

No.
10

PEEP

ACTION
DETECTIVE
ADVENTURE

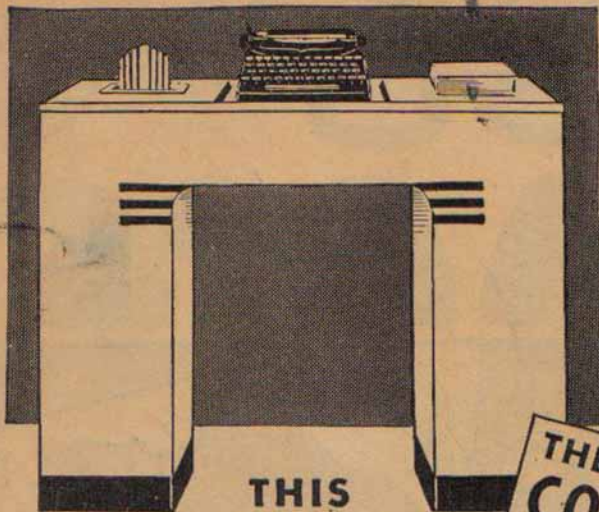
COMICS

DEC. 10¢
15¢ in Canada

FEATURING
THE SHIELD
G-MAN
EXTRAORDINARY

-NOVICK-





THIS
**BEAUTIFUL
 DESK** FOR **\$1.00**

WITH ANY

REMINGTON PORTABLE TYPEWRITER

A beautiful desk in a neutral blue-green—trimmed in black and silver—made of sturdy fibre board—now available for only one dollar (\$1.00) to purchasers of a Remington Deluxe Noiseless Portable Typewriter. The desk is so light that it can be moved anywhere without trouble. It will hold six hundred (600) pounds. This combination gives you a miniature office at home. Mail the coupon today.

**THESE EXTRAS FOR YOU
 LEARN TYPING FREE**

To help you even further, you get Free with this special offer a 24-page booklet, prepared by experts, to teach you quickly how to typewrite by the touch method. When you buy a Noiseless you get this free Remington Rand gift that increases the pleasure of using your Remington Deluxe Noiseless Portable. Remember, the touch typing book is sent Free while this offer holds.

SPECIAL CARRYING CASE

The Remington Deluxe Noiseless Portable is light in weight, easily carried about. With this offer Remington supplies a beautiful carrying case sturdily built of 3-ply wood bound with a special Dupont Fabric.

SPECIFICATIONS

ALL ESSENTIAL FEATURES of large standard office machines appear in the Noiseless Deluxe Portable—standard 4-row keyboard; back spacer; margin stops and margin release; double shift key; two color ribbon and automatic reverse; variable line spacer; paper fingers; makes as many as seven carbons; takes paper 9.5" wide; writes lines 8.2" wide, black key cards and white letters, rubber cushioned feet.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

The Remington Noiseless Deluxe Portable Typewriter is sold on a trial basis with a money-back guarantee. If, after ten days trial, you are not entirely satisfied, we will take it back, paying all shipping charges and refunding your good will deposit at once. You take no risk.



ACT NOW!

ON THIS BARGAIN OFFER.

**THE
 COMBINATION
 FOR AS LITTLE AS 10c A DAY**

How easy it is to pay for this combination. Just imagine! A small good will deposit and terms as low as 10c a day to get this combination at once. You will never miss 10c a day. Become immediately the possessor of this combination. You assume no obligation by sending the coupon.



SEND COUPON NOW!

Remington Rand Inc. Dept 419-11
 465 Washington St., Buffalo, N. Y.

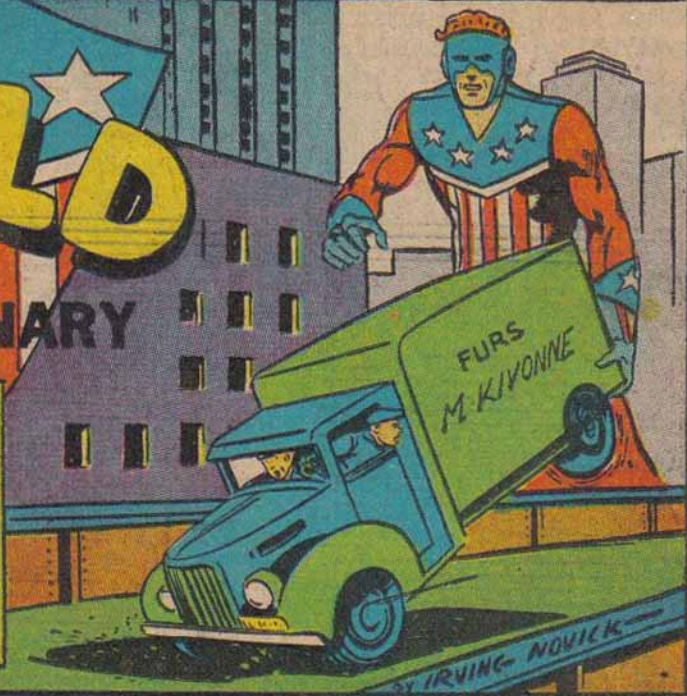
Tell me, without obligation, how to get a Free Trial of a new Remington Noiseless Deluxe Portable, including Carrying Case and Free Typing Booklet, for as little as 10c a day. Send Catalogue.

Name.....
 Address.....
 City.....State.....

THE SHIELD

G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY

THE SHIELD, G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY, KNOWN ONLY TO THE CHIEF OF THE F.B.I. AS JOE HIGGINS, PITS HIS TITANIC STRENGTH, AND INFINITE CUNNING CONSTANTLY AGAINST THE RACKETS. AND HE FINDS HE NEEDS EVERY OUNCE OF BOTH TO DEFEAT THE PARASITIC FORCES THAT HIBBLE AT THE PROPS OF SOCIETY!



COME AND GET 'EM FOLKS, ONLY A DIME, WIND 'EM UP AND LET 'EM GO! SCARE THE GALS!



HORRORS! HOW DISGUSTING!



OH, JOE, WHAT A GORGEOUS WRAP THAT GIRL'S WEARING!

YEAH, BETTY, NOT BAD ON THE EYES, EITHER!



LOOK, LADY, HE LIKES YOU, WANNA BUY HIM?

NO!



CRIPES! ITS.....

AN EXPLOSION!





I'LL SPILL EVERYTHING, ONLY DON'T...HELP! THE MICE! I FORGOT ALL ABOUT 'EM! THEY'RE LOADED WITH T.N.T. AND THEY'RE IN MY POCKET.... LET ME....



BUT THE KILLER HAS REMINDED HIMSELF TOO LATE!



WOW! WHAT A BLAST! IT ALMOST FINISHED ME!

JOE! YOU ALL RIGHT!



LOOK WHAT I FOUND IN THAT GUY'S PANTS!

LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE, FIRST, JUJU, A CROWD'S BEGINNING TO COLLECT!



LATER, AT JOE'S HOME!

BUT, JOE, WILL YA....

WAIT A MINUTE, JUJU! DID YOU FIND ANYTHING, BETTY?

YES, POOR THING! THE ONLY THING THAT WAS LEFT OF HER WAS HER PURSE AND I MANAGED TO SNEAK IT AWAY!



PRIZES! Choose Yours NOW!

DAISY'S 1000 SHOT RED RYDER CARBINE
1000-shot repeater
Sell one order.

FRED HARLAN

Boys' Girls' Wrist Watches
Sell one order.

BOYS! GIRLS!

Here are swell prizes for you, or fine gifts for Mother and Dad. They're yours without a cent of cost.

IT'S EASY! Do like thousands of others have done—get any prize here, or your choice from many others in our Big Prize Sheet for selling only 40 Christmas Packs at 10¢ each. Each pack contains 2 beautiful Christmas Cards, 2 envelopes and 24 sparkling Xmas Seals. When sold, return the money and choose your prize. It is sent AT ONCE. Mail coupon today for Xmas Packs and Big Prize Sheet showing over 40 prizes to choose from. SEND NO MONEY—WE TRUST YOU.

Sell one order and get your choice of Eastman Cameras.

Electric Movie Outfit. Sell one order.

Fitted Overnight Case.
Given for selling one order.

5-pc. Train outfit with track. Sell one order.

Gene Autry Holster Set FREE
Be a "two-gun" cowboy—belt, two holsters, two Gene Autry revolvers, all given for selling one order, Gene Autry Ring FREE.

Yelo Football Set. Given for selling one order.

10-pc. Toilet and Manicure Set.
Given for selling only one order.

THE AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
DEPT. 404, LANCASTER, PA.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 404, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Sheet and one order of 40 Xmas Packs. I will resell them at 10¢ each, send you the money and get my prize. My choice of prize is _____

Name _____

Street Address or R.F.D. Box _____

City _____

State _____

HERE'S SOMETHING!
LUCY KIMBALL, ACME
INSURANCE COM-
PANY. THAT'S WHERE
WE'RE GOIN' RIGHT
NOW!

JUJU, IF YOU
DON'T STOP
POKING THAT
DIRTY PAPER
INTO OUR FACES,
I'LL SCREAM!

AW/NOBODY
EVER WANTS
TO LISTEN TO
ME!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE EXECUTIVES OF THE ACME
INSURANCE COMPANY ARE IN CONFERENCE!

GENTLEMEN, WE FACE
COMPLETE RUIN UNLESS
THE SITUATION IS
CLEARED UP
IMMEDIATELY!



AN ORGANIZED SYNDICATE
OF RACKETEERS SOMEHOW
MANAGES TO STEAL EX-
PENSIVE FURS FROM THE
WOMEN WEARING THEM,
AND SWITCH A CLEVER
IMITATION IN THEIR
PLACE!



WHEN THE SWITCH IS DISCOVERED, WEEKS, PERHAPS
MONTHS, LATER, WE ARE FORCED TO PAY OUT IN-
SURANCE. OUR RESERVES
ARE ALMOST EXHAUSTED!

SOMETHING
MUST BE
DONE!



OUR OPERATIVE TELEPHONED ME
THAT SHE HAS DISCOVERED
SOMETHING. SHE IS ON HER WAY
HERE, NOW.... AH, THAT MUST
BE SHE!



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN BY BREAKING
IN? HOW DID
YOU....

TAKE IT EASY, WE'RE FROM
THE F.B.I. YOUR OPERATIVE
WAS JUST MURDERED!



M...MURDERED?? WE'RE FINISHED
UNLESS... YOU'RE F.B.I. MEN,
YOU MUST DO SOMETHING!

SUPPOSE
YOU TELL US
WHAT ITS ALL
ABOUT FIRST!



THE PRESIDENT TELLS JOE THE COMPLETE STORY!
AND THAT'S THE WAY IT STANDS.
WE'LL PAY YOU WELL IF...

THIS ISN'T EXACTLY AN
F.B.I. CASE... BUT... WE'LL
MAKE THIS UNOFFICIAL,
EH, JUJU?

YOU
BET,
JOE!







THE PROSTRATE FIGURE OF JOE HIGGINS, UNSEEN, TAKES SUDDEN LIFE AND BECOMES...THE SHIELD!



GOOD THING THEY DIDN'T HURT JUJU, OR I'D HAVE BEEN FORCED TO EXPOSE MYSELF!



B.... BUT....

THE ROOF!

NEVER MIND THE CHATTER. WHERE DOES THAT ELEVATOR LEAD TO?

MEANWHILE....



THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM. NOW WE'LL PHONE MADAME RENEE'S AND THEN BLOW TOWN!

FIRST WE GET RID OF THIS FLATFOOT, HUH, BOSS.

AT THAT MOMENT, JUJU COMES TO!



MADAME RENEE'S I HEARD THEM SAY! JEEPERS, THAT'S WHERE BETTY IS! THEY'LL GET HER TOO, UNLESS....



I'LL JUST TOSS THIS MUG OFF THE ROOF, AND.... OOKK!

FOOLED YA!



I NEVER KILLED ANY ONE IN COLD BLOOD IN MY LIFE, BUT YOU RATS KILLED MY BEST PAL!

D. DON'T COPPER!



AND NOW... HEY! THIS THING AIN'T WORKIN'!

CLICK CLICK CLICK

HIS GUN'S JAMMED!





MEANWHILE, IN THE ALLEY BELOW.....

WHAT A SLICK HAUL!



JUST LIKE ROLLIN' OFF A LOG!... ULP!

SURPRISE!



HERE'S A PUZZLE FOR YOU BOYS TO FIGURE OUT!



THAT TAKES CARE OF THEM..... SAY! THAT'S JUJU UP THERE, AND HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN TROUBLE!



JUJU DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT HE'S DUE FOR A QUICK COME-DOWN!



NOW YOU GET YOURS, COPPER!

ALL RIGHT, RATS, YOU GOT ME! BUT I'LL TAKE A COUPLE OF YOU WITH ME BEFORE I GO!



HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?



HELLO, JUJU! LITTLE TOO WARM UP THERE, WASN'T IT!

LOOK WHO IT IS!

I AIN'T TANGLIN' UP WITH HIM!

GET THE POLICE TO TAKE CARE OF THESE PRETZELS, AND THEN COME DOWN TO MADAME RENEE'S!

YEAH! BUT JOE HIGGINS....



HE'S ALL RIGHT! GET GOING!



UP.....

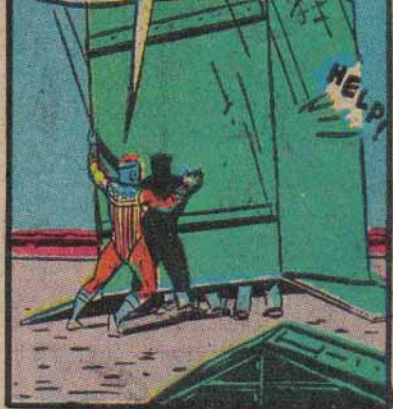


.....AND AT 'EM!



