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and SEMAPHORE
ALPHABET CHART
WITH EACH
GLOWLIGHT



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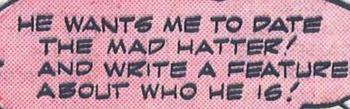
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THE MAD HATTER. Vol. 1, No. 1—Jan.-Feb., 1946. Published Bi-monthly by O. W. Comics Corp., at 150 Nassau Street, New York 7, N. Y. J. G. Oxton, President. Subscription rate, twelve issues for \$1.20 in U. S. & possessions. Single issue 10c. Application for entry as second class matter at New York is pending. Entire contents copyrighted 1945 by O. W. Comics Corp. Trade mark registrations, U. S. Patent Office applied for. Reprinting in whole or in part forbidden except by permission of publisher. The stories, characters, names and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.







M-MAD

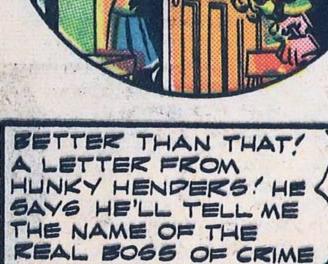


I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE MAD HATTER! HOW AM I GUPPOGED --- OH OH! HERE IS SOMETHING THAT IS NEWS!





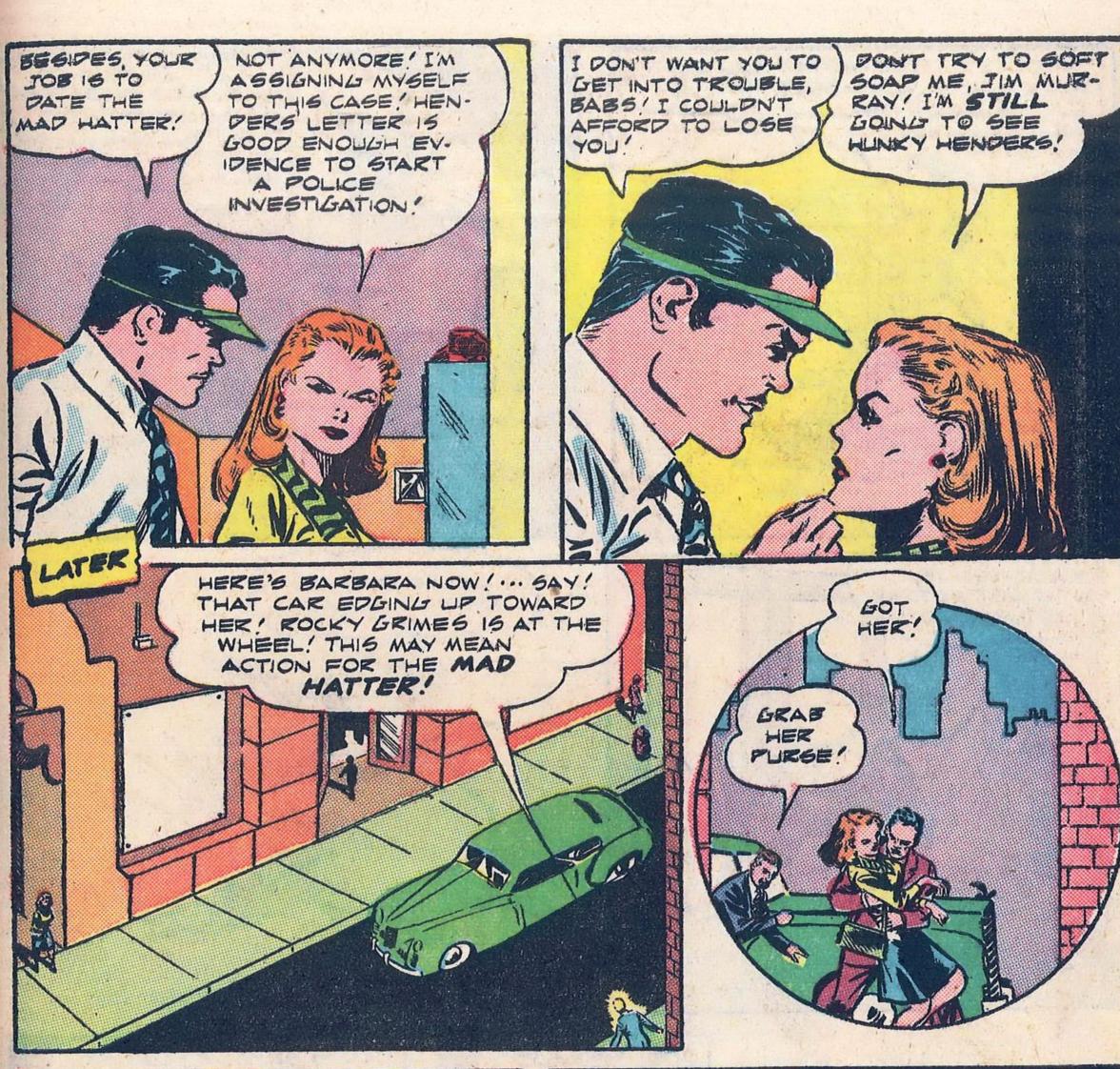




HENDERS IS JUST A
CHEAP LITTLE GUNMAN! HAVE A LIGHT!
THAT TEN CENT
GADGET NEVER
WILL WORK!

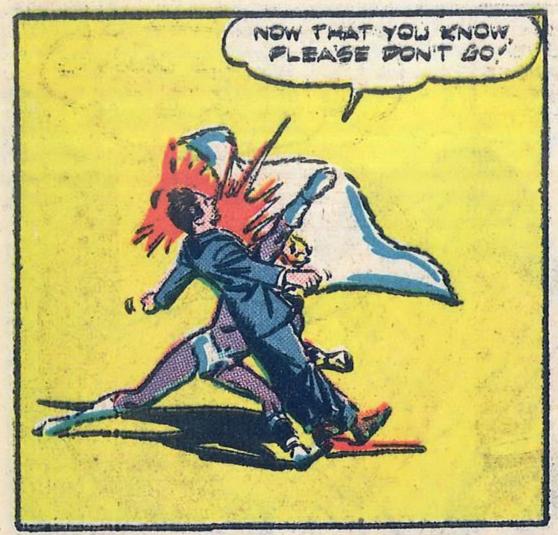


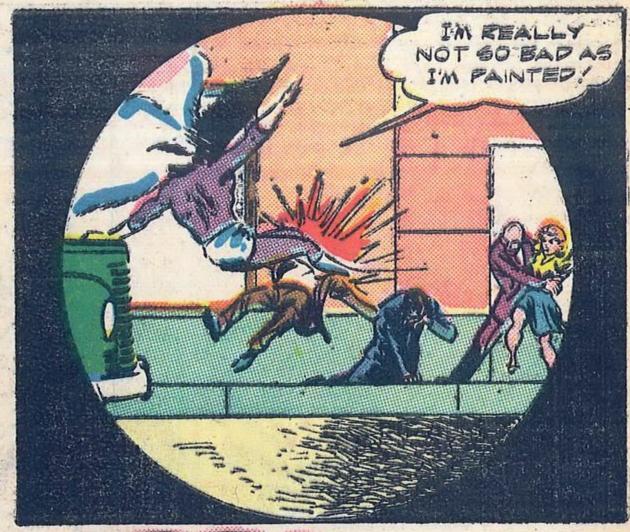




























THAT DOUBLE CROSSING



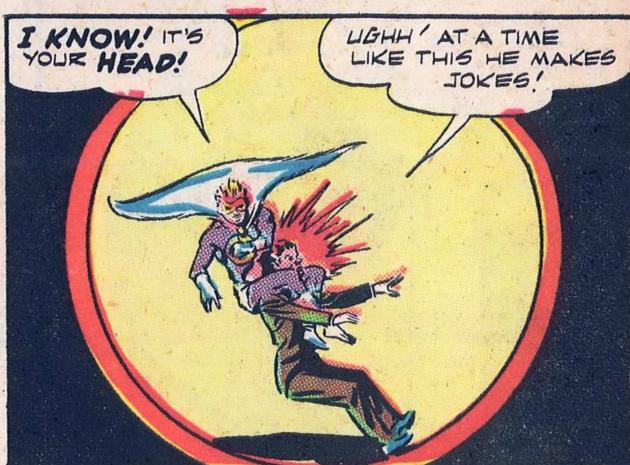


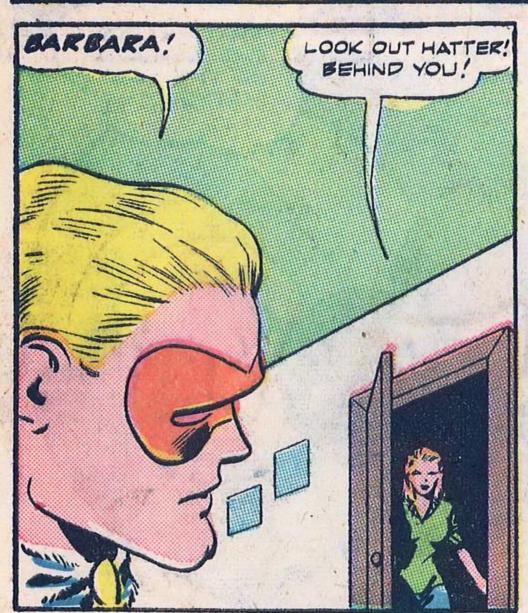


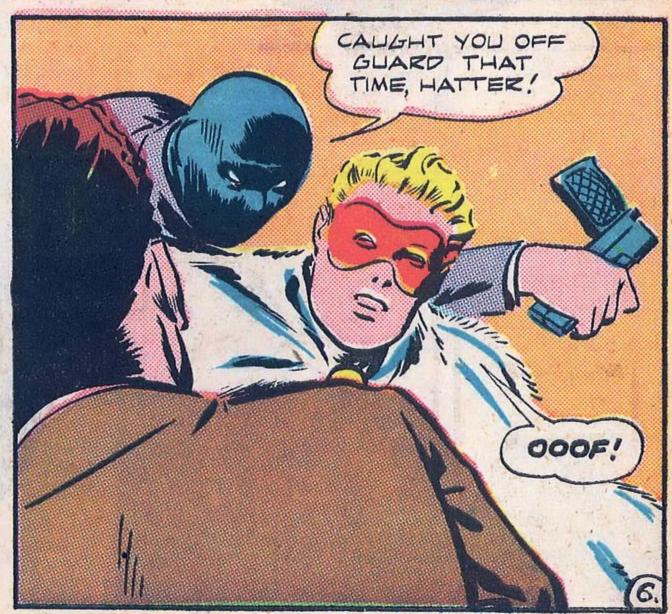














THE SHEET: WILL GIVE HIM PLENTY OF FRESH AIR! HA-HA! THE BOSS IS A GENILIS!



FASTEN THE IF ANYBODY
OTHER END SEES HIM
NO THE STEAM FROM THE
PIPE AND STREET, THEY
WE'LL GO! WON'T GET HERE
IN TIME TO SAVE
HIM FROM
HANGING!

