

A DELL COMIC •
DELL • A DELL COMIC •
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NOV.-DEC.

THE

10¢

CISCO KID



VAQUEROS below the RIO GRANDE

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THE SERAPE

THE SERAPE IS A FORM OF A BLANKET OF MEXICAN MAKE, AND HAS MANY USEFUL PURPOSES BESIDES ITS VALUE FOR BEAUTY.

THE SERAPE WAS PART OF THE MEXICAN VAQUERO'S EQUIPMENT AND WAS FOREVER WITH HIM, EITHER TIED BEHIND HIS SADDLE WHEN NOT IN USE OR THROWN OVER HIS SHOULDER FOR WARMTH. THE SERAPE ALSO SERVED AS BEDDING FOR THE VAQUERO WHO SLEPT OUT IN THE COOL AIR ON THE RANGES. A VAQUERO MADE A DASHING FIGURE WHEN CHASING FRIGHTENED CATTLE BY WAVING HIS COLORFUL SERAPE!

ARMAS

ARMAS ARE COWHIDE HANGINGS, WHICH ARE DRAPED FROM THE SADDLE FORKS TO COVER THE LEGS OF THE RIDER.

THE ARMAS SERVE THE MEXICAN'S PURPOSE FOR LEG PROTECTION IN THE CACTUS AND BRUSH COUNTRIES THE SAME AS OUR MODERN CHAPS PROTECT THE COWBOY.

ALL THE COWBOY'S PARAPHERNALIA ORIGINATES FROM THE SPANISH AND MEXICAN CATTLE-MEN.



THE CISCO KID

IN
THE SECRET OF
THE TWO-CIRCLE-R



THE CISCO KID AND PANTO HEAD FOR A SMALL
COURTHOUSE IN A CALIFORNIA MINING TOWN...

CISCO! PANTO IS
VERY LONELY TO SEE
HIS MAMA IN CHIHUAHUA!

VERY WELL! WHEN WE
HAVE FINISHED TESTIFY-
ING, WE WILL TAKE A
VACATION AND VISIT HER
--- UNLESS, OF COURSE,
SOMETHING UNFORESEEN
HAPPENS!

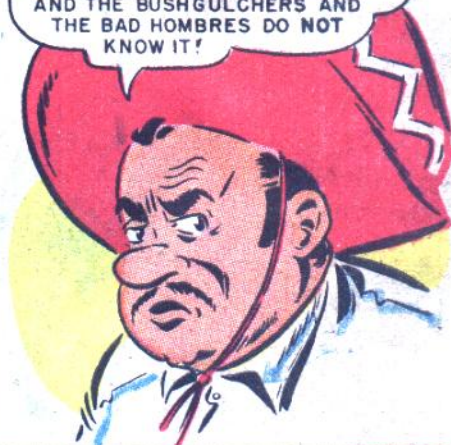


SANTO! ALWAYS IT IS THE
"UNLESSES" AND THE "IFS"
AND THE "BUTS"! AND NEVER
CHIHUAHUA AND PANTO'S
MAMA!

THIS TIME IT
WILL BE
DIFFERENT!



THERE IS ONLY ONE THING
WRONG WITH THAT! THE BANDITS
AND THE BUSHGULCHERS AND
THE BAD HOMBRES DO NOT
KNOW IT!



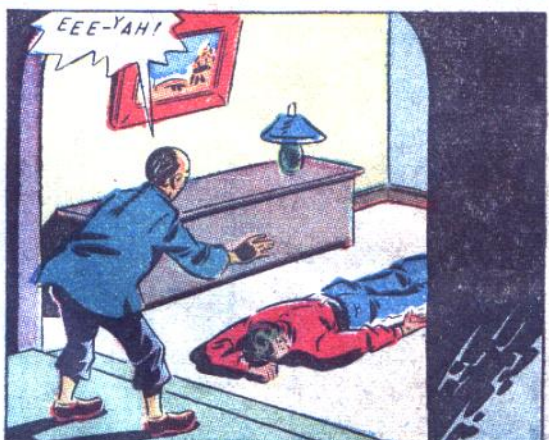
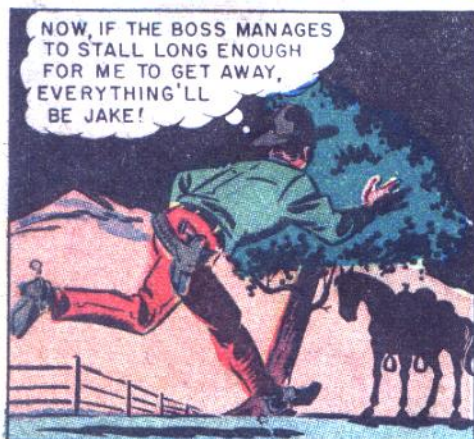
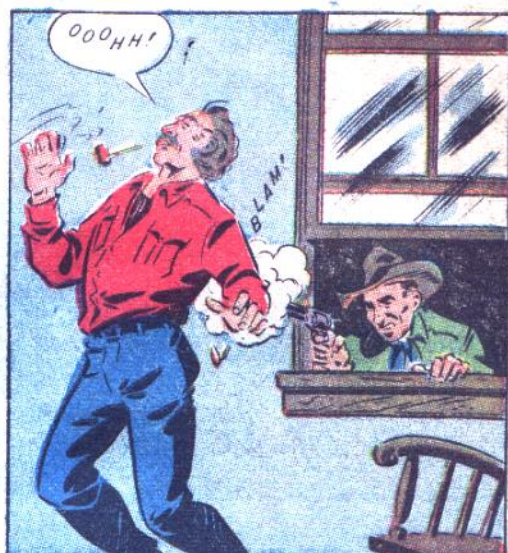
THAT NIGHT... SOMEWHERE IN
SOUTHWEST TEXAS...

LOOKS LIKE THE BOSS
HAS GOT EVERYTHING
SET UP FOR ME!



YEAH--- EVEN THE WINDOW'S
OPEN, LIKE HE SAID IT'D BE!





— AN' THERE GOES THE KILLER!
IF WE LIGHT A SHUCK, WE CAN CATCH
UP WITH HIM AFORE ———

DON'T BE A FOOL, TOM! HE'S MAKIN' FOR
THE MAL PAIS! AN' NOBODY COULD FOLLOW
A TRAIL ON THOSE LAVA MESAS!



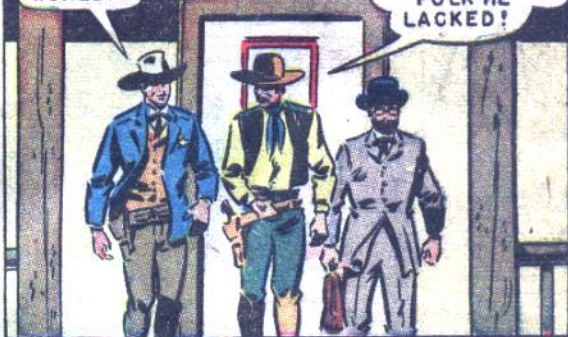
YOU CAN FORK YOUR CAYUSE,
THOUGH, AND RIDE TO TOWN!
TELL THE SHERIFF WHAT'S
UP! AND LAWYER BRADLEY
TOO!



THE NEXT MORNING...

I DON'T GET IT! MATT
RUSSELL WAS ONE SQUARE
HOMBRE! I DIDN'T THINK HE
HAD AN ENEMY IN THE
WORLD!

HE HAD
PLENTY O'
FRIENDS, THOUGH!
HE USED TO
SAY THEY MADE
UP FOR THE KIN-
FOLK HE
LACKED!



THAT'S RIGHT! MATT
WAS ALONE IN THE
WORLD! WONDER
WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO
THIS SPREAD NOW?

I'M THINKIN' ABOUT
BUYIN' IT! I'VE
GOT SOME CASH
IN THE BANK AN'---



--- AND YOU CAN LEAVE
IT THERE--- SO FAR
AS THE TWO-CIRCLE-R
IS CONCERNED!

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN, COUNSELOR?

