

36

TOP-NOTCH

MAY 10¢

Laugh comics



ET'S NO USE PAAW!
THESE HYAR SUGAH STAMPS
JES' HAIN'T TH' SAME
AS TH' OL' SUGAH LUMPS!

AMERICA'S
FUNNIEST
JOKE
BOOK

Don
Dear.



IF YOU REALLY WANT TO MAKE

Whoopee!



Come on, everybody! Join the big parade of fun-lovers! Here's exactly what you need to get some real excitement out of life—a great big book full of wonderful ideas for entertaining friends . . . for putting zip and zest into parties . . . and for just having some fun by yourself! It's amazing and it's marvelous! All the snappiest laugh-provoking ideas and stunts of all the world's greatest entertainers are now yours to use in your own home, at parties, socials, club meetings—wherever and whenever you really want to have a rousing good time!

Be Careful! You'll Explode with Laughter!

Yes, folks, "255 PARTY GAMES" is a book strictly for real fun lovers. Can you "take it"? Imagine it's actually 255 different games and stunts, each one explained in simple language, with exact instructions. When you get this book you can say goodbye forever to dull evenings and "slow" parties. There are enough fun-making ideas here to last a lifetime. But it's only fair to warn you—"255 PARTY GAMES" means the kind of good clean vigorous fun that "rolls 'em in the aisles". This book is explosive! It's dynamite! You have to be careful when you use it—or you might explode with laughter!

YOW! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S TRUE!



HELP! HELP!! PULLED HER LEG OFF.



Boy! Oh Boy!

It's a RIOT OF FUN!

Here Are Just a Few of the 255 SIDE-SPLITTING GAMES AND STUNTS in this 3-RING CIRCUS of Fun and Frolic

Consequences—Guillotine—Prolifics—Up and Down—Deep Sea Fishing—Dogdom—His Wife's Dress—Watch the Watch—Some Pans for Your Pantry—Location—Tradesmen—Gossip—Teapop—Philopena—Fire Horn—Monkey—Royal Lady—Red, White and Blue—Zip—Gobble, Gobble—Making Up a Cargo—Blow the Feather—Ha, Ha—The "Baby" Show—Blockade—Swaps—Jenkins Says—Bubble Folo—Clothespins—Water Boy—Zig Zag—Dead Man—Finance—Peek Poker—Red Dog—Speculation—Matrimony—Pochen—The Seven Deadly Sins—Swat—Poison—Buz! Buz!

HEY, GEORGE, WHAT'S THE RUSH?

"255 PARTY GAMES" has everything! It doesn't matter what kind of a party game or stunt you're looking for—you'll find it in this book. There are games you can play by yourself . . . games for just a couple of people . . . games for a small group . . . games for a big party! Yes, and there are games for people who like to use their wits . . . games for people who enjoy "practical jokes" . . . games for people who are quick with their hands and athletically inclined—every conceivable kind of fun-provoking entertainment for young and old.

SAVE ME! SAVE ME! THE EARTH DISAPPEARED!



LESS THAN 1¢ A GAME

Would you spend 1¢ to make your next party a howling success? Well, each game or stunt in "255 PARTY GAMES" cost you less than 1¢ on the average. You get 255 complete entertainment ideas, including 33 big time parties, for only \$1.98! It's the biggest, most exciting, most amazing bargain in fun and laughter you've ever seen!

FREE! "Modern Magic"

Can you make a chair walk after you? Or get a cork to run? Can you persuade a seed to rise and fall in water by a wave of your hands? Or snatch a silk handkerchief mysteriously from out of thin air? It's easy—if you know how!

ASTONISH YOUR FRIENDS!

"Modern Magic" reveals the astounding secret tricks performed by some of the world's greatest magicians. This book shows you how easily you, too, can haffle people and make them think they are "seeing things". It's all amazingly simple—dozens and dozens of illustrations disclose exactly how professional magicians "do their stuff". "Modern Magic" is all yours absolutely FREE with your copy of "255 PARTY GAMES".

SEND NO MONEY

"255 PARTY GAMES" will be sent to you for 5 days' free approval, so that you can see for yourself what hilarious fun it has in store for you. All you have to do now is mail the coupon. A copy of the book will be sent to you at once. When the package arrives, merely pay the postman \$1.98, plus a few cents postage charges. Try out a few of the games with your family or your friends—and if you don't have a rousing good time, you can return your copy of "255 PARTY GAMES" and your money will be refunded promptly.

I'M IN A HURRY TO GET A COPY OF "255 PARTY GAMES." I'M GONNA START A FUN RIOT AT THE PARTY TONIGHT!

"WHOOPEE" COUPON FOR FUN LOVERS

M. L. SALES CO.

160 W. Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Send me for 5 days' approval a copy of "255 PARTY GAMES" and also a FREE copy of "Modern Magic". I will pay postman \$1.98 plus postage. If not satisfied I may return the books and you will refund my money promptly.

Name

Address

City

State

We will pay postage charges if you enclose \$1.98 now. Mark box.



POKEY OAKLEY

by Don Deam.

M. L. J. Magazines, Inc.
160 WEST BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Dear Reader:

The last we saw of Pokey, the Bill-Billy sheriff, he was riled up a plenty, remember? And who would't be? It seems that during his absence two welfare workers came and taken little "Peaches" off to the County Home. "Peaches" if you recall, is the abandoned girl baby that Pokey found on the river bank.

Sincerely,

M. L. J. MAGAZINES, INC.

Harry Shorten, Editor

THEY CAN'T TAKE L'IL "PEACHES" AWAY FROM ME -- ET HAIN'T LEGAL-LIKE. AH FOUND THET BABY SO ETS MINE! FINDER'S KEEPERS! THA'S WHUT?!



MAH MAMMY TOLD ME THET YO ALL MADE OFF WIFF "PEACHES". AH'S COME TO FETCH HER HOME!

STEP INSIDE, YOUNG MAN, I SHALL EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES!



IS THIS THE CHILD YOU WERE REFERRING TO?

YESSUH, SHO NUFF' THA'S OUR "PEACHES" ALL RIGHT. KIN AH TAKE HER HOME NOW, WE'UNS IS POWAH-FUL LONESOME FO HER!





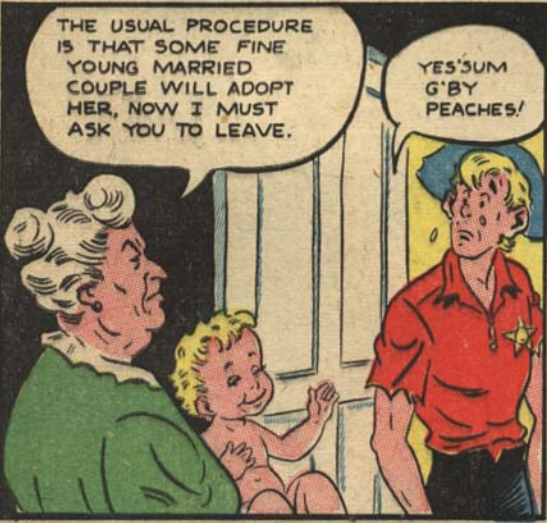
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
IMPROPER ENVIRONMENT!
WHY, WHEN WE PICKED
THIS CHILD UP YOUR
FATHER WAS EVEN
ALLOWING HER TO PLAY
WITH YOUR FIGS!

WHUT'S WRONG
WIFF THET?
SHE CAN'T
HURT 'EM!



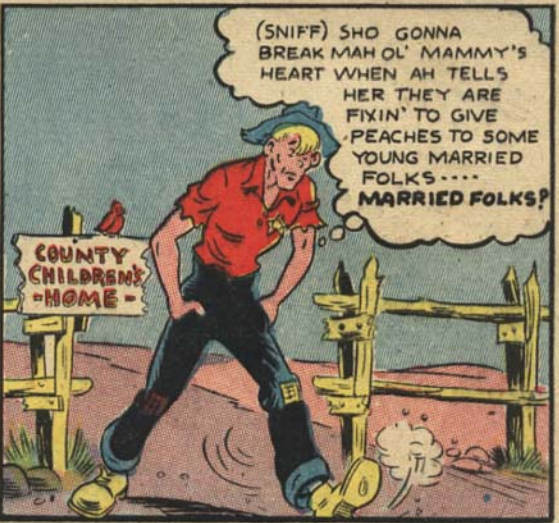
SO DOING OUR
DUTY AS WE SEE
FIT; THE CHILD
SHALL REMAIN
HERE AT THE
"HOME"

WHUT YO
FIXIN' TO
DO WIFF
HER THEN?



THE USUAL PROCEDURE
IS THAT SOME FINE
YOUNG MARRIED
COUPLE WILL ADOPT
HER, NOW I MUST
ASK YOU TO LEAVE.

YES 'SUM
G'BY
PEACHES!



(SNIFF) SHO GONNA
BREAK MAH OL' MAMMY'S
HEART WHEN AH TELL'S
HER THEY ARE
FIXIN' TO GIVE
PEACHES TO SOME
YOUNG MARRIED
FOLKS ----
MARRIED FOLKS?

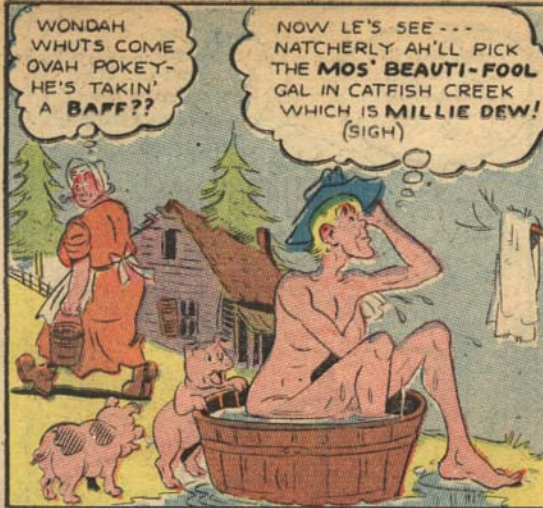
COUNTY
CHILDREN'S
HOME



DAWGONE!
WHY DIDN'T AH THINK
OF ET BEFO'—HYAR
AH AM GOIN' ON
NINETEEN AN' STILL
A BACHELOR FELLAH!



AH'LL JES' GET ME A WIFE,
ADOPT PEACHES MAH SELF AN'
EVATHING WILL BE OKAY ANY
VOOMIN WOULD DO HERSELF
RIGHT PROUD TO BE THE
WIFE OF A SHURIFF, YESSUH!



WONDAH WHUTS COME OVAH POKEY-HE'S TAKIN' A BAFF??

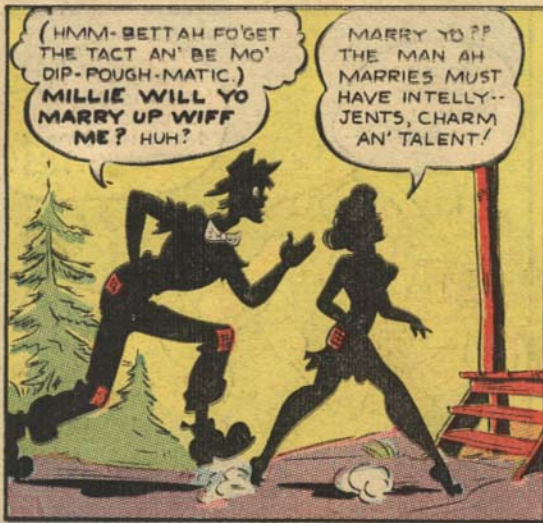
NOW LE'S SEE --- NATCHERLY AH'LL PICK THE MOS' BEAUTI-FOOL GAL IN CATFISH CREEK WHICH IS MILLIE DEW! (SIGH)



(HMM--RECKON THIS HYAR SORTA THING CALLS FO TACT... SO AH WILL TACT.)

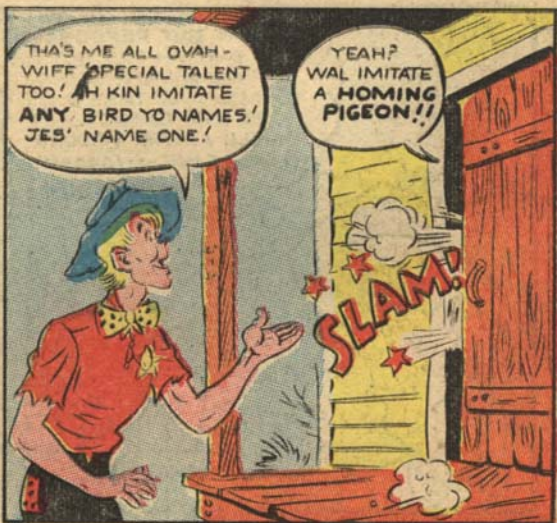
HOWDY, MILLIE, COULD YO ALL CARE FO A BOY LIKE ME?

YES, POKEY, EF HE WERN'T TOO MUCH LIKE YO!



(HMM--BETTAH FO'GET THE TACT AN' BE MO' DIP-POUGH-MATIC.) MILLIE WILL YO MARRY UP WIFF ME? HUH?

MARRY YO?? THE MAN AH MARRIES MUST HAVE INTELLE--JENTS, CHARM AN' TALENT!



THA'S ME ALL OVAH--WIFF SPECIAL TALENT TOO! AH KIN IMITATE ANY BIRD YO NAMES! JES' NAME ONE!

YEAH? WAL IMITATE A HOMING PIGEON!!

SLAM!



OH WAL, THARS PLENTY OF MO' FISH ON THE BEACH. WONDAH EF SARY SNATCHTRAP IS AT HOME?



HOWDY, SARY. AH COME TO COURT YO! MARRY ME AN' AH'LL BE THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD!

OH-POKEY? EF AH DO WOULD FT MAKE YO THE HAPPIEST MAN EN THE WORLD??



WAL - NEXT TO HAPPIEST ANYWAY - YO OL' MAN WOULD BE THE HAPPIEST MOS' PROBABLY!



AH'LL LEARN YO --YO CUSSED LONG LAIGED G*~@+*~* c~@

?GULP? RECKON THAR'S SOME WIMMIN YO JES' CAN'T GET ROMANTIC WIFF!

BANG

BANG!



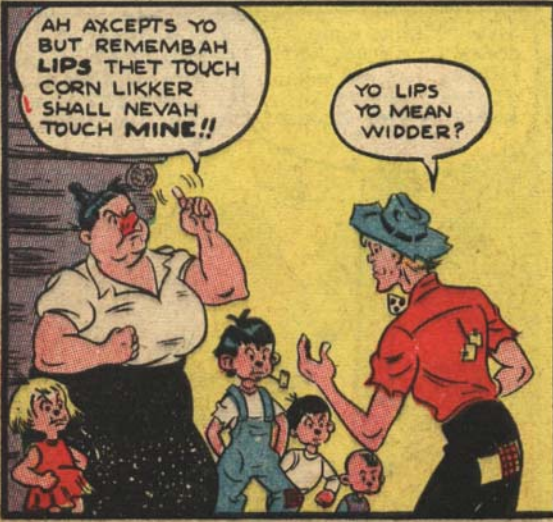
NOTHIN' BUT REFOOSALS ALL DAY! AH JES' GOT TO GET ME A WIFE SOMEHOW! THAR'S ONE MO' CHANC'T. AH'LL AX THE WIDDER HOE CAKE --- (GROAN)

WIDDER HOE CAKE



WIDDER HOECAKE-- W-WILL YO M-MARRY---

POKEY!! THIS IS SO SUDDEN AH MUST HAVE TIME TO THINK-- YES!!!



