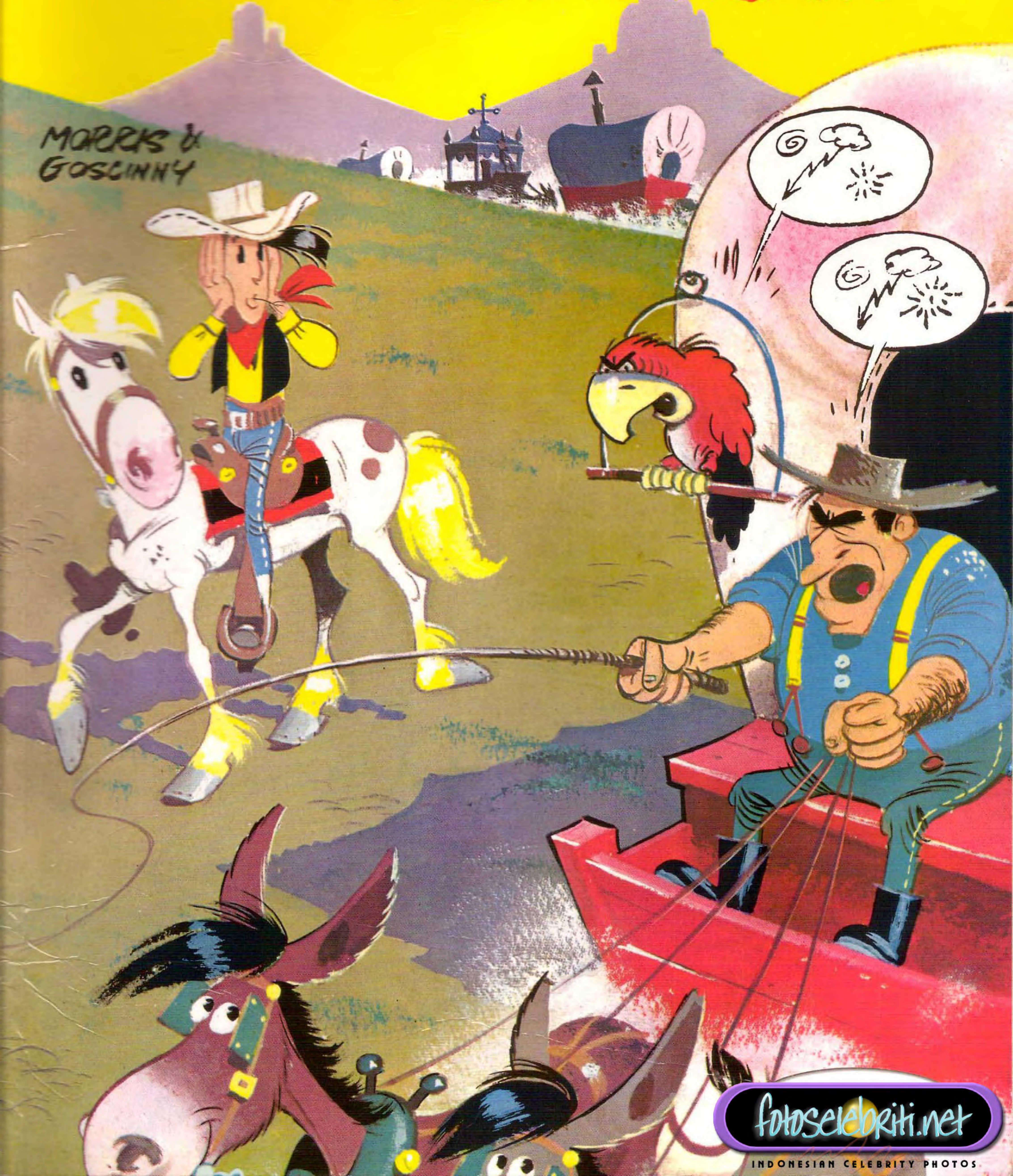


THE WAGON TRAIN

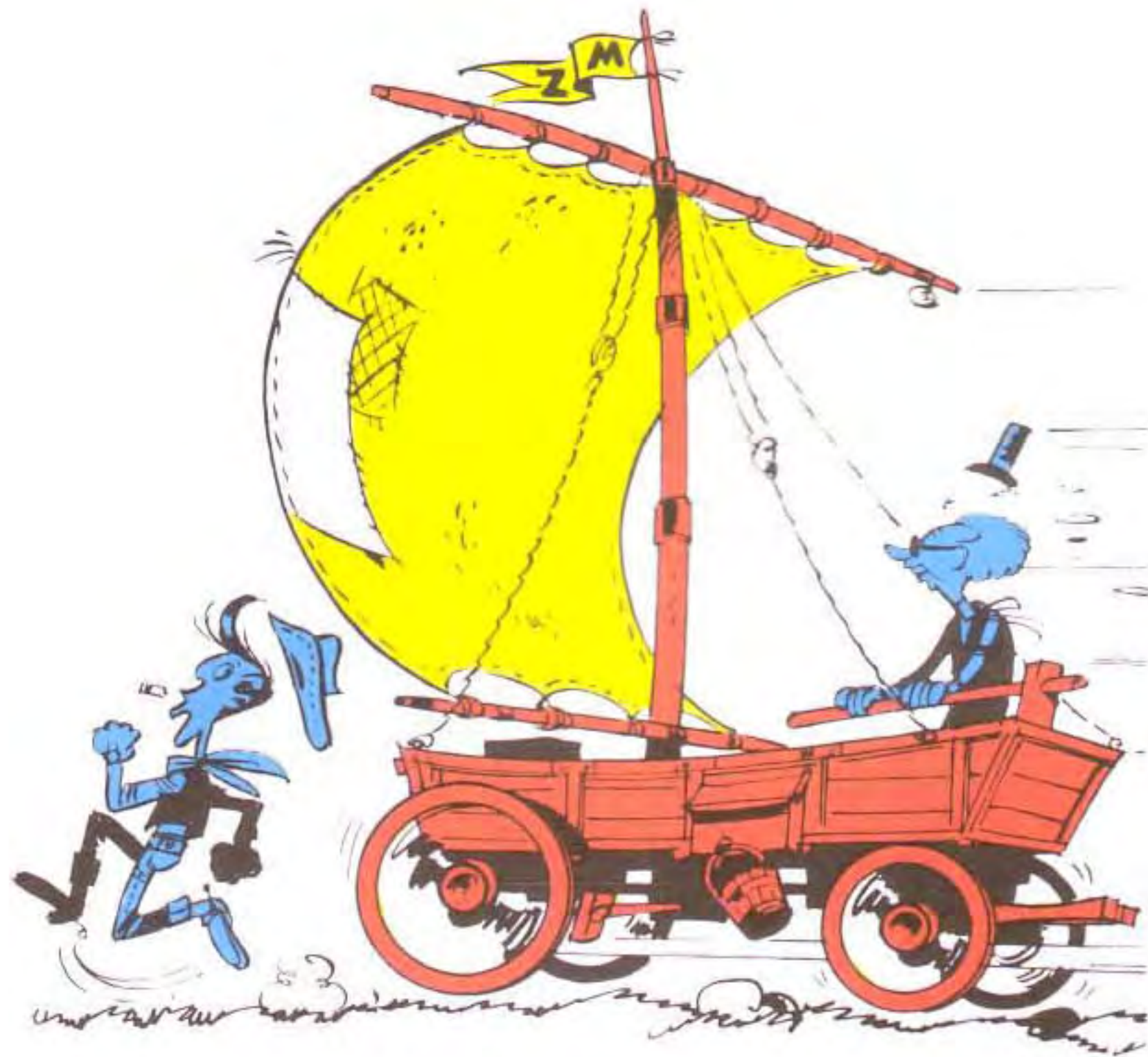
MORRIS &
GOSLINNY



A LUCKY LUKE ADVENTURE

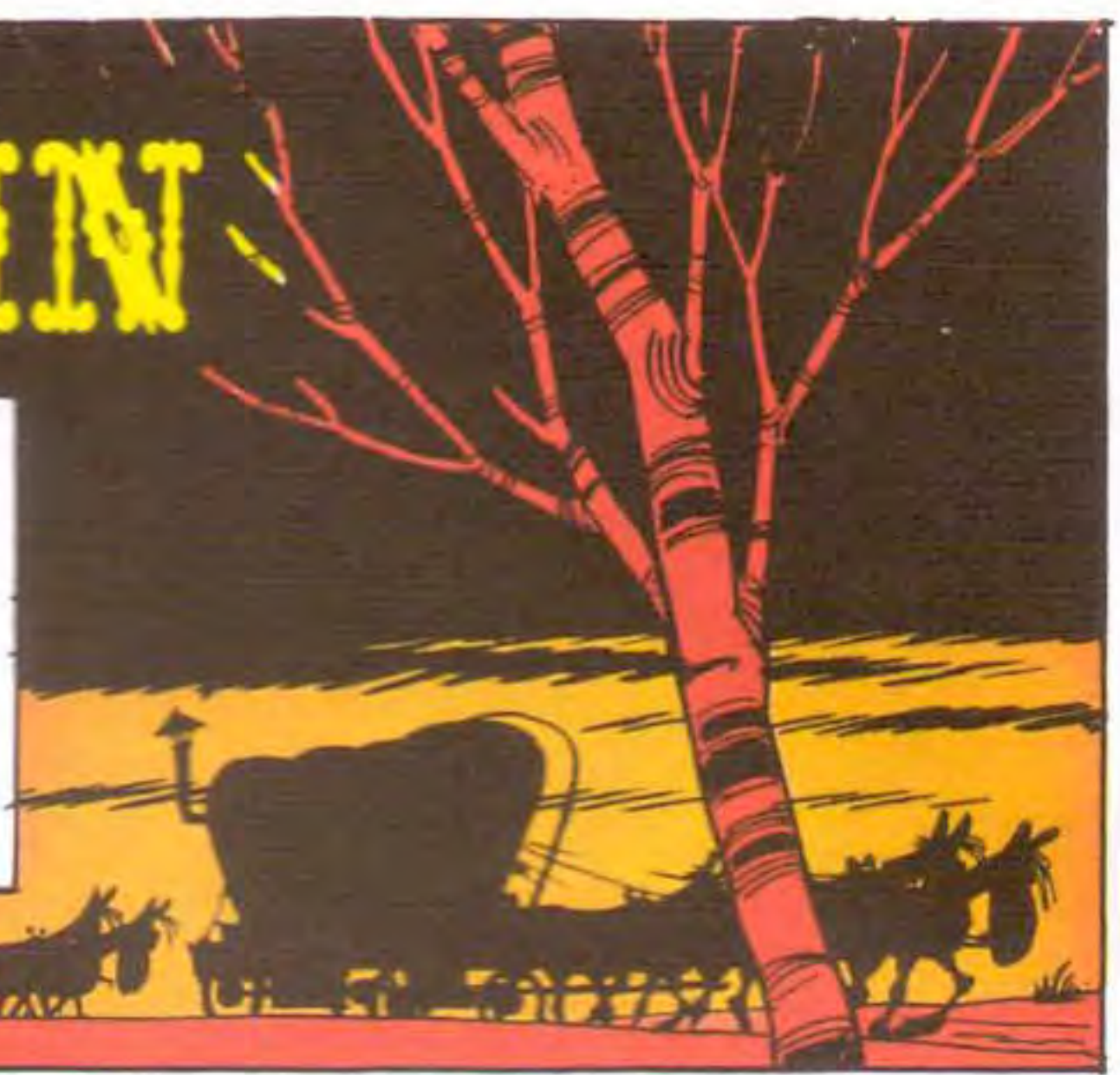
THE WAGON TRAIN

BY MORRIS & GOSCINNY

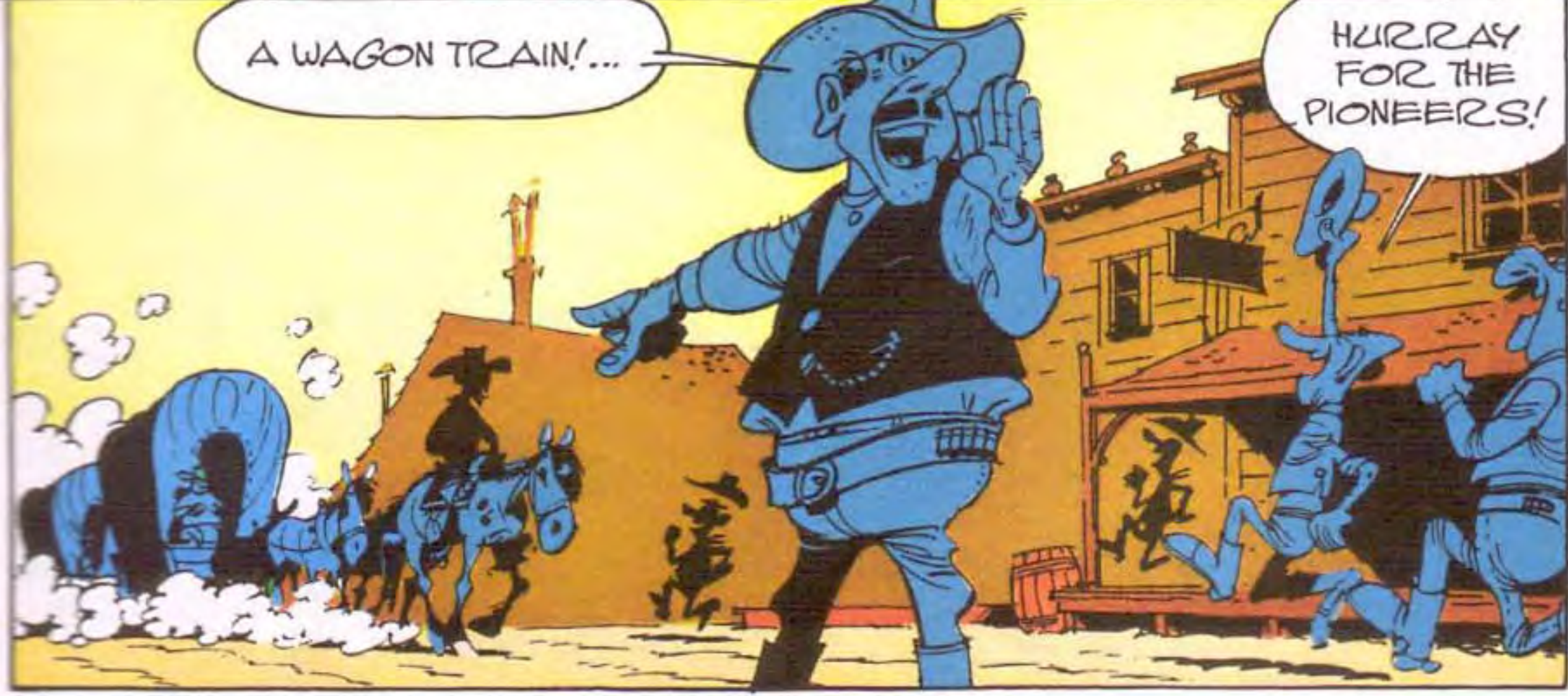


The WAGON TRAIN

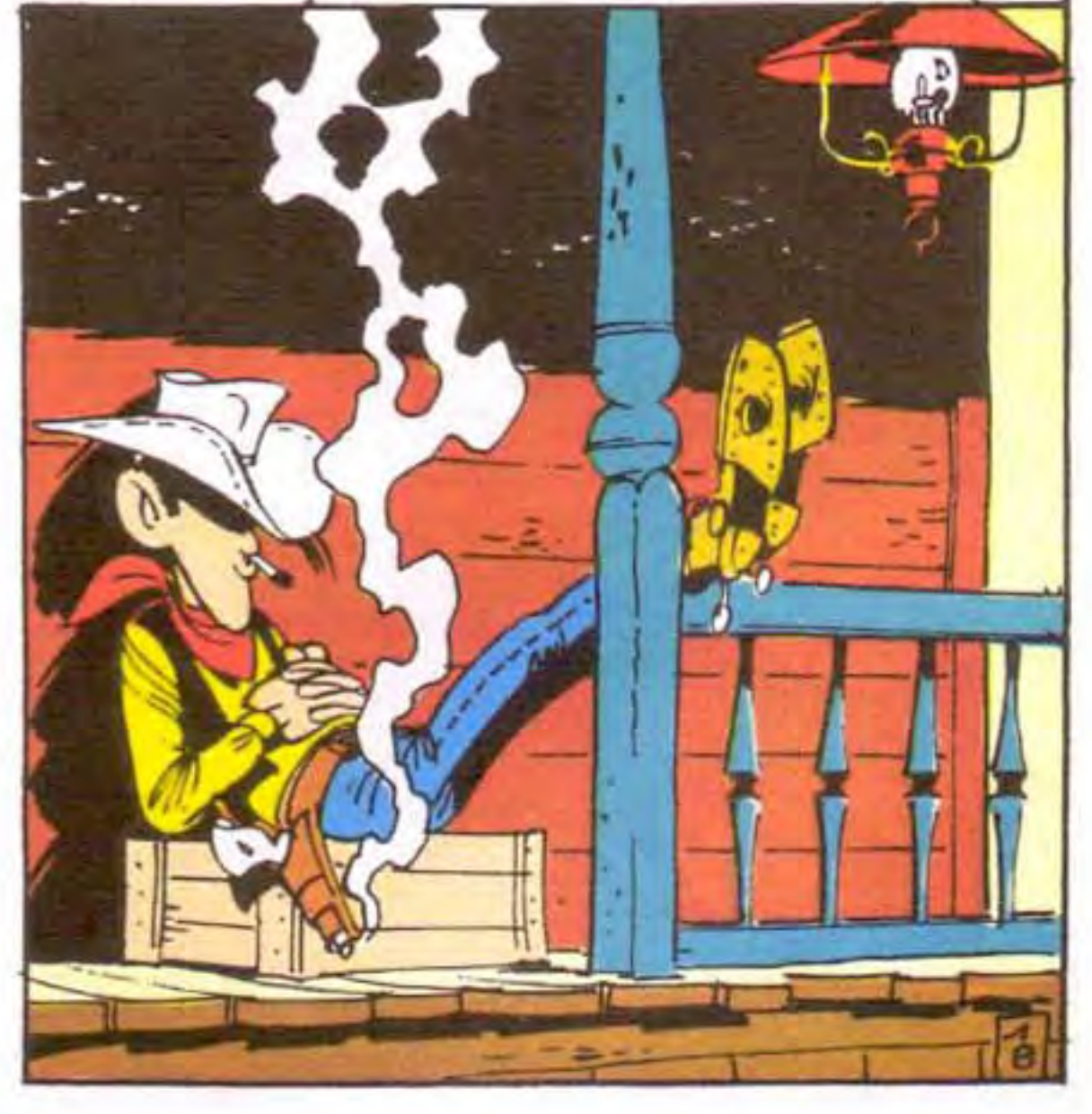
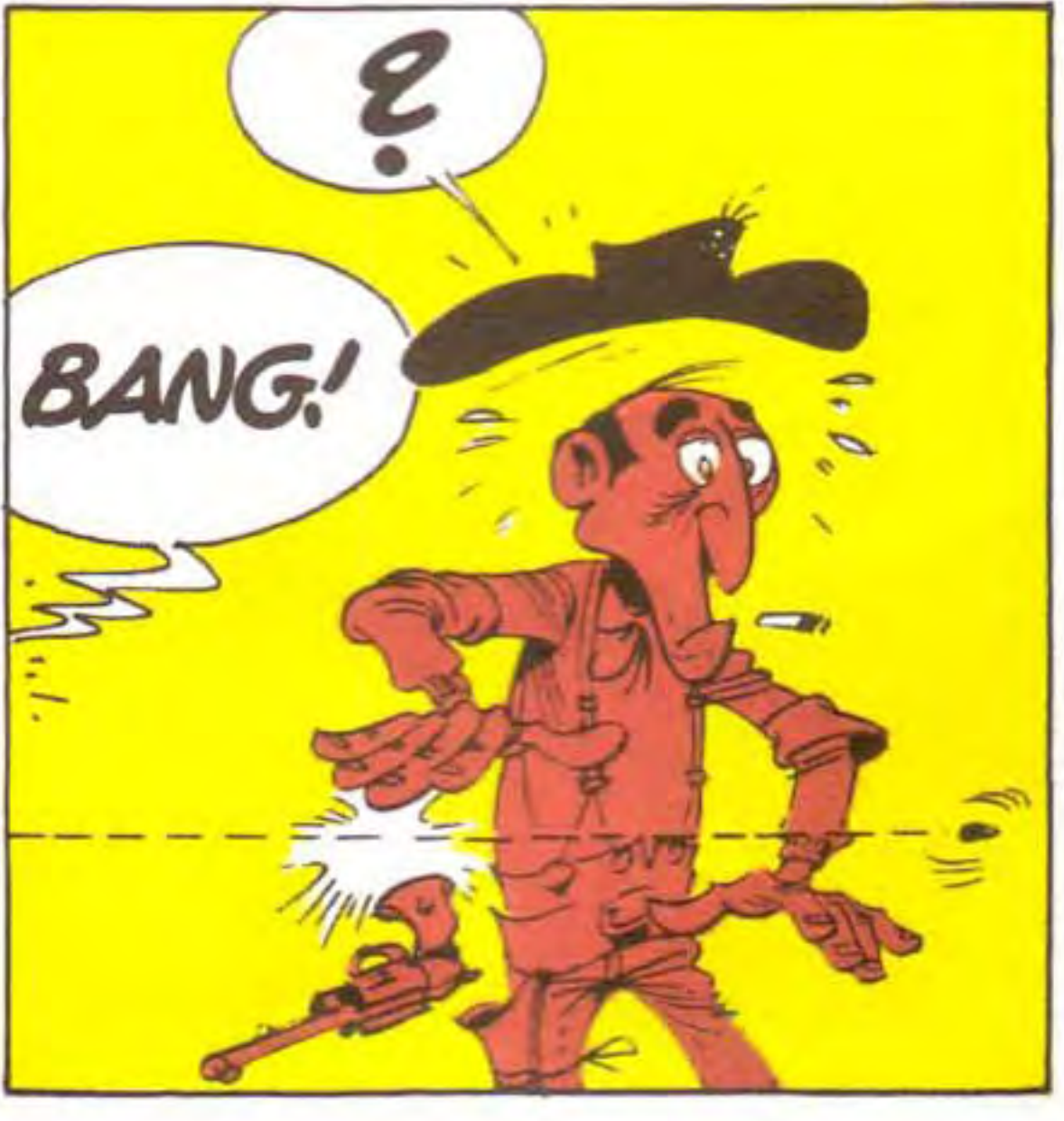
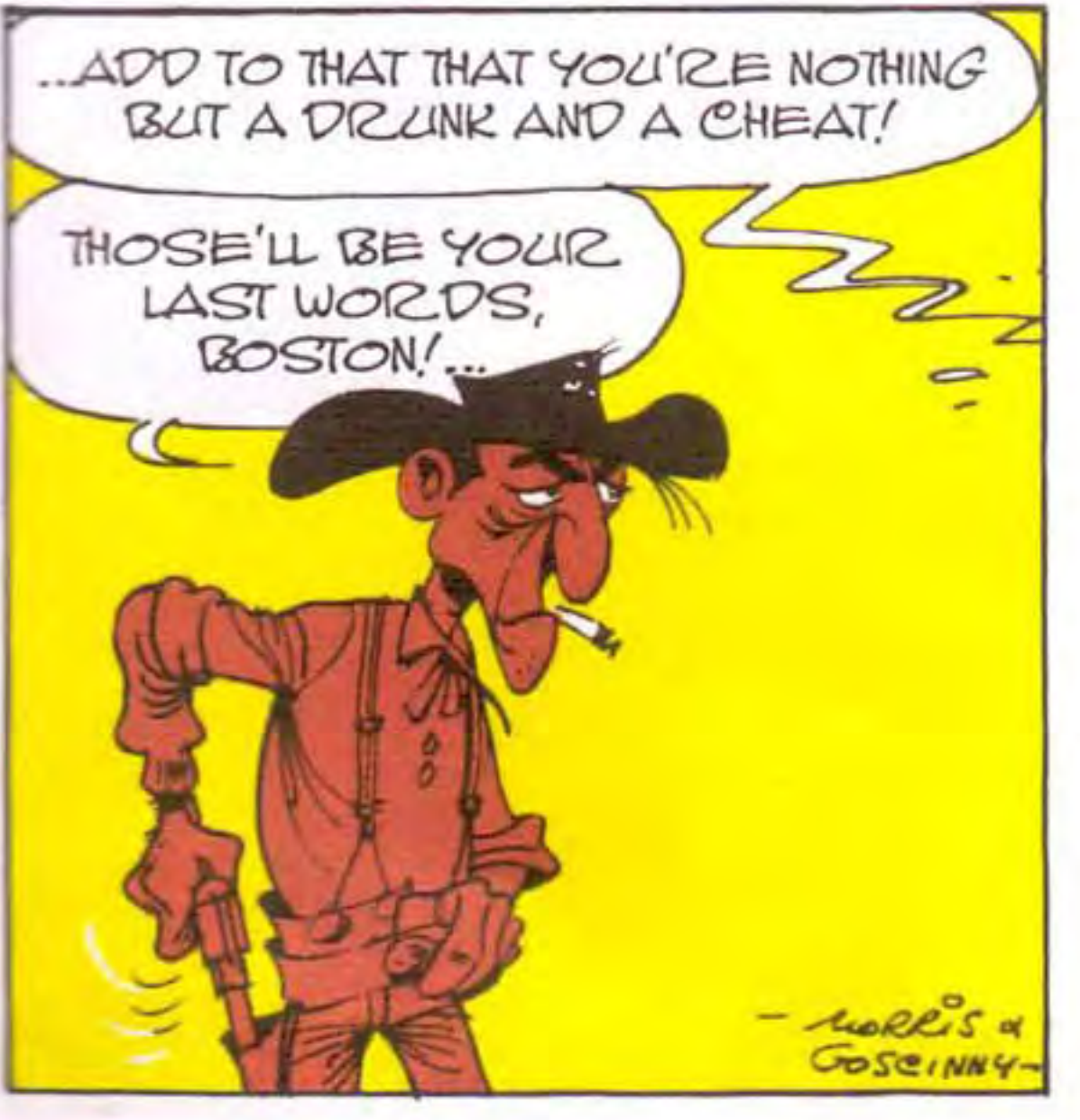
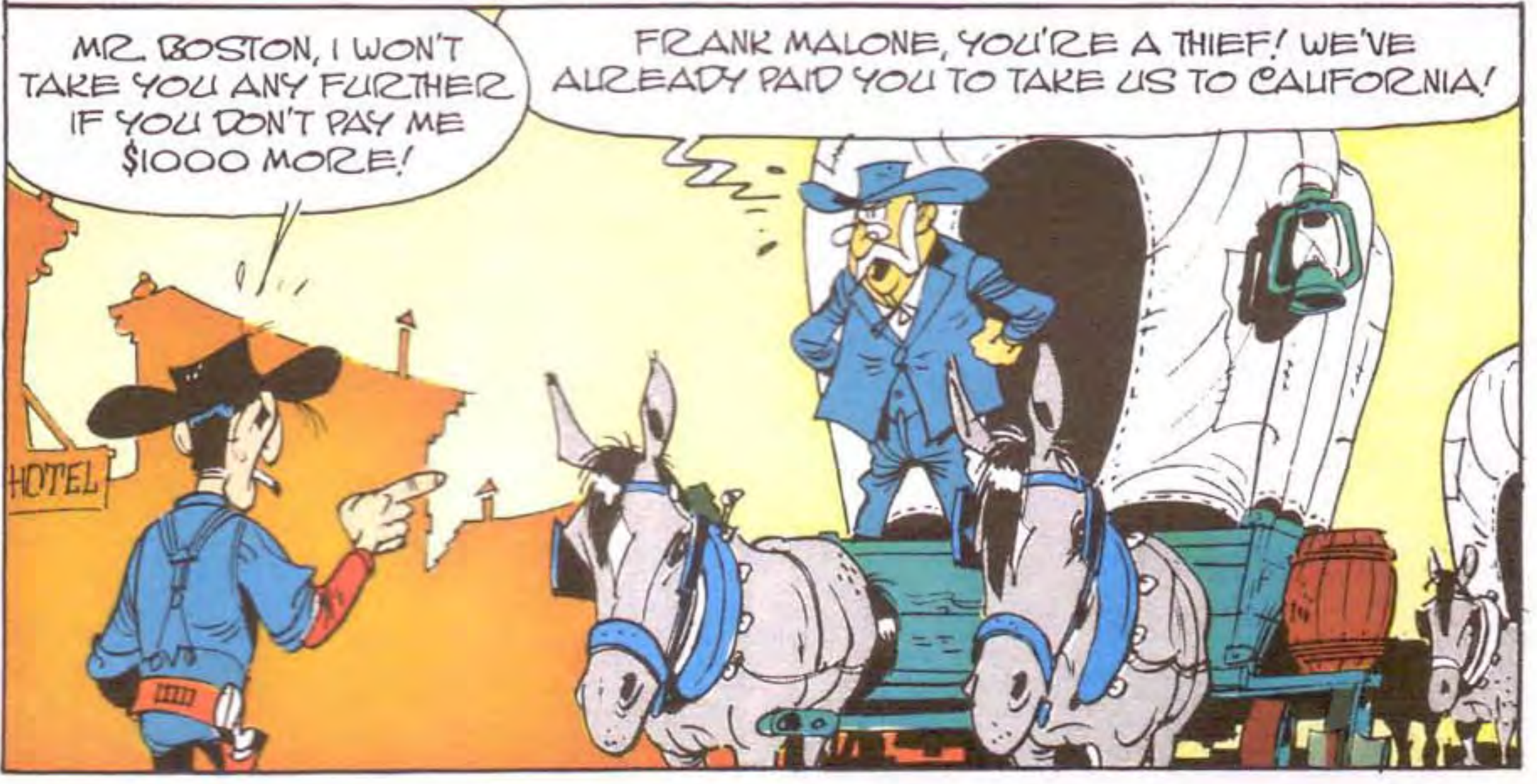
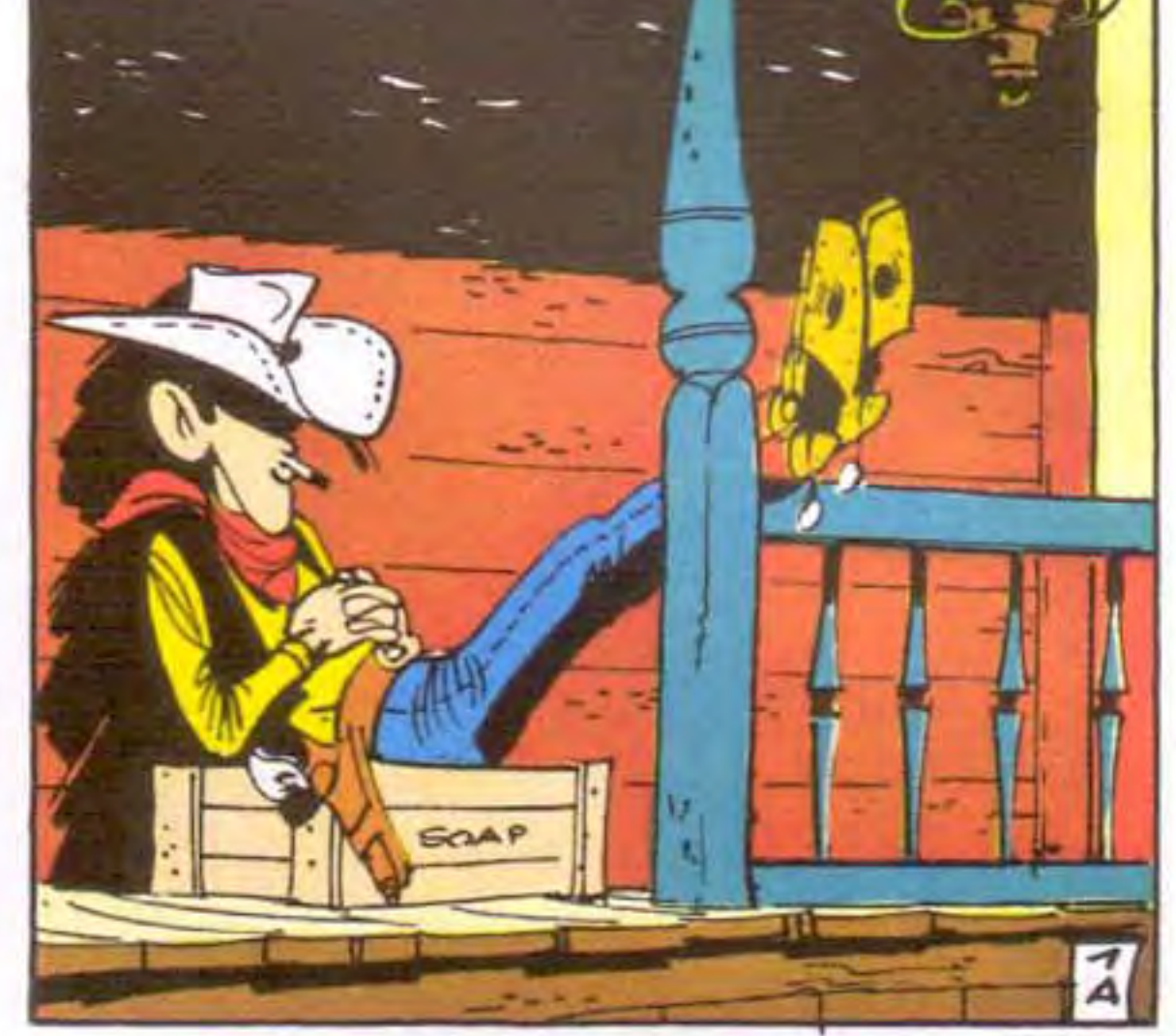
AN IRRESISTIBLE FORCE DREW PEOPLE FROM THE EASTERN UNITED STATES TOWARDS NEWLY CONQUERED LANDS IN THE WEST. SOME OF THEM WENT TO FIND GOLD. OTHERS SOUGHT FREEDOM IN THE WIDE-OPEN SPACES. MANY, THOUGH, THOUGHT THAT THE FURTHER WEST THE PRAIRIE, THE GREENER ITS GRASS. TO MAKE THE LONG AND DANGEROUS CROSSING OVER A COUNTRY THAT WAS STILL WILD, THE PIONEERS JOINED TOGETHER AND FORMED CARAVANS OF COVERED WAGONS...

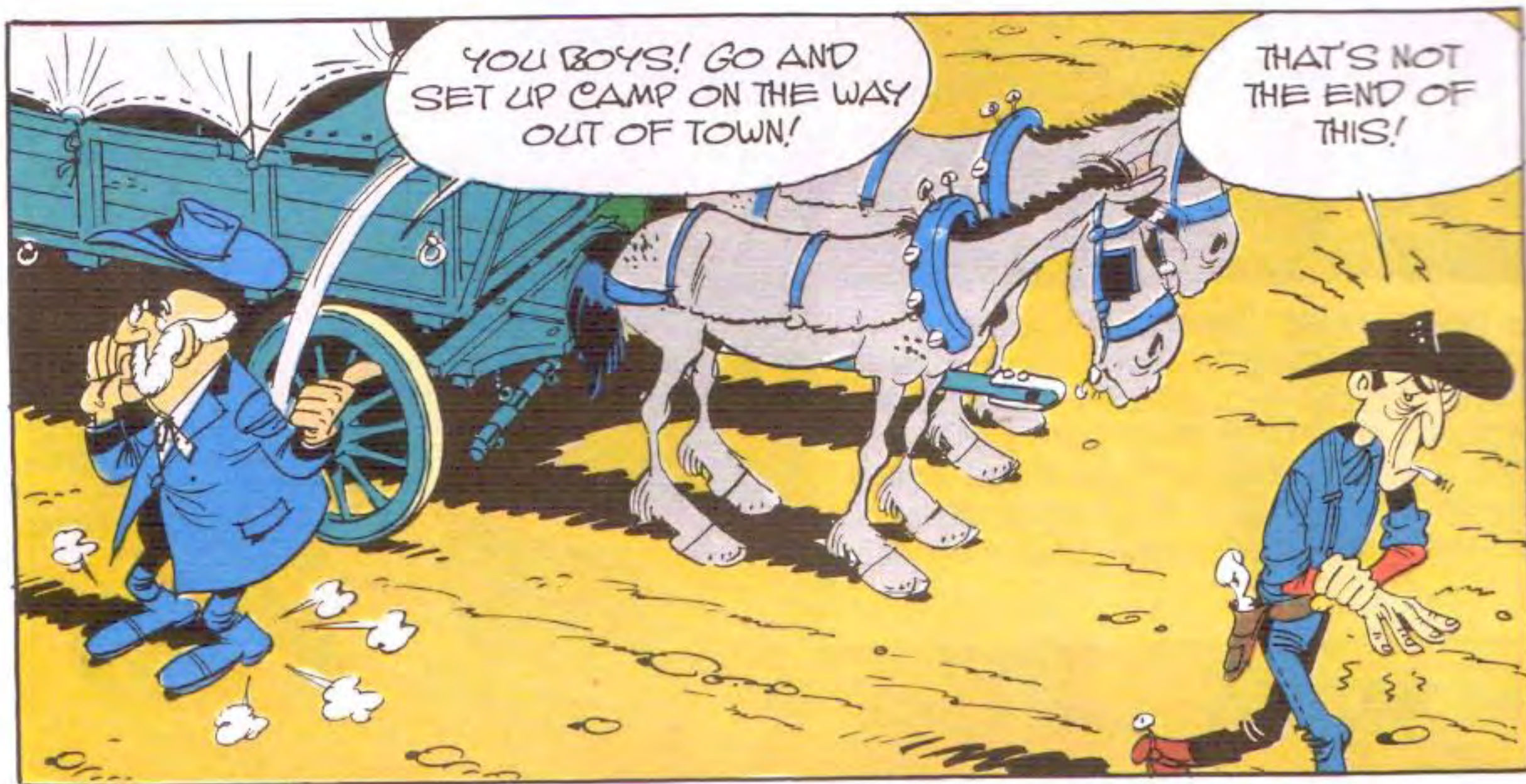


ONE OF THESE COVERED-WAGON TRAINS ARRIVED IN THE LITTLE TOWN OF NOTHING GULCH, SENDING THE TOWNSFOLK INTO A FRENZY...



WELL, NEARLY THE WHOLE POPULATION...





YOU BOYS! GO AND SET UP CAMP ON THE WAY OUT OF TOWN!

THAT'S NOT THE END OF THIS!



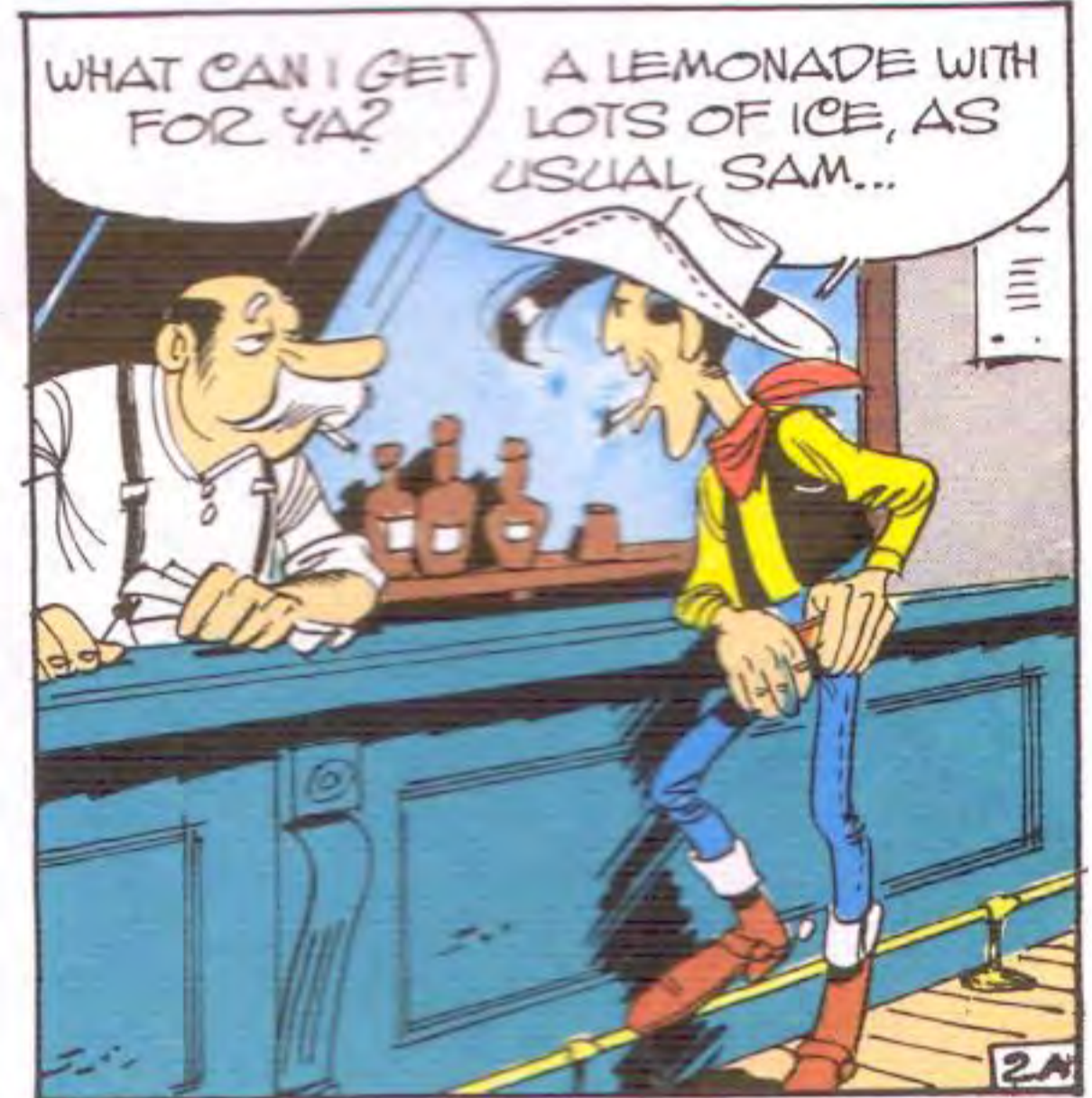
I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR STEPPING IN, YOUNG MAN. YOU SAVED MY LIFE!

IT'S NOTHING. I HATE BEING DISTURBED DURING MY SIESTA BY PEOPLE TRYING TO SHOOT UNARMED FOLK...



WELL... GOODBYE, MISTER...

BOSTON, ANDREW BOSTON, I'M THE LEADER OF THIS WAGON TRAIN...



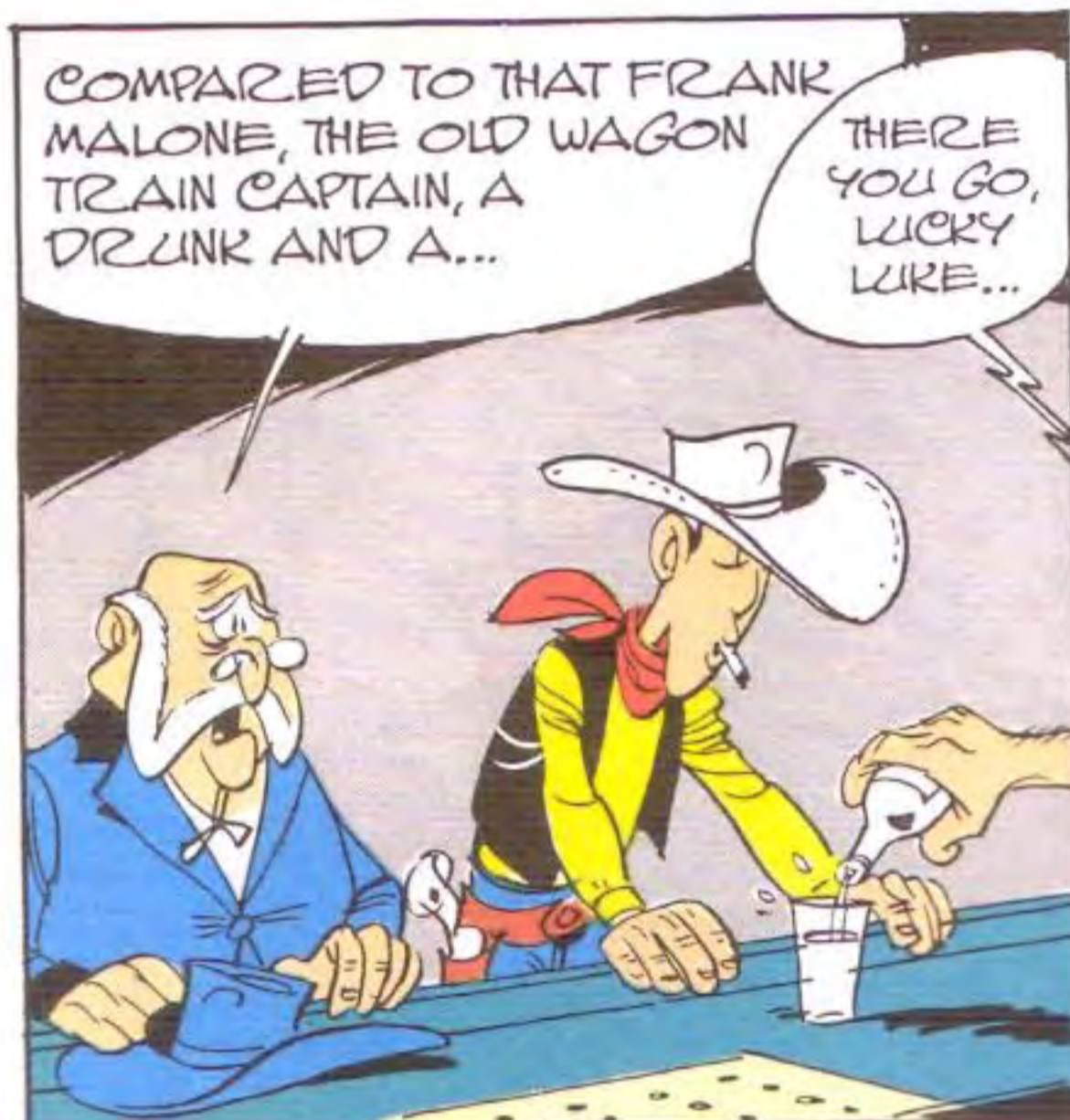
WHAT CAN I GET FOR YA?

A LEMONADE WITH LOTS OF ICE, AS USUAL, SAM...



YOU... YOU DON'T DRINK ANY ALCOHOL?...

RARELY...



COMPARED TO THAT FRANK MALONE, THE OLD WAGON TRAIN CAPTAIN, A DRUNK AND A...

THERE YOU GO, LUCKY LIKE...

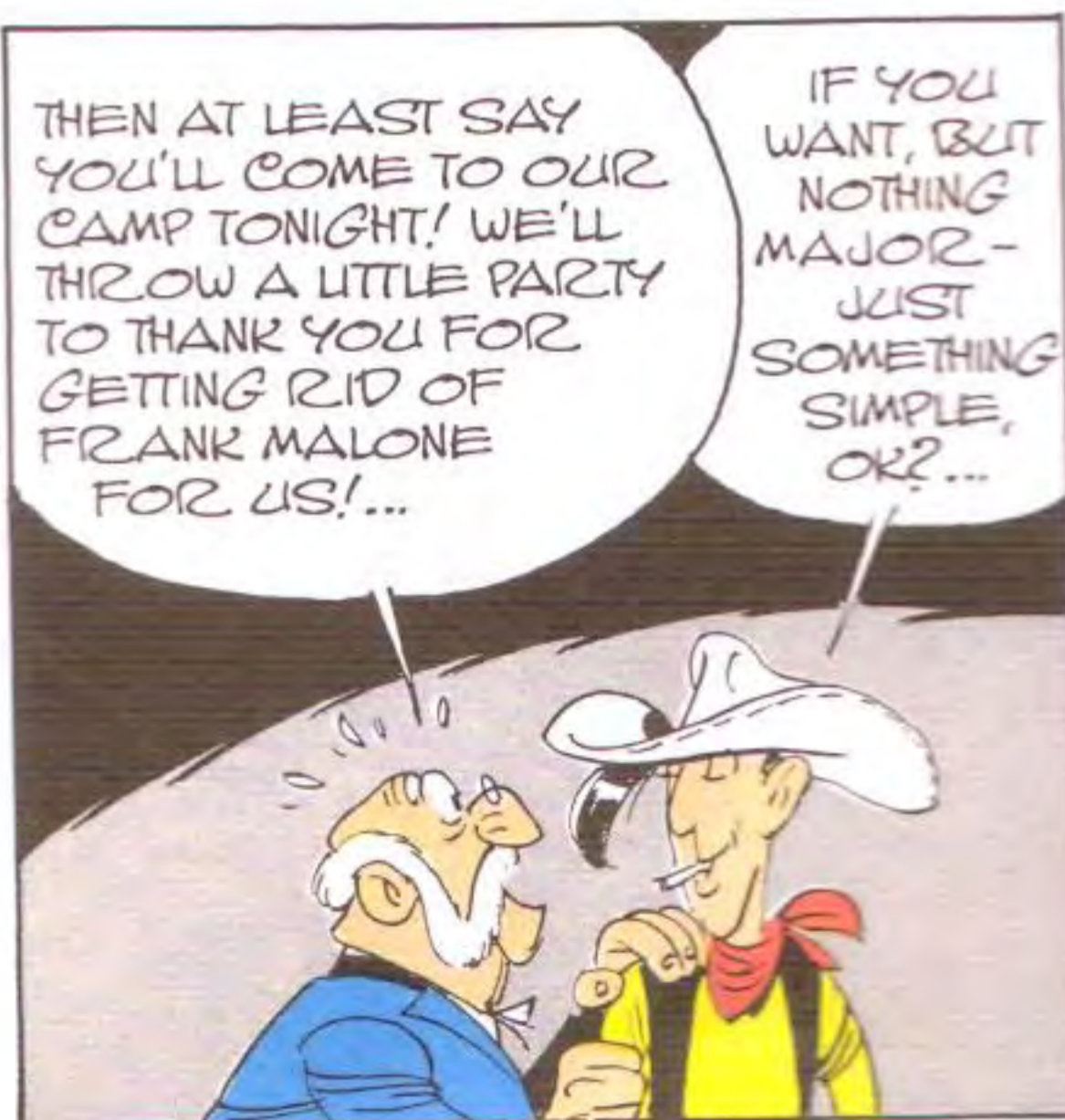


LUCKY LIKE?... NOT THE LUCKY LIKE?... NOT THE FAMOUS LUCKY LIKE?...



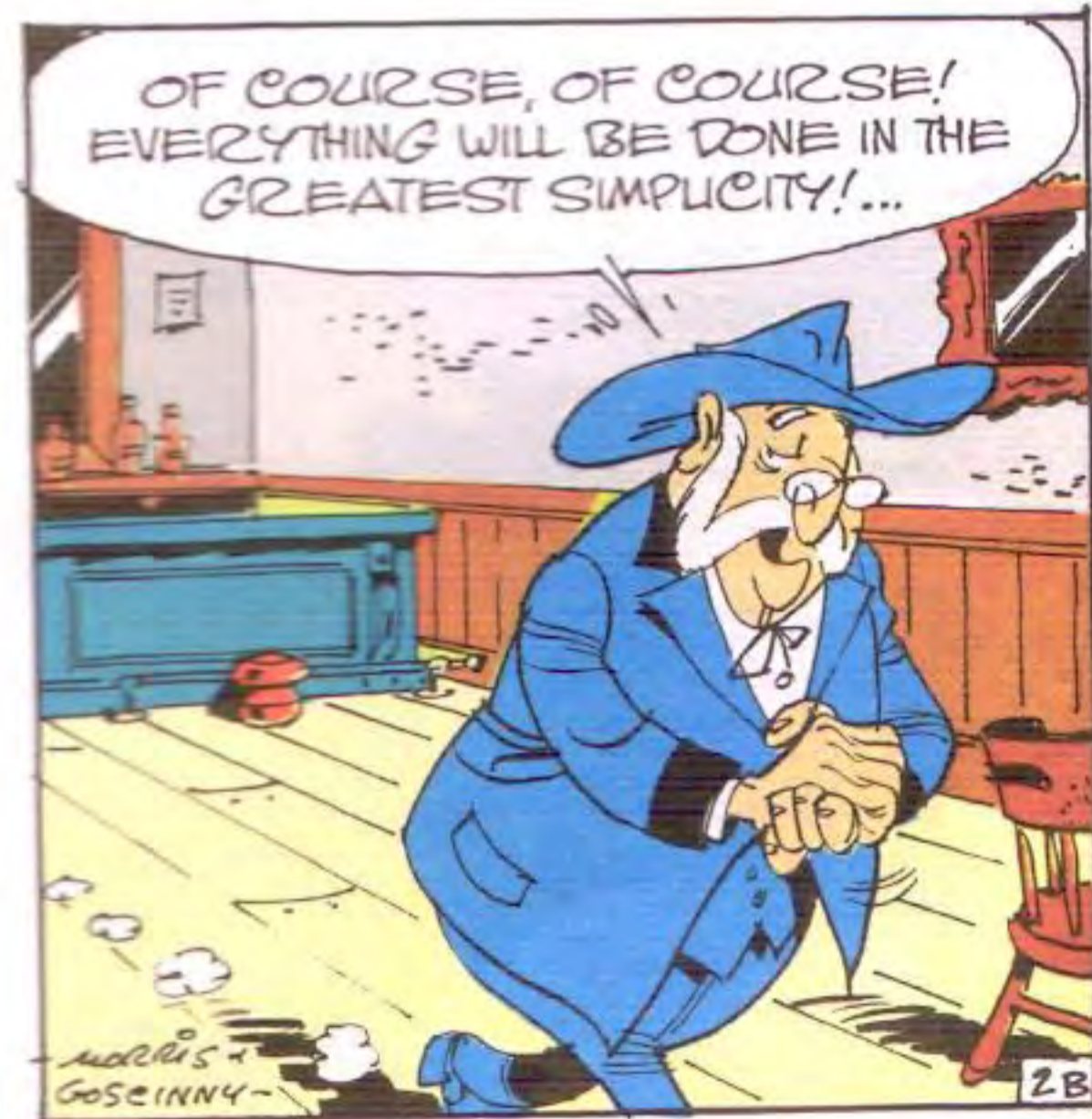
DESTINY SENT YOU HERE, MISTER LIKE! PLEASE TAKE THE PLACE OF WAGON TRAIN CAPTAIN! WE'LL PAY YOU WELL!

NO, I'VE GOT ENOUGH TO PAY FOR MY LEMONADES AND FEED MY HORSE... WHAT'S MORE, I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CALIFORNIA...



THEN AT LEAST SAY YOU'LL COME TO OUR CAMP TONIGHT! WE'LL THROW A LITTLE PARTY TO THANK YOU FOR GETTING RID OF FRANK MALONE FOR US!...

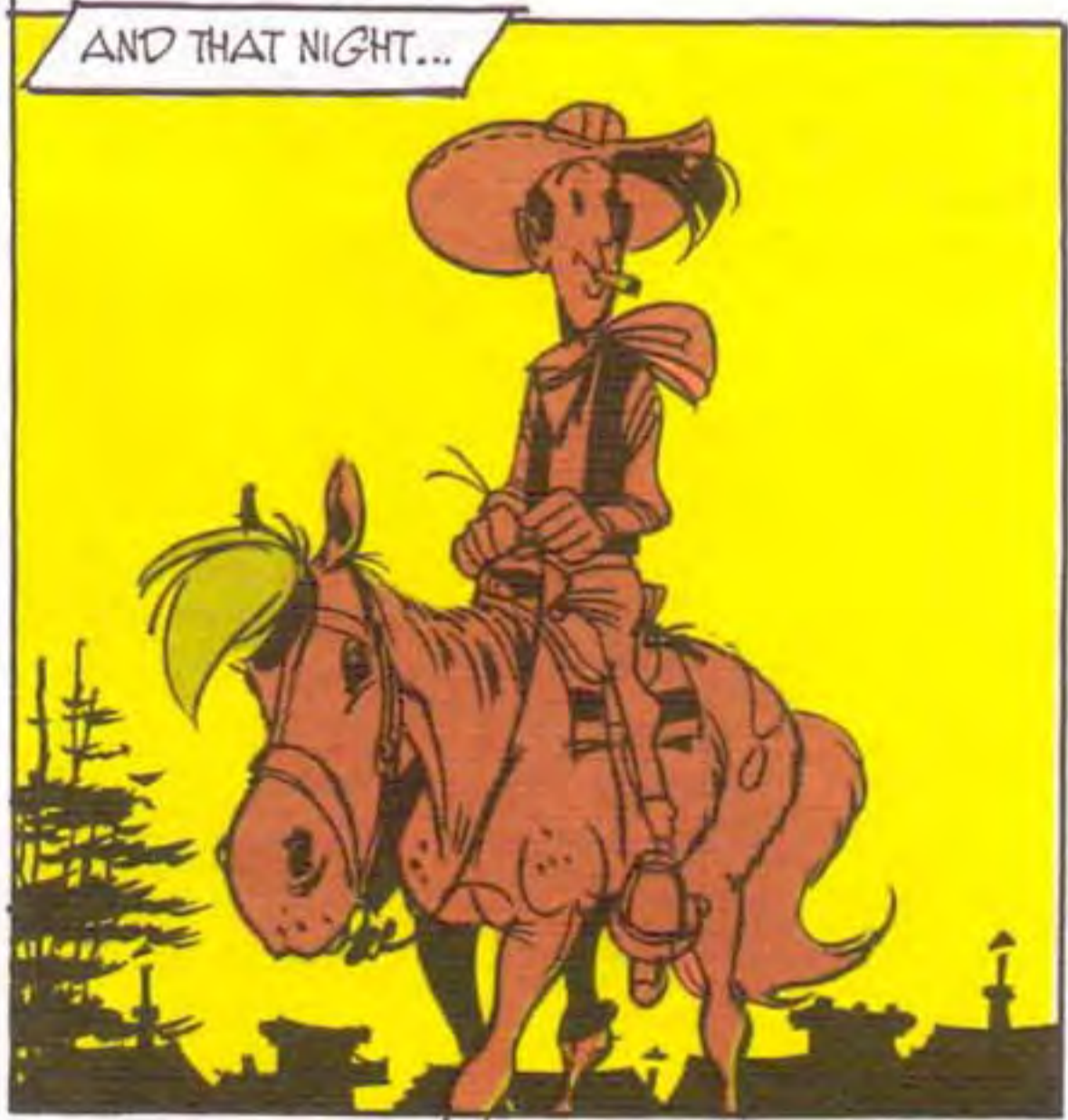
IF YOU WANT, BUT NOTHING MAJOR - JUST SOMETHING SIMPLE, OK?...



OF COURSE, OF COURSE! EVERYTHING WILL BE DONE IN THE GREATEST SIMPLICITY!...



ANOTHER LEMONADE, SAM, I THINK THAT I'M GOING TO NEED IT...



AND THAT NIGHT...



IN HONOUR OF LUCKY LUKE



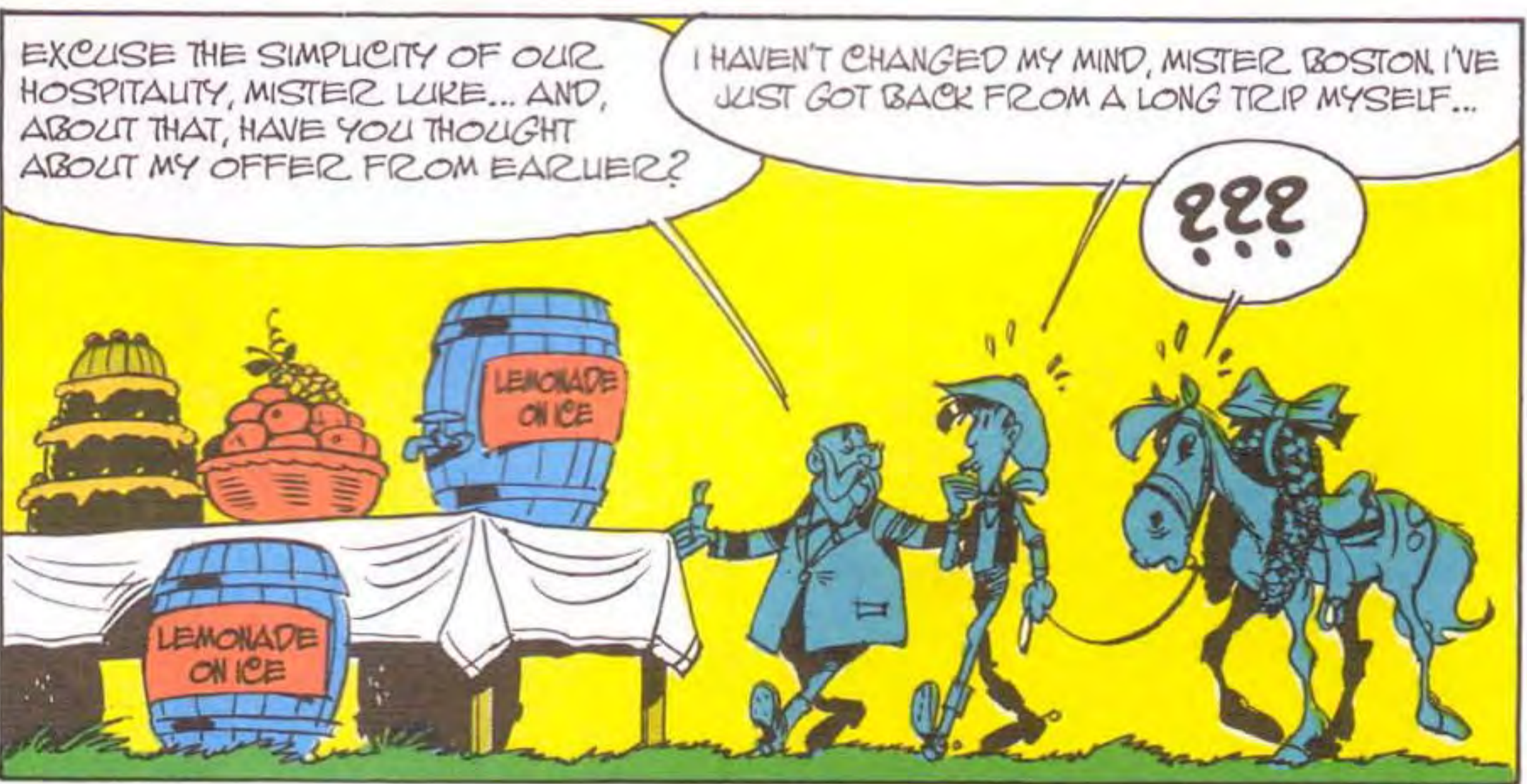
THESE FEW FLOWERS...

NOT SO FAST, THELMA! LET HIM DISMOUNT HIS HORSE, AND ARTICULATE!



GO ON, PHINEAS! IT'S YOUR TURN! AND REMEMBER THE ROLE YOU WERE TAUGHT!...

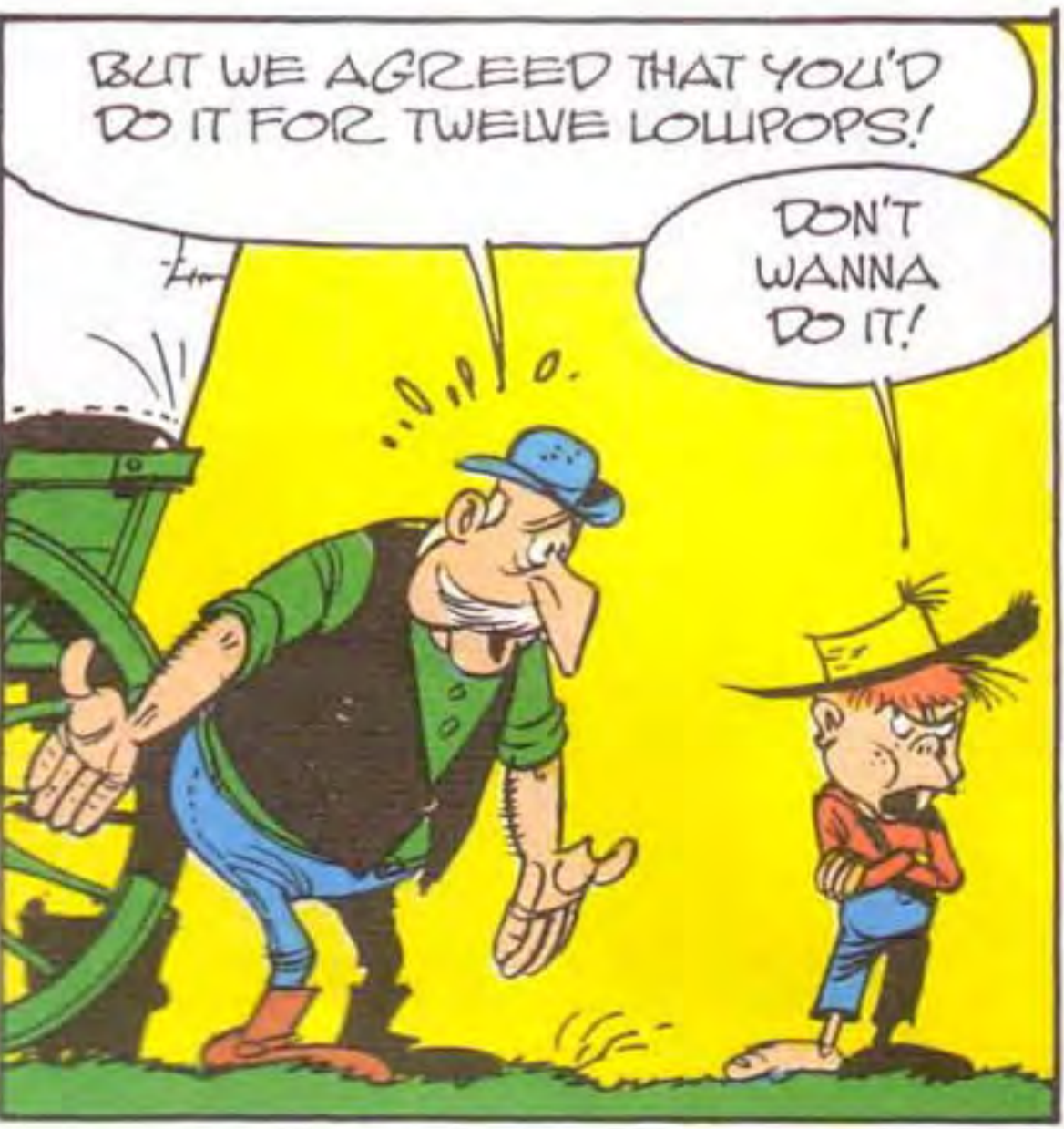
DON'T WANNA DO IT!



EXCUSE THE SIMPLICITY OF OUR HOSPITALITY, MISTER LUKE... AND, ABOUT THAT, HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT MY OFFER FROM EARLIER?

I HAVEN'T CHANGED MY MIND, MISTER BOSTON, I'VE JUST GOT BACK FROM A LONG TRIP MYSELF...

???



BUT WE AGREED THAT YOU'D DO IT FOR TWELVE LOLLOPPOPS!

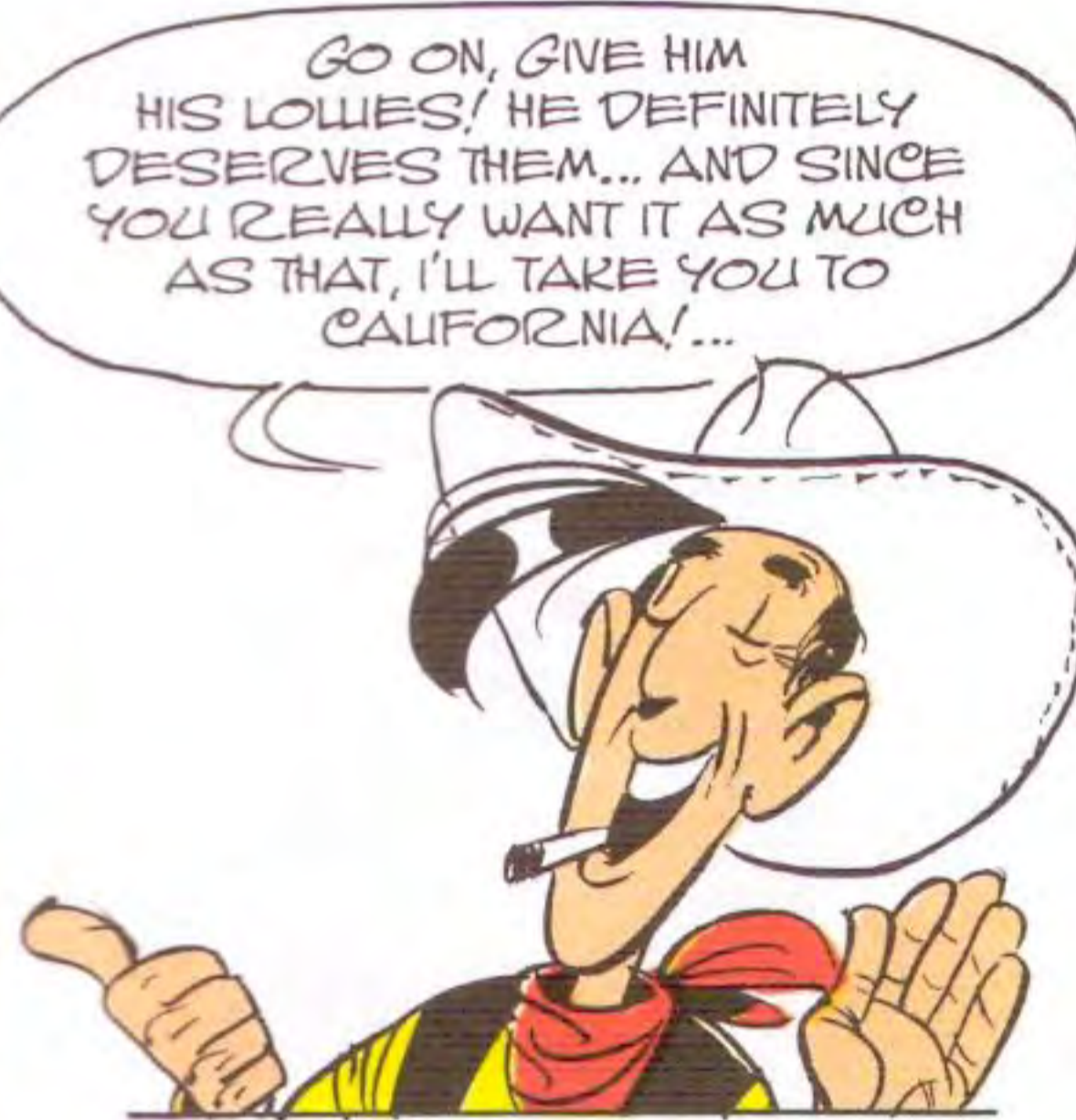
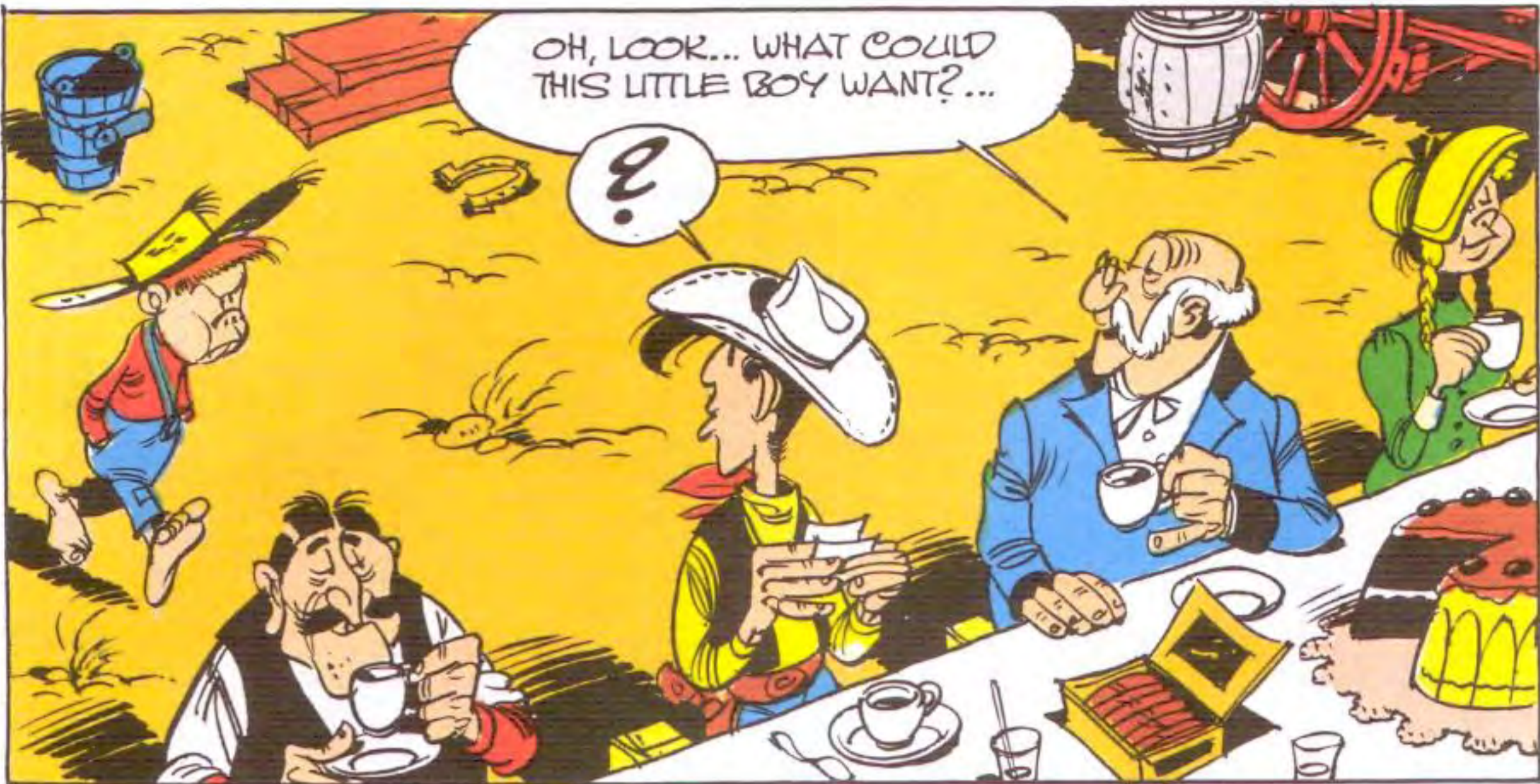
DON'T WANNA DO IT!



