



NO
18

SUPER THRILLER

COMIC

ACE HART *the* ATOM MAN



6^d

ACE HART

IN
SPACE
SPEED



THERE IT GOES, ONCE
IN SPACE IT'LL TRAVEL
AT A SPEED OF A MILLION
MILES AN HOUR!

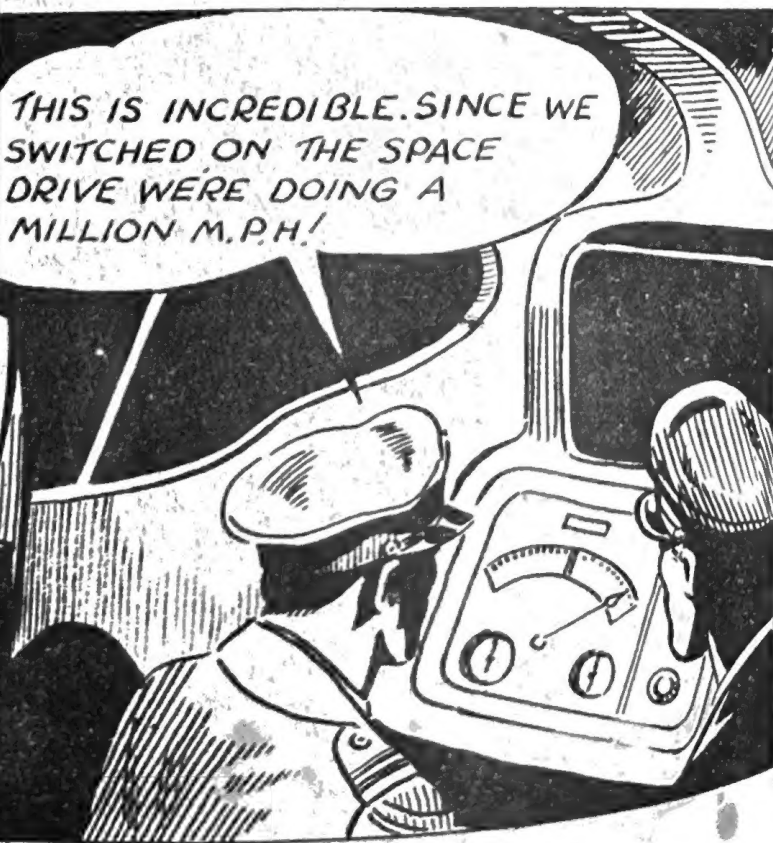
YOU MEAN TO TELL US THAT
THIS CONTRAPTION OF YOURS
WILL BOOST SPACE SPEED
FROM THE PRESENT TWO THOUSAND
M.P.H. TO A MILLION MILES
AN HOUR!



THAT'S WHAT I
SAID GENTLEMEN.
I'LL PROVE IT IN
TOMORROW'S
TEST!

NEXT DAY PROF. SCHARFS SPECIAL
SPACE DRIVE IS PUT TO THE TEST

THIS IS INCREDIBLE. SINCE WE
SWITCHED ON THE SPACE
DRIVE WE'RE DOING A
MILLION M.P.H.!

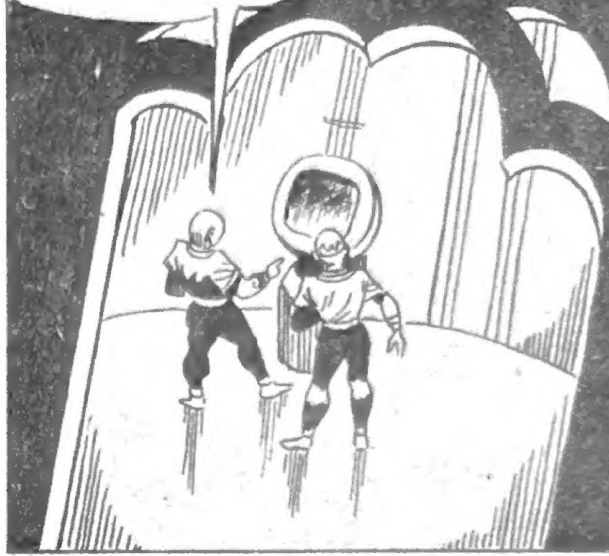


MEANWHILE ON THE PLANET OF TRESS...

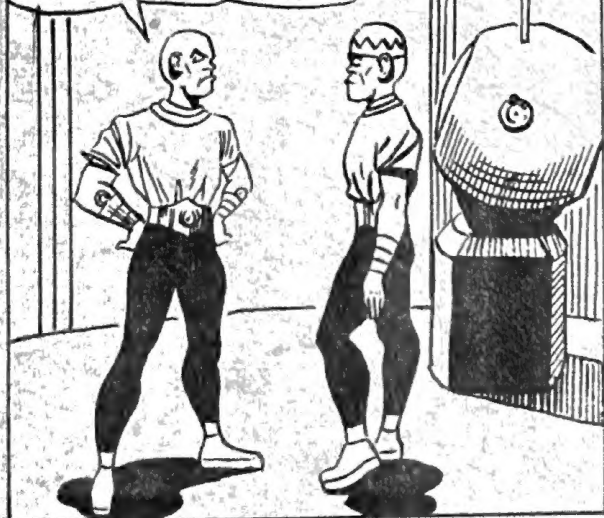
LOOK KHEM THAT IS OUR ONLY OBSTACLE!



VEK, ONE OF MY SPIES IS ON BOARD. HE'S GOT HIS INSTRUCTIONS!

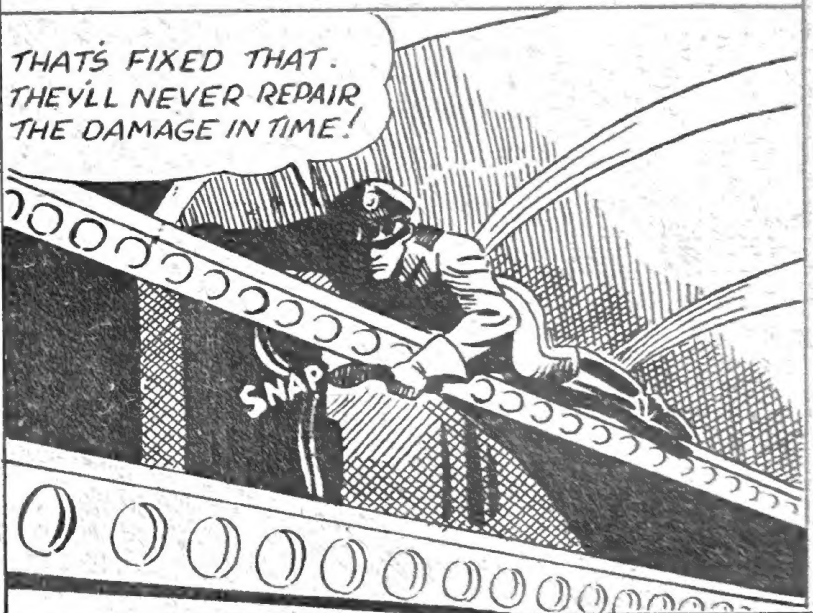


WE MUST NOT FAIL FOR WELL YOU KNOW THAT OUR VERY LIFE DEPENDS ON CAPTURING THAT SPACE SHIP!



ON BOARD THE EARTH TEST SHIP ALL GOES WELL UNTIL

THAT'S FIXED THAT. THEY'LL NEVER REPAIR THE DAMAGE IN TIME!



HELLO! WHAT'S UP?... THE SPACE DRIVE IT'S FAILING! SIX MILLION MILES OUT IN SPACE.... WHAT A MESS TO BE IN!



LATER

THE TEST SHIP IS FIVE HOURS OVERDUE, HART, SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED!... IF ANYBODY CAN FIND THAT SPACE SHIP IT'S YOU!



EXCUSE ME SIR! WORD HAS JUST COME THROUGH THAT A MESSAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE TEST SHIP, THE SPACE DRIVE HAS FAILED COMPLETELY AND THE TROUBLE NOT YET LOCATED!



