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ROY...
WITH
THE SUPER-BOY!



Al. Carr

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THE

BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY

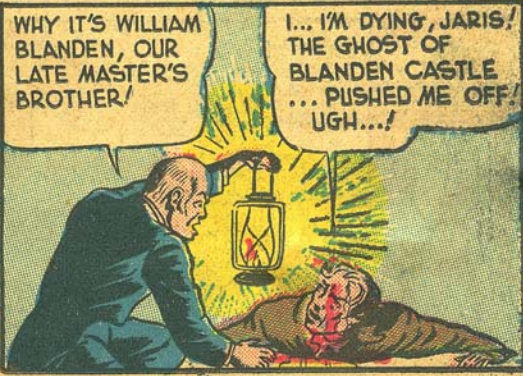
by Carmi & Shorten



HIGH IN THE ROCK-RIBBED HILLS, GLOOMY AND DESOLATE, STANDS BLANDEN CASTLE, BUILT CENTURIES AGO IN SCOTLAND AND TRANSPORTED TO AMERICA STONE BY STONE. IT HAS BROUGHT WITH IT A HERITAGE OF DEATH, WEIRD AND VIOLENT. INTO THIS GRIM SETTING, STEPS THE BLACK HOOD

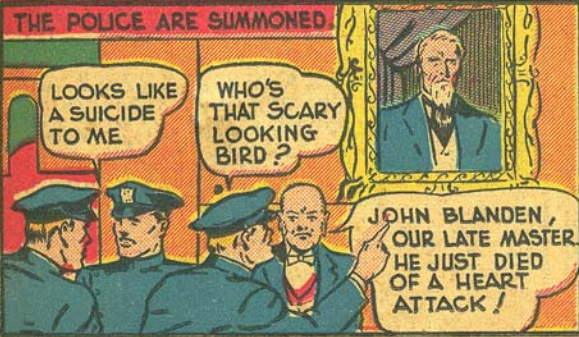


GOOD HEAVENS! HE FELL OFF THE ROOF!



WHY IT'S WILLIAM BLANDEN, OUR LATE MASTER'S BROTHER!

I... I'M DYING, JARIS! THE GHOST OF BLANDEN CASTLE ... PUSHED ME OFF! UGH...!



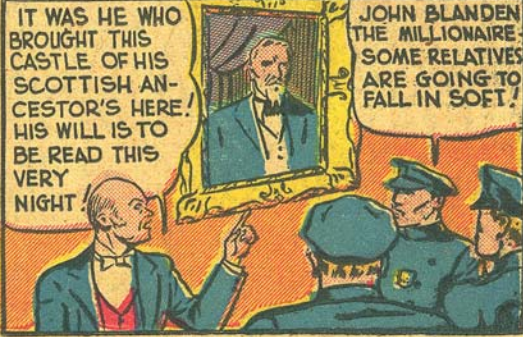
THE POLICE ARE SUMMONED.

LOOKS LIKE A SUICIDE TO ME

WHO'S THAT SCARY LOOKING BIRD?



JOHN BLANDEN, OUR LATE MASTER. HE JUST DIED OF A HEART ATTACK!



IT WAS HE WHO BROUGHT THIS CASTLE OF HIS SCOTTISH ANCESTOR'S HERE! HIS WILL IS TO BE READ THIS VERY NIGHT.

JOHN BLANDEN THE MILLIONAIRE-SOME RELATIVES ARE GOING TO FALL IN SOFT!

WELL, WE'RE NOT NEEDED HERE. WILLIAM BLANDEN IS AN OPEN AND SHUT SUICIDE. 'GHOSTS.' HAW, HAW!

SCOFF IF YOU WILL, BUT THERE IS A GHOST. HE'S HERE IN BLANDEN CASTLE!



AT THAT MOMENT IN BARBARA SUTTON'S APARTMENT

HELLO, KID! SORRY! I HAVE TO RUN. I HAVE AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT!

EVERY-TIME I'M VISITING YOU, YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT!

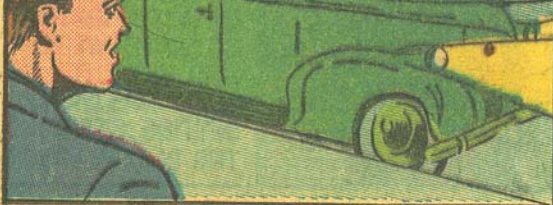


MAYBE I CAN PICK YOU UP LATER? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO BLANDEN CASTLE WHERE THEY ARE READING THE WILL OF MY DECEASED RELATIVE?



BLANDEN CASTLE! HEARD ABOUT THE GHOST, TOO? I SUPPOSE I'VE HEARD OF THAT PLACE! YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND ABOUT PICKING ME UP! GOODBYE!



LOOKS LIKE THE REST OF THE RELATIVES HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED! UGH! WHAT A GLOOMY PLACE!

HELLO, EVERYBODY!



WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T MY COUSIN BARBARA!

NOW THAT SHE'S HERE, WE CAN GET ON WITH THE WILL!

REMEMBER ME? I'M JOE STRONG!



OH YES INDEED! THE ATHLETE OF THE FAMILY, AREN'T YOU?



INTERCOLLEGIATE BOXING CHAMP, ALL-AMERICAN FOOTBALL PLAYER AND ALL AROUND BEST ATHLETE EVER GRADUATED FROM HOGWASH UNIVERSITY!

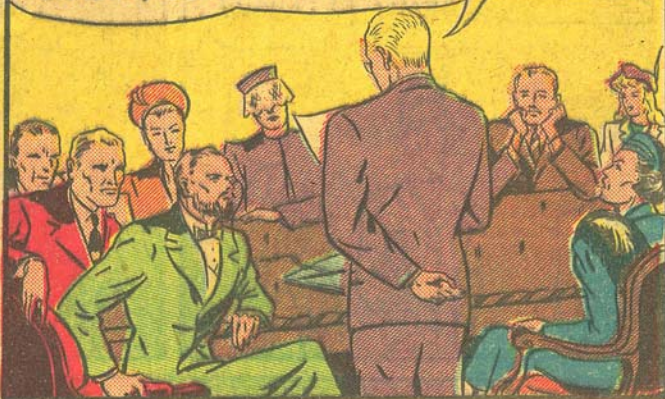
YOU'RE TOO MODEST, JOE... BUT I THINK THE LAWYER IS CALLING US!



AND NOW, IF YOU'LL ALL GATHER ROUND I'LL READ THE WILL OF MR. JOHN BLANDEN! IT IS AN UNUSUAL ONE AND WILL TAKE MUCH TIME!



IT CONTAINS THE HISTORY OF THE GHOST OF BLANDEN CASTLE. I AM REQUIRED TO READ IT BEFORE THE EXECUTION OF THE ESTATE, ITSELF... WE GO BACK TO THE GHOST'S FIRST VICTIM, SIR OLIVER BLANDEN, 300 YEARS AGO...

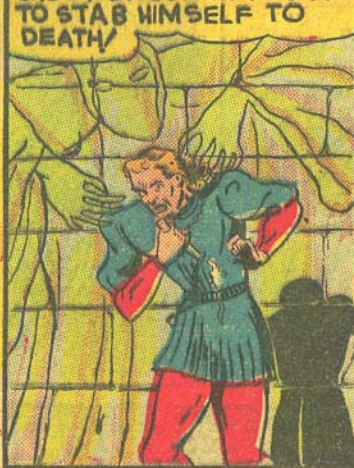


"ONE NIGHT HE RAN, SCREAMING, THROUGH THE CASTLE..."

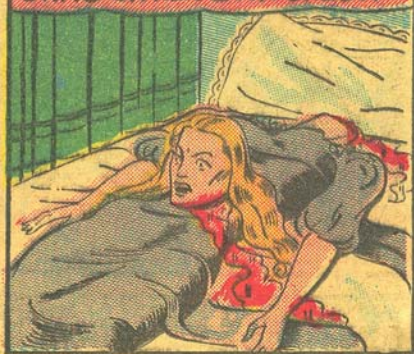
THE GHOST!
HELP! IT'S
COMING AT ME



"...LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE GHOST DROVE SIR OLIVER TO STAB HIMSELF TO DEATH!"



"THE GHOST CLAIMED ANOTHER VICTIM 100 YEARS LATER WHEN THE SERVANTS CAME INTO LADY MARGARET'S BEDROOM TO A GRUESOME SIGHT - HER DECAPITATED HEAD LYING ON HER OWN CHEST!"



WAIT A MINUTE!
DON'T ANYBODY
MOVE!

GOOD
HEAVENS, JOE,
WHAT IS IT?



JOE SUDDENLY THROWS A
FLYING TACKLE AT THE
DRAPES!



WHY... WHY,
IT'S KIP
BURLAND!

HELLO, BARBARA!
THAT'S
RATHER A
ROUGH WEL-
COME I JUST
GOT!





I... ER... TRAILED ALONG TO PROTECT YOU FROM THAT... UH... GHOST!

SPIED ON ME, IS WHAT YOU MEAN!

YOU - PROTECT HER! HA, HA, THAT IS A LAUGH!



GENTLEMEN! LADIES! AND NOW IF THIS INTERRUPTION IS OVER, I WILL RESUME THE WILL'S NARRATIVE! EXACTLY ANOTHER CENTURY PASSED BEFORE THE GHOST APPEARED AGAIN! THIS TIME TO SIR KINGSLEY!

HE WAS WARMING HIMSELF BEFORE HIS FIREPLACE AT THE TIME. HE FELT CLAMMY HANDS ON HIS THROAT! HORROR STRICKEN HE BROKE FROM ITS GRASP!



YOU... YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!

THEN HE LEAPED INTO THE FLAMES AND TO HIS OWN DESTRUCTION!



AND SO THE GHOST OF BLANDEN CASTLE WILL RETURN EVERY HUNDRED YEARS. THIS IS THE EXACT YEAR OF ITS ARRIVAL. 1, JOHN BLANDEN, WILL GO FIRST, THEN MY BROTHER WILLIAM! ALL THE HEIRS OF BLANDEN CASTLE ARE DOOMED!



SUDDENLY, THE ELECTRIC LIGHTS GO OUT, AND THE DARKNESS IS LIT ONLY BY A SPATTERING TORCH!



HELP! LOOK!

A TORCH! HOW'D THAT THING LIGHT UP?

A FIGURE SEEMINGLY BORN OF THE DARKNESS, LEAPS UPWARD!



OH!

WHO... WHO...!

IT'S THE **BLACK HOOD!** HE MUST BE BEHIND THIS THING. HE DON'T SCARE JOE STRONG! I'M GOIN' AFTER HIM!



JOE SEES THE **BLACK HOOD** SEARCHING THROUGH THE ROOM AND LET'S HIS FISTS FLY



GO AROUND SCARIN' PEOPLE, HUH? I'LL FIX YOU!

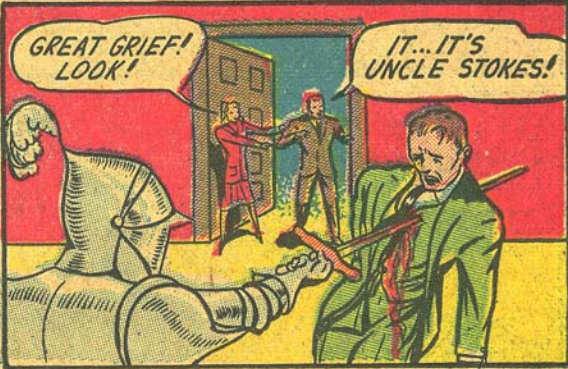
YOU FOOL! YOU'RE KEEPING ME FROM CATCHING THE REAL GHOST!

YOU DIDN'T SEEM TO SCARE THE **BLACK HOOD** VERY MUCH, EITHER!



IT AIN'T FAIR! HE USED A HAMMER ON ME.

GREAT GRIEF! LOOK!



IT... IT'S UNCLE STOKES!

NOBODY IN HERE! HOW COULD THIS EMPTY ARMOR HAVE KILLED STOKES?



CAN THERE REALLY BE SOMETHING IN THIS GHOST BUSINESS AFTER ALL!

NO! IT'S ALL THAT HOOD'S DOING. HEY! HERE COMES BURLAND! WHERE'S HE BEEN HIDIN'? HE KNOWS SOMETHIN' ABOUT THIS MURDER! GRAB HIM!

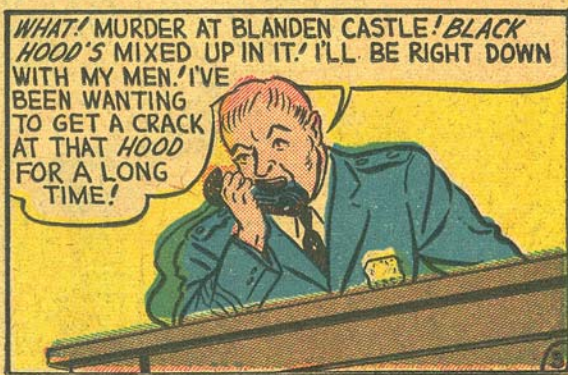


I DIDN'T TRUST THIS GUY FROM THE BEGINNING! I'M CALLIN' THE POLICE!



YOU'RE EVEN MORE STUPID THAN YOU LOOK!

WHAT! MURDER AT BLANDEN CASTLE! **BLACK HOOD'S** MIXED UP IN IT! I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN WITH MY MEN. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO GET A CRACK AT THAT GHOOD FOR A LONG TIME!





OKAY NOW! COME CLEAN OR I'LL LET YOU HAVE IT! YOU CAME OUT OF THE SAME ROOM THE BLACK HOOD WAS IN! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?

I KNOW THAT IT'S A GOOD THING FOR YOU HE NEVER WENT TO HOGWASH UNIVERSITY, OR YOU NEVER WOULD'VE BEEN BOXING CHAMP! WHAT A SHINER! HA, HA!



THE POLICE SOON ARRIVE

ALL RIGHT. WHERE'S THE CORPSE? HEY, THAT'S BURLAND! HE MIXED UP IN THIS THING TOO?

HE KNOWS PLENTY BUT HE WON'T TALK!

JOE! KIP IS INNOCENT! YOU'RE NOT BEING FAIR!

THANKS BARBARA!



EVERY TIME THE BLACK HOOD PULLS SOME SHINANIGANS, YOU'RE AROUND THIS TIME I'M SWEATIN' IT OUTTA YOU, OR ME NAME AIN'T MC GINTY! WHO'S THE HOOD?

WHY DON'T YOU ASK JOE? HE HAD A RECENT MEETING WITH HIM AND THEY HIT IT OFF QUITE WELL!

CUT OUT THE WISECRACKS!



ONCE AGAIN BLANDEN CASTLE IS ENVELOPED IN THICK BLACKNESS.

HEY! WHAT HAPPENED?

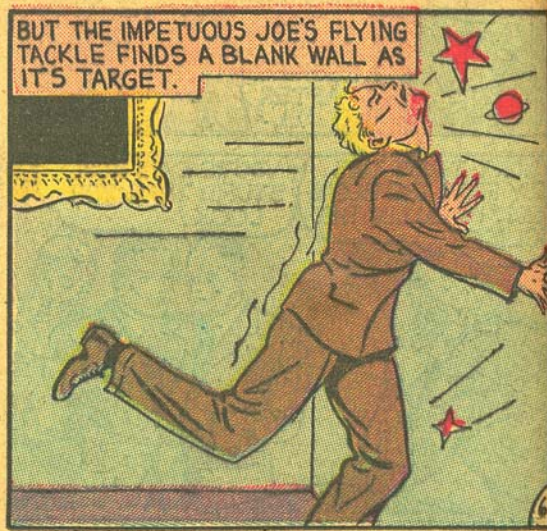
THE LIGHTS AGAIN!



THE GHOST STRIKES AGAIN.

MOTHER MACHREE! IT'S A BANSHEE!

TAKE IT EASY, EVERYBODY! I'LL GET HIM THIS TIME!



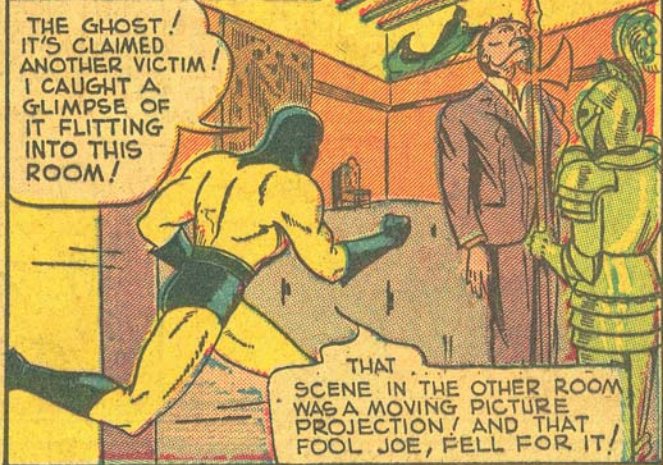
BUT THE IMPETUOUS JOE'S FLYING TACKLE FINDS A BLANK WALL AS IT'S TARGET.

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN!



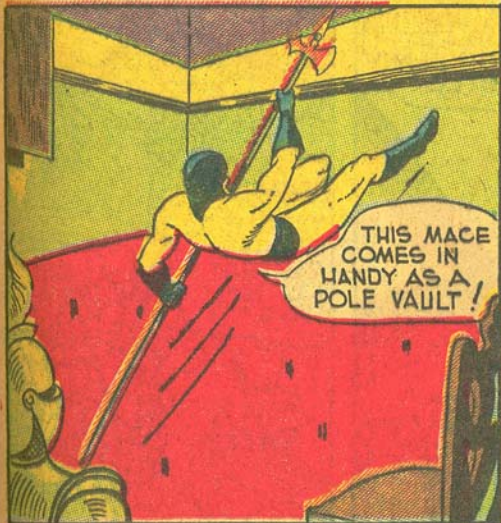
THAT SPALPEEN BURLAND, HE'S GOT AWAY!

IN THE DARKNESS KID BURLAND BECOMES THE BLACK HOOD AGAIN



THE GHOST!
IT'S CLAIMED ANOTHER VICTIM!
I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF IT FLITTING INTO THIS ROOM!

