



10c

Roy L. Hatch

SEPT.-OCT.
NO. 29

**NEW
STORIES
of
TV's
HIT
SHOW!**

BIG TOWN



Featuring
**"CRIME GOES
to the FAIR!"**

BUZZY

says:

"WORK CAN BE FUN!"

I HEAR BUZZY AND SUSIE ARE DOING SOME PART-TIME WORK THESE DAYS-- AND FOR NOTHING, TOO, THE SAPS!

BUT THEY'RE SURE HAVING FUN... I WENT OVER TO SEE THEM THE OTHER DAY...



"FIRST THING I SAW WAS SUSIE PLAYING WITH THE LITTLE KIDS AT THE SWINGS... AND HAVING A GOOD TIME DOING IT..."



"THEN I WATCHED BUZZY TEACHING KIDS TO SWIM. WHILE I WAS THERE, ONE LITTLE KID SWAM HIS FIRST FEW STROKES ALONE. BOY, WAS BUZZY PROUD!"



"AFTER A WHILE, SUSIE STARTED HER CLASS IN TENNIS. SHE SAYS MOST OF THE KIDS THAT COME TO THE DAY CAMP LOVE TO LEARN NEW SPORTS AND GAMES."



"LATER ON, A CLUB OF BOYS GOT TOGETHER FOR A MEETING. BUZZY'S THEIR 'ADVISER'. YOU COULD SEE THEY FELT HE WAS ALMOST LIKE A BIG BROTHER."



BUT WHAT'S IN IT FOR THEM? THEY WORK FOR NOTHING!

I SEE WHAT'S IN IT FOR THEM. THEY HAVE A SWELL TIME AND LEARN THINGS THAT MIGHT COME IN HANDY LATER WHEN THEY START LOOKING FOR JOBS. I THINK I'LL LOOK FOR SOME VOLUNTEER WORK MYSELF!



NO FOOLING, IT'S FUN TO SPEND PART OF YOUR TIME IN SUMMER DOING VOLUNTEER WORK, UNDER ADULT SUPERVISION. YOU GIVE A LOT AND GET A LOT, WHETHER IT'S IN A DAY CAMP, OR IN A HOSPITAL, OR THE DOZENS OF OTHER PLACES IN YOUR HOME-TOWN THAT NEED VOLUNTEERS.

BUZZY'S RIGHT. YOU'LL FIND IT ONE OF THE BEST EXPERIENCES OF YOUR LIFE!



BIG TOWN

HOW'D STEVE WILSON FIND OUR HIDE OUT -

CRACK!



BEHIND MANY A SENSATIONAL NEWSPAPER EXPOSÉ IS AN UNTOLD STORY OF A REPORTER'S HEROISM AND COURAGE -- WHOSE SOLE REWARD FOR BRINGING THE FACTS TO LIGHT IS HIS BY-LINE OVER THE NEWS FEATURE! THIS IS THE HITHERTO UNREVEALED ACCOUNT OF ONE SUCH REPORTER'S ADVENTURE -- STEVE WILSON, ACE NEWSMAN OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS** -- WHO MADE A DARING FORAY INTO THE CORE OF **BIG TOWN'S** UNDERWORLD TO RESCUE A KIDNAP VICTIM HELD IN THE DEATH-GRIP OF RUTHLESS KILLERS... IN...

STEVE WILSON'S

NIGHT BEAT!

BIG TOWN, No. 29 Sept.-Oct., 1954. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 480 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copy-

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Printed in U.S.A.

AS A SPECIAL INSTRUCTOR OF A JOURNALISM CLASS AT **BIG TOWN UNIVERSITY**, LORELEI KILBOURNE INVITES A "GUEST LECTURER"...

YOU'VE PUT ME ON THE SPOT, LORELEI! YOU KNOW I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO PREPARE A TALK...

DON'T BE SO MODEST, STEVE...



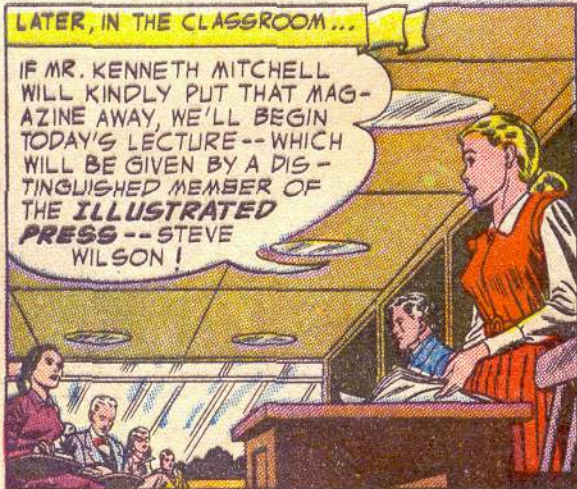
WITH YOUR EXPERIENCE IN JOURNALISM, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS JUST TALK--ABOUT **ANYTHING**--AND YOU'LL HAVE THEM WRAPPED AROUND YOUR LITTLE FINGER!

OH, SURE--BUT IF I'M THAT GOOD A SPELL-BINDER, WHY COULDN'T I TALK MYSELF OUT OF THIS?



LATER, IN THE CLASSROOM...

IF MR. KENNETH MITCHELL WILL KINDLY PUT THAT MAGAZINE AWAY, WE'LL BEGIN TODAY'S LECTURE--WHICH WILL BE GIVEN BY A DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS**--STEVE WILSON!



--AND JOURNALISM PREPARES YOU FOR LIFE--BECAUSE IT IS ABOUT LIFE! I CAN REMEMBER ONE TIME WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE...



DURING RECESS, SOON AFTER...

I SEEMED TO WIN THE ATTENTION OF ALL, LORELEI--EXCEPT FOR THAT YOUNG MAN WITH THE MAGAZINE!

STEVE, I'VE MEANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT HIM! THAT'S KEN MITCHELL...



...THE SON OF THE MILLIONAIRE AUTO-MANUFACTURER, GEORGE F. MITCHELL! YOUNG KENNETH IS SPOILED--HE'S ONLY TAKING JOURNALISM BECAUSE IT'S A "SNAP COURSE"! HE SEEMS BENT ON TAKING THE **EASY WAY** THROUGH LIFE...





LONG STRIDES SWIFTLY BRING STEVE TO THE AID OF THE YOUTH...



STEVE WILSON! THAT NEWSHAWK POPS UP EVERYWHERE! GET THE KID IN THE CAR! I'LL HANDLE WILSON!

NO CHANCE TO GET AT THAT GUNMAN!



WITH A LIGHTNING-LIKE REACTION, STEVE KICKS HIS FOOT INTO THE LAWN AND PROPELS A CLUMP OF EARTH AT THE GUNMAN...



IN THE MELEE, THE OTHER KIDNAPERS GET THE CAR ROLLING...

