



10c ALL NEW STORIES

JAN. - FEB.
NO. 49

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Featuring
The KING of ESCAPES!

LOOK-- IT'S THE
RED-HEADED BANDIT--
BUT HE'S VANISHING
RIGHT INTO THIN AIR!



DO YOU WANT SPENDING MONEY?

Sell these popular Patriotic and Religious Mottos



SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottos which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottos you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP \$2.⁵⁰

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP \$3.⁰⁰

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP \$4.⁰⁰

REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottos you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.

WRITE
FOR COMPLETE
DETAILS
TO

STEPHENS CREDIT SALES
Dept N-11, P. O. Box 1004
Nashville, Tennessee

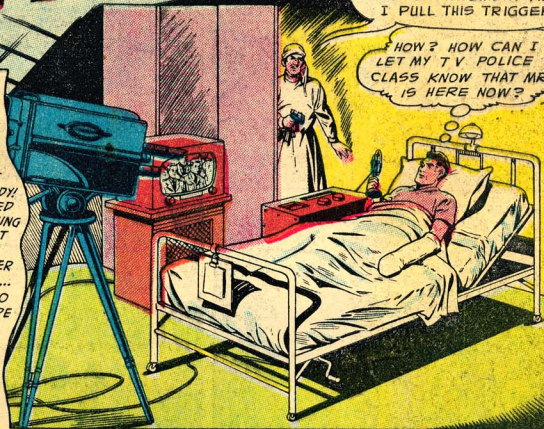
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY SPEAKS:

IN THIS CASE, #14534, I MYSELF HAD SET THE TRAP THAT BACKFIRED AND PUT MY LIFE IN JEOPARDY! AND MY FATE RESTED IN THE HANDS OF YOUNG MEN WHO HAD JUST DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO A CAREER OF LAW AND ORDER... POLICE ROOKIES WHO WERE MY ONLY HOPE OF ESCAPE WHEN I CONDUCTED...

ALL RIGHT, D. A., SPEAK TO YOUR ROOKIE CLASS ROOM... BUT ONE FALSE STATEMENT AND I PULL THIS TRIGGER!

HOW? HOW CAN I LET MY TV POLICE CLASS KNOW THAT MR. X IS HERE NOW?



THE TV DRAGNET

IN EARLY APRIL OF LAST YEAR AN IDEA I HAD BEEN WORKING ON FOR MONTHS FINALLY WAS READY...

WELL, HARRINGTON, WE'RE ALL SET! OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL BE THE FIRST TO GIVE ROOKIES ON-THE-SPOT CRIME-FIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS!

IT'S A TERRIFIC IDEA, CHIEF... A TV CAMERA RELAYING POLICE ACTION TO ROOKIE OFFICERS THE MOMENT IT HAPPENS!

IT WILL BE JUST LIKE A POLICE MANUAL COMING TO LIFE BEFORE THEIR EYES...

IF IT WORKS, HARRINGTON, ALL RIGHT, REEGAN, WE'RE READY FOR THE TEST!

THE BOYS ARE WAITING, D. A.! GOOD LUCK!



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MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

HARRINGTON AND I CRUISED THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT FOR HOURS TAKING RANDOM TV TEST SHOTS! THEN...



HARRINGTON! WE'VE RUN INTO SOME ACTION... FOLLOW THAT OFFICER!

RIGHT, CHIEF!

IT WAS A HOLD-UP OF THE OLD ARTS THEATRE AT 4TH AND ELM...

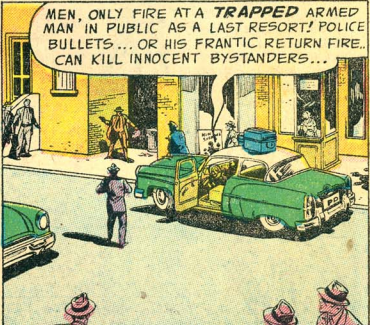


BLOCK THE STREETS... WE'LL HAVE THE BANDIT CUT OFF FROM ESCAPE BY CAR IN BOTH DIRECTIONS!

AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, FOURTEEN ROOKIES WERE HEARING MY EVERY WORD AND SEEING THE HOODLUM'S EVERY ACTION...

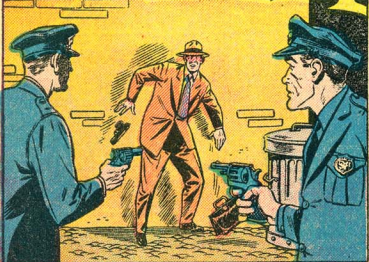


THE POLICE AREN'T FIRING... WHY?



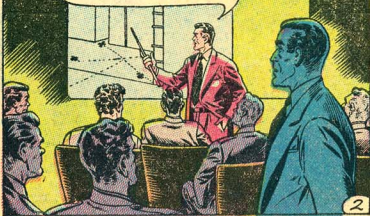
MEN, ONLY FIRE AT A TRAPPED ARMED MAN IN PUBLIC AS A LAST RESORT! POLICE BULLETS... OR HIS FRANTIC RETURN FIRE... CAN KILL INNOCENT BYSTANDERS...

PATIENCE IS AN IMPORTANT WEAPON IN EVERY OFFICER'S ARSENAL! TO WAIT OUT THE PROPER MOMENT OF ACTION... AS YOU CAN SEE NOW... IS VITAL...



GUNMAN HARRY "DUKE" MARTIN WAS CAPTURED THAT DAY WITHOUT BLOODSHED... AND LATER...

SO YOU SEE, THIS MAN WHO MADE A CRIME CAREER OF THEATRE HOLDUPS WAS SUCCESSFULLY CAPTURED WITHOUT INJURY TO OFFICERS OR BYSTANDERS BECAUSE POLICE KNOW-HOW "WAITED OUT" THE SITUATION...





MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



OUR FLEDGLING OFFICERS RESPONDED TO OUR VARIOUS "VISUAL" INSTRUCTION LESSONS WITH ZEST...

LOOK... THE D.A. IS FRISKING THAT GUN-MAN SUSPECT FOR WEAPONS...

AND HARRINGTON'S OPERATING THE CAMERA...



WHEN I RETURNED TO THE SQUAD CAR...

MEN, AS YOU OBSERVED, ALWAYS HAVE YOUR SUSPECT FACE A WALL OR BUILDING WITH ARMS OUTSTRETCHED WHEN BEING SEARCHED FOR POSSIBLE WEAPONS... IN THIS POSITION, HE CANNOT TAKE YOU UNAWARES...



YES, IT WAS WITH DEEP SATISFACTION THAT I WATCHED THE TRAINING PROGRESS WEEK AFTER WEEK...

THAT'S GREAT, CHIEF!

HELLO, HARRINGTON... JUST BEEN CHECKING OUR ROOKIE TEST QUESTIONS. THE RESULTS ARE AMAZING... OUR TV TRAINEES ARE ALL MAKING TOP GRADES!

SAY, WE'VE JUST GOT WORD THAT THAT MID-WEST **MYSTERY-ROBBER** IS HEADING OUR WAY!



CHICAGO RED... THE LONE WOLF BANK ROBBER WHO'S LED AUTHORITIES A MERRY CHASE FOR MONTHS! HE'S MANAGED TO KEEP HIS IDENTITY SECRET ALL THIS TIME!

HE HASN'T EVEN LEFT A FINGER-PRINT, CHIEF!

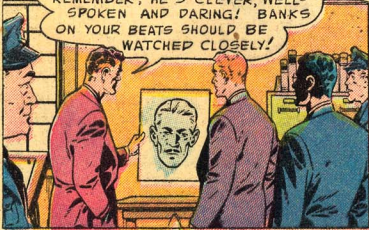


I MADE CONTACT WITH THE MID-WEST POLICE AND GOT AN ARTIST'S DESCRIPTION OF THE WANTED MAN...

THIS IS THE BEST IDENTIFICATION WE HAVE ON THAT WANTED BANK ROBBER! REMEMBER, HE'S CLEVER, WELL-SPOKEN AND DARING! BANKS ON YOUR BEATS SHOULD BE WATCHED CLOSELY!

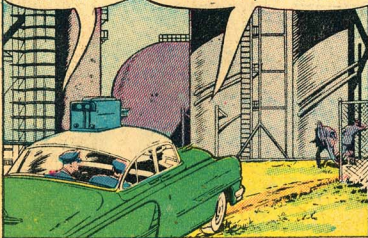
THE CHANCES ARE 100 TO ONE AGAINST CHICAGO RED PULLING A JOB IN THIS CITY, BUT WE MUST BE PREPARED! ALL RIGHT, HARRINGTON... OUR TV ROOKIE INSTRUCTION LESSONS WILL RUN FROM 3 P.M. TO 4 P.M. TOMORROW!

I'LL INFORM THE MEN, CHIEF!



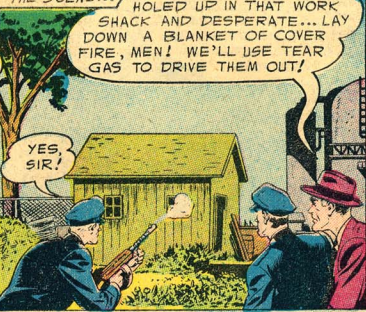
NEXT DAY AT 3:10, A POLICE RADIO ALARM SENT US SPEEDING TO THE TRENT GAS WORKS OUTSIDE OF TOWN...