THAT SCENE IN THE OTHER ROOM WAS A MOVING PICTURE PROJECTION! AND THAT FOOL JOE, FELL FOR IT!



THIS MACE COMES IN HANDY AS A POLE VAULT!



OH, OH! THERE IT GOES! THROUGH A SECRET PANEL! YOU'RE NOT SHAKING ME THIS TIME, MR. GHOST!



THIS WALL'S TOO THICK FOR ME TO BREAK THROUGH - I'LL HAVE TO LOCATE THE BUTTON THAT OPERATES IT!



I WASTED A LOT OF TIME FINDING THAT BUTTON. I'VE GOT TO HURRY!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A COP PROTECTIN' US, AND WE'RE ALL GETTIN' KNOCKED OFF UNDER YOUR NOSE!

SHUT UP YOU! YOU DIDN'T DO SO HOT TRYIN' TO CATCH THE BLACK HOOD!

THE WILL WAS RIGHT! WE'LL ALL BE KILLED OH, I WANT TO GO HOME!

THERE'S A GHOST HERE, AFTER, ALL!

STEADY, EVERYBODY! THERE WON'T BE ANY MORE KILLINGS THE BLACK HOOD, 'R ANYBODY ELSE WON'T DARE TO PULL ANYMORE FUNNY STUFF WITH MC GINTY ON THE JOB!



AT THAT MOMENT A NOOSE DESCENDS FROM THE RAFTERS, AND...



HA, HA / ONE RELATIVE LESS! PERHAPS NOW THEY BELIEVE IN THE GHOST OF BLANDEN CASTLE!



ANEERIE VOICE FLOATS DOWN FROM THE RAFTERS AS THE CORPSE FALLS



YOU ARE ALL DOOMED TO DIE

LET ME OUT OF HERE!

EEEE! I'M GOING MAD!

CURSE IT, THE BLACK HOOD MANAGED TO FOLLOW ME!

THE GHOST CAME THROUGH HERE. IT MUST BE SOMEWHERE AROUND!

THE GHOST SNOOPS DOWN ON BARBARA!

YOU COME WITH ME!

HELP!

GREAT LORD!

SHE'S FAINTED! GOOD! SHE'LL BE LESS TROUBLE!

BUT THE BLACK HOOD IS STILL IN HOT PURSUIT!

THE GHOST! IT'S GOT BARBARA!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME! I MUST SAVE BARBARA!

DON'T HAND ME THAT! YOU'RE MIXED UP WITH ALL THESE MURDERS! MAYBE YOU'RE THE GHOST FOR ALL WE KNOW!

THAT'S RIGHT! YOUR GAME'S UP, HOOD!

ULP! HALP!

SORRY, I HAVEN'T TIME TO CONVINCE YOU NOW!



THERE'S THE BLACK HOOD! DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!

STOP! OR WE'LL SHOOT!





I HOPE I HAVEN'T BEEN DELAYED TOO LONG!

BLAST HIM! HE'S GETTIN' AWAY!



THIS STAIRCASE LEADS TO THE ROOF!



WHILE ON THE ROOF!

OVER YOU GO, MY PRETTY!

NO! PLEASE! HELP!

BARBARA RESISTS DESPERATELY, BUT SHE IS PUSHED FURTHER AND FURTHER TOWARD THE EDGE!



HEH, HEH! YOU DON'T WISH TO DIE, EH!

BUT YOU SHALL! OVER YOU GO!



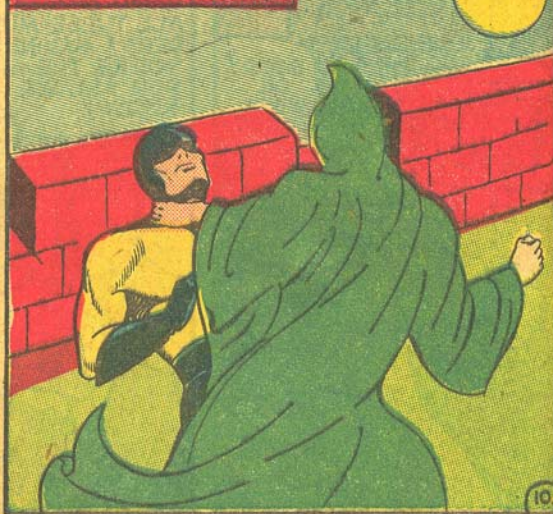
GREAT HEAVENS! SHE'S ALMOST OFF!

EEEE!



LET GO OF HER, YOU WALKING BEDSHEET! ...HANG ON BARBARA!

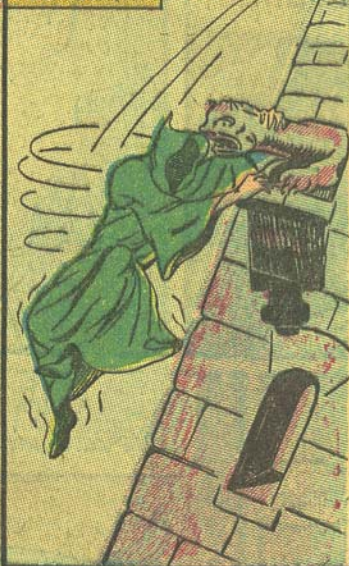
BACK AND FORTH IN DEADLY COMBAT THE TWO STRUGGLE - A BLACK KNIGHT OF JUSTICE AND A SHROUDED FIGURE OF DOOM!



MAYBE THIS'LL CONVINCE YOU I'M NOT FOOLING!



BUT THE GHOST MANAGES TO CATCH HOLD OF A GARGOYLE AND CHECK HIS DOWNWARD PLUNGE!



LOOK! THE GHOST IS ESCAPING!

NOT FOR LONG, THOUGH!



I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE HE'S GOING, AND I'M GOING AFTER HIM! HE'S COMMITTED HIS LAST GHASTLY MURDER!

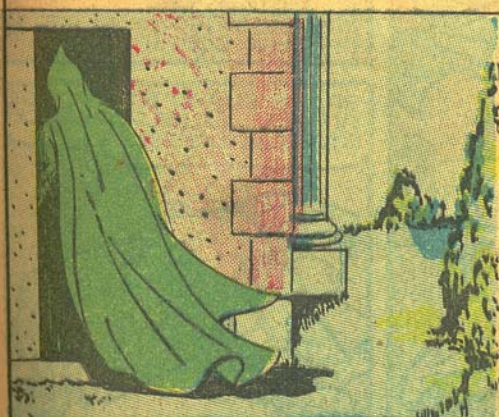
OH HOOD / I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT ALL... BUT... BUT PLEASE BE CAREFUL



THE WEIRD, WHITE-ROBED FIGURE MAKES FOR A NEARBY CRYPT



AND ENTERS IT THROUGH A SECRET DOOR



AN EERIE SCENE IS ENACTED. THE GHOST GOES TO A COFFIN, AND....





YOU...!

SURPRISED, EH! DIDN'T THINK ANYBODY WOULD DISCOVER YOUR LITTLE SET-UP?



I CAME ACROSS YOUR INGENUOUS LITTLE COFFIN WHILE CHASING YOU THROUGH THE CORRIDORS. ONE OF THEM LED ME TO THE FALSE BOTTOM YOU HAD RIGGED UP FOR IT! YOUR GAME'S UP!



NOT YET, CURSE YOU! ONLY YOU KNOW, AND DEATH SHALL SEAL YOUR LIPS!

ARRGH!



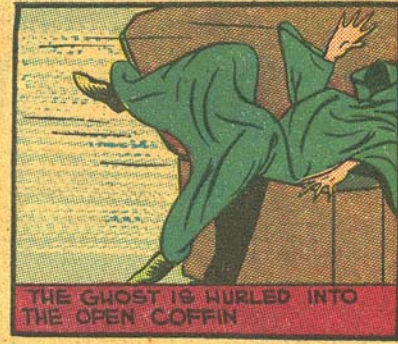
AFTER I'VE FINISHED YOU, I SHALL RETURN THROUGH MY COFFIN TO THE REST OF THE HEIRS, AND COMPLETE MY PLAN!



HA! HIS MUSCLES RELAX! HE IS DONE! DIE! DIE!



FOOLED YOU, DIDN'T I, ?



THE GHOST IS HURLED INTO THE OPEN COFFIN



SO YOU WANTED TO PLAY GHOST, EH! WELL, I'LL HELP YOU! BACK INTO YOUR COFFIN!

SLAM



NOW, I'LL JUST COOP HIM IN THERE WITH THIS TOMBSTONE



I'VE MOVED THE COFFIN AWAY FROM THE TRAP-DOOR IN THE FLOOR, SO THAT MR. GHOST WON'T BE ABLE TO SWING OPEN THAT FALSE BOTTOM. HE'LL BE SAFE IN THERE FOR AWHILE!



BARBARA! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN! WE GAVE YOU UP FOR DEAD!

I WOULD HAVE BEEN IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE BLACK HOOD - THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN ACCUSING ALL ALONG, YOU... YOU... LOUDMOUTH!



THAT BURLAND FELLOW AGAIN! ALWAYS MISSING AFTER A MURDER! OFFICER, I INSIST YOU ARREST HIM!

YOU BET I WILL!

KIP! WHY DON'T YOU DEFEND YOURSELF?



YEAH! START DEFENDING! 'CAUSE UNLESS YOU DO SOME FAST TALKIN', I'VE GOT A LITTLE PERSUADER HERE, THAT'LL LOOSEN YOU UP!

GOSH! YOU FRIGHTEN ME!

KIP! DON'T BE SO COWARDLY! SURELY YOU CAN EXPLAIN!



WELL...ER... I WAS A TRIFLE SCARED, I ADMIT! I WAS HIDING IN THE CRYPT AND THE BLACK HOOD WAS THERE. HE TOLD ME HE'D CAUGHT THE GHOST AND CLEARED UP THE WHOLE THING!

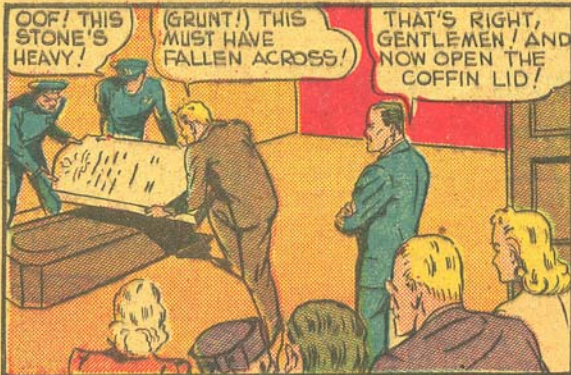
PAH! SUCH A RIDICULOUS STORY! ARREST HIM, I SAY!

PERSHAPS HE CAN PROVE HIS STATEMENT, MR. BARTON!



KIP LEADS THEM ALL BACK TO THE CRYPT

NOW, IF YOU'LL JUST STEP IN HERE I THINK I CAN PRODUCE OUR PLAYFUL GHOST!



OOF! THIS STONE'S HEAVY!

(GRUNT!) THIS MUST HAVE FALLEN ACROSS!

THAT'S RIGHT, GENTLEMEN! AND NOW OPEN THE COFFIN LID!



WELL I'LL BE! HE WASN'T KIDDIN'!

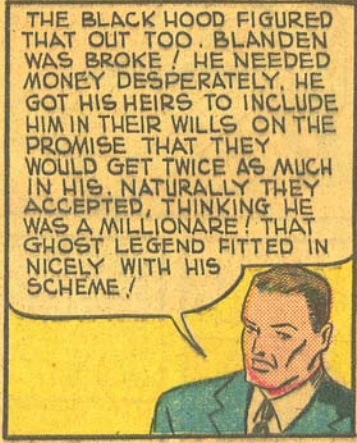
YA MURDERIN' SPALPEEN! I'LL TAKE THIS GET-UP OFF AND SEE WHO YOU ARE!

YOU'RE DUE FOR A GREAT SHOCK!



HOLY MACKERAL! IT CAN'T BE! JOHN BLANDEN! BUT... BUT... YOU'RE DEAD!

WHAT'S THE GAG, BLANDEN! WHY'D YOU PRETEND TO DIE AND THEN TRY TO MURDER YOUR OWN HEIRS?



THE BLACK HOOD FIGURED THAT OUT TOO. BLANDEN WAS BROKE! HE NEEDED MONEY DESPERATELY. HE GOT HIS HEIRS TO INCLUDE HIM IN THEIR WILLS ON THE PROMISE THAT THEY WOULD GET TWICE AS MUCH IN HIS. NATURALLY THEY ACCEPTED, THINKING HE WAS A MILLIONAIRE! THAT GHOST LEGEND FITTED IN NICELY WITH HIS SCHEME!



YES! BUT I'M NOT INVOLVED ALONE. THE WHOLE SCHEME WAS BARTON'S - MY LAWYER. HE DREW UP ALL THE WILLS!

IT'S A LIE! I...



BARTON MAKES A BREAK FOR LIBERTY

WHOA! IF IT'S A LIE, WHY ARE YOU SO ANXIOUS TO GET AWAY?



BARTON WAS TO BE THE EXECUTOR OF MY ESTATE. HE'S PROBABLY CARRYING THE DEED AROUND WITH HIM!

I'LL SEARCH HIM... HERE'S SOMETHING!



THIS IS IT, ALL RIGHT! THIS AND BLANDEN'S CONFESSION WILL BE ENOUGH TO SEND YOU BOTH TO THE CHAIR!



LATER
GOOD THING I FOLLOWED YOU TO THE CASTLE, AFTER ALL, EH BARBARA!

HMMPH! NOW I SUPPOSE YOU'LL TAKE ALL THE CREDIT FOR THE BLACK HOOD'S WORK

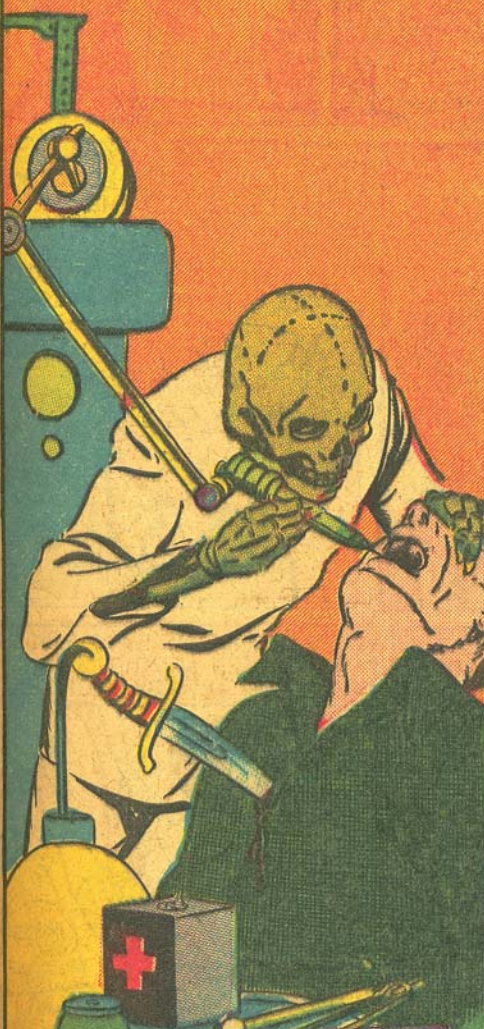


EVERY ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS WILL BRING YOU THE BLACK HOOD, ACTION-PACKED, THRILL-A-MINUTE STORIES!

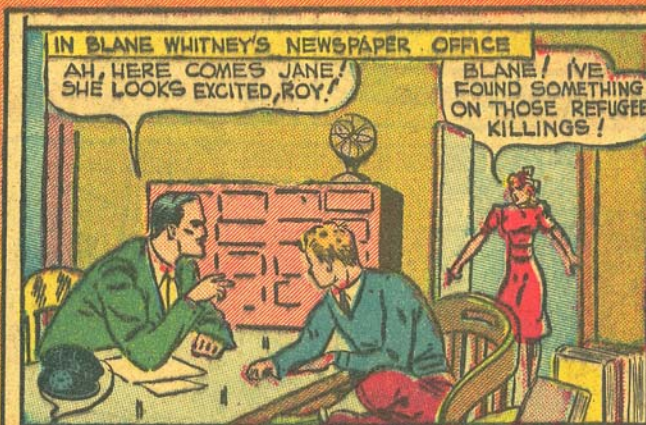
The Wizard

WITH

ROY THE SUPER-BOY



THE POLICE ARE BAFLED BY THE QUEEREST SERIES OF CRIMES THEY HAVE EVER ENCOUNTERED. HOMELESS, IMPOVERISHED REFUGEES ARE MURDERED IMMEDIATELY UPON LEAVING THE BOAT. FOR WHAT PURPOSE? FOR WHAT GAIN? HOW WILL THE WIZARD AND ROY, THE SUPERBOY, UNRAVEL THIS ENIGMA?



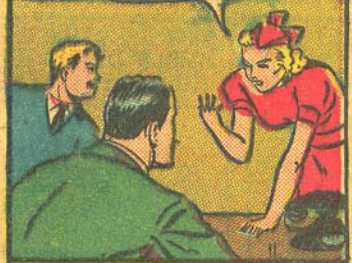
IN BLANE WHITNEY'S NEWSPAPER OFFICE

AH, HERE COMES JANE! SHE LOOKS EXCITED, ROY!

BLANE! I'VE FOUND SOMETHING ON THOSE REFUGEE KILLINGS!

I JUST CAME FROM THE BOAT PIER. THE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS WOULDN'T TELL ME MUCH AT FIRST BECAUSE I'M A REPORTER. BUT THEN THE INFORMATION SLIPPED OUT!

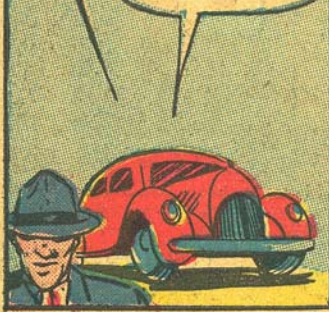
THE WHOLE AFFAIR DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME! ALL THOSE POOR REFUGEE VICTIMS HAD SOME TEETH EXTRACTED— AFTER DEATH!



LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A STORY, JANE. WELL, ROY AND I'LL RUN ALONG SO AS NOT TO BOTHER YOU.

