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BAT MAN

APR.-MAY
NO. 76

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BAT-MAN AND ROBIN

By BOB KANE

THE DANGER CLUB
ESTABLISHED 1944

EVERY DAY THEY
DUELED WITH DEATH.
THEIR JOBS WERE
SO PERILOUS THAT
NO COMPANY WOULD
INSURE THEIR LIVES.
THE STEEPLEJACK WHO
DARED DIZZYING HEIGHTS... THE
JET-PILOT WHO FLEW FASTER THAN
SOUND... THE DEEP-SEA DIVER WHO
BRAVED UNCHARTED DEPTHS. IT IS
THIS CIRCLE OF SUPER-HEROES THAT
THE FAMED BATMAN JOINS WHEN
HE BECOMES A MEMBER OF ...

THE DANGER CLUB



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BATMAN



EACH DAY, IN GOTHAM CITY, A GROUP OF HEROIC MEN PURSUE THEIR PERILOUS OCCUPATIONS. THERE IS THE PILOT WHO TESTS NEW, UNTRIED JET PLANES...



AND THE CHEMIST WHO EXPERIMENTS WITH DANGEROUS NEW EXPLOSIVES!



AND THE TROUBLE-SHOOTER WHO WORKS HIGH IN THE AIR UPON HIGH-VOLTAGE WIRES!



IT IS SUCH MEN OF HAZARD WHO HAVE FORMED GOTHAM CITY'S MOST EXCITING ORGANIZATION ... THE DANGER CLUB...

YOU OUGHT TO SAVE YOUR MONEY INSTEAD OF BLOWING IT ALL ON GAY PARTIES, MILDING!

LOOK, LARSON. A JET-PLANE TEST-PILOT LIKE ME MAY GET KILLED ANY DAY... I'M ENJOYING LIFE WHILE I CAN!

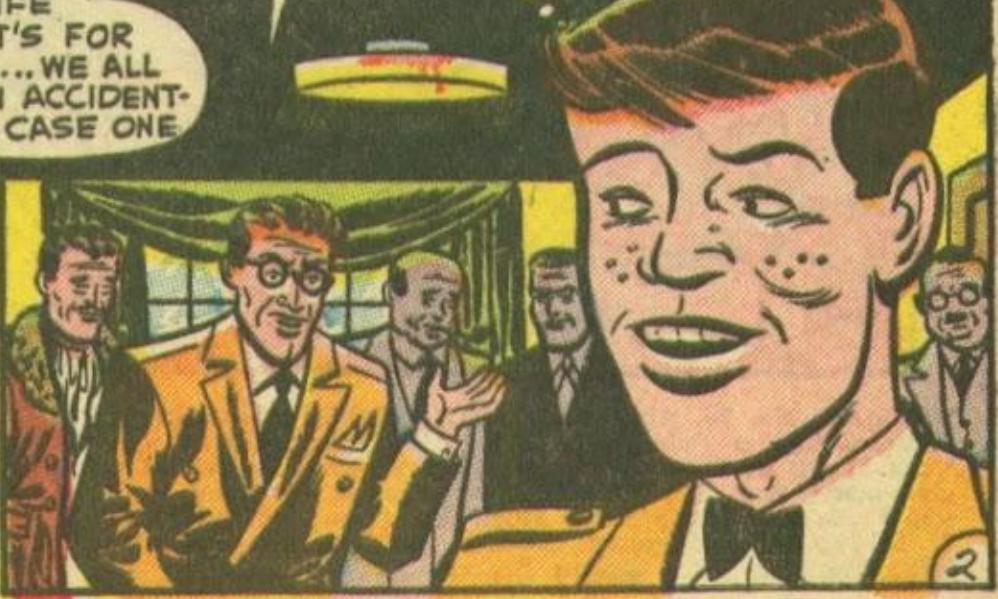


AND ADMISSION TO THE DANGER CLUB IS NOT EASY, AS ITS PRESIDENT, EXPLOSIVES-EXPERT JOHN CAREW, EXPLAINS TO A NEW APPLICANT!

BUT I'M A TAXI-DRIVER, AND DRIVING CAN BE DANGEROUS! CAN'T I BECOME A MEMBER?

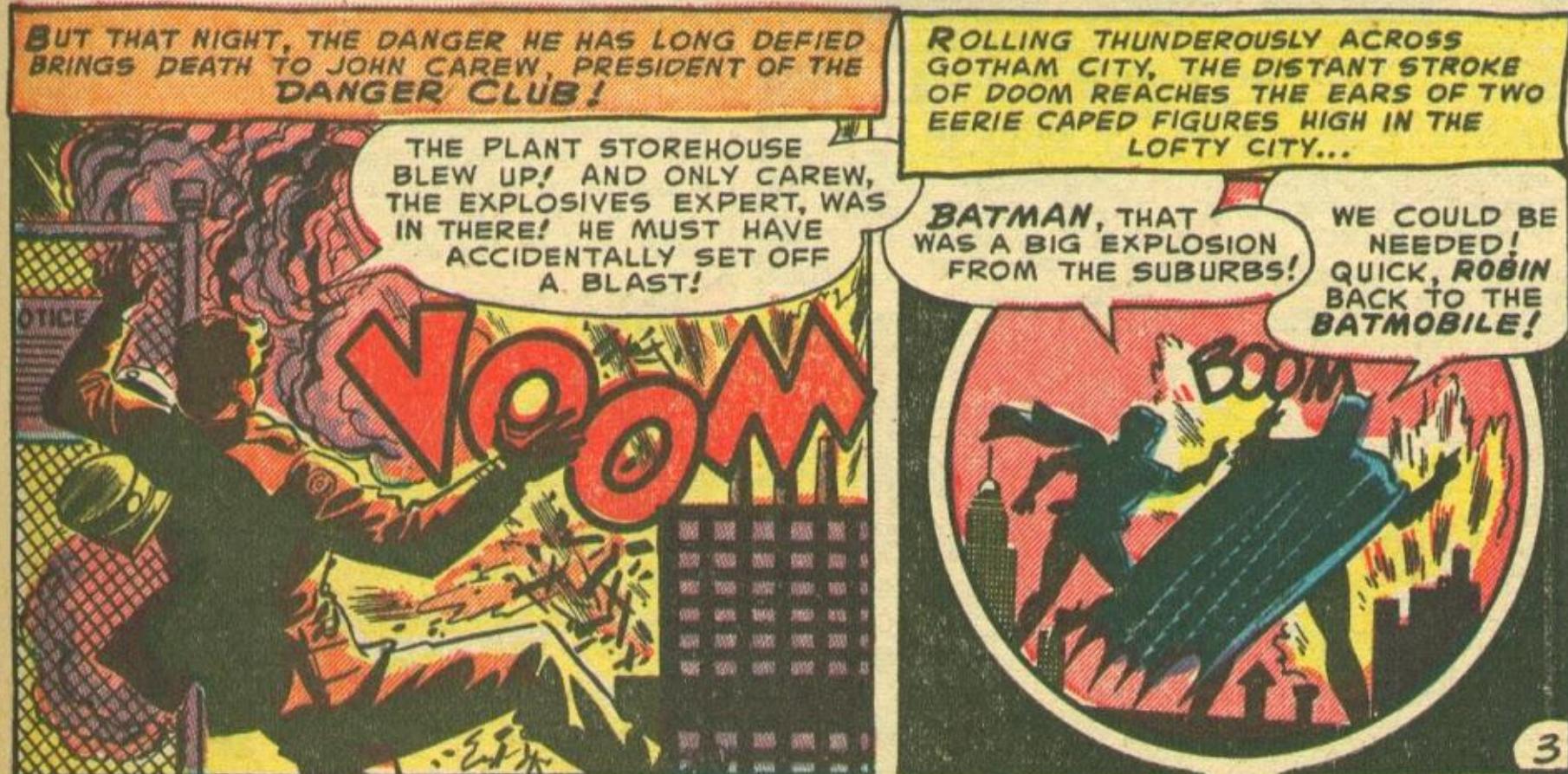
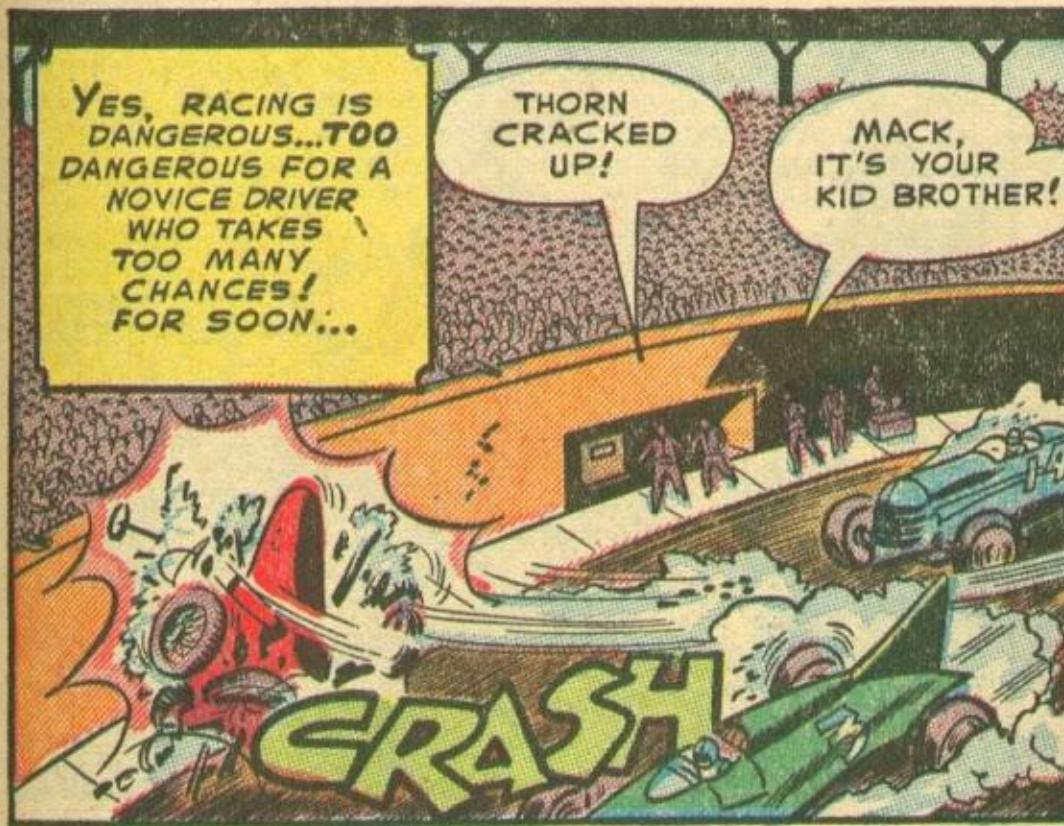
YOUR OCCUPATION IS NOT RISKY ENOUGH, SO WE CAN'T TAKE YOU! WE'RE A VERY SMALL GROUP!

BUT I WANT TO JOIN THE DANGER CLUB SO MUCH... I'LL CHANGE MY JOB! I'LL BECOME A RACE-TRACK DRIVER! THAT'S DANGEROUS ENOUGH!





BATMAN





BATMAN



AS THE SLEEK BATMOBILE HURLES
THROUGH SLEEPING STREETS, ALARMS
ARE ALREADY SHRILLING THEIR WARNING!

LOOKS LIKE THE GOTHAM
ENGINEERING COMPANY'S
OFFICES... THE FIREMEN
MUST BE ALREADY
THERE!



THEIR EXPLOSIVES
EXPERT, JOHN CAREW,
WAS IN THERE ALONE...
HE WAS A CAREFUL MAN,
AND I CAN'T SEE HOW
THIS HAPPENED!

CAREW WAS PRESIDENT
OF THE DANGER CLUB,
BATMAN! WE'VE
SENT FOR ITS OFFICERS,
MAYBE THEY CAN GIVE
US MORE INFORMATION!



WHEN THE OFFICERS OF THE DANGER CLUB
ARRIVE, THE INFORMATION THEY GIVE IS
STARTLING...

I'M LARSON, VICE-PRESIDENT
OF THE CLUB, AND THIS IS
MILDING, OUR SECRETARY!
I SUSPECT THAT CRAZY
MACK THORN WHO
THREATENED WE'D ALL
DIE FROM OUR DANGEROUS
JOBS HAD A HAND IN
THIS!

CERTAINLY
POOR CAREW
DIED FROM
HIS
DANGEROUS
JOB!

WHEN BATMAN HAS HEARD THE TALE OF
THORN'S GRIM WARNING...

WE'LL FIND THORN AND
QUESTION HIM! YOU CALL
TOGETHER THE MEMBERS
OF THE DANGER CLUB,
SO I CAN TALK TO
THEM!



BUT AT MACK THORN'S COTTAGE HOME...

HE'S NOT AT HIS TRUCK-
DRIVING JOB, NOR IS
HE HERE! BATMAN,
THORN MUST BE GUILTY
IF HE'S HIDING
OUT!

LOOKS LIKE IT!
HMM... THIS OLD
SNAPSHOT SHOWS
THAT THORN WAS
ONCE A MERCHANT
SAILOR!



MOST LIKELY THORN
WOULD TRY TO ESCAPE
BY SHIPPING OUT...
YOU CHECK ALL SHIPS
ABOUT TO SAIL! I'LL
BE AT THE
DANGER CLUB!

RIGHT! I'LL
CALL YOU BY
BELT-RADIO
IF I GET
ON HIS TRAIL!



BATMAN

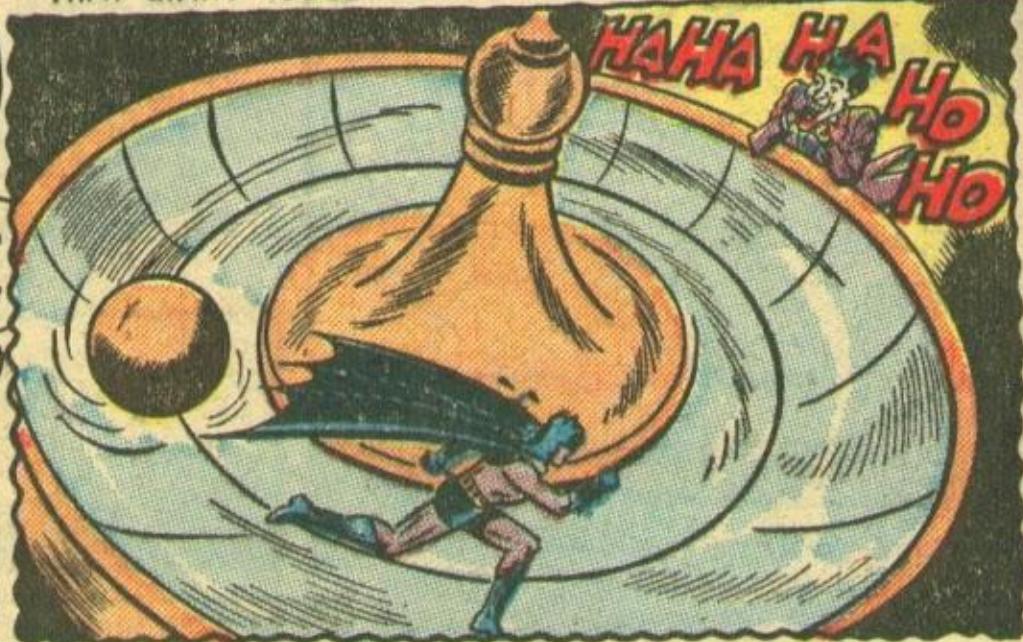
SOON, AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE DANGER CLUB!