AH AXCEPTS YO BUT REMEMBAH LIPS THET TOUCH CORN LIKKER SHALL NEVAH TOUCH MINE!!

YO LIPS YO MEAN WIDDER?

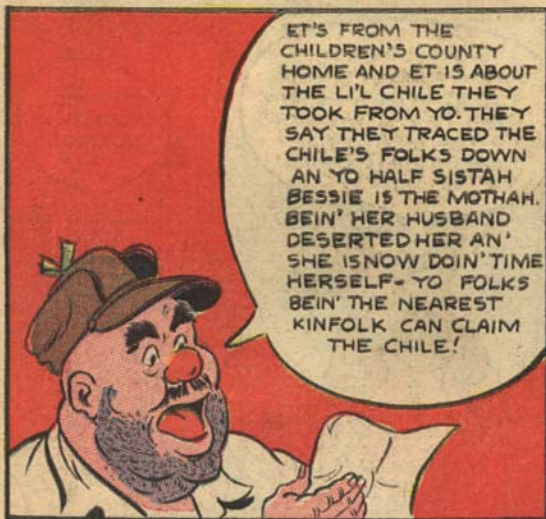


NO! MAH LIKKER!!

FINE! THEN WE'S ENGAGED AN' THE WEDDIN' WILL BE HELD HERE AT SUNDOWN!

YO KNOWS AH NEVAH DRINK WIDDER!





THE BLACKHOOD

IN MURDER ON DISPLAY



MURDER IN A DEPARTMENT STORE WINDOW!
 PEOPLE STARED WITH DISBELIEF AND HORROR! RIOT SQUADS HAD TO HANDLE THE CROWDS --- TERROR REIGNED THROUGHOUT A STORE WITH A MADMAN MURDERER AT LARGE!
 WHAT AN ADVENTURE FOR THE **BLACKHOOD** WHEN MURDER WAS THE THEME!!
AND PART OF THE WINDOW DISPLAY!

IRVING NOVICK

GAMBLES & Co.

IN THE ADVERTISING DEPT. OF GAMBLES AND CO. DEPARTMENT STORE!

BROOKS, THE DIRECTORS OF THE STORE ARE DISSATISFIED WITH THE WINDOW DISPLAYS AND HAVE ASKED FOR A CHANGE!

YOU DON'T MEAN I'M TO GIVE UP THE JOB? I'VE BEEN WITH THE STORE TWENTY FIVE YEARS! I'VE BEEN WINDOW DISPLAY MANAGER FOR FIFTEEN YEARS! IT'S THE WORK OF MY ENEMIES! THEY'VE INFLUENCED YOU!

I KNOW THAT MISS MULLIN AND MISS BLACKMAR WERE ALWAYS COMPLAINING MY DISPLAYS WERE DULL! YOU MUSTN'T BELIEVE THEM! THEY'D LIKE TO SEE ME FIRED!

NONSENSE! IT'S JUST THAT WE NEED NEW ORIGINAL WINDOW DISPLAYS! YOU CAN HAVE ANOTHER JOB!

I'LL RESIGN RATHER THAN BE DEMOTED TO LESS IMPORTANT WORK! I'D BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE STORE!

AFTER STORE CLOSING TIME--

MR. HUNT I'VE COME BACK TO ASK IF YOU'D RE-CONSIDER!

SORRY, BROOKS, I CANT DO IT!

THAT'S TOO BAD! YOU'LL HAVE TO DIE!

WANT ORIGINAL WINDOW DISPLAYS. DO THEY! WELL, I'LL SHOW THEM SOME!



NEXT MORNING

OH, HOW AWFUL!

GAMBLE & CO.

IT MUST BE A GAG!

WHAT A HORRIBLE DISPLAY! IT CAN'T BE REAL!

LOOK AT THAT CROWD! WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON?

LET'S GO OVER AND SEE, KIP! IT MUST BE SOMETHING UNUSUAL! GENERALLY THE DISPLAYS THEY HAVE ARE VERY BAD!



YOU TOO CAN HANG LIKE A GENTLEMAN IN A GAMBLE AND CO. SUIT!

GAMBLE & CO.

THAT'S NOT A JOKE! WHO'D MURDER A PERSON IN SUCH A STRANGE WAY? THIS IS WORK FOR THE BLACK HOOD!



IN THE ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT, MR. HUNT'S SECRETARY IS BEING QUESTIONED

AND YOU SAY THIS GUY GOT VERY EXCITED, AND WITH HUNT ABOUT CHANGING HIS JOB! KEPT TALKING ABOUT HIS ENEMIES! HE SAID MISS MULLIN AND MISS BLACKMAR INFLUENCED MY BOSS!



HELLO, MCGINTY, GLAD TO SEE ME? I WONDER IF I COULD TALK TO HUNT'S SECRETARY?

BLACK HOOD! I MIGHT'VE KNOWN YOU'D BUTT IN ON THIS CASE YEAH, SURE GO AHEAD!



... HE KEPT INSISTING THAT MISS BLACKMAR AND MISS MULLIN WERE TO BLAME FOR THE CHANGE OF MANAGERS! CALLED THEM HIS ENEMIES!

I'VE A HUNCH I'M GOING TO FOLLOW! AFTER YOU GET YOUR STORY TO YOUR PAPER, MEET ME AT NOON, DOWNSTAIRS!

IN WHAT DEPARTMENT WILL I FIND MISS MULLINS?

SCREAMS! COMING FROM THE GLOVE SECTION! I HOPE I GET THERE IN TIME!

WHY, SHE MANAGES THE GLOVE DEPARTMENT, TWO AISLES OVER!

I'M TOO LATE! THAT MADMAN HAS SNATCHED HER DOWN THE PACKAGE CHUTE!

I CAN SEE LIGHT AHEAD! GUESS IT'S THE END OF THE RIDE!

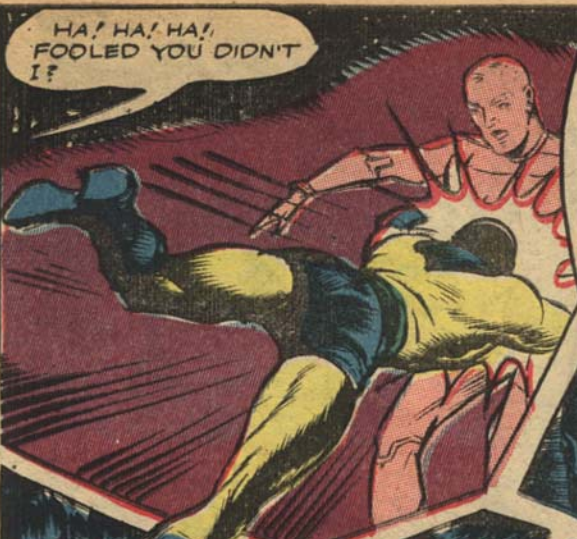
PACKAGE CHUTE
HELP
HELP

IN THE PACKAGE ROOM, IN THE BASEMENT---


BLACKHOOD! PRETTY SMART FOLLOWING ME! SEE IF YOU CAN CATCH ME, NOW!

YOU ASKED FOR IT, BROOKS!






HA! HA! HA!
FOOLED YOU DIDN'T
I?



I CAN SEE YOU HOOD,
WITH THE LIGHT AT YOUR BACK
BUT YOU CAN'T SEE ME.



I'VE GOT A GUN IN
MY HAND, HOOD - AND
IN ONE SECOND, YOU'RE
GOING TO DIE!

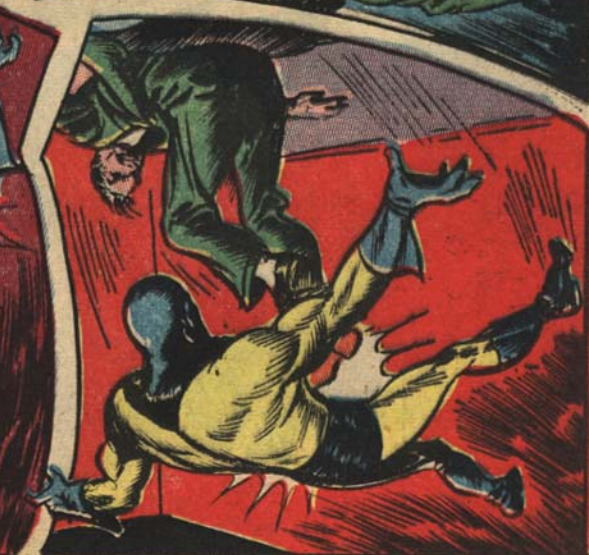
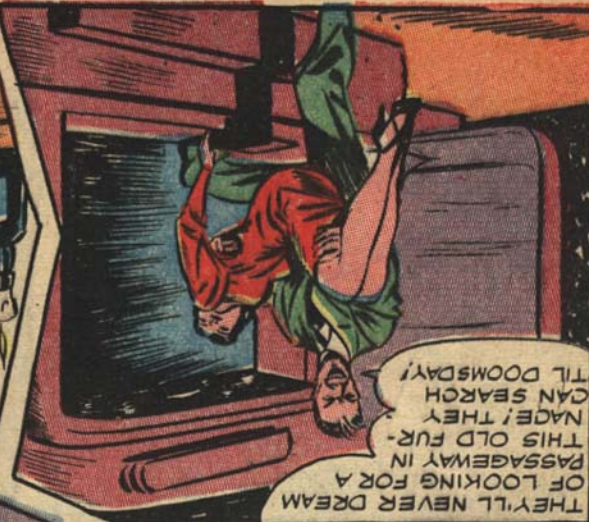


OOF!

THE SOUND OF
YOUR VOICE GAVE
YOU AWAY, STUPID!



YOU
CAN'T
STOP ME
HOOD!



HOOD! WHAT HAPPENED?
WHATCHA DOIN' HERE?

BROOKS KNOCKED
ME OUT AN ESCAPED!
HE'S GOT MISS
MULLIN!

WE'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM
BEFORE HE MURDERS THAT
GIRL! GET YOUR
MEN TO SEARCH
THE WHOLE STORE!

OKAY HOOD!
THERE ARE COPS
AT EVERY DOOR!

THE GUY
CAN'T BE IN THE
STORE! WE'VE LOOKED
EVERYWHERE! HE
MUSTA SLIPPED
OUT!

FUNNY THERE'S
NOT A PLACE WE HAVEN'T
LOOKED! YET I FEEL
SURE HE'S HIDING
SOMEWHERE IN
THE STORE!

NEXT MORN-
ING AFTER A FRUIT-
LESS NIGHT OF SEARCHING!

MY
GOD!
ANOTHER
MURDER!

WHAT A
HORRIBLE
SIGHT,
G-GOSH!

THE MURDER-
ER WORE
GAMBLE
AND CO.
GLOVES, RE-
COMMENDED
FOR THE
PERFECT
CRIME!

THE SINISTER FIG-
URE OF BROOKS
MOVES AMONG THE
HORRIFIED CROWD!

LATER IN
THE DAY--

HEH, HEH-- THEY
SAID MY WINDOW
DISPLAYS LACKED
ORIGINALITY! LOOK
AT THE CROWDS--ALL
BECAUSE OF MY HAND-
WORK!

THAT'S FUNNY! THESE LOOK
LIKE IMPRINTS FROM A
LADDER! WHY WOULD
THEY BE
HERE?

WELL! WHAT
HAVE WE
HERE?

NOW WE SEEM TO BE GETTING SOMEPLACE! THIS CALLS FOR SOME INVESTIGATING!



SO THIS IS THE MURDERER'S HIDE-OUT! AND WHAT HAVE WE HERE!



THE BLOOD-MAD FOOL! HE'S GOT ALL THE PROPS READY FOR HIS NEXT VICTIM, MISS BLACKMAR!



PLANNING A MURDER THIS YEAR? FOR BEST RESULTS USE GAMBLE & CO. TRUE-GRIP T-S!

BABS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHERE CAN I FIND MISS BLACKMAR?



HARD

HOOD! AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!

THIS IS MISS BLACKMAR! I HAD A HUNCH SHE MIGHT BE NEXT ON THE MURDERERS LIST, SO I DECIDED TO KEEP AN EYE ON HER 'TIL YOU CAME ALONG!



NICE WORK, BABS!

I CAN'T STAY! GET MCGINTY AND HIS MEN TO GUARD MISS BLACKMAR! TELL HIM NOT TO LET HER OUT OF HIS SIGHT! SHE'S IN GRAVE DANGER!



LATER AT GAMBLE AND CO. A PRIVATE POLICEMAN ARRIVES!

MISS BLACKMAR, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU!



JUST A MINUTE! I'VE GOT TO GO ALONG TOO! I AIN'T LETTIN' THIS LADY OUT OF MY SIGHT!



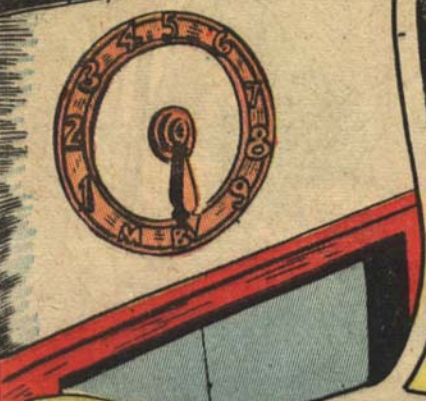
FRIGHT LEVATOR



THE FREIGHT ELEVATOR
DESCENDS TO THE
BASEMENT--

TRY TO STOP ME,
WOULD THEY! THOSE
SLOW WITTED FOOLS
ARE NO MATCH FOR A
MAN OF MY CLEVER-
NESS!

AH! WAIT UNTIL
THEY SEE MY
DISPLAY! I'LL GET
NATION-WIDE
PUBLICITY!



But
SUDDENLY--

YOUR WINDOW
DECORATING
DAYS ARE
OVER! YOU'VE
A DATE WITH
THE POLICE!



THAT'S
WHAT
YOU
THINK,
HOOD!

HE HAS A
MANIAC'S
STRENGTH!
I'VE GOT TO
STOP HIM!



I STILL HAVE A LOT OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS TO SETTLE WITH YOU!

YOU CAN BE MY NEXT VICTIM, HOOD! THAT WOULD MAKE A REAL SENSATION!

SORRY, I WOULDN'T LIKE THE PUBLICITY!

