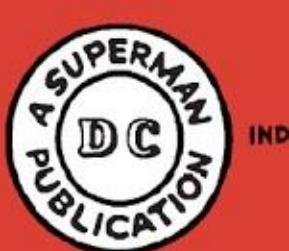


**BATMAN**  
No.21

FEB...MAR.  
TEN CENTS



# BATMAN

BATMAN & ROBIN  
WHOOP IT UP  
IN FOUR WHIRLWIND  
ACTION STORIES!

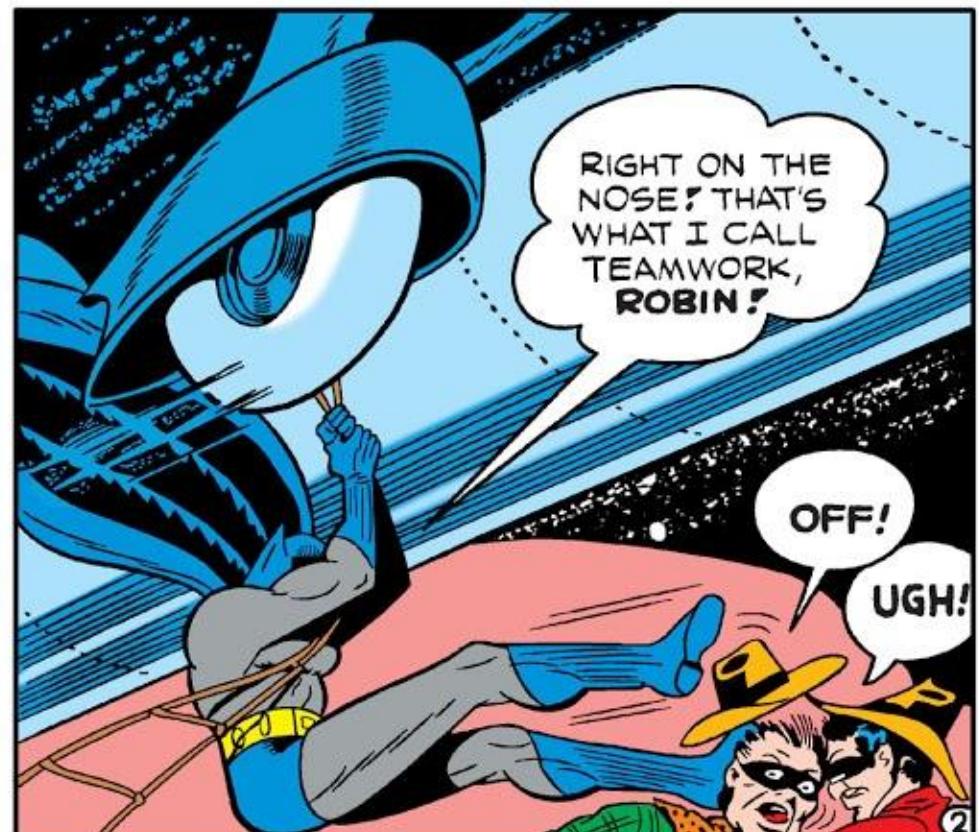
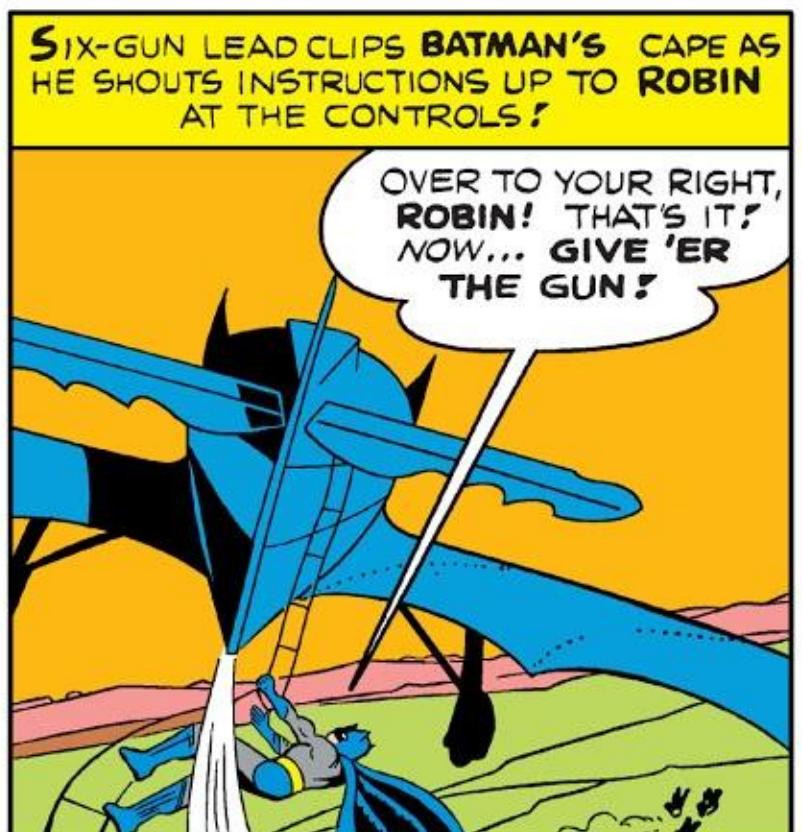
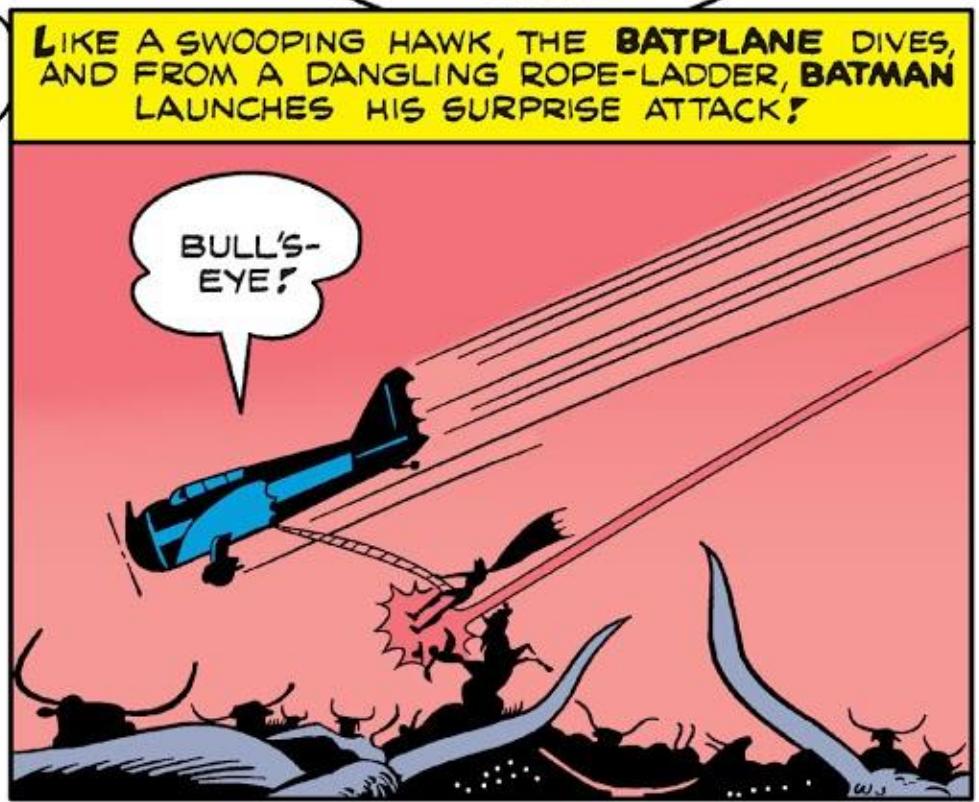
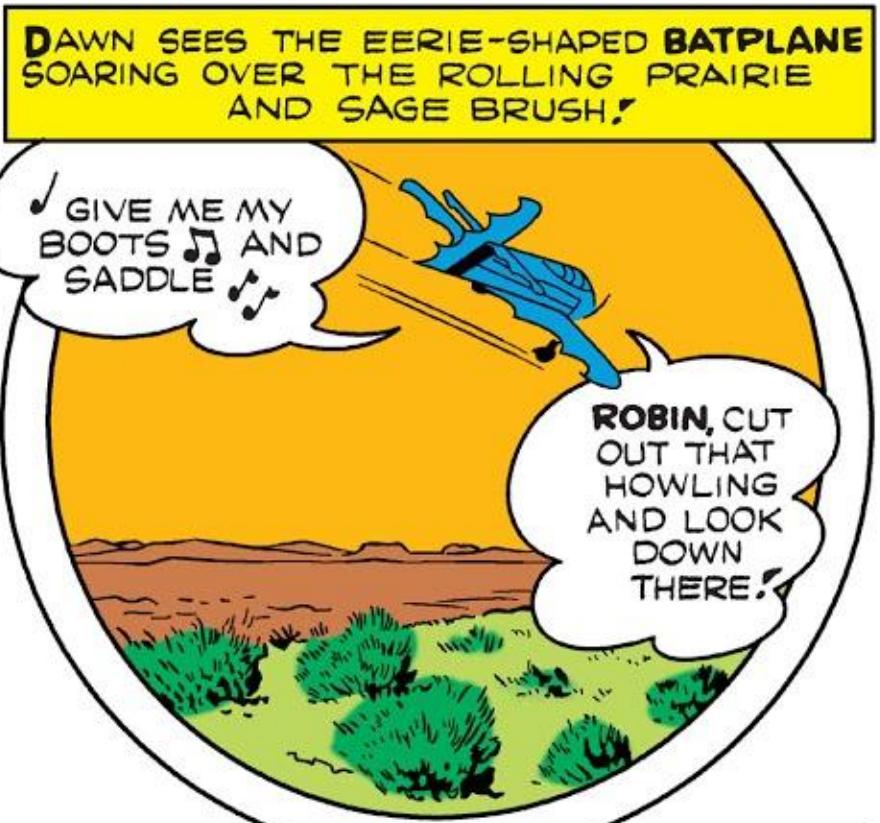
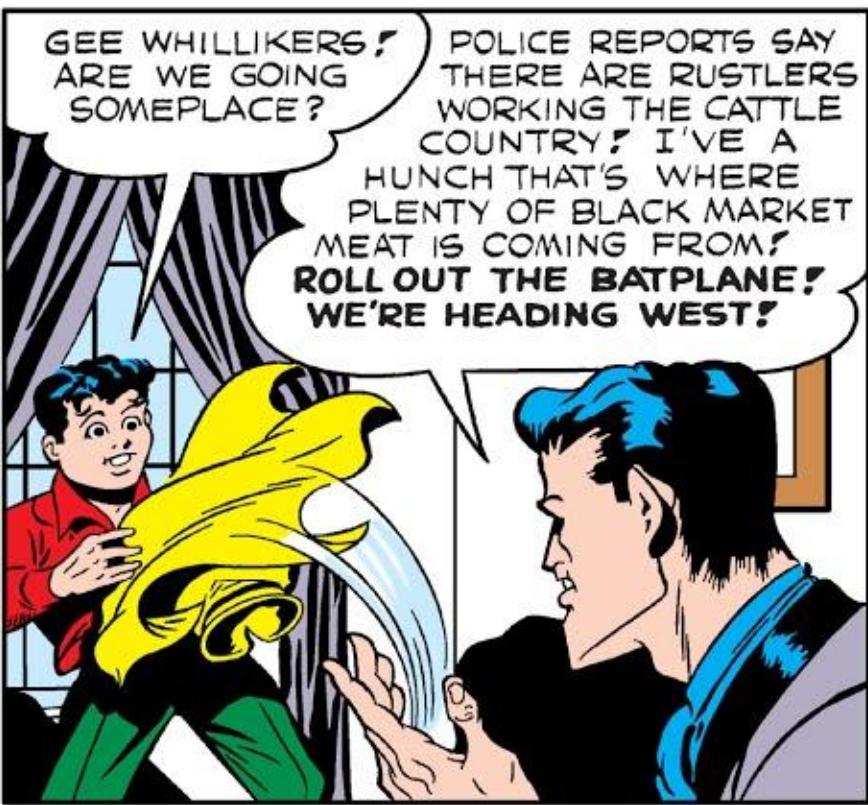


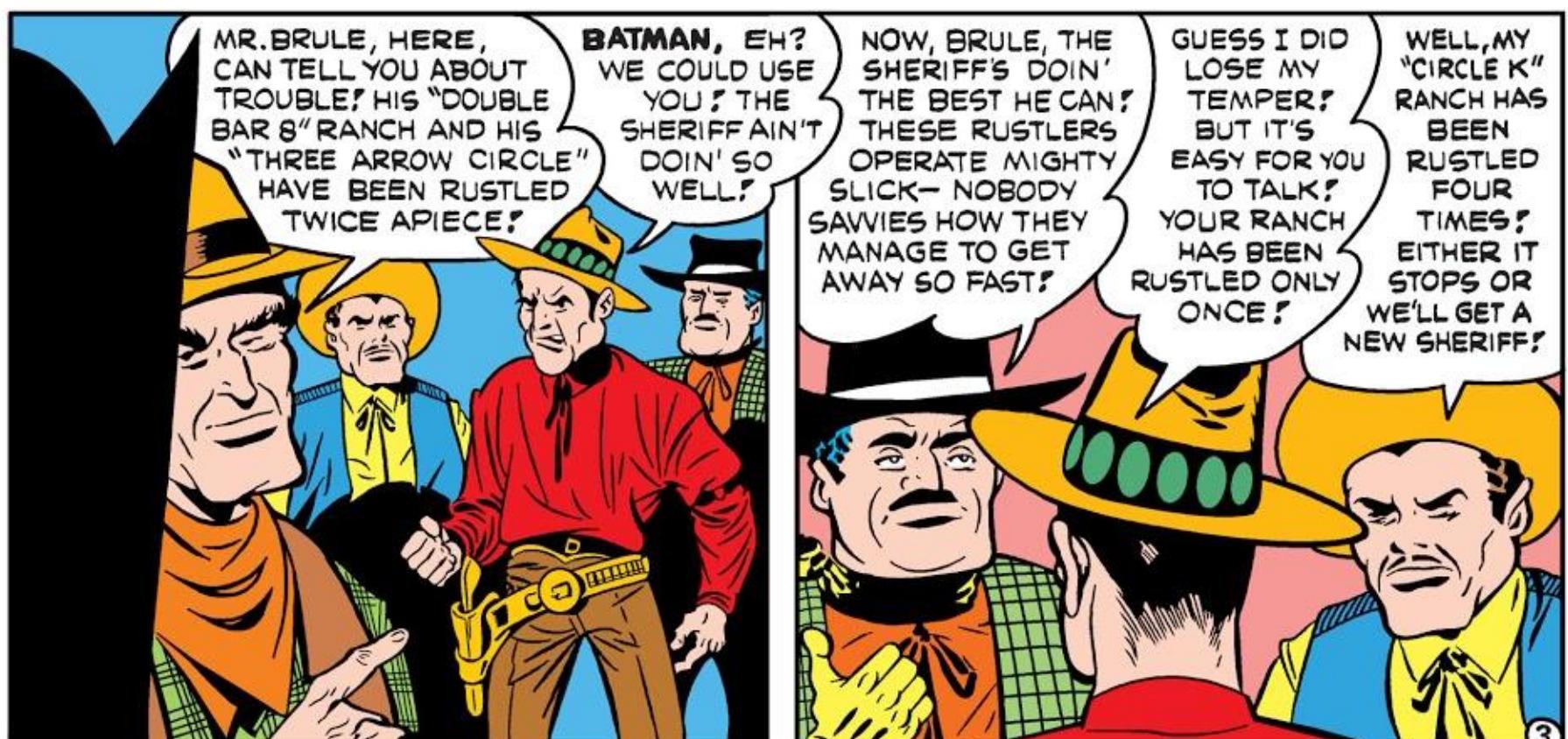
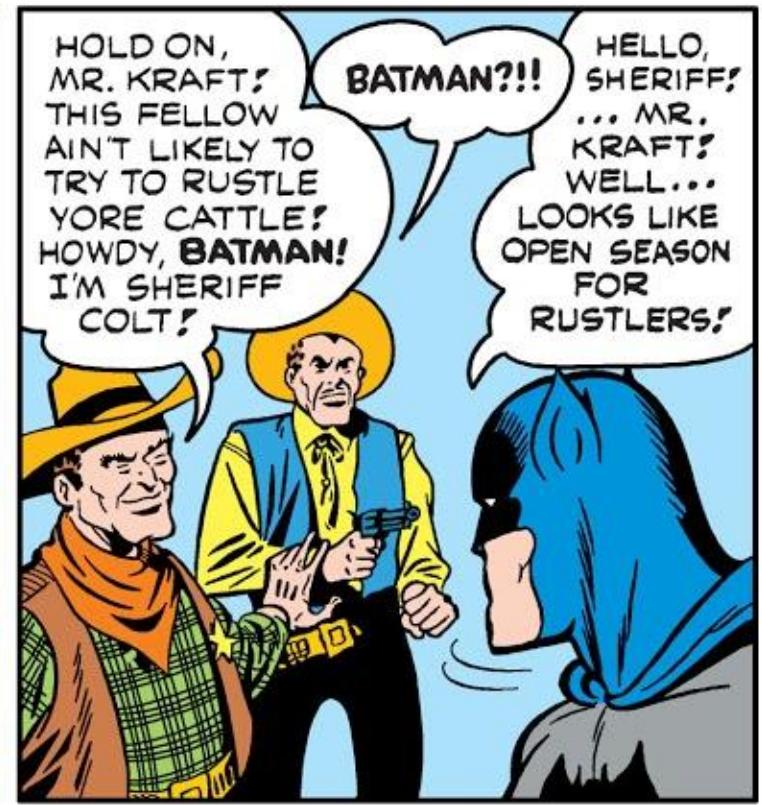
# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**

THEY ARE, INDEED! BUT  
WHAT OF THE DOMESTIC LEECH,  
GAIN? CAN THERE BE ANYONE MORE  
TRAITOROUS, MORE CONTEMPTIBLE  
THAN THOSE WHO SEEK TO CASH IN ON  
THE HARSHIPS OF WAR?  
THERE IS SUCH A GROUP IN THIS  
COUNTRY! WE CALL IT--THE BLACK  
MARKET!  
THESE ARE THE CRIMINALS WHO TAKE  
BATMAN AND ROBIN FROM THE EASTERN  
BIG TOWN TO THE WESTERN PRAIRIE TO  
CORRAL... "THE  
STREAMLINED RUSTLERS!"







LATER... WHEN THE RANCHERS LEAVE...

Y'SEE, BATMAN, THEIR COMBINED RANCHES COMPRIZE THE WHOLE COUNTY UNDER MY JURISDICTION! THE DRAFT TOOK MOST O' MY DEPUTIES, AND WITH ONLY A FEW MEN, IT'S NIGH IMPOSSIBLE TO PATROL THIS BIG AREA PROPERLY!

I CAN SEE THAT!

STILL LATER... AS BATMAN AND ROBIN LEAVE...

ROBIN, I'M WONDERING WHY COTTER WAS SO LUCKY AS TO HAVE HIS RANCH RUSTLED ONLY ONCE?

YES... HE SEEMS TOO INNOCENT FOR ME! VERY OFTEN, WHEN WE FIND THE GUILTY PERSON IN A MYSTERY, HE TURNS OUT TO BE A MAN LIKE COTTER!

THE NEXT MORNING... AS BATMAN VISITS WITH THE SHERIFF...

MR. BRULE! WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK AS JUMPY AS A JACKRABBIT!

HERE! READ THIS NOTE I JUST FOUND IN MY MAIL!

I HEAR YOU BEEN COMPLAINING YOUR CATTLE HAVE BEEN RUSTLED TOO MANY TIMES! JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU'VE REALLY GOT SOMETHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT I'M GOING TO RUSTLE YOUR TWO RANCHES AGAIN!

BATMAN, HELP ME! STAY ON MY RANCH... DISGUISE YOURSELF... DO ANYTHING... BUT STOP THEM RUSTLERS!

"DISGUISE"... HMM-MM... THAT'S AN IDEA!

SHORE! THAT WAY YOU COULD FOLLOW 'EM TO THEIR HIDEOUT! THEN ME AND M' DEPUTIES WOULD CLOSE IN! BUT WE GOTTA KEEP YORE DISGUISE A SECRET!

