

The Life and Times
of Scrooge McDuck
PART FOUR

RAIDER OF THE COPPER HILL

WHILE STILL A MERE TEENAGER, SCROOGE "BUCK" McDUCK BECAME ONE OF THE BEST COWPUNCHERS WORKING FOR MURDO MACKENZIE, THE CATTLE KING OF THE MONTANA TERRITORY.



WESTERN UNION
SCROOGE MC DUCK - BUTTE - MONTANA TERRITORY
HORRIBLE CRISIS FOR THE CLAN MC DUCK STOP
HOME AT ONCE STOP
REGUS MC DUCK - IRELAND

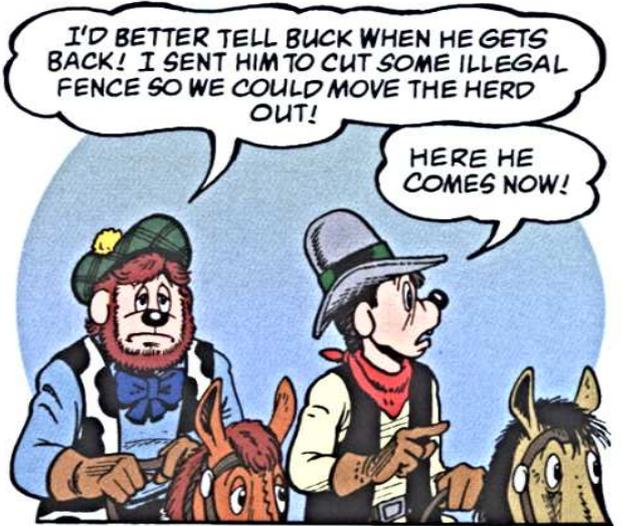
BUT THE "SEA OF GRASS" WHICH SPAWNED THE CATTLE BOOM WAS BEING DIVIDED INTO HOMESTEADS, AND THE ERA OF THE CATTLE BARON WAS FADING FAST.

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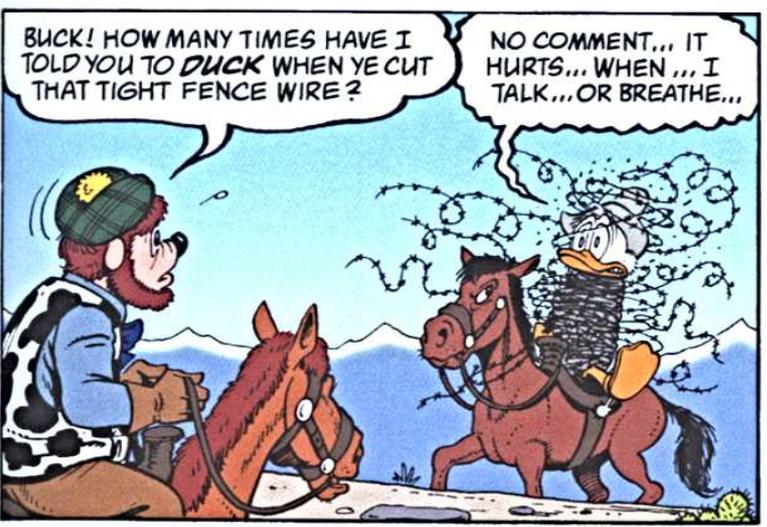
GOSH, BOSS ... THERE'S MORE A' THET DANGED BARBED WIRE EVER' DAY!

AYE! IT'S TIME I GAVE UP AND MOVED MY HERD BACK TO TEXAS!



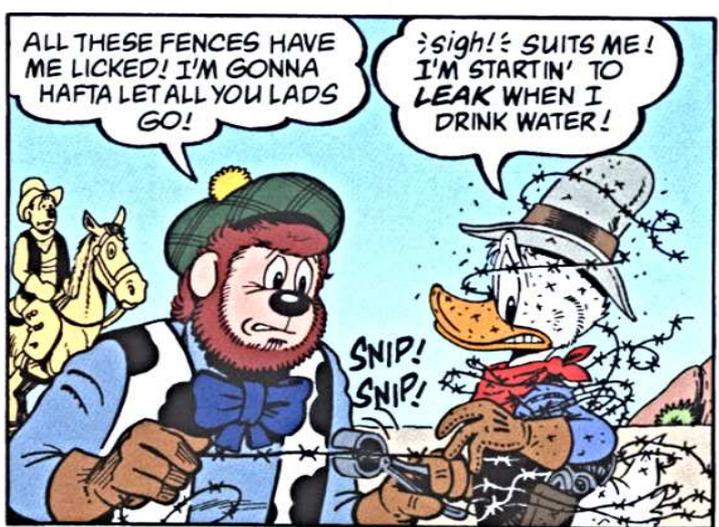
I'D BETTER TELL BUCK WHEN HE GETS BACK! I SENT HIM TO CUT SOME ILLEGAL FENCE SO WE COULD MOVE THE HERD OUT!

HERE HE COMES NOW!



BUCK! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO DUCK WHEN YE CUT THAT TIGHT FENCE WIRE?

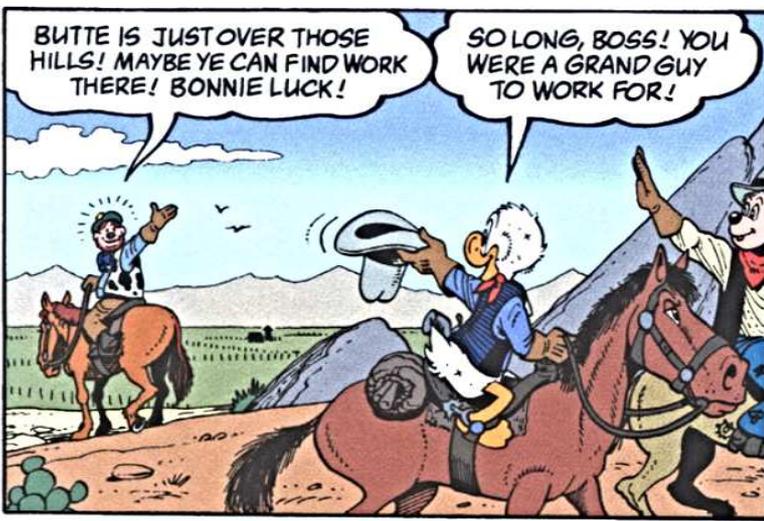
NO COMMENT... IT HURTS... WHEN ... I TALK... OR BREATHE...



ALL THESE FENCES HAVE ME LICKED! I'M GONNA HAFTA LET ALL YOU LADS GO!

~sigh!~ SUITS ME! I'M STARTIN' TO LEAK WHEN I DRINK WATER!

SNIP! SNIP!



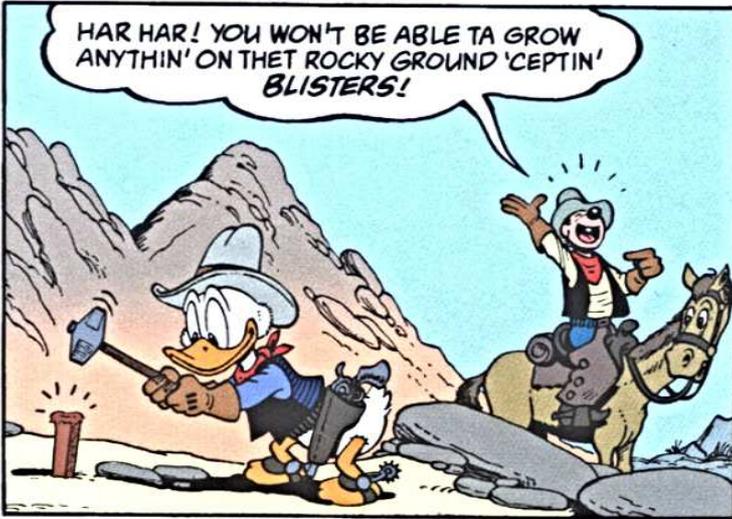
BUTTE IS JUST OVER THOSE HILLS! MAYBE YE CAN FIND WORK THERE! BONNIE LUCK!

SO LONG, BOSS! YOU WERE A GRAND GUY TO WORK FOR!

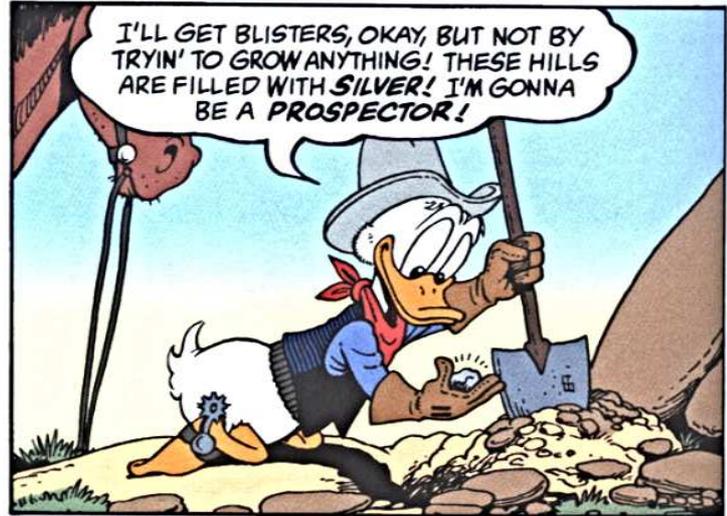


WHAT DO YOU AIM TO DO, BUCK? FIND A LITTLE HOMESTEAD SOMEWHERE?

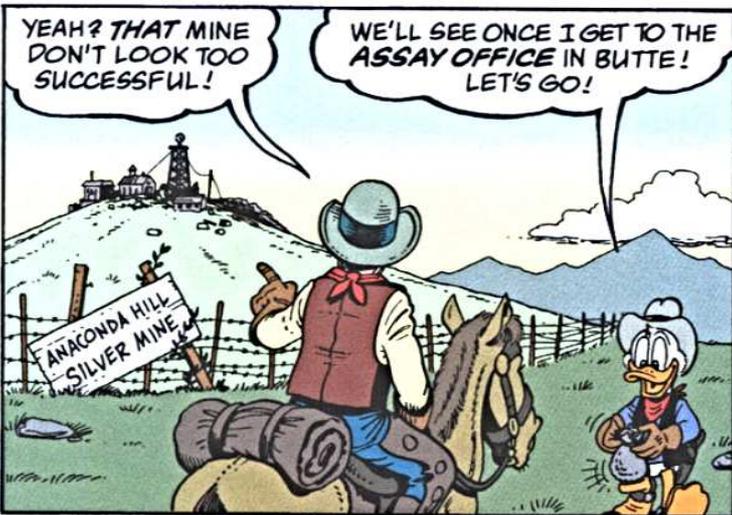
YOU BET! AND THIS LOOKS LIKE A GREAT AREA!



HAR HAR! YOU WON'T BE ABLE TA GROW ANYTHIN' ON THET ROCKY GROUND 'CEPTIN' BLISTERS!

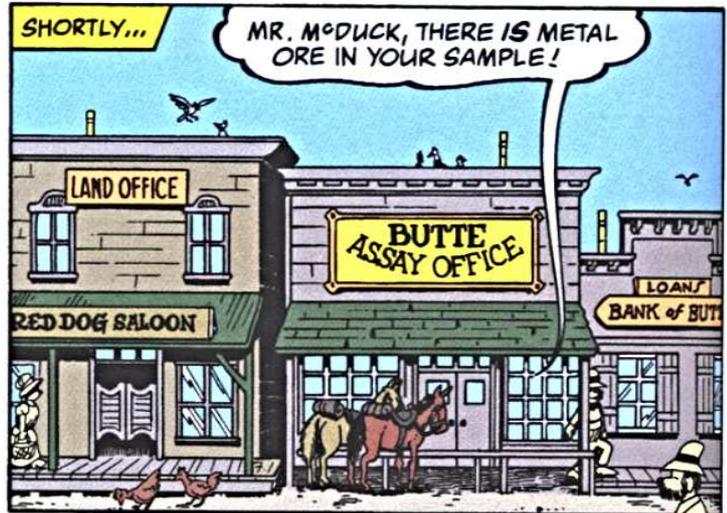


I'LL GET BLISTERS, OKAY, BUT NOT BY TRYIN' TO GROW ANYTHING! THESE HILLS ARE FILLED WITH SILVER! I'M GONNA BE A PROSPECTOR!



YEAH? THAT MINE DON'T LOOK TOO SUCCESSFUL!

WE'LL SEE ONCE I GET TO THE ASSAY OFFICE IN BUTTE! LET'S GO!



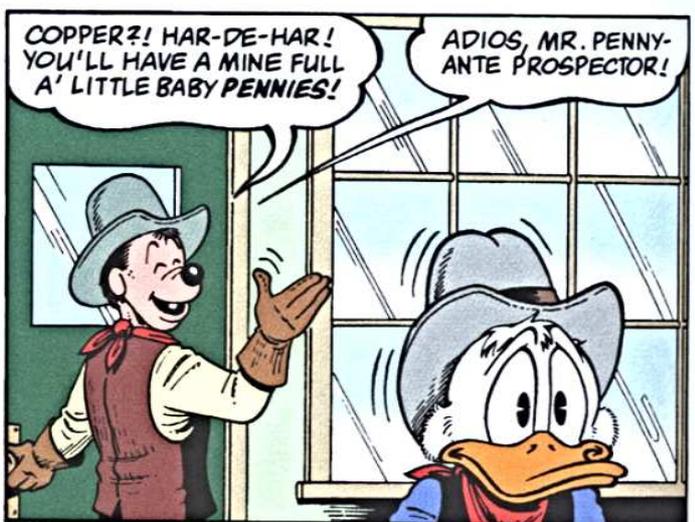
SHORTLY...

MR. McDUCK, THERE IS METAL ORE IN YOUR SAMPLE!



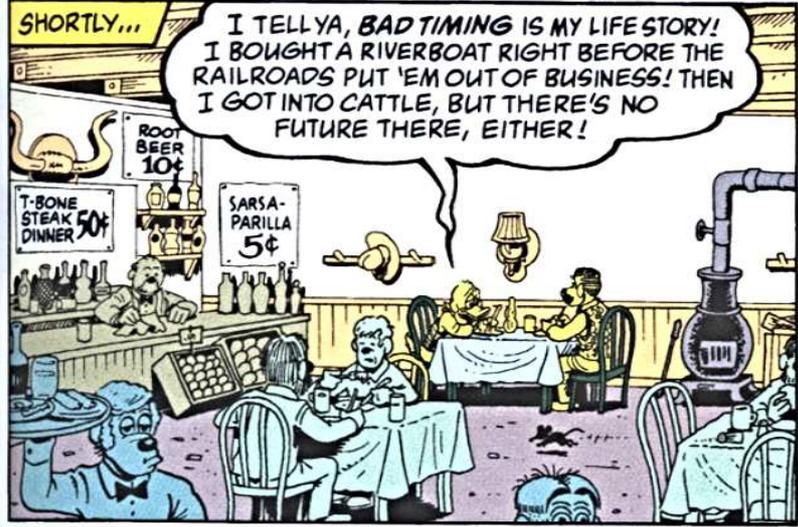
HEAR THAT? MAYBE I'LL HAVE A MINE FULL OF UNBORN GOLD PIECES! OR INFANT SILVER DOLLARS!

YESSIR! YOU HAD A TRACE OF COPPER!

