

THE FIREFLY

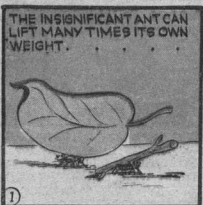
ENEMY OF CRIME!



MOST OF US HAVE STRANGE UNACCOUNTABLE AMBITIONS WHICH OFTEN GROW UP WITH US. IN HIS YOUTH HARLEY HUDSON HAD JUST SUCH A DRIVING OBSESSION - TO BE A CRIME FIGHTER WHEN HE GREW OLDER. TO THIS END, HE DEVOTED EVERY YEAR OF HIS LIFE TO EQUIP HIMSELF FOR HIS MANHOOD JOB - WE NOW PICK HIM UP AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST, A FEW YEARS AFTER HIS GRADUATION FROM COLLEGE WHERE HE HAD MAJORED IN BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY!



IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT INSECTS IN PROPORTION TO THEIR SIZE ARE INFINITELY STRONGER THAN HUMAN BEINGS.



THEIR STRENGTH LIES IN THEIR WONDERFUL MUSCULAR COORDINATION—AND NOW AFTER 2 YEARS OF RESEARCH AND STUDY... I TOO, HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MASTER THE MUSCULAR FUNCTIONS OF MY OWN BODY.



NO OTHER MAN WOULD ATTEMPT TO UPROOT A TREE!



LIKE THE GRASSHOPPER I CAN LEAP GREAT DISTANCES!



EVERY OUNCE OF MY ENERGY IS BROUGHT INTO FULL PLAY!



THE SAME PRINCIPLE MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO STAY UNDER WATER FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME!



NOW I AM READY!



AND NOW TO START MY CRUSADE AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD—BUT I MUST HAVE A DISGUISE



JUST THEN A BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES, PLUNGING THE LABORATORY INTO DARKNESS—



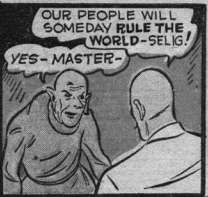
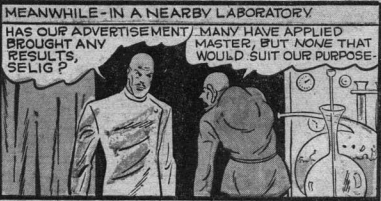
FATE TAKES A HAND IN HARLEY'S DECISION.

MY! FIREFLIES!



THAT'S WHAT I'LL BE... A FIREFLY! LIGHTING UP THE DARKNESS THAT SHROUDS THE UNDERWORLD!





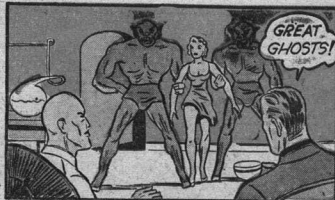
SUDDENLY--



HELP!

WHAT WAS THAT?

YOU SHALL SEE-BRING HER IN, SLAVES!

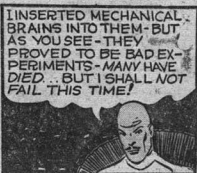


GREAT GHOSTS!

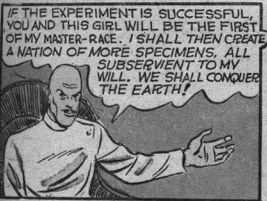


THEY'RE NOT HUMAN!

THEY ONCE WERE-MY FRIEND-JUST AS YOU ARE-BUT THEY ARE NOW MY SLAVES!



I INSERTED MECHANICAL BRAINS INTO THEM-BUT AS YOU SEE- THEY PROVED TO BE BAD EXPERIMENTS-MANY HAVE DIED... BUT I SHALL NOT FAIL THIS TIME!