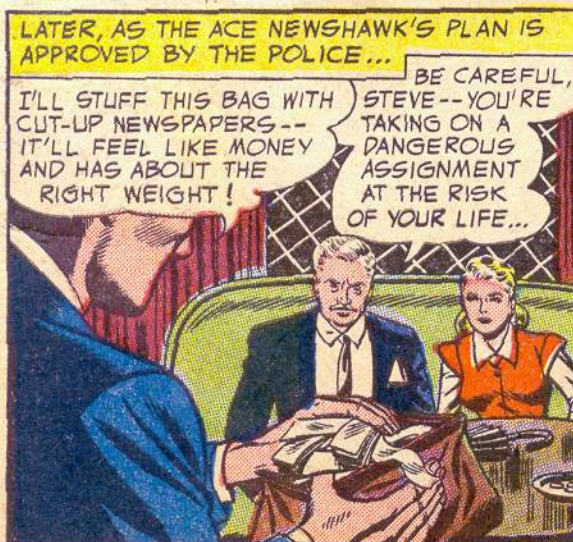
HOP IN, MIKE! WE'LL DRIVE OUTA HERE OVER WILSON IF WE HAVE TO!

GOT TO STOP THAT CAR!



BUT AS THE INDOMITABLE NEWSMAN LUNGES FORWARD, A PROJECTING END OF AN OPEN DOOR CATCHES HIM IN THE HEAD...





THAT NIGHT, DEEP IN **BIG TOWN'S** SHADOWY UNDERWORLD...

SO FAR SO GOOD!
LORELEI WILL WAIT IN OUR CAR WHERE SHE CAN WATCH THIS CAFE ENTRANCE! WHEN I LEAVE, SHE WILL FOLLOW ME AND CONTACT THE POLICE ON OUR TWO-WAY RADIO...



BUT AS THE SPEAKER TURNS ON HIS HEEL...

HE'S LEADING ME OUT THE BACK WAY--LORELEI WON'T SEE ME LEAVE! THIS RUINS OUR PLAN--BUT I CAN'T STOP HERE! I'VE GOT TO SEE THIS THROUGH!



THEN AS A DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THE LONE NEWSHAWK...

THANKS FOR BRINGING THE LOOT, WILSON! NOW YOU AND YOUNG MITCHELL CAN SAY HELLO TO EACH OTHER--AND **GOODBYE!**

HA HA... DID YUH THINK WE'D LET HIM GO SO HE COULD IDENTIFY US LATER, WILSON?



MOMENTS LATER, INSIDE THE SORDID CAFE...

THAT CHAP IS EYEING MY UMBRELLA AND BLACK BAG! NOW HE'S COMING OVER TO ME!

LISTEN, YOU! FOLLOW ME--GET IT?



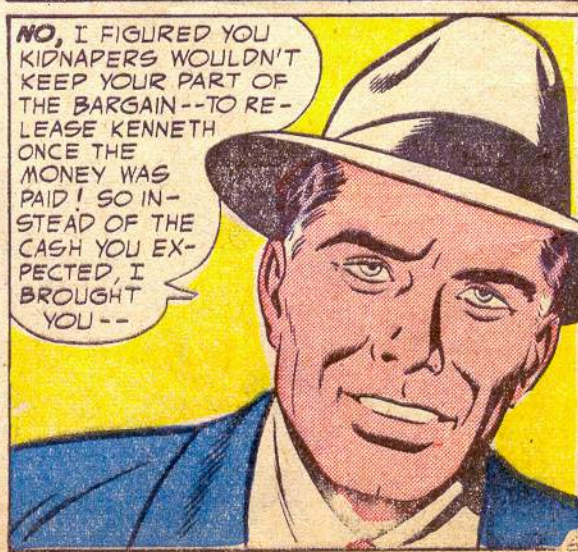
SHORTLY, IN A DECREPIT BUILDING NOT FAR AWAY...

I COULDN'T POSSIBLY LEAVE A TRAIL... LORELEI AND THE POLICE WILL NEVER FIND ME HERE... AND THAT MEANS I'M REALLY ON MY OWN NOW!

KEEP CLOSE TO ME...



NO, I FIGURED YOU KIDNAPERS WOULDN'T KEEP YOUR PART OF THE BARGAIN--TO RELEASE KENNETH ONCE THE MONEY WAS PAID! SO INSTEAD OF THE CASH YOU EXPECTED, I BROUGHT YOU--



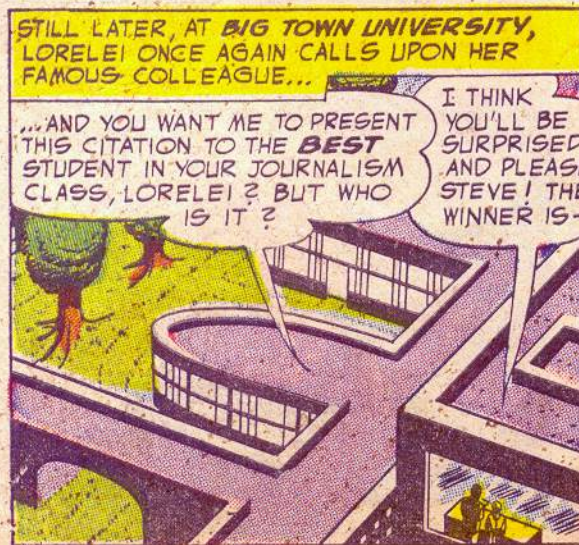




HE TOOK CARE OF THE WHOLE GANG SINGLE-HANDED!



THANKS, IN-SPECTOR! AND NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME I'VE GOT A HEAD-LINE STORY TO WRITE!



STILL LATER, AT BIG TOWN UNIVERSITY, LORELEI ONCE AGAIN CALLS UPON HER FAMOUS COLLEAGUE...