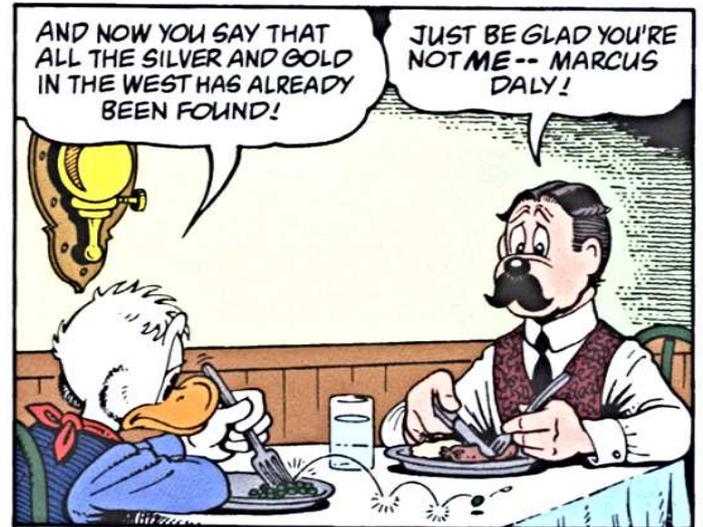


COPPER?! HAR-DE-HAR! YOU'LL HAVE A MINE FULL A' LITTLE BABY PENNIES!

ADIOS, MR. PENNY-ANTE PROSPECTOR!

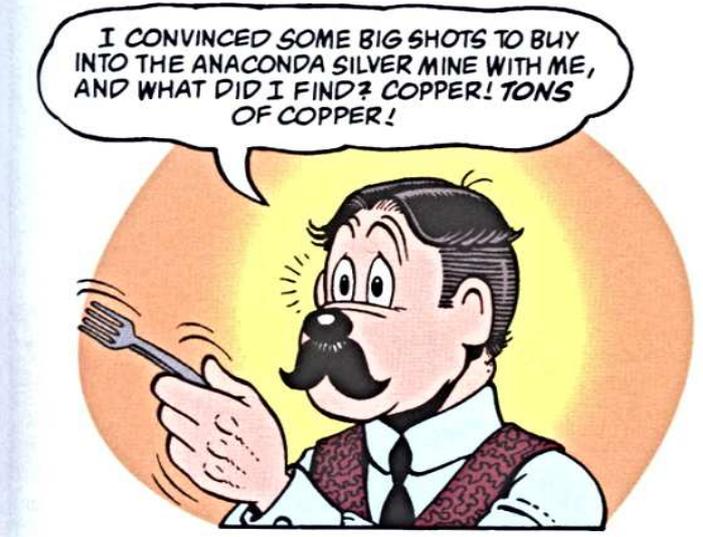


SHORTLY... I TELL YA, **BAD TIMING** IS MY LIFE STORY! I BOUGHT A RIVERBOAT RIGHT BEFORE THE RAILROADS PUT 'EM OUT OF BUSINESS! THEN I GOT INTO CATTLE, BUT THERE'S NO FUTURE THERE, EITHER!

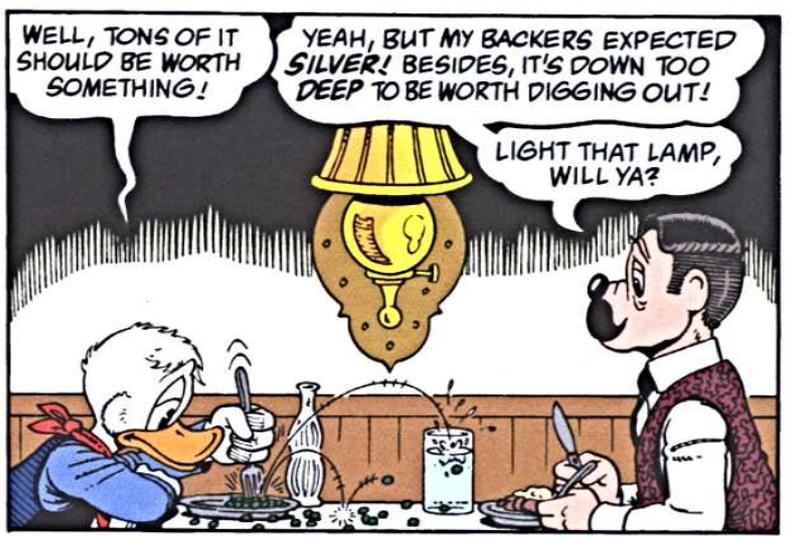


AND NOW YOU SAY THAT ALL THE SILVER AND GOLD IN THE WEST HAS ALREADY BEEN FOUND!

JUST BE GLAD YOU'RE NOT ME -- **MARCUS DALY!**



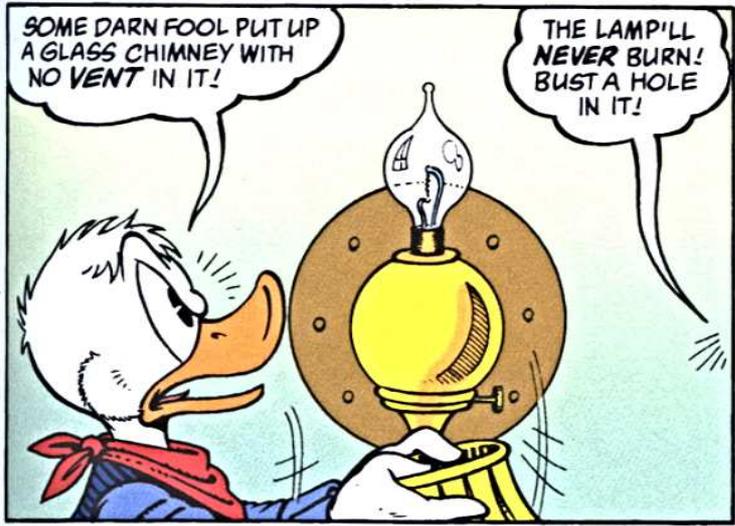
I CONVINCED SOME BIG SHOTS TO BUY INTO THE ANACONDA SILVER MINE WITH ME, AND WHAT DID I FIND? COPPER! TONS OF COPPER!



WELL, TONS OF IT SHOULD BE WORTH SOMETHING!

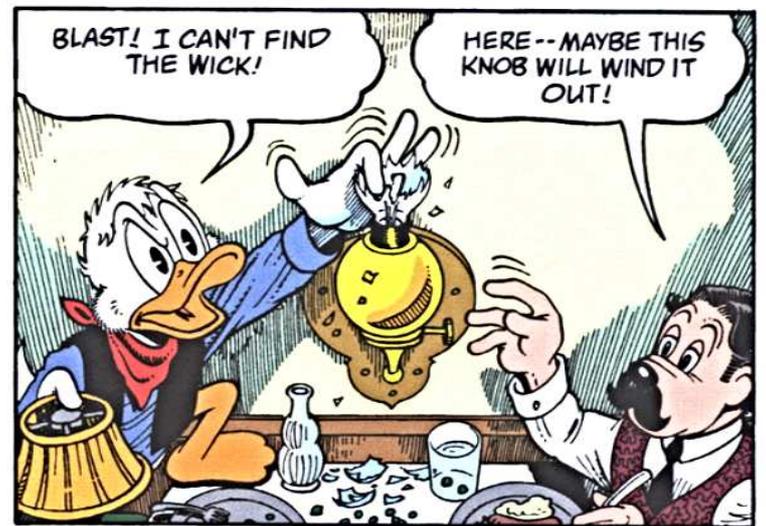
YEAH, BUT MY BACKERS EXPECTED SILVER! BESIDES, IT'S DOWN TOO DEEP TO BE WORTH DIGGING OUT!

LIGHT THAT LAMP, WILL YA?



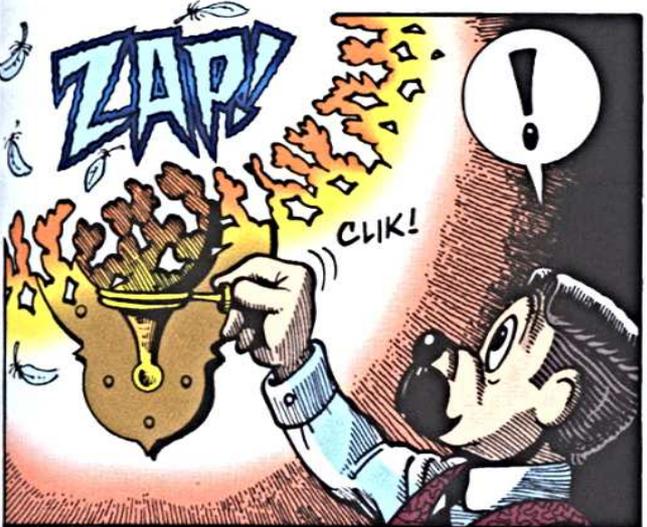
SOME DARN FOOL PUT UP A GLASS CHIMNEY WITH NO VENT IN IT!

THE LAMP'LL NEVER BURN! BUST A HOLE IN IT!



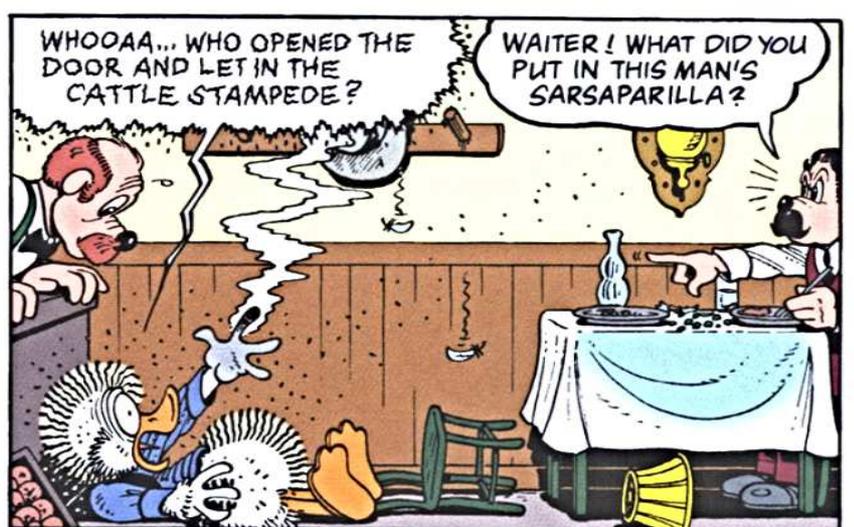
BLAST! I CAN'T FIND THE WICK!

HERE -- MAYBE THIS KNOB WILL WIND IT OUT!



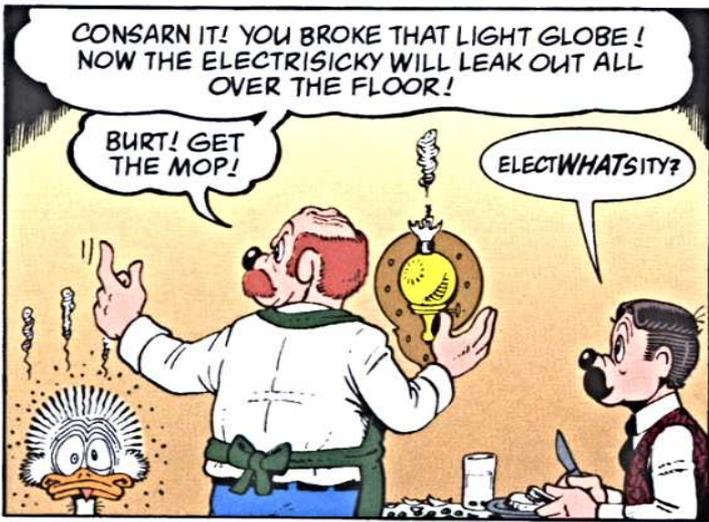
ZAP!

CLIK!



WHOOAA... WHO OPENED THE DOOR AND LET IN THE CATTLE STAMPEDE?

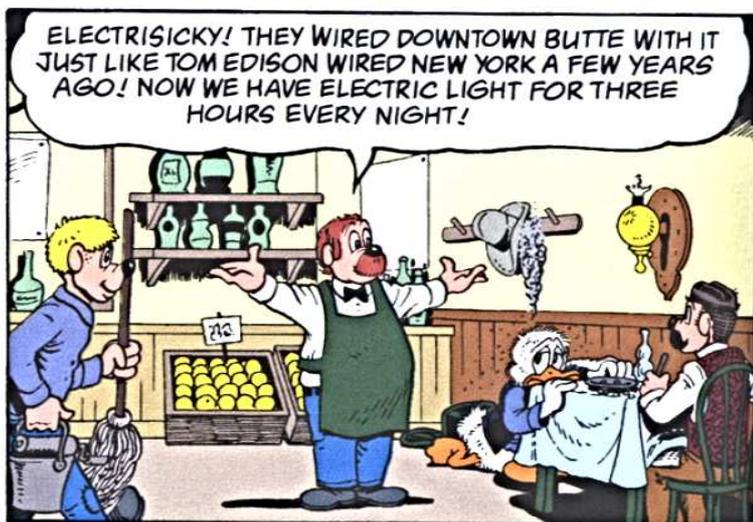
WAITER! WHAT DID YOU PUT IN THIS MAN'S SARSA-PARILLA?



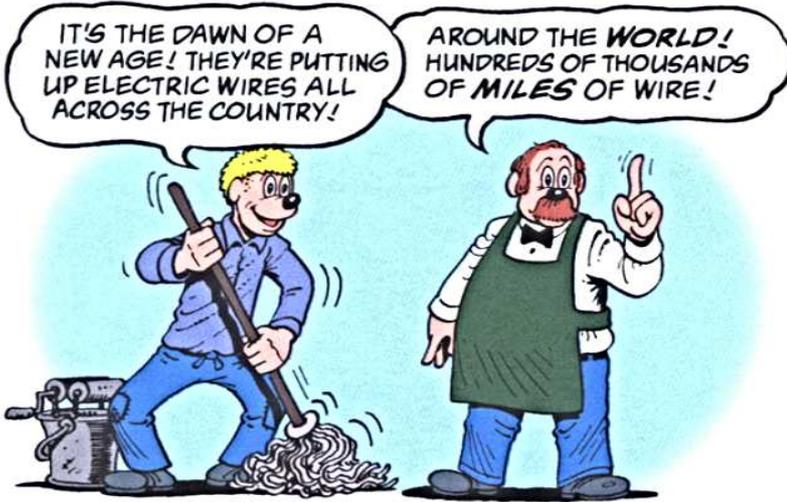
CONSNRN IT! YOU BROKE THAT LIGHT GLOBE!
NOW THE ELECTRISICKY WILL LEAK OUT ALL
OVER THE FLOOR!

BURT! GET
THE MOP!

ELECTWHAT'SITY?

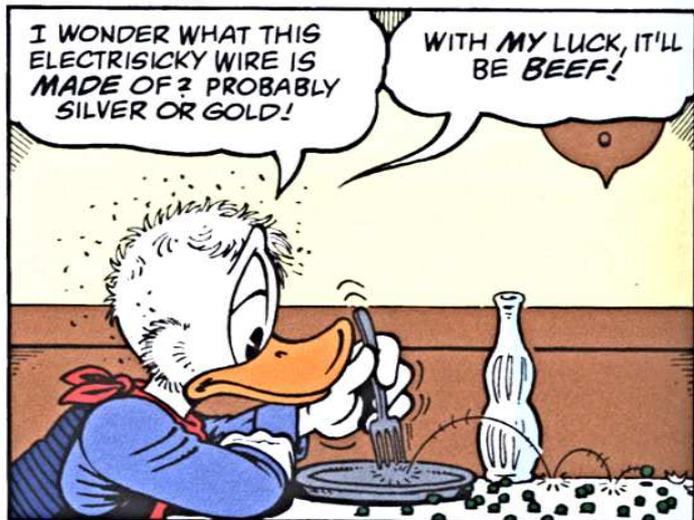


ELECTRISICKY! THEY WIRED DOWNTOWN BUTTE WITH IT
JUST LIKE TOM EDISON WIRED NEW YORK A FEW YEARS
AGO! NOW WE HAVE ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR THREE
HOURS EVERY NIGHT!



