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A VITAL BOOK

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THE **SPIRIT**
IN
MURDER RUNS WILD!

6

COMPLETE STORIES
STARRING

The **SPIRIT**

AMERICA'S
GREATEST
CRIMEBUSTER!



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THE Spirit



by
Will Eisner

ABOVE RESTRICTING CONVENTIONS, BEYOND THE CONFUSION OF RED TAPE, RULES *THE SPIRIT* AS HE SMASHES CRIME BEYOND THE REACH OF THE LAW!

WE FOUND GUNNER MCGUIRE'S BODY IN A CEMENT BLOCK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER YESTERDAY ... THAT'S NUMBER THREE FOR THE MONTH!

LOOKS LIKE THE ANDY HORGAN TOUCH!



YOU'RE TELLING ME! BUT WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PIN ANYTHING ON THAT MOBSTER YET AND I'M AFRAID WE NEVER WILL!

AH'D SHO' LAK TO HAVE A CRACK AT DAT MAN!

HEY, EBONY! YOU MUST BE EATING LOTS OF VITAMINS!





C'MON, EBONY! I THINK I KNOW WHERE HORGAN HANGS OUT! YOU CAN TALK TO HIM!

WELL, MIST' SPIRIT BOSS... I DIDN'T MEAN AH'D LAK TO HAVE DAT CRACK AT HIM TODAY EXACTLY...



MEANWHILE, AT ANDY HORGAN'S HEADQUARTERS ...

WELL, BOSS, WE GOT NO COMPETITION NOW AN' WE'RE IN TH' CLEAR WIT' DE COPPERS!

YEAH! FROM NOW ON, WE'RE IN CLOVER!



WHATSAMATTER, BOSS? YOU SICK?

IT'S DAT PAIN AGAIN! I GUESS I BETTER SEE THE SAWBONES AFTER ALL!



THE SPIRIT!

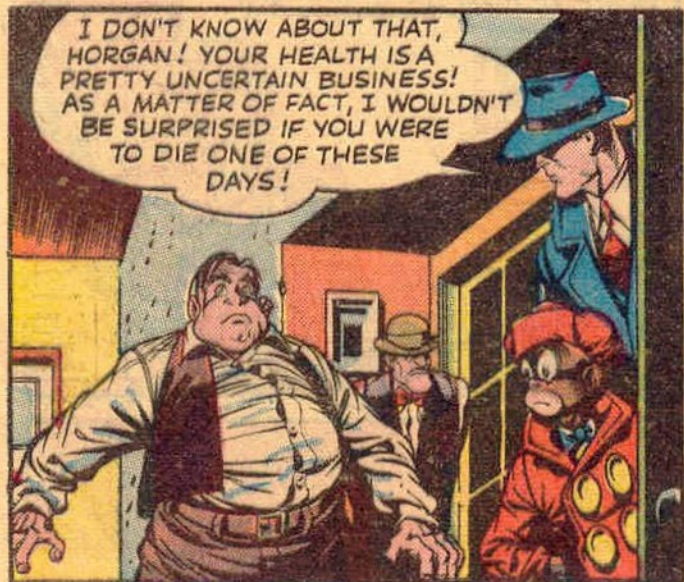
HI, BOYS! DID I BARGE IN ON A CELEBRATION?

OUTSIDE, SPIRIT! YOU GOT NUTTIN' ON US!



I DIDN'T SAY I HAD! I MERELY THOUGHT I'D INQUIRE ABOUT YOUR HEALTH!

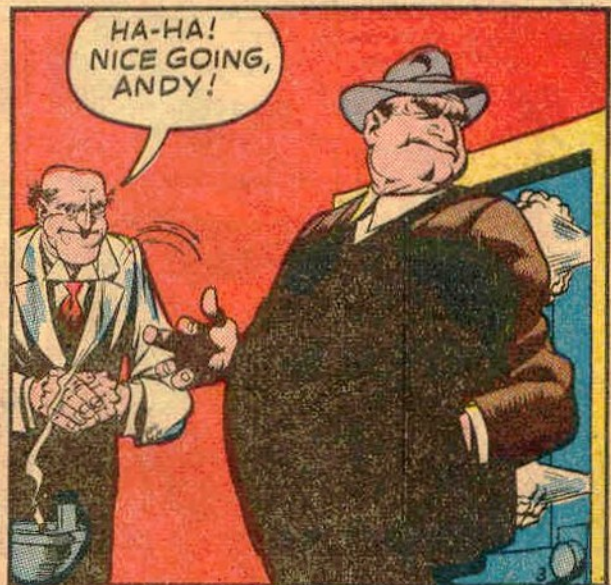
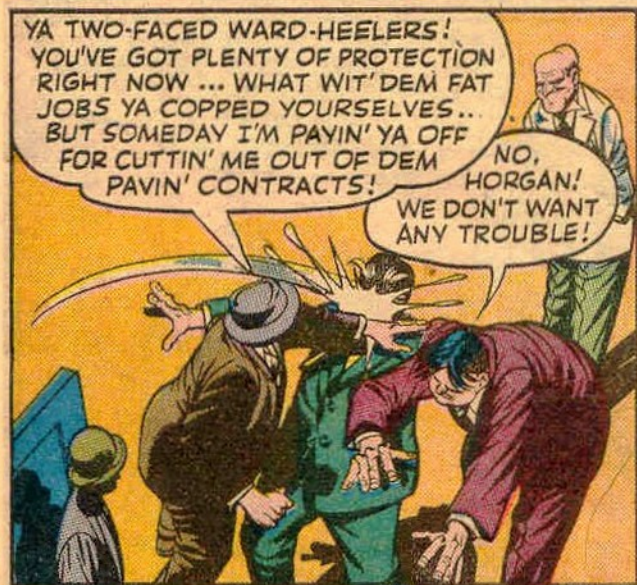
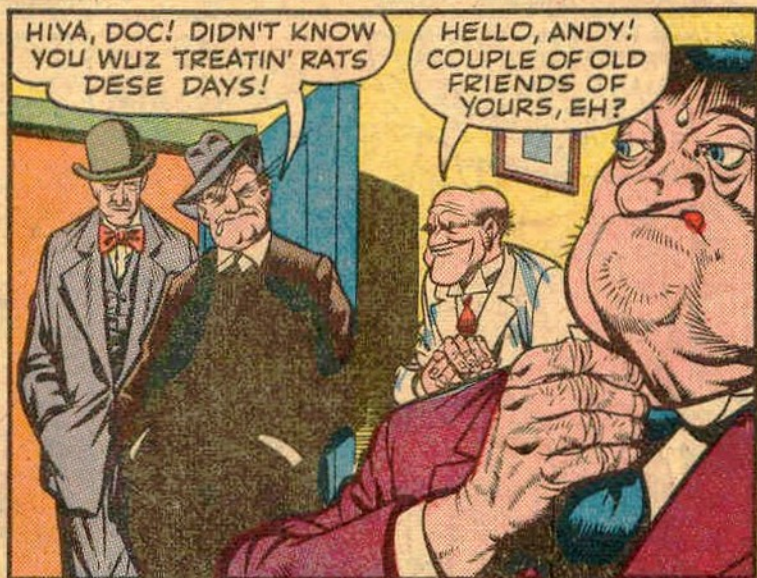
HUH! AIN'T DAT SWEET? DON'T LET MY HEALTH WORRY YOU!



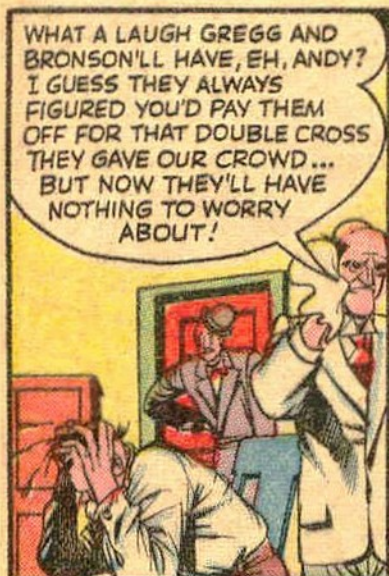
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, HORGAN! YOUR HEALTH IS A PRETTY UNCERTAIN BUSINESS! AS A MATTER OF FACT, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU WERE TO DIE ONE OF THESE DAYS!



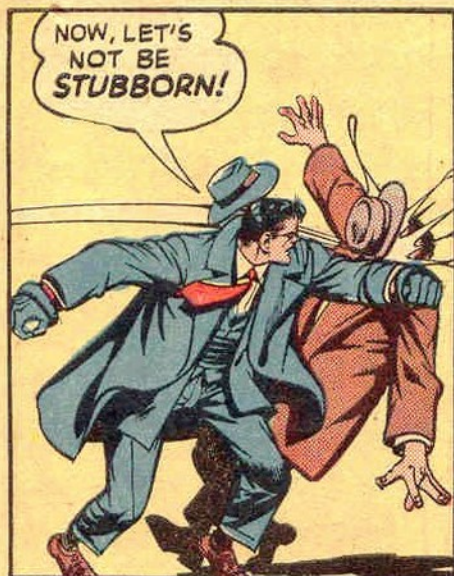
NOW WHADDAYA SUPPOSE HE MEANT BY DAT? I THINK I'LL SEE THE DOC! ...











NOW, LET'S NOT BE STUBBORN!