GOT SOMETHIN' UP YOUR SLEEVE, HUH, BLANE!

CAN'T FOOL YOU, CAN I ROY... WE'RE GOING DOWN TO THE PIER AND DO A LITTLE SLEUTHING OURSELVES!

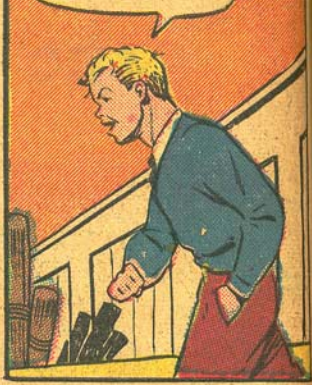


THEY SOON ARRIVE AT THE PIER

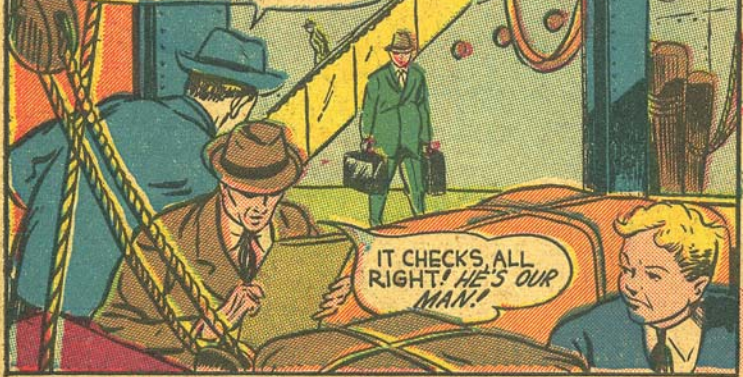


GOSH! I ALWAYS GET A KICK BEING AROUND SHIPS!

I'M GONNA LOOK AROUND WHILE BLANE IS BUSY TALKING WITH THE INSPECTOR!



LOOK, IKE! THERE COMES ONE! SMALL FAT GUY BLUE SUIT AND TWO BLACK BAGS!



IT CHECKS, ALL RIGHT! HE'S OUR MAN!

SAY! SOMETHIN' FUNNY'S GOIN' ON! THOSE GUYS LOOK LIKE RACKETEERS AND THEY'RE DOWN HERE IDENTIFYING A REFUGEE. PROBABLY MY IMAGINATION, BUT I'LL DO SOME SNOOPIN' ANYWAY!



ROY TRACES HIS SUSPECTS TO A WAITING CAR.

ORAY, JOE! THE REFUGEE'S GONNA CROSS THE STREET! NOW'S OUR CHANCE!



GEARS GRIND - THE CAR FAIRLY LEAPS TOWARD THE UNSUSPECTING REFUGEE



BUT A SLIM FIGURE SWOOPS UPON THE REFUGEE AND TEARS HIM FROM THE JAWS OF DEATH ITSELF



ACH!

WATCH OUT MISTER!



WHY, YOU DIRTY LITTLE MEDDLER, NOW YOU BOTH GET IT!



BLANE WHITNEY - THE WIZARD - HAS A PHOTOGRAPHIC VISION OF ROY'S PREDICAMENT!

WHAT IN... ROY'S IN TROUBLE! I'VE GOT TO GET TO HIM!



HEY, WHAT?!

THOUGHT YOU HAD ME, HUH?!



OOF!

HOW'S THIS FOR USIN' MY HEAD?



THE WIZARD APPEARS

NICE PASSING, ROY! I GOT HIM!



NOW WE'LL FINISH THIS JOB IN A HURRY!



BUT ONE OF THE THUGS MANAGES TO DRAW A BEAD WITH HIS TOMMY-GUN!

I'LL BLAST THEIR HEADS OFF, THE DIRTY XX... O!!



Ooo!

UGH!

HA, HA! GOT THE REFUGEE AND THE BRAT, ANYWAY!

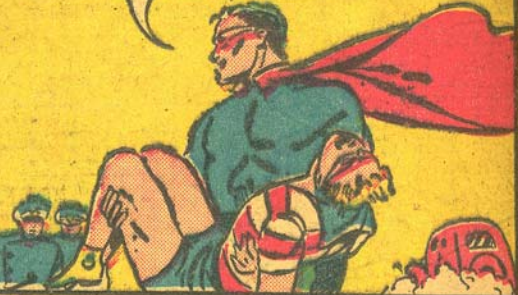
ROY! HE'S SHOT!

NOW'S MY CHANCE TO LAM WITH THIS REFUGEE WHILE THAT WIZARD IS WORRIED ABOUT HIS BRAT!

ROY!
ROY!
TALK TO ME!



THE POLICE ARE COMING! I'VE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! I'LL HAVE TO RUSH ROY TO MY LABORATORY IMMEDIATELY!



STOP!



THE WIZARD SOON ARRIVES AT HIS LABORATORY

AH! THE BULLET DIDN'T PROBE TOO DEEPLY! I'LL HAVE IT OUT IN A SHAKE!



WELL, WELL! SO THE PATIENT'S COMING A-ROUND! IT'S OFF TO THE HOSPITAL WITH YOU AND NO ARGUMENTS!

AW GEE!
I DON'T NEED A HOSPITAL, HONEST!



BUT THE WIZARD REFUSES ROY'S PLEAS, AND SO —

NOW YOU BE A QUIET INVALID, AND YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT — HELLO JANE!

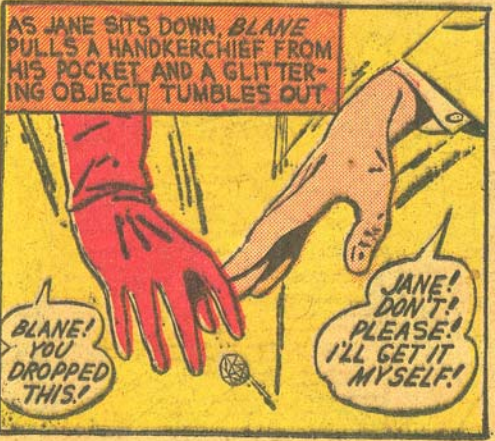
I JUST GOT YOUR MESSAGE AT THE OFFICE, BLANE, ABOUT ROY'S ILLNESS!



AS JANE SITS DOWN, BLANE PULLS A HANDKERCHIEF FROM HIS POCKET AND A GLITTERING OBJECT TUMBLES OUT

BLANE!
YOU DROPPED THIS!

JANE!
DON'T!
PLEASE!
I'LL GET IT MYSELF!



MY YOU SEEM AWFULLY ANXIOUS FOR ME NOT TO SEE IT! WHAT IS IT ANYWAY? WHY! IT LOOKS LIKE A DIAMOND!

IT'S...ER...A LITTLE DOO-DAD FOR A...ER...RING! THAT'S IT, A RING!



YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, BLANE. I KNOW YOU WENT DOWN TO THE PIER THIS MORNING AND.... GOOD LORD! INCOMING BOAT....! DIAMOND....! WHY, IT MUST BE SMUGGLING! ...THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT BLANE?



YOUR SILENCE PROVES IT! IT'S A STORY AND I'M GOING TO WRITE IT! I'LL BET THOSE MURDERED REFUGEES TIE IN, TOO!

JANE! YOU MUSTN'T!



YOU'RE STICKIN' YOUR NECK OUT, JANE!

BUT JANE IS DEAF TO PROTESTS, AND SO LATER...

WUXTRY! READ ABOUT DIAMOND SMUGGLERS! WUXTRY!



JANE RETURNS TO THE HOSPITAL

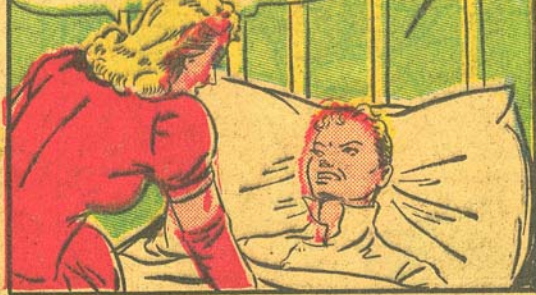
WELL, MY STORY IS OUT ROY, AND IT'S SENSATIONAL. HERE, READ IT!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT, JANE! THOSE SMUGGLERS ARE KILLERS.



THEY DON'T SCARE ME! I ONLY WISH I COULD FIND OUT WHERE THOSE REFUGEES FIT IN! THEY'RE NOT PART OF THE GANG, OR THEY WOULDN'T BE MURDERED.

I STILL THINK YOU OUGHT NOT TO MIX IN!



THAT BLANE AND ROY. THEY MAKE ME TIRED! ALWAYS THINKING I'M SO HELPLESS

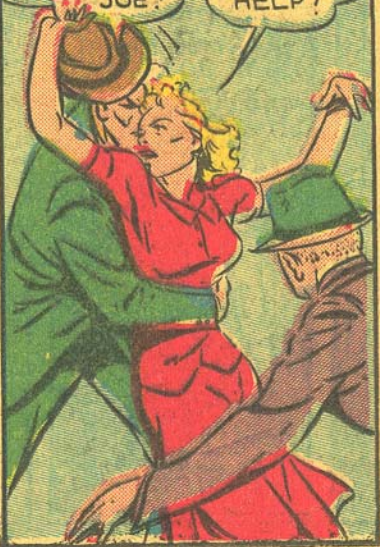
YOU'RE COMIN' WITH US, SISTER! GRAB HER, JOE!

WHA.... LET ME GO! HELP! HELP!

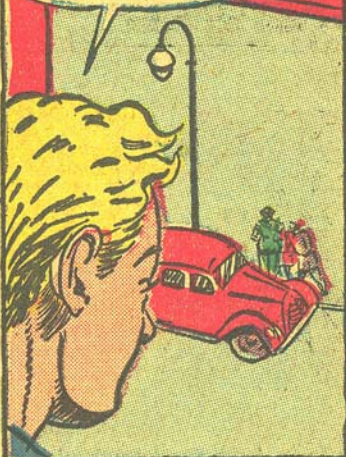
JUMPIN' JELLY BEANS! THAT'S JANE YELLIN'! I GOT TO GET TO HER!



OKAY, HERE SHE COMES!



THERE SHE IS! THEY'RE KIDNAPPIN' HER!



ROY SHUCKS HIS HOSPITAL ATTIRE AND THE SUPER BOY APPEARS



I DON'T NEED REST! I NEED ACTION!

A HAZARDOUS LEAP AND ROY'S SWINGING ALONG THE TELEPHONE WIRES

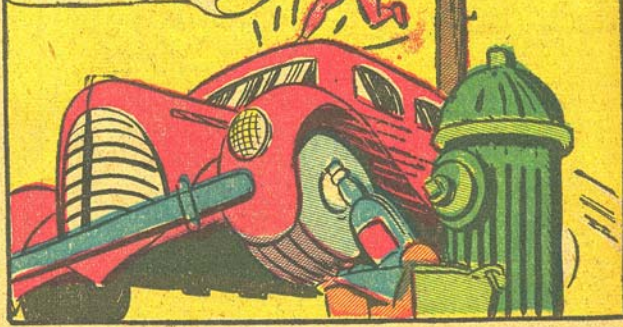


AND IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO GET PLENTY OF IT RIGHT NOW!

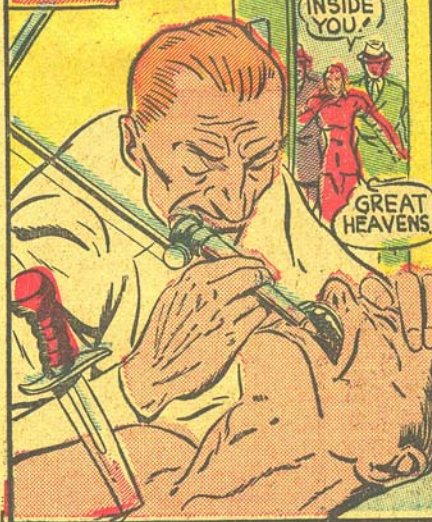
HERE COMES THE KIDNAPPER'S CAR ROUNDING THE CORNER. NOW I GOTTA TIME MY JUMP JUST RIGHT!



MADE IT! YOU GUYS GOT ANOTHER PASSENGER TO THE END OF THE LINE!



THE KIDNAPPERS SOON ARRIVE AT THEIR DESTINATION, A DENTIST'S OFFICE



INSIDE YOU!

GREAT HEAVENS!

HA, HA! A DENTIST WORKING ON CORPSES! VERY STARTLING, EH!



YOU ... YOU GHOUL! WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

VERY SIMPLE! YOUR STORY ON DIAMOND SMUGGLING INCONVENIENCED ME GREATLY! NOW IF YOU WILL JUST WRITE ANOTHER STORY ABOUT HOW WRONG YOU WERE.....



I'LL NEVER DO IT!

YOU WON'T EH! THIS DRILL CAN DO OTHER THINGS BESIDES DRILLING TEETH—VERY UNPLEASANT THINGS, MY DEAR!



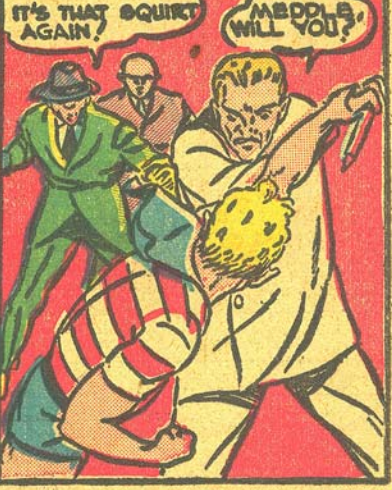
NO, NO! HELP!

JANE'S CRIES LOUSE A RESPONSIVE CHORD IN THE WIZARD'S SUPER-BRAIN!



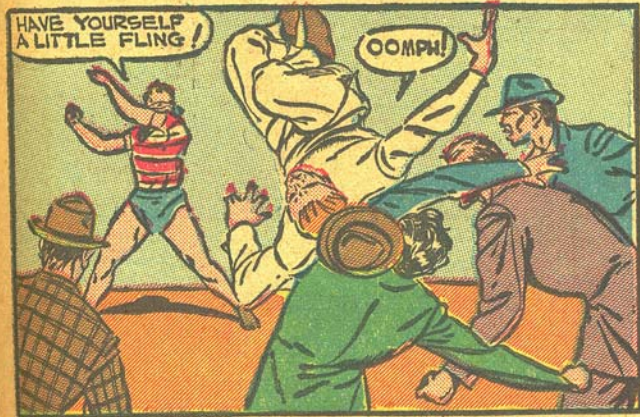
JANE'S IN DANGER THAT'S MY CUE! OH... OH! HERE COMES ROY! NICE GOING, BOY!

THE SUPER-BOY FEARLESSLY LEAPS INTO THE THICK OF THE PACK!



IT'S THAT SQUIRT AGAIN!

MADDLE, WILL YOU?



HAVE YOURSELF A LITTLE FLING!

OOMPH!



UKK!



STOP FIGHTING, YOU IMP OF SATAN, OR THIS DRILL GOUGES DEEP INTO YOUR PRETTY FRIEND'S THROAT!

HEY! DON'T!



THE BOY OF THE FUTURE IS FORCED TO SUBMIT, AND HE IS IMMEDIATELY PUT UNDER ETHER AN EXTRA DOSE OF THIS WILL PUT YOU TO SLEEP-PERMANENTLY!



STOP! DON'T KILL HIM! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY! I'LL WRITE THE RETRACTION!



NO YOU WON'T

THE WIZARD!

JUMP HIM! QUICK!



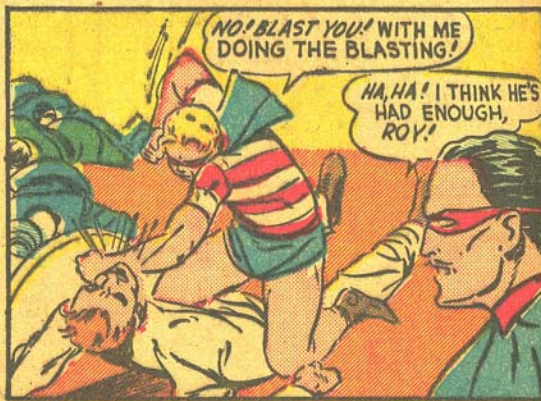
FEEL LIKE JUMPING, EH! ALL RIGHT, JUMP!

MEANWHILE, ROY HAS RECOVERED FROM THE ETHER



HEY YOU! NOT THINKING OF LEAVING US, ARE YOU?

YOU AGAIN! BLAST YOU!



NO! BLAST YOU! WITH ME DOING THE BLASTING!

HA, HA! I THINK HE'S HAD ENOUGH, ROY!

THE ENTIRE GANG IS SUBDUED



WIZARD? HOW DID YOU KNOW I NEEDED HELP? HOW DO YOU ALWAYS KNOW? YOU PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT THESE SMUGGLERS, TOO! HOW DO THEY OPERATE?

WHOA! ONE QUESTION AT A TIME!

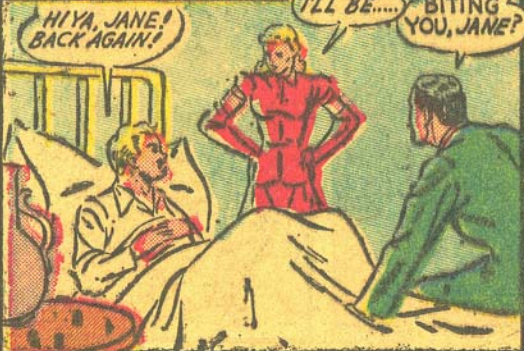


ABOUT THESE SMUGGLERS. THEY'RE PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL GANG. THEIR AGENTS IN EUROPE GET HOLD OF THESE REFUGEES JUST BEFORE THEY SAIL AND MANAGE TO SECRETE SMALL DIAMONDS IN THE CAVITIES OF THEIR TEETH WITHOUT THE VICTIM'S KNOWLEDGE!



THEY SEND AHEAD DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DIAMOND CARRIERS. THESE KILLERS DO THE REST! I GUESS THEY'RE READY FOR THE POLICE, NOW!

LATER, AT THE HOSPITAL



HIYA, JANE! BACK AGAIN!

WELL, I'LL BE....

