BROKEN UP OVER HIS DEATH!

NOW, NOW...I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL BUT YOU MUST CARRY ON! I HAVE THE INSURANCE CHECK HERE!



THANKS, MR. WALKER! OF COURSE, THIS FIFTY THOUSAND IS APPRECIATED, BUT I COULD HAVE MADE MORE IF JOHNNY WAS ALIVE!



ALL I GOT TO DO NOW IS GET MY DOUGH FROM THE BANK..AND THEN... OUT OF THE COUNTRY, BUT FAST!



AS LESSER ENTERS THE BANK, BOB PHANTOM APPEARS AT THE INSURANCE COMPANY...

HAS LESSER BEEN IN HERE?



HE KILLED HIS BOXER, YOU KNOW!

WHAT?? HE..HE..JUST TOOK A \$50,000 CHECK AND LEFT!



MEANTIME, THE HUGE, RAVENOUS RODENTS ARE CLOSING IN ON JINX!

I'VE GOT TO
DO SOMETHING
.... BUT WHAT?

A RAY OF SUNLIGHT
STREAMS INTO THE
ROOM THROUGH A
NARROW CRACK...

MAYBE THESE SPECS
WALT HATES SO
MUCH WILL SAVE
MY LIFE!

BUT I HAVE TO
WORK FAST OR
THAT SUN
WILL MOVE!

NOW, IF I CAN JUST
BEND THESE THE
RIGHT WAY, I THINK
I'LL BE ABLE TO
MAKE A SORT
OF A MAG-
NIFYING
GLASS OUT OF
THE
LENSES!

THAT DOES
IT! HERE
WE GO!

NOW, IF I
CAN JUST
KEEP AWAY
FROM THE
FLAMES!





AT THE STEAMSHIP PIER....



\$50000 IN MY POCKET AND A CLEAN GET-AWAY! ONCE I GET TO SOUTH AMERICA, THEY'LL NEVER FIND ME...EVEN IF THEY LOOK FOR ME!



WALT ARRIVES AT THE DOCK....



THE NEXT MOMENT...

BOB PHANTOM!

IN PERSON!



LET ME GO! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY!



HERE YOU ARE, YOU MINIONS OF THE LAW! THIS IS THE MAN WHO KILLED JOHNNY NAPOLEON! YOU'LL FIND THE PROOF IN WALT WHITNEY'S COLUMN TOMORROW!



ON BROADWAY

by WALT WHITNEY

TO THOSE MINIONS OF THE LAW WHO BROUGHT JERRY LESSER TO JUSTICE FOR THE KILLING AND MUTILATION OF JOHNNY NAPOLEON!

THE REASON FOR THE KILLING WAS SIMPLY THIS: ALTHOUGH NAPOLEON WON HIS BOAT THE OTHER NIGHT, AND WAS WELL ON HIS WAY TO THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP, LESSER DISCOVERED - AFTER THE FIGHT WAS OVER - THAT NAPOLEON'S HANDS WERE BOTH BROKEN.... IN OTHER WORDS, HE WAS AS WASHED UP AS LAST YEAR'S SEA SHELL.... 300000, MR. LESSER DECIDED THAT, SINCE HE COULDN'T MAKE ANY MONEY ON THE BOAT BY FIGHTING HIM, HE MIGHT AS WELL CASH IN ON THE INSURANCE POLICY.... VERY CLEVER.... BUT LIKE ALL CLEVER STUNTS THAT RUN AFOUL OF THE LAW, THIS ONE, TOO, LANDED ITS PERPETRATOR IN THE DEATH HOUSE....

BEING A COLUMNIST'S SECRETARY HAS ITS EXPENSIVE SIDE, WALT! I HAD TO RUIN A PERFECTLY GOOD PAIR OF SPECTACLES!

THAT'S ONE THING YOU CAN PUT ON YOUR EXPENSE ACCOUNT...OVER MY DEAD BODY!



BOB PHANTOM...SCOURGE OF THE UNDERWORLD, TACKLES THE "CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING DIAMONDS" IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!

Meet CAPTAIN FLAG!

HERE IS A SMASHING, CRASHING, TWO-FISTED, WISE-CRACKING TYPE OF GUY WHO'S GOT THAT CERTAIN SOMETHING!!