ACE HART AND HIS ASSISTANT VAL DON'T WASTE ANY TIME IN SEARCHING FOR THE MISSING SHIP



IF WE DON'T FIND THEM, VAL, THEY COULD DRIFT THROUGH SPACE FOR EVER. THEY WOULD STARVE TO DEATH THAT IS IF THEY DIDN'T KILL EACH OTHER FIRST!

MEANWHILE VEK IS DOING HIS BEST TO STIR UP TROUBLE WITH THE CREW.

HUMAN GUINEA PIGS, THAT'S WHAT WE ARE. THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE TRUSTED THAT OLD FOOL PROF. SCHARF!



YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT. I HAVE A WIFE AND CHILD DEPENDING ON ME!

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR THEN? ON MEN TO THE ARMOURY!



WE'LL TAKE POSSESSION OF THE FOOD BY FORCE!

TO GET TO THE ARMOURY THE MEN MUST PASS THROUGH THE CONTROL ROOM.

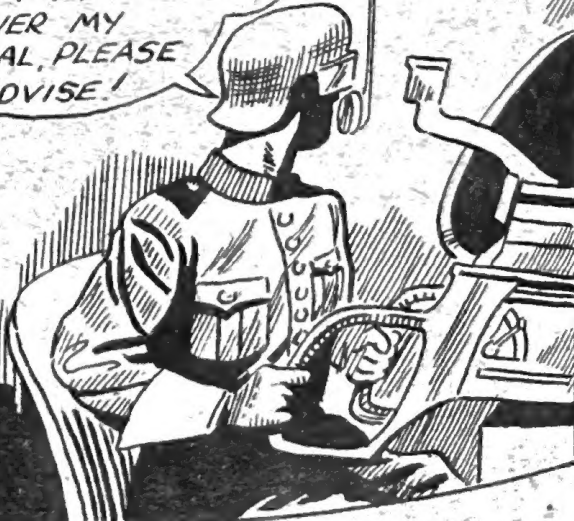


THE COMMANDER!

WHAT ON EARTH? GET OUT OF THIS CONTROL ROOM AND BACK TO YOUR POSTS AT ONCE!

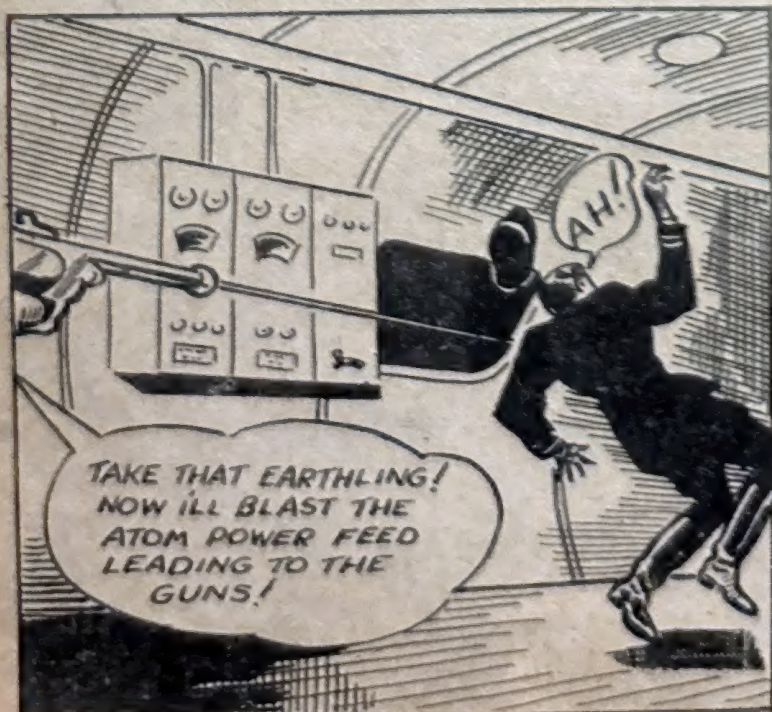
JUST THEN A MESSAGE COMES THROUGH FROM ONE OF THE GUNNERS.

THREE UNIDENTIFIED SPACE FIGHTERS APPROACHING SIR! THEY DO NOT ANSWER MY SIGNAL, PLEASE ADVISE!



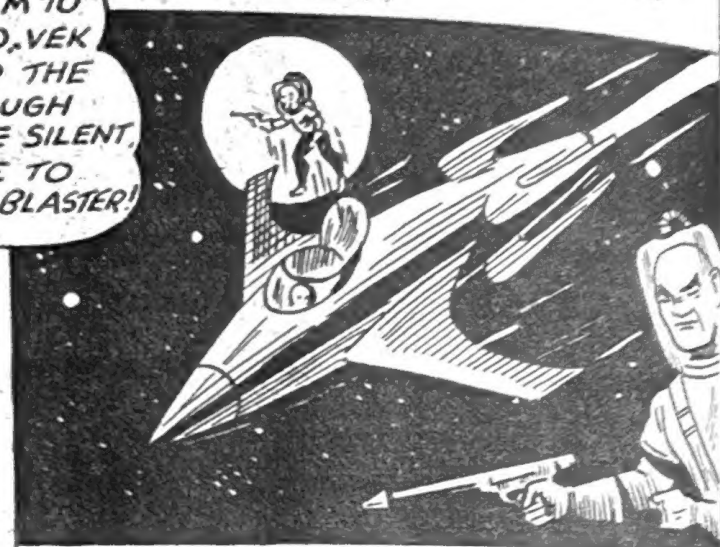


VEK HEARING THE COMMANDERS ORDER TO FIRE, SNATCHES UP A RAY PISTOL AND AIMS IT AT HIM





ARMED RAIDERS THEN LEAVE THE FIGHTERS AND DRIFT TOWARDS THE TEST SHIP.



IT'S THE MISSING SPACE CRAFT. THEY'RE BEING ATTACKED. YOU GO TO THEIR ASSISTANCE WHILE I BEAT OFF THE FIGHTERS!

MEANWHILE, THE INVADERS HAVE FORCED THEIR WAY INTO THE SPACE SHIP



WHAT THE? - SPACE PIRATES!

ONE OF THE FIGHTERS SPOTS ACE AND SWOOPS DOWN-GUNS BLAZING.



AS ACE BATTLES WITH THE FIGHTERS, VAL ENTERS CAUTIOUSLY INTO THE TEST SHIP.



WITH THE APPEARANCE OF VAL THE SPACE CREW FIGHT BACK AT THE PIRATES.





ACE IS TAKEN TO THE CAPTURED SPY

THOSE EYES THEY'RE BURNING INTO MY BRAIN, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW!



IT ALL STARTED WHEN OUR PLANET BEGAN TO LOSE ITS ATMOSPHERE. SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE QUICKLY SO IT WAS DECIDED TO CAPTURE YOUR EARTH, AND----



TAKE OVER. THIS COULD ONLY BE ACCOMPLISHED BY CAPTURING YOUR TEST SHIP IT BEING THE FASTEST SPACE CRAFT IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE. WITH SUCH A CRAFT IN OUR POSSESSION THE EARTH WOULD HAVE BEEN AT OUR MERCY. ALL I DID WAS TO CUT THE CONE WIRES LEADING TO THE MAIN GENERATOR.



WITH THE TROUBLE RECTIFIED THE TEST SHIP STREAKS BACK TO EARTH.



MOTHER EARTH HERE WE COME!

The End.

RODEO WRANGLER



BY
KURT

THE RODEO—HOME OF
COURAGE AND SPORTSMANSHIP
BUT EVEN IN SUCH
SURROUNDINGS, JEALOUSIES
AND INTRIGUES
SOMETIMES OCCUR.
JOHNNY BUTLER,
RODEO ACE, TANGLES
WITH DEATH IN THIS
TALE OF THE MODERN
RODEO....

THERE YOU ARE, JOHNNY.
IT'LL BE A FULL HOUSE.
BUT I OUGHT'A WARN
YOU BIG BILL CAN BE
MIGHTY MEAN WHEN
HE WANTSTO!

THANKS MR
PEARSON, I'LL
WATCH HIM!

