



NO. 287
MAY
30430

BATMAN

THE
PENGUIN
IS BACK--
DEADLIER
THAN EVER!

SURPRISE, BATMAN!
IN A MOMENT, YOU'LL
BE AS EXTINCT AS
THIS BIRD I'M RIDING!
AWRK! AWRK!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C
A
D
AUTHORITY

5-2563

MIKE
GRELL

ORPHANED AS A CHILD
WHEN A GUNMAN
MURDERED HIS PARENTS,
BRUCE WAYNE TRAINED
HIMSELF TO WAGE
RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST
CRIME. MASQUERADE BY
DAY AS A MILLIONAIRE-MAN-
ABOUT-TOWN, HE PROWLS
THE NIGHT TO PREY ON
THE VERMIN OF THE
UNDERWORLD
AS THE DREAD...

BAT MAN

IT CAN'T BE!
THIS IS A
NIGHTMARE!

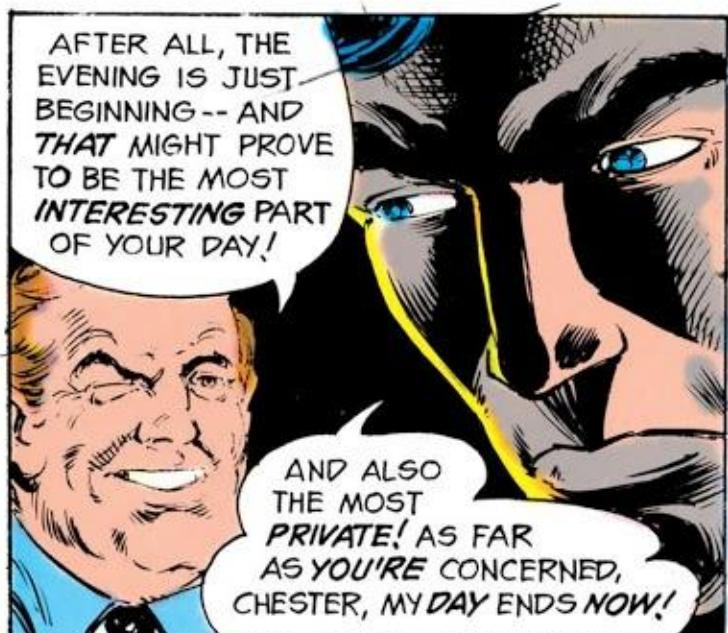
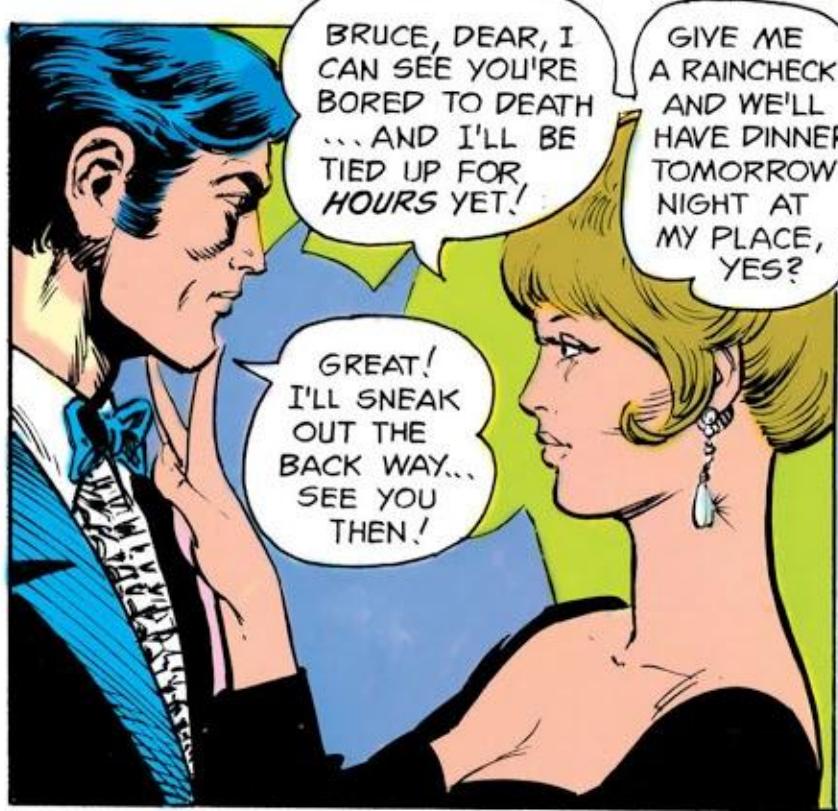
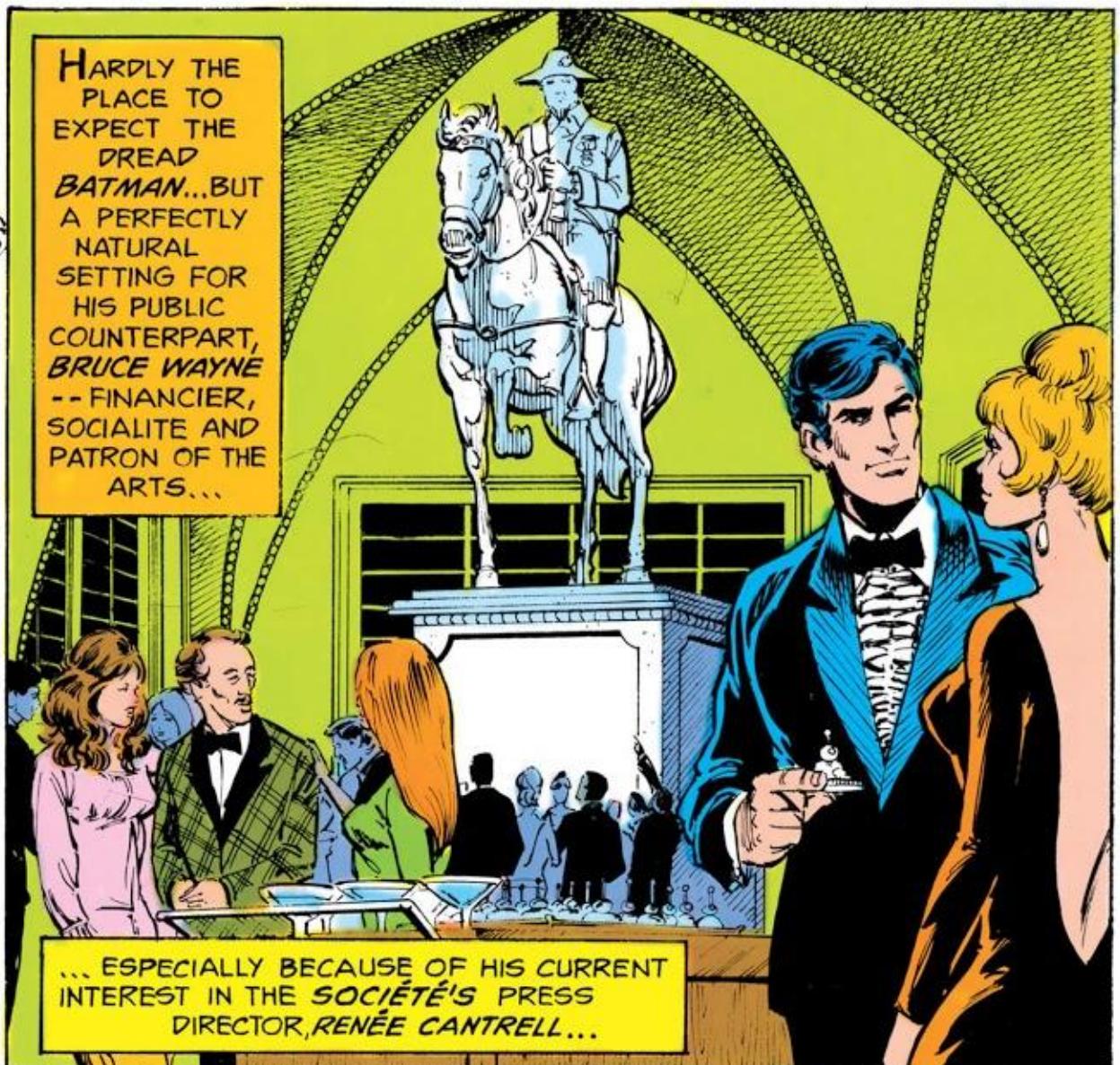
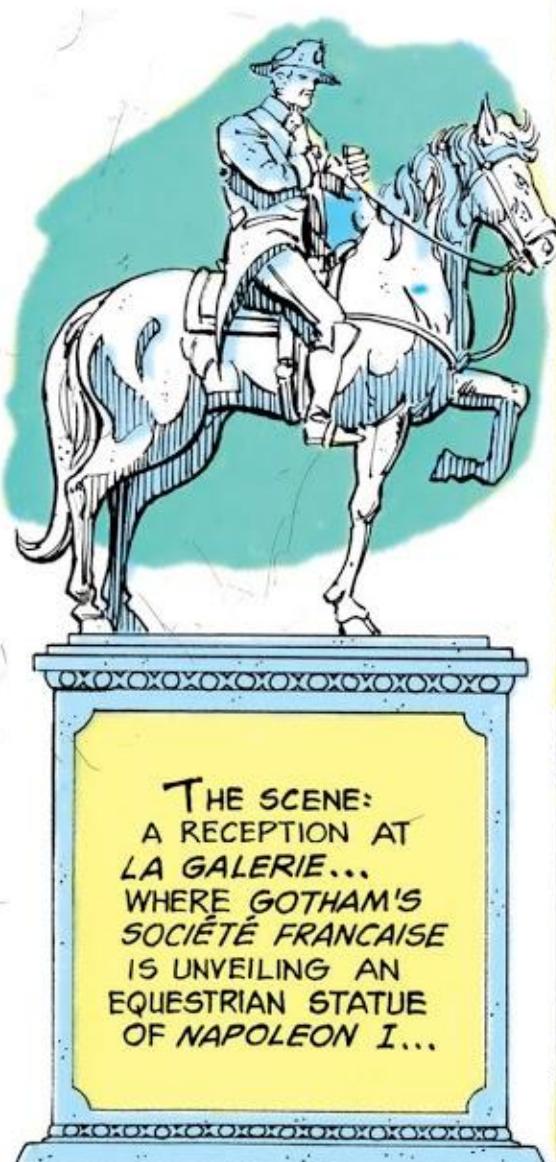
NO,
BATMAN-EX--
A NIGHTMARE
WOULD BE A
MERCY! THIS
IS REAL!