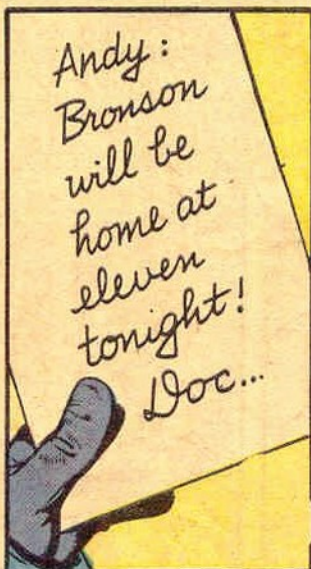
WHAT I DON'T GET, HORGAN, IS THIS NEW POLICY OF DOING YOUR KILLING IN PUBLIC ... AFTER YEARS OF SECRECY!



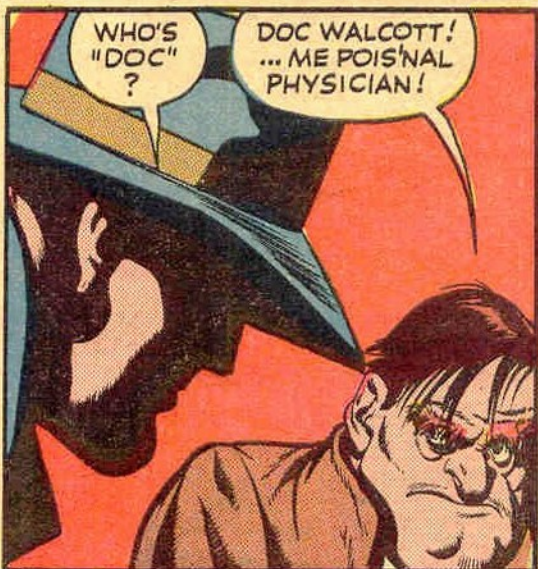
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW, YOU @70it!\$4@!! ... I'M GONNA CROAK, SEE? DAT'S A LAUGH, HUH? ... BET YOU THOUGHT YOU WUZ GONNA SEND ME TO THE CHAIR AN' CUT ME CAREER SHORT! ... WELL, IT'S CUT ALREADY!



SPIRIT, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!



Andy:
Bronson
will be
home at
eleven
tonight!
Doc...



WHO'S "DOC"?

DOC WALCOTT!
... ME POIS'NAL
PHYSICIAN!



YOU TAKE HIM IN, DOLAN! WALCOTT'S A NOTORIOUS GANGSTER DOCTOR! I THINK HIS CONNECTION WITH TONIGHT'S MURDER WILL PUT HIM OUT OF BUSINESS! I'LL PICK HIM UP!



I'M NOT INTERESTED IN HORGAN, SPIRIT! NOW GET OUT OR I'LL CARVE YOU WITH THIS SCALPEL!



I'M GETTING OUT... BUT YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!

AH GUESS DIS HEAH DOCTAH SHO' IS GONNA NEED A DOCTAH HISSELF, NOW!

JUSTICE MOVES
SWIFTLY... AND
SOON...

HAW-HAW! TELL YOU
WHAT, DOLAN ... I'LL
GIVE YOU FIVE TO ONE
I DON'T GO TO THE
CHAIR TONIGHT! MY
THIRTY DAYS IS UP
TODAY!

WHAT
THIRTY
DAYS?

ALL RIGHT, HORGAN... I'M THE
PRISON DOCTOR! THIS
IS THE FINAL CHECK-UP
BEFORE YOU GO TO
THE CHAIR!

WELL... HOW ABOUT
DAT BET,
DOLAN?

YOU'RE AS SOUND
AS A DOLLAR! ...
HEALTHIEST CONDEMNED
MAN I'VE EVER
EXAMINED!

WHAT?? YOU'RE
NUTS! ... DOC
WALCOTT TOLD ME
I HAD ONLY THIRTY
DAYS TO LIVE... AND
...AND WHAT ABOUT
DEM PAINS IN ME
CHEST?

PROBABLY INDIGESTION
FROM EATING AND
DRINKING TOO MUCH!
IF YOU WEREN'T A
KILLER, YOU COULD
HAVE LIVED TO BE
A HUNDRED!

SUDDENLY...!

HUH?... WHA---
AGGHHHHH

HE'S
DYING!

HEART FAILURE! BUT I
ASSURE YOU IT MIGHT
HAVE HAPPENED TO ANY
MAN WHO'D HEARD WHAT
I JUST NOW TOLD HORGAN!
THE SHOCK WAS TOO MUCH,
EVEN FOR A HEART AS
STRONG AS HIS!

I SEE IT NOW! WALCOTT
STEERED HIM AFTER GREGG
AND BRONSON! ...TOLD HIM
HE WAS GOING TO DIE!
THAT'S WHY HORGAN
DIDN'T CARE IF HE
WAS CAUGHT!

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE PRISON...

THAT WAS A BRAINSTORM...
PULLING WALCOTT IN ON
SUSPICION, SPIRIT! HE'LL
SURELY BE CONVICTED
OF COMPLICITY!

AND THAT
PRACTICALLY
CLOSES THIS
CASE!

The SPIRIT

B

EAT ME, DADDY, EIGHT TO THE BAR " is music to Ebony's ears!...

But with The SPIRIT leading the band, it's "PRISON BARS" that even the "score" with the "Maestro"!



by
Will Eisner



BUT EBONY -- WHY ARE YOU LEAVING?

SELF-IMPROVEMENT, MIST' SPIRIT BOSS! AH'S GITTIN' A JOB AS DRUMMER WIF "HOT LICKS" LAZO'S BAND!



DON'T BE FOOLISH! "HOT LICKS" LAZO WILL NEVER HIRE YOU! ... HE HAS A DRUMMER!

AH DUNNO 'BOUT DAT!



ME'N PIERPONT'S BEEN PRACTISIN'! ... WHEN MIST' LAZO HEARS ME, HE'S GOIN' TO HIRE HIMSELF A NEW DRUMMER BOY!

I'M GOING WITH YOU!



I'LL WAIT HERE TO CATCH YOU ON THE SECOND BOUNCE WHEN HE THROWS YOU OUT!



Meanwhile...

I FOUND THIS NOTE PINNED TO THE MUSIC SHEET, MR. LAZO!

THANKS, ED!



IS SOMETHING WRONG?

IT'S FROM THE MAESTRO! HE WANTS US TO CANCEL OUR DATE AT THE SEA ISLAND CASINO! ...OR SOMEBODY IN THE BAND WILL MEET WITH AN ACCIDENT!



HE CAN'T SCARE US!

SOMEBODY MUST HAVE PLANTED THAT NOTE! ... HE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR!

WE'LL FIND HIM!



I FOUND THIS KID SKULKING ABOUT IN THE HALL, MR. LAZO!

I'D BETTER CALL THE POLICE!



DOLAN!

Oh #%&*!!
HOW DO YOU
ALWAYS BEAT ME
TO THE SCENE
OF THE CRIME?



WHAT
CRIME?

DON'T LOOK
INNOCENT!
WE'VE JUST
NOW NABBED
ONE OF THE
MAESTRO'S
HENCHMEN!



HMMM! ... ISN'T
THE MAESTRO THE
GUY WHO'S BEEN
BLACKMAILING
ALL THE LEADING
SWING BANDS?

YES... BUT I'LL
MAKE HIS
STOUGE TALK! ...
I DON'T CARE
HOW TOUGH
HE IS! ... I
KNOW HOW TO
BREAK DOWN THESE
STRONG-ARM
MEN!!



HERE'S
YOUR MAN,
COMMISSIONER!

EBONY!

AH'S BEEN
FRAMED!
... AH
SWEARS
AH DIDN'T
DO
NOTHIN'!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HELLO, MAESTRO?
I SLIPPED THE MESSAGE
TO LAZO! ... BUT HE'S
GOING AHEAD WITH
THE SEA ISLAND
DATE!



I'LL HANDLE
LAZO! ... LEAVE
EVERYTHING
TO ME!

OKAY,
MAESTRO!
BUT THE
SPIRIT'S
ON THE CASE
NOW! ... YOU'D
BETTER WATCH
YOUR STEP!

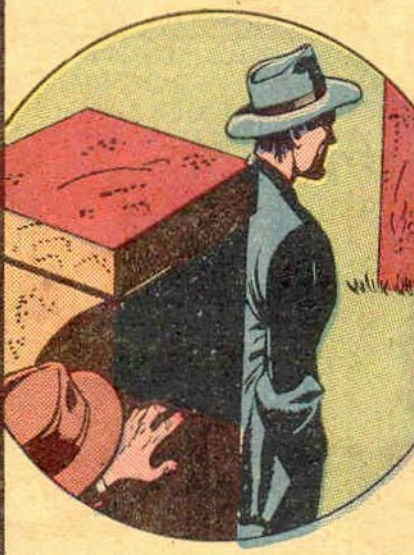


YOU SHOULD
HAVE SEEN THE LOOK
ON EBONY'S FACE WHEN
YOU LET HIM GO! ... YOU'VE
MADE A FRIEND FOR
LIFE, DOLAN!



MR. DOLAN! ... I MUST
SPEAK TO YOU! MY LIFE'S
IN DANGER! ... I--I'VE
BEEN THREATENED BY
THE MAESTRO!

YOU, TOO?
THE MAESTRO
CERTAINLY
GETS
AROUND!





Meanwhile...

WHERE'S THAT DRUMMER?... WE'RE DUE AT SEA ISLAND CASINO IN AN HOUR! WE CAN'T START WITHOUT HIM!



I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CANCEL...