THERE THEY GO, CHIEF... TRAIN THE CAMERA IN THEIR DIRECTION AND FOLLOW ME, HARRINGTON...



SHORTLY, AS POLICE OFFICERS ARRIVED ON THE SCENE...

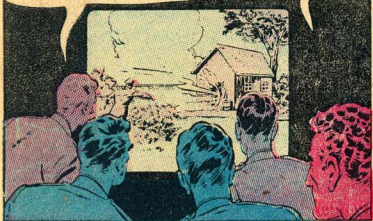
HOLED UP IN THAT WORK SHACK AND DESPERATE... LAY DOWN A BLANKET OF COVER FIRE, MEN! WE'LL USE TEAR GAS TO DRIVE THEM OUT!



YES, SIR!

MY ROOKIE CLASS SAW THE ACTION AS OFFICER SHELDON OF PRECINCT # 39 THREW THE TEAR-GAS BOMB...

LOOK... OUR FIRE KEPT THEM DOWN UNTIL SHELDON COULD TOSS THE TEAR GAS... THEY'RE SUNK...



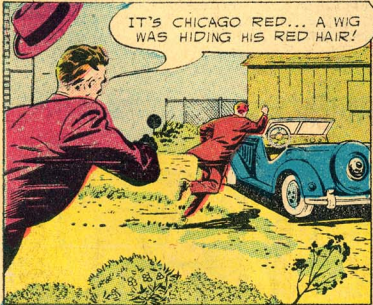
AFTERWARD... KEEP THAT CROWD BACK, BOYS... WHAT? THAT MAN... HE LOOKS LIKE...

HE'S WEARING A TOUPEE!



YES, THE EXCITEMENT HAD LURED THE STATE'S MOST WANTED MAN RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS...

IT'S CHICAGO RED... A WIG WAS HIDING HIS RED HAIR!



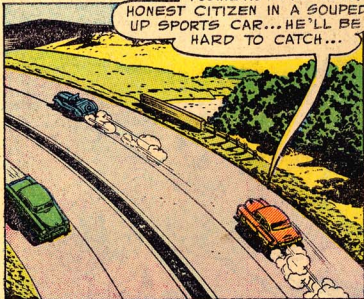
I'M A POLICE OFFICER... I'VE GOT TO COMMANDEER YOUR VEHICLE...

Y-YES, SIR...



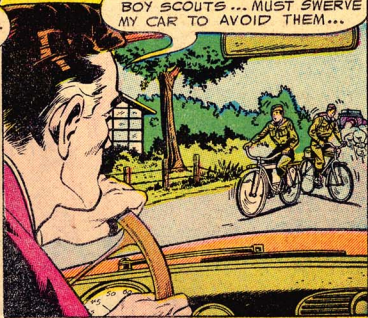
I RACED SOUTH AFTER CHICAGO RED ON CENTRAL PARKWAY...

POSING AS AN INNOCENT, HONEST CITIZEN IN A SOUPED-UP SPORTS CAR... HE'LL BE HARD TO CATCH...

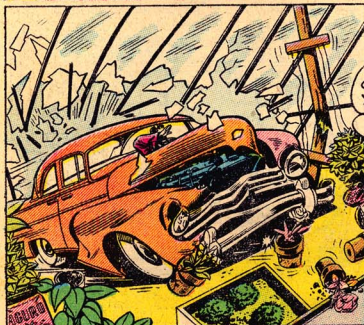


SUDDENLY...

GREAT THUNDER! THOSE BOY SCOUTS ... MUST SWERVE MY CAR TO AVOID THEM...

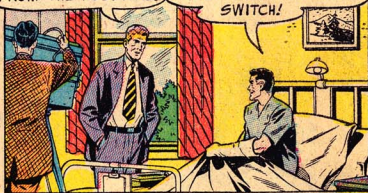


A MIRACLE SAVED YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LIFE THAT DAY! LATER, I SPOKE WITH HARRINGTON AT A SUBURBAN HOSPITAL...



GOSH, CHIEF, YOU'RE GOING TO CONTINUE YOUR ROOKIE INSTRUCTION HERE FROM THE HOSPITAL?

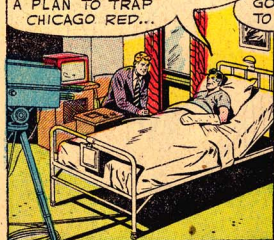
RIGHT, HARRINGTON! THEY'RE RIGGING THE CAMERA UP SO THAT I CAN OPERATE IT MYSELF WITH A CONTROL SWITCH!



I'LL BE HERE A WEEK, THE DOCTOR SAYS... AND IN THIS MANNER I CAN STILL BE OF BENEFIT TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THOSE ROOKIES! BUT, MORE IMPORTANT, I HAVE A PLAN TO TRAP CHICAGO RED...

HARRINGTON, WE'VE GOT A SHREWD, DARING HOODLUM OPERATING IN OUR CITY AND WE HAVEN'T A CLUE TO HIS IDENTITY! I'M GOING TO BE THE BAIT TO SNARE HIM! LISTEN...

LATER, AS PER MY INSTRUCTIONS, HARRINGTON GAVE A BULLETIN TO LOCAL RADIO AND TV STATIONS... AND SO, OPERATING FROM A COUNTRY HOSPITAL, THE D.A. STATES THAT HE WILL REVEAL EVIDENCE WHICH WILL EXPOSE THE BANK BANDIT'S IDENTITY AND BRING ABOUT HIS ARREST...



AS MY PLAN WENT INTO OPERATION, HARRINGTON BRIEFED A DOZEN OFFICERS ABOUT THE OUTFITS OF THE HOSPITAL...

THE CHIEF SAYS TO BE POSITIVE TO KEEP IN CONCEALMENT! IF A POLICE OFFICER IS SEEN NEAR THE HOSPITAL OUR MAN WILL BE SCARED OFF!

RIGHT! WE'LL HAVE A MAN COVER EVERY FIFTY YARDS OF THE GROUNDS!



THIS MAN HAS A FANTASTIC CRIME RECORD! AND IF I'VE SIZED HIM UP CORRECTLY, HE'LL REASON THAT GETTING TO ME IN A SMALL COUNTRY HOSPITAL WON'T BE TOO BIG A RISK TO SAVE HIS NECK...



BUT EVEN I HAD UNDERESTIMATED THE BANK THIEF'S DARING. FOR, AN HOUR LATER, AT A TRAFFIC INTERSECTION, HE FAKED AN ACCIDENT INJURY...

O-O-H... THAT CAR STRUCK HIM!

HELP! THAT'S ODD... I COULD SWEAR I NEVER HIT HIM!
GET ME AN AMBULANCE... MY LEG...



TWENTY MINUTES AFTERWARD, CHICAGO REP RODE SAFELY THROUGH MY POLICE CORDON.



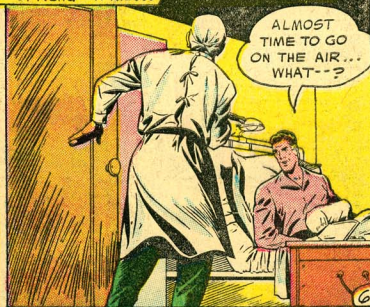
ONCE IN THE EMERGENCY WARD, HE MOVED QUICKLY...

GET READY, D.A. ... HERE I COME...



AND MOMENTS LATER, THE TRAP WAS SPRUNG ON ME...

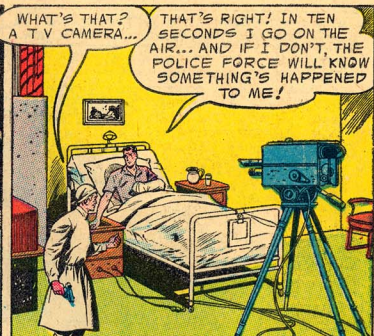
ALMOST TIME TO GO ON THE AIR... WHAT--??





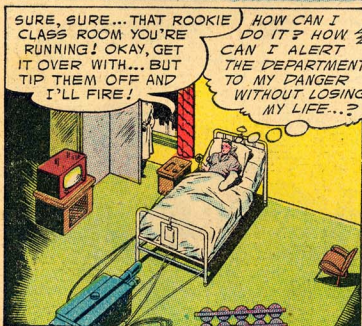
CHICAGO RED!

LISTEN, D.A.! I'M WHEELING YOU OUT OF HERE INTO AN AMBULANCE AND YOU'LL TELL ME HOW I CAN GET THAT EVIDENCE YOU HAVE AGAINST ME...



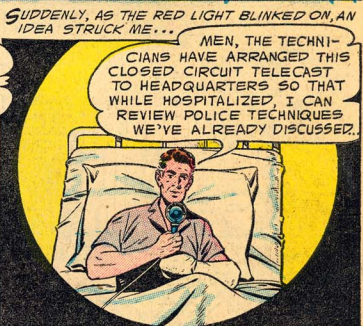
WHAT'S THAT? A TV CAMERA...

THAT'S RIGHT! IN TEN SECONDS I GO ON THE AIR... AND IF I DON'T, THE POLICE FORCE WILL KNOW SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO ME!



SURE, SURE... THAT ROOKIE CLASS ROOM YOU'RE RUNNING! OKAY, GET IT OVER WITH... BUT TIP THEM OFF AND I'LL FIRE!

