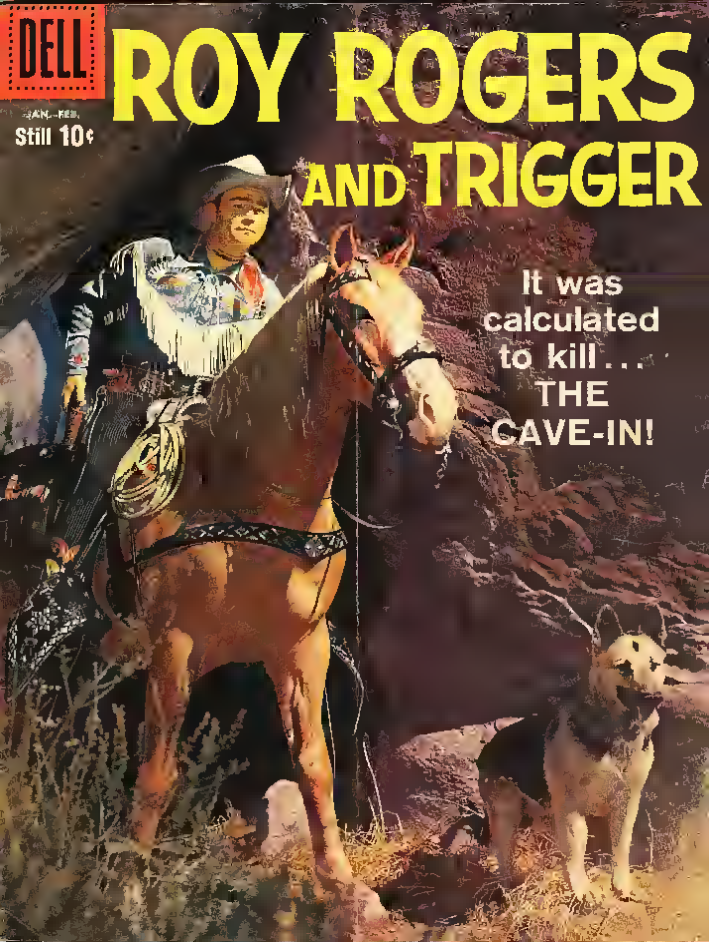
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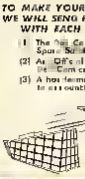

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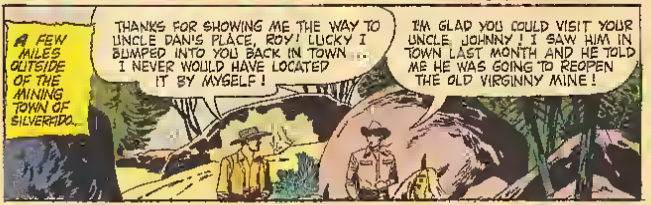
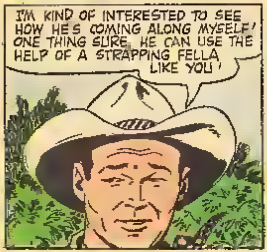
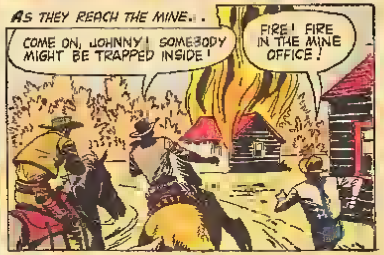
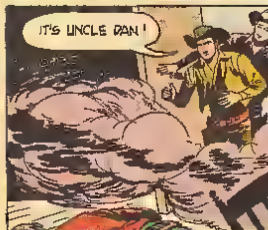
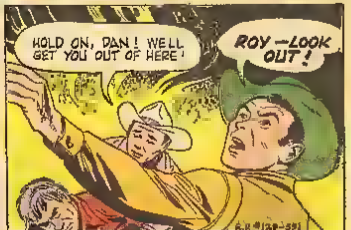
ROY ROGERS in CAVE-IN











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ROY ROGERS AND TRIGGER Vol 1 No 129 Jan-Feb 1958 Published Bimonthly by Dell Publishing Co Inc 750 Third Ave New York 17 N Y George T Delacorte Jr Publisher Helen Meyer President Paul M Lilly Executive Vice-President Harold Clark Vice Pres-Advertising Director Albert P Delacorte Treasurer Re-entered as second class matter at the Post Office at New York N Y under the Act of March 3 1879 Subscription in U S A and Canada for one year (six issues) $1.20 per year Dell Subscription Service 321 West 44th Street New York 36 N Y
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DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