ALL RIGHT BOYS, ROOST THERE FOR AWHILE UNTIL A RECEPTION COMMITTEE COMES AROUND!

LET US OUTTA HERE!



AND NOW FOR THE BEAUTY EMPORIUM!



MEANWHILE AT THE EMPORIUM!

I'M BLACK AND BLUE FROM THESE MESSAGES, BUT I HAVEN'T FOUND A THING, YET!





WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL CHECK OUT.... WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S A MAN'S VOICE I HEAR IN THERE! I'LL DO SOME EAVES-DROPPING!



THE COPS ARE STARTING TO SUSPECT THAT THOSE FUR SWITCHES ARE BEING MADE HERE! WE'RE CLOSING THIS PLACE!

HSST! LOOK!



BETTY IS DISCOVERED!

DON'T WORRY, I'LL TAKE CARE OF HER!



I'VE HEARD ENOUGH! I'LL GO TELL JOE RIGHT AWAY!



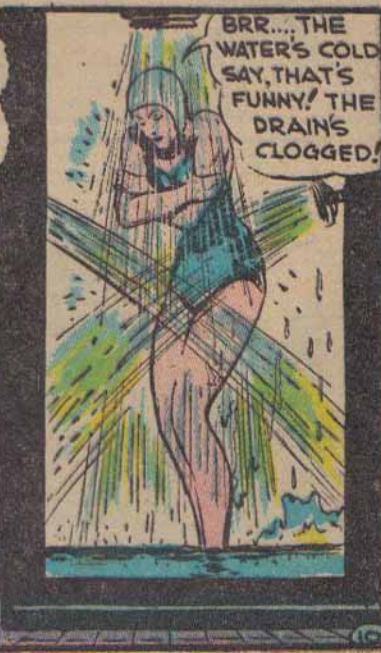
GOING SO SOON, MY DEAR?

ER....YES, I'VE HAD ENOUGH FOR ONE DAY!



OH, BUT YOU HAVEN'T TRIED OUR REFRESHING NEEDLE SHOWERS YET! I INSIST!

WELL ER.... I'D BETTER GO WITH HER OR SHE'LL BECOME SUSPICIOUS!



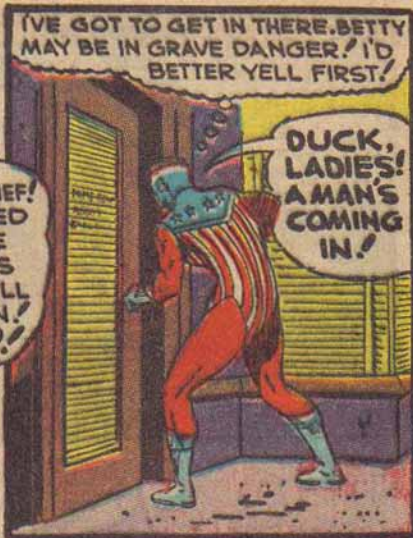
BRR... THE WATER'S COLD SAY, THAT'S FUNNY! THE DRAINS CLOGGED!



I BETTER SHUT THE FAUCETS.... WHY...THEY DON'T WORK!



GOOD GRIEF! I'M LOCKED IN. THE WATER'S RISING! I'LL DROWN! HELP!

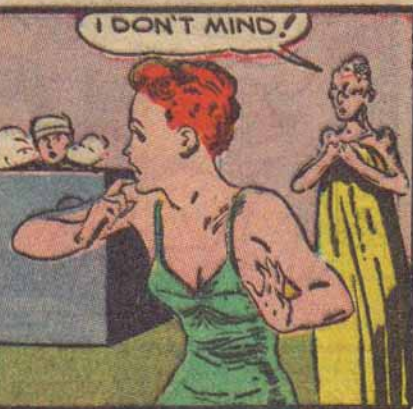


I'VE GOT TO GET IN THERE. BETTY MAY BE IN GRAVE DANGER! I'D BETTER YELL FIRST!

DUCK, LADIES! A MAN'S COMING IN!



HONEST, LADIES, I'M NOT LOOKING!



I DON'T MIND!

BETTY BEATS FRANTICALLY UPON THE UNBREAKABLE GLASS DOOR!



HELP! HELP!

THE SHIELD'S SUPER SENSITIVE HEARING PICKS UP BETTY'S CALL FOR HELP!



SHE'S IN THAT ROOM!



ANOTHER MINUTE, AND I'D HAVE BEEN TOO LATE!



JUST THEN JUJU ARRIVES WITH THE POLICE!

**SURROUND THE PLACE!
AND DON'T LET ANYBODY
ESCAPE. I'M GOING IN
THERE!**



**HEY/LADIES!
BETTER COVER
UP. I'M COMING
IN!**



**WE'LL TEACH YOU TO
RESPECT A LADY'S
PRIVACY. TAKE THAT!**

**WOW! CUT
IT OUT, WILL
YA!**

**THE
NERVE OF
THESE MEN!**



**I'M GETTING
OUT OF
HERE!**

ME TOO!

**UGH/MEN
ARE SUCH
WOLVES!**



**MEANWHILE!
THE PLACE IS SUR-
ROUNDED WITH COPS.
I CAN'T GET OUT!**

**OH, JOE!
THE SHIELD
SAVED ME.
WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN?**

**I KNOW
WHERE TO
HIDE YOU... FOL-
LOW
ME!**



**HELPING THE SHIELD
ROUND UP THE REST
OF THE GANG.....THE
RINGLEADER'S STILL
MISSING!**



**HE WAS
HERE A
LITTLE
WHILE
AGO!**

**HE COULDN'T ES-
CAPE! THE PLACE
IS SURROUNDED.
A FLY COULDN'T
GET OUT!**

**HE MUST
BE HERE
SOMEWHERE.
THEN. COME
ON, WE'LL
SEARCH!**

NOTHING IN HERE BUT A WOMAN WITH A MUD PACK!

WOMAN NOTHING! THE WOMAN'S WEARING A MAN'S SHOE!

WELL, I'LL BE... LOOK WHO IT IS? MR. KOVINNE! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WENT IN FOR MUD PACKS!

I SEE IT ALL, NOW. KOVINNE MADE ALL THOSE IMITATION COATS, AND USED HIS OWN STORE FOR AN OUTLET!

HE HAD HIMSELF INSURED, SO HE ROBS HIMSELF, COLLECTS, AND DIVERTS SUSPICION AT THE SAME TIME!

AND I'D HAVE GOTTEN AWAY WITH IT, IF...

IF, IF?... BUT YOU DIDN'T! IT'S THE HOOSE-GOW FOR YOU!

WE GOT THE WHOLE GANG, CHIEF! THIS DAME IS PLENTY SCARED. SHE'S READY TO SING!

OKAY, PUT THESE BABIES INTO THE WAGON!

I HEAR JU JU'S VOICE!

HELP!
HELP!
HELP!

GET ME OUTTA THIS THING. I'M FRYING TO DEATH!

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR TRYING TO PEEP!

I WASN'T PEEPIN'. I WAS JUST DOIN' MY DUTY. BUT THOSE DAMES WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME! GET ME OUTTA HERE!

THERE ARE ALWAYS CRIMES, AND CRIMINALS TO COMMIT THEM..... BUT

THE SHIELD
G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY IS SMARTER THAN THE SMARTEST, AND STRONGER THAN THE STRONGEST, AND HE FIGHTS ON IN EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

The COMET

BY
BOB MOORE
AND
JOE BLAIR



BY INJECTING A GAS INTO HIS BLOOD-STREAM, JOHN DICKERING—a YOUNG SCIENTIST—FINDS THAT HE BECOMES LIGHT ENOUGH TO MAKE GREAT LEAPS THROUGH THE AIR.....HE ALSO FINDS THAT HIS EYES GIVE OFF A DIS-INTEGRATING RAY THAT ONLY GLASS WILL STOP..... DUE TO CRIMES COMMITTED WHILE UNDER THE SPELL OF A HYPNOTIST, DICKERING, AS THE COMET, IS WANTED BY THE POLICE! NOW—AIDED BY THELMA GORDON, YOUNG NEWSPAPER WOMAN, THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS HIS TRUE IDENTITY—THE COMET CONDUCTS A ONE-MAN WAR AGAINST CRIME AND OPPRESSION.....



NICE AND QUIET OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY! ENJOYING YOUR-SELF, THELMA?

OF COURSE, JOHN! IT'S GOOD TO GET AWAY FROM TYPEWRITERS AND TELEPHONES, AND WORRYING ABOUT POLICE TAKING SHOTS AT YOU!



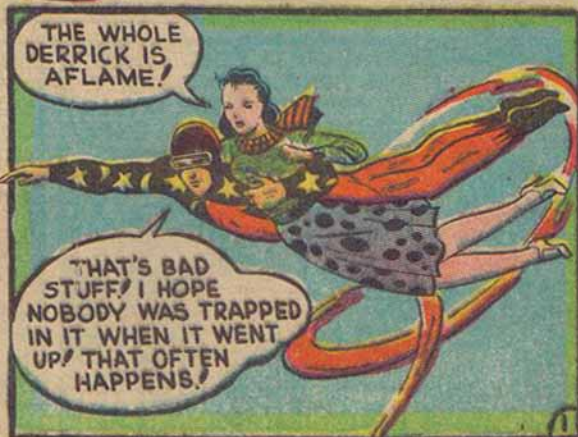
LOOK, JOHN! OVER THERE—WHERE THE OIL WELLS ARE. IT LOOKS LIKE A FIRE!



IT IS! PROBABLY ONE OF THE WELLS HAS CAUGHT!



GIVE ME A SECOND TO GET RID OF THESE CITY CLOTHES AND WE'LL GET OVER THERE FAST!

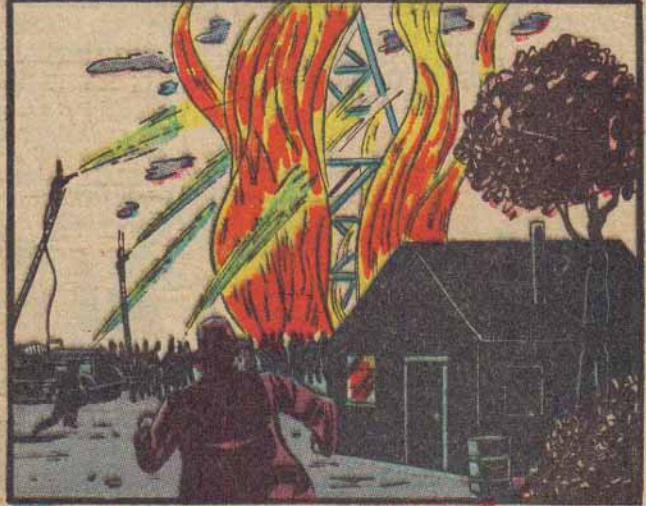


THE WHOLE DERRICK IS AFLAME!

THAT'S BAD STUFF! I HOPE NOBODY WAS TRAPPED IN IT WHEN IT WENT UP! THAT OFTEN HAPPENS!

IT'D BETTER DUCK BACK AND GET INTO MY CIVILIAN CLOTHES. — NO SENSE LETTING ANYBODY KNOW WHO I AM!

YES—HURRY! HERE COMES A WHOLE MOB OF PEOPLE!



THE COMET CHANGES BACK INTO HIS CLOTHES AND RETURNS TO THE SCENE OF THE FIRE.

WHAT KIND OF AN OUTFIT HAS THAT FEL-Low GOT ON?

IT'S A FIRE-PROOF SUIT — MADE OF ASBESTOS, EVIDENTLY HE'S GOING IN TO TRY TO CAP THE WELL — IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO PUT OUT THE FIRE!

STAND BACK—



THE FIRE-EATER FIGHTS HIS WAY INTO THE RAGING IN-FERNO OF FLAME AND FALLING DEBRIS.....

HOW HORRIBLE! 15—15 HE DEAD, JOHN?

YES, POOR DEVIL! BURNED TO A CRISP! HE NEVER HAD A CHANCE!

POOR GUY! I WONDER IF HE'S GOT A FAMILY?



HEY! THERE'S A MAN TRAPPED IN HERE!



A WOMAN STAGGERS UP TO THELMA AND THE COMET — THEN FAINTS!

MY HUSBAND, MY HUSBAND!



I KNOW IT'S AWFUL—BUT ACCIDENTS LIKE THIS WILL HAPPEN!

I—I'LL BE ALRIGHT! I'VE BEEN AFRAID THIS WOULD HAPPEN! MY HUSBAND IS THE SIXTH TO DIE LIKE THIS IN ONE WEEK!





WHO RUNS THESE WELLS?

FRANK HARTLEY MANAGES THEM— BUT THEY'RE OWNED BY THE ACME PETROLEUM COMPANY!

WHY DON'T THE MEN DO SOMETHING ABOUT ALL THESE ACCIDENTS?



THEY'RE AFRAID TO DO ANYTHING, IF THEY OBJECT THEY'LL ALL BE FIRED! HARTLEY SAYS THE COMPANY CAN'T AFFORD TO INSTALL NEW FIRE PREVENTION EQUIPMENT.



LATER — — —

SOMETHING'S MIGHTY PHONEY ABOUT THIS, THELMA! I THINK I'LL DROP IN ON THIS MR. HARTLEY!

GOOD IDEA, JOHN! I'LL BE AROUND HERE AND KEEP MY EYES OPEN!



SURE, I'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE. BUT SIX DEATHS A WEEK IS A PRETTY HIGH AVERAGE! IN FACT, IT LOOKS DOWN-RIGHT SUSPICIOUS!