NIGHTFALL... AND ON BRULE'S THREE ARROW CIRCLE RANCH, COWHANDS RELAX UNDER THE LIGHT OF A FULL WESTERN MOON...

HOW ABOUT A TUNE ON YORE BANJO, BOSS? ME'N THE BOYS FEEL LIKE KEEYODELIN' TONIGHT!

SURE!

AND AS BRULE PLINKS THE STRINGS OF HIS BANJO, TWO INVITED GUESTS WATCH WITH INTEREST—BATMAN AND ROBIN IN DISGUISE!

HOME... HOME ON THE RANGE..

GOSH, IT'S SO PEACEFUL YOU COULD ALMOST FORGET THIS RUSTLING BUSINESS!

WELL, DON'T FORGET IT! THE CHIEF RUSTLER MAY BE RIGHT HERE AMONG US THIS VERY MINUTE!

AND LURKING ON THE FRINGE OF THE CROWD ARE TWO OTHER INVITED GUESTS... COTTER AND KRAFT!

I WONDER IF BRULE IS PLAYING TO KEEP UP HIS COURAGE?

HE'LL NEED PLENTY OF IT BEFORE THE NIGHT'S OVER! MAYBE HE'LL BE PLAYING A DIFFERENT TUNE TOMORROW!

LATER... WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO THEIR ROOM, THEY FIND A NOTE UNDER THEIR DOOR?

WHAT'S IT SAY?

BATMAN & ROBIN:  
MEET ME AT EXACTLY ELEVEN  
O'CLOCK AT THE FORKED STREAM  
ON THE RANGE. HAVE INFORMATION  
ABOUT RUSTLERS.  
—A FRIEND

SAY, HOW COULD THIS "FRIEND" KNOW WE'RE BATMAN AND ROBIN? THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A SECRET!

APPARENTLY IT ISN'T ANYMORE, SO WE MIGHT AS WELL SHUCK THIS DISGUISE AND GET STARTED!

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SHARP! THE FORKED STREAM WHERE STEERS GRAZE IN QUIET COMPLACENCY...

I DON'T SEE ANYBODY! DO YOU?

ONLY STEERS! I THINK WE GOT A BUM STEER, IF YOU ASK ME!

SUDDENLY!! CRASHING SHOTS AND YELLS SPLIT THE NIGHT! LIKE A RELEASED AVALANCHE THE PANIC-CRAZED CATTLE THUNDER INTO A MIGHTY STAMPEDE!

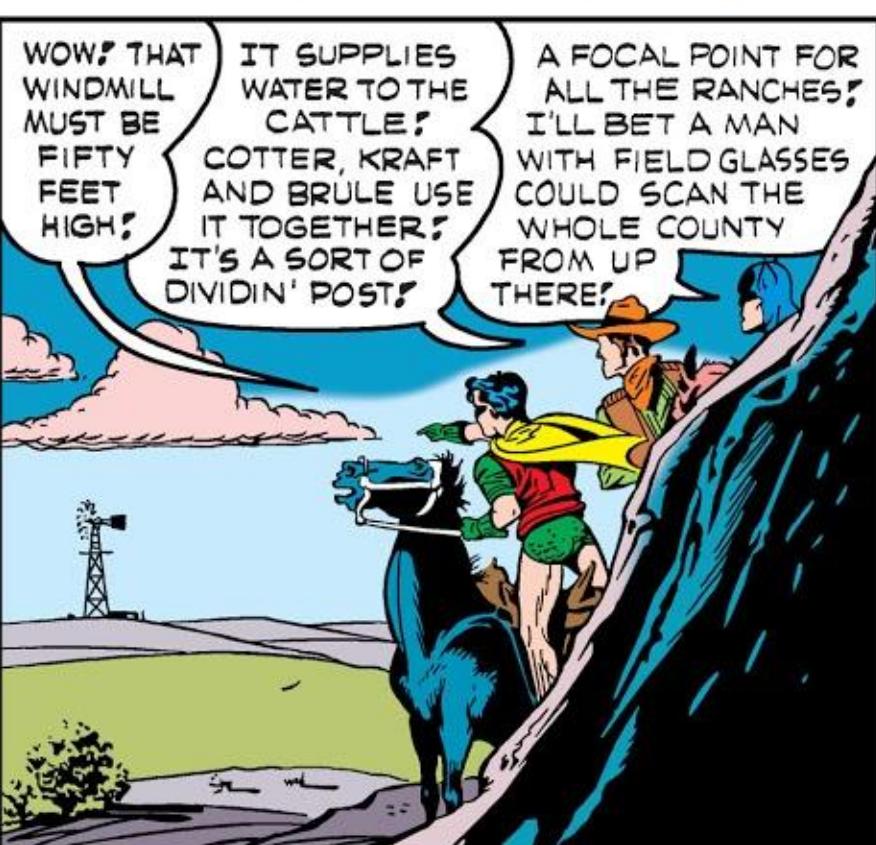
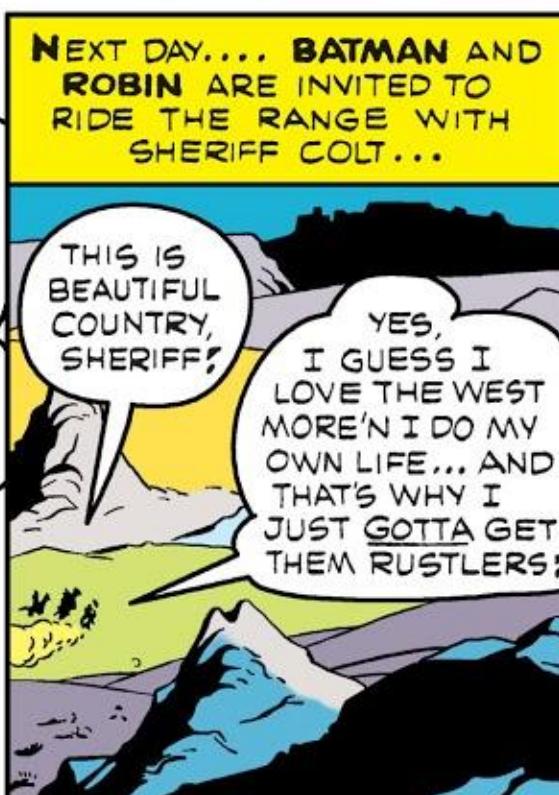
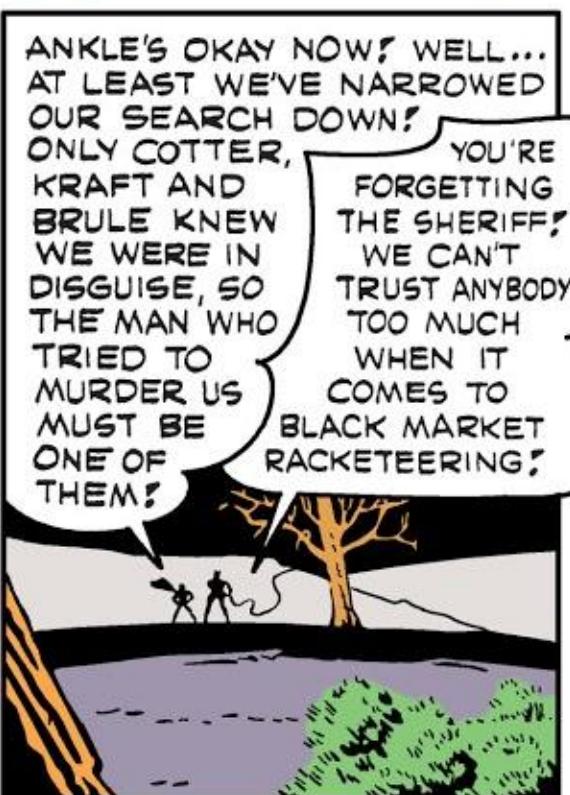
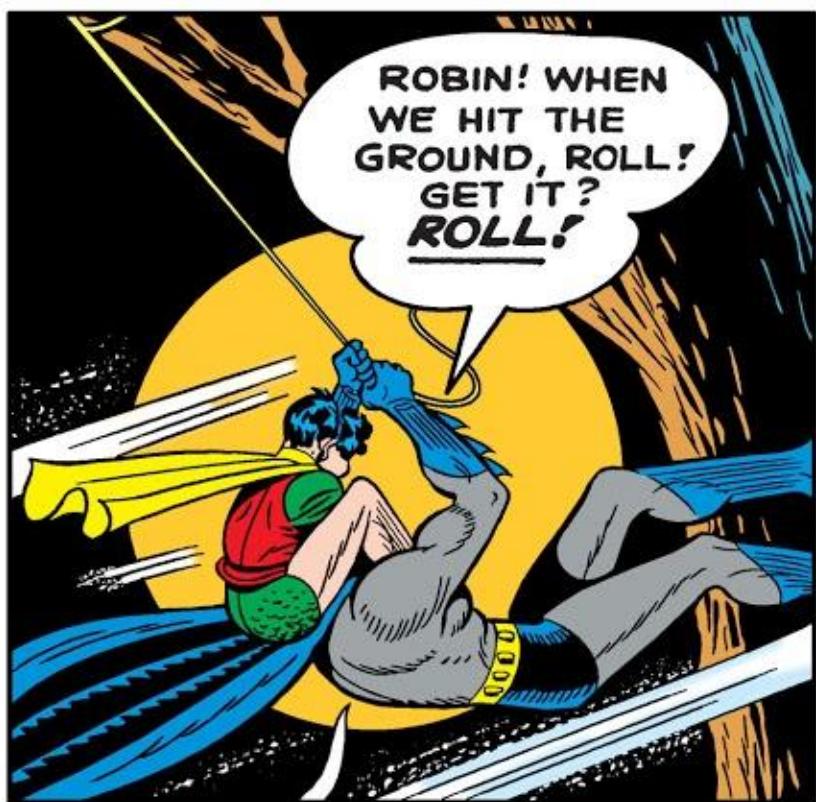


KNIFE-EDGED HOOFS GRIND EARTH TO POWDER, CHOP GRASS TO SHREDS... AS THE IRRESISTIBLE TIDE OF MADDENED STEERS POUND FORWARD!



A QUICK FLIP AND THE BATMAN'S STEEL-SILK ROPE WHISTLES THROUGH THE AIR TO WHIP 'ROUND A STOUT BRANCH!





BUT UPON NEARING THE WINDMILL, BATMAN RECEIVES A SURPRISE...



WITH THE STEALTH OF A MOUNTAIN CAT, BATMAN PADS SILENTLY TO THE TOWER AND STARTS TO CLIMB...



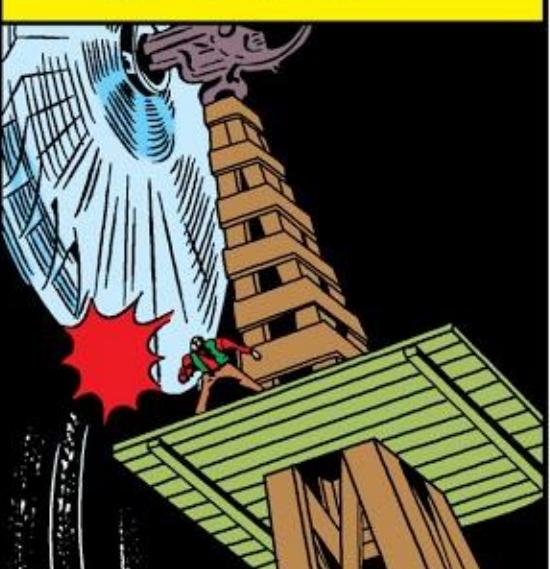
WHOA! SOMEONE HERE BEFORE... AND SENDING OUT LIGHT SIGNALS! I'LL BET THAT'S HOW THE RUSTLERS KNOW IT'S ALL CLEAR TO GO AHEAD!



BUT THE RUSTLER IS A TOUGH ANTAGONIST!



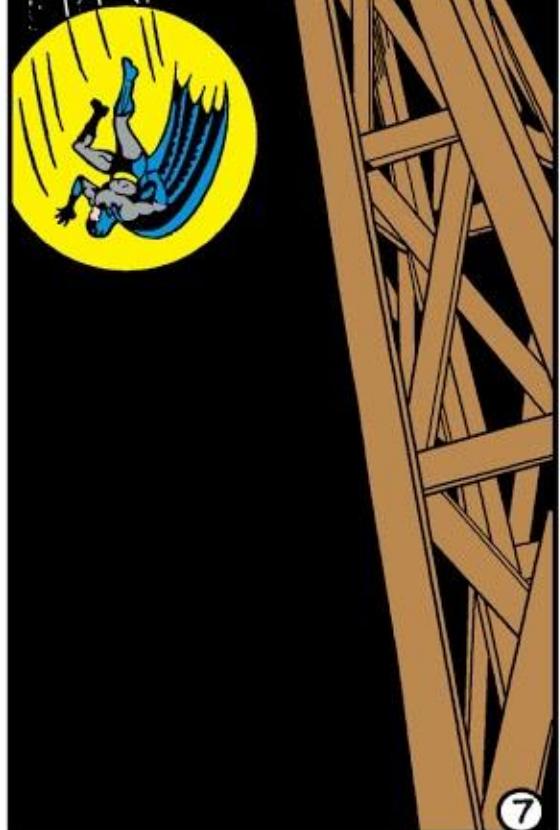
A WHIRLING WINDMILL BLADE CLIPS BATMAN ON THE TEMPLE... AND BATS HIM OFF THE SCAFFOLD INTO EMPTY SPACE!



GASPING FOR BREATH, BATMAN BENDS OVER IN AGONY FROM THE FOWL KICK... BUT A FIERCE HAYMAKER STRAIGHTENS HIM UP... SENDS HIM TOTTERING BACK.... BACK....



...BACK TO THE CHURNING BLADES!



BUT BATMAN'S LUCKY STAR IS SHINING! HIS TUMBLING BODY DROPS LIKE A PLUMMET— INTO THE WATER TANK!



JUST ONE SHOT AND IT'S ALL OVER! NO! THAT'S TOO QUICK! I WANT HIM TO SUFFER! I GOT A BETTER IDEA! HA! HA! YEAH!



HALF-UNCONSCIOUS FROM PUNISHMENT AND HIS EXERTIONS, BATMAN SLUMPS WEARILY TO THE GROUND... WHEN AN ARM PROPS HIM UP... A FRIENDLY VOICE SPEAKS ALMOST HYPNOTICALLY...

GO AHEAD... CHEW IT... IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD... THAT'S IT... NOW SWALLOW IT... THAT'S FINE... HA! HA!



HALF AN HOUR LATER...

HE'S COMING TO, SHERIFF! THANK HEAVENS!



WHAT...?

HEE! HEE! GO 'WAY! GO 'WAY! HEE! HEE! HEEEEEEHEEEEEEEEE!

HUH?



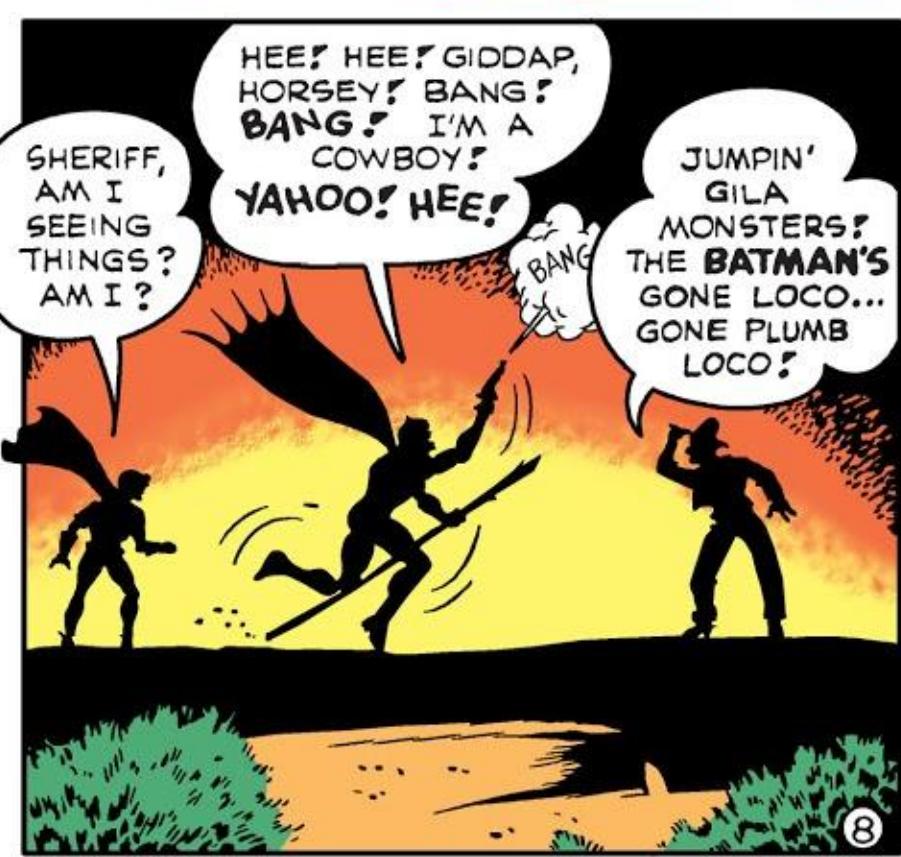
HEE! HEE! GUN! WANT GUN! MAKE BIG NOISE! BANG! BANG! HEE! HEE!

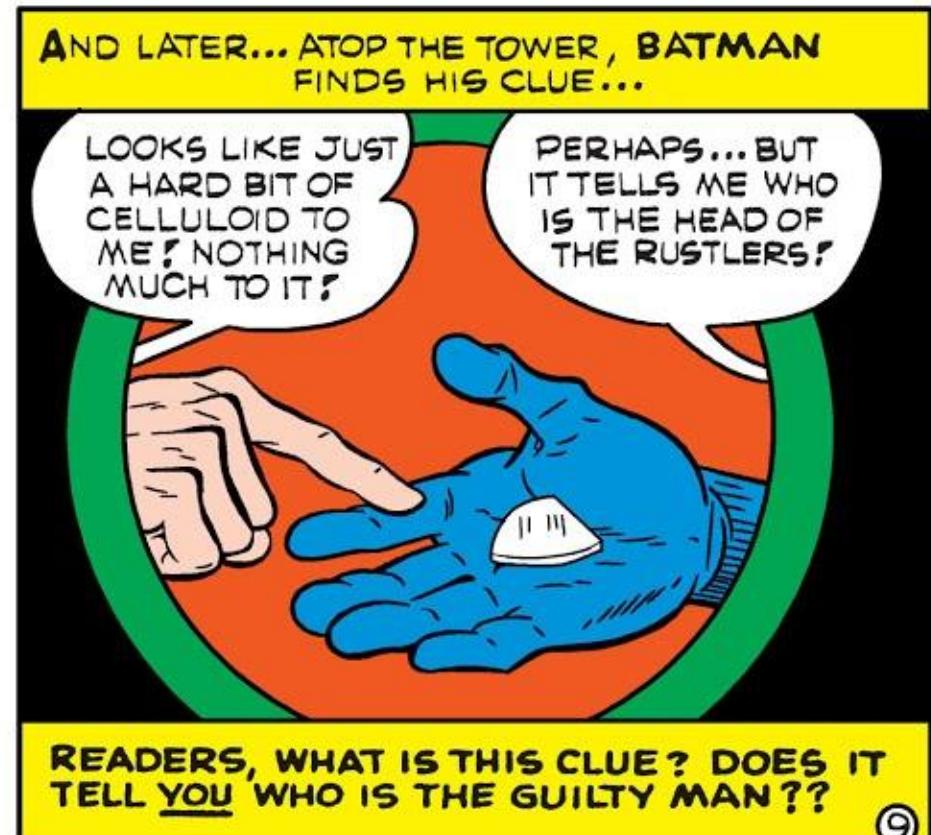
HEY!

SHERIFF, AM I SEEING THINGS? AM I?

HEE! HEE! GIDDAP, HORSEY! BANG! BANG! I'M A COWBOY! YAHOO! HEE!

JUMPIN' GILA MONSTERS! THE BATMAN'S GONE LOCO... GONE PLUMB LOCO!