HIS ADVENTURES WITH THE SINISTER FORCES OF THE UNDERWORLD, AND WITH THE FOREIGN SPIES, SEEKING TO DESTROY WHAT WE HOLD DEAR, APPEAR FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF **BLUE RIBBON COMICS!**

ON THE NEWSSTANDS ABOUT
JUNE 30th



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HERE'S WHAT
YOU GET IN NO. 4



SHIELD WIZARD COMICS



THE LOCALS IN VERMONT... SUMMER, AZURE SKIES, GURGling BROOKS, BUT, SINISTER CRIME LURKS IN ITS SUN DRENCHED FIELDS AS... DUSTY IS ENVELOPED IN THIS...
PARADISE FOR CRIME

IT IS BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS WHEN THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE, FIGHT TO THE DEATH TO DEFEND A VITAL LINK IN OUR DEFENSES IN...

BLOOD FLOWS... THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL



OVER THE WINTRY SNOWS SPEED THE SKIS AND BOBSLEDS WITH THEIR HUMAN FREIGHT... LITTLE DO THE WINTER SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN KNOW THAT GRISLY MURDER HOVERS NEAR, BUT THE WIZARD AND ROY BRING THE KILLER TO JUSTICE IN THE BOBSLED OF DOOM



ON THE STATE REFORMATORY COWERS A MERE YOUNGSTER. A BARRED DOOR CREAKS OPEN, A LANTERN GLEAMS AND A CRUEL GUARD BARKS A HARSH COMMAND, THEN THE WIZARD AND ROY SWING INTO ACTION IN...

THE BARS OF PRISON



WHAT HAPPENS WHILE THE NEW TUNNEL IS BEING BUILT UNDER THE RIVER, WHEN THE UGLY, FEARSOME FACE OF FANG, THE MASTER CRIMINAL RISES UP TO CONFRONT THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE? WILL THE SHIELD AND DUSTY SUCCEED IN THWARTING FANG, OR DOES DESTRUCTION FACE THEM IN...

THE TUNNEL OF DEATH



KARDAK

THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN

ONE DAY AS KARDAK WALKS THROUGH THE STREETS OF SLUM SECTION, HE SEES...

WATCH OUT!

IT'S A MIRACLE THAT SHE'S STILL ALIVE!

GEORGE!! IT'S OUR DAUGHTER ROSE!

GREAT HEAVENS!

YOU... YOU DID THIS!

IT WASN'T MY FAULT! YOUR DAUGHTER JUMPED RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!

I'LL SEND MY LAWYER AROUND TOMORROW! HE'LL MAKE A SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT!

OH, MY POOR DARLING DAUGHTER!

HMMPH! THEY REFUSED MY MONEY! WELL I'VE DONE ALL I CAN!



THAT GIRL IS SHEILA BROOKS, THE DEBUTANTE! SHE NEARLY KILLED SOMEONE, BUT SHE TREATS IT AS THOUGH IT WERE ONLY AN INCONVENIENCE! I THINK I'M GOING TO TAKE A HAND IN THIS!



KARDAK EMPLOYS SOME MAGIC AND...

HELLO, MISS BROOKS!

Y...YOU! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?



I SAW THAT ACCIDENT! YOU WERE DRIVING MUCH TOO FAST, IN FACT IT LOOKED LIKE YOUR CAR WAS DRIVING IT-SELF! I'LL WAGER YOU'RE EVEN TOO YOUNG TO HAVE A DRIVING LICENSE!



IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

NOW, PLEASE GET OUT OF HERE!

VERY WELL, I'LL GO!



MERCY! WHAT HAPPENED? HE SEEMED TO DISAPPEAR INTO THIN AIR!



BUT UNKNOWN TO SHEILA, KARDAK IS FOLLOWING HER IN AN INVISIBLE FORM... AS SHE GOES INTO HER HOME...



SHEILA TELLS HER PARENTS OF HER MISHAP.

OH, DEAR! SUCH A BORE! NOW, I'LL HAVE TO POST-PONE MY APPOINTMENT WITH THE BEAUTY PARLOR!

DO TRY TO BE MORE CAREFUL, SHEILA!