WHO IN BLAZES DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, ANYHOW? GET OUT OF MY OFFICE OR I'LL BOUNCE YOU OUT ON YOUR EARS!



MR. HARTLEY! NUMBER 3 WELL'S ON FIRE!

WOW! ANOTHER ONE, HUH? IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR THE COMET TO STEP IN!



OUTSIDE...

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT BUT I'M STICKING AROUND 'TIL I FIND OUT!



THE COMET ARRIVES AT NO. 3 WELL...

HELP!

GREAT SCOTT! ANOTHER MAN TRAPPED!



BUT BEFORE THE COMET CAN EFFECT A RESCUE, THE DERRICK CRASHES, SMOTHERING ITS VICTIM IN A MASS OF ROARING FLAMES.

TOO LATE! HE'S A GONER!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE COMET FINDS THELMA.

HARTLEY WILL BE HERE ANY SECOND. I'VE GOT A HUNCH YOU MIGHT FIND SOME INFORMATION IN HIS OFFICE FILES. I'LL STAY HERE AND WATCH FOR NEW TROUBLE.

OKAY, COMET! WISH ME LUCK! I'LL SEE YOU LATER!

IF HARTLEY IS GUILTY OF "FRAMING" THESE ACCIDENTS— THERE MAY BE SOMETHING HERE TO PROVE IT!

THERE IS! WHAT A SCOOP THIS WILL MAKE. WOW! THIS EXPLAINS EVERYTHING!!!

SOMETHING TOLD ME I'D FIND SOMEONE IN HERE! TALK FAST, SISTER, OR IT'S CURTAINS FOR YOU!

HARTLEY!

AS LONG AS YOU KNOW WHY I'VE BEEN SETTING OFF THE WELLS WITH TIME BOMBS, YOU CAN BE THE NEXT "ACCIDENT" VICTIM ON THE LIST!

COMET!



Boys--Girls! Solve this Puzzle!

It's Fun---Try It!

In this picture are several Fairyland Characters, and just below are the names of each. Can you name them? It's easy! Untangle the letters and put them in order so that each word is the name of one of the story book folks. For example, the letters "RPTTEE APN," No. 2, when placed in right order spell

1. TELTIL OB-EPEP
2. RPTTEE APN
3. YHTUPM YDTUMP
4. EDR GNIIDR OQHD
5. CAKJ NAD ILLJ

"PETER PAN." You see him in the picture with his pipes playing a jolly tune.

Every Junior Salesman Gets a Candy Bank

If you can give me the correct name of each one in this happy family and you become a member of the Junior Sales Club, I will tell you how to get this Candy Bank Free. This Bank is full of chocolate bars. When you drop a penny in the bank you can then pull open the drawer and there will be a delicious chocolate bar wrapped in tin-foil waiting for you. A key comes with each bank so that you can refill it with chocolate bars when empty.



When You Solve the Puzzle

Try to be the first one to send in the correct answer. Start working the puzzle this very minute. See if you can solve it. Write the names of the Fairyland Characters on a penny post card or a sheet of paper, then sign your own name and address, and give your age. Every boy and girl who sends in the correct answer to this puzzle and joins my Junior Sales Club will have an opportunity to get this Bank FREE. Send your correct answer to:

BILLY WADE, JUNIOR SALES CLUB 109, TOPEKA, KANSAS

MEANWHILE, CONCEALED NEAR THE BURNING WELL, THE COMET MAKES A SUDDEN DECISION...



I'VE SEEN ENOUGH! I CAN'T STAND BY AND SEE ANYONE ELSE KILLED!



LISTEN TO ME, EVERYONE! I WANT TO HELP YOU!

IT'S THE COMET!

WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?



HEY! THIS COMET GUY IS A DEMON! MAYBE HE DOES KNOW SOMETHIN'!

YEAH! I BET HE DOES! HE'S A KILLER AND WANTED BY THE POLICE, AIN'T HE?

AFRAID THAT THE COMET HAS INFORMATION THAT CAN HURT THEM, HARTLEY'S HENCHMEN TURN THE CROWD AGAINST HIM



GIVE ME A CHANCE TO TALK!

YEAH! HE'S PROBABLY THE GUY BEHIND ALL THIS!



LET'S GET HIM!



FOOLS! I ONLY WANTED TO HELP YOU!



WHAT'S THIS! ANOTHER WELL ON FIRE!



MAYBE THOSE GUYS DID ME A FAVOR BY DRIVING ME OFF!



I CAN WALK THROUGH HERE AND GET OUT—BUT YOU'RE DONE FOR! JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHER SUCKERS I CARRIED INTO THE FLAMING WELLS!

COMET!

THELMA!

BUT AS THE *COMET* RUSHES IN AFTER THELMA.



GREAT SCOT! THE WELL IS TOPPLING! THELMA WILL BE CRUSHED BENEATH IT!



HELP! HELP!

THERE'S ONE CHANCE IN A HUNDRED THIS WILL WORK— IF IT DOESN'T...

THINKING FAST, THE *COMET* DISINTEGRATES THE GROUND BELOW THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WELL, HOPING TO STOP THE TOPPLING STRUCTURE.

SUCCESS! THE FALLING WELL STOPS... TREMBLES.... THEN STARTS TO TUMBLE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION!



SOARING ABOVE, THE *COMET*'S DISINTEGRATING RAY PIERCES THE ROARING FLAMES.



THEN SWOOPING DOWN, HE SEIZES THELMA.



WHEN— THAT WAS CLOSE— ARE YOU HURT, THELMA?

NOT EVEN SCRATCHED, THANKS TO YOU!

THE PAIR LAND TO WATCH THE ASBESTOS CLAD HARTLEY RUNNING FROM THE FALLING WELL.



THAT'S HARTLEY! HE TRIED TO KILL ME. I DISCOVERED THAT HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE DEATHS!

JUSTICE DEALS STRANGE CARDS. HARTLEY, RUNNING FROM THE INFERNO HE CREATED, IS CAUGHT UNDER THE WHITE-HOT GIRDERS AND THE DEATH HE PLANNED FOR OTHERS, BECOMES HIS OWN.



AAA! HE'S GONE!

THE DOCUMENTS IN HIS OFFICE TELL THE WHOLE STORY BEHIND THESE FIRES!

GO BACK TO YOUR JOBS, MEN! THERE WILL BE NO MORE OF THESE "ACCIDENTAL" FIRES. HARTLEY WAS SETTING THEM OFF, AND CAUSING MEN TO BE KILLED IN THEM, SO THAT THE COMBINED LOSS, AND RAISED INSURANCE RATES WOULD CAUSE THE ACME COMPANY TO GO BROKE. THEN HE COULD BUY OUT THE COMPANY AT A FRACTION OF WHAT IT'S WORTH!



WELL, JOHN! IT LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE FOLLOWS YOU EVERYWHERE! JUST SO LONG AS I CAN HELP THE OPPRESSED I'M HAPPY, THELMA! AFTER ALL, THAT'S WHAT I'VE DEVOTED MY LIFE TO!



THE *COMET* APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS!

PERRY CHASE....

PRESS GUARDIAN

ONLY CYNTHIA BLAKE, PERRY CHASE'S SECRETARY, KNOWS THAT PERRY IS THE INDOMITABLE PRESS GUARDIAN!



IN THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY EXPRESS.

WELL, PERRY, IT LOOKS LIKE OUR CIRCULATION SCHEME TO SELL SUBSCRIPTIONS WITH REAL ESTATE AT ROCKY POINT WAS A BIG SUCCESS!

YES, DAD, THERE'S A WHOLE COLONY OF PEOPLE LIVING THERE FOR THE SUMMER AND EVERYONE OF THEM READS OUR PAPER!

MR. CHASE! PERRY! SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED!

WE JUST GOT A PHONE CALL FROM ROCKY POINT WOMEN HAVE BEEN DISAPPEARING! THE COPS HAVE SEEN SIGNS OF STRUGGLES BUT THEY CAN'T FIND ANY BODIES!

DISAPPEARANCES AND MAYBE MURDER! ON THE DAILY EXPRESS LAND! THIS CAN RUIN THE PAPER, DAD! MAYBE IF I RUN UP TO THE POINT I CAN SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AND PUT A STOP TO IT!

NO, PERRY, LET THE POLICE HANDLE THIS!

OKAY, POP, IF YOU SAY SO. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT. BY THE WAY, I WON'T BE AROUND FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS. I'M TAKING A VACATION.

THAT NIGHT

HERE WE ARE, CYN! READY TO START OUR VACATION!

I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE MUCH REST!

YOU FOLKS GOING OUT TO THE POINT?



YES—IS THERE ANY BUS TO TAKE US OUT THERE?

NO MORE, THERE AIN'T, SINCE THINGS STARTED HAPPENIN' THERE AIN'T A BUS DRIVER WHO'LL GO THERE AT NIGHT!



GOSH, THIS IS A LONELY ROAD!

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN!



PERRY! PERRY! LOOK AT THAT!



HEY!

SOMEONE WANTS TO STOP ME! HEH! HEH!

PERRY, STOP HIM!



WELL, I'LL STOP THEM! HEH! HEH!



CATCH!



PERRY LOOK OUT.

YOU'RE PRETTY, I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME!

OH!



PERRY! HELP!

HEH! HEH!

I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU CYN!



HEH! HEH! HIT ALL YOU LIKE, YOU CAN'T HURT ME! HEH! HEH!





DROP THAT GIRL AND ESCAPE YOU FOOL! SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING YOU!

SUDDENLY A VOICE COMES FROM THE WOODS...



I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE! I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE!



YAAAHH!



GOOD HEAVENS, WHAT A JUMP!

HE WENT UNDER THE WATER AND HE STILL HASN'T COME UP!



DO YOU THINK HE DROWNED? I DOUBT IT. HE SEEMED TO KNOW WHAT HE WAS DOING. AND THAT VOICE THAT COMMANDED HIM...



IT SOUNDED LIKE THE CLA... NO, IT COULDN'T BE!

SHE'S STILL ALIVE. LET'S RUSH HER TO THE HOUSES AT THE POINT!



LOOK/SOME PEOPLE CARRYING MY WIFE! IS SHE ALRIGHT?

SHE'S STILL ALIVE! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY HER INDOORS!



SAY/YOU'RE PERRY CHASE, AREN'T YOU? YOUR PAPER SURE GOT THESE PEOPLE INTO AN AWFUL JAM!

WHERE'D YOU FIND THE WOMAN?

SOME MAD LOOKING GUY WAS STANDING OVER HER, DOWN THE ROAD!



WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! LET'S GO OUT AND FIND HIM!

YEAH! LET'S GO!

LET THEM GO AHEAD, CYN!

WHY, PERRY?

C'MON- WE'LL GET HIM! AND WE'LL FIND THE WOMEN WHO ARE MISSING, TOO!

I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT THIS IS A JOB FOR THE PRESS GUARDIAN! LET'S GO!

THIS IS WHERE WE RAN INTO HIM BEFORE, Y'KNOW, IF THERE'S SOMEONE GIVING HIM ORDERS--

--THIS IS MORE THAN JUST A CASE OF A MADMAN RUNNING OFF WITH, OR KILLING WOMEN.

HMM! WHAT'S THIS?

AND I THINK I KNOW WHAT--

--IT'S ALL ABOUT. DID YOU RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE FROM THE WOODS, CYN?

CYNTHIA! WHERE ARE YOU?

THIS LOOKS LIKE THAT GOON'S KNIFE!

HELP!
HELP!
HELP!

CYNTHIA!

SPLASH!

CYNTHIA! HE'S GOT HER!



THIS IS WHERE HE WENT OVER BEFORE! AND HE DIDN'T COME UP!



I'LL TRY THE SAME STUNT!



WHEW! IT'S DARK HERE! WHERE THE DEVIL COULD HE HAVE GONE!



IF HE HARMS CYNTHIA, I'LL... THERE'S A LIGHT!



AH! AN OPENING. THIS HAD BETTER BE THE PLACE. I CAN'T HOLD MY BREATH MUCH LONGER!



SO THIS IS IT! A CAVE WITH AN UNDERWATER OPENING! HMM, THAT WALL IS CERTAINLY LUMINOUS. IT LIGHTS UP THE WHOLE CAVE!



ONLY ONE THING COULD CAUSE THAT, RADIUM! THERE'S A FORTUNE DOWN IN THIS CAVE! AND THAT'S WHAT'S BEHIND THIS WHOLE BUSINESS... THEY'RE TRYING TO SCARE EVERYONE OFF THE PROPERTY SO THE RADIUM CAN BE MINED!



I HEAR VOICES! THEY MUST HAVE CYNTHIA IN THERE!





AH/MISS CYNTHIA BLAKE/SO NICE OF YOU TO JOIN MY LITTLE COMPANY!

THE CLAW!
YOU VILE BEAST!
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!



YOU BET HE WON'T!

PRESS GUARDIAN!
YOU AGAIN!



HEH/HEH/ I GET HIM!
YOU'LL NEVER BREAK LOOSE FROM HIS GRIP!



I'M NOT GOING TO WASTE ANY MORE TIME WITH YOU/ YOU'VE INTERFERED WITH ME FOR THE LAST TIME/ I'LL GIVE YOU JUST THREE SECONDS TO SAY YOUR PRAYERS/ ONE.....



PERRY'S A GOMER UNLESS I DO SOMETHING QUICK!

TWO!



HOW'M I DOIN'?

THR....



OOF!

SWELL!



UGH!

AND NOW FOR THE CLAW.....WHAT! HE'S GONE/WELL, I GUESS ID BETTER CUT DOWN THOSE WOMEN!



LATER.....

I GUESS OUR TROUBLES ARE ALL OVER/ THE POLICE TOOK THE GOON TO THE NUT HOUSE!

