



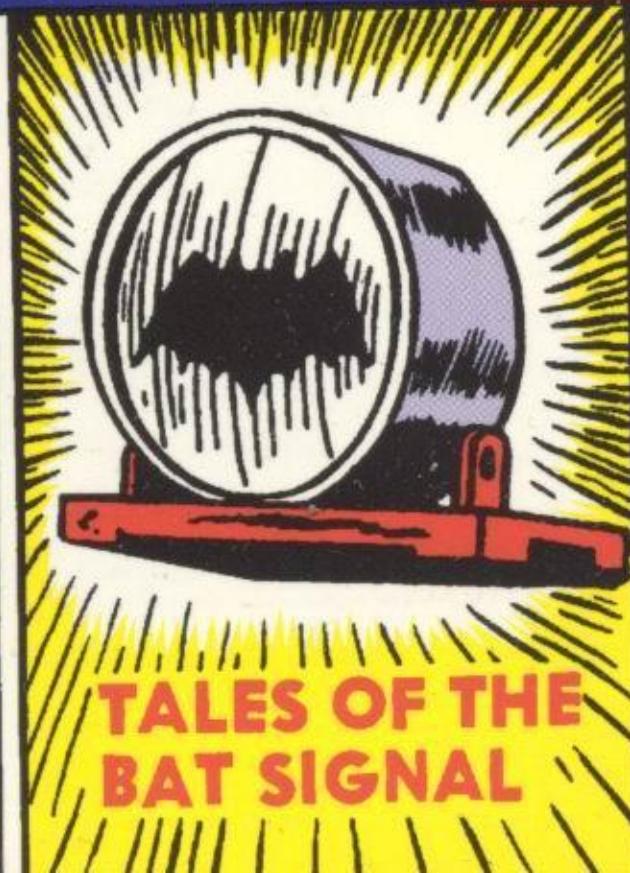
FIRST COLLECTION
EVER PUBLISHED!



GIANT BAT-MAN ANNUAL™

1.001
SECRETS
OF
BATMAN
and ROBIN

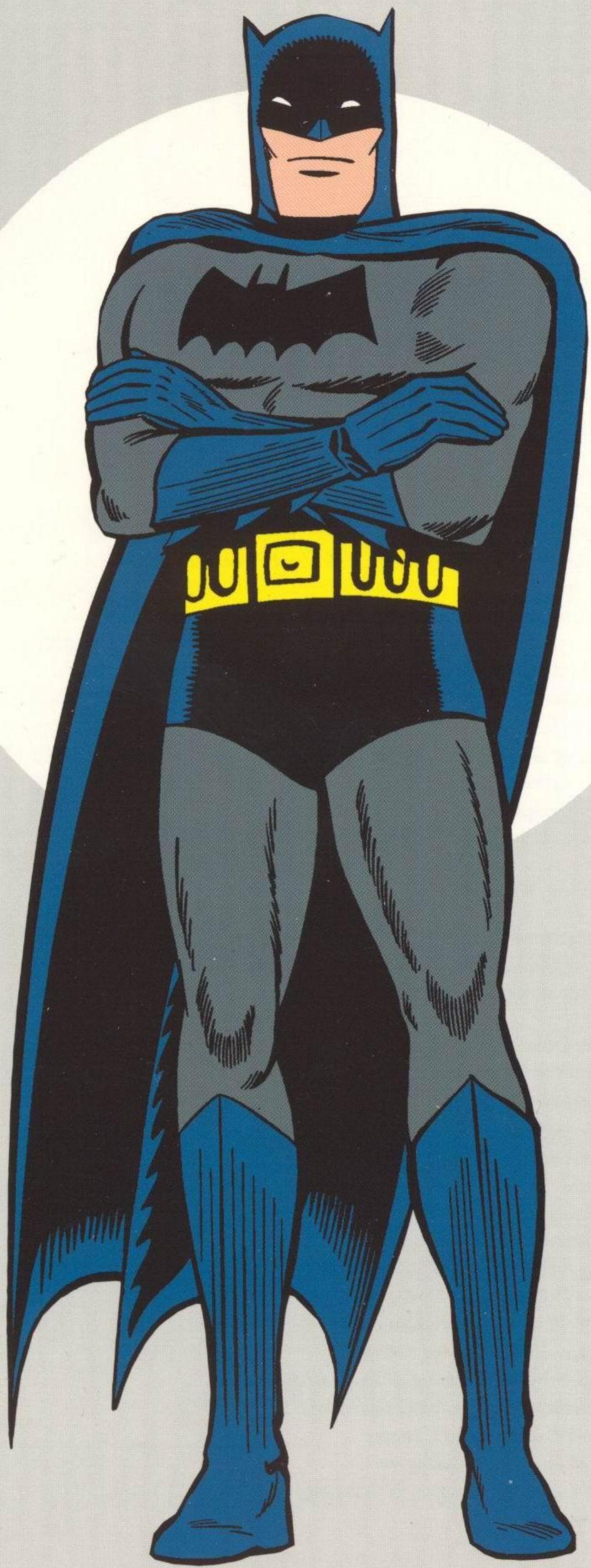
"HOW TO BE THE BATMAN!"
including the ORIGIN,
and other ALL-STAR INSIDE stories!



AMAZING
INVENTIONS

plus secrets
of the
UTILITY BELT
and the
famed
BATARANGS







From the DC Comics Vault... Re-Presented in its Entirety; Giant Batman Annual, No. 1

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SPECIAL FEATURE

**SECRETS OF THE UTILITY BELT
and THE FAMED BATARANGS**

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BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

MOST DREADED OF ALL CROOKDOM'S FOES IS THE **BATMAN!** HIS BRILLIANT GENIUS IN DETECTIVE DEDUCTION, HIS MARVELOUS ACROBATIC AGILITY AND SKILL, HIS LIMITLESS KNOWLEDGE OF CRIMESTERS' TRICKS, HAVE MADE HIM AND **ROBIN** THE TERROR OF THE UNDERWORLD! BUT WHAT IF **BATMAN** FORGOT ALL THESE GREAT TALENTS? IT SEEMS INCREDIBLE -- BUT IT HAPPENS, WHEN HIS MIND BLANKS OUT AND **ROBIN** HAS TO TEACH HIM...

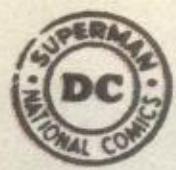
HOW TO BE THE BATMAN!

SWING DOWN ON YOUR ROPE, BATMAN --THE WAY I TAUGHT YOU!

BOB KANE

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BATMAN ANNUAL



IN THE DARK HOURS WHEN CRIME INVADES THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY, A FATEFUL BEAM STABS THE MIDNIGHT SKY --THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**



AND BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON MUST AGAIN RESUME THE SECRET IDENTITIES IN WHICH THEY TIREDLESSLY BATTLE WRONG-DOERS!

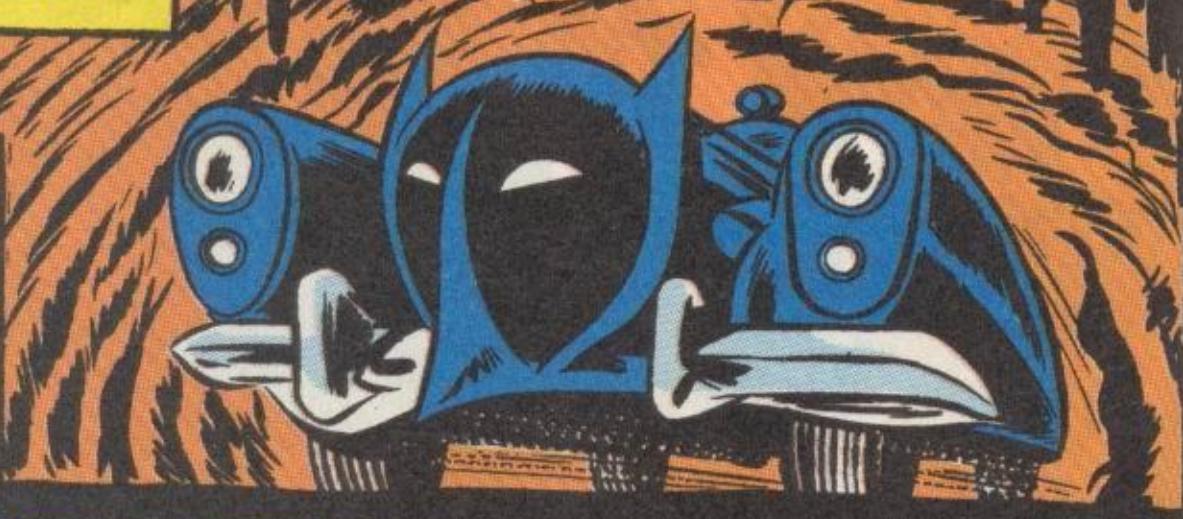
THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**
AND I'D COUNTED
ON A QUIET EVENING!

COMMISSIONER GORDON WANTS US, SO WE'D BETTER BECOME **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--FAST!

MOMENTS LATER, FROM THE HIDDEN **BAT-CAVE** BENEATH THE WAYNE MANSION, AN OMINOUS SHAPE ROARS FORTH!

I WONDER WHAT IT IS THIS TIME?

SOMETHING BIG, OR THEY WOULDN'T USE THAT SIGNAL! WE'LL SOON KNOW!



AT COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

WHAT IS IT, COMMISSIONER?

SOMETHING STRANGE, **BATMAN**! THIS MAN IS NIGHT WATCHMAN AT THE AJAX IMPORTING COMPANY, WHICH WAS ROBBED AN HOUR AGO!



BATMAN, LITTLE CAN YOU GUESS WHAT GRIM, IRONIC FATE IS HATCHING FOR YOU THIS TIME--A FATEFUL END TO YOUR WHOLE CAREER!

"WHEN OUR MEN GOT THERE, THEY FOUND THE WATCHMAN BEREFT OF HIS SENSES..."

HE'S FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING ABOUT HIMSELF!

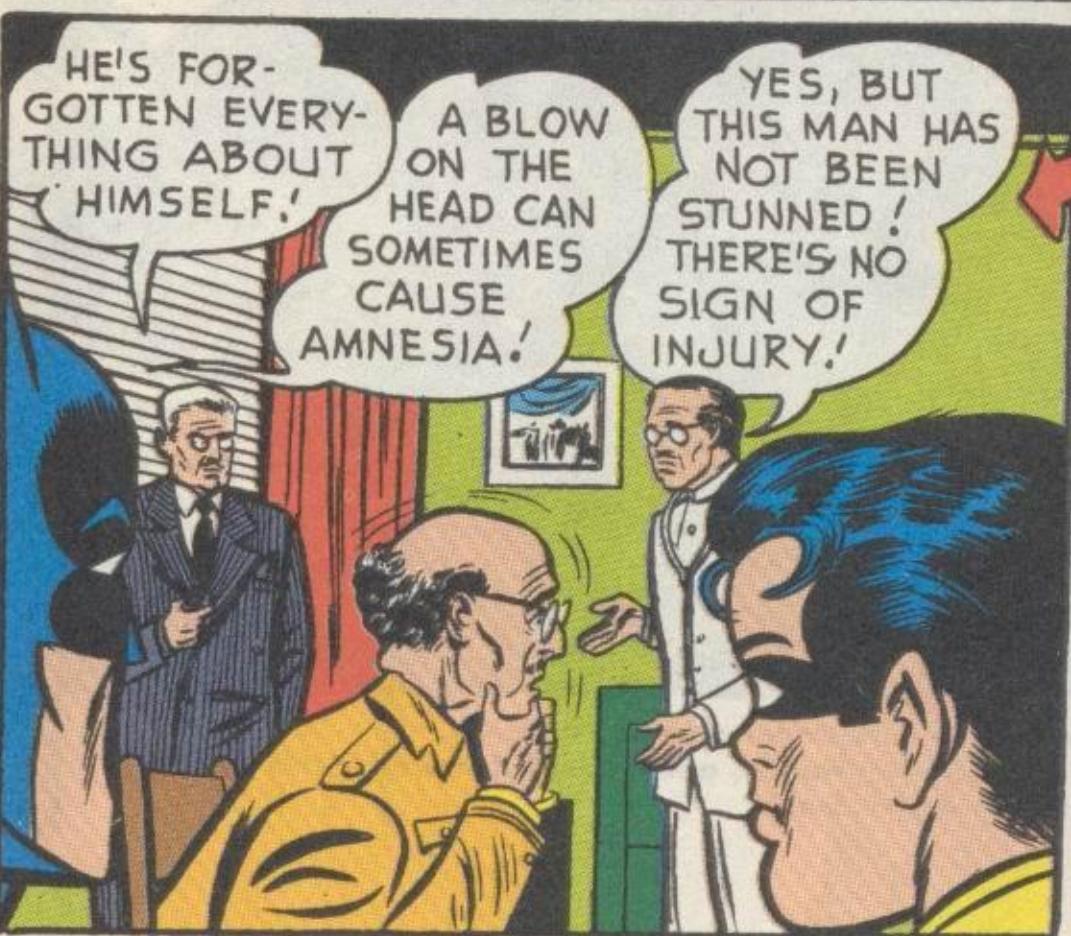
A BLOW ON THE HEAD CAN SOMETIMES CAUSE AMNESIA!

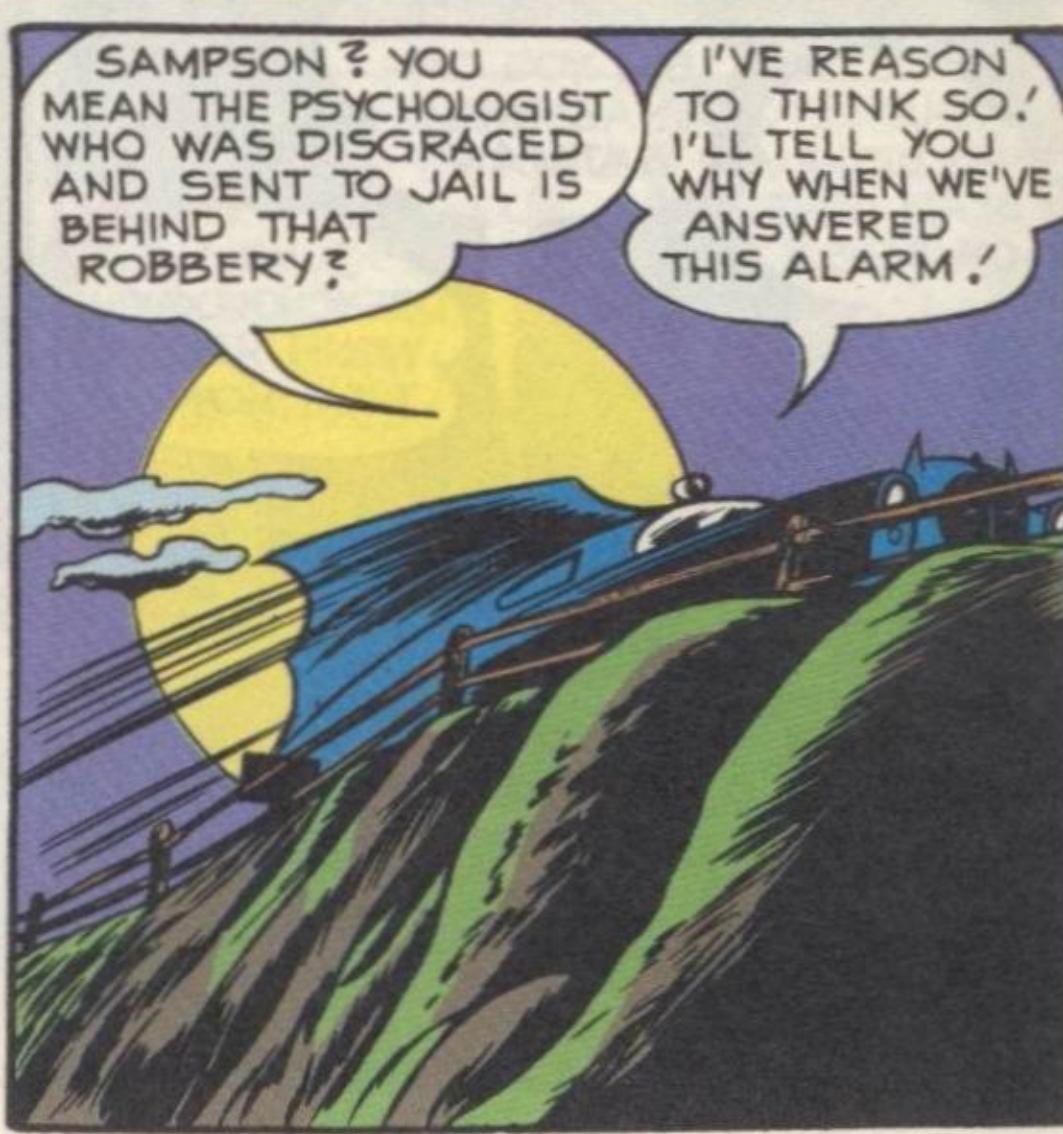
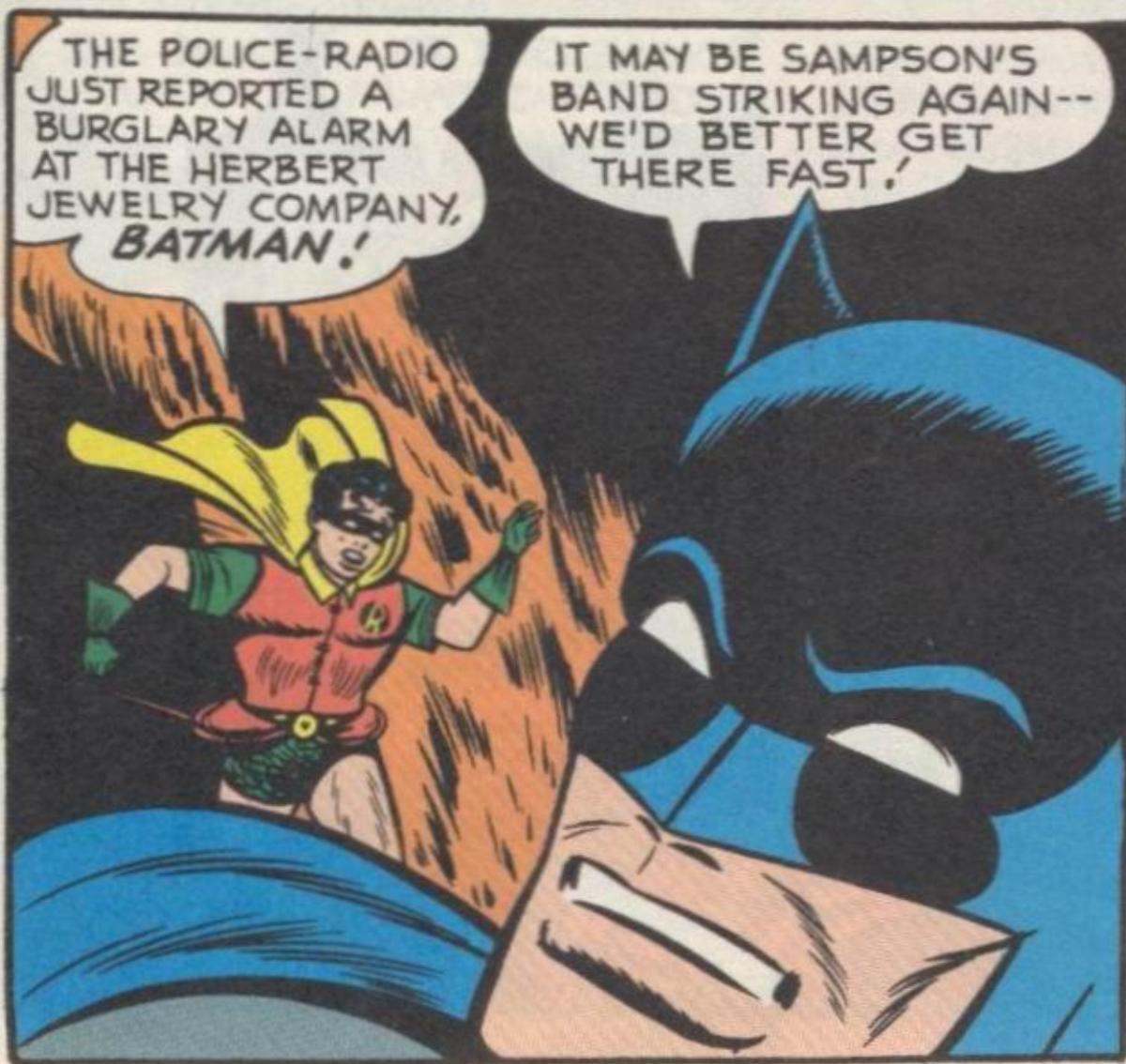
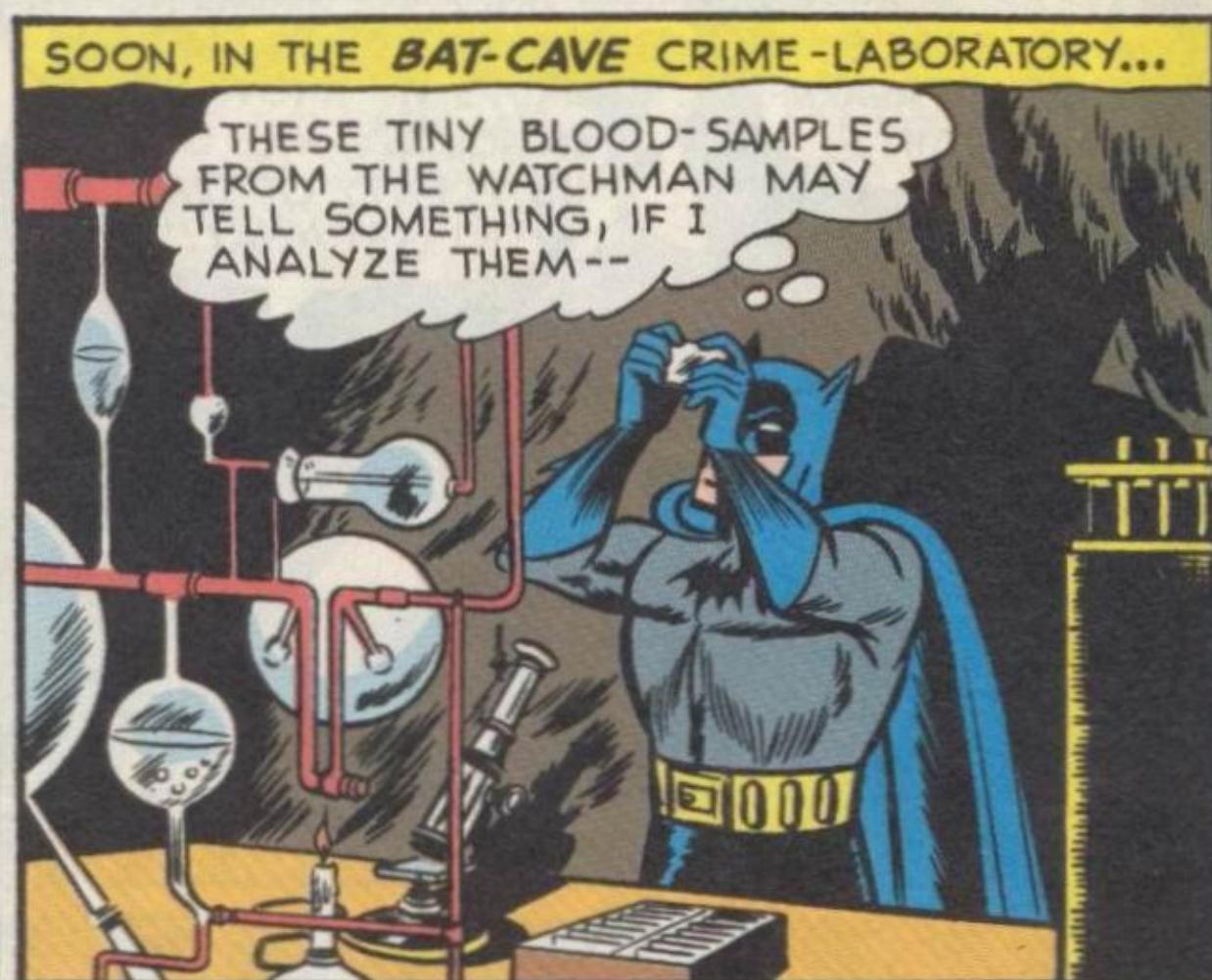
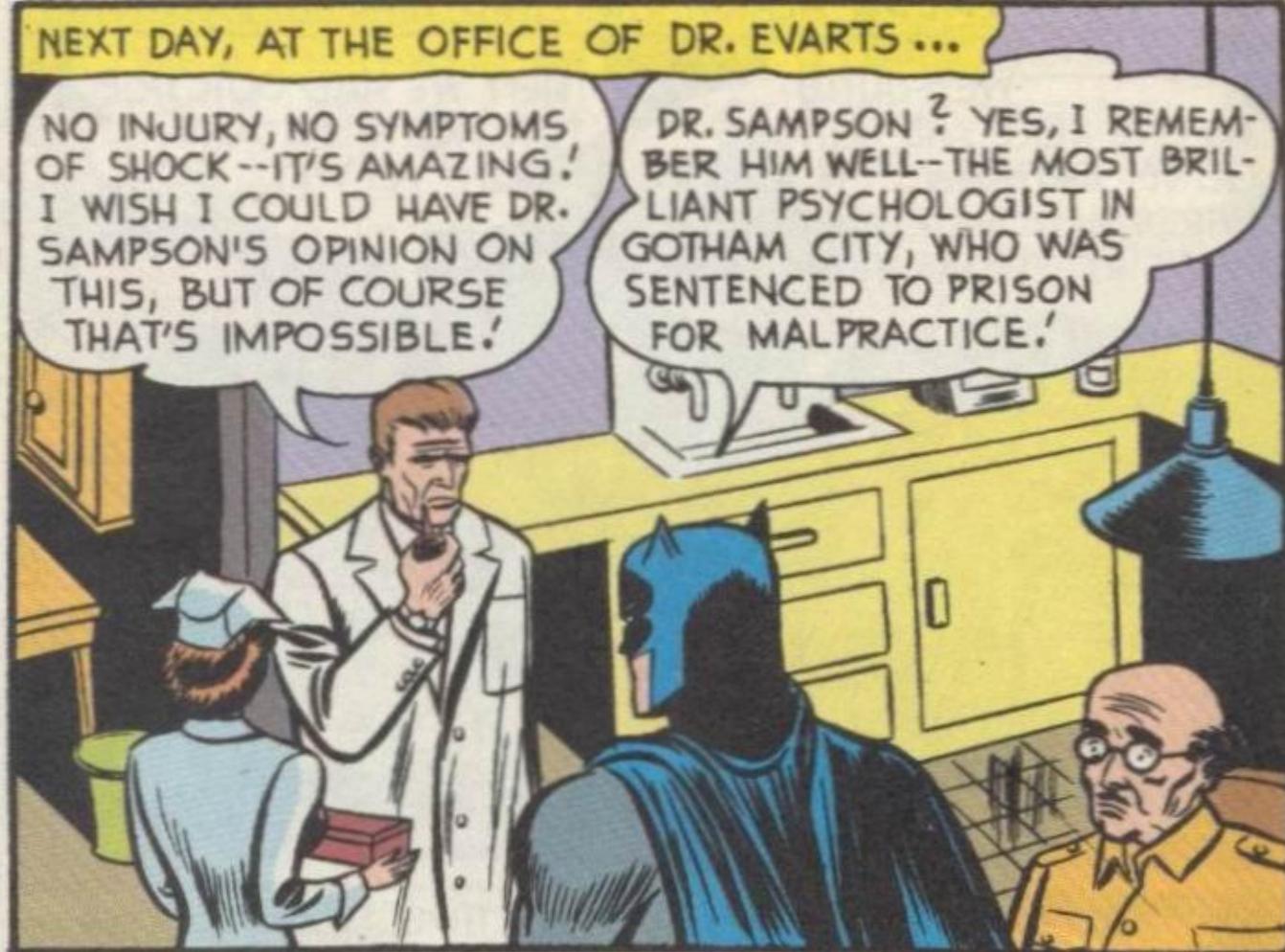
YES, BUT THIS MAN HAS NOT BEEN STUNNED! THERE'S NO SIGN OF INJURY!

TOO LATE--THE THIEVES ARE GONE! BUT WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE GUARD?

WHO AM I? WHAT AM I DOING HERE? I CAN'T REMEMBER!

CRASH!





BUT IT'S A **FALSE** ALARM THAT THIS TIME HAS SUMMONED THE DUO!

WE FOUND NO ONE HERE AND NOTHING GONE, **BATMAN**! THE ALARM WIRES HAD SHORT-CIRCUITED --WE'RE FIXING THEM NOW!

THEN WE HAD OUR TRIP FOR NOTHING AND MIGHT AS WELL GO!

BUT WHEN THE ALARM-WIRES ARE REPAIRED AND THE DUO AND THE POLICE HAVE LEFT...

I DON'T GET IT, DR. SAMPSON -- FIRST WE SET OFF A FALSE ALARM BY JIMMYING THE WIRES, AND DRAW THE LAW HERE! NOW YOU WANT TO STAGE A **REAL** ROBBERY!

PSYCHOLOGY CAN DECEIVE ANYBODY AS YOU'LL SEE!



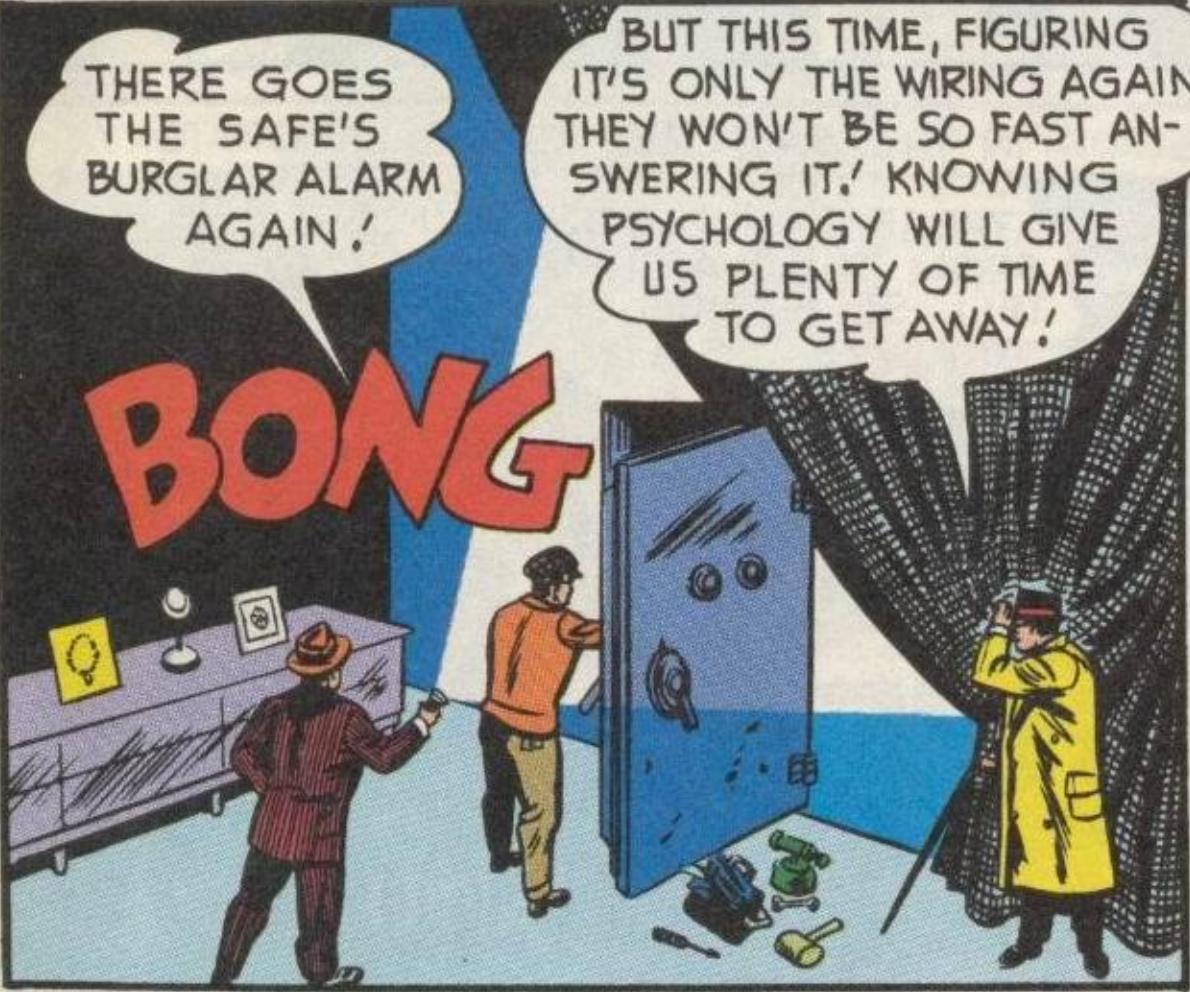
THERE GOES THE SAFE'S BURGLAR ALARM AGAIN!

BUT THIS TIME, FIGURING IT'S ONLY THE WIRING AGAIN, THEY WON'T BE SO FAST ANSWERING IT! KNOWING PSYCHOLOGY WILL GIVE US PLENTY OF TIME TO GET AWAY!

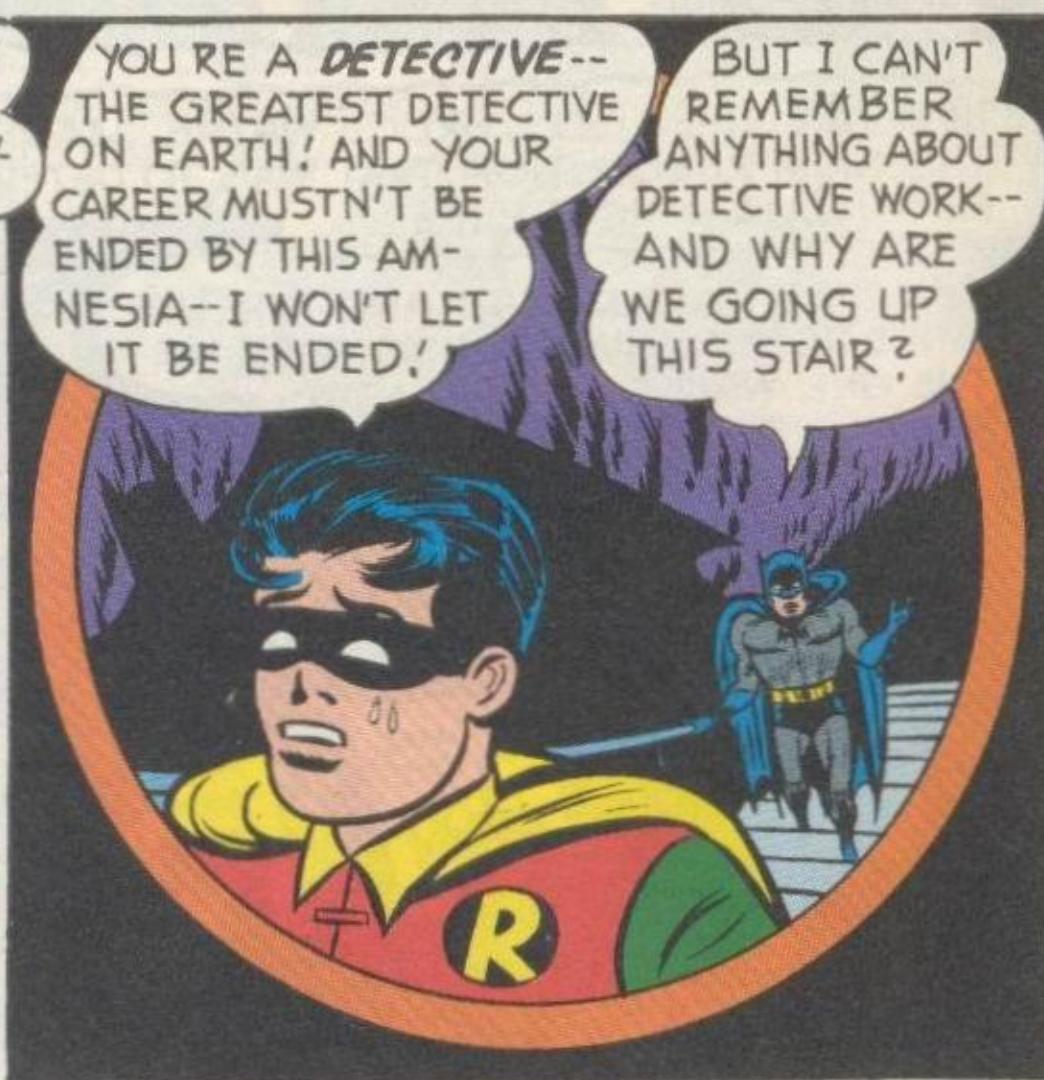
BUT SINCE I SUSPECTED A PSYCHOLOGIST PLANNED THIS, I DECIDED TO STICK AROUND!

BATMAN AND **ROBIN** ONLY PRE-TENDED TO GO AWAY!

DON'T WORRY, WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM.



BATMAN ANNUAL



BATMAN ANNUAL

THIS IS THE MANSION OF BRUCE WAYNE, MILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY, UNDER WHICH THE **BAT-CAVE** IS HIDDEN! AND YOU ARE BRUCE WAYNE-- THAT'S THE SECRET IDENTITY OF **BATMAN!**

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! IF I'M A MILLIONAIRE, WHY SHOULD I SECRETLY BE A DETECTIVE?

PERHAPS IF I TELL YOU YOUR OWN PAST, IT'LL ALL COME BACK TO YOU! YOUR CAREER--**BATMAN'S** CAREER-- STARTED WHEN YOU WERE JUST A BOY! YOU AND YOUR PARENTS, ONE NIGHT--



"...WERE STOPPED BY A HOODLUM BANDIT! AND WHEN YOUR FATHER RESISTED..."

I'LL TAKE THAT NECKLACE, LADY!

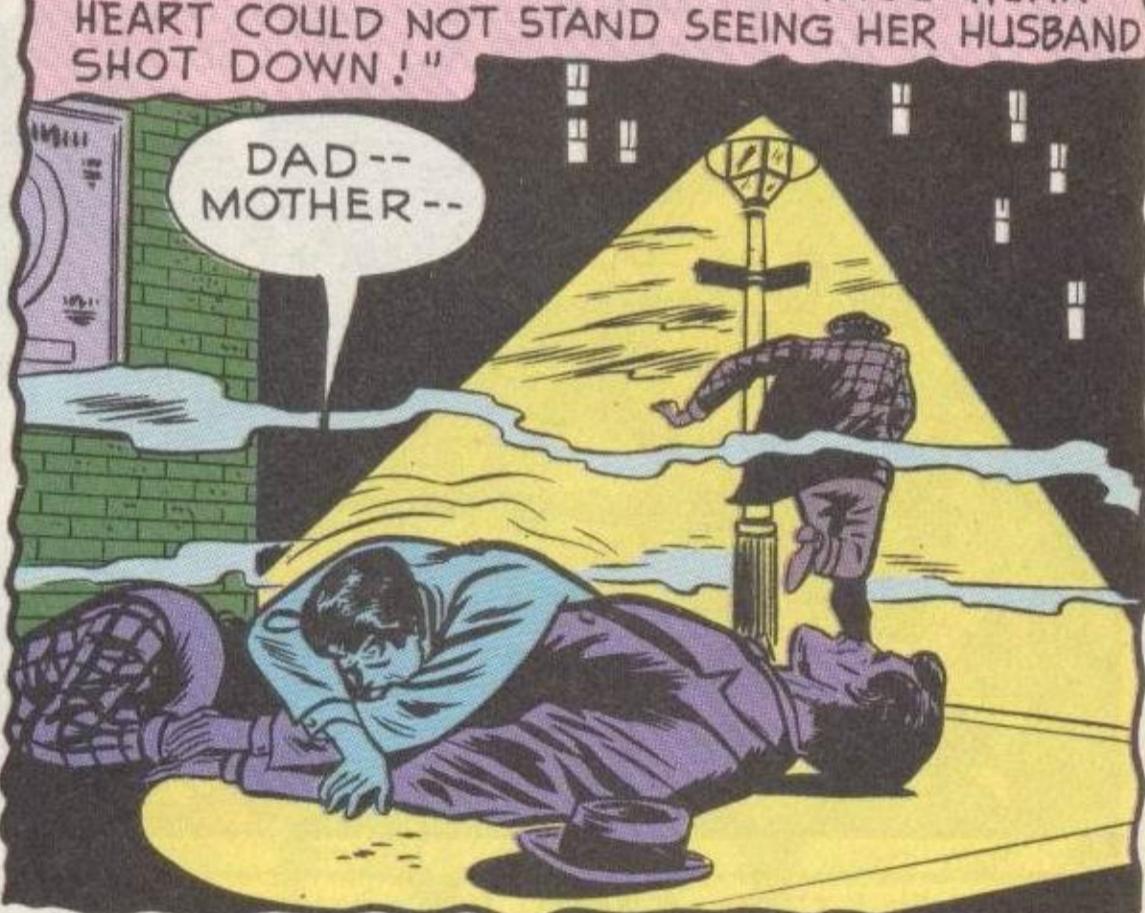
DON'T YOU DARE PUT A HAND ON MY WIFE!

DAD, LOOK OUT-- HE'S GOING TO SHOOT!



"THAT HOODLUM'S SINGLE SHOT KILLED **BOTH** YOUR PARENTS--FOR MARTHA WAYNE'S WEAK HEART COULD NOT STAND SEEING HER HUSBAND SHOT DOWN!"

DAD-- MOTHER--



"THAT WAS WHEN YOU, BRUCE WAYNE, MADE THE GRIM RESOLUTION THAT WAS TO DETERMINE YOUR WHOLE LIFE!"

I'LL DEDICATE MY LIFE AND INHERITANCE TO BRINGING CRIMINALS LIKE THE ONE WHO KILLED YOU TO JUSTICE!



"YOUR WHOLE EDUCATION IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS WAS FOR THAT ONE PURPOSE!"

I'VE GOT TO KNOW SCIENCE THOROUGHLY TO BECOME A SCIENTIFIC DETECTIVE! AND I MUSTN'T NEGLECT MY GYM-WORK--I'LL NEED PERFECT ACROBATIC SKILL FOR MY ALL-OUT WAR ON CRIME!



"WHEN YOU WERE READY TO TAKE UP YOUR ROLE IN LIFE, YOU CHOSE A DISGUISE THAT WOULD STRIKE TERROR INTO SUPERSTITIOUS CRIMINALS!"

A BAT--THAT'S IT! I'LL BECOME LIKE A BAT, AN EERIE FIGURE OF THE SHADOWS --A BAT-MAN!"



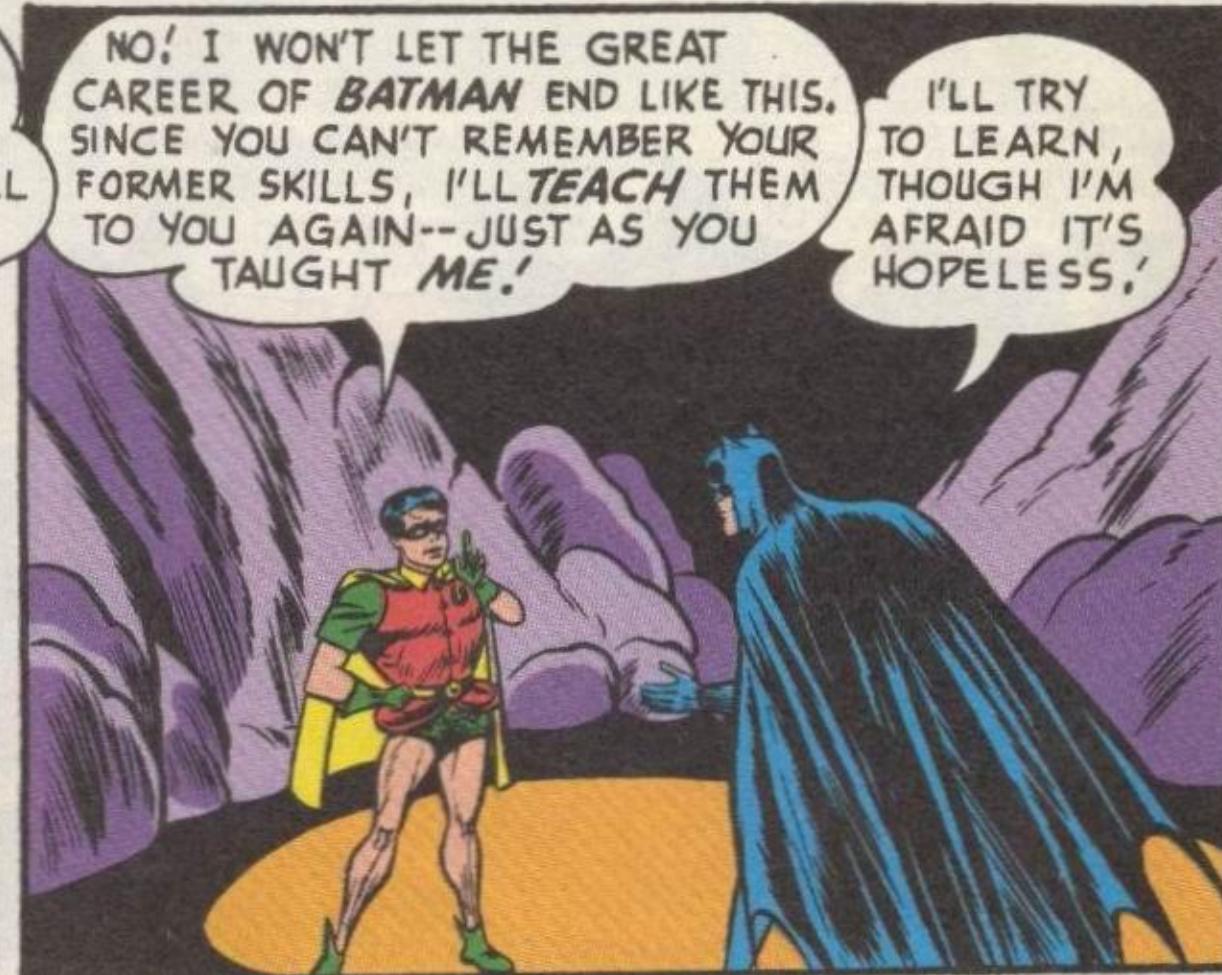
SURELY YOU REMEMBER ALL THE CASES WE'VE WORKED ON AS BATMAN AND ROBIN! TRY TO REMEMBER!

I--I CAN'T! I'M NO DETECTIVE, SINCE I CAN REMEMBER NOTHING NOW OF WHAT I KNEW! YOU'LL HAVE TO GO ON WITHOUT ME!



NO! I WON'T LET THE GREAT CAREER OF BATMAN END LIKE THIS. SINCE YOU CAN'T REMEMBER YOUR FORMER SKILLS, I'LL TEACH THEM TO YOU AGAIN--JUST AS YOU TAUGHT ME!

I'LL TRY TO LEARN, THOUGH I'M AFRAID IT'S HOPELESS!



AND SO BEGINS THE RE-EDUCATION OF BATMAN!

YOU'VE SEEN OUR VARIOUS COSTUMES FOR DIFFERENT JOBS--NOW YOU CAN STUDY YOUR UTILITY BELT, WHICH CARRIES YOUR ROPE, THE TWO-WAY RADIO, AND ALL THE GADGETS YOU DREAMED UP!

I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN REMEMBER ALL THESE THINGS!

