

DELL
COMIC

10¢

Gene Autrey's

Champion





TROT, PACE and GALLOP

ILLUSTRATED BY
GEOFFREY HARRIS FOR THE EQUUS STAFF

Horses have three ways of running when they are going full speed—they trot, pace or gallop. Most animals use one of these gaits quite naturally. If a horse paces naturally, he will seldom resort to a gallop when he pushes himself to top speed. If a horse gallops naturally, it is hard to hold him down to trotting or pacing. There are other gaits, but these are taught by trainers to specially schooled mounts.

TROT In a trot, a horse uses feet of opposite sides together. When his right front and left rear feet are still on the ground, his right rear and left front feet are just rising to a new stride. In other words, he alternates between right and left and also between front and rear with each forward step.

PACE A pacer throws one whole side forward at once. Both his right feet come forward together or both his left feet move at once. He never uses feet of opposite sides together. A horse that paces naturally is a rather rare thing. Most of them have to be trained to do it. The gait is very comfortable in a saddle horse because the seat remains very steady and comfortable no matter how fast the pace becomes.

GALLOP The gallop is the hardest gait to understand. Actually, what seems to happen is that the horse throws himself forward by bouncing up his hind-quarters and outpiking ahead with the whole power of his rear legs. Just as he moves forward, all his weight is supported by a single rear foot that digs into the ground and transmits the whole power of his body to the earth. At the end of the stride, his weight is received by one front foot which is used as a sort of pivot point over which he moves. An instant later, the other front foot touches the ground. It's a very difficult motion to explain, but you can be sure your horse is in a gallop when you sense that he seems to lead on only one foot after each of his strides.



Champion and MONKEY BUSINESS



HEY, FELLA!
WHAT'S ALL THE
EXCITEMENT?

THAT TRAILER AT THE GAS
STATION! WHATEVER'S INSIDE
WAS RAISING A RUCKUS WHEN
IT CAME DOWN THE STREET!



MOVE, GUNNY! MAY-
BE IT'S WILD
ANIMALS!

WHEE-HEE!



FILL IT UP, PLEASE! AND CHECK UNDER THE HOOD!
I'VE A LONG TRIP AHEAD OF ME!



RR-ROR-
RUD!

YIKES! WHAT IN
TARNATION'S
THAT?



A PAIR OF YOUNG
GORILLAS! I'M TAKING
THEM TO THE STATE
ZOO!

PHREW! THEY
SCARED ME BILLY!
I HOPE THAT
TRAILER'S
STRONG!

FORT HOUSE MARAZEE EXCHANGE
185 OSBORNE ST.
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA



SWIPING A COUPLE OF GORILLAS DOESN'T COME UNDER THAT HEADING! IT'LL BE A CINH! WE'LL USE THAT VAN WE USED FOR THAT RUSTLIN' JOB! COME ON!



OH, SO YOU FEEL LIKE RUNNING, TOO, EH, CHAMP? OKAY! TAKE OFF!



RICKY AND HIS PALS HEAD BACK TO THE RANCH.

GOSH, REBEL! CAN'T YOU EVER JUST HAWKE ALONG?



THERE'S DOCTOR STRONG'S CAR AND TRILER, CHAMP! I'D SURE LIKE TO SEE THOSE GORILLAS UP CLOSE! MAYBE I CAN TALK UNCLE SMOKY INTO TAKING ME TO THE ZOO ---



JUMPING BULLFROGS! THAT VAN CROWDED THE CAR RIGHT OFF THE ROAD! LET'S MOVE! MAYBE THE LADY'S HURT!

















AND RACES TO THE RESCUE



THIS TIME, REBEL TAKES CHARGE...



A COUPLE OF MINUTES LATER...

CLIMB IN, YOU TWO, AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT!



OH-OH! JOLTING OVER THE ROCKS LOOSENED THOSE LOCK SCREWS! I'LL PRETEND TO SLIP ---GIVE THE LOCK A PUSH...



LIKE THIS!



THEN SHOVE THE DOOR LIKE THIS!



SAM! YOU FOOL! THE SCORILLAS'LL SET OUT!



SURE! AND DISTRACT THE KID! THEN WE'LL MAKE A GETAWAY!

HOLY SMOKE! THE TRAILER DOOR'S OPEN! THE SCORILLAS ARE LOOSE!



GRAMP! REBEL! AFTER THOSE HOMBRES! THESE BOYS HAVE ME GOKED IN!







THE SHOT ECHOES THROUGH THE HILLS

A SHOT! FROM THE
OTHER SIDE OF
THAT HILL!



IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO
RICKY, I'LL TEAR THOSE
BIRDS APART WITH MY BARE
HANDS!



RICKY? WHAT
IN THUNDER---



I'VE TREA'D A
WILD CAT!
A HUMAN
ONE!

LOOKS LIKE
CHAMP'S
FAMED
ONE!