IT'S THE DAWN OF A
NEW AGE! THEY'RE PUTTING
UP ELECTRIC WIRES ALL
ACROSS THE COUNTRY!

AROUND THE *WORLD*!
HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS
OF *MILES* OF WIRE!



I WONDER WHAT THIS
ELECTRISICKY WIRE IS
MADE OF? PROBABLY
SILVER OR GOLD!

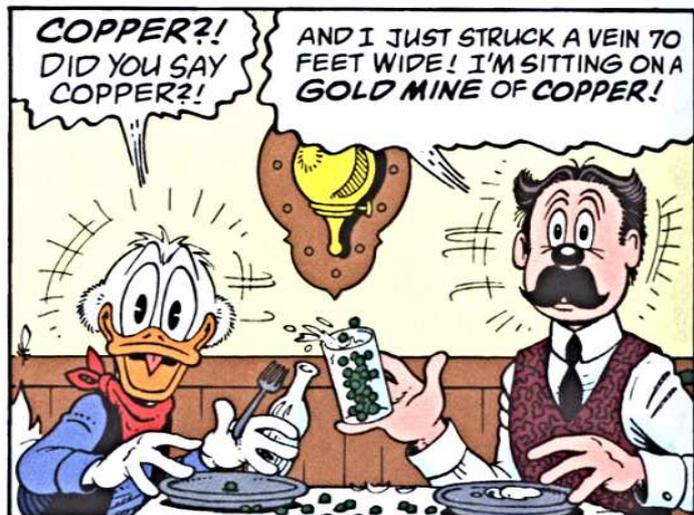
WITH *MY LUCK*, IT'LL
BE BEEF!



COPPER! THEY
NEED SO MUCH,
THE PRICE IS
SKYROCKETING!

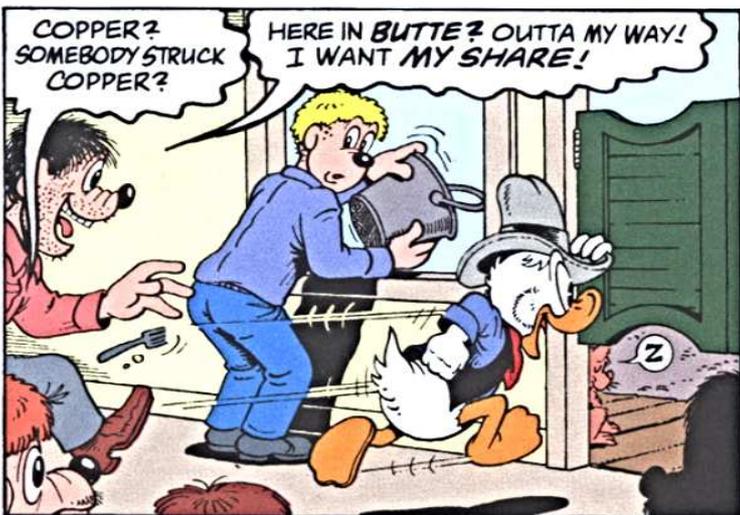
WHAT MAKES
THIS ELEC-
TRISICKY?

MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME-
BODY AROUND BACK
RUBBING A BUNCH OF
CATS BACKWARDS, OR...



COPPER?!
DID YOU SAY
COPPER?!

AND I JUST STRUCK A VEIN 70
FEET WIDE! I'M SITTING ON A
GOLD MINE OF COPPER!



COPPER?
SOMEBODY STRUCK
COPPER?

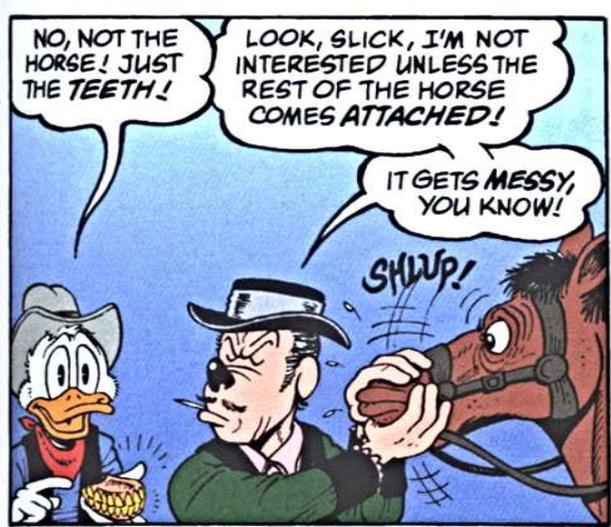
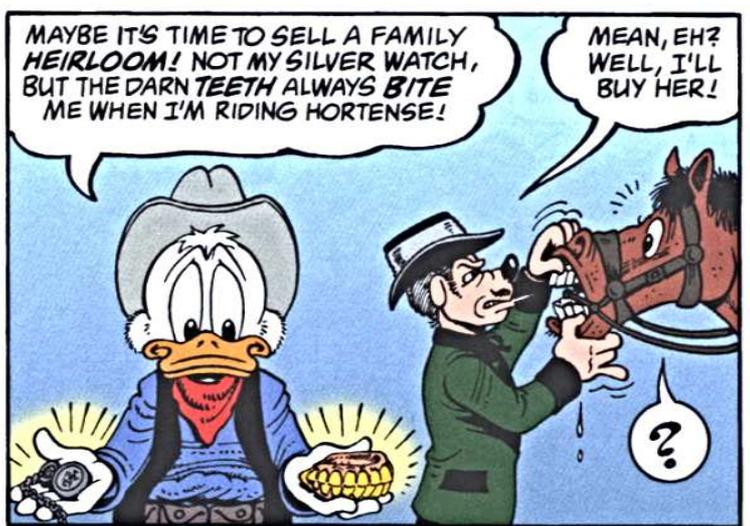
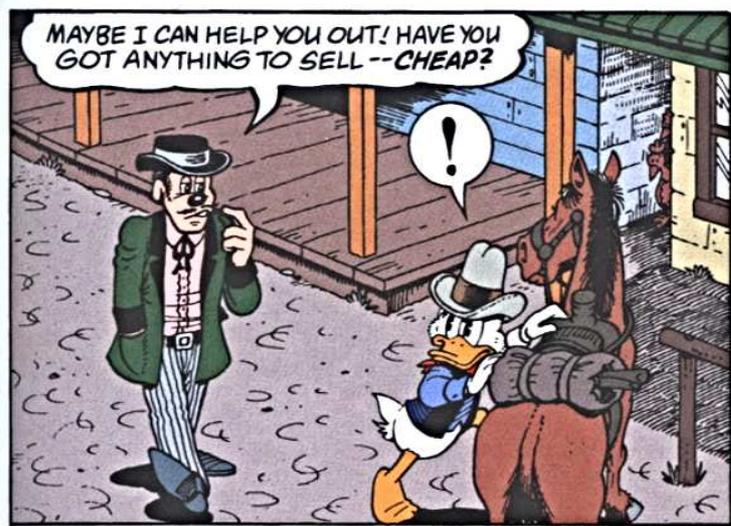
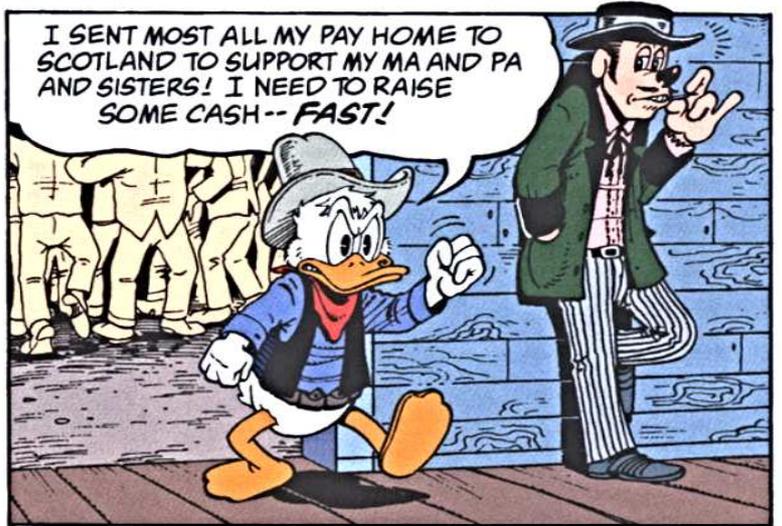
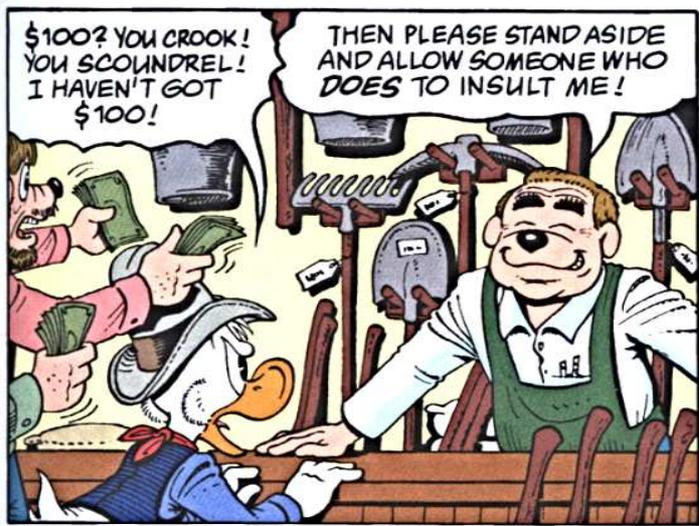
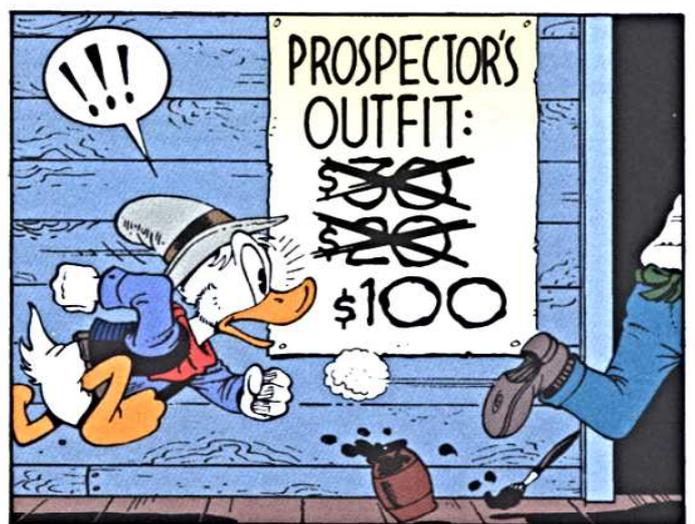
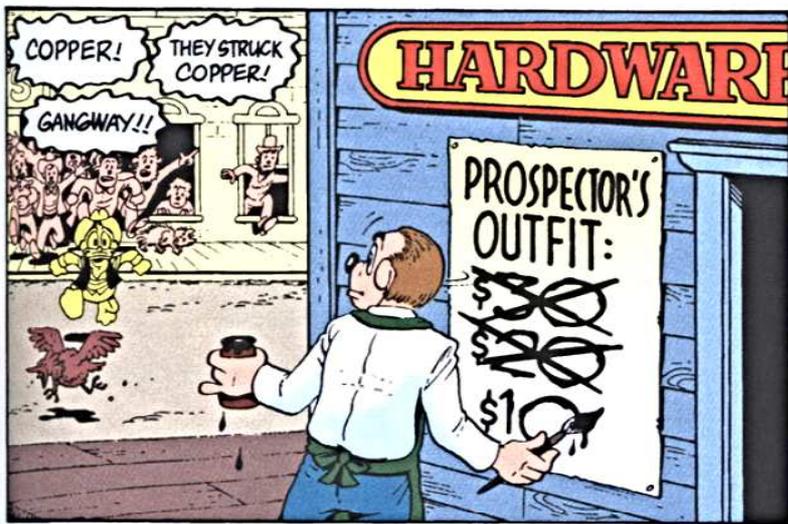
HERE IN *BUTTE*? OUTTA MY WAY!
I WANT *MY SHARE*!



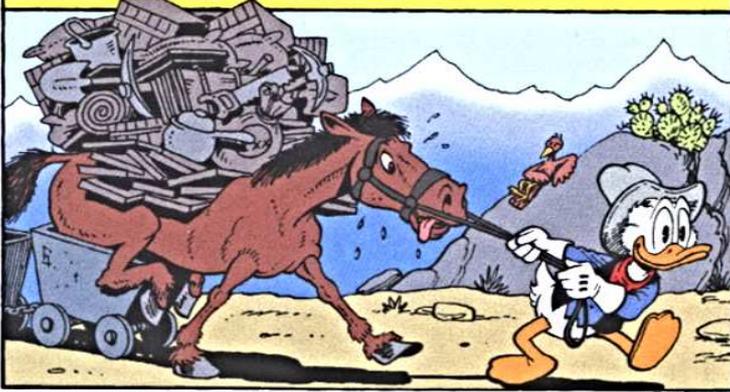
I'M FINALLY AT THE
FRONT OF A RUSH!

OOPS!

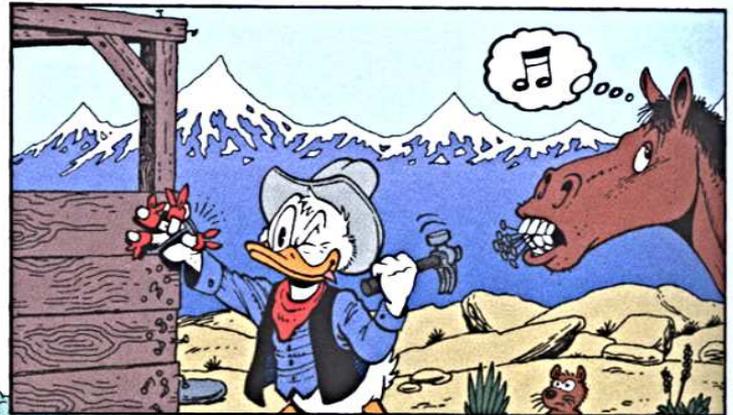
AND I'D
BETTER *STAY*
HERE!



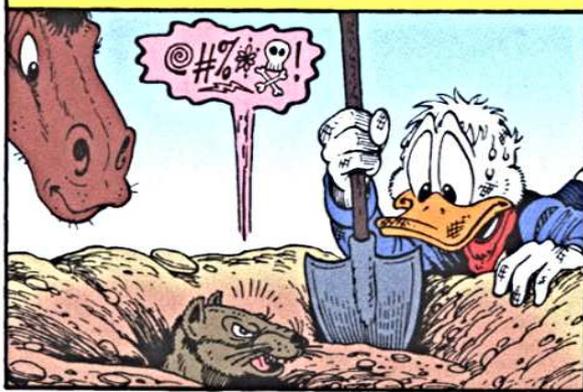
SO THE YOUNG SCROOGE BECAME A PROSPECTOR! THE SALE OF SEAFOAM McDUCK'S GOLD TEETH GAVE HIM ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY AN ENTIRE OUTFIT OF TOOLS AND LUMBER AND ORE CARTS.



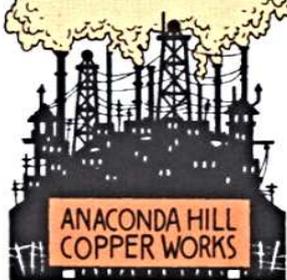
SINCE A MINER OWNED ANY LAND HE WORKED ON FOR AS LONG AS HE LIVED ON THE SITE, SCROOGE BUILT A PORTABLE HOMESTEADER'S SHACK WHICH COULD BE MOVED FROM SPOT TO SPOT.