MIST' LAZO? MAH NAME IS **EBONY WHITE!**



I CAN'T BE BOTHERED NOW! ... I'LL SIGN YOUR AUTOGRAPH BOOK SOME OTHER TIME!

AH WONDAH'S EF YO' HAS GOT AN OPENIN' FO' A MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO BEAT DE DRUMS!...



ARE YOU A DRUMMER BOY?

Y-YASSUH!



YOU'RE HIRED!... ED, THIS BOY'S TAKING OVER THE DRUMMER'S SPOT FOR TONIGHT!

BUT HE HASN'T ANY EXPERIENCE! YOU HAVEN'T EVEN HEARD HIM PLAY!



HE'S BETTER THAN NO DRUMMER AT ALL! ... AND WE MUST OPEN AT THE SEA ISLAND CASINO! ... WE CAN HELP HIM FAKE THROUGH!

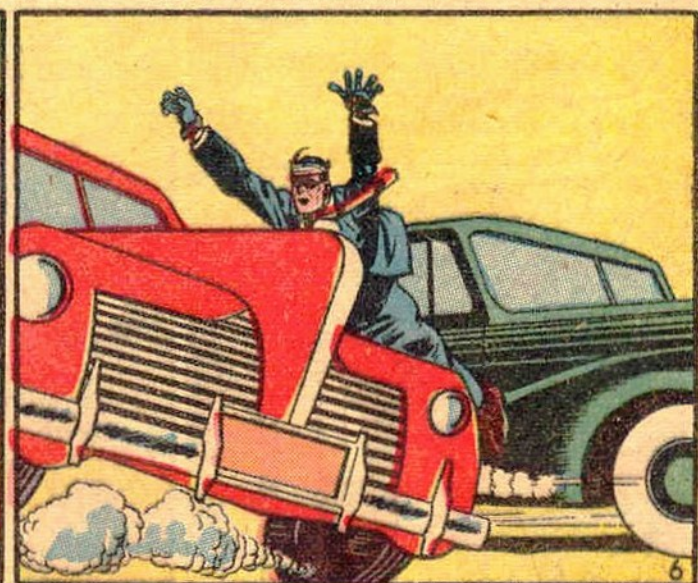
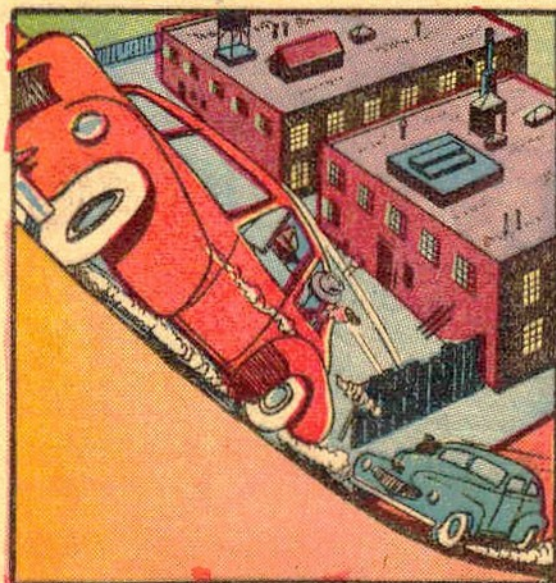
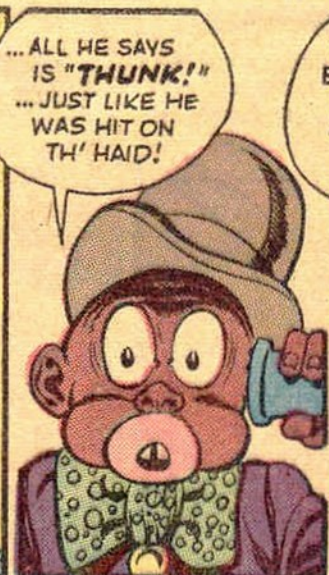


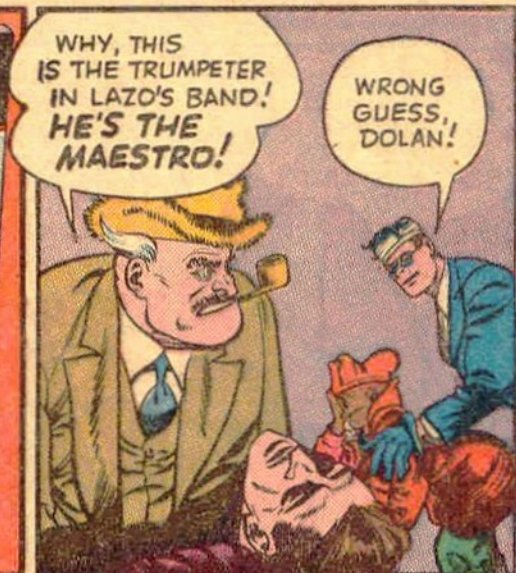
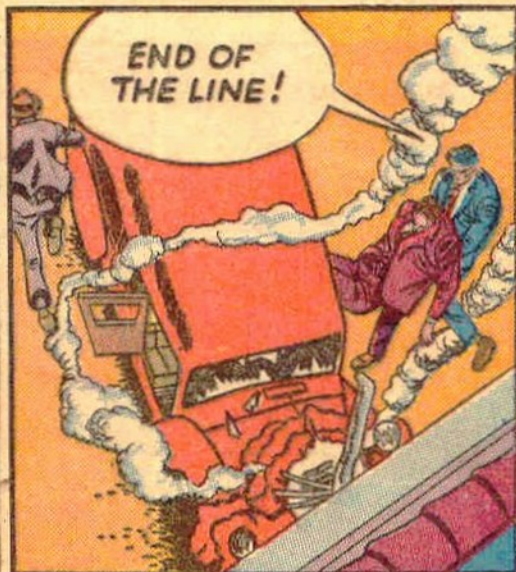
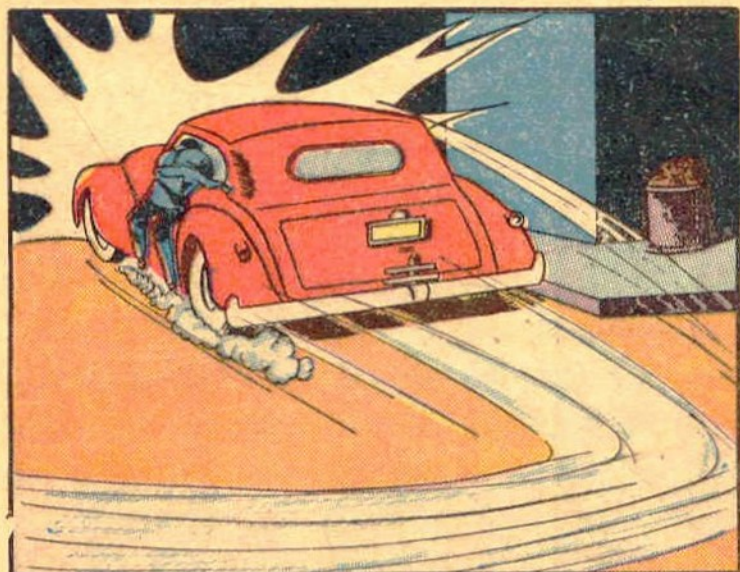
AH 'SPECTS AH'LL BE MIGHTY BUSY FROM NOW ON, PIERPONT! ... WE MOOSICIANS TRAVELS ALL OVER DE COUNTRY!



YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!

DOAN' YO' GIT SO LIPPITY, **MISTAH WHITE!**







THIS IS THE MAESTRO! ... HE'S THE MISSING DRUMMER FROM "HOT LICKS" LAZO'S BAND!



THE MAESTRO HAD TO BE SOMEBODY IN LAZO'S BAND! THE FACT THAT HE DEMANDED MONEY FROM EVERYBODY ELSE WHILE HE ONLY TRIED TO STOP LAZO FROM PLAYING AT SEA ISLAND CASINO PROVED THAT!

I STILL DON'T GET IT!

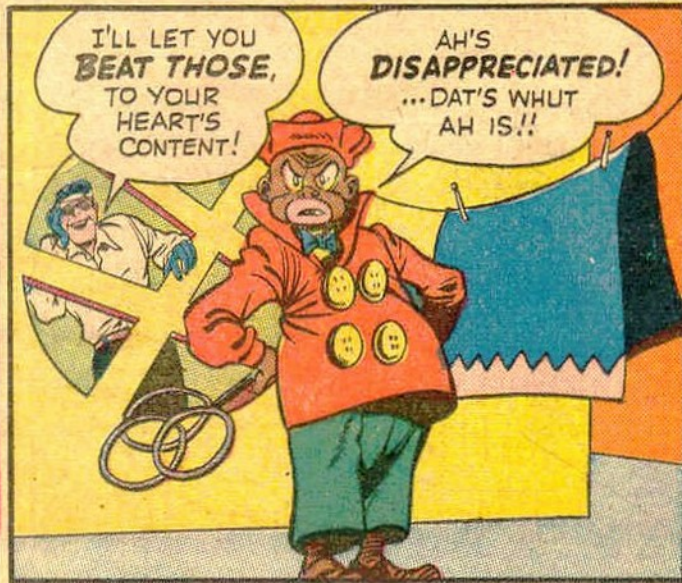


IF LAZO LOST OUT ON THE SEA ISLAND DATE, HIS MEN WOULD WALK OUT ON HIM! ... THEN THE DRUMMER COULD MOVE IN AND TAKE OVER! ... THE MAESTRO WAS DOING ALL RIGHT AS A BLACKMAILER ... BUT HE TRIPPED UP WHEN HE TRIED TO BECOME A BANDBLEADER, TOO!



