



12¢

NOV.  
NO. 186

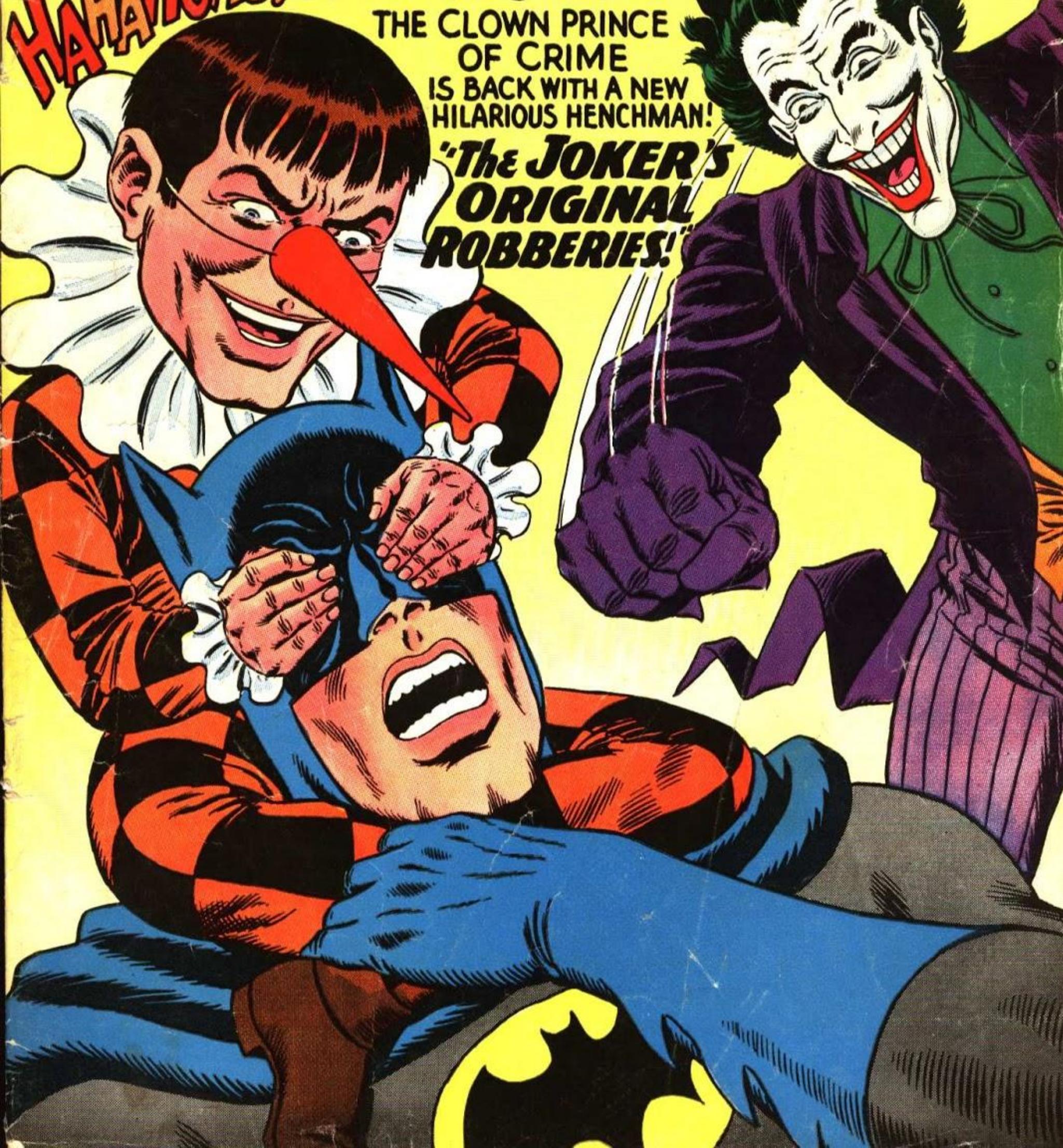


# BATMAN

HAHAHOHO! FOR LAUGHING OUT LOUD!

THE CLOWN PRINCE  
OF CRIME  
IS BACK WITH A NEW  
HILARIOUS HENCHMAN!

"The JOKER'S  
ORIGINAL  
ROBBERIES!"



THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME IS BACK IN TOWN-- WITH A NEW LINE OF LARCENOUS LAUGHS, OF BOFFS AND BURGLARIES, OF MIRTHFUL MENACES! THIS TIME WITH THE AID OF ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL HENCHMEN ANY COSTUMED VILLAIN HAS EVER RECRUITED!

YOU'LL MEET THIS STARTLING NEWCOMER, AS THE EMBATTLED BATMAN AND ROBIN DO, IN THE EXPLOSIVELY HILARIOUS STORY OF--

# BATMAN

WITH ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

## The JOKER'S ORIGINAL ROBBRIES!

I GOT BATMAN'S EYES COVERED, JOKER! GIVE HIM THE OL' PUNCHLINE!

WITH PLEASURE, GAGGY!

THAT NEW STOOGE OF THE JOKER'S IS MORE OF A MENACE THAN A GANG OF GUNMEN!



"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever."

Printed  
in  
U.S.A.

BATMAN, No. 186, Nov., 1966. Published monthly, with the exception of Jan. and April; (semi-monthly, Dec.) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., SPARTA, ILL. 62286. Editorial, Executive offices and Subscriptions, 575 Lexington Ave., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Julius Schwartz, Editor. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription in the U.S. for twelve 32-page issues, \$1.75 includ-

ing postage. Foreign, \$3.50 in American funds. Canada, \$2.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1966. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE HISTORIANS OF CRIME IN GOTHAM CITY, WE PRESENT A TYPICAL DAY IN THE UNDER-WORLD HIDE-OUT OF THAT LANCELOT OF LARCEY, THAT GRAND BUFFOON OF BURGLARY, THE JOKER, AND HIS GANG...

I'LL TAKE TWO, SHIFTY-- FROM THE TOP!

AW, IT'S NO FUN PLAYIN' LEGIT!

SAFECRACKING AREA. NO DYNAMITE PERMITTED!

FRIENDLY CARD GAME!

PICKPOCKET PRACTICE

HAHAHA!

HAHAHA!



HAHAHA, GAGGY-- AS A WEIGHT-LIFTER, YOU'RE A SCREAM!

TALK ABOUT SCREAMING, JOKER-- WATCH THIS--

--MY SPECIAL GLASS-SHATTERING SCREAM--! ULP! HE CRACKED THE GLASS!

HA! HA! HA!



INTRODUCING GAGSWORTH A. GAGSWORTHY, DWARF EXTRAORDINARY, REFUGEE FROM A CIRCUS, AND NOW COURT JESTER TO THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME!

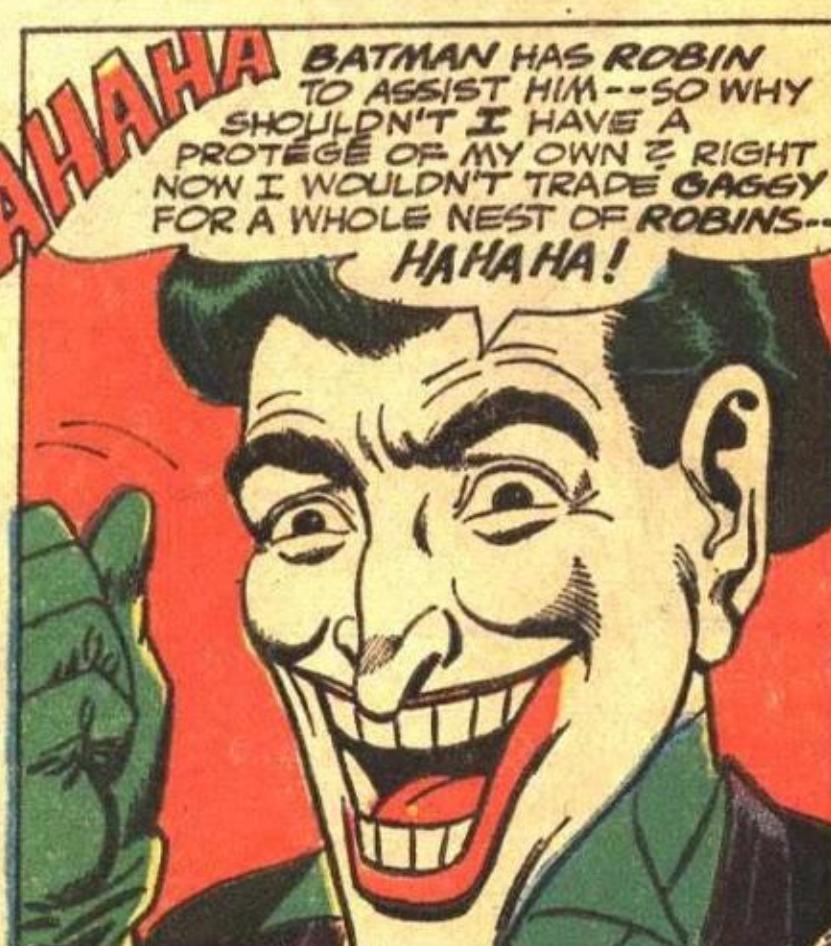
GOT TO KEEP THE BOSS LAUGHING-- THAT'S MY JOB!

OOPS! I BUCKED-- WHEN I SHOULD'VE WINGED!

HAHAHAHA

BATMAN HAS ROBIN TO ASSIST HIM-- SO WHY SHOULDN'T I HAVE A PROTEGE OF MY OWN? RIGHT NOW I WOULDN'T TRADE GAGGY FOR A WHOLE NEST OF ROBINS--

HAHAHA!



LOOK WHAT I WORKED UP--  
AS A DISGUISE FOR WHEN  
WE GO OUT ON A CRIME,  
JOKER ! THIS FALSE  
NOSE !

HAHAHAHO--  
A FALSE NOSE  
DISGUISE--?!



SURE-- WHO'D RECOGNIZE  
ME LIKE THIS ? WHO'D  
SUSPECT I'M REALLY  
GAGGY THE  
DWARF ?

GAGGY, YOU  
KILL ME ! HAHA  
WAIT A  
SECOND-- IT'S  
COMING...



I JUST GOT A SENSATIONAL IDEA FOR  
A CRIME--THE GREATEST BRAINSTORM  
I'VE HAD YET ! GATHER ROUND, GANG--!

FIREPLUG  
NAME



HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT ! THAT  
STAND-IN FOR A FIREPLUG MAKES  
THE JOKER LAUGH ... AND WHEN  
THE JOKER LAUGHS HARD  
'ENOUGH-- HE COMES UP WITH  
A TERRIFIC CRIME SCHEME !

DON'T  
KNOCK  
IT ! IT  
WORKS  
EVERY  
TIME !



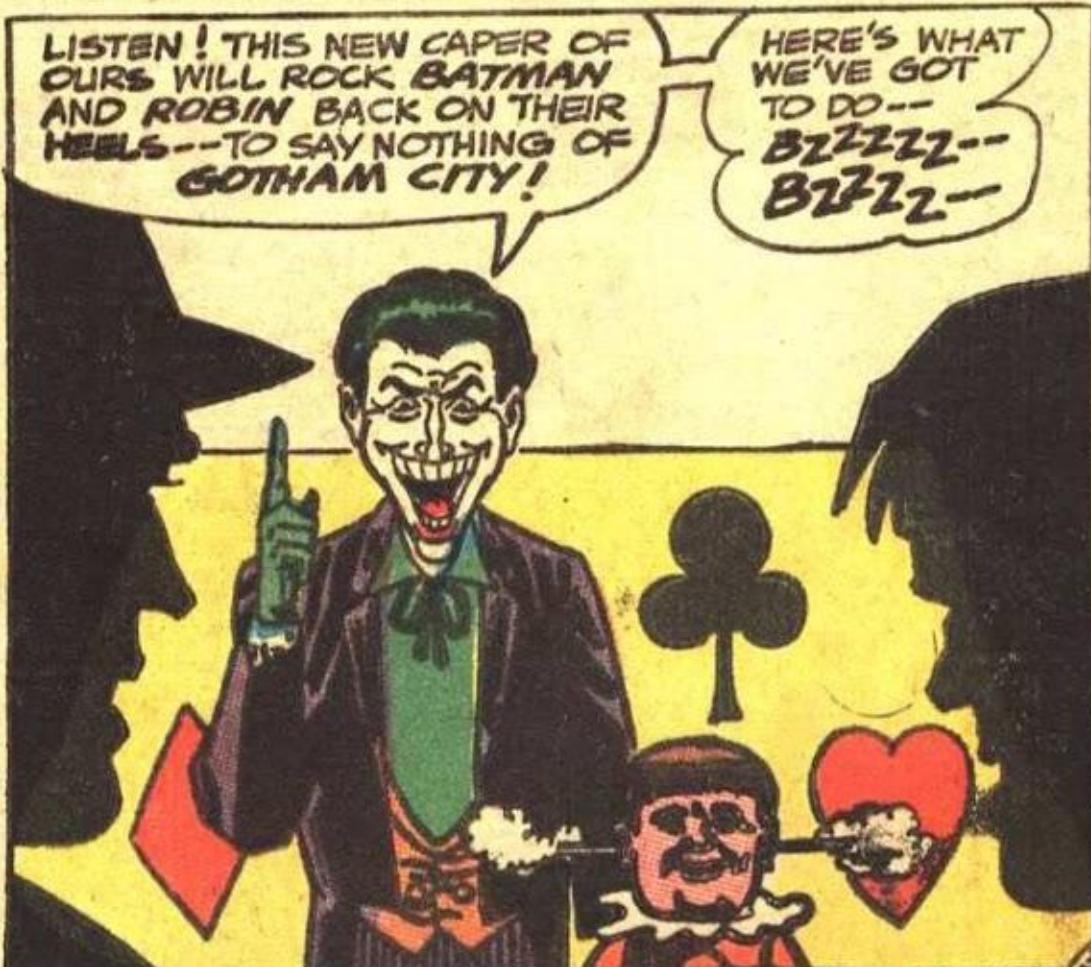
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE  
WORTH YOUR WEIGHT  
IN GOLD TO US,  
GAGSY !

