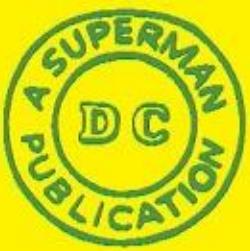


No.18

Aug...Sept.
Ten Cents

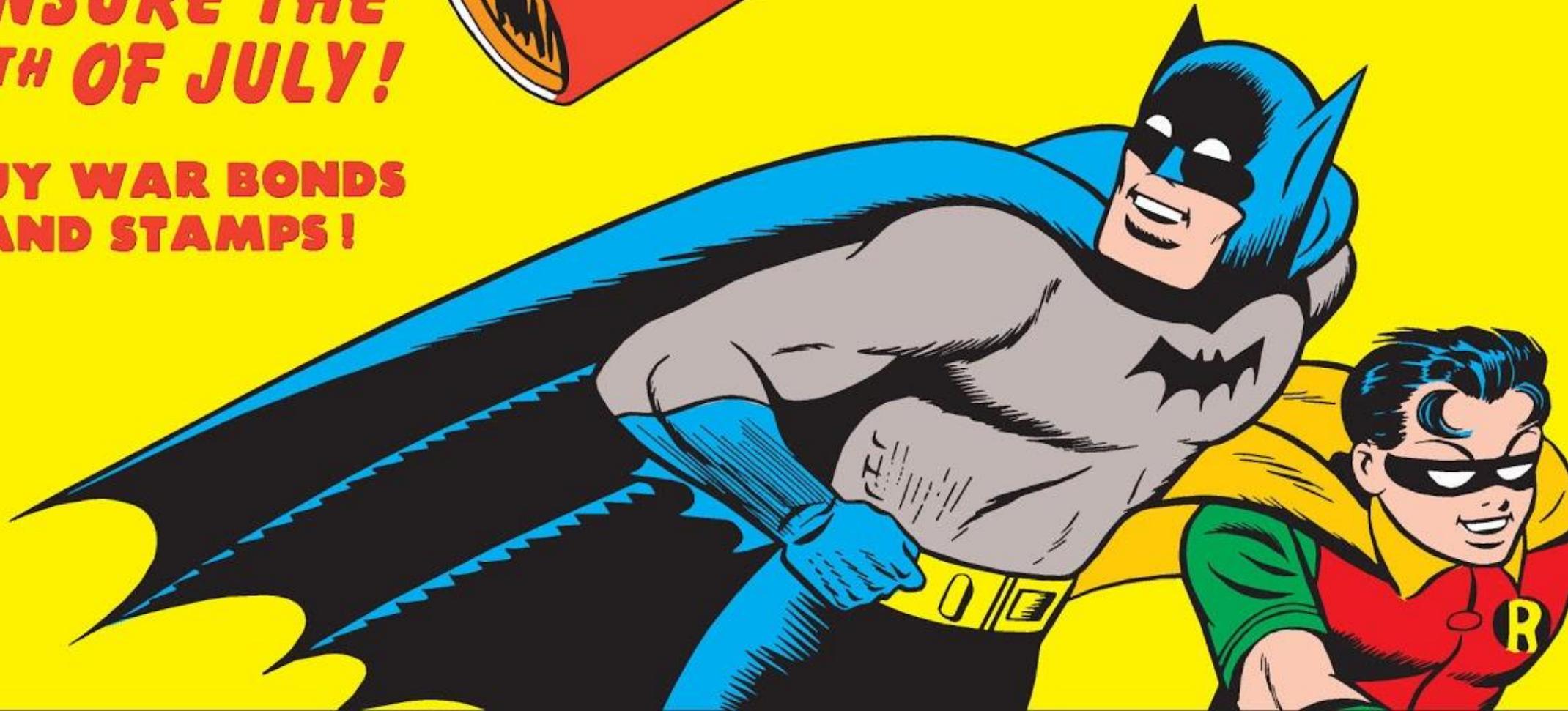


BATMAN



**INSURE THE
4TH OF JULY!**

**BUY WAR BONDS
AND STAMPS!**



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A HOUSE WITH TWO SIDES TO ITS CHARACTER? YOU HAVEN'T? THEN COME ALONG WITH MIGHTY BATMAN AND DARING YOUNG ROBIN AND MEET A TWO-FACE AMONG BUILDINGS, A DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE IN WOOD AND STONE! AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, GET REACQUAINTED WITH THOSE ROTUND RASCALS, THAT CORPULENT DUO KNOWN AS TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE... AS THE MANTLED CRIME-FIGHTERS DO WHEN THEY SEEK TO UNRIDDLE...

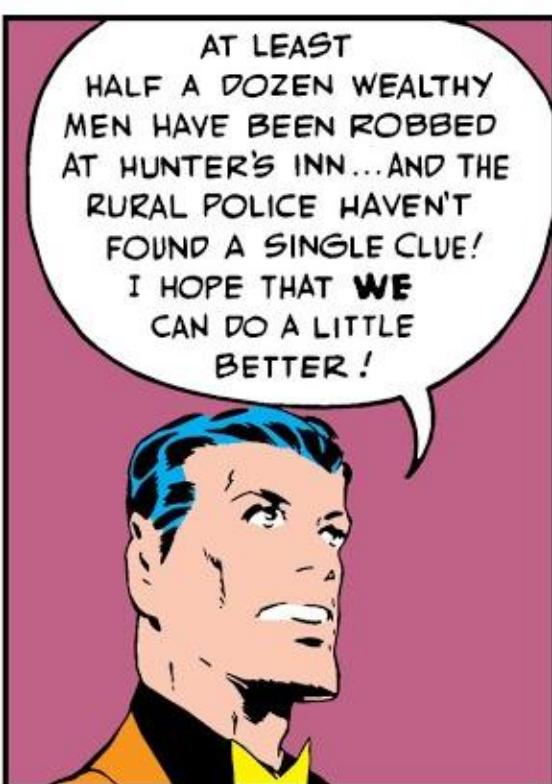
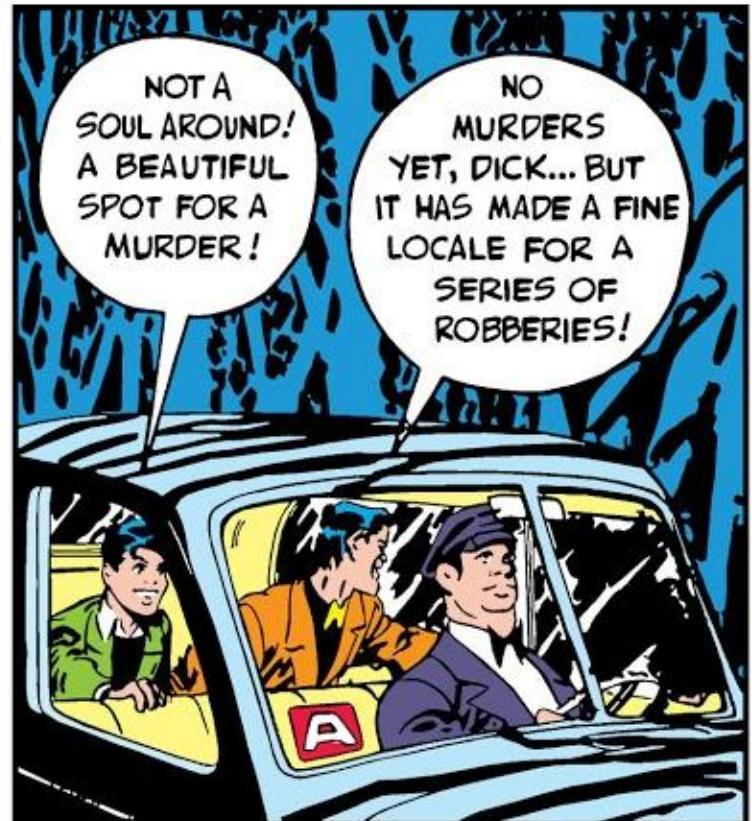
"THE SECRET OF HUNTER'S INN!"

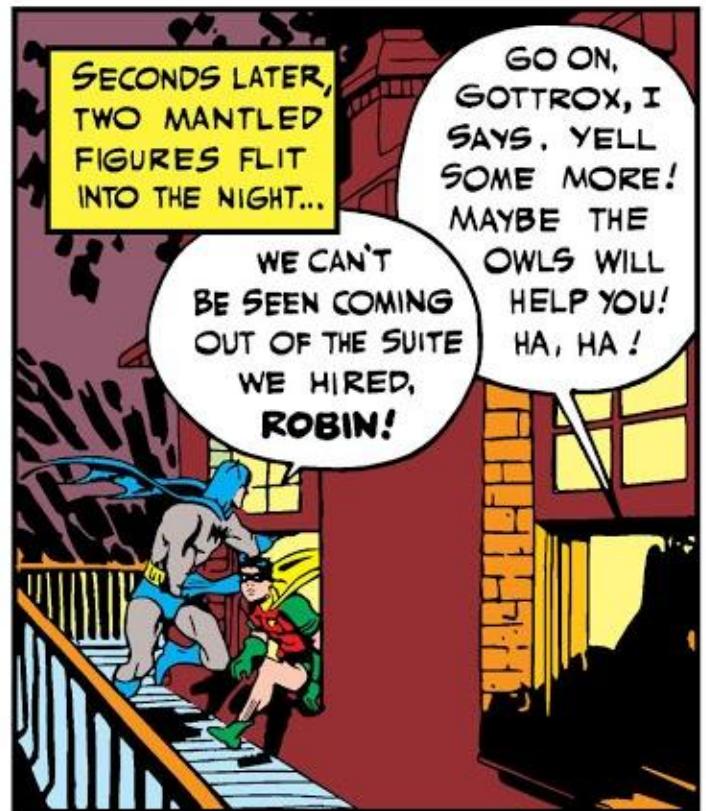


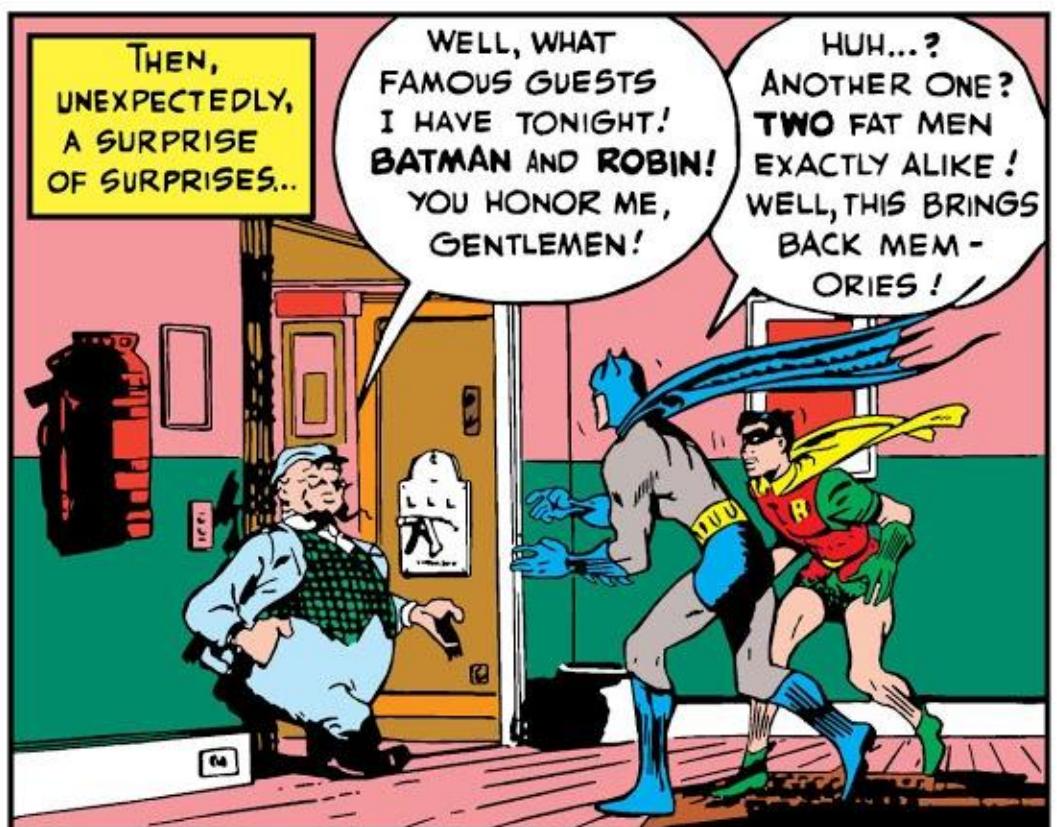
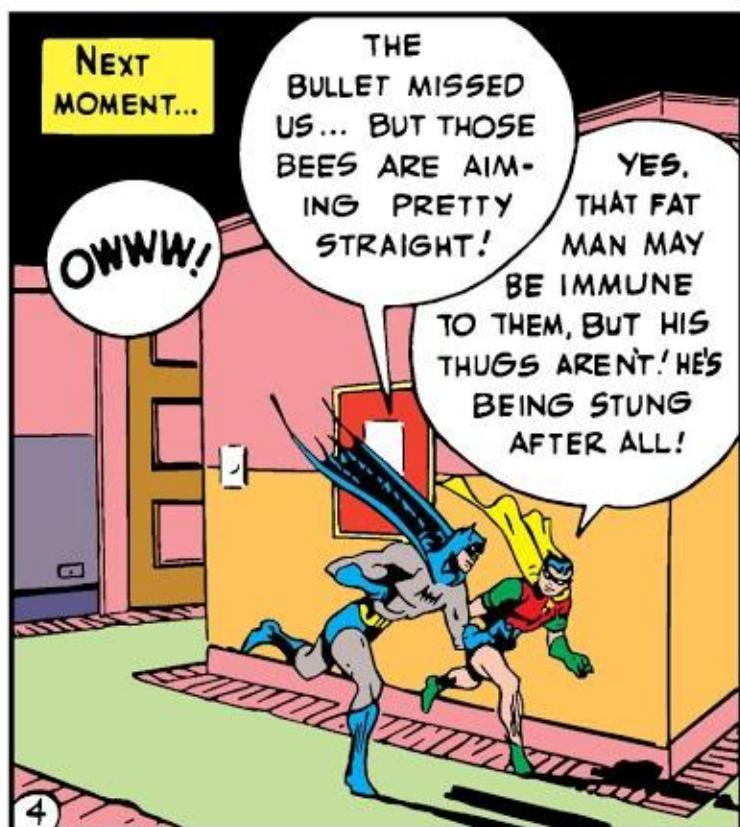
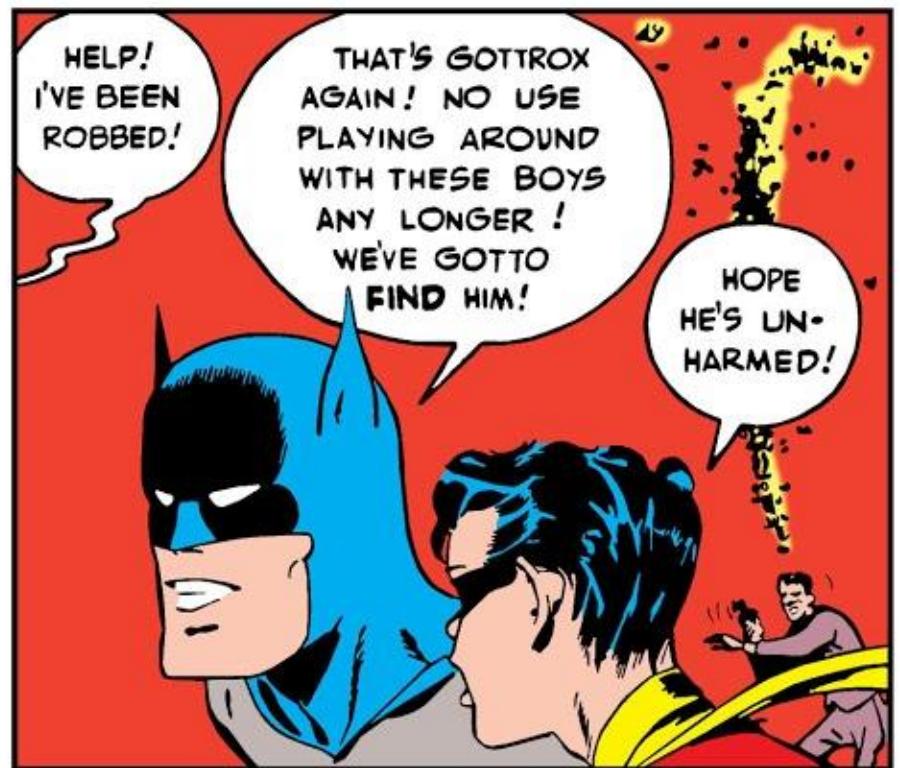
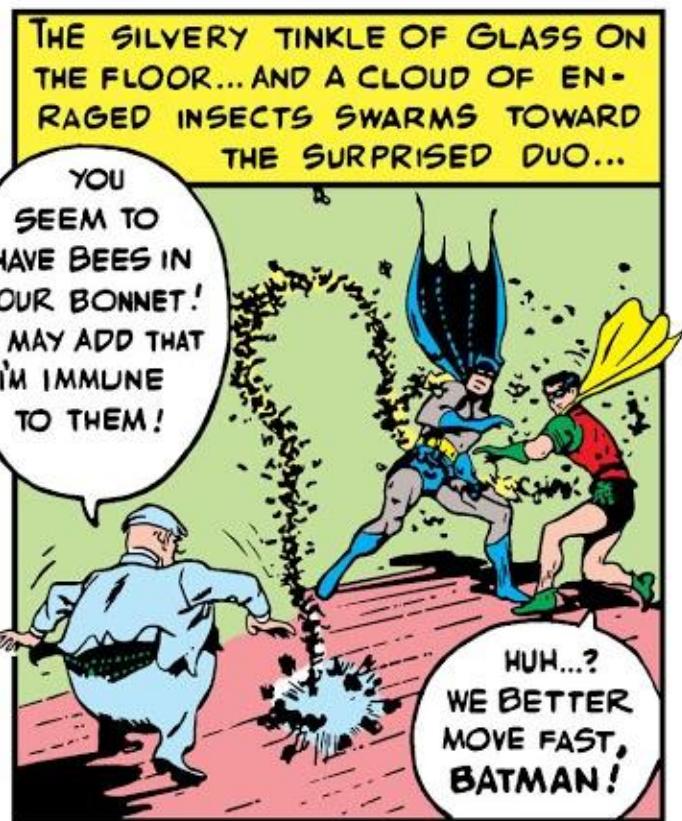
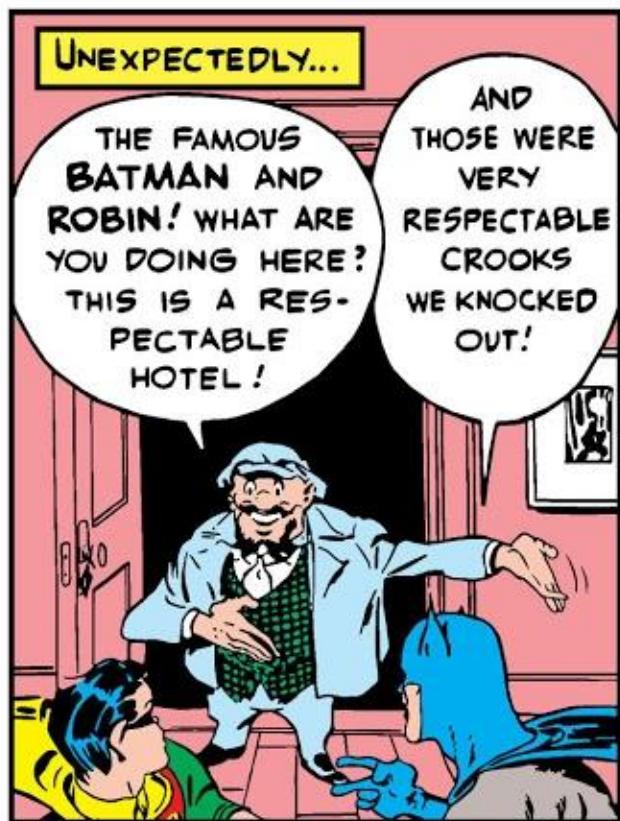
BOB
KANE

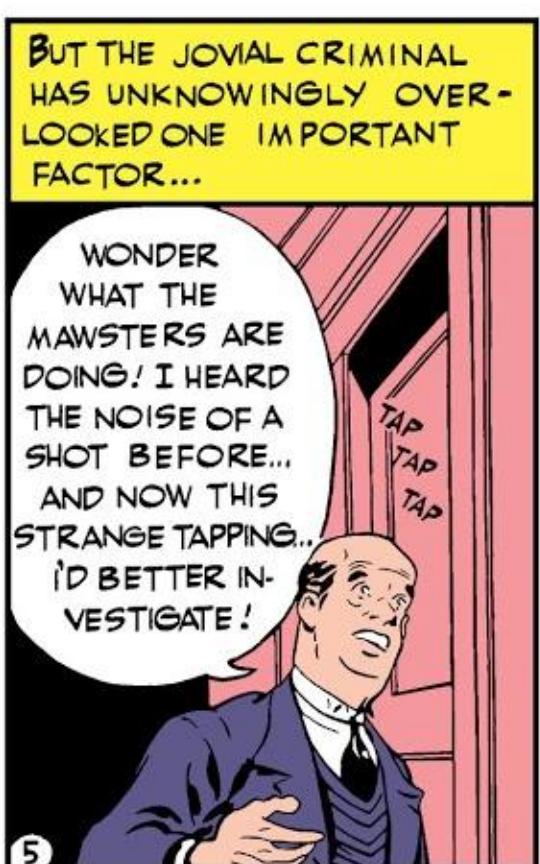
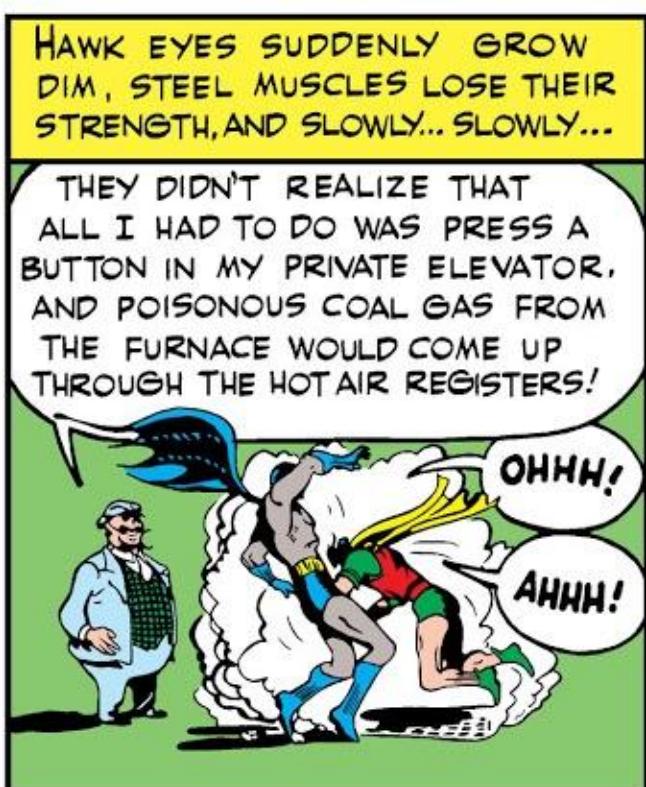


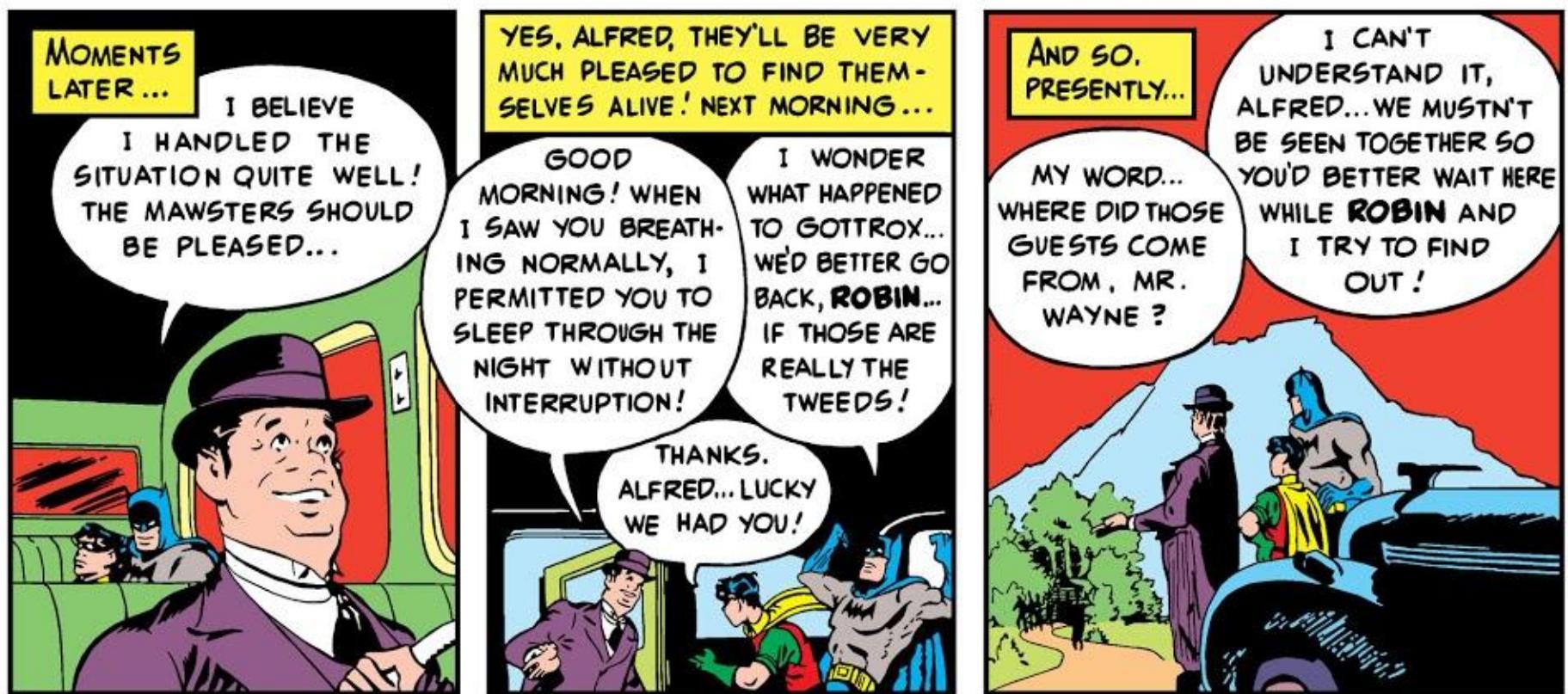
NO ORDINARY TRAVELERS THESE! WITHIN THE LIMOUSINE, IN THEIR EVERYDAY GUISE, REPOSE THAT DYNAMIC DUO, BATMAN AND ROBIN, ACCCOMPANIED BY THEIR BUTLER AND FACTOTUM, ALFRED - THE ONLY MAN WHO KNOWS THE TRUE IDENTITIES OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!