WHAT'S BITING YOU, JANE?

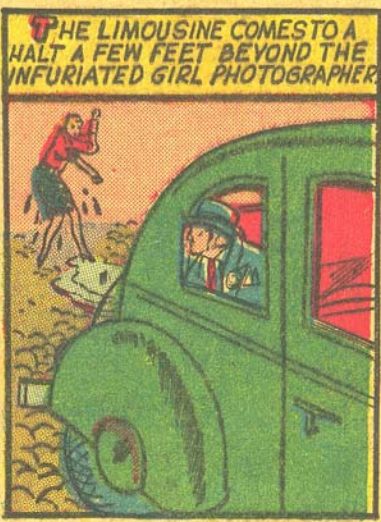


I THOUGHT SURE THAT ROY, HERE WAS THE BOY WHO'S ALWAYS WITH THE WIZARD—BUT HERE YOU ARE AT THE HOSPITAL! I GIVE UP!
HA, HA! AND DON'T TELL ME YOU THOUGHT I WAS THE WIZARD!

ANOTHER EPISODE OF THE WIZARD WITH ALL THE EXPECTED THRILLS—PLUS—APPEARS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS

Fran Frazer

FRAN FRAZER, BEAUTIFUL GIRL NEWS-
PHOTOGRAPHER, IS IN MOSCOW... AS SHE
ROAMS THE STREETS IN SEARCH OF UN-
USUAL SHOTS - A FOREIGN-MADE
MOTORCAR ROARS TOWARD HER...



FRAN PICKS UP A PAPER WHICH THE GERMAN DROPPED.

AH, HECK! IT'S ALL IN GERMAN AND I CAN'T READ A WORD OF IT!



THIS IS OFFICIAL STUFF! SO EVEN THO' THE FELLOW WASN'T A GENTLE MAN, I'LL BE A LADY AND RETURN IT!



BUT THE CAR HAS GONE....



AND FRAN HURRIES TO THE JAPANESE EMBASSY.

DONNERWETTER! I HAD DER PAPER A WHILE AGO!



BUT HERR FIBBENTOP! IT WAS NOT MEANT TO BE SEEN BY ANY EYES BUT OURS!



NOW I RE-MEMBER! DER GIRL ON DER STREET! IF! DROPPED IT-SHE HAS FOUND IT! I'LL HAVE DER GERMAN AGENTS SCOUR DER CITY FOR HER.



I'LL GIVE ORDERS TO SHOOT HER ON SIGHT - AS A SPY! IN THAT VAY SHE CAN'T TALK IN CASE SHE READ DER PAPER!

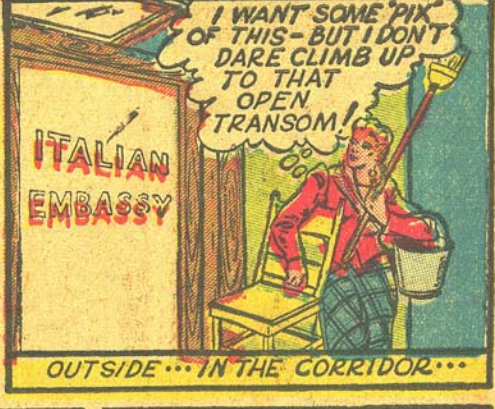


FOLLOW ME! WE SHALL YARN DER ITALIAN EMBASSY TO BE ON DER LOOKOUT FOR HER!

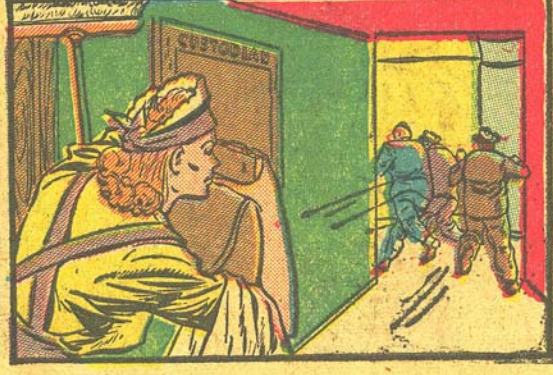
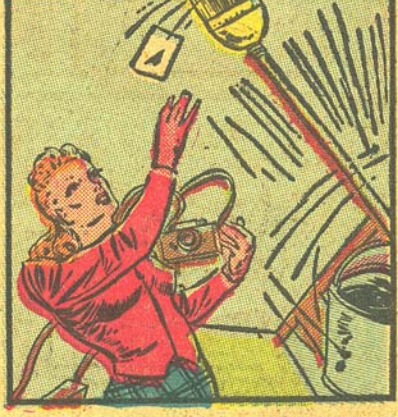


SEVERAL MINUTES LATER....





ATTACHING HER VANITY MIRROR TO THE BROOM, FRAN TAKES A PICTURE OF THE SCENE INSIDE THE ROOM, AS REFLECTED ON HER MIRROR THRU THE OPEN TRANSOM!



FRAN RUSHES TO THE MOSCOGRAD
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE....



I-I
BEG
YOUR
PARDON?

I MUST SEE THE CHIEF
OF STAFF. IT IS A
MATTER OF VITAL IM-
PORTANCE.

THE GIRL PHOTOGRAPHER IS USHERED INTO
THE PRESENCE OF THE
WORLD FAMOUS
"HIT WUNOFF"....



MISS FRAZER! THIS IS
A BOMBSHELL THAT
BREAKS UP OUR CON-
FERENCE WITH THE
AXIS POWERS! YOU
HAVE SAVED MOSCO-
GRAD FROM SERIOUS
INTERNATIONAL
COMPLICATIONS!



FOR YOUR INFORMATION-
I WISH TO ANNOUNCE AN
IMMEDIATE CONFERENCE
WITH THE ENGLISH AMBASS-
ADOR! AND THE MOSCOGRAD
SECRET POLICE WILL ESCORT
YOU SAFELY, WHEREVER YOU
WISH TO GO!



AS FRAN LEAVES THE
COMMISSAR OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS....



IT IS
SHE!
SO SORRY!
MUST
KILL!

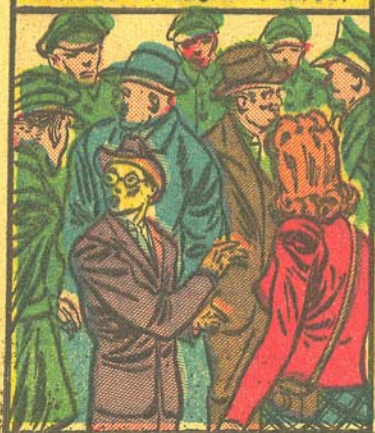
AVO
MOSC
FOREI
AFFAI

DER PAPER!
WHERE
IST?

SPEAK
QUICK!



IN AN INSTANT, THE AXIS REP-
RESENTATIVES ARE SURR-
OUNDED BY SECRET POLICE!



THANKS FOR THE SCOOP!
YOU'LL FIND THE PAPER YOU'RE
AFTER IN HITWUNOFF'S OFFICE
AND IF YOU WANT THE INSIDE
STORY-- GET A COPY OF "STRIFE"
SO LONG, BOYS!



STRIFE

EXCLUSIVE PICTURES BY
FRAN FRAZER OF BREAK-UP
OF AXIS CONFERENCE!!

COVER THE NEWS FRONT
OF WARRING EUROPE
WITH FRAN FRAZER IN
THE NEXT ISSUE OF
TOP NOTCH COMICS.

KEITH KORNELL

WEST-POINTER



KEITH KORNELL, AND HIS FELLOW CADET, TUBBY WALSH, ARE SPENDING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS WITH TUBBY'S FOLKS.



A HAPPY NEW YEAR, MOM!

SAME TO YOU, SON!

COME AGAIN KEITH!

THANK YOU, SIR, I HAD A SWELL TIME!

THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER AND THE CADETS PREPARE TO LEAVE....



GOODBYE, AND THANKS AGAIN!

GOODBYE, FOLKS!



DETECTIVE AND HIS PRISONER BOARD THE SAME TRAIN

YOUR KILLING DAYS ARE OVER, LOUIE!

ALL ABOARD!



THIS IS A ONE-WAY RIDE TO SING-SING FOR YOU!

I AIN'T THERE YET, COPPER!

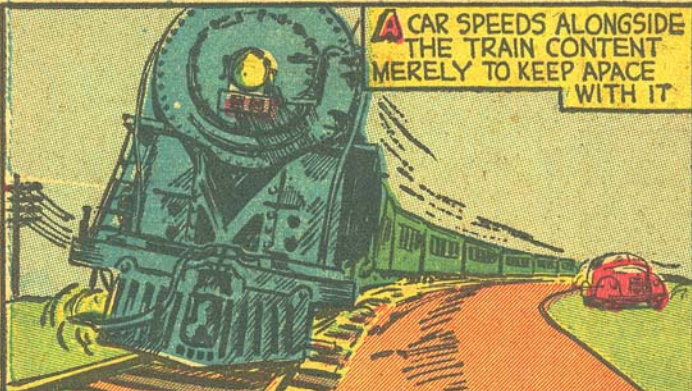
THIS IS ONE RAP YOU WON'T ESCAPE, LOUIE! YOU'LL GET THE HOT SQUAT FOR THAT LAST MURDER!

HAW, HAW! THE JAIL AINT BUILT THAT CAN HOLD LOUIS ZORILLI!



I'M GONNA GRAB A DRINK, TUBBY!

OKAY, KEITH!



A CAR SPEEDS ALONGSIDE THE TRAIN CONTENT MERELY TO KEEP APACE WITH IT

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR THE WHITE HANDKERCHIEF BOYS! LOUIE SAID HE'D WAVE IT!



WHAT'RE YA DOIN' WITH THAT HANDKERCHIEF, ZORILLI?

THERE AIN'T NO LAW AGAINST SNEEZIN', COPPER! I GOT A COLD!



THERE'S THE HANDKERCHIEF, THIRD WINDOW FROM THE LEFT! LET HIM HAVE IT!

YEAH! I CAN SEE THE COPPER GOOD, TOO!



ZORILLI SUDDENLY JERKS HIS HEAD BACK. A HAIL OF BULLETS COME THROUGH THE WINDOW

THEY GOT THE COPPER! THE BOYS WORKED IT PERFECT!

HELP!



OOO!

THE GANGSTER GRABS THE DETECTIVE'S GUN

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, EVERYBODY! EXCEPT YOU, SOLDIER BOY, C'MERE!



WH... WHO...



WHY YOU DIRTY MURDERER, I'LL...

CUT THE GAB, GET THE KEY TO THIS HANDCUFF! UNLESS YOU WANT SOME LEAD!



LATER AS KEITH RETURNS

(ANOTHER SOLDIER? TAKE THAT!)

HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON!

KEITH! WATCH OUT!



OUTTA MY WAY FATTY! I'M SCRAMMIN'!

OOOF!



HE'S KNOCKED TUBBY UNCONSCIOUS! I'M GOING AFTER THAT KILLER!



THERE HE GOES! UP THE LADDER TO THE ROOF!



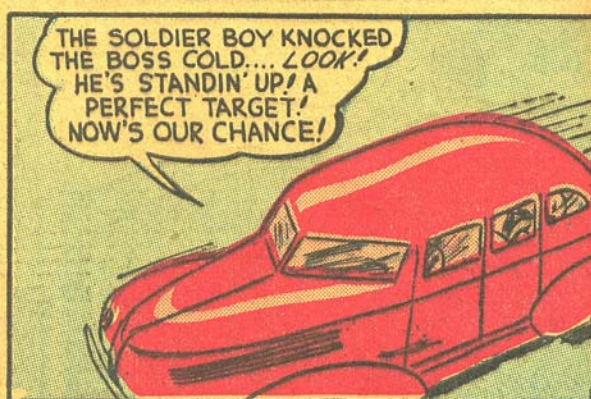
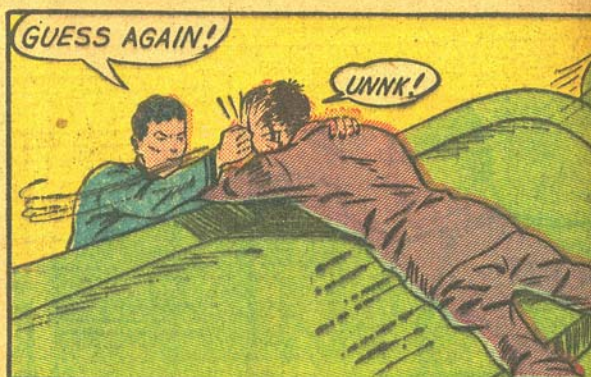
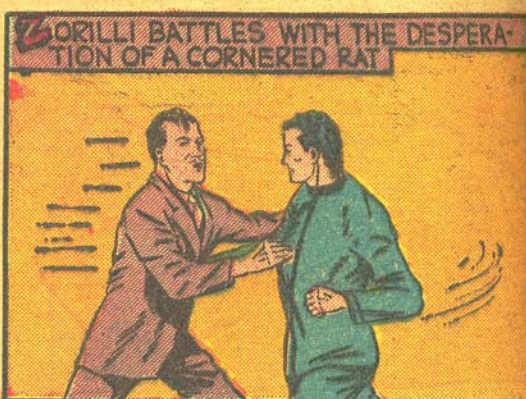
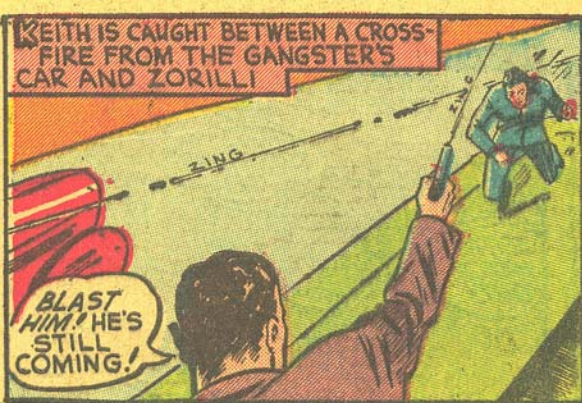
I'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL!



WOW! THAT BULLET WAS CLOSE!



THE BOYS ARE STILL TRAILIN' ALONG! I CAN MAKE A PERFECT GETAWAY IF I CAN ONLY SHAKE THIS PUNK!



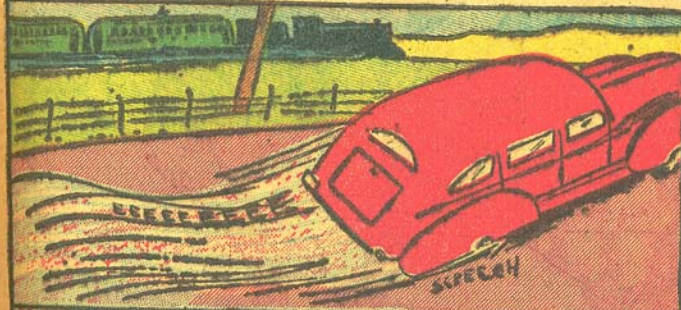
KEITH'S LIFE IS SAVED BY THE PITCHING OF THE TRAIN WHICH SPOILS THE AIM OF THE GANGSTERS



OO! A BULLET GRAZED MY NECK!



I'M GETTING A LITTLE TIRED OF BEING A TARGET! I THINK I'LL DO A LITTLE SHOOTING MYSELF, NOW!

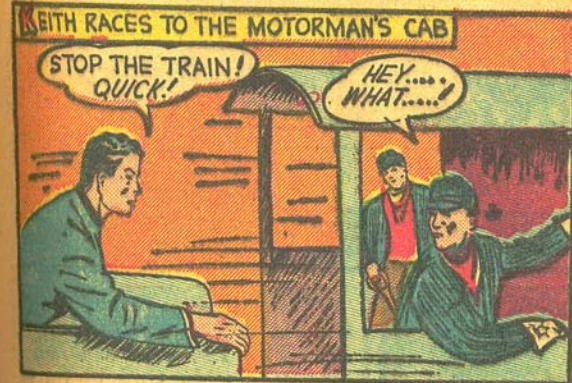


KEITH'S BULLETS FIND THEIR MARK IN THE GANGSTER'S TIRES—A BLOW-OUT—AND THE CAR CAREENS CRAZILY ALONG THE ROAD.



FINALLY SWERVING INTO A TELEPHONE POLE WITH A SICKENING CRASH!

BOOM



KEITH RACES TO THE MOTORMAN'S CAB

STOP THE TRAIN! QUICK!

HEY... WHAT...!



THE PASSENGERS PILE OUT AND RUN UP TO THE WRECK!

WHAT A WRECK! THEY WON'T SHOOT AT ANYBODY AGAIN FOR A LONG TIME!



WE OWE OUR SAFETY TO THIS CADET'S HEROISM. I PROPOSE WE SHOW HIM OUR GRATITUDE!

OF COURSE! GOOD IDEA!



HEY! I DON'T WANT THIS... WAIT A MINUTE! I'LL TAKE IT AND DONATE IT TO CHARITY!

WHAT A GRAND IDEA!

KEITH KORNELL, WEST POINTER, APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS

THE FIREFLY



IT IS MIDNIGHT—A GRIM-EEBIE FIGURE STALKS THROUGH A GRAVEYARD—THE MUMMY

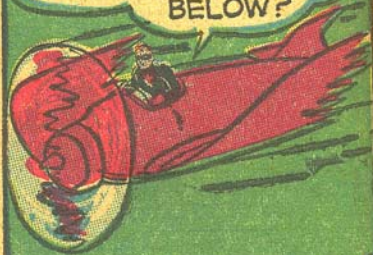
SWIFTLY, THE MUMMY ACCOMPLISHES HIS GHOULISH MISSION

THIS WILL BE THE LAST CORPSE FOR TONIGHT.



THE MONSTER OF CRIME WENDS HIS WAY THROUGH THE GRAVEYARD.

THERE'VE BEEN TOO MANY GRAVE ROBBERIES LATELY AND THE FIREFLY IS GOING TO DO SOME CHECKING... WHAT'S THAT FIGURE BELOW?



WHILE CIRCLING LOW ABOVE, IS THE GLEAMING AIRPLANE OF THE FIREFLY—THE FIREFLYER

GOOD GOSH! IT'S THE MUMMY!
I WOULD HAVE STAKED MY LIFE
HE WAS DEAD.... I'LL
FOLLOW HIM!