YEAH ! TOO BAD  
YOU DON'T  
WEIGH MORE !..



LISTEN ! THIS NEW CAPER OF  
OURS WILL ROCK BATMAN  
AND ROBIN BACK ON THEIR  
HEELS--TO SAY NOTHING OF  
GOTHAM CITY !

HERE'S WHAT  
WE'VE GOT  
TO DO--  
BZZZZZ--  
BZZZZ--

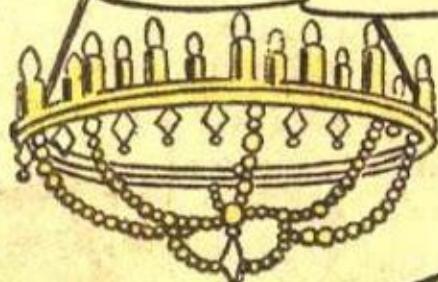


IN THE SPACIOUS SALON OF SPECTACLES IN MID-TOWN, A COLORFUL EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL MODELS OF FAMOUS INVENTIONS...

I WONDER HOW MUCH THESE ORIGINAL MODELS ARE WORTH?

MOST OF THEM ARE ON LOAN FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES! THEY'RE PRICELESS!

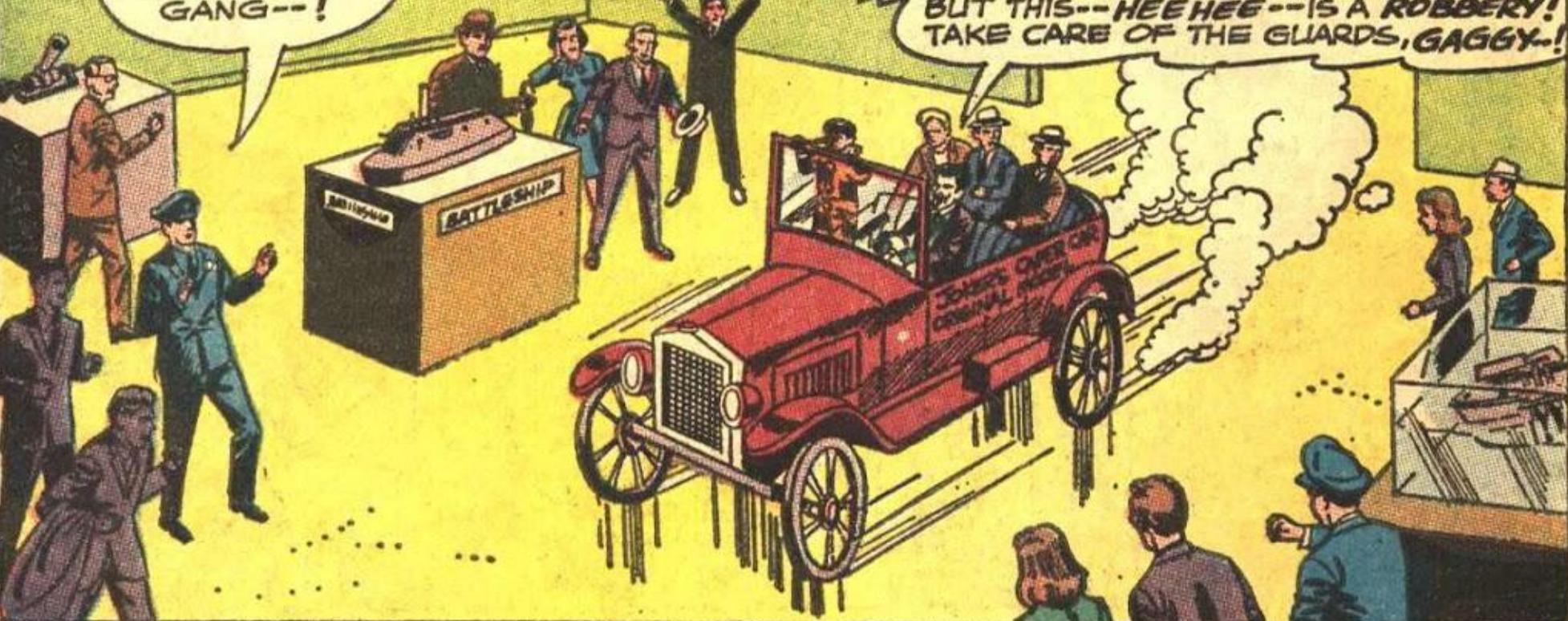
THAT EXPLAINS ALL THE SECURITY GUARDS HERE!



SUDDENLY, AN ENTRY ON WHEELS WITH A FANFARE OF LAUGHTER...

THE JOKER-- AND HIS GANG--!

HAHA HA HA HO HO YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS, FOLKS-- BUT THIS-- HEEHEE-- IS A ROBBERY! TAKE CARE OF THE GUARDS, GAGGY--!



AS THE MINIONS OF THE LAW RUSH TOWARD THE MOBSTERS, AN INCREDIBLE GLASS-SHATTERING SCREAM ISSUES FROM THE JOKER'S STOOGE...

OHHH! THAT AWFUL SOUND!

EECRACK! EEEEEE EEE  
THE CHANDELIER-- CRACKING UP-- FALLING ON THE GUARDS--!

HAHAHAHAHA

MOVE THE LOOT INTO THE CAR, BOYS--QUICK!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

CHANDELIER OF PANEL 6 ABOVE

If you could have only one toy in the world, what would it be? **How about a toy that makes toys?**



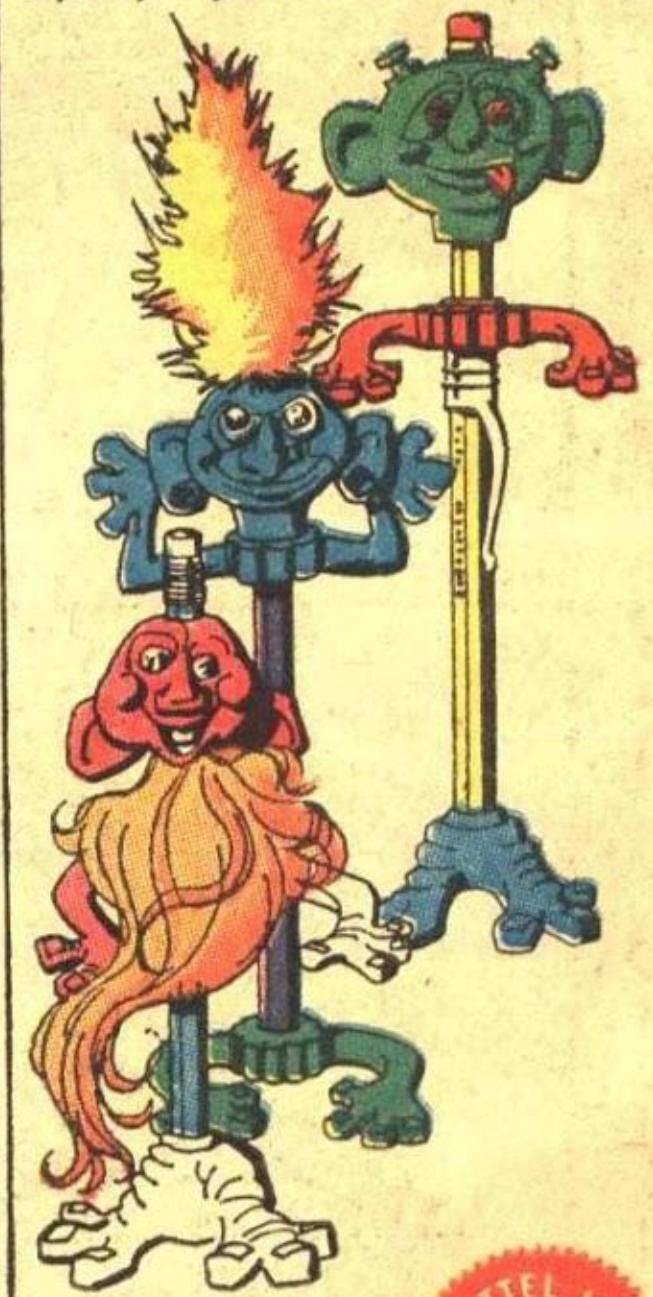
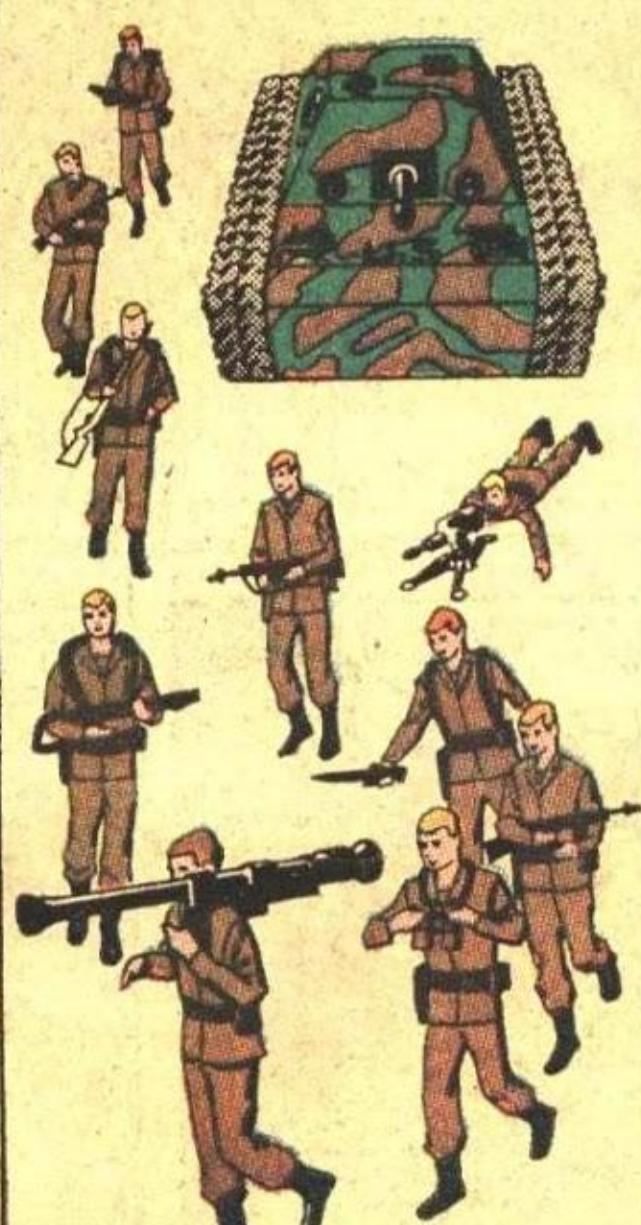
## You can get a Mattel Thingmaker® that makes

### Creepy Crawlers, or Fighting Men, or Creepie Peeple™

Slinky (ugh!), creepy (arrgh!), bugs, beetles, frogs, bats, centipedes, lizards. They all look almost real. Got somebody you want to scare?

Make as many soldiers as you want! Pose 'em any way you like. Make all their equipment—rifles machine guns, bazookas, tanks, and more.

Make 'em yourself. They're so ugly you love them. Decorate pencils with them. Wear them as jewelry. Or just stare at them and shudder.