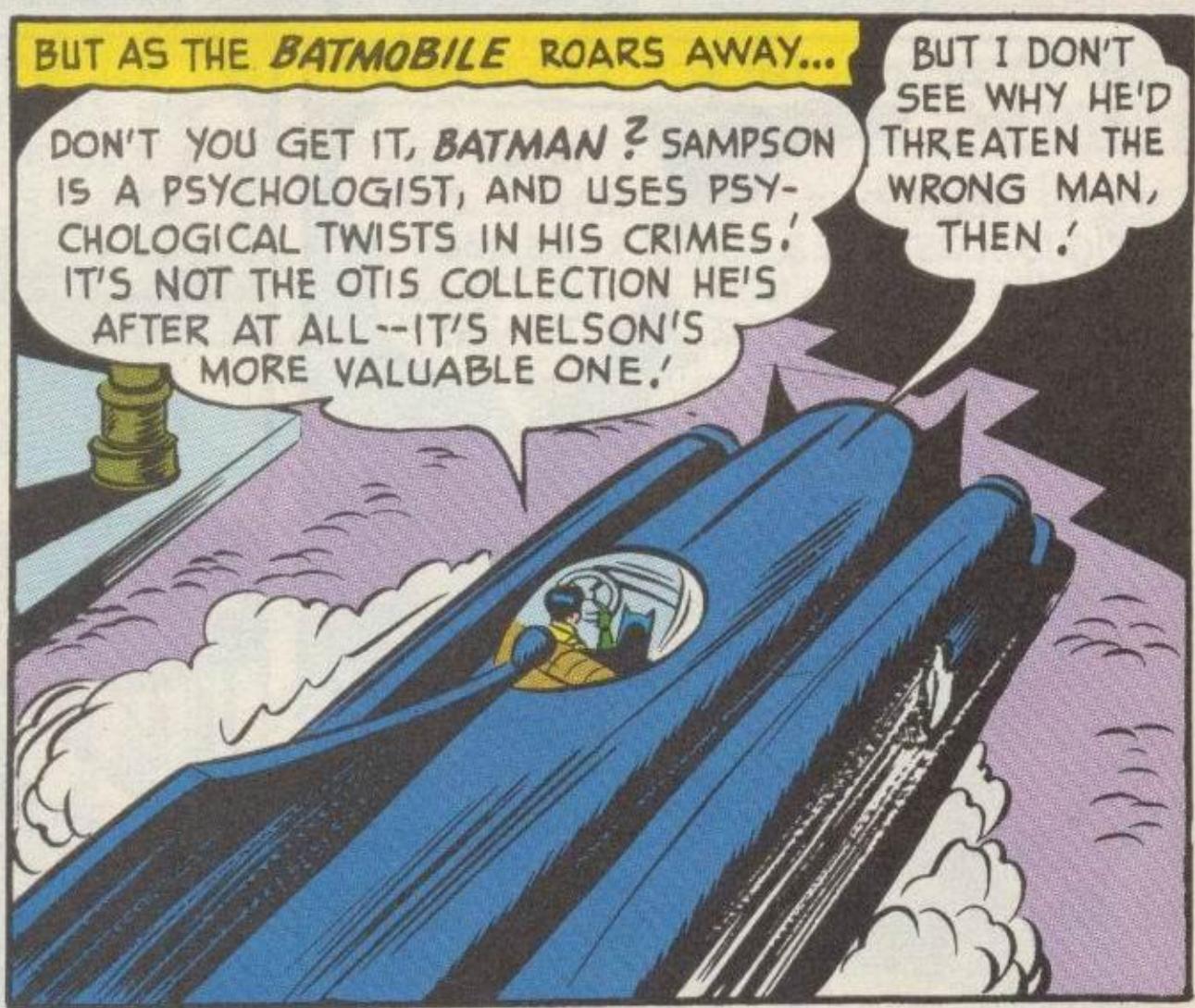
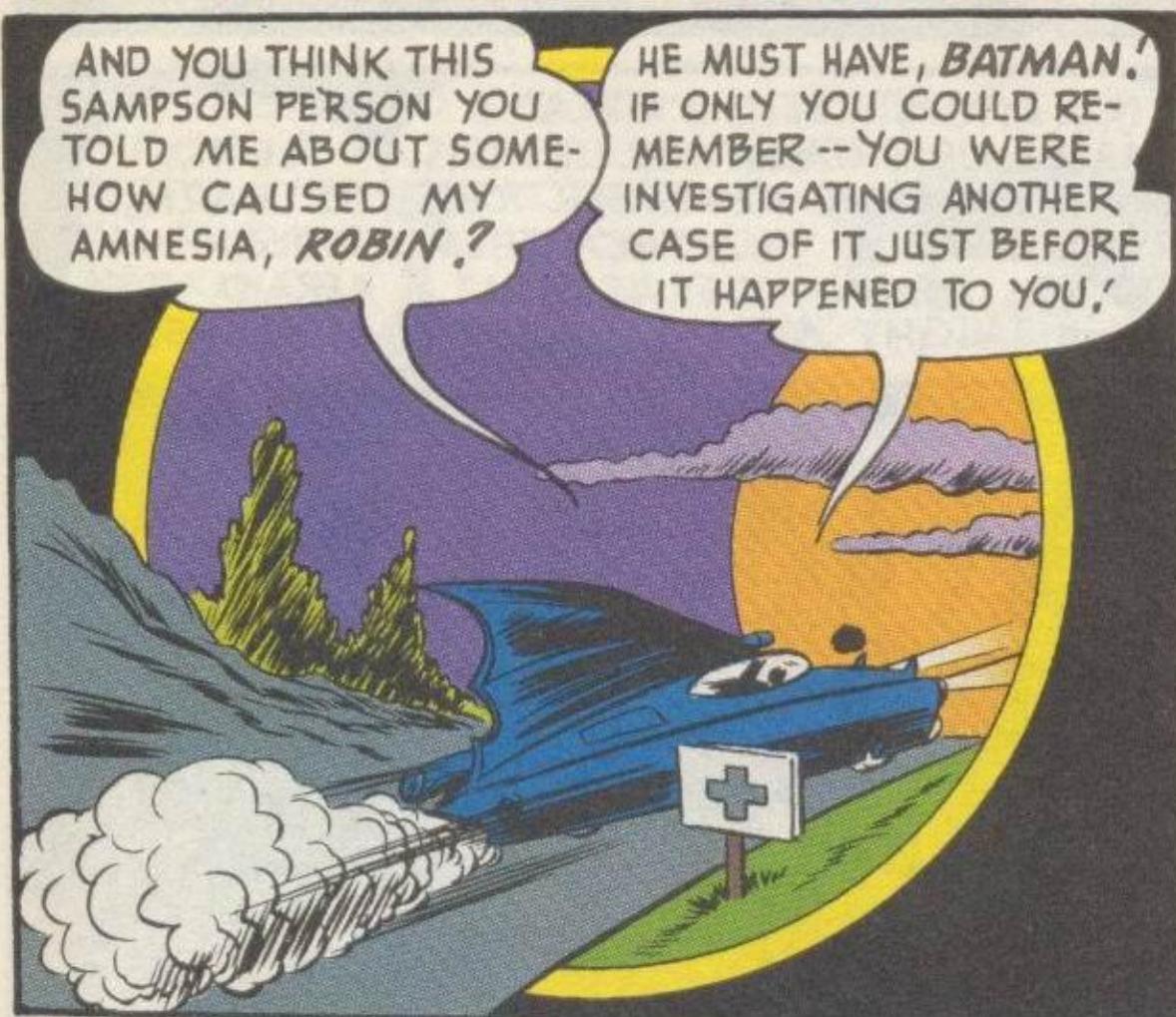
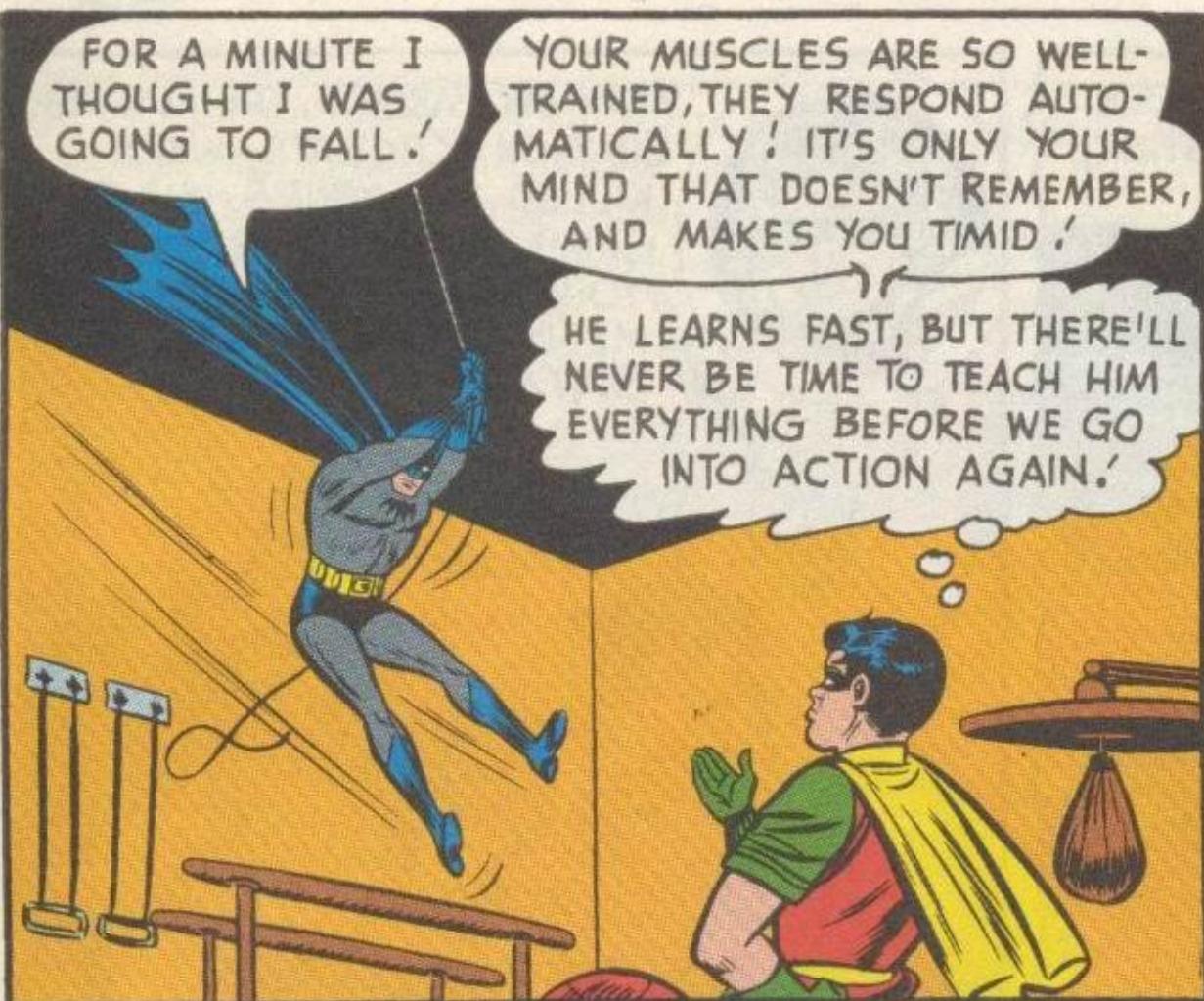


ALL RIGHT, I'LL GRAB YOU AS THOUGH YOU WERE A CROOK, SINCE YOU ASK ME TO--OOF!



YES, BUT YOU HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR DIRTY TRICKS--LIKE THIS!

BATMAN ANNUAL



PARTLY TO MISLEAD THE POLICE, BUT MOSTLY TO ALARM NELSON INTO MOVING HIS OWN COLLECTION TO A PLACE OF SAFETY, LEST HE BE NEXT!

I HOPE I WON'T LET YOU DOWN TOO BADLY, ROBIN!

TWO CAPED FIGURES FLASH INTO ACTION! BUT...

NO, BATMAN-- USE YOUR ROPE LIKE I SHOWED YOU, AND DISARM THEM WITH YOUR FEET.

STOP! I'M BATMAN AND I--OOP!

YOU'RE NOT BATMAN-- NOT ANY MORE! COME ON, BOYS!

DO A BACKFLIP, BATMAN! DO A BACK--OH, NO!

OOF!

CLIP!

ZOOM

AND LEFT NELSON WITHOUT A MEMORY IN THE SAME WEIRD WAY.

WHO-AM-I?

THEY GOT AWAY!

LATER... BATMAN, YOU FAILED BADLY! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?

I--ER--I'LL BE ALL RIGHT NEXT TIME!

THERE'LL BE NO NEXT TIME FOR YOU--YOU'VE FAILED US, AND WE'LL HAVE TO CATCH THIS SAMPSON WITHOUT YOU! YOU'D ONLY BE IN THE WAY!

COME ALONG, BATMAN!

LATER, THE TRAGIC REALIZATION OF A CAREER THAT IS FINISHED FOREVER!

I KNOW NOW I'M THROUGH! YOU COULD BE A GREAT DETECTIVE WITHOUT ME HAMPERING YOU, ROBIN! FROM NOW ON, IT WILL BE ROBIN -- NOT BATMAN AND ROBIN--AGAINST CRIME!

NO, BATMAN -- I COULDN'T REPLACE YOU! NOBODY COULD!

YOUR GREAT SCIENTIFIC SKILL COULD HAVE SOLVED THIS AMNESIA-MYSTERY! YOU WERE WORKING ON IT IN THE LAB. WHEN WE WERE INTERRUPTED, BUT HAD NO TIME TO TELL ME ANYTHING --AND THEN YOU LOST ALL MEMORY!

MAYBE WE COULD FIND OUT WHAT I LEARNED WHEN I STILL HAD MY MEMORY! LET'S LOOK IN THE LAB!

AND IN THE BAT-CAVE'S CRIME-LABORATORY, A MAN WITHOUT MEMORY TRIES TO DEDUCE HIS OWN PAST!

YOU WERE STUDYING BLOOD-SAMPLES FROM THAT AMNESIA-STRICKEN WATCHMAN--BUT YOU MADE NO NOTES HERE, SO WE DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU FOUND!

BUT THAT PENCIL INDICATES I DID MAKE NOTES! IF YOU INTERRUPTED ME, I MIGHT HAVE HASTILY PUT THEM IN MY POCKET! WE'LL SEE!

A POCKET OF BATMAN'S COSTUME YIELDS A FORGOTTEN CLUE!

THIS SEEMS TO BE MY HANDWRITING --THESE MUST BE THE NOTES I MADE!

THERE'S NOTHING BUT A CHEMICAL FORMULA, AND THE WORDS, "CHECK ON DIFFUSION FILTERS TO FIND S."

$$\begin{aligned} H_2O + 2X &= Oe \\ q^o &= RY = Q \end{aligned}$$

check on Diffusion Filters to find S.

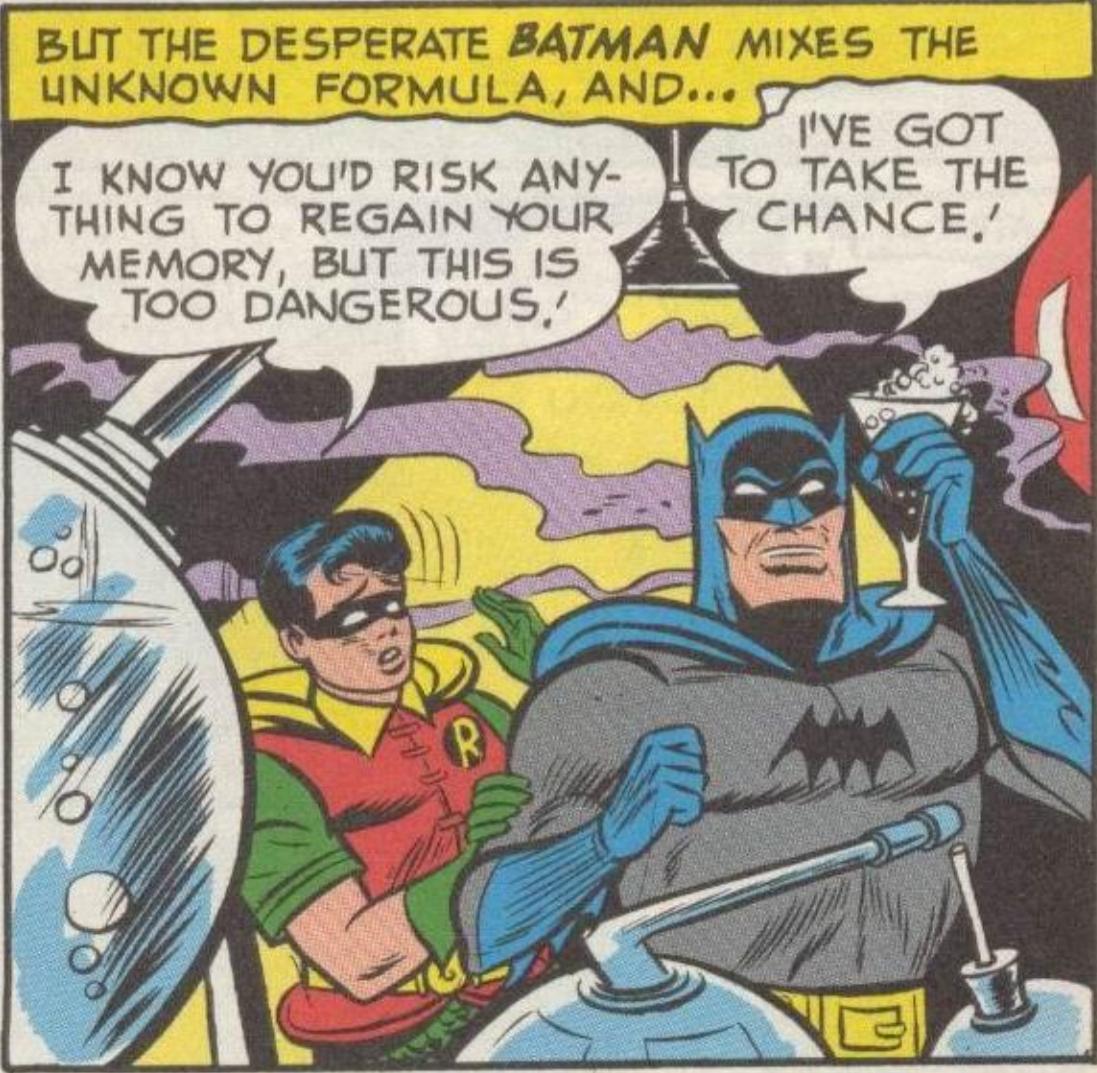
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY MEAN -- BUT MY GUESS IS THAT THE CHEMICAL FORMULA WAS AN ANTIDOTE I WORKED OUT FOR THE STRANGE AMNESIA I WAS STUDYING! ROBIN, I'M GOING TO MIX THAT FORMULA AND TRY IT ON MYSELF!

BATMAN,
IT'S TOO RISKY--
YOUR GUESS
COULD BE
WRONG!

BUT THE DESPERATE BATMAN MIXES THE UNKNOWN FORMULA, AND...

I KNOW YOU'D RISK ANYTHING TO REGAIN YOUR MEMORY, BUT THIS IS TOO DANGEROUS!

I'VE GOT TO TAKE THE CHANCE!



BUT THE EXPERIMENT FAILS...

NOTHING HAPPENED--I STILL CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING! THEN IT WASN'T AN AMNESIA-ANTIDOTE AFTER ALL! ROBIN, IT'S HOPELESS!

NO, THERE'S STILL THE OTHER CLUE--WE MIGHT STILL FIND SAMPSON--"S."--THROUGH IT! DIFFUSION FILTERS ARE BIG, COSTLY EQUIPMENT--WE'LL CHECK UP ON THEM AS YOU HAD PLANNED!

SOON, IN A CHEMICAL SUPPLY FIRM...

YES, WE DID SELL ONE OF THESE GAS DIFFUSION-FILTERS NOT LONG AGO--IT WAS DELIVERED TO A PARTY AT 13 GREEN STREET!

BUT, AT 13 GREEN STREET...

BETTER SURRENDER, BATMAN, OR MY BOMB OF AMNESIA-GAS WILL DESTROY ROBIN'S MEMORY, TOO!

WE'VE GOT TO DO IT, ROBIN--I'VE BLUNDERED AGAIN AND CAN'T LET YOU BECOME LIKE ME!

SO IT WAS AMNESIA-GAS YOU USED ON YOUR VICTIMS.

YES--MY GREAT SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY, A GAS THAT OBLITERATES THE MEMORY! NOW WE'RE GOING TO USE IT FOR OUR BIGGEST COUP, AND YOU SHALL HELP US!

WE'RE GOING TO GRAB THE CURRENCY SHIPMENT SLATED TO LEAVE THE AIRPORT TODAY! WITH YOU ALONG, NO ONE WILL SUSPECT US UNTIL WE STRIKE! YOU'LL AGREE--OR BATMAN WILL LOSE HIS LIFE AS WELL AS HIS MEMORY!

I--I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO DO IT! I'LL GO ALONG!

NO,
ROBIN--
NO--!

AS THE PSYCHOLOGIST-CROOK DEPARTS WITH ROBIN, AGONIZING MINUTES PASS FOR THE BATMAN!

MY HEAD--IT'S SWIMMING--MUST DO SOMETHING TO GET ROBIN CLEAR--.
IF YOU LET ME GO, I'LL GIVE YOU MY GREATEST TREASURE--MY UTILITY BELT!

SAY, I'VE HEARD OF THAT BELT! YOU'LL GIVE IT TO ME, BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!

BATMAN ANNUAL

AS THE THUG UNTIES BATMAN FOR A MOMENT SO THAT HE CAN REMOVE THE PRECIOUS BELT...

NOW TAKE THAT BELT OFF AND TOSS IT TO ME AND I'LL TIE YOU UP AGAIN! I WOULDN'T TAKE THIS CHANCE IF YOU HADN'T LOST YOUR KNOW-HOW!

HERE'S THE BELT.

-- AND A TEAR-GAS CAPSULE I HAD HIDDEN IN ONE OF THE BELT'S POCKETS!

HEY, YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO REMEMBER THINGS LIKE THAT--I DON'T GET IT--I CAN'T SEE--

PRESENTLY, THE SINISTER DR. SAMPSON GETS A SHATTERING SURPRISE...

NOT SO EASILY THIS TIME!

BATMAN! HE GOT LOOSE SOMEHOW--BUT WE CAN EASILY HANDLE HIM!

I ALWAYS LIKED THIS STUNT WHEN I HAD TO DEAL FAST WITH CROOKS LIKE YOU!

WHY--WHY, HE'S HIMSELF AGAIN! HE REMEMBERS!

YES, SAMPSON, I REMEMBER! AND YOU AND YOUR PALS ARE GOING TO REMEMBER ME FOR A LONG TIME--IN PRISON!

BUT, BATMAN, HOW DID YOU GET YOUR MEMORY BACK? YOUR ANTIDOTE DIDN'T WORK.

IT DID WORK, ROBIN--BUT NOT IMMEDIATELY! IT TOOK A FEW HOURS TO ACT--AND MY MEMORY CAME BACK TO ME AS I WAS TIED UP! WE CAN USE IT NOW TO RESTORE SAMPSON'S OTHER VICTIM'S!

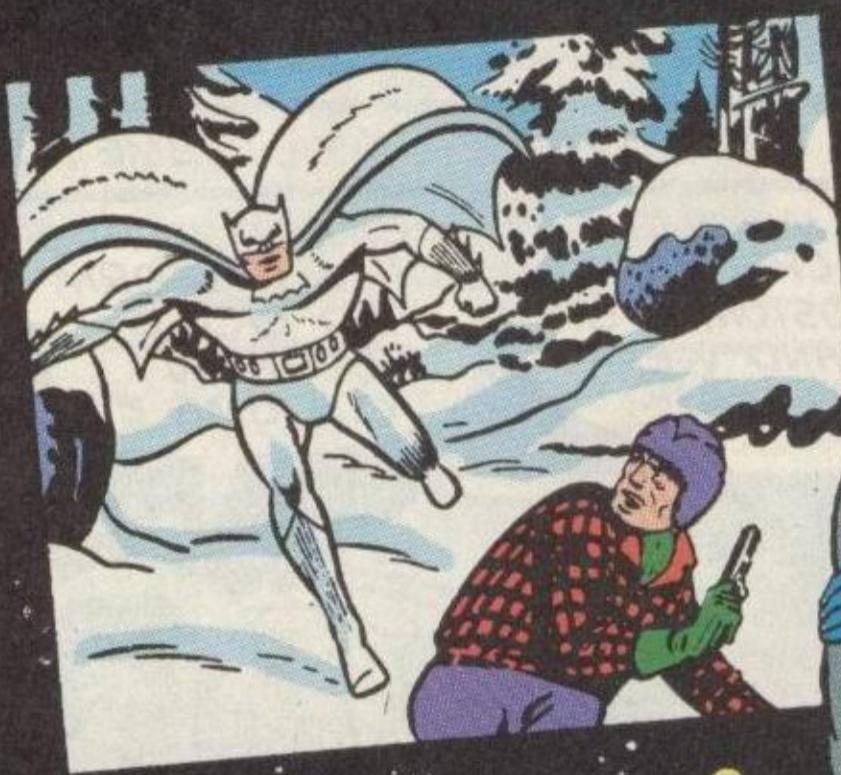
THAT'S SWELL--AND I WON'T HAVE TO TEACH BATMAN HOW TO FIGHT CRIME!

THE END



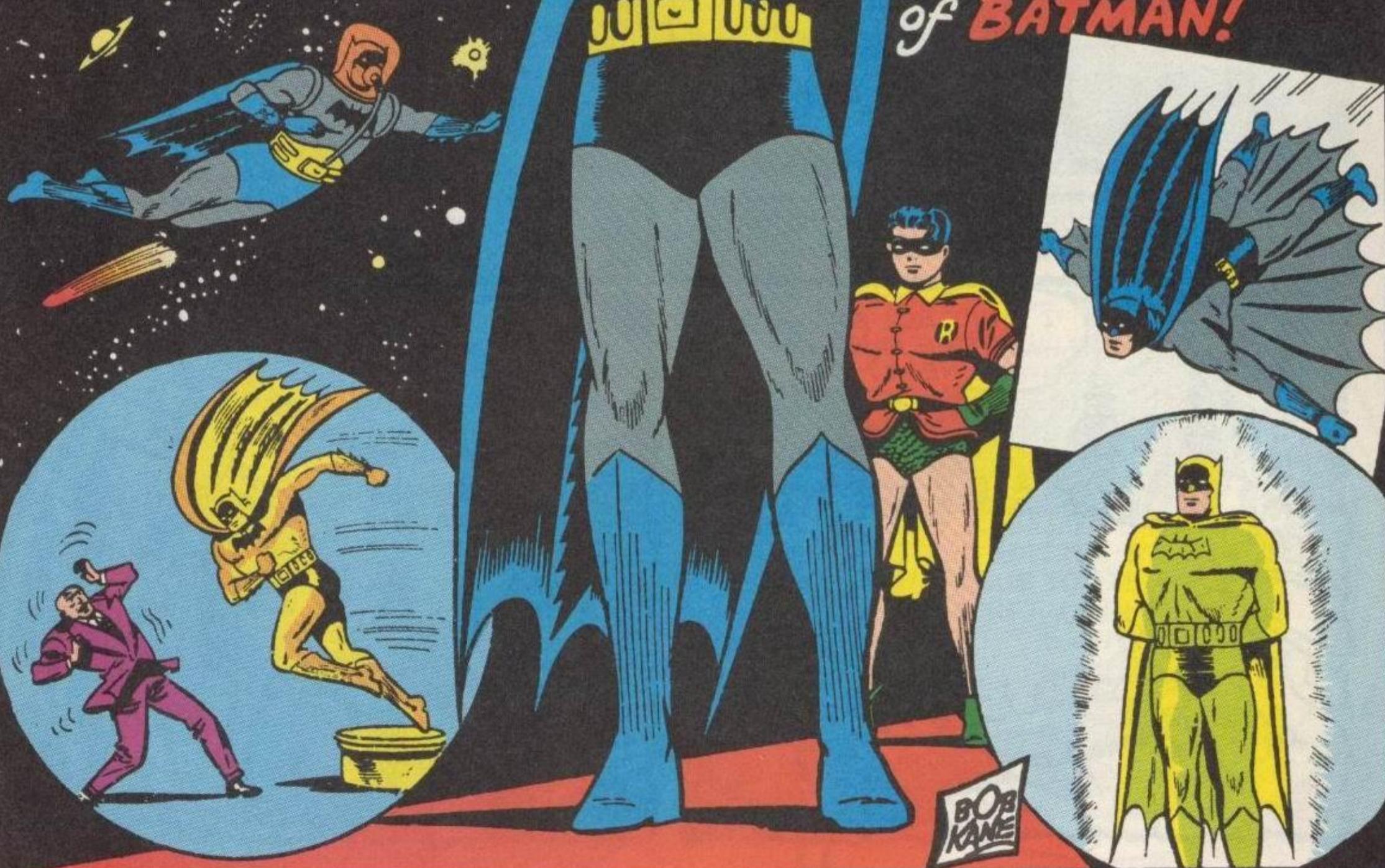
BATMAN

AND
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



WHAT IS IT THAT TERRORIZES CROOKS? WHAT DO THEY DREAD MOST? YES, IT IS THE FLASHING FIGURE OF BATMAN, CLAD IN THE SHADOWY COLORS OF BLUE AND GRAY. AND ON OCCASION, THE FAMED FIGHTER HAS DONNED OTHER UNIFORMS FOR SPECIFIC JOBS. BUT NOW--FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR CRIME-FIGHTING CAREERS--THE DARING DUO OF BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST REVEAL A TOP-SECRET COSTUME, NEVER BEFORE SEEN AS THEY BATTLE A NEW ENEMY WHO FORCES THEM TO USE ALMOST ALL OF--

**The STRANGE COSTUMES
of BATMAN!**



BATMAN ANNUAL

IN THE EERIE BAT-CAVE UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION IN GOTHAM CITY, BATMAN AND ROBIN MAKE THEIR REGULAR INSPECTION...

EVERYTHING'S SHIP-SHAPE IN THE TROPHY ROOM!



IN THE CRIME-LABORATORY...

ALL CHEMICALS ARE IN AMPLE SUPPLY!

THE ELECTRON-MICROSCOPE CHECKS OKAY! NOW LET'S INSPECT THE HANGAR!



THE BATMOBILE AND BATPLANE ARE IN PERFECT CONDITION!



WE USED WHITE COSTUMES IN THE 'CASE OF THE NORTH POLE CRIMES', FOR CAMOUFLAGE!"

FINALLY, THE DUO INSPECTS THE COSTUME ROOM...

WE'LL MAKE THE USUAL CHECK OF EACH COSTUME FOR RIPS AND WEAK PLACES!

REMEMBER THIS WHITE UNIFORM AND GOLD BATMAN COSTUME?



I CAN'T SEE BATMAN-- BUT HE MUST BE NEAR!



"AND THE GOLD-CLOTH COSTUME YOU USED IN THE 'CASE OF THE MIDAS TOUCH'!"

I HAVE THE SECRET OF KING MIDAS! EVERYTHING I TOUCH BECOMES GOLD-- EVEN BATMAN!



BATMAN ANNUAL



THE INSPECTION AWAKENS MORE MEMORIES OF THE PAST--THE PAST OF THE TWO GREATEST CRIME-FIGHTERS WHO EVER LIVED!

THIS SUPER-THIN CELLOPHANE COSTUME I KEPT CRUMPLED UP AND HIDDEN IN MY BOOT HEEL WHEN I ONCE ENTERED PRISON AS BRUCE WAYNE--SO I COULD BECOME BATMAN IN PRISON!

AND COULD BE DESTROYED WITH A MATCH SO IT WOULDN'T BE FOUND ON YOU AND GIVE AWAY YOUR IDENTITY!



THIS LUMINOUS BAT-COSTUME WHICH GLOWS IN THE DARK SCARED A SUPERSTITIOUS CROOK INTO SUBMISSION!

AND REMEMBER THIS BAT-SPACE SUIT I WORE WHEN WE WERE PROJECTED INTO THE FUTURE?



"IT SAVED MY LIFE WHEN THOSE SPACE-PIRATES DESTROYED A SHIP AND I WAS CASTADRIFT!"



AND SO THEY EXAMINE THE VARIOUS BAT-COSTUMES, WHICH ARE ALIKE IN MANY RESPECTS BUT WHICH HAVE DIFFERENT CAPABILITIES...

THIS AIR-COSTUME IS OKAY!

SO IS THIS SUB-COSTUME!



THEN THE LAST AND STRANGEST OF ALL!



RIGHT! IT'S TO BE USED ONLY IN THE WORST EMERGENCY--AND THEN, WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO USE!

WE'VE NEVER HAD TO USE THIS ONE--AND I HOPE WE NEVER WILL!

WHAT IS THE TERRIBLE SECRET OF THIS STRANGEST OF ALL COSTUMES? WHY CAN IT ONLY BE USED IN DIREST NEED? LOOK CLOSELY--IT MAY RESEMBLE BATMAN'S OTHER BATTLE RAIMENT, BUT THE CLUE TO ITS FANTASTIC SECRET IS IN PLAIN SIGHT!





BATMAN ANNUAL

FOR, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, A SINISTER NEW CORPORATION OF CRIME IS BEING FORMED HEADED BY DOCTOR ROBERT DARCY!

WHY SHOULD I WASTE MY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS IN A CHEAP LABORATORY JOB, WHEN IT CAN REAP MILLIONS FOR US?

YOU CAN STYMIE THE POLICE, DOC, BUT NOT BATMAN!

THAT HOODED DETECTIVE! HE'LL BE HELPLESS AGAINST MY SCIENTIFIC SKILL!

YEAH?



AND SHORTLY AFTER, THE GANG'S FIRST CRIME STRIKES GOTHAM CITY WITH THE FEROCITY OF A THUNDER-BOLT!



THAT FIRE--IT'S ON THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE MONARCH STATE BUILDING!

SWIFTLY, BRUCE WAYNE SLIPS INTO ONE OF THE COSTUMES THAT TRANSFORMS HIM INTO THE FAMED BATMAN!

THAT FIRE MUST BE THE REASON FOR THE POLICE SUMMONING US!

AND WE'LL FIND COMMISSIONER GORDON AT THAT FIRE! LET'S GO!



MOMENTS LATER, THE BATMOBILE RACES TO THE BURNING MENACE ...



BATMAN, WE THINK THE FIRE WAS CAUSED BY PACKAGES DELIVERED TO THE 50TH FLOOR, THEN BURST INTO FLAMES! SOME PEOPLE ARE TRAPPED IN THE TOWER ABOVE THE FIRE!

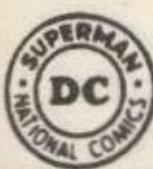
WHY DON'T THE FIREMEN RESCUE THEM?

THEY TRIED, BUT THE DOORS ON THE 50TH FLOOR ARE ALL JAMMED--APPARENTLY BY HEAT!

WE'LL TRY IT--FROM THE OUTSIDE!



BATMAN ANNUAL

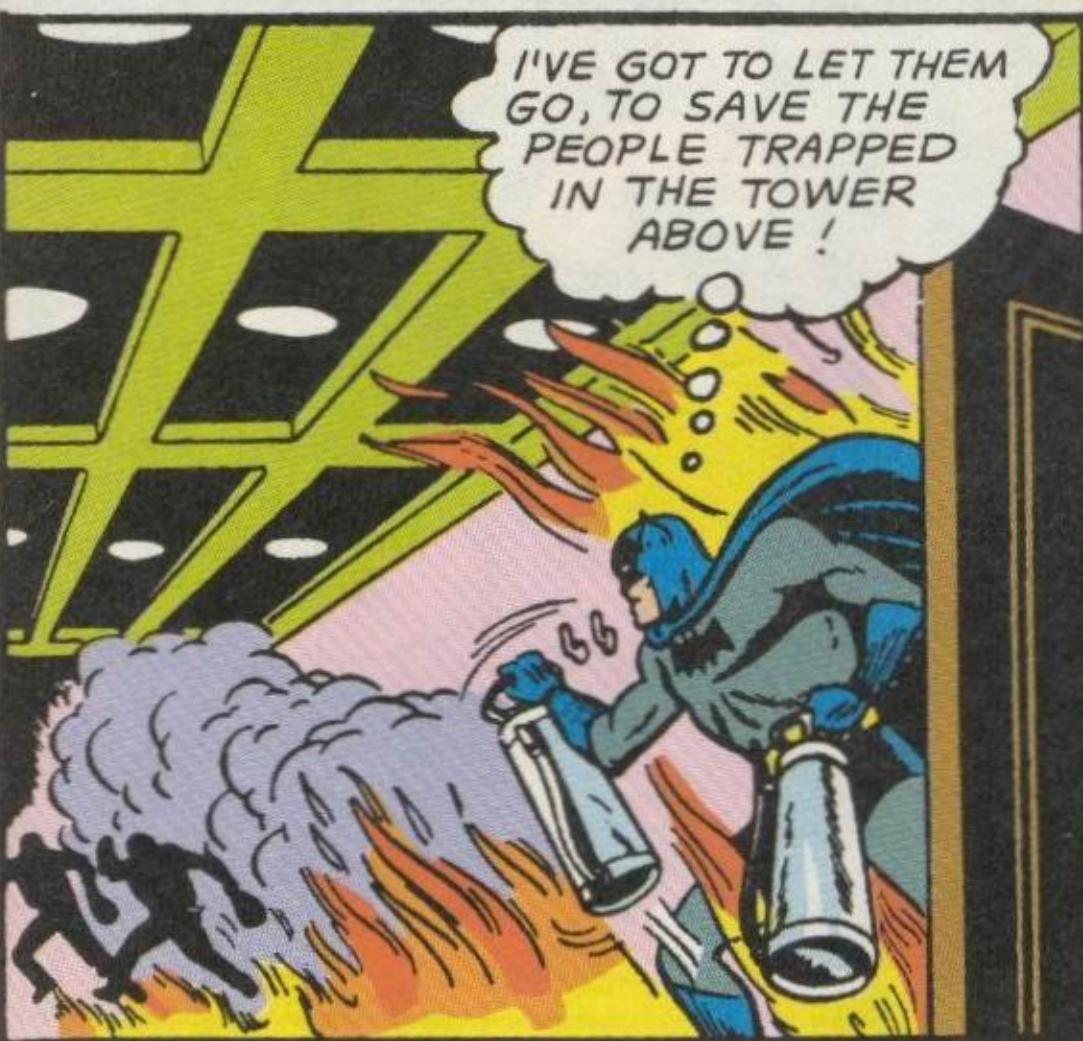


TENSE SILENCE GRIPS THE CROWD AS
TWO DARING FIGURES START A PERILOUS
CLIMB !



CROOKS WEARING ASBES-
TOS FIRE-SUITS! THEY
MUST'VE LOCKED THE
50TH FLOOR DOORS,
SO THEY COULD LOOT
THE UPPER FLOORS
WITHOUT INTER-
FERENCE!

HEY, THERE'S BATMAN--
BUT THE FLAMES
PREVENT HIM
FROM COMING
IN HERE!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BACK IN THEIR CRIME-LAB BATMAN SCRUTINIZES THE FILE OF MICROFILM...

THAT'S OUR MAN! I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HIS FACE THROUGH THE VISION-PLATE HE WORE!

"DOCTOR ROBERT DARCY, EXPERT CHEMIST AND TECHNICIAN--" BATMAN, I HAVE A HUNCH HE'LL BE HARD TO FIND!

DR. ROBERT DARCY

HARD TO FIND, INDEED! THE RENEGADE SEEMS TO HAVE DISAPPEARED UNTIL, COMPLETELY BY ACCIDENT...

--AND SO MILLIONAIRE REGGIE LAYTON AND HIS GUESTS START ON A UNIQUE PARTY IN THE SKY!"

LOOK--THOSE MEN BY THE HELICOPTER IN THE BACKGROUND!

ONE OF THEM IS DARCY! LET'S GET THERE FAST!

A QUICK CHANGE--AND SOON THE BATPLANE PICKS UP THE HOT TRAIL...

LAYTON'S GUESTS WERE LOADED WITH JEWELS--I'M CERTAIN THAT FACT ATTRACTED DARCY!

TURN THE DUST-BLOWERS TOWARD THE BLIMP! THEY'LL MAKE IT HELPLESS BY STOPPING ITS MOTORS!

I DON'T SEE HOW DUST CAN DO THAT!

IT'S EMERY DUST BEING BLOWN INTO THE BLIMP'S MOTORS! NOW GET READY TO BOARD IT AND WE'LL HEIST A FORTUNE IN JEWELS!

THE MOTORS STOPPED--WE'RE DRIFTING!

BATMAN, BE CAREFUL!
I'LL DROP ON TOP OF THE BLIMP AND WORK DOWN TO THE GONDOLA, ROBIN!



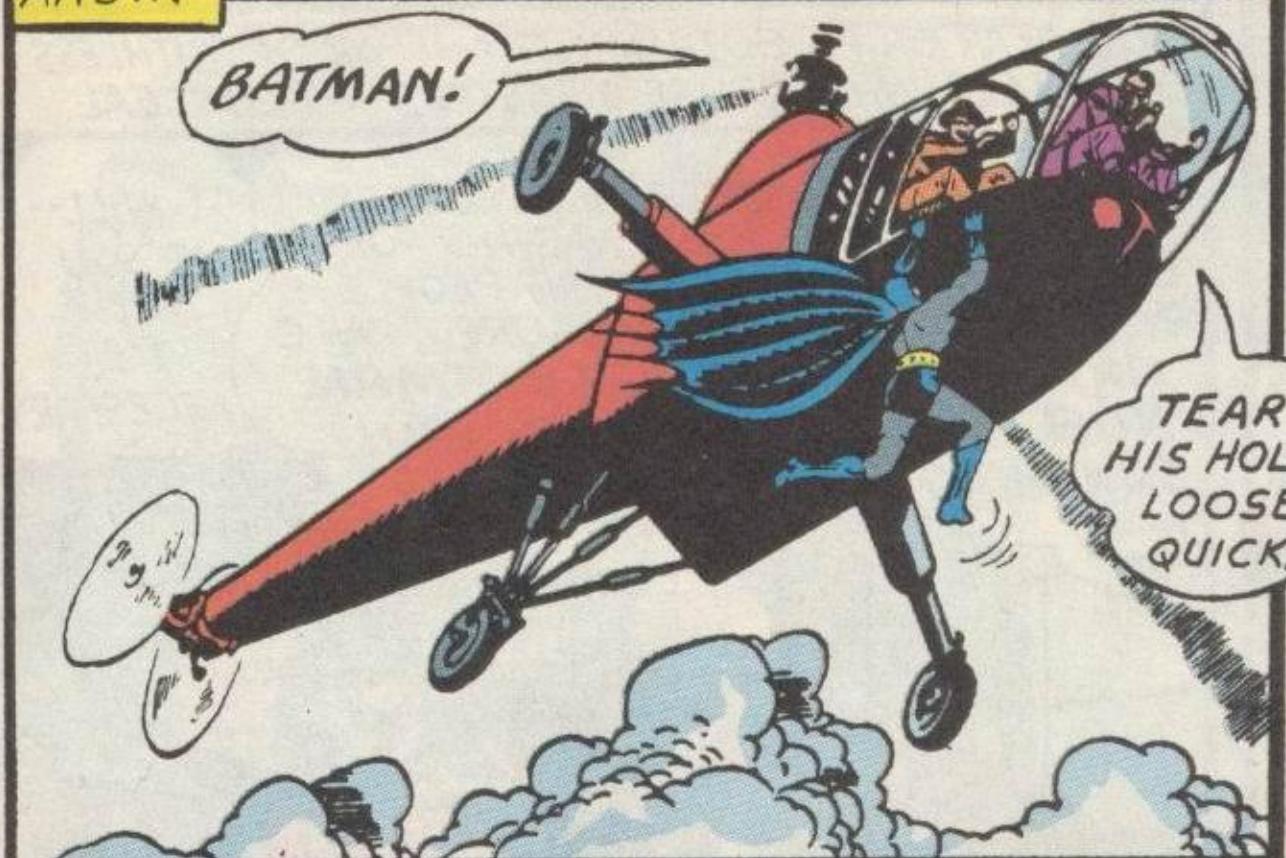
BATMAN ANNUAL



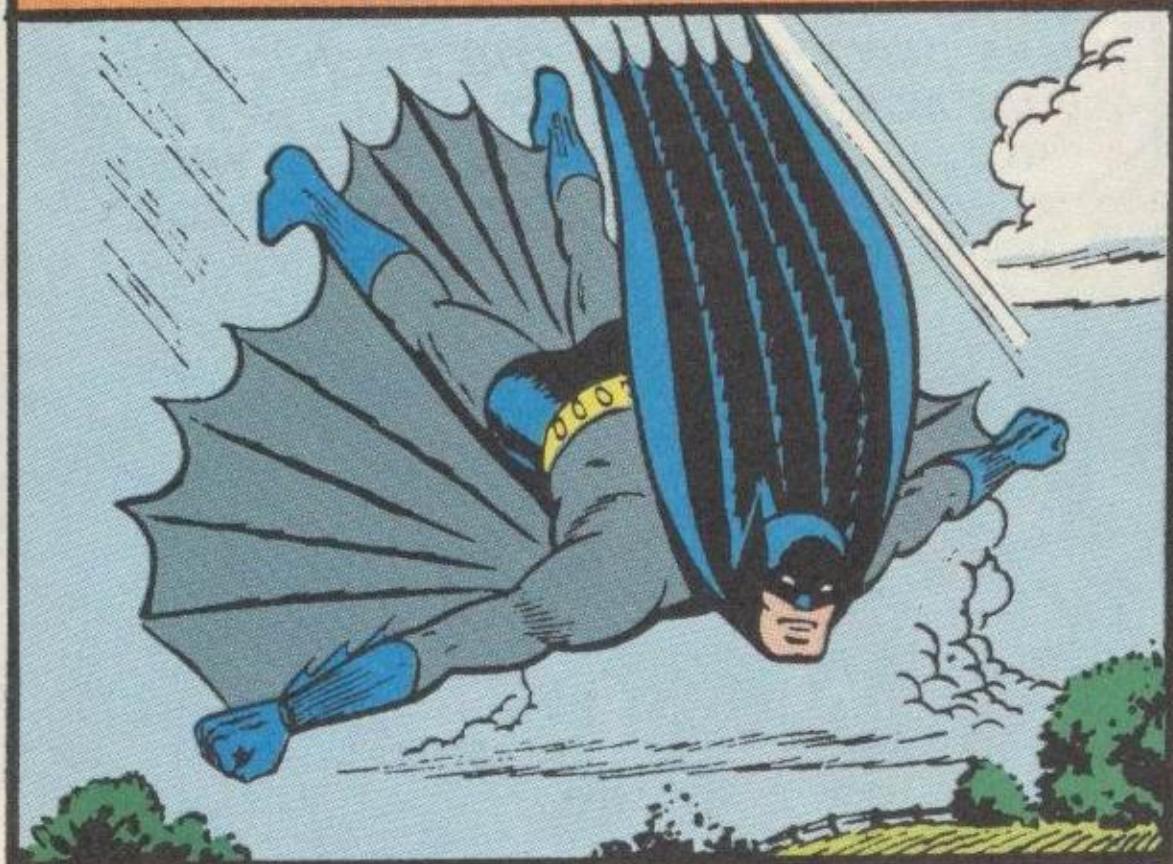
A QUICK DROP, AND THEN ...



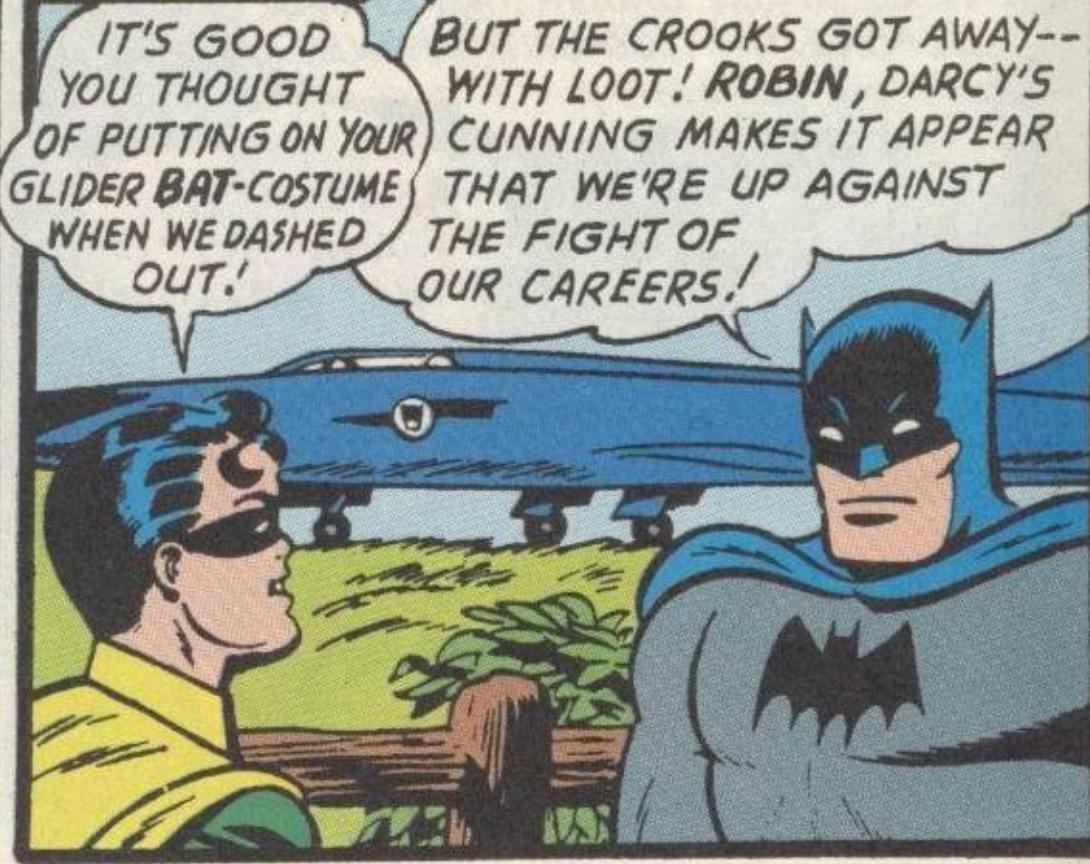
BUT A GUST OF WIND STRIKES THE BLIMP AS HE LEAPS, AND...



BUT PLUNGING EARTHWARD, BATMAN SWIFTLY UNFOLDS GLIDER-WINGS FROM HIS COSTUME!