AH NEBER DID GET A CHANCE TO BEAT DE DRUMS! ... MAH CAREER WAS BLIGHTED IN DE BUD!

I HAVE JUST THE JOB FOR YOU, EBONY!



I'LL LET YOU BEAT THOSE, TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!

AH'S DISAPPRECIATED! ... DAT'S WHUT AH IS!!



THE SPIRIT

THE ART OF MAKING LOVE ARDENTLY

by Will Eisner

IS THAT LETTER FOR ME, ELLEN?

NO, DADDY ... IT'S ADDRESSED TO ME! AND IT SAYS: "I'LL BE COMING TODAY TO CLAIM YOUR PROMISE! ... LOVE ... DERWOOD!"

I CERTAINLY DON'T REMEMBER PROMISING ANYTHING TO ANYBODY NAMED DERWOOD ... NOT LATELY, ANYWAY! ... I WONDER...

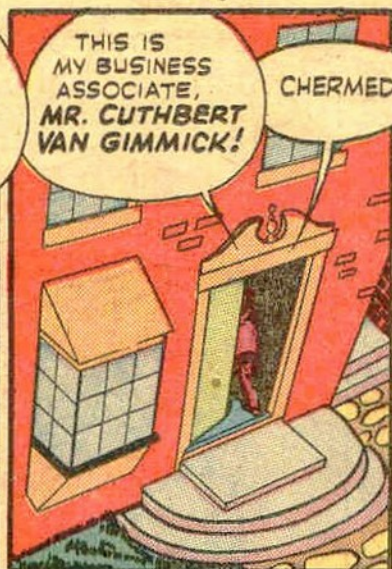
KNOCK!
KNOCK!





HUH! DON'T TELL ME DAT DERWOOD HAD DE **NOIVE** TO COME CALLIN' ON **COMMISSIONER DOLAN** HISSELF!

CUTHBERT, MY DEAR FELLOW! ... COME IN AND MEET SOME **VERY CLOSE FRIENDS!**



THIS IS MY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE, **MR. CUTHBERT VAN GIMMICK!**

CHERMED!



IS DIS DE BABE YA WANNA MARRY, DERWOOD? WELL, ALL I CAN SAY IS, YOU **SURE PICK 'EM!**

ER-- MR. VAN GIMMICK, MAY I PRESENT **THE SPIRIT?**



I HAVE A HAZY IDEA THAT I'VE MET **MR. VAN GIMMICK** BEFORE!

NOSSIR! ... I NEVER SEEN YA IN MY LIFE!



MAYBE NOT ... AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK I'VE SEEN ONLY A **PHOTOGRAPH** OF YOU! ... I VAGUELY REMEMBER IT-- IN SOME KIND OF-- ER-- GALLERY ...

IMPOSSIBLE! I NEVER HAD MY PICKSHER TAKEN! --I FIGGER IT FER **BAD LUCK!**



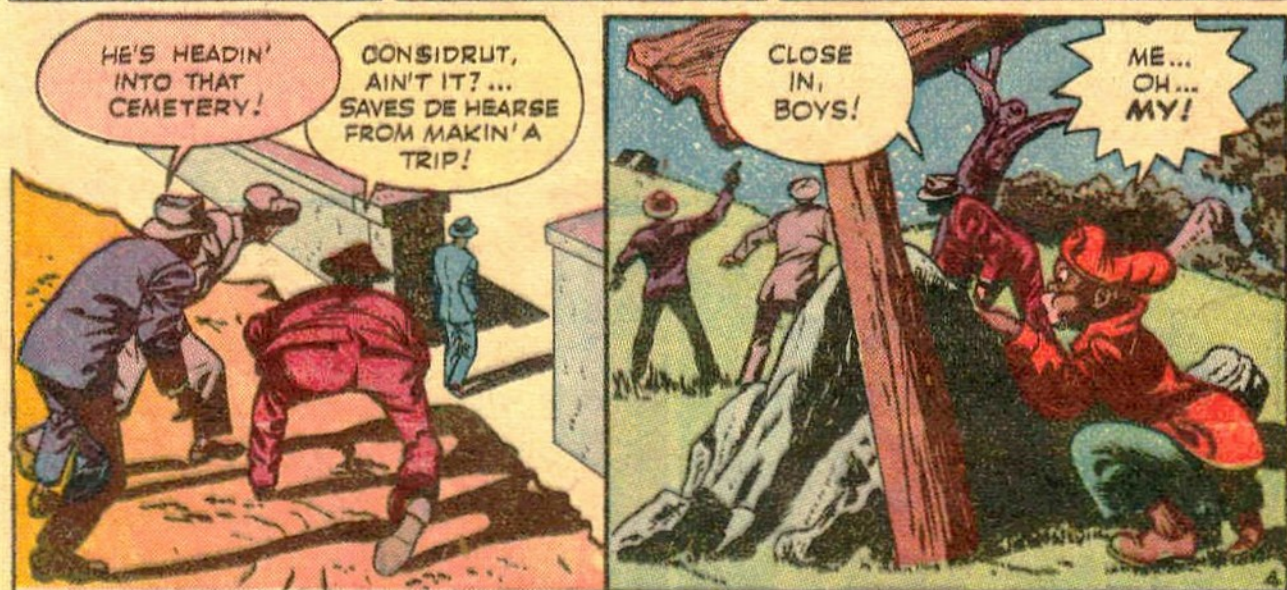
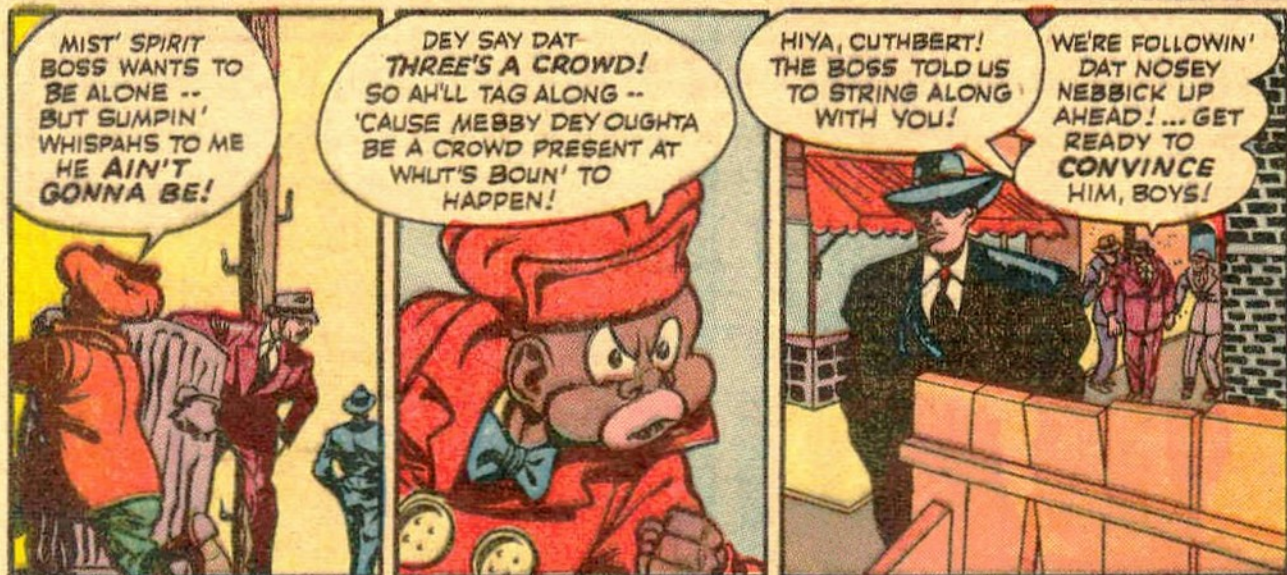
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR OUR **CONCERT DATE, ELLEN!**

OH-- I'M SORRY, BUT --YOU SEE -- DADDY HAS INVITED DERWOOD TO STAY FOR **DINNER!**



AND --SINCE HE CAME TO CALL ON ME, IT'S ONLY **COMMON COURTESY** THAT I STAY, TOO -- DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?

YES, I UNDERSTAND... **GOOD EVENING, ELLEN!**





HEY YOU!

OH... HELLO, MR. VAN GIMMICK!



LISTEN, SMART GUY! I'LL GIVE YOU JEST ONE CHANCE TO FERGET DAT YOU EVER EVEN SUSPECTED...

I STILL HAVE THAT FUNNY FEELING THAT I'VE SEEN YOUR PICTURE!



OKAY, IF YOU WON'T LAY OFF! C'MON, MUGGS!... WORK ON DIS GUY!

YOUR PROFILE!-- I'VE SEEN A PICTURE OF THAT, TOO! ... NOW I KNOW!



THE GALLERY WHERE I SAW YOUR PHOTO WAS THE ROGUES' GALLERY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS! YOU'RE A CRIMINAL-- AND WANTED!

YOU KIN TALK IT OVER WIT' ME TWO JUNIOR PARTNERS! HERE DEY COME!



HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF SOCKIN' ME?

WHATCHA TALKIN' ABOUT? I NEVER TOUCHED YUH!