I THINK YOU'LL BE SURPRISED-- AND PLEASED, STEVE! THE WINNER IS--

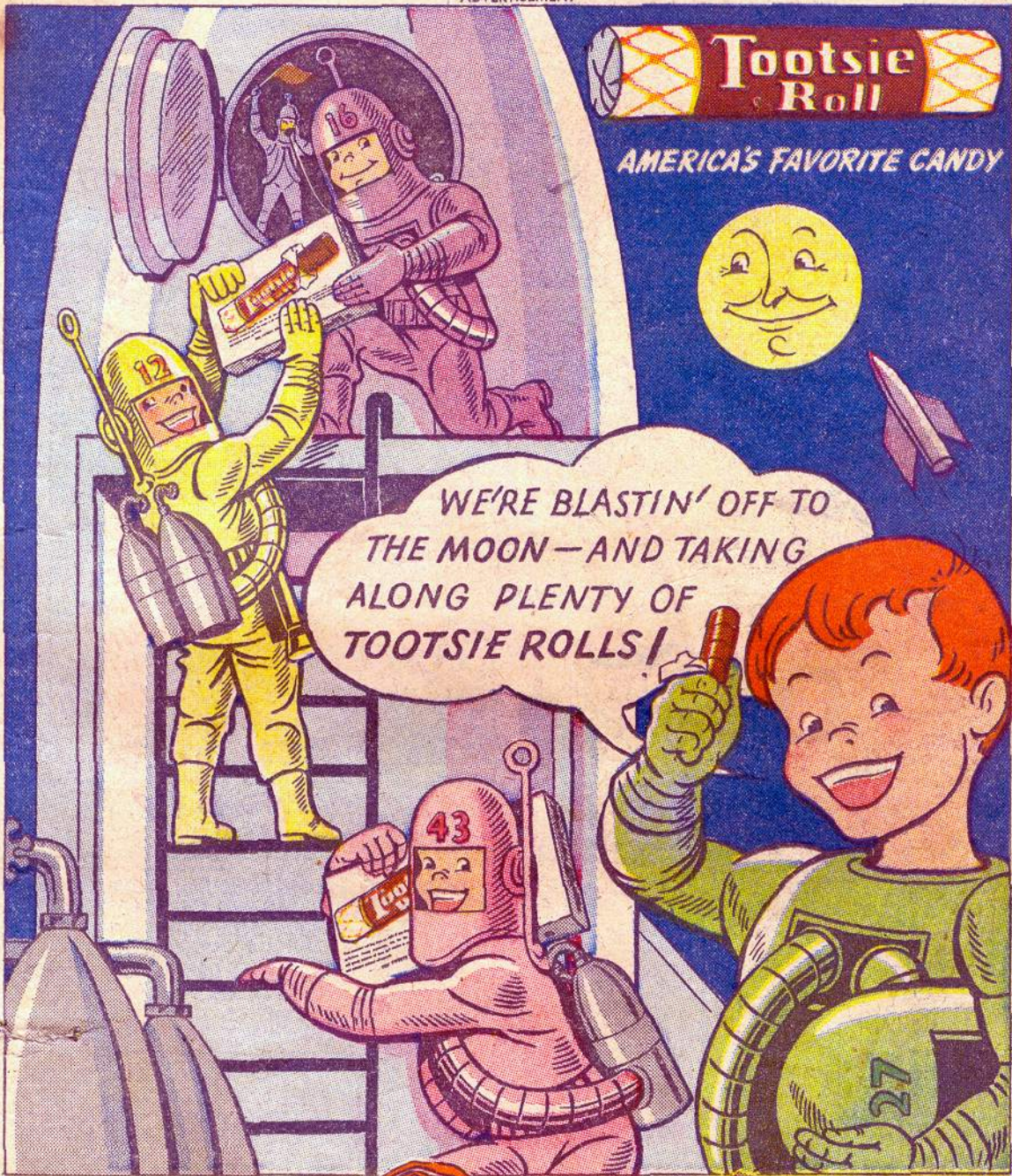


--KENNETH MITCHELL!

AFTER THE SCARE THOSE KIDNAPERS GAVE ME, I BEGAN TO SEE THAT LIFE IS IMPORTANT, MR. WILSON, AND EVERYTHING IN IT IS WORTH DOING YOUR BEST AT--JUST AS YOU SAID. THE LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE!



AMERICA'S FAVORITE CANDY

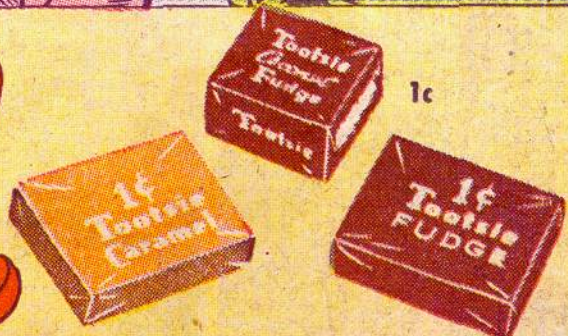


Out of this world in taste!
 Delicious • Chocolatey
 Long Lasting
TOOTSIE ROLL
 And still only 5¢

TOOTSIE POPS — Fruit
 candy on the outside,
 TOOTSIE ROLL inside.
 Two treats for the price
 of one—only 2¢.



Chocolatey
 TOOTSIE ROLL
 center



These delicious TOOTSIE CANDIES
 are only 1¢ each.

ADVENTURES OF THE DUBBLE BUBBLE KIDS



NEWSPAPER BUSINESS!

SO EAGER WERE COLONIAL AMERICANS TO READ THE FIRST ISSUED NEWSPAPERS, THAT WHEN THEY COULDN'T AFFORD TO PAY CASH FOR THEM, THEY TRADED BUTTER, WHEAT, CORN, AND EVEN WOOD IN EXCHANGE FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS...

I'M SHORT OF CASH NOW. I'LL GIVE YOU THIS WHEAT FOR NEXT MONTH'S ISSUES!

TO BOOST NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION IN THE 1800'S, PUBLISHERS OFFERED BUSINESS MEN A DAILY SQUARE OF FREE ADVERTISING SPACE IF THEY WOULD TAKE A YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION FOR \$30...

I SAW YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN TODAY'S TRIBUNE... IT WAS WORTH IT! THE AD'S BROUGHT IN ENOUGH EXTRA BUSINESS THIS WEEK TO PAY FOR MY YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION!

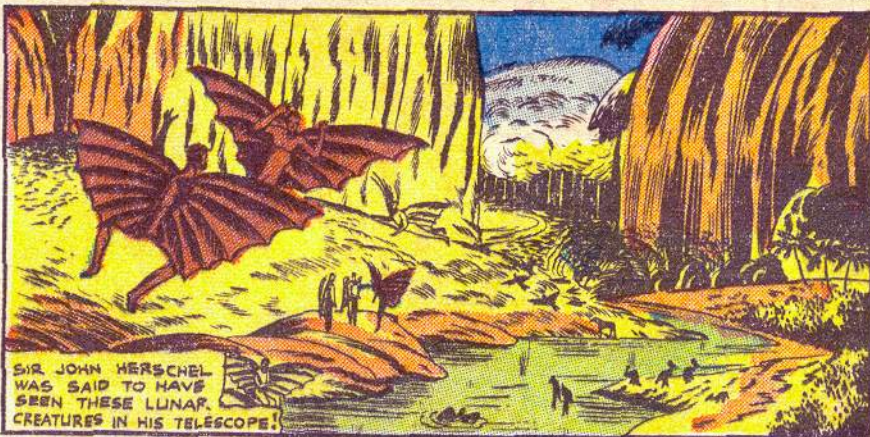
A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NEWSPAPER PAGES OCCURRED IN THE 1880'S WHEN SMALL STORES CONSOLIDATED INTO LARGE DEPARTMENT STORES, AND TOOK BIG DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE PAPERS TO ANNOUNCE THEIR SALES...

THE MERCURY HAS 8 EXTRA PAGES IN THIS EDITION -- MOSTLY FILLED WITH ADVERTISEMENTS!

ARE THERE ANY SALES ON RUGS, DEAR? YOU PROMISED TO BUY A NEW ONE...

PUBLICITY NEWS STUNTS

IN 1835, THE NEW YORK **SUN** FRONT-PAGED A DRAMATIC ILLUSTRATED REPORT OF ASTRONOMER HERSCHEL'S DISCOVERY OF LIFE ON THE MOON! THE STORY WAS SOON BRANDED A HOAX, BUT NOT BEFORE THE **SUN** HAD SOLD OUT SEVERAL EDITIONS ...



THE NEW YORK **TIMES** ADVANCED ADMIRAL ROBERT E. PEARY \$4000 IN 1909 FOR THE EXCLUSIVE EYE-WITNESS REPORT OF HIS ATTEMPT TO REACH THE NORTH POLE ...



IN AN EFFORT TO BOOST READER CIRCULATION, THE NEW YORK **HERALD** IN 1892 OFFERED A FREE TRIP AROUND THE WORLD TO THE CONTESTANT WHO MADE THE BEST FORECAST OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS OF THAT YEAR ...