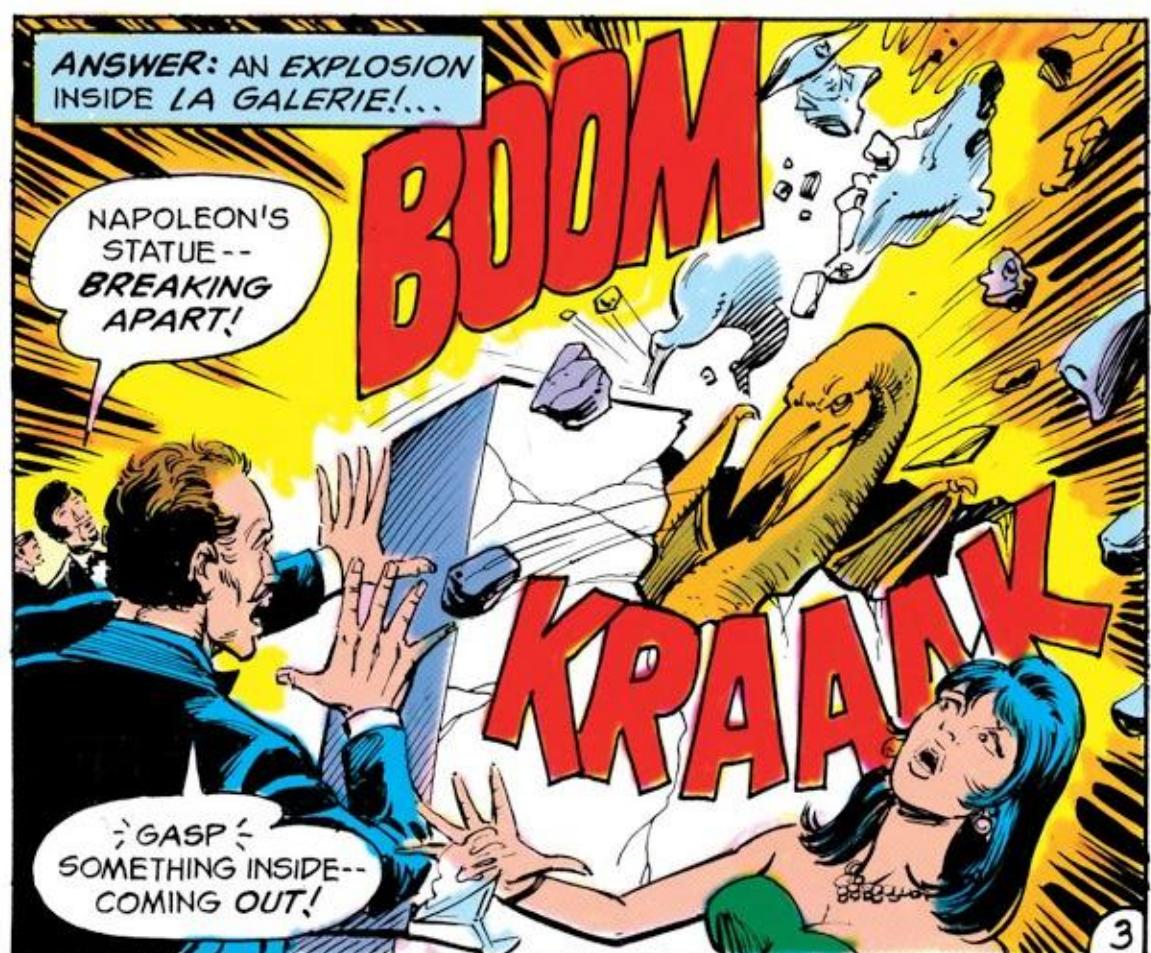
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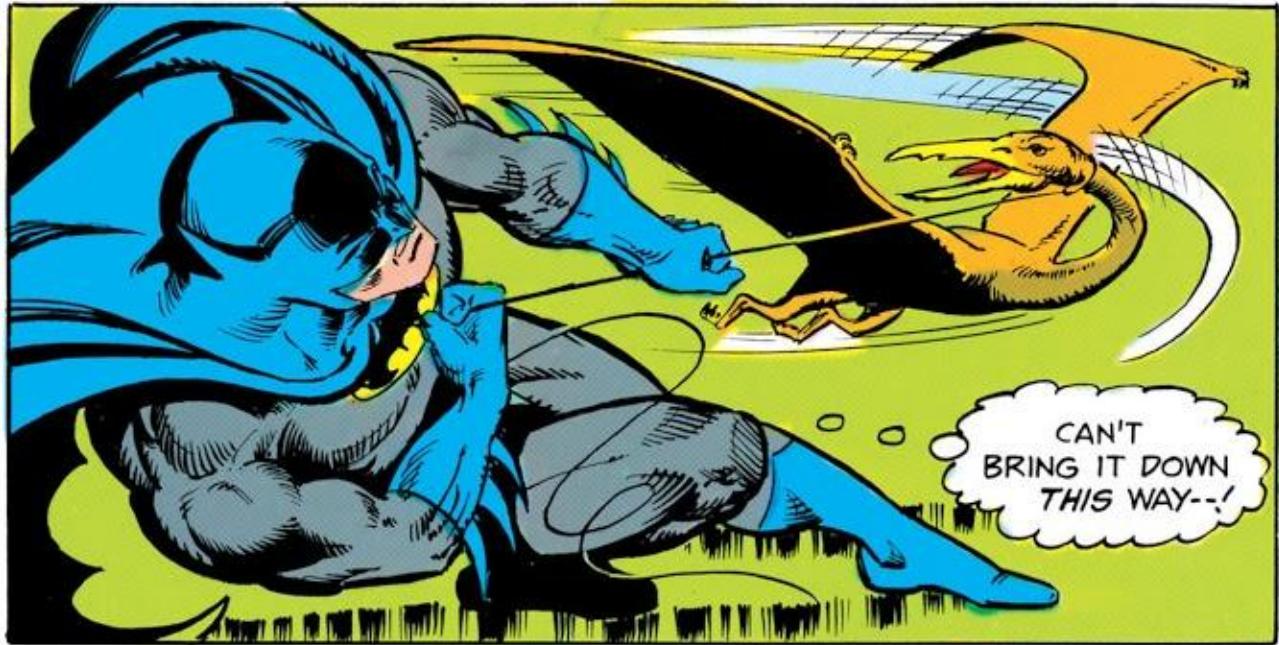
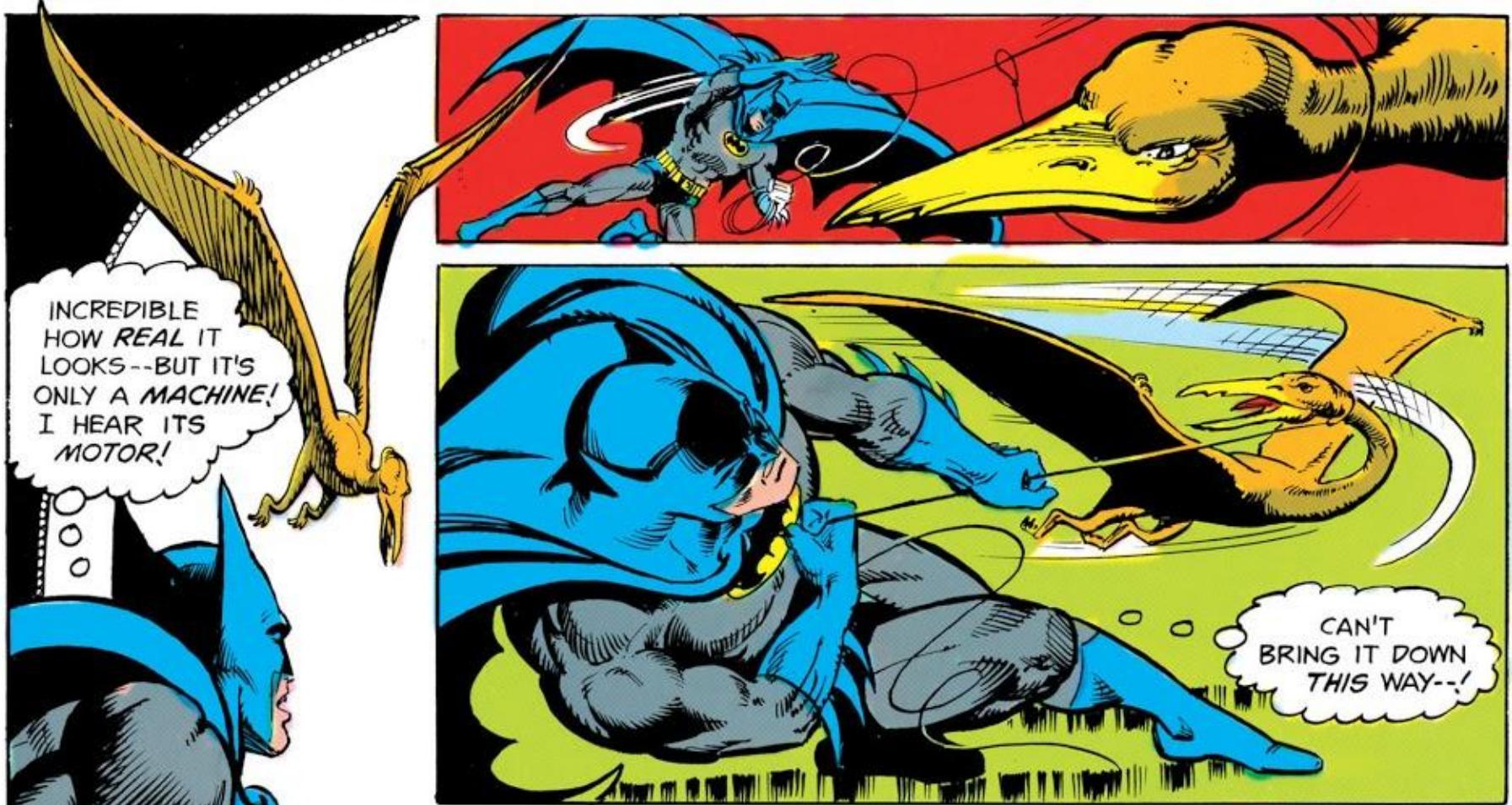
NOBODY SENT FOR HIM-- BUT HE'S BACK
AGAIN! THAT PITILESS, PESTIFEROUS
PRINCE OF PAIN AND PLUNDER -- THAT
PEDANTIC PATRIARCH OF PREDATORS --
THE PENGUIN-- REACHES FOR A NEW
PINNACLE AS HE PROCLAIMS:

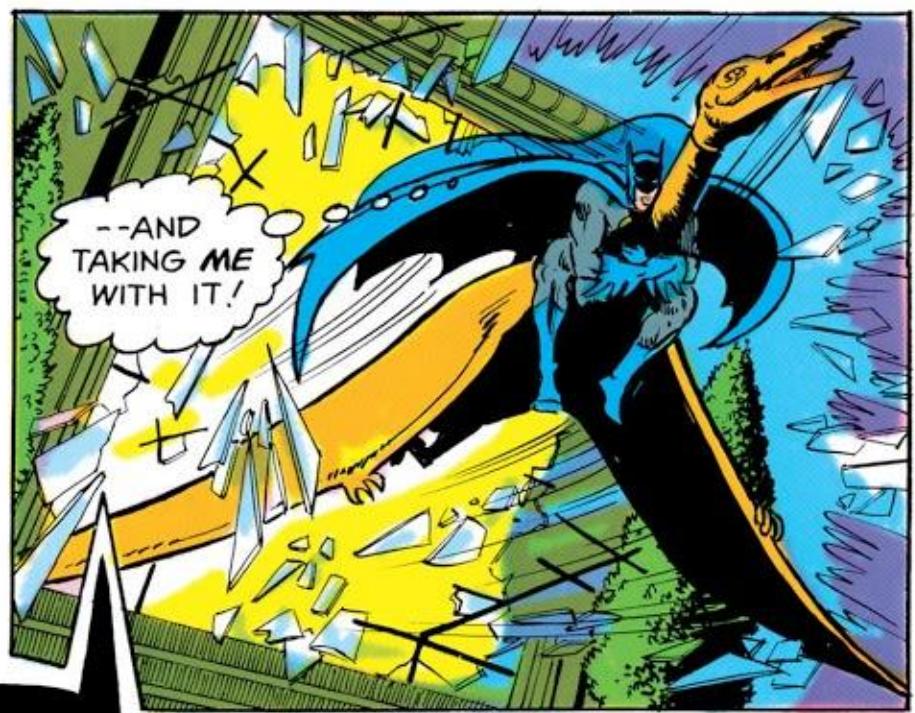
"**BATMAN-EX--**
AS IN EXTINCT!"