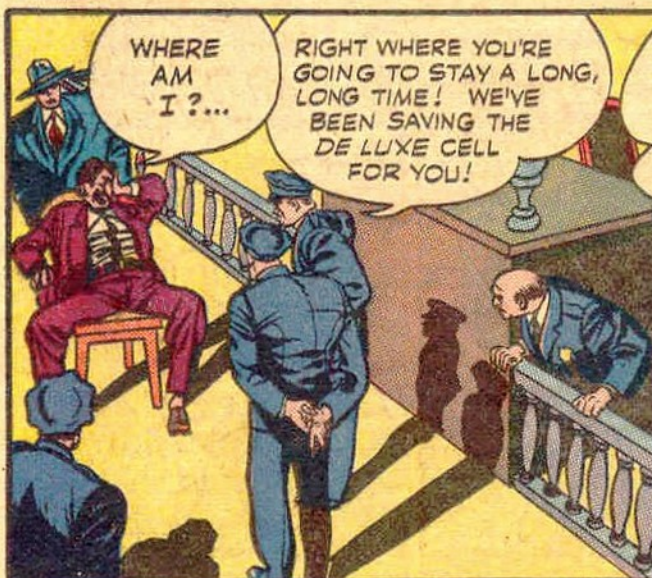
NEVER TOUCHED ME, HUH? WELL, DON'T DO IT AGAIN, OR---

HURRY UP, YOU IDIOTS! WE GOT WORK TO DO!



OWW!







THIS IS ALL A FRAME-UP!

NOTHING OF THE SORT! YOUR FORTUNE, WHICH YOU BOAST ABOUT, WAS MADE IN CRIME!



ELLEN! ... YOU MUST BELIEVE ME! ...

LEAVE HER OUT OF THIS! WHEN SHE SAID YOU MUST MAKE SOMETHING OF YOURSELF, SHE DIDN'T MEAN A PUBLIC ENEMY!



BUT I DID IT FOR HER! SHE'S RESPONSIBLE! AND SHE'S GOING TO HELP ME GET AWAY!



YOU CAN'T SHOOT US BOTH! ... WHILE YOU PLUG ONE, THE OTHER WILL GET WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE!

DON'T TRY IT! THE FIRST MOVE ON THE PART OF EITHER OF YOU -- AND I'LL SHOOT ELLEN!



IF EITHER OF YOU TRIES TO FOLLOW, IT'LL BE TOO BAD! ELLEN AND I ARE GOING OUT OF THIS DOOR, AND ---



-- AWAY!!

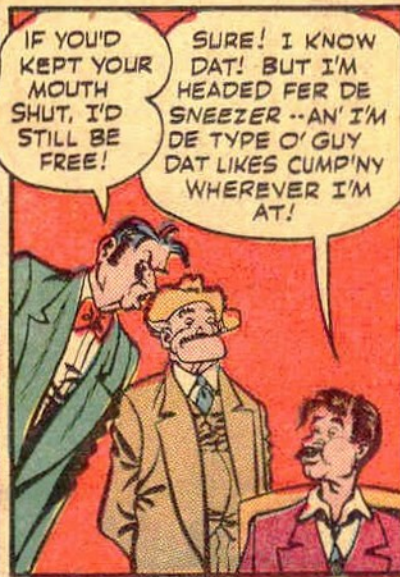


HE WENT DOWN -- NOW HE BOUNCES UP AGAIN!



DERWOOD SEEMS TO BE AN EXPERT HIGH-DIVER!

GOOD WORK, EBONY! WHEN I TELL YOU TO GUARD A DOOR, I KNOW IT WILL BE WELL GUARDED!



The SPIRIT

CLASS OF '35...

WILLIAM BRANDE,
CLASS POET...
HIS VERSE MAY BE
ASININE, BUT WE ALL
LOVE HIS SISTER...
OH, SO DIVINE!

ROGER RANDOLPH,
CLASS ATHLETE...
IF BRAINS HAD BICEPS,
"RAJ" WOULD BE
MUSCLE-BOUND...
ASK "STEADY ED"!

EDWARD R. STEAD,
CLASS SCHOLAR...
"STEADY ED" -- OUR
BET FOR MOST LIKELY
TO SUCCEED!

DENNY COLT,
CLASS WISEMAN...
BELOVED BY ALL, DENNY'S
OUR CLASS STANDOUT! IF
YOU'RE IN A JAM, HE'LL
HELP YOU OUT! HATS
OFF TO YOU, DENNY!

Reports
Algie
Africa
Mundlet
wealy
waly
Sathshel
wase
wase
overhead coste...
intimation
ullitury cu
Mow app
120000
out!
w.
Hilla
w.

Only Commissioner Dolan knows
that THE SPIRIT is really
Denny Colt, long believed dead...

by
Will Eisner

MY COLLEGE CLASS REUNION!
STRANGE HOW FAMILIAR THEIR
FACES... EVEN AFTER ALL
THESE YEARS...

Dear Classmate:
You are hereby
invited to attend
the Tenth Annual
Reunion of our class,
at the Waldorf Towers...
Dress Formal...

Mr. Edward R. Stead
39 Main St.
City

STRANGER STILL THAT THEY
HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ME...

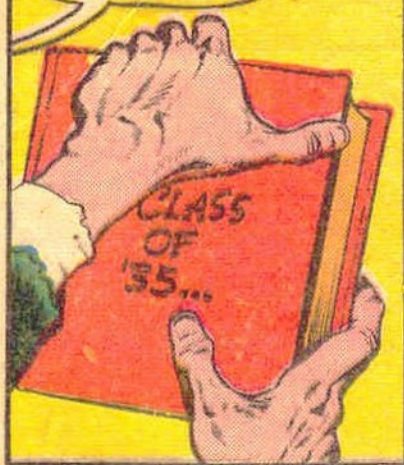
BILL BRANDE... HE ONLY STOOD OUT BECAUSE OF HIS SISTER, MARION! YES, THEY ALL LOVED HER... I OUGHT TO KNOW!



ROGER RANDOLPH -- "THE RAJ"! "ASK STEADY ED," EH? ASK ME? HE LOVED HER, TOO -- CURSE HIS BLASTED BLACK SOUL!



I SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM FOR WHAT HE DID TO ME!!



I WOULD HAVE KILLED RAJ BUT FOR YOU, DENNY! ... IN THIS BOOK WE WERE SIDE BY SIDE, AND SO WE WERE IN SCHOOL -- UNTIL THAT DAY---



"WHEN WE BEGAN TAKING OUR FINAL EXAMINATIONS!!"



"ROGER KNEW I HATED HIM FOR LYING TO MARION ABOUT ME... TURNING HER AGAINST ME, BUT STILL HE -----"



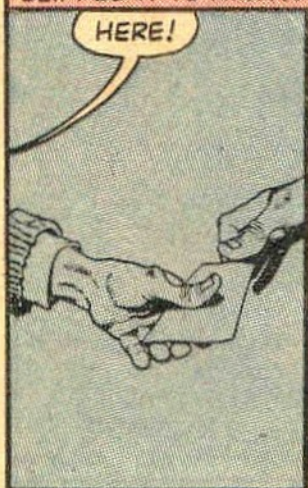
PSST! ED! WHAT'S THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST QUESTION?

CRIBBING'S NOT HONORABLE! I WON'T TELL YOU!



I KNOW, I KNOW! BUT IF YOU DON'T, I'LL FLUNK OUT! I WON'T GRADUATE! ED! HAVE A HEART! PLEASE, ED ---

"WHAT MADE ME GIVE IN TO HIM, I'LL NEVER KNOW! BUT I SCRIBBLED MY ANSWER AND SLIPPED IT TO HIM..."



HERE!

I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS ED-- NEVER!



"I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU, ED, ... BUT LATER, AFTER THE EXAM, IN THE SUGAR BOWL ---"

BUT, MARION, YOU PROMISE TO GO TO THE PROM WITH ME--

WITH YOU? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH... NOT AFTER WHAT RAJ'S TOLD ME ABOUT YOU!



"AND THEN IT HAPPENED! PROFESSOR MANLEY SENT FOR RAJ AND ME ---"

BOTH OF THESE PAPERS SHOW THE SAME ERRORS! OBVIOUSLY, ONE OF YOU COPIED! SPEAK UP-- THIS IS SERIOUS!



I HATE TO SAY THIS, PROFESSOR -- BUT ED COPIED FROM ME! I WARNED HIM, BUT---

WHY, YOU DIRTY--

MR. STEAD! REPORT TO THE DEAN'S OFFICE-- AT ONCE!



"IT DIDN'T TAKE THE DEAN LONG TO MAKE UP HIS MIND... IN FACT, AS I REMEMBER, IT TOOK HIM ONLY FIVE MINUTES..."

MR. STEAD, YOU WILL PACK YOUR THINGS AND BE OFF THE COLLEGE GROUNDS WITHIN THE HOUR!

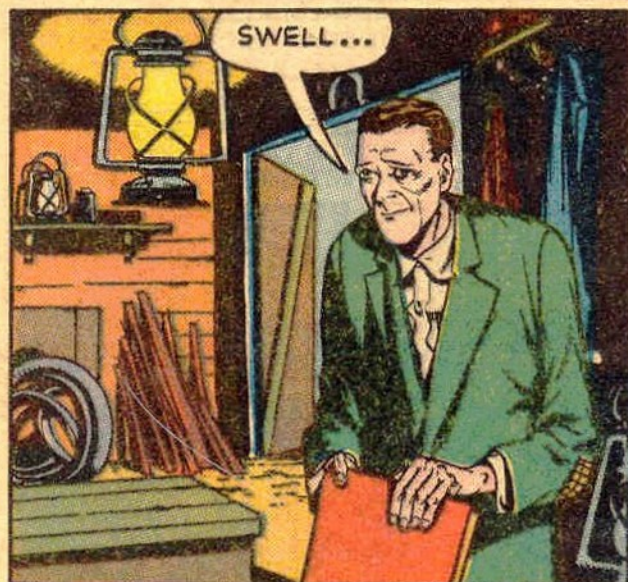


"MY MIND WAS A BLANK -- I WALKED TOWARD THE DORM TO PACK MY THINGS, WHEN ---"

THE EXAM CRIBBER! HA-HA-HA!