FOR A NUMBER OF DAYS IN 1903 THE BOSTON **POST** PRINTED CLUES IN EACH EDITION INFORMING ITS READERS WHERE ONE OF ITS REPORTERS WOULD ROAM IN THE CITY, AND OFFERED \$100 TO THE FIRST PERSON WHO CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED HIM ...



ON AUGUST 20, 1911, THE ATTENTION OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY WAS RIVETED ON THE NEW YORK **TIMES** AS IT ATTEMPTED THE SPECTACULAR STUNT OF SENDING A CABLE MESSAGE AROUND THE WORLD TO ITSELF ...





IN THE COURSE OF HIS METEORIC NEWSGATHERING CAREER, STEVE WILSON HAS FOUND HIMSELF IN MANY A TIGHT SPOT! BUT NEVER BEFORE HAVE THE ODDS BEEN SO STACKED AGAINST HIM AS THE TIME HE STRAYED INTO AN AMAZING UNDERWORLD ENTERPRISE AND FOUND HIMSELF THE SHOOTING TARGET OF THE MOST DEADLY WEAPONS EVER CONTRIVED BY SINISTER, CRIMINAL MINDS...IN...

CRIME GOES TO THE FAIR!

IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE, WHERE FOR THE PAST HOUR THE ACE REPORTER HAS BEEN PORING OVER BACK ISSUES OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS**...

LORELEI, DID YOU NOTICE, ACCORDING TO THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS** THIS MORNING, THERE WAS A CRIME WAVE LAST WEEK IN LAKETOWN?

YES, BUT I DIDN'T PAY TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO IT, STEVE! ER-- SHOULD I HAVE?

JUDGE FOR YOURSELF! THESE BACK ISSUES OF OUR PAPER SHOW THAT DURING THE PAST **TWO** MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN INCREASED CRIME ACTIVITY SUCCESSIVELY AT MOUNTAIN CITY, WHEATSBURG, INDIANVILLE-- WAIT, I'LL MAKE A DIAGRAM!



AS YOU SEE, THESE CITIES ARE ROUGHLY ON A STRAIGHT LINE WITH EACH OTHER--AND THAT IF I CONTINUE THE LINE LIKE THIS... **BIG TOWN IS NEXT** IN THE PATH OF THE CRIME WAVE!

GOOD GOSH! I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN!



I'D BETTER TALK TO INSPECTOR CALLAHAN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS! IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE WE MIGHT BE IN FOR TROUBLE A-PLenty HERE IN **BIG TOWN** DURING THE NEXT WEEK!... HELLO! IS THAT YOU, INSPECTOR?



CRIME WAVE? WHY-ER-I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU COULD FORECAST IT, STEVE, BUT THE CRIME RATE HAS RISEN ALARMINGLY HERE IN THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS!

THEN IT'S ALREADY STARTED IN **BIG TOWN**!



MOMENTS LATER, STEVE AND LORELEI SET OUT ON AN URGENT ASSIGNMENT...

WHAT WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT, LORELEI, IS WHY A CRIME WAVE SHOULD TRAVEL FROM CITY TO CITY LIKE AN EPIDEMIC! IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT'S **CAUSING IT**? IF WE HIT ON THE RIGHT ANSWER, WE'LL HAVE A **SMASH NEWS STORY**!



DURING THE NEXT 24 HOURS, CRIME STRIKES IN THE CITY, MORE DARING THAN EVER BEFORE--AND MORE RUTHLESS.

BAM! BAM!

BANK ARMORED CAR VANISHES!
\$500,000 STOLEN

DIAMOND

JEWELER LOBBED OF \$25,000!

57-LL

...POLICE STUNNED BY CRIMINAL OPERATIONS!

ILLUSTRATED PRESS CRIME WAVE MOUNTS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE HECTIC INTERIOR OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS** BUILDING...

WE'VE DONE A GOOD JOB OF COVERING THE INDIVIDUAL CRIMES, LORELEI, BUT THE REAL STORY--THE **BIG** STORY--ON THIS CRIME WAVE IS STILL UNTOUCHED!

THAT MEANS WE'VE STILL GOT TO HUNT FOR A LEAD!

EXACTLY! AND I THINK IT'S SERIOUS ENOUGH TO CALL FOR SOME DRASTIC ACTION ON MY PART!

STEVE, YOU AREN'T THINKING OF--

FOR ANSWER, STEVE OPENS THE DOOR TO A TINY DRESSING ROOM ADJOINING HIS OFFICE...

--OF TURNING MYSELF INTO A DENIZEN OF THE UNDERWORLD IN ORDER TO PRY LOOSE ITS SECRET? YES, I AM, LORELEI! TAKE OVER MY DESK, WILL YOU--WHILE I GET TO WORK!

AT THE END OF ALMOST AN HOUR, A STRANGELY TRANSFORMED STEVE WILSON EMERGES...

GOOD HEAVENS, STEVE! WHAT A GET-UP!

MEET CARL FENTON, A DIP FROM THE LAKE CITIES! IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS, LORELEI REMEMBER THAT NAME... **CARL FENTON!**

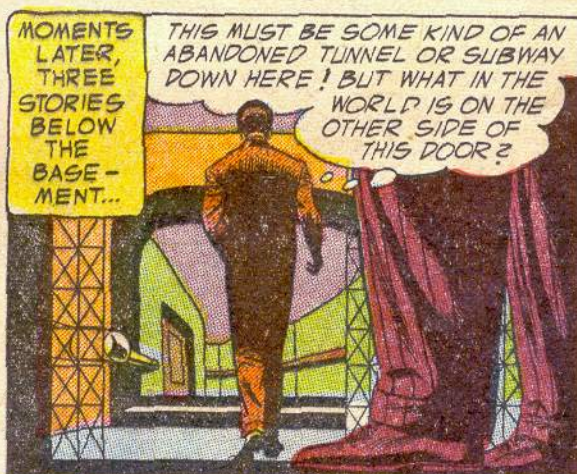
SOON AFTER, IN THE GRAND HOTEL, SORDID CENTER OF BIG TOWN'S UNDERWORLD...

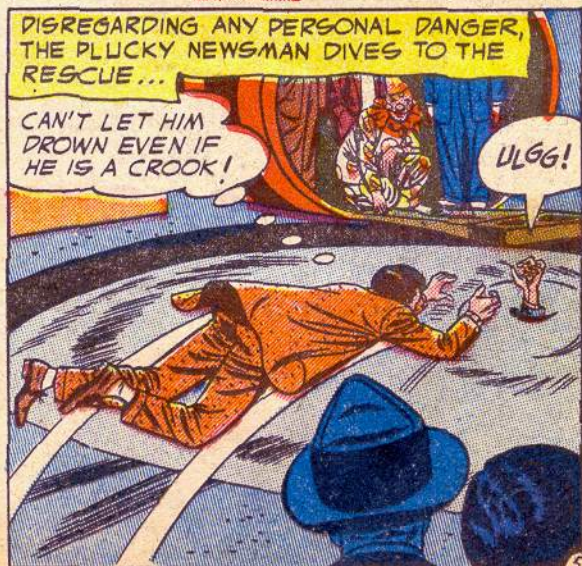


CALMLY, WHADDYAKNOW JOE, THE BELL HOP--STEVE'S UNDERWORLD TIP-OFF MAN--STIFLES HIS ASTONISHMENT...