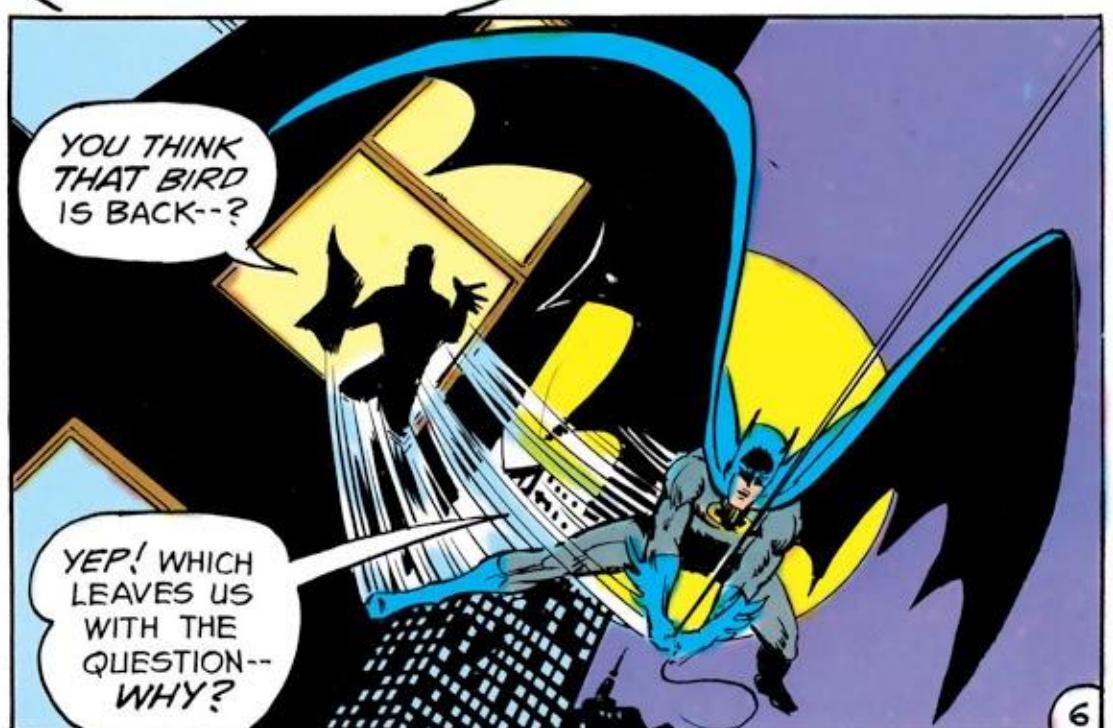
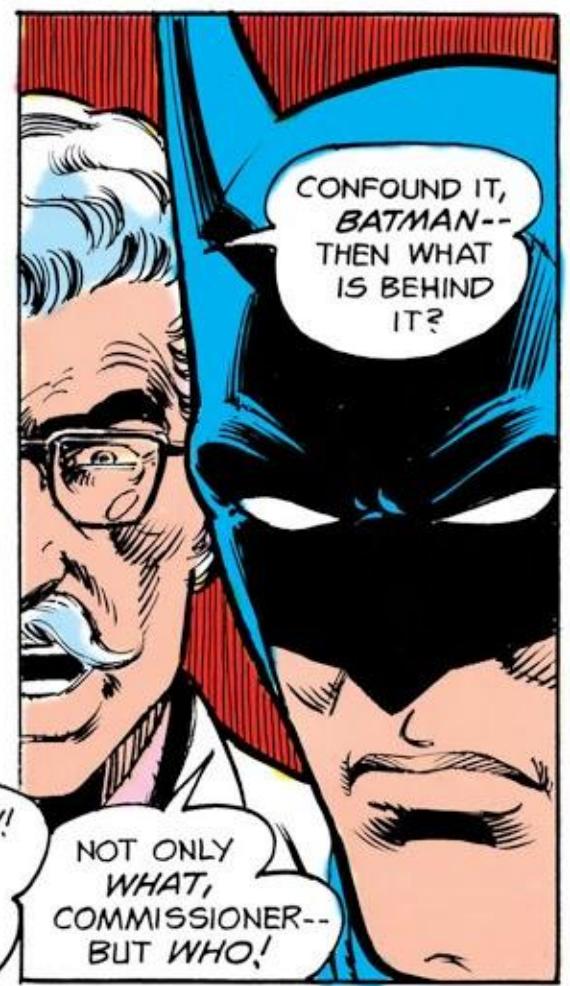
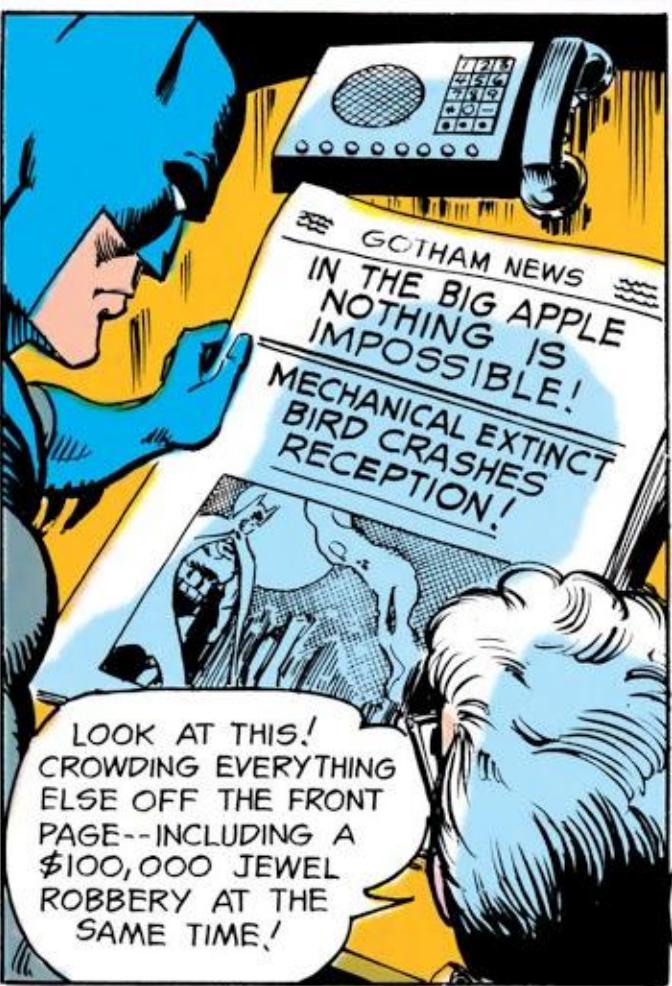
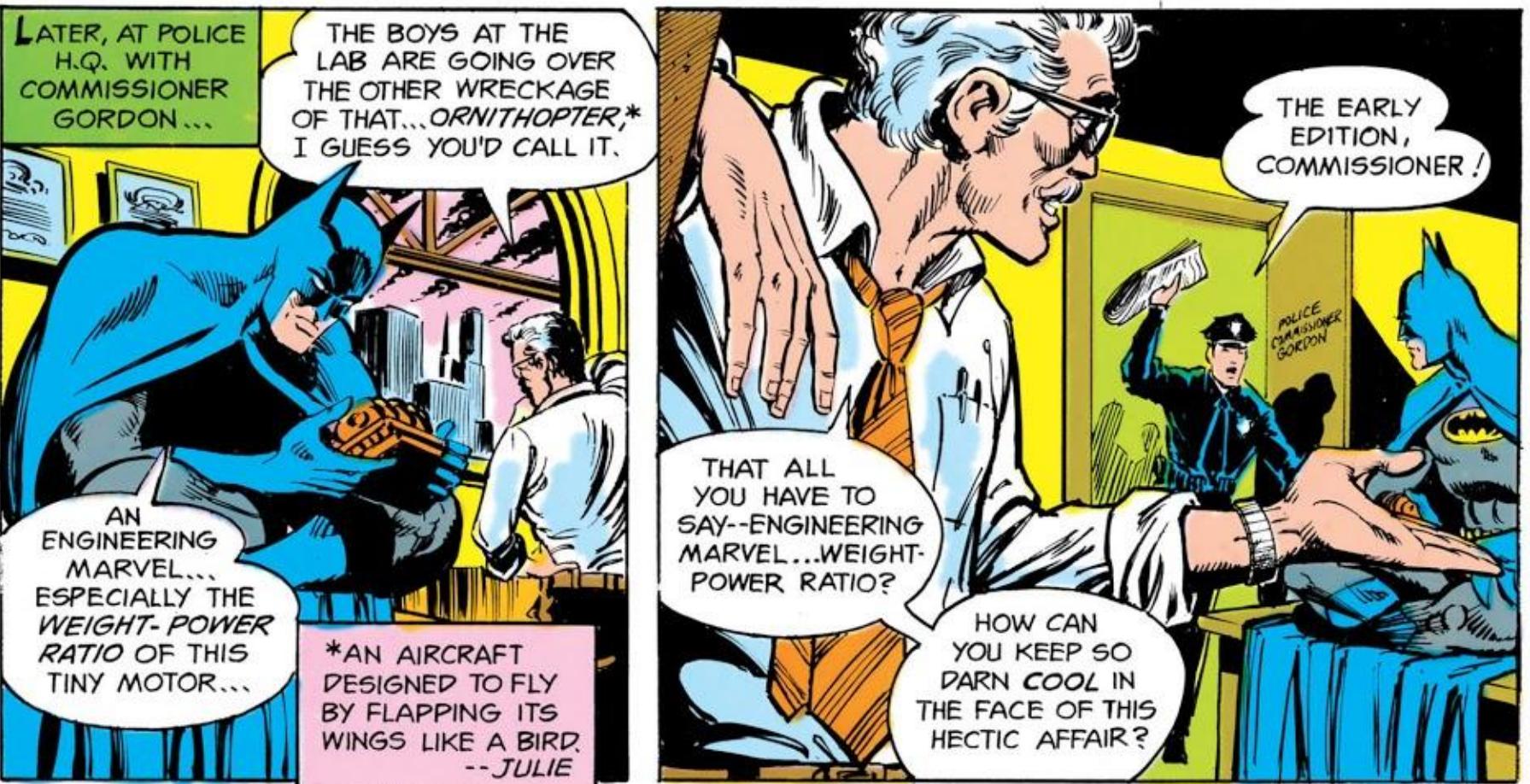
STORY BY
DAVID V. REED
ART BY
MIKE GRELL
&
BOB WIACEK
COLORING BY
JERRY SERPE











THE BIRD INDEED!
THE BOLD, BRASH,
BUGHOUSE BIRD
OF BANDITRY--
THE UMBRELLA
ROGUE HIMSELF--
HIS NIBS,
THE PENGUIN...

...WHO, AT THE MOMENT,
IS REVELING IN THE FRONT
PAGE OF THE SAME
NEWSPAPER...

HEADLINES, HEADLINES--
HOW I *LOVE* THEM!
EXACTLY WHAT MY
RETURN TO THIS
BENIGHTED BURG RATES--

GOTHAM NEW

IN THE BIG CITY
NOTHING IS
SWEETER THAN
GETTING A
FREE GROCERY
DELIVERY

--NOT THAT
ANYONE IS
ACTUALLY AWARE
YET OF MY AWESOME
PENGUINNIOUS
PRESENCE!

BOSS,
SCORPIO THE
SCULPTOR
IS HERE!

CLOSE ATTENTION
NOW! WE HAVE
THREE CAPERS...
WITH **TWO** PARTS
TO EACH CAPER--
THE *BIRD* AND THE *CRIME*!

BE WITH YOU IN A
MINUTE, **SCORPIO**! FIRST
LET'S COGITATE AND
CONTEMPLATE THE EXTRAOR-
DINARILY DEMANDING SCHEDULE
AHEAD OF US TOMORROW!

SOMEBODY--HAND OUT THE
TEAM-ASSIGNMENT SHEETS!

HEY... BUT
TWO OF THESE
CRIMES ARE JUST
PUSHOVER HEISTS
OF DINKY JOINTS
--A DINER AND
DRUGSTORE!