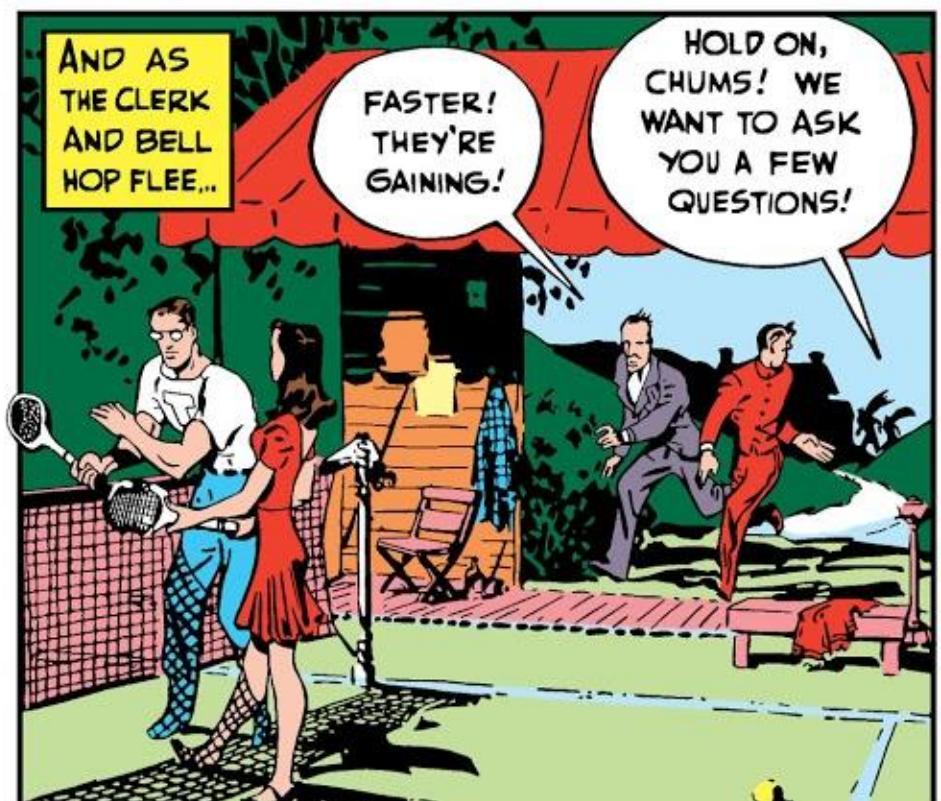
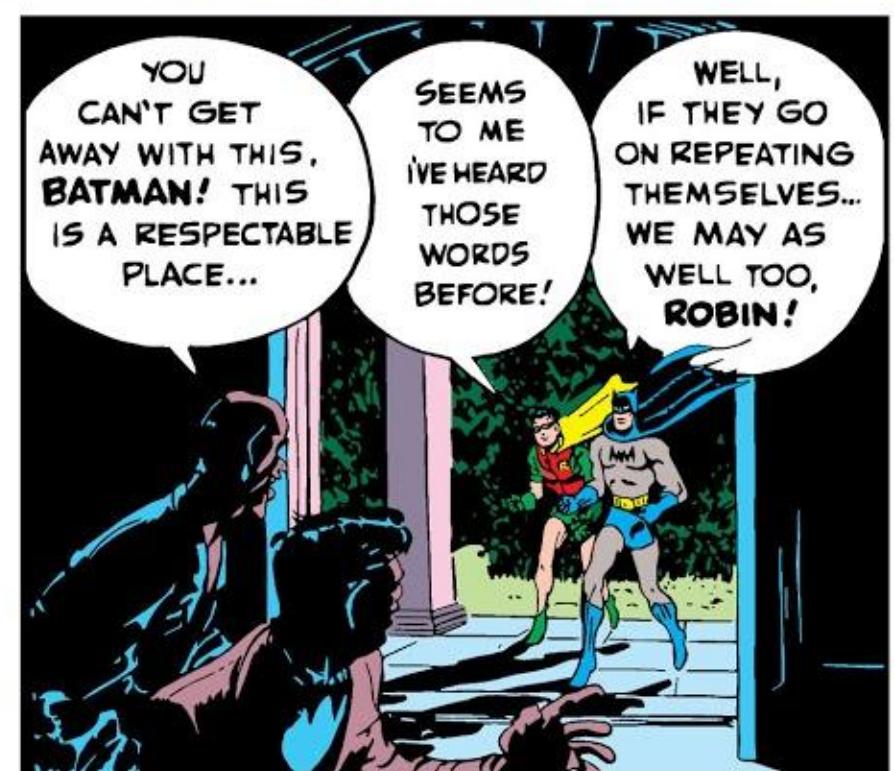
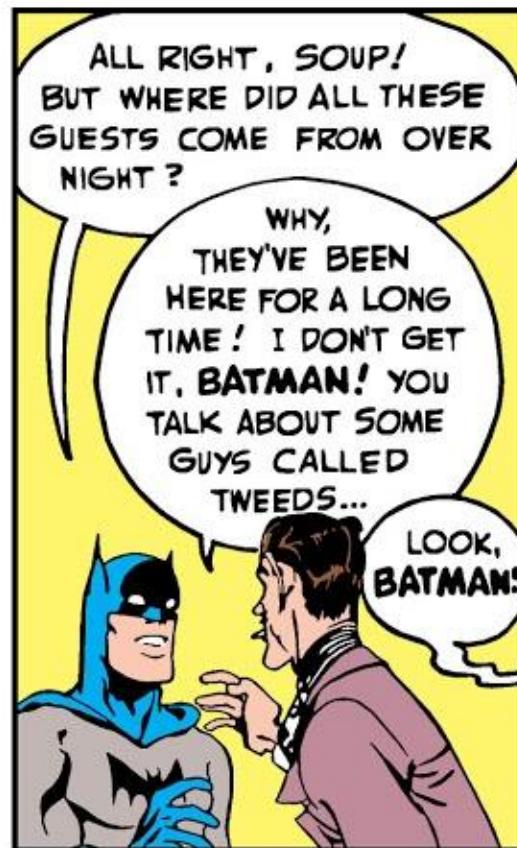
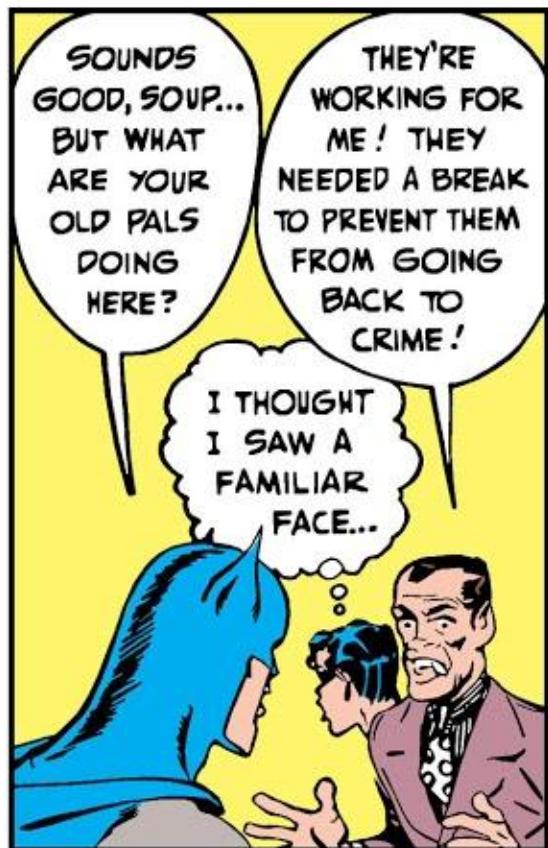


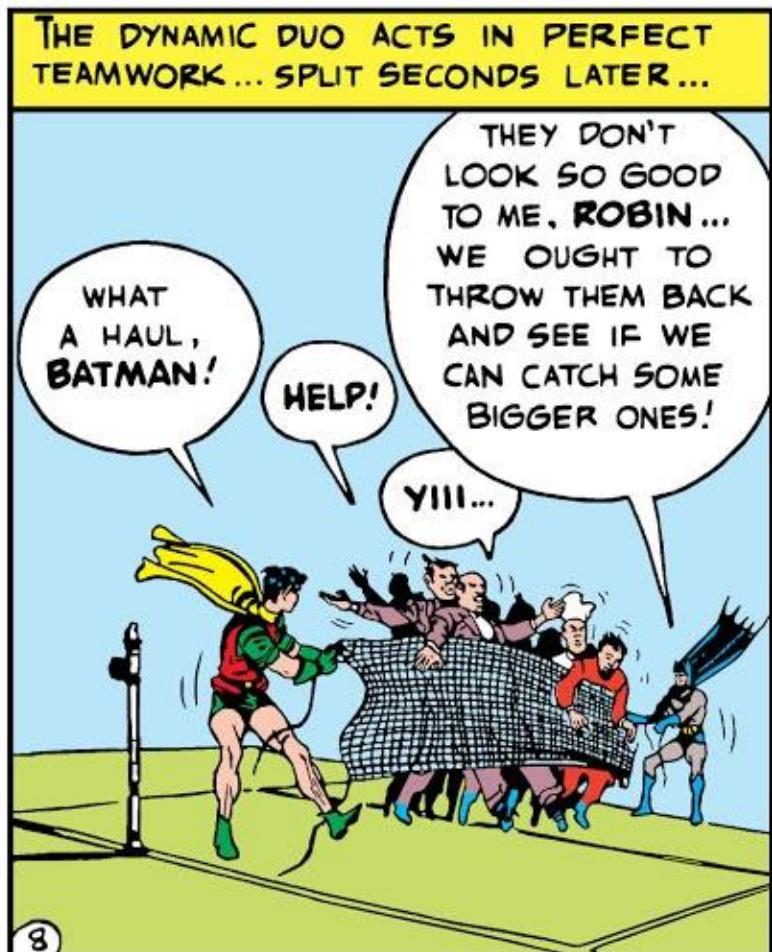
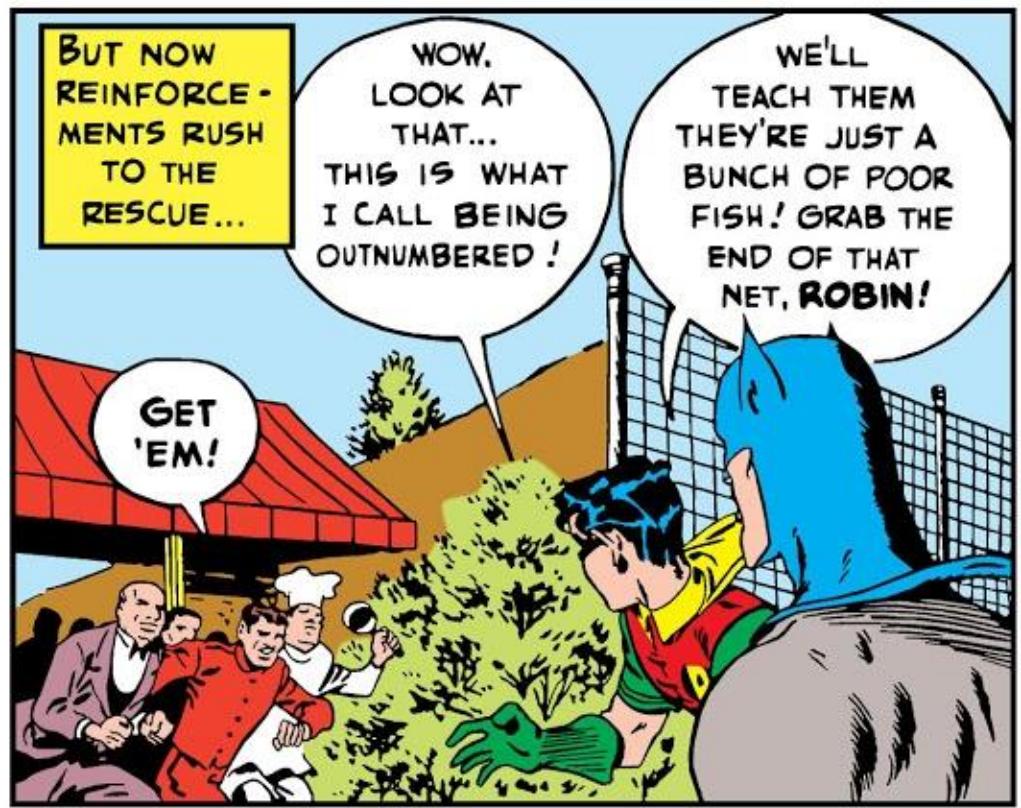


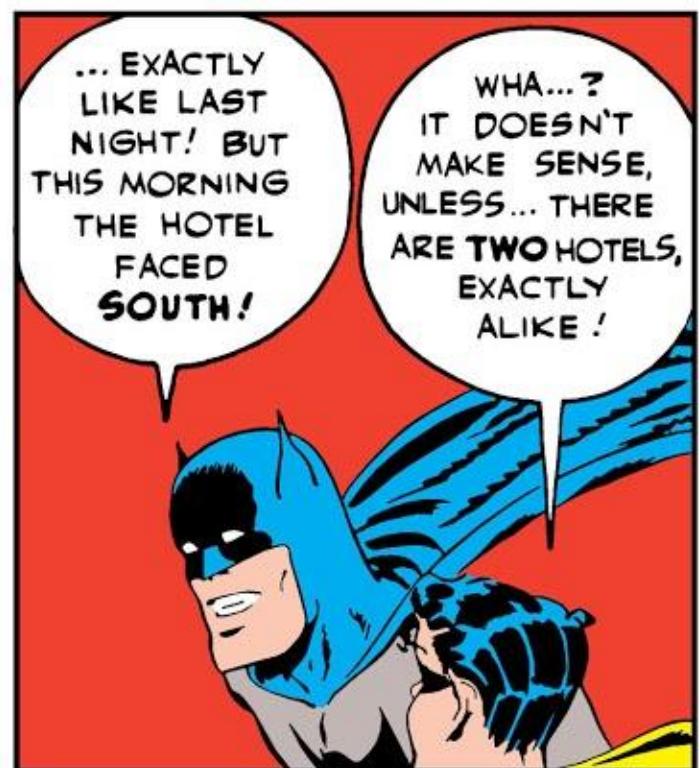
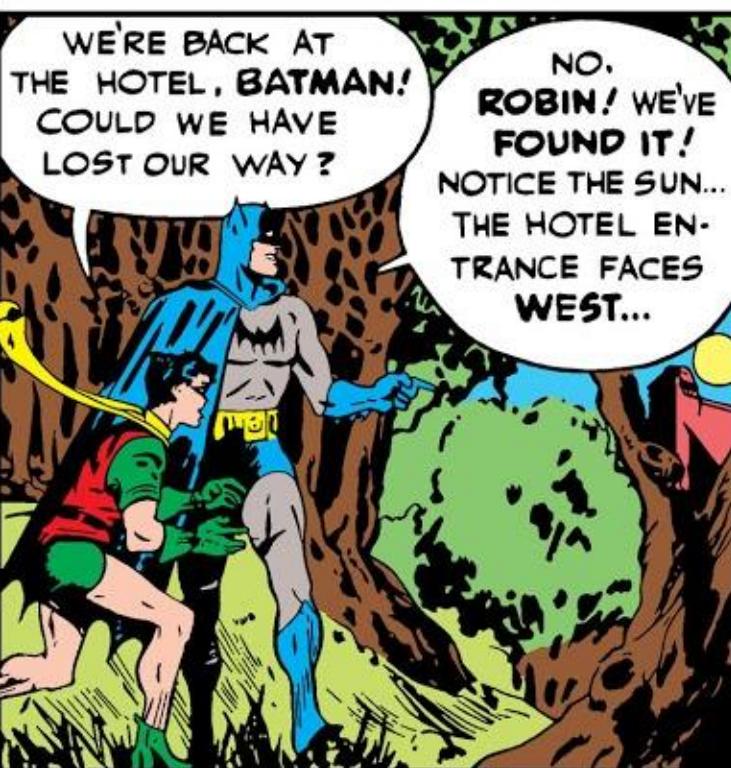
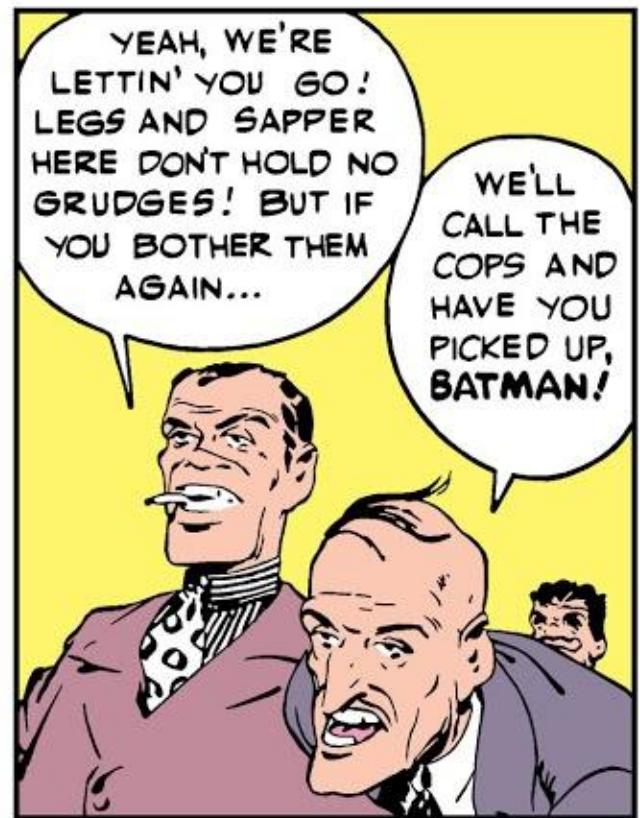
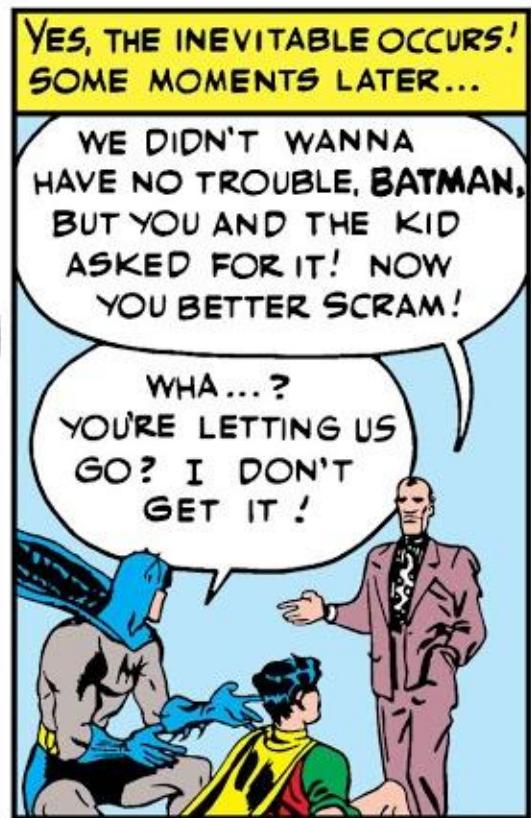


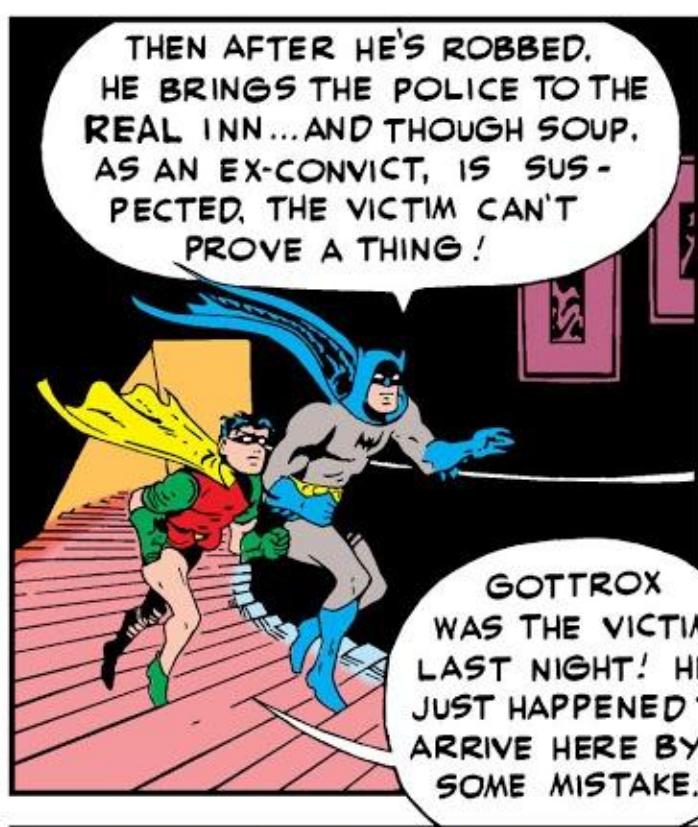
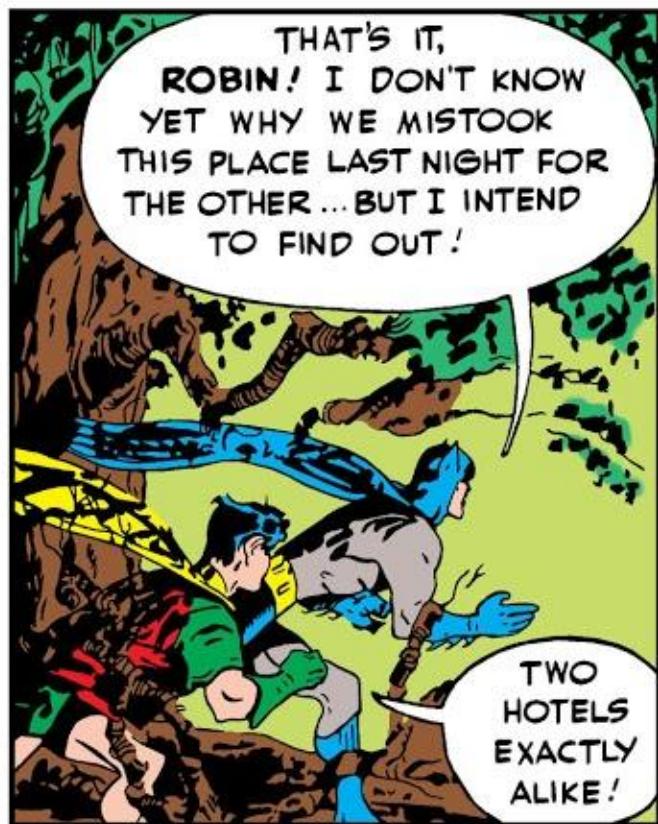


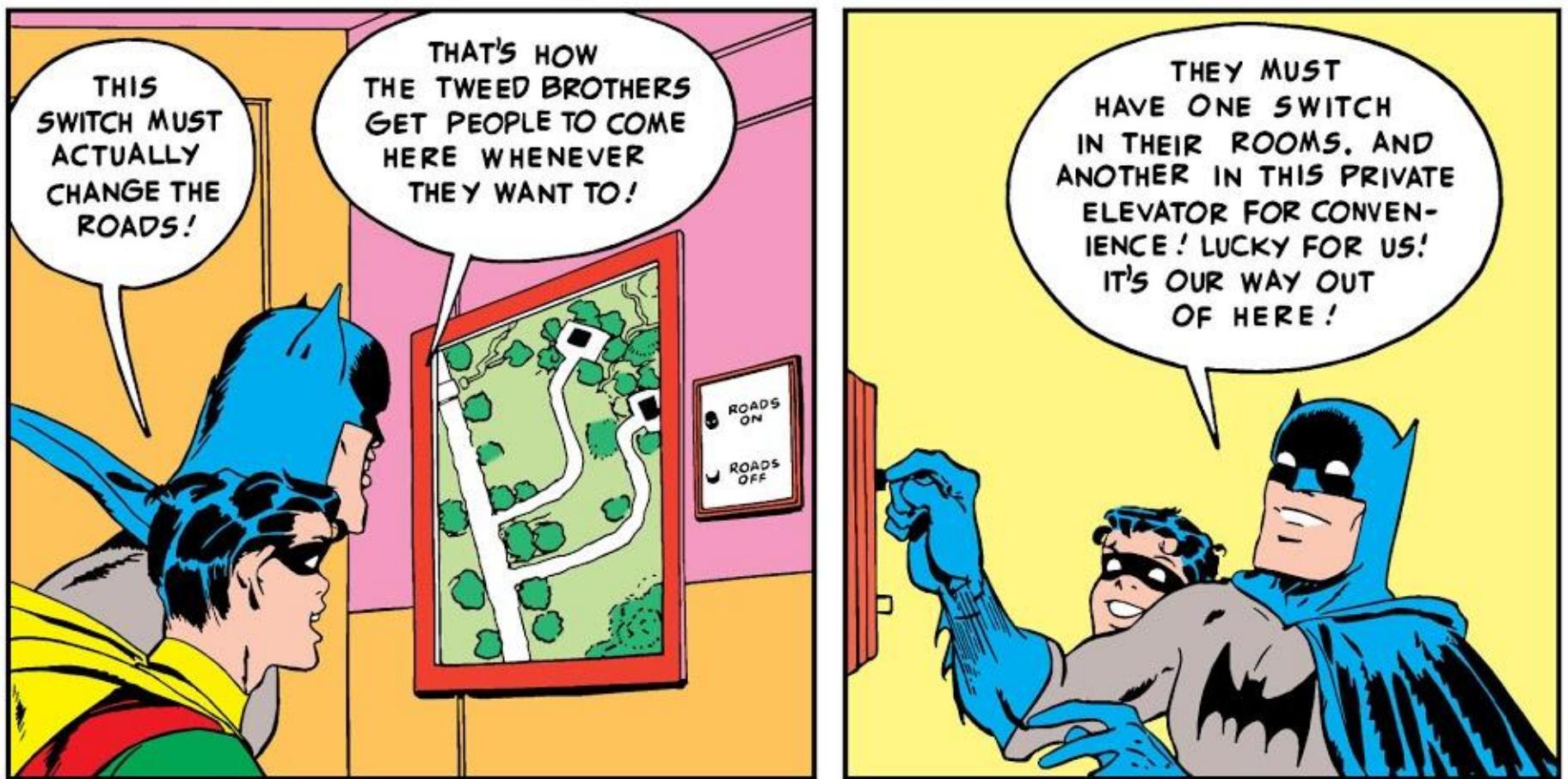
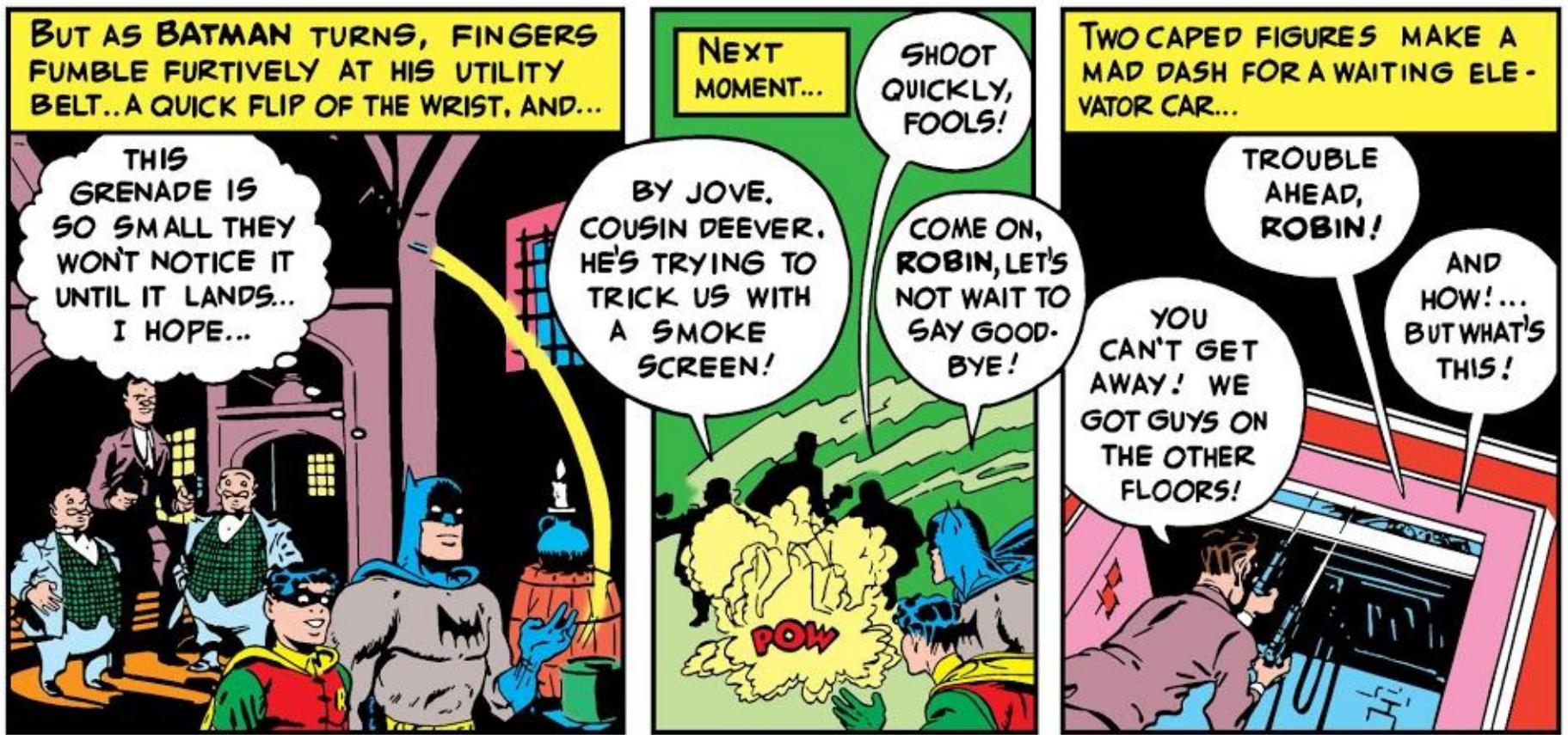