I DON'T KNOW HOW I EVER COULD HAVE LIKED HIM!





AND SO WE TURN TO THE WALDRORP TOWERS, THAT NIGHT . . .



LET'S BE SEATED, CLASSMATES!

OKAY, RAJ! --GEE, THIS'S LIKE THE OLD DAYS, EH?

'RAY FOR '35!



TWO OF US AREN'T HERE, FELLOWS!

DENNY'S DEAD... AND ED DISAPPEARED AFTER ---



HA-HA! SO WHAT? NEVER LIKED EITHER OF THEM! HERE'S TO THE REST OF --- OH! YOU!

AM I INTRUDING, GENTLEMEN?



NICE OF YOU BOYS TO INVITE ME... THANK YOU VERY MUCH... WHY -- WH-WHAT'S THE MATTER? --



HA-HA-HA! WELL, IF IT ISN'T "STEADY ED"-- THE CLASS SCHOLAR-- MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED!

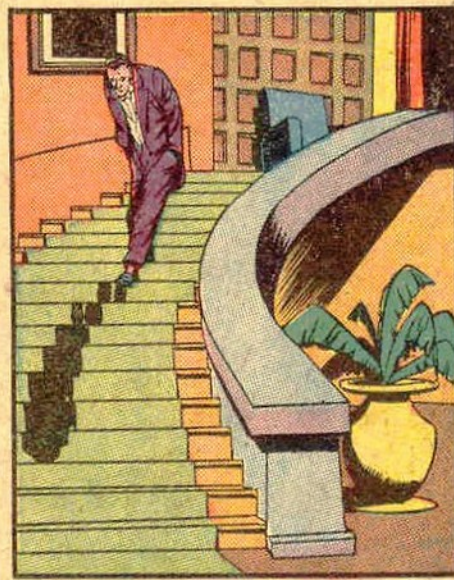
HO-HO-HO!

I'LL G-GO IF YOU D-DON'T WANT ME!



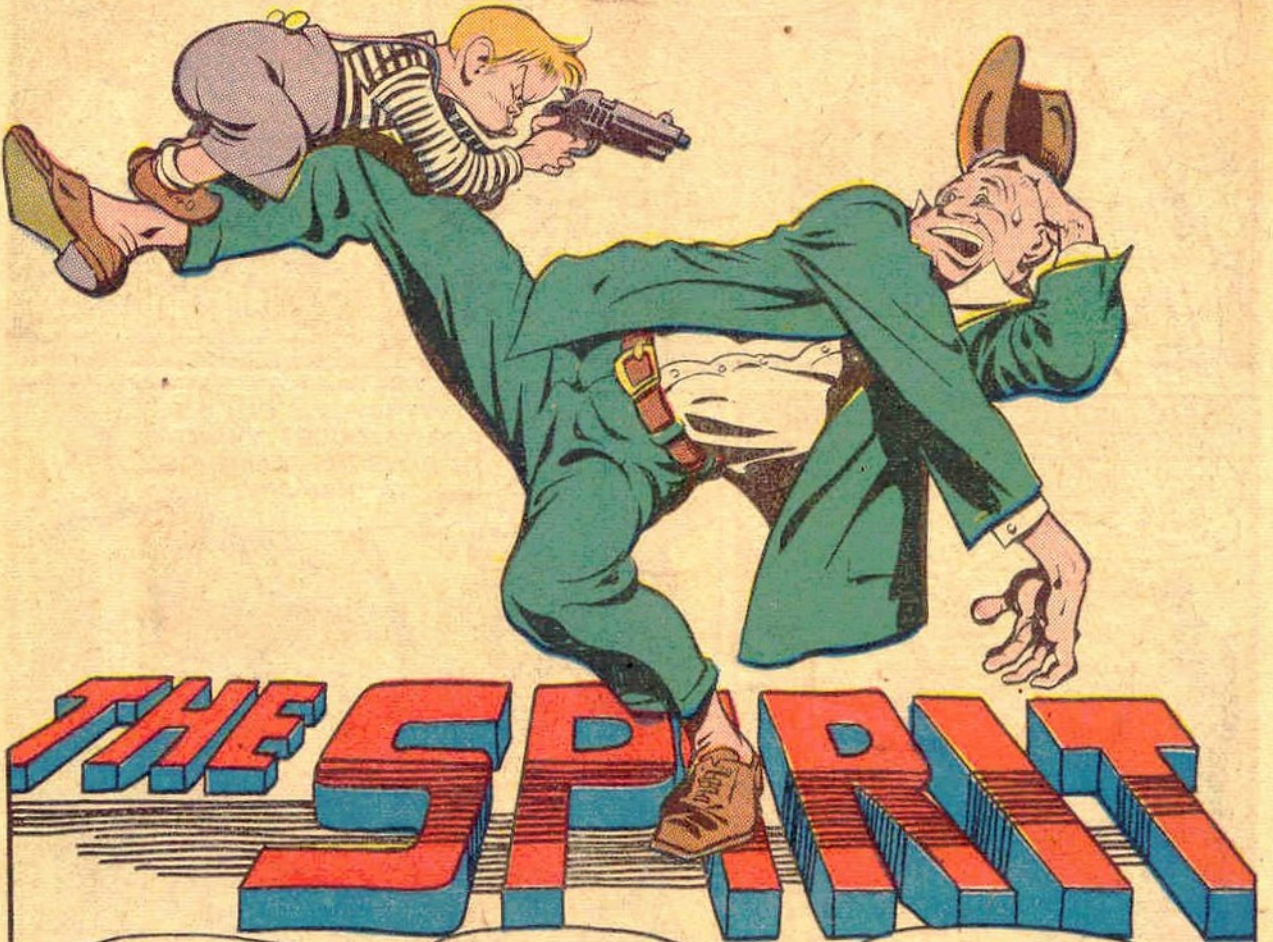
NO! DON'T GO, ED!-- NO HARD FEELINGS! TELL ME... WHAT LINE ARE YOU IN?

THANKS, RAJ! I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO STAY-- I -- I ---





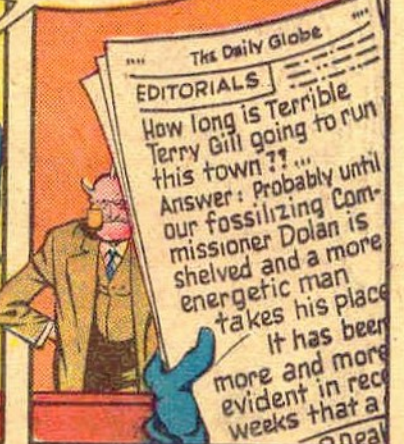




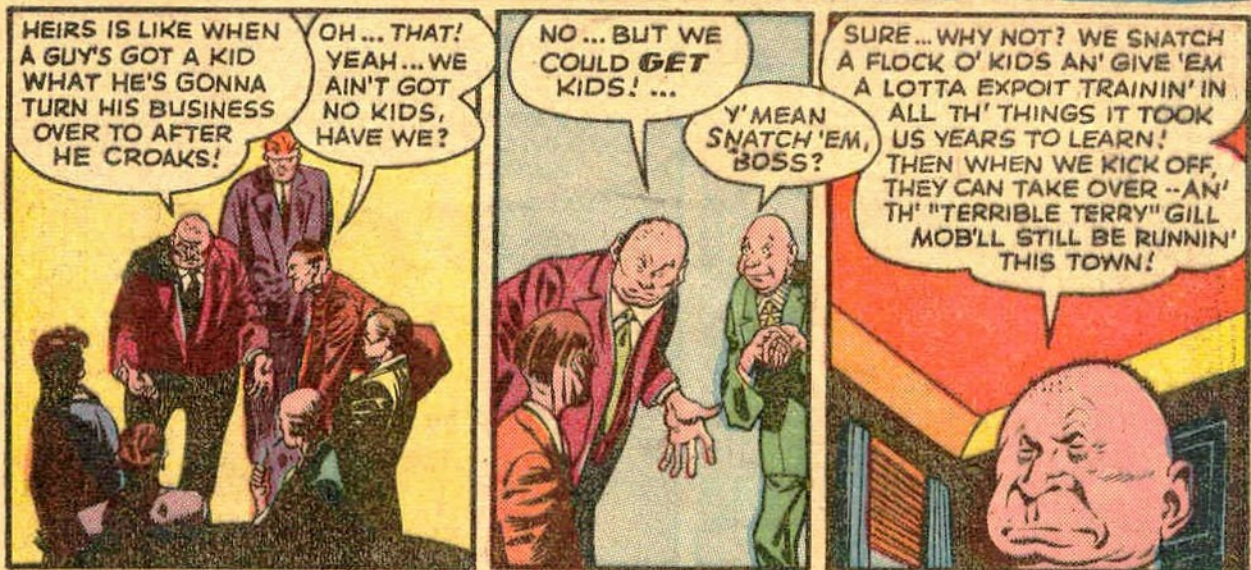
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DOLAN? YOU LOOK AS IF YOUR MOTHER-IN-LAW JUST NOW HIT TOWN!