LATER, AFTER TOWING THE DISABLED BLIMP TO SAFETY, ROBIN LANDS THE BATPLANE AND...



BATMAN ANNUAL

NEXT DAY, WHEN THE LINER SARONIA NEARS FOG-BOUND GOTHAM CITY, DARCY'S WILE IS PROVEN AGAIN...

ARE WE ON OUR COURSE, HELMSMAN? AYE, SIR! THESE RADAR DIRECTIONAL SIGNALS FROM THE PORT AUTHORITY WHICH GUIDE US EVEN IF WE CAN'T SEE, ARE EXCELLENT!



BUT SUDDENLY, A GRINDING, TERRIBLE SHOCK...

THE RADAR SIGNALS WERE WRONG--WE'RE ON THE ROCKS!

AND THERE'S A LAUNCH COMING ALONGSIDE!



THERE'S GOLD IN YOUR STRONGROOM! WE WANT IT!

YOUR SENDING OUT WRONG DIRECTIONS BY RADAR SURE WORKED, DOC!



THUS FEAR GRIPS GOTHAM CITY--FEAR OF RUTHLESS CRIMINALS WHO CAUSE DISASTERS TO CONCEAL THEIR ACTS!

EXTRA!
BANDITS
WRECK
AND
ROB
SARONIA!

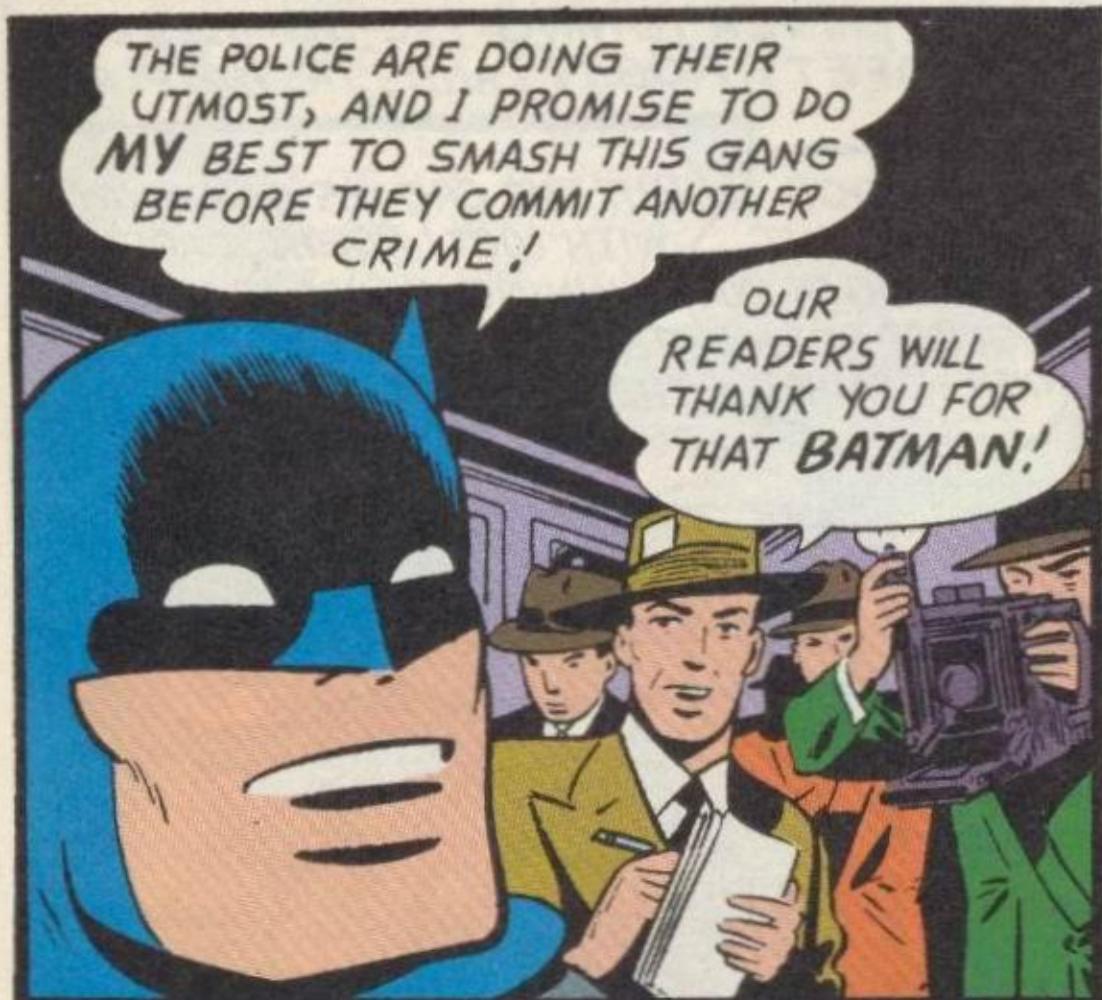
REPORTERS IN MY OUTER OFFICE ARE WAITING FOR A STATEMENT! IF PEOPLE AREN'T REASSURED, PANIC WILL RESULT! BATMAN, THEY BELIEVE IN YOU! YOU MUST REASSURE THEM!

I WILL--
IF YOU
THINK
IT'S
NECESSARY!



THE POLICE ARE DOING THEIR UTMOST, AND I PROMISE TO DO MY BEST TO SMASH THIS GANG BEFORE THEY COMMIT ANOTHER CRIME!

OUR READERS WILL THANK YOU FOR THAT BATMAN!

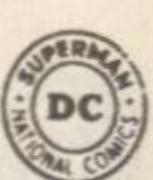


BUT WE HAVEN'T EVEN AN IDEA WHERE DARCY AND HIS MOB ARE!

MAYBE WE CAN FIND THEM! THAT FAKE RADAR TRANSMITTER THEY USED NEEDS A LOT OF POWER! THE ELECTRIC COMPANY CAN READ ALL METERS IN THAT COAST AREA TO SEE WHICH HOUSE USED ENORMOUS POWER LATELY!



BATMAN ANNUAL



LATER, WHEN SUSPICION POINTS TO A WATERFRONT ESTATE...

THEIR HIDEOUT MUST BE APPROACHED SECRETLY, OR THEY MAY ESCAPE. AND THIS BAT-UNIFORM WILL HELP ME!

I WISH I COULD DO MORE THAN JUST HANDLE THAT SPEEDBOAT!



SOON...

I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR CALL VIA BELT-RADIO!

THEY WON'T EXPECT ME TO COME THIS WAY!



CLAD IN A UNIQUE BAT-COSTUME WHICH INCLUDES A SUPPLY OF OXYGEN, THE DARK FIGURE MOVES SILENTLY UNDERWATER...



UNTIL...

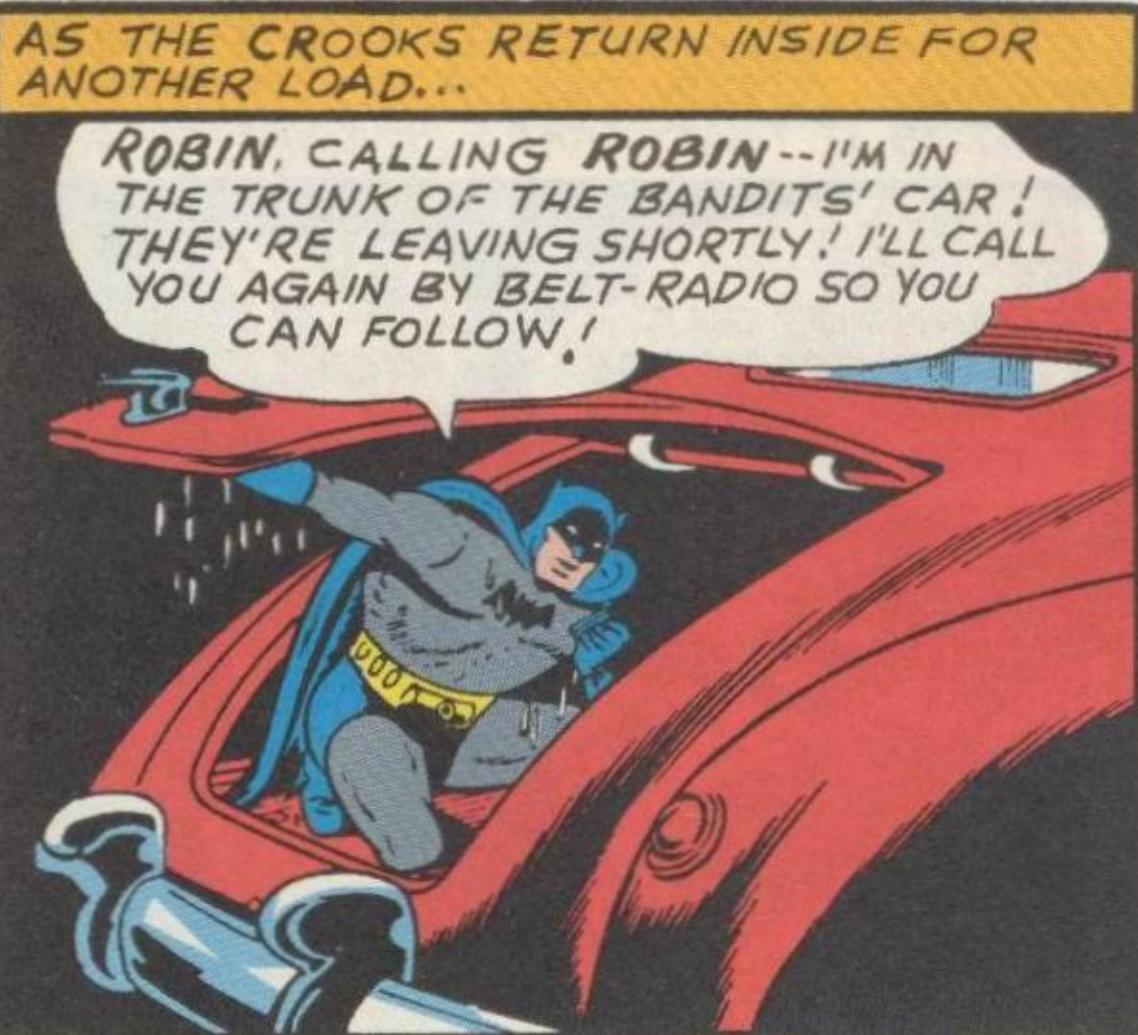
WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE HERE QUICKLY! SOMETHING'S UP! THAT METER-READER WASN'T DUE HERE FOR TWO WEEKS!

HAVE TO FOLLOW THEM! HMM, THEY'RE NOT STORING LOOT IN THE CAR'S TRUNK!



AS THE CROOKS RETURN INSIDE FOR ANOTHER LOAD...

ROBIN, CALLING ROBIN--I'M IN THE TRUNK OF THE BANDITS' CAR! THEY'RE LEAVING SHORTLY! I'LL CALL YOU AGAIN BY BELT-RADIO SO YOU CAN FOLLOW!

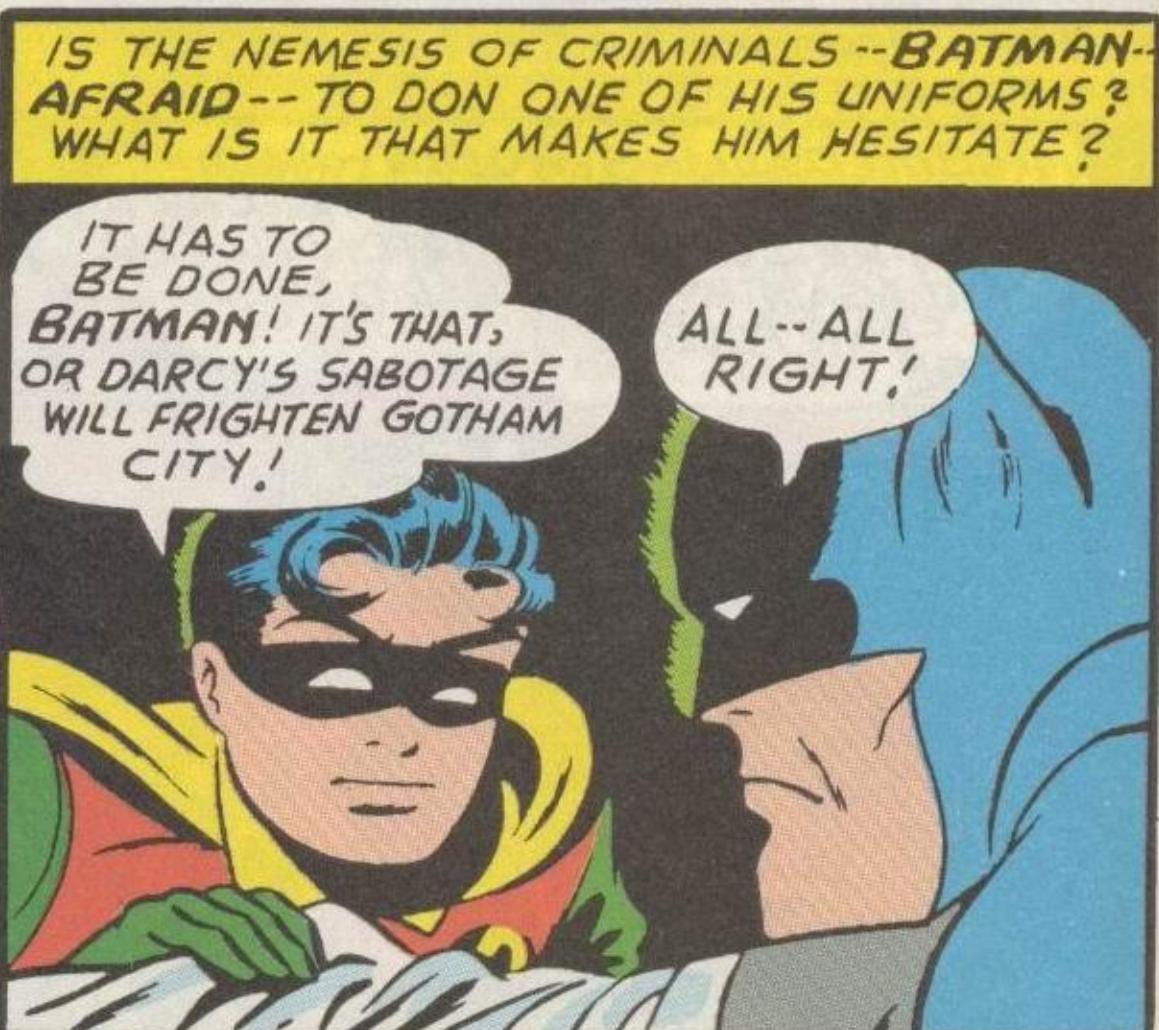
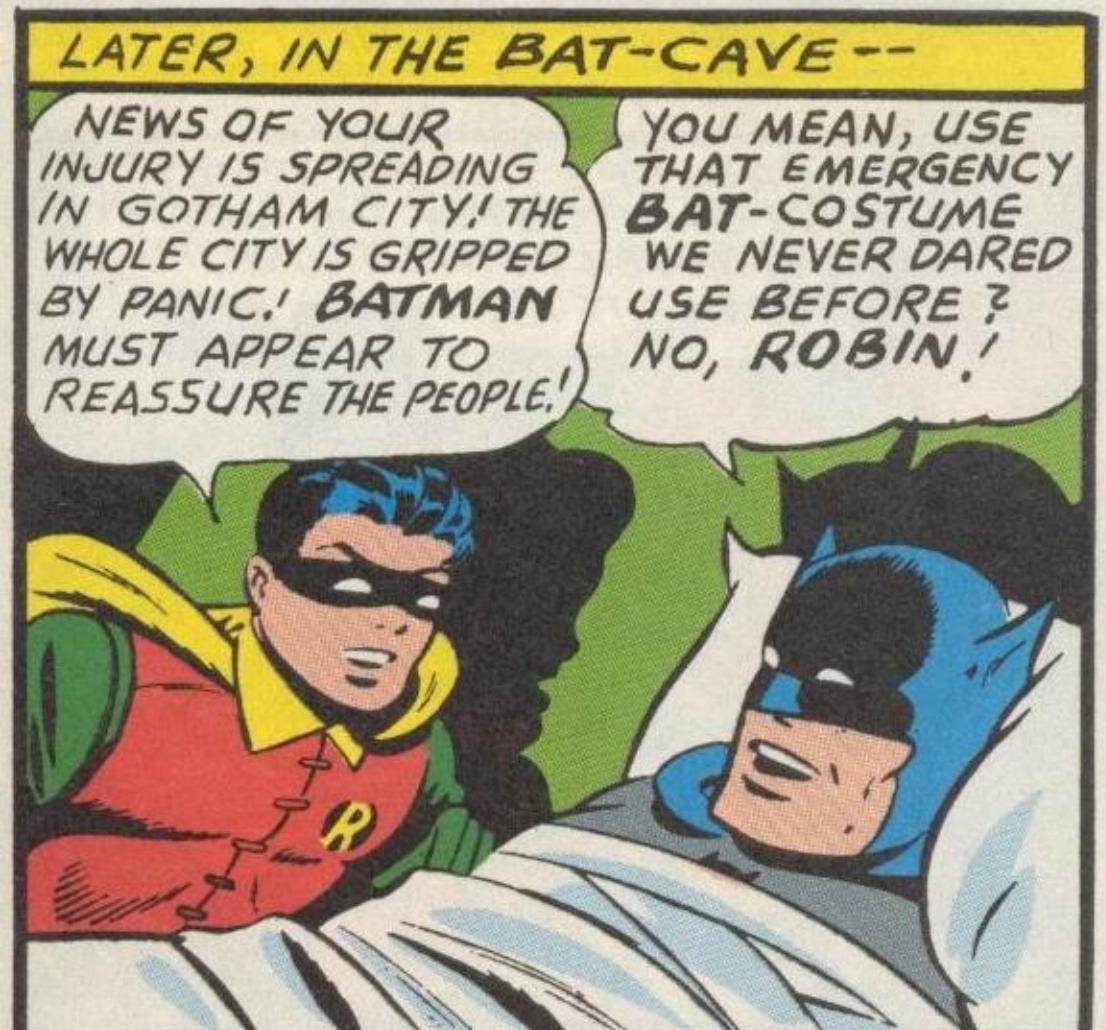
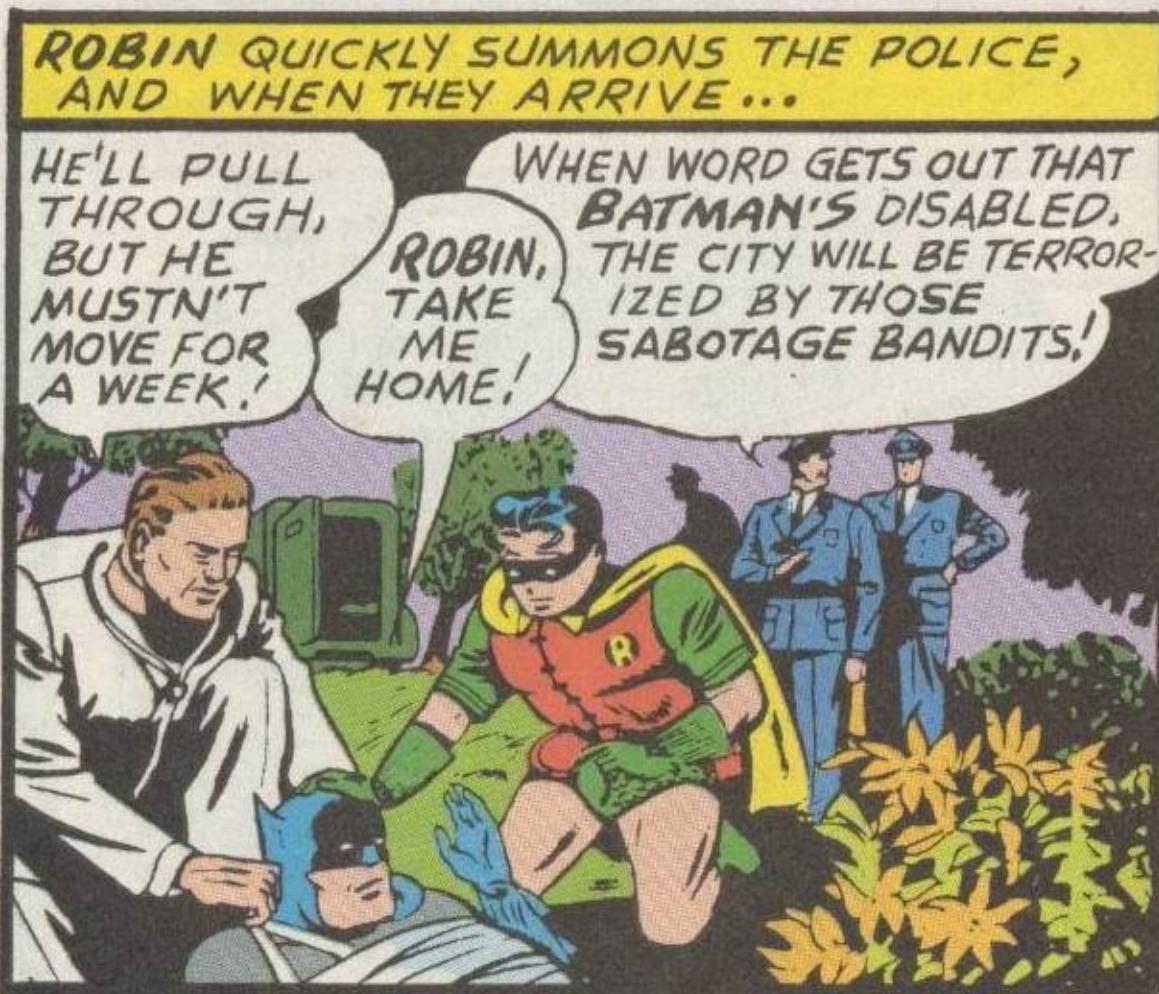
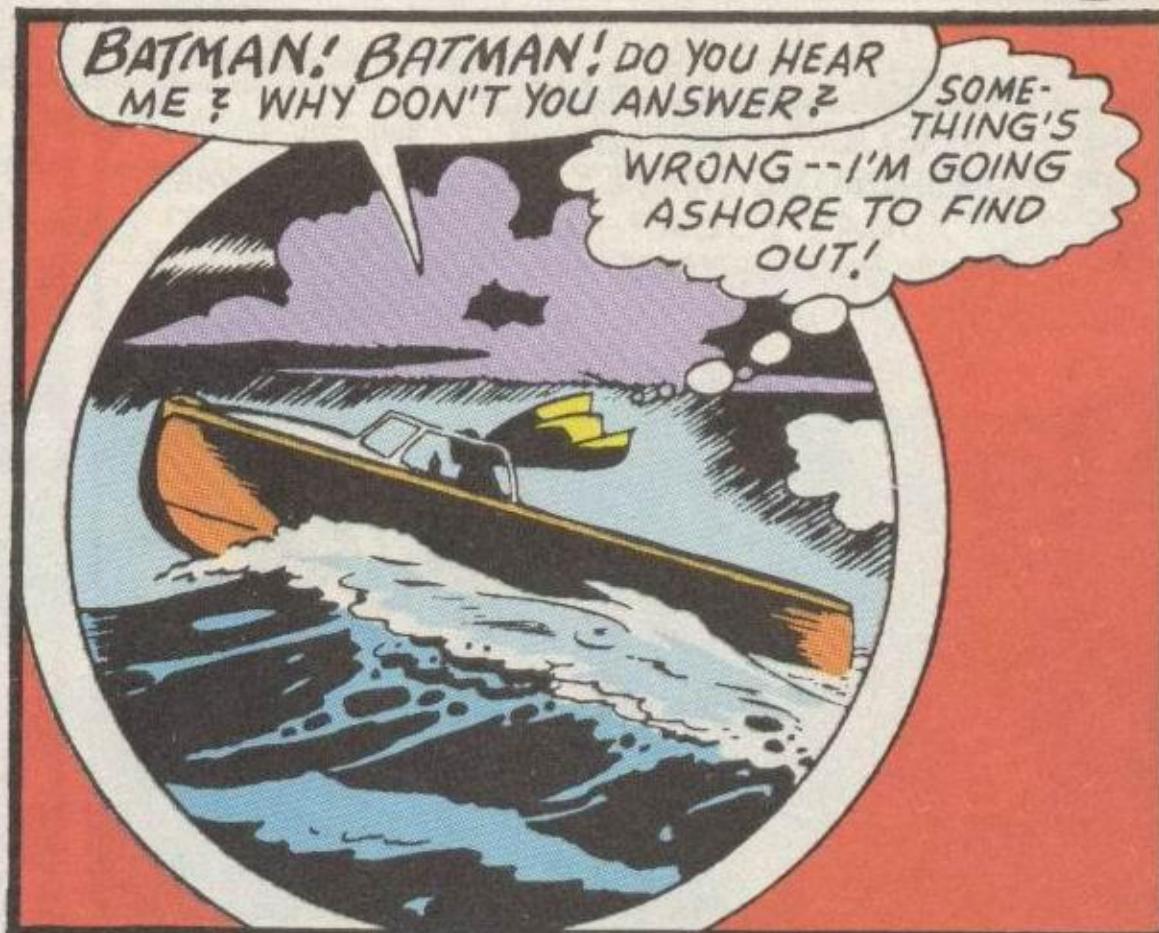
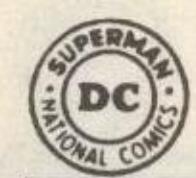


BUT BATMAN HAS LEFT WHAT MAY MEAN A FATAL CLUE, FOR...

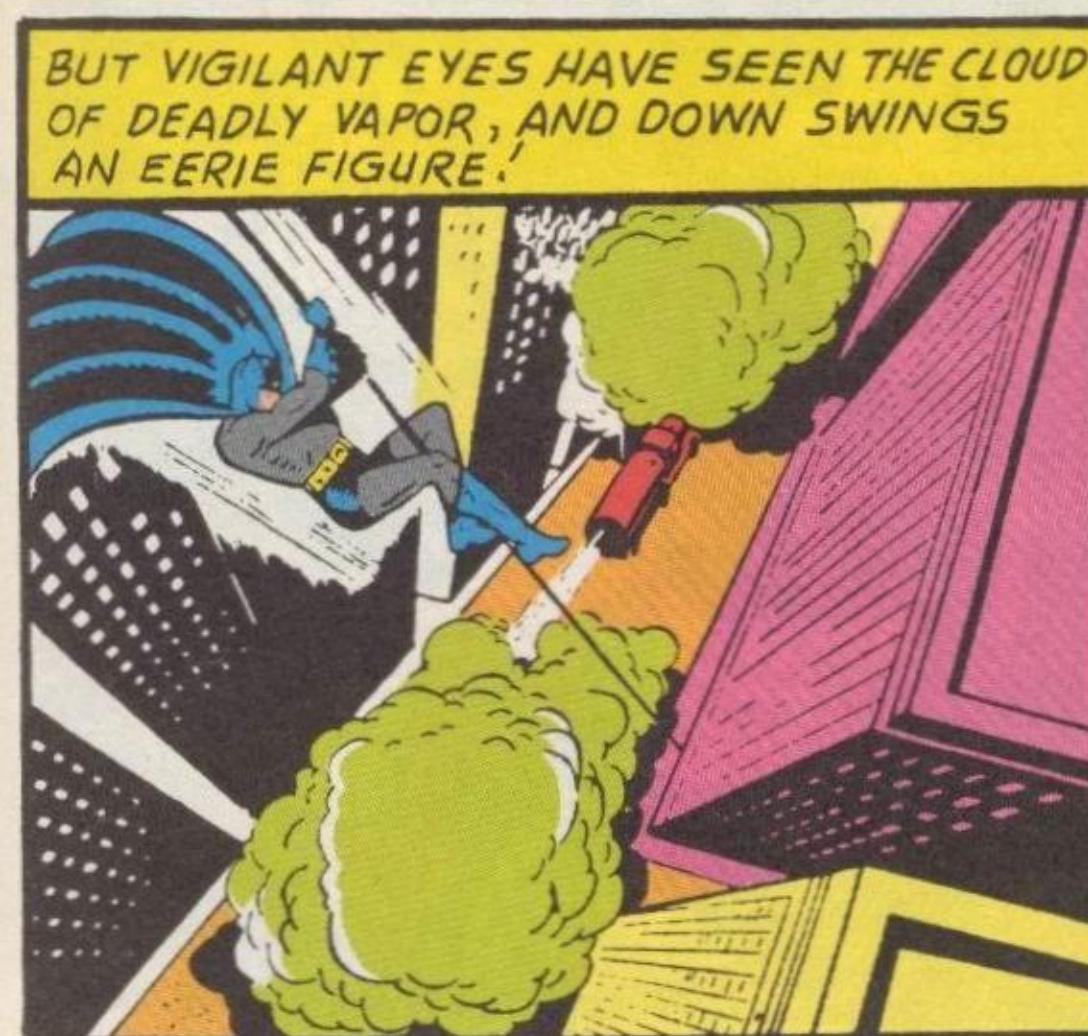
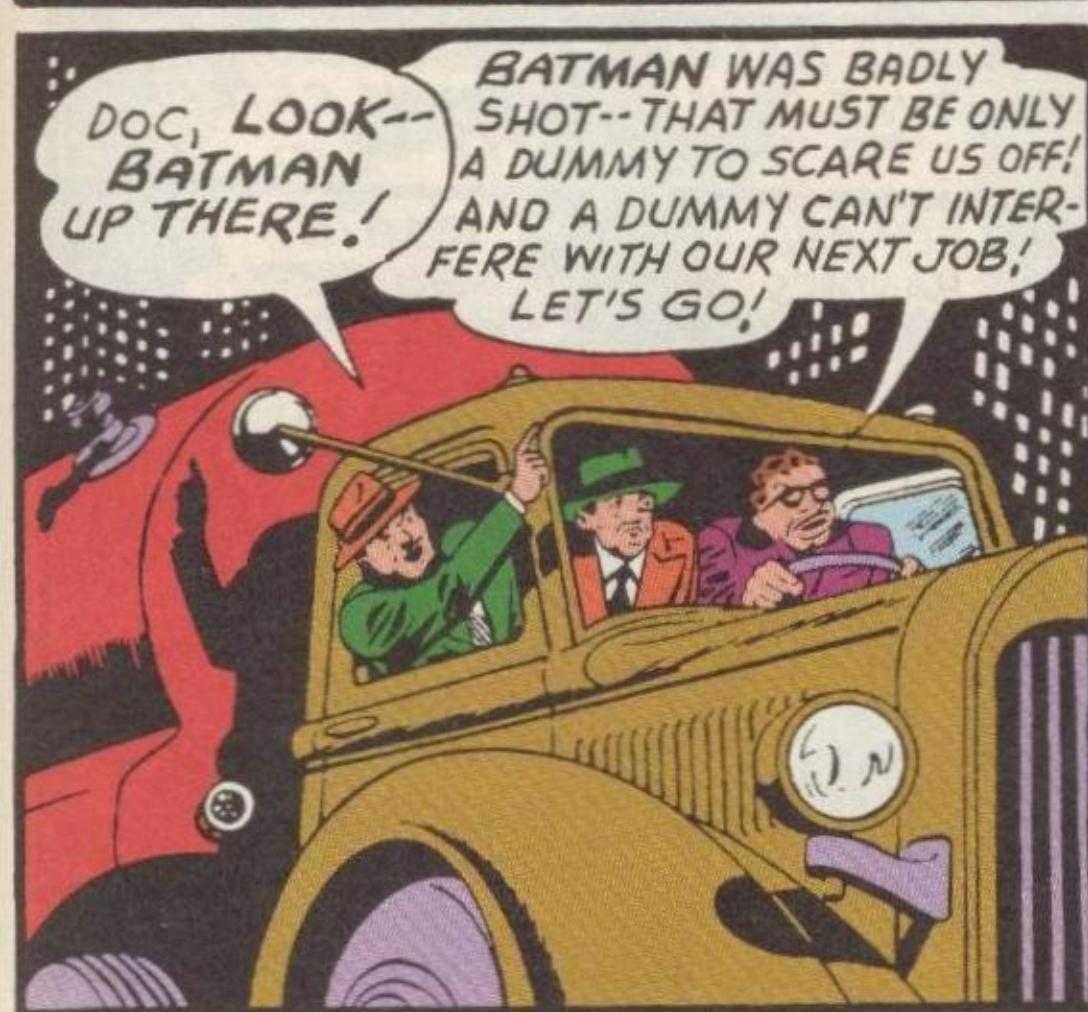
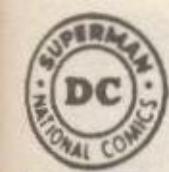
FELLERS, SEE THIS WET TRAIL? SOMEONE CAME OUT OF THE WATER AND HAS HIDDEN IN THE TRUNK! GUESS WHO IT IS!



BATMAN ANNUAL

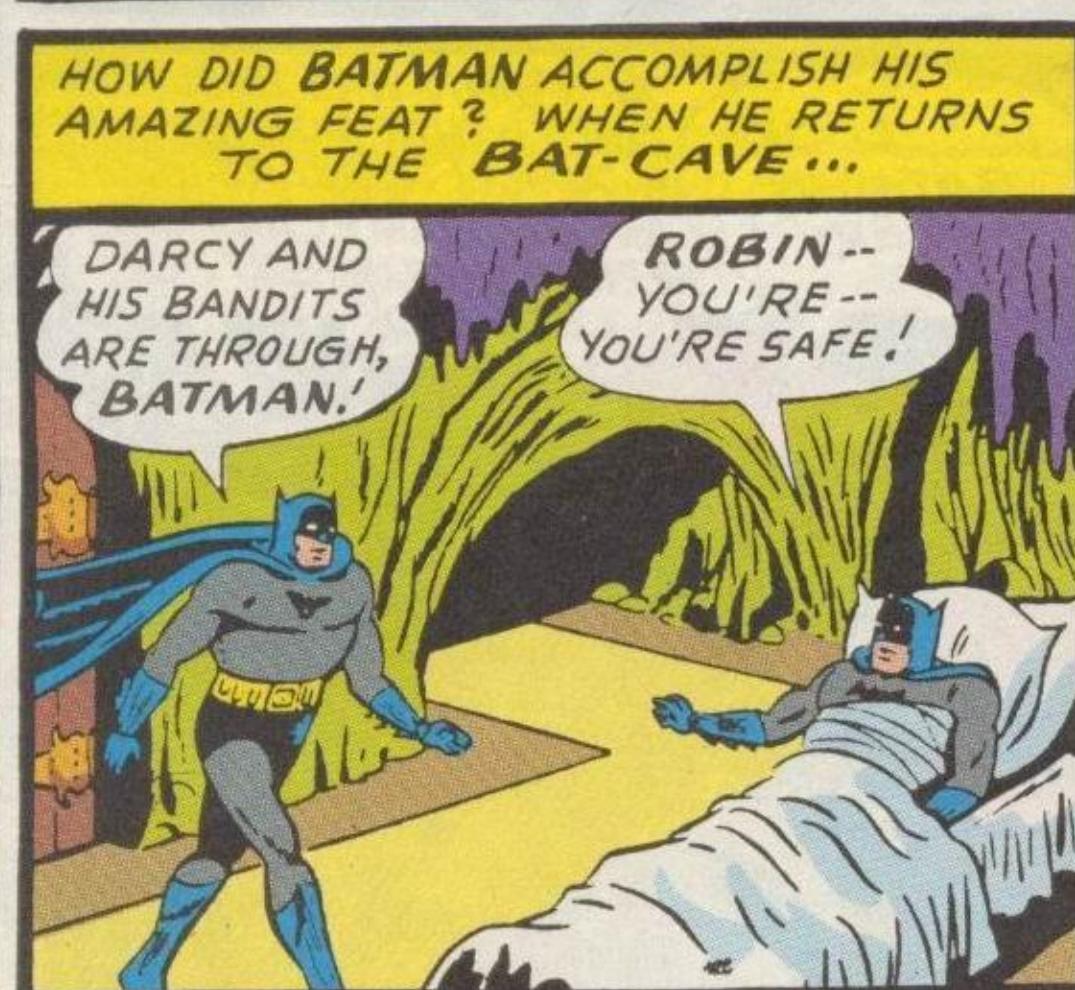


BATMAN ANNUAL





BATMAN ANNUAL



AND THAT IS WHY THE MYSTERY COSTUME BEARS A RED-BREASTED BIRD-SYMBOL INSTEAD OF A BAT-SYMBOL -- BECAUSE IT IS THE SPECIAL BUILT-UP DUPLICATE WHICH ENABLES ROBIN TO IMPERSONATE BATMAN!

The End

BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



BOB
KANE



We all know of the fabulous equipment associated with the amazing career of Batman... his utility belt... the Hall of Trophies... the Batplane... the Batmobile... and the Batcave! But of all these astounding... and the Batcave! weapons, perhaps none has been involved in as many bizarre adventures as has the Bat-Signal! This eerie finger of brilliant light, which regularly chills the underworld as it sets in motion the dynamic duo, has a long history of thrills and excitement--recorded now for the first time in the story called...

UNTOLD TALES OF
the BAT-SIGNAL!





BATMAN ANNUAL

ONE EVENING, IN THE NOISY, BUSTLING CITY ROOM OF THE GOTHAM CITY GAZETTE...

CIRCULATION'S SLIPPING! AS EDITOR OF THIS PAPER, I'VE GOT TO THINK OF A SENSATIONAL SERIES TO ATTRACT NEW READERS!

HERE'S TOMORROW'S SET-UP, CHIEF. OKAY?

BATMAN AND ROBIN! HMM... THEY WERE ALWAYS HOT COPY! MAYBE A NEW SERIES ON THEM...

BATMAN AND ROBIN
NAB PURPLE SHOES GANG!

GOTHAM CITY GAZETTE
ACRO-BATMAN AND ROBIN

GOTHAM CITY GAZETTE
FEATURE OF THE WEEK
THE BATMOBILE

FASTEST THING
ON WHEELS

TROUBLE IS,
SO MUCH HAS
ALREADY BEEN
DONE ON THAT PAIR!
WHAT I NEED IS A
NEW ANGLE ON
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

THEN, AS CITY EDITOR MELTON PAUSES A BIT FOR REFRESHMENT...

JUST AS THOUGH MY PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED! THE BAT-SIGNAL! THAT'S IT! I'LL PRINT A FEATURE SERIES ON THE BAT-SIGNAL!

THE DYNAMIC CITY EDITOR SUMMONS DAVE PURDY, HIS ACE CRIME REPORTER...

DAVE-- I WANT A FEATURE SERIES ON THE BAT-SIGNAL! I WANT YOU TO DIG UP DIFFERENT EXAMPLES OF HOW THE BAT-SIGNAL CHANGED PEOPLE'S DESTINY!

THAT'S A GREAT IDEA, BUT WHAT WILL BE THE MAIN ANGLE?

WAIT A MINUTE, DAVE--HERE'S YOUR ANGLE ! HUMAN INTEREST! YOU MUST FIND A CASE WHERE THE BAT-SIGNAL ALONE SAVED A PERSON!

THAT'S GOOD-- IT'S GREAT-- IF I CAN FIND SUCH A CASE!

YOU'LL FIND IT! IF YOU'RE ANY KIND OF REPORTER, YOU'LL FIND IT! NOW-- GET GOING! START WITH COMMISSIONER GORDON-- AND MAKE IT GOOD, DAVE-- MAKE IT GOOD!

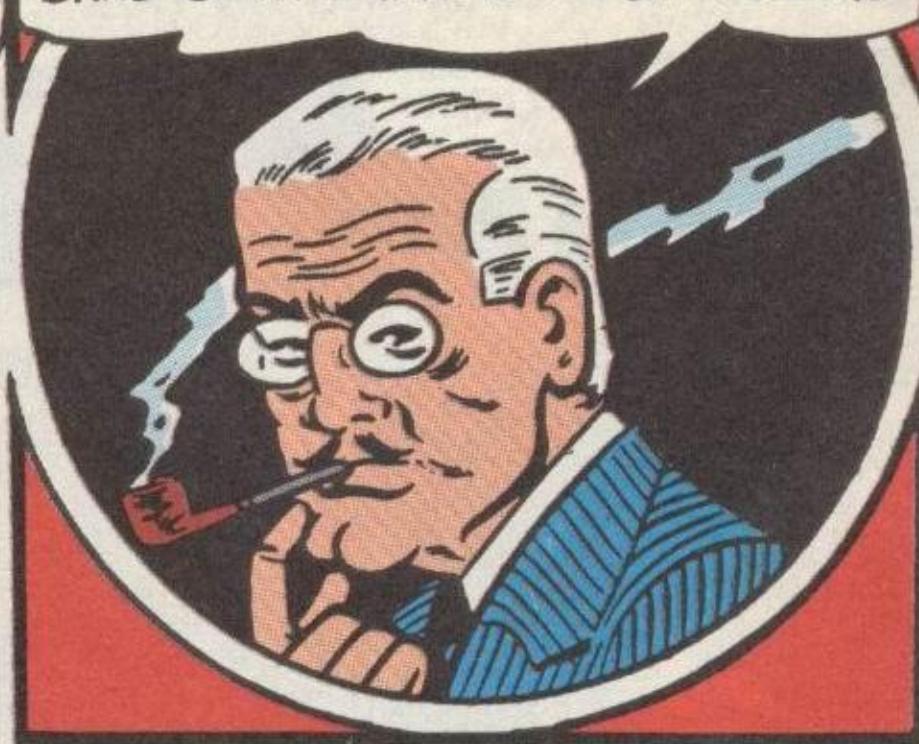


AND, A HALF HOUR LATER AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS...

THE BAT-SIGNAL, EH? IT'S A GOOD IDEA--AND YOU'VE GOT A GOOD ANGLE--SHOULD BE A GREAT STORY!

THINK BACK, COMMISSIONER. CAN YOU RECALL ANY INCIDENT IN WHICH THE BAT-SIGNAL WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAVING A LIFE?

LET ME SEE... IT SEEMS TO ME I REMEMBER SOMETHING-- THE YEAR WE WERE COOPERATING WITH THE T-MEN AGAINST A HIGHLY EFFICIENT BAND OF INTERNATIONAL SMUGGLERS...



"WE HAD TO KEEP A 24-HOUR WATCH ON THE HARBOR, AND SO I SET UP A TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS ABOARD A POLICE BOAT..."

THE BAT-SIGNAL'S ALL READY, SIR! ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS HOOK IT UP TO THE GENERATOR!

GOOD-- I MAY BE ABOARD A WEEK OR MORE, AND THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN I'LL NEED BATMAN AND ROBIN!



"I DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG TO FLASH THE BAT-SIGNAL. THAT NIGHT, WE RECEIVED WORD THAT AN ILLEGAL LANDING WOULD BE ATTEMPTED..."

HERE'S THE BATPLANE, SIR--COMING IN FOR A LANDING!

GOOD! ACCORDING TO MY WATCH, THINGS SHOULD START POPPING IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES!



BATMAN ANNUAL



"TEN MINUTES LATER, WE HAD CUT OUR LIGHTS AND WERE LYING IN WAIT FOR THOSE JEWEL SMUGGLERS. WHEN THE NEARED US, THEY GOT THE SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES..."

LOOK OUT! IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN!

CAREFUL, ROBIN--GET THE ONES WITH THE GUNS FIRST!



"THE FIGHT ENDED QUICKLY--BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE TOO MUCH FOR THEM. WE HAD SUFFERED A CASUALTY--A POLICEMAN WHO'D BEEN HIT BY A BULLET AND TOPPLED INTO THE WATER..."

HE WAS HIT IN THE SHOULDER--MAY STILL BE ALIVE...

IT ISN'T VERY DEEP IN THIS PART OF THE HARBOR. QUICKLY--HAVE THE BAT-SIGNAL MOVED TO THE RAIL!



"AS YOU KNOW, THE SPECIAL FILAMENTS WITHIN THE BAT-SIGNAL PRODUCE A BEAM 100 TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN THE ORDINARY SEARCHLIGHT--AND BATMAN WAS COUNTING ON THIS..."

OKAY--TURN IT ON!



"NO OTHER LIGHT AROUND COULD HAVE DONE WHAT THE BAT-SIGNAL DID THAT NIGHT. ITS BEAM PENETRATED RIGHT TO THE BOTTOM..."



HE'S CAUGHT ON THE BOTTOM--BUT I CAN PULL HIM OUT EASILY ENOUGH!

THAT POLICEMAN LIVED, AND IS NOW A LIEUTENANT--THANKS TO THE BAT-SIGNAL, AND BATMAN AND ROBIN!

A WONDERFUL TALE, COMMISSIONER--THANKS A LOT! BUT CAN YOU TELL ME ANOTHER--WHERE THE BAT-SIGNAL ALONE, WITHOUT BATMAN'S HELP, SAVED SOME BODY'S LIFE?

WELL--THERE WAS THE TIME THE BAT-SIGNAL WAS STOLEN FROM HERE! BUT MAYBE THAT STORY SHOULD BE TOLD BY THE ONE IT HAPPENED TO--VICKI VALE...

VICKI VALE, BRUCE WAYNE'S GIRL FRIEND. WHY, I MET HER AT A PARTY ONLY LAST WEEK! I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE AFTER HER FOR A STORY!



AND AN HOUR LATER, IN VICKI VALE'S APARTMENT...

THE COMMISSIONER TELLS ME YOU WERE INVOLVED THE TIME THE BAT-SIGNAL WAS STOLEN FROM HIS OFFICE...

INVOLVED! I'LL SAY I WAS! LET'S SEE--HOW DID THAT START? OH, I REMEMBER --I HAD JUST RECEIVED A NEW ASSIGNMENT...

"I WAS ON MY WAY TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, TO DO A SERIES ON COMMISSIONER GORDON, WHEN SUDDENLY I GOT THE SHOCK OF MY LIFE..."

OF ALL PLACES! POLICE HEADQUARTERS BEING ROBBED--OF THE BAT-SIGNAL!

WHAT A STORY!



"MY FIRST INSTINCT, NATURALLY, WAS TO GRAB A PICTURE OF THE THEFT. BUT EVEN AS I SNAPPED THE SHUTTER..."

NONE OF THAT, SISTER!
YOU'VE SEEN
TOO MUCH
ALREADY!
BETTER COME
WITH US!

TAKE YOUR
HANDS OFF ME,
YOU RUFFIAN!

"I WAS TAKEN TO THEIR HIDEOUT--A SHACK ON TRACY HILL, OVERLOOKING THE CITY--AND THERE I LEARNED OF MY FATE..."

YOU ALMOST GUMMED UP
THE WORKS, SISTER--AND
THERE'S NOTHIN' WE CAN
DO NOW BUT KNOCK YOU
OFF, ONCE WE PULL OUR
BIG JOB!

YOU'LL NEVER
GET AWAY
WITH IT,
BIG RED!



"THEY WERE READYING THE BIGGEST THEFT IN GOTHAM CITY'S HISTORY. THEY HAD STOLEN THE BAT-SIGNAL TO DISRUPT COORDINATION BETWEEN BATMAN AND GORDON..."

DON'T KNOW
WHY YOU'RE WASHIN'
YOUR CLOTHES, SISTER.
WON'T MATTER IF
THEY'RE CLEAN--WHEN
YOU'RE DEAD!

IT'S A LONG CHANCE, BUT
IT MIGHT WORK. THIS HILL
HAS AN UNOBSTRUCTED
VIEW OF THE CITY...

"WHEN I FINISHED WASHING MY JACKET,
I TILTED THE BAT-SIGNAL TO WHAT I
HOPED WAS THE RIGHT ANGLE, AND
SPREAD MY JACKET OVER IT..."

NOT A BAD IDEA,
USIN' THE BAT-
SIGNAL AS A CLOTHES
DRYER! THAT'S
ABOUT ALL IT'S
GOOD FOR NOW!
HA, HA!

LAUGH NOW, MY
FRIEND! YOU
MAY NOT
GET ANOTHER
CHANCE!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BATMAN ANNUAL

NEXT DAY, AT THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

COME ON, DICK -- TIME TO CHANGE CLOTHES. WE'VE GOT SOME MEDALS TO HAND OUT TODAY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN...

GOSH, I ALMOST FORGOT! THE POLICE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE...

AND, AFTER THE CEREMONIES...

THE BAT-SIGNAL, EH? AND YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU HOW IT HAS AFFECTED PEOPLE'S LIVES? HMM-- THERE ARE SO MANY INSTANCES...

TELL HIM ABOUT THE GOTHAM WOODS FIRE, BATMAN-- THAT'S WHEN THE BAT-SIGNAL REALLY WENT TO TOWN...

BATMAN'S STORY: "I GUESS I SHOULD BEGIN SEVERAL YEARS AGO, SHORTLY AFTER THE FIRST BAT-SIGNAL HAD BEEN INSTALLED IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE..."

HA-HA! BATMAN WON'T BE ANSWERIN' NO SIGNALS TONIGHT! THAT TAKES CARE OF THE BAT-SIGNAL!

"WE HEARD ABOUT IT OVER THE POLICE RADIO AND RUSHED TO GORDON'S OFFICE..."

HMM. A PETTY ANNOYANCE--BUT WE CAN EXPECT IT TO HAPPEN AGAIN UNLESS WE TAKE STEPS NOW TO COMBAT IT!

BUT HOW CAN WE KEEP CROOKS FROM TAKING POT SHOTS AT THE BAT-SIGNAL?