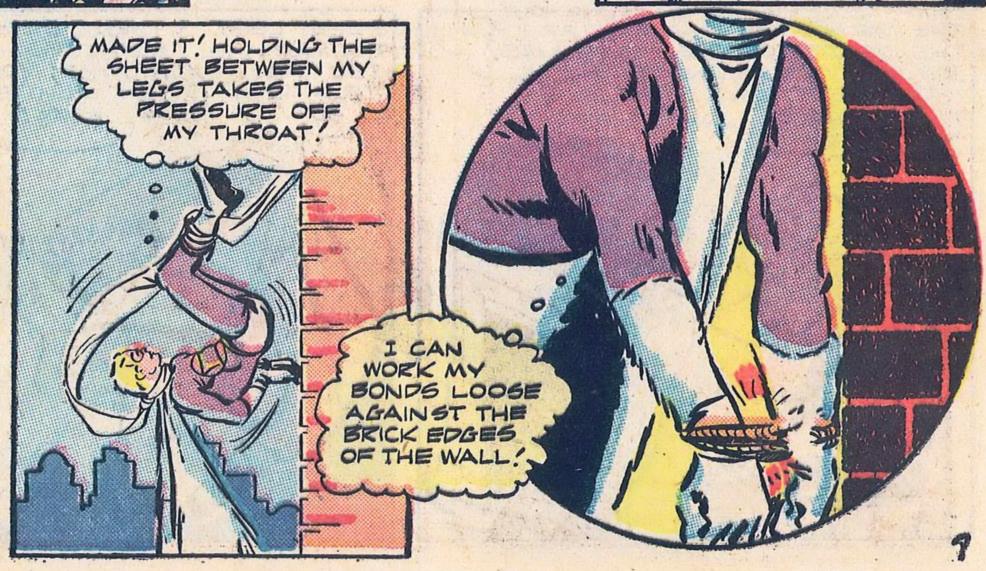
AGONIZED CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS TO THE MAD HAT-TER! STRIPS OF SHEETING TIGHTEN INEXORABLY ABOUT HIS THROAT-

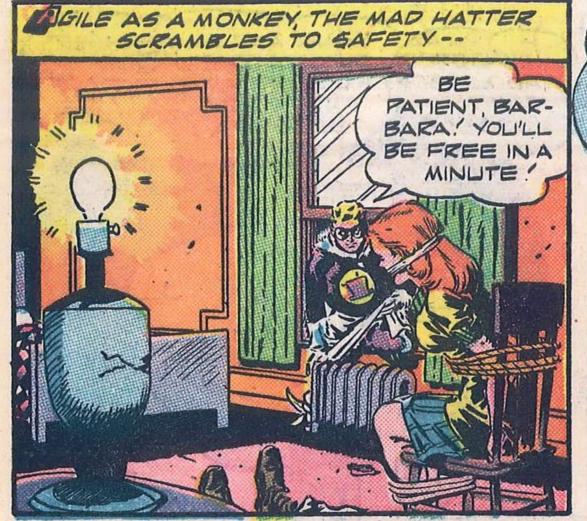


BRUISED THROAT AFLAME... LUNGS BURSTING . THE MAD HATTER TRIES A DESPERATE STRATAGEM --



PINAL TWISTING LUNGE, WITH A BROKEN NECK IN THE BALANCE-





















YOU'LL FIND OUT SOONER OR LATER! THERE'S AN IM-PORTANT REASON WHY I MUST LEAVE! YOU SEE, I'M THE CRIME BOSS'



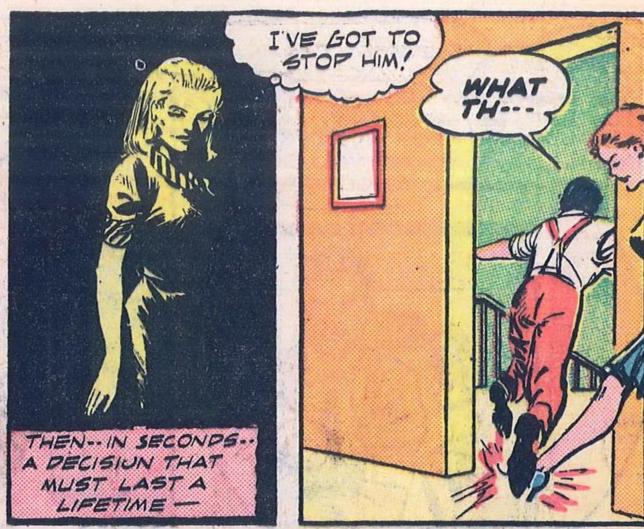










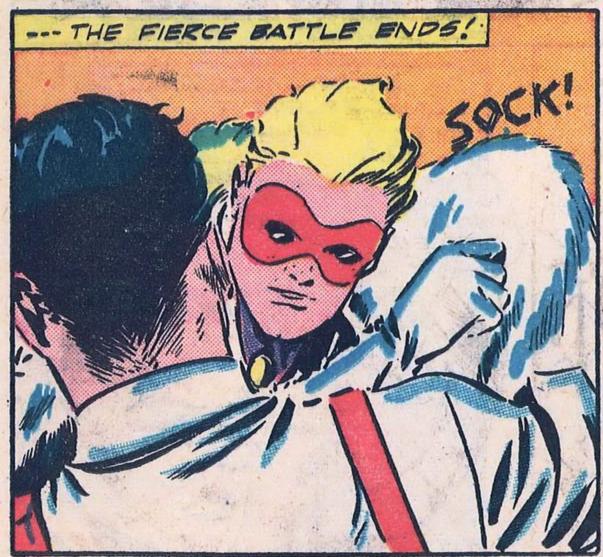




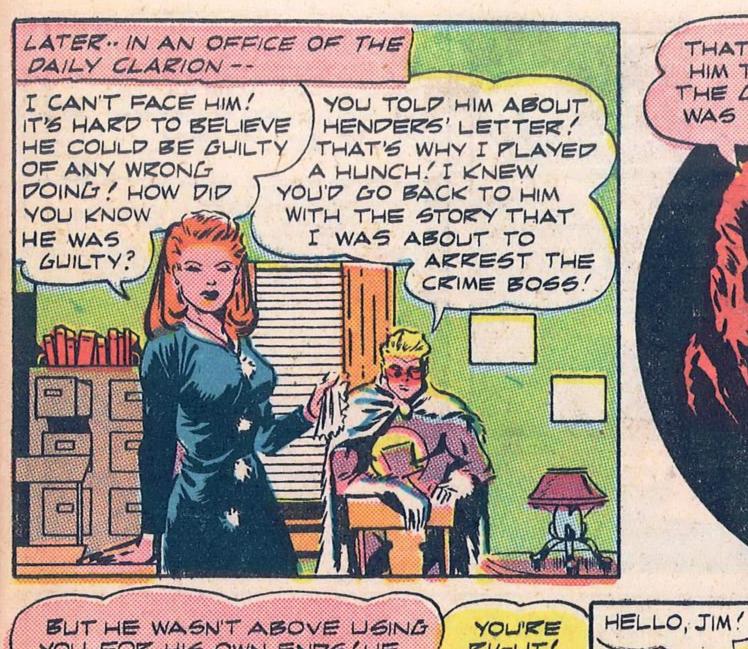


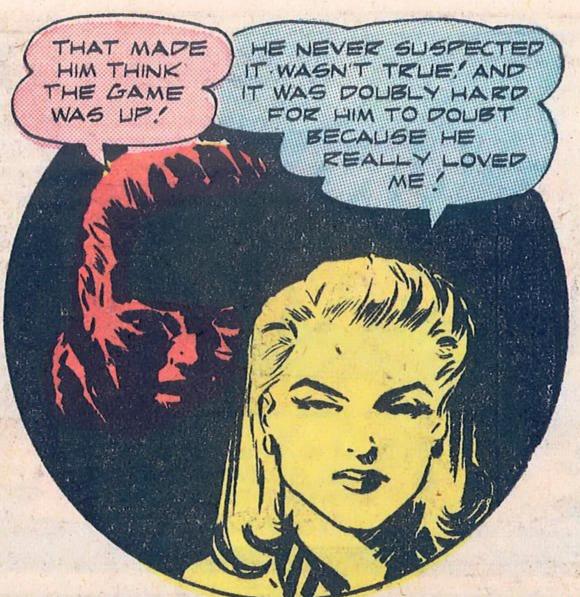






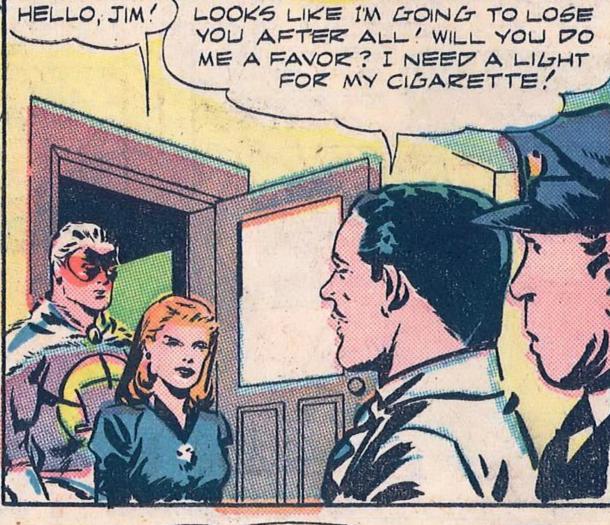






BUT HE WASN'T ABOVE USIN YOU FOR HIS OWN ENDS! HE WANTED YOU TO FIND OUT THE MAD HATTER'S REAL IDENTITY! KNOWING THE SECRET, HE COULD HAVE ENDED MY CAREER!

YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M BEING A FOOL! I'LL SEE HIM NOW!



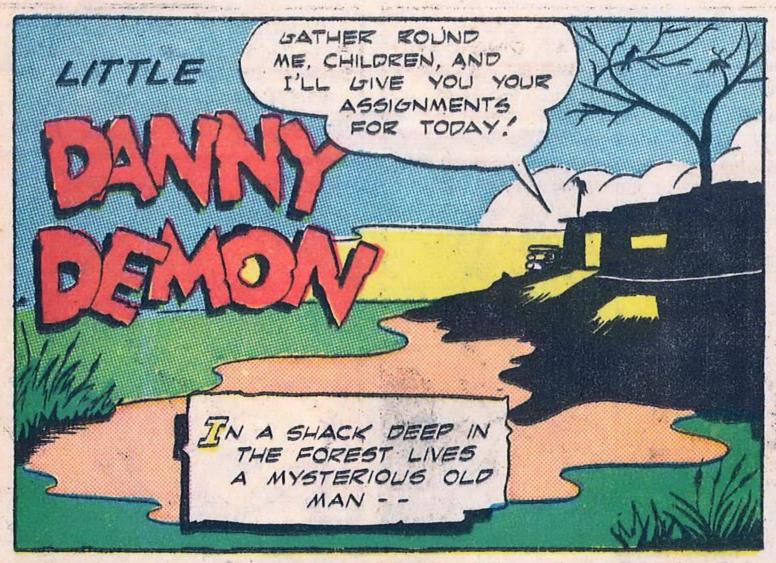


THIS IS ONE TIME I
CAN'T DO IT FOR YOU!
GUESS I'LL NEVER DO
IT AGAIN! BUT I'M GLAD
YOUR GAPGET
FINALLY
WORKED!