SHORTLY, A FEW BLOCKS AWAY AT AN OLD FURNITURE WAREHOUSE...





AFTER STEVE HAS HELPED THE CROOK REACH THE RIM OF THE BARREL ...



THE NEXT INSTANT, THE EXPOSED NEWS-HAWK SPRINGS TO THE ATTACK ...



AS THE NEAREST CROOKS START FOR HIM, STEVE TAKES THE ONLY ESCAPE ROUTE AVAILABLE ...



IF I CAN GET THIS BARREL SPINNING, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO UPSET THEIR PLANS!



THE NEXT MOMENT, AS THE BARREL SUDDENLY STARTS SPINNING LIKE A TOP...







BIG TOWN



SEIZING HIS OPPORTUNITY, WITH HIS OPPONENT DISTRACTED BY THE POLICE BREAK-IN, STEVE PLUNGES AT HIM...

TO COME BACK TO MY CHANCES AGAIN, PAL-- LET ME SAY I THINK THEY WERE NEVER BETTER!



SOON AFTER, WITH ALL OF THE CROOKS IN CUSTODY...

HOW DID WE GET HERE?... IT WAS SIMPLE, STEVE! LORELEI WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU THAT SHE CALLED ME AND GAVE ME A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF CARL FENTON! ONE OF OUR UNDERCOVER MEN SPOTTED "CARL FENTON" COMING DOWN HERE --



--AND AFTER THAT IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE FOUND WHAT WAS DOWN IN THIS PLACE TOO!

I WALKED INTO A TRAP, BUT YOU SPRANG IT ON THOSE CROOKS INSTEAD!



LATER, AN ILLUSTRATED PRESS "EXTRA" HITS THE STREETS...

EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! "CRIME GOES TO THE FAIR" BY STEVE WILSON!

THANKS TO THE POLICE AND YOU, STEVE, THE CROSS-COUNTRY CRIME WAVE PETERED OUT IN BIG TOWN!



The End

BATMAN

Featuring **BATMAN-INDIAN CHIEF!**

MAN-OF-THE-BATS AND LITTLE BROWN-SKIN SLAY THEM!

THREE

OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE TEAM

"BATMAN-INDIAN CHIEF!"

EXCITING NEW ADVENTURES

BATMAN

With **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER

"FIRST VOYAGE OF THE BATMARINE!"

"THE JOKER'S CRIME TEAM!"

GET YOUR COPY **NOW** AT YOUR FAVORITE NEWSSTAND!





NEW ALUMINUM PACKAGE
keeps GOOD LUCK Fresher and Better Tasting
than any other margarine!

BUY IT—we know you'll agree! GOOD LUCK margarine *stays fresher and tastes better* than any other margarine—because GOOD LUCK is the *only* margarine double wrapped and sealed in Reynolds Wrap Aluminum foil.

First we wrap each quarter pound of GOOD LUCK in pure aluminum. Next we place the four quarters in a waxed carton. Then we wrap the carton in an outer wrap of shiny aluminum foil and seal it tight.

This keeps GOOD LUCK fresher and better tasting than any other margarine.

We guarantee that you'll like GOOD LUCK in its new aluminum package better than any other spread you've ever tasted—or we'll refund your money.

If you don't agree, just drop a line to Lever Brothers Company, 390 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y., enclosing the guarantee panel from the GOOD LUCK package. We'll send you every penny you paid.

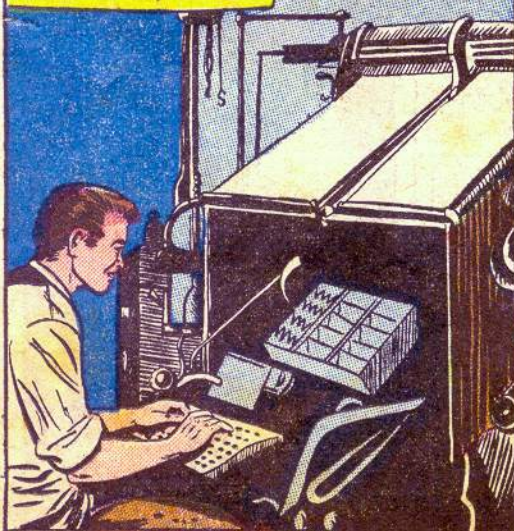
FAMOUS NEWSPAPER FIRSTS

THE **AUCTION ADVERTISER** WAS THE FIRST NEWSPAPER TO DEPEND SOLELY ON ADVERTISING FOR REVENUE. PUBLISHED IN BOSTON, 1816, IT WAS GIVEN AWAY **FREE** TO ITS READERS...

HERE YOU ARE, SIR, THE **AUCTION ADVERTISER**-- IT'S FREE!



THE INVENTION OF THE **LINOTYPE** REVOLUTIONIZED THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY BY IMMEDIATELY INCREASING THE PRINTING OUTPUT THREE TIMES. FIRST PAPER TO BE PRINTED ON THIS AMAZING PRINTING DEVICE WAS THE **NEW YORK TRIBUNE**, ON JULY 3, 1886...



LATE IN THE AFTERNOON ON JANUARY 24, 1777, THE **PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST** WAS PUBLISHED-- MARKING THE APPEARANCE OF THE FIRST NON-MORNING NEWSPAPER...

THAT'S BENJAMIN TOWNE! HE EDITS, PUBLISHES, HELPS PRINT, AND EVEN SELLS THE **EVENING POST**!

PRINTING
B. TOWNE



EMPLOYING A NEW DEVICE CALLED THE **TELE-AUTOGRAPH**, THE **CHICAGO TIMES-HERALD** WAS THE FIRST PAPER TO SEND A LINE DRAWING BY TELEPHONE WIRE... JUNE 21, 1895...

SEND THIS DRAWING VIA **TELEAUTOGRAPH** TO ST. LOUIS!



CONCEIVING THE NOVEL IDEA OF BUILDING CIRCULATION BY RADIO, THE **DETROIT NEWS** BOUGHT AND OPERATED THE FIRST NEWSPAPER-OWNED RADIO STATION, **WWJ**-- AUGUST 20, 1920. IT INTRODUCED A HOUSEHOLD FEATURE, "**TONIGHT'S DINNER**"-- TO INTEREST WOMEN IN ARTICLES AND ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE **NEWS**...



ODD NEWS ITEMS!

DURING THE NEWSPAPER WARS IN CHICAGO AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY, PRIZE FIGHTERS, WRESTLERS, AND OTHER RUGGED INDIVIDUALS WERE HIRED TO PROTECT AND PUSH STREET SALES...



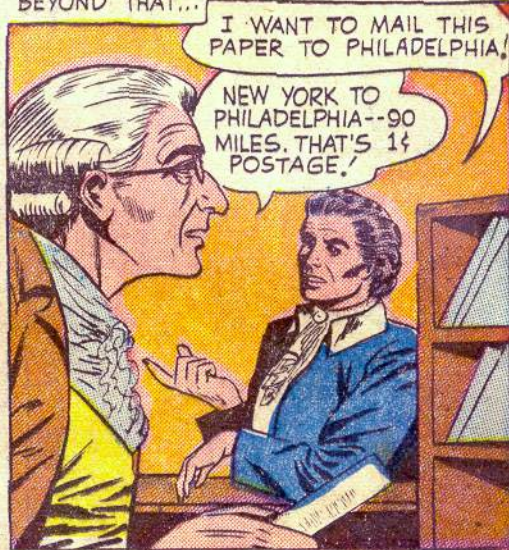
NEWSPAPER INK CONSUMPTION HAS INCREASED FROM A FEW HUNDRED POUNDS OF INK A YEAR FOR A LEADING NEWSPAPER IN 1800, TO MORE THAN TWO MILLION POUNDS ANNUALLY FOR SUCH PAPERS AS THE NEW YORK TIMES...