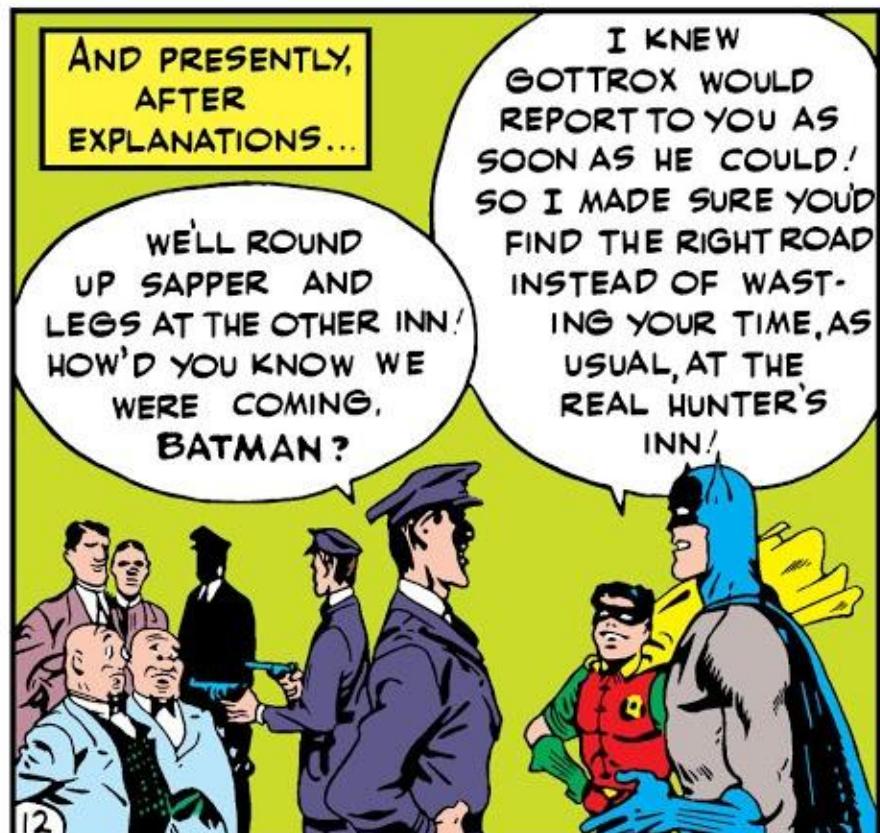
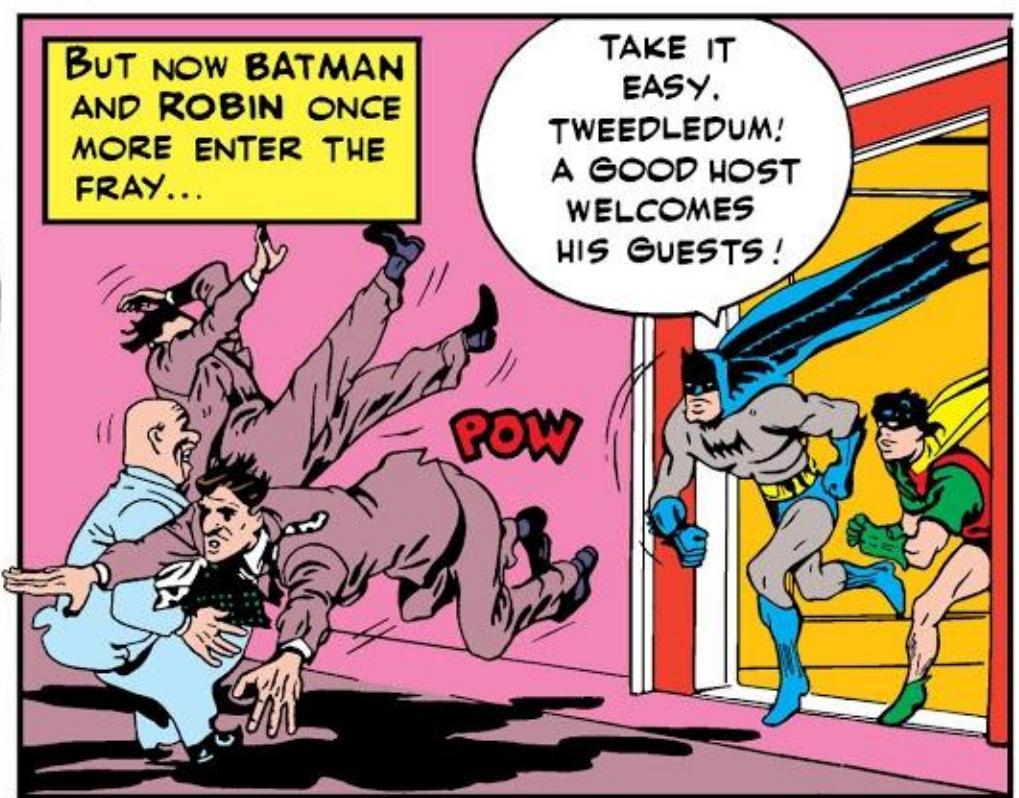
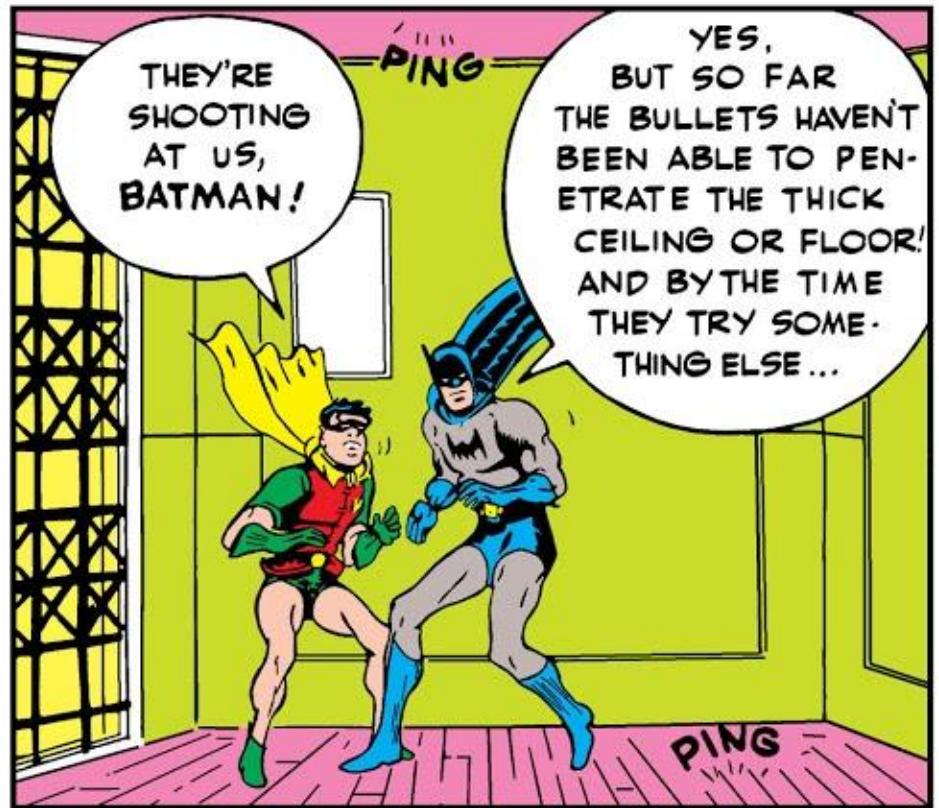
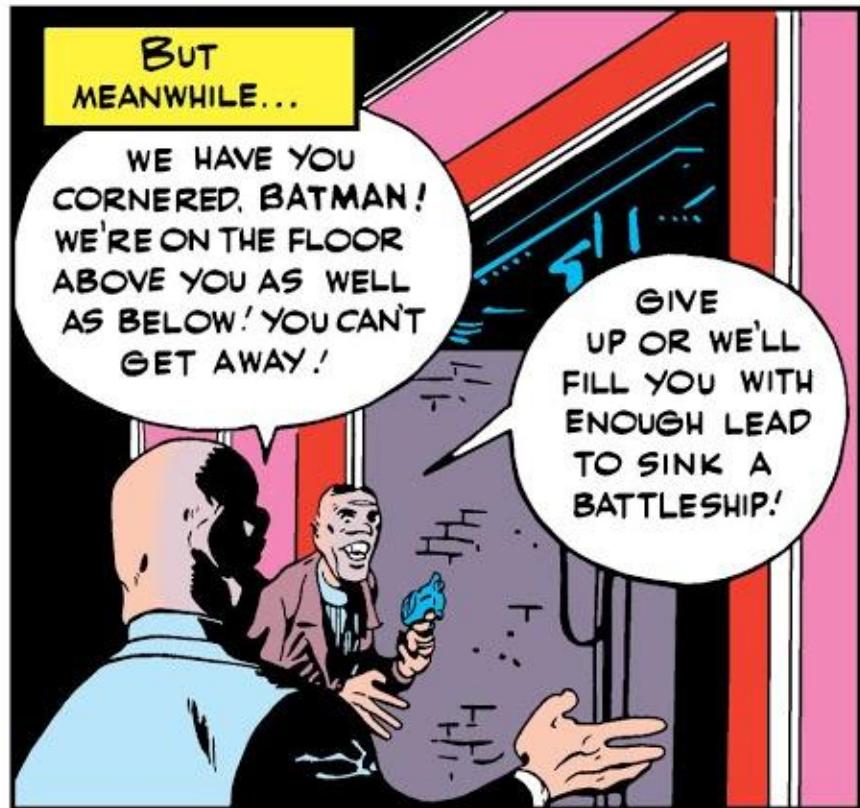












BATMAN

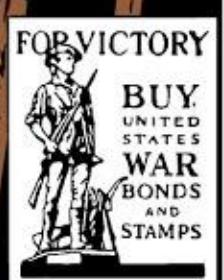
WITH
ROBIN

REG U.S. PAT.OFF

ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER! THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT NAME! IT TAKES BRAINS AND TRAINED MUSCLES TO BE THE HARD-FISTED LITTLE SCRAPER YOU'VE SO OFTEN WATCHED IN ACTION! AND IT TAKES A NIMBLE, WIDE-AWAKE MIND TO FIGHT CRIME AND KEEP UP WITH SCHOOL HOME WORK AT THE SAME TIME! BUT WHEN ROBIN BRINGS HOME A SURPRISING REPORT CARD, BATMAN IS FORCED TO SET OUT ALONE AGAINST A TRICKY AND TREACHEROUS GANG OF THUGS WHILE... "ROBIN STUDIES HIS LESSONS!"

By

BOB
KANE



LATE AFTERNOON... AND A STRANGELY SILENT LAD TRAMPS WEARILY UP-STAIRS IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE ...



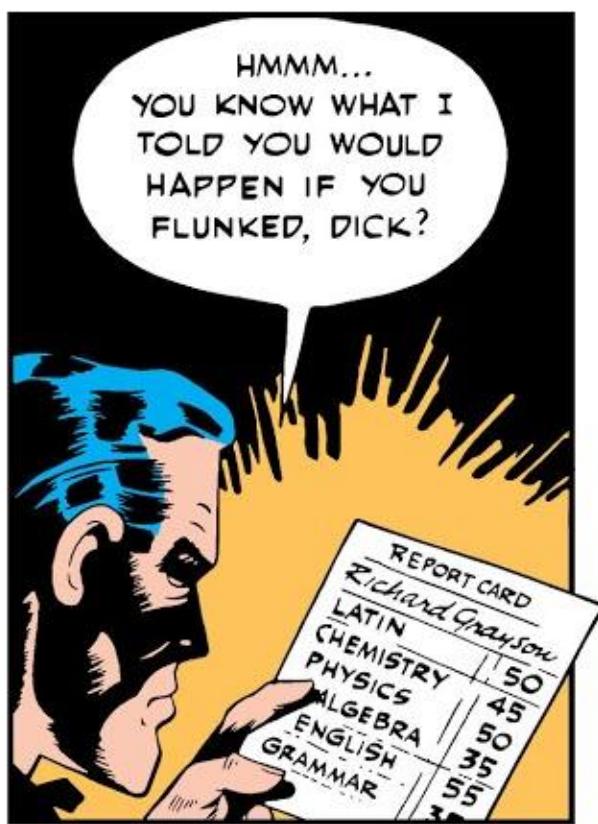
AT YOUR AGE, NO TROUBLE SHOULD BE REALLY SERIOUS! OUT WITH IT, LAD! TELL ME WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU!



I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I TRIED TO KEEP MY PROMISE TO YOU! I STUDIED HARD... AND I KNOW MY SUBJECTS! I-I...



HMM... YOU KNOW WHAT I TOLD YOU WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU FLUNKED, DICK?



BUT, BRUCE, I TELL YOU. I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! I KNOW MY CHEMISTRY, FOR INSTANCE, BACKWARD AND FORWARD...



SORRY, DICK, BUT YOU CAN'T GET AROUND THIS REPORT CARD! YOUR ADVENTURES AS ROBIN ARE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED! FROM NOW ON BATMAN WORKS ALONE, UNTIL...

... UNTIL YOU PASS EVERY ONE OF THOSE SUBJECTS! YOU ARE GOING TO STUDY EVERY NIGHT... AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL YOU LEAVE THIS HOUSE!



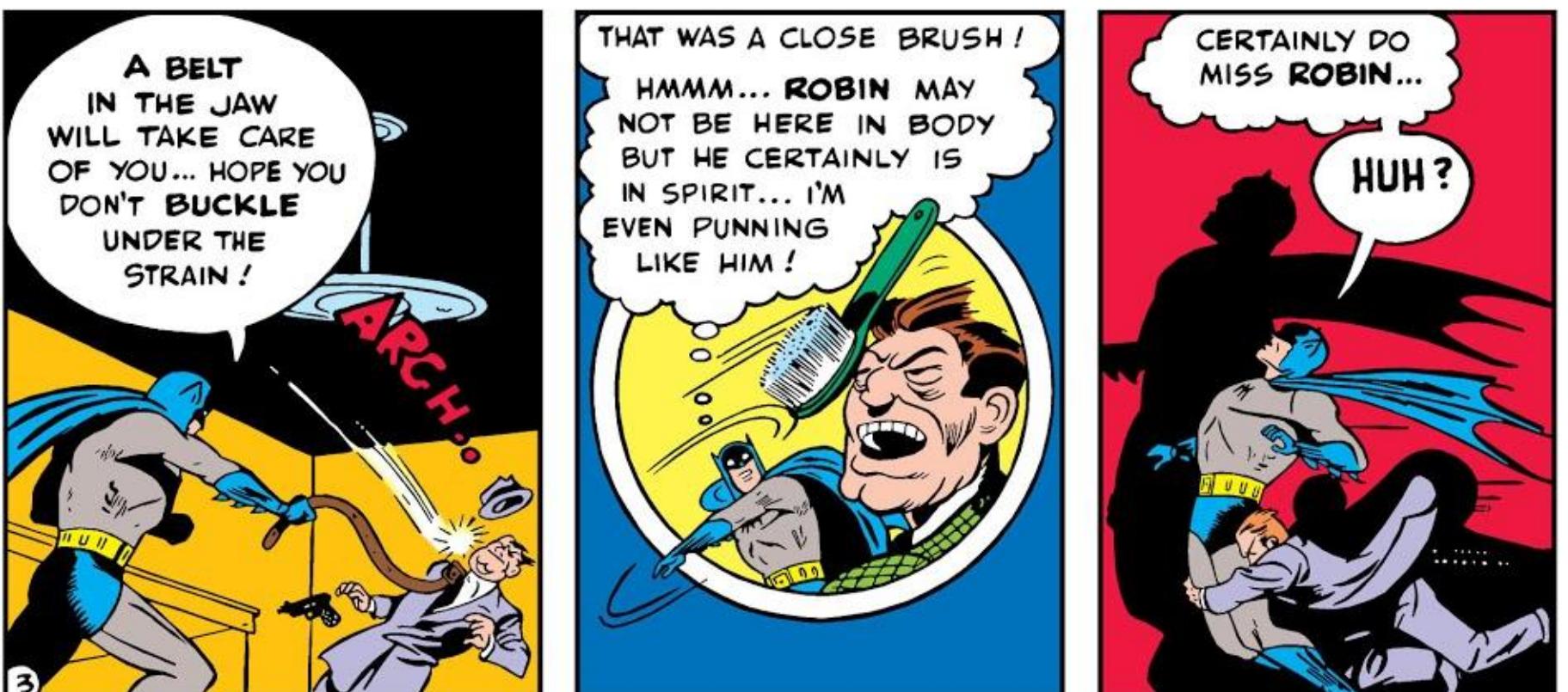
AND SO, THAT EVENING, A DARK-MANTLED FIGURE FLITS FORTH INTO THE CRIME-RIDDEN CITY ALONE... WHILE BEHIND HIM A BEWILDERED BOY STRUGGLES BRAVELY TO HOLD BACK THE TEARS...



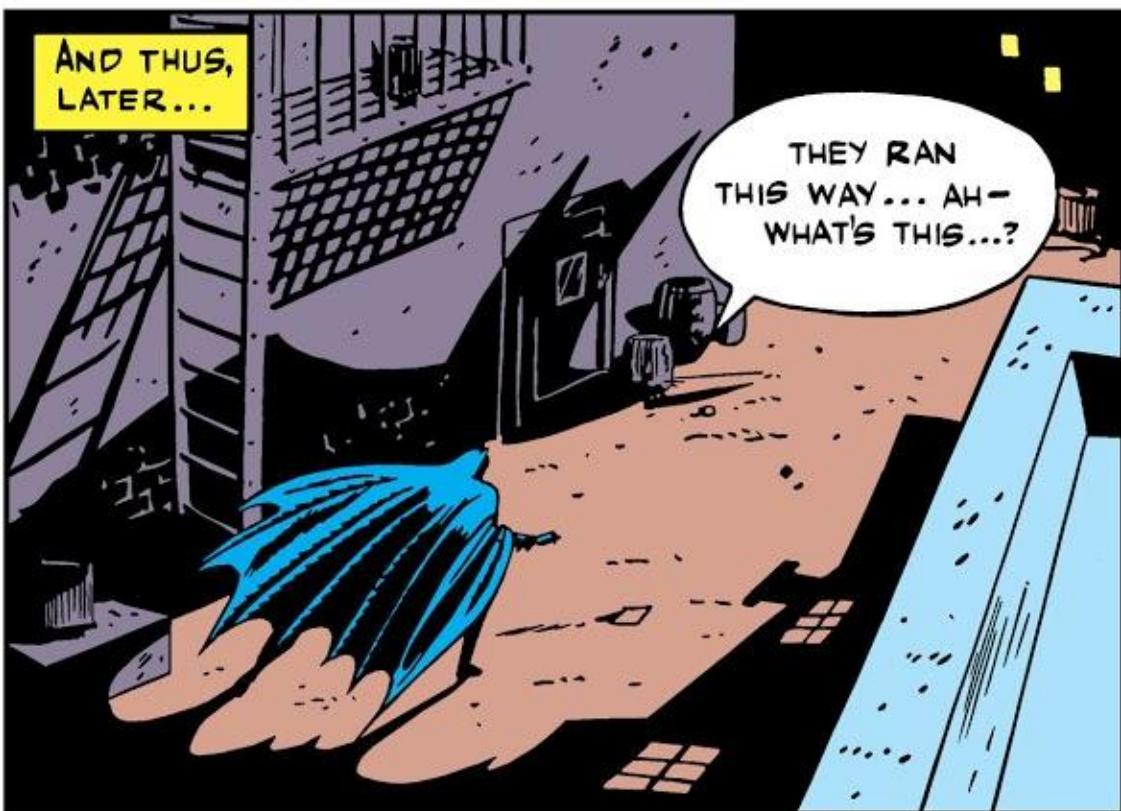
I'M SORRY TO DO THIS TO DICK... BUT HE HAS TO LEARN NOT TO NEGLECT HIS LESSONS!

WITH CAT-LIKE AGILITY AND IN PHANTOM SILENCE, THE SOLITARY WATCHER PROWL'S THE ROOFTOPS... AND SOON...









A BRIEF NIGHT'S REST... AND THEN, FOR ROBIN, SCHOOL AGAIN, CLASSES ALL DAY LONG... AND IN THE EVENING, ONCE MORE THE GRIND OF STUDY, WHILE BATMAN...



WITHIN THE SILENT, GLOOM-ENFOLDED EDIFICE, THE LITHE FIGURE OF BATMAN STEALS FORWARD SOUNDLESSLY...

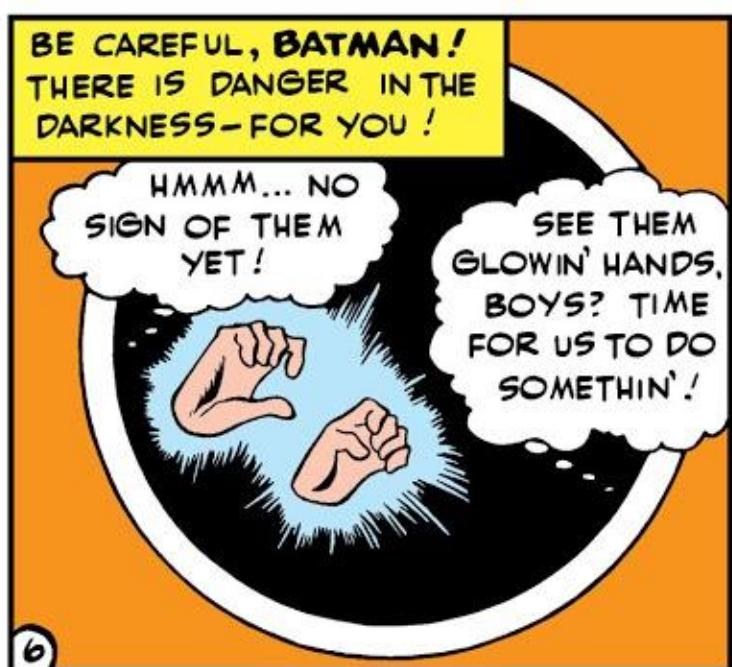
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF DOORS TO CHOOSE FROM, AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF A TRAP YET... IF THOSE CROOKS ARE ALREADY HERE, I'LL BE ABLE TO SURPRISE THEM...



SUDDENLY...

WHA...? SOUNDS AS IF I SET OFF A BUNCH OF FIRE-CRACKERS!

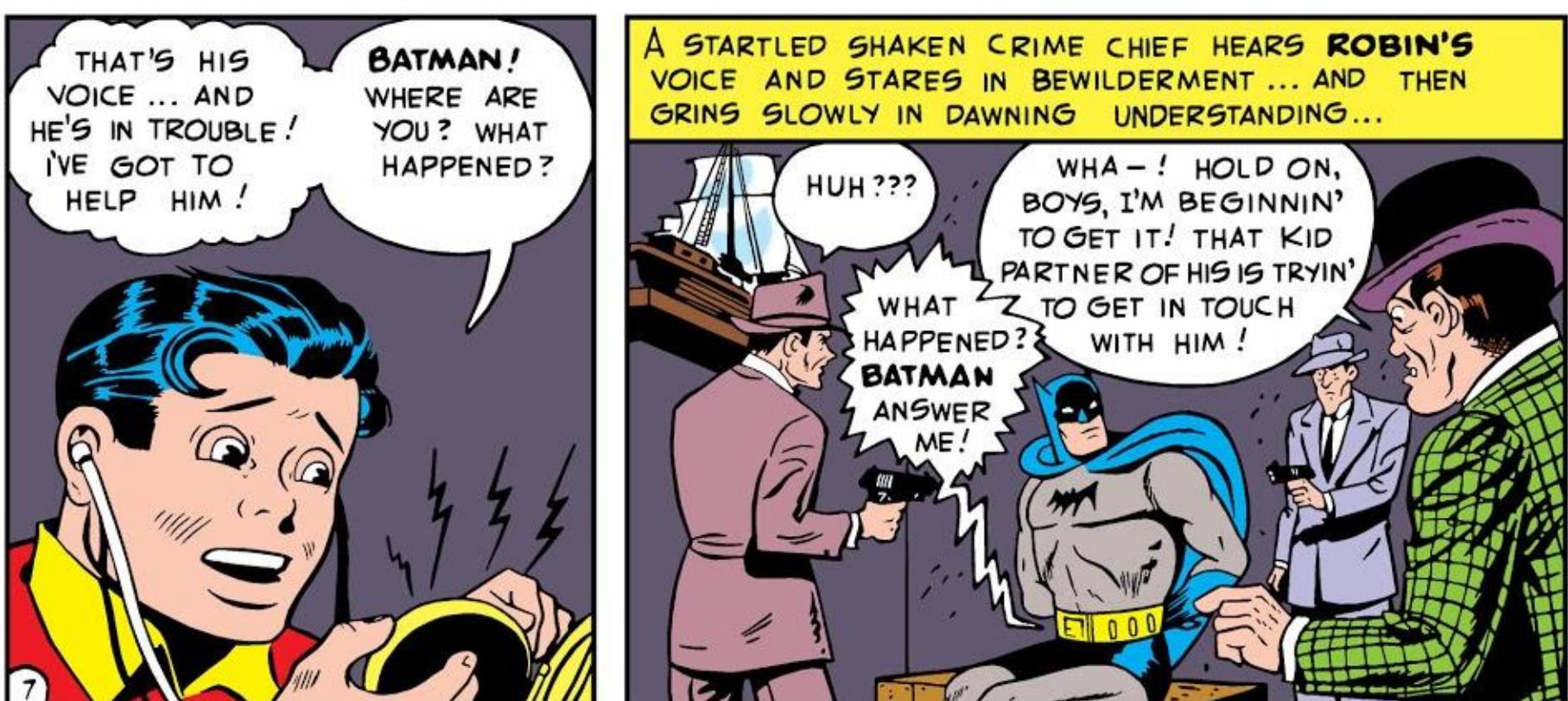
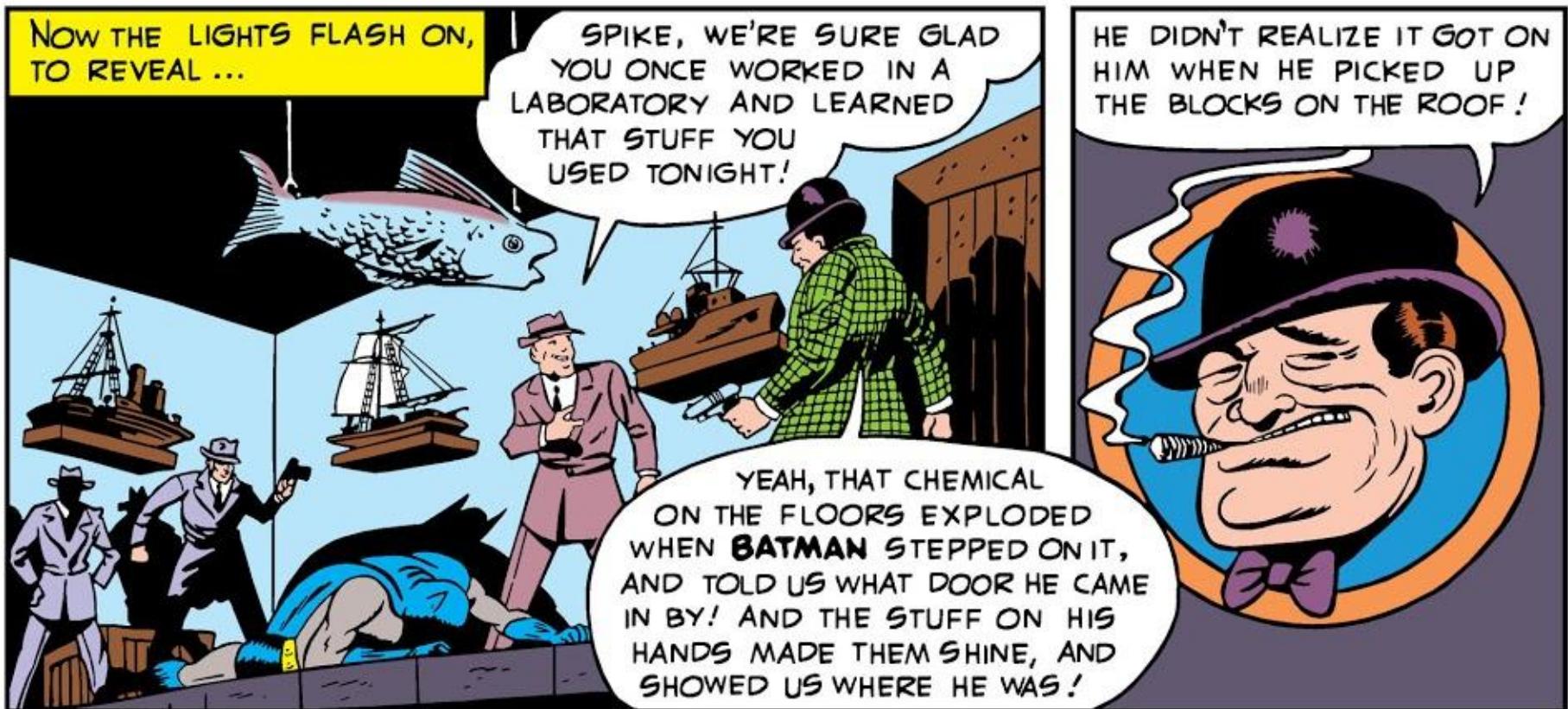
THAT MUST HAVE WARNED THOSE CROOKS THAT I'M HERE! BUT THEY CAN'T SEE ME ANY MORE THAN I CAN SEE THEM!