YES, AND THE PEOPLE WHO WENT THROUGH ALL THE TERROR HERE WILL BE WELL REWARDED. THE MONEY FOR THE RADIUM DEPOSITS BELONGS TO THEM/ IT WILL BE SPLIT AMONG ALL THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF ROCKY POINT!

THE CLAW IS LOOSE AGAIN...WHAT FURTHER DIABOLICAL SCHEMES IS HE PLOTTING?... THE PRESS GUARDIAN APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

FU CHANG

International

DETECTIVE



FU CHANG, CHINESE SCHOLAR, EDUCATED IN AMERICA, IS HEIR TO THE MAGIC CHESS-MEN OF THE IMMORTAL ALADDIN. WITH THEIR AID, HE COMBATS THE FORCES OF EVIL RAMPANT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.....



HAVING RECOVERED AN ANCIENT TREASURE CHEST FROM MONEY PIT ISLAND, FU CHANG AND HIS FIANCEE, TAY MING, SAIL TO CHINA TO RETURN THE TREASURE TO THE TEMPLE OF HUTUKTU, FROM WHENCE IT WAS STOLEN 300 YEARS AGO.....

STORY BY
JOC OLAIN
DRAWN BY
HEK ZUBAN

BEFORE SETTING OUT ON THEIR PILGRIMAGE TO THE TEMPLE.....



WHAT DANGERS LIE IN WAIT FOR US?

WE COME TO CONSULT YOU, GOD OF OUR FATHERS!



THE TEMPLE OF HUTUKTU IS SACRED! I CANNOT, THEREFORE, PREDICT WHAT AWAITS YOU THERE!

HAVE NO FEAR, TAY MING! IN THE LAND OF OUR FATHERS, NO HARM WILL BEFALL US!



I AM ALWAYS SECURE WITH YOU, BELOVED!

AS TAY MING AND FU CHANG LEAVE.....



LITTLE SPY FOLLOW YOUR MASTER THAT YOU MAY WARN HIM OF IMPENDING DANGER!

BUT IN A NEARBY PROVINCE, CHINA'S MOST DREADED BANDIT, LU FUNG.....



...RECEIVES A MESSAGE FROM ONE OF HIS SCOUTS!



SPEAK QUICKLY, UNWORTHY ONE!

AND WE MUST LIKEWISE ACT QUICKLY! THE FABULOUS TREASURE OF MONEY PIT ISLAND HAS BEEN RECOVERED AND IS BEING RETURNED TO HUTUKTU!



INDEED!! YOU RECOMMEND IMMEDIATE ATTACK?

NO, MASTER! THE CARAVAN IS WELL ARMED! WE MUST BE MORE CLEVER IN OUR PLAN!



AH! YOU ARE A BRILLIANT MAN, TI-LAH! I SHALL REMEMBER THIS!

THANK YOU, MASTER! THEN, I TAKE IT, WE SHALL FOLLOW THROUGH WITH MY PLAN?



OF A CERTAINTY! THERE IS WISDOM IN WHAT YOU HAVE SAID! WE SHALL DISGUISE OURSELVES AS MEMBERS OF FU CHANG'S PARTY AND AWAIT OUR OPPORTUNITY!

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, FU CHANG'S CARAVAN REACHES WANG ALA SHAN PROVINCE



WE ARE NEARLY TO OUR DESTINATION, TAY MING!

I CAN ALMOST MAKE OUT THE SOUTH GATES OF THE TEMPLE FROM HERE!

THE TEMPLE GUARD SOUNDS THE CALL ANNOUNCING THE APPROACH OF THE CARAVAN!

OUR TIME TO STRIKE IS CLOSE AT HAND!

YES, MASTER! WE SHALL WATCH FOR AN OPENING!



WHAT A BEAUTIFUL OLD TEMPLE!

UNTIE THE CHEST! WE HAVE REACHED OUR JOURNEY'S END!

IT IS AS YOU SAY!

WE RETURN THE TREASURE OF HUTUKTU, MOST HOLY ONE!

I HAVE NEWS OF YOUR COMING, FU CHANG! WELCOME!

WE SHALL RETURN THE CHEST TO ITS SACRED RESTING PLACE AT ONCE!

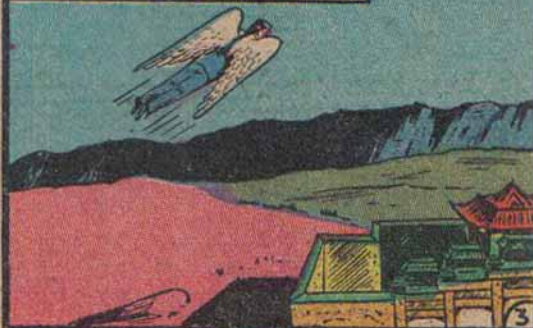
WE FOLLOW, HOLY ONE!

WHILE, OUTSIDE, THE WAITING CARAVAN SEES

A MOST PECULIAR BIRD, COMPANIONS!

MOST PECULIAR, INDEED!

...THE MAGIC CHESSMAN



THE TREASURE SHALL BE GUARDED BY THE BRONZE LIONS OF HUTUKTU! IT IS LEGEND THAT THEY SHALL COME TO LIFE AND ATTACK ANY WHO ATTEMPT TO STEAL THE TREASURE!



LEGEND, BAH! BRONZE LIONS HAVE NO HEART!

AND, THEREFORE, NO POWER! WE SHALL NOT BE TRICKED INTO BELIEVING SUCH TALES!



BRING FORWARD THE CHEST AND PLACE IT IN ITS RESTING PLACE!

YES, WE SHALL COME FORWARD!



BUT WE COME IN OUR OWN WAY!

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, TAY MING!

THE WRATH OF THE GODS BE UPON YOU!



BIND THEM WELL!

OH! MY HEAD!



AND NOW, TI LAH, THE TREASURE SHALL BE OURS!

VERILY, MASTER! AND NO EYES HAVE SEEN OUR WORK!



BUT UNKNOWN TO THE BANDITS, ONE PAIR OF EYES WITNESSED THE SCENE!



THE CHESSMAN ZOOMS AWAY WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT!



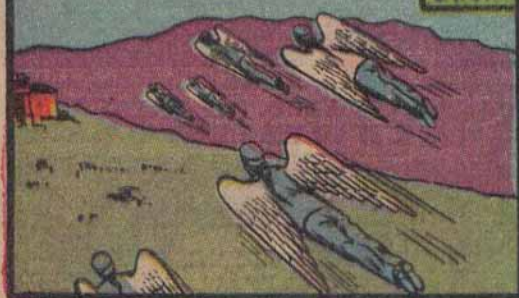
NOW WE SHALL WAIT A FEW MOMENTS TO LEND LOGIC TO OUR POSITION!



YES! AND WHEN WE TAKE THE CHEST OUT WE SHALL TELL THE CARAVAN IT CONTAINS ROCKS, AS A MEANS OF THROWING BANDITS OFF THE TRAIL!



MEANWHILE, THE LITTLE SPY RETURNS WITH THE MAGIC CHESSMEN OF ALADDIN!



THE TREASURE IS AS GOOD AS OURS, NOW, MASTER!



IN TRUTH, TI-LAH! BUT—WAIT! WHAT IS THAT SOUND?



THE BRONZE LIONS OF HUTUKTU ROAR AT THE THIEVES!



THE LEGEND HAS COME TRUE! THE LIONS LIVE!



THIS IS NO TIME FOR IDLE OBSERVATION! RUN! RUN!



THE ROARING LIONS AROUSE
TAY MING AND FU CHANG!



BEHIND THE LIONS THE MAGIC CHESSMEN BLEND
THEIR VOICES IN A MIGHTY LION'S ROAR!



ALL CLEAR! COME
OUT, CHESSMEN!



BRAVE CHESSMEN!
YOU HAVE SAVED
THE TREASURE
OF HUTUKTU!

SMART CHESS-
MEN, TOO,
FU CHANG!



IT IS FORTUNATE THAT
YOU, FU CHANG, HAVE
CHOSEN TO RETURN
THE TREASURE OF
HUTUKTU!

IT IS FOR-
TUNATE THAT
THE MAGIC
CHESSMEN SAW
FIT TO AID
ME!



CONFUCIUS SAY: MEN
WHO THINK OF NOTHING
LESS THAN TREASURE,
OFTEN END UP
TREASURE-LESS!



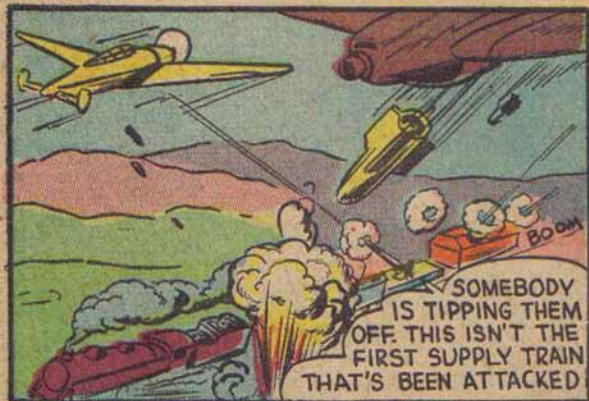
THE ADVENTURES OF
FU CHANG,
INTERNATIONAL DE-
TECTIVE, APPEARS
IN EVERY
ISSUE OF
**PEP
COMICS**

Sergeant Boyle

BACK IN ENGLAND, SERGEANT BOYLE, THE AMERICAN ACE OF THE B.E.F., IS ABOARD A SUPPLY TRAIN EN ROUTE TO A DEFENSE POSITION ON THE DOVER COAST.

HEINIES!
THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE FINDING US — AND THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A NEW AND UNKNOWN ROUTE!

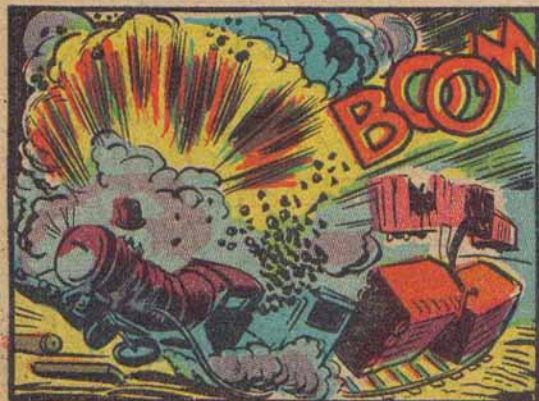
by BIRO



SOMEBODY IS TIPPING THEM OFF. THIS ISN'T THE FIRST SUPPLY TRAIN THAT'S BEEN ATTACKED



ACH! MY MOTOR IS HIT!



BOOM!



WHEE!
WELL, I GOT ONE ANYHOW — HERE HE COMES.





NAH! THE HEINIES KNEW THE TRAIN WAS COMING. THEY WRECKED IT!

HEY, SARGE! LOOKA' YOUR LEG!



THAT'S A BAD LOOKING LEG, BOYLE!

IT'S NOTHING, JUST A SCRATCH - FORGET IT!

GET HIM TO THE HOSPITAL! HIS BOOTS ARE SO FULL OF BLOOD, IT'S POURING OVER!



I TOOK THIS BULLET OUT OF HIS LEG. I'M AFRAID SERGEANT BOYLE WILL HAVE TO BE CONFINED HERE FOR A FEW DAYS.

YOU'D BETTER LEAVE, CAPTAIN. VISITING HOURS ARE OVER!

YOU BIG BALONEY! WHAT'S THE MATTER, ARE YOU TIRED OF FIGHTING?



THEY'RE LAYIN' THE KEELS FOR THREE NEW SUBS IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOR, BUT THEY CAN'T DO MUCH UNTIL THE CONVOY BRINGS SUPPLIES NEXT WEDNESDAY.

HEY! HE'S BLABBING ARMY SECRETS!

...AND THAT'S ALL I KNOW ABOUT THAT... BUT THEY'RE BUILDING TANKS OUTSIDE OF SOUTHAMPTON, IN THE OLD BREWERY BUILDING...

HEY, WAKE UP! WAKE UP! YOU'RE BABBLING ARMY SECRETS!

THAT NIGHT.....



WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ASLEEP!

NURSE! BRING THIS MAN A SEDATIVE SOLUTION OF 2 HYDROL 6



WAS I?

I MUSTA BEEN DREAMING! MY HEAD... IT'S SPINNING LIKE A TOP!

BOY THAT'S DANGEROUS INFORMATION TO TALK ABOUT IN YOUR SLEEP - SUPPOSE I WAS A SPY?





GIVE IT TO SERGEANT BOYLE— HE NEEDS PLENTY OF SLEEP!

WAIT A MINUTE! I DON'T NEED ANY DOPE TO MAKE ME SLEEP!



FOR THE LAST TIME, SERGEANT, WILL YOU TAKE THIS MEDICINE, OR WILL I HAVE TO FORCE IT INTO YOU?

OH! ALRIGHT! ON ONE CONDITION — IF YOU HAVE SUPPER WITH ME AT GREY'S CAFE TOMORROW NIGHT!



NO, THANKS! I SEE ENOUGH OF MY PATIENTS IN THE DAYTIME!

ARE YOU DOING UP AT THIS HOUR? YOU LOOK PALE!

HMM— HELLO, KITTY! WHAT



WHAT YOU NEED IS PLENTY OF SLEEP. HERE, TRY THIS!



WOW! THAT'S SOME SLEEPING SOLUTION! AM I GLAD I DIDN'T TAKE IT!



GOOD MORNING SERGEANT! SLEEP WELL? CAPTAIN TWERP IS HERE, DO YOU WANT TO SEE HIM?

TWERP! SEND HIM IN!



HOW YOU FEELIN', BOYLE? SAY, THAT'S A GOOD LOOKIN' NURSE YOU HAVE. YOU LUCKY STIFF!