IF YOU DON'T DO IT, YOU'LL GET A DOZEN SMACKS!

ALL RIGHT, NO NEED TO GET ANGRY!

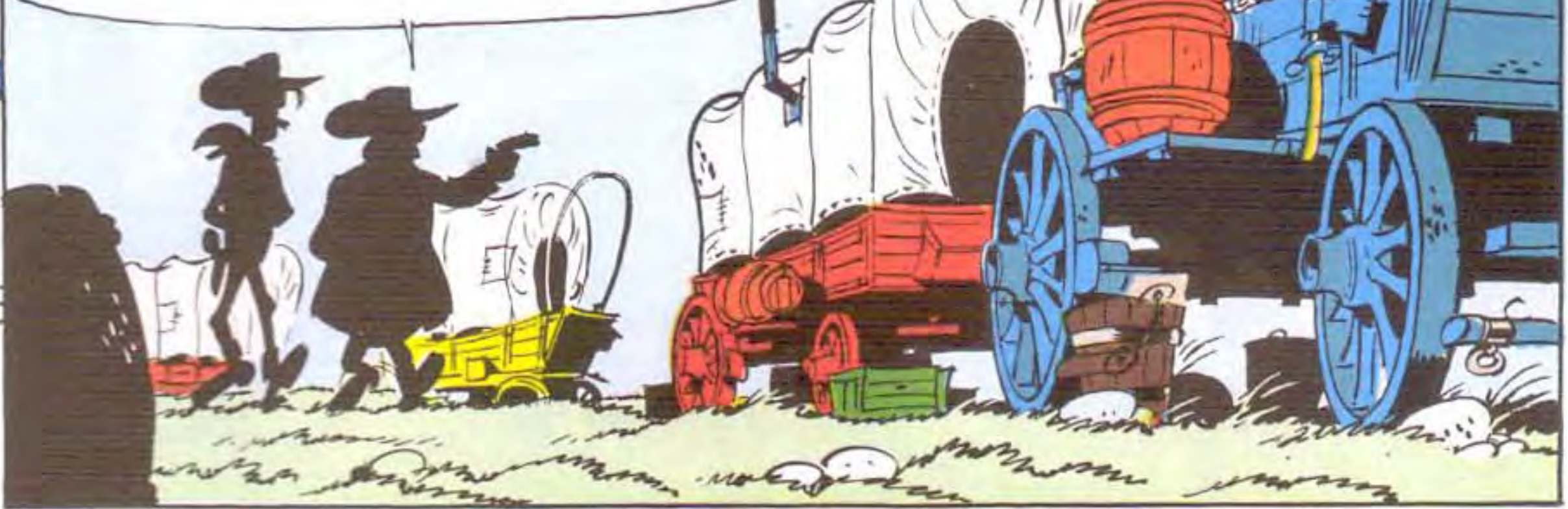
LUCKY'S & COSEINNY



I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND THE WAGON TRAIN...



OUR TRAIN IS MADE UP OF 20 WAGONS AND IS DIVIDED INTO 4 DIVISIONS OF 5 WAGONS EACH. THEY ARE PULLED BY HORSES, MULES OR CATTLE. WHEN WE CAMP, THE ANIMALS ARE LEFT TO ROAM THE PRAIRIE...



THIS IS THE SCHOOL, AND MISS LITTLETOWN IS ITS TEACHER. SHE GIVES LESSONS WHILE WE'RE ON THE ROAD...

THE SCHOOL IS SMALL, MR. LURE, BUT THE PLAYGROUND IS THE BIGGEST IN THE WORLD...



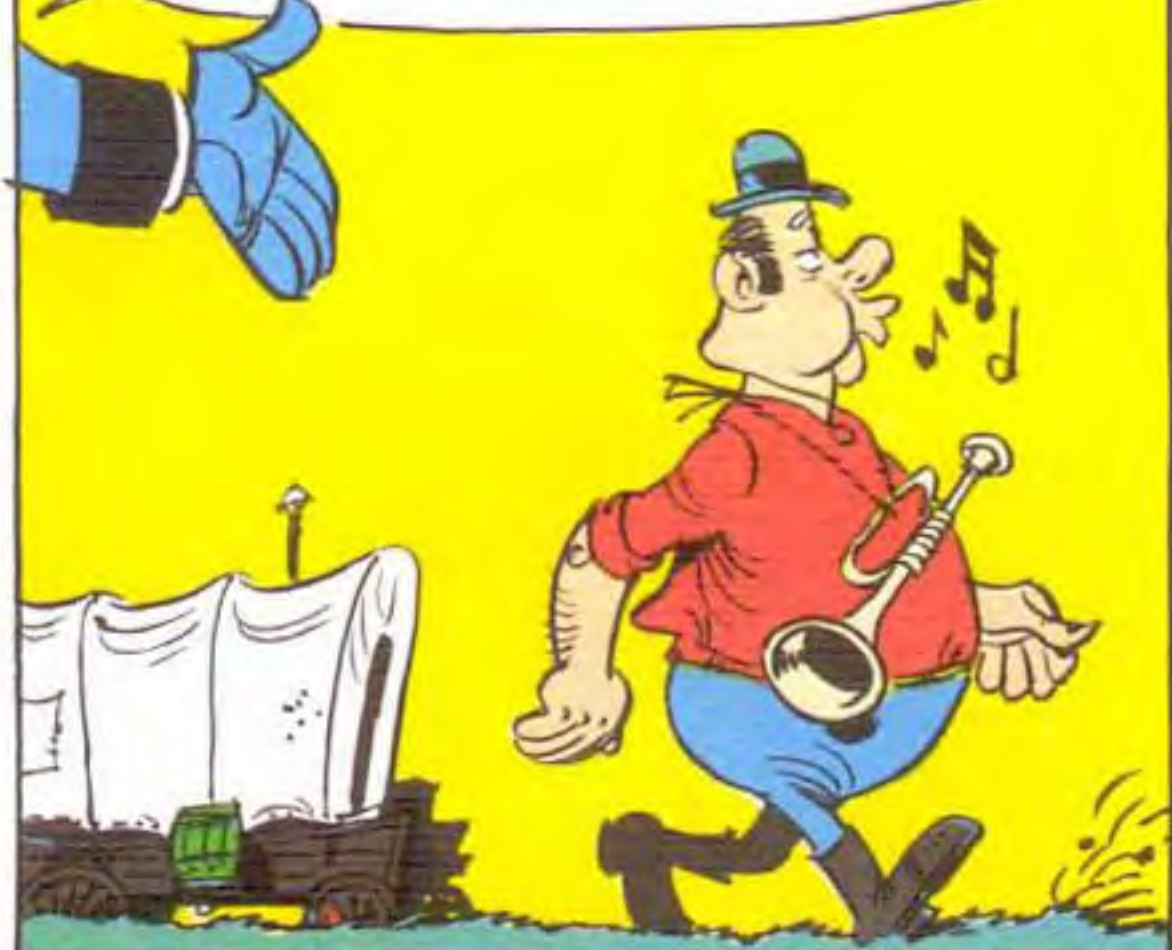
AND HERE IS MONSIEUR PIERRE, THE BARBER. MONSIEUR PIERRE IS FRENCH...

ENCHANTÉ(*)



* NICE TO MEET YOU

THAT'S WHISTLING JOHNSON, THE TRUMPETER WHO GIVES SIGNALS TO THE TRAIN...



UGLY BARROW, THE BEST MULE DRIVER IN THE TRAIN, AND LIKE ALL MULE DRIVERS HE HAS QUITE VIVID LANGUAGE...



A FEW WAGONS WILL BE JOINING US ON OUR DEPARTURE FROM NOTHING GULCH...

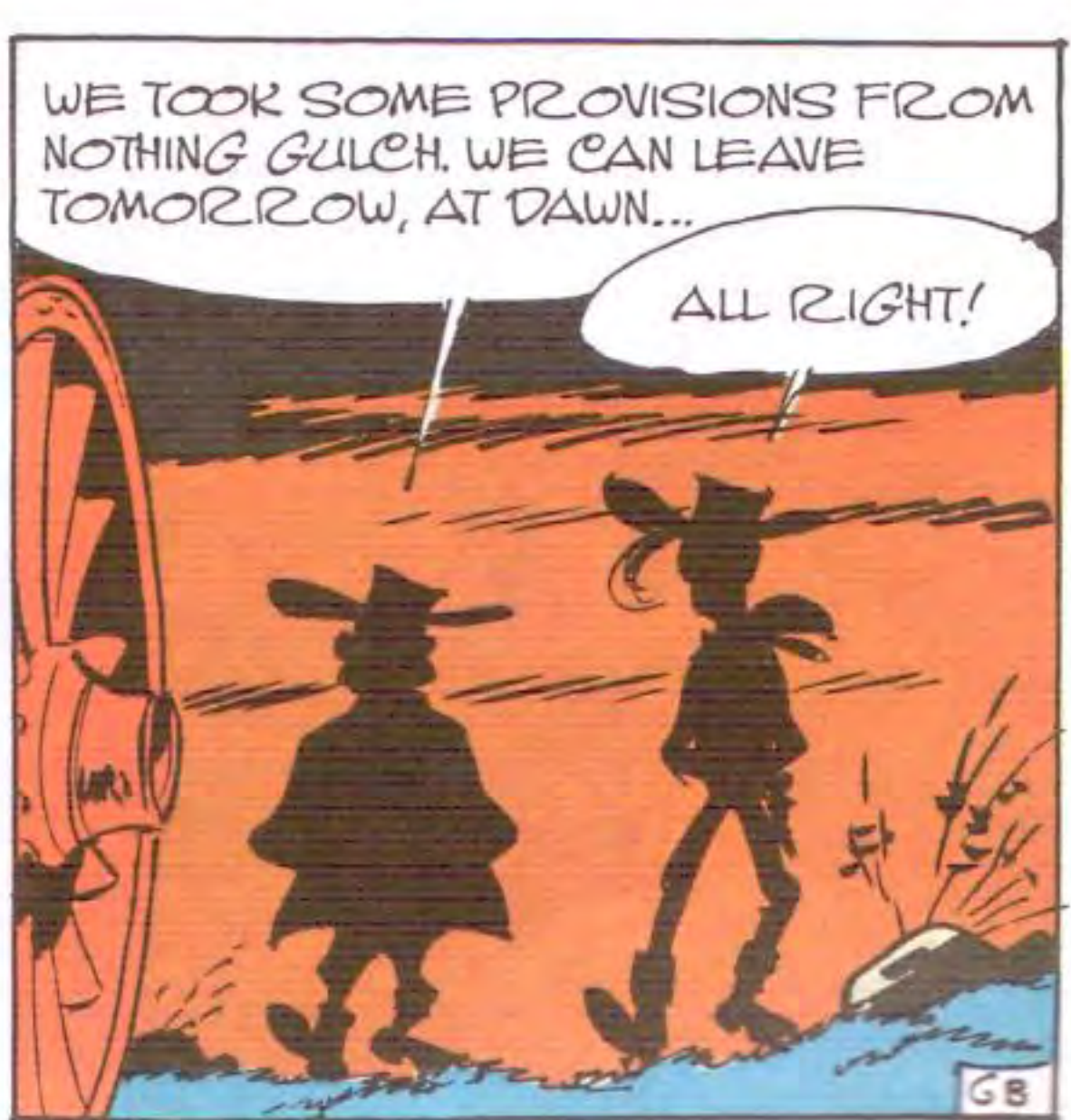
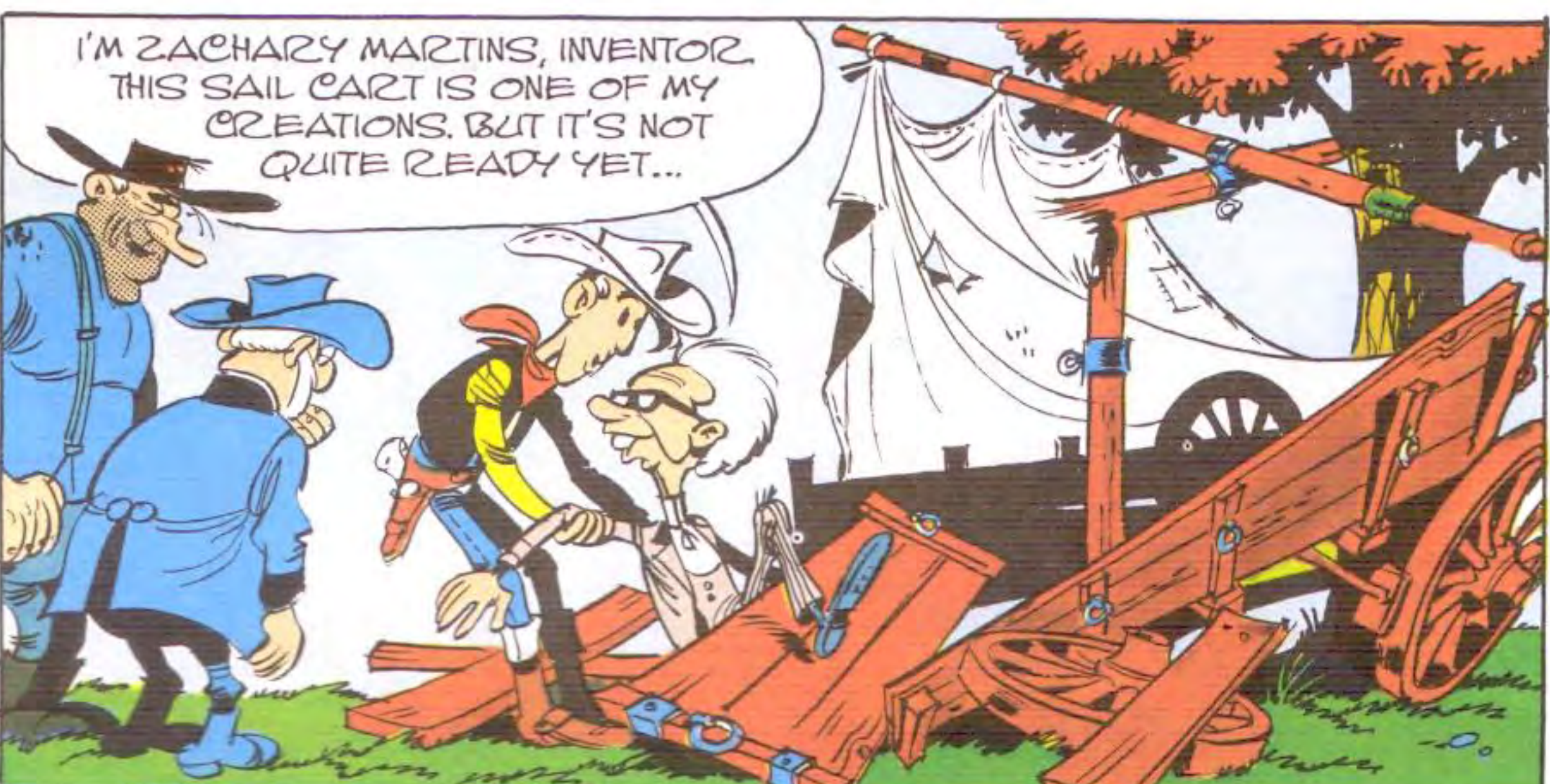
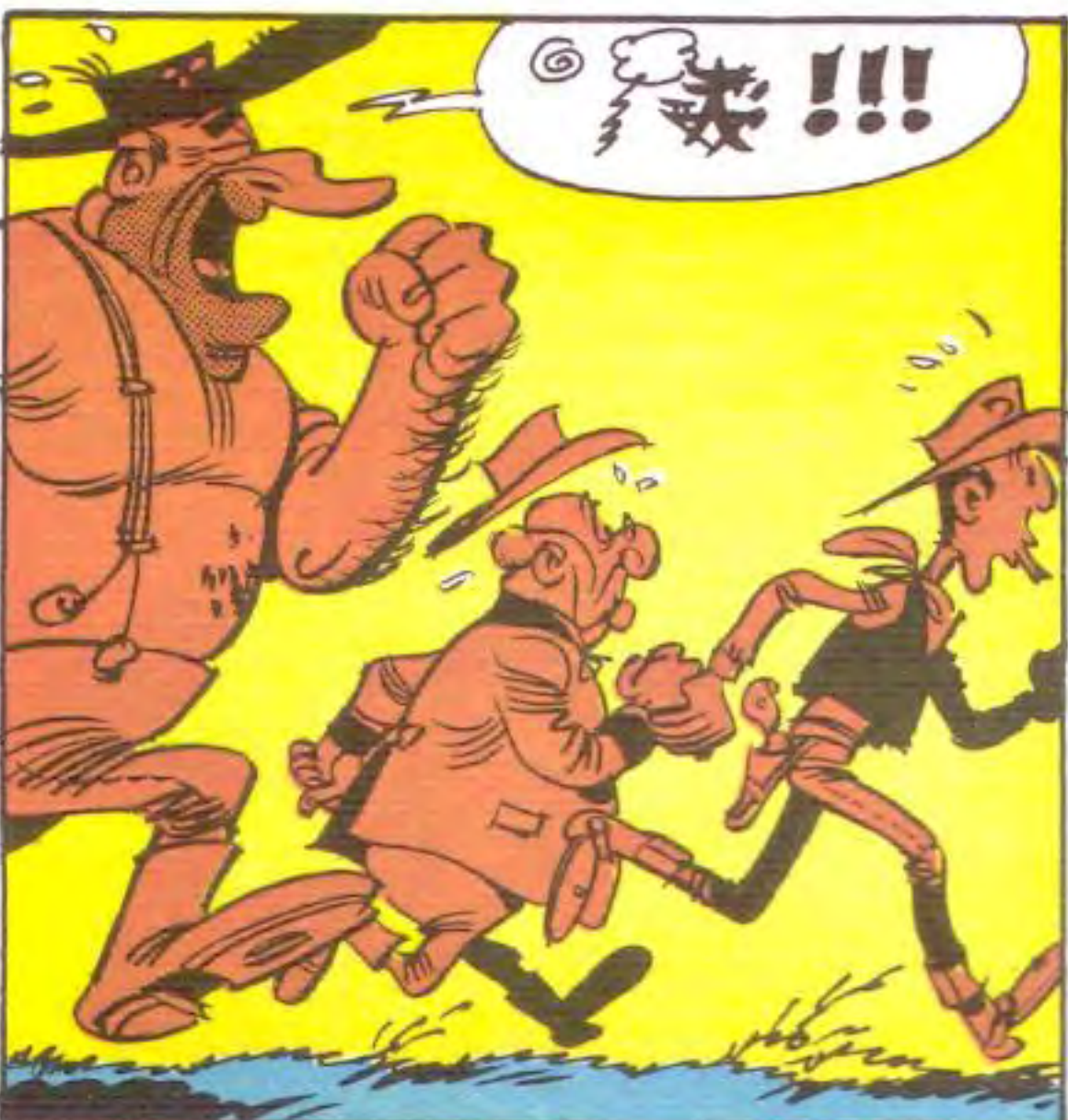
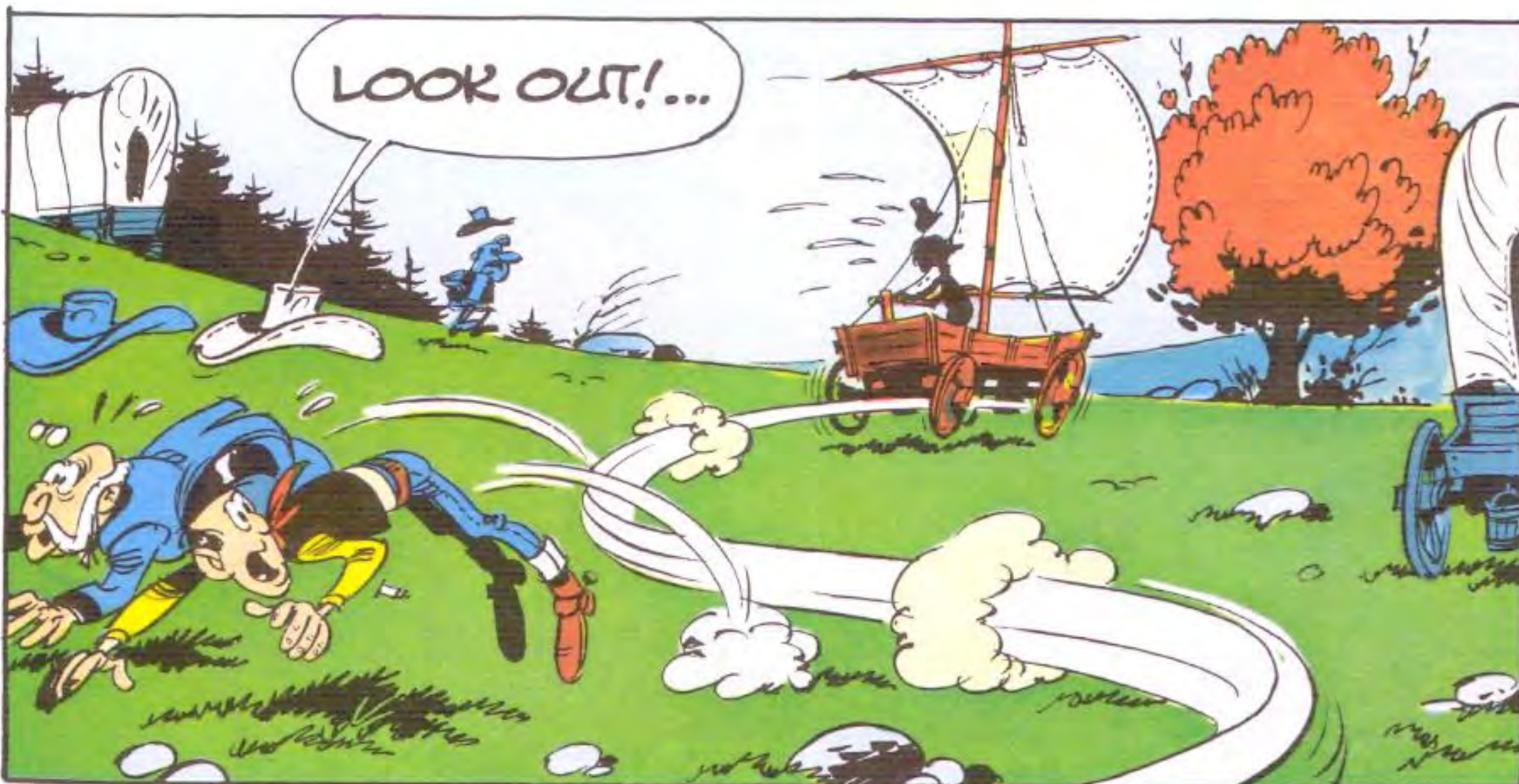
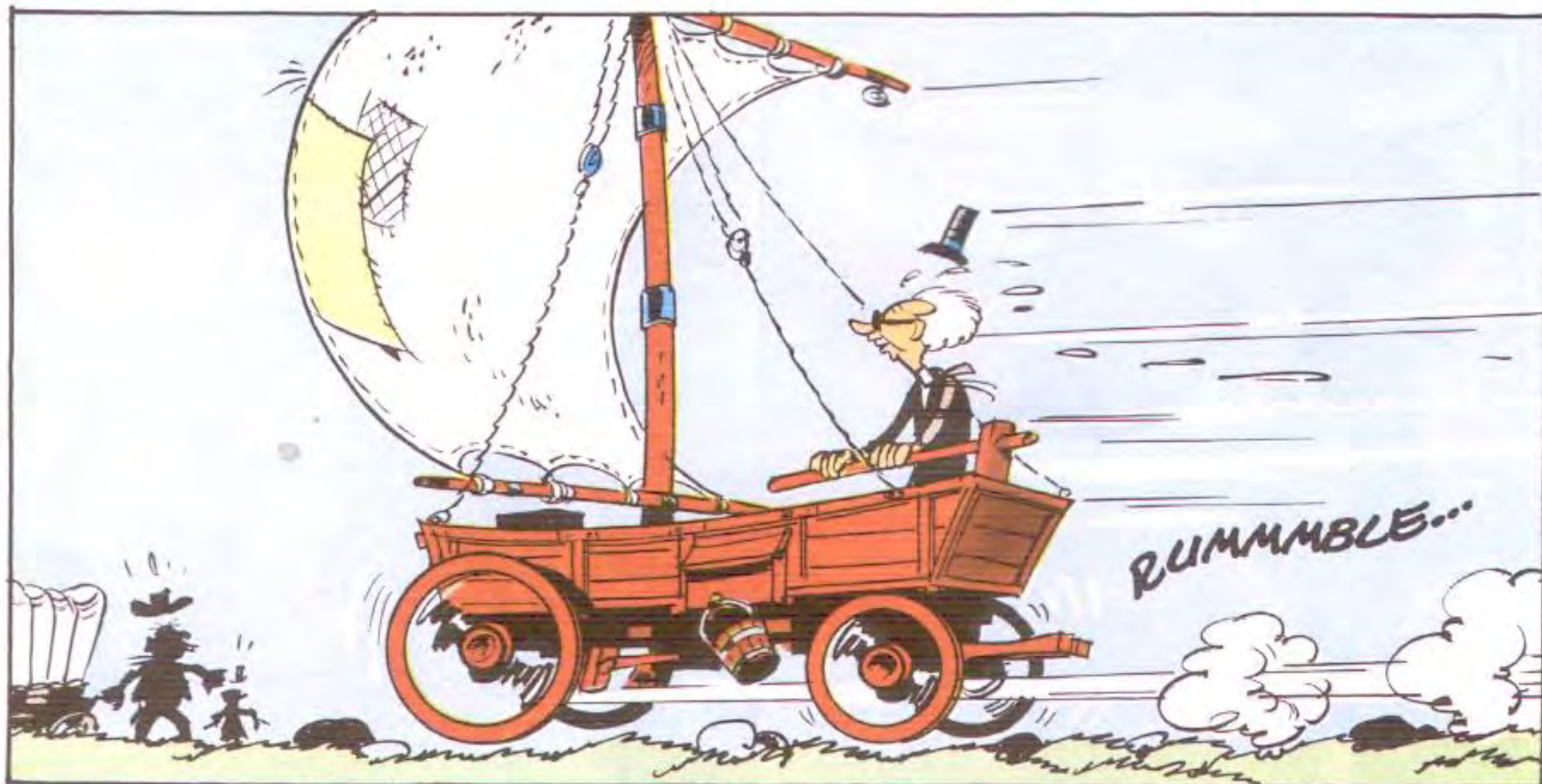


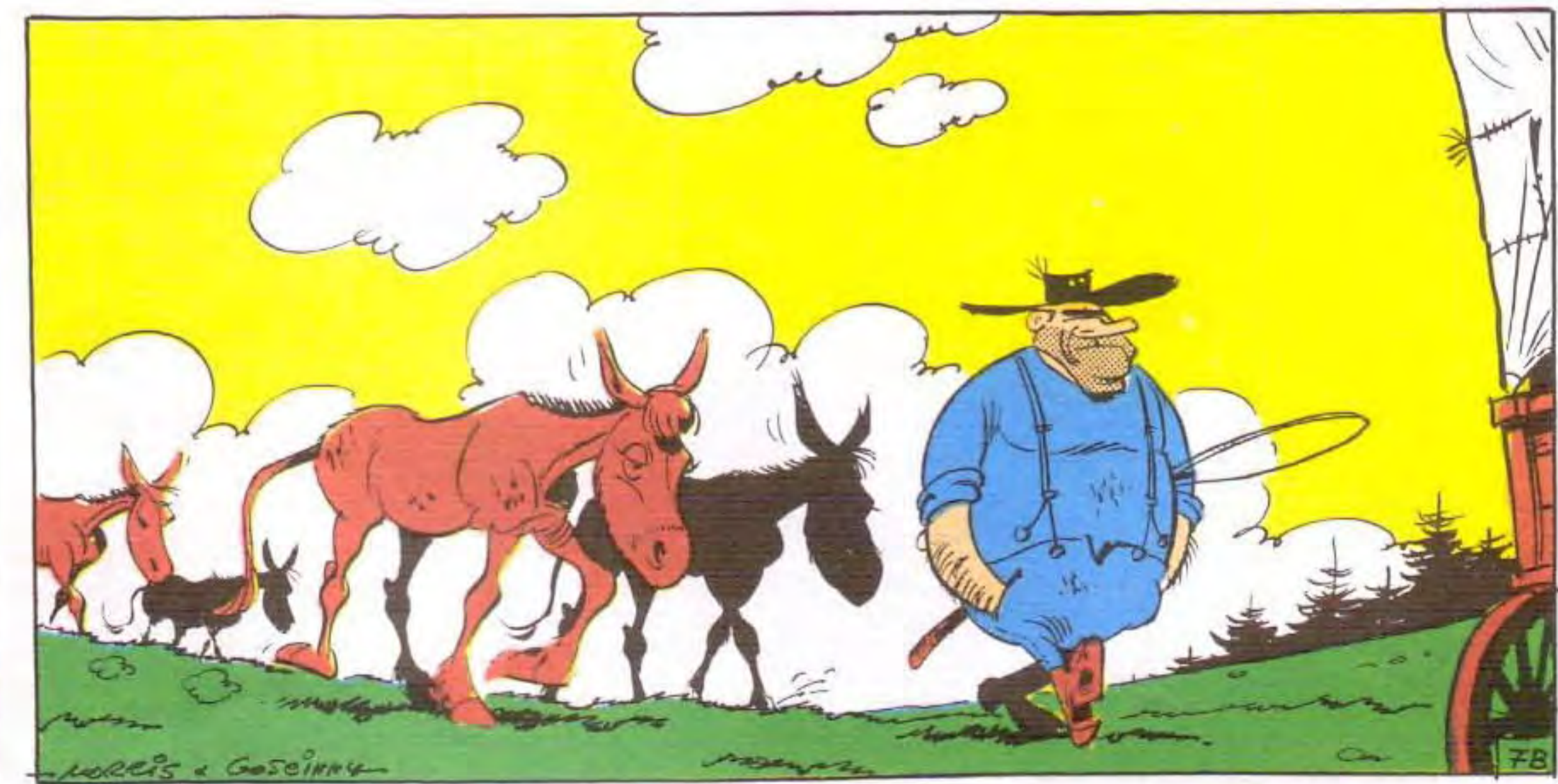
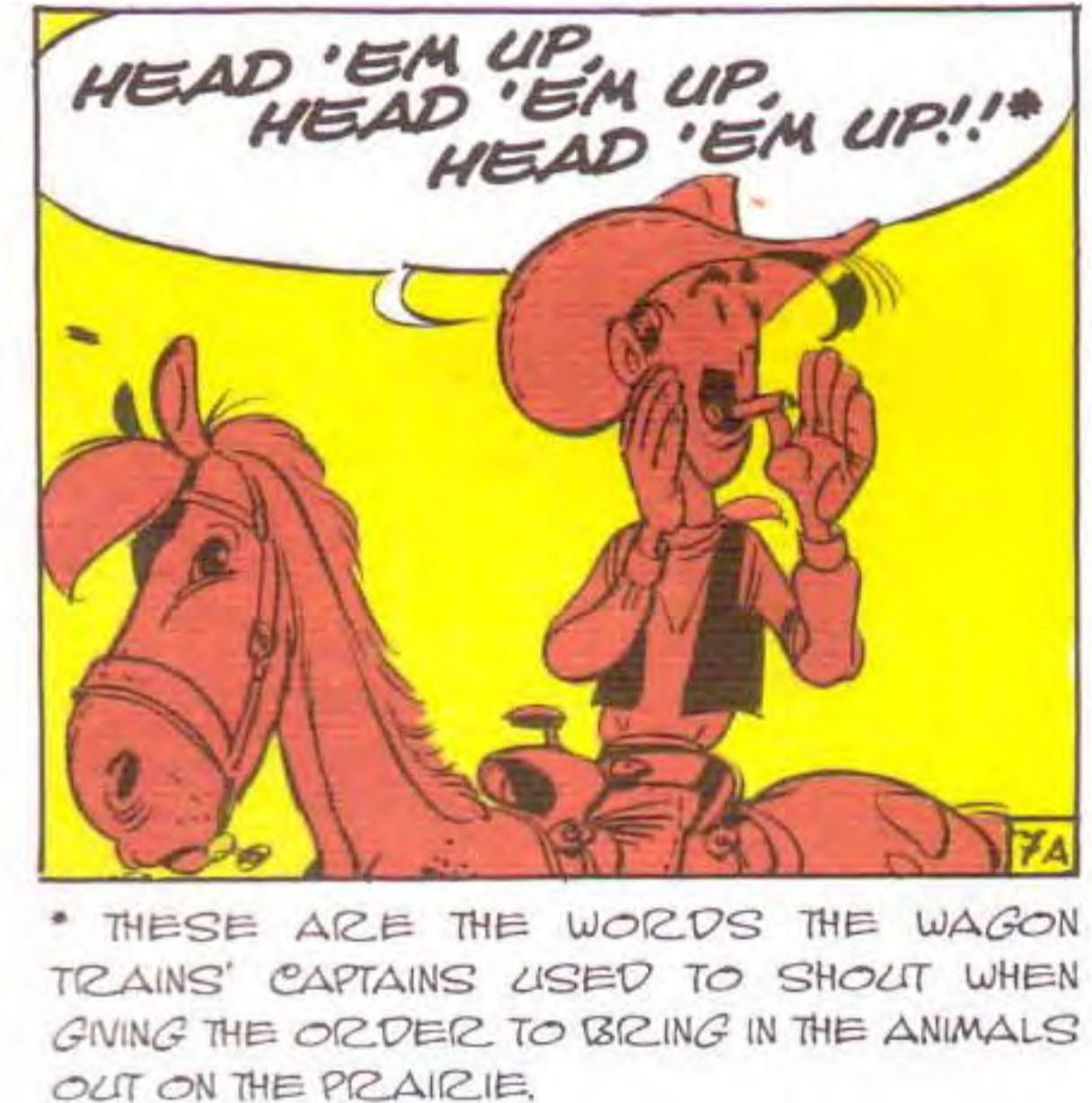
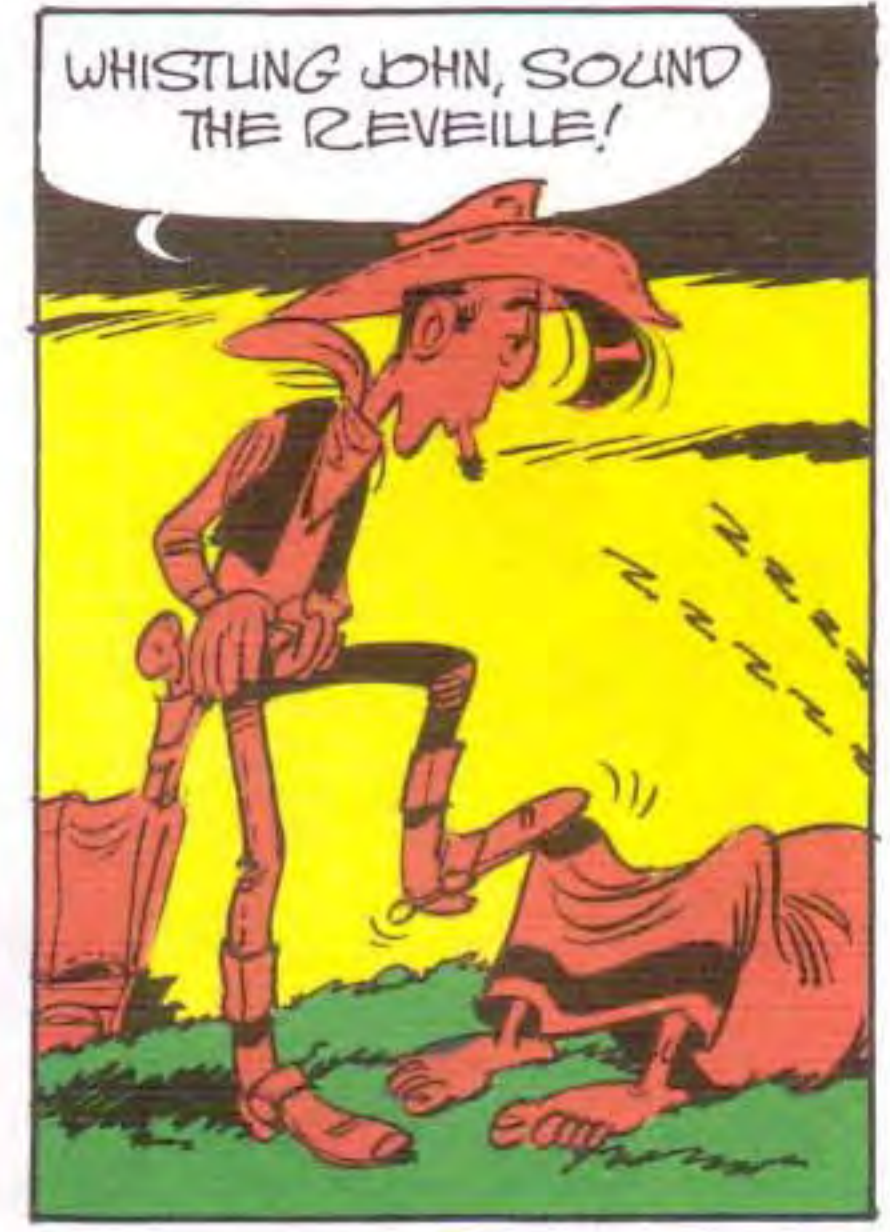
HERE ARE THE FIRST ONES ARRIVING NOW...

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?...

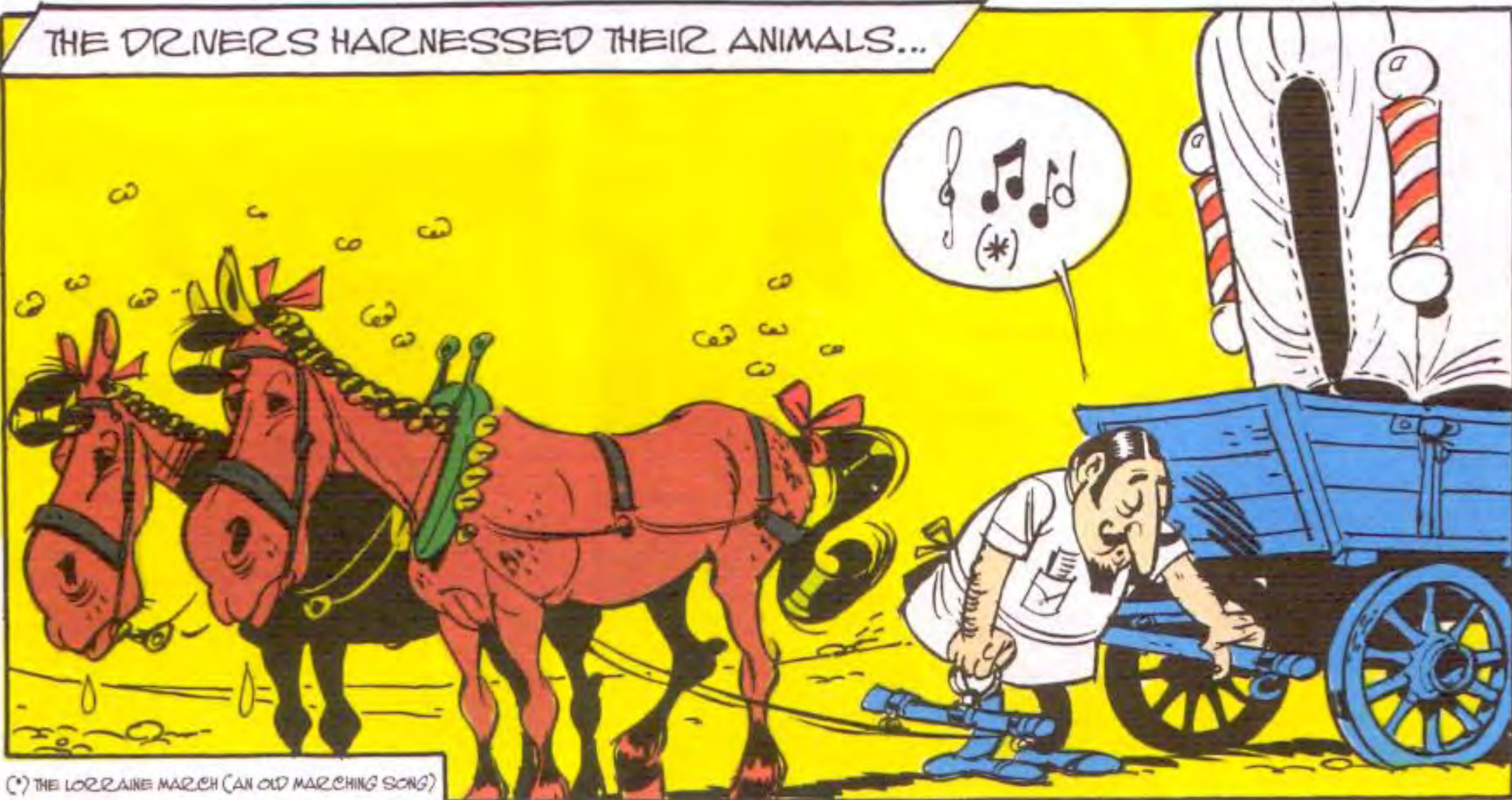


Lobley & Goseinn 4-5B



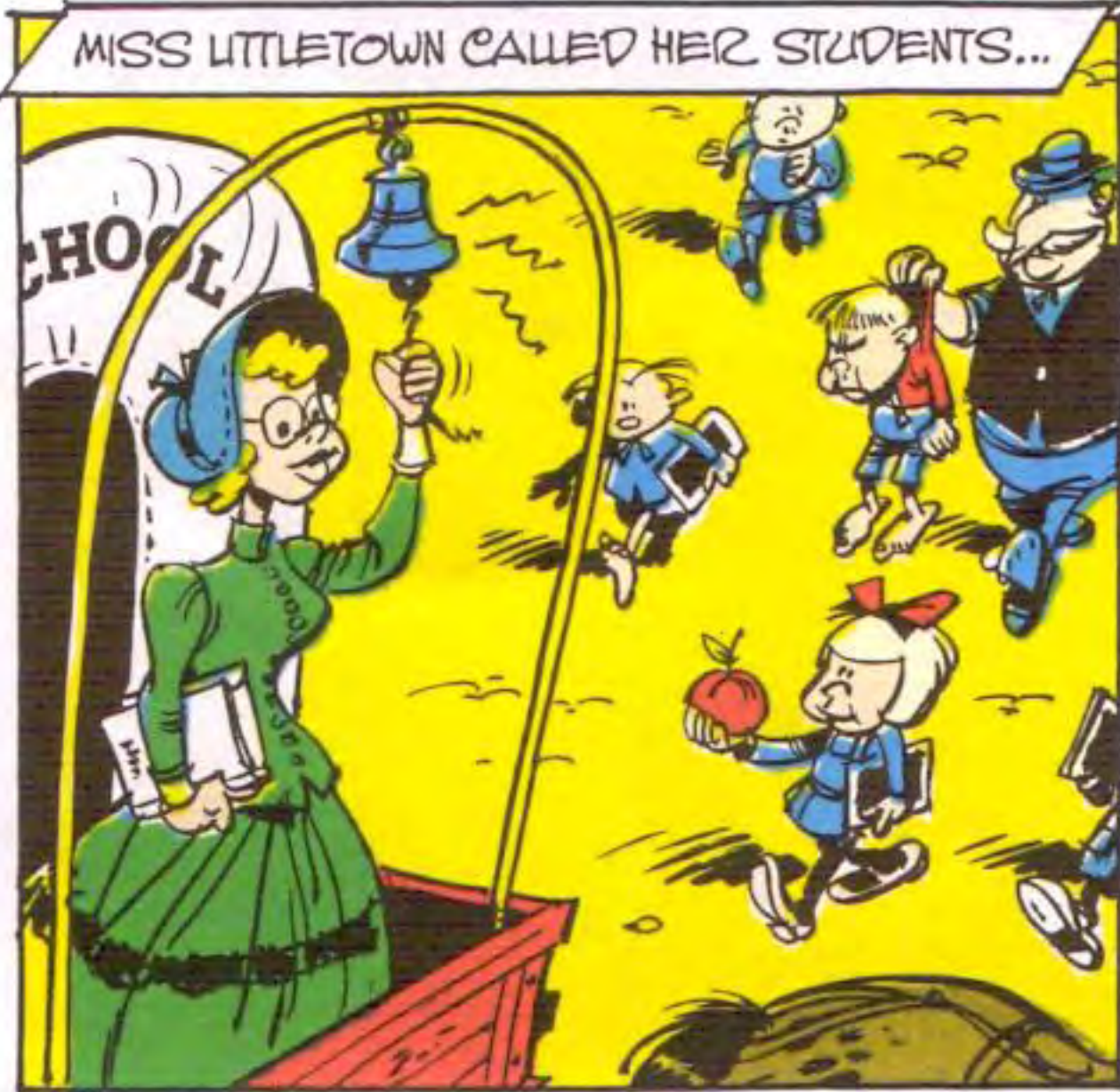


THE DRIVERS HARNESSSED THEIR ANIMALS...



(*) THE LOZRAINE MARCH (AN OLD MARCHING SONG)

MISS LITTLETOWN CALLED HER STUDENTS...

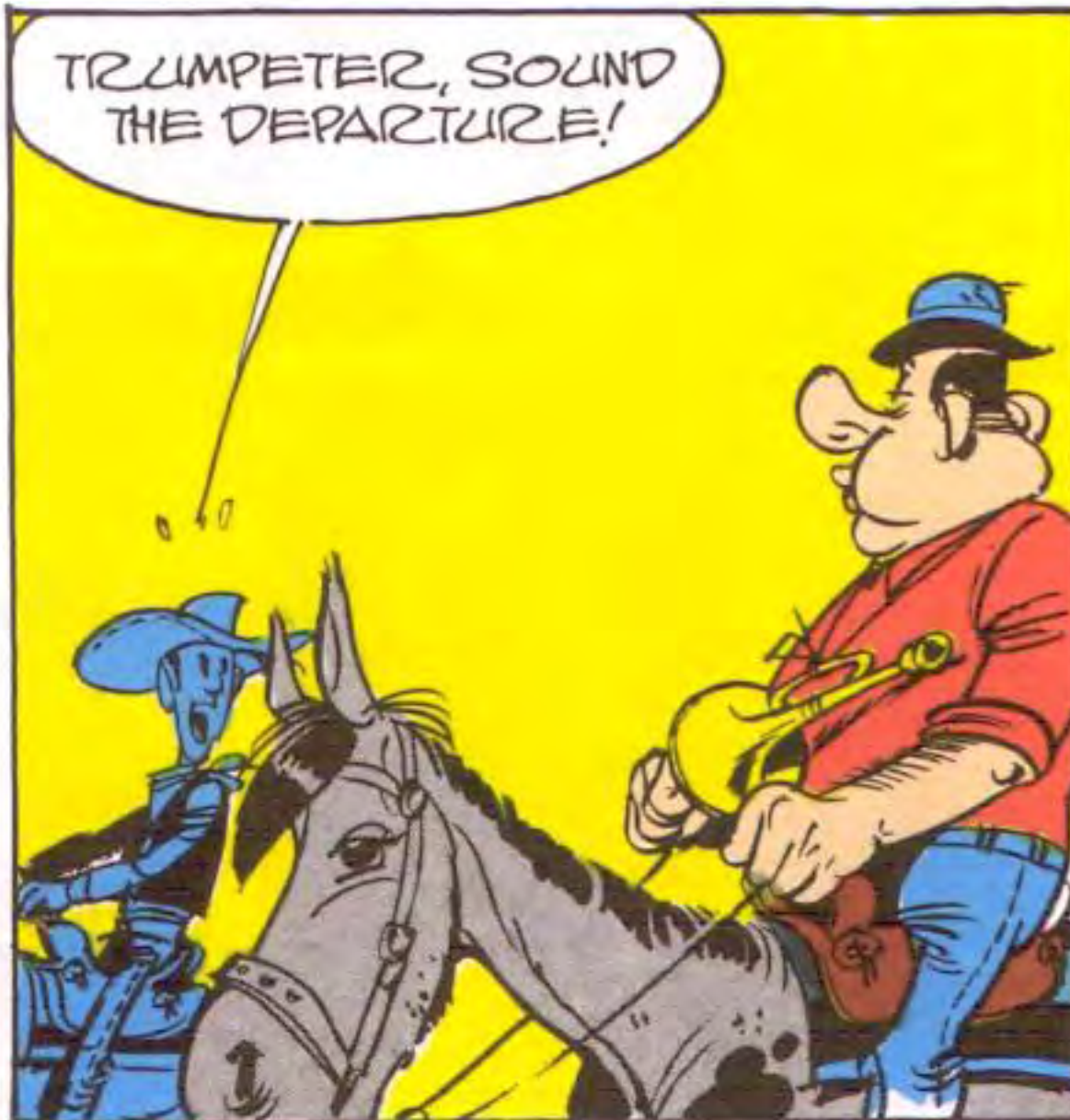


READY TO GO?...

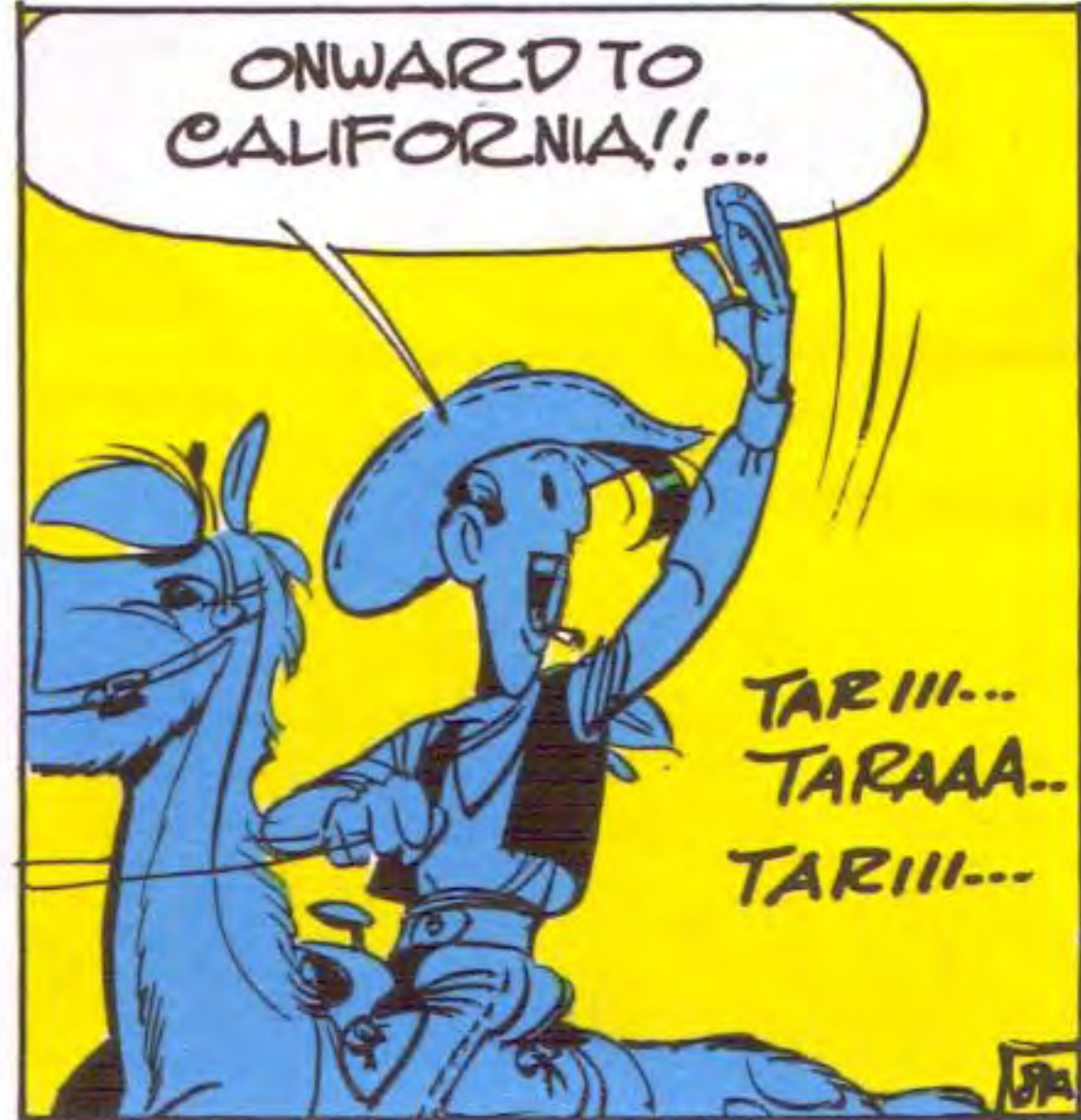


* READY TO GO!

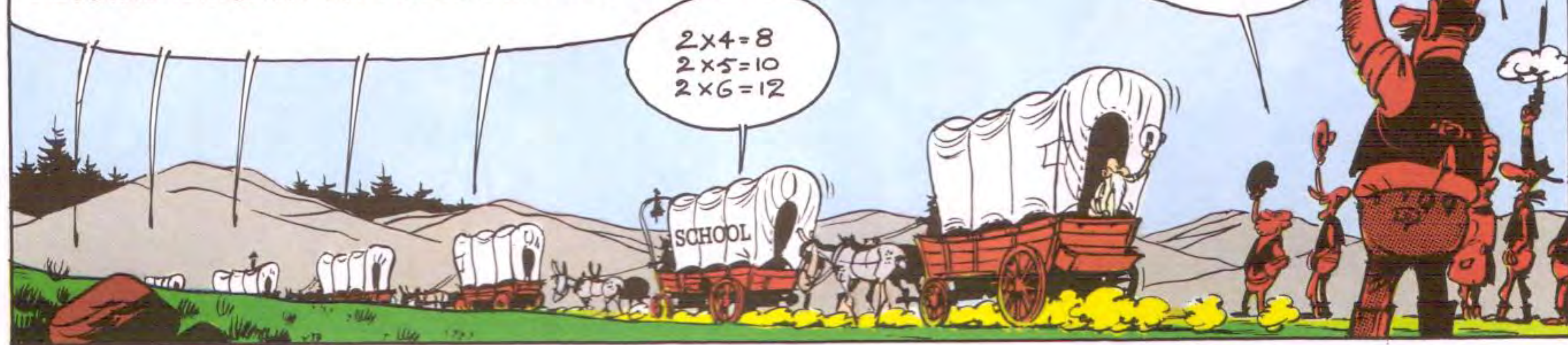
TRUMPETER, SOUND THE DEPARTURE!



ONWARD TO CALIFORNIA!!...



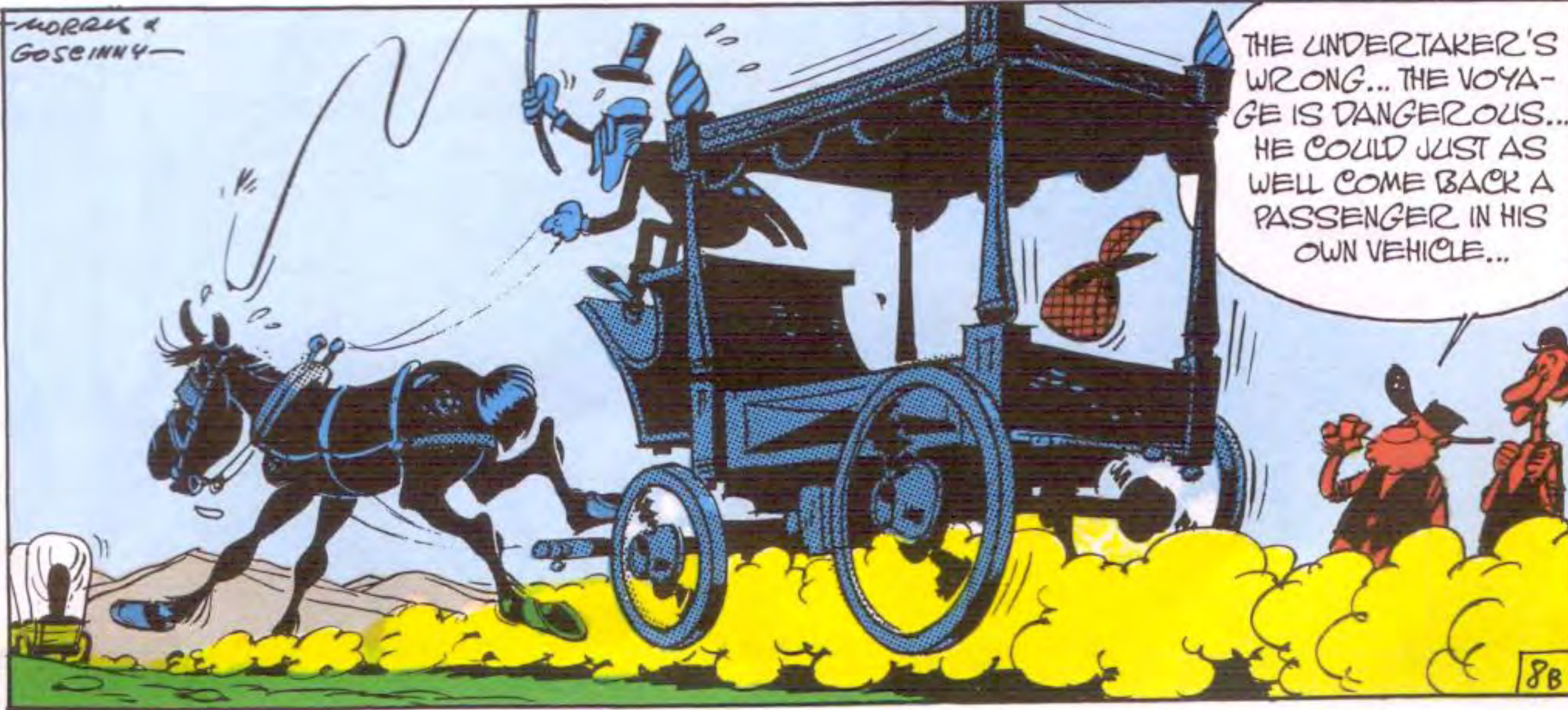
ON THE ROAD TO CALIFORNIA,
ON THAT HARD AND TEDIOUS JOURNEY
FAR ACROSS THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS,
CRYSTAL STREAMS AND FLOWING FOUNTAINS...



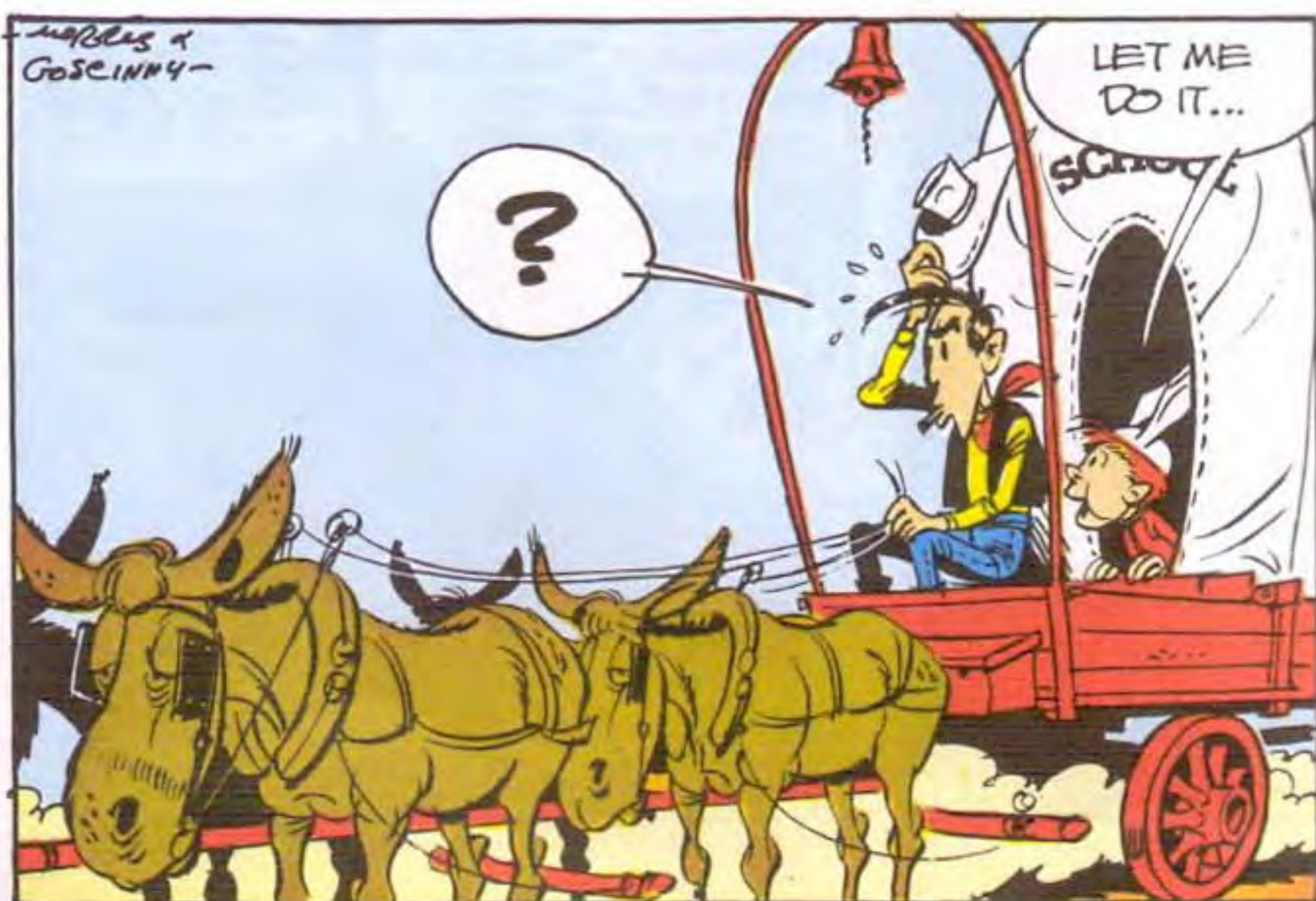
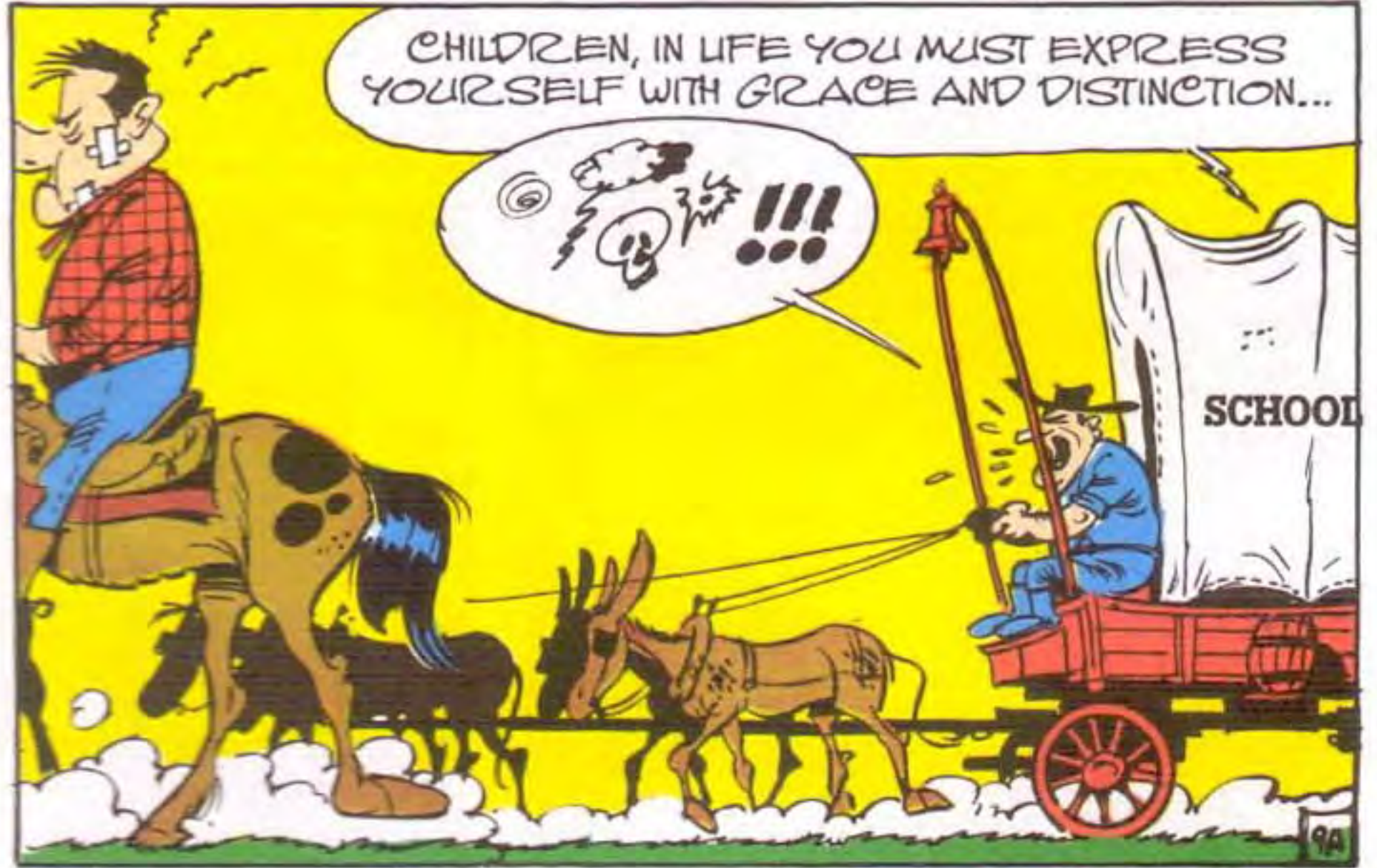
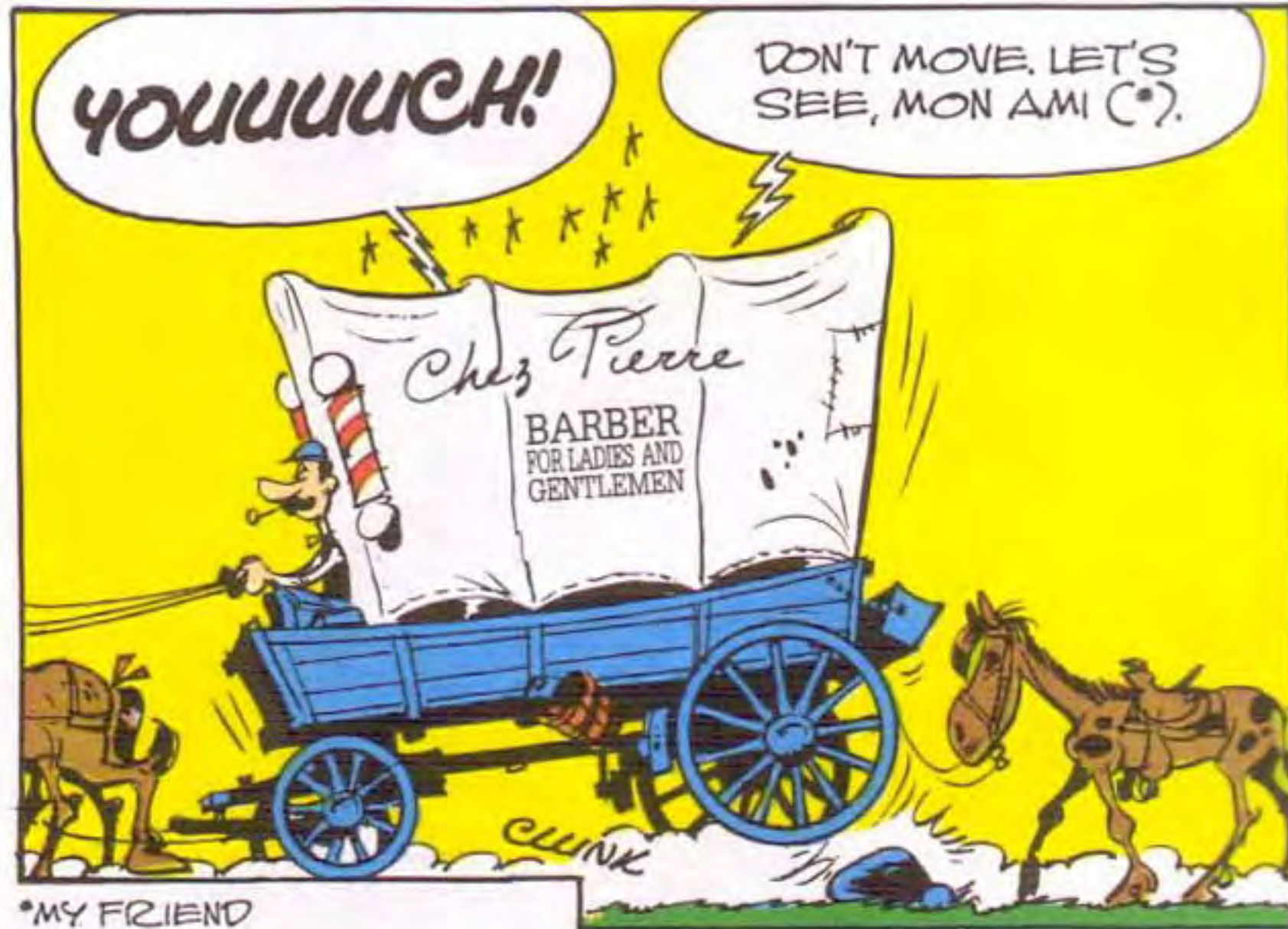
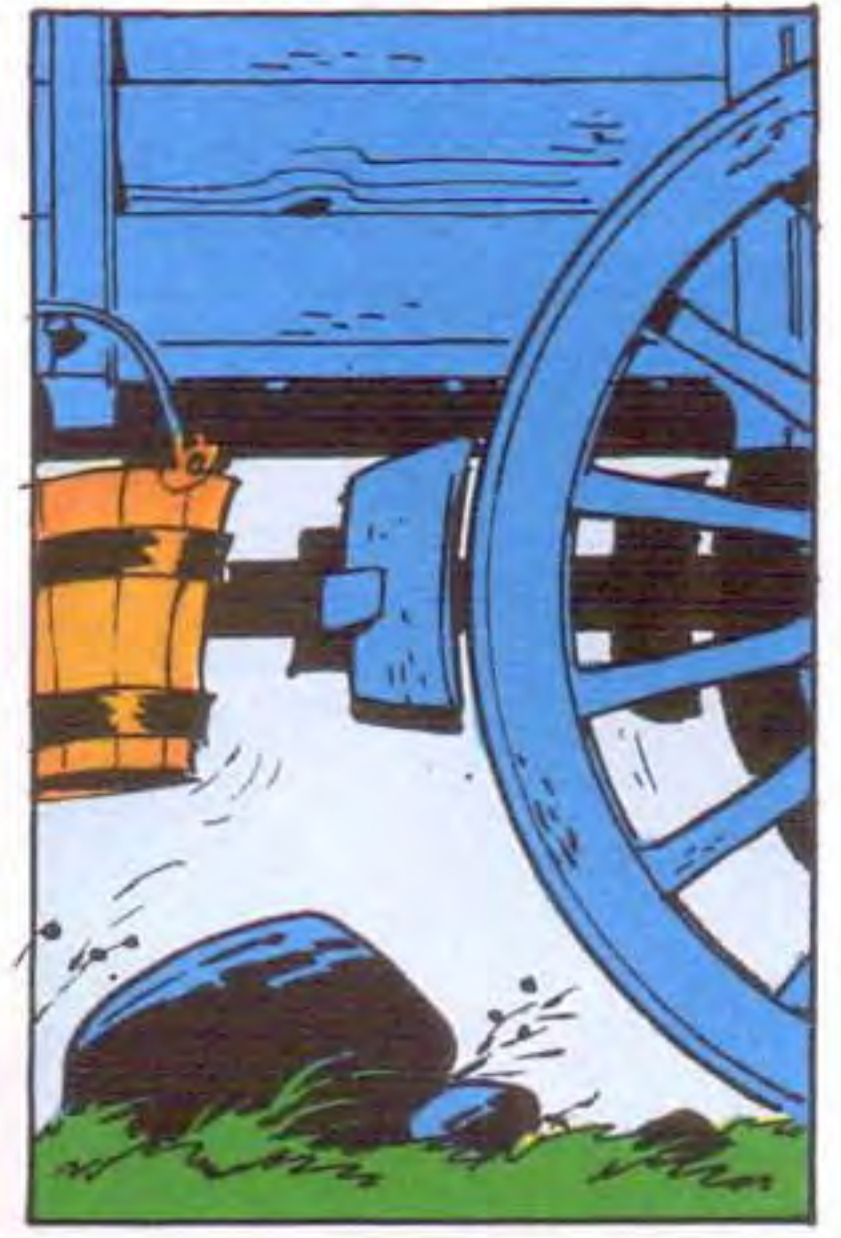
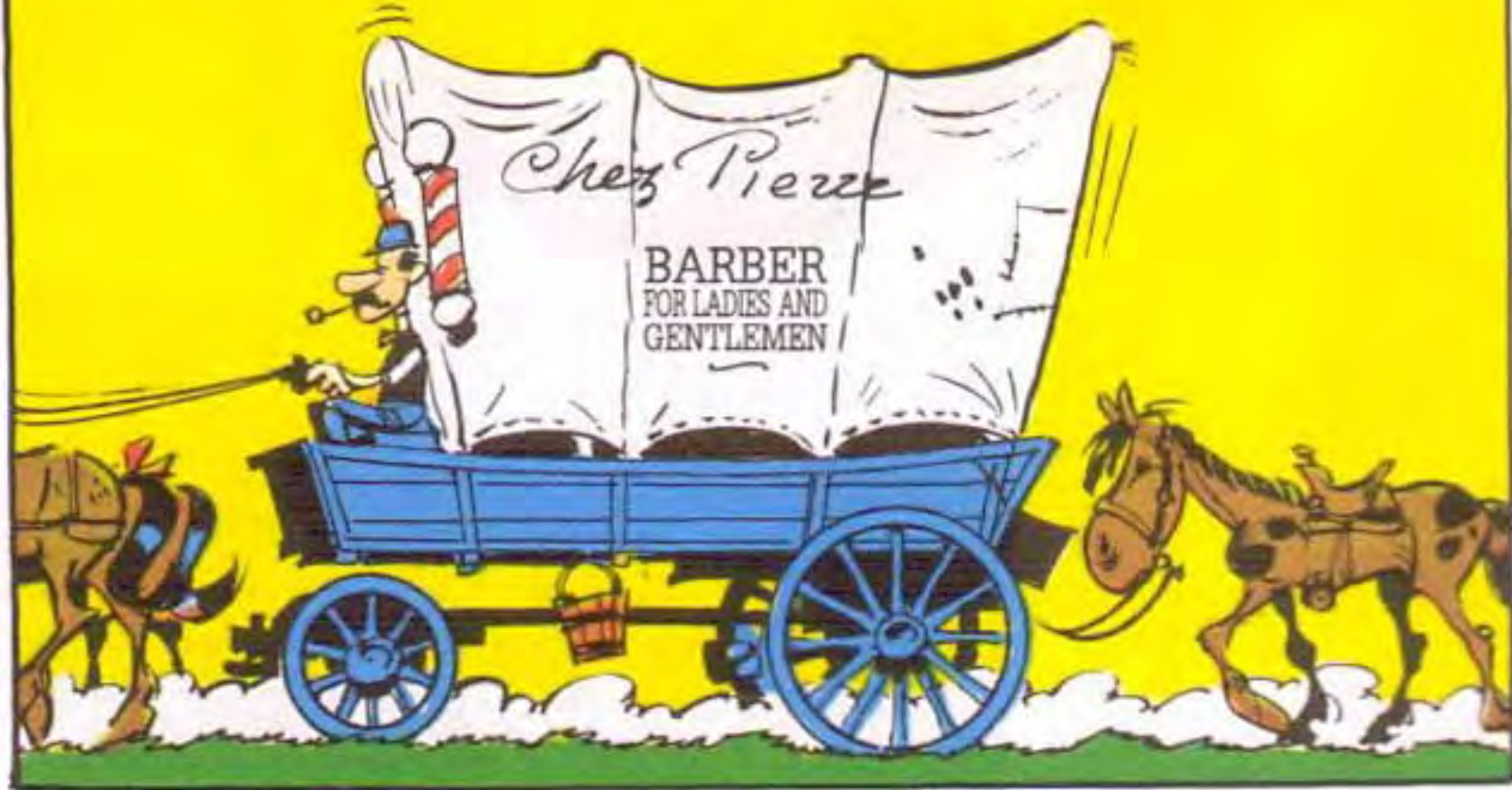
WAIT FOR ME!
I WANT TO JOIN THE
WAGON TRAIN!
I WANT TO MAKE
MY FORTUNE IN
CALIFORNIA!...