YOU MAY ALL BE IN DANGER OF BEING MURDERED! I SUGGEST THAT, SINCE ALL MEMBERS ARE MENACED, I JOIN YOUR CLUB TO INVESTIGATE THIS PERIL!

WE'D FEEL HONORED TO HAVE YOU! BUT, AS A FORMALITY, ALL NEW MEMBERS MUST TESTIFY THAT THEY'VE PASSED THROUGH AT LEAST THREE SERIOUS DANGERS! WE KNOW YOU'VE HAD HUNDREDS BUT PLEASE REPORT THREE!



"BATMAN'S TESTIMONIALS OF DANGER! FIRST... THERE WAS THE TIME THE JOKER TRAPPED ME IN, THAT GIANT ROULETTE WHEEL ON 'GAMBLER'S ISLE'!"



"THEN THERE WAS THE TIME DR. DOOM PENETRATED THE BAT-CAVE AND TURNED OUR OWN ROBOT DINOSAUR-TROPHY UPON US!"



UNANIMOUSLY, THE DANGER CLUB ACCEPTS BATMAN AS A MEMBER! AND AS THE MEETING BREAKS UP...

BATMAN, I'M WORRIED... I HAVE A NEW JET PLANE TO TEST TOMORROW MORNING! IF THORN ISN'T CAUGHT BY THEN, MAYBE HE'LL TRY FOR ME, TOO!

DON'T WORRY, MILDING! I'LL BE COVERING YOUR TEST, JUST IN CASE!

LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE HIDDEN UNDER THE MANSION OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE, BATMAN'S OTHER IDENTITY...

I CHECKED ALL SHIPS BUT NO LUCK SO FAR!

KEEP AT IT, ROBIN! I'M GOING TO USE THE BAT-PLANE TO COVER MILDING'S TEST-FLIGHT IN THE MORNING, IN CASE THERE'S AN ATTEMPT ON HIM!





BATMAN



IT'S A NERVOUS PILOT WHO PREPARES FOR A DANGEROUS TEST!

THIS NEW PLANE SEEMS ALL RIGHT... BUT THORN MIGHT STRIKE AT ME FROM ANOTHER PLANE!

TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T, I'VE BROUGHT THE BATPLANE... I'LL FLY NEAR YOU!

PRESENTLY, THE EXPERIMENTAL JET-POWERED PLANE SCREAMS INTO THE SKY, BUT THE SUPER-POWERED BATPLANE KEEPS PACE WITH IT!



AND SUDDENLY, A SWIFT SHIP PLUNGE'S TOWARD ITS DOOM...

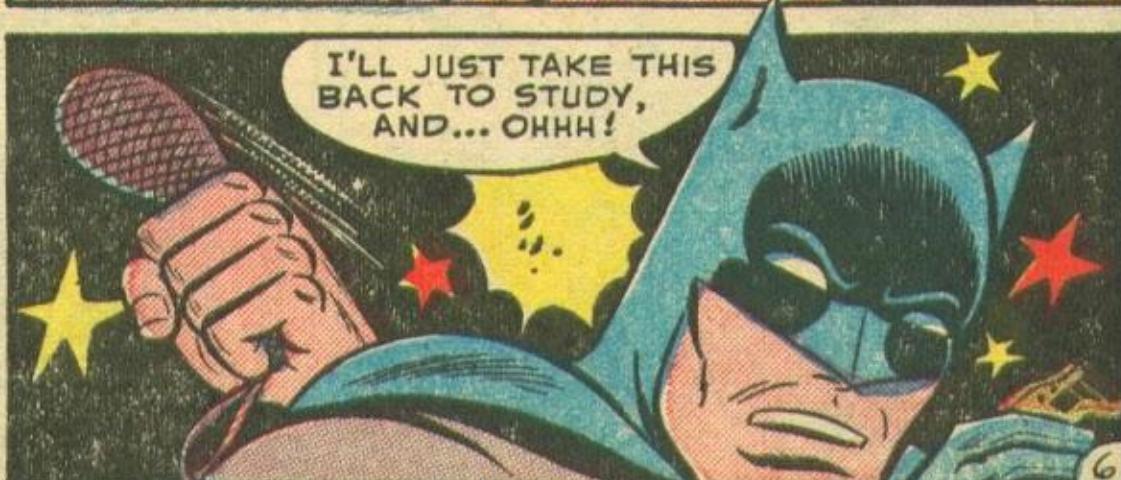
MILDING BAILED OUT IN TIME! BUT I'D BETTER LAND... THERE'S FIRM GROUND BEYOND THE SWAMP!

I'M NOT HURT, BUT I'M SHAKEN UP! THE PLANE'S MOTOR FAILED STRANGELY, ALL OF A SUDDEN!

YOU'D BETTER GO ON HOME... I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THAT PLANE'S WRECKAGE!

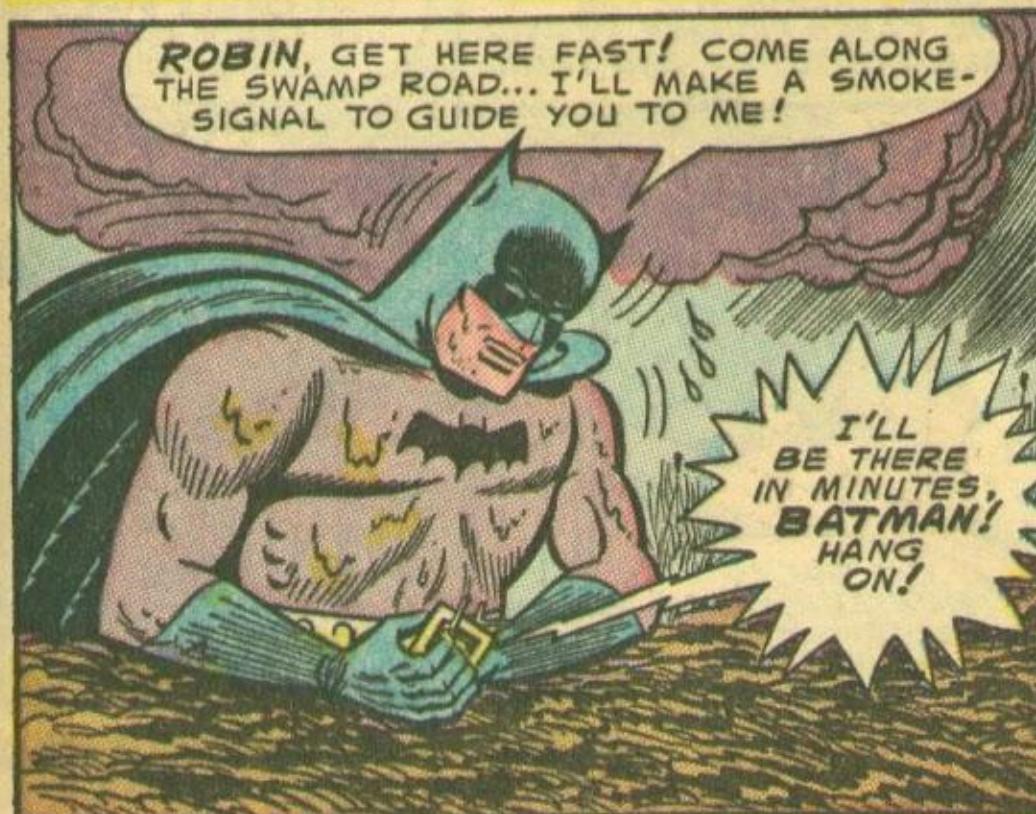
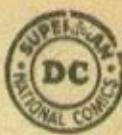


I'LL JUST TAKE THIS BACK TO STUDY, AND... OHHH!





BATMAN



A FRENZY OF ANXIETY BRINGS THE BOY WONDER SPEEDING, ALMOST TOO LATE...

IT SEEMS HOPELESS, ROBIN! YOU CAN'T PULL ME OUT BY YOUR OWN STRENGTH!

BUT I CAN RUN THE BATMOBILE ONTO THE NEAREST FIRM GROUND AND USE ITS EMERGENCY-CABLE TO HOOK ONTO YOUR ROPE AND YANK YOU!

THE MIGHTY BATMOBILE, IN DIRE EMERGENCY, SERVES ITS OWNERS WELL!

THEN WHOEVER SABOTAGED MILDING'S PLANE WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU FOUND NO CLUE IN THE WRECKAGE!

BUT I DID FIND A CLUE... PART OF THE BOMB HIDDEN IN HIS PLANE! WE'LL LOOK IT OVER BACK IN OUR LABORATORY!



BATMAN



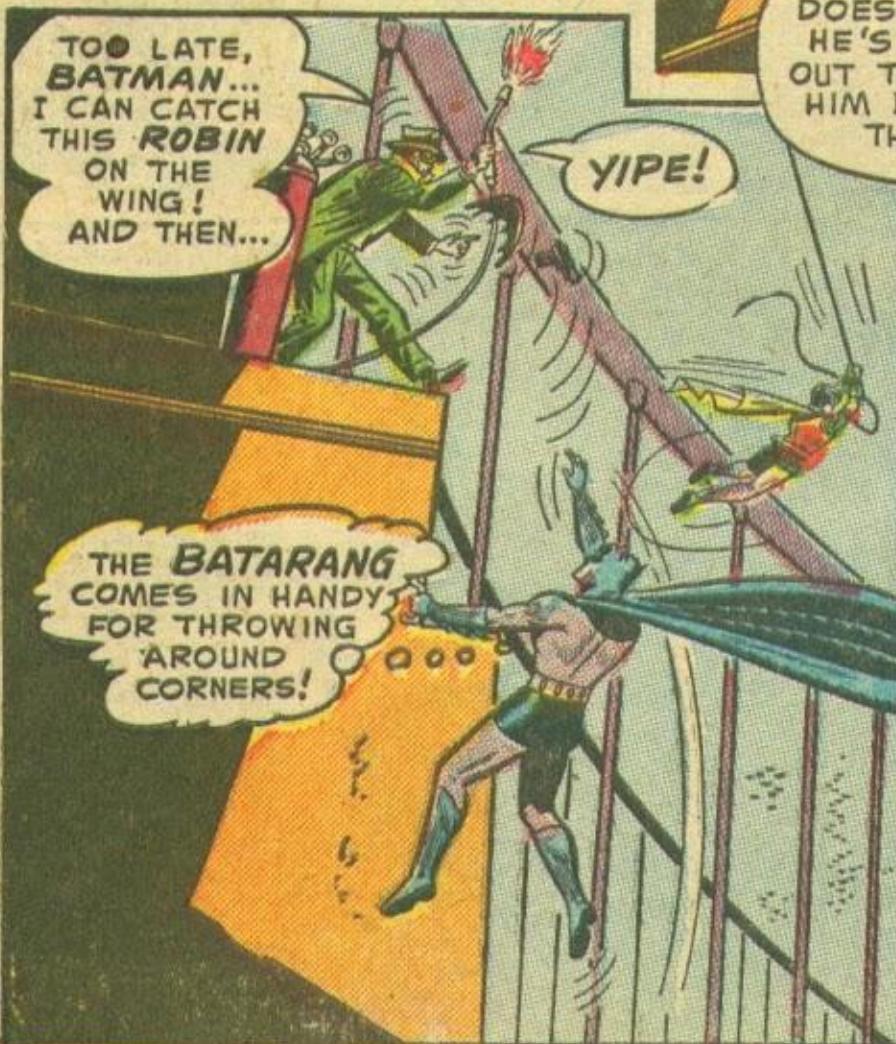
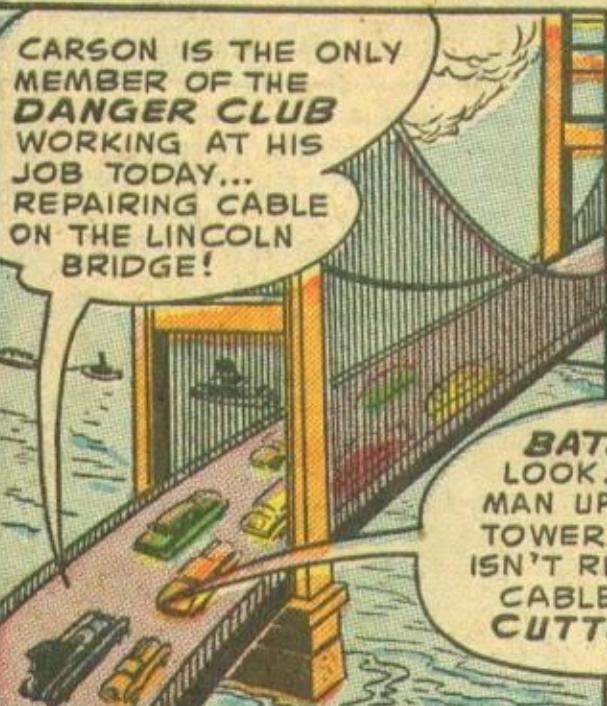
IN THE BAT-CAVE'S CRIME-LABORATORY, THE TWO SLEUTHS STUDY A VITAL CLUE!

BUT NO HIGH EXPLOSIVE BOMB WE HAVE RECORD OF HAS SUCH A VALVE-DEVICE AS THAT!

SUCH VALVES AS THIS ARE ONLY USED ON GAS OR VAPOR BOMBS... AND THAT'S THE CLUE THAT POINTS OUT THE KILLER!

HE BELIEVES I'M DONE FOR, AND WILL STRIKE FAST AT THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DANGER CLUB! ROBIN, WE'VE GOT TO HURRY TO STOP HIM!

I STILL DON'T SEE WHAT YOUR CLUE MEANS, BUT AS LONG AS THORN IS LOOSE THERE'S DANGER!

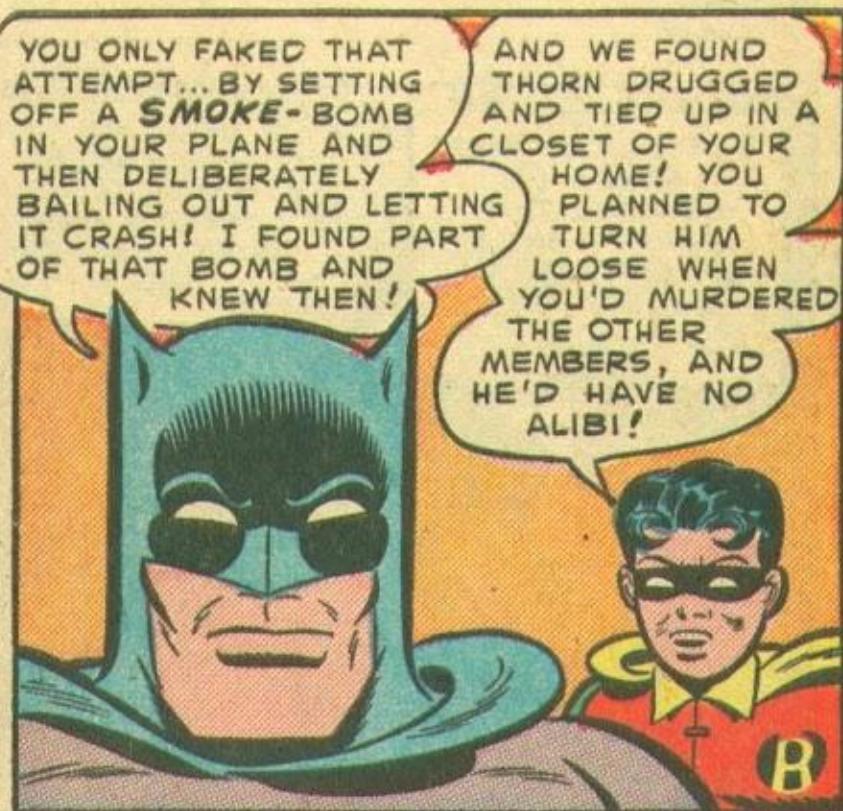


BATMAN





BATMAN



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SHORTY

I HEAR THERE'S LOTS OF MOOSE AROUND HERE!

