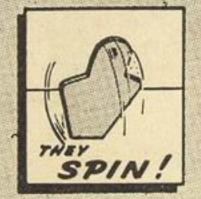


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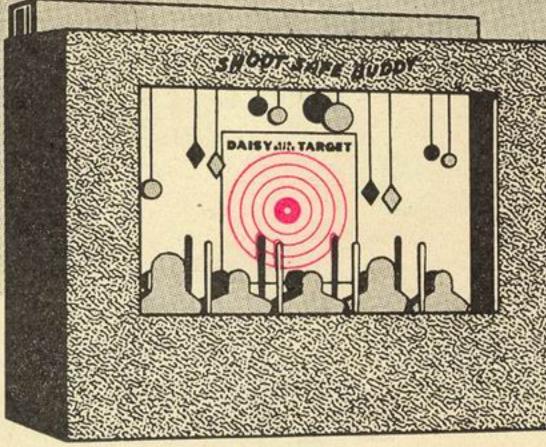
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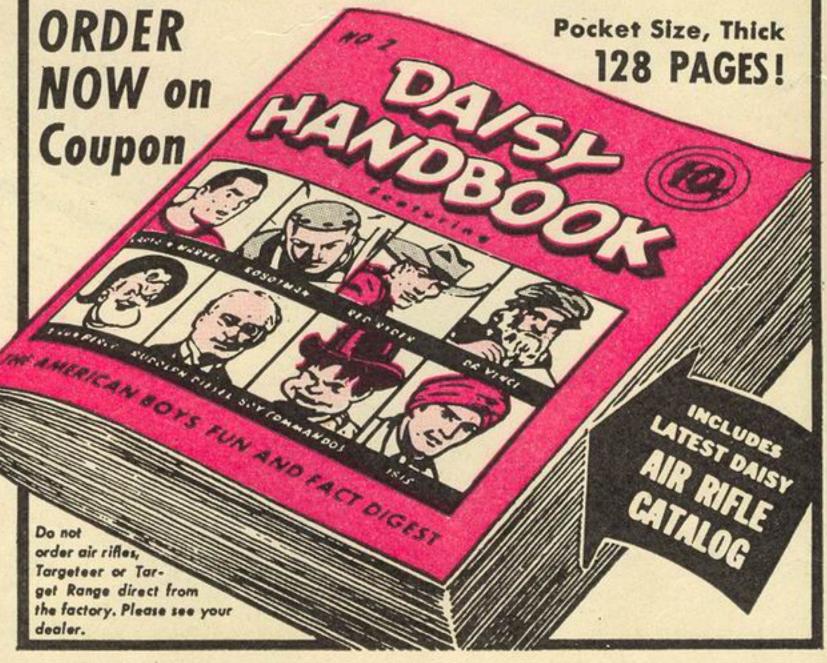
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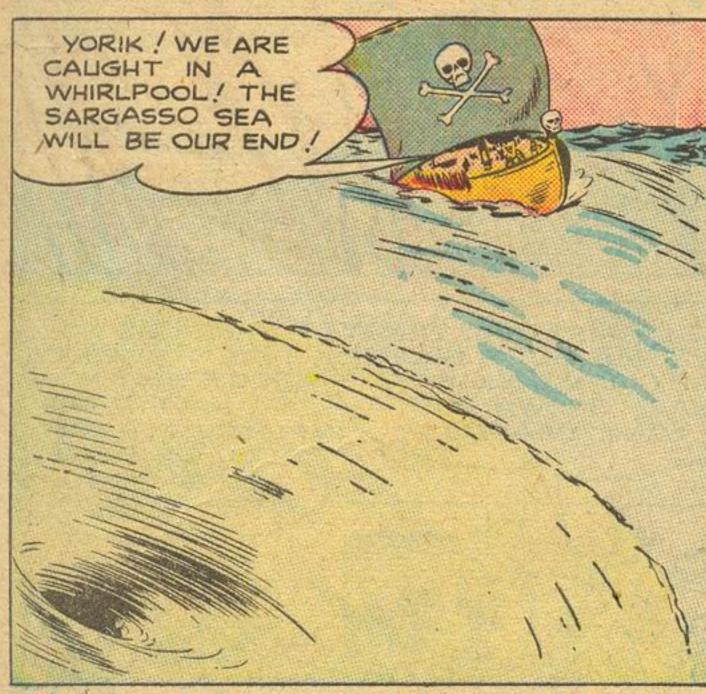
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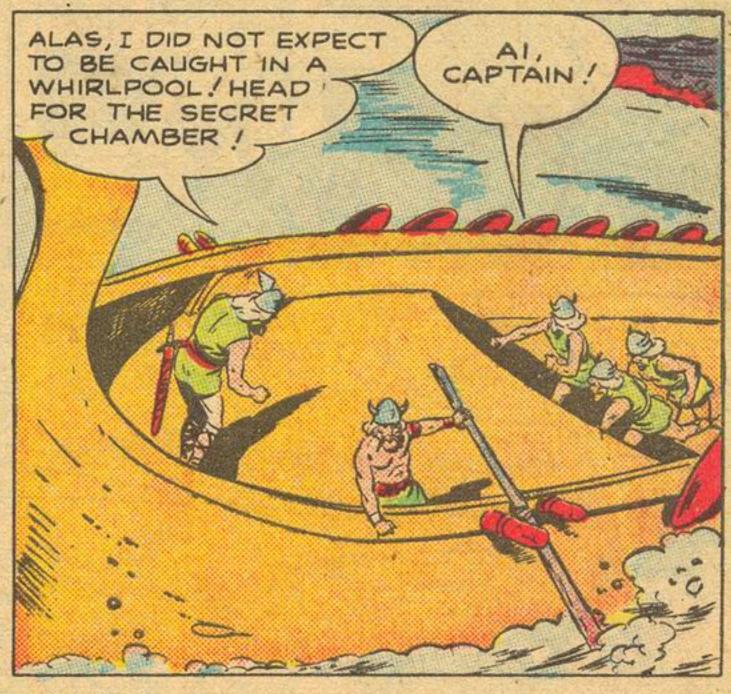
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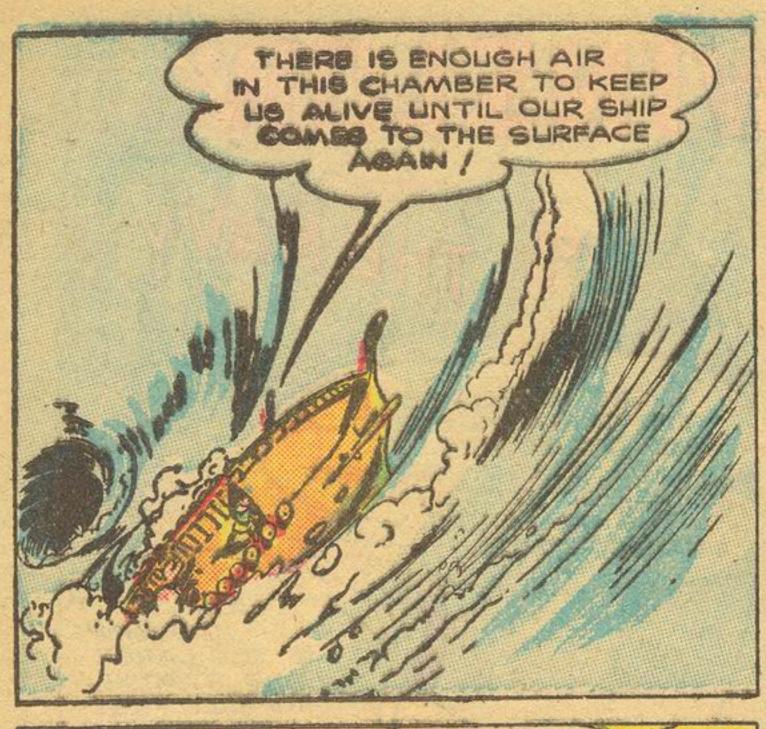




November, 1948. Vol. 11, No. 63
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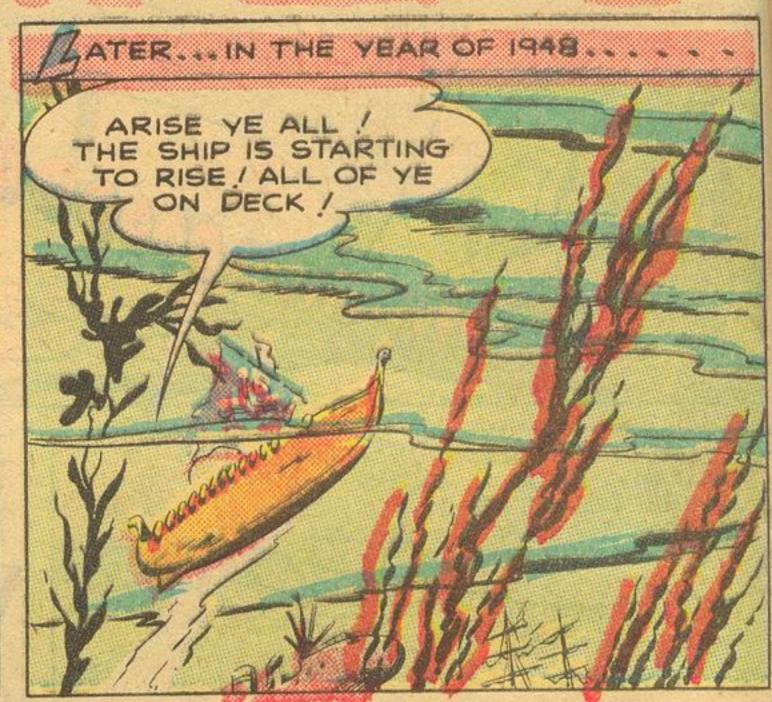
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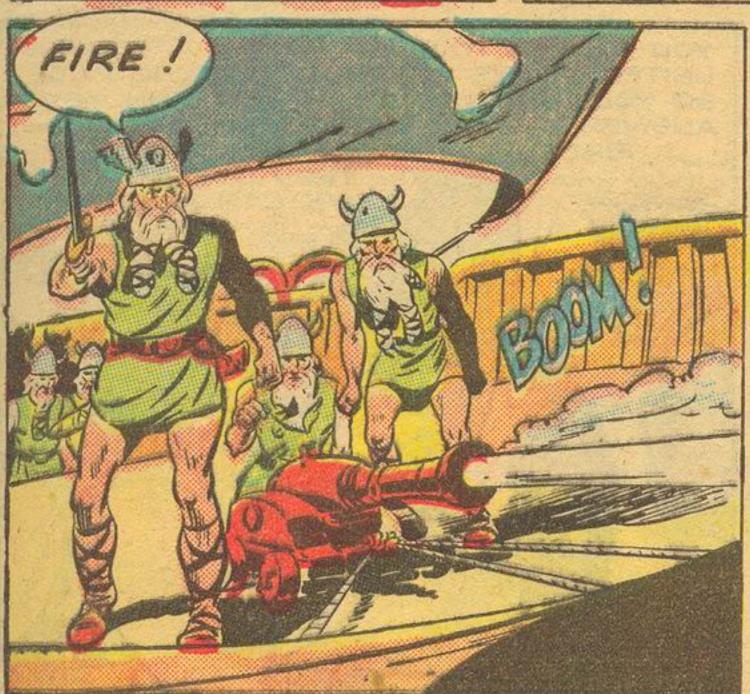






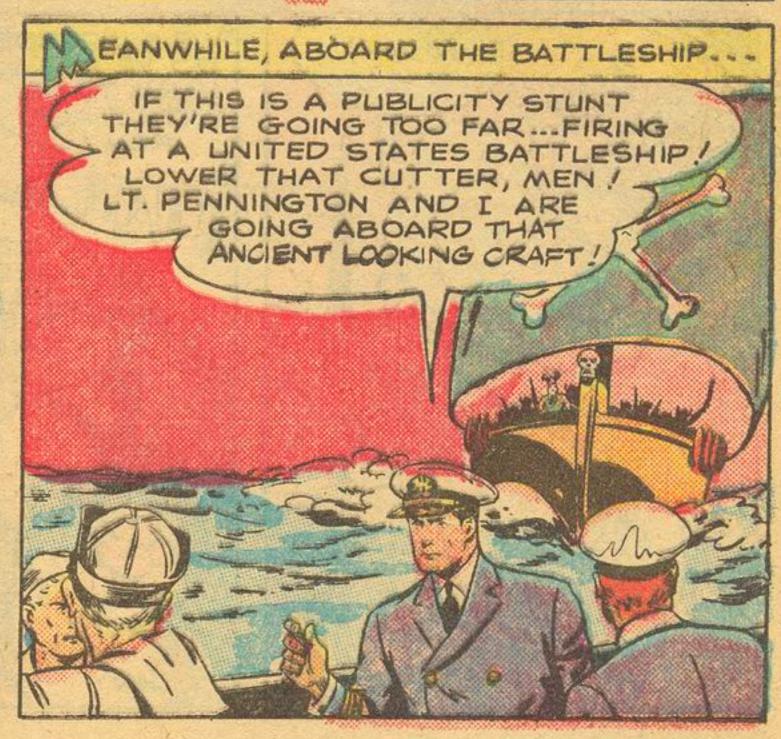




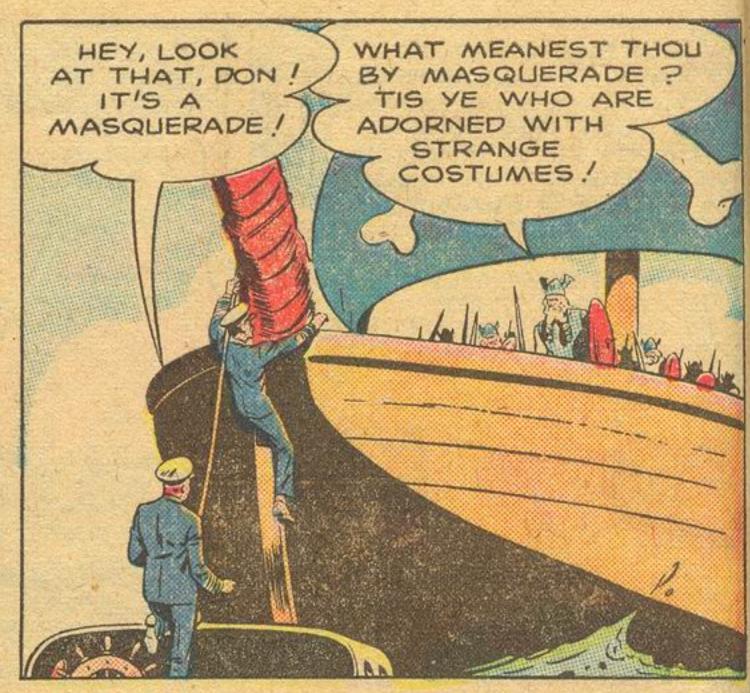


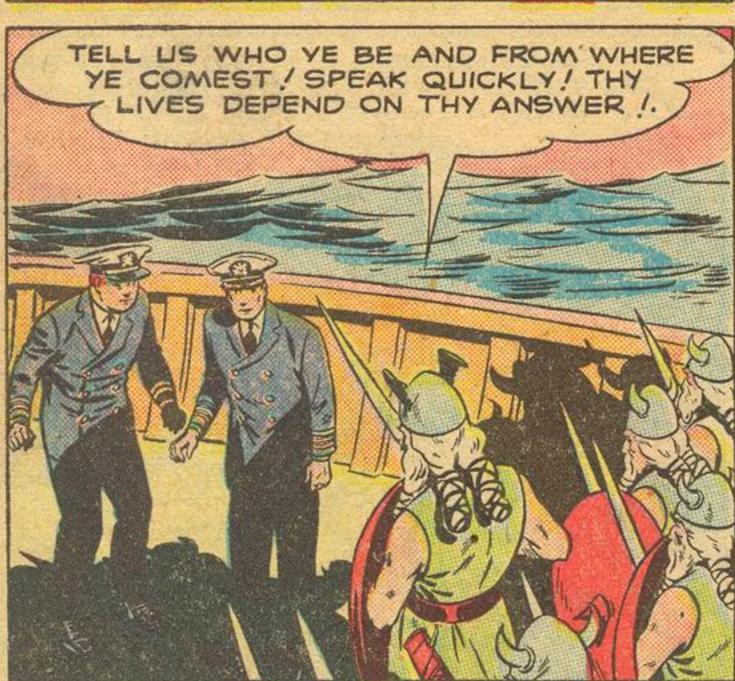




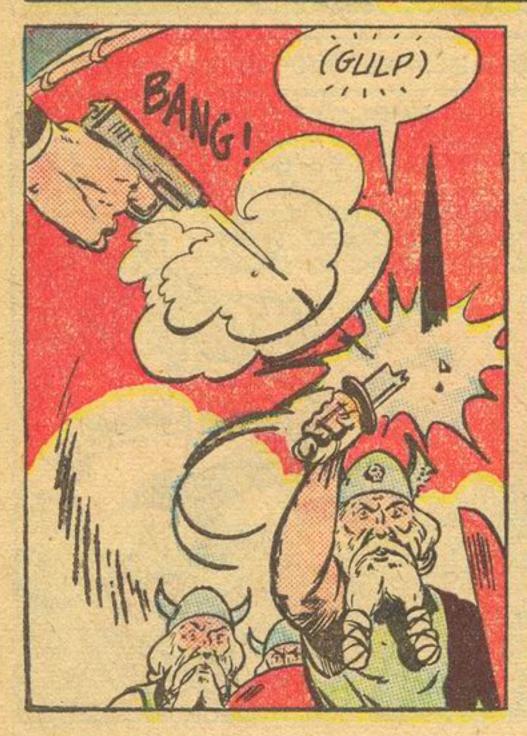














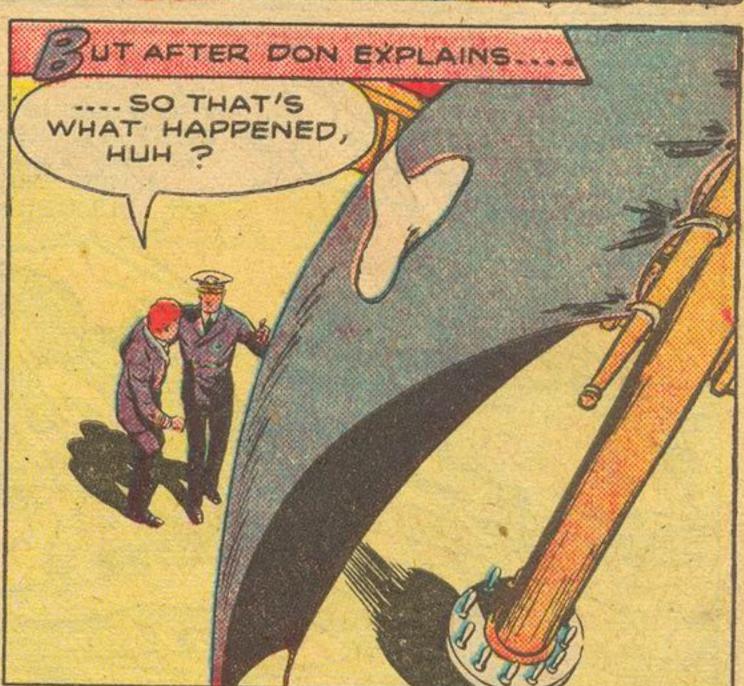


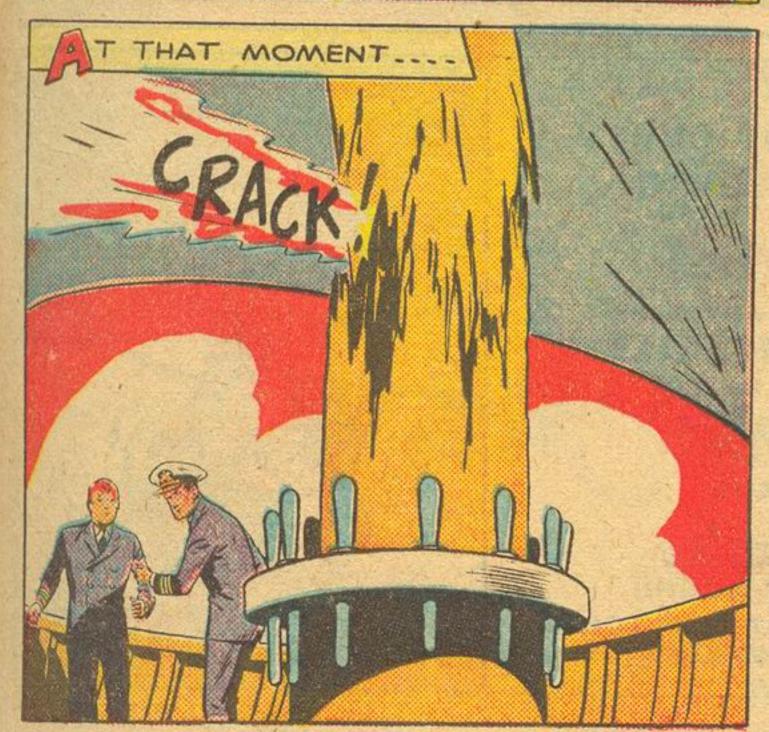


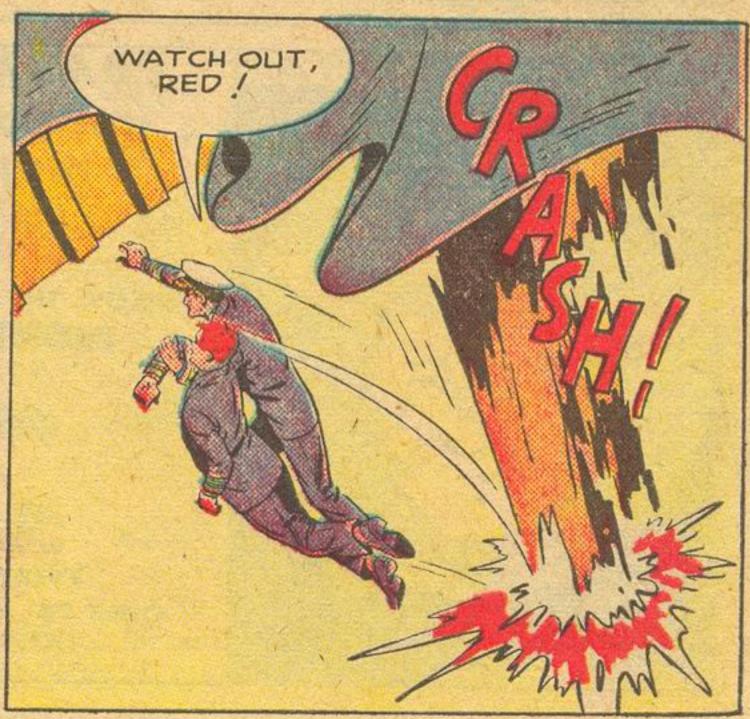






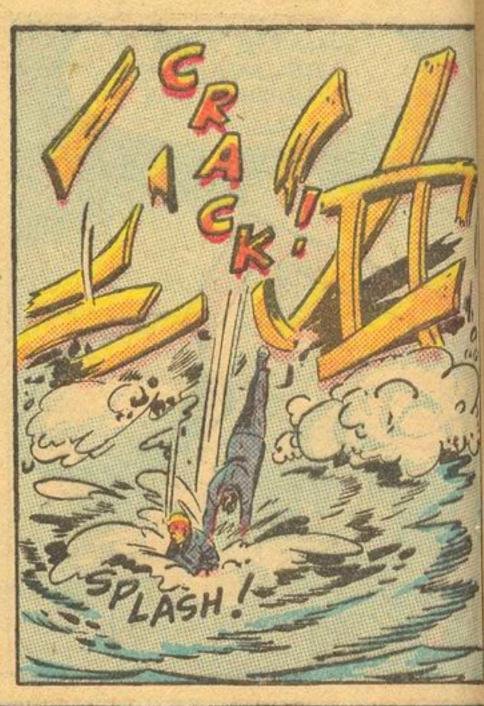


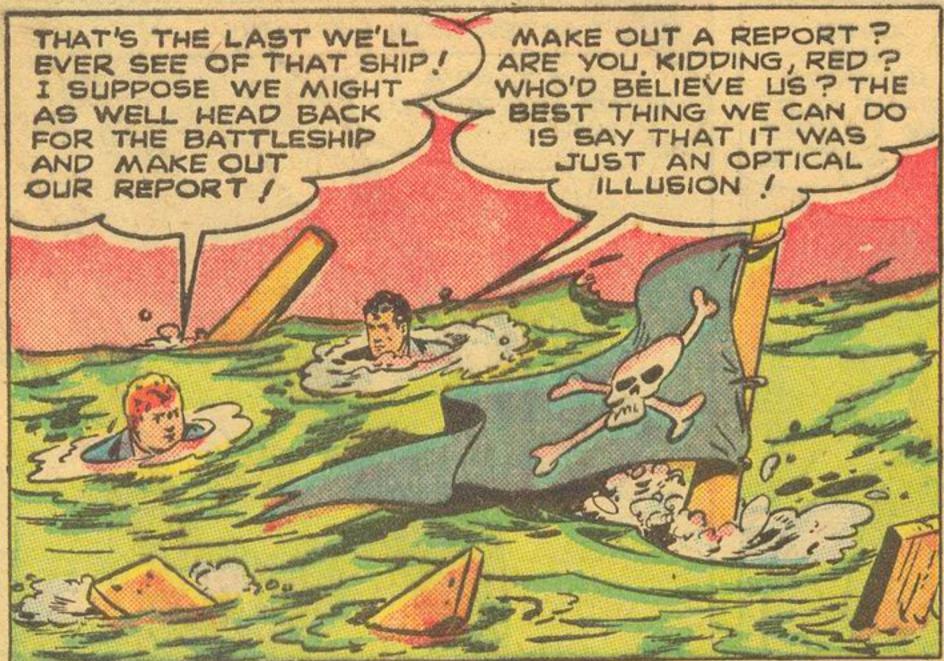




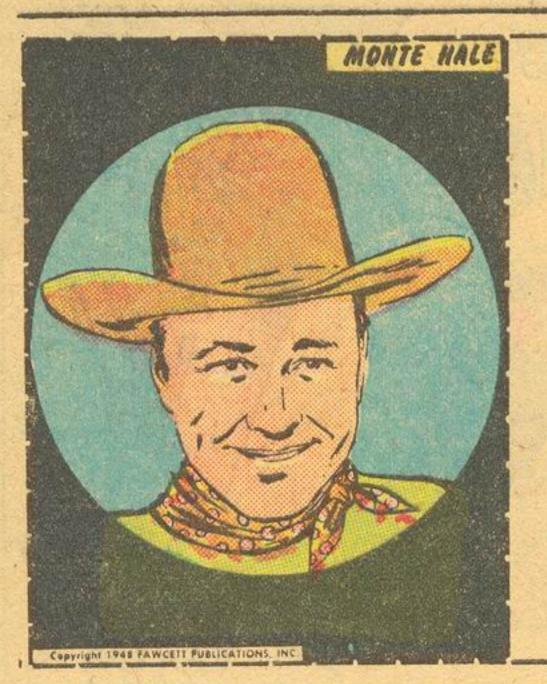












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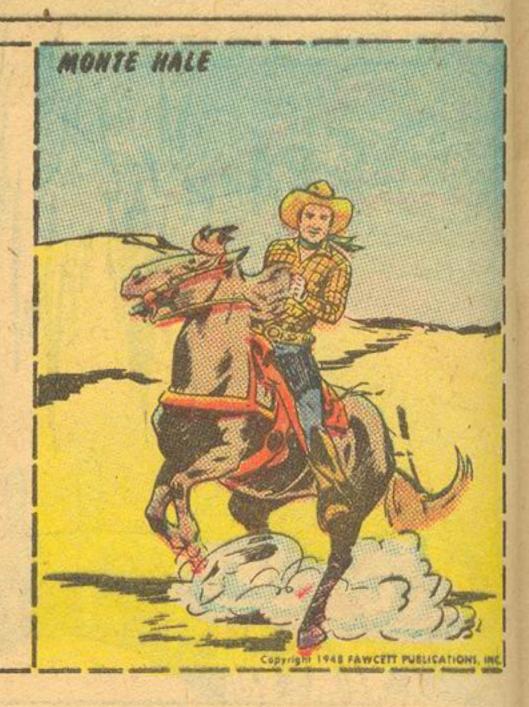
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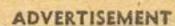




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PRELUDE TO GLORY

A "True Warriors Of The Sea" Story

By DICK KRAUS

I HROUGH THE HISTORY of our nation, in every war, the United States Marine Corps has played an ever-valiant role! Yet how many Americans know of the first amphibious attack of the Marine Corps, of the first time that the fighting Leathernecks swung into action against a well-entrenched enemy? It was on the Bahaman island of New Providence, on a March day in 1776...

Commodore Esek Hopkins rubbed his grizzled beard and frowned. Through his long telescope, the American naval commander made out the oncoming canvas of six of his warships—the Alfred, Columbus, Andrea Doria, Cabot, Providence and Wasp. But where were the other two vessels... the schooner Fly and the sloop Providence?

"They've been delayed by bad weather, sir," said a voice at the Commodore's elbow. It was Navy Lieutenant Weaver speaking. "The word has reached us that they may be several days behind us!"

Esek Hopkins put down the telescope

with ill-concealed impatience.

"We can't afford further delay, Weaver," he said. "If the British hear of our plans in these waters . . . we will lose the advantage given us by surprise. And with that . . . if the King's forces bring up a squadron, the attack on New Providence may be costly indeed. We need those supplies badly—"

Lieutenant Weaver faced his superior

officer squarely.

"Then we must attack without delay, sir!" He hesitated. "Shall I send Captain Nicholas to you? His Marines—if that is what we are to call them—will play an important part in this engagement!"

"Aye," said Commodore Hopkins. "Perhaps more important than any of us real-

ize."

THROUGHOUT THE long winter, the young American Navy had been desperately short of guns, powder and all sorts of military supplies. British warships controlled the Atlantic coastline, blockading the ports around Chesapeake Bay, and along the Georgia and Carolina coasts. Everywhere, the Americans' commerce

was being interrupted and shore installations bombarded.

To meet this grave threat, the Continental Congress formed a special squadron—to be used against the Union Jack raiders and in any other emergencies that might arise. It was the hope of the lawmakers that the squadron, under Commodore Hopkins, might prevent further British maraudering, and possibly capture some badly-needed enemy ships and supplies.

Through the winter of '75-'76, the squadron, consisting of eight ships, had

been frozen in near Philadelphia.

Then, at the first thaw, it set sail for southern waters! Word had been received that, on the island of New Providence in the Bahamas, the British had stored large quantities of gunpowder and other munitions... under protection of a garrison of troops. Here was a chance for an American raider to reverse the usual procedure—to plunder the British stores. Aboard Hopkins' squadron as it forged through the seas, was a detachment of about 200 men who had been specially picked and trained for land-sea fighting.

These men, under the command of Captain Samuel Nicholas, were called Marines . . . and this was their first amphibious assignment! Upon them lay the squadron's

chance for success.

Now, on March 1, 1776, Commodore Hop-kins made up his mind. Two of his ships had been delayed, but to replace them, he secured two additional sloops, for use as transports for his Marine force. The hardy men were quartered on these small vessels, and on the sloop *Providence*, together with fifty sailors, under Navy Lieutenant Weaver of the *Cabot*.

The following day, the squadron sailed from Abaco, their rendezvous point in the Bahamas, toward New Providence. First came the sloops, with their Marine detachments concealed below-decks. Then, just out of sight, followed the heavier ships of the squadron.

"We'll come as close as we can to the island," Esek Hopkins said, "before we let

them see our intent . . ."

But luck was with the British. An alert lookout managed to spy the squadron, fol-

(Please turn to next page)



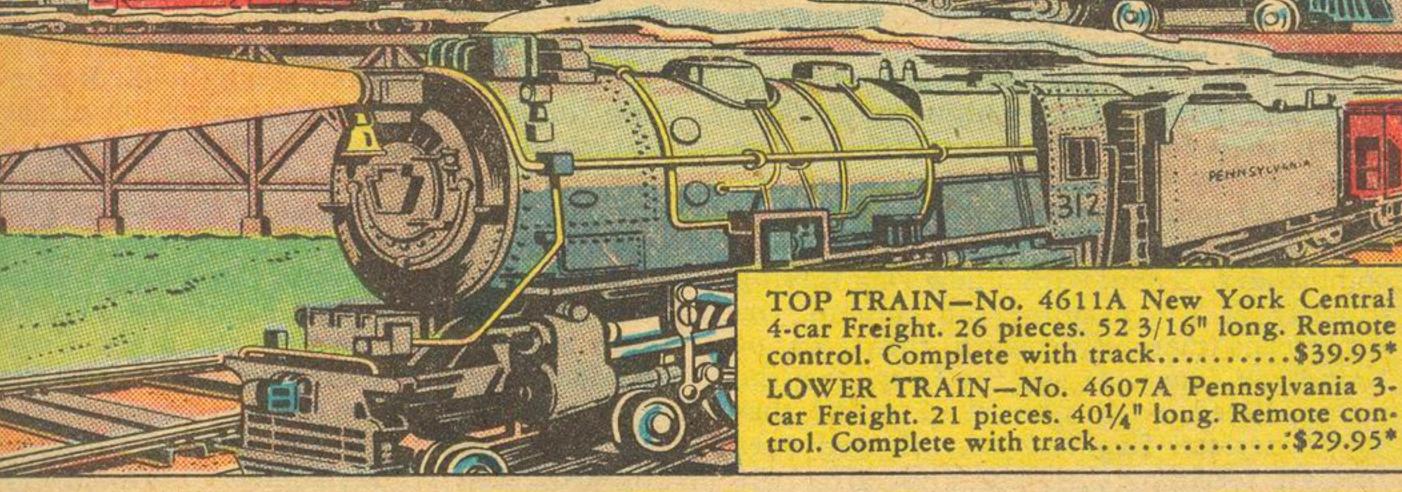
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lowing closely behind the sloops. Immediately, an alarm shot was fired from Fort Montague, near the town of New Providence. As the enemy shot whined overhead, Esek Hopkins slammed a horny fist against the rail of his bridge.

"We've been seen!" he husked. "Send word to Captain Nicholas that there is no need for further delay. His troops will effect a landing . . . at once! The Providence and the Wasp will cover them with

protective fire."

Immediately the sloop transports cut toward the shore. Aboard them, grim-jawed young Marines gripped their muskets and cutlasses, ready for trouble. Then, as the sloops grounded against the sloping sands, the Marines flung themselves out into the pounding surf.

Struggling for footing, keeping their guns and powder horns high above their heads, they fought their way toward the

beach, led by Captain Nicholas.

As they gained solid footing, the troops were formed into ranks by their young commander. Then, with a new flag waving proudly at the head of the column, the Americans marched toward the town of New Providence. It was the first time, the men realized, with a thrill of pride, that any American flag had ever floated over foreign territory . . . the first time the Marines had landed.

But, as he pushed forward through the clawing jungle undergrowth, Captain Nicholas heard a warning shout from one of

his scouts.

"Up ahead! British soldiers!"

The Britishers, emerging from the jungle, turned out to be messengers from the governor of New Providence. They wanted to know what the intentions of the

American invading force were.

"Tell him . . ." Samuel Nicholas replied, "that our landing is for the purpose of taking possession of all warlike stores on the island belonging to the crown. We have no intention of touching the property or hurting any of the inhabitants except—"

"-except?"

"Except in self-defense!" The Marine officer whirled toward his heavily armed men. He flung an arm over his shoulder. "Marines!" he shouted. "Between us and New Providence lies Fort Montague. We'll march for that . . . and take it! Then for the town and the munitions there!"

Without waiting for a reply from the English governor, Nicholas swung into the

advance.

But, as the American forces approached the stone fortifications, they had to go around a deep cove with an impenetrable thicket on one side and the bay on the other. As they inched their way over this treacherous terrain, a cannon shot suddenly rang out from the distance.

"All men-take cover!" the officer

shouted.

The young Americans fell flat, or crouched in the thickets, their muskets at the ready. A second shell screamed overhead, and faces blanched. Then a third twelve-pounder shattered the air. Suddenly a scout flung himself down before Captain Nicholas. "It's Fort Montague, sir," he panted, "They're firing on us!"

"Aye;" said the Marine commander

grimly.

"We'll send them a message-to sur-

render or be wiped out!"

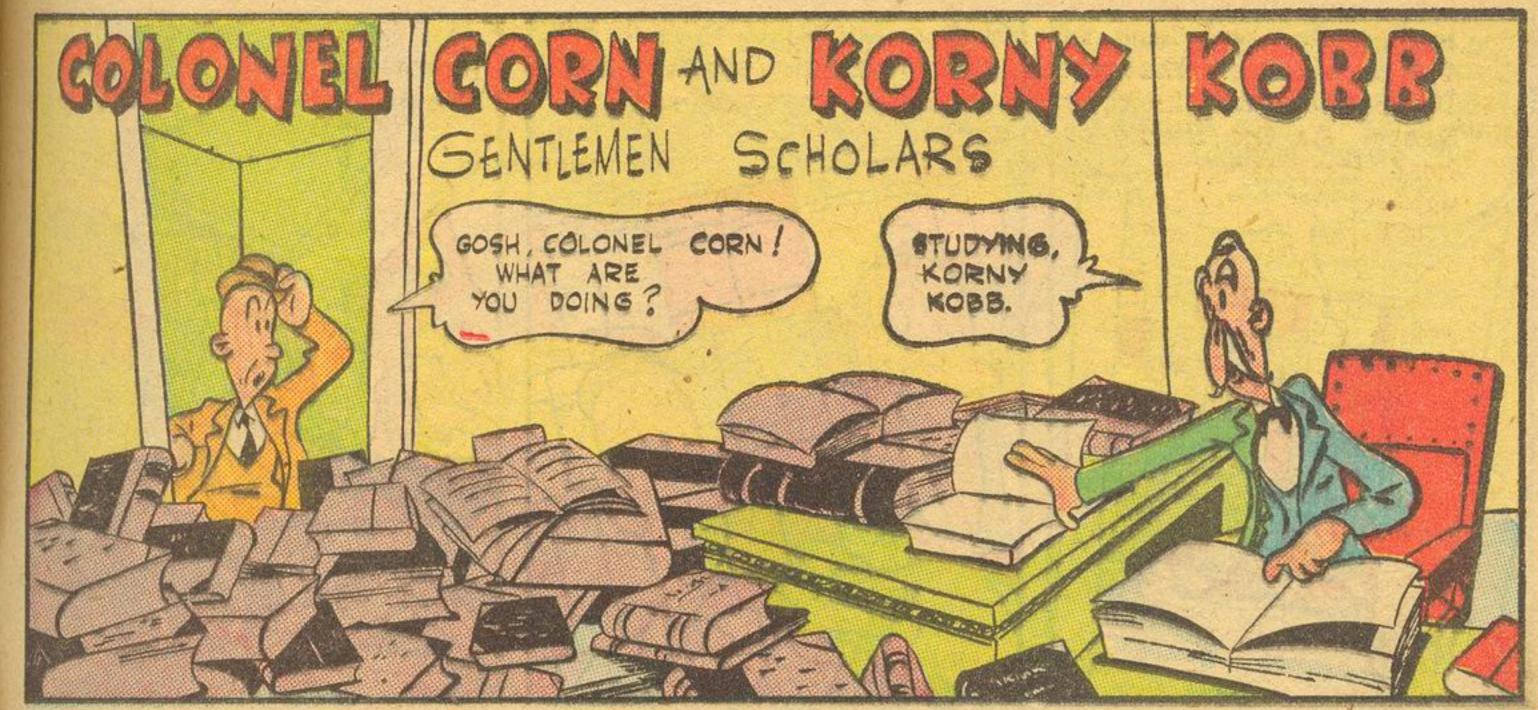
Within scant moments, a reply had come back from the British stronghold. Realizing the strength and determination of the attacking forces, the English decided to give up the fort and retreat. Spiking their cannon—seventeen of them—the garrison's troops fled toward the town.

Yelling with triumph, the Yankee soldiers swarmed into Fort Montague. While they stayed there through the night, Commodore Hopkins issued an order from his flagship, in which he promised amnesty for the inhabitants of the island—provided they offered no resistance. Through the night, the King's officers conferred. At dawn, their mind was made up . . . To surrender.

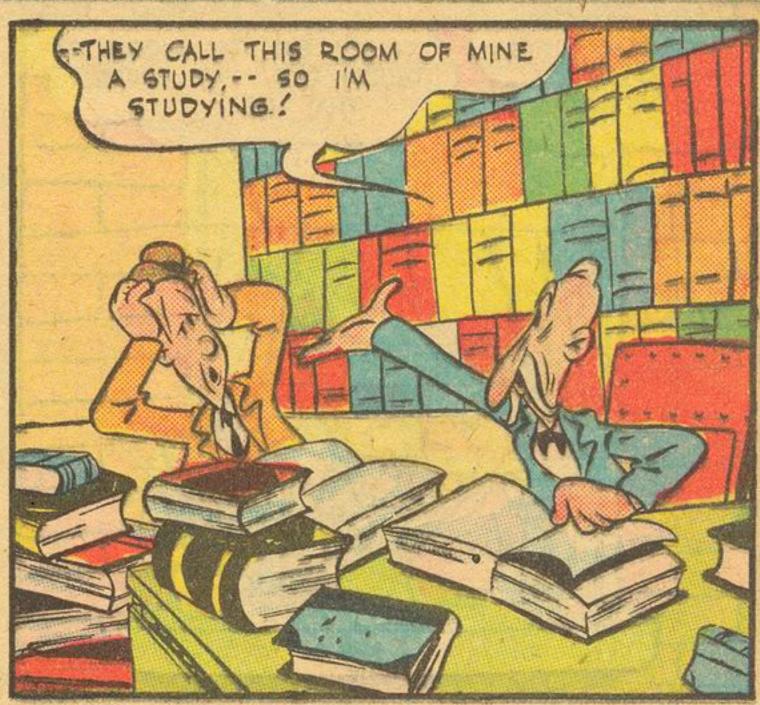
On the next morning, Nicholas' forces pushed forward, and took possession of Fort Nassau and the governor's house. The Marine officer demanded and received the keys to the fort, which was taken without firing a shot. This . . . though its forty cannon had been loaded and ready for his attack.

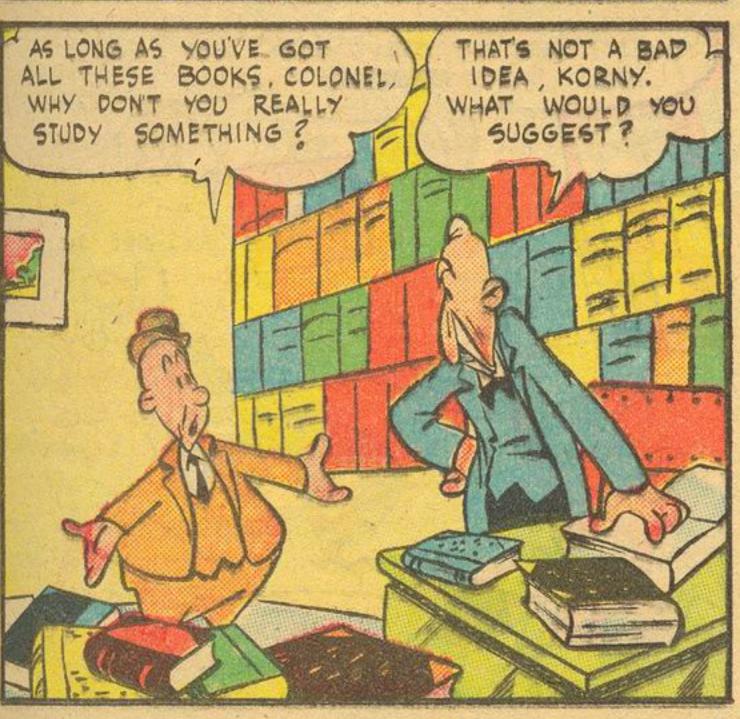
With the situation well in hand, the Marines and sailors spent the next twelve days loading the captured powder aboard their ships. Six hundred barrels in all the prize was; six hundred barrels for the American forces struggling for freedom. On the sixteenth of the month, the Marines reembarked, and on the next day the squadron upped anchor and set out for home!

This was the first amphibious landing ever carried out by a U. S. Marine force. Through overshadowed by later exploits, it came at a crucial time, offering encouragement to the ragged colonial armies which were everywhere being driven backward by the well-drilled and equipped British forces. A smartly-planned and executed victory, it was indeed a hint of things to come . . . a true prelude to glory!



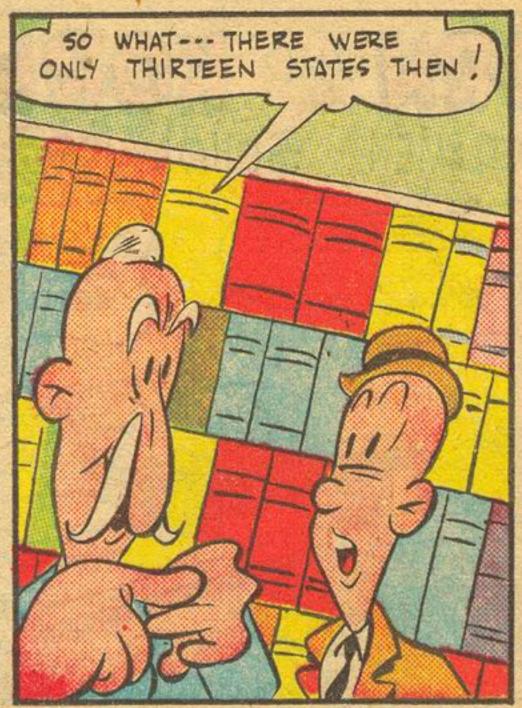






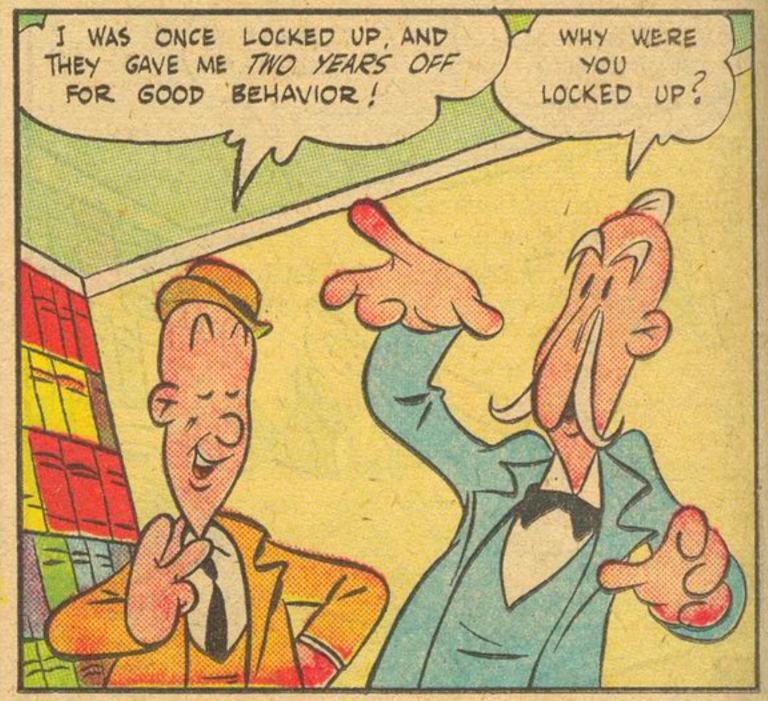


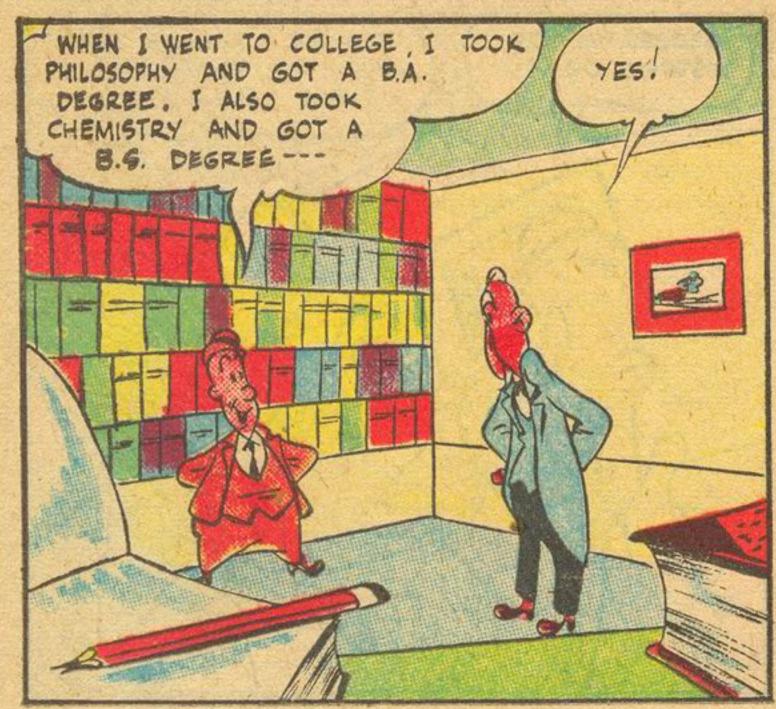


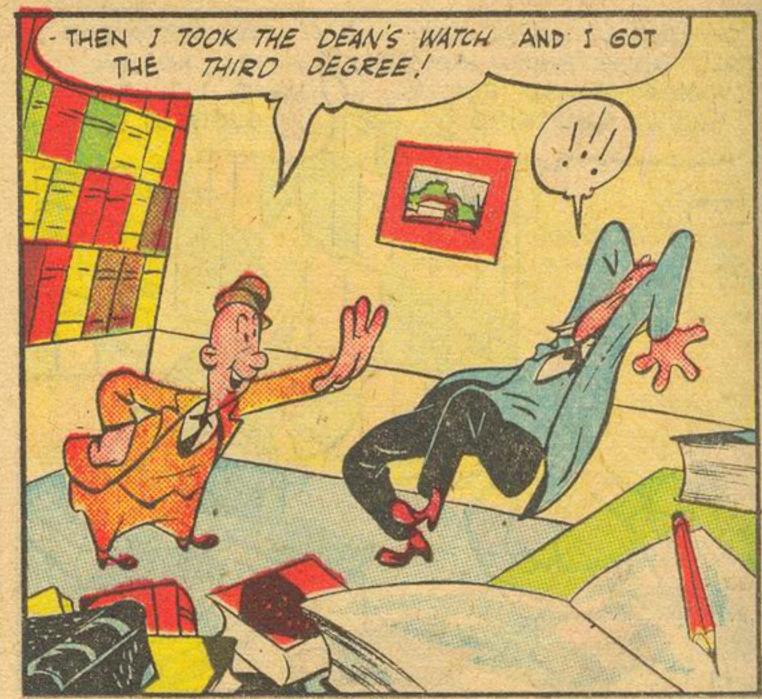








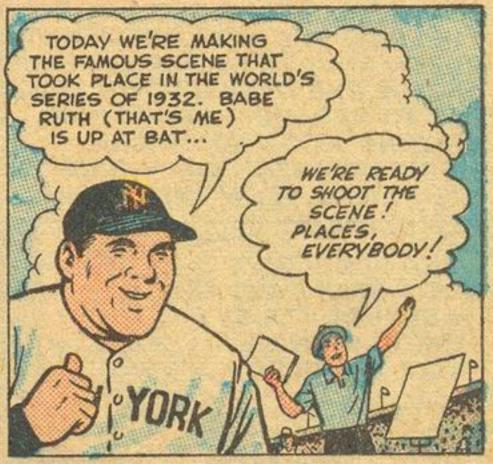








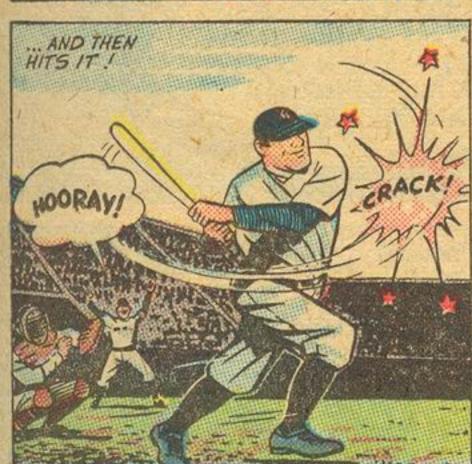


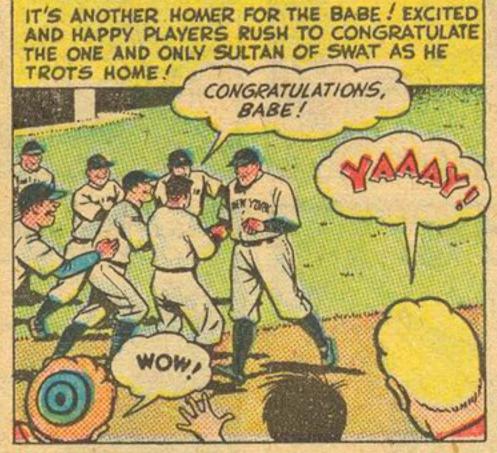




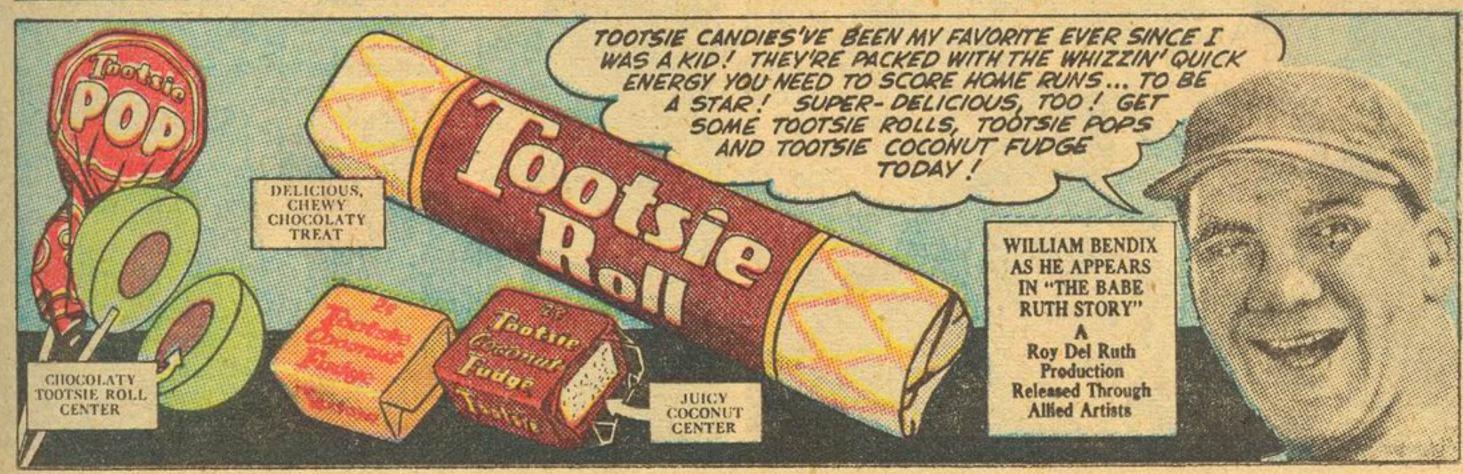














HELPING THE NEW PRESIDENT OF RUGOMANIA TO SET UP DEFENSES IN CASE THE OVERTHROWN FASCISTS TRY TO REGAIN THEIR POWER..... WAITING AT AN AMERICAN MEDITERRANEAN NAVY BASE IS HIS FRIEND, DON WINSLOW....

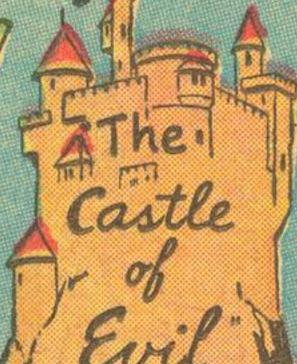
RED SHOULD'VE BEEN BACK DAYS AGO, ADMIRAL COLBY! I'M BEGINNING TO GET WORRIED!



TO TELL THE TRUTH,
DON, SO AM I !

I'M GOING TO CALL

THE PRESIDENT
OF RUGOMANIA!





YOU SAY THAT

LIEUTENANT

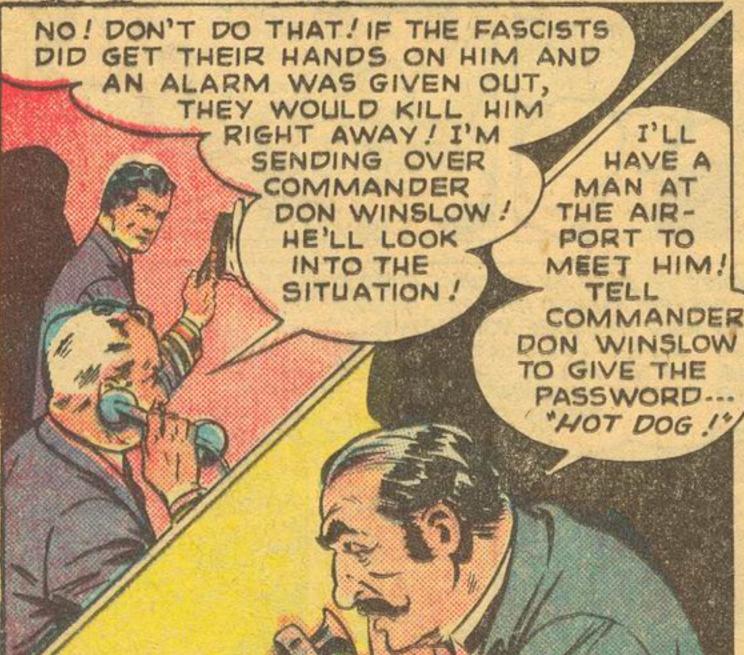
PENNINGTON

LEFT A WEEK AGO,

MR. PRESIDENT?

CORRECT,
ADMIRAL COLBY!
I FEAR SOMETHING
MUST HAVE HAPPENED!
I WILL SEND OUT
AN ALARM!





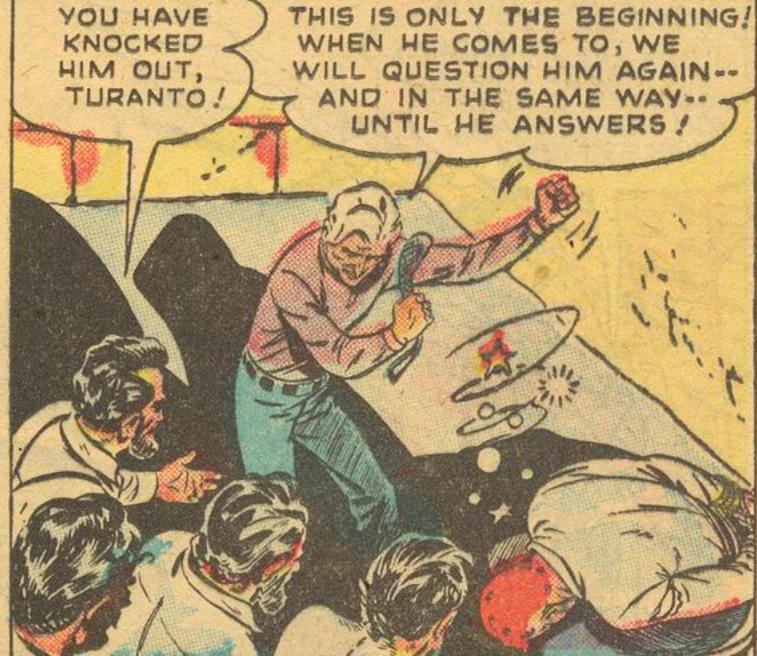










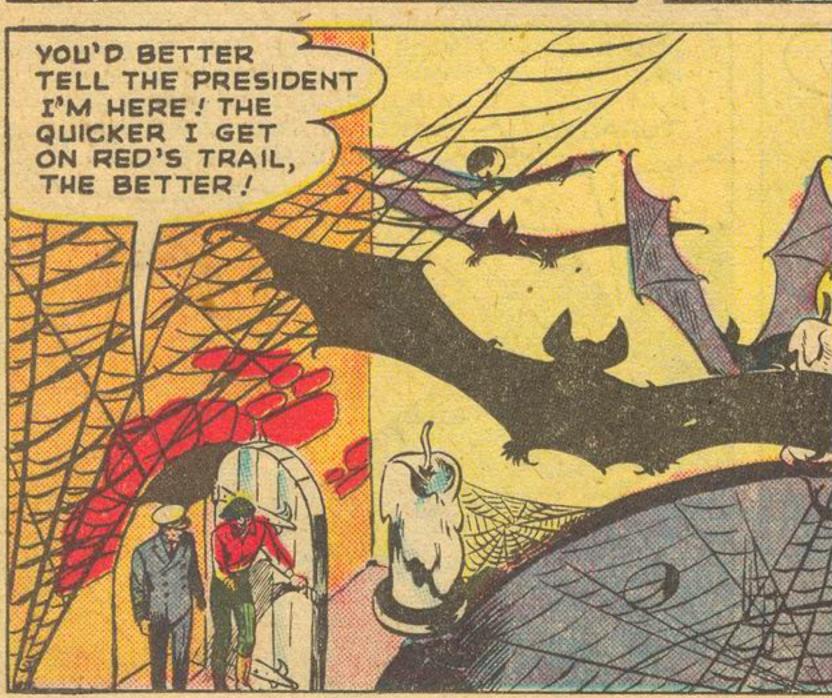












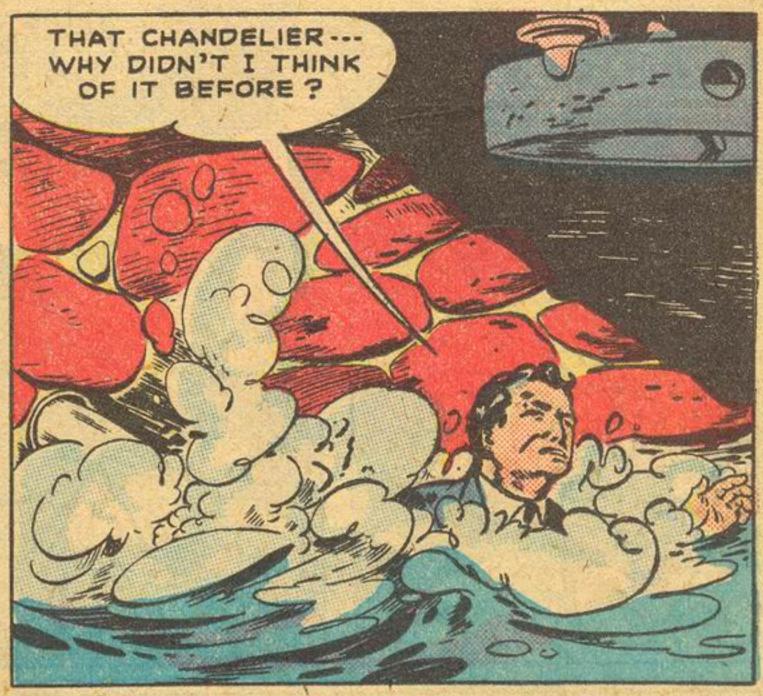


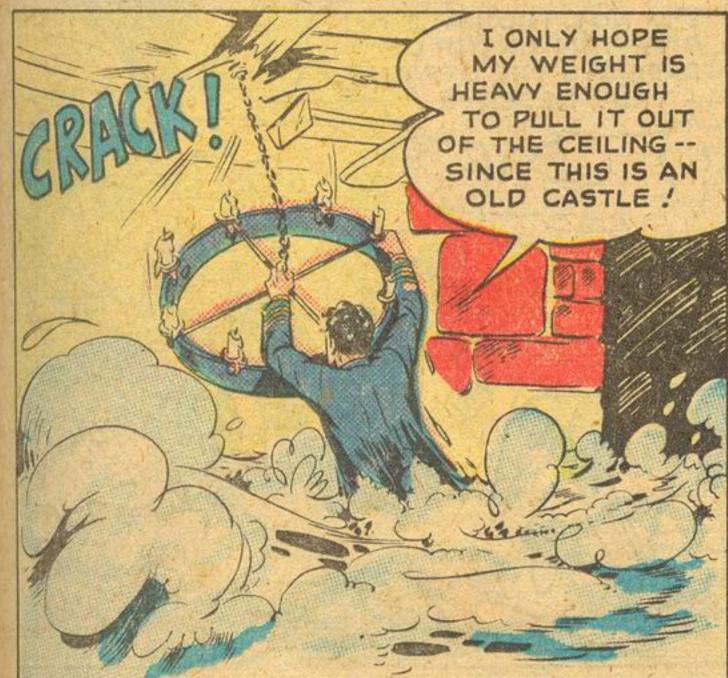


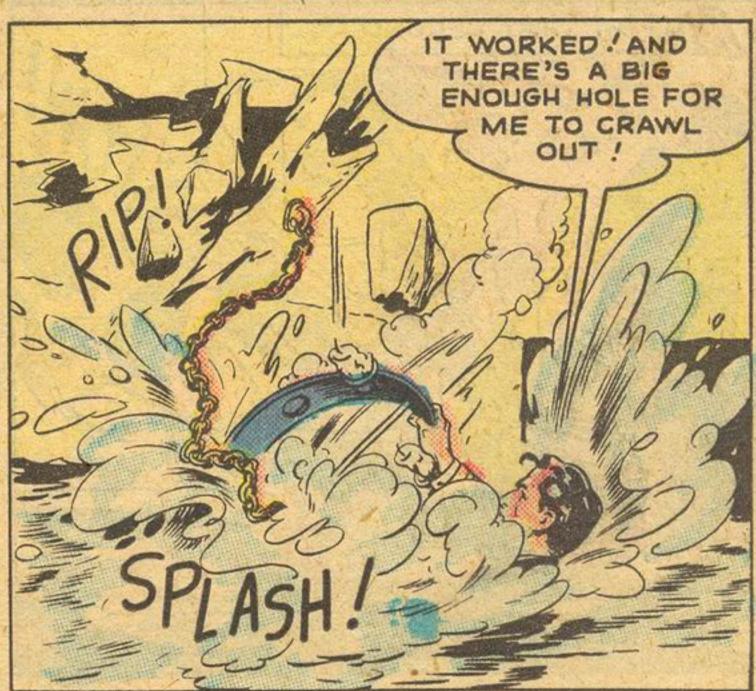










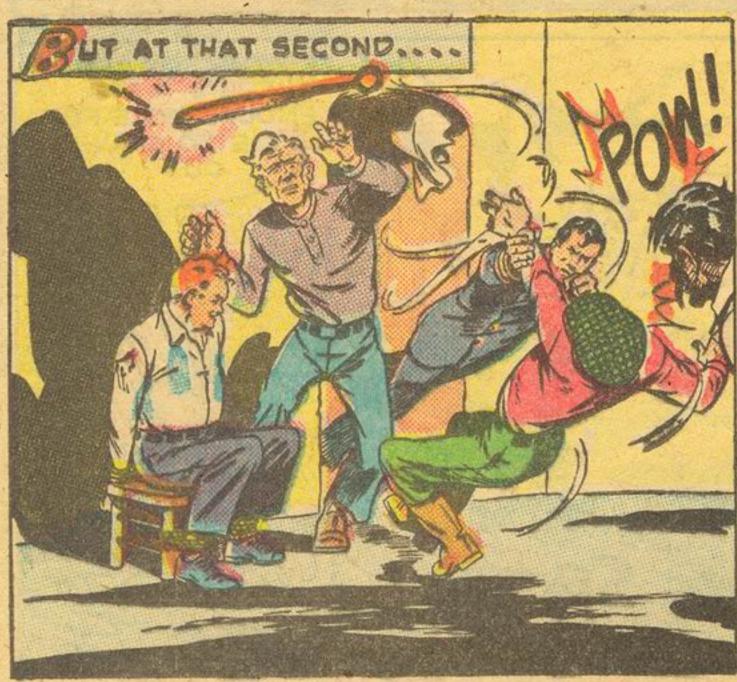




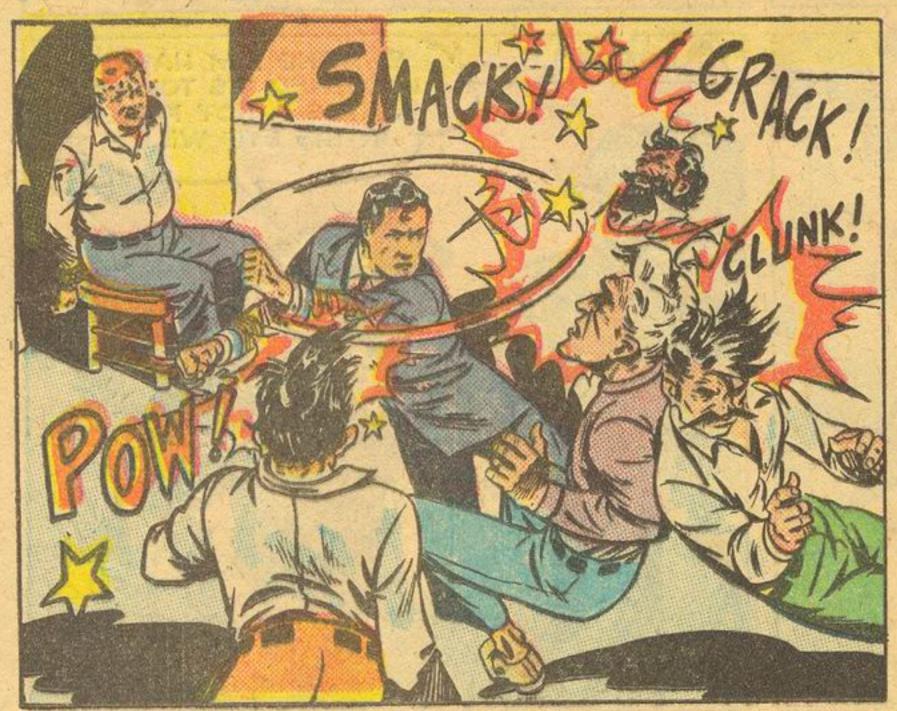


















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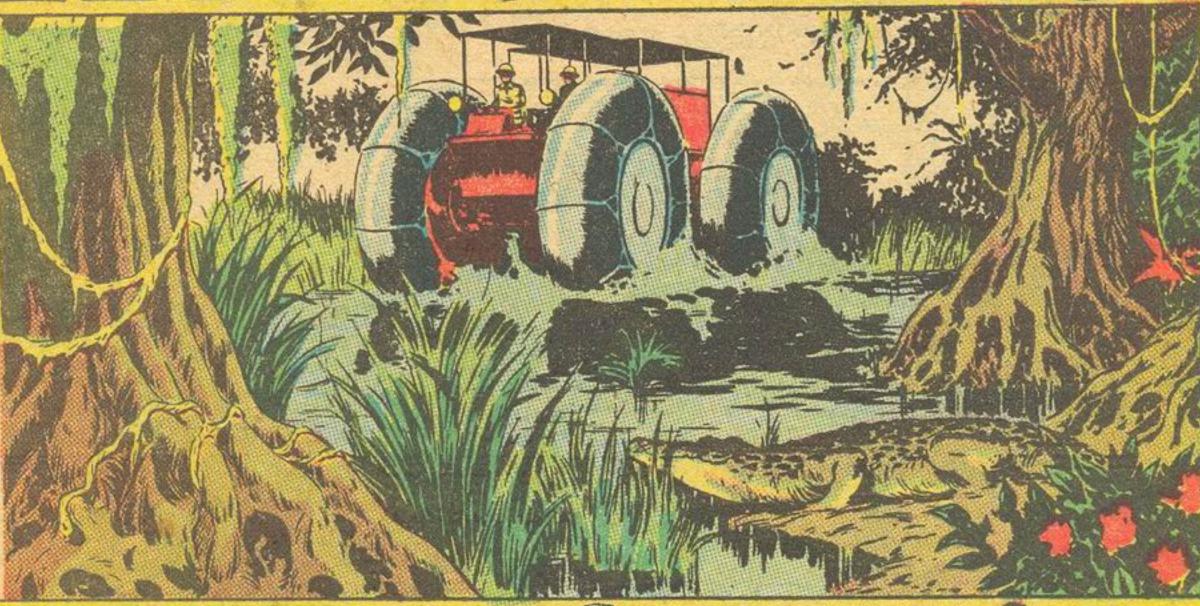
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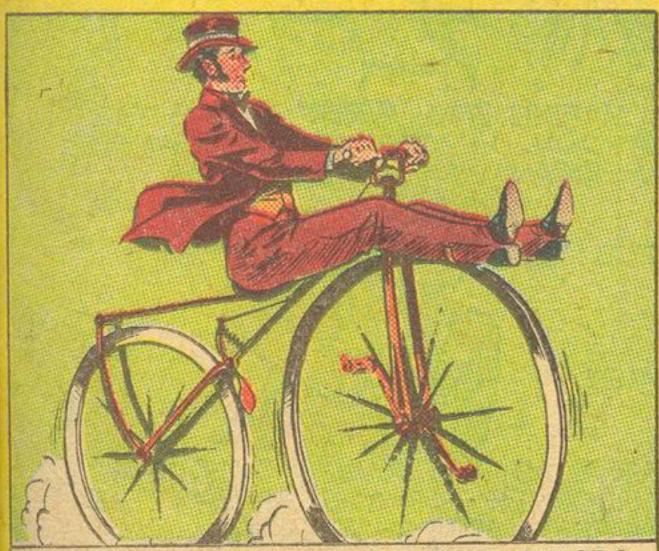


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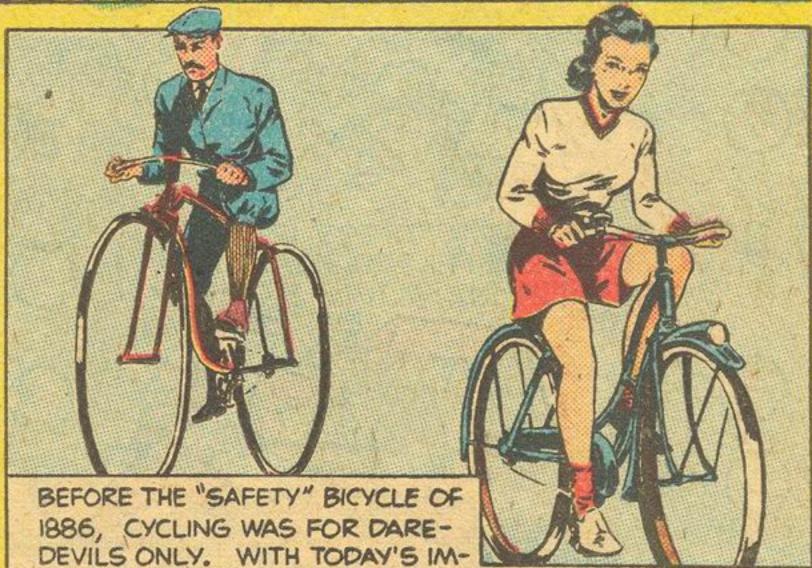
GILLETTE PIE PAGISS

AMONG THE NEWEST--AND CERTAINLY THE STRANGEST--TIRES EVER MADE ARE THE GIANT BALLOONS ON THIS "SWAMP BUGGY". IN MAN'S SEARCH FOR OIL, THESE AMAZING TIRES MAKE IT POSS-IBLE TO PENETRATE REGIONS NEVER BE-FORE EXPLORED ... THROUGH DENSE SWAMPS AND BOGGY LANDS. WIDE RUBBER RIBS MAKE EACH TIRE A PADDLE-WHEEL IN TRAVELLING THROUGH WATER!

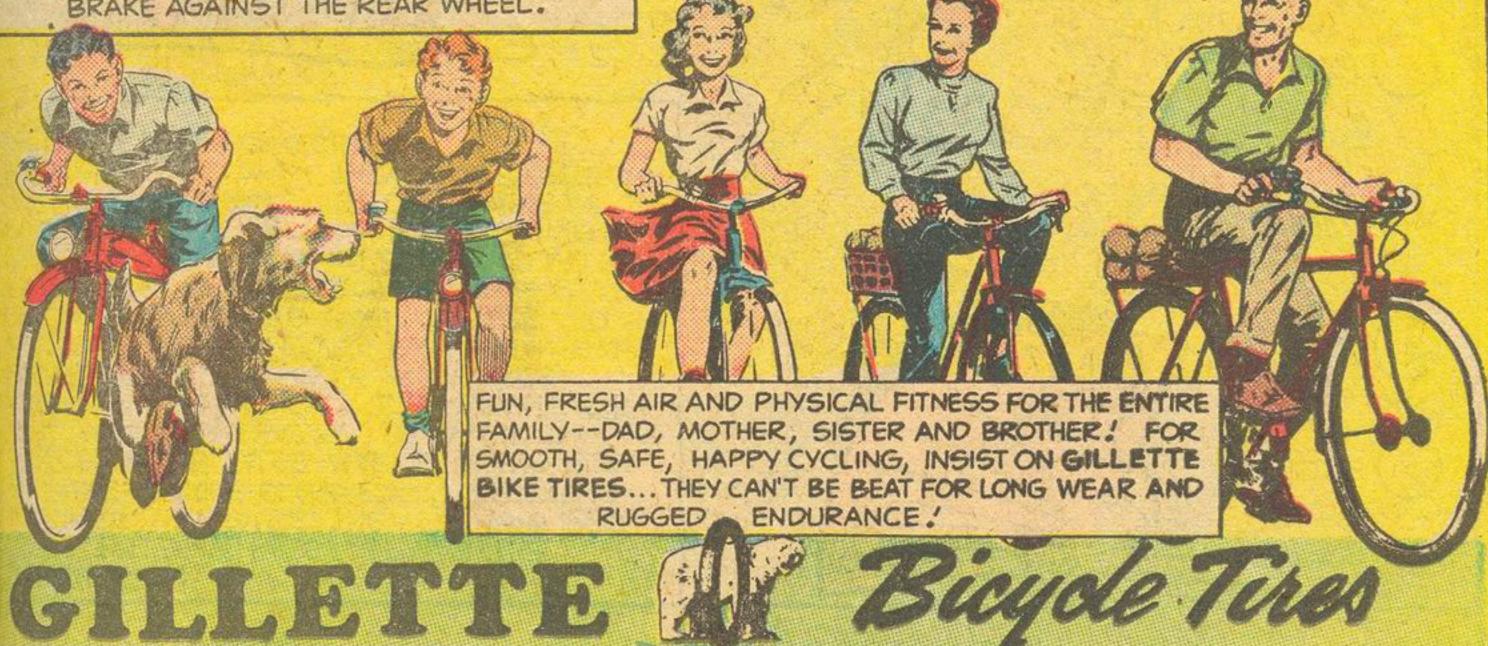




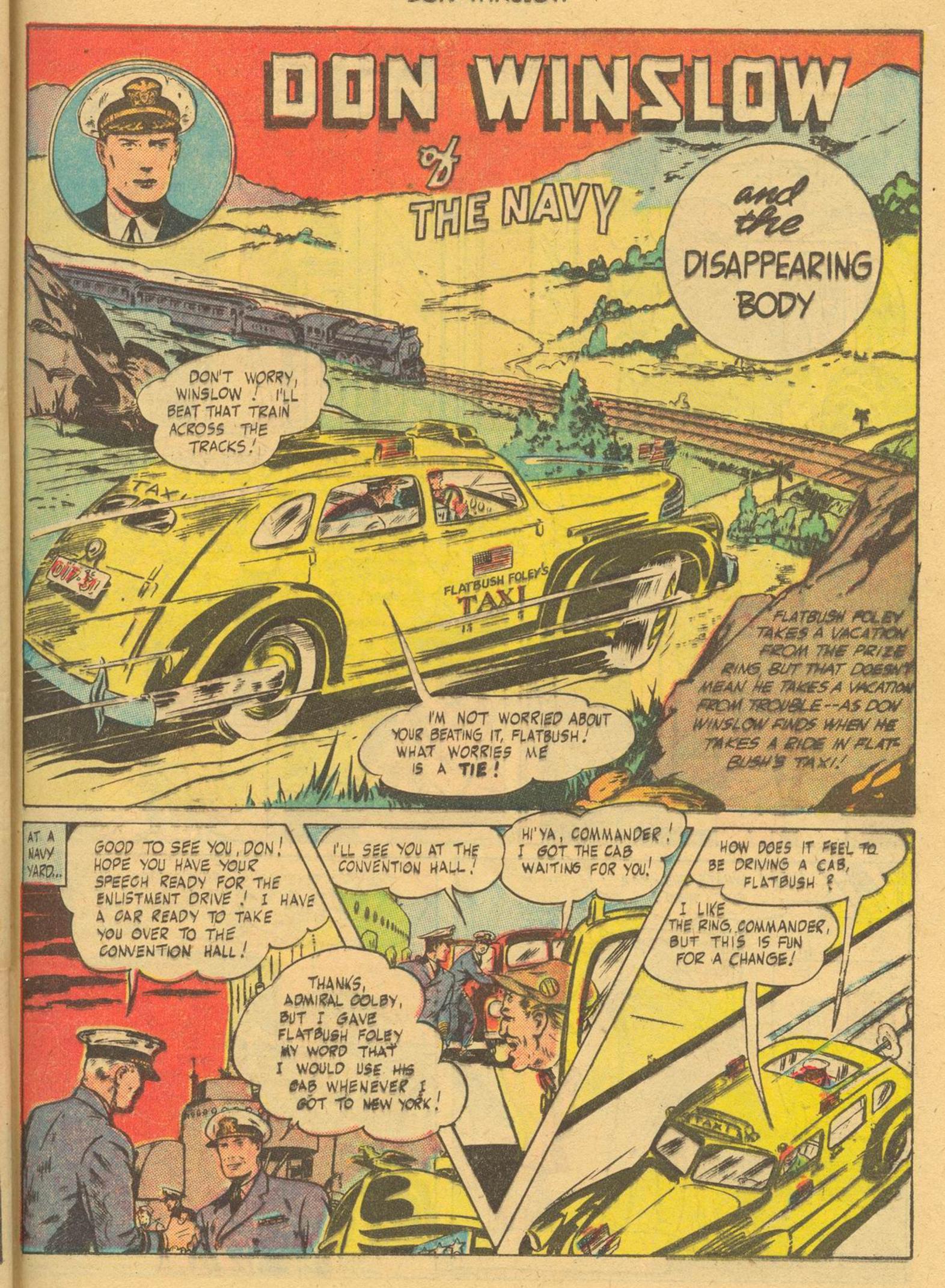
THOUGH IT WOULD HARDLY DO IN MODERN TRAFFIC,
THE "SPOON BRAKE" OF 1866 WAS GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S PRIDE AND JOY. A FEW FAST SPINS OF
THE REVOLVING HANDLE-BAR TIGHTENED THE
CABLE LEADING TO THE BRAKE, PRESSED THE
BRAKE AGAINST THE REAR WHEEL.



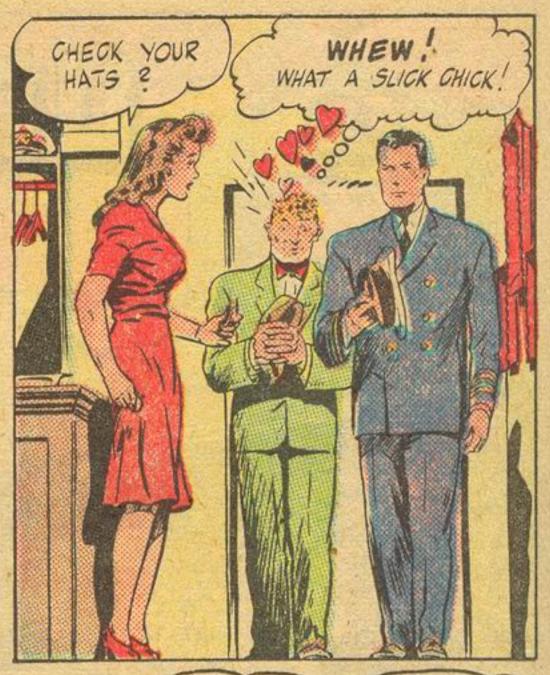
PROVED STREAMLINERS -- HIGHLY-REFINED VERSIONS OF THE FIRST "SAFETY"-- BICYCLING HAS BECOME A FAVORITE PASTIME OF MILLIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.



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DON'T FORGET,

MR. FOLEY.

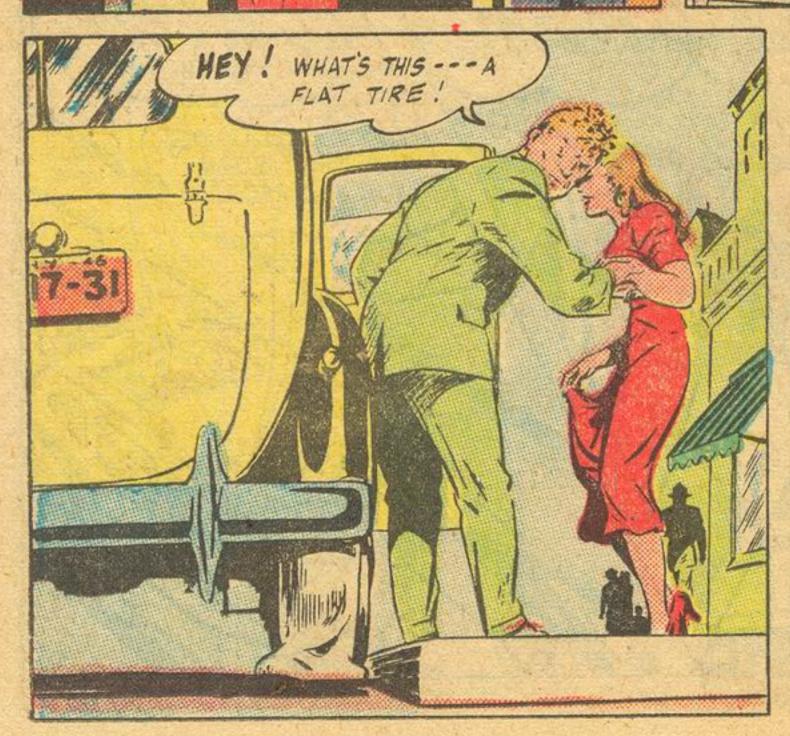


TEN MINUTES LATER --
--- YOU SAY HOW ABOUT GOING
THE CUTEST FOR A RIDE IN ME,
THINGS. GAB UNTIL THE
GIGGLE!) GOLD BRAIDS
GET THROUGH
WITH THEIR
SPEECHES &
SPEECHES &

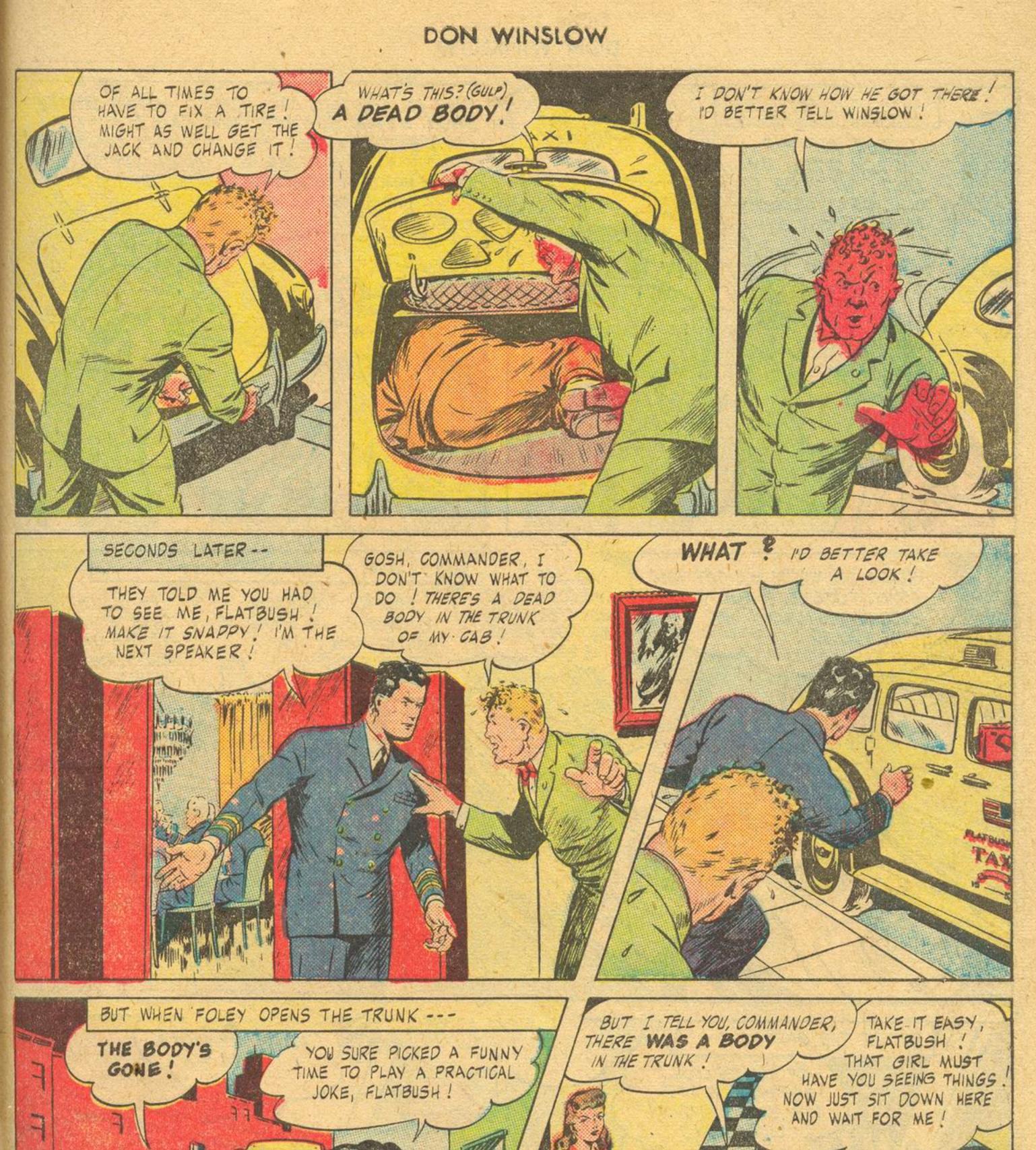


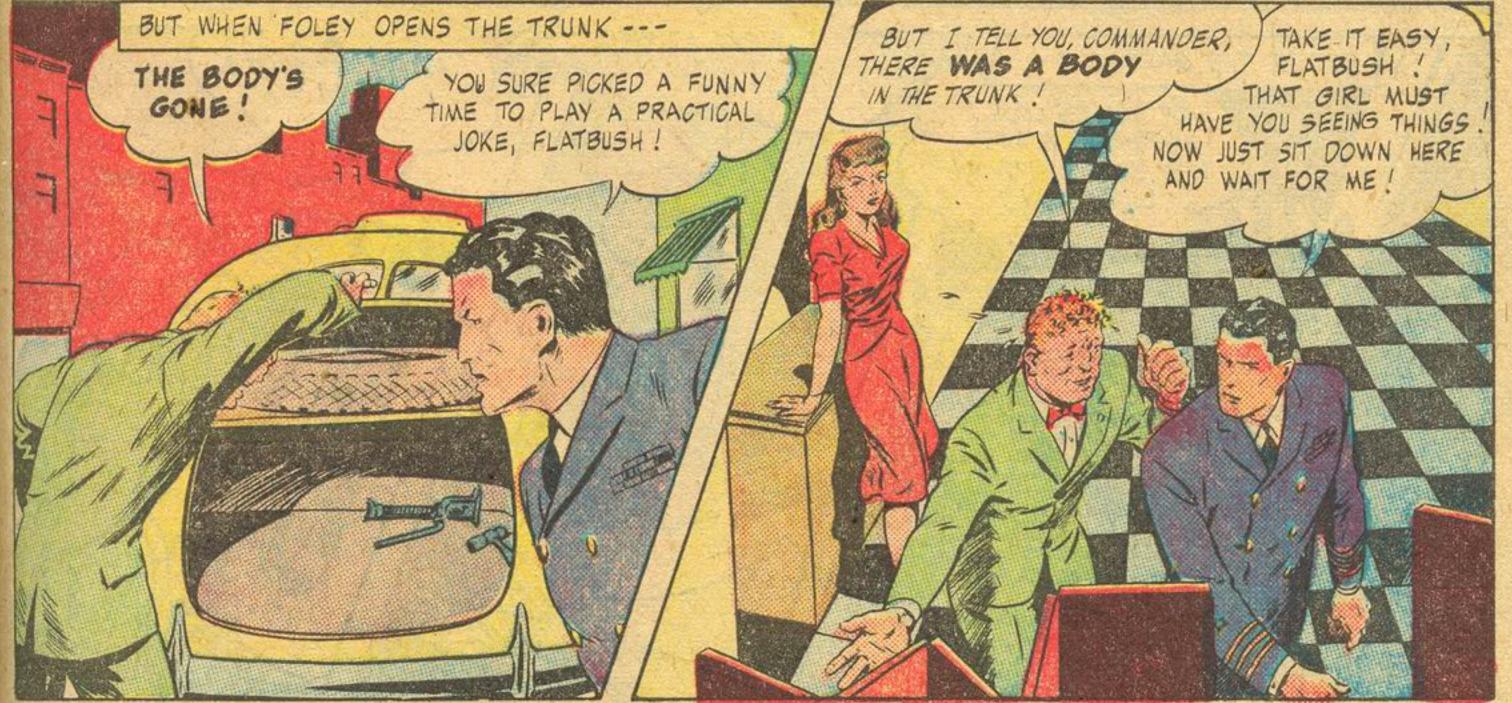
JUST CALL ME

FLATBUSH, KID,













IT'S HERE ALL
RIGHT! THIS AIN'T
NO ILLUSION! I'M
CALLING WINSLOW!







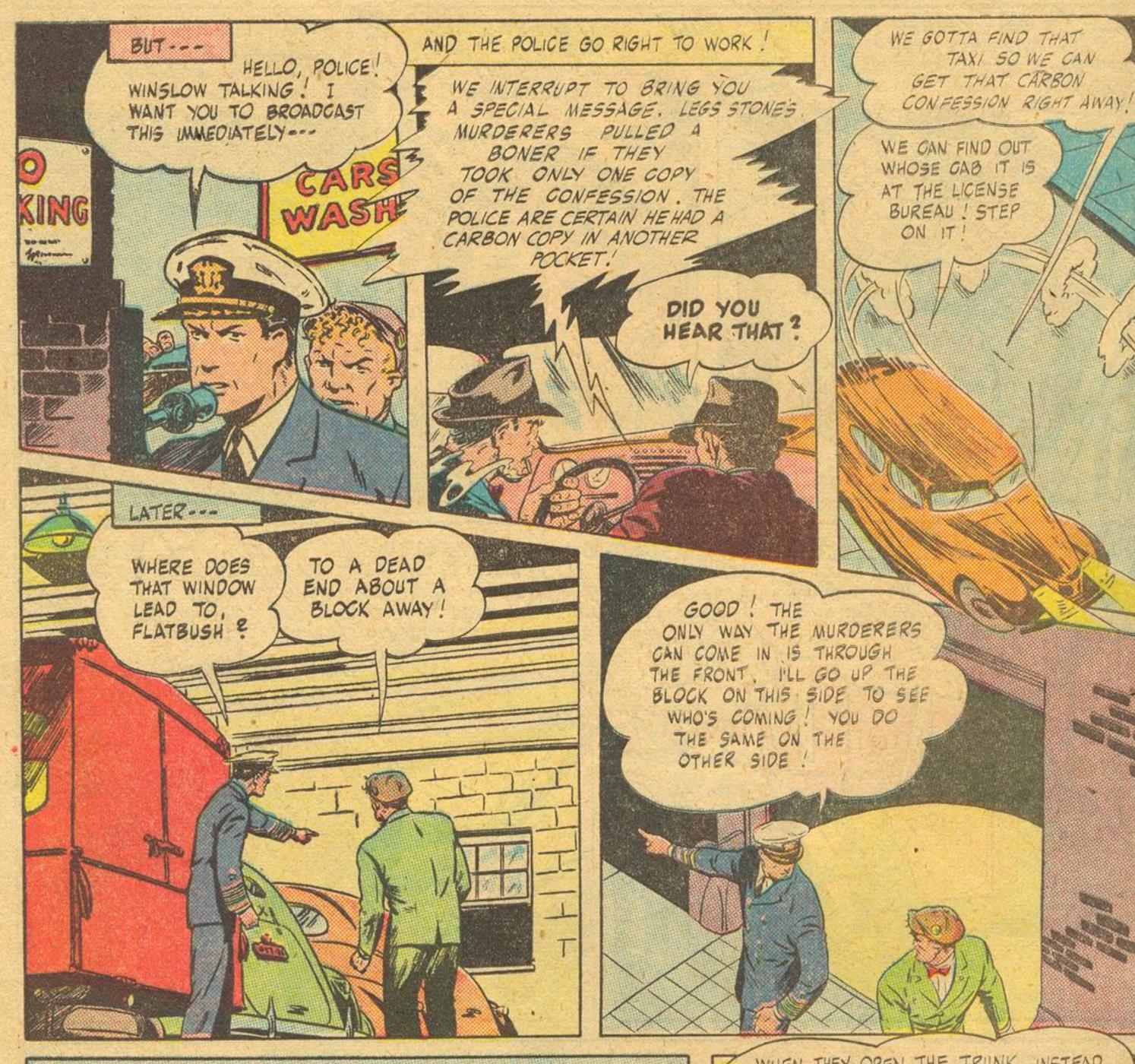
BUT I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND HOW
THE BODY GOT IN
THE CAR IN THE
FIRST PLACE...
HOW IT DISAPPEARED
AND THEN CAME
BACK!

THEY PROBABLY PUT THE BODY
THERE IN THE FIRST PLACE WHEN
THEY HEARD THE WOMAN SCREAM!
THEN THEY TOOK IT OUT TO
GET THE CONFESSION!

BUT WHY DID THEY PUT IT BACK AGAIN ?



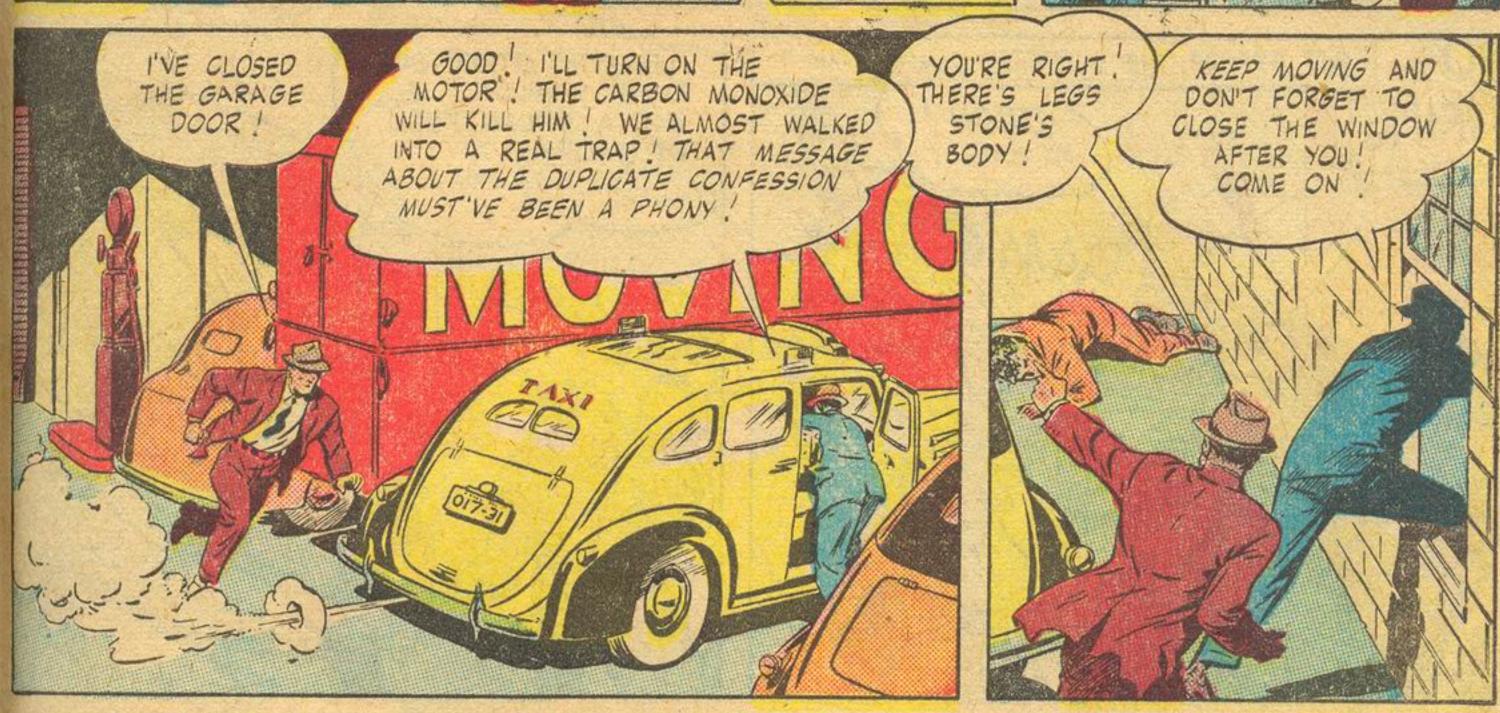


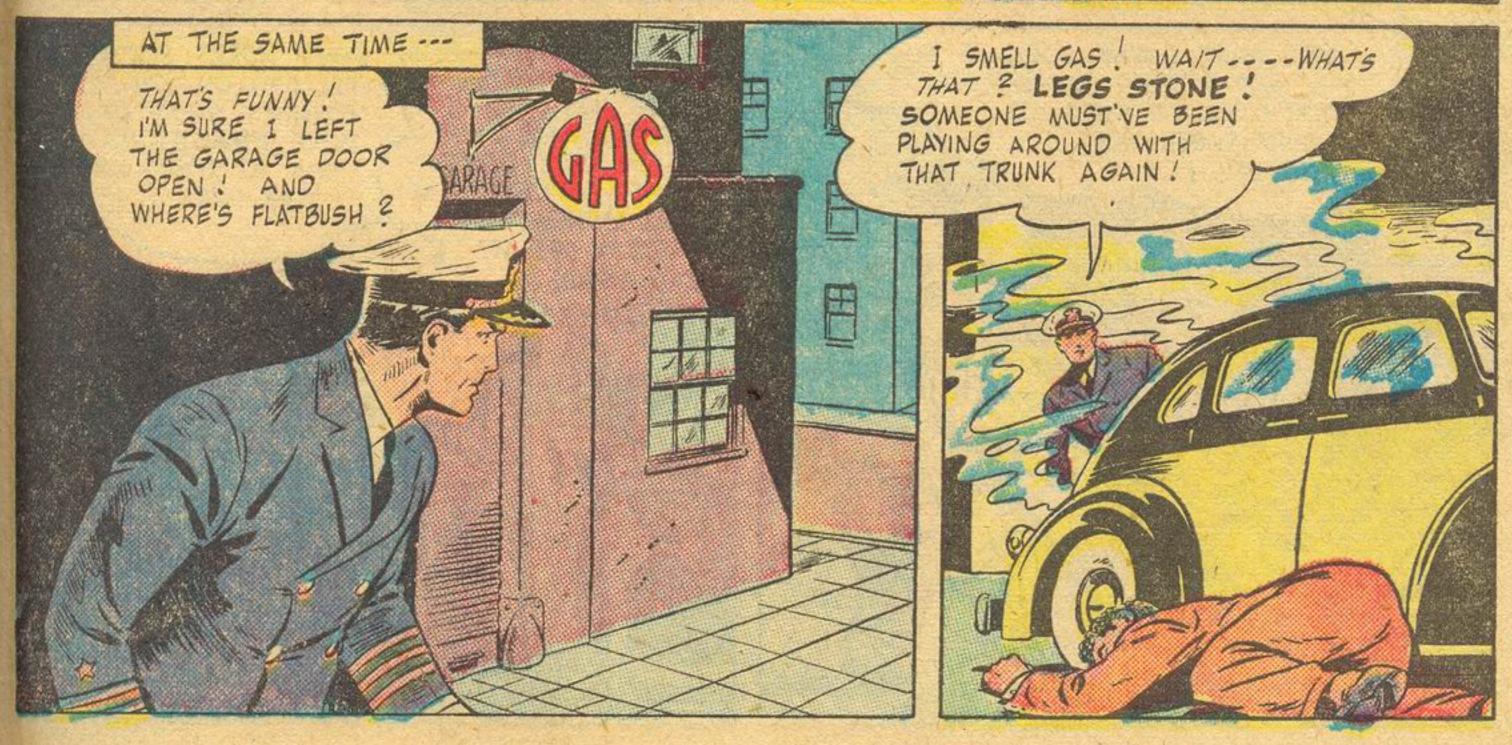




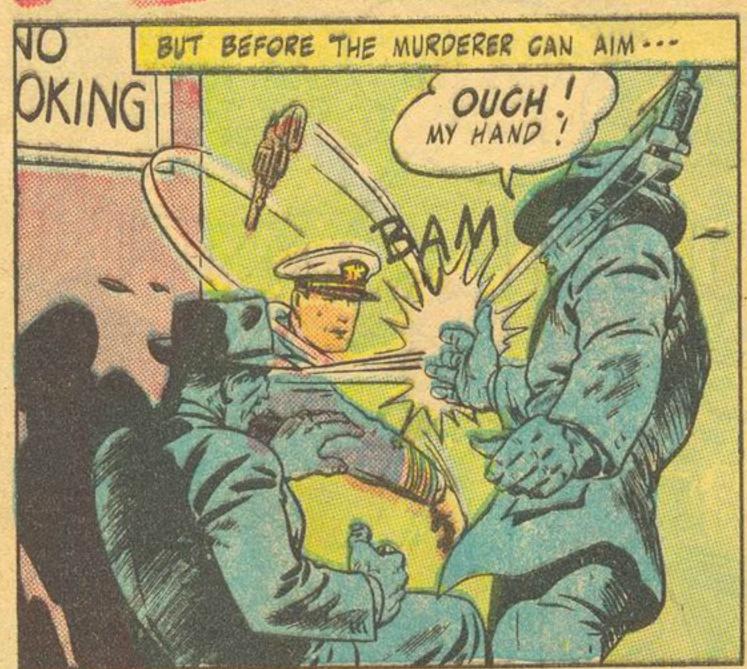








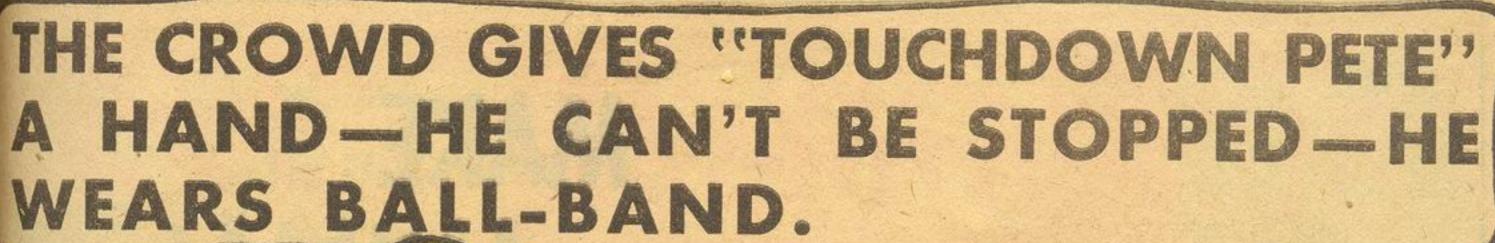














Mishawaka, Ind

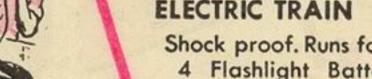
Gard on the insole.

ADVERTISEMENT



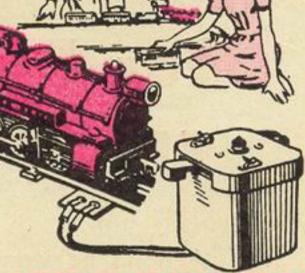


floor. Runs on 4
Flashlight batteries, included.
Sell one order
of Xmas packs,
plus \$2.00.



Shock proof. Runs for hours on

4 Flashlight Batteries, included.
Remote control Automatic Coupling.
Sell one order, plus additional cash. See prize sheet for complete details.



MORE PRIZES

shown in our
Big Prize Sheet
Electric Phonograph
Air Pistol
Boxing Gloves
Jewelry
Flash Camera Outfit
Tool Set
Woodburning Set
Pen & Pencil Set
Travelling Case

OUR YEAR

GET YOUR PRIZE THIS EASY WAY

BOYS! GIRLS! Get swell prizes for yourself or gifts for Mother and Dad. Most prizes shown above and many others in our BIG PRIZE SHEET are GIVEN WITHOUT A CENT OF COST for selling 40 Xmas Packs at 10c each. Some of the bigger prizes require extra money as stated in BIG PRIZE SHEET.

It is easy to sell these Xmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each pack contains 96 Sparkling Xmas Seals in brilliant colors—a big value. When sold, send us the money and choose your prize from our Big Prize Sheet.

Mail the coupon today for Xmas Packs and our Big Prize Sheet—tell us what prize you want.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 755, Lancaster, Pa.

MERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 755, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Sheet and one order of 40 Xmas Packs.

I will resell them at 10¢ each, send you the money, and get my prize.

My choice of Prize is_____

Name____

Street Address

or R.F.D. Box

City____

State ____



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