HOW CAN I DO IT? HOW CAN I ALERT THE DEPARTMENT TO MY DANGER WITHOUT LOSING MY LIFE...?



SUDDENLY, AS THE RED LIGHT BLINKED ON, AN IDEA STRUCK ME...

MEN, THE TECHNICIANS HAVE ARRANGED THIS CLOSED CIRCUIT TELECAST TO HEADQUARTERS SO THAT WHILE HOSPITALIZED, I CAN REVIEW POLICE TECHNIQUES WE'VE ALREADY DISCUSSED.



AS YOU WITNESSED LAST WEEK... WHEN FRISKING A SUSPECT ALWAYS DO SO WHEN HE IS FACING YOU WITH HIS ARMS OUT-STRETCHED... LIKE THIS!

CONTINUING, I COULD ALMOST VISUALIZE THE CONSTERNATION MY WORDS MUST BE CAUSING AT HEADQUARTERS...

AND REMEMBER, WHEN CONFRONTING A TRAPPED HOODLUM IN PUBLIC, DON'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO SKIP INTO THE CROWD! FIRE OVER HIS HEAD AND PANIC HIM INTO A MISTAKE...

FINALLY, AFTER I WAS OFF THE AIR...

I WONDER IF THE ROOKIES GOT MY MESSAGE?

ALL RIGHT, D.A.! I'M WHEELING IN A HOSPITAL STRETCHER AND WE'RE LEAVING!

H-HUH? GEE, THAT ISN'T WHAT HE SAID BEFORE!





MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



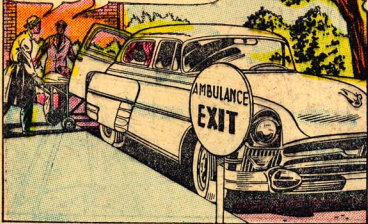
I WAS A HELPLESS VICTIM AS THE DARING CRIMINAL SKILLFULLY ARRANGED MY ABDUCTION...

OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL GROUNDS, CHICAGO RED MOVED QUICKLY...

I'M DR. HANSON OF CITY HOSPITAL! THIS PATIENT MUST BE REMOVED THERE AT ONCE FOR SPECIAL BONE X-RAYS! YES, DOCTOR!

I-I FAILED TO PUT IT ACROSS... NOBODY KNOWS MY FLIGHT...

THANKS, FELLA... I'LL TAKE THIS WAGON OVER FROM HERE!



AND TWENTY MINUTES LATER...

ABRUPTLY...

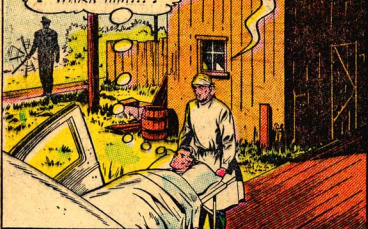
ONCE HE GETS ME INSIDE THAT SHACK I'M DONE FOR... A ROOKIE PATROLMAN... HOW CAN I WARN HIM...?

ONE WORD AND YOU'VE HAD IT, D. A.!

ALL RIGHT, BOYS!

WHAT...?

GREAT SUFFERING GHOSTS!



SHORTLY, I FELT MIGHTY PROUD AS I SPOKE TO MY "CLASS"...

AND AFTERWARD, WHEN HARRINGTON AND I CLOSED THE CASE...

SURE, D.A., WE WERE SO PUZZLED BY YOUR TALK, WE PHONED THE HOSPITAL AND LEARNED YOU HAD VANISHED!

AND THEN, WE REMEMBERED YOUR LESSON ON POLICE PATIENCE! THAT'S WHY WE FOLLOWED THE AMBULANCE AND WAITED FOR THE SAFEST MOMENT TO MAKE THE RESCUE!

THERE IT IS, HARRINGTON... OVER \$200,000 IN STOLEN BANK FUNDS FOUND IN CHICAGO RED'S RIVER SHACK! THE RESULT OF THE ROOKIES' ARREST!

AND YOURS... MR. TELEVISION!

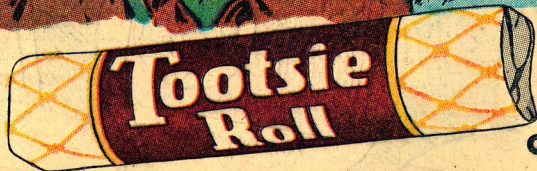


THE END

THE
WINNER!

LET'S CELEBRATE
WITH
Tootsie Rolls...
*THEY'RE SO
DELICIOUS!*

Tootsie Rolls
WIN ALL
THE TIME!



Only 5c

AMERICA'S FAVORITE CANDY



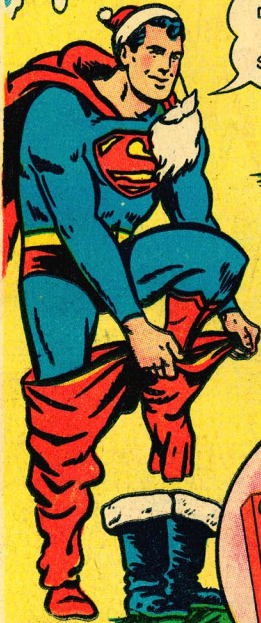
Tootsie Roll Pop
2 candies in one
... Tootsie Roll on the
inside ... fruit flavored
hard candy on the
outside ... only 2c

These delicious TOOTSIE ROLL Candies are only 1c each.

Boys and Girls

MAKE THIS A....

VISIT YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT, CHAIN OR TOY STORE AND SEE THE GREATEST DISPLAY OF SUPERMAN MERCHANDISE EVER!



Bradley Time Company



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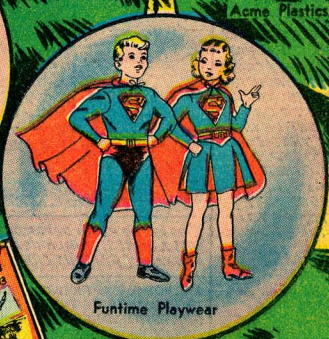
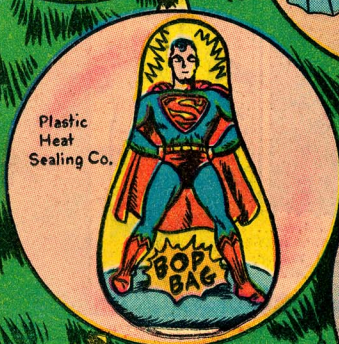


Liberty National Corp.



Transgram Co. Inc.

Super Christmas!



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BE SURE TO WATCH THE EXCITING ADVENTURES OF

SUPERMAN on TELEVISION



MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY SPEAKS:

VINCENT HACKER-- BETTER KNOWN BY HIS ALIASES, "THE SLIPPERY EEL" AND "THE RED-HEADED BANDIT"-- WAS NOT ONLY A CUNNING THIEF... HE WAS ALSO THE MOST TALENTED ESCAPE ARTIST MY DEPARTMENT HAD EVER COME ACROSS. BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL HACKER EMBARKED ON A MANHUNT OF HIS OWN THAT I POSTPONED ALL MY OTHER CASES, IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE ...

THE KING OF ESCAPES



YOU'RE TRAPPED, HACKER! YOU MAY AS WELL GIVE UP... THERE'S NO OTHER WAY OUT OF THIS STORE-ROOM!

HA, HA... THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, D.A.!

THIS IS THE PHOTO DEPARTMENT OF VOSS & JONES, PUBLISHERS OF THE MAGAZINE, "FAMOUS CRIMES CASES!"

MR. VOSS, THIS PICTURE IS TO ILLUSTRATE THE GRANDFATHER CLOCK CASE! HOW DOES IT LOOK?

FINE-- BUT DON'T SHOOT UNTIL MR. JONES OKAYS IT... HE'S IN CHARGE OF THE ART!

HERE I COME!



NOW IN THIS STORY, THE THIEF HAD TURNED A GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK INTO A SECRET MEANS OF ENTRY! OKAY, EVERYBODY-- TAKE YOUR POSITIONS ...



THE MODELS ASSUMED THEIR MAKE-BELIEVE ROLES, AND...

THAT'S IT--START COMING INTO THE ROOM! GO AHEAD, PHOTOGRAPHER...



BUT SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE CLICK OF THE CAMERA...

LOOK OUT!



S--SOMEONE PUT BLASTING POWDER IN MY FLASHLIGHT GUN!

WHAT FOOL WOULD DO A CRAZY THING LIKE THAT?



MR. JONES GOT HIS ANSWER A MOMENT LATER...

MISSED YOU THIS TIME, JONES-- BUT I'LL GET YOU EVENTUALLY!

AFTER HIM, MEN!

LOOK! IT'S THE RED-HEADED BANDIT!



THE CHASE LED TO THE TOP OF THE BUILDING...

WE'VE GOT HIM TRAPPED! THERE'S NO WAY OFF THE ROOF!

CAPTURING THE RED-HEAD WILL MAKE GREAT PUBLICITY FOR FAMOUS CRIME CASES, MR. JONES!



BUT WHEN THEY REACHED THE ROOF...

ANY SIGN OF HIM?

NO, VOSS... I--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THIS ROOF IS 20 FLOORS HIGH AND THERE'S NO WAY OFF IT! WE MUST NOTIFY THE D.A. AT ONCE!