A FEW MINUTES LATER--

PUT UP YOUR HA--- HOOD, WHERE'D YOU FIND HIM?

HI MEGINTY! THIS IS BROOKS' HIDEOUT! WHEN YOU INVESTIGATE, YOU'LL FIND PIPES LEAD OFF TO A PIT BELOW THE DISPLAY WINDOW! WHERE DO YOU WANT THE BODY!

THAT EVENING KIP IS AT BARBARA'S--

BROOKS HAD BEEN WITH THE STORE BEFORE. IT WAS REMODELED, SO HE KNEW EVERY HIDE-AWAY! HE USED AN OLD BOILER PIT BELOW THE DISPLAY WINDOW!

A PIPE LED TO AN ANNEX ACROSS THE STREET! HE PLANNED TO USE THAT FOR A GET AWAY! HEY, WHAT'S THIS ON MY FACE? HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN THERE?

FOR THE SAKE! WHAT KIND OF LIPSTICK DO YOU USE? IT WON'T COME OFF!

FOR THE PER-OFFECT KISS USE GAMBLE AND CO. LIPSTICK! IT LEAVES ITS MARK!

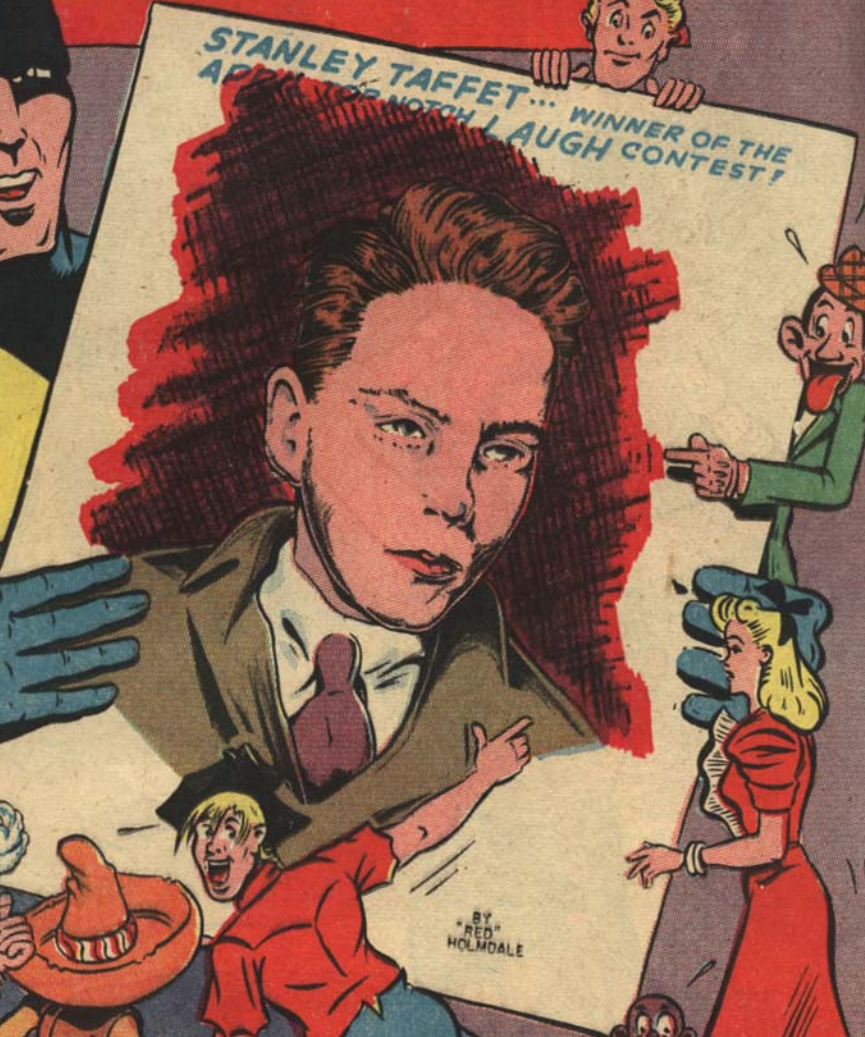
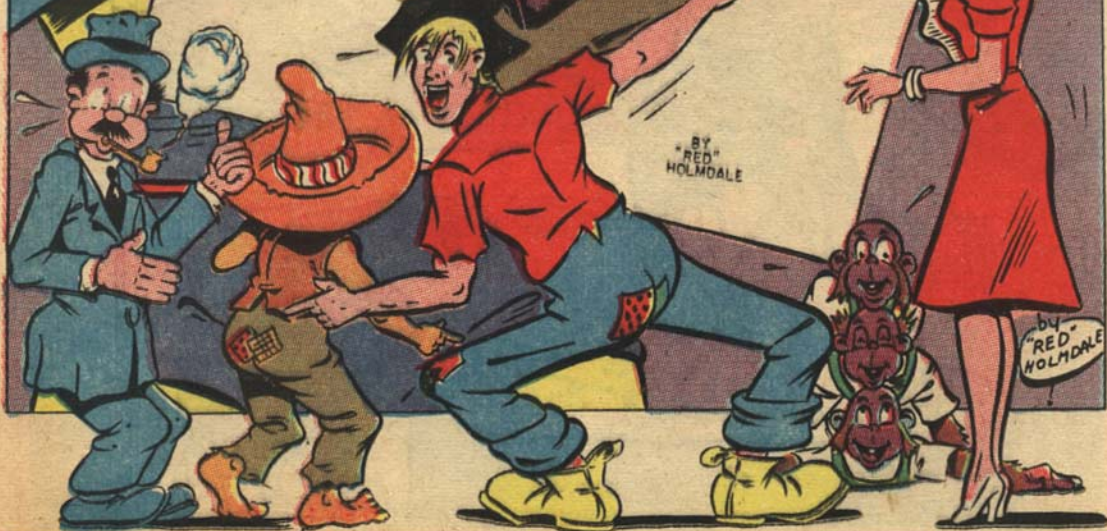
BUT HOW COULD HE GET OUT OF THE STORE, KIP?

The End

NO! NO!
YOU CAN'T LET
THAT SNAKE BITE ME!
I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE!
AND BESIDES--I HAVEN'T
FINISHED READING THE
SWELL NEW
ARCHIE #2
COMICS!



**WE PRESENT THE
WINNER OF OUR
LETTER CONTEST -
AND THE PRIZE -**



STANLEY TAFFET... WINNER OF THE
APRIL 1952 NOTCH LAUGH CONTEST!

BY
"RED"
HOLMDALE

by
"RED"
HOLMDALE

Readers' Page

EVERYBODY WINS! NOBODY LOSES! ENTER THIS UNUSUAL CONTEST! RIGHT NOW! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SEND A SNAPSHOT OF YOURSELF AND A LETTER TELLING US WHICH CHARACTER YOU LIKE BEST IN TOP NOTCH LAUGH COMICS— AND WHY!

THE BEST LETTER WILL RECEIVE A LIFE-SIZED PORTRAIT AS SHOWN ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE!

ADDRESS YOUR LETTER TO TOP NOTCH LAUGH COMICS, 60 HUDSON STREET, RM. 315, N.Y.C. --- BUT WIN OR LOSE, YOUR PICTURE WILL BE PUBLISHED AS SHOWN BELOW!

THE WINNER...



ALICE ENG
507-8th AVE. SOUTH
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

---AND HER WINNING LETTER!

Top Notch Laugh Comics should be highly recommended for a pleasure comic book. The character I like the most is Percy. He is just like a regular American boy and he could get himself out of any trouble easily. Percy is full of laughter and always makes me laugh when I read it.

Alice Eng

HONORABLE MENTION



ERNA WEISPFENNING
FREDONIA, N.D.



EVELYN MANKO
1360 ABBOTT RD.
LACKAWANNA, N.Y.



PAULAD BARTELS
CAMPBELL, NEB.



ELROY CARD
1131 W. SOUTH
DETROIT, MICH.



JUDY GOLDBERG
520 ROSEDALE AVE.
BRONX, N.Y.



RAMONA HARRINGTON
NORTH POMFRET, VE.



ELSIE WISE
2359 DOVER AVE
RICHMOND, CALIF.



AARON WHITE



PAIGE FREEMAN
20 DYER RD. R1.
MERRIAM, KAN.



JACQUELINE SHELTON
4425th FLORISS PLACE
ST. LOUIS, MO.




EDWARD POTTER
1783 MARMION AVE.
BRONX, N.Y.



GAYE FILBERT
640 WEST STATE ST.
TRENTON, N.J.

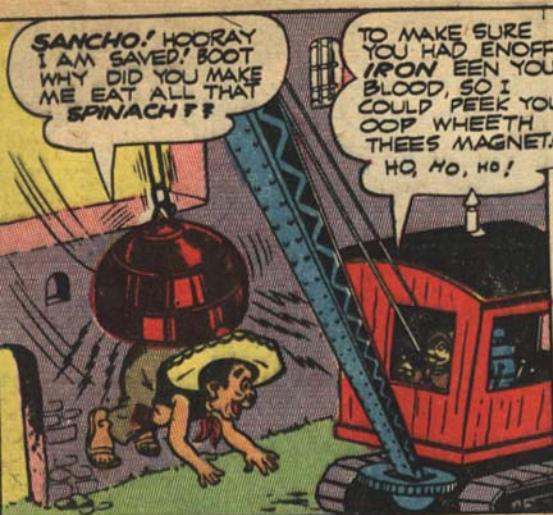



AD INDEED IS THE PLIGHT OF OUR LITTLE FRIEND, **SEÑOR SIESTA**, WHILE UNDER THE HYPNOTIC INFLUENCE OF THE EVIL EYED **SEÑORITA MADERA**, SIESTA HAS UNKNOWINGLY COMMITTED A MULTITUDE OF BURGLARIES! A FREAK ACCIDENT BREAKS THE SPELL AND OUR HERO FINDS HIMSELF IN THE MUSEUM WITH THE CROWN JEWELS IN HIS POSSESSION!!









SANCHO! HOORAY I AM SAVED! BOOT WHY DID YOU MAKE ME EAT ALL THAT SPINACH?!

TO MAKE SURE YOU HAD ENOFF IRON EEN YOUR BLOOD, SO I COULD PEEK YOU OOP WHEETH THEES MAGNET! HQ, HO, HO!



NOW, LOOK SIESTA, YONDAIR EES A GYPSY CARAVAN... MAKE FOR EET QUEEK!

SI, SI, M' FRAN SOMEDAY I SHALL REPAY, YOU!!



PUFF, PUFF... I WEEL HIDE MYSELF EEN THEES RUMBLE SEAT AND HOPE FOR THE BEST!

THE FOLLOWING HOURS ARE OF AGONY IN SIESTA'S CRAMPED QUARTERS, BUT THE WAGONS ROLL ON AND ON, UNMINDFUL OF HIS DISTRESS...



WHEN WE MAKE CAMP TONIGHT, I TRAZA, KEENING OF THE GYPSIES WEEL TELL OUR TRIBE WHAT THEY HAVE LONGED TO HEAR!

OH FATHER, MUST YOU PLEASE DON'T!



MY GOOD PEEOPLE, I AM GROWING FEEBLE WEETH THE YEARS.. YOU MUST HAVE A NEW CHIEFTAIN.. A YOUNGER, STRONGER RULER



.. SO, TO THE MAN THAT PRESENTS ME ME WEETH THE FINEST HORSE.. I OFFER MY DAUGHTER'S HAND EEN MARRIAGE AND THE KEENG-SHIP OF OUR TRIBE!

BRAVO!



THAT WEEL BE ME OF COURSE, FOR WHO EES A GREATER HOSS THIEF THAN ME, BOOGUS WOOGUS?

WE SHALL SEE! BOOT NOW LET US EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!



BUENOS NOCHES, SENORITA, YOUR HEART SHE EES SAD, NO??

Ooh.. YOU FRIGHTENED ME.. SI, I AM VER'SAD! EET EES MY FATHER'S OFFER THAT MAKES ME SO!!



BOOT YOU WEEL GET MARRIED, AND BECOME QUEEN, THAT EES GOOD NO??

SI, BOOT I FEAR THAT BEAST, BOOGUS WOOGUS WEEL WEEN ME AND I HATE HEEM!



FEAR NOT, BEAUTIFUL, I, SENOR SIESTA, WEEL ENTER THEES CONTEST AND WIN YOU!

AHH.. YOU HAVE MONEE, SI?? MONEE ENOFF TO BUY THE BEST HORSE EEN ALL MEXICO??

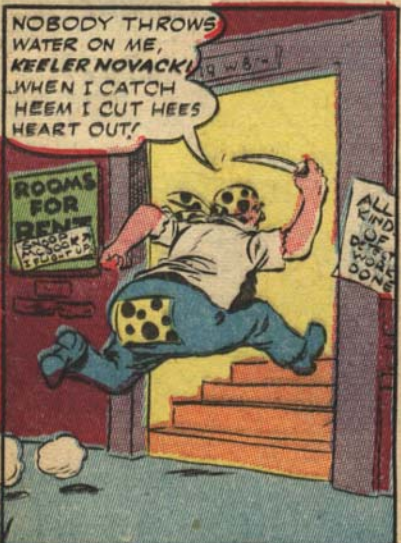


ER.. AH.. AH... MY FLOWER, COME LET US SIT BENEATH THE WARM MOON! DOES EET NOT SUGGEST SOMETHENG?

SI, EET LOOKS LIKE A BEES GOLD COIN!



SNOOP M'GOOK BY HUBBELL





HOLD STILL, YOU LITTLE BOM!
CARAMBA—
SOME WAN EES
COMING!



HURRY PLUMBER!
IT'S A PRETTY
BAD
LEAK!



TSK,
TSK!

WALDO!
WHERE'S
WALDO!



GOOD NIGHT NURSE!
THAT GYPSY MUST
HAVE SWIPED
HIM!



OH FOR PITY'S
SAKES! HE'S
GONE!



WELL I'LL JUST HAVE TO RUN
OUT TO THE GYPSY CAMP AND
GET HIM BACK! MAYBE I CAN
GET A COSTUME FROM
LOUIE!



ON YOU NOW MAYBE I CAN
SLIP INTO THEIR
MIDST WITHOUT
BEING SEEN!



POOR WALDO! IF
HE'S GONE TO GLORY
THROUGH MY CARE-
LESSNESS I'LL NEVER
FORGIVE MYSELF!



THERE'S THE
CAMP! HMM--
LOOKS PRETTY
QUIET. SO
FAR SO
GOOD!



YOU LOOKING MAYBE
FOR SOMEWAN?
HAH?

GULD!



AHEM! I AM-- ER
IGNAZ SEBASTIAN
MAGOOKI! I AM
THE GREATEST KNIFE
THROWER IN THE
WORLD!

OH!



WE HAVE WEETH US
A VERY BAD GYPSY.
KEELER NOVACKI! HE
STEALS, HE KEELS!
NOBODY LIKES
HEEM! EVERYBODY
HATES HEEM!