I'LL BLOW THIS MOOSE HORN. IF A MOOSE HEARS ME, HE'LL ANSWER.

MOOO

HARRY BOLTHOFF

AH! THERE'S ONE OVER THERE.

NOW TO TIP-TOE QUIETLY.

ECHO MOUNTAIN

END

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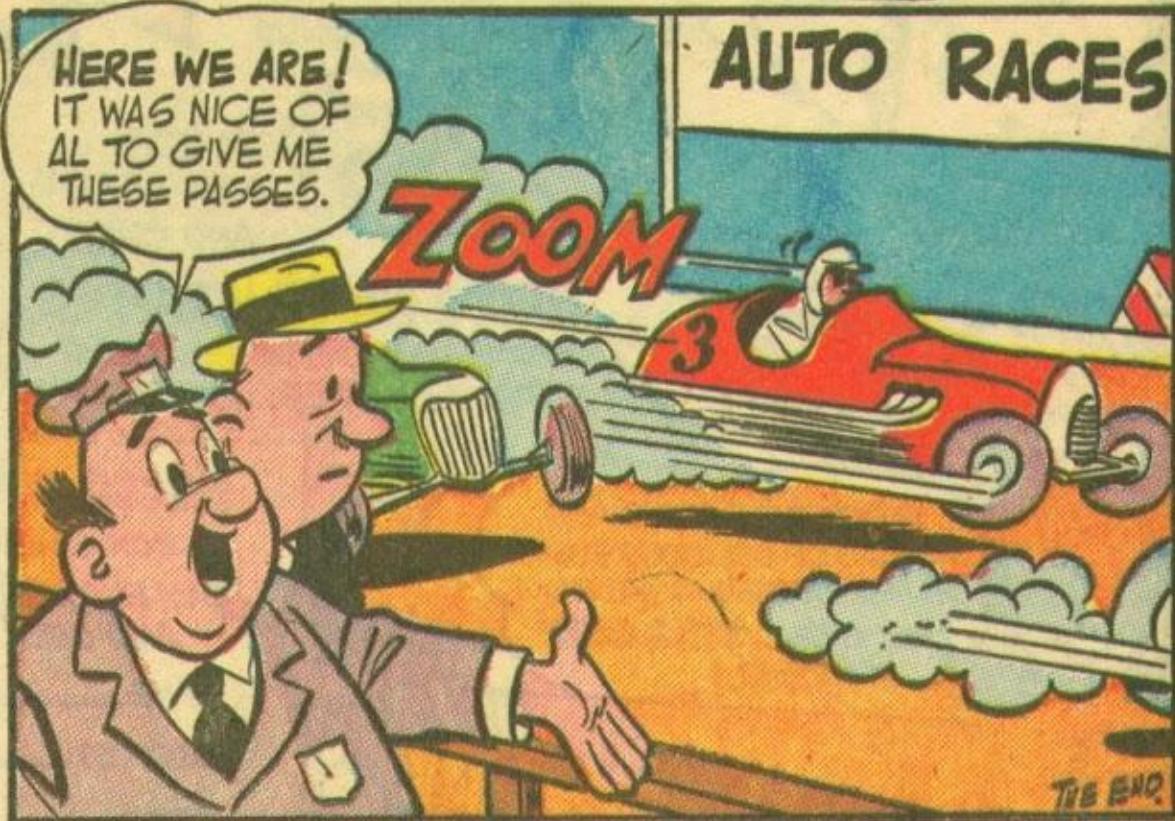
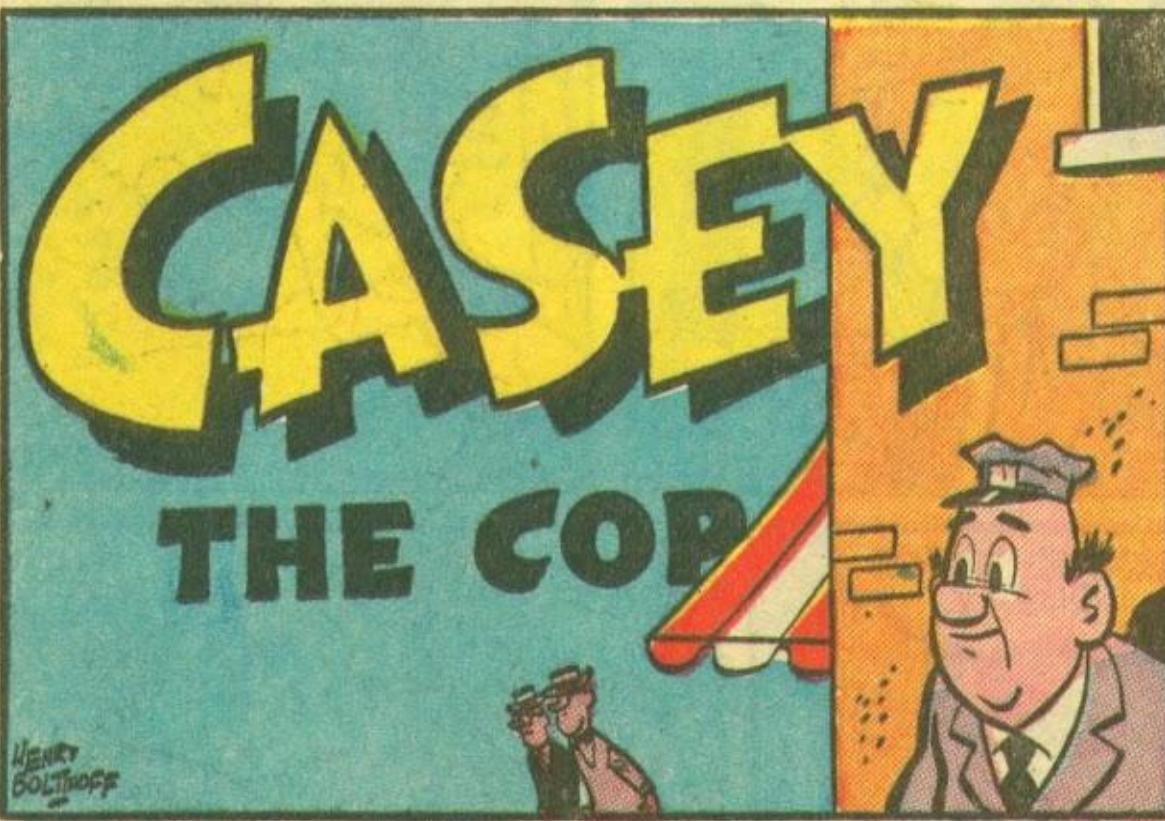
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BATMAN



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

IT MEANS A FLOCK OF TROUBLE FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN WHEN THAT POMPOUS LITTLE BIRD-BANDIT, THE PENGUIN, GOES INTO ACTION AGAIN! BUT THIS TIME THE CROOK OF 1,000 UMBRELLAS IS BENT ON LEGENDARY LARCENY, SINCE IT'S BIRDS OF FABLE HE USES FOR CUNNING CRIME! AND WHEN THE BASILISK AND THE PHOENIX AND THE THUNDERBIRD FLY OUT OF FOLKLORE INTO TODAY, THERE'S NOTHING MYTHICAL ABOUT THE MENACE OF...

"The PENGUIN'S FABULOUS FOWLS!"

HA, HA! MY LEGENDARY CREATURES ARE TOO MUCH EVEN FOR YOU, BATMAN!





BATMAN



THE RELEASE OF A NOTORIOUS CONVICT BRINGS FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS BATMAN AND ROBIN ON A SPECIAL VISIT TO STATE PRISON...

YES, THE PENGUIN IS BEING RELEASED TODAY, AND HE SAYS HE'S REALLY GOING STRAIGHT THIS TIME! HE'S BEEN STUDYING UP SOME PROJECT ABOUT BIRDS!

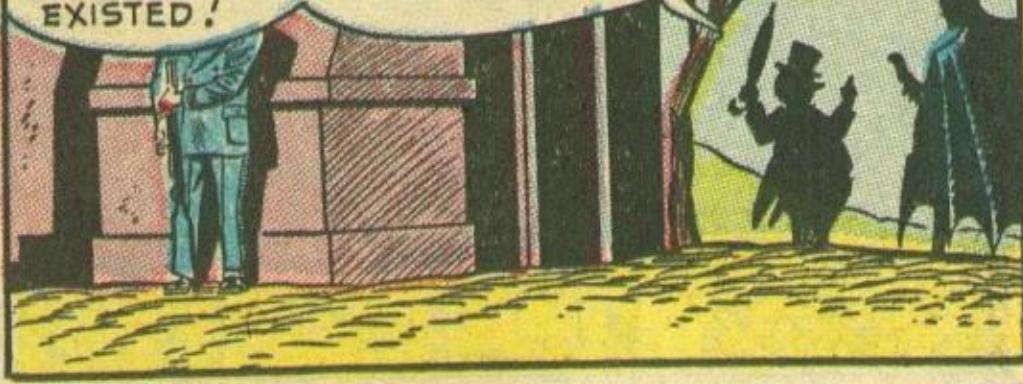
OH, OH--THAT'S NOT SO GOOD, WARDEN! WHEN THE PENGUIN RIDES HIS BIRD HOBBY, IT'S USUALLY FOR CRIME!



BUT THE LITTLE BIRD-BANDIT SEEMS IN EARNEST ABOUT REFORM THIS TIME...

YES, BATMAN, I'M THROUGH WITH CRIME! SOON I SHALL ASTOUND THE WORLD IN A LEGAL MANNER! MY VAST KNOWLEDGE OF BIRD LORE CONvinces ME THAT MANY FABULOUS BIRDS OF THE PAST--THE PHOENIX, THE BASILISK, AND SO ON REALLY EXISTED!

BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, PENGUIN!



HMPH! YOU MAY LAUGH, MY FRIEND, BUT I BELIEVE SPECIMENS OF THOSE FABULOUS BIRDS STILL EXIST IN REMOTE PARTS OF THE WORLD--AND I SHALL GO FIND THEM!

SOUNDS CRAZY TO ME--BUT IF IT KEEPS YOU OUT OF TROUBLE, GO RIGHT AHEAD!



SO THE PENGUIN DROPS OUT OF SIGHT, WHILE BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON, GET A WELCOME REST...

...TILL ONE MORNING SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

DO YOU SUPPOSE THE PENGUIN REALLY WENT ON THAT WHACKY QUEST FOR LEGENDARY BIRDS, BRUCE?

I CAN'T SAY, DICK--BUT WHEREVER HE IS, I HOPE HE STAYS THERE!



FLASH! WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM WITH A SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN!

THE PENGUIN HAS JUST ARRIVED AT GOTHAM CITY HARBOR IN A CHARTERED SCHOONER AND HAS PROMISED TO MAKE A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT!



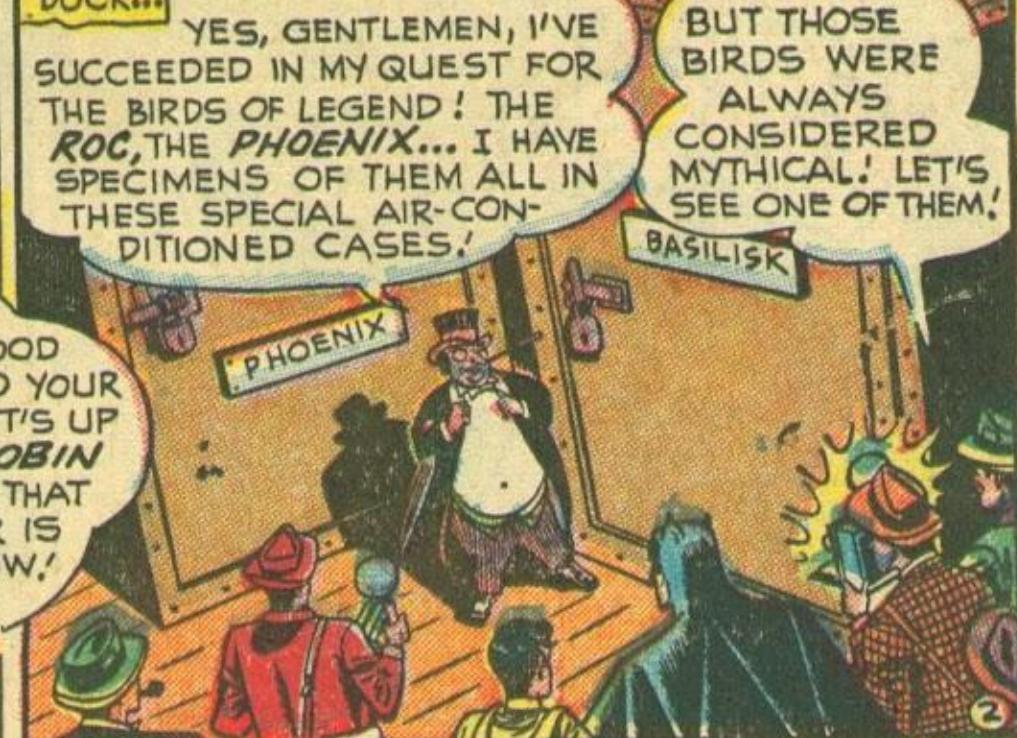
I KNEW THIS QUIET WAS TO GOOD TO LAST! GET INTO YOUR COSTUME, DICK... IT'S UP TO BATMAN AND ROBIN TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT LITTLE SCHEMER IS PLANNING NOW!

AND IT'S INDEED A SENSATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT THAT GREETS THE TWO LAWmen WHEN THEY REACH THE DOCK...

YES, GENTLEMEN, I'VE SUCCEEDED IN MY QUEST FOR THE BIRDS OF LEGEND! THE ROC, THE PHOENIX... I HAVE SPECIMENS OF THEM ALL IN THESE SPECIAL AIR-CONDITIONED CASES!