I'M FEELIN' OKAY, AND THE NURSE IS OKAY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING PONEY GOING ON. DO ME A FAVOR AND GET THIS STUFF ANALYZED BY A CHEMIST!



A FOUNTAIN PEN FULL OUGHTA BE ENOUGH!

GET IT BACK AS FAST AS YOU CAN... I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT MAY LEAD TO SOMETHING BIG.

SEE YOU LATER.

DON'T TELL THE CHEMIST WHERE YOU GOT THE STUFF OR WHO IT'S FOR.... KEEP YOUR LIP BUTTONED.



NURSE, WE'RE ALL OUT OF 2HYDROL 6. HURRY TO THE PHARMACIST AND GET THIS FILLED!

WHAT AGAIN! SAY, I'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO!

THERE ARE PLENTY OF ORDERLIES. WHY DON'T YOU SEND ONE OF THEM?

I AM THE DOCTOR, HERE. YOU DO AS I SAY, OR I'LL HAVE YOU DISCHARGED!



OKAY, GIVE IT HERE!

THERE ARE A COUPLE OF THINGS I DON'T LIKE ABOUT THAT DOCTOR!

KEEP YOUR CHIN UP SISTER--- IT'S GONNA BE A SHORT WAR!



WHATCHA DOIN' TONIGHT, BABE?

DINING ALONE, THANKS!

HERE IT IS, BOYLE! THIS STUFF IS USED TO DRUG THE MINDS OF CRIMINALS SO THAT THE POLICE CAN GET INFORMATION FROM THEM!

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT! GIVE ME YOUR CLOTHES, TWER, I'VE GOT PLACES TO GO!

HEY, I GOT TO GET BACK TO HEADQUARTERS. I CAN'T REPORT TO THE GENERAL WEARING PAJAMAS.

SHUT UP AND GET INTO BED. I'LL BE BACK AFTER I SEE WHERE THAT NURSE WENT TO GET THE DOC'S ORDER FILLED!



THERE SHE IS! I'LL LISTEN AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS NOW!



WAIT HERE A MOMENT - SOMEONE IS AT THE BACK DOOR.



HERE'S MY ORDER. TELL THE BAKER I WANT IT DELIVERED IMMEDIATELY!

THAT'S THE SAME SLIP THE DOC-TOR GAVE THE NURSE BACK AT THE HOSPITAL.



THESE BOYS HAVE SOME GRAPEVINE! I'LL TRACE THIS TO THE LAST MAN!



HERE'S MY ORDER!

OKAY! MAKE YOUR NEXT DELIVERY!



HERE'S ANOTHER GUY, BOY! WHAT A SYSTEM!

GIMME A LOAF OF BREAD!

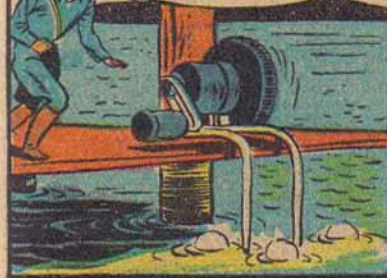
HERE'S MY ORDER --- GET IT FILLED!



CAN'T GO MUCH FURTHER THAN THE WATER FRONT! I MUST BE GETTING WARM!



WOW! DIVING APPARATUS. THEY'VE GOT THIS SPYING WORKED RIGHT DOWN TO A SCIENCE!



IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, I'LL FIND THE LAST LINK OF THIS CHAIN DOWN HERE!



HERE'S MY ORD.... ?

AN UNDERWATER TELEPHONE! DARN SMART, THESE HEINIES!





NO WONDER THEY
KNEW EVERYTHING
THAT WAS BEING
DONE OVER
HERE!



NOW TO RE-
WIND THIS
SPY-CHAIN!



BAK
NEXT COMES
THE BAKER!



HERE'S MY ORDER!
COME OUT WITH YOUR
HANDS
UP!

SURE!



HERE'S AN
OLD WEAPON YOU
CAN TELL 'EM
ABOUT!



DRUGS
HELLO, MR. DRUGGIST!
I'VE GOT A
PRESCRIPTION
I WANT
FILLED!



HERE'S MY
ORDER!

YOUR GAME
IS UP!
COME
ALONG QUIETLY



THIS IS MY
2 HYDROL C!



H'YA, DOC?
HERE'S A FEW
MORE PATIENTS
FOR YOU!

DOG! YOU'LL
NEVER LIVE
TO TURN
ME IN!



HERE'S YOUR
BUDDIES, DOC!
CATCH!.....
WRAP 'EM UP,
TWERP!

NICE GOIN', SARGE!
BUT, WHAT'S THE
IDEA OF GETTIN'
MY UNIFORM
WET?



ON YOUR RECOMMEN-
DATION, WE FREED THE
NURSE. INCIDENTALLY, SHE
SAID SHE'D BE WAITING IN
GREY'S CAFE TONIGHT!

THANK
YOU, SIR!

-THE END-

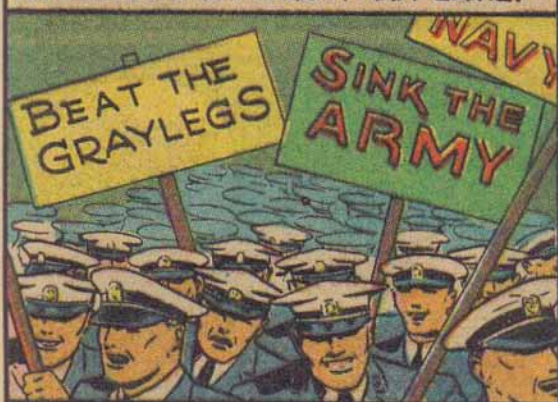
Lee Sampson, MIDSHIPMAN

THE ARMY-NAVY FOOT BALL GAME.....MAGICAL WORDS THAT SEND THE BLOOD COURAGING MADLY THROUGH THE VEINS OF EVERY MIDDIE OR CADET, PAST OR PRESENT, AND MIDSHIPMAN LEE SAMPSON, THE NAVY STAR ON WHOSE SHOULDERS REST THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY FOR LICKING THE GRAYLEGS, FINDS HIMSELF A SEETHING VOLCANO OF EMOTIONS AS THE DAY OF THE GAME DRAWS NEAR!



SHORTEN AND 'CAMY'

THE WEEK BEFORE THE ARMY-NAVY GAME!



IT'S A GREAT HONOR HAVING YOU VISIT US, COMMODORE JONES. I'D LIKE THE BOYS TO MEET YOU!

AND I SHOULD CERTAINLY LIKE TO MEET THEM!



BOYS, I WANT YOU TO MEET THE GREATEST ATHLETE NAVY EVER TURNED OUT, COMMODORE JONES, FATHER OF OUR OWN SHIPWRECK JONES!



WOW! SMASHER JONES, THE ONLY FOUR STAR 'N' MAN NAVY EVER HAD, YOUR FATHER, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

WELL....ER... I DIDN'T WANT TO BRAG! I WANTED TO GET ALONG ON MY OWN ABILITY, NOT MY DADS!



AFTER PRACTICE.....

DAD, THIS IS LEE SAMPSON, MY SHIPMATE, AND BEST FRIEND!

THIS IS A GREAT HONOR, SIR!

I'VE HEARD A GREAT DEAL ABOUT YOU!

MY GREATEST DREAM HAS BEEN TO SEE MY SON PLAY ON THE TEAM THAT BEATS ARMY. AND I THINK YOU'RE THE MAN WHO CAN HELP US DO IT!

THANK YOU, SIR! IF I CAN PLAY HALF AS WELL AS YOU DID, WE PROBABLY WILL!

GOODBYE, SHIPMATES! SEE YOU AT PHILADELPHIA!

GOODBYE, SIR!

WHAT A GRAND GUY YOUR DAD IS, SHIPWRECK!

THE LAST PRACTICE BEFORE THE BIG GAME!

FOLLOW ME, SHIPWRECK, I'LL MAKE A HOLE FOR YOU!



YOUR LEG'S BROKEN, SHIPWRECK. YOU'RE THROUGH FOR THE SEASON!

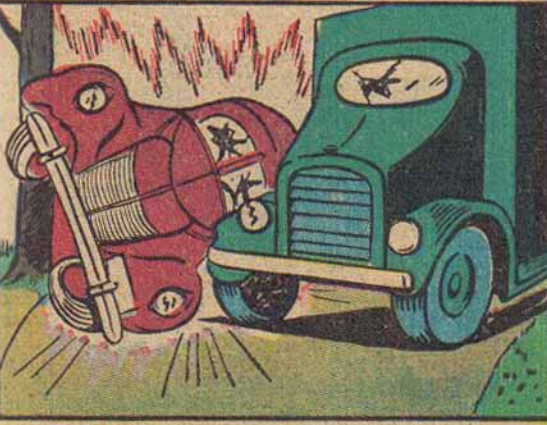
GUESS DAD'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR, LEE!

TOUGH BREAK, SHIPWRECK!

THE DAY OF THE BIG GAME. COMMODORE JONES IS UNAWARE OF HIS SON'S INJURY, AS HE DRIVES TO PHILADELPHIA!



SUDDENLY....A TRUCK SWERVES IN FROM AN INTERSECTING ROAD!



IT WASN'T MY FAULT! HE CAME.....

SHUT UP! WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS MAN TO THE HOSPITAL QUICK. HE'S BADLY HURT!



JUST AS LEE AND SHIPWRECK ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR THE STADIUM.....

LEE! MY DAD'S BEEN IN A SERIOUS ACCIDENT!

WHAT?...LET'S GET DOWN TO THE HOSPITAL!



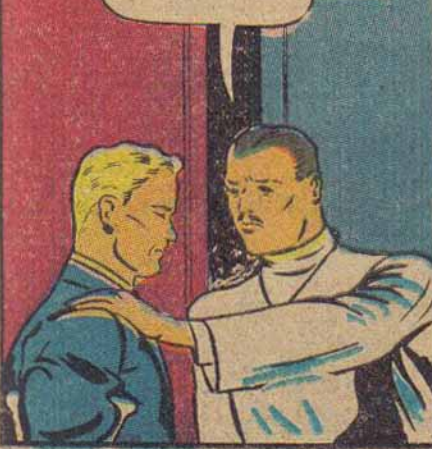
THEY SOON ARRIVE AT THE HOSPITAL!

MY FATHER! HOW IS HE?

VERY BAD! I'M AFRAID.... WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU THE WORST!



THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN WHO CAN SAVE HIM: DOCTOR GORDON, IF WE CAN ONLY KEEP YOUR FATHER ALIVE UNTIL HE ARRIVES... BUT THAT WOULD TAKE HOURS, AND YOUR FATHER IS FAILING RAPIDLY!



WINCING WITH AGONY, SHIPWRECK DISGUISES HIS OWN INJURY!

HELLO, SON, /R...READY....FOR.... BIG.... GAME?



W...WON'T CASH IN MY CHIPS TILL AFTER GAME.... CAN'T ROB ME OF THAT!

DAD! YOU MUSTN'T....



HE'S KEEPING ALIVE
JUST FOR ME...AND...
AND I CAN'T PLAY!

KEEPING ALIVE JUST
FOR YOU, YOU SAID.
MAYBE LONG ENOUGH
FOR DR. GORDON TO AR-
RIVE / YOUR DAD'S GOING
TO LISTEN TO YOU PLAY,
SHIPWRECK!



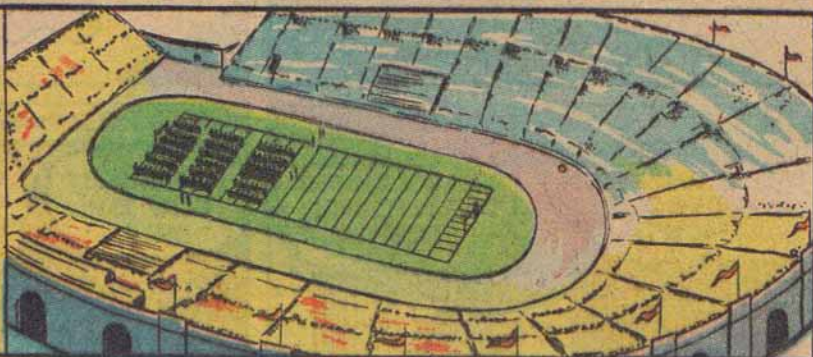
LATER, IN THE LOCKER ROOM.

AND SO IT'S HIS ONLY CHANCE,
COACH / YOU'VE GOT TO
LET ME DO IT!

GO TO IT,
LEE!



THE BIG GAME!
ONE HUNDRED AND
TWENTY THOUSAND
PEOPLE JAM MUNI-
CIPAL STADIUM, FOR
THE PRIVILEGE OF
WATCHING THE TWO
GREATEST AMERI-
CAN INSTITUTIONS
MEET ON THE GRID-
IRON.



THE ANNUAL RITUAL OF THE NAVY'S GOAT
AND THE ARMY MULE IS PERFORMED!

TELL BILL HOW WE'RE
GOING TO LICK NAVY,
MR. MULE!

GUESS AGAIN,
MR. DUMB JOHN!!

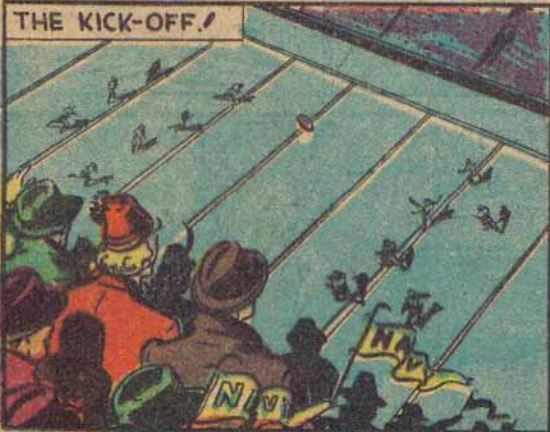


HERE'S THE LINE-UP, FOLKS... SAY THAT'S
FUNNY! NAVY SEEMS TO HAVE SWITCHED
NUMBER 88, THAT'S SHIP-
WRECK JONES, TO LEE
SAMPSON'S POSITION,
AND SAMPSON'S NOT
ON THE FIELD!