WE CAN'T! SO WE'LL CONSTRUCT A BAT-SIGNAL THAT'S BULLET-PROOF! AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, THERE ARE OTHER IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE BADLY NEEDED!

SNAP!

"ROBIN AND I RETURNED TO THE BATCAVE AND BEGAN AT ONCE TO PLAN A NEW BAT-SIGNAL, ONE THAT WOULD STAND UP TO ANY EMERGENCY..."



BULLET-PROOF GLASS. HAND-GROUND FOR CLARITY



YELLOW FOG FILTER

SUPER-CARBON ARC FILAMENTS

ELECTRONIZED SILVER REFLECTOR

BATSLIDE

LARGER, MORE POWERFUL LAMPMOBILE WITH NEW CARRIAGE



"WE WORKED ON THE BAT-SIGNAL DAY AND NIGHT, AND FINALLY HAD OUR FIRST WORKING MODEL READY..."

THERE IT IS, ROBIN! NOW TO SEE HOW IT WORKS!

"FOR TESTS, WE HAD PROCURED A SURPLUS ARMY SEARCHLIGHT TRAILER ON WHICH WE INSTALLED THE BAT-SIGNAL..."

GOTHAM BEACH SHOULD BE THE BEST PLACE TO MAKE OUR TESTS, ROBIN--NO ONE WILL BOTHER US THERE...

"BUT BEFORE WE WERE EVEN NEAR THE BEACH, THE POLICE RADIO IN THE BATMOBILE BEGAN TO CRACKLE OMINOUSLY..."

CALLING ALL EMERGENCY UNITS! BOY SCOUT TROOP TRAPPED IN GOTHAM WOODS--SEVERE FIRE RAGING...



"WHEN WE ARRIVED, GOTHAM WOODS WAS IN A TURMOIL--AND I NEVER SAW SO MUCH SMOKE IN MY LIFE..."

TOO MUCH SMOKE! CAN'T EVEN LOCATE THEM IN THERE!

AND THEY'LL NEVER FIND THEIR WAY OUT!

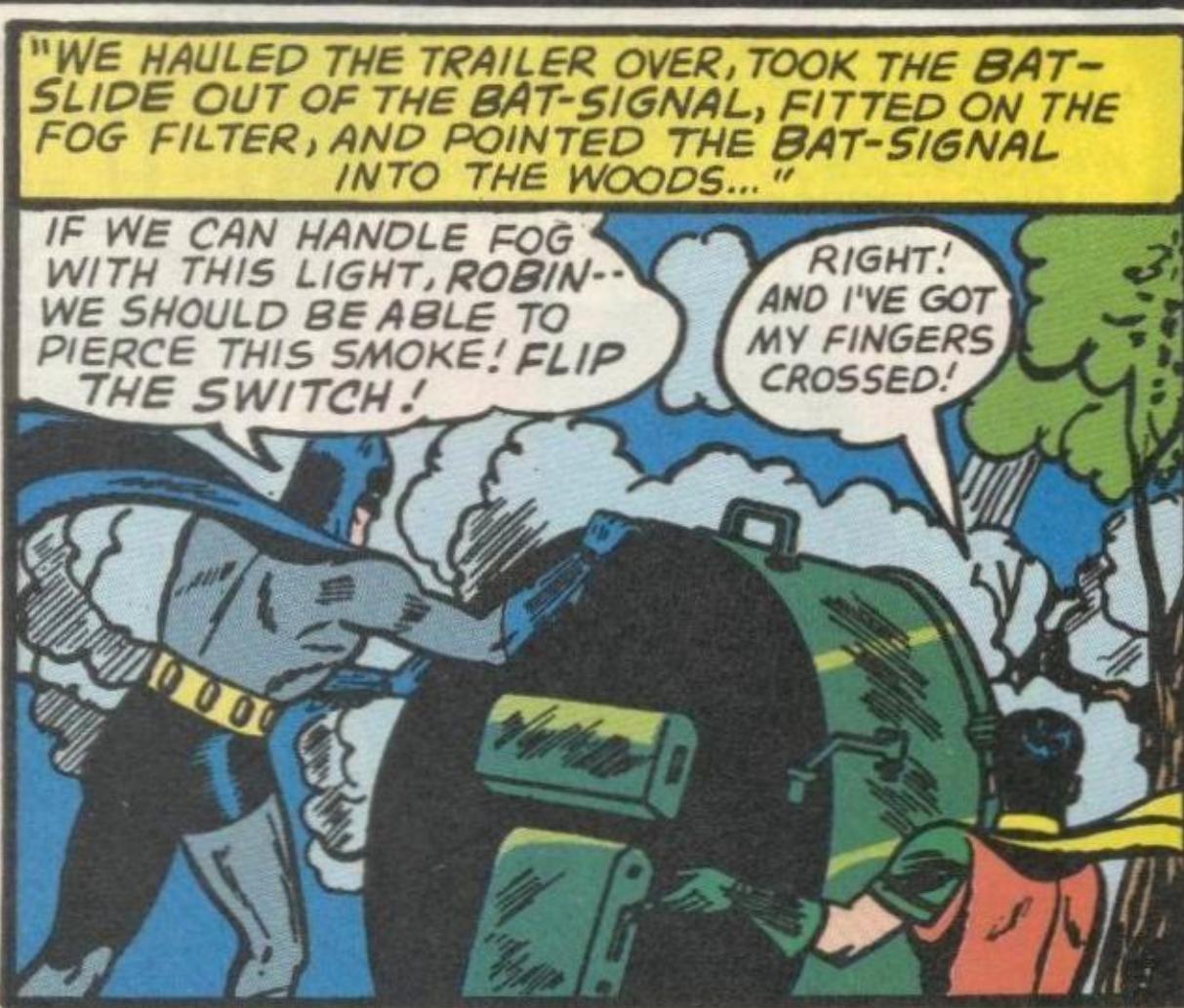


QUICKLY, ROBIN--LET'S GET THAT TRAILER AS CLOSE TO THE WOODS AS WE CAN!

"WE HAULED THE TRAILER OVER, TOOK THE BAT-SLIDE OUT OF THE BAT-SIGNAL, FITTED ON THE FOG FILTER, AND POINTED THE BAT-SIGNAL INTO THE WOODS..."

IF WE CAN HANDLE FOG WITH THIS LIGHT, ROBIN--WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PIERCE THIS SMOKE! FLIP THE SWITCH!

RIGHT! AND I'VE GOT MY FINGERS CROSSED!



BATMAN ANNUAL

FOLLOW THE YELLOW BEAM ! IT LEADS TO SAFETY !

I GUESS YOU'D SAY ON THAT NIGHT, THE BAT-SIGNAL AFFECTED A LOT OF LIVES !

THANKS, BATMAN, FOR A TERRIFIC TALE ! BUT IT BEGINS TO LOOK AS THOUGH PART OF MY ASSIGNMENT IS HOPELESS !

I SEE NOW YOU AND ROBIN ARE ALWAYS AT LEAST PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WHATEVER RESULTS THE BAT-SIGNAL ACHIEVES. I SUPPOSE I'LL NEVER FIND AN INSTANCE WHERE THE BAT-SIGNAL ALONE SAVED ANYONE'S LIFE !

WELL, THANKS AGAIN, BATMAN, FOR EVERYTHING !

YOU'RE WELCOME ! AND DON'T FORGET --

THE HALL OF SCIENTIFIC MARVELS OPENS TOMORROW -- WE'RE LENDING THE BAT-SIGNAL FOR THE OPENING DAY !

YOU OUGHT TO GET SOME WONDERFUL STUFF FOR YOUR ARTICLES... JUST WATCHING PUBLIC REACTION TO THE BAT-SIGNAL !

THAT EVENING, AFTER THE EXHIBIT HAS CLOSED...

PURDY ! WHY HAVEN'T YOU LEFT ?

GOSH--HAVE I BEEN BUSY ! I'M STILL GETTING MY NOTES TOGETHER. WHY-- IS ANYTHING WRONG ?

PLENTY ! TIGER BISHOP JUST BROKE JAIL--HE'S ARMED AND IN THIS VICINITY. HE MIGHT TRY TO HOLE UP HERE ! ROBIN'S CHECKING NEARBY BUILDINGS !

TIGER BISHOP ! ONE OF THE COLDEST KILLERS IN THE HISTORY OF CRIME !

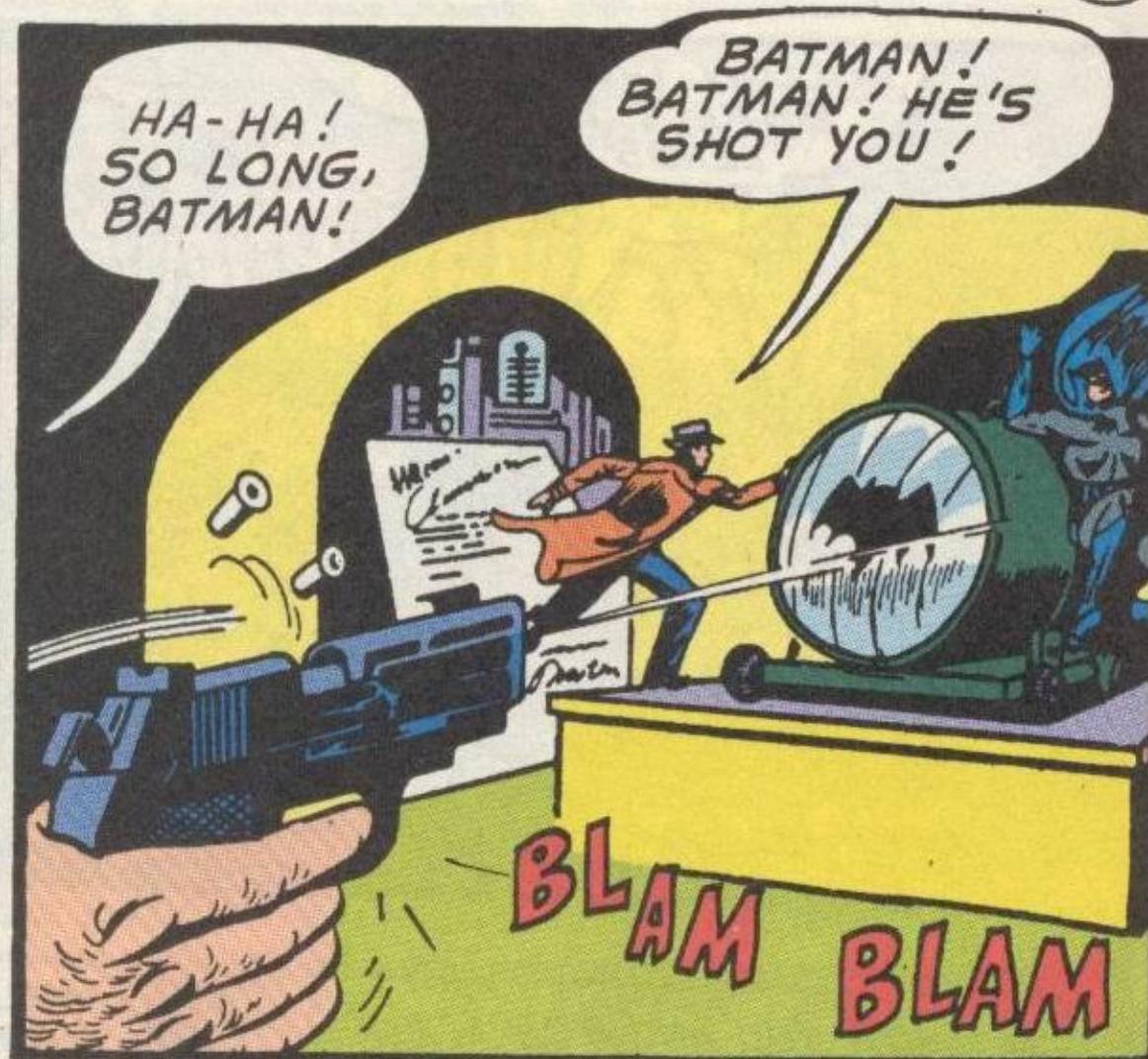
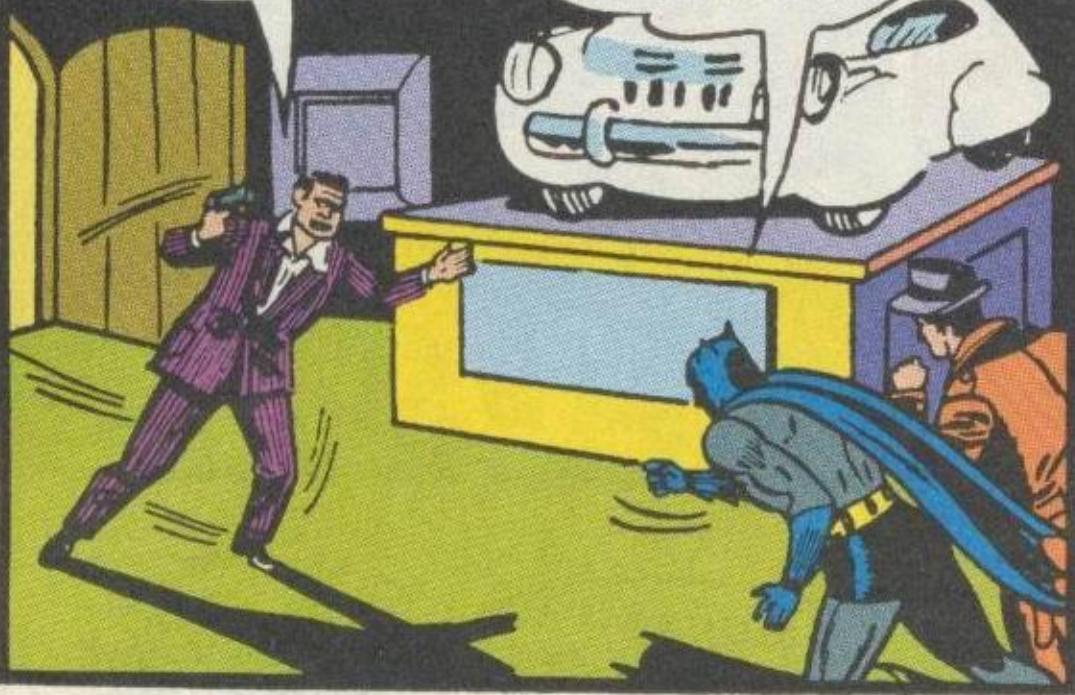
BATMAN ANNUAL

SUPERMAN
NATIONAL COMICS
DC

SUDDENLY...

BATMAN! WHAT A LUCKY BREAK! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT FOR A LONG TIME!

DON'T DO ANYTHING YOU'LL BE SORRY FOR, BISHOP! YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY GET OUT OF THIS BUILDING NOW! POLICE ARE EVERYWHERE!



BULLET-PROOF GLASS!
HIS BULLETS CAN'T REACH ME!

BATMAN--ARE YOU HURT BADLY?

NOT...
TOO...
BAD...

THINK YOU'RE TRICKY,
EH? JUST WAIT TILL I
GET A LITTLE CLOSER--
IT'LL BE CURTAINS
FOR YOU, SAP--
WHOEVER YOU
ARE!

WHISPER:
PSST--
BATMAN!
I'VE GOT AN
IDEA! WHEN
HE GETS
A LITTLE
CLOSER,
I'LL TURN
ON THE SIGNAL
--BLIND HIM
WITH IT!



THEN, A FEW
MOMENTS
LATER...

UGH -- A BAT!
I'M BLINDED!



SHOOT BATMAN,
WILL YOU? TAKE
THAT, YOU RAT!

HE'S GOT BISHOP-- BUT
BATMAN'S BEEN HURT!
TAKE OVER, SERGEANT!





BATMAN ANNUAL



AND LATER...

I'M GLAD YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY, BATMAN! AND THINK OF IT-- I'VE GOT MY STORY! WITH YOU AND ROBIN OUT OF THE PICTURE, THE BAT-SIGNAL SAVED MY LIFE!

GOOD FOR YOU, PURDY! YOU DESERVE IT-- YOU SHOWED PLENTY OF COURAGE AND QUICK THINKING!

© GOTHAM MORNING

BAT-SIGNAL SAVES REPORTER AND BATMAN!

READ DAVE PURDY'S OWN STORY WITH ITS AMAZING STORY-BOOK FINISH!

THE NEXT DAY...

IT SAYS HERE: "...AND THE BAT-SIGNAL ALONE, WITHOUT HELP FROM BAT-MAN AND ROBIN, WAS THE VITAL FACTOR THAT SAVED REPORTER PURDY'S LIFE!" IT MAKES A GOOD STORY...

YES, AND WE'LL LEAVE IT THAT WAY. EVERYBODY'S HAPPY--AND WHAT A PERSON DOESN'T KNOW WON'T HURT HIM IN THIS CASE.

LUCKY YOU HAD THE STRENGTH AND THE FEW MOMENTS NEEDED, THOUGH, TO DO A LITTLE ELECTRICAL WIRING JOB! PURDY NEVER KNEW THE BAT-SIGNAL WASN'T CONNECTED!

YOU'RE RIGHT! WHEN HE TOLD ME HIS PLAN, I HAD TO MOVE FAST. LUCKILY, THE BAT-SIGNAL WIRE WAS NEARBY. THERE WAS NO WALL OUTLET AT HAND, BUT THERE WAS A WIRE RUNNING ALONG THE BASEBOARD. I MANAGED TO SPLICE THEM TOGETHER IN THE NICK OF TIME!

THE END

EXTRA! How the BAT-SIGNAL CAUGHT a KILLER!

POLICE WERE ALERTED FOR KILLER CRAIG, BUT THEY LACKED A GOOD DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIMINAL! SPEED WAS VITAL, SO...

WHAT'S THAT, BATMAN?

I'VE MADE A SLIDE OF OUR FRIEND CRAIG! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS!

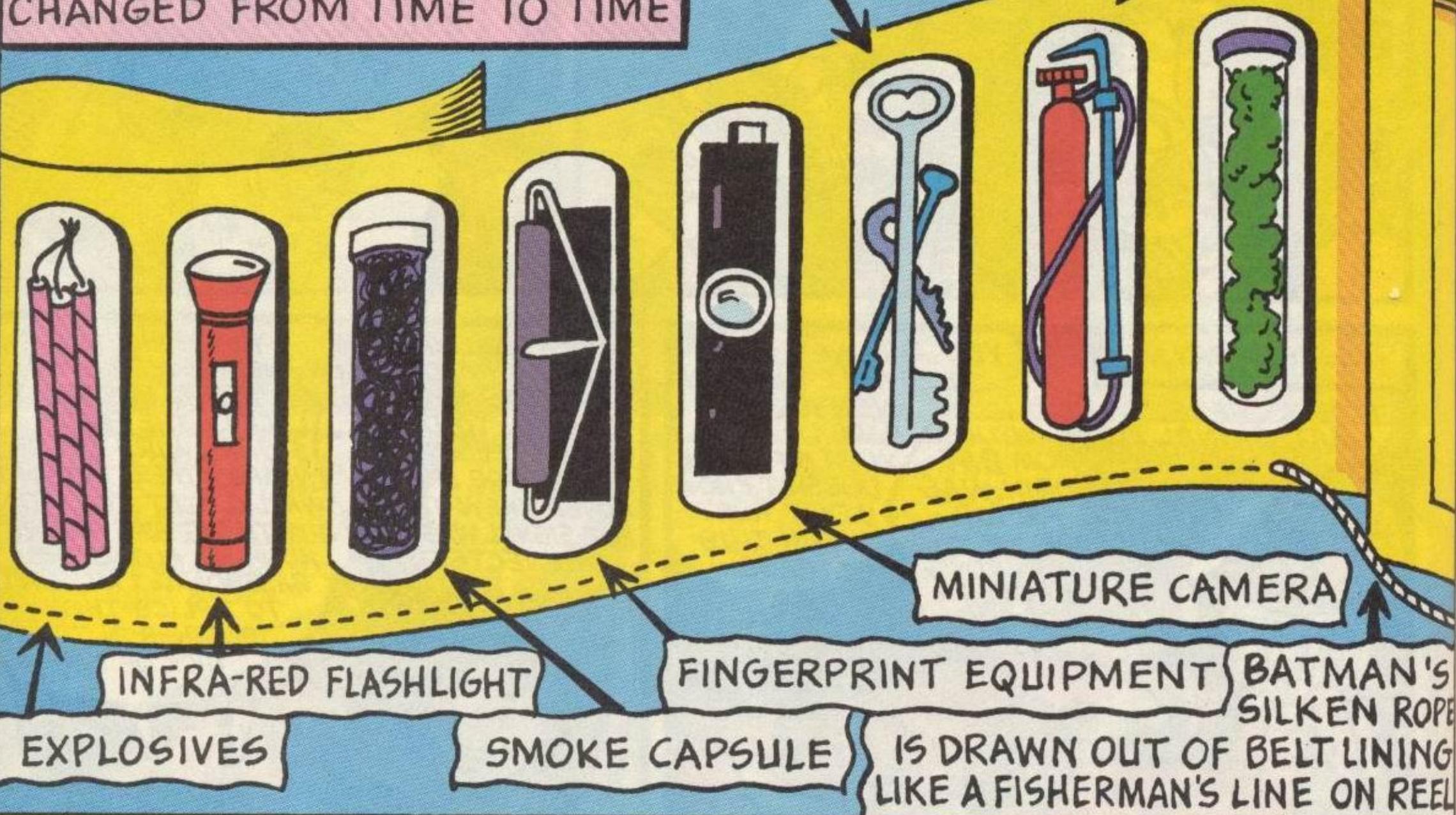
THAT'S WHAT I CALL PROJECTING A PICTURE! IT CAN BE SEEN FOR HUNDREDS OF MILES!



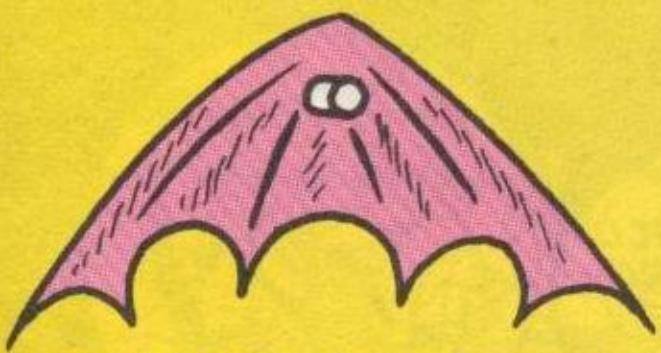
AND ONLY THE POWERFUL-BEAM OF THE BAT-SIGNAL COULD ACCOMPLISH IT!

SECRETS of BATMAN'S UTILITY BELT

AN X-RAY VIEW SHOWING SOME
OF THE CONTENTS, WHICH ARE
CHANGED FROM TIME TO TIME



FAMED BATARANGS USED FOR SPECIAL EMERGENCIES



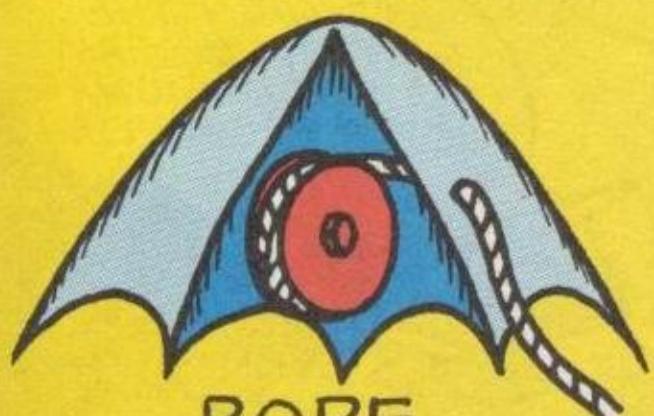
POLICE WHISTLE
BATARANG



SEEING-EYE
BATARANG



MAGNET
BATARANG



ROPE
BATARANG

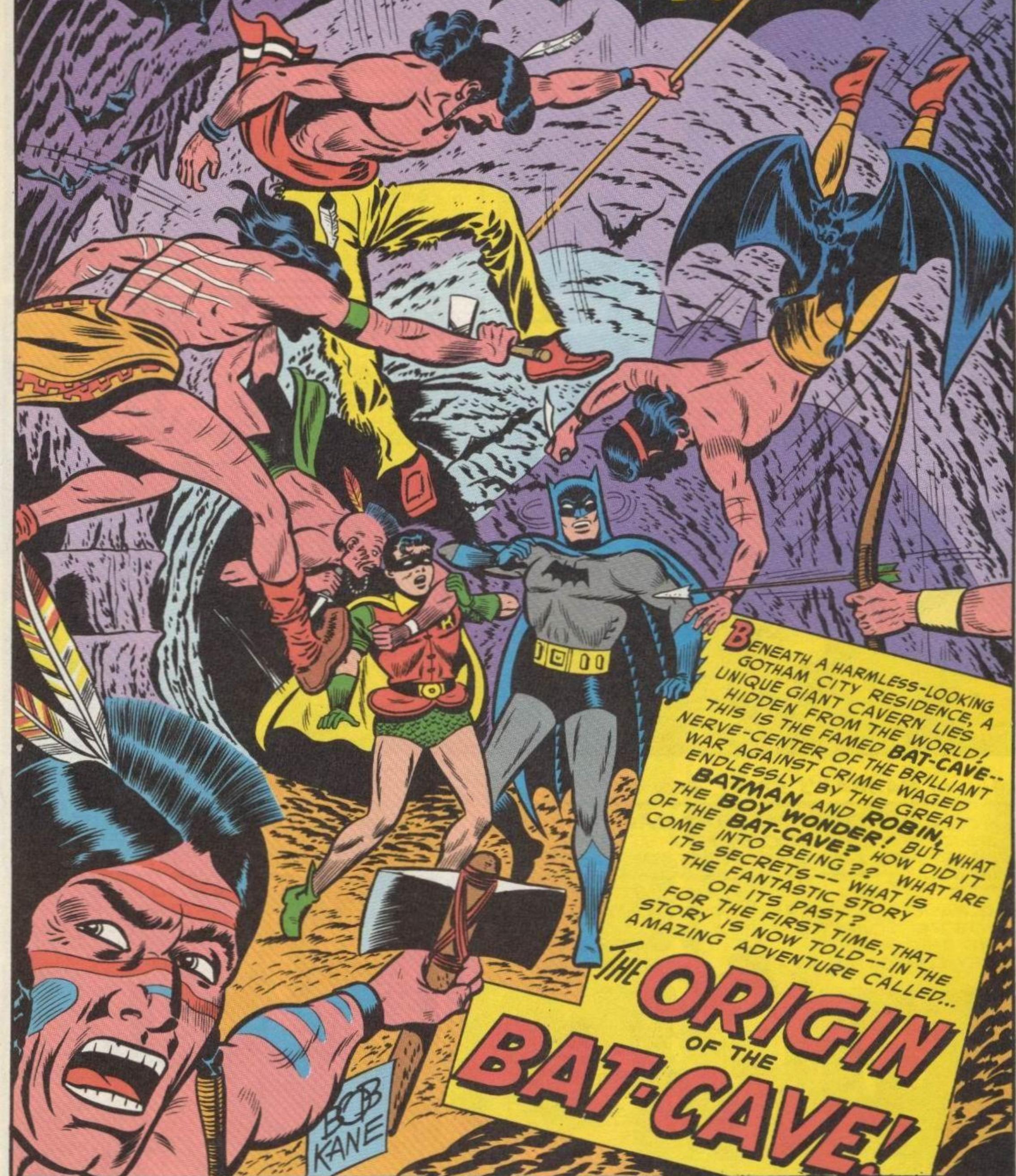


FLASH BULB
BATARANG



BOMB
BATARANG

BAT-MAN AND ROBIN

BOB
KANE



BATMAN ANNUAL



ONE EVENING IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE**,
FABULOUS HEADQUARTERS OF **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER...

OUR NEW ELECTRONIC
EQUIPMENT IS PUTTING TOO
MUCH STRAIN ON OUR WIRING.
WE'D BETTER RE-WIRE, WITH
THIS SPECIAL CABLE...

HMM-- THAT
MEANS A DIGGING
JOB TO GET THE
CABLE UNDER-
GROUND. I'LL
GET THE SHOVELS!



SOON AFTER, IN THE MIDST OF THEIR LABORS...

BATMAN, LOOK
WHAT I DUG UP!
AN OLD PIECE OF
POTTERY-- WITH
SOME STRANGE-
LOOKING INSCRIPTION
ON IT!

HMM! THAT LOOKS
LIKE AMERICAN INDIAN
SYMBOLS, **ROBIN**!
VERY INTERESTING!
WHEN WE'RE
FINISHED WITH THIS
JOB, WE'LL
EXAMINE IT MORE
CLOSELY!



AND LATER, IN THE CRIME LAB...

YOU SAY THAT
GEOLOGIC
EVIDENCE
POINTS TO THAT
POTTERY BEING
THREE HUNDRED
YEARS OLD?

YES! AND IT
ESTABLISHES THE
FACT THAT THE
BAT-CAVE IS
AT LEAST THAT OLD,
TOO! AS FOR THE
INSCRIPTION, WE'LL
NEED A TRANSLATOR
FOR THAT!

GOLLY--IMAGINE
THE **BAT-CAVE**
BEING THAT OLD! YOU
KNOW--THIS PLACE HAS
ALWAYS INTRIGUED ME.
HOW DID YOU EVER
FIND IT, IN THE
FIRST PLACE?

OH-OH! LOOKS
LIKE WE'RE IN
FOR A SESSION
OF REMINISCING.
WELL, I DON'T
MIND. I'M KIND OF
FASCINATED BY THE
BAT-CAVE MYSELF!



AND AS **BATMAN'S** STORY BEGINS...

"ACTUALLY, **ROBIN**, THE **BAT-CAVE** WAS FIRST
DISCOVERED BY ACCIDENT! I HAD NO IDEA IT
EXISTED WHEN I PURCHASED THIS HOUSE AS BRUCE
WAYNE..."

YES,
MR. WAYNE-- I'M SURE
YOU'RE GOING TO
FIND THIS HOUSE
VERY COMFORTABLE!

HMM! IF HE ONLY
KNEW THAT IN THIS
HOUSE THE LEGEND
OF **BATMAN**
WILL BEGIN!



"I HAD PLANNED TO USE AN OLD
BARN AT THE REAR OF THE PROPERTY
AS MY SECRET HEADQUARTERS. BUT
ONE DAY, AS I WAS TESTING THE FLOOR,
IT SUDDENLY GAVE WAY!"



I'M
FALLING! BUT TO
WHERE? WHAT
COULD POSSIBLY
BE UNDER THIS
BARN?

"I SOON FOUND OUT! AND LUCKILY THE HAY FALLING WITH ME CUSHIONED MY COLLISION WITH A ROCKY CAVERN FLOOR!"

A CAVE! A TREMENDOUS CAVE-- AND FULL OF BATS! AN OMEN-- IF I EVER SAW ONE!

"I QUICKLY EXPLORED THE CAVE, SOON FOUND TUNNELS THAT WOULD LEAD ME TO THE SURFACE. AND I ALSO WAS ABLE TO DETERMINE THAT THE CAVE RAN DIRECTLY UNDER MY HOUSE!"

THIS CAVE SHALL BE MY HEADQUARTERS! I'LL CALL IT THE BAT-CAVE! I'LL CLOSE OFF THE TUNNELS-- AND HAVE A SECRET ENTRANCE TO MY HOUSE-- WHICH I JUDGE TO BE RIGHT ABOVE ME!

"MY ENTRANCE TO THE BAT-CAVE WAS SOON ESTABLISHED! A LONG FLIGHT OF STAIRS REACHED THROUGH A GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK IN MY STUDY!"

PERFECT! AND NOW TO EQUIP MY BAT-CAVE WITH ALL THE MODERN WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME.

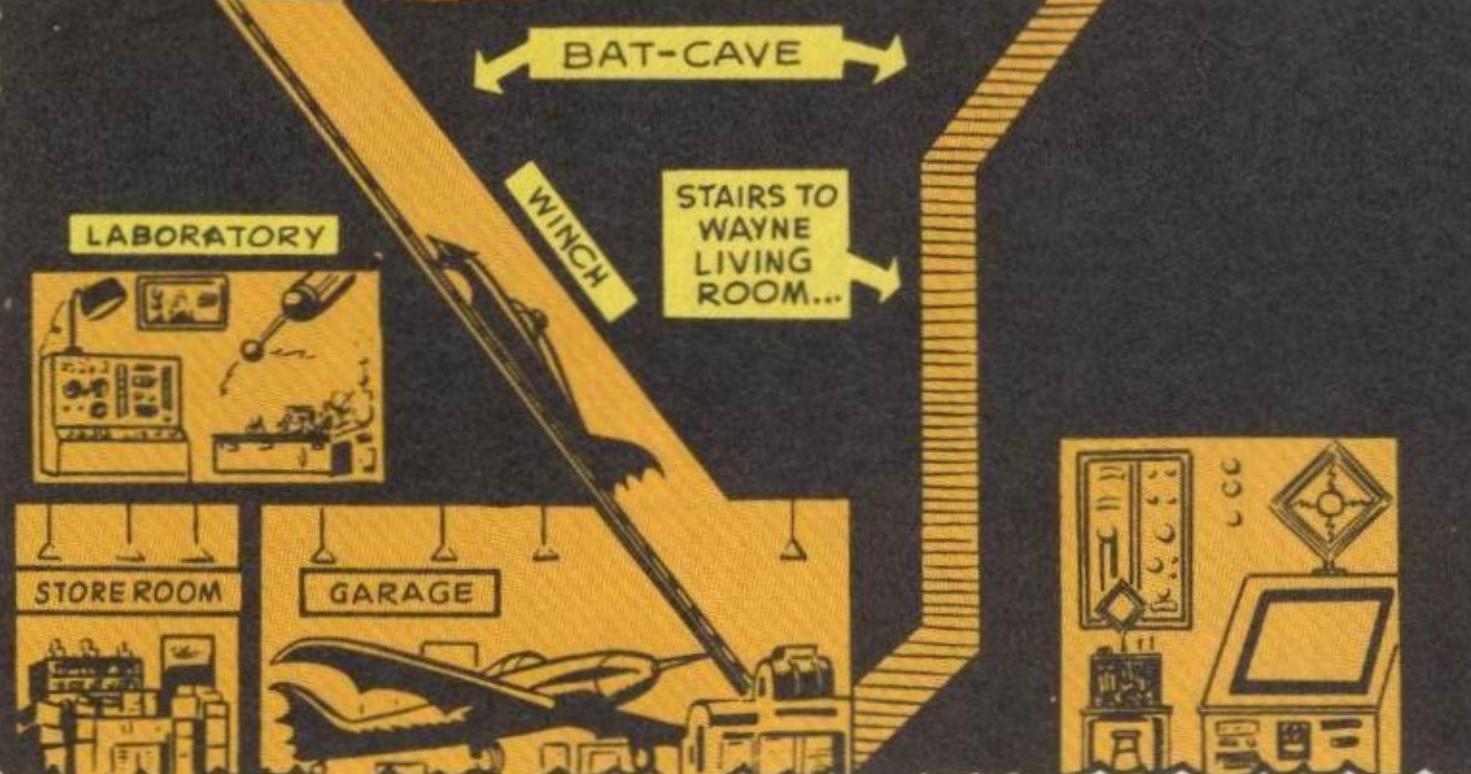


"I ADOPTED YOU SOON AFTER, ROBIN! SURELY YOU REMEMBER THE DAY WE SET UP THE NEW CRIME LAB?"

THESE FILES WILL CONTAIN THE MOST COMPLETE DATA ON CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AND PERSONALITIES EVER COMPILED BY ANY AGENCY!

"AND HOW ABOUT ALL THE WORK WE WENT THROUGH WHEN WE USED TO USE THE BARN AS AN EXIT FOR THE BATPLANE AND BATMOBILE?"

WE MUST REMEMBER TO KEEP THAT WINCH IN PERFECT RUNNING ORDER, ROBIN! WITHOUT IT, THE BATPLANE AND BATMOBILE WOULD BE MAROONED!



RIGHT, ROBIN! AND WHEN I GET THIS SPECTROSCOPE MACHINE SET UP, IT WILL ENABLE US TO IDENTIFY MINUTE PARTICLES BY THEIR COLOR-SPECTRUM BREAKDOWN!

"OF COURSE, I DON'T THINK ANYTHING GAVE US A BIGGER KICK THAN TO WATCH THE HALL OF TROPHIES BEGIN TO CROWD UP WITH MEMENTOS OF THE CRIMES WE HAD SOLVED!"

EXIT ANOTHER CRIMINAL ADVENTURE -- ENTER ANOTHER EXHIBIT FOR OUR HALL OF TROPHIES!



"BUT WE HAD SOME KNOTTY PROBLEMS TO LICK, DIDN'T WE? FOR INSTANCE, THERE WAS THE **BAT-SIGNAL** — WHICH WE COULDN'T SEE FROM THE **BAT-CAVE**..."

THIS DOES IT! ANY TIME THE **BAT-SIGNAL** FLASHES ON OVER POLICE HEADQUARTERS, IT WILL SIMULTANEOUSLY SEND OUT A RADIO BEAM THAT WILL ILLUMINATE THIS RED BULB!

AND THAT WILL BE OUR CUE TO GET MOVING OVER TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE!



AND AS THE MEMORIES FADE AWAY, AND WE RETURN TO THE PRESENT...

YES, ROBIN--THE **BAT-CAVE** HAS BECOME A LEGEND BY ITSELF. AND TOMORROW WE'LL LEARN MORE ABOUT IT WHEN WE HAVE THIS INSCRIPTION TRANSLATED...



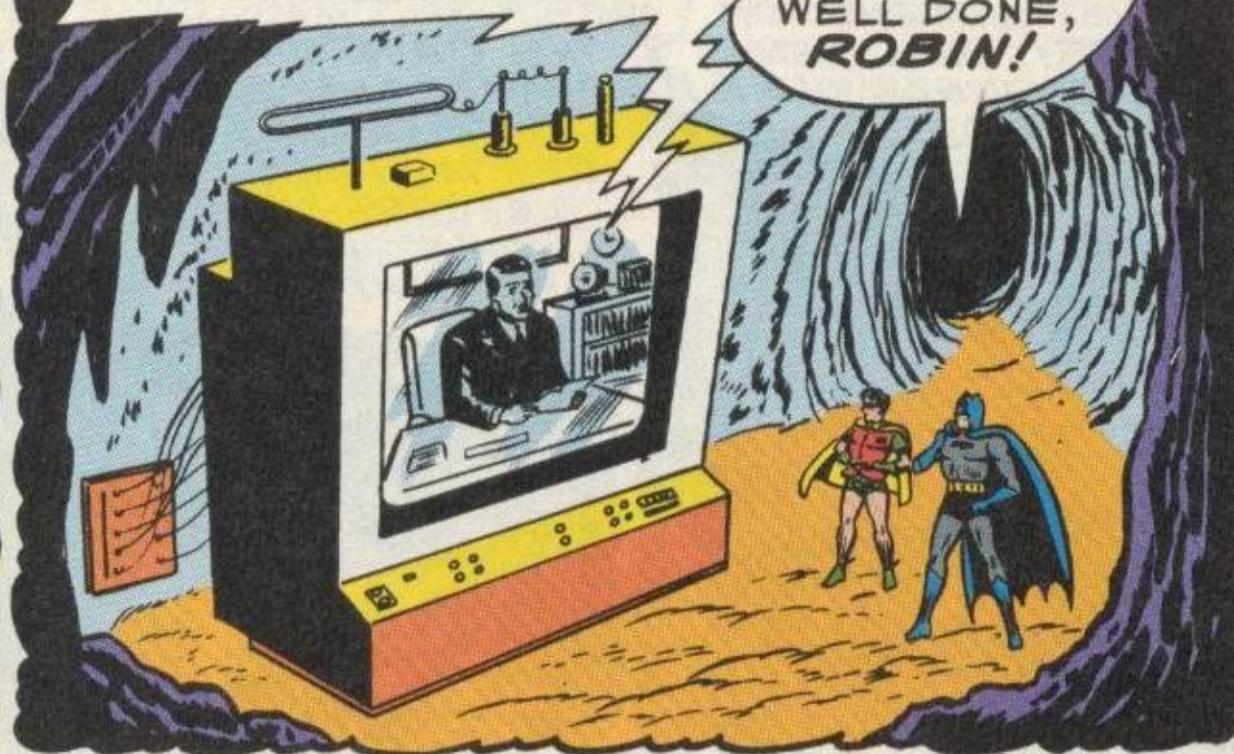
WELL, IT'S HARD TO BE EXACT! BUT, TRANSLATING IT FREELY, IT SAYS SOMETHING LIKE: "DEATH TO THE MAN OF TWO IDENTITIES!"



"REMEMBER HOW WE SOLVED THE TELEVISION PROBLEM? WE DEVISED AN INTRICATE INDOOR ANTENNA WHICH WAS HOOKED UP IN RELAY TO THE INNOCENT-LOOKING ANTENNA ON BRUCE WAYNE'S ROOF!"

AND THAT'S THE NEWS FOR THIS EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...

PERFECT RECEPTION! ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE, ROBIN!



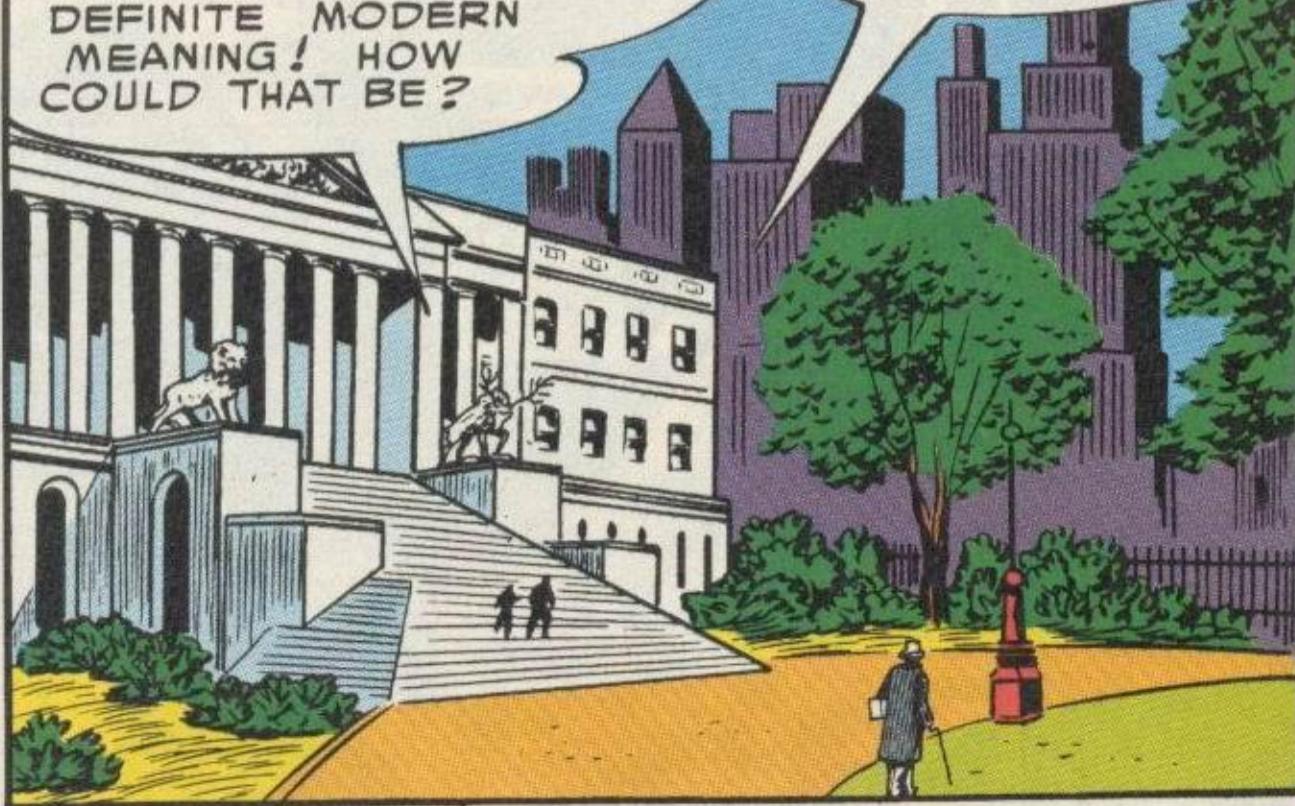
NEXT MORNING, AS MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, VISIT THE CURATOR OF A LARGE MUSEUM...



AND LATER...

IT'S UNCANNY, BRUCE! THAT INSCRIPTION WAS WRITTEN THREE CENTURIES AGO-- YET IT HAS A DEFINITE MODERN MEANING! HOW COULD THAT BE?

I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO FIND OUT! AND I WON'T BE HAPPY TILL I DO!



BATMAN ANNUAL

THAT AFTERNOON...

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO, DICK--WE MUST GO BACK IN TIME-- 300 YEARS-- TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE POTTERY!

THAT MEANS PROF. NICHOLS-- THE SCIENTIST WHO SENT US BACK IN TIME BEFORE! LET'S SEE HIM RIGHT AWAY!



A WEIRD RINGING IN THEIR EARS-- THE SENSATION OF DROPPING OFF INTO A BOTTOMLESS ABYSS, BEING CAUGHT UP IN A GIANT WHIRLPOOL OF BLACKNESS-- AND THE LAW MEN BEGIN THEIR FANTASTIC TRIP BACK THROUGH THE CENTURIES!

AND LATER, IN THE STRANGE LABORATORY OF PROFESSOR NICHOLS, A SCIENTIST WHOSE UNIQUE METHODS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PENETRATING THE TIME BARRIER...

FIRST-- HYPNOSIS! THEN I'LL TURN ON THE TIME MACHINE!

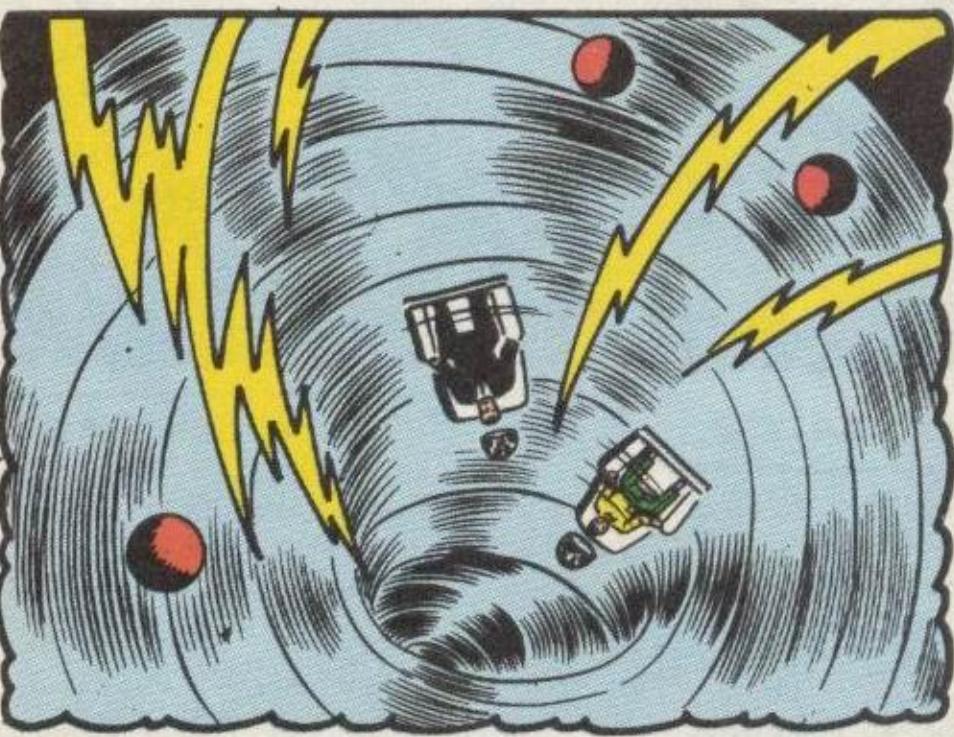
300 YEARS BACK! TO THE TIME WHEN YOUR SUBURB OF GOTHAM CITY WAS A LAND OF INDIAN WARFARE!



AND THEN, AS THE VIOLENT SPINNING STOPS AND THE VEIL OF BLACKNESS ABRUPTLY FALLS AWAY...

WE'RE HERE! IMAGINE, BRUCE-- THIS IS THE OUTSKIRTS OF WHAT SOME DAY WILL BE GOTHAM CITY!

HOLD IT! LISTEN! HOOFBEATS! WE'D BETTER CHANGE INTO OUR BATMAN AND ROBIN UNIFORMS TO BE READY FOR WHATEVER ACTION COMES ALONG!



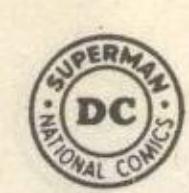
MOMENTS LATER...

BATMAN, LOOK! TWO INDIANS ON THE WARPATH AFTER THAT WHITE MAN!

AND THAT FRONTIERSMAN'S HORSE HAS STUMBLED! COME ON, ROBIN-- WE'D BETTER MAKE THIS OUR FIGHT, TOO!



NO SCALPS TODAY, FELLOWS-- IF YOU DON'T MIND!