SPIKE PEARSONS
RODEO
JOHNNY
BUTLER V BIG BILL
BOWER
ROPING, SHOOTING
BRONCBUSTING,

AND
PRETTY
PATSY SARGENT
THE MODERN ANNIE
OAKLEY

SAY, WHO'S THIS PATSY
SARGENT GAL, I'D SURE
LIKE TO MEET HER!





BUT THERE IS AN UNWELCOME INTERRUPTION..



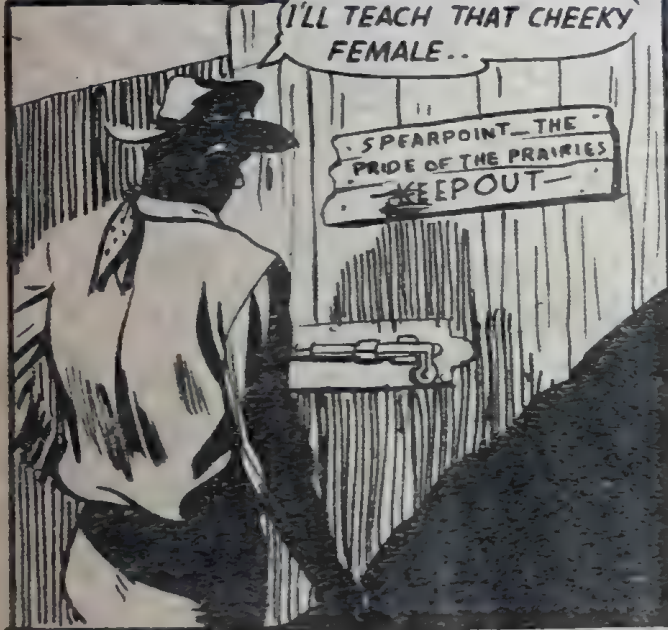
BOWERS LEAVES BAD TEMPERED



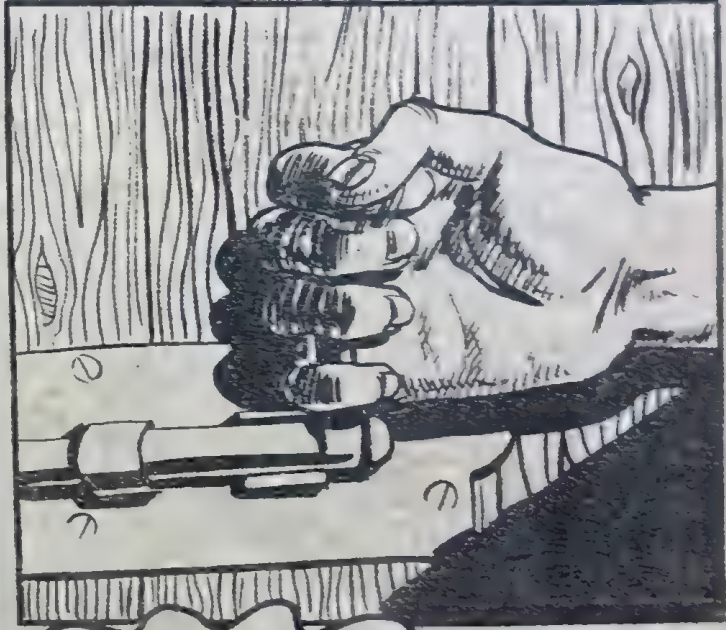
PATSY RESUMES TARGET PRACTICE..



MEANWHILE....

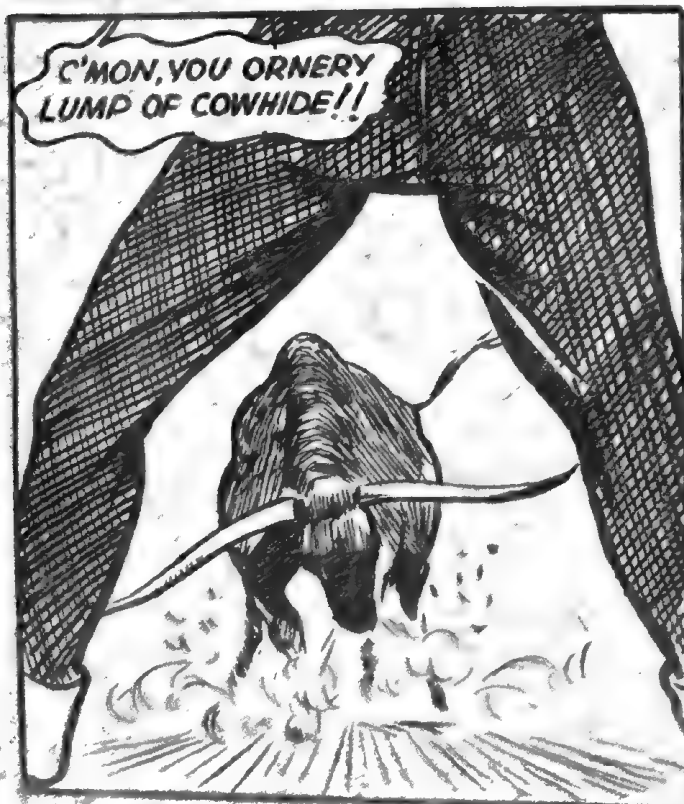


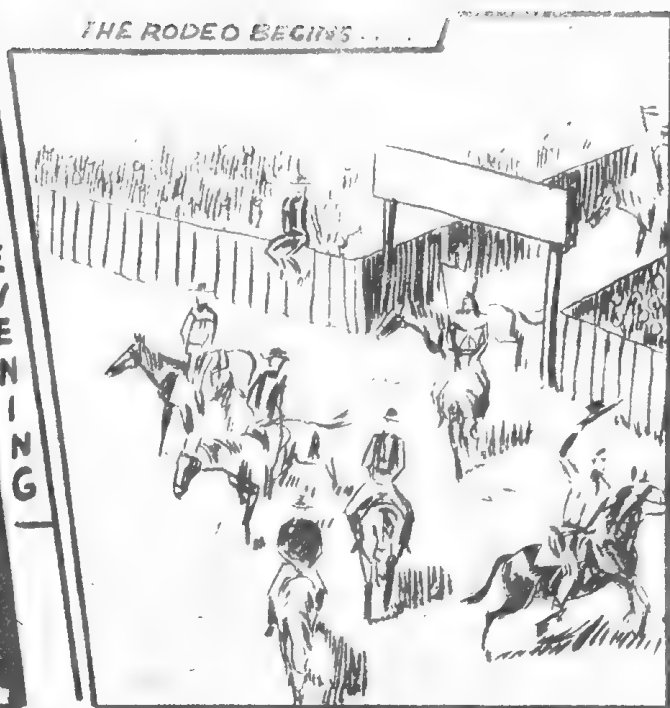
AND SUDDENLY.....



SPEARPOINT IS FREE.....







THE STABLES BEHIND THE ARENA..

HAW! WHEN THAT GUY RIDES DYNAMITE
HERE, IT'LL BE JUST TOO BAD. TEACH HIM
TO CROSS BIG BILL BOWERS----



-- I SURE WOULDN'T LIKE TO BE IN HIS PANTS
WHEN THIS NAG STARTS A-KICKIN'.....
RECKON HE'S GONNA BE FOR THE
HIGHJUMP, HAW! HAW! HAW



DYNAMITE IS LED OUT....

HERE JOHNNY, HE'S
ALL YOURS.

WATCH HIM, JOHNNY,
HE'S A HEAP OF
HORSE!

O.K. SPIKE!



DYNAMITE GOES TO TOWN....

RIDE HIM
COWBOY!!

STAY WITH
HIM, JOHNNY!

BUT THE GIRTH SLIPS..



AND JOHNNY IS DOWN.....



HE'LL BE KILLED!!



BUT PATSY REMAINS CALM..

.... ONE GOOD SHOT COULD CUT THE CINCH. IT'S A CHANCE I'VE GOT TO TAKE!