NUMBER 88 TAKES THE BALL ON THE KICK-
OFF AND SWIVEL-HIPS HIS WAY, LIKE A
PHANTOM GHOST, FORTY YARDS BEFORE
HE IS BROUGHT DOWN.

THE KICK-OFF!



IT'S THE SECOND HALF, FOLKS... THERE GOES JONES AGAIN. HE'S AWAY! THAT JONES HAS BEEN PLAYING LIKE A MAD-MAN. HE'S PUTTING SAMPSON, THE ONE HE SUBSTITUTED FOR, IN THE SHADE!

COMMODORE JONES LISTENS TO HIS SON'S EXPLOITS!



KEITH KORNELL, ARMY STAR, MAKES A SPECTACULAR TACKLE, NUMBER 88 IS BROUGHT DOWN ON THE CADETS' 15 YARD LINE.



IT'S A TOUCHDOWN! A TOUCHDOWN!
JONES HAS WON THE GAME FOR
NAVY! HE'S JUST GIVEN US AN
EXHIBITION OF FOOTBALL THAT
EVEN HIS FAMOUS FATHER, AT HIS
BEST, COULDN'T
DUPLICATE!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE HOSPITAL.....

IS... IS HE
STILL ALIVE?

YES, DR. GORDON!
THANK HEAVEN
YOU'VE ARRIVED!



HE JUST REFUSED TO
DIE! IT WAS HIS SON'S
EXPLOITS ON THE
GRIDIRON THAT
KEPT HIM GOING!

IT'S A MIRACLE!
I MUST OPERATE
AT ONCE!



AT THE HOSPITAL ENTRANCE...
MAY DENNIS, LEE'S O.A.O., AWAITS
HIS ARRIVAL.

MAY! WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

I READ THE
PAPERS, TOO,
MIDSHIPMAN GISH!



O.A.O. IS ANNAPOLIS SLANG
FOR *ONE AND ONLY*, WHEN
REFERRING TO A MIDSHIP-
MAN'S SWEETHEART.

I'VE JUST BEEN UP THERE,
SHIPWRECK / THE
OPERATION WAS A
SUCCESS!

THANK HEAVENS!



I RECOGNIZED YOU AS SOON AS YOU
STEPPED ON THE FIELD, EVEN
THOUGH YOU WORE SHIPWRECK'S
JERSEY.... AND LEE, IT
WAS THE NOBLEST
THING YOU
EVER DID!

SAY,
YOU'VE GOT
ME BLUSHING!



HERE'S SOMETHING TO
REALLY MAKE YOU
BLUSH!

WH... WHA.....



HAW, HAW!
LOOKS LIKE THE
NAVY'S SUNK
THIS TIME!



LEE SAMPSON
MIDSHIPMAN
APPEARS IN
EVERY ISSUE OF *PEP COMICS*

THE ROCKET

AND THE

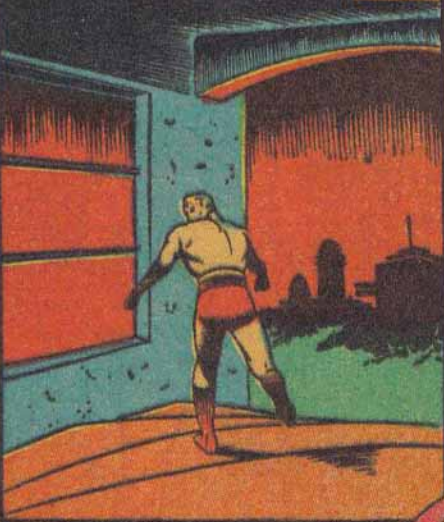
Queen of Diamonds

THE ROCKET — AIDED BY FALKAR, EXILED KING OF THE HAWKMEN — HAS DISPOSED OF RETLEK, THE TERRIBLE, AND RETURNED THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS ONCE MORE TO HER RIGHTFUL PLACE ON THE THRONE OF THE DIAMOND EMPIRE.

STREETER-BLAIR



AS DAWN BREAKS OVER THE DIAMOND EMPIRE.



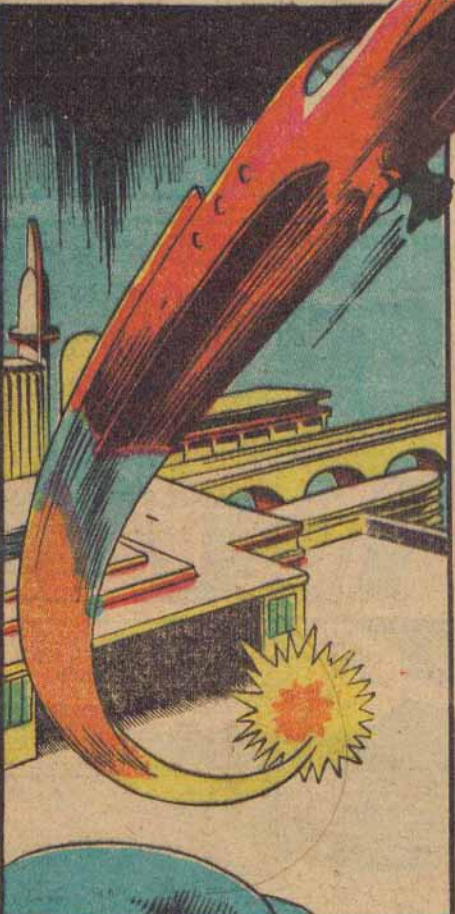
HERE COMES SIR ROCKET, NOW!

SOMEBODY'S BEEN HERE THIS MORNING! THE HANGAR DOOR IS OPEN!



I HAD TO SEE YOU OFF! GOD SPEED, SIR ROCKET! MAY WE MEET AGAIN, SOMEDAY!

YOU'VE BEEN A TRUE FRIEND, FALKAR! I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!



I HATED TO LEAVE THE QUEEN WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE, BUT IT'S EASIER THIS WAY!

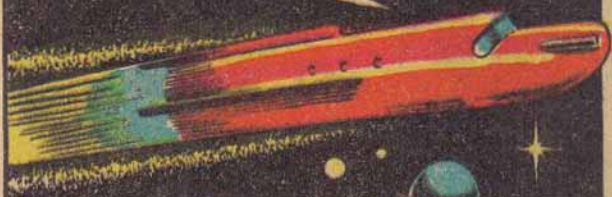


OR IS IT EASIER THIS WAY, SIR ROCKET?

WITH A ROAR OF EXPLODING ROCKETS AND A BURST OF FLAME, THE SHIP RIPS UPWARD INTO THE HEAVENS!

YOUR MAJESTY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? DID FALKAR TELL YOU I WAS LEAVING?

EVEN THO' I AM A QUEEN, I'M STILL A WOMAN / NOBODY HAD TO TELL ME — I COULD GUESS!



I COULD NEVER LET YOU LEAVE ME, SIR ROCKET!

YOU BELONG WITH YOUR PEOPLE / I'M TAKING YOU BACK, IMMEDIATELY!

THE ROCKET SWINGS THE STEERING CABLE SHARPLY

WHAT TH— / THE SHIP'S OUT OF CONTROL. WE'RE FALLING!



THE ROCKET RELEASES HIS FORWARD EMERGENCY STABILIZERS IN AN EFFORT TO CHECK THE SHIP'S SPEED..... BUT THE POWERFUL GRAVITATIONAL FORCE OF A STRANGE PLANET PULLS THE SHIP CLOSER AND CLOSER....

BUT THE SUDDEN STRAIN IS MORE THAN THE RUDDER CAN STAND, IT SNAPS AND THE SHIP GOES INTO A SPIN.

IF THIS IS THE END, ROCKET— IT'S BETTER TO DIE WITH YOU THAN TO LIVE WITHOUT YOU!



THE ROCKET SHIP HITS THE GROUND WITH A DETONATING CRASH.....



HOURS LATER, THE ROCKET AWAKES TO FIND.....



WH-WHERE AM I? WHAT'S HAPPENED?
ALL I CAN REMEMBER IS THE CRASH—



HOLY SMOKES! AM I
DREAMING OR DO I REALLY SEE—



AH! THEY'RE SECURELY TIED!
AHEM! CHARGE
THEM, MEN!



DO NOT RE-
SIST, STRANG-
ER! THE
RABBIT
CAVALRY
HAS EVERY-
THING UNDER
CONTROL!



HURRAH!
GENERAL
SCHMUTZPUSS
IS HERE!

ISN'T HE HAND-
SOME! HOORAY
FOR THE
GENERAL!

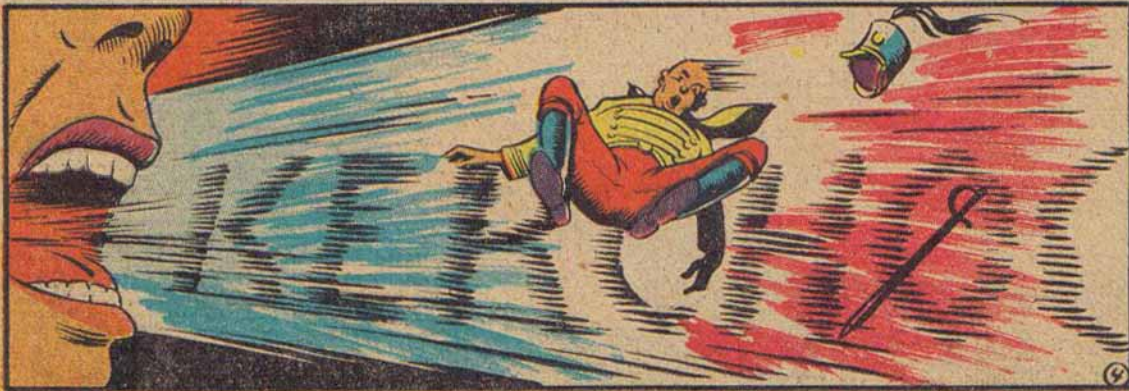
HOW
BRAVE
HE IS!

HURRAY!



OH! SO YOU'RE SCARED OF
ME, HUH? HA! IT'S A GOOD
THING FOR YOU, YOU'RE
TIED DOWN OR I'D—
I'D—

AW-AW-AW—





A HURRICANE / HOLD ON!

HOLD ON? TO WHAT?



GANGWAY FOR GENERAL SCHMUTZ - PUSS!

A WISE GUY! PULLING TRICKS WHILE MY BACK WAS TURNED! WHEN I GET TIME I'LL CHALLENGE HIM, MAN FOR MAN!



RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! ENEMIES! THE GROMANS ARE COMING!



WHO ARE THE GROMANS? WHY IS EVERYONE SO FRIGHTENED?

I DON'T KNOW, YOUR MAJESTY, BUT I'LL FIND OUT AS SOON AS I BREAK THESE BONDS!



WHOEVER THEY ARE - THEY SEEM TO BE COMING FROM THE SEA!

LET'S GET TO THE ROCKET SHIP AND SEE IF WE CAN FIND SOMETHING TO DEFEND OURSELVES WITH!



GOOD! OUR RAY GUNS ARE STILL HERE AND APPARENTLY UN-DAMAGED! HERE'S ONE FOR YOU!



LOOK, SIR ROCKET! NO WONDER THE LITTLE PEOPLE ARE FRIGHTENED! THE GROMANS ARE FULL-GROWN MEN!

REMEMBER - WE ARE GROMANS AND THE PIG-WIDGEONS ARE AN INFERIOR RACE! THEY MUST BE STAMPED OUT TO THE LAST MAN!



I'LL GIVE THEM A WARNING BURST FROM THIS RAY GUN! MAYBE IT'LL SCARE THEM OFF!

LOOK OUT, ROCKET!
THEY'RE ATTACK-
ING!



I GUESS WE'LL
HAVE TO DO MORE
THAN JUST SCARE
THEM! I'LL GIVE THEM
A REAL SAMPLE
THIS TIME!

NOW WE'LL SEE WHAT
EFFECT THIS HAS ON THEM!



ATTACK, FOOLS, ATTACK!
WHY DO YOU WAIT?
THERE ARE ONLY
TWO OF THEM!



THEY'RE HESITATING,
ROCKET! WE'VE
GOT THEM
GUESSING!

NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO BREAK
IT UP! KEEP FIRING AS
RAPIDLY AS
YOU CAN!



THE GROMAN LEGIONS ARE COMPLETELY ROUTED!



I GUESS
THAT DID
IT!

THEY'RE CERTAINLY
GETTING THE SHIPS
MOVING IN A
HURRY!



THE PIGWIDGEONS SWARM BACK
TO THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN
OF DIAMONDS, IN A FRENZY OF
JOY AND THANKFULNESS!



HAIL TO
OUR
SAVIORS!

HOORAY!

OUR
ENEMIES
HAVE BEEN
REPULSED!

AS GENERAL OF THE RABBIT CAVALRY—
I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRE-
SENT OUR THANKS FOR HELPING
ME TO ROUT THE
GROMANS!



THANK YOU,
GENERAL! I'M
SURE THAT IF WE
FIGHT TOGETHER, HAND
IN HAND, WE'LL HAVE NO
DIFFICULTY IN ROUT-
ING YOUR ENEMIES!