**BATMAN EXPLAINS A PLAN OF STRATEGY...**

**ACCORDINGLY... THAT DAY...**

YOU WANT SHERIFF COLT TO TELL EVERYONE YOU'RE DEAD?

I GET IT! THE GUILTY HOMBRE WILL THINK HIS SECRET'S SAFE, AND HE'LL CLIMB THAT TOWER AGAIN TO SIGNAL HIS MEN— BUT WE'LL NAB HIM FIRST!

NO! NO AMBUSH! I WANT THAT SIGNAL TO GO THROUGH SO IT WILL BRING THE RUSTLING GANG OUT OF HIDING AND WE CAN TRAP THE WHOLE MOB ALL ATONCE!

BATMAN... DEAD? ARE YOU SURE?

SHORE I'M SHORE! TAKIN' HIS BODY HOME NOW BY BATPLANE!

WELL... I GUESS THE RUSTLERS WILL BE GLAD OF THAT! WITH BATMAN OUT OF THE WAY THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING NOW!



THAT NIGHT... ATOP A REARING TELEGRAPH TOWER...

HE'S SENDING SIGNALS TO THE NORTH! AND KRAFT'S "CIRCLE K" RANCH LIES NORTH! THIS IS IT!



SOON AFTER... A POSSE OF VENGEFUL LAWMEN GALLOPS ACROSS THE PRAIRIE!

C'MON, MEN! WE'VE GOTTA TAKE THEM RUSTLERS BY SURPRISE!



AND WHEN THE "CIRCLE K" RANGE IS REACHED, THE STREAMLINED METHOD OF MODERN RUSTLING IS REVEALED!

A TRAILER?? SO THAT'S HOW THEY WERE ABLE TO GIT AWAY SO FAST!

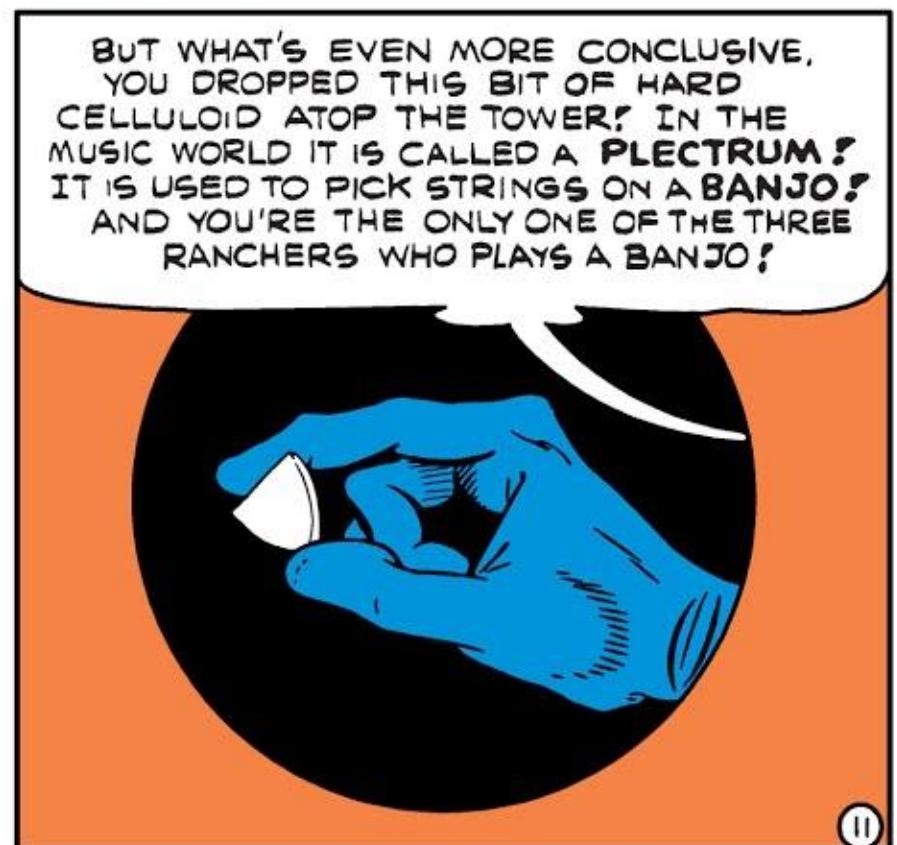
THEY'D LOAD ABOUT THIRTY HEAD OF STOCK INTO THAT TRAILER AND SPEED OFF WITH THEM BEFORE YOUR HORSES COULD EVEN GET CLOSE!

AN ANGRY BLAST FROM THE SHERIFF'S SIX-GUN IS THE SIGNAL FOR THE CHARGE!

LET THE COYOTES HAVE IT!

AND IN THE MIDST OF THAT GUN BATTLE, BATMAN AND ROBIN FLASH THEIR OWN BRAND OF BATTLE TACTICS!

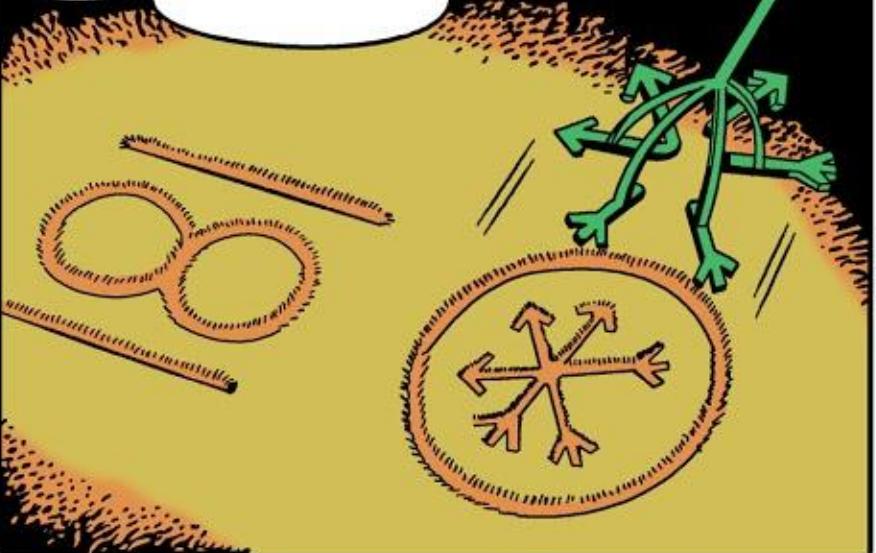
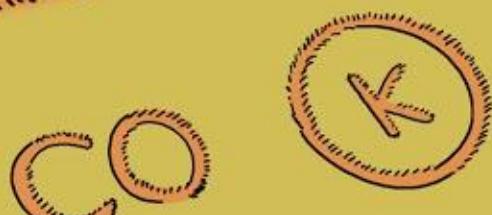




THEN, WITH A STICK, BATMAN TRACES TWO DESIGNS IN THE SOFT TURF...

AND HERE'S MY FINAL PROOF; I'VE TRACED THE BRANDS OF COTTER'S RANCH, THE "CO"... AND KRAFT'S RANCH, THE "CIRCLE K". NOW OVER THEM I WILL SUPERIMPOSE THE MARKINGS OF THE TWO BRANDING IRONS FOUND IN THE RUSTLERS' TRUCK...

...AND NOW THEY BECOME THE "DOUBLE BAR 8" RANCH AND THE "THREE ARROW CIRCLE" RANCH... THE NAMES AND BRANDS OF YOUR TWO RANCHES!



YOU TOOK THOSE NAMES AND BRANDS FOR YOUR RANCHES SO YOU COULD RUSTLE COTTER AND KRAFT'S CATTLE AND MINGLE THEM WITH YOUR OWN HERD!

YA SNOOPIN' TENDERFOOT! I'LL...



MAYBE I CAN'T GET YOU, BUT I CAN GET THIS BRAT YOU'RE SO FOND OF!... AGH!



I GUESS IT WAS OL' BETSY WHO HAD THE LAST WORD IN THIS TRIGGER TALK!



NEXT MORNING BATMAN AND ROBIN PREPARE TO BREAK CAMP...

BATMAN, YOU AND ROBIN DID US A SWELL SERVICE BY HELPIN' TO WIPE OUT THOSE BLACK MARKET RUSTLERS!

SHERIFF, IF PEOPLE WOULDN'T PATRONIZE BLACK MARKET TRAITORS AND THINK MORE OF THEIR COUNTRY INSTEAD OF THEIR STOMACHS, THAT WOULD BE THE GREATEST SERVICE OF ALL!

AND SO, IT'S GOODBYE TO THE LAND OF THE PURPLE SAGE AS THE BATPLANE WINGS EASTWARD OVER THE ROLLING PRAIRIE...

WELL, SHERIFF, THERE THEY GO... BACK TO THE BIG CITY!

YEP...THEY DID THEIR PART...LET'S HOPE OTHER FOLKS DO THEIRS!?

THE END

# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

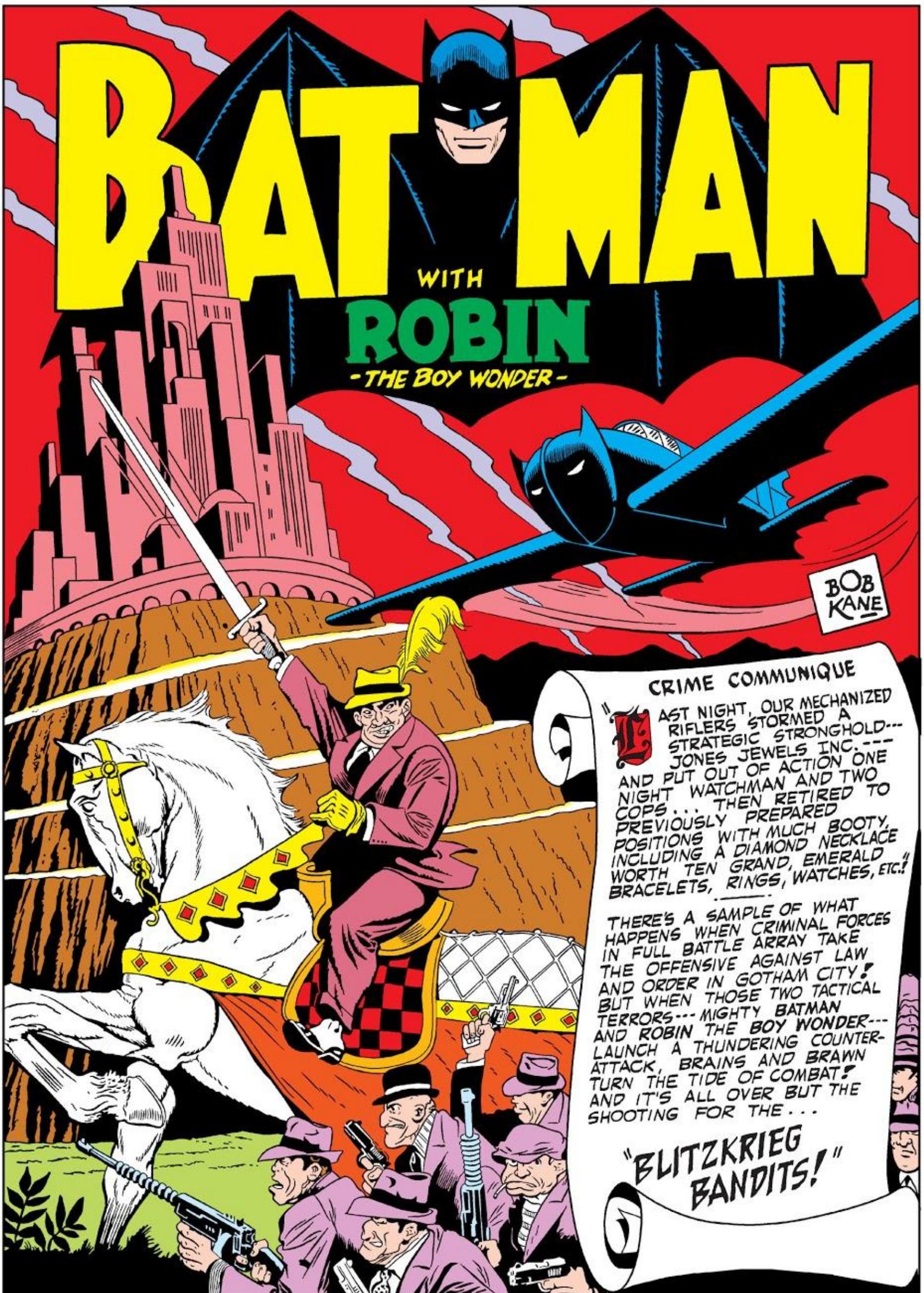
BOB  
KANE

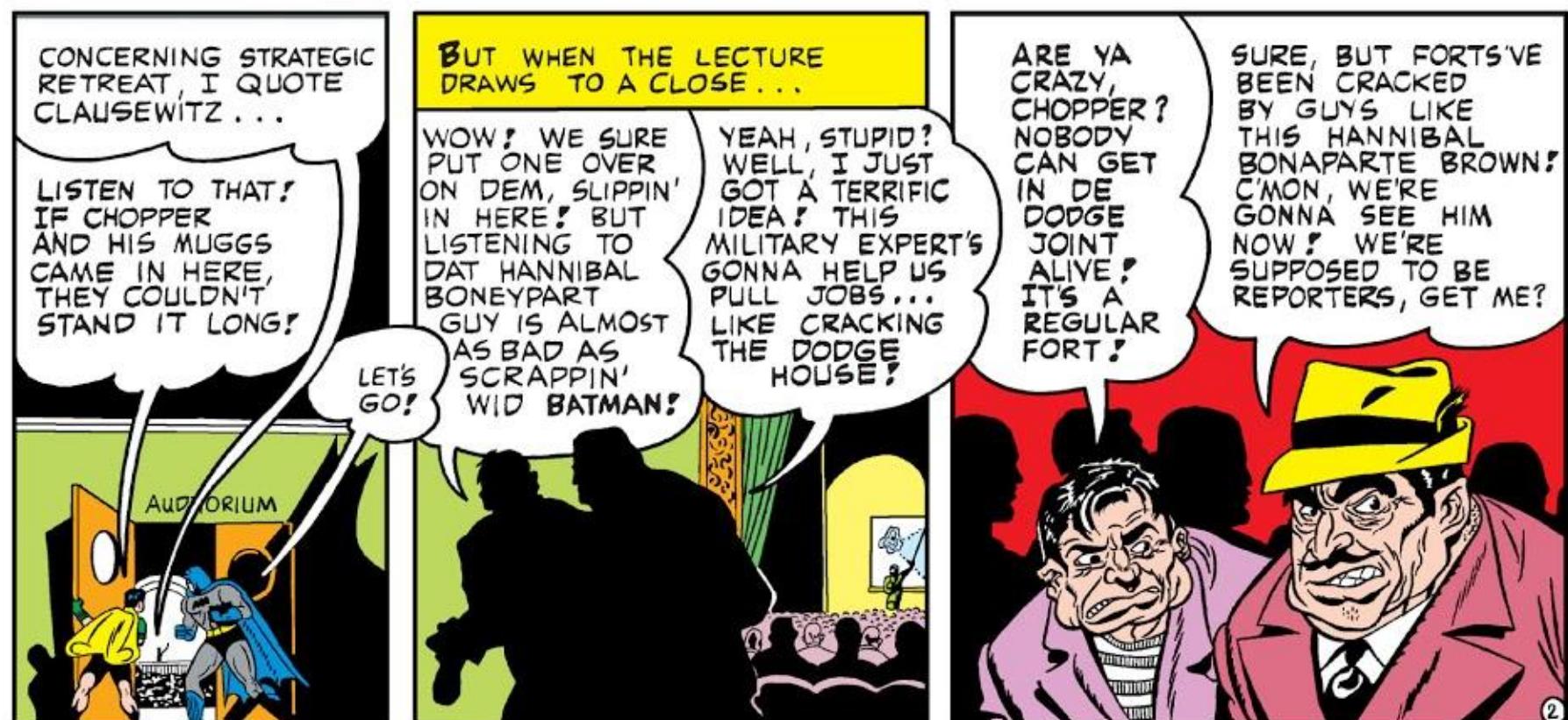
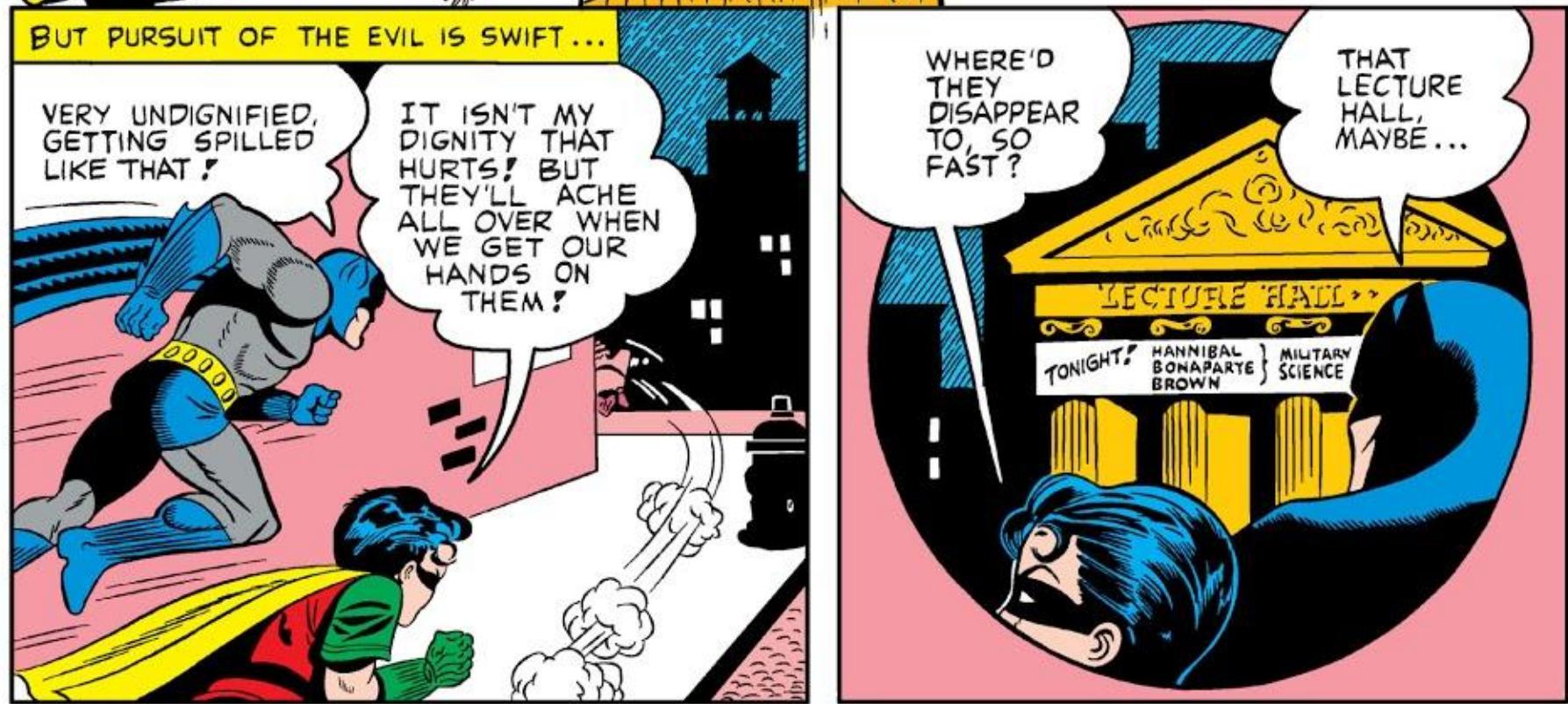
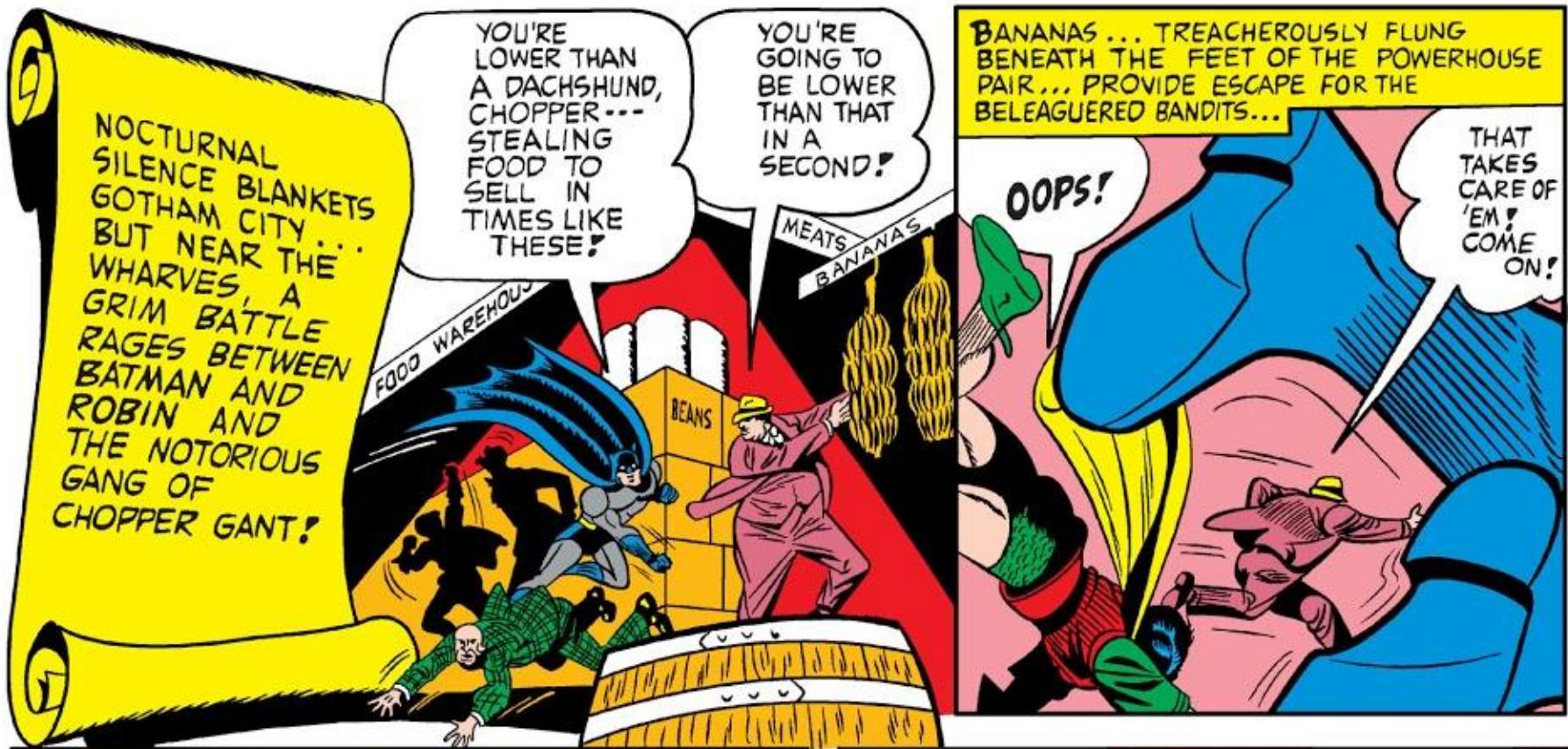
## CRIME COMMUNIQUE