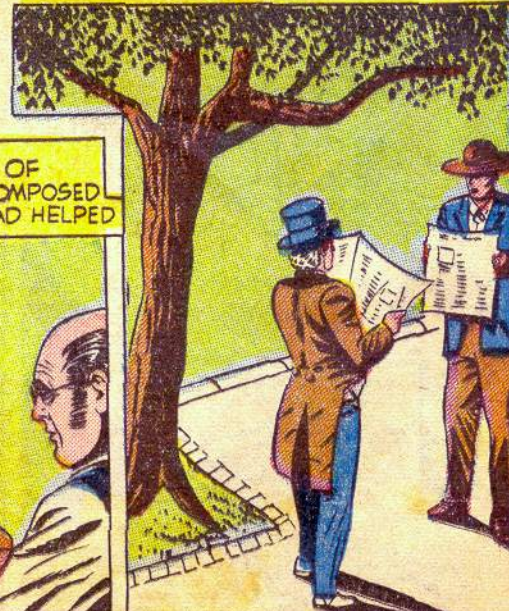
THE FAMOUS "KITCHEN CABINET"--AN INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF ADVISERS TO PRESIDENT ANDREW JACKSON--WAS COMPOSED OF NEWSPAPER JOURNALISTS AND EDITORS WHO HAD HELPED ELECT JACKSON...



THE POSTAL ACT OF FEBRUARY 20, 1792, PROVIDED THAT "EVERY PRINTER OF NEWSPAPERS MAY SEND ONE PAPER TO EVERY OTHER PRINTER OF NEWSPAPERS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES FREE OF POSTAGE." NEWS-PAPER MAIL RATES WERE 1¢ WITHIN A 100-MILE RADIUS, AND 1½¢ FOR DISTANCES BEYOND THAT...



IN THE 1820'S, THE FIRST NEWSPAPERS THAT APPEARED IN LARGER SIZE THAN THE REGULAR TABLOIDS (WHICH MEASURED 11½ BY 18½ INCHES) WERE CALLED "BLANKET SHEETS"--17½ BY 24 INCHES IN SIZE...



BIG TOWN

I'LL FINISH
YOU THIS
TIME, STEVE
WILSON!

LAST
SOAP VATS-200 FEET
BELOW!



FROM ACROSS THE OCEAN--FROM THE DICTATOR-RULED LAND WHERE HE HAD SERVED **BIG TOWN'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS** FOR FIVE LONG YEARS--CAME COURTNEY KANE, THE PAPER'S TOP FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT! BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED, A MYSTERIOUS, MENACING SHADOW BEGAN TO STALK HIS BEST FRIEND, **STEVE WILSON**--UNTIL IN A SPINE-TINGLING CLIMAX, THE ACE REPORTER DISCOVERED THE AMAZING ANSWER TO --

THE RIDDLE OF THE ROVING REPORTER!

BURIED IN THE BACK PAGES OF THE **ILLUSTRATED PRESS** IS A NEWS ITEM FRAUGHT WITH DANGER FOR STEVE WILSON...

PAGE 36
COURTNEY KANE RETURNS TODAY FROM ROGRAVIA AFTER FIVE YEAR ASSIGNMENT IN DICTATOR-LAND!
ROVING REPORTER OF ILLUSTRATED PRESS TO BE MET BY OLD FRIEND STEVE WILSON...

LATER THAT MORNING, AT THE **BIG TOWN** AIRPORT...

COURTNEY, I'D RECOGNIZE YOU ANYWHERE! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT AFTER FIVE YEARS!

N-NO... I GUESS NOT... STEVE...

I'M ANXIOUS TO HEAR YOUR REPORT-- BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOUR VOICE?

BAD THROAT... COLD... NOTHING SERIOUS...

LORELEI WILL FIX YOU SOME OF HER SPECIAL HOT SOUP AT THE DINNER WE'RE GIVING YOU TONIGHT--

STEVE; LOOK OUT-- THAT CAR!

SCREEE!

A MOMENT LATER...

MISTER, YOU WERE HOGGIN' THE ROAD AND YOU NICKED OUR FENDER! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU CUT ME OFF!

CALL ME A LIAR, HUH? NO ONE GETS AWAY WITH THAT--

WHEW! THIS IS HARDLY WORTH FIGHTING ABOUT-- BUT AS LONG AS HE'S STARTED IT--

I MIGHT AS WELL FINISH IT-- IN MY FAVOR!

SOK!



SUDDENLY, STEVE IS SEIZED IN A SURPRISE ATTACK...

WE GOT A SURE-THING TREATMENT FOR WISE GUYS --

UH-OH! TRYING TO SMASH MY HEAD AGAINST THAT TELEPHONE POLE!



TIMING HIS MOVE, THE ACE NEWSMAN WAITS FOR THE LAST SPLIT-SECOND AND THEN...

THEY HELD ON TO MY ARMS JUST A LITTLE TOO LONG FOR THEIR OWN GOOD!



MOMENTS LATER, AN ONCOMING POLICE SIREN SENDS THE HOODLUMS SCURRYING OFF...

POLICE! JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO GIVE YOU A HELPING HAND, STEVE...

THE WAY THOSE THUGS ARE BEATING IT, THEY PROBABLY ALL HAVE RECORDS!



SOON AFTER AT STEVE'S APARTMENT HOTEL WHERE A ROOM HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR KANE...

YOUR ROOM'S AT THE END OF THE CORRIDOR! YOU CAN RELAX AND WE CAN HAVE A GOOD LONG TALK JUST LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS!

ER-- SOME OTHER TIME, STEVE...



I'D LIKE TO BE ALONE NOW FOR THE REST OF THE DAY IF YOU DON'T MIND! SEE YOU...

LATER--

WHAT A BRUSH-OFF! IT'S THE LAST THING I'D EVER HAVE EXPECTED FROM COURTNEY KANE!