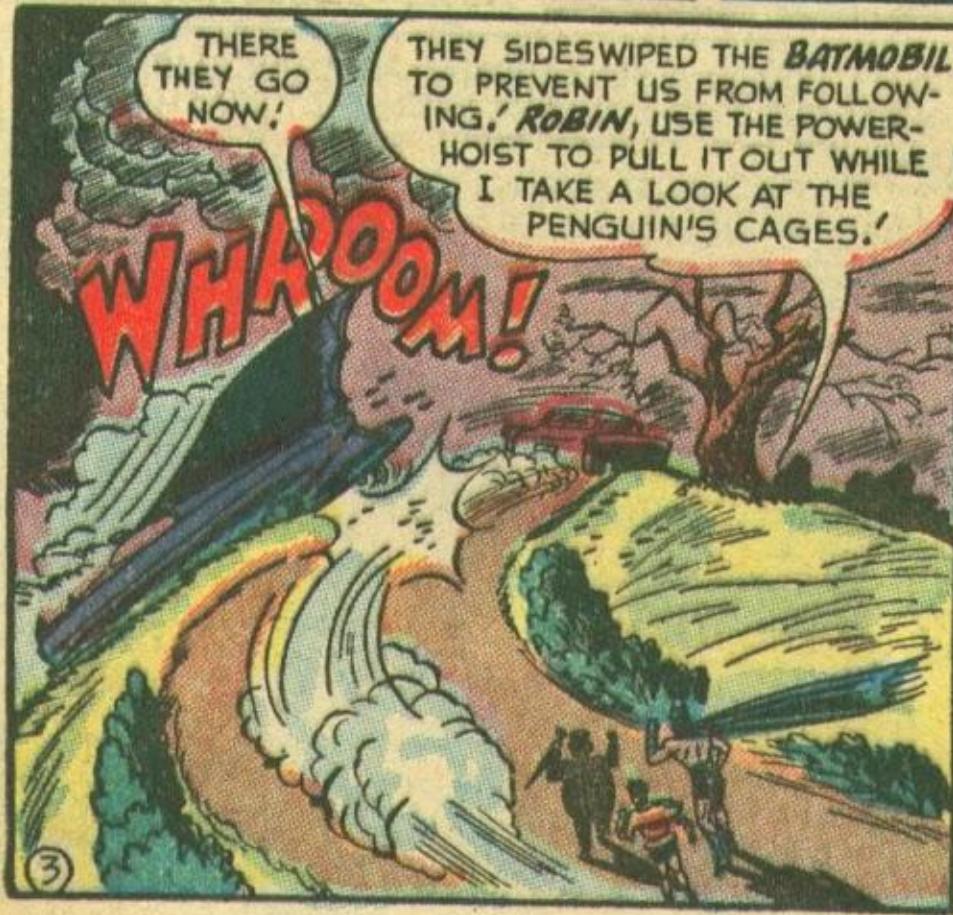
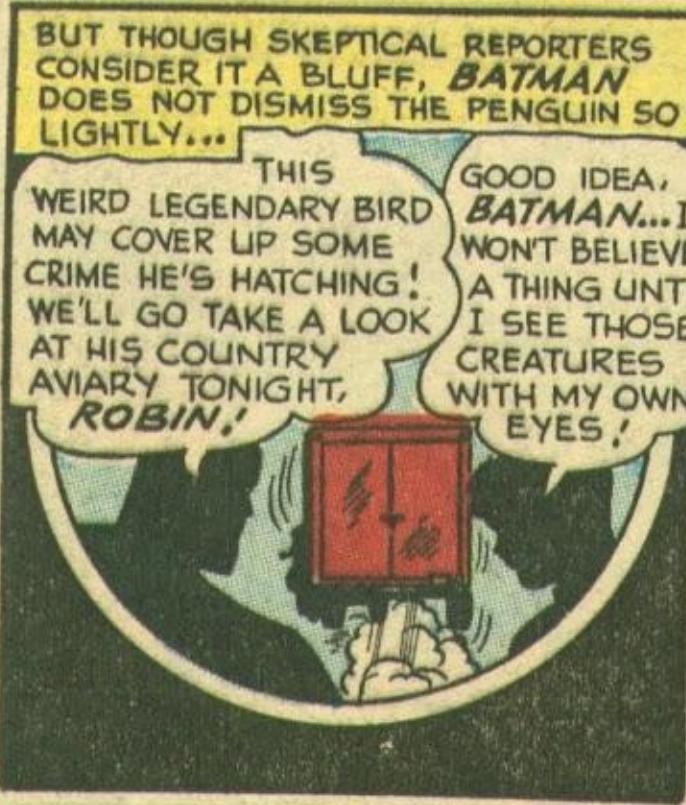
BUT THOSE BIRDS WERE ALWAYS CONSIDERED MYTHICAL! LET'S SEE ONE OF THEM!

BASILISK





BATMAN



BATMAN





BATMAN



MINUTES LATER, INSIDE THE DAMAGED BUILDING...

IT FLEW AWAY
BEFORE I COULD
REACH IT!

THAT LIGHTNING BOLT
IT DREW DESTROYED SOME
OF MY VALUABLE ART OBJECTS!
I CAN'T EVEN FIND THE
FRAGMENTS! HMM...

I WONDER...

SEARCH THE PENGUIN,
ROBIN! PERHAPS THOSE
VALUABLE OBJECTS
WEREN'T DESTROYED
BY LIGHTNING AFTER
ALL!

THERE'S NOTHING ON
HIM, BATMAN-- BUT
IT'S A CURIOUS CO-
INCIDENCE THAT THE
THINGS DISAPPEARED
WHILE HE WAS HERE...
TOO CURIOUS!

AT THAT MOMENT, A NEW ALARM
SPURS THE DYNAMIC DUO INTO
ACTION...

LOOK--ON
THE NEXT
BLOCK! THE
GOTHAM
CITY
BANK
IS ON
FIRE.

A FIRE?
MY
PHOENIX
LOVES FIRE
AND WILL,
GO THERE!
I MUST TRY
TO RECAPTURE
IT!

AND SOON, THREE
ASBESTOS-ARMORED
FORMS CRASH INTO THE FLAMING BANK...

WE'LL GO
ALONG, TOO!
I DON'T TRUST
YOU ALONE,
PENGUIN--EVEN
IN A BURNING
BANK! BUT FIRST,
WE MUST GET OUR
ASBESTOS SUITS
FROM THE
BAT-
MOBILE!

THERE IT IS--
MY BEAUTIFUL
PHOENIX! BE VERY
CAREFUL, BATMAN
... I DON'T WANT
IT TO TAKE FRIGHT!

JUMP,
ROBIN--
THIS WAY!

THAT
WALL--IT'S
FALLING!

CRASH!

WHEWE
THAT WAS
CLOSE!

THE PENGUIN
COULD HAVE
PUSHED IT, TO MAKE
IT FALL AND DELAY
US! COME ON--HE'S
BACK BY THE TELLERS'
CAGES!

HOLD IT,
PENGUIN!

MY
PHOENIX!
YOU ALARMED
IT, AND IT FLEW
AWAY!

BUT YOU'RE
NOT GOING TO
FLY AWAY TILL
WE LOOK INTO
THIS!

BATMAN

SHORTLY, OUTSIDE...

YES, A LOT OF CASH WAS LOST IN THE FIRE!

I DIDN'T TAKE IT! YOU SEARCHED ME AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU?

I DID, PENGUIN, BUT I'M STILL NOT SATISFIED! I'M ARRESTING YOU ON SUSPICION OF ROBBERY!

AWHILE LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BUT THESE FABULOUS BIRDS HAVE BEEN SEEN BY THE WHOLE CITY, BATMAN! THEY'RE REAL!

MAYBE, COMMISSIONER GORDON--BUT UNTIL WE CATCH THEM, I WANT THIS BIRD KEPT IN A CAGE!

HA, HA... MY HENCHMEN WILL SEE THAT MY BASILISK GETS ME OUT! BATMAN WILL LOSE HIS WITS TRYING TO SOLVE THE SECRET OF MY BIRDS!

AFTERWARDS, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN MAINTAIN A TENSE VIGIL...

EACH TIME THE PENGUIN'S FABULOUS BIRDS WREAKED DESTRUCTION, SOMETHING VALUABLE'S BEEN MISSING! IT COULD BE COINCIDENCE, BUT...

OH, OH... THERE'S SOME SORT OF COMMOTION OVER ON 34TH STREET! LET'S GO, BATMAN!

IT'S MORE THAN MERE COMMOTION THAT GREETS THE CAPE D-BUSTERS AS THEY REACH 34TH STREET...

THAT HORRIBLE MONSTER... ITS EYES ARE FREEZING ME! I CAN'T MOVE!

IT'S THE LEGENDARY BASILISK--THE GIANT BIRD WHOSE EYES CAN FREEZE A MAN!

AND AS A HORROR OUT OF ANCIENT TRADITION STALKS THE STREETS, FRANTIC REPORTS REACH HEADQUARTERS...

TERRIBLE BIRD ON 34TH STREET--MANY PEOPLE ALREADY FROZEN BY ITS STARE! OFFICER MANTON TRIED TO FACE IT BUT WAS FROZEN TOO...

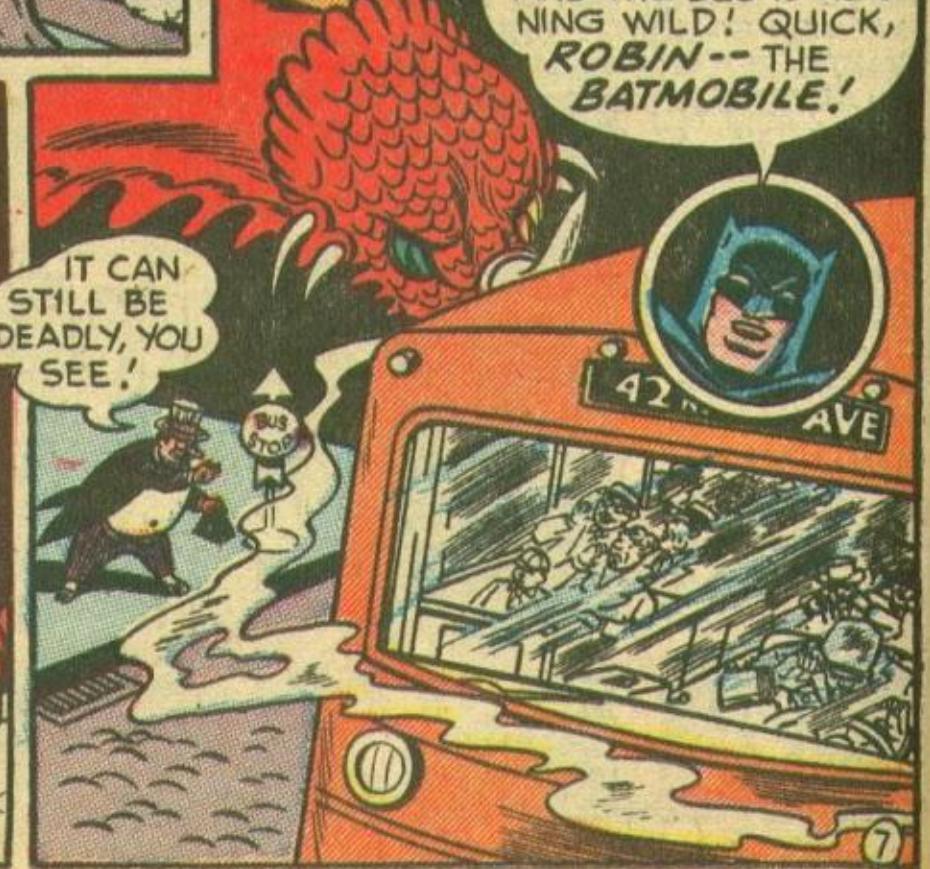
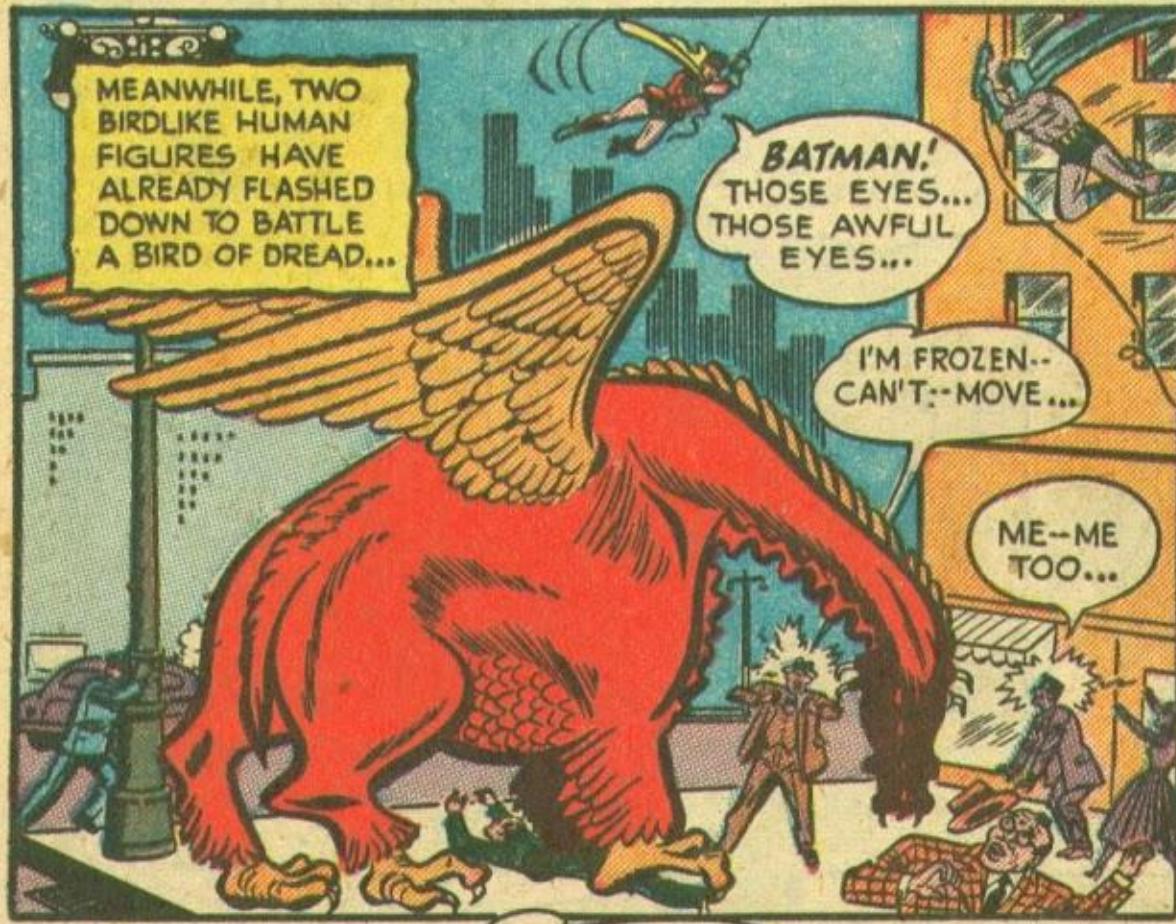
IT'S MY ESCAPED BASILISK! I CAN CATCH IT--LET ME OUT BEFORE IT STRIKES DOWN MORE PEOPLE!

PENGUIN, IF YOU CAN HANDLE THAT HORRIBLE BIRD, CATCH IT AT ONCE! NO ONE ELSE CAN FACE IT!

I DID WRONG TO BRING MY FABULOUS FOWLS TO GOTHAM CITY--BUT I'LL RECAPTURE THEM, COMMISSIONER!



BATMAN





BATMAN





BATMAN



BUT BATMAN, FOR THE FIRST TIME, SOON FINDS THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM CITY FLEEING FROM HIM IN TERROR!

RUN! IT'S THAT AWFUL MAN-BAT! GET AWAY!

MAN-BAT? SO THAT'S THE MYSTERY BIRD THE PENGUIN THREATENED ME WITH? IT COULD DESTROY MY CAREER, BY MAKING PEOPLE AFRAID OF ME WHEREVER I APPEAR!

AT THAT INSTANT, FROM HIGH IN THE SKY, COMES A TENSE CALL BY BELT-RADIO...

BATMAN, THERE'S A WEIRD MAN-LIKE BIRD FLYING OVER 9TH AVENUE!

I'LL STOP THAT MAN-BAT! YOU SWOOP DOWN AND LAND ON THE TERMINAL ROOF.

IMMEDIATELY, BATMAN RACES TO THE TOP OF A TALL SKYSCRAPER, AND...

THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THIS THING IS BY FORCING IT DOWN TO THE GROUND!

AND BY THE TIME ROBIN JOINS HIM...

SO THAT'S THE ANSWER. A MECHANICAL, MONSTROUS MAN-BAT!