THE MUMMY ENTERS HIS LAIR—A MAUSOLEUM IN THE GRAVEYARD

HA! MY LEGION OF
LIVE CORPSES. WAITING
FOR YOUR MASTER, EH!

HOME!
HOME!



CURSE THEM! ALL THEY DO IS
CHANT FOR THEIR HOMES. I
SHALL INJECT TWICE AS
MUCH BLOOD INTO THIS
CORPSE. PERHAPS IT WILL
THEN BE MORE LOYAL TO
THE MUMMY!



A GLOWING FIGURE SWOOPS
INTO THE MUMMY'S LAIR

THE FIREFLY!



THE MUMMY AND HIS MORTAL
FOE, THE FIREFLY, ONCE
AGAIN COME TO DEATH
GRIPS

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT FIENDISH TRICK
YOU'RE UP TO NOW, BUT
I'M GOING TO....



A LITTLE HIGH ON THAT
TACKLE, MUMMY... NOW GO
TAKE YOURSELF A NAP!



A FURTIVE NOISE AT THE DOOR
CAUSES THE FIREFLY TO SWING
ABOUT

WOW! THOSE THINGS... THEY'RE
WALKING CORPSES... AND
THEY'RE ESCAPING!



THE MUMMY TAKES AD-
VANTAGE OF HIS FOE'S
DISTRACTION

BLAST YOU, FIREFLY!
BLAST YOU! TAKE
THAT!





YOU HAVE FOILED ME *THIS* TIME, *FIREFLY*—BUT YOU SHALL YET RUE THE DAY OUR PATHS CROSSED!

HE'S ESCAPING!



THOSE CORPSES, I MUST GO AFTER THEM. NO TELLING WHAT HORRORS THEY MAY COMMIT!



I CAN IDENTIFY THEM BY THE TOMB-STONES OVER THE FRESHLY DUG GRAVES! "HOME" THEY KEPT CHANTING. I'LL GO TO THEIR HOMES—*MYRON JEFFRIES, FIRST!*



AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE *JEFFRIES' HOME*—

GOSH, MOM! I MISS POP SOME-THING AWFUL!

HE'S PASSED AWAY! WE CAN ONLY PRAY FOR HIM NOW, BILLY!



THEN, A WALKING HORROR BURSTS IN-THE LIVING CORPSE OF *MYRON JEFFRIES*

BLOOD BLOOD! I MUST HAVE BLOOD!

POP! IT'S POP!

OO! NO IT CAN'T BE!



I MUST HAVE *MYRON!* BLOOD! I MUST HAVE BLOOD!

DON'T! I'M YOUR WIFE! HELP! HELP!



LATER..... THIS IS THE *JEFFRIES' HOME*. THINGS ARE OMINOUSLY QUIET! HEAVEN GRANT NOTHING HAS HAPPENED!



DEAD! BOTH OF THEM. AND THEY'RE CHALK-WHITE AS THOUGH THE BLOOD HAS BEEN DRAINED FROM THEM! THE *MUMMY* HAS GIVEN LIFE TO THE CORPSES WITH *HUMAN-BLOOD*. AND THEY MUST GET MORE OR THEY RETURN TO THE GRAVE!



I MUST GET THOSE FAMILIES TO A SAFE PLACE. A CITY-WIDE ALARM MUST BE BROADCAST. I'LL GO TO *JOAN*, SHE'LL HELP ME!

JOAN BURTON, REPORTER, THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS THE FIREFLY'S TRUE IDENTITY.

IT'S LATE AND I'M TIRED, BUT I MUST GET THIS STORY OUT!



FIREFLY! NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS, JOAN THE MUMMY IS AT WORK AGAIN!



THE FIREFLY EXPLAINS THE WHOLE HORRIBLE STORY.

AND SO YOU MUST PUT OUT AN EXTRA TELLING THESE FAMILIES TO GO TO THE JAIL. THEY'LL BE SAFE THERE. NOTIFY THE POLICE, ALSO!



YOU'RE NOT SAFE EITHER, WITH THE MUMMY AT LARGE. DON'T MOVE FROM THIS OFFICE, I'LL BE BACK SOON!



I'LL BE SAFE. HURRY, FIREFLY!

THE POLICE RECEIVE JOAN'S CALL

WHAT! CORPSES MURDERING THEIR OWN FAMILIES? ARE YOU NUTS? GO ON TO BED AND SLEEP IT OFF.... OH, ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT... BUT, IF THIS IS A GAG —!



THAT GIRL REPORTER HASN'T GIVEN US A BUM STEER YET. THE WHOLE THING SOUNDS WHACKY BUT WE BETTER PLAY SAFE AND DO LIKE SHE SAYS!



RIGHT, CHIEF!



DAILY STAR
LIVE CORPSES ON THE LOOSE.
2 MURDERED ALREADY

WUXTRY, WUXTRY!



CALLING ALL CARS! GO IMMEDIATELY TO THE FOLLOWING HOMES

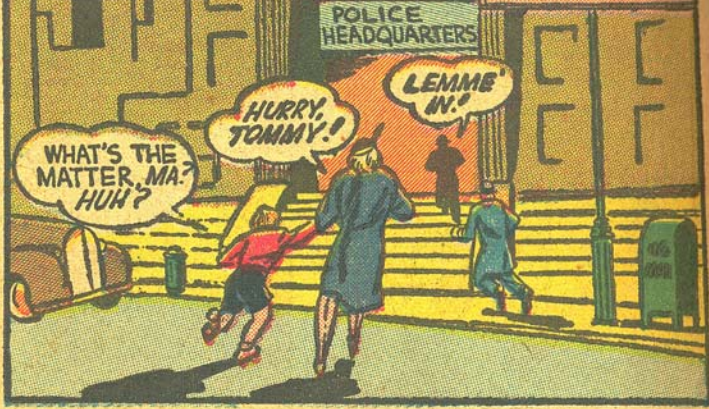
ETC.....ETC...

FLASH! THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES WILL RUN IMMEDIATELY TO THE COUNTY JAIL.. HURRY, YOUR LIVES ARE IN DANGER. ETC...ETC..!

OH! MY NAME WAS MENTIONED!



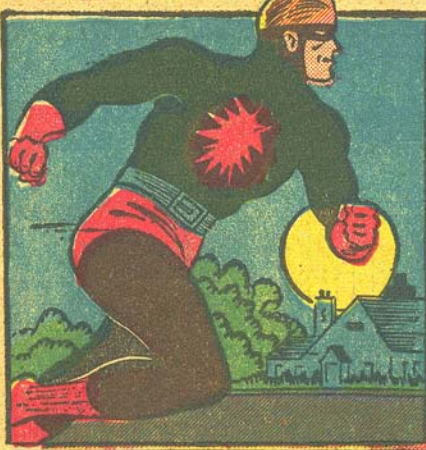
THE JAIL HOUSE BECOMES A SCENE OF PANIC STRICKEN ACTIVITY. FAMILIES FROM ALL OVER THE CITY FLOCK TO IT FOR PROTECTION...



WHAT'S THE MATTER, MA? HUH?

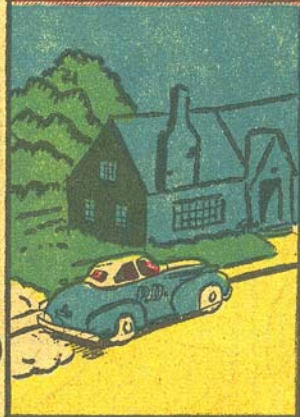
HURRY, TOMMY!

LEMME' IN!



WHILE THE GLOWING FIGURE OF JUSTICE SPEEDS THROUGH THE NIGHT ACCOMPLISHING HIS GRISLY TASK.

SIRENS SHRILL THRU THE CITY STREETS, AS POLICE CARS HURTLE TOWARD THE CORPSES HOMES.



IN ONE OF THEM

BLOOD! BLOOD!

LOOK, JOE! IT'S THE CORPSE ALL RIGHT!

WHO COULDA STRUNG IT UP THAT WAY?

AT ANOTHER HOME—



NO SIGN OF A CORPSE! THE HOUSE IS EMPTY!

LOOK, THE HAMPER! IT'S MOVING!

OPEN IT! I GOT IT COVERED!



THERE IT IS! THE LAST OF THEM! WRAPPED UP AND WAITING FOR US! WHOEVER IT WAS THAT BEAT US TO THESE HOUSES SURE DID A JOB.

ONLY ONE GUY COULDA DONE IT— THE FIREFLY!

BLOOD, BLOOD!

MEANWHILE JOAN AWAITS THE FIREFLY'S RETURN

I WISH HE'D COME SOON! WITH THE MUMMY AT LARGE, I'M FRANKLY SCARED!



A SUDDEN RATTLE AT THE WINDOW—AND THE FRIGHTFUL FIGURE OF THE MUMMY

HA, HA! SO YOU ARE FRIGHTENED OF THE MUMMY, EH?



HELP!

GOOD! SHE'S FAINTED! SHE'LL BE LESS TROUBLE-SOME!



JOAN! JOAN! SHE'S GONE! THERE ARE SIGNS OF STRUGGLE! THE MUMMY MUST HAVE BEEN HERE!



HE WANTS JOAN FOR HIS QUEEN IN THE NEW DYNASTY HE INTENDS TO ESTABLISH. HE'LL HAVE TO GO TO THE MUSEUM TO GET THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN CROWN AND THAT'S WHERE THE FIREFLY IS GOING, TOO!



THE FIREFLY HAS GUESSED RIGHT... LATER AT THE MUSEUM



THE MUMMY!

YES THE MUMMY! UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU!

STAND BACK! STAND BACK, I TELL YOU!



BANG! BANG!

THE GUARD PAYS WITH HIS LIFE FOR HIS BRAVERY. ON HIS FOREHEAD THE MARK OF THE MUMMY—A BEETLE





“AH, HERE IT IS! THE PHAROAH'S CROWN! IT IS THE ANCIENT SIGN OF ROYALTY! WITH IT, NO EGYPTIAN WILL DARE DISPUTE MY CLAIM TO THE THRONE!”



“MAYBE NO EGYPTIAN WILL — BUT I'M NOT AN EGYPTIAN!”

“AGAIN THE FIREFLY!”



“THE MUMMY SEIZES A NEARBY EGYPTIAN SPEAR.....”

“DIE! BLAST YOU!”



“UGH, MISSED!”

“YES, AND NOW IT'S MY TURN..!”



“ARE YOU ALRIGHT, JOAN?”

“YES! LOOK! THE MUMMY! OUT THE WINDOW!”

BUT THE FIREFLY'S FIRST CONCERN IS FOR JOAN —



THE CHASE BEGINS. — UP THE WALL THE MUMMY CLIMBS TO THE ROOM ABOVE

“YOU SHAN'T ESCAPE THIS TIME, YOU WITHERED DEVIL!”



THE FIREFLY IS SURPRISED BY THE MUMMY AS HE LEAPS INTO THE INDIAN ROOM —

“NOW WHERE DID HE GO? HE CAME THRU HERE, AND... UGH....”



“NOW IS MY CHANCE TO CRUSH HIS SKULL WITH THIS INDIAN CLUB!”

BUT THE **FIREFLY** HAS ANOTHER TRICK UP HIS SLEEVE. AN UPWARD KICK AND.....



...THE BANDAGED RELIC HURTLES BACKWARD LIKE A SHOT FROM A PROJECTILE



AGAIN THE **MUMMY** RUNS, BUT THIS TIME.....

I'LL JUST BORROW THIS BOW AND ARROW FROM ONE OF THESE MUSEUM INDIANS!



THE ARROW PINS THE **MUMMY** TO THE WALL



HAVE YOURSELF A NAP, **MUMMY**!

UGH!

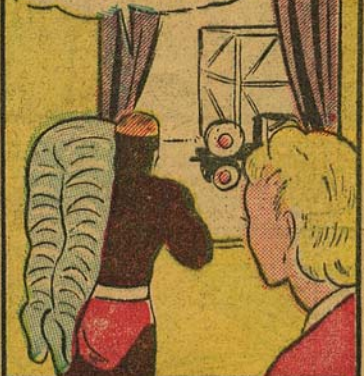
THE **FIREFLY** RETURNS TO THE WAITING **JOAN**



FIREFLY! YOU'VE CAPTURED HIM AT LAST!

YES! AND THIS TIME I'LL MAKE SURE HE DOES NOT PLAGUE US AGAIN!

SEE! THEY'RE DIGGING UP THE STREET, AND A CEMENT MIXER IS THERE! I'LL FIX UP A COFFIN FOR THE **MUMMY** THAT HE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF!



THERE! NOW WHEN THE CEMENT HARDENS, WE'LL TAKE THE CAKE DOWN TO THE RIVER!



THE **FIREFLY'S** MIGHTY MUSCLES BULGE WITH THE STRAIN OF THE DEAD WEIGHT



UGH! IT'S HEAVY BUT I CAN MAKE IT!

AND THAT'S THE LAST OF THE **MUMMY**! HE'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM THIS GRAVE!



THE **FIREFLY** MEETS UP WITH HIS MOST WORTHY OPPONENT YET, "**BULLET-HEAD**" IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **TOP-NOTCH COMICS**!



THE ST. LOUIS KID K.



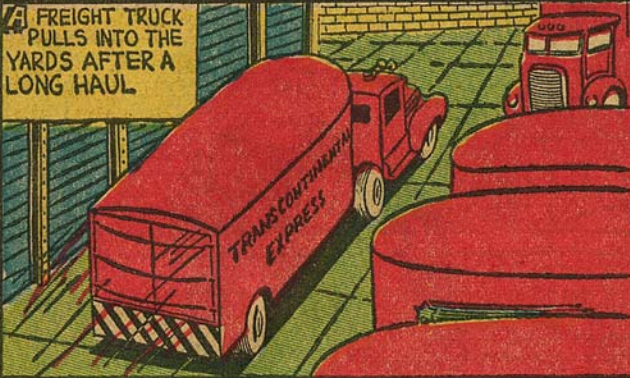
OUR STORY BEGINS IN CHICAGO. OUR HERO IS JIM JENNINGS, A TRUCK DRIVER, BRED IN THE SLUMS OF ST. LOUIS WHERE HE HAD TO TALK WITH HIS FISTS, OR ELSE. A SCRAPPER TO THE BONE IS THE ST. LOUIS KID. BUT A SQUARE SHOOTER AND A REGULAR GUY.

BY HARRY SHORTEN AND LIN. STREETER



HERE WE SEE THE ST. LOUIS KID WITH HIS FUTURE MANAGER, WINDY MILL, AND THE GIRL HE THINKS HE LOVES, FLOSSIE

1 A FREIGHT TRUCK PULLS INTO THE YARDS AFTER A LONG HAUL

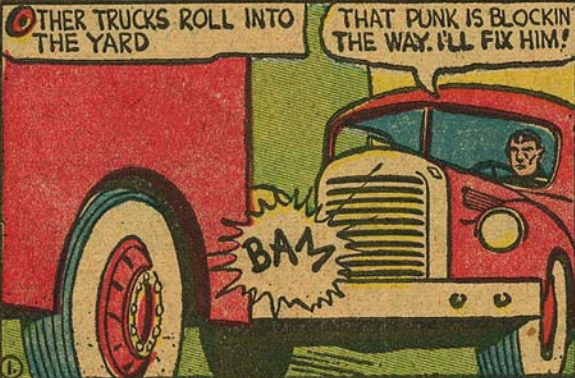


OKAY, JOE, I'LL CHECK IN!



YEAH, JIM! I'LL PARK THE LOAD!

2 OTHER TRUCKS ROLL INTO THE YARD



THAT PUNK IS BLOCKIN' THE WAY. I'LL FIX HIM!

HEY, BEEF! WHATSA IDEA?



CLAM UP, SQUIRT! BEEF MC GLOWN DOES WHAT HE WANTS AROUND HERE!

AND IN THE DISPATCHER'S OFFICE...



JIM JENNINGS CHECKIN' IN, AND HEY! SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT!

TRY TO QUIET THEM, JIM!

THE DISPATCHER'S RIGHT! THE BOYS ARE LIABLE TO GET IN TROUBLE, FIGHTIN' IN THE YARDS!



THAT'LL TEACH YOU TO GIVE ME ANY LIP!



HOW ABOUT PICKIN' ON A GUY YOUR SIZE, MC GLOWN!

WHAT IN...

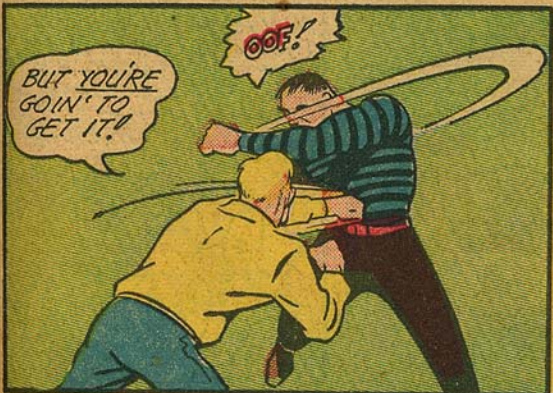
DON'T HIT ME AGAIN!



ANOTHER WISE GUY, HUH? YOU ASKED FOR IT!

SMACK HIS EARS OFF, JIM!

YEAH! I ASKED FOR IT!



BUT YOU'RE GOIN' TO GET IT!

OOFF!



MISSED!

I'LL TEAR YUH TO PIECES! I'LL MURDER YOU! WUUFF!



MISSED AGAIN! I'M TIRED PLAYIN' WITH YOU. NOW, I THINK I'LL POLISH YOU OFF!