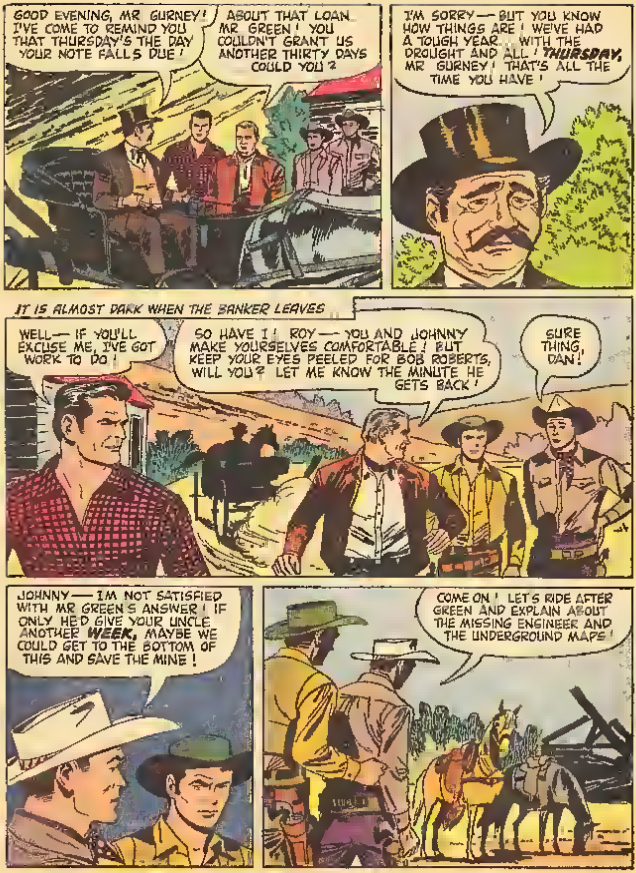
9-QNW2008

CRASH!
WHEW! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!
OY ROGERS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?... AND JOHNNY..
MY PAPERS! WE'VE GOT TO SAVE MY MAPS AND PAPERS! THEY'RE IN THE SAFE!
TAKE IT EASY NOW, DAN! IT'S TOO LATE. NOBODY COULD GO BACK INTO THAT INFERNO NOW!
WHAT STARTED THE FIRE, ANYWAY?
I DON'T KNOW! I WAS WORKING AT MY DESK WHEN SUDDENLY THERE WAS A CRASH — LIKE BREAKING GLASS!
ALL OF A SUDDEN THE WHOLE ROOM WAS A SHEET OF FLAME!
IT SOUNDS TO ME LIKE SOMEBODY THREW SOME KIND OF HOMEMADE BOMB! YOU STAY HERE WHILE JOHNNY AND I TAKE A LOOK AROUND!

CIRCLING THE AREA, ROY AND JOHNNY SEARCH FOR TRACKS
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING, DO YOU?
THIS GROUND IS PACKED TOO HARD TO FIND ANY FOOTPRINTS! BUT LOOK HERE, JOHNNY!
WHAT IS IT?
A SPOT OF GREASE — OR KEROSENE! SOMEBODY COULD HAVE PITCHED A LIGHTED KEROSENE LAMP THROUGH THE WINDOW AND STARTED THE FIRE!
BUT WHY? WHY WOULD ANYBODY DO THAT TO UNCLE DAN?
I DON'T KNOW, JOHNNY! THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE TO FIND OUT! COME ON!
NEXT MORNING
WELL DAN— IT LOOKS AS IF YOUR RECORDS ARE DESTROYED! THERE'S NOTHING HERE EXCEPT CHARRED PAPER!
THEN I'M RUINED, LADS— FINISHED!
RUINED? HOW DO YOU MEAN, UNCLE DAN?
BOB ROBERTS, MY ENGINEER, AND I HAVE SPENT THE LAST SIX MONTHS MAKING SUB-SURFACE MAPS OF ALL THE DIPS AND SPURS OF THE OLD VEIN! WE WERE HOPING TO FIND SOME SPOT WHERE WE COULD SINK A SHAFT AND INTERCUT THE MOTHER LODE!
I BORROWED HEAVILY FROM THE BANK FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT WORK, AND MY TIME'S RUN OUT! THURSDAY THE LOAN IS DUE!

I CAN'T EVEN GET AN EXTENSION! BANKS DON'T GO ALONG FOREVER ON JUST PROMISES, YOU KNOW!
WHAT ABOUT THIS BOB, YOUR ENGINEER? COULDN'T HE REMEMEER ENOUGH OF THE DETAILS TO MAKE NEW MAPS?
HE MIGHT— BUT I DOUBT IT! NOT WITH ANY ACCURACY, ANYWAY!
WELL, IT'S WORTH A TRY! WHERE CAN I FIND HIM?
HE WENT TO TOWN LAST EVENING FOR SUPPLIES! HE SHOULD BE BACK BY NOW! THAT'S HIS SHACK UP THERE NEAR THE OLD TUNNEL!
YOU STAY HERE JOHNNY! HELP YOUR UNCLE CLEAN UP. I'LL SEE IF ROBERTS IS BACK YET!
SINISTER EYES WATCH, AS ROY NEARS BOB'S CABIN
HELLO, IN THERE! ANYBODY HERE?
THE DOOR IS OPEN! I'LL JUST LOOK AROUND AND
WHACK!

A HALF-HOUR LATER...
ROY, ARE YOU...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? WHO DID IT?
I DON'T KNOW! BUT WE BETTER TELL DAN THAT HIS ENGINEER, BOB ROBERTS, HASN'T RETURNED YET! ROBERTS COULD BE MIXED UP IN THIS!
LATER THAT DAY...
ROY... JOHNNY, THIS IS MY FOREMAN, CHARLEY DAWS!
HOWDY!
CHARLEY'S VOLUNTEERED TO WORK DAY AND NIGHT, BLASTING TO SEE IF WE CAN UNCOVER THE MOTHER LODE!
BUT WON'T THAT BE JUST GUESSWORK WITHOUT YOUR MAPS?
THAT'S TRUE — BUT IT'S A CHANCE WE HAVE TO TAKE SINCE BOB ROBERTS ISN'T BACK YET! AFTER ALL, WE'VE ONLY GOT TWO DAYS! IF WE HIT, WE'RE IN A BONANZA! IF NOT — I LOSE THE MINE!
LOOK! WHO'S THIS COMING UP THE ROAD?
IT'S MR GREEN, THE BANKER!


GOOD EVENING, MR GURNEY! I'VE COME TO REMIND YOU THAT THURSDAY'S THE DAY YOUR NOTE FALLS DUE!
ABOUT THAT LOAN MR GREEN! YOU COULDN'T GRANT US ANOTHER THIRTY DAYS COULD YOU?
I'M SORRY — BUT YOU KNOW HOW THINGS ARE! WE'VE HAD A TOUGH YEAR... WITH THE DROUGHT AND ALL! THURSDAY, MR GURNEY! THAT'S ALL THE TIME YOU HAVE!
IT IS ALMOST DARK WHEN THE BANKER LEAVES
WELL — IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
SO HAVE I! ROY — YOU AND JOHNNY MAKE YOURSELVES COMFORTABLE! BUT KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR BOB ROBERTS, WILL YOU? LET ME KNOW THE MINUTE HE GETS BACK!
SURE THING, DAN!
JOHNNY — I'M NOT SATISFIED WITH MR GREEN'S ANSWER! IF ONLY HE'D GIVE YOUR UNCLE ANOTHER WEEK, MAYBE WE COULD GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS AND SAVE THE MINE!
COME ON! LET'S RIDE AFTER GREEN AND EXPLAIN ABOUT THE MISSING ENGINEER AND THE UNDERGROUND MAPS!