**Make 'em. Trade 'em. Sell 'em.**



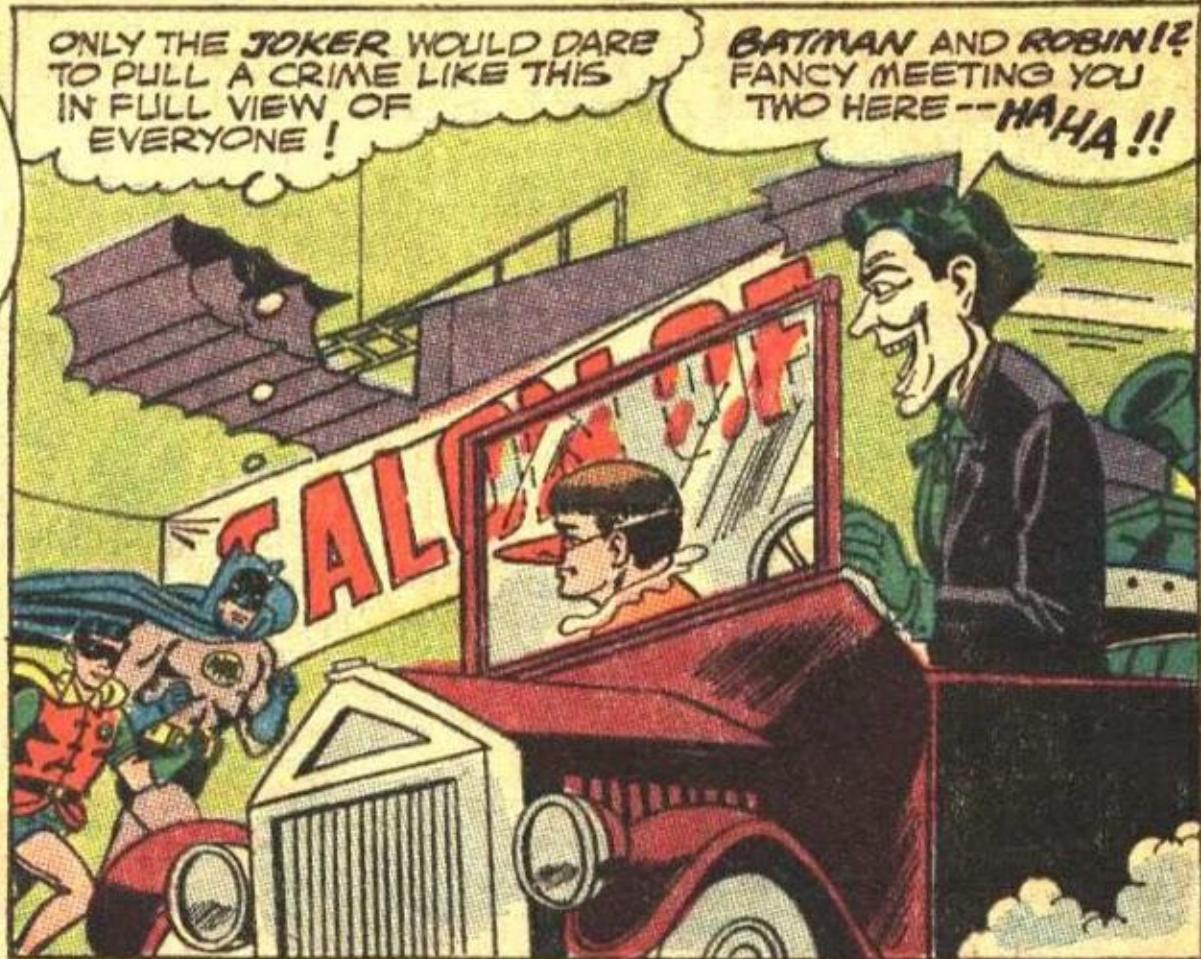
AT THAT MOMENT, UNNOTICED IN THE SUDDEN CONFUSION, A PAIR OF VISITORS...

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THE JOKER, BRUCE! HE'S OUT TO ROB THESE ORIGINAL MODELS!

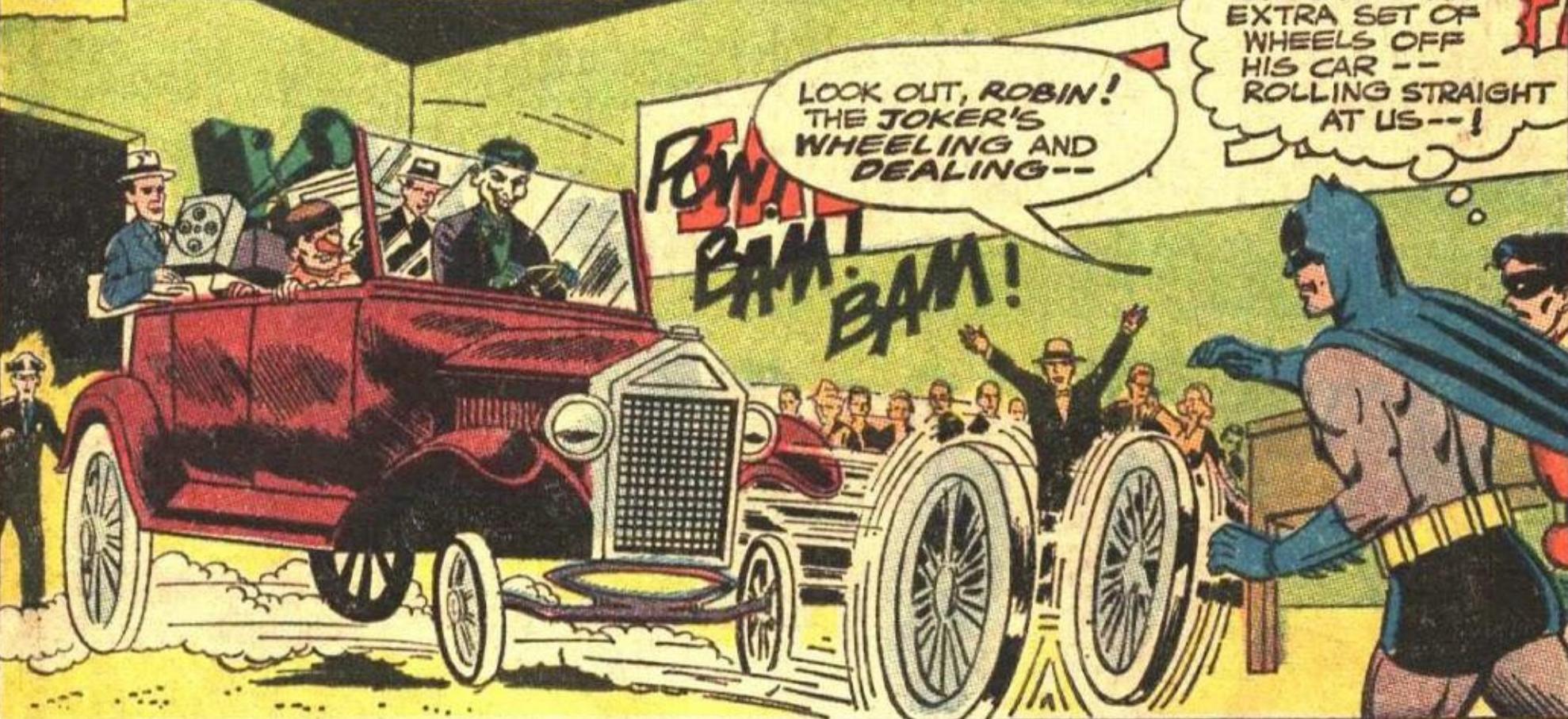
WE'LL TAKE A CHANCE-- CHANGE IN THIS SAFETY EXIT, DICK! HURRY!

ONLY THE JOKER WOULD DARE TO PULL A CRIME LIKE THIS IN FULL VIEW OF EVERYONE!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! FANCY MEETING YOU TWO HERE -- HAHA!!



SWIFTLY, THE MIRTHFUL MADCAP YANKS A LEVER IN HIS CAPER CAR AND...



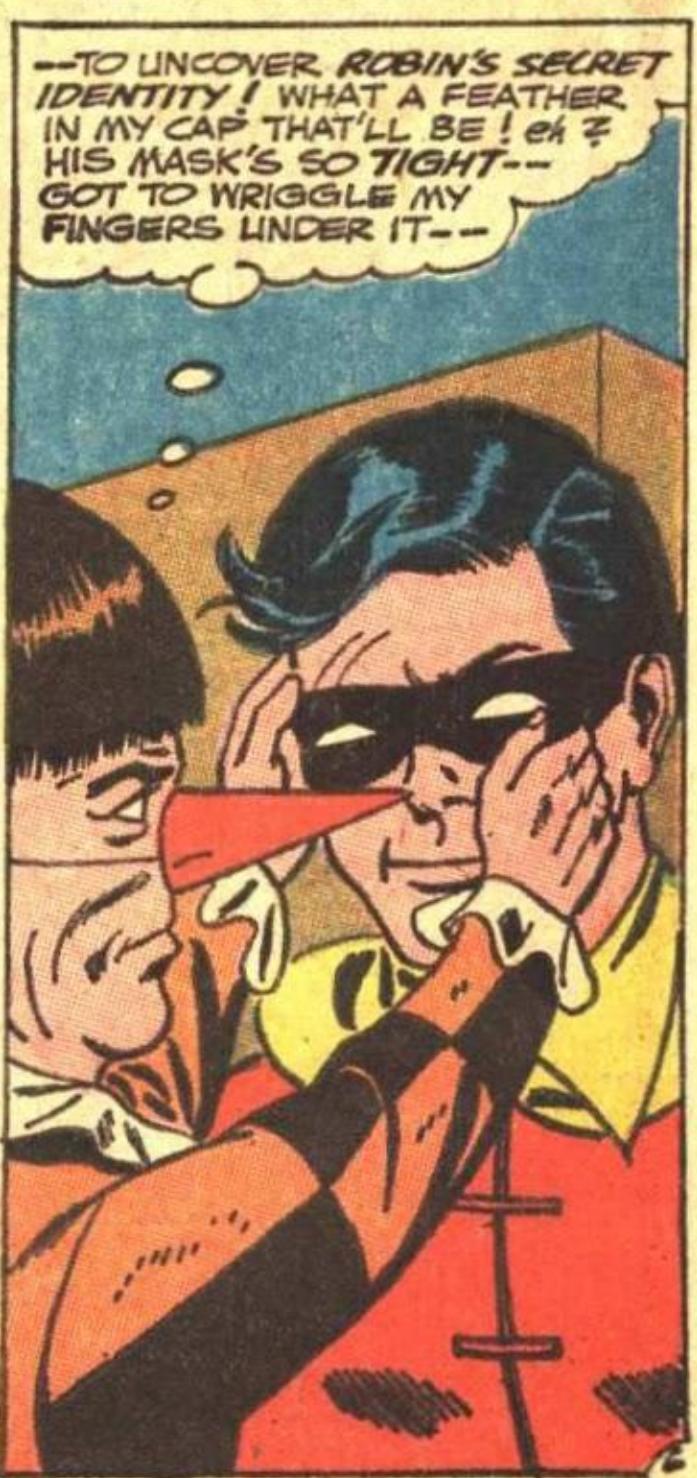
BUT THE DYNAMIC DUO--WITHOUT BREAKING STRIDE...

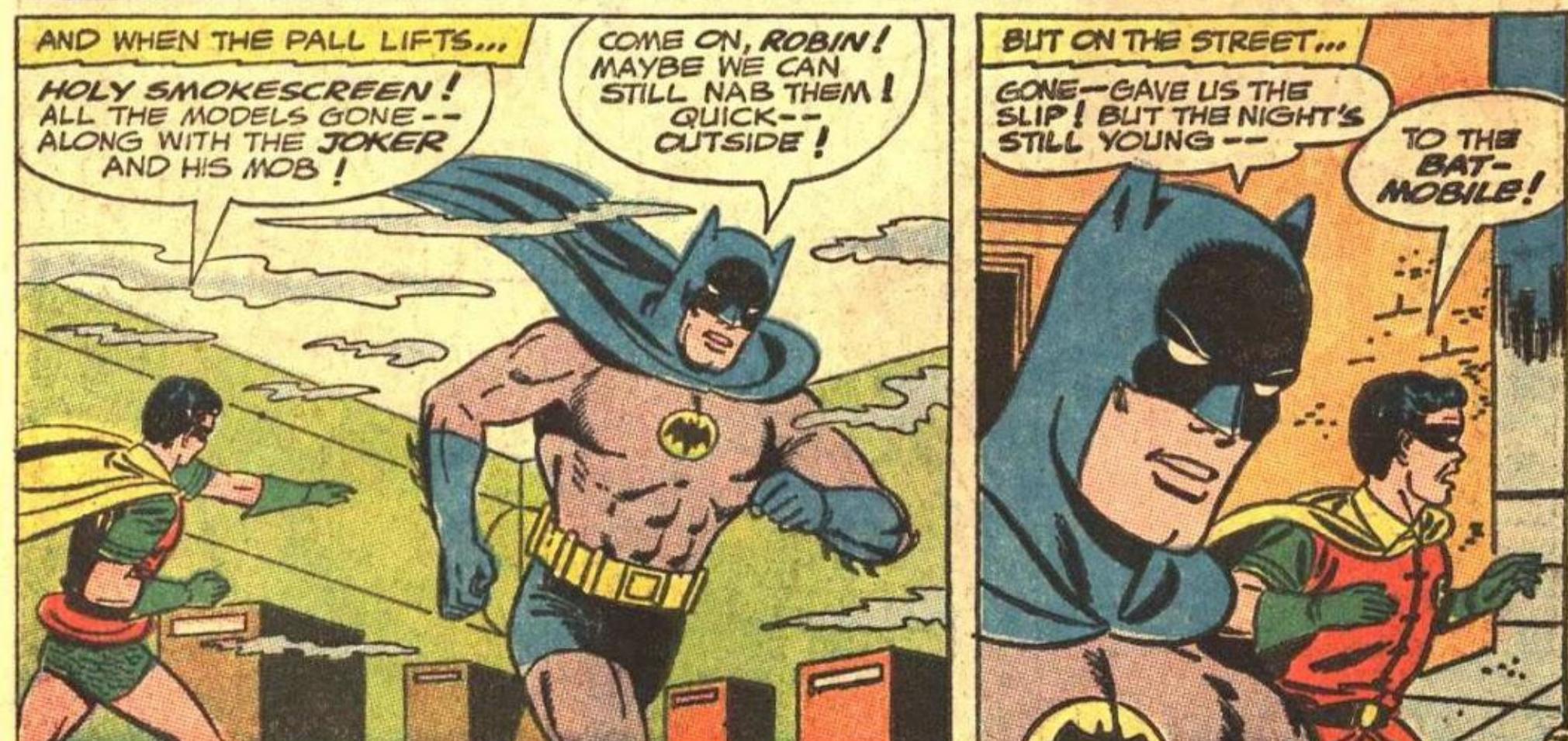


VERY CLEVER OF YOU TO BE SO AGILE, MY SLEUTHY FRIENDS, BUT YOU HAVEN'T LAID HANDS ON THE JOKER YET, HAVE YOU?

YANKING ANOTHER OF THOSE LEVERS ALONGSIDE HIM IN THAT CAR!