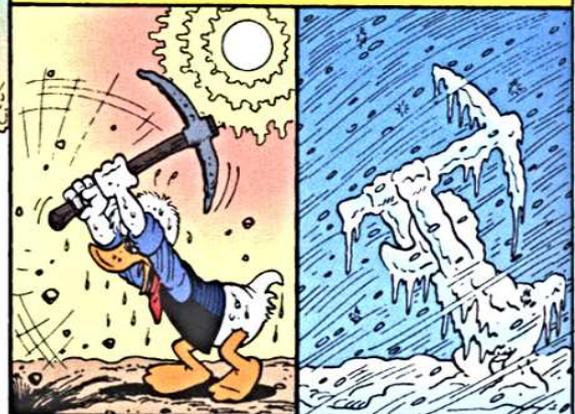
HE HAD HELP LEARNING ABOUT RIVERBOATS AND CATTLE, BUT HE HAD TO LEARN PROSPECTING ALONE! HIS SKILL WAS AS BAD AS HIS LUCK.



MEANWHILE, THE ANACONDA HILL MINE THRIVED! IT BECAME THE WORLD'S LARGEST COPPER MINE, AND WAS NICK-NAMED "THE RICHEST HILL ON EARTH!"



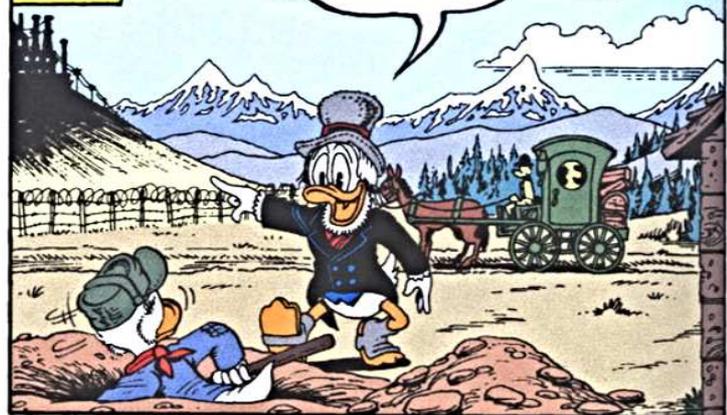
THE MONTHS PASSED, THE SEASONS CHANGED, BUT SCROOGE McDUCK'S DREAM WOULD NOT BE BURNED OR FROZEN FROM HIS HEART.



NO STRANGER TO HARD WORK, THE LAD KEPT MOVING ON! HE KNEW THAT UNDER THAT SCRUBBY LAND LAY ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD'S COPPER, AND HE HOPED THAT ONE DAY HIS LABORS WOULD PAY OFF.



THEN, ONE DAY...



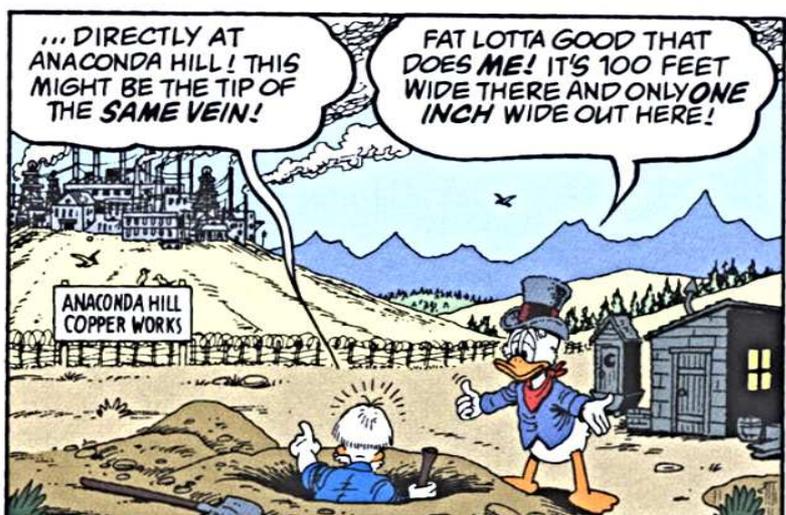
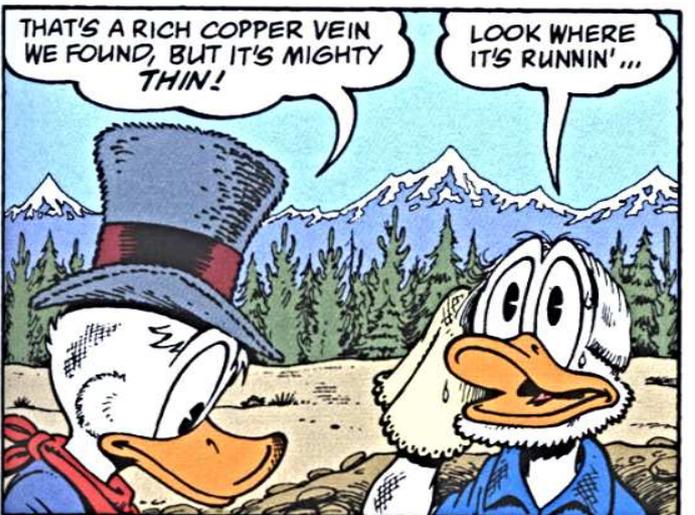
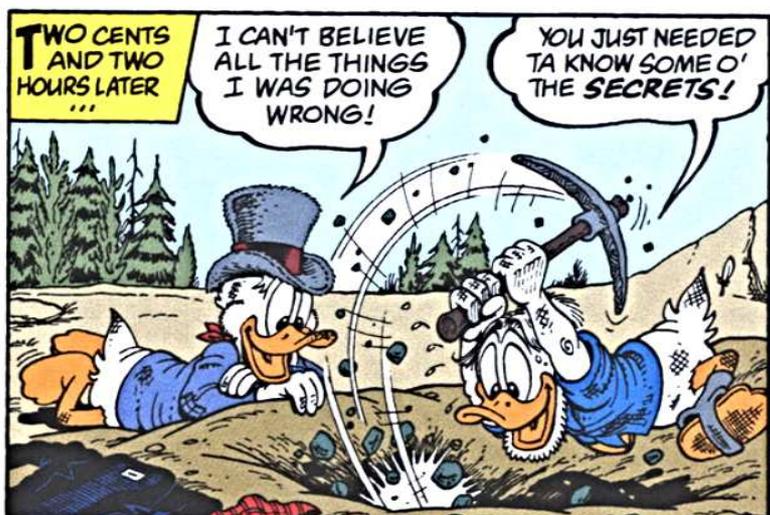
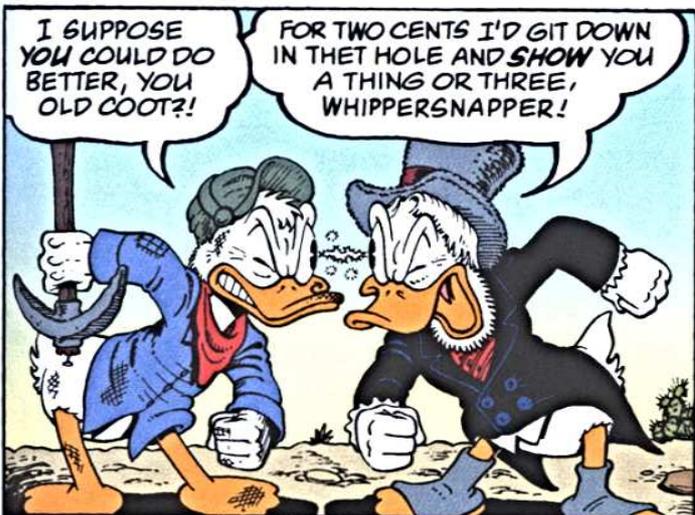
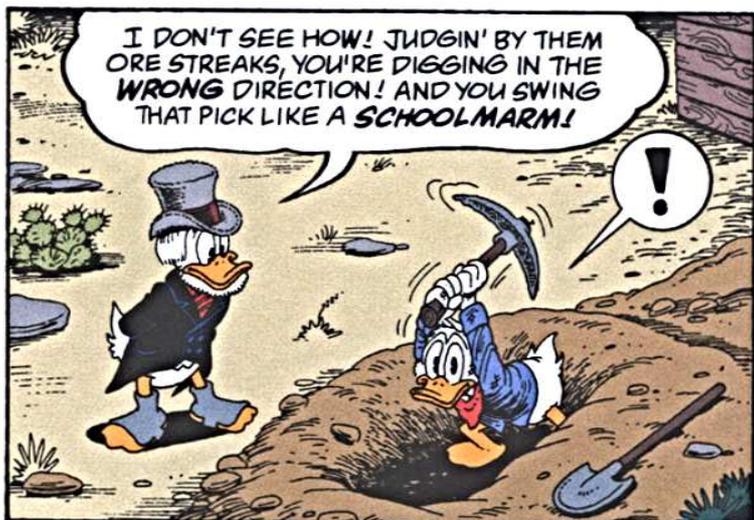
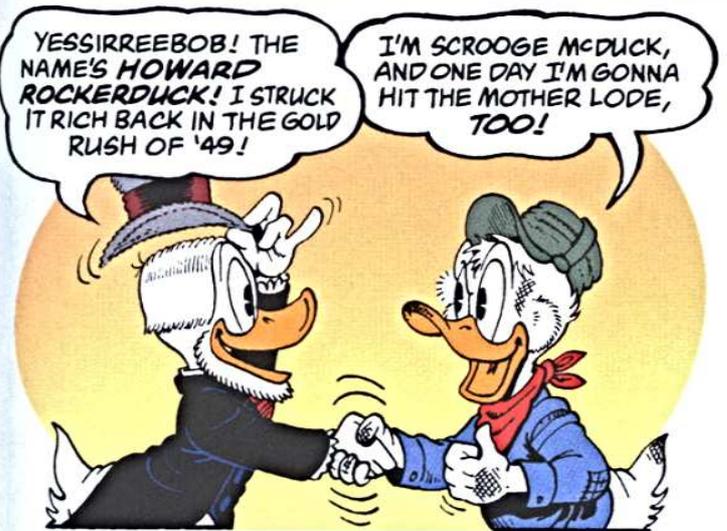
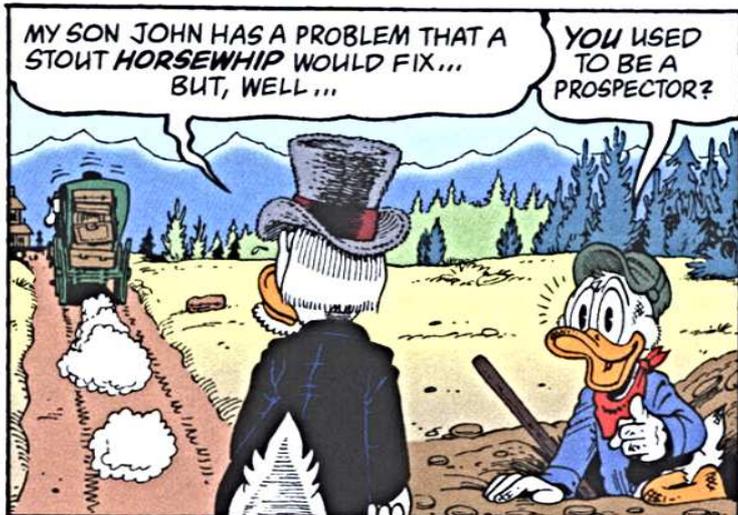
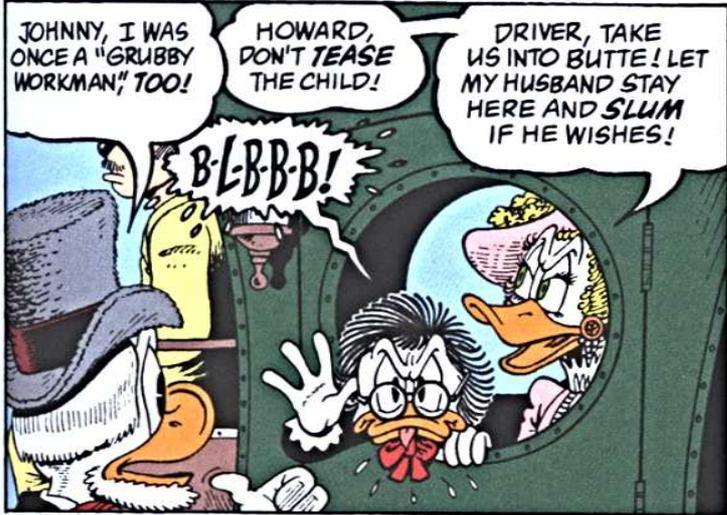
YESSIR, THAT'S HER! IT'S FRUSTRATING THAT THERE CAN BE SO MUCH COPPER UNDER THAT HILL AND SO LITTLE OUT HERE!