ALL RIGHT, DAD! (YAWN) I THINK I'LL GO TO BED NOW!

KARDAK SUDDENLY BECOMES VISIBLE!



OF ALL THE CALLOUS SNOBS, IT'S BEEN MY MISFORTUNE TO MEET!

THAT HORRID MAN AGAIN! MEADOWS, COME HERE! THROW HIM OUT!



WITH PLEASURE, MISS BROOKS!



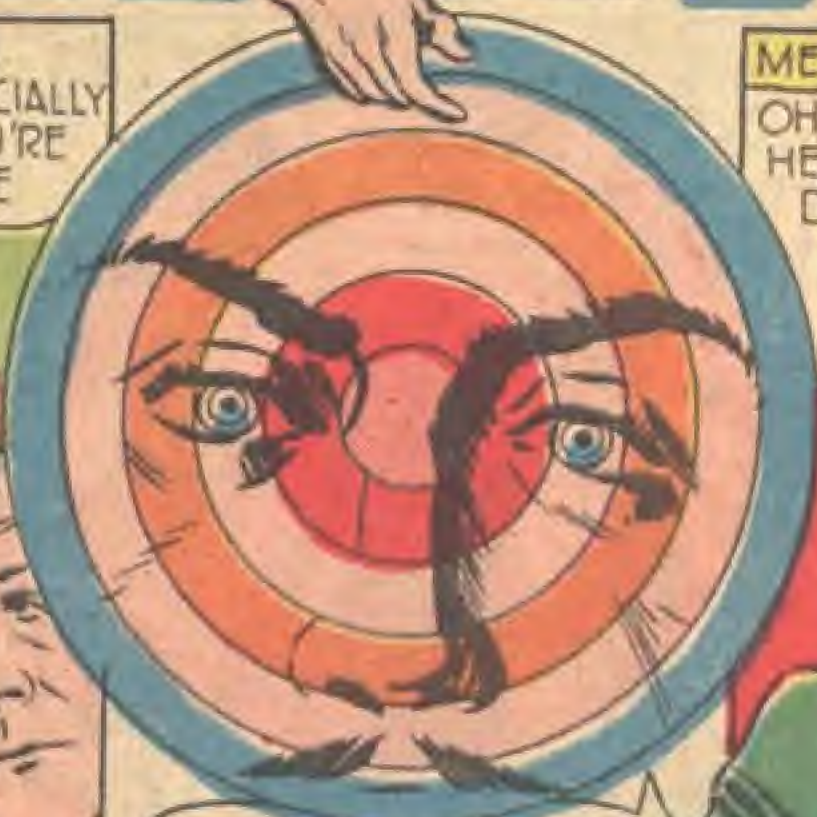
OWOO! HE'S FULL OF ELECTRICITY!

A SHOCKING EXPERIENCE, EH, MEADOWS? HA, HA, HA!



NOW, I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU ALL A LESSON YOU'LL NEVER FORGET, ESPECIALLY YOUR SPOILED DAUGHTER! YOU'RE ALL GOING BACK TO THE SLUMS WITH ME!

ABSURD!



NOT SO VERY ABSURD!.. LOOK INTO MY EYES! LOOK DEEP!.. NOW, YOU WILL DO AS I SAY!



MEANWHILE...

OH, GEORGE! DID YOU HEAR WHAT THE DOCTOR SAID? WHAT WILL WE DO? SOB, SOB!

I...I... DON'T KNOW, MARY!

JUST THEN, THE BROOKSES, STILL UNDER KARDAK'S SPELL, ARE ABOUT TO ENTER THE HOME OF THE GRIEF-STRICKEN FAMILY...



MR. SMITH! I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME EXCLUSIVE COMPANY! TOO EXCLUSIVE FOR THEIR OWN GOOD!



B..BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

KARDAK BRINGS THE BROOKSES OUT OF THEIR HYPNOTIC SPELL, AND THEY SEE...

HORRORS, EDWARD! WHERE ARE WE? WHAT ARE WE DOING IN THESE FILTHY RAGS?

TH... THIS MUST BE A NIGHTMARE! WHERE'S SHEILA?



GOOD HEAVENS, EDWARD! LOOK!..OUR SHEILA!