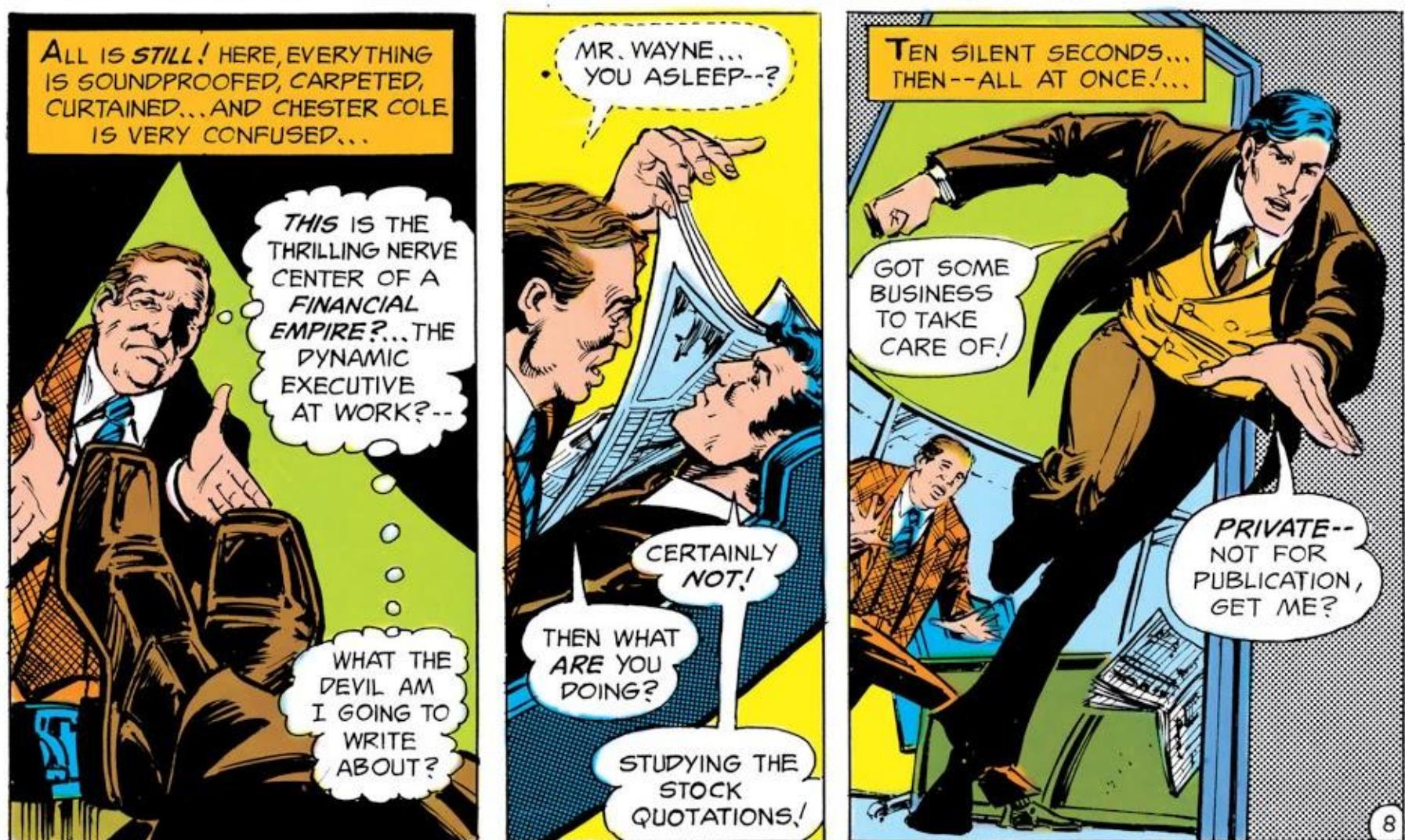
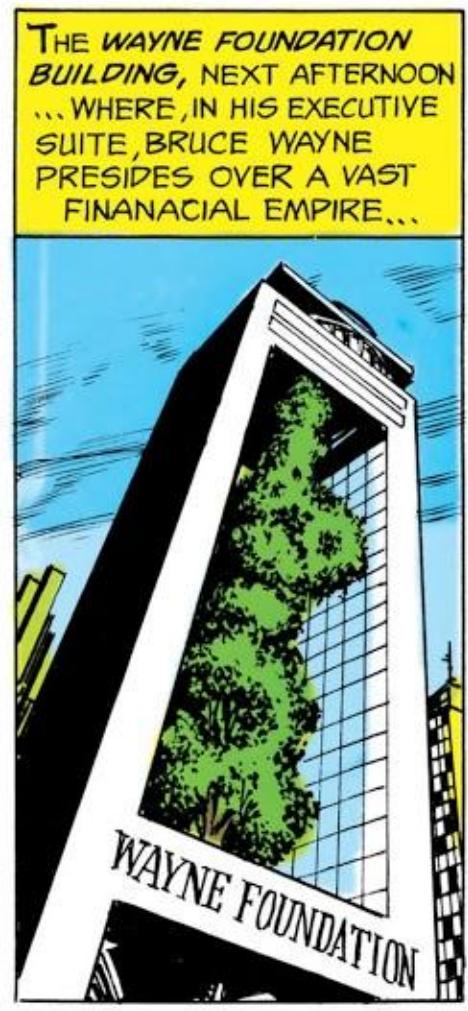
WHERE'S
THE MONEY?
WHAT'S THE
POINT?

MONEY? WE
ALREADY DID
A HUNDRED G'S
IN BUSINESS
TODAY, AND
THERE'LL BE
BIGGER
BOODLE
LATER ON!

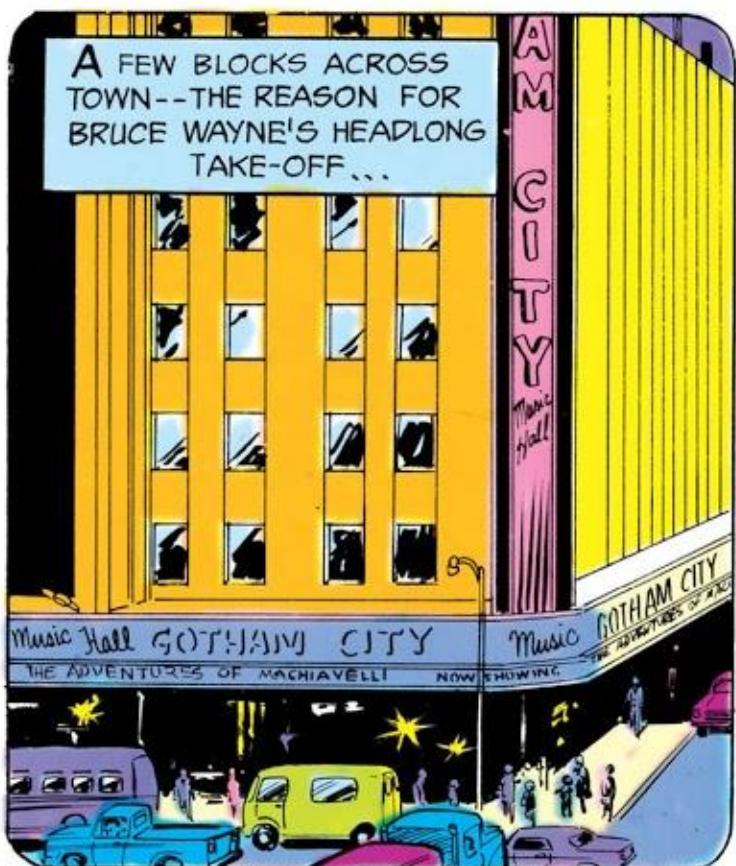
STUDY THE DIAGRAMS!
KNOW YOUR MOVES!
AND REMEMBER--
BOTH PARTS OF
EACH CAPER MUST
HAPPEN SIMULTANE-
OUSLY--AT THEIR
PRECISELY
APPOINTED
TIMES!

AND THE POINT
IS MY UNUTTERABLY
BRILLIANT M.O.! THESE
"DINKY JOINTS" ARE
VITAL TO MY STRATEGY NOT
BECAUSE OF **WHAT** THEY ARE--
BUT **WHERE** THEY ARE!

NOW, **SCORPIO**,
YOUR TURN!
SOMEBODY--FETCH
MY NUMBER
NINE UMBRELLA!



A FEW BLOCKS ACROSS TOWN--THE REASON FOR BRUCE WAYNE'S HEADLONG TAKE-OFF...



MINUTES EARLIER--INSIDE THE PACKED GOTHAM CITY MUSIC HALL--AT THE MATINEE OF ITS FEATURE ATTRACTION: THE ADVENTURES OF MACHIAVELLI--

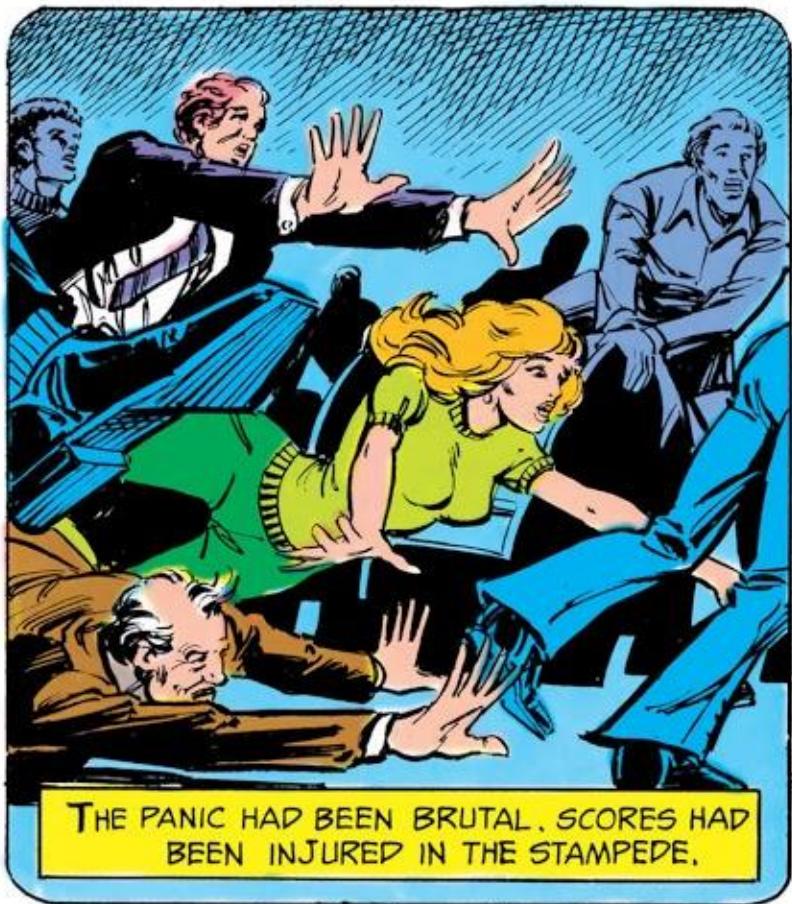


THERE HAD BEEN NO WARNING. THERE COULD HAVE BEEN NONE.