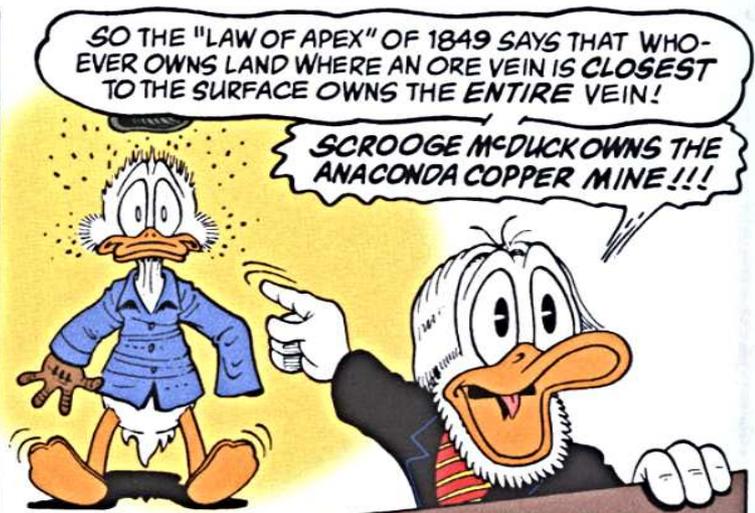
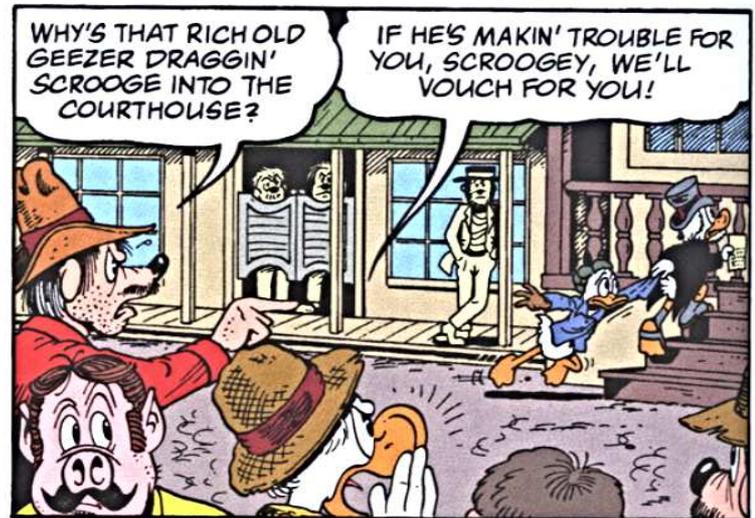
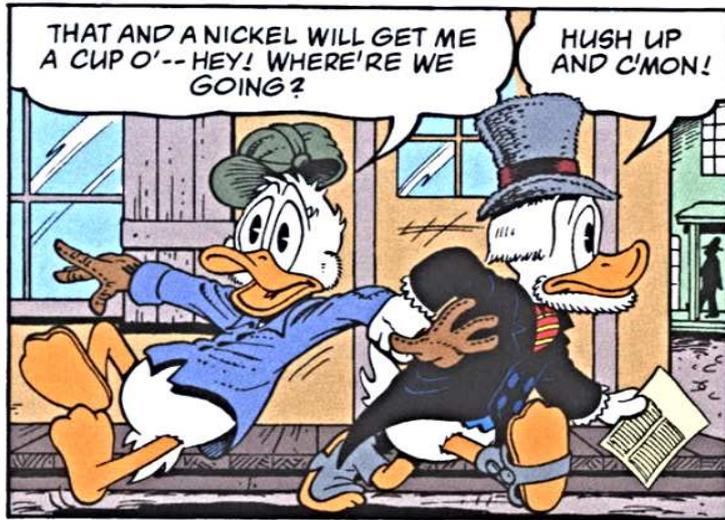
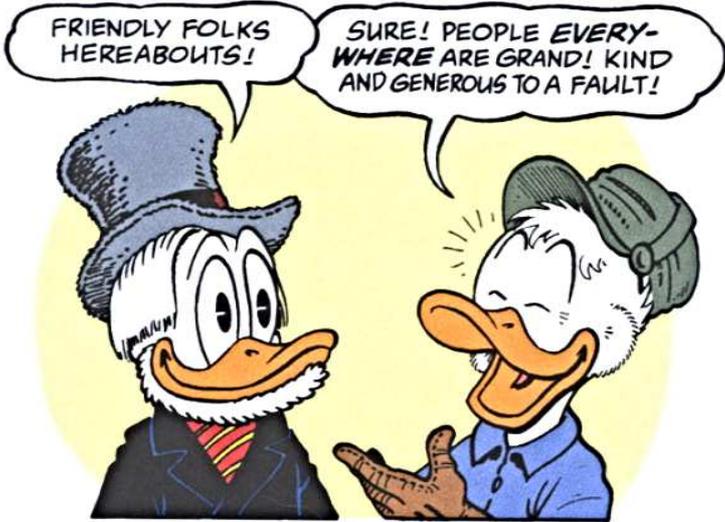
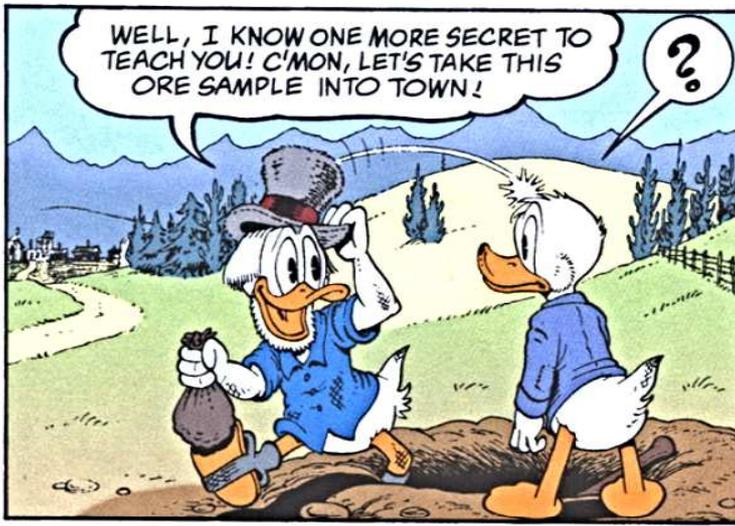


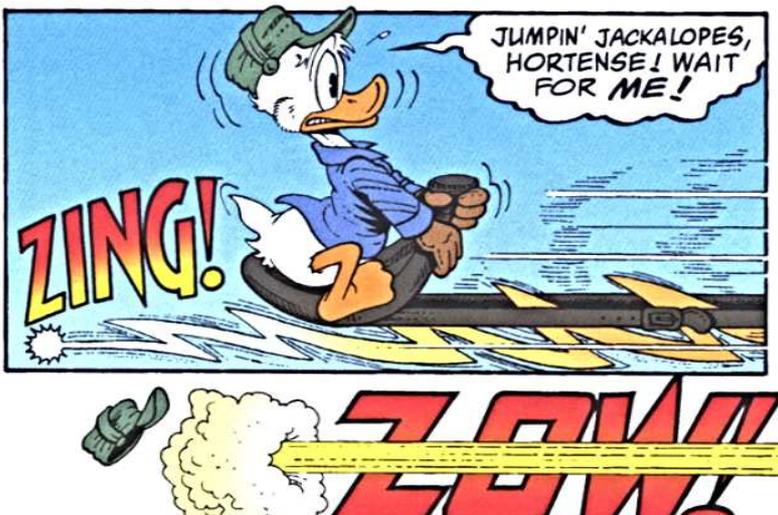
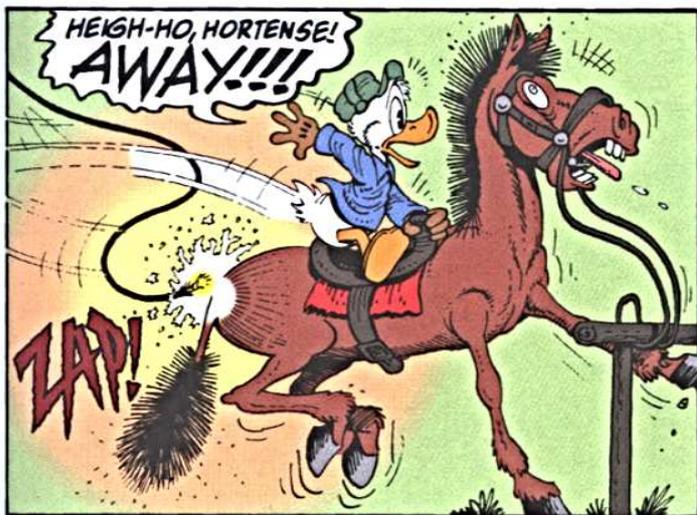
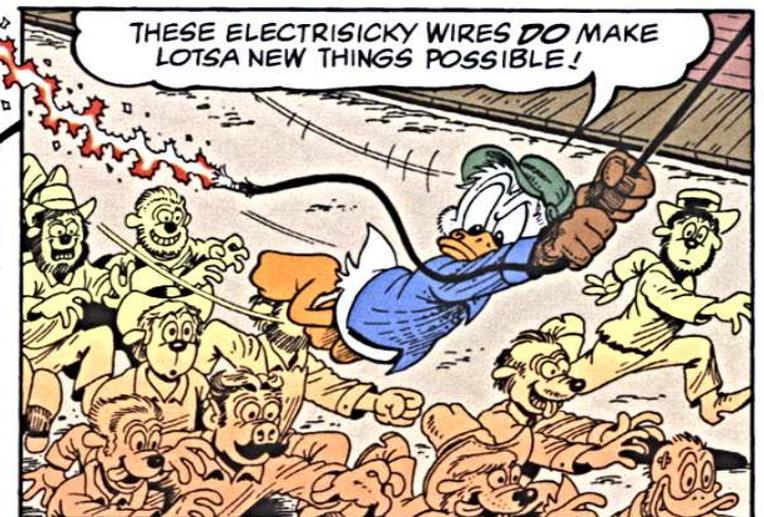
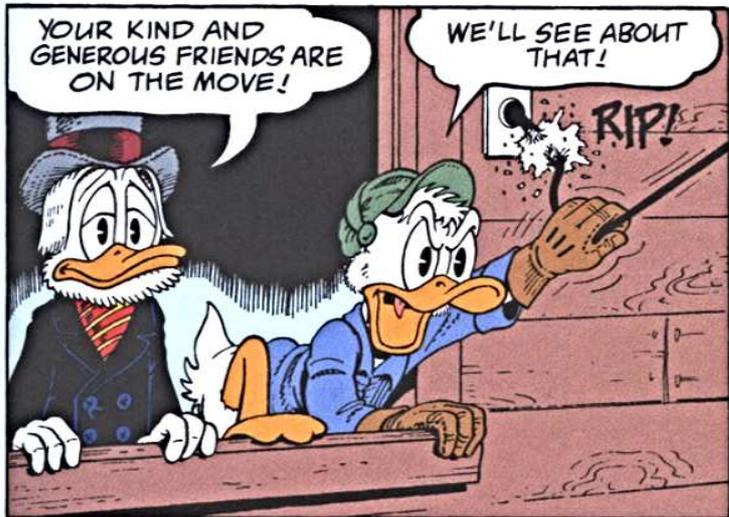
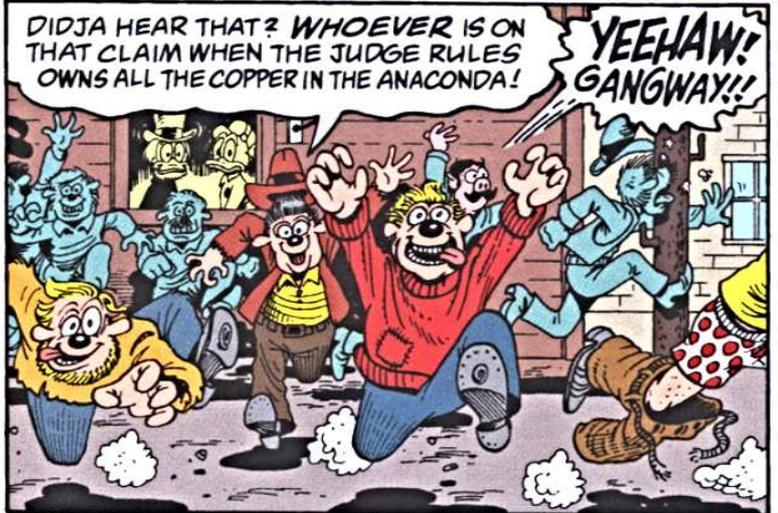
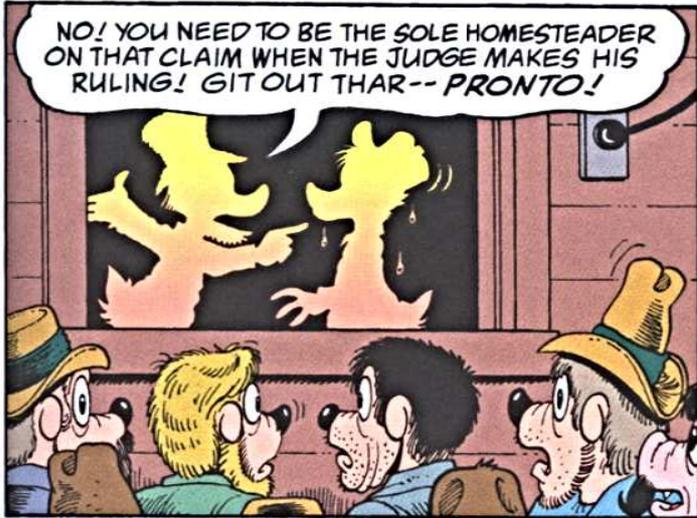
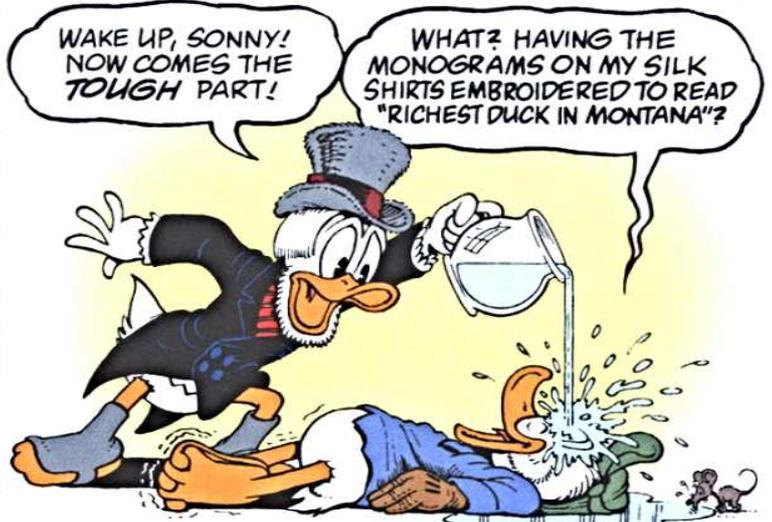
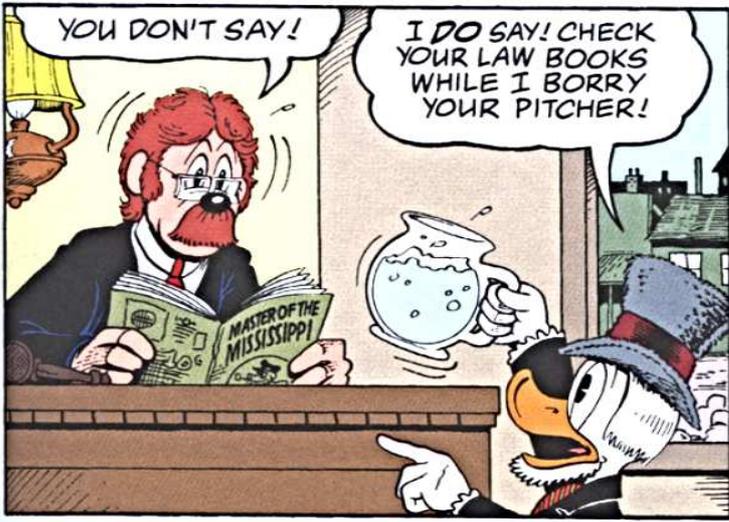
JUST STICK TO IT, SON, AND SOMEDAY YOU'LL HIT PAY DIRT LIKE I DID!