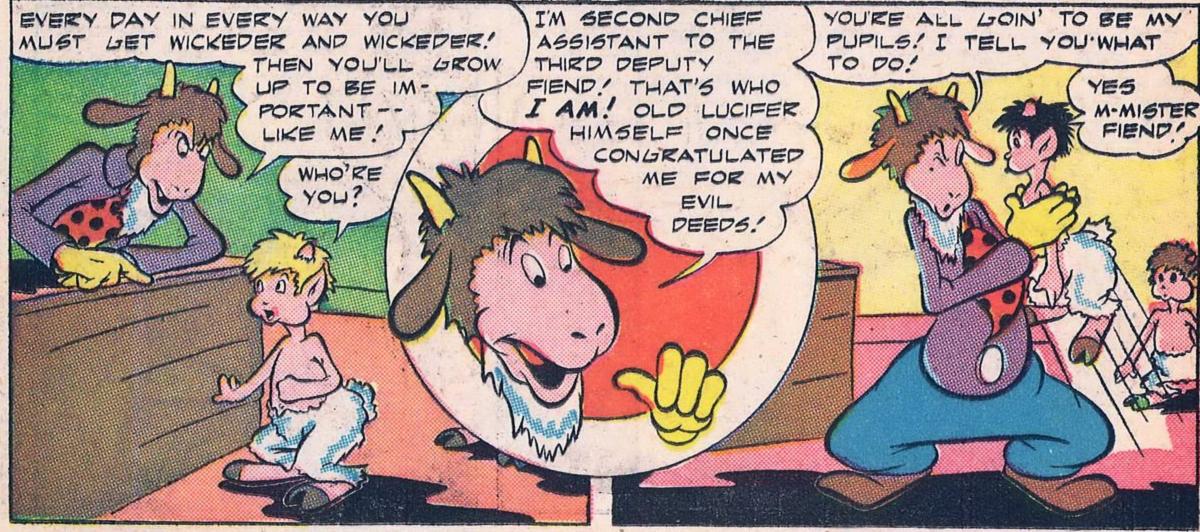


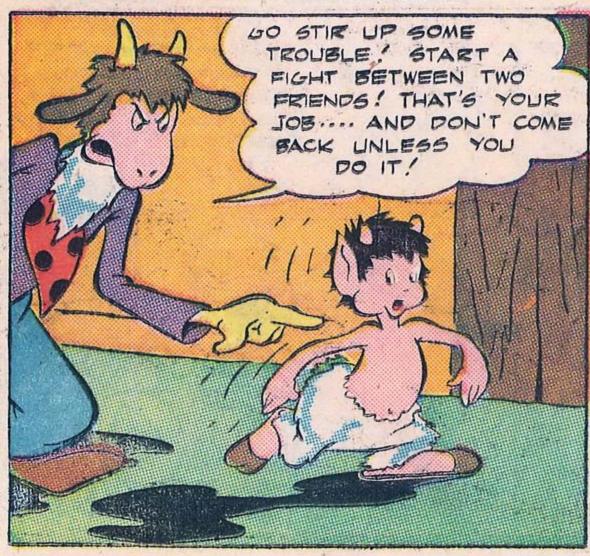
HATTER, WILL OF COURSE! YOU TAKE ME OUT QUEEK ISN'T IT? SOMEWHERE? THAT YOU SHOULD OBEY HIS ORDERS! WHERE I THIS WILL BE YOUR CAN LAUGH IF I WANT FIRST DATE WITH THE MAD TO -- OR CRY A HATTER! LITTLE!