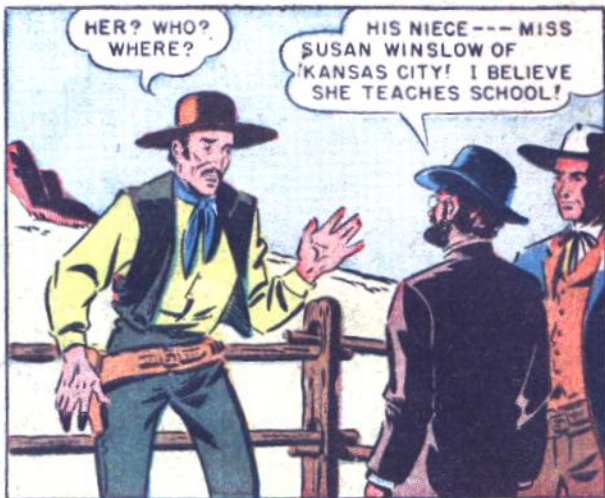


I MEAN, IN SPITE OF MATT'S REMARKS ABOUT NOT HAVING ANY KINFOLK, HE DID HAVE A LIVING RELATIVE! AND HE'S LEFT THIS RANCH TO HER!



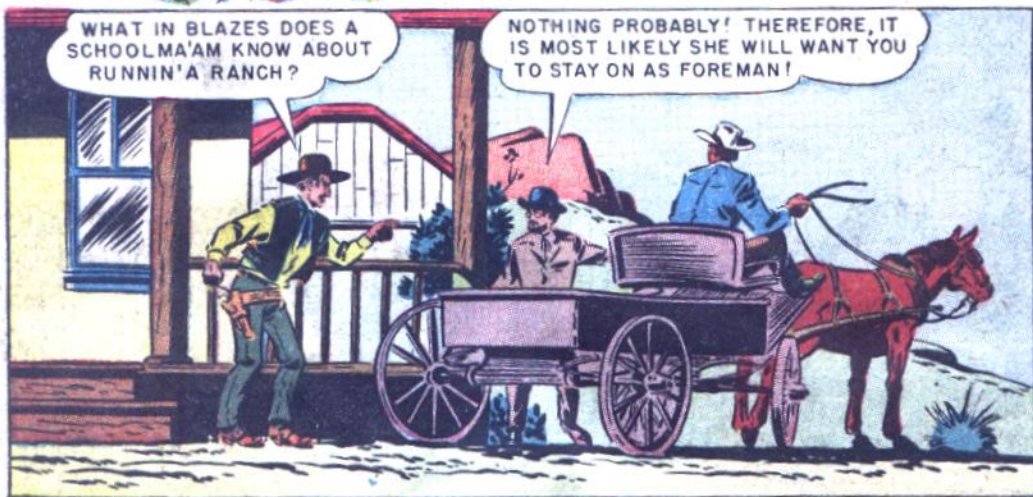
HER? WHO? WHERE?

HIS NIECE--- MISS SUSAN WINSLOW OF KANSAS CITY! I BELIEVE SHE TEACHES SCHOOL!



WHAT IN BLAZES DOES A SCHOOLMA'AM KNOW ABOUT RUNNIN' A RANCH?

NOTHING PROBABLY! THEREFORE, IT IS MOST LIKELY SHE WILL WANT YOU TO STAY ON AS FOREMAN!



HANGED IF I WILL TAKE ORDERS FROM A FEMALE! WHEN SHE GETS HERE, I'M QUITTIN'!

SUIT YOURSELF! WHEN I FIND OUT THE TIME OF HER ARRIVAL, I'LL LET YOU KNOW!

TOUGH LUCK, KURT! MAYBE YOU CAN TALK HER INTO SELLIN', THOUGH!

SHE'LL SELL ALL RIGHT--- BUT I'LL LET BLACKY DO THE TALKIN'--- WITH A SIX GUN!



SEVERAL DAYS LATER.

LESS THAN A HUNDRED MILES TO THE BORDER, PANCHO! WE WILL BE IN CHIHUAHUA BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

HUMPH! PANCHO DO NOT BELIEVE IT TILL HE SEE IT! AND MAYBE NOT EVEN THEN!



PULL UP... OR THE NEXT SHOT'LL LET DAYLIGHT THROUGH YOU!

ZZING!



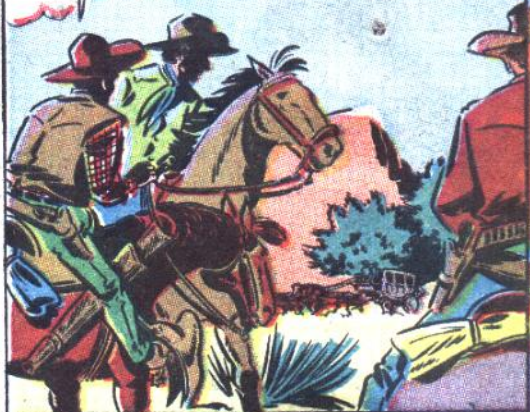
PANCHO! THAT WAS A GUNSHOT!

SOMEBODY PROBABLY SHOOT AT A JACK RABBIT!



BLACKY! AIN'T THAT THE STAGE COMIN' OUTA THOSE COTTONWOODS?

SURE IS! COME ON, BOYS!



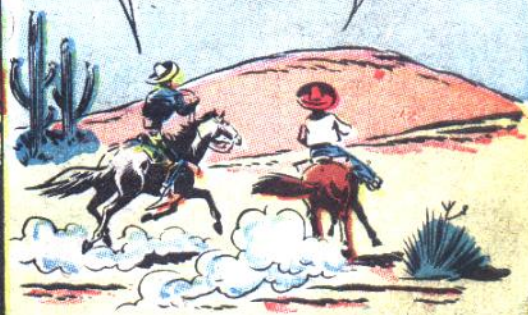
MASKED MEN! IT'S--- IT'S A HOLDUP!

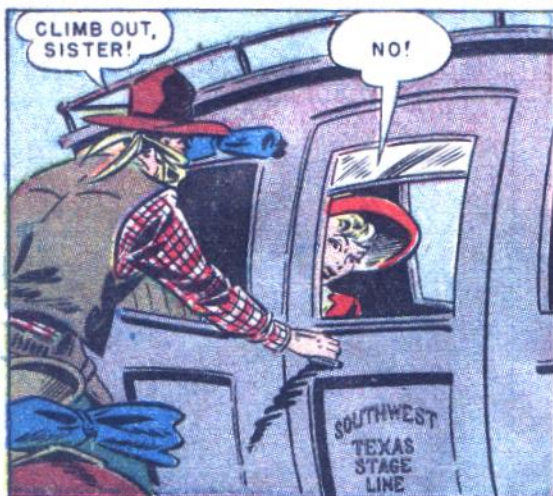
'FRAID SO, MA'AM! BUT DON'T WORRY! THEY WON'T HURT US IF WE DON'T CROSS 'EM!

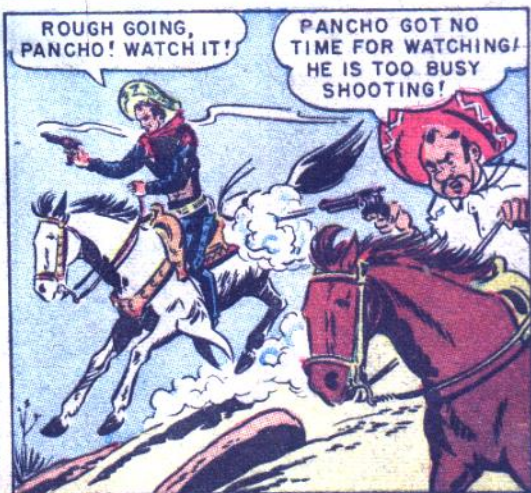
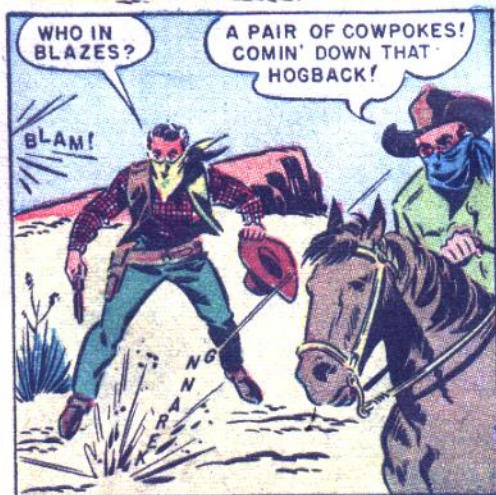


MAYBE! IT CAME FROM BEYOND THAT HOGBACK! COME! WE WILL HAVE A LOOK!