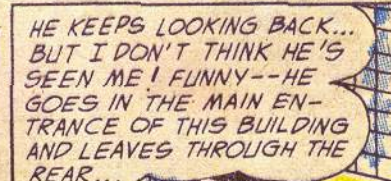
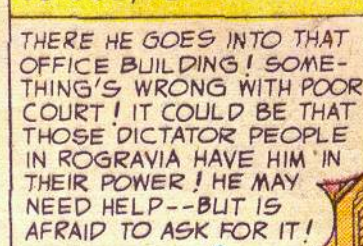
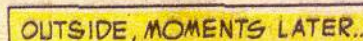


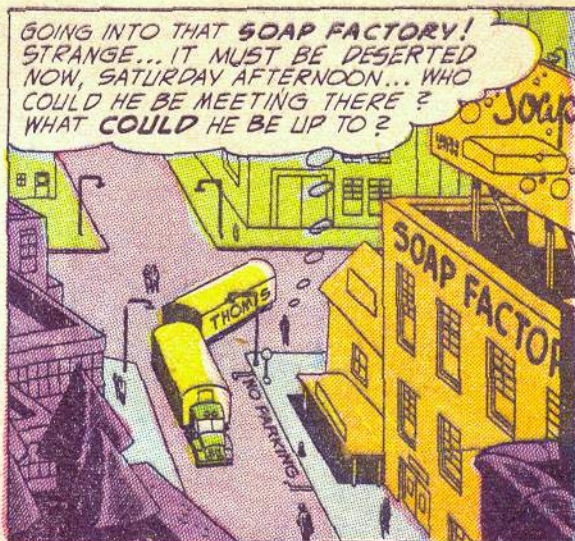
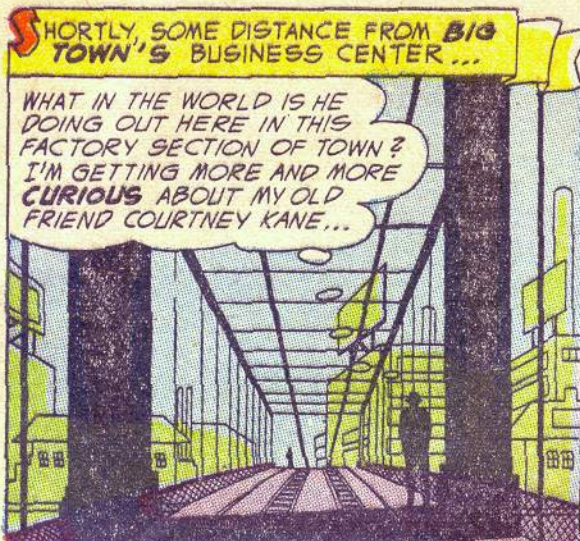
AT LUNCH WITH LORELEI, AFTER STEVE HAS TOLD HER ABOUT THE SURPRISE MEETING WITH KANE...

NOTHING YOU'VE SAID YET EXPLAINS THOSE BRUISED KNUCKLES, STEVE WILSON...

OH, THESE... THAT WAS STRANGE TOO, LORELEI! I BRUSHED FENDERS WITH ANOTHER AUTO...







AS THE FIRST ATTACKER RUSHES AT STEVE, THE NEWSMAN FLEXES HIS LEGS AND...

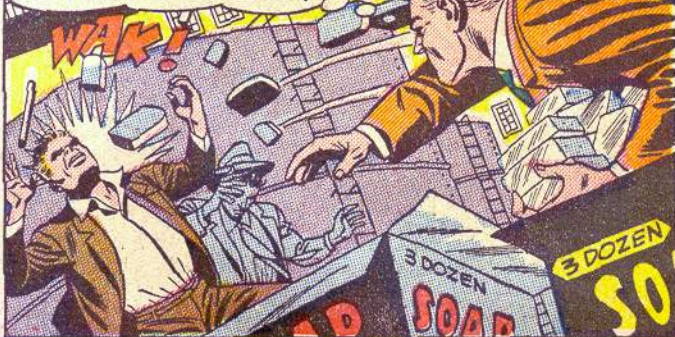
ODF! OKAY, YOU GUYS, GET HIM!

I COULD USE SOME AMMUNITION-- BUT THE ONLY THING HANDY IS THIS SOAP!



LEAPING TO HIS FEET AND GRABBING UP AN ARMFUL OF SOAP BARS, THE ACE NEWSHAWK LETS THEM FLY WITH STUNNING EFFECT...

NOT BAD AMMUNITION AT ALL--PROVIDING I THROW IT HARD ENOUGH--AND STRAIGHT ENOUGH!



A SPLIT-SECOND LATER AS STEVE LOOKS UP AT AN OVERHEAD VOICE...

YOU PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT, WILSON-- BUT THE OUTCOME WAS INEVITABLE FROM THE BEGINNING!

PULLING THAT TRIGGER--



SUDDENLY, A GUNSHOT REVERBERATES THROUGH THE ROOM--FROM AN UNEXPECTED DIRECTION...

HEY! WHA--?

INSPECTOR CALLAHAN AND THE POLICE!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, STEVE! EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL NOW!



AS THE STARTLED THUGS FIND THEMSELVES UNDER COVER OF POLICE GUNS...

HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU GET HERE, INSPECTOR?

I BROUGHT THEM, STEVE!



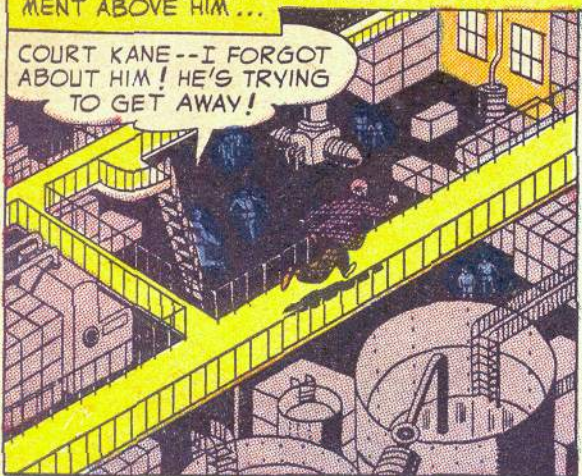
MY REPORTER'S INSTINCT WAS AROUSED TOO, SO WHEN YOU FOLLOWED KANE, I FOLLOWED YOU! BUT WHEN YOU CAME IN HERE, I GOT WORRIED AND CALLED THE POLICE!

GOOD GIRL! BUT WAIT--



SUDDENLY, THE SHARP VISION OF **BIG TOWN'S** ACE NEWSMAN IS ATTRACTED BY A MOVEMENT ABOVE HIM...

COURT KANE -- I FORGOT ABOUT HIM! HE'S TRYING TO GET AWAY!



ON A NARROW CATWALK HIGH ABOVE THE FACTORY FLOOR, A PERILOUS EXCHANGE OF BLOWS TAKES PLACE...

YOU WOULDN'T HURT AN OLD "PAL", WOULD YOU, KANE?

DON'T BE FUNNY, WILSON! I'M PLAYING FOR BIG STAKES!



SUDDENLY, A POWER-PACKED PUNCH BY STEVE SENDS HIS OPPONENT TUMBLING DOWN TOWARD A SOAP-FILLED VAT...



WHEN THE INVOLUNTARY SOAP-DIVER IS FISHED OUT, MOMENTS LATER...

THIS SOAP HARDENED ALL OVER HIM -- AND **LOOK** -- HIS HAIR IS COMING OFF IN THIS WAD!

IT'S A WIG! STEVE, WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?



THAT FELLOW'S **NOT** COURTNEY KANE! HE'S A ROGRAVIAN SPY WHO RESEMBLES COURT AND WAS SENT HERE TO HEAD THE SPY ORGANIZATION IN THIS COUNTRY! THE SOAP FACTORY WAS CLOSED ON SATURDAY -- AND MADE A CONVENIENT MEETING PLACE FOR THE SPIES! THE FACTORY, OF COURSE, WAS IN NO WAY INVOLVED IN THIS AFFAIR!