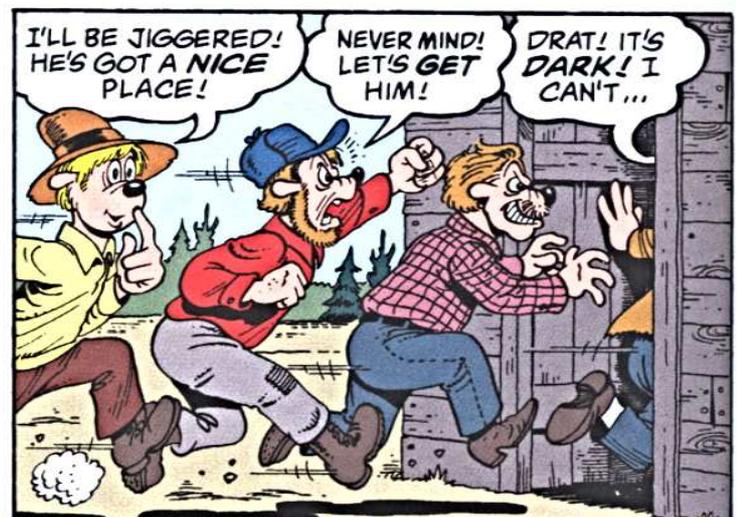
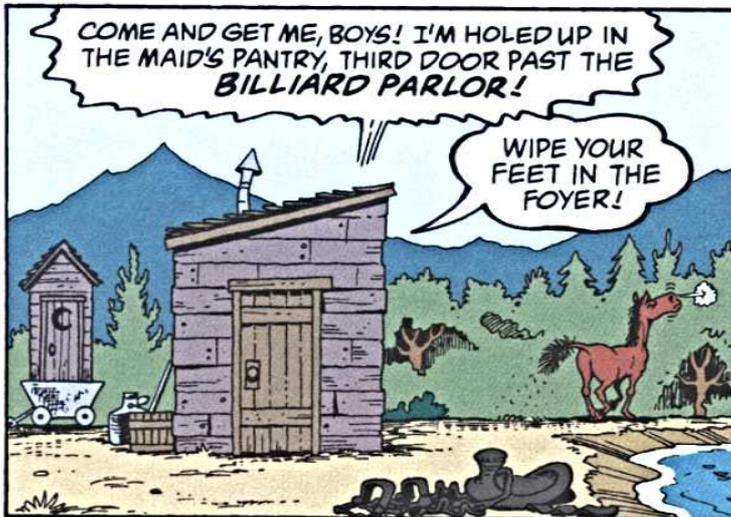
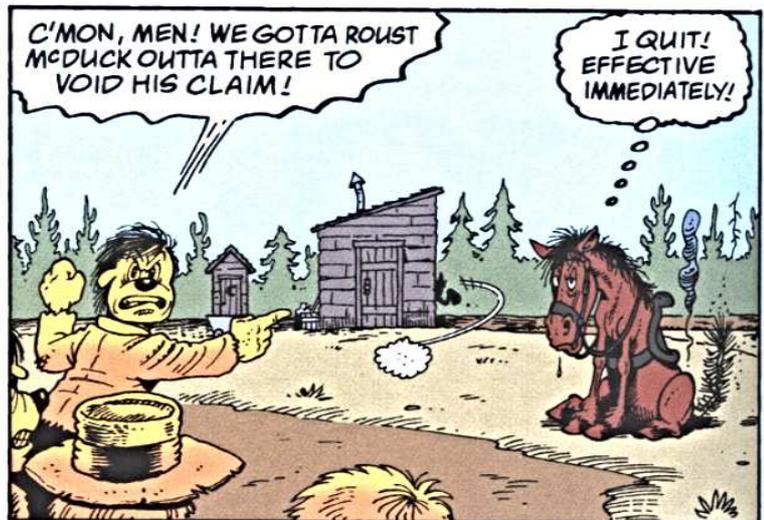
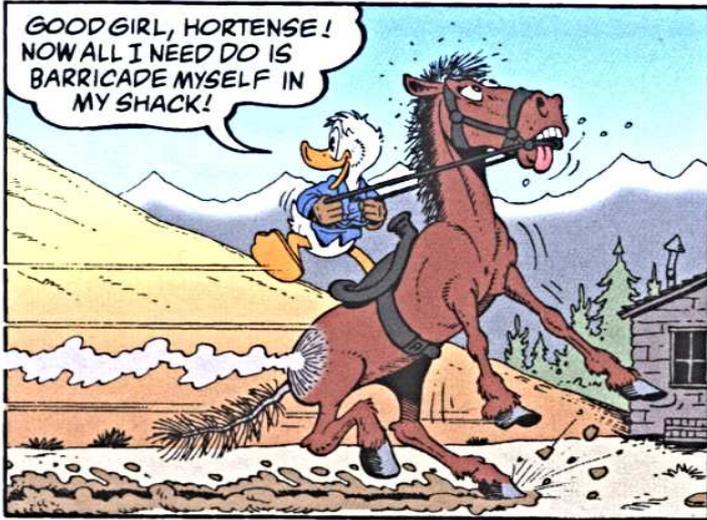
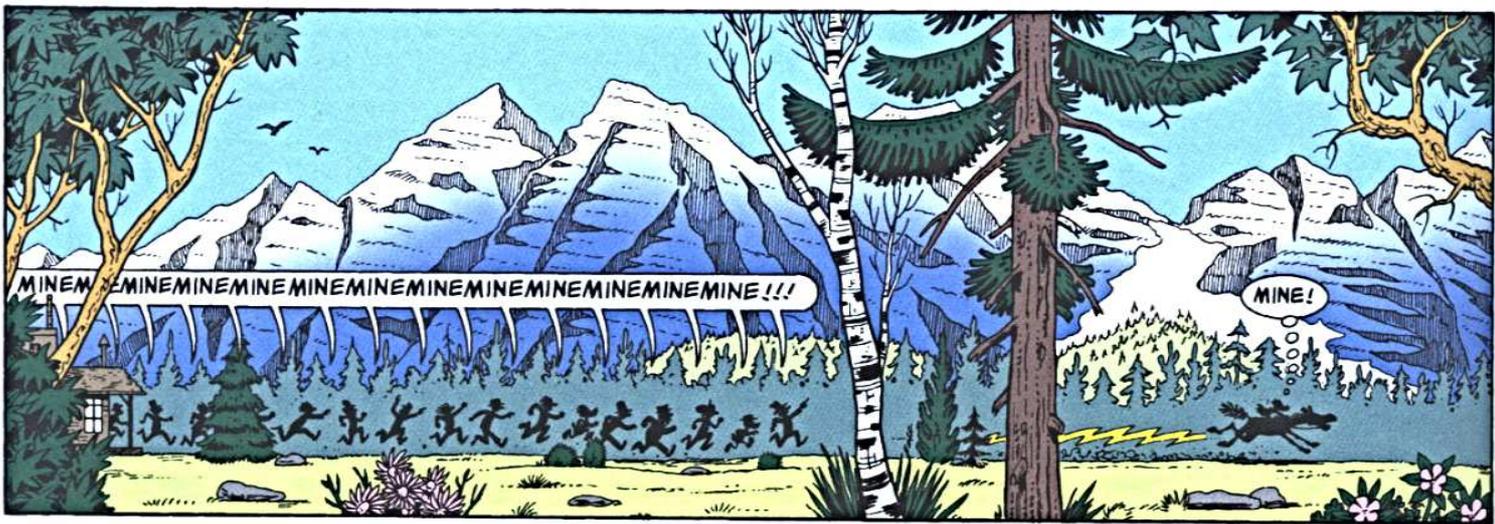
FATHER! STOP TALKING TO THAT GRUBBY WORK-MAN! YOU'LL GET COOTIES!









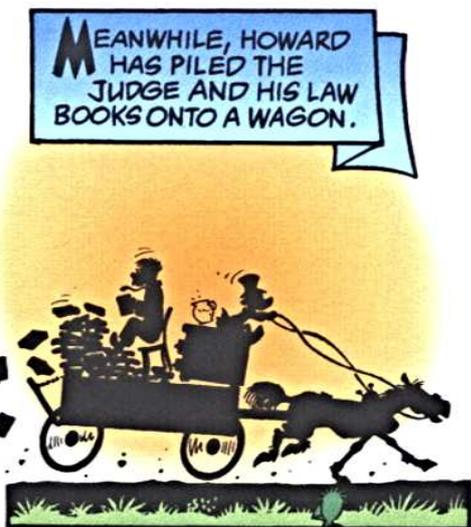




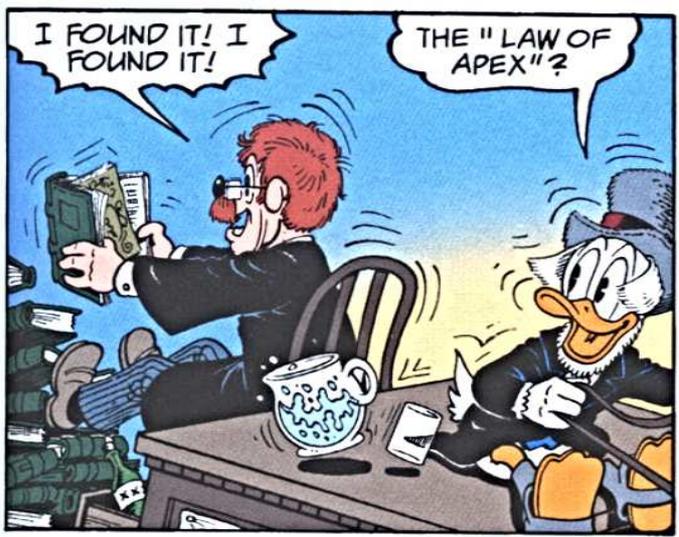
GRRR!!

WHICH DOOR DID HE SAY?
I THINK I FOUND THE
BATHROOM!

INDOOR PLUMBING!
SAY, THIS IS
SWANK!



MEANWHILE, HOWARD
HAS PILED THE
JUDGE AND HIS LAW
BOOKS ONTO A WAGON.



I FOUND IT! I
FOUND IT!

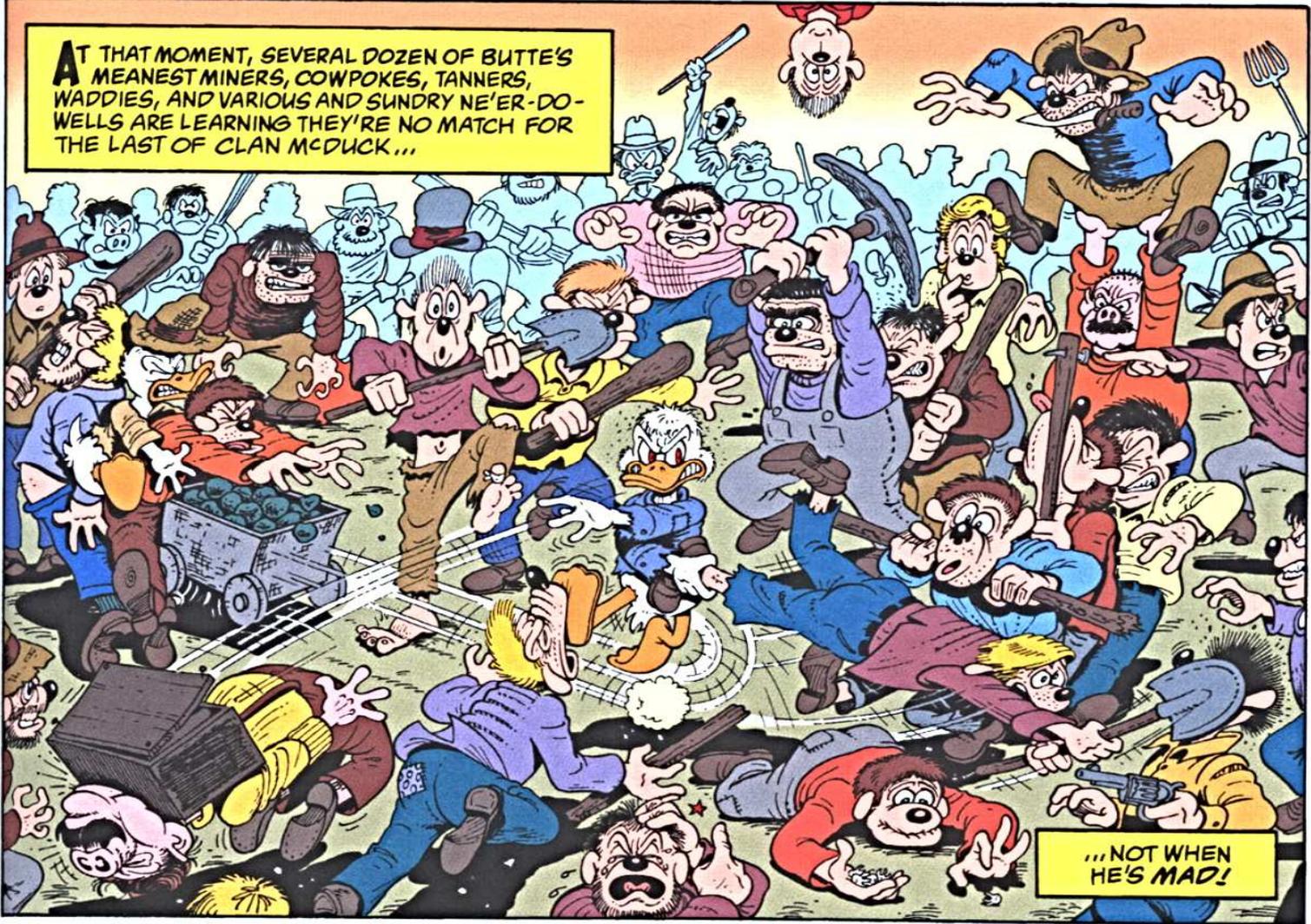
THE "LAW OF
APEX"?



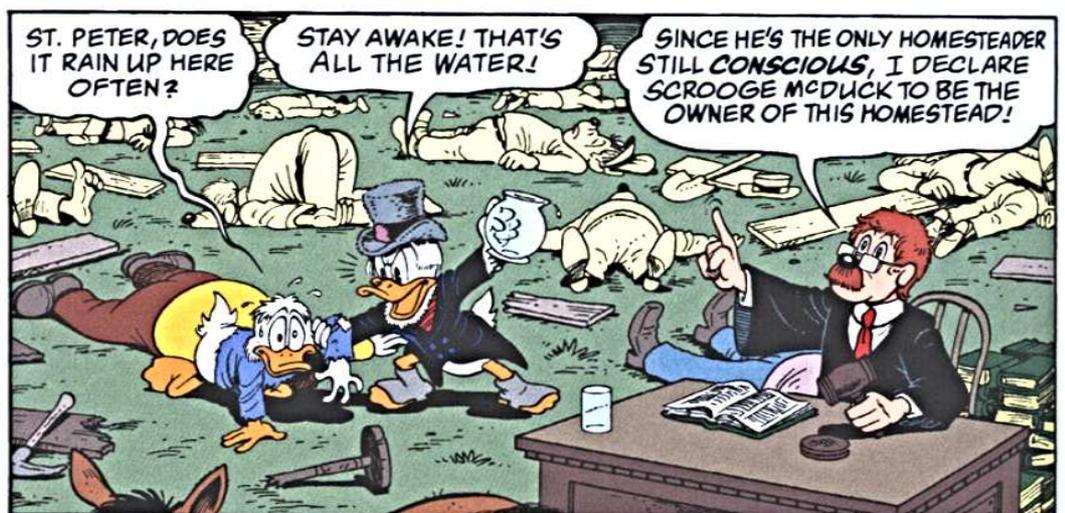
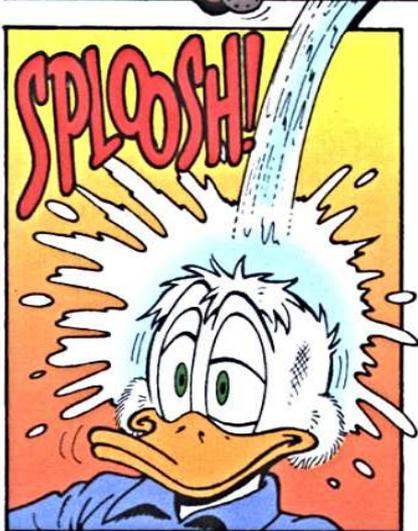
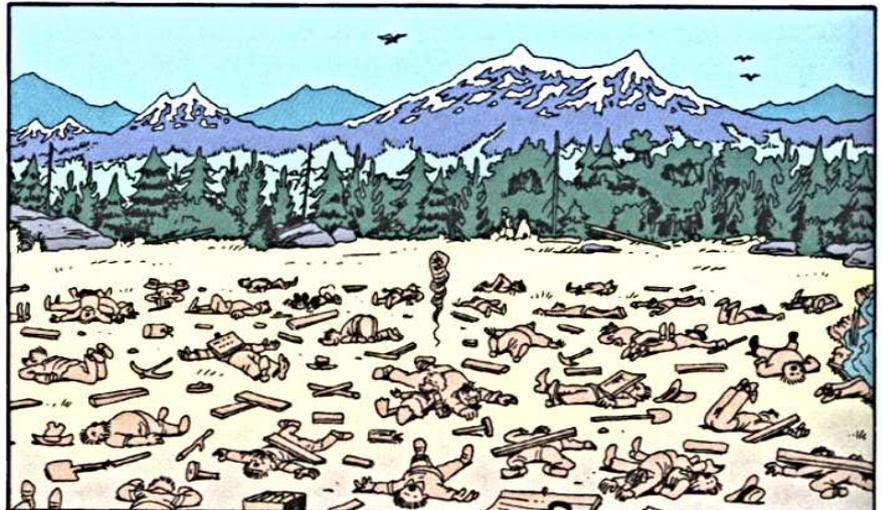
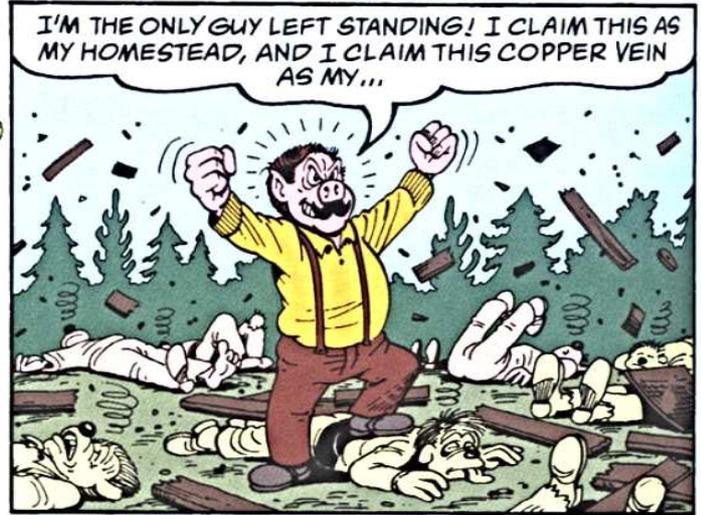
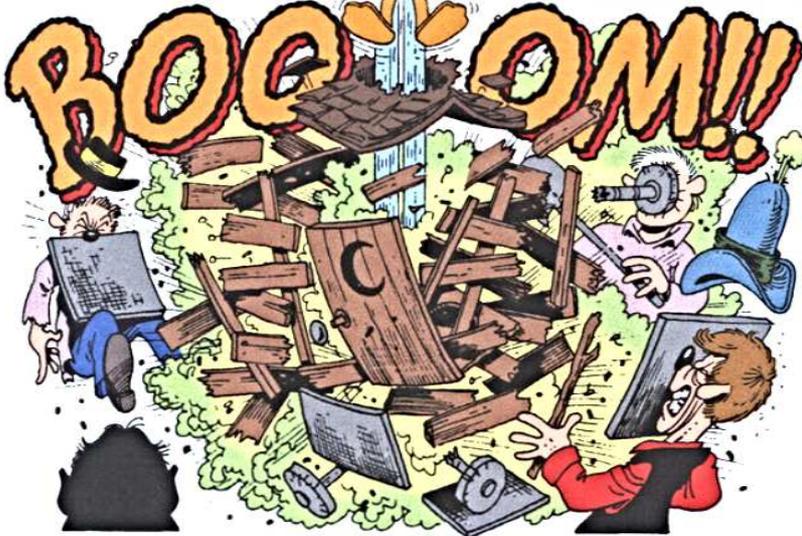
NO! LAST MONTH'S ISSUE OF
"MASTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI"! THE
ONE WHERE THE BEAGLE BOYS
KIDNAP POTHOLE'S GOOFY
NEPHEW AGAIN!