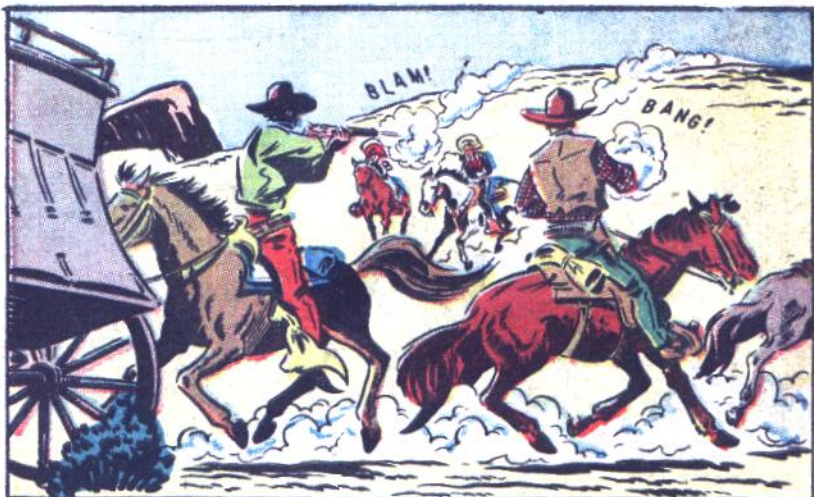
AND GET INTO TROUBLE, AS USUAL! AND NOT GET TO CHIHUAHUA--- ALSO AS USUAL!







SPREADING OUT,
THE GUNS OF THE
MASKED MEN
ROAR DEFIANCE
AT THE ONCOMING
RIDERS...

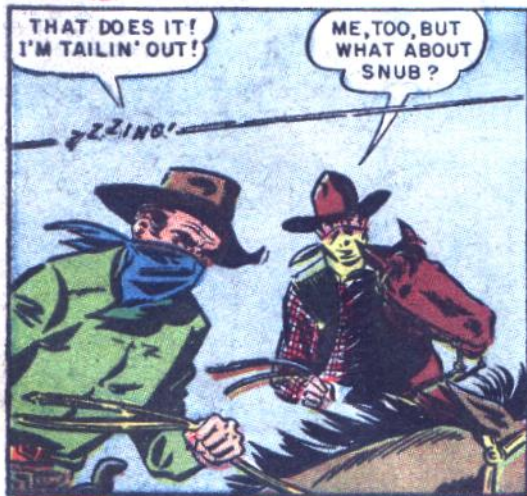


RECKON IT'S TIME
I TOOK A HAND
IN THIS FRAGAS!



INTO THE
DIRT, POLECAT!

OOO FF!



THAT DOES IT!
I'M TAILIN' OUT!

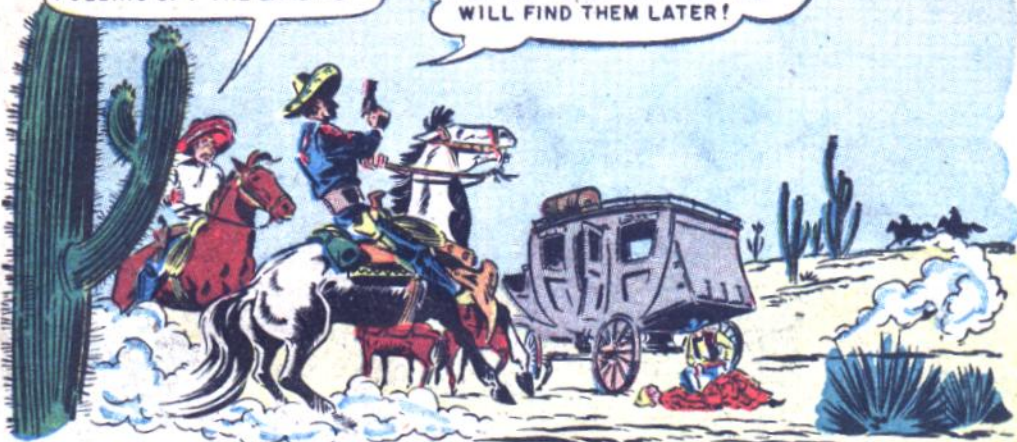
ME, TOO, BUT
WHAT ABOUT
SNUB?



HE'S A GONER! IF
YOU DON'T WANTA BE
ONE, TOO, SHOVE IN
THE STEEL!

CISCO! FOR WHY YOU ARE
PULLING UP? THE BANDITS---

--- HAVE TOO BIG A HEADSTART
FOR US TO CATCH THEM! WE
WILL FIND THEM LATER!



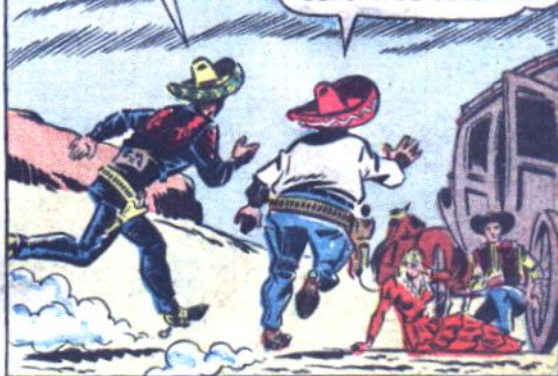
RIGHT NOW, WE
ARE NEEDED
HERE!

WE? PANTHO
THINK THE DOCTOR
AND THE GRAVE-
DIGGER BE MORE
NEEDED!



YOU LOOK AFTER
THE WOUNDED
BANDIT, PANTHO!

SI! LIKE ALWAYS
PANTHO LOOK AFTER
THE BAD HOMBRES AND
CISCO LOOK AT THE
BEAUTIFUL SEÑORITA!



SEÑORITA! ARE
YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES! BUT MY
FELLOW PASSENGER!
THE BANDIT SHOT
HIM --- BECAUSE HE
TRIED TO PROTECT
ME!



IS HE DEAD,
DRIVER?

NO! BUT IF HE
DOESN'T GET TO A
DOCTOR SOON, HE
WILL BE!



AND THIS HOMBRE
BE THE SAME! HE IS
HURT PRETTY
BAD!

GET MY CANTEEN AND
SADDLEBAGS! I WILL PUT
TEMPORARY DRESSINGS
ON THEIR WOUNDS!



HERE, CISCO!
AND NOW WHAT
DO PANCHO DO?

KEEP YOUR EYE
ON THIS COYOTE!
THE PASSENGER IS A
GENTLEMAN, AND
LAW-ABIDING! HE
DESERVES TO BE
TREATED FIRST!



I KNOW A LITTLE
ABOUT FIRST AID!
LET ME HELP
YOU---PLEASE!

VERY WELL,
SEÑORITA! IF
YOU FEEL
UP TO IT!

I DO! BUT I WISH
I COULD FIGURE OUT
WHY ANYONE SHOULD
WANT TO KIDNAP ME!

KIDNAPPING IS
USUALLY DONE
FOR A RANSOM!



BUT I HAVEN'T ANY
MONEY! I HAD BARELY
ENOUGH TO PAY MY WAY
OUT HERE! SO RANSOM
COULDN'T BE THE
REASON!

HMMM! DO YOU
MIND TELLING ME
WHY YOU CAME
TO TEXAS?



NOT AT ALL! I CAME TO
CLAIM AN INHERITANCE LEFT ME
BY MY UNCLE--- MATTHEW
RUSSELL! HE WAS MURDERED
LAST WEEK!

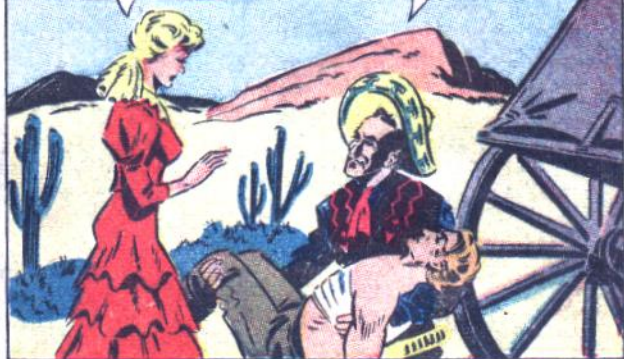


MADRE MIA! I DID NOT KNOW
SEÑOR RUSSELL PERSONALLY,
BUT I HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT
HIM! HE WAS A VERY FINE MAN!