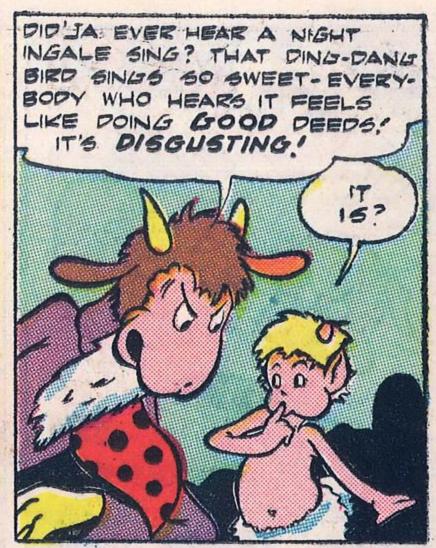
you three little demons



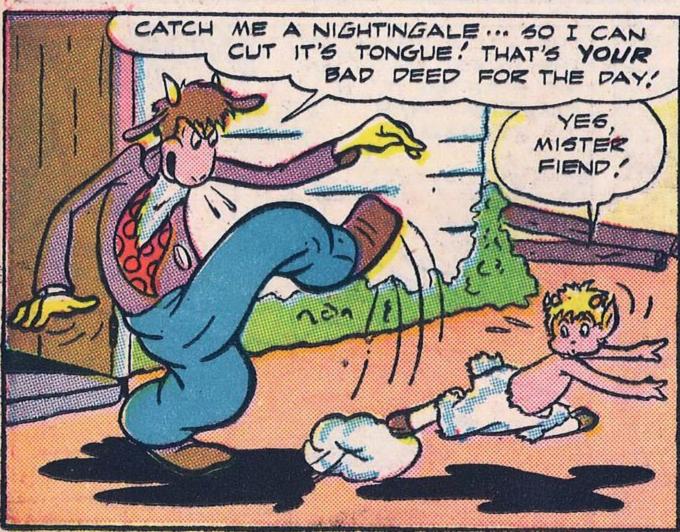


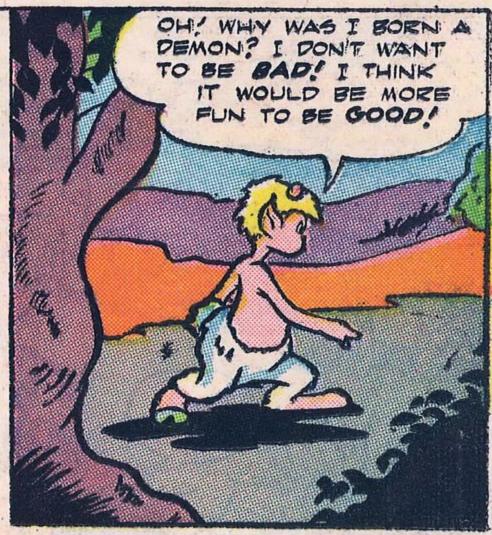






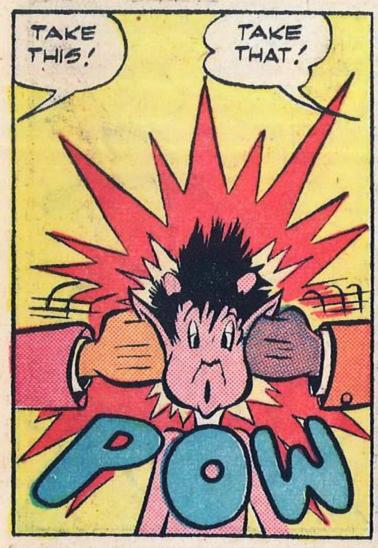


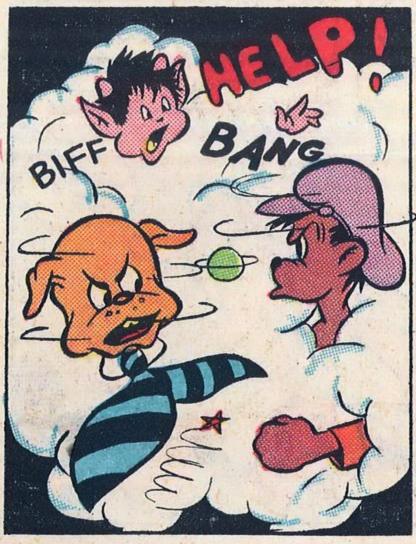










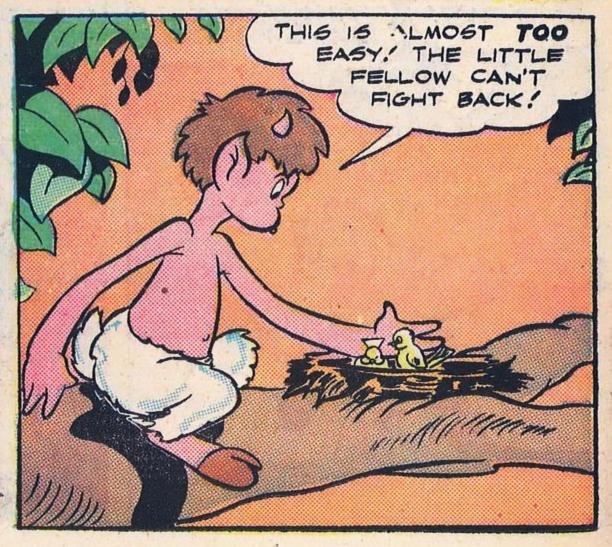




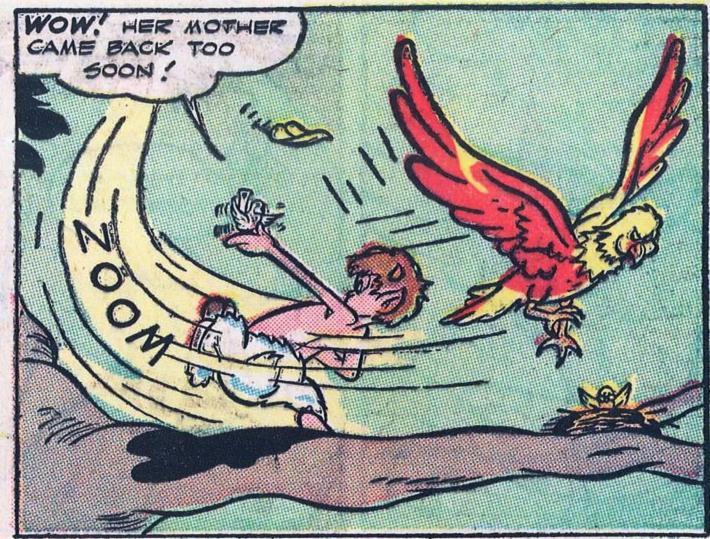










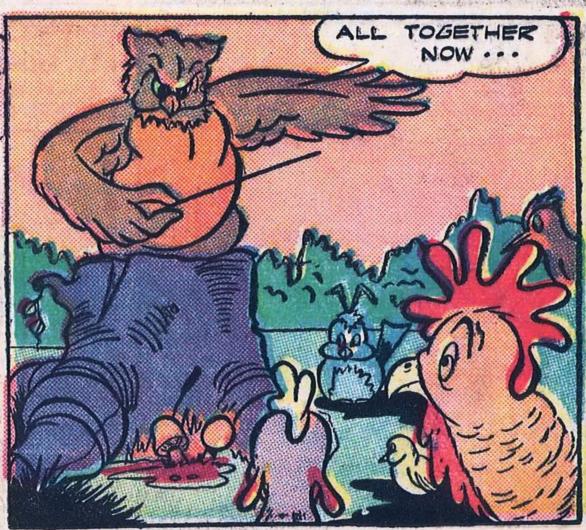








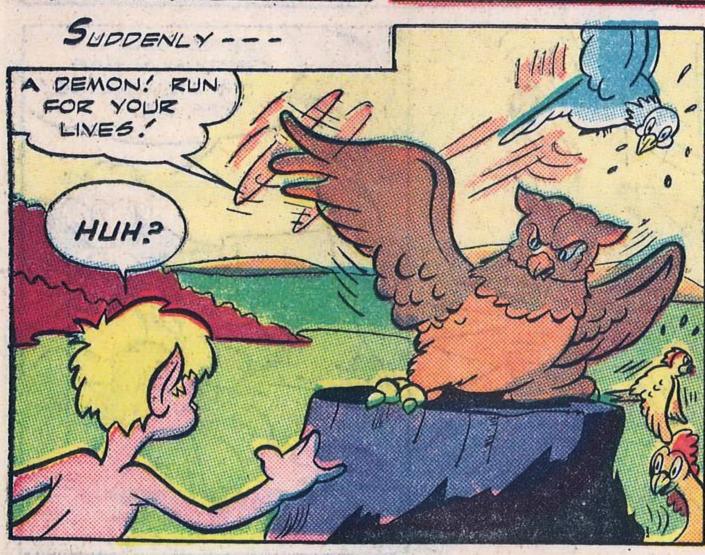






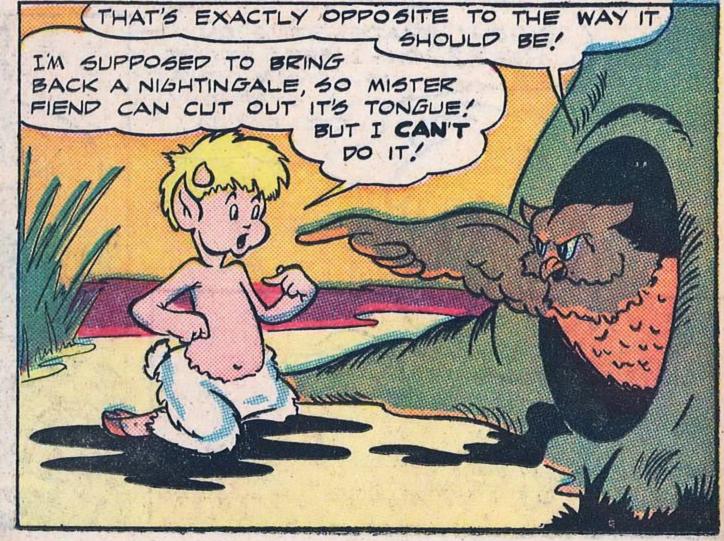


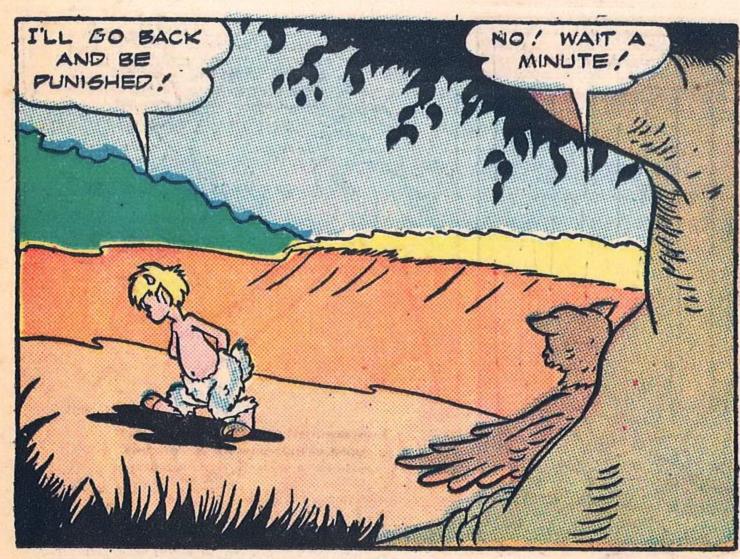


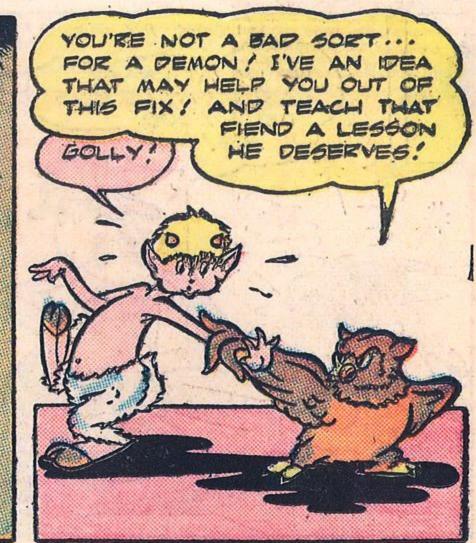










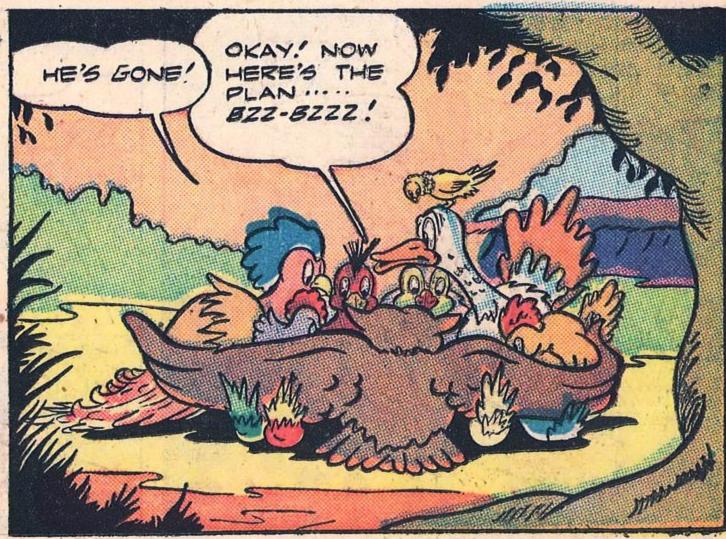


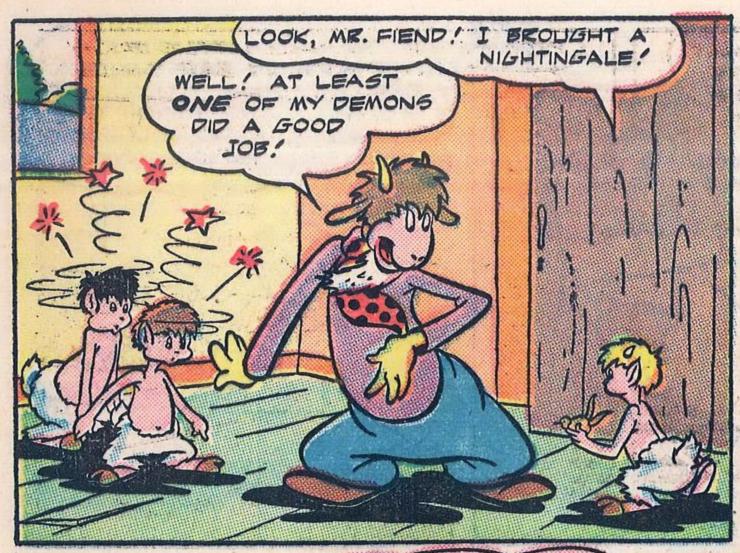












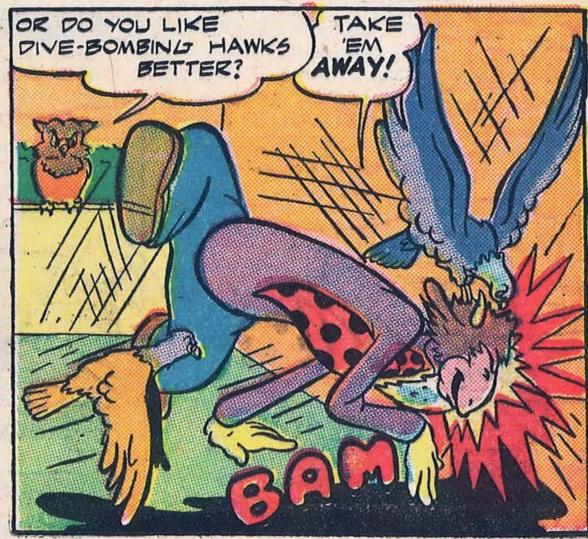


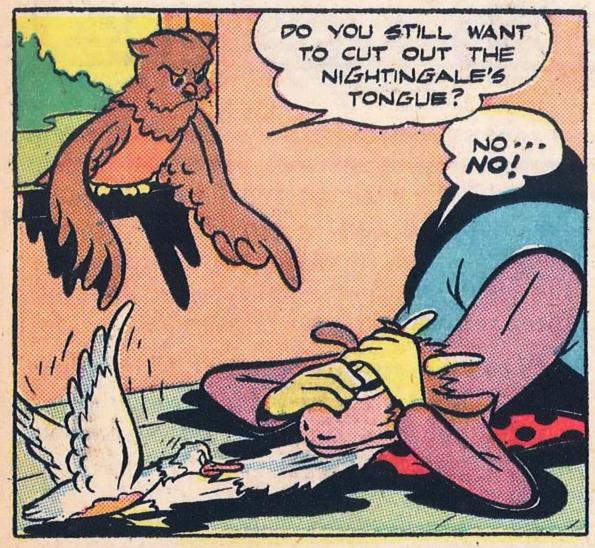


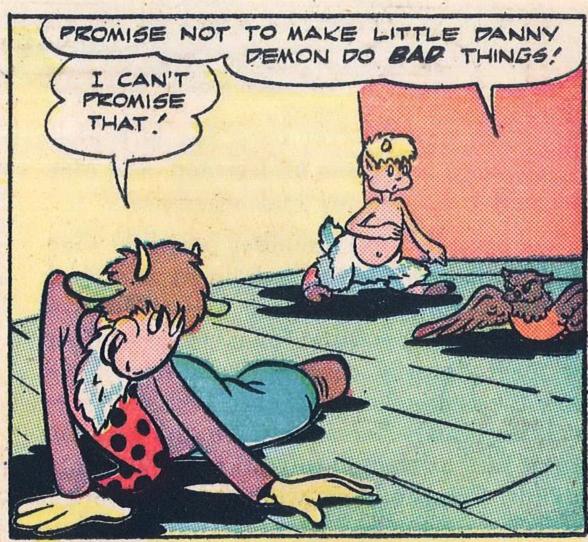


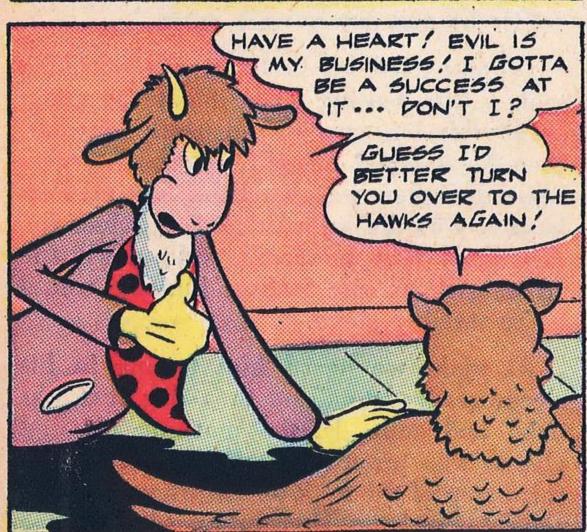




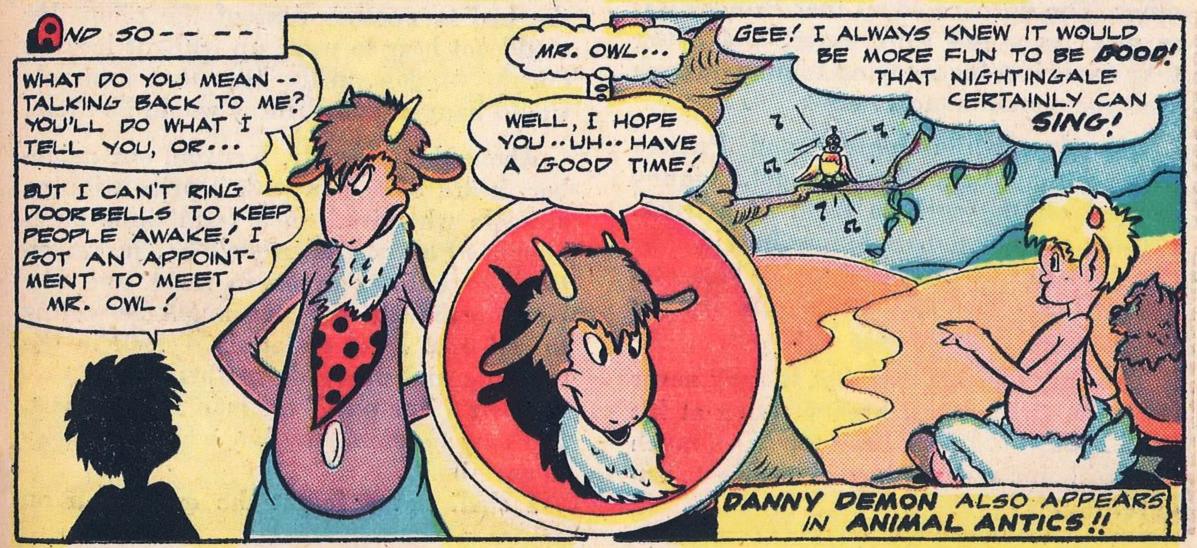












DOGS ARE GOOD MEDICINE

THERE would never be a dog to replace Princey. That was understood, and Martha and I did not pretend otherwise.

We only had to remember how that shaggy brown airedale started up as the clock in the parlor struck three and padded to the front door, waiting for us to let him out to meet Johnny coming from school. Or how they came home together, with Princey walking slowly beside our son and glancing up at him as though to read unspoken commands. Princey knew what Johnny thought even before the boy spoke. Often I saw him dart from Johnny's side, to recover a stick that had not yet been thrown. And Princey was always right.

They had their own games, which only they understood. Princey sat beside Johnny when he did his homework at night, and he kept a day-long vigil outside the bedroom when Johnny lay ill with pneumonia the time we nearly lost him for good. It was all we could do to get Princey to the back porch, and then he would not sleep. He lay on the third step of the porch, where he could see the window of Johnny's room.

We moved Johnny's bed to the window to he could look down at Princey lying there. They drew comfort from seeing each other. The doctor told us that Princey was as good as a full time nurse, and better than medicine, for bringing Johnny through that pneumonia attack.

One day, while Johnny and Princey were coming back from school, Johnny stepped off the curb in front of a truck. Princey saw the danger before he did. The dog leaped full onto Johnny's chest and knocked him back so that only one leg was trapped. But Princey was killed.

The only blessing was that Johnny never saw him, twisted and broken, lying at his feet. That would have been too hard, much too hard, for a small boy of twelve to endure.

Johnny wanted Princey. The doctor said he had seen other cases where the patient got hold of a fixed notion, and no one could shake it. But such a terrible longing was dangerous in a small boy whose fracture of the right leg should have healed long before, and who still could not walk.

"I can't do anything about it," Dr. Sydney said. "This isn't a case for surgery. But I can tell you this. He will either walk soon, or . . ."

"Yes?"

"Or he may never walk again."

Johnny tried his best, for our sake. He took a few halting steps about the room before his leg gave way beneath him and then he dragged himself up and he tried again. But there was something lacking. Perhaps it was the knowledge that, when the day came that he could walk down the street with no one to help him, he would be so terribly alone.