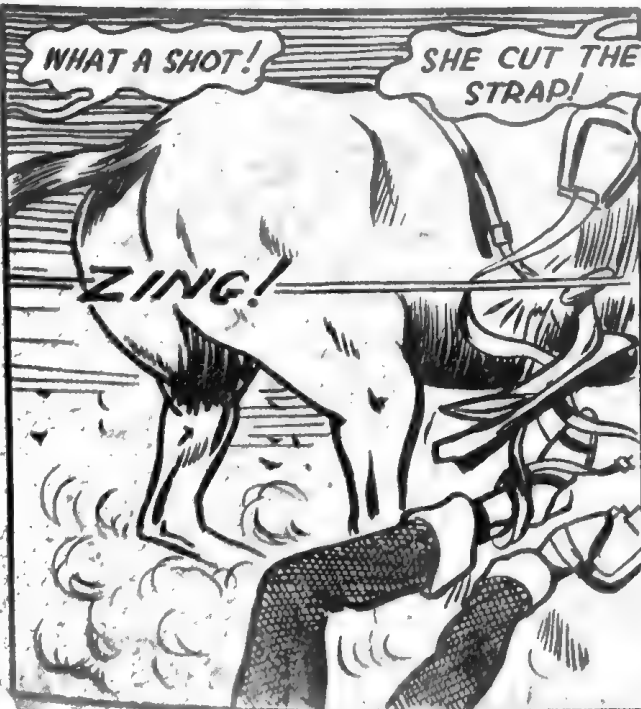


...IT'S NOW OR NEVER..
KEEP STEADY HANDS!



WHAT A SHOT!

SHE CUT THE STRAP!

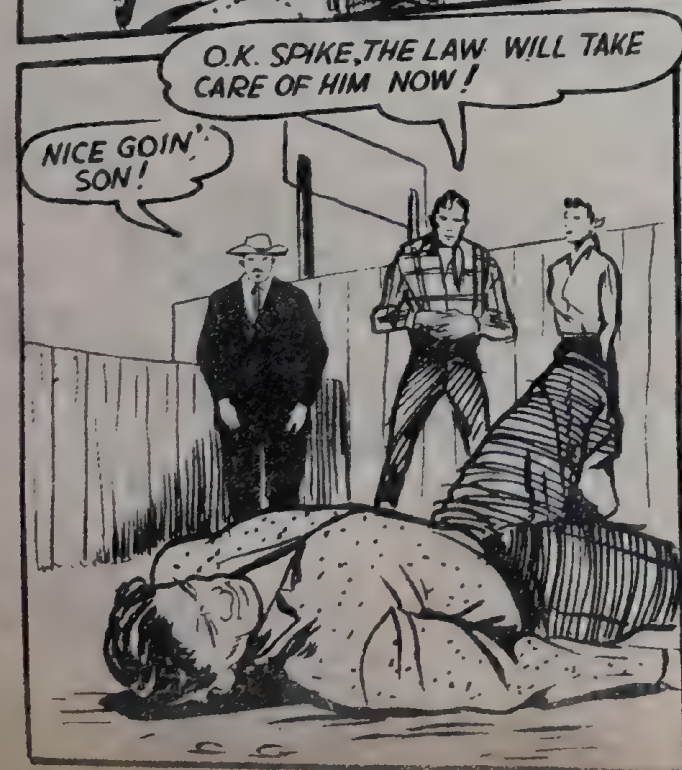
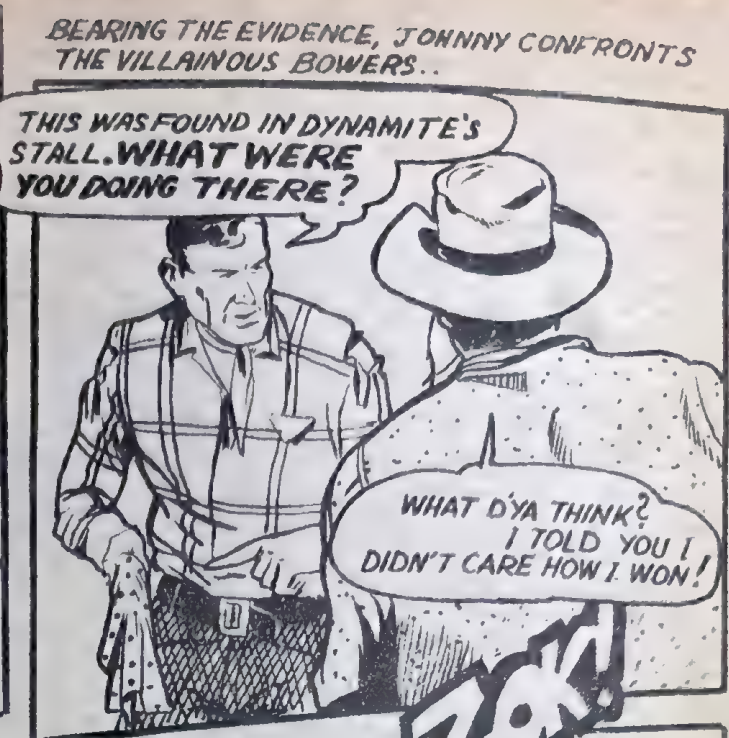


THIS TIME I'VE GOT TO THANK YOU PATSY, BUT IF I'D CHECKED MY GEAR THAT ACCIDENT WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED!

NOW WE'RE EVEN!

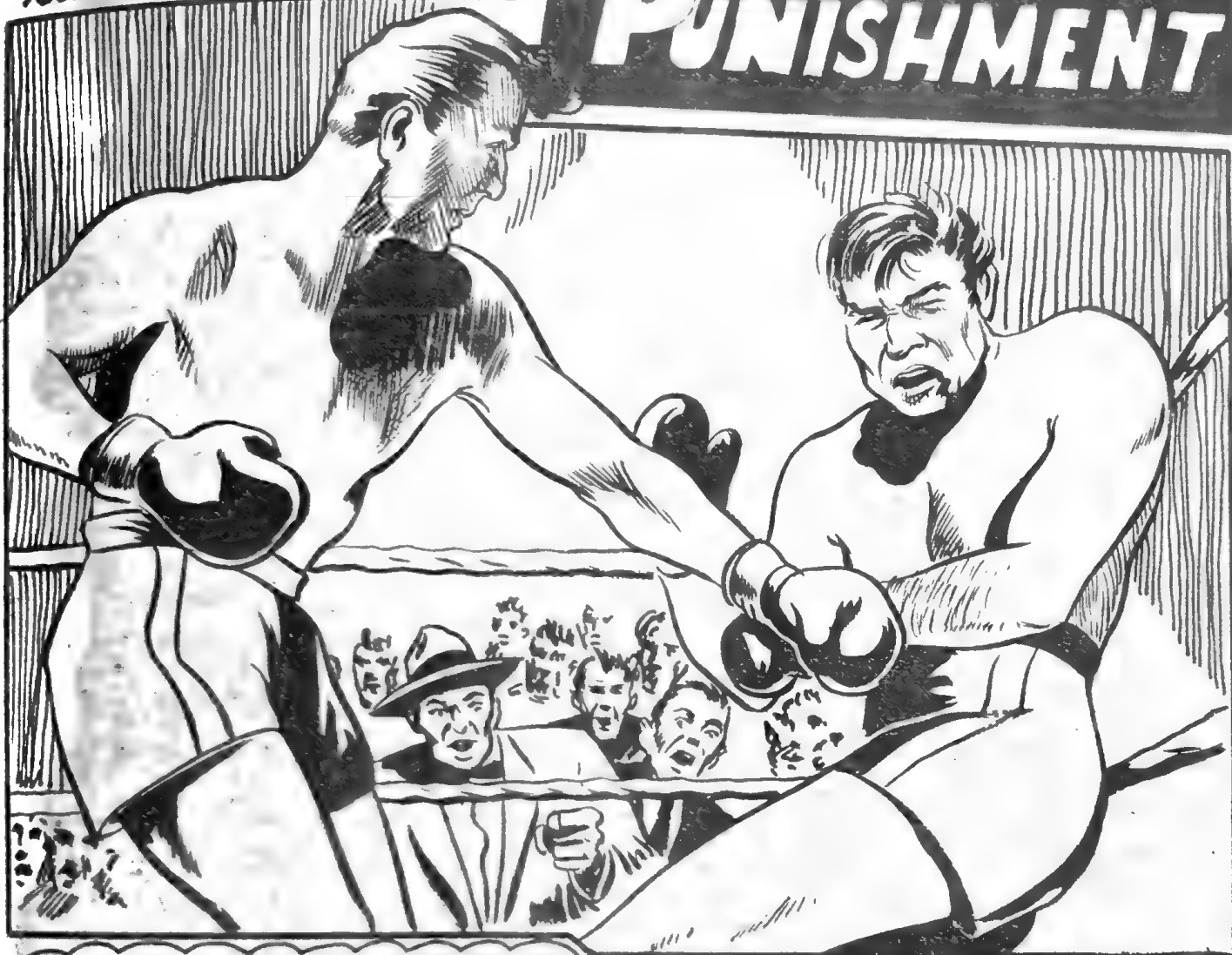
HEY JOHNNY!