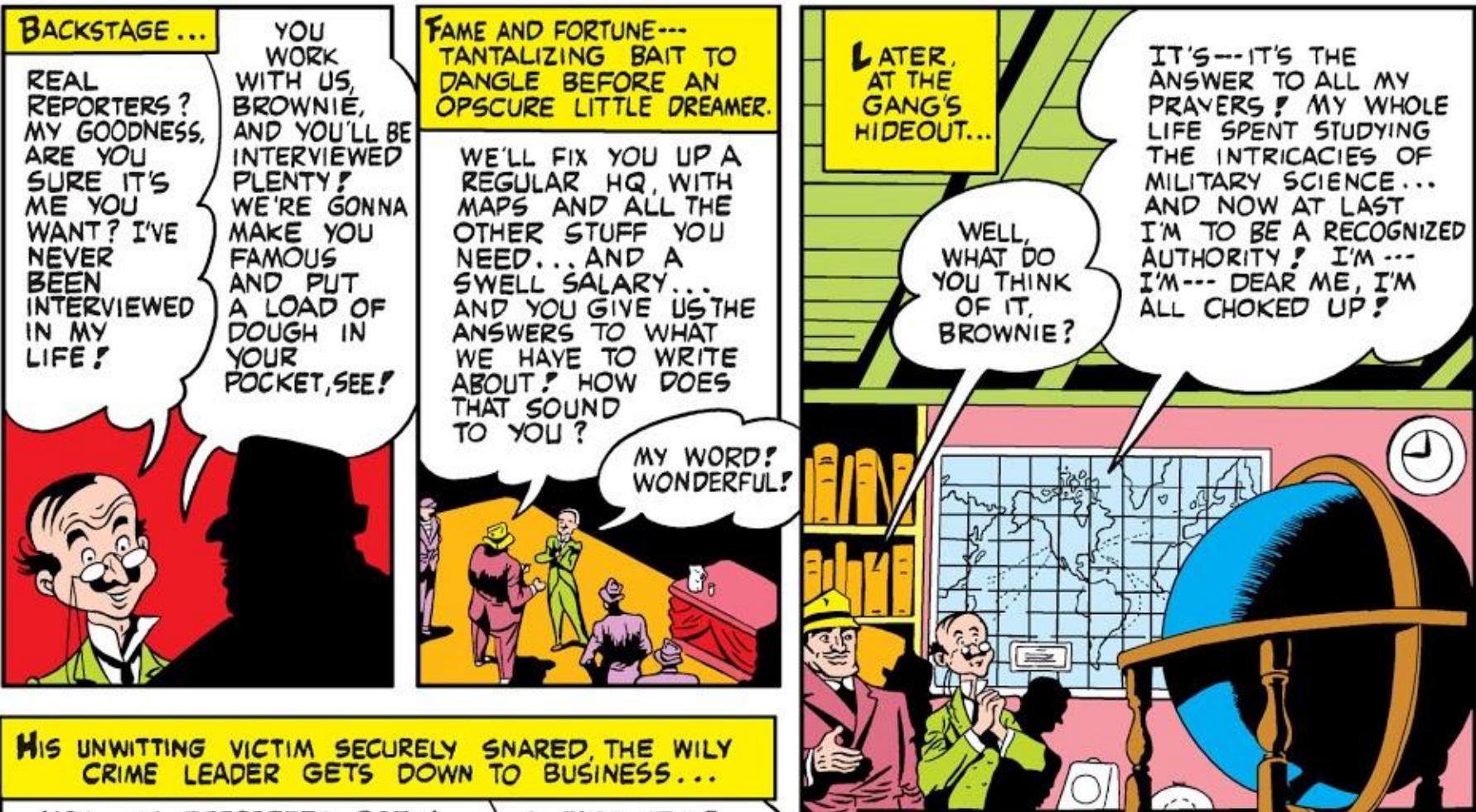
"LAST NIGHT, OUR MECHANIZED RIFLERS STORMED A STRATEGIC STRONGHOLD--- JONES JEWELS INC. --- AND PUT OUT OF ACTION ONE NIGHT WATCHMAN AND TWO COPS... THEN RETIRED TO PREVIOUSLY PREPARED POSITIONS WITH MUCH BOOTY, INCLUDING A DIAMOND NECKLACE WORTH TEN GRAND, EMERALD BRACELETS, RINGS, WATCHES, ETC!"

THERE'S A SAMPLE OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CRIMINAL FORCES IN FULL BATTLE ARRAY TAKE THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST LAW AND ORDER IN GOTHAM CITY! BUT WHEN THOSE TWO TACTICAL TERRORS---MIGHTY BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER--- LAUNCH A THUNDERING COUNTER-ATTACK, BRAINS AND BRAWN TURN THE TIDE OF COMBAT! AND IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE SHOOTING FOR THE...

"BLITZKRIEG  
BANDITS!"







HIS UNWITTING VICTIM SECURELY SNARED, THE WILY CRIME LEADER GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS...

NOW, US REPORTERS GOT A PROBLEM TO WRITE ABOUT FOR TOMORROW? WE GOTTA FIGURE OUT HOW TO CAPTURE AN ENEMY FORT UP ON A MOUNTAIN TOP! OUR MOB... UH--- SOLDIERS CAN'T JUST WALK UP AND TAKE IT BECAUSE THEY'D BE CUT DOWN BY MACHINE GUNS! SO HOW CAN IT BE DONE?

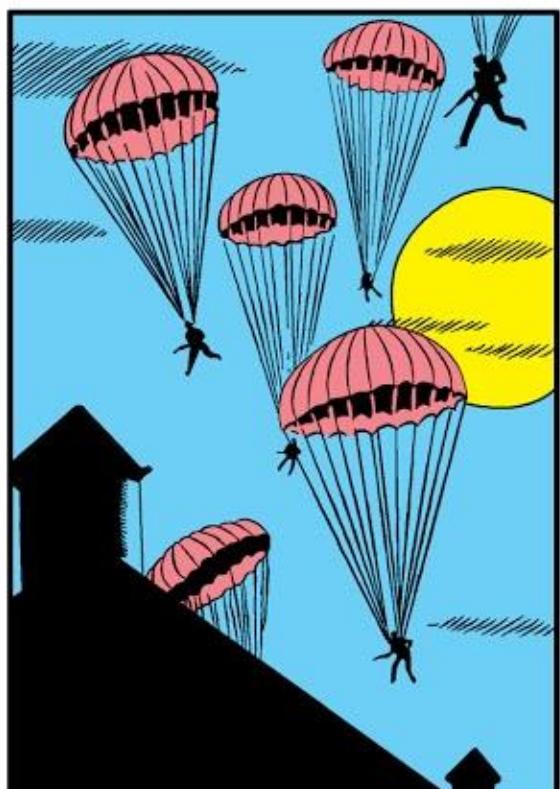
A FASCINATING PROBLEM, MR. GANT! FRONTAL ASSAULT WOULD BE INEFFECTIVE, AS YOU SUGGEST! I WOULD ADVISE THE MOST MODERN METHODS DEVISED!

A "FASCINATING PROBLEM" IN PURE STRATEGY TO UNWORLDLY HANNIBAL BONAPARTE BROWN... BUT A SHREWD CRIMINAL PLAN TO CHOPPER GANT! FOR THAT NIGHT...

BOY, YER A GENIUS. CHOPPER... GETTING DAT EXPERT TO TELL US HOW TO CRACK DE DODGE JOINT! OLD MAN DODGE TINKS IT'S BURGLAR PROOF! IS HE GONNA BE SURPRISED?

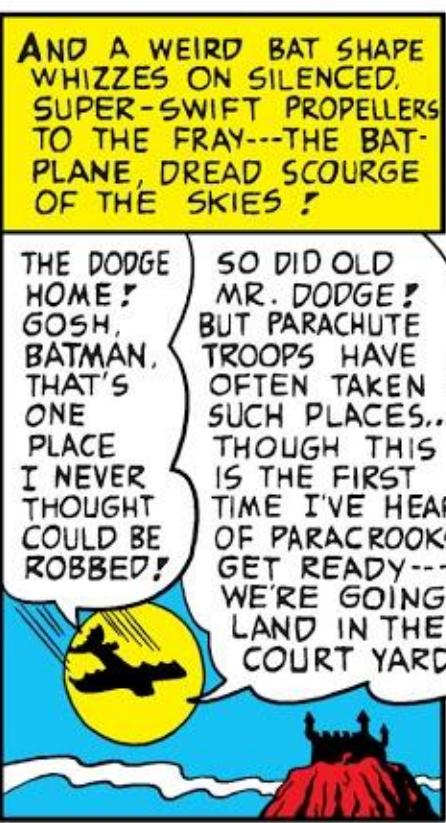
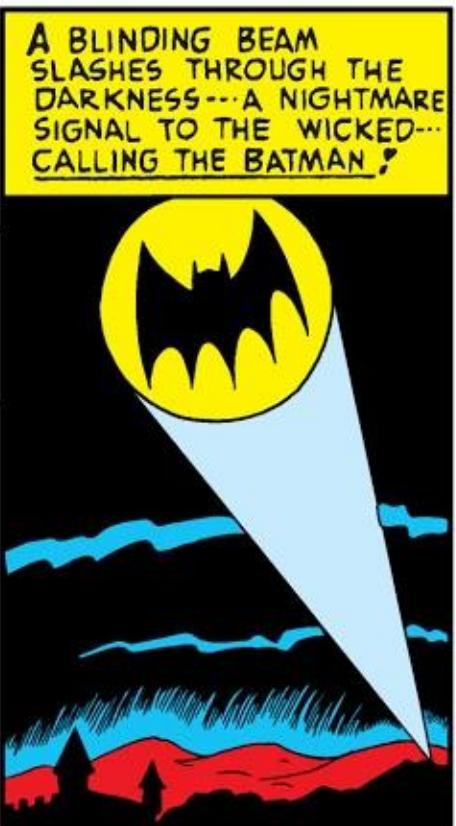
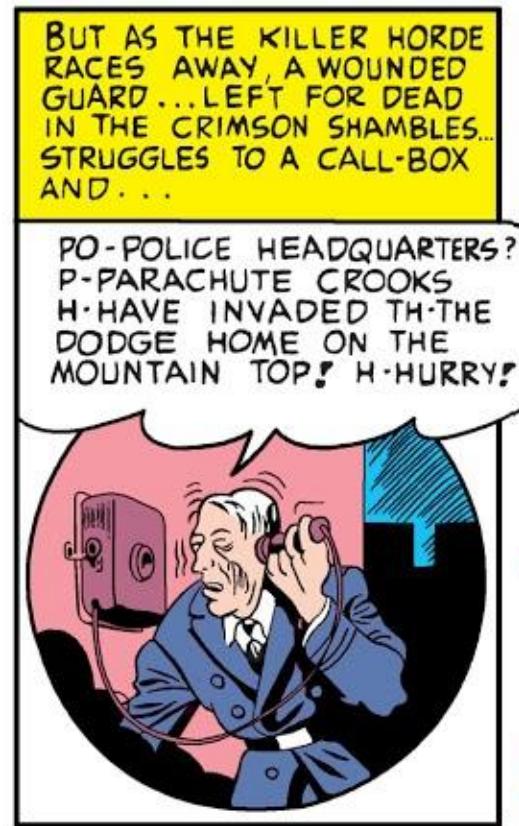
YEAH! AFTER WE LOOT THE PLACE, WE'LL MEET THE PLANE IN THE VALLEY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN!

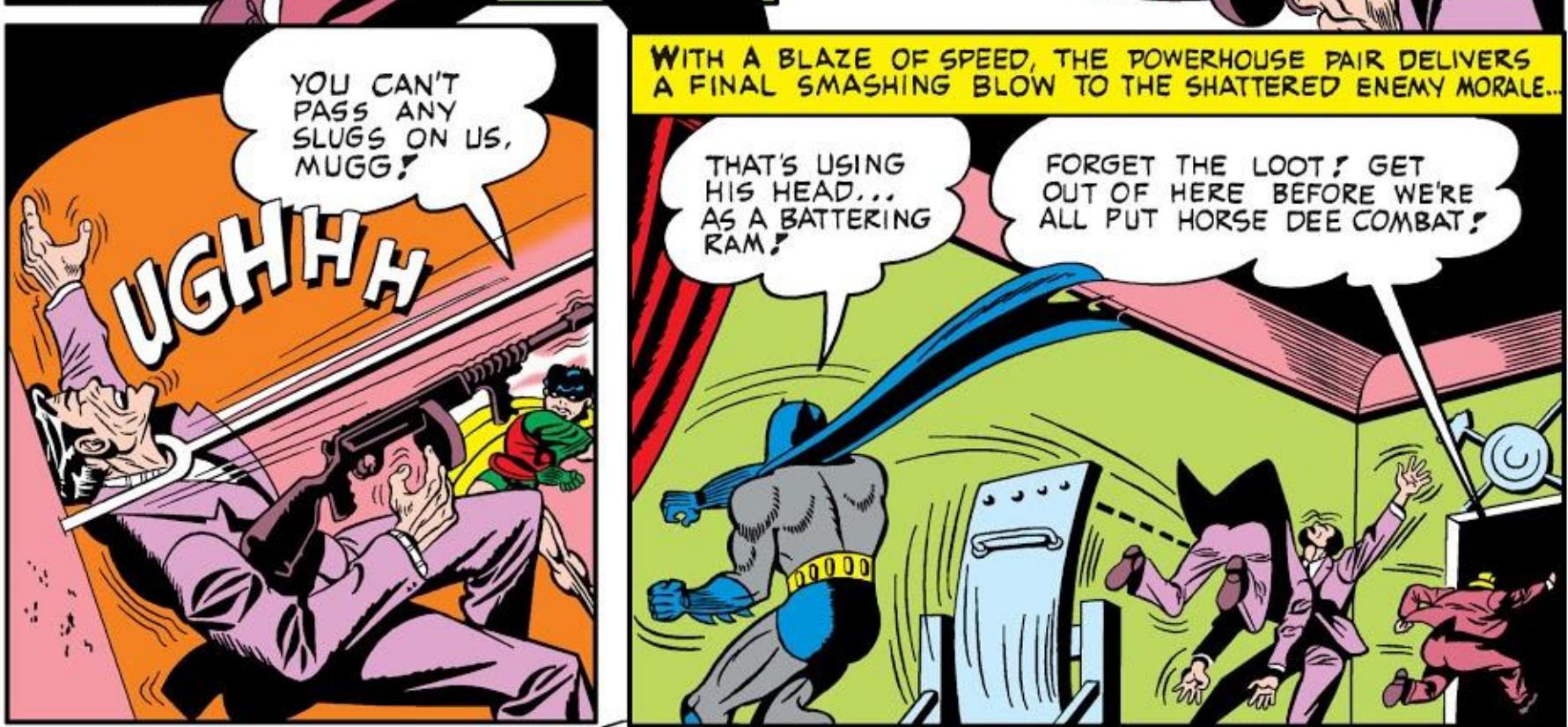
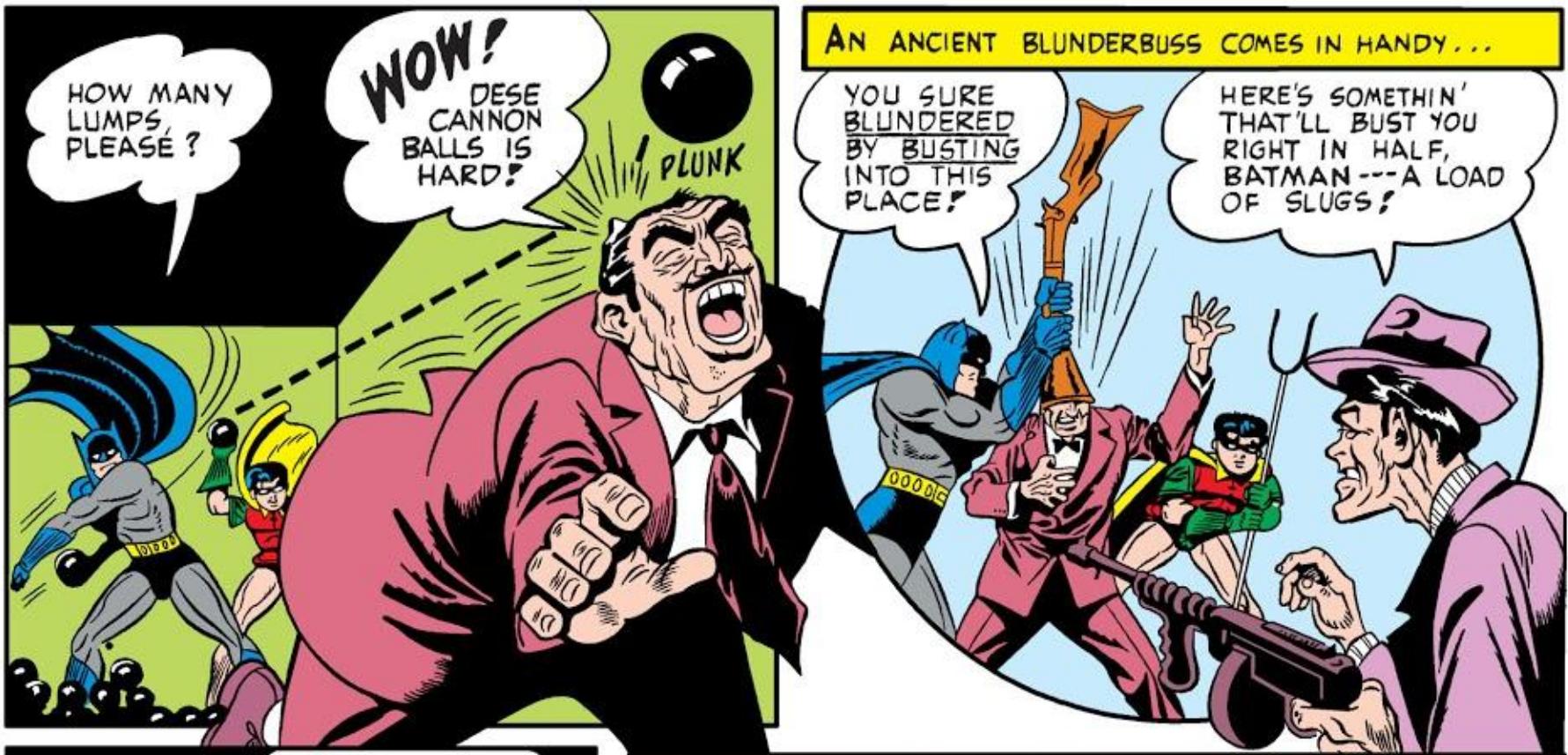
PARACHUTES SUDDENLY BLOSSOM IN THE MURKY SKY, AND THEN FLOAT TOWARD THE MASSIVE STRONGHOLD OF THE MILLIONAIRE RECLUSE... A PARATROOP ATTACK!