W-WHAT
DO YOU
WANT ME
TO DO
ABOUT IT?



I CAN THROW A KNIFE
INTO A MAN'S EYE
AT SIXTY THREE
PACES! IN FACT I
FREQUENTLY DO!
THAT OUGHTA
IMPRESS HIM!

HO-HO!
SPLANDID!
WANDERFOOL!



VERY SEEMPLE!
HE EES KNIFE THROWER
TOO! YOU CHALLENGE
HEEM-- BEAT HEEM--
HE GOES OUT
YOU GET HEES
JOB! SEE?

WELL,
HEH, HEH,
I AIN'T
GOT MY
KNIVES
WITH
ME, PAL!
SO--



MY FRAN' YOU ARE JUS'
THE MAN WOT I AM LOOKEENG
FOR! DEES EES FOR YOU
A VERY LUCKY
DAY?

H-HOW
COME?



BAH! EES THAT
ALL? I FEBX YOU
OP WEETH PLANTY
KNIVES! HA
HA HA HA!

GLOOM



WHO EES YOUR
IMBECEELIC
LOOKING
FRAND,
GREGOR?

PSST! SHAT UP YOU DOPE!
HAHA! DEES EES MY VERY
GOOD FRAN' SIGNOR
MAGOOKI THE GREAT-
EST KNIFE ...
THROWER BEN
THE WORLD!



NOW YOU STAY THERE
AND PRACTICE, SIGNOR!
I WEEL GO AND
CHALLENGE KEELER
NOVACKI FOR YOU!

HE'S
TERRIFIC!



HA! SOON WE GAT RID OF THAT CROOK, NOVACKI! TRA-LA LA LA LA



HERE EES HEES WAGON! AHEM!



OH EETS YOU! WHAT DO YOU WANT NOW? I HAVE A CHALLENGE FOR YOU, NOVACKI, TO THROW THE KNIVES WEETH-AHEM-SIGNOR MAGOOKI!



WHAT? WHO EES HE? YOU NEVER HEARD OF HEEM? SO COME AND FIND OUT! THAT EBS EEF YOU'RE NOT SCARED!



SCARED! ME? KEELER NOVACKI! !!G*??G!



BAH! I WEEL SHOW YOU HOW SCARED I AM WHERE EES DEES CORPSE? FOLLOW ME! XXX! MY HAT HE EES RUINED!



HELLO! POLICE? THIS IS HINKUS, PINKU AND BLOTZ, WE'VE BEEN ROBBED! I WANT TO REPORT A BURGLAR! MEANWHILE IN TOWN POLICE! SO WHEN I OPENED UP THE STORE, SOMEONE HAD STOLEN ALL MY COFFEE! HEY WHATSA MATTER WID YOUSE COPS? THEY'S CROOK IN DIS BURG!



IT'S THEM BLANKETY, BLANK GYPSIES! I WANT EVERY-ONE OF 'EM BROUGHT IN! GET GOING, MEN!



SOMEWHAT LATER... THEY'RE IN THESE WOODS SOMEWHERE! IT'S SPOOKY IN HERE! QUIET, MEN!



NOW WE SHIFT BACK TO THE GYPSY CAMP ---

SO DEES MEEZ'RABLE LEEBLE SHREEMP DARES TO CHALLENGE KEELER NOVAKI!

HE'S THE BIRD WHO SWIPED WALDO, ALL RIGHT!

(GULP)
Y-Y-YES!



HOKAY! STAND OVER THERE! I THROW KNIVES AT YOU! THEN YOU THROW THE KNIFE AT ME -- EFF YOU ARE STILL ALIVE!

OW!



YOU NOWANT BLINDFOLD, EH? SO HERE GOES!

WAIT!



NOT SO FAST, KEELER! FIRST WE TOSS THE COIN! HEADS HE STARTS, TAILS YOU START!

HMMM! GO AHAD! GO AHAD!



HA! HE THROWS FIRST! HEADS! SEE?

THAT YOU IN THERE, WALDO? OOPS, PARDON ME!

---*? FRASH



I FEEKED EET! DOUBLE HEADED COIN! GO AHEAD PAL! GOOD HUNTING!

TH--THANKS! ?? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GOOD HUNTING?



HOORAY FOR SIGNOR MAGOOKI!

SO GRACEFOOL!

QUIT STALLENG! I MUS' GAT BACK TO MY COOKEENG! STEWED SQUIRREL, YUM!



SUDDENLY THE EDGES OF THE CROWD ARE RUFFLED WITH EXCITEMENT ---

PUFF! PUFF! PSSST! THE COPS ARE COMEENG!

THE COPS? WHERE?

GULP! WE MUST GAT OUT OF HERE!



WHERE EES MY WAGON?
OOOF!
WHERE EES MY HORSE?



HE'S A KNIFE THROWER! POOEY!
--HM! THAT WAS A LITTLE CLOSE!



CLUNK
BOOM



I'M GETTING WARMED UP! NOT BAD! I'LL SOON BE AN EXPERT!
ULP! WHERE EES EVERYWAN?? THEY'RE GONE! EET EES ALL A TRICK! A TRICK TO MURDER ME!



NO. NO! HALP! STOP! I GEEVE UP!
? WHAT'S THEES NOISE?



WHAT YOU WANT? YOU WANT TO BE HEAD KNIFE THROWER? OKAY.. ALL MY SWAG TAKE EET.. TAKE MY WHOLE RACKET!



HA! WE HEARD THAT, BUD! IT'S THE JUG FOR YOU!
CARAMBA! THE COPS!
THAT SOLVES THAT! NOW TO LOCATE WALDO!



WALDO! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE! I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOU ALONE AGAIN, OL' KID!



AFTER SEEING KILLER NOVAKI LOCKED UP SNOOP RETURNS HOME--
WELL WALDO HERE WE--
HMM! THE JANITOR!
IT'S TIME YOU SHOWED UP MCGOOK! WHAT'RE YA TRYIN' TO DO - OPEN UP A SWIMMIN' POOL IN YER OFFICE? WHY DONCHA CALL ME WHEN THESE THINGS HAPPEN?



WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM? WHAT DID I DO?
HOPE THAT DOPE NEVER GETS ME REALLY SORE!

The End

BAIT FOR MURDER

A BLACK HOOD STORY

by Alf Corsican

SPRING was in the air, and Kip Burland was very restless. The city annoyed him, and today of all days he was more annoyed than ever. That letter from Jake Brody in his pocket didn't help matters either. What was it Jake had written? Quickly Kip reached into his trousers:

"My dear Kip,

Why don't you leave your stuffy job and come up here, and spend the weekend. The fishing's great, and until a week ago I used to go out every morning with Father for a mess of trout! Funny thing happened—a week ago, he disappeared, and no one knows where he went. I'm a bit disturbed, since he had a lot of money with him at the time.

Besides Father made the mistake of quarreling with Mike Grainger, his business partner, and you know what a short temper Mike has! Mike left town about the same time Father did, and seemingly deserted his lobster business.

Come on up, Kip—I'd be glad to have you here.

*As ever sincerely yours,
Jake Brody."*

That decided it. Kip hurried to his hotel, packed his bag, and within half an hour

was sitting in the club car of the Maine Special.

The next morning, as the pine trees along the Maine coast came into view, Kip smiled from his seat in the dining-car. This was it! The vacation he'd been longing for.

As he dug his spoon into his grapefruit Kip noticed the man opposite him. There was something vaguely familiar about this swarthy shifty-eyed man. Where had Kip seen him before? And why was this stranger's hand shaking so violently? Suddenly the man rose unsteadily to his feet, turned and staggered down the aisle between the tables towards the door, and disappeared.

In twenty minutes the train pulled to a halt, and sure enough there was Jake Brody waiting for him. But two local policemen were with him! Jake looked very upset.

"Kip! I was hoping you'd catch this train! Officers O'Connell and Burke have come down with me. Gentlemen, this is an old friend of mine, Kip Burland."

Kip acknowledged the introduction, and asked what was up.

"I went fishing this morning," Jake began, with a strange look in his eye,

"... out on the end of the pier, and an old lobster crate floated my way, Kip. I pulled it ashore, and opened it up. Inside was the body of Father... it was horrible!"

Officer O'Connell cleared his throat. "When we examined Mr. Brody's body we found it pretty badly decomposed by water, and bloated almost beyond recognition!"

"What?" Kip suddenly exclaimed... "It was bloated?"

At that moment, Jake Brody cried out: "There he is!" Kip turned, and who should be descending from the train but his breakfast-table companion, a suitcase in his hand.

"There's Mike Grainger, officers... arrest him!"

And suddenly, before anyone could see... a dark clad figure had run up to Mr. Grainger, grabbed him by the sleeve, and pulled him into a nearby taxicab!

Jake Brody gasped: "The Hood, the Black Hood! That's who it was! After them boys!"

Inside the first taxicab, the Black Hood ordered the driver to step on it!

"W-where are you taking me?" queried Grainger.

"Never mind," was the abrupt answer. "I have a little investigating of my own to do, before I turn you over

CONTINUED AFTER SNOOP MEGOOK

GLOOMY GUS

by
"RED"
HOLMDALE
STORY BY
KEAN



IF YOU'VE FOLLOWED THE STORY OF **GLOOMY GUS** YOU'LL AGREE THIS IS NO IDLE BOAST! YOU'VE LAUGHED A LOT AT THIS SILLY CUSS POOR **GLOOMY GUS** THE HOMELESS GHOST!



AND NOW I PRONOUNCE
YOU -----

INTRODUCING--**GABBY** FOLKS, GUS' GUARDIAN ANGEL WHO HAS A **DEVIL** OF A TIME KEEP- ING GUS OUT OF HOT WATER!

BUT AT THIS MOMENT---OUT ON THE STREETS---

JIMMY CRICKETS! LOOK AT THIS! OUR HERO HAS FOUND A BODY--BUT IT'S THE BODY OF A GIRL! YES, **GLOOMY GUS** IS A GIRL NOW--AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE HE'S ABOUT TO GET MARRIED!

G--GEE, I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THIS SOMEHOW! PETE, ST. PETE HELP ME!



WHILE IN THE CHURCH -----

OMIGOSH IT'S A BLACKOUT!

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WE WILL CONTINUE THE SERVICE BY CANDLE-LIGHT!



S--SAY HAVE YOU SEEN MABEL AROUND?

SURE I'M MARRYING HER ----





HEY MABEL, WHERE ARE YOU? FUNNY SHE WAS HERE A MINUTE AGO!

OH! OH! THIS IS WHERE I CAME IN!



UHMMPH, I MISSED HIM! ST. PETE'LL BE SURE IF I DON'T FIND MABEL --- I MEAN GUS --- **HECK!** BETTER FIND HER, ER... I MEAN HIM! --- THAT IS ---



MEANWHILE GUS IS RUNNING FROM A FATE WORSE THAN ANYTHING... **WHEW** --- THAT BLACKOUT SURE CAME IN TIME! NOW TO GET OUTTA THIS DRESS!



SAY! LADY YOU CAN'T DO THAT HERE! IT MAY BE A BLACKOUT, BUT I'VE GOT EYES, AIN'T I ?



I --- ER --- NEVER MIND WHERE'S YOUR HUSBAND, HUH ?



I LOST MY CUFFLINKS ON CHESTNUT STREET! (HIC) BUT THE LIGHTS BETTER HERE TO FIND IT!

WHY --- ER THERE'S MY HUSBAND!



ARE YOU THIS LADY'S OLD MAN OR AINTCHA ?

HIC HUH? ARE YOU SPEAKING TO ME ?

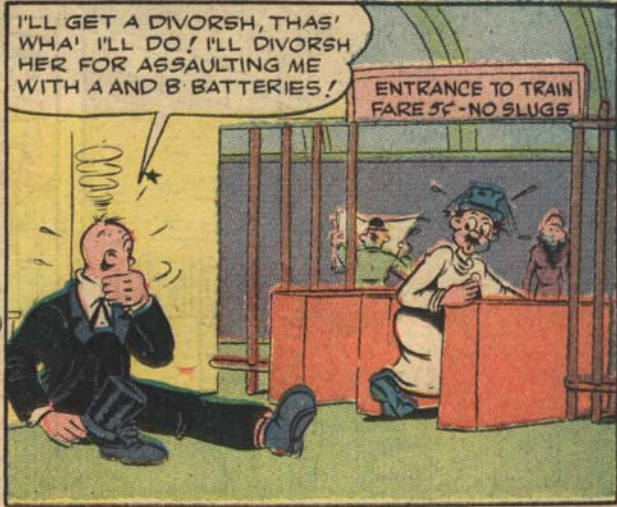


SH...SH...SHOOR, MY YOU'VE CHANGED SINCE I LAS' SAW YOU!



AND IF I CATCH YOU TWO ON THE STREETS, I'LL RUN YOU'SE IN! NOW SCRAM!

SH-SH-SHOOR, I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY LIL' WIFEY-WIFEY!





JUST A MINUTE - WHERE DO YA THINK YOU'RE GOING -- EH ?

OH!
OH!



LISTEN - I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU SCREWY GUYS IN FANCY DRESS! PUTCHER NICKEL IN THE SLOT!

NICKEL ? I HAVEN'T ANY NICKEL! GOT SOME SOLID GOLD THOUGH!



HERE TAKE MY HALO, IT'S WORTH A LOT - BUT YOU'LL JUST LET ME GET ON THAT TRAIN BEFORE I MISS IT!



JEEPERS THE TRAINS PULLING OUT I'VE MISSED HIM AGAIN!



LATER...

LAST STOP, ALL OUT! END OF THE LINE!

HMM, WHAT'LL I DO NOW ?

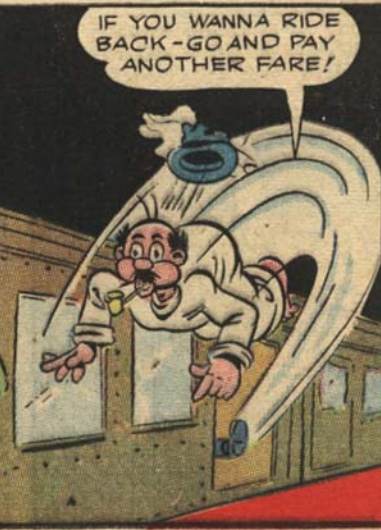


I THINK I'D BETTER STAY HERE AND RIDE BACK UNTIL I MAKE UP MY MIND WHAT TO DO!