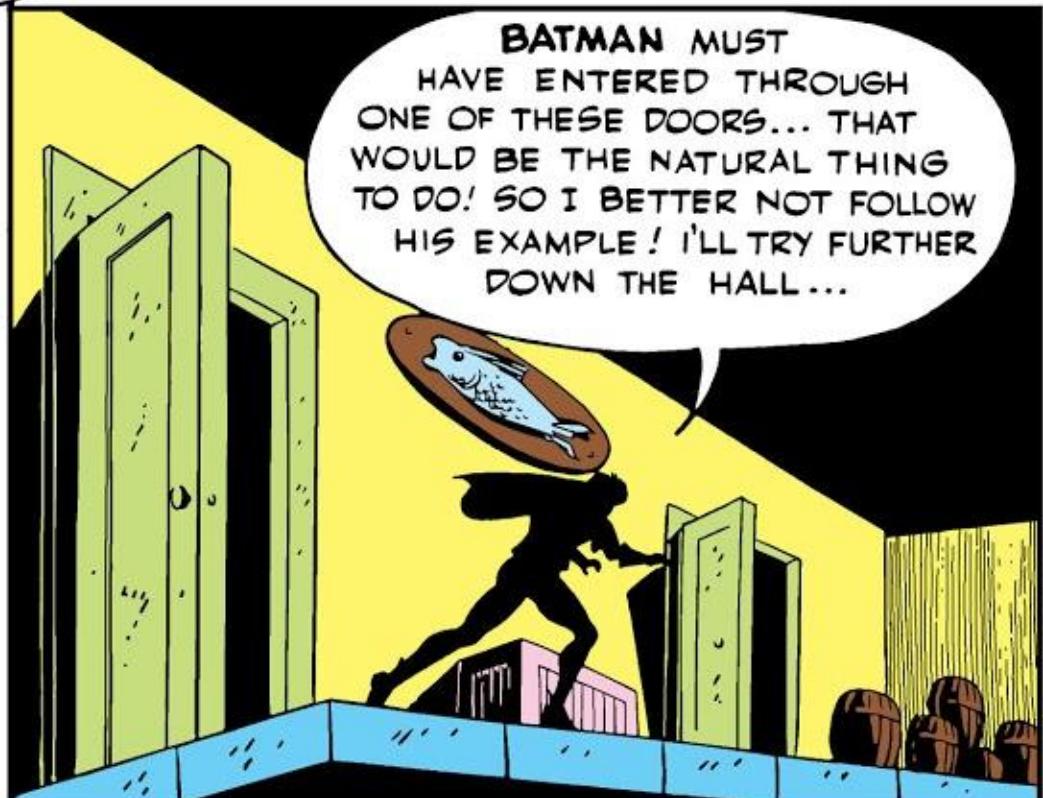
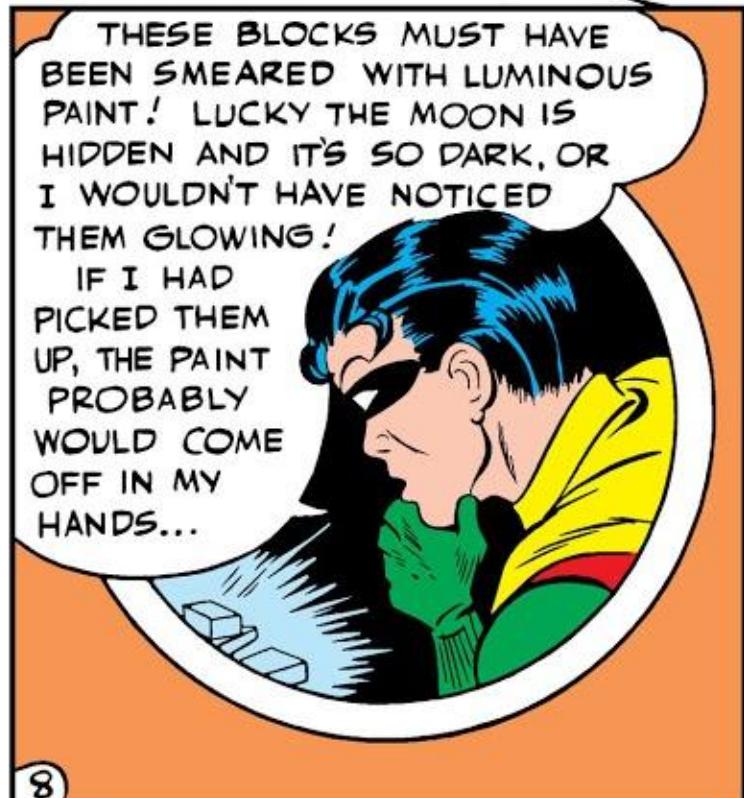
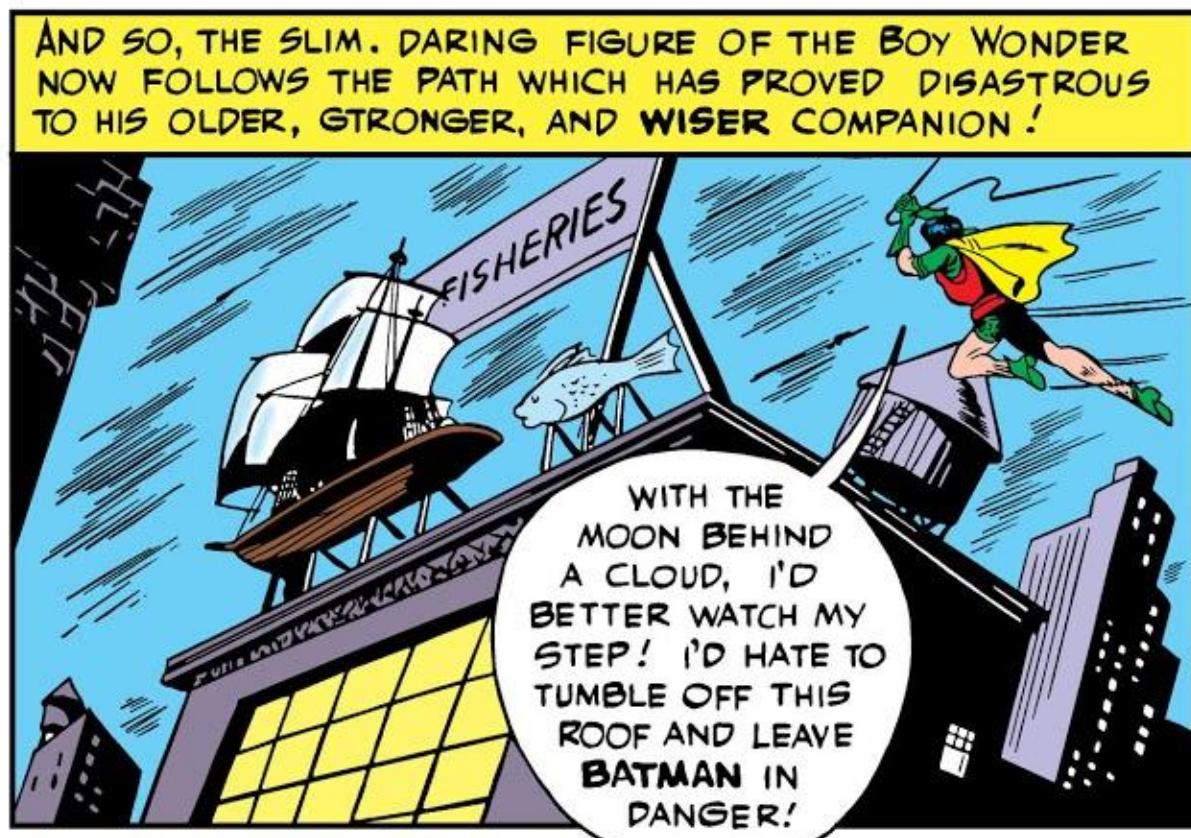
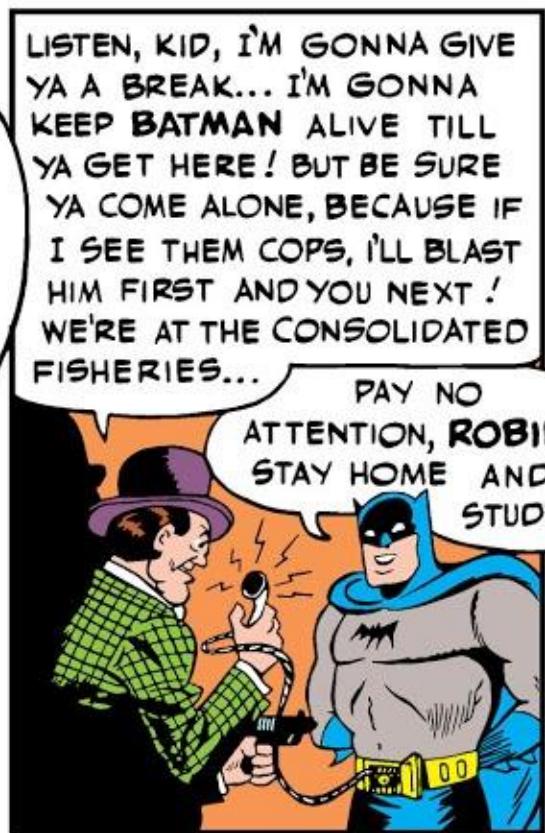
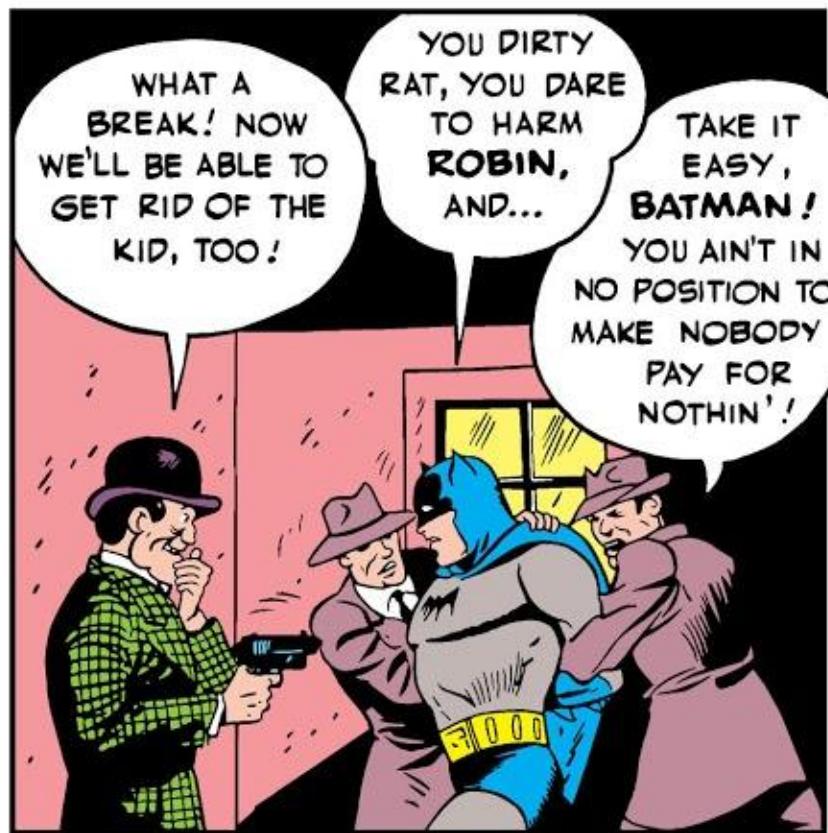


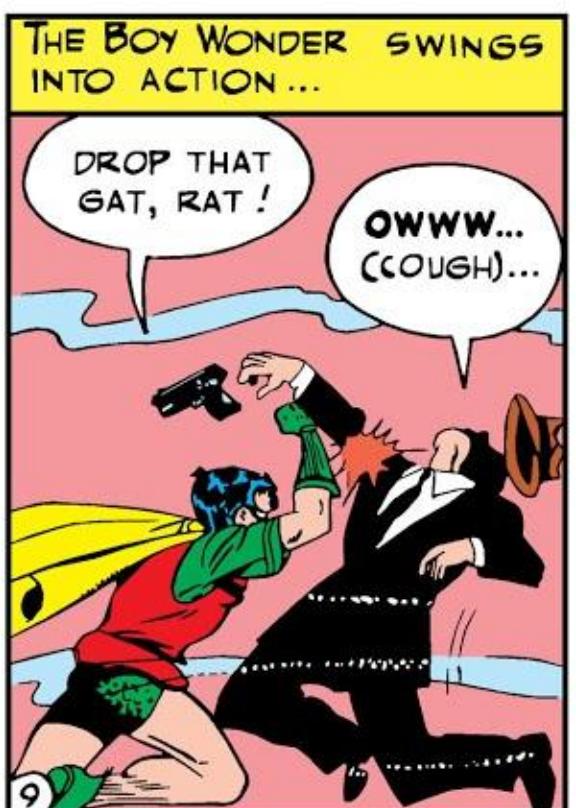
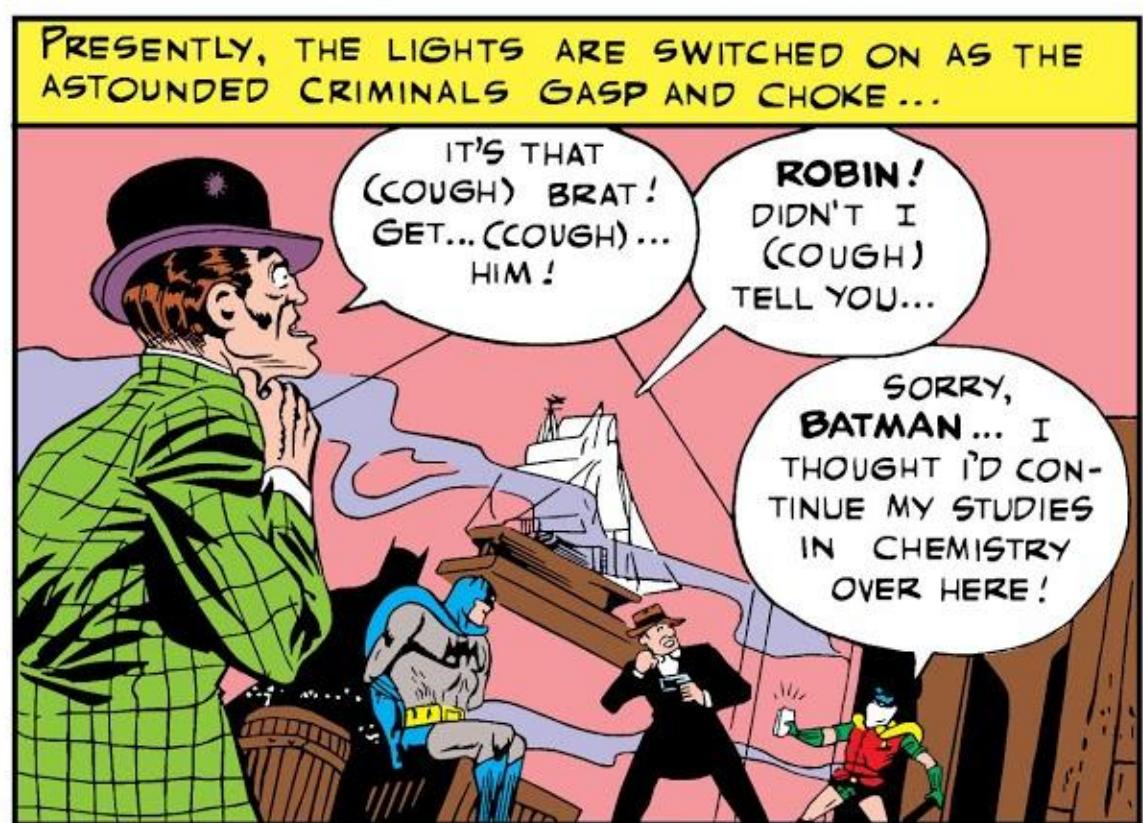
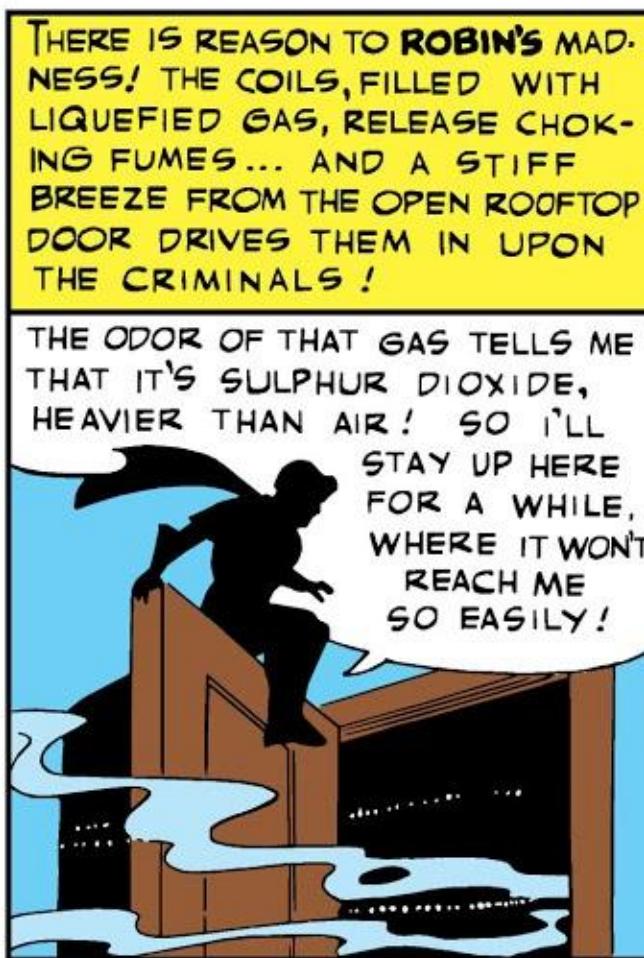
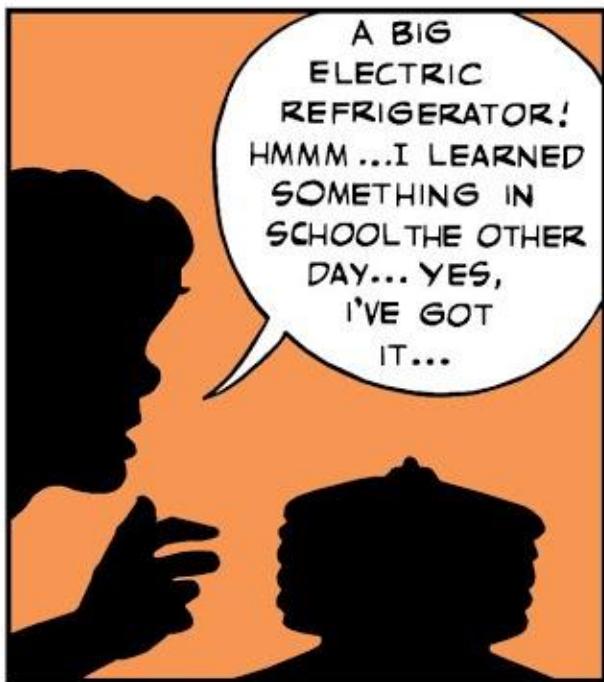
SECONDS LATER, THE SOUND OF A SWIFT, SHARP BLOW... AND A HARSH LAUGH OF TRIUMPH ECHOES IN THE NIGHT...

HA. HA! YOU WALKED RIGHT INTO IT, BATMAN!









THE THUGS FLEE... AND A BATTLING BOY PURSUES... AFTER FREEING BATMAN OF HIS BONDS!

WHAT A JOB ROBIN'S DOING! (COUGH) THIS MUST BE A WELCOME RELIEF TO HIM AFTER ALL THAT STUDYING! BUT I'D BETTER (COUGH) FOLLOW AND SEE THAT HE DOESN'T GET HURT!

A WISE DECISION, BATMAN! FOR BY NOW, ROBIN'S DARING VERGES ON RECKLESSNESS!

THAT GAS (COUGH) AIN'T SO BAD IN HERE, SPIKE... HEY, THAT KID FOLLOWED US!

WELL, HERE'S WHERE WE FIX HIS WAGON!

WOW! THAT HIT HIM LIKE A TUN-A BRICKS!

WHAT A PUN! SOUNDS AS IF YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR LOST OPPORTUNITY!

EEEHHH...

HOLY MACKEREL!

YOU NAMED IT, CHUM... IT'S YOURS!

WITH BOTH BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRAYED AGAINST THEM, THE THUGS CAN STOMACH NO MORE FISH! AND SO...

WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT! I THOUGHT THEY'D STAY AND TEAR A HERRING WITH US!

THEY'VE HAD ENOUGH, ROBIN... AND SO, I THINK. HAVE YOU!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE! HE SAVED MY LIFE AND I HAVE TO PRETEND I'M ANGRY! BUT THERE'S SUCH A THING AS DISCIPLINE!

NOW YOU'D BETTER GO BACK TO YOUR BOOKS!

W-WHA...? AFTER WHAT I DID? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS, BATMAN!

I CERTAINLY AM! YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN YET!

THAT WAS A NEAT TRICK WITH THOSE REFRIGERATOR COILS FOR A KID WHO FLUNKED CHEMISTRY!

BLINKING EYELIDS HOLD BACK THE TEARS AS A BEWILDERED HEARTBROKEN BOY STUMBLIES, AWAY...

I'LL- I'LL SHOW HIM!
I'LL FIX THOSE CROOKS MYSELF!



THEY CAME THIS WAY! I CAN TELL BECAUSE THEY KICKED THESE BLOCKS TO THE EDGE OF THE ROOF! THAT MEANS THAT THE PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT MUST BE ON THEIR SHOES!



AND THERE THEY ARE! HERE'S WHERE I SHOW THEM... AND BATMAN... A FEW MORE TRICKS!



NEXT MOMENT... ON THE NEIGHBORING ROOFTOP...

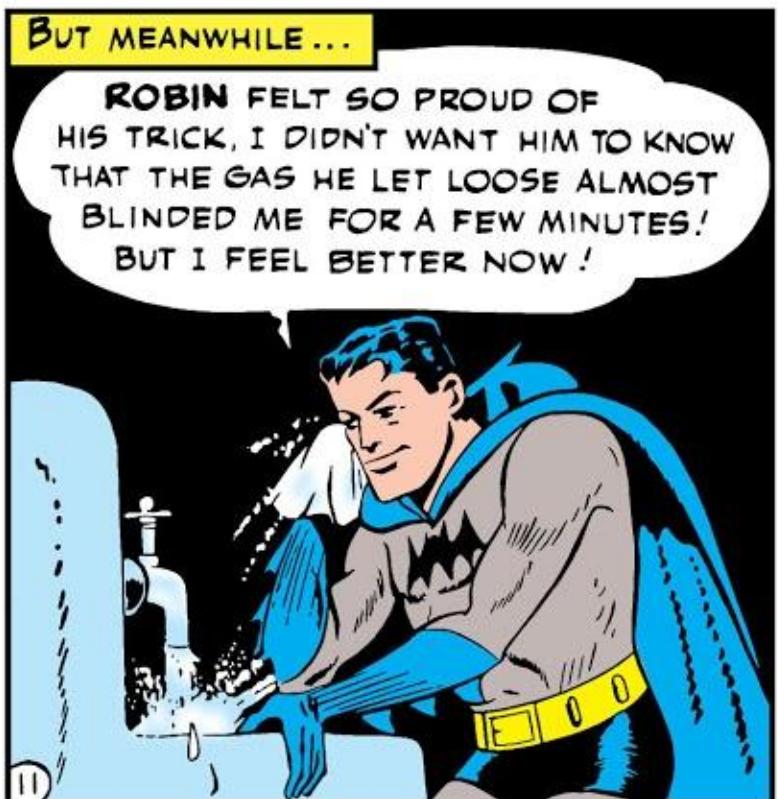


THE MOON PEEPS OUT MOMENTARILY FROM BEHIND A DENSE BANK OF CLOUDS, TO REVEAL...



BUT MEANWHILE...

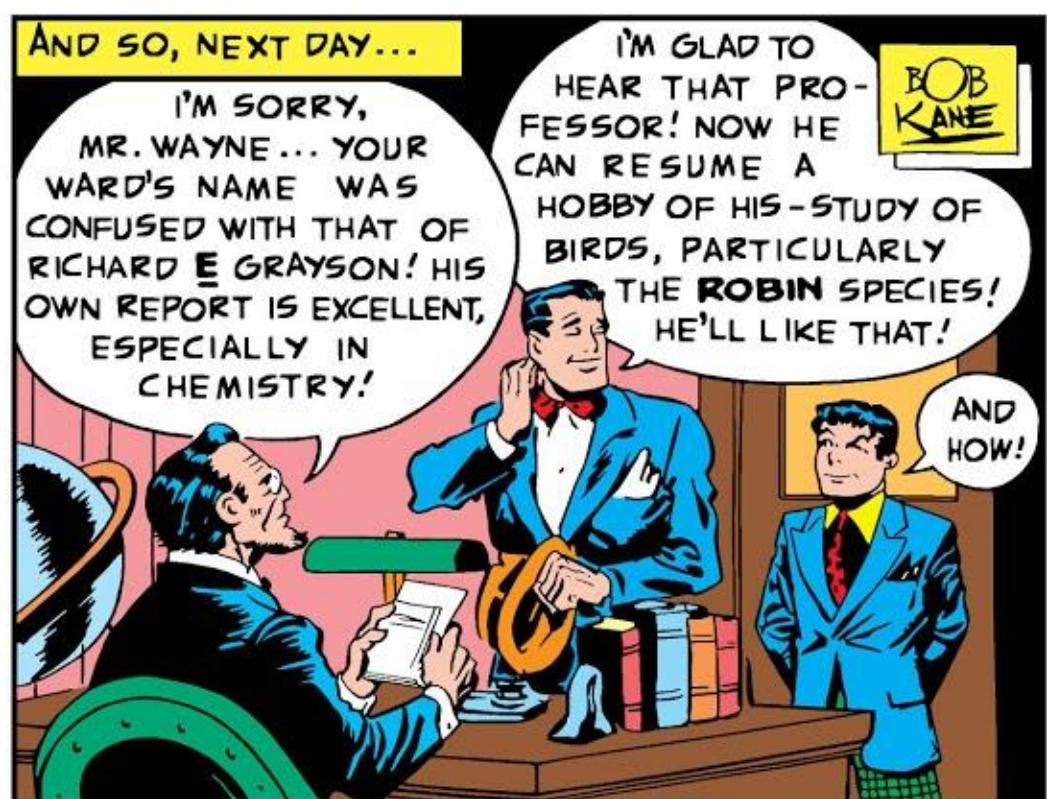
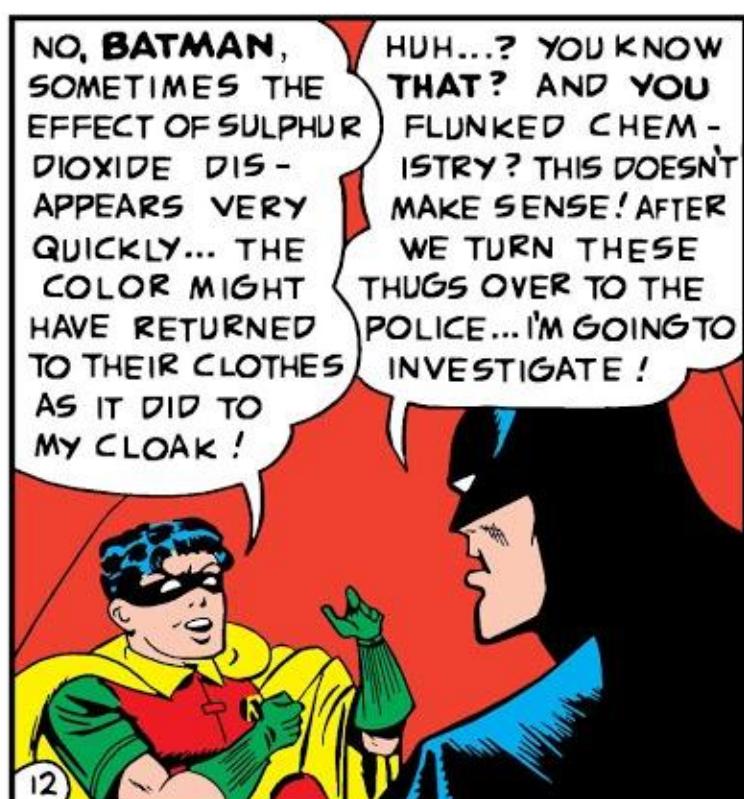
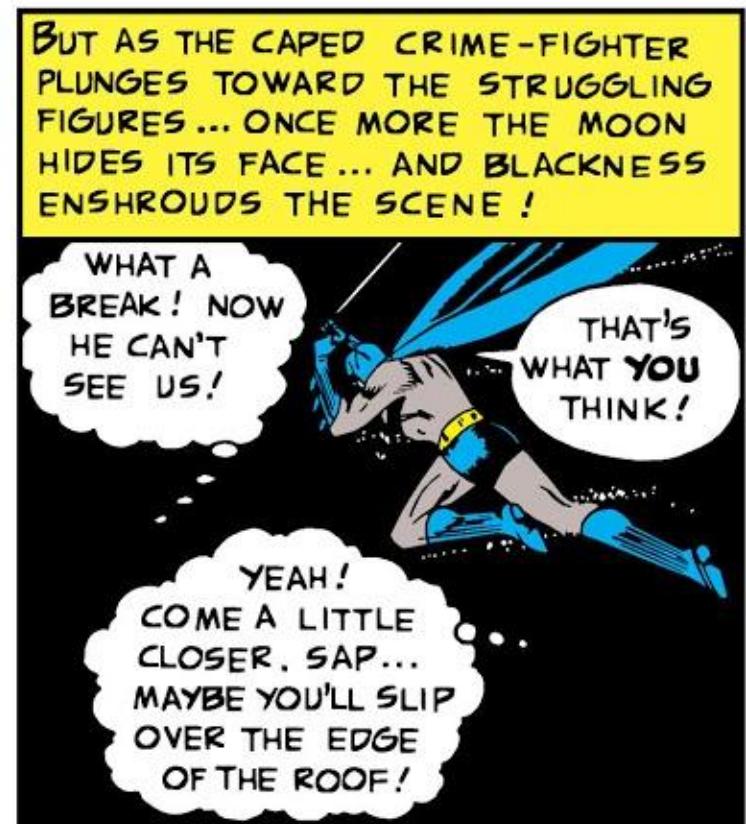
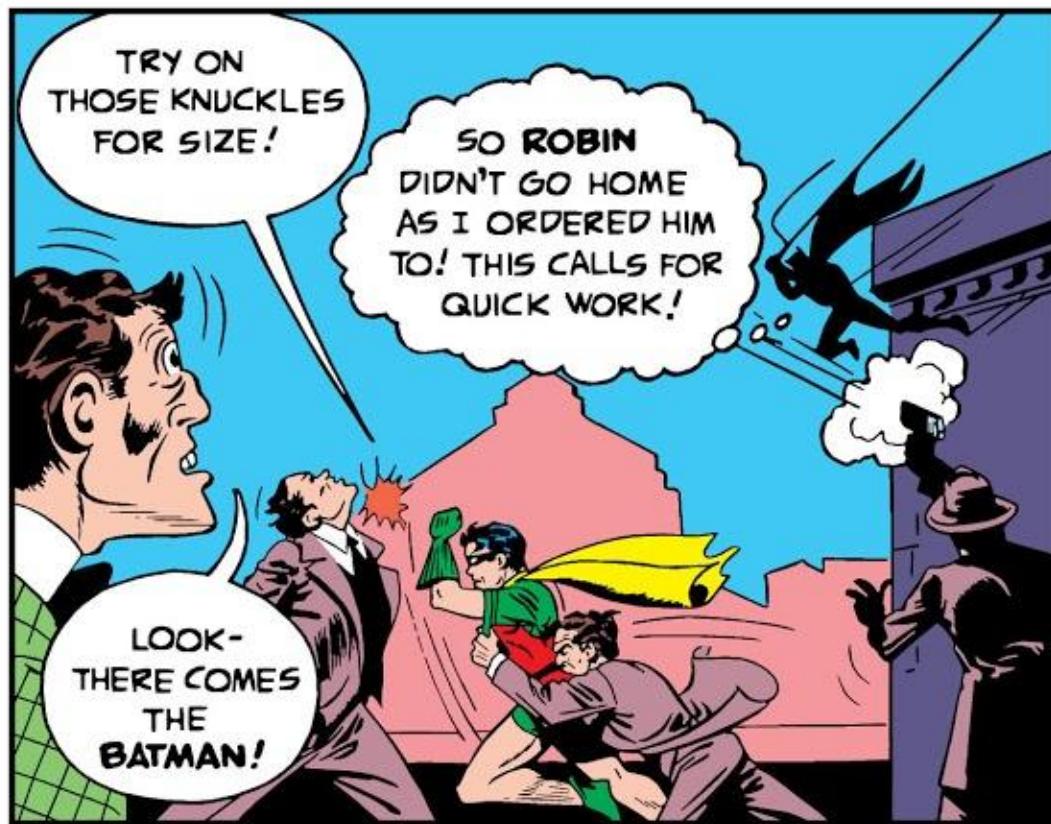
ROBIN FELT SO PROUD OF HIS TRICK, I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO KNOW THAT THE GAS HE LET LOOSE ALMOST BLINDED ME FOR A FEW MINUTES! BUT I FEEL BETTER NOW!



AND I THINK I KNOW HOW TO GET ON THEIR TRAIL AGAIN! SULPHUR DIOXIDE SOMETIMES ACTS AS A BLEACH... HUH...?