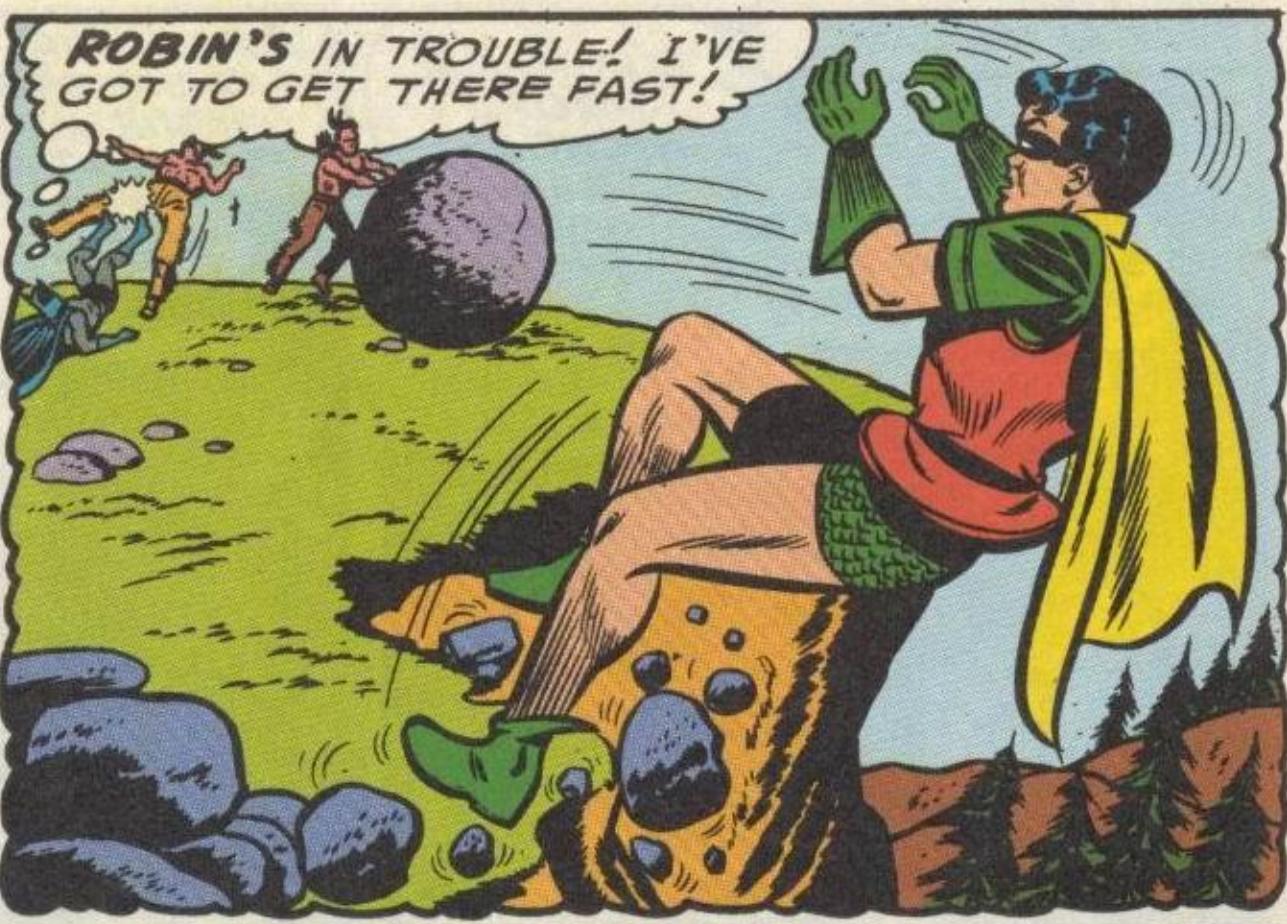


BATMAN ANNUAL

AND AS A GRIM BATTLE ENSUES...

LET'S--GET--RID--
OF--THAT--KNIFE!

AND LET'S GET
RID OF THAT
BOW-AND-ARROW!



THEN, AS THE
GREAT BATMAN
MOVES WITH
BLINDING SPEED,
FASTENING HIS
SILKEN CORD
AROUND HIS
WAIST...



HOLD ON,
BATMAN!
I'LL BE UP IN
A MINUTE!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

NICE TO SEE YOU, ROBIN! YOU'RE
TOO LATE, THOUGH. LOOKS LIKE
THIS FIGHT IS OVER!

IT'S JUST AS
WELL! MY
KNEES ARE
STILL SHAKING!



THEN, AS BATMAN PUTS THE UNCONSCIOUS INDIANS
ON THEIR HORSES...

THESE HORSES WILL FIND THEIR
WAY HOME! AND THOSE WARRIOR
S WILL PROBABLY BE OUTLAWED FROM
THE TRIBE FOR DISGRACING IT!

BATMAN,
COME HERE!
HE'S STIRRING!



SOON AFTER...

WHITE MEN--THANK HEAVENS!
YOUR GARB IS STRANGE--I DO
NOT KNOW IT--BUT YOU'RE A
WELCOME SIGHT!
YOU SAVED MY
LIFE! OHHH! MY
LEG! AFRAID
IT'S BROKEN!

TAKE
IT EASY.
NOW.

MY NAME IS JEREMY
COE. THOSE INDIANS
AMBUSHED ME ON THE
WAY TO MY SECRET
HEADQUARTERS!
COME! CARRY
ME AND I'LL
SHOW YOU!

FOLLOWING THE INJURED MAN'S
DIRECTIONS, BATMAN AND
ROBIN CARRY HIM TO THE BASE
OF A GIANT TREE, WHERE, AT
THE TWIST OF A BRANCH, A DOOR
IN THE TREE-TRUNK SUDDENLY
SPRINGS OPEN!

THERE! RIGGED
THIS UP MYSELF!
CLEVER, EH? THERE'S
A TUNNEL, LEADS
DOWN INTO A
CAVE!

COME ON,
ROBIN!
I'LL GO
FIRST, YOU
LOWER HIM
DOWN TO
ME!

AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

HERE'S WHERE I HIDE--
AND DISGUISE MYSELF
AS AN INDIAN! SEE
ALL THOSE BATS?
THEY'VE GIVEN THIS
PLACE ITS NAME!
I CALL IT MY
BAT-CAVE!

(WHISPERING)
THIS IS IT,
ALL RIGHT--I
CAN TELL BY
THE CONTOURS!
AND THIS IS
OUR MAN OF
TWO IDENTITIES,
ROBIN--A MAN
WHO DOUBLES
AS AN INDIAN!

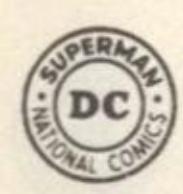
I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING QUICKLY--
ACTUALLY, I'M A SPY--AND THIS IS
HOW I OPERATE!!

YOU'RE A
BRAVE MAN,
COE--GOING
OFF TO SPY
ON THE SAVAGES
FOR US!

IT'S THE ONLY WAY! IF WE
CAN LEARN THEIR PLANS
AHEAD OF TIME, WE CAN
DEFEAT THEM. AND I
HAVE A SCHEME THAT
MAY WORK!

COE'S STORY:
"THE REDMAN'S
ATTACKS ON THE
WESTERN-MOST
COLONIES HAD
BECOME MORE
AND MORE
SAVAGE--AND
USUALLY CAUGHT
US BY SURPRISE..."





BATMAN ANNUAL

"MY IDEA WAS TO MINGLE WITH THE INDIANS AS ONE OF THEM, OPERATING FROM A BASE NEARBY. LUCKILY, I DISCOVERED MY **BAT-CAVE**-- IT WAS THE PERFECT SPOT..."

A RED STAIN, BREWED FROM TREE BARK. IT COLORS MY SKIN PERFECTLY FOR MY ROLE AS AN INDIAN!



"MY OPERATION WAS SUCCESSFUL. THE INDIAN ATTACKS WERE BEATEN OFF ONE BY ONE! BUT SOON THE OLD CHIEFS KNEW THERE MUST BE A SPY IN THEIR MIDST!"

THEY'RE TELLING THE MEDICINE MAN HIS MEDICINE IS BAD... HE MUST FIND THE SPY IN THE CAMP! I'D BEST BE EXTRA CAREFUL!



BUT NOW-- JUST WHEN MY ESPIONAGE IS NEEDED MOST-- I'M HELPLESS! THE INDIANS ARE PLANNING A MAJOR CAMPAIGN-- AND I'M UNABLE TO SPY ON THEM! AND THE FATE OF THE WHOLE COLONY IS IN THE BALANCE!

DON'T BE TOO DISCOURAGED! PERHAPS THERE'S A WAY. MAYBE I COULD TAKE OVER FOR YOU, AFTER I'VE CHANGED A FEW THINGS AROUND HERE...



"I HAD NO TROUBLE MINGLING WITH THE INDIANS. IN A TIME OF UPRISING, MANY TRIBES ALIY AND MIX. NEW FACES ARE NOT UNCOMMON..."

THE ALGONQUINS AND THE HURONS HAVE JUST ARRIVED! I MUST GET THIS INFORMATION TO CAPTAIN BOOTH AT FORT GEORGE!



I WASN'T CAUGHT. I MADE MY REPORT TO FORT GEORGE, THEN STARTED BACK HERE. UNLUCKILY, I RAN INTO THOSE INDIANS -- BUT I'M SURE THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHO I REALLY WAS...

YOU'D BETTER REST NOW. I'VE SET YOUR LEG IN A SPLINT. WE'LL SEE THAT YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED.



I NOTICE YOU LEAVE YOUR HORSE UNATTENDED WHILE YOU'RE DOWN HERE-- WHISTLING FOR HIM, WHEN YOU COME UP. THAT'S BAD-- THE ANIMAL **COULD** LEAD THE INDIANS TO THIS CAVE. COME ON, **ROBIN**-- WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO -- IN THAT LOG CABIN I SPOTTED BEFORE!



SOON AFTER, IN THE ABANDONED LOG CABIN ABOVE THE BAT-CAVE...

A FEW OF THE CONCENTRATED EXPLOSIVE PILLS FROM MY UTILITY BELT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO BLOW A HOLE THROUGH TO THE BAT-CAVE...

AND WITH THIS VINE AND ALL THE TIMBER LYING AROUND, WE'LL RIG UP A REAL SURPRISE FOR JEREMY COE...



SOON AFTER...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT BIRCH-BARK? LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF PIPE...

YOU'LL SEE! I NOTICE YOU HAVE SOME HAND-MIRRORS, THE KIND INDIANS USE TO FLASH SIGNALS WITH SUNLIGHT. ROBIN, WOULD YOU GO GET THEM...?

A FEW HOURS LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN COMPLETE THEIR LABORS...

SHADES OF THE WINCH IN THE REAL BAT-CAVE!

THERE YOU ARE, COE! YOU RIDE YOUR HORSE INTO THE CABIN, THEN YOU COME DOWN HERE, AND PULL YOUR HORSE DOWN AFTER YOU!



AND AS BATMAN CONTINUES "REARRANGING" THE OLD BAT-CAVE...

YOU USE A DYE MADE FROM BARK TO COLOR YOUR SKIN, BUT THERE'S MUCH MORE YOU CAN DO. THESE DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BARK, LEAVES AND HERBS CAN PROVIDE MEDICINES, TANNING AGENTS, CHEMICALS-- A WHOLE VARIETY OF THINGS!

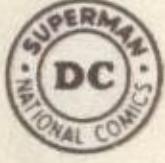
THE CRIME LAB-- FRONTIER STYLE!

THEN...

DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE A NICE IDEA TO START A TROPHY COLLECTION? HERE-- THE BOW-AND-ARROW USED BY THE INDIAN ROBIN WAS FIGHTING-- THAT'S A GOOD BEGINNING!

I WAS WONDERING IF BATMAN WOULD FORGET THE HALL OF TROPHIES! THAT'S A REAL UNUSUAL ARROW-HEAD-- IT WOULD GRACE ANY COLLECTION!





BATMAN ANNUAL



AND SOON AFTER...

YOU'VE SET UP THE
DISGUISE WARDROBE
JUST LIKE THE ONE IN
THE MODERN
BAT-CAVE!

YES! AND
NOW TO PICK
AN
APPROPRIATE
DISGUISE FOR
MY ROLE AS
AN INDIAN SPY!

QUICKLY, **BATMAN** TRANSFORMS HIMSELF INTO AN
INDIAN-- NOT BOthering to hide his true features
from COE SINCE THIS IS AN ADVENTURE IN THE PAST,
AND THE **BATMAN** IDENTITY MEANS NOTHING...

YOU LOOK PERFECT!
BUT-- TAKE IT EASY!
THIS IS A
DANGEROUS
MISSION!

I'VE GOT MY **BATMAN**
UNIFORM IN MY QUIVER, FOR
EMERGENCIES. YOU STAY
HERE-- TAKE CARE OF COE. I'LL
TAKE THE SPARE HORSE, AND TROT
TO THE REDSKIN CAMP, INDIAN-
STYLE. IT WILL APPEAR I'VE
COME A LONG WAY!

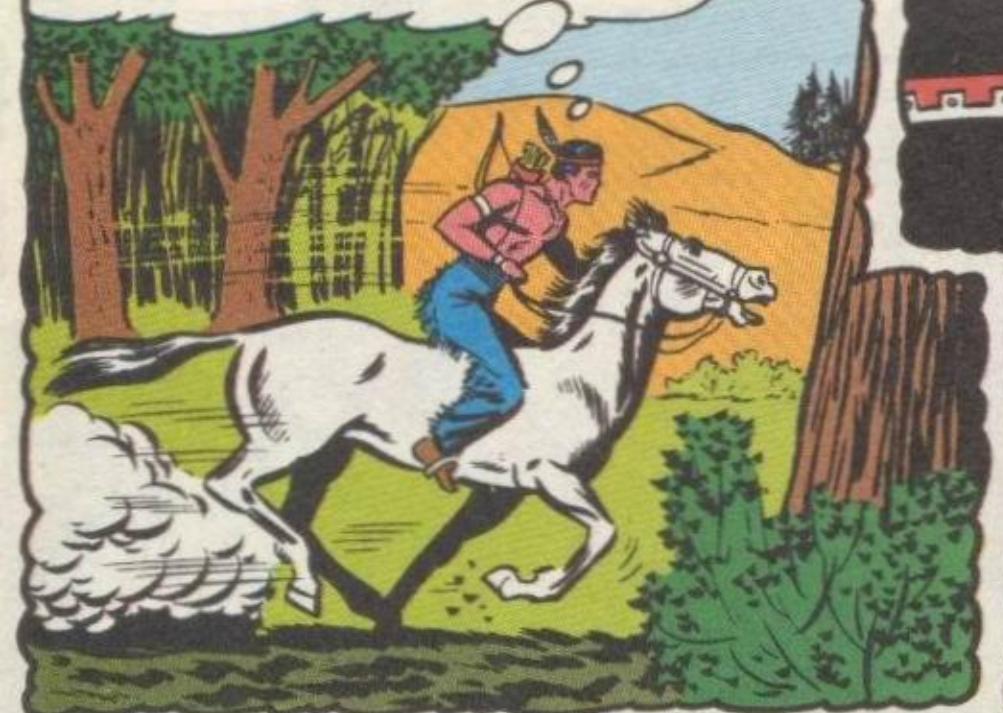


AND SO IT IS THAT THE GREAT
BATMAN BECOMES AN
INDIAN OF THREE CENTURIES AGO!

I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE
DOING THIS ONE DAY!

LATER AT THE INDIAN ENCAMPMENT, AS **BATMAN**
IS ACCEPTED WITHOUT UNDUE SUSPICION...

A WAR COUNCIL-- PLOTTING THE NEXT MOVE! THAT
CURLING LINE LOOKS LIKE THE PAMARO RIVER-- AND
APPARENTLY THEY PLAN TO ATTACK AT THE RIVER
JUNCTION! I'VE SEEN ENOUGH-- NOW TO
SLIP AWAY!



BUT THEN, AN UNFORESEEN STROKE OF BAD
LUCK! A SUDDEN, DRENCHING CLOUDBURST!

MY DISGUISE-- WASHED AWAY! THEY'VE
SPOTTED ME-- THERE'S THE POTTERY WITH
THE DEATH-THREAT FOR THE MAN OF TWO
IDENTITIES! WELL-- MY **BATMAN** IDENTITY
IS MY ONLY CHANCE-- I'LL TRY TO CONFUSE
THEM!

LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, THE BAT-INDIAN
DARTS INTO A NEARBY GROVE-- APPEARING
A MOMENT LATER AS THE REAL **BATMAN**,
AS THE BRIEF STORM BLOWS AWAY...

WHO ARE
YOU, MAN-
WHO-LOOKS-
LIKE-BAT?

GOOD! ONE OF THEM SPEAKS
ENGLISH! I'LL TRY TO MAKE
THEM THINK I'M SOME SORT
OF SPECIAL MEDICINE MAN!



I'LL SHOW THEM BATARANG MAGIC FOR A WHILE, TO IMPRESS THEM! I'VE GOT TO STALL FOR TIME-- WHILE I CONTACT ROBIN VIA THE BELT-RADIO AND HAVE HIM COME GALLOPING IN TO RESCUE ME! IT'S A CINCH I CAN'T RUN FOR IT!



BUT MOMENTS LATER...

MY BELT-RADIO -- NOT WORKING! THE RAIN WATER MUST HAVE GOTTEN TO IT! HMM! THESE SMOKE PELLETS WILL DIVERT THEM FOR NOW-- BUT HOW CAN I CONTACT ROBIN? IF I ONLY HAD THE BAT-SIGNAL!



THEN, AS A SUDDEN THOUGHT STRIKES THE CORNERED LAWMAN...

SIGNALS! OF COURSE! THE INDIAN KIND OF SIGNALS-- SMOKE-SIGNALS! BUT HOW TO SIGNAL ROBIN?



THEN, BEFORE THE AWED EYES OF THE SUPERSTITIOUS SAVAGES...



MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE BAT-CAVE...

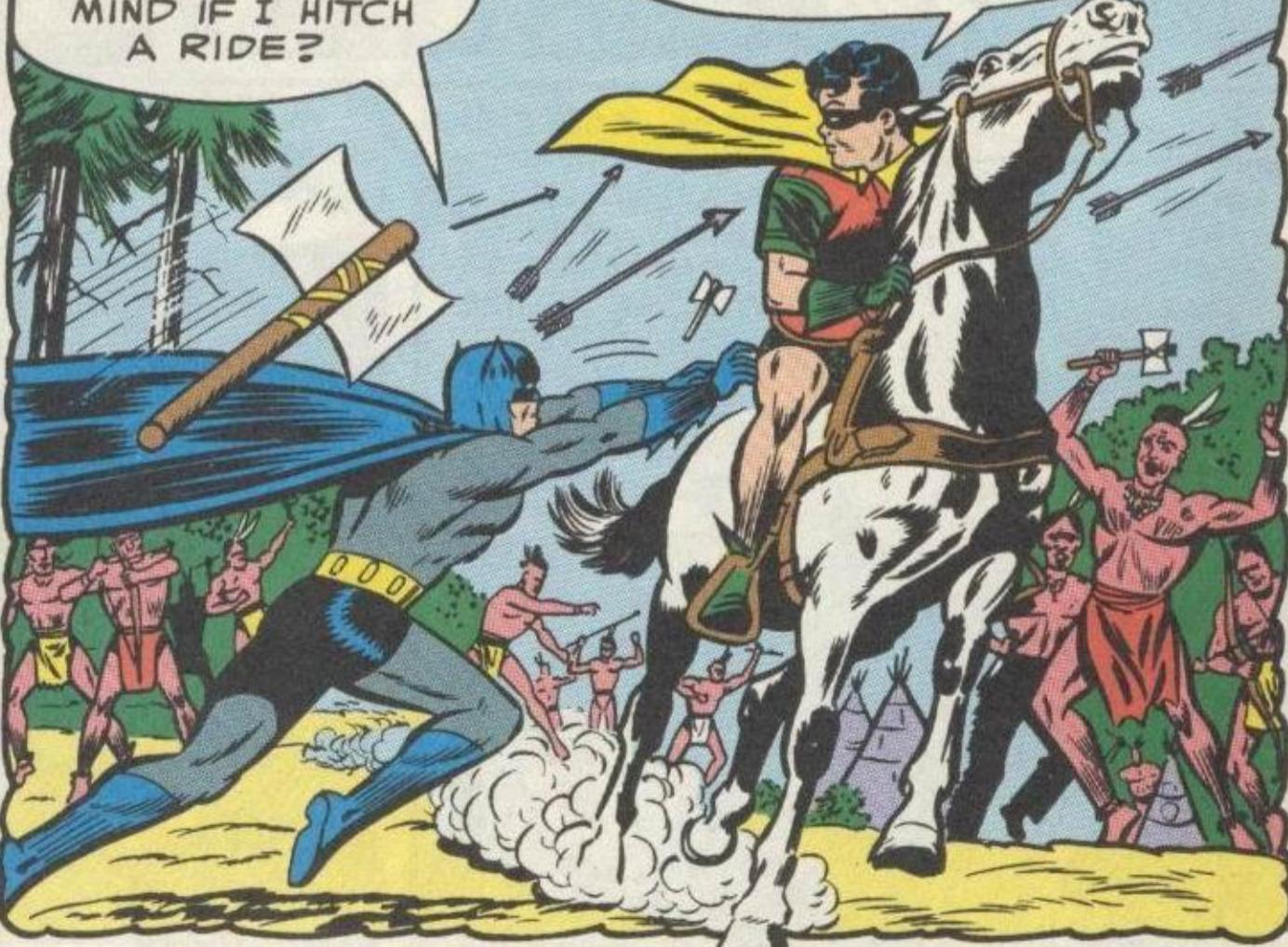
SMOKE-SIGNALS IN THE SHAPE OF BATS! THAT'S A 17th CENTURY BAT-SIGNAL, IF I EVER SAW ONE! I'VE GOT TO RUSH!



AND SOON AFTER...

GREAT TO SEE YOU, ROBIN! MIND IF I HITCH A RIDE?

NO, SIR! BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THESE CHAPS MIND! WE'D BETTER HIGH-TAIL IT OUT OF HERE!



MAN-WHO-LOOKS-LIKE-BAT HAS POWERFUL MEDICINE! HE CALLS UPON GREAT SPIRITS!





BATMAN ANNUAL



THEY'LL PICK UP OUR TRAIL FOR SURE! WE'VE LED THEM RIGHT TO THE **BAT-CAVE**!

THAT'S UNFORTUNATE. BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE COE HERE HELPLESS! WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM TO SAFETY!



AND AFTER A HARD JOURNEY...

JEREMY COE! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD! WE'VE GREAT NEWS FOR YOU, JEREMY! HUGE REINFORCEMENTS HAVE ARRIVED-- THE INDIANS WILL SOON BE DRIVEN OUT!

ROBIN! MY EYESIGHT'S FADING! WE'LL SOON SLIP BACK INTO THE PRESENT. HURRY-- WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF OUR UNIFORMS!



BUT LATER, IN THE MODERN BAT-CAVE...

NOW THAT WE'RE IN THE **REAL BAT-CAVE**, IT SEEMS LIKE I DREAMED EVERYTHING ELSE, **BATMAN**! ARE YOU SURE WE WEREN'T JUST HYPNOTIZED?

MAYBE WE WERE. BUT THEN--MAYBE WE CAN PROVE THAT OUR ADVENTURE EXISTED! LET'S JUST DIG A LITTLE, **ROBIN**!



WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THIS, **ROBIN**?

GOLLY! THAT STRANGE-LOOKING ARROWHEAD OF JEREMY COE'S HALL OF TROPHIES! I GUESS EVERYTHING REALLY HAPPENED, AFTER ALL!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, AS THE LAW MEN BRING JEREMY COE OUT OF THE **BAT-CAVE** AND RUSH FOR FORT GEORGE...

THEY'VE REACHED IT! THEY'VE SET THE LOG CABIN ON FIRE!

NO MATTER! THE **BAT-CAVE** HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE FOR NOW!



AND AS ASTONISHING AS IT BEGAN, SO DOES A REMARKABLE ADVENTURE INTO THE PAST COME TO ITS END!



AND THEN, AS BATMAN'S SHOVEL STRIKES A METALLIC OBJECT...

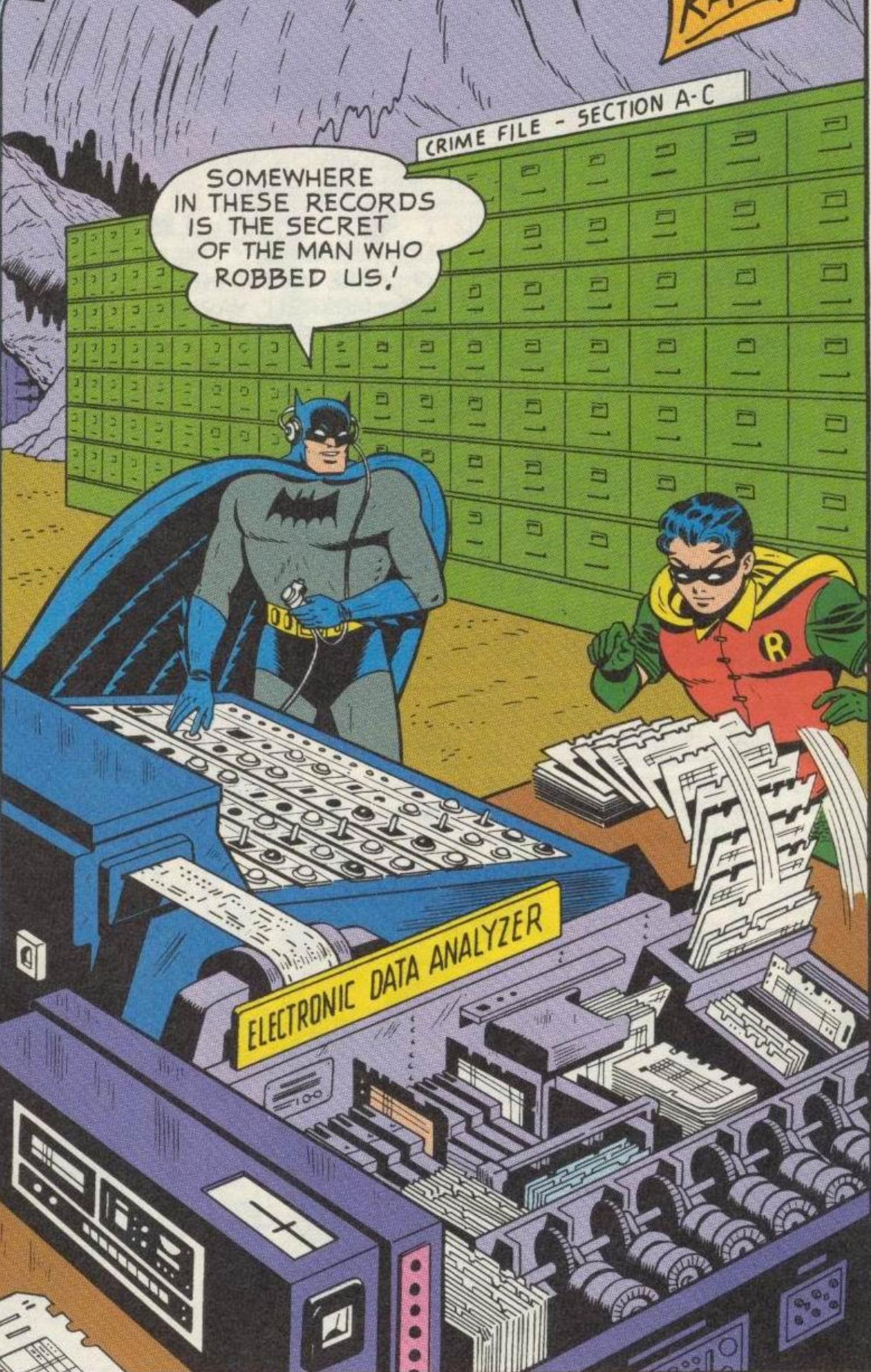
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

THE GREAT CRIME-FILE OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HOLDS THE TOP SECRETS OF THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS LAW MEN! CARDS, PHOTOS, MICROFILMS -- IN THESE COUNTLESS RECORDS LIVES THE DYNAMIC DUO'S EVERY CASE... THE MENACING MYSTERIES THEY HAVE SOLVED, THEIR SUBTLEST SLEUTHING SECRETS! BUT NOW, IN THE MOST INCREDIBLE ROBBERY OF ALL, A MYSTERIOUS MASTER-THIEF STEALS THE ENTIRE MICROFILM COPY OF...

BATMAN'S ELECTRONIC CRIME-FILE!





BATMAN ANNUAL



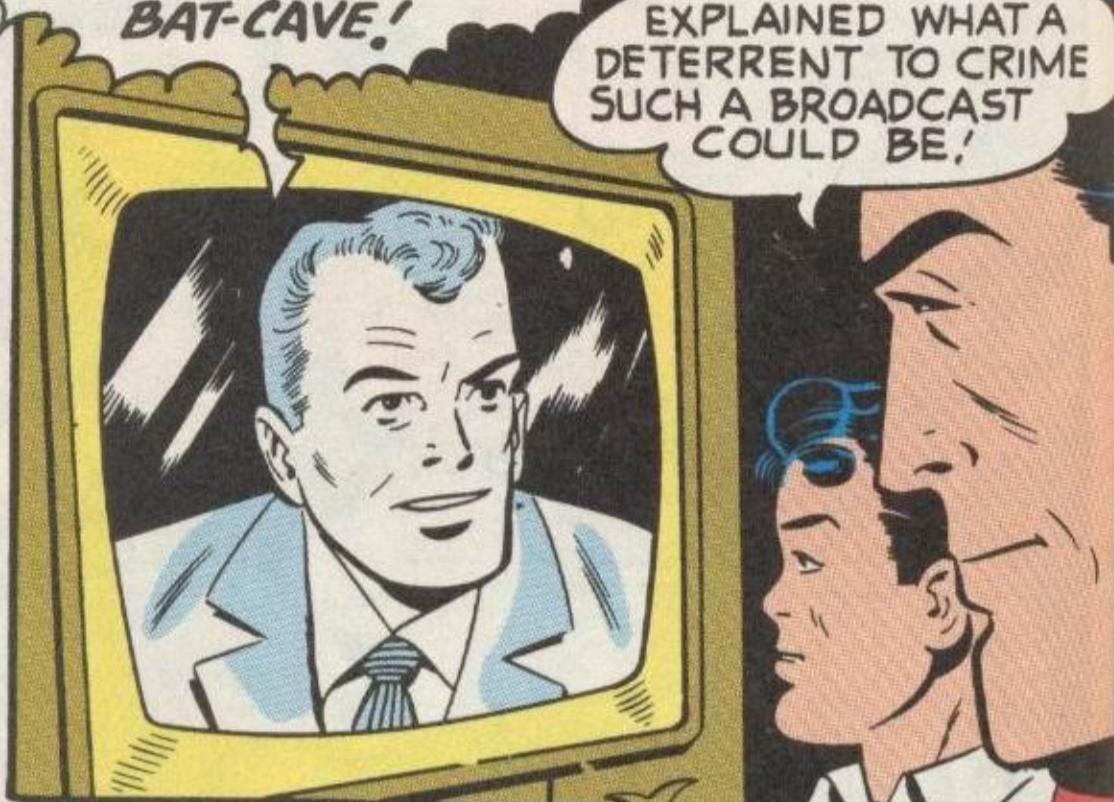
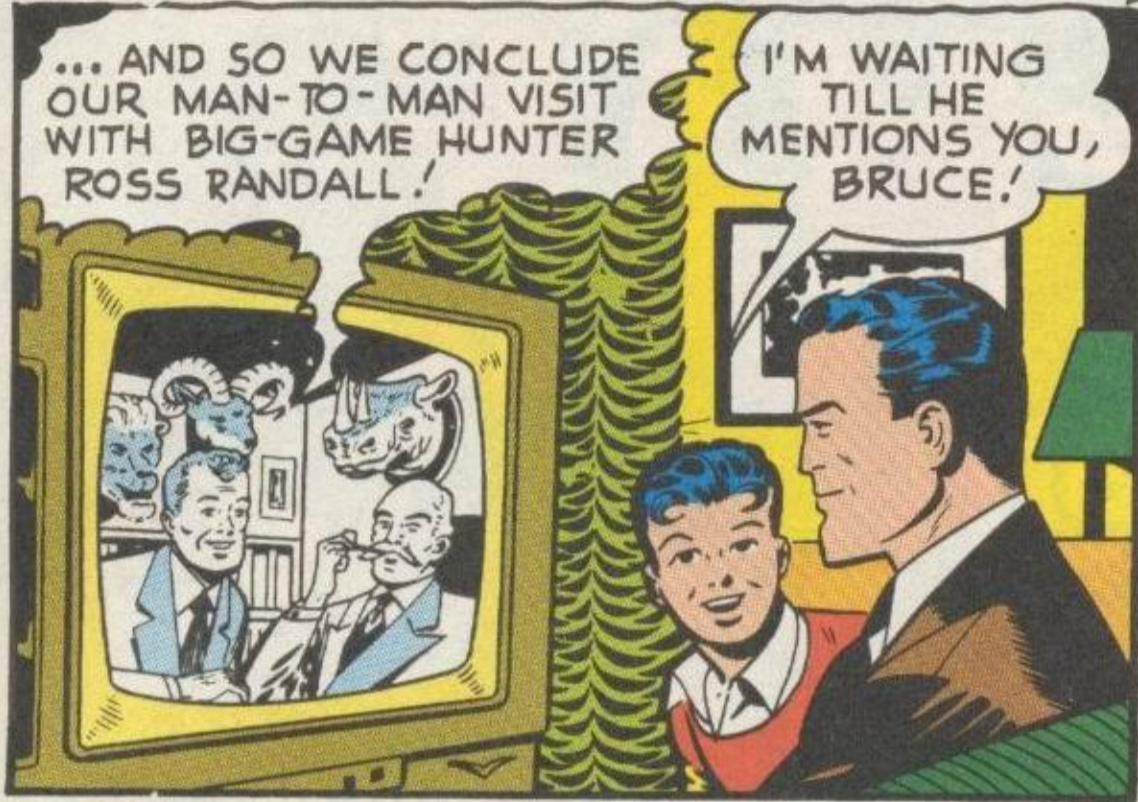
ALL OVER AMERICA, PEOPLE WATCH JOHN WALLER'S POPULAR TELEVISION SHOW, "MAN-TO-MAN"... BUT BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE...

... AND SO WE CONCLUDE OUR MAN-TO-MAN VISIT WITH BIG-GAME HUNTER ROSS RANDALL!

I'M WAITING TILL HE MENTIONS YOU, BRUCE!

NEXT WEEK'S BROADCAST WILL BE UNPRECEDENTED... A MAN-TO-MAN VISIT WITH BATMAN, IN HIS OWN BAT-CAVE!

AS BATMAN, I COULDN'T TURN WALLER DOWN WHEN HE EXPLAINED WHAT A DETERRENT TO CRIME SUCH A BROADCAST COULD BE!

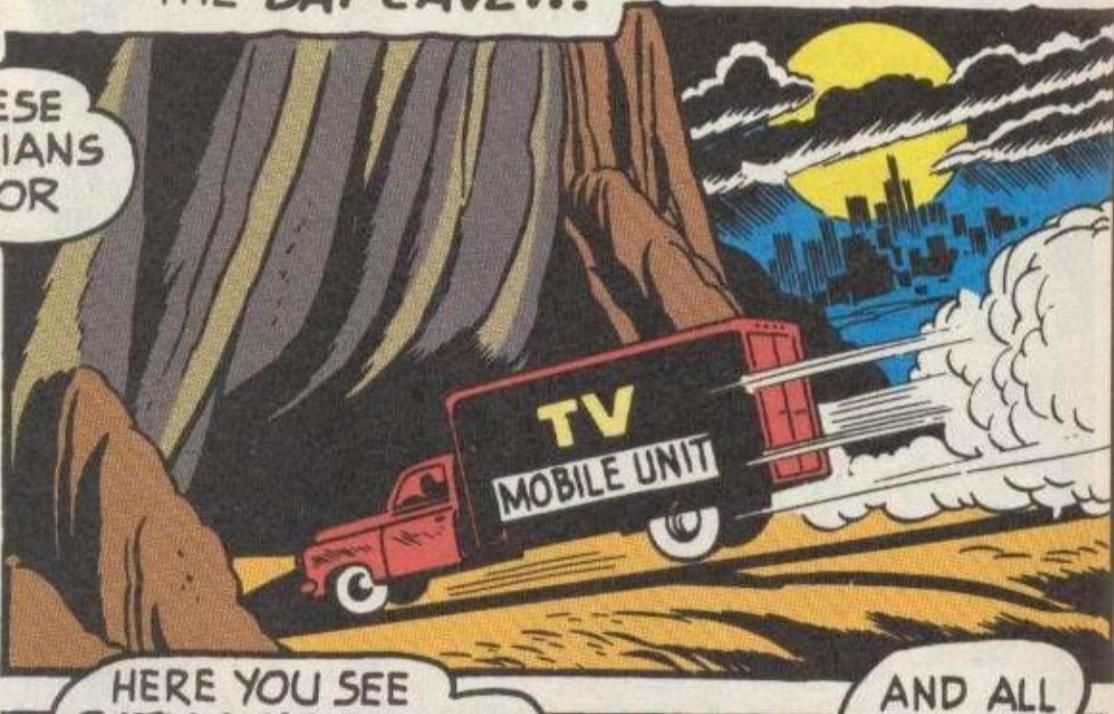


SO THE FOLLOWING WEEK, TELEVISION MEN PREPARE FOR THEIR MOST UNUSUAL BROADCAST...

YOU UNDERSTAND, I MUST LOCK YOU ALL INTO THIS SEALED TRUCK SO YOU CAN'T SEE WHERE THE BAT-CAVE IS!

OF COURSE, BATMAN! THESE ARE MY TECHNICIANS -- MORRELL, VARNOR AND BIRELY!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, A SEALED TRUCK ROLLS THROUGH THE SECRET ENTRANCE TO THE BAT-CAVE...



... AND A TELEVISION BROADCAST THAT IS TO PROVE FATEFUL FOR BATMAN BEGINS!

I'M STANDING RIGHT IN THE GRANITE-WALLED BAT-CAVE WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN, AND TROPHIES OF THEIR GREATEST CASES!

MECHANICAL MOBSTER USED BY THE CR. MESMITH



REVEALED FOR THE FIRST TIME IS THE WORLD'S MOST AMAZING CRIME LABORATORY...

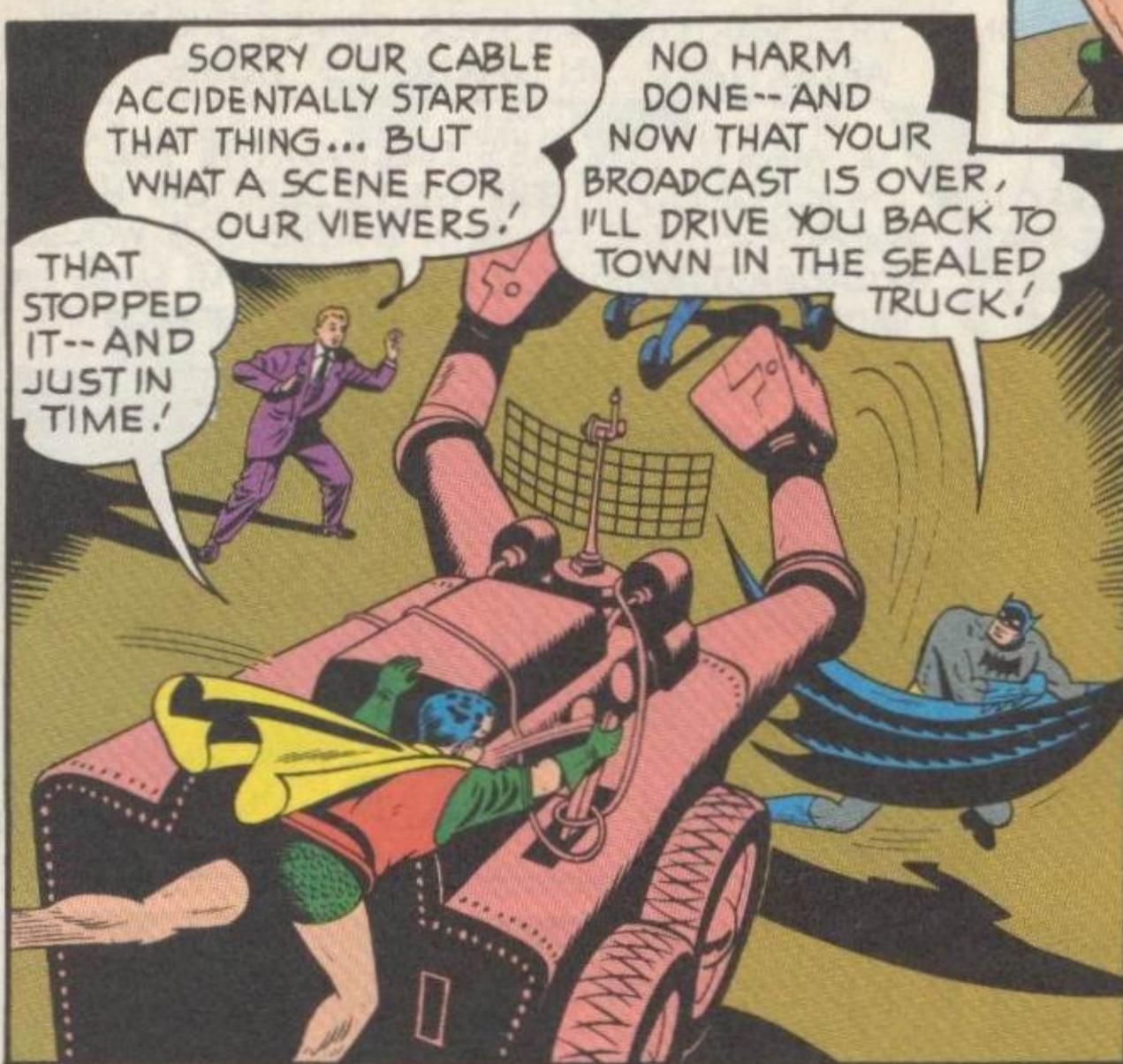
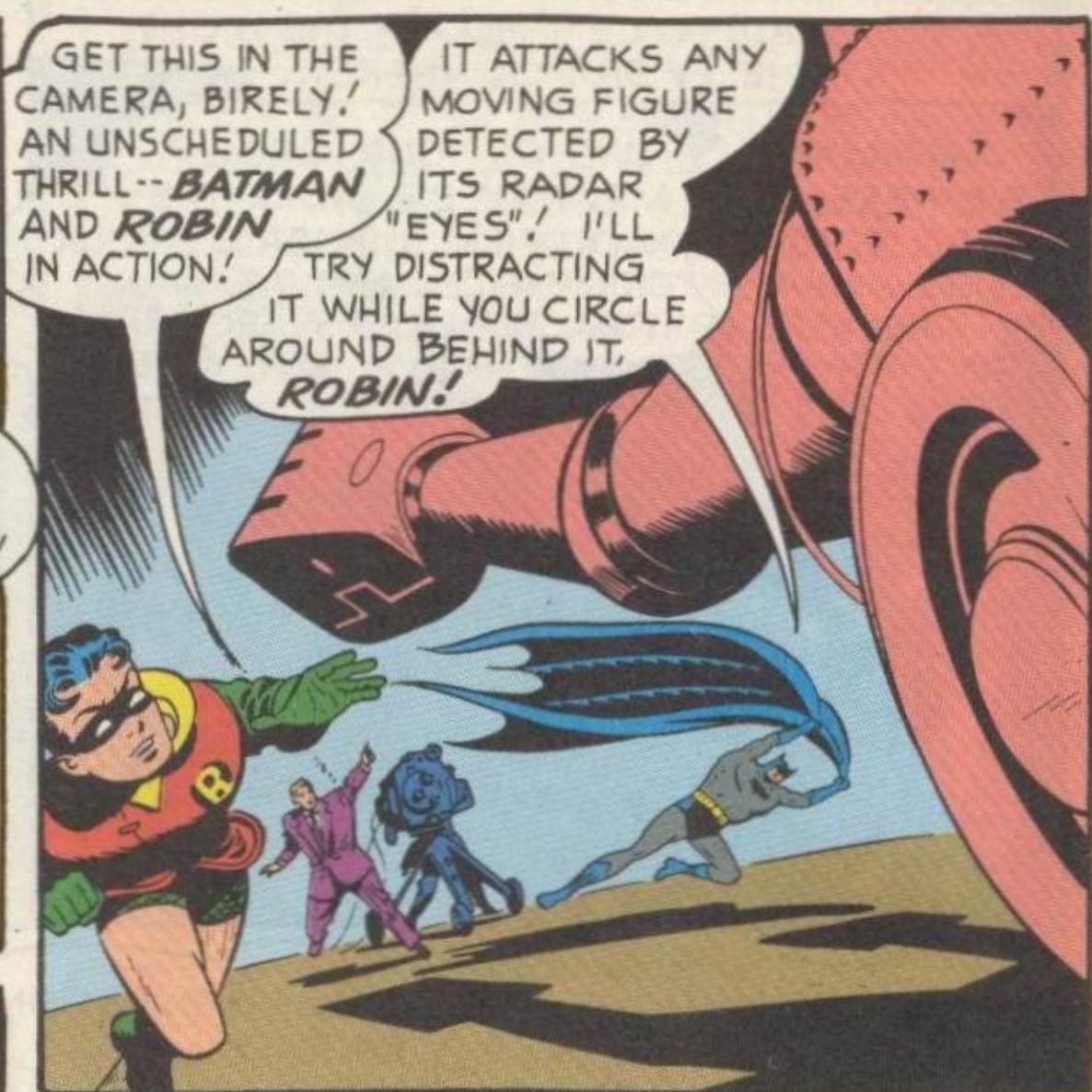
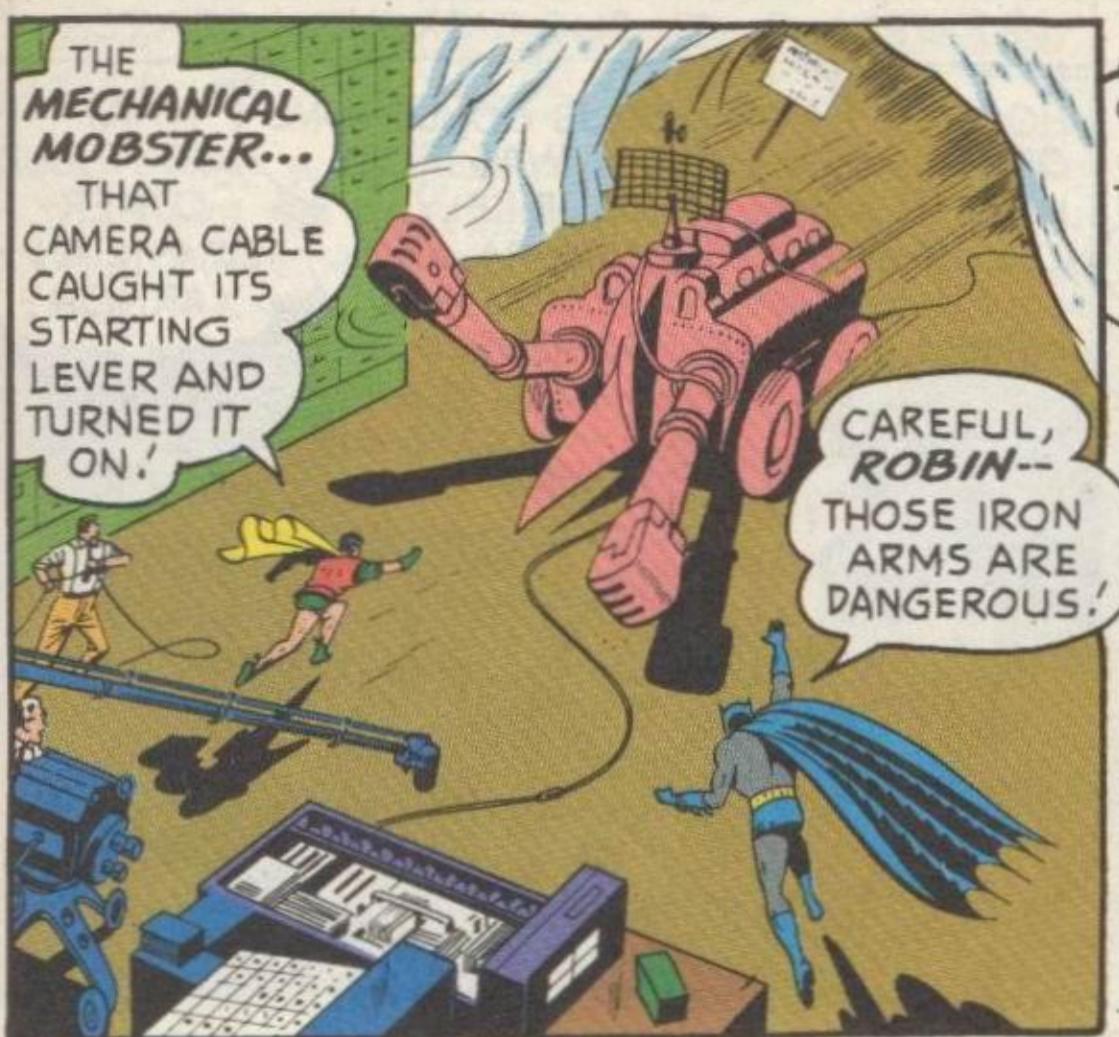
STORE-HOUSE OF TOP-SECRET LAW INFORMATION!