IN DUE COURSE, AFTER A GRIM HUNT THROUGH THE CITY...

HE'S MADE HIMSELF SCARCE ALL RIGHT, BATMAN! LEFT US EMPTY-HANDED!

I HAVE AN IDEA! WHEN THE JOKER STARTS A CRIME SCHEME, HE CARRIES IT OUT. WITH FANATICAL THOROUGHNESS! LISTEN...

HE STOLE ALL THE ORIGINAL MODELS AT THE EXHIBIT! BUT I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT THERE'S ONE IMPORTANT MODEL THAT DIDN'T APPEAR AT THE EXHIBIT-- THE MODEL OF THE FIRST ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER! THE INVENTOR IS STILL LIVING IN GOTHAM CITY...

I READ ABOUT HIM IN A RECENT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE-- PHILIP PERRY! UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THE JOKER IS BOUND TO TRY AND STEAL PERRY'S ORIGINAL MODEL TO COMPLETE HIS COLLECTION!

ONLY ONE WAY TO SEE IF YOU'VE MADE THE RIGHT GUESS, BAT-MAN--



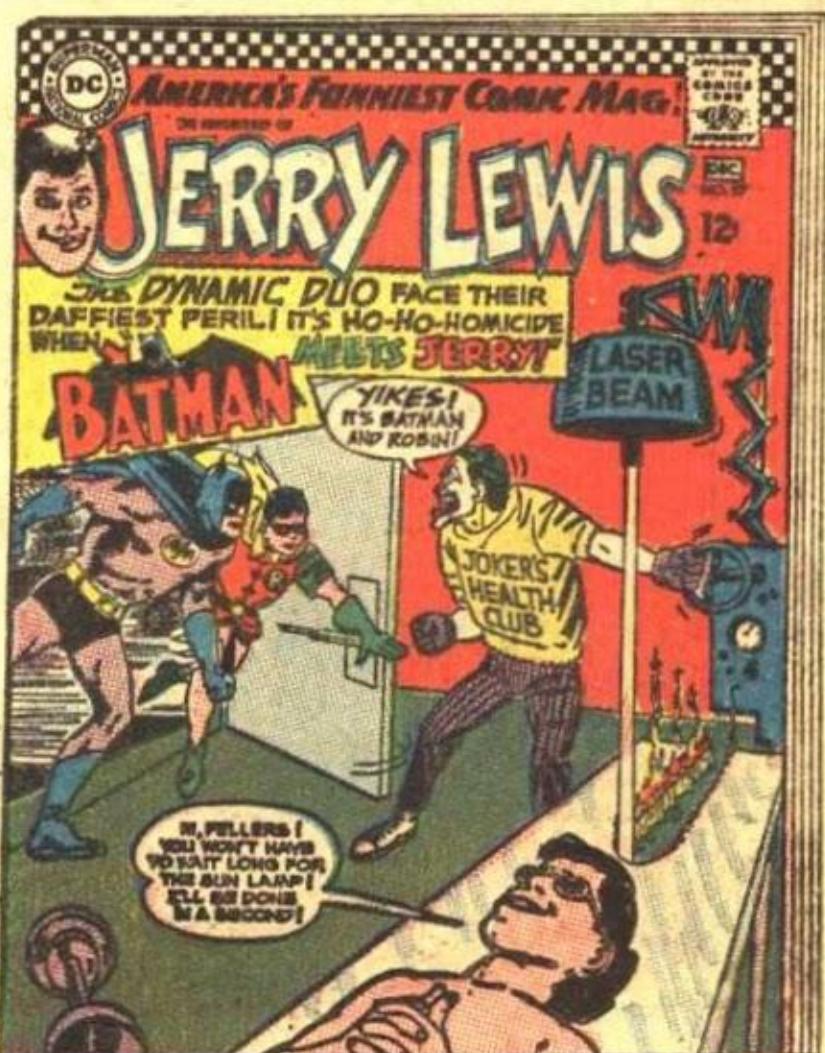
--AND THAT'S TO SPEED OVER TO PERRY'S PLACE--AND HOPE TO GET THERE BEFORE LAUGHING BOY DOES!



STORY CONTINUES ON 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING

HOLY PARTNERSHIP!  
the KING OF THE KOOKS  
joins the CAPED CRUSADER!  
BUT WHEN

"BATMAN MEETS JERRY"  
HE ALMOST LAUGHS HIMSELF TO DEATH--  
AND SO WILL YOU! ON SALE SEPT 20<sup>th</sup>



# LOST--A FREE EDUCATION!

HOW COME YOU WEREN'T IN SCHOOL TODAY, TIM?

I WAS BUSY LINING UP A JOB FOR MYSELF. I'M GONNA QUIT SCHOOL, BINKY!

HECK, I WANT TO MAKE SOME MONEY NOW AND HAVE A GOOD TIME INSTEAD OF GETTING SOME MORE BOOK KNOWLEDGE.

YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE, TIM. YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF AND TO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU TO CONTINUE IN SCHOOL...



YOU'RE THROWING AWAY A WONDERFUL FREE EDUCATION THAT MANY PEOPLE TODAY WOULD GIVE THEIR EYE-TEETH TO HAVE.

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING, BINKY...

LOOK AT ME! I HAD THE SAME IDEA FIVE YEARS AGO. SO I GOT A JOB WITH SAWYER'S AND WAS ON TOP OF THE WORLD.

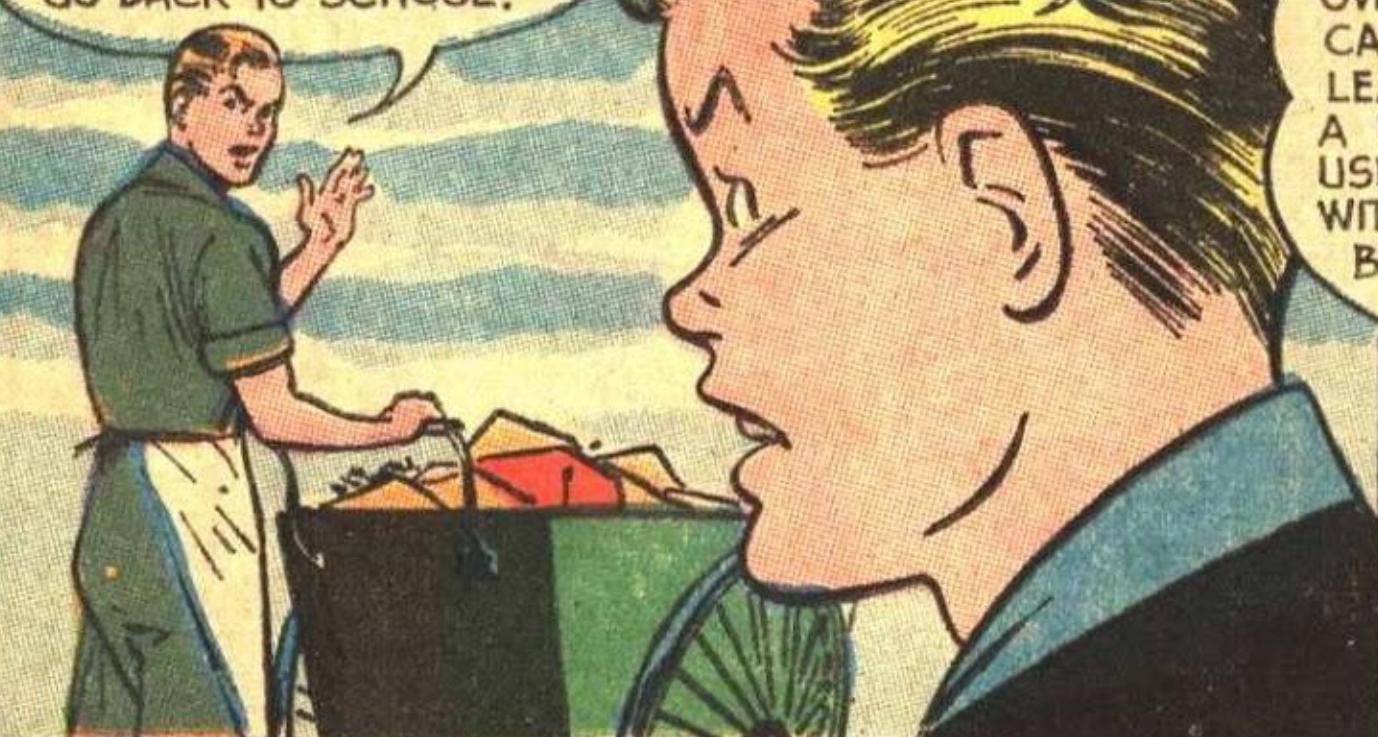
AND WHAT HAPPENED? ALL MY CLASSMATES WHO FINISHED SCHOOL HAVE GOOD JOBS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT—AND I'M STILL AN ERRAND BOY AT SAWYER'S, WITH NO PLACE TO GO!



NOW I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO NIGHT SCHOOL TO CATCH UP. DON'T BE A CHUMP, TIM! GO BACK TO SCHOOL!

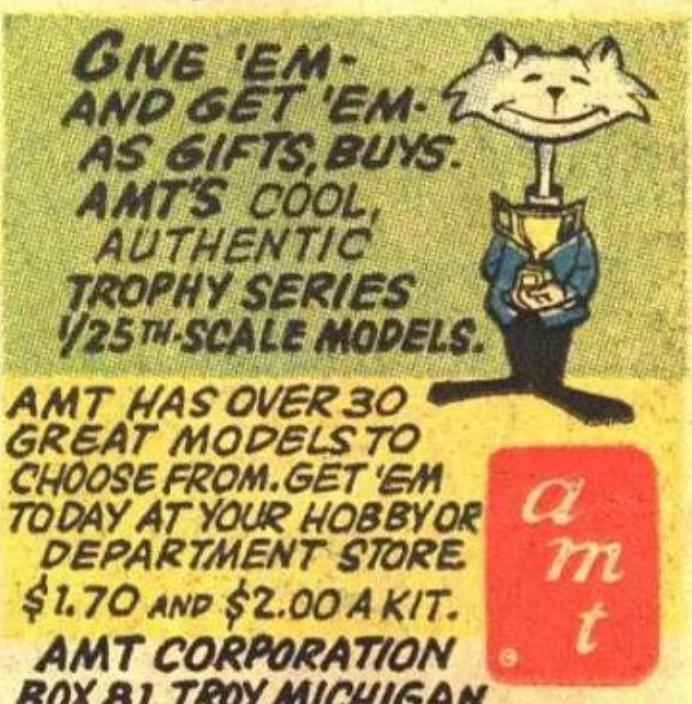
WELL... MAYBE I OUGHT TO THINK IT OVER!

YES, EVERYBODY SHOULD THINK IT OVER--AND REMEMBER THAT EDUCATION IS MORE THAN PUTTING LEARNING INTO YOUR HEAD. IT MAKES A BETTER PERSON OF YOU--A MORE USEFUL CITIZEN, ABLE TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS IN LIFE YOU'LL BE FACED WITH!



# AMT makes the Party

JIM AND  
EDDIE  
SEARCH  
FOR A  
SPECIAL  
BIRTHDAY  
GIFT FOR  
THEIR  
PAL.



He's **NOT** as STRONG as.. **SUPERMAN**  
as BRAINY as.. **BATMAN**  
as FAST as... **the FLASH**  
as SMALL as.. **the ATOM**  
or as WET as.. **AQUAMAN!**

WHAT  
IS HE?

HE'S THE ONE,  
THE ONLY,  
**ORIGINAL**  
**PLASTIC MAN!**

THE SLYEST,  
SLIPPERY-EST,  
SLINKY-EST  
**SUPER-HERO**  
OF THEM ALL!

