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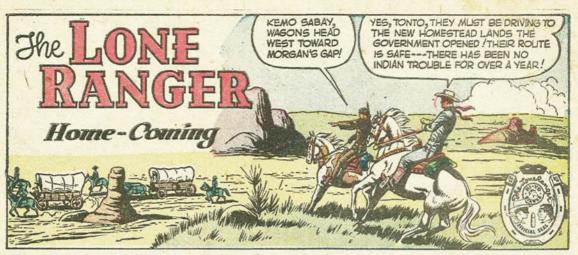
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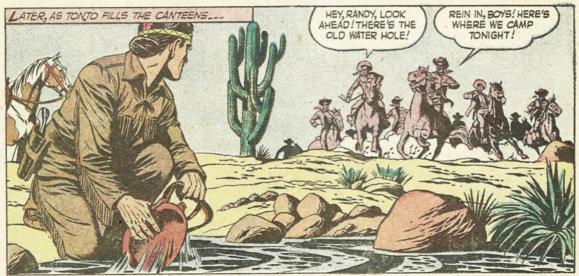










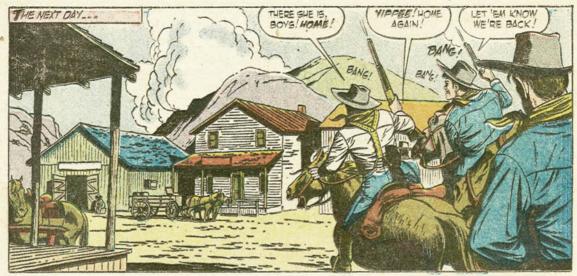






















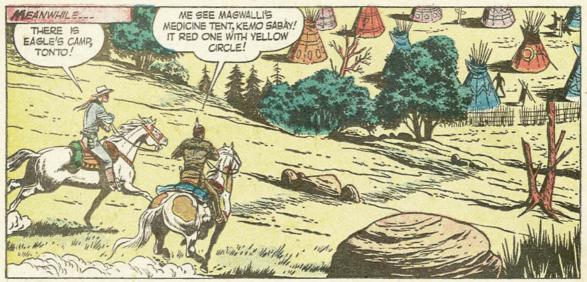


































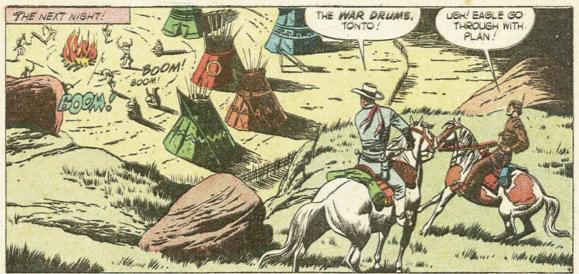
























PLEASE LISTEN
TO ME/INDIANS ARE
PLANNING TO ATTACK
MORGAN'S GAP!
SPREAD THE WORD
SO THE MEN WILL
BE READY!

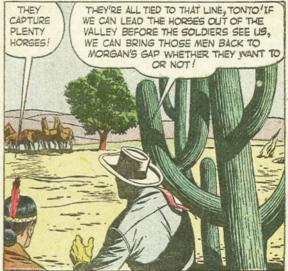
WHAT MEN SAKES ALIVE, THERE
ARE ONLY A FEW ABLE, BODIED MEN
LEFT IN TOWN SINCE THE WAR /AND
ALL OUR GOOD RIFLES WERE
COLLECTED YEARS AGO AND SENT
TO GENERAL LEE! WE'VE ONLY GOT
SIX-GLINS AND SHOTGLINS LEFT!

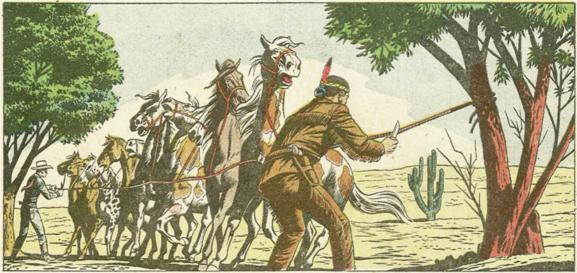














































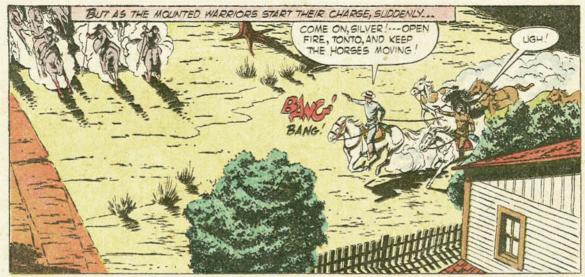
































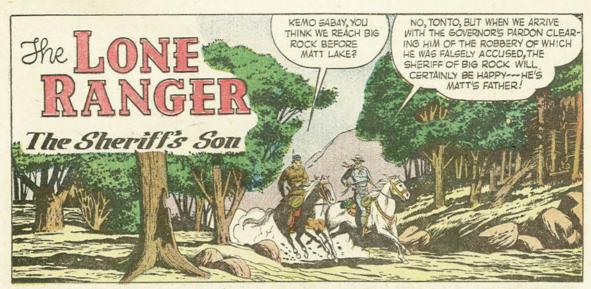






























































































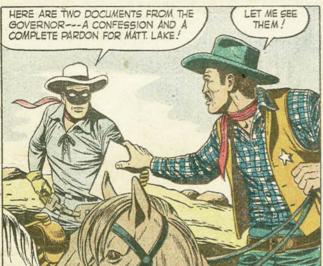


























NO, I WAS HERE BEFORE --- WHEN





WE'RE PULLIN'

OUTA THIS













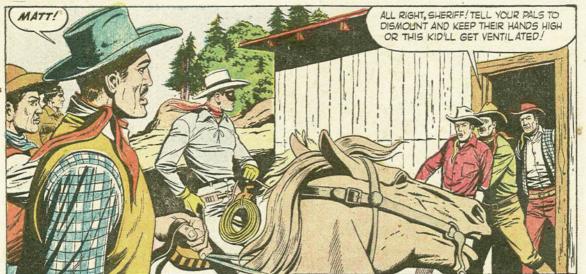


































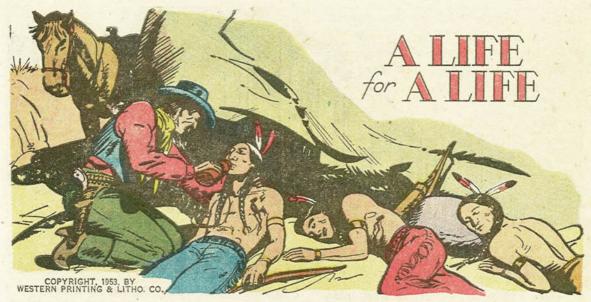












Big Tom Weller's eyes squinted anxiously, gazing across the dry folds of the desert east of the Pecos. He was looking for signs of water. Water for the five hundred thirsty longhorn cattle that wore his brand, and trailed ten miles behind him! Water that would keep them going till they were out of danger!

On Tom Weller's broad shoulders rested the welfare of his four sons, back with the herd, and his plucky, uncomplaining daughter-in-law who drove the chuckwagon. If their cattle died of thirst they would all be ruined. Their hopes of a homestead on Montana's good, green grass would be gone!

Noting the dip of a little gulch ahead of him, Tom gigged his weary horse. There MIGHT be water there. . . .

The gulch made a bend, around a sharp, rocky corner. Beyond that bend there COULD be a spring, or a seep! Tom rode around it—and pulled up short, his hand darting to his holstered pistol. In the shade of the rock lay, not a spring, but three half-naked Indians. One of them reached feebly for his bow. They were all wounded—all at the end of their strength—all dying of thirst.

Big Tom Weller's hand dropped his pistol back into the holster—and reached for his water bottle. It was still almost full. Dismounting slowly, he knelt beside the tallest Indian—the one who had reached for his bow. Tom's big, strong hand went behind the Navajo's head, raised him to drink from the bottle. The man took three sips and pushed it away.

"That took self-control!" Tom muttered, as he turned to the next man.

When he had finished bandaging the worst hurts of the three Navajos, his water bottle was empty. From a saddle pocket, he pulled a biscuit and a strip of dried beef and handed it to the tall Navajo.

"Why you . . . do . . . this, white man?" the Indian asked, meeting Tom's eyes.

"A long time ago," the Texan answered, "a certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves. They wounded him and left him half dead. But a stranger came along and helped him, so that he lived. My God tells me to do the same, Navajo! You savvy? Tomorrow I will come back, with more food and water."

The Indian did not reply, but his dark eyes followed Tom Weller out of sight.

When the bawling, thirsty longhorns reached the neighborhood, next day, the three Navajos were still there—and still too weak to travel. So, Tom had his boys cut out a young heifer and butcher her for them. The tall Indian's name, he learned, was Hosteen Nezh. Evidently the three were sur-

vivors of a war party that had lost a fight.

Tom asked about the chances of feed and water farther on, but got no encouragement. He left three horses and three bottles of water with the Navajos, and drove on, westward.

At best, he might reach the Pecos River with some of his cattle. At worst, their bones would whiten the desert sand!

The second day after leaving the Navajos, Tom Weller's cows were beginning to drop with thirst.

As he gave the word to camp for the night, he caught sight of three strange riders. They were Hosteen Nezh and his men. The tall Indian rode straight to Big Tom Weller.

"I show you grass—water!" he said, using the white-man words with difficulty. "Three miles—back in hills—where Navajo keep sheep! When moon come up—bring cows—I show!"

Ten days later, Big Tom Weller drove a strong, lively herd of longhorns northward from the hidden valley. He left some good feed behind him—for the sheep of Hosteen Nezh and his people. He had not seen an Indian since the moonlit night when the tall Chief had showed him the place. But he sensed that he and his family were still being watched by unseen friends in the desert hills.

Hosteen Nezh had said that more grass and water lay within reach, to the north—





not much, but enough to see them through. Big Tom Weller, heading northward again, was beginning to feel that his troubles were over. And then—

Trouble struck! Five bearded, hardcase riders came up to the Wellers' campfire as they were eating supper. Only Tom, and his son, Harvey, and Harvey's wife were eating. The others were holding the herd.

The biggest of the newcomers went right to the point. He had noticed how fresh Tom's cattle were. His own were starved for feed and water. He demanded to know where Tom's longhorns had found it.

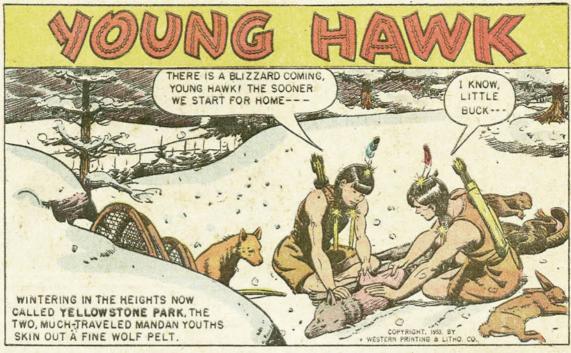
Big Tom Weller shook his head. He couldn't send strangers to use up what remained of Hosteen Nezh's pasture. He said, "No!" and looked up into the muzzles of five guns.

"You tell—or we'll plant you right here, and take YOUR cows!" the bearded leader said. And it was clear that he meant it. But Tom Weller quietly bowed his head. "No!" he said again—and sensed the tightening of trigger fingers!

Suddenly bowstrings twanged in the darkness beyond the fire. Three of the would-be killers clutched at their chests, and toppled dead from their saddles. The other two whirled their mounts and fled into the night.

Slowly Tom Weller rose to his feet.

"Three of them!" he muttered in wonder.
"Hosteen Nezh's payment—a life for a life!",













WITHOUT WARNING THE GROUND DROPS OUT FROM UNDER THEM.



EIGHT FEET BELOW, THEY LAND UNHURT IN THE DRIFTED SNOW "CORNICE" THAT BROKE FROM A LEDGE OF ROCK THAT THEY DID NOT SEE.











































FOR THREE DAYS THE BLIZZARD HOWLS, DRIFT-ING MORE AND MORE SNOW OVER THE BOYS' HIDDEN SHELTER, AND SEALING OUT BOTH WIND AND COLD.



ON THE MORNING OF THE FOURTH DAY, BOYS AND DOG SLEEP LATE -- AND LITTLE BROTHER'S EVER-READY APPETITE IS MAKING THE SMALL HAWK DESPERATE! UNABLE TO ROUSE THEM --



OPEN BEAK AND WICKED INTENT!







































WHAT ---WHAT IS IT, YOUNG HAWK? ANOTHER YOUNG HAWK--MY NAMESAKE! I CALL
HIM "LITTLE BROTHER"!
HANDLE HIM GENTLY OR
HE'LL BITE YOU, AKIMO!













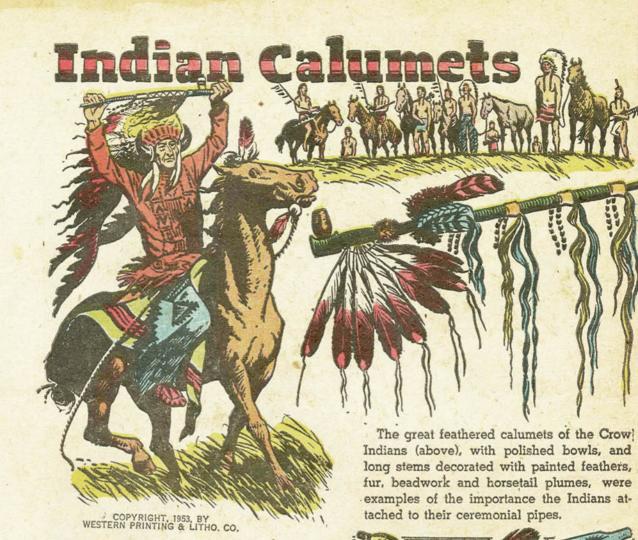




--- UNTIL LITTLE BROTHER BECOMES JEALOUS AND TWEAKS THE SINGER'S EAR FOR ATTENTION!



THEN EVERYBODY LAUGHS --- AND THE LIGHT THROUGH THE SMOKE HOLE SEEMS BRIGHTER --- AND SPRING NOT SO FAR AWAY!



Among various Indian tribes the calumet (peace pipe) ceremony was a part of every treaty, whether between Indian tribes, or Indians and whites. Also, any brave who carried a calumet was accepted as a friend by the various tribes he traveled among.



Most calumets were elaborately decorated, but not heavy. However, some stone pipes, carved in the effigies of men, birds and animals (note wolf bowl above), were 10 inches high, 18 inches long, and weighed between 15 and 18 pounds!

Most white men connect "smoking the peace pipe" with "burying the tomahawk," but among some tribes the "peace pipe" is a replica of the tomahawk, as shown by the Menomini Indian tomahawk pipe above. The crossed calumets are more common pipe designs.













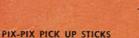
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Here's fun for any number of persons! Try picking up 31 sticks one at a time . . . without moving any of the other sticks. There are yellow sticks, red sticks, blue ones, green ones, and that very important black one. You and your friends will like Pix-Pix!



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track, spinner and horses all come

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Kentucky Derby

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CMON, III SPARKUP! Said Stan Musial, of the St. Louis Cardinals "I COULDN'T HIT WELL ENOUGH TO MAKE MY SCHOOL TEAM UNTIL STAN MUSIAL SHOWED ME HOW TO SPARK!"

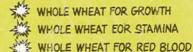








THERE'S A WHOLE KERNEL OF WHEAT IN EVERY WHEATIES FLAKE



SPARK UP WITH WHEATIES!