Oooo! MOTHER MY LEGS! THEY HURT ME SO!



JUST THEN..

ALL RIGHT, MEN! START TAKIN' OUT THE FURNITURE!



WAIT A MINUTE! YOU CAN'T MOVE US OUT! CAN'T YOU SEE MY DAUGHTER'S IN PAIN?



EVERY MONTH IT'S ANOTHER EXCUSE! EITHER PAY THE RENT OR GET OUT!

YOU MUST ALL BE CRAZY! I DON'T LIVE HERE, BUT I'LL PAY YOU!..WH..WHY..MY MONEY!.. IT'S GONE!



ANOTHER GAG, HUH? OKAY, BOYS, OUT THEY GO!



B..BUT..YOU CAN'T! MY GIRL IS SICK! CAN'T YOU SEE?



OH, MY CAR! I ALMOST FORGOT! IT'S STILL PARKED OUTSIDE! HOW STUPID OF ME! I'LL TAKE SHEILA RIGHT HOME!



WH..WHAT IN!..IT'S GONE! THERE'S NOTHING BUT A PUSHCART HERE! WHAT WILL I DO?



YA MIGHT AS WELL GET OUT OF THAT BED, MISS! THAT SOB STUFF AIN'T GONNA WORK WITH ME!



GEORGE! DO SOMETHING! CALL THE HOSPITAL AND GET A DOCTOR!



HELLO! HOSPITAL? PLEASE SEND A DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY, PLEASE!

I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, MR. SMITH, THAT THE ONLY WAY TO HELP YOUR DAUGHTER IS WITH AN EXPENSIVE OPERATION!

OH MOTHER? HELP ME, PLEASE! MY LEGS, THEY HURT SO MUCH!

SOB? SOB? I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, SHEILA!

HELPLESS!

JUST THEN KARDAK APPEARS...

WELL, MR. AND MRS. BROOKS, DO YOU THINK YOU UNDERSTAND THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY, NOW?

OH, I DO, I DO! HELP US, PLEASE!

WE'LL DO ANYTHING! ANYTHING!

A WAVE OF KARDAK'S HAND, AND...

MOTHER! DAD! LOOK! EVERYTHING IS JUST AS IT WAS BEFORE! I'M NOT THE ONE, WHO'S SICK, AFTER ALL!

YOU POOR GIRL! I UNDERSTAND JUST HOW YOU FEEL, NOW!... AND I'M GOING TO SEE THAT YOU GET WELL!

AND HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, NOW?

THAT GIRL IS GOING TO GET THE BEST DOCTOR, MONEY CAN BUY! THIS HAS BEEN A LESSON TO US!

WEEKS LATER...

OH, SHEILA, THE DOCTOR SAID I'M READY TO LEAVE THE HOSPITAL, NOW!

SWELL, LORNA! AND I'VE GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU AS SOON AS YOU GET OUT!

SOCIETY

BY JERRY ZILCH

MR. AND MRS. BROOKS HAVE CREATED A FUROR IN SOCIETY. THEY HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY ARE NOT GOING TO HOLD A COMING-OUT PARTY FOR THEIR DAUGHTER, SHEILA.

NEXT DAY...

SHEILA YOU SHOULDN'T GIVE UP YOUR PARTY FOR ME!

NONSENSE! WE HAVE A MORE IMPORTANT PARTY TO ATTEND!