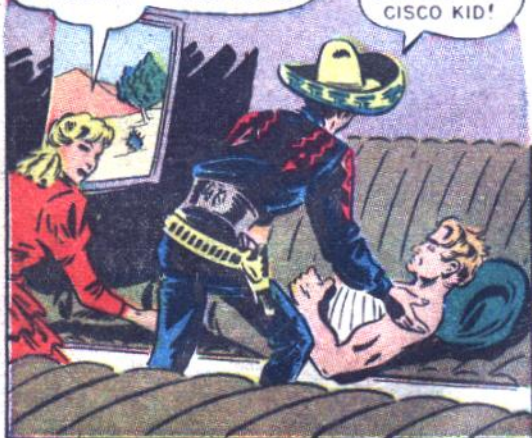
! I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT!
I DIDN'T KNOW HIM, EITHER!
AND NOW--- NOW I SHALL
NEVER KNOW HIM! NOR
WHY HE WAS KILLED!

DO NOT BE TOO
SURE OF THAT ---
SEÑORITA--- WHAT
DID YOU SAY YOUR
NAME WAS?



I DIDN'T! BUT IT IS SUSAN
WINSLOW! --- AND YOURS?

I AM
CALLED THE
CISCO KID!

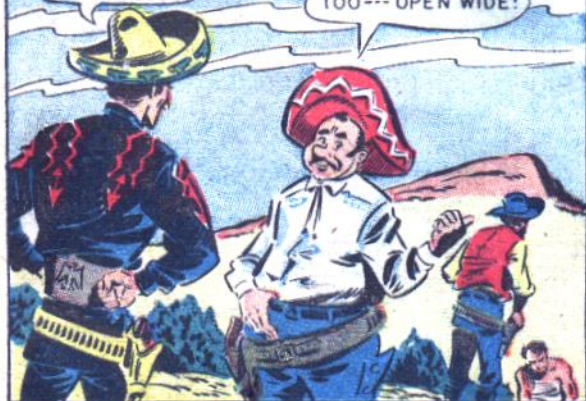


AND PANCHO
IS PANCHO!



PANCHO! DID I NOT
TELL YOU TO WATCH
THE BANDIT?

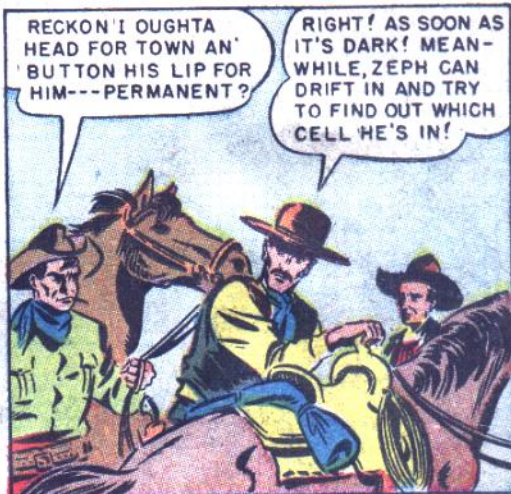
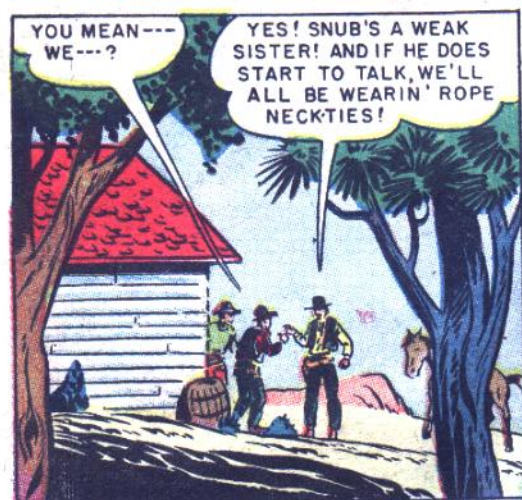
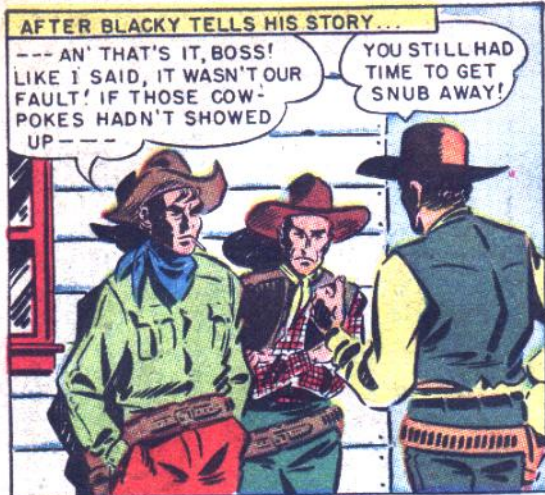
SI! PANCHO WATCH
TILL HIS EYES POP!
BANDIT'S EYES POP,
TOO--- OPEN WIDE!

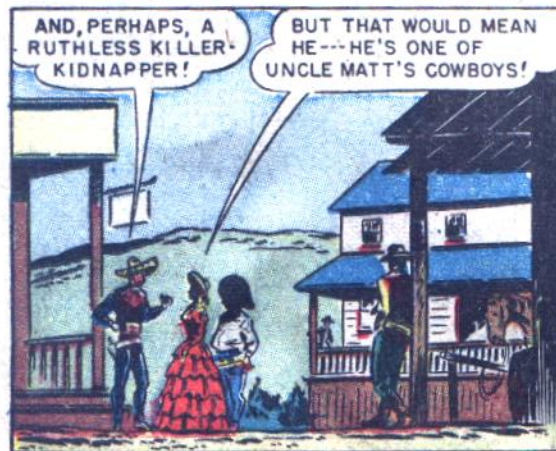


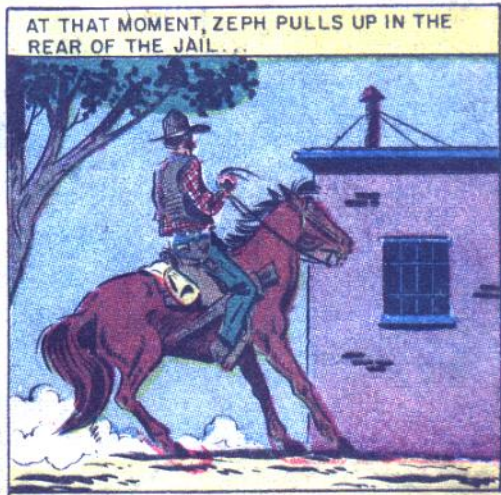
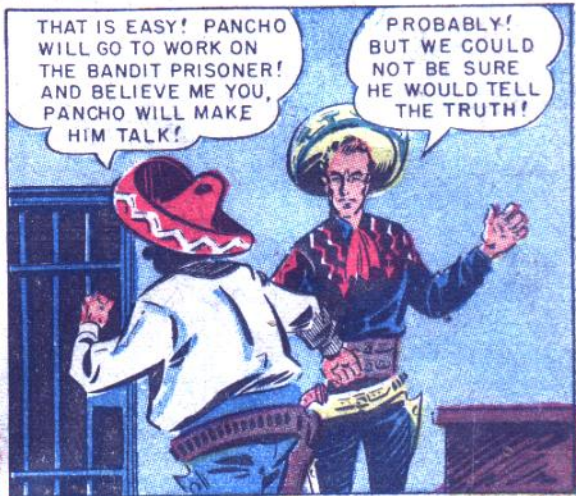
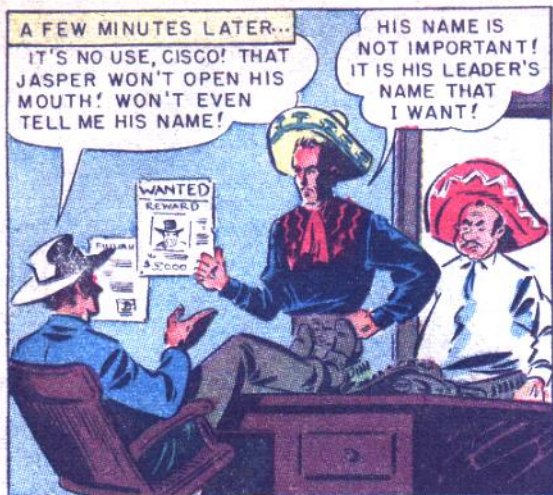
SO PANCHO TIE UP THE
BANDIT'S SHOULDER AND LET
THE DRIVER WATCH FOR AWHILE!
THEN PANCHO COME TO SEE
WHAT CISCO IS UP TO!