HUH! ... AT A TIME LIKE THIS YOU GOTTA CRACK MOTHER-IN-LAW JOKES!

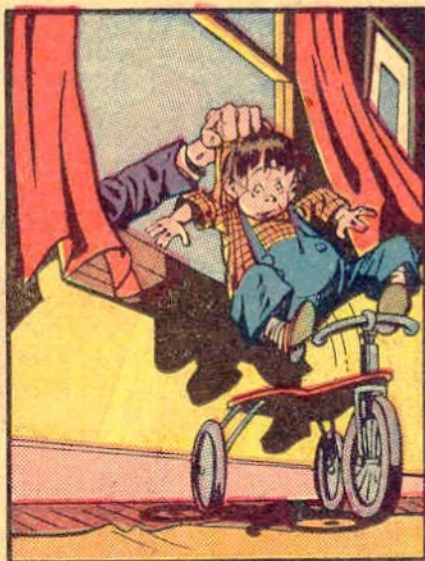
I GET IT! WHICH OF YOUR DETESTABLE QUALITIES IS ANNOYING THE PRESS THIS TIME?...







A KIDNAPPING EPIDEMIC HITS TOWN! ...



IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT...



WONDER WHEAH DE SPIRIT AM! HE'S SUPPOSED TO MEET ME HEAH!



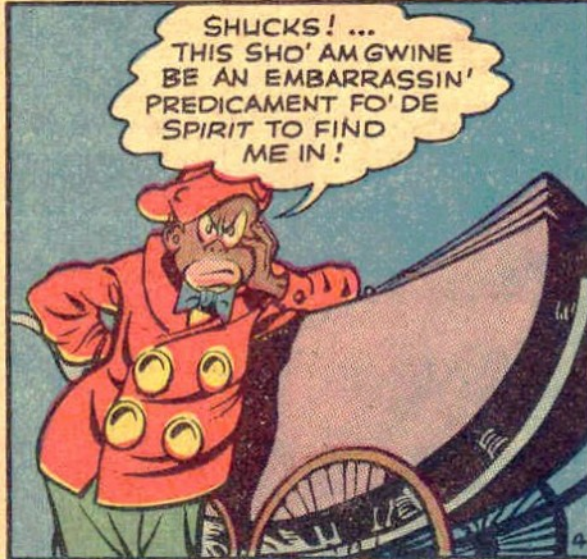
OH... LITTLE BOY... YOU WOULDN'T MIND KEEPING AN EYE ON LITTLE AUBREY FOR A FEW MINUTES WHILE I GO INTO THAT STORE, WOULD YOU?

WELL ... AH DON'T KNOW, MA'AM... AH AIN'T HAD MUCH 'SPERIENGE WIF DE YOUNGER GEN'RASHUN!...

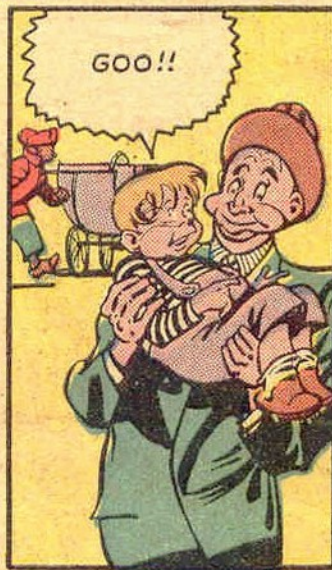
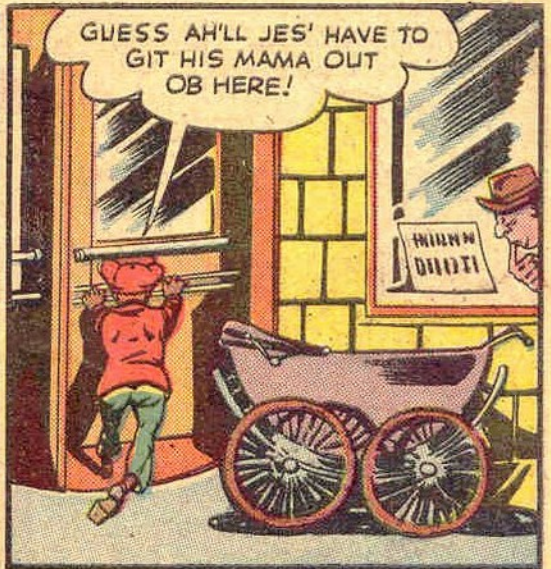


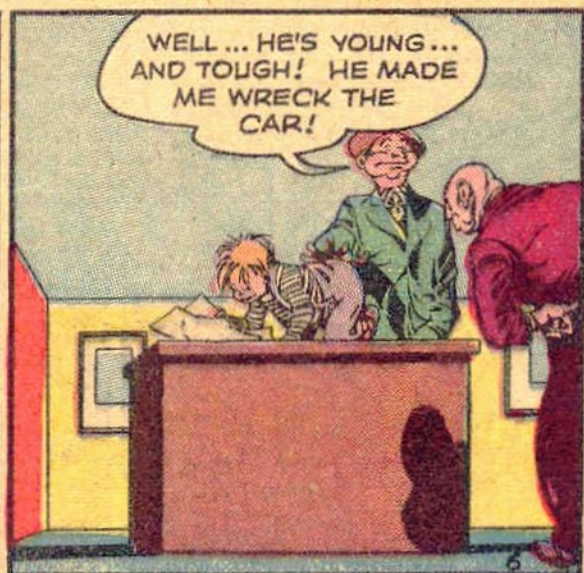
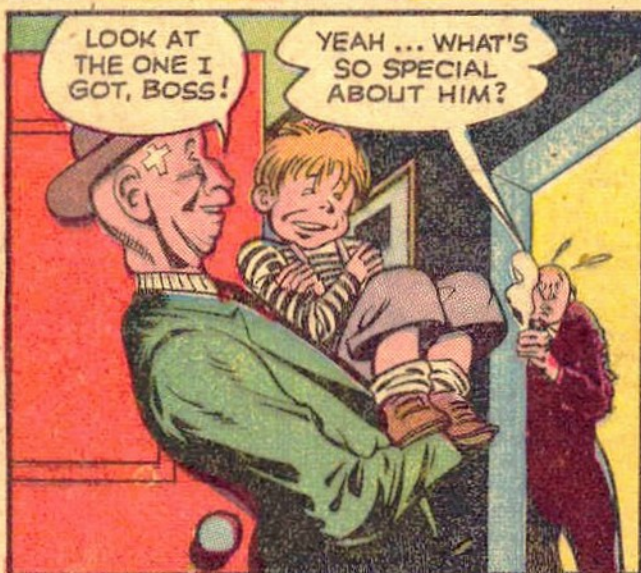
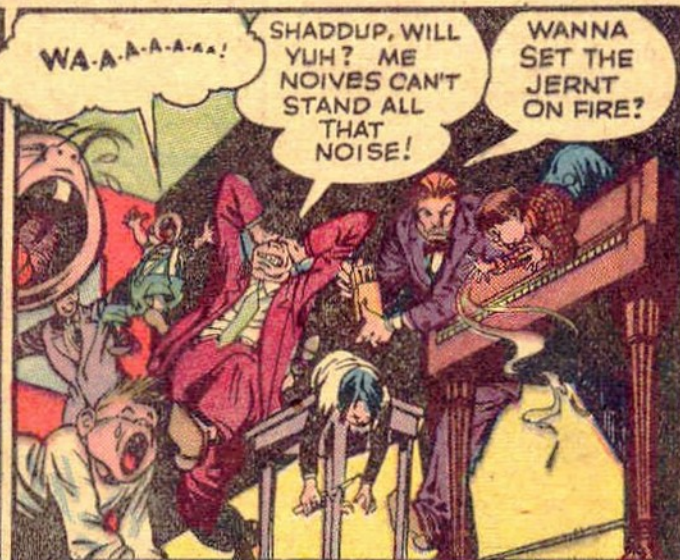
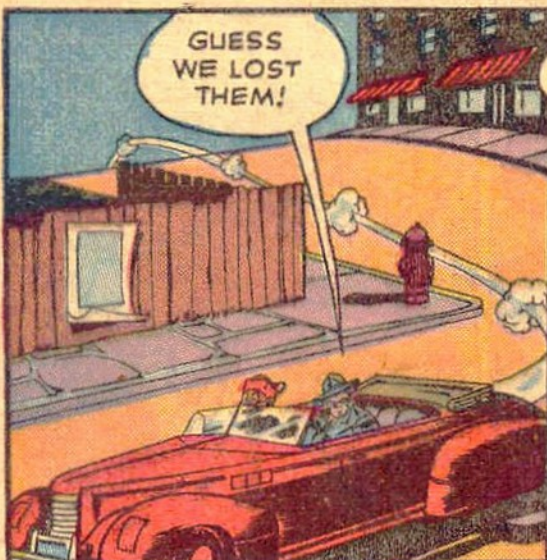
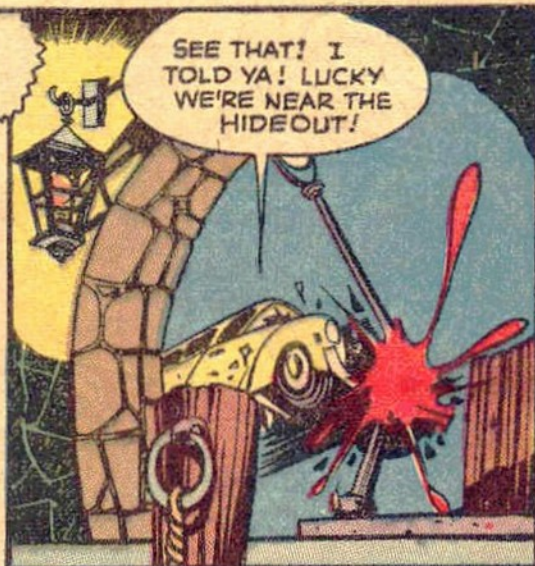
OH ... LITTLE AUBREY'S NO TROUBLE AT ALL ... AND I'LL ONLY BE A FEW MINUTES ...