MAYBE WHEN WE FIND BOB ROBERTS WE CAN HELP HIM REPRODUCE SOME OF THOSE MAPS!
A SHORT TIME LATER
ROY — LOOK! ISN'T THAT MR GREEN'S BUGGY UP AHEAD?
YES — BUT WHERE IS HE?
I SEE HIM! OVER THERE IN THE BRUSH, TALKING TO SOMEBODY!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO LISTEN IN!
SURE, BOSS — IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM! THE MAPS ARE SAFE IN MY CABIN, UNDER THE FLOOR!
HOLD IT! I HEARD A NOISE!
THERE'S SOMEONE IN THOSE BUSHES!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
JOHNNY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES... I GUESS SO! THAT WAS SURE A CLOSE CALL!

THERE GOES GREEN HEADING FOR HIS BUGGY! AND THAT OTHER MAN— WHO IS IT? CAN YOU TELL?
NO, IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE!
COME ON, JOHNNY— WE'LL FOLLOW HIM!
YOU'LL NEVER FIND HIM IN THIS BRUSH! IT'S TOO THICK!
DARKNESS SOON FORCES ROY AND JOHNNY TO GIVE UP THE SEARCH
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FOLLOW HIM TONIGHT! BUT DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID? THE MAPS ARE SAFE! APPARENTLY THEY WEREN'T DESTROYED IN THAT FIRE, AFTER ALL!
WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?
TO BOB ROBERTS' CABIN! THAT'S AS GOOD A PLACE TO START HUNTING FOR THOSE MAPS AS ANY!
BUT AFTER AN HOUR OF SEARCHING
FIND ANYTHING, ROY?
NO! THERE ARE A FEW LOOSE BOARDS, BUT THERE'S NOTHING UNDER THEM!
MAYBE BOB ROBERTS CAME BACK HERE BY SOME KIND OF SHORT CUT AND BEAT US TO THE MAPS!
IT'S POSSIBLE! BUT IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE MAN WE'RE AFTER IS SOMEBODY ELSE! COME ON!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING
MR GURNEY — I'M READY TO START BLASTING! DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME?
GO AHEAD DAN! JOHNNY AND I ARE GOING TO GO CHECK UP ON A COUPLE OF MYSTERIOUS HOMBRES!
WHAT HOMBRES? WHO ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
IT'S NOTHING, CHARLEY — ONLY THAT BOB ROBERTS HAS DISAPPEARED AND ROY THINKS HE HAS A CLUE TO HIS WHEREABOUTS!
LATER...
HERE'S WHERE WE LAST SAW GREEN AND THAT OTHER FELLOW! THE BRUSH IS SURE THICK! ONE OF THEM COULD HAVE RIPPED HIS CLOTHES!
YOU'RE RIGHT, JOHNNY! HERE'S WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, RIGHT HERE!
A PIECE OF CLOTH TORN FROM A PLAID SHIRT — LIKE THE ONE THAT CHARLEY DAWS WEARS!
CHARLEY DAWS! JOHNNY — YOUR UNCLE DAN IS WITH HIM AND HE'S TRIED TO KILL DAN BEFORE!
RACING BACK TO THE MINE...
HOLY NED! WHAT'S THAT?
THE MINE WHISTLE! WHEN THEY BLOW IT LIKE THAT, IT CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING — A CAVE-IN!

WHAT HAPPENED? WHO'S DOWN BELOW?
DAN GURNEY! HE'S TRAPPED IN THAT OLD NUMBER TWO SHAFT! CHARLEY DAWS GOT OUT!
RACING THEIR HORSES PAST THE BUNKHOUSE, JOHNNY CALLS TO CHARLEY DAWS
HOLD IT THERE, DAWS! WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
HE'S TRYING TO GET AWAY! HE MUST KNOW WE'RE ON TO HIM, JOHNNY! I'LL SEE ABOUT HELPING DAN!
HERE YOU GO SONNY!
SOCK!
MEANWHILE.
DAN! ARE YOU ALIVE IN THERE? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

ROY! HELP!
SOON, WORKING FURIOUSLY, ROY BEGINS TO MAKE SOME HEADWAY THROUGH THE CAVE IN...
IT'S NO USE! WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MEN! WE'LL NEVER GET THROUGH THAT PILE OF ROCK IN TIME!
WE'VE GOT TO! KEEP MOVING THESE ROCKS BACK AS I BREAK THEM LOOSE!
FINALLY
DAN! I CAN SEE YOU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES! BUT GET THIS TIMBER OFF ME!
ARRRGH!
GOOD WORK! JUST A LITTLE HIGHER!
I'M FREE!
KASH!
HERE — LET ME HELP YOU!
NEVER MIND ME — GO HELP HIM! THAT'S BOB ROBERTS MY ENGINEER! HE'S BEEN TIED UP IN HERE FOR TWO DAYS!

CHARLEY DAWS DID IT! WHEN I FOUND BOB DOWN HERE AND STARTED TO UNTIE HIM, DAWS SET OFF THE BLAST THAT SEALED US IN!
SOON...
JOHNNY! WHERE'S DAWS? DID YOU GET HIM?
NO! HE GOT AWAY!
THEN COME ON! I CAN GUESS WHERE HE'LL BE! WE'LL GET HIM AND HIS PARTNER AT THE SAME TIME!
A HALF-HOUR LATER, AT THE SILVERADO BANK
STOP! YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE! MR GREEN IS IN CONFERENCE!
OFFICE
JUST AS I THOUGHT! CHARLEY DAWS — AND THE BANKER — AND THE MISSING MAPS!
YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME!
BLAM!