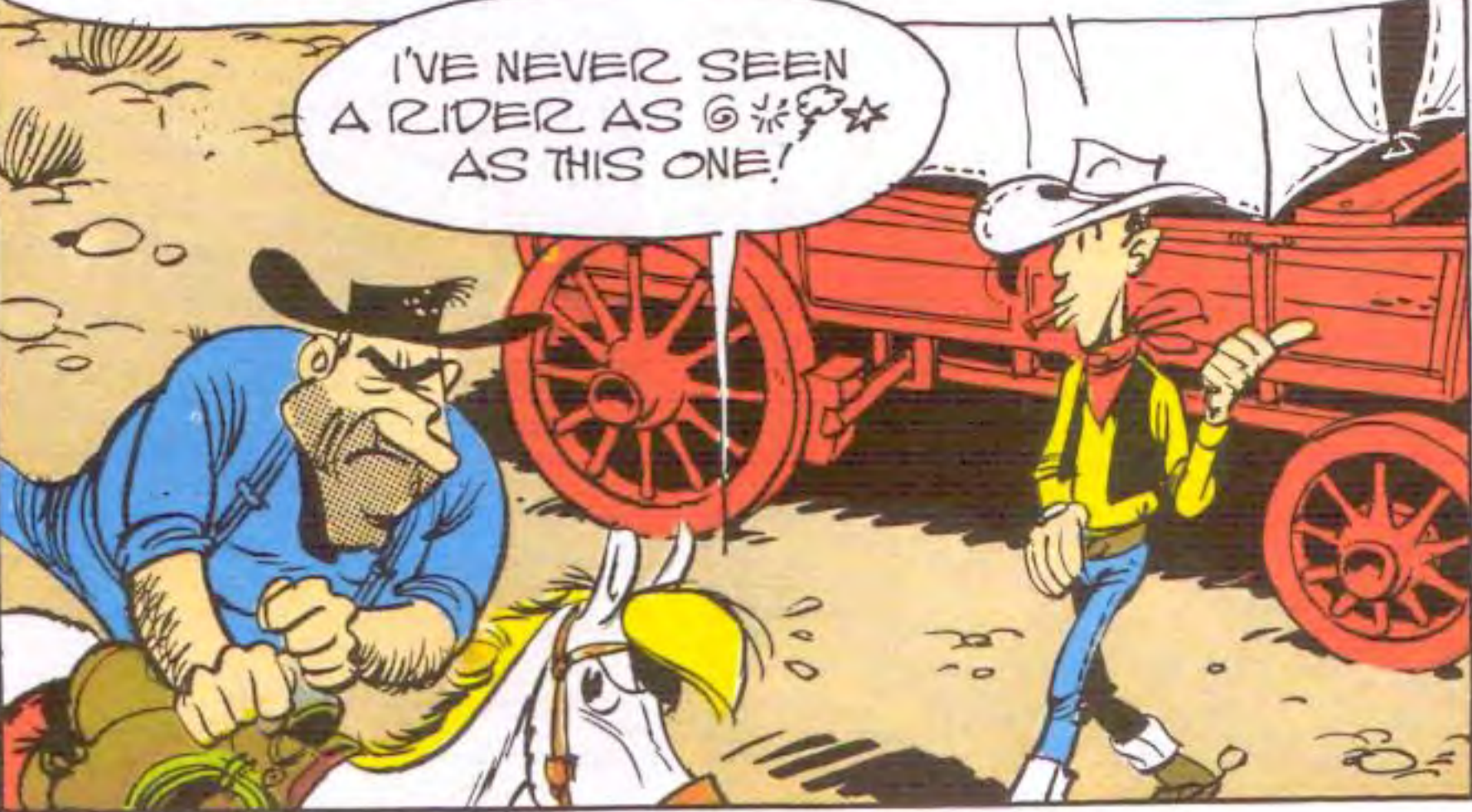
MORAK & GOSCINNY



WHILE THE WAGON TRAIN TRUNDLED OVER THE TENDER PRAIRIE GRASS, LIFE CARRIED ON AS USUAL IN THE WAGONS, THOSE WHO WEREN'T BUSY DRIVING KEPT ON WORKING...



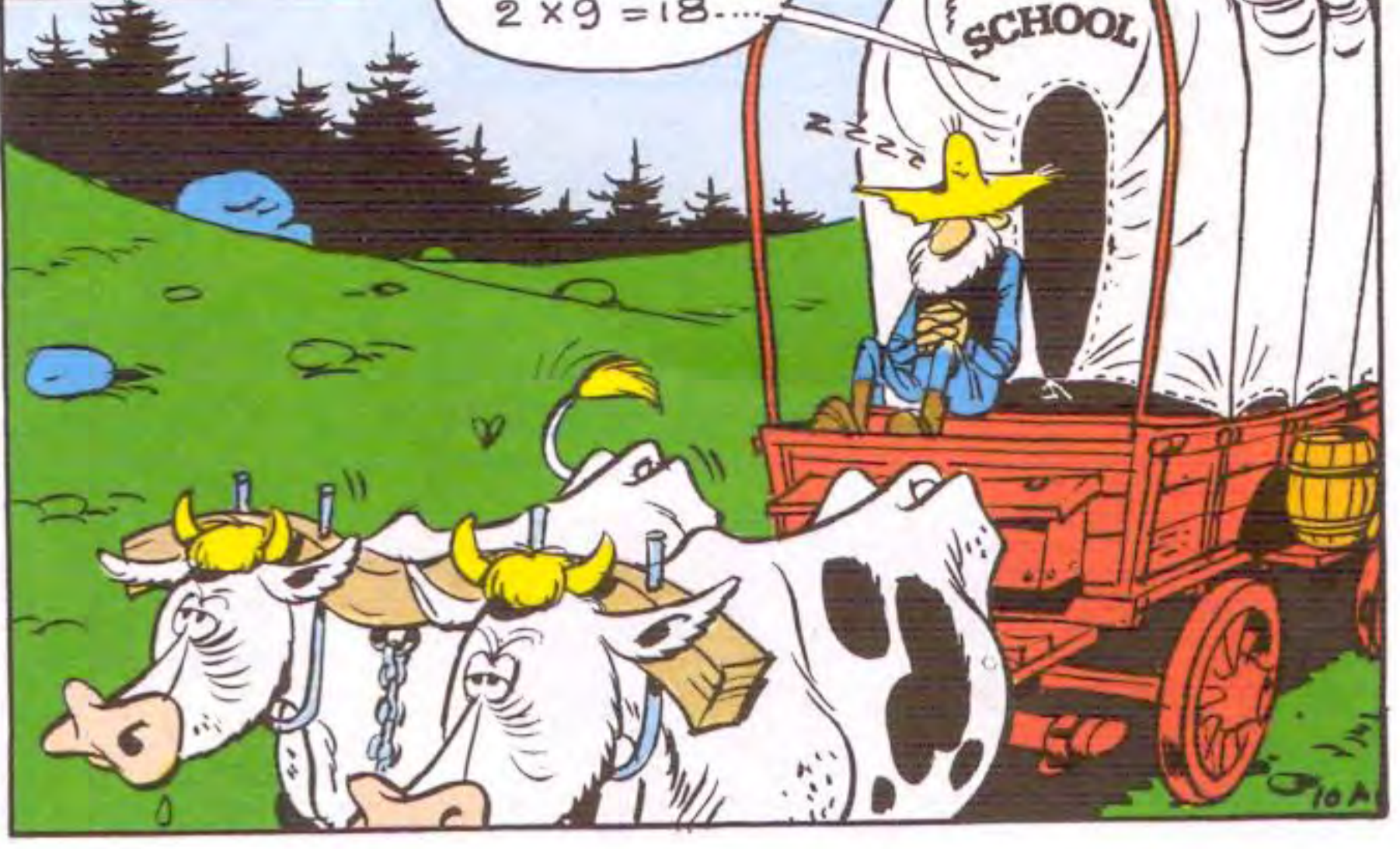
WE'LL MAKE THE MOST OF THIS MIDDAY BREAK TO HITCH YOUR MULES TO THE SUPPLY WAGON, AT THE BACK OF THE CONVOY. WE'LL LET THE SUPPLY WAGON CATTLE TAKE OVER PULLING THE SCHOOL...



I'VE NEVER SEEN A RIDER AS G*P* AS THIS ONE!

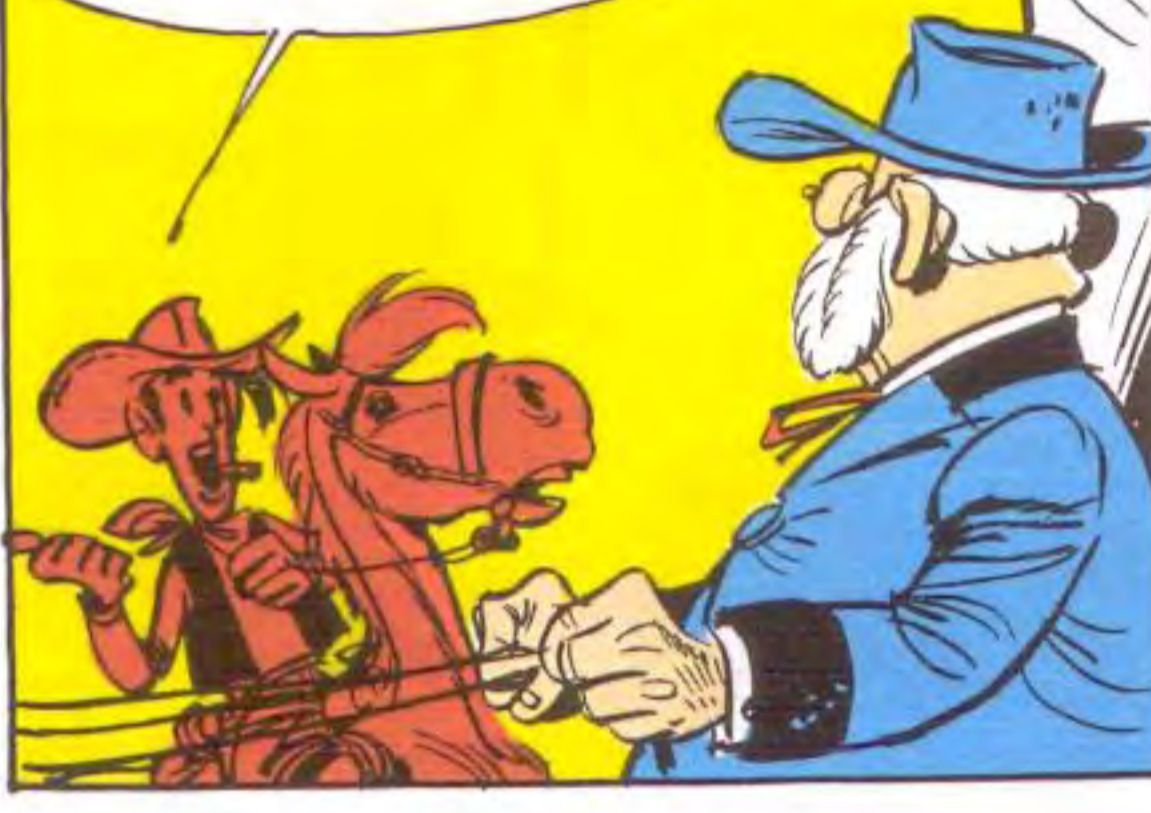
AND AFTER THE MIDDAY BREAK...

2 x 7 = 14
2 x 8 = 16
2 x 9 = 18...



EVENING... I'VE SCOUTED AHEAD, MR. BOSTON! THERE'S A LITTLE STREAM WE COULD CAMP UP THERE FOR THE NIGHT...

PERFECT!



AND SO CAMP WAS FORMED FOR THE NIGHT. WHILE THE WOMEN PREPARED THE MEALS, THE MEN PLAYED MUSIC OR HAD SHOOTING COMPETITIONS...



THREE BULLET HOLES IN ONE COIN. LUCKY LUKE WINS!

I'VE LOST MY COIN...

HAVE YOU GOT ANY SPARE CHANGE, LITTLE LADY? I'VE PUT HOLES IN ALL OF MINE.

CAN'T YOU PLAY WITH BEANS?

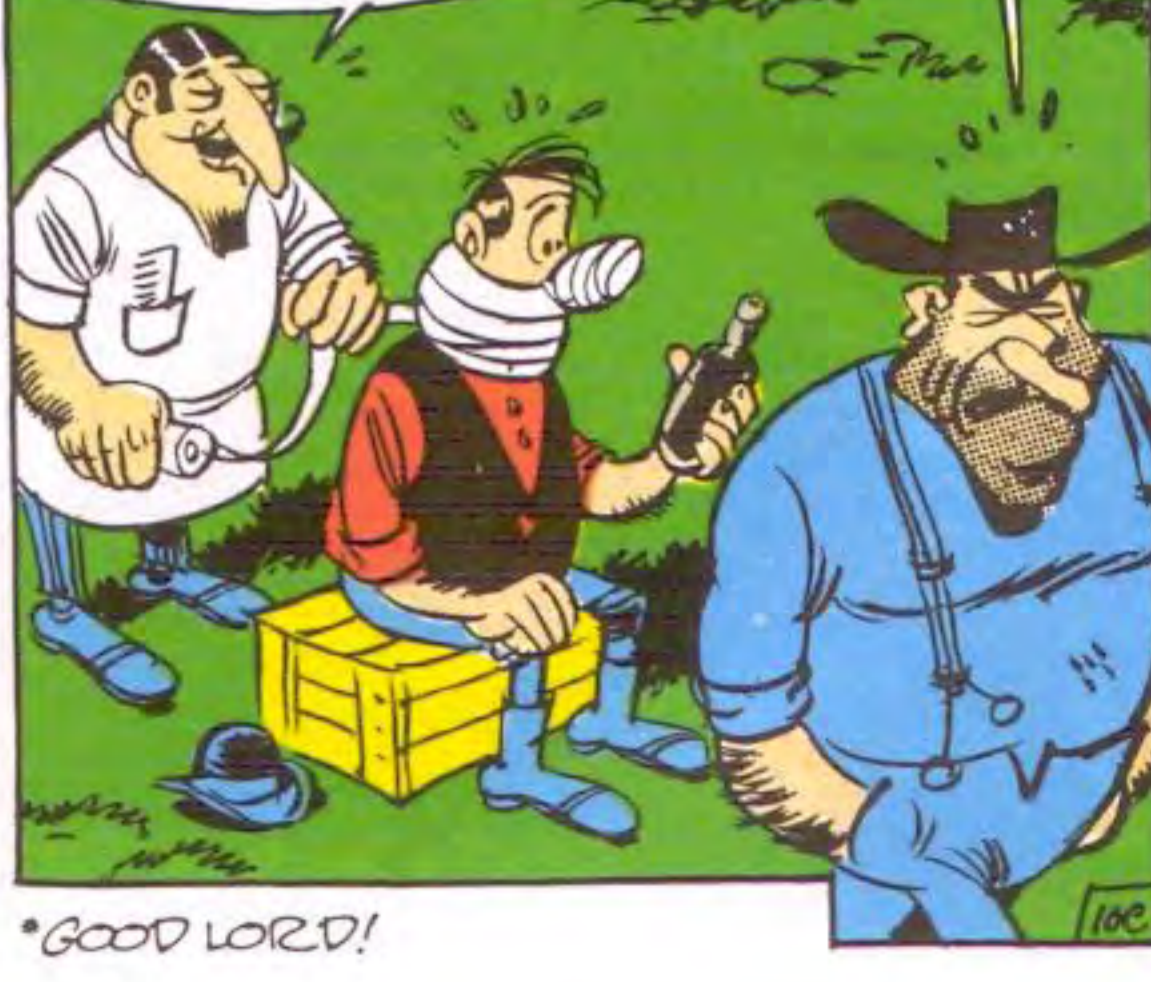
CIRCLE THE WAGONS! UNHITCH YOUR ANIMALS!



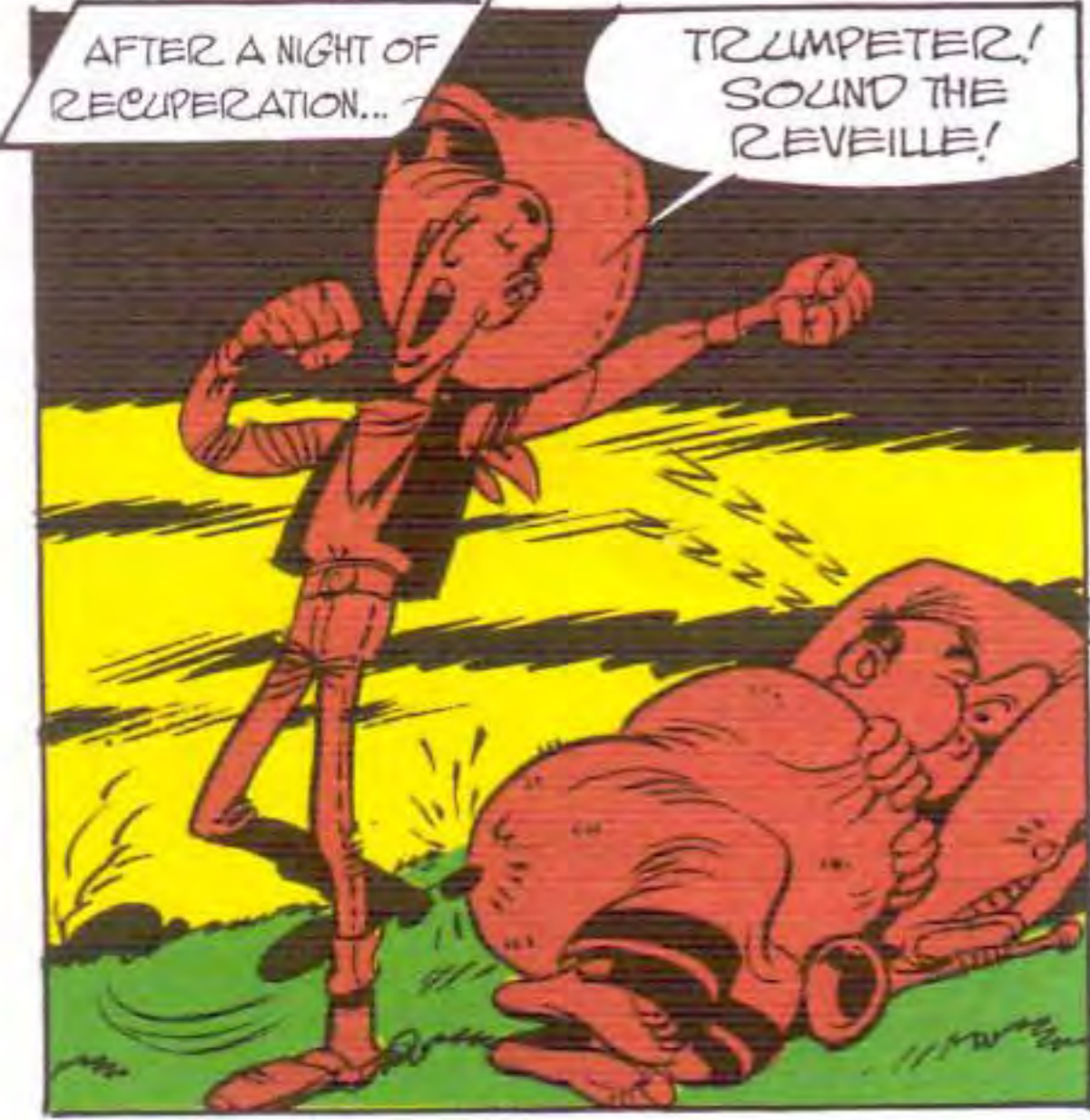
HEY, UGLY BARROW! YOU SEE THIS CIGARETTE? I BET YOU A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY THAT YOU COULDN'T TAKE IT WITH YOUR WHIP!



PARBLEU! (C*) IN TWO DAYS YOU WON'T SEE A THING...



*GOOD LORD!

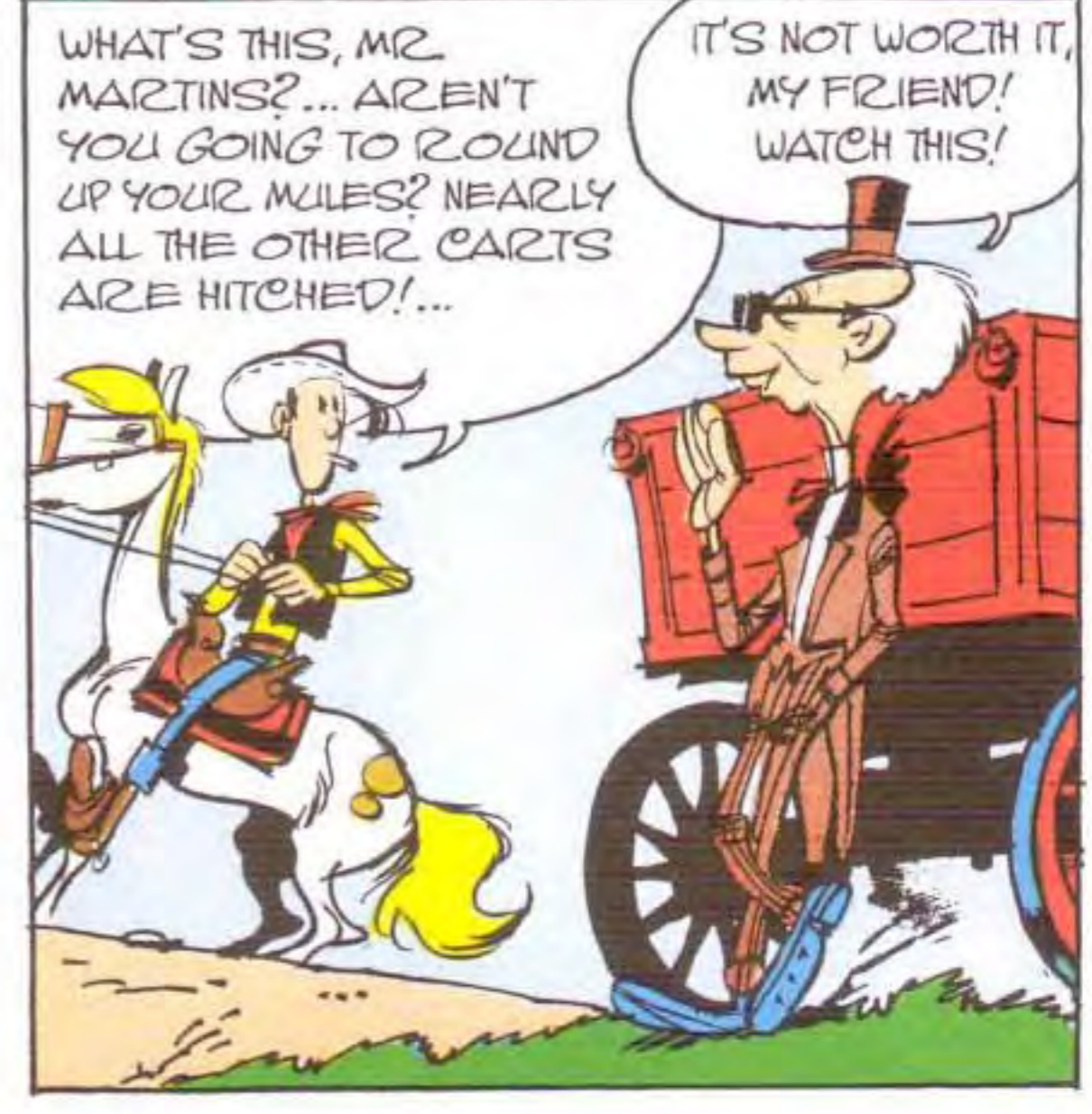


AFTER A NIGHT OF RECOVERY...

TRIMPETER! SOUND THE REVEILLE!

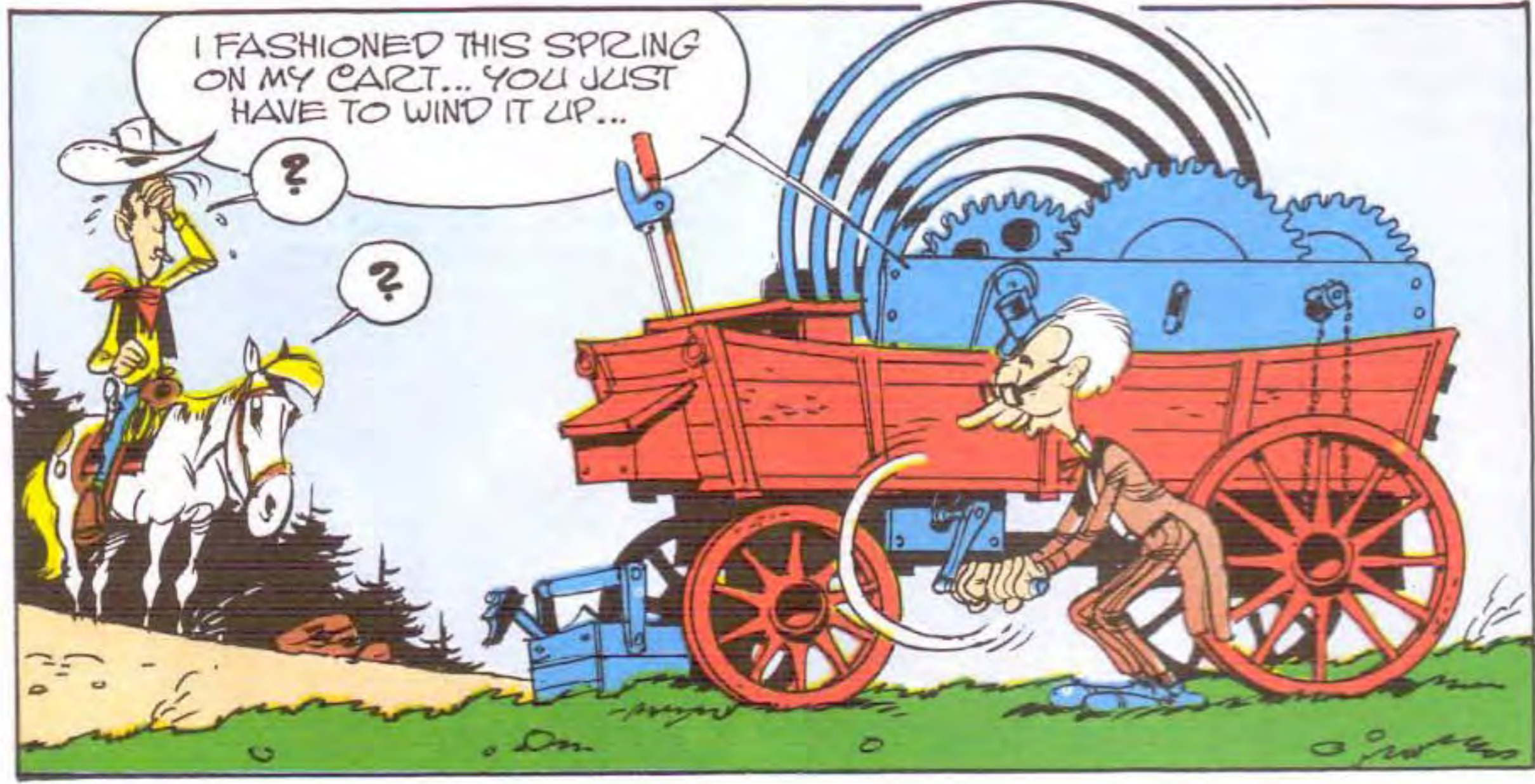


TAR!!! zzz TARAAA zzz...
HEAD 'EM UP! HEAD 'EM UP!



WHAT'S THIS, MR. MARTINS?... AREN'T YOU GOING TO ROUND UP YOUR MULES? NEARLY ALL THE OTHER CARTS ARE HITCHED!...

IT'S NOT WORTH IT, MY FRIEND! WATCH THIS!



I FASHIONED THIS SPRING ON MY CART... YOU JUST HAVE TO WIND IT UP...

?

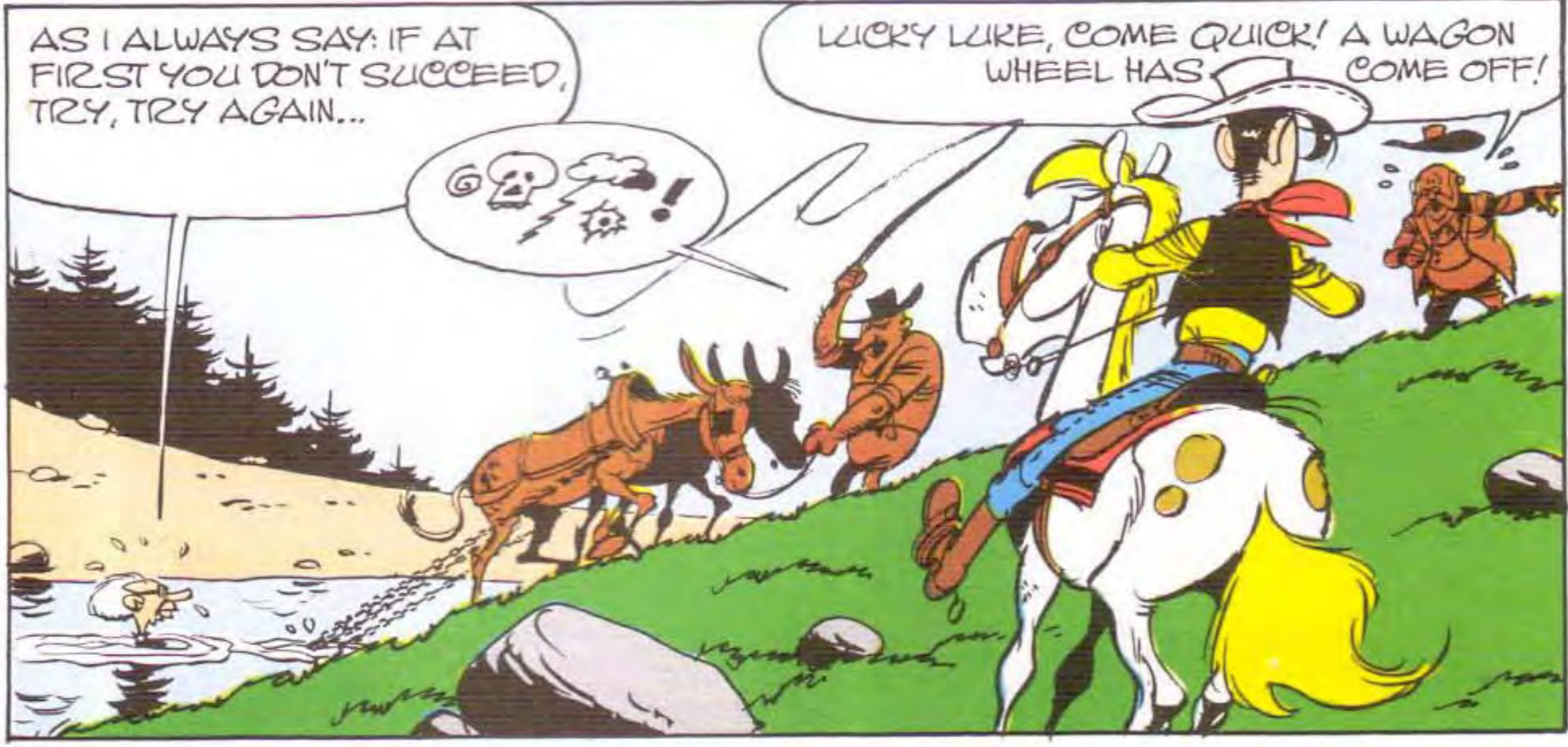
?



...I RELEASE THE BRAKE...

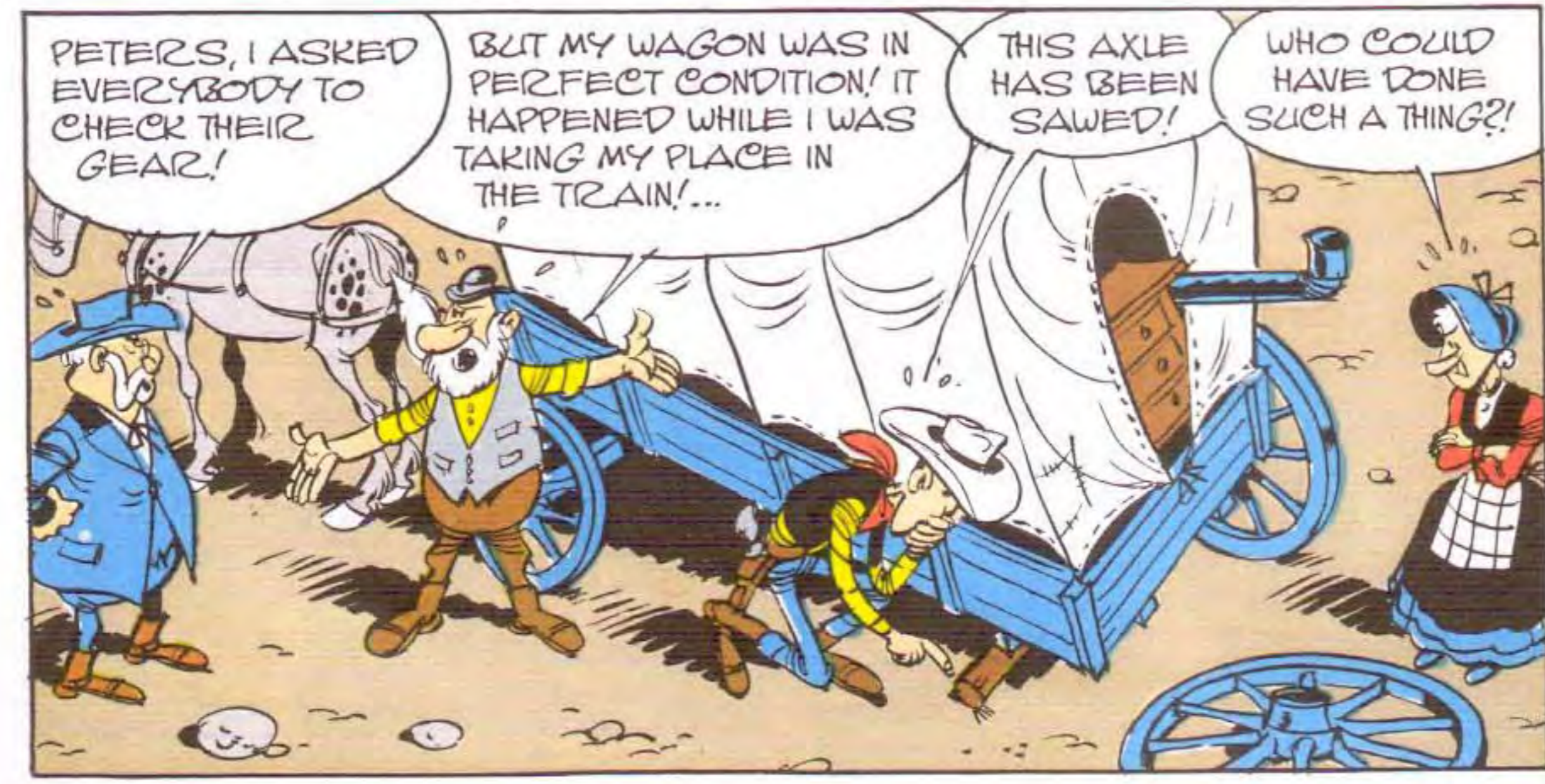


...AND NOW!...



AS I ALWAYS SAY: IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, TRY, TRY AGAIN...

LUCKY LUCK, COME QUICK! A WAGON WHEEL HAS COME OFF!



PETERS, I ASKED EVERYBODY TO CHECK THEIR GEAR!

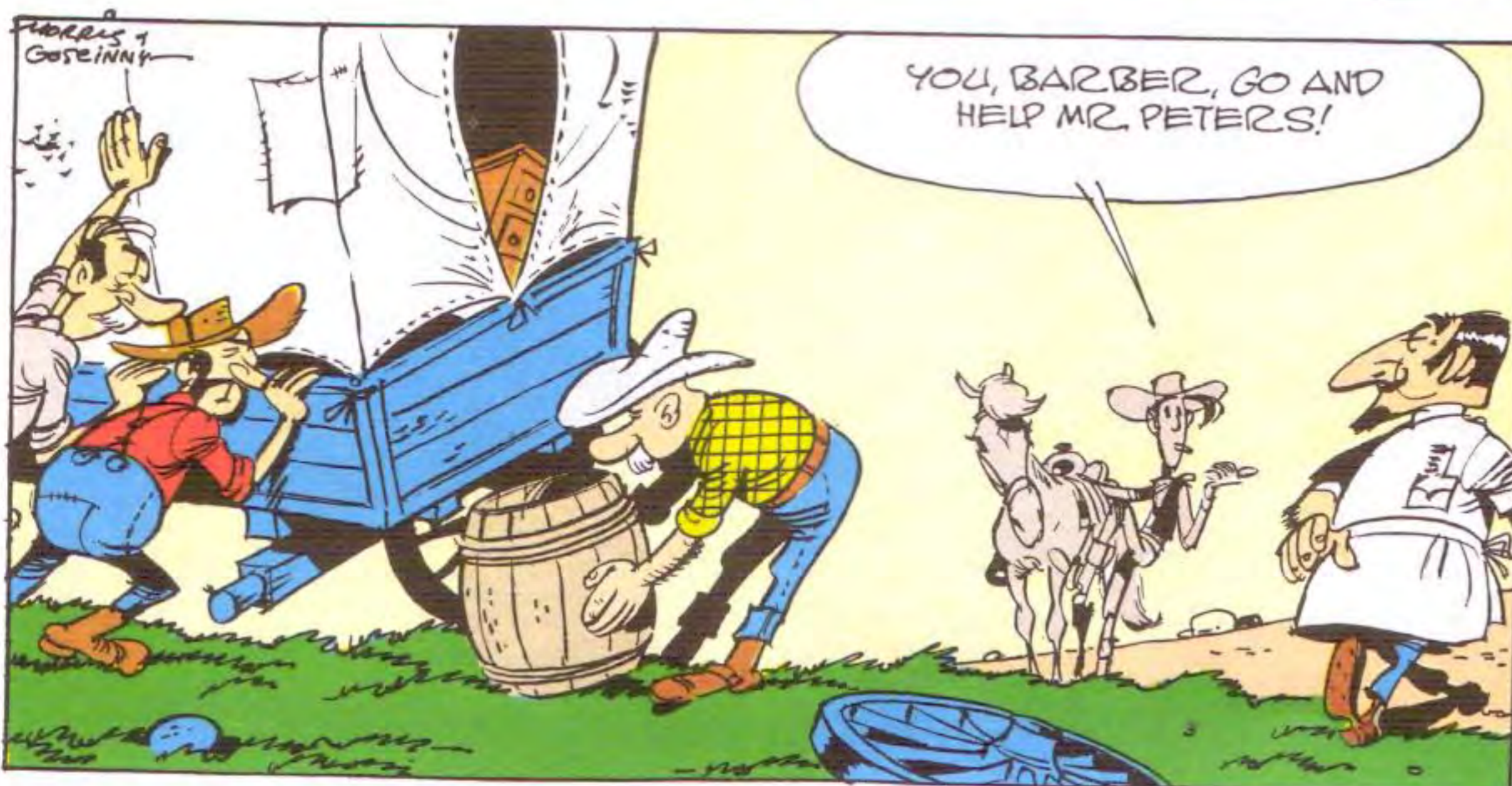
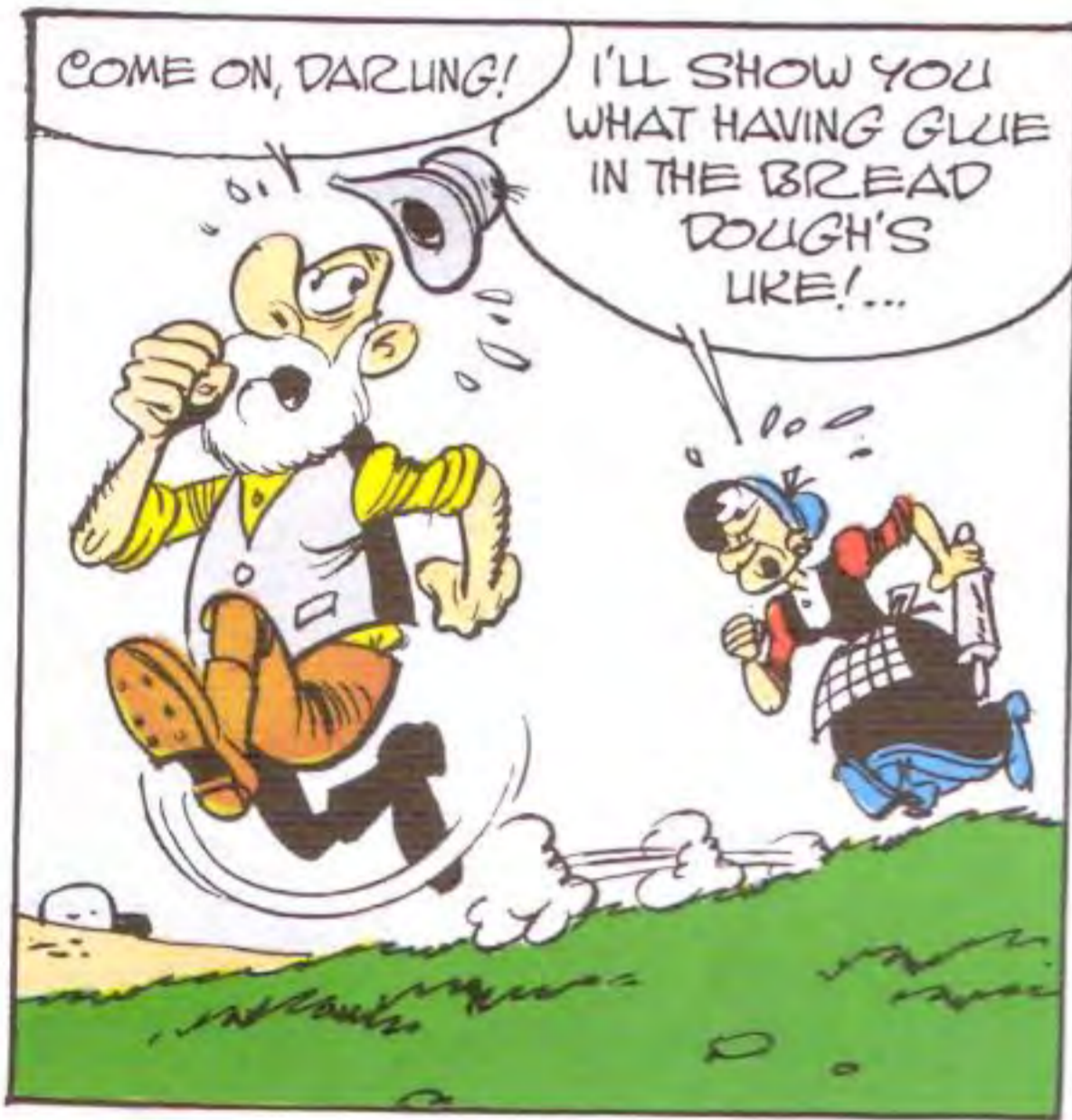
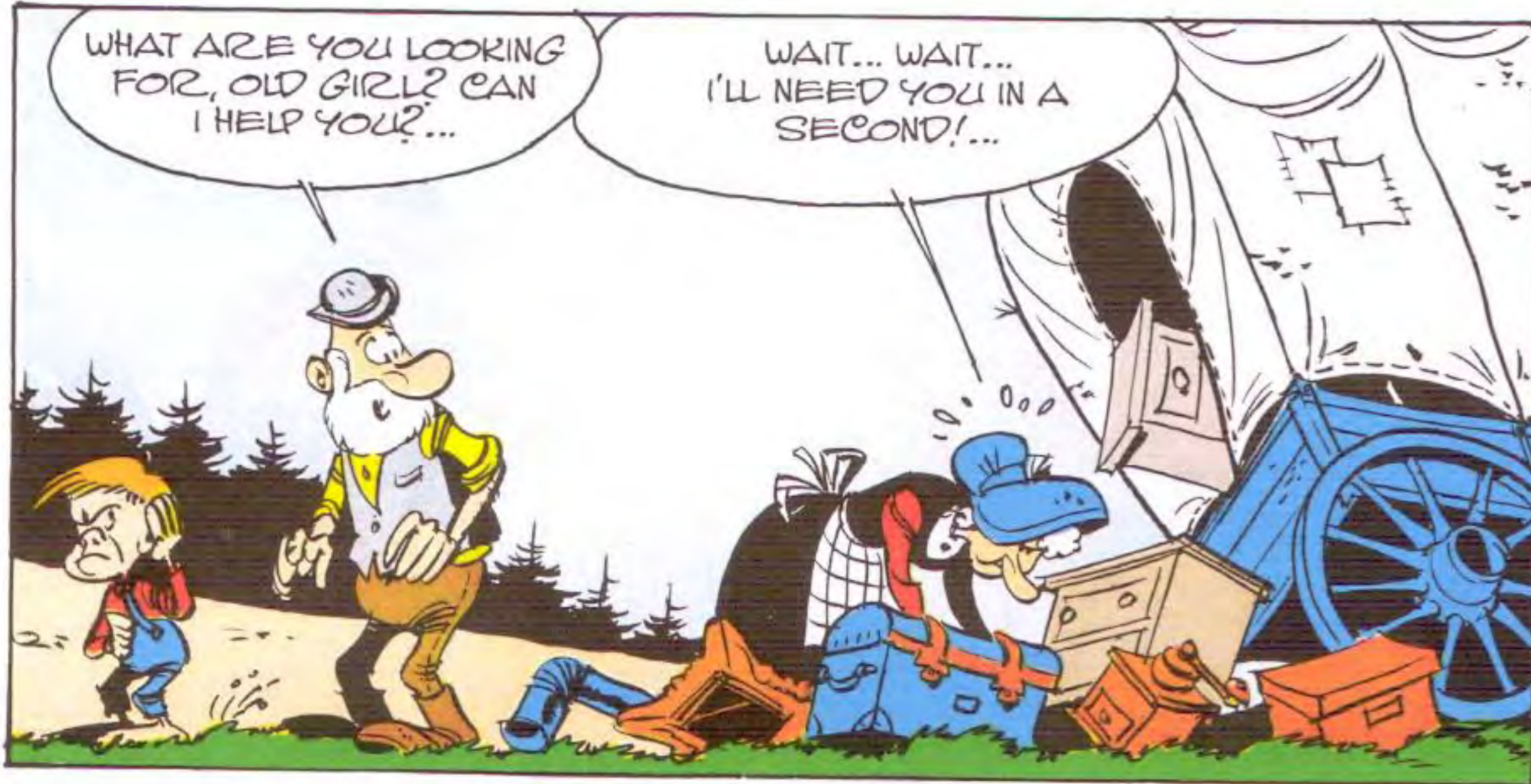
BUT MY WAGON WAS IN PERFECT CONDITION! IT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS TAKING MY PLACE IN THE TRAIN!...

THIS AXLE HAS BEEN SAWED!

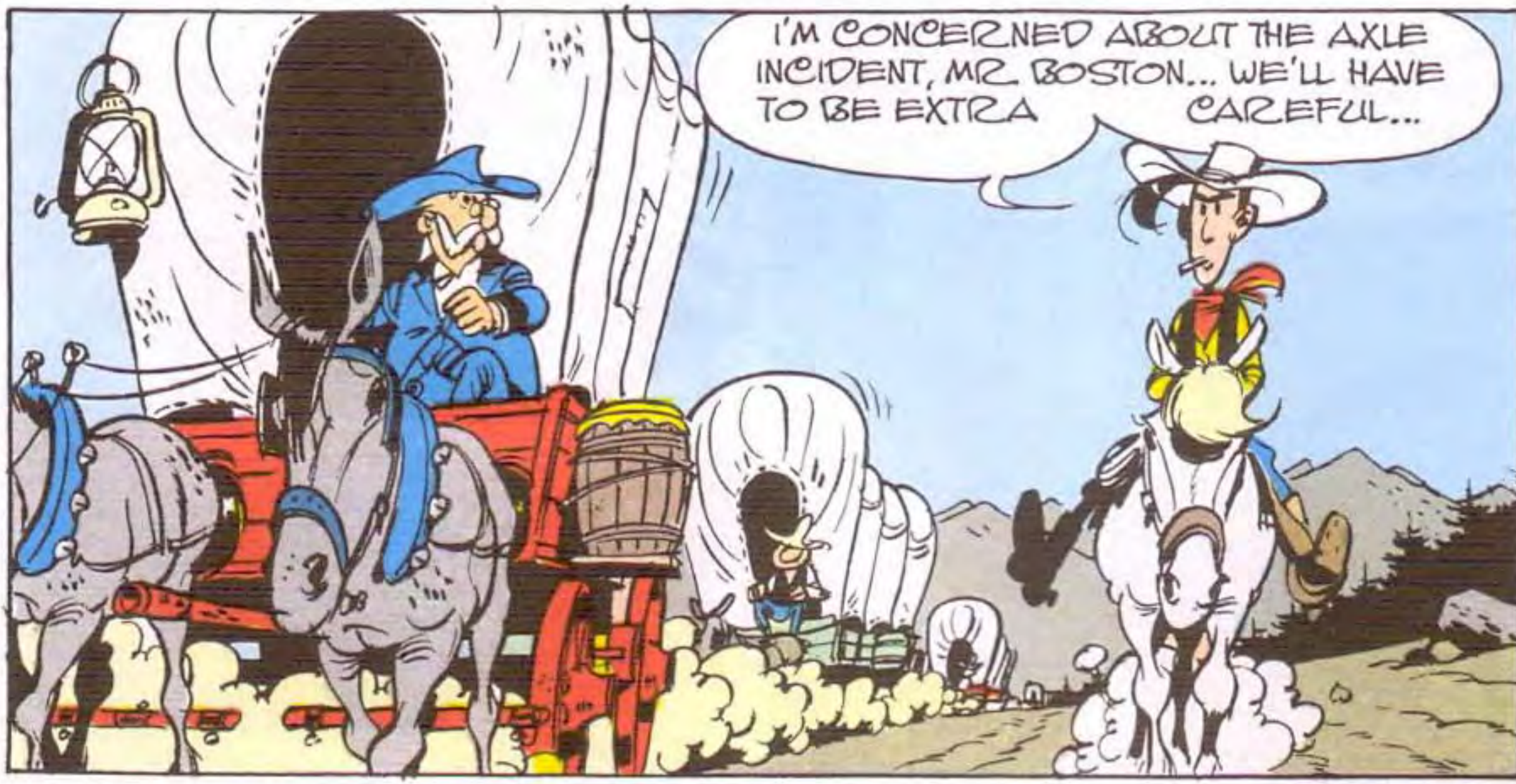
WHO COULD HAVE DONE SUCH A THING?!



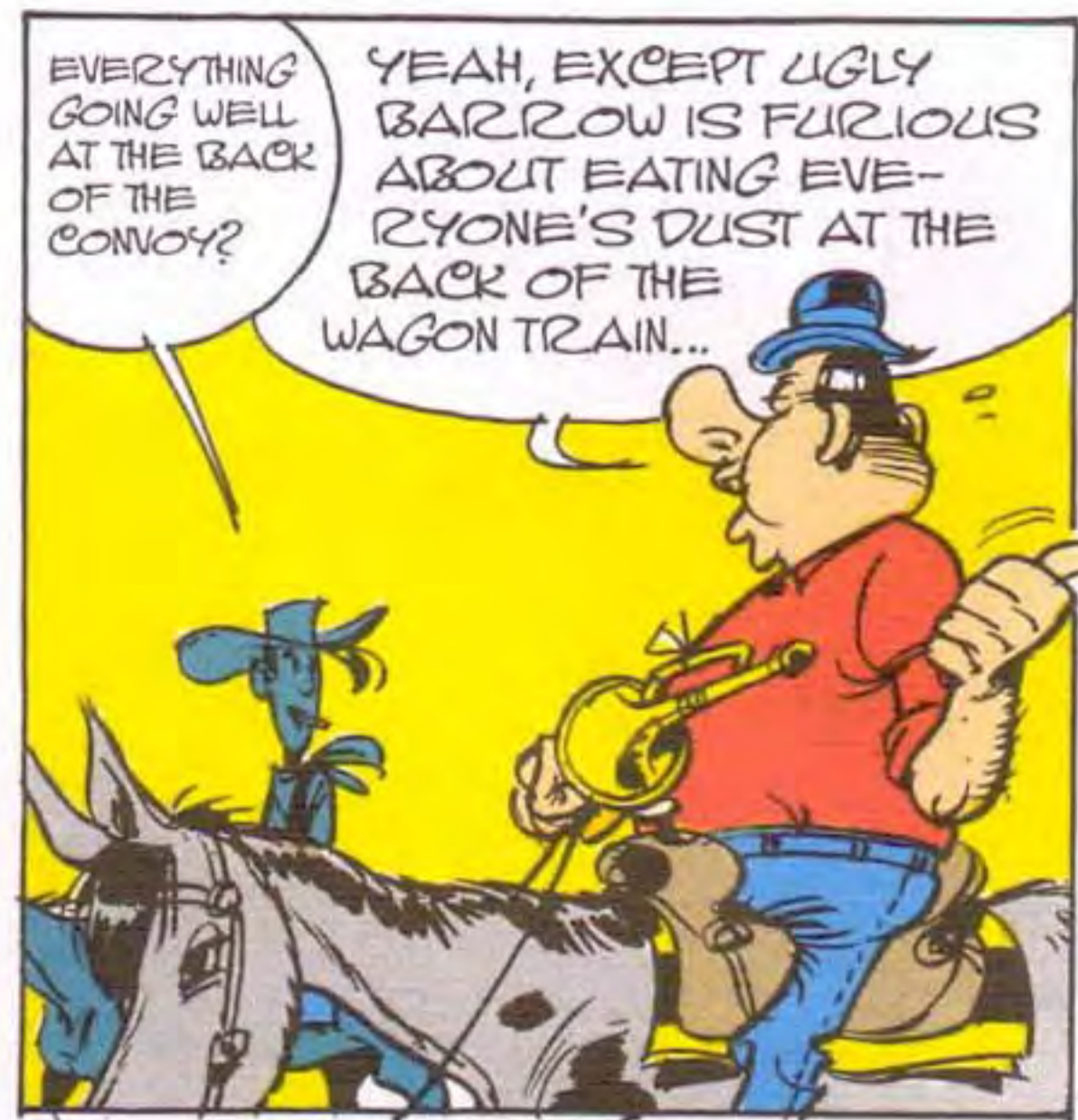
HARRIS & GOSKINNY



(*) (*) AND (*) SUBTLETY, GOOD MANNERS AND GENTLEMANLY CONDUCT...



I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE AXLE INCIDENT, MR. BOSTON... WE'LL HAVE TO BE EXTRA CAREFUL...



EVERYTHING GOING WELL AT THE BACK OF THE CONVOY?

YEAH, EXCEPT UGLY BARROW IS FURIOUS ABOUT EATING EVERYONE'S DUST AT THE BACK OF THE WAGON TRAIN...



LET HIM TEACH HIS MULES ANOTHER LANGUAGE AND HE'LL GET HIS PLACE BACK AS SCHOOL WAGON DRIVER...



NIGHT FELL...

BE ON YOUR GUARD TONIGHT, SOON WE'LL REACH THE DESERT AND THERE'LL BE NO MORE TIME FOR FUN...



HEY! UGLY! I BET YOU A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY THAT YOU CAN'T USE YOUR WHIP TO KNOCK OFF A CIGARETTE BALANCED ON MY NOSE!



!!



HE'S REALLY NOT HAPPY...

OH! YOU NEVER KNOW WITH HIM HE ALWAYS TALKS THAT WAY...

HEY, JONESY! I'LL TAKE THAT BET!



IT DOESN'T COUNT! IT DOESN'T COUNT! YOU CHEATED! YOU MOVED!...



MEANWHILE, THE UNDERTAKER WAS ENJOYING GREAT SUCCESS WITH HIS SONGS ABOUT A HILARIOUS COMEDIAN...

YEP, MY JOB DOESN'T STOP ME FROM LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST!...

IF SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS TONIGHT, IT MEANS THERE'S A TRAITOR AMONGST US!...

SOON IT WAS DAWN AGAIN, WITH ITS RITUAL THAT HAS BECOME SO FAMILIAR TO US NOW...

HEAD 'EM UP!
HEAD 'EM UP!



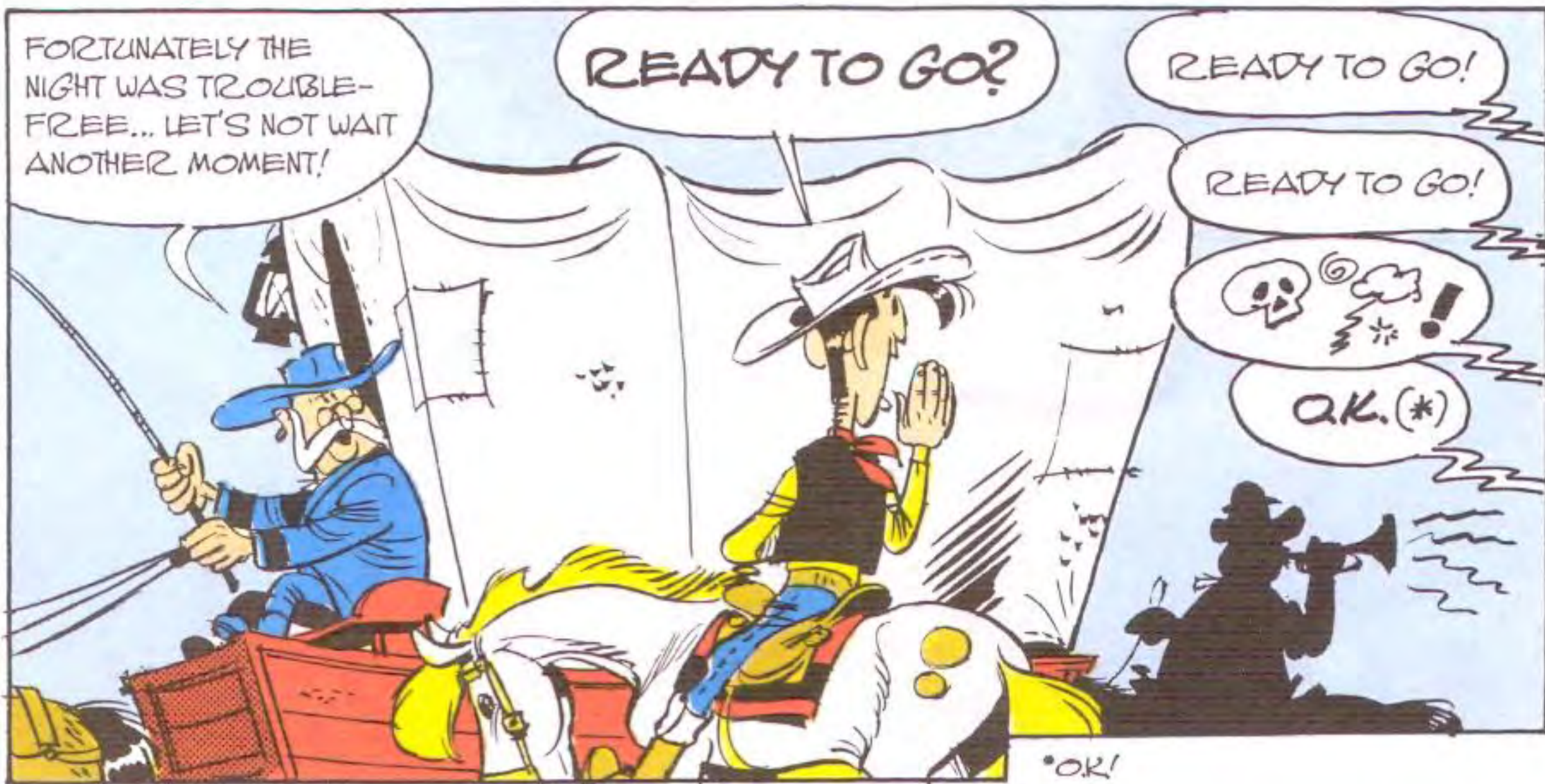
FORTUNATELY THE NIGHT WAS TROUBLE-FREE... LET'S NOT WAIT ANOTHER MOMENT!

READY TO GO?

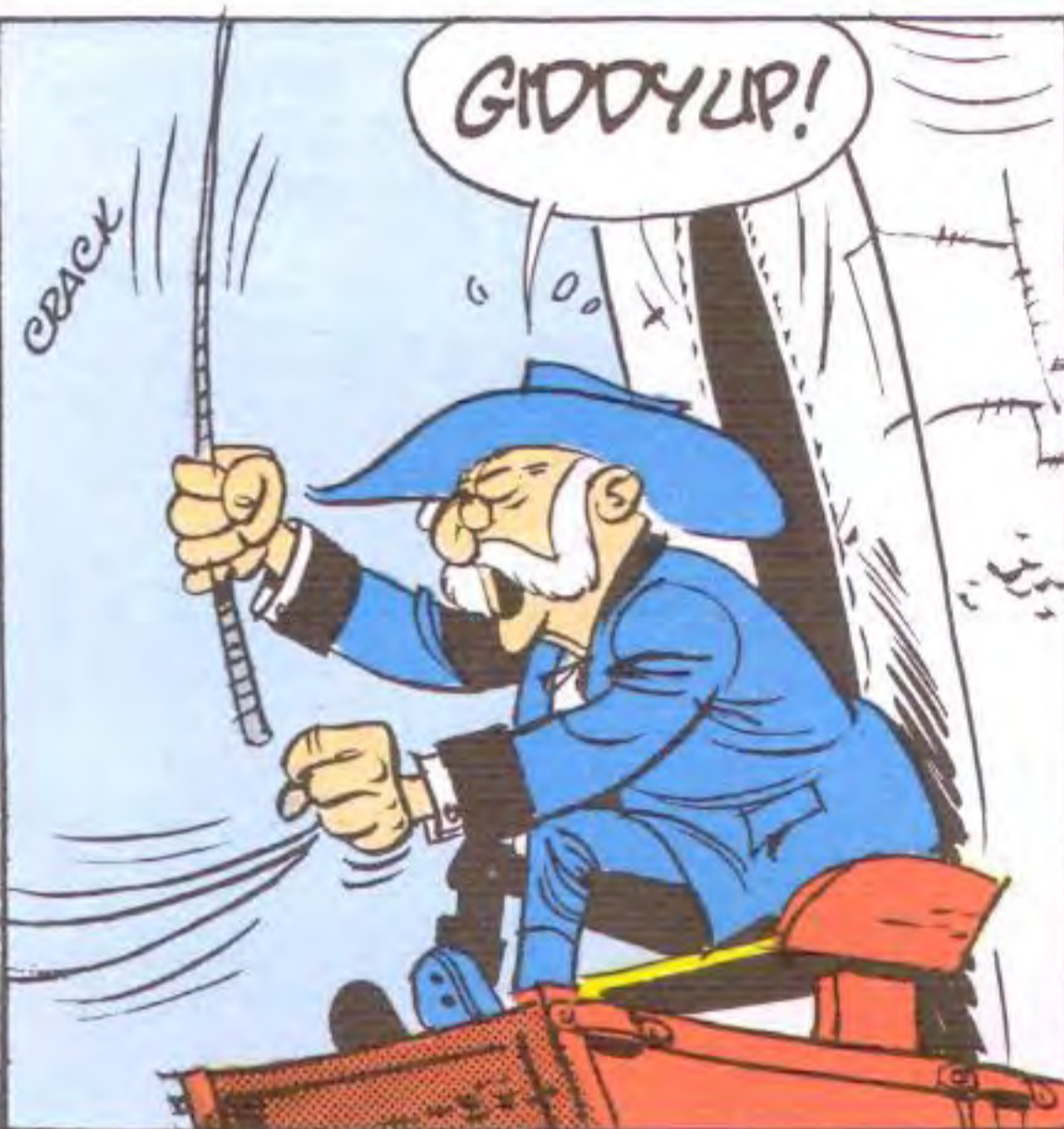
READY TO GO!

READY TO GO!

OK! (*)



GIDDYUP!



EEEEEEEEK!...

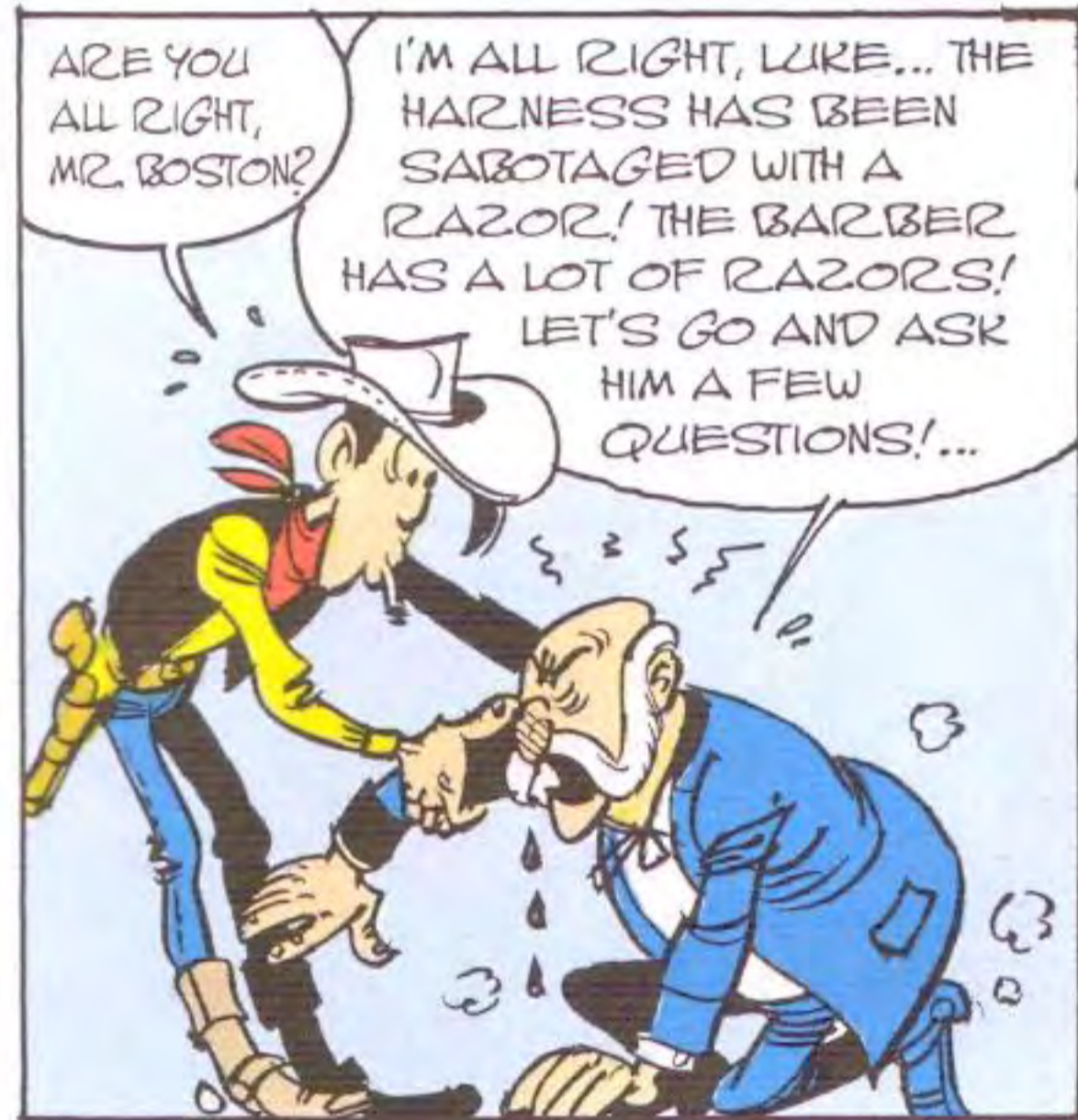


WHOA THERE!...



ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MR. BOSTON?

I'M ALL RIGHT, LIKE... THE HARNESS HAS BEEN SABOTAGED WITH A RAZOR! THE BARBER HAS A LOT OF RAZORS! LET'S GO AND ASK HIM A FEW QUESTIONS!...



MOMENTS LATER...

NO, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS! YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE TO ACCUSE ME OF SUCH A THING! NOM D'UN PETIT BONHOMME (*), THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!



(*) HOLY MOLY!

I DON'T THINK IT WAS HIM...

LET'S GO AND QUESTION UGLY BARROW, WHO'S ALREADY ANGRY TO BE AT THE BACK OF THE TRAIN, LET'S NOT FORGET THAT YOU'RE THE ONE AT THE FRONT OF THE CONVOY...



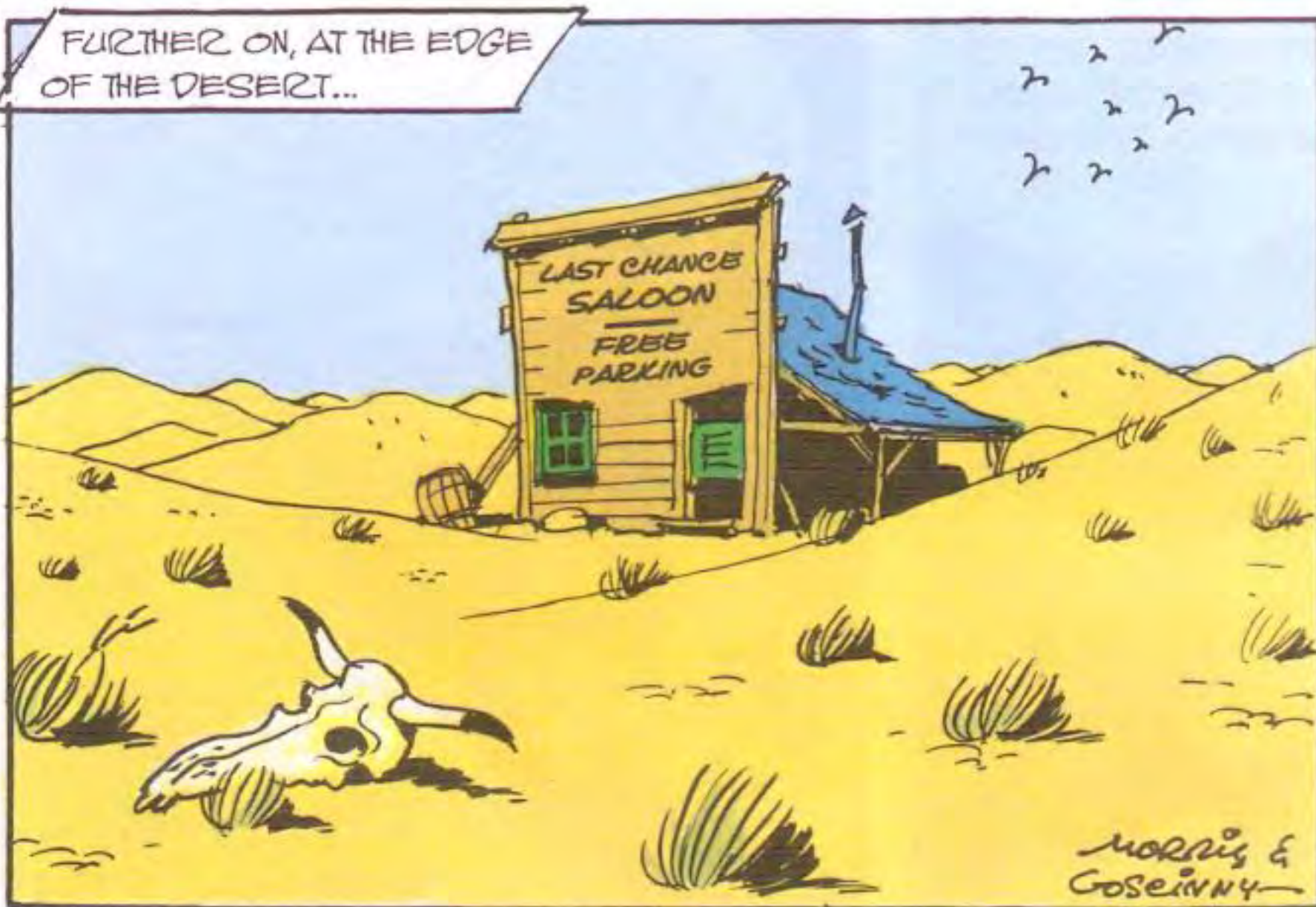
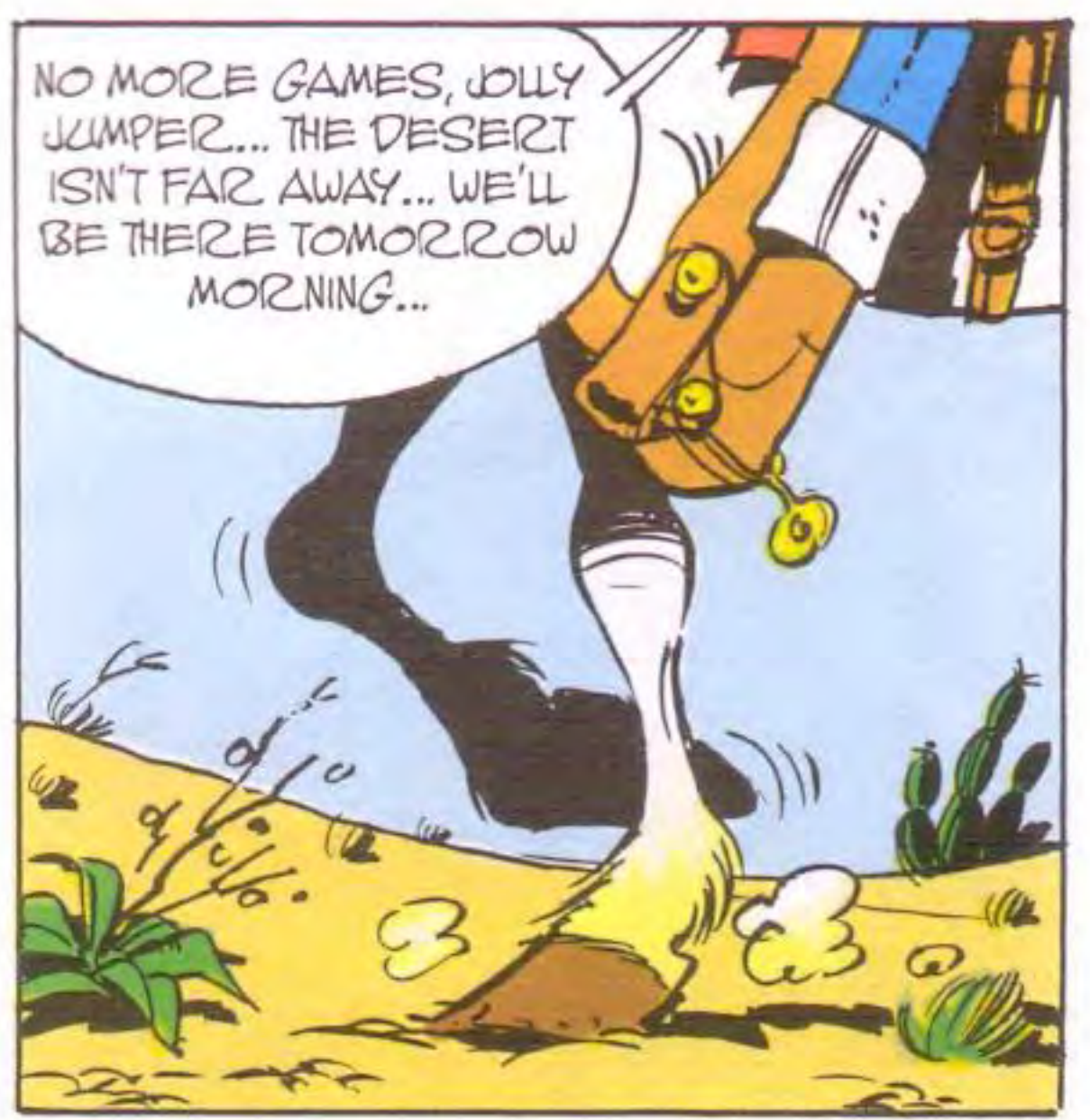
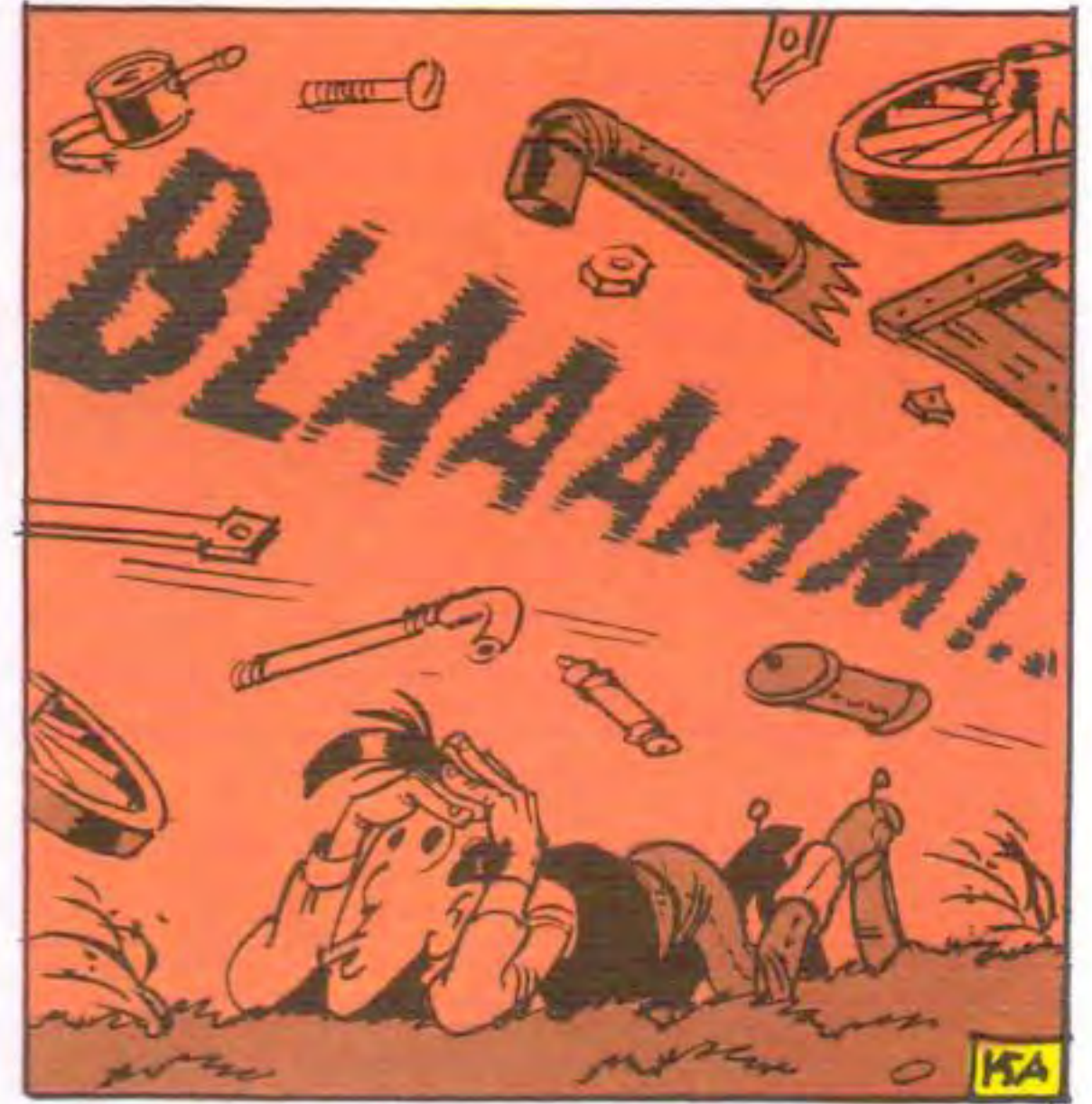
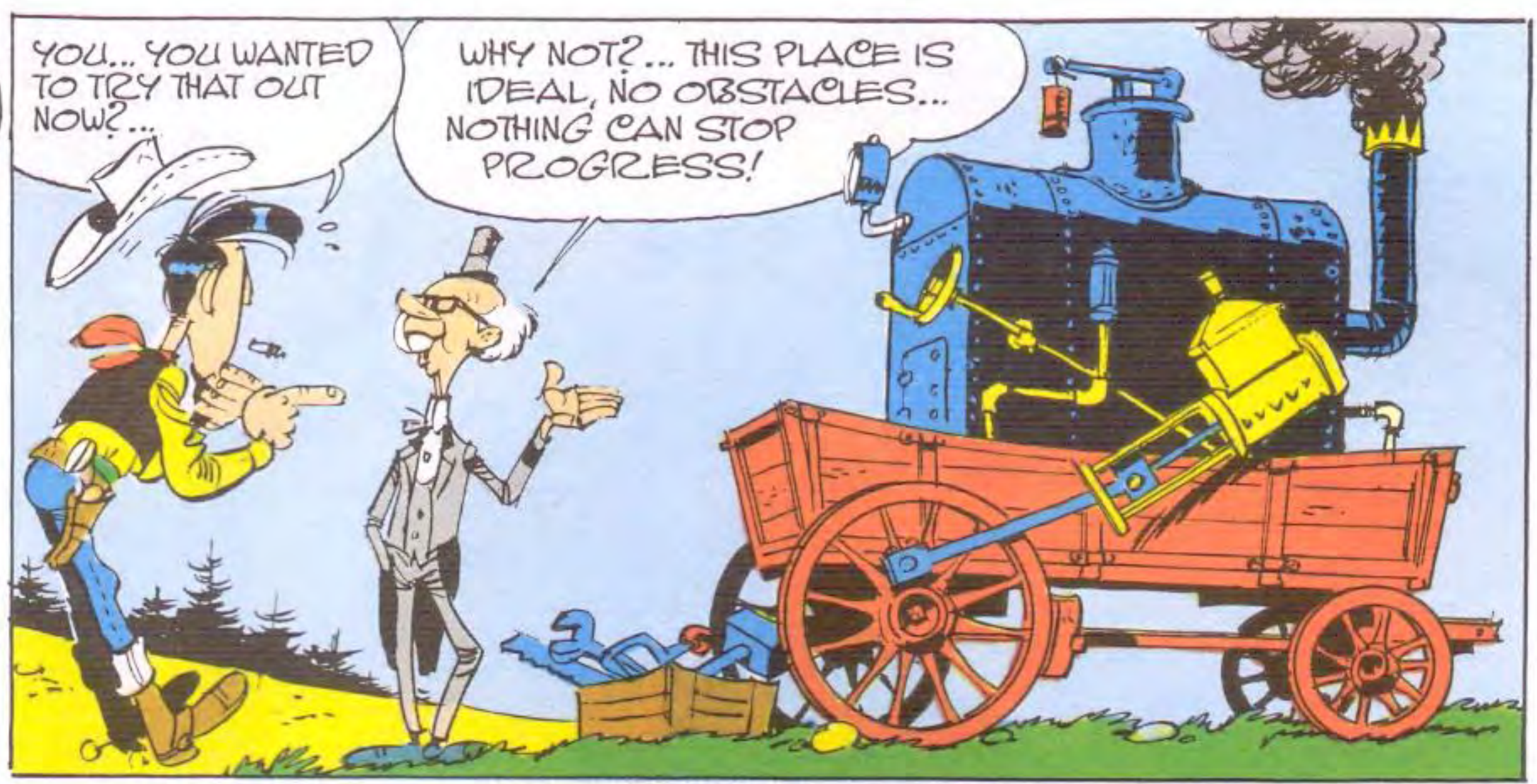
A FEW 6 * * * MINUTES LATER...

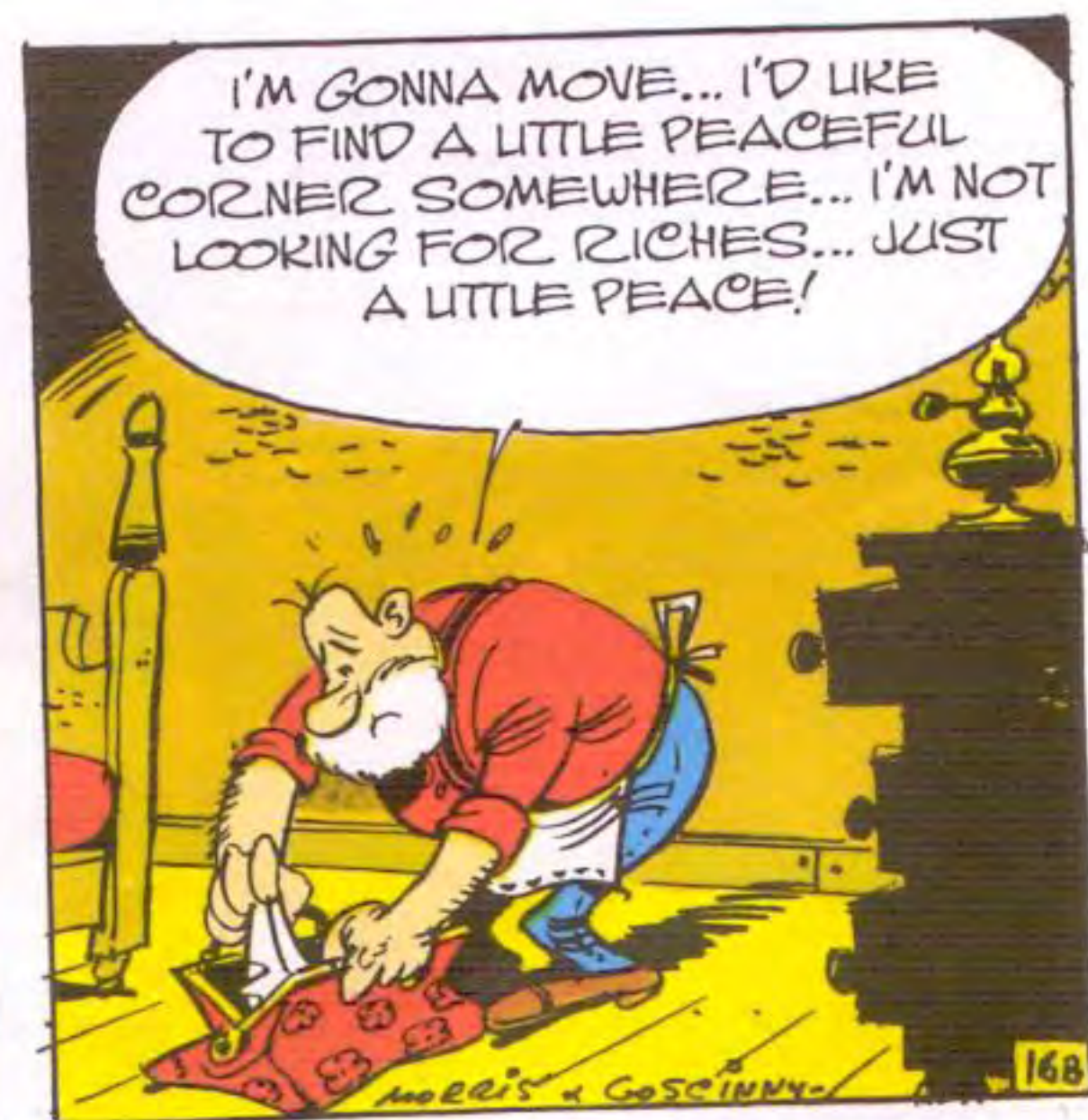
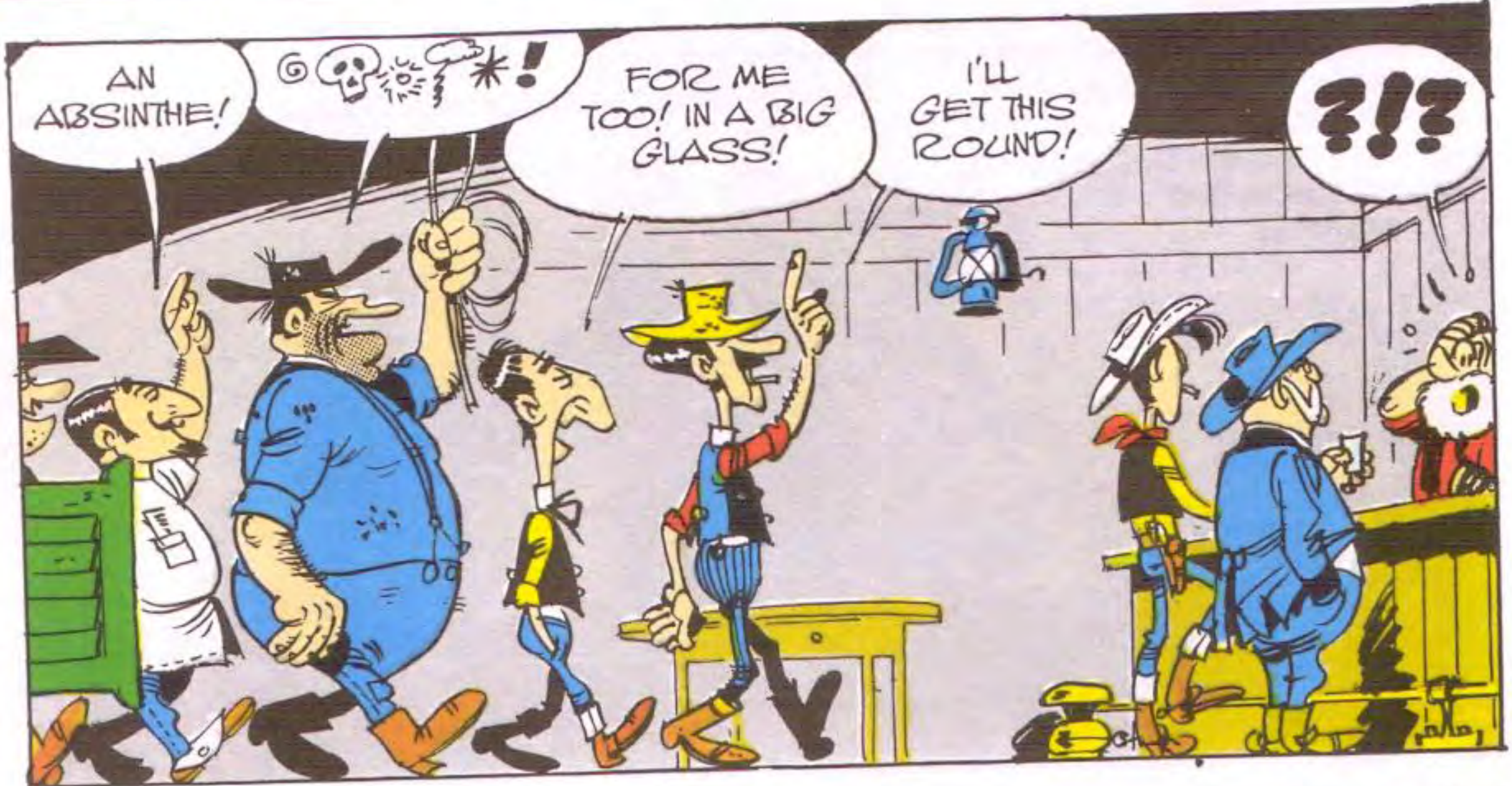
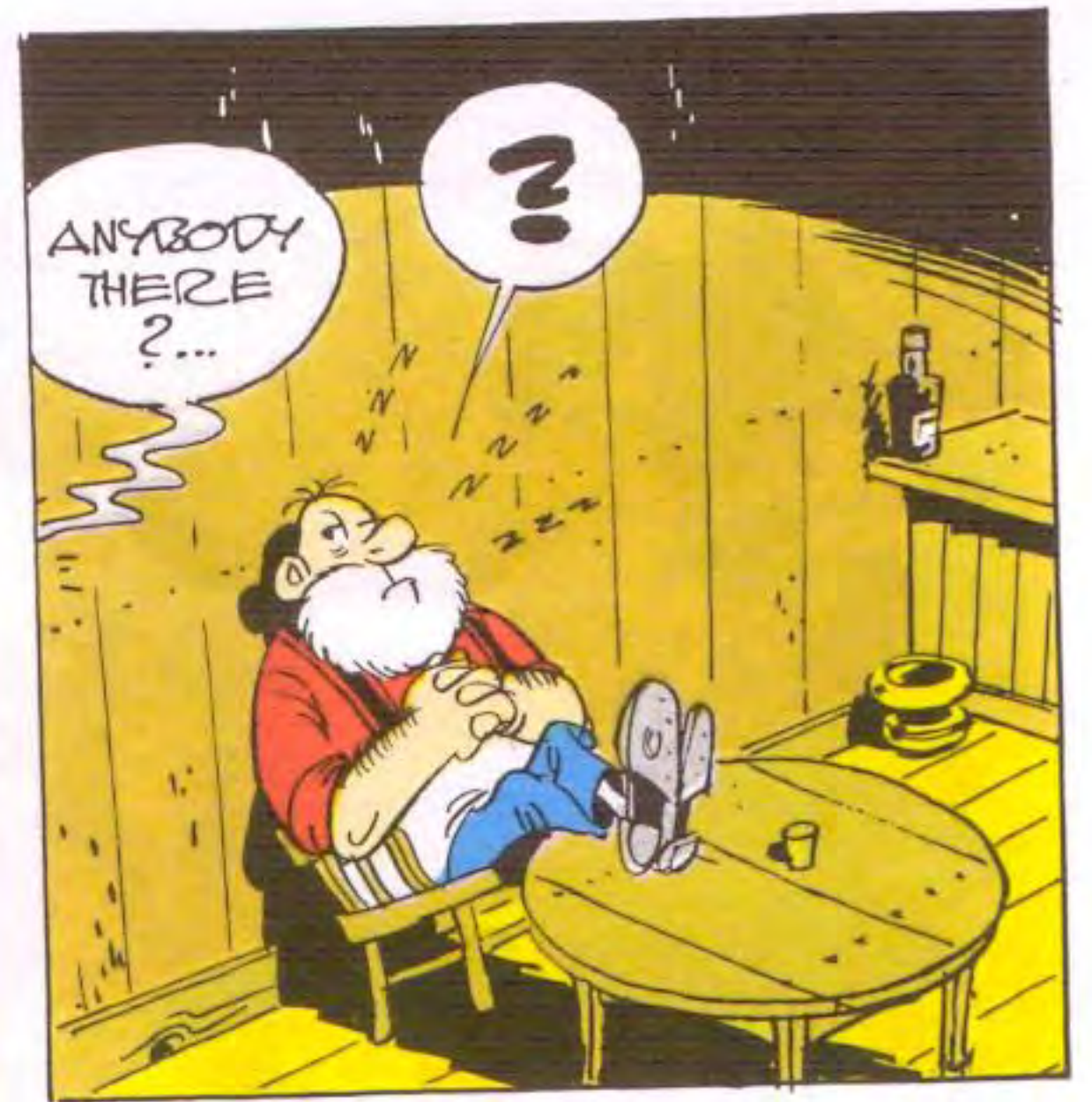
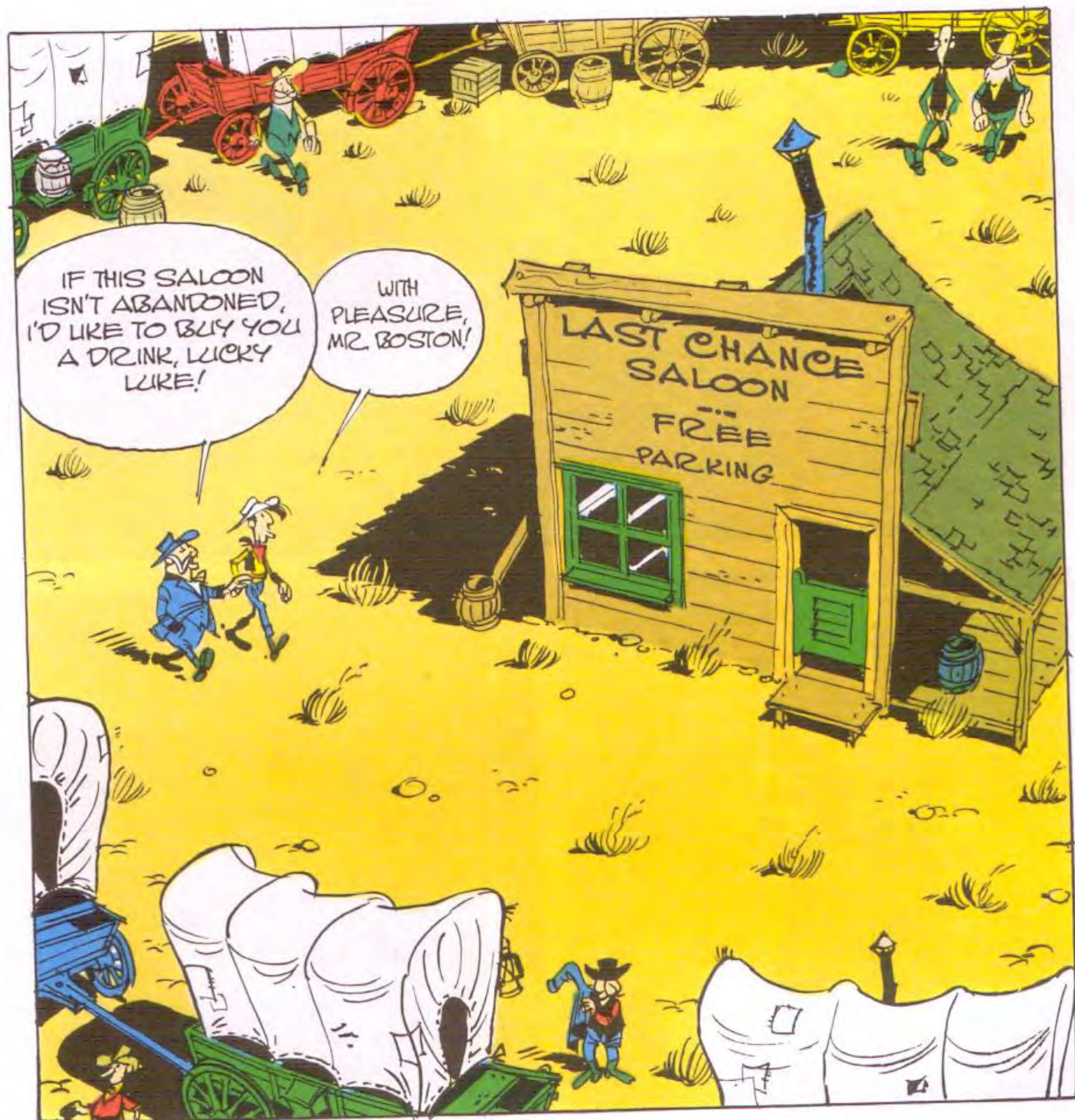
!!!

HE WAS QUITE CLEAR!...

YES, BUT THAT'S NOT SAYING MUCH...

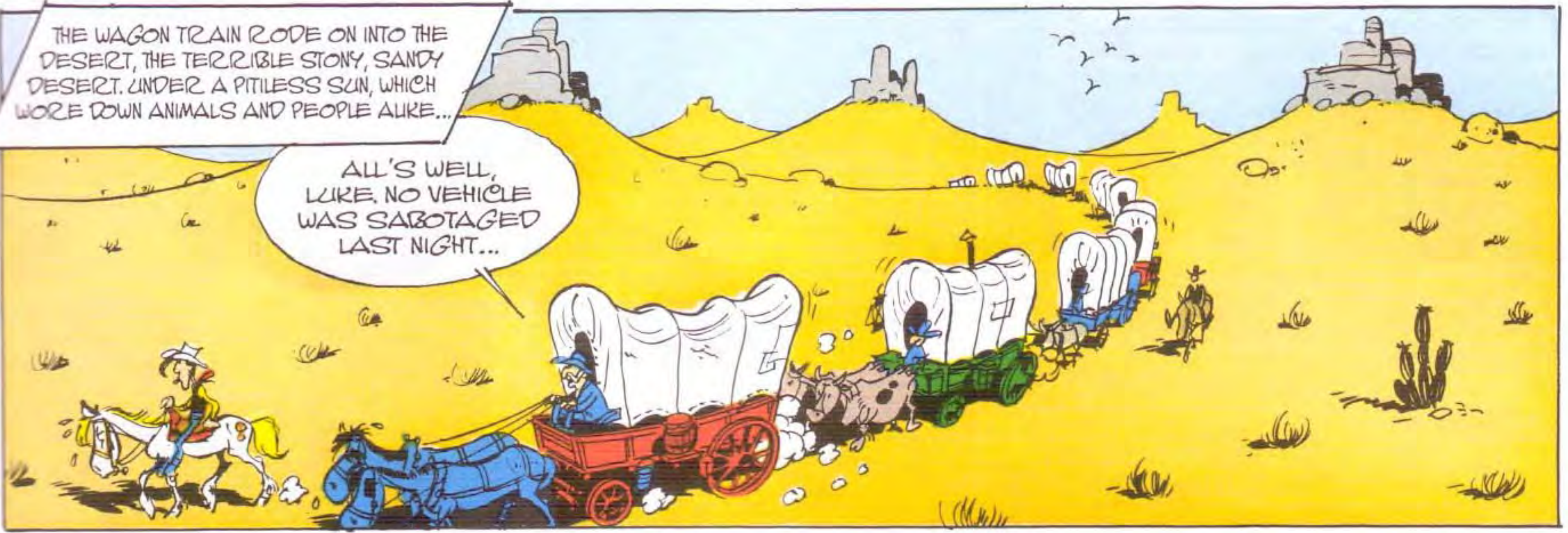






THE WAGON TRAIN RODE ON INTO THE DESERT, THE TERRIBLE STONY, SANDY DESERT. UNDER A PITILESS SUN, WHICH WORE DOWN ANIMALS AND PEOPLE Alike...

ALL'S WELL, LUKE. NO VEHICLE WAS SABOTAGED LAST NIGHT...



STOP! STOP! IT'S ABOMINABLE!

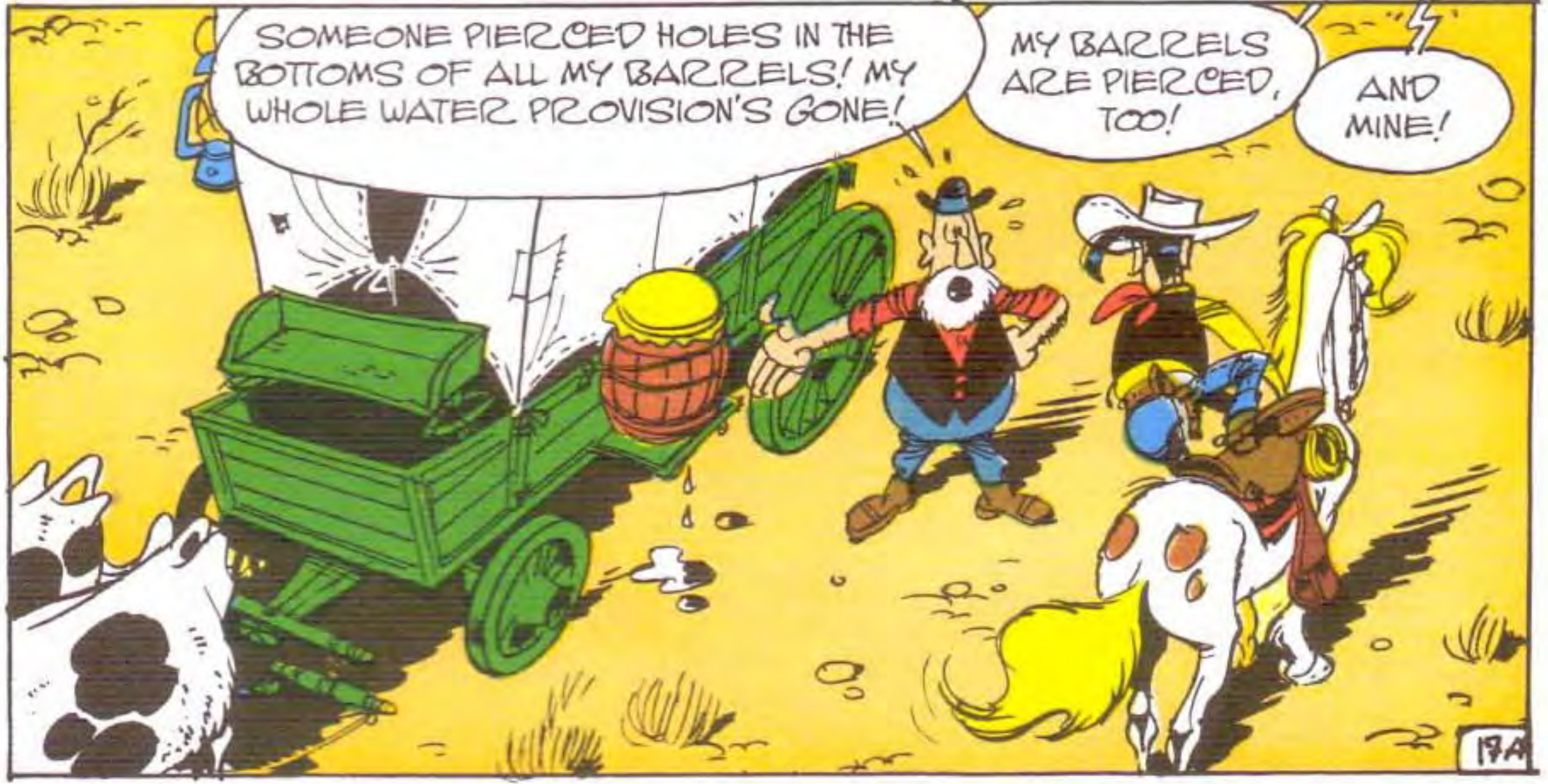
?



SOMEONE PIERCED HOLES IN THE BOTTOMS OF ALL MY BARRELS! MY WHOLE WATER PROVISION'S GONE!

MY BARRELS ARE PIERCED, TOO!

AND MINE!



THIS WAS DONE WHILE WE WERE IN THE SALOON YESTERDAY! WHO WASN'T IN THE SALOON?...

THE UNDERTAKER WASN'T!

SO WHAT!?

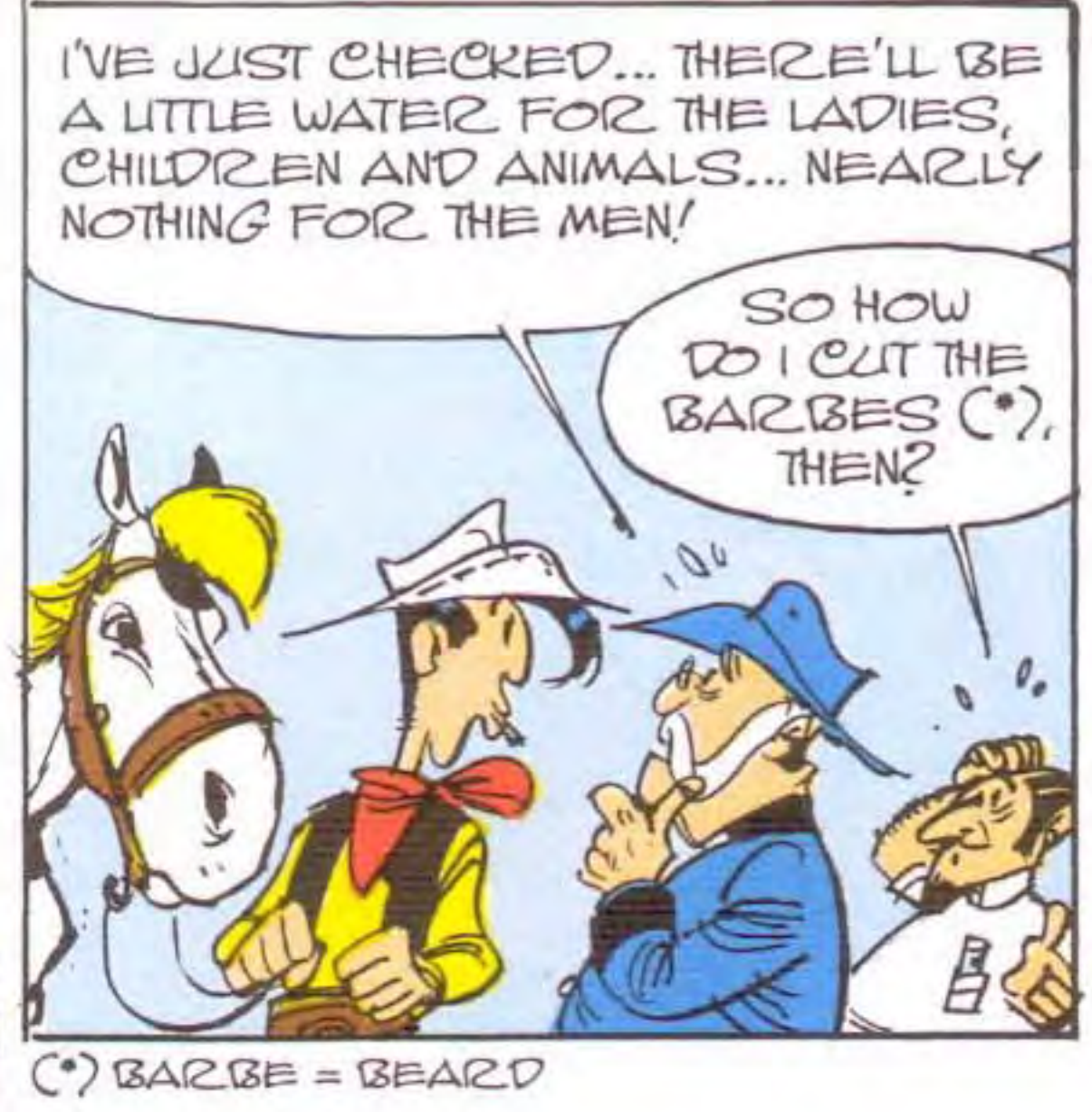


FOR ME, SALOONS ARE GREAT SUPPLIERS OF CUSTOMERS, WHETHER IN THE SHORT OR THE LONG TERM! BUT I WOULD ONLY SET FOOT IN ONE FOR PROFESSIONAL REASONS!

MORRIS & GOSWAMY

I'VE JUST CHECKED... THERE'LL BE A LITTLE WATER FOR THE LADIES, CHILDREN AND ANIMALS... NEARLY NOTHING FOR THE MEN!

SO HOW DO I CUT THE BARBES (*), THEN?



(*) BARBE = BEARD

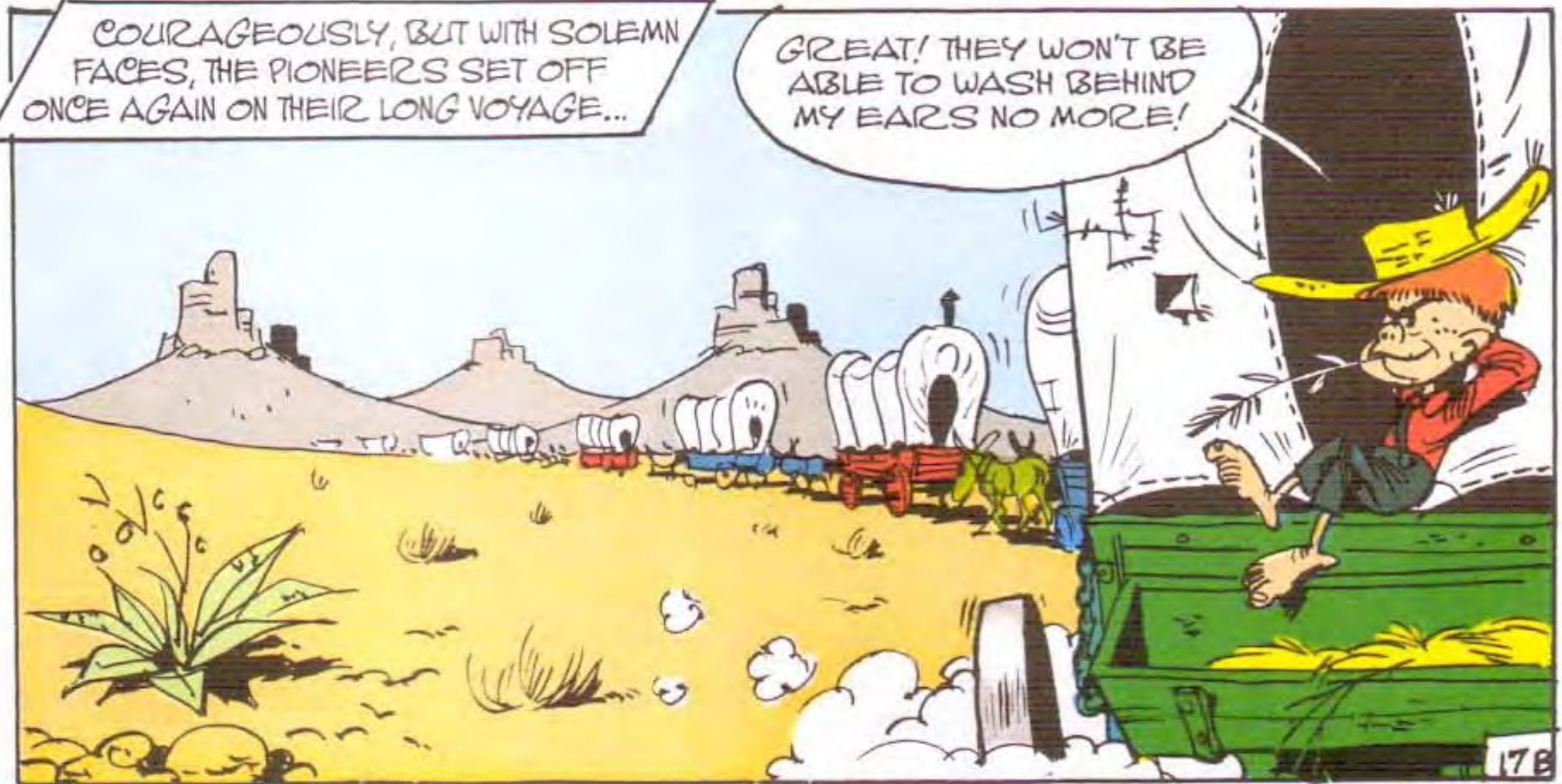
LISTEN, ALL OF YOU! WISDOM WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE TURN AROUND NOW, BUT YOU HAVE VOWED TO CONTINUE STRAIGHT ON TO CALIFORNIA! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

CARRY ON!

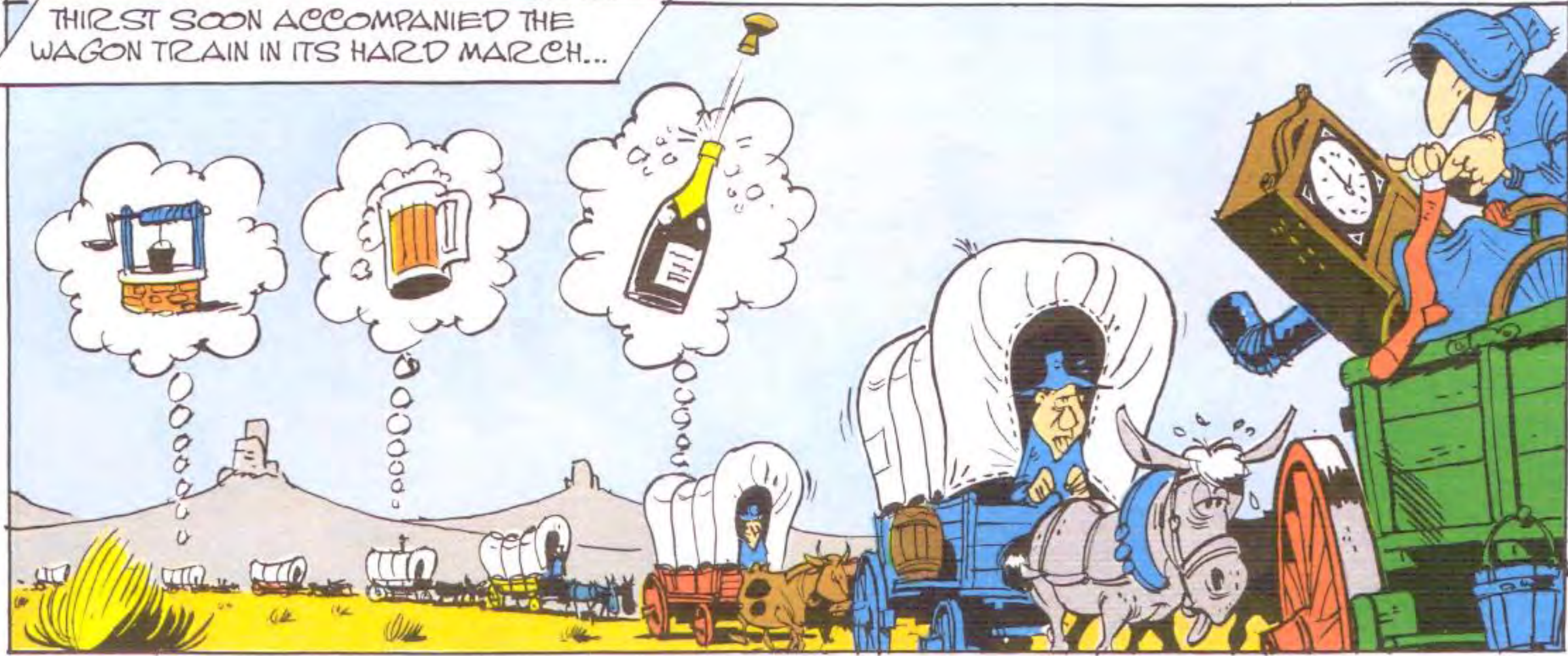


COURAGEOUSLY, BUT WITH SOLEMN FACES, THE PIONEERS SET OFF ONCE AGAIN ON THEIR LONG VOYAGE...

GREAT! THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO WASH BEHIND MY EARS NO MORE!



THIRST SOON ACCOMPANIED THE WAGON TRAIN IN ITS HARD MARCH...



STOP!
WE'LL STOP HERE FOR A WHILE. DON'T UNHITCH YOUR ANIMALS! GIVE THEM THEIR WATER AND FEED RATIONS!



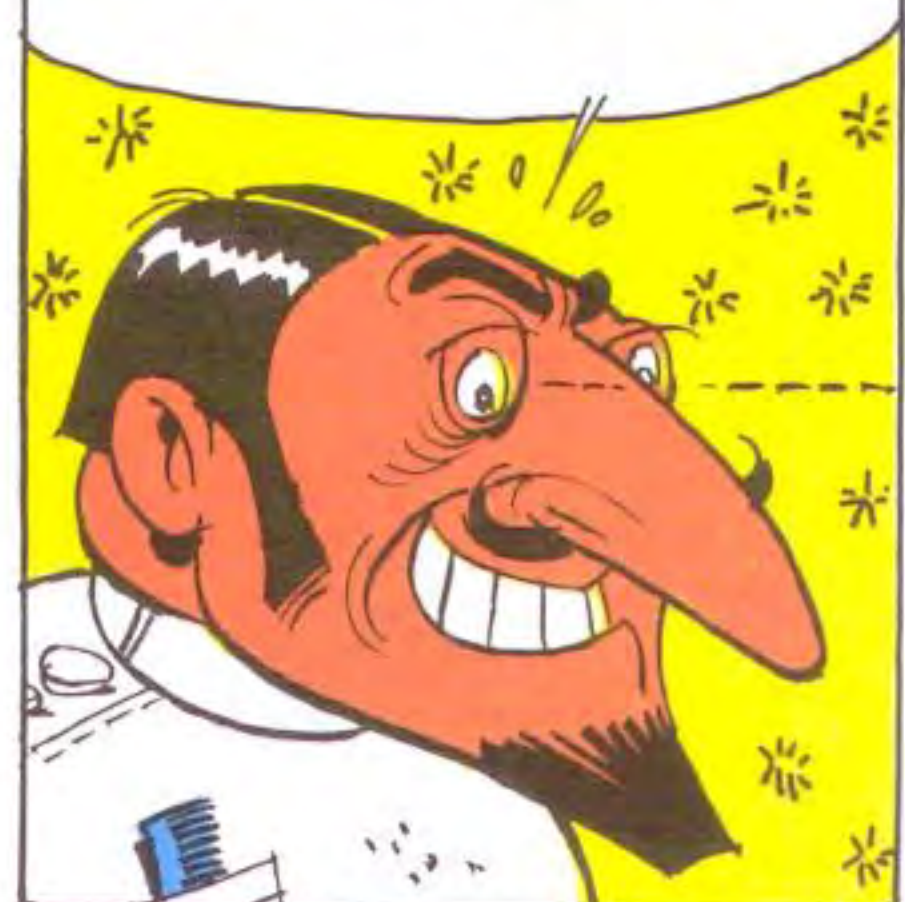
A GOOD WAY TO FIGHT THIRST IS TO SUCK PEBBLES...

AND WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO FIND PEBBLES HERE? THERE'S ONLY SAND AND ROCK!

YOU'RE RIGHT... IF ONLY THERE WAS A STREAM, WE'D BE SAVED... THERE'S ALWAYS A BUNCH OF PEBBLES AT THE BOTTOM OF STREAMS...



AN OUTDOOR CAFÉ! I SEE AN OUTDOOR CAFÉ!!!



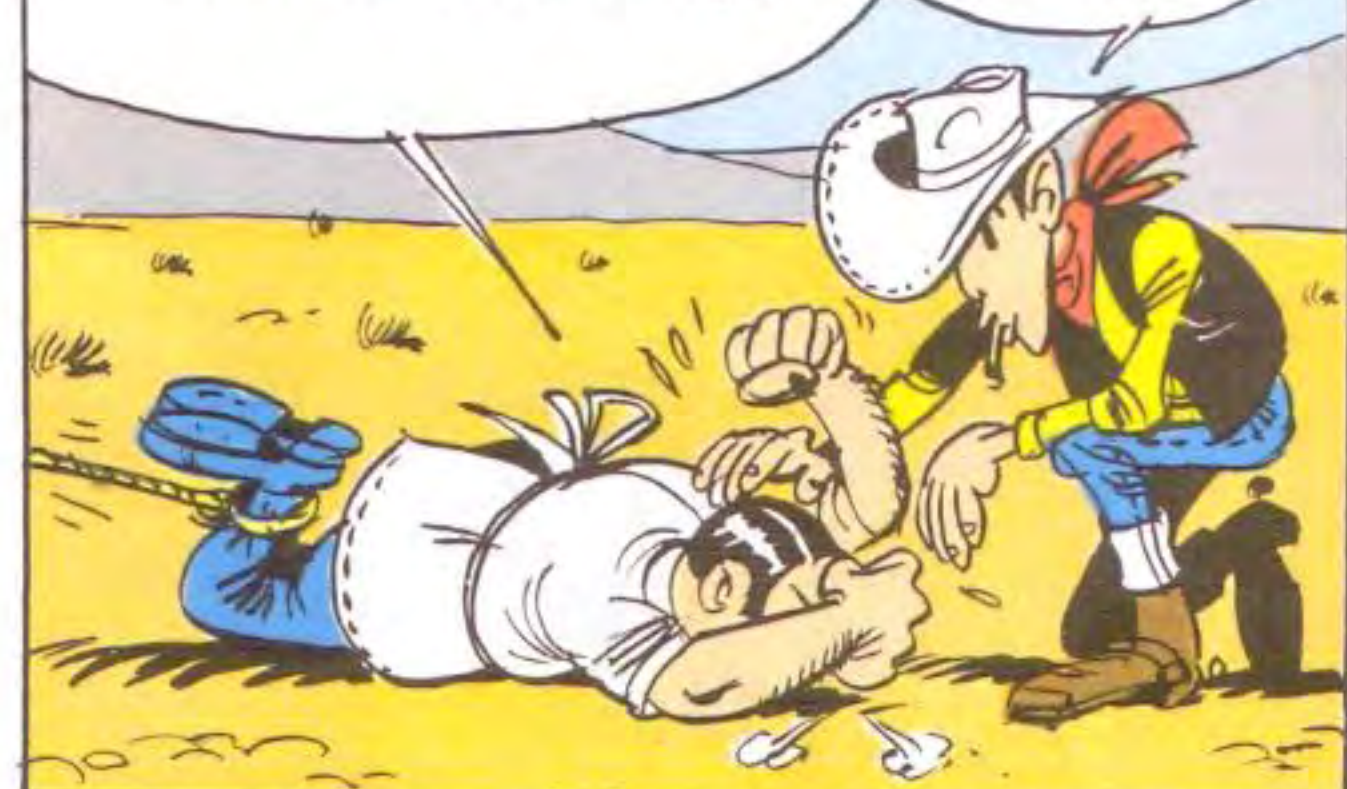
GARÇON! A VERMOUTH-CASSIS!!

GET BACK HERE, BARBER!



IT WAS JUST A MIRAGE!!! I THOUGHT I SAW AN OPEN AIR CAFÉ ON THE BANKS OF THE SEINE!... BOUHOUHOU (°)

IT'S ALL RIGHT, BARBER, IT'S OKAY!...

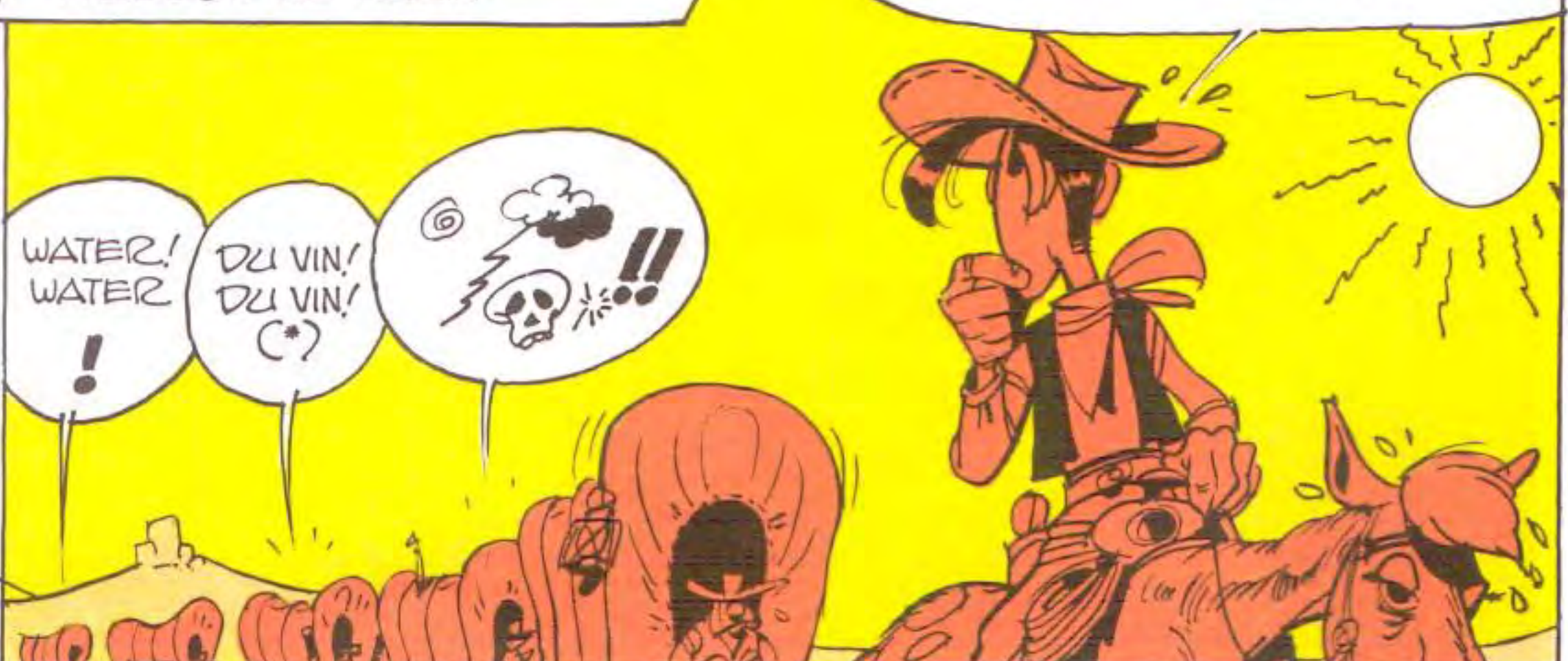


THE VOYAGE CONTINUED, WHILE A WIND OF MADNESS SWEEPED THROUGH THE TRAIN.

I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO CALM THEM DOWN!...

WATER! WATER!

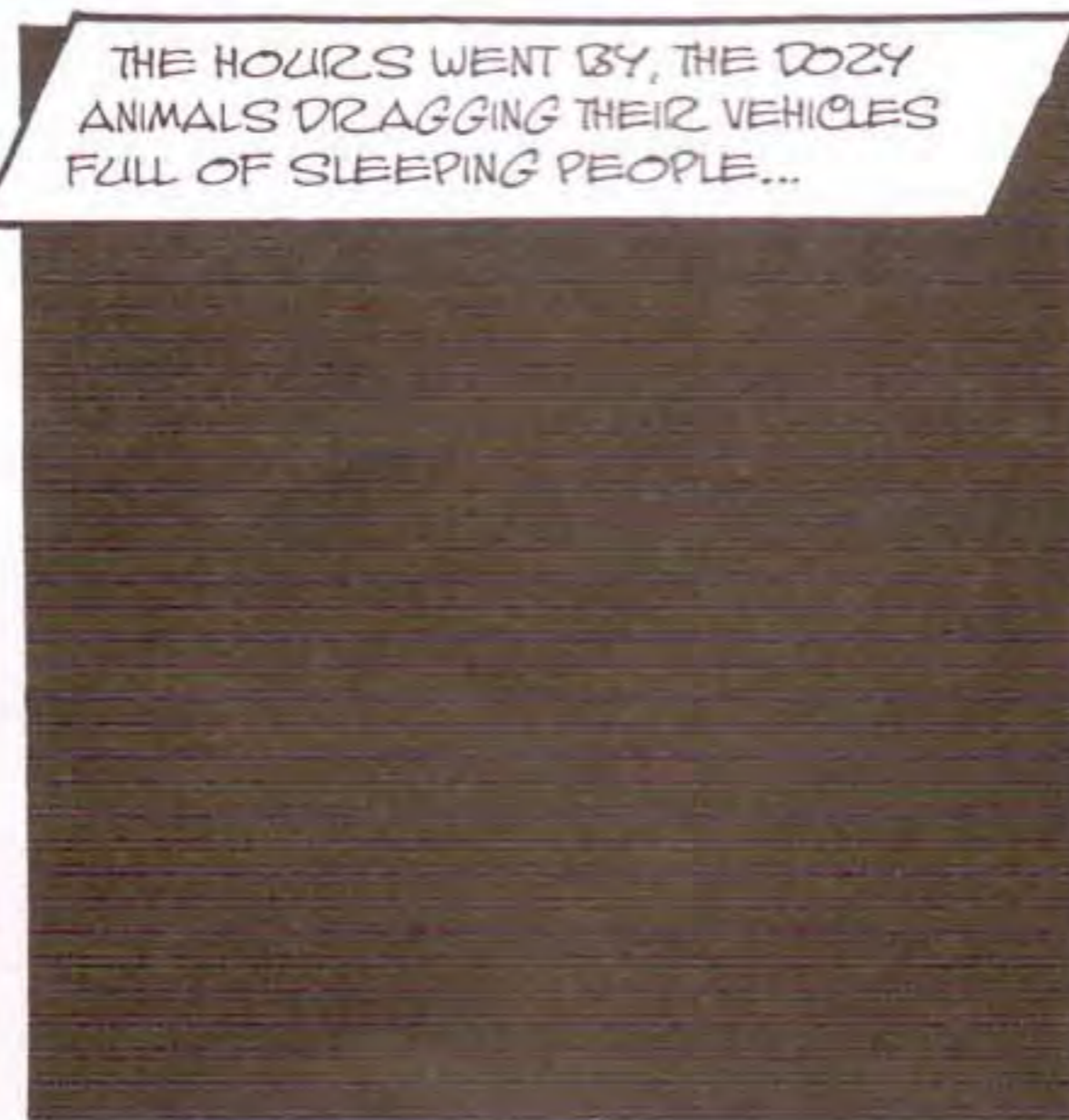
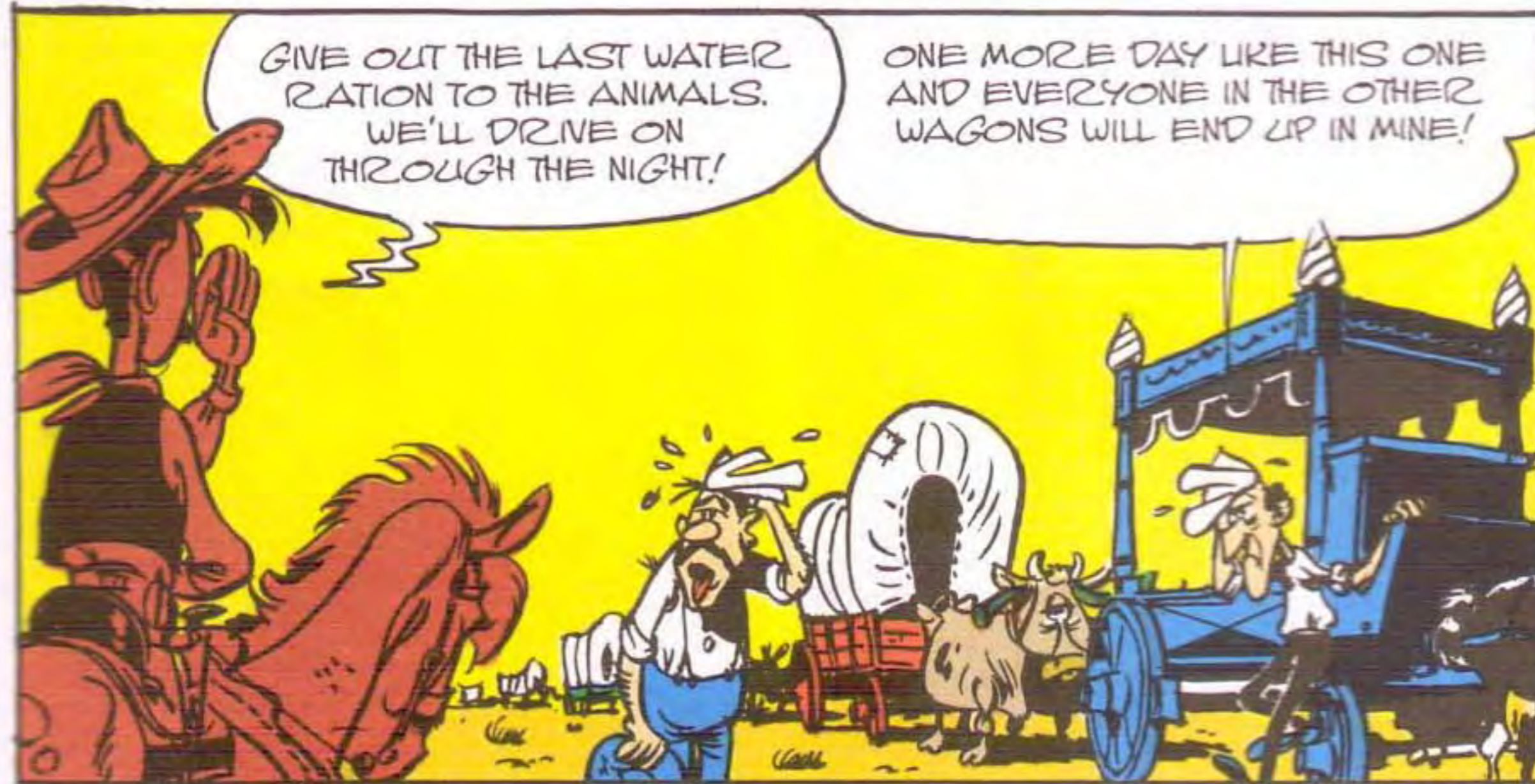
DU VIN! DU VIN! (°)



(°) BOOHOOHOO!

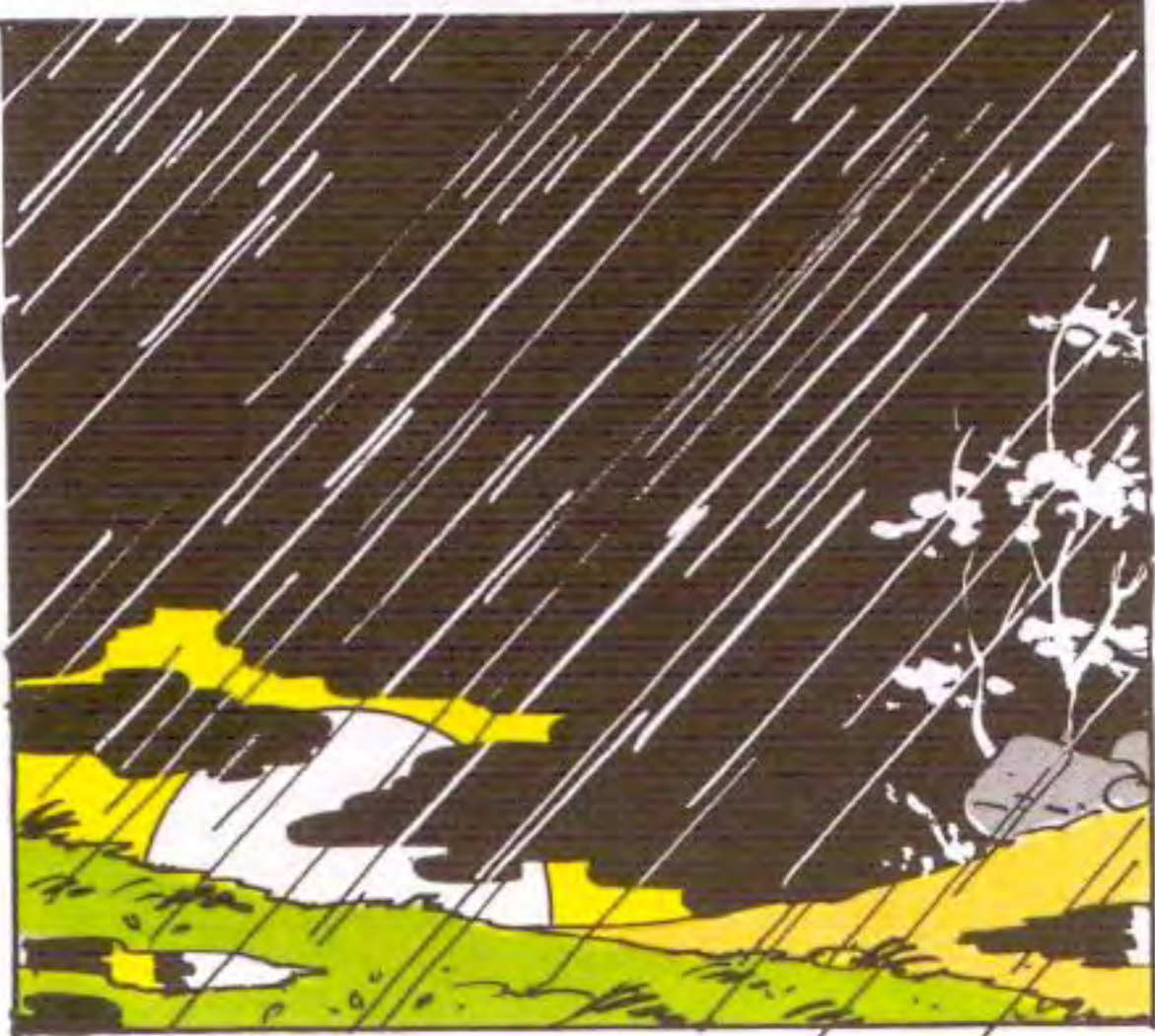
(°) WINE! WINE!

—Lafayette & Co RINNY-188



(°) IT'S RAINING!