At night we heard him tossing in his sleep, restlessly calling to a dog that was dead and gone. In the morning his first glance was toward the worn spot on the third step of the back porch, where Princey should have been. He would not let us move the bed to another part of the room. He could not bear to wake up without looking out the window, in the hope that a miracle would happen and Princey would be there.

About this time Mr. Kenyon, our neighbor, heard of a man with a prize winning airedale who lived on a farm three miles outside of town. The airedale had just given birth to a litter of seven pups, and Mr. Kenyon thought the man might be willing to sell one. I got up at six o'clock in the morning and drove down there.

"He's a fine pup," the man said. "Smart, and easy to train. Any boy would be lucky to get him."

I shall never forget the expression on

Johnny's face when we brought Princey Second in to him. For just a moment his face lit with the fire of a fantastic hope. The puppy was only eight weeks old, and he had Princey's soft brown eyes and shaggy look.

Then Johnny's eyes flickered. Awkwardly, he took the puppy into his arms because he knew that was what we wanted him to do. He patted the puppy's head.

"Thank you," Johnny said. "He's very nice."

But there still was no dog to take Princey's place. That night when I took the puppy out to the newly built dog house in the back yard, Johnny did not even watch us from the window.

We kept Princey Second, but a week passed and Johnny gave no sign that he cared whether or not we kept him. I fell into the habit of playing with the puppy myself, because I felt so sorry for him being alone. He was a friendly and likable little fellow, but he couldn't take the place of a memory. Not for Johnny.

One night, while Martha and I were supposed to be asleep, we heard Johnny sobbing in the bedroom across the hall.

"Take the dog away," Martha said. "It does him more harm than good to have another dog around."

I knew she was right. We had waited long enough. So I said, "Yes. I'll bring him back in the morning."

Princey Second whined for a little while before we went to sleep. At three a.m. there was a muffled shout from Johnny's bedroom. I went out in pajamas and bathrobe. The hall was dark, and the door to Johnny's bedroom was ajar.

Then I heard a stumbling footfall on the staircase, and a quick gasping breath. Johnny was clinging to the stair rail, in his pajamas, uncertainly feeling his way downstairs. He was walking and, as I watched

him, I felt the blood pulse in my body and a choking in my throat.

Martha came beside me. She said not a word, but her hand tightened on my arm.

"Let him go," she said at last, and I knew that her words were not meant for my ears.

We went downstairs together, not daring to guess what we would find. Johnny had opened the door to the back steps. He was standing there, in the moonlight, when we reached him. He raised his wet cheeks.

"Look," he said. "Look at Princey."

Sure enough, there was the puppy. He wore the chain on his collar that had been used to tether him to the doghouse. He was lying on the third step of the back porch, lying just as Princey so often had lain, where Johnny would see him from the window of his bedroom.

Slowly Johnny stooped and picked up Princey Second in his arms. He held him close against his face, without speaking. I think Martha began to cry then.

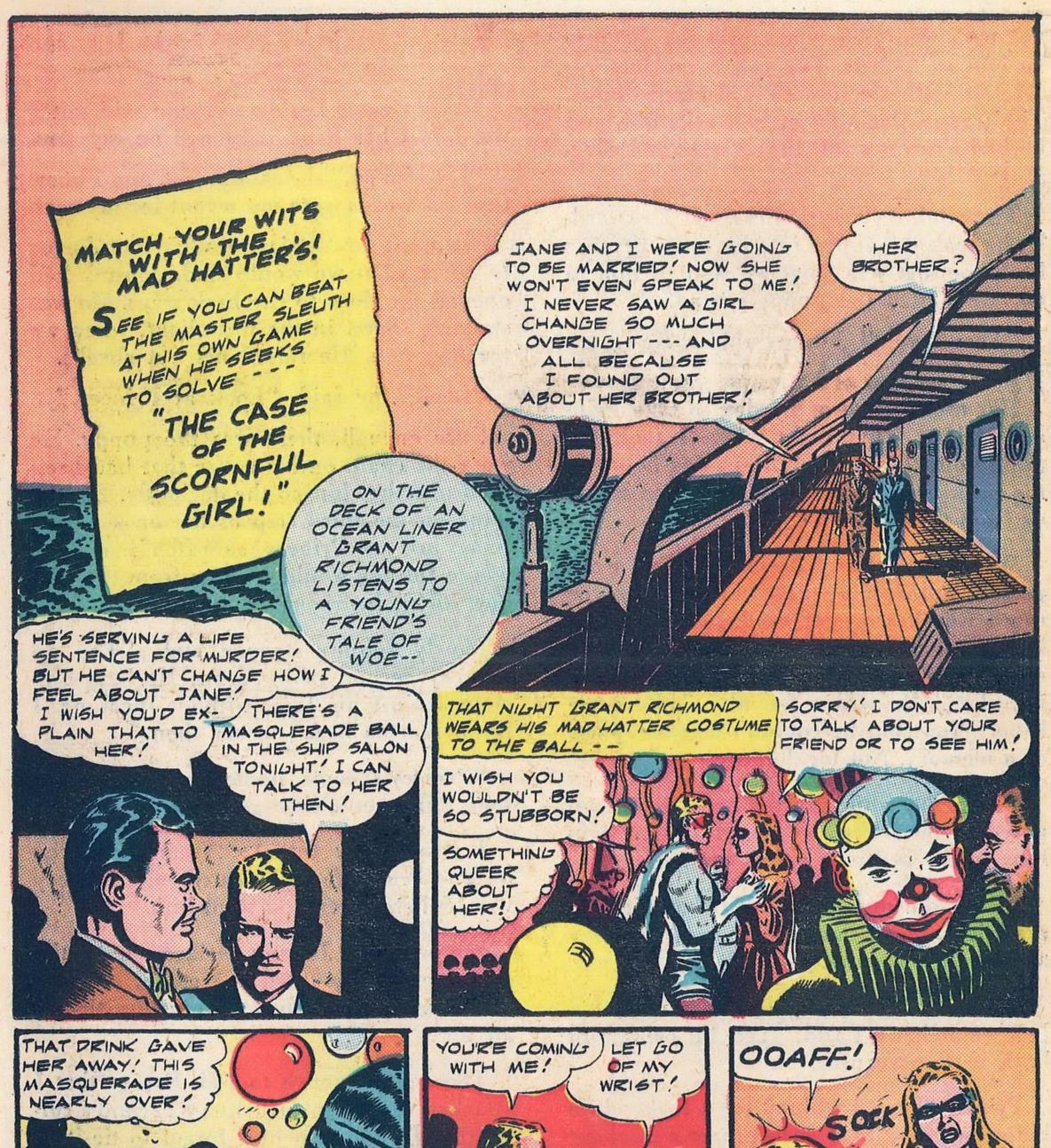
"Princey's come home again," Johnny said. "He won't ever go away."