THE SQUARE RING - WHERE MAN
PITS SKILL AND FURY AGAINST
MAN - AND WHERE INTRIGUE
AND CROOKEDNESS SOMETIMES
MAKES THE BEST MAN LOSE.
LEFTY O'RORKE, NEAR CHAMP,
FINDS THERE ARE MORE WAYS
TO WIN A TITLE THAN BY
YOUR OWN TWO FISTS IN...

THE PIT OF PUNISHMENT



.... A LEFT AND A RIGHT AND THE CHAMP
GOES DOWN. IT'S O'RORKE'S FIGHT ALL THE
WAY FOLKS. EIGHT-NINE - OHHH - THERE
GOES THE BELL - MULLIGAN'S BEEN SAVED!

ELSEWHERE...

NO GOOD IGGY, I'M DONE IN!

O'RORKE'LL MURDER THAT
GUY IN THE NEXT ROUND!



DON'T BE A SAP, CHAMP.
WHEN HE GOES TO SHAKE HANDS
FOR THIS LAST ROUND, SOCK HIM
WITH ALL YOU'VE GOT!



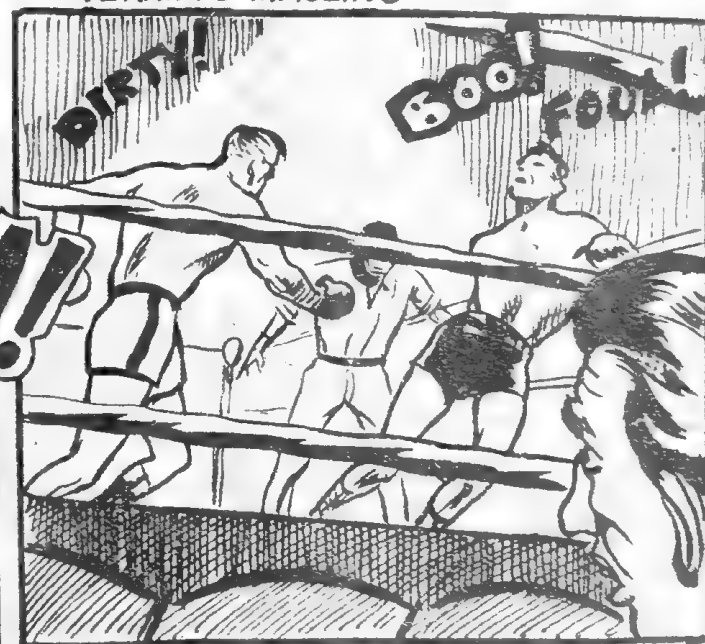
WHILE IN THE OTHER CORNER.....



THE LAST ROUND - AND THE MODERN GLADIATORS MEET IN THE CENTRE OF THE PIT OF PUNISHMENT



DAZED, O'RORKE RECEIVES A TERRIFIC MAULING...



LATER IN MULLIGAN'S DRESSING ROOM...



AND IN THE CHALLENGER'S ROOM.

THAT WAS SURE A LOUSY DEAL LEFTY. TO THINK A CREDIT TO THE GAME LIKE YOU SHOULD BE ROBBED LIKE THAT!

NEVER MIND O'RORKE, OUR NEWSPAPER COLUMNS WILL FORCE A RETURN. I KNOW YOU'LL WIN THEN.

GUESS I SHOULD HAVE DUCKED!

THANKS FELLOWS, BUT I HOPE THE RETURN IS SOON. I'M GETTIN' KINDA OLD FOR THE FIGHT GAME. I CAN'T WAIT ANOTHER THREE YEARS FOR A TITLE SHOT!



NEXT DAY

EXTRA!
BIG FIGHT SENSATION!!

IN IGGY FERGUSON'S OFFICE..



WHAT'S THIS?

I MURDERED HIM ONCE. I'LL SLAY HIM NEXT TIME!!

DON'T BE A CHUMP. O'RORKE'S GETTING NO RETURN. HE'LL BEAT THE DAYLIGHTS OUT A YOU... UNLESS

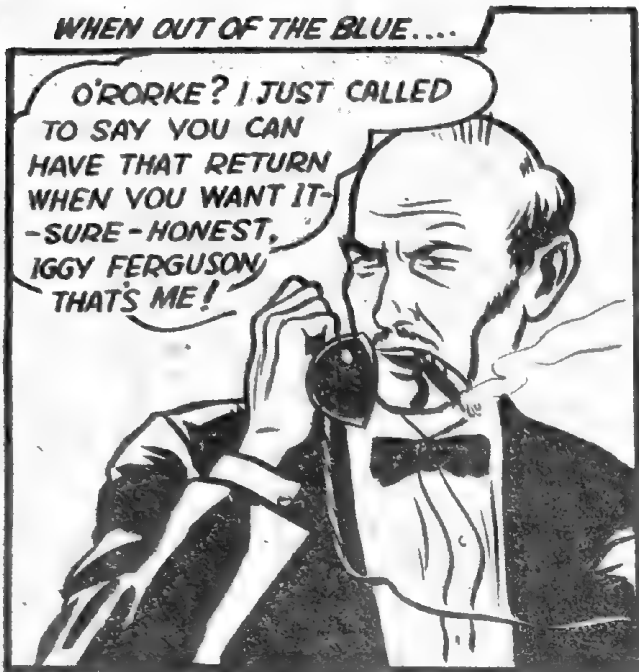
SOMEWHERE ELSE..

.... AND BELIEVE ME FOLKS, IF I FIGHT MULLIGAN AGAIN I PROMISE THAT I'LL WIN!



WHEN OUT OF THE BLUE....

O'RORKE? I JUST CALLED
TO SAY YOU CAN
HAVE THAT RETURN
WHEN YOU WANT IT-
SURE-HONEST,
IGGY FERGUSON
THAT'S ME!



NOW LISTEN BOYS,
THIS IS THE SET UP...

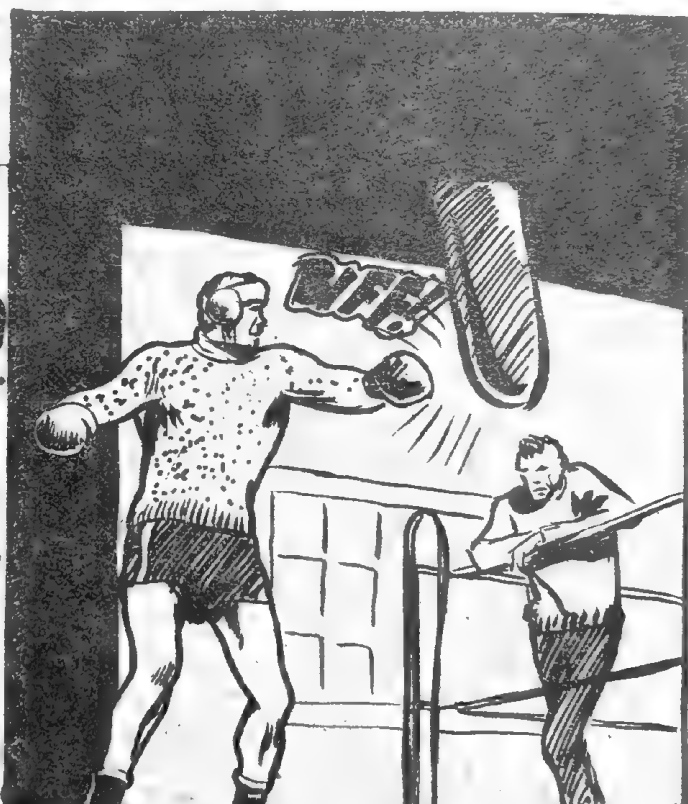


THE
CONTRACTS
ARE
SIGNED...