NEW, STRANGE AND EXCITING ADVENTURE'S FACE THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS IN THIS WEIRD LAND WHERE SMALL MEN FACE HUGE ONES IN A CONSTANT FIGHT TO THE DEATH!

Frontier Theatres

THEATRES of the Western frontier towns were great barnlike structures of logs and later of frame construction. The earlier ones had gambling and dance halls and great barrooms attached, but later many were devoted exclusively to stock variety companies which played an early type of vaudeville.

Another type of early theatre was given over to barnstorming, or trooping companies and it was with these troopers that the term "barnstorming" originated. Some of the greatest players the world has known "barnstormed" these theatres of the early West. Many of them made substantial fortunes as the early cowboys and miners, in their excited appreciation, were wont to toss gold nuggets and coins to the players.

These theatres were lighted first by candles and flares and later by kerosene lamps. Footlights were rows of kerosene lamps with shades on the side toward the audience. These shades were cut from big tin cans. The lamps, some of which were suspended in the flies, were the only lighting effects.

Lamp chimneys were one of the greatest sources of expense to the early Western theatrical managers. An amusing story is told of a manager of a big log theatre in the Black Hills.

A trapeze performer, working high in the flies, fell.

"Did he break any bones?" shouted a cowboy in the audience.

"Did he break any lamp chimneys?" shouted the manager.

An echo of this theatrical period in the old West resounded in Boston when there was a legal battle over the estate of Lotta Crabtree, actress.

Lotta's wealth, or a considerable part of it, was tossed to her by the cowboys and gold miners of the early West. Lotta was one of many stage favorites of the frontier days who were literally showered with gold nuggets and coins. Among others who experienced rains of gold was Kate Claxton, remembered by theatrical old-timers as star of "Fanchon, the Cricket."

Then there was Patti Rosa, the diminutive star, who for many years was the only "Lady Elk"; that is, she was the only accredited lady member of the B. P. O. E. in the very early years of that organization. The honor was conferred on her because she so often opened her purse strings for the organization's benefit funds. Another star of the time was Marie Heath, who succeeded in appearing as a "child actress" until she was well past seventy years old.

THE BIG barn-like theatres of the frontier days had few conveniences and no comforts. The experiences of the early stars who twinkled in these barren spots were harrowing, but the audiences could not have been more appreciative or enthusiastic.

When they enjoyed a performer's work they began to throw their gold money and nuggets onto the stage. The frontier stage favorites, particularly those of the feminine gender, could tour the cattle and mining country, season after season, and gain more profit than the New York stage of the time could possibly offer.

There were hundreds of performers, a few of them still living, who will remember the old golden-shower theatrical days of the West. Many of these performers spent their money like miners and cowboys in the resorts of the frontier districts, but Lotta Crabtree, being a frugal and thrifty person, laid most of hers aside.

Among the really great artists who penetrated this wild territory during her earlier years was Adelina Juana Maria Patti, the most famous singer of the nineteenth century and one of the greatest of any age. In the eighties Adelina Patti made three tours through the West. On one trip she penetrated the Northwest to Vancouver. In her travels she did not overlook the mining camps and cattle towns, where audiences were small but profits large. Miners paid as high as \$500 a ticket to hear Patti sing and took their families.



FIVE OF THE FASTEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINES



THE SHIELD



RANG-A-TANG



THE SHIELD - THE WIZARD



STEEL STERLING



THE BLACK HOOD

GET THEM AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

KAYO WARD



EIGHT MONTHS AGO AN OBSCURE STEEL MILL WORKER, KAYO WARD, WAS DISCOVERED IN A STREET FIGHT BY LEW BLACK, BIG TIME FIGHT MANAGER WHO STARTED HIM ON HIS WAY TO FISTIC FAME!



BY MEANS OF HIS ABILITY TO TAKE PUNISHMENT AND HIS POWERFUL RIGHT, SAID TO BE MORE POTENT THAN THAT OF DEMPSEY OR MAX BAER, HE SOON REACHED THE TOP OF THE RING LADDER!



AT LAST... A CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT WITH JOE LOUIS. BUT KAYO ENTERED THE RING IN UNFIT PHYSICAL CONDITION, AND AFTER COURAGEOUSLY ABSORBING A BEATING FROM LOUIS, THE FIGHT WAS CALLED!..... IN VIEW OF KAYO'S POOR PHYSICAL CONDITION, HIS DOCTOR PRESCRIBED A REST CURE....



BOB WOOD

SO KAYO WENT TO HOLLYWOOD. BUT THE 'REST CURE' HAS PROVED TO BE MORE EXHAUSTING THAN A CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT.....



IN PRODUCER GINSBERG'S OFFICE!

IT'S A GREAT PUBLICITY GAG, GINSY. KAYO'LL FIGHT JACK ROPES JUST BEFORE WE RELEASE HIS NEXT PICTURE!



BUT HE MIGHT GET HURT, AND....

BUZZ CLARK, PRESS AGENT FOR THE PARAGOLD STUDIOS!

NOT A CHANCE, KAYO'LL TAKE HIM IN ONE ROUND. WITH KAYO'S NAME HOT IN THE HEADLINES, THE BOX-OFFICE TAKE'LL BE TERRIFIC!



OY! BUT IF HE SHOULD LOSE.... WELL WHAT DO YOU SAY, KAYO!

ATTABOY KAYO!

I'M WILLIN'!



BUT AS NEWS OF KAYO'S BOUT WITH JACK ROPES REACHES THE PUBLIC, LET'S VISIT GLAMOROUS RUPY LEVEZ, PARAGOLD'S NUMBER ONE BOX-OFFICE ATTRACTION, WHO IS NOW ON UN-FRIENDLY TERMS WITH KAYO!

SO, KAYO FIGHTS, RUPY HAVE PLAN. I GO FIND RONALD SLEEK. HE DO NOT LIKE KAYO EITHER!



RONALD SLEEK, JEALOUS MOVIE STAR, WHOM KAYO HAS REPLACED AS RUPY'S LEADING MAN!

WE BOTH HAVE A CHANCE TO GET EVEN WITH KAYO, NOW!

IT'S A SWELL PLAN, RUPY! I'LL DO IT!



THE NIGHT OF THE FIGHT!



RONNIE AWAITS KAYO OUTSIDE HIS HOTEL!

HERE HE COMES NOW. I'VE BEEN WAITING LONG ENOUGH!



KAYO! YOU'VE GOT TO COME WITH ME. IT'S RUPY. SHE'S GONE TO HER YACHT, AND SHE'S DESPERATE!

B...BUT THE FIGHT!... I HAVEN'T GOT TIME!

SHE'S BROKEN-HEARTED ABOUT LOSING YOUR LOVE, KAYO. SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT COMMITTING SUICIDE!

SHE MUSTN'T DO THAT. C'MON, RONNIE! TAKE ME TO HER!



JUST AS KAYO AND RONNIE DEPART, CONNIE HODGES, KAYO'S SWEET-HEART, ARRIVES!

WHY IT'S RONNIE SLEEK, KAYO'S WORST ENEMY! I'M GOING TO FOLLOW THEM!

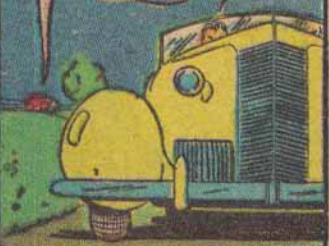
TAXI!



CONNIE FOLLOWS IN CLOSE PURSUIT!

HURRY, DRIVER, DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF THAT CAR!

GOSH, I HOPE WE MAKE IT IN TIME!



HURRY, KAYO! I HOPE WE DON'T ARRIVE TOO LATE!

GOOD GRACIOUS! SHE MUSTN'T DO IT!



AH, HERE THEY COME, NOW! RUPY NOW GO INTO HER ACT!





RUPY!
STOP!
DON'T SHOOT
YOURSELF!

KAYO! YOU
HAVE COME
BACK TO
RUPY!



IT IS RUPY YOU
LUFF, NOT THAT
CONNIE HODGES,
YES?

RUPY, PLEASE!
I DIDN'T SAY
THAT! I JUST
DIDN'T WANT TO
SEE YOUSE...



RUPY SHOW YOU SHE
GOOD SPORT, KAYO!
WE DRINK TO YOUR
HAPPINESS, YES?

WELL, ALL-
RIGHT... BUT
MAKE MINE
WATER!



BUT RUPY HAS
AN ACE UP
HER SLEEVE!



OUTSIDE ON DECK!

SAY! THERE'S A
BOAT COMIN'
HERE!

MISS LEVEZ
SAID SHE WASN'T
TO BE DISTURBED!
SO LET'S GET GOIN',
MATE!



THIS WHOLE THING
LOOKS TOO
FISHY TO
ME!



AS CONNIE BOARDS
THE YACHT!

HELP!

NOT SO
FAST
LADY!



GOODBYE
RUPY! I'M
SURE GLAD
EVERYTHING'S
ALL RIGHT
BETWEEN
US NOW!

GOODBYE,
KAYO, AND
PLEASANT
DREAMS!
HA! HA!

CONNIE IS TAKEN CAPTIVE, JUST
AS KAYO LEAVES FOR SHORE...

BACK IN RUPY'S CABIN!



SO!

THIS HERE DAME WANTED TO BUST UP YER PARTY, MISS LEVEZ!

WHERE'S KAYO? WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?

SO, YOU THINK YOU STEAL KAYO AND RUPY FORGET. WHEN KAYO LOSE FIGHT TONIGHT, HE WILL BE LAUGHING STOCK OF HOLLYWOOD, AND HE LOSE HIS MOVIE CONTRACT!
HA, HA, HA!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



I PUT DRUG IN HEES WATER. HE WILL FALL ASLEEP EEN MIDDLE OF FIGHT, AND YOU CANNOT LEAVE THIS YACHT.... WHAT YOU GONNA DO?

I'M GOING TO PUT YOU TO SLEEP LONG BEFORE KAYO!

BAM

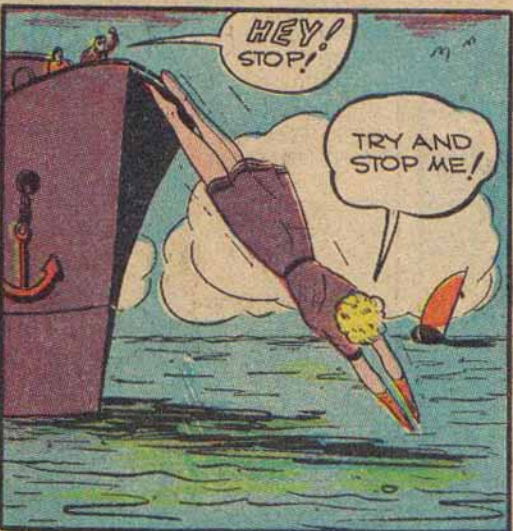
TRY YOUR DIRTY TRICKS, WILL YOU? TAKE THAT.....

SOCK

HALP

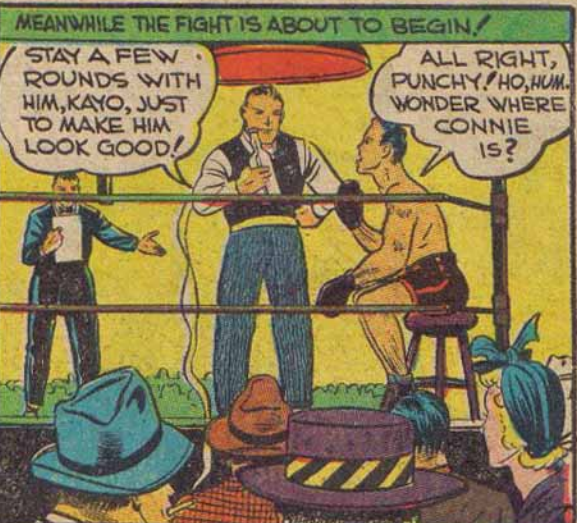


AND I DON'T NEED ANY BOAT TO TAKE ME BACK TO SHORE!



HEY! STOP!

TRY AND STOP ME!



MEANWHILE THE FIGHT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

STAY A FEW ROUNDS WITH HIM, KAYO, JUST TO MAKE HIM LOOK GOOD!

ALL RIGHT, PUNCHY! HO, HUM. WONDER WHERE CONNIE IS?

KAYO LOOKS BAD IN THE FIRST ROUND!



GOSH, I CAN'T EVEN HIT THIS GUY!

BETWEEN ROUNDS!



STAY ANOTHER ROUND WITH HIM, KAYO, AND THEN OPEN UP!

WONDER WHY I FEEL SO TIRED....OH, LOOK, THERE'S CONNIE!

KAYO!

DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS, KAYO. JUST DO AS I SAY. KEEP MOVING, AND KNOCK HIM OUT AS QUICK AS YOU CAN!

HEY WHO'S HANDLIN' HIM, ANYWAY!

I....I DON'T UNDERSTAND, BUT I'LL DO IT!



ROUND 2!
KAYO RUSHES FROM HIS CORNER!

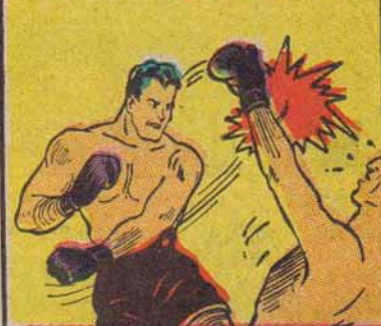


KAYO STUNS ROPES WITH A TERRIFIC LEFT CROSS...



OW!

...AND FOLLOWS IT UP WITH A SERIES OF LIGHTNING BLOWS!



KAYO SENDS HIS OPPONENT DOWN FOR A LONG COUNT, BUT IT'S BECOMING MORE DIFFICULT TO STAY AWAKE. CAN KAYO HOLD OUT LONG ENOUGH?