AND ALL THOSE RECORDS ARE REPRODUCED IN THIS LITTLE MICROFILM FILE, SO WE CAN TAKE THEM WITH US ON CASES AWAY FROM GOTHAM CITY!

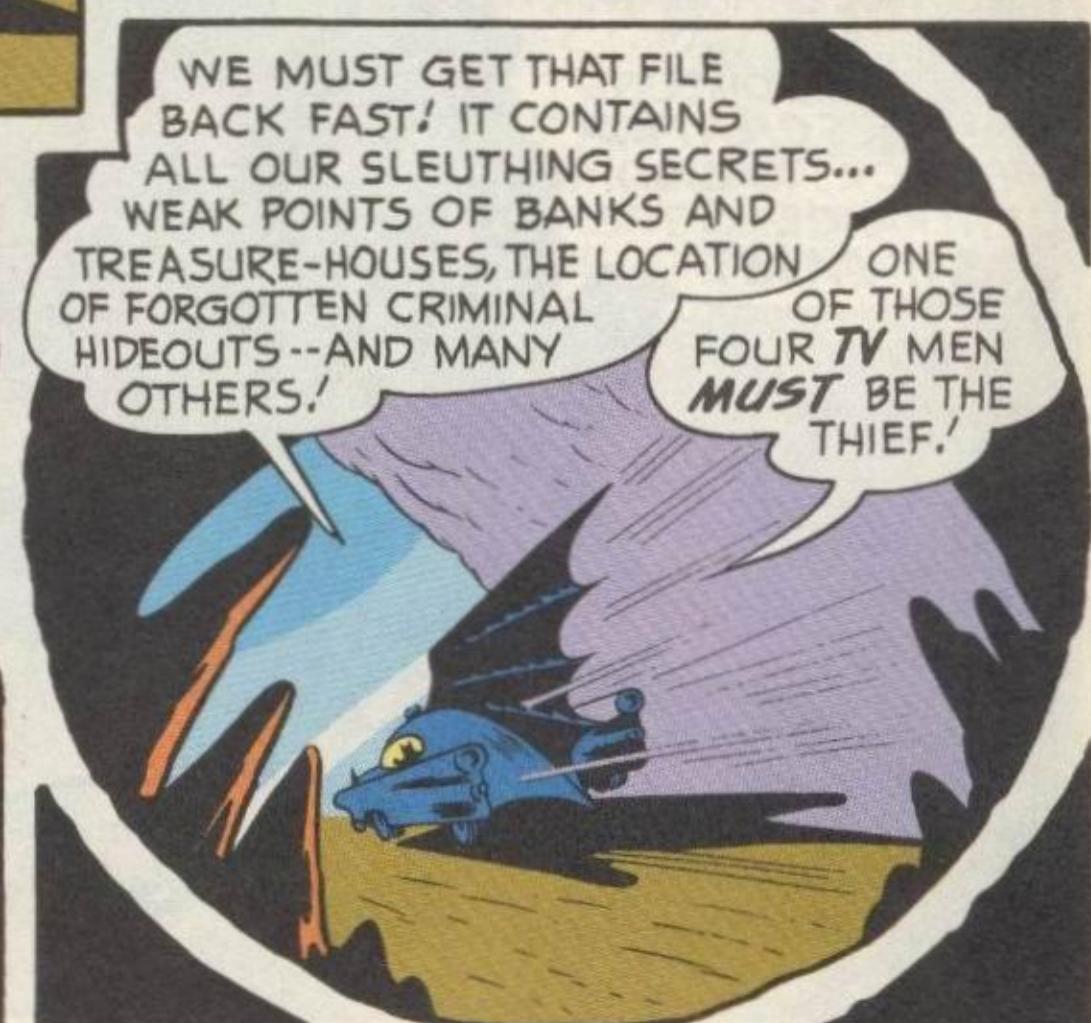
BATMAN, LISTEN. THAT SOUND...



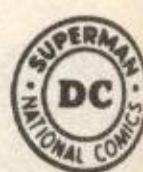
BATMAN ANNUAL



WHEN BATMAN IS GONE, ROBIN REMOVES A CLEVER CAMOUFLAGE...



BATMAN ANNUAL



A DESPERATE RACE THROUGH THE NIGHT,
BACK TO THE TV STUDIO, WHERE...

BATMAN!
WE WERE JUST
ABOUT TO
LEAVE... WHAT'S
WRONG?

ONE OF YOUR GROUP,
MR. WALLER, STOLE THE
MICROFILM DUPLICATE OF OUR
CRIME-FILE, AND WE WANT
IT BACK! LET'S SEARCH THE
EQUIPMENT, ROBIN!

AFTER A QUICK BUT THOROUGH SEARCH...

NO SIGN
OF IT
HERE!
NONE OF US COULD HAVE
TAKEN IT! I WAS BUSY
ANNOUNCING, BIRELY
WAS AT THE CAMERA, AND
MORRELL WAS HANDLING
THE MICROPHONE!

WHAT
ABOUT YOUR
OTHER
TECHNICIAN--
VARNOR?



VARNOR WENT HOME AS
SOON AS WE GOT HERE--
SAID HE HAD A HEADACHE!
BUT HE'S AN HONEST
MAN-- HE CAN'T BE
GUILTY!

WE'LL KNOW SOON
ENOUGH... HE
HANDLED THE
POWER-CABLES
AND WAS IN A PERFECT
POSITION TO CAUSE THAT
"ACCIDENT" DIVERSION!

THE STARTLING ANSWER COMES SHORTLY
AFTERWARD, IN VARNOR'S HOME...

I WAS
KNOCKED OUT
BEFORE THE
BROADCAST TONIGHT.
I DIDN'T SEE WHO
DID IT-- BUT THEY LEFT
ME TIED UP!

HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH...
THE WELTS LEFT ON HIS
SKIN BY THE GAG WOULD
TAKE ALL THAT TIME
TO FORM!

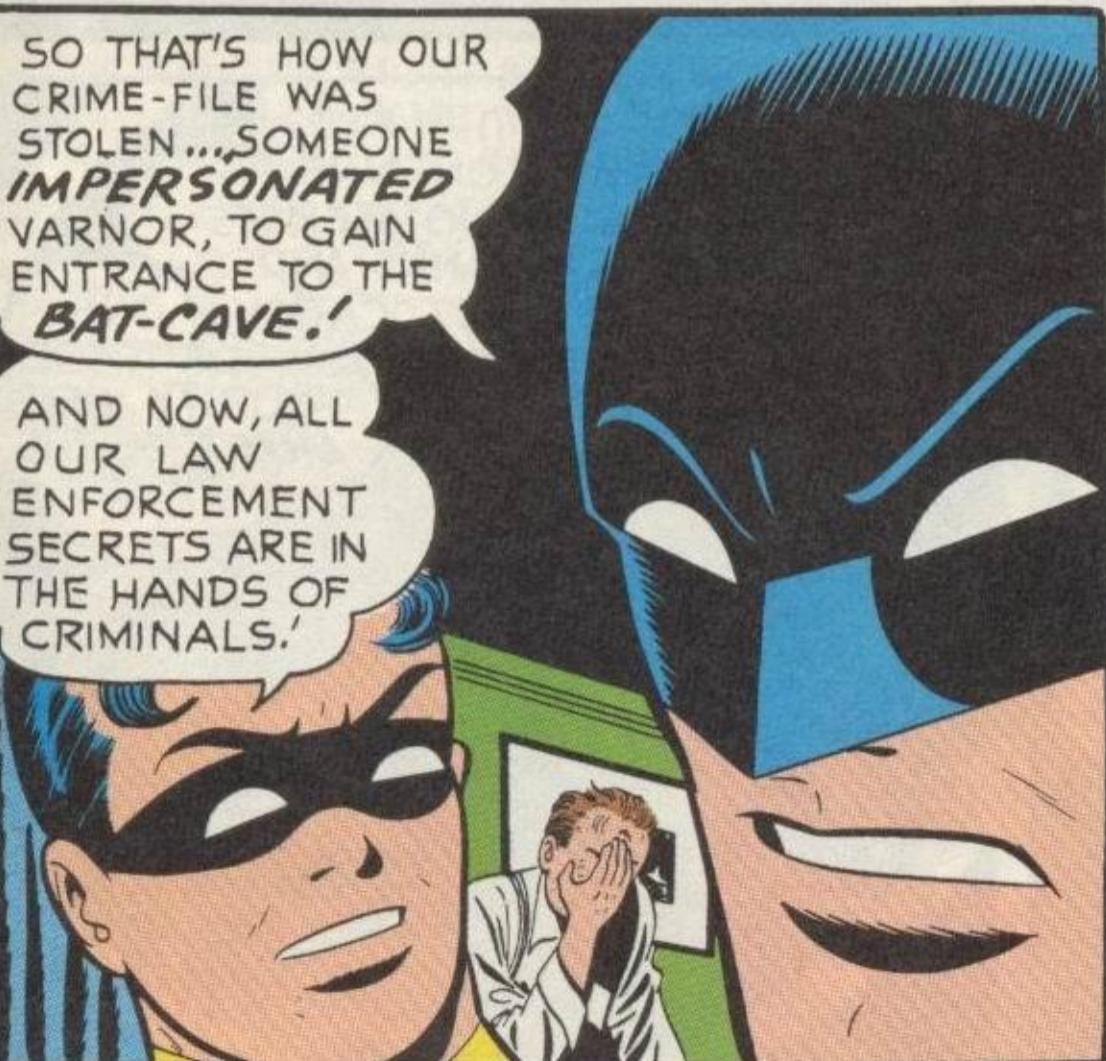


SO THAT'S HOW OUR
CRIME-FILE WAS
STOLEN... SOMEONE
IMPERSONATED
VARNOR, TO GAIN
ENTRANCE TO THE
BAT-CAVE!

AND NOW, ALL
OUR LAW
ENFORCEMENT
SECRETS ARE IN
THE HANDS OF
CRIMINALS!

WE'LL GET
IT BACK! WE'VE A FEW
SCANTY FACTS -- AND
WE'LL MAKE THE **CRIME-**
FILE ITSELF OUR
WEAPON AGAINST THE
MAN WHO STOLE THE
MICROFILM COPY
OF IT!

YES--
IT'S OUR
ONLY HOPE!



AND THE GREAT CRIME-FILE OF **BATMAN**
SOON GOES INTO ACTION...

THE THIEF WAS CAREFUL
TO LEAVE NO FINGERPRINTS--
BUT SINCE HE COULD DOUBLE
FOR VARNOR, WE KNOW HIS
HEIGHT, WEIGHT, AND EYE-
COLOR! SET THE CARD-
SORTING MACHINE FOR
THOSE CHARACTERISTICS!

AND IT'LL PICK
OUT THE CARDS
OF ALL KNOWN
CRIMINALS
WHO FIT THEM!



THE INGENIOUS DEVICE OPERATES SWIFTLY...

ABOUT 30
CROOKS IN OUR
FILE FIT THOSE
CHARACTERISTICS!

HE'S SKILLFUL AT MAKE-
UP, AND MUST KNOW
ELECTRICITY WELL TO
REPLACE VARNOR AT
THOSE POWER-CABLES!
MAKE ANOTHER RUN-THROUGH,
WITH THE SELECTORS SET
FOR THOSE
SPECIAL
SKILLS!



THUS IS THE FILE OF SUSPECTS QUICKLY
NARROWED DOWN...

ONLY THREE
CROOKS FIT ALL
THOSE REQUIREMENTS--
BUT ONE OF THEM
IS NOW IN PRISON,
AND ONE DIED
LAST YEAR!

THE THIRD, MART
MATHERS, IS OUR
LOGICAL SUSPECT!
HERE'S HIS LAST
KNOWN ADDRESS, HIS
USUAL ASSOCIATES,
AND SO ON... WE MUST
GET TO HIM
FAST!



SOON...

YOU GO WARN
COMMISSIONER
GORDON THAT THE SECRETS
OF THE CRIME-FILE ARE
NOW IN CROOKED
HANDS, WHILE I
START ON
MATHERS'
TRAIL!

RIGHT...
I'LL CONTACT
YOU BY BELT-
RADIO!



AND WHEN **ROBIN** BREAKS THE
NEWS TO AN APPALLED COMMISSIONER...

GREAT SCOTT! ALL
THE SECRETS OF
GOTHAM CITY... PAST
HIDEOUTS--WEAK POINTS
OF GUARDED PLACES--
POLICE METHODS...
CAN NOW BE TURNED
AGAINST US!

I KNOW,
COMMISSIONER...
THAT'S WHY WE'RE
MOVING AS FAST
AS POSSIBLE TO
RETRIEVE THOSE
SECRETS!



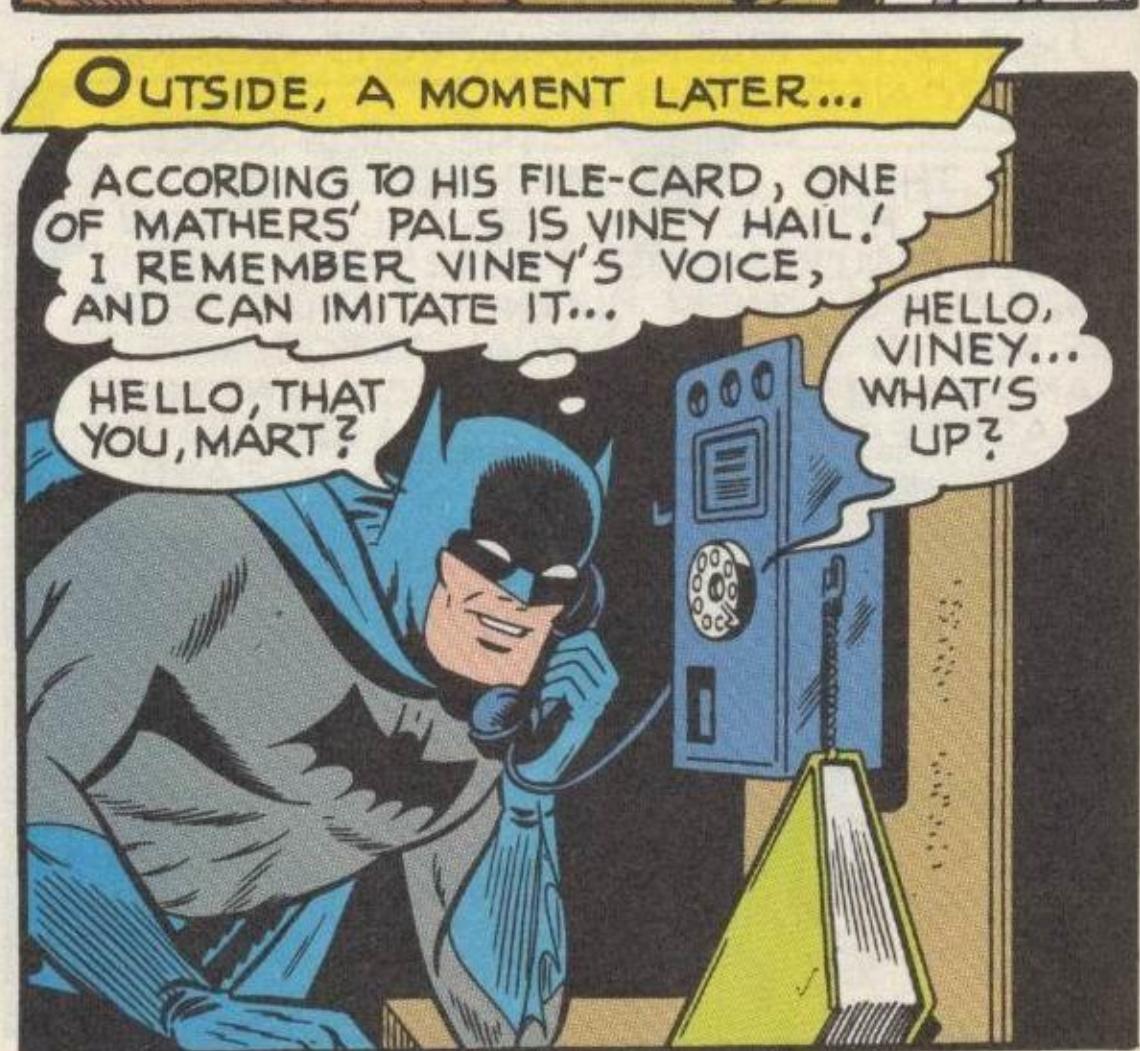
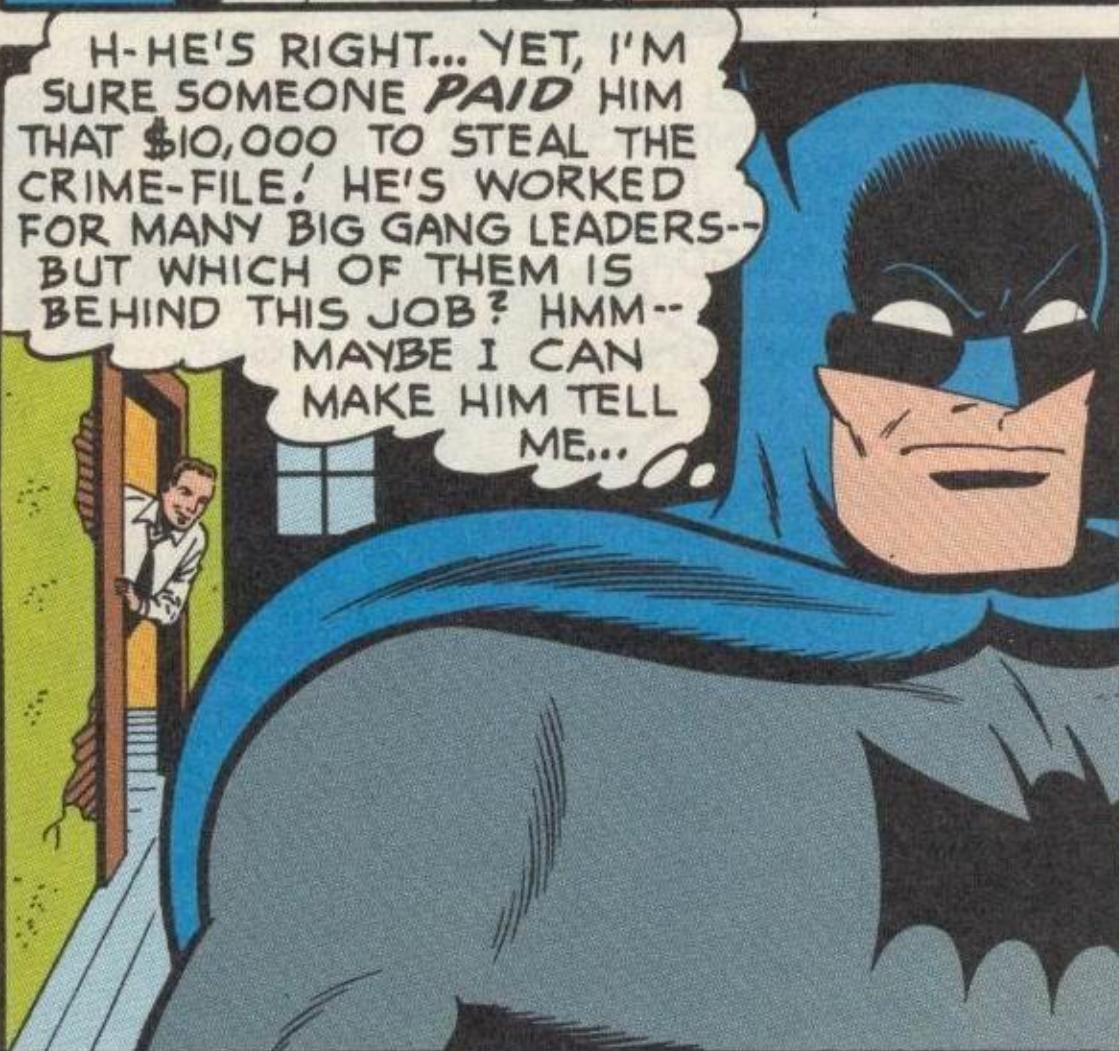
MEANWHILE, WHERE **BATMAN** HAS TRACKED
DOWN HIS CHIEF SUSPECT...

MATHERS!
SO YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TIME TO
GET AWAY!

GET AWAY?
WHY SHOULD I
GET AWAY? I HAVEN'T
DONE ANYTHING!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BATMAN ANNUAL



AND AN ENRAGED SMALLTIME THIEF MOVES FAST...

NOBODY'S GOING TO CHISEL ME THAT WAY!

LOOKS LIKE HE'S TAKEN MY BAIT AND IS ON HIS WAY TO ASK MORE MONEY FOR THE JOB!

PRESENTLY, IN AN INDUSTRIAL SECTION OF GOTHAM CITY...

GOTHAM ORGAN FACTORY

SO THE MAN BEHIND THE CRIME-FILE THEFT IS USING THIS OLD CLOSED ORGAN FACTORY AS A BASE! HE MAY HAVE GUARDS -- BUT THAT TREE IS NEAR AN UPPER WINDOW!

SILENT AS A SHADOW, BATMAN ENTERS A DUSTY, GLOOMY PLACE...

JOHN CREEDEN ... A BIG-TIME CROOK, LONG OVER-DUE FOR PRISON! AND HE'S GOT THE CRIME-FILE!

YOU CHEATED ME, CREEDEN! THAT FILE OF BATMAN'S IS WORTH A LOT MORE THAN TEN GRAND!

QUIT TALKING LIKE A SAP, MATHERS!

BATMAN'S SECRETS ARE WORTH MORE TO ME ONLY BECAUSE I KNOW HOW TO USE THEM! IF YOU WANT, I'LL CUT YOU IN ON MY NEW CRIME SYNDICATE -- BUT I WON'T PAY YOU A CENT MORE!

WELL-- ALL RIGHT-- THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH!

GOOD... WITH BATMAN'S SECRETS, WE CAN OUTGUESS HIM AND THE POLICE EVERY TIME! WE'LL ALL BE MILLIONAIRES!

JUST AS I FEARED... MUST GET THAT FILE NOW! HMM -- THIS BIG ORGAN DOWN BELOW GIVES ME AN IDEA!

AND A BLACK-CAPED SHAPE SLIDES SILENTLY DOWN BEHIND THE MIGHTY PIPES...

BY WORKING THE KEY-LEVERS FROM UNDERNEATH, I CAN PLAY THIS INSTRUMENT WITHOUT BEING SEEN!

ABRUPTLY...

BEE-E-EEP

FOR OUR FIRST OPERATION, WE'LL NEED A RUBBER BOAT, AND... WHAT'S THAT?

ONE OF THE ORGANS PLAYING! SOMEONE'S IN HERE!

BEEAW-W BEEEP

I-- I DON'T SEE ANYBODY!

IT'S SOME SORT OF TRICK! SEARCH EVERY INCH OF THE PLACE!

WITH THE CROOKS' BACKS TURNED, A CAPED FIGURE SLIPS SWIFTLY FROM HIDING, AND...

IT'S BATMAN—GRABBING HIS FILE BACK!

THEY'RE BLOCKING MY WAY OUT THE FRONT, AND ALL THE WINDOWS ARE TOO HIGH! MAYBE A BASEMENT WINDOW...

BUT SECONDS LATER, DOWN IN THE BASEMENT...

GET HIM!

NO WINDOWS HERE... THIS BOILER'S MY ONLY CHANCE!

BUT HE'S GOT THE CRIME-FILE... HE CAN DESTROY IT IN THERE!

YOU DODGED INTO A NICE TRAP, BATMAN!

SLAM

HE'S GOT THE FILE BOX, THAT'S ALL! I FIGURED ONE OF YOU MIGHT TRY TO STEAL THE FILE FROM ME, SO I TOOK PRECAUTIONS! I REMOVED THE ROLLS OF FILM!

WOW! THAT MEANS WE'VE GOT HIS SECRETS AND HIM, TOO!



BATMAN ANNUAL



IT'S TRUE...
I UNDERESTIMATED
CREEDEN'S CUNNING!
MY ONLY CHANCE IS
TO FIGHT THEM ALL
WHEN THEY OPEN
THAT DOOR TO
TAKE ME,
CAPTIVE!

BUT A CAGEY CROOK HAS NO INTENTION OF GIVING
BATMAN THAT CHANCE...

NO POINT IN TAKING ANY
RISKS... WE'LL JUST LEAVE
HIM HERE! THERE'S NO
WAY HE CAN GET OUT, AND
ANY NOISE HE MAKES
WILL NEVER BE
HEARD!

WHAT A JOKE...
PEOPLE WILL
ALWAYS WONDER
WHAT BECAME
OF BATMAN!

H-HE'S RIGHT... I CAN'T EVEN
CALL ROBIN, BECAUSE THESE
STEEL WALLS WOULD BLOCK ANY
RADIO-WAVES!
MUST THINK--
FIGURE OUT
SOMETHING...

WAIT... THE SAFETY VALVE!
AS I RAN IN HERE, I
NOTICED IT TO THE RIGHT
AND ABOVE THE BOILER
DOOR! THAT
GIVES ME
AN IDEA...

WITH MATCHES FROM HIS UTILITY BELT,
THE RESOURCEFUL BATMAN TAKES A
LONG GAMBLE...

THIS WOODEN FILE-BOX SHOULD
PROVIDE ENOUGH HEAT! IT'D BETTER
WORK THOUGH--OTHERWISE IT'LL
ONLY BURN UP THE OXYGEN IN
HERE, AND CAUSE ME TO SUF-
FOCATE THAT MUCH SOONER!

BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT...

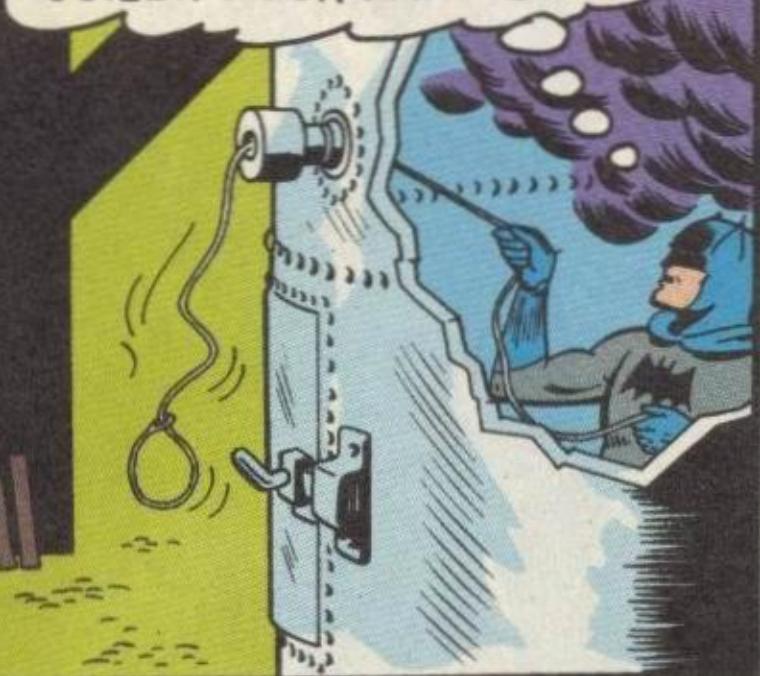
PING!

AH--IT
DID WORK!
THAT SOUND
WAS THE SAFETY-
VALVE SNAPPING
OPEN FROM THE
CONCENTRATED
HEAT!

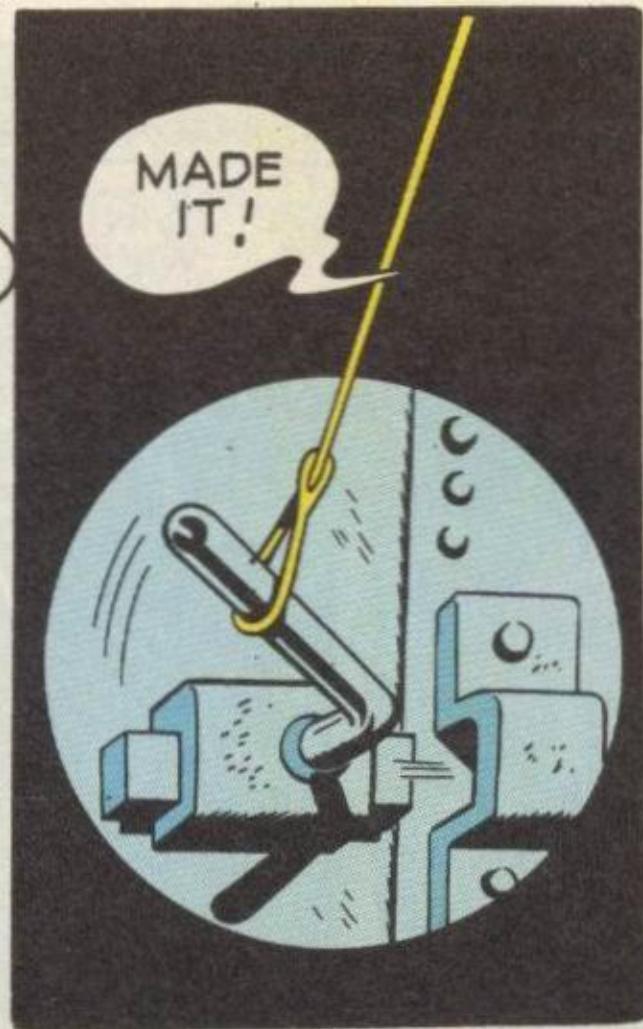
BATMAN ANNUAL

THEN, WITH ANOTHER IMPLEMENT FROM HIS **UTILITY BELT**...

IF I CAN TWITCH MY SILKEN CORD NOW, SO THAT THE LOOP CATCHES THE OUTSIDE BOILER-DOOR HANDLE...



MADE IT!



ONCE OUTSIDE, AN URGENT CALL BY **BELT-RADIO**...

ROBIN, MEET ME AT THE OLD GOTHAM ORGAN FACTORY -AND HURRY!

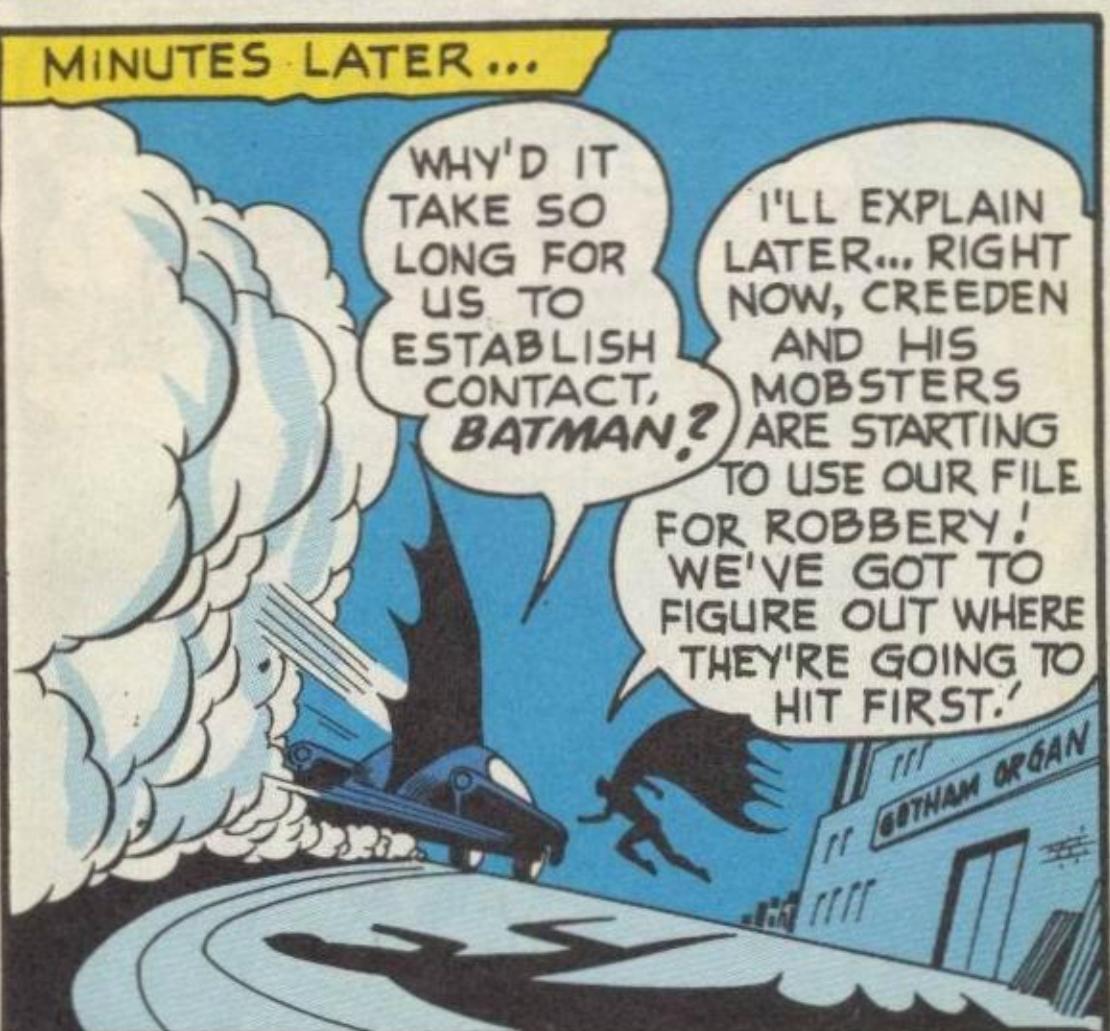
I'M ON MY WAY, BATMAN!



MINUTES LATER ...

WHY'D IT TAKE SO LONG FOR US TO ESTABLISH CONTACT, BATMAN?

I'LL EXPLAIN LATER... RIGHT NOW, CREEDEN AND HIS MOBSTERS ARE STARTING TO USE OUR FILE FOR ROBBERY! WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THEY'RE GOING TO HIT FIRST!



AND BACK IN THE **BAT-CAVE**...

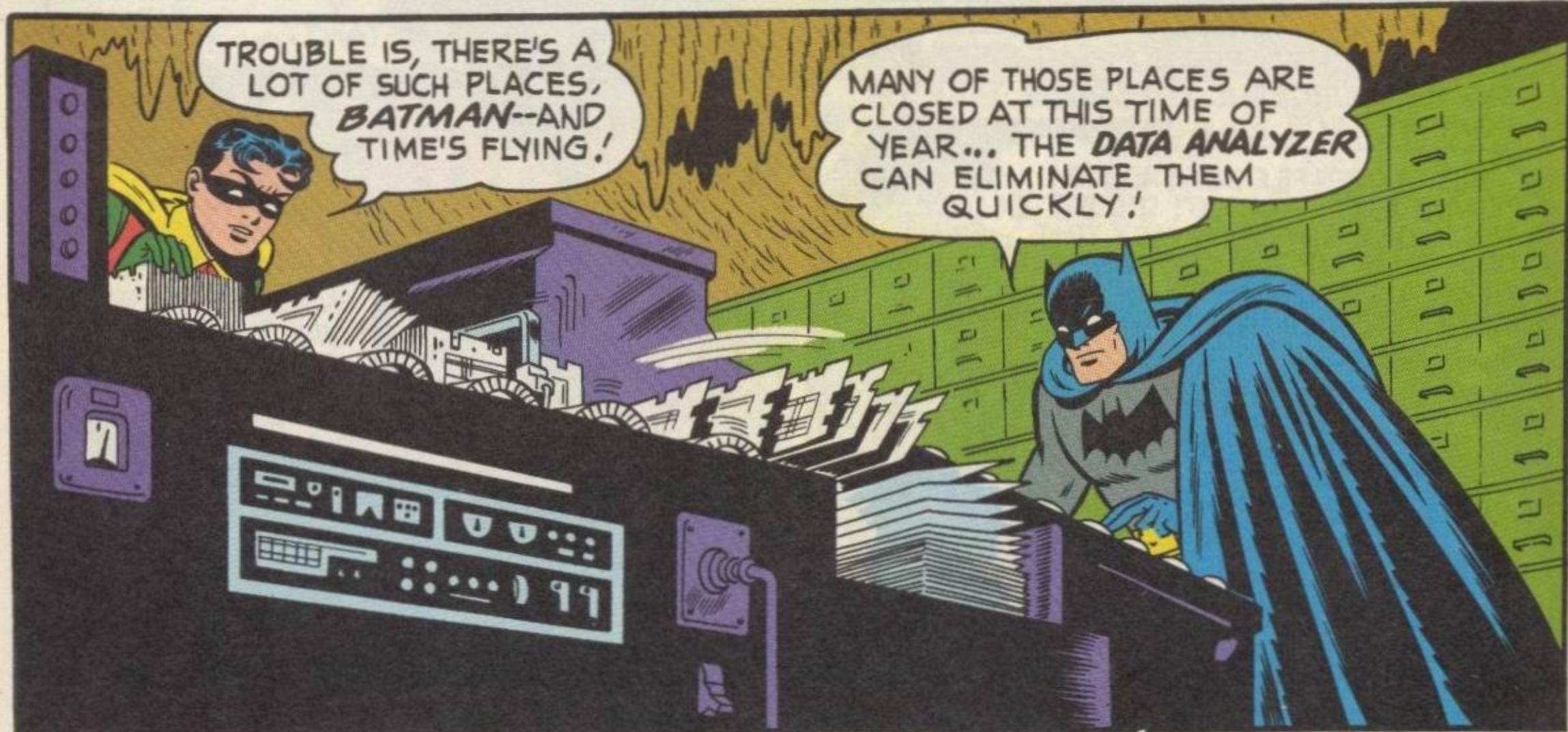
I KNOW FROM WHAT I OVERHEARD THAT THEIR OPERATION REQUIRES A RUBBER BOAT--SO RUN THROUGH ALL LOCATION-CARDS OF PLACES THAT CAN BE REACHED BY WATER!

WATERFRONT STORES, BEACHTOWN BANKS, WEALTHY SEASHORE MANSIONS ... I'LL SET THE SELECTOR FOR THEM ALL!



TROUBLE IS, THERE'S A LOT OF SUCH PLACES, BATMAN--AND TIME'S FLYING!

MANY OF THOSE PLACES ARE CLOSED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR... THE **DATA ANALYZER** CAN ELIMINATE THEM QUICKLY!



BATMAN ANNUAL

FINALLY, WITH A DOZEN POSSIBLE TARGETS REMAINING...

NOW-- WHICH OF THESE COULD IT BE?

THAT **RUBBER BOAT** IS THE KEY! IT'S PROBABLY THE ONLY KIND OF BOAT THAT COULD BE FOLDED AND CARRIED THROUGH A SMALL ENTRANCE...



AND **THIS** IS THE ONLY PLACE THAT MUST BE APPROACHED THROUGH A **SMALL** ENTRANCE!

THE OLD UNDERGROUND RESERVOIR--OF COURSE! AND THAT NEW WHOLESALE JEWEL FIRM'S BUILDING STANDS RIGHT OVER IT! WE CAN GET THERE FAST, THROUGH THE DRAINS!



SO AWHILE LATER, DOWN THROUGH THE LABYRINTH OF GREAT DRAINS BENEATH THE CITY...

OUR FILE CLEARLY SHOWED THE WAY TO THIS OLD, FORGOTTEN RESERVOIR!

AND TO GET DOWN THROUGH THIS TUNNEL TO IT, THEY'D HAVE TO CARRY THEIR RUBBER BOAT UNINFLATED! IT CHECKS!



BEFORE LONG, THEY REACH THE SHORE OF AN OLD, ABANDONED UNDERGROUND RESERVOIR...

LOOK--THAT LIGHT... THEY'RE HERE ALREADY, AND ON THEIR WAY TO GET UNDER THE JEWEL FIRM'S BUILDING!

GET YOUR SKIN-DIVING GEAR ON!



AND WHERE A MODERN INFLATABLE CRAFT CARRIES DETERMINED MOBSTERS INTO A FORGOTTEN MYSTERY...

IT'S A WEIRD PLACE! WHO'D EVER DREAM IT WAS DOWN HERE UNDER THE CITY!

BATMAN KNEW IT-- AS HE KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE CITY, AND IT'S ONLY THE FIRST OF HIS SECRETS THAT WE'LL USE FOR OUR PROFIT!





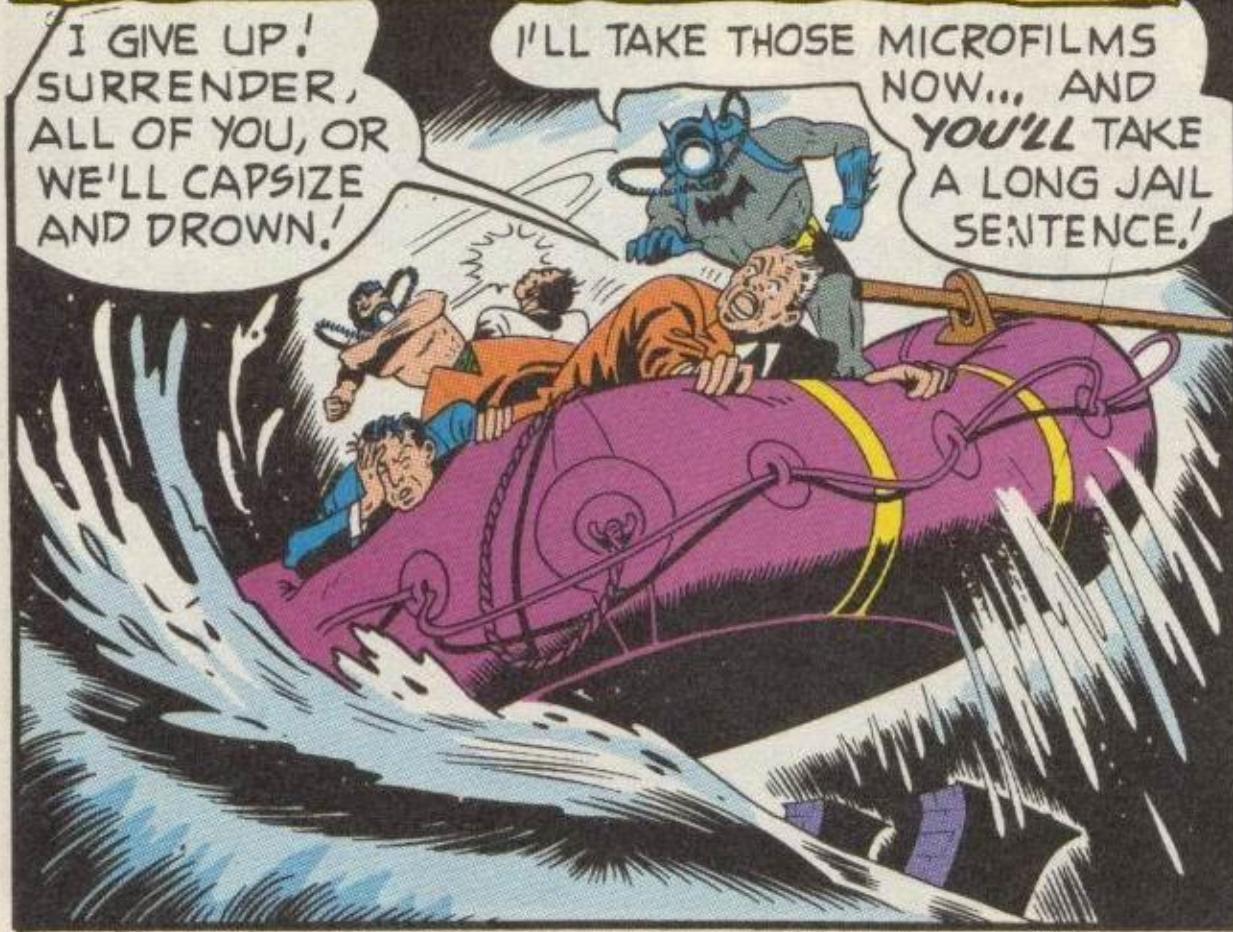
BATMAN ANNUAL



AND TWO GRIM HUMAN "FISH" SWIM SILENTLY ONWARD THROUGH THE DARK WATERS TOWARD THEIR QUARRY...



THE UNNERVED MOBSTERS PROVE NO MATCH FOR THE FLYING FISTS OF THE DYNAMIC DUO...



AND SO, AFTER DELIVERING THE CRIMINALS TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS...



BATMAN

ROBIN



DANGER IS NO STRANGER TO BATMAN AND ROBIN! COUNTLESS CRIMINALS HAVE TRIED TO HARM THEM IN MANY VARIED WAYS AND METHODS, BUT ALWAYS THE DYNAMIC DUO HAS ESCAPED THE CUNNING TRAPS WAITING TO SNARE THEM! UNTIL NOW-- UNTIL THEY MEET THE WILY UNDERWORLD CHIEF WHO TRIES ONCE AND FOR ALL TO SMASH THE ALL-TIME RESCUE RECORD OF THE...

THRILLING *ESCAPES* OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

TAKE A GOOD LOOK, BOYS! THIS IS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO BATMAN AND ROBIN! I'M GOING TO FINISH THEM ONCE AND FOR ALL WITH MY LATEST INVENTION-- AN ESCAPE-PROOF TRAP!



BATMAN ANNUAL

ONE NIGHT, AS BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON, SECRETLY BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, PREPARE FOR THEIR USUAL PATROL OF GOTHAM CITY...

WELL, HERE WE JUST ANOTHER NIGHT'S GO AGAIN! WORK, THE SAME AS ALWAYS!

BUT THIS NIGHT IS NOT AS ALWAYS--FOR TONIGHT FATE LIES WAITING FOR THEM! LATER...

LOOK, BATMAN--TWO CUSTOMERS FOR THE STATE PEN!



HUH! THEY'RE ONLY DUMMIES -- WAX DUMMIES!

A TRICK--THE OLDEST TRICK IN THE WORLD...



IS THE COAST CLEAR?

YES, BUT DON'T DAWdle! GET THEM IN HERE BEFORE WE'RE SPOTTED!



AND SOON AFTER, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE TAKEN AWAY--TO KEEP A DATE WITH DESTINY!



“GATER... ROBIN IS FIRST TO OPEN HIS EYES...
BATMAN'S STILL OUT, BOSS!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE HIT HIM SO HARD, HIPPO!

WHAT... ? WHO ARE YOU?

PAUL KING-- THE MAN THE NEWSPAPERS CALL PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE-- THE KING OF CRIME-- IN PERSON!

HUH? THINK YOU ARE A BIG SHOT, DON'T YOU?



I'LL BE EVEN BIGGER WHEN I'M KNOWN AS THE ONE WHO FINISHED OFF THE GREAT BATMAN AND ROBIN IN AN ESCAPE-PROOF TRAP!

AT THOSE TERRIBLE WORDS, ROBIN LOOKS DESPERATELY, SEARCHINGLY AT BATMAN'S LIMP FIGURE ... THEN...

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS AN ESCAPE-PROOF TRAP! BATMAN AND I HAVE PROVED THAT BY ESCAPING FROM A THOUSAND OF THEM!



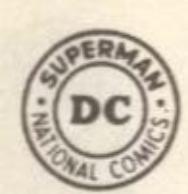
YOU THINK YOU'RE SMART. WELL, I'LL BET NOT EVEN YOU COULD GUESS HOW WE GOT OUT OF SOME OF THOSE TRAPS!

I'LL TAKE THAT BET! YOU'LL TELL OF FOUR TIMES YOU WERE CAUGHT IN A TRAP. IF I CAN'T GUESS HOW YOU ESCAPED, YOU'LL GO FREE...

BUT IF I GUESS HOW YOU ESCAPED EVEN ONE TRAP, YOU AND BATMAN WILL DIE!



READER, HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO MATCH WITS WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN! SEE IF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GUESS HOW THEY WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM FOUR TRAPS!



BATMAN ANNUAL



NOW, ROBIN--
LET'S HEAR
YOUR FIRST
STORY!

LET'S SEE...! HMM! THINK I'LL
TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME WE
TACKLED SOME SABOTEURS
HIDING IN AN AIR-
PLANE RESEARCH
STATION...

"THEY HIT US HARD! WE WERE
BOWLED RIGHT OVER!"

UH... NO USE,
ROBIN...
GOING DOWN...
DOWN...
ME, TOO-- HARD TO
FIGHT THIS BUNCH...

"THE TROUBLE WAS, WE DIDN'T FIGURE THERE'D BE SO
MANY OF THEM THERE..."

WOW! HERE COMES THE
THUNDERING HERD!

UH-HUH-- AND IT LOOKS LIKE
THEY'RE GOING TO STAMPEDE
RIGHT OVER US!

"WHEN WE AWOKE, WE WERE TRAPPED INSIDE THE WIND
TUNNEL USED TO TEST MODELS OF EXPERIMENTAL PLANES..."

GREAT SCOTT! THE BLADES
ARE STARTING TO SPIN!

EXACTLY! THE SUCTION WILL
DRAW YOU BOTH TOWARD YOUR
DOOM! GOODBYE --
FOREVER!