MAKING HIS TRIUMPHANT  
RETURN IN  
**BRAND-NEW**  
**EXPLOITS!**

ON SALE SEPT. 22nd



# the JOKER'S ORIGINAL ROBBERIES-- PART 2

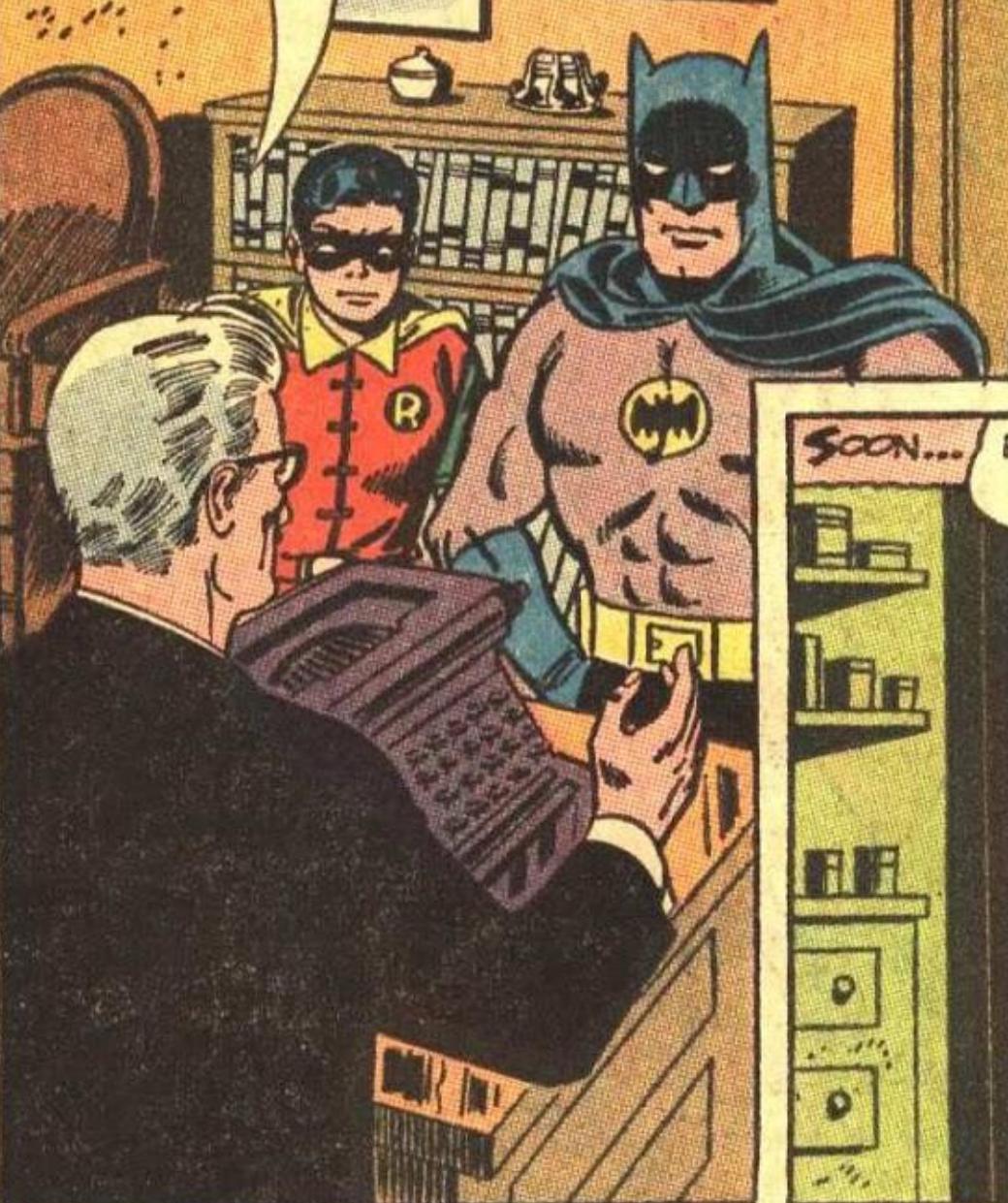
HURRYING TO THE HOME OF ELDERLY INVENTOR PHILIP PERRY, THE CAPED CRUSADERS DISCOVER, NOT THEIR QUARRY, BUT INSTEAD A SURPRISING PIECE OF INFORMATION!..

...AND I MUST CONFESS THAT THE VERY FIRST ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER WAS NOT THIS MODEL OF MINE! SOMEBODY BUILT ONE SIX MONTHS BEFORE I DID--A MAN NAMED HAMILTON TYNE! HE LIVES IN GOTHAM CITY TOO--I CAN GIVE YOU HIS ADDRESS!

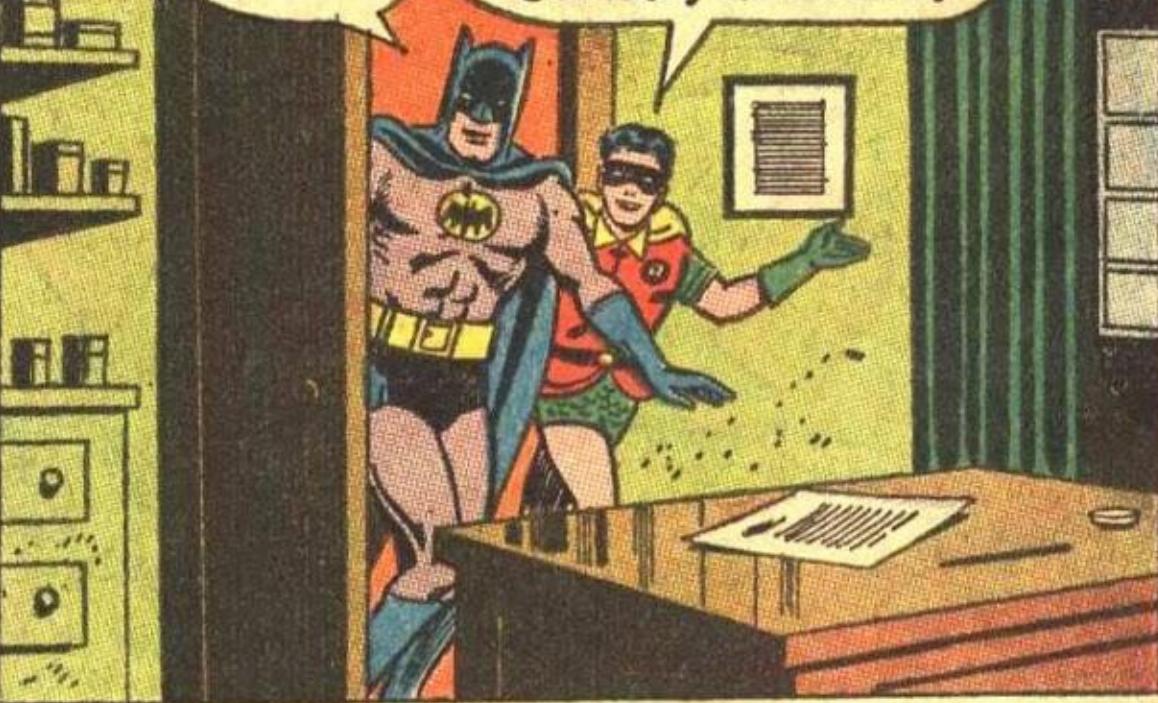
THANKS,  
MR. PERRY--  
THIS IS URGENT!

ONCE AGAIN THE BATMOBILE SCREAMS ACROSS THE CITY...

GO GET 'EM,  
BATMAN  
AND ROBIN!



SOON... NOBODY HOME... LOOKS LIKE THIS ONCE WE'RE A STEP AHEAD OF THE JOKER, BATMAN!

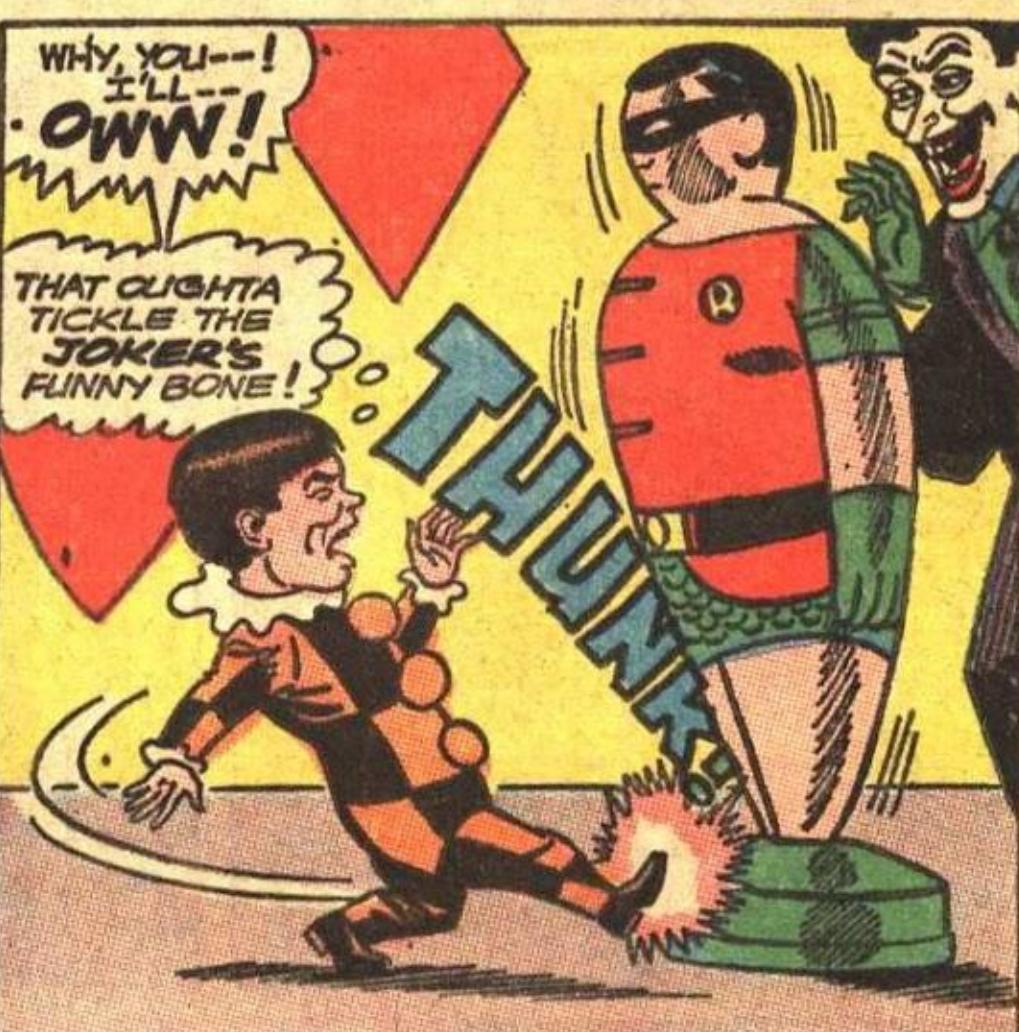


MEANWHILE, HARD-WORKING THIEVES  
RELAX IN THE JOKER'S HIDE-OUT...

YOU SEE GAGGY'S LATEST, FELLERS?  
HE'S MADE HIMSELF A LIFE-SIZE  
DUPLICATE OF HIS MORTAL ENEMY  
ROBIN--



--AND HE ATTACKS  
IT EVERY CHANCE  
HE GETS!



GAGGY, IF BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN FIGURE OUT THE CLUB I'VE GIVEN THEM IN THIS LETTER I'M MAILING TO A NEWSPAPER, YOU'LL SOON HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE AT THE BOY WONDER!

I'LL "BOY WONDER" HIM, BOSS!



NEXT DAY, IN THE GOTHAM TIMES...

"Dear BATMAN AND ROBIN-- Are your wits as slow as your fists? My next ORIGINAL CAPER will be the greatest steal in History! Get the point? (Ha Ha!) THE JOKER

WHAT CAN THAT GAG MEAN, BATMAN?



THE JOKER'S TAUNTING US! HE CAN'T RESIST CROWING OVER HIS RECENT SUCCESSES AGAINST US! WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT THIS LETTER OF HIS, ROBIN! THE 'GREATEST STEAL IN HISTORY'..? WAIT A SEC--!

THE ORIGINAL CITY HALL OF GOTHAM CITY-- THERE'S A CEREMONY TODAY OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO DEDICATE IT AS AN OFFICIAL MONUMENT--!

BATMAN, YOU'VE HIT IT! THE "POINT" IN THE LETTER--



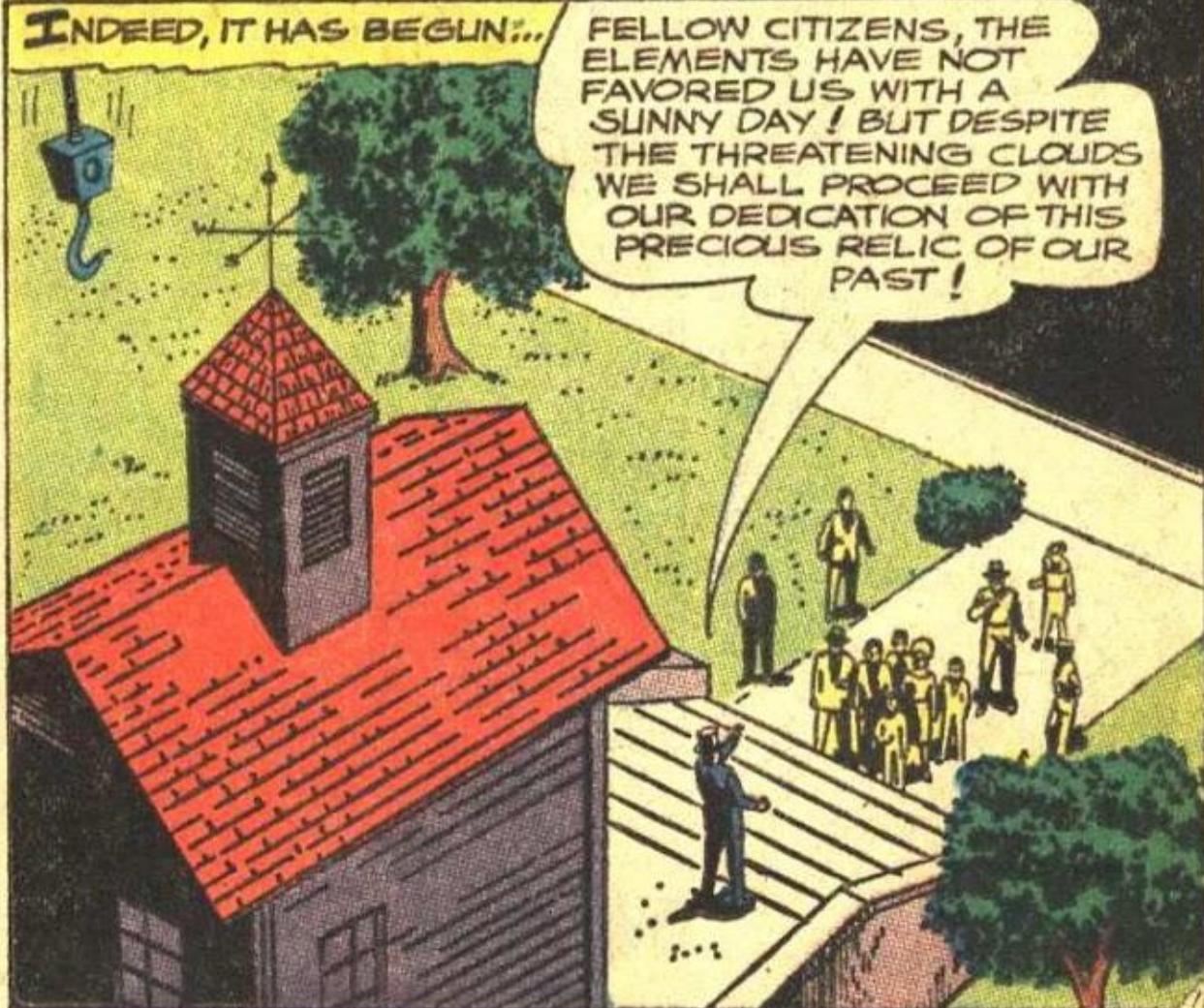
--MUST BE THE JOKER'S WAY OF REFERRING TO THE OLD CITY HALL'S STEEPLE!