...AND ROPES IS DOWN.... WHAT A SOCK...2-3-4 ALL OF A SUDDEN KAYO TURNED INTO A FIGHTING MADMAN... 5-6- ROPES IS ON ONE KNEE!



EVERYTHING'S SWIMMIN' AROUND ME. I GOTTA....



ROPES IS UP AT THE COUNT OF 8 KAYO IS STAGGERING, BUT LET'S GO WITH A ROUNDHOUSE RIGHT. ROPES IS DOWN AGAIN!



AND HE DID IT! HE DID IT! A KNOCKOUT! ROPES IS OUT, COLDER THAN AN ICEMAN'S TONGS, AND DON'T FORGET TO TRY OUT THE NEW 'PUICK EIGHT' THE CAR THAT FLOATS!



NICE GOIN' KAYO. HEY! WHAT'S THE MATTER? WAKE UP!



PRODUCER GINSBERG READS KAYO'S PRESS RAVES!

WHAT PUBLICITY/HIS NEXT PICTURE'LL BRING US A MILLION.... WHERE IS KAYO, NOW?

HE'S ON THE LOT. THEY'RE SHOOTING THE PICTURE RIGHT AWAY, WHILE THIS PUBLICITY'S STILL HOT!



ON THE LOT, DIRECTOR VON SCHMITZEL IS FURIOUS!

VEE ARE READY TO SHOOT! VEE IS RUPY? SHE ISS HOLDING UP. PRODUCTION!

I WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING HER, CONNIE?

I.E.R... DON'T THINK SHE FEELS VERY WELL!



THE STUDIO IS CALLING, MISS LEVEZ. THEY WANT YOU RIGHT AWAY!

TELL THEM TO GO JUMP IN LAKE. RUPY NEFFER ACK AGAIN!



DASS ISS DEIN END. NOW VEE HAF NO VUN TO TAKE HER PART.



CONNIE'S BEEN REHEARSIN' WITH ME. SHE KNOWS ALL THE LINES, AND SHE'S A SWELL ACKTRESS. SHE COULD PLAY IT!

SAY, MAYBE SHE COULD AT THAT. SHE'S A SWELL LOOKER VEE TRY HER!

B...BUT!



CUT! DOT'S ALL FOR TODAY! VOT AN ACTRESS! OSKY, WOW, WOW! ISS THIS GONNA BE A PICTURE.!!



JUST PUT YOUR NAME THERE, CONNIE, AND YOU'LL BE A STAR OVER NIGHT!

I...I NEVER EXPECTED ANYTHING LIKE THIS!

I KNEW YOU'VE COULD DO IT, CONNIE!



BUT KAYO'S FIRST LOVE IS FIGHTING NOT ACTING... TROUBLE IS SURE TO POP IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

LATER, IN GINSBERG OFFICE

BENTLEY

of SCOTLAND YARD

THE CASE OF THE TARANTULA TERROR



LONDON EVE
SOCIETY GIRL
MURDERED

LONDON TIMES
SOCIETY ALARMED
POLICE BAFFLED

THE LONDON BUNGLER
THE TARANTULA
STRIKES AGAIN

FOR MONTHS, THE EXCLUSIVE
MAYFAIR SECTION OF LONDON
HAS BEEN ALARMED BY THE MY-
STERIOUS DEATHS OF ITS LEAD-
ING DEBUTANTES, ALL OF WHOM
HAVE BEEN KILLED BY BITES OF A
SPIDER AFTER RECEIVING EXTOR-
TION NOTES SIGNED "THE TARANTULA"

by S. COOPER



ONE STORMY
NIGHT, BENT-
LEY STRIDES
TOWARDS SCOT-
LAND YARD!



HELLO, CHARLIE!
BAD NIGHT, EH?
HERE'S TUPPENCE!

BLESS YE, INSPECTOR!
H'I KIN EAT TONIGHT,
NOW!



GOODNIGHT, H'INSPECTOR! H'LL DO A
GOOD TURN FOR YOU SOME DAY!
MARK ME WORDS!



HELLO! WHAT'S
THIS? LOOKS
LIKE-----
GOOD
HEAVENS!



LENORE ROGERS!
ANOTHER SO-
CIETY GIRL!
SHE'S ---



DEAD! AND I HAVE
AN IDEA WHO DID
IT!



THE MARK OF THE TARANTULA
TERROR!
THAT'S IT, ALL RIGHT!
HE'S STRUCK
AGAIN!



INSPECTOR, WE'VE
GOT TO SOLVE
THIS CASE! WE'RE
BEING BESIEGED
FROM ALL
SIDES!
I'LL DO MY BEST,
SIR! OH - THE
PHONE IS
RINGING!



THIS IS B.J. MORGAN! MY
DAUGHTER'S JUST
RECEIVED ONE OF
THOSE NOTES
FROM THE
TARANTULA!
KEEP CALM,
MR. MORGAN! I'LL
SEND INSPECTOR BENT-
LEY OVER IMMEDIATELY!



WELL, INSPECTOR, HERE'S YOUR
CHANCE! MR. MORGAN AND I
WERE SCHOOLMATES AT
ETON, SO DO YOUR BEST!
I'LL TRY TO
MAKE THE MOST
OF IT, SIR!



AND BY THE WAY,
THANK MR. MORGAN FOR
THIS WALKING STICK! HE
SENT IT TO ME THE OTHER
DAY AND I FORGOT TO PAY
MY RESPECTS!
I SHALL, SIR!
GOODNIGHT!

INSPECTOR, THIS IS FRANK ROOT, MY COUSIN; MY DAUGHTER, DEBORAH; MY BROTHER, DONALD; AND DEBBY'S FIANCE, BILL BARNES.



HERE'S THE NOTE THAT FIEND SENT, INSPECTOR!

THANKS, MR. BARNES. LET'S SEE.



DEAR DEBORAH MORGAN: YOU HAVE HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO SEVERAL YOUNG WOMEN WHO NEGLECTED MY REQUESTS. I HOPE YOU WILL BE MORE SENSIBLE AND HAVE 10,000 POUNDS (IN ONE POUND NOTES) READY FOR ME WHEN I WRITE YOU AGAIN.

TARANTULA

I BEG YOUR PARDON, SIR. THERE IS A TELEPHONE CALL FOR INSPECTOR BENTLEY.

THANK YOU, PEPYS. YOU'LL FIND THE PHONE IN THE FOYER, INSPECTOR!



HELLO! WHO? CHARLEY!!

YES, SIR, H'INSPECTOR! H'I JUST HEARD ABOUT THE YOUNG GIRL WHAT WAS FOUND ON THE STEPS OF THE YARD, AND H'I 'AVE A CLUE FOR YE, SIR! H'I'LL BE WAITIN' RIGHT AT ME REGULAR POST!



I THINK YOU CAN ALL REST EASIER! AN OLD BEGGAR NEAR HEAD-QUARTERS SAW THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THE CAR THAT LEFT LENORE ROGER'S BODY AT THE YARD TONIGHT! I'M MEETING HIM IMMEDIATELY!

OH, BY THE BY, MR. MORGAN! MY SUPERIOR ASKED ME TO THANK YOU FOR THE WALKING STICK YOU SENT HIM! IT WAS JUST LIKE YOURS, I BELIEVE!

WALKING STICK! I SENT NO WALKING STICK! THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!



PERHAPS IT IS JUST A MISTAKE, AS YOU SAY! WELL, GOODNIGHT EVERYONE! AND DON'T WORRY!

WE SHAN'T, INSPECTOR - NOT WITH YOU ON THE JOB!





THIS IS CHARLIE'S
REGULAR POST!
BUT WITH ALL
THIS MIST AND
FOG.....



I—GOOD
HEAVENS!
WHAT—??



IT'S POOR OLD CHARLIE! THE
TARANTULA
TERROR GOT
TO HIM
FIRST!



FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS ABOVE BENTLEY..



THE TARANTULA
STRIKES AGAIN



SOMETIME LATER, BENTLEY
REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!

OH! MY HEAD!
WH—WHERE AM I?



DEBORAH MORGAN!
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

I—I CAN'T REMEMBER!
I WAS DRUGGED AND—
AND I WOKE UP HERE!

YOU WERE GETTING A LITTLE TOO WARM, INSPECTOR! NOW I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT HOT FOR YOU!

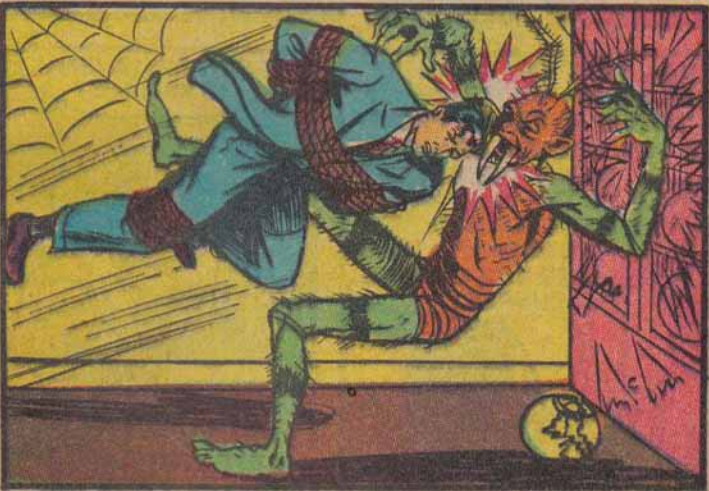
THE TARANTULA!



ORIGINALLY, I PLANNED TO USE THE SPIDER VENOM IN THE HEAD OF MY CANE TO DO AWAY WITH YOU! BUT I HAVE CHANGED MY PLAN!



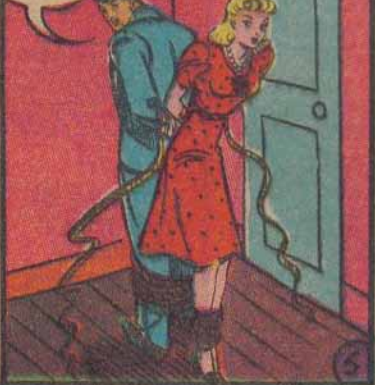
I AM GOING TO ALLOW THE TARANTULA TO BITE YOU AND FINISH YOU OFF!



DEBBY! QUICK! STAND BACK-TO-BACK WITH ME AND WE CAN UNDO THESE TIES!



OH, INSPECTOR! I'M SO FRIGHTENED! THE WORST IS OVER! WE'VE GOT THIS FIEND CORNERED!



PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A RUDE SHOCK, DEBORAH! WHEN I REMOVE THIS MASK YOU'RE GOING TO SEE SOMEONE YOU KNOW VERY WELL!



BENTLEY HAS CAPTURED THE BLACK WIDOW TERROR! DO YOU KNOW HIS IDENTITY? MARK YOUR CHOICE FROM AMONG THE FOLLOWING:

- FRANK ROOT.....
- DONALD MORGAN.....
- B.J. MORGAN.....
- BILL BARNES.....
- BENTLEY'S SUPERIOR OFFICER.....

THEN, TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR INSPECTOR BENTLEY'S SOLUTION!

AND HERE IS OUR MYSTERIOUS MURDERER— YOUR FIANCE!



OH! I— I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE IT! BILL BARNES!

BUT— BUT WHY DID HE DO THIS, INSPECTOR?

YOU KNOW HE ISN'T VERY WEALTHY, DEBORAH! HE DID IT TO GET HIS HAND ON SOME MONEY, OF COURSE!



LOOK, INSPECTOR! THERE'S ANOTHER CANE LIKE DAD'S.



YES, I SAW THAT A WHILE AGO! AND I THINK I KNOW THE SECRET OF IT! HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU!

BARNES FILLED THESE NEEDLES WITH SPIDER VENOM AND USED IT TO KILL HIS VICTIMS! IT WAS INFINITELY SAFER THAN CARRYING LIVE TARANTULAS AROUND!



BARNES SENT ONE OF THESE CANES TO MY SUPERIOR AND SAID THAT IT HAD COME FROM YOUR DAD. SOONER OR LATER, WHEN THE SECRET OF THE CANE WAS DISCOVERED, YOUR FATHER WOULD HAVE BEEN THE LEADING SUSPECT!



BUT WHY DID HE WANT TO KILL ME?



HE DIDN'T INTEND TO! HE ONLY SENT THE NOTE TO YOU TO THROW ME OFF THE TRACK! HOWEVER, I WAS TOO CLOSE ON HIS TRAIL AND HE COULD TAKE NO MORE CHANCES!

YOU SEE, DEBORAH, ONLY YOU AND THE OTHERS IN YOUR HOME KNEW I WAS MEETING CHARLIE, THE BEGGAR. WHEN I FOUND HIM DEAD, I KNEW IMMEDIATELY THAT SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU WAS RESPONSIBLE!



IT WAS AN AMAZING PIECE OF DETECTIVE WORK! YOU WON'T FIND THE WORD "AMAZING" IN THE POLICE RECORDS, DEBORAH! THEY'LL SAY: CASE SUCCESSFULLY CLOSED; MURDERER EXECUTED.



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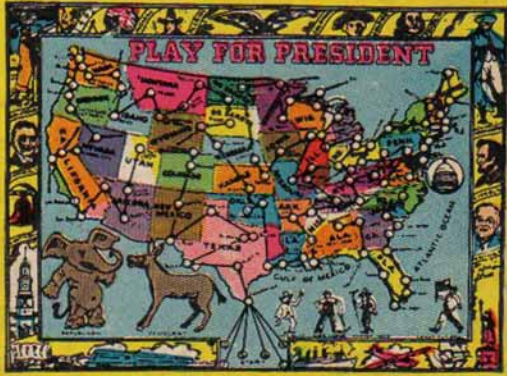
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