NO, YOU DON'T, DAWS! NOT TWICE IN THE SAME DAY!
PUT DOWN THAT GUN!
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
WHAT'S GOING ON ROY?
WE'VE CAUGHT THESE TWO RED-HANDED DAN! AREN'T THESE YOUR MISSING MAPS?
YES — BUT I THOUGHT THEY WERE DESTROYED IN THE FIRE THAT BURNED DOWN THE OFFICE!
NO THEY WEREN'T! I HAD TAKEN THEM OUT OF THE SAFE TWO DAYS AGO AND WAS WORKING ON THEM IN MY CABIN WHEN DAWS SLUGGED ME AND DRAGGED ME TO THE MINE!
YOU SEE, DAN — ONCE DAWS HAD THE MAPS HE PLANNED TO GET RID OF YOU AND BOB, SO THAT HE AND GREEN COULD TAKE OVER THE MINE AND REOPEN THE MOTHER LODE!
NOW THAT YOU HAVE THE MAPS, YOU WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING ANOTHER LOAN!
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY NOW! NOT BEING A MINING ENGINEER, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE NOTICED — BUT WHEN CHARLEY DAWS SET OFF THAT BLAST CAUSING THE CAVE IN, HE UNCOVERED ENOUGH ORE FOR US TO PAY OFF THE LOAN AND BUY THE BANK — IF WE WANT TO!

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Dave was a grizzled old mountaineer whose fame as a trapper, Indian fighter and cook was known throughout the frontier. A giant of a man, he was as tough as a brown bear and as cunning as a fox, so it was with some surprise that Marshal Lory found him along the trail tied to a tree.

"What happened, Dave?" the marshal asked, as he cut the mountain man loose.

"Agh!" Dave growled with chagrin. "I must be getting old! I was busy rustling up some grub when two jaspers got the drop on me. Before I knew what was going on they had me hog tied like a yearling!"

"What were they after?"

"My poke of gold dust!" Dave grumbled. "They found it inside my warbag."

"You want me to go after them?" the marshal offered.

"Naw! Anybody who can get the drop on me deserves my poke!" Dave said good-naturedly, as he checked through his duffle to see if anything else was missing. "I can't be bothered with trailing after any outlaws today, anyway. I'm due over at the West Falls Annual Fair tomorrow morning and have to get going. I'm sure glad you came along!"

"Say, that's right! Marshal Lory exclaimed. "I'm going to be one of the judges of the baking contest again this year, too. I suppose you'll win again—as usual—with your sourdough biscuits!"

"You're doggone right!" Dave grinned. "And the only reason I win the contest every year is because of a *certain special something* I use in mixing the biscuits. It's worth its weight in gold! Why, if—" Dave checked himself in mid sentence, his eyebrows squeezing together in sudden anger as he held up a small deerskin pouch. "Wal, I'll be a skinned coyote!" he thundered, pouring the contents of the pouch into his hand.

"Gold dust!" Marshal Lory exclaimed with surprise. "They didn't get it after all!"

Dave's face was a black cloud of rage as he mounted his horse.

"I'm going after those varmints!" he called over his shoulder. "They took something of mine that means a whole lot more than a little sack of gold dust!"

Mounting his own horse, the marshal set out in pursuit, wondering what the outlaws had taken to make Dave so angry.

Fifteen minutes later the pair rounded a bend in the trail and met the road agents riding face to face toward them. Before weapons could be drawn the mountain man was upon them with smashing blows.

"Where's the pouch?" Dave thundered.

"Here it is," one of them stammered. "We were just coming to give it back to you!"

"Huh!" Dave growled, fumbling with the drawstrings on the pouch. "You mean you discovered your mistake and were coming back to rob me of something more *interesting!*"

"I'm mighty curious to know what's in that pouch!" the marshal panted as he tied the outlaws up. "You were so far ahead of me on the trail I couldn't ask you before."

Dave opened the pouch and took out what looked like a lump of white clay.

"It's that certain special something I was telling you about," he explained. "A hunk of sourdough and yeast . . . to make my biscuits rise up nice and puffy!"

Dave glowered at the outlaws. "I've carried a sourdough starter for twenty-five years! You don't come by them handily, and I'd sooner lose a little gold dust than my starter any day! Too bad for you . . . you grabbed the wrong pouch!"

Then Dave laughed at a sudden thought. "You boys got the dough all right, only the wrong kind!"

9-CMW2008

RIVER JUNCTION IS RUDELY AWAKENED ONE DAY AS AN OLD PROSPECTOR ARRIVES IN TOWN...
FORGETFUL FREDDY
YIIIP-PEE!
BLAM!
WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION?
IT'S FORGETFUL FREDDY—AND IT SOUNDS LIKE HE HAS GOOD NEWS!
I'VE STRUCK IT RICH AGAIN, BOYS! I CAME ACROSS A VEIN THAT'S WORTH A FORTUNE!
YOU'VE HIT PAY DIRT BEFORE, BUT YOU ALWAYS FORGET WHERE, WHEN YOU GO TO FILE THE CLAIM!
BURT'S CAFE
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT THIS TIME, I DREW A MAP AND IT'S RIGHT HERE IN MY WARBAG!
LOOKS LIKE A CHANCE FOR US TO JUMP A CLAIM! ALL WE NEED IS THAT MAP!
TOO BAD THERE ISN'T AN ASSAY OFFICE IN TOWN HERE! IT'D SAVE YOU SOME WALKING!
WELL, TWIN FORKS ISN'T FAR FROM HERE! SOON AS I GET SOME GRUB, I'LL BE HEADING THERE TO FILE MY CLAIM!
COME ON, I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT MY STRIKE WHILE I'M EATING!
SAY, IF YOU'RE PACKING ORE SAMPLES, YOU'D BETTER BRING THEM WITH YOU BEFORE SOMEBODY WALKS OFF WITH THEM!