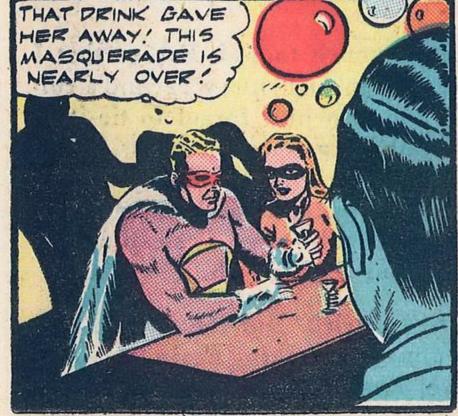
I cleared my throat. "You'd better go back to bed, before you catch cold. Princey will be here when you want him."

We watched Johnny walk back to the staircase. He mounted the stairs, stronger and steadier now. He held the pup tightly all the way. . . .

There is not much to add. Except that I attached the chain to Princey Second's collar myself, and somehow forgot to tie it to the stake. And for a week of nights, while Johnny was asleep, I trained that puppy—who had a good pedigree and was a smart dog, as the man said—to go to sleep on the third step of our back porch.

Sure it was a trick. But the reward was worth it. Johnny is walking again, so you'd never have known there was anything wrong. Dogs are good medicine.

















STOP ... BEFORE YOU READ FURTHER, SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS HOW THE MAD HATTER SAW THROUGH THE DISGUISE! TAKE THIRTY SECONDS. AND NOW GET READY FOR THE ... EXPLANATION!

THAT'S WHY

HE WOULDN'T

BUT HOW

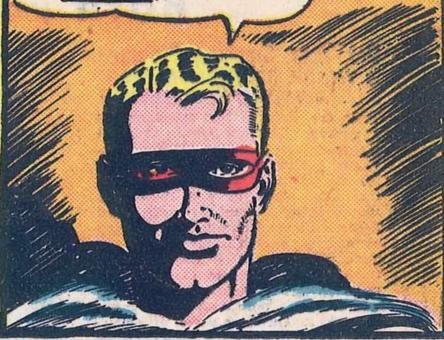
DID YOU

KNOW?

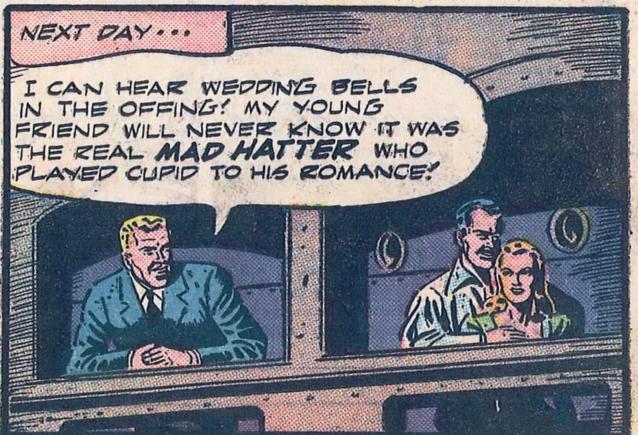
TALK TO ME!

SHE ... ER.

THE RESEMBLANCE WAS
PERFECT EXCEPT IN ONE
DETAIL! WHEN HE DRANK,
HIS THYROID CARTILAGE...
COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE
ADAM'S APPLE ... WAS
PLAINLY VISIBLE! THAT
PROVED HE WAS A MAN...
BECAUSE WOMEN DON'T
HAYE ANY ADAM'S
APPLE!







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City

Zone

State

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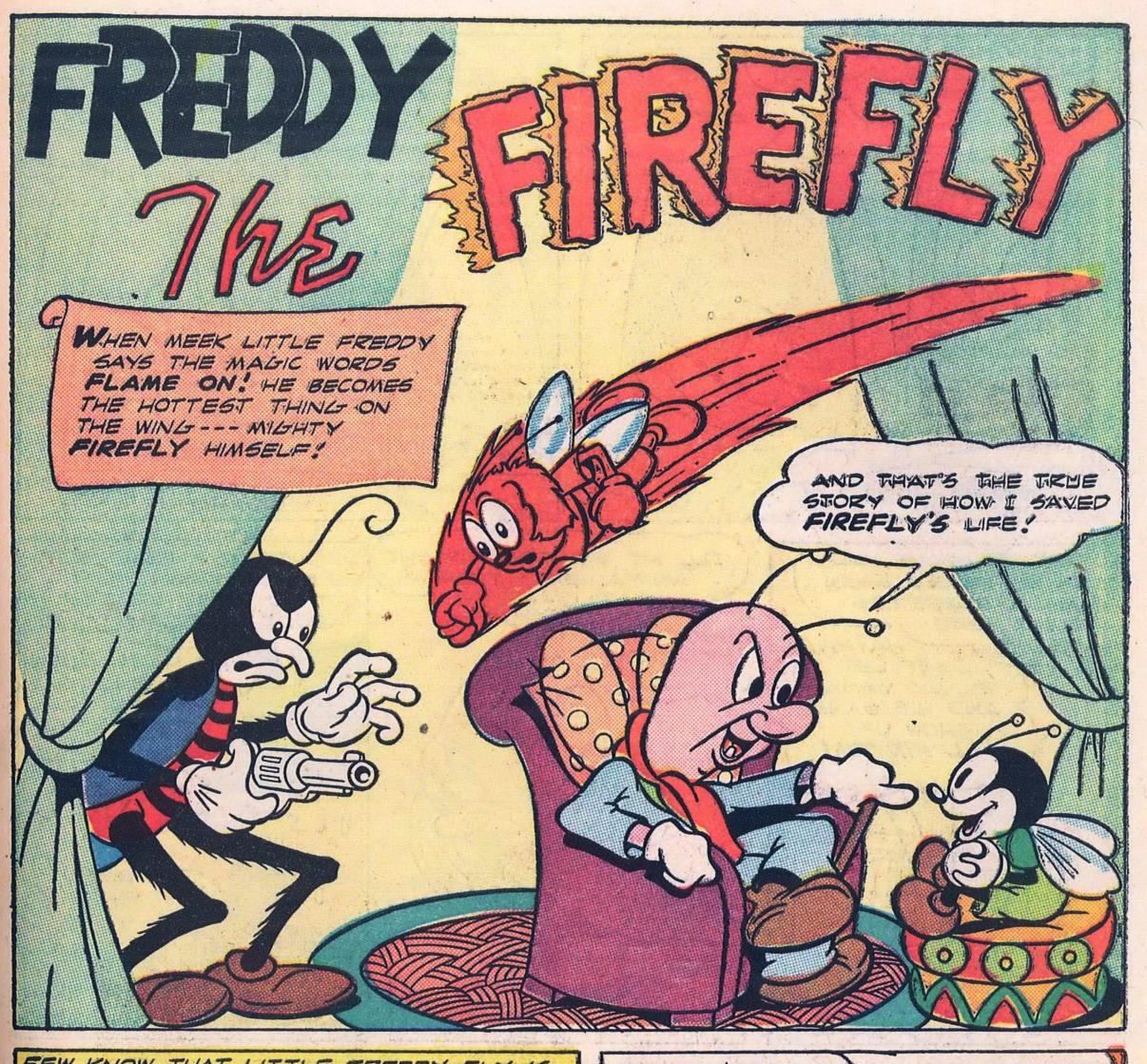
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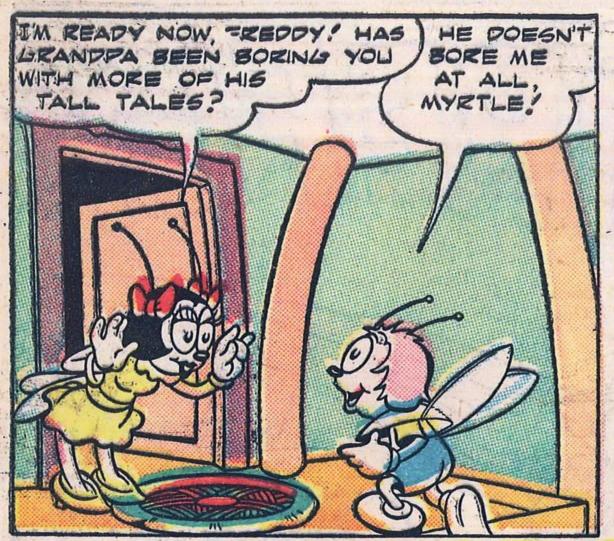
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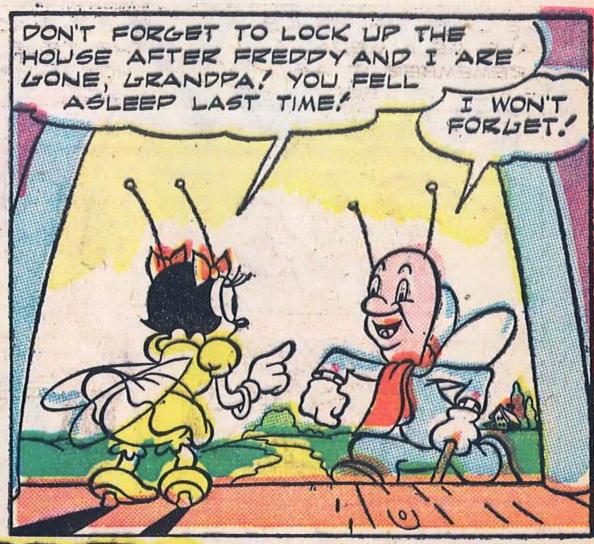
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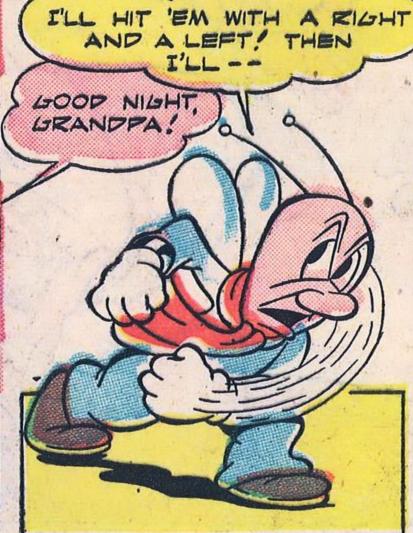