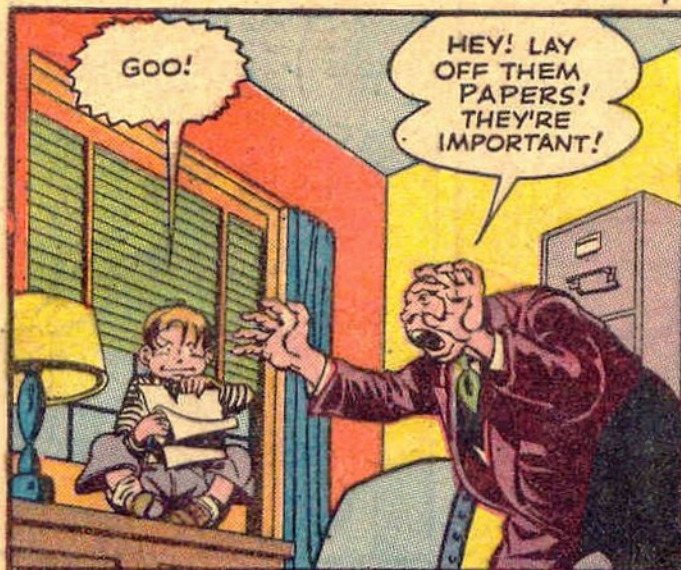
B-BUT...

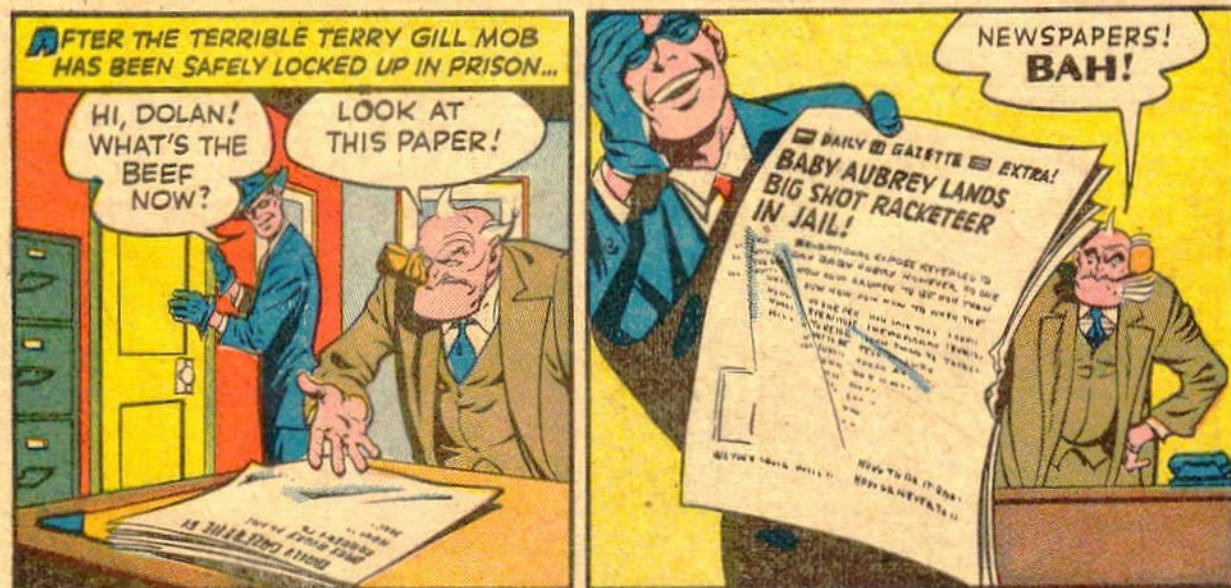
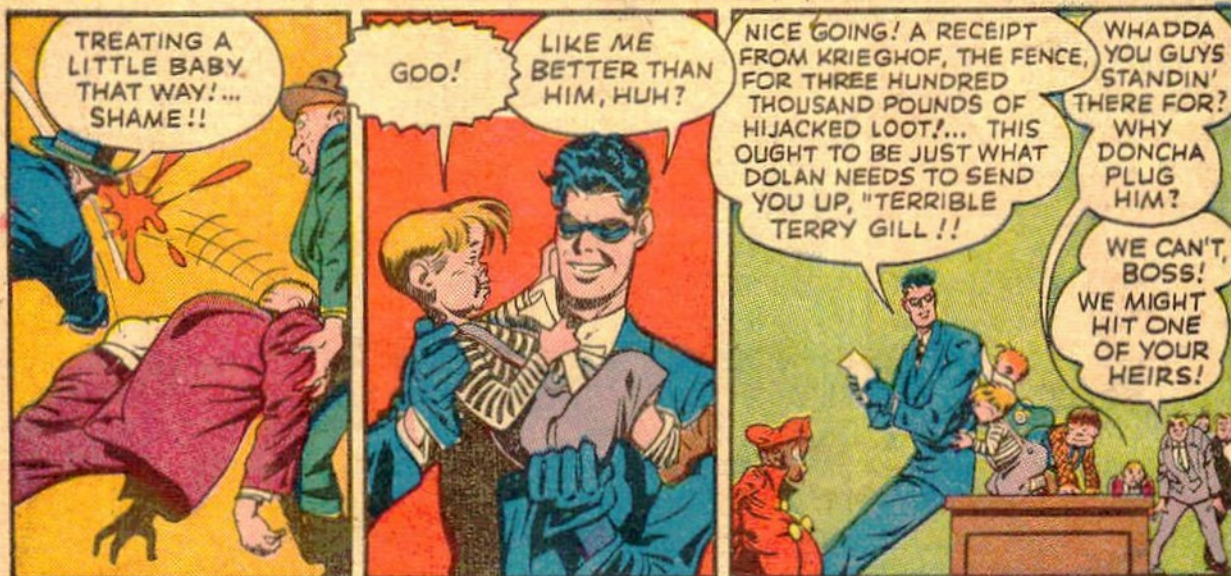


SHUCKS! ... THIS SHO' AM GWINE BE AN EMBARRASSIN' PREDICAMENT FO' DE SPIRIT TO FIND ME IN!















OUR CAR'S STALLED ON THE ROAD NEAR HERE! CAN WE COME IN?

YOU'RE WELCOME, STRANGER!



MATILDY! BOIL SOME TEA FOR THE GENTLEMEN!

SURE IS A WET NIGHT!



MEBBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE ORDERED SO MUCH RAIN! BUT I NEEDED IT FOR THE CROPS!

DID YOU SAY YOU ORDERED THE RAIN?



SURE DID! BUT I ORDERED THE RAIN TO STOP TOMORRY! WE'LL HAVE A RIGHT FINE DAY, I RECKON!



AH! HERE'S THE YOUNG MAN WHO SUPPLIES ME WITH THE RIGHT KINDS OF WEATHER!

HOWDY!



GLAD TO MEET YOU! MY NAME'S PAUL COLLINS!

JUST HOW DO YOU SUPPLY THE WEATHER? -- IN BOTTLES?



I CAN'T REVEAL PROFESSIONAL SECRETS!

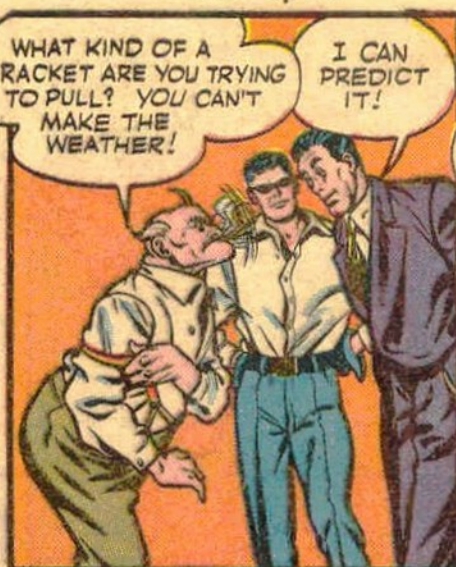
SURE HE CAN'T! ... I RECKON YOU FOLKS CAN STAY IN THE BARN FER TONIGHT! IT'S WARM AND DRY OUT THERE!



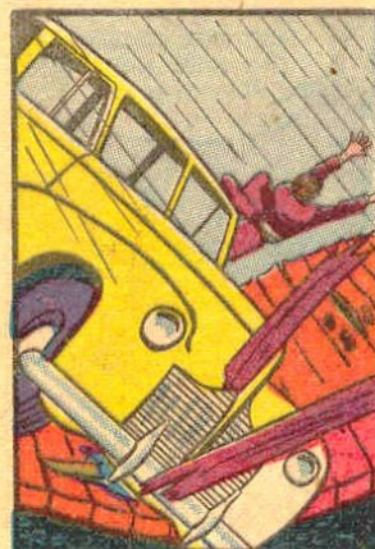
OF ALL THE CRAZY SET-UPS! HE ORDERS THE WEATHER! BAH!

AH SHO' WISH HE'D ORDUH ME SOME NICE, HOT SUNSHINE!









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