NOW DON'T THAT BEAT ALL! THERE'S A SMALL FORTUNE IN THESE SAMPLES RIGHT HERE, AND IF YOU HADN'T REMINDED ME OF IT, SOME SKUNK COULD HAVE TAKEN THEM!
I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR BURRO, FREDDY, SO THAT WON'T BE STOLEN, EITHER!
THANKS A LOT, PETE!
CAN YOU BE SURE THAT HE TOOK THE SAMPLES BUT FORGOT THE WARBAG WITH THE MAP IN IT?
THE OTHERS WERE SO EXCITED THEY DIDN'T NOTICE EITHER! IF WE CAN GET THAT MAP WE CAN FILE THE CLAIM!
YOU GO INSIDE THE CAFE AND START A RUCKUS TO GET EVERYBODY'S ATTENTION! LEAVE THE REST TO US!
WE'LL MEET YOU LATER OVER AT TWIN FORKS!
AND SO, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YEP! MY WORRIES ARE OVER NOW BOYS! BUT IT SEEMS LIKE I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING! I'M HANGED IF I CAN THINK OF WHAT IT IS, THOUGH!
RED DELIBERATELY TRIPS OVER FORGETFUL'S FEET...
HEY!
SORRY, STRANGER!

KEEP YOUR BIG FEET OUT OF MY WAY, YOU OLD COOT!
POW!
BUT THE OLD PROSPECTOR'S FRIENDS QUICKLY SPRING TO HIS AID...
THAT'LL BE ENOUGH!
MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE ON THE BOARDWALK...
WHAT IN TARNATION'S GOING ON IN THERE?
WE'LL BE HALFWAY TO TWIN FORKS BY THE TIME THIS JASPER COMES TO!
WHAP!
I'LL LEAVE HIM HERE WHERE HE WON'T BE NOTICED RIGHT AWAY!
I'VE GOT THE WARBAG! LET'S GO!
AND INSIDE THE CAFÉ...
YOU'D BETTER CLEAR OUT STRANGER! WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLEMAKERS AROUND HERE!
I'M GOING!

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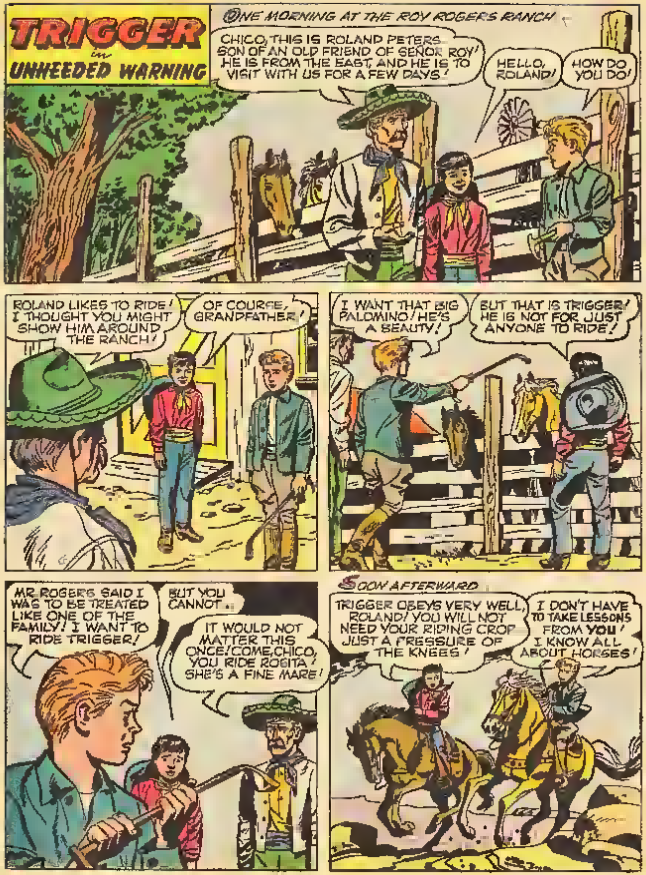
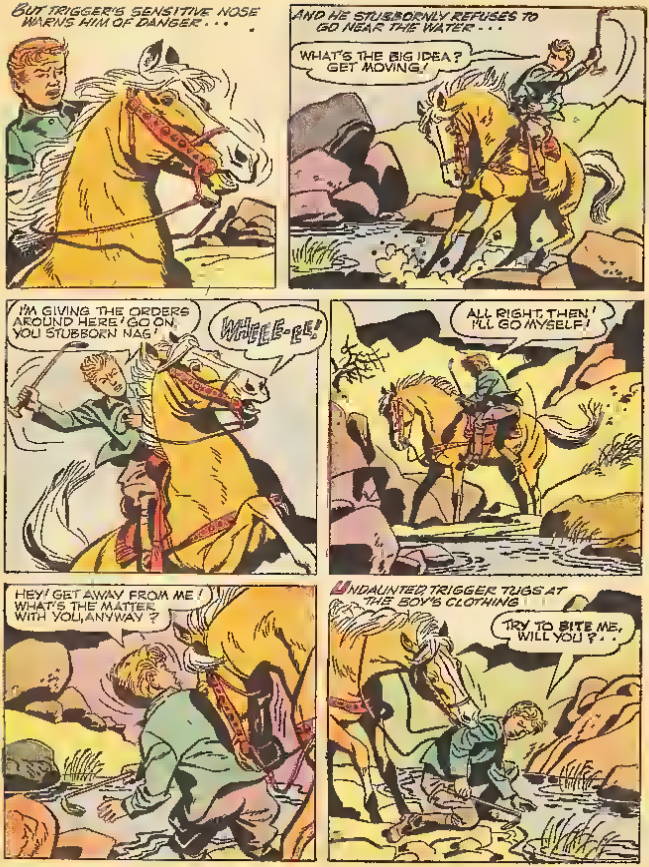
ABOUT TEN MINUTES LATER
SOMEBODY BUSHWHACKED ME AND MADE OFF WITH YOUR WARBAG, FREDDY! I NOTICED YOU'D FORGOTTEN IT AFTER YOU WENT INSIDE, BUT THOUGHT IT'D BE SAFE ENOUGH WITH ME WATCHING!
SOME VARMINT MUST HAVE HEARD YOU TALKING ABOUT THAT MAP!
THAT HOMBRE WHO STARTED THE FIGHT IN HERE WAS PROBABLY IN ON IT, TOO! LET'S GET ON THEIR TRAIL!
HOLD ON! WE DON'T HAVE TO GO AFTER THEM...
SNAP!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? NOW THAT THEY HAVE YOUR MAP, THEY CAN FILE THE CLAIM!
NOW I REMEMBER WHAT I WAS TRYING TO THINK OF BEFORE!
ON THE WAY TO TOWN, I TOOK THE MAP OUT TO HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT IT AND I FORGOT TO PUT IT BACK IN THE WARBAG - I STUCK IT IN MY SHIRT!
I'D SURE LIKE TO SEE THOSE JASPERS' FACES WHEN THEY OPEN THAT BAG AND FIND OUT JUST HOW FORGETFUL I REALLY AM!


