



Roy Rogers

KING OF THE COWBOYS

AND

THE BIGHORN LODE





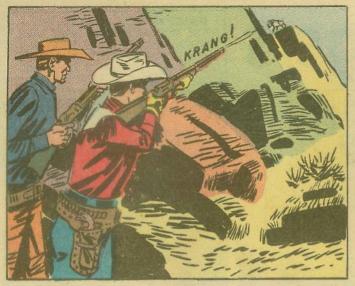






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--- AND FALLS LIMP--- OVER THE EDGE OF A NEARLY PERPENDICULAR SLOPE.





















































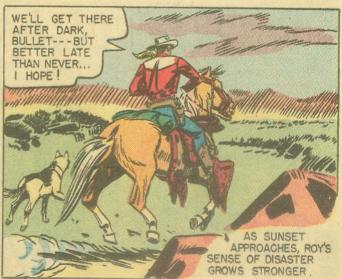






ROY KEEPS BUSY UNTIL MIDAFTERNOON, BUT HIS CONSCIENCE---OR A PREMONITION OF DANGER---BOTHERS HIM BADLY.















LISTEN, YOU BUTTINSKY! MAYBE







STAY THERE? NOT UNLESS YOU'RE A LOT LAZIER THAN I FIGURE YOU ARE! THERE'S AN OL' MINER'S CHISEL AND HAMMER DOWN THERE---SO YOU CAN CHISEL HAND-AND-FOOT HOLDS TO CLIMB OUT WITH! TAKE YOU FIVE 'R SIX DAYS, MEBBE.

























































Roy Rogars

KING OF THE COWBOYS

IN

NESTER'S WELCOME

AND INSIDE THE
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ACROSS THE WAY-
TAKES A BRAVE MAN OR A
DESPERATE ONE TO BE
RIDING IN WEATHER LIKE
THIS, ROY! WHO
ARE THEY?



A "NORTHER" HAS BEEN SWEEPING THE "SADDLE" COUNTRY WITH SNOW AND BATTERING WINDS... LATE IN THE DAY, TWO STRANGERS RIDE INTO PRONGHORN'S MAIN STREET, AND STOP.



THEY WENT INTO MILT HOPSON'S STORE! THEY MIGHT BE A PAIR OF SHEEPHERDERS FRESH OUT OF SUPPLIES.





























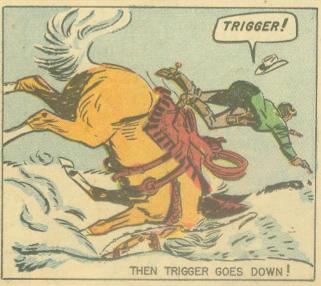
































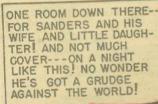














THAT NIGHT---TOO COLD TO SLEEP MUCH---ROY DOES SOME THINKING!

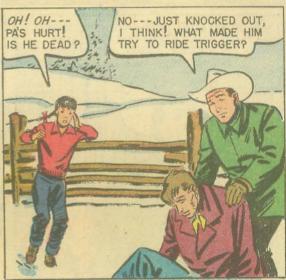


























































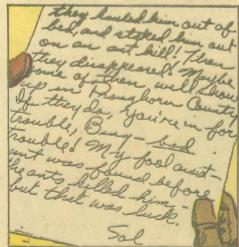


























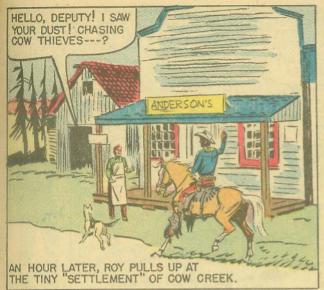










































OF COURSE, MY HUNGH COULD BE WRONG---AND THOSE RENEGADES NOWHERE NEAR US.





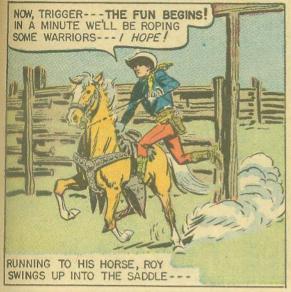






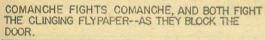




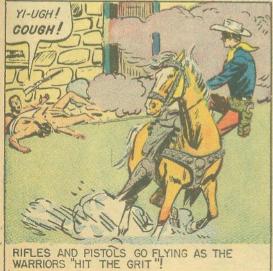








































Gary Train looked down through the window of the passenger plane at the sunburned rocks of the Funeral Range—and wondered at their naked ugliness. Now the heat-tortured floor of Death Valley unrolled below—with the plane's shadow on it, like a flitting ghost. Ahead loomed the barren folds and ridges of the Panamints. But in a moment, thought Gary, these would pass, and green slopes would roll on toward the Pacific—toward Los Angeles, where his Dad would meet him. Mom would be there, too—or perhaps waiting at their new home. . . .

"But I'm glad I stayed East to finish the school term," Gary mused. "After the holidays—"

A sudden dip of the plane broke his reverie.

A puff of smoke slipped past the window.

Another lurch, and—

"Safety belts!" The voice of the stewardess cut through the startled murmur of passengers. "Fasten your belts—emergency landing! Don't be alarmed—"

Gary's fingers obeyed automatically. Being a boy who always thought things out, he had practiced doing that, in his mind—just in CASE of an emergency. Other passengers were much slower, or too scared to do anything. . . .

The nose of the plane came up a bit, and then—

A stunning, splintering shock! And another

-and another-

Gary shook some of the fog out of his head, and looked out upon bare rocks—through the broken side of the fuselage. He felt as if a giant hand had shaken and bruised him. But he was alive!

So were others. Alive enough to make noises, anyhow—tight moans and broken whimperings—some words of prayer!

"Gary! You're not hurt? Help me-"

It was Dora Kent, the stewardess, who spoke. She was trying to get her feet under her, though one arm and shoulder hung limp.

"Help me, Gary! We have to get—these injured people—out! Before there's a fire!"

Gary unfastened his belt and helped Dora to stand in the tilted aisle. She couldn't do much herself, but she gave him directions. How to grasp and pull some passenger whose bones might be broken . . . How to stop a bleeding cut . . . Which ones to drag outside first! Gary was strong for his thirteen years—and the need for it made him still stronger. Soon all the living were out of the broken plane.

There was, luckily, no fire. That is, no actual flames. But the desert sun at midday was like a white-hot furnace hanging in the sky. It made the rocks too hot to touch. It made one thirsty—dreadfully thirsty! Especially the injured folks!

"Gary," said Dora, as they huddled in the scanty shadow of the tail assembly—"Gary, you've done a MAN'S job! I'm proud of you! But none of our lives are saved yet. The engine which caught fire in the air was torn away when we struck. There's no column of smoke—thank Heaven! But that means, no one knows we crashed! No one will come for us! Unless—"

"—unless I go for help? That's so, Dora! I'm the only one who isn't too hurt to walk! All right—"

Gary stood up—feeling for the first time the pain of his wrenched and bruised muscles. And the fierce heat of the sun on his hatless head!

"Find a hat—and wear it, Gary!" the girl told him. "And you'd better take the pilot's pistol. You might get near enough some place to signal with it. I can't give you any water—the injured need what little is left in the tank... So long, and—WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, GARY!"

It was hours later when Gary Train saw the coyote. Just how many hours the sun had been burning down on him, he could only guess. It was long enough to dry his tongue and blur his eyesight. He had sunk down in the shade of a rock to rest, with the pilot's pistol on his knees. . . .

The coyote popped silently out of a gully —with a ripe peach in its mouth. It couldn't be real—but Gary took aim and fired. And missed! The coyote took off, but HE DROPPED THE PEACH!





It was a real peach, a juicy, delicious peach. Gary ate the skin, too, and sucked the stone. Refreshed, he could think more clearly. One big fact stood out: The peach MUST have come from nearby! And peaches do not grow wild in a desert!

Gary dropped into the gully. He followed it down to a small canyon. And there was a trail! Gary was almost running now. He rounded a bend—and there, below him, lay a tiny canyon farm! A fruit orchard—green grass—a house and corral—!

The Indian who owned the tiny fruit ranch met him at the door—with a smile and a dipper of cool water! Soon Gary was blurting out the story of the plane crash—between sips of cold goat's milk. When he had ended, the Indian led him to the corral.

"I have three horses," he told Gary. "You will take one—ride to the Ranger Station, ten miles down the road. I will take water and blankets and food on a pack horse to the plane. Will follow your back track!"

He paused, catch-rope in hand, at the corral's gate.

"How you find my place?" he asked Gary.

"A coyote had stolen a peach," the boy answered. "I saw him—shot at him—got the peach . . . Then I went looking for the tree!"

A rare smile creased the Indian's leatherbrown features.

"You make good in desert," he declared.

"Like Injun! Like old-time pioneers!"











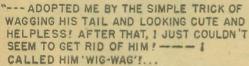














"-- BUT THAT WASN'T WHAT THE NEIGHBORS
CALLED HIM -- WHEN THEY CAUGHT HIM KILLING
THEIR HENS, AND TOLD ME I HAD TO PAY UP! AFTER
PAYING FOR A DOZEN OR SO HIGH-PRICED HENS,
I KNEW I HAD EITHER TO SHOOT WE-WAG, OR ---





" --- A BUCKBOARD CAME TEARING DOWN THE STREET WITH TWO PEOPLE ON THE SEAT---ONE OF EM A WOMAN WITH A BANDAGE ON HER HEAD!

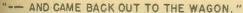


"IT WAS SILAS BOLLES'S OUTFIT---WITH GEORGE BALLARD DRIVING.... THEY PULLED UP AT DOC TOWNSEND'S, JUST AS I CROSSED THE STREET."



"BALLARD HELPED THE WOMAN INTO DOC'S HOUSE --- "







* DOC'S BACK ROOM WAS HIS UNDERTAKING ESTABLISHMENT ... WHEN WE'D CARRIED THE CORPSE IN THERE — — — — "



"--- GEORGE BALLARD HAD QUITE A STORY TO TELL."

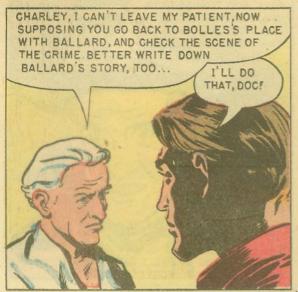


THE JIGGER DODGED AROUND THE
HOUSE TO WHERE HE HAD A HORSE
TIED! I HEARD HIM RIDE OFF... THEN
I HOLLERED FOR SILAS! WHEN I
DIDN'I GET ANY ANSWER I WENT IN
--- AND FOUND HIM SHOT AND
HER HURT TOO
MUCH TO
TALK!

"I LET HIM RATTLE ON --- UNTIL DOG TOWNSEND CAME IN TO LOOK AT SILAS."

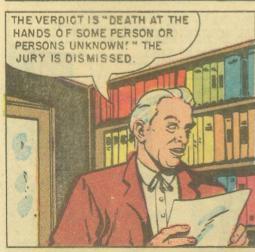












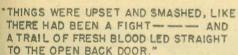
"THE VERDICT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE SAME, IN ANY CASE ... "



'--- BUT AFTER SUPPER I RODE OUT TO GEORGE BALLARD'S BACHELOR SPREAD TO SEE WHY HE HADN'T SHOWED UP! THE HOUSE WAS DARK WHEN I GOT THERE."



"GONSIDERING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THE BOLLESES, I THOUGHT I'D BETTER LOOK AROUND INSIDE!" WIG-WAG, MY PUP, CAME IN, TOO."





FOLLOW IT,
PUP! THE KILLER
CAN'T HAVE
DRAGGED POOR
GEORGE VERY
FAR!

ARP,
YARP!



"WE WENT THROUGH THE MAIN ROOM TO THE KITCHEN, AND THERE I SAW A MESS THAT BROUGHT ME UP SHORT!"



"WIG-WAG WENT WHOOPING OUT TO THE BARN, WHERE HE STARTED TO DIG LIKE MAD."



"I REACHED IN UNDER THE BARN SILL, AND PULLED OUT --- "



" I COULDN'T MAKE HEAD OR TAIL OUT OF THE WHOLE BUSINESS..."





"I HEADED FOR THAT LIGHT AS FAST AS MY HORSE COULD COVER GROUND. — WITH ALL KINDS OF IDEAS BOILING IN MY BRAIN."







AS I LEFT MY SADDLE I HEARD A PISTOL SHOT FROM SOMEWHERE INSIDE THE HOUSE." "I EASED IN THROUGH THE BACK DOOR, QUICK AND QUIET! THE LIGHT WAS IN THE BEDROOM, AND I COULD HEAR SOMEONE MUTTERING, LIKE A MAN IN A BLIND RAGE."



"--- AND HIS NEXT SHOT WAS FOR ME!"



WITH AN EMPTY TIM MONEY BOY IN ONE HAND, AND HIS PISTOL IN THE OTHER! HE'D SHOT THE LOCK OFF -- "



"BUT BALLARD WAS TOO MAD TO AIM STRAIGHT!
I SHOT THE GUN QUIT OF HIS HAND
AND ARRESTED HIM FOR THE MURDER OF
SILAS ROLLES! HE WAS THE PHANTOM
KILLER!"









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Many English words that are used today stem directly from Indian expressions. O. K., or "okay" is a Choctaw word,—"o keh," with the same meaning we give it in English today.

Here are a few other words quite common in the English language, and their Indian sources:

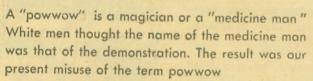


"Ke-bek" was a cry of warning used by Algonquin Indians when shooting rapids in a canoe. Frenchmen, hearing this cry from the Indians on the river below their fort, named it Quebec.

The Seneca Indians, unable to pronounce the word "English," called it "Yangis." So our term "Yankee" simply means "English."

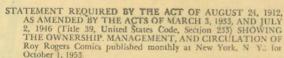


The city of New York gets its name, Manhattan, from the Indians of the same name. The word means "the hill island."





"Squaw" is merely the English corruption of the Narragansett word "squaws," which means any "woman." It is not a proper designation for an Indian woman unless you are speaking Narragansett, which is an obsolete language.



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