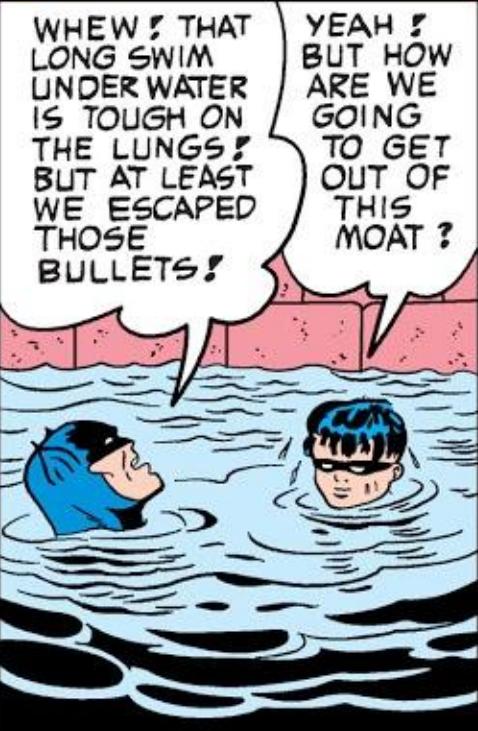
TAKEN FROM THE REAR, THE GUARDS ARE SWIFTLY MOWED DOWN...

HAW, HAW! WID BROWNIE TO FIGGER T'INGS OUT FER US, DIS CRIME BUSINESS IS GONNA BE A PIPE!





BUT LONG MINUTES LATER...



YEAH! BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS MOAT?

WHEW! THAT LONG SWIM UNDER WATER IS TOUGH ON THE LUNGS! BUT AT LEAST WE ESCAPED THOSE BULLETS!



THIS OUGHT TO DO THE JOB!

NICE THROW!

SCRAMBLING SWIFTLY UP THE STEEL-STRONG SILKEN ROPE, THE CAPE COMRADES RACE TO THE BATPLANE PARKED IN THE COURTYARD...

I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT, BATMAN! CHOPPER ALWAYS WAS A SMART GANG LEADER... BUT NOTHING LIKE NOW! YOU'D THINK HE WAS A GENERAL THE WAY HE PLANNED THIS CRIME!

RIGHT! ONLY CHOPPER ISN'T ANY MILITARY STRATEGIST---HE PROVED THAT ALL THROUGH HIS CRIMINAL CAREER! SO SOMEBODY ELSE MUST BE DOING HIS PLANNING FOR HIM! BUT WHO?

SUPER-CHARGED MOTORS WHISPER TO POWERFUL LIFE... AND THE SPEEDY BATPLANE STREAKS OFF ON THE TRAIL! BUT...

GUESS WE'D BETTER GIVE UP! THERE ISN'T A TRACE OF 'EM!

NOW I REMEMBER! THAT LECTURE HALL WE THOUGHT THE GANG WOULDN'T GO INTO! A MILITARY EXPERT WAS GIVING A TALK THERE! COME ON, WE'RE GOING TO DO SOME CHECKING ON HIM!



AT THAT MOMENT, MANY MILES AWAY...

WELL, WE'RE BACK AT DE HIDEOUT WIDOUT DE SWAG! BUT BATMAN AN' DAT BRAT'RE OUTA DA WAY FOR GOOD, HUH, CHOPPER?

I AIN'T SO SURE! THEY GOT MORE LIVES THAN A FAMILY OF CATS! BUT IF THEY'RE STILL ALIVE, WE'RE GONNA GET RID OF 'EM... AND BROWNIE'S GONNA FIGURE OUT HOW!

WHEN AM I GOING TO SEE THE ARTICLES YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE WRITING ABOUT ME, MR. GANT? I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

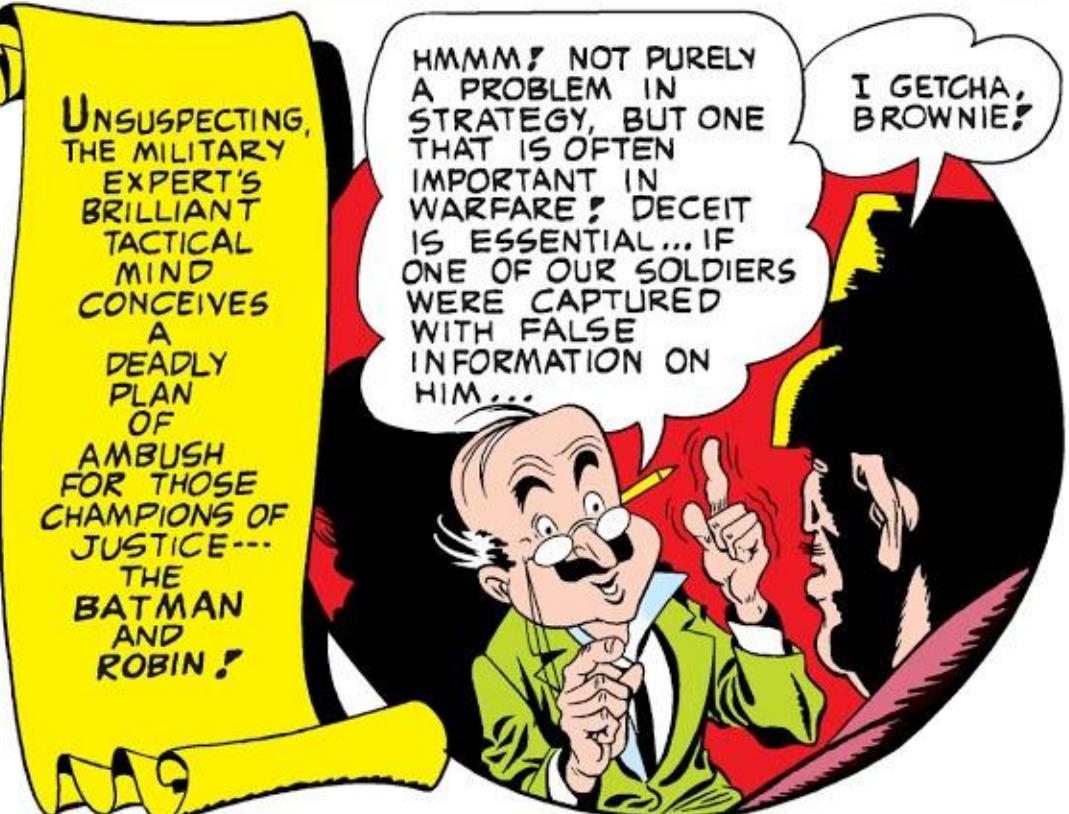
LATER! RIGHT NOW WE GOT A BIG PROBLEM! LET'S SAY WE GOTTA CAPTURE A COUPLES TOUGH ENEMY SPIES AND BUMP... UH... BRING 'EM TO JUSTICE! HOW COULD WE GO ABOUT IT?

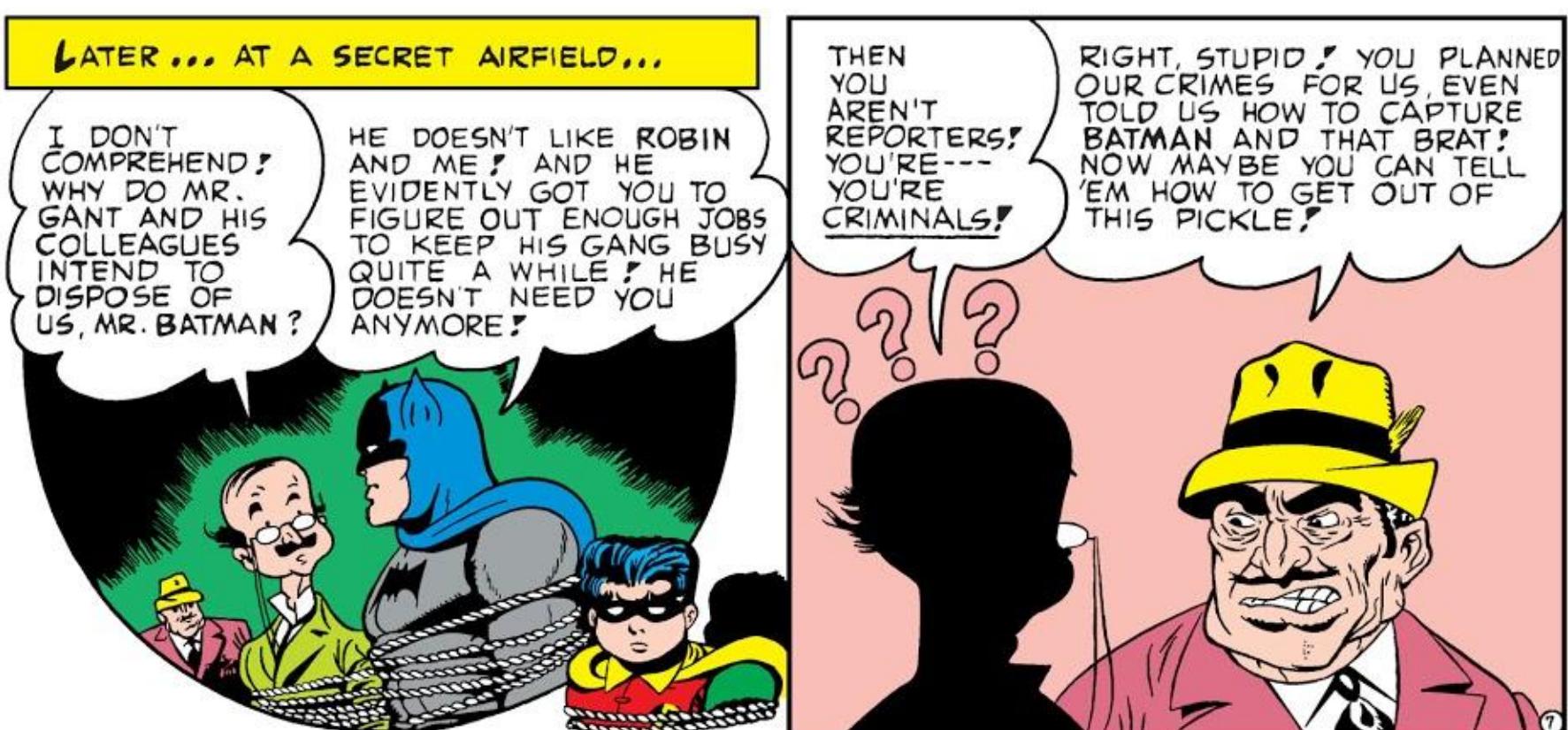
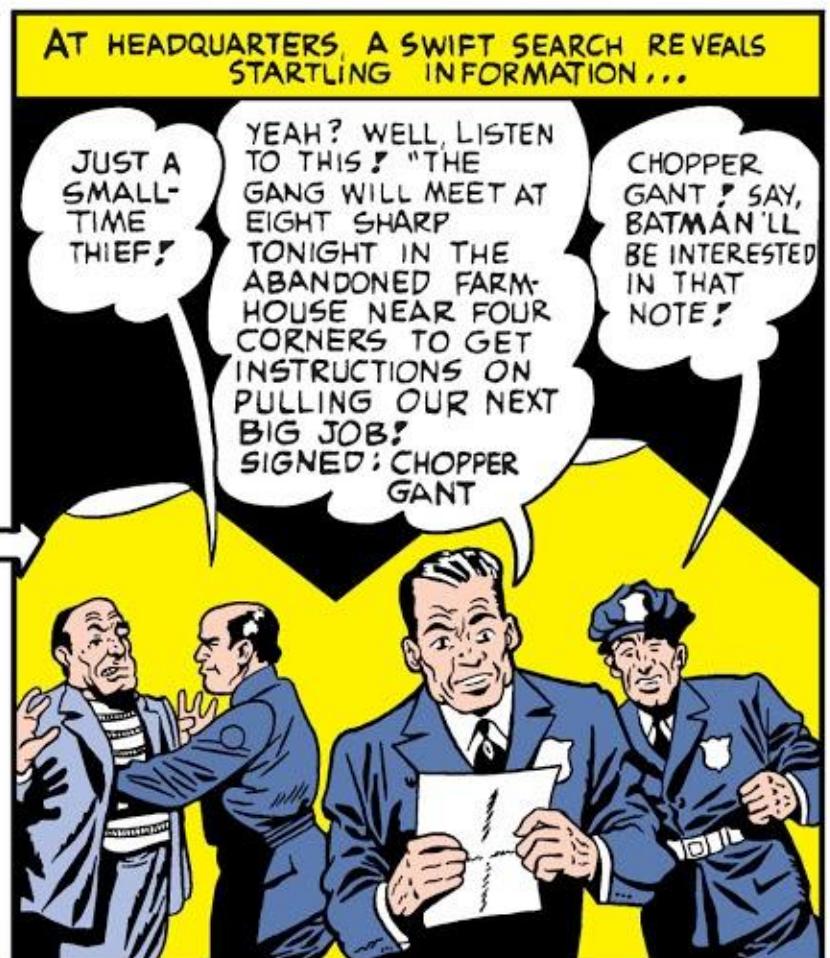


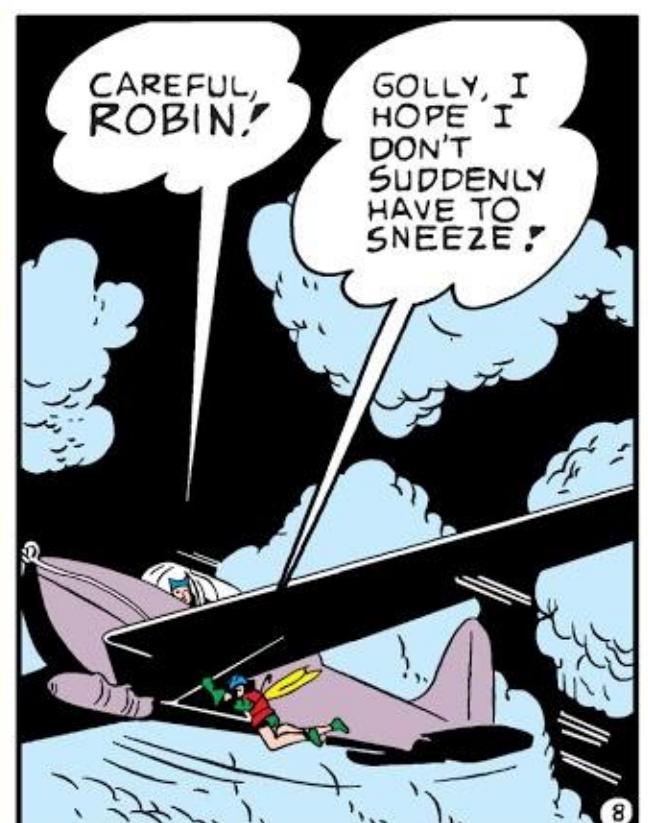
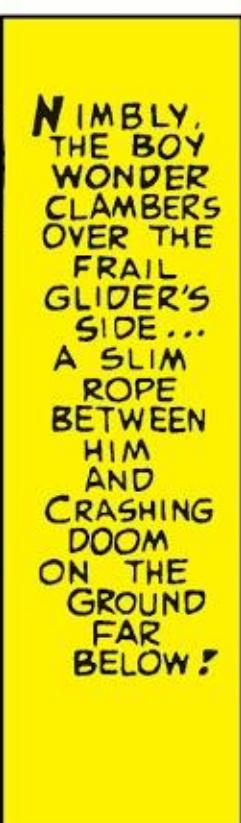
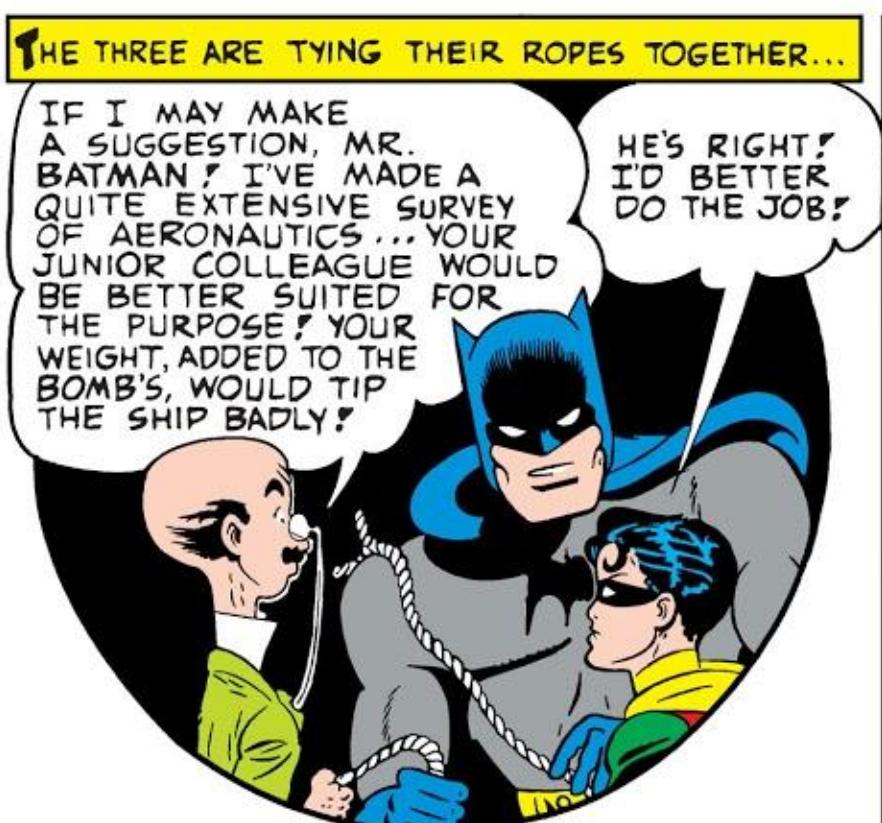
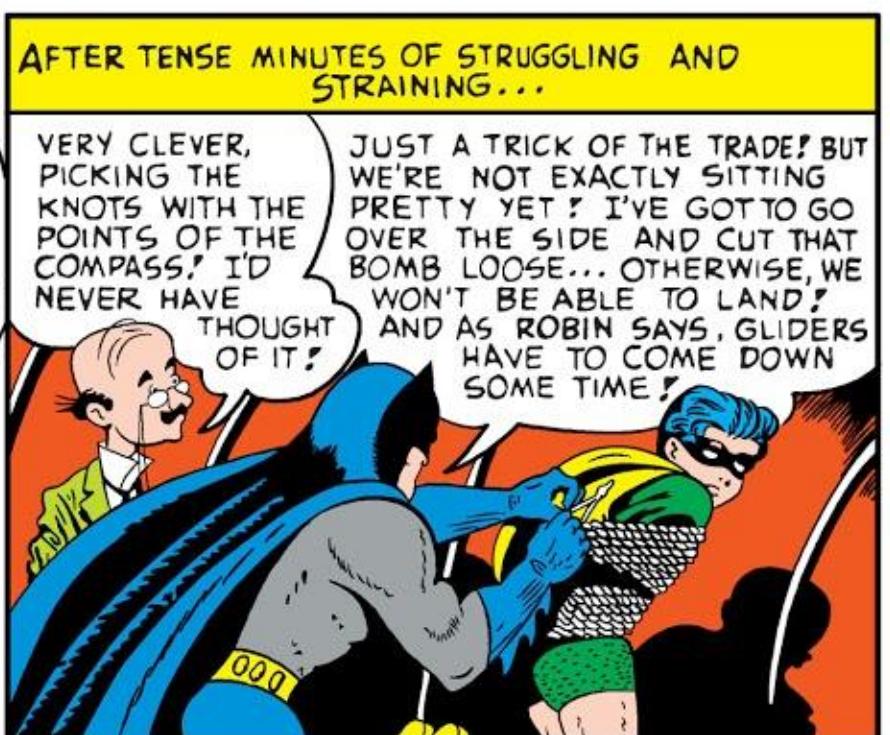
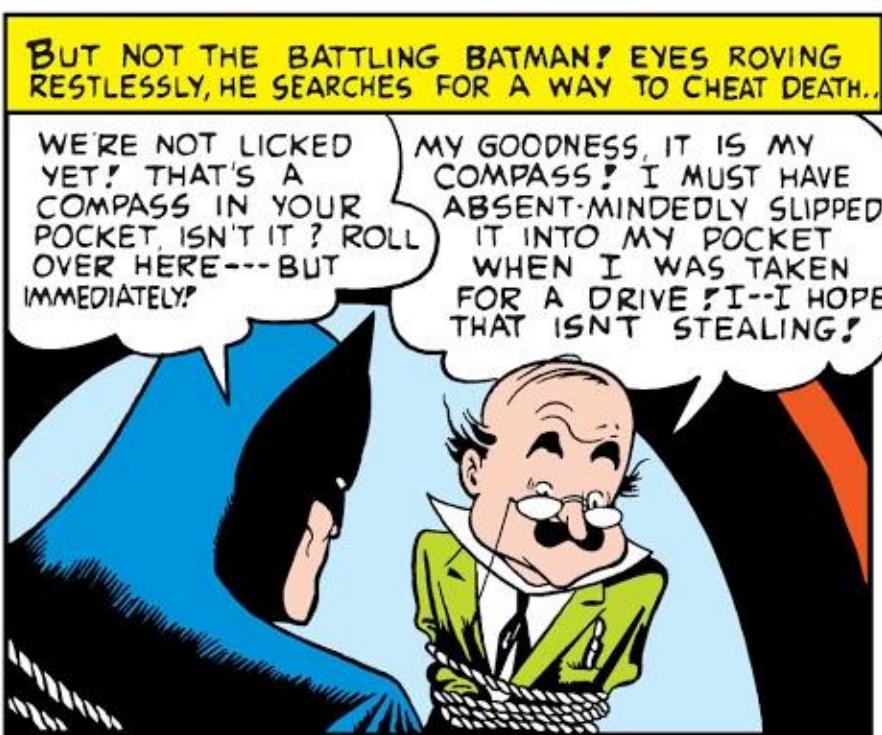
UNSUPECTING, THE MILITARY EXPERT'S BRILLIANT TACTICAL MIND CONCEIVES A DEADLY PLAN OF AMBUSH FOR THOSE CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