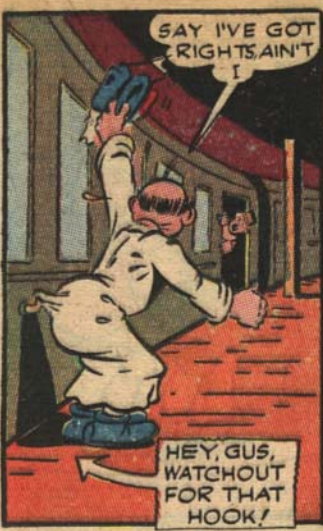


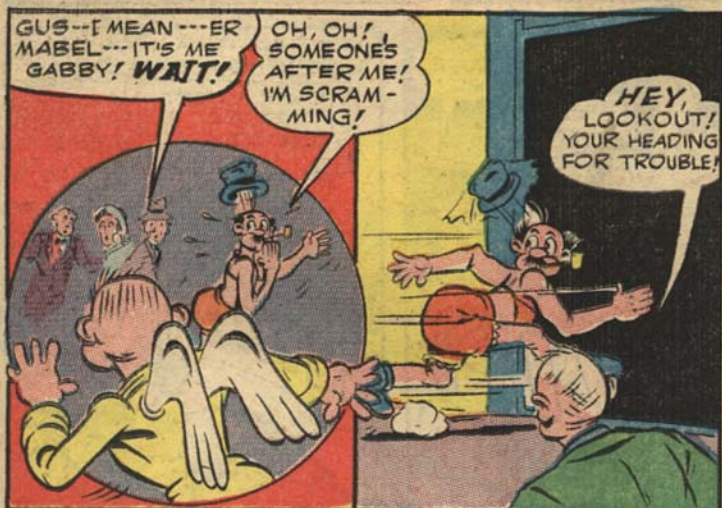
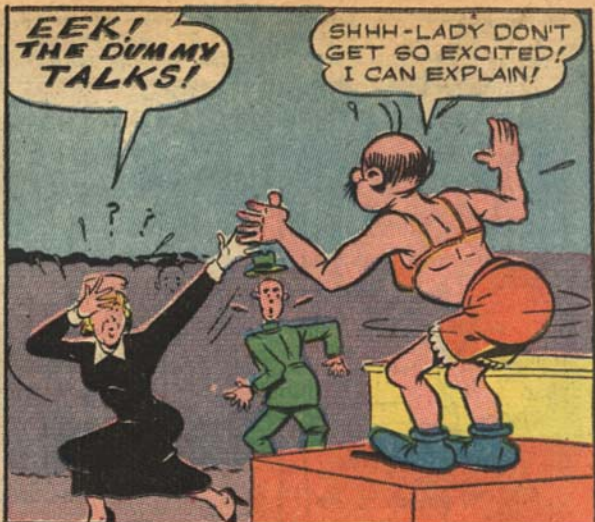
SAY LADY - WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA --- DIDN'T YOU HEAR THIS IS THE LAST STOP ?

B-BUT I-I THOUGHT I'D ---



IF YOU WANNA RIDE BACK - GO AND PAY ANOTHER FARE!





to the authorities. Driver, the police station."

"I d-don't know what you're talking a b o u t," answered Grainger, perspiring. . . . "I—I've been out of town. Been to the city to see my doctor . . . heart condition, you see!"

"Did you let anyone know when you were going and coming back?" asked the Black Hood.

"Why—er . . . everyone in town knew!" was the answer.

With a grinding shriek the taxicab pulled to a halt in front of the police station.

Moments later, the Black Hood was examining the body of Jake Brody's father. He turned away, and went into an adjoining room. As he was looking intently at the lobster crate that had held the victim, the door burst open and Jake Brody and Officers O'Connell and Burke entered.

"Listen Hood, you've got some nerve, kidnapping a murderer from right under our noses!" shouted Officer Burke angrily.

"A man's innocent till proved guilty," remarked the Black hood. "Besides, he's in the next room. I brought him here!"

"This is a clear case," prompted Officer O'Connell. "Obviously Mike Grainger killed Brody's father for the money he had with him, and stuffed him into a lobster crate. One thing he didn't realize was that the crate might float

back to shore, bringing the evidence with it. Ironically enough, it was the son of the murdered man who uncovered the crime!"

Slowly the Black Hood turned to the gathered group. "There's only one fault to your reasoning, Officer O'Connell, and that is you've picked the wrong murderer!" Accusingly, the Black Hood pointed towards Jake Brody. "There is your killer!" he said.

With a muttered curse, Jake threw himself against the Hood, pummeling savagely. As the avenger of the just backed away, Jake picked up a blackjack from a nearby desk and hurled it. It missed the Black Hood by inches. Wasting no further time, he hurled his massive muscular body against the wiry fisherman. In a moment it was over and Jake Brody was being led into a cell.

Later Officers O'Connell and Burke, Mike Grainger and the Black Hood sat round a stove in Grainger's house, as lobsters boiled in a pot.

"He confessed just an hour ago," remarked Officer Burke . . . "that he killed his father in cold blood. Seems his father threatened to disinherit him, and had withdrawn all his available money from the bank to give it to Mike Grainger, his business partner!"

"But Hood, how did you see through that air-tight alibi of Jake's?"

"It was air-tight except for *one thing* Jake forgot," began the Black Hood, a grim smile playing about his lips. "His father's body was decomposed in water, and yet he said he found the crate *floating!* Since enough water entered the lobster crate to bloat the body, it couldn't possibly have been floating . . . *it must have sunk!*

"Obviously, what happened was that Jake knew Mike Grainger would leave town at a certain date for an examination by his doctor. He stole one of Mike's lobster crates, killed his father, stuffed it into the crate and weighted it down off the pier. Then the day he knew Grainger was to return, he pulled up the crate and feigned finding it! It was unfortunate for Jake that he happened to ask a friend of mine, Kip Burland, up here . . . or I should never have been here. Also, Burland told me, he met Grainger aboard the train . . . and it was quite obvious to him that he did suffer from a heart condition!"

Mike Grainger crossed to the stove, and lifted the top from the pail of simmering lobsters. Officer Burke looked up and said: "By the way what ever became of Kip Burland? We sort of lost track of him at the station."

The Black Hood leaned back in his chair, and stared musingly at the ceiling. "I wonder . . ." he echoed, a taut smile hovering about his lips.

SUZIE

by
RED HOLMDALE

THE LAST WE SAW OF **SUZIE**, SHE HAD BEEN FIRED AS PERSONAL SECRETARY TO MRS. VANDERPOOLE, BUT MRS. VANDERPOOLE'S SON GAVE **SUZIE** A JOB AS MAID..... TO HIS MOTHER'S POOR MRS. VANDERPOOLE - IT COMES AS QUITE A SHOCK TO FIND **SUZIE** AS HER MAID - AND IF WE KNOW **SUZIE**, SHE'LL PRODUCE A LOT MORE SHOCKS BEFORE SHE'S THROUGH!

SUZIE! I THOUGHT I FIRED YOU! WHAT'S THE IDEA? IS THAT A DISGUISE YOU'RE WEARING?

N-NO, MRS. VANDERPOOLE! I'M REALLY YOUR MAID - YOUR SON HIRED ME!

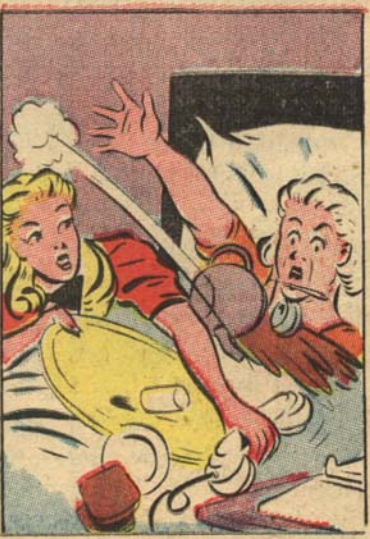


THANKS, MRS. VANDERPOOLE, I'M SORRY ABOUT THE TROUBLE I CAUSED!

HE HIRED YOU, DID HE? WITHOUT CONSULTING ME! WAIT TILL I SEE HIM! I'VE A GOOD MIND TO FIRE YOU RIGHT NOW! BUT AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE I'LL PUT UP WITH YOU TEMPORARILY!



IF YOU'LL GIVE ME THIS CHANCE AS YOUR MAID, I'LL REALLY BE VERY CAREFUL..... HERE! I'LL ANSWER THE PHONE!



YOU CLUMSY, NO GOOD STUPID GIRL - THE COFFEE - IT'S ALL SPILLED - MY PRECIOUS, **RATIONED** COFFEE!

HELLO - MRS. VANDERPOOLE'S RESIDENCE - WHAT?



GET OFF MY BED! GIVE ME THE PHONE! SUZIE, DO YOU HEAR ME? I'LL LADY'S MAID YOU!

WHAT? WHAT? WAIT A MINUTE! THERE'S SO MUCH NOISE I CAN'T HEAR YOU! MRS. VANDERPOOLE, I CAN'T HEAR WITH YOU YELLING!

GIVE ME THAT PHONE AND GET OUT OF HERE! GO PREPARE MY BATH! GO ON, BEFORE I LOSE MY TEMPER!

Y-YES'M... I WAS ONLY TRYING TO ANSWER THE PHONE FOR YOU! I'M SORRY!



MRS. VANDERPOOLE CERTAINLY WAS UNREASONABLE - - - ANYONE COULD SEE IT WAS AN ACCIDENT - OH WELL, AT LEAST I'LL FIX HER BATH RIGHT! I WONDER WHERE THE SOAP IS?

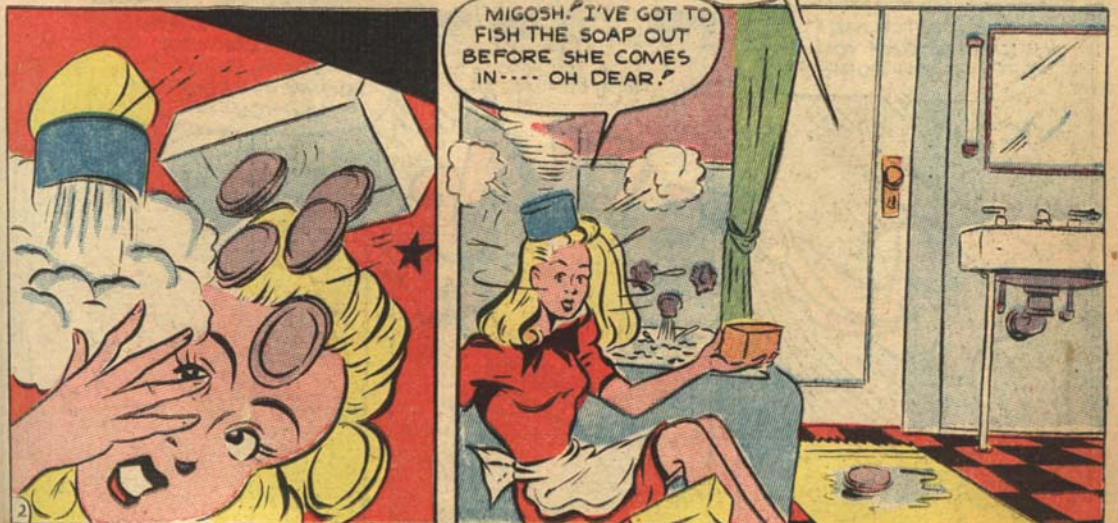
AH! THERE'S THE SOAP ON THE SHELF - IT'S AWFULLY HIGH BUT I GUESS I CAN REACH IT!

OOOPS! I SHOULD HAVE CLIMBED UP ON SOMETHING, I GUESS!



SUZIE! SUZIE! I HOPE YOU HAVE MY BATH PROPERLY PREPARED!

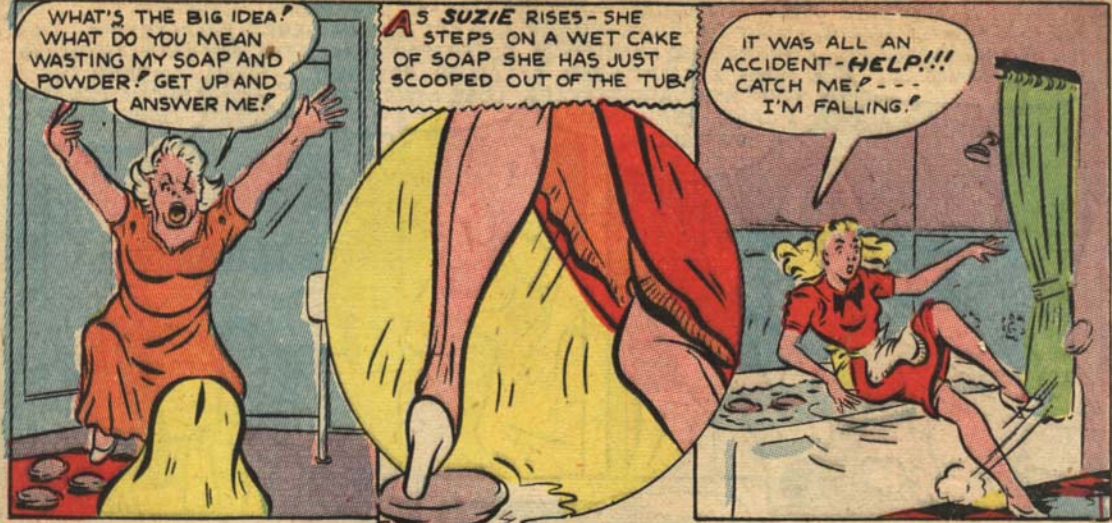
MIGOSH! I'VE GOT TO FISH THE SOAP OUT BEFORE SHE COMES IN - - - OH DEAR!



WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN
WASTING MY SOAP AND
POWDER? GET UP AND
ANSWER ME!

AS SUZIE RISES - SHE
STEPS ON A WET CAKE
OF SOAP SHE HAS JUST
SCOOPED OUT OF THE TUB!

IT WAS ALL AN
ACCIDENT - **HELP!!!**
CATCH ME? ---
I'M FALLING!



SPLASH

GET OUT OF THAT TUB AT
ONCE! WHO DO YOU THINK
YOU ARE, BATHING IN **MY**
TUB? WAIT TIL I GET MY
HANDS ON YOU! I'LL SHOW
YOU YOUR PLACE!

WELL... GOSH I
DIDN'T DO THIS ON
PURPOSE! D'YOU
THINK I BATHE
WITH MY CLOTHES
ON??

MRS. VANDERPOOLE'S
FOOT ENCOUNTERS
ANOTHER NICE, WET,
SLIPPERY CAKE
OF SOAP -



EE-E-E! CATCH ME!
HELP! OOOH! YOU
DID THIS ON PURPOSE!

GET OUT OF
MY BATH! I'LL
TEACH YOU TO PLAY
PRACTICAL JOKE!
YOU'RE FIRED!!
YOU--- YOU---

I WAS GETTING
OUT! **YOU** PUSHED
ME BACK IN!





LET ME HELP YOU GET OUT. I'M SORRY IT HAPPENED.

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF ME. SECRETARY. MAID. WHY YOU WOULDN'T EVEN MAKE A KENNEL MAID!



WAIT! I HAVE IT. I'VE CHANGED MY MIND. INSTEAD OF FIRING YOU I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE --- AS KENNEL MAID TO HOTSY AND TOSTY.