TRIGGER
in
UNHEEDED WARNING
ONE MORNING AT THE ROY ROGERS RANCH
CHICO, THIS IS ROLAND PETERS SON OF AN OLD FRIEND OF SENOR ROY! HE IS FROM THE EAST, AND HE IS TO VISIT WITH US FOR A FEW DAYS.!
HELLO, ROLAND!
HOW DO YOU DO!
ROLAND LIKES TO RIDE! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT SHOW HIM AROUND THE RANCH!
OF COURSE, GRANDFATHER!
I WANT THAT BIG PALOMINO! HE'S A BEAUTY!
BUT THAT IS TRIGGER! HE IS NOT FOR JUST ANYONE TO RIDE!
MR. ROGERS SAID I WAS TO BE TREATED LIKE ONE OF THE FAMILY! I WANT TO RIDE TRIGGER!
BUT YOU CANNOT.
IT WOULD NOT MATTER THIS ONCE! COME, CHICO, YOU RIDE ROSITA! SHE'S A FINE MARE!
SOON AFTERWARD
TRIGGER OBEYS VERY WELL, ROLAND! YOU WILL NOT NEED YOUR RIDING CROP JUST A PRESSURE OF THE KNEES!
I DON'T HAVE TO TAKE LESSONS FROM YOU! I KNOW ALL ABOUT HORSES!

YES, BUT
MY FATHER TAUGHT ME THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO LET THE HORSE KNOW YOU'RE HIS MASTER!
COME ON TRIGGER!
NO, NO! YOU MUST NOT!
NOW LET'S SEE HOW FAST YOU CAN RUN, BOY!
WAIT ROLAND! YOU DO NOT KNOW THIS COUNTRY!
(SIGH) I'M AFRAID YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR TRIGGER ROSITA!
AS CHICO FEARS, TRIGGER SOON OUTDISTANCES THE SLOWER MARE
WHEW! SURE IS HOT! GUESS I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT ALONG A CANTEEN OF WATER!
WE'RE IN LUCK, TRIGGER! THERE'S A WATERHOLE DOWN THERE! LET'S HAVE A DRINK!


BUT TRIGGER'S SENSITIVE NOSE WARNS HIM OF DANGER . . .
AND HE STUBBORNLY REFUSES TO GO NEAR THE WATER . . .
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? GET MOVING!
I'M GIVING THE ORDERS AROUND HERE! GO ON, YOU STUBBORN NAG!
WHEEE-EE!
ALL RIGHT, THEN! I'LL GO MYSELF!
HEY! GET AWAY FROM ME! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, ANYWAY?
UNDAUNTED TRIGGER TUGS AT THE BOY'S CLOTHING
TRY TO BITE ME, WILL YOU?

BUT ROLAND DRIVES HIM AWAY
I'M GOING TO GET A DRINK, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT! I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S MASTER HERE! BACK! GET BACK!
WHEEE!
AH H! WATER!
ROLAND! NO! DO NOT DRINK!
THAT WATER IS BAD! IT WILL MAKE YOU SICK!
I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! AND I'M THIRSTY!
LOOK! AND NEXT TIME, YOU SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO TRIGGER! HE WAS ONLY TRYING TO WARN YOU!
GOLLY! I I DIDN'T KNOW!
WATER POLLUTED DO NOT DRINK!
I'M SORRY TRIGGER ...YOU'RE A WONDERFUL HORSE, AND I NEVER DESERVED TO RIDE YOU!
I'LL TAKE ROSITA, CHICO - AND I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE LESSON TRIGGER TAUGHT ME!
IN THIS COUNTRY, IT IS OFTEN BEST TO LET THE HORSE BE MASTER EH MY GOLDEN ONE?

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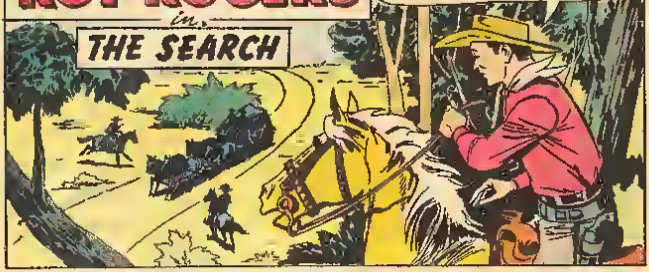
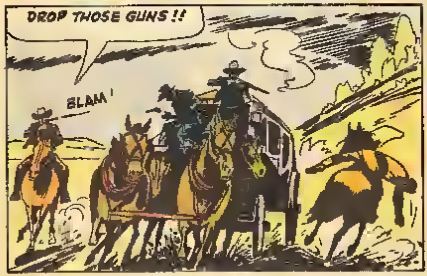
ROY ROGERS

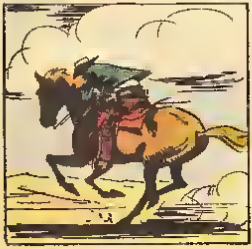
in

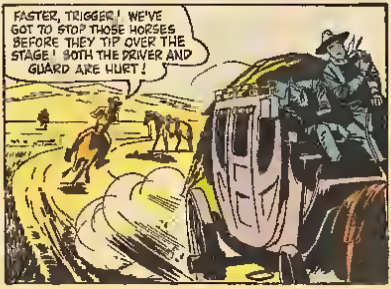
THE SEARCH





THE SECOND BANDIT, HAL BOYLE, IS WOUNDED AS HE GALLOPS AWAY...