HMM! NOT PURELY A PROBLEM IN STRATEGY, BUT ONE THAT IS OFTEN IMPORTANT IN WARFARE! DECEIT IS ESSENTIAL... IF ONE OF OUR SOLDIERS WERE CAPTURED WITH FALSE INFORMATION ON HIM...

I GETCHA, BROWNIE!



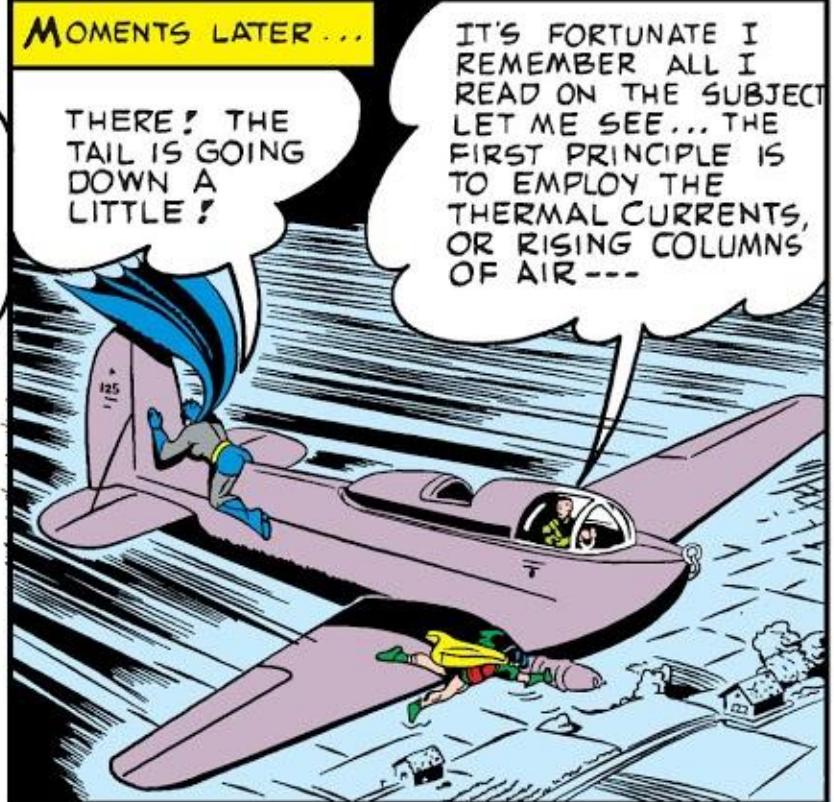




BUT TROUBLE LOOMS LARGE FOR THE TRAPPED TRIO! FOR . . .



MOMENTS LATER . . .



CLINGING PERILOUSLY TO THE SWAYING CRAFT, ROBIN FINALLY LOOSENS THE BOMB'S LASHINGS AND . . .

WHEW! THAT JOB IS DONE! AND JUST IN TIME, TOO!



THEN . . .

THANK HEAVEN THAT'S OVER! BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THE GANG IS GOING TO DO! THEY HAD ME OUTLINE A PLAN TO CAPTURE AN ENEMY TANK PLANT---BUT I'M SURE IT'S AN AMERICAN ONE

THEY INTEND TO ATTACK! WHAT SHALL WE DO?



GET TO THE TANK FACTORY OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY AS FAST AS WE CAN! THIS GLIDER'S THE ONLY TRANSPORTATION HANDY! SO YOU'LL HAVE TO FLY US THERE . . .

MEANWHILE, AT A FASHIONABLE HOTEL IN GOTHAM CITY . . .

THEES EES AN OUTRAGE! WE ARE VISITING DEEPLOMATS FROM AN ALLIED COUNTREE! WE SHALL PROTEST TO THE PRESIDENTE HIMSELF!

WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE---THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE! HAND OVER YOUR CREDENTIALS AND FANCY DUDS!



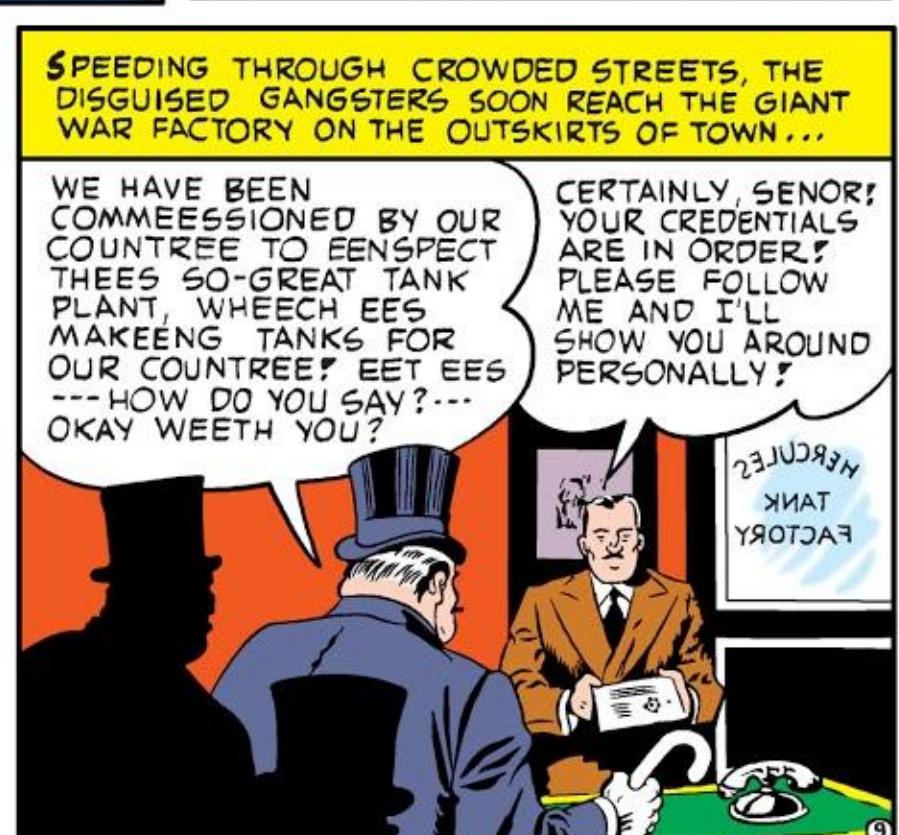
BONAS NOTCHES, SEENOR! WE ARE VISITING DEEPLOMATS FROM AN ALLIED COUNTREE! HOW'S DAT SOUND, CHOPPER?

ELEGANT! THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT YOU— AS LONG AS YOU KEEP YER TRAP SHUT! NOW HURRY UP! WE AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME!

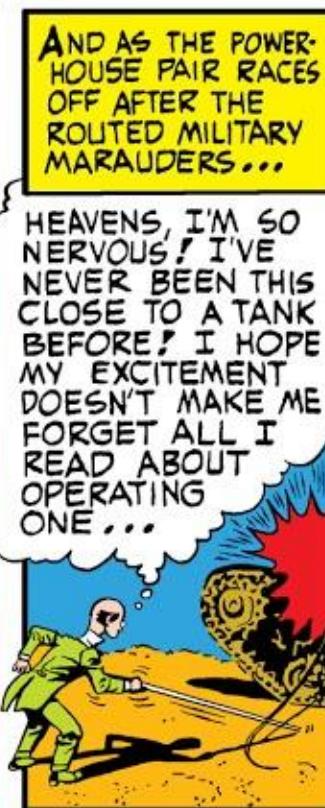
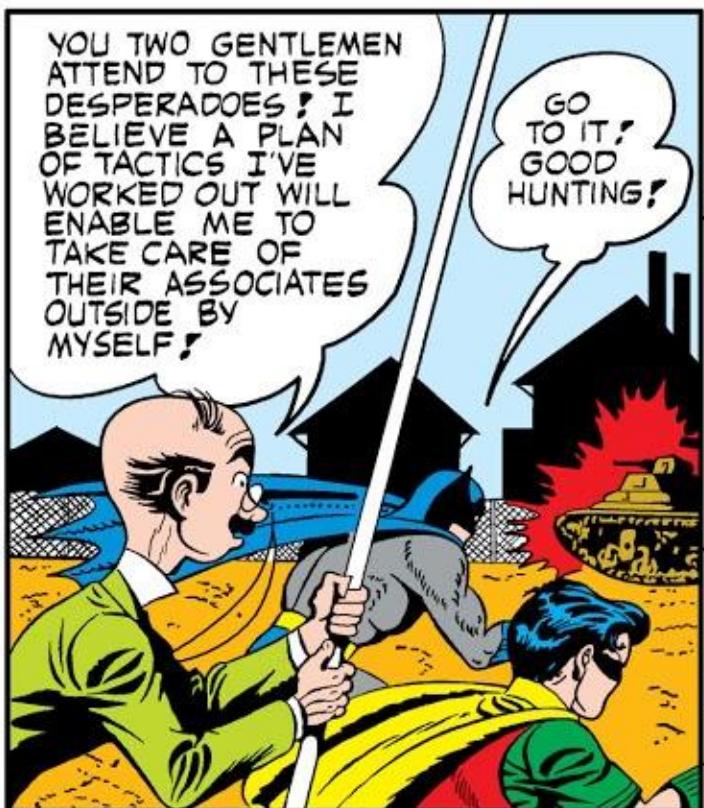
SPEEDING THROUGH CROWDED STREETS, THE DISGUISED GANGSTERS SOON REACH THE GIANT WAR FACTORY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN . . .

WE HAVE BEEN COMMISSIONED BY OUR COUNTREE TO EENSPECT THEES SO-GREAT TANK PLANT, WHEECH EES MAKEENG TANKS FOR OUR COUNTREE! EET EES --- HOW DO YOU SAY? --- OKAY WEETH YOU?

CERTAINLY, SENOR! YOUR CREDENTIALS ARE IN ORDER! PLEASE FOLLOW ME AND I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND PERSONALLY!







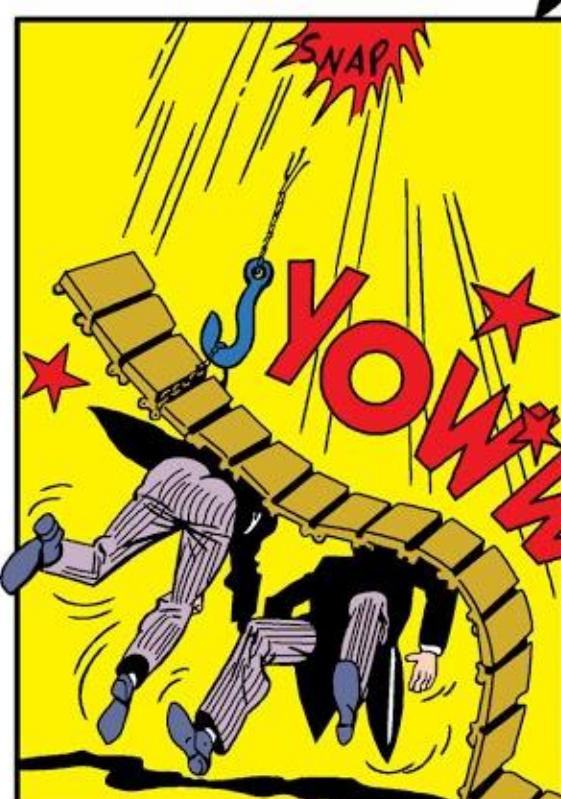
AT THE BODY PRODUCTION LINE, ROBIN PRODUCES SOME HOT BODY BLOWS . . .



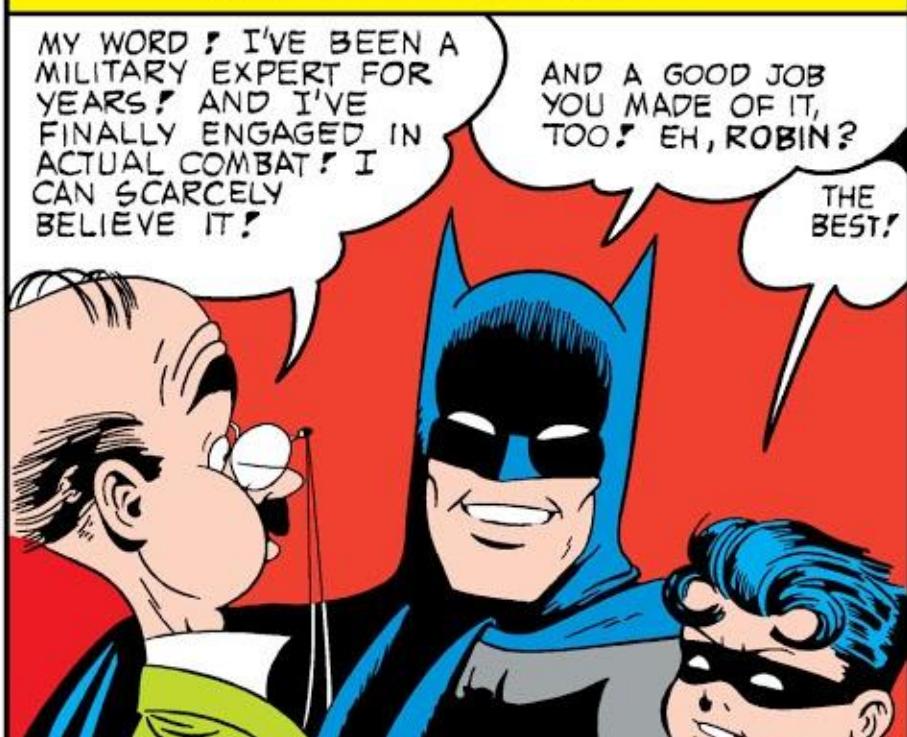
WHERE TURRETS ARE MOUNTED, BATMAN SURMOUNTS A SUDDEN DANGER!



THE TREAD DEPARTMENT . . .



LATER, WHEN THE MARTIAL MARAUDERS HAVE BEEN MARCHED OFF TO PRISON . . .



AND BEHIND GRAY STONE RAMPARTS . . .



# BATMAN

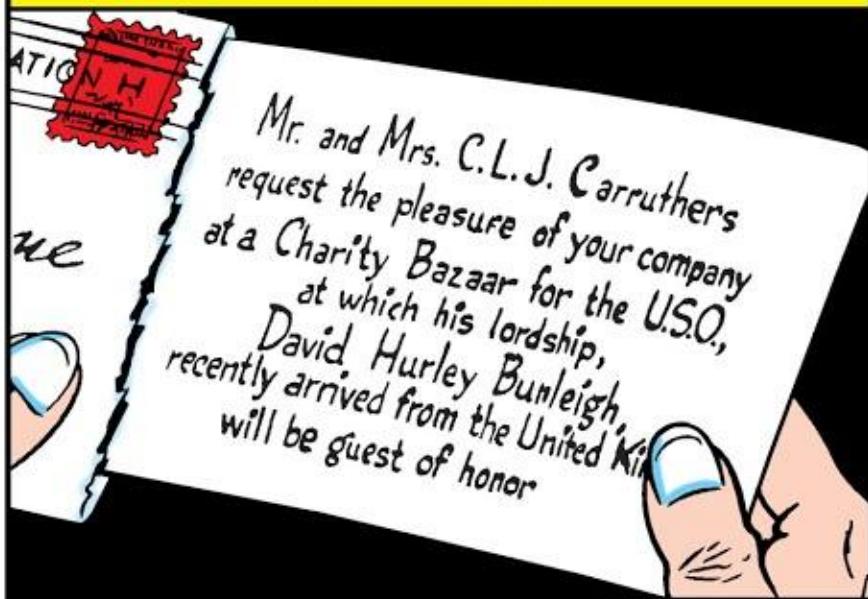
WITH  
ROBIN

UNLESS, LIKE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, TROUBLE IS YOUR BUSINESS, NEVER HIRE A BUTLER WITH A HANKERING FOR HILARITY! FOR WHEN ALFRED PULLS A PRANK ON HIGH SOCIETY, TROUBLE SMITES A PEER OF THE REALM AND HIS STAND-IN UNTIL THAT PEERLESS PUNCHING PAIR, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, PENETRATE THE MYSTERY OF...

"HIS LORDSHIP'S DOUBLE!"



THE MAILS BRING AN EMBOSSED INVITATION TO SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE—A SIMPLE WHITE CARD—BUT WHAT A TANGLED TRAIL IS DESTINED TO FOLLOW IN ITS WAKE!



I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GO, SINCE IT'S A USO BENEFIT AFFAIR. BUT WHO AND WHAT IS LORD DAVID HURLEY BURLEIGH?

PROBABLY SOME ULTRA-SMART SOCIAL LION WITH A MONOCLE!

OH, NO, SIR—if I MAY BE PERMITTED TO INTRUDE A WORD...