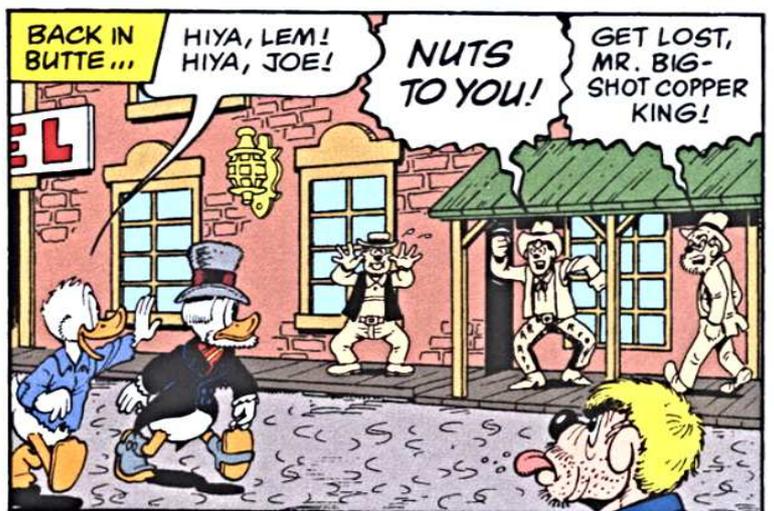
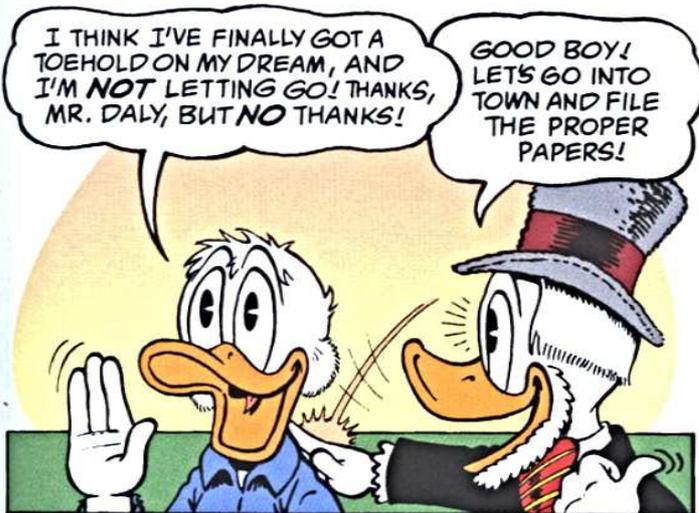
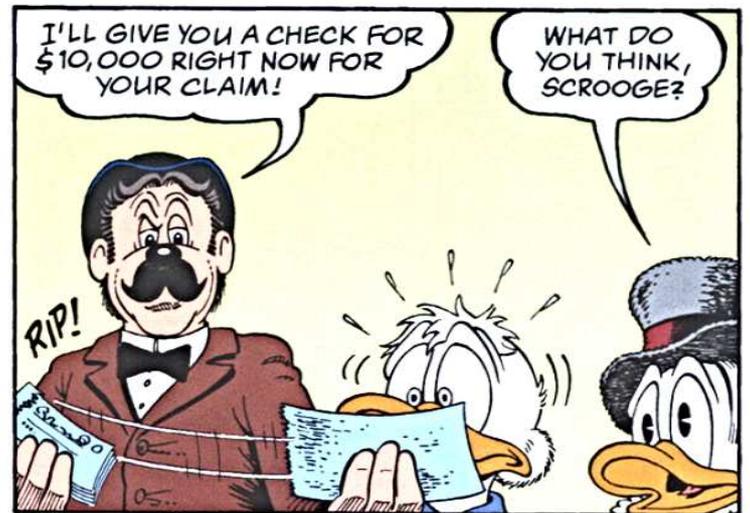
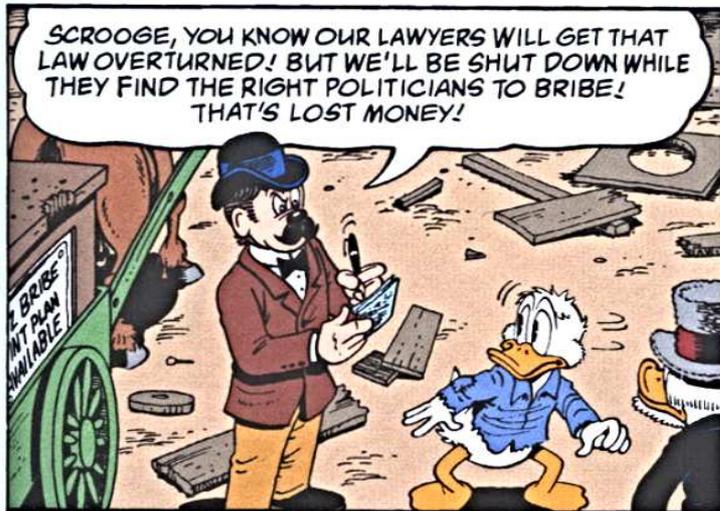
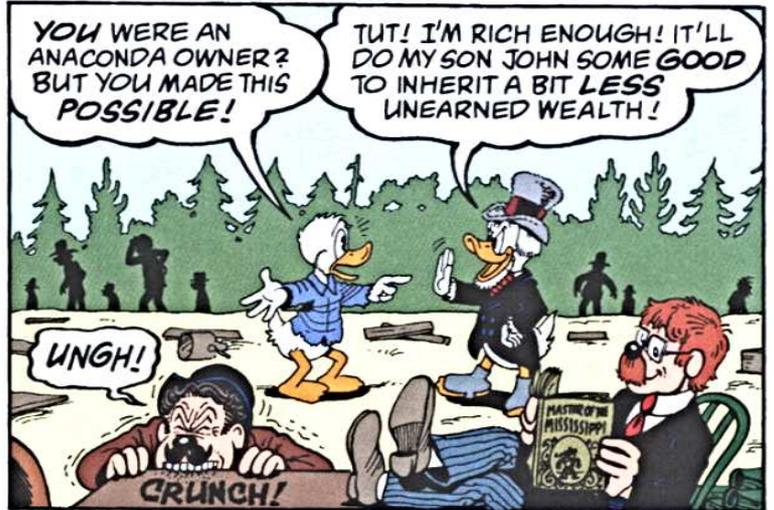
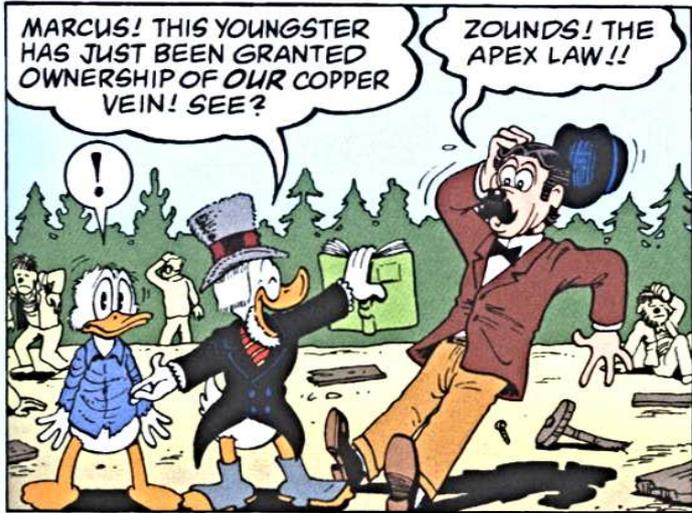
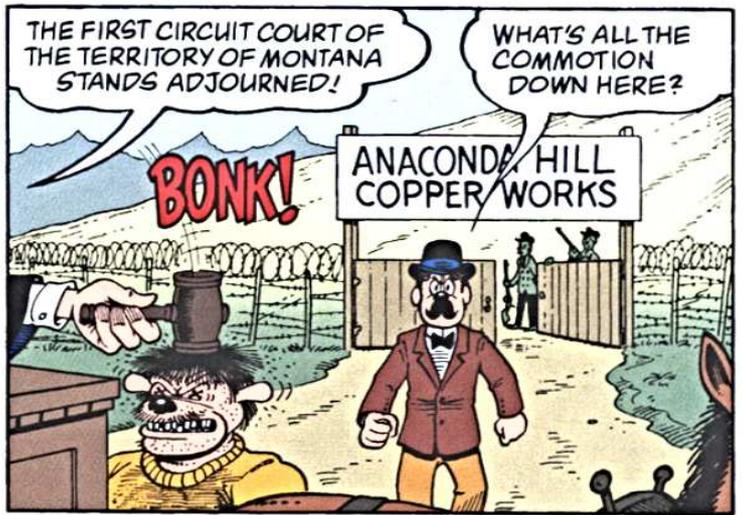
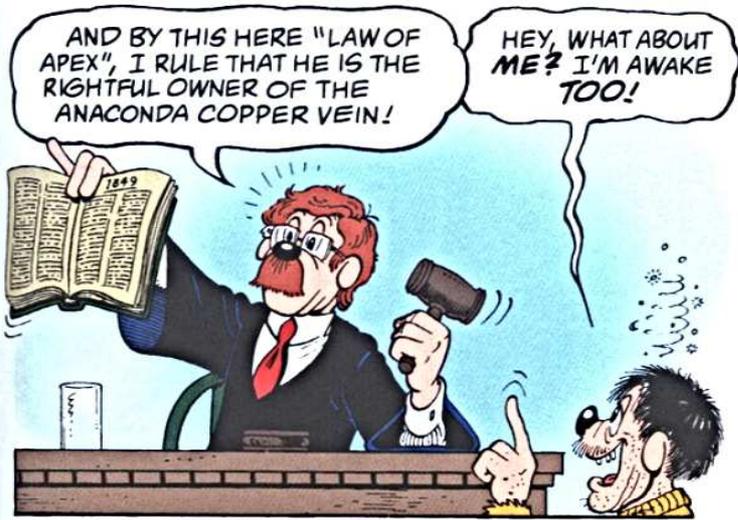
FORGET IT!
POTHOLE SAVES
HIM! LOOK FOR
THAT LAW!