NO ONE KNEW WHERE THE BIRD --AN INCREDIBLY OVERGROWN ARCHEOPTERIX*--HAD COME FROM. IT WAS JUST... INEXPICABLY... HORRENDOUSLY ... THERE!

* THE ARCHEOPTERIX-- THE FIRST KNOWN BIRD--HAD FEATHERS, BUT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FLY. THE PENGUIN, HOWEVER, FIXED THAT! -- JULIE



THE PANIC HAD BEEN BRUTAL. SCORES HAD BEEN INJURED IN THE STAMPEDE.



...AND WAS GONE!

IT WAS, OF COURSE, OVER AND DONE WITH BY THE TIME BRUCE WAYNE GOT THERE. HE HAD BEEN ALERTED BY A MINIATURE EARPLUG RADIO TUNED TO THE POLICE WAVELENGTH...

THE PENGUIN'S WORK. PROOF OR NO PROOF, HIS STYLE... BIZARRE...TERRIFYING... MURDEROUS...

FOR THE NEXT HOUR, HE WANDERS THE STREETS OF GOTHAM... DEEPLY MOVED... LOST IN THOUGHT...

BUT WHY? ...WHY?

IN THE DARK CATACOMBS OF THAT DEMENTED CRIMINAL BRAIN, EVERYTHING HAS A FUNCTION...

THEN, WITH ONCOMING TWILIGHT, HE RETURNS TO HIS PENTHOUSE HOME AND ASSUMES THE MANTLE OF THE CAPE CRUSADER. BUT THE SEARCH FOR MEANING GOES ON...TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL ELSE...

BIRDS ARE ONE OF HIS TRADEMARKS... BUT WHY EXTINCT BIRDS?

THE MASTER HAS COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN HIS DINNER DATE! BUT IF I SAY ONE WORD, HE'LL BITE MY HEAD OFF!

I SUPPOSE I SHALL HAVE TO CALL MISS CANTRELL AND MAKE HIS APOLOGIES!

NOR DOES THE MASKED MANHUNTER FIND SURCEASE AS HE BEGINS HIS NOCTURNAL TOUR OF GOTHAM...

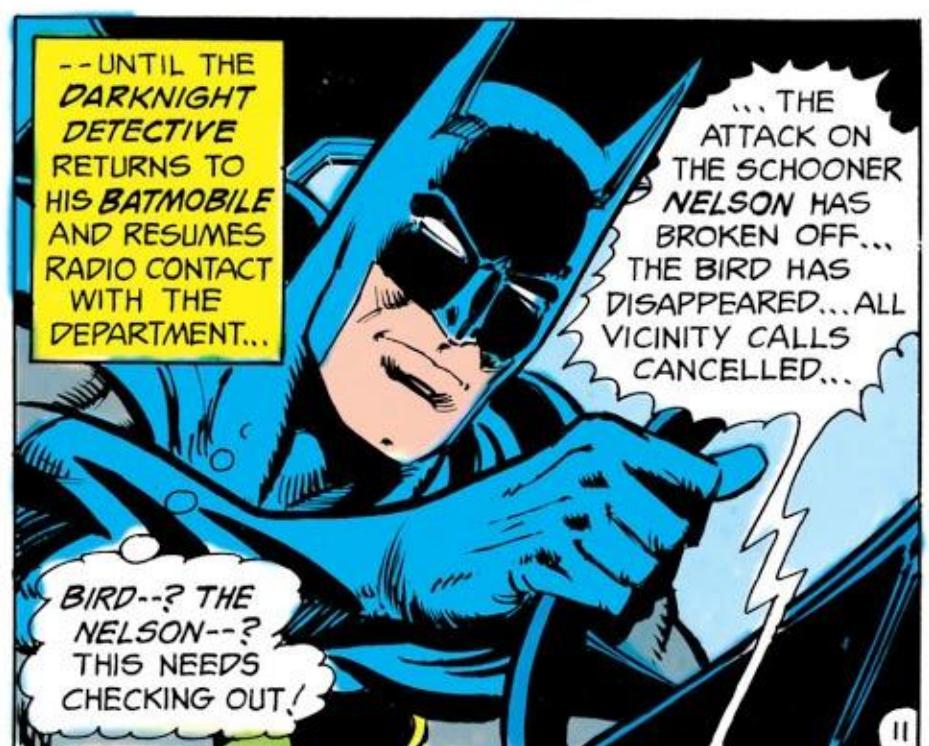
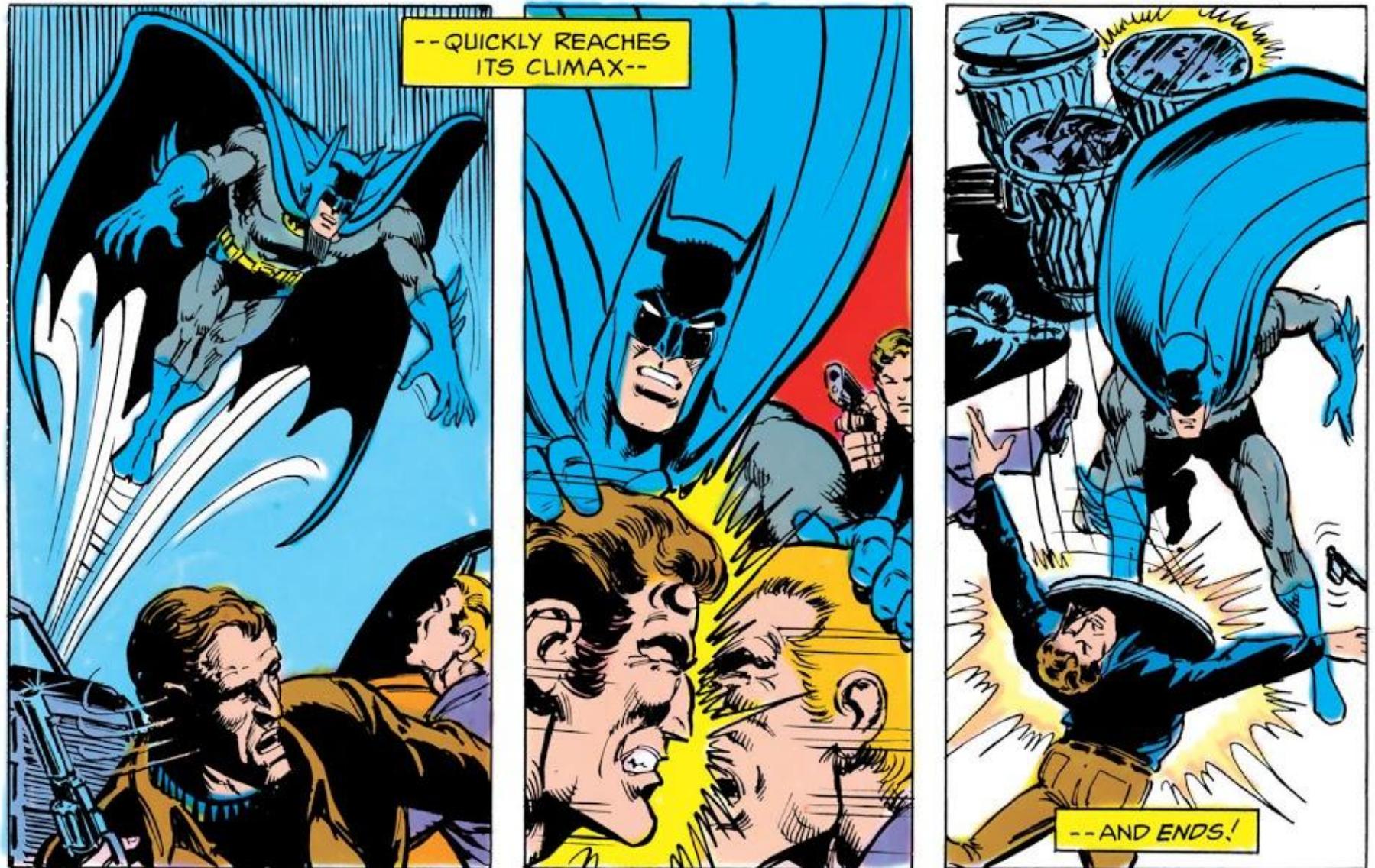
THERE MUST'VE BEEN A BACKUP TEAM THAT EXPLODED THE STATUE OF NAPOLEON... AND RELEASED THE BIRD RIGHT ON TIME--6:21!