BANG



BATMAN

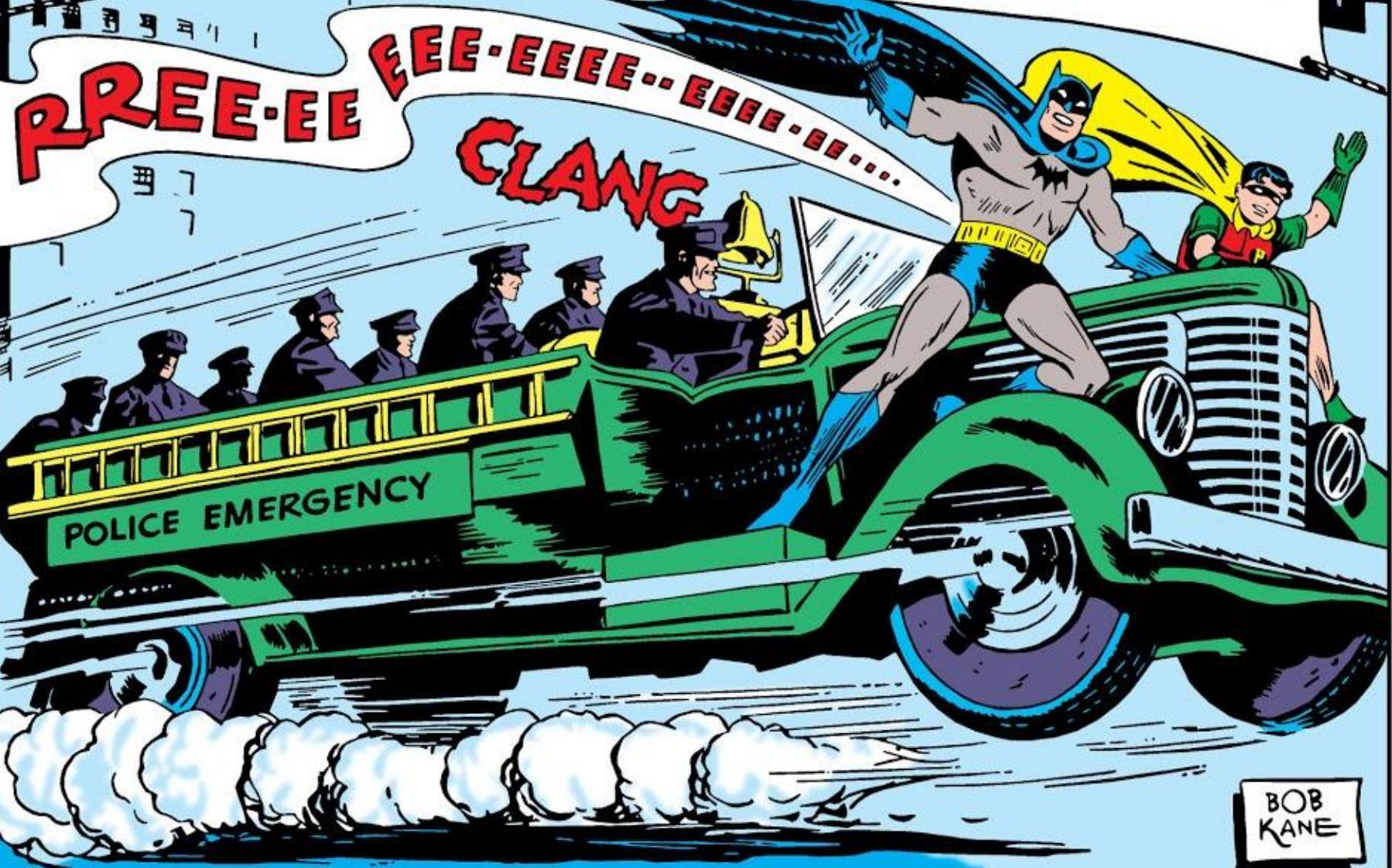
WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

REG.U.S.

WITH THIS ISSUE WE MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW SERIES OF STORIES IN WHICH BATMAN AND ROBIN MEET THOSE LIVING, HUMAN PEOPLE WHO KEEP A DAILY VIGIL TO MAKE THE UNITED STATES SAFE FOR YOU AND 130,000,000 OTHERS! THEY ARE THE MEN OF OUR NATIONWIDE POLICE FORCE... MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF SERVICE OF WHICH WE READ LITTLE. IT IS TO THESE MEN THAT THESE STORIES ARE DEDICATED! IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT WE BEGIN THIS SERIES WITH THE STORY OF THE MEN OF THE GREEN TRUCKS.. THE POLICE EMERGENCY SQUAD... THE SQUAD WHOSE CHIEF DUTY IS SAVING LIVES...

"THE GOOD SAMARITAN COPS"



BOB
KANE

OUR STORY BEGINS WITH A SOUND -- THE SOUND OF A SQUALLING SIREN! IT ATTRACTS THE ATTENTION OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON!

THERE GOES ONE OF THOSE GREEN TRUCKS AGAIN!

Y'KNOW, DICK, IT'D BE A GOOD IDEA IF YOU KNEW A LITTLE MORE ABOUT OUR VARIOUS POLICE SERVICES! THE EMERGENCY SQUAD MEN ARE HAND-PICKED AND SPECIALLY TRAINED!

LET'S GO!

YES, DICK - THE EMERGENCY SQUAD! THEY ROLL ONLY WHEN THE REGULAR FORCE IS STUMPED!

THIS IS BRESSLER! OH-OH! I SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU! HERE HE COMES WITH THOSE PICTURES OF HIS YOUNG KID AGAIN!

AW, SERGEANT... I JUST THOUGHT BATMAN MIGHT WANT TO SEE HER...

I SURE WOULD! HMM! QUITE A KID! CUTE!

THE STATION HOUSE RESERVE ROOM...

AND SO, LATER... POLICE HEADQUARTERS ...

GREETINGS, COMMISSIONER!

I GOT YOUR CALL, BATMAN! HERE'S YOUR TUTOR... SERGEANT MEAD!

GLAD TO KNOW YOU, BATMAN! I'LL TAKE YOU OUT TO MEET THE MEN OF MY SQUAD!

AND THAT WOULD BE BRANNIGAN AND FLANNIGAN... ARGUING AS USUAL... AND OVER THE SAME THING!

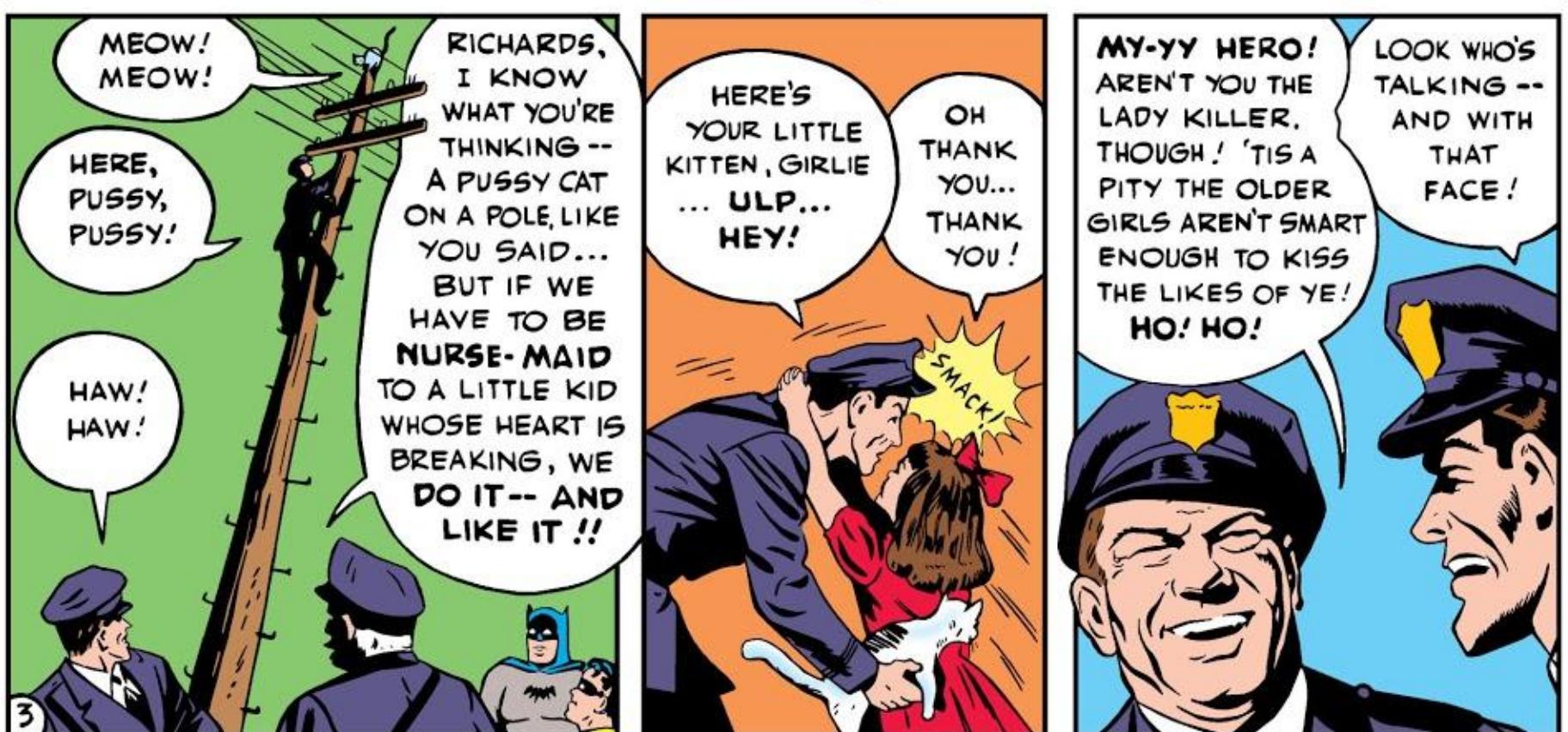
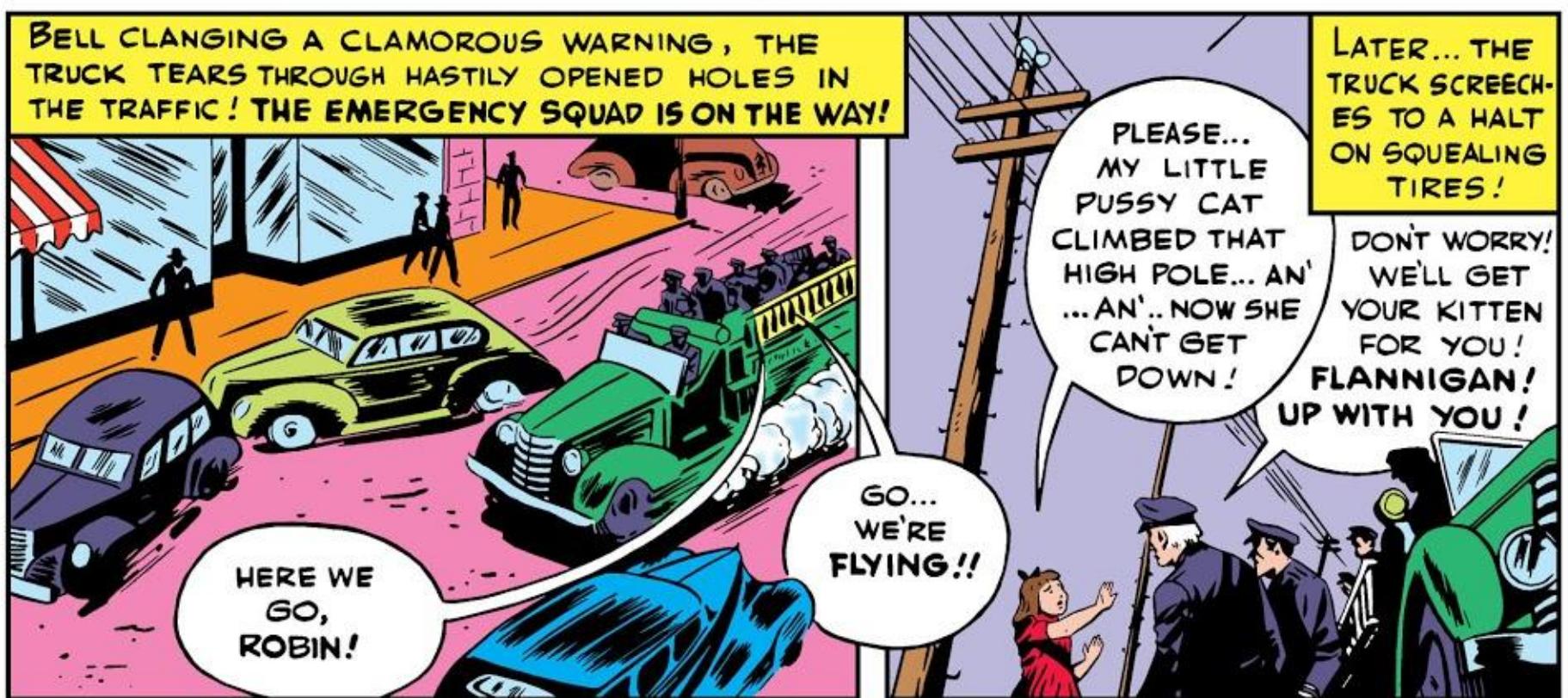
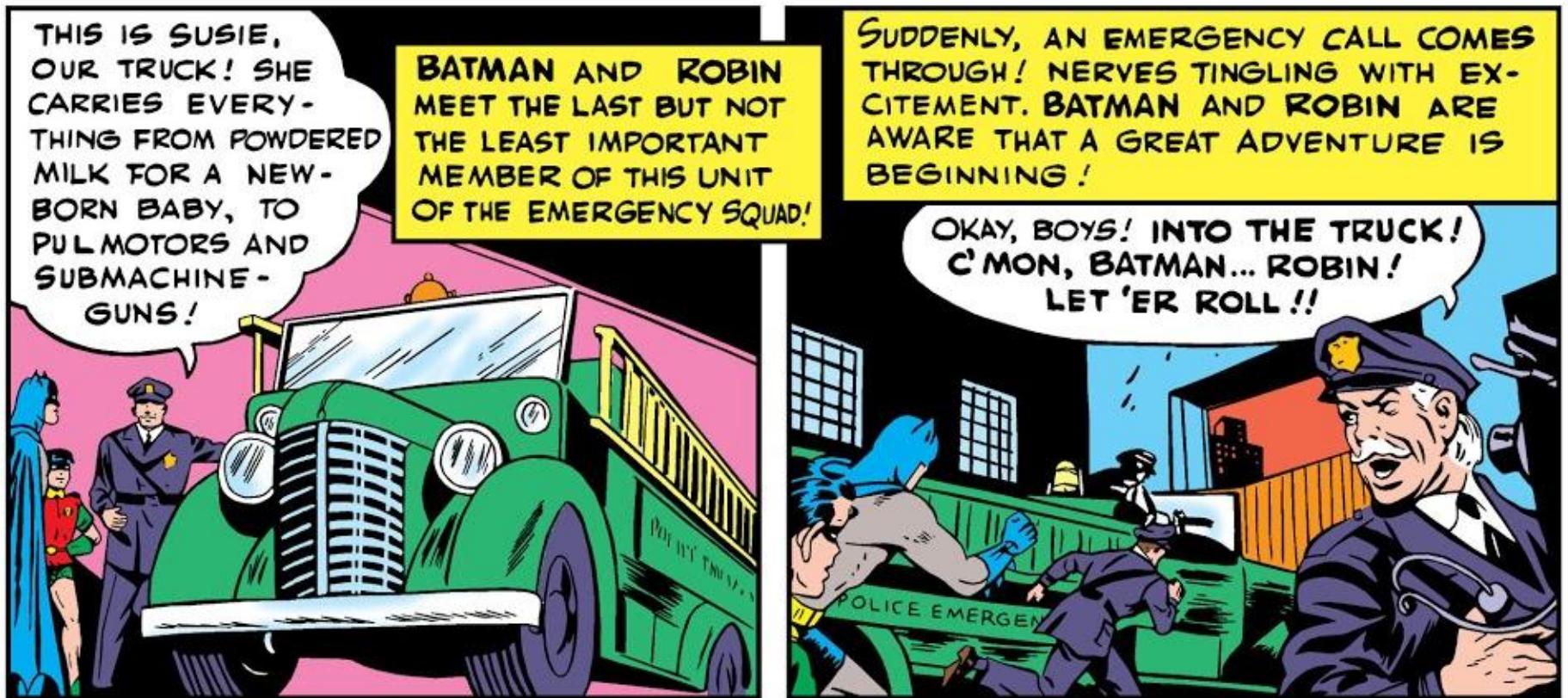
FLANNIGAN, STAY AWAY FROM ME GIRL OR I'LL SPREAD YER NOSE ALL OVER YER PRETTY FACE!

I'M SORRY I CAN'T DO THE SAME FOR YOU! SOMEBODY BEAT ME TO IT! HA! HA!

WELL, ROOKIE, I HEAR TODAY'S YOUR FIRST RIDE WITH THE EMERGENCY SQUAD!

EMERGENCY SQUAD!? "NURSE-MAID" SQUAD! ALL THEY DO IS RESCUE CATS FROM TELEGRAPH POLES! AND I WANTED TO SEE SOME ACTION! BAH!

RICHARDS, I PROMISE YOU THAT THE "NURSE-MAID" SQUAD, AS YOU CALL IT, WILL GIVE YOU MORE ACTION THAN YOU BARGAINED FOR!



ONE CALL COMPLETED
THE TRUCK ROLLS ON!

SERGEANT, YOU
CERTAINLY MADE
THAT CHILD HAPPY!

WE GET A LOT OF
CALLS TO SAVE PETS
FOR KIDS!

I THINK I'LL GET
MY KID A DOG!
HE'D LIKE A DOG!

SUDDENLY...

CALLING
EMERGENCY
TRUCK NUMBER
SIX! PROCEED TO
ISLAND IN LOWER
BAY! MAN
CAUGHT IN
QUAGMIRE!

QUAGMIRE!
THAT'S AS TREACHEROUS
AS QUICKSAND!

SIRENING THROUGH THE STREETS, THE BIG GREEN
TRUCK SOON HALTS ON THE EDGE OF A MARSHY
SHORE!

WE WERE HUNTING REED-BIRDS! HE WANDERED
TOO FAR OUT! THE REEDS AND MIRE
STOPPED ME FROM GETTING TO HIM!

WE'LL GET HIM! ON WITH
THE RUBBER SUITS, BOYS!
BRING OUT A 100
FOOT LINE!

HELP!
HELP!

YOU SAID
IT! LET 'ER
OUT.
BRANNIGAN!

BEARING THE LINE, THE SQUAD DEFIES LEG-SUCK-
ING SLOUGH AND SLOWLY WADES TOWARD THE
BOGGED-DOWN MAN!

CAREFULLY BATMAN CRAWLS OUT ON THE
TREE BRANCH THAT LOOMS DIRECTLY OVER
THE SEEMINGLY-DOOMED MAN!

AS SOON AS
MY WEIGHT
BENDS THE BRANCH
DOWN TOWARD YOUR
HANDS, YOU
GRAB IT!

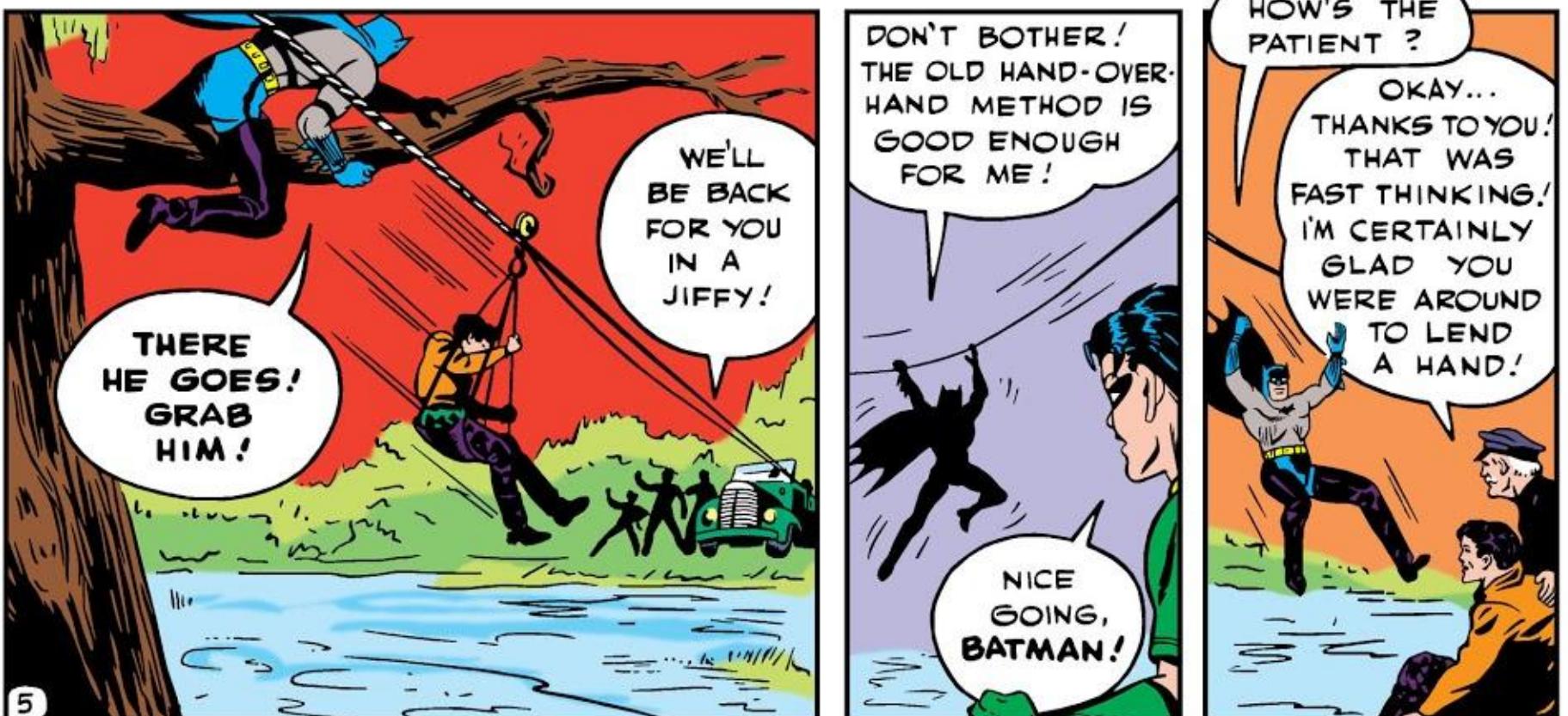
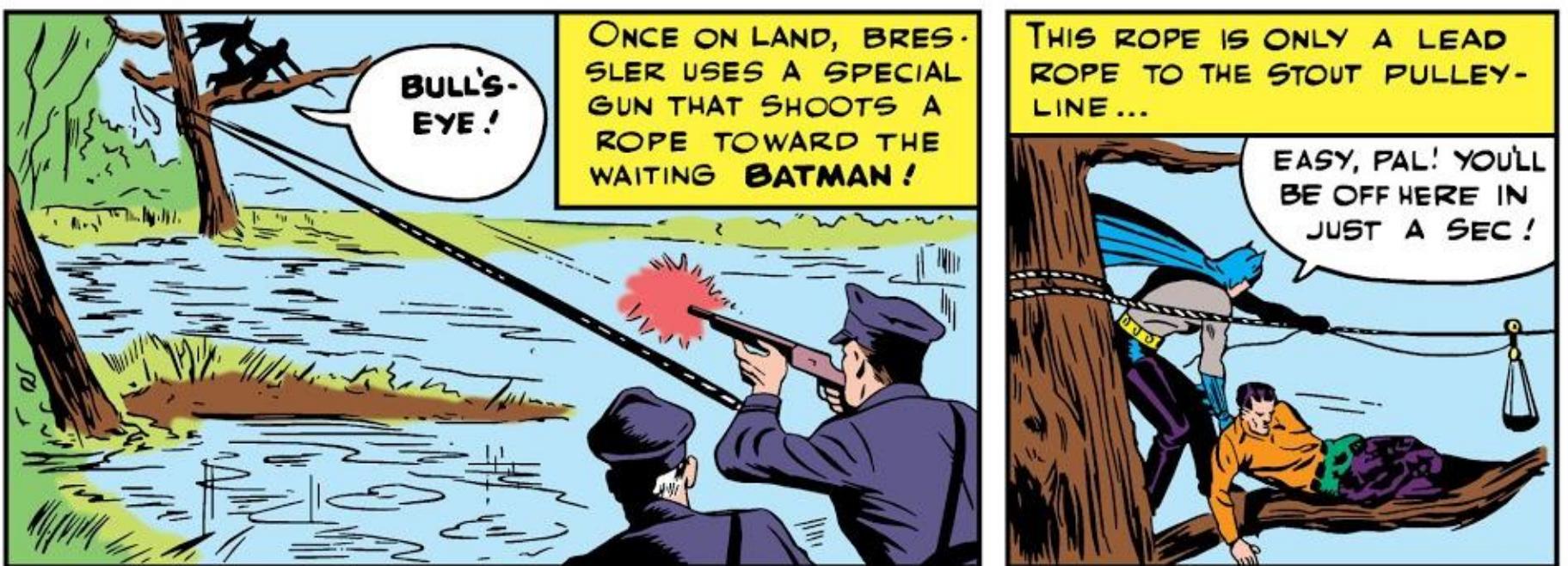
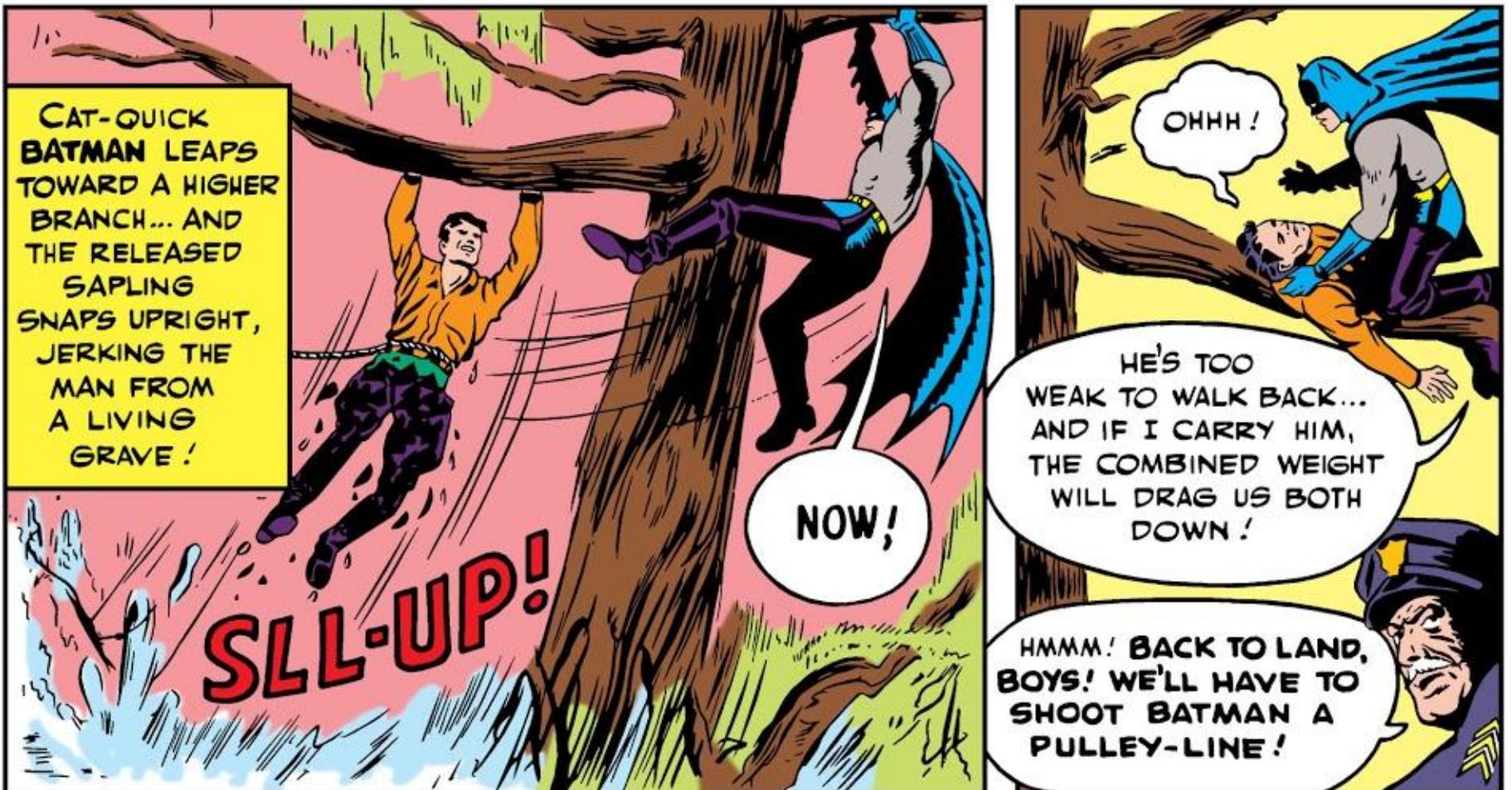
A... ALL
RIGHT!