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WHOA, FELLA! TAKE IT EASY!!
FINALLY, ROY STOPS THE RUNAWAY TEAMS
STEADY BOY
YOU SURE CAME ALONG AT THE RIGHT TIME ROY! POP'S HURT BAD! THEY GOT ME IN THE ARM!
SETTEE TAKE A LOOK AT THE PASSENGERS,! THERE ARE ONLY TWO! RUFE BAKER, FOREMAN OF BIG TIM TAYLOR'S DOUBLE-T OUTFIT AND A GIRL TRAVELING TO MINERAL CITY!
ROY ROGERS! LUCKY FOR US YOU STOPPED THE RUNAWAYS! MEET MISS KATHY LANE FROM OHIO! ROY'S A DEPUTY SHERIFF AS WELL AS A RANCHER, MISS KATHY!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MISS?
I-I THINK SO!

WE'D BETTER PUT THE DRIVER AND GUARD INSIDE THE COACH... RUFE! THEY'RE BOTH HURT BAD! CAN YOU HANDLE THE TEAMS?
SURE! I'LL TAKE THE STAGE INTO MINERAL CITY!
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
TAKE THE BOYS TO DOC RUFE! I'LL PICK UP THE HOMBRE WHO FELL IN THE ROAD! WE'LL GO AFTER THE OTHER ONE, LATER!
HE'S WOUNDED, SO HE WON'T GET FAR! SEE YOU IN TOWN, ROY!
ROY RETURNS TO THE FALLEN BANDIT...
HE'S A STRANGER TO ME! THERE'S NOTHING IN HIS POCKETS, EXCEPT THIS ODD-LOOKING RING!
THERE'S WRITING INSIDE! "A TO T WITH LOVE"! LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT BE A WEDDING RING!
A TO T WITH LOVE
WE'LL TAKE HIM TO TOWN, TRIGGER! MAYBE THE SHERIFF OR SOMEBODY'LL RECOGNIZE HIM!
LATER, IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN MINERAL CITY...
DOC SAYS THE DRIVER AND GUARD'LL PULL THROUGH, ROY! HOW ABOUT THE ROAD AGENT?
HE WASN'T SO FORTUNATE! THE SHERIFF RECOGNIZED HIM! HE WAS A THIEF AND GUNSLINGER NAMED TOBY STACK!

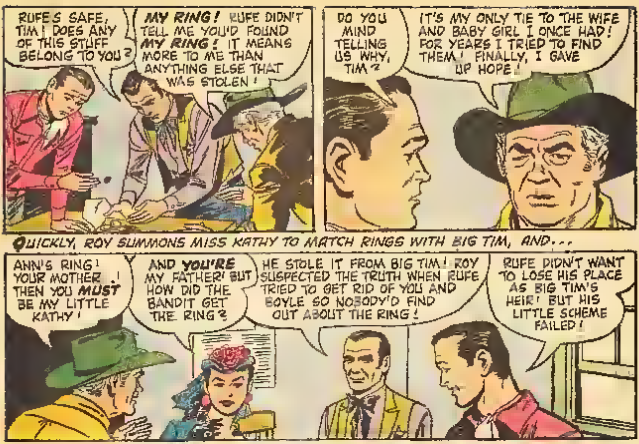
THE SHERIFF'S GONE AFTER THE OTHER ONE! HE FIGURES STACK AND HIS PARTNER ARE THE OUTLAWS WHO HELD UP THE STAGE A MONTH AGO AND ROBBED THE PASSENGERS!
BIG TIM WAS ON THAT STAGE! THEY STOLE EVERYTHING HE HAD!
I'M SORRY THIS HAPPENED TO YOU, MISS KATHY! IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO...?
I'M HOPING YOU CAN HELP ME FIND MY FATHER! HIS NAME IS THOMAS TRENT!
I DON'T KNOW ANYONE...!
HE'S PROBABLY USING ANOTHER NAME! HE CAME WEST TWENTY YEARS AGO... AFTER HE'D SERVED A SHORT PRISON TERM! THE DISGRACE ALMOST KILLED MOTHER!
SHE REFUSED TO COME WEST WITH MY FATHER! SHE MOVED TO ANOTHER TOWN AND CHANGED OUR NAME! I DIDN'T KNOW MY FATHER WAS ALIVE UNTIL MOTHER TOLD ME THE TRUTH JUST BEFORE SHE DIED!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOUR FATHER IS HERE?
MOTHER SAID HE PLANNED TO COME TO THIS TERRITORY TO MAKE A FRESH START! SHE GAVE ME HER WEDDING RING! FATHER HAS ITS TWIN!
THE RINGS ARE EXACTLY ALIKE! THE ONLY DIFFERENCE ARE THE INITIALS ENGRAVED INSIDE! MOTHER'S ARE 'T TO A' THOMAS TO ANN! FATHER'S ARE 'A TO T'
T TO A
WITH LOVE