AN AMAZING EVENT? NOT HALF AS AMAZING AS THE EVENTS THAT LED UP TO THIS INCIDENT, OR THE STRANGE EVENTS THAT WERE TO FOLLOW! (2)

AFTER RECEIVING THE SUMMONS, I BRIEFED HARRINGTON ON THE BACKGROUND OF THE CASE...

YOU WERE ON VACATION WHILE THE **RED-HEADED BANDIT** KEPT ME ON A 24-HOUR SHIFT, HARRINGTON! THIS IS THE "WANTED" POSTER ON HIM!

I RECALL READING SOMETHING ABOUT IT IN THE PAPERS! HOW DID YOU FINALLY NAB HIM, CHIEF?



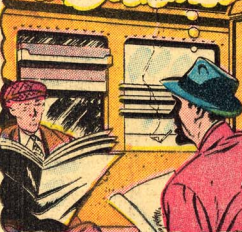
"ODDLY ENOUGH, HIS CAPTURE BEGAN WITH A SUBWAY RIDER READING HIS FAVORITE CRIME MAGAZINE..."

BOY, I NEVER SAW SUCH RED HAIR!



"NEXT INSTANT, AS HE LOOKED UP..."

HUH-? THAT'S HIM... IT MUST BE! I NEVER SAW TWO MEN WITH HAIR LIKE THAT!



"HE WAITED UNTIL THE WANTED MAN GOT OFF AT THE NEXT STATION-- AND THEN..."

OFFICER! THAT'S THE **RED-HEADED BANDIT!**

YOU'RE RIGHT, I RECOGNIZE HIM!



"IT WAS AT THE CLOSE OF HIS TRIAL THAT THE RED-HEAD MADE HIS DRAMATIC WARNING..."

WE, THE JURY, FIND VINCENT HACKER GUILTY! AND ALL BECAUSE OF THAT BLASTED CRIME MAGAZINE! I'LL GET THOSE PUBLISHERS-- IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!



"AND ONLY MINUTES LATER, AS HACKER WAS BEING LED AWAY..."

YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME IN!

OOF!



AND AFTER MAKING GOOD HIS ESCAPE, HACKER LOST NO TIME IN STRIKING AT THE PUBLISHERS, EH?

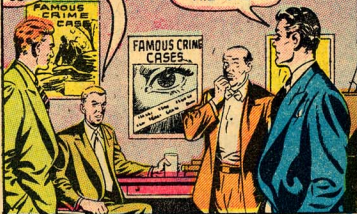
RIGHT... AND THERE IS NO TELLING WHEN HE'LL STRIKE AGAIN! LET'S GO, HARRINGTON!



SOON, IN THE OFFICES OF FAMOUS CRIME CASES.

YOU MUST PROTECT US FROM THAT CRAZY KILLER, MR. D.A.! HE'S OUT TO GET US!

DON'T WORRY, MR. VOSS-- I'VE STATIONED A 24-HOUR GUARD OVER THIS BUILDING... AND I'M PERSONALLY HANDLING THE CASE!



EVEN OUTSIDE, I LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED...

STAY CLOSE TO THE ENTRANCE, OFFICER JOHNSON... AND REMEMBER--YOU'RE A STREETCLEANER NOW!

DON'T WORRY, CHIEF-- THIS WILL BE THE CLEANEST SPOT IN THE WHOLE CITY!



FOR THREE DAYS, NOTHING HAPPENED-- BUT FINALLY, ON THE FOURTH DAY...

WE SURE FEEL SAFE WITH YOU AROUND, MR. D.A.! THAT BANDIT WON'T TRY ANYTHING WHILE YOU'RE HERE!

HMPH-- I HOPE HE TRIES! WHAT ARE YOU PHOTOGRAPHING TODAY?



MY FIRST STEP WAS TO ALERT EVERY ONE OF THE BUILDING PERSONNEL...

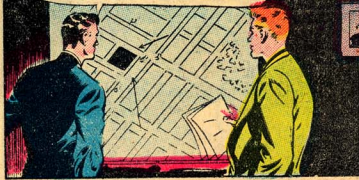
MEMORIZE THE SHAPE OF THE HEAD, OPERATOR... IT'S POSSIBLE HE'LL WEAR A WIG TO MASK HIS RED HAIR!

RIGHT, SIR-- I'LL NAB HIM THE MINUTE HE STEPS IN HERE!



BACK IN MY OFFICE, HARRINGTON AND I MAPPED OUT THE REST OF THE CAMPAIGN...

HACKER'S GOT A REPUTATION FOR SLIPPING OUT OF TIGHT SPOTS, HARRINGTON-- SO WE'RE TAKING NO CHANCES! IF HE GETS PAST OUR GUARDS, I'VE PLACED SQUAD CARS IN STRATEGIC SPOTS TO HEAD HIM OFF!



YOU MUST REMEMBER THIS CASE... THE JEWEL SHOW HOLDUP!

I CERTAINLY DO! IT TOOK ME MONTHS TO ROUND UP THAT GANG!



THEN, AS THE PHOTOGRAPHER ADJUSTED HIS CAMERA SETTING...



OKAY...THIS IS THE SCENE, SHOWING THE ROBBERS HOLDING UP THE SHOW! SNAP ON THOSE OVERHEAD LIGHTS!

BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

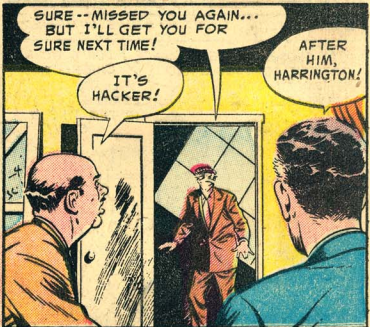


LOOK OUT! THE OVERHEAD LIGHTS ARE FALLING!



MISSED ME BY INCHES!

CRASH!



SURE--MISSED YOU AGAIN... BUT I'LL GET YOU FOR SURE NEXT TIME!

IT'S HACKER!

AFTER HIM, HARRINGTON!

AND THE CHASE WAS ON...



HE TURNED RIGHT, CHIEF!

IT WAS UP ONE CORRIDOR, DOWN THE NEXT, AND BACK AGAIN, UNTIL...



HE JUST DODGED INTO THAT STOREROOM! THAT IS THE ONLY DOOR, SO YOU'VE GOT HIM AT LAST!

HARRINGTON GOT THERE FIRST, ONLY TO DISCOVER...



IT'S LOCKED, CHIEF!

LOCKED?... LET ME HAVE A TRY AT IT!

STOREROOM

YES...THE LONG PURSUIT SEEMED AT AN END! BUT WAS IT?

I PUT MY FULL WEIGHT AGAINST THE DOOR, ALMOST TEARING OFF ITS HINGES-- BUT WHEN WE BROKE THROUGH...

EMPTY! NOT A TRACE OF HIM! MAYBE HE SLIPPED OUT THAT WINDOW, CHIEF!



IF HE GOT OUT THIS WAY, HE'D HAVE TO SPROUT WINGS!



THERE WAS SOMETHING ILLOGICAL ABOUT THE SETUP... SOMETHING THAT STUCK IN MY CRAW... BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, NOTHING I COULD PUT MY FINGER ON!

MEANWHILE, PANIC WAS TAKING HOLD OF THE MEN I'D PROMISED TO PROTECT...

IT'S NO USE! IF THE D.A. HIMSELF CAN'T KEEP THE RED-HEADED BANDIT AWAY, HE'S BOUND TO GET ME!

EASY, JONES! LISTEN... WHILE THAT HOODLUM IS AT LARGE, YOU CAN SPEND THE NEXT FEW DAYS AT MY ISLAND HOME!



KEEP THIS TO YOURSELF, HARRINGTON... BUT I'M GOING TO TURN THAT ISLAND OF MR. VOSS INTO A FORTRESS! WE MUST TRAP THAT SLIPPERY EEL BEFORE HE GETS JONES OR VOSS!



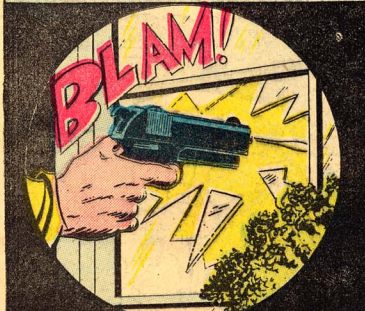
HARRINGTON AND I WAITED UNTIL NIGHTFALL BEFORE ROWING ACROSS TO VOSS' ISLAND HOME...

I CAN SEE JONES IN THE LIVING ROOM, CHIEF!

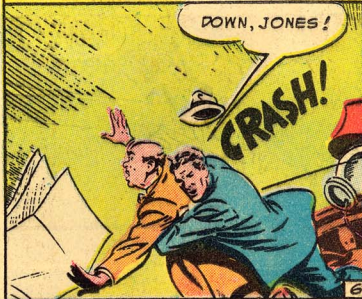
YES, THE FOOL... TURNING HIMSELF INTO A STATIONARY TARGET! HURRY, HARRINGTON!



NO SOONER DID WE ENTER THE ROOM, THAN...

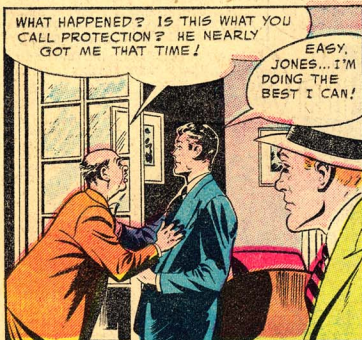


BUT I WAS ALREADY MOVING AT THE FIRST SOUND OF BREAKING GLASS...