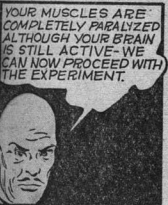


IF THE EXPERIMENT IS SUCCESSFUL, YOU AND THIS GIRL WILL BE THE FIRST OF MY MASTER-RACE. I SHALL THEN CREATE A NATION OF MORE SPECIMENS, ALL SUBSERVIENT TO MY WILL. WE SHALL CONQUER THE EARTH!



WHY-YOU DIRTY-WH-WH-WH-WH-I CAN'T MOVE!

DON'T TRY-YOUR TEA WAS DRUGGED.



YOUR MUSCLES ARE COMPLETELY PARALYZED ALTHOUGH YOUR BRAIN IS STILL ACTIVE-WE CAN NOW PROCEED WITH THE EXPERIMENT.



HARLEY AND THE GIRL ARE TAKEN INTO THE OPERATING ROOM.

THE GIRL WILL BE FIRST-
HUDSON - YOU WILL
SOON FOLLOW. . .



IF ONLY MY
MUSCULAR CO-
ORDINATION WILL
WORK - MAYBE I
CAN OVERCOME
THE DRUG



THE OPERATION
SHALL COMMENCE. -
OUT WITH THE LIGHTS!



WHILE DARKNESS REIGNS

IT'S WORKING!
I CAN FEEL
THE DRUG
WEARING
OFF!

HARLEY'S STRENGTH RE-
TURNS AND HE WRENCHES
HIMSELF FREE.

OoF! HE'S
LOOSE! LIGHTS
QUICK!

I'VE GOT TO SHED
MY CLOTHES!

BUT BEFORE THE LIGHTS
GO ON THE DARKNESS GLOWS
WITH EERIE LIGHT AND
THE FIREFLY APPEARS!



GREAT SATAN!
WHAT IS
THIS?



KILL
HIM
SLAVES!

MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO TRY
IT PERSONALLY, PROFESSOR.





C'MERE, YOU TWO!



LOOKS LIKE THE PARTY'S OVER!
NOW TO FREE THE GIRL!



OH OH! THAT GUY MEANS ME NO GOOD!

BUT AS A TREMENDOUS LEAP CARRIES HIM TO HIS ASSAILANT-ANOTHER GREEN MAN APPEARS FIRING FROM BELOW.



C'MON YOU SNIPER-LET'S GO FOR A RIDE



HAVE YOU TWO BOYS MET YET?

- THE FIREFLY HEAVES HIS PRISONER AT THE OTHER GREEN MAN BELOW.

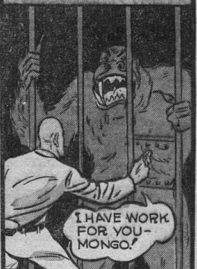


YOU BOYS ARE AN AWFUL BOTHER!

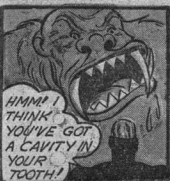
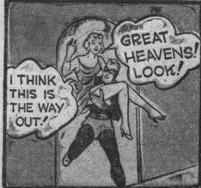


COME ON, MISS! WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!

BUT THE MAD PROFESSOR HAS ONE MORE TRICK!



I HAVE WORK FOR YOU-MONGO!



HOW DID YOU EVER GET MIXED UP IN THIS?
I'M A REPORTER- THE ENTIRE POLICE FORCE IS SEARCHING FOR THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE DISAPPEARANCES.



THAT AD SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD LEAD SO I ANSWERED IT ON A HUNCH. WELL, HE'LL NEVER MURDER ANYONE AGAIN.



GOOD LORD- H-H-E'S GONE!

HAS THE MAD PROFESSOR ESCAPED? WILL THE FIREFLY PREVENT HIM FROM RUNNING AMUCK AND COMMITTING FURTHER GHASTLY CRIMES?
THE NEXT ISSUE OF **TOP-NOTCH COMICS** WILL SUPPLY THE ANSWERS TO THESE GRIPPING QUESTIONS! RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW!