

WALT DISNEP'S

The Life and Times of SCROOKE MOUNTS

VOLUME ONE • BY DON ROSA EISNER AWARD WINNER

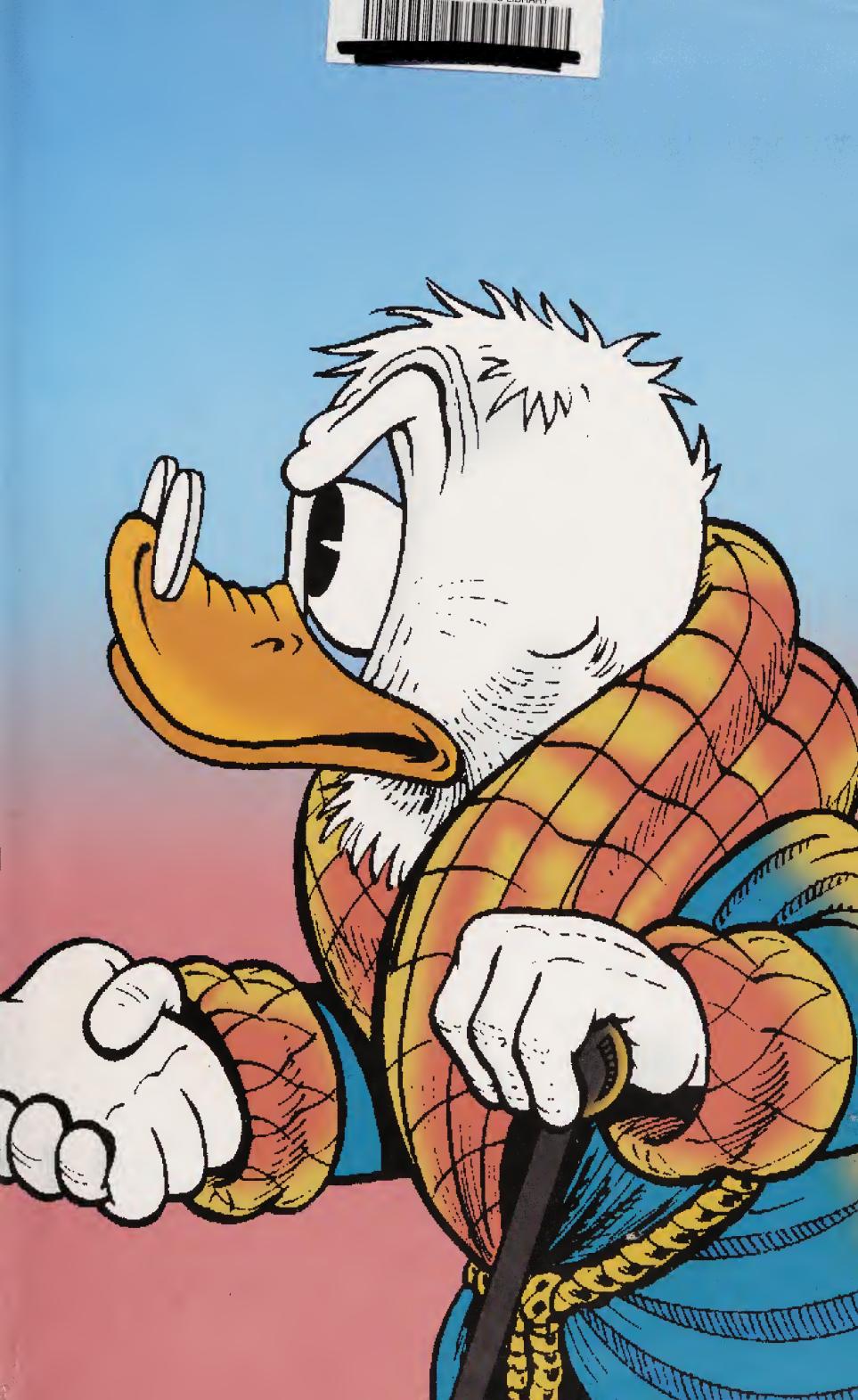
The legendary artist Carl Barks created Scrooge McDuck and chronicled many of his most popular adventures. In addition to superb storytelling and wonderful entertainment, he left behind a character who was not only rich in his stories, but one for whom the stories themselves were rich.

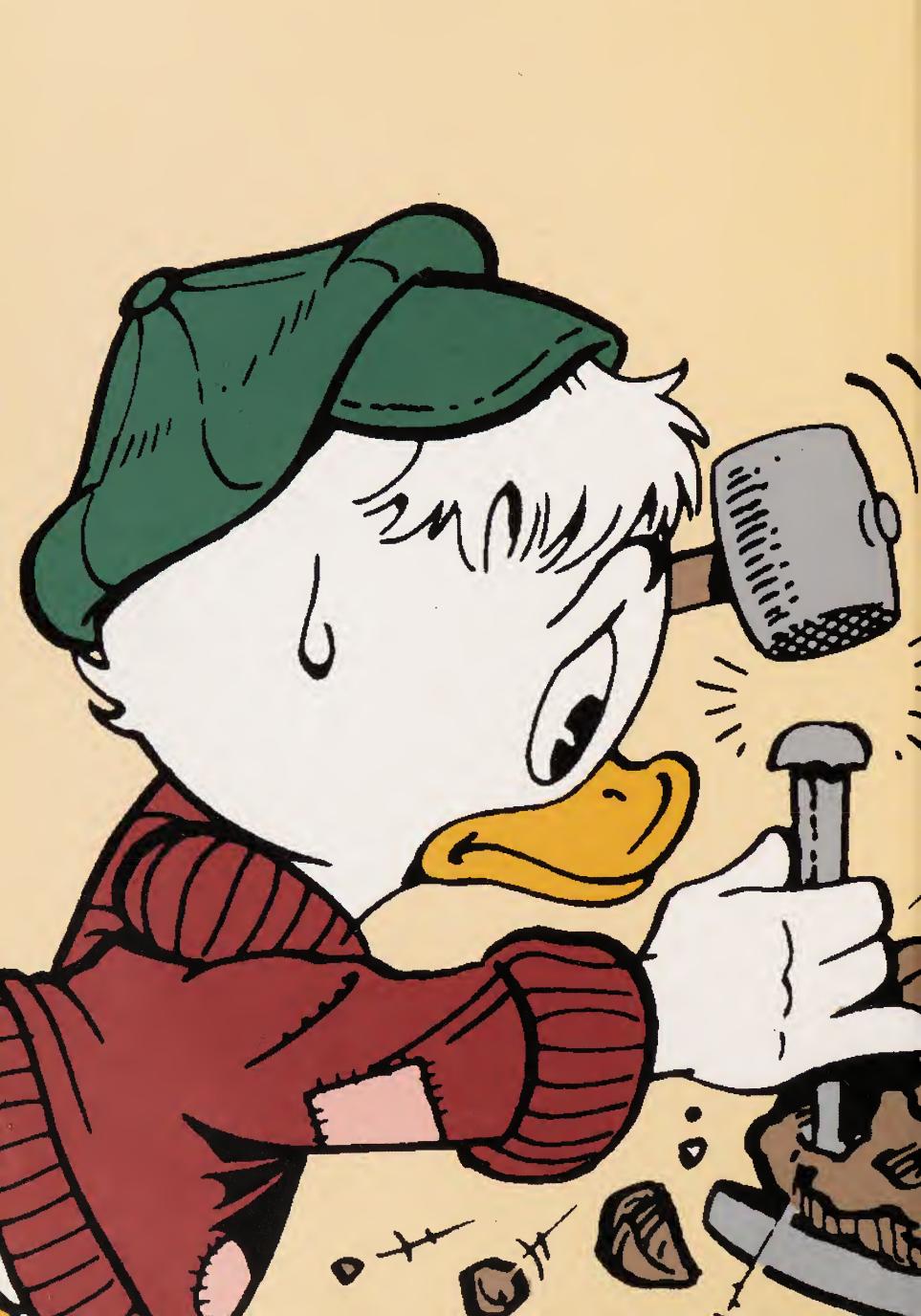
Taking up the mantle with THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SCROOGE MCDUCK, modern master Don Rosa recounts Uncle Scrooge's past based firmly in the continuity of Barks' classic Uncle Scrooge stories.

This exciting saga reveals exactly how Scrooge McDuck acquired his fortune and became the World's Richest Duck. The wonderful result of Rosa's effort is presented here in the first of a two volume collection featuring the begining six chapters of the celebrated twelve-part Eisner Award-winning story!

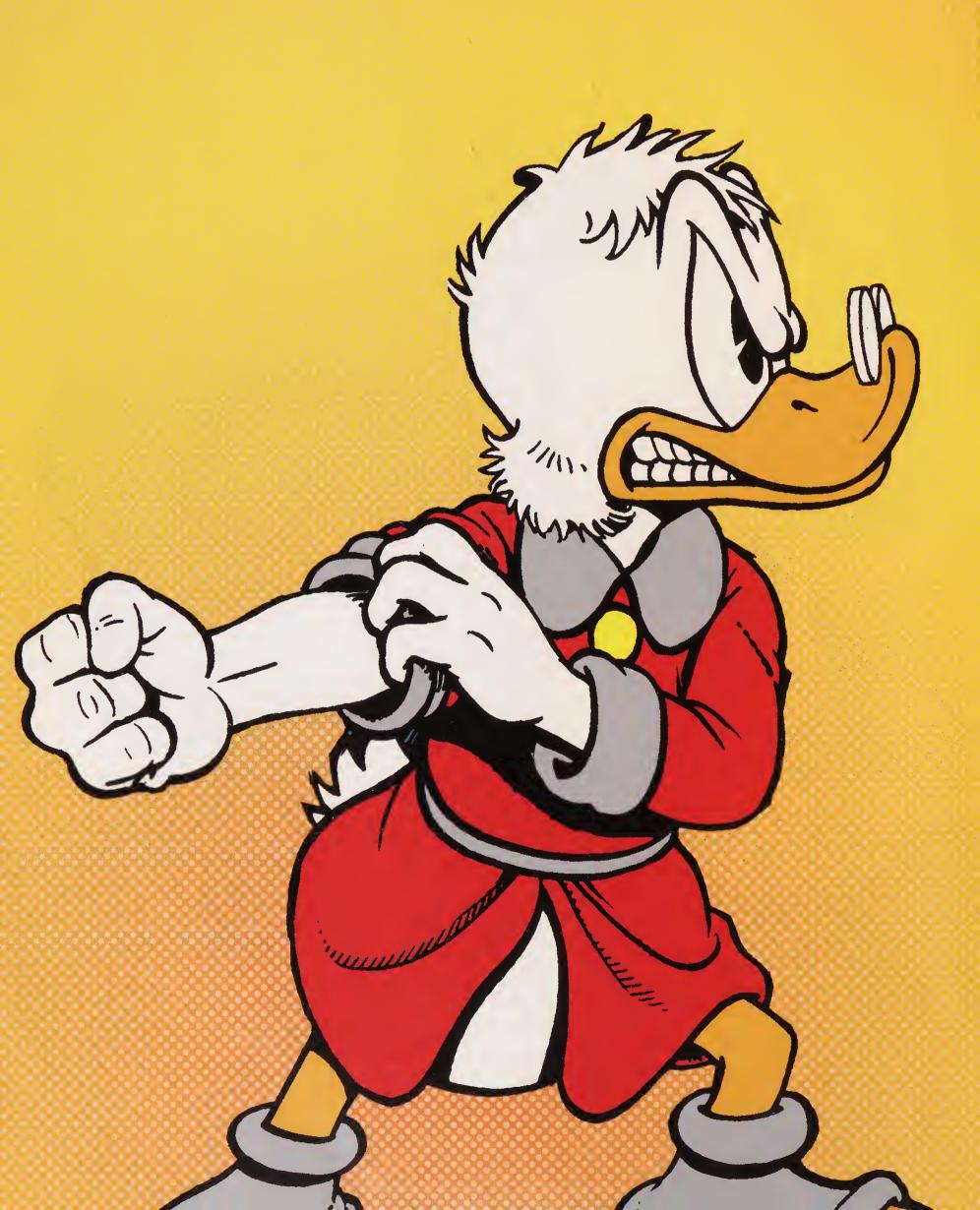


BOOM KIDS! • LOS AN WWW.BOOM-KID









WALT DISNEWS

The Life and Times of SCROOKEMENTS

VOLUME ONE • BY DON ROSA EISNER AWARD WINNER

The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck

Art & Story • Don Rosa

Lettering & Titles • Todd Klein

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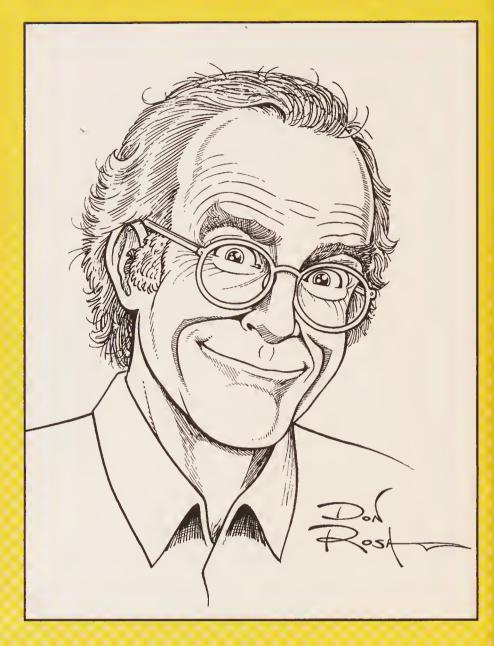
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FOREWORD

he Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck" L is a series of twelve stories that I wrote and drew between, roughly, mid-1991 and the end of 1993. These stories appeared first in the Disney comics published by the vast, whizbang Egmont media company, which has the Disney comics publishing license over most of the planet. Their main comic audiences are in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Portugal, Brazil, and a few other small areas like all of the former Soviet-bloc countries (excluding Brutopia), as well as China (where I don't know what they make of Scrooge). These same stories have more recently been reprinted to much acclaim in Italy, France, Greece, the United States, and other places (or so I'm told).

But what prompted me to do the series? Jack Chalker, a science-fiction writer, once devised his own version of Scrooge's life based on facts found in the first 70 Carl Barks issues of Uncle Scrooge comics. He published this in a pamphlet entitled An Informal Biography of Scrooge McDuck. I'd read that piece and thought it was a great bit of storytelling and a loving tribute to the Old Master's characters. Yet I never intended to undertake such a project myself until mid-1991, when the Disney company in the United States decided they would get someone to do such a series. At that point, my publisher, Egmont, interceded and volunteered me for the project, in the belief that Scrooge would be better served if someone who loved the character constructed the series.

The main reason I accepted the assignment was just for the fun of it — the fan-boy challenge of taking into account every "fact" concerning Scrooge McDuck's early life that was ever revealed in one of Carl Barks' classic stories, no matter how minute or obscurely buried the morsel of history might have been. If Scrooge made a comment about his youth in the third balloon of the fifth panel of the seventh page of the second story in some comic in 1957 — as long as it was a story written by



Barks — that fact is mentioned somewhere in this series. As different a sort of idea as this series is in the history of Disney comic books, it is not intended to change the Barks Duck Universe or to otherwise break tradition. On the contrary, it is intended to reaffirm all the elements of all the great Scrooge stories so many citizens of this planet grew up on, and to place Scrooge's past life into a framework that can continue to be fleshed out in additional flashback episodes by myself or any other writers or artists. At the same time, this version of Scrooge's life is not the "official" version there's no particular reason why I (or anyone else) should expect other Duck writers to adhere to my vision of Scrooge's history. As carefully and authentically as I sought to construct it, it was never intended to be anything but my personal telling of the life of Scrooge McDuck.

However, in order to make the series as "accurate" as possible, the first thing I did was list all those obscure "Barksian facts" about Scrooge which all we Duck fans have long been aware of. Next, I assembled these facts into a

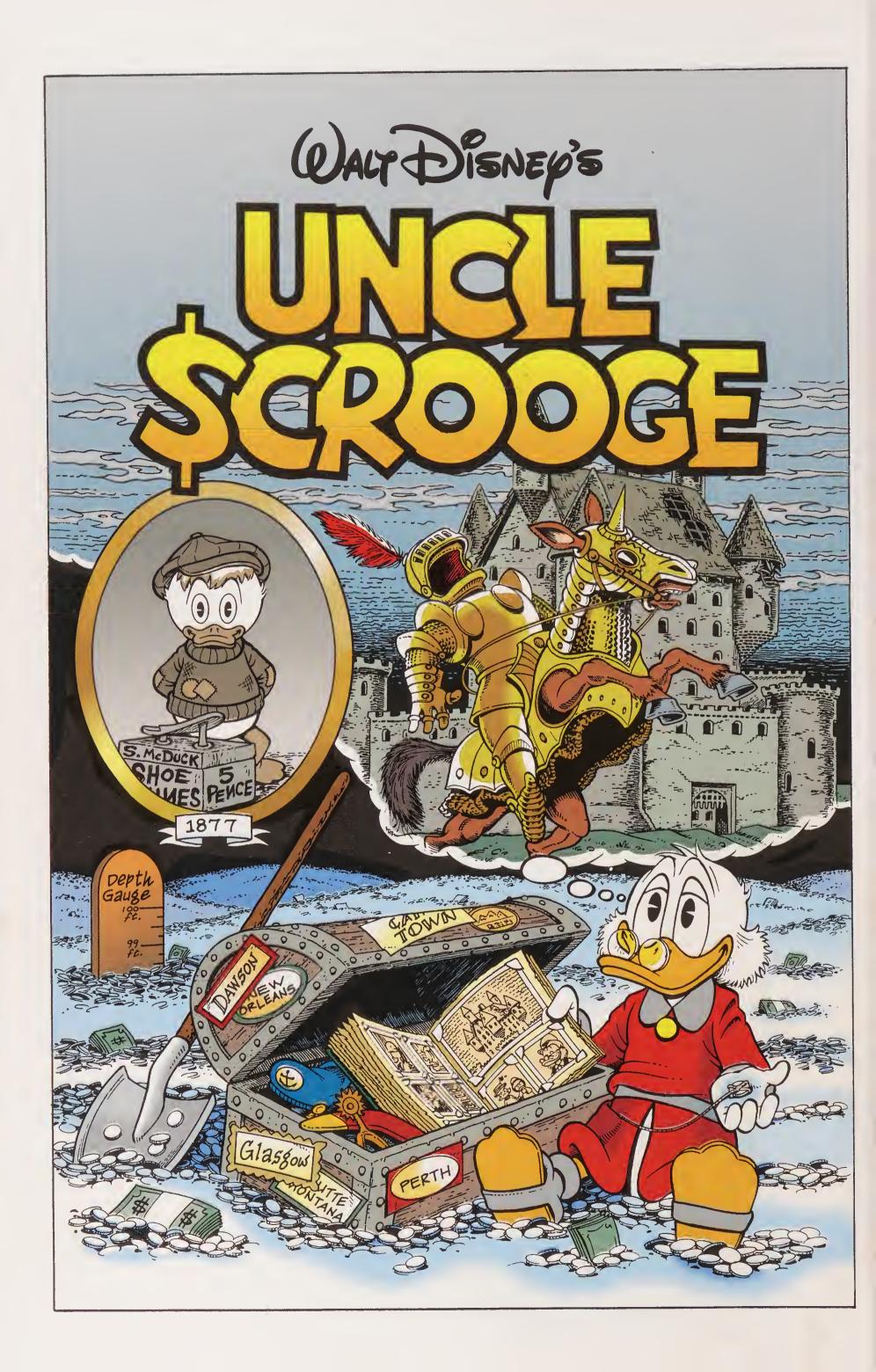
timeline, then broke that timeline down into 12 logical segments, each dealing with one period of Scrooge's life as already described by Mr. Barks. And since, as I said, Scrooge is no more my property than that of any other Duck fan, I sent copies of this chart to noted Duck fans around the world for their comments and help. The end result is the series of stories collected in this book.

What you'll also see in this book are my comments on each chapter. I had already written "Making of" texts for an earlier American edition of the series, but here we present revised — and in some cases, expanded — versions of those same texts. These pages will seek to tell interested Duck fans who have far too much spare time more than they would ever care to know about the writing and drawing of this series. I'll describe how each episode was mapped out and planned, what "Barksian facts" of Scrooge McDuck's life each chapter sought to cover, what historical facts were interwoven into each tale, years covered, people involved, problems arising and various and sundry other topics of potential boredom. I'll walk the tightrope of fascinating narration over the morass of near-lethal tedium and seldom keep a toe-hold. I'll present pages which were deleted from my original scripts by the editor at Egmont so you can see that you never knew how well-off you actually were. I'll show you alternate versions of covers you never dreamed existed. In short, this will all be a classic case-study in obsessiveness. This is the Age of Information. Too Much Information — more than you ever wanted! Send all complaints to:

- Don Rosa

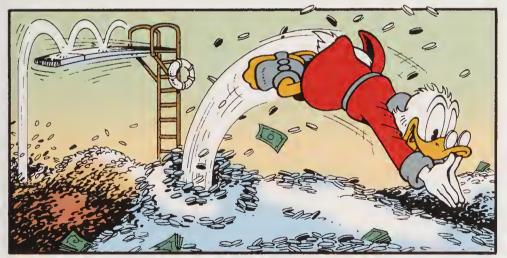
p.s. Some readers may not know the origin of the D.U.C.K. dedication that can be found hidden in most of the splash panels of my stories, or on the covers I draw. If you know what the initials stand for, the reason they are included will be obvious. They stand for "Dedicated to Unca Carl from Keno" (my full name is Keno Don Rosa). Just in case you can't find them, I'll tell you where they're hidden in the "D.U.C.K. Spoilers" included in each chapter's comments. Don't peek first, though — you wouldn't want to skip the joy of discovery, would you?







HE LOVES IT SO MUCH BECAUSE HE WORKED SO
HARD TO EARN IT! HE LOVES IT SO MUCH
BECAUSE HE WORKED JUST AS HARD TO KEEP IT!





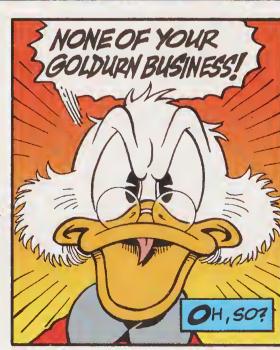


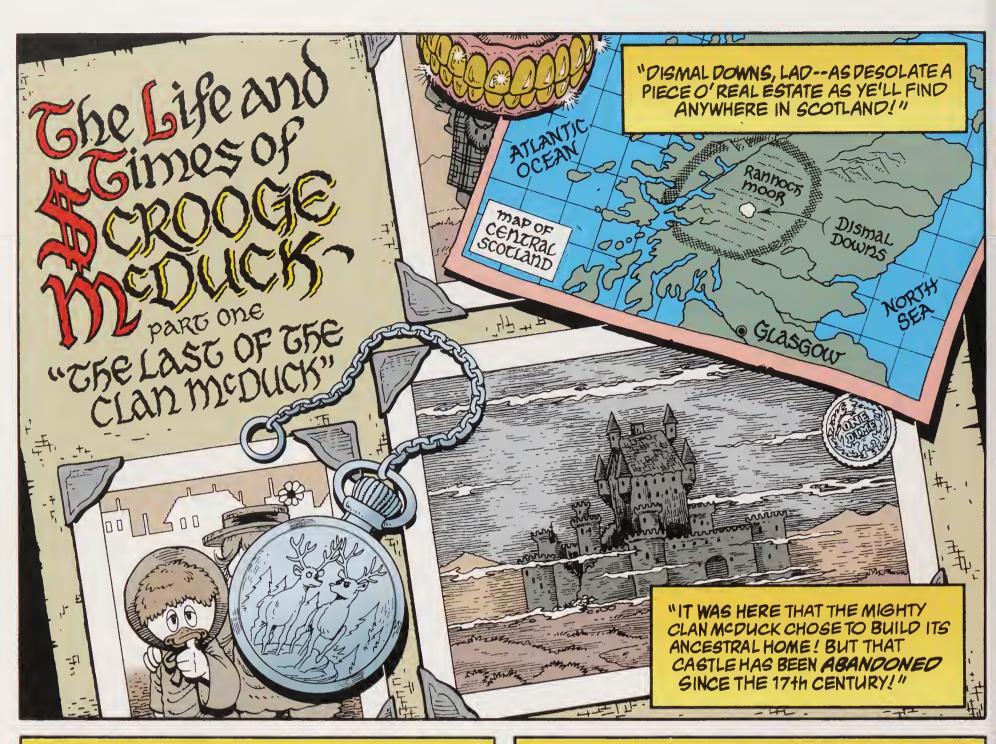
...BEGINNING WITH HIS NUMBER ONE DIME, THE FIRST COIN HE EVER EARNED, WHICH HE HAS PLACED LOVINGLY ON A VELVET PILLOW!



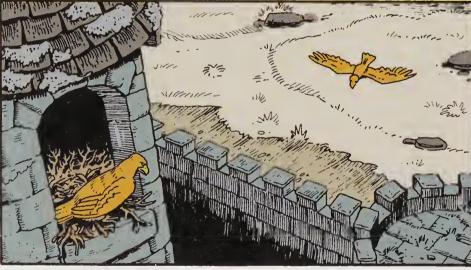


BUTHOW DID HE EARN THAT DIME? HOW DID HE GET TO BE SO RICH? WHAT IS THE STORY OF HIS LIFE?









"AND PTARMIGAN AND GROUSE HIDE HERE IN THE HEATHER O' THE CLAN CEMETERY!"



'TIS A SAD SIGHT, LAD, BUT IT'S TIME YE LEARNED SOMETHING O' YOUR ANCESTORS! AFTER ALL, 'TIS THE EVE O' YOUR TENTH BIRTHDAY!





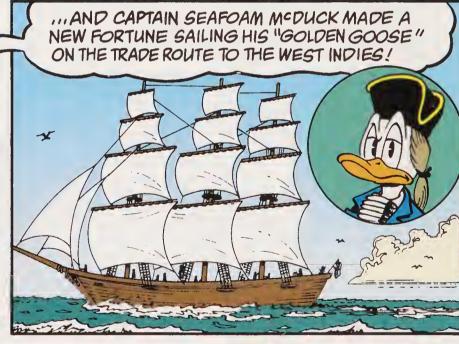






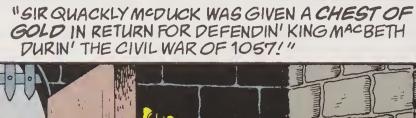














"BUT QUACKLY GOT CARRIED AWAY WITH PROTECTIN" IT, AND ACCIDENTALLY SEALED HIMSELF INTO A WALL WITH HIS TREASURE!"



"FOR CENTURIES, THE CLAN SEARCHED HIGH AND LOW FOR SIR QUACKLY'S GOLD, BUT THEY NEVER EVEN FOUND SIR QUACKLY!"



NAY, MY BOY, WE'RE A POOR CLAN NOW! MY FATHER WAS A LOWLYMINER, AND MY FACTORY PAY BARELY SUPPORTS YOUR MOTHER AND TWO SISTERS AND ..





AH'M FERGUS MCDUCK, AND AH CANNAE TRESPASS ON ME OWN LAND?!

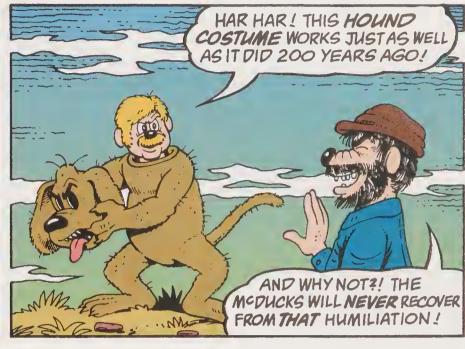
AMCDUCK! YE'D BETTER CLEAR OFF AFORE THE HOUND GETS YOUR SCENT!





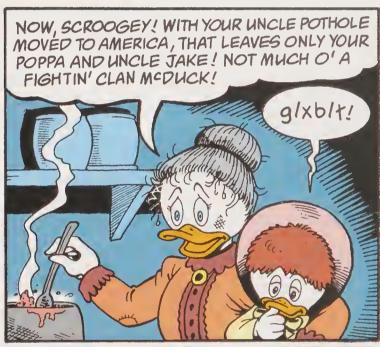


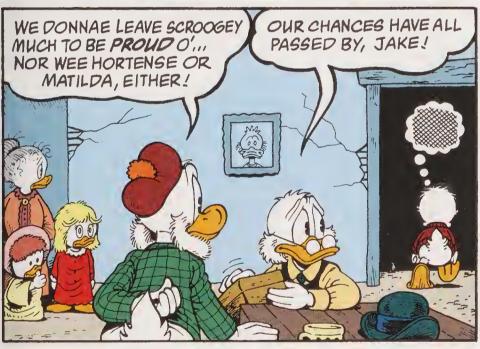




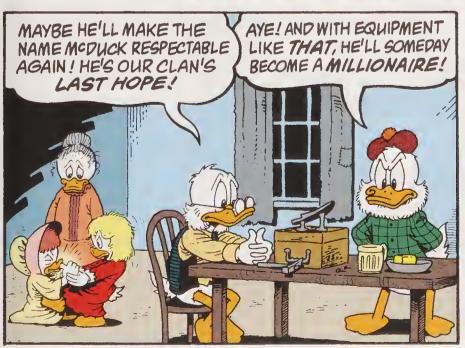




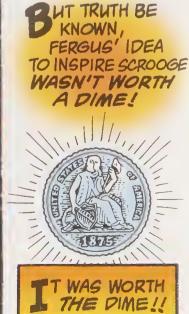


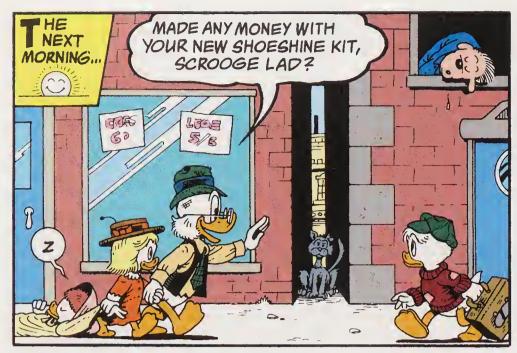










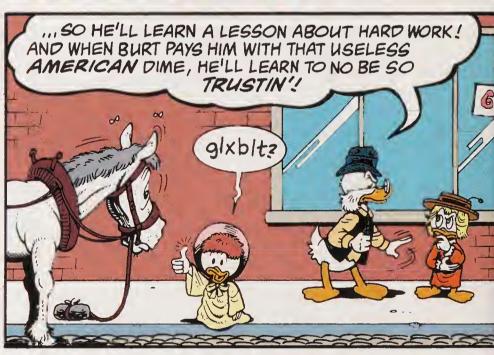


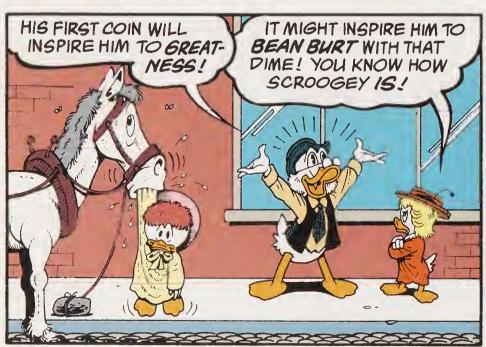




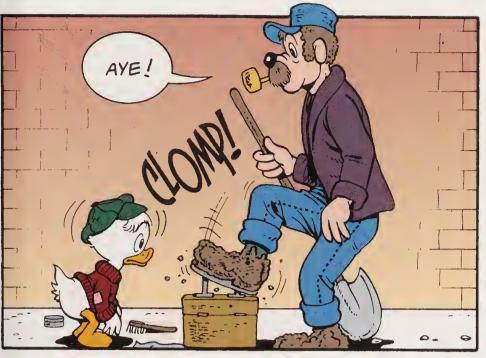


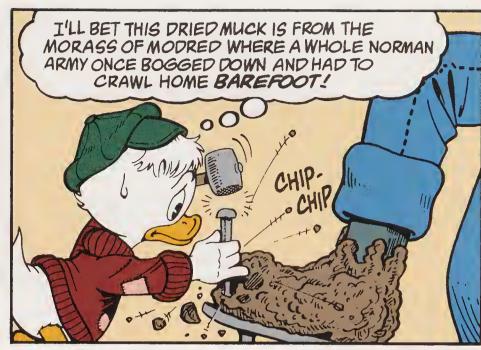


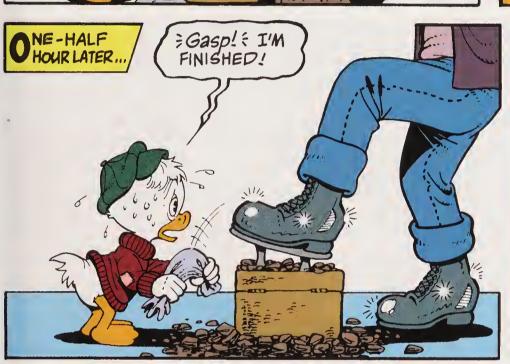




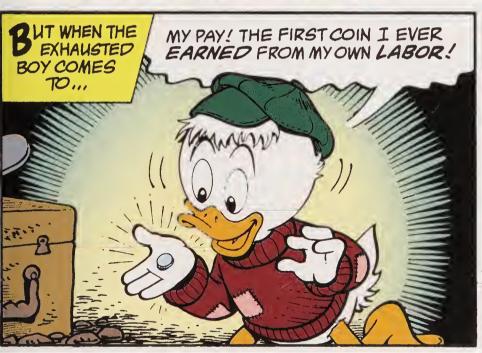




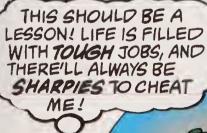






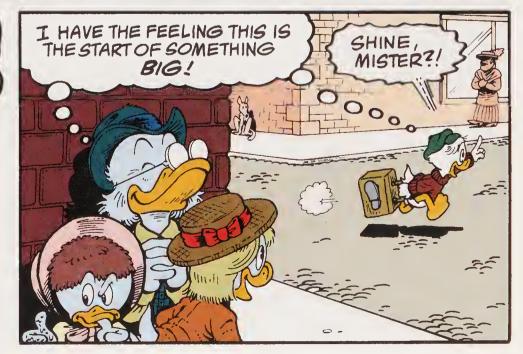






WELL, I'LL BE TOUGHER
THAN THE TOUGHES, AND
SHARPER THAN THE
SHARPIES -- AND I'LL MAKE
MY MONEY SQUARE!

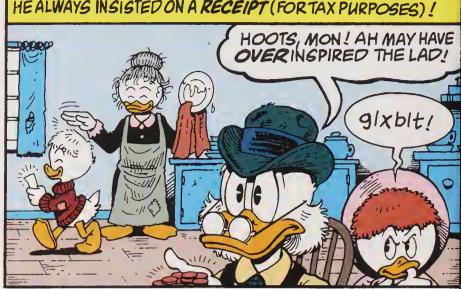




FROM THAT DAY ON, YOUNG SCROOGE WORKED WITH A FERVOR AND PERSEVERANCE NOT SEEN IN A MCDUCK SINCE THE GLORY DAYS OF THE CLAN!

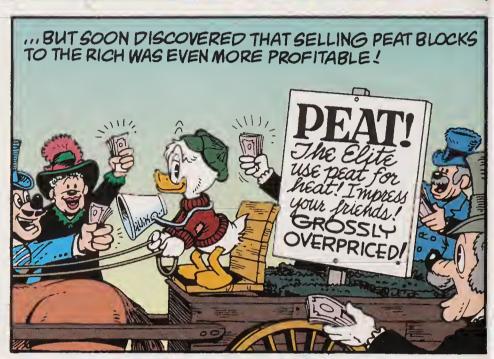


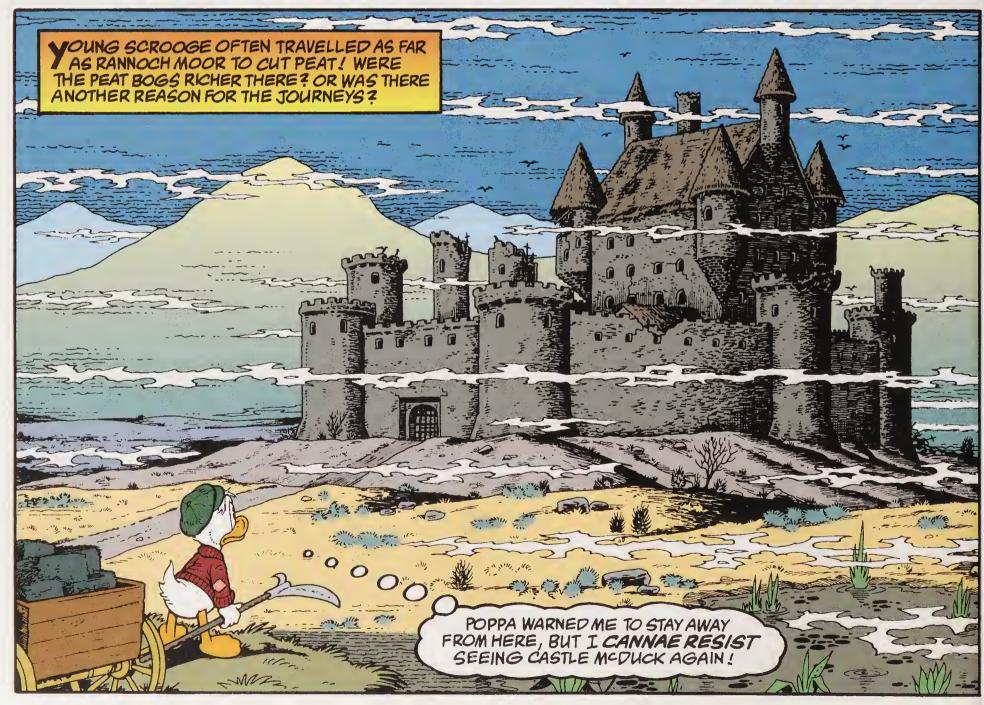
HE ALWAYS GAVE SOME OF HIS EARNINGS TO HIS PROUD FATHER TO HELP PAY EXPENSES ... THOUGH HE ALWAYS INSISTED ON A RECEIPT (FORTAX PURPOSES)!



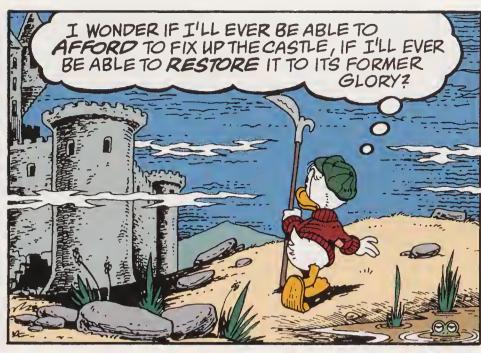
TN A FEW YEARS, SCROOGE HAD SAVED ENOUGH TO
BUY A HORSE AND CART! HE STARTED GATHERING
FIREWOOD TO SELL TO THE WEALTHY CITY DWELLERS...

FIREWOOD!
CHEAP!







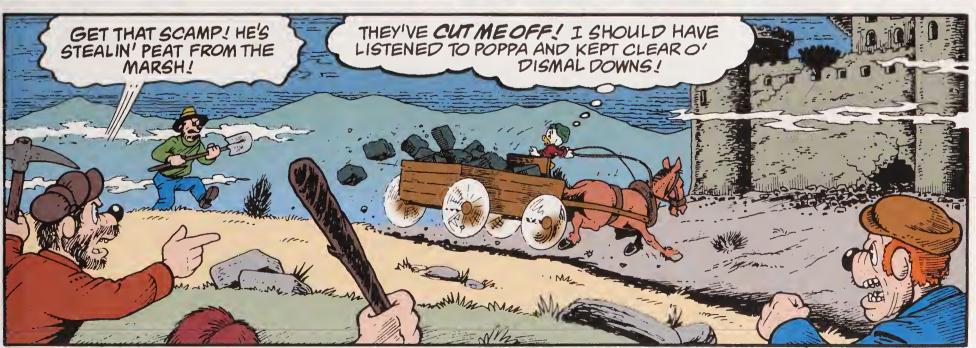




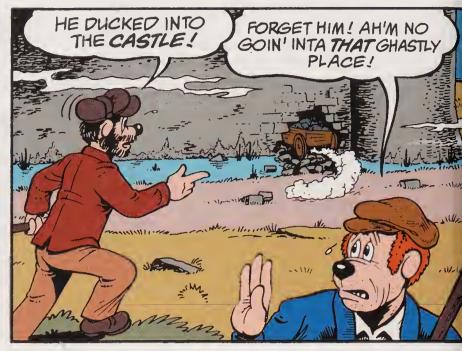




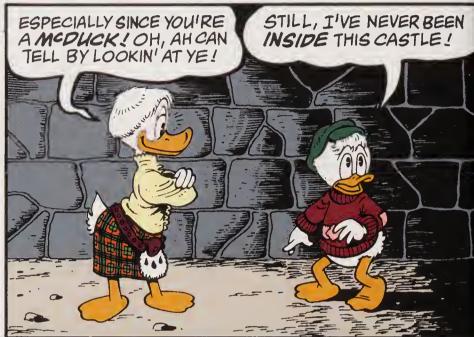










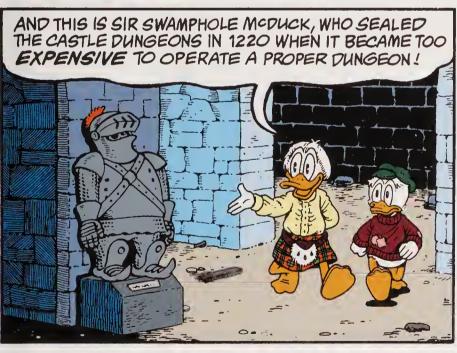


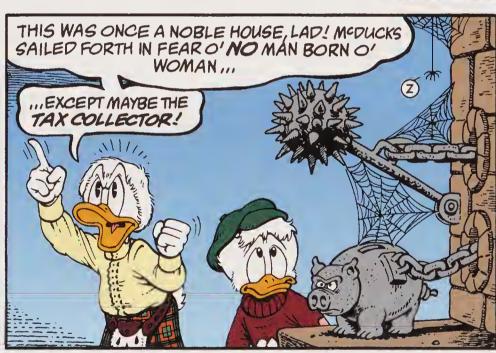




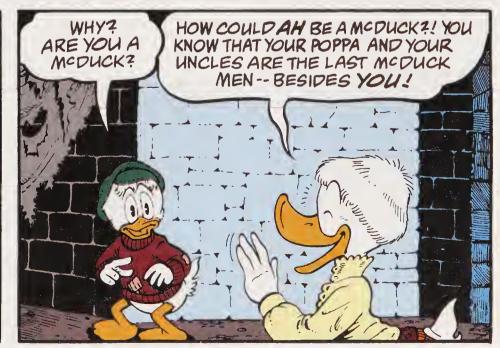




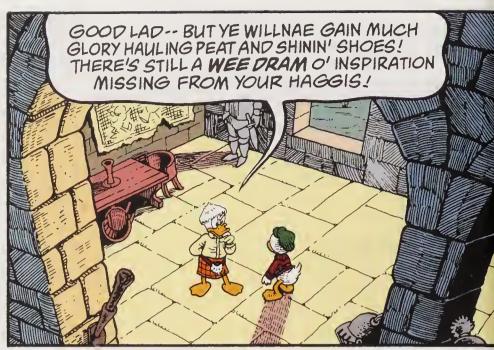






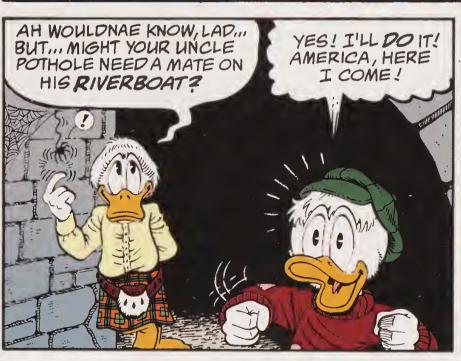


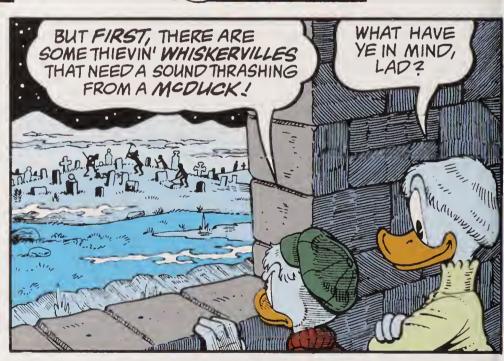




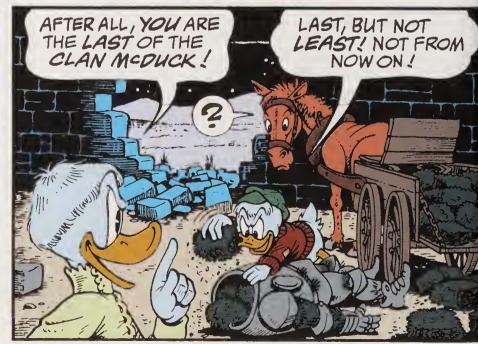






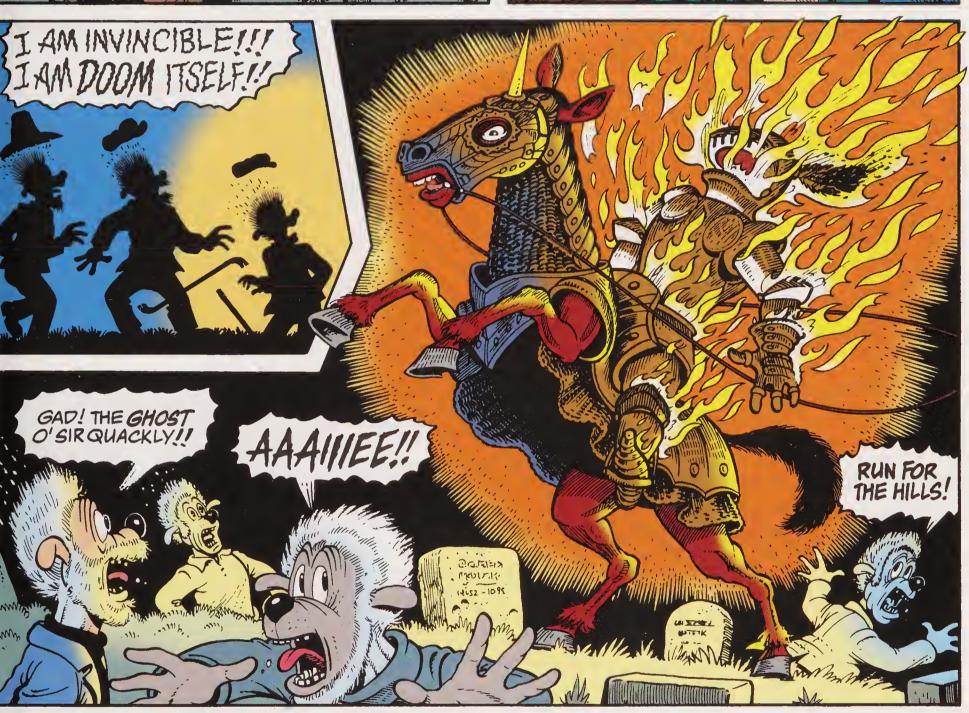








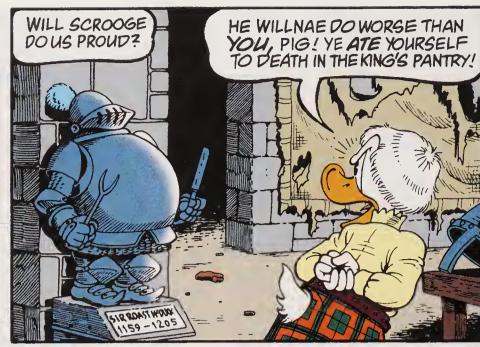


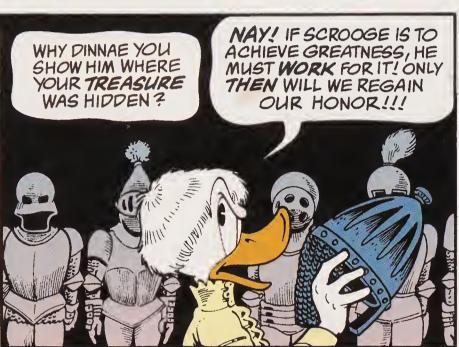










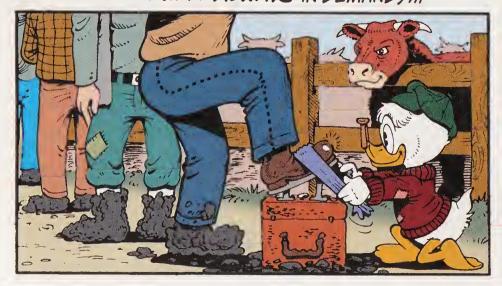






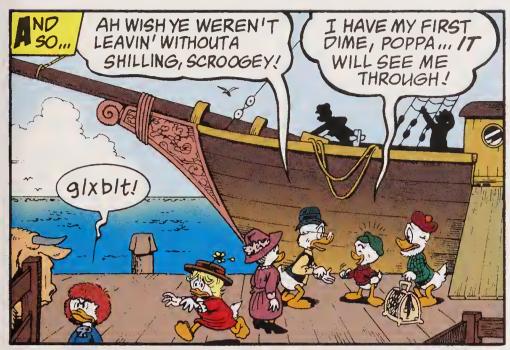


FROM THEN ON, SCROOGE BASED HIS SHOESHINE TRADE AT THE GLASGOW STOCKYARDS (WHERE SHOESHINES WERE ALWAYS IN DEMAND)...

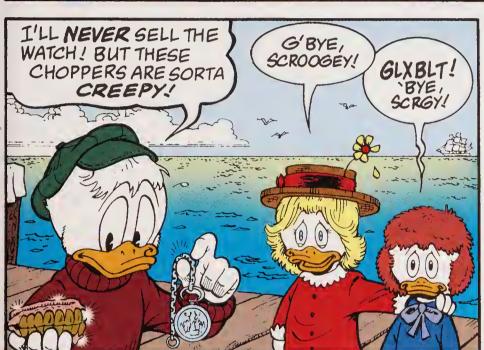


PPORTUNITY SOON KNOCKED, AND HE POUNCEDON A JOB OFFERING WORK AS A CABIN BOY ON A CATTLESHIP HEADED FOR NEW ORLEANS ...

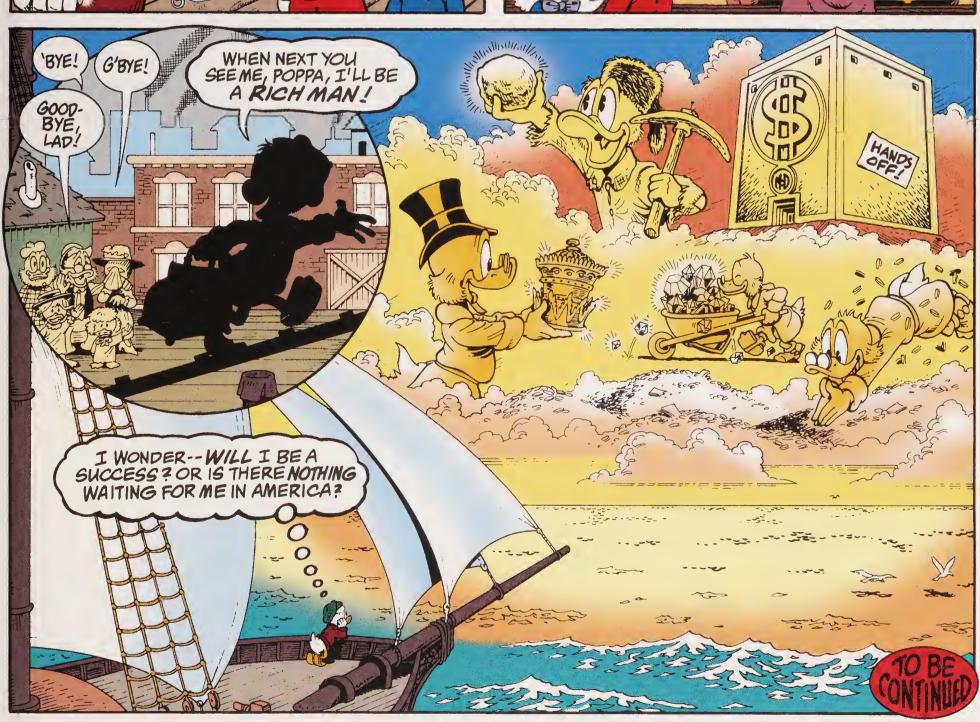












The Making of

"The Last of the Clan McDuck"

s with other stories in this series, the I final version is somewhat different from the first draft script. My original idea was to begin the story in 400 A.D. with the siege of Hadrian's Wall and show that it was a MacDuich (ancient Gaelic form of McDuck) that drove the Romans out and gave birth to Scotland. Then I continued to trace the McDucks through the centuries, further showing that a McDuck and his stinginess was present at all the great moments of Scot history. But my editor, Byron Erickson, said that this was not a story about the McDucks, but about one particular

McDuck, and that I should stick to his life. He did allow me to at least make mention of the McDuck ancestors that Barks had described in order to realize my purpose of featuring every single "Barksian fact" that had ever appeared in a comic dealing with Scrooge's life and ancestry. So, I eliminated the first seven

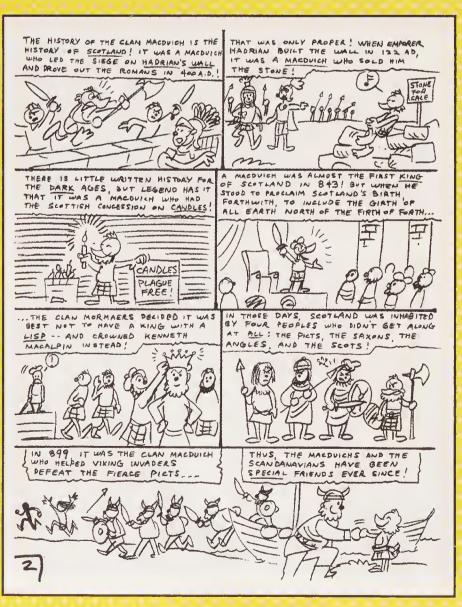
pages of the script (all dealing with MacDuich/McDuck family history) and expanded the remainder to fill up the slack. We reproduce the

first two pages of my original storyboard script here for your pleasure (or displeasure, however my work affects you).

I believe it was also
Byron who suggested that
each episode open with a
scrapbook page, which was
another of his peachy ideas.
I think that gives the stories a
better feel of being stories of

past events; untold tales of a great duck. I carry this idea through to

chapter XI where the splash panel shows Matilda putting away the scrapbook since she has lost her faith in her big brother; then the splash panel of chapter XII shows no scrapbook elements at all, but simply shows what has replaced all else in Scrooge's life at that point: MONEY.





The first "Barksian fact" I use in this first chapter is the existence of Scrooge's two sisters, Hortense and Matilda. This comes from a Duck Family Tree that Barks composed in the 1950s for his own reference. In a later chapter, you'll see which sister turns out to be Donald's mother. Most of the McDuck ancestors mentioned come from Barks' "The Old Castle's Secret," a treasure trove of McDuck history, first appearing in *Donald Duck* Four Color #189. The Whiskerville clan and their hound come from "The Hound of the Whiskervilles" (what else?) in *Uncle Scrooge* #29.

I regard any Scrooge tale not written by Barks to be apocryphal. However in *Uncle Scrooge* #50 there was a story drawn by Tony Strobl which showed a young Scrooge earning his first dime by cleaning a ditchdigger's boots. This seemed completely appropriate for a poor Glasgow lad, so I allowed a non-Barksian "fact" to direct me this once. There was another story in *Uncle Scrooge* #44 drawn but not written by Barks which also showed a scene of a young Scrooge shining shoes; I lifted only some of the art from that tale and disregarded the silly plot.



In "The Invisible Intruder,"
Barks revealed that
Scrooge shined shoes
as a boy. Rosa used the
"fact" for his series but
chose to disregard the
sideburns and glasses
when designing his version
of young Scrooge.

The fact that Scrooge collected and sold fire-wood to the rich city-dwellers was mentioned in *Uncle Scrooge* #21, "The King of the Golden River." That story also told that Scrooge's grandfather had been a miner, something I had written into the original version of the script.

Scrooge's Uncle Pothole comes from "The Great Steamboat Race" in *Uncle Scrooge* #11. Uncle Jake is mentioned in *Donald Duck* Four Color #367, "A Christmas for Shacktown."

With regard to the two McDuck family heirlooms, the golden dentures are from the untitled story in *Uncle Scrooge* Four Color #495 (*Uncle Scrooge* #3). The heirloom watch is mentioned in the story of the same name in *Uncle Scrooge* #10.

"The Magic Hourglass" (Donald Duck Four Color #291) is the story that implied that Scrooge came to America as a cabin boy on a cattle boat. However, I choose to ignore the existence of a magic hourglass as the basis for the McDuck fortune because, as we all know,

Scrooge earned his money through his own hard work! That was a very early use of Scrooge, before Barks decided that Scrooge is the quintessential self-made-duck. There are actually very few Barksian "facts" that I was forced or chose to ignore during this series; Barks' continuity wasn't self-conscious, but still hangs together quite well. I will be sure to point out the "false facts" that I've ignored as we come to them in these texts.



This illustration was done for the European cover of "Last of the Clan McDuck." For its American printing, the flames were removed from the suit of armor. Color by Egmont.

Insane Details To Look For

All of the coins in the nearest piles in the splash panel are drawn with templates, and lots of 'em!

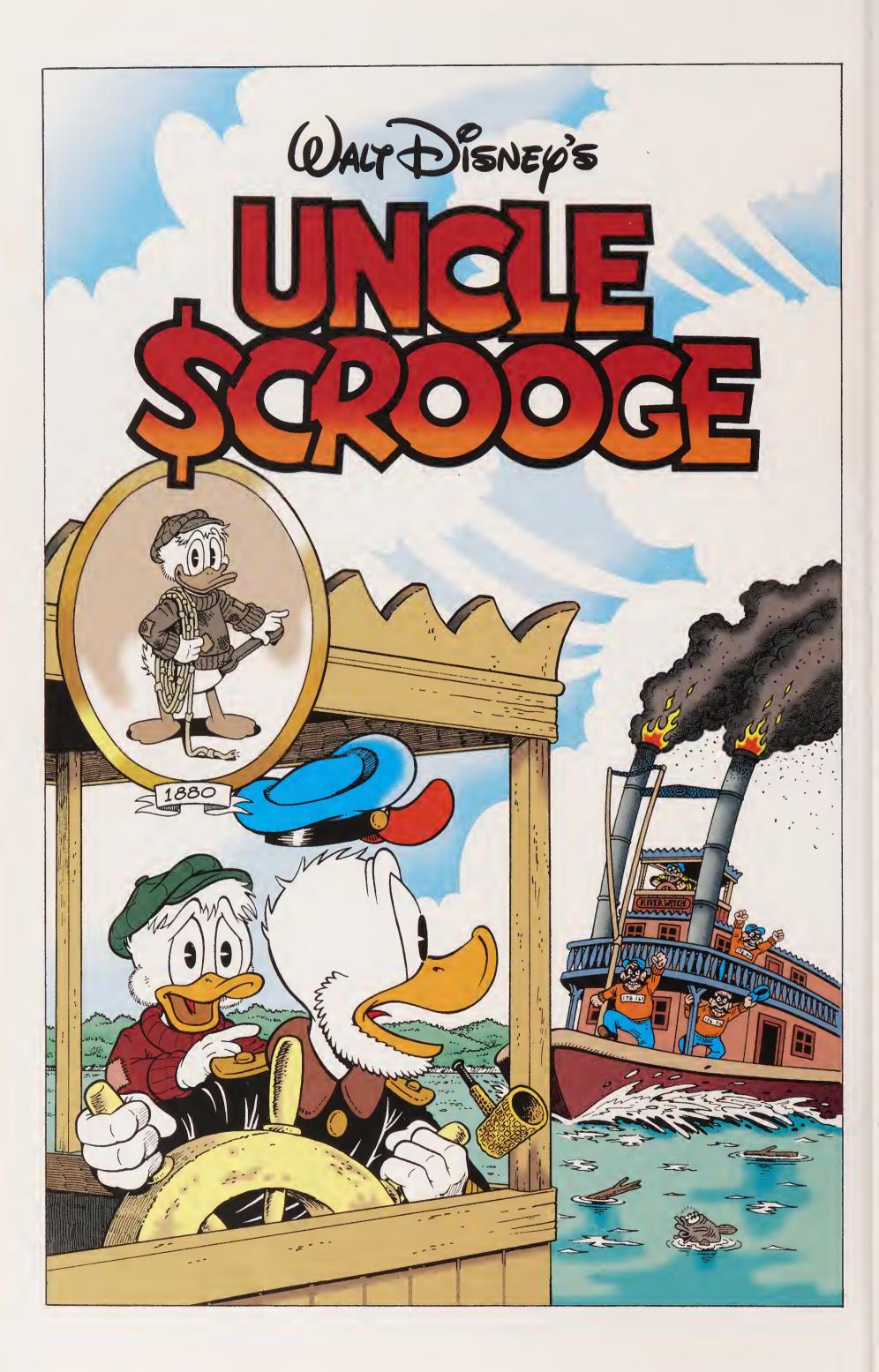
The grand hall of McDuck castle is copied from the grand hall of Camelot as drawn by Hal Foster in an early *Prince Valiant* page.

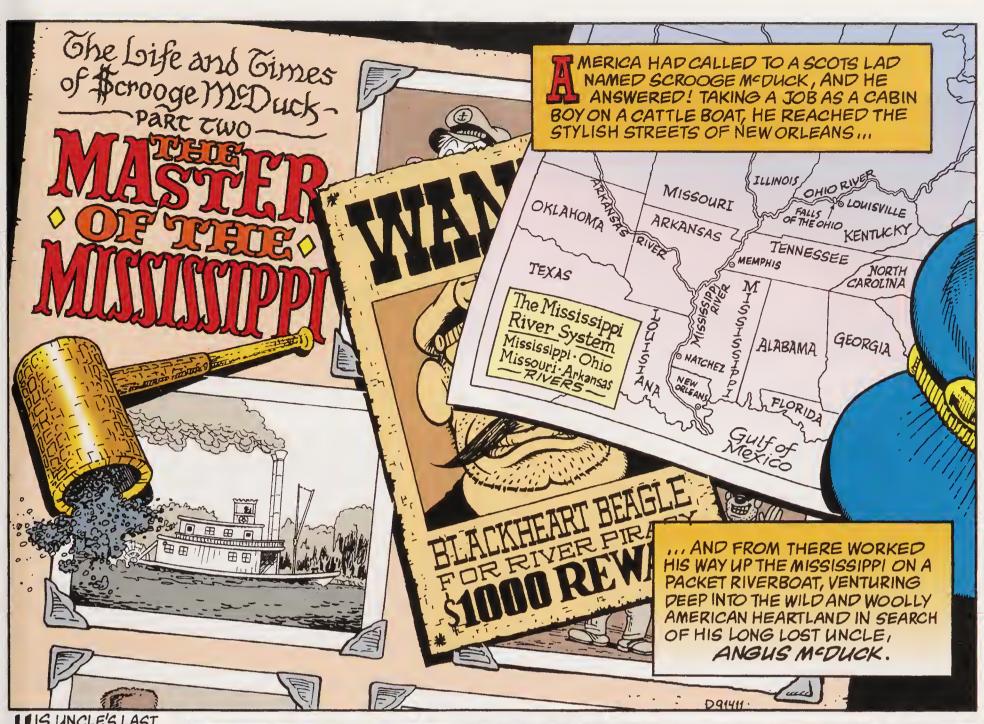
If you look closely at Sir Swamphole's armor (page 17, panel 4) you can see his skull peeking from the helmet, as discovered by a nephew in "The Old Castle's Secret."

Whenever Matilda appears (throughout the series), watch how the daisy on her hat loses one petal per panel. When she first appears in this episode, her posy is already denuded; this is because that sequence is a continuation from another story where her flower had already lost its petals (see "Of Ducks and Dimes and Destinies," *Uncle Scrooge* #297).

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, cover: If you can't find the hidden dedication, you'll see it written in lines in one of the photos in the scrapbook.

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: The dedication is written on a wad of bills sticking from the money pile.

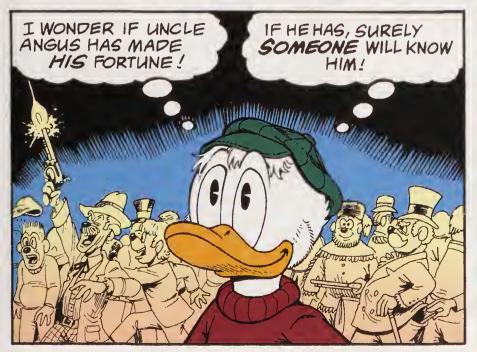




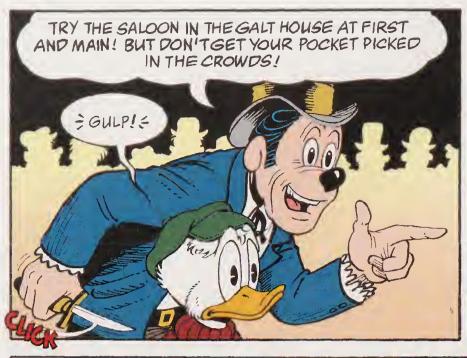
HIS UNCLE'S LAST
KNOWN ADDRESS
WAS LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY, WHERE
SCROOGE DOCKEDON
A GALA MAY EVENING
JUST AS THE RIVER
BOOMTOWN WAS
CELEBRATING ITS
CENTENNIAL AND
GAMBLERS FROM
AROUND THE WORLD
WERE INTOWN EAGERLY
AWAITING THE SIXTH
ANNUAL KENTUCKY DERBY.





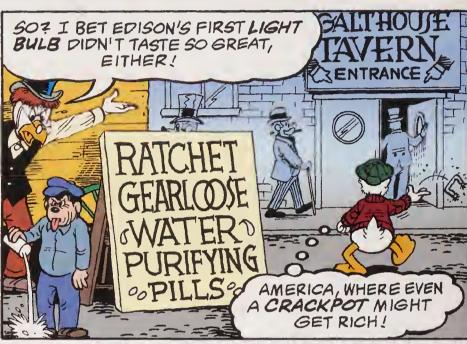






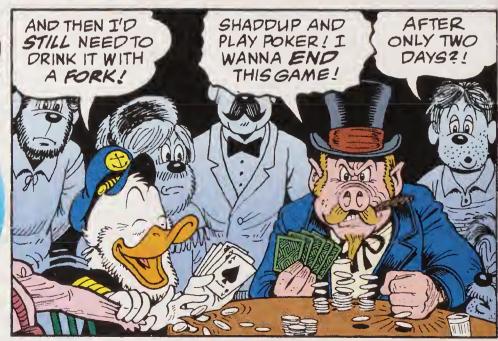


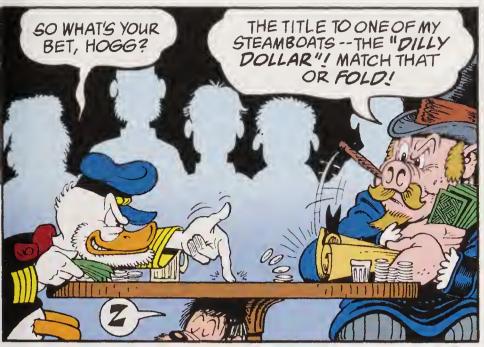








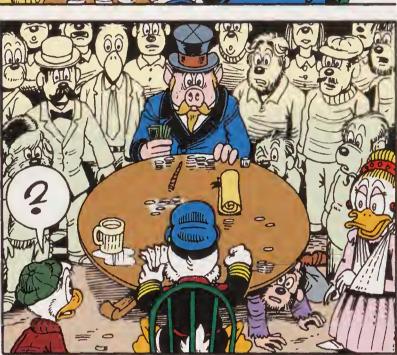


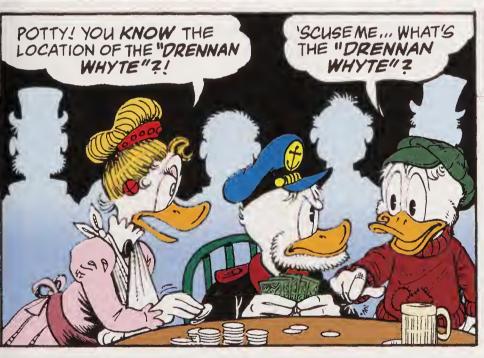


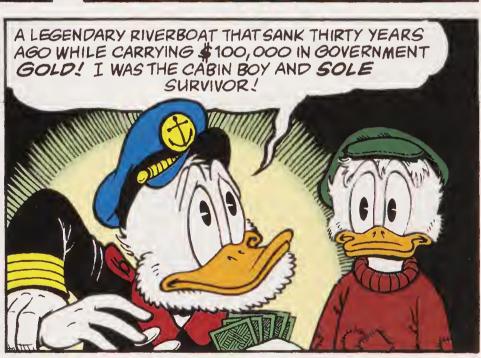


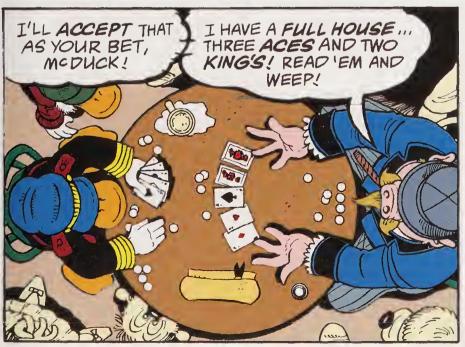


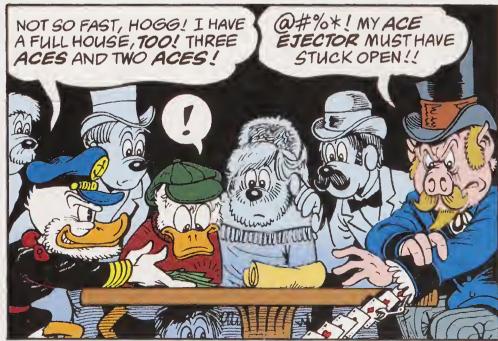


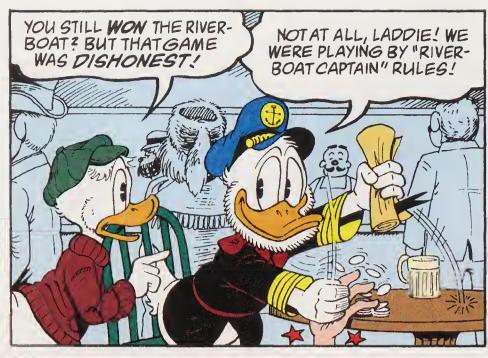






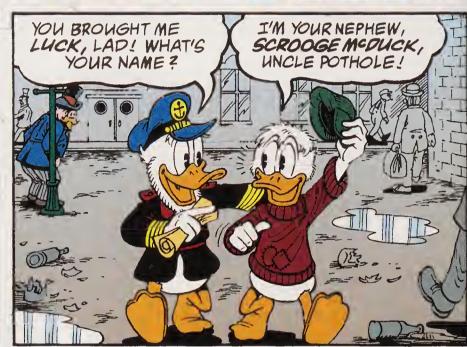








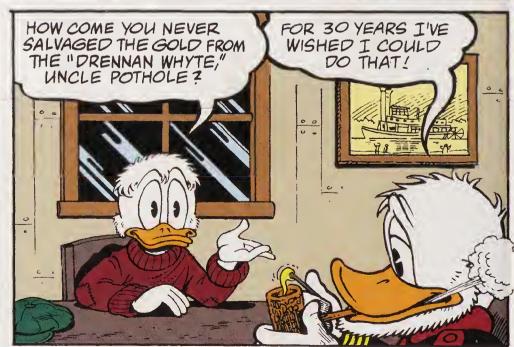


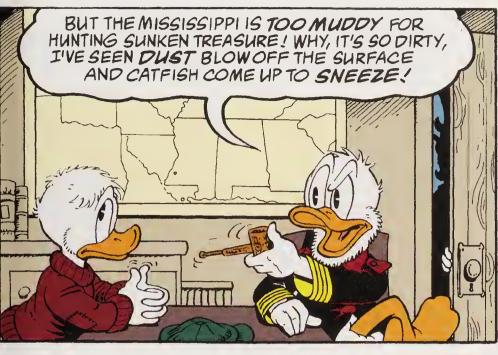




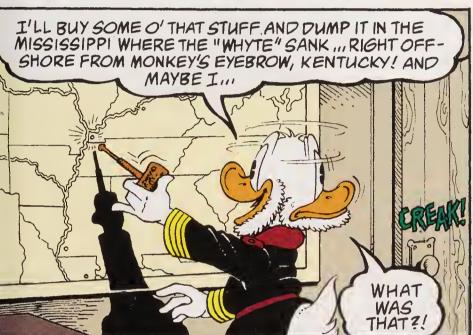




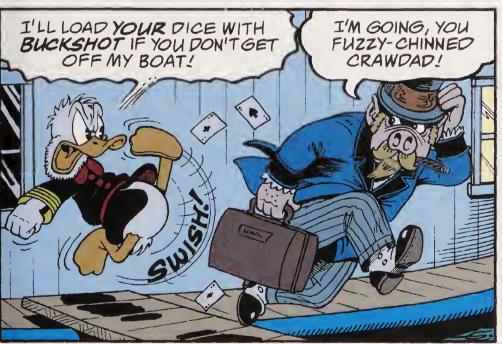








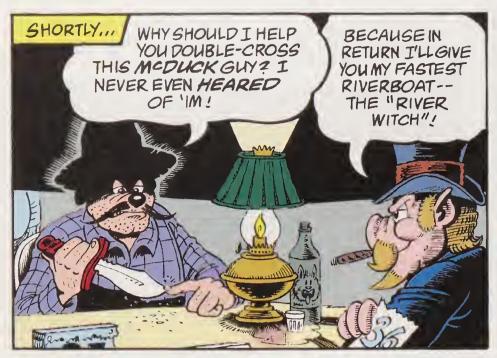








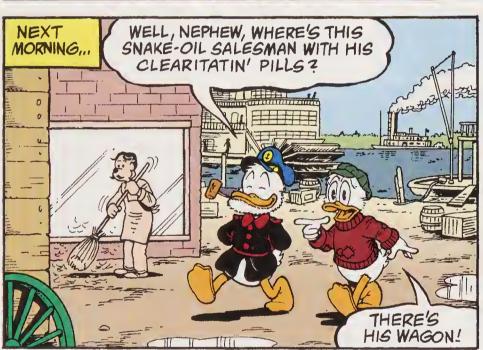


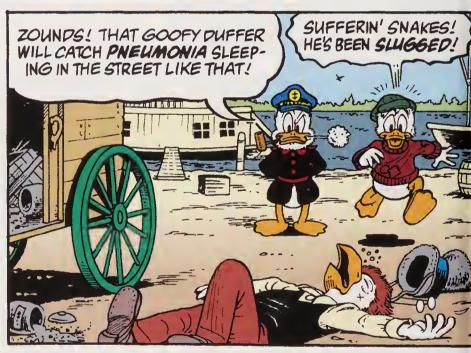




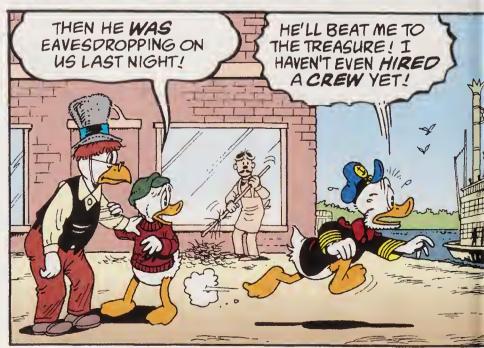


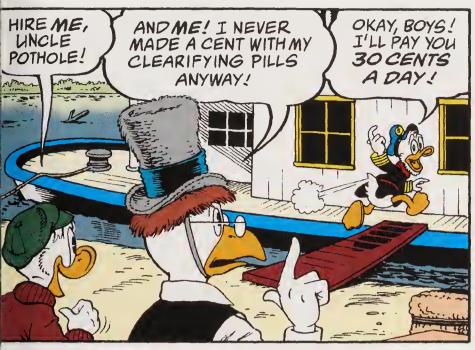


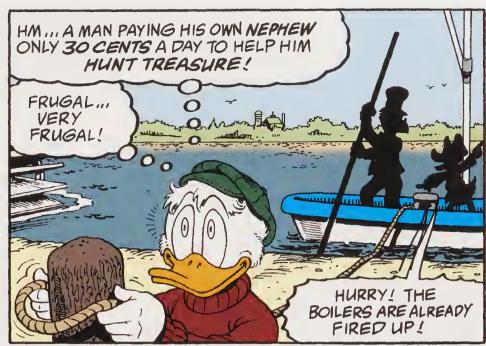


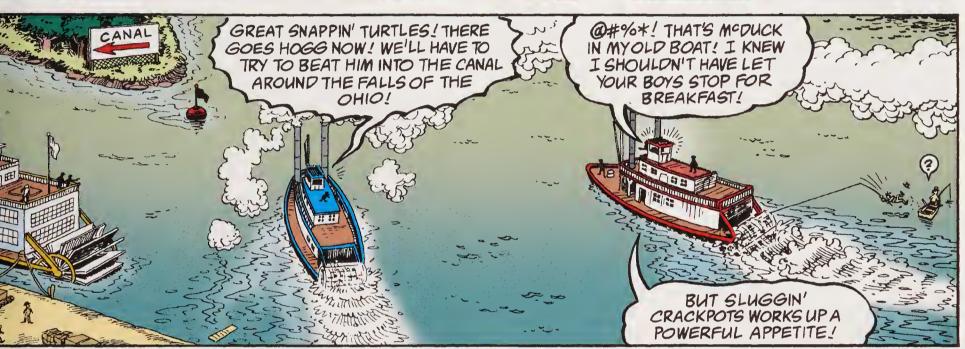


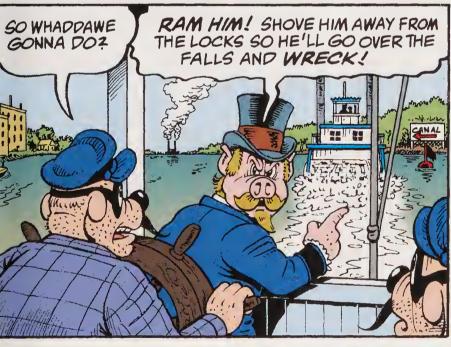


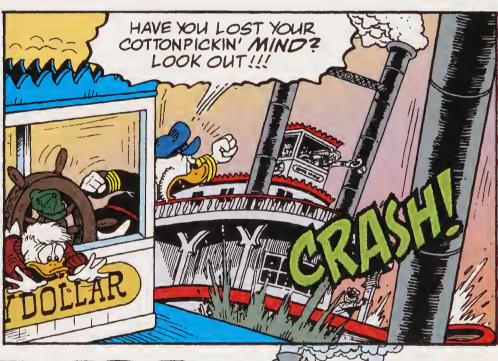






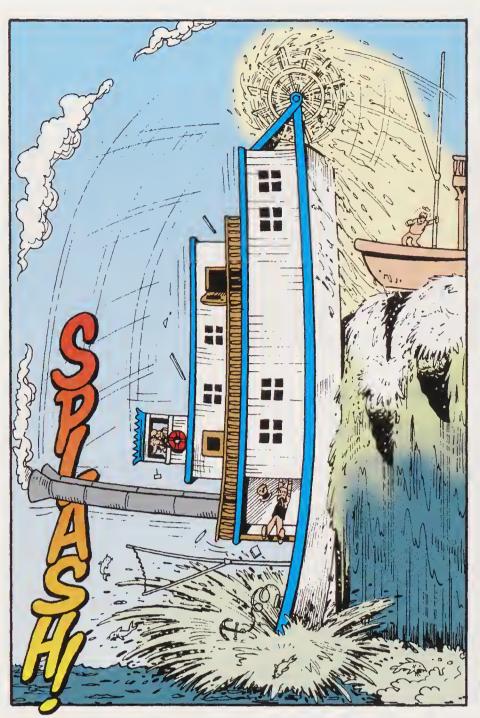


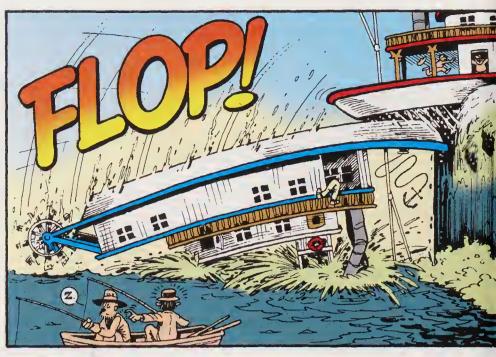




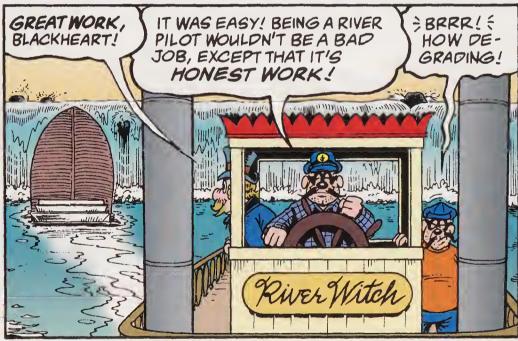


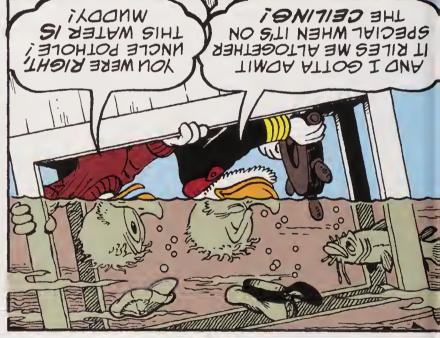








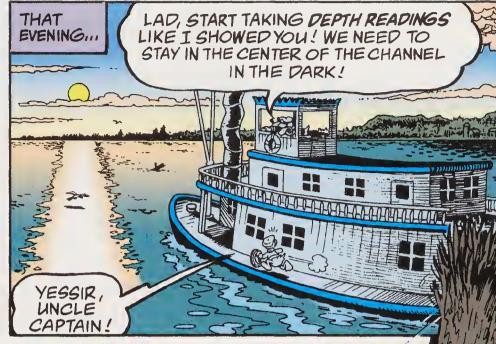




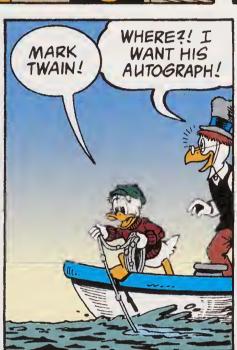


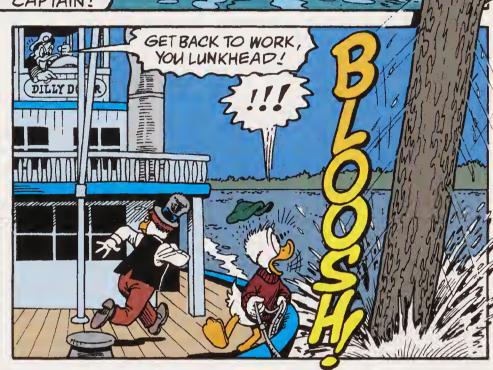


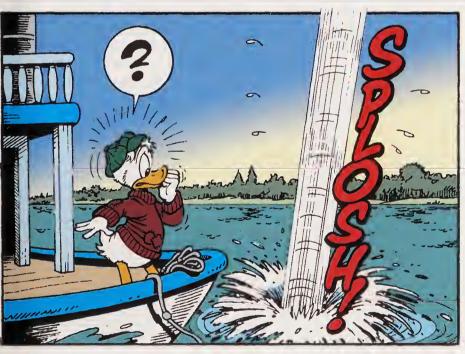




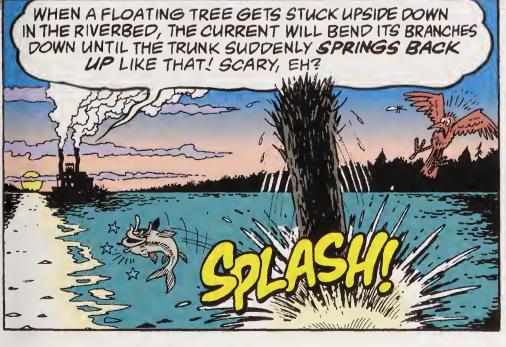






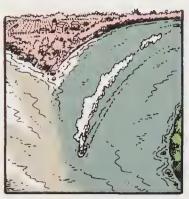








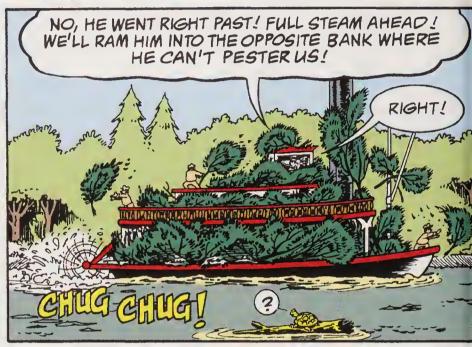
EARLY THE NEXT
MORNING, SHORTLY
AFTER THE "DILLY
DOLLAR" ENTERS THE
MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI
RIVER ...

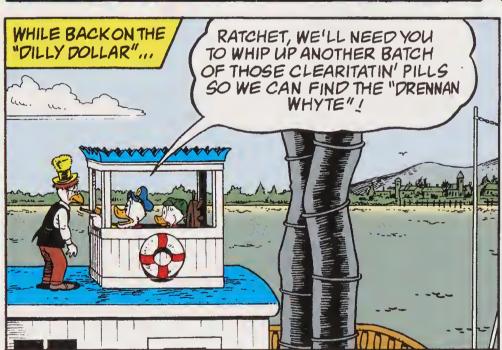


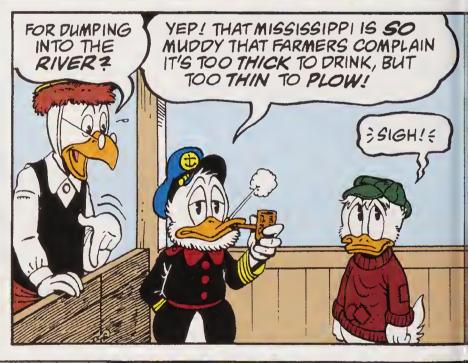




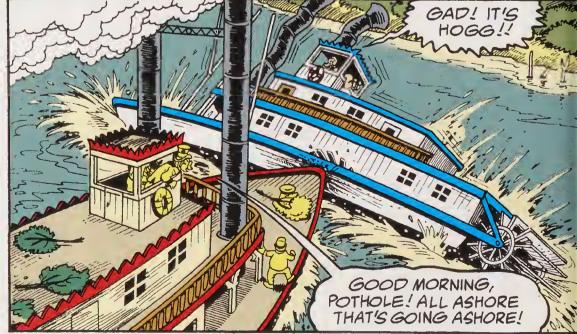


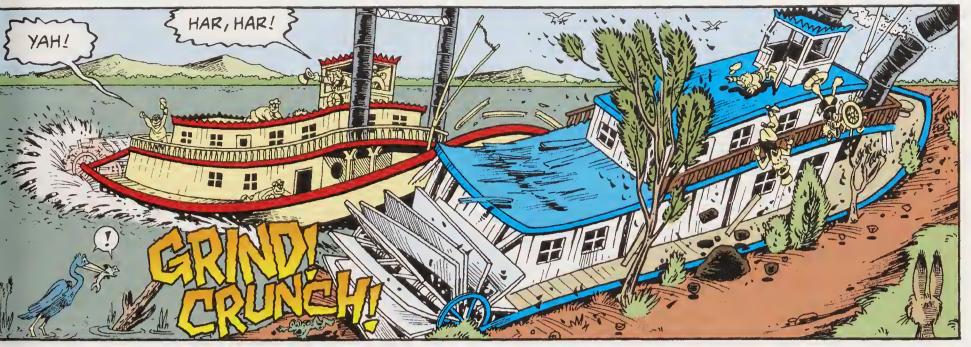




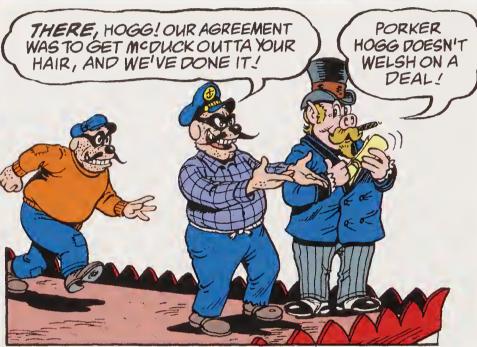












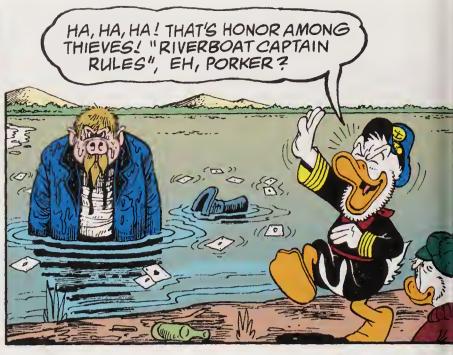


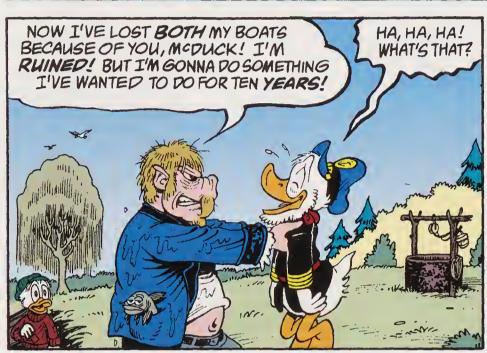


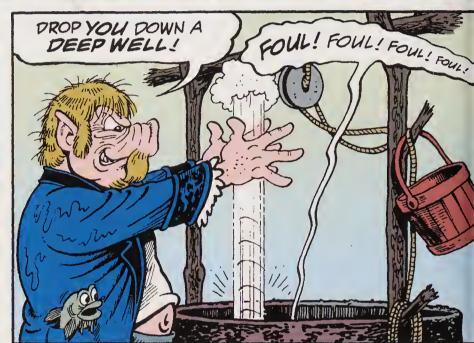


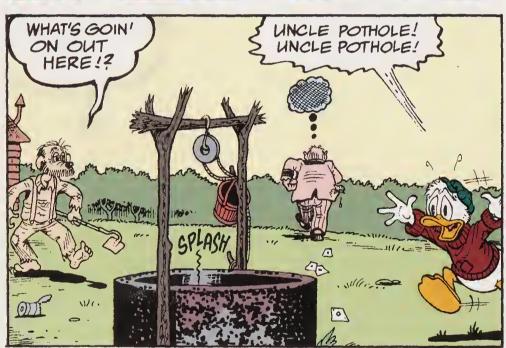


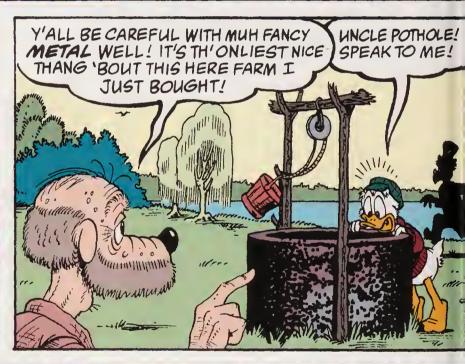




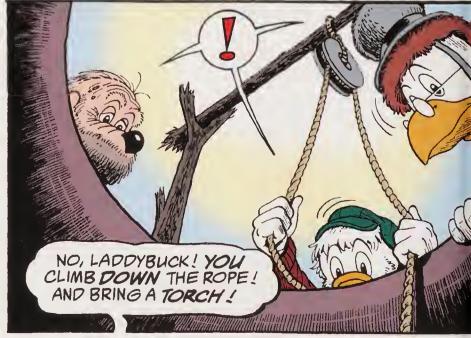




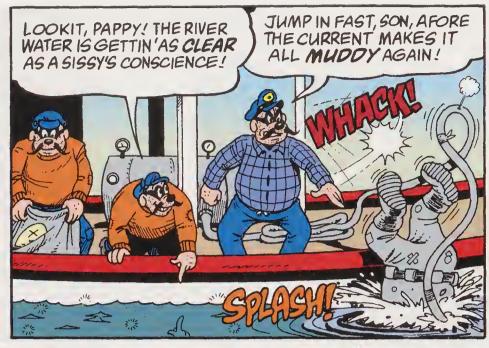


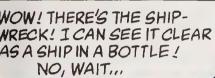






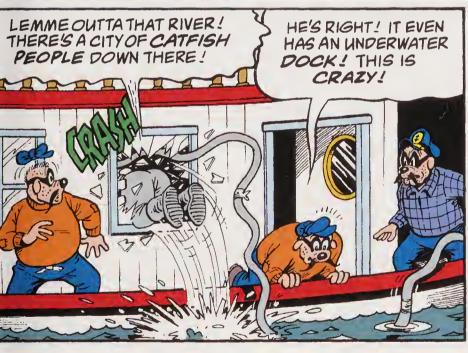


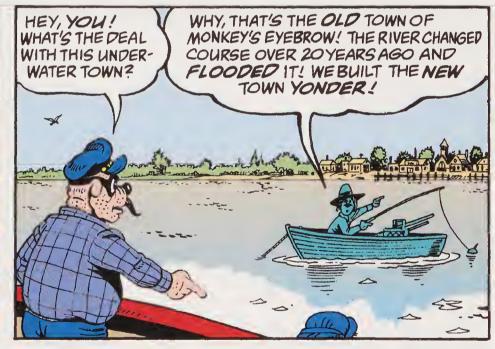


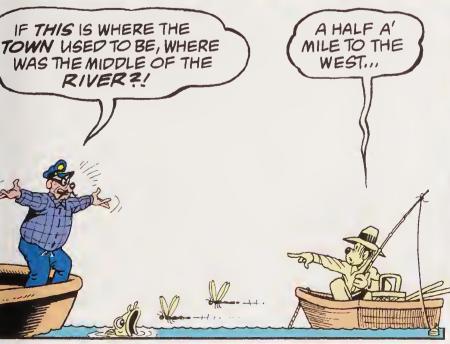


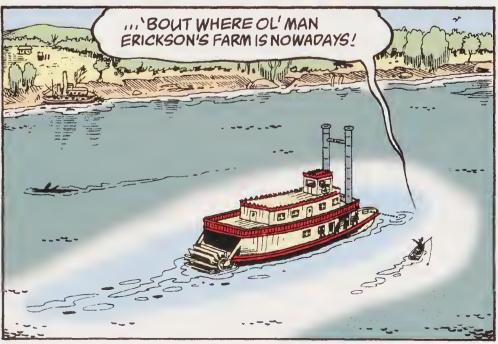


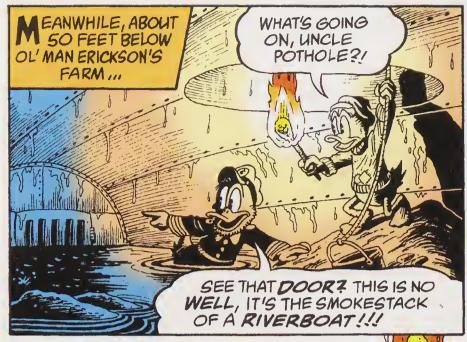








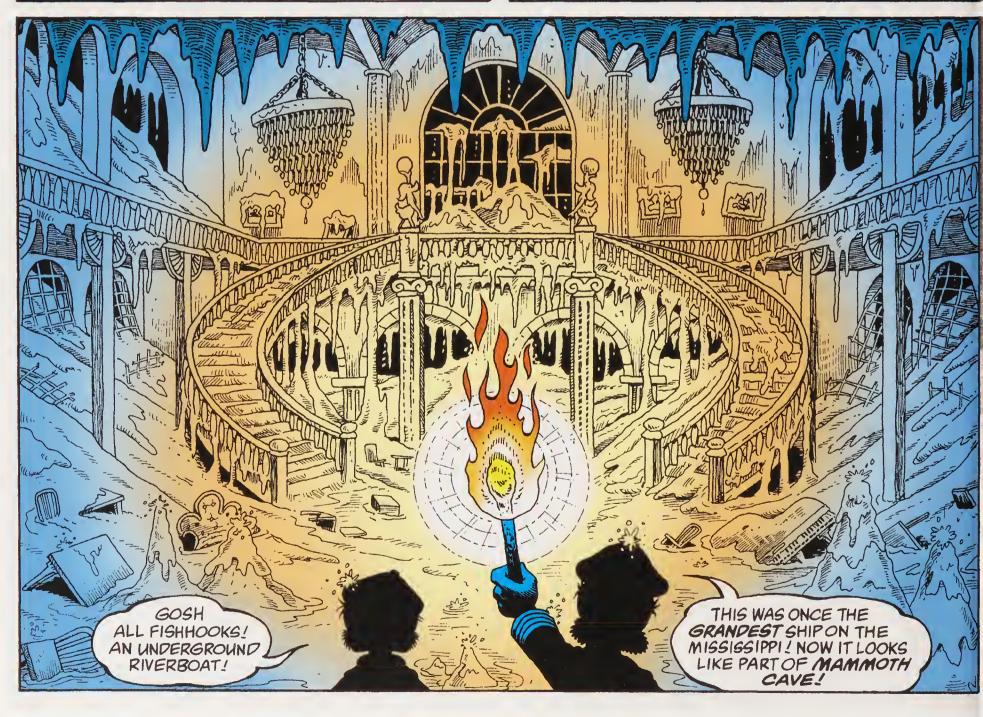








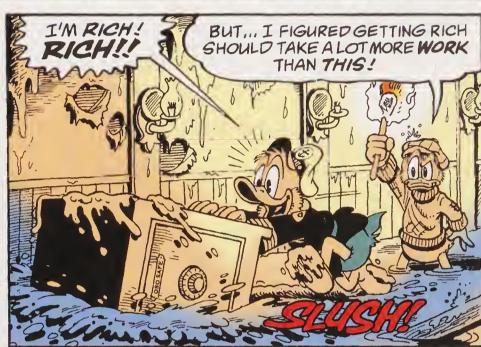








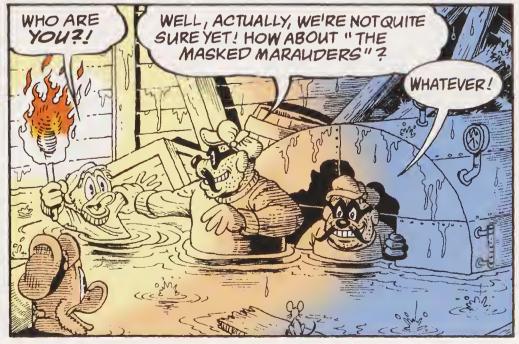




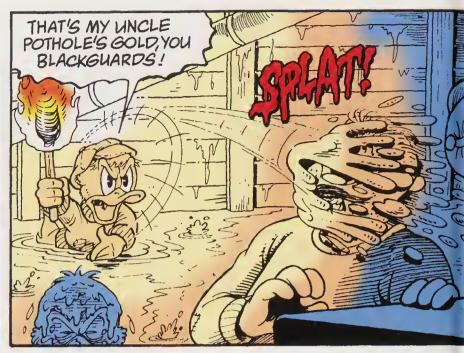










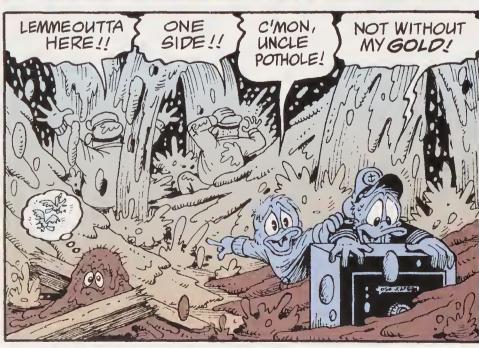


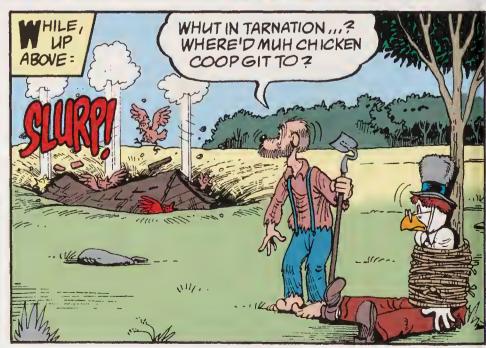


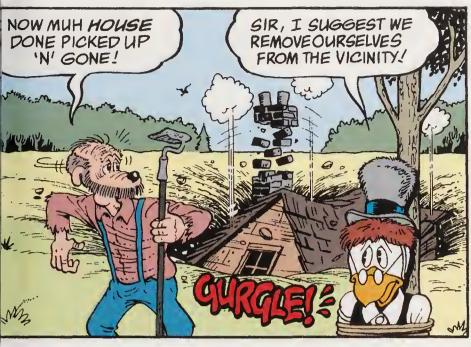




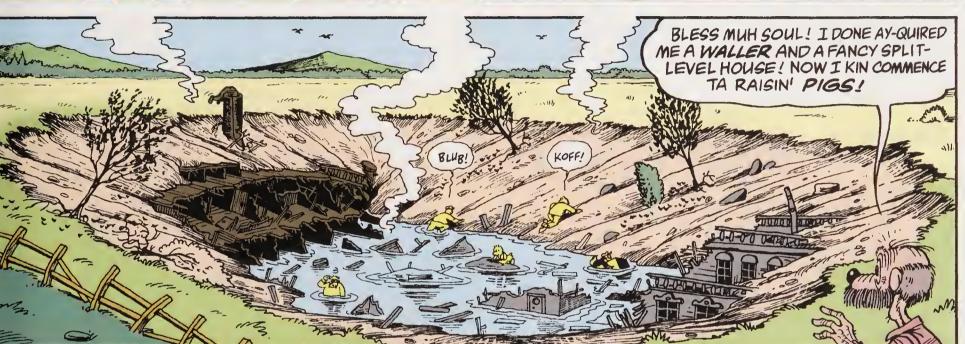


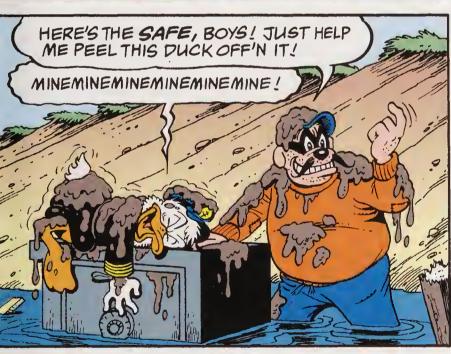




















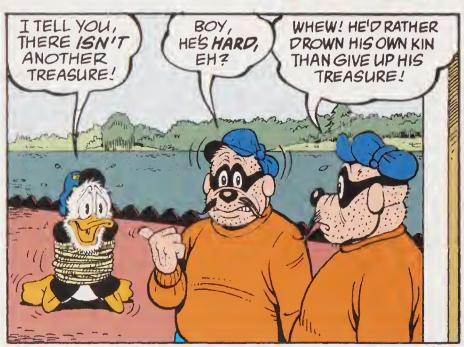






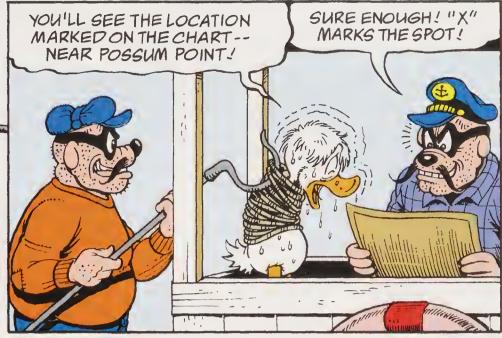




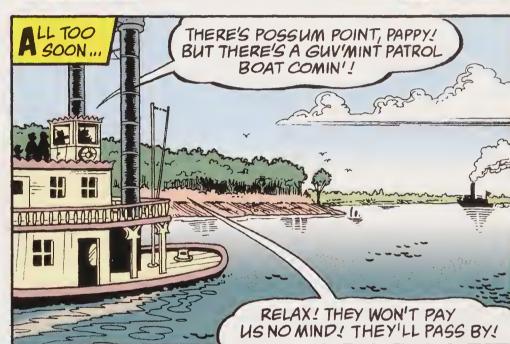


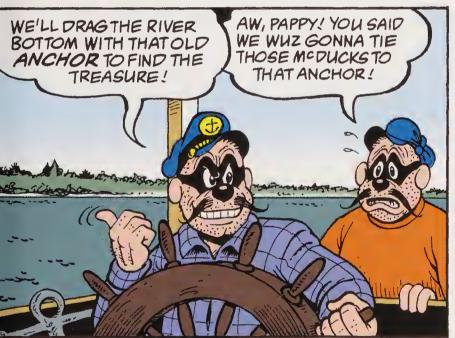












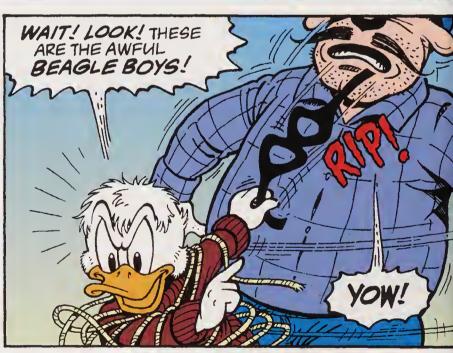














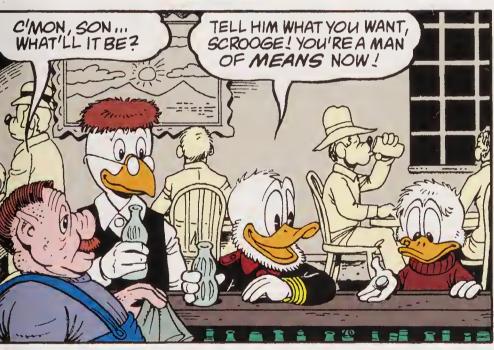




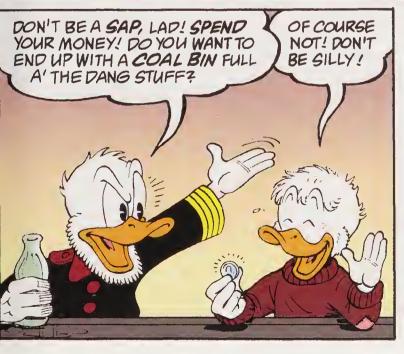












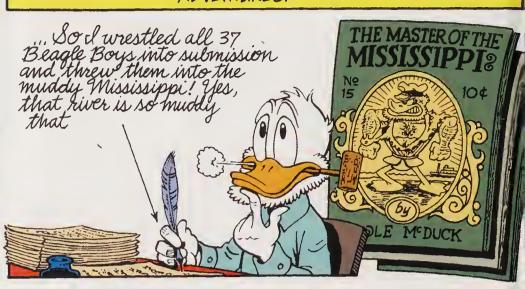




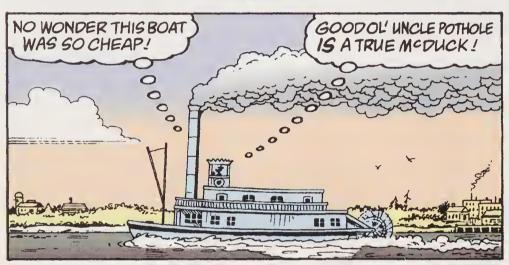
LIKE ALL MCDUCKS, POTHOLE WAS A MAN OF HIS WORD! AFTER TUTORING SCROOGE FOR TWO YEARS, HE SOLD THE "DILLY DOLLAR" TO THE LAD AT A BARGAIN PRICE...

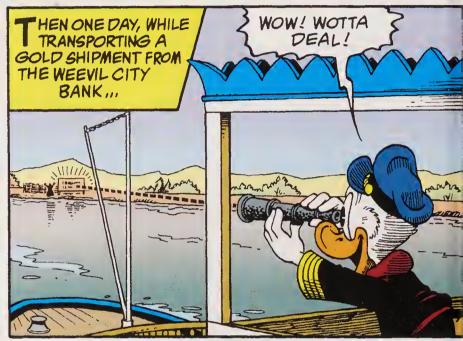


AS FOR POTHOLE, HE RETIRED TO NEW ORLEANS WHERE HE ENDED HIS DAYS WRITING DIME NOVELS OF HIS ADVENTURES.

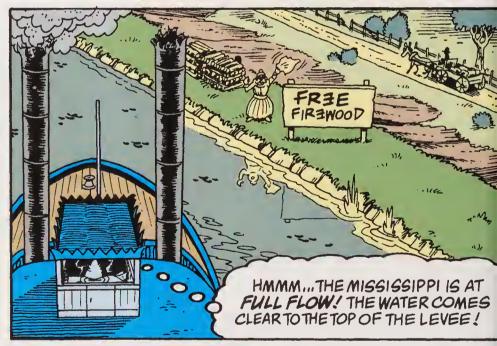


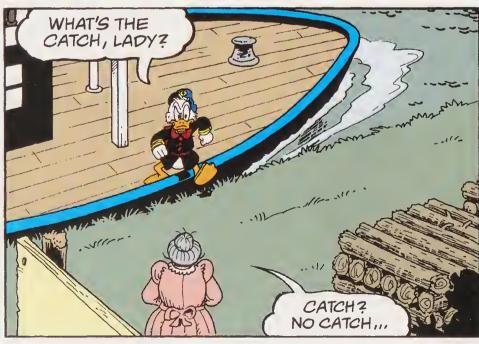
CROOGE BECAME THE NEW MASTER OF THE MISSISSIPPI,
ALTHOUGH BUYING THE "DOLLAR" TOOK ALMOST EVERY CENT
HE'D EARNED ON THE RIVER! BUT BUSINESS WAS BAD, FOR THE
RIVERBOATS COULD NO LONGER COMPETE WITH THE RAILROADS...









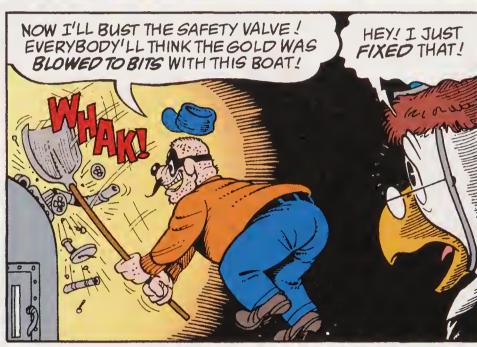


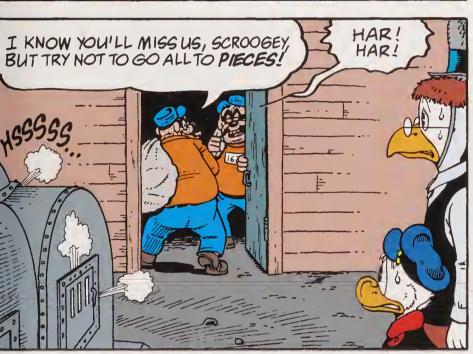




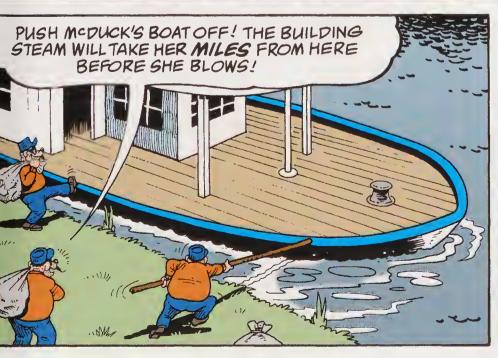






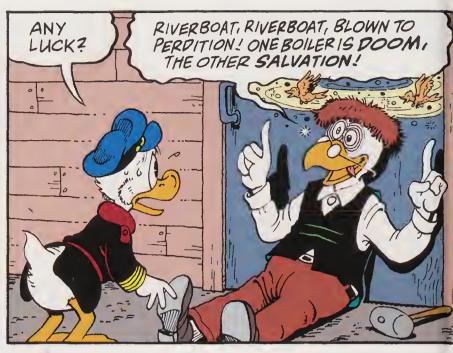








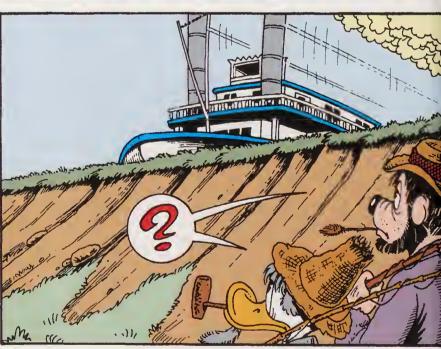


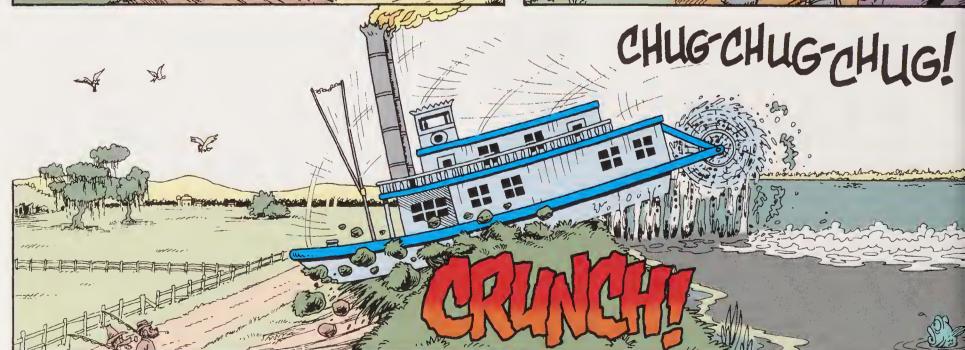


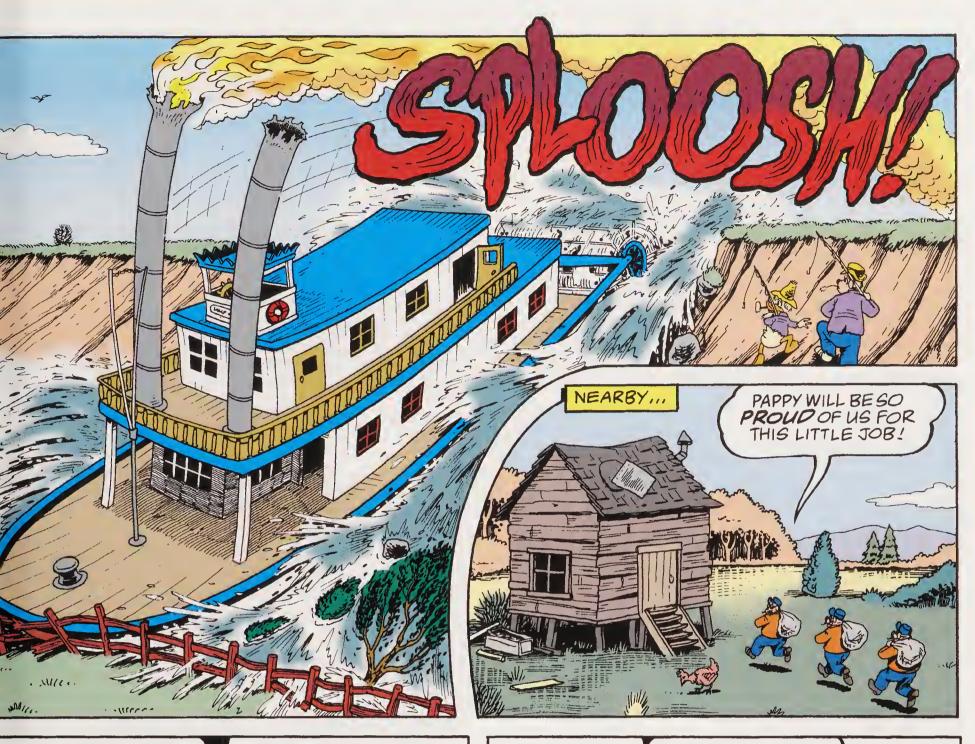
















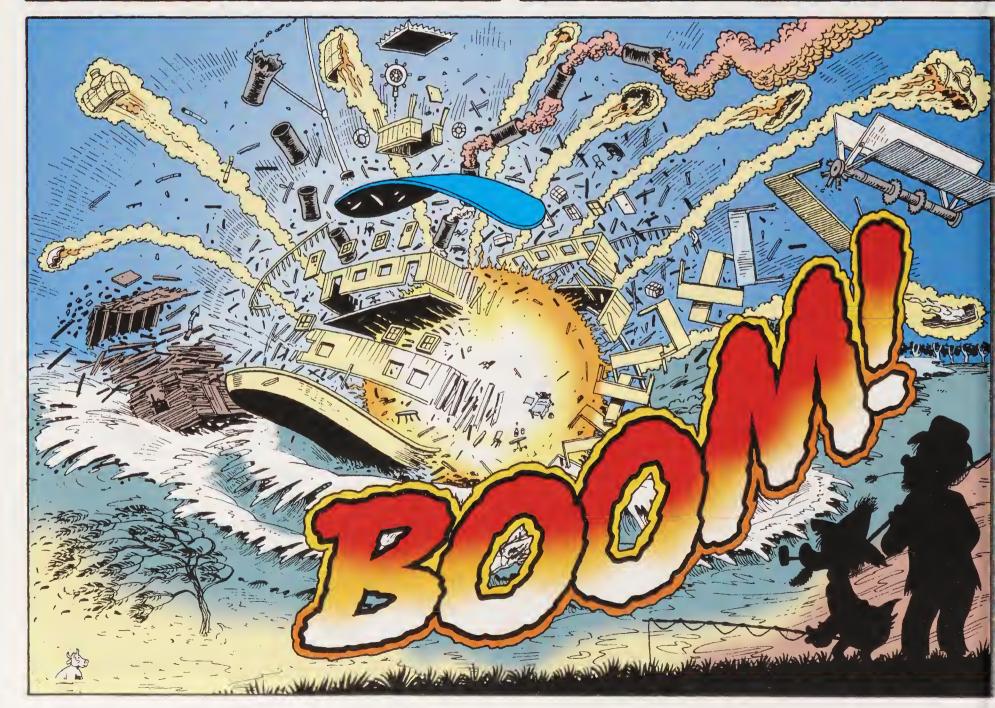






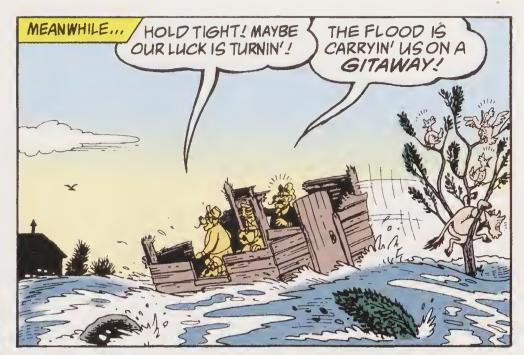
















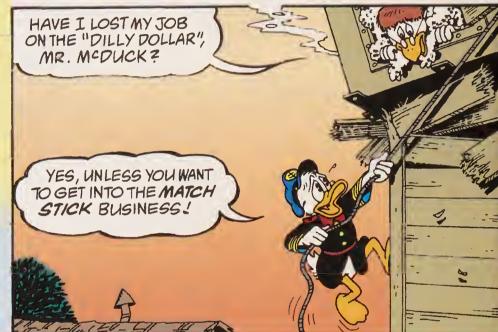






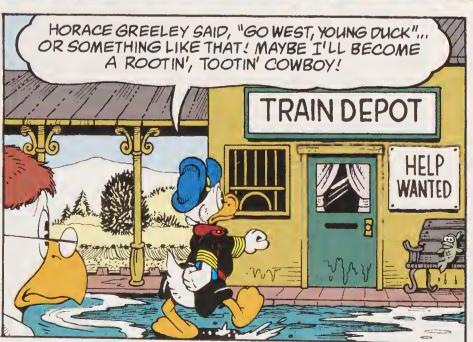












SO YOUNG SCROOGE TOOK A JOB AS A FIREMAN ON THE WABASH CANNONBALL, HEADING WEST... BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY!



The Making of

"The Master of the Mississippi"

napter II was one of the three long

chapters in the series, along with chapters VIII and XI. The other chapters were 15 pages, very short for adventure stories and for the amount of material I had to cover in each tale. I can't recall now why I was limited to this length, but I do recall asking to make chapters VIII & XI extra long due to the special quality of the stories. As to why chapter II was made long, this escapes my memory as well. I suspect that after chapter I was completed, someone realized this series was a

pretty special idea for a Disney comic,

and wanted to create a special 48-page

issue to be published in select Egmont countries. This created a problem that I still haven't quite figured out in that several countries which don't publish long stories such as Sweden and Finland never printed the first two chapters of the series and simply began with Chapter III. I suspect that those editors were fooled somehow by the manner in which the first two chapters were presented to them in a 43-page unit, and they never realized that it wasn't imperative that the first two chapters be printed together, or that I would have broken Chapter II apart into three segments if they'd asked. So, in some

Scrooge's days on the Mississippi River were referred to in three different stories by Barks, so I knew the Mississippi would be the background for his first American adventure. "The Great Steamboat Race," in Uncle Scrooge #11, told of Scrooge's and Horseshoe Hogg's modern-day completion of a riverboat race begun in 1870 by their respective uncles, Pothole McDuck and Porker Hogg. My story opens 10 years after that first ill-fated race as young Scrooge, fresh from Scotland, arrives in

countries this was a 10-part series with a very

puzzling opening chapter.

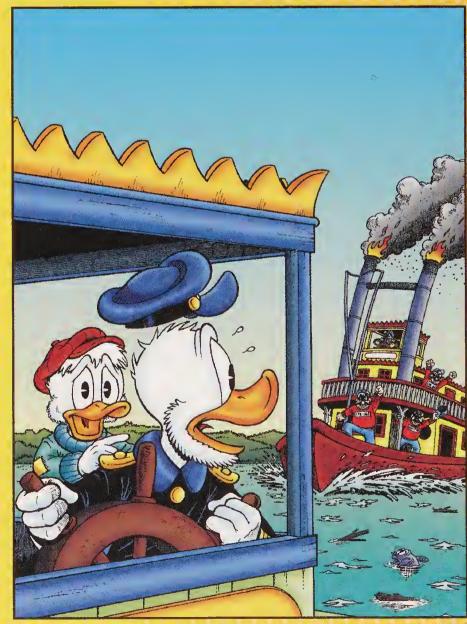
Louisville to find his father's brother,

Angus. (I decided "Pothole" didn't sound very Scottish and was

> obviously a nickname for a riverboater, a pothole being a round depression dug in the riverbed mud by the water currents.)

Why Louisville? Well, sure, that's where I live, so why not? Besides, in 1880 it would have been one of the main ports on the Mississippi River system. And the reason for that was all river traffic had always been forced to stop at Louisville due to the Falls of the Ohio which are located here (or I should say,

Louisville is located at the Falls). Those waterfalls, the only such feature in the Mississippi



This cover illustration for the European edition of Chapter II is virtually identical with the American cover, except for Uncle Pothole's pipe, which doesn't appear here. Color by Egmont.

system, would add an authentic bit of danger to the story. Of course, the "Falls" are actually just a series of rapids, not a single drop as I show in the story.

The other major source for this adventure was Barks' own one-and-only full tale of Scrooge's early life, the untitled story which appears in the 1957 special Uncle Scrooge Goes to Disneyland. That tale told of Scrooge's old riverboat days on the Dilly Dollar with his first mate Ratchet Gearloose (Gyro's grandfather). The villains in that adventure seemed to already be old enemies of Scrooge: Blackheart Beagle and his three brawling sons, who are apparently the grandfather and fathers of the current Beagle Boys. This means that our Beagle Boys are a group of brothers and cousins. As to which are brothers and which are cousins, you can easily tell by family resemblances (?). Anyway, my story tells how Scrooge met his Uncle Pothole, how they came by the Dilly Dollar and first mate Ratchet, and their first encounter with Blackheart and sons.

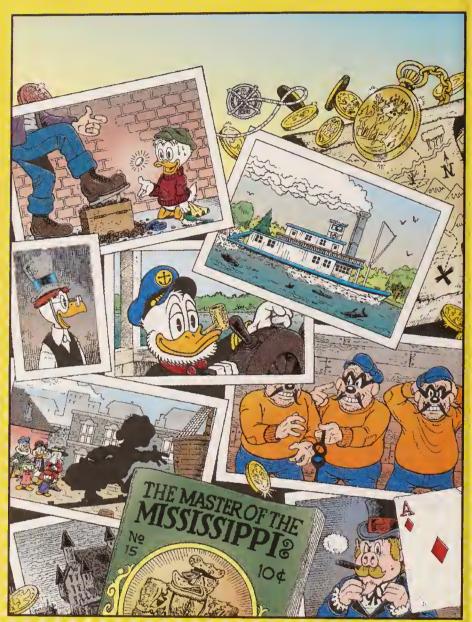
That *Uncle Scrooge Goes to Disneyland* adventure dealt with Scrooge beating out Blackheart in getting the job of transporting a shipment of gold to New Orleans. My tale takes a two-year leap ahead at one point, landing in the time-river immediately after Barks' story when Scrooge is on his way to New Orleans with that very gold bullion.

The third Barks riverboat reference that I use is from "The Hall of the Mermaid Queen" in *Uncle Scrooge* #68, wherein Scrooge recalls having earned a certain silver dollar during a riverboat race in 1880. My story shows that moment.

And this tale concludes with Scrooge going to work on the "Wabash Cannonball" railroad, a fact mentioned in Barks' "The Cattle King," in *Uncle Scrooge* #69. (Barks' story has Scrooge say he was the "cannon on the Wabash Cannonball"... but I can't figure out what that's supposed to mean. But it sounds good!)

Though the "Wabash Cannonball" never really existed and was merely the name of a popular tune of the early 20th century, I have otherwise made my usual effort to base the story on fact. The Galt House is where the action really was in 19th century Louisville, and the Legend of the Drennan Whyte was

actually a popular tall tale of the time. And believe it or not, the town of Monkey's Eyebrow, Kentucky, actually exists! I would never dare make up a name that silly! But I must confess I did relocate it just a few miles, as I needed for it to be on the Mississippi River rather than where it's actually located around the bend on (or near) the Ohio River.



Chapters I and II of "The Life of Scrooge" were first published in a special supplement in Scandinavia, and this drawing was used as the cover. D.U.C.K. spoiler:

That pipe is a good hiding place!

Insane Details To Look For

The Dilly Dollar's smokestacks are still damaged in the 1882 segment of this tale, as they were in the Barks story that I was using as a springboard. Ratchet makes a reference to just having repaired the boilers.

I couldn't have Scrooge's Uncle Pothole hire him for 30 cents an hour as Scrooge now pays his nephew, as 30 cents an hour in 1880 would have been a handsome salary!

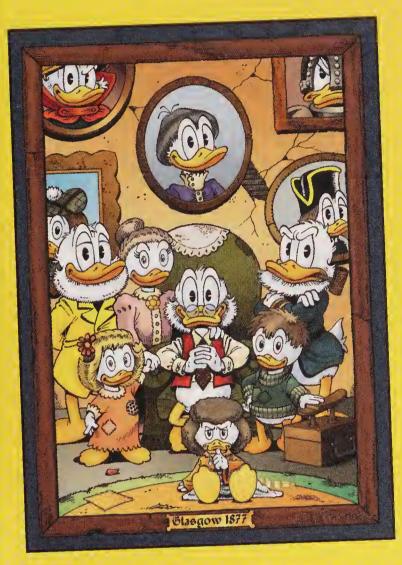
All the gag references that Pothole makes to how muddy the Mississippi is are swiped from Mark Twain books.

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, covers: The dedication is hidden in the pattern of Uncle Pothole's corncob pipe.

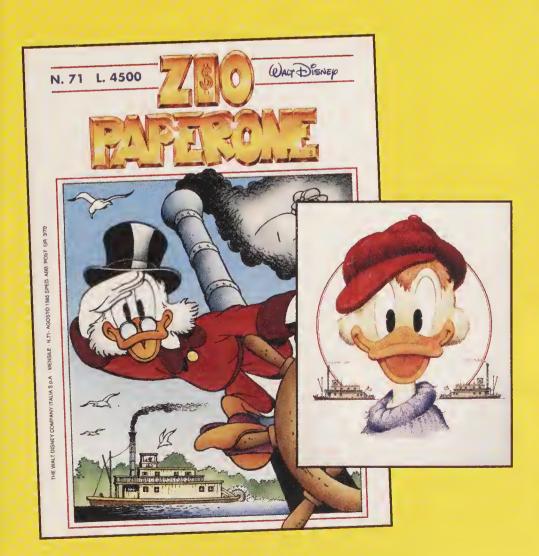
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: The dedication is again hidden in the pattern on the corncob pipe.

The World of The Life of Scrooge

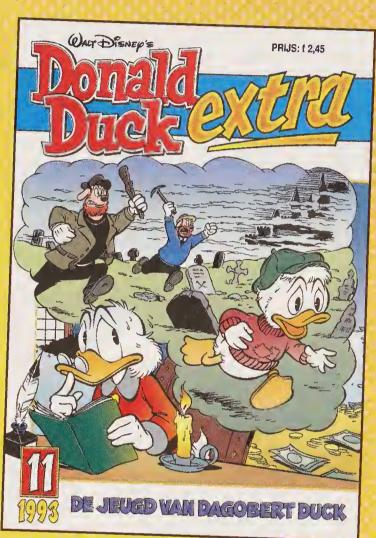
Every country that loves Disney ducks has its own edition — or editions — of "The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck." And each country's Disney comics publisher has tried to make its version unique. Sometimes this has involved commissioning new artwork from Don Rosa himself. Other times, it has meant asking homegrown talent to create their own covers or vignettes based on Rosa's stories. Let's look at a few:



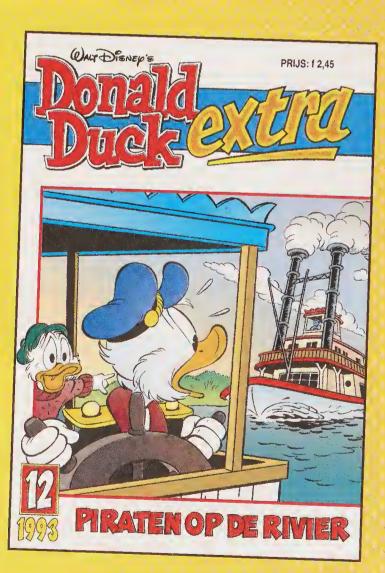
Centerfold poster from French Picsou 396 (2005), art by Don Rosa (reflecting "The Last of the Clan McDuck," though the story wasn't in this specific comic).



Front cover drawing and back cover vignette from Italian Zio Paperone 71 (1995), art by Marco Rota (illustrating "The Master of the Mississippi").



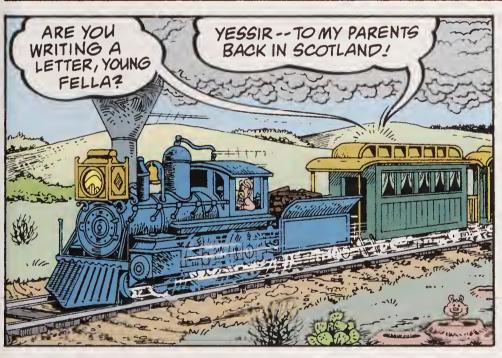
Cover to Dutch Donald Duck Extra 11/1993, art by Mau Heymans (illustrating "The Last of the Clan McDuck").



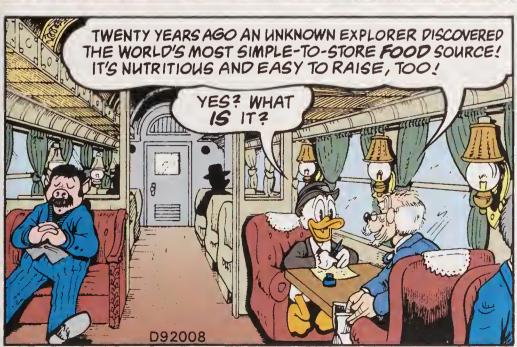
Cover to Donald Duck Extra 12/1993, art by Michel Nadorp (illustrating "The Master of the Mississippi"). This drawing inspired Don Rosa's own covers for the story.

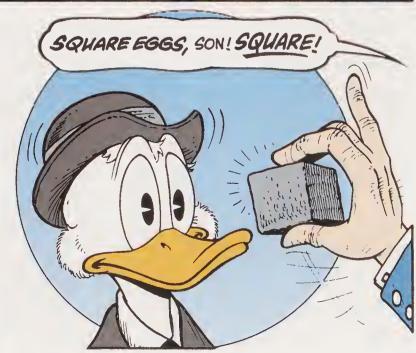
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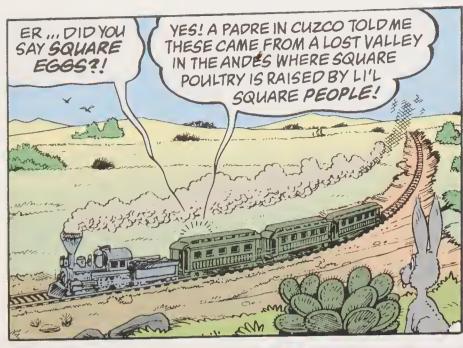


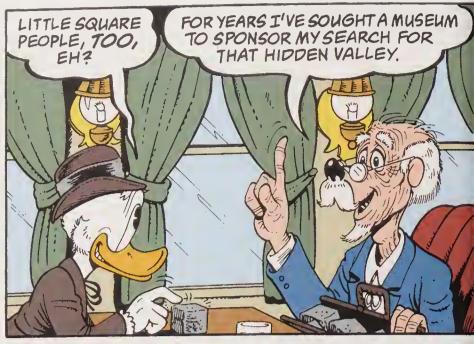




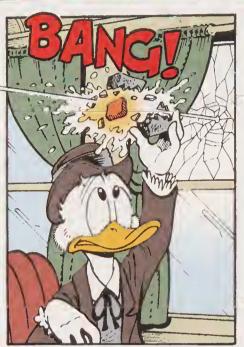


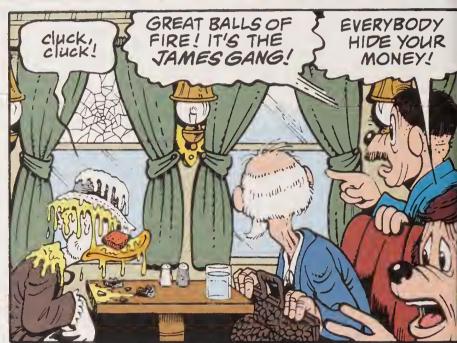




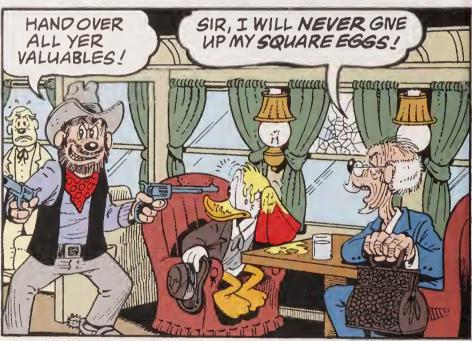




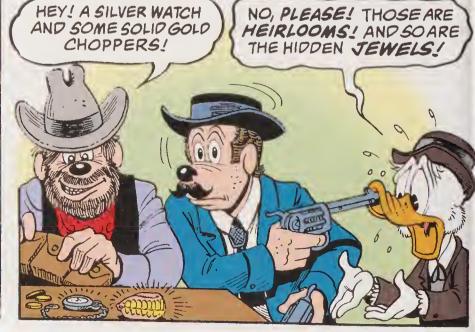


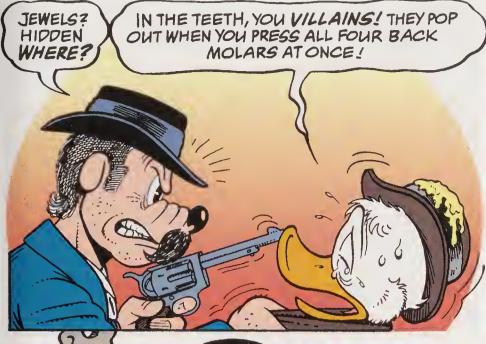




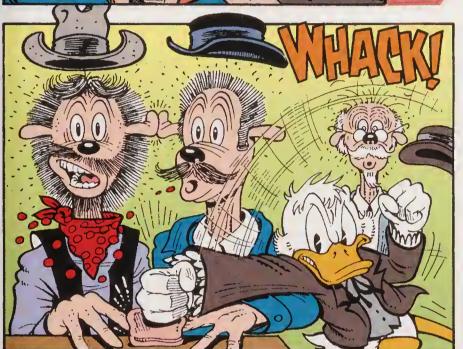






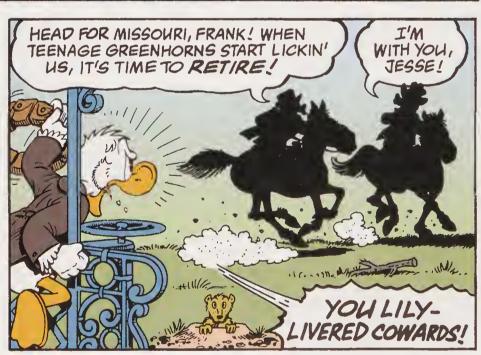








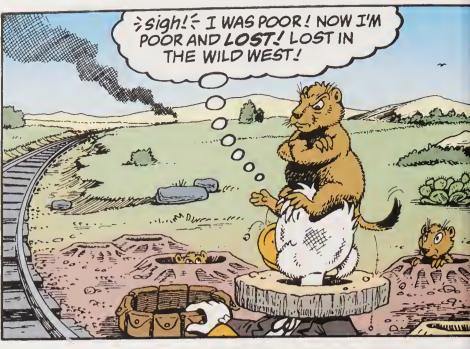




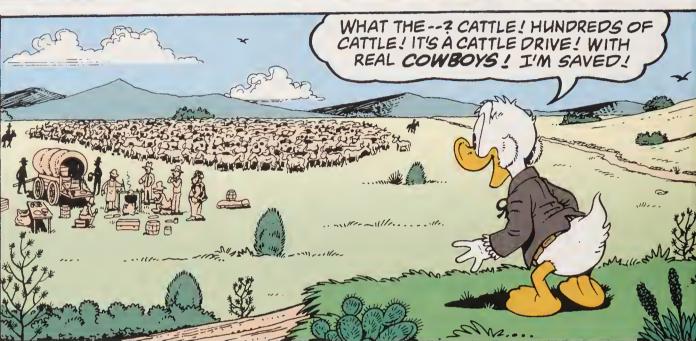


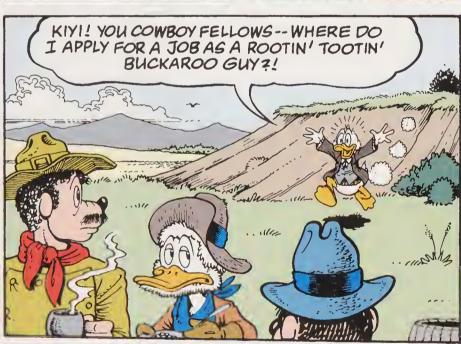


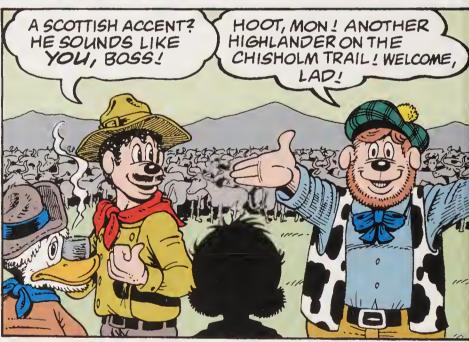


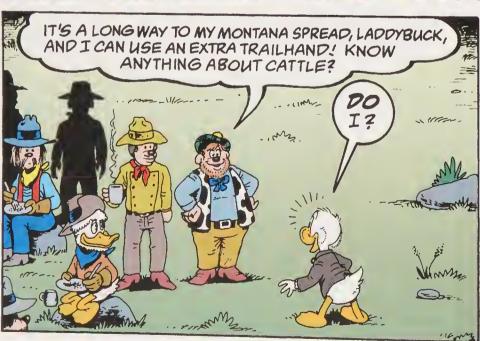




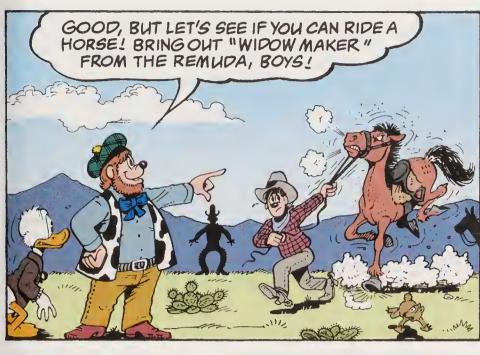


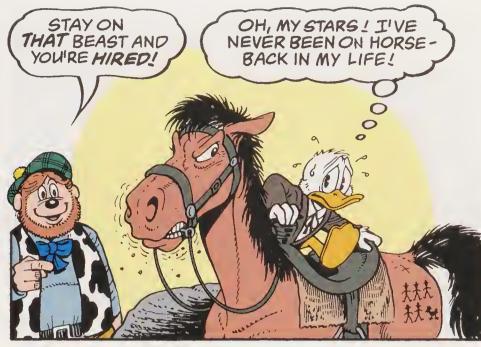










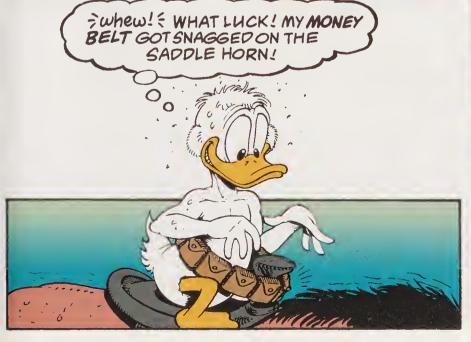


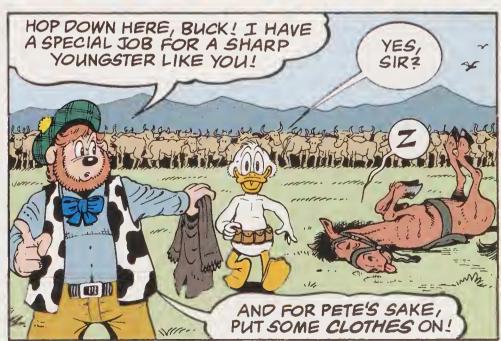


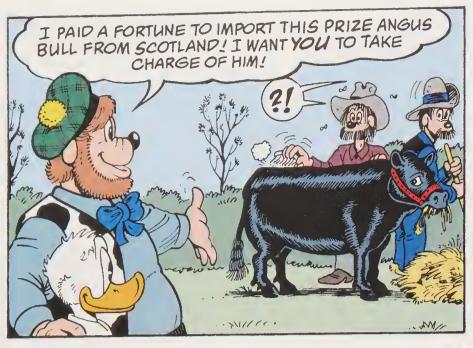






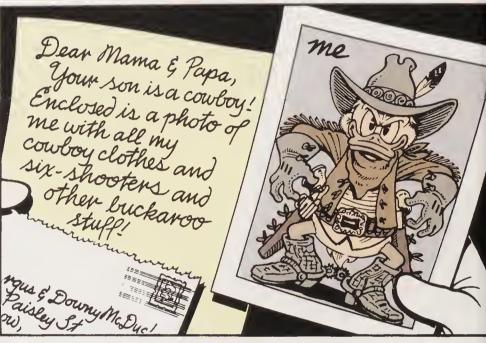














The wild west is all you've heard! On our cattle drive to mr. Mackenzie's ranch in the Montana Territory, the Rocky Mountains are always to the west! They make the Scottish mountains look like molehills!

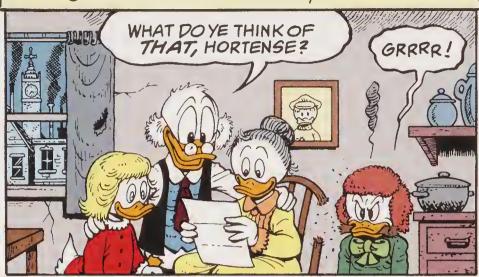




And with winter coming, you should see how much it snows on the Great Plains! It's especially hard on my horse Hortense sometimes!

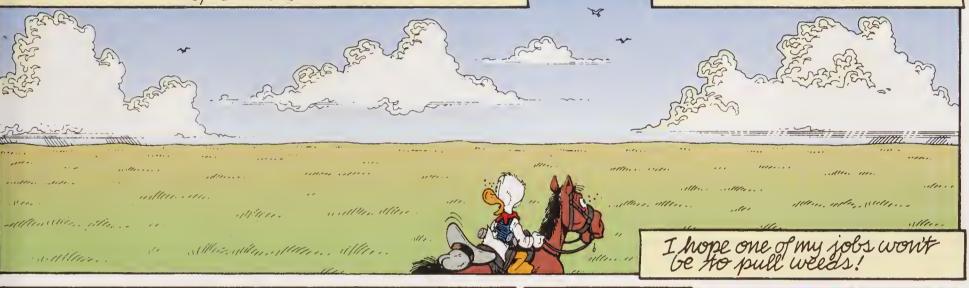


Yes, I renamed my horse after my baby sister! They both have a bad temper!



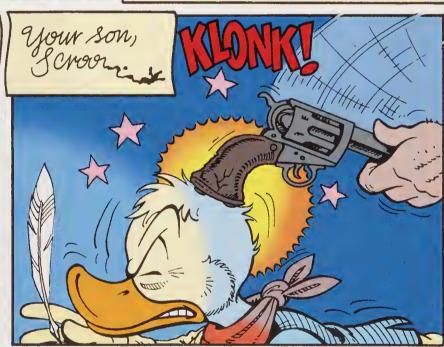
Once we reached the Montana Territory I could see why they call it "Big Sky Country" and "the Sea of Grass"!

It's just like a front lawn, only bigger than all of Scotland!



We've almost reached Mr. Mackenzie's ranch! I'm sure he's pleased with how well I've taken care of "Vindicator"! I'll write again soon -but it's been a hard day today and soon I'll be out like a light!





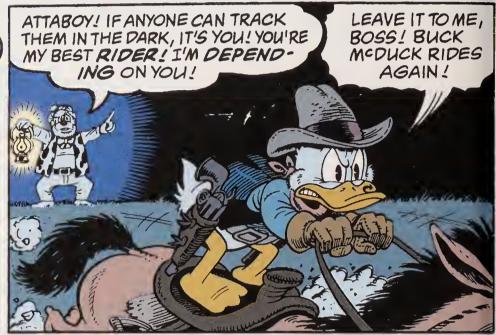










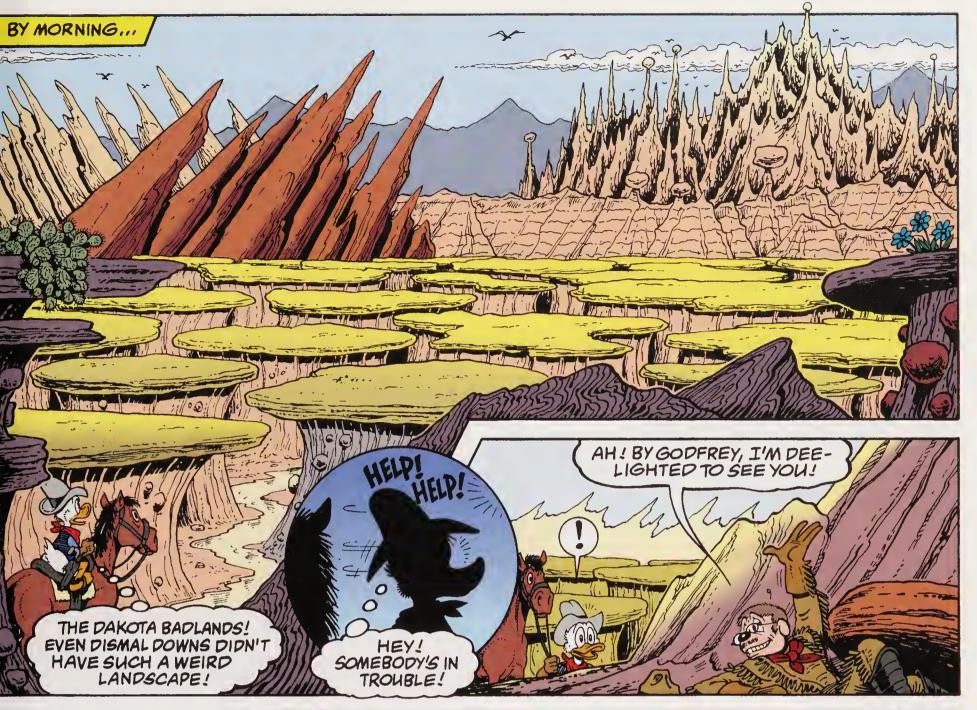


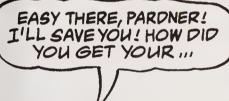








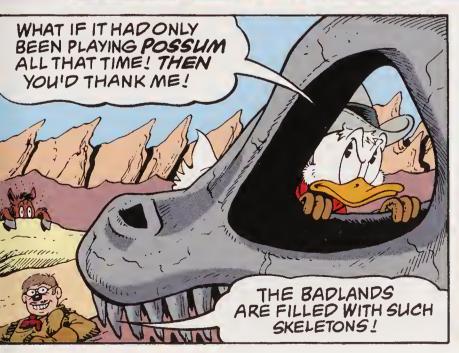


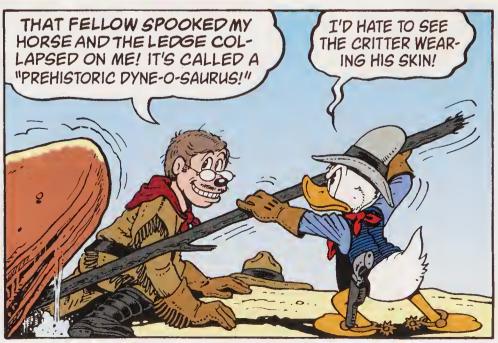


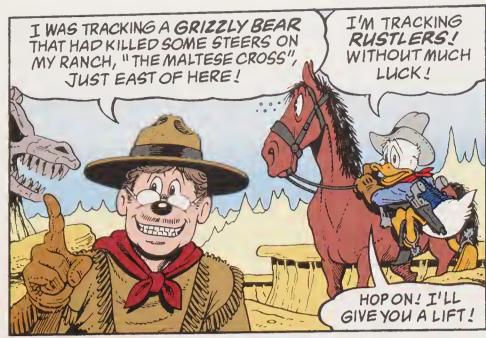


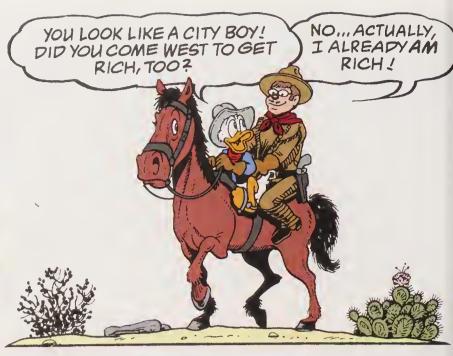


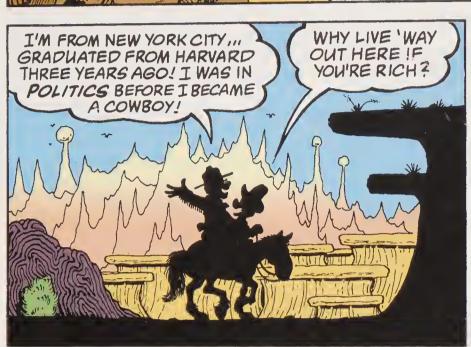


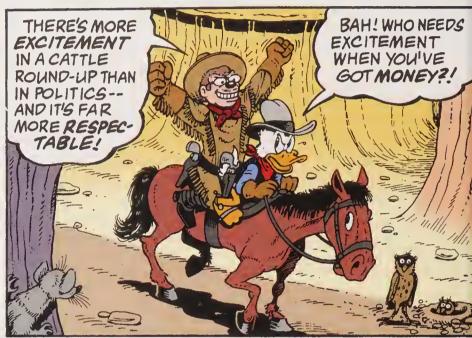


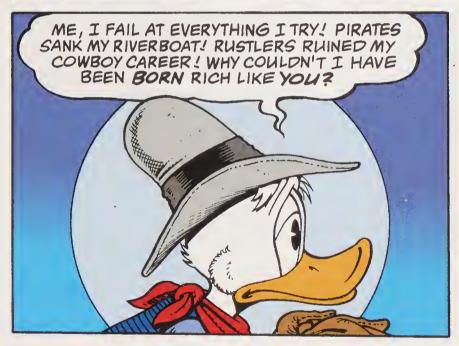


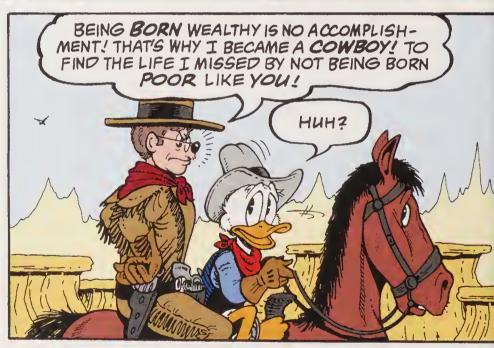




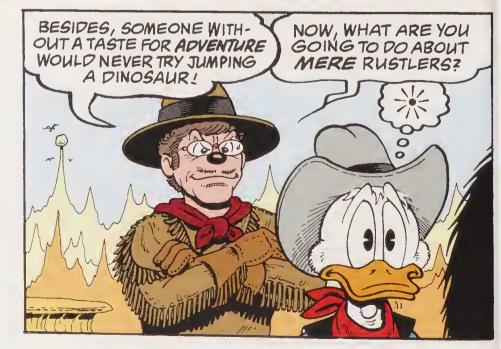


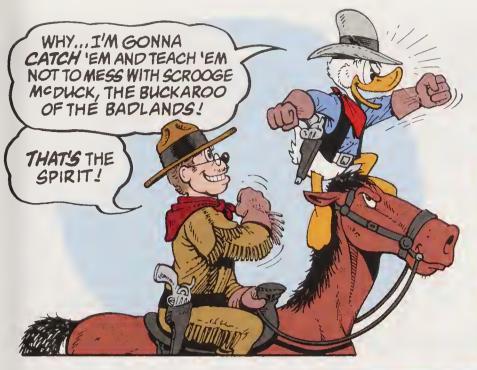


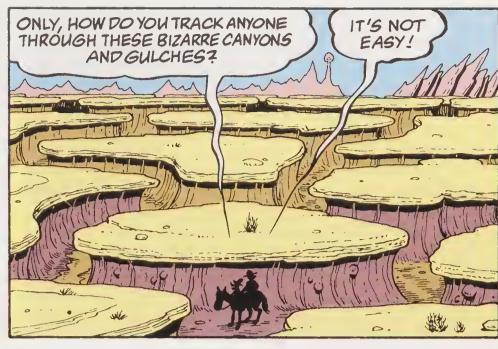


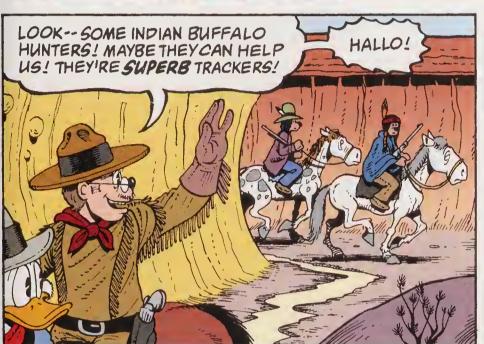


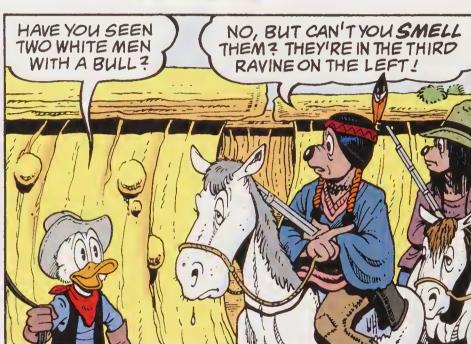


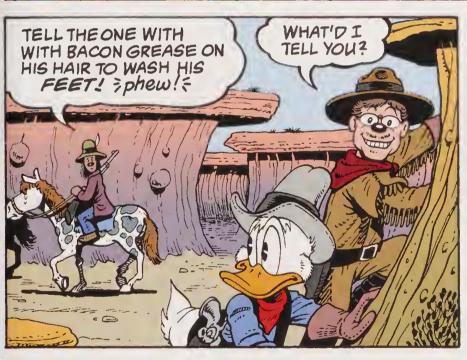


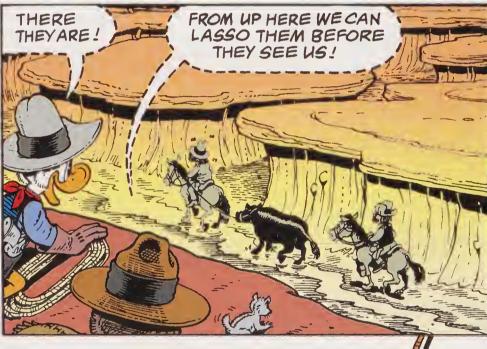


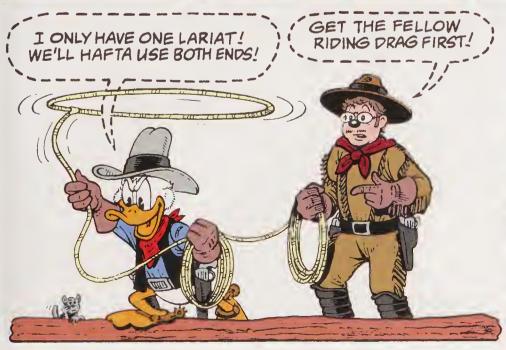
















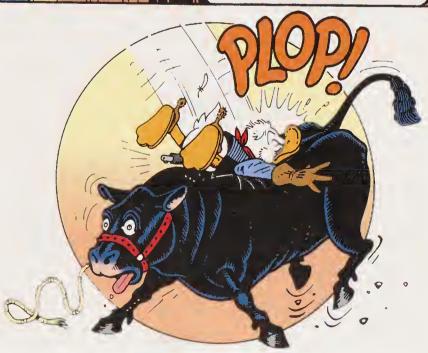












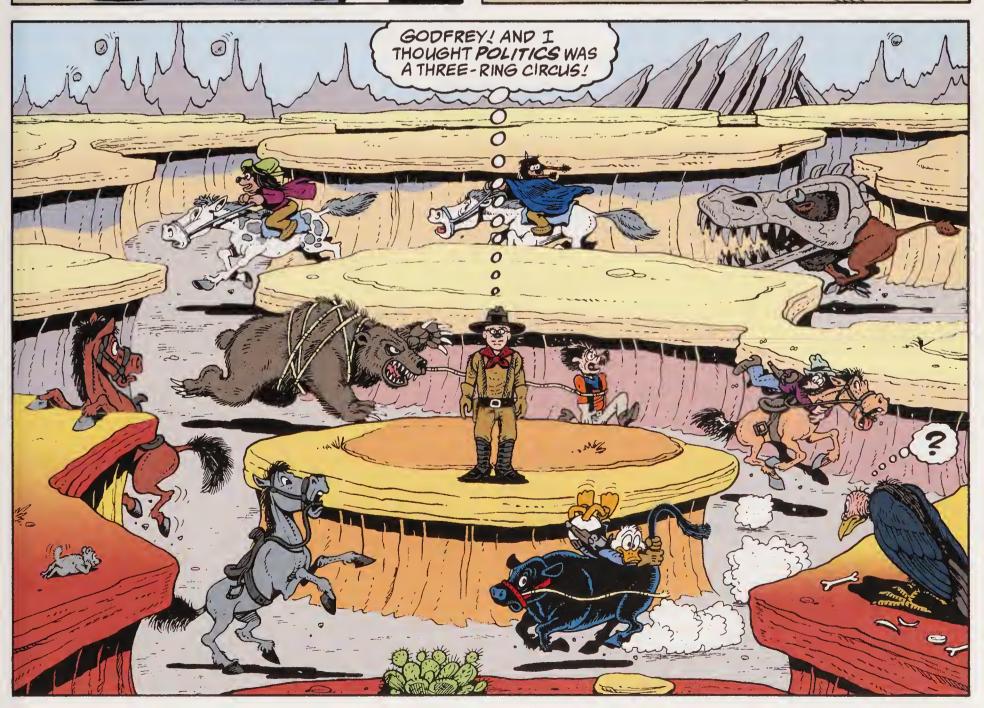


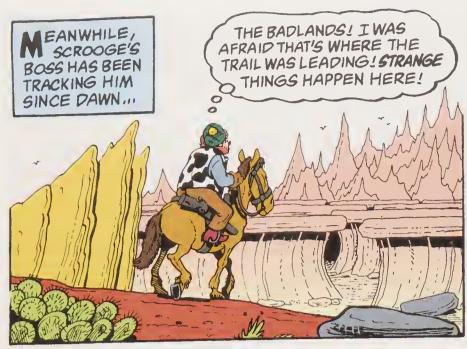


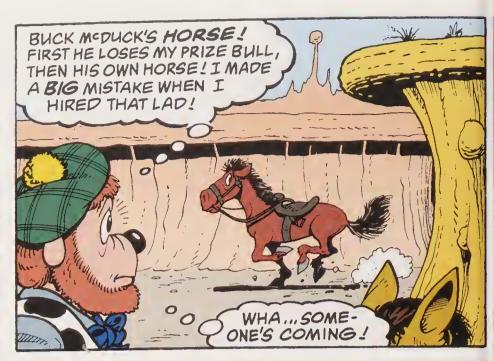


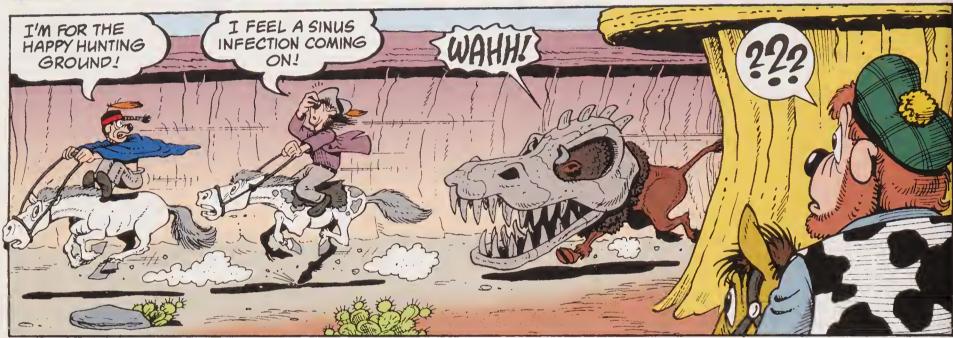




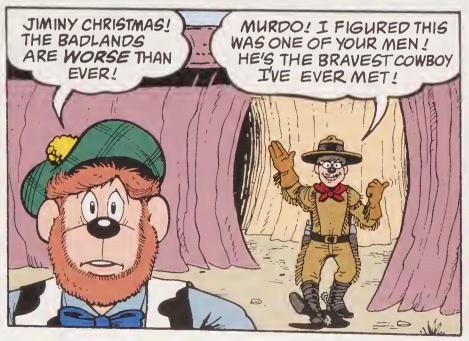


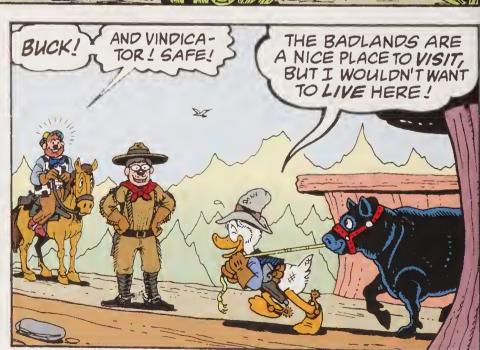


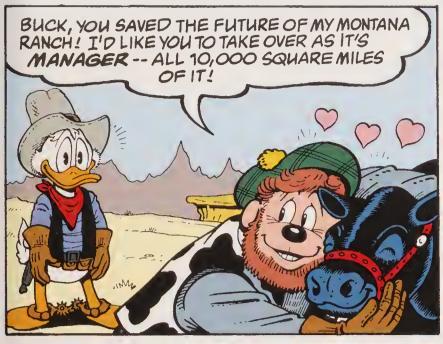


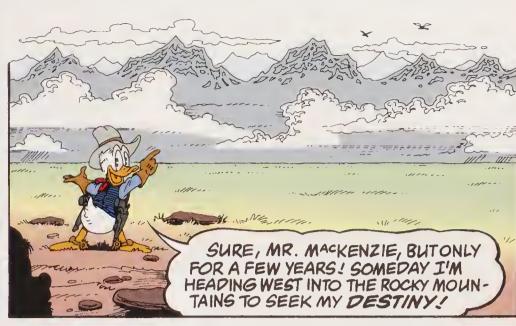








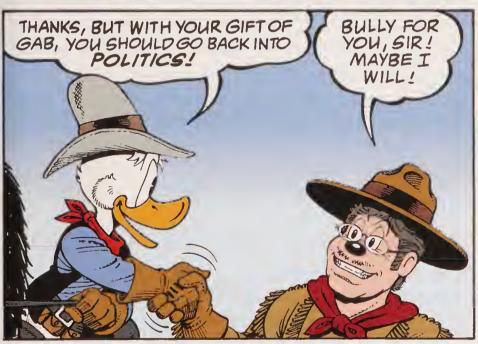
















The Making of

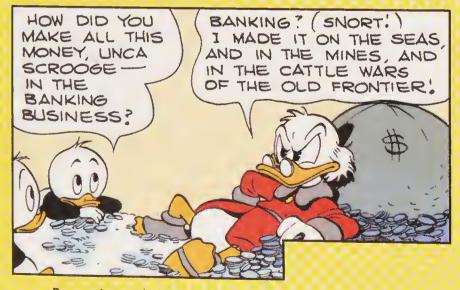
"The Buckaroo of the Badlands"

I often use this episode as an example of what I put myself up against with this series. The subject is Scrooge's life as a cowpuncher in the last days of the Old Frontier. I needed to begin the tale with Scrooge being a greenhorn, finding a reason to want to become a cowboy, learn to be a cowboy, have some adventure as a cowboy, then end with the suggestion that his cowboy days will not last long. I also had a list of "Barksian factoids" that needed to be mentioned in the course of the plot — for that matter, I also needed a plot that would span a year or so — and I had to put in the usual amount of gags and whatnot to make it all supposedly interesting. I always joke that a super-hero comic would take an entire maxi-series of 12 22-page issues to tell this one story, but I had to get it done, start to finish, in 15 pages!

This chapter is based on comments Scrooge makes of his past life in the very first issue of *Uncle Scrooge* Four Color #386, where he tells of fighting in the "cattle wars of the old frontier" and punching cows in Montana in 1882, as well as having "gummed up the James Gang" in some early adventure. This story must take place in early 1882, as Jesse was in Boot Hill by spring of that year.

I also tossed in a few of the McViper Clan, a family of western outlaws who gave Scrooge trouble in various Barks stories such as in *Uncle Scrooge* #56 and 69. Their sons pop up to harass Scrooge in Chapter XI.

The Norwegian Donald Duck editor asked me to make some gag reference to Barks' famous "square egg" story; that tale is incredibly famous to



Rosa gleaned the facts he needed to construct his biography of Scrooge from these kinds of scenes in Barks stories. This panel is from "Only a Poor Old Man."

Europeans; something like Americans regard the story of... uh... well, actually, Barks' Ducks are so popular in Europe that there's nothing in American pop culture that's comparable. But this reference is where I really goofed! In the original version of this story as printed throughout Europe, the old gent that Scrooge meets on the train was supposed to be Rhutt Betler, the "Professah from Bummin'ham" himself. That version went through numerous editors and translators and was published throughout Europe before one Swedish reader wrote me to point out that the Old Vicuna Hunter in "Lost in the Andes" told of Prof. Betler "passing into the long sleep."

Oops! I realized that I remembered that bit, but ever since I first read the story as a kid, for some insane reason I'd always thought the hunter had been referring to a second visitor to Plain Awful, after Prof. Betler, though I can't see why I ever assumed that. So, I reworded the American version to make the old gent on the train into whomever it was who bought the square eggs from the "padre in Cuzco" to whom the Hunter tells of selling the dead man's square eggs. But what's the point of having Scrooge meet him? Furthermore, it was later pointed out to me that whether this was the professah or not, nobody knew about the square chickens — the eggs were simply found on the ground in Plain Awful. Anyone might assume there must be square chickens laying square eggs in the square land, but the valley-people still weren't "raising" them. Well, I just plain-awful screwed up — for neither the first nor last time.

Hopefully, all the above concerns have been answered in the revised text in this edition. If not, well... sob!

As always, I try to mix plenty of actual history and locations into the story to give it the feel of authenticity. The cattle trails and Badlands are all right where they should be, and Scrooge's boss, Murdo MacKenzie, was the actual cattle baron of Montana. As a matter of fact, after I finished this story I happened to be watching the movie *Silverado*, and noticed that the Montana cattle baron in that film was named "Murdo MacKendrick"; they changed his name, I suppose, because they made him a villain.

Scrooge at this point in his life is still far from the Scrooge we know. He still lacks confidence and knowledge. But when my research told me of another

famous American who was in the Montana-Dakota Territories at this same time, I knew it would be an absolute natural to have him become one of Scrooge's mentors and teach him the true values in life! The dialogue you read in the story is quoted and paraphrased from T.R.'s books and speeches (he hated being called "Teddy," thank you). Yes, perhaps he and Murdo didn't actually have little black noses or three-fingered hands, but I never met the gentlemen, so I can't say for sure.

Anyone who doesn't recognize a prize Angus bull named "Vindicator" doesn't know their Jimmy Stewart westerns (*The Rare Breed*).

This was one of the instances where my editor, Byron Erickson, rejected virtually an entire script, and this chapter is a complete rewrite. The original version had too many dopey gags about Scrooge writing home of his exploits in learning the ways of the Old West. I had Scrooge fooled by the McVipers into buying buffalo, thinking they were some sorta Westernstyle hybrid cattle; I wanted to show that Scrooge was a greenhorn, but this made him look too stupid. And the way Scrooge finally scared off the McVipers was exactly the same as how he chased off the Whiskervilles just two chapters earlier! Byron was right, as usual, and though I wouldn't say the rewrite was one of the better chapters in the series, it's still a far cry better than the first version. There are a few pages from the original script reprinted here to show you with what you were nearly inflicted.

Insane Details To Look For

I'm not sure myself, but I think the address on the letter on page 62 is the only place in the series that I managed to show Scrooge's parents' names. And some readers thought that the return address in the splash-panel which says "Fonebone Hotel" was a reference to a character in Jeff Smith's "Bone" strip, but I assume Jeff and I both got that name from the old Don Martin cartoons in *Mad* magazine. At least I did.

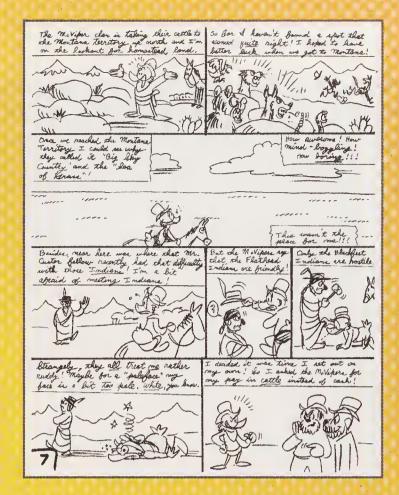
Page 65 shows a scene of the Dakota Badlands. All of the landscape shown is authentic, though it would certainly never occur in one spot, as I drew it. However, they colored it too drab in the original printing. I believe the rock and soil colors of the Badlands are rather striking.

Also on that page I have a dinosaur skull that I originally referred to as a "duck-billed dinosaur." Of course, duck-billed dinosaurs did not have ferocious-looking teeth like that, so the reference has been changed for this edition.

I frequently hide li'l Mickey Mouse appearances or shapes in my stories, just to be mischievous. You'll see one on page 70, panel 4, in the cactus.

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, cover: The dedication is in pebbles on the rock on which Scrooge is standing, but some of the printed issues are cropped so that the letters are nearly cut off.

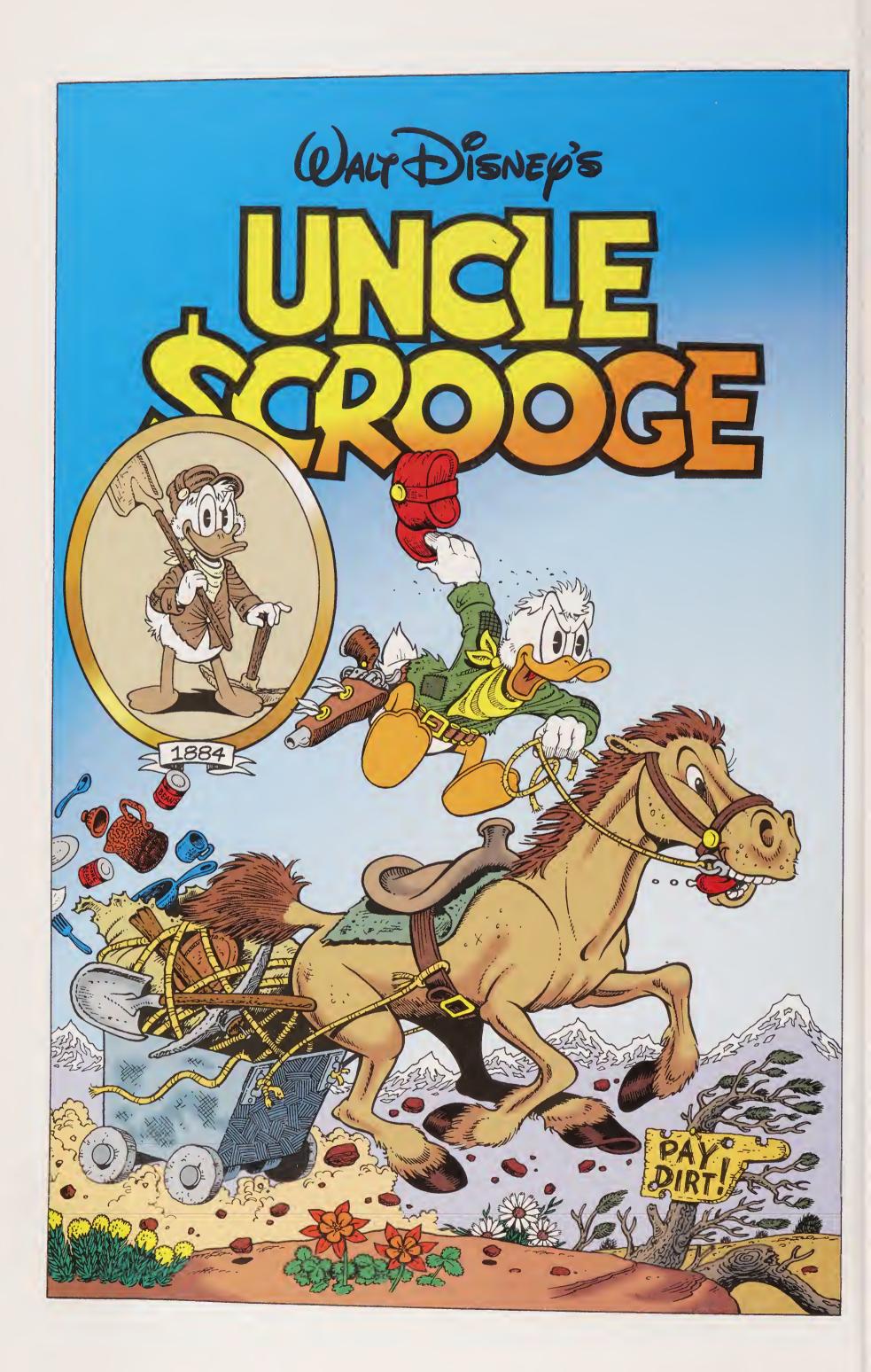
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: This isn't hard to find, though it's sorta hidden by the dark coloring. It's carved into the pistol grip.

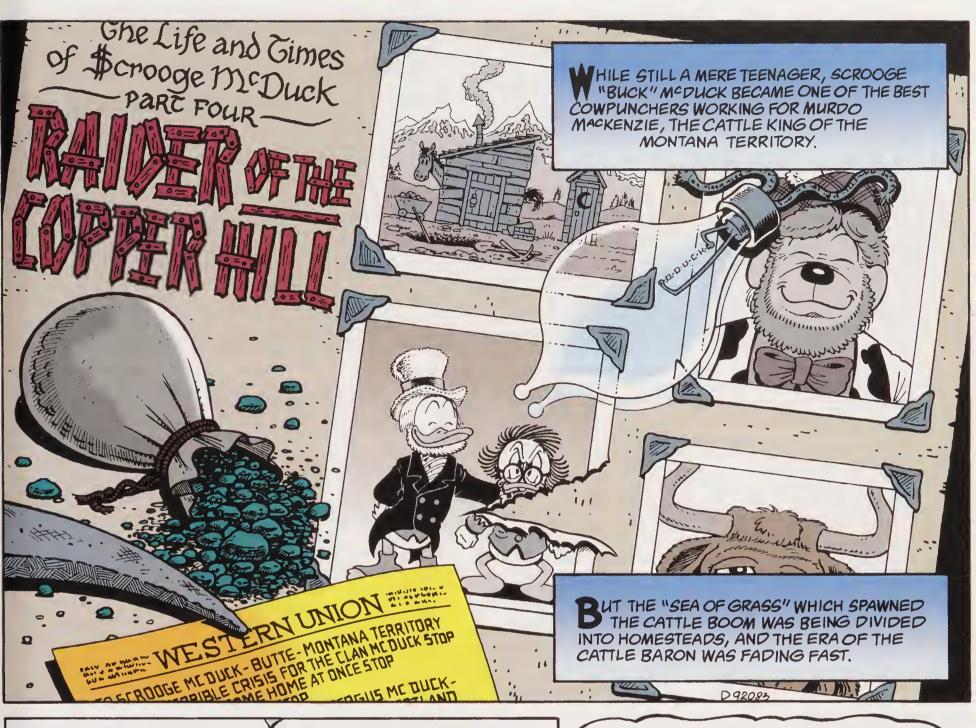






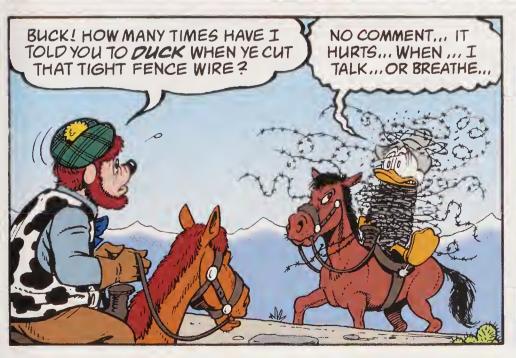
Chapter III went through a major rewrite before Rosa settled on his final script. These rejected pages should give you a hint as to what the first version was like.



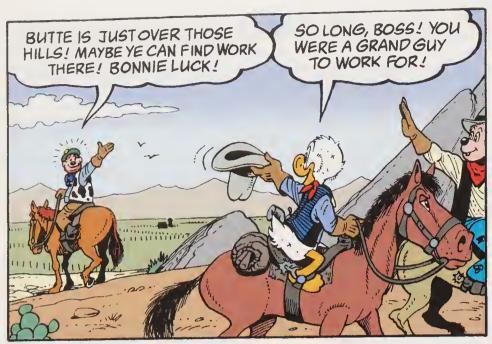




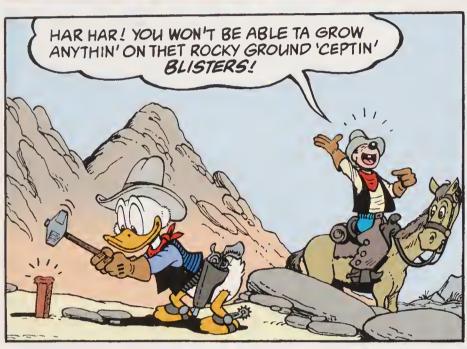


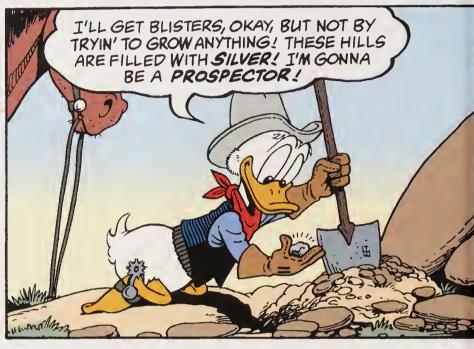




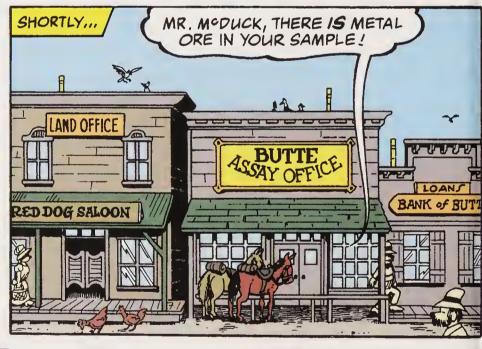


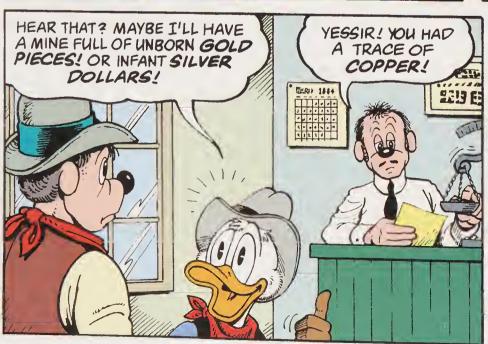




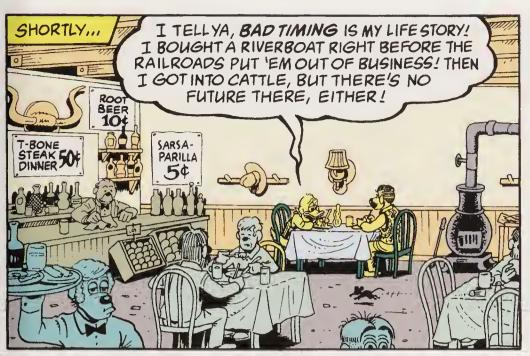


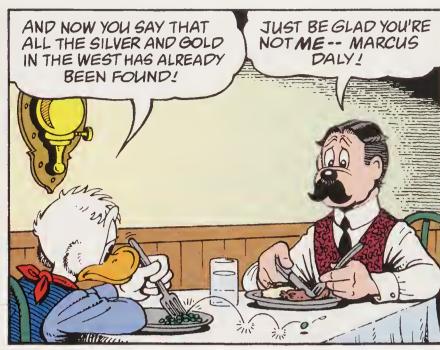






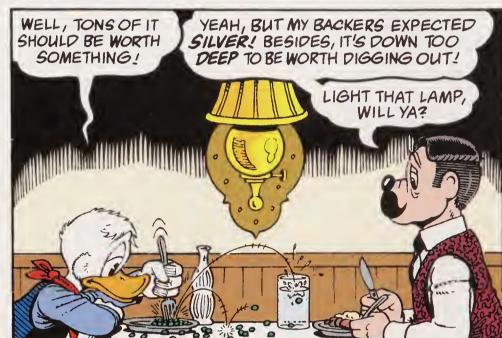


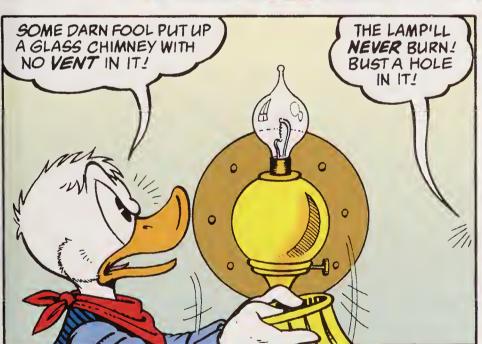


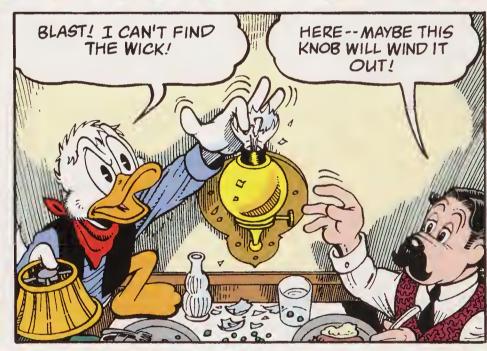






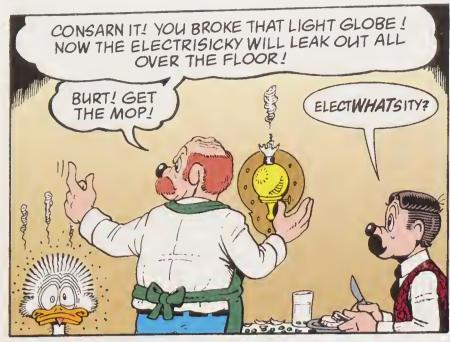


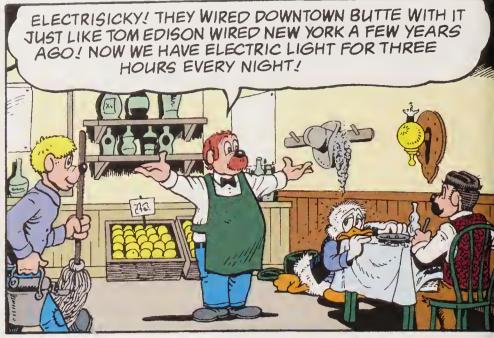




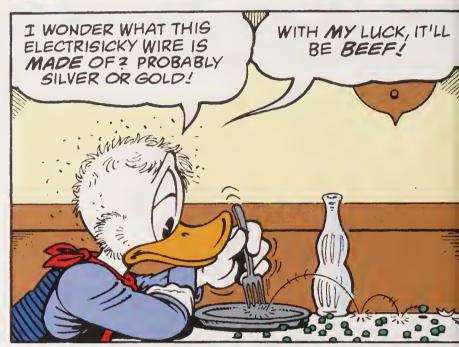


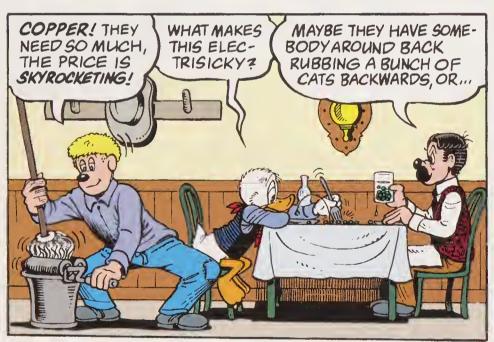


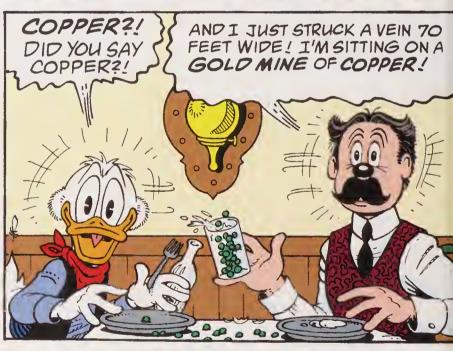








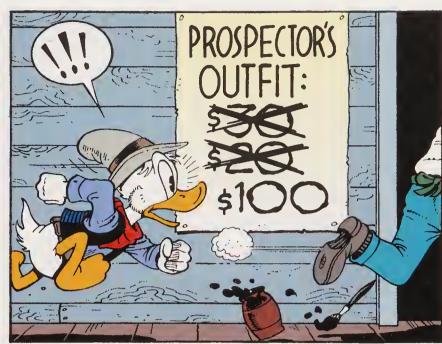






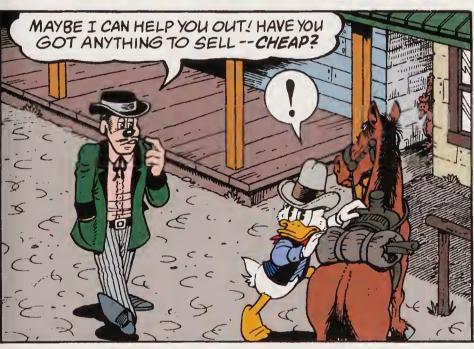


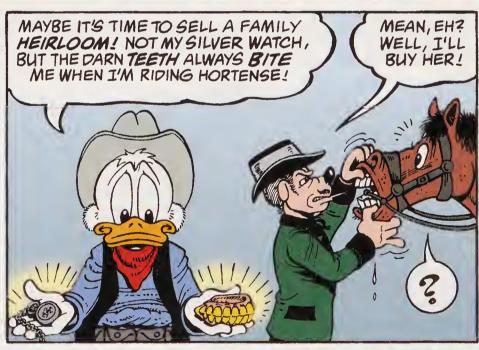


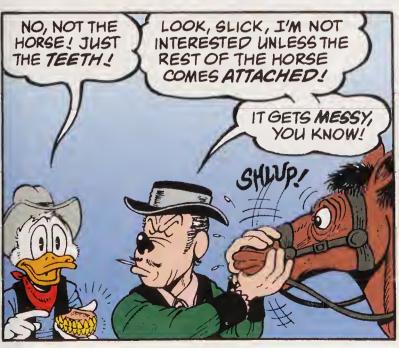








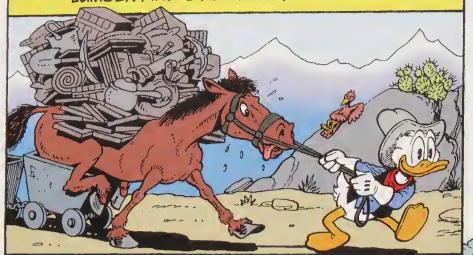








SO THE YOUNG SCROOGE BECAME A PROSPECTOR! THE SALE OF SEAFOAM MCDUCK'S GOLD TEETH GAVE HIM ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY AN ENTIRE OUTFIT OF TOOLS AND LUMBER AND ORE CARTS.



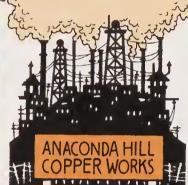
SINCE A MINER OWNED ANY LAND HE WORKED ON FOR AS LONG AS HE LIVED ON THE SITE, SCROOGE BUILT A PORTABLE HOMESTEADER'S SHACK WHICH COULD BE MOVED FROM SPOT TO SPOT.



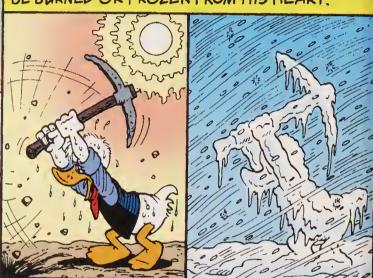
HE HAD HELP LEARNING ABOUT RIVERBOATS
AND CATTLE, BUT HE HAD TO LEARN
PROSPECTING ALONE! HIS SKILL WAS AS
BAD AS HIS LUCK.



MEANWHILE,
THE ANACONDA
HILL MINE THRIVED! IT
BECAME THE WORLD'S
LARGEST COPPER
MINE, AND WAS NICKNAMED "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.



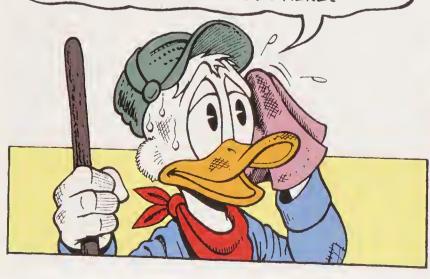
NO STRANGER TO HARD WORK, THE LAD KEPT MOVING ON!
HE KNEW THAT UNDER THAT SCRUBBY LAND LAY ONETHIRD OF THE WORLD'S COPPER, AND HE HOPED THAT ONE
DAY HIS LABORS WOULD PAYOFF.



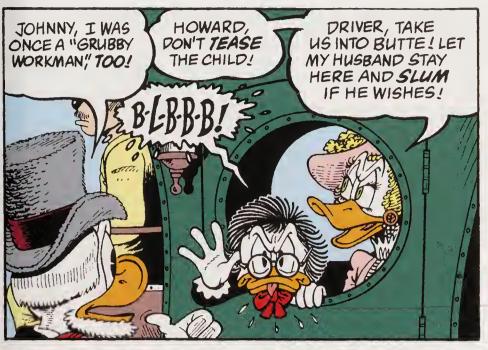
THEN, ONE DAY,...

SCUSE ME, SONNY! IS THET THE ANACONDA HILL COPPER WORKS
UP THAR?

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



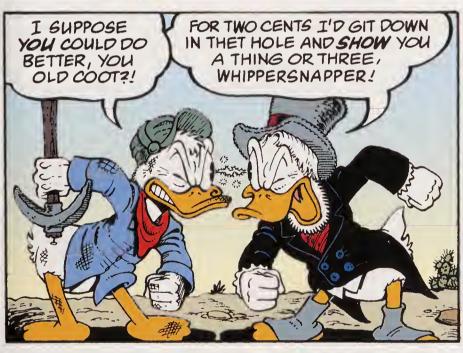


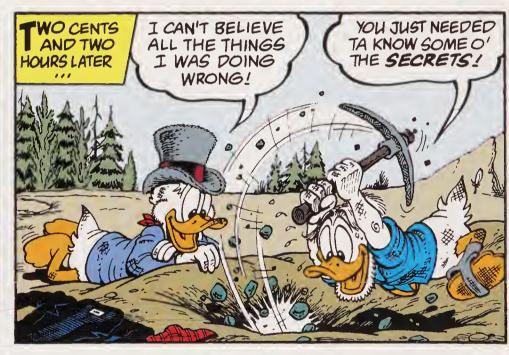


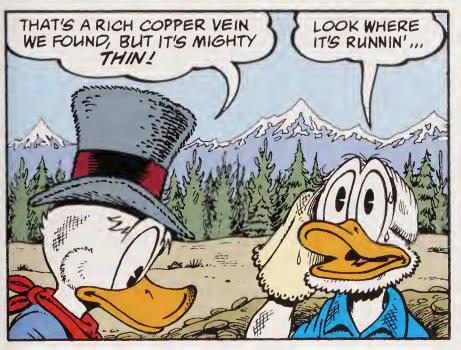


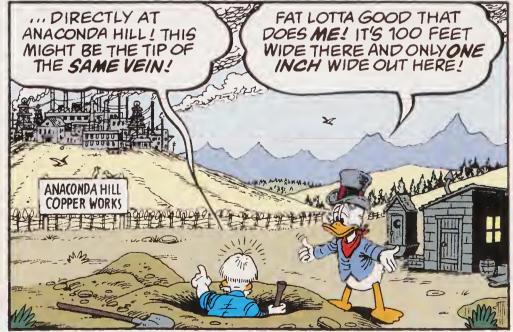






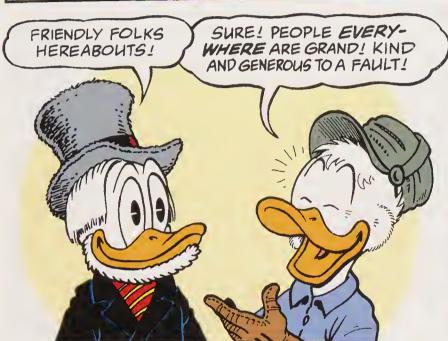


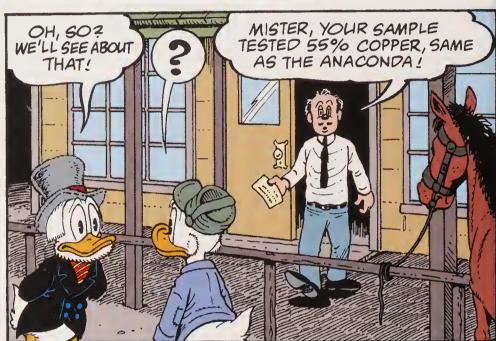


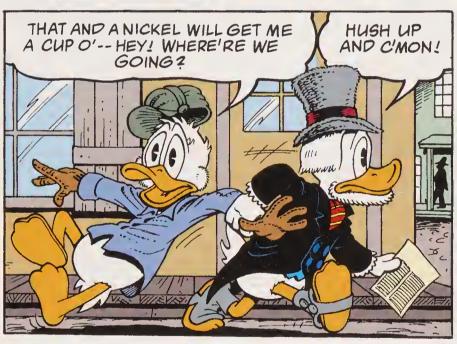


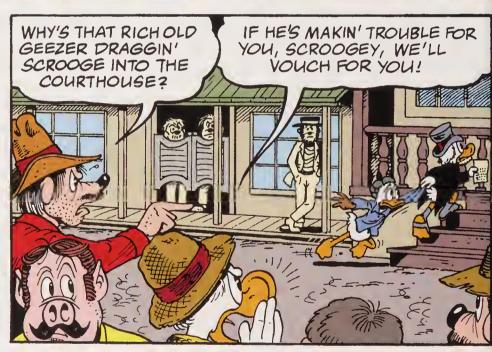




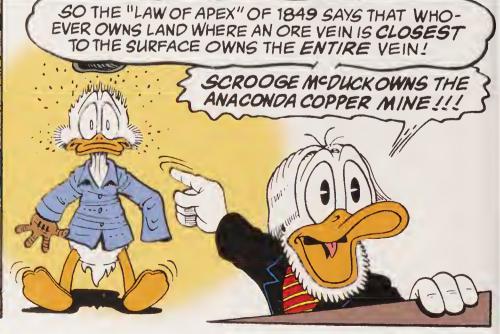


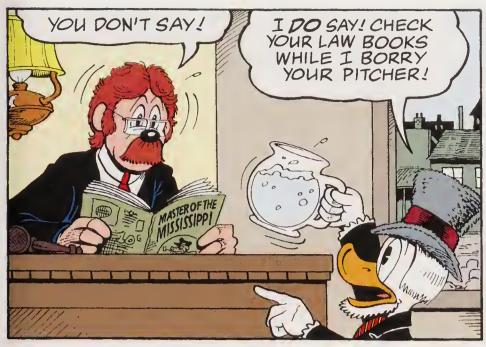




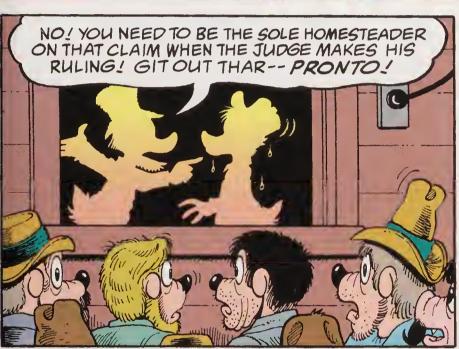




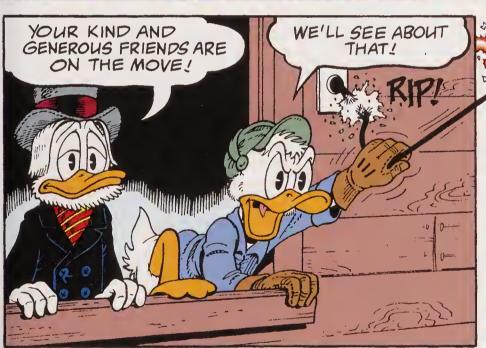


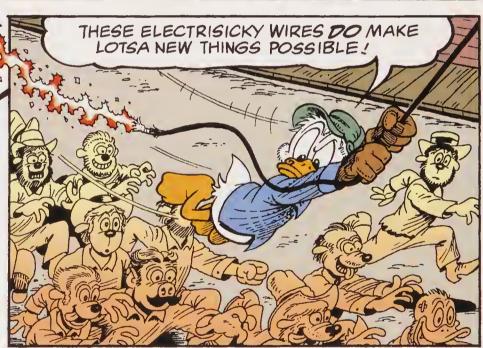


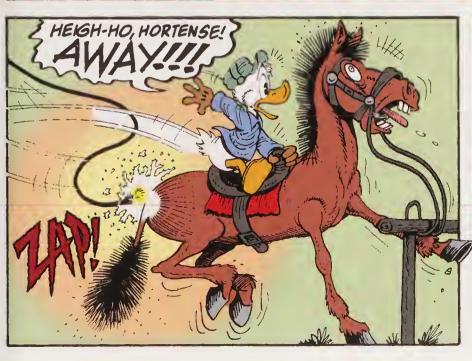


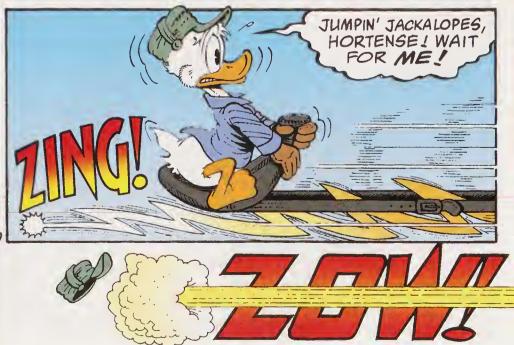






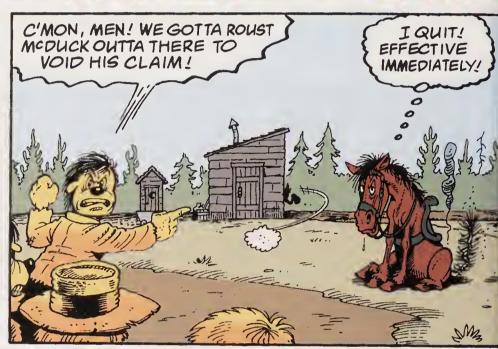


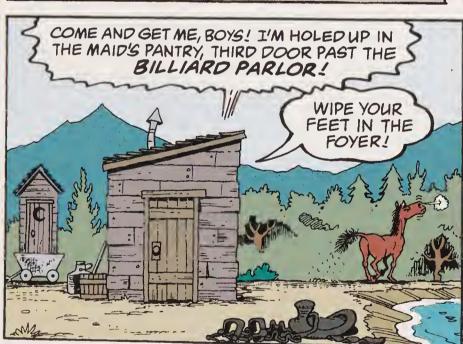


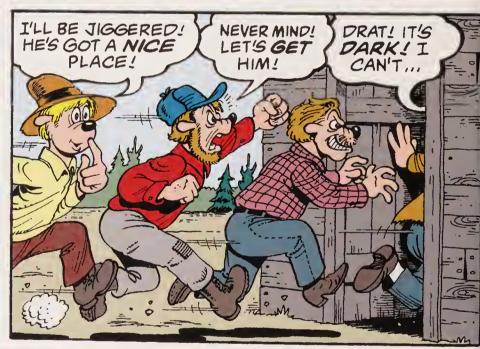






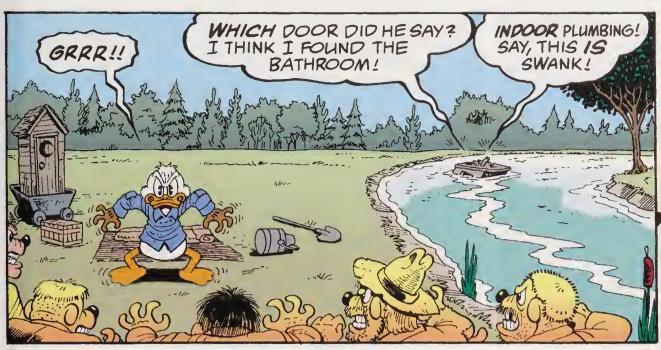




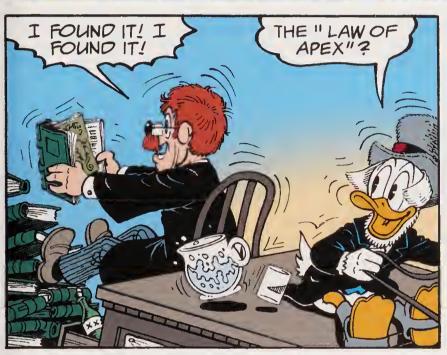




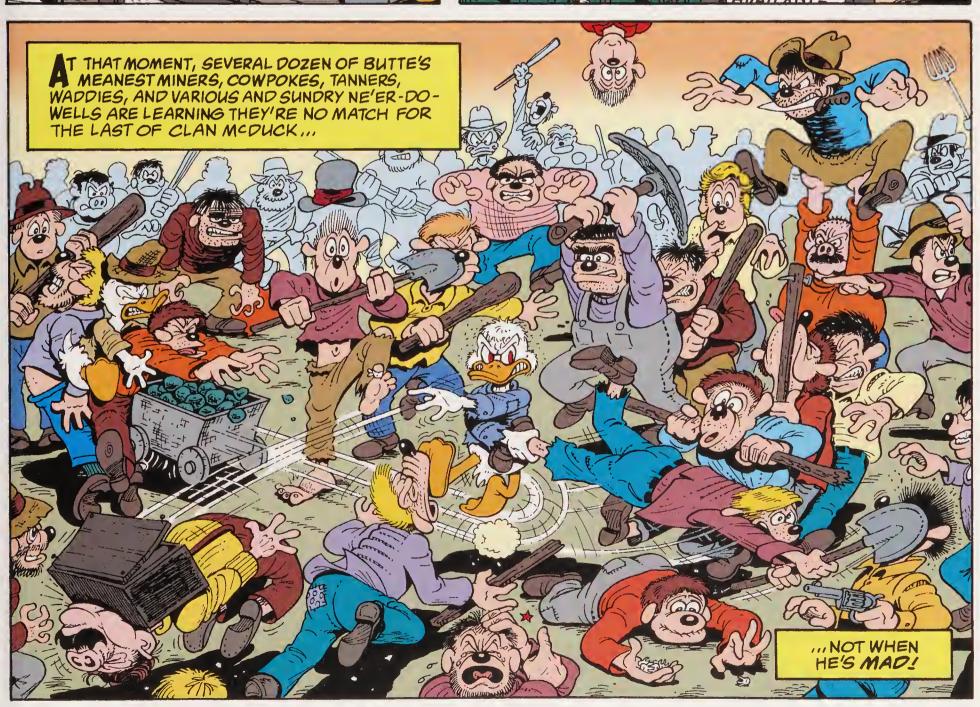


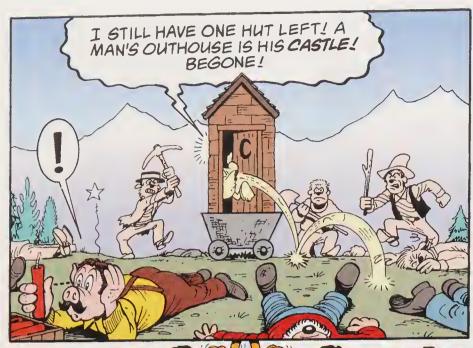










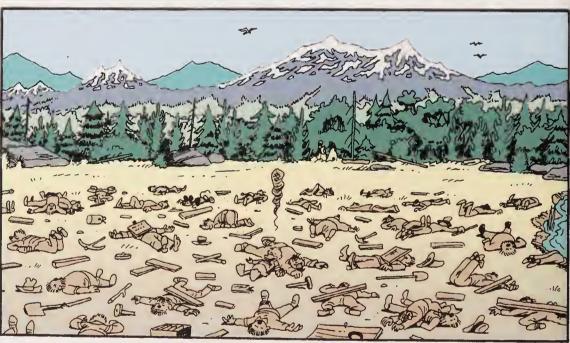




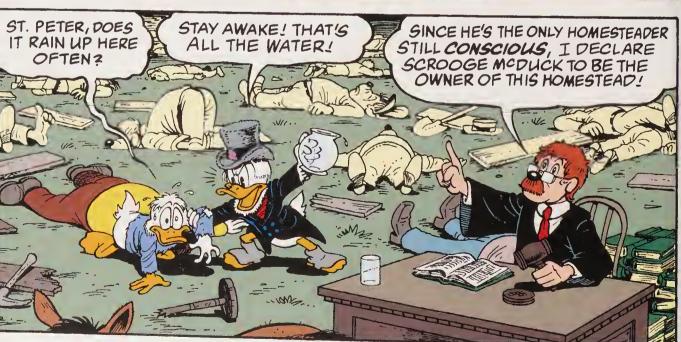


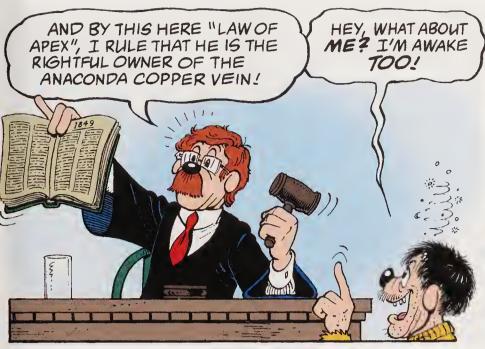


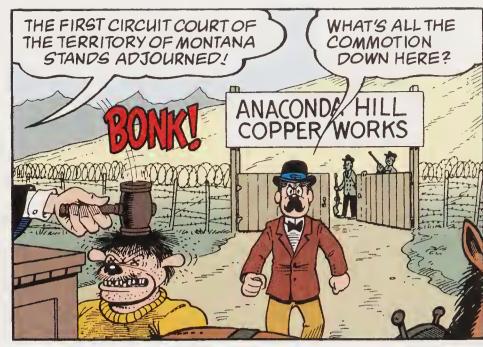


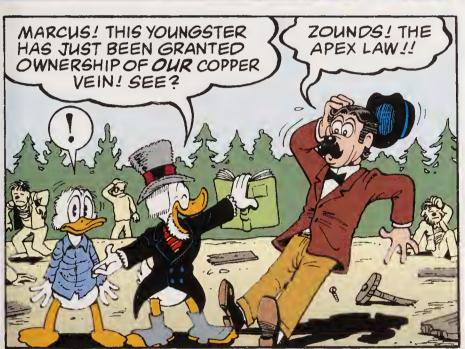


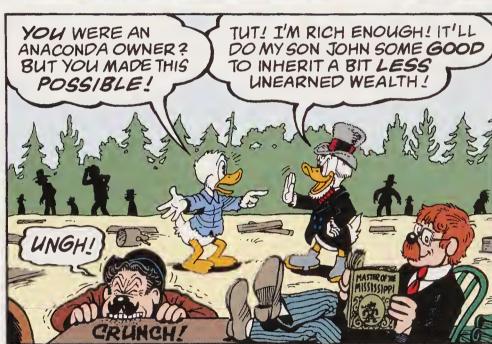




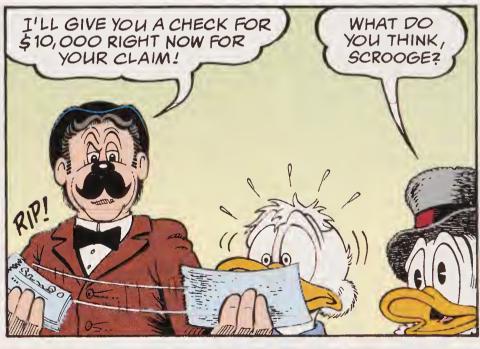




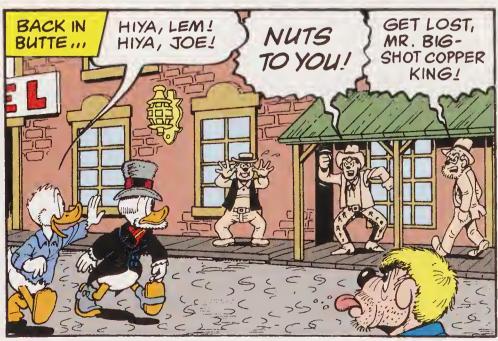






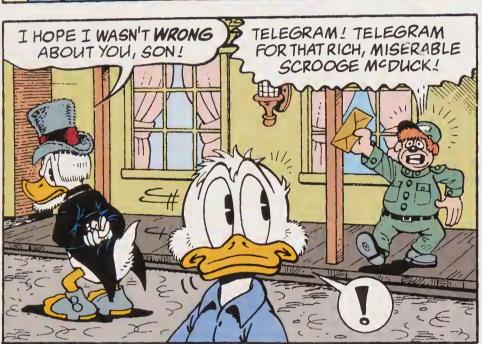


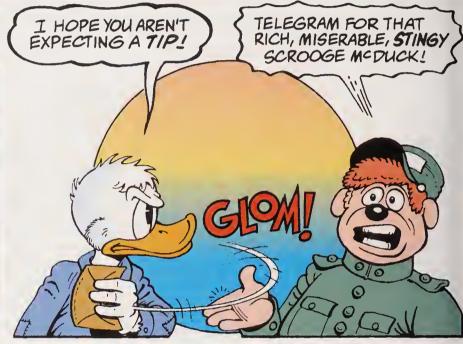












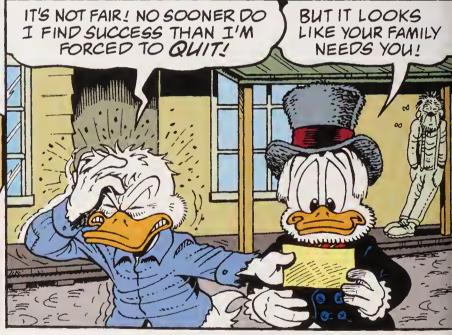


TO SCRODGE MEDUCK-BUTTE-MONTANA

SON-TERRIBLE CRISIS FOR THE CLAN

HOME AT ONCESTOP DON'T STOP STOP

FERGUS MCDUCK-GLASGOW-SCOTLAND

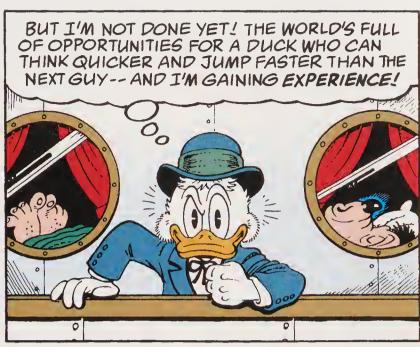


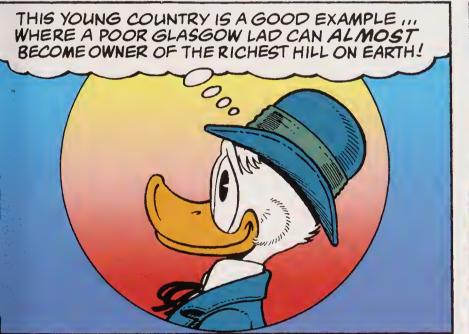


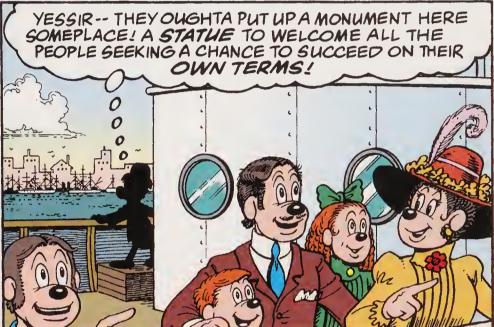


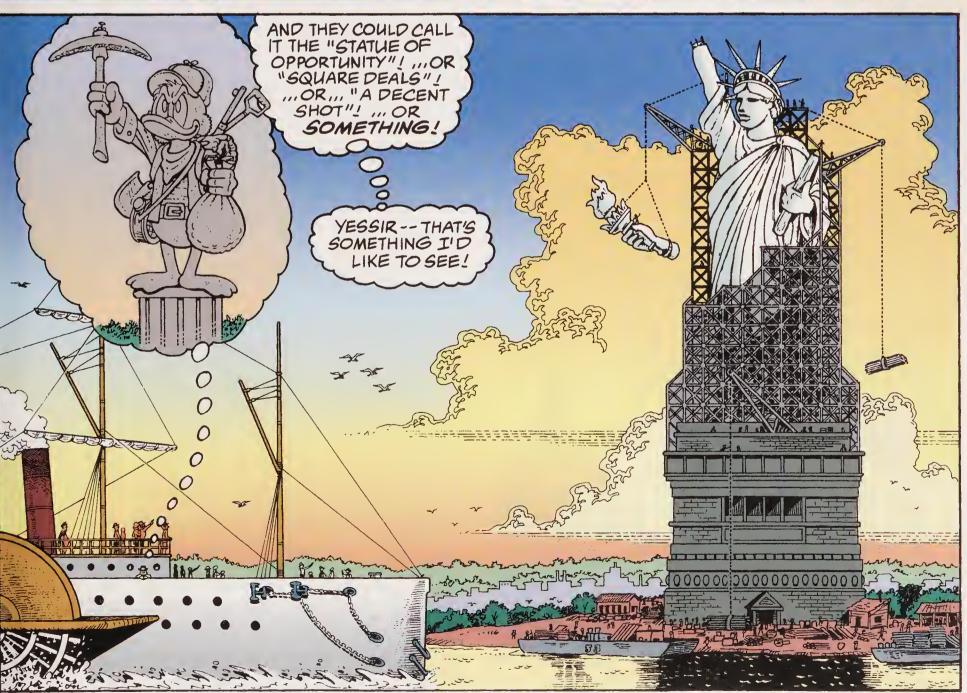
ONE WEEK
LATER
SCROOGE
STANDS ON THE
DECK OF A
STEAMSHIP
LEAVING NEW
YORK HARBOR,
BOUND FOR THE
GREEN HILLS
OF SCOTLAND!











The Making of "Raider of the Copper Hill"

This chapter is based on two comments that Carl Barks buried in two of the earliest issues of Uncle Scrooge. In Four Color #386 (Uncle Scrooge #1, "Only a Poor Old Man"), Scrooge says that he became a prospector in Montana subsequent to his career as a cowpoke. I even recreate (a euphemism for "copy") two panels from that issue's flashback. And in the untitled "horseradish story" in Four Color #495 (Uncle Scrooge #3) Scrooge almost loses his fortune because he can't produce a family heirloom, his multi-great grandfather "Seafoam" McDuck's gold dentures. And why not? Because he "sold the gold

As with all these stories of Scrooge's early years, I don't begin writing until I've done extensive research into the history and geography of the setting. As my days of doing the Ducks go along, one thing that my research has proven to me is that the best possible ideas for plots came from actual history! Some of these tales seem to be laying right in the history books waiting so pleadingly to be told that I often don't feel like I should get much credit for it. So it was with this adventure.

for enough money to buy a prospector's outfit."

Here, that story is told.

BUT I'D POKED AROUND,
AND I KNEW THAT UNDER
THAT SCRUBBY GRASS WAS
ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD'S
KNOWN COPPER!"

Rosa "recreated" this panel from Barks'
"Only a Poor Old Man" when telling the story
of Scrooge's days as a copper miner.

I have woven my tale around the founding of the famous (real life)

Anaconda Copper Mine, "the

Richest Hill on Earth," and its true-life owner John Daly. As I researched the stories of mining in the old days of the wild west, I stumbled onto the amazing account of how a rival of Daly's had discovered and claimed a tiny vein of copper near the Anaconda and then laid claim to Daly's holdings by right of an obscure 1849 statute called the "Law of Apex" that said that whomever

owns any part of a vein of ore nearest

the surface therefore owns the entire vein, no matter where or how far or deep it runs. There's my story! What high mellerdrammer! This was the perfect situation to place the young and callow Scrooge into, and then teach him that he won't be able to retain success until he earns it wholly of his own hard work. And that won't be for another 13 years yet.

Another bit of the Barks Universe I've woven into this tale is John Rockerduck. Barks created this rival billionaire and used him in one single story — "Boat Buster" — in Walt Disney's Comics and Stories #255. We Americans heard nothing more about John Rockerduck, but for reasons unknown, the Italian Disney comic writers latched onto Rockerduck and made him a major character in the Italian Duck Universe. In my story I try to show Rockerduck as being quite different from Scrooge (and Flintheart Glomgold, for that matter) in that he inherited all his wealth rather than worked for it, like Scrooge and Flinty. I also make John a few years younger than Scrooge so that I can further insult him by having his own father, Howard Rockerduck, be one of the long line of mentors from whom Scrooge gains advice in the course of my series. Why use "Howard" for the name of the wise old prospector who teaches the youngster all the angles? Ever see the movie Treasure of the Sierra Madre?

Insane Details To Look For

I had already created and used Howard Rockerduck in a previous tale, even though it had been shelved and was not printed until four years later. See "Of Ducks and Dimes and Destinies" (*Uncle Scrooge* #297), and you'll see another special place Howard has in Scrooge's life.

I'm not supposed to mention years in the scripts, but readers can pinpoint the stories by the events, such as the building of the Statue of Liberty. But I did sneak a calendar with the date showing into page 76, panel 7.

As to why I'm not supposed to mention in which year each story takes place — well, that goes back to the time-line of Scrooge's life I came up with when I first planned this series. In order to make all the Barks "facts" fit with the historical references he included, I needed to have Scrooge born in 1867. Here's that above-mentioned time-line and the years each chapter covers:

Chapter I — 1867-1880 — Scrooge's birth to his leaving for America

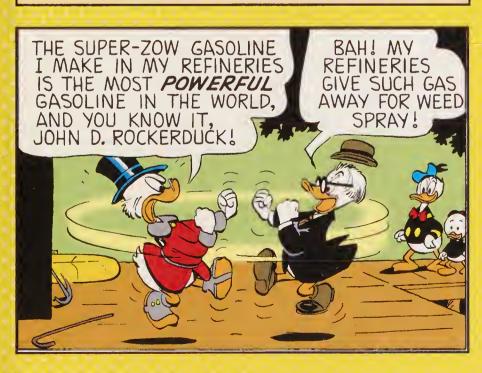
Chapter II — 1880-1882 — Worker, then Skipper, on a Mississippi riverboat

Chapter III — 1882-1883 — Cowpoke on the Texas-Montana trail

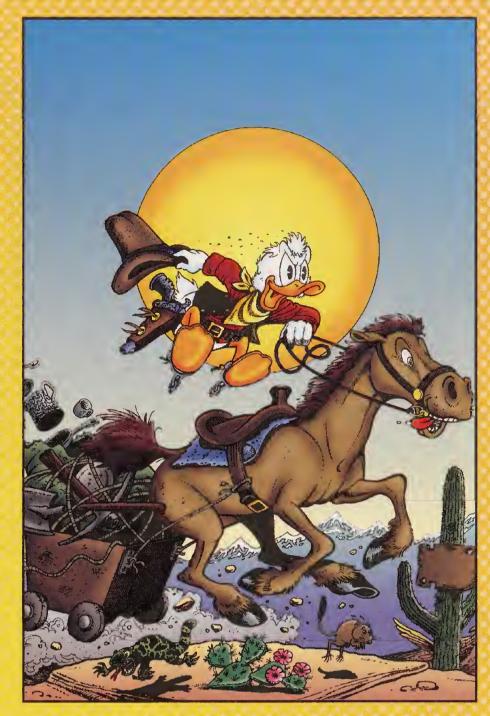
Chapter IV — 1883-1885 — Copper prospector in Montana

Chapter V — 1885 — Returns to Scotland to save McDuck castle

Chapter VI — 1886-1889 — Gold prospector in the Transvaal Gold Rush



John D. Rockerduck appeared in only one Barks story — "Boat Buster" in 1961.



Another slightly different cover done for the European publication of "The Life of Scrooge" series.

Color by Egmont.

Chapter VII — 1889-1896 — Gold prospector in the U.S.A. and Australia

Chapter VIII — 1896-1897 — Sour-dough in the Yukon, and at last, PAYDIRT!

Chapter IX — 1898-1902 — Canadian businessman, then returns to Scotland

Chapter X — 1902 — Moves with his sisters to Duckburg, builds Money Bin

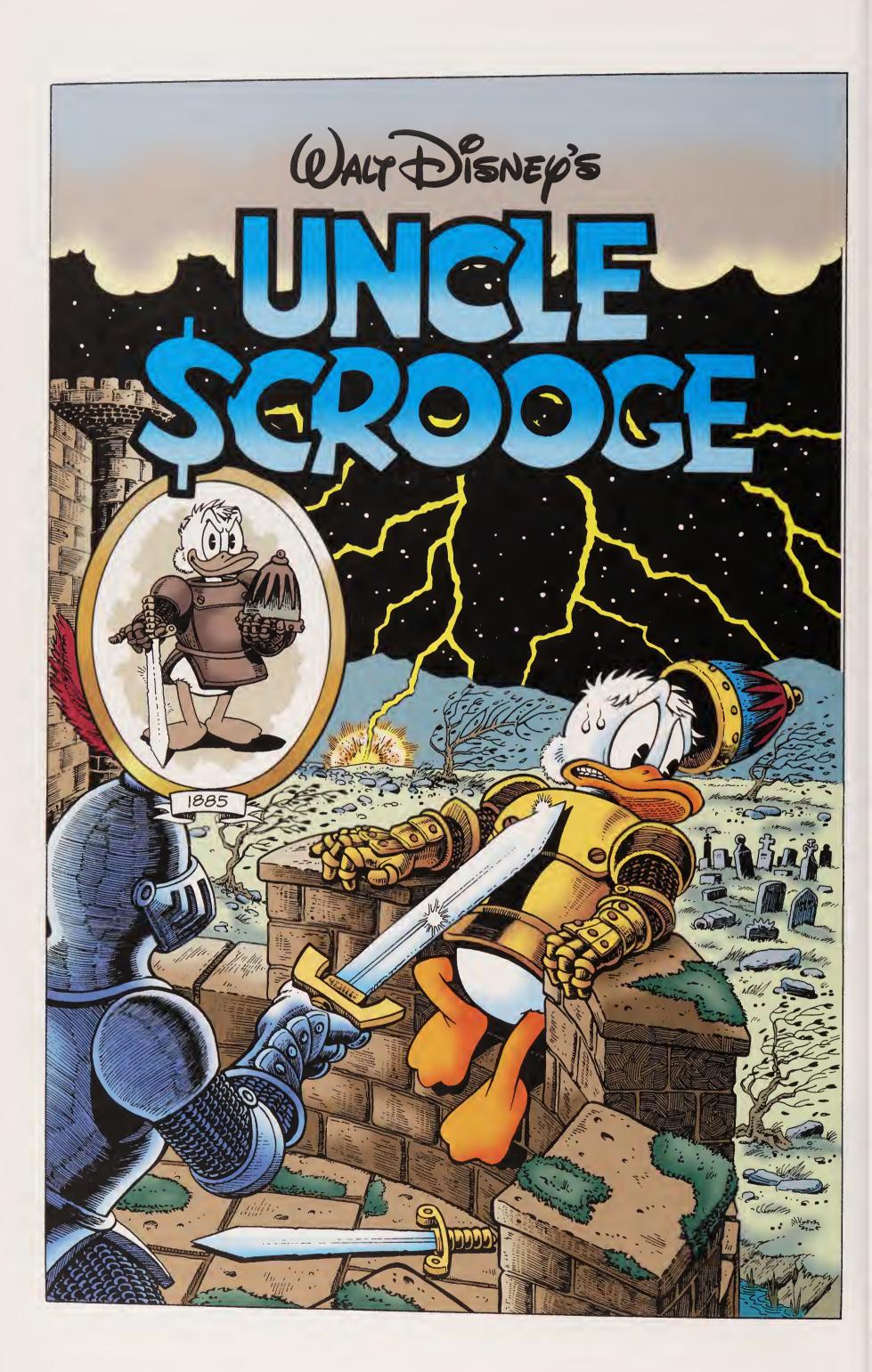
Chapter XI — 1902-1930 — Builds a world-wide empire and becomes the World's Richest Duck

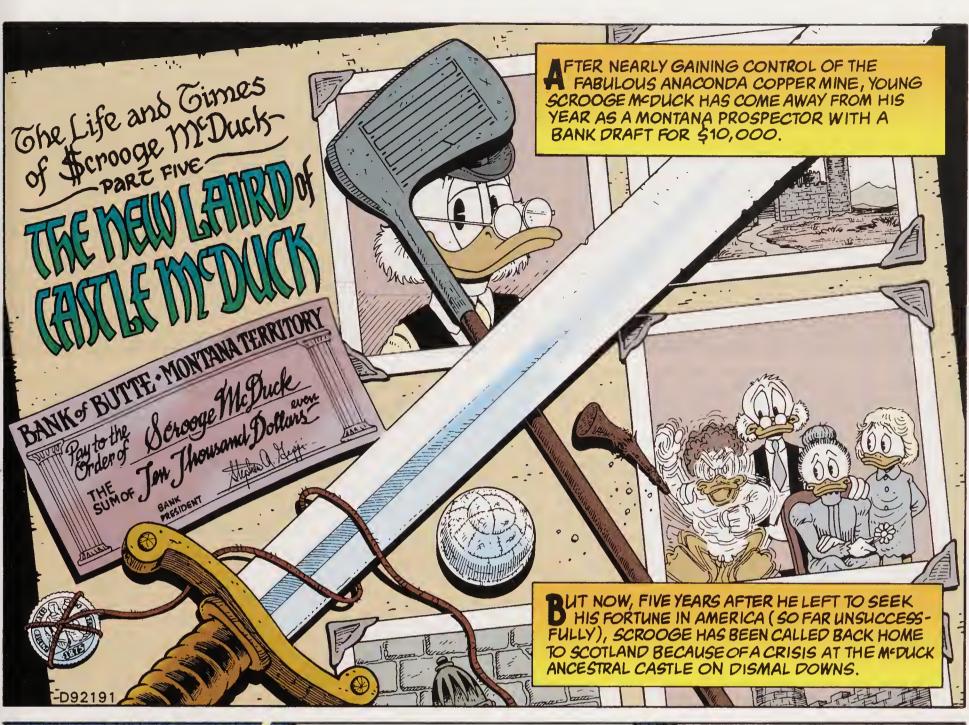
Chapter XII — 1947 — Skip ahead to a memorable Christmas Day...

MOUSE SPOTTER GUIDE: You can find a kayoed Mickey in the carnage scene after the brawl.

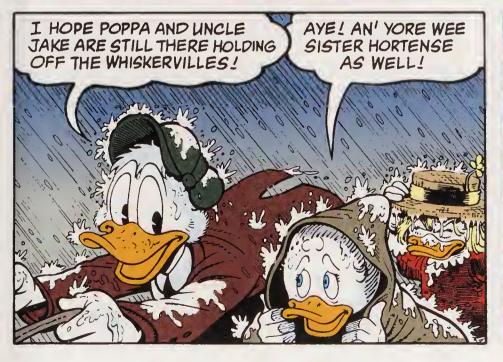
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, cover: The dedication is in the lower part of the horse's mane.

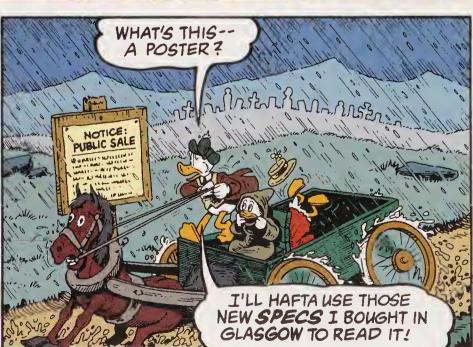
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: Look in the light-bulb filament.

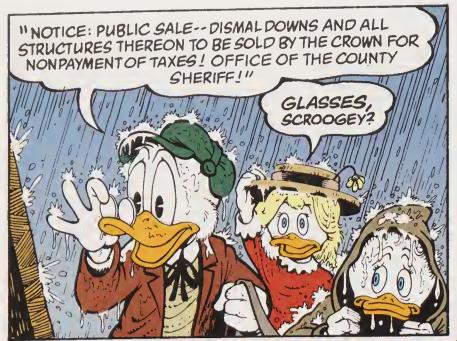






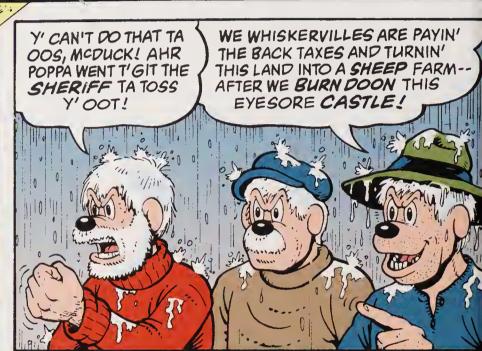


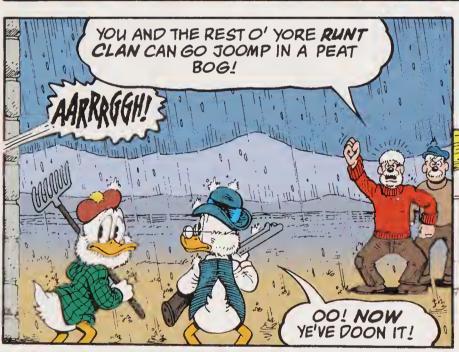


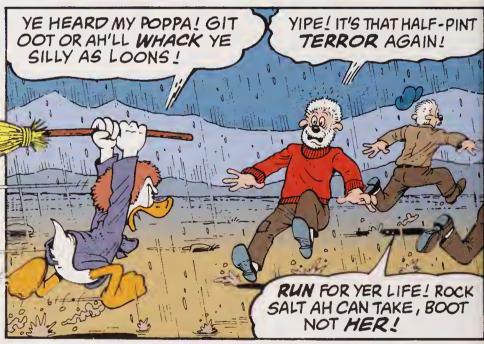




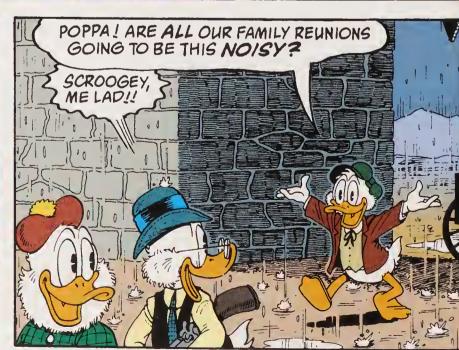






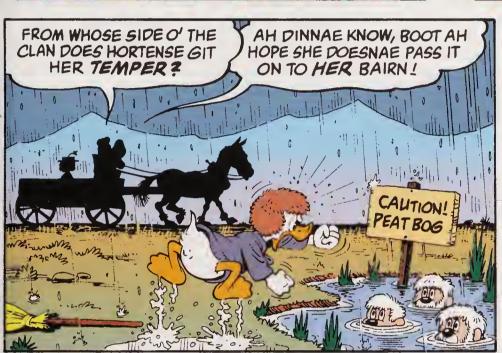






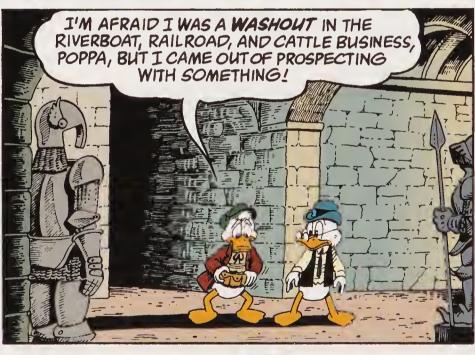






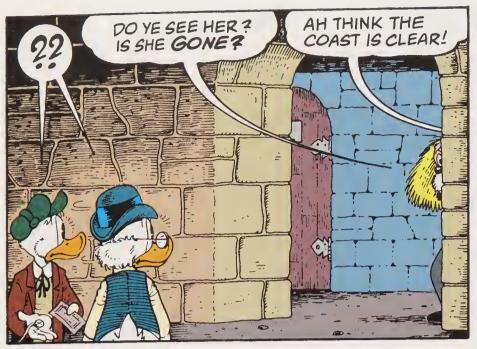


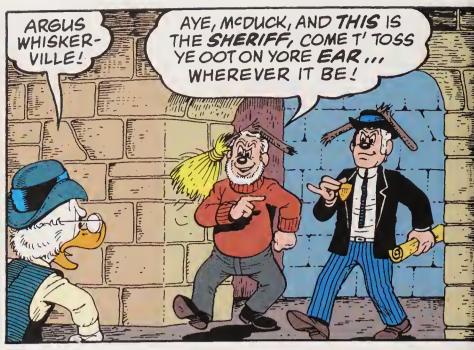


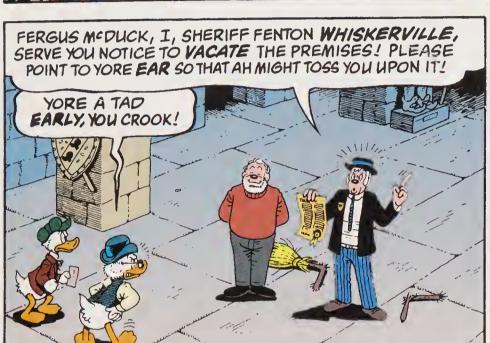














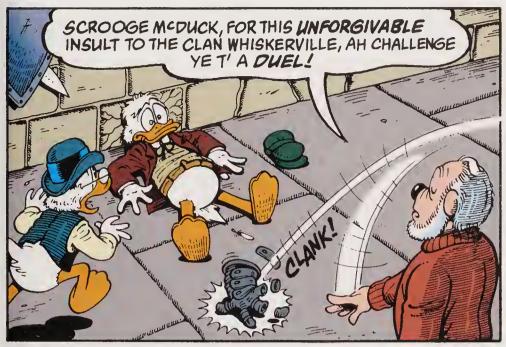


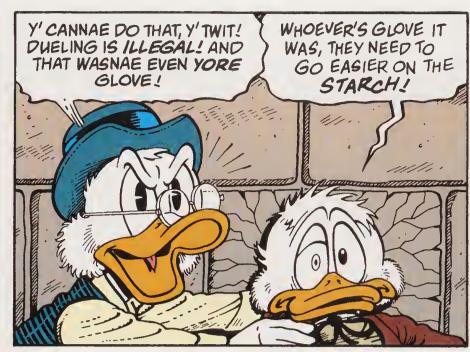


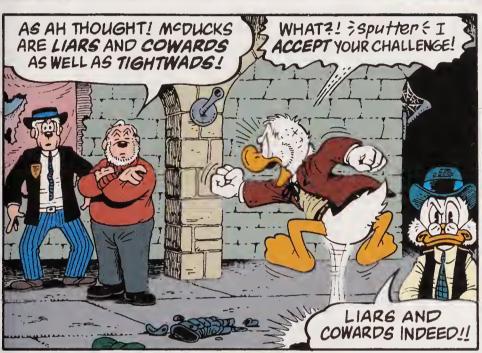


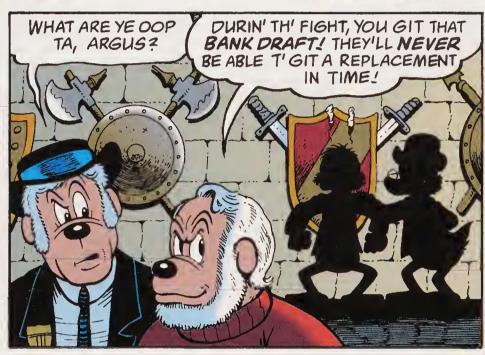


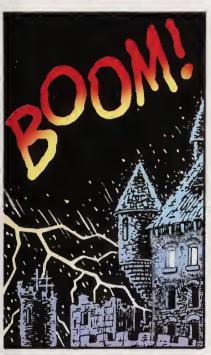


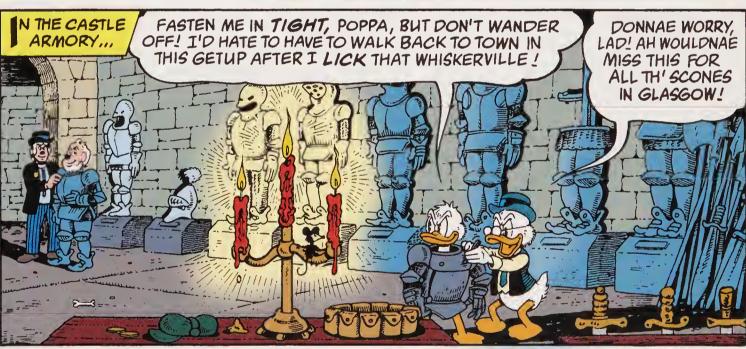
















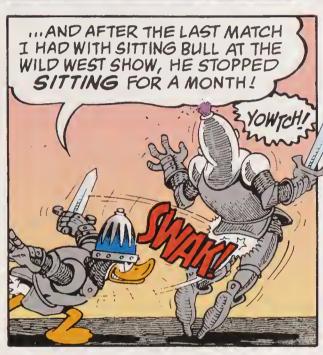


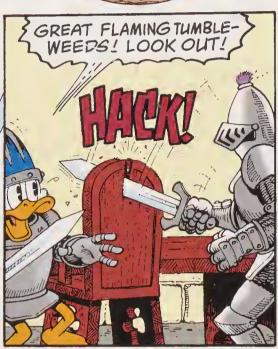
MY REFLEXES ARE HONED FROM FIGHTING KEELBOAT PIRATES ON THE MISSISSIPPI AND RUSTLERS ON THE CHISHOLM TRAIL!



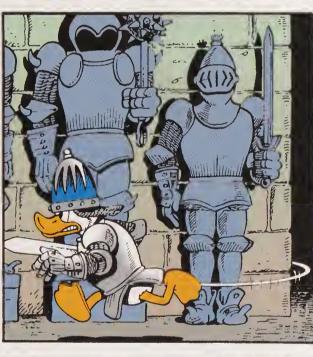
BUFFALO BILL HIMSELF
TAUGHT ME HOW TO KNIFE-FIGHT
INJUN STYLE...

EEK!

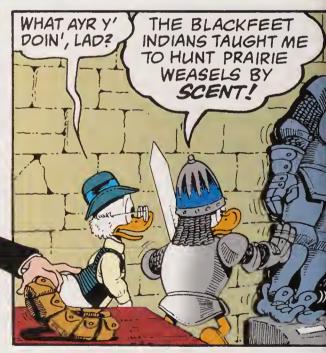


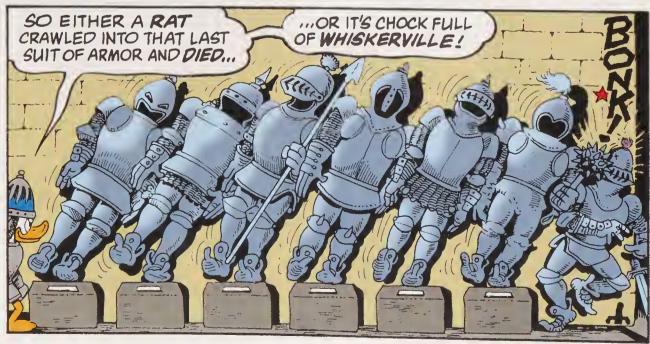










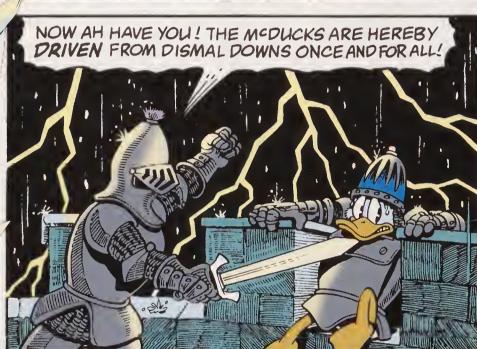


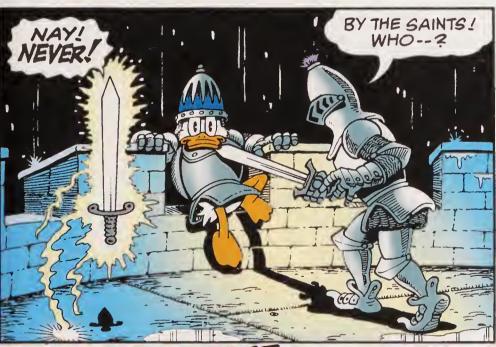


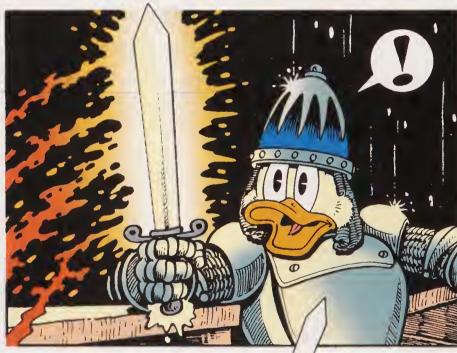


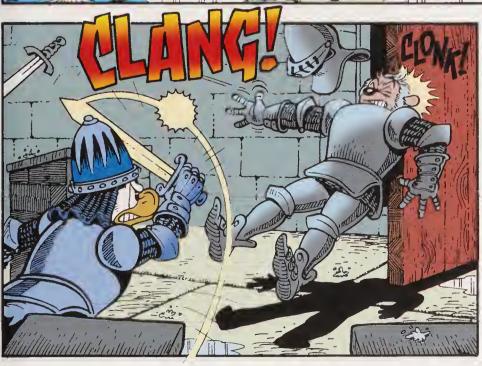


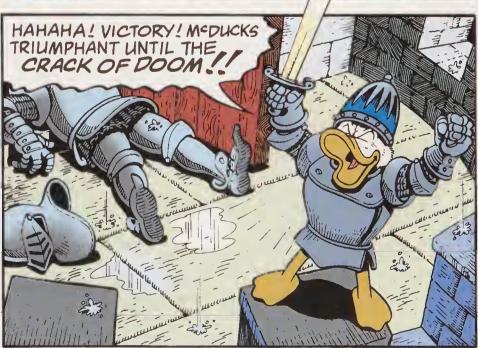








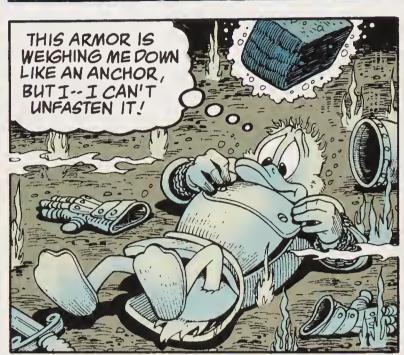








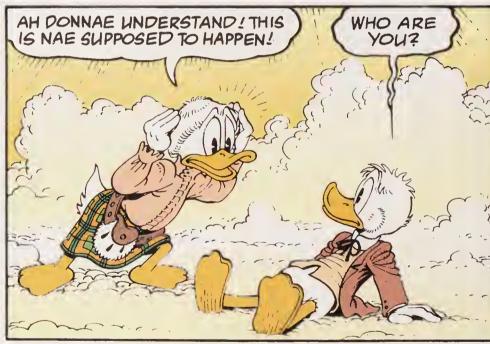


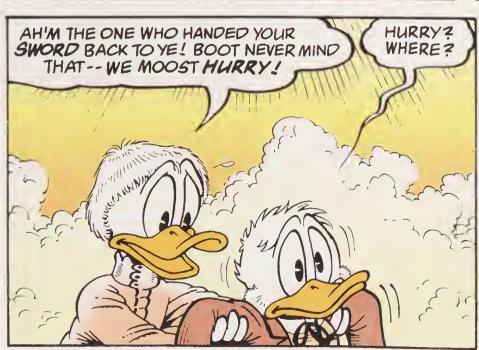


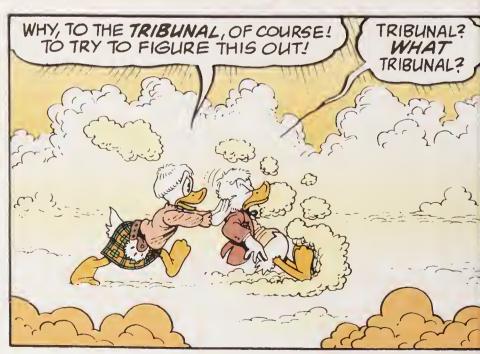


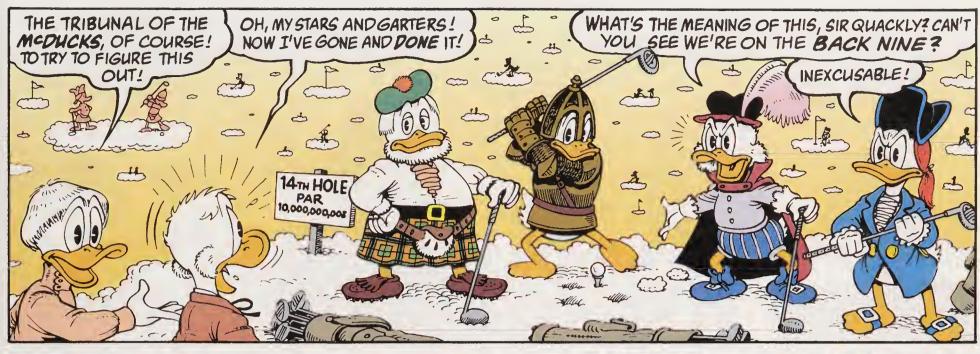


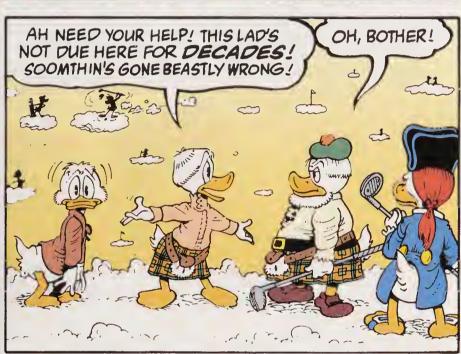


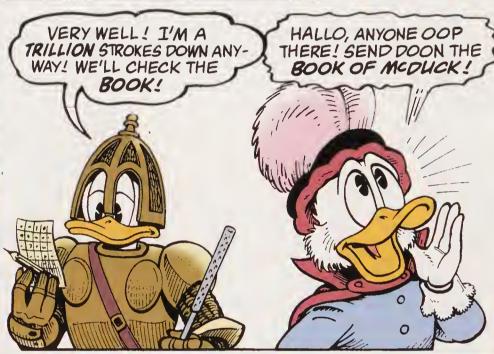


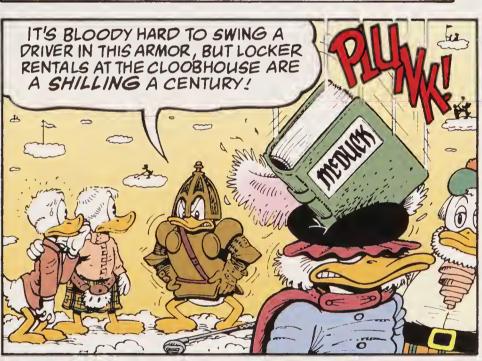


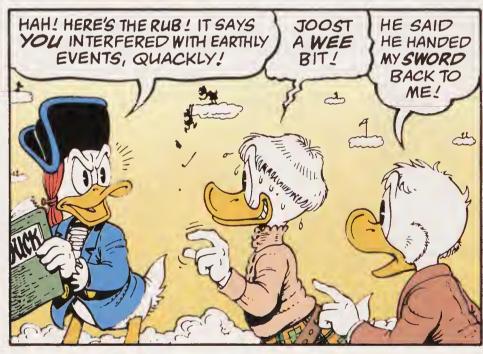


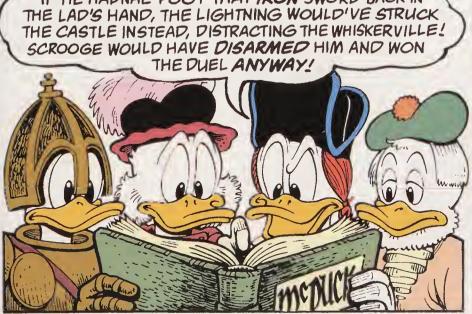








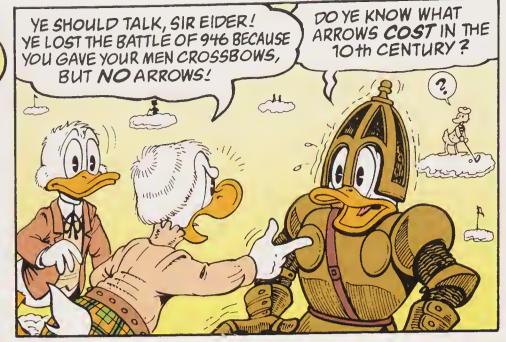


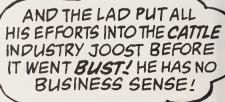


IF HE HADNAE POOT THAT IRON SWORD BACK IN

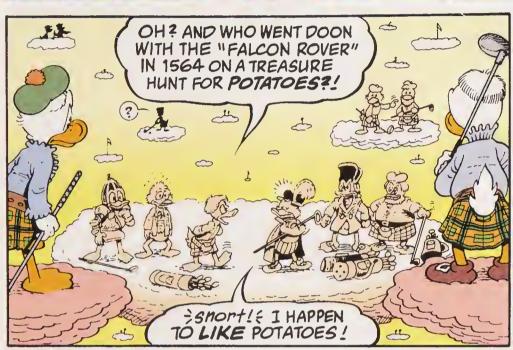


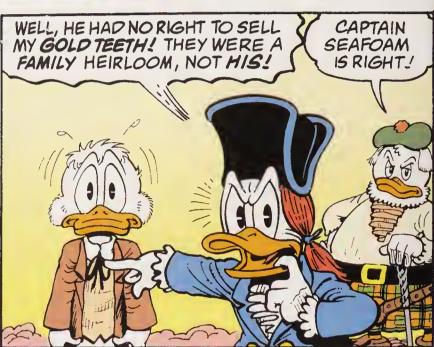








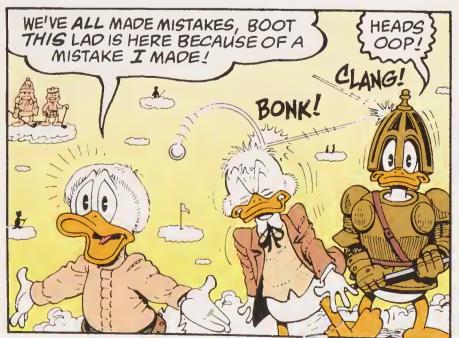




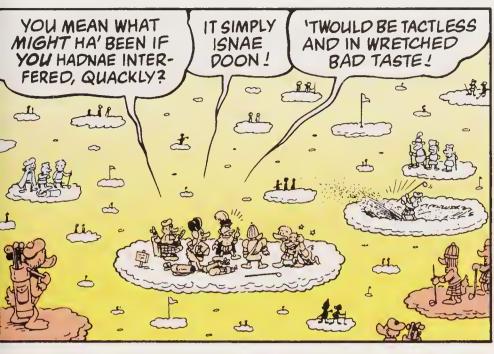


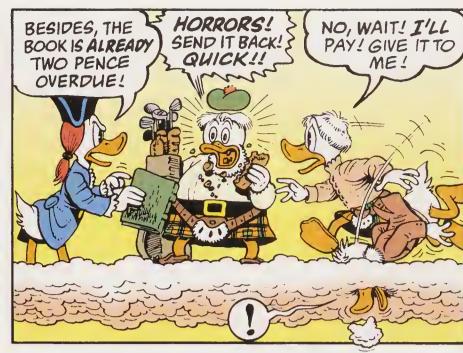


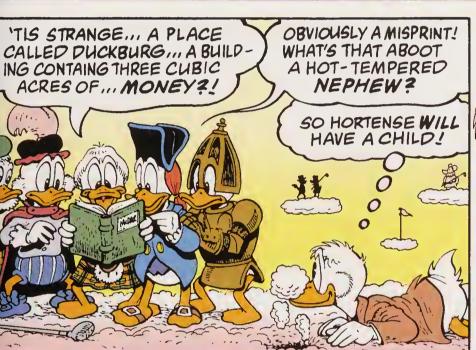


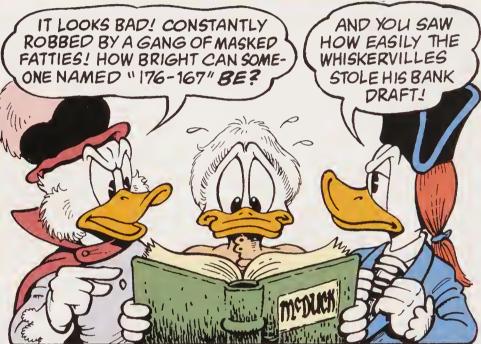


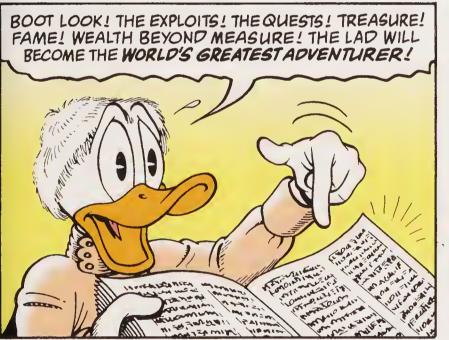




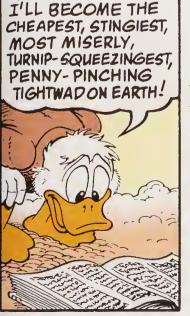






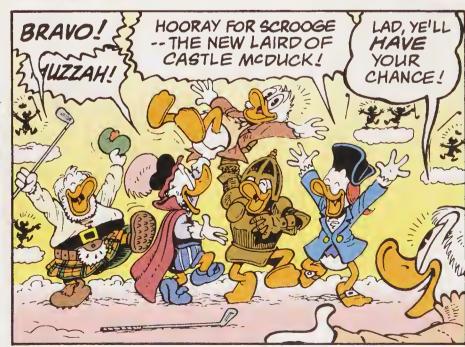


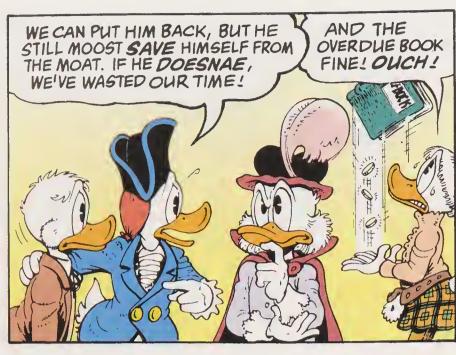


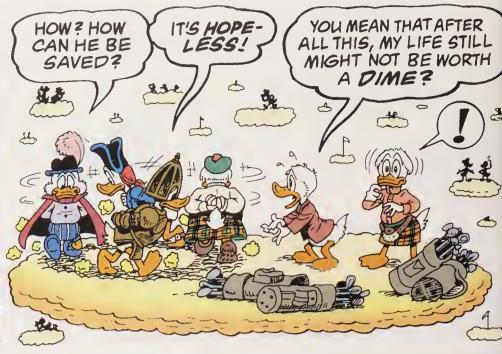


JIGGERS! IT SAYS

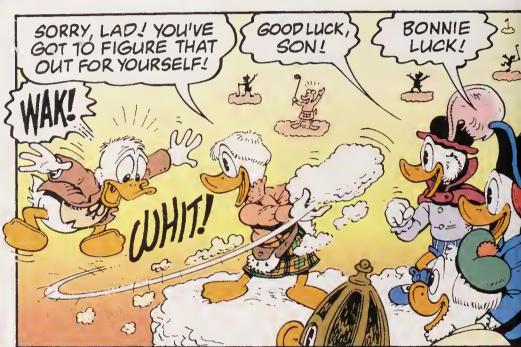


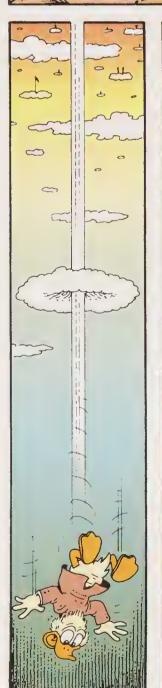


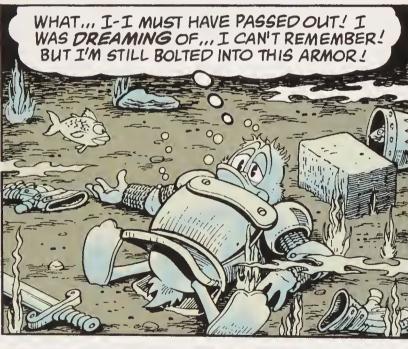










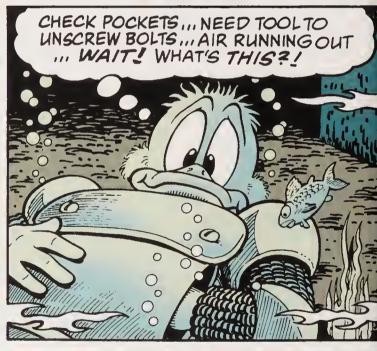


A SQUASHED, SOGGY CREAM CHEESE SANDWICH!

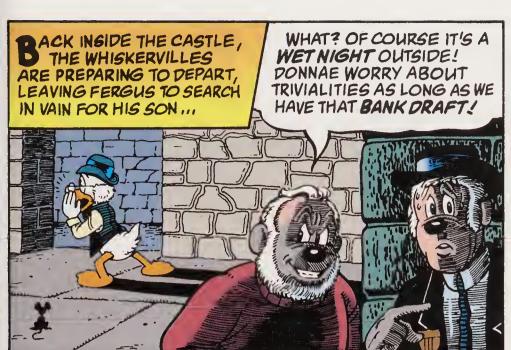
MAYBE I CAN ,,, NO --THAT'S SILLY!

> WAIT! HERE'S SOMETHING ELSE!





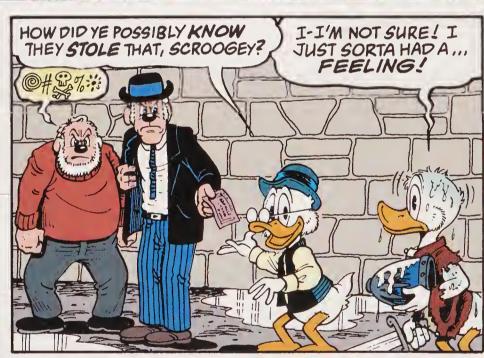






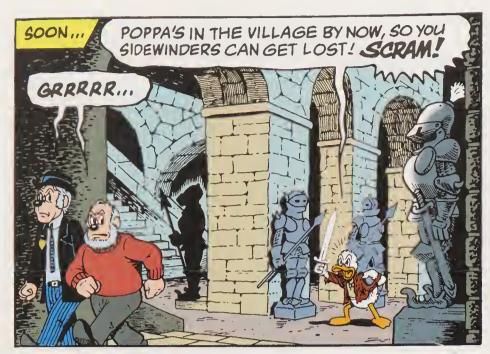








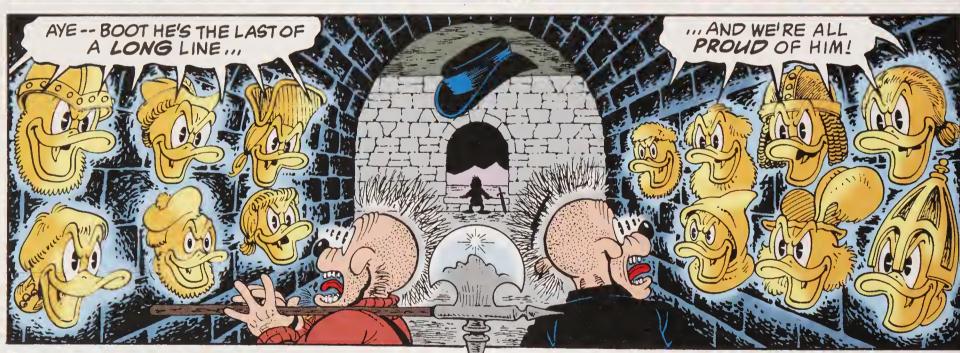
















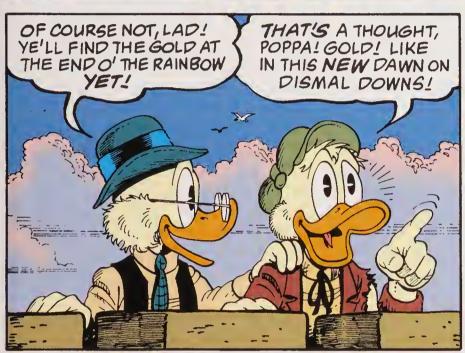




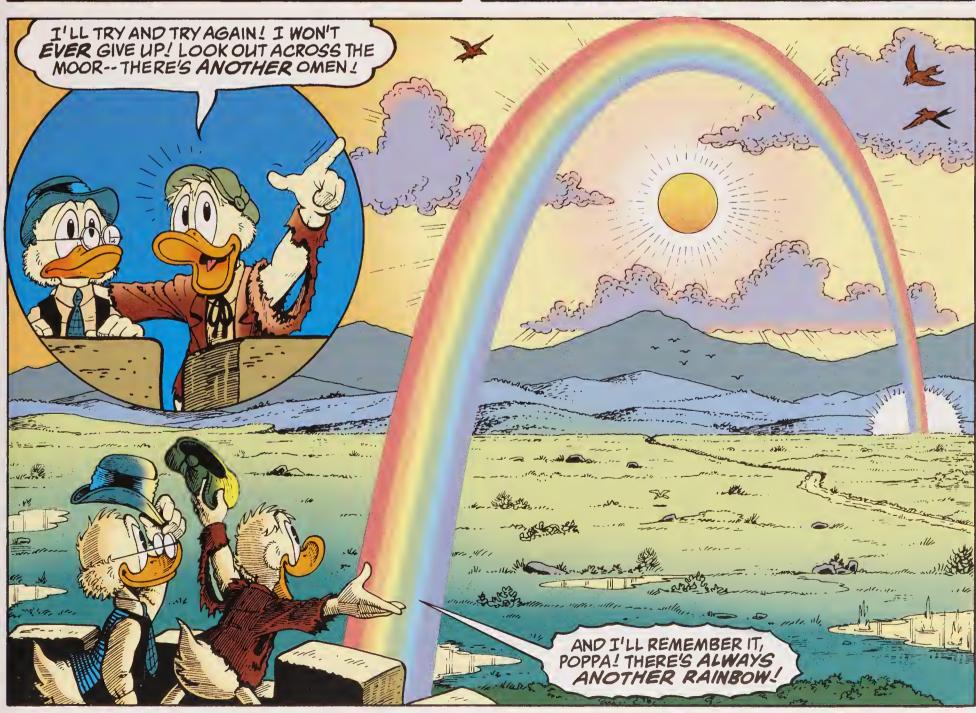
AS DAWN COMES TO DISMAL DOWNS, THE NEW LAIRD OF CASTLE MCDUCK SURVEYS THE DOMAIN OF HIS ANCESTORS.



THEN I'LL BE LEAVING AGAIN,
POPPA! SOMEHOW, I FEEL MORE
SURE THAN EVER THAT I'M DESTINED
FOR GREATNESS! I WON'T FAIL
FOREVER!







The Making of "The New Laird of Castle McDuck"

1885

his chapter was partly designed to solve one of the very few problems I had with Carl Barks' own "Scroogian facts" as revealed in the backgrounds of his many classic tales of the old tycoon. Namely, how could Scrooge have been born into a poor family (as told in "King of the Golden River" in Uncle Scrooge #22) and yet be the heir of a magnificent ancestral castle (as shown in "The Old Castle's Secret" in Donald Duck Four Color #189)? I laid the groundwork for addressing

this paradox in my first chapter, and

following my carefully constructed

framework for the series, I knew I would deal with the matter in Chapter V. As the story shows, the McDucks were chased from the castle by the

This is Rosa's first version of the cover for Chapter V.

The final version became much more dramatic with just a few changes. Color by Egmont.

Hound of the Whiskervilles. They retained ownership of the estate and

the entire clan continued paying the taxes through the centuries, though they refused to sell and

though they refused to sell and were too afraid to move back.

But how did I know
Scrooge was in Scotland in
1885? By this quote from
Barks' "The Money Well"
in *Uncle Scrooge* #21: "I paid
only one dollar for these
glasses in Scotland in 1885."
So, here we see Scrooge's first
use of his famous pince-nez

specs, though he won't use them constantly for another 17 years.

As often happens to this old-movie

buff, I had an idea for this chapter that would be similar to a movie I once saw. But it had been 20 years or more since I'd seen this film which had been strangely absent from any local station or cable or satellite TV or videotape or laser disc, even though I'd long sought to add it to my collection. It was a classic 1946 British fantasy with David Niven titled A Matter of Life or Death, also known in America as Stairway to Heaven. Now I was especially anxious to see the film, in case it might give me some ideas in how to handle the plot I'd already decided on. I contacted movie critic Roger Ebert on Compuserve and he told me that the rights to the film had been purchased decades earlier by someone wanting to remake it, however they never had and the movie was nonetheless locked away from mortal eyes for any foreseeable future. Drat! But I hopped into cyberspace and sent out pleas around the globe for anyone who might supply me with a copy of the movie. Sure enough, in no time I received a tape from Canada since only the American rights had been tied up. I don't think the movie gave me any useful hints for my story, but I treasure the addition to my film library nonetheless! If not for Scrooge, I wouldn't have gone searching for this lost classic!

My texts for the earlier chapters tell where I gleaned such Barks characters as the Whiskervilles, Capt. "Seafoam" McDuck, and Sirs Quackly, Swamphole, Roast, and Eider McDuck. One other McDuck I used here, the fella with the plumed bonnet, is "Matey" McDuck from Barks' "Back to Long Ago" in *Uncle Scrooge* #16.

I don't know about you, but I liked this chapter! I thought I always did a better job on the chapters that took place all on one day such as episodes V and IX, when I wasn't overburdened with covering too many facts and too many years in the limited space.



This historic panel showing the first-ever glimpse of Castle McDuck is from Barks' "The Old Castle's Secret."

Insane Details To Look For

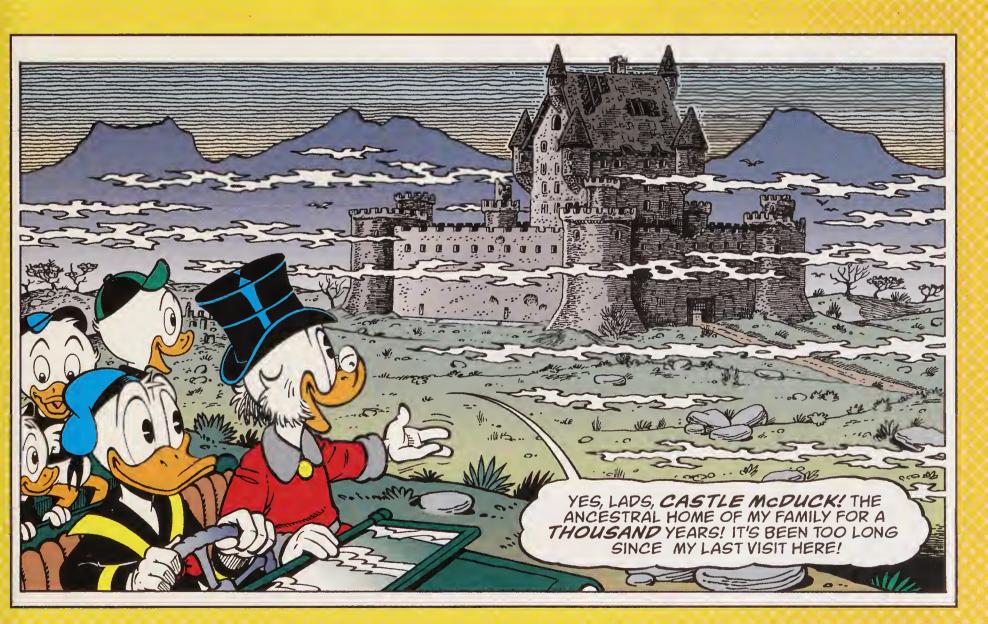
Check the signature on the cashier's check in the splash panel. Also notice that's an 1885 style golf ball there (in case it looked odd).

Notice all the Whiskervilles still have the white hair Scrooge gave them six years earlier.

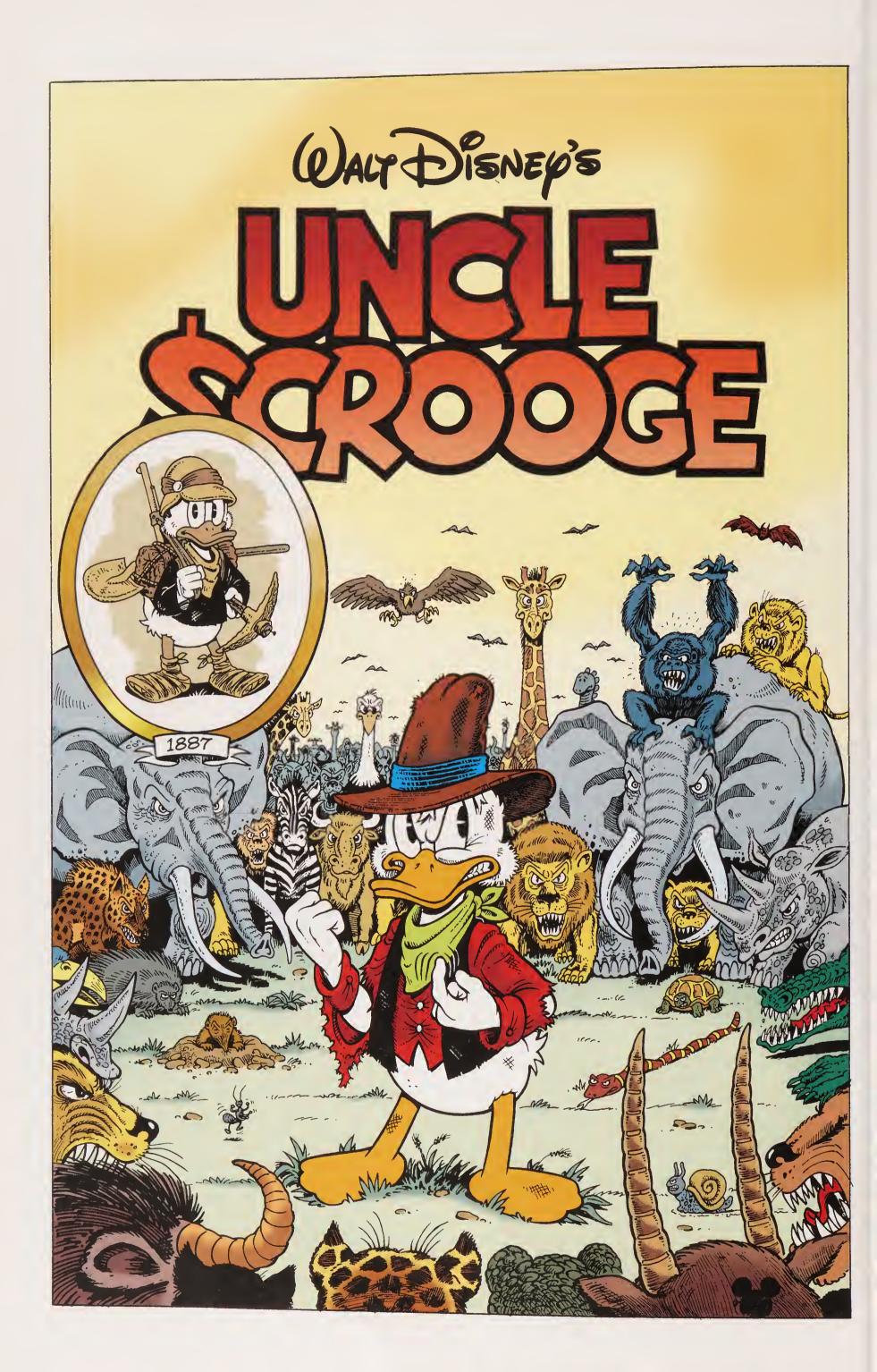
In the final panel I didn't want to worry about how rainbows really worked since I wanted to "achieve an effect"; but now it looks too stupid, with the sun below the rainbow rather than above it, and the rainbow's ends not being equidistant from the viewer. Oh, well... there's always another rainbow.

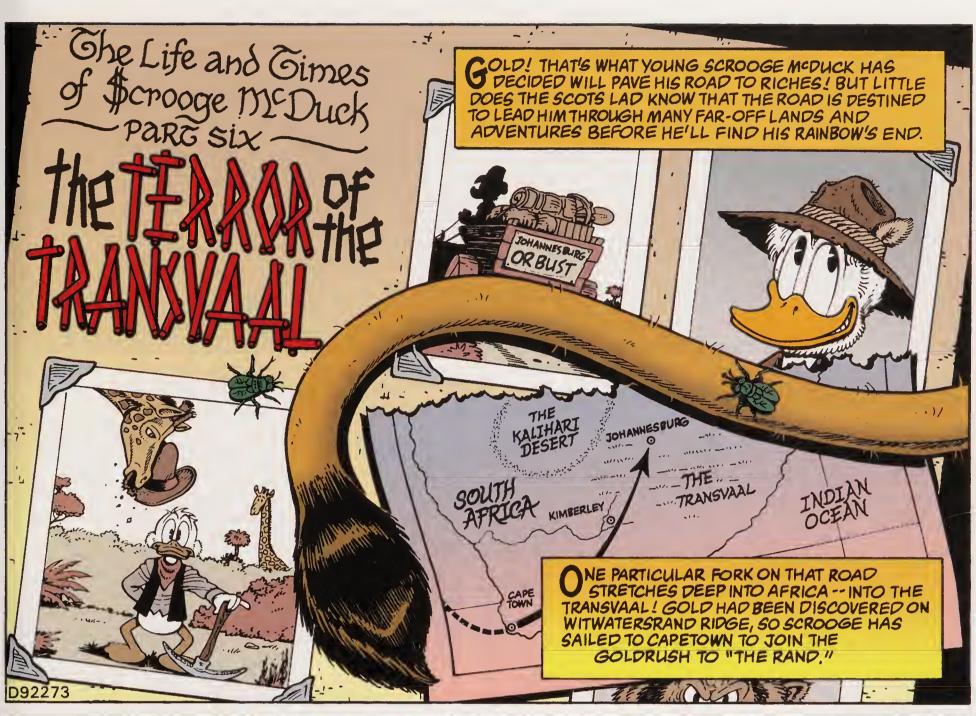
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, cover: Look at the branches of the distant windblown tree in the center of the cover.

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: The dedication is in the putter head. Look at it at a sharp angle. But careful! Not too sharp or you'll chip past the hole!

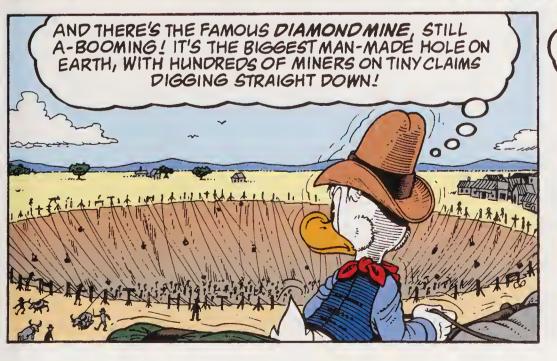


Rosa's "Letter from Home" brought Scrooge and his nephews back to castle McDuck for more adventures — and a family reunion of sorts. This is the splash page from its first American publication in US 342. Color by Susan Daigle-Leach.

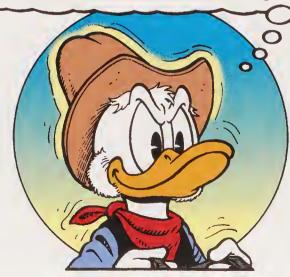




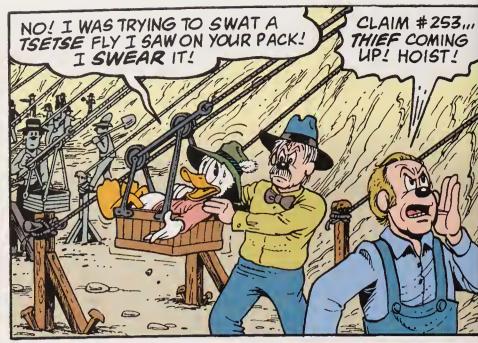


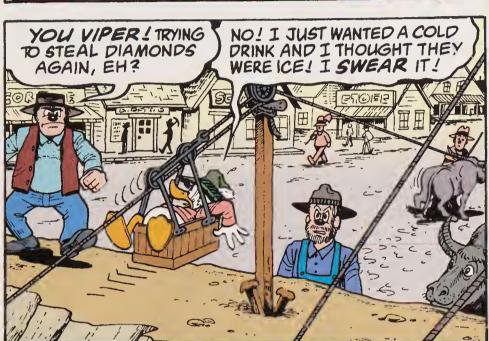


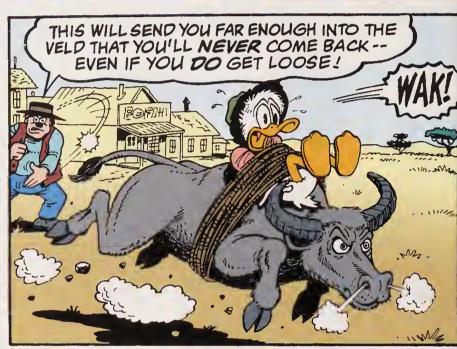
BAH! TOO MUCH HUBBUB! TOO MANY PEOPLE! I'LL FIND A HOLE THAT BIG FILLED WITH GOLD... AND ALL MINE!

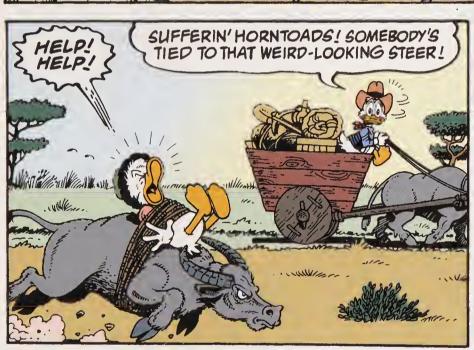


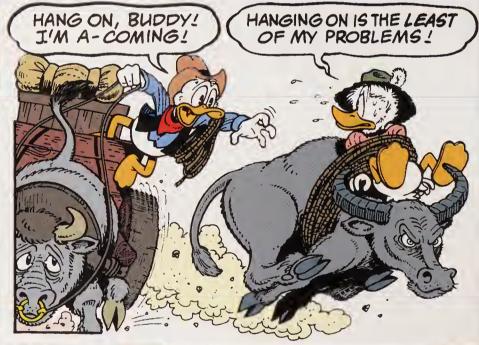


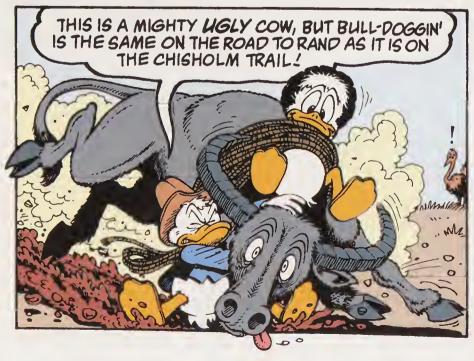


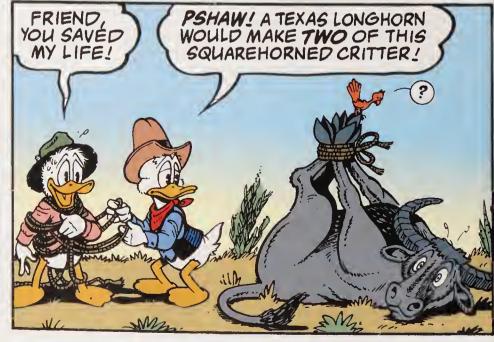


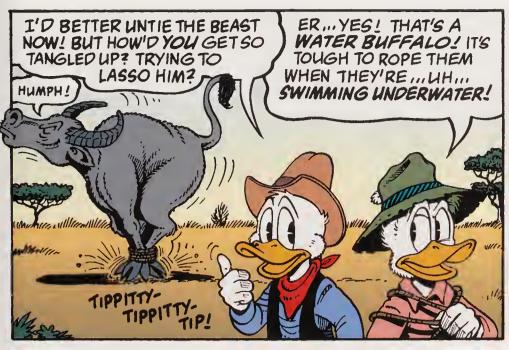






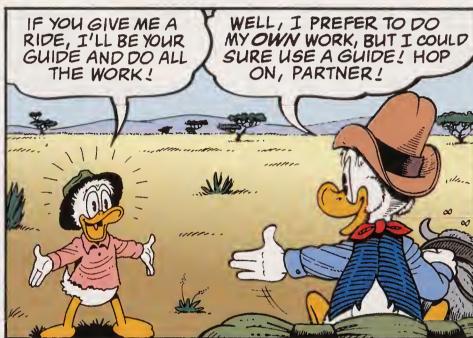


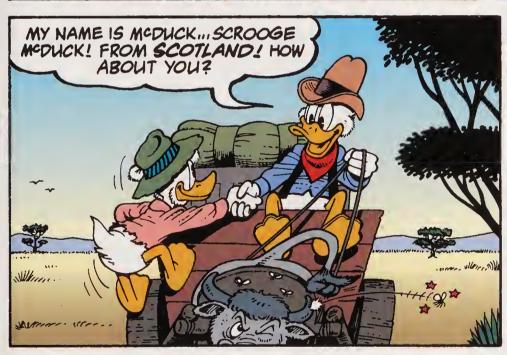


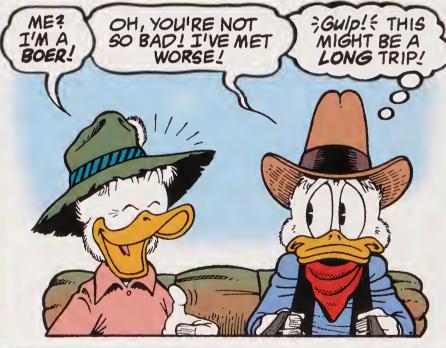






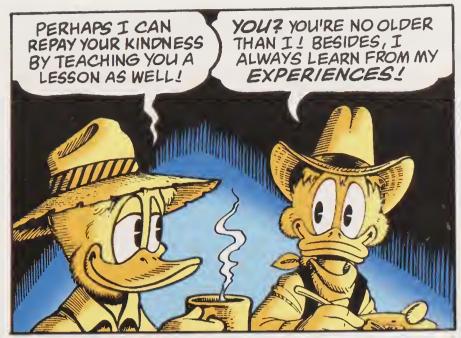








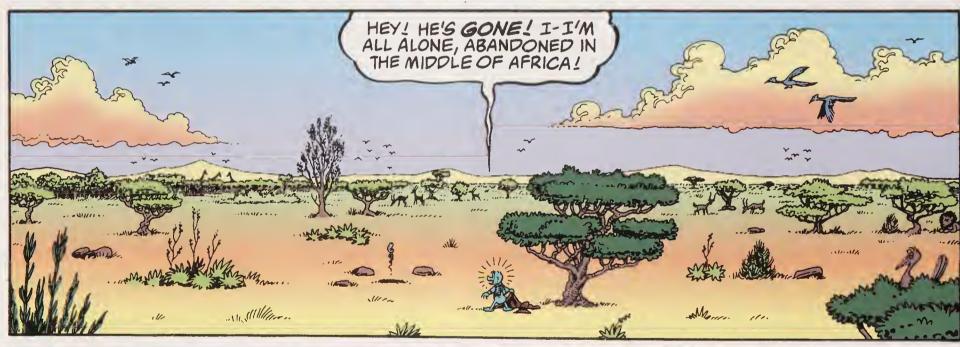


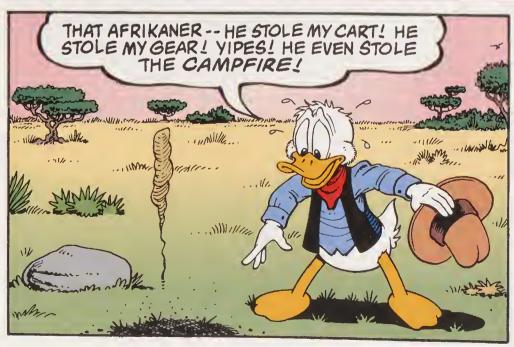


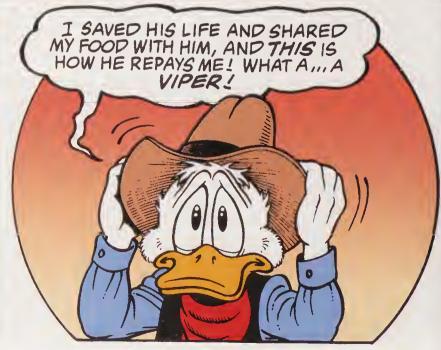


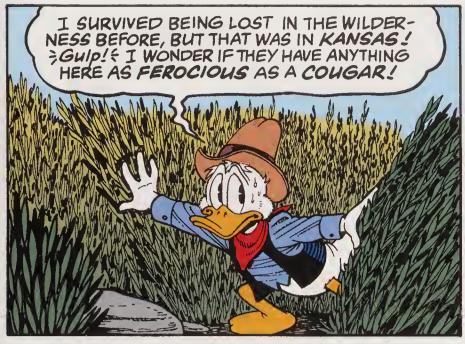








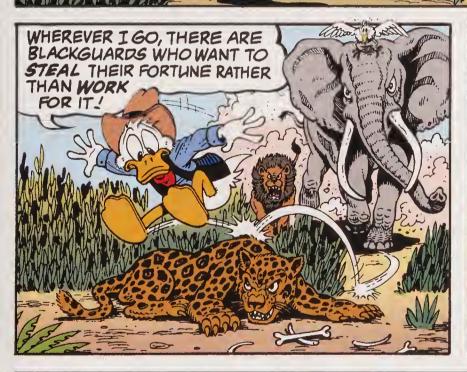


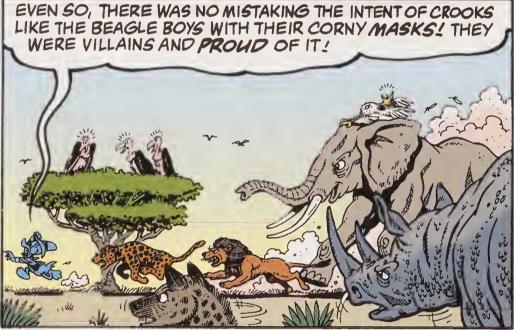


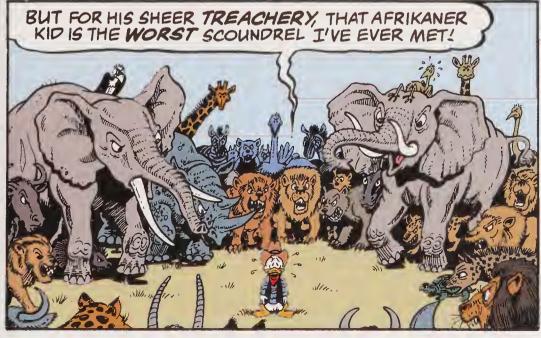


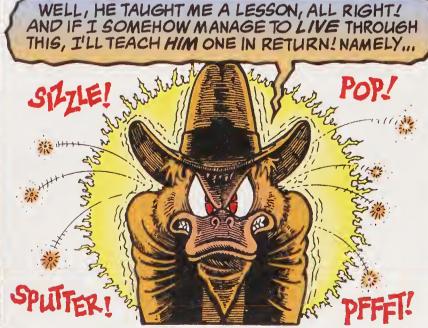


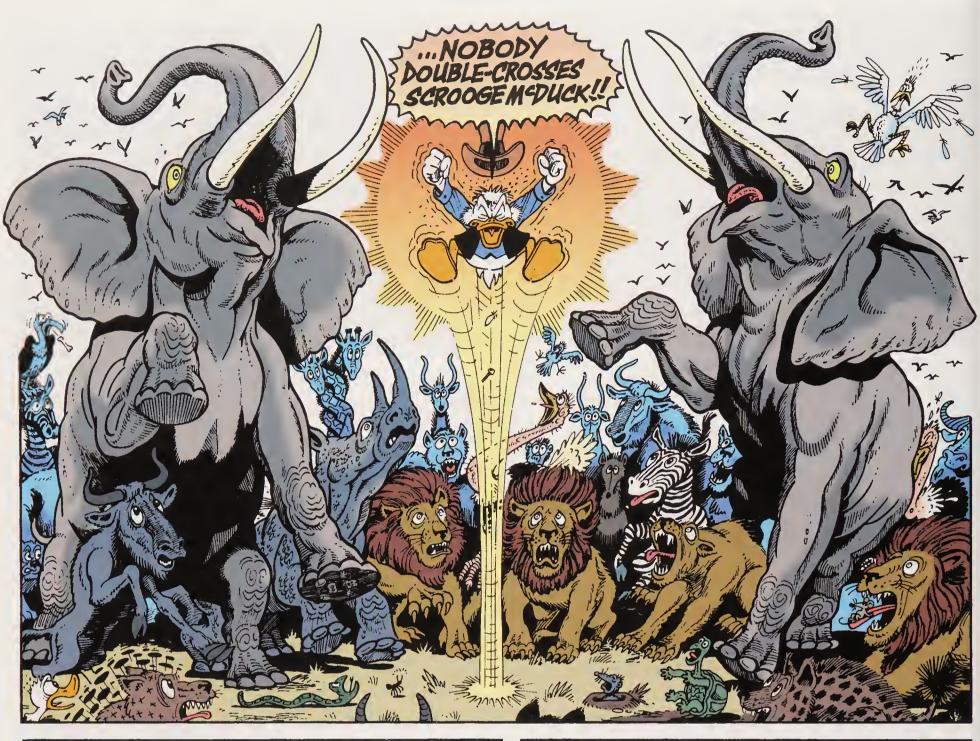


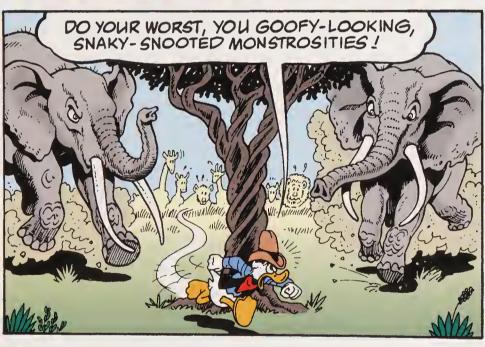


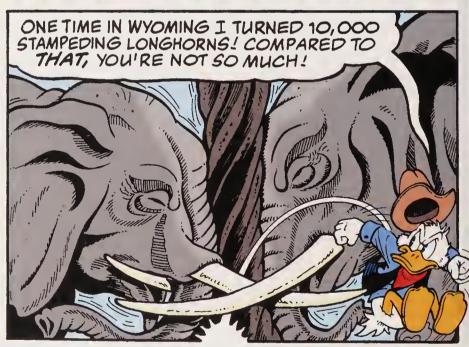


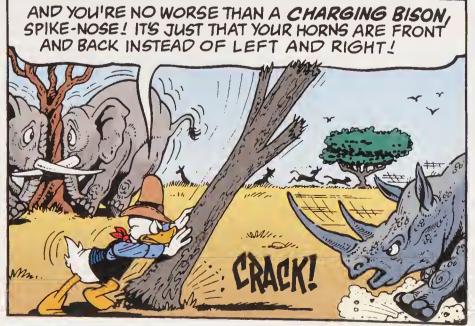




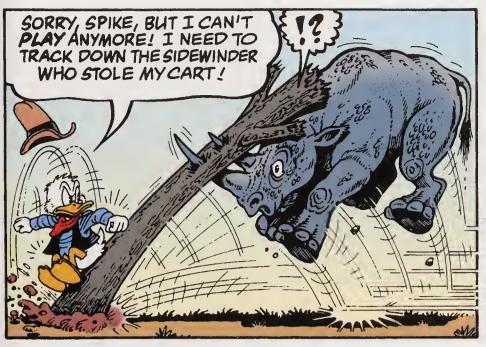


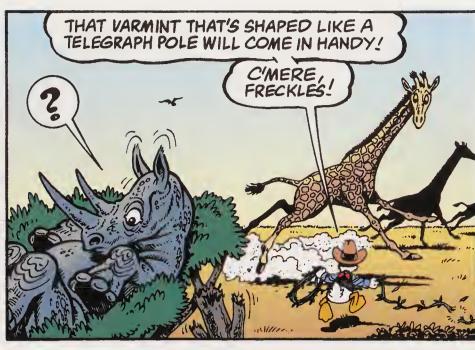


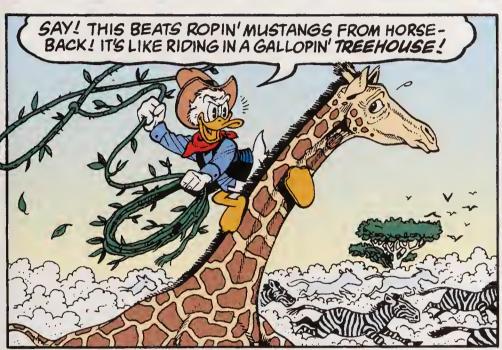


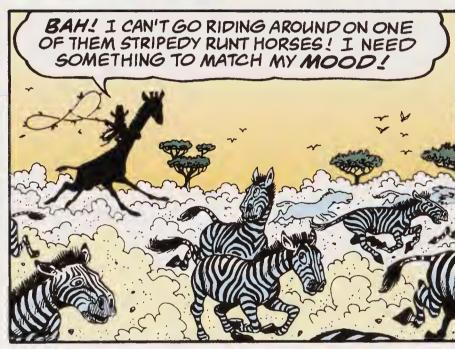










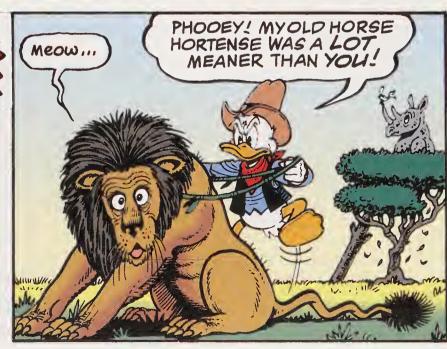




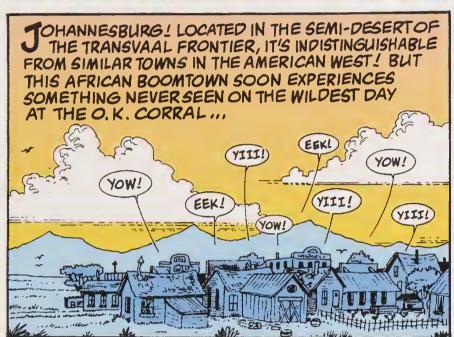




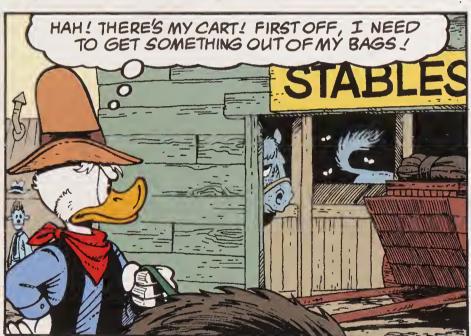


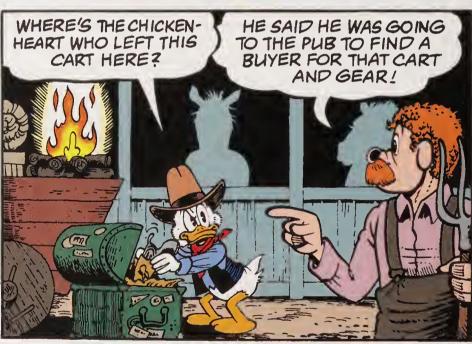


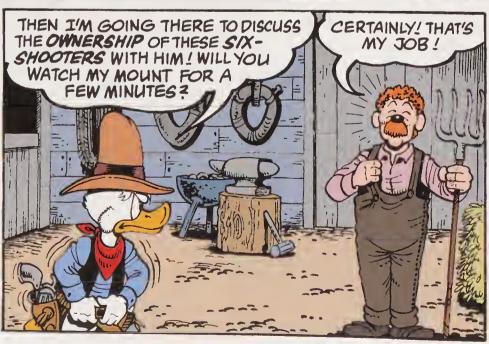






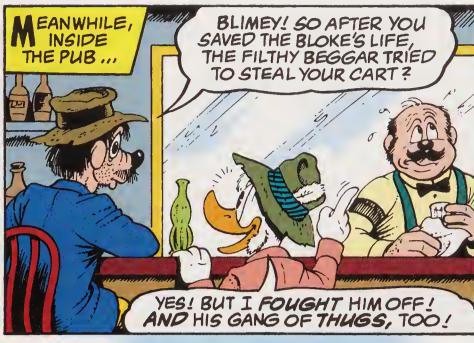


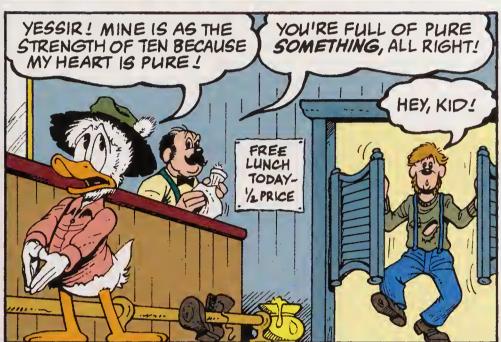


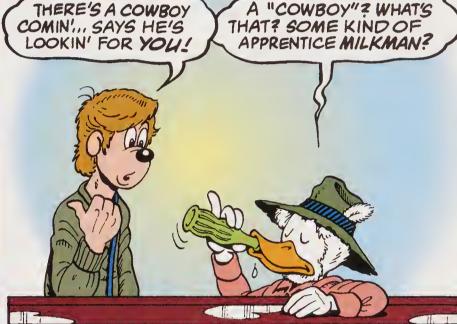








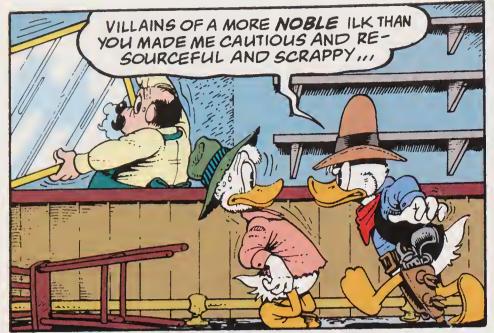






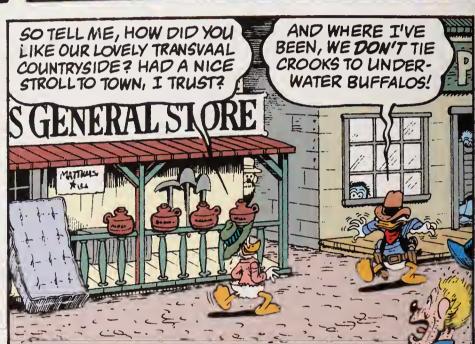


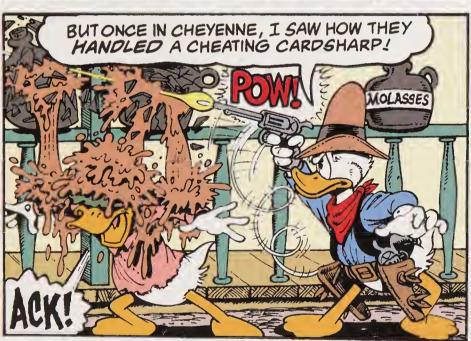


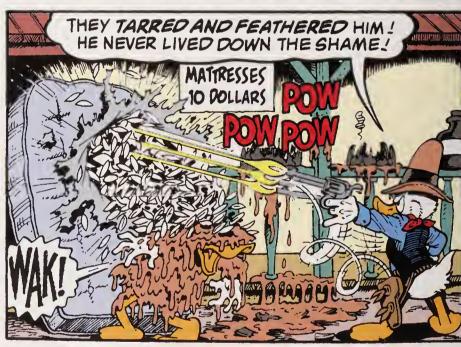


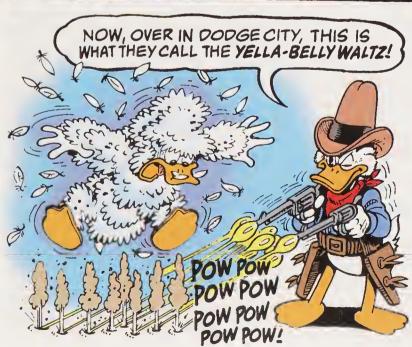




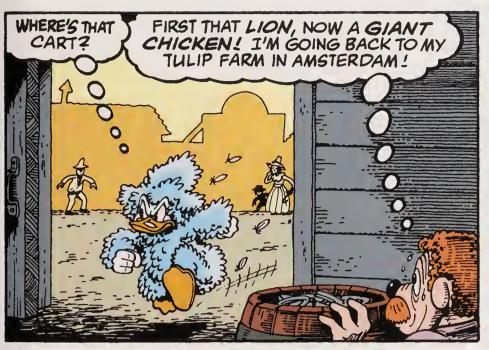










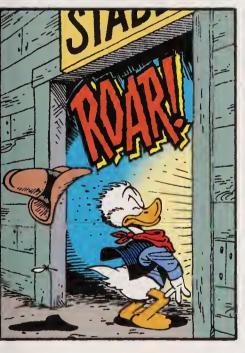




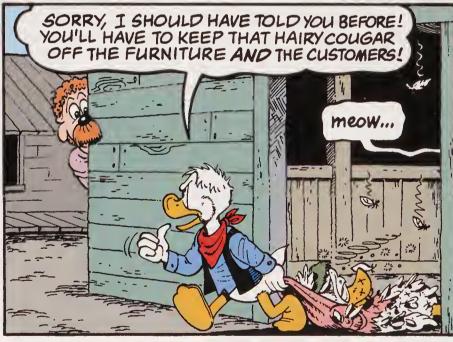


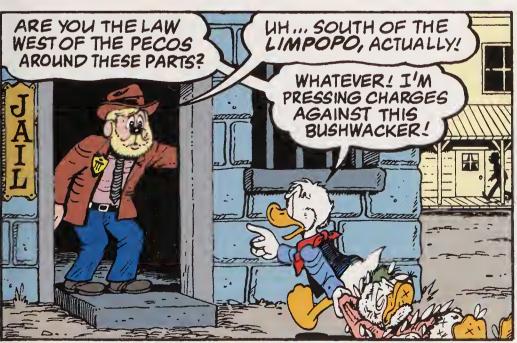




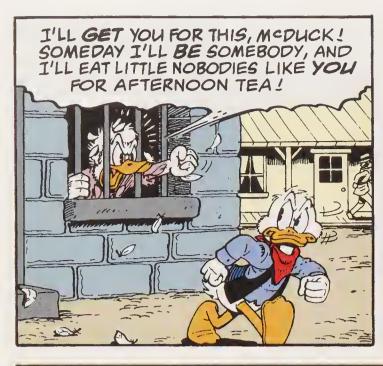


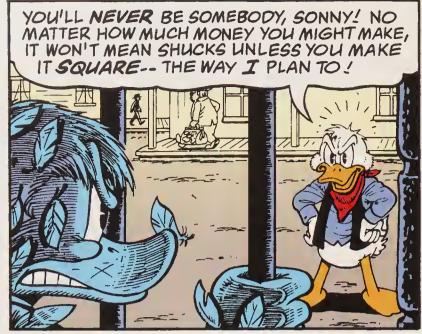






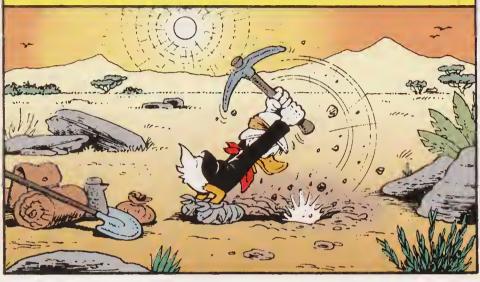








BUT SCROOGE MCDUCK NEVER MADE HIS FORTUNE IN THE AFRICAN GOLDFIELDS, EVEN THOUGH HE TOILED THERE FOR THREE LONG YEARS.



THE TRANSVAAL ORE WAS TOO LOW-GRADE FOR A LONE MINER TO EXPLOIT -- TONS OF IT NEEDED TO BE MINED AND PROCESSED TO EXTRACT A SINGLE OUNCE OF GOLD!



AS A RESULT, ONLY RANDLORDS ALREADY WEALTHY FROM THE KIMBERLEY DIAMOND MINE COULD AFFORD THE WORKERS AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO MAKE A PROFIT MINING GOLD ON THE RAND.







The Making of

"The Terror of the Transvaal"

Was "The Prey of the Transvaal Viper," but Byron nixed that on the grounds that he thought my other titles seemed to be positive references to Scrooge rather than a negative reference to him as a victim. So I went with "Terror of the Transvaal."

In part V, I show young

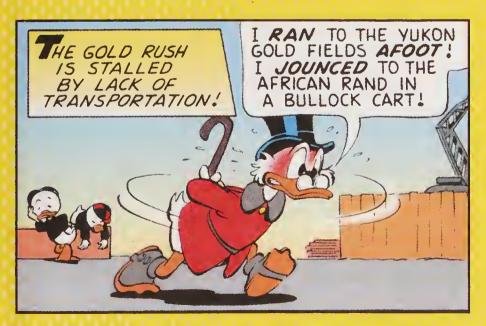
Scrooge finally deciding that

the treasure at the end of his rainbow is to be gold, and he has launched his career as an Argonaut. My temptation was great to leap directly to Scrooge's glory days in the Yukon Gold Rush, and how he finally hit pay dirt on White Agony Creek, as we all know from Barks' "Back to the Klondike." However, also buried in obscure comments in other tales, Barks stated that Scrooge was involved in numerous other gold rushes before the Yukon, so I had to patiently deal with those stories first. Besides, that helped show that Scrooge's final suc-

In "The Loony Lunar Gold Rush" in *Uncle Scrooge* #49, Scrooge brags that he "jounced to the African Rand in a bullock cart." Therefore, this chapter deals with the young Scot's years in the gold rush in the Transvaal, which would place it in 1886–1889.

cess did not come easily or quickly; he had many

years of hard knocks ahead of him.



Even off-hand references to Scrooge's past were incorporated into Rosa's Scrooge biography. This one is from Barks' "The Loony Lunar Gold Rush."

Now, I know we've seen various

European Duck stories telling

of how Scrooge and Flintheart

Glomgold were partners in the Yukon, or that Glomgold lives in Duckburg and sits beside Scrooge at the "Millionaires' Club"; but we Barks fans all know that in the Master's stories, Scrooge's "evil twin" lives in South Africa. And knowing that this chapter would be set in that region, how could I resist having Scrooge encounter "Flinty" in the days before either of them had a dollar (or rand) to their

them had a dollar (or rand) to their name? Yet notice that Scrooge never learns Flintheart's name, since his African

rival is unknown and unrecognized by him in their later "first" meeting in "The Second Richest Duck" in *Uncle Scrooge* #15. On the other hand, we have no indication that Flintheart doesn't already know Scrooge in that tale; in fact, the cool manner in which Flintheart receives Scrooge could be inferred as a sign that Flintheart knew who he was, and knew he was on his way to Africa, having met him on the ship coming over.

The only other Barksian reference I could think of to stick in this chapter was in showing the "Kaffir de Gaffir" gold mine which Scrooge and Flintheart fight over in "So Far and No Safari" in *Uncle Scrooge* #61.

The original Glomgold story ("The Second Richest Duck") has long been one of my very favorite Scrooge adventures, even though it's not as good a tale as many others. But if you love the Scrooge character, then what could be more exciting than the story in which he meets his "evil twin"? I see Flintheart as a match for Scrooge (his youthful inspiration) in every way: they both started from nothing and made their fortunes by "being sharper than the sharpies and smarter than the smarties," but the difference is that Flintheart didn't "make it square." He's dishonest and perhaps downright murderous (as opposed to the Beagle Boys, who are more good-natured baddies).

Insane Details To Look For

Does anyone want to tell me that water buffalo don't come from Africa? Yes, but I found they were imported from Asia to work the mines in the Transvaal.

I know that for Disney-style animals, mine are pretty lousy. But then, I try for a more realistic look anyway. For the critters in this story, I didn't look to Ward Kimball for reference, but to Burne Hogarth.

You can see Scrooge getting his shootin' irons out of his old trunk that appears throughout the series. I plan to use that trunk again in future stories, perhaps to introduce new stories set in Scrooge's past.

The movie buff in me speaks out again in the first panel of page 119 where I have a disembodied voice-over singing the theme from *High Noon* as Scrooge stalks down the street. The satire "Hah, Noon" back in the old *MAD* comic was in my head as I drew this.

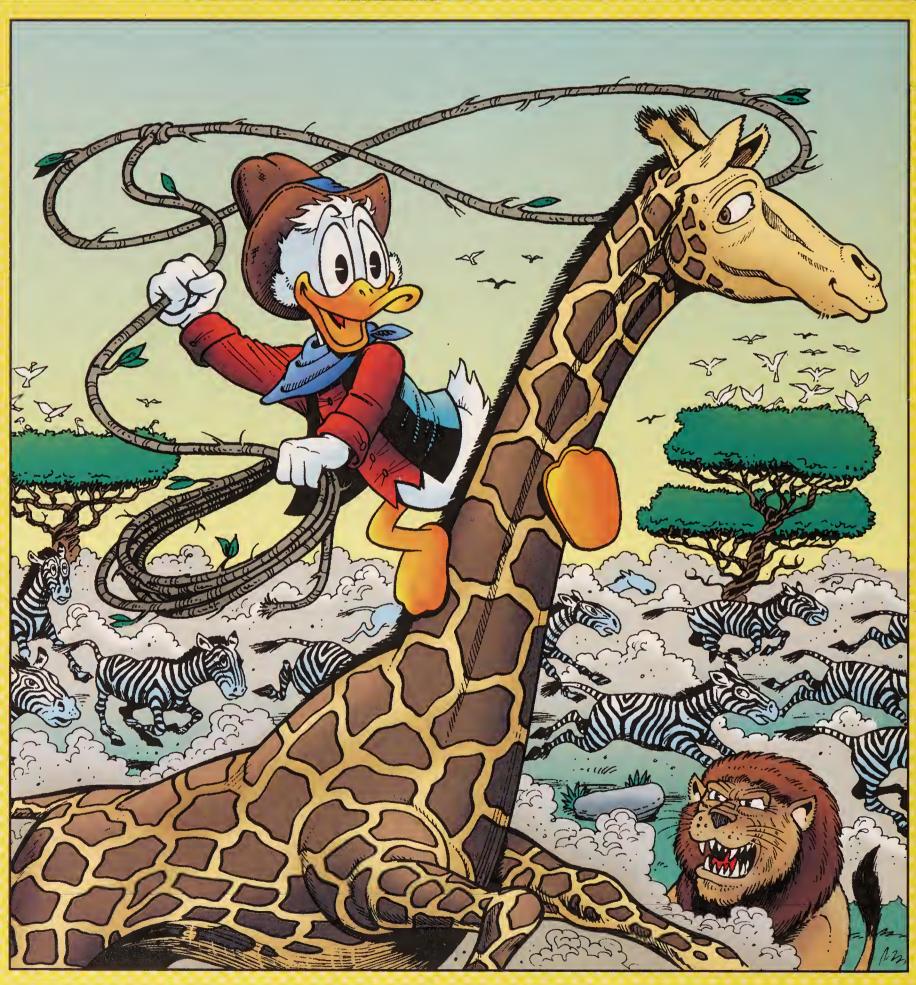
"Fill your hand!" says Scrooge to Flintheart.
Recognize that? John Wayne in *True Grit*. Speaking of

movie references, I believe that's John Qualen in the role of the barfly on that same page.

But maybe I'm more realistic (or obsessive?) than those western-movie makers? Count the shots as Scrooge empties his two six-shooters at Flintheart. Then he actually has to stop to reload. What a concept for a western story!

D.U.C.K. SPOILER, cover: Look in the left horn of the critter in the lower right. Also, if you look just below the right horn, though it's almost cropped off, you'll see a mouse-sized Mickey in the crowd of varmints. (There's also a puzzled looking dinosaur in there if you search.)

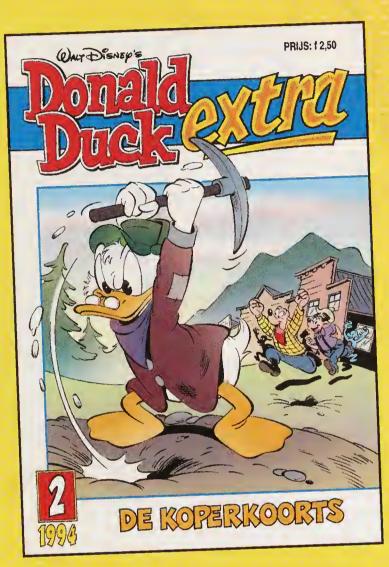
D.U.C.K. SPOILER, splash panel: It's written on the bedroll on top of Scrooge's cart in the top photo.



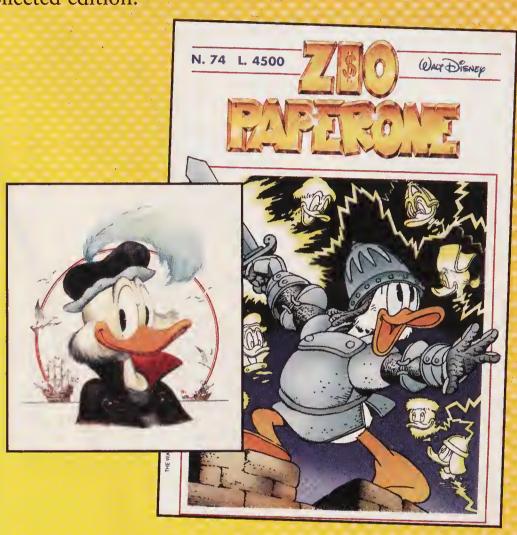
An unused cover Rosa drew for a German album reprinting Chapter VI. D.U.C.K. spoiler: He forgot to put a dedication on the cover showing Scrooge riding a giraffe. Color by Egmont.

The World of The Life of Scrooge

Dutch publisher Geïllustreerde Pers (formerly known as Oberon) printed "The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck" out of order! It's true: local editors received chapter three first and for various reasons, had no choice but to publish it before chapters one and two. Still, Holland had nothing on Sweden — where chapters one and two weren't included in the initial run of the series at all. They finally made their Swedish debut in a 1997 collected edition.



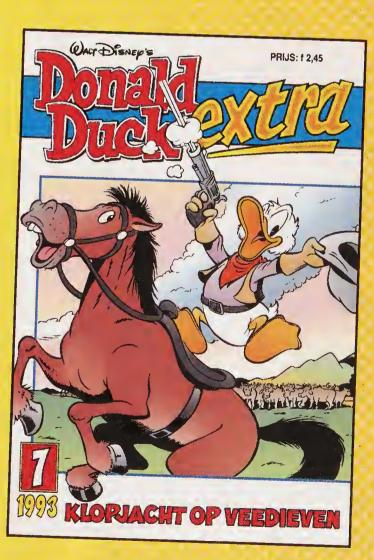
Cover to Donald Duck Extra 2/1994, art by Michel Nadorp (illustrating "Raider of the Copper Hill").



Front cover drawing and back cover vignette from Italian Zio Paperone 74 (1995), art by Marco Rota (illustrating "The New Laird of Castle McDuck").



Cover to Brazilian 40 Anos da Revista Tio Patinhas I (2003), art by Carlos Mota (illustrating "Terror of the Transvaal," although some elements are derived from the Carl Barks oil painting "Always Another Rainbow").



Cover to Dutch Donald Duck Extra 7/1993, art by Mau Heymans (illustrating "The Buckaroo of the Badlands": see page 55 to compare this issue's cover date with the Dutch cover dates for chapters one and two).









DON ROSA

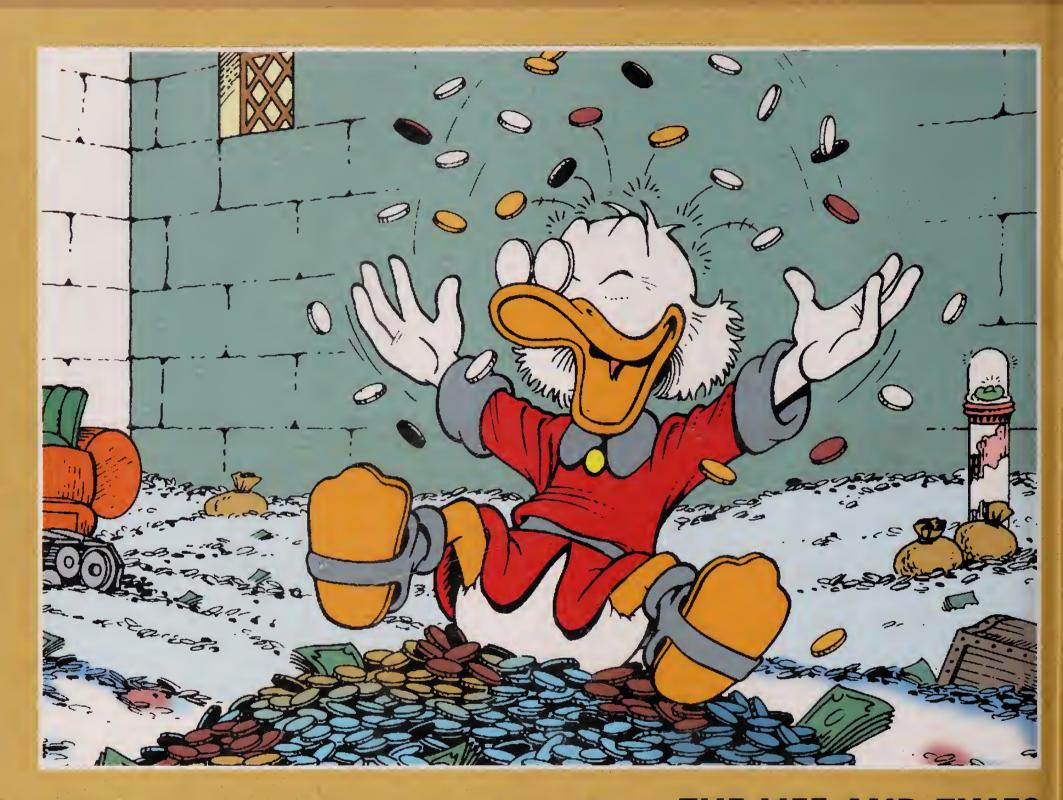
Don Rosa is an American comic book writer and illustrator best known for his stories about Scrooge McDuck, Donald Duck and other Disney characters. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky. His most famous work is THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SCROOGE MCDUCK, which was out of print... until now!

Rosa's body of work has won him a great deal of recognition in the industry, including nominations for the Comics' Buyer's Guide Award for Favorite Writer in 1997, 1998, and 1999.

In 1995 he was awarded the Eisner Award for "Best Serialized Story" for THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SCROOGE MCDUCK. Rosa was also nominated for the 2007 Harvey Awards in five categories (more than any other creator for that year) for Uncle Scrooge comics: Best Writer, Best Artist, Best Cartoonist, Best Cover Artist, and Special Award for Humor in Comics.

"[A] witty, tightly plotted story about a plucky young week starting from scratch and amassing a fortune while he loses his soul by degrees... Rosa crams every chapter of his serial with wordplay, historical nuggets, throwaway sight gags and references to his favorite old movies."

— **DOUGLAS WOLK**WASHINGTON POST



Winner of the coveted Eisner Award, Don Rosa's **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SCROOGE MCDUCK** is an epic achievement in graphic storytelling. From his humble beginnings as a young shoeshine boy to the height of his financial achievements, the story of Scrooge McDuck is presented here in the first of a two volume collection, with commentary by Don Rosa, original cover galleries, and more. This deluxe hardcover collects the first six chapters of the celebrated twelve-part Eisner Award-winning series!