LET'S GET GOING! THE CEREMONY IS ON NOW!



INDEED, IT HAS BEGUN...

FELLOW CITIZENS, THE ELEMENTS HAVE NOT FAVORED US WITH A SUNNY DAY! BUT DESPITE THE THREATENING CLOUDS WE SHALL PROCEED WITH OUR DEDICATION OF THIS PRECIOUS RELIC OF OUR PAST!



THEN, INCREDIBLY...

I REMEMBER--  
(GULP!)  
GREAT  
THUNDERATION!

THE  
WHOLE  
BUILDING'S  
GOING UP  
IN THE  
AIR!

WHAT'S  
HAP-  
PENING?!

THE JOKER'S  
LAUGH!  
QUICK, ROBIN--  
WE CAN'T  
LET HIM  
GET AWAY  
WITH THIS!

LIKE AROUSED TIGERS,  
THE TWO MASKED  
CRIME-FIGHTERS  
CATAPULT THEMSELVES  
HIGH INTO THE AIR...

GRAB ON,  
ROBIN!

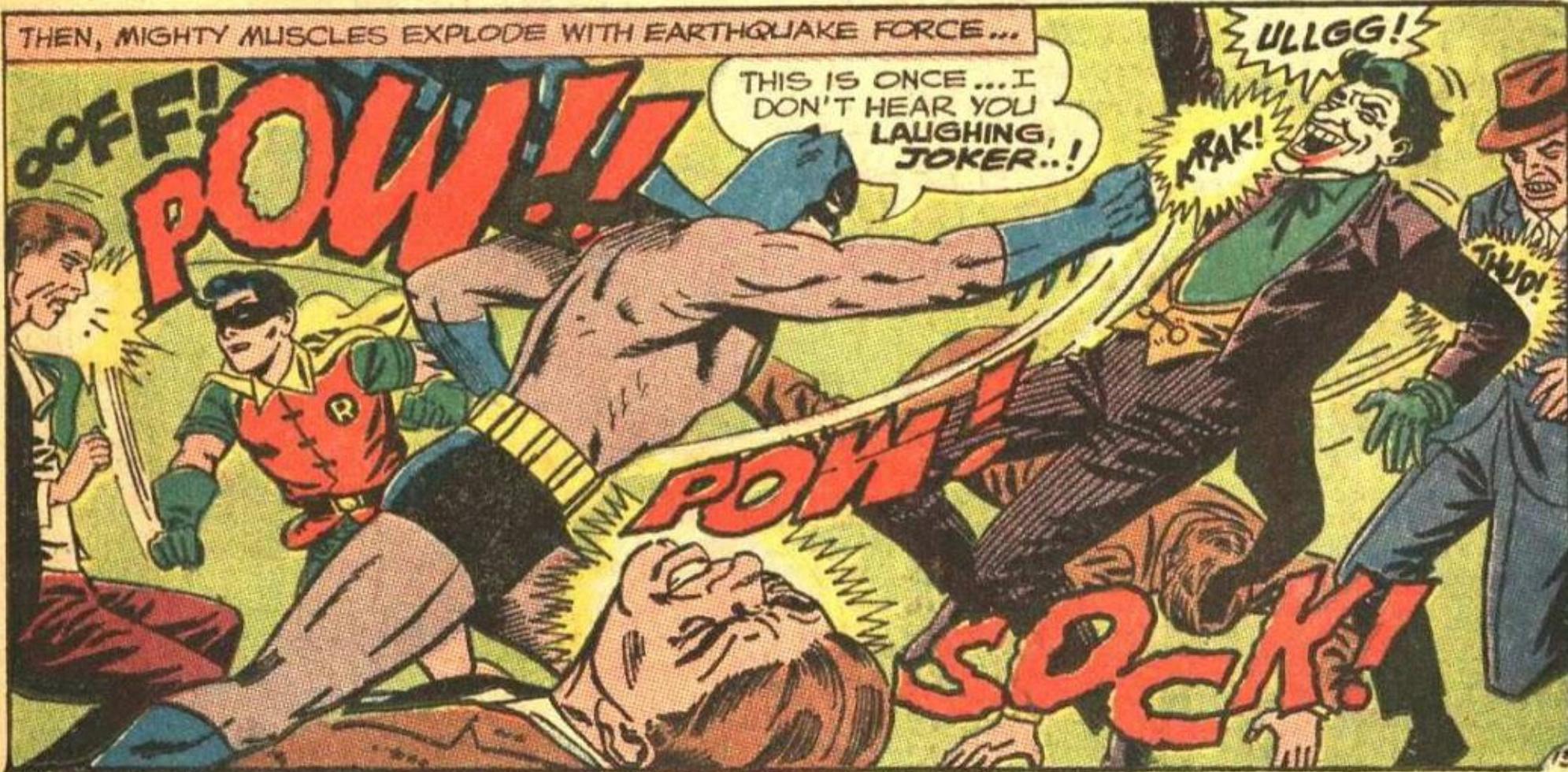
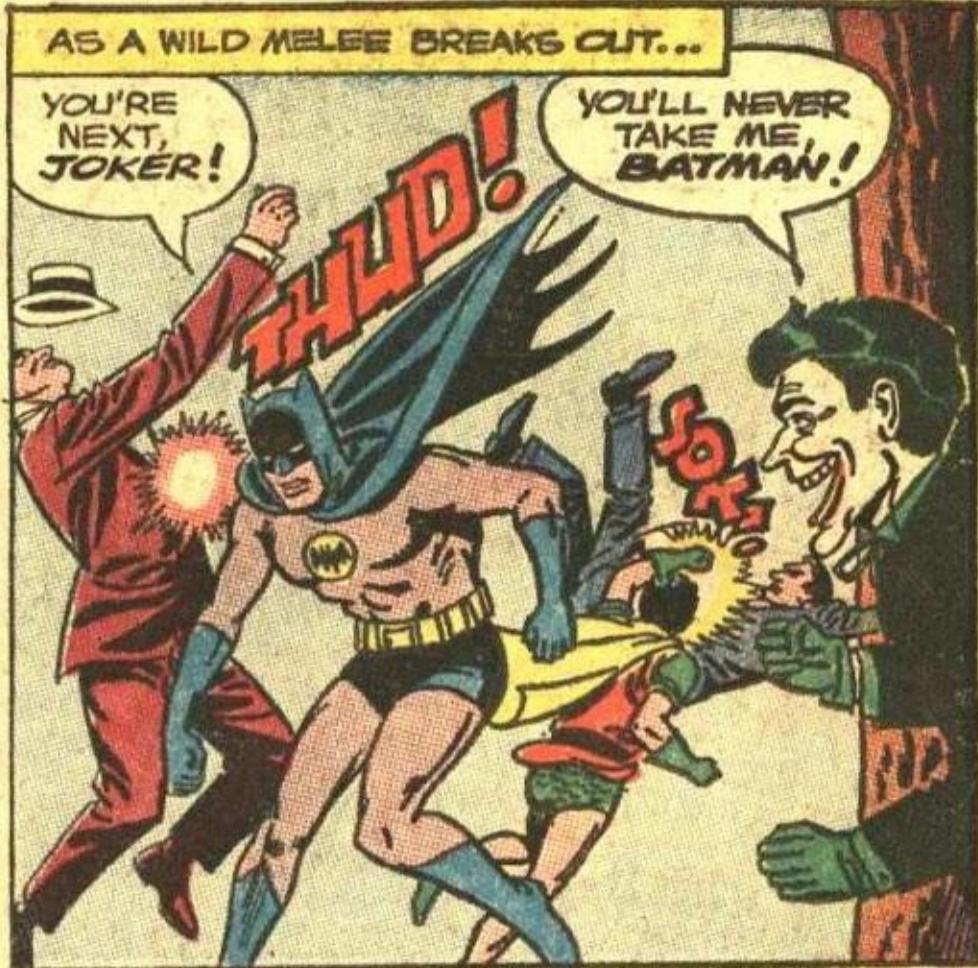
HAHAHAHAHO THIS IS THE  
CLIMAX OF  
MY CAREER! TO STEAL THE  
CITY HALL--THE ORIGINAL  
CITY HALL--RIGHT UNDER  
THE MAYOR'S NOSE! HAHA!  
WHAT A COUP!

ON A PREPARED SITE, CARE-  
FULLY CAMOUFLAGED TO AVOID  
DETECTION FROM THE AIR,  
SOON AFTER...

HOW ABOUT IT,  
GAGGY?  
DIDN'T I SAY  
THIS WOULD  
TOP ALL?

YOU SURE GOT  
AN ORIGINAL  
WAY OF  
COMMITTING  
CRIMES, BOSS!  
YAH!!

...  
...  
...



WHAT'LL I DO WITH  
THIS ONE, BATMAN?  
HE'S DEAD TO THE  
WORLD!

HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT  
WHEN HE COMES TO,  
ROBIN! BY THAT  
TIME ...

...HE'LL BE IN A PLACE  
WHERE THEY TAKE CARE  
OF ALL GUESTS AND  
WATCH OVER THEM--  
TWENTY-FOUR HOURS  
A DAY!

I GET YOU,  
BATMAN!  
JAIL--JAIL--  
THE GANG'S  
ALL HERE!



SURE ENOUGH, IN DUE COURSE ... AFTER ALL THE EXCITEMENT HAS DIED DOWN AND THE LOOT RECOVERED...

HOW I HATE JAIL ! SAY SOMETHING--DO SOMETHING--TO MAKE ME LAUGH, GAGGY !

MAKE YOU LAUGH ? HAVE YOU TAKEN A LOOK AT ME, BOSS ?



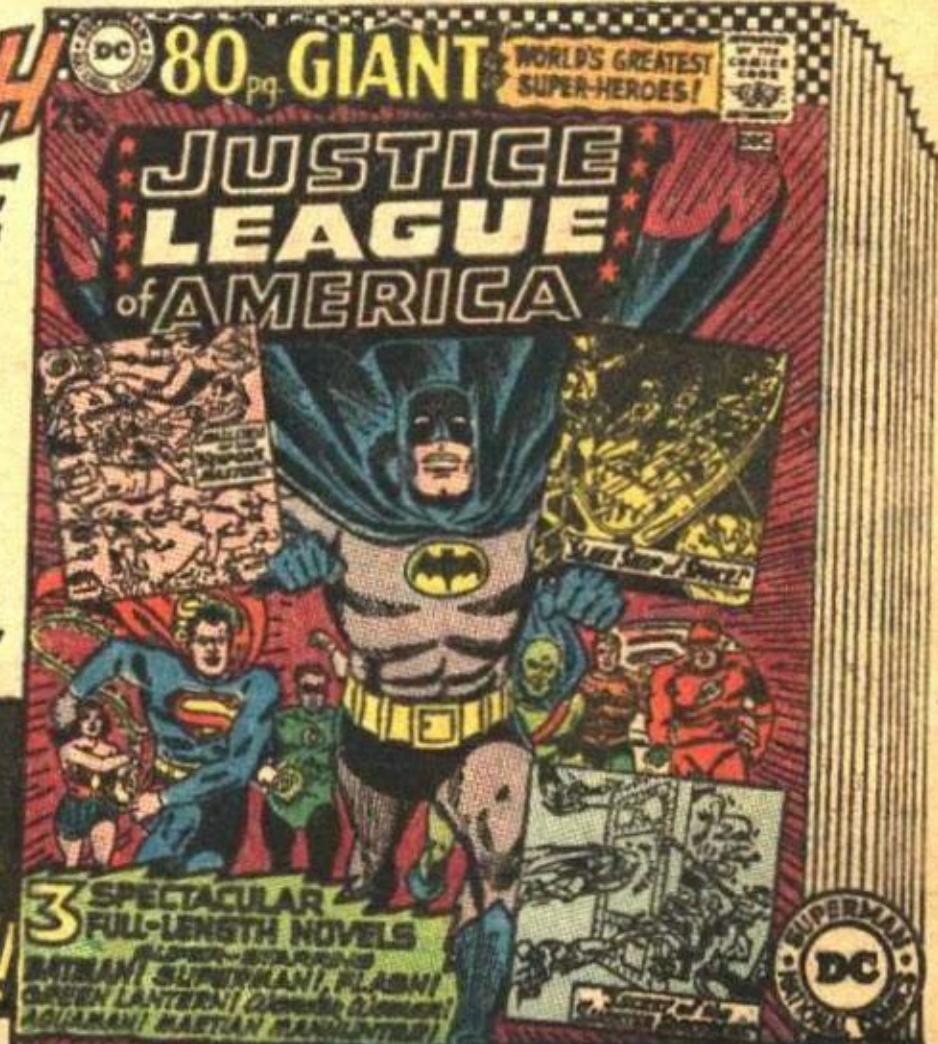
MY-MY ! I DID THAT TO YOU ?! MY POOR LITTLE PAL -- !