REMEMBER THOUGH. IF I SEE YOU IN THE HOUSE - OR THERE'S ANY TROUBLE --- YOU'LL BE FIRED.

Y-Y-YES MRS. VANDERPOOLE -- I UNDERSTAND - AND THANK YOU.



AND SO THIS TIME SUZIE IS REALLY IN THE DOG-HOUSE ---

ARROOOO



HAVE I GONE TO THE DOGS. NURSE-MAID TO A PAIR OF CARNIVORIOUS CANINES! WALK 'EM - FEED 'EM - MANICURE THEIR NAILS.



HIYA CUTIE. THE COOK SAYS, THE MAID SAID THE BUTLER SAID, THE MISTRESS SAID TO TAKE HOTSY AND TOSTY FOR A WALK. OH, FOR A DOG'S LIFE.

THANKS A LOT --- I'LL TAKE 'EM RIGHT OUT.



C'MON YOU TWO PONIES IN DISGUISE. IF I HAD A WAGON, I'D HITCH YOU TO IT AND LET YOU TAKE ME OUT INSTEAD. BUT ORDERS ARE ORDERS AND MRS VANDERPOOLE SAYS A WALK - SO A WALK IT IS.



GOSH. THESE DOGS ARE SO DOGGONE STRONG THEY'LL PROBABLY PULL THE LEASHES OUT OF MY HANDS.



I'LL FIX IT --- I'LL TIE THE LEASHES TO MY WRISTS - THAT'LL KEEP THEM FROM RUNNING AWAY.



HEY! WHAT ARE YOU STOPPING FOR? WHAT IS IT YOU SEE?



COME ON, COME ON, HOTSY AND TOTSY - YOU'VE LOOKED AT THE DUCK LONG ENOUGH IT'S TIME TO WALK SOME MORE!



HEY! CUT THAT OUT! MRS. VANDERPOOLE SAID A WALK, NOT A SWIM----- HELP! COME BACK!



HA! POACHERS HUNTING THE PARK DUCKS. I'LL SHOW 'EM!



HALT IN THE NAME OF THE LAW! YER UNDER ARREST FER HUNTIN' OUTA SEASON! FER TRESSPASSIN' IN THE POND AND FOR POSSESSIN' DANGEROUS ANIMALS!



SEE HERE OFFICER, D'YOU THINK I DID THAT FOR FUN? I WOULDN'T OWN THESE TWO MONSTERS FOR NOTHING-- AS FOR THE PARK POND, BLA BLA BLA---

ALL RIGHT LADY, ALLRIGHT! BUT I'M GONNA SERVE THE OWNER OF THEM DOGS WITH A SUMMONS!



DO YOU HAVE TO SERVE A SUMMONS? MRS. VANDERPOOLE ISN'T GOING TO LIKE THAT I'M AFRAID!

OH SHE AIN'T, AIN'T SHE WELL THAT'S TOO BAD, I'M GOING TO SERVE MYSELF! AND YOU'RE GONNA TAKE ME THERE!



CAN'T I LEAVE THE DOGS IN THE KENNEL FIRST?

NO LADY! YOU AIN'T GONNA GIVE ME THE SLIP! YOU'RE COMIN' IN WITH ME!

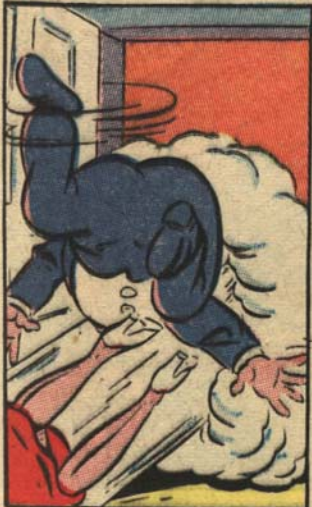


OFFICER REILLY WANTS TO SEE MRS. VANDER-POOLE ABOUT A LITTLE MATTER...



HELP! SOMEBODY STOP ME!

STAY OUT OF HERE! DOGS AREN'T ALLOWED!



HELP! STOP! WAIT FOR ME!

OH, MY BEAUTIFUL PARTY- IT'S ALL RUINED!



I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MRS. VANDERPOOLE! OFFICER RILEY INSISTED THAT I BRING THE DOGS IN!

SUZIE! WHAT KIND OF STORY IS THAT? WHO'S OFFICER RILEY? GET UP AND ANSWER ME!



I'M OFFICER RILEY, MADAME! ARE THOSE YOUR DOGS? WELL I HEREBY SERVE YOU WITH A SUMMONS FOR DESTROYING PARK PROPERTY, HUNTING OUTA SEASON AND HARBORING DANGEROUS ANIMALS! YOU OUGHTA BE ASHAMED TO HIRE A GIRL TO HANDLE THESE CREATURES!

YOU'RE FIRED! FIRED! AND DON'T COME NEAR THIS HOUSE AGAIN OR I'LL HAVE YOU ARRESTED!

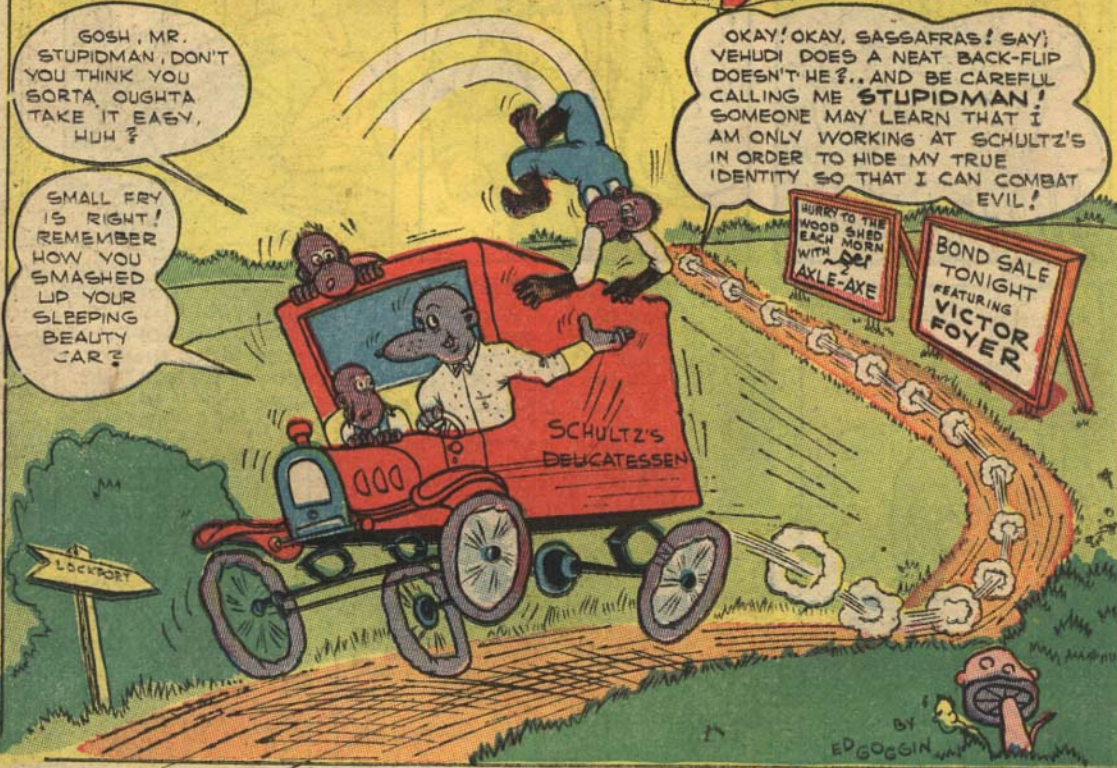


I'LL THROW HER OUT MADAME! IT'S A PLEASURE!

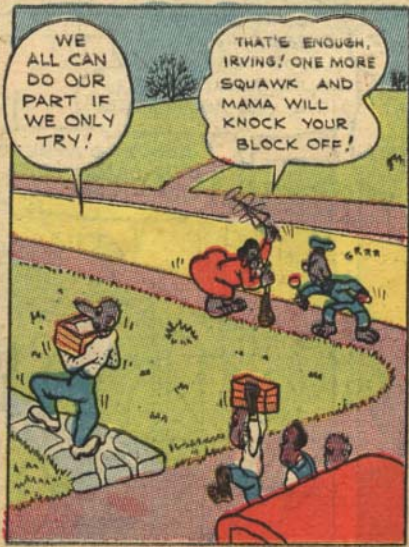
WHEE- SUZIE'S LOST A JOB AGAIN- BUT OH BOY! WAIT TIL YOU SEE THE JOB SHE'S LINED UP NEXT! AS A MODEL FOR A DUMMY DESIGNER! SUZIE ACQUIRES A DUMMY DOUBLE! DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH LAUGH COMICS!



The 3 Monkey-teers



YET I'M GLAD YOU CALLED ME DOWN! LIKE A TRUE PATRIOT I MUST HELP CONSERVE GAS AND TIRES! ...RIGHT?

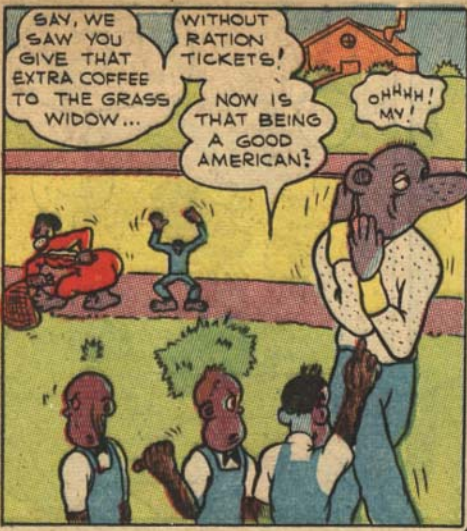


WE ALL CAN DO OUR PART IF WE ONLY TRY!

THAT'S ENOUGH, IRVING! ONE MORE SQUAWK AND MAMA WILL KNOCK YOUR BLOCK OFF!



OH HHHH! THANK YOU SO-O-O-O-O MUCH FOR THE EXTRA COFFEE FOR MY BRIDGE PARTY!



SAY, WE SAW YOU GIVE THAT EXTRA COFFEE TO THE GRASS WIDOW...

WITHOUT RATION TICKETS!

NOW IS THAT BEING A GOOD AMERICAN?

OHhhh! MY!



HMM..NEXT STOP... FOYER FOYER?... OH YES, FAMOUS ACTOR!

BUT, LADS, IT'S SPRING AND I'M YOUNG...AND...

YOU'RE NOT SO YOUNG!



WELL, I MUST ADMIT I DID WEAKEN FOR A MOMENT BUT I'M STRONG AGAIN! I'LL DO SOMETHING TO MAKE UP FOR IT! FOYER MUST BE RENTING THIS HOUSE!



YES, GENEVIEVE, I LAHVE YOU! I HAVE NAUGHT TO GIVE YOU BUT MY GREAT AND BURSTING HEART... KINDNESS AND DEVOTION...



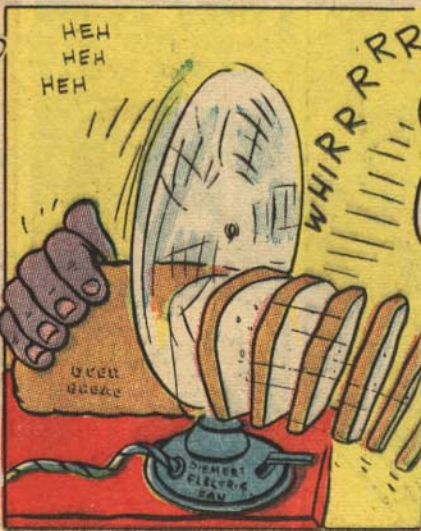
SILENCE, FOOLS! CAN'T YOU SEE THE GREAT FOYER IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A TENDER LOVE SCENE?



HMM! GROCERIES! OUTRAGEOUS PRICE FOR LARD... 21¢ A POUND... AND THE BREAD ISN'T EVEN SLICED!



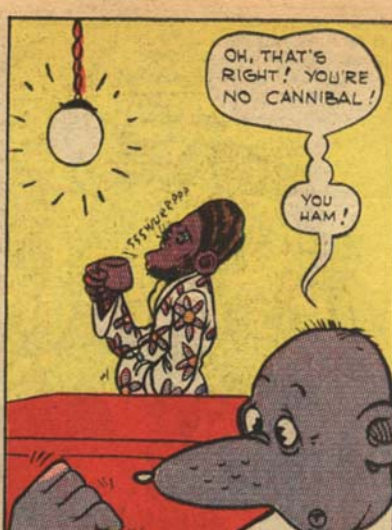
KEEP THE OLD BLOOD PRESSURE DOWN, VIC! HAND IT HERE!



HEH HEH HEH



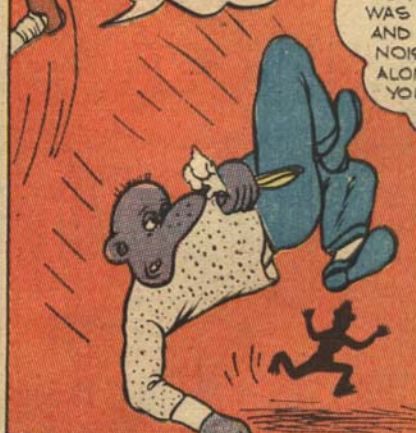
GOSH, MR. STUP... OOPPS! WE MEAN, SIR! YOU'RE WONDERFUL! BUT COULD YOU SLICE BREAD LIKE THEY DO AT THE BAKERY... WITH THE WRAPPER ON... HUH? COULD YA?



YOU MUST ADMIT YOU HAVE BEEN A CAD, SIR! YOU REALLY DON'T EVEN DESERVE A GOOD PART IN YOUR HAIR... NOW DO YOU? HEH, HEH!



OUT, LOU! YOU AND YOUR HUMOR!



GAD, HOW I HATE TO PLAY THE PART OF THE FOOL, BUT I MUST, IN ORDER TO OPERATE IN SECRETY!... AND STOP LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT!... I KNOW IT WAS A CORNY GAG... AND STOP THAT NOISE AND COME ALONG! I'LL SHOW YOU SOME - THING!



BUT WHY ARE YOU TAKING YOUR CLOTHES OFF!

UNION REGULATIONS! ALL THE FELLOWS DO IT... THE SHIELD AND THE HANG-MAN... AND... SHHH!

IT'S ALMOST TIME TO DRESS FOR THE BOND RALLY, MASTER!

THE RALLY! BLAST 'EM! FREE PER - FORMANCES!



GOSH. WHAT AN AWFUL THING TO SAY! BUT WHAT'LL WE DO?

WITH THE AID OF MY X-RAY EYES I HAVE SEEN THRU THIS FALSE PATRIOT! I HAVE A PLAN! NOW. BZZZ...



THAT NIGHT...