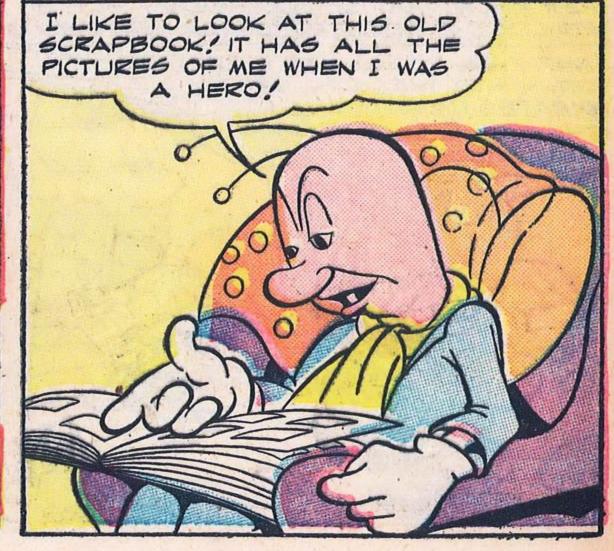


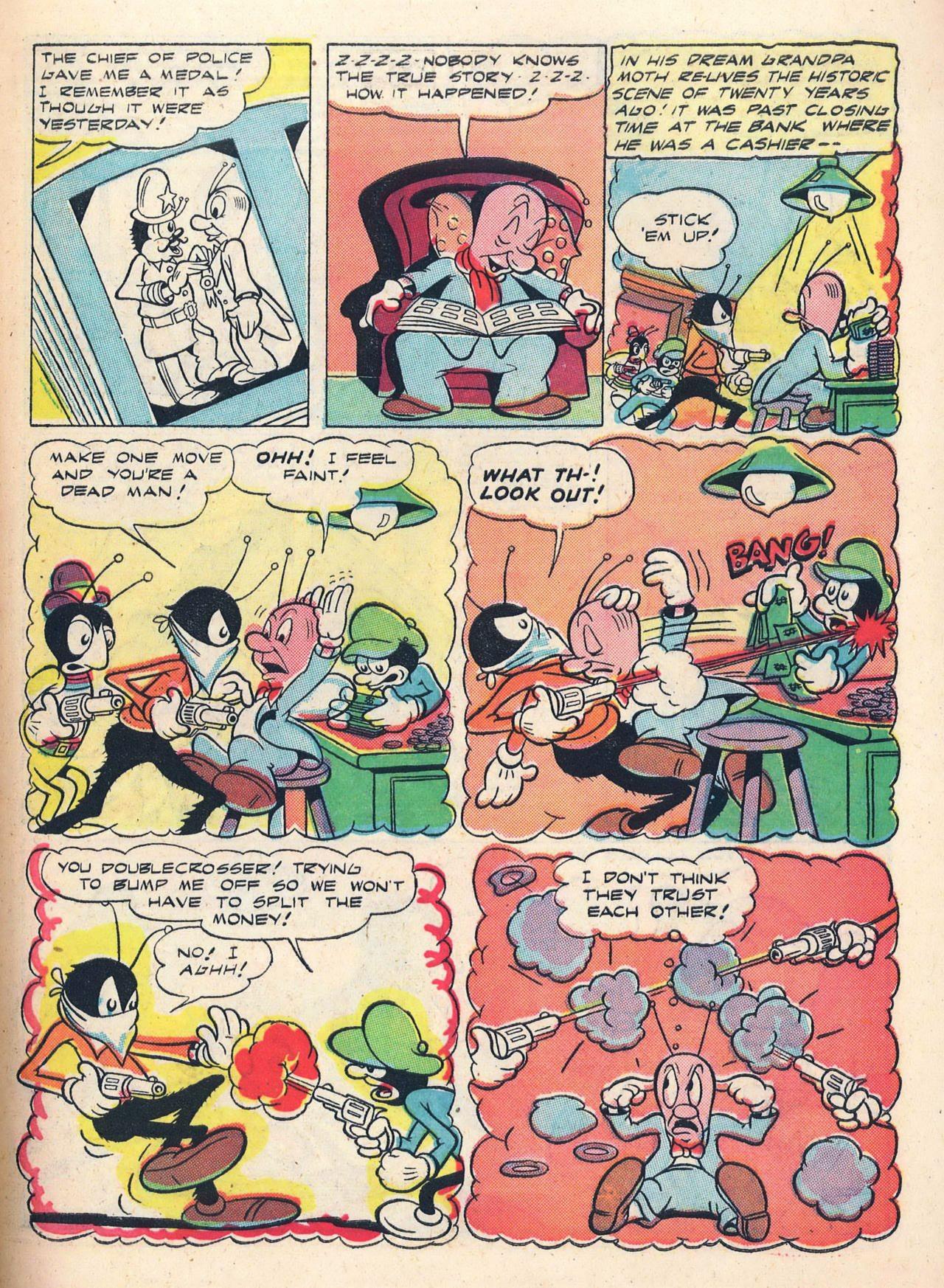


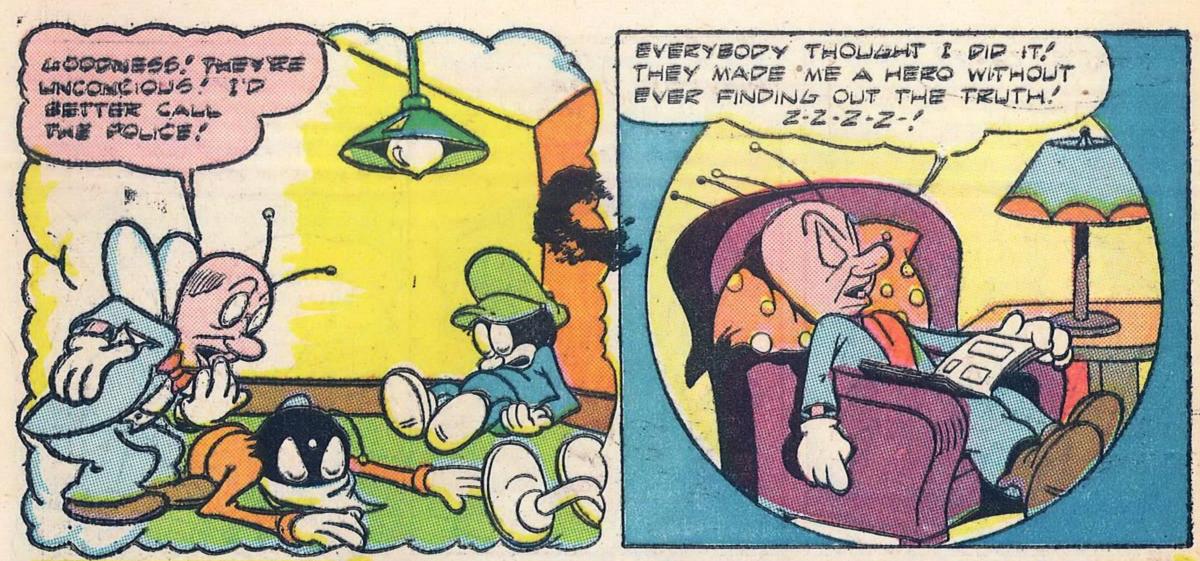


LRANDPA'S A DEAR! BUT





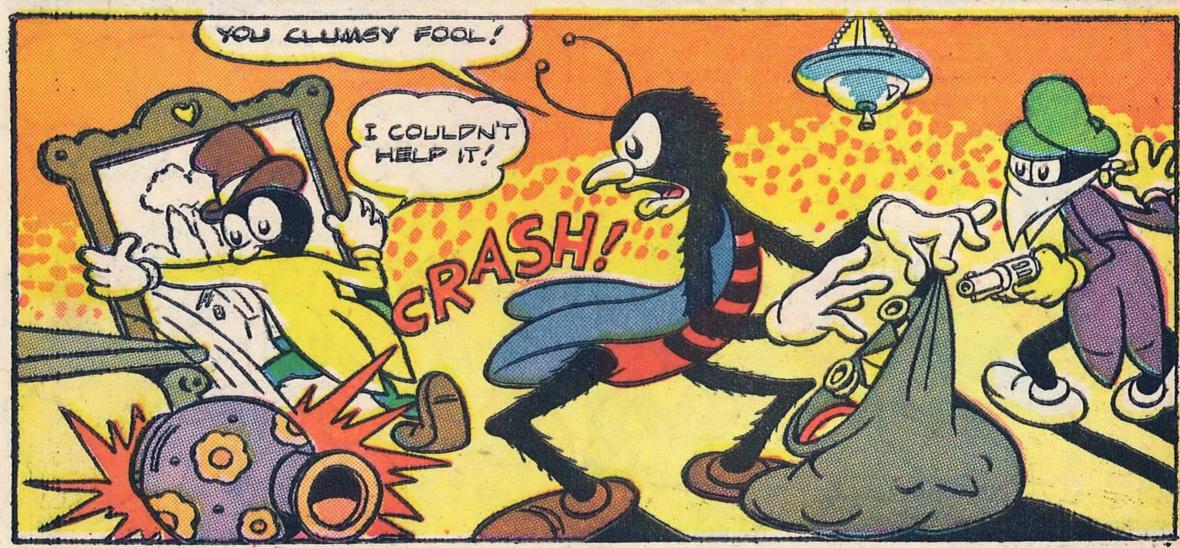


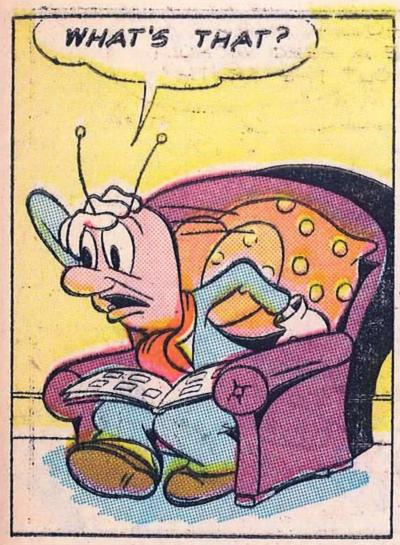








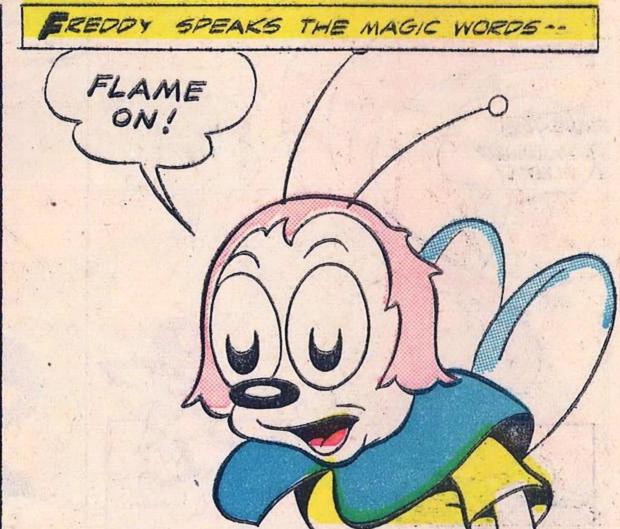




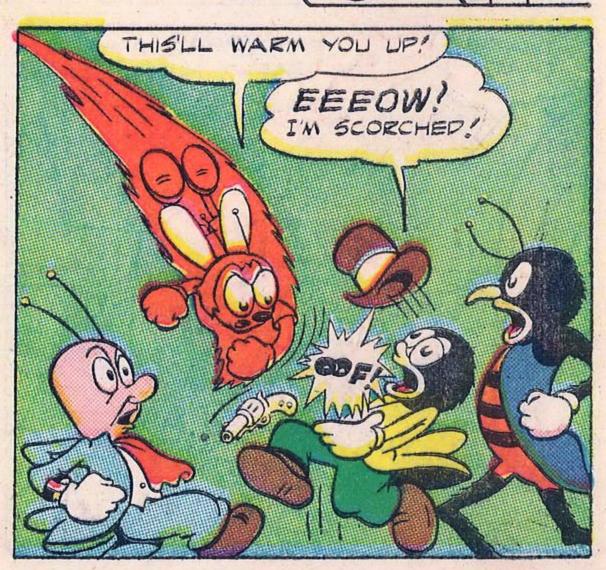


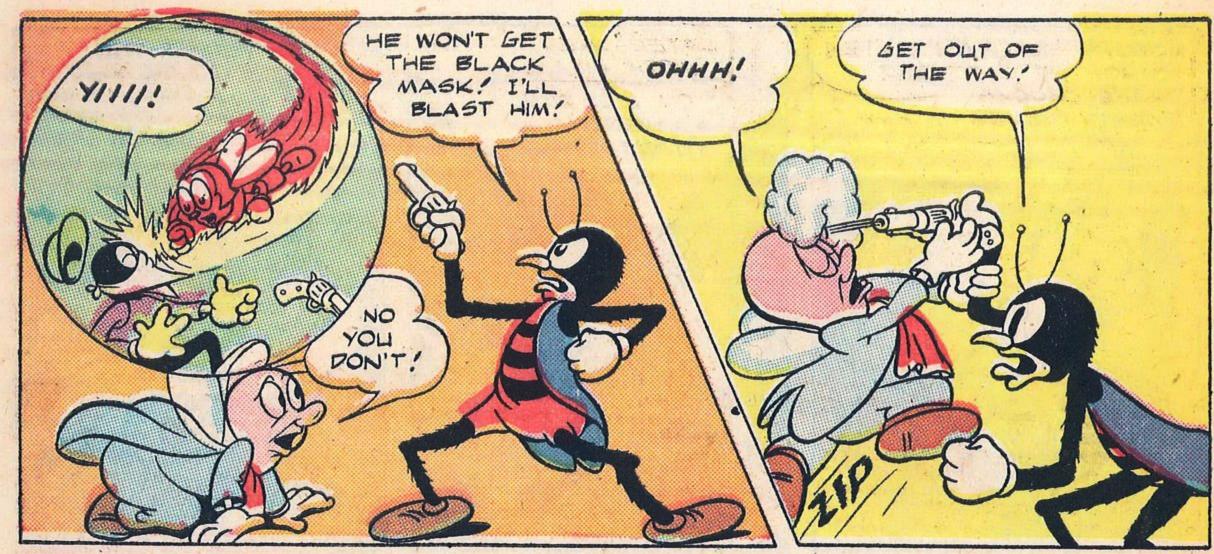