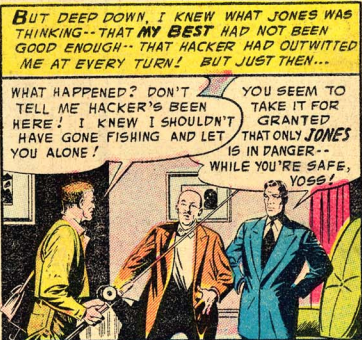
DOWN, JONES!

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



WHAT HAPPENED? IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL PROTECTION? HE NEARLY GOT ME THAT TIME!

EASY, JONES... I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN!

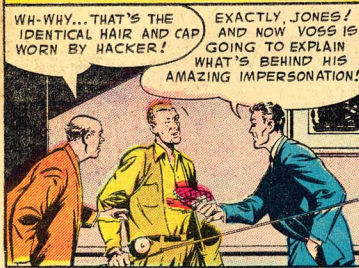


BUT DEEP DOWN, I KNEW WHAT JONES WAS THINKING-- THAT MY BEST HAD NOT BEEN GOOD ENOUGH-- THAT HACKER HAD OUTWITTED ME AT EVERY TURN! BUT JUST THEN...

WHAT HAPPENED? DON'T TELL ME HACKER'S BEEN HERE! I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE FISHING AND LET YOU ALONE!

YOU SEEM TO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT ONLY JONES IS IN DANGER-- WHILE YOU'RE SAFE, VOSS!

IT WAS AT THAT POINT THAT SOMETHING SNAPPED IN MY BRAIN. MOVING SWIFTLY, I REACHED INTO VOSS' KNAPSACK, AND...



WH-WHY... THAT'S THE IDENTICAL HAIR AND CAP WORN BY HACKER!

EXACTLY, JONES! AND NOW VOSS IS GOING TO EXPLAIN WHAT'S BEHIND HIS AMAZING IMPERSONATION!

ACCORDING TO VOSS, HACKER DID COME TO HIS ISLAND HOME SOME WEEKS AGO SEEKING VENGEANCE...



I WARNED YOU I'D GET YOU FOR PRINTING MY PICTURE IN THAT BLASTED MAGAZINE OF YOURS! FIRST YOU-- THEN YOUR PARTNER!

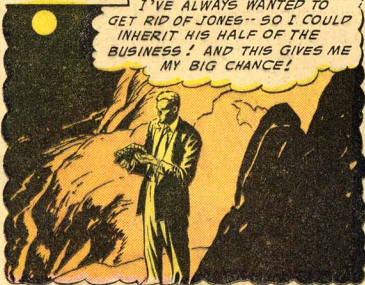
BUT VOSS WAS A QUICK THINKER-- AND BEFORE HACKER COULD SHOOT...

AND THE CRIMINAL PLUMMETED TO HIS DOOM...



IT WAS AT THE MOMENT THAT VOSS PICKED UP HACKER'S FALLEN CAP THAT THE IDEA CAME TO HIM...

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GET RID OF JONES-- SO I COULD INHERIT HIS HALF OF THE BUSINESS! AND THIS GIVES ME MY BIG CHANCE!



I'LL SAY NOTHING OF THIS! INSTEAD, I'LL BUY A RED WIG, USE HIS CAP, AND GO AFTER JONES! AND I'LL BE SAFE, BECAUSE EVERYONE'LL THINK THAT HACKER KILLED HIM!



BACK IN MY OFFICE, AFTER BOOKING VOSS ON A CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED MURDER, I COMPLETED THE EXPLANATION...

WHILE WE WERE GIVING THE MAN WE THOUGHT WAS HACKER CREDIT FOR PULLING OFF VANISHING TRICKS, ALL VOSS WAS DOING WAS PULLING OFF HIS RED WIG, MASK AND CAP!

BUT YOU SUSPECTED IT WAS VOSS, CHIEF! HOW?



REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE CHASING "HACKER"? IT WAS VOSS WHO SAID HE SAW HACKER GO INTO THAT STORE-ROOM AND LOCK HIMSELF IN! BUT STOREROOMS ARE ONLY LOCKED ON THE OUTSIDE-- NOT THE INSIDE! SO I KNEW HE WAS LYING!



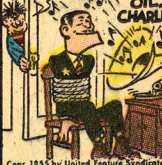
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

FEARLESS FOSDICK

By AL GAFF

THAT RECORD'LL REPEAT ITSELF FOREVER!! IT'LL DRIVE FOSDICK STARK, RAVING MAD!!



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TWO DAYS LATER-- CHUCKLES--THAT'S THE 27-MILLIONTH TIME!!-- OH, IT'S WORKIN' ON HIS BRAIN, ALL RIGHT!!



THEY DIDN'T RESIST!! SOMETHING STUPEFIED THEM!!



I LOVE THE NEXT PART, WHICH GOES 3 IT KEEPS YOUR HAIR IN TRIM!! BEH IT'S NON-ALCOHOLIC CHARLIE-TA-DUM-DEE DUM-- MADE WITH SOOTHING LANOLIN!!

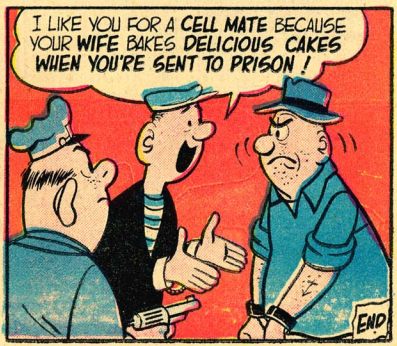
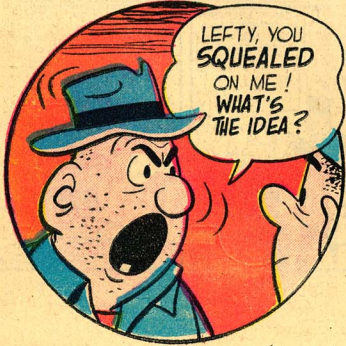
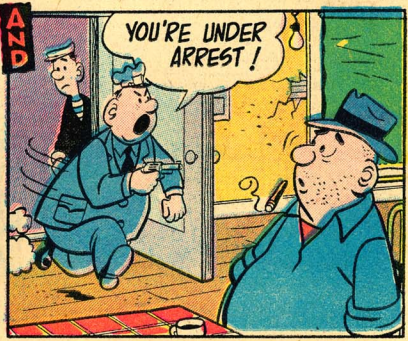
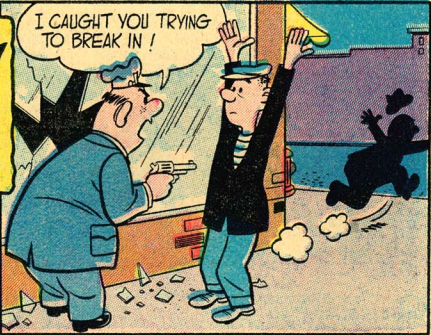


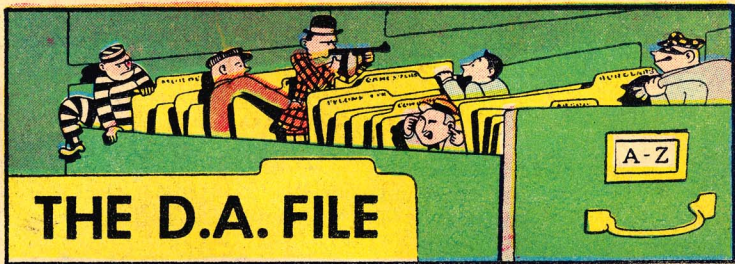


CASEY

THE COP

Heavy
Boltonoff





ARMY LAWMEN

FOR some time now, the colonel in charge of the Army supply depot had been aware that thefts were occurring with increased rapidity. When questioning of his khaki-clad crews proved fruitless, he did what others do who need the assistance of the Military Police. He summoned the Provost Marshal, who immediately assigned a team of crack investigators from the Army's Military Police Criminal Investigation office.

These detectives, actually soldiers in civilian clothes to protect their identities, went to work at once. Careful study of the depot, grilling of the men, scrutiny of the records of former soldiers assigned to the depot finally yielded a clue to pursue.

A former Private First Class, who had been dishonorably discharged for petty larceny, was picked up. Routine questioning and a search of his apartment yielded proof of his guilt. For hidden under his bedsprings were dozens of wristwatches, and hidden in a secret compartment in his closet were women's jewelry, fountain pens, and other PX wares.

In conjunction with civilian police who had been notified, the arrest was made. The former Private's fence was picked up, and today

both are sharing cells in the same tier at a state prison.

Who are these manhunters in mufti, these members of the MPCCI? They are the successors to the CID agents of the last war, Criminal Investigation Division officers. Their function, according to Maj. Gen. William H. Maglin, Provost Marshal General of the Army, "is to work for the local provost marshal in the same manner as detectives work for the chief of police in their home town. The Provost Marshal of any command is the chief of police."

Any soldier who is qualified for police work can volunteer for training at the Provost Marshal General Center at Camp Gordon, in Georgia. After three to eight months' study, he is assigned to a MPCCI detachment, which permits him to wear civvies while on duty. Unlike the CID of past years, he is not concerned with agents of foreign countries and spies. His sole mission is to battle crime wherever the Army is concerned.