WHY, MR. STUPIDMAN, YOU LOOK SIMPLY LOVELY IN YOUR NEW HAT.....

THAT ONE WITH THE VEIL MADE YOUR NOSE LOOK JUST LIKE A BARRAGE BALLOON!

THAT'S ENOUGH, NOW! THE SHOW IS STARTING!



AND, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IN OPENING THE BIG, BOND BOOSTING RALLY WE PRESENT YOUR MOVIE HERO AND MINE... VICTOR FOYER! BUY BONDS!



FIRST OF ALL... IF SOME YOUNG LADY WILL STEP UP AND ASSIST ME IN....



YOO HOO, MR. FOYER, HERE I COME!



THE PAGEANT BEGINS.

OH, FLEE WITH ME TO THE HILLS, MY LITTLE FAIRY OF THE PRARIE!



MY SORROW WITHOUT YOU KNOWS NO BOUNDS! I CANNOT CRY!



OH, THANK FOR THIS LITTLE BLOSSOM! I SHALL CARRY IT OFF TO MY C-CABIN IN... IN... AH-AH...



KA



I'LL NO LONGER LAUGH! MY SMILE WILL BE G-G-GONE AND AH-AH-



AH

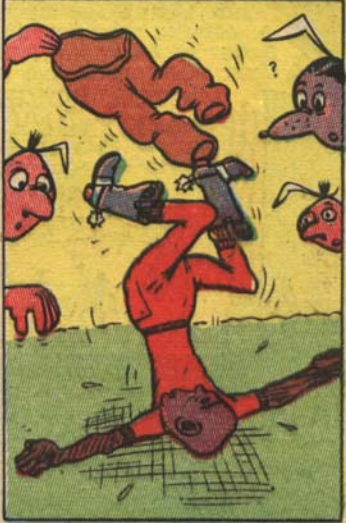


OHSSSS! SOMEPLIN' WENT WONG!

YAHOOO



YELP YELP HEAP GOOD SCALP COME OFF EASY



SAY, GANG,
WAIT'LL YOU
SEE WHAT IS
IN STORE
FOR ME!



PERCY

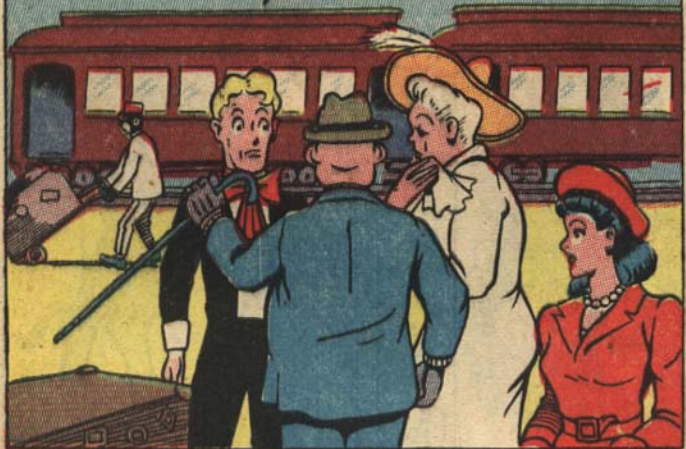
WARNING
THIS IS "TOOTS"
HORN, AND
WHAT A
"CHARACTER"!



BY
"RED"
HOLMDALE &
ED GOGGIN
STORY BY KEAN

DON'T WORRY,
MATER, I PROMISED YOU I'D
GO TO THAT SNOBBISH BUSTLE
BOTTOM SCHOOL --SO I'LL GO--
BUT IF I HAD MY WAY!

OH, PERCIVAL, HOW CAN YOU BE
SO RELUCTANT? REMEMBER THAT
THE CLASSES BEGIN IN THE MORN-
ING, SO DON'T TRY TO GET
THERE LATE!



IS
THIS
SEAT
TAKEN?

IT'S JUST TAKIN'
THE AIR, BROTHER!
HA, HA, HA, HA!



HMM, A
DISTINCTLY
DISTASTEFUL
PERSON!

MY NAME'S
HORN, BROTHER!
TOOTS HORN...
SHAKE...



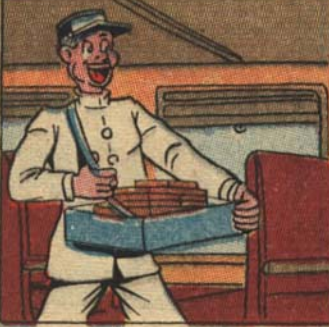
"...SPEARE!
HO/HO!
HA/HA!



KINDLY KEEP
QUIET, MR. HORN,
I WISH TO
PERUSE A
BOOK!

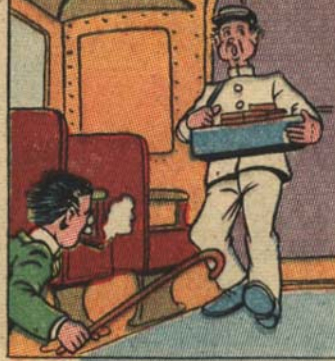
PERCIE...
GEE, THAT'S
A HOT ONE!
WATCH ME,
NOW, BROTHER!

MAGAZINES, CANDY. SANDWICHES! WHADDAYA READ? GET YOUR HAM SANDWICHES!



HA! HA! THIS IS GOING TO BE GOOD!

WHAT'LL YOU HAVE?



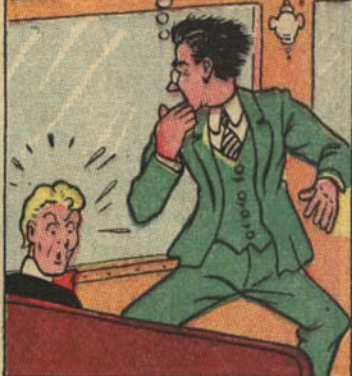
HA HA HA HA THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A HAM SANDWICH WITH EARS ON IT! HA/HA!



I MOST CERTAINLY DO NOT LIKE THIS TOOTS PERSON!



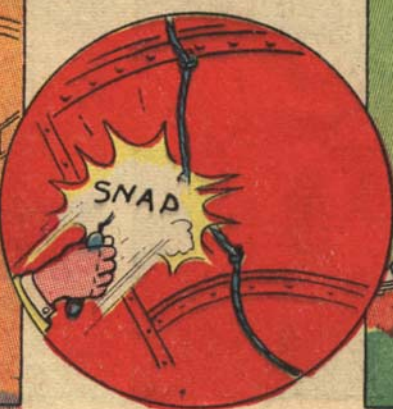
WELL I'LL BE...W-WHO THE BLANKETY-BLANK IS THIS SNOOTY KID? GIVE ME THE BRUSH OFF, EH? I'LL SHOW HIM!



HMM...THIS'LL BE A SCREAM WHEN I PULL THIS EMERGENCY BRAKE!



BUT AS TOOTS PULLS THE EMERGENCY CORD...



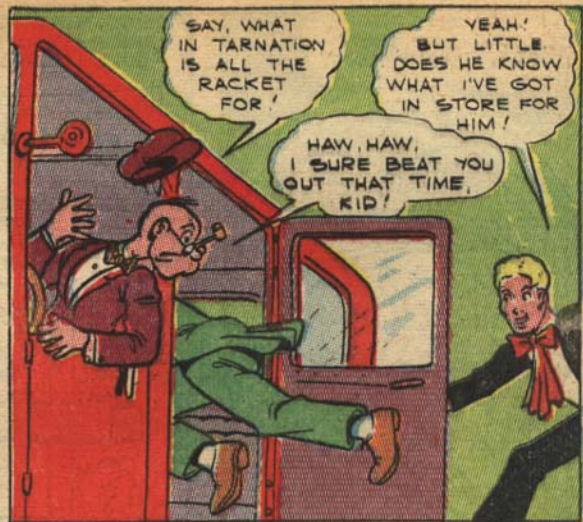
HEY! WHAT TH-

SCREECH





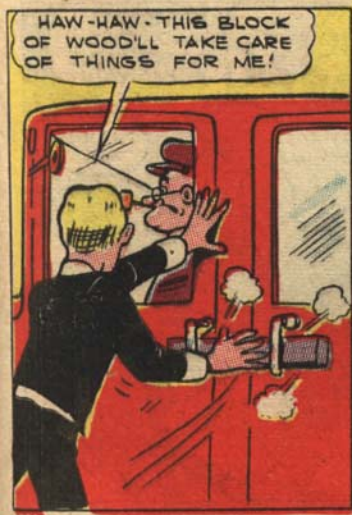
THIS IS WHERE I PLAY A JOKE ON OLD BLOW-HORN!



SAY, WHAT IN TARNATION IS ALL THE RACKET FOR!

YEAH! BUT LITTLE DOES HE KNOW WHAT I'VE GOT IN STORE FOR HIM!

HAW, HAW, I SURE BEAT YOU OUT THAT TIME, KID!



HAW-HAW-THIS BLOK OF WOOD'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS FOR ME!



HOW FAR IS BUSTLE-BOTTOM SCHOOL, BUD?

THIRTY MILES!

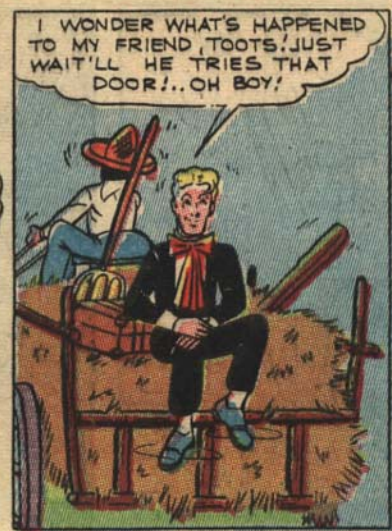


WELL, GO AHEAD, TAKE ME THERE! I'VE GOT SOME FUR-LINED BATHTUBS TO SELL 'EM!



I'M GOING TO THE BUSTLE-BOTTOM SCHOOL! CAN YOU TAKE ME THAT WAY, SIR?

SHORE! HOP UP, YOUNG FELLER! I'M GOIN' RIGHT PAST THE DOOR!



I WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY FRIEND, TOOTS! JUST WAIT'LL HE TRIES THAT DOOR!.. OH BOY!



MEANWHILE...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, BUD? DIDN'T YOU GET THE ADDRESS? THE BUSTLE BOTTOM SCHOOL, AND PRONTO!

I AIN'T GOIN' ANYWHERE! AIN'T GOT NO GAS!

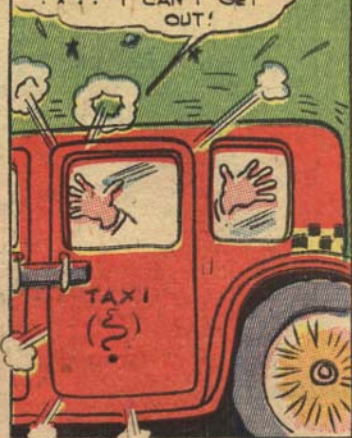
I JES' SITS HERE
COUNTIN' HOW MANY
FARES I MIGHT HAVE!



SAY, WHAT THE --
THE -- DOORS
ARE LOCKED!



WHY, THAT BLANKETY
BLANK, SNOOTY KID --
HE'S LOCKED ME IN!
! * ? ? I CAN'T GET
OUT!



MEANWHILE...

IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THAT
UNCOUTH HORN PERSON HAD
NO IDEA GAS IS BEING
RATIONED! TOO BAD THEY
DON'T RATION HIS TYPE
OF HUMOR!



WHAT'S THIS? LOOK WHO'S
COMING, PERCY... YOUR
OLD PAL, THE PRACTICAL
JOKER.

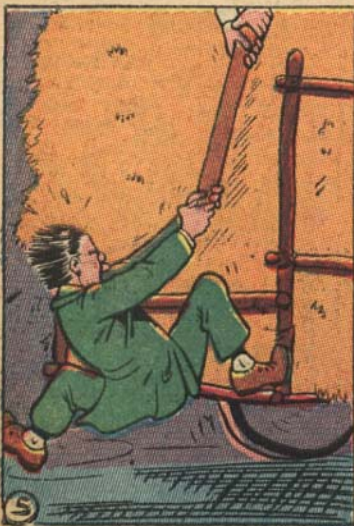


HEY,
BROTHER,
WAIT FOR
ME!

IDEA!

HERE, SIR!
HOLD THIS
BOARD -- I'LL
PULL YOU
UP!

THANKS,
PAL!





WHY YOU-- YOU *? !! G

HAW! HAW!



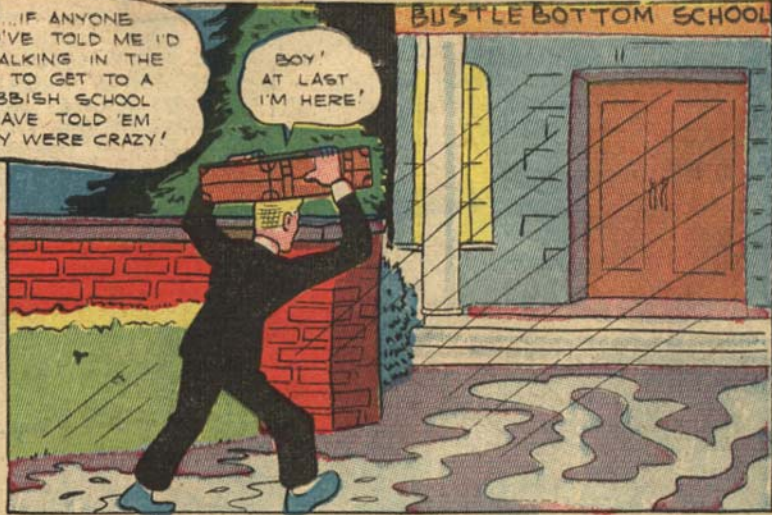
HEY, SON - I'LL HAVE TO PULL UP 'CAUSE IT'S STARTING TO RAIN-- AND IF MY HORSE CHARLIE GETS WET FEET IT'LL MEAN TROUBLE'



AND SO IT BEGAN - RAIN RAIN AND MORE RAIN..



HMMPH...IF ANYONE WOULD'VE TOLD ME I'D BE WALKING IN THE RAIN TO GET TO A SNOBBISH SCHOOL I'D HAVE TOLD 'EM THEY WERE CRAZY!



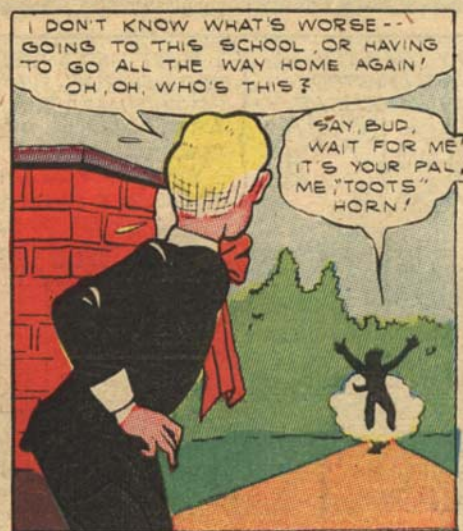
BOY! AT LAST I'M HERE!