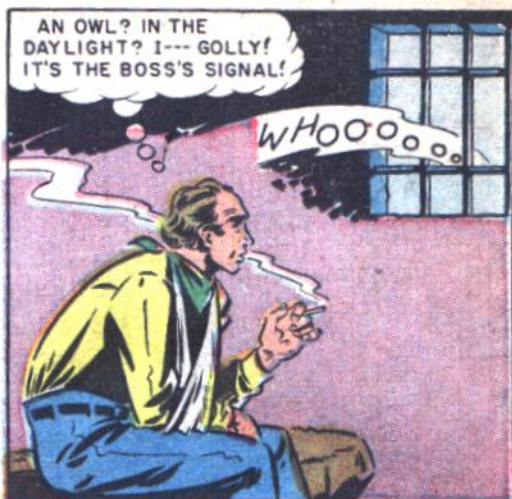
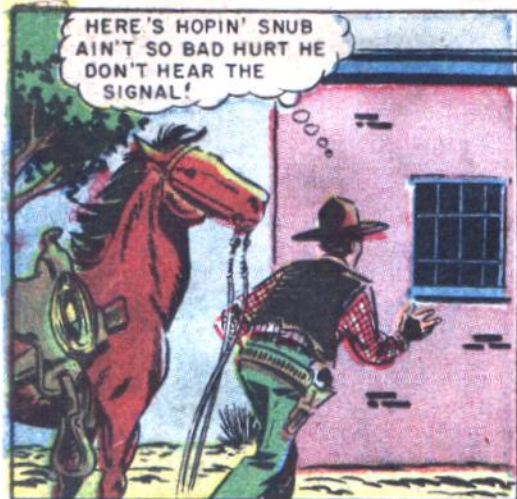


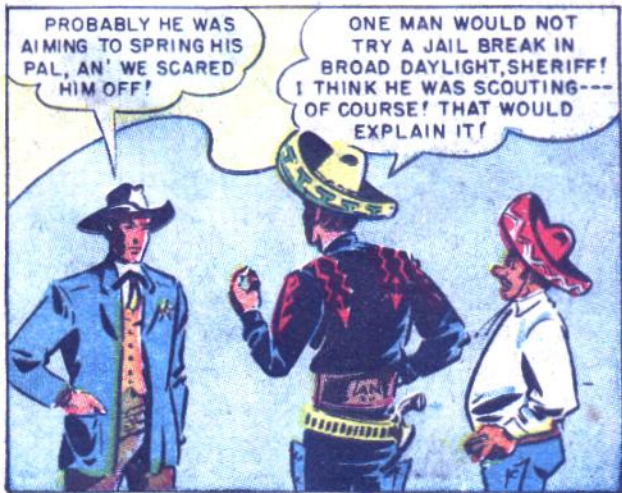
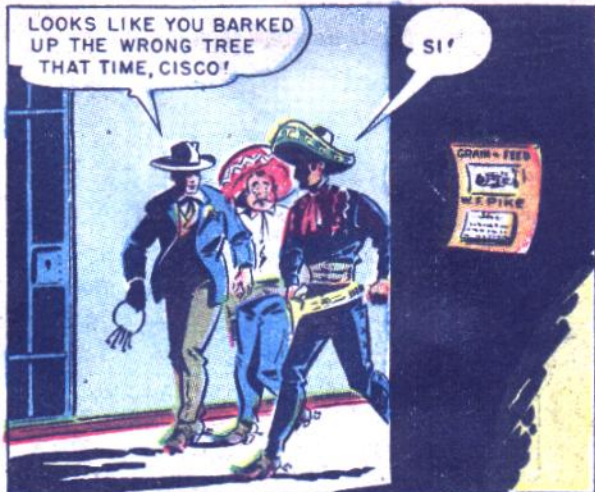














WHAT EXPLAIN
WHAT? AND
WHO TO?

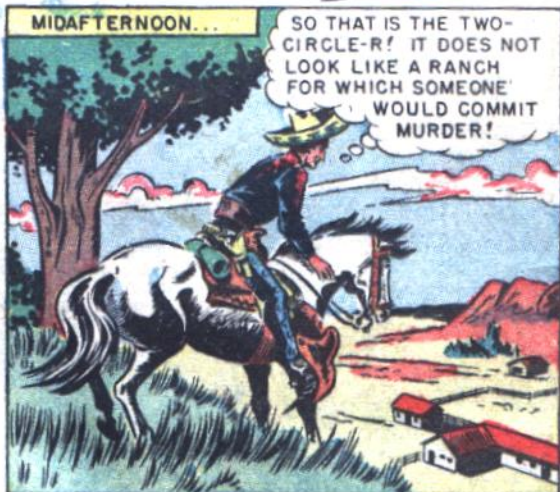
I WILL TELL YOU LATER!
HURRY! FIND SEÑORITA
SUSAN AND DO NOT LET
HER OUT OF YOUR SIGHT!



DO NOT WORRY, AMIGO! PANCHO
STICK TO HER AS CLOSE AS
THE WALL ON THE PAPER!



NOW, SHERIFF, WE HAVE SOME PLANS
TO MAKE! THEN I WILL RIDE OUT
TO THE TWO-CIRCLE-R! QUIEN
SABE? PERHAPS I SHALL
FIND THE MOTIVE--- IF
NOT THE CRIMINAL!



MIDAFTERNOON...

SO THAT IS THE TWO-
CIRCLE-R! IT DOES NOT
LOOK LIKE A RANCH
FOR WHICH SOMEONE'
WOULD COMMIT
MURDER!

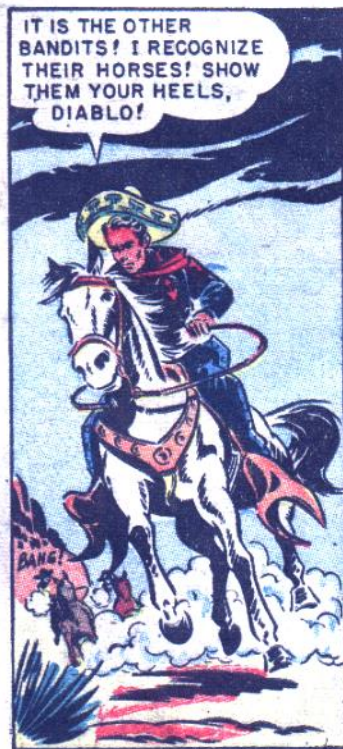


PERHAPS THE ANSWER LIES
IN THESE SURROUNDING HILLS!
GOLD?--- TIMBER?



GOSH, BLACKY! IT'LL BE
SUNDOWN IN A COUPLA
HOURS! I'VE GOT A HUNCH
THE GAL AIN'T GONNA
SHOW UP--- NOT TODAY,
ANYWAYS!

SAME HERE!
SUPPOSIN' YOU
DRIFT BACK TO
THE HOUSE AN'---
OH-OH! COMPANY!



THREE MINUTES LATER...

SANTO! A KILLER ON EACH
SIDE! AND A CUT-BANK AHEAD!
THERE IS ONLY ONE THING TO DO!



SKILLFULLY, CISCO ROLLS
DOWN THE STEEP GRADE...



LANDING UNHURT NEAR THE BOTTOM!

IF ONLY THEY DO
NOT COME DOWN TO
CHECK ON ME!

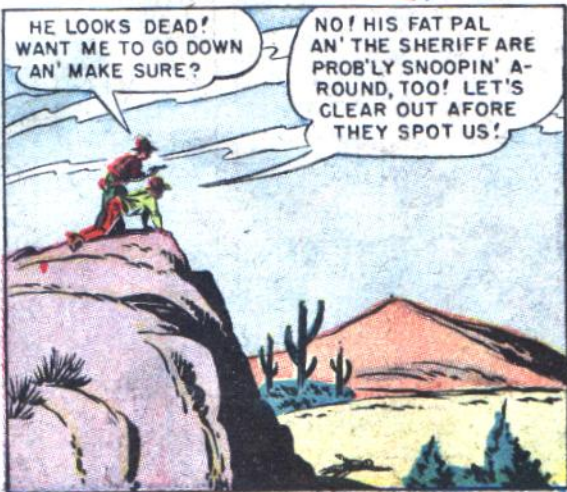


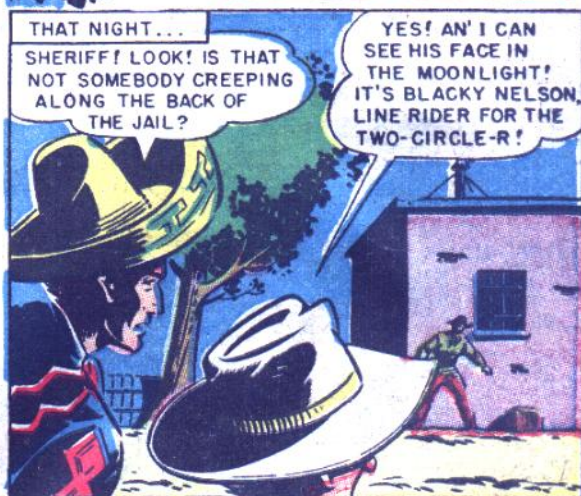
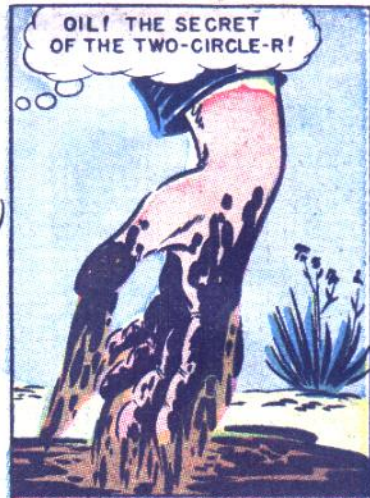
KEEP GOING, DIABLO!
BUT STAY WITHIN HAILING
DISTANCE!



HE LOOKS DEAD!
WANT ME TO GO DOWN
AN' MAKE SURE?

NO! HIS FAT PAL
AN' THE SHERIFF ARE
PROB'LY SNOOPIN' A-
ROUND, TOO! LET'S
CLEAR OUT AFORE
THEY SPOT US!

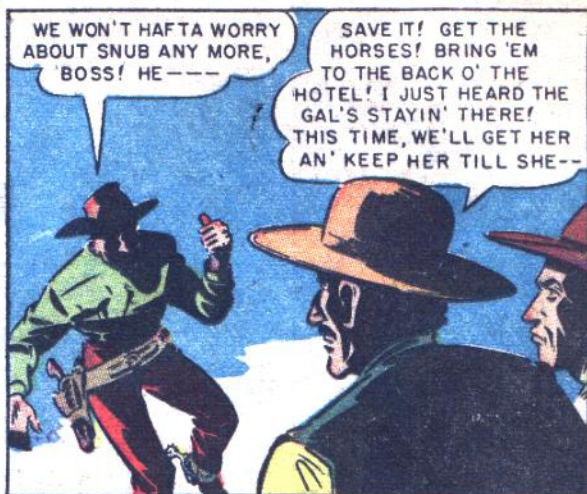






TOO BAD HE AIN'T
NEVER GONNA
WAKE UP!

BLAM!
BLAM!



WE WON'T HAFTA WORRY
ABOUT SNUB ANY MORE,
BOSS! HE---

SAVE IT! GET THE
HORSES! BRING 'EM
TO THE BACK O' THE
HOTEL! I JUST HEARD THE
GAL'S STAYIN' THERE!
THIS TIME, WE'LL GET HER
AN' KEEP HER TILL SHE--



REACH FOR THE
SKY, YOU
POLECATS!

OR YOU
WILL STAY
HERE---
PERMANENTLY!

HOLD YOUR
FIRE! I
KNOW WHEN
TO QUIT!



THE NEXT MORNING...

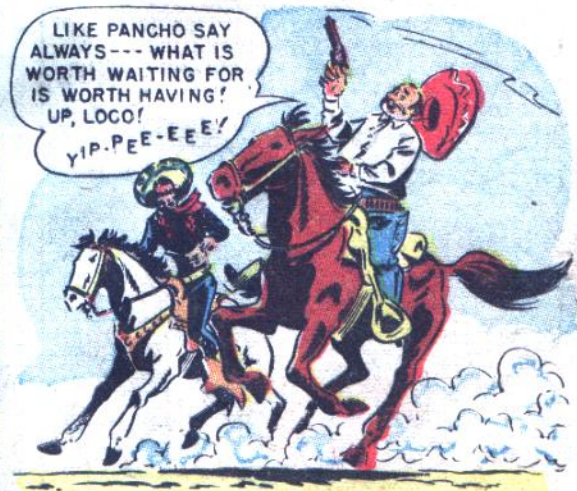
OIL! IT'S INCREDIBLE!
AND THE KILLERS IN
JAIL! CISCO! PANCHO!
YOU'RE AMAZING!
PLEASE COME BACK
TO SEE ME SOON!

BUT OF COURSE,
SEÑORITA! WE
WILL STOP ON
OUR WAY BACK
FROM CHIHUAHUA!



CISCO! WE ARE
REALLY GOING
THERE? FINALLY?
AT LAST? NOW?

SI, AMIGO!



LIKE PANCHO SAY
ALWAYS--- WHAT IS
WORTH WAITING FOR
IS WORTH HAVING!
UP, LOCO!
YIP-PEE-EE!

THE CISCO KID

IN THE LONG ROPERS

BUT, CISCO, WHY
CANNOT PANCHO GO
TO BEAR CREEK WITH
YOU?

BECAUSE TWO OF US
WOULD ATTRACT TOO
MUCH ATTENTION!



IF WE ARE TO HELP OUR OLD
FRIEND, SHERIFF WINTERS, CATCH
THOSE HORSE THIEVES WHO
ARE CAUSING HIM SO MUCH
TROUBLE, IT IS BETTER IF
THE THIEVES DO NOT BECOME
SUSPICIOUS! UNDERSTAND?



SI! BUT WHAT PANCHO
WILL DO WITH HIM-
SELF WHILE YOU
ARE GONE?

MAKE TORTILLAS! TAKE A
NAP! ANYTHING--- JUST
AS LONG AS YOU DO NOT
GET INTO MISCHIEF!

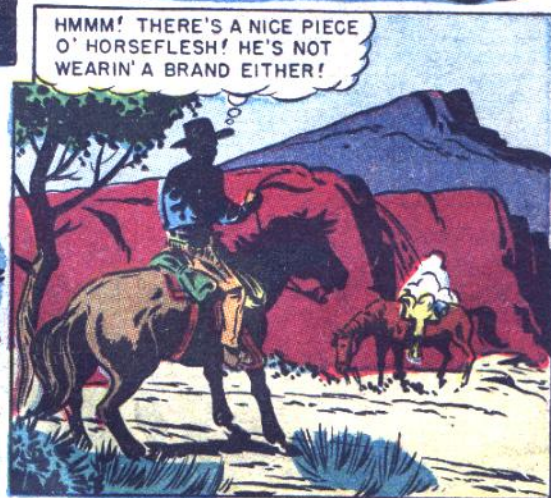


BAH! IT IS TOO HOT TO
COOK! AND TOO SOON TO
SLEEP! SO--- AHA!
PANCHO WILL GO FOR
THE SWIMMING!



LOOK OUT, FISHES!
HERE COMES PANCHO!





SANTO! WHEN PANCHO
CATCH THAT HORSE STEALER,
HE WIPE HIM UP WITH
THE GROUND!

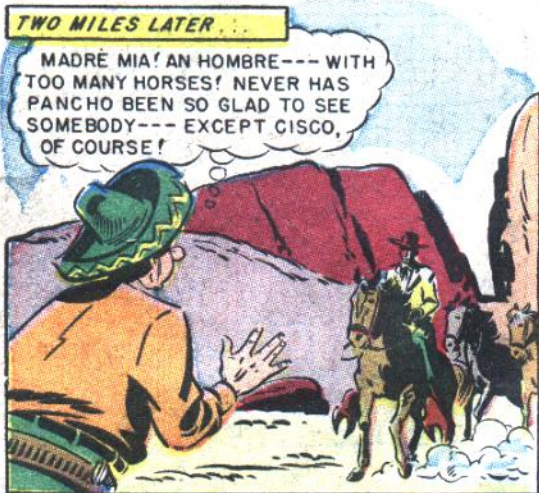


THREE MILES!
PANCHO GET THE CORNS
JUST THINKING ABOUT
WALKING SO FAR!



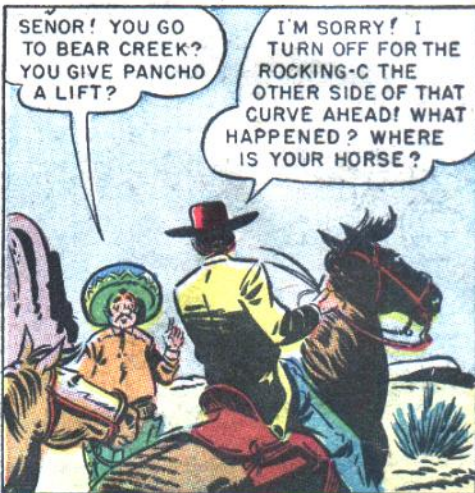
TWO MILES LATER...

MADRÉ MIA! AN HOMBRE--- WITH
TOO MANY HORSES! NEVER HAS
PANCHO BEEN SO GLAD TO SEE
SOMEBODY--- EXCEPT CISCO,
OF COURSE!



SENOR! YOU GO
TO BEAR CREEK?
YOU GIVE PANCHO
A LIFT?

I'M SORRY! I
TURN OFF FOR THE
ROCKING-C THE
OTHER SIDE OF THAT
CURVE AHEAD! WHAT
HAPPENED? WHERE
IS YOUR HORSE?

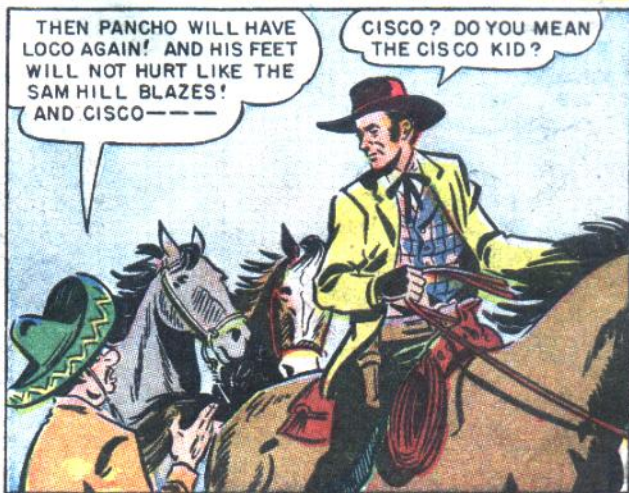


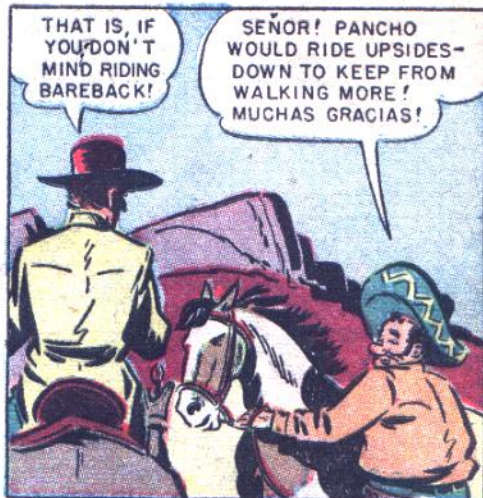
A MASKED HOMBRE STEAL HIM
WHEN PANCHO IS SWIMMING!
AND PANCHO MUST FIND HIS
AMIGO, AND TELL HIM TO
CATCH THE HORSE
STEALERS, MUY PRONTO!



THEN PANCHO WILL HAVE
LOCO AGAIN! AND HIS FEET
WILL NOT HURT LIKE THE
SAM HILL BLAZES!
AND CISCO---

CISCO? DO YOU MEAN
THE CISCO KID?





AFTER PANCHO EXPLAINS...

PANCHO IS SORRY HE LET
THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG
BUT--- POOF!--- IT
SLIP BEFORE HE
KNOW IT!

WHAT IS DONE
IS DONE! I WILL
RETURN TO OUR
CAMP AND TRY
TO PICK UP
LOCO'S TRAIL!



YOU GO INTO TOWN,
LEAVE THE HORSE AT
THE LIVERY AND WAIT
FOR ME AT THE
SHERIFF'S OFFICE!

OKAY!

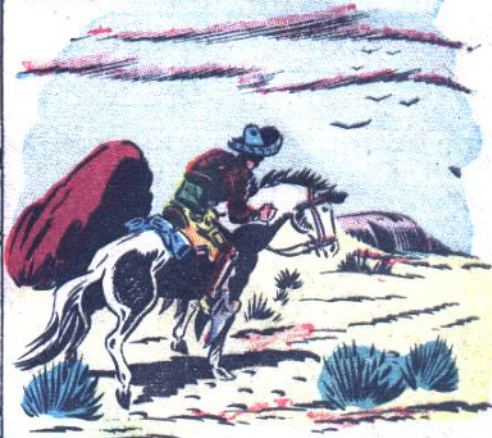


STILL LATER...

AHA! THE NEW SHOES LOCO
IS WEARING LEAVE VERY CLEAR
TRACKS! AND HERE IS THE
BANDIT'S TRAIL!



FOR HALF AN HOUR, CISCO FOLLOWS THE
DOUBLE TRACKS...

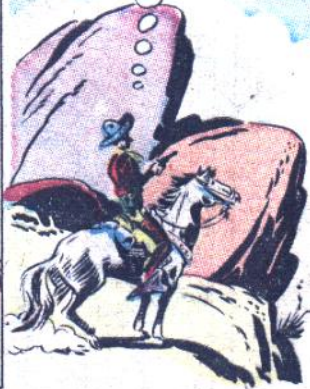


AND THEN...

MADRE MIA!
AN AMBUSH!



IF HE WOULD ONLY
FIRE AGAIN SO I COULD
LOCATE HIM!



MIGHT AS WELL GIVE UP,
CISCO! BETWEEN OUR
GUNS AN' THAT ARROYO,
YOU HAVEN'T GOT A
CHANCE!



CISCO POURS LEAD IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE VOICE...

THAT SHOULD PIN YOU DOWN
UNTIL...



THEN THROWS MORE BULLETS IN THE
OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

--- I CAN
SWING DIABLO
AROUND!

BANG!
BANG!

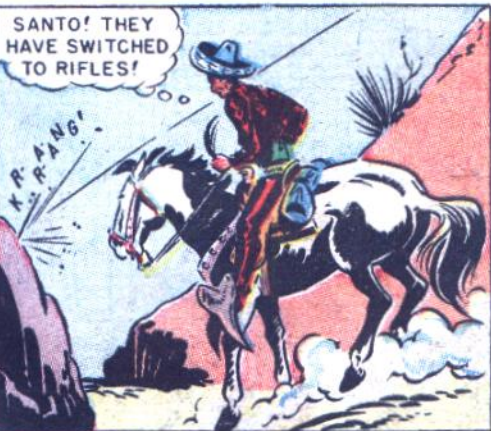


AND THEN TACKLES THE STEEP,
DIRT-WALLED ARROYO.

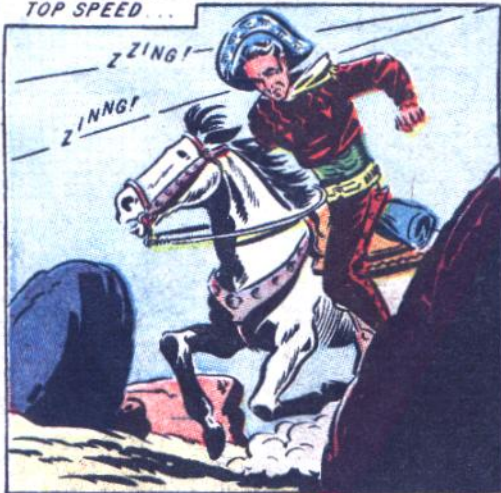
NOW IT IS UP TO
YOU, DIABLO!

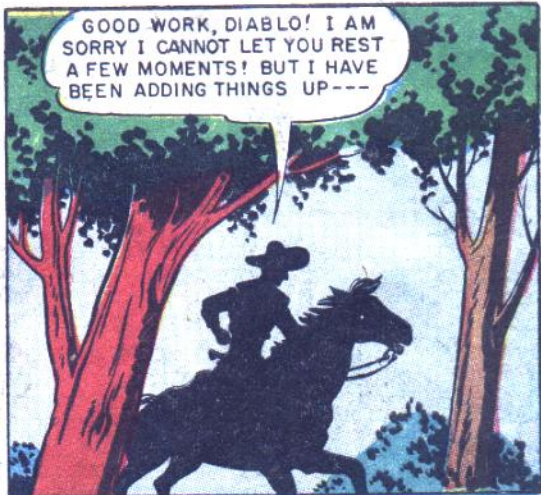
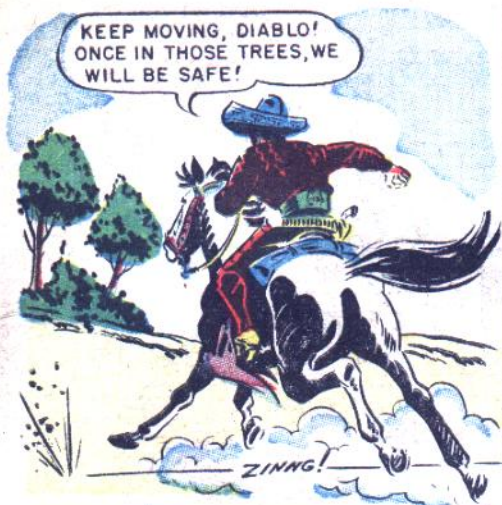


SANTO! THEY
HAVE SWITCHED
TO RIFLES!



IN A HAIL OF LEAD, DIABLO ZIGZAGS
THROUGH THE TUMBLING BOULDERS AT
TOP SPEED.







I AM HERE, SEÑOR SHERIFF!
AND I AGREE WITH YOU!
PANCHO SHOULD STAY IN
JAIL--- AT LEAST UNTIL
AFTER DARK!

OH,
CIS---CO!

THEN
WHAT?



THEN I WILL BAIT A TRAP!
AND YOU TWO--- WITH
A SMALL POSSE WILL SPRING
IT! THEN, IF I HAVE GUESSED
RIGHT, EVERYTHING WILL BE
CLEARED UP! EVEN THE
HORSE THIEVES!

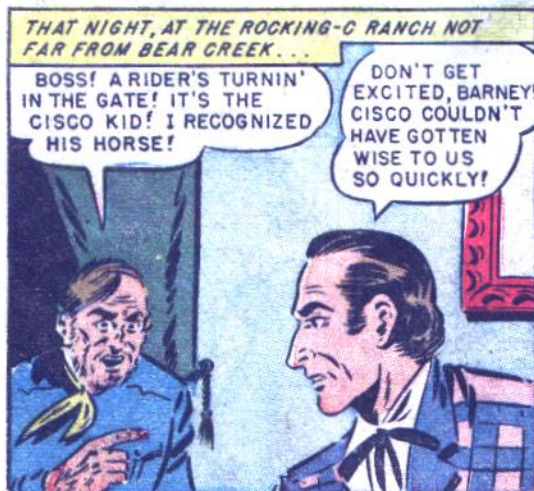


HOLY SMOKE!
YOU'RE NOT
TELLIN' ME YOU
KNOW WHO
THEY ARE?

AND WHY
THE HOMBRE,
BARNEY GIBBS,
PUT THE
FRAME-UP ON
PANCHO?



I THINK I KNOW BOTH OF THOSE
THINGS! BUT I CANNOT PROVE ANY-
THING YET! HOWEVER, WITH LUCK,
WE SHALL GET THE PROOF TONIGHT!



THAT NIGHT, AT THE ROCKING-C RANCH NOT
FAR FROM BEAR CREEK...

BOSS! A RIDER'S TURNIN'
IN THE GATE! IT'S THE
CISCO KID! I RECOGNIZED
HIS HORSE!

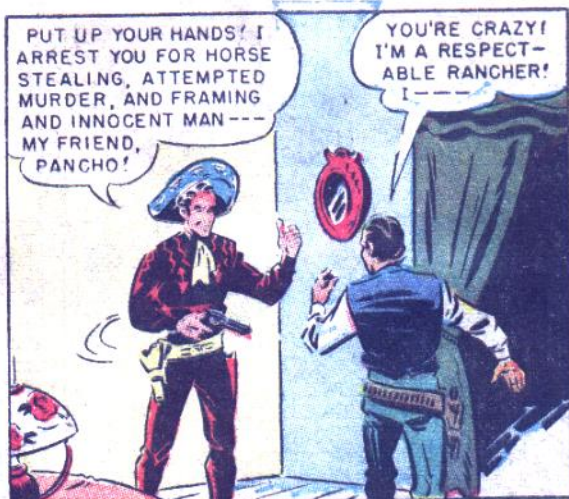
DON'T GET
EXCITED, BARNEY!
CISCO COULDN'T
HAVE GOTTEN
WISE TO US
SO QUICKLY!



THEN WHAT'S HE
COMIN' HERE FOR?

SEARCH ME!
BUT IN CASE ---
HE IS BENT ON
TROUBLE, GET BEHIND
THAT SCREEN AND
KEEP YOUR GUN
HANDY!

A MOMENT OR SO LATER...

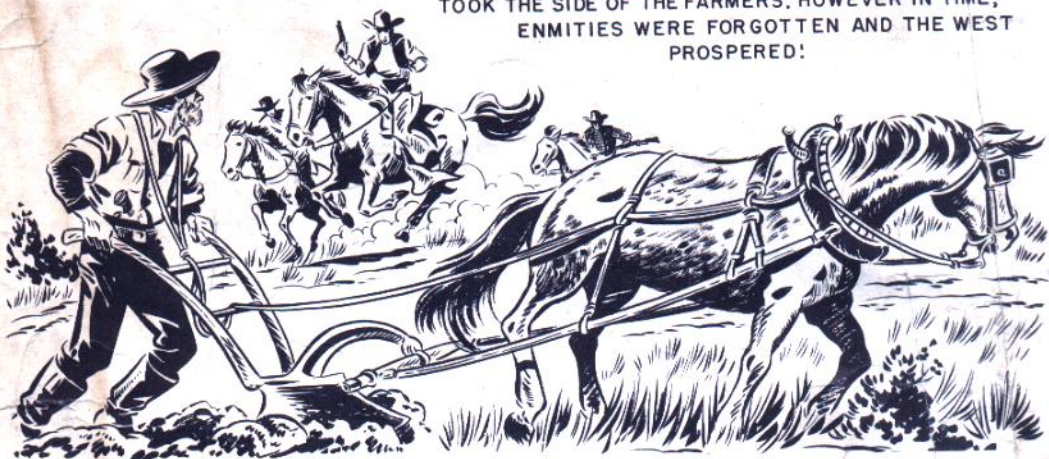




WARFARE on the RANGE

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UP TO THE ADVENT OF THE MASS IMMIGRATION WESTWARD, THE RANCHERS WERE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE ENDLESS GRAZING LANDS. BY THE YEAR 1887, THE HOMESTEADERS WERE PLOWING UP THE PLAINS, FENCING IN THE LAND, AND OFTEN ISOLATING WATER HOLES, SO NECESSARY TO THE CATTLE. THE CATTLE-MEN WERE SWIFT TO WAR ON NESTERS WITH GUN, FIRE AND THREATS. THE DAY OF THE OPEN RANGE WAS OVER AS THE GOVERNMENT TOOK THE SIDE OF THE FARMERS. HOWEVER IN TIME, ENMITIES WERE FORGOTTEN AND THE WEST PROSPERED!



DURING THE DAYS OF THE OPEN RANGE, THE SHEEPMEN WERE THE CURSE OF THE PLAINS. HUGE FLOCKS OF SHEEP NIBBLED THE GRASS TO ITS ROOTS, THEIR SHARP HOOFES THEN CHOPPED THE ROOTS TO BITS SO THERE WOULD BE NO REGROWTH. MILE AFTER MILE, PRECIOUS CATTLE GRAZING LANDS WERE RUINED, AND SHEEP WADING IN WATER HOLES LEFT A PUNGENT, WOOLY TASTE THAT THE CATTLE AND HORSES DETESTED. IT IS LITTLE WONDER THAT THE COWBOYS DEALT SO HARSHLY WITH THE SHEEPHERDERS --- BUT FATE PROVED IN LATER YEARS, THAT SHEEP WERE THE MOST PROFITABLE IN CERTAIN STATES.





The white-tail is the most common big game animal of the eastern United States. He is quite shy and usually the hunter only sees

the white flag of his tail going over a bush. His close relative, the mule deer, is larger.

Courtesy of the American Museum of Natural History, N. Y.