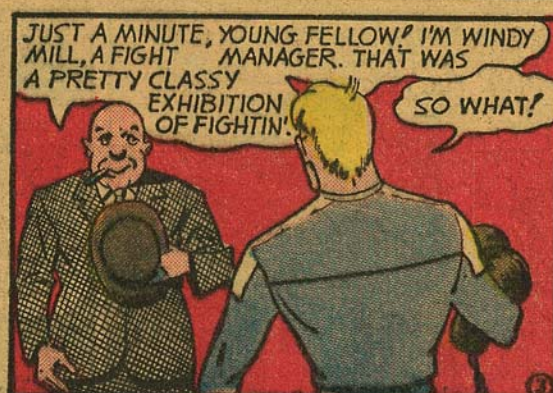
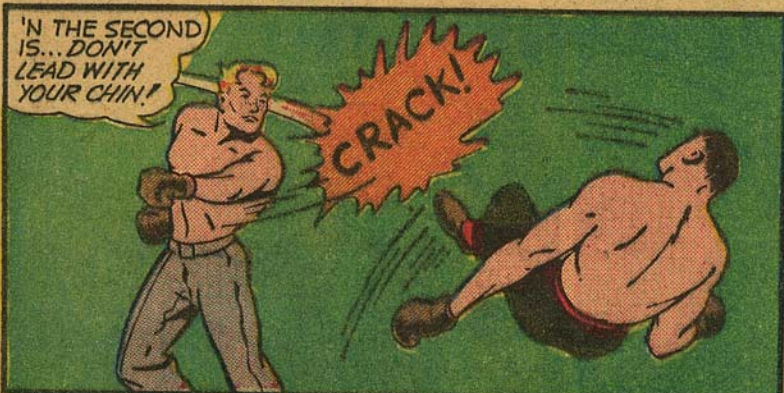


HEY! DUCK! THE BOSS IS COMIN'! HE'LL FIRE YOU BOTH!



YUH LUCKY STIFF! MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO FINISH IT TONIGHT AFTER WORK!

IT'S OKAY BY ME, BEEF! ONLY DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YUH!





SO MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO FIGHT PRO. I COULD MAKE A CHAMPION OUT OF YOU.

NOT A CHANCE! I'M NO SUCKER!



I GOT A GOOD JOB HERE. I AIN'T GOIN' TO GIVE IT UP TO BECOME A PUNCH DRUNK PUG, NO SIR.

WELL, HERE'S MY CARD IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND.



LATER, JIM GOES TO CALL ON HIS GIRL.

ME A FIGHTER! HAW! HAW! FLOSSIE WILL SURE GET A LAUGH OUT OF THAT



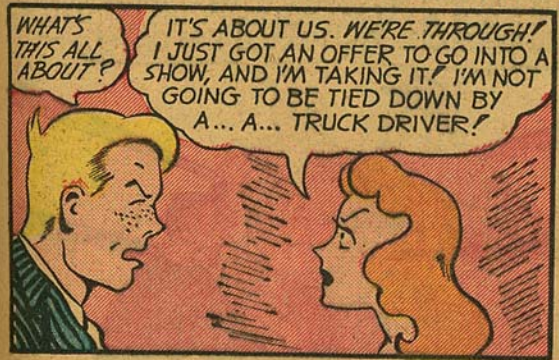
FLOSSIE! I GOT SOMETHIN' TO TELL YA. I...

I'M NOT INTERESTED!



HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF GIVIN' ME THE SNOOT?

I'M FED UP WITH YOU, JIM. YOU'VE GOT NO AMBITION! YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A TRUCK DRIVER! ME! I GOT A CAREER!



WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

IT'S ABOUT US. WE'RE THROUGH! I JUST GOT AN OFFER TO GO INTO A SHOW, AND I'M TAKING IT! I'M NOT GOING TO BE TIED DOWN BY A... A... TRUCK DRIVER!



OKAY! IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, GOODBYE!

GOODBYE!



DAMES! I'M THROUGH WITH 'EM! IMAGINE TALKIN' THAT WAY ABOUT ME!



SAY! I GOT AN IDEA! THAT FIGHT MANAGER, I STILL GOT HIS CARD!



NO AMBITION, HUH? I'LL SHOW HER! MY NAME'LL BE IN HEADLINES WHILE SHE'S STILL A CHORUS HOOFER!

MEANWHILE—AT A LOCAL ARENA

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY BOY, IKE. HE MUSTA TAKEN A RUNOUT!

WHAT? HE'S SUPPOSED TO FIGHT IN FIVE MINUTES, WINDY. THE CROWD'LL TEAR THIS PLACE DOWN!



HELLO, MR. MILL! THE GIRL IN YOUR OFFICE TOLD ME I'D FIND YOU HERE!



HEY! YOU'RE THAT TRUCK DRIVER. CHANGED YOUR MIND, HUH? READY TO FIGHT RIGHT AWAY?

THE SOONER THE BETTER, MR. MILL!



OKAY! GET INTO YOUR TRUNKS! BUT I WARN YOU, YOU'RE FIGHTIN' A TOUGH BABY!



HE DON'T SCARE ME!

WINDY! YOU CAN'T DO IT! WE GOTTA TAKE OUR CHANCES, IKE. THE KID WILL PROBABLY BE KAYOED IN A HURRY AND HE WON'T BE HURT BAD!



THE FIGHT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN

BREAK CLEAN! NO PUNCHING ON THE BREAK!

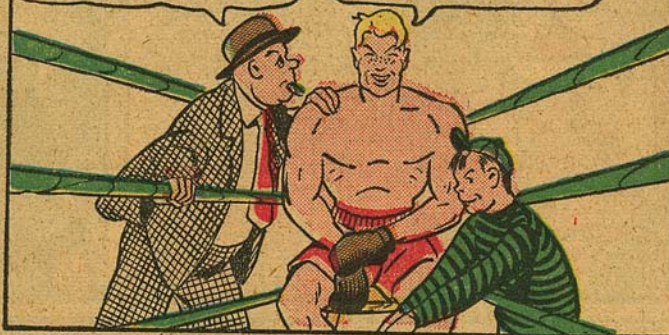


HAW, HAW! HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS, PUNK!

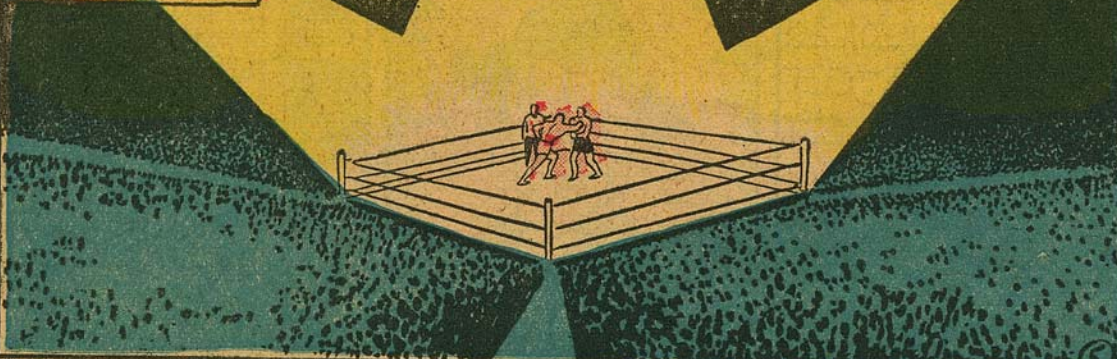
WHO'S A PUNK, YA BIG BLUB-BERHEAD?

NOW KEEP AWAY FROM HIM, JIM! HE'S GOT A MURDEROUS RIGHT, AND...

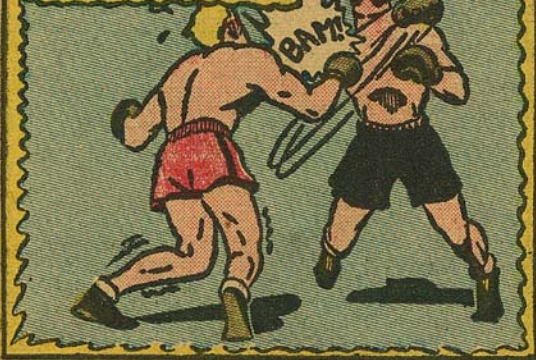
DON'T WORRY, MR. MILL. HE'S FAT BETWEEN THE EARS! I'LL HANDLE HIM OKAY!



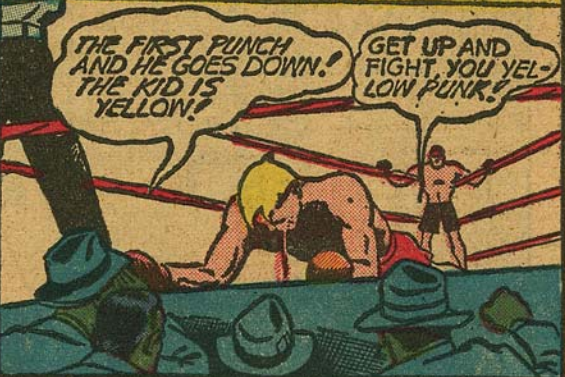
THE FIGHT IS ON



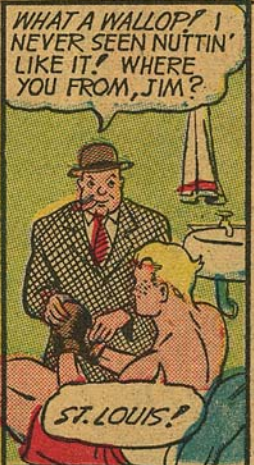
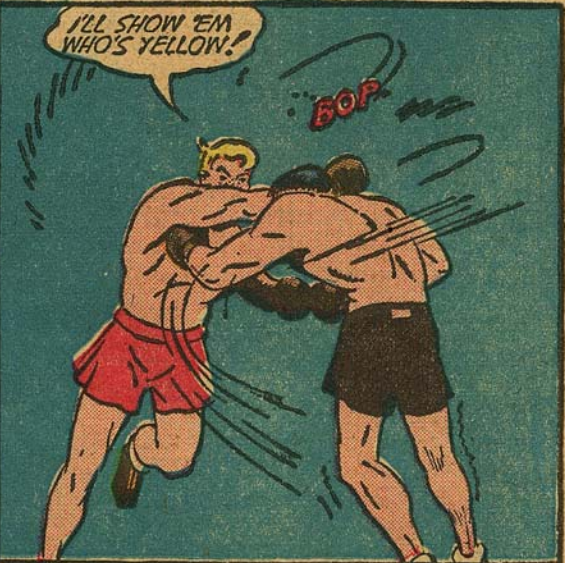
THE BUTCHER'S RIGHT FLASHES THROUGH IN A MURDEROUS ARC.



-AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE FIGHT.



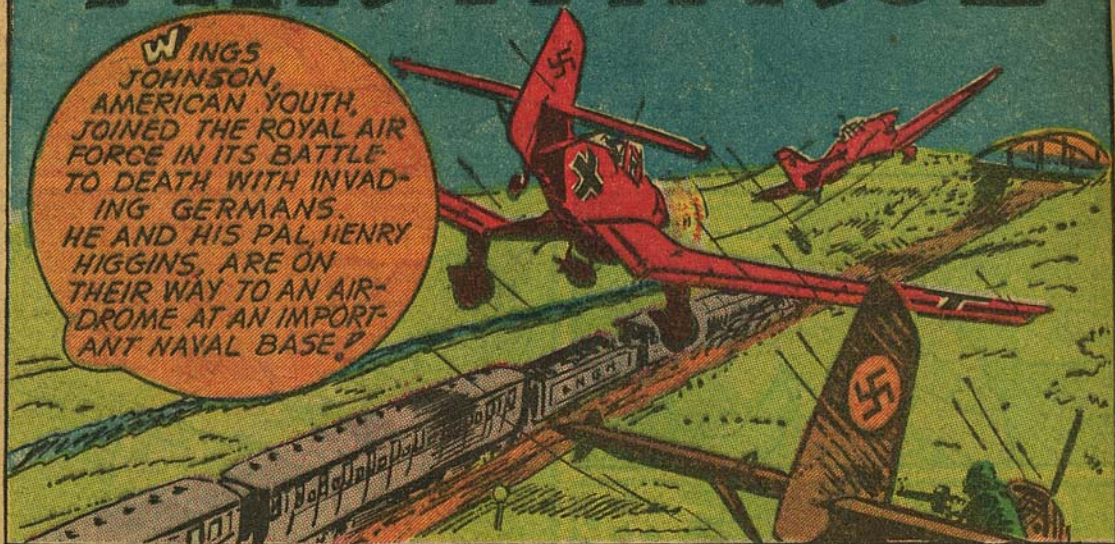
THE FANS' REMARKS PIERCE THROUGH THE ST. LOUIS KID'S BEFOGGED BRAIN, AND HE GETS UP, SPITTING BLOOD.



IS THE ST. LOUIS KID A CHAMP IN THE MAKING? WILL WINDY MILL KEEP HIS PROMISE? YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWERS IN ONLY ONE MAGAZINE - TOP NOTCH!

WINGS JOHNSON OF THE AIR PATROL

WINGS JOHNSON, AMERICAN YOUTH, JOINED THE ROYAL AIR FORCE IN ITS BATTLE TO DEATH WITH INVADING GERMANS. HE AND HIS PAL, HENRY HIGGINS, ARE ON THEIR WAY TO AN AIR-DROME AT AN IMPORTANT NAVAL BASE!



IN WINGS' COMPARTMENT. HENRY! LISTEN! IT'S AN AIR RAID!

I WONDER WHO THEY'RE ATTACKIN' WINGSIE?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN - YOU WONDER WHO THEY'RE ATTACKING?

LORD LOVE A DUCK! IT'S US THEY'RE AFTER!

A BOMBER MAKES A DIRECT HIT ON THE ENGINE!

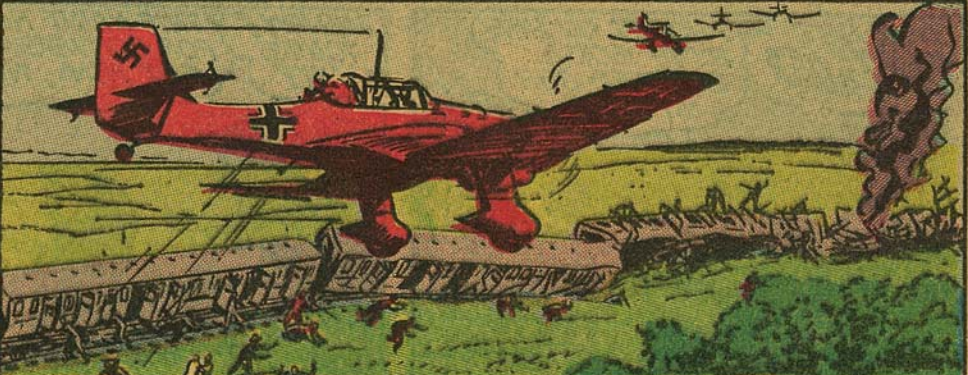


WE'VE STOPPED, HENRY! COME ON!



BY JOVE, WINGSIE! LET'S GET UP THERE AND SEE WHAT WE CAN SEE!
THE BLOOMIN' H'ENGINE'S BEEN IT

A
NAZI ATTEMPTS TO MACHINE-GUN THE PASS-ENGERS!



WHY, THAT YELLOW-BELLIED...

H'IT'S GIT-TIN' SO A BLOKE HAIN'T SAFE EVEN H'ON A CHOO-CHOO?



THEY SURE MADE SARDINE CANS OUT OF THIS ENGINE!

BLIMEY! AND THEY WANTED TO MAKE SARDINES OUT OF US!



CARRYING SOMETHING VALUABLE ON THIS TRAIN?

WHAT D'YA MEAN, WINGSIE? WE WAS ON H'IT HAIN'T THAT ENOUGH?



WHY, YES-WE HAVE ONE OF THE NAVAL COMMANDERS ON BOARD! THERE HE IS NOW! HEY! LOOK! HE'S BEING ATTACKED!

I SAY THERE!
WHAT'S
OOOF!

BAH! SAVE YOUR
BREATH AND GIFF
ME DESE
DISPATCHES!



THE ATTACKER SLAPS A CHLOROFORM
SOAKED HANDKERCHIEF TO THE
GIRL'S FACE!

HELP!



LOOK OUT,
HENRY! HE'S
GOT A GUN!

PHOOEY ON HIM!
H'I'VE GOT A
BLASTED GUN
MYSELF!



HENRY!
YOU'RE
HIT!

THIS HAIN'T NO TIME
FOR CONVERSATION!
GET HIM, WINGSIE!



STOP
OR I'LL
SHOOT!



H'I GUESS H'I
'AVE ONE GOOD
SHOT LEFT IN
ME YET!



NOW I'VE GOT
YOU? - OW!
I'VE BEEN
HIT!



HENRY'S
BULLET
GOES
ASTRAY
AND
CLIPS
WINGS
ON
THE
LEG!

AS
WINGS
FALLS,
THE
MYSTER-
IOUS
ATTACK-
ER
MAKES
HIS
ESCAPE!



LATER... AT THE NAVAL HOSPITAL...

HMM!
MY PAL!

DON'T SAY H'I T AGAIN,
WINGSIE! H'I WAS H'A
LITTLE OFF H'ON ME
AIM!

**SUDDENLY, THE AIR RAID SIREN
CUTS LOOSE!**

BOOM!

GEE HENRY! IF WE
HADN'T HAD SOME
TOUGH LUCK, WE'D
BE GOING UP TO
INTERCEPT THE
RAIDERS!

WELL, LET'S
HOBBLE OVER
TO TH' TARMAC
AND WATCH THE
OTHERS GO!

**AT THE
FIELD**

WINGSIE!
THERE'S A
SHIP NO-
BODY'S
USIN'!

WELL, WHAT
ARE WE WAIT-
ING FOR?
LET'S GO!

THE TWO OF US
TOGETHER CAN
HANDLE THIS
BABY!

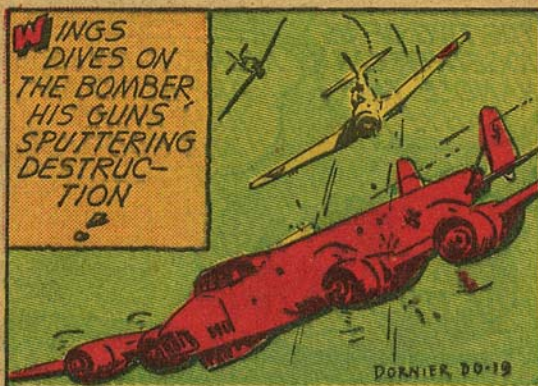
RIGHTO! MY LEGS
ARE GOOD AN'
YOUR ARMS
ARE GOOD!