There is no razzle-dazzle or glamor in the MPCCI. The investigator is reminded that the outfit will not tolerate Sherlock Holmeses or Sam Spades. His sole guide is the Military Police credo: "Of the Troops and for the Troops."

REQUEST DENIED

"Bring him in," said the warden.

The guard opened the door and led in a burly prisoner, who twisted his hands nervously.

"What is it? Why do you want to see me?" asked the warden.

"Well, it's this way, sir," the prisoner began, hesitantly. I asked the guard if I can stay up and watch television tonight, and he said, no."

"He was right. It's against the rules for prisoners to be up after eight o'clock."

"But, sir, this is a special occasion," the prisoner said.

"And what's so special about television tonight?"

"They're doing my crime on *Dragnet!*"

CHOOSE YOUR PUNISHMENT

When a fatal automobile accident occurs in Saudi Arabia, the victim's family can choose the method of punishing the guilty driver. Even the death penalty can be meted out. As a result, Saudi Arabia boasts the lowest fatal auto accident rate in the world.

JUNIOR PATROLMEN

Teen-age boys of Las Cruces, New Mexico, can be genuine cops with uniforms and a salary of \$20 a month. After competitive exams, the youths are put through a training course in first aid, game laws, tourist information, and traffic control. These Junior Police have no authority to make arrests, but they can report law violations to adult officers, who make the pinch. Their chief missions are protecting store owners from petty thievery and shoplifting, spotting stolen cars which pass through Las Cruces, and assisting regular police in handling crowds in emergencies.

WERE THEIR EARS RED!

Italians on a tiny island off the mainland, who have crimson ears, are not blushing, returning American tourists report.

They are freed pickpockets whom the police have earmarked, for purposes of future identification, with red, indelible ink. The presence of red-tipped ears also serves to warn the citizenry that a pickpocket is in their midst, and to take warning.

BLOTTER JOTTINGS

KITCHENER, Ontario: While cleaning a police patrol wagon, a city employee accidentally locked himself in, pleaded with passersby for more than an hour before he was released.

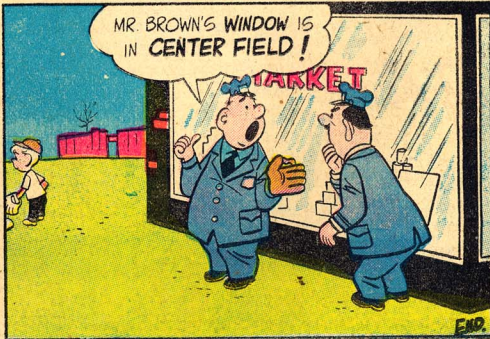
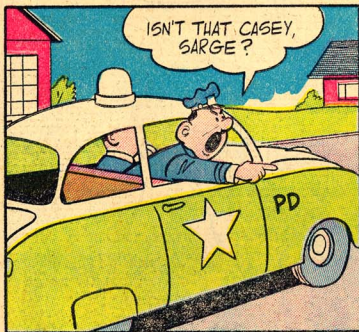
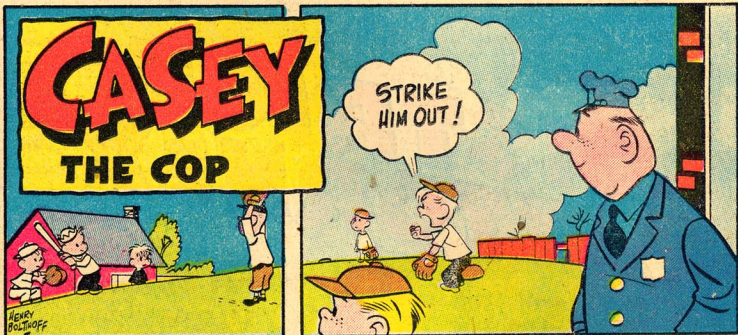
MILWAUKEE: A woman was arrested after her ghost-like, floating face frightened people strolling at night in the park. She was released when she explained that she didn't know the powder on her face was luminous.

PIQUA, Ohio: Refusing to pay a dime fine for parking overtime unless he was given a receipt, a farmer paid a \$10 fine in court, got his receipt.

EVANSVILLE, Ind.: A thief was easily arrested when police, summoned by a burglar alarm, reached an office to find his hand clutching a jimmy wedged in a cash box, his head slumped on his chest, fast asleep.

LAREDO, Texas: Charged with stealing a horse, a rustler explained that he had done it to help his asthma: "I'm a little higher on a horse and can breathe more easily."

LOUISVILLE, Ky.: A local hero got his picture in the newspapers for helping to foil a robbery, was soon arrested by police who had been seeking him for three years for grand larceny.





MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



WARDEN! YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME-- I'M THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY! YOU CAN'T EXECUTE ME! THERE'S BEEN A TERRIBLE MISTAKE!

YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY SPEAKS:

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WALKING THE LAST MILE! HOW COULD SUCH AN INCREDIBLE THING HAPPEN? HERE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, ARE REVEALED THE FANTASTIC CIRCUMSTANCES* BY WHICH THE D.A. FOUND HIMSELF IN THE DEATH HOUSE, TO PAY THE EXTREME PENALTY FOR A CRIME HE DIDN'T COMMIT! INDEED, THERE SEEMED LITTLE HOPE TO SAVE THE CHAMPION OF LAW AND ORDER WHEN HE BECAME...

D.A. ... CONDEMNED MAN



THIS INCREDIBLE CASE HAD ITS BEGINNING IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF AUGUST 22ND WHEN YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY HAD JUST MADE A SENSATIONAL ARREST...

WHAT ABOUT THE \$1,000,000 PAYROLL ATKINS MADE OFF WITH, D. A.?

IT HASN'T BEEN RECOVERED YET-- BUT I HAVE DETECTIVE TEAMS ON THE JOB! TAKE HIM AWAY, HARRINGTON!

CONGRATULATIONS, D.A.-- I GUESS DAMION "D.A." ATKINS HAS PULLED OFF HIS LAST JOB POSING AS YOU!

I INTEND PROSECUTING THIS CRIMINAL DOUBLE OF MINE TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE LAW, BOYS! WE'VE GOT HIM ON A MURDER CHARGE!

RIGHT, CHIEF!



MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

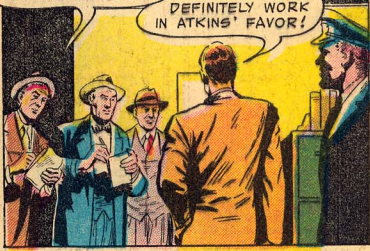
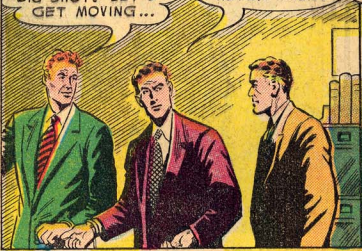


SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, D.A.-- BUT YOU DON'T STAND THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE OF FINDING THAT CASH... AND I'LL NEVER TALK!

A FEW MONTHS BEHIND BARS MAY LOOSEN YOUR TONGUE. BIG SHOT! LET'S GET MOVING...

THERE'S AN AWFUL LOT OF MONEY INVOLVED, D.A.! WOULDN'T IT BE WISE TO OFFER ATKINS LENIENCY, IN RETURN FOR ITS RECOVERY?

THE LAW DOESN'T MAKE DEALS WITH CRIMINALS, BOYS! HOWEVER, THE SURRENDER OF THAT MONEY WOULD DEFINITELY WORK IN ATKINS' FAVOR!



JUST NINE WEEKS LATER, THE JURY HANDED DOWN ITS VERDICT ON THE CRIMINAL...

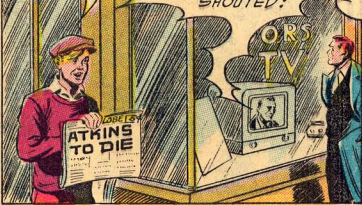
EXTRAAA... D.A.'S DOUBLE TO DIE! EXTRA!

... ATKINS ACTUALLY CRACKED A SMILE WHEN THE GRIM VERDICT WAS ANNOUNCED! "IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN," HE SHOUTED!

WHILE ATKINS AWAITED HIS HOUR OF EXECUTION, THE POLICE LAUNCHED AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH FOR HIS MISSING LOOT-- WITHOUT SUCCESS...

FIVE DETECTIVE TEAMS ON THE CASE, AND WE HAVEN'T COME UP WITH A SINGLE LEAD, HARRINGTON! I'M BEGINNING TO WORRY!

IT DOES LOOK BAD, CHIEF! HM... ATKINS DIES IN TEN DAYS! DO YOU THINK HE MIGHT CRACK?



IF WE WERE DEALING WITH ANYONE BUT ATKINS, I'D BANK ON IT, HARRINGTON! BUT HE'S A REAL TIGHT-LIPPED CHARACTER!

YEAH-- HE'D RATHER GET THE LAST LAUGH ON US, EVEN IF HE HAS TO DIE FOR IT!

BUT THE "IMPOSSIBLE" HAPPENED ON NOVEMBER 14th, VIA AN URGENT PHONE CALL FROM STATE PRISON...

THAT'S RIGHT, D.A.-- ATKINS HAS AGREED TO TELL YOU IN PRIVATE WHERE HE'S HIDDEN THAT \$1,000,000 PAYROLL!