BIG TOWN



LATER, AFTER THE F. B. I. HAS TAKEN CHARGE OF THE ENTIRE CASE, AND HAS CONFIRMED STEVE'S CHARGES...

THE MASQUERADING "KANE" WAS PICKED BECAUSE OF HIS REMARKABLE RESEMBLANCE TO THE REAL KANE -- BUT HIS VOICE WOULD HAVE GIVEN HIM AWAY! THAT'S WHY HE HAD TO PRETEND HE HAD A BAD THROAT...

IF ANYONE COULD HAVE PIERCED HIS DISGUISE, YOU COULD, STEVE--



--BECAUSE YOU'RE KANE'S BEST FRIEND! AND THAT EXPLAINS THE ATTACK ON YOU EARLIER TODAY!

RIGHT! AND ANOTHER THING--THE GOVERNMENT HAS LEARNED THAT THE REAL COURTNEY KANE IS ALIVE IN ROGRAVIA...



...AND A SPOKESMAN TOLD ME NEGOTIATIONS WERE UNDER WAY TO EXCHANGE THE PHONY KANE WE CAPTURED FOR THE REAL ONE THE ROGRAVIANS ARE HOLDING! WE OUGHT TO SEE ACTION IN A WEEK ...



THUS IT HAPPENS THAT A WEEK LATER, A REUNION TAKES PLACE AT **BIG TOWN** AIRPORT...

STEVE WILSON, WHAT KIND OF A WELCOME HOME IS THIS--YANKING ON MY HAIR LIKE THAT?

I'LL TELL YOU LATER, COURT! THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF TIME ...



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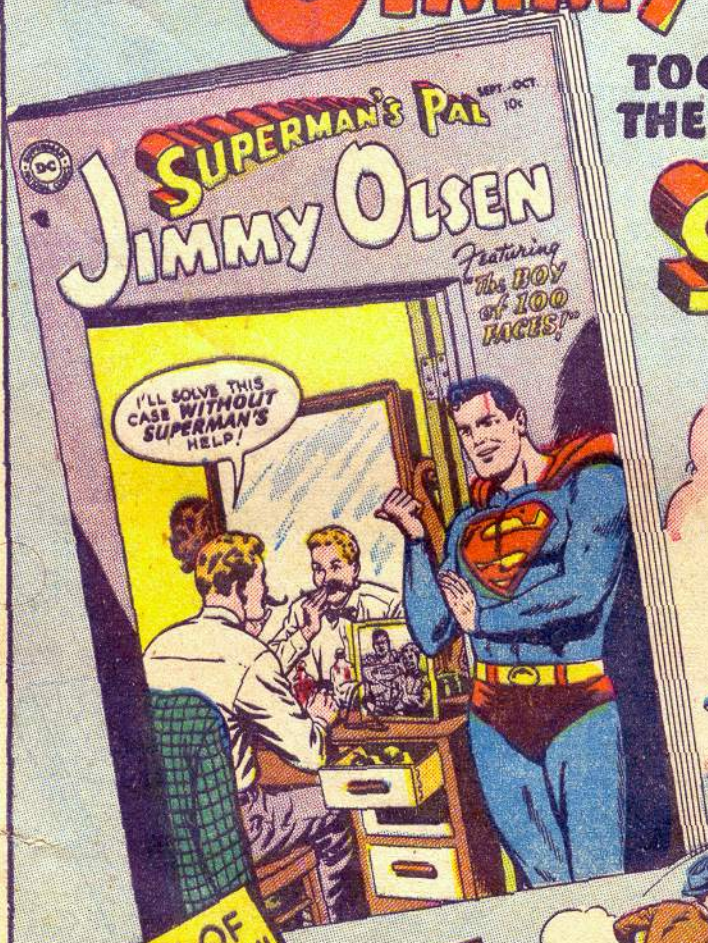
Here he is-

THE ONE AND ONLY

JIMMY OLSEN

TOGETHER WITH
THE ONE AND ONLY

SUPERMAN



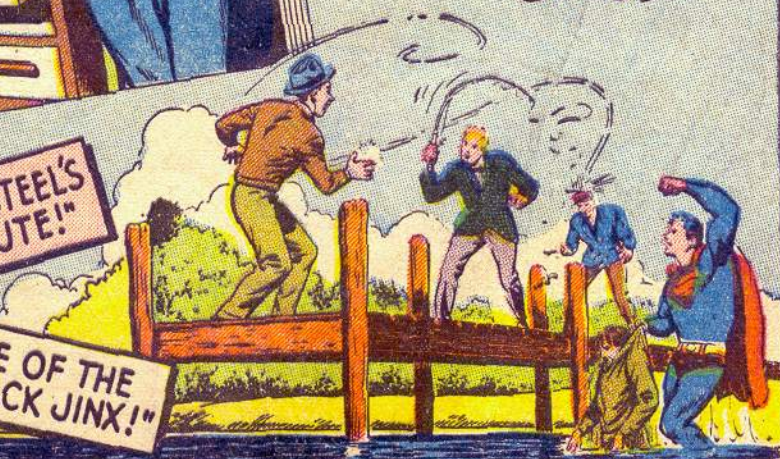
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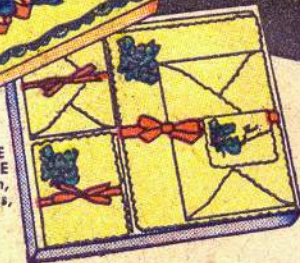
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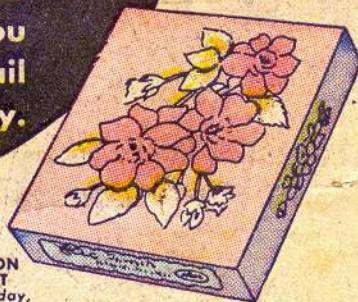
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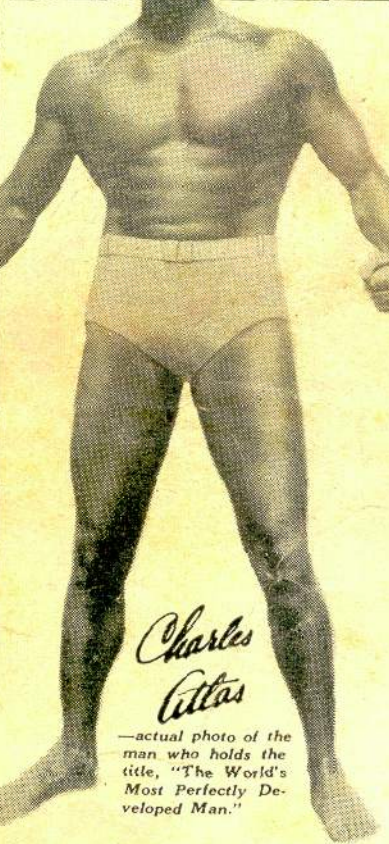
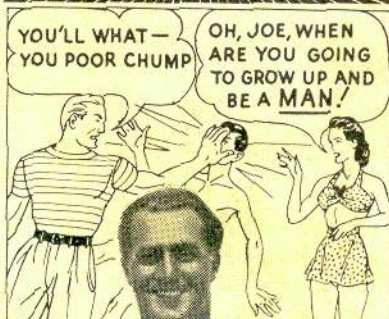
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