AFTER KATHY GOES TO THE HOTEL TO REST, ROY SHOWS THE BANDITS RING TO RUFE
GREAT JUPITERS! SO KATHY'S FATHER WAS THAT GUNSLINGIN' THIEF, TOBY STACK!
LOOKS THAT WAY! I SURE HATE TO TELL HER!
I'LL TELL HER, ROY! THE SOONER SHE KNOWS THE BETTER — AND SHE CAN LEAVE RIGHT AWAY TOMORROW!
SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE MIGHTY ANXIOUS TO GET RID OF HER, RUFE!
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NO ROY I JUST KNOW HER BETTER — AND I KNOW SHE'LL BE MISERABLE HERE.
GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, RUFE! BUT BREAK THE NEWS GENTLY!
AFTER FOLKS FIND OUT WHO SHE IS!
A SHORT TIME LATER..
I TOLD KATHY. POOR GIRL! SHE TOOK IT HARD, AND SHE'S LEAVING ON THE STAGE TOMORROW!
I GUESS THAT'S BEST! LOOK, RUFE, THE SHERIFF IS BRINGING IN A PRISONER! IT'S THE OTHER STAGE ROBBER!
LATER..
HERE'S SOME LOOT THAT'LL TIE STACK AND BOYLE TO SEVERAL ROBBERIES! THE STUFF WAS HIDDEN IN THE SHACK!
THAT'S BIG TIM'S WATCH AND WALLET!
HE'LL SURE BE GLAD TO GET THEM BACK! I'LL TAKE THEM TO HIM!
NO, YOU WON'T, RUFE! THEY'RE EVIDENCE! TIM'LL HAVE TO COME IN AND IDENTIFY THESE THINGS!

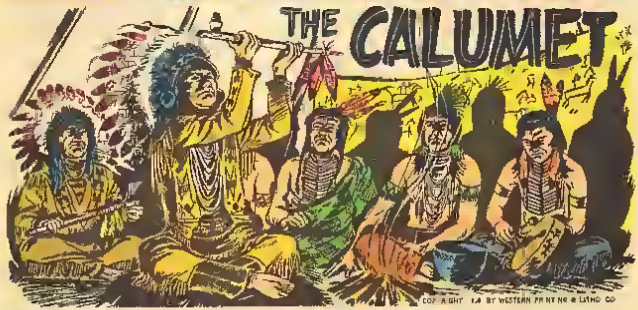
BIG TIM'S AILING, SHERIFF! I'M THE SAME AS A SON TO HIM! WHY CAN'T I DO IT FOR HIM?
BECAUSE TIM'S ONE OF OUR MAIN WITNESSES AGAINST BOYLE! IF TIM CAN'T COME TO THE TRIAL TOMORROW WE'LL HOLD COURT AT THE DOUBLE-T!
I DIDN'T KNOW TIM TAYLOR WAS SICK! HE LOOKED HALE AND HEARTY LAST TIME I SAW HIM!
THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING, TOO! MAYBE RUFE DOESN'T WANT HIM TO COME TO BOYLE'S TRIAL!
WHY WOULD RUFE...?
JUST A HUNCH! I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! I THINK I'LL BUNK HERE TONIGHT... SO I'LL BE ON HAND IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS!
ROY WATCHES AND WAITS IN THE SILENT OFFICE, AND FINALLY, AT MIDNIGHT, HE HEARS THE FAINT SOUND OF MUFFLED VOICES OUTSIDE THE JAIL.
SOMEBODY'S IN THE ALLEY BACK OF THE JAIL! I'LL SLIP OUT FRONT AND CIRCLE AROUND!
WHY ARE YOU DOIN' THIS, MISTER? IF IT'S A TRICK...!
IT'S NO TRICK, BOYLE! I TOLD YOU I WAS TOBY STACK'S FRIEND! HERE'S A GUN! CALL THE JAILER... THEN JUMP HIM! A HORSE IS TIED DOWN THE STREET! YOU CAN MAKE A CLEAN GETAWAY!

GET MOVING FAST, BOYLE! TOMORROW YOU'LL BE FAR AWAY AND FREE... INSTEAD OF HEADING FOR STATE PRISON! GOOD LUCK!
HOLD IT, RUFE! LIFT YOUR ARMS AND TURN AROUND! TAKE IT SLOW AND EASY!
ROY ROGERS! HOW'D YOU GET HERE? — I'LL...
GUN HIM, BOYLE!
HE'S OUTA RANGE...! I CAN'T SEE HIM!
BANG!
BLAM!
BANG! BLAM! BAM!
THIS'LL STOP YOU!

HAD ENOUGH, RUFE?
YEAH!
ON YOUR FEET...AND START WALKING TO THE FRONT DOOR OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER OR I'LL BLAST YOU, ROGERS! TOSS YOUR KEYS INTO THE CELL!
YOU'RE A LITTLE FORGETFUL, BOYLE! YOU EMPTIED YOUR GUN WITH ALL THAT WILD SHOOTING YOU WERE DOING OUT IN BACK!
YOU WIN, ROGERS! BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE WHY THAT STRANGE HOMBRE SLIPPED ME A GUN!
I THINK I CAN! RUFE WANTED YOU TO ESCAPE. SO THERE WOULDN'T BE A TRIAL AND TIM TAYLOR WOULDN'T HAVE TO COME TO TOWN, DIDN'T YOU, RUFE?
I'M NOT TALKING!
EARLY THE NEXT MORNING..
BIG TIM TAYLOR! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO TOWN SO EARLY? THE TRIAL'S THIS AFTERNOON!
I'M LOOKING FOR RUFE BAKER!



THE CALUMET



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Though the 'calumet' is known as the "pipe of peace" among the American Indians, it is used in other ceremonial occasions as well as to ratify a peace treaty. It is smoked to commemorate a youth's manhood, to celebrate a victory, to make an offering to the Great Spirit and to close important meetings.

In the Blackfoot ceremony the pipe is passed from left to right around a circle of smokers who have removed their moccasins. The smoke is first offered to the four cardinal directions North, South, East, and West. Then the meeting is under way.

The French Canadians were the first to give the pipe a name, the "calumet."

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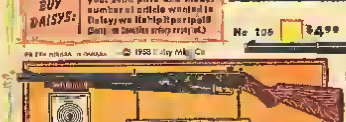

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LANGUAGE LEGEND

Many phrases in use today are far different in meaning than they were on the plains of the Old West. "Dressed to kill" first referred to a cowman wearing two guns; today it means "dressed in the latest fashion."

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Today, we think of a "powwow" as a meeting to discuss differences, but to the North American Indians a "powwow" was a ceremonial dance performed by medicine men to drive off evil spirits and cure diseases.

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