HOLD IT!
WHY DON'T THEY
LET ME FINISH
HIM OFF!



TRAINING
BEGINS.



STAND BY LEM, HERE
HE COMES...



ACTION!

HOLD THAT
YOU !!



BUT EVEN LEFTY IS NO MATCH FOR A MONKEY WRENCH..

HE WON'T FIGHT ANYMORE.. NOT WITH THOSE HANDS!

AND SO, UNABLE TO LEAVE THE LURE OF THE RING, LEFTY BECOMES A MANAGER....

SO I'VE SIGNED YOU TO FIGHT LEN LEWENDON - BUT WATCH HIS RIGHT, IT'S DYNAMITE!

..BUT HIS FIGHTERS..

AND LATER..

WHAT'S THE VERDICT DOC?

'HATE TO SAY THIS O'RORKE, BUT YOUR FIGHTING DAYS ARE OVER....

..ARE NO WORLD BEATERS..

LEWENDON THE WINNAH!!

ANOTHER MUG..

UNTIL ONE NIGHT....

..SEEN MORELLI - HE'S ON IN TWO MINUTES AND HE AINT TURNED UP. WHAT A HEAVYWEIGHT!

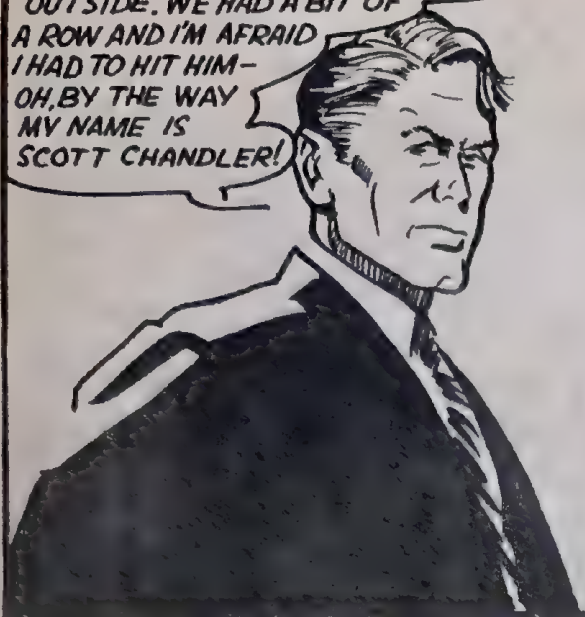
NO, I AINT SEEN HIM.

JUST THEN..

IS THIS THE GUY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

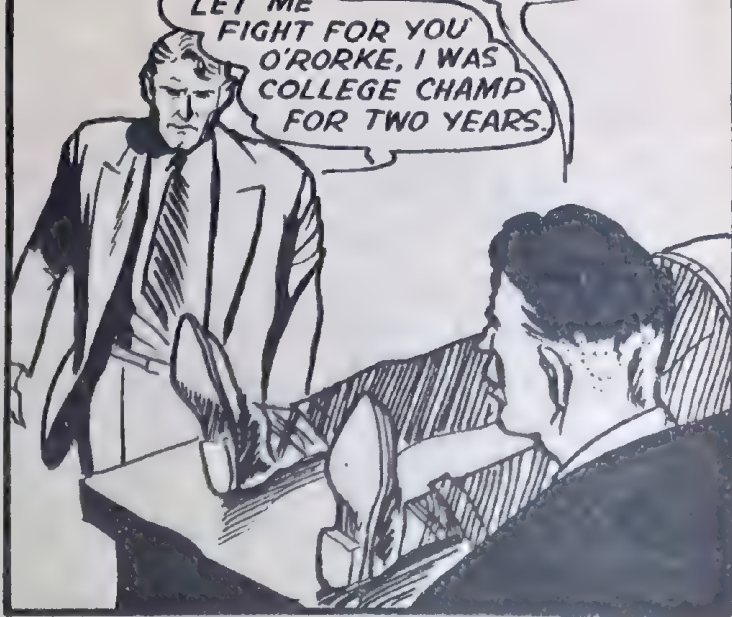
WHAT THE??

I'M SORRY MR O'RORKE, BUT THIS MORELLI CHAP BUMPED INTO ME OUTSIDE. WE HAD A BIT OF A ROW AND I'M AFRAID I HAD TO HIT HIM— OH, BY THE WAY MY NAME IS SCOTT CHANDLER!



YOU HOODLUM, NOW I'VE GOT TO CANCEL THE FIGHT!

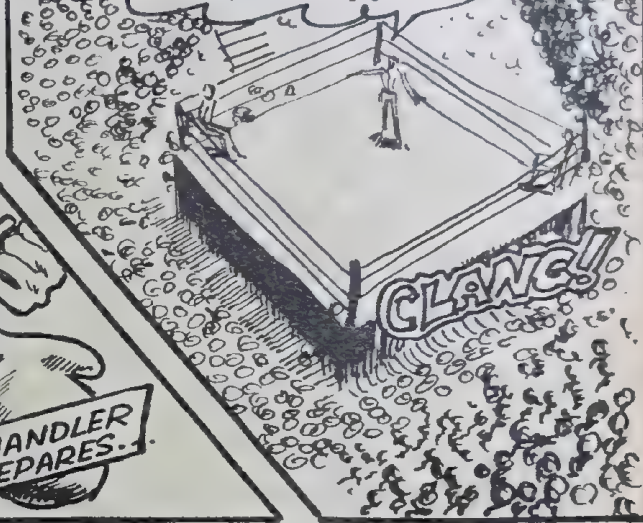
LET ME FIGHT FOR YOU O'RORKE, I WAS COLLEGE CHAMP FOR TWO YEARS.



ARE YOU CRAZY?— SAY— MAYBE YOU COULD AT THAT— YOU'VE GOT THE BUILD!

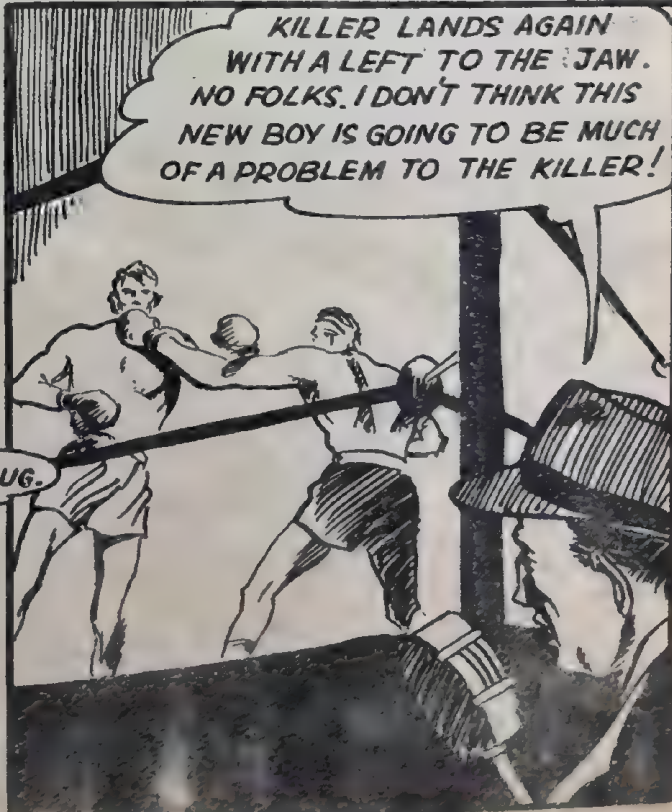


...THE COYTOWN KILLER. AND ON MY RIGHT AT 192 POUNDS, SCOTT CHANDLER!!