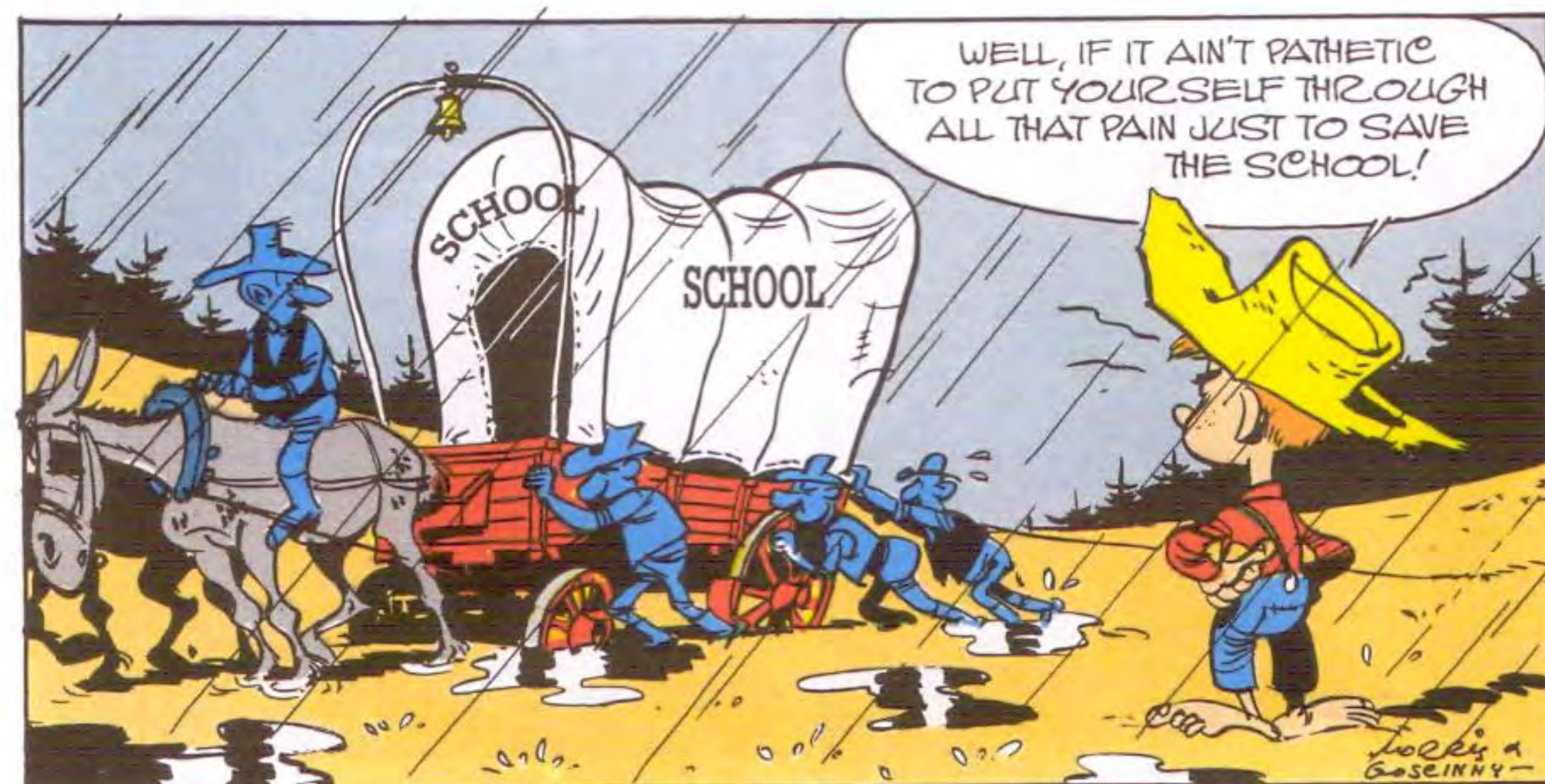
A WEAK SUN TRIED IN VAIN TO SLIP SOME RAYS THROUGH THE DARK, WATER-FILLED CLOUDS...

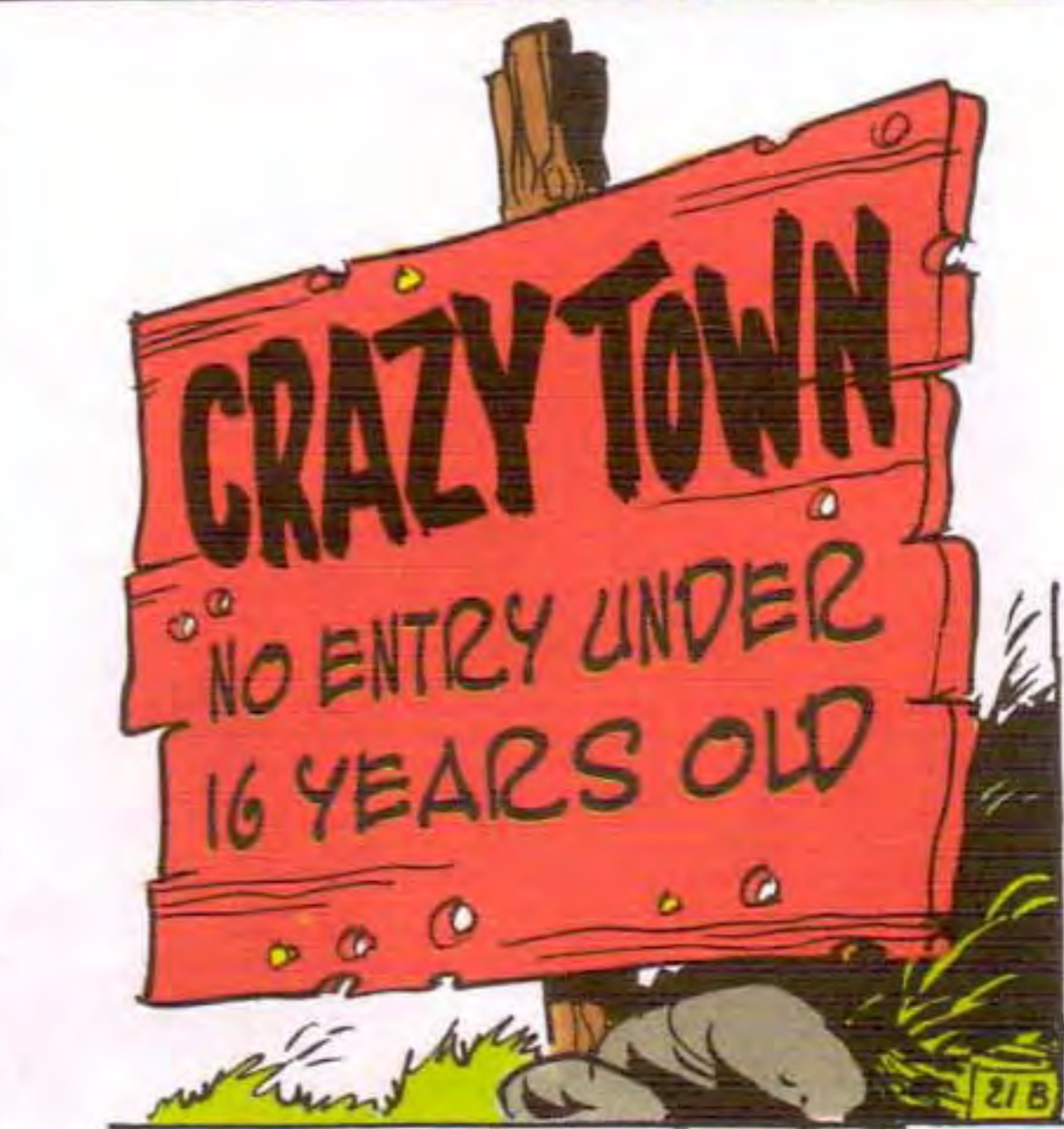
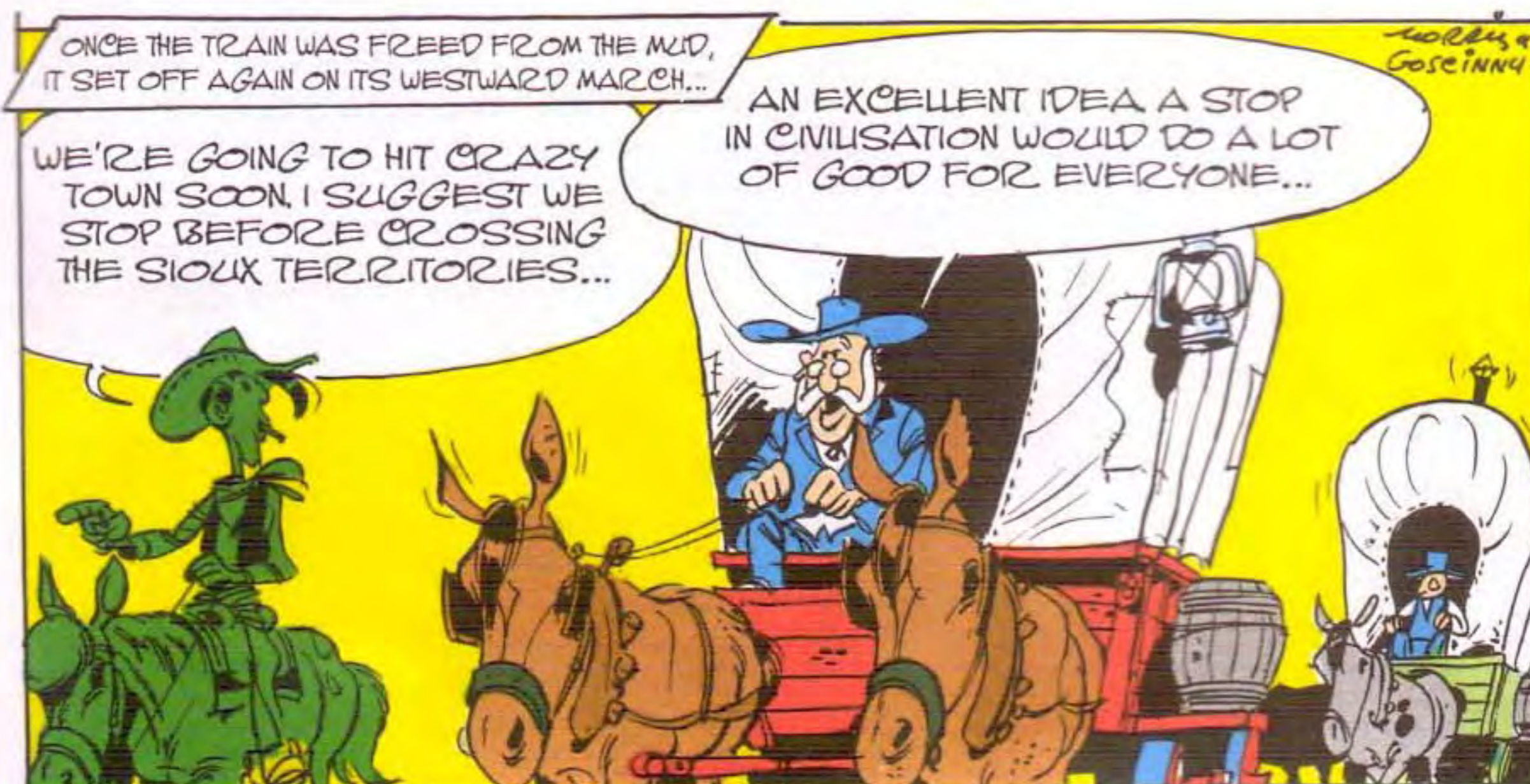
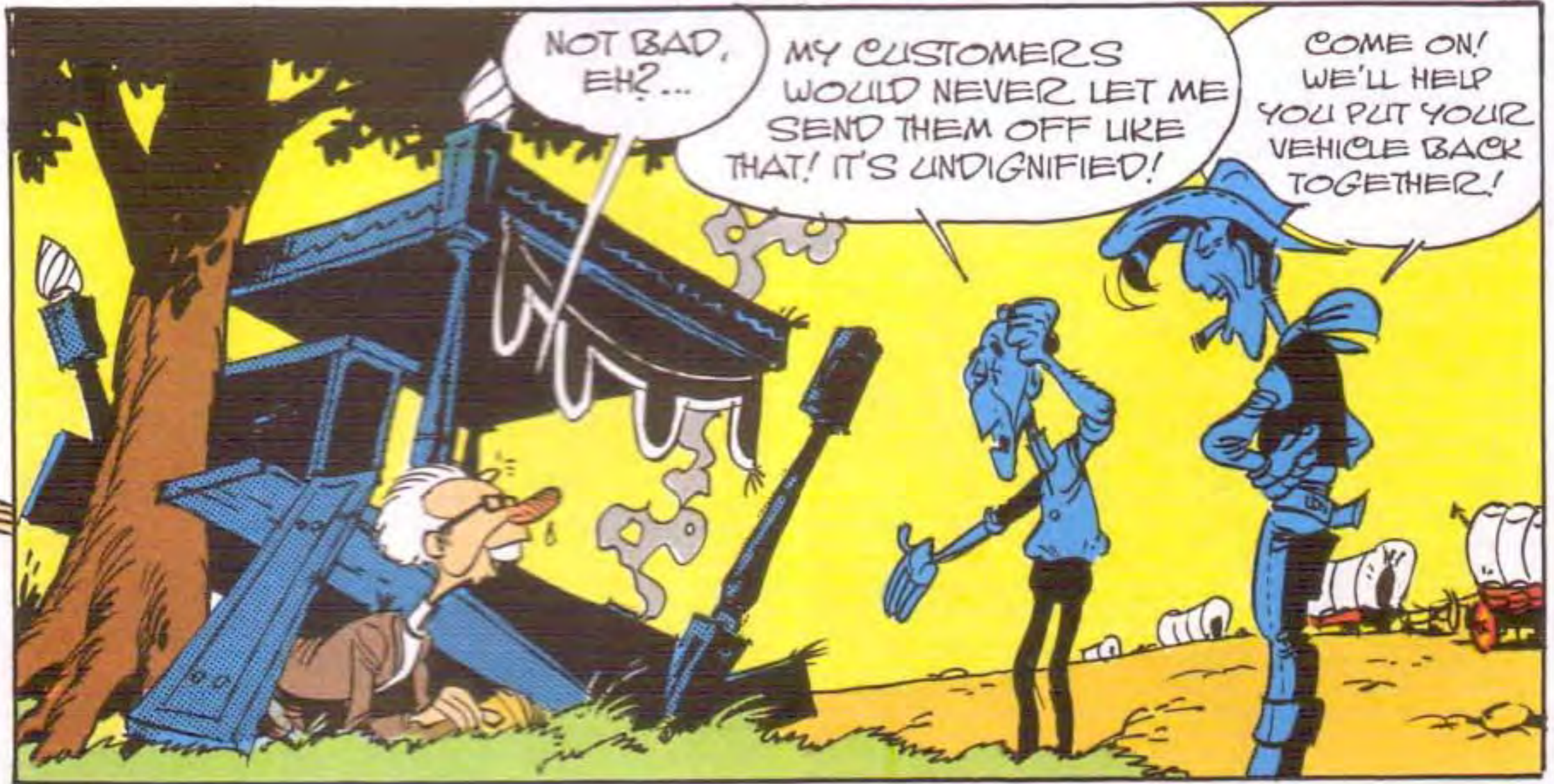
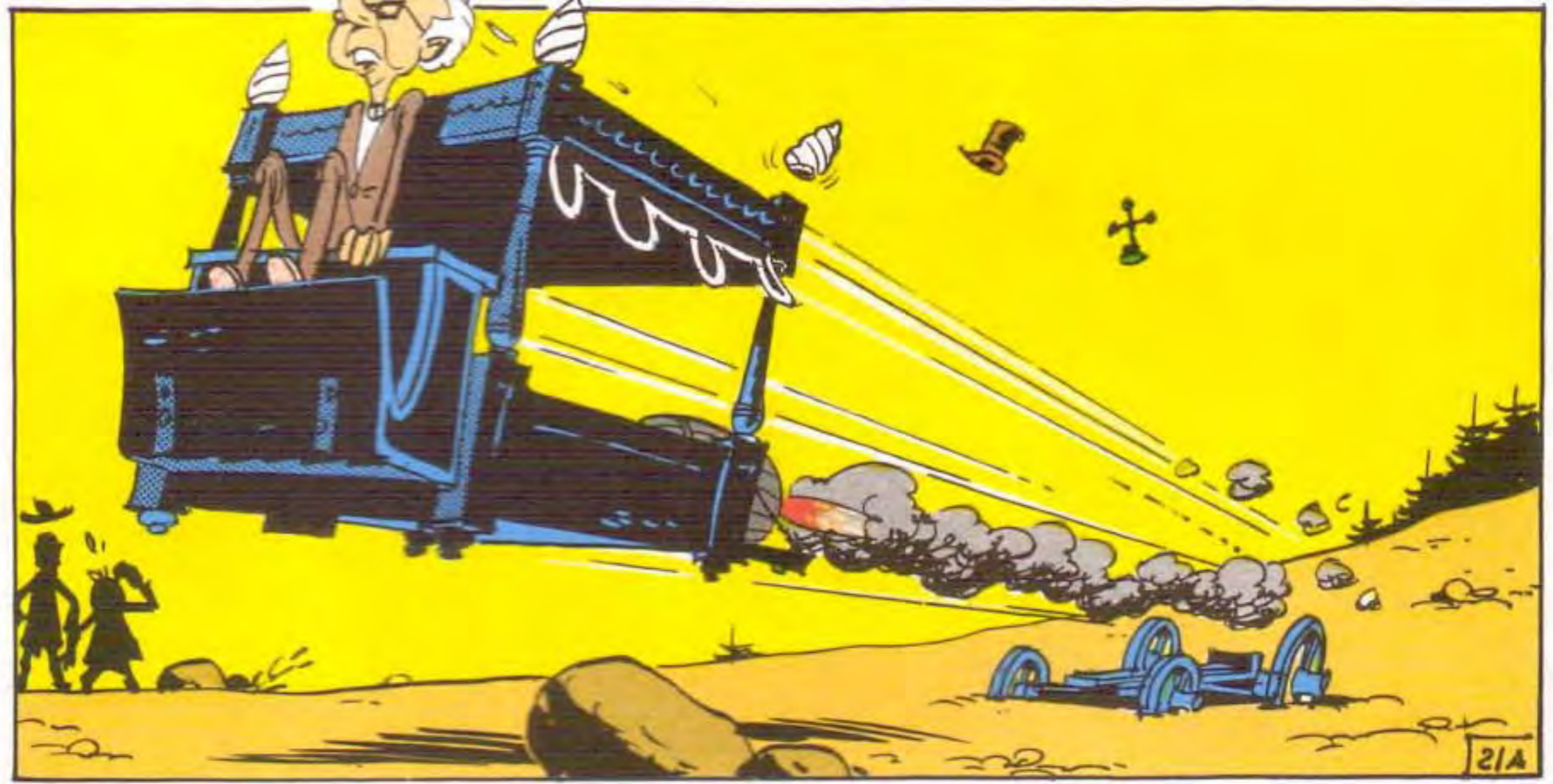
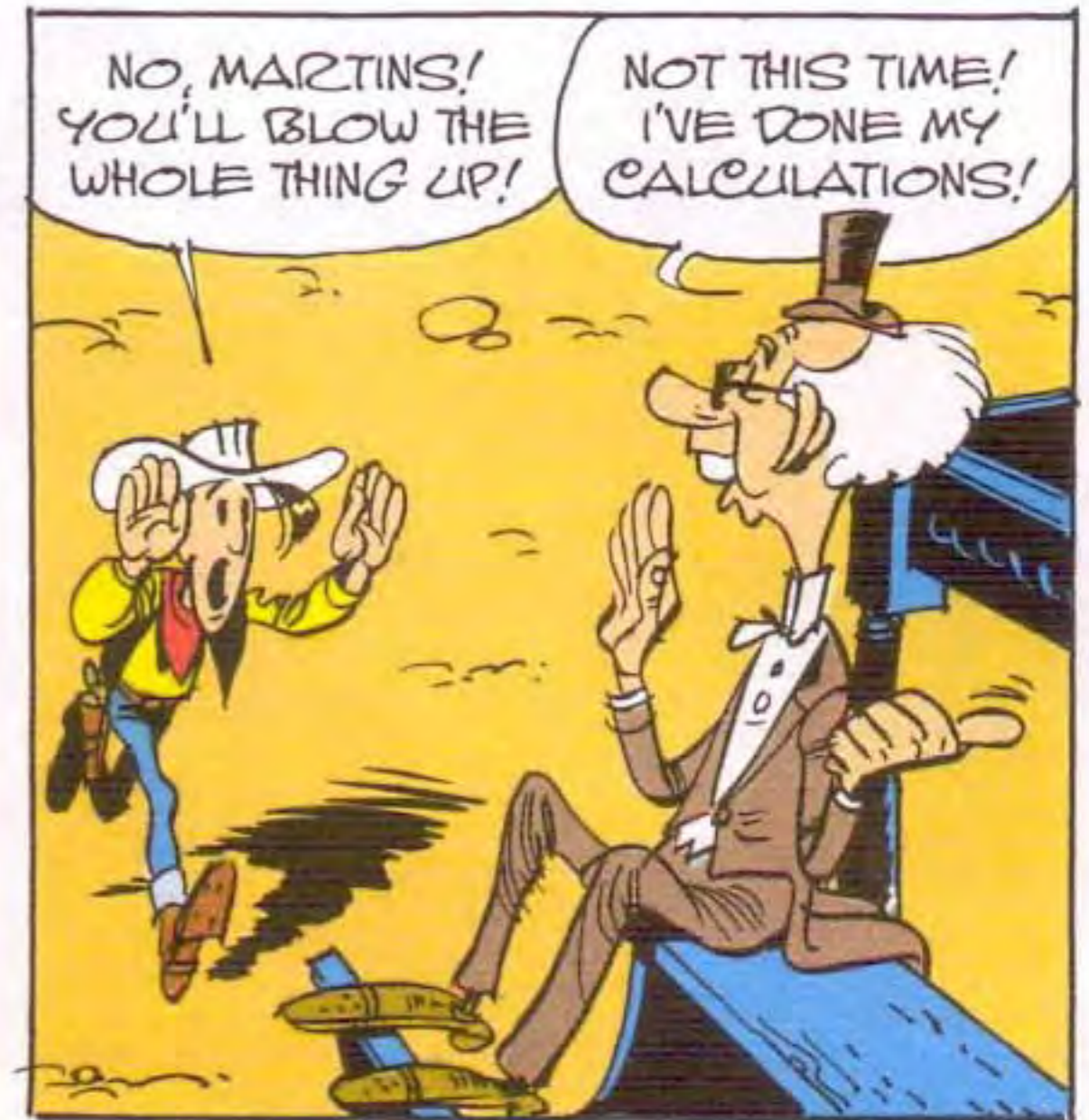


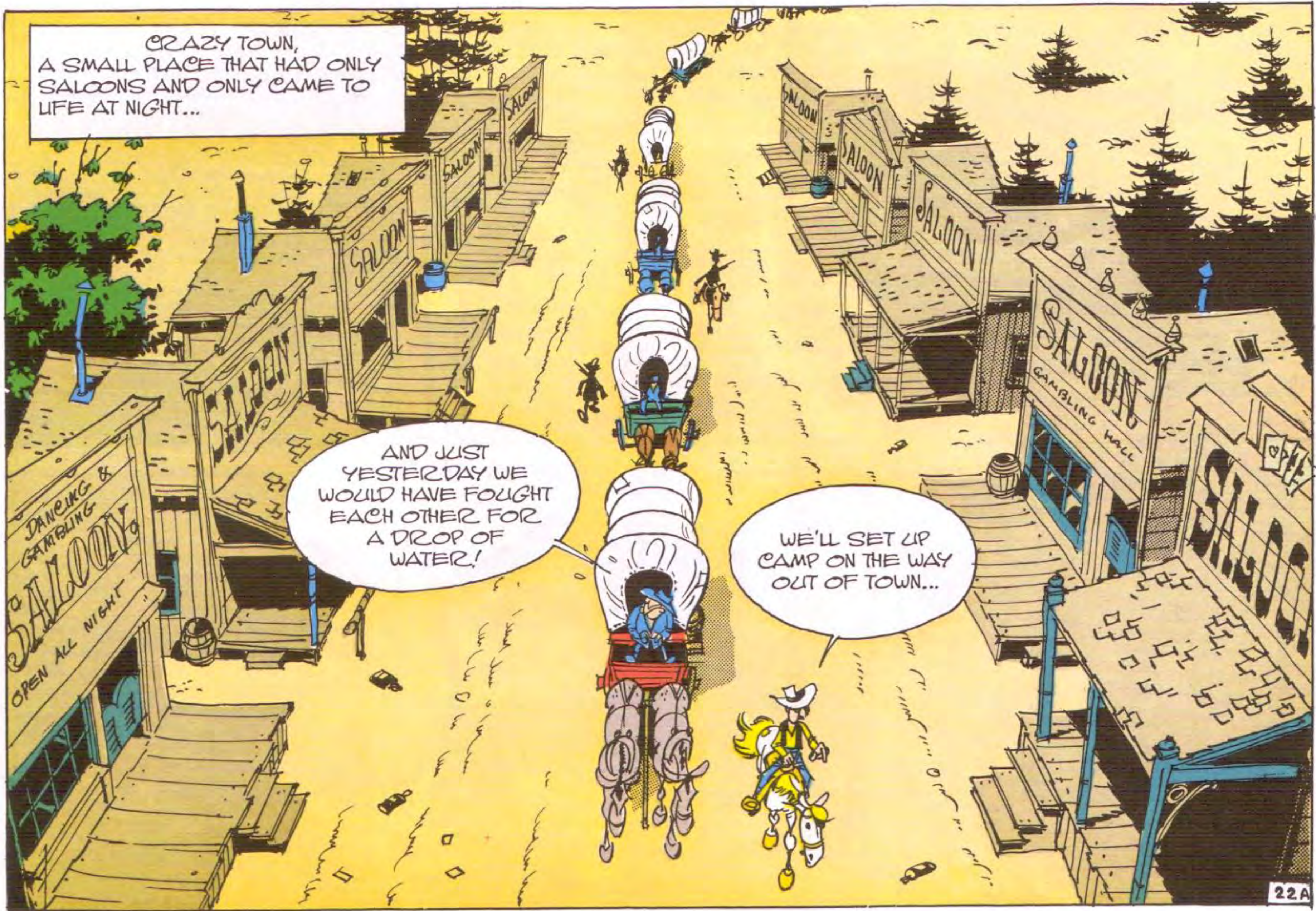
WE'RE OUT OF THE DESERT, LUCKY LUKE!... YOUR TOUGHNESS SAVED US!



ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH! WE'RE QUITE ALL RIGHT NOW, RAIN!...



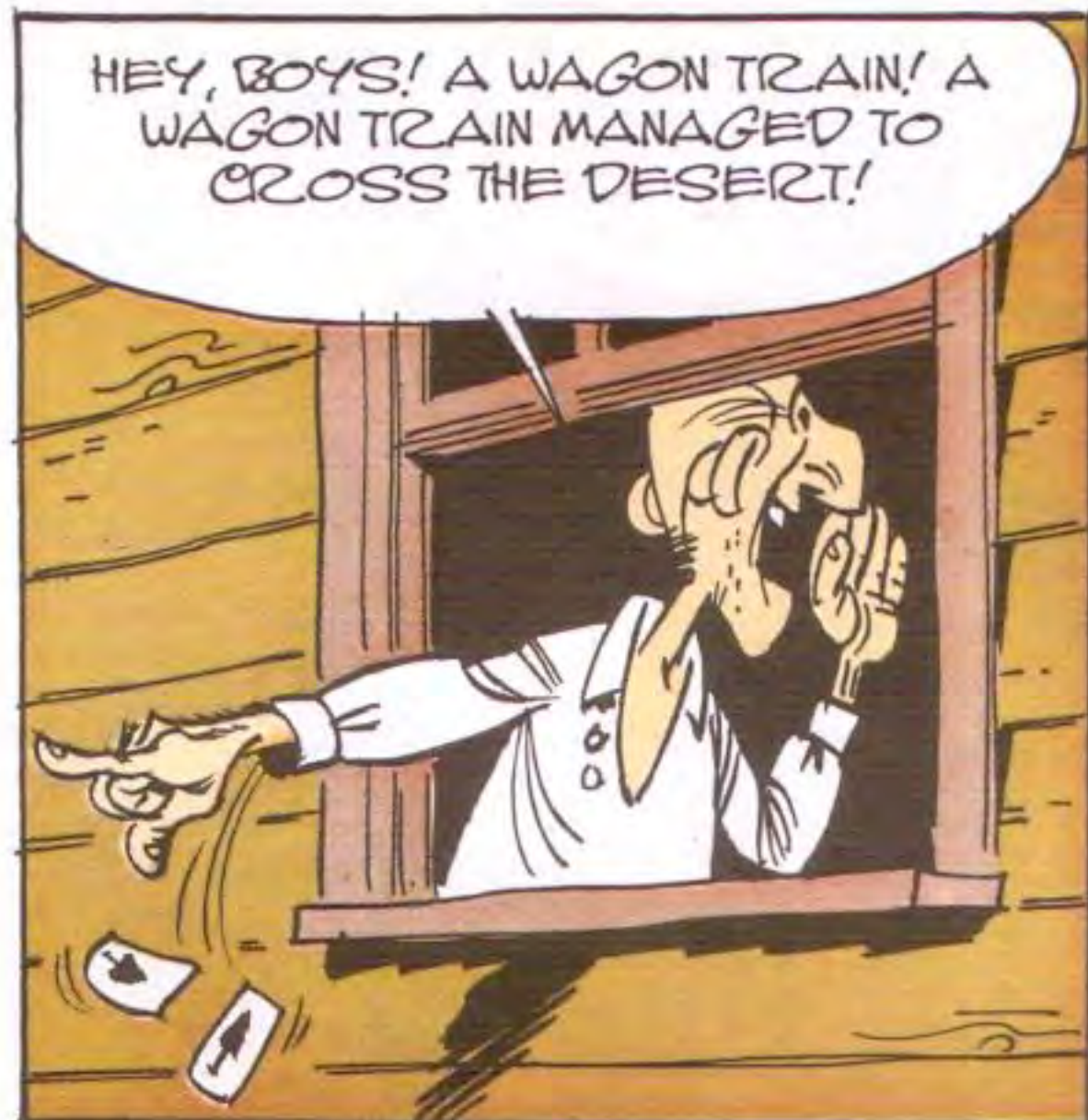




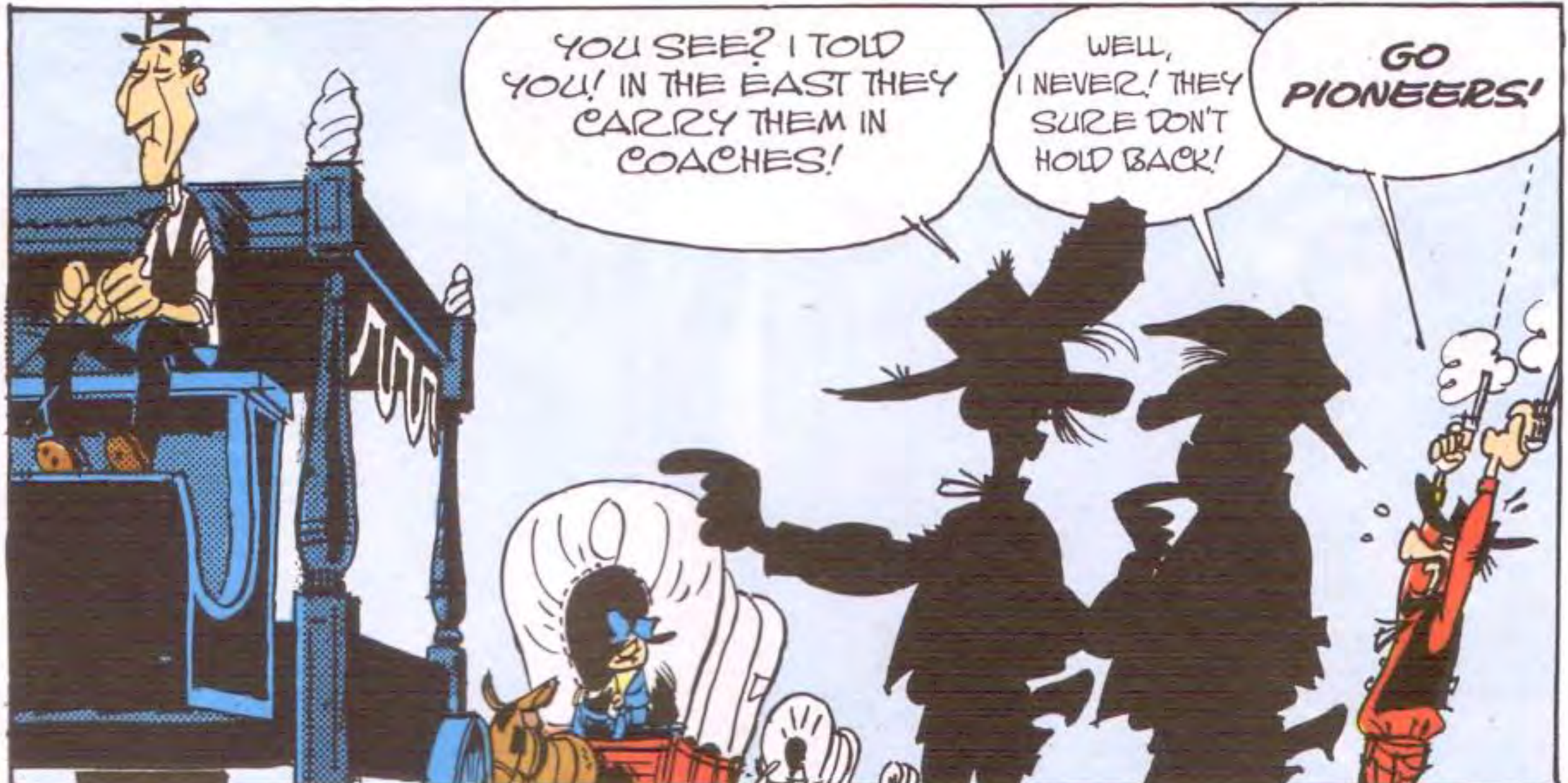
CRAZY TOWN, A SMALL PLACE THAT HAD ONLY SALOONS AND ONLY CAME TO LIFE AT NIGHT...

AND JUST YESTERDAY WE WOULD HAVE FOUGHT EACH OTHER FOR A DROP OF WATER!

WE'LL SET UP CAMP ON THE WAY OUT OF TOWN...



HEY, BOYS! A WAGON TRAIN! A WAGON TRAIN MANAGED TO CROSS THE DESERT!



YOU SEE? I TOLD YOU! IN THE EAST THEY CARRY THEM IN COACHES!

WELL, I NEVER! THEY SURE DON'T HOLD BACK!

GO PIONEERS!



THE WAGON TRAIN CAMPED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE TOWN.

THIS LITTLE TOWN SEEMS QUITE NICE...

VERY NICE!

FASTER, BARBER!

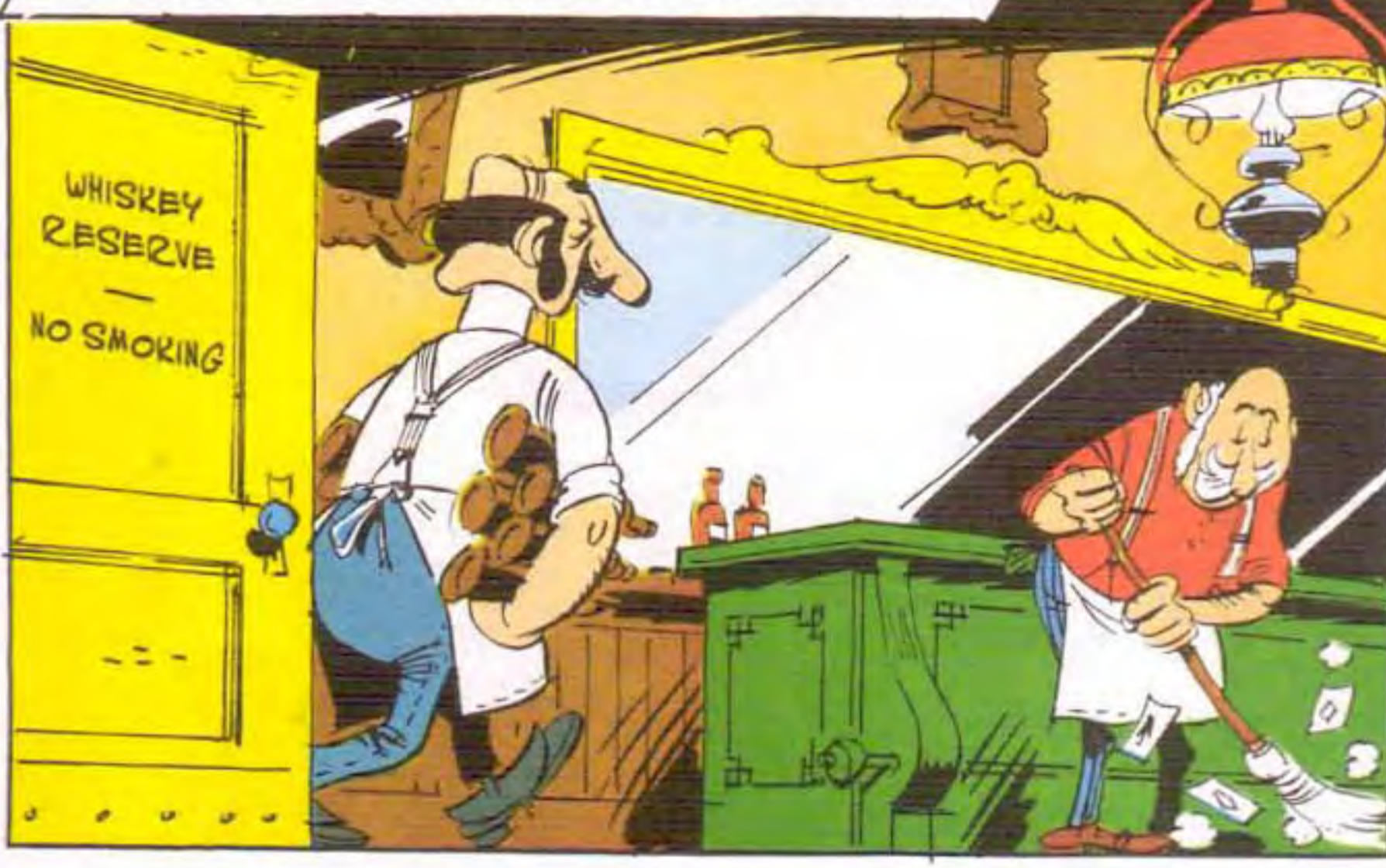


BUT JUST THEN...

THIS TOWN IS A DEN OF INIQUITY!

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM FROM GOING! HERE'S MY PLAN...

CRAZY TOWN'S PREPARATIONS WERE IN FULL SWING TO WELCOME THE PIONEERS...

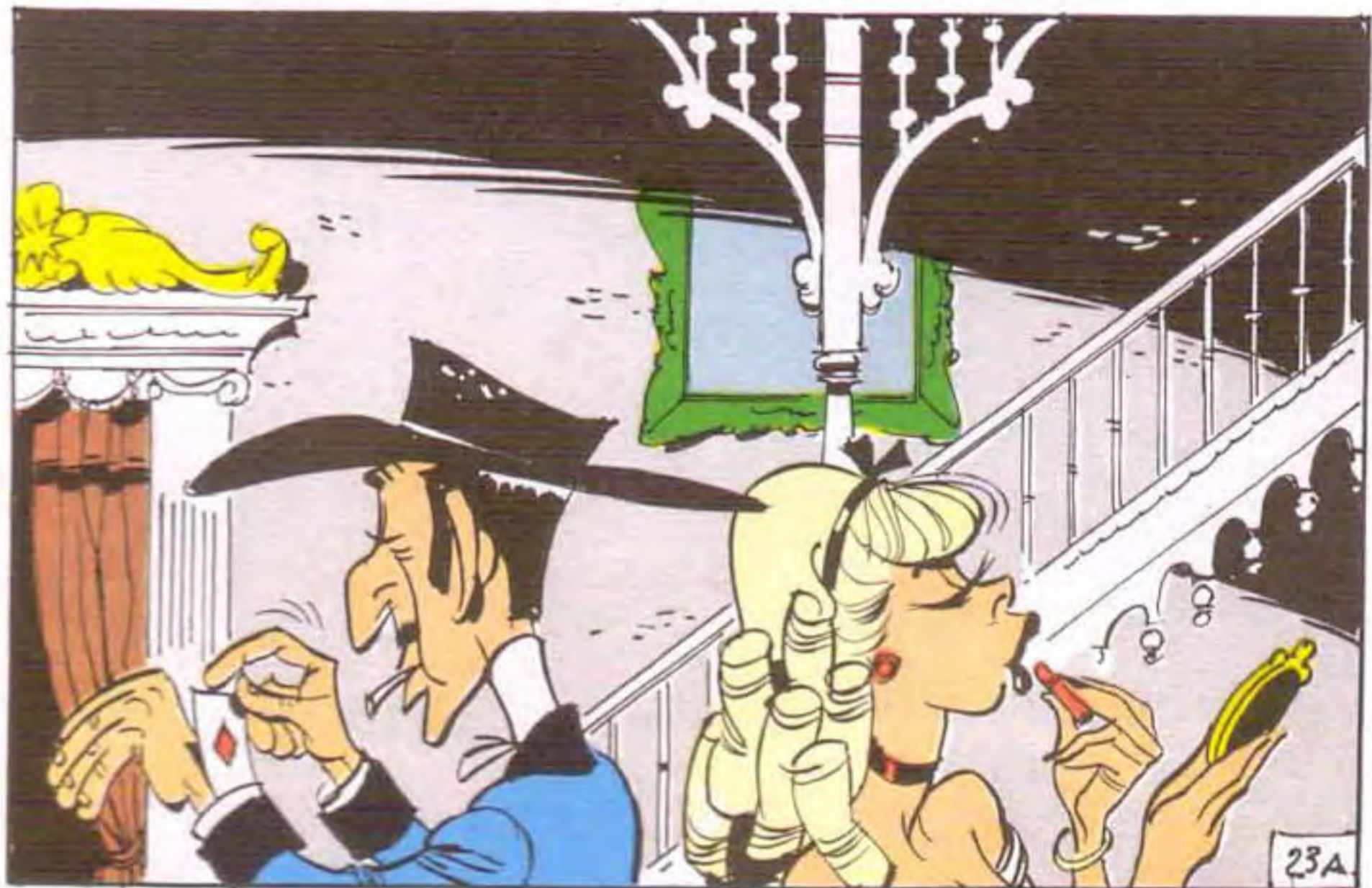
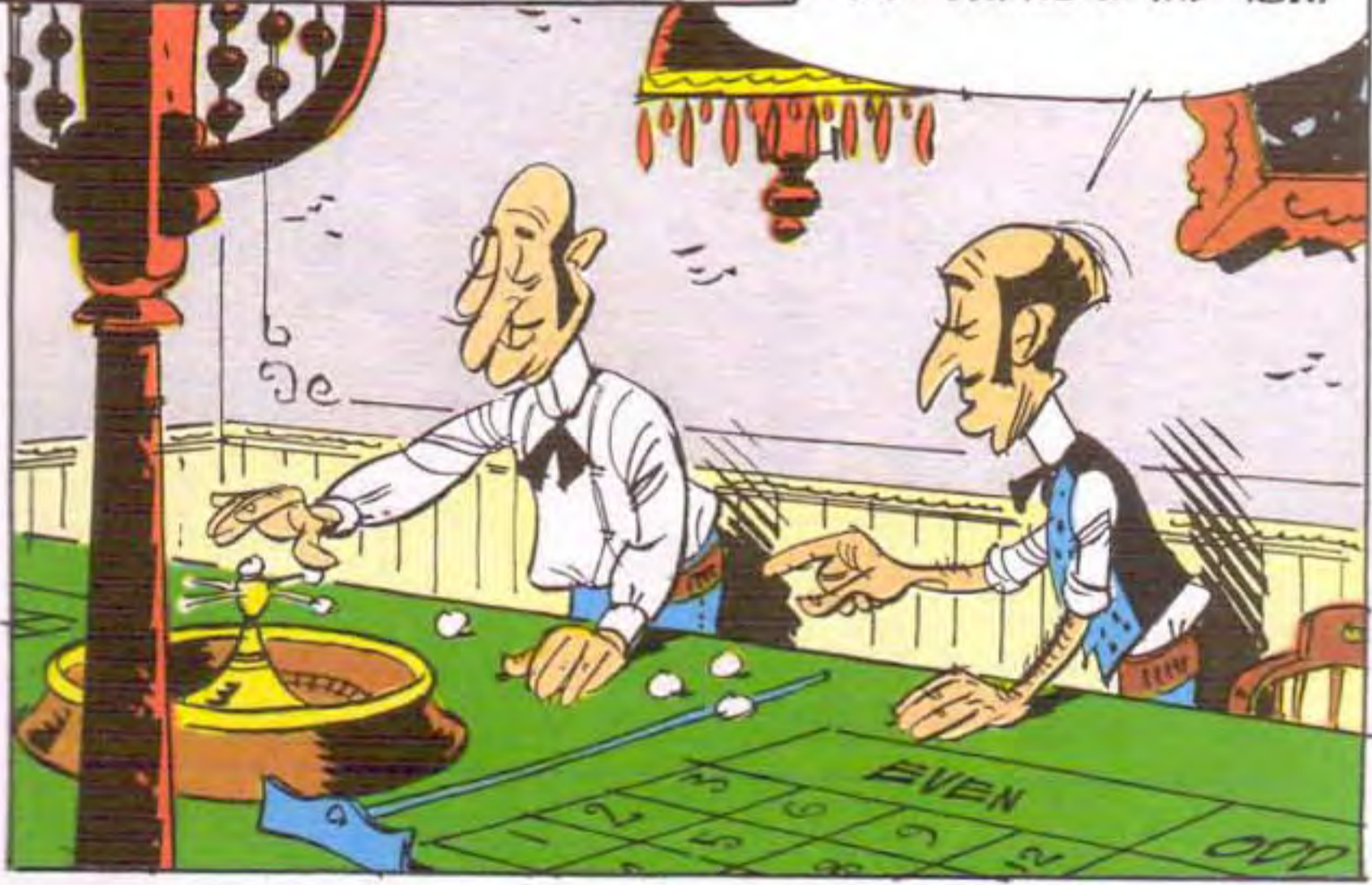


THE PLAYERS MADE NEW MARKS ON THE CARDS, BECAUSE IF YOU PLAYED A LOT IN CRAZY TOWN...

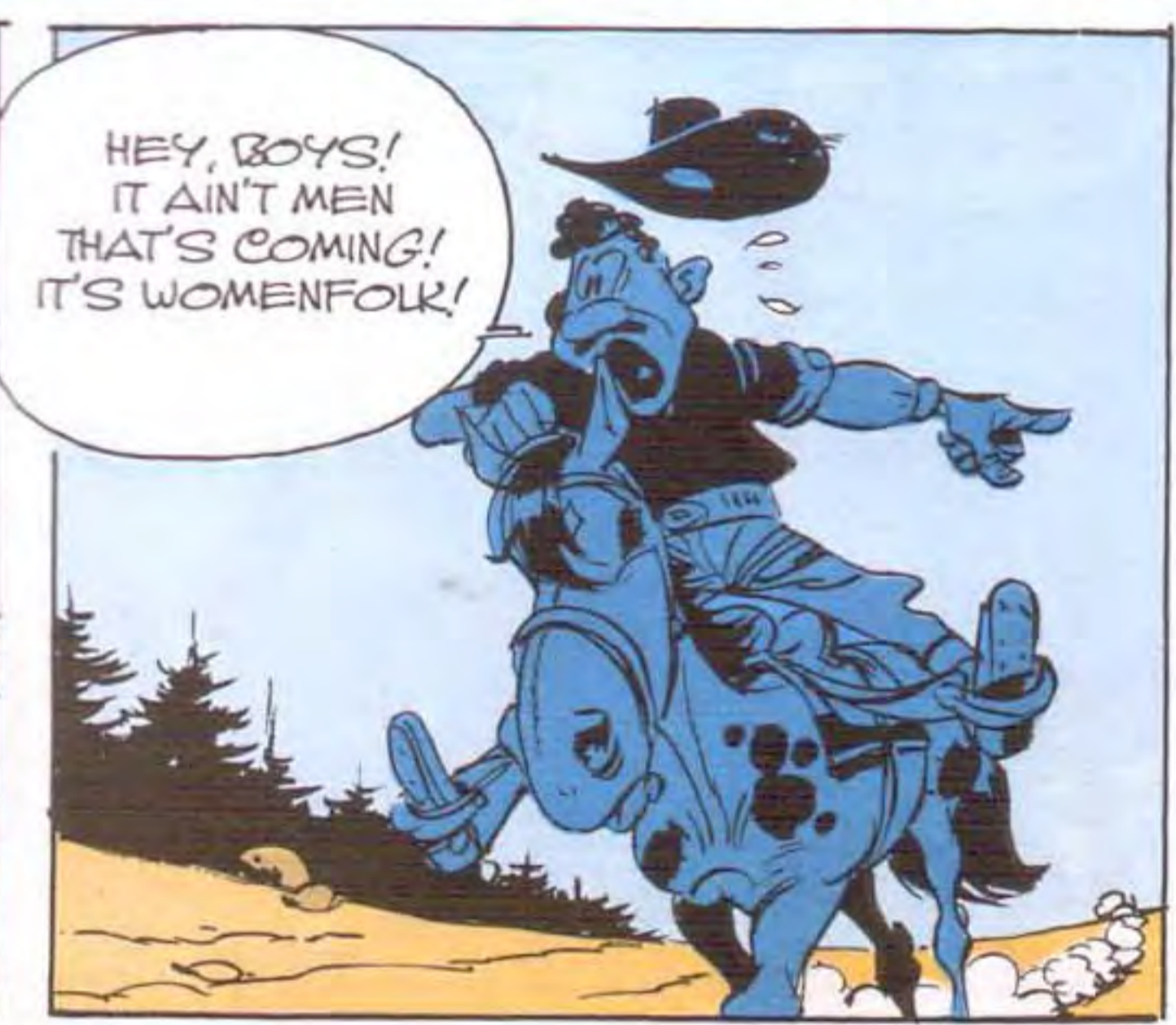
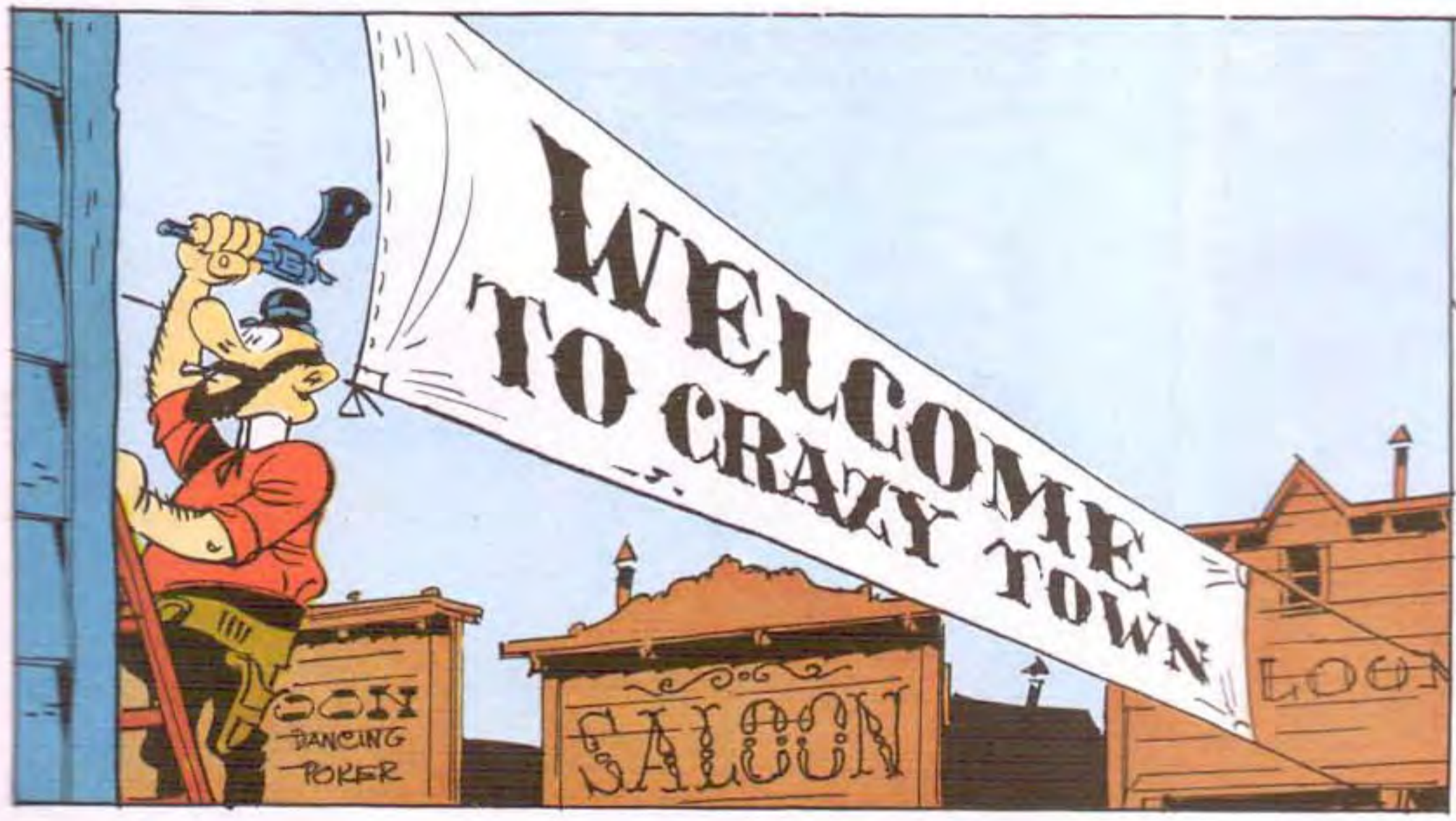


...YOU'D KNOW THAT THESE WEREN'T GAMES OF LUCK...

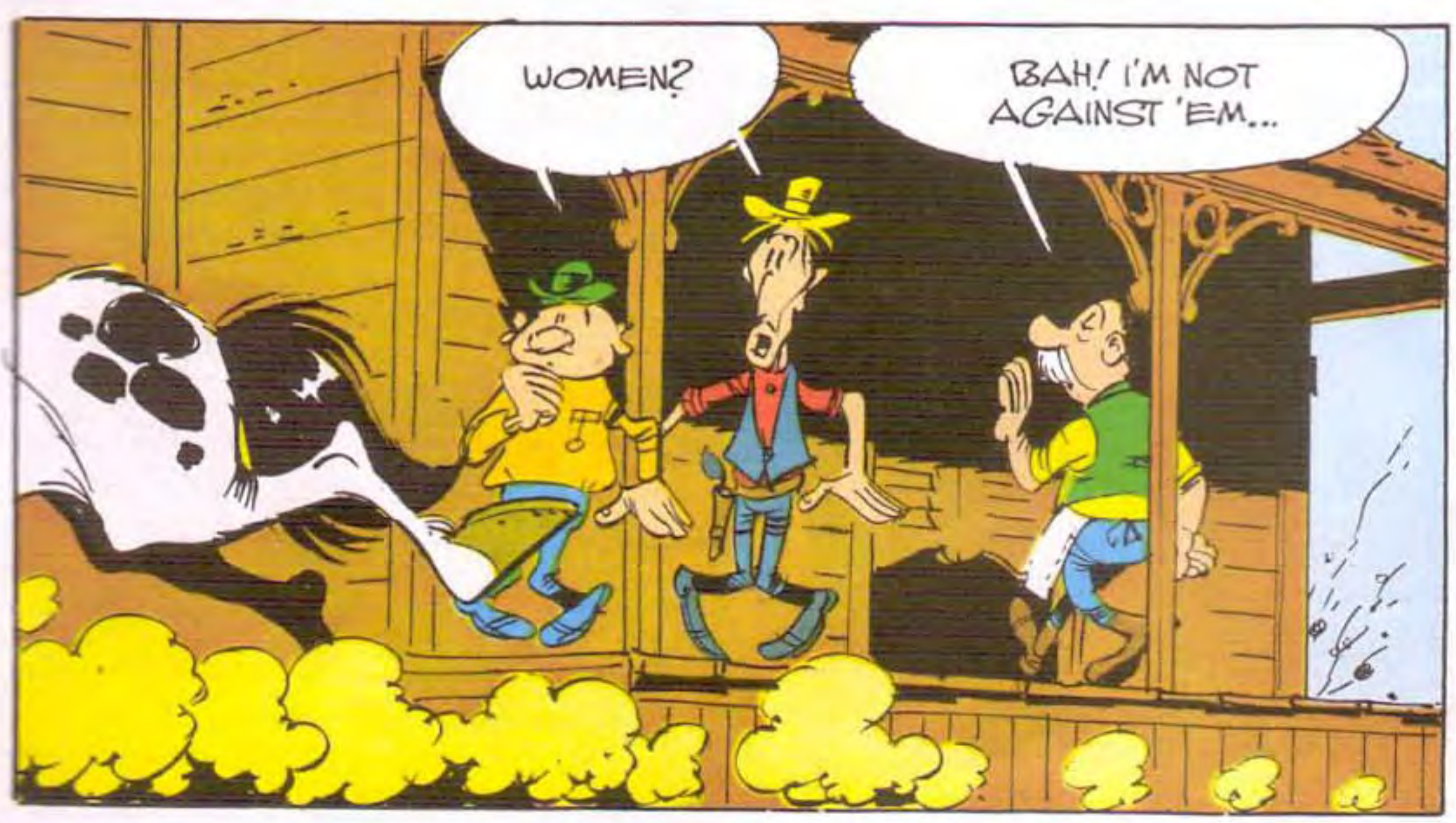
NOW BRING OUT THE 3... NOW THE 12...



23A



HEY, BOYS!
IT AIN'T MEN
THAT'S COMING!
IT'S WOMENFOLK!



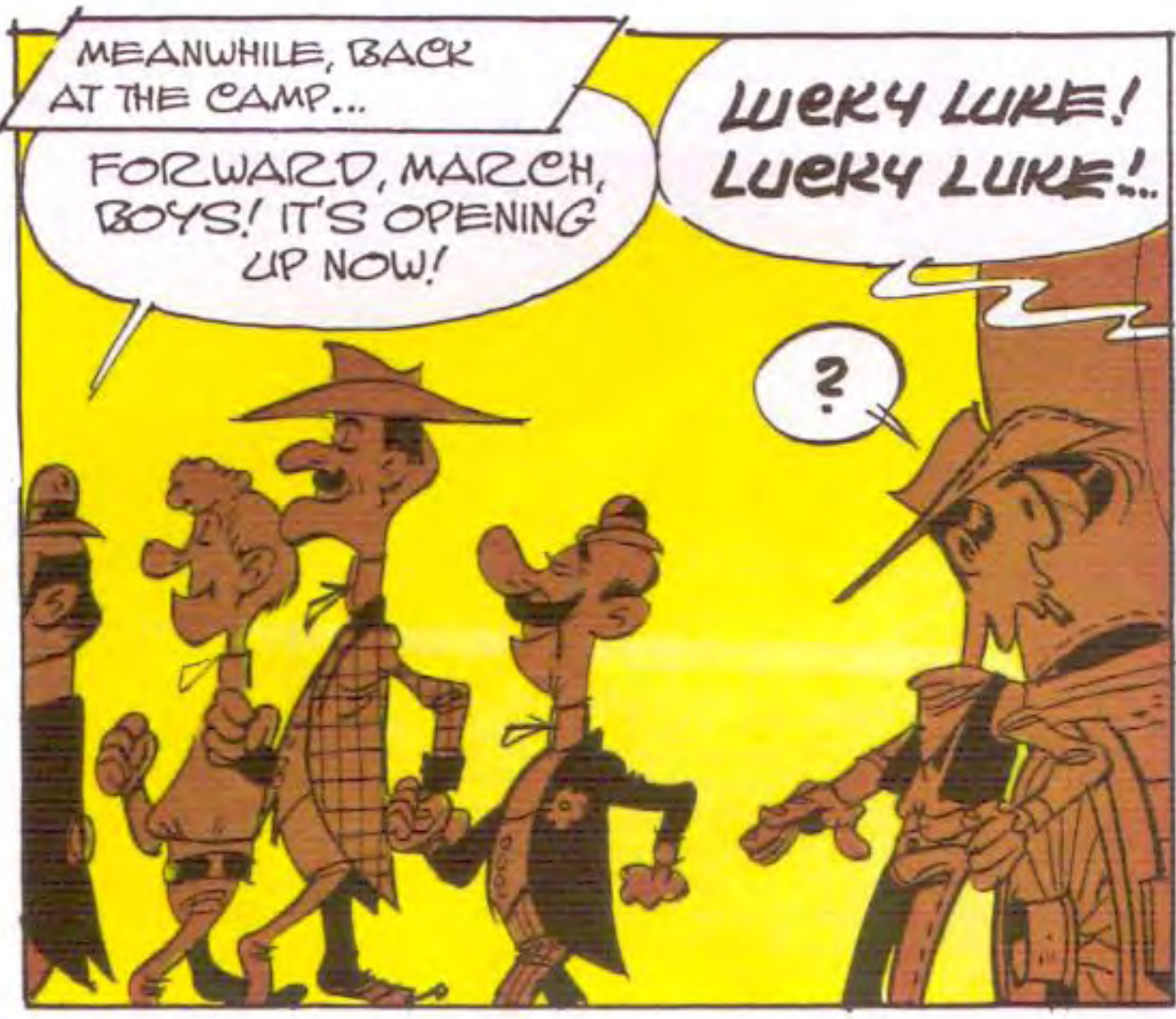
WOMEN?

BAH! I'M NOT
AGAINST 'EM...

FORWARD, MARCH!
LET'S DESTROY
THIS DEN OF SIN!...



23B



MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE CAMP...
FORWARD, MARCH, BOYS! IT'S OPENING UP NOW!

LUCKY LUKE!
LUCKY LUKE!..

?

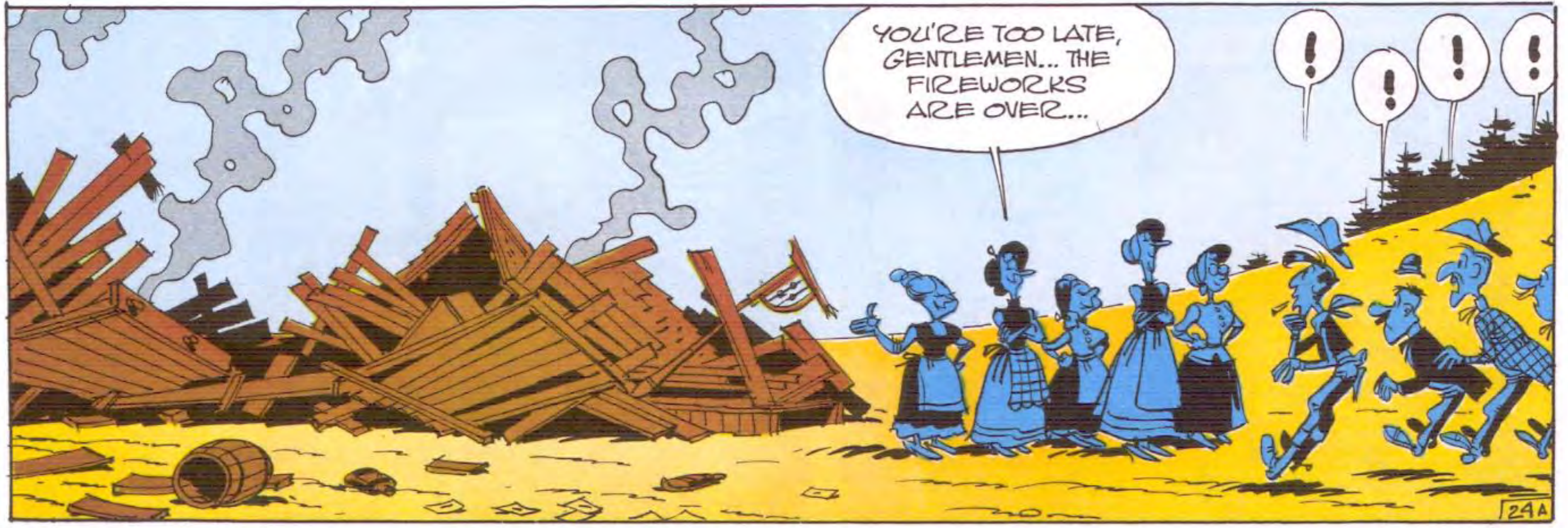


SOMEONE STOLE THE DYNAMITE RESERVES! THEY DISAPPEARED FROM THE SUPPLY WAGON!



BOOOOMMM...
WHAMMM...
BLAMMM...

EXPLOSIONS IN CRAZY TOWN!
LET'S GO!



YOU'RE TOO LATE, GENTLEMEN... THE FIREWORKS ARE OVER...

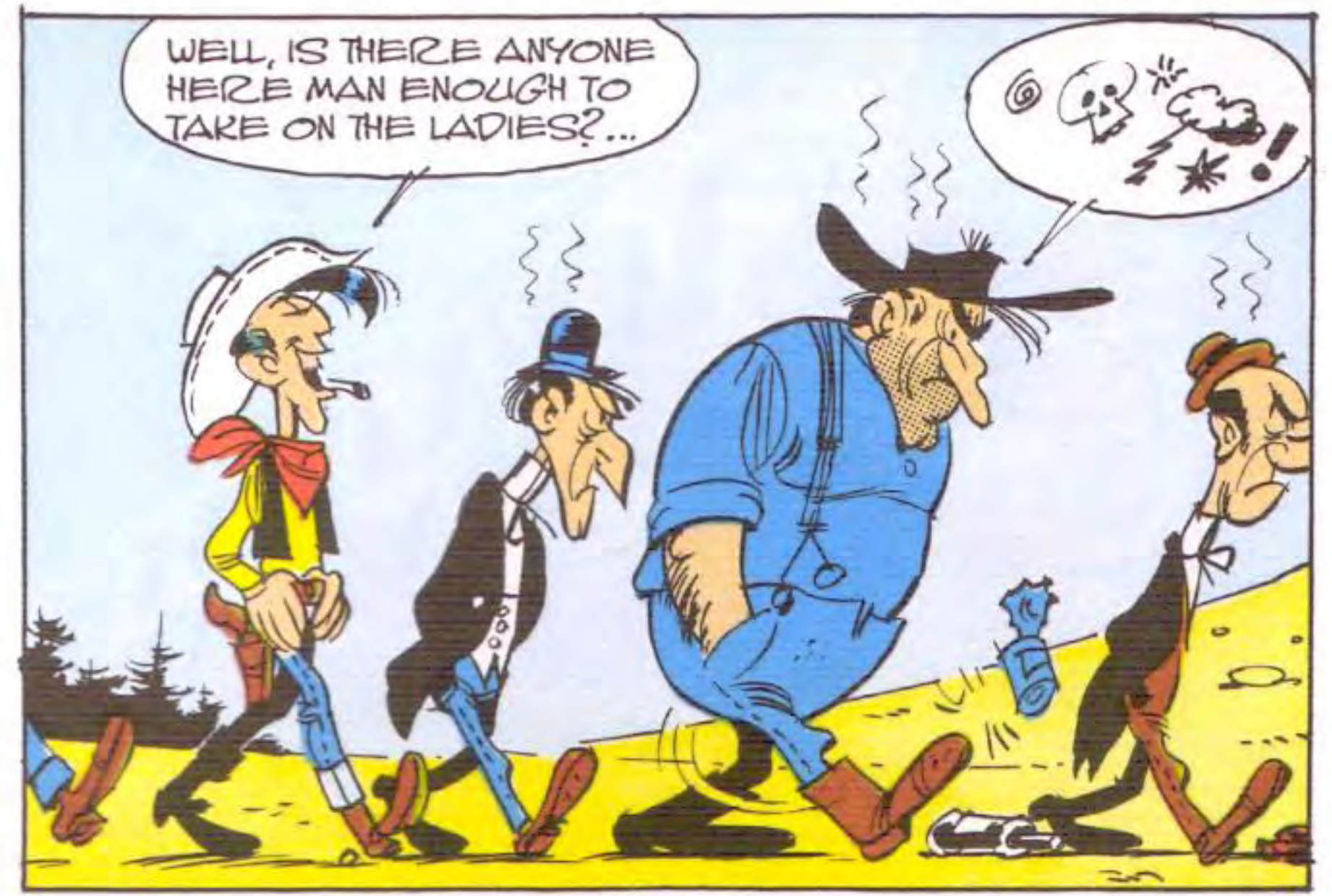
! ! !



SO LONG, CRAZY TOWN!

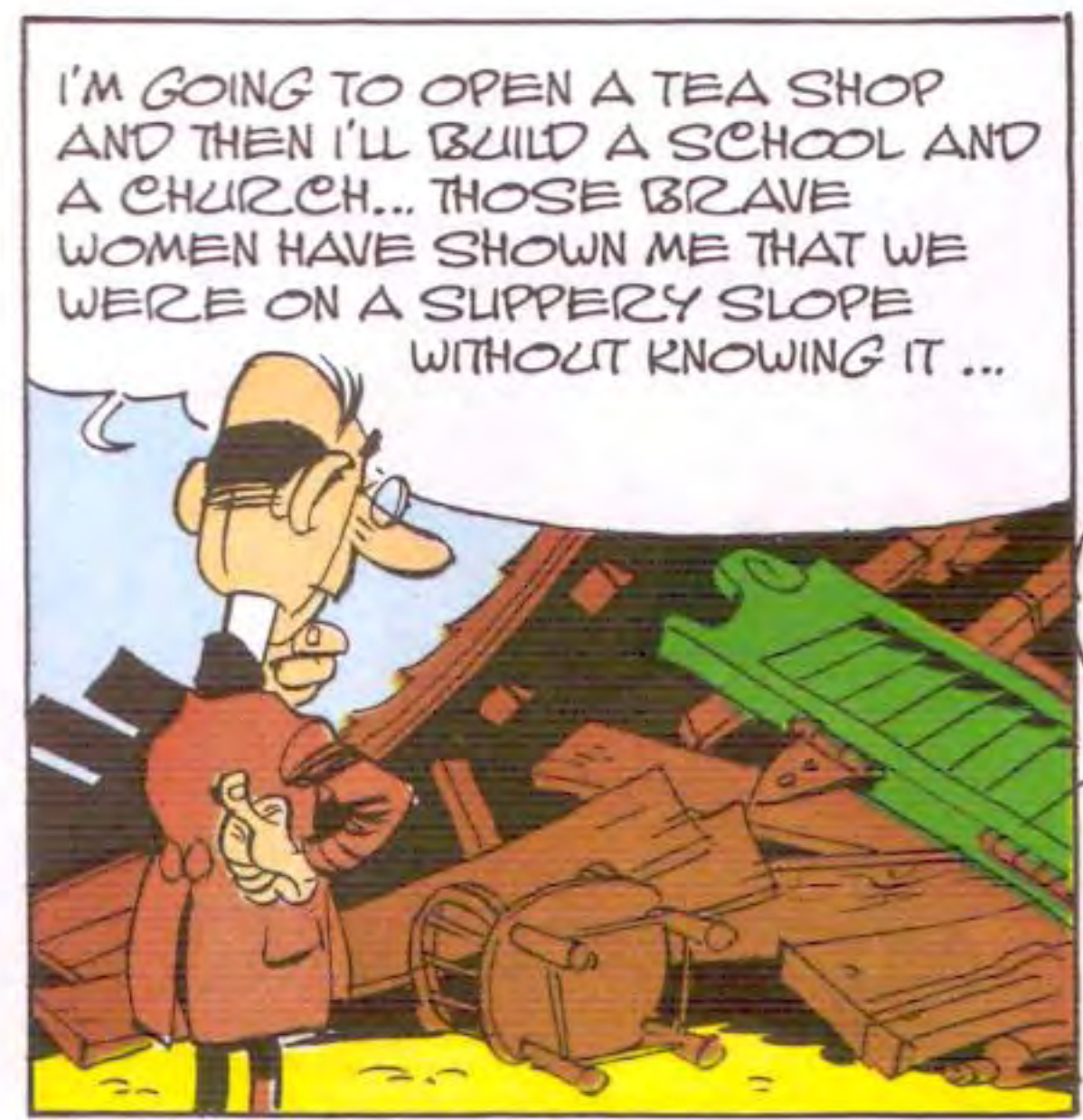
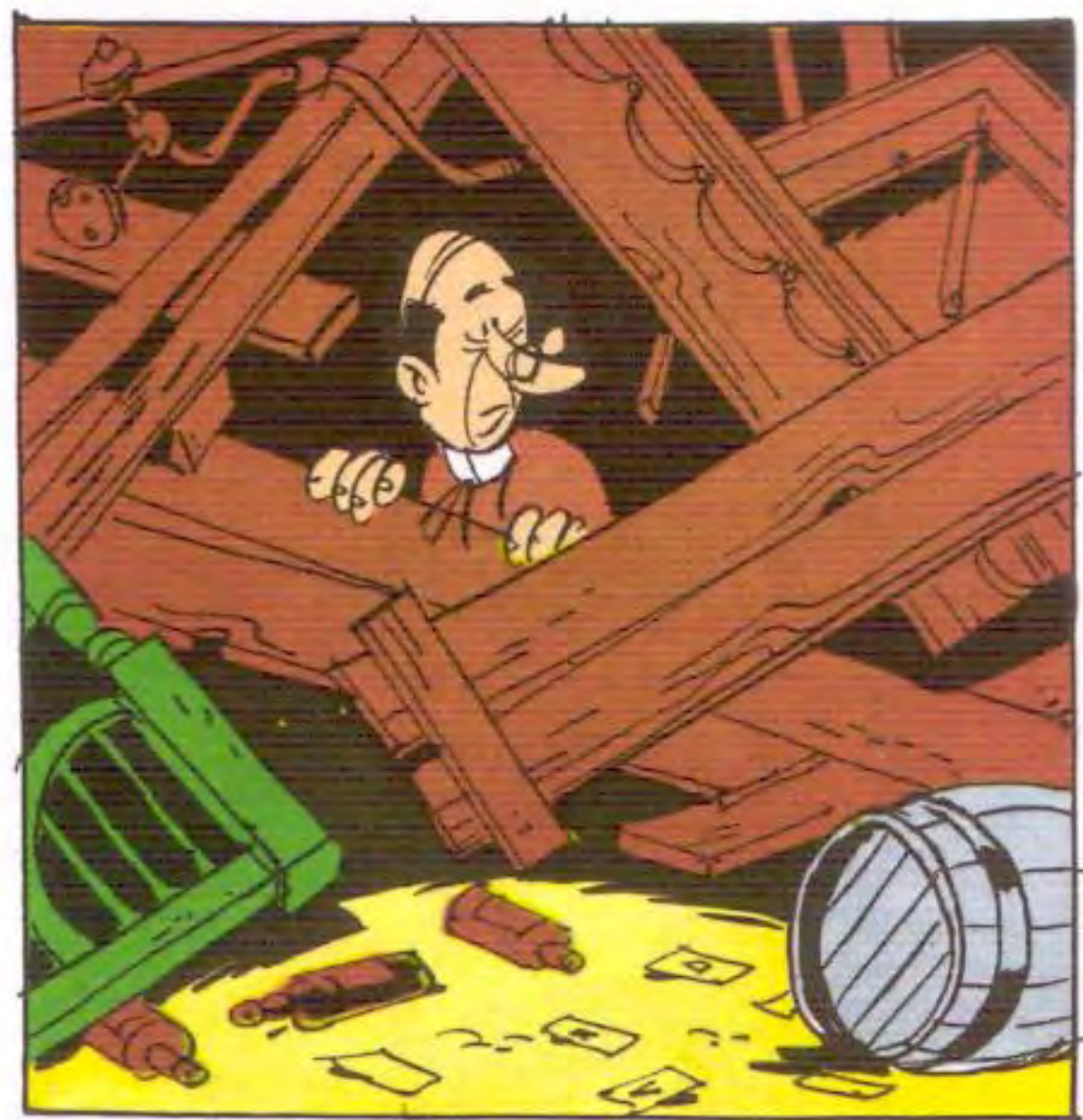
I NEVER ARGUE WITH WOMEN!...

IT WAS TOO GOOD TO LAST!



WELL, IS THERE ANYONE HERE MAN ENOUGH TO TAKE ON THE LADIES?...

@ skull and lightning bolt



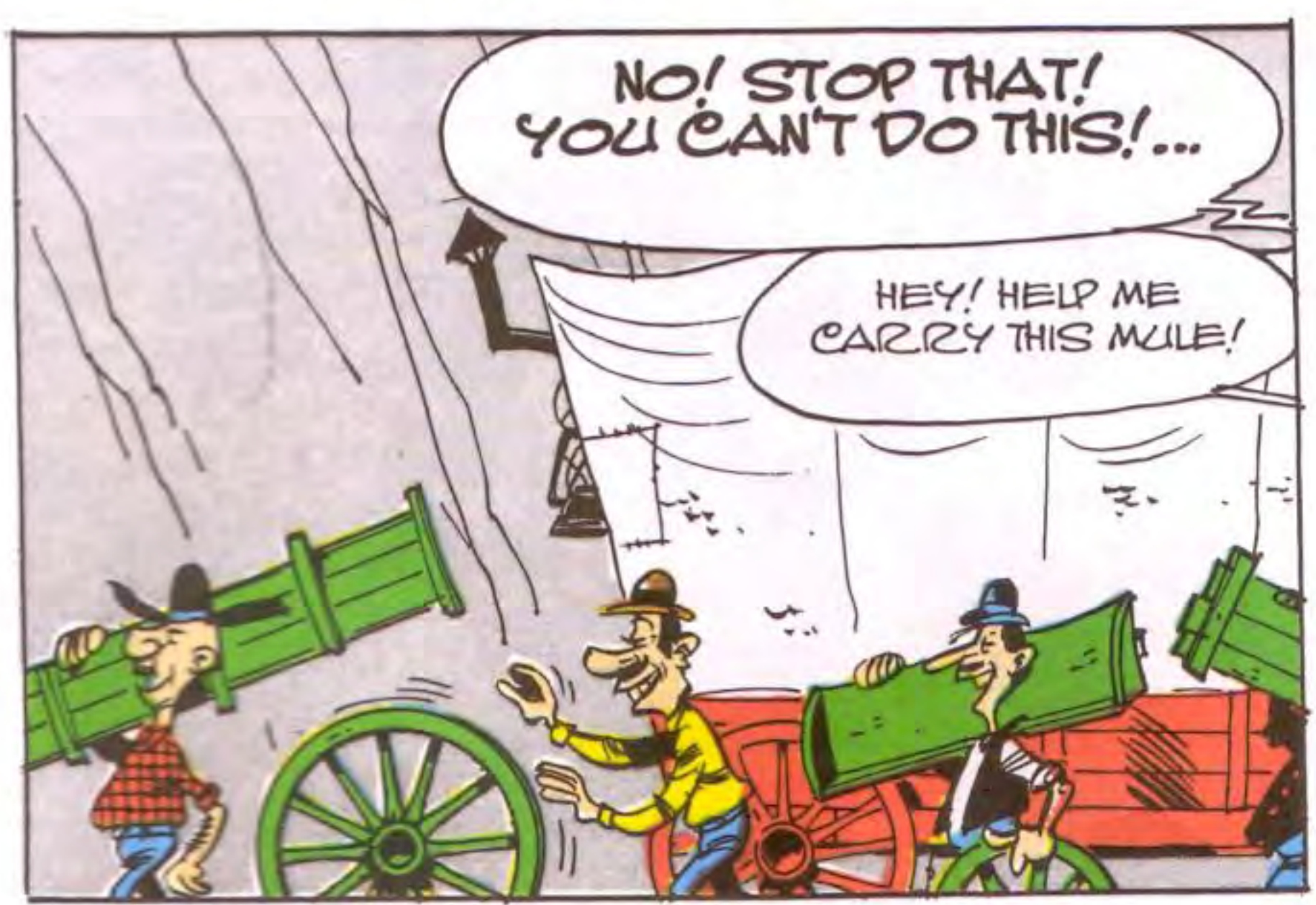
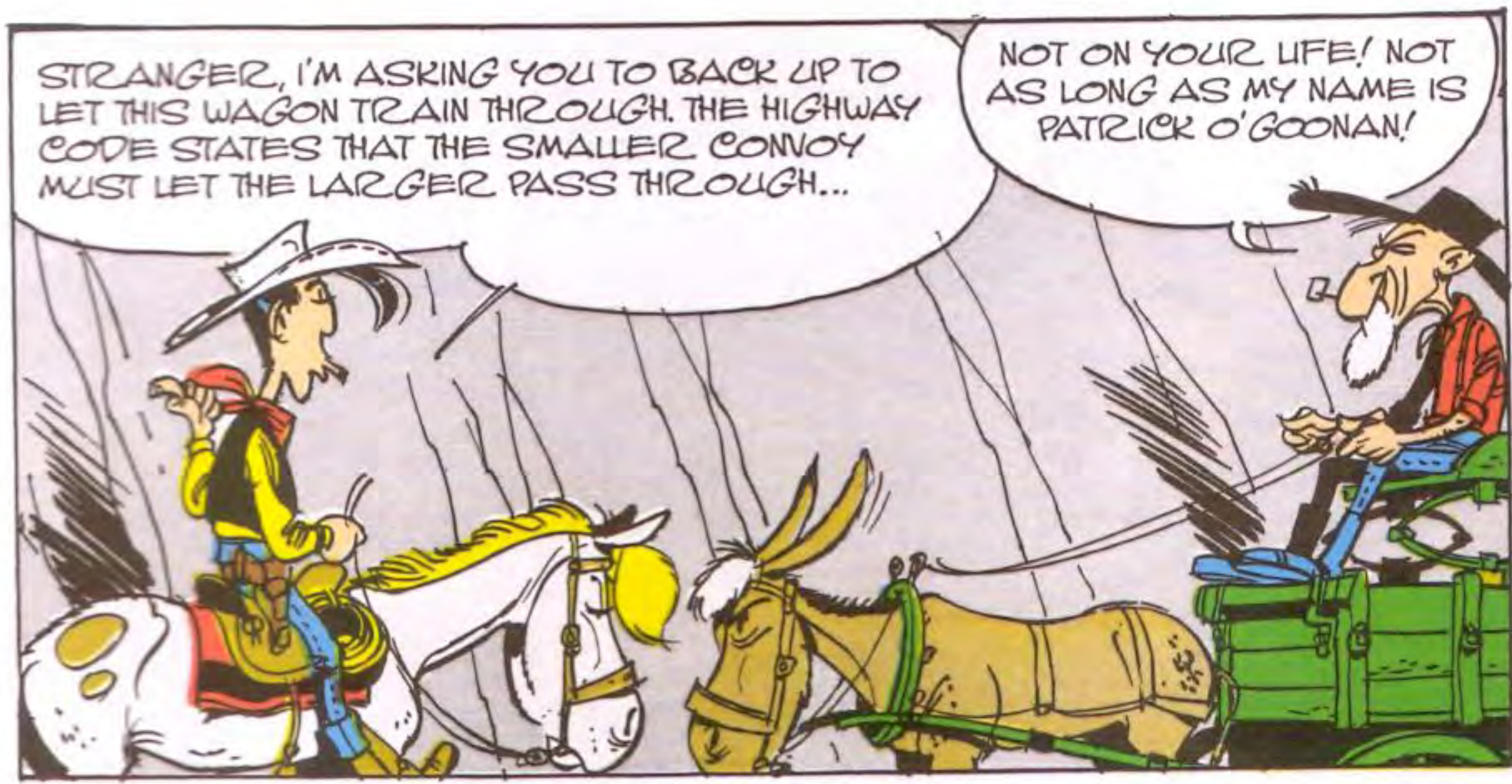
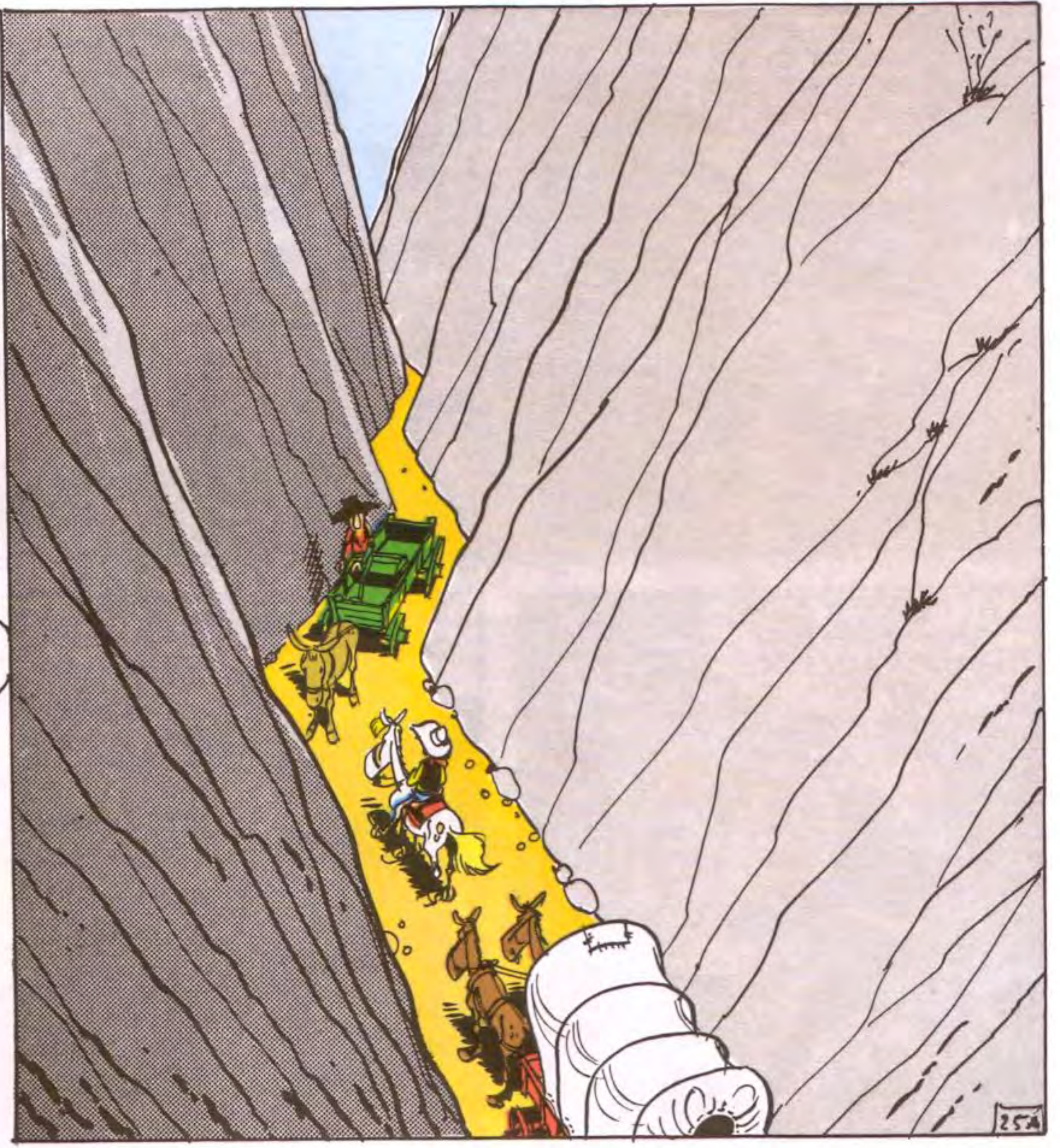
I'M GOING TO OPEN A TEA SHOP AND THEN I'LL BUILD A SCHOOL AND A CHURCH... THOSE BRAVE WOMEN HAVE SHOWN ME THAT WE WERE ON A SLIPPERY SLOPE WITHOUT KNOWING IT ...

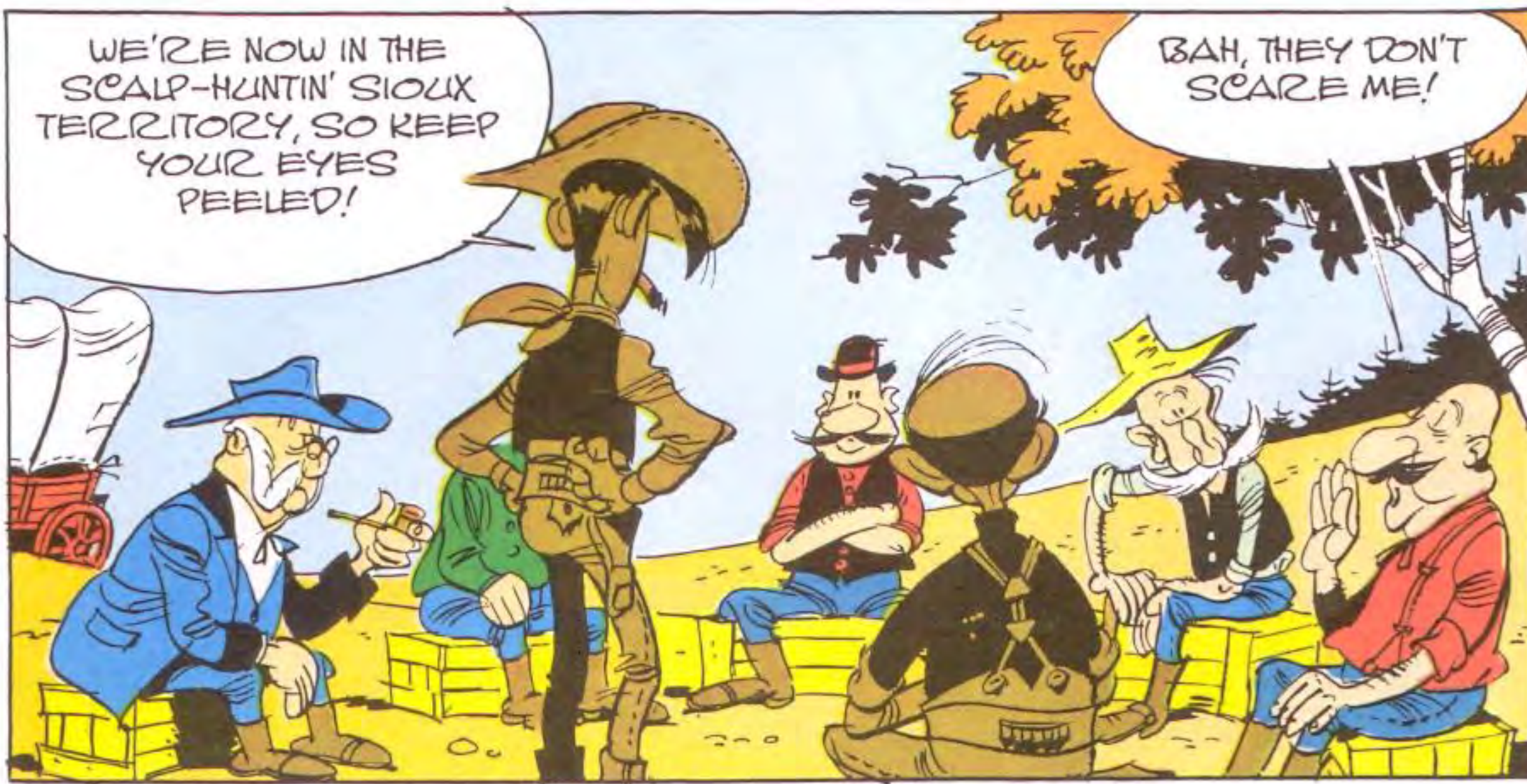
AN EXAMPLE OF THE CIVILISING INFLUENCE OF WAGON TRAINS CROSSING THE COUNTRY... AND WHILE A NEW METROPOLIS WAS BEING BUILT (*), THE PIONEERS RESUMED THEIR WESTWARD MARCH...



HEAD 'EM UP!
HEAD 'EM UP!

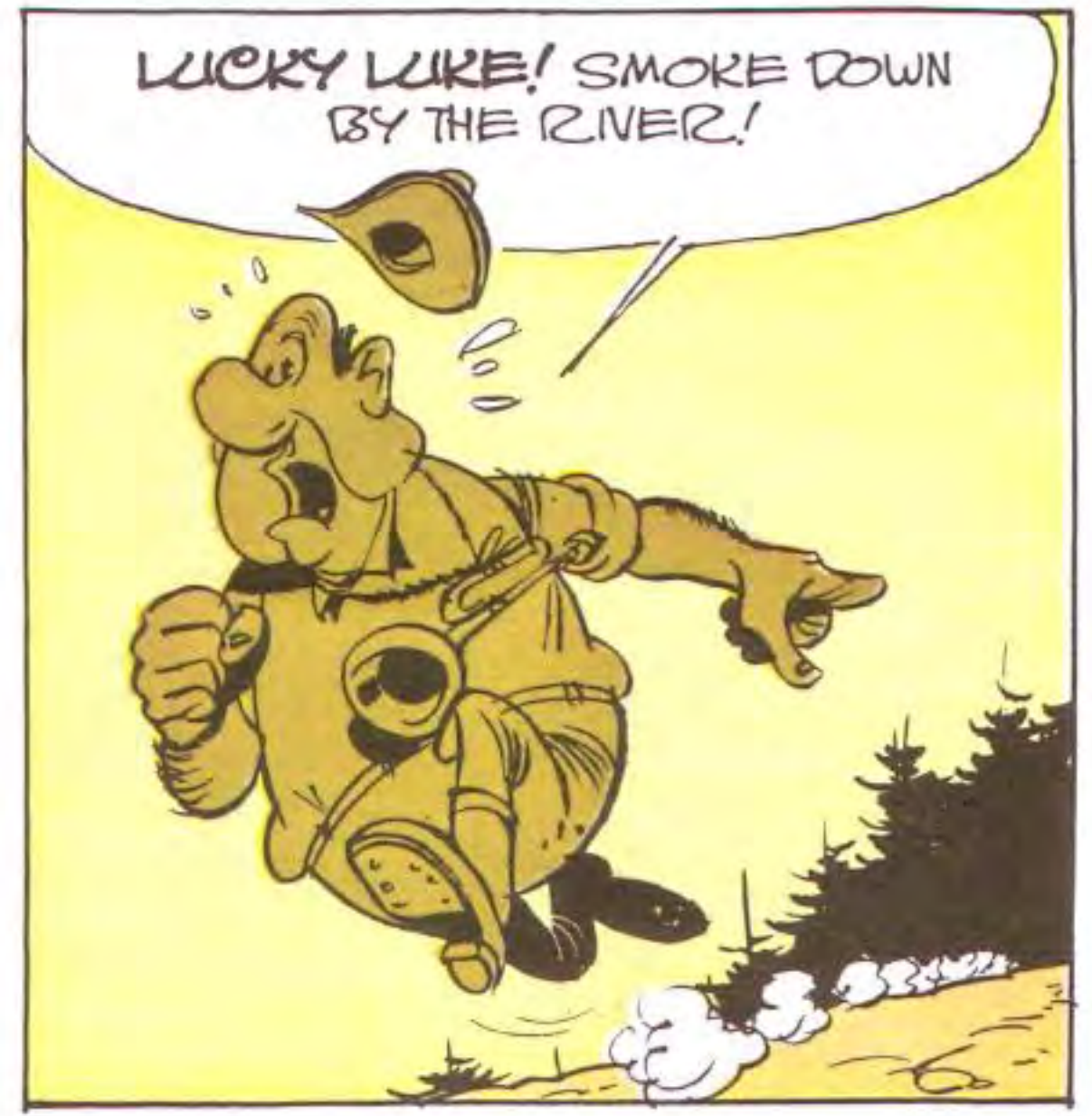
(*) NOWADAYS, CRAZY TOWN HAS 986,000 INHABITANTS, AND ITS UNIVERSITY IS WORLD-RENOWNED.





WE'RE NOW IN THE SCALP-HUNTIN' SIOUX TERRITORY, SO KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!

BAH, THEY DON'T SCARE ME!



LUCKY LUKE! SMOKE DOWN BY THE RIVER!



I'LL CHECK IT OUT! STAY HERE AND GET READY FOR A FIGHT!



IT'S A CABIN THAT'S CAUGHT ON FIRE!

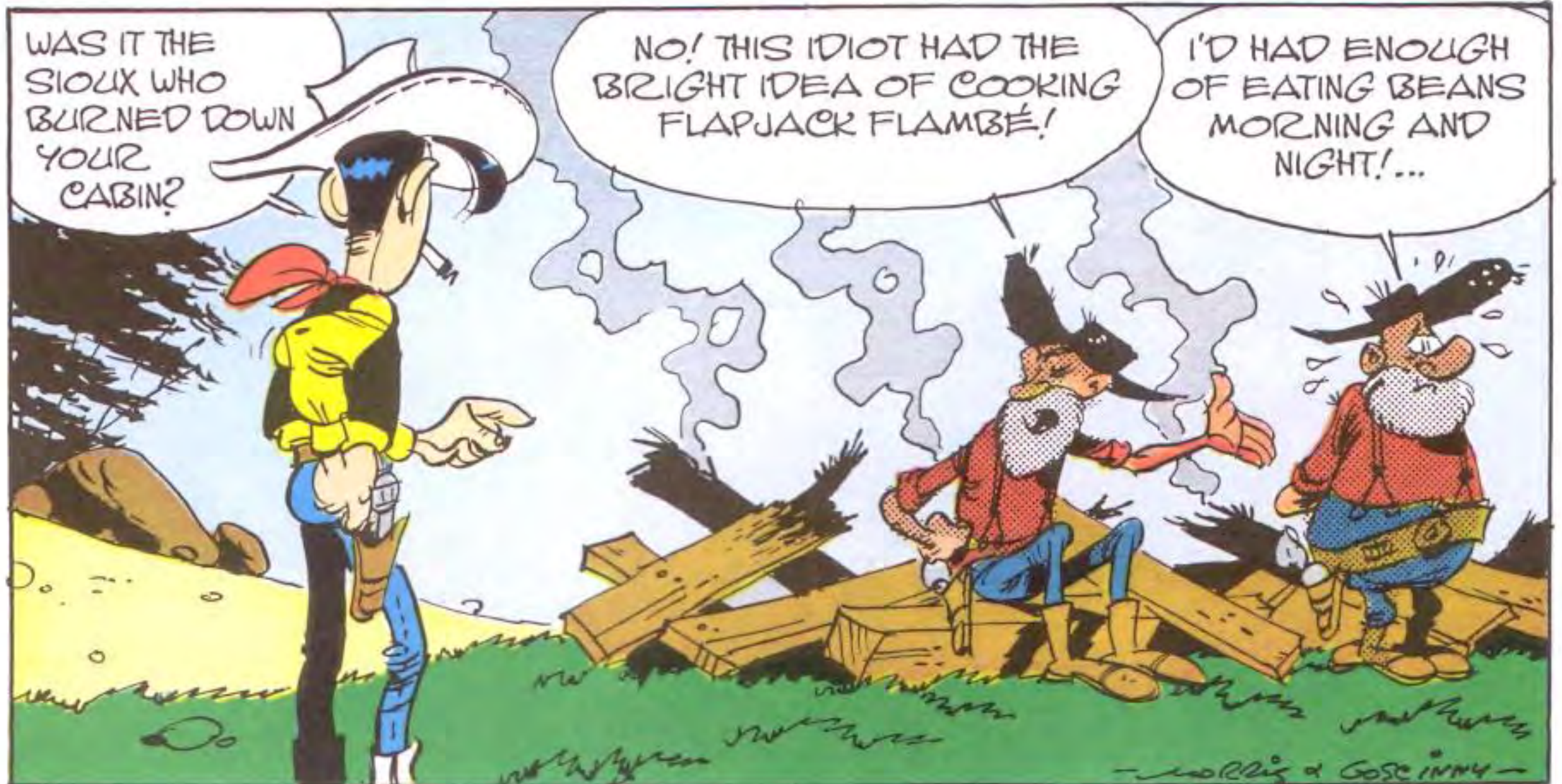


I WONDER IF THERE ARE ANY SURVIVORS...



YOU IDIOT!!...

WHAT?... I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE!...



WAS IT THE SIOUX WHO BURNED DOWN YOUR CABIN?

NO! THIS IDIOT HAD THE BRIGHT IDEA OF COOKING FLAPJACK FLAMBE!

I'D HAD ENOUGH OF EATING BEANS MORNING AND NIGHT!...



SINCE YOU'RE NOW HOMELESS, COME AND JOIN OUR WAGON TRAIN... WE'RE GOING TO CALIFORNIA...

TO CALIFORNIA? WHY NOT?... WE'RE PROSPECTORS AND THERE'S GOLD OUT THERE...

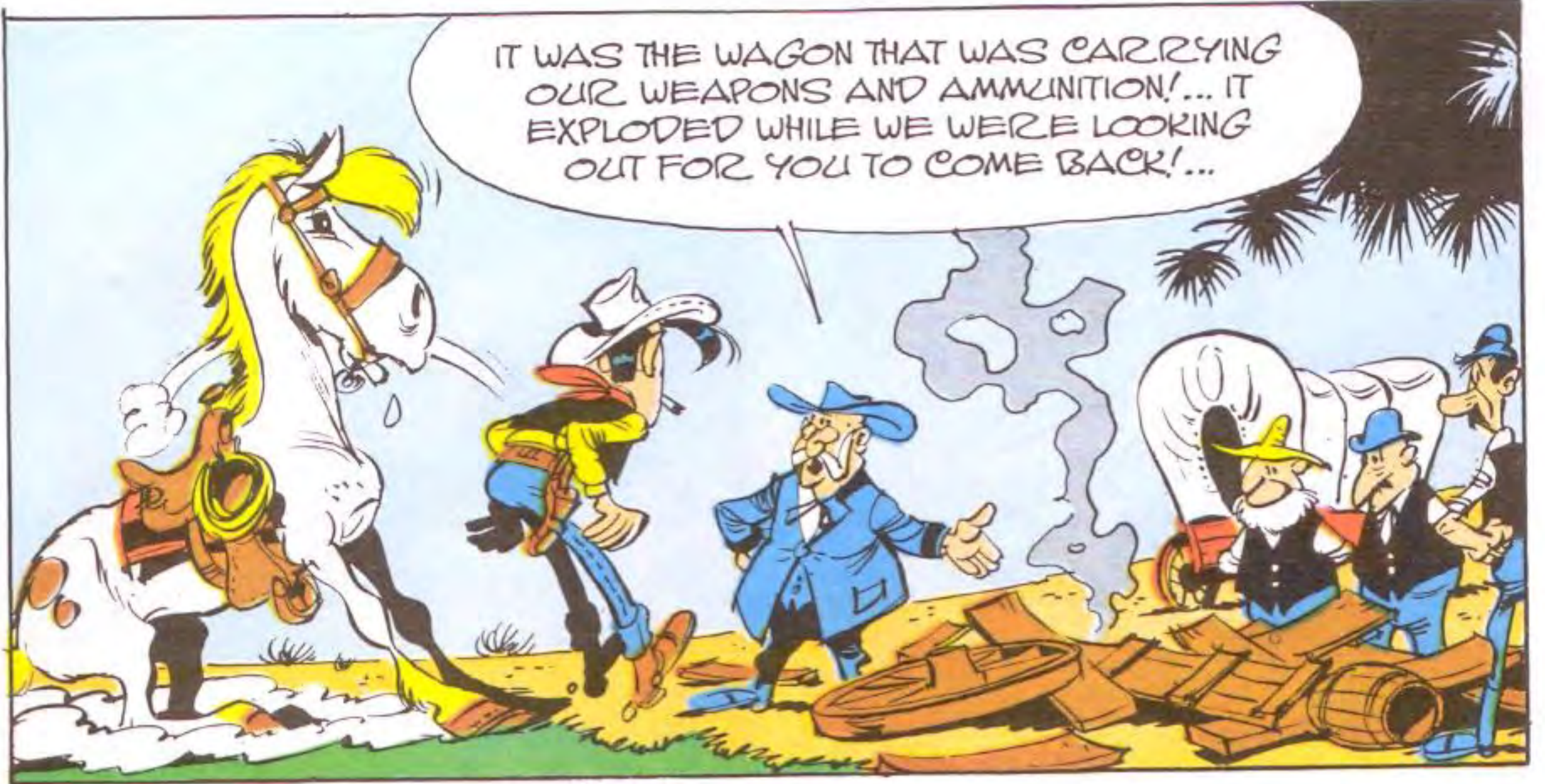
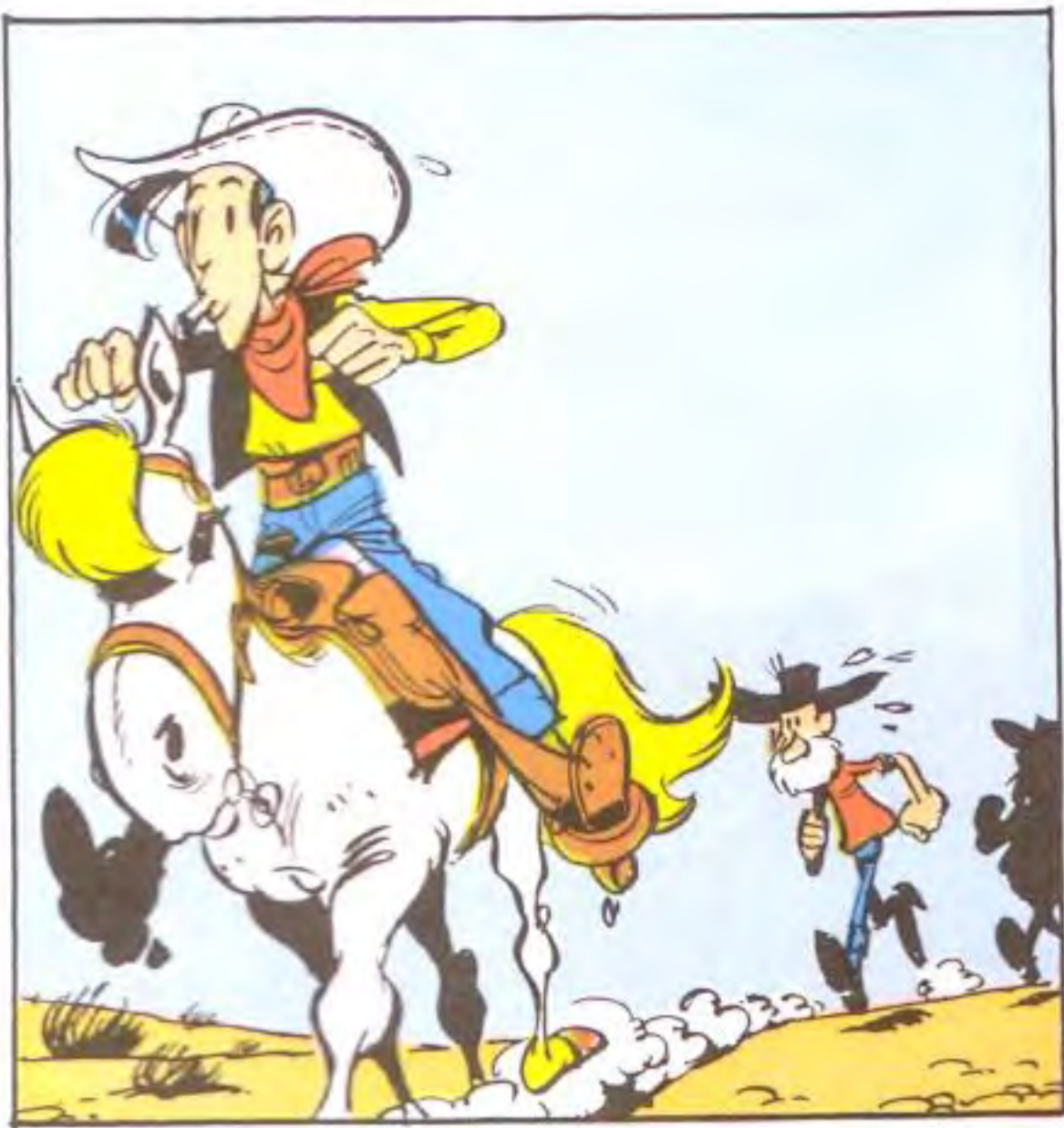
THERE'S SURELY MORE THAN HERE, IN ANY CASE!



BAAAAAMMM!!!

AN EXPLOSION! IT CAME FROM OUR TRAIN!

REALLY? IS SOMEONE COOKING FLAPJACKS UP THERE, TOO?



IT WAS THE WAGON THAT WAS CARRYING OUR WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION!... IT EXPLODED WHILE WE WERE LOOKING OUT FOR YOU TO COME BACK!...



IT'S ANOTHER SABOTAGE... THERE'S A TRAITOR AMONGST US!...

I'LL DO THE INVENTORY FOR THE REMAINING WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION...



A LITTLE LATER...

WELL, THERE'S NOT MUCH LEFT AND WE'RE ABOUT TO GO DEEP INTO SIOUX LANDS! WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

LET'S KEEP GOING!



UNDERTAKER, TAKE THESE TWO GOLD-DIGGERS ONBOARD YOUR HEARSE...

I'VE NEVER TAKEN SO MANY PEOPLE IN MY VEHICLE AT ONCE...



THE TRAIN STARTED AGAIN, BUT...

STOP!!...

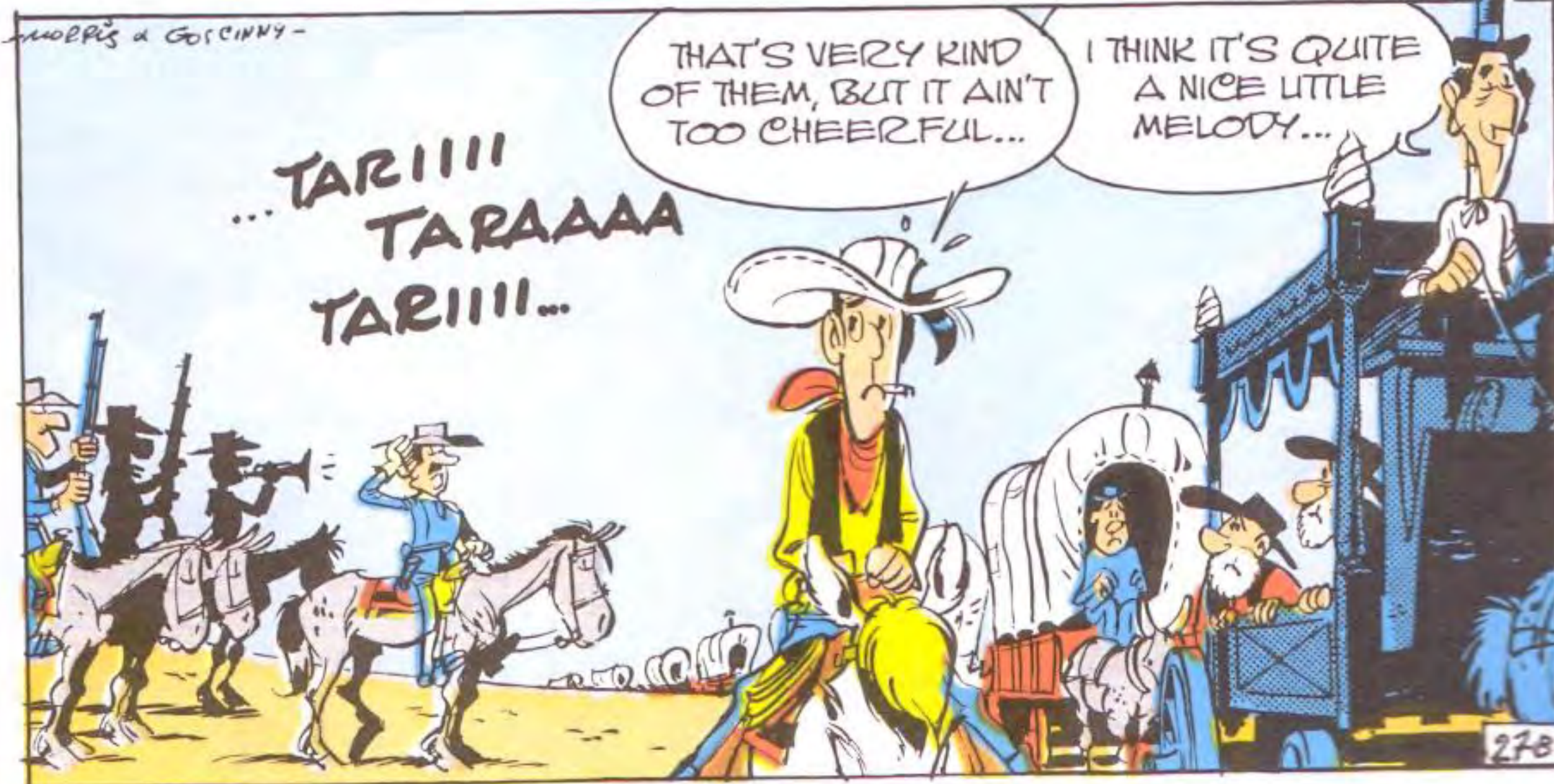


DON'T CROSS THIS RIVER! ON THE OTHER SIDE THE FEARSOME SIOUX CHIEF RABID DOG IS ON THE WARPATH!



TOO BAD FOR HIM, WE'RE COMING THROUGH!

I SALUTE YOUR RECKLESSNESS! TRUMPET! THE DEATH MARCH!



...TARIII
TARAAAA
TARIII...

THAT'S VERY KIND OF THEM, BUT IT AIN'T TOO CHEERFUL...

I THINK IT'S QUITE A NICE LITTLE MELODY...



WAIT HERE—I'LL SEE IF THE RIVER'S DEEP!

BRRR!
... IT'S COLD!



WE'LL HAVE TO FLOAT THE WAGONS OVER WITH EMPTY BARRELS!

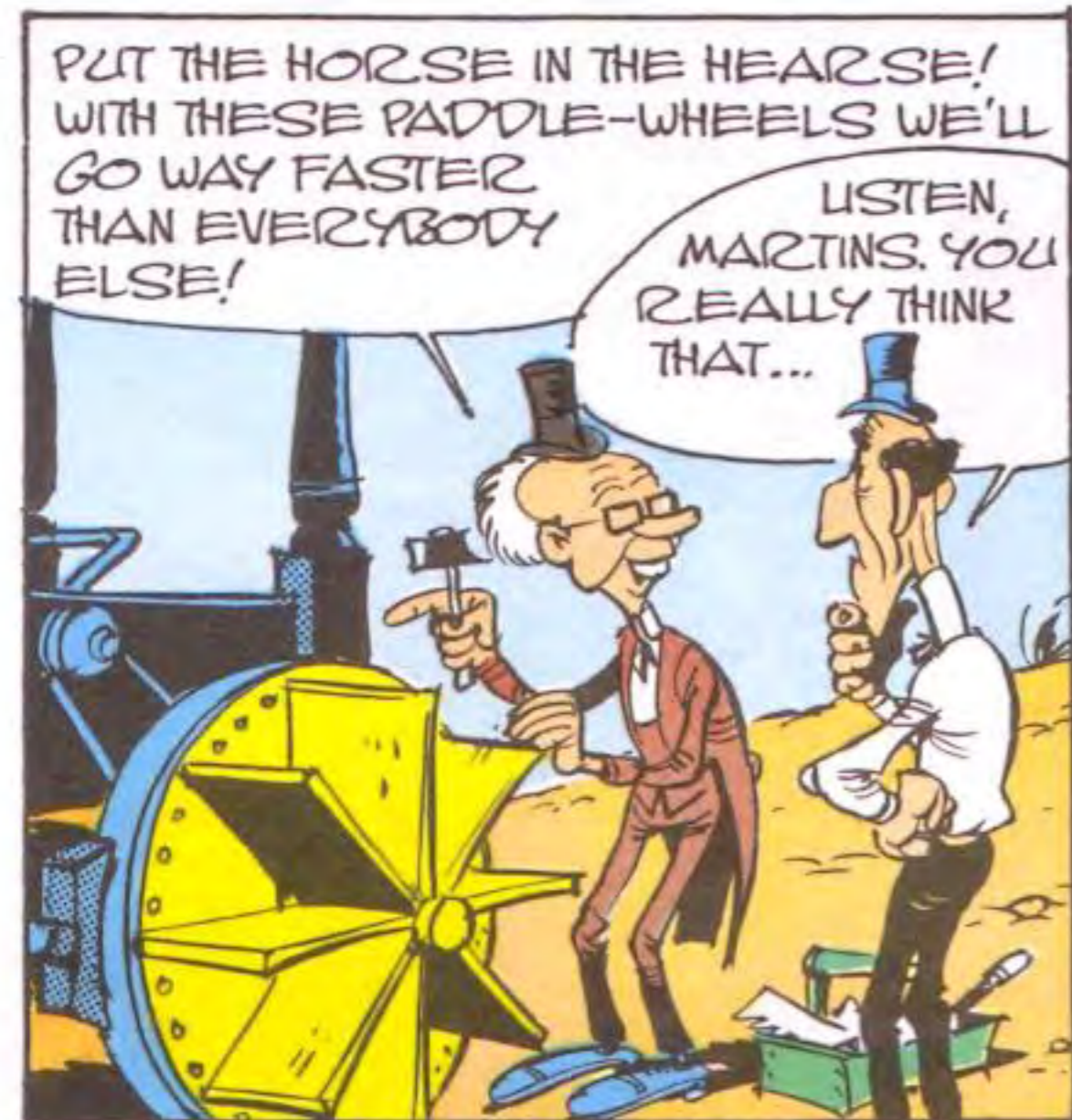
I CAN'T STAND SWIMMING WITH MY CLOTHES ON!



LATER...

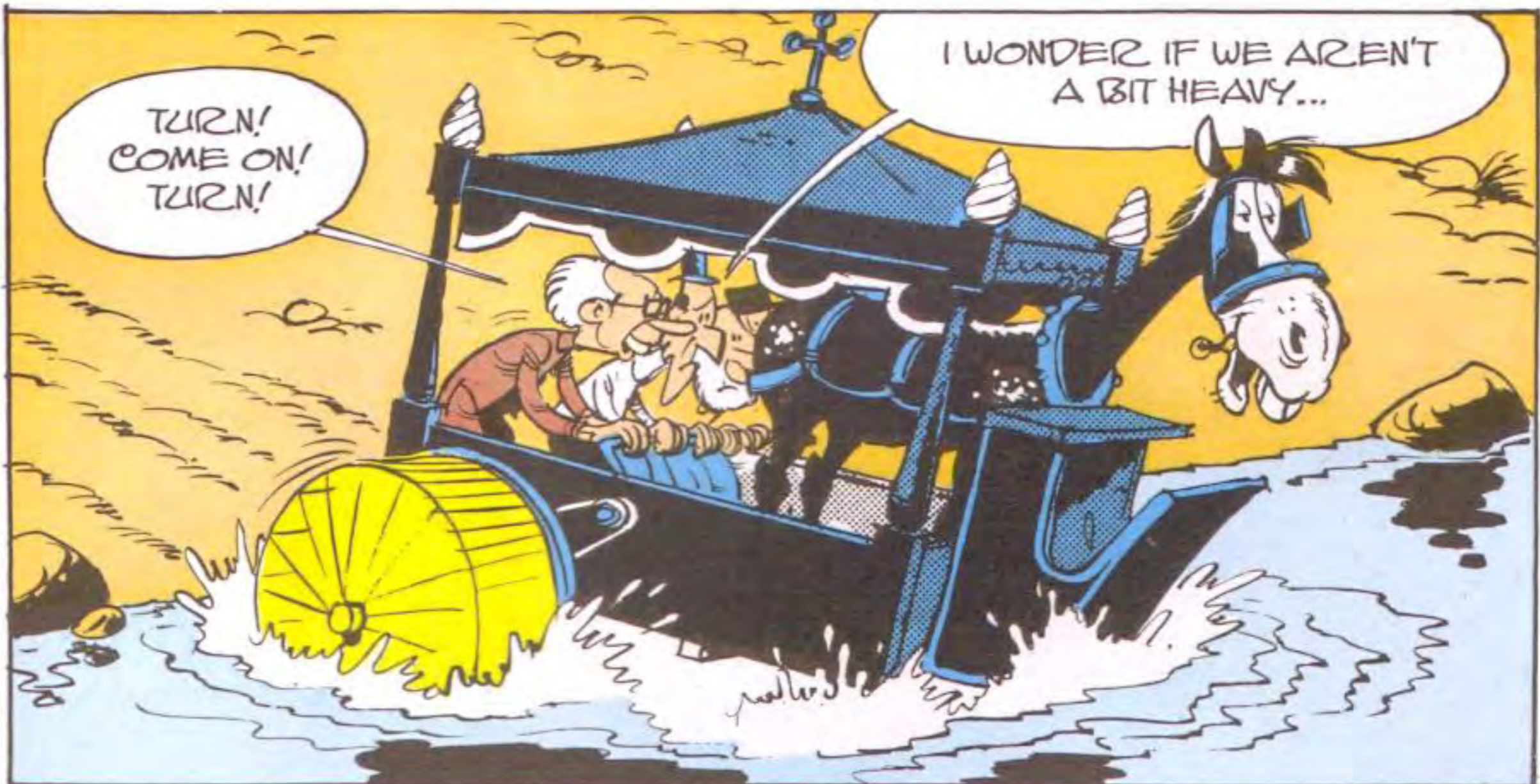
NO, PHINEAS!
YOU CAN'T GET OUT NOW!

28A



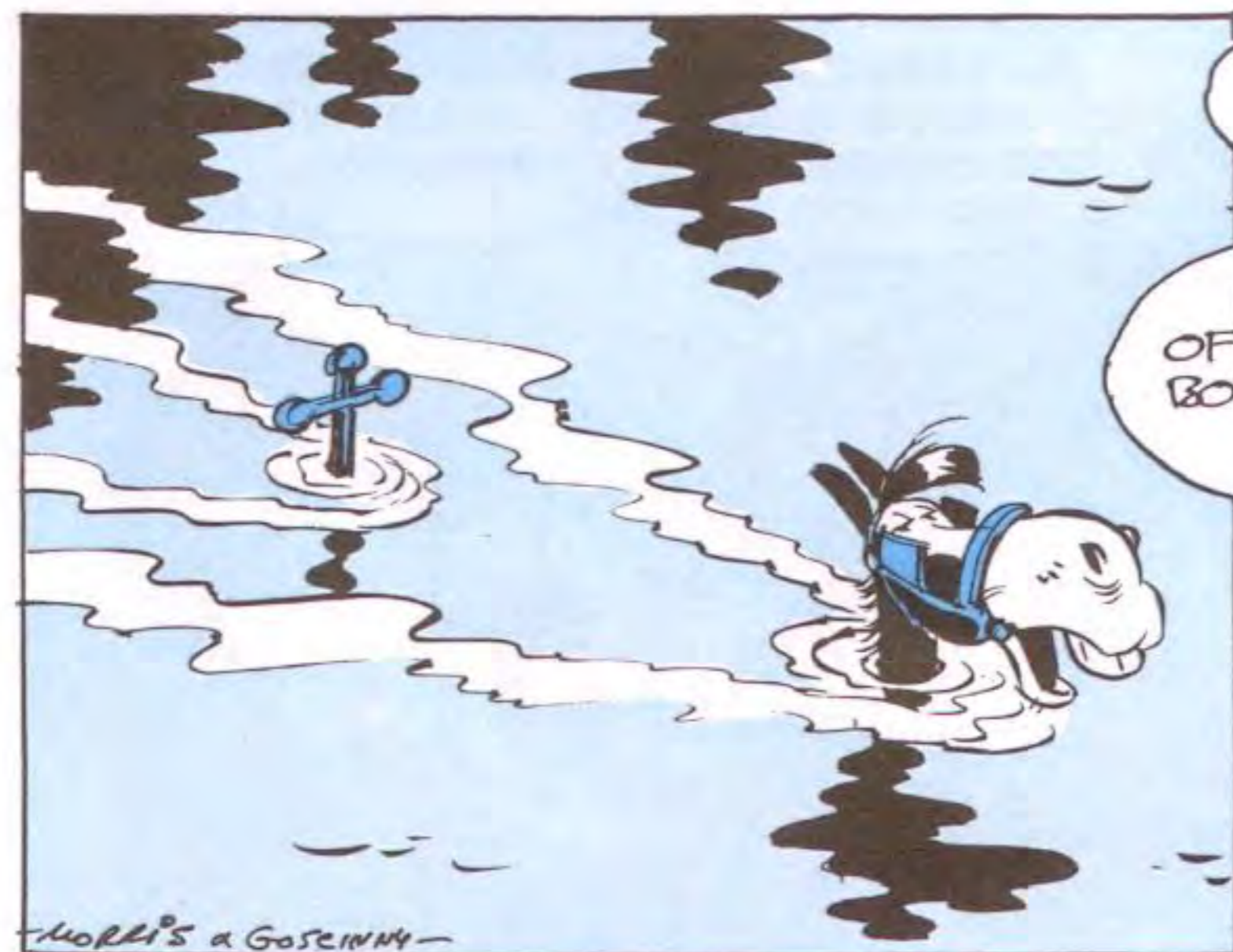
PUT THE HORSE IN THE HEARSE!
WITH THESE PADDLE-WHEELS WE'LL GO WAY FASTER THAN EVERYBODY ELSE!

LISTEN, MARTINS. YOU REALLY THINK THAT...



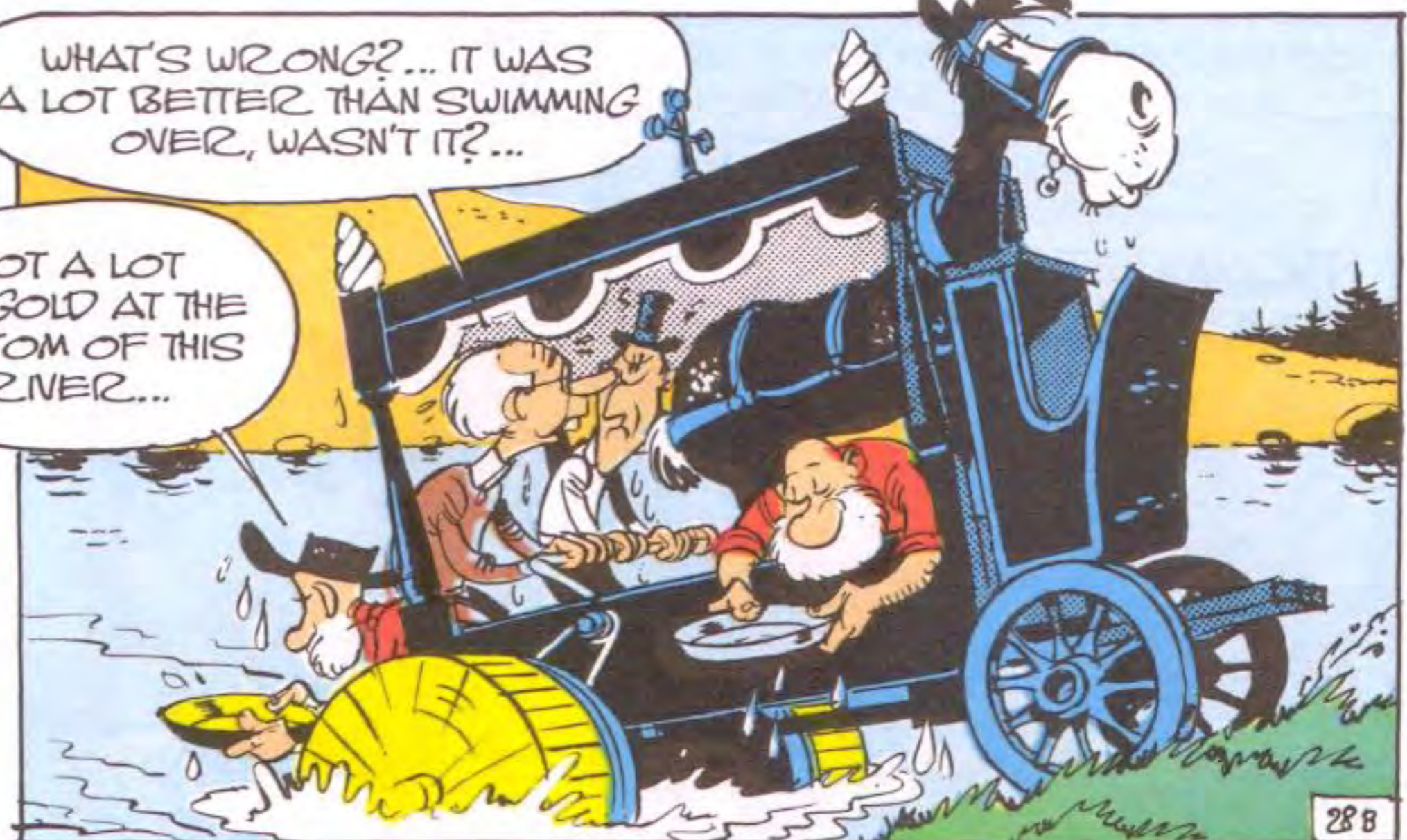
TURN!
COME ON!
TURN!

I WONDER IF WE AREN'T A BIT HEAVY...



WHAT'S WRONG?... IT WAS A LOT BETTER THAN SWIMMING OVER, WASN'T IT?...

NOT A LOT OF GOLD AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS RIVER...

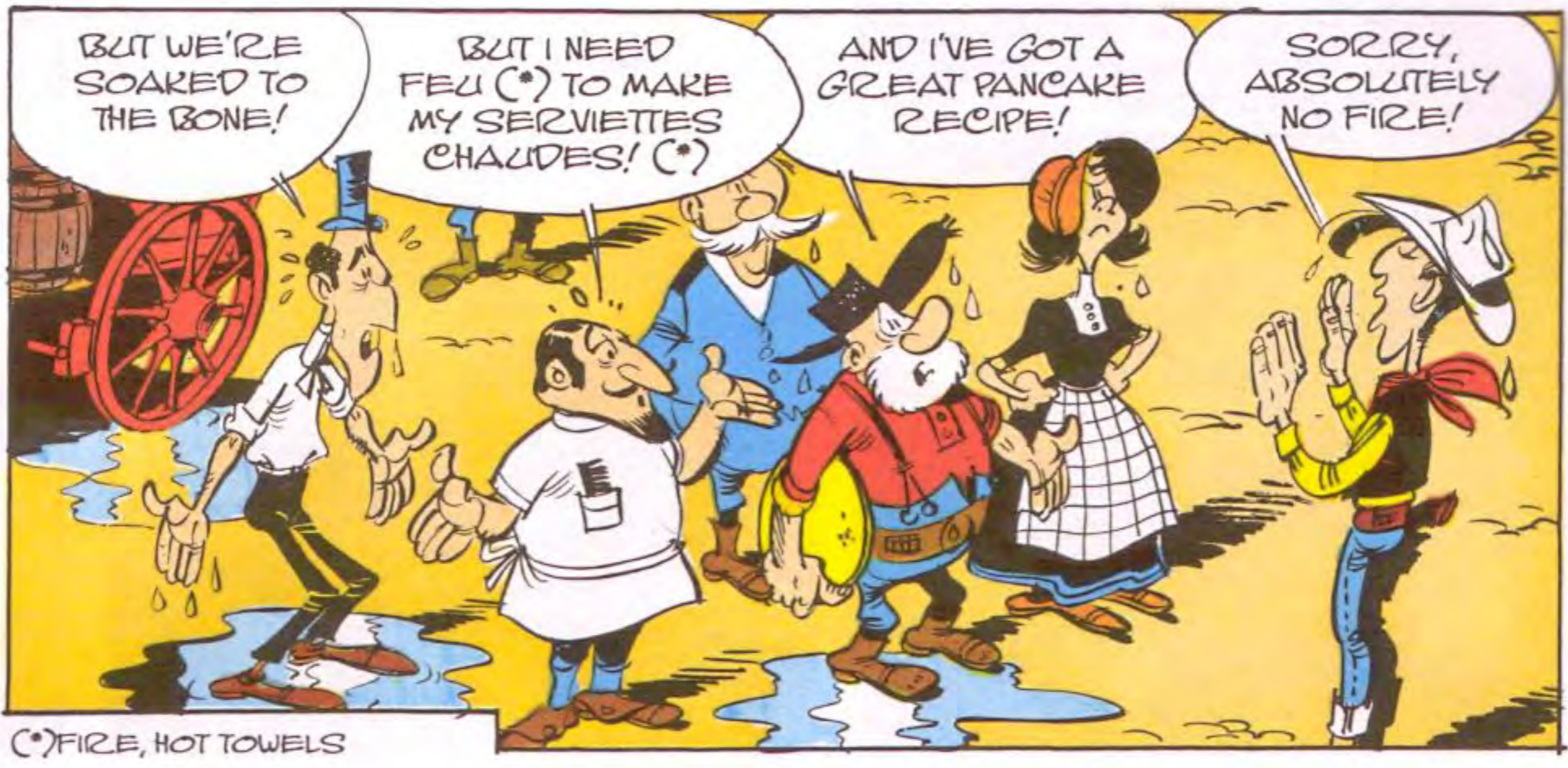


28B

MORRIS & GOSWAMI



NO MORE FIRES, FOLKS! IT COULD ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE SIOUX!



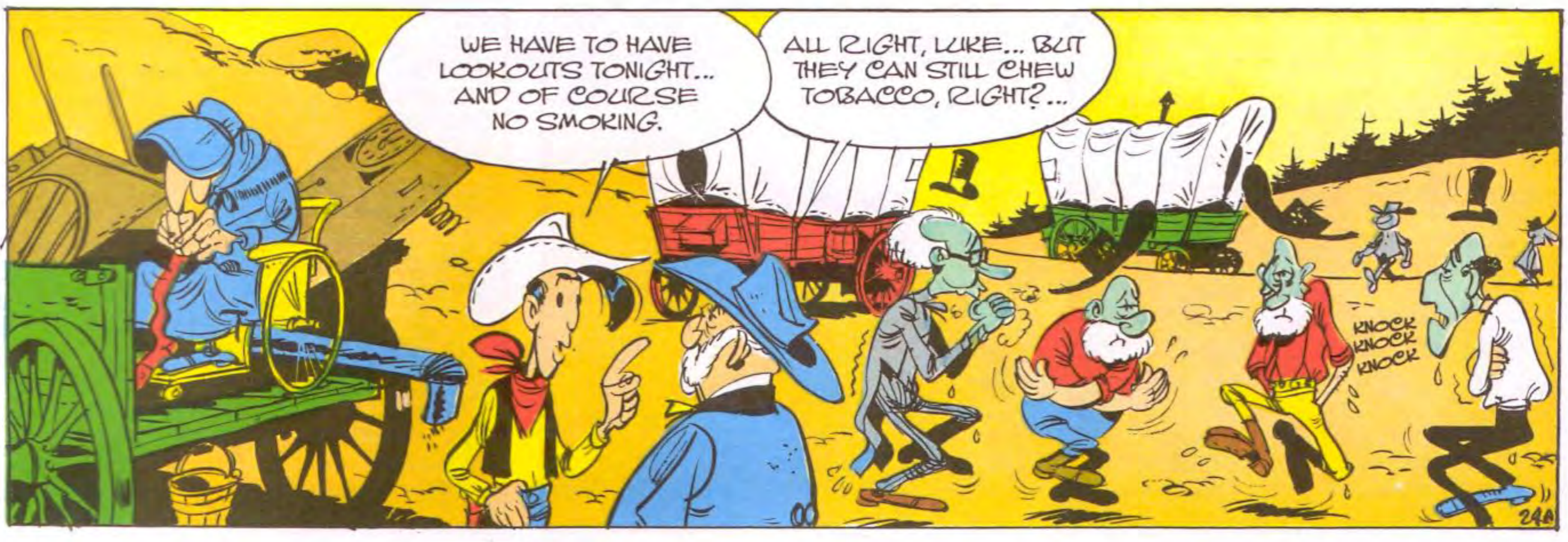
BUT WE'RE SOAKED TO THE BONE!

BUT I NEED FEU (*) TO MAKE MY SERVIETTES CHAUDES! (*)

AND I'VE GOT A GREAT PANCAKE RECIPE!

SORRY, ABSOLUTELY NO FIRE!

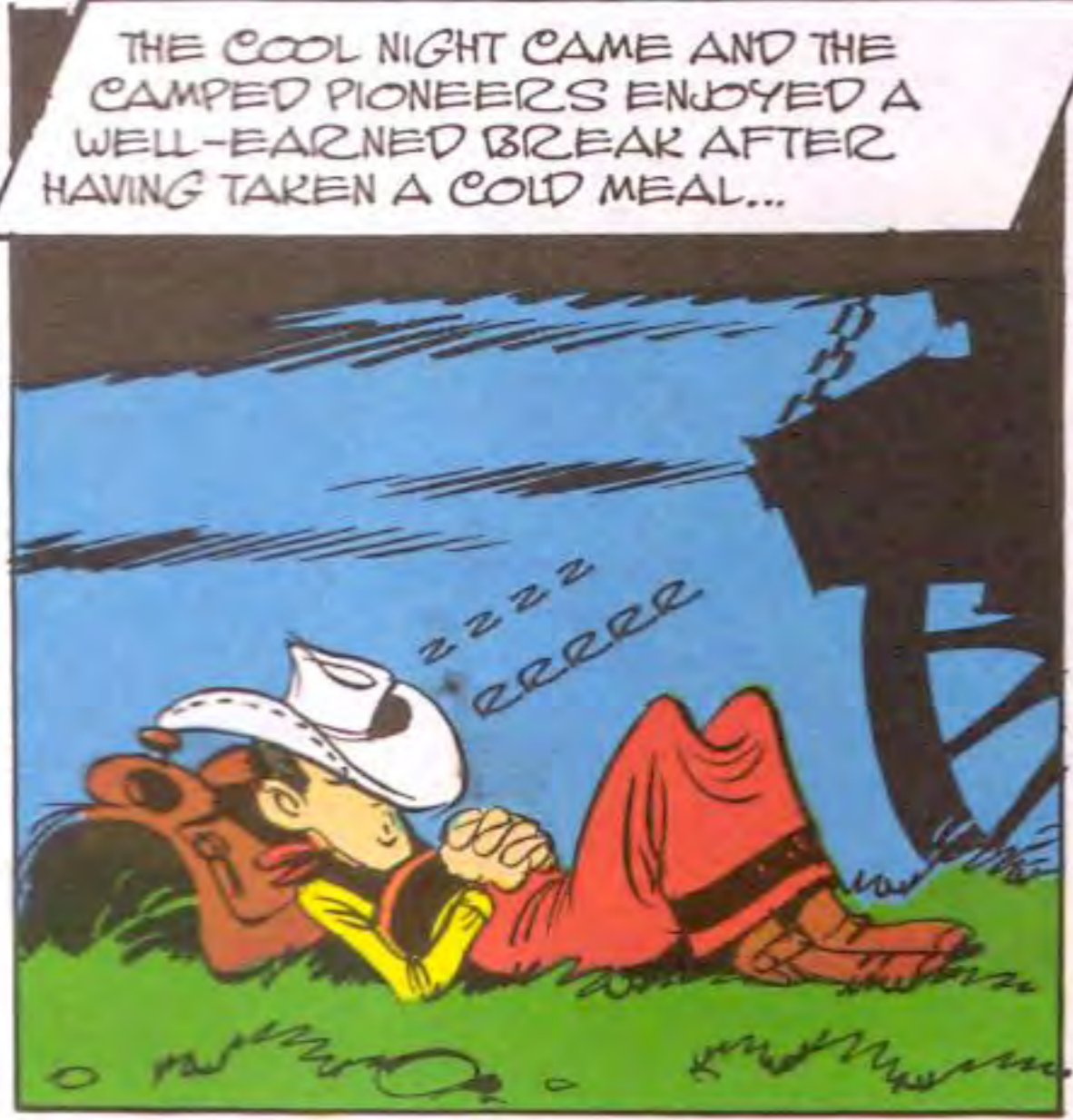
(*) FIRE, HOT TOWELS



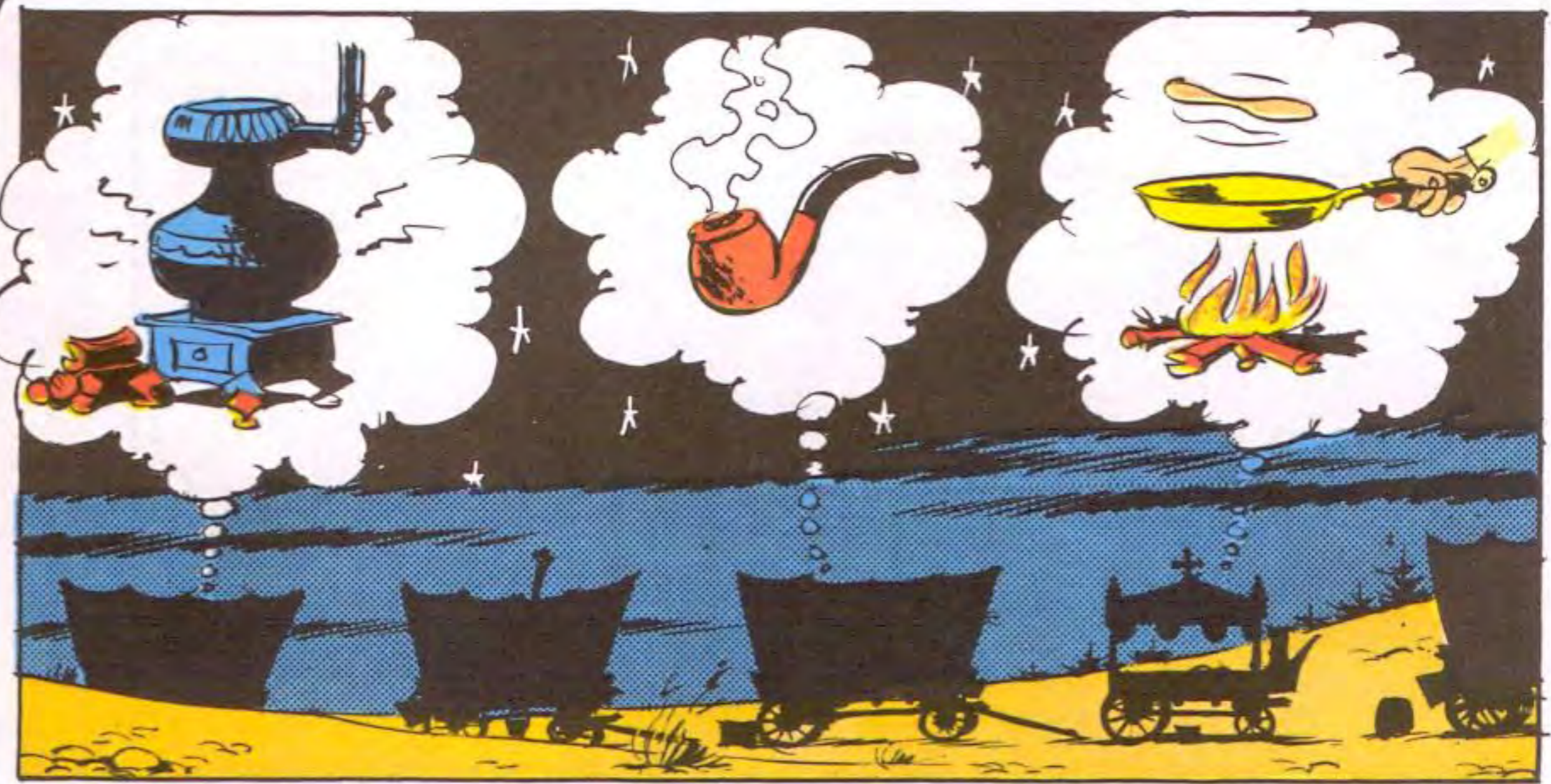
WE HAVE TO HAVE LOOKOUTS TONIGHT... AND OF COURSE NO SMOKING.

ALL RIGHT, LIKE... BUT THEY CAN STILL CHEW TOBACCO, RIGHT?...

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK



THE COOL NIGHT CAME AND THE CAMPED PIONEERS ENJOYED A WELL-EARNED BREAK AFTER HAVING TAKEN A COLD MEAL...



BUT AT DAWN...

SMOKE!



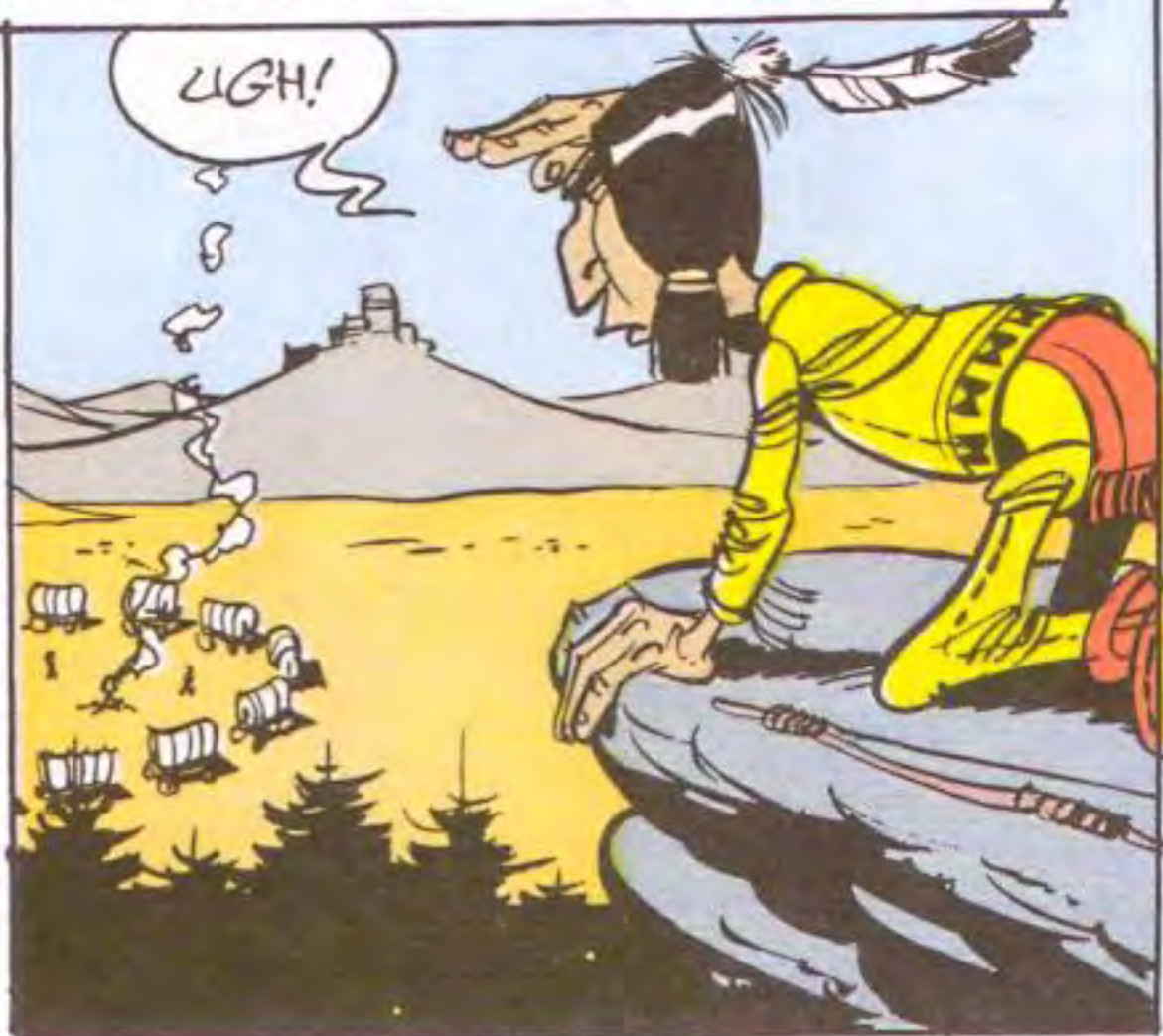
FIRE! SOMEONE LIT A FIRE! THERE'S SMOKE!!