WHILE LACKING AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH HIS LORDSHIP MYSELF, MY SECOND COUSIN, THEOBALD, HAVING BEEN EMPLOYED AS GARDENER AT HIS LORDSHIP'S MANOR NEAR LONDON, OFTEN SPOKE OF HIM AS A MAN OF SCIENCE!

I BELIEVE BOTANY WAS HIS CHIEF PASSION, SIR! HE MIGHT EVEN BE CALLED A BIT OF A RECLUSE, MR. WAYNE! BUT I SUPPOSE YOU'LL BE MEETING HIM AT THE BAZAAR TOMORROW NIGHT, AND I WAS WONDERING ...



I CAN'T GET OVER ALFRED'S NEW STREAM-LINED FORM AND THAT MISPLACED EYEBROW ON HIS UPPER LIP! \*

IT'S GETTING RATHER LATE, DICK! IF YOU'RE COMING TO THE BAZAAR WITH ME TOMORROW EVENING, YOU'LL NEED LOTS OF REST TONIGHT!

SO—THE NEXT EVENING, OUR FRIENDS PRESENT THEMSELVES AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF THE C.L.J. CARRUTHERS...

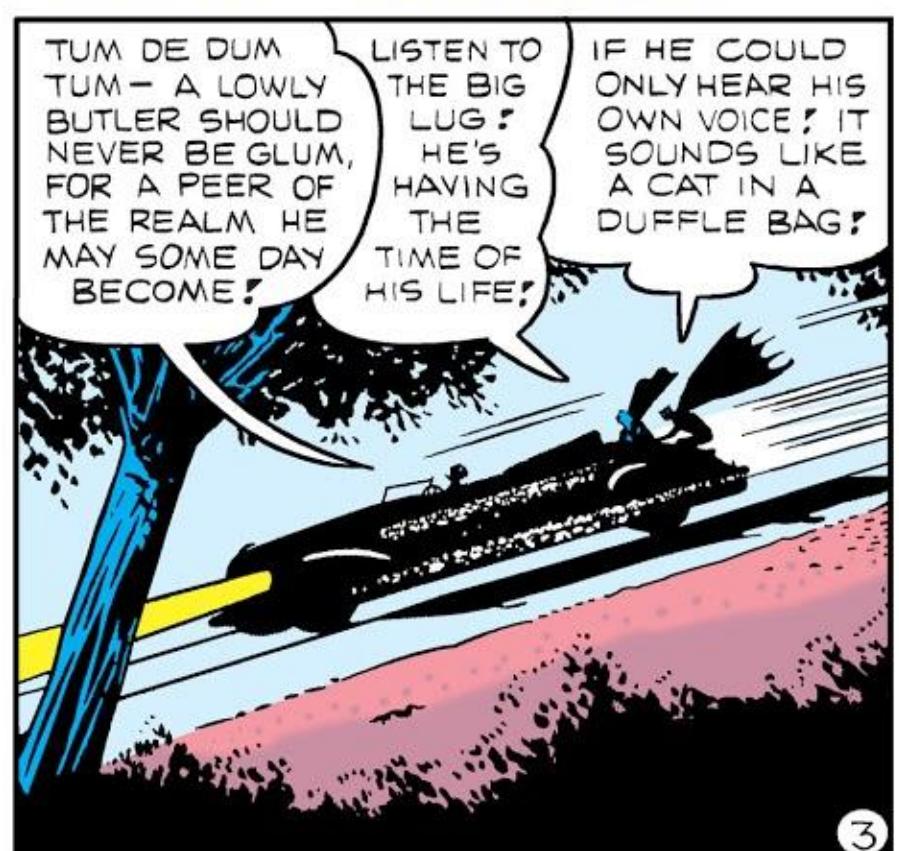
MR. BRUCE WAYNE AND MAWSTER RICHARD GRAYSON!

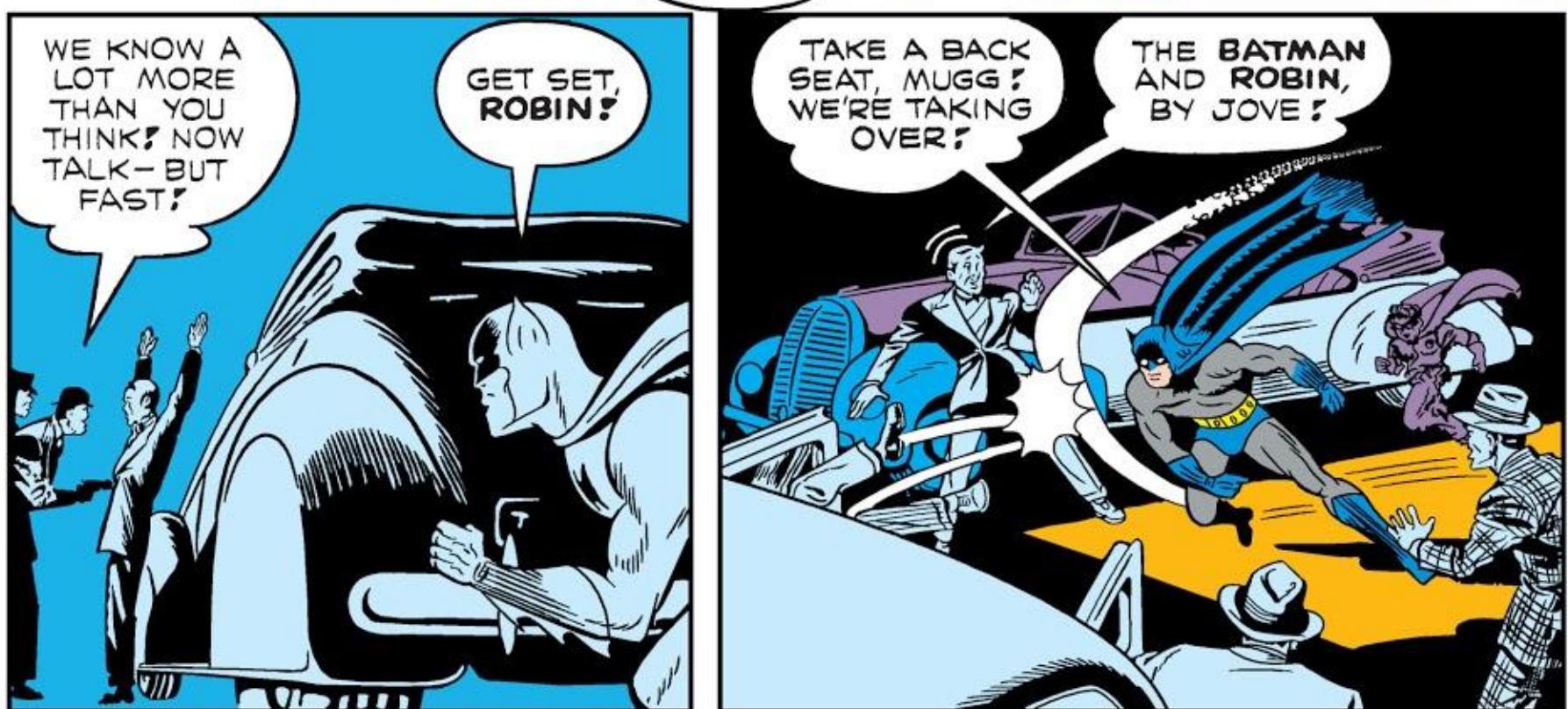
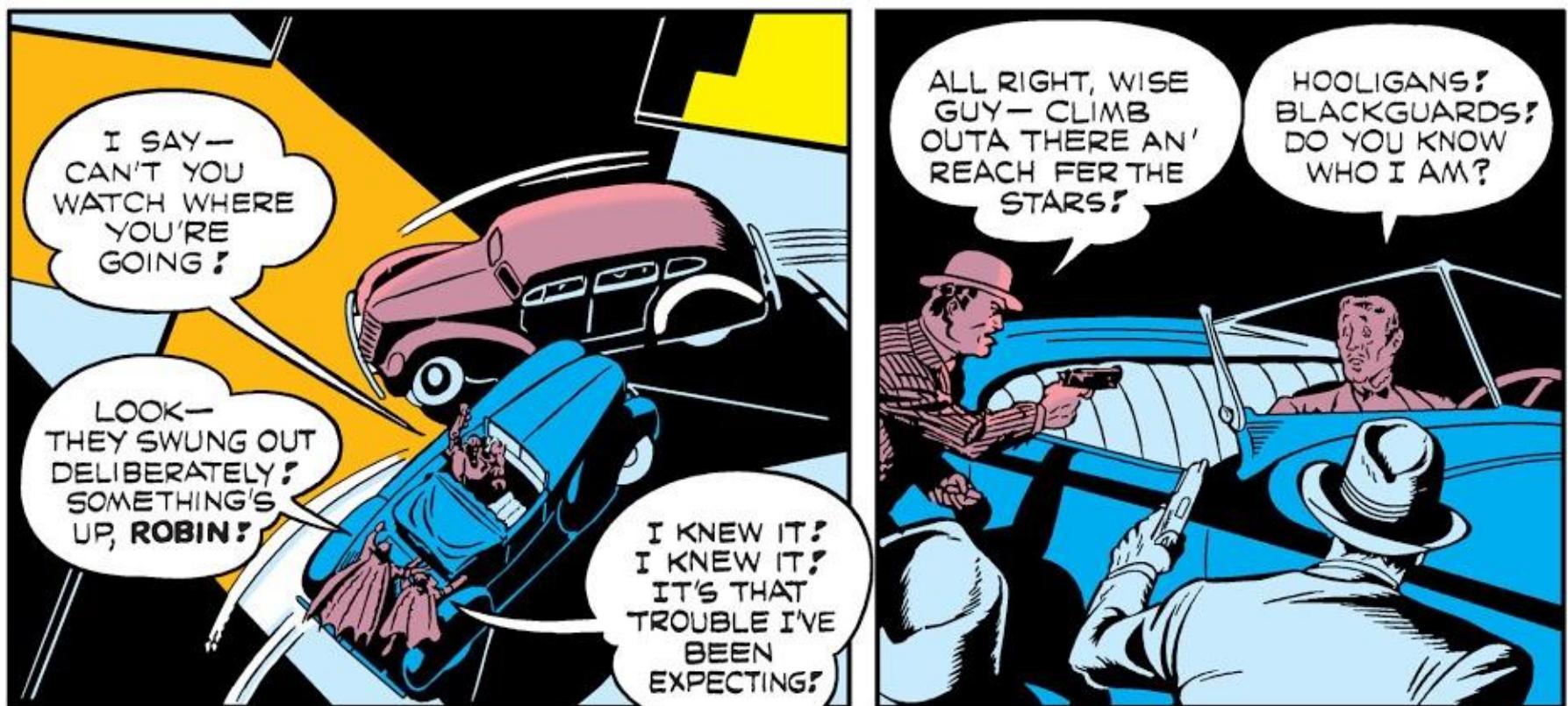
GOOD EVENING, MRS. CARRUTHERS! IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

BRUCE—I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME! BUT COME—YOU MUST MEET OUR GUEST OF HONOR, LORD BURLEIGH!



\* ED. NOTE: ARE YOU SURPRISED AT THE NEW ALFRED? READ JANUARY DETECTIVE COMICS, TO LEARN ABOUT HIS AMAZING TRANSFORMATION!





MIGHTY MUSCLES SOON SUBDUE THE MISGUIDED MUGGS...

AND NOW THAT WE'VE TAKEN CARE OF THEM, HOW ABOUT DOING A LITTLE EXPLAINING, ALFRED? OR SHOULD I ADDRESS YOU AS "YOUR LORDSHIP?"

REALLY, SIR—  
THIS ATTACK PUZZLES ME! AS FOR THE TITLE, IT CAME ABOUT THIS WAY...



AS I REMARKED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, MY COUSIN THEOBALD HAPPENS TO BE LORD BURLEIGH'S GARDENER! THINKING TO GET WORD TO HIM, I CALLED AT HIS LORDSHIP'S THIS EVENING! AT FIRST, I WAS REFUSED ADMITTANCE, BUT—



"— UPON HEARING MY DISTINCTLY BRITISH ACCENT, I WAS ADMITTED BY LORD BURLEIGH HIMSELF—"

HATE REPORTERS PRYING ABOUT, Y'KNOW? BUT YOUR ACCENT MADE ME REALIZE YOU'RE FROM THE AGENCY...

BUT YOUR LORDSHIP, I—



GUESS YOU'LL DO, ALL RIGHT? NOW— HERE'S WHAT'S EXPECTED! I CAN'T ABIDE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS! YOU'RE TO BE ME AT THE CARRUTHERS BAZAAR! THEY KNOW MY FATHER WELL, BUT THEY'VE NEVER MET ME—



CAN'T GRACEFULLY BEG OUT, BUT SINCE THEY WON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE AND I'M STAYING IN THE STATES ONLY A FEW DAYS, I'VE DECIDED TO SEND A SUBSTITUTE! SO TONIGHT, YOU'LL PLAY LORD BURLEIGH! RETURN HERE AT MIDNIGHT FOR YOUR PAY!



I REALIZED, OF COURSE, THAT HIS LORDSHIP HAD MISTAKEN ME FOR AN ENGLISH ACTOR SENT BY AN AGENCY, BUT A SPIRIT OF PRANKISHNESS IMPELLED ME TO GO THROUGH WITH IT, SIR! A JOLLY IDEA, MY BEING A PEER FOR A NIGHT, DON'T YOU THINK?

IT CERTAINLY SOUNDS IN CHARACTER!



YOU SEE, SIR—  
LORD BURLEIGH ALWAYS WAS KNOWN AS ECCENTRIC! NEVER EVEN ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED!

BUT THIS ATTACK! IT MUST HAVE BEEN MEANT FOR LORD BURLEIGH! SUPPOSE WE FIND OUT FROM—

YOU'LL NEVER GET A WORD OUT OF US, BATMAN!



MINUTES LATER—

NO USE—THEY WON'T TALK! BUT IF LORD BURLEIGH'S IN DANGER, WE'D BETTER WARN HIM! YOU STAY HERE, ALFRED, AND KEEP AN EYE ON THESE FELLOWS TILL THE POLICE ARRIVE!

RIGHTO?

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS—

HERE'S LORD BURLEIGH'S PLACE! I HOPE HE CAN TELL US WHO THOSE MEN WERE AND WHAT'S BEHIND THAT ATTACK?

IF HE'S AS ECCENTRIC AS THEY SAY, HE'S LIABLE TO REFUSE TO SEE US!

GO AWAY, I SAY! I DON'T WISH TO SEE ANYONE!

BUT, LORD BURLEIGH— YOU'RE IN GREAT DANGER! THE MAN YOU HIRED AS YOUR STAND-IN HAS JUST BEEN ATTACKED! YOU'VE GOT TO OPEN UP!

EH? ATTACKED? MY STAND-IN? SO—YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT? BATMAN—I MUST BEG OF YOU, NOT A SOUL MUST HEAR! MY SOCIAL PRESTIGE WILL BE RUINED! AND NOW—WHAT'S THIS ABOUT DANGER?

THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU! KNOW ANYONE WHO'D BE OUT TO GET YOU?

OUT TO GET ME? NONSENSE—NONSENSE? I'M SURE IT WAS ALL A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! NO NEED TO CONCERN YOURSELF ABOUT ME, BATMAN! BUT BEFORE YOU LEAVE, LET ME BEG OF YOU AGAIN—NOT A WORD OF MY STAND-IN, PLEASE!

ER—YOU CAN RELY ON US! GUESS WE MAY AS WELL GO, ROBIN?

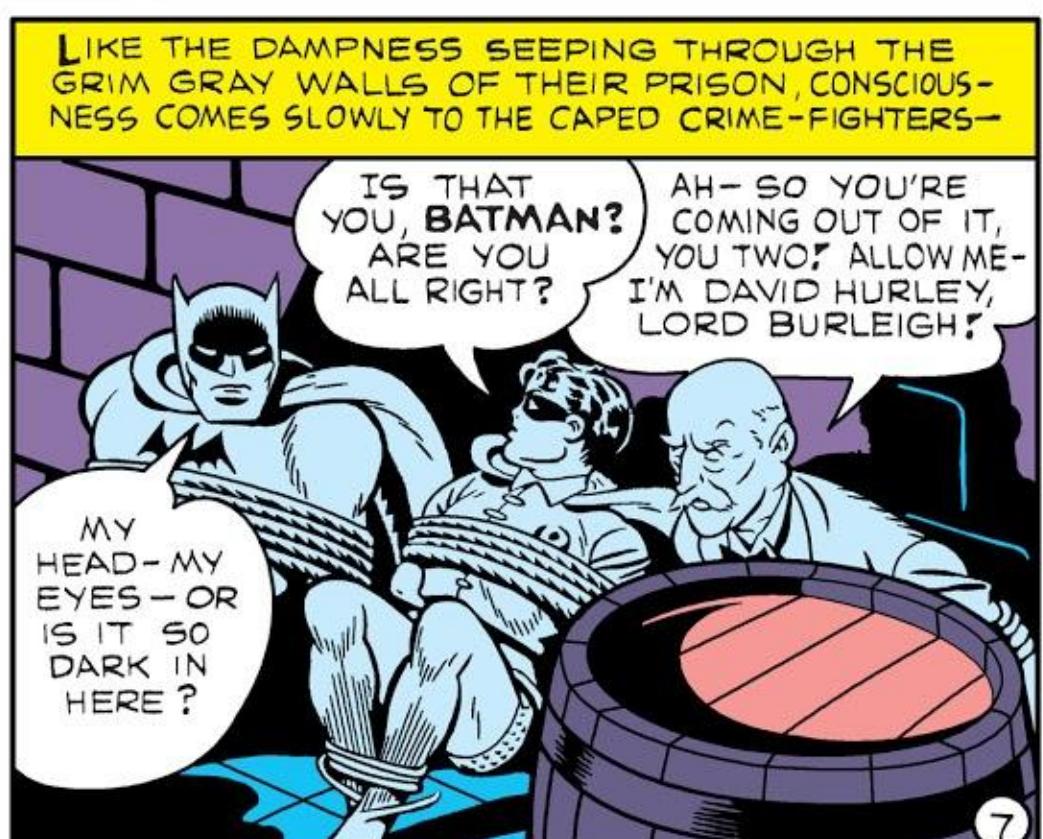
BY THE WAY—I NOTICE YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE WITH YOUR PLANTS...