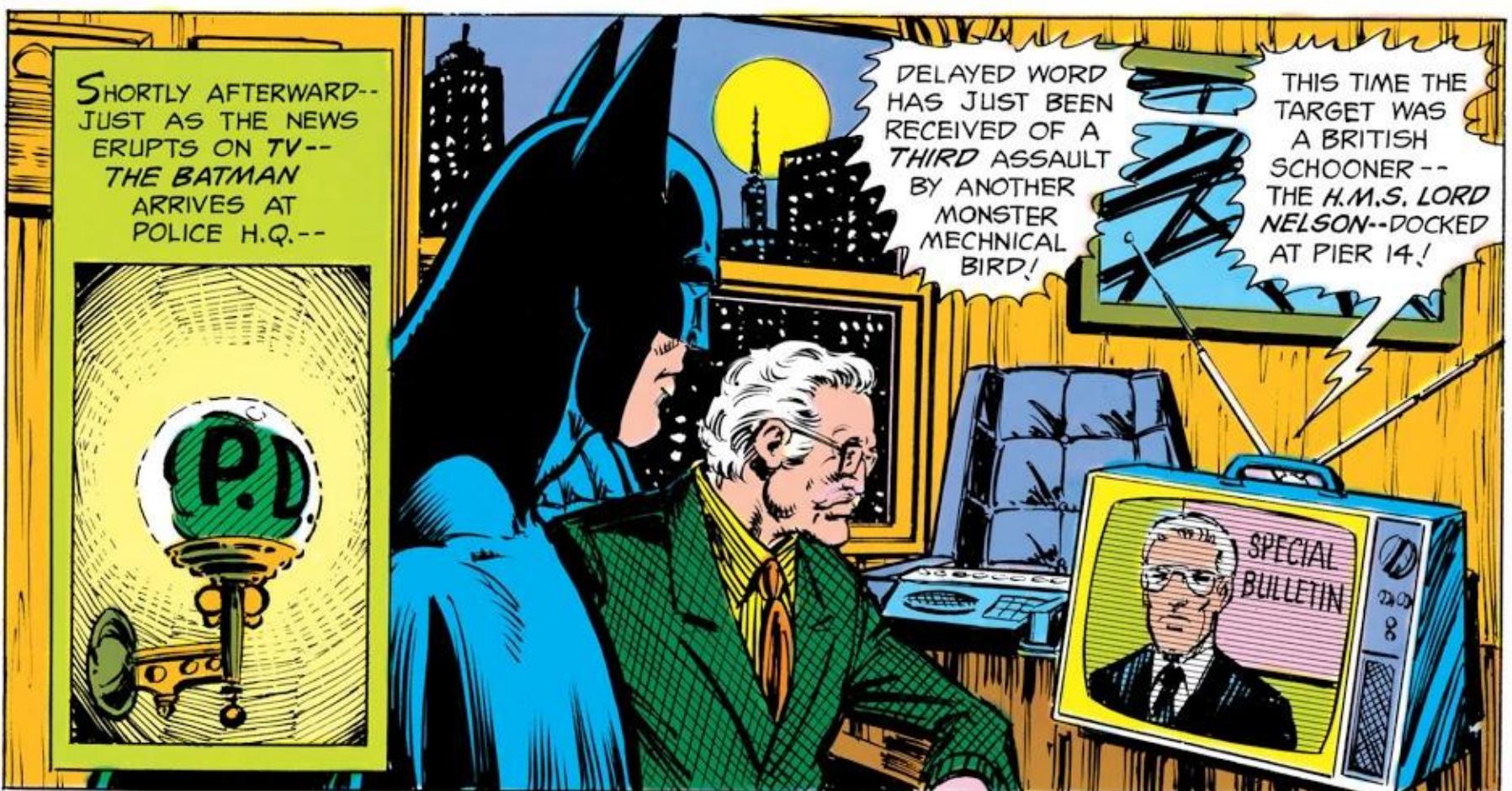
WHY WERE THEY SO METICULOUS ABOUT THE TIME?

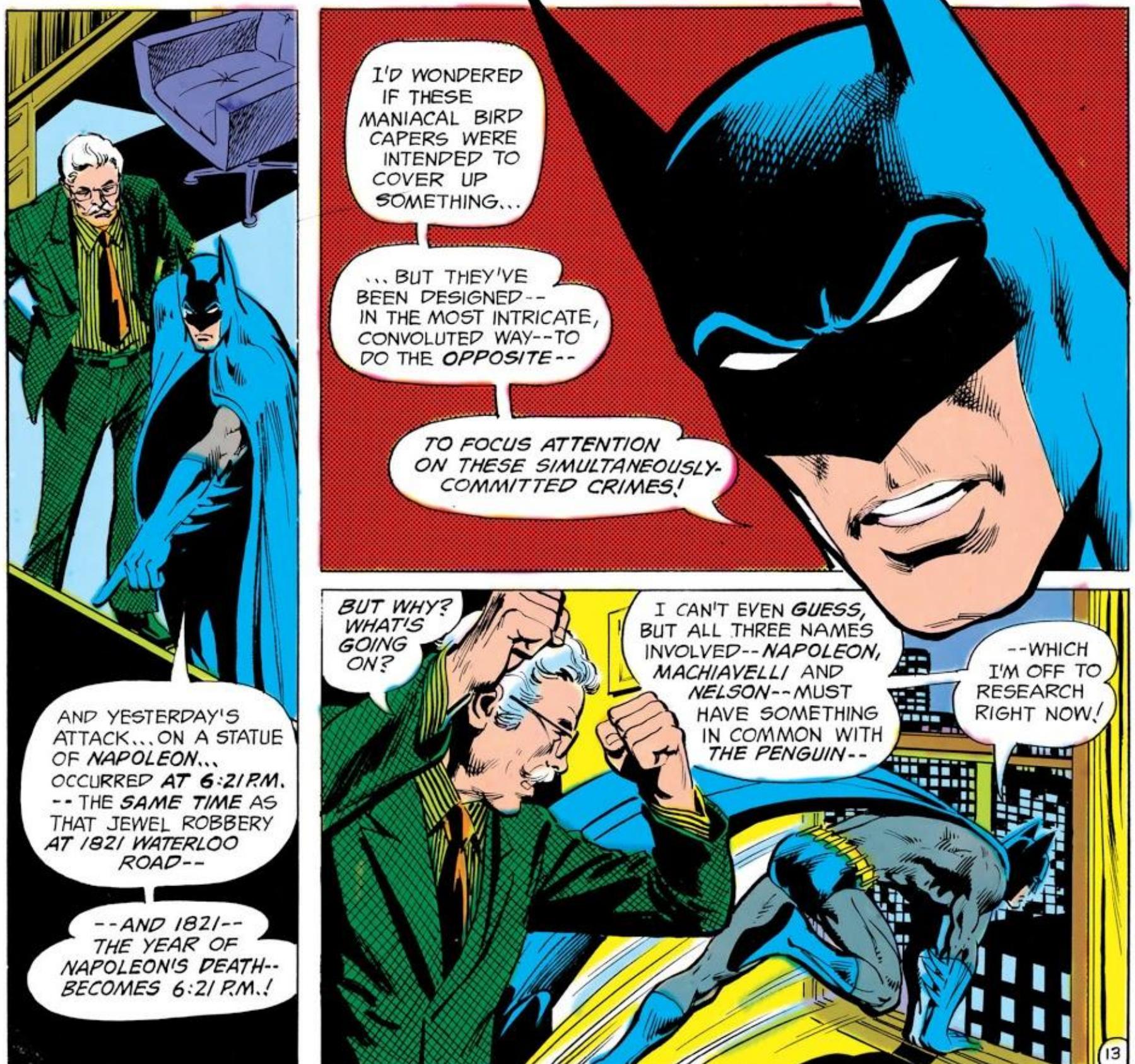
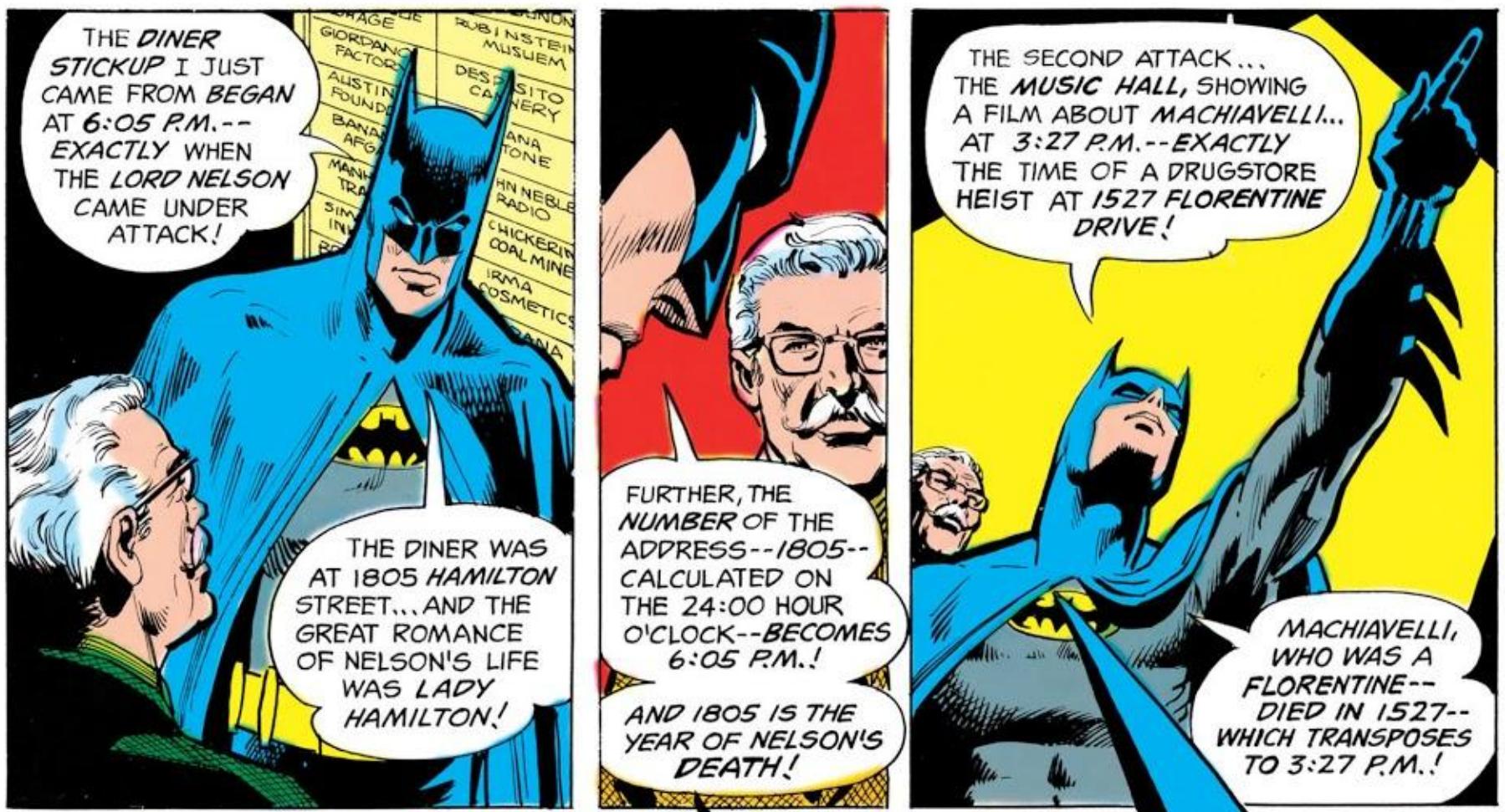
SIGNAL 44-- OFFICER NEEDS HELP!