NOBODY ADMITS TO HAVING LIT THIS FIRE, LUCKY LIKE!...

ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS HOPE THAT THE SIOUX DIDN'T SEE IT!...

UNFORTUNATELY, THE SMOKE WAS SEEN BY A SIOUX WATCHMAN WHO HAD A WAY WITH WORDS...



WELL, THIS IS SIMPLE ENOUGH!



FURTHER AWAY...

WHAT IS IT?...

SMOKE ON THE HORIZON, OH RABID DOG, BIG CHIEF!



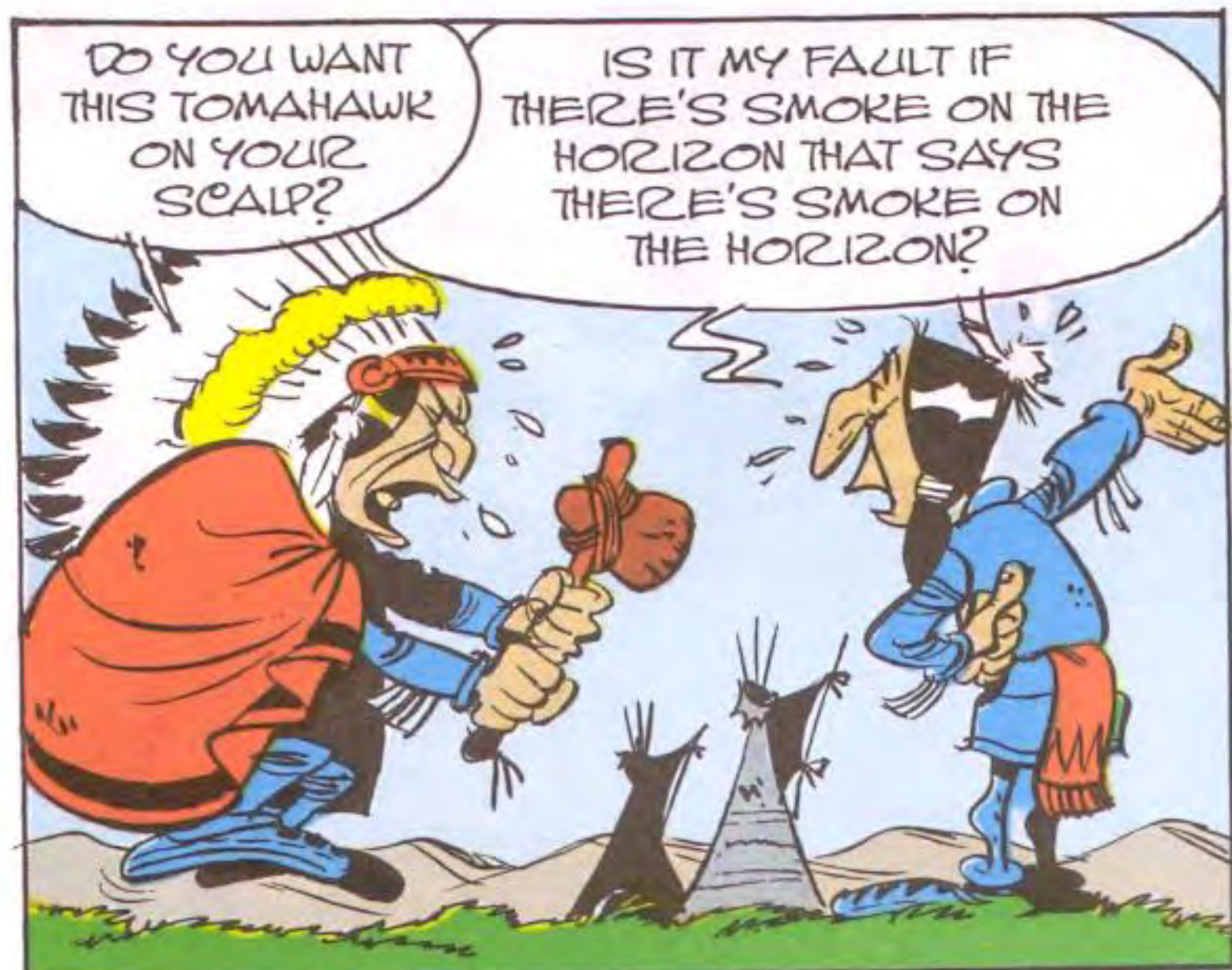
I CAN SEE THAT THERE'S SMOKE ON THE HORIZON, LITTLE BRAIN, BUT WHAT'S IT SAYING?...

THAT THERE'S SMOKE ON THE HORIZON!



DO YOU WANT THIS TOMAHAWK ON YOUR SCALP?

IS IT MY FAULT IF THERE'S SMOKE ON THE HORIZON THAT SAYS THERE'S SMOKE ON THE HORIZON?

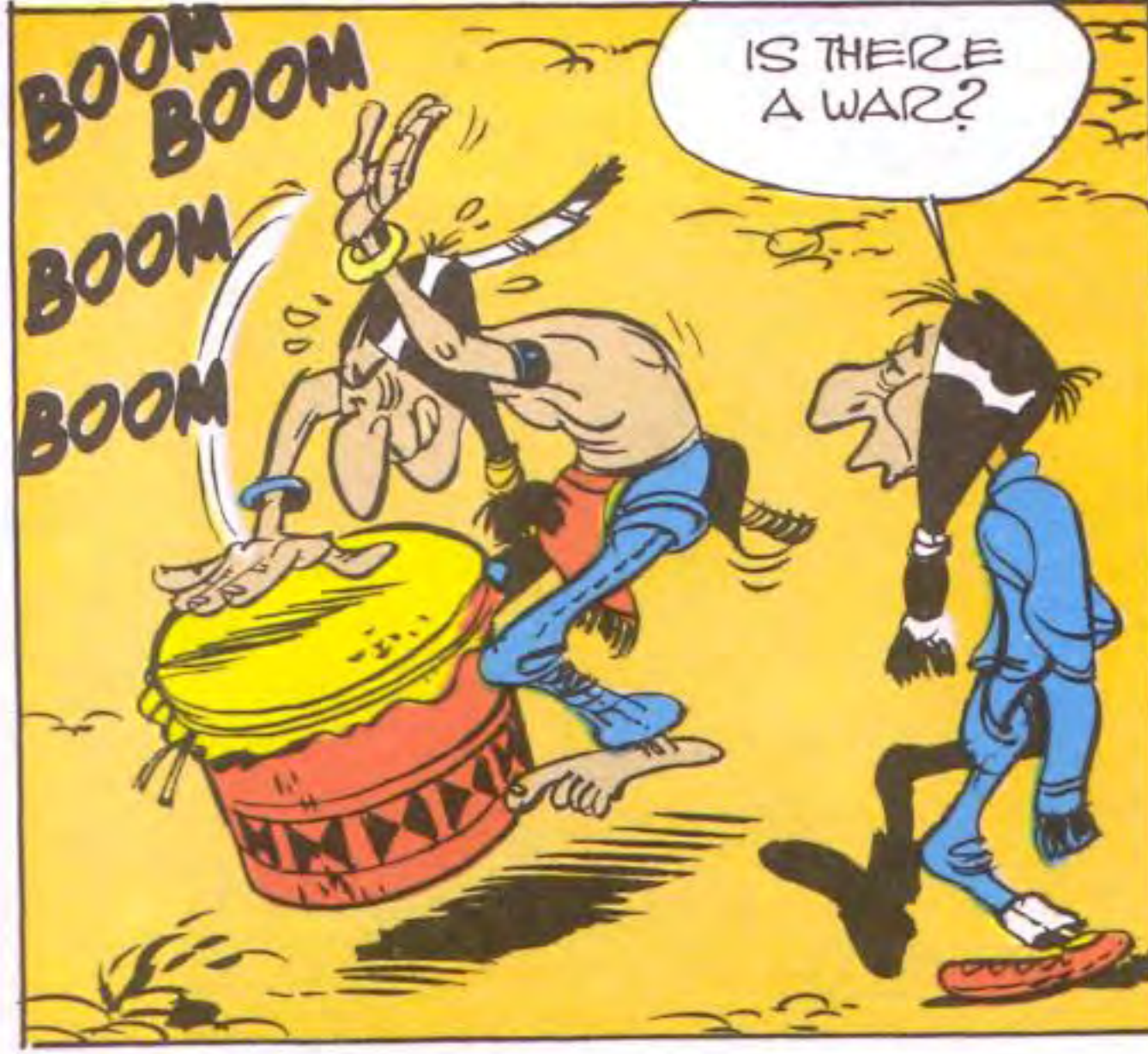


MAY THE DRUMS BEAT! MAY THE BRAVES PREPARE!



BOOM BOOM BOOM

IS THERE A WAR?



MAY OX TAIL GO AND FIND OUT ABOUT THIS SMOKE! UGH!

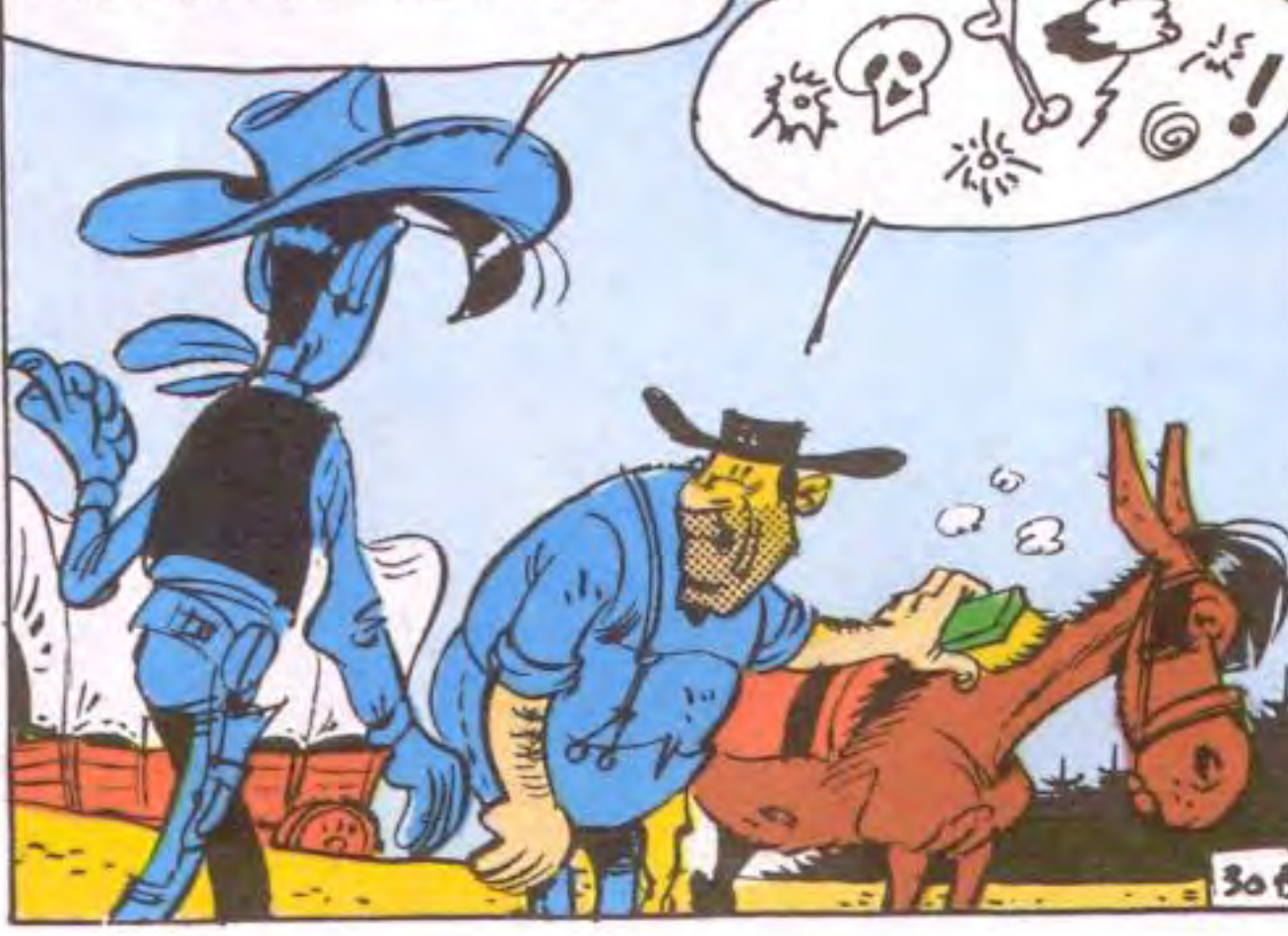
UGH!

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM

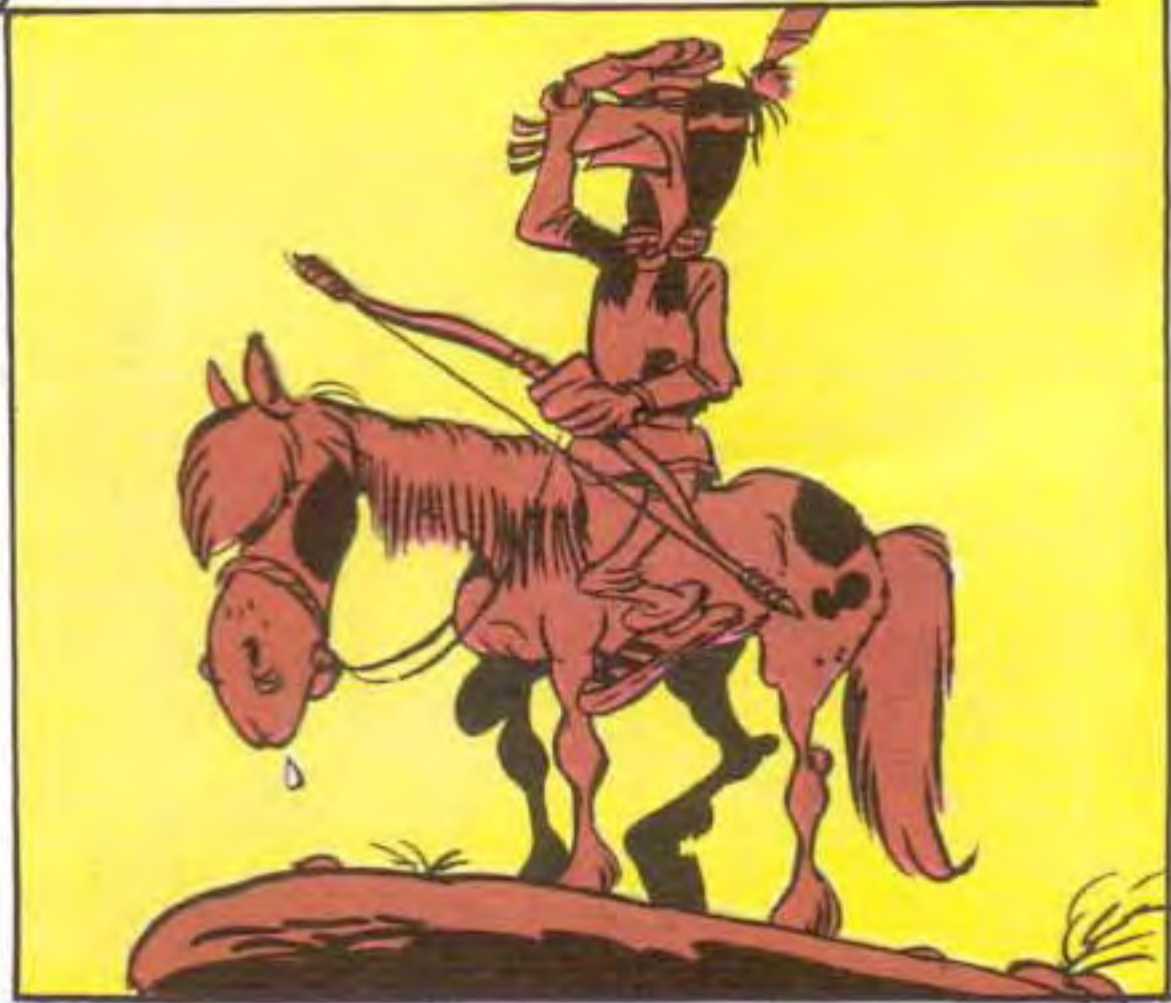


RIGHT THEN...

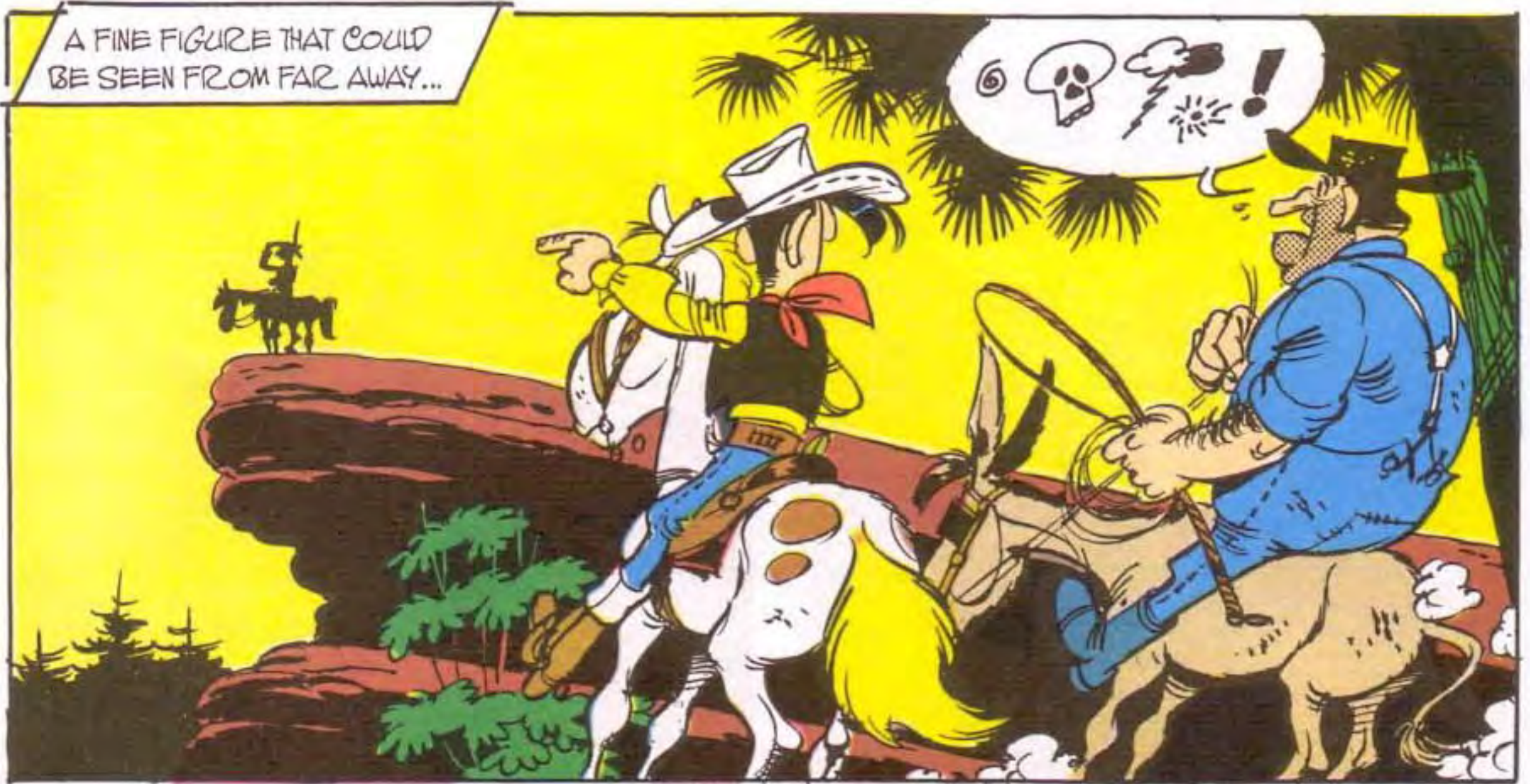
COME WITH ME, UGLY BARROW. WE'RE GOING ON A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION TO SEE IF THERE AIN'T ANY SIOUX IN THE VICINITY...



FROM HIGH ATOP A CLIFF, OX TAIL WATCHED OVER THE ENEMY... AND MADE A FINE FIGURE OF AN INDIAN AT THE SAME TIME...



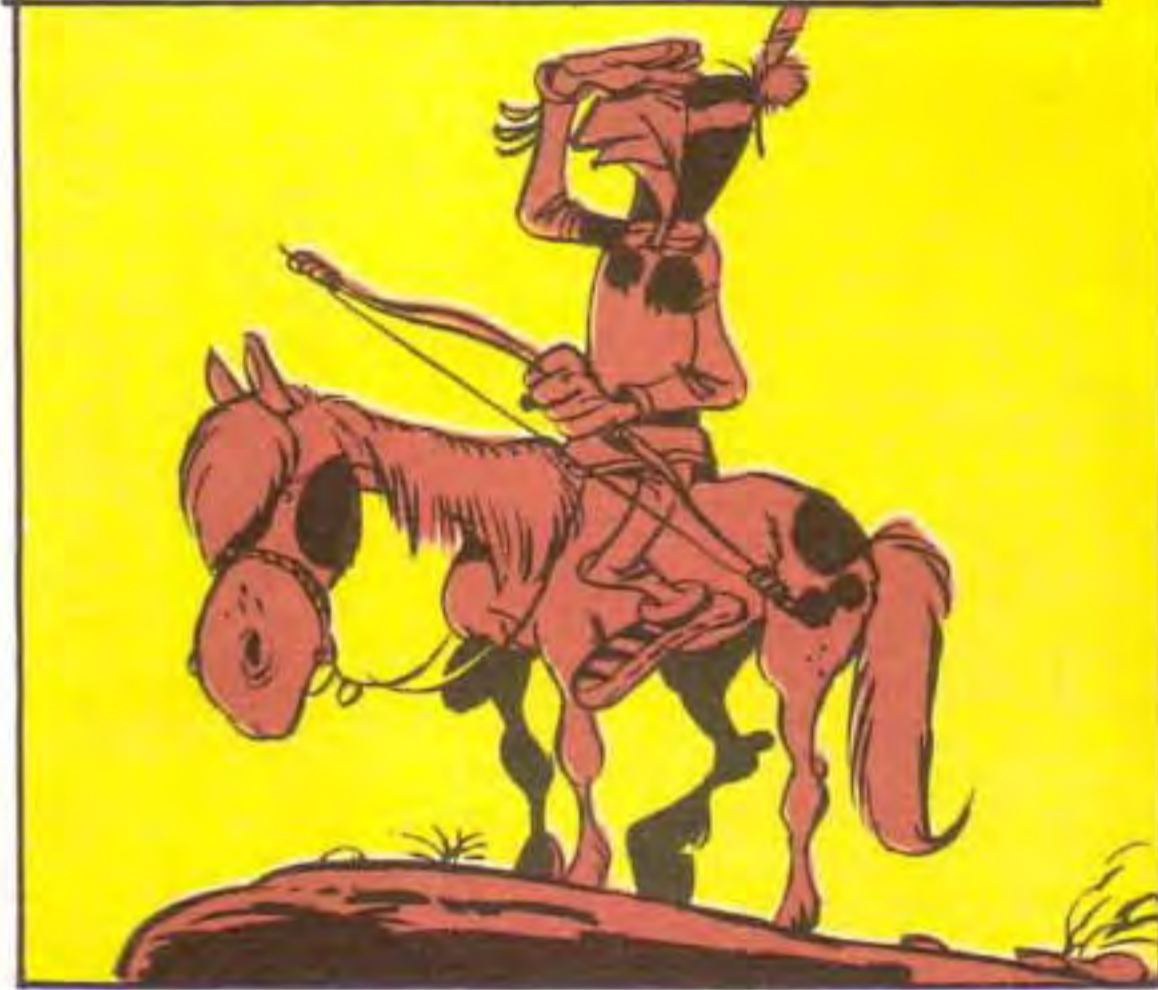
A FINE FIGURE THAT COULD BE SEEN FROM FAR AWAY...



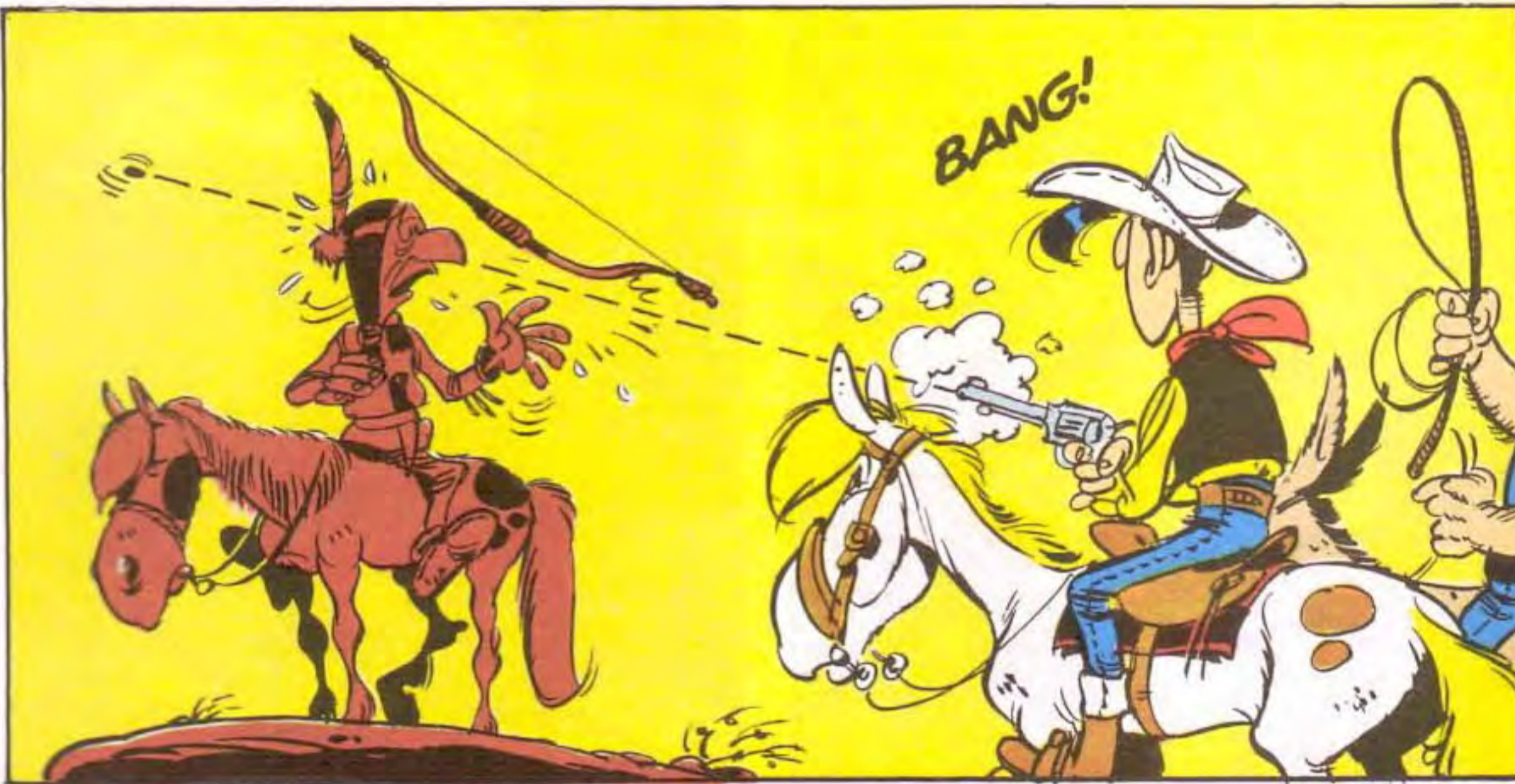
IT WAS ONE OF THE REMARKABLE TRAITS OF THE SIOUX WATCHMEN-THEIR ABILITY TO STAY COMPLETELY STILL...

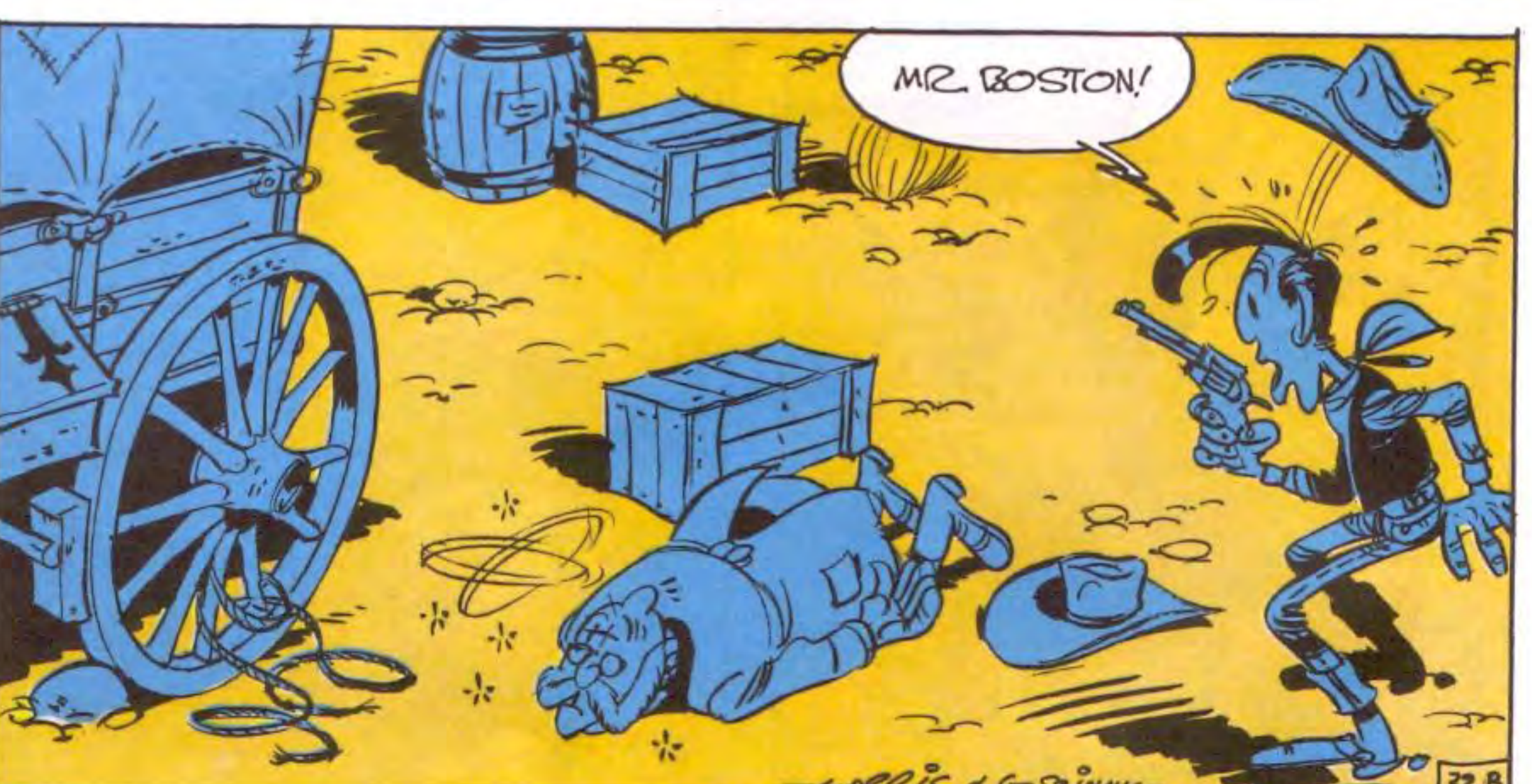
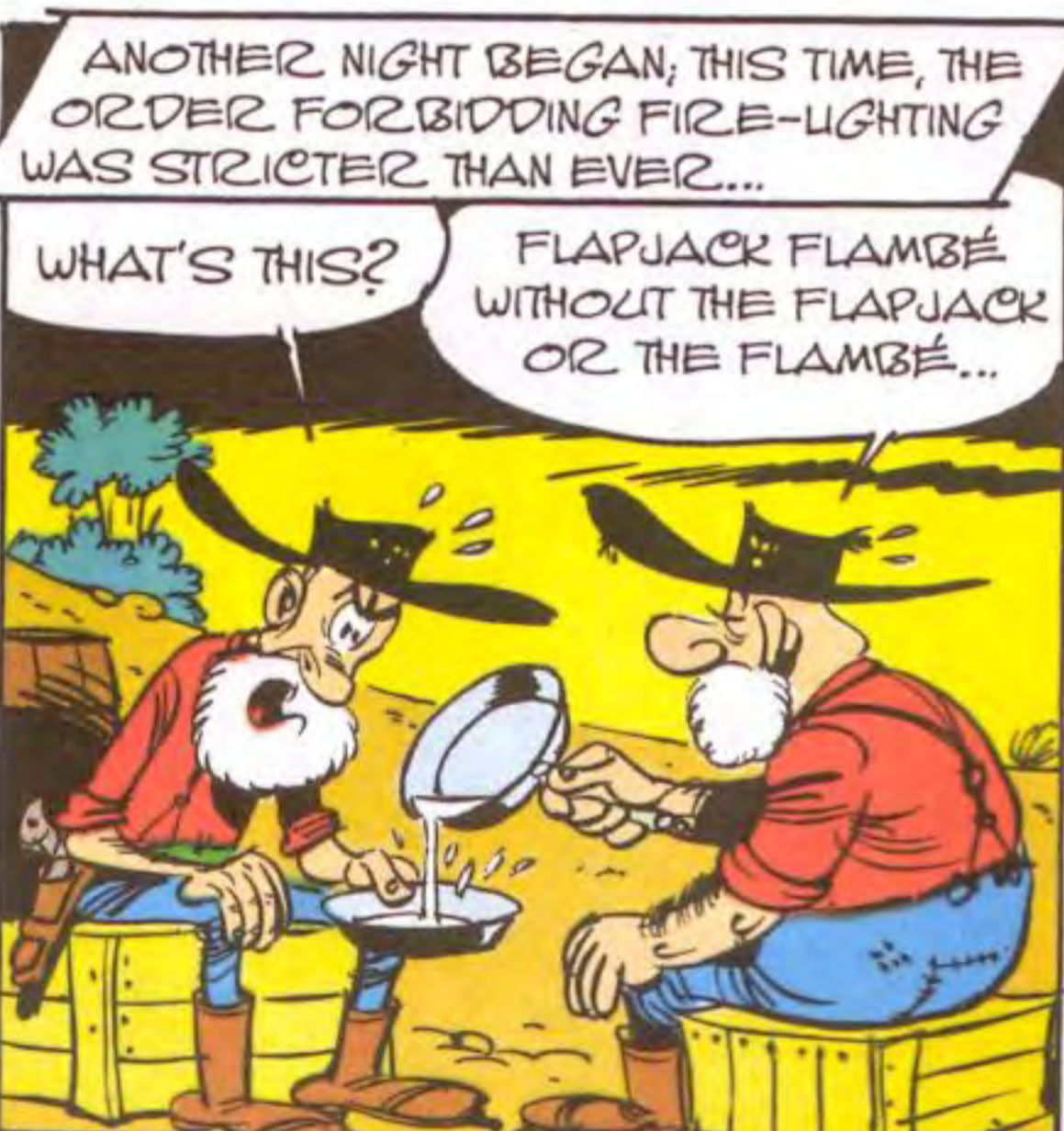
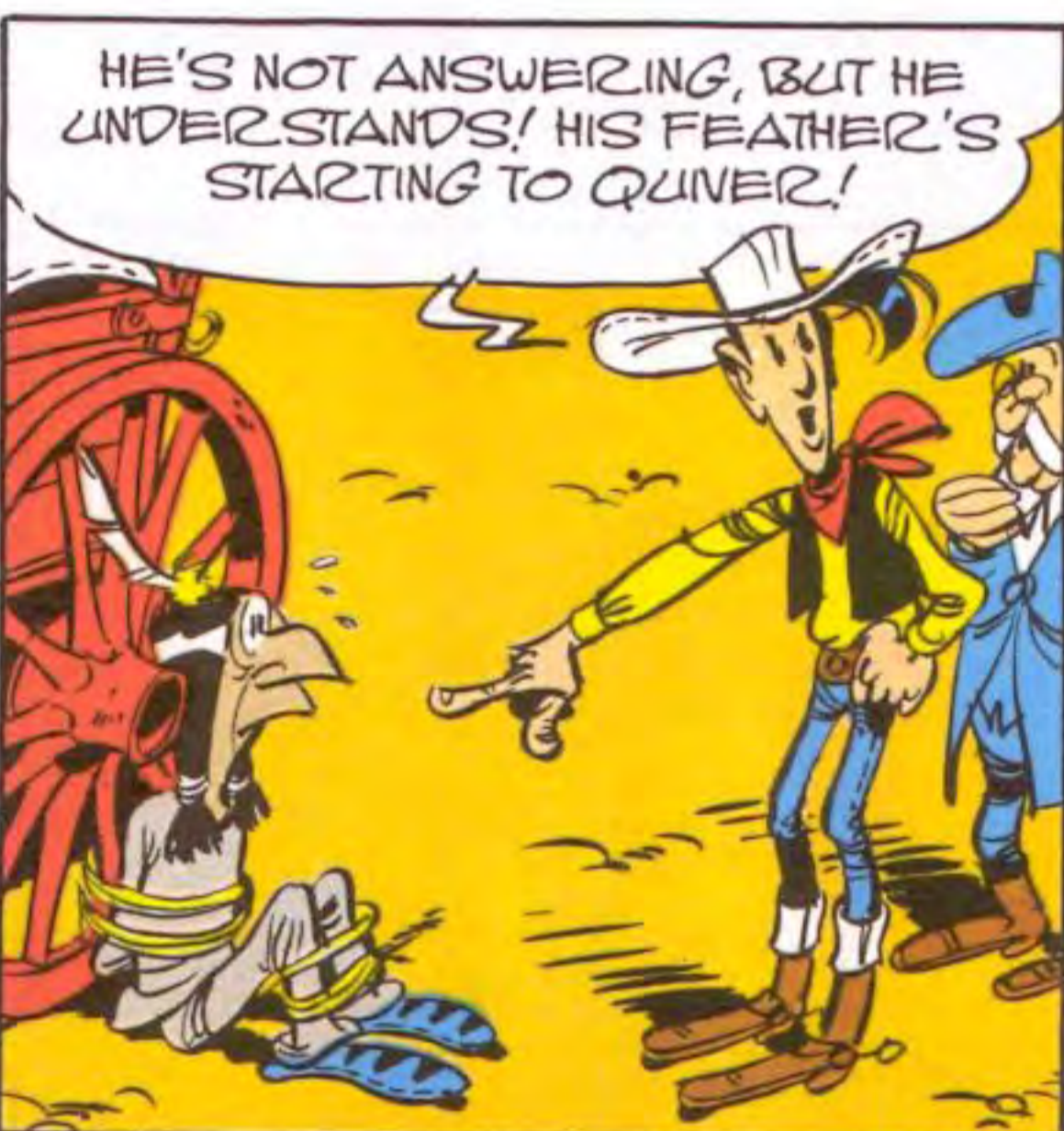
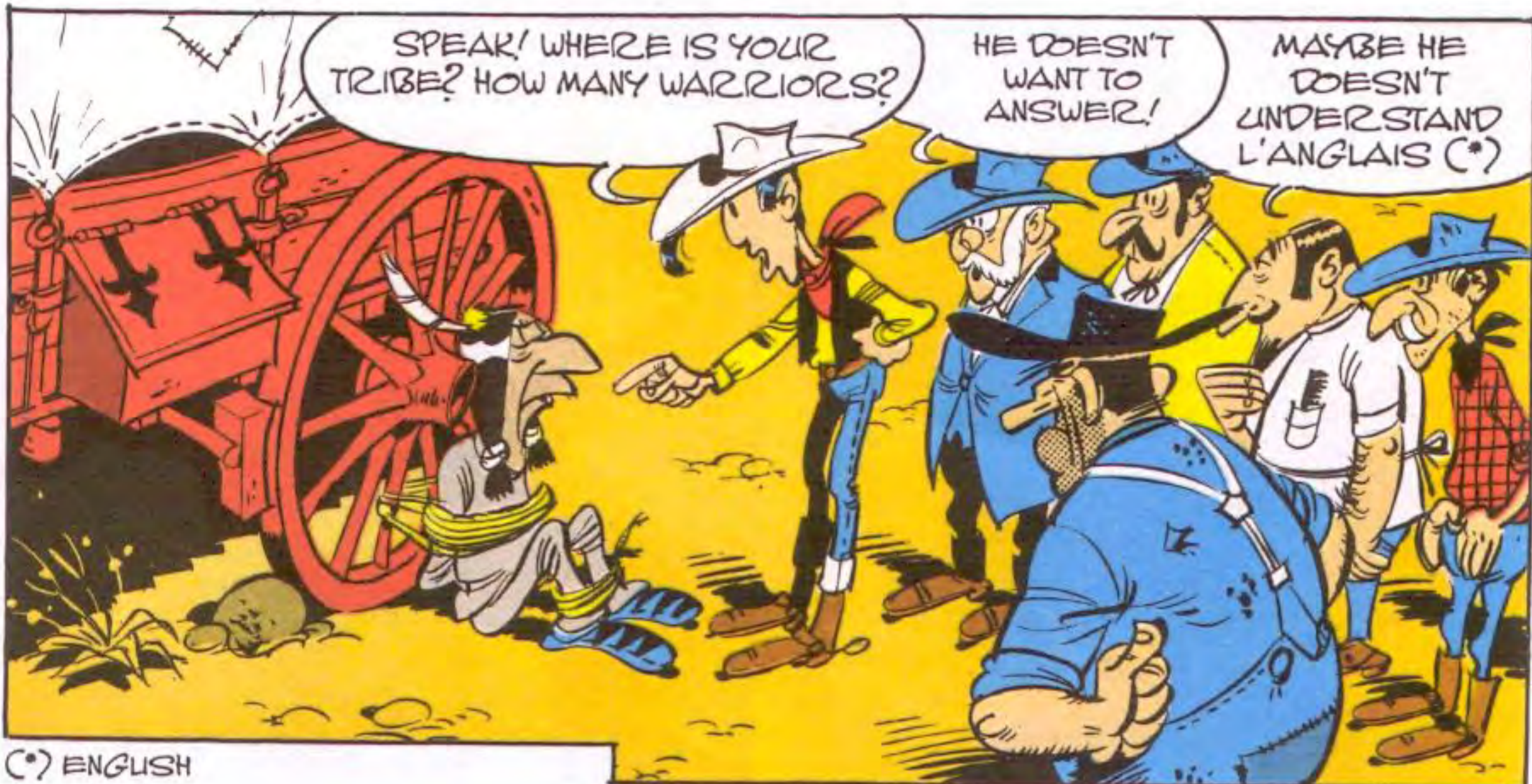


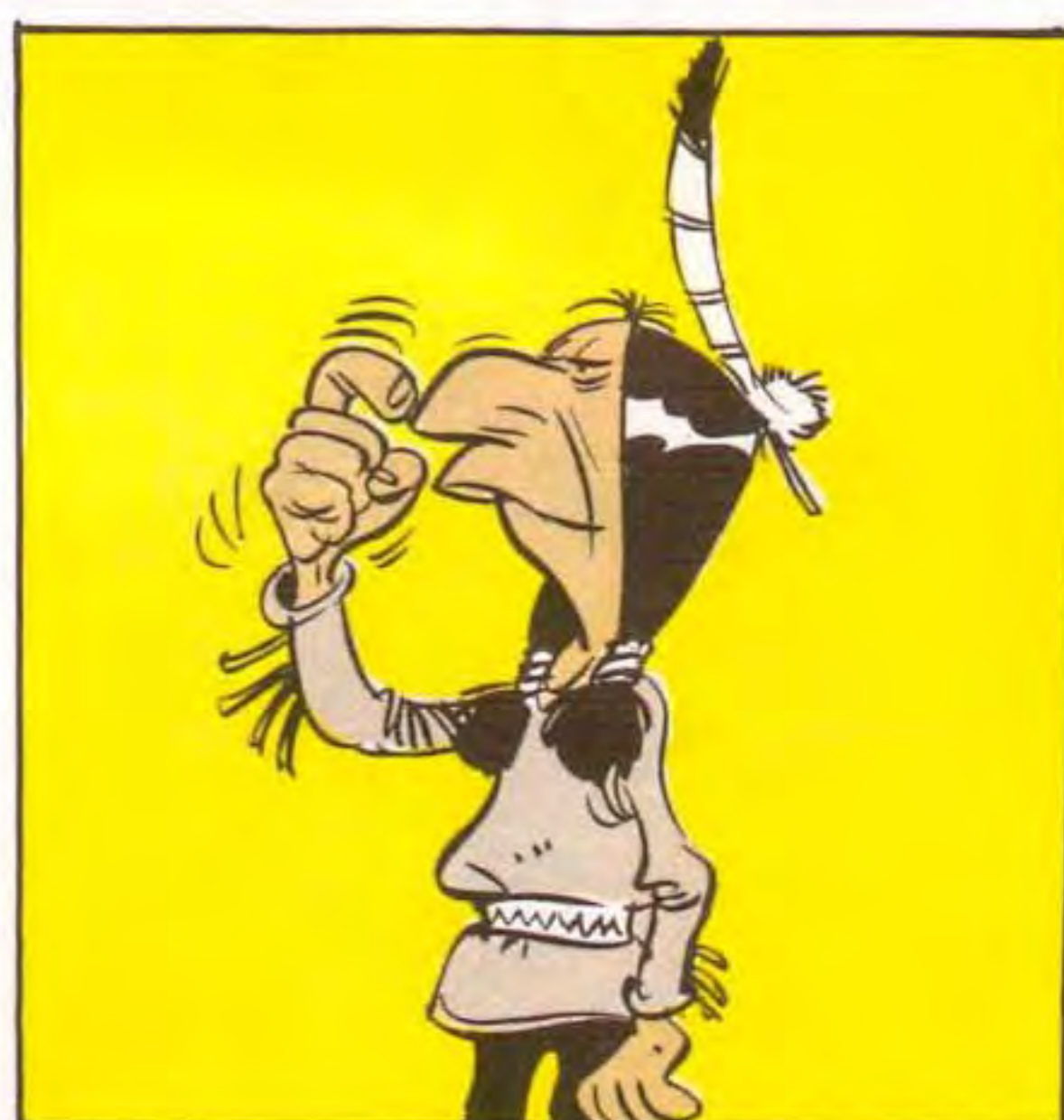
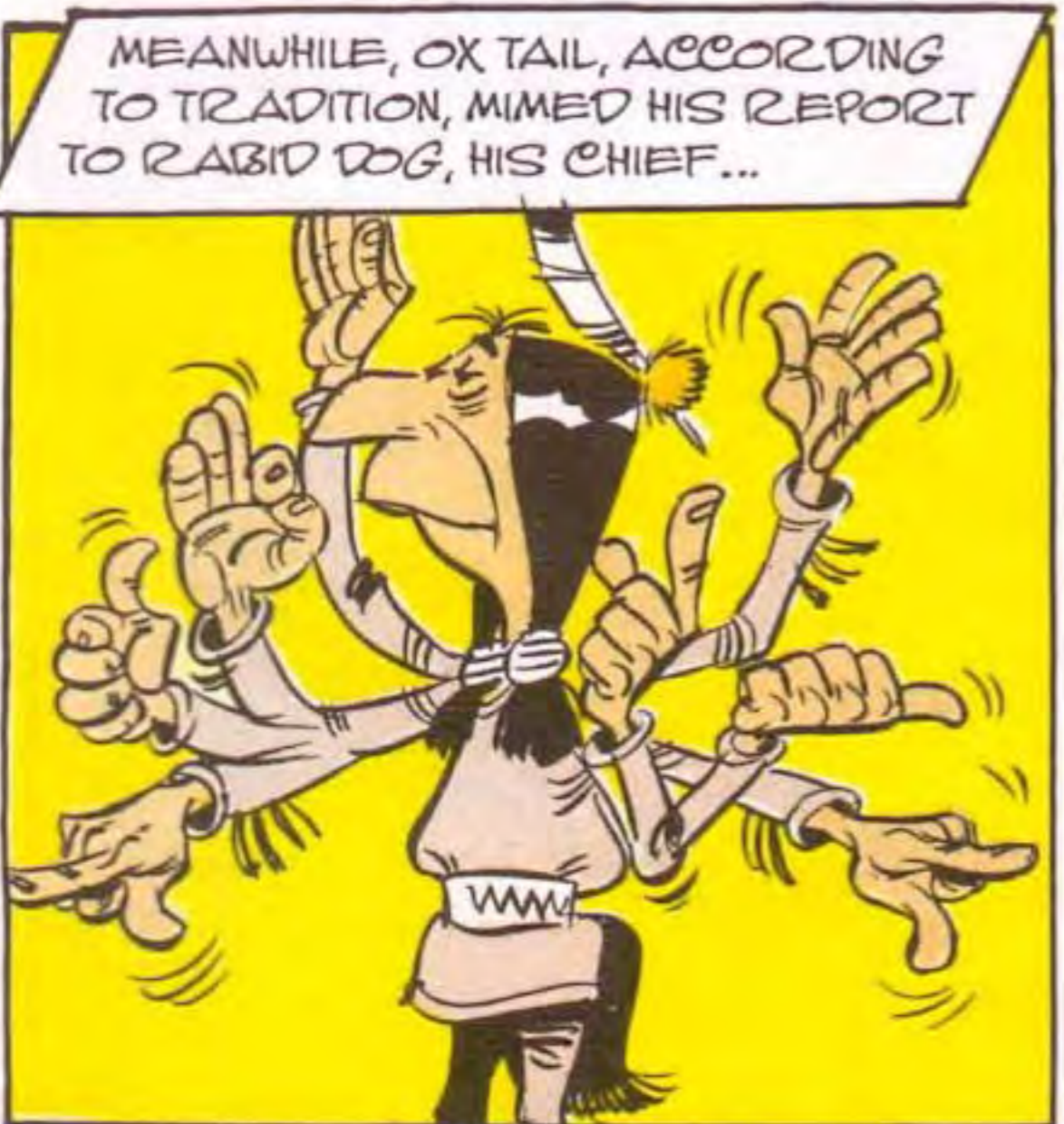
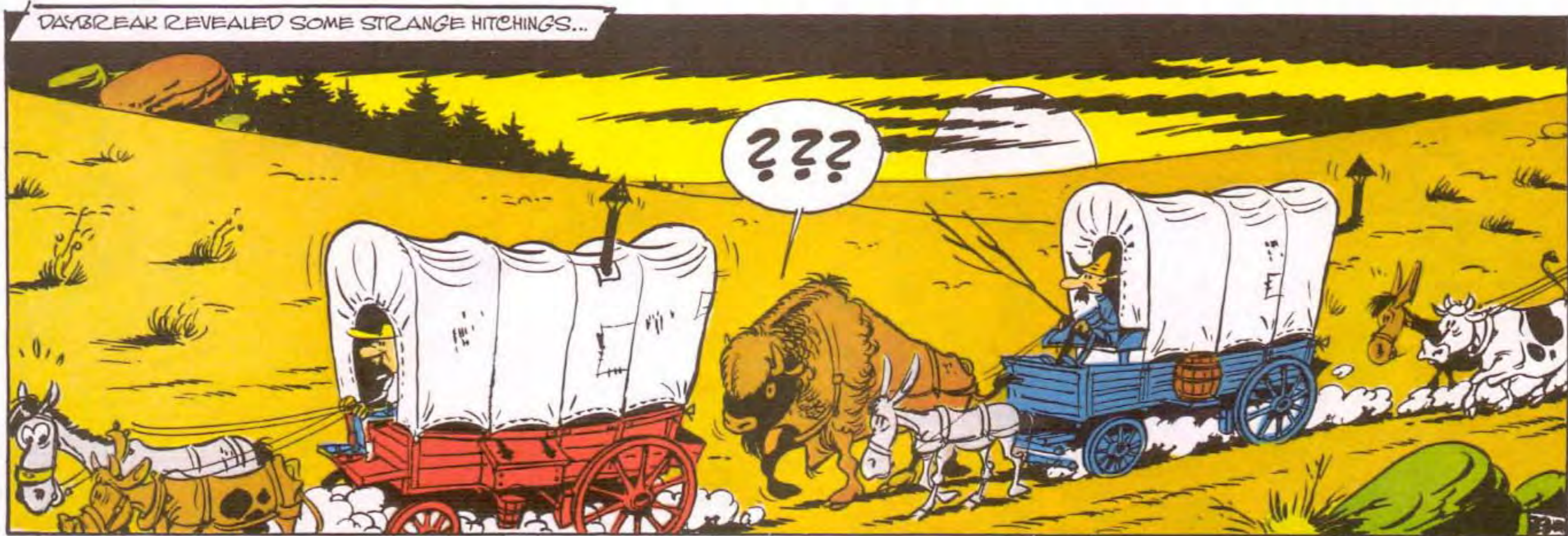
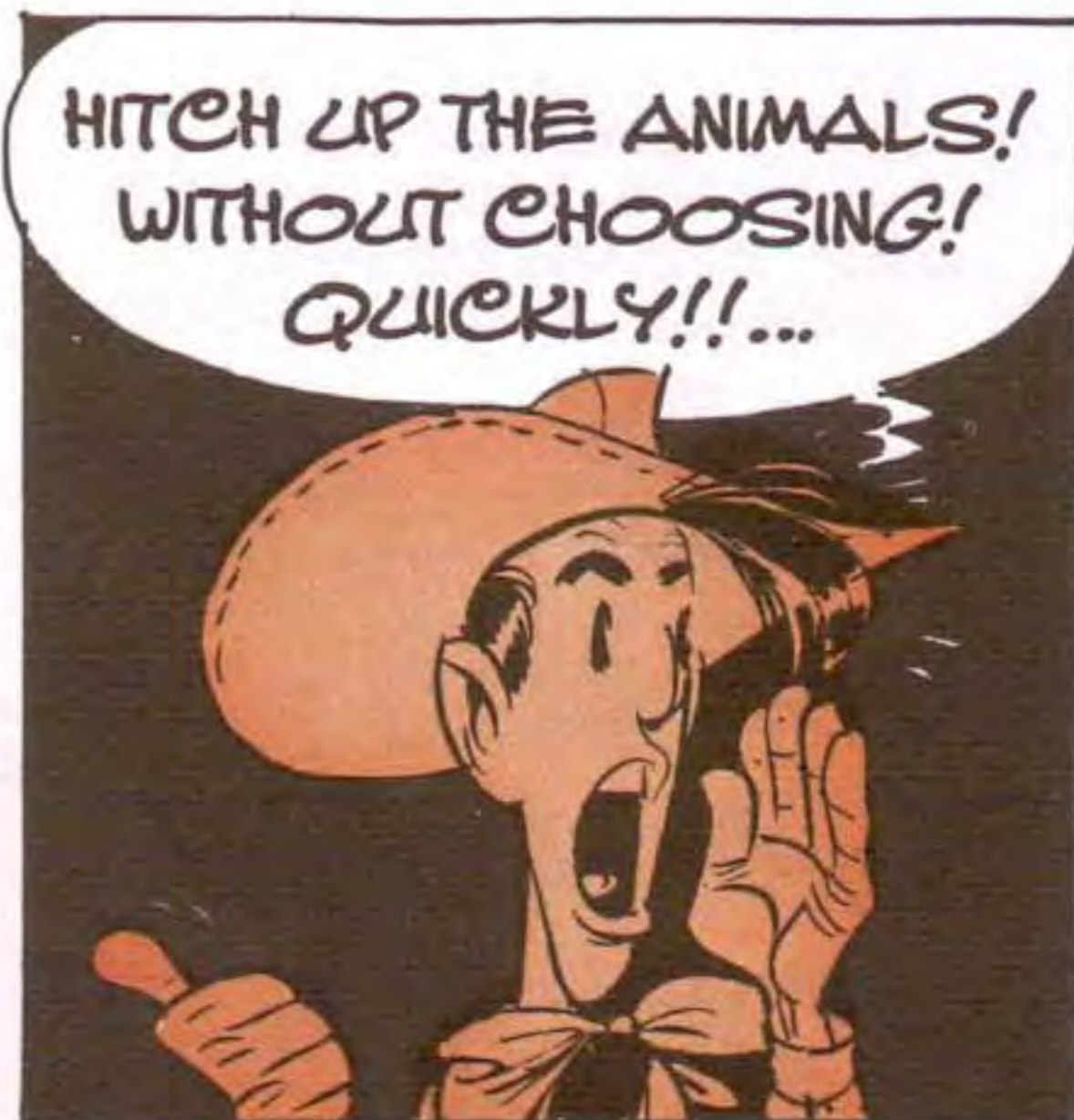
... FOR HOURS WITHOUT MOVING A MUSCLE, WATCHING THEIR PREY, READY TO SURPRISE IT...

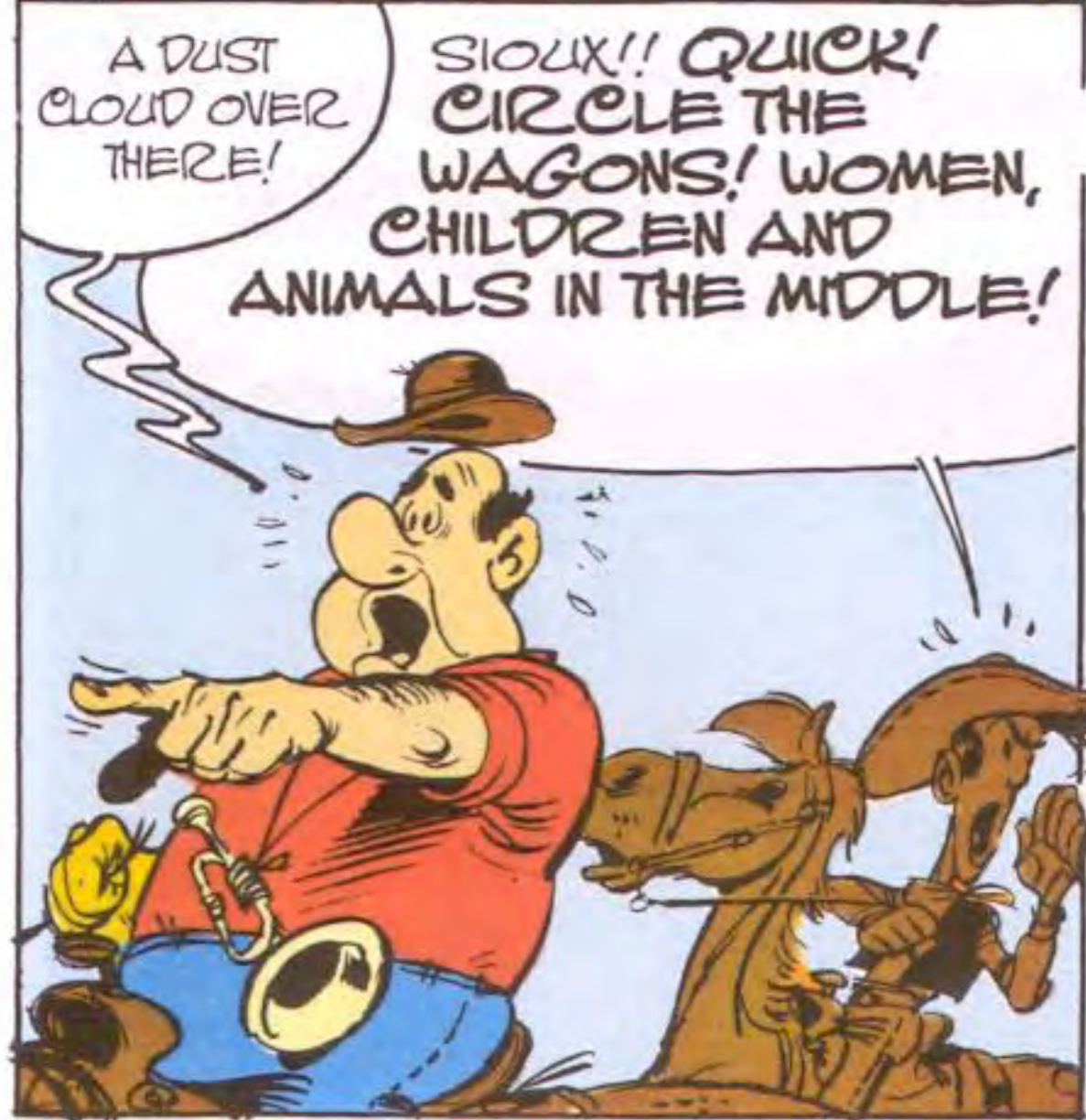


WAITING FOR SOMEONE?



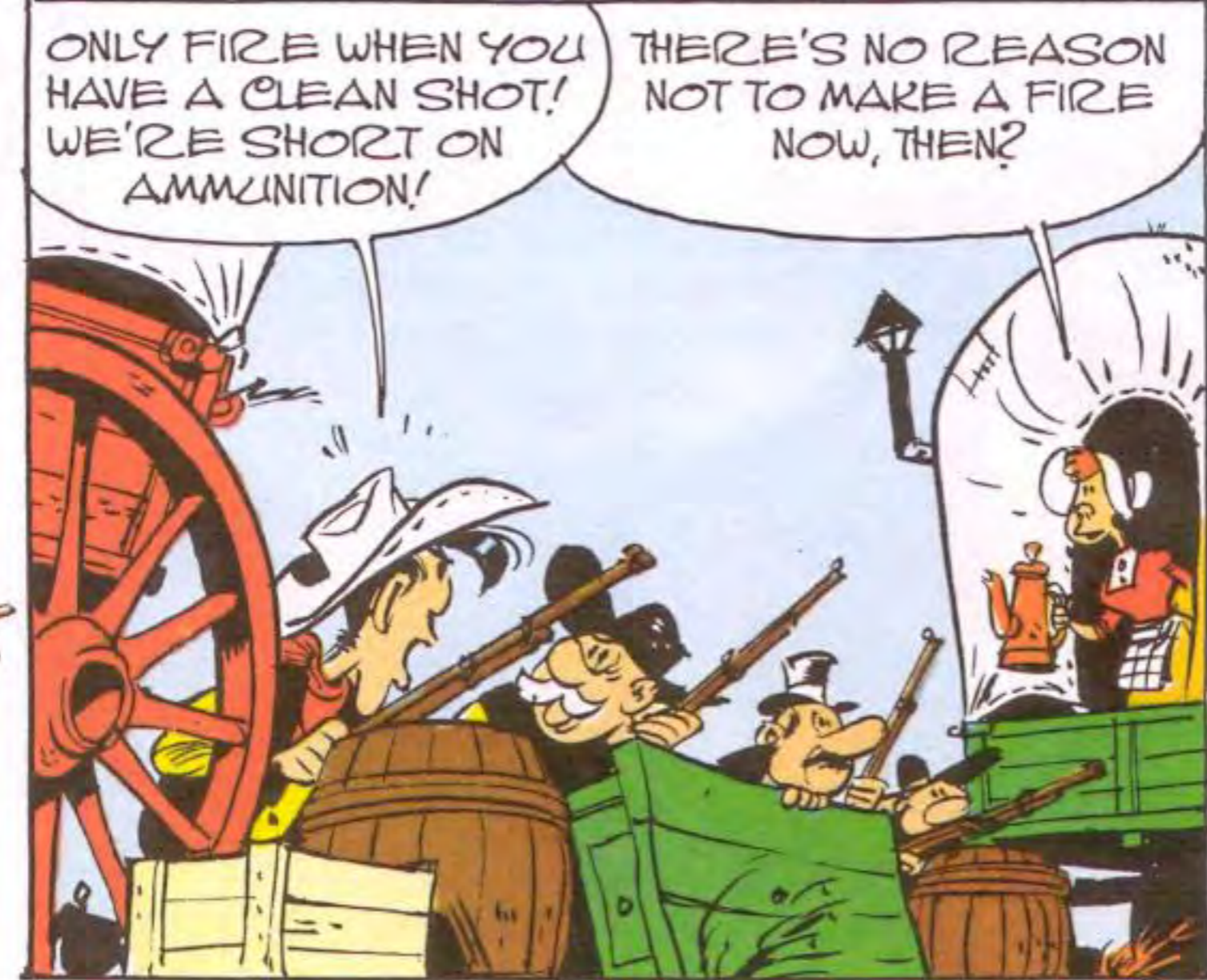






A DUST CLOUD OVER THERE!

SIoux!! QUICK! CIRCLE THE WAGONS! WOMEN, CHILDREN AND ANIMALS IN THE MIDDLE!



ONLY FIRE WHEN YOU HAVE A CLEAN SHOT! WE'RE SHORT ON AMMUNITION!

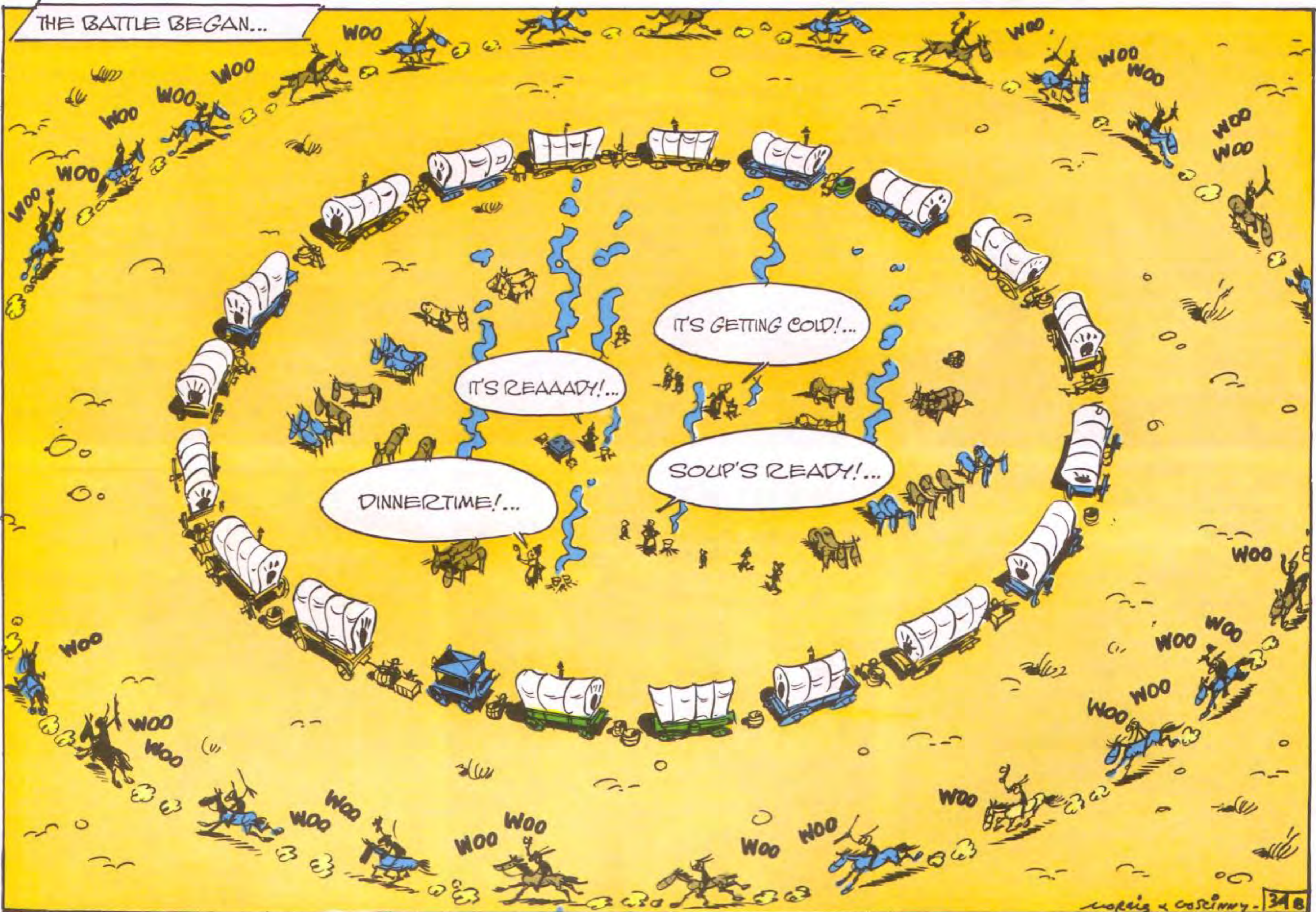
THERE'S NO REASON NOT TO MAKE A FIRE NOW, THEN?



THE USUAL TACTICS, CHIEF? RUNNING AROUND THEM AND SHOOTING INTO THEM, BIG CHIEF?

YES, WE'LL BESIEGE THEM AND STARVE THEM OUT!

34A



THE BATTLE BEGAN...

WOO

WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO WOO

WOO

IT'S GETTING COLD!...

IT'S REAAAADY!...

DINNERTIME!...

SOUP'S READY!...

LOUIS & CASINNY 34B



BIG CHIEF, IT MAKES US HUNGRY, STARVING THE PALEFACES!

YES... LET'S TAKE A BREAK... WE'LL TAKE A LITTLE SNACK.

COME AND GET IT!

SNIFF



THIS KIND OF BATTLE ALWAYS MAKES ME DIZZY...

BUT IT DOESN'T DAMPEN YOUR APPETITE, OH HOLLOW TOOTH!

I'D LIKE SOME MORE OF THAT PEMMICAN...



RIGHT, IT'S TIME TO GET BACK IN THE SADDLE! LET'S GET THIS WHEEL TURNING!...

34C



WHAT'S THE HURRY, BIG CHIEF? BROTHER SUN IS BEATING DOWN AND WE HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD...

UGH! LAZY GROUNDHOG IS MAYBE NOT SO WRONG...

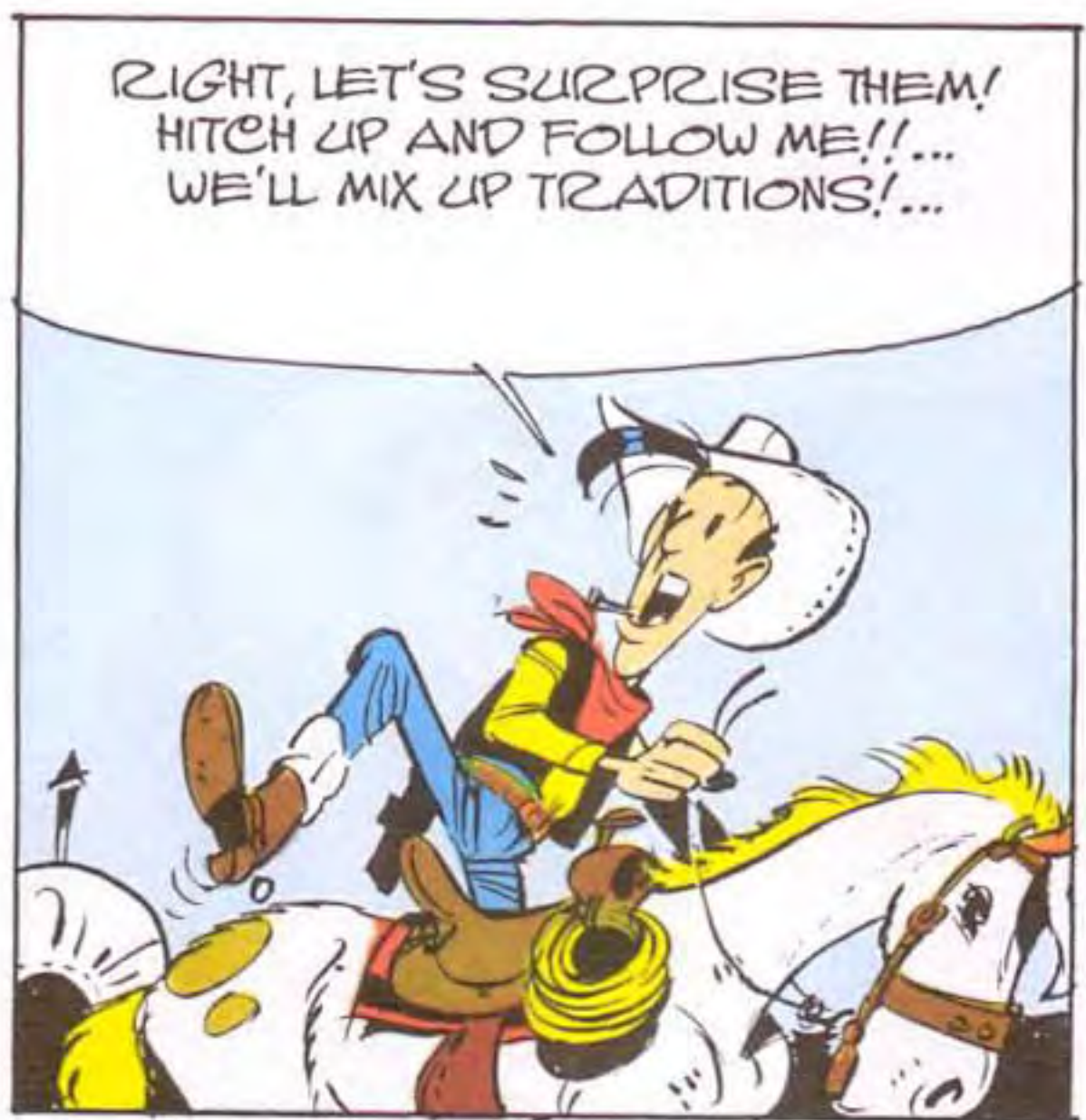
STRUCK DOWN BY A HEAVY MEAL, THE SIOUX LET THEMSELVES INDULGE IN THE DELIGHTS OF A SIESTA THAT WAS AS CARELESS AS IT WAS RESTFUL...