**IN SPITE OF THEIR INJURIES, JOHN-
SON AND HIGGINS TAKE OFF TO
DO THEIR BIT!**

**MINUTES
LATER,
THEY
SIGHT THE
GERMAN
RAIDERS
IN THE
BATTLE
WITH THE
BRITISH
SPITFIRES**

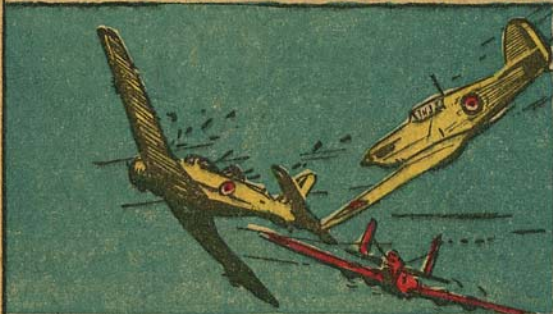
GET SET, HENRY!
WE'RE GOING TO
PLOW IN AND
MIX IT UP WITH
GOERING'S
BOYS!

THE SKIES BECOME A BATTLE-TORN INFERNO AS WINGS AND HENRY BLAST A DORNIER DO. 17 TO ETERNITY!

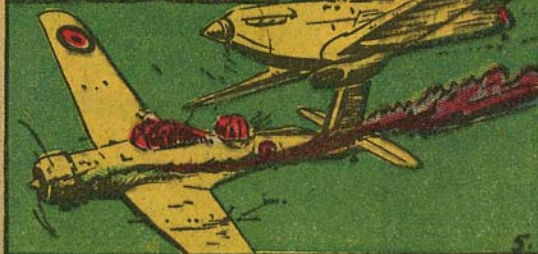


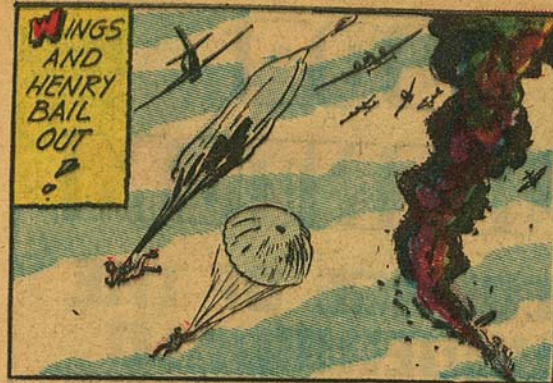
DORNIER DO-17

BUT A BRITISH HURRICANE SUDDENLY ATTACKS JOHNSON'S SHIP.



WINGS REFUSES TO FIRE ON A BRITISH PLANE, AND HIS OWN SHIP IS HIT BY THE SLUGS FROM THE HURRICANE!





WINGS AND HENRY BAIL OUT!



THEY LAND SAFELY NEAR THE NAVAL BASE.



DID ANYBODY SEE WHO BROUGHT US DOWN?

NO! WHY?

BLIGH ME! IT WAS A HURR -



IT WAS A HURRICANE, WERE YOU SAYING?

NO! HE WAS JUST GOING TO SAY IT WAS ONE OF HERR GOERING'S SHIPS!... TAKE ME TO THE C.O.



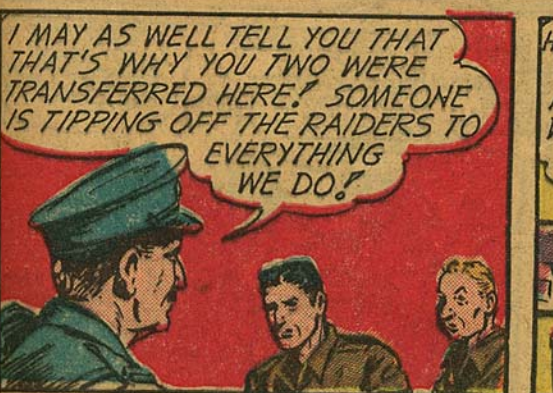
WINGS AND HENRY ARE TAKEN TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE NAVAL BASE.

I BEG YOUR PARDON, SIR! BUT I HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU BEFORE?

YES! I WAS ATTACKED BY A SPY ON THE TRAIN. YOU AN HIGGINS HERE TRIED TO CATCH THE CULPRIT?



WELL, EVIDENTLY, THERE'S MORE THAN ONE SPY AROUND HERE! WE WERE JUST SHOT DOWN BY A BRITISH HURRICANE WHEN WE TRIED TO ATTACK A GERMAN BOMBER!



I MAY AS WELL TELL YOU THAT THAT'S WHY YOU TWO WERE TRANSFERRED HERE! SOMEONE IS TIPPING OFF THE RAIDERS TO EVERYTHING WE DO!



H'I MUST SAY WE 'AVEN'T MADE A VERY GOOD START!

BUT WE MUST CATCH THEM! IF WE DON'T, IT MAY GIVE HITLER THE OPENING HE WANTS TO START AN INVASION!

WINGS JOHNSON AND HIS PAL ARE IN THE THICK OF A SPY PLOT IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS.

BOB PHANTOM

SCOURGE OF THE UNDERWORLD



UH, UH! PADDY!
NOT THAT
MOVE!



WELL, WELL! LOOK
AT OUR HARD
WORKING PO-
LICE FORCE!?

IT'S THAT !! O.K.!!
S! R! E! G! G! O!!
COLUMNIST -
WALT WHITNEY!



WHADDA YOU
SNOOPIN' AROUND
FOR? WE'VE GOT
NO NEWS FOR
YOU!

TSK, TSK! SUCH
LANGUAGE!!
BETTER ANSWER
YOUR PHONE...
IT'S RINGING!?



HELLO, HELLO!
WHAT!... A
BURGLARY AT
SHIFFANY'S
JEWELRY
STORE!??

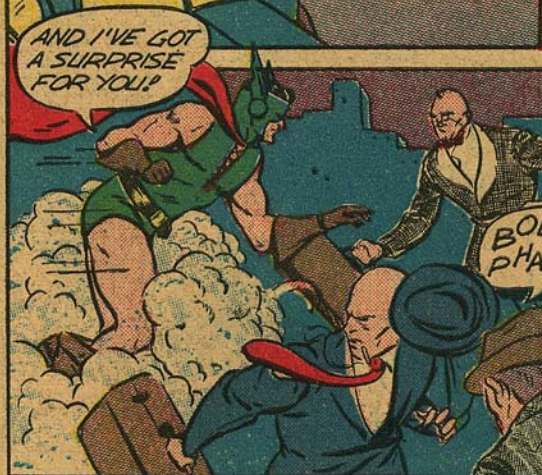
LOOKS LIKE
I GET SOME
NEWS AFTER
ALL, CHIEFY!

BERNIE



SCRAM, SNOOP!
YOU CAN'T
COME WITH
US!

I CAN TAKE
THE SUBWAY
AND GET THERE
FASTER!!



AND I'VE GOT
A SURPRISE
FOR YOU!

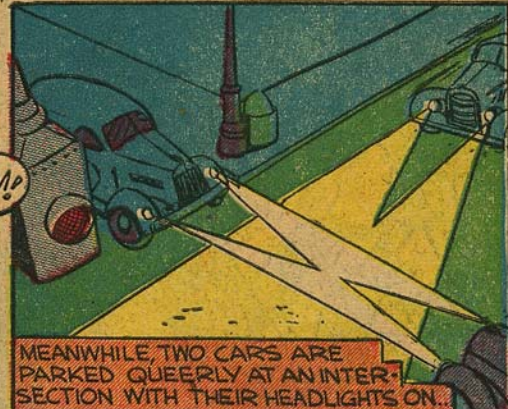
BOB
PHANTOM!



LATER... AT SHIFFANY'S JEWELRY STORE..

LOOK, CHARLIE!
THE COPS!

LET THEM
COME! WE HAVE
A SURPRISE FOR
THEM!



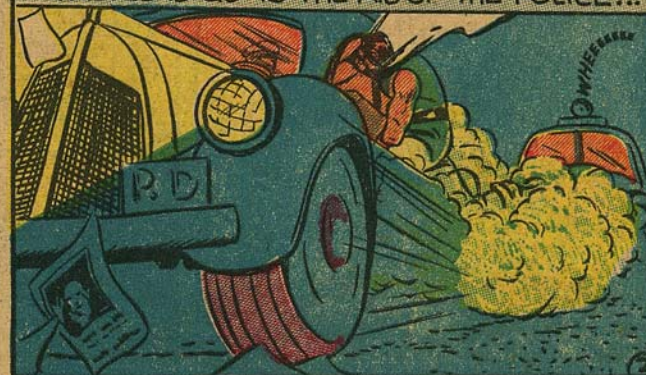
MEANWHILE, TWO CARS ARE
PARKED QUEERLY AT AN INTER-
SECTION WITH THEIR HEADLIGHTS ON...

THE POLICE CARS BREAK THE
CONNECTING LIGHT BEAMS, AND...



GREAT SCOT! THOSE
LIGHT BEAMS EX-
PLODED WHEN THEY
WERE BROKEN! AND
THE CHIEF'S CAR IS
ABOUT TO COME
THROUGH!

BOB PHANTOM IS FORCED TO LEAVE THE
THIEVES TO GO TO THE AID OF THE POLICE...





LOOK! IT'S THAT PHANTOM GUY! HE'S DETOURIN' THE REST OF THEM COP'S CARS!

WE DID ENOUGH DAMAGE!! LET'S SCRAM!!



WELL, THEY OUT-SMARTED ME THAT TIME... MADE A CLEAN GETAWAY!!



BOB PHANTOM! YOU TRIED TO KILL US... YOU !! @! ! @ @ @ !! @! ! @ @ @ !! @! ! @ @ @ !!

TSK, TSK!! SUCH LANGUAGE FROM AN OFFICER OF THE LAW! SO LONG...SEE YOU SOON!



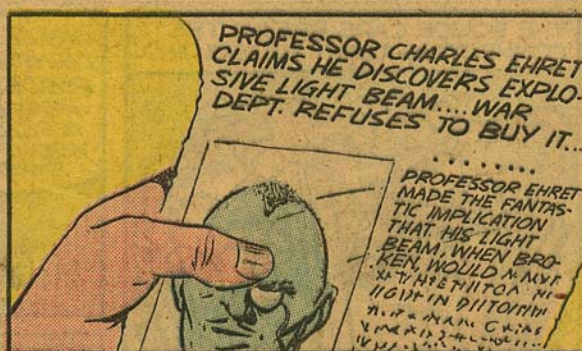
LATER, IN WHITNEY'S APARTMENT.

THAT RAY! I SEEM TO REMEMBER IT FROM SOMEWHERE! LET ME THINK...



NEXT DAY WHITNEY HUNTS THROUGH THE NEWSPAPER FILES....

HOLY CATS! I'VE GOT IT!!



PROFESSOR CHARLES EHRET CLAIMS HE DISCOVERS EXPLOSIVE LIGHT BEAM.... WAR DEPT. REFUSES TO BUY IT...

..... PROFESSOR EHRET MADE THE FANTASTIC IMPLICATION THAT HIS LIGHT BEAM, WHEN BROKEN, WOULD M.M.M.M. X.T.H.R.E.P.H.I.T.O.A. H.I.G.H.T IN P.I.T.T.O.H.I. N.I.P.A.M.M.C.H.R.S. V.N.E.R.I.S. 3-4-1941



WALT PULLS UP AT THE PROFESSOR'S DOOR.....

1109 DIVISION ST., THE FILES SAID... HERE IT IS!



HELLO, PROFESSOR EHRET... I'M A NEWSPERMAN! I'D LIKE TO INTERVIEW YOU ON THAT LIGHT BEAM INVENTION....

WHY... ER... YES!... ER... COME RIGHT IN!!

THIS IS MY CON-
TRAPTION! HERE,
SIT DOWN... I'LL
EXPLAIN IT TO
YOU!

SURE,
THANKS!

STEEL BANDS SHOOT OUT OF
THE CHAIR AND TRAP WALT!

HA! HA!
THOUGHT
I DIDN'T
SUSPECT
YOU, EH?

BOY! AM
I A
SUCKER!

YOUR COUNTRY SCOF-
FED AT MY INVENTION!
LET THEM SCOF F NOW!
I SHALL REAP MILLIONS
FROM IT... IN MY
OWN WAY!!

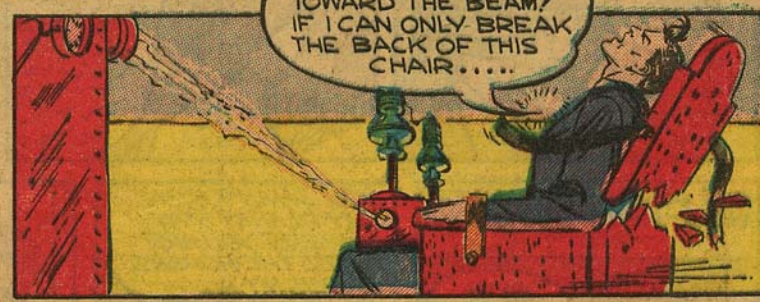
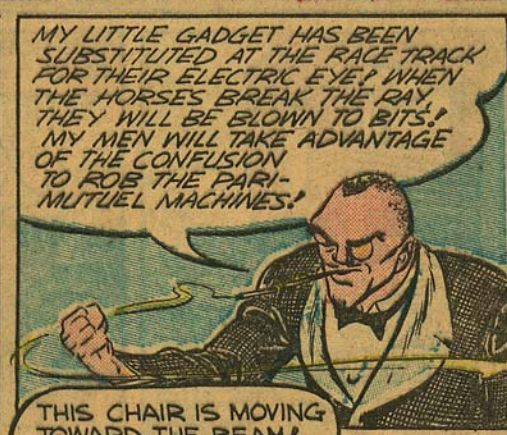
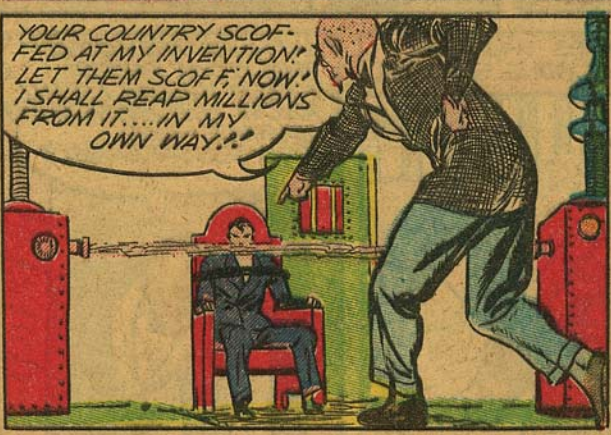
MY LITTLE GADGET HAS BEEN
SUBSTITUTED AT THE RACE TRACK
FOR THEIR ELECTRIC EYE! WHEN
THE HORSES BREAK THE RAY,
THEY WILL BE BLOWN TO BITS!
MY MEN WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF THE CONFUSION
TO ROB THE PARI-
MUTUEL MACHINES!

THIS CHAIR IS MOVING
TOWARD THE BEAM!
IF I CAN ONLY BREAK
THE BACK OF THIS
CHAIR.....

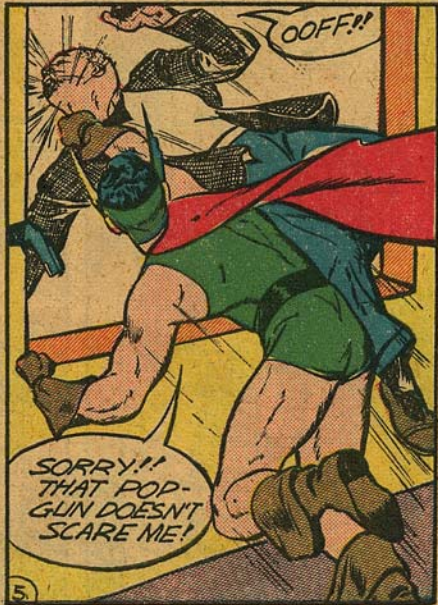
YOU CAN CARRY
THAT KNOWLEDGE
TO YOUR GRAVE!
GOODBYE, MR.
WHITNEY!

SO THEY'RE GOING
TO ROB THE PARI-
MUTUELS... THEY'LL
GET AWAY WITH IT
TOO - UNLESS BOB
PHANTOM STEPS IN!

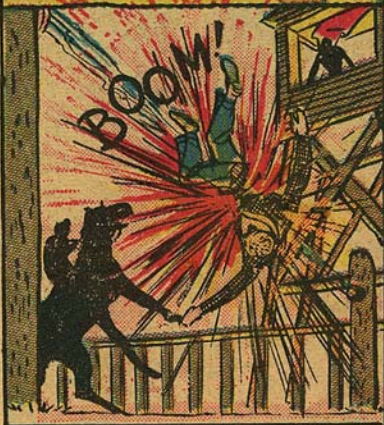
UGH! I DID
IT!.. AND NOT
A SECOND
TOO SOON!



AT THE RACE TRACK...THE PARI-MUTUEL BETTING MACHINE HAS AN EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY DAY....



PROFESSOR EHRET BREAKS HIS OWN BEAM BEFORE THE HORSES CAN REACH IT!



THE EXPLOSION! THAT'S THE SIGNAL! LET'S GO, BOYS!



ALL RIGHT! GET THAT DOUGH UP! AND NO 'SQUANKS!



HI YA, GANG! REMEMBER ME!



MY SPECIALTY'S FUMIGATING VERMIN LIKE YOU!!



OH, OH! HERE COME THE POLICE! I GUESS THEY CAN PICK UP FROM HERE!



NEXT DAY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

YOU KNOW WHO BOB PHANTOM REALLY IS - NOW COME CLEAN!!

WELL, READ MY COLUMN TOMORROW, CHIEF - IF YOU CAN READ!



on Broadway
 By Walt Whitney

PERSONAL.... (To chief of police)
 BOB PHANTOM IS ANXIOUS TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE TOO, CHIEF.... HE CAN'T MAKE UP HIS MIND WHETHER YOU'RE THE POLICE CHIEF OR YEROOD!

is primarily propaganda for the profit of the author and the publisher and is not to be taken as an expression of opinion.

