

DELL
COMIC

FEB-APRIL

10¢

Gene Autrey's
Champion



OLD WHITEY,

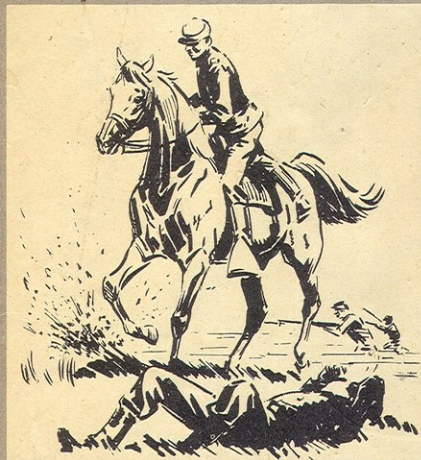
WAR HORSE IN THREE ARMIES

In 1846, during the war between Mexico and the U. S., General Zachary Taylor captured a big milk-white horse from a Mexican officer. Renamed Old Whitey, the magnificent animal was General Taylor's mount in all the battles in Texas and Mexico.

Old Whitey was almost as brave as his master. The Mexican soldiers used the big white horse as a target in trying to kill the famous American general who later became president. Old Whitey and his master never tried to hide. They always sat in full view of the enemy and seemed to have charmed lives for they were never hit though they fought in many savage battles.

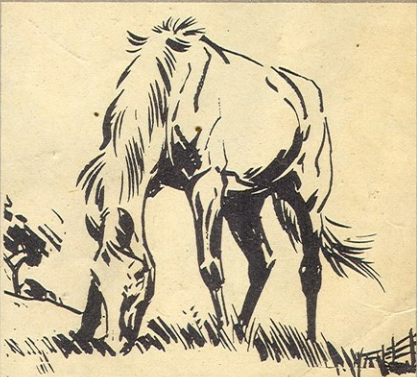


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After his second year came to an end, the famous horse finally was retired permanently. He lived his last days peacefully. When he died, he was given a funeral with military honors. He had served honorably in three armies and had carried a future American president into battle.

After the Mexican War, Old Whitey was retired to his master's farm. But twenty years later, the Civil War began and the old war horse was pressed into service in the Union Army. In one battle, a colonel was shot out of Whitey's saddle and he was ridden through the rest of the battle by a captain who took command of the regiment. Old Whitey's side won the battle.



Champion and THE TRAP

ONE NIGHT AT THE FLYING-A...

JAKE! THE CAYUSES WE WANT
ARE IN THAT CORRAL BEHIND
THE BARN!

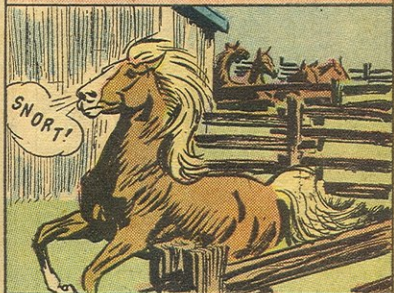


HOPE THEY DON'T
RAISE A RUCKUS,
SAM! ...WE'RE
MIGHTY CLOSE
TO ASHTON'S
HOUSE!

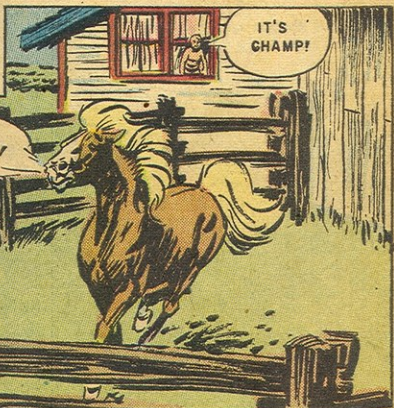
QUIT WORRYING!
THE WHOLE
SHEBANG'S DEAD
ASLEEP!



BUT CHAMP IS ON THE ALERT . CATCHING
AN ALIEN SCENT — — —



IT'S
CHAMP!



HE SOUNDS THE ALARM...

WHEE-
AWW!

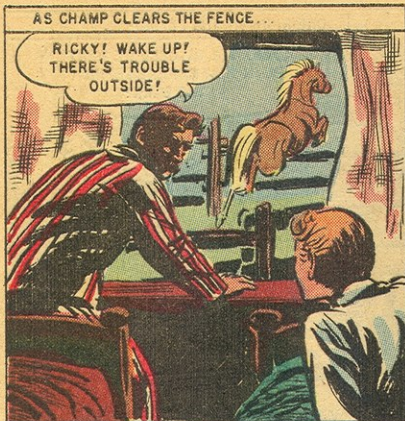


CHAMPION® 17-552

DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

AS CHAMP CLEARS THE FENCE...

RICKY! WAKE UP!
THERE'S TROUBLE
OUTSIDE!



SMOKY'S VOICE CARRIES TO THE BACK CORRAL...

SAM! THAT WAS
ASHTON YELLING!

YEAH! THAT SPOOKY
HORSE MUSTA WAKED
HIM UP!



I'M DUSTIN'!

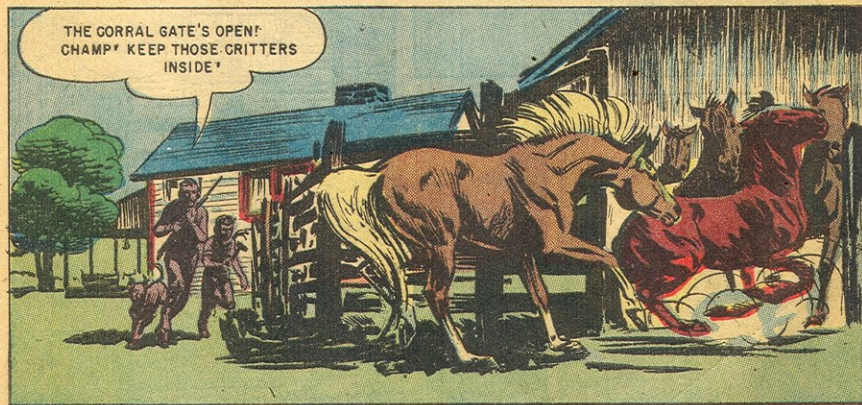
ME,
TOO!

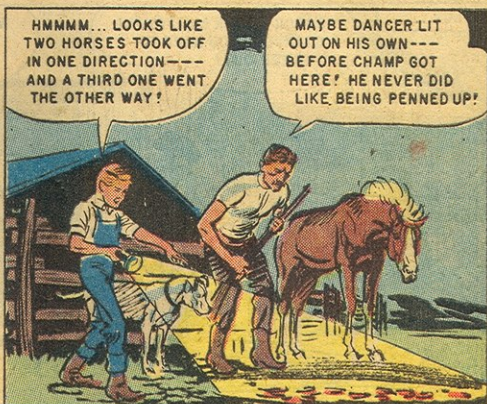


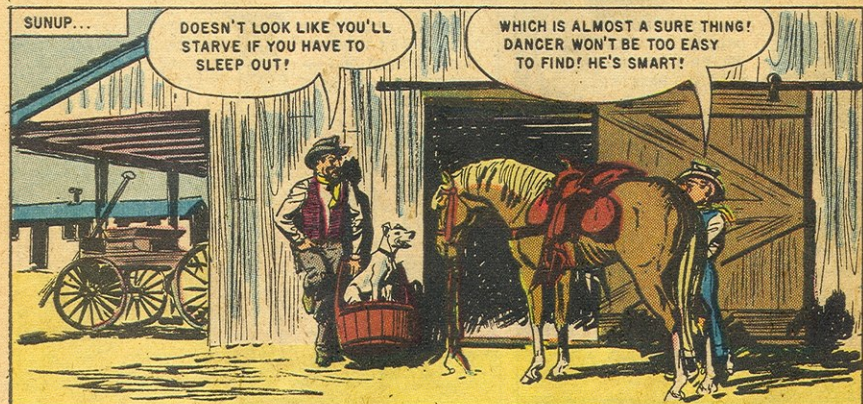
WHEE-
MPF!

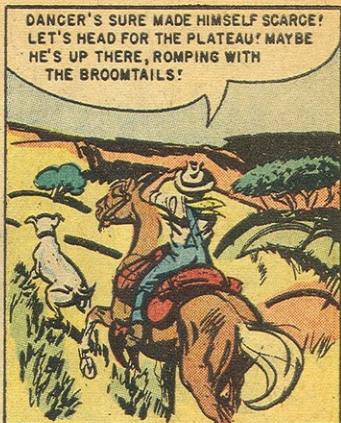


THE CORRAL GATE'S OPEN!
CHAMP! KEEP THOSE CRITTERS
INSIDE!









THE SPRING INSIDE THE CORRAL BRINGS
THE FUZZTAILS IN OFF THE RANGE
FOR WATER!...



SO WE WON'T SCARE 'EM OFF, WE DIG A HOLE
NEARBY AND HIDE IN IT! WHEN THE HORSES
CROSS THIS WIRE TO GET TO THE WATER...



I TRIP THE WIRE! AND
THE GATE DROPS!
WITH THEM *INSIDE*!



WELL...
I'LL BE DOG-
GONED!

WE'LL DIG A HOLE BY THESE BUSHES!
I'LL STAKE OUT IN IT WHILE YOU GO
TO TOWN FOR SOME GRUB! WE
MIGHT BE HERE FOR
SEVERAL DAYS!



RIGHT!

SUNDOWN...

NO SIGN OF EVEN A *WILD* HORSE!
AND THE SUN'S GOING DOWN FAST!
RECKON WE'D BETTER MAKE CAMP!

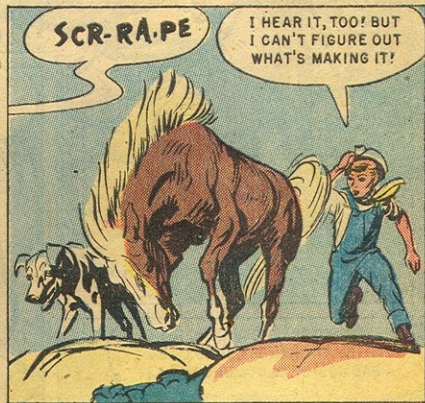
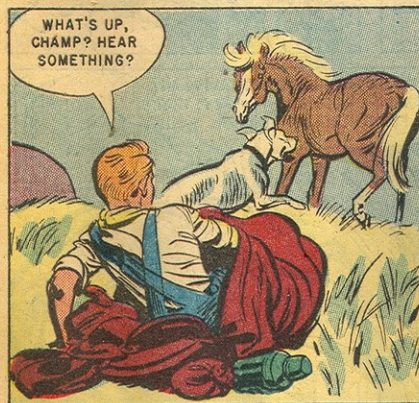
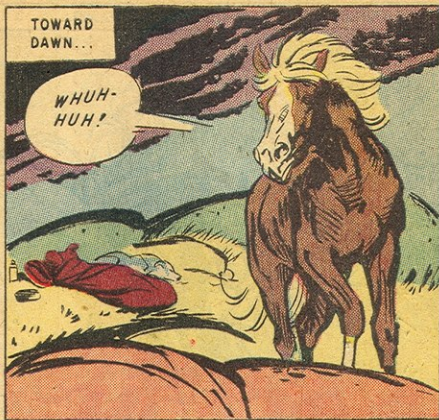


EEEE-
YAWN!

RICKY UNSADDLES CHAMP AND...

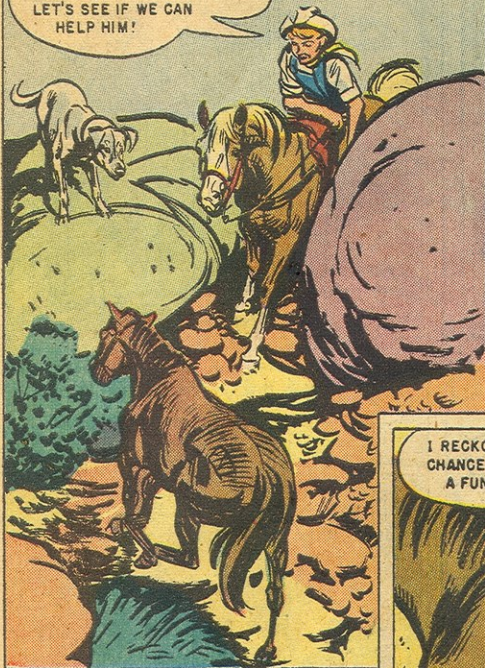
HERE'S *YOUR* SUPPER, REBEL! NOW,
I'LL FISH OUT MY SOUP AND SAND-
WICHES AND WE'LL ALL EAT
TOGETHER!





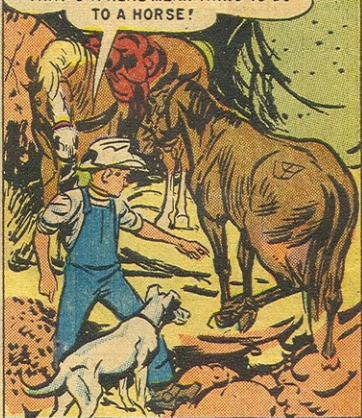
THE THREE PALS FOLLOW THE STRANGE SOUND...

A LAME HORSE! BUT NOT
DANCER, THANK GOODNESS!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN
HELP HIM!

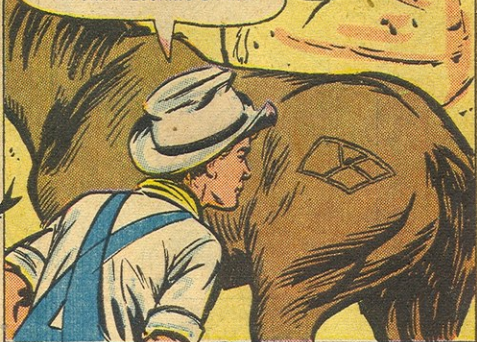


A FEW MINUTES LATER...

WHY, HE'S HOBBLING AND SIDELINED *BOTH*!
THAT'S A REAL MEAN THING TO DO
TO A HORSE!



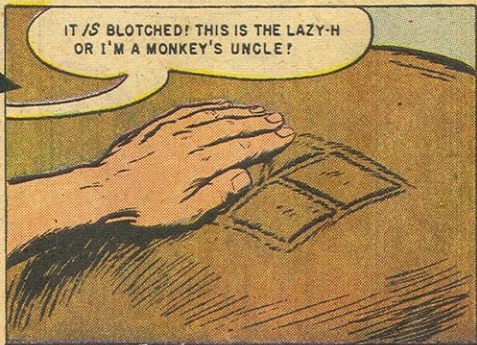
I RECKON HIS RIDER'S NOT TAKING ANY
CHANCES ON LOSING — — — HEY! THAT'S
A FUNNY-LOOKING BRAND!



THERE'S NO SPREAD AROUND HERE
WITH THAT BRAND! LOOKS LIKE
A BAD JOB OF BLOTCHING TO ME!

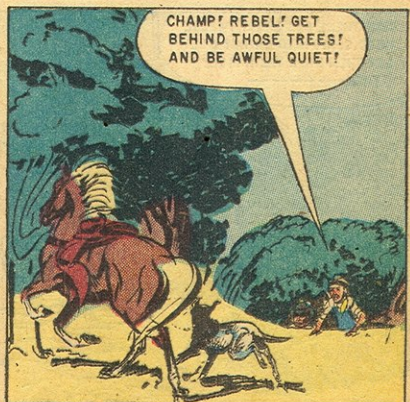
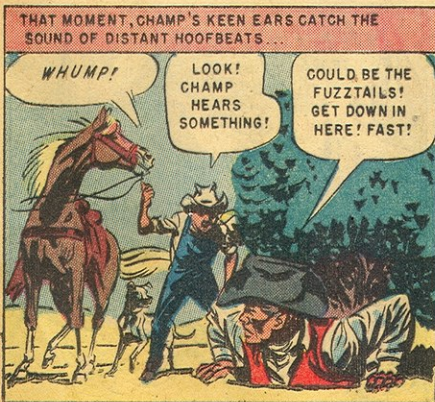


IT */S* BLOTCHED! THIS IS THE LAZY-H
OR I'M A MONKEY'S UNCLE!



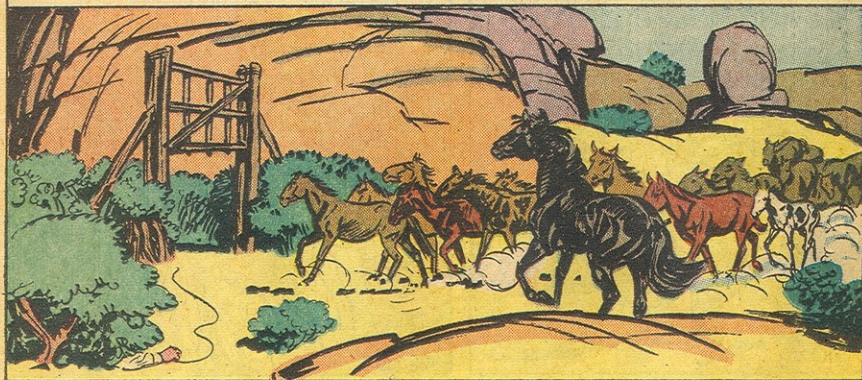


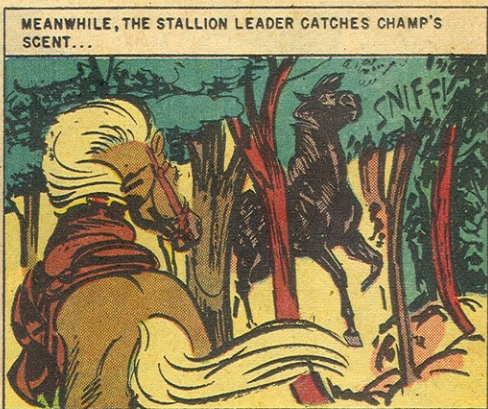






THE THIRSTY BAND FOLLOWS THE SCENT OF WATER...





MEANTIME THE BATTLE IS JOINED...



GO TO IT, CHAMP! SEND HIM PACKING!



YOUR CHAMP
SURE CAN FIGHT,
KID! WHAT A
HORSE!

YOU CAN SAY THAT
AGAIN!



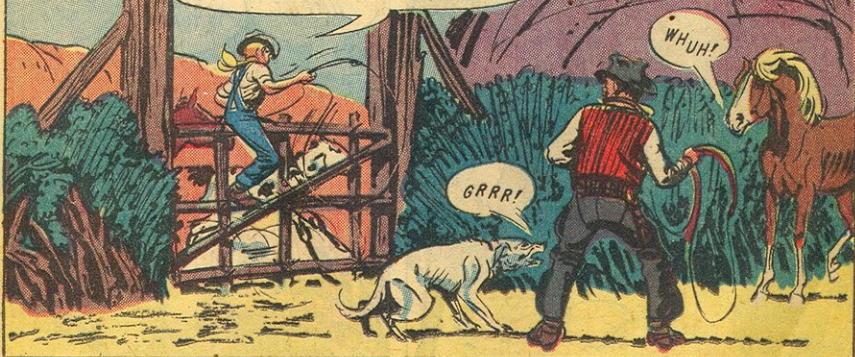
THAT BLACK STALLION
MUST HAVE FIGURED
CHAMP HAD AN EYE
ON HIS MARES!

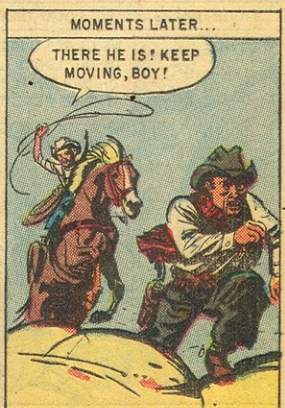
AND
I'VE GOT
MY EYE
ON CHAMP!

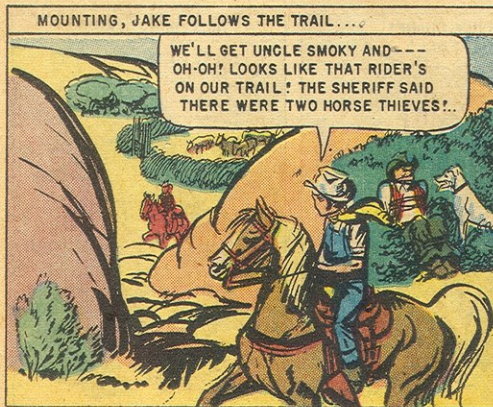


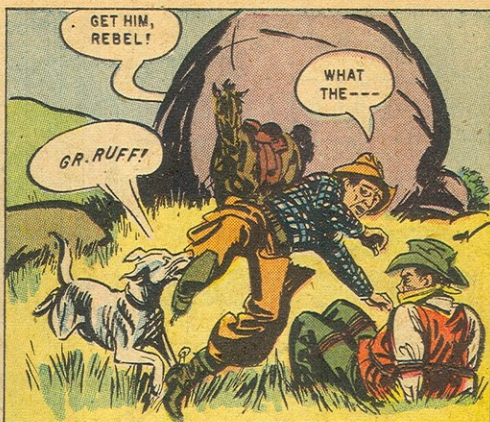
A LITTLE
LATER...

OKAY, DANCER! YOU'VE HAD YOUR FLING!
IT'S TIME TO GO HOME!



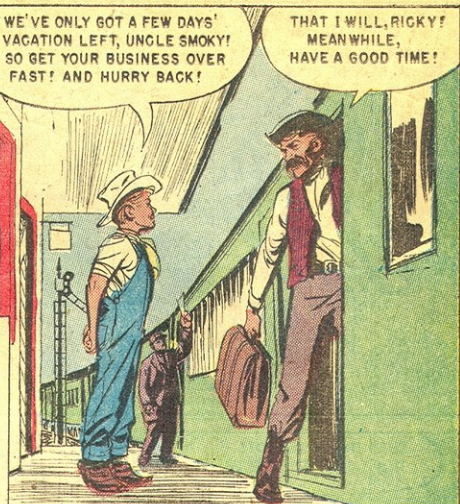
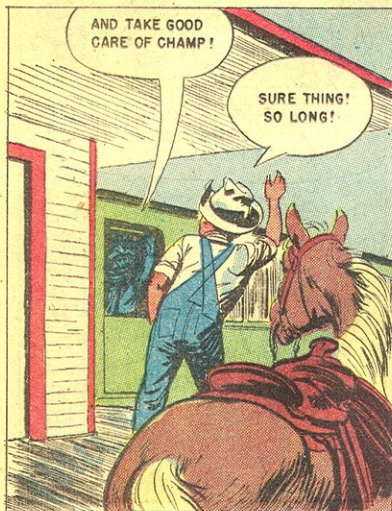




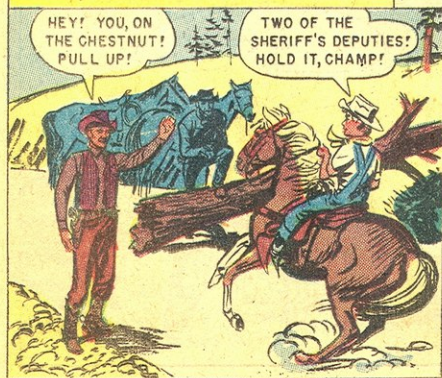


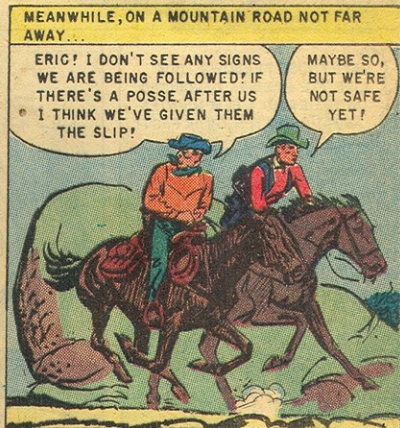
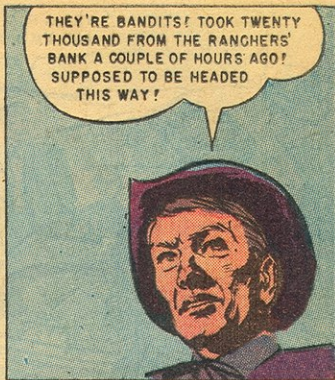
Champion

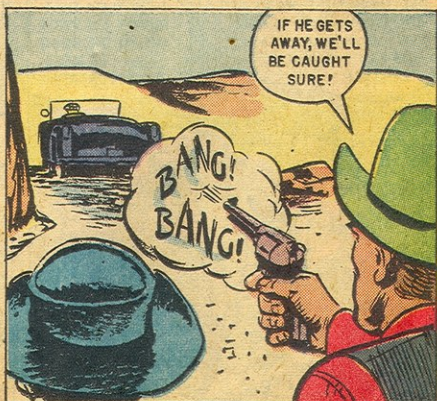
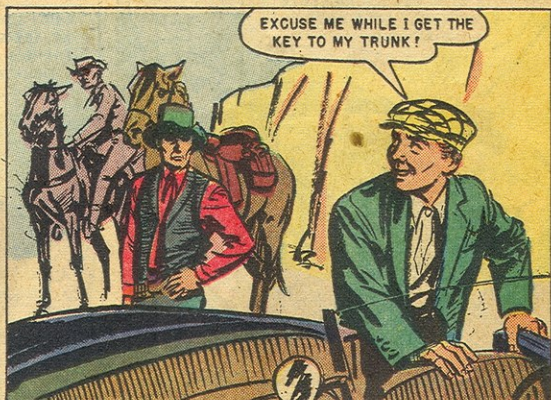
and TROUBLE AT COYOTE RIDGE

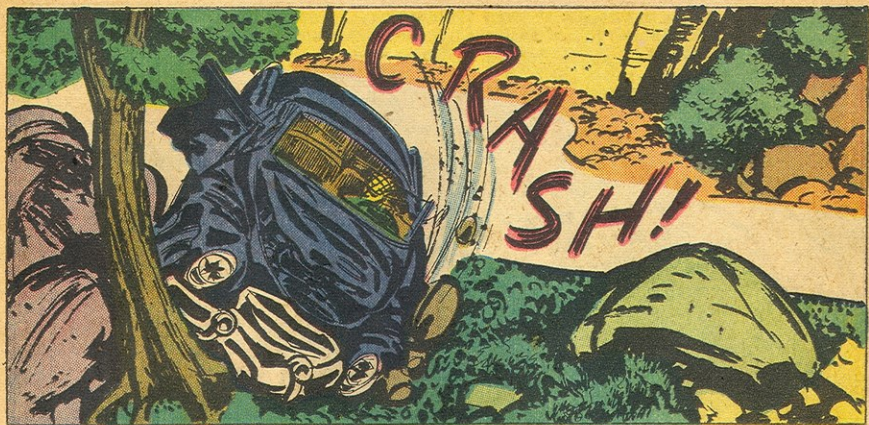


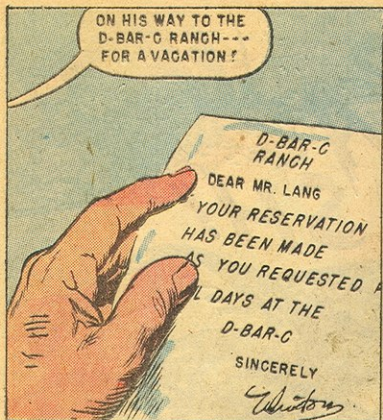
BUT, JUST OUTSIDE TOWN...







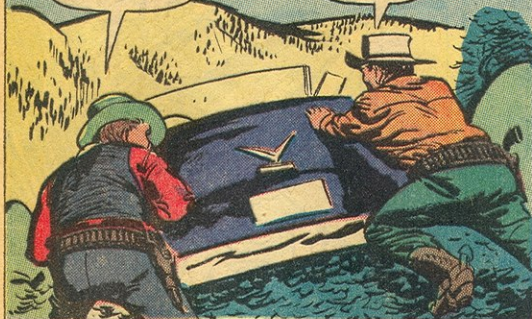




UNDER THE STRAIN, LOU'S WRIST WATCH STRAP BREAKS...

PUSH WILL
YOU--- I CAN'T
MOVE IT ALONE!

I AM PUSHING!
SAVE YOUR
BREATH!



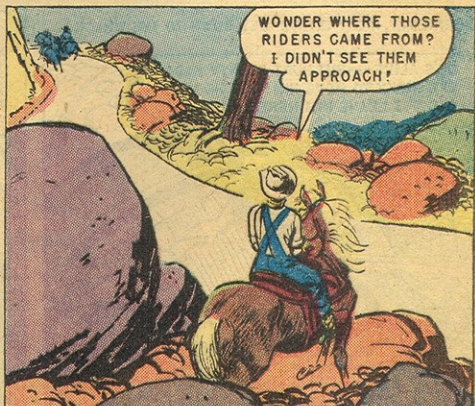
--- AND FALLS UNNOTICED INTO
THE LEAVES...



LET'S GET MOVING BEFORE
THAT COWBOY SEES US
AT THIS SPOT!



WONDER WHERE THOSE
RIDERS CAME FROM?
I DIDN'T SEE THEM
APPROACH!

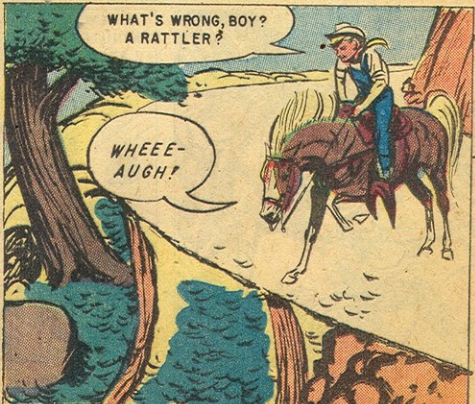


I GUESS THEY WERE RESTING
THEIR HORSES IN THE SHADE
OF THAT TREE!

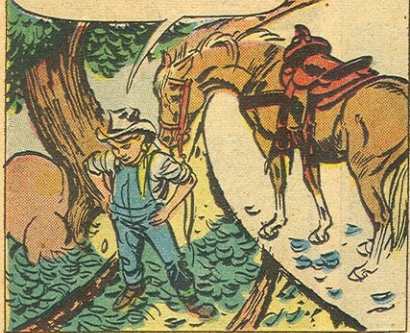


WHAT'S WRONG, BOY?
A RATTLE?

WHEEE-
AUGH!



FRESHLY-BROKEN BRANCHES! FRESH FOOTPRINTS, TOO! TIRE TRACKS RUNNING OVER THE LEDGE! GOLLY! WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON HERE?



JUMPING BULLFROGS! A WRECKED CAR!--- WITH A MAN IN IT!



HURRIEDLY, RICKY SCRAMBLES DOWN TO THE WRECK...

HE'S ALIVE ---BUT HURT PLENTY BAD! IT'S RISKY TO MOVE HIM! BUT HE MAY DIE IF I LEAVE HIM HERE!



CHAMP! COME HERE! I'LL NEED YOU AND THE ROPE!

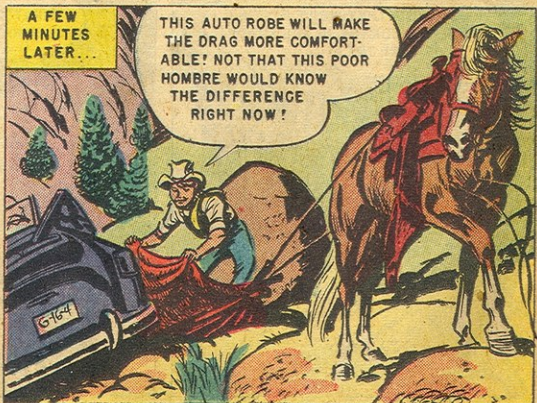


I'M GOING TO MAKE AN INDIAN DRAG!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

THIS AUTO ROBE WILL MAKE THE DRAG MORE COMFORTABLE! NOT THAT THIS POOR HOMBRE WOULD KNOW THE DIFFERENCE RIGHT NOW!





I JUST REMEMBERED!
THERE WERE TWO BANK
BANDITS! I WONDER...

OKAY, CHAMP!
LET'S GO! BUT TAKE
IT SLOW AND EASY! THIS
CHAP'S HAD ENOUGH
BUMPING AROUND!

MEANTIME...

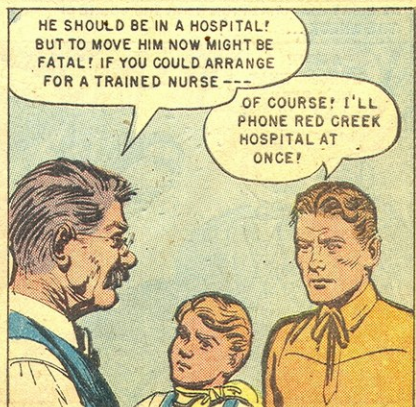
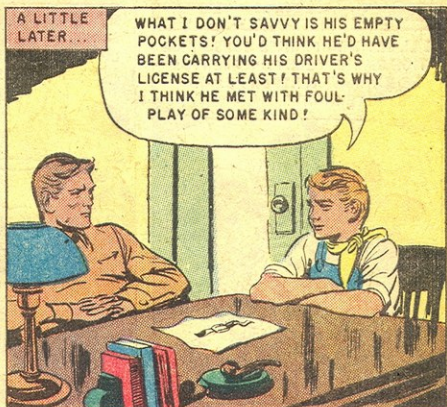
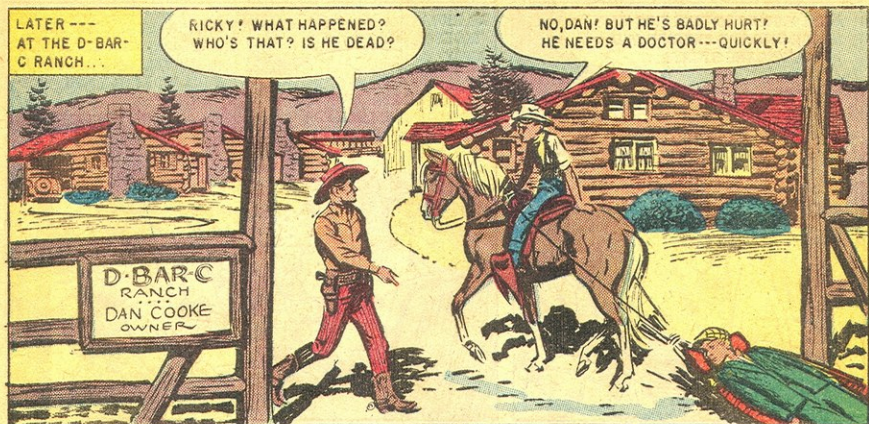
HOLD IT, ERIC!
WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK!
I'VE LOST MY
WATCH!

YOU'VE GOT
ENOUGH MONEY TO
BUY ANOTHER!

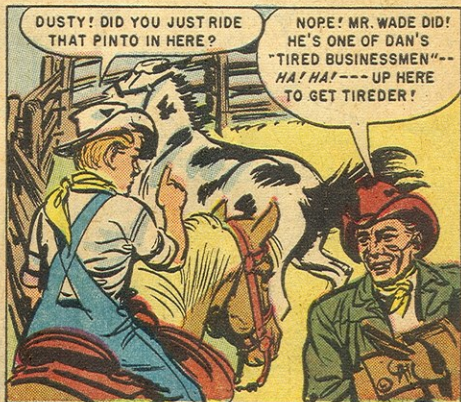
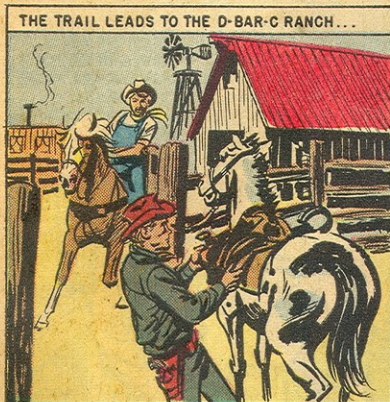
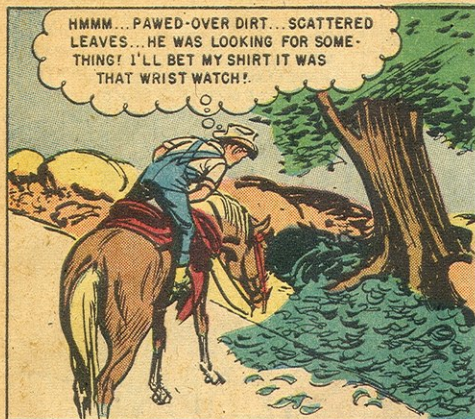
BUT THAT WAS A SPECIAL JOB!
MADE TO ORDER FOR ME IN
LOS ANGELES!

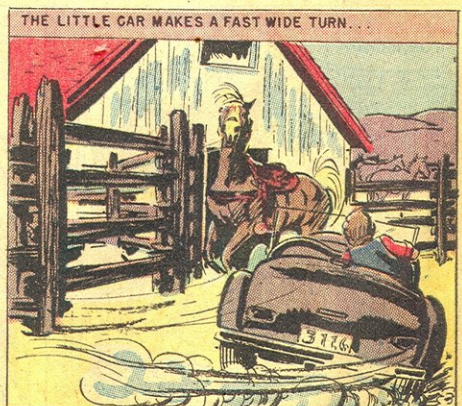
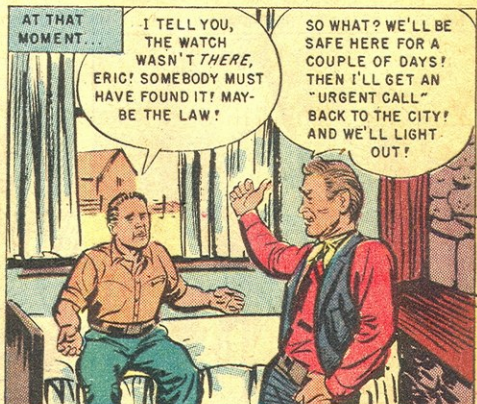
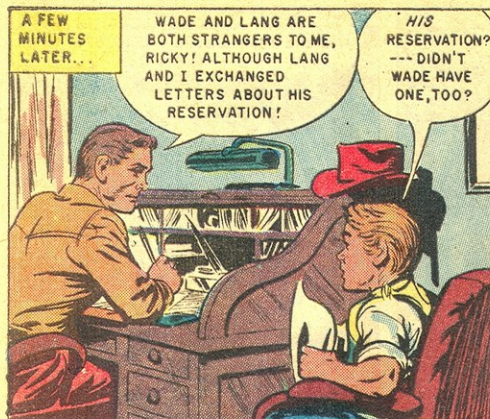
AFTER WE CHECK IN AT
THE D-BAR-C, YOU CAN GO
BACK AND LOOK FOR IT!

DON'T THINK
I WON'T!

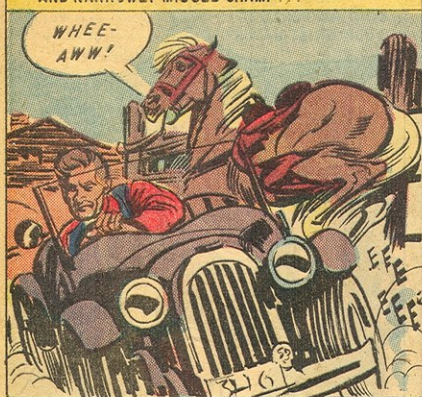




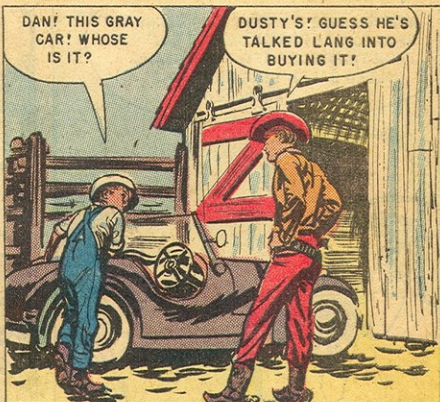
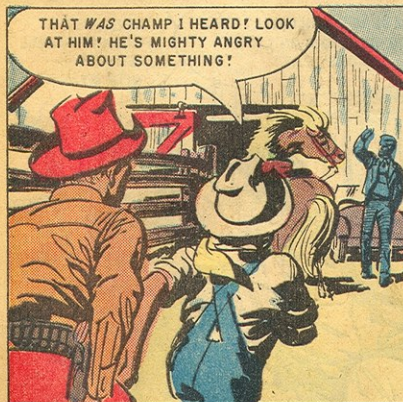
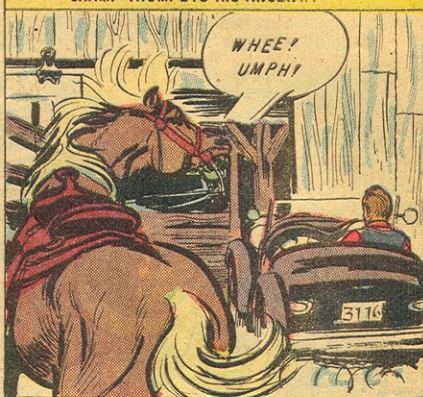




AND NARROWLY MISSES CHAMP...



CHAMP TRUMPETS HIS ANGER...



ERIC OPENS THE DOOR TO DAN'S KNOCK.

MR COOKE! SOMETHING
I CAN DO FOR YOU?



FIRST---WADE!
WHAT HAPPENED TO
YOUR WRIST WATCH?

WHY---I---ER---
LOST IT A WEEK
AGO! IN ALBU-
QUERQUE



ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T THIS MORNING
UP AT COYOTE RIDGE? ON YOUR WAY
FROM FAIRFIELD? AFTER YOU NEARLY
KILLED RALPH LANG AND STOLE
HIS PAPERS?



YOU BLASTED NITWIT! I TOLD
YOU WE SHOULDN'T HAVE
COME HERE!

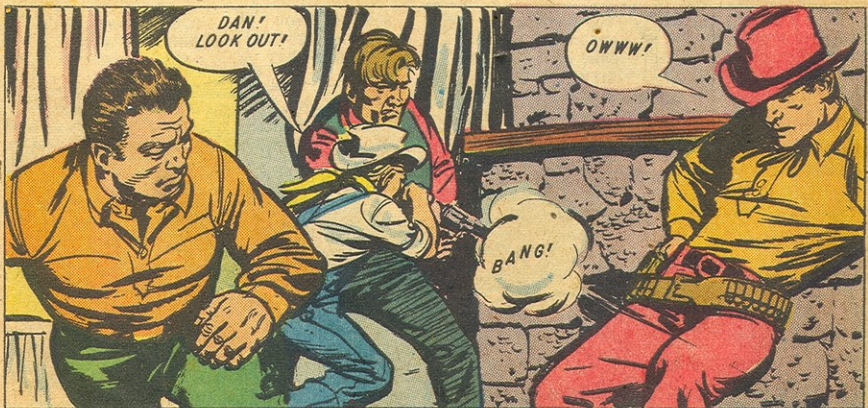
WELL, WE'LL
FINISH OFF THESE
TWO ---
WITH MY GUN!



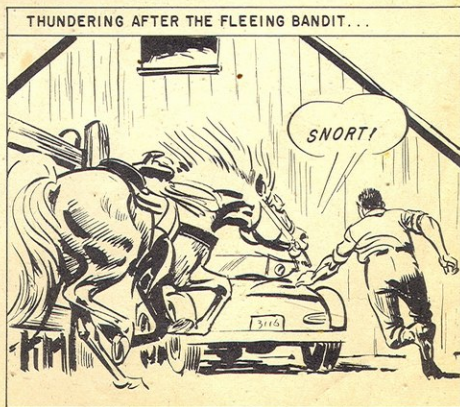
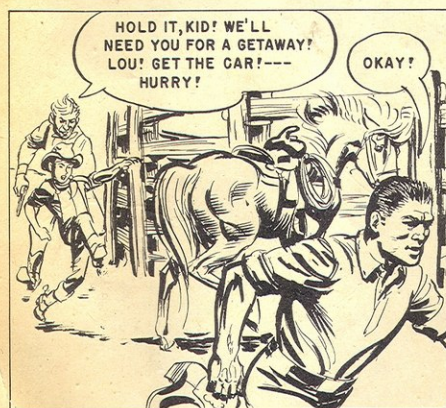
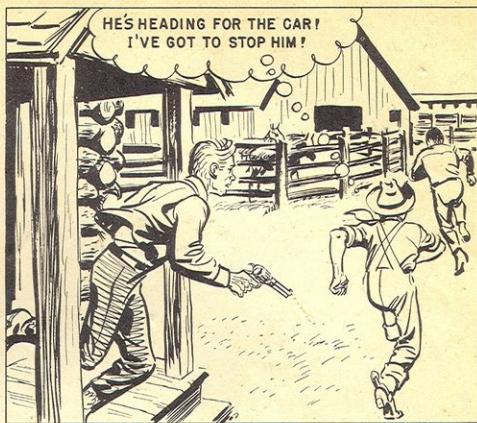
DAN!
LOOK OUT!

OWWW!

BANG!



DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS



CHAMP TAKES CHARGE ...



CHAMP'S
GONE
BERSERK!!

DUSTY! DON'T SHOOT!
THAT HOMBRE'S A
BANDIT! AND SO'S
THIS ONE!



REACH, LANG! OR WHATEVER YOUR
NAME IS! AND DROP THAT GUN! OR
I'LL FILL YOU FULL OF DAYLIGHT!



BOSS!
YOU'RE
HURT!

JUST A SCRATCH! CALL
SOME OF THE BOYS AND
TAKE THESE TWO BANDITS
INTO RED CREEK! THE
SHERIFF'LL BE MIGHTY
GLAD TO SEE THEM!



THE
NEXT
DAY...

WADE'S
PRINT ON THE
WRIST WATCH
CHECKED! BOTH
OUTLAWS CONFESSED!

AND WE RECOVERED
THE STOLEN BANK
CASH FROM THEIR
SADDLEBAGS.
---SAY! HOW IS LANG?



FINE! DOC SAYS HE'LL
BE WELL ENOUGH TO
GIVE YOU A FULL
STATEMENT IN
THE MORNING!

WHICH WRAPS UP
THIS CASE---WITH
THANKS TO RICKY AND
CHAMP, THE WONDER
HORSE!

WHEE-HEEE-HEE!