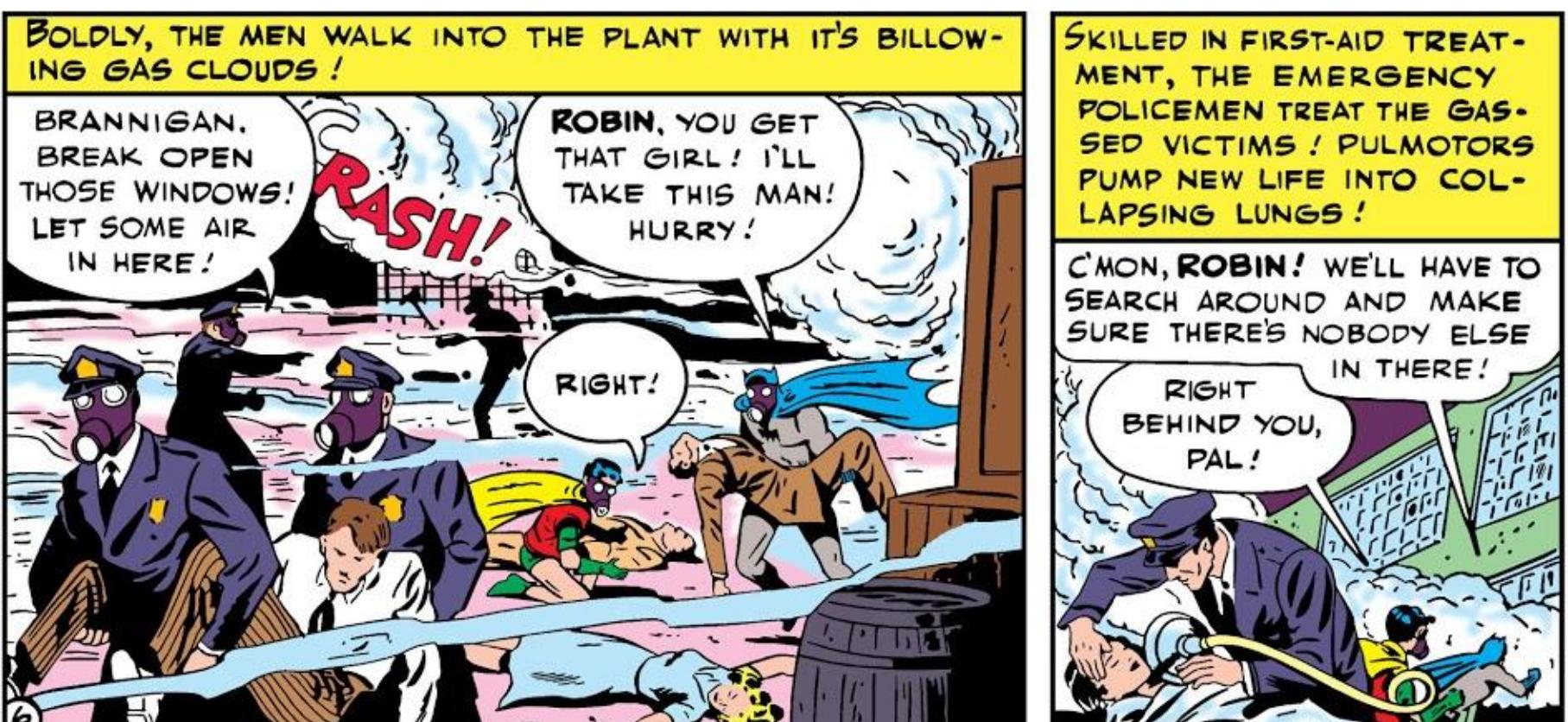
CAN'T PULL HIM OUT THIS WAY!...
SUCTION PULLED HIM DOWN
TOO FAR!

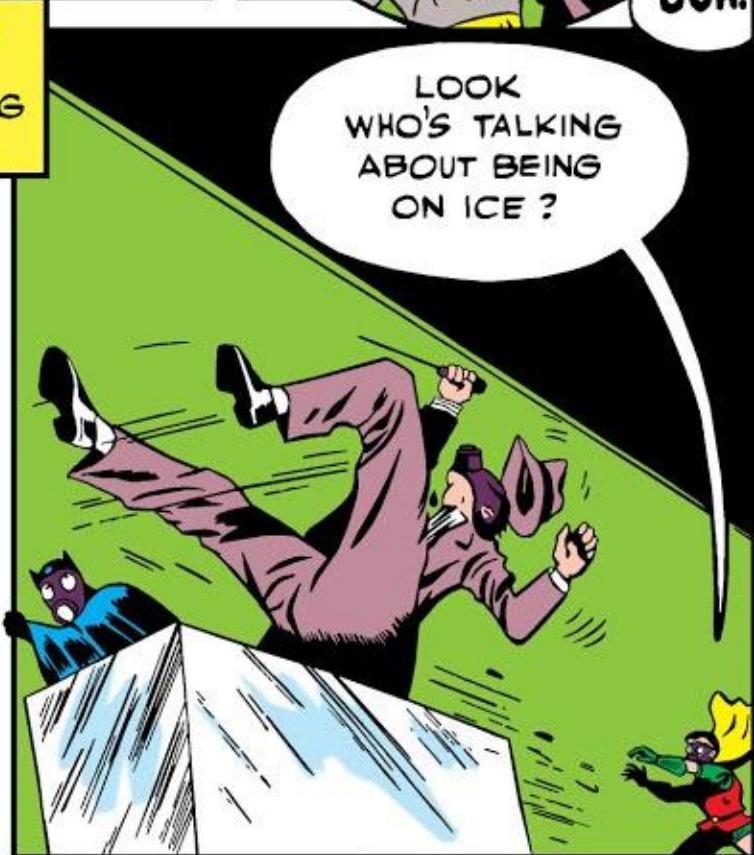
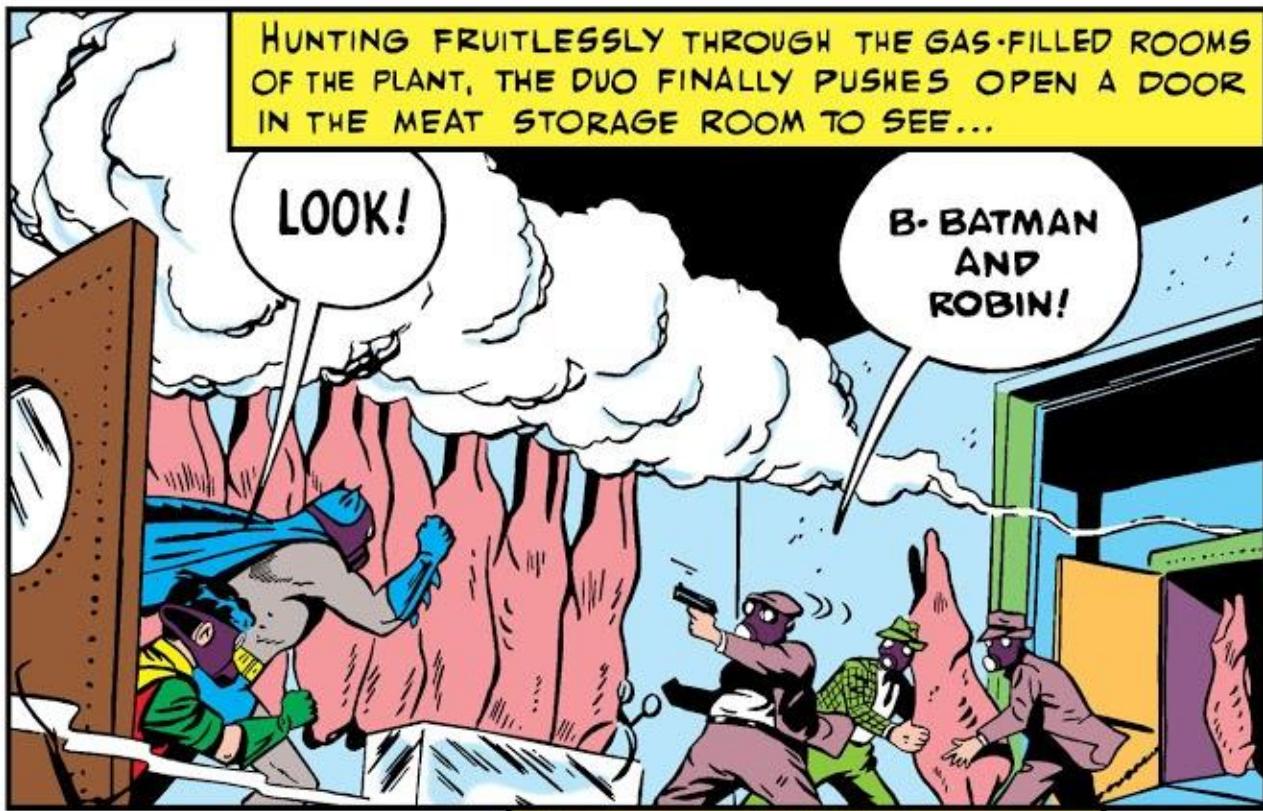
THAT
TREE! I'VE GOT AN
IDEA! I'VE DONE
THIS BEFORE!.. HOLD
ONTO HIM!

GOOD!
NOW HOLD ON
TIGHT WHEN I
SHIFT MY
WEIGHT
BACK!

G... GOT
IT!







THE BLACK MARKET LOOTERS ARE TURNED OVER TO A PATROL WAGON, BUT THE EMERGENCY SQUAD'S RESCUE WORK GOES ON..

WHO IS THAT?

KID WHO DELIVERS CANDY TO EMPLOYEES! GAS GOT HIM! ALL THE PULMOTORS ARE BEING USED! BRESSLER'S BREATHING INTO HIS MOUTH... TRYING TO SAVE HIM! LOOKS HOPELESS!

HUH! HUH!
HUH! HUH!

FOR ONE SOLID HOUR THE TENSE GROUP WATCHES AS BRESSLER DESPERATELY TRIES TO BLOW THE BREATH OF LIFE INTO THAT SMALL, STILL BODY! THEN..AT LAST... A HAND TWITCHES....

THE KID'S ALIVE! THANK HEAVEN!

HUH!
HUH!
HUH!

HE'S MOVING!

OH...
MY CHEST
HURTS
ME..
IT
HURTS...

IT'LL GO AWAY! YOU'LL
BE ALL RIGHT. YOU
JUST WAIT AND SEE!

YOU'RE A GREAT
GUY, BRESSLER!

LATER, AS THE EMER-
GENCY TRUCK DRAWS
AWAY... ITS JOB DONE....

I COULDN'T LET THAT
KID DIE! HE WAS SO
YOUNG! THAT REMINDS
ME... MY OWN KID SAID
SOMETHING CUTE YES-
TERDAY... UH... YOU
WANT TO
HEAR IT?

BRESSLER...
I'LL BE GLAD
TO LISTEN TO
ANYTHING YOU
HAVE TO SAY
IN ABOUT KIDS

BUT BEFORE BRESSLER CAN RE-
LATE HIS CHILD'S CUTE SAYING.
HEADQUARTERS CUTS IN!

CALLING
EMERGENCY
TRUCK SIX!
MADMAN ON
THE LOOSE AT
SMYTHE AND
VINE STREET!

ANOTHER
HOMICIDAL MAN-
IAC! LET'S GO,
BRANNIGAN!

HEY! DOES
THIS GO ON
ALL DAY?

SOON, THE
SOURCE OF
THE
TROUBLE!

WE
CAN'T SHOOT!
IF WE HIT
HIM THAT GIRL
WILL DROP!

HEE! HEE! LOOK AT
ALL THE PEOPLE! BUT
IF THEY COME TOO
CLOSE, I'LL THROW
YOU OFF! HEE!
HEE!

BEGORRAH, LOOK AT THE PRETTY
GIRL! I THINK I'LL RESCUE HER
AN'....

NO, YOU DON'T,
PUSHFACE! I'LL RESCUE
ALL THE PRETTY GIRLS
AROUND HERE!

RACING UP THE STAIRS, FLANNIGAN BURSTS INTO THE ROOM CONNECTING THE BALCONY LEDGE...

BRING THAT GIRL INSIDE OR... UGH!

HEE! HEE! FOOLED YOU DIDN'T I ? YOU DIDN'T KNOW I HAD A GUN!
HEE! HEE!

HEE! HEE! I SHOT YOUR POLICEMAN! HE LOOKED SO SURPRISED! HEE! HEE!



SARGE, HE GOT FLANNIGAN !

MINUTES LATER... ONE FLOOR ABOVE THE BALCONY, ROBIN STEALTHILY GAINS A JUTTING FLAGPOLE...

THEN, CUTTING THE FLAPPING FLAGPOLE LINE, ROBIN SWINGS DOWN IN A SURPRISING AERIAL MANEUVER !

GET OUT THE TEAR-GAS GUNS! WE'LL ...

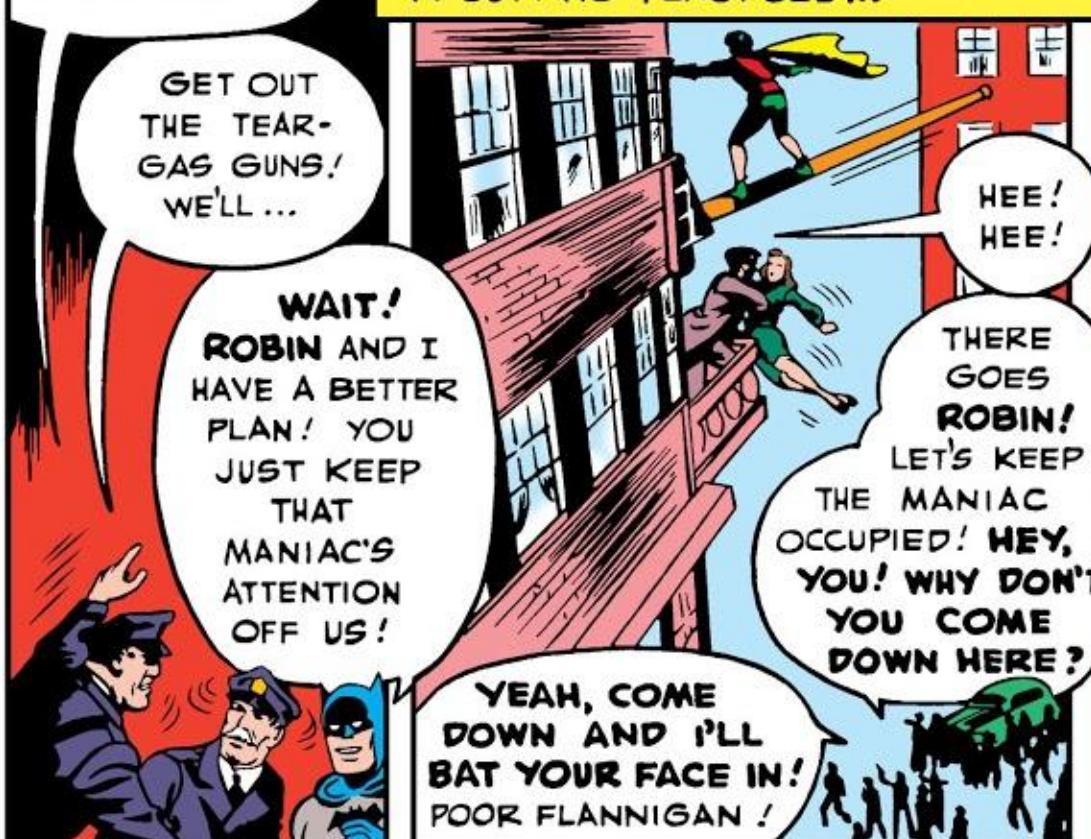
WAIT! ROBIN AND I HAVE A BETTER PLAN! YOU JUST KEEP THAT MANIAC'S ATTENTION OFF US!

YEAH, COME DOWN AND I'LL BAT YOUR FACE IN! POOR FLANNIGAN !

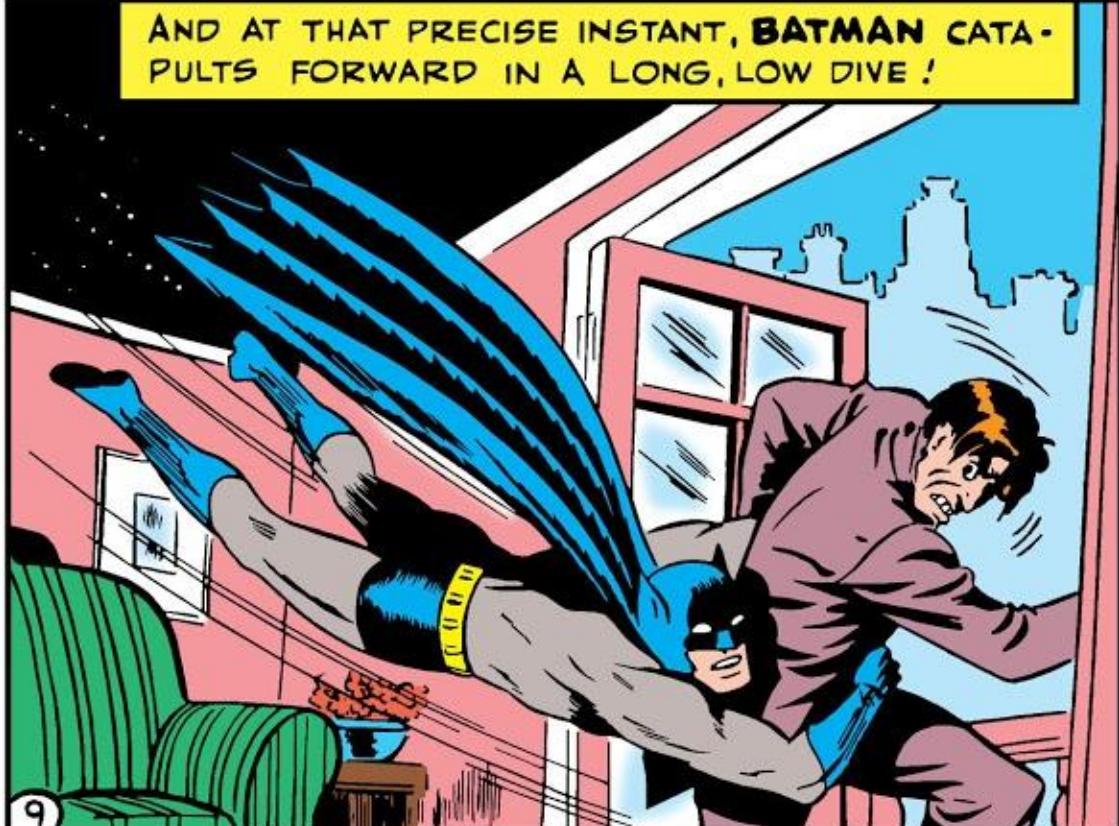
HEE! HEE!
THERE GOES ROBIN! LET'S KEEP THE MANIAC OCCUPIED! HEY, YOU! WHY DON'T YOU COME DOWN HERE?

ALLEY-OOP! GOTCHA!

HUH!



AND AT THAT PRECISE INSTANT, BATMAN CATA-PULTS FORWARD IN A LONG, LOW DIVE !



BUT THE BATMAN'S OPPONENT FIGHTS WITH THE MANIACAL FURY AND STRENGTH ALL MADMEN POSSESS IN MOMENTS OF FRENZY...

KILL! KILL! HEE! HEE!



DESPERATELY, BATMAN TEARS THOSE CLAWING FINGERS LOOSE! HIS FIST WHISTLES IN A SHORT ARC... AND...



THE MADMAN SUBDUED, THE FIRST TO REACH FLANNIGAN'S SIDE IS BRANNIGAN!



SURE!
MIND IF I
SEE YOUR
GIRL FRIEND
TONIGHT?

FLANNIGAN...
YOU'RE ALL
RIGHT?
YOU'RE NOT
HURT?

NAW! THAT
BULLET HIT MY
BADGE... JUST
KNOCKED THE
WIND OUT OF ME!
I CAME TO AS
BRANNIGAN WAS
COOING SWEET
NOTHINGS
IN MY
EAR!

FLANNIGAN... YOU...
YOU... SCARIN' ME LIKE
THAT! "SEE MY GIRL," IS
IT? SINCE WHEN CAN A
MAN SEE OUT OF TWO
BLACK EYES?!!

OH YEAH? WHY,
YOU BABOON-FACED
MORON, I'LL...BLA...
BLA...

BUT SUDDENLY ALL FEUDS -
EVEN FRIENDLY ONES - ARE
PUT ASIDE...

SARGE, A CALL
JUST CAME THROUGH...
THE POLICE HAVE
TWO-GUN FOWLEY
AND HIS MOB
BOTTLED UP BUT
THEY CAN'T GET
HIM OUT!

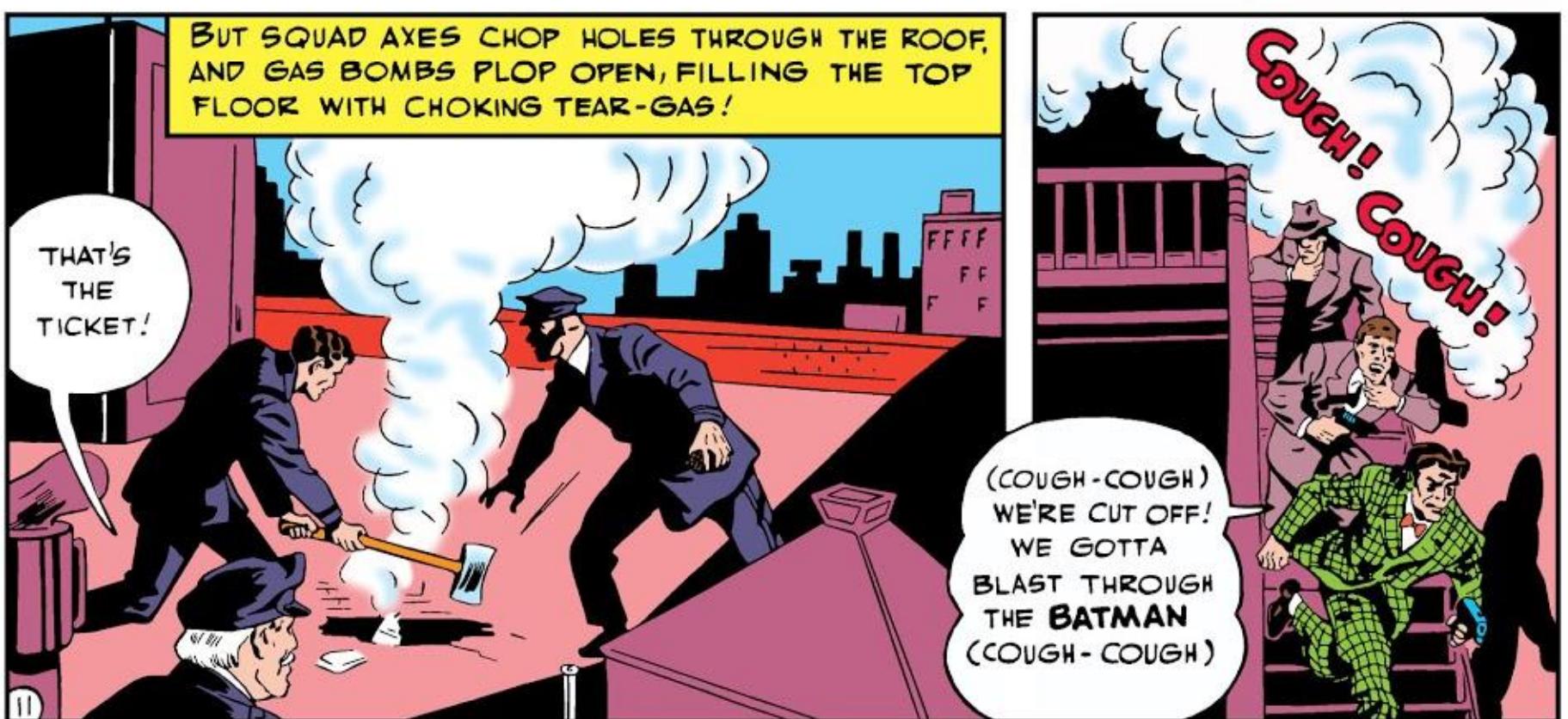
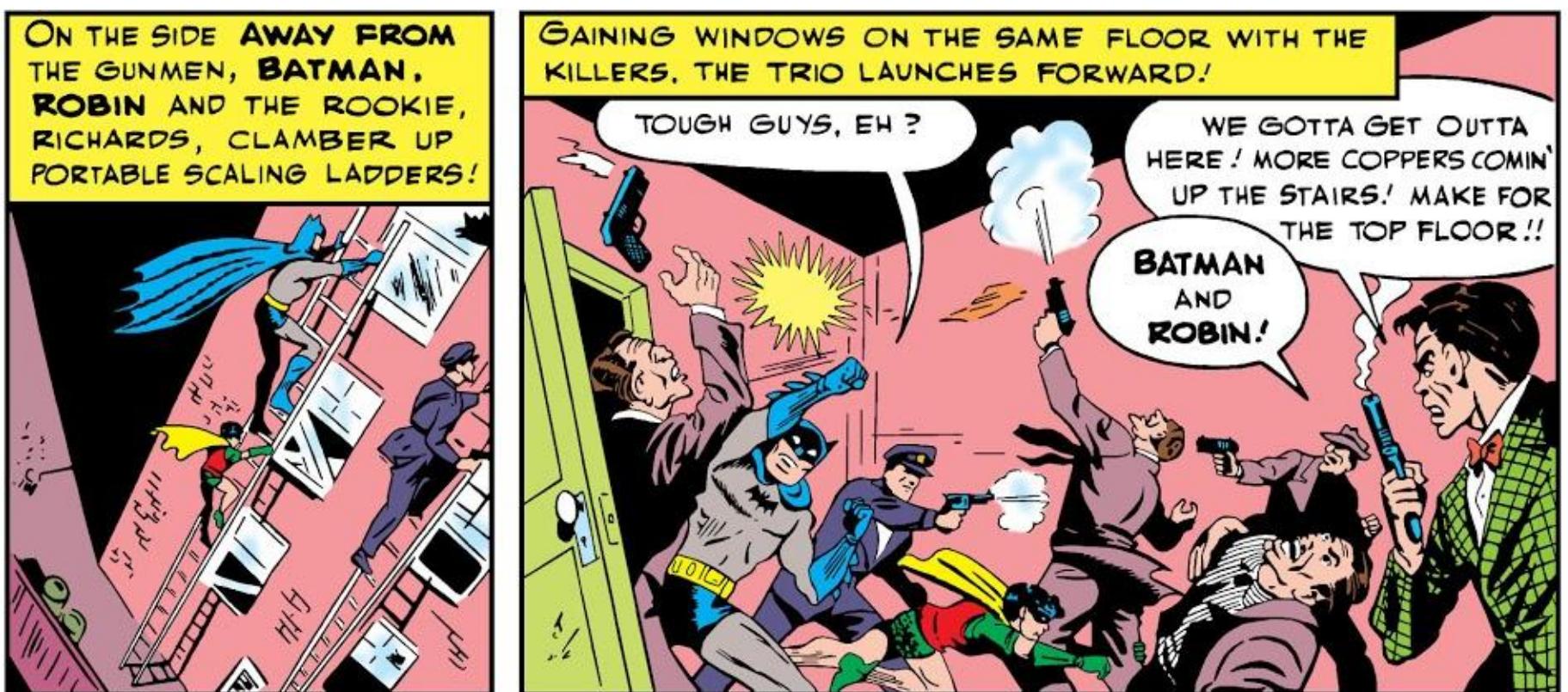
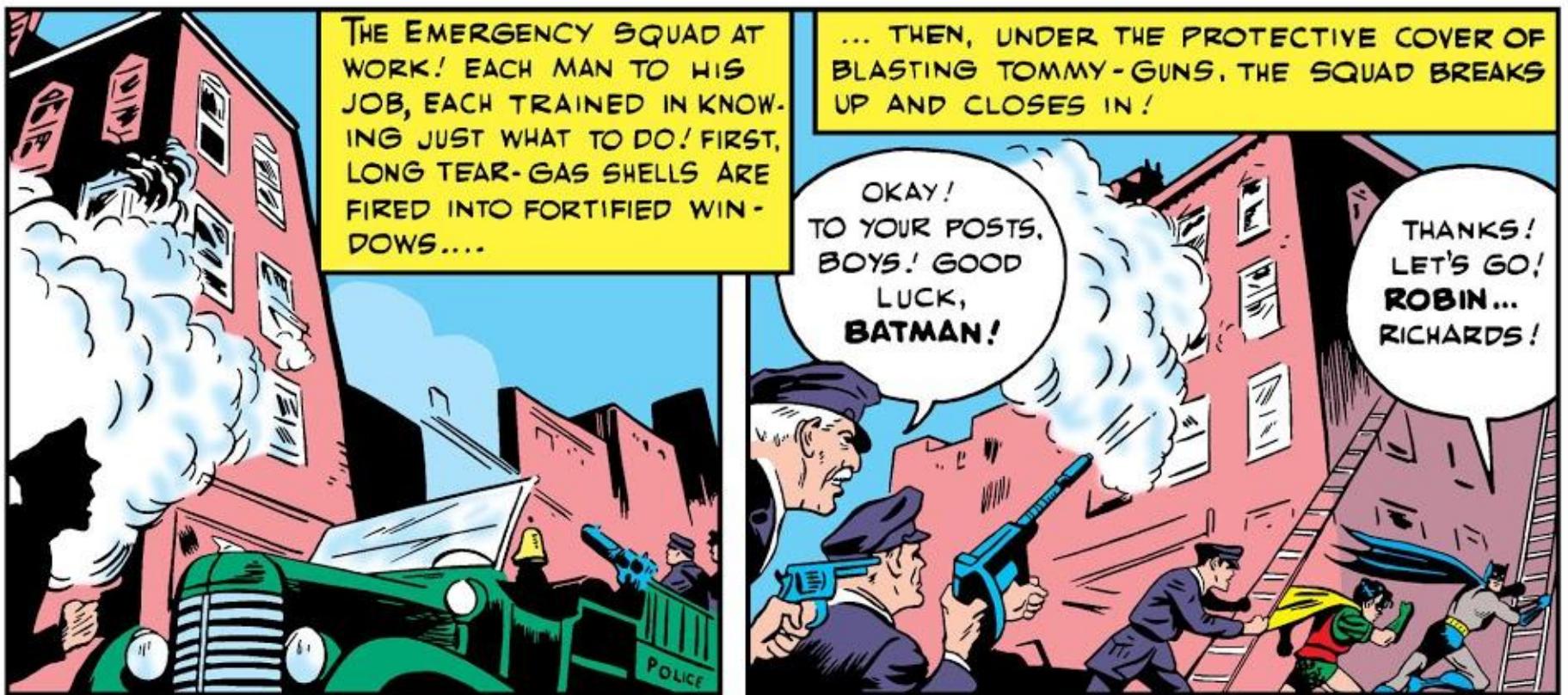
OKAY,
WE'RE ON
OUR
WAY!