"THE BLADES WHIRLED FASTER... FASTER... THE WIND
WAS LIKE A HURRICANE, SO STRONG IT YANKED US OFF
OUR FEET..."

BATMAN! HELP
ME! CAN'T STOP--
SUCTION PULLING
ME!

THEY TOOK MY UTILITY BELT!
GOT TO DO SOMETHING ...
SOMETHING ...

THERE WE WERE...
SLIPPING, SLIDING
OVER THAT FLOOR
TOWARD CERTAIN
DEATH! BUT, WE
GOT OUT! HOW?

HMM! A TOUGH
PROBLEM...
VERY TOUGH!
BUT I'VE GOT
THE ANSWER!

READER, HAVE YOU
THE ANSWER, TOO?

BATMAN ANNUAL

IT'S EASY! THEY DIDN'T TAKE YOUR BELT-RADIO! YOU CALLED FOR HELP ON IT! RIGHT?

WRONG! WE HAD NO TIME FOR THAT! WE HAD TO WORK FAST! HERE'S HOW IT WAS DONE...

"IT WAS THE WAY THE SUCTION RIPPED AT OUR CLOTHES THAT GAVE BATMAN THE IDEA..."

ROBIN, LET THE SUCTION TAKE YOUR BOOTS INTO THE BLADES!

I UNDERSTAND, BATMAN!



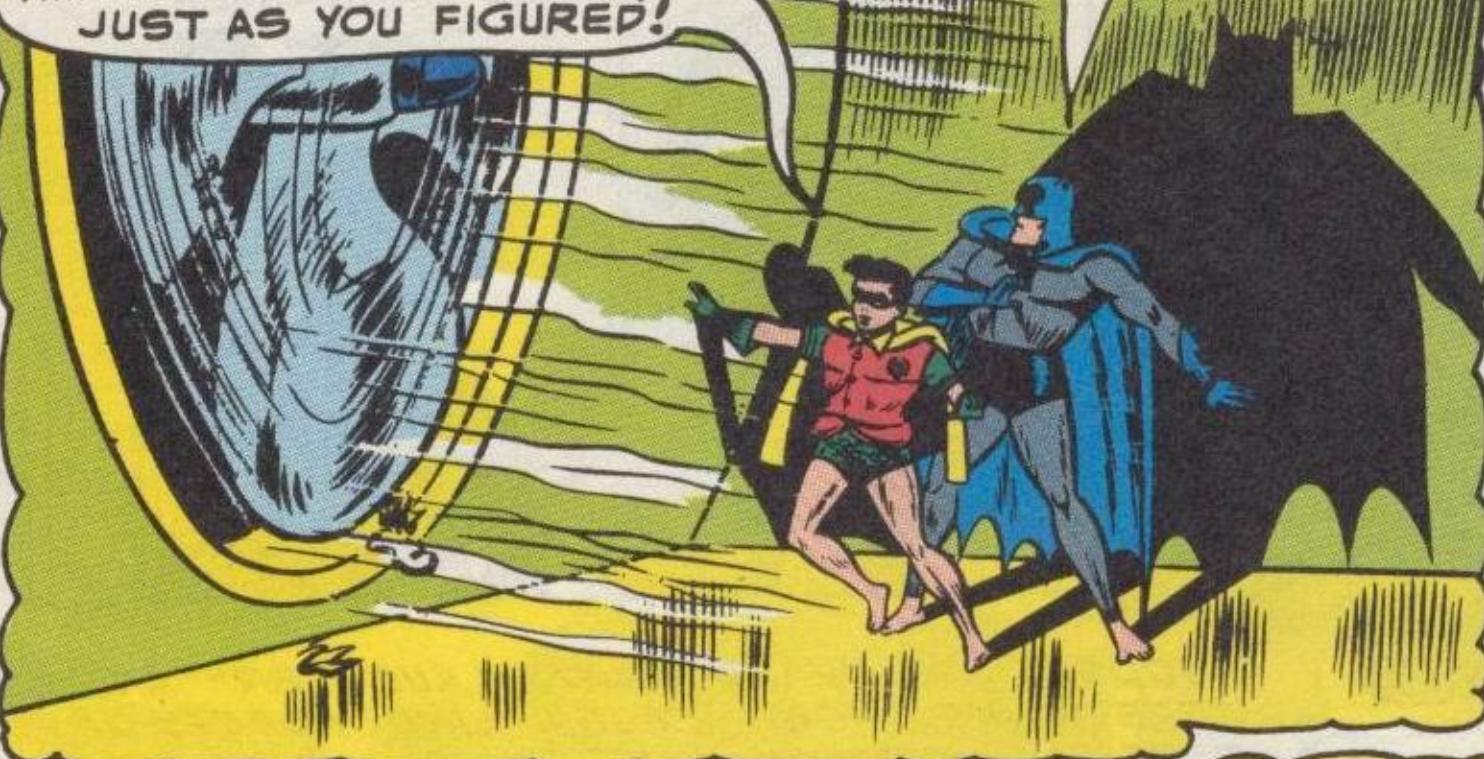
"THE BLADES SLICED OUR BOOTS, BUT SOON AFTER..."

THE BLADES ARE STOPPING! PIECES OF OUR BOOTS WERE SUCKED INTO THE MOTOR AND SHORT-CIRCUITED IT, JUST AS YOU FIGURED!

RIGHT! NOW WE CAN WAIT FOR THE NIGHT WATCHMAN TO LET US OUT WHEN HE MAKES HIS ROUNDS!

YOUR BOOTS, EH? HMM! WELL, THERE ARE STILL THREE MORE STORIES LEFT! LET'S SEE IF I CAN GUESS THE NEXT ANSWER!

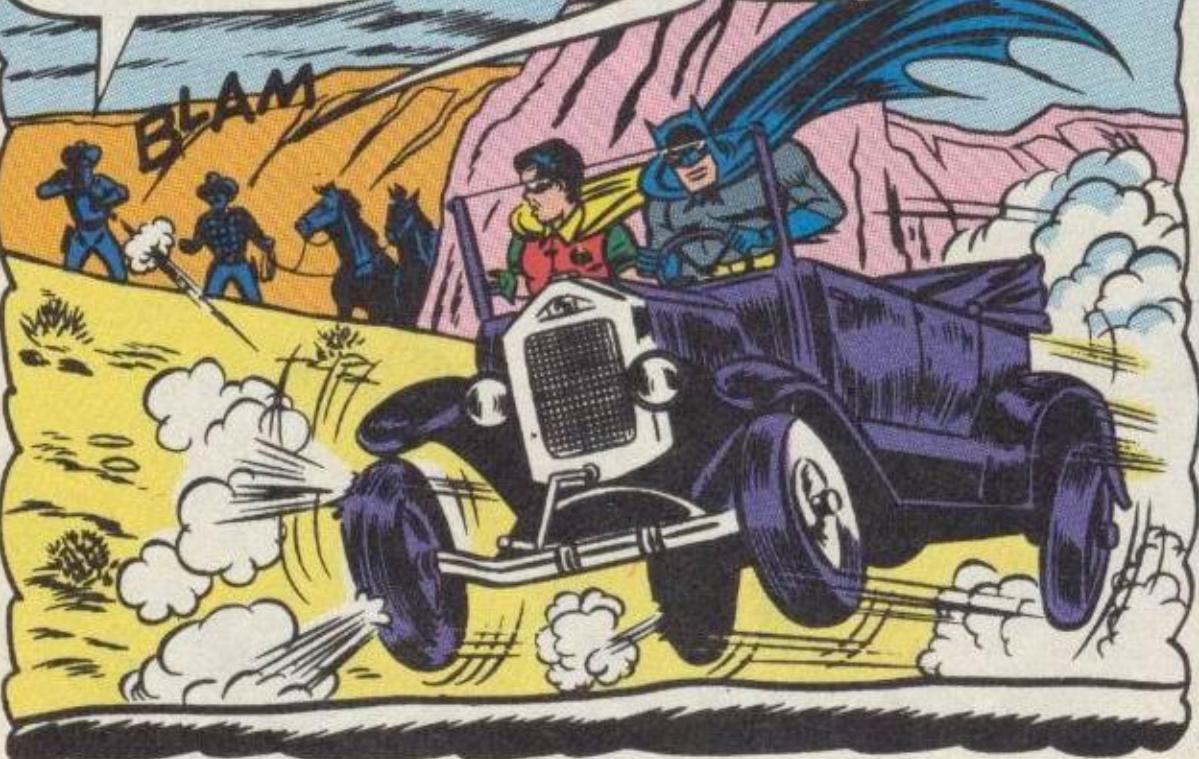
OKAY! I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME WE WERE TRAILING "DEATH VALLEY DAN" ACROSS THE DESERT!



"WE WERE CHASING HIM IN A BALLOON-TIRED CAR AND RODE RIGHT INTO AN AMBUSH..."

LEMMIE SHOOT 'EM, BOSS, HUH? IT'LL BE NICE AN' QUICK!

NO! I HAVE ANOTHER IDEA!



"DEATH VALLEY DAN' DRAINED OUR CAR'S GAS TANK! THEN HE TOOK OUR BELTS-- AND WATER CANTEENS!"

WE CAN'T POSSIBLY CROSS THE DESERT WITHOUT WATER! DAN KNOWS THAT!

GOSH, HOW DO WE GET OUT OF THIS ONE?



HOW DID BATMAN AND ROBIN SURVIVE?

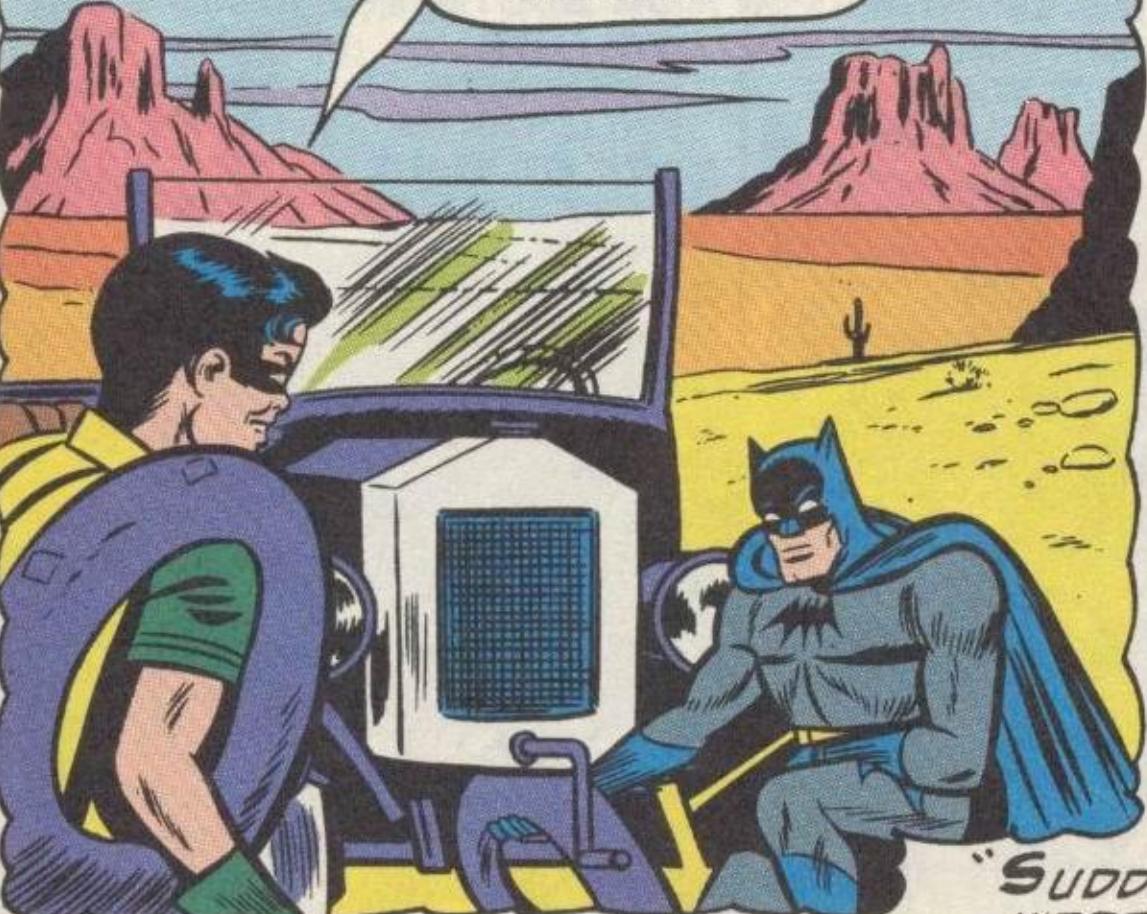
I KNOW! A DESERT PATROL PLANE PASSED BY... AND RESCUED YOU! RIGHT?

WRONG AGAIN! YOU FORGOT SOMETHING... AND SO DID DEATH VALLEY DAN!



"BATMAN HAD THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE, TOO!"

GOLLY! ONLY YOU WOULD THINK OF USING THESE INNER TUBES AS "WATER CANTEENS"!



"VICKI VALE, THE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER, TAGGED ALONG AS WE CHECKED THE SCIENTIST'S OLD LAB..."

THINK HE MIGHT HAVE COME BACK HERE TO HIDE OUT? WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH!



"BUT BATMAN DIDN'T!"

THEY OVERLOOKED THE WATER IN THE CAR'S RADIATOR! IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE PUREST, BUT IT'LL KEEP US ALIVE WHILE WE MAKE OUR DESERT TREK!

BUT THEY TOOK OUR CANTEENS! HOW WILL WE CARRY ALL THAT WATER?



CLEVER! NEVER OVERLOOK THE OBVIOUS, EH? NOW I'M SURE I'LL GUESS THE NEXT ESCAPE!

ONLY TWO MORE TO GO! WELL--HERE GOES! THIS HAPPENED WHEN WE WERE TRAILING A SCIENTIST WANTED FOR STEALING PRECIOUS METALS ENTRUSTED TO HIM FOR AN EXPERIMENT...



"SUDDENLY, WE HEARD CRAZY LAUGHTER--AND WE WERE YANKED DOWN, CAUGHT LIKE INSECTS ON FLY PAPER!"

HA, HA! THANK YOU FOR WALKING ONTO MY MAGNETIZED FLOOR!

BATMAN!
I CAN'T MOVE MY FEET!

THE MAGNETISM IS TUGGING AT THE NAILS IN YOUR SHOES--JUST AS IT'S TUGGING AT OUR METAL BUCKLES!



"THAT MADE IT EASY FOR HIM TO KNOCK US OUT! WHEN WE CAME TO, WE WERE DANGLING OVER A HUGE TANK OF WATER..."

FROM HERE, A LIQUID CHEMICAL WILL DROP AND SLOWLY CORRODE THE ROPE-- AND THEN WHEN IT IS EATEN THROUGH AND PARTS-- YOU WILL DROP INTO THE VAT OF WATER!"

TAKE A GOOD LOOK! THAT VAT BELOW YOU IS FILLED WITH WATER!

"THE CRAZY GUY FINALLY LEFT! WE WERE ALONE, WITH ONLY MOMENTS TO SPARE! I WAS SCARED... REALLY SCARED... BUT I LOOKED INTO BATMAN'S EYES AND I KNEW EVERYTHING WOULD BE ALL RIGHT!"

NO USE! KNOTTED TOO TIGHTLY! I HAVEN'T ENOUGH TIME LEFT TO TRY TO WORK THEM LOOSE! BUT WE DO HAVE ONE CHANCE LEFT...

G-GOSH, BATMAN! IF ONLY HE HADN'T TAKEN YOUR UTILITY BELT!

BATMAN! DO SOMETHING! MAYBE YOU CAN UNTIE OUR HANDS?...

WELL, KING? WHAT DID BATMAN DO TO GET US FREE?

PHEW! THAT'S A TOUGHIE! SO TOUGH I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF AN ANSWER! BUT THERE MUST BE SOMETHING... SOMETHING...

I GIVE UP! ONE THING YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT, THERE WAS SOMETHING... SOMETHING BATMAN REMEMBERED, BUT YOU FORGOT!

READERS, WHAT WAS IT BATMAN REMEMBERED? HOW DID HE MANAGE THEIR ESCAPE?

BATMAN ANNUAL



"HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED! VICKI AND I WERE BOTH ASTONISHED AS BATMAN SUDDENLY CALLED OUT..."

VICKI, LIFT UP YOUR FOOT! I WANT TO GET AT ONE OF YOUR SHOES!

NOW, I'LL JUST BREAK THE HEEL AWAY FROM THE SOLE...

SNAP

AND I CAN FRAY MY ROPES QUICKLY WITH THE SHARP NAILS IN YOUR HEEL!

GOLLY, A FEW MORE SECONDS AND... OHH-H-H!
YOU SAVED US JUST IN TIME!

GOT YOU!

SURE, BATMAN REMEMBERED WHAT YOU FORGOT-- THAT THE MAGNETIZED FLOOR HAD HELD VICKI, BECAUSE OF NAILS IN HER SHOES!

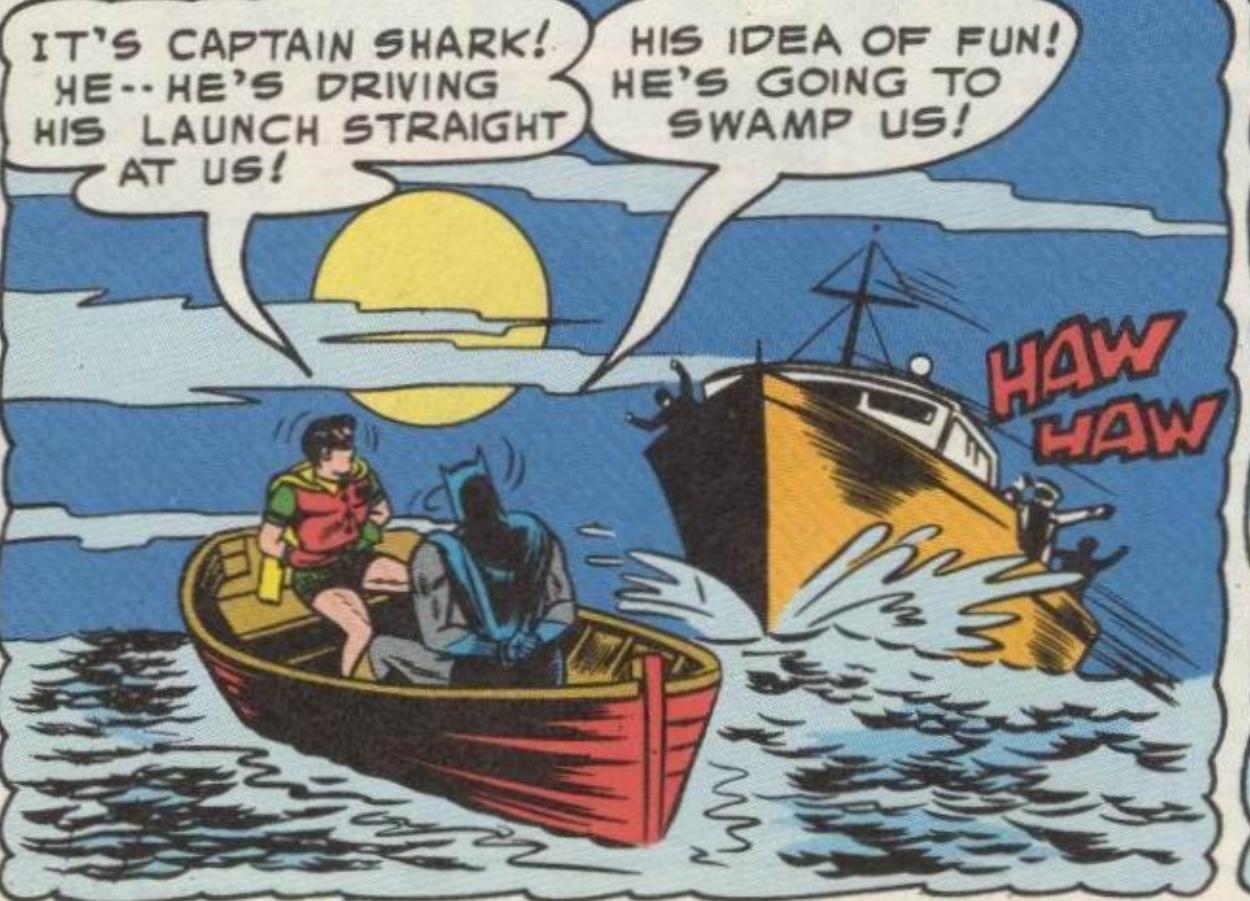
OF COURSE! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

ALL RIGHT, ROBIN, THIS IS IT... YOUR LAST STORY... YOUR LAST CHANCE TO STUMP ME! WHAT'S IT TO BE?

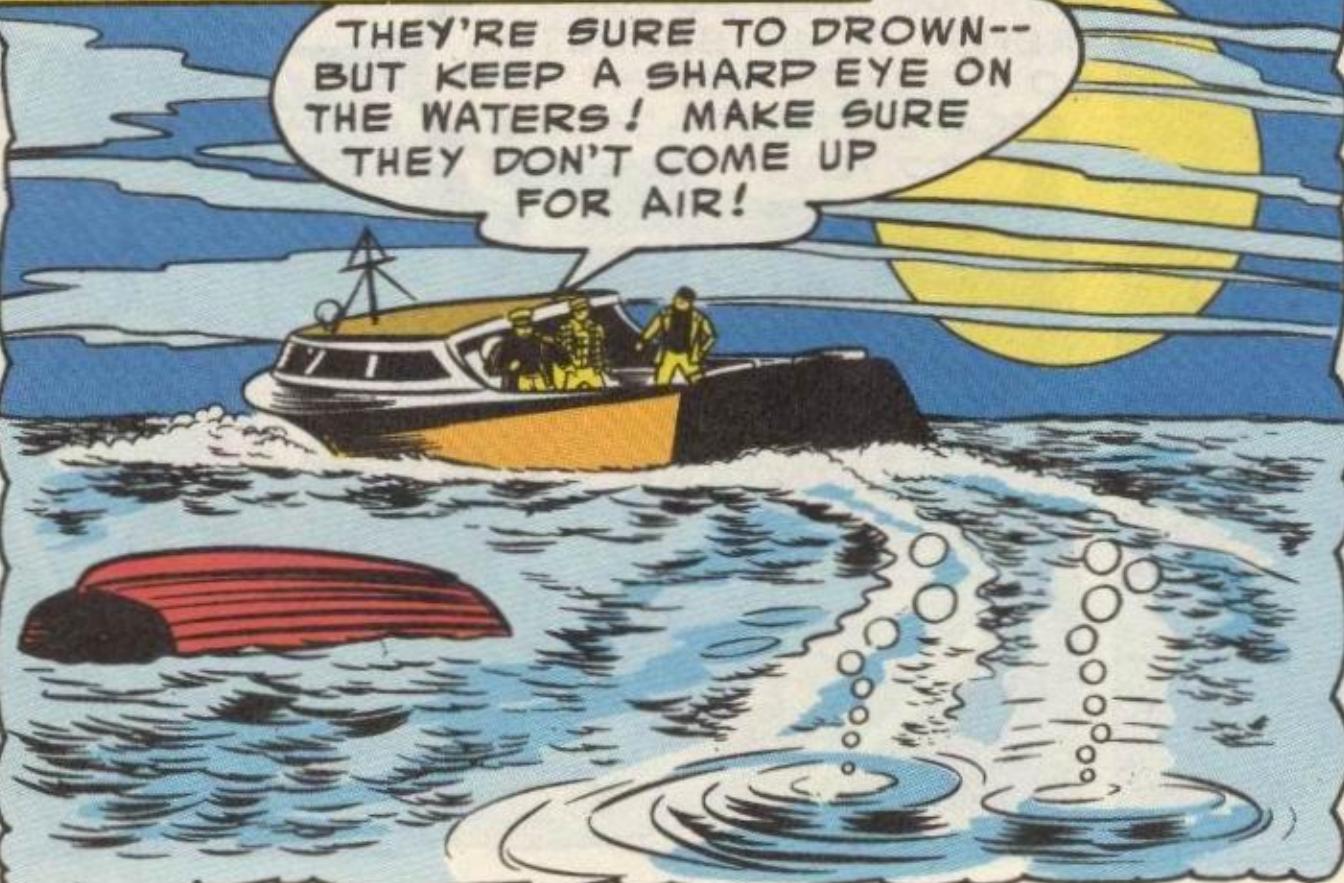
LET ME THINK! THE BATHYSHERE ESCAPE? NO, THAT'S TOO EASY! THE FOREST FIRE TRAP? NO, YOU'D GUESS THAT ONE! LET ME SEE...? WHICH ONE... ??



"WHEN WE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS
WE FOUND OURSELVES TIED UP AND
ALONE IN A ROWBOAT! SUDDENLY WE HEARD THE
ROAR OF A MOTOR LAUNCH..."

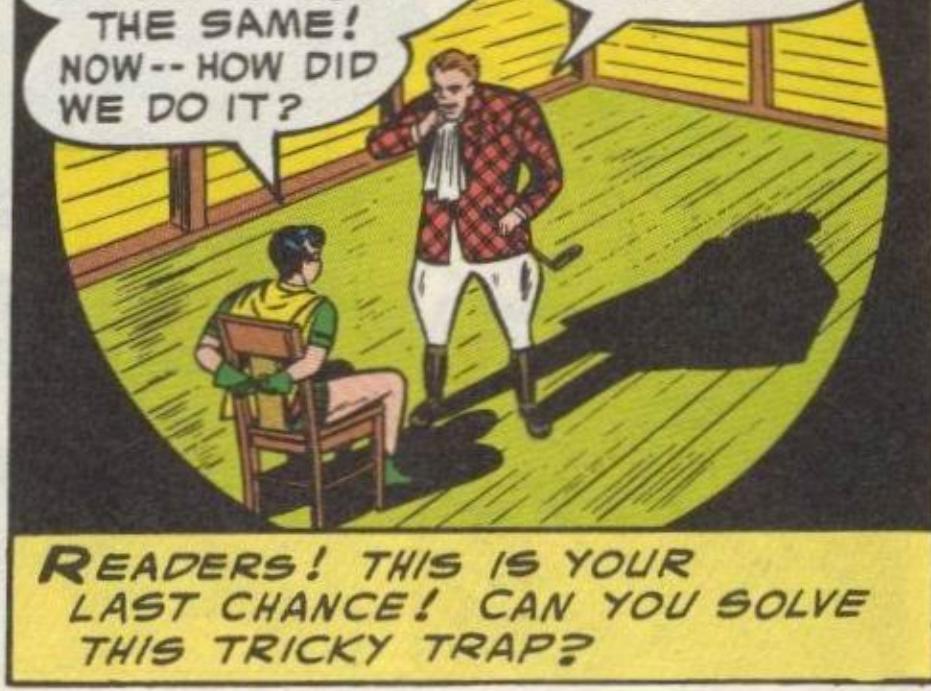


"EVEN AS WE WENT UNDER, I COULD HEAR SHARK
YELLING OUT TO HIS CREW..."



WE DIDN'T HAVE
ENOUGH AIR IN OUR
LUNGS--NOT ENOUGH
TO LET US TAKE THE
TIME TO UNTIE OUR
BONDS! BUT WE
ESCAPED JUST
THE SAME!
NOW--HOW DID
WE DO IT?

THIS IS A TOUGH
ONE--THE
TOUGHEST
ONE YET!
YET, THERE
MUST BE AN
ANSWER...

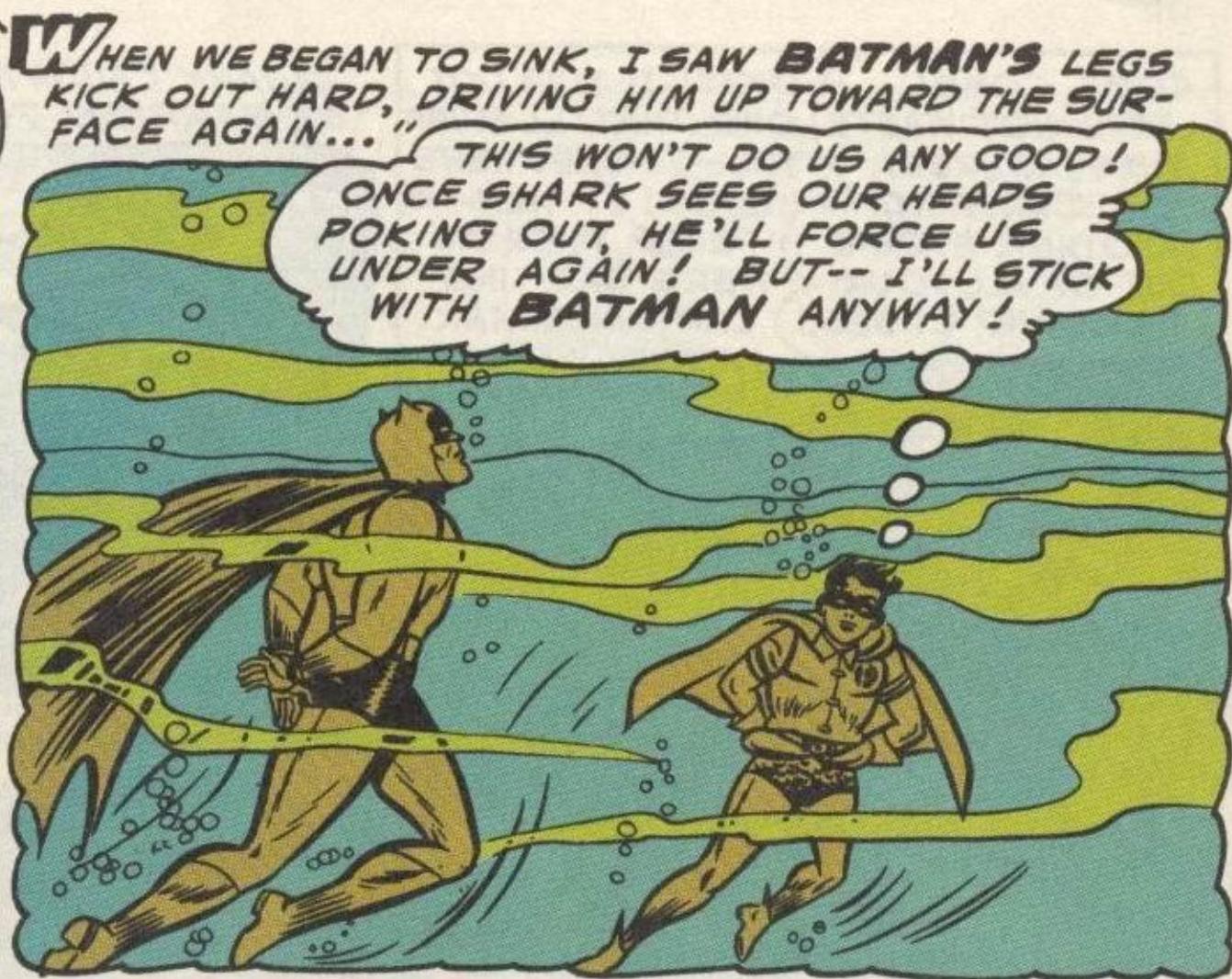


YOU MUST'VE CUT YOUR ROPES-- WITH A SHARP CLAM SHELL, OR A TIN CAN YOU FOUND AT THE BOTTOM! RIGHT?

WRONG! IF WE HAD SUNK TO THE BOTTOM, THE TERRIFIC WATER PRESSURE THAT FAR DOWN WOULD HAVE CRUSHED US!...

"WHEN WE BEGAN TO SINK, I SAW BATMAN'S LEGS KICK OUT HARD, DRIVING HIM UP TOWARD THE SURFACE AGAIN..."

THIS WON'T DO US ANY GOOD! ONCE SHARK SEES OUR HEADS POKING OUT, HE'LL FORCE US UNDER AGAIN! BUT-- I'LL STICK WITH BATMAN ANYWAY!



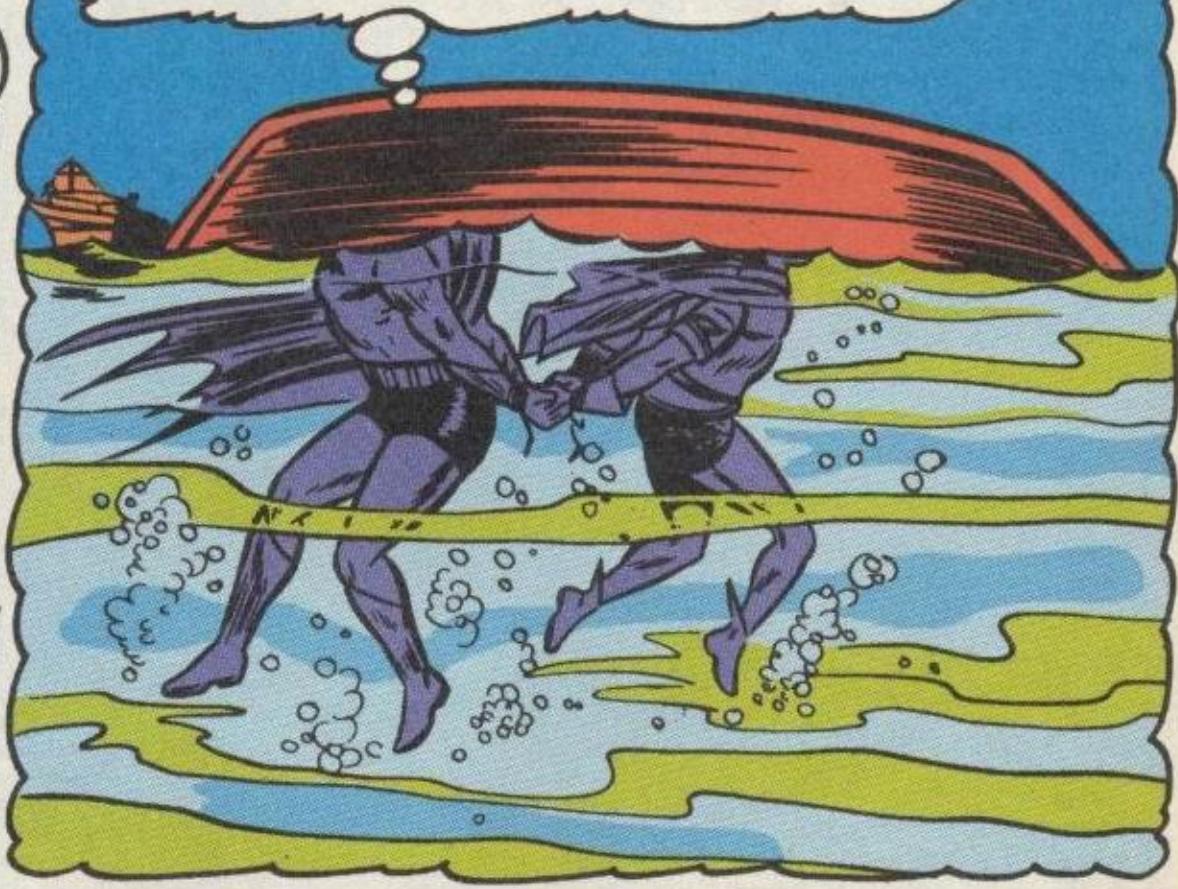
"TO MY ASTONISHMENT, BATMAN HAD LED US TO SOMEWHERE ON THE SURFACE WHERE WE WERE SURROUNDED BY DARKNESS!"

"GASP! BATMAN! WHERE ARE WE?"

SAFE FROM SHARK'S EYE! WE'RE HIDDEN UNDER THE HULL OF THE OVER-TURNED ROWBOAT!

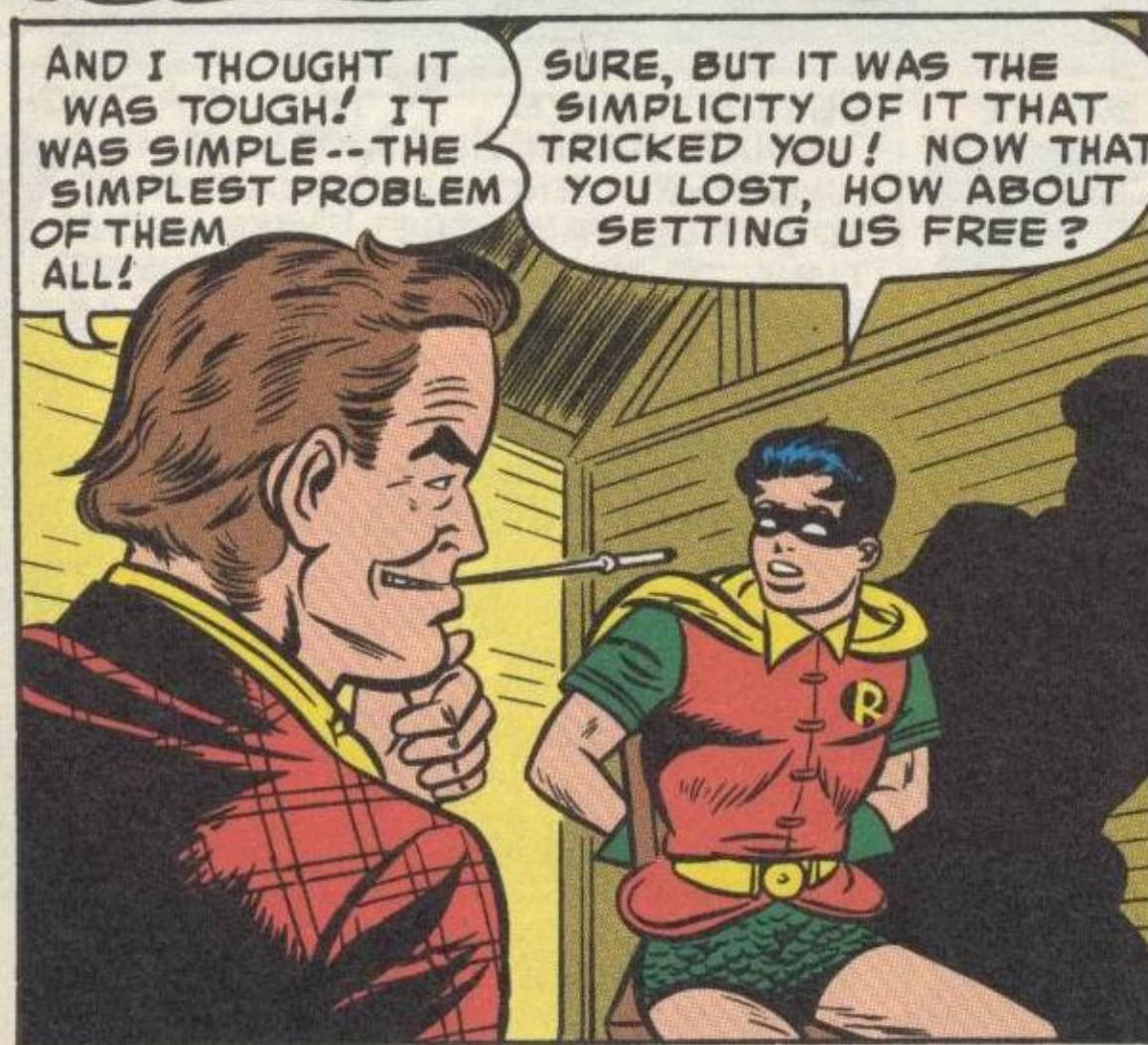


AND THERE'S AIR TRAPPED UNDER HERE-- ENOUGH AIR SO I CAN TAKE TIME TO WORK AT UNTYING OUR BONDS!



AND I THOUGHT IT WAS TOUGH! IT WAS SIMPLE--THE SIMPLEST PROBLEM OF THEM ALL!

SURE, BUT IT WAS THE SIMPLICITY OF IT THAT TRICKED YOU! NOW THAT YOU LOST, HOW ABOUT SETTING US FREE?

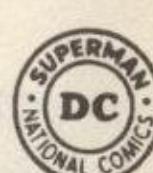


DID YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE I'D LET YOU WALK AWAY-- ALIVE? I TRICKED YOU! I LET YOU TALK SO YOU'D REVEAL YOUR SECRETS... SO I COULD MAKE MY TRAP ESCAPE-PROOF-- THANKS TO YOU!

OH, BATMAN... WHAT HAVE I DONE... WHAT HAVE I DONE?



BATMAN ANNUAL



SOON AFTER...

BOSS, BATMAN'S
STILL OUT!

HE'LL REVIVE SOON
ENOUGH! TAKE THEIR
BELTS... BOOTS! MAKE
SURE THEY DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING THEY CAN USE
FOR A POSSIBLE ESCAPE!

LATER, AT AN OBSERVATION POINT YARDS AWAY FROM
THE DUO...

CAN YOU HEAR ME,
BATMAN? FROM MY REMOTE CONTROL
PANEL, I'M GOING TO TEST ALL MY
WEAPONS ON YOU! READY--I'M GOING
TO PRESS THE FIRST BUTTON DOWN!





BATMAN ANNUAL



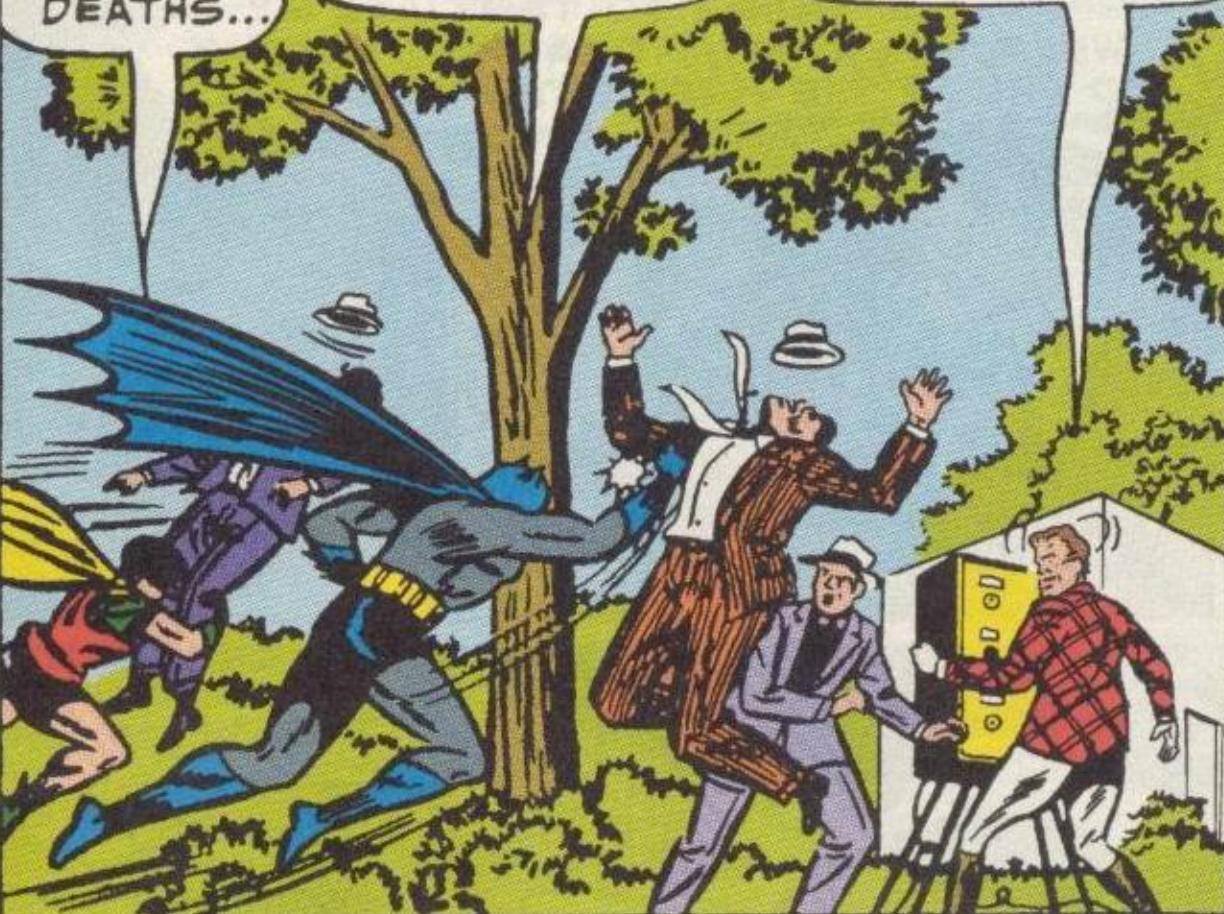
ANY REPORT ... IS SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATED!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! UH-HUH! THEY'RE ALIVE! FREE!

POLICE! WULP! BUT HOW--HOW?

FREE -- BUT YOU

WON'T BE!



HOW DID YOU DO IT?
HOW COULD YOU
HAVE SURVIVED
MY TRAP?

IT WAS EASY-- BECAUSE
WHEN YOU SET OFF YOUR
VARIOUS WEAPONS, WE
WERE NOT IN THE ROOM!
YOU WERE TRYING TO
KILL AN EMPTY
ROOM!

"YOU SEE, BATMAN WAS ONLY PRETENDING
TO BE UNCONSCIOUS! YOU DIDN'T NOTICE
HIM 'TALKING' TO ME SILENTLY!"

GOOD THING BATMAN TRAINED ME TO
READ LIPS! HE'S TELLING ME SO I'LL
STALL KING WITH STORIES SO HE CAN
FIGURE OUT AN ESCAPE!



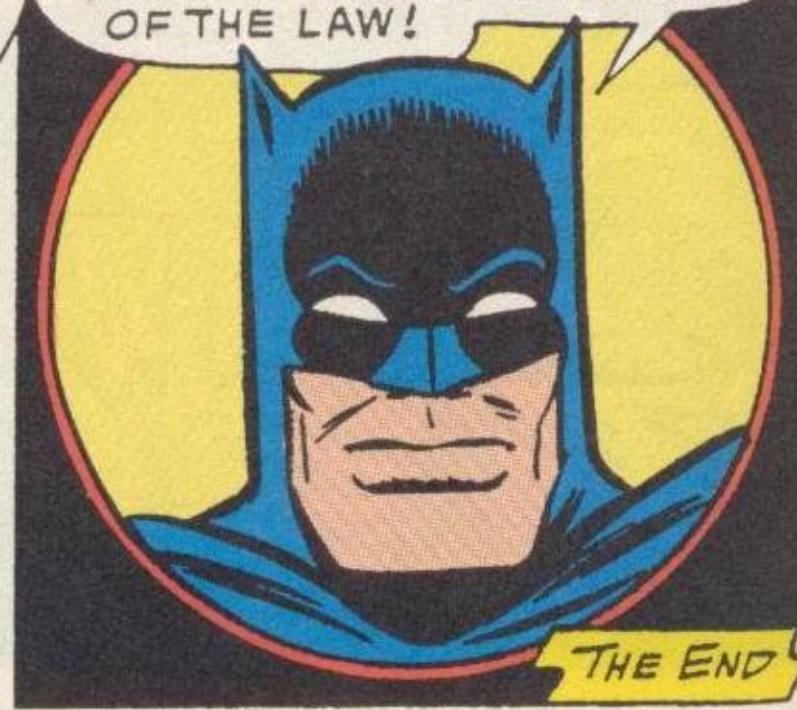
BATMAN SPOTTED SOMETHING
YOU OVERLOOKED--THE TELE-
PHONE WIRE TACKED TO THE
WALL BASEBOARD! HE
PULLED ONE TACK LOOSE
AND HACKED AWAY AT IT
UNTIL HE EXPOSED A WIRE...

WHILE ROBIN KEEPS KING'S
ATTENTION, I'LL SEND OUT
A CODE MESSAGE THAT WILL
BRING THE POLICE!

WHILE YOU WENT
TO YOUR CONTROL
PANEL, THE POLICE
GOT IN QUIETLY
AND FREED US--
THEN THEY EAVES-
DROPPED TO GET
EVIDENCE FOR
YOUR TRIAL!

YOU TRICKED
ME! ALL THE
TIME I WAS
LISTENING
TO ROBIN,
YOU WERE
WORKING
ON YOUR
ESCAPE!

YES! YOU WERE OUR ESCAPE--
YOU AND YOUR CONCEIT! AND
LIKE EVERY SO-CALLED
"SMART" CROOK, YOU MADE
YOUR OWN TRAP -- A TRAP YOU
WILL NEVER ESCAPE UNTIL
YOU PAY THE FULL PENALTY
OF THE LAW!