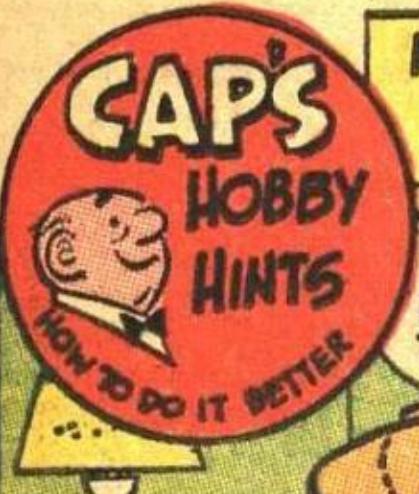
AWW--IT WAS NOTHING, BOSS ! ALL IN THE LINE OF DUTY ! GAGGY THE SOLDIER ! HEH HEH !



**SECOND** SUPER-SMASH  
ISSUE OF THE  
**ULTIMATE**  
**UTMOST** IN  
COMIC MAGAZINES--

ANOTHER HALL OF FAME  
SELECTION OF STAR-STUDDED  
SUPER-SPECTACULAR CLASSICS!  
NOW ON SALE EVERYWHERE!





KIDS! MAIL IN YOUR HOBBY HINTS TO: CAP'S, NATIONAL COMICS.  
575 Lexington Ave. New York, N.Y. 10022  
IF PUBLISHED, YOU WILL RECEIVE \$5 AND THE ORIGINAL ART.

HOW TO DO IT BETTER

THANKS TO-  
ROGER SMITH  
HOUSTON, TEXAS.

6434

HENRY  
BOLTHOFF

WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING WITH ALL  
THAT TINFOIL?

I USE IT ON  
MY MODELS. IT  
LOOKS KEEN.

HOW DO YOU  
DO THAT?

I CUT STRIPS OF TINFOIL, IN  
ANY SHAPE I WANT, AND CEMENT  
THEM TO MY MODELS.

AND THE TINFOIL IS SOFT  
ENOUGH TO MAKE ALL  
KINDS OF DESIGNS  
ON IT WITH A BALL  
POINTED PEN!

LOOKS  
GREAT.

CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK

WOW!  
SON, THIS IS  
THE MOST FUN  
I'VE HAD IN  
YEARS!

HMM! DAD NEVER  
THOUGHT OF GETTING  
ME THIS GREAT TRAIN  
'TIL I SHOWED HIM MY  
COLOSSAL NEW LIONEL  
CATALOG...IT REALLY  
SOLD HIM.

NOW I'M GONNA  
MAKE SURE DAD SEES  
THE HO RACEWAY SETS  
IN MY CATALOG...  
YOU NEVER KNOW  
'TIL YOU TRY...  
HEE-HEE!

LIONEL

© 1958 Lionel Toy Corporation. All rights reserved.

GET A GREAT NEW LIONEL CATALOG FOR YOUR DAD. 478 FINE TOYS, TRAINS, RACEWAYS, SCIENCE SETS, TELESCOPES,  
PHONOGRAHS. SEND 25c, YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO DEPT. 74-A, LIONEL TOY CORPORATION, HILLSIDE, NEW JERSEY.

# LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor:

Holy pulchritude! As if James Bond and his bunch didn't have enough willowy villainesses traipsing after them, now *Batman* and *Robin* have to get into the act, too! Well, the world of derring-do may be painfully replete with these malicious minxes, but despite this fact, I found the appearance of *Poison Ivy* (*Batman* 181) quite appealing. For several reasons:

I think the best thing in her favor is that she lacks the real capacity for evil. To me, she appeared as a little child, thoroughly spoiled by over-indulgent parents, who were able and willing to cater to her whims. She appeared bored with life, never having to face its material challenges, and chose to create her own through a life of crime. That is a refreshing change, and in itself justifies the use of a much stereotyped character.

A second big point in her favor is her unpretentious (hopefully) claim of having committed the perfect crime. I don't know how you feel, but if I were *Batman* this statement would give me fits, especially after becoming somewhat painfully aware of her capabilities. If you refuse to elaborate on *Poison Ivy's* "perfect crime" I swear by the mighty *batmobile*, I'll come to your offices with half of fandom to picket and protest!

Last but certainly not least is Bob Kane's excellent rendition of *Poison Ivy* and her three counterparts, *Silken Spider*, *Tiger Moth*, and *Dragon Fly*!

—Bob Butts, South Bend, Ind.

(Your *Poison Ivy* character analysis sounds like a man of the world who knows all about the women of the world. You're a fellow to be envied!—Editor)

\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

I can just imagine myself listening to the thoughts of writer Bob Kanigher as he accumulates ideas for the *Batman* story, "Beware of—*Poison Ivy*!" "Now let's see," he says to himself, "first of all, I need a new villain but what will be his gimmick? So in turn he invents *Poison Ivy*. "Now," he says to himself, "what if we present a romance between *Batman* and *Poison Ivy* and to make it even more spicy let's add *Bruce Wayne* to bring in a touch of irony." On top of this he says to himself, "Let's add three co-star deadly villainous females." Then putting all of these elements together he rounds out a 12 page story called "Beware of—*Poison Ivy*" and says, "The readers are going to love this one," but do they? I for one didn't! With all the plots, sub-plots, and sub-sub-plots the reader has the feeling that the story was messily put together which it was. Instead, you should have had another story before this one to show *Poison Ivy's* personality and ability. Why with so many women villains in one story it wasn't hard to be confused!

—J. Burnett, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

(Victor Hugo's admonition that women are "the enigma of the 19th century" could just as well be applied to the 20th!—Editor)

\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

For the second issue in a row of *Batman*, Robert Kanigher has scored with a great story. "Beware of—*Poison Ivy*" is fabulous, *Poison Ivy* herself is fabulous, the script—plot, dialogue, characterization, and most of

all, the untied strings—is fabulous, Bob Kane's work is fabulous and the inking is pretty good, too.

Awhile ago, I asked if you were ever going to bring back the *Cat-Woman* (along with a bunch of old *Batman* foes) and you replied that instead of relying only on old villains you were introducing some new ones, including *Poison Ivy*. Well, now as far as I'm concerned, *Cat-Woman* can stick to the 80-Page *Batman Giants* forever. *Ivy* is everything *C-W* was, plus more. She steals not so much for the money as for the fame, she was a crush on *Batman*, and she is a pretty slick operator, but she also goes for *Bruce Wayne*, which the *Cat-Woman* never did, and she has a lot better costume than *C-W* (man, does she have a better outfit!). Here's one reader who hopes that *Poison Ivy* breaks out many times in the future.

The *Mystery Analysts* story, "Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect," is a perfect compliment to the first. You have finally reached the potential greatness the series has promised, but never fulfilled. The script was great (whodunit? I can't recognize the style. My stab in the dark is for Bill Finger) and it gave us a real mystery and some great detection on the part of the *Dynamic Detective*. Fine action scenes, too. Of course, Sid Greene's inking can't be beat and editorial problems or not, I want him doing it ALL! (Ah, how good it feels to sit here 3000 miles away and tell you what to do.)

—Mike Friedrich, Castro Valley, Calif.

(You put the wrong (Bill) Finger on the writer of the *Mystery Analysts* story. You out-Foxed yourself, in a Gardner sort of way!—Editor)

\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

Not meaning to complain or anything, but the cover of the June *Batman* just wasn't up to par. To start with, the "Trouble between the Dynamic Duo" wasn't much, so why such angry looks on B&R? "The Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect" was fair as far as story goes, but Bob Kane's art was just FAB, GEAR & A-OK on top o' that! The *Poison Ivy* story was great—but why she wants to be acknowledged as a criminal is beyond me—she could've just gone scot-free except for telling everybody she was a BADGUY. I liked the romantic interest—kinda like jello—slight but not too slight! Anyhoo, I'm just ITCHIN' to see *Poison Ivy* again!

—Peter Rost, Cheshire, Conn.

\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

In your *Batman* comic mag, 181, the story "Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect" made mention of a *Sherlock Award*. Is there such a thing? And if so could you tell me more about it?

—William Lee Wesselhoff, DeKalb, Ill.

(The *Sherlock* was a take-off on the *Edgar* (for Edgar Allan Poe) awarded annually by the *Mystery Writers of America* for the best detective-mystery stories of the year.—Editor)

\*\*\*

Address all communications regarding this magazine to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, 10022. Please send communications concerning the *Batman-TV* program directly to your local TV station!

# BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

AN EXPLOSION IN A HOTEL ROOM IN  
RESORT CITY-- KNOCKING OUT  
BATMAN!...

A BLOW ON THE HEAD IN GOTHAM  
CITY-- FELLING ROBIN!...



THESE APPARENTLY UNRELATED EVENTS ARE  
ACTUALLY TWO LINKS IN THE STRANGE  
CASE WHICH HAS POLICE COMMISSIONER  
GORDON MARKED FOR DEATH-- SOME-  
WHERE OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY!

WITHOUT CLUES-- SUFFERING INJURIES  
THEY HAVE SUSTAINED IN THE LINE OF  
DUTY-- BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE  
HARD-PRESSED TO INTERCEPT THE  
GRIM REAPER FROM CARRYING OUT--

COMMISSIONER  
GORDON'S **Death-Threat!**

IT IS EARLY EVENING IN THE GOTHAM CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS. A DARK, GRIM FIGURE STRIDES DOWN THE CORRIDOR -- AS A VOICE RINGS OUT ...

BATMAN! COMMISSIONER GORDON JUST PHONED FROM RESORT CITY ASKING YOU TO CALL HIM -- ON A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!

HE SAYS TO TELL YOU -- IT'S HIS LIFE AND HIS DEATH!

WHOEVER I'LL CALL FROM HIS PRIVATE OFFICE! CONNECT ME WITH HIM, PLEASE!



AS THE CALL IS PUT THROUGH-- IN THE HOTEL ROOM WHERE THE POLICE COMMISSIONER IS VACATIONING ...

BATMAN! THANK HEAVEN! MY LIFE IS IN DEADLY DANGER! I'M IN ROOM 721, HIDING OUT--BECAUSE FORTY YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS A ROOKIE COP, I CAUGHT A CROOK NAMED FRED PURLEY ROBBING THE FOXCROFT JEWEL SALON! THAT MADE HIM A FOUR-TIME LOSER...

"JUDGE PARKER THREW THE BOOK AT HIM..."

I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW ON FOURTH OFFENDERS-- TO LIFE IM- PRISONMENT!



"THEN, AS PURLEY RANTED AND RAGED WHILE BEING TAKEN FROM THE COURT- ROOM..."

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, GORDON! I'M GONNA GET YOU FOR THIS-- SOMEDAY... SOMEHOW...



A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO I READ IN THE PAPERS HE WAS BEING PAROLED-- PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR! I HAD A ROUND OF PUBLIC APPEARANCES TO MAKE AND FORGOT ABOUT TILL NOW-- WHEN I RECALLED HIS FORTY-YEAR OLD THREAT! IT MAY HAVE BEEN A CRACKPOT THREAT BUT--

YOU CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES, COMMISSIONER! STAY WHERE YOU ARE! I'M COMING RIGHT DOWN! DON'T LET ANYONE IN BUT ME! TOGETHER, WE'LL FIGURE OUT A WAY TO KEEP YOU SAFE!



AS THE CALL IS  
COMPLETED...

I SURE FOOLED, BAT-  
MAN, COMMISSIONER!  
I TRAINED MY VOICE  
TO SOUND EXACTLY  
LIKE YOURS--AND  
NOW IT'S PAYING  
OFF!

BATMAN WAS DUPED  
INTO BELIEVING HE  
WAS TALKING TO ME--  
AND WILL COME DOWN  
HERE TO MEET HIS  
DEATH!

SOON, THE BATCOPTER  
IS LIFTING OVER  
GOTHAM CITY,  
HUMMING SOUTHWARD...

I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE  
TIME TO TELL ROBIN  
WHAT'S GOING ON--  
SO I LEFT HIM A NOTE  
IN THE BATCAVE...

A HALF-HOUR LATER...

COMMISSIONER  
GORDON-- IT'S  
BATMAN!  
OPEN UP--  
LET ME IN!

NO ANSWER! MORE RAPPING--  
AND STILL NO RESPONSE!

HE'D BE TOO APPREHENSIVE  
TO SLEEP-- ESPECIALLY  
WITH ME COMING TO MEET  
HIM! I DON'T LIKE THE  
LOOKS OF THIS... I'LL  
OPEN THE LOCKED DOOR  
WITH MY ELECTRONIC  
SKELETON KEY...

THE ROOM'S DARK! I'M MORE CERTAIN  
THAN EVER THAT THERE'S SOMETHING  
SHADY ABOUT THIS WHOLE AFFAIR!  
I'LL JUST REACH IN A HAND AND TURN  
ON THE LIGHT-SWITCH...

NEXT INSTANT...

BOOBY-  
TRAPPED!

AAA-BAAM!

IN GOTHAM CITY, SOME TIME LATER...

WONDER WHY BATMAN SLICED AIR FOR RESORT CITY? HE SAID HE WENT ON BUSINESS--THAT I WAS TO RIDE THE LONESOME TRAIL TONIGHT. I JUST HOPE I SEE SOME ACTION...OH! OH!



HEY--IT'S ROBIN!