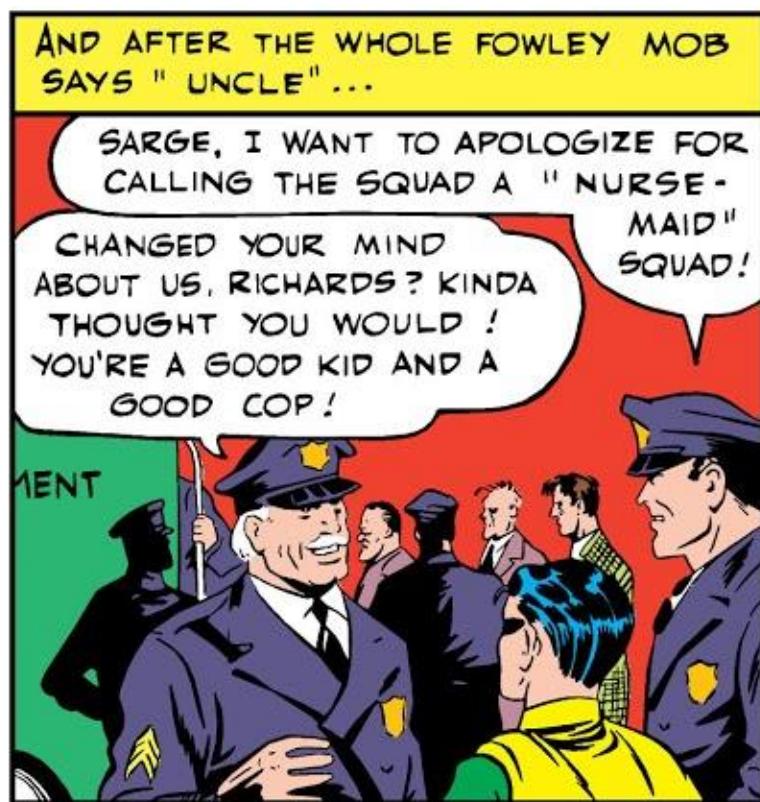
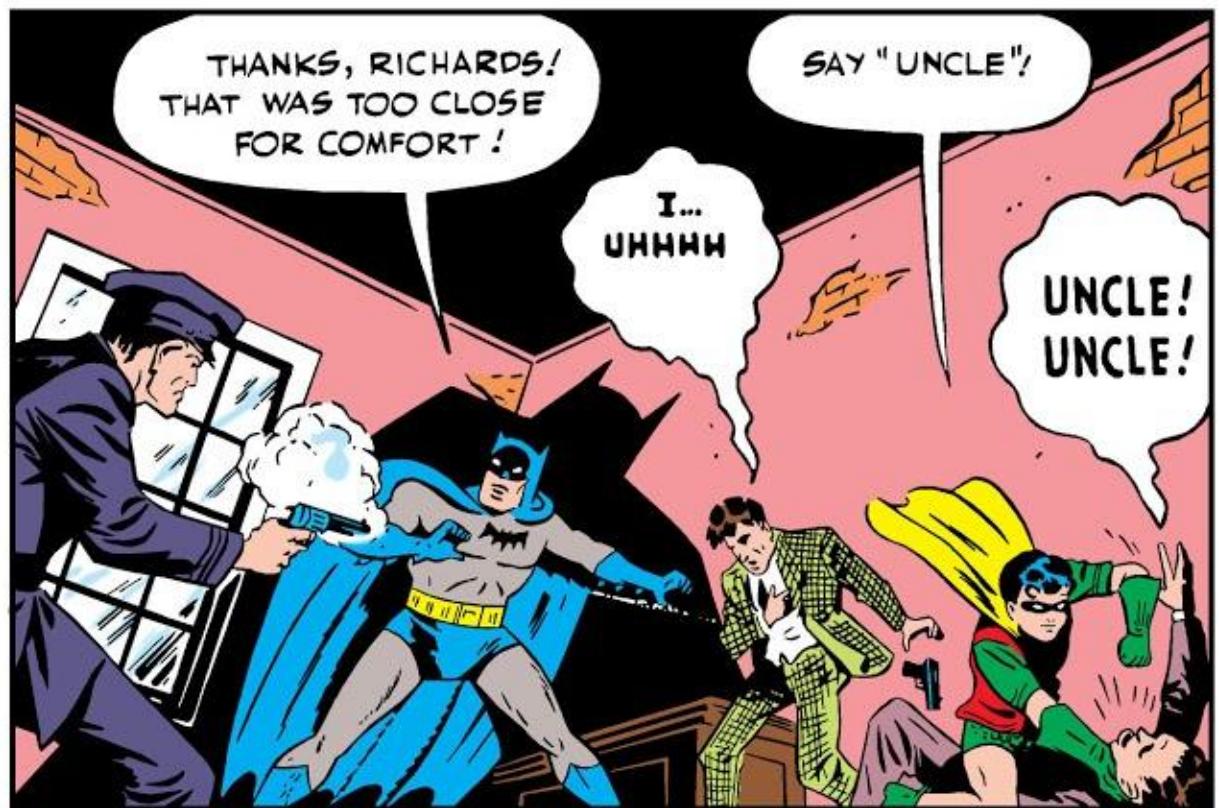
IN AN EMPTY BUILDING, KILL-CRAZY, TWO-GUN FOWLEY
AND HIS MOB DEFY THE POLICE! BUT NOW--THE GREEN
TRUCK ROLLS UP!

BETTER
GIVE
UP,
FOWLEY!

OKAY, BOYS, LET'S
GET TO WORK!

COME AND
GET ME,
COPPERS!





BATMAN

WITH ROBIN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

THIS IS THE FINAL CHAPTER IN THE STORY OF THE CRIME CLINIC AND ITS NOW FAMED BATTLE WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN! IT IS ALSO THE FINAL CHAPTER IN THE LIFE OF THE MAN THEY DUBBED THE CRIME SURGEON - THE SPECIALIST WHOSE CRIMINAL OPERATIONS WERE AS BRILLIANT AS HIS MEDICAL OPERATIONS! DOCTOR OF MEDICINE AND DOCTOR OF CRIME! TWO STRONG WILLS, GOOD AND EVIL, CONSTANTLY IN A TUG-OF WAR FOR A MAN'S SOUL! ONE HAD TO WIN--AND DID, IN THIS, THE LAST CASE OF ...

"THE CRIME SURGEON!"

BOB
KANE



MOST BATMAN CASES END WITH CRIMINALS GOING TO JAIL. THIS ONE BEGINS WITH CRIMINALS GOING OUT - WITH A **JAIL BREAK**!



A RIPPING, CRASHING SALVO OF LEAD HALTS THE KILL-CRAZY CONVICTS ... AND SOON, IN THE PRISON HOSPITAL WARD...

BRAIN SURGERY LIKE THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR ME!

THEN TO SAVE THE WARDEN... CALL THE MOST BRILLIANT SURGEON HERE... CONVICT 5649!



WHAT'S THIS! A CONVICT OPERATE ON A PRISON WARDEN?

...ONLY YOUR SKILL CAN SAVE THE WARDEN'S LIFE! WILL YOU DO IT?

I MUST! I'M A DOCTOR! I ONLY HOPE MY HANDS HAVE NOT BEEN IDLE TOO LONG!

YES, HERE IS AN OPERATION TO CONTEMPLATE... KEEN-EYED GUARDS WITH READY RIFLES, WATCHING... AS A PRISONER LABORS TO SAVE THE LIFE OF HIS WARDEN!



ALL IS SILENCE BUT FOR THE PANTING OF THE OXYGEN TANK... THE TICKING OF THE WALL CLOCK... THE SNIP-SNIP OF SCISSORS! THEN, AT LAST...



NIGHTFALL! IN THE QUIET WARD, A LONE GUARD WATCHES CONVICT 5649 - WHO WATCHES THE WARDEN!



SUDDENLY...

YOU GULLIBLE FOOL! BREATHE... BREATHE THIS **ETHER** AND GO TO SLEEP! I MUST HAVE YOUR KEYS!



LATER... A MAD DASH! THEN THE WHINE OF BULLETS... THE DULL THWACK OF LEAD SMACKING THE PRISON WALL...

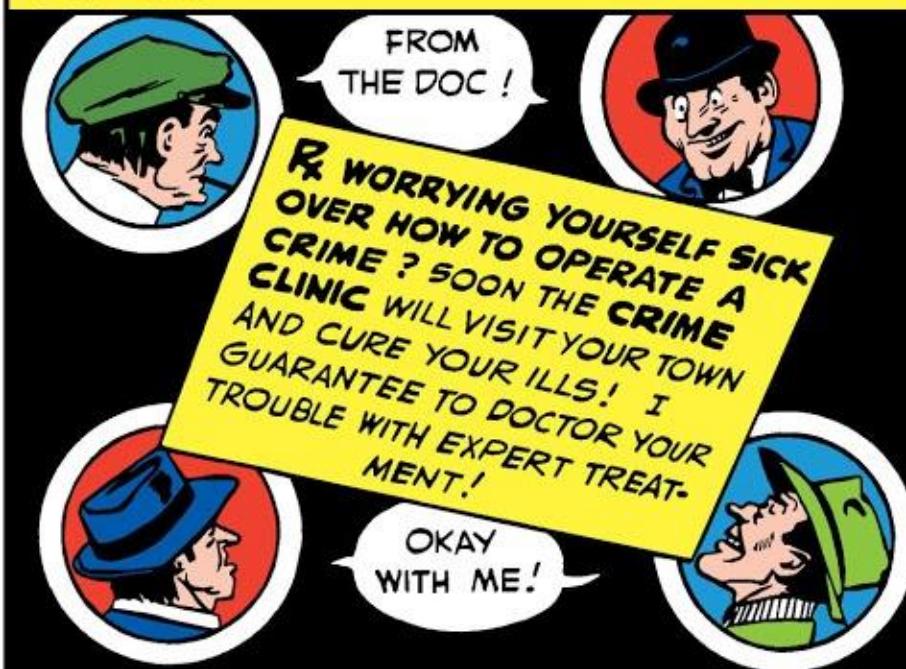


AND SOMETIME LATER...

I MADE IT! I MADE IT! I'M FREE... FREE TO CARRY ON THE WORK OF THE **CRIME CLINIC**!



ONE MONTH LATER!... THE CRIMINAL KING-PINS OF A NEIGHBORING CITY RECEIVE STRANGE BUSINESS CARDS...



SOON...THE NOTORIOUS **CRIME CLINIC** MAKES A TEMPORARY VISIT AND OPENS THE OFFICE TO THE IMPATIENT "PATIENTS"...



THIS PRESCRIPTION SHOULD CURE YOUR TROUBLE! I'LL FILL IT MYSELF IN MY LABORATORY! MY PROFESSIONAL FEE WILL BE 25% OF THE LOOT!

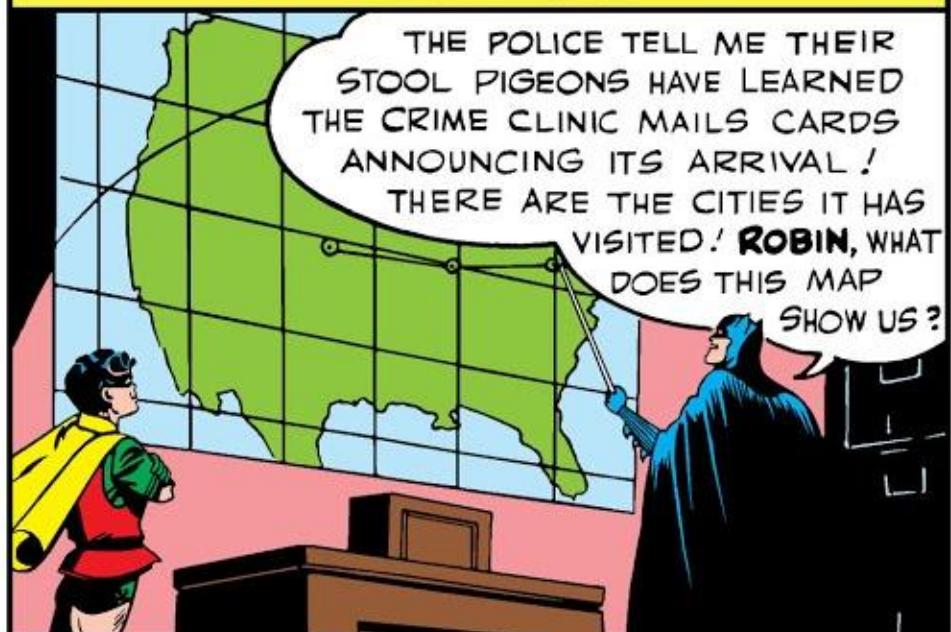


AND THUS AN EPIDEMIC BREAKS OUT--

AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME- AS THE CRIME CLINIC TRAVELS CROSS-COUNTRY!

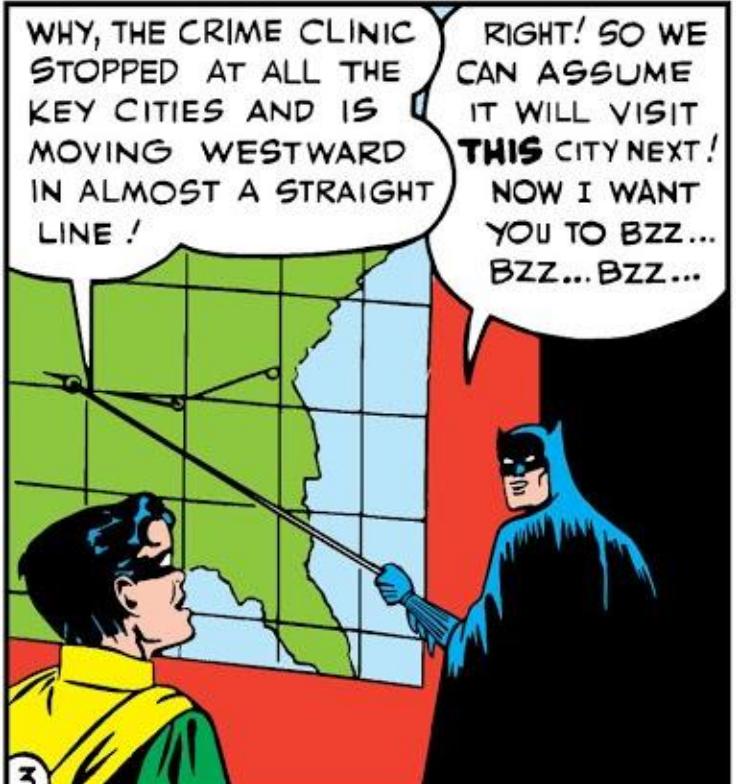
BUT HOW, YOU MAY ASK, CAN DOCTOR THORNE TAKE HIS AMAZING LABORATORY FROM CITY TO CITY?

WELL, BACK IN GOTHAM CITY, ITS TWO MOST FAMOUS INHABITANTS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, WONDER ABOUT THAT, TOO, AS THEY MAP A CAMPAIGN OF ACTION AGAINST AN OLD FOE...



WHY, THE CRIME CLINIC STOPPED AT ALL THE KEY CITIES AND IS MOVING WESTWARD IN ALMOST A STRAIGHT LINE!

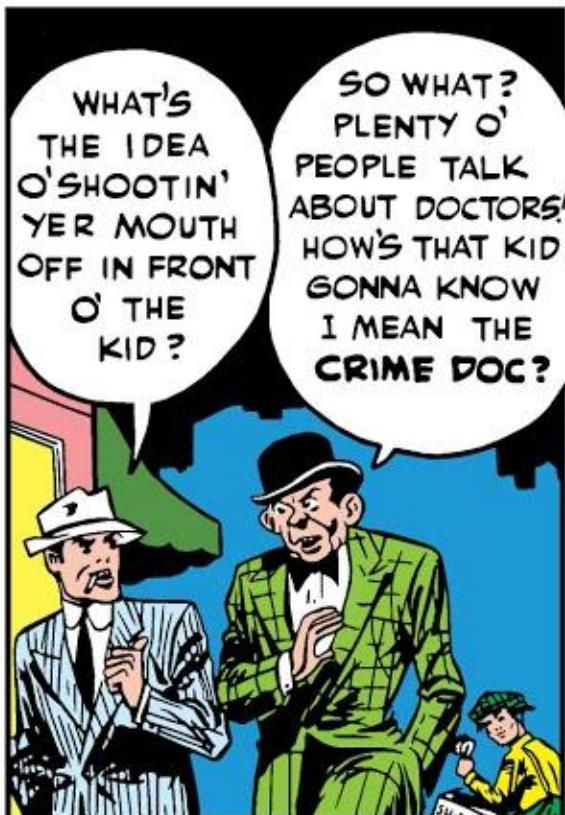
RIGHT! SO WE CAN ASSUME IT WILL VISIT **THIS** CITY NEXT! NOW I WANT YOU TO BZZ... BZZ... BZZ...



NEXT DAY... A NEW SHOESHINE BOY WANDERS ABOUT THE TOUGH, SLUM SECTION OF A BIG CITY!



THE DIRTY-FACED URCHIN IS EASILY ACCEPTED BY THE LOCAL TOUGHS AND IN HIS PRESENCE, CONVERSATION BECOMES UNGUARDED...



BUT, FLOP-EARS, "THAT KID"
IS ACTUALLY ROBIN, THE
BOY WONDER!



THAT NIGHT ... IN HIS SECRET LABORATORY, DOCTOR THORNE PREPARES FOR AN OPERATION -- A CRIME OPERATION!



IN AN EXCAVATION WHERE THE CITY IS INSTALLING A NEW SEWAGE SYSTEM, THE NIGHT WATCHMAN SUDDENLY SLUMPS INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS...



LATER ... THE POLICEMAN ON THE BEAT SHOUTS ABOVE THE DIN OF DIGGING TOOLS...



AND THE POLICEMAN STROLLS ON, UN-AWARE THAT IN THE SHADOWS OF THE NEARBY BANK LURKS -- THE CRIME SURGEON!



BUT JUST AS CRIME GETS READY TO BLAST LOOSE,
TWO FIGURES EXPLODE INTO DYNAMITE ACTION!

OKAY,
ROBIN --
NOW!

CHECK !!

BANK

YOU'LL
NEED A
DENTIST'S
DRILL
NOW!

HERE, HAVE
A SAMPLE OF MY
TYPE OF ANESTHETIC--
A KNOCKOUT
DROP!

I'VE GOT EARS, TOO, FLOP-
EARS ! I HEARD YOUR
FLOPPY FEET !

PHFFF!

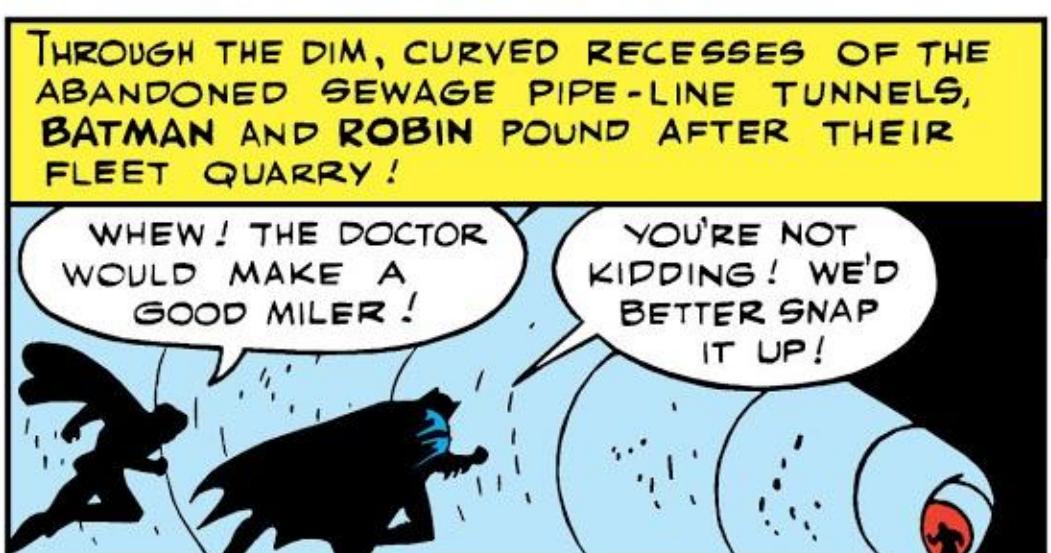
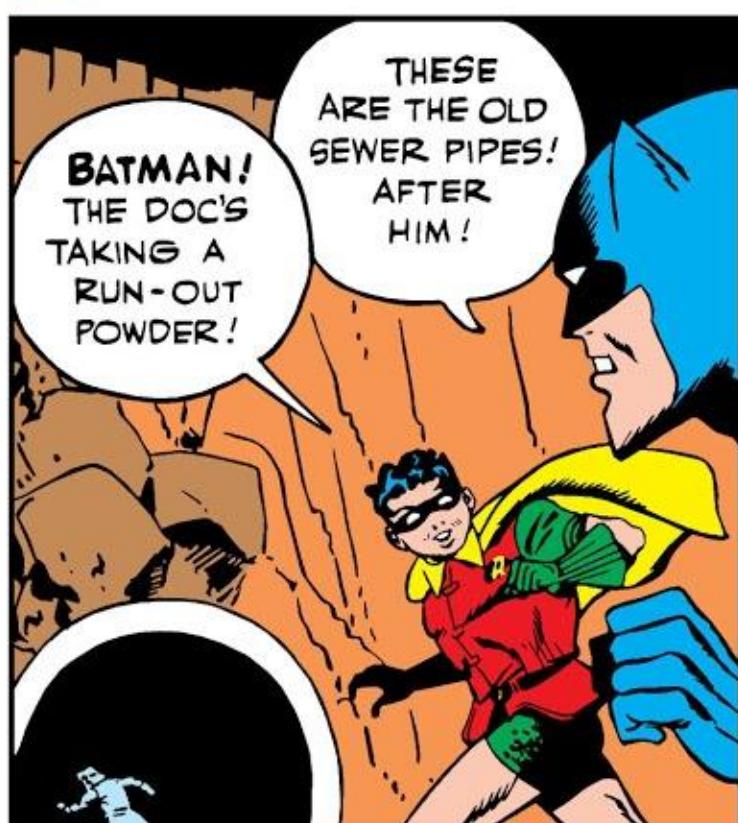
THEN ... A RECKLESS
PLUNGE THROUGH SPACE ...

NICE
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN,
DOCTOR!

YOU!!

SUDDENLY BATMAN TURNS
- AND SEES THE TON-HEAVY
STEAM SHOVEL SCOOP
PLUNGING DOWN AT
ROBIN !

ROBIN!
ABOVE YOU!
ABOVE YOU!



SUDDENLY THE TUNNEL ENDS ... ON THE WATERFRONT! THE DOCTOR LEAPS TO A WAITING VEHICLE AND LEAVES HIS STUMPED PURSUERS BEHIND!



SO...THREE DAYS LATER IN THE NEXT KEY CITY...

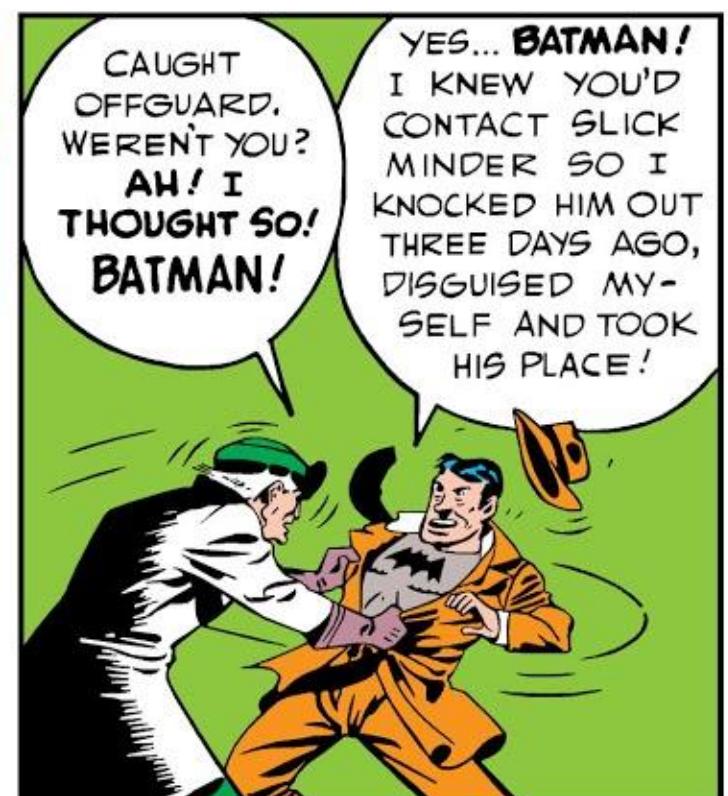
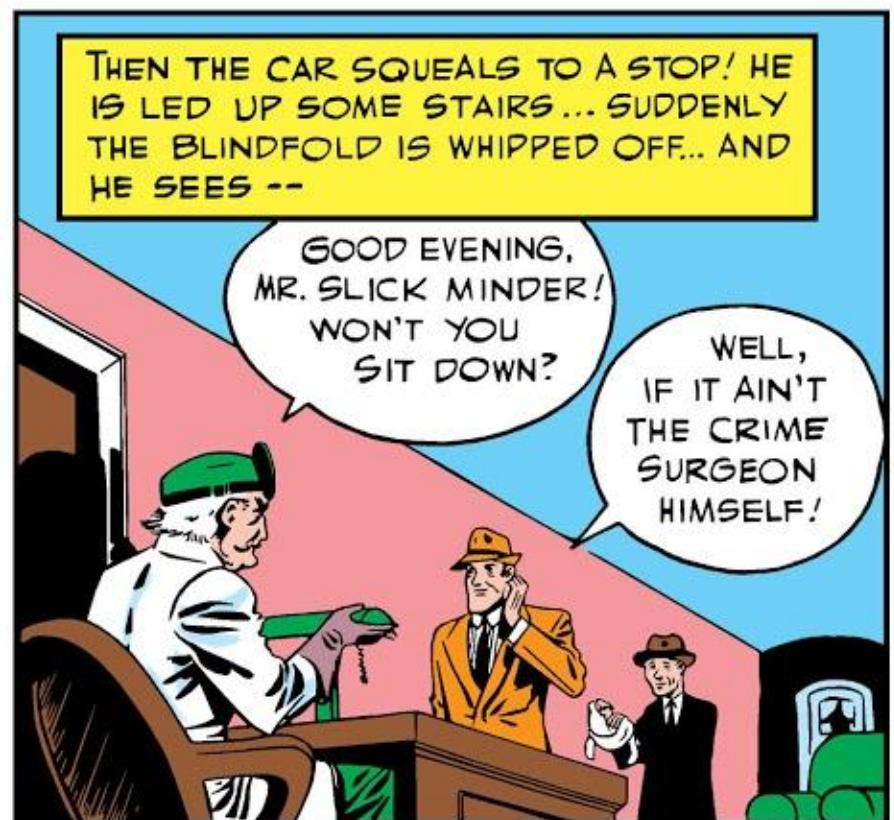
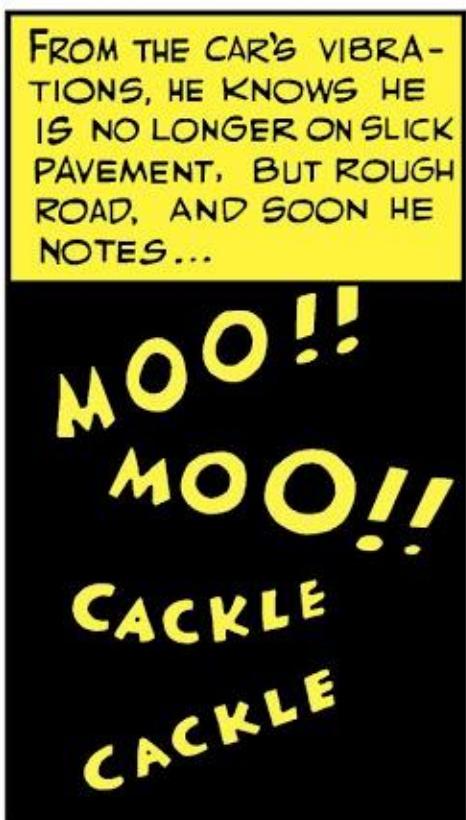
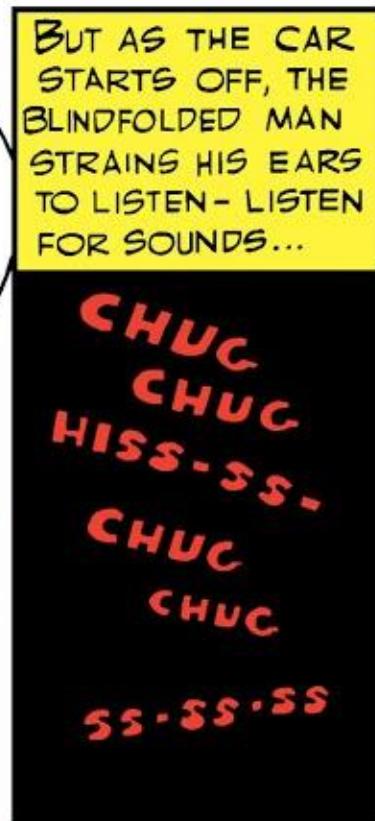
AH, THE CRIME CLINIC'S BUSINESS CARD! HE'LL PROBABLY SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO SEE ME ABOUT A JOB! GOOD!



... NOT LONG AFTER...

HAVE A VITAMIN PILL, SLICK? DE DOC SENT ME AROUND TO SEE YOU! YOU'RE A BIG SHOT HERE AND -





SWIFT AS LIGHT, BATMAN'S HANDS STREAK ACROSS HIS FACE, SNATCH AWAY MAKEUP, ADJUST HIS COWL! THEN FROM OUT THE HAMPERING GARB COMES HIS SLEEK MUSCULAR FRAME...