THIS IS THE BREAK WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR, WARDEN! HARRINGTON AND I WILL LEAVE FOR THE PRISON AT ONCE!



MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PRECISELY AT 8:43 THAT EVENING...

WE DOUBLE-CHECKED HIS CELL FOR ANY MAKESHIFT WEAPONS, D.A.! NO TELLING-- THIS COULD HAVE BEEN A REVENGE PLOT AGAINST YOU!

THANKS, WARDEN! NOW, IF YOU'LL LEAVE US ALONE, I'LL CALL OUT WHEN WE'RE FINISHED!

WELL, HERE I AM, ATKINS! WHERE DID YOU STASH THAT STOLEN LOOT?

NOT SO FAST, D.A.-- I WOULDN'T WANT IT TO GET AROUND THAT I TALKED! BAD FOR MY REPUTATION, YOU KNOW!



FIRST OF ALL, WHAT DO I GET IN RETURN FOR THIS?

I CAN'T MAKE ANY PROMISES, ATKINS! HOWEVER, I WILL INFORM THE GOVERNOR OF YOUR COOPERATION... IT MIGHT MEAN A REPRIEVE...

SUDDENLY...

ATKINS! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

HUH? MUSTA TRIPPED, D.A.!

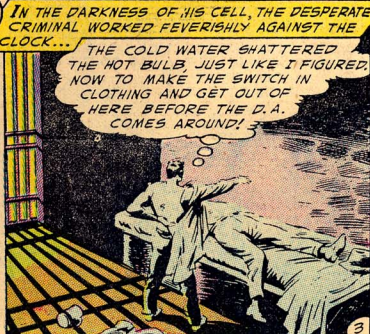


POW

YEAH, I TRIPPED ONTO THE NEATEST ESCAPE GIMMICK EVER THOUGHT UP!

IN THE DARKNESS OF HIS CELL, THE DESPERATE CRIMINAL WORKED FEVERISHLY AGAINST THE CLOCK...

THE COLD WATER SHATTERED THE HOT BULB, JUST LIKE I FIGURED, NOW TO MAKE THE SWITCH IN CLOTHING AND GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE D.A. COMES AROUND!



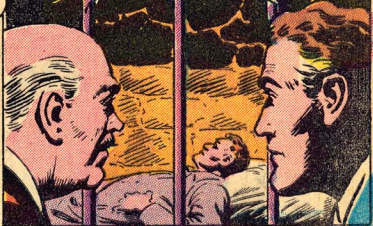
APPROXIMATELY ONE MINUTE LATER, DAMION "D. A." ATKINS ONCE AGAIN ASSUMED THE ROLE OF HIS CRIME-FIGHTING COUNTERPART...

ER... ATKINS CLEVERLY BLEW THE BULB AND TRIED TO JUMP ME, WARDEN! THIS WAS ALL A TRICK TO GET HIS HANDS ON ME FOR PROSECUTING HIM!

SO YOU KNOCKED HIM OUT, EH, D.A.? SERVES ATKINS RIGHT--PULLING A STUNT LIKE THIS!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY TO HAVE WASTED YOUR TIME LIKE THIS, D.A.!

FORGET IT, WARDEN! YOU'D BETTER HAVE THE PRISON DOCTOR LOOK IN ON ATKINS-- THAT WAS QUITE A BLOW I GAVE HIM!



THUS DID ONE OF THE MOST FANTASTIC ESCAPES IN HISTORY TAKE PLACE, AS ATKINS LEFT STATE PRISON IN THE COMPANY OF HARRINGTON...

AND WHEN THE REAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY FINALLY REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS...

WHAT HAPPENED? ATKINS-- HE'S ESCAPED! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM, WARDEN!

A CONDEMNED MAN, I'D THROW YOU IN SOLITARY FOR THIS!

NO--LISTEN... HE PULLED A SWITCH OF CLOTHING WHEN I WAS OUT! GREAT SCOTT, WARDEN-- YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! I'M THE REAL D.A.!

HMPH! WHAT YOU BIRDS WON'T TRY, TO ESCAPE EXECUTION! LET'S GO, BOYS...

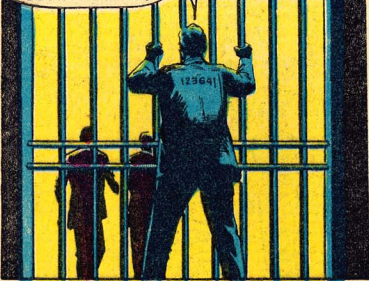


WAIT! YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN TO ME, WARDEN! THE D.A.-- YOU'VE BEEN TRICKED! I AM

BUT HIS WORDS FELL ONLY ON DEAF EARS...

GUARD-- I'VE PLEADED WITH YOU FOR HOURS! I MUST SPEAK TO THE WARDEN-- THERE'S BEEN A TERRIBLE MISTAKE!

YEAH-- TELL US ALL ABOUT IT AGAIN, ATKINS!





MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP, ATKINS? THE WARDEN WON'T BUY THAT LINE!

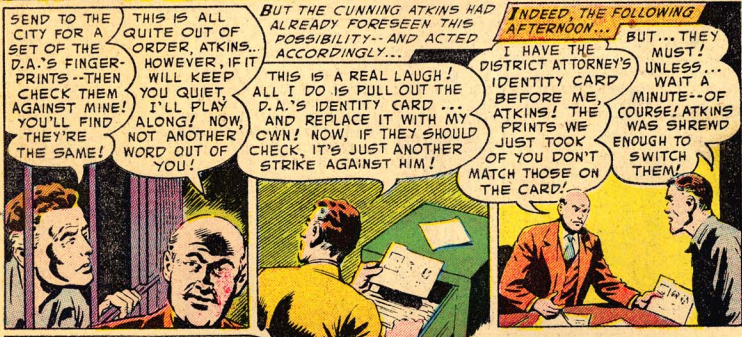
YA GOTTA HAND IT TO THE GUY-- HE'S PLAYIN' ALL THE ANGLES... HA, HA!

PLEASE, GUARD-- I'VE GOT TO KEEP AFTER YOU! CALL THE WARDEN-- PLEASE PLEASE!

AFTER THREE DAYS OF CONSTANT WRANGLING, INMATE "ATKINS'" REQUEST WAS FINALLY GRANTED...

I'VE COME HERE TO ASK YOU TO BE SILENT, ATKINS! YOUR CELLMATES ARE CONDEMNED MEN, TOO-- SHOW THEM A LITTLE RESPECT!

WARDEN--YOU MUST HEAR ME OUT! I KNOW MY STORY SOUNDS FANTASTIC-- BUT I CAN PROVE I'M TELLING THE TRUTH!



SEND TO THE CITY FOR A SET OF THE D.A.'S FINGER-PRINTS--THEN CHECK THEM AGAINST MINE! YOU'LL FIND THEY'RE THE SAME!

THIS IS ALL QUITE OUT OF ORDER, ATKINS... HOWEVER, IF IT WILL KEEP YOU QUIET, I'LL PLAY ALONG! NOW, NOT ANOTHER WORD OUT OF YOU!

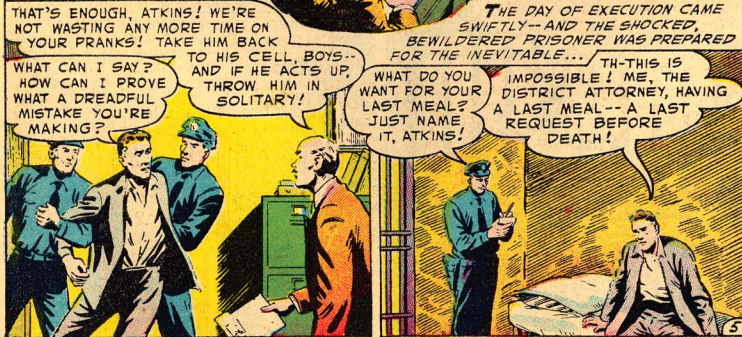
BUT THE CUNNING HAD ALREADY FORESEEN THIS POSSIBILITY-- AND ACTED ACCORDINGLY...

THIS IS A REAL LAUGH! ALL I DO IS PULL OUT THE D.A.'S IDENTITY CARD ... AND REPLACE IT WITH MY OWN! NOW, IF THEY SHOULD CHECK, IT'S JUST ANOTHER STRIKE AGAINST HIM!

INDEED, THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON...

I HAVE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S IDENTITY CARD BEFORE ME, ATKINS! THE PRINTS WE JUST TOOK OF YOU DON'T MATCH THOSE ON THE CARD!

BUT... THEY MUST! UNLESS... WAIT A MINUTE--OF COURSE! ATKINS WAS SHREWD ENOUGH TO SWITCH THEM!



THAT'S ENOUGH, ATKINS! WE'RE NOT WASTING ANY MORE TIME ON YOUR PRANKS! TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS CELL, BOYS-- AND IF HE ACTS UP, THROW HIM IN SOLITARY!

WHAT CAN I SAY? HOW CAN I PROVE WHAT A DREADFUL MISTAKE YOU'RE MAKING?

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR YOUR LAST MEAL? JUST NAME IT, ATKINS!

THE DAY OF EXECUTION CAME SWIFTLY-- AND THE SHOCKED, BEWILDERED PRISONER WAS PREPARED FOR THE INEVITABLE...