WHAT'S THIS? WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

THEY CAN'T BE SERIOUS! THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT US!

AS IF THIS WAS ALL WE HAD TO DO!



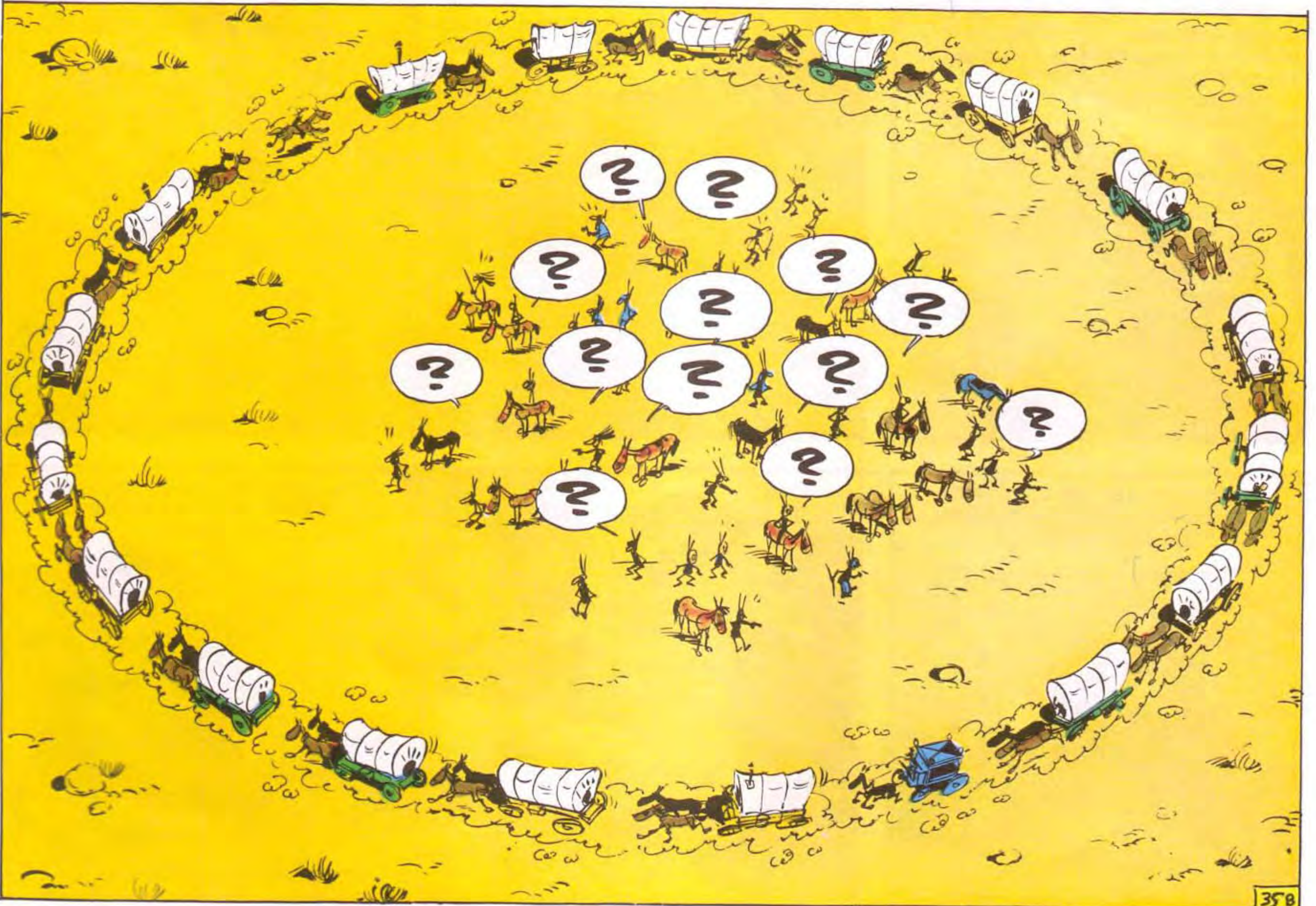
RIGHT, LET'S SURPRISE THEM! HITCH UP AND FOLLOW ME!!... WE'LL MIX UP TRADITIONS!...



A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

MAY RABID DOG AWAKE! SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY, INCREDIBLE, NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN IS HAPPENING!!...

HMM?



35B



STOP! RABID DOG WANTS TO PARLEY!...

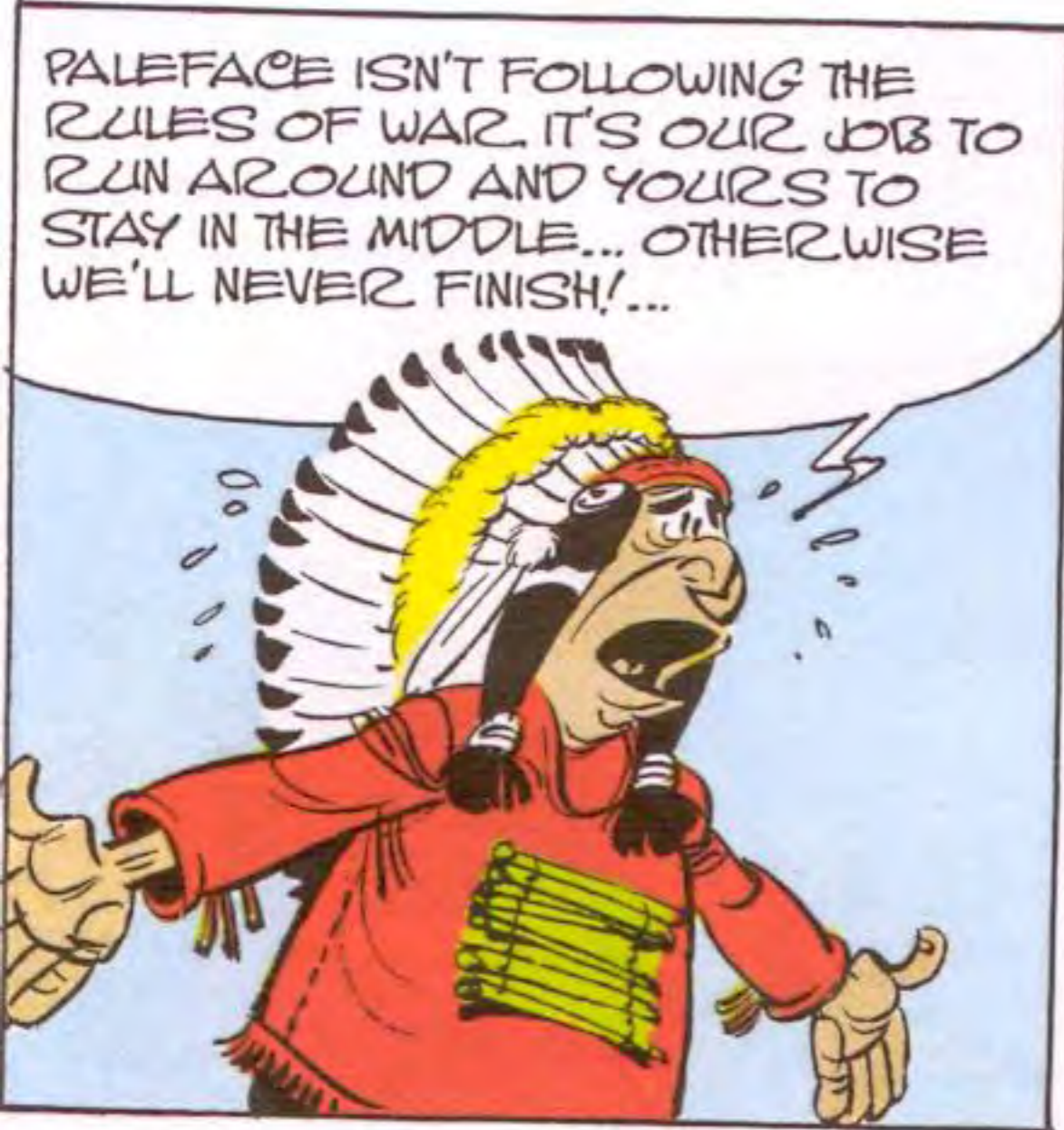


STOP THE RIDE! I'LL GO AND SEE WHAT HE WANTS!...

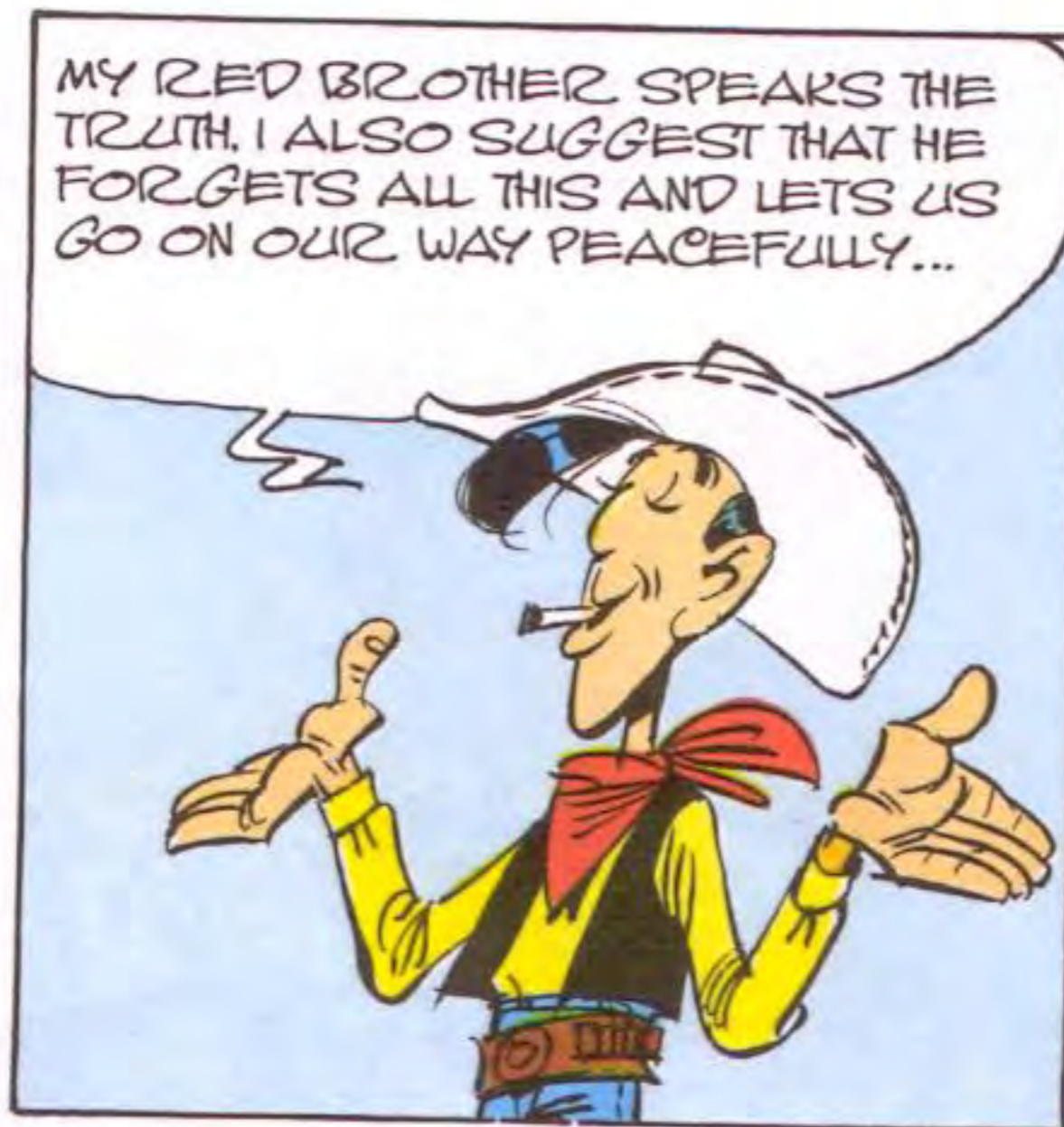


HOW!

NOT BAD, AND YOU...



PALEFACE ISN'T FOLLOWING THE RULES OF WAR. IT'S OUR JOB TO RUN AROUND AND YOURS TO STAY IN THE MIDDLE... OTHERWISE WE'LL NEVER FINISH!...



MY RED BROTHER SPEAKS THE TRUTH. I ALSO SUGGEST THAT HE FORGETS ALL THIS AND LETS US GO ON OUR WAY PEACEFULLY...



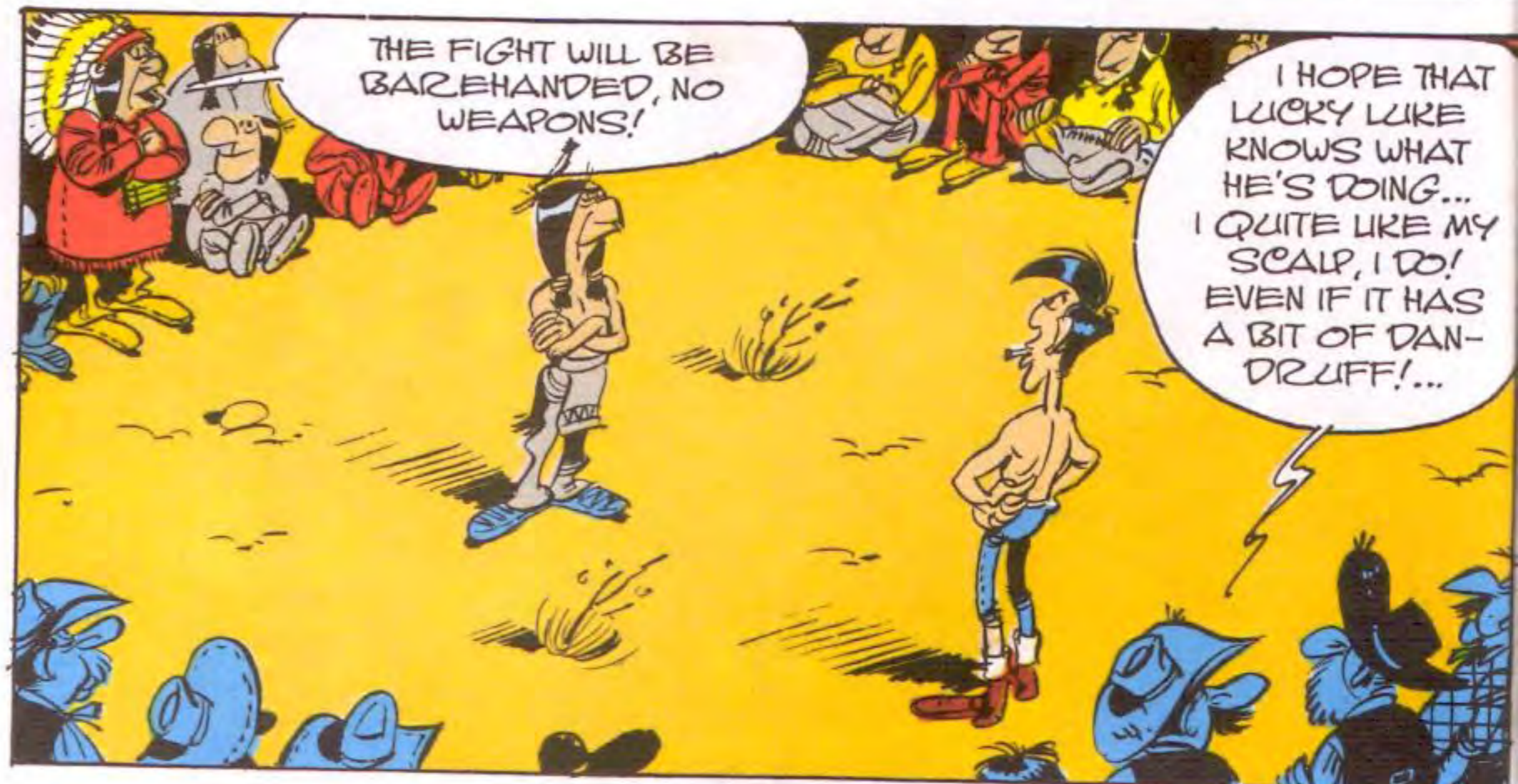
WE CAN'T JUST LET YOU LEAVE LIKE THAT... WE NEED SOME SCALPS!

THEN I SUGGEST A ONE-ON-ONE COMBAT WITH ONE OF YOUR BRAVES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.



A ONE-ON-ONE FIGHT! NOW, THAT'S TRADITIONAL! RABID DOG AGREES!

OX TAIL HAS A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH PALEFACE. HE'S ASKING TO FIGHT AGAINST HIM!...



THE FIGHT WILL BE BAREHANDED, NO WEAPONS!

I HOPE THAT LUCKY LUKE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING... I QUITE LIKE MY SCALP, I DO! EVEN IF IT HAS A BIT OF DAN-DRUFF!...



THE FIGHT WILL BE LONG AND MAY EVEN LAST UNTIL THE NEW SUN, AS OX TAIL...



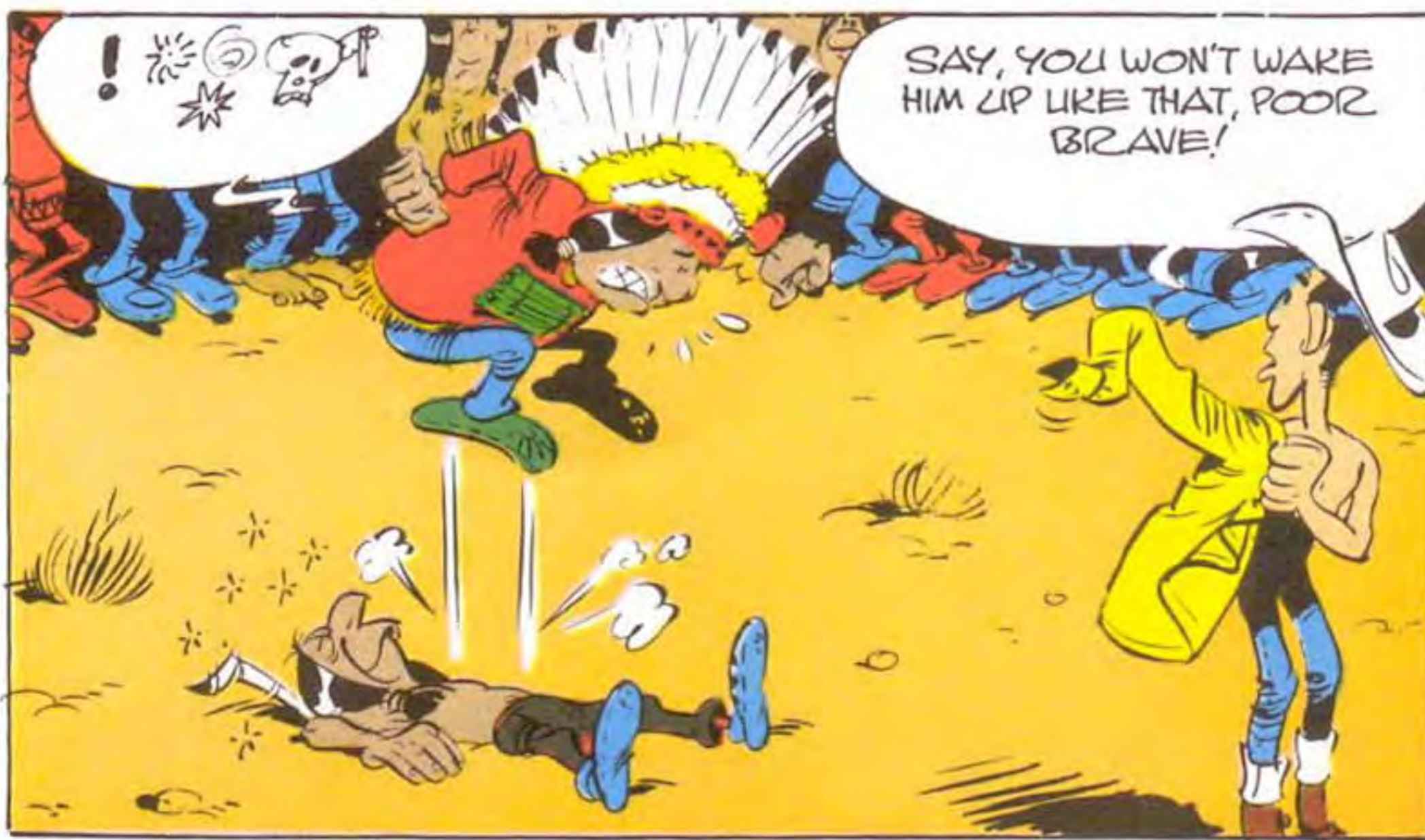
WHACK!



IT'S ALL IN THE LEGS! ALWAYS THE SAME THING: THEY HAVE NO LEG GAME!...

HURRAH!

GO, LUCKY LUKE!



SAY, YOU WON'T WAKE HIM UP LIKE THAT, POOR BRAVE!



RABID DOG HAS LOST FACE! HE'S NOT BRINGING BACK ANY SCALPS!... SNIFF...

I'LL FIX THAT FOR YOU IF YOU PROMISE TO LEAVE BEHIND THE WARPATH FOREVERMORE...



RABID DOG PROMISES...

RIGHT, WAIT HERE FOR ME...



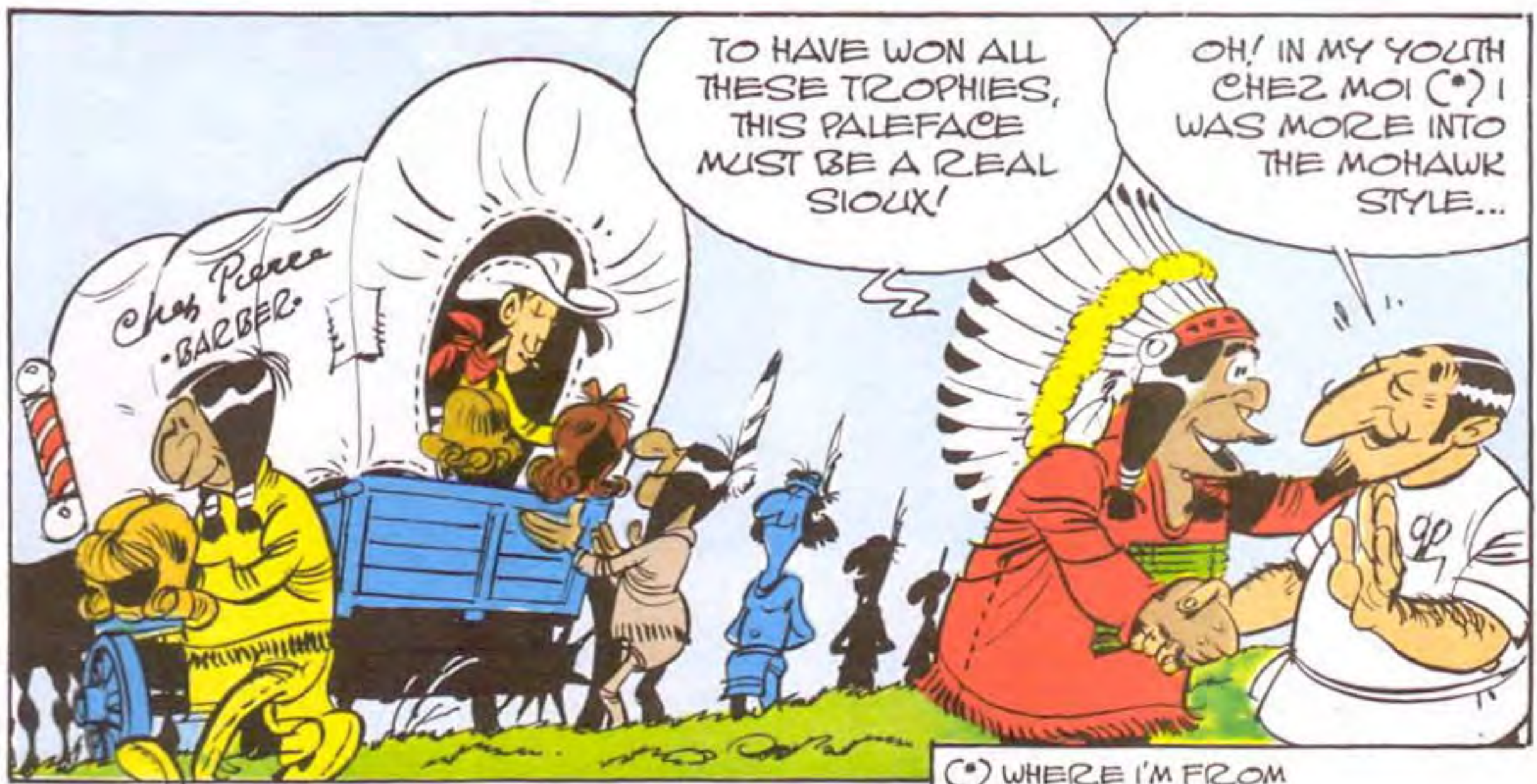
HAND OVER MY WHOLE WIG COLLECTION?...

IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO APPEASE THE SIOUX BARBER...



WE WILL GIVE YOU OUR SCALP COLLECTION...

IF THAT'S TRUE, RABID DOG WILL KEEP HIS WORD AND BURY THE WAR HATCHET!



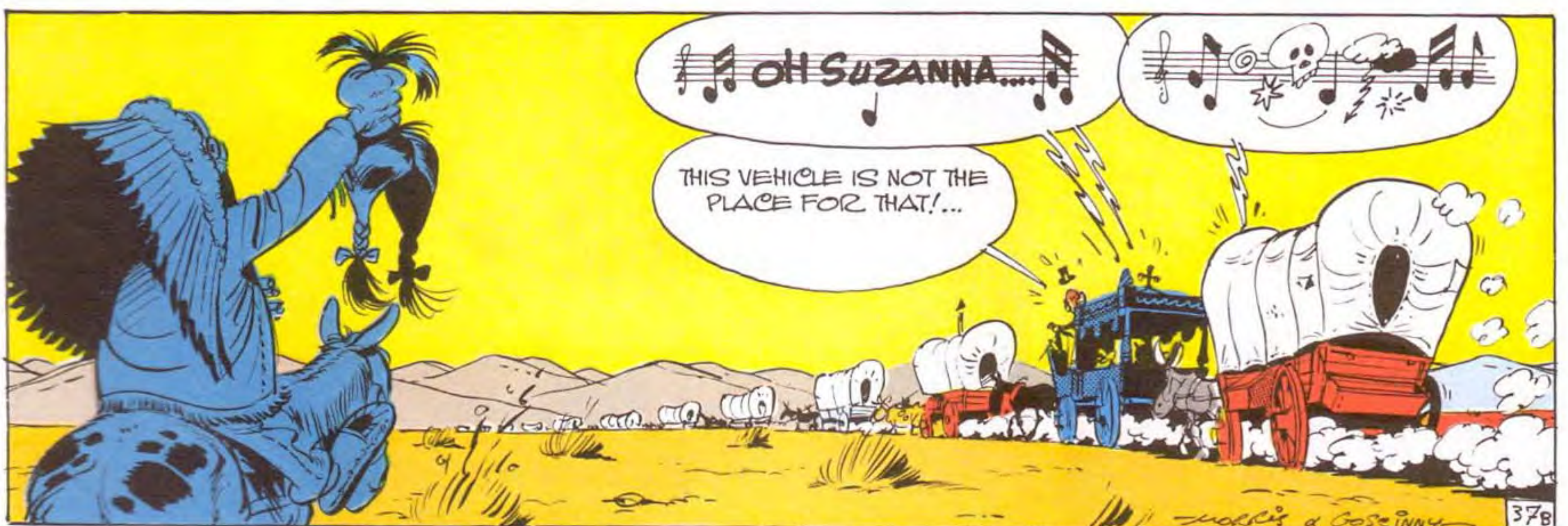
TO HAVE WON ALL THESE TROPHIES, THIS PALEFACE MUST BE A REAL SIOUX!

OH! IN MY YOUTH CHEZ MOI (°) I WAS MORE INTO THE MOHAWK STYLE...

(°) WHERE I'M FROM



THE COAST IS CLEAR! FORWARD, MARCH!

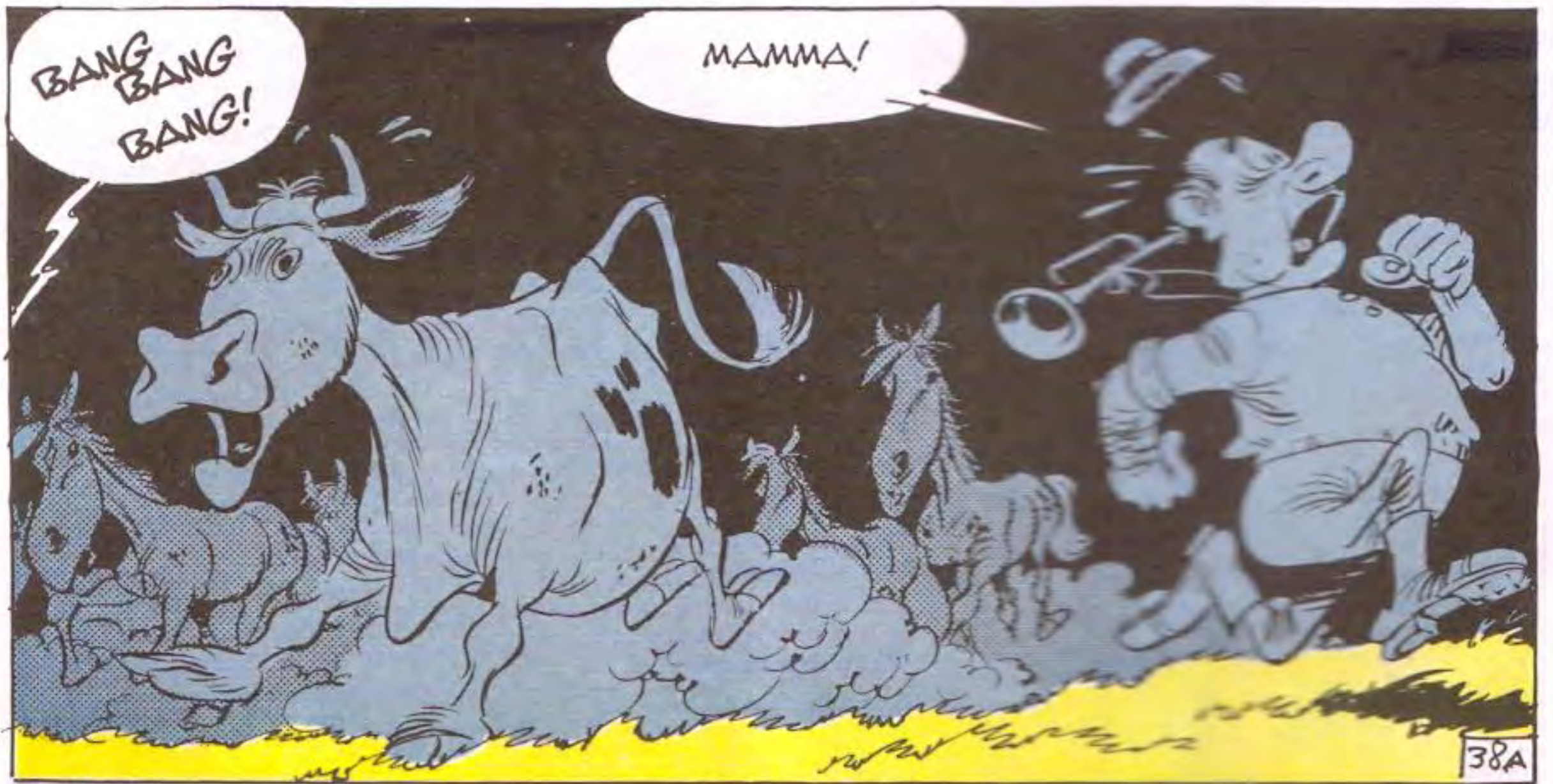
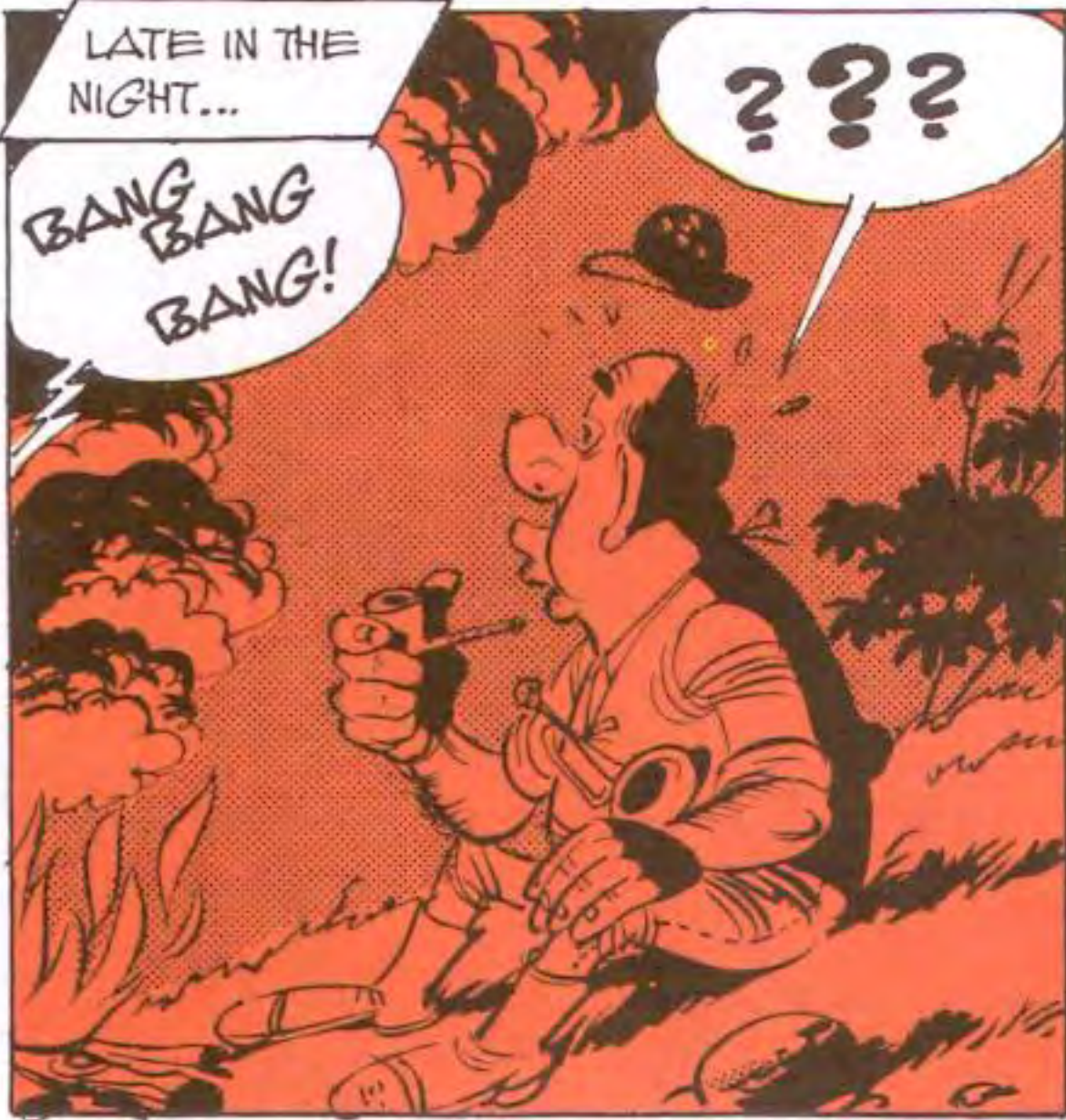
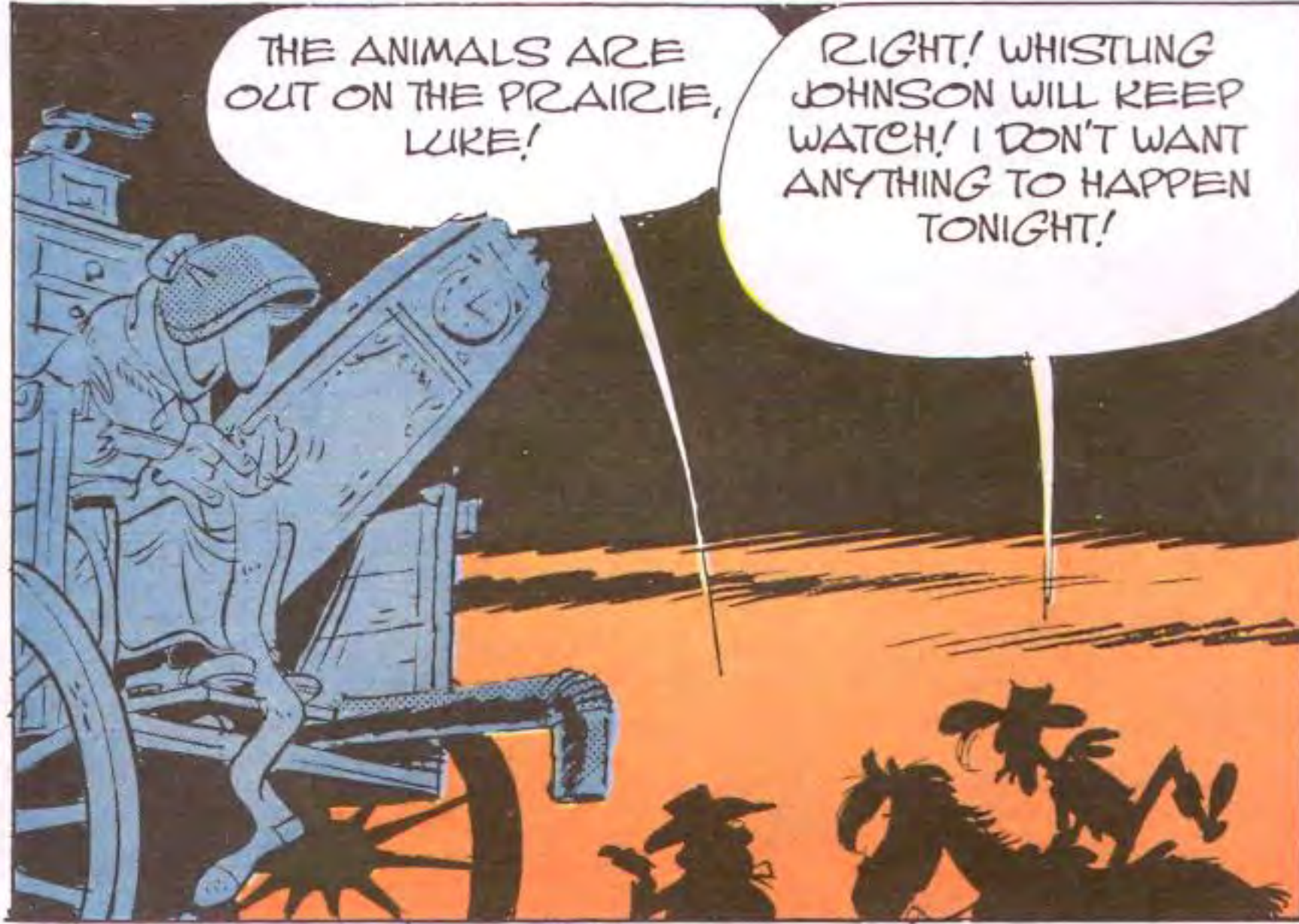


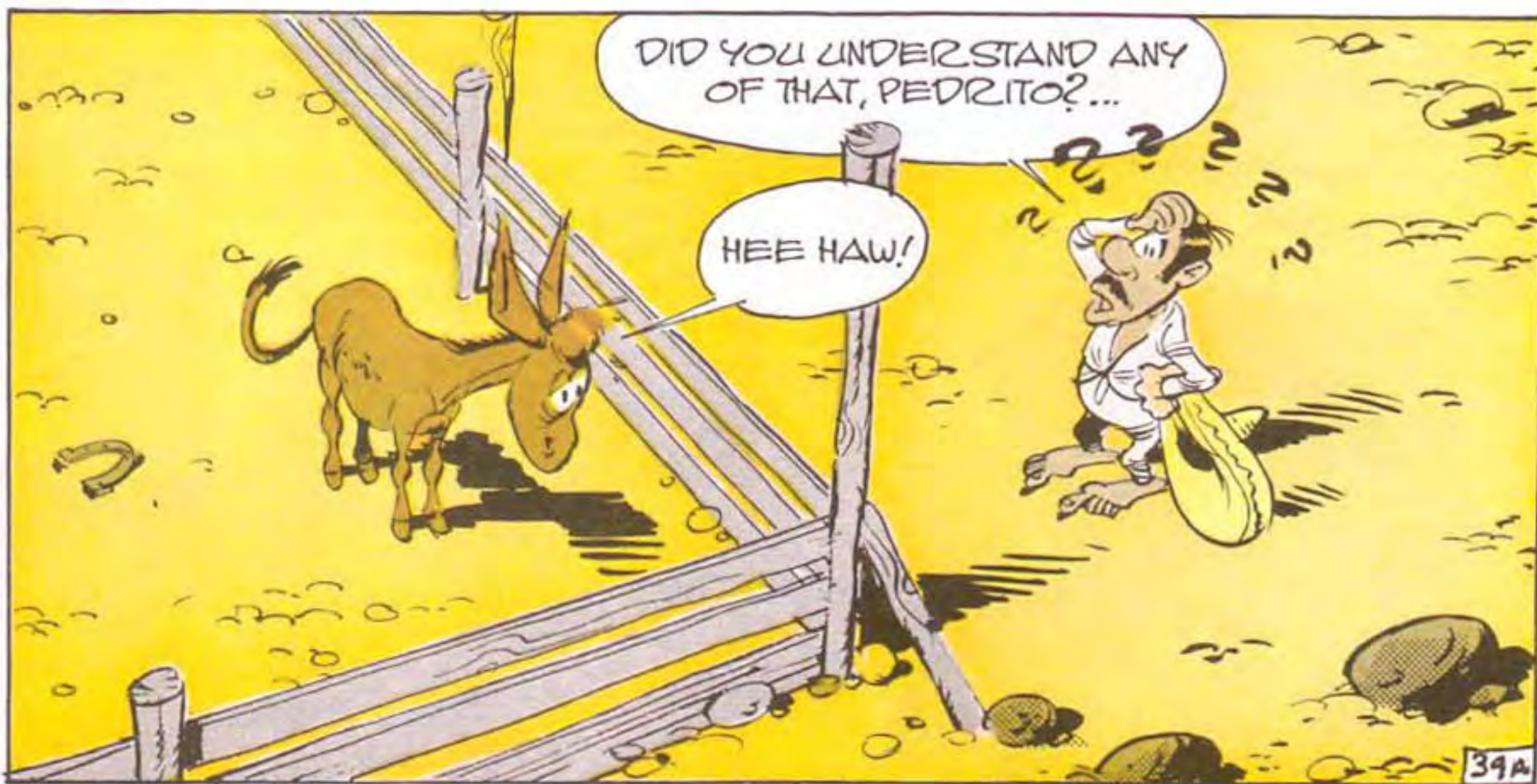
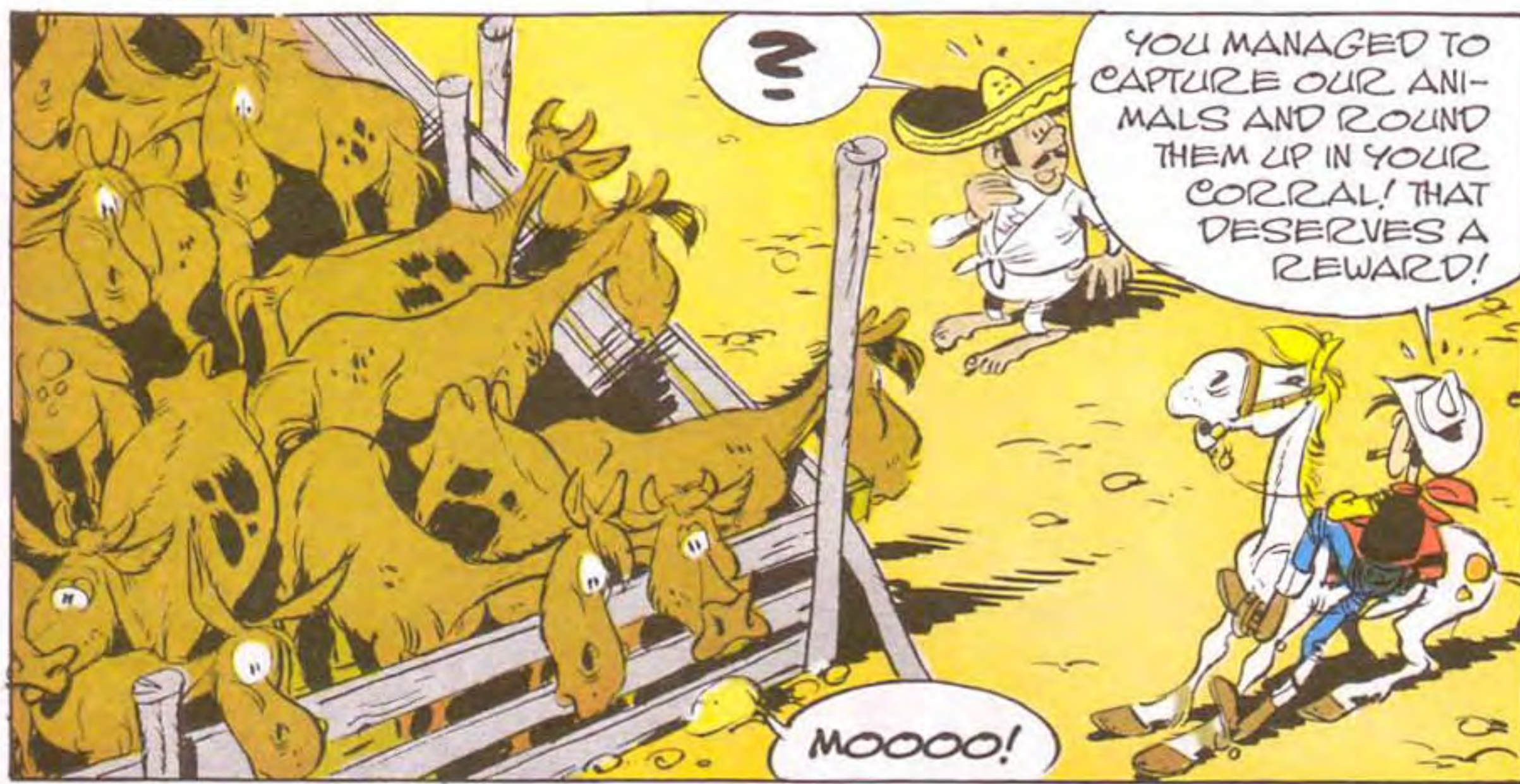
OH SUZANNA....

THIS VEHICLE IS NOT THE PLACE FOR THAT!...

OH SUZANNA....

MORRIS & GOSWINKY 37B



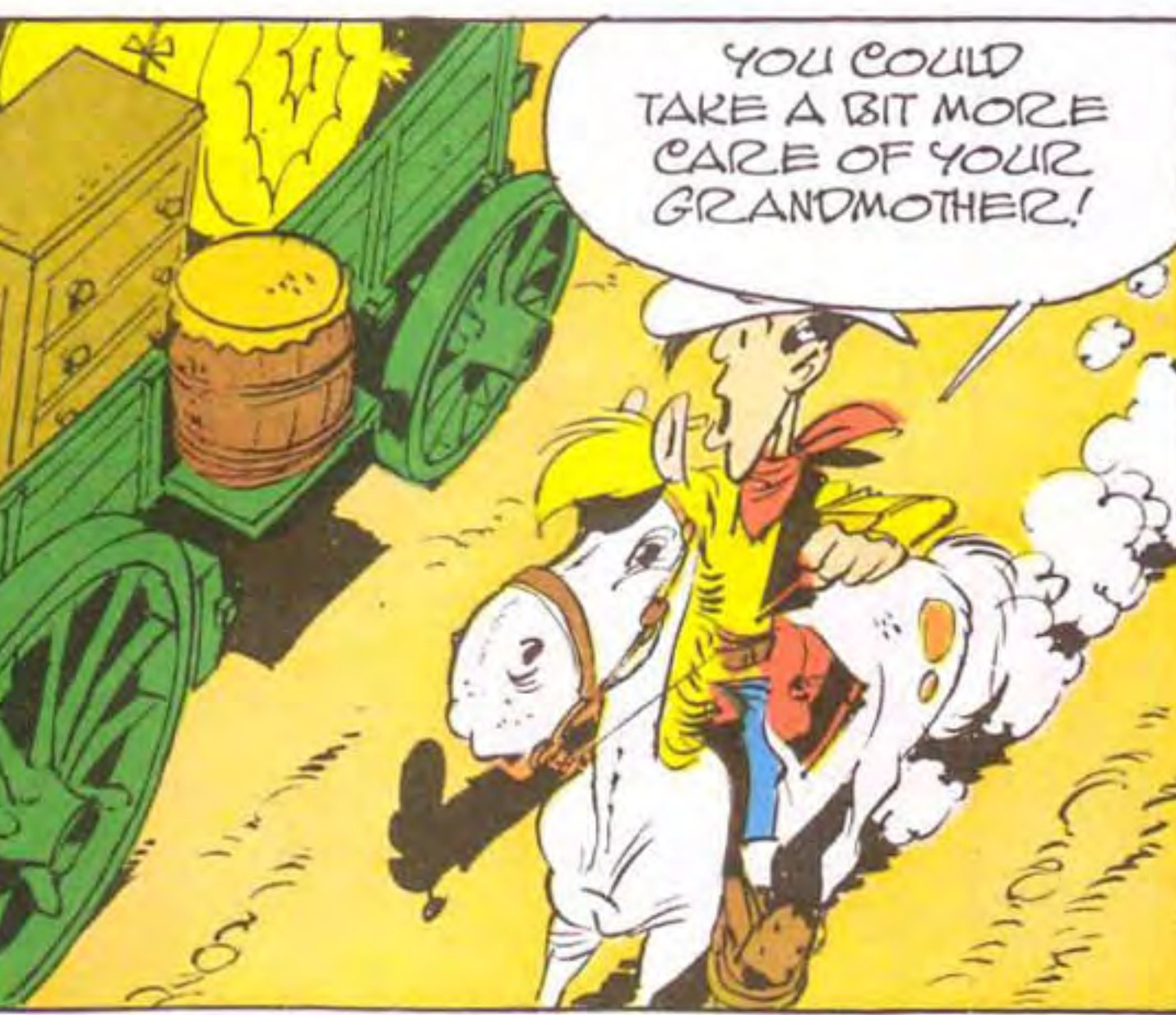


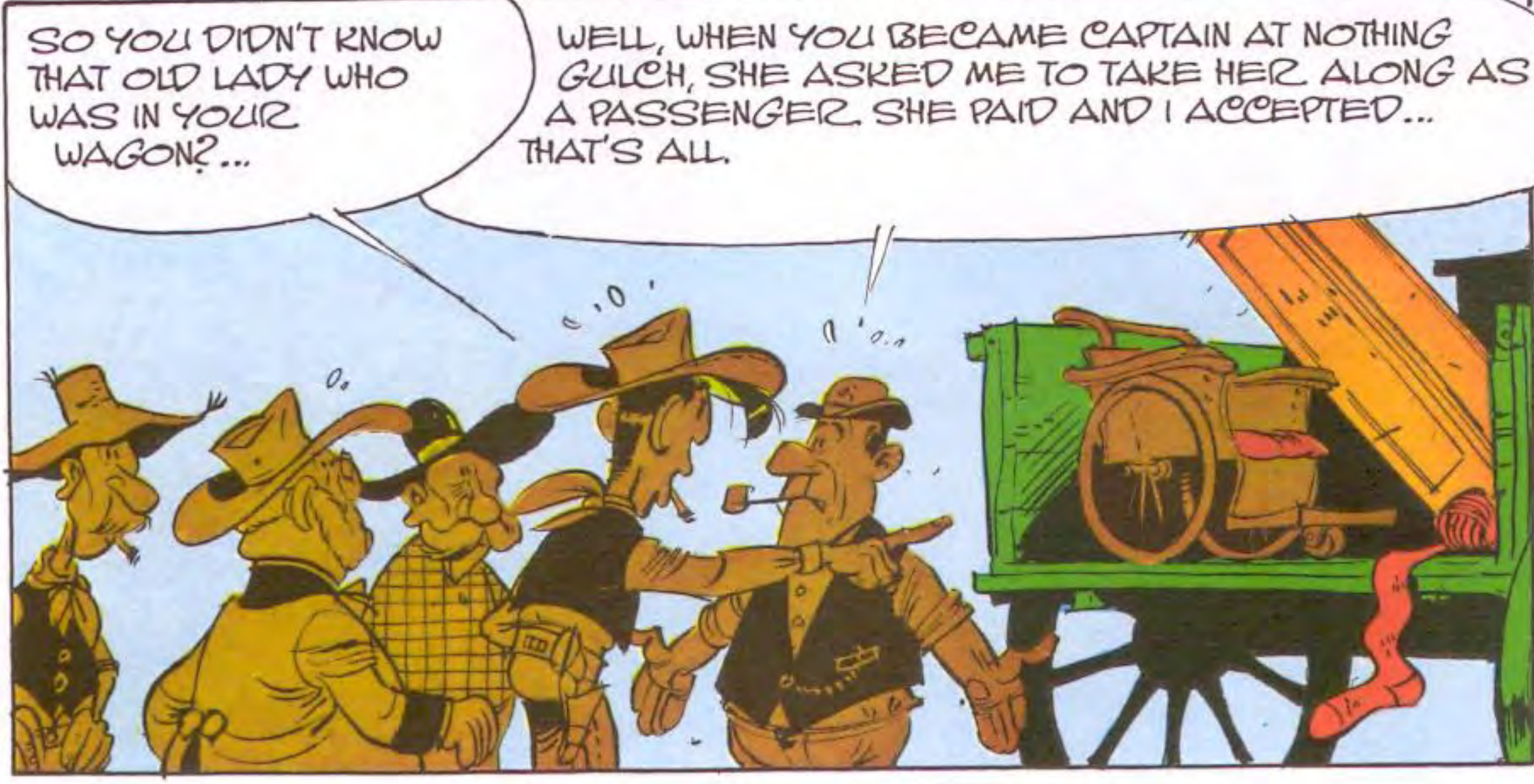
ONCE AGAIN, THE CARAVAN SET OFF TOWARDS ITS GOAL, NOW CLOSER THAN EVER...

MORIS & GOSCINNY



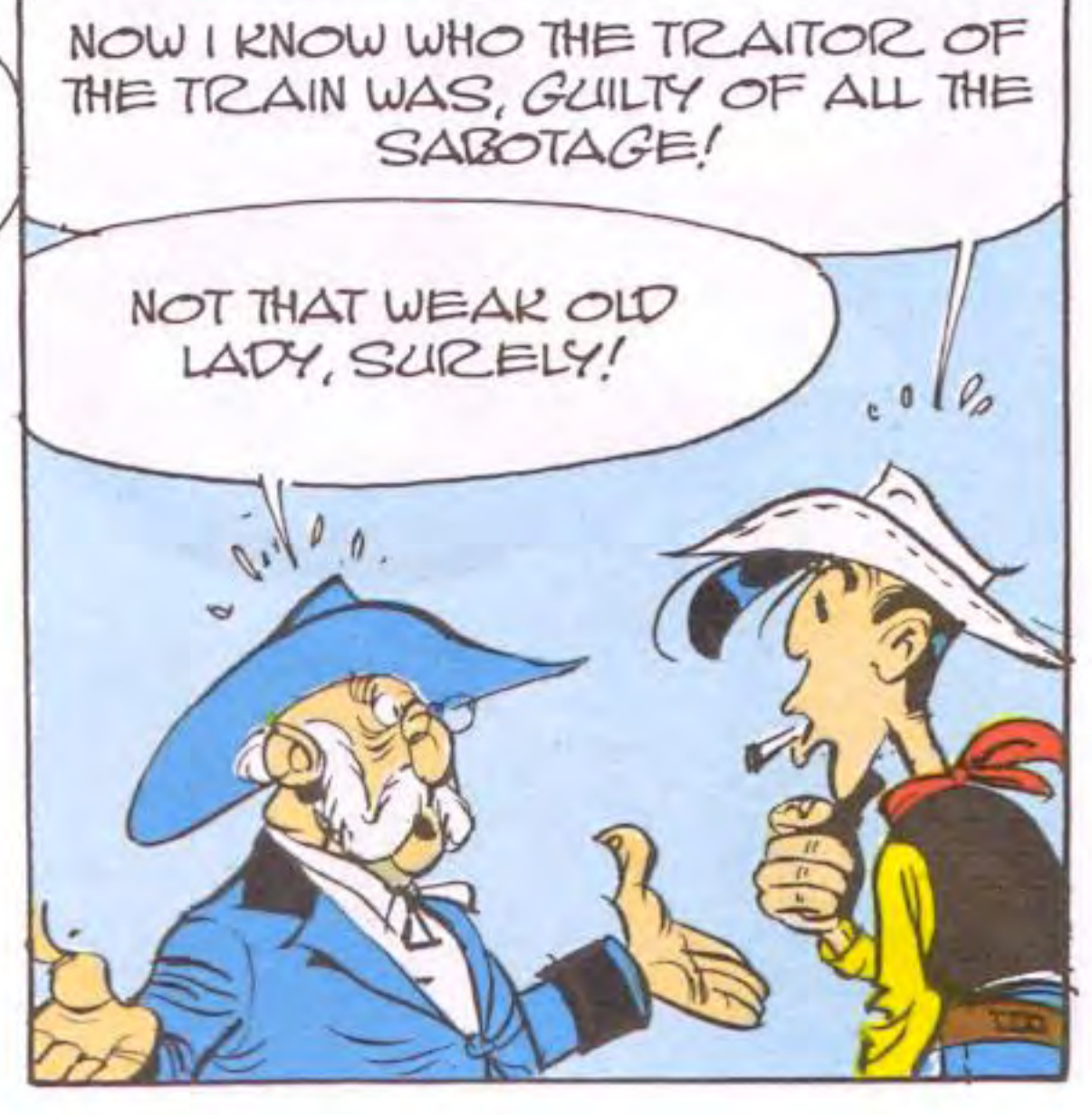
SOMEONE'S MISSING! THE OLD LADY WHO WAS HERE! SHE MUST HAVE FALLEN ALONG THE WAY...





SO YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT OLD LADY WHO WAS IN YOUR WAGON?...

WELL, WHEN YOU BECAME CAPTAIN AT NOTHING GULCH, SHE ASKED ME TO TAKE HER ALONG AS A PASSENGER. SHE PAID AND I ACCEPTED... THAT'S ALL.

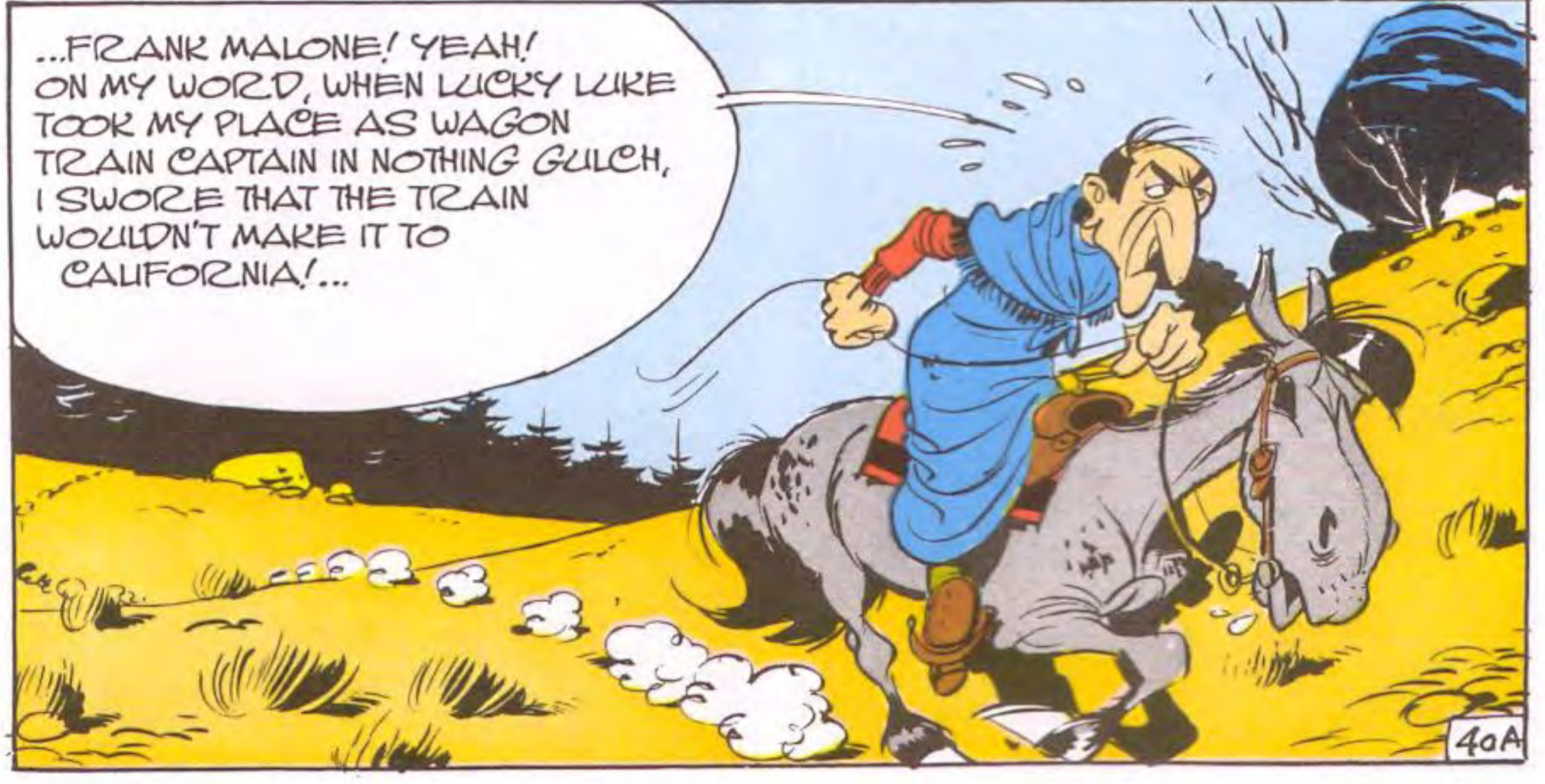


NOW I KNOW WHO THE TRAITOR OF THE TRAIN WAS, GUILTY OF ALL THE SABOTAGE!

NOT THAT WEAR OLD LADY, SURELY!



THAT WEAR OLD LADY, AS YOU CALL HER, CAN ONLY BE...



...FRANK MALONE! YEAH! ON MY WORD, WHEN LUCKY LUKE TOOK MY PLACE AS WAGON TRAIN CAPTAIN IN NOTHING GULCH, I SWORE THAT THE TRAIN WOULDN'T MAKE IT TO CALIFORNIA!...

40A



THE TRAIN MIGHT MAKE IT... BUT NOT LUCKY LUKE!...



I'LL GET HIM!

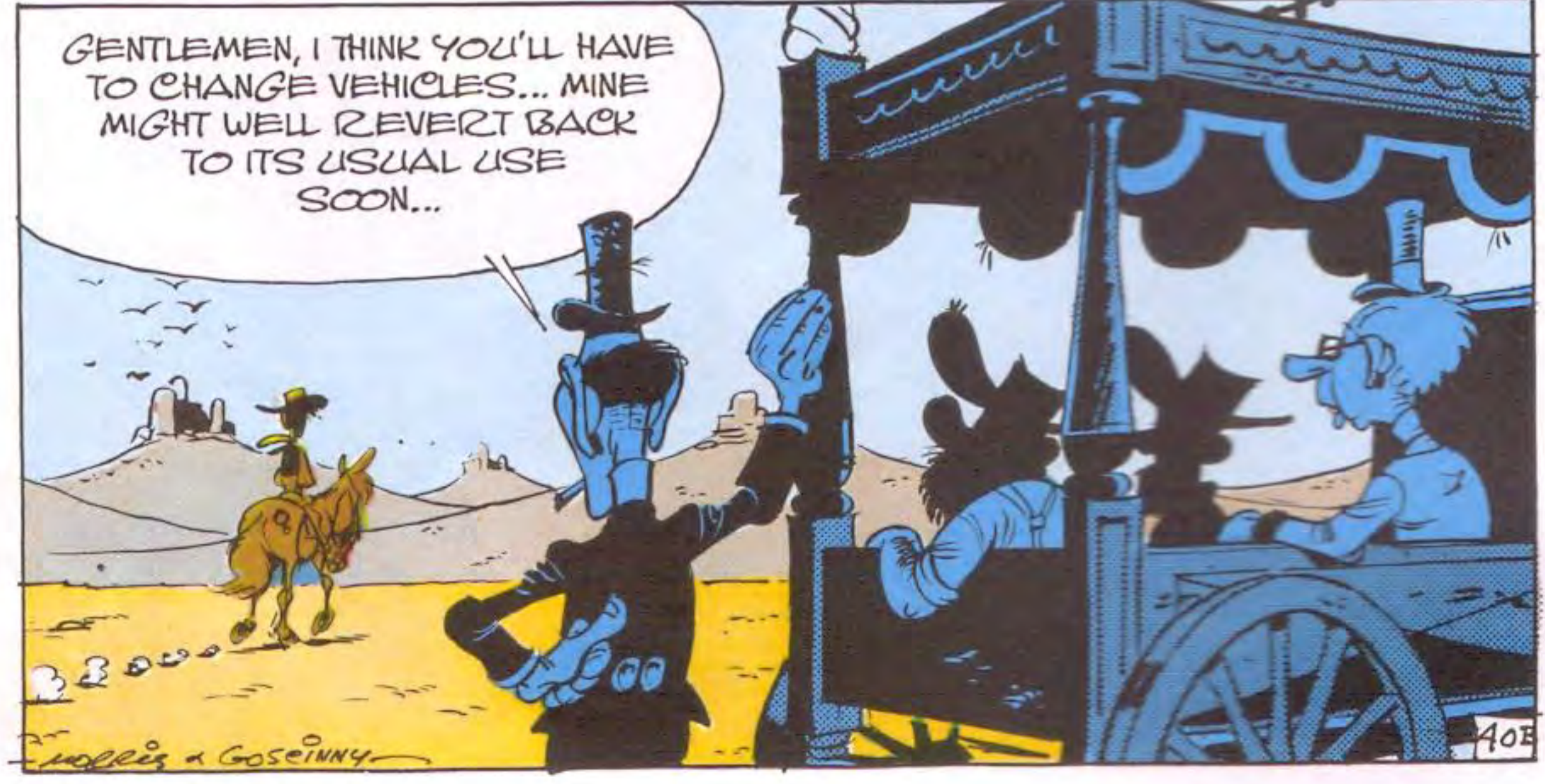


THEY HAVE TO COME THROUGH HERE... I JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THEM...



DON'T GO ALONE, LUKE!...

FRANK MALONE MUST BE WAITING FOR ME... AND I ALWAYS KEEP MY MEETINGS! IF I DON'T COME BACK, KEEP HEADING FOR CALIFORNIA, YOU'RE NEARLY THERE...



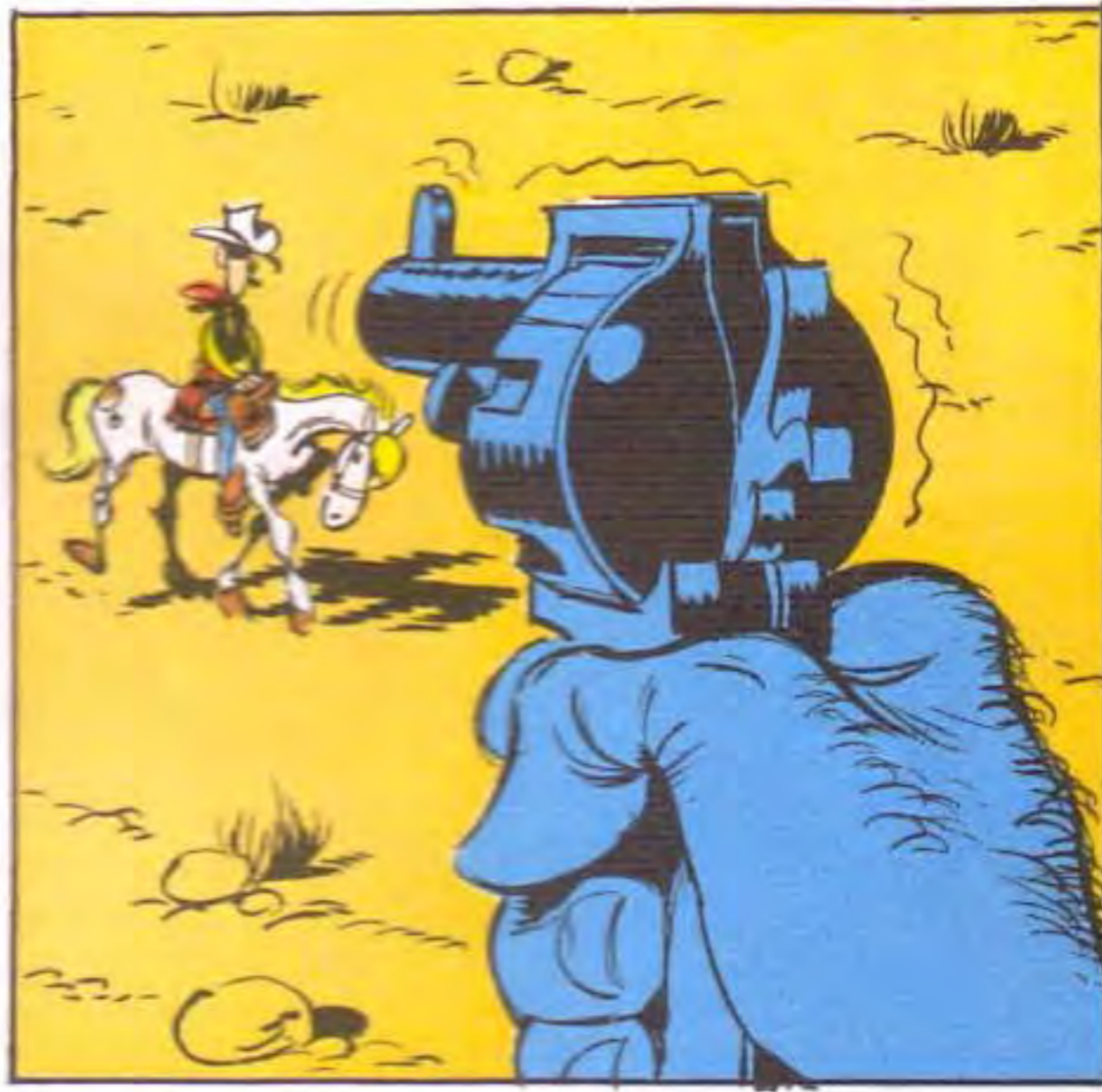
GENTLEMEN, I THINK YOU'LL HAVE TO CHANGE VEHICLES... MINE MIGHT WELL REVERT BACK TO ITS USUAL USE SOON...

MORRIS & GOSWAMY

40B



HERE HE COMES! HERE HE IS!... NO MORE ADVENTURES FOR YOU, LUCKY LUKE!...