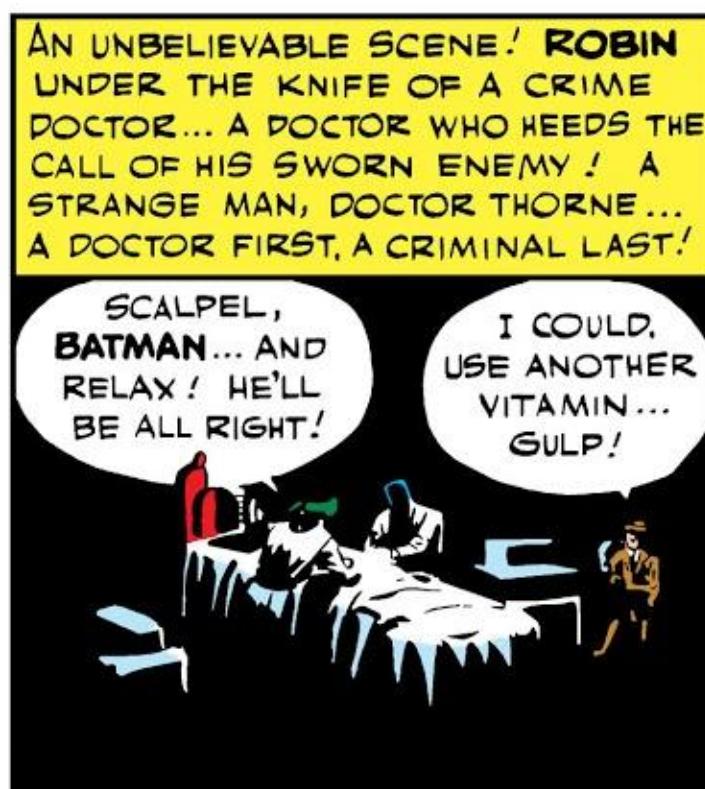
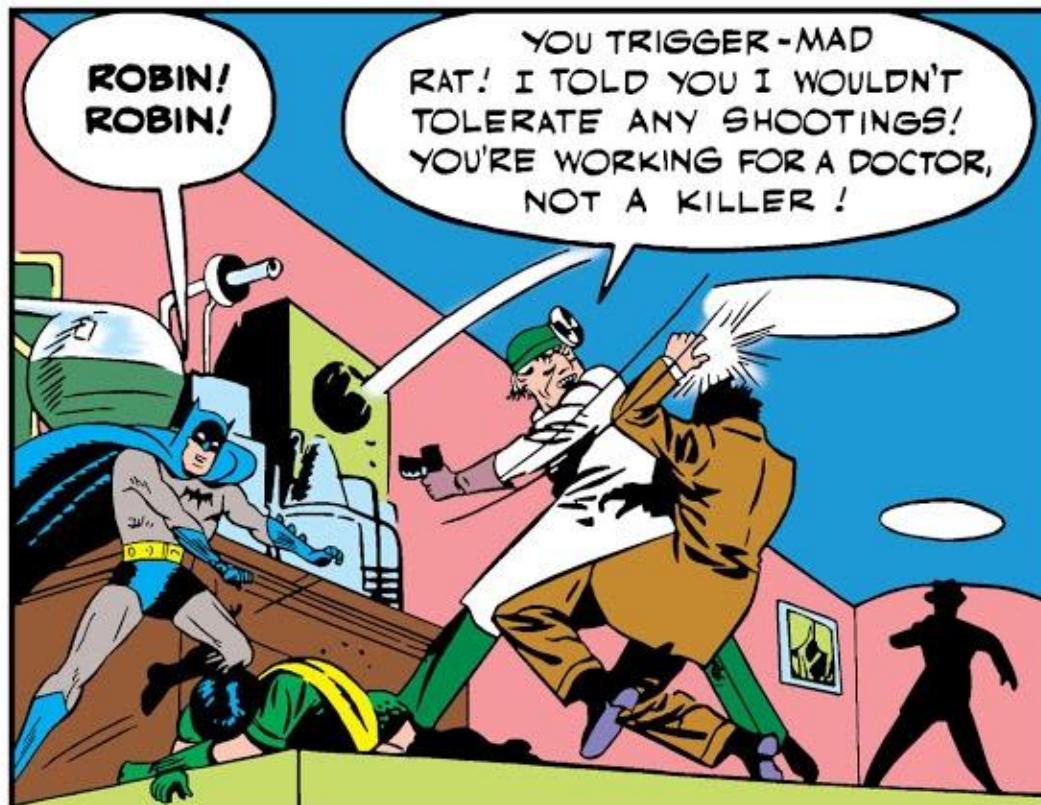
GET SET, DOCTOR!
HERE'S WHERE YOU GET
A LITTLE TREATMENT-
BATMAN TREATMENT!

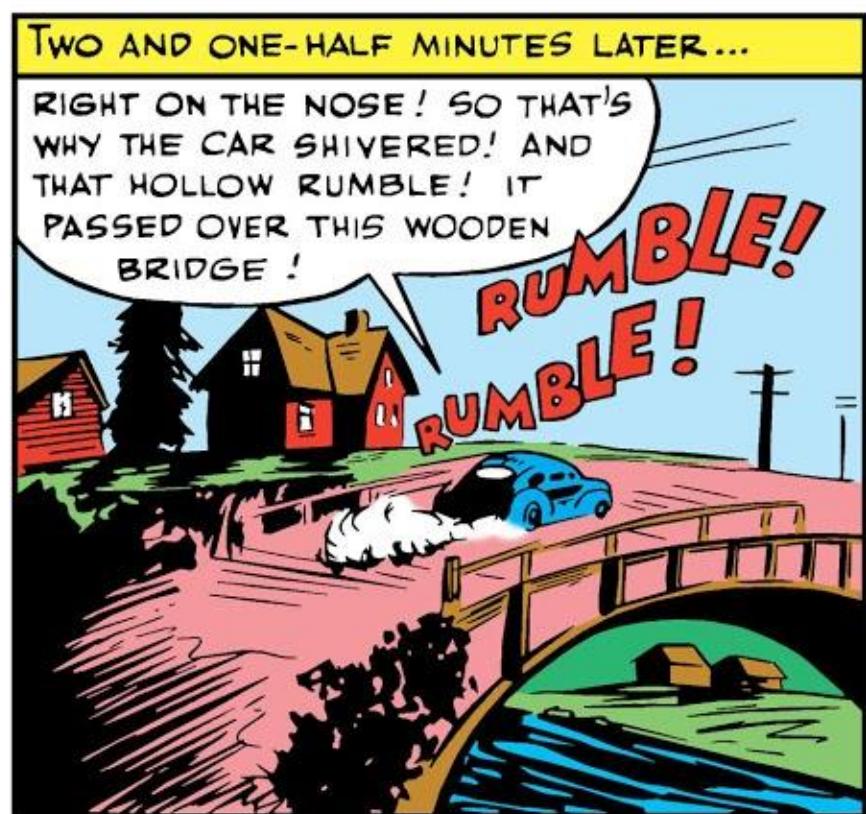
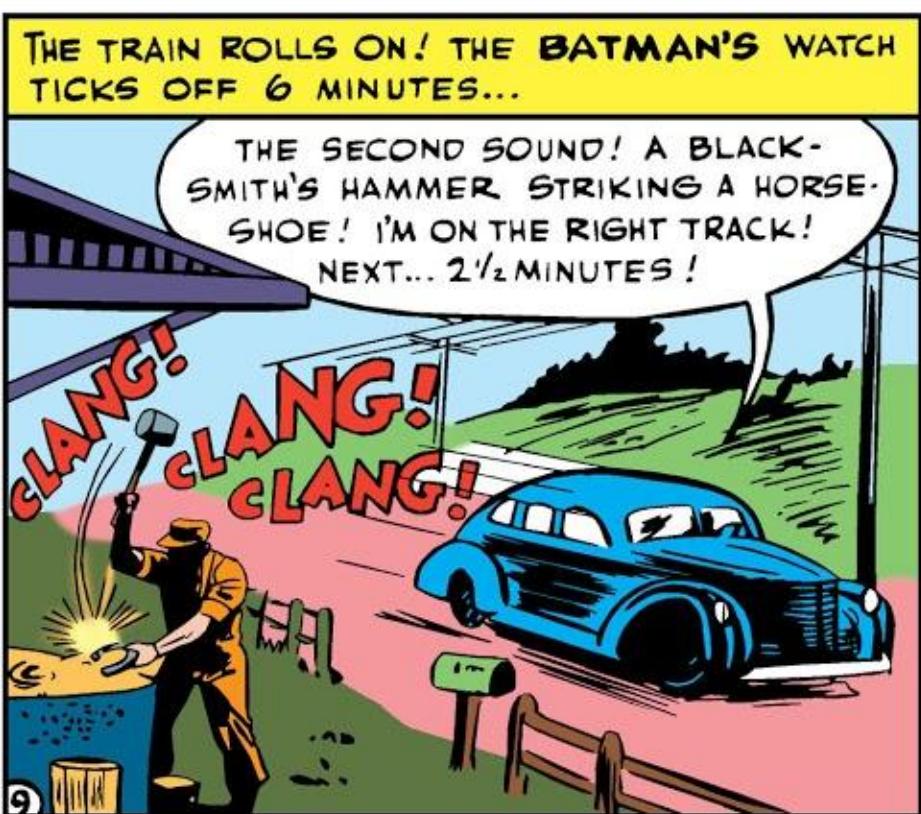
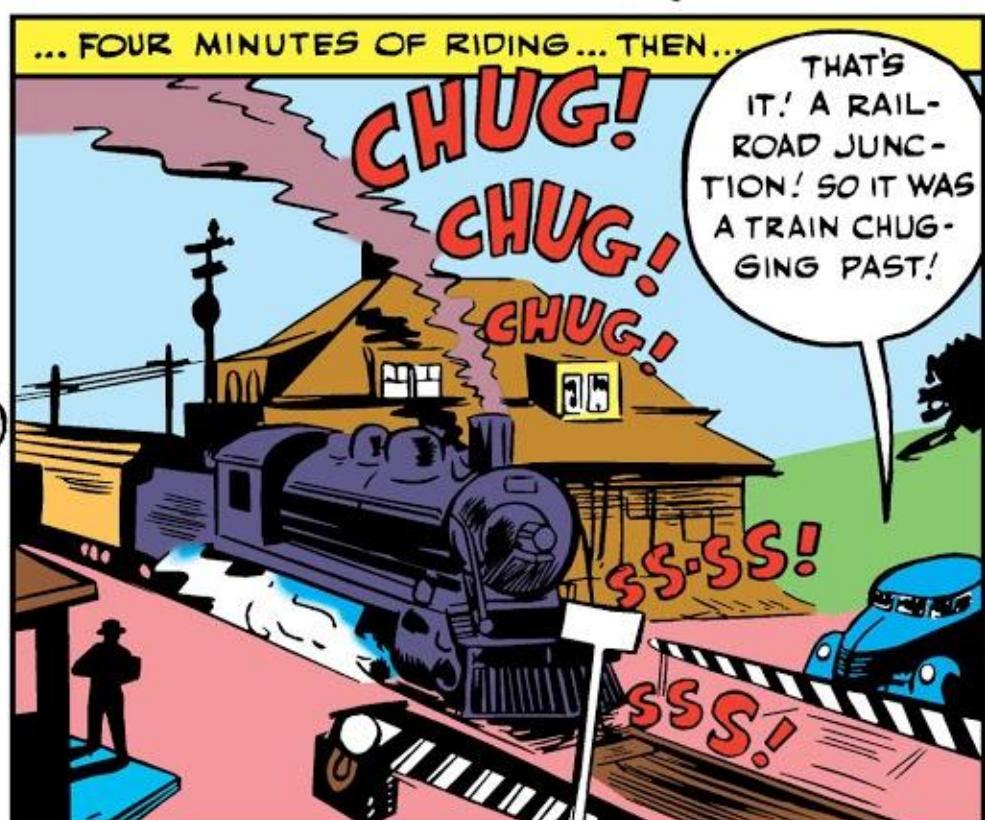
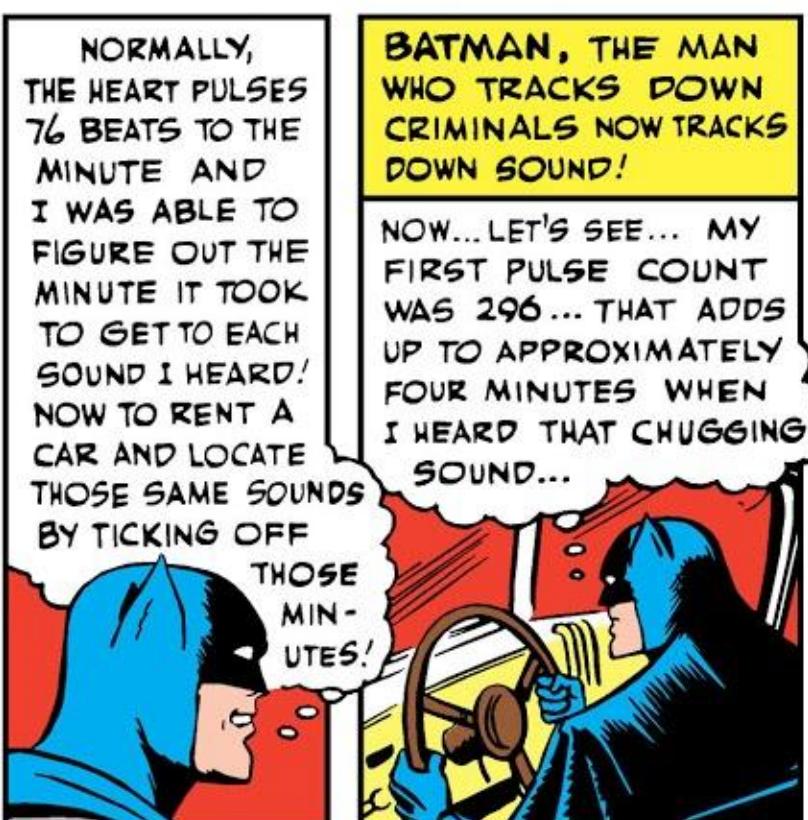
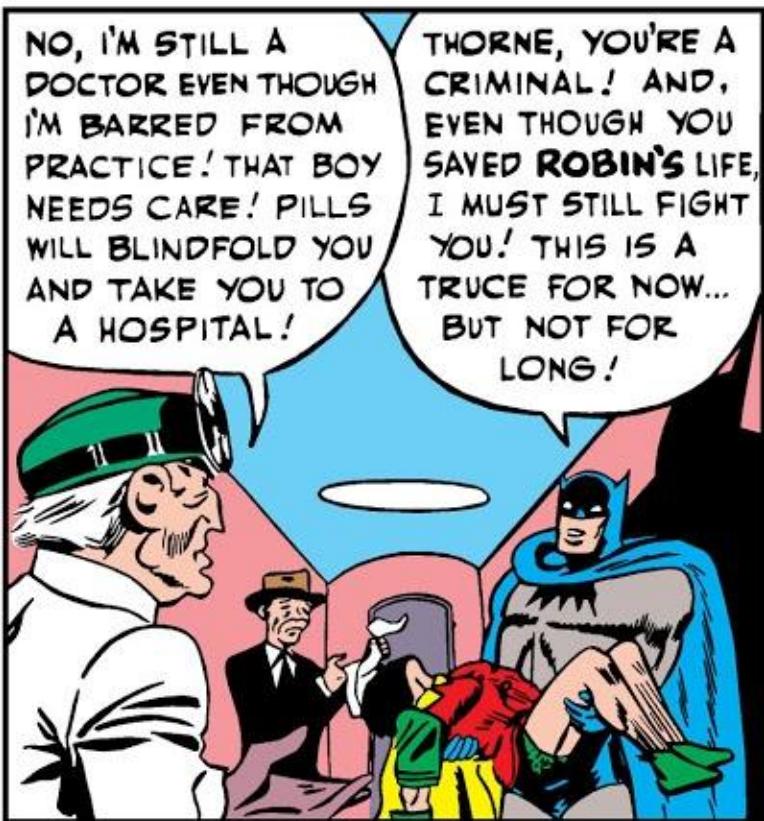


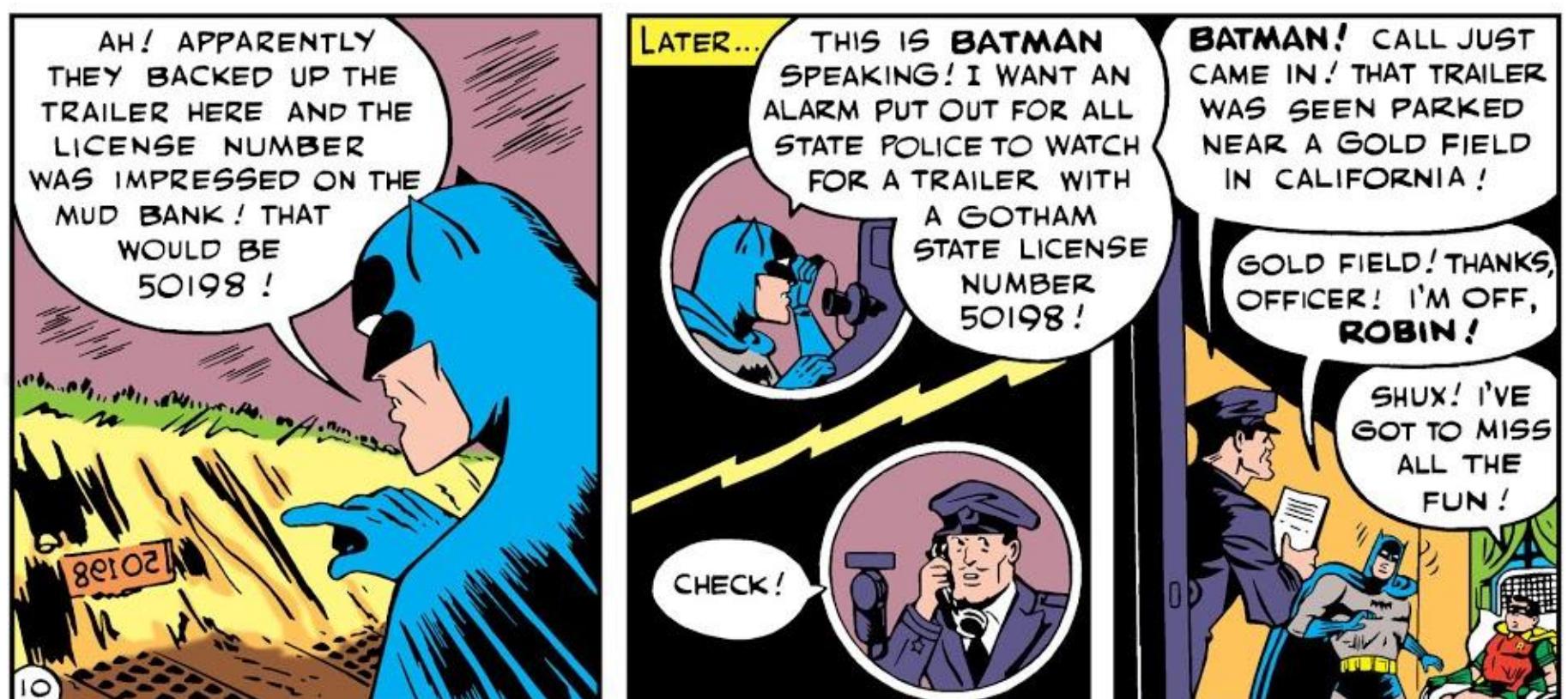
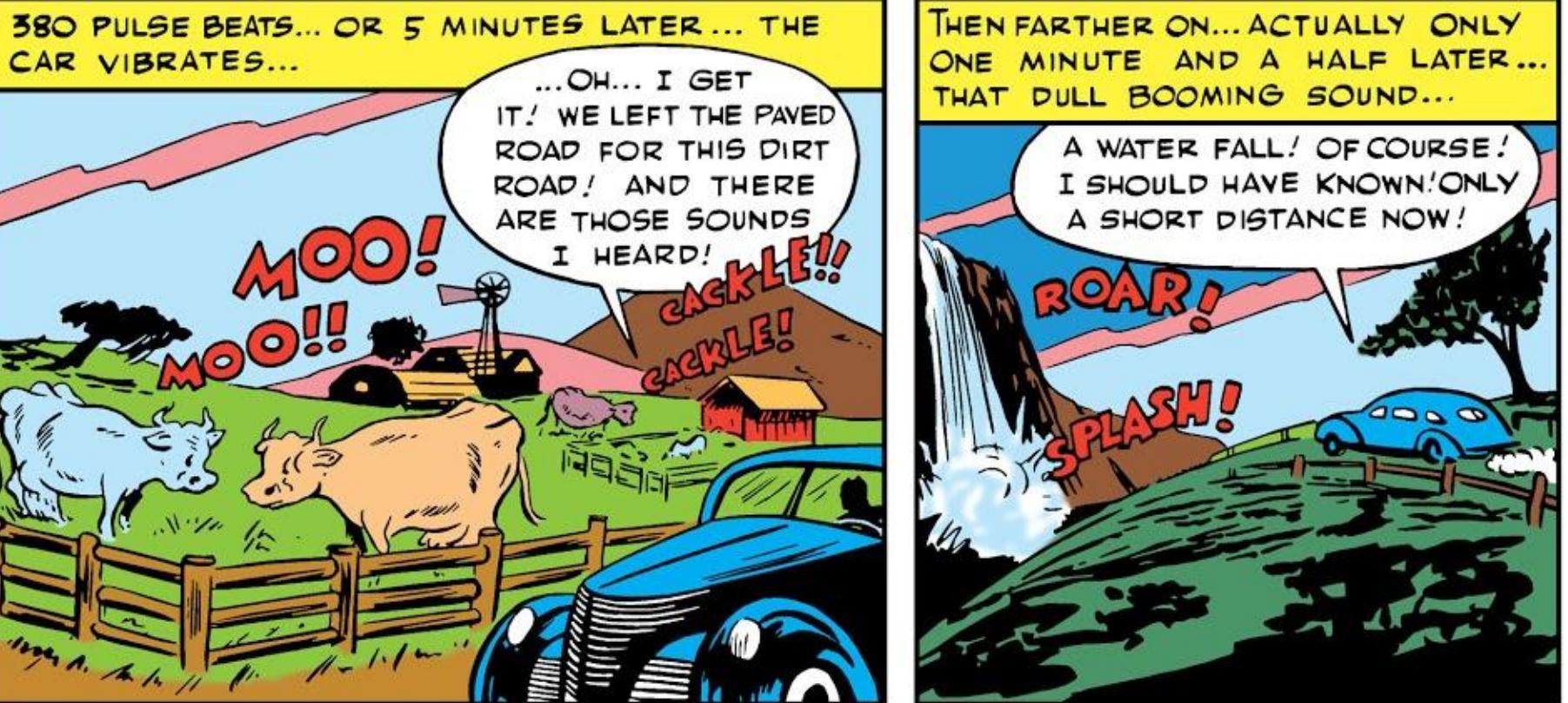
INSTINCTIVELY, THO' DAZED AND PISTOL-WHIPPED, ROBIN TRIES TO LEND AID TO HIS FIGHTING COMPANION...



SNARLING ANGRILY, THE COWARDLY KILLER RETALIATES WITH THE ONE WEAPON HIS KIND ALWAYS RESORTS TO -- A GUN! THE MUZZLE THUNDERS FLAME AND...







THE OUTSKIRTS OF THAT CERTAIN GOLD FIELD...

THAT'S THE GOLD-DREDGE!
IT SCOOPS UP THE GRAVEL, WASHES
IT THROUGH A SCREEN AND TRAPS
THE GOLD! INTERESTED, DOC?

AND THE
COMPANY SAFE
HOLDS ALL THAT GOLD?
HM-M! YES, TIPPER...
I'M VERY INTERESTED!

BUT DOCTOR THORNE IS
STILL INTERESTED IN
MEDICINE...

MOCO, YOUR WIFE
NEEDS AN OPERATION!
SHE'S IN A COMA NOW!
STAY WITH HER! I'LL
RETURN TONIGHT!



LATER, THOUGH...

DOC, I GOT A TIP THE
GUARDS ARE REMOVIN'
THE MONTH'S GOLD "TAKE"
TO THE ASSAY OFFICE TO-
MORROW MORNING!

THEN WE MUST
STRIKE TONIGHT
INSTEAD OF TOMORROW
NIGHT AS PLANNED!
GET YOUR MEN TO-
GETHER...
QUICKLY,
TIPPER!

OH... I JUST
REMEMBERED!
MOCO'S WIFE!
BUT IF I OPER-
ATE NOW I WON'T
BE ABLE TO PER-
FORM THE GOLD
OPERATION!
WHAT'LL I DO??

ALL THAT GOLD...
SO MUCH OF IT!
NO... I CAN'T
GIVE IT UP!
BESIDES, MOC-
CO'S WIFE ISN'T
TOO ILL! SHE
CAN WAIT! I'LL
OPERATE LATER!

BUT THOUGH HIS CRIME OPERATION
PROCEEDS SMOOTHLY, THE DOCTOR'S
CONSCIENCE BOthers HIM!

YOU ACT KINDA
NERVOUS TO-
NIGHT, DOC!
SOMETHIN' ON
YOUR MIND?

MOCO...
HE'S NOT
HERE!

NAW! I
CALLED THE MUGG
BUT HE SAYS HIS
WIFE IS SICK OR
SOMEPIN'!

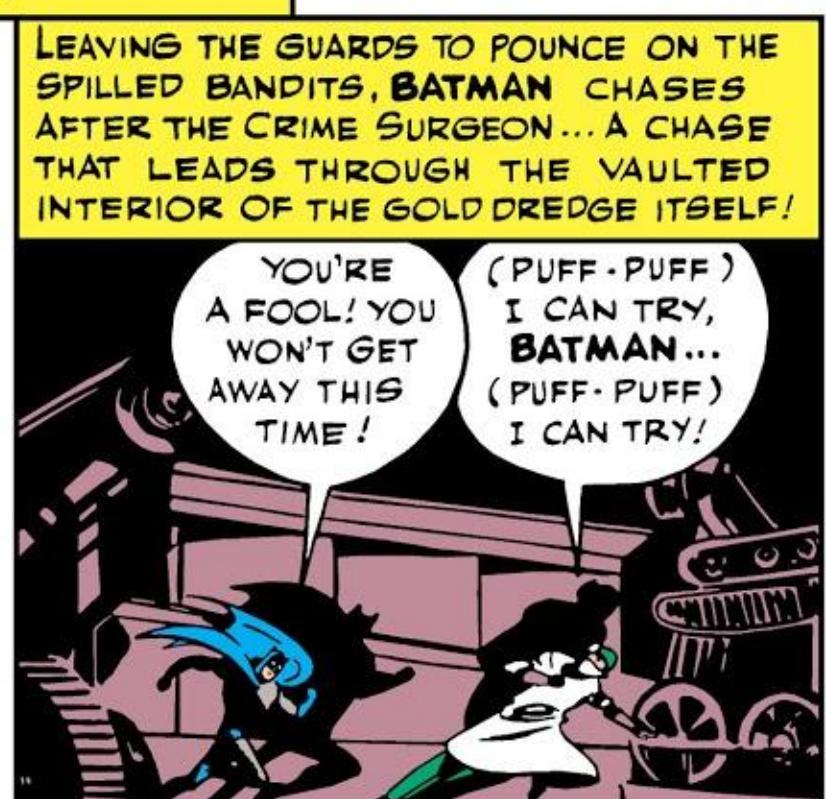
AND SO FOR THE FIRST
TIME, DR THORNE
BETRAYS HIS DOCTOR'S
OATH!

LEAVING THE GUARDS TO POUNCE ON THE
SPILLED BANDITS, BATMAN CHASES
AFTER THE CRIME SURGEON... A CHASE
THAT LEADS THROUGH THE VAULTED
INTERIOR OF THE GOLD DREDGE ITSELF!

AND SO
WILL YOU BE,
BROTHER... SO
WILL YOU
BE!

YOU'RE
A FOOL! YOU
WON'T GET
AWAY THIS
TIME!

(PUFF-PUFF)
I CAN TRY,
BATMAN...
(PUFF-PUFF)
I CAN TRY!



BUT THE TWISTING LABYRINTHS CONFUSE THE DOCTOR AND SOON HE IS TRAPPED ON THE DREDGE BALCONY!

NO USE, DOCTOR... I'M TAKING YOU IN! I'M... UGH!

I'M NOT GOING TO LET MY HANDS GET GNARLED AND TWISTED WITH HARD LABOR IN THE PRISON MACHINE SHOP!

BUT THE BATMAN PURSUES... DOGGEDLY... RELENTLESSLY... UNTIL THEY REACH THE VERY TOP OF THE GOLD-DREDGE!

I REPEAT- I'M-TAKING-YOU-IN!

UH!

THE DOCTOR'S FEAR OF PRISON IS EVEN GREATER THAN HIS FEAR OF BATMAN'S FISTS! SOMETHING SNAPS IN HIS BRAIN!....

I SWEAR IT! I'LL KILL YOU BEFORE I'LL GO BACK TO PRISON!

OH-OH HE'S GOT A SCALPEL!

BLAM

AGHH!

THE SCALPEL IS A FLASH OF SILVER AS IT SLASHES DOWN AT BATMAN! ABRUPTLY... A GUN THUNDERS... AND A BULLET SMASHES INTO THE DOCTOR'S SPINE!

MOCO HAS ARRIVED!

YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING RAT! SHE DIED! MY WIFE DIED! YOU COULD HAVE SAVED HER! BUT YOU DIDN'T! YOU DIDN'T!

WE'LL CATCH MOCO! HE'LL PAY FOR THIS!

BUT HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW! ANY DOCTOR WHO DESERTS A PATIENT SHOULD BE SHOT! GOING TO DIE NOW... GLAD IT'S ALL OVER! WON'T HAVE TO GO ON FIGHTING MYSELF ANYMORE...

DON'T THINK TOO BADLY OF ME, YES... I'LL TELL HIM... BATMAN... AND... I'LL TELL TELL ROBIN I'M SORRY HE WAS DOCTOR WAS HURT... TELL HIM... AHHHHHHH...

ROBIN HIS ASKING ABOUT HIM!

AND SO ENDS THE STRANGE CASE OF DOCTOR THORNE, THE CRIME SURGEON... THE DOCTOR WHO COULD NOT CURE HIMSELF!