SCOTT CHANDLER PREPARES...

KILLER LANDS AGAIN WITH A LEFT TO THE JAW. NO FOLKS, I DON'T THINK THIS NEW BOY IS GOING TO BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM TO THE KILLER!



ANOTHER MUG.





SUDDENLY.....

WHAT A PUNCH KID - YOU'RE A NATURAL - I'M GONNA MAKE A CHAMP OF YOU, THEN YOU CAN BEAT THE EARS OFF BUTCHER MULLIGAN LIKE I SHOULD'VE DONE!



SCOTT CHANDLER
A THREAT TO CHAMP



CHANDLER K.O.'S
SULLIVAN IN FOUR.
R.K. SAUNDERS

CHANDLER WINS
FINAL ELIMINATION



UNTIL

I'LL MURDER HIM!

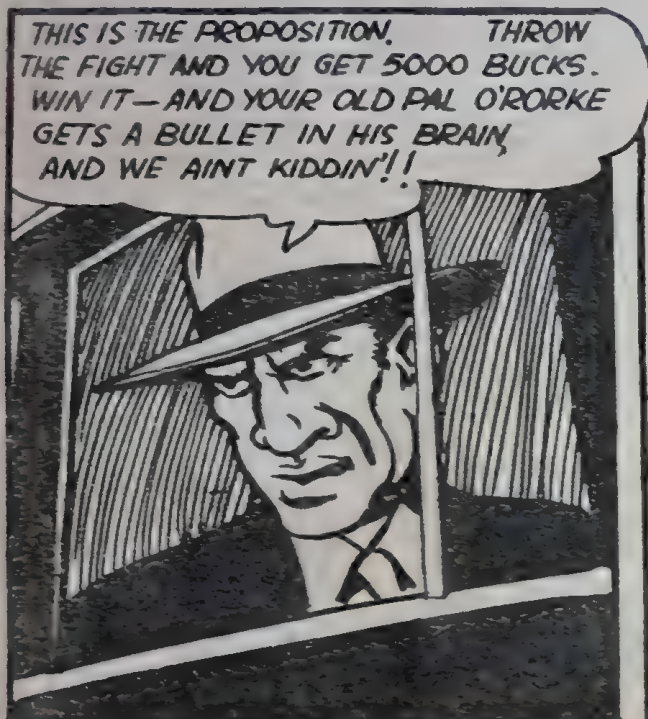
THIS IS GONNA BE TOUGH..

THIS IS IT!

I WONT LET YOU DOWN, BESIDES-
BESIDES I WANT THE 5000 BUCKS.



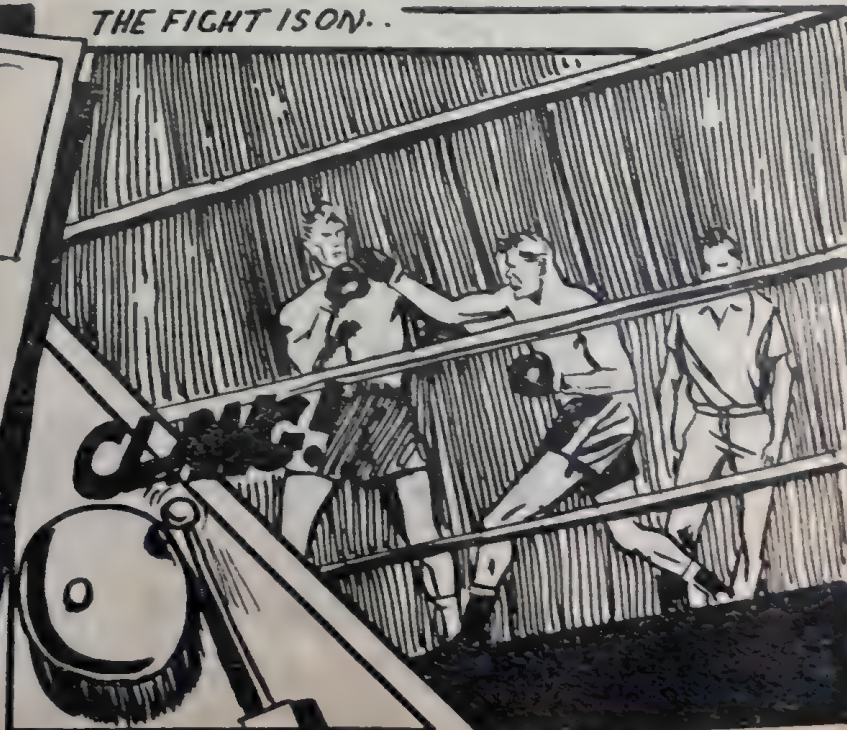
TRAINING COMMENCES..

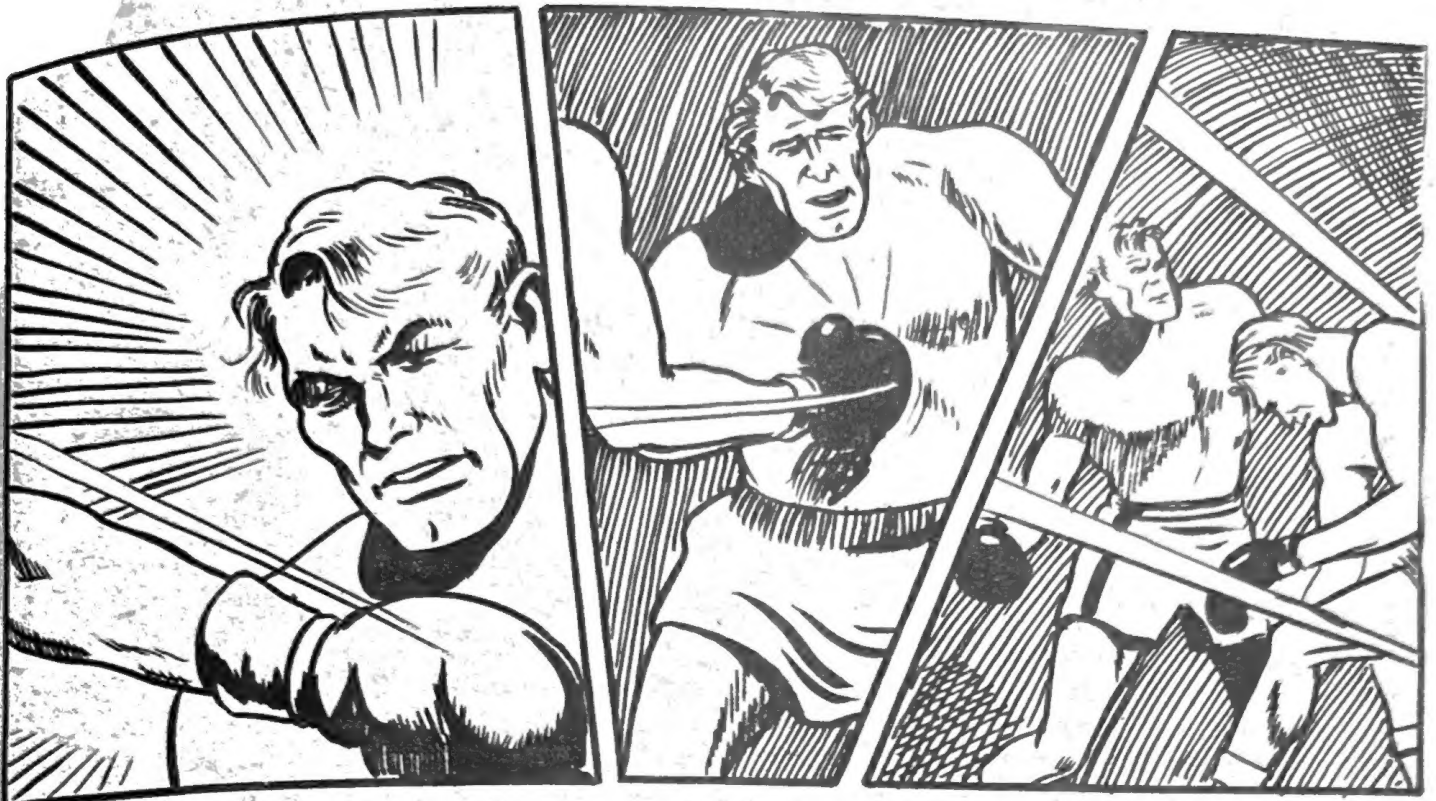


THE NEXT NIGHT.....