WE GOT RID OF BATMAN--  
BUT HIS SIDEKICK IS  
STILL WITH US!



BRAKES SQUEAL! TIRES SCREECH! THE BATMOBILE SWERVES AND...

NOTHING LIKE USING  
ONE HOOD--TO  
CATCH THREE  
HOODS!

PUMP  
LEAD  
INTO HIM!



I FEEL  
REAL SHARP  
TONIGHT,  
BOYS--SO  
I'LL CUT YOU  
IN ON THE  
ACTION!

NOW I'LL SERVE  
UP A HELPING  
OF SOLES!

A THIRD GUN BLASTS--BUT...

WHAT A  
CONVENIENT  
PLACE TO  
PUT A  
WATER  
HYDRANT!

WHAM!

WANG!

FROM  
HIS  
UTILITY  
BELT  
THE  
POY  
WONDER  
LIFTS  
OUT A  
TOOL  
AND WITH  
DEFT  
HANDS...

"WATER" YOU GOING  
TO DO NOW, FELLA?

WHOOSH!

A  
QUICK  
WRENCH  
TIGHTENS  
THE  
HYDRANT  
AND  
THEN...

HERE'S WHERE  
I GET A GRIP  
ON A DRIP!

WHEEEEEE

THEN, JUST AS HIS FIST RAMS HOME...

ROBIN-- NO, NO!  
STOP IT!

HUH? THAT'S POLICE  
COMMISSIONER GORDON'S  
VOICE!

KRUNK!

COMMISSIONER,  
WHAT ARE YOU,  
DOING HERE--?  
EH? YOU AREN'T--

SLUG  
HIM!!

WHAPP!



THAT WAS A SMART TRICK, PURLEY!  
NOW WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH THE  
REST OF OUR PLAN--AND FINISH  
OFF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER!



SOMEWHAT LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER, AT  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

I WANT TO SEE THE FORTY-YEAR  
OLD FILES ON JEWEL ROBBERIES!  
COMMISSIONER GORDON'S  
IN SERIOUS TROUBLE AND--  
ROBIN-- WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING HERE?

I CAME  
IN TO  
REPORT A  
ROBBERY  
AT THE  
FOXCROFT  
JEWEL  
SALON.  
AND WHAT'S  
THAT ABOUT  
COMMISSIONER  
GORDON--?

AS EACH OF THE CRIME-BUSTING COMPANIONS  
TELLS HIS STORY...

...AND THAT CROOK  
IMITATED THE  
COMMISSIONER'S  
VOICE SO PERFECTLY,  
I FELL FOR IT--WITH  
A RAP ON THE BACK  
OF THE HEAD!

AND MY LEFT HAND'S IN  
BAD SHAPE FROM THE  
EXPLOSION! THE  
FOXCROFT JEWELRY  
STORE--AND THE  
COMMISSIONER!  
EVERYTHING'S  
BEGINNING TO  
ADD UP!



CONTINUED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING.

## BOBBY'S SECRET COLLECTION

DICK AND DAVE ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT BOBBY HAS BEEN HIDING...



OKAY, YOU CAUGHT ME. TAKE A LOOK AT MY **RENEWAL** COLLECTOR'S SHOWCASE MODELS. THEY'RE AUTHENTICALLY DETAILED FROM BUMPER TO BUMPER AND YOU GET A SPECIAL DISPLAY CASE WITH EACH CAR KIT.



LOOK... STICK SHIFT, CHROME ACCESSORIES AND CRYSTAL-CLEAR WINDSHIELDS! AND EVERY PART'S IN ITS PROPER COLOR. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAINT 'EM.



YOU GET ONE OF THESE 16" WALL BRACKETS **FREE** WITH EVERY 4 KITS. AND THERE ARE 24 GREAT MODELS. THEY'RE EASY TO BUILD. SO WHY DON'T YOU GUYS START COLLECTING THEM, TOO?



**R by RENWAL**  
SEND 10¢ FOR EXCITING COLOR CATALOGUE OF ALL 24 MODELS!  
RENEWAL PRODUCTS, INC.  
Dept MC-1, Minola, N.Y.

Kits at 79¢, 89¢, 99¢, including Showcase.



IN THE AIR HE PILOTS TONS OF JETCRAFT AT SPEEDS FASTER THAN SOUND

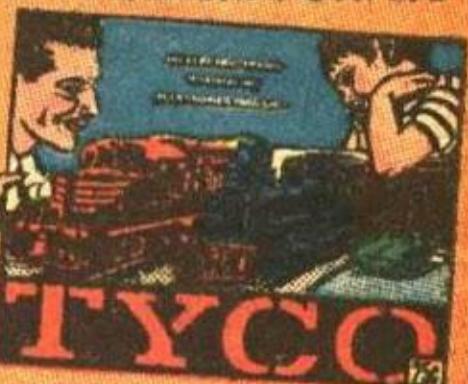


OFF DUTY... HIS HOBBY IS HO-SCALE MODEL RAILROADING... AND HIS CHOICE IS TYCO!

ONLY TYCO COVERS OVER A CENTURY OF RAILROADING WITH SCALE PERFECT LOCOMOTIVES AND CARS RANGING FROM THE 1860's --- TO GIANT DIESELS AND STREAMLINERS YOU'LL SEE ON THE ROADS FOR YEARS TO COME



JOE JET SAYS: FOR THE FUN OF HO SCALE MODEL RAILROADING AT ITS BEST, MAKE IT TYCO!



ALSO FROM TYCO... THE MOST ACTION-PACKED ROAD RACING SETS IN HO SCALE. SEE YOUR DEALER!



Make it...

IF YOUR DEALER IS OUT OF STOCK ON TYCO CATALOGS, SEND 25¢ TO DEPT. TCC, TYCO, WOODBURY HEIGHTS, N.J. 08097

**TYCO®**

IT'S SO MUCH MORE FUN TO OWN THE VERY BEST!

IT WASN'T COMMISSIONER GORDON I TALKED ON THE TELEPHONE -- BUT FRED PURLEY IMITATING HIS VOICE -- JUST AS HE IMITATED IT TO FOOL YOU ! HE HAD ME TELEPHONE HIM TO LURE ME TO RESORT CITY AND A BOMB-TRAP THAT MIGHT HAVE FINISHED ME OFF IF I HADN'T THE PROTECTION OF THE DOOR ...

THEN PURLEY HAS THE LOOT FROM HIS ROBBERY -- AND THE COMMISSIONER, TOO !

IF I KNOW HIS warped MIND, PURLEY WILL WANT TO GLOAT OVER THE FACT THAT HE FINALLY SUCCEDED IN ROBBING THE JEWEL SALON GORDON STOPPED HIM FROM ROBBING FORTY YEARS AGO !

--AND AFTER THAT ?

HE'LL SHOW OUR OLD FRIEND NO MERCY ! WE'VE GOT TO TRACK DOWN PURLEY ! ROBIN -- CAN YOU THINK OF ANY WAY WE CAN FIND HIM -- AND FAST ?

GOSH, NO ! THEY COULD BE ANYWHERE ! I SAW THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THE CAR -- BUT IT WAS PROBABLY STOLEN -- AND BEIDES, WE'D NEVER LEARN THE OWNER IN TIME TO STOP WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN !

WE'VE GOT TO STOP IT ! THINK, ROBIN ! TRY TO REMEMBER SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE A CLUE --

IT'S ZEROES FOR HEROES, BATMAN ! I CAN'T RECALL A SINGLE -- WAIT ! I SAW A COMMUTER PASS FOR THE FLAME ISLAND BRIDGE IN THE POCKET OF ONE CROOK AS I PASTED HIM WITH KNUCKLE GLUE ! IT COULD MEAN --

--THAT THE CROOKS ARE USING FLAME ISLAND -- AS A HIDE-OUT ! THEY COULD'VE BEEN TRAVELING OVER THE BRIDGE A LOT -- DRIVING HERE TO "CASE" THE JEWEL STORE THEY ROBBED !

SEEMS LIKE AN ALMOST HOPELESS TASK ! THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF HOMES ON FLAME ISLAND ! BUT IT'S BETTER THAN STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING !

I'LL ASK THE POLICE OVER THE BATCOPTER'S SHORT-WAVE RADIO TO BEGIN THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION OF THOSE HOUSES, ONE BY ONE !



ALL WE CAN DO IS  
HOPES THAT PER-  
MARS POLICE  
COMMISSIONER  
GORDON HIMSELF  
CAN FIND A WAY  
TO CLUE US IN TO  
WHERE HE IS!

THE NIGHT IS DARK-  
BUT HERE AND  
THERE ON FLAME  
ISLAND, A FEW  
LIGHTS GLEAM  
BRIGHTLY...

DON'T  
COUNT ON  
IT! MORE  
LIKELY  
WE'LL  
HAVE TO  
DEPEND  
ON SHEER  
LUCK!

WHAT A  
BLUNT  
HUNT  
THIS IS  
GOING  
TO BE!

KEEP  
LOOKING!  
IT ISN'T  
MUCH--  
BUT IT'S  
ALL WE  
CAN DO!

AND THEN--GLEAMING BRIGHTLY AGAINST A  
TREE-BOLE...

BATMAN--AM  
I FLIPPIN'--OR  
IS THAT OUR  
GOOD OLD  
BAT-SIGNAL?

WHAAAT?! I THOUGHT  
MAYBE HE MIGHT FIND A  
WAY TO SIGNAL US--BUT  
THIS IS TOO MUCH!  
WHERE'S THE  
SIGNAL COMING  
FROM?

THE WINDOW OF THAT TOWER ROOM  
SEEMS TO BE PAINTED BLACK--BUT  
MY BINOCULARS SHOW AN OUTLINE  
OF THE BAT-SIGNAL SCRATCHED IN  
THAT PAINT!

IN A MATTER OF SECONDS THE BATCOPTER  
RESTS ON THE BIG LAWN AND...

THOSE TOWER WINDOWS  
MUST BE SHATTER-PROOF  
OR THE CROOKS WOULDN'T  
HAVE PLUT GORDON UP  
THERE! OTHERWISE HE  
COULD HAVE SMASHED  
THEM AND CALLED  
FOR HELP!

WE'LL BE GOOD  
GUESTS AND GO  
IN THE FRONT  
DOOR--AND UP  
THE STAIRS!

IN THE TOWER ROOM AT THE HEAD OF THE CIRCULAR STAIRCASE ...

YOU STOPPED ME ONCE,  
GORDON! BUT TONIGHT  
I GOT MY REVENGE --  
AS I PROMISED!

SOON AS I GOT OUT OF STIR I ATTENDED ALL THOSE AFFAIRS WHERE YOU WERE MAKING PUBLIC APPEARANCES, SO I COULD LEARN TO IMITATE YOUR VOICE! AS A RESULT -- BATMAN'S DEAD AND ROBIN GROGGY!

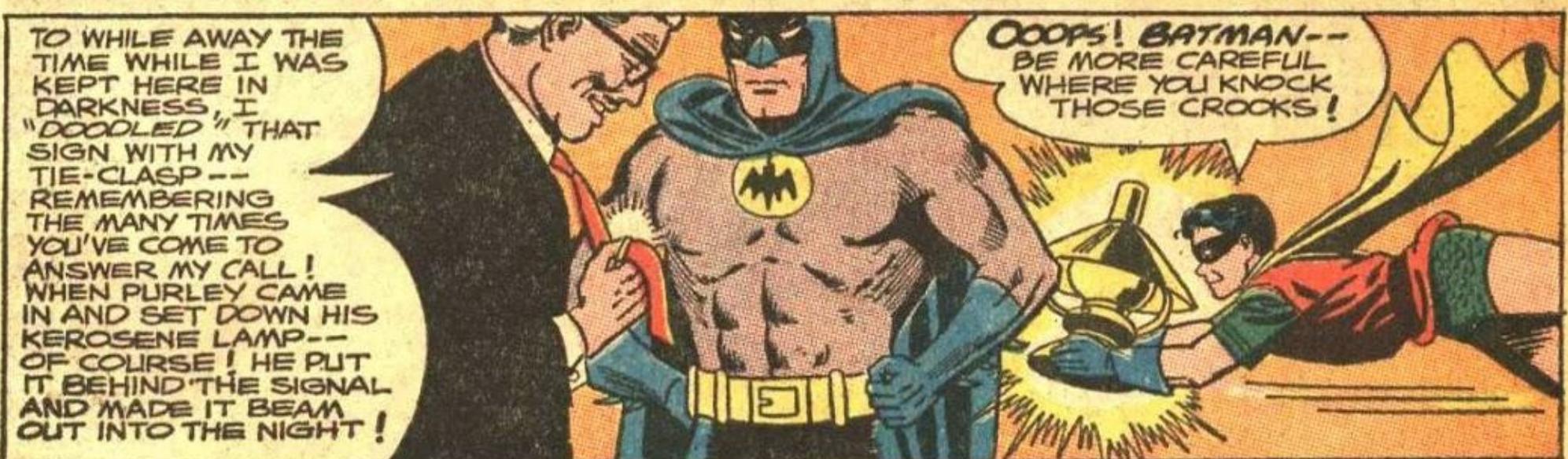
NEITHER OF THEM CAN STOP ME FROM-- HUH?

HAVE NO FEAR--  
ROBIN'S HERE!

I TOLD YOU--GET AWAY FROM HIM!

ZOK!  
WHUMMPP!

BATMAN!  
HOW IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT'S SANE DID YOU EVER MANAGE TO FIND ME?



Professor Ira West  
invites you to attend  
the marriage of his daughter  
Iris  
to  
Barry Allen  
in the November issue of **THE FLASH**