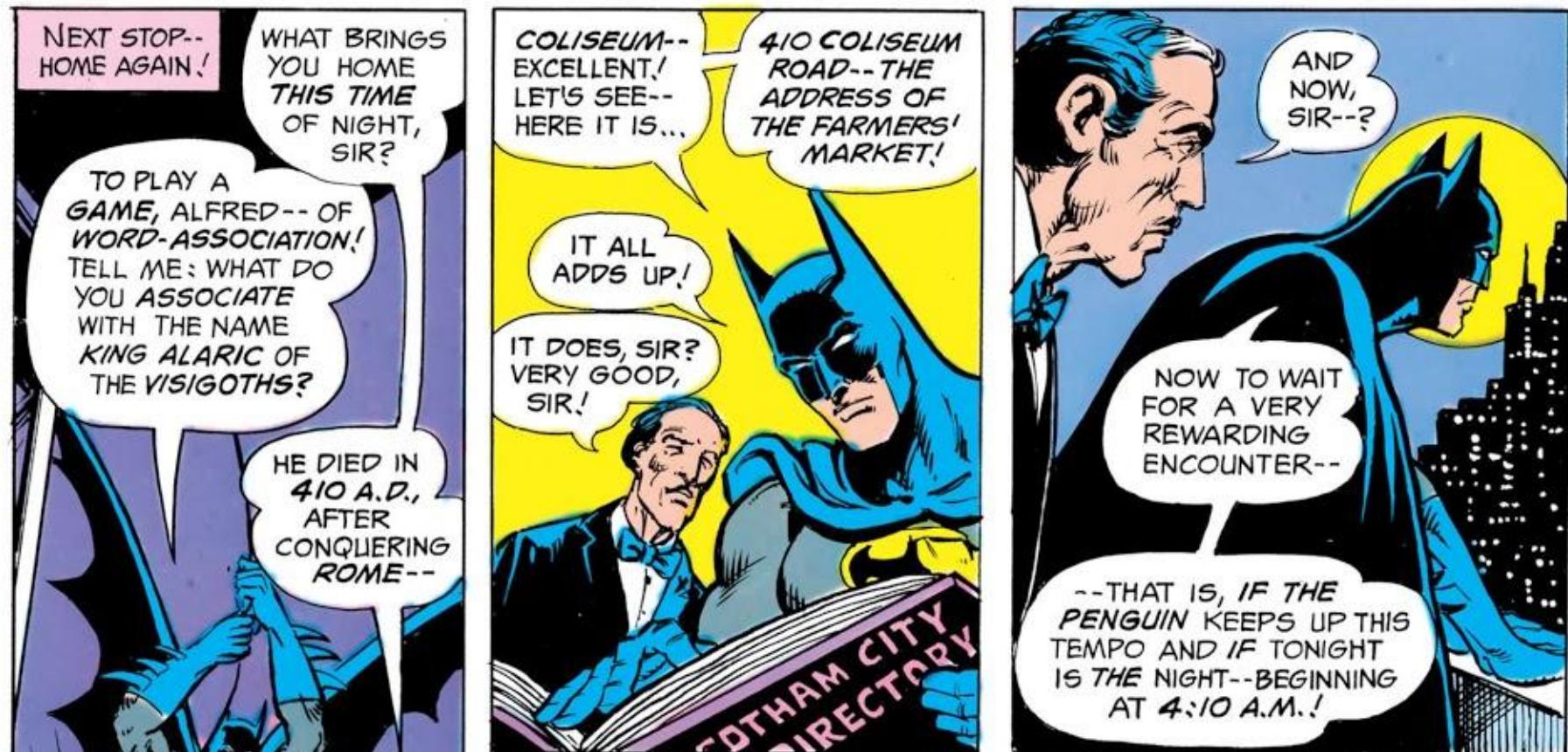
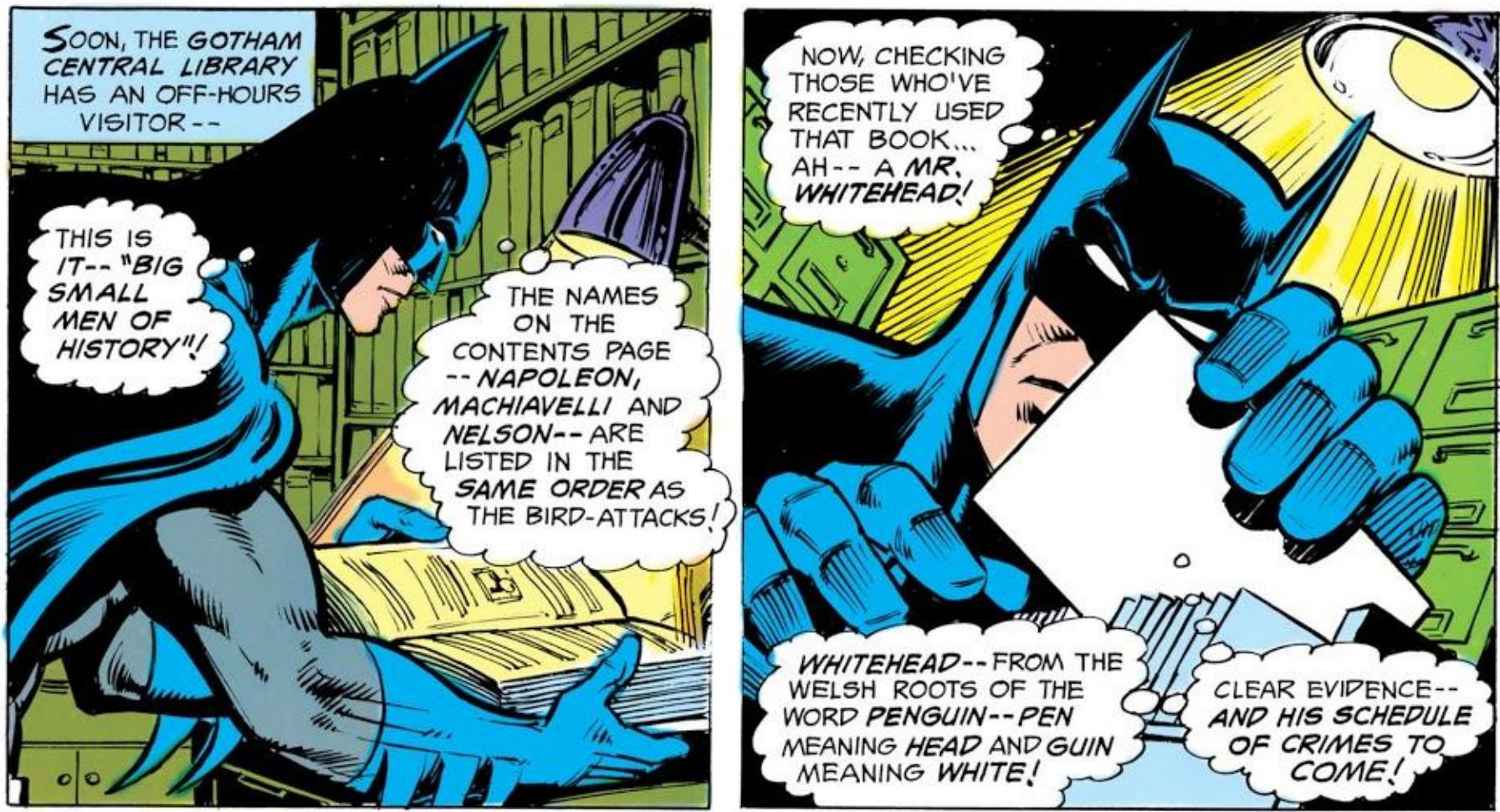
SHOOTOUT AT DINER--1805 HAMILTON STREET!

SIX BLOCKS FROM HERE!

















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