THE FIGHT IS ON..

BATTISON SQ. GARDENS PRESENTS	
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	
BUTCHER	SCOTT
MULLIGAN	CHANDLER
JIM SMITH	KID CALLOW
LEN PLATT	CLEM CORDORAY
PADDY LOW	BERT
OM BRONIA	





AND AFTER 15 GRUELLING ROUNDS...

...BY A UNANIMOUS VERDICT-
WINNER AND STILL CHAMP
BUTCHER MULLIGAN!!



SCOTT'S DRESSING ROOM...

YOU LILY-
LIVERED RAT, YOU THREW THAT
FIGHT - TOOK A DIVE. GIT OUT AND
DON'T LET ME SEE YOU AGAIN!

JUST AS YOU
SAY, LEFTY!

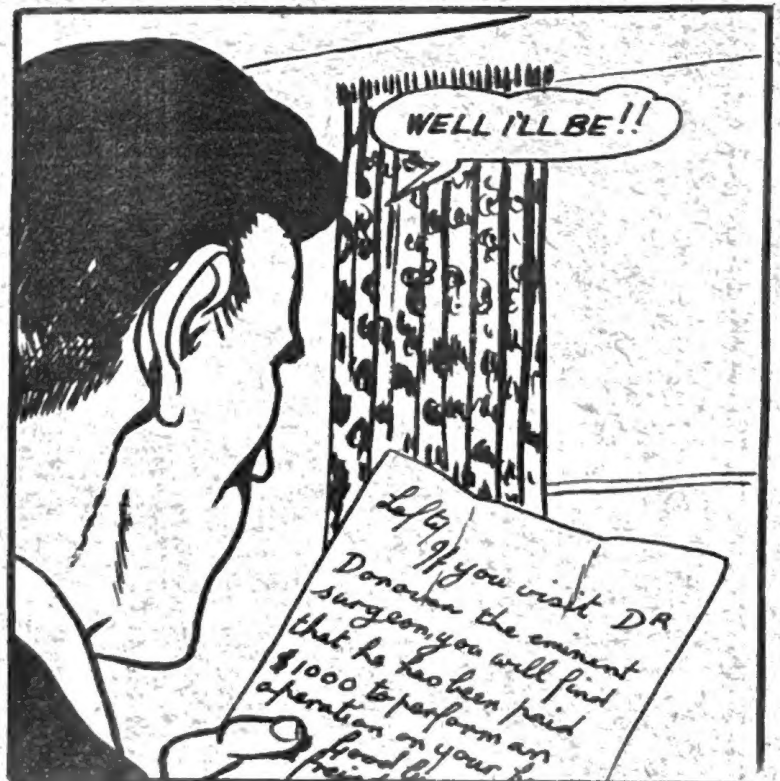


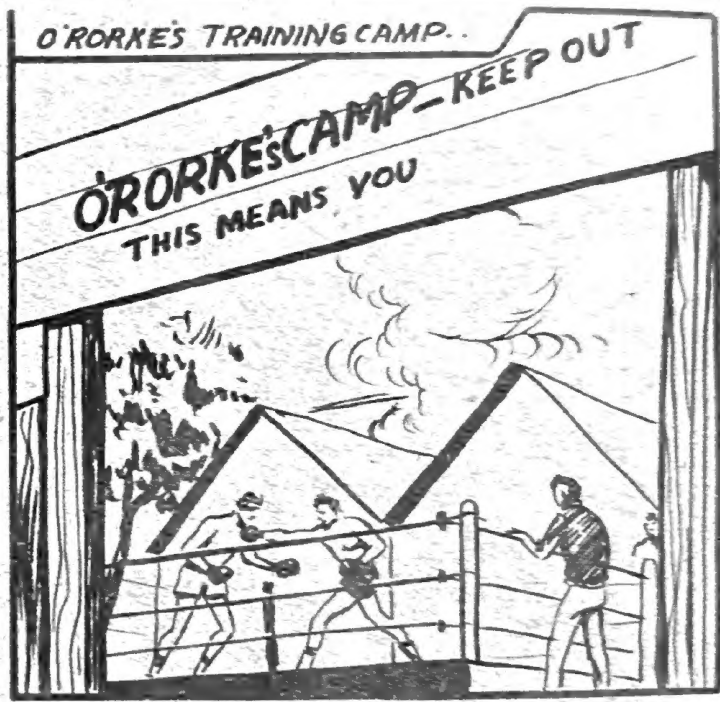
THREE WEEKS LATER AT OROCKE'S
APARTMENT...

HELLO!
WHAT'S THIS?



WELL I'LL BE!!





WAIT A MINUTE O'RORKE.
THIS IS THE YOUNG MAN THAT
PAID FOR YOUR OPERATION!

WHAT!!

SCOTT EXPLAINS.....

SO YOU SEE LEFTY,
I COULDN'T TAKE THE CHANCE OF
THEM SHOOTING YOU, SO I PUT THE
CASH THEY GAVE ME WITH MY PURSE
MONEY AND WENT TO SEE DOC HERE!!

THANKS KID, BUT
YOU SHOULD'VE
TOLD ME. WE
COULD HAVE GOT
PROTECTION!

..NOW YOU CAN HELP ME,
I NEED A REAL SPARRING
PARTNER!

GREAT,
LET'S GO!

WHAT A PAIR!

YOU TELL ME
WHO'S BEST?

THE WEIGH IN..

197½ POUNDS!

I WANT TO TALK
TO YOU, COME
OVER HERE!

I WANT YOU TO SLIP THIS
INTO O'RORKE'S DRINK. THAT'LL
KEEP HIM QUIET!

I GET YOU BOSS!



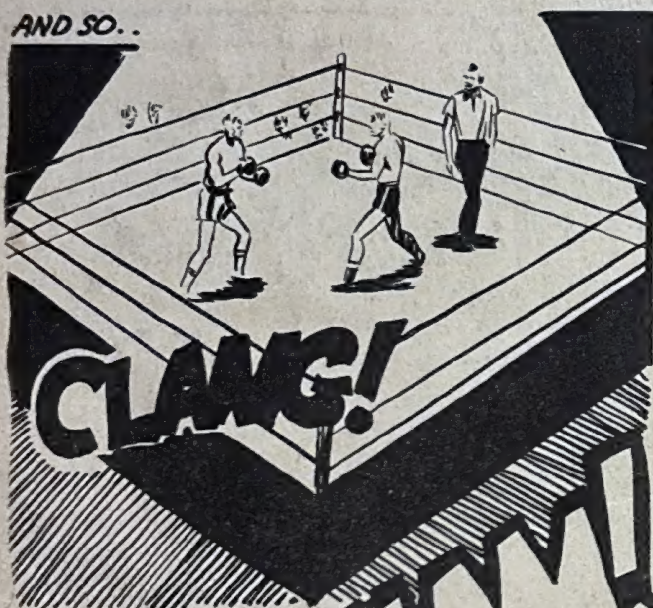
O'RORKE
DRINKS..

..LEFTY..
WHAT'S UP?

.. AND THEN HE PASSED OUT. I'D
BETTER GO IN THE RING IN HIS PLACE
IF IT'S O.K. BY YOU!

SURE, SURE, WE
BEAT YOU ONCE, WE CAN
DO IT AGAIN!

I'LL MURDER
YOU, YOU RAT!



AND SO..

CLANG!



BUT THIS TIME
SCOTT HAS NO
FEAR HANGING
OVER HIM..



WHAM!

I WON FOR YOU LEFTY- NOW YOU CAN
HAVE FIRST CRACK AT THE TITLE, NO
ONE DESERVED IT MORE!

NOT ME
CHAMP, IN FUTURE YOU
CAN DO THE FIGHTING FOR
BOTH OF US!



THE END