RIGHT! THE OTHER
ONE'S UP THAT
TREE AND---



UNCLE SMOKE!
DO YOU SEE
WHAT I SEE?

I SURE DO! NO! NO!
I'LL BE DEE-DOUBLE
DODGERS!





QUIT GANKING AS IF I HAD TWO HEADS AN' DO SOMETHING ABOUT THESE APES!



GRAB YOU KIDNAPPING POLECAT! DROP TO THE GROUND FAST!



SURE! THEY'RE FALLING ASLEEP— JUST LIKE BABIES! GOSH! I WISH I COULD KEEP 'EM!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

DOCTOR STRONG'S GOING TO BE MIGHTY GRATEFUL TO YOU, RICKY! SURE YOU'LL GET THOSE CRITTERS BACK TO THE RANCH ALL RIGHT!



BUT I CAN'T COMPLAIN! I'M A MIGHTY LUCKY BOY! I HAVE THE TWO BEST FRIENDS THERE EVER WERE, REBEL AND CHAMP!

WEE-NEE-NEE

ARF!

Champion

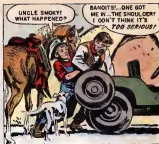
and THE
RAWHIDE CLUE



SMOKEY ASHTON JEEPS HOME FROM TOWN.







AFTER RIGBY REPORTS TO THE SHERIFF...

I'LL SET A POSSE OUT AFTER THAT PAIR, PRONTO!

THANKS, SHERIFF! I'LL CHECK WITH YOU WHEN I COME IN AFTER SUPPER TO SEE UNCLE SMOKEY!



MEANWHILE, A FEW MILES AWAY...

HANG IT, BULL! I'VE FIGURED ON THAT HONORE SHELLIN' OUT ENOUGH ORDERS TO CARRY US FOR A WHILE!

WELL, WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT?



FIND SOMEPLACE TO HOLE UP TILL WE CAN PULL ANOTHER JOB! ONE THAT'LL REALLY PAY OFF!

HEY! THERE'S A LIKELY LOOKIN' SPOT!



RIGHT, BULL! THAT'S CHAD GAYNOR'S SPREAD! HE LIVES THERE ALONE, TOO! COME ON!



THE BANDITS REACH THE LITTLE FARM AND...

REACH FOR YOUR GUNS, GAYNOR!

HOLDING ME UP IS A WASTE OF TIME! I'VE GOT NOTHING WORTH—



SHUT UP! BULL! SEE WHAT'S BACK OF THAT DOOR!







HAW! WHY DON'T WE PLUS HIM AN' BE GONE WITH IT?

BECAUSE HE MIGHT COME IN HANDY FOR A HOSTAGE IN CASE THE LAW COMES SNOOPIN'!



THEN IT'S LOGO TO PUT HIM IN THERE! HE'LL SUFFOCATE!

NONSENSE! THE CRACKS AROUND THE DOOR LET IN PLENTY OF AIR!



THIS'LL MAKE A SWELL HAND-OUT, BULL! NOBODY'LL THINK OF LOOKIN' FOR US *HERE!*



BUT WON'T SAYNOR BE MISSED IN TOWN?

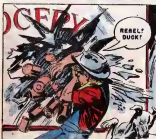
IT'S NOT LIKELY! HE DOESN'T GO TO RAINBOW BEND ONCE IN A BLUE MOON! AN' HE HARDLY EVER HAS COMPANY!



AFTER SUPPER, BACK IN TOWN.

SORRY! THE STORE'S--- MASKED! YOU'RE--- YOU'RE BANDITS!

THAT'S SMART FIGURIN', MISTER! GET BACK THERE AN' OPEN THE SAFE!





BUT, EVEN WITH A BRIGHT MOON, RICKY CAN'T PICK UP THE TRAIL... SO, MUCH LATER...













RICKY PICKS UP THE TRAIL AND LATER...













RIGHT HERE, RICKY! -- SAY! DO YOU ALWAYS SWIM WITH YOUR CLOTHES ON?

HARDLY! I FELL IN-- WHILE I WAS FISHING!



I CAUGHT A COUPLE OF BIG ONES, TOO!

JUMPIN' JEHOVAH! HAN DODSWELL AND BULL COLAN! TIED UP REAL NEAT, TOO!



TAKE 'EM IN, BOYS! AND, RICKY, BEFORE I BUST WITH CURIOSITY, FILL ME IN!



AFTER RICKY TELLS HIS STORY...

WELL, EVEN IF THAT RAWHIDE DIDN'T SHRINK SO MUCH, IT PUT BULL OUT OF COMMISSION! YOU DID OKAY WITH YOUR STRATEGY, SON!



BUT, TWO TO ONE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE FOUND YOU KAT -- IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR REBEL HERE! HE TRACKED YOU!

GOOD BOY!



WELL, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR CHAMP, THERE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN ANY RICKY WEST TO FIND! HE'S SURE A WONDER HORSE!

WHEE-HE-HE!