BUT AS PERCY APPROACHES THE FRONT DOOR...

WELL, I'LL BE.

'BUSTLEBOTTOM SCHOOL CLOSED BECAUSE OF MEASLES BY ORDER OF DEPT OF HEALTH



I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE -- GOING TO THIS SCHOOL, OR HAVING TO GO ALL THE WAY HOME AGAIN! OH, OH, WHO'S THIS?

SAY, BUD, WAIT FOR ME! IT'S YOUR PAL, ME "TOOTS" HORN!



OMIGOSH! IT'S "TOOTS" HORN AGAIN! WHAT AM I GOIN' TO DO NOW? WILL I BE ABLE TO DUCK THIS PRACTICAL JOKER? WELL, GANG, TO HAVE THESE QUESTIONS ANSWERED BE SURE TO BUY NEXT MONTHS ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH LAUGH COMICS

DOTTY AND DITTO

GOSH!
AH KIN HARDLY
WAIT TILL THE NEXT
ISSUE TO SEE HOW
POKEY OAKEY
COMES OUT!!

DITTO
PODNUH!

IT'S SO PEACEFUL AND QUIET ON DOTTY'S
DUDE RANCH THAT YOU CAN HEAR DOTTY'S
HEART BEAT AS SHE READS THE SUSPENSE
ENDING OF THE LATEST POKEY OAKEY STORY

UGH! DOTTUM CAN'T
WAIT TO SEE
WHAT **SEÑOR**
SIESTA DO NEXT!

Bill Woggon

But MILES AWAY IN CECIL B.
D'PILL'S SWANK HOLLYWOOD
OFFICE PANDEMONIUM REIGNS---

I MUST FIND A NEW GIRL
STAR--SHIRLEY PIMPLE IS
GETTING MARRIED! FIND ME
A NEW SHIRLEY FOR MY NEW
COLOSSAL WESTERN PRODUCTION
--FIND ME A REAL WESTERNER
--SHE MUST BE **CUTE**, SHE
MUST BE **SAUCY** !!

YES,
C.B.!

YES,
C.B.!

YETH
THEE. B.!

YES,
C.B.!

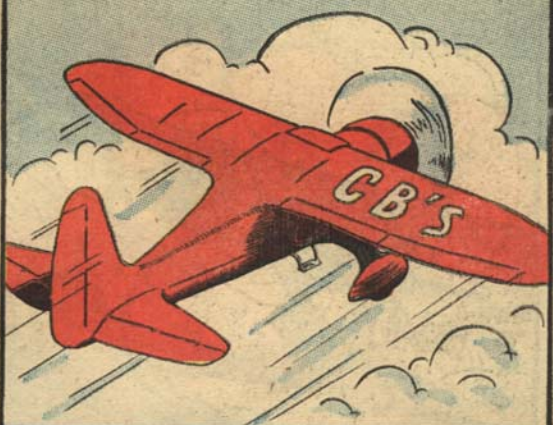
YOU TOM, YOU DICK, YOU HARRY! TAKE MY PRIVATE PLANE AND SCOUR THE PLAINS OF ARIZONA AND DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS WHERE THE STARS ARE BRIGHT--FIND ME A NEW SHIRLEY PIMPLE--A NEW STAR MUST BE BORN!!

YES, C.B.!

YES, C.B.!

YETH, THEE.B.!

AND SO C.B.'S THREE YES MEN, TOM, DICK AND HARRY LEAVE HOLLYWOOD TO FIND A NEW STAR ---



SHE MUST BE CUTE--SHE MUST BE SAUCY--KNOW HOW TO RIDE A HORSE--ACT--SING--DANCE --C.B. EXPECTS MIRACLES!!

YETH! THUM DAY I'M GOING TO THAY NO TO THEE.B.!-- EVEN IF HE ITH MY BROTHER-IN-LAW! YETH THREEE!



YEAH! AN' IF HE WASN'T MY UNCLE I'D TELL HIM, TOO!!

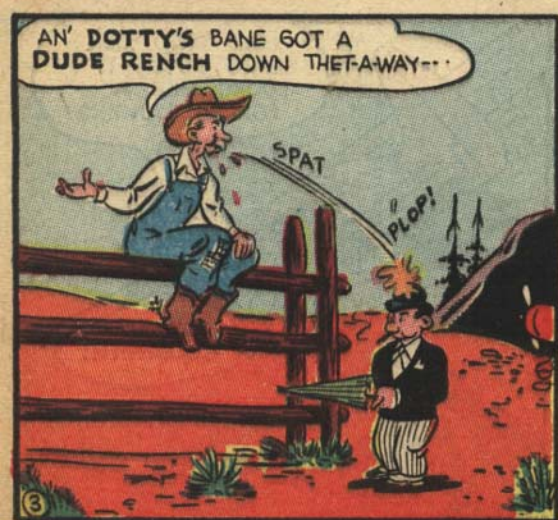
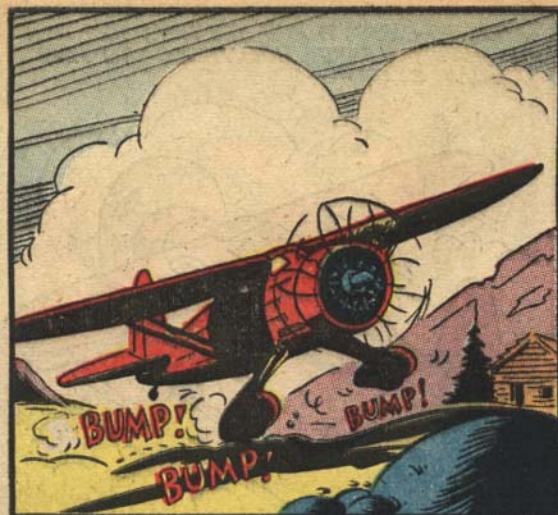
OH!OH! I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THIS ENGINE IS SPUTTERING!

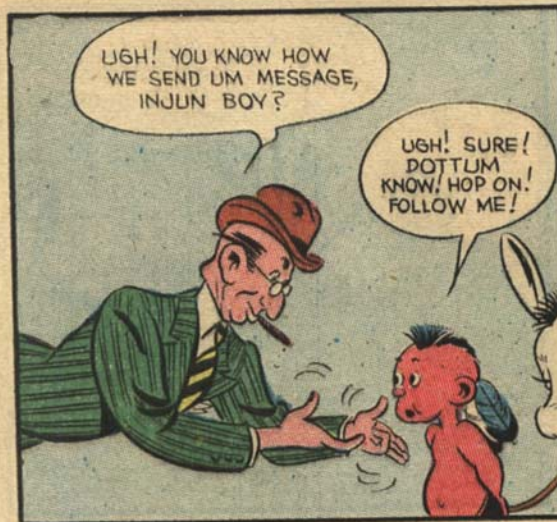
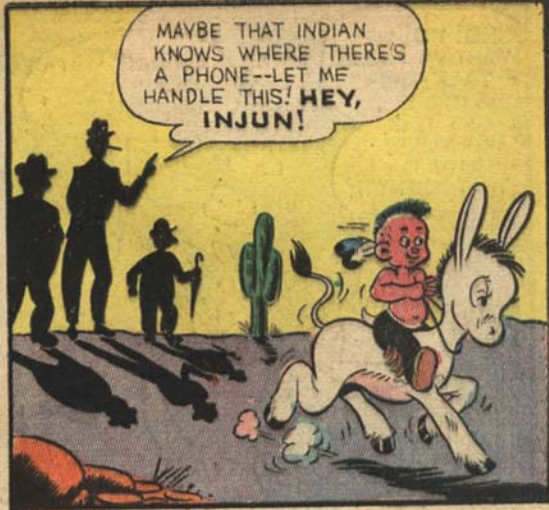
SPUT SPUT

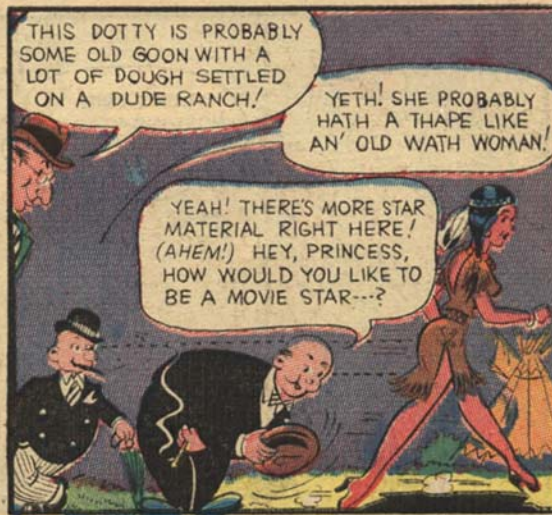
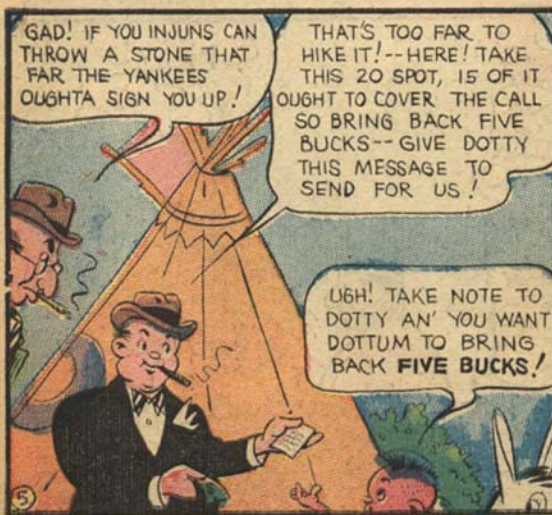
HOLD ONTO YOUR SEATS, BOYS--IT LOOKS LIKE A FORCED LANDING!

OH, MY GOODNETH!









HOWDY, DOTTUM! WAS THET THAR AIR-PLANE THET LANDED BRINGIN' US OUR NEW LAUGH COMICS BY AIR MAIL! AH HOPED SO! IT'S TOO DURN QUIET 'ROUND THESE PARTS-- AH'M CRAVIN' FO' SUM EXCITEMENT!

DITTO, PODNUH!

NOPE! TIN BIRD ONLY BRING THREE SCREWY PALEFACES-- THEY GIVE DOTTUM THIS MESSAGE FOR YOU TO PHONE HERE'S WAMPUM TO PAY FOR IT!

OKAY DOTTUM! GOSH! A MESSAGE TO HOLLYWOOD!

AH SHO' WISH AH COULD GO TO HOLLYWOOD AN SEE ALL TH' MOVIE STARS!

DITTO! AH'D LIKE TO MEET DONALD DUCK!

HELLO, HOLLYWOOD! AH HAVE A MESSAGE FO' CECIL B. DEPILL! IT SAYS "HAD FORCED LANDING-- NO LUCK SO FAR IN FINDING NEW STAR" SIGNED TOM DICK AND HARRY!"

HEY! WHAR YOU GOIN' NOW, DOTTUM?

GOTTA TAKE THESE FIVE BUCKS BACK TO PALEFACES!!

GOSH! WHAT TH HECK DO THEY WANT WITH FIVE INJUN BUCKS?

DUNNO! PALEFACES SURE FULLA PRUNES, HUH, DOTTY?

GOSH, DOTTUM, YOU'RE FULL OF PRUNES! WHY DON'T YOU TAKE DOTTY BACK WITH YOU? MAYBE SHE'S JUST THE NEW HOLLYWOOD STAR THE THREE "YES MEN" ARE LOOKING FOR! LET'S SEE THE NEXT ISSUE AND FIND OUT!!!

JUST IN CASE CECIL B. DEPILL
DOES FIND DOTTY LET'S START
A WARDROBE FOR HER!
GRAB YOUR SCISSORS
AND GET BUSY ON--

DOTTY CUT-OUTS



FIRST—CUT OUT DOTTY'S CLOTHES, THEN
PASTE DOTTY ON CARDBOARD AND CUT-OUT



TO MAKE DOTTY STAND--FOLD BACK ON DOTTED LINES
SEND IN YOUR IDEAS FOR DOTTY'S WARDROBE TO DOTTY
AND DITTO, LAUGH COMICS, 160 WEST BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y.

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Who Became "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man"

"I'll prove that YOU, too, can be a NEW MAN!"

Charles Atlas

I KNOW, myself, what it means to have the kind of body that people pity! Of course, you wouldn't know it to look at me now, but I was once a skinny weakling who weighed only 97 lbs.! I was ashamed to strip for sports or undress for a swim. I was such a poor specimen of physical development that I was constantly self-conscious and embarrassed. And I felt only HALF-ALIVE.

Then I discovered "Dynamic Tension." It gave me a body that won for me the title "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

When I say I can make you over into a man of giant power and energy, I know what I'm talking about. I've seen my new system, "Dynamic Tension," transform hundreds of weak, puny men into Atlas Champions.

Only 15 Minutes a Day

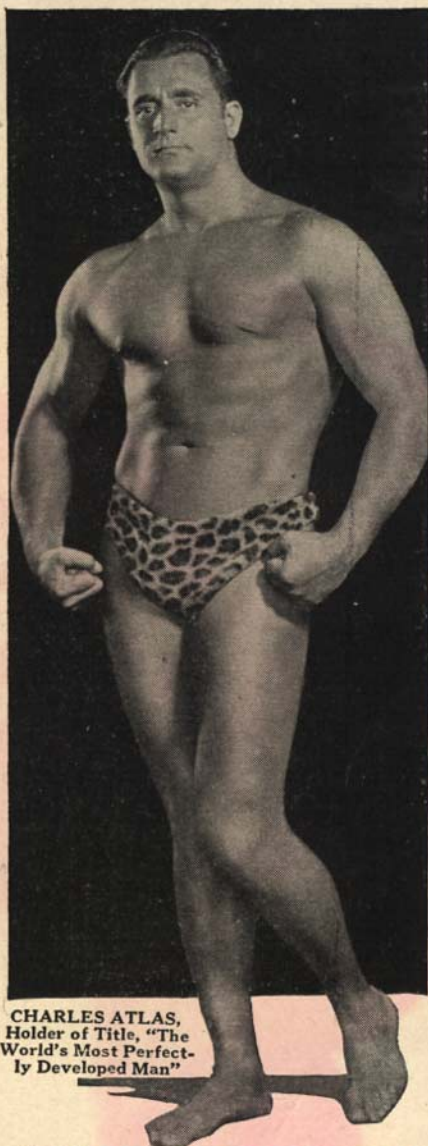
Do you want big, broad shoulders—a fine, powerful chest—biceps like steel—arms and legs rippling with muscular strength—a stomach ridged with bands of sinewy muscle—and a build you can be proud of? Then just give me the opportunity to prove that "Dynamic Tension" is what you need.

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