BOB PHANTOM APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS-



SPORTS SLANTS

HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE

THE NEXT big innovation in eastern wrestling circles will be the introduction of grappling—ala gooey. In other words, exhibition catch as catch can—in mud.

In a desperate attempt* to instill some animation in a sport that is sinking farther and farther into the doldrums, the mat moguls east of the Mississippi are ready to try anything that will rejuvenate cash registers at eastern grappleatoriums, which are dying for lack of use.

Although it will be a novelty in the East, mud-mauling has been tried with great success in the South.

The ring is completely filled with mud, one foot thick, and the boys wallow in it, as though to the manner born. It's quite a novelty, and may take in the effete East, although we have our doubts.

When, and if you should decide to attend one of these mad, mud, malarkeys, please heed the following warning—"Don't sit ringside, or you'll go home so full of splattered mud, it will take a platoon of men, working with shovels, an hour, to get you back to your normal weight."

Just honor one of these wet dirt picnics with your presence and the famous expression—"Here's mud in your eye" will become a stark reality.

HERE IT IS

THE NEW
NO. 2 ISSUE
OF YOUR
FAVORITE MAGAZINE



LOOK
FOR
Tommy
THE
SUPER
BOY!

ALL
NEW!
ALL
DIFFERENT
ON SALE AT ALL NEWSTANDS

KARDAK

THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN



KARDAK.
HELP!

MASTER! LOOK!
COMET SWEEPING DOWN
AT US!

AFTER MANY FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, KARDAK, LORNA, AND BALTHAR ARE ABOUT TO REACH THE LAND OF THE MASTER BRAHMIN, IN THE MOST BIZARRE, MOST PERILOUS ADVENTURE OF ALL!

BEFORE KARDAK CAN USE HIS MAGIC, THE TAIL OF THE COMET SWOOPS DOWN ON THEM!



AND SWEEPS THEM UPWARDS LIKE CHIPS ON A WAVE!



UP--UP--HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS!



IS NICE LOOPY LOOP
RIDE, MASTER

LORNA! THIS IS
IT! THE LAND OF
THE MASTER
BRAHMIN!

AND STILL ONWARD UNTIL THEY ARE DEPOSITED AT THE FEET OF THE KING!



SO! MASTER MAGICIAN! WE
BRAHMINS ARE ALSO
VERSED IN MAGIC, AS
YOU NOW KNOW!

YOU ARE THE FIRST MORTALS EVER TO REACH OUR LAND. I HAVE BROUGHT YOU HERE TO DISPOSE OF YOU MYSELF. YOU ARE TOO DANGEROUS!

MY TRIBE SHALL RULE YOUR EARTH. WE ARE THE WISEST OF ALL BEINGS. OUR GOD, THE FOUR-HEADED SIVA, SHALL BE THE GOD OF ALL THE WORLD!



LOOK, O KARDAK! I CONJURE UP A PICTURE OF THE FATE I HAVE IN STORE FOR YOUR PEOPLE!

A GREEN MIST ENVELOPS THE MORTALS IN THE VISION! SOME DIE OUTRIGHT, OTHERS ARE DRIVEN MAD! ALL IS CHAOS!



THAT IS THE FATE OF ALL WHO OPPOSE ME, KARDAK!

BUT KARDAK'S MAGIC IS ALSO POTENT.



PRESTO! GAS MASKS! AND MY PEOPLE ARE SAVED!

THUS WILL I FRUSTRATE YOU AT EVERY TURN, O MASTER-BRAHMIN. YOU SHALL NEVER RULE MY WORLD. BETTER FOR YOU TO RETURN TO YOUR OWN, IMMEDIATELY!



FOOL! I KNOW YOUR WEAKNESS! IT IS IN YOUR EYES! I SEND A BLACK CLOUD TO BEFOG YOU - AND YOU ARE HELPLESS!



LEAVE UM MASTER ALONE OR BALTHAR, MAKE UM HAMBURGERS OF YOU!

THIS IRON MASK WILL KEEP HIM FROM SEEING!

KARDAK IS DRAGGED TOWARD A CHUTE!

NOW WE THROW HIM INTO THE HALL OF MIRRORS

HIS DOOM IS SEALED!

PLEASE DON'T HARM KARDAK!

THE FAITHFUL BALTHAR BREAKS LOOSE

MASTER! ME COME TOO!

THIS PLACE MORE AND MORE LIKE CONEY ISLAND!

Oo! MUCH DIZZY! EVERYWHERE, SEE FACE OF BALTHAR, AND IS NOT VERY PRETTY!

BALTHAR! WHERE ARE WE? IS THERE ANY WAY OUT?

MASTER! GREEN GAS COME! WHAT DO?

THE GREEN MIST! RUN, BALTHAR! WE'RE DONE FOR, IF IT ENVELOPS US!

BUT BALTHAR IS MET AT EVERY TURN BY MIRRORS

THIS LOOK LIKE PASSAGEWAY! OOF! ME WRONG!

BALTHAR! YOUR MAGIC TURBAN! TAKE IT OFF! FLING IT! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!

ME DO!

THE MAGIC TURBAN REVEALS A PASSAGEWAY THROUGH THE MIRROR-CORRIDORS!



IT WORK, MASTER, HOLD ME BY HAND!

I'LL BE YOUR QUEEN— ONLY PLEASE DON'T HARM MY FRIENDS!

MEANWHILE, THE KING USHERS LORNA TO THE SACRED TEMPLE ROOM OF SIVA



I SHALL NEED A MORTAL QUEEN WHEN I RULE YOUR WORLD. COME SIVA, SHALL CONSECRATE YOU!



NO! THEY MUST DIE! AND NOW FOR THE SACRED CEREMONY!

NO! NO!



SIVA, O GOD OF MY PEOPLE, IN YOUR NAME DO I MAKE THIS MORTAL MY QUEEN

YOU MAKE UM BUM GUESS, KING. WE STILL GOT MUCH LIFE!



IT IS DONE! ONCE I HAVE ESTABLISHED MY RULE, YOU SHALL DIE TOO— AS DID YOUR FRIENDS!



THE EARTHINGS! HOW... WHAT...



NOW BALTHAR FIX YOU!

STOP HIM! STOP HIM!



BALTHAR HURLS THE KING INTO THE FLAMES

HELP! DON'T!

YOU LIKE UM YOUR GOD SO MUCH, YOU GO TO HIM!

THE ENRAGED BRAHMINS RUSH TOWARD BALTHAR



STOP! I AM YOUR RULER NOW! I FORBID YOU TO TOUCH HIM!

SIVA WOULD DESTROY US IF WE DIS-OBEYED!

IT IS TRUE!



NOW, RELEASE KARDAK!

GOOD GIRL, LORNA! THAT'S USING YOUR HEAD!



LORNA! THEY MUST OBEY YOUR COMMANDS. NOW LISTEN, BZZ... BZZ....

I'LL TRY IT, KARDAK!



I- YOUR QUEEN, ORDER YOU TO GIVE UP THE PLAN OF CONQUERING THE EARTH. GO BACK TO YOUR OWN LAND!

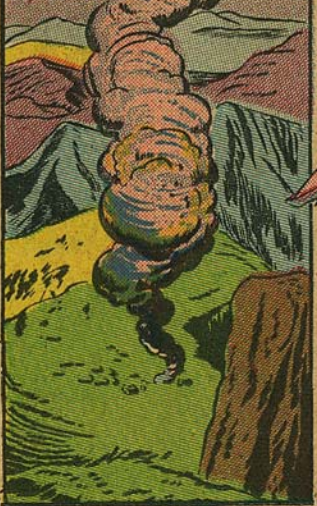
NO! NO!

WE CANNOT!



REMEMBER! THE WRATH OF SIVA WILL STRIKE YOU DOWN IF YOU DEFY YOUR RULER! I COMMAND YOU!

THE BRAHMINS ARE FORCED TO ACCEDE. A ROLL OF THUNDER, A BURST OF SMOKE, AND THE LAND ABOVE THE CLOUDS DISAPPEARS



THE EARTHINGS HURTLE DOWN! THAT WAS QUICK WORK.. DON'T WORRY, I'LL SEE TO IT WE LAND SAFELY.



HERE WE ARE! ATOP THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING! OUR MISSION IS DONE.

I'M CERTAINLY GLAD TO BE BACK IN MY OWN WORLD!



GOING DOWN?

KARDAK APPEARS IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS

I'll help you Get a DAISY for CHRISTMAS

—Red Ryder



The New GOLDEN BANDED 1000-SHOT RED RYDER Saddle CARBINE

Let Red Ryder help you get THE Daisy for Christmas! Just send him the coupon for your **FREE CHRISTMAS REMINDER KIT** enclosing 3¢ stamp to help cover our handling-postage cost. Daisy's **COPYRIGHTED, FREE CHRISTMAS REMINDER KIT** contains printed "messages" to which you sign your name, pictures of Daisy Air Rifles, and complete directions for using. You'll have fun doing it. Put "Reminders" under milk bottles, in the mail-box! On Dad's easy chair! Mail one to Dad where he works! They'll help "sell" your folks on getting you **THE Daisy**—as they helped thousands of boys last Christmas! Send Coupon, 3-cent stamp now.

Here's **FRED HARMAN** famous cowboy artist who draws **NEA'S COMIC STRIP!** Fred used to ride broncos on his ranch near Pagosa Springs, Colo. His new 12-chapter movie serial "Adventures of Red Ryder"—produced by Republic Pictures—is now on the screen. It's Thrilling!



See the **Adventures of RED RYDER** with **DON BARRY** at your theater

Send Coupon Below For Your

FREE CHRISTMAS Reminder KIT

The Popular 500 SHOT LIGHTNING-LOADER CARBINE

- Daisy's original 500-Shot Carbine featuring Lightning-Loader Invention and Adjustable Double-Notch Rear Sight. Only \$25.00
- at Dealers or direct. (Duty added in Canada on all Daisys.)
 - Double Barrel 100-Shot Repeater. Break-action. \$5
 - 50-Shot Pump Repeater. Forced-Feed Magazine. \$4.50
 - Buck Jones Special. 50-Shot outdoor model. \$3.50
 - Buzz Barton Special. Telescopic-Type Sight. \$2.25
 - 500-Shot Repeater. Nickel-plated Metal Parts. \$1.95
 - Single-Shot. Holds only one shot at a time. \$1.50

USE DAISY BULLS EYE SHOT TUBE

Buy genuine Daisy-made "Chrome-Sheet" steel Bulls Eye Shot for accurate shooting. It's BEST. At Dealers. **5¢**

Here's the **BEST** Christmas Gift to get—this beautiful 1000-shot **RED RYDER CARBINE** featuring: (1) Genuine Western Carbine Ring (2) 16-inch Leather Saddle Thong Knitted to Ring (3) Golden-Banded Muzzle (4) Golden Front Sight (5) Lightning-Loader Invention—pour in 1000 shot in 20 seconds! (6) Golden-Banded Force-Piece (7) Carbine Style Force-Piece, Cocking Lever (8) Adjustable, Double-Notch Rear Sight (9) **RED RYDER'S** Picture, Signature and Horse "Thunder" Branded on Pistol-Grin Stock. She's the most realistic-looking SADDLE CARBINE you ever saw "Out West." In fact "It's A DAISY!" If you have the money now (or can get it) buy your **RED RYDER CARBINE** at the nearest hardware, sport goods or department store. If they haven't it (or no Daisy Dealer is near you) send us \$2.95 and we'll mail yours **postpaid**. (Duty added in Canada.) Rush **Coupon**, 3¢ stamp for **Free Christmas Reminder Kit!**



RED RYDER (Care of DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY 872 Union Street, Plymouth, Michigan, U.S.A.)

Dear Red: I enclose 3¢ stamp for postage-handling expense. Please send me **Free, COPYRIGHTED Christmas Reminder Kit.**

NAME _____
 ST. & NO. _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____
 Check here if you want Daisy Catalog also.

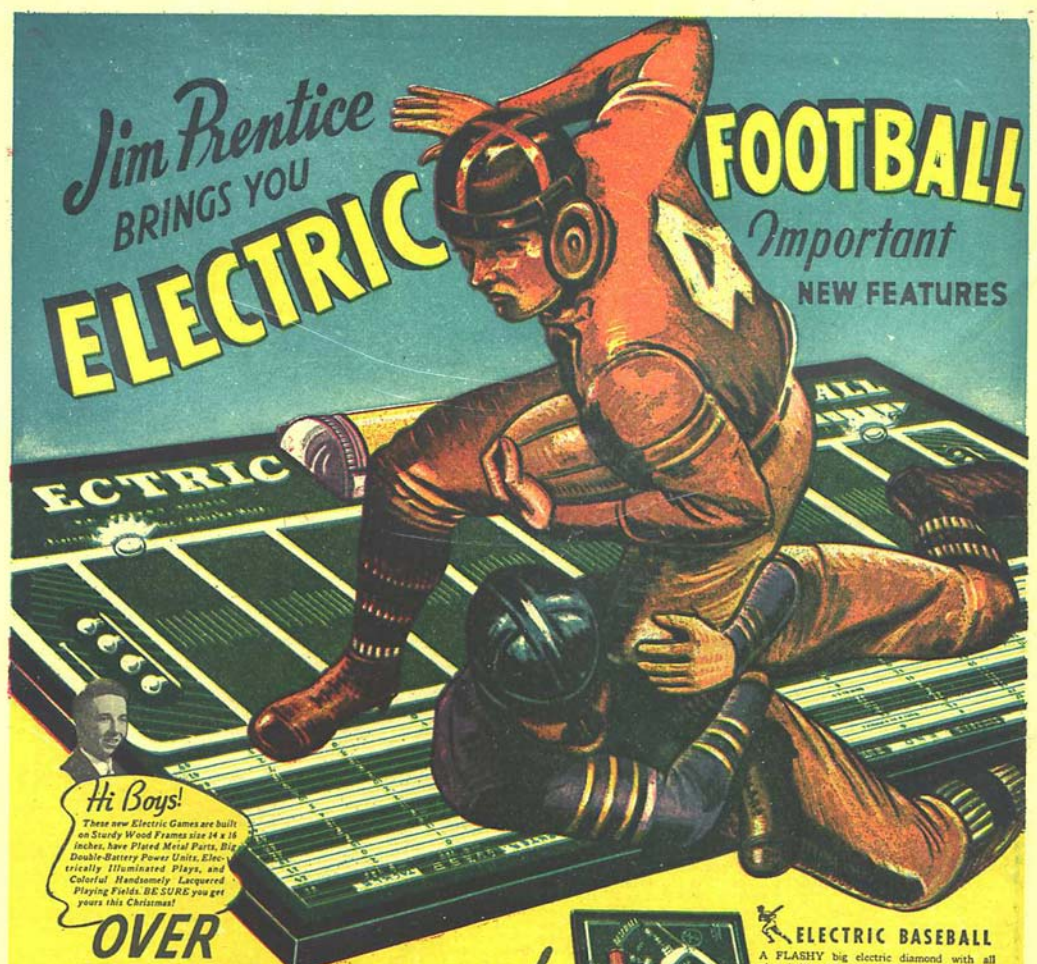
IT'S REALLY YOURS for only **2.95**

DAISY AIR RIFLES

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 872 UNION ST., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, U. S. A.

Jim Prentice
BRINGS YOU
ELECTRIC

FOOTBALL
Important
NEW FEATURES



Hi Boys!

These new Electric Games are built on sturdy Wood Frames size 14 x 16 inches, have Plated Metal Parts, Big Double-Battery Power Units, Electrically Illuminated Plays, and Colorful Hand-painted Lacquered Playing Fields. BE SURE you get yours this Christmas!

OVER For a TOUCHDOWN!

AMERICA'S greatest Football game! Loaded with Fun, Thrills, and the Fascination of Electricity!

You and your opponent represent Coach, Quarterback, Line, Ends, Backfield, and Chtering Section of your respective teams. The player who knows smart Football and who can outmaneuver his opponent will control the yardage of the miniature football as it goes up and down the gridiron—but the uncertainty

of the game often gives the losing player a "Fighting Chance" and he may sweep down the field for a "Touchdown" or a "Smashing Last-Minute Victory!"

Game comes complete, ready to play, with Miniature Football, Timing Device, Lights, Batteries, etc. Packed in brilliant yellow gift box.

Be the popular owner of this champion of games! New 1941 MODEL \$2.

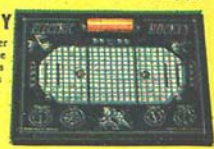


ELECTRIC BASEBALL

A FLASHY big electric diamond with all the thrills of Big League Baseball! Furnishes plenty of excitement and loads of opportunity for real baseball strategy, whether you're "at bat" or "in the field!" Complete with new Electric Bat, Electric Ump, Base Runners, Lights, Batteries, Scoring Device, etc. in bright red gift box. 1941 MODEL, \$2.

ELECTRIC ICE HOCKEY

THE most intriguing Ice Hockey game ever invented! A sensational, fast-moving game that grips you every moment the puck is on the ice! Played with complete teams including goalies. Beautifully lacquered hockey rink in contrasting blue and white. Complete with Men, Puck, Timing Device, Lights, Batteries, etc. in orange gift box. 1941 MODEL, \$2.



Avoid Christmas Rush—ORDER NOW! We Pay Postage.

ELECTRIC GAME COMPANY, INC.
11 BRIDGE STREET, HOLYOKE, MASS.

Gentlemen: I enclose \$_____ Please ship at once the games (checked at right) to:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____ STATE _____

- \$2. ELECTRIC FOOTBALL
- \$2. ELECTRIC BASEBALL
- \$2. ELECTRIC ICE HOCKEY
- \$2. ELECTRIC BASKETBALL
- \$5. For three games checked above. FREE Transformer included.

GET THIS free!
With every order for three games we will include FREE one Special Transformer Unit for operating games from any 110 volt A.C. outlet. Replaces batteries.



ELECTRIC BASKETBALL

THERE is fun galore with this popular new Electric Basketball game! You actually feel yourself streaking down the gym floor sinking a "flashy shot" for the team! Plays and scoring follow regulation Basketball from start to finish. Complete with Miniature Basketball, Timing Device, Lights, Batteries, etc. in blue gift box. 1941 MODEL, \$2.