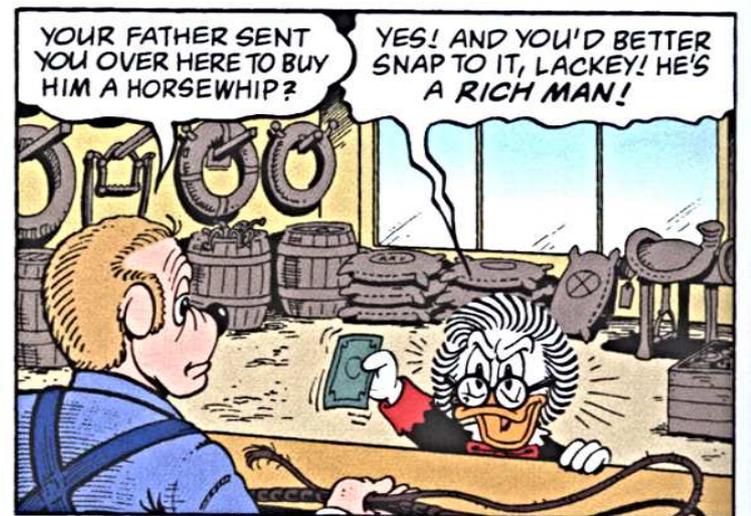
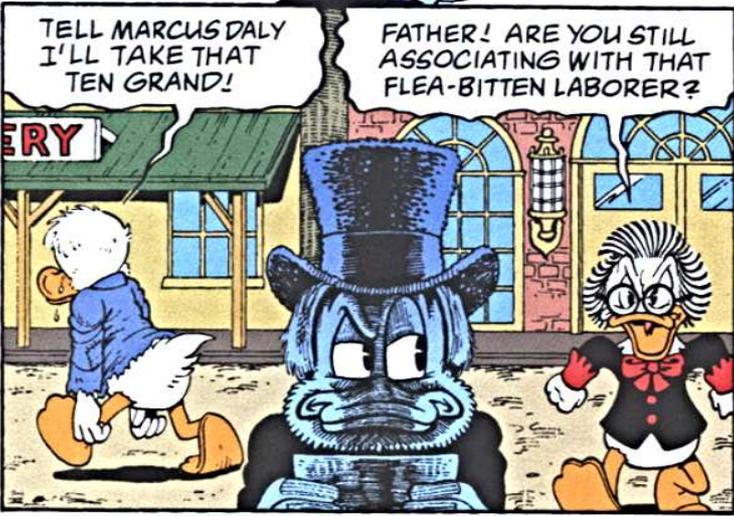
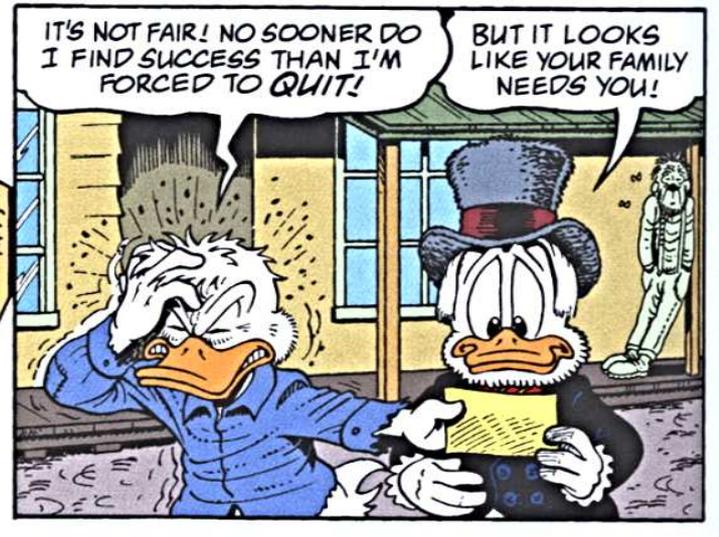
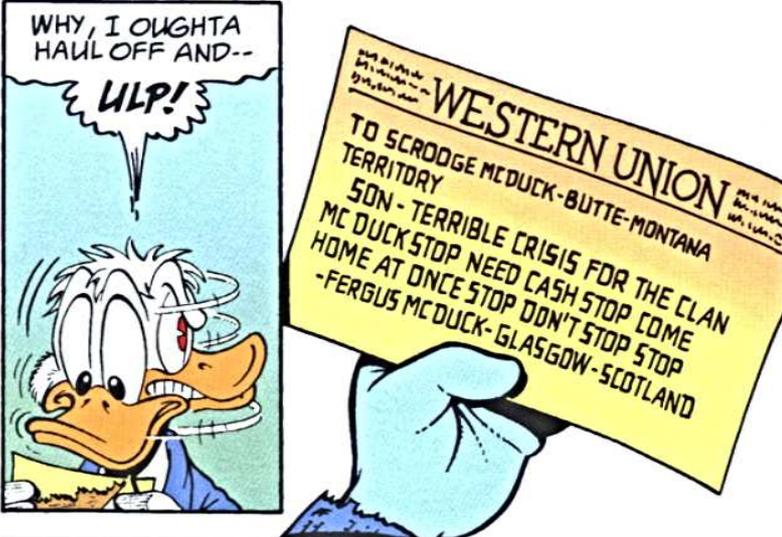
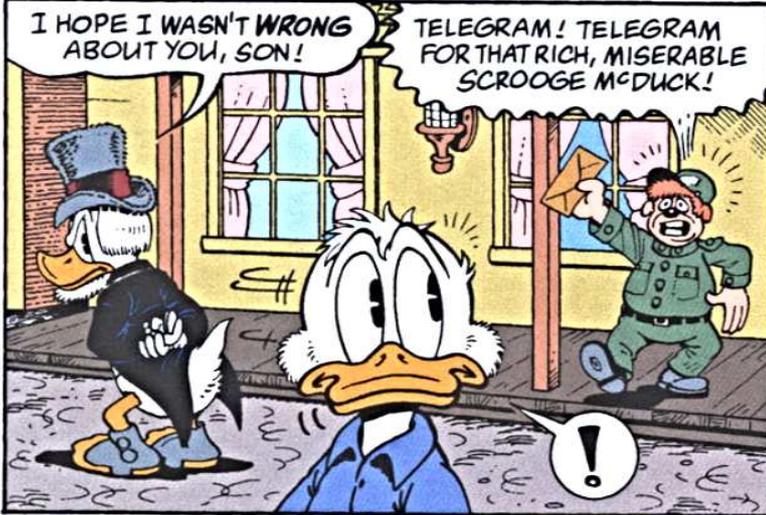
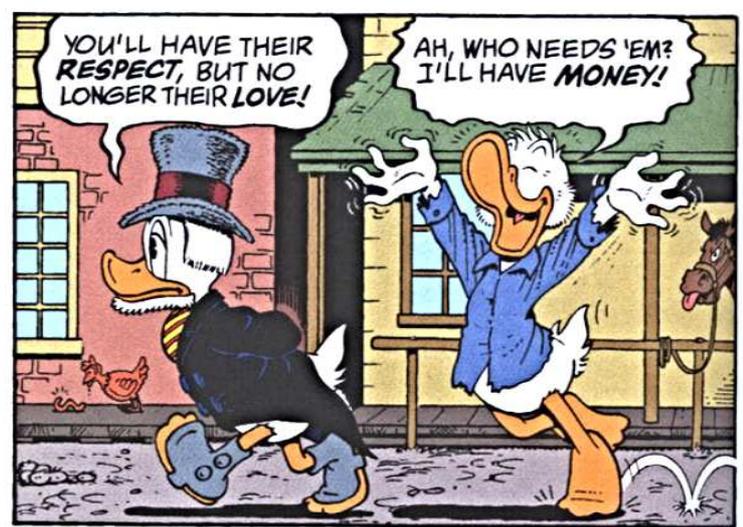
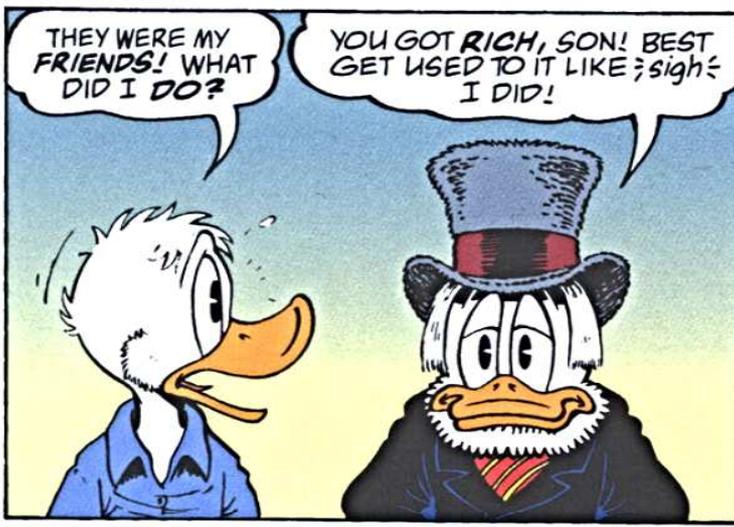
AT THAT MOMENT, SEVERAL DOZEN OF BUTTE'S
MEANEST MINERS, COWPOKES, TANNERS,
WADDIES, AND VARIOUS AND SUNDRY NE'ER-DO-
WELLS ARE LEARNING THEY'RE NO MATCH FOR
THE LAST OF CLAN MCDUCK...



...NOT WHEN
HE'S MAD!



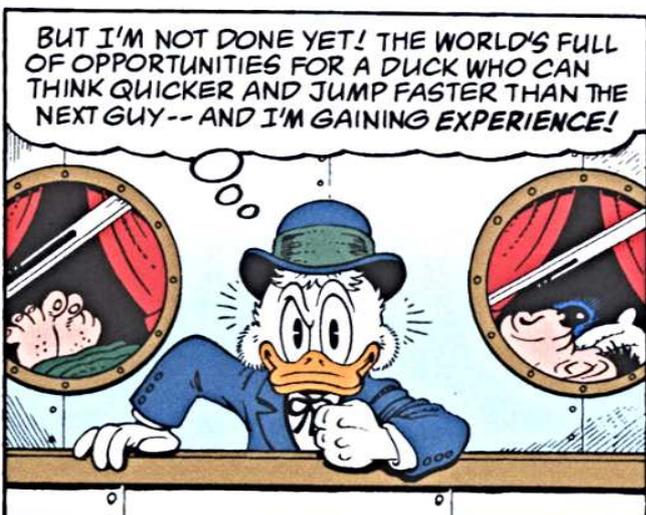




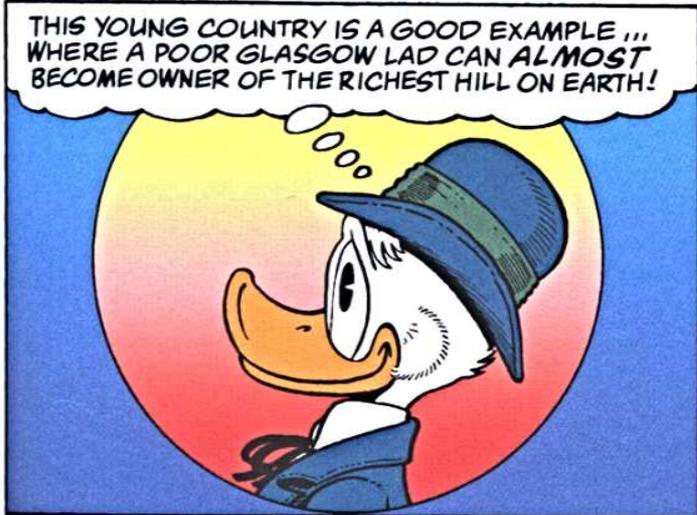
ONE WEEK LATER SCROOGE STANDS ON THE DECK OF A STEAMSHIP LEAVING NEW YORK HARBOR, BOUND FOR THE GREEN HILLS OF SCOTLAND!



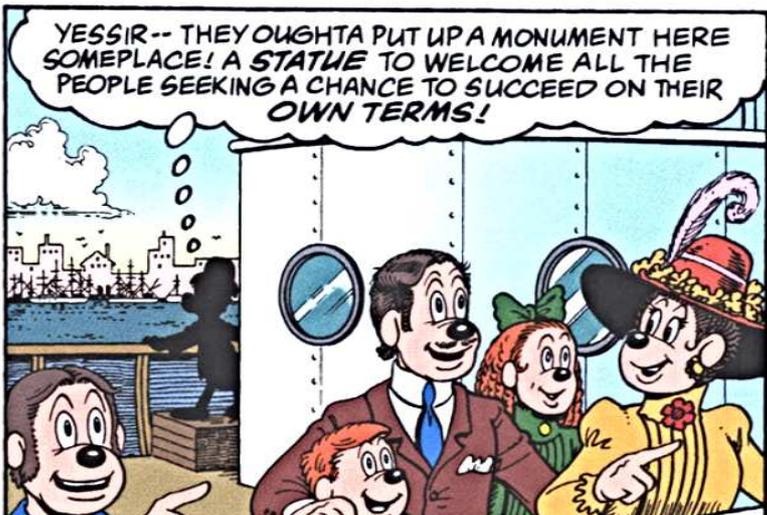
FIVE YEARS IN AMERICA, AND \$10,000 TO SHOW FOR IT! NOT BAD, I GUESS...



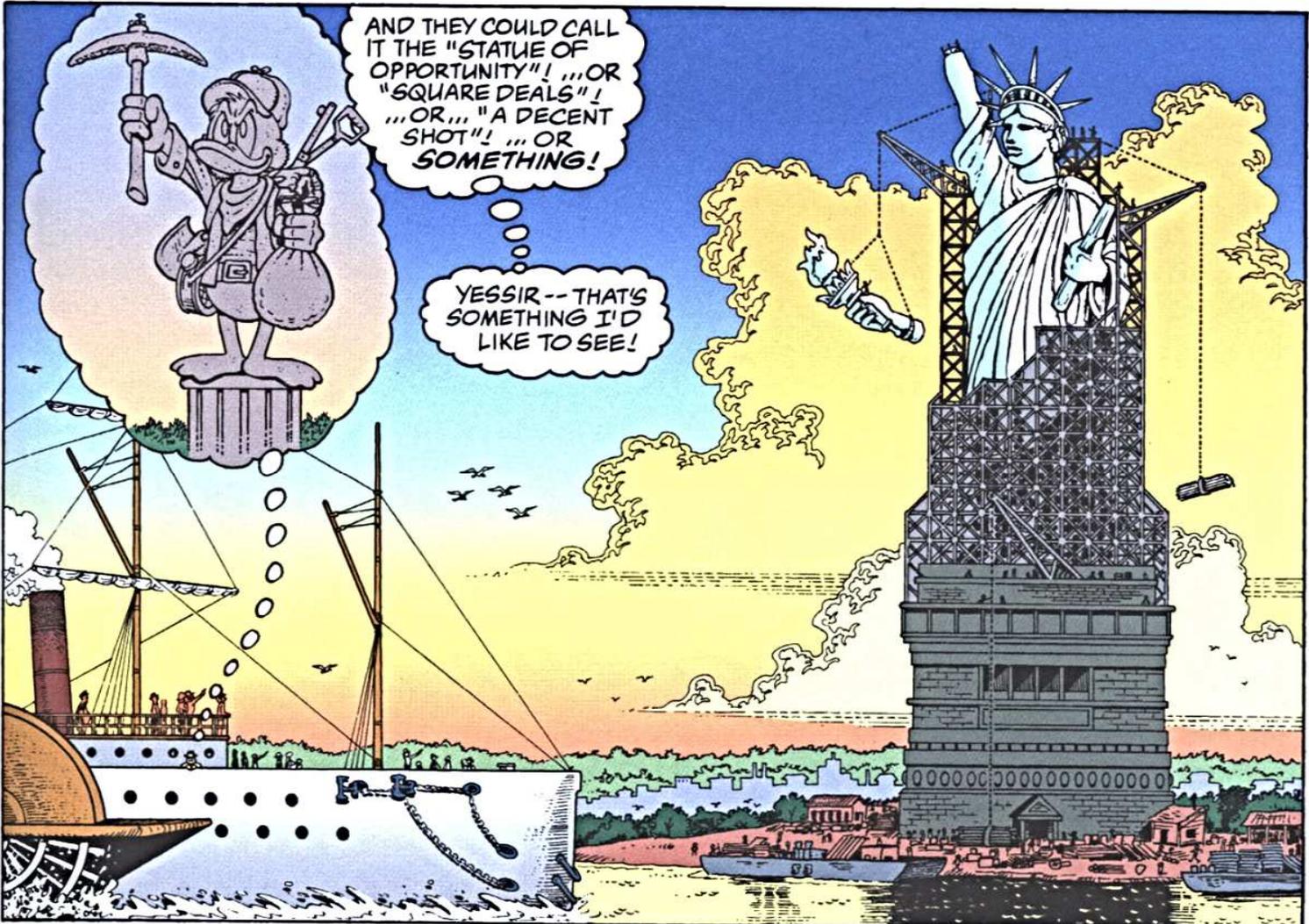
BUT I'M NOT DONE YET! THE WORLD'S FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR A DUCK WHO CAN THINK QUICKER AND JUMP FASTER THAN THE NEXT GUY-- AND I'M GAINING EXPERIENCE!



THIS YOUNG COUNTRY IS A GOOD EXAMPLE... WHERE A POOR GLASGOW LAD CAN ALMOST BECOME OWNER OF THE RICHEST HILL ON EARTH!



YESSIR-- THEY OUGHTA PUT UP A MONUMENT HERE SOMEPLACE! A STATUE TO WELCOME ALL THE PEOPLE SEEKING A CHANCE TO SUCCEED ON THEIR OWN TERMS!



AND THEY COULD CALL IT THE "STATUE OF OPPORTUNITY"! ...OR "SQUARE DEALS"! ...OR... "A DECENT SHOT"! ...OR SOMETHING!

YESSIR-- THAT'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO SEE!

TO BE CONTINUED...