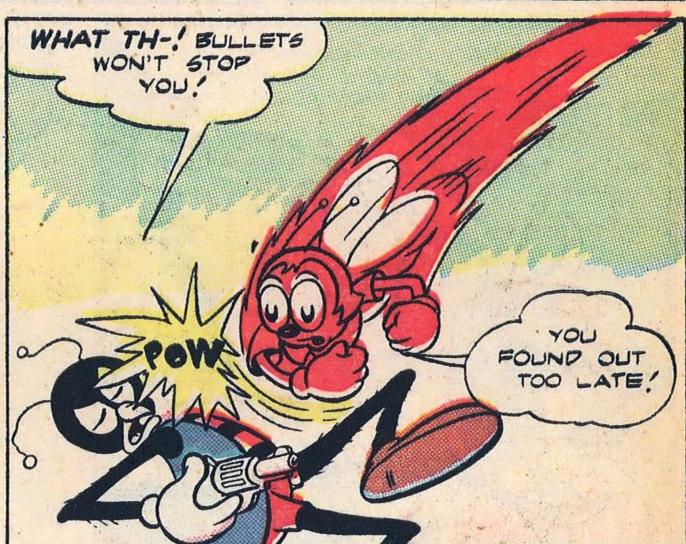


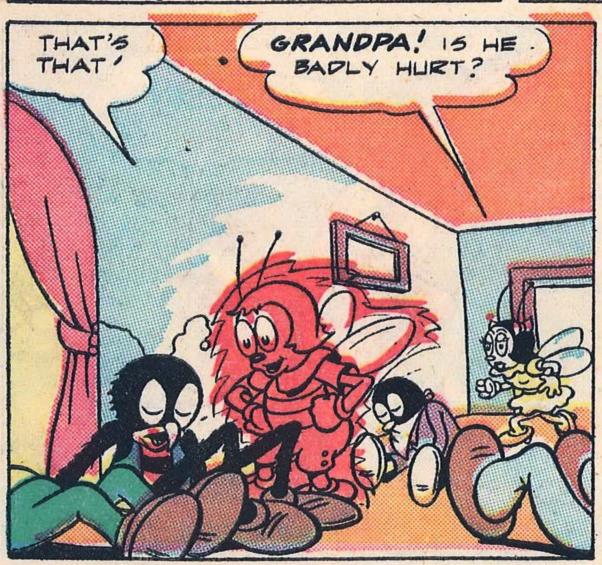


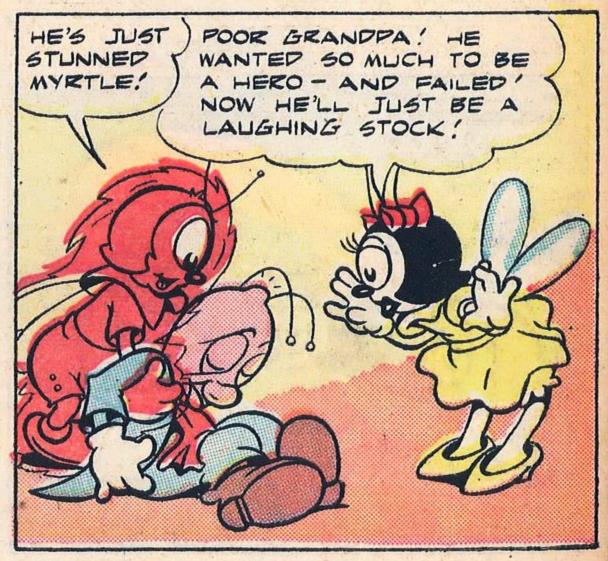


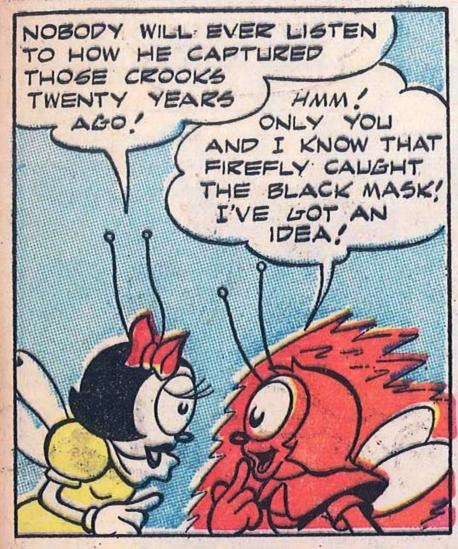


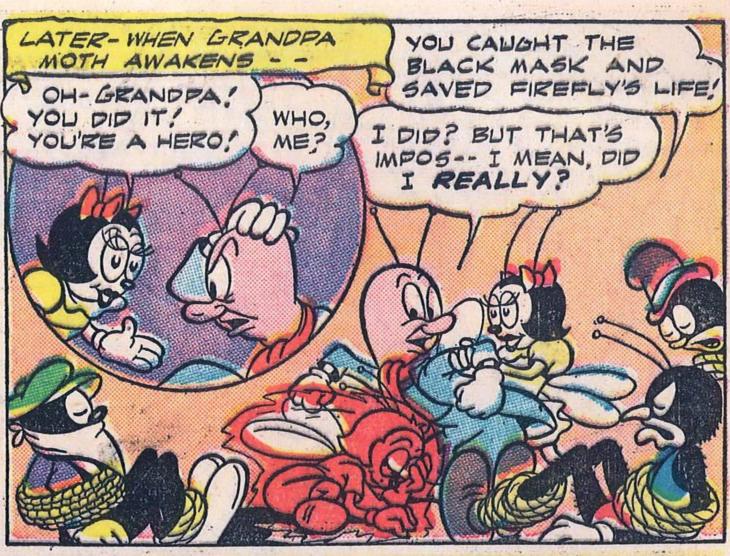




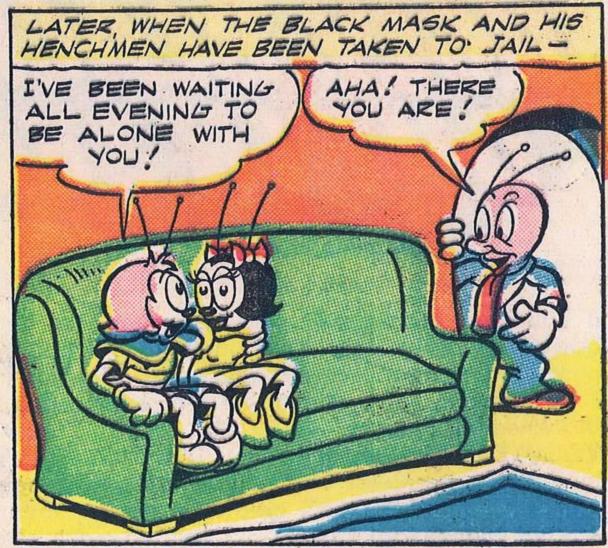


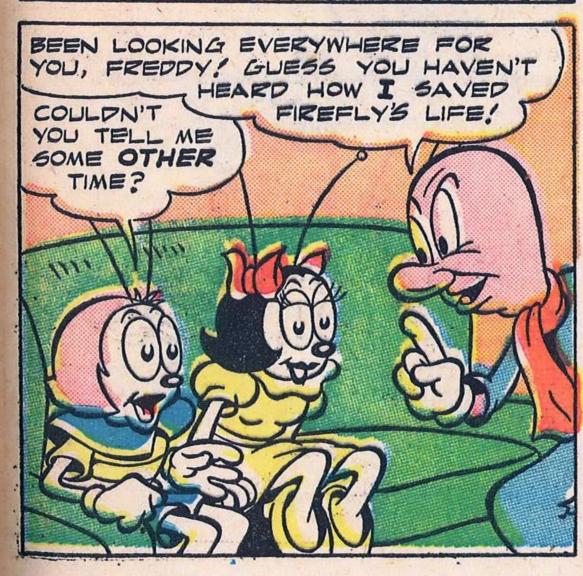


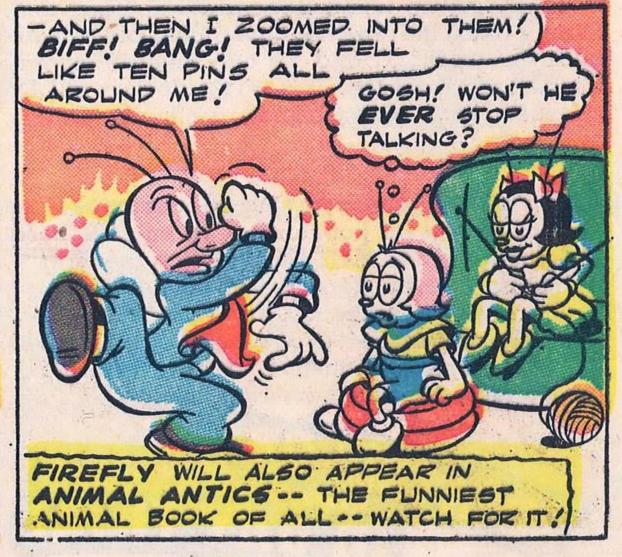














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