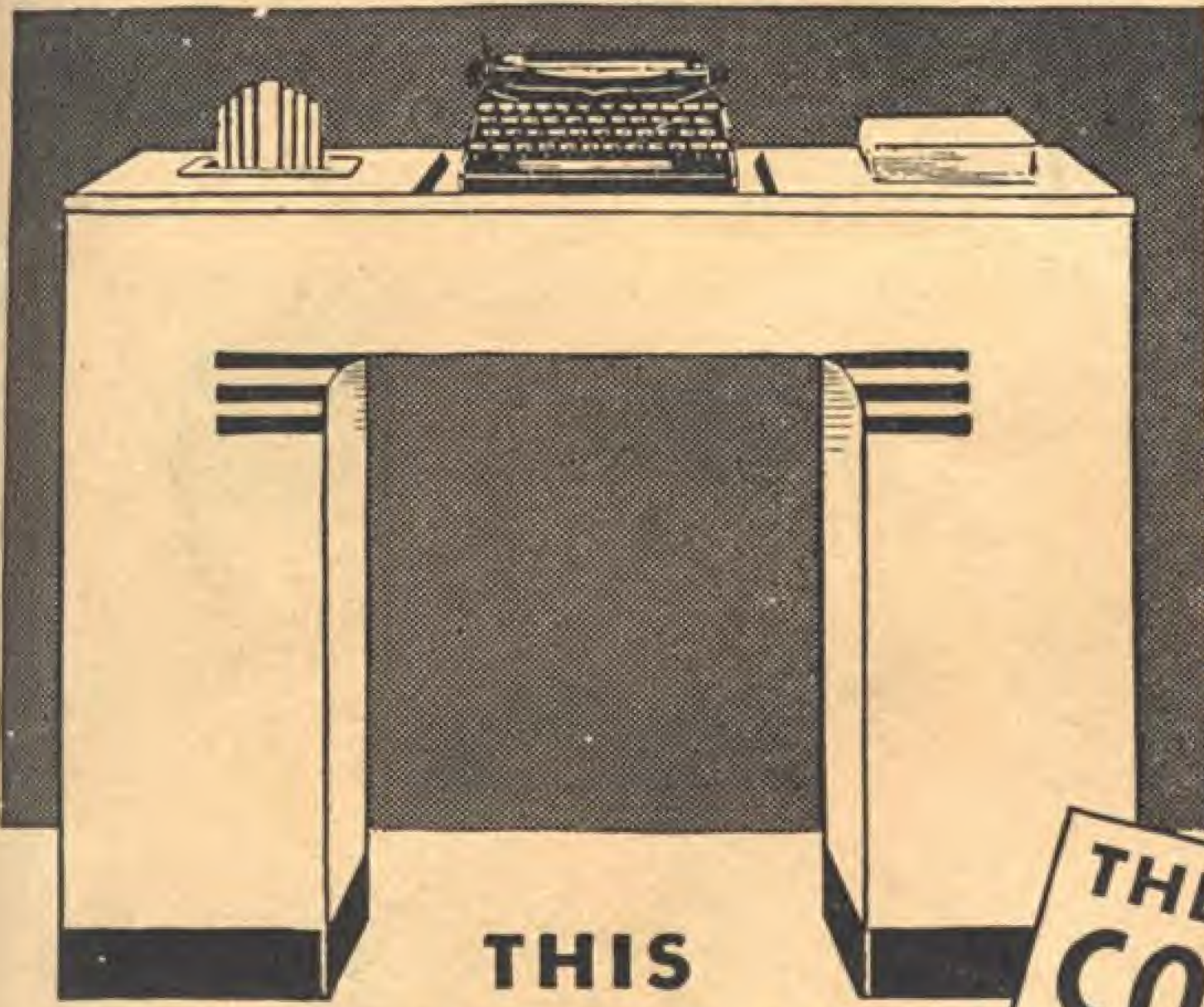
THIS IS THE SURPRISE I TOLD YOU ABOUT. I'VE OPENED UP A SETTLEMENT HOUSE FOR THESE POOR CHILDREN!

LOOK WHO'S HERE, GANG! SHEILA!

OH, SHEILA! HOW WONDERFUL!

HEY, LORNA! HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

LIKE THESE KINDS OF ADVENTURES, FOLKS? HOPE YOU DO! I SURE ENJOY 'EM MYSELF! WHY NOT DROP ME A LINE AT 60 HUDSON ST., N.Y. C., ROOM 315. MAYBE YOU'D EVEN LIKE TO HAVE ME REFORM SOMEBODY FOR YOU! (S)



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THIS PICTURE IS FOR FRAMING.

**DORA
CUMMINGS**

**SERGEANT
(I GOT IT ALL FIGURED)
CLANCY**

**ALEC BEN
LUNAR,
BETTER KNOWN
AS LOONEY**

BEST WISHES
FOR A

ZIP
GOOD TIME

FROM

Steel Sterling
AND

HIS GANG

OF

ZIP
COMICS