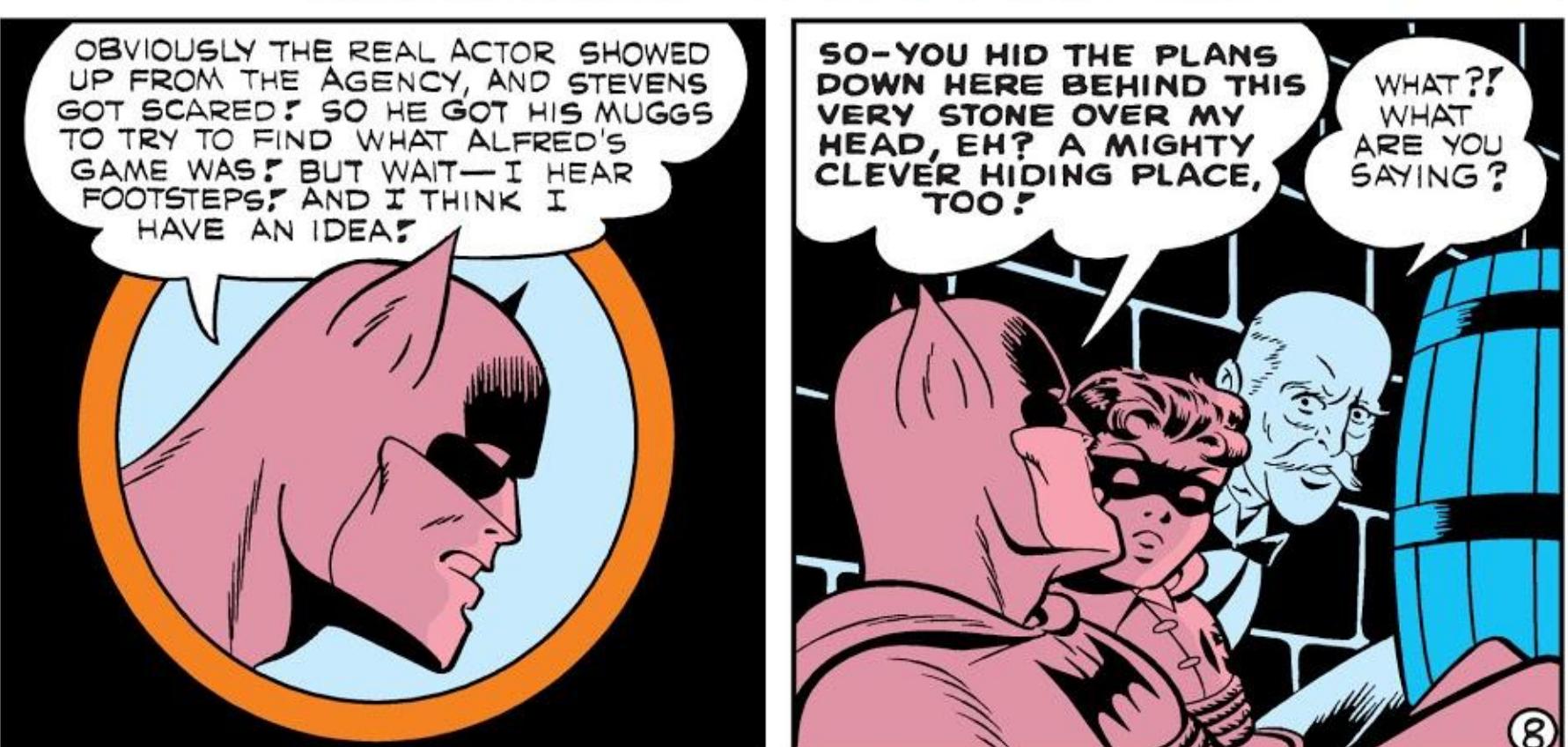
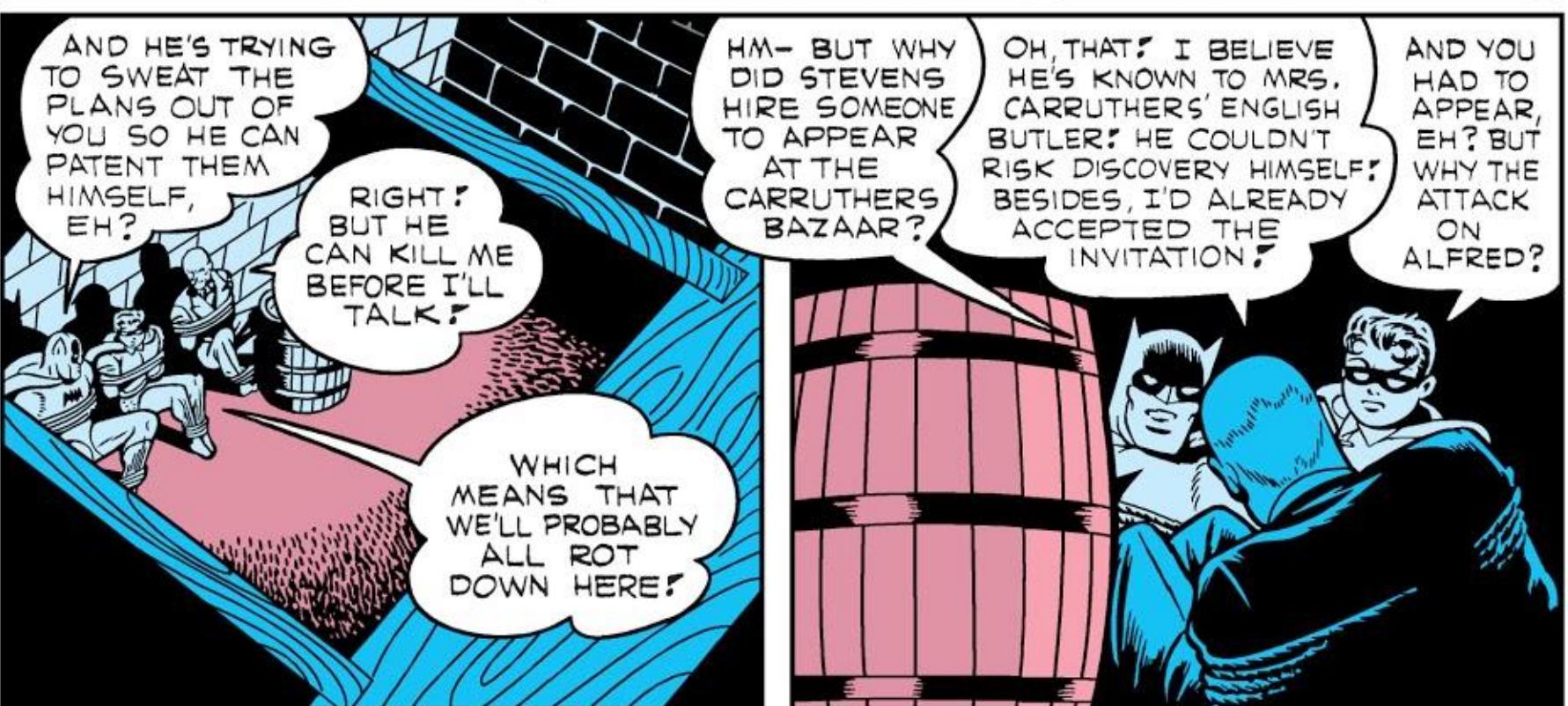
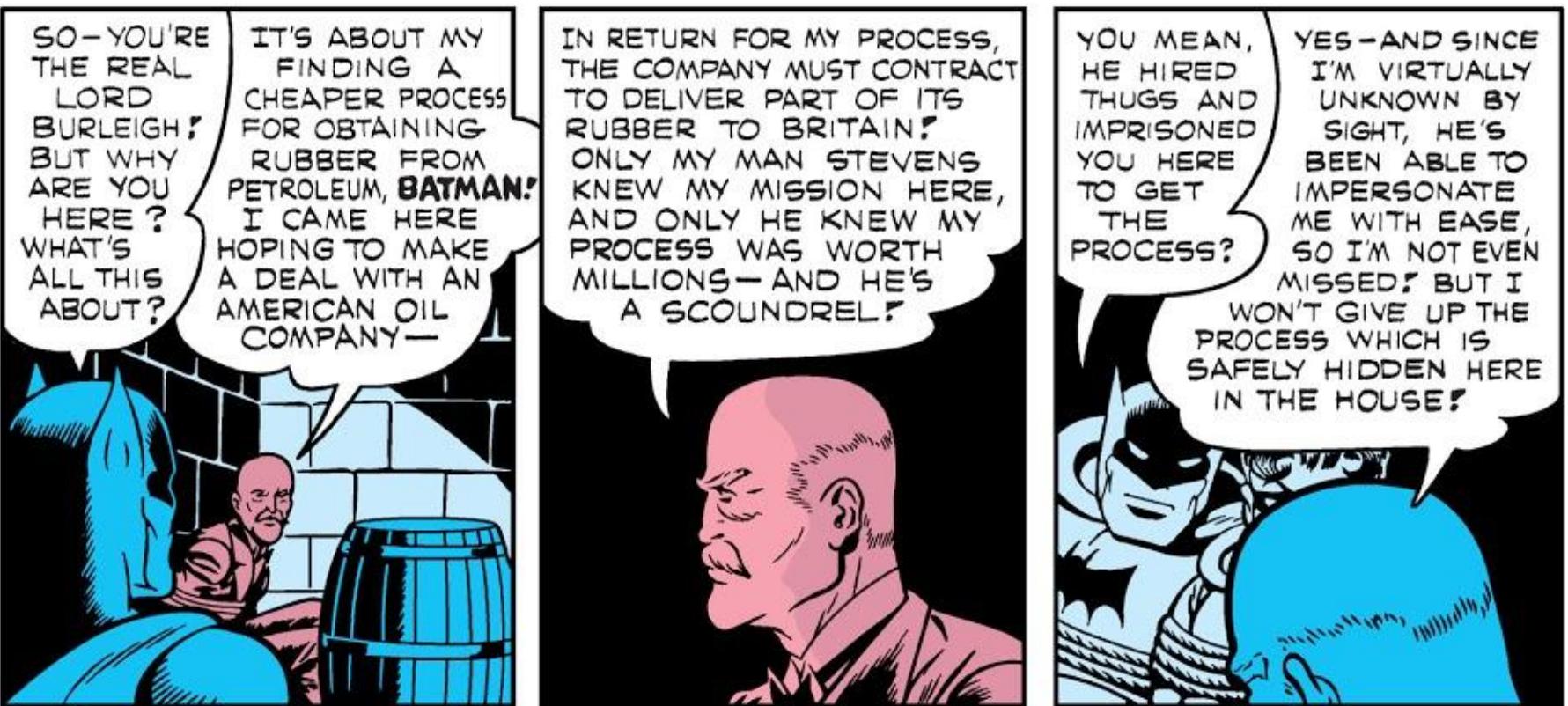
TROUBLE WITH WHAT? MY PLANTS? OH—ER—YES...

NOW WHAT'S HE GETTING AT?

RATHER STRANGE, ISN'T IT, THAT ALL YOUR PLANTS SHOULD BE WILTED, YOUR LORDSHIP, CONSIDERING THAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A BOTANIST? UNLESS—UNLESS—YOU'RE NOT LORD BURLEIGH AT ALL!

WELL!





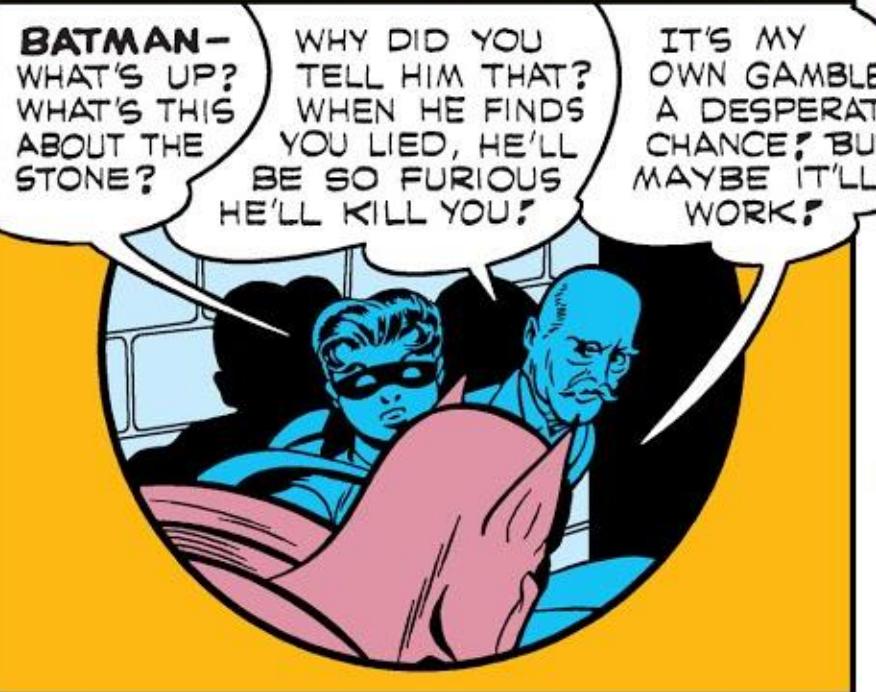
A SUDDEN BEAM OF LIGHT LANCES THROUGH THE GLOOM AS APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS BECOME MORE AUDIBLE...



AND OF COURSE, YOUR LORDSHIP, YOU MANAGED IT WITH YOUR USUAL SKILL AND INGENUITY? NOT A SIGN OF FRESH MORTAR? HOWEVER, ALL I NEED IS A HAMMER AND CHISEL! I'LL BE BACK DIRECTLY!



AS STEVEN'S DEPARTING FOOTSTEPS ECHO HOLLOWLY DOWN THE CORRIDOR...



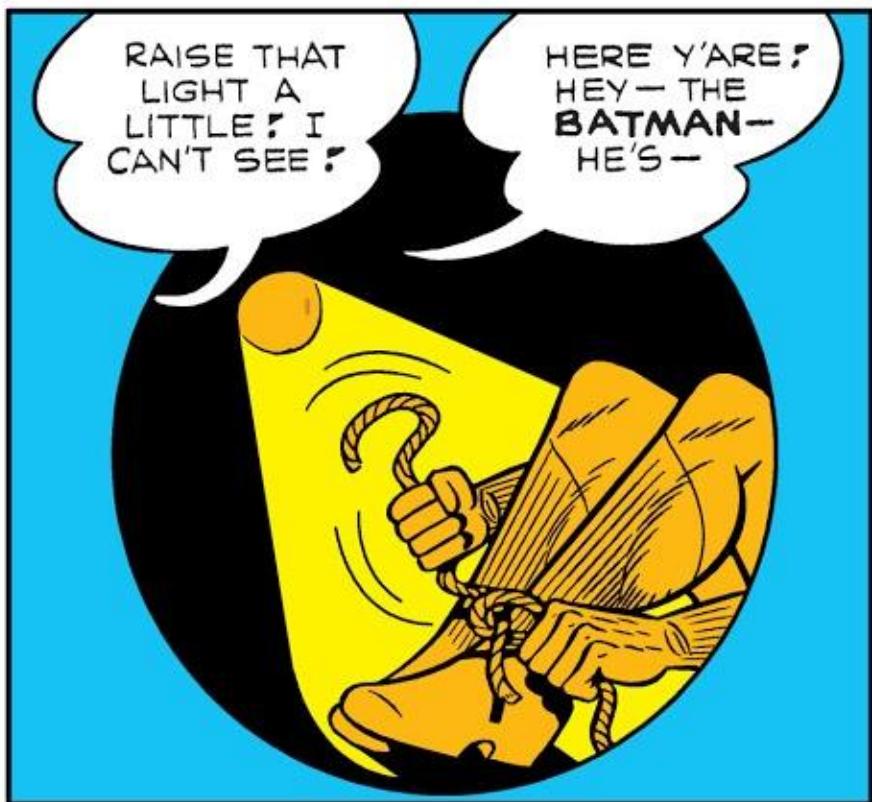
BUT THERE IS NO TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS AS THE HEAVY TREAD OF HURRYING FEET MARKS THE HASTY RETURN OF STEVENS AND HIS HENCHMEN...



SHARP SLIVERS OF STONE FALL LIKE HAIL ABOUT THE THREE PRISONERS AS THE THUGS WORK WITH CHISEL AND PICK-AXE ON THE SLIMY WALLS...

IS THE BATMAN ALL RIGHT? HE SEEMS TO BE PRETTY PREOCCUPIED? BUT WAIT—WHAT IS IT HE'S MANAGED TO PICK UP IN HIS BOUND HANDS?





A CRASHING HOLOCAUST OF CRASHING KNUCKLES QUICKLY OVERCOMES CRIMINAL RESISTANCE ...

MORNING - AND AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME, BREAKFAST IS BEING SERVED TO TWO FATIGUED FIGHTERS ...

WELL, ANOTHER DAY - AND ANOTHER PROOF THAT CRIME DOESN'T PAY!

MOST EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT I'VE EVER WITNESSED! INCREDIBLE! ABSOLUTELY!

JUST A SECOND, LORD BURLEIGH, AND I'LL HAVE YOU LOOSE!

ER - I TRUST THAT ALL WENT WELL LAST EVENING, AFTER MY ER-- AH-- LITTLE MASQUERADE...

QUITE WELL, THANK YOU, ALFRED!

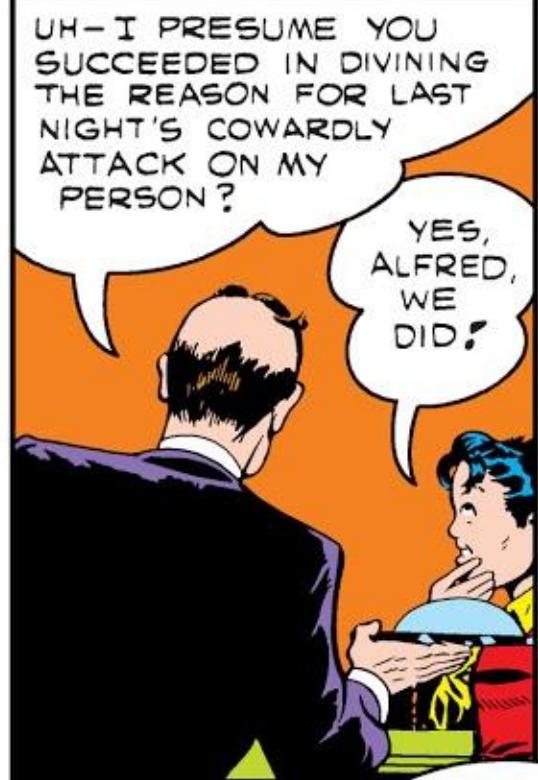
HE'S DYING WITH CURIOSITY.



UH - I PRESUME YOU SUCCEEDED IN DIVINING THE REASON FOR LAST NIGHT'S COWARDLY ATTACK ON MY PERSON?

YES, ALFRED, WE DID!

ER - MAY I INQUIRE WHETHER, IN FOLLOWING THE IRRESPONSIBLE PROMPTINGS OF MY PRANKISH NATURE, I OVERSTEPPED MY PLACE IN APPEARING SO BRAZENLY AT THE CARRUTHERS AS HIS LORDSHIP?



YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT WE THINK? THE COLD, UNVARNISHED TRUTH?

SO - YOU'D LIKE OUR OPINION? IS THAT IT?



THE TRUTH, YOU OLD RASCAL, IS THAT WE THINK YOU'RE A GEM!

(COUGH) I-I'M (COUGH) REALLY DELIGHTED! PROFOUNDLY SO! IT'S SUCH A TERRIBLE LOAD OFF MY CONSCIENCE!

YOU GET US INTO MORE TROUBLE THAN A FLOCK OF TIGERS, BUT WE LOVE IT!

I'M A LUCKY MAN, INDEED! I WOULDN'T TRADE MY SITUATION FOR ANYTHING! WHY - I'D RATHER WORK FOR BRUCE WAYNE AND MAWSTER DICK THAN BE LORD BURLEIGH, HIMSELF!



The End

# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**

BOB KANE

★ GOTHAM CITY STAR FINAL  
WEATHER - MILD, WINDY  
Vol. 25 No. 230 Gotham City, Wednesday, March 1st, 34 OUTSIDE CITY LINE 32 Pages - 2 Cents

TAX RETURNS SHOW THREE ECCENTRICS TO BE RICHEST PEOPLE IN NATION!!



EBENEZER FLINT OF GOTHAM CITY... WHO DOESN'T TRUST BANKS? HIS FORTUNE RUMORED TO BE HIDDEN IN PRIVATELY BUILT WALL-SAFE.

OPEN WALLET



HILLTOP CASTLE

JOHN WHITE... WHOSE HILLTOP CASTLE IS ALWAYS OPEN TO THE HOMELESS... AND WHOSE WALLET IS OPEN

TO THE NEEDY!!



FLASH ★★★★  
BRAGGING TONGUES CEASE WAGGING....  
FINGERS DRUM NERVOUSLY... AND EYES BECOME SLITTED WITH APPREHENSION AS A SMILING LITTLE MAN WADDLES PAST...  
FOR THE CURIOUS, DUMPY FIGURE IS THE PENGUIN...  
MAN OF A THOUSAND UMBRELLAS?!  
MOVING WITH THE STEALTH OF A JUNGLE CAT... AND STRIKING WITH THE FEROCITY OF A COBRA..  
THE LITTLE MAN RUNS RAMPANT UNTIL TWO CAPE FIGURES... THE DARING BATMAN AND EQUALY RESOURCEFUL ROBIN THE BOY WONDER..  
TAKE TO HIS TRAIL AND BLAST WIDE OPEN ONE OF THE MOST SINISTER PLOTS OF ALL TIME... WHEN THEY SOLVE THE CASE OF...  
"THE THREE ECCENTRICS!"

In a sinister Gotham City dive, strident tones cut through a thick wall of smoke

AND THAT'S WHAT I MEAN!  
PICK A PAPER OUTTA THE GUTTER AN' WHAT DO I READ?  
WALL-SAFES... POOCHEES... CHARITY?? AN'... GUYS LIKE US... IS BROKE!