RIGHT... ALL THE PENGUIN'S BIRDS ARE MECHANICAL FAKES--THE "THUNDERBIRD" THAT DREW LIGHTNING AND CARRIED AWAY THE ART-LOOT, THE "PHOENIX" WHICH FLEW AWAY WITH THE BANK-CASH, AND THE "BASILISK" THAT PRODUCED KNOCKOUT GAS!

INSTEAD OF BEING AWAY HUNTING FABULOUS BIRDS, HE WAS BUILDING THOSE FAKES! I KNEW THIS BECAUSE WHEN A REAL BIRD IS RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY, IT ALWAYS FLIES HOME... BUT THESE "BIRDS" WENT STRAIGHT TO THE CITY AND BEGAN WRECKING 'HAVOC.'

SCREECH!

THE PENGUIN'S FAKE ROC! QUICK--BACK TO THE BAT-PLANE!

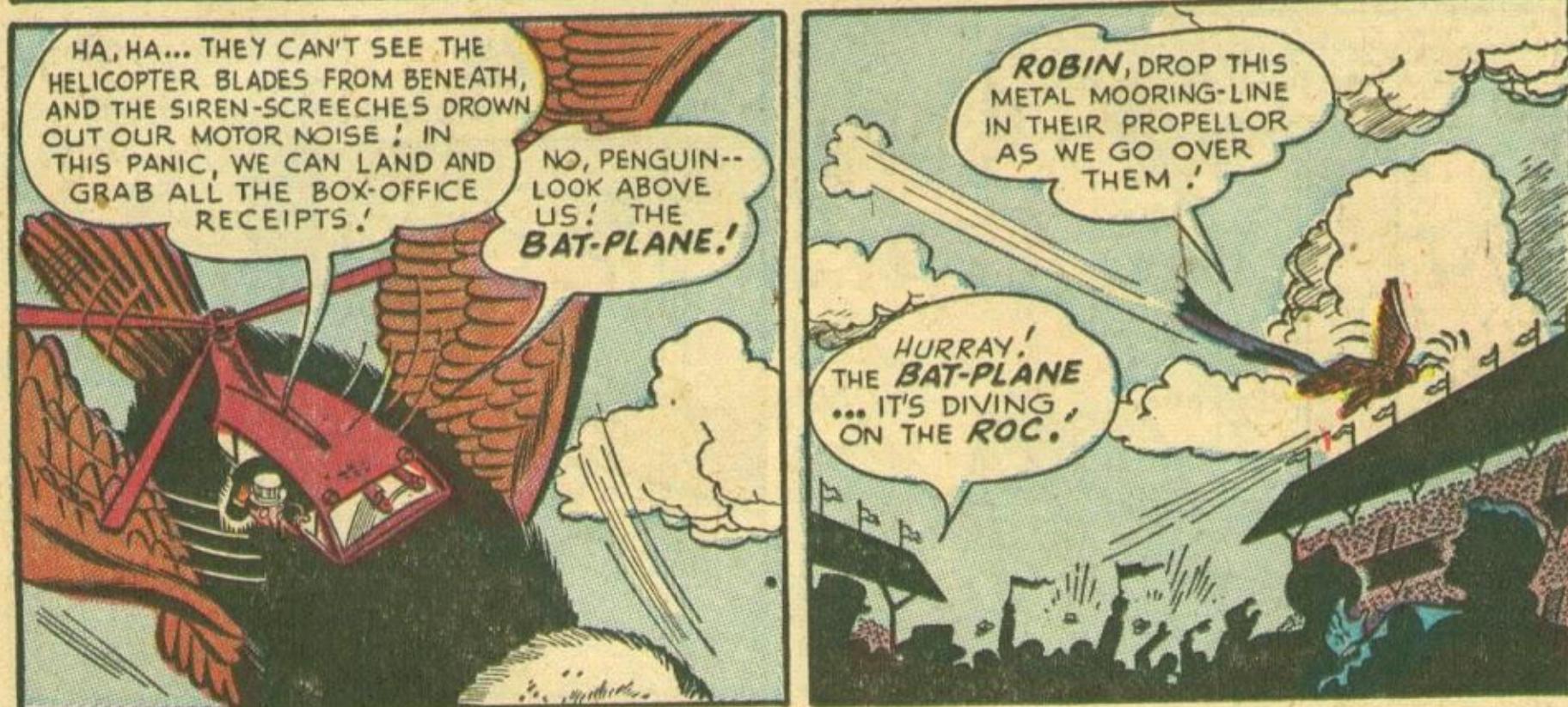
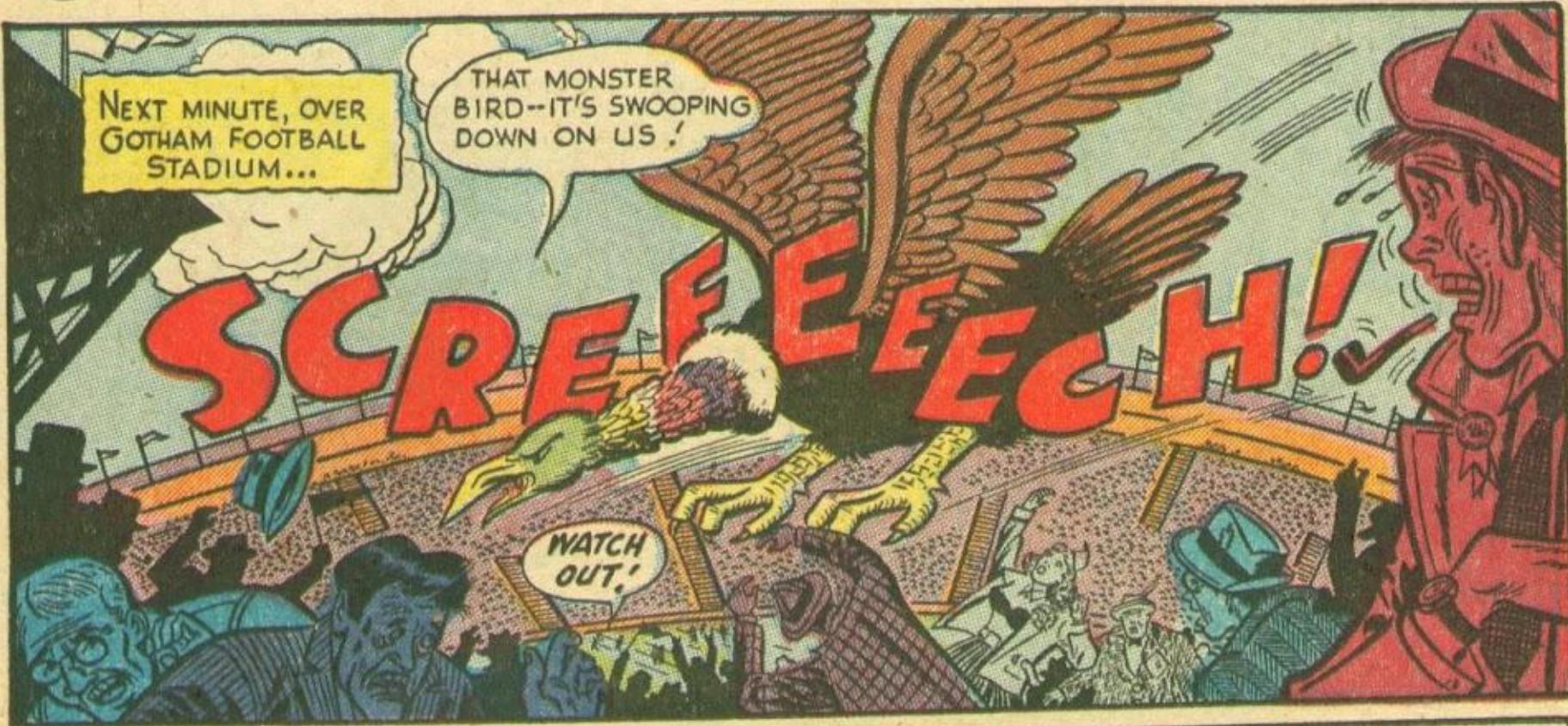
SUDDENLY...

LOOK! THAT COLOSSAL BIRD SCREAMING OVERHEAD! IT MUST BE...

SCREECH!



BATMAN





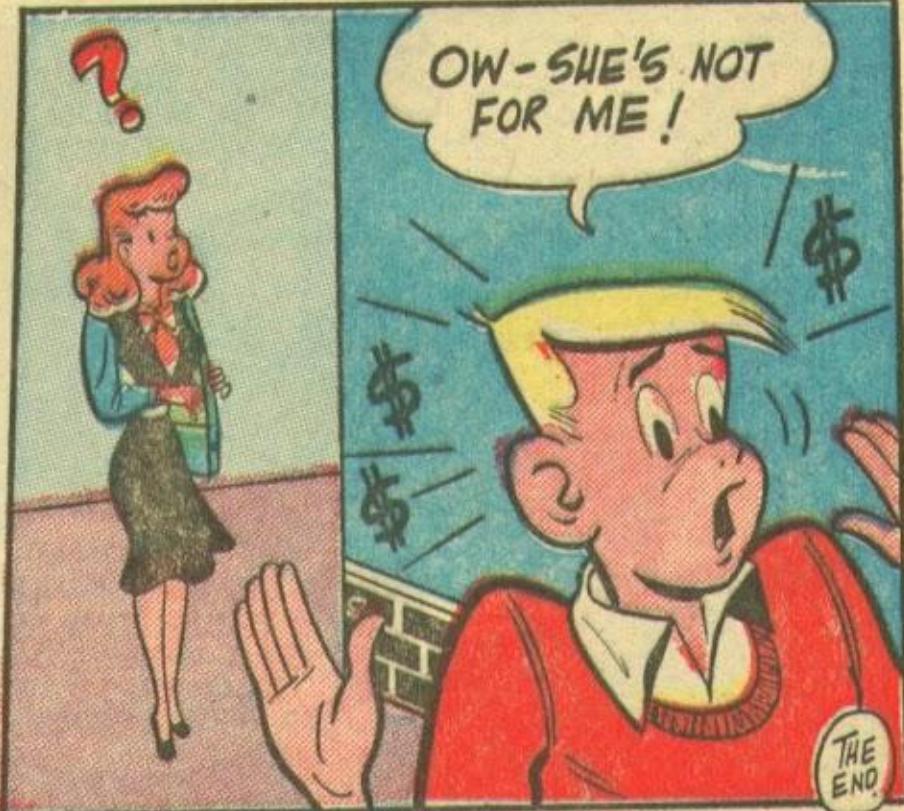
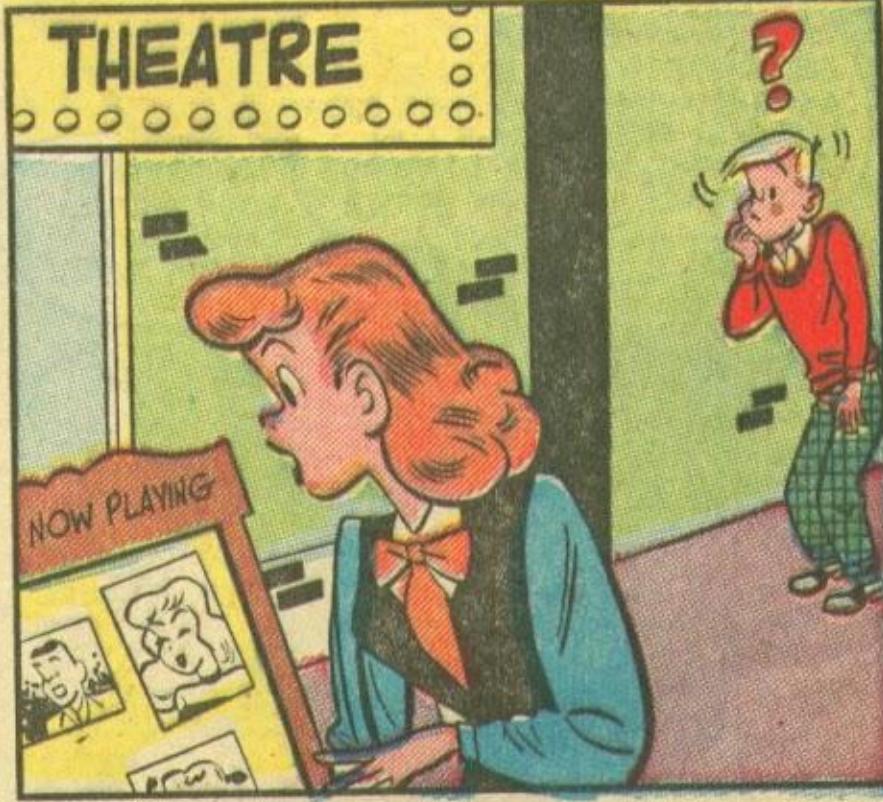
BATMAN



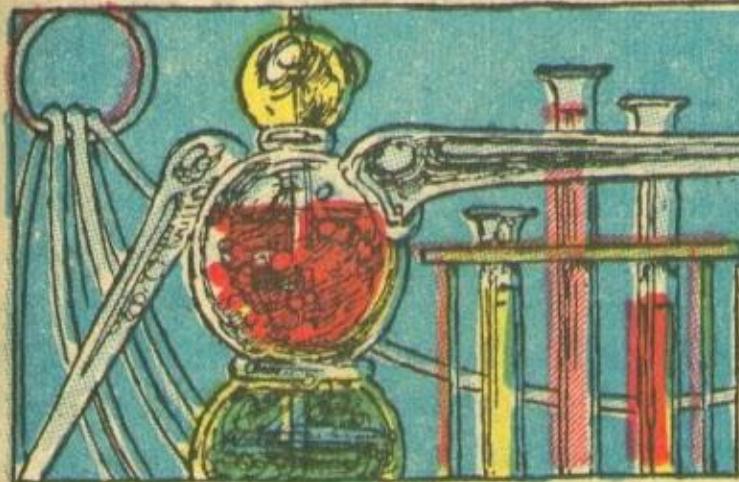
VARSTY VIC

WOW!

HENRY
BOLTHOFF



160,000,000 POLICEMEN



A New Relationship Is Developing Between Citizen and Law Officer, for Crime Is Everybody's Business

A man stops in front of a local national bank to light a cigarette. As he flips the match into the road, he notices a big black sedan pull up at the curb. Three men get out, leaving a fourth at the wheel. The three men swiftly enter the bank.

The smoker has scanned the faces of the three men as they passed by him on their way into the bank, but he didn't recognize any one of them. Still, they might be respectable business men in town. He doesn't know everyone.

But he decides to take no chances, and signals a passing police squad car. If no squad car happened to be passing at the time, he would have stepped into the cigar store and called police headquarters.

The policemen didn't waste time questioning the smoker. They stepped into the bank at the very moment the three thugs were walking out with an estimated \$100,000 in currency stuffed into a large shopping bag.

Once again, an alert citizen, responding to a long and successful police department campaign to make the public more crime-conscious, has nipped a hold-up in the bud.

The above scene took place in Milwaukee, a community of 633,000, where every citizen is made to feel that the protection of the city is *HIS* business as well as the policeman's on the corner. This trend is swiftly spreading to many other cities in America, and a fine relationship is developing between citizen and policeman as a result.

As the Milwaukee Police Department can tell you, however, this sort of relationship cannot be achieved by the simple method of pass-

ing a law. Both police and citizens must make some radical changes in old-fashioned behavior patterns.

For example, imagine yourself exceeding the 20-mile speed limit in a residential zone. A motorcycle policeman signals you to pull over to the curb. You do, and steel yourself against the usual, "Where do you think you're going —to a fire?"