TH--THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! ME, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY, HAVING A LAST MEAL-- A LAST REQUEST BEFORE DEATH!



MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY



WAIT... A LAST REQUEST! THAT'S A CONDEMNED MAN'S PRIVILEGE, ISN'T IT? I CAN REQUEST ANYTHING WITHIN REASON-- RIGHT?

THEN BRING THE WARDEN! I KNOW WHAT MY LAST REQUEST WILL BE-- A LAST CHANCE TO SAVE MYSELF!

AN HOUR LATER, THE CONDEMNED MAN WAS GREETED BY A FAMILIAR FIGURE...

WELL, HERE I AM, ATKINS! I WOULDN'T HAVE COME IF THE WARDEN HADN'T TOLD ME IT WAS YOUR LAST REQUEST!

HARRINGTON-- YOU'RE MY LAST HOPE! YOU'VE WORKED WITH ME FOR YEARS... ASK ME ANYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED TO US IN THE PAST! MY ANSWERS WILL PROVE I'M THE D.A.!

THAT'S RIGHT, ATKINS!



OKAY, ATKINS -- I'LL PLAY ALONG! WHAT HAPPENED TO ME ON THE NIGHT WE CORNERED BIG BURT SAMPSON?

LET'S SEE... WE TRAPPED HIM IN AN ALLEY... YOU STARTED TO CLIMB A DRAINPIPE-- AND IT BROKE! THAT'S IT-- THE PIPE BROKE AND YOU FELL, WRENCHING YOUR ANKLE!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU WHEN WE BROKE INTO MIKE CONDON'S HIDEOUT, THREE YEARS AGO?

CONDON?... OH, YES! HIS DOG JUMPED ME-- I HAD TO WRESTLE HIM WHILE YOU SHOT IT OUT WITH THE KILLER! WELL, HARRINGTON-- TELL THE WARDEN THE TRUTH!

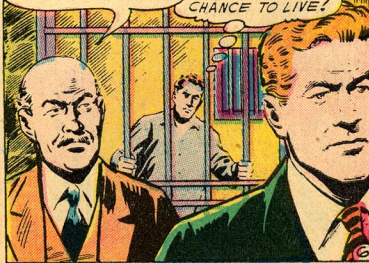


THE TRUTH IS, HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT, WARDEN! BOTH HIS ANSWERS WERE WRONG-- HE'S JUST TRYING TO STALL FOR TIME!

HARRINGTON! HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? YOU KNOW I WAS RIGHT-- **TELL HIM!**

SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU, HARRINGTON... BUT AFTER ALL IT WAS HIS LAST REQUEST!

HE DELIBERATELY LIED... WHY? WHY WOULD HARRINGTON POSSIBLY DO SUCH A THING? HE WAS MY LAST CHANCE TO LIVE!



AND LATER THAT EVENING, AS HARRINGTON RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE...

IT WAS JUST 11:53 THAT EVENING WHEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WALKED THE LAST MILE...

...AND EXACTLY 30 MINUTES LATER, NEWS OF THE EXECUTION FLASHED OVER THE COUNTRY...

WELL, D.A.-- ATKINS GETS IT IN JUST 40 MINUTES!

A FITTING FATE FOR THE CRIMINAL, HARRINGTON! INCIDENTALLY, I'VE DECIDED TO CLOSE THE CASE... NOTIFY OUR DETECTIVE TEAMS TO CALL OFF SEARCHING FOR ATKINS' MISSING LOOT!

... INFAMOUS DAMION "D.A." ATKINS WAS DECLARED DEAD AT 12:15 THIS MORNING. MORE REPORTS FOLLOWING...

WELL, THAT WRAPS THE CASE UP, HARRINGTON! I'M GOING HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP!

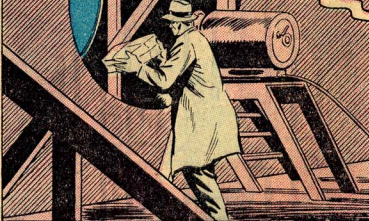
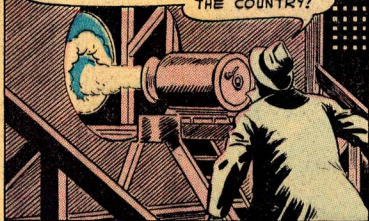
OKAY, CHIEF-- SEE YOU IN THE MORNING!

ONCE ALONE, THE CONFIDENT ATKINS MADE HIS WAY TO THE ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT OF THE CITY...

YUP-- HERE'S THE CASH, JUST WHERE I LEFT IT...

THANKS FOR LEADING US TO THE PAYROLL MONEY, ATKINS!

NOW THAT THE D.A. IS DEAD, I'LL TAKE THE LOOT I STASHED HERE, IN THE SMOKE FUNNEL OF THIS CIGARETTE SIGN, AND GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY!



D.A. -- HARRINGTON! BUT-- HOW...?

THE DEPARTMENT'S BEEN WISE TO YOUR SCHEME FOR HOURS, ATKINS! YOU SEE, WHEN HARRINGTON QUESTIONED ME AT THE PRISON, MY CORRECT ANSWERS PROVED TO HIM THAT I WAS THE REAL D.A.!

IT WAS THEN THAT I REALIZED YOU WERE WAITING FOR THE D.A. TO BE EXECUTED BEFORE RECOVERING THE STOLEN MONEY!

SO HARRINGTON MERELY ARRANGED WITH THE WARDEN TO CARRY OUT A PHONY EXECUTION!





MY ASSISTANT WAS SMART ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT THE PRISON GRAPEVINE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN WORD TO YOU THAT THE SWITCH HAD BEEN DISCOVERED... THAT'S WHY HE PLAYED IT OUT TO THE END!

CHIEF! ATKINS IS MAKING A BREAK FOR IT!



THAT SMOKE RING MACHINE-- HE'S DIRECTING IT ON US... **>COUGH<**

CAN'T SEE...

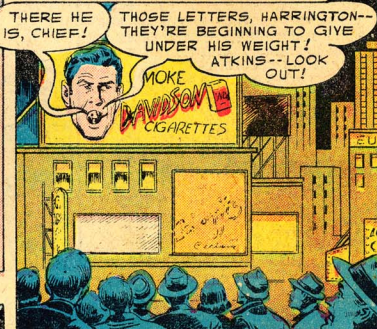
YOU STILL GOTTA CATCH ME, D.A.!



NOW HE'S TAKING OFF THROUGH THIS SMOKE FUNNEL!

IT'S USED TO SEND SMOKE RINGS INTO THE STREET, HARRINGTON! WE'VE GOT HIM TRAPPED!

BREATH-taking MOMENTS LATER, THOUSANDS OF PEDESTRIANS WITNESSED A DRAMATIC SIGHT ON THE MAIN THOROUGHFARE...

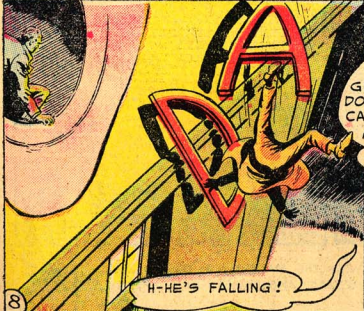


THERE HE IS, CHIEF!

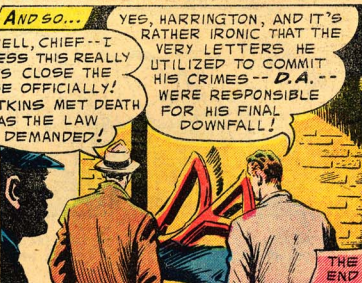
THOSE LETTERS, HARRINGTON-- THEY'RE BEGINNING TO GIVE UNDER HIS WEIGHT! ATKINS-- LOOK OUT!

SMOKE DAVIDSON CIGARETTES

BUT THE WARNING CAME TOO LATE, AS...



H-HE'S FALLING!

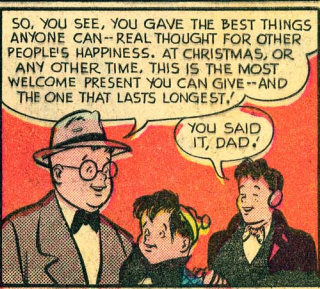
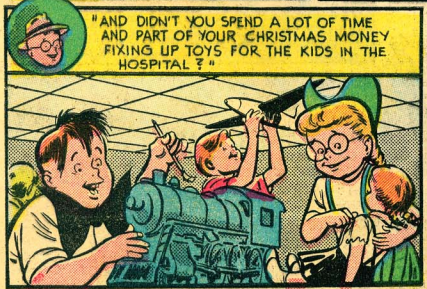


AND SO... WELL, CHIEF-- I GUESS THIS REALLY DOES CLOSE THE CASE OFFICIALLY! ATKINS MET DEATH AS THE LAW DEMANDED!

YES, HARRINGTON, AND IT'S RATHER IRONIC THAT THE VERY LETTERS HE UTILIZED TO COMMIT HIS CRIMES-- *D.A.* -- WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS FINAL DOWNFALL!

THE END

Binky in "The BEST PRESENT OF ALL!"





Mrs. Ruth Long

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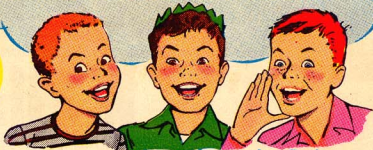
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