THE END



BATMAN

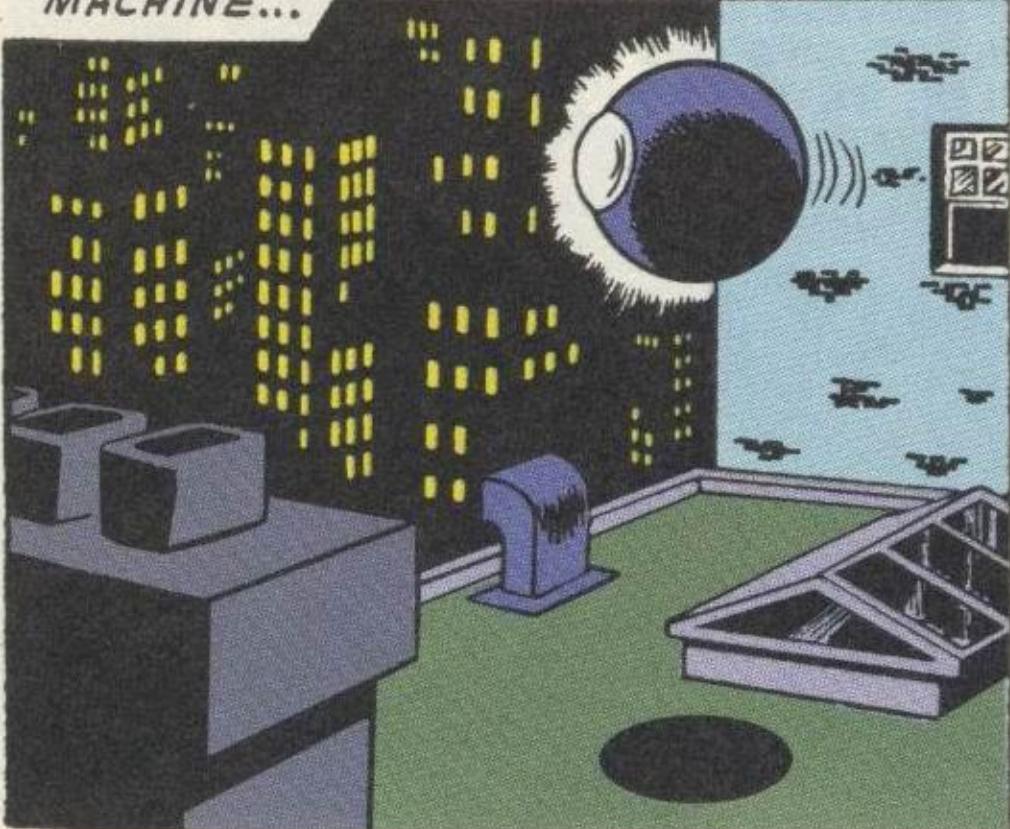
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS OF THE DETECTIVE SKILL OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, BUT LESS WELL KNOWN IS THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF THE DYNAMIC DUO! THAT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE GUARDED THE SECRET OF THE MANY ASTONISHING INVENTIONS THEY HAVE DEVISED IN THEIR WAR AGAINST LAWBREAKERS!

BUT NOW, TO THEIR DISMAY, THERE LOOMS OVER GOTHAM CITY A MYSTERIOUS MENACE THAT COMES FROM...

The Amazing
INVENTIONS
of BATMAN

OVER GOTHAM CITY, BY NIGHT, MOVES A SILENT, SELF-POWERED LITTLE MACHINE...



... THAT FINALLY HOVERS OUTSIDE AN OPEN, HIGH WINDOW--AS THOUGH WATCHING AND LISTENING!

YEAH...THE BOSS IS GONNA LEAD US IN A BIG ROBBERY, USING ONE OF BATMAN'S OWN INVENTIONS!

HA, HA,
IF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ONLY KNEW ABOUT IT!



BUT THEY DO KNOW ABOUT IT-- FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE...

THEY'RE BREAKING IT UP NOW! QUICK, ROBIN-- BRING THE FLYING EYE BACK BEFORE THEY SEE IT!

WITHIN MINUTES, AS THE BOY WONDER SKILLFULLY OPERATES A REMOTE-CONTROL PANEL...

HERE IT COMES! THROUGH ITS TELEVISOR LENS AND MICROPHONES, WE SAW AND HEARD PLENTY!

YES-- WITHOUT THEIR REALIZING IT! BUT WHAT INVENTION OF OURS IS SOMEONE PLANNING TO USE FOR ROBBERY?

THE WORRIED DUO INSPECT ITS SCIENTIFIC SECRETS IN THE BAT-CAVE TROPHY HALL...

ALL THESE THINGS, LIKE THE REMOTE-CONTROLLED FLYING EYE WE JUST USED, CAN COME IN HANDY... BUT IN THE HANDS OF THIEVES, THEY'D BE DANGEROUS!

YET, NOT ONE OF THEM HAS BEEN STOLEN... THEY'RE ALL HERE!

YES... BUT MAYBE THE SECRET OF ONE WAS STOLEN, WHEN WE USED IT IN THE PAST!

THAT COULD BE-- BUT WHICH ONE?

WE'VE GOT TO SEARCH BACK AMONG PAST CASES IN WHICH WE USED THESE SPECIAL GADGETS-- TO FIND OUT WHICH SECRET WAS STOLEN! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO DEDUCE WHAT BIG THEFT IS BEING PLANNED!

SOME THINGS, LIKE THIS HUMAN JET-POWER UNIT, COULDN'T HAVE BEEN STOLEN, BECAUSE WE NEVER LET ANYONE ELSE TOUCH THEM!

STILL, WE'D BETTER CHECK BACK ON ALL OF THEM! THAT JET-POWER UNIT WAS INVENTED FOR A SPECIAL NEED--

BATMAN ANNUAL



"--TO COPE WITH THIEVES WE'D BEEN TRYING TO CATCH FOR WEEKS..."

THERE THEY COME-- FROM THAT ALLEY BEHIND A JEWEL FIRM! NAIL THEM FAST!

THIS TIME WE'LL GET THEM WITH THE GOODS!

"BUT, AS BEFORE, WE WERE BAFFLED BY LACK OF PROOF!"

YES, SEVERAL VALUABLE JEWELS WERE STOLEN-- BUT THESE MEN DON'T HAVE THEM!

YOU'VE GOT NO CASE, BATMAN, AND YOU KNOW IT!

IT SURE SOUNDS LIKE THE ANSWER-- BUT HOW WILL WE CATCH PIGEONS? THE BAT-PLANE CAN'T FLY AMONG THE WIRES AND SIGNS OF A CITY STREET!

WHICH MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO FIND SOME MEANS OF FLYING SHORT DISTANCES OURSELVES! LET'S GET TO WORK!

HOW DO THEY GET RID OF THEIR LOOT SO FAST? THERE'S NEVER ANYONE ELSE AROUND, AND...

WAIT, ROBIN... WHAT ABOUT THOSE PIGEONS WE ALWAYS SEE TAKING OFF FROM THE PLACES THEY ROB? COULD THEY BE TYING EACH JEWEL TO A PIGEON AND RELEASING THE BIRD TO GO HOME?

"BEFORE LONG, OUR NEW INVENTION WAS READY..."

WOW! IT'S GOT PLENTY OF POWER!

IT'LL NEED IT-- TO LIFT EACH OF US ON THE FOLDING WINGS WE MADE!

"AND, ONLY HOURS LATER..."

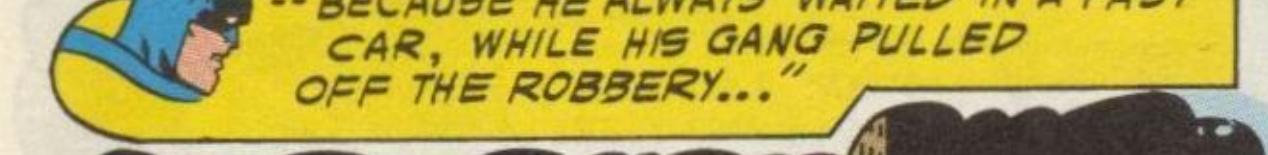
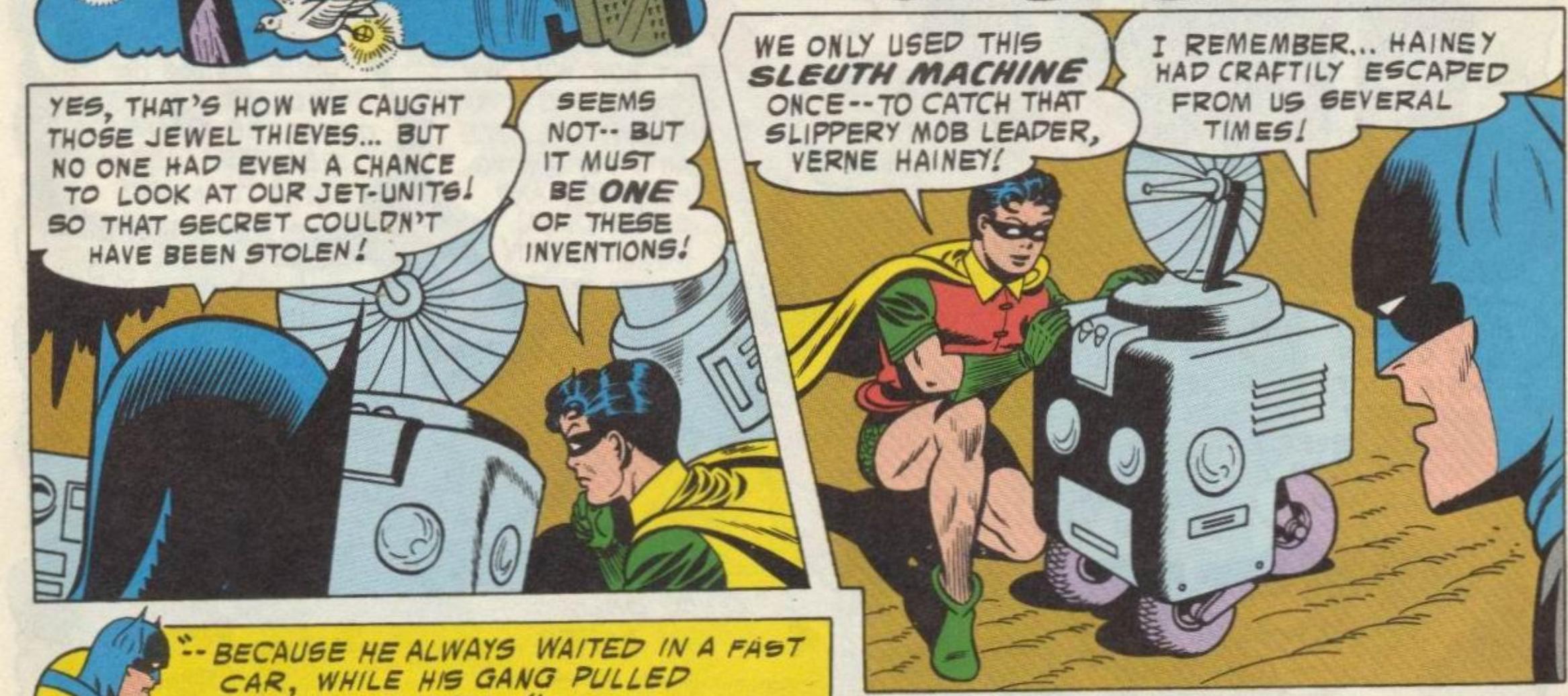
LISTEN! A BURGLAR-ALARM... AND THERE GO PIGEONS!

AFTER THEM! WE MUST CATCH THEM FAST!

CLANG CLANG



BATMAN ANNUAL



BATMAN ANNUAL



"AGAIN, WE WORKED AT TOP SPEED..."

IT'S RADAR, WHEN LOCKED ONTO ANY OBJECT, WILL MAKE THE MACHINE AUTOMATICALLY FOLLOW THAT OBJECT, WHILE EMITTING RADIO SIGNALS CONSTANTLY!

WHICH WE CAN PICK UP ON OUR BELT-RADIOS! FINE... WE'LL TAKE IT ON PATROL WITH US!

"AND SO THE NEXT TIME HAINY MASTER-MINDED A RAID..."

THERE HE GOES! HIS MEN MUST BE INSIDE THE MUSEUM!

I'LL SET THE SLEUTH MACHINE'S RADAR TO FOLLOW HIM WHILE WE CAPTURE THE OTHERS!



"MINUTES LATER, WHERE THE GANG WAS TRYING TO STEAL SOME ANCIENT GOLD RELICS..."

I'LL PUSH THIS BIG CALENDAR-STONE OVER ON BATMAN AND-- OOF!

SINCE YOU'RE SO INTERESTED IN TIME, I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET SEVERAL YEARS OF IT!

"AND WHILE WE ROUNDED THEM UP, OUR MECHANICAL PARTNER WAS TRAILING THEIR LEADER..."

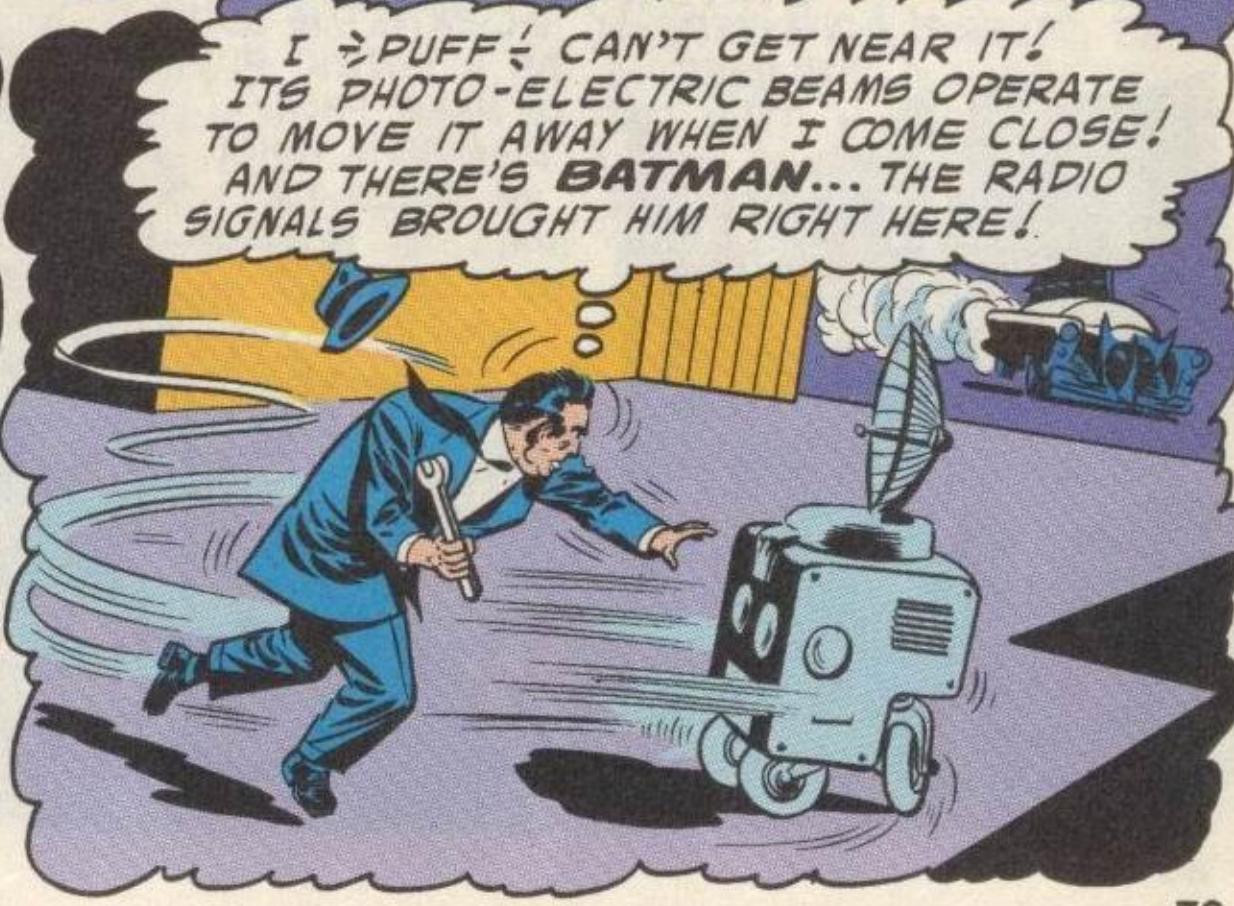
EVEN IF BATMAN NABS THEM ALL, HE'LL NEVER FIND OUT WHERE I... HUH--? WHAT'S THAT FOLLOWING ME?



"BUT WE HAD EVEN PROVIDED FOR THAT POSSIBILITY..."

WHY, IT'S SOME KIND OF RADAR-MACHINE... I CAN HEAR A RADIO TRANSMITTER BUZZING INSIDE IT! I MUST DESTROY IT...

I PUFF CAN'T GET NEAR IT! ITS PHOTO-ELECTRIC BEAMS OPERATE TO MOVE IT AWAY WHEN I COME CLOSE! AND THERE'S BATMAN... THE RADIO SIGNALS BROUGHT HIM RIGHT HERE!



BUT SINCE NOBODY COULD GET NEAR THE **SLEUTH MACHINE**, NO ONE COULD HAVE STOLEN ITS SECRET!

SO IT MUST BE ANOTHER INVENTION OF OURS THAT'S BEEN STOLEN! HMM--THERE'S THIS **DETONATING RAY**...



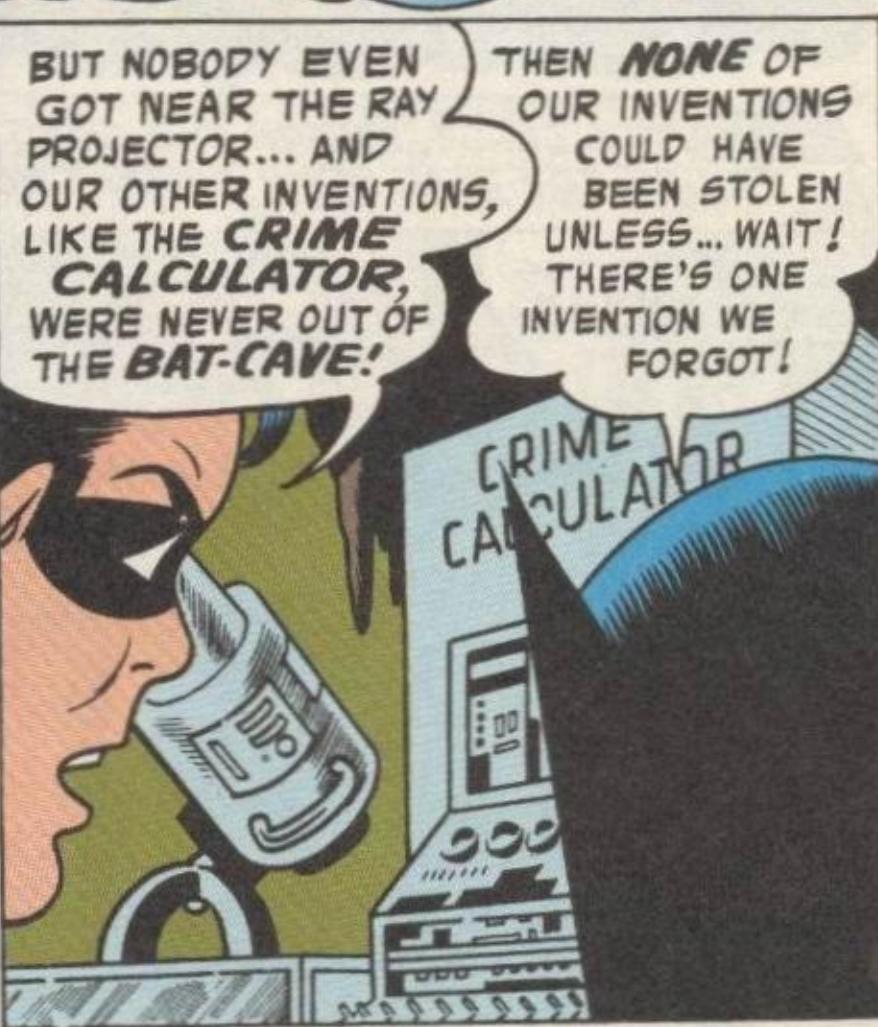
"WORKING FEVERISHLY, WE HAD OUR WEAPON THAT VERY SAME NIGHT..."

IS IT WORKING?
PERFECTLY! THE CONCENTRATED INFRA-RED HEAT-RAY DETONATES THE EXPLOSIVES WHEREVER IT HITS THEM. WE'LL SOON HAVE THE WHOLE HARBOR SWEEPED CLEAR AND SAFE AGAIN!



BUT NOBODY EVEN GOT NEAR THE RAY PROJECTOR... AND OUR OTHER INVENTIONS, LIKE THE **CRIME CALCULATOR**, WERE NEVER OUT OF THE BAT-CAVE!

THEN **NONE** OF OUR INVENTIONS COULD HAVE BEEN STOLEN UNLESS... WAIT! THERE'S ONE INVENTION WE FORGOT!



OF COURSE--THE **FLYING EYE**!

I FORGOT IT, BECAUSE IT WASN'T WITH THE OTHERS!

LET'S CHECK BACK ON THE TIME WE INVENTED AND USED IT...

"WE HAD TO MAKE A CITY-WIDE SEARCH FOR AN UNUSUAL CRIMINAL..."

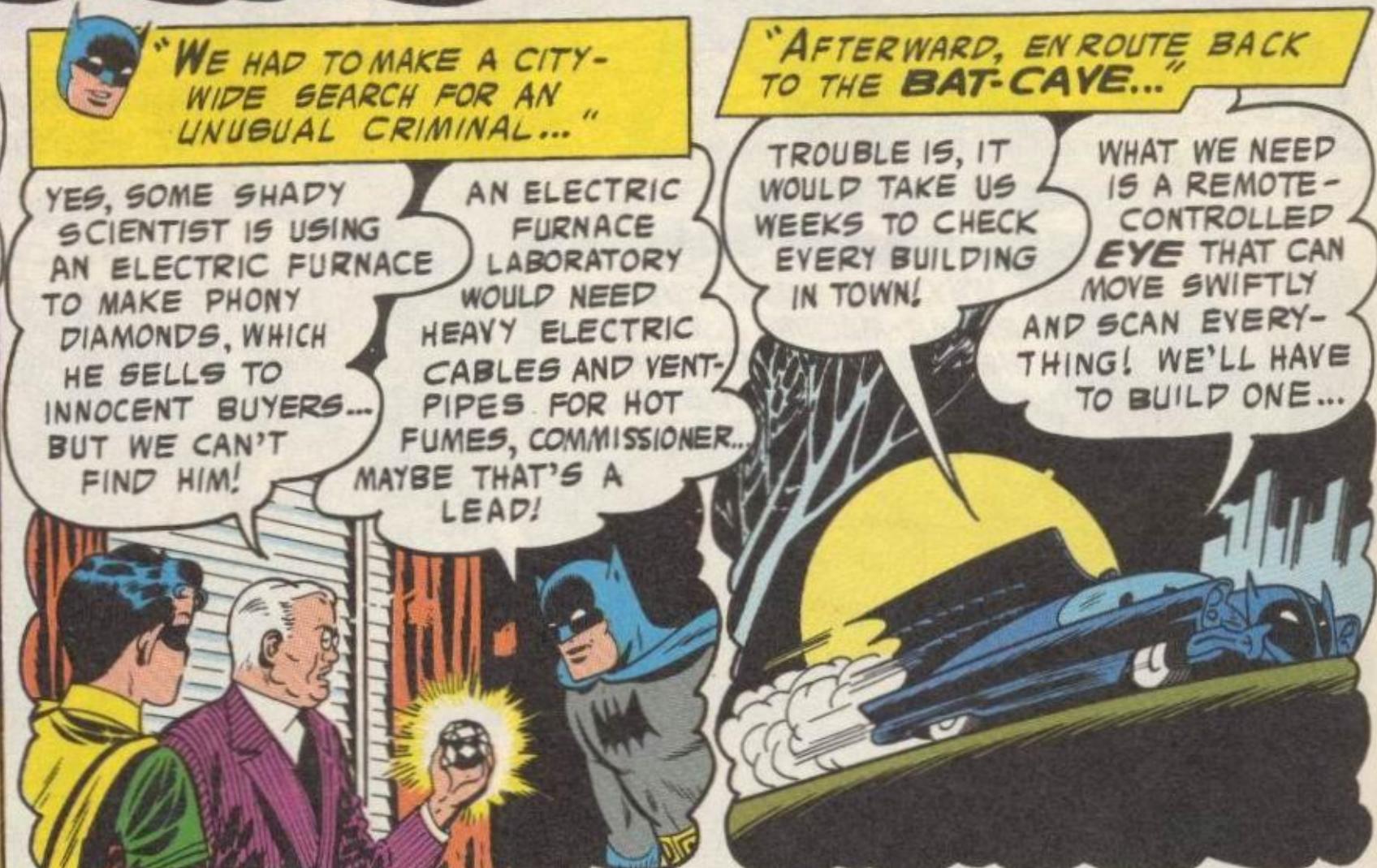
YES, SOME SHADY SCIENTIST IS USING AN ELECTRIC FURNACE TO MAKE PHONY DIAMONDS, WHICH HE SELLS TO INNOCENT BUYERS... BUT WE CAN'T FIND HIM!

AN ELECTRIC FURNACE LABORATORY WOULD NEED HEAVY ELECTRIC CABLES AND VENT-PIPES FOR HOT FUMES, COMMISSIONER... MAYBE THAT'S A LEAD!

"AFTERWARD, EN ROUTE BACK TO THE BAT-CAVE..."

TROUBLE IS, IT WOULD TAKE US WEEKS TO CHECK EVERY BUILDING IN TOWN!

WHAT WE NEED IS A REMOTE-CONTROLLED **EYE** THAT CAN MOVE SWIFTLY AND SCAN EVERYTHING! WE'LL HAVE TO BUILD ONE...



BATMAN ANNUAL



"THE FLYING EYE, AND ITS REMOTE CONTROLS, SOON TOOK SHAPE..."

IT ANSWERS ITS CONTROLS PERFECTLY-- AND OUR SCREEN SHOWS EXACTLY WHAT IT SEES!

WE'LL SEARCH THE CITY'S ROOFS WITH IT FOR THE CABLE-AND-VENT-PIPE CLUE!

"BLOCK BY BLOCK THE FLYING EYE SEARCHED, WHILE IN THE BAT-CAVE, WE WATCHED..."

NOTHING IN THIS BLOCK--BUT...WAIT! THAT NEXT ROOF HAS HEAVY-DUTY ELECTRIC CABLES AND SPECIAL VENT-PIPES TO CARRY OFF FUMES! WE'LL LOOK IN THERE!

"AND AS, THROUGH THE FLYING EYE, WE PEERED INTO THE WINDOW OF A LARGE LABORATORY..."

THAT LITTLE MACHINE... IT MUST BE SOME NEW SORT OF SPYING GADGET!

THAT'S CURT MATHIS, A CRIMINAL-SCIENTIST WITH A LONG RECORD! HE'S OUR MAN!

I'LL BRING THE FLYING EYE BACK FAST, AND WE'LL GO AFTER HIM!

"WHEN WE RACED TO THE HIDDEN LABORATORY..."

SO THIS IS WHERE THOSE PHONY DIAMONDS... OUCH! THAT X-RAY TUBE'S WARM!

BAH! I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D GET HERE SO SOON, BATMAN!

THAT'S IT, ROBIN! THAT'S WHY MATHIS DELAYED SO LONG THAT WE WERE ABLE TO CATCH HIM! HE'D TAKEN AN X-RAY PHOTO OF THE FLYING EYE'S MECHANISM, AS IT SPED AWAY!

YOU MEAN, HE DELAYED TO DEVELOP AND HIDE THE FILM? WHY-- THEN-- HE HAS THE SECRET OF THE FLYING EYE INVENTION!

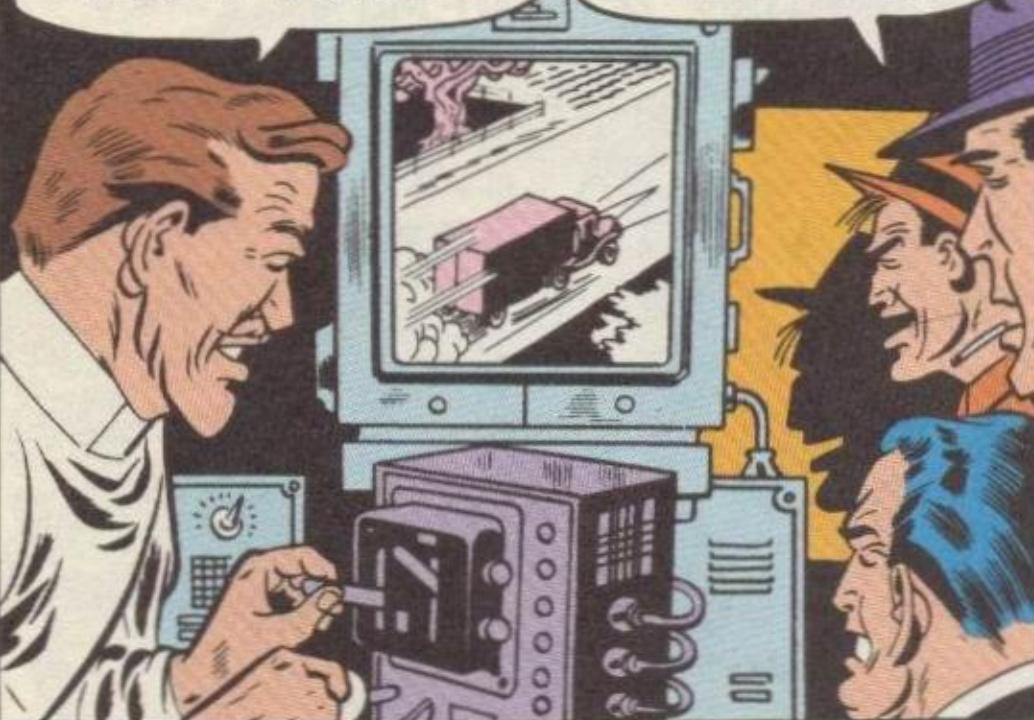
SO MATHIS, WHEN HE GOT OUT OF PRISON, MUST'VE MADE A FLYING EYE FOR HIMSELF! BUT WHAT SORT OF ROBBERY IS HE PLANNING TO USE IT FOR?

A BIG CURRENCY SHIPMENT ARRIVES IN GOTHAM CITY TONIGHT, BY A SECRET ROUTE... BUT THE FLYING EYE WOULD ENABLE MATHIS TO SPOT IT EASILY!

INDEED, THAT VERY SAME NIGHT...

SEE?... MY **FLYING EYE** HAS LOCATED THE TRUCK! YOU CAN AMBUSH IT EASILY!

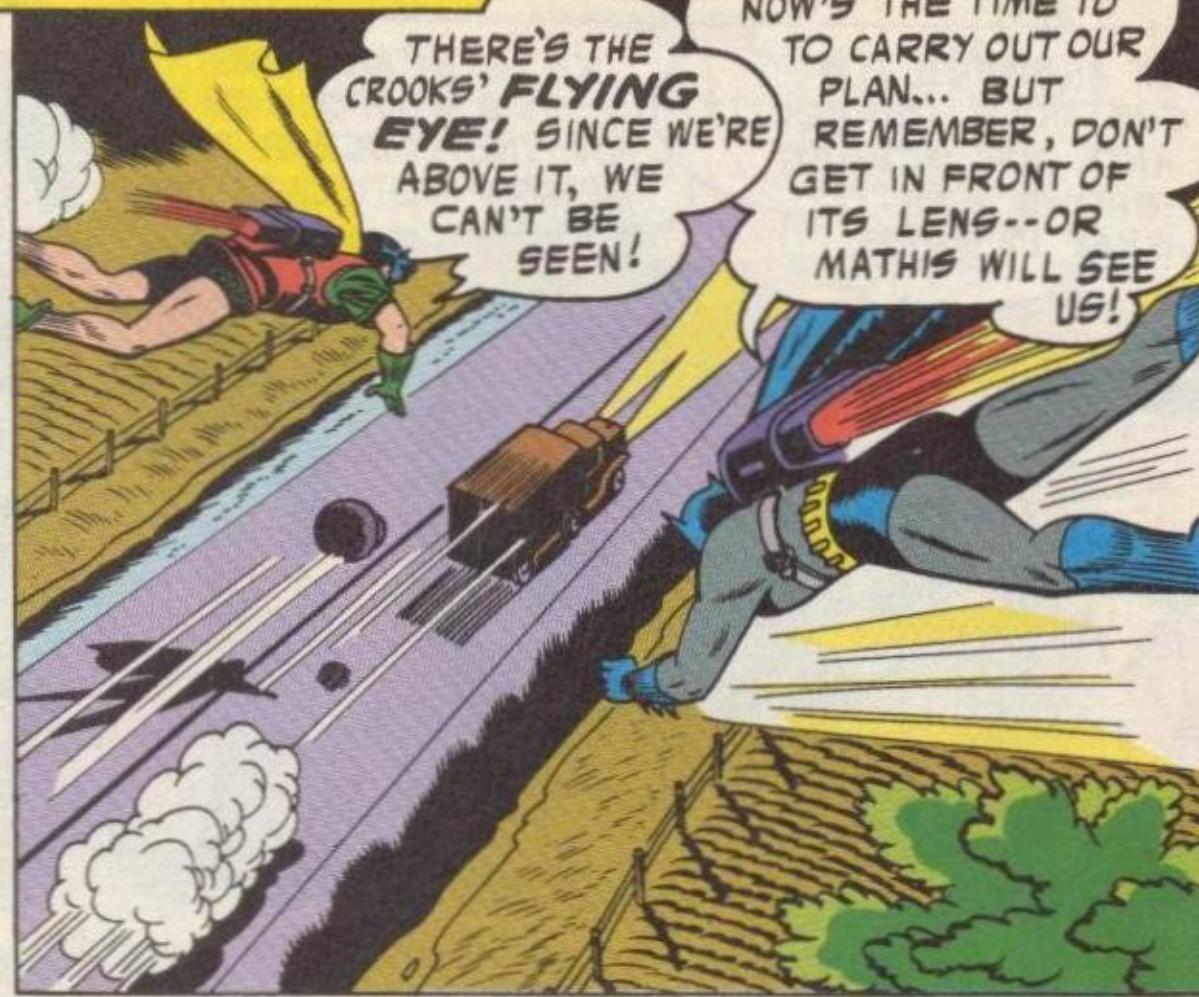
AS SOON AS WE SEE JUST WHICH WAY IT'S COMING, WE'LL START!



BUT OTHER EYES ARE ON THE GOLD-LADEN TRUCK, TOO...

THERE'S THE CROOKS' **FLYING EYE**! SINCE WE'RE ABOVE IT, WE CAN'T BE SEEN!

NOW'S THE TIME TO CARRY OUT OUR PLAN... BUT REMEMBER, DON'T GET IN FRONT OF ITS LENS--OR MATHIS WILL SEE US!



USING THEIR HUMAN JET-POWER UNITS, THE CAPE CRIME-BUSTERS ATTACK THEIR OWN STOLEN CREATION...



HUH--? YOUR **FLYING EYE** WENT DARK, ALL OF A SUDDEN!

SOME MINOR FAILURE OF THE TELEVISION CAMERA! I'LL BRING THE **EYE** BACK AT ONCE AND REPAIR IT SO WE CAN KEEP TRAILING THAT TRUCK!

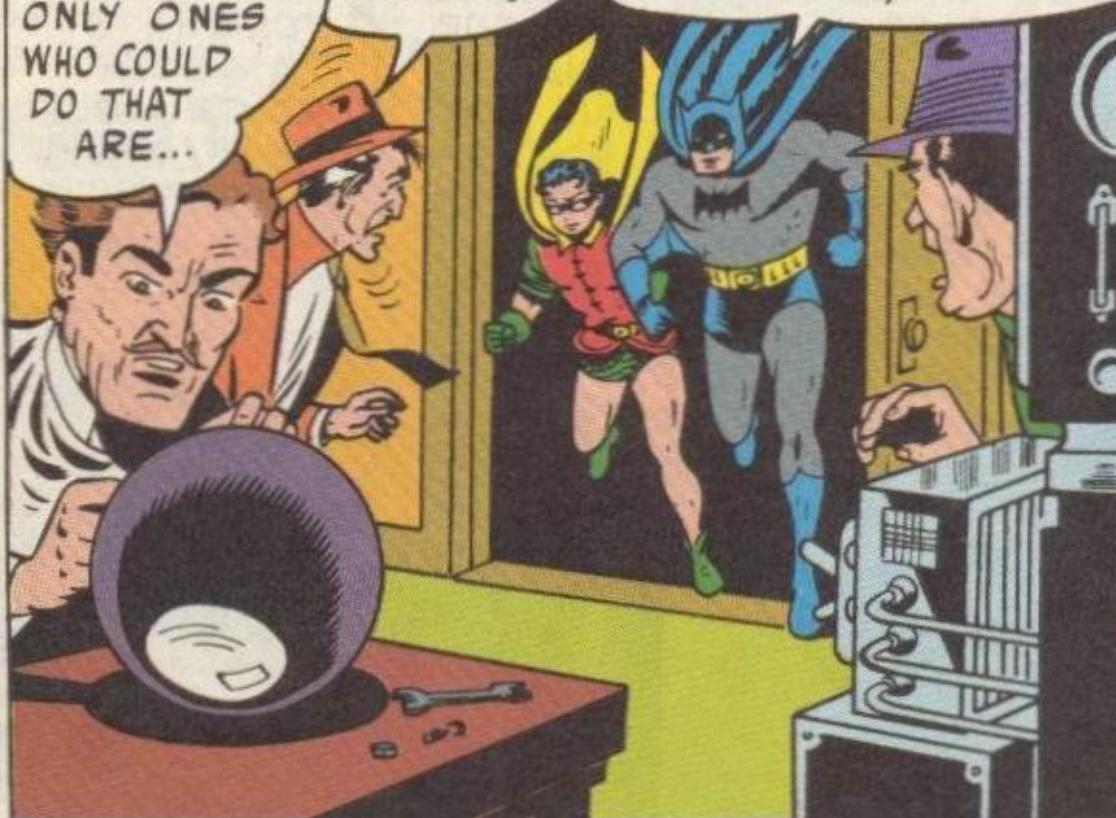


BUT AWHILE LATER, AS THE SCIENTIST MAKES REPAIRS...

IT'S WIRING WAS TORN LOOSE! THE ONLY ONES WHO COULD DO THAT ARE...

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

YES-- ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS FOLLOW THE **FLYING EYE** BACK HERE, MATHIS!



AND SO, AFTER JAILING THE CRIMINALS...

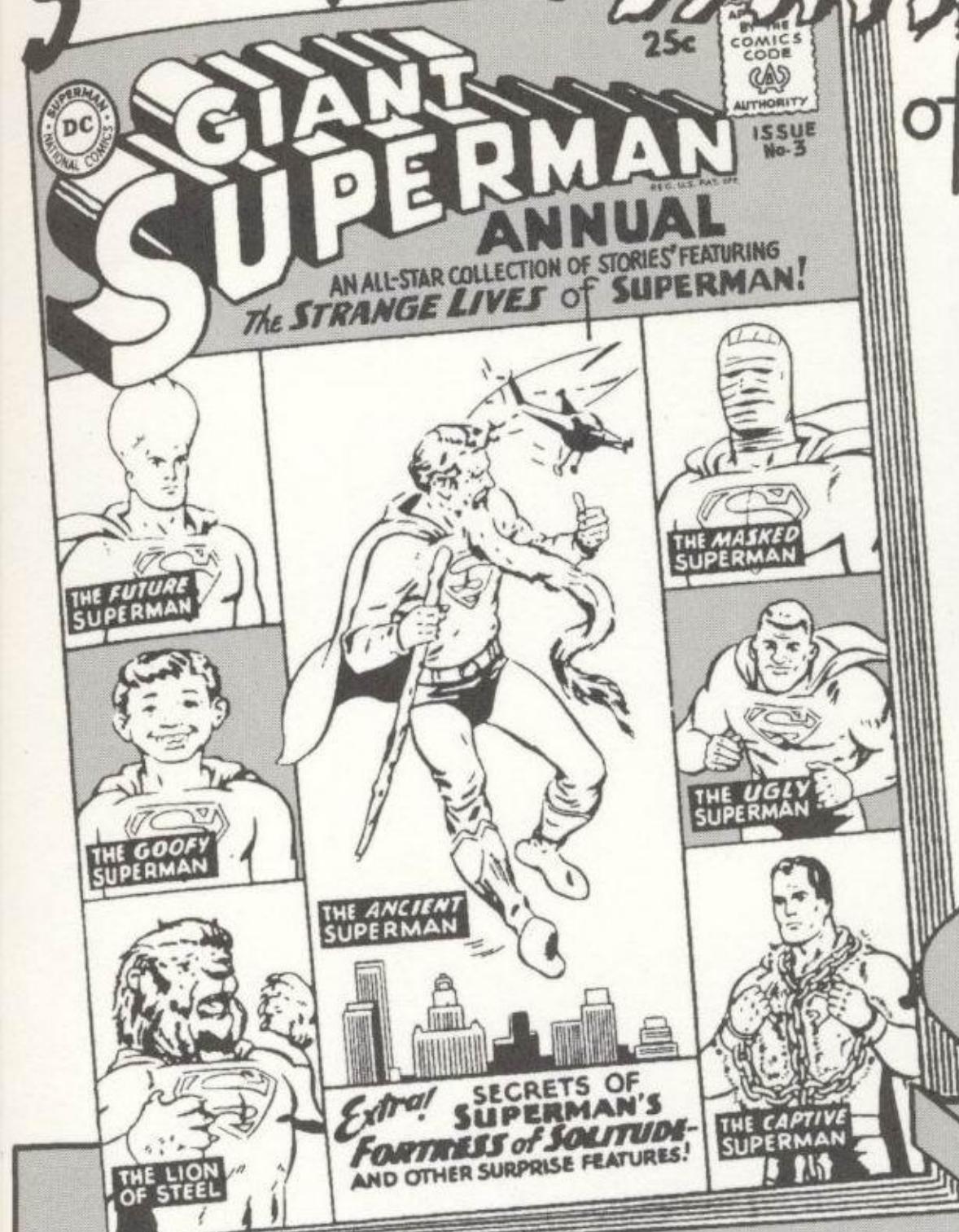
WITH MATHIS' COPY OF THE **EYE**, AND THE X-RAY FILM HE TOOK OF IT, THE SECRET IS SAFE AGAIN!

I ONLY WISH WE COULD INVENT A WAY TO MAKE SUCH THIEVES REALIZE THEY CAN'T WIN! THAT WOULD BE A **REAL** INVENTION!



THE END.

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YOU'LL FIND THEM RE-ENACTED
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ON SALE EVERYWHERE
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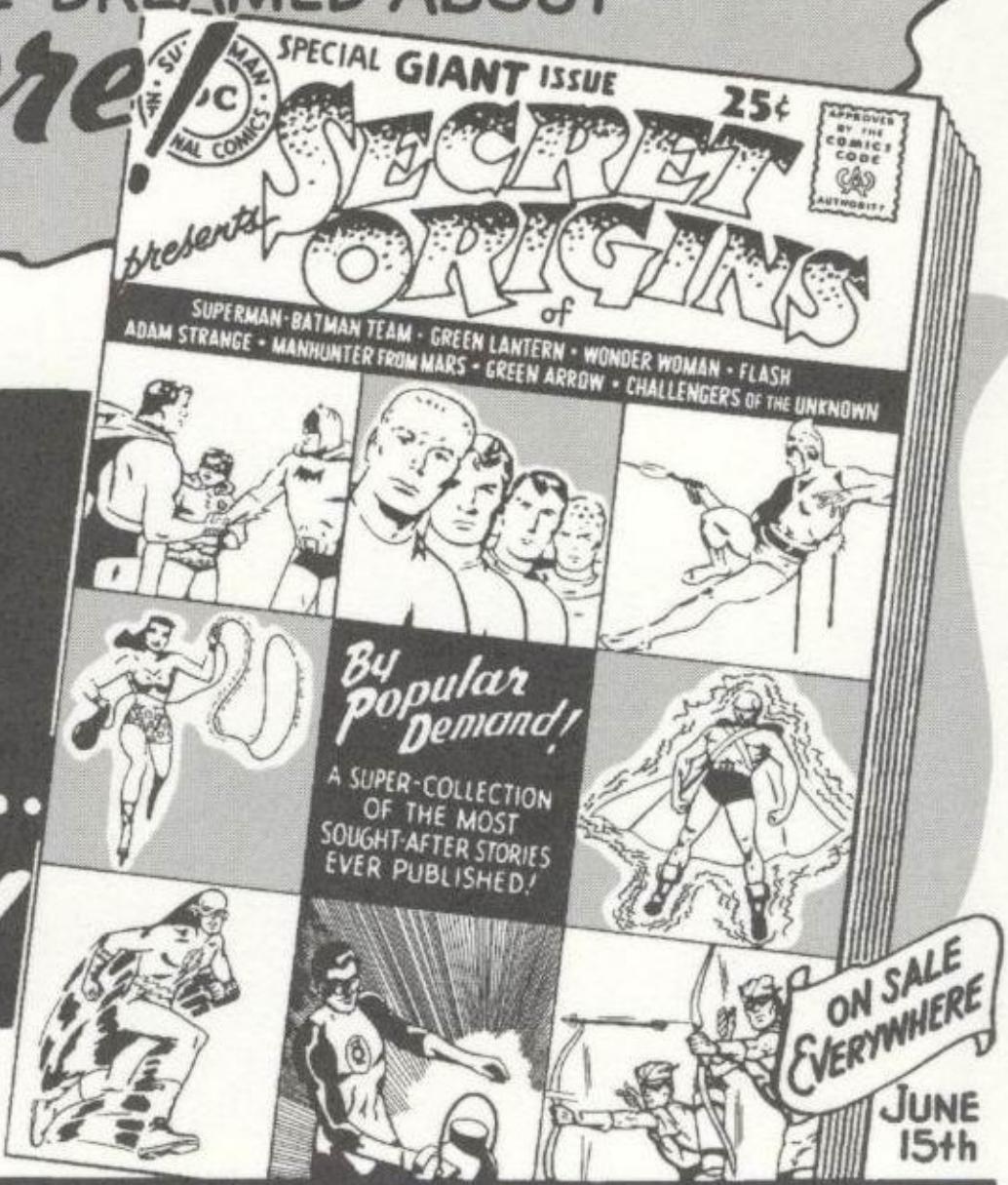
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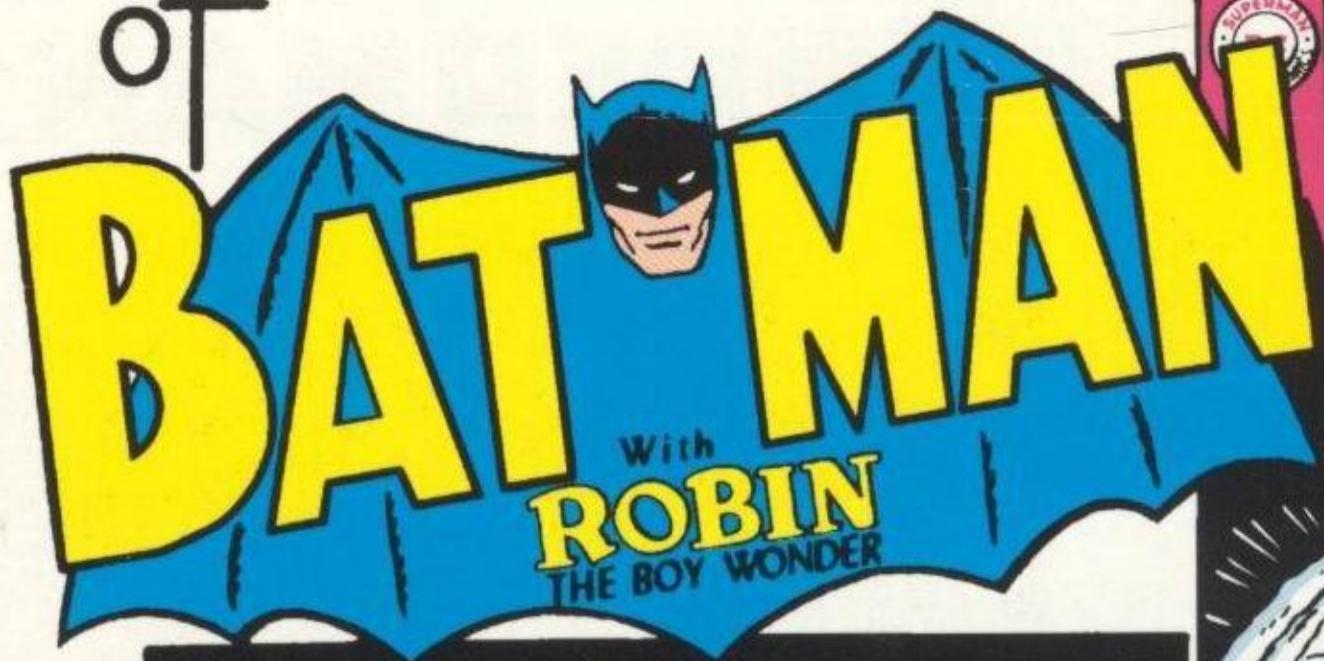
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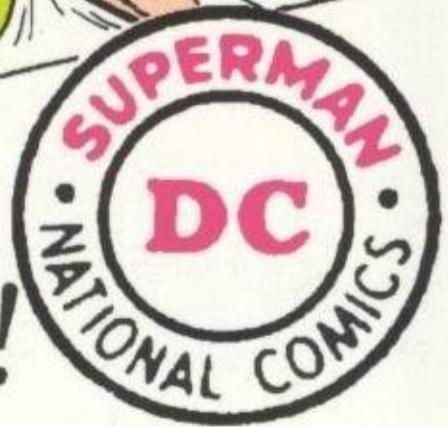
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