Instead, the policeman politely speaks to you about the dangers involved in your act. He points out what might happen if a little boy suddenly darted out in front of your car, and you were going too fast to stop in time.

"You don't look like the kind of man who'd ever forget a thing like that," the policeman concludes. Then, he hands you a ticket, gives you explicit directions as to where the fine can be paid, tips his cap and gets back on his motorcycle.

That's how Milwaukee policemen hand out tickets, and motorists appreciate it. In return, the average citizen, looking upon the patrolman as a friend, keeps his eyes and ears open for signs of crime. He knows that no policeman, upon hearing his complaint of a suspicious act, will ever say to him:

"Look, brother, you take care of *YOUR* business, and I'll take care of *MINE!*" In Milwaukee, crime is everyone's business, and public complaints are treated with the utmost courtesy by the Department.

As we mentioned above, this tendency and attitude are spreading and growing. Take the case of the Crime Detection Laboratory of New Jersey. Sounds like the name of an official gang-busting unit, doesn't it? It isn't.

The Laboratory is composed of a group of professional men, living in and about Elizabeth, who meet every Friday night to solve criminal cases.

If you ask any of them about it, they'll modestly tell you that crime-fighting is only their hobby. Actually, it's much more than that. The men of the Lab, while enjoying themselves immensely as they "track down" an imaginary murder, are aware of the new thinking existing between the police and the average citizens. They're against hoods, and want to do their bit in helping the police put them behind bars.

At the same time, the Lab men are wise enough to know that their activities must be done with the full knowledge and, if possible, the aid of the Police Department. In this respect, the Laboratory has not only been aided by the law, but has reached a stage of development where it has been able to place its facilities at the service of the police.

Since its inception, back in 1937, the Crime Lab has handled more than 750 actual cases, ranging from murder to arson, and County Prosecutors are full of praise for the help given.

Recently, a case arose that indicated the Crime Lab had come of age. This was when the medical examiner of Union County, following a post-mortem examination of a man who had died mysteriously, came up with a large plastic baseball which he found lodged in the dead man's stomach.

The medical examiner was clearly stumped. The plastic baseball was much too large to have been swallowed. Nor was it a normal growth of any kind. Then how had it gotten into the victim's stomach?

At the end of his wits, he wrapped the ball up and took it down the street to the Crime Lab. "Boys, solve this one, and I'll know you're good," he said.

The plastic ball was given every known test, until, sometime later, the medical examiner was summoned to the Crime Lab. He lost no time in getting there. That plastic ball was begin-

ning to give him the willies, and he'd begun waking up in the middle of the night, asking himself the same burning question: "It was too big to be swallowed! How'd it get in his stomach?"

Arriving at the Crime Lab, he could hardly contain himself. "Well? Did you find out what it is? And how it got into his stomach?"

The Crime Lab's chemist smiled. "When I answer the first question—you'll have your answer to the second question!" he said.

"Go on!"

"And I'll tell you what it is by making another one identical to it." Whereupon, the chemist took a test tube, heated it to body temperature, poured some formaldehyde into it, added ordinary milk, a drop or two of natural stomach acids, and soon presented the startled medical examiner with an exact replica of the plastic baseball!

Further interrogation revealed that the victim had mistakenly swallowed some formaldehyde, and instantly taken a sip of milk in the hope it might serve as an antidote. The poison and the milk, however, combine to form a basic formula for certain plastics of the casein-formaldehyde type.

This is only one example of the many in which the Crime Lab has helped local police, and other groups in other cities are considering similar projects of their own.

If you would care to start a similar project in your own home town, you can count on the help of none other than FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, himself. After studying the work of the Crime Lab, Hoover wrote:

"The project . . . has blazed a trail of immeasurable benefit to the law-enforcement profession. Your work could well be emulated by other communities, and any help which the FBI can render toward encouraging such a movement will be given with pleasure and enthusiasm."

—by Jack E. Miller

QUICK QUIZ

HOW FAST DO RADIO WAVES TRAVEL?



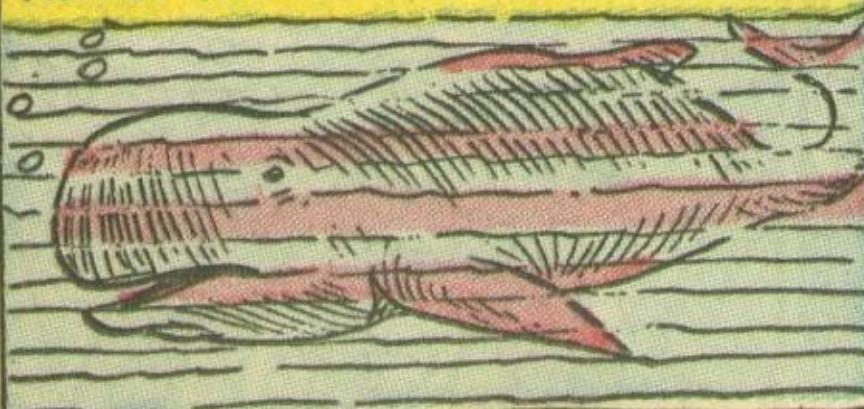
A RADIO WAVE TRAVELS 7 TIMES AROUND THE EARTH IN A SECOND!

WAS PAPER INVENTED BY THE EGYPTIANS?



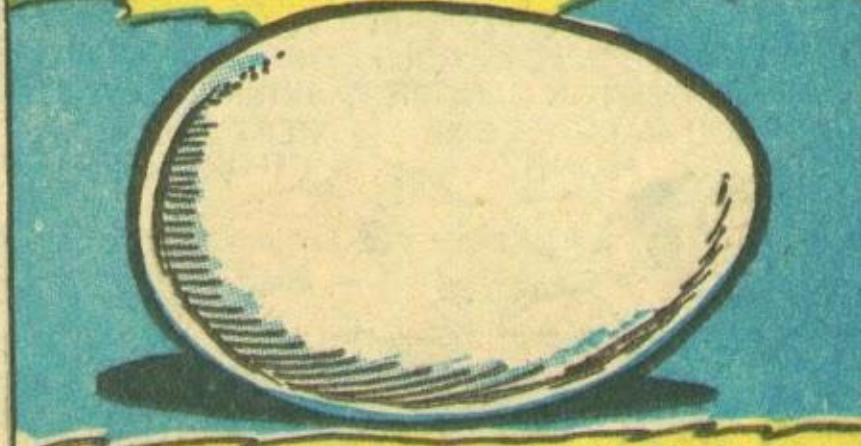
NO! THE CHINESE INVENTED REAL PAPER 1900 YEARS AGO! THE EGYPTIANS MADE THE FIRST WRITING MATERIAL FROM THE PAPYRUS PLANT... BUT IT WAS NOT PAPER AS WE KNOW IT!

HOW MUCH WEIGHT DOES A NEWLY-BORN WHALE GAIN DAILY?



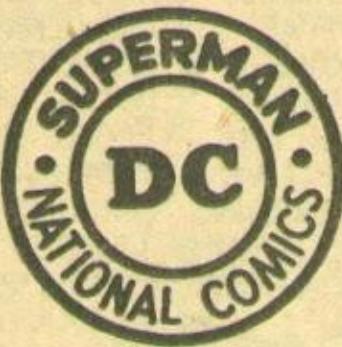
ABOUT 200 POUNDS A DAY! FULL GROWN, SOME WHALES WEIGH 100 TONS... WITH A LENGTH EXCEEDING 125 FEET!

IS THE SHELL OF AN EGG POROUS?

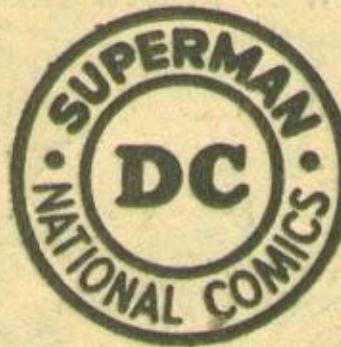


YES! IT IS POROUS ENOUGH TO PERMIT FRESH AIR TO ENTER AND USED AIR TO EXIT!

H.T. ELMO



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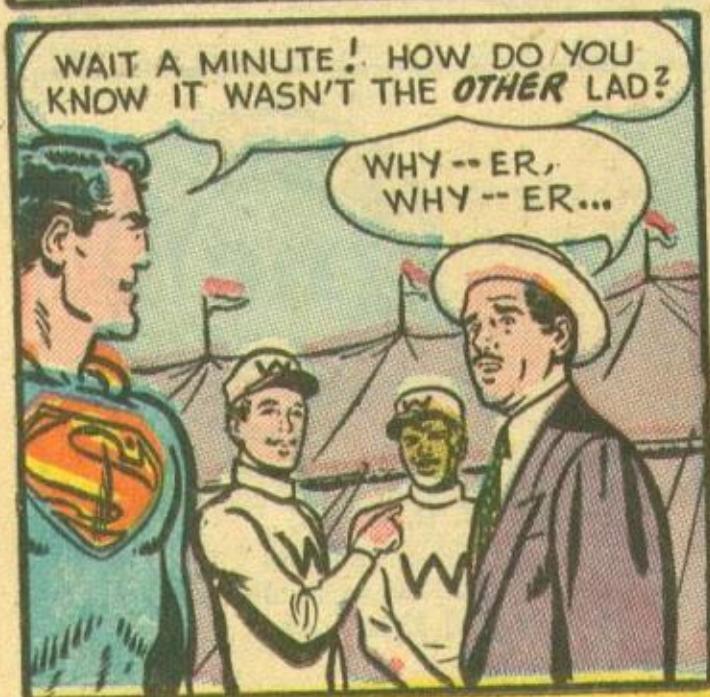
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SUPERMAN

says:

"PEOPLE are PEOPLE!"



BROTHERHOOD WEEK IS BEING OBSERVED FEBRUARY 15-22...
BUT THE IDEAS BEHIND IT SHOULD BE OBSERVED ALL YEAR.

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH
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BATMAN



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

BUT I THOUGHT
BATMAN NEVER
USES A GUN!

HA! IF THEY ONLY
KNEW THE TRUTH...THAT
I'M IMPERSONATING THE
REAL BATMAN!

HE MUST BE MAD!
HE'S BECOME A
KILLER!

In his time,
BATMAN HAS FACED
MANY DANGEROUS MEN...
MOBSTERS, THIEVES, THE GAMUT
OF THE ROGUES GALLERY. BUT
NOW BATMAN IS UP AGAINST AN
ADVERSARY THAT MAKES THE OTHERS
PALE BY COMPARISON! A PROFESSIONAL
KILLER...COLD-BLOODED, RUTHLESS,
EFFICIENT! A MAN WELL-VERSED IN THE
ART OF MURDER! A MAN WHOSE LIFE
WAS DEVOTED TO NOTHING ELSE! THIS
IS THE MAN WHO TAKES BATMAN
AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER ON
THE MOST TERRIFYING ADVENTURE OF
THEIR LIVES, WHEN THEY TRY TO
STOP...

The **MAN** of
100 MURDERS

BOB
KANE



BATMAN



DARK NIGHT... AND MISTS. A FUGITIVE FROM THE LAW DESPERATELY SEEKS ESCAPE! HIS NAME? BRUCE WAYNE!



THEY'RE ON MY HEELS! I'VE GOT TO SHAKE THEM! THE POLICE HAVE ORDERS TO SHOOT TO KILL!



THERE HE GOES... BEHIND THOSE ROCKS!

C'MON, MEN! HE MUSTN'T ESCAPE US!

ROBIN... AND THE POLICE... HUNTING FAMED SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE! HOW COULD THIS FANTASTIC SITUATION COME TO BE? FOR THE ANSWER, LET US TURN BACK THE CLOCK A FEW DAYS...



...TO HOLLYWOOD, WHERE OUTSIDE A RESTAURANT, A CROWD GATHERS TO WATCH A FAMOUS RITUAL... AND IS TREATED TO A SURPRISE!

LOOK! HE'S NOT PUTTING HIS FOOTPRINTS IN THE CEMENT LIKE THE OTHER STARS! HE'S PUTTING IN THE PRINT OF A GUN!

AND WHY NOT! THAT'S HIS TRADE-MARK! HE'S FERRIS HEDRANT... THE SCREEN'S PERFECT KILLER!

"THE MAN OF 100 MURDERS!"

THAT'S HIM, ALL RIGHT! HE'S KILLED 100 PEOPLE, IN HIS ROLES ON THE SCREEN!

PERFECT CASTING! THERE'S SOMETHING SCARY ABOUT HIM, ALL RIGHT! NO WONDER HE ALWAYS PLAYS THE VILLAIN!



AND AS ACTOR FERRIS HEDRANT SLOWLY WALKS TOWARD HIS STUDIO...

THERE'S FERRIS HEDRANT NOW! OH, MR. HEDRANT... PLEASE SIGN MY BOOK! I'VE SEEN ALL YOUR PICTURES... YOU SCARE ME SILLY!

CERTAINLY, MY DEAR... IT'S A PLEASURE!

FERRIS HEDRANT IN
SMILING KILLE

GOLLY! REMEMBER HIM AND IN "NIGHT OF EVIL"? HE KILLED A WHOLE FAMILY FOR TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS!

"TWO GRAVES NORTH"? HE KILLED HIS BRIDE ON THEIR WEDDING NIGHT! THERE NEVER WAS A SCREEN MENACE LIKE FERRIS HEDRANT!





BATMAN



MEANWHILE, IN THE OFFICES OF ALFRED M. DOLE,
PRESIDENT OF TRIUMPHANT PICTURES...

THEN IT'S A DEAL,
BATMAN! YOU'LL
ACT AS TECHNICAL
ADVISER ON OUR
NEW CRIME FILM,
"BULLETPROOF"!

I'LL BE GLAD TO, MR. DOLE!
AND I ASK THAT THE FEE
YOU MENTIONED BE TURNED
OVER TO A DESERVING LOCAL CHARITY!



THEN, AS THE FAMOUS LAWMEN DEPART...

YOU MAY GO IN
NOW, MR. HEDRANT!

:WHISPER: LOOK,
BATMAN! THAT'S
FERRIS HEDRANT...
THE MAN WHO ALWAYS
KILLS ON THE
SCREEN!



AND, MOMENTS LATER...

HEDRANT, I'LL MAKE IT BRIEF!
YOU WON'T BE IN "BULLETPROOF"!
WE'RE NOT PICKING UP YOUR
OPTION!

YOU MEAN... I'M FIRED?
ME... FERRIS HEDRANT?
BUT YOU MUST BE MAD!
I'M A BIG STAR!
EVERYBODY
KNOWS ME!

THAT'S THE TROUBLE... YOU'VE
BECOME TOO FAMILIAR! YOU'VE
BEEN TYPE-CAST TOO MUCH...
YOUR LAST TWO PICTURES
SLIPPED AT THE BOX-OFFICE.
THE KILLER IN "BULLETPROOF"
MUST BE SPECIAL... VERY
SPECIAL! I'M SORRY,
HEDRANT!

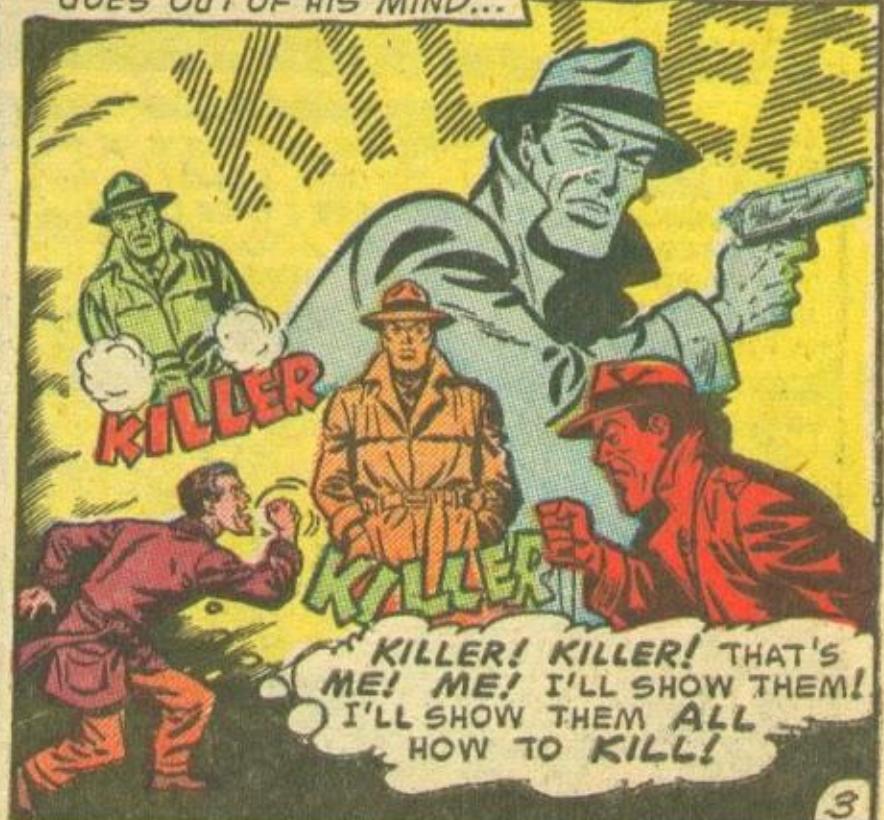


THAT NIGHT, IN HIS HOME, THE HIGH-STRUNG
ACTOR PACES ANGRILY PAST THE MEMENTOES
OF HIS LONG SCREEN CAREER...

SO I'M NOT SPECIAL ENOUGH FOR
THEM! I'M TOO FAMILIAR!
THEY NEED NEW FACES! BAH!
THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!



THE ANGER MOUNTS... THE TENSION HEIGHTENS!
AND THEN IT HAPPENS! A DELICATE NERVOUS
SYSTEM SUDDENLY SNAPS... AS HEDRANT
GOES OUT OF HIS MIND...



KILLER! KILLER! THAT'S
ME! ME! I'LL SHOW THEM!
I'LL SHOW THEM ALL
HOW TO KILL!



BATMAN



NEXT EVENING, ON THE DARKENED CAMPUS OF A NEARBY UNIVERSITY...

SO I'M NOT ANY GOOD AS A KILLER, EH? HA! I'LL SHOW THE WORLD HOW CLEVER A MURDERER I AM... I'LL RE-ENACT THE KILLINGS I PERFORMED IN MY PICTURES... BUT WITH REAL VICTIMS THIS TIME!



AND IN THE BIOLOGY LABORATORY, AS THE NIGHT WATCHMAN SEEKS TO INVESTIGATE A NOISE...

SO LONG, BURNS... YOU CHUMP!

BUT MY NAME ISN'T BURNS! IT'S A MISTAKE! OHHHHH...



LATER, AS THE CRAZED ACTOR STALKS ANOTHER UNSUSPECTING VICTIM, REPEATING ANOTHER OF HIS CINEMA CRIMES...

BUT YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE!

ALL SAY! HA, HA! WAIT TILL THE PEOPLE GET A LOOK AT THIS WINDOW IN THE MORNING... THERE'LL BE AN EXTRA MANNEQUIN!



AND NEXT MORNING, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RELAX IN THEIR HOTEL ROOM IN THEIR EVERYDAY ROLES AS BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

HURRY AND FINISH DRESSING, DICK! LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE NEEDED BY THE LOCAL POLICE!

MURDER IN A BIOLOGY LAB... MURDER IN A DEPARTMENT STORE WINDOW! I FEEL I'VE SEEN ALL THIS BEFORE.. BUT WHERE?



THEN...

I KNOW! THE MOVIES! AND THEY WERE FERRIS HEDRANT PICTURES! HE PERFORMED THE SAME KIND OF MURDERS IN HIS PICTURES!

WELL, THAT'S A LEAD! LET'S GET DOWN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS!



SOON AFTER...

WE'VE GOT AN EYE-WITNESS WHO CLAIMS HE SPOTTED THE ACTOR, FERRIS HEDRANT, LEAVING THAT DEPARTMENT STORE LAST NIGHT! WE TRIED TO PICK UP... HEDRANT... HE'S DISAPPEARED!

LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE ON TO SOMETHING, ROBIN! LET'S GET OVER TO HEDRANT'S STUDIO RIGHT AWAY!





BATMAN



LATER...

IT WAS UNFORTUNATE... HMM! IT MIGHT HAVE
BUT WE HAD TO LET AFFECTED HIS MIND!
HEDRANT GO... HE I WANT TO SEE EVERY
TOOK IT VERY SCRIPT OF EVERY PICTURE
BADLY... HEDRANT MADE FOR YOU!



SOON AFTER, IN A STUDIO OFFICE...

BUT IF YOUR THEORY MAYBE
IS CORRECT... THAT WE CAN
HEDRANT IS FORCE HIS
RE-LIVING HIS HAND! HMM...
MOVIE ROLES... THIS SCRIPT
HOW CAN YOU MAY PROVIDE
POSSIBLY TRAP THE ANSWER!
HIM? HE'S PLAYED SO
PLAYED SO MANY PARTS!

I REMEMBER.
A STORY OF WAR-
TIME SABOTAGE.
HEDRANT PLAYED
A DUAL ROLE...
TWINS. HE
KILLED A
MAN IN A
TANK
ARSENAL...

GOOD! THERE'S
ONLY ONE TANK
ARSENAL LEFT
IN THESE PARTS!
MAYBE WE CAN
RE-SET THE STAGE...
BY ARRANGING TO
HAVE A BLACKOUT
TEST OVER THIS
WHOLE AREA
TONIGHT!

AND THAT NIGHT...
WE REPEAT: THIS IS A TEST
BLACKOUT! DO NOT BE
ALARMED... THIS IS A TEST
BLACKOUT!

BLACKOUT! IT ALL
COMES BACK TO ME!
OF COURSE! THE TANK
ARSENAL... AND COLD-
BLOODED **MURDER!**
HA-HA!



LATER, AT THE TANK ARSENAL...

WE'D BEST SPLIT UP AND EACH TAKE AN END OF THE ARSENAL. IF HE'S COMING, HE'LL BE HERE SOON!

HE'LL BE LUCKY IF WE CATCH HIM!
THERE'S AN ANGRY MOB OUTSIDE, HEAVILY ARMED!
THEY DON'T WANT ANY MORE MURDER!

AND AS THE LAWMEN SEPARATE...

IF HEDRANT IS CORNERED, HE MAY START A SHOOTING WAR AND PEOPLE MIGHT BE KILLED!
HMM... THE SCRIPT OF.....
"MURDER IN THE BLACKOUT" GIVES ME AN IDEA...



BATMAN

IN THE NEXT MOMENT, BATMAN DISCARDS HIS UNIFORM AND HASTILY DABS ON A DISGUISE!

IN THE MOVIE, HEDRANT PLAYED TWO ROLES...A KILLER, AND HIS TWIN, THE DETECTIVE, TO WHOM HE SURRENDERED MEEKLY. IF I CAN MAKE HEDRANT FEEL I'M HIS TWIN, HE MAY SURRENDER TO ME!

BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AS HEDRANT SECRETLY ENTERS THE ARSENAL, FATE PLAYS A CURIOUS TRICK! HE BUMPS HIS HEAD, INSTANTLY RECOVERS HIS SANITY!

GET HEDRANT! I'M TRAPPED! HE'S KILLED TWO PEOPLE ALREADY! STOP HIM AT ALL COSTS!

LISTEN TO THAT! I CAN NEVER EXPLAIN! THAT MOB WILL SHOOT ME ON SIGHT!

THEN... IT'S... IT'S BATMAN... DISGUIISING HIMSELF TO LOOK LIKE ME! HE'S UP TO SOME TRICK... AND MAYBE I CAN USE IT TO MY ADVANTAGE!



ALL AT ONCE THE DESPERATE ACTOR LEAPS DOWN ON BATMAN, STUNNING HIM! IN THE NEXT MOMENT, HEDRANT HAS DONNED BATMAN'S UNIFORM!

PERFECT! NOW I'LL FIX IT SO IT APPEARS HE'S TRYING TO ESCAPE. THE MOB'LL SHOOT HIM... AND I'LL GO FREE!

THOSE DOORS OPEN ON A RAMP! I'LL GIVE HIM A SHOVE AND HE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP HIMSELF...IT'LL LOOK LIKE HE'S MAKING A BREAK! AND I'VE TAPEDED HIS LIPS, SO THAT HE CAN'T SHOUT TO ROBIN!



HERE'S HEDRANT! HE'S DESPERATE! HE TRIED TO TAKE POISON...SO I'VE TAPEDED HIS LIPS!

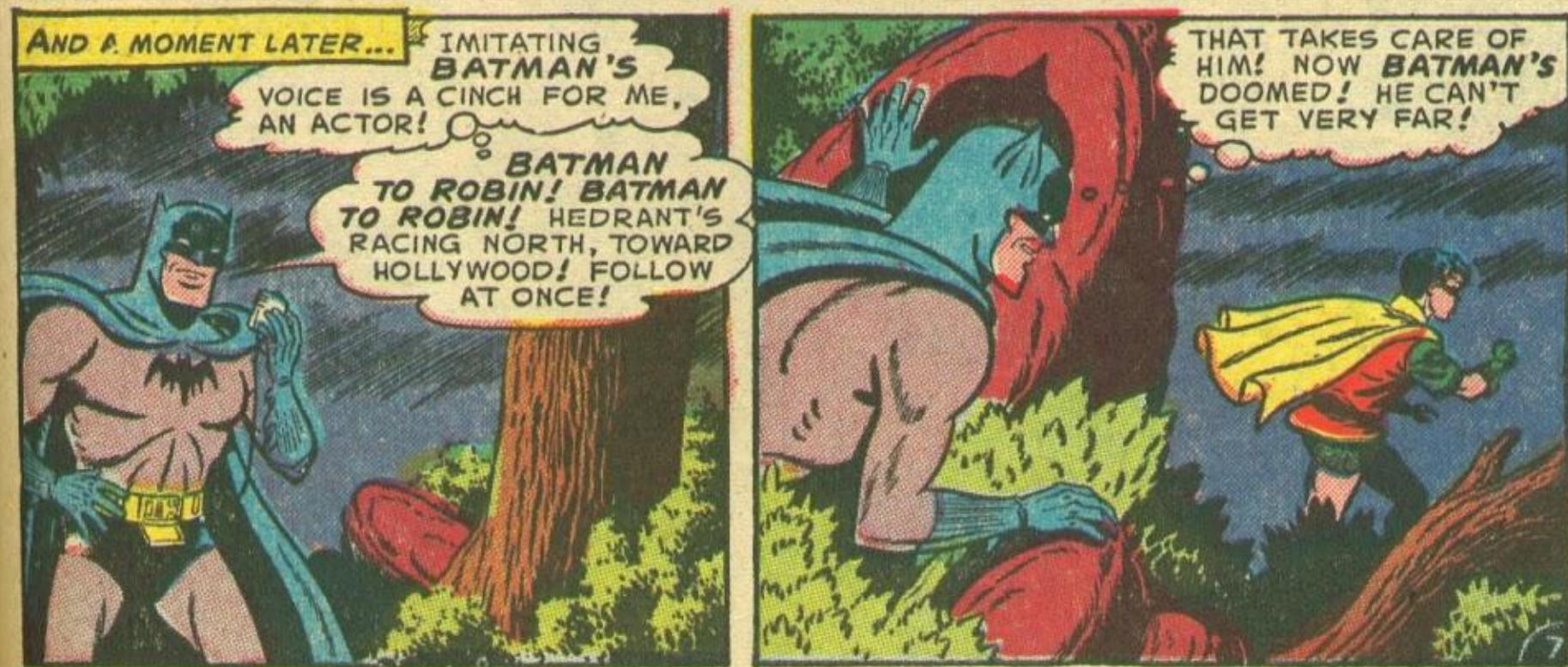
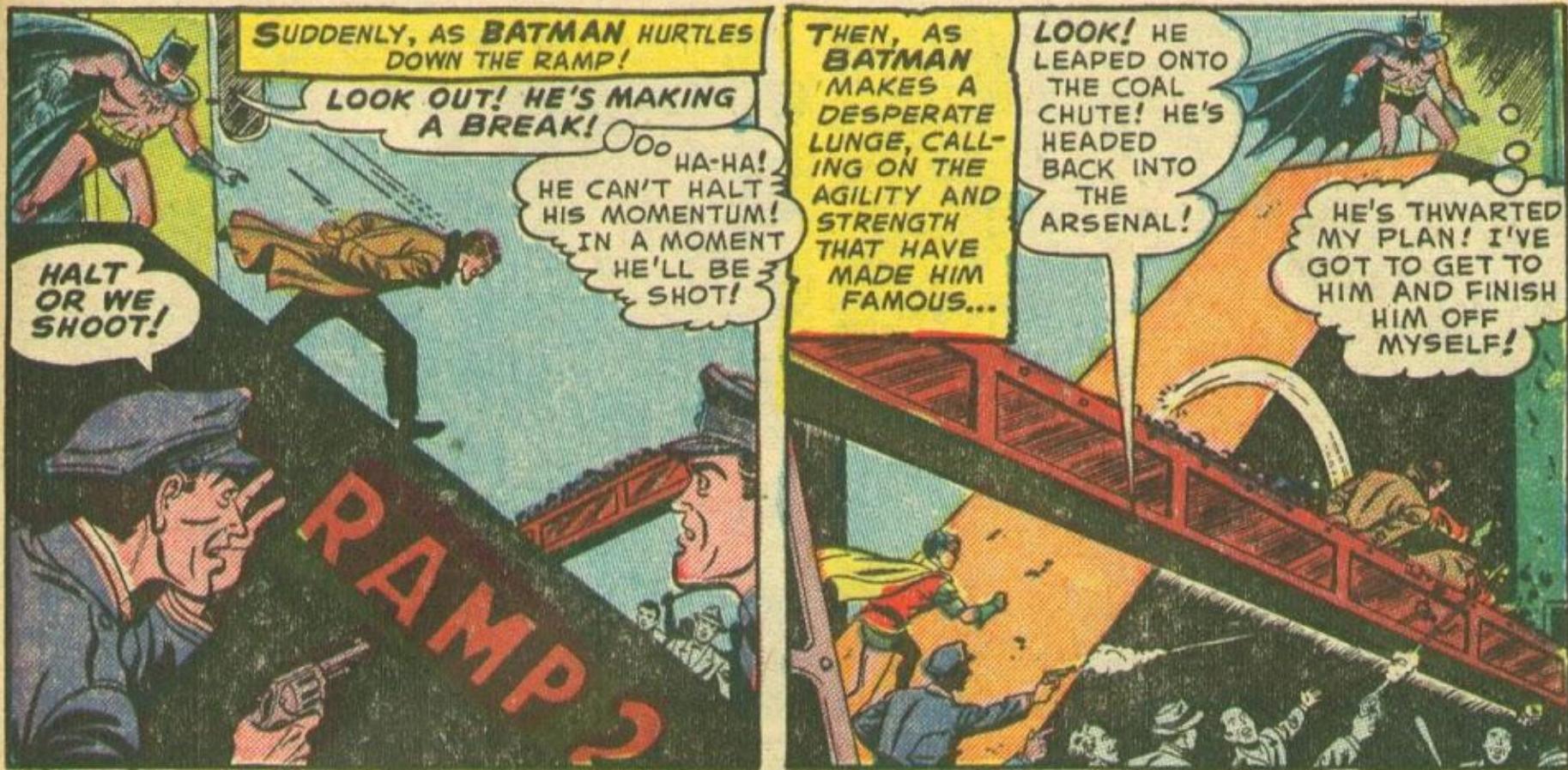
HA! IN A MOMENT, I'LL PUSH HIM AWAY!

WHAT A SPOT! HOW CAN I TELL ROBIN I'M BATMAN AND HE'S HEDRANT?





BATMAN





BATMAN



MEANWHILE, AS BRUCE FINDS A MOMENT OF RESPITE AND FREES HIS HANDS BY GRINDING THE BONDS AGAINST THE ROUGH BARK OF A TREE...



MOMENTS LATER, AS THE REAL HEDRANT COMES THRASHING THROUGH THE WOODS...



BUT THEN...

HE TRICKED ME! ARRANGED THE COAT AROUND THE LIMB! NEVER MIND... HE CAN'T BE FAR AWAY!



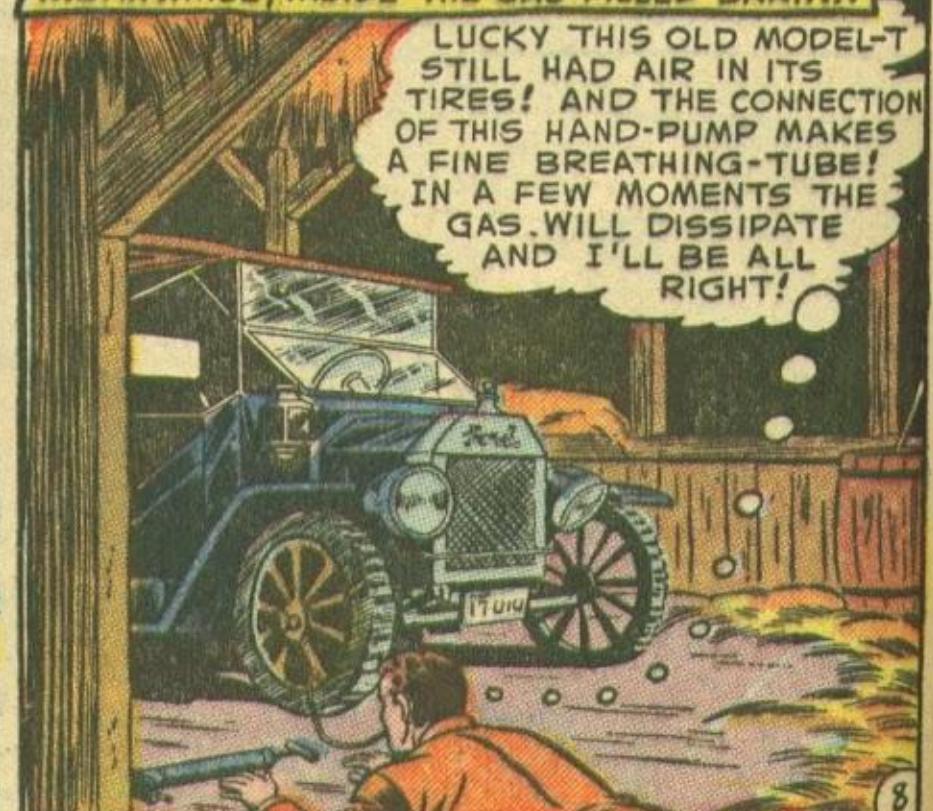
AND AS THE CHASE LEADS TO A BARN ON A FARM NEARBY...



AND AS THE ACTOR FILLS THE BARN WITH GAS...

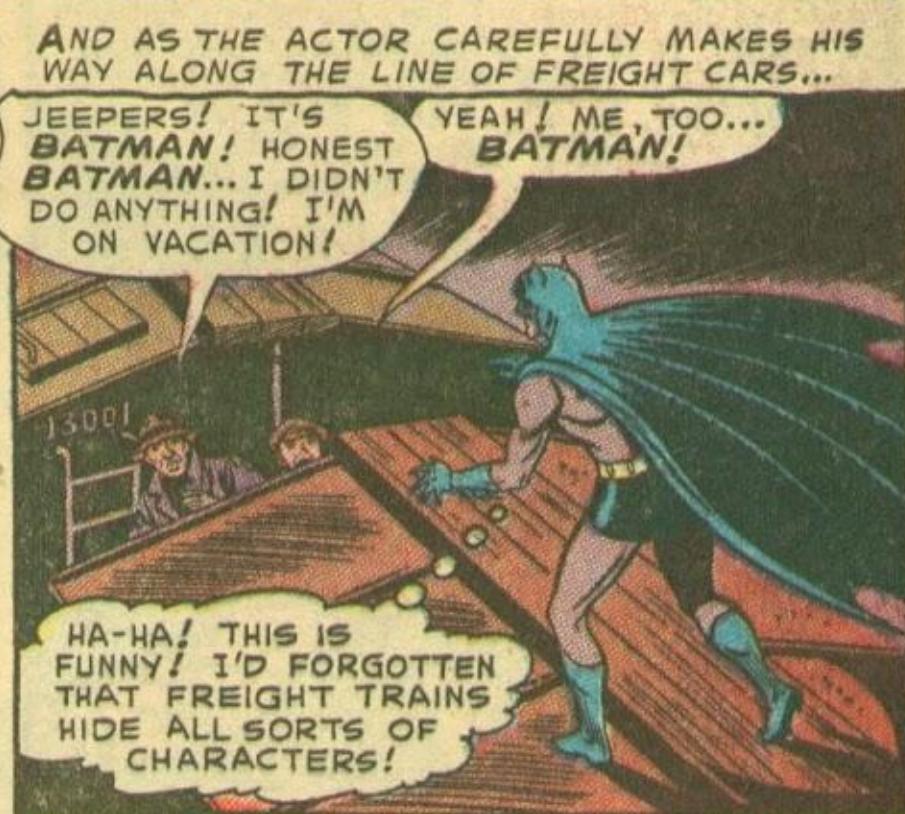


MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE GAS-FILLED BARN...



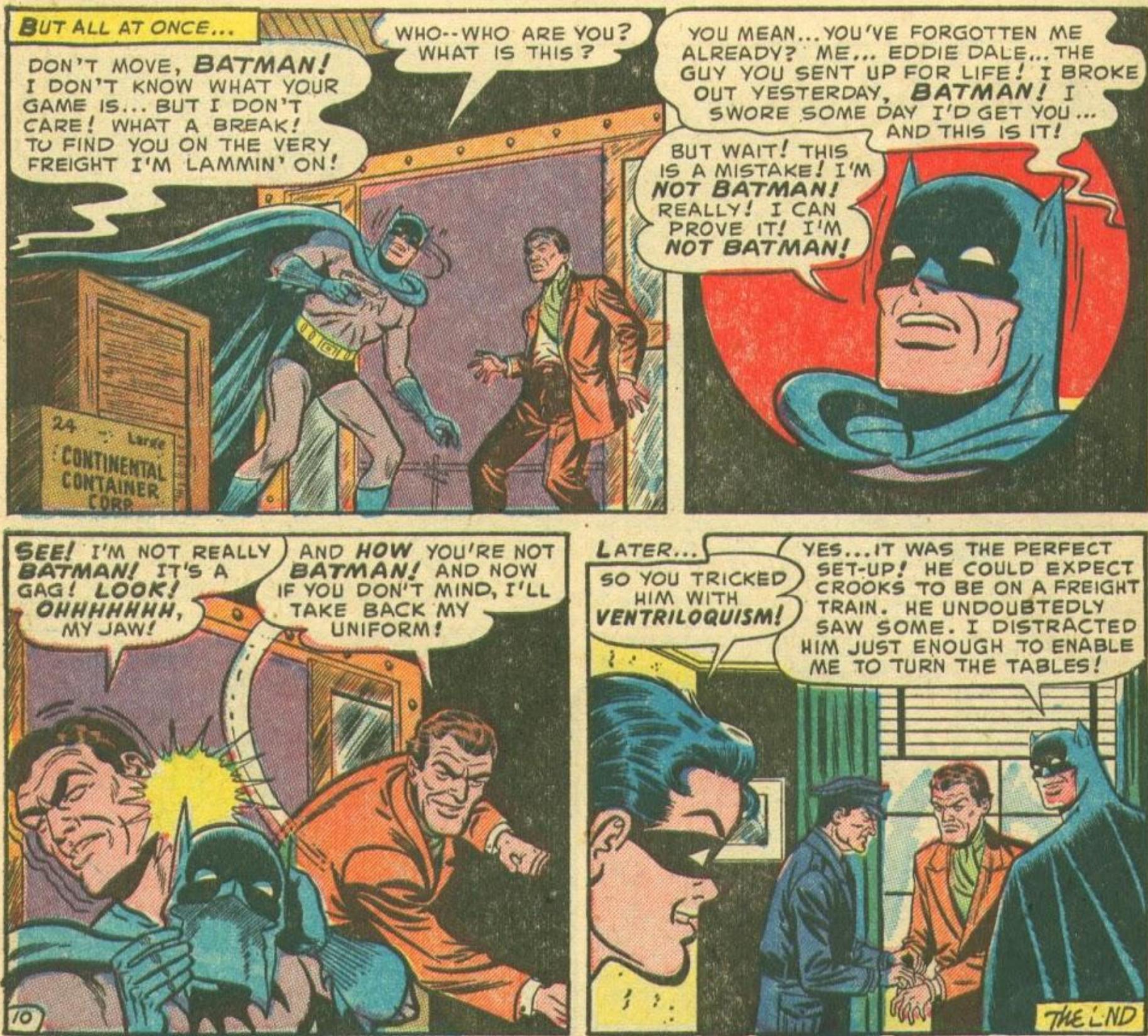


BATMAN





BATMAN



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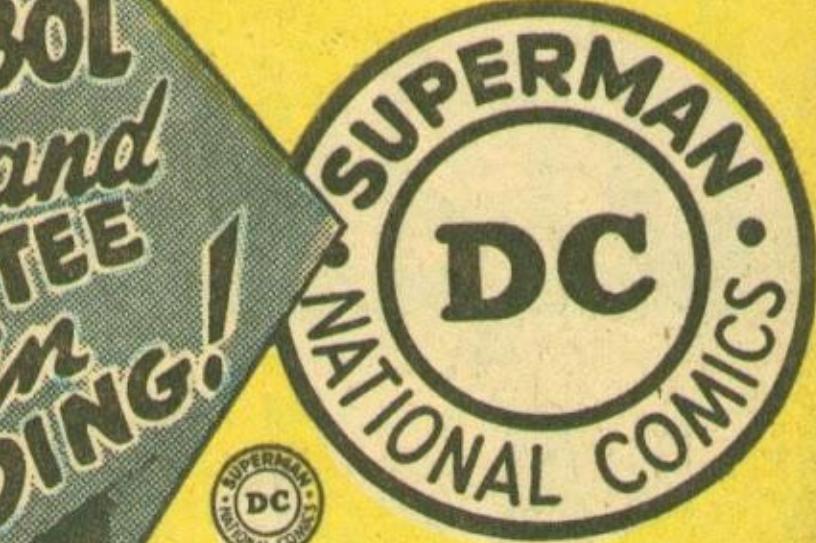
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...of...



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THIS GREAT
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I CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!



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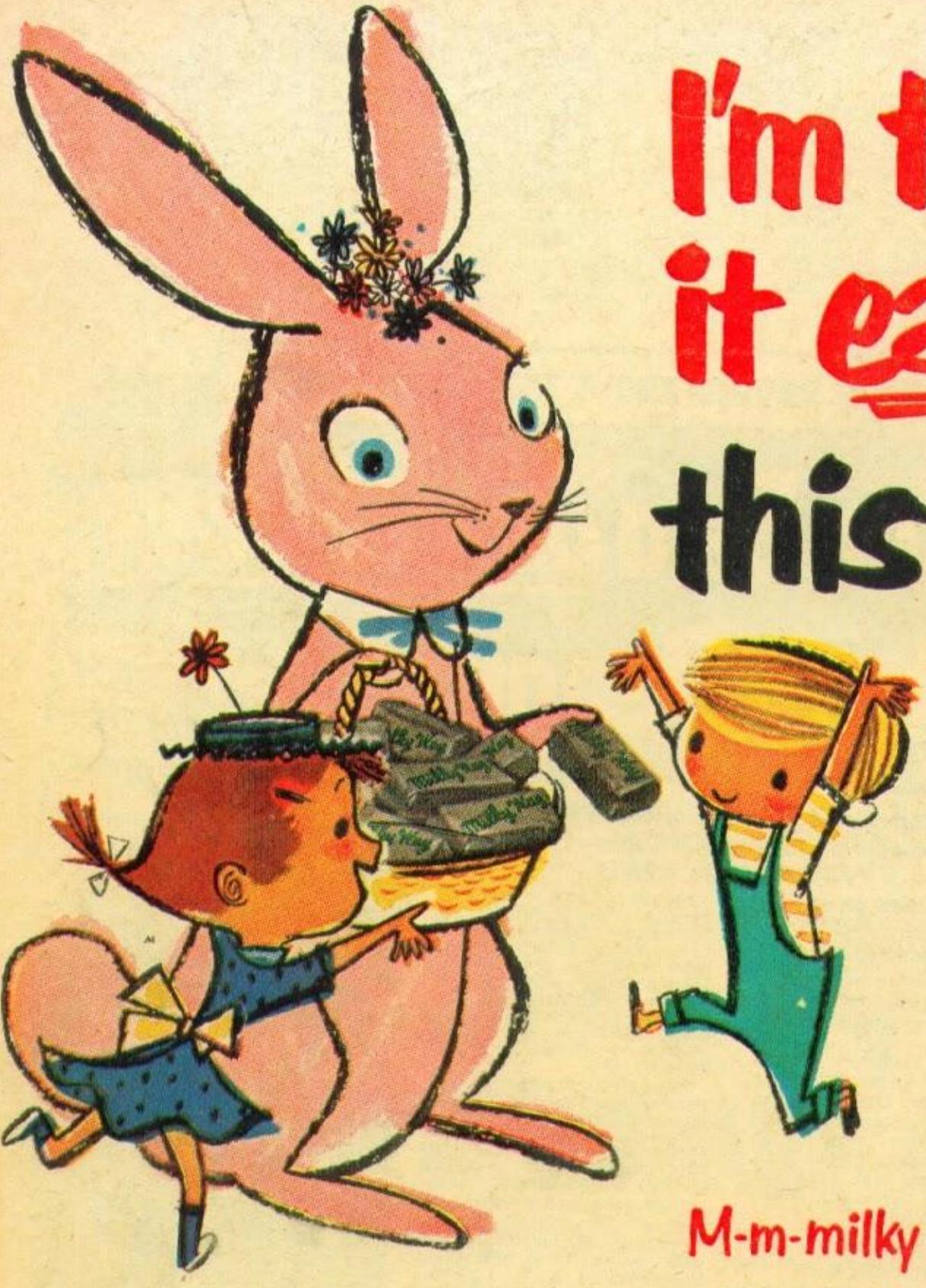
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