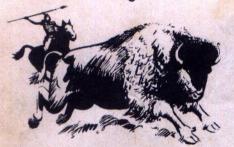


The great American prairies, with their annual coat of luxuriant grass, are ideal for grazing animals. Even in winter, good fodder is available. The prairie grass dries in the late summer sun and makes fine hay. Hardy range animals can feed themselves by pawing away the snow to reach the dried grass.



The original prairie animal was the buffalo. Plains Indians such as the Sioux and the Cheyenne lived almost entirely on a diet of buffalo meat. They dried strips of its flesh in the hot summer sun and ate it throughout the winter.

The first European cattle on the scene were the Spanish longhorns brought here by Spanish colonists. These animals were big, rangy and very determined. Early American cattlemen handled almost nothing but longhorns. They were very hard to handle and gave unlimited trouble because they were excitable—"spooked" by flashes of lightning and claps of thunder.

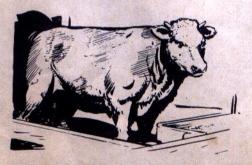




Along about 1890, the era of the shorthorn began. The Hereford was the most popular. They have white faces and dark body colors and are often called "whitefaces." Soon they replaced the Spanish long-horn.

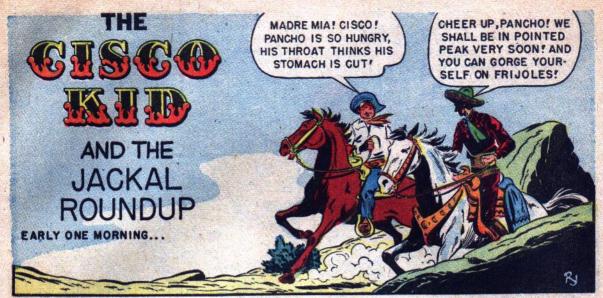
However, one trouble plagued the cattleman. He lost too many steers on the great trail drives to markets in Kansas and Missouri. Charles Goodnight, owner of the great J. A. ranch in Texas, tried crossing the buffalo with the cow to produce a meat-bearing animal that would be hardy enough to withstand the hardships of trail driving and still be tender enough to eat. He named the result of his experiment the "Cattalo," but it was a failure—too tough to eat.





Today, a good percentage of American prime beef is raised on farms. The animals are of many thorough-bred types—the Angus is perhaps the most popular. They are hand fed and pampered and never have to walk more than a few feet under their own power. They are taken to market by truck and railroad. But most large ranches still rely on shorthorns and the cowboy's work remains the same.

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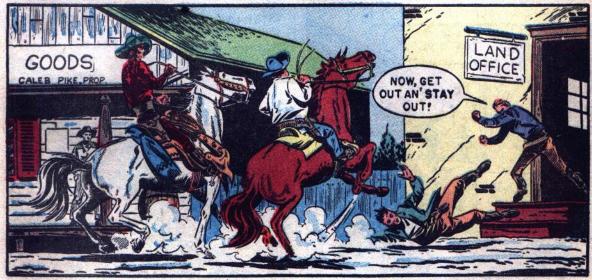














































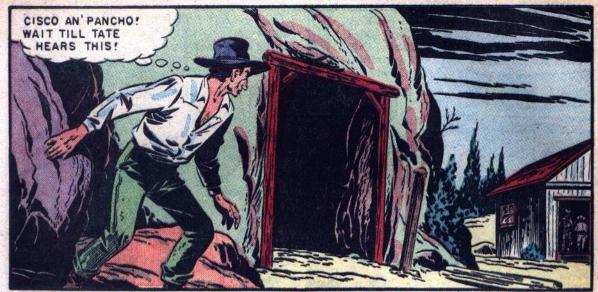




SENOR POKEY WAS VERY

BUSY WORKING --- AT





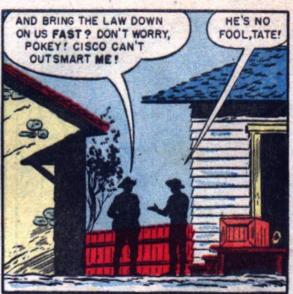


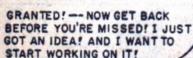




























OKAY! WE'VE SUNK A SHORT VERTICAL SHAFT! THEN BUILT A SLANTING TUNNEL THAT ENDS DIRECTLY UNDER JERRY'S SHAFT! NOW WE'RE DIGGING STRAIGHT DOWN!





BOSS! THE EARTH'S GETTIN' MIGHTY DAMP! I'D SAY WE WERE MIGHTY NEAR WATER!

THAT'S A BREAK I HADN'T COUNTED ON! A GOOD ONE, TOO!















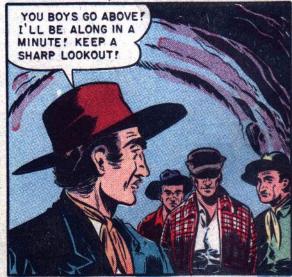














































































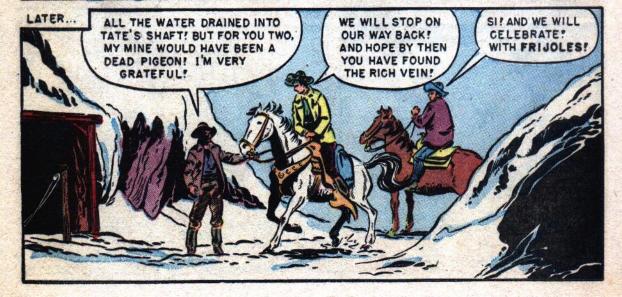










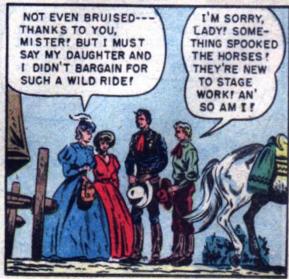
















I'D BE MIGHTY--- PANCHO?
THEN YOU MUST BE THE CISCO
KID! GOLLY! I'VE HEARD
PLENTY ABOUT YOU TWO!





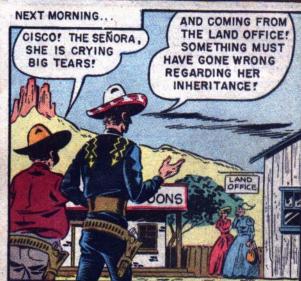




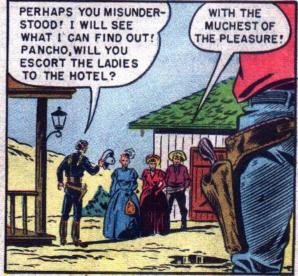




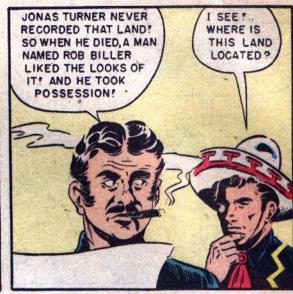


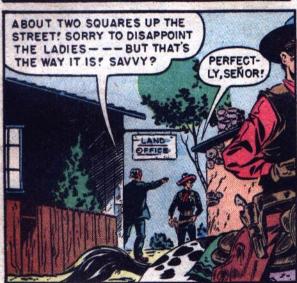










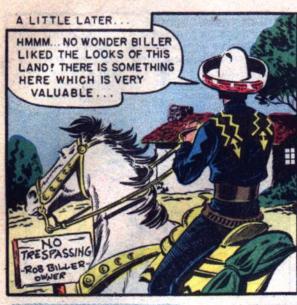






THE LAND AGENT COULD





















HE'S A FRIEND OF THE WIDOW TURNER! I TELL YOU, ROB---IF I'D KNOWN JONAS HAD ANY RELATIONS TO INHERIT I'D NEVER HAVE GONE INTO THIS DEAL!



STOP JITTERIN'! ONLY ONE MORE WEEK AN' WE CLOSE THE DEAL WITH THE MER-CHANTS! AN' VAMOOSE WITH A HUNK O'CASH! I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT WITH CISCO NOSING AROUND---



HOLD IT! I JUST GOT AN IDEA!
IT'LL PUT CISCO ON ICE --BUT GOOD! SIT DOWN! I'LL
RUSTLE US SOME GRUB
WHILE I TELLYOU ABOUT IT!











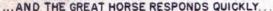


I CANNOT STAY
IN JAIL THAT
LONG! I MUST
THINK OF
SOMETHING!



A FEW MILES FARTHER ON, CISCO WHISPERS TO DIABLO ...



























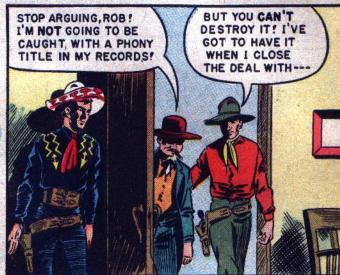


AFTER CISCO RELEASES THE SHERIFF ...











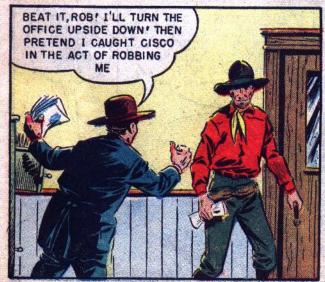






























I'L L TAKE THAT SHOOTING

IRON! THEN LOCK YOU IN





















AT CISCO'S BIDDING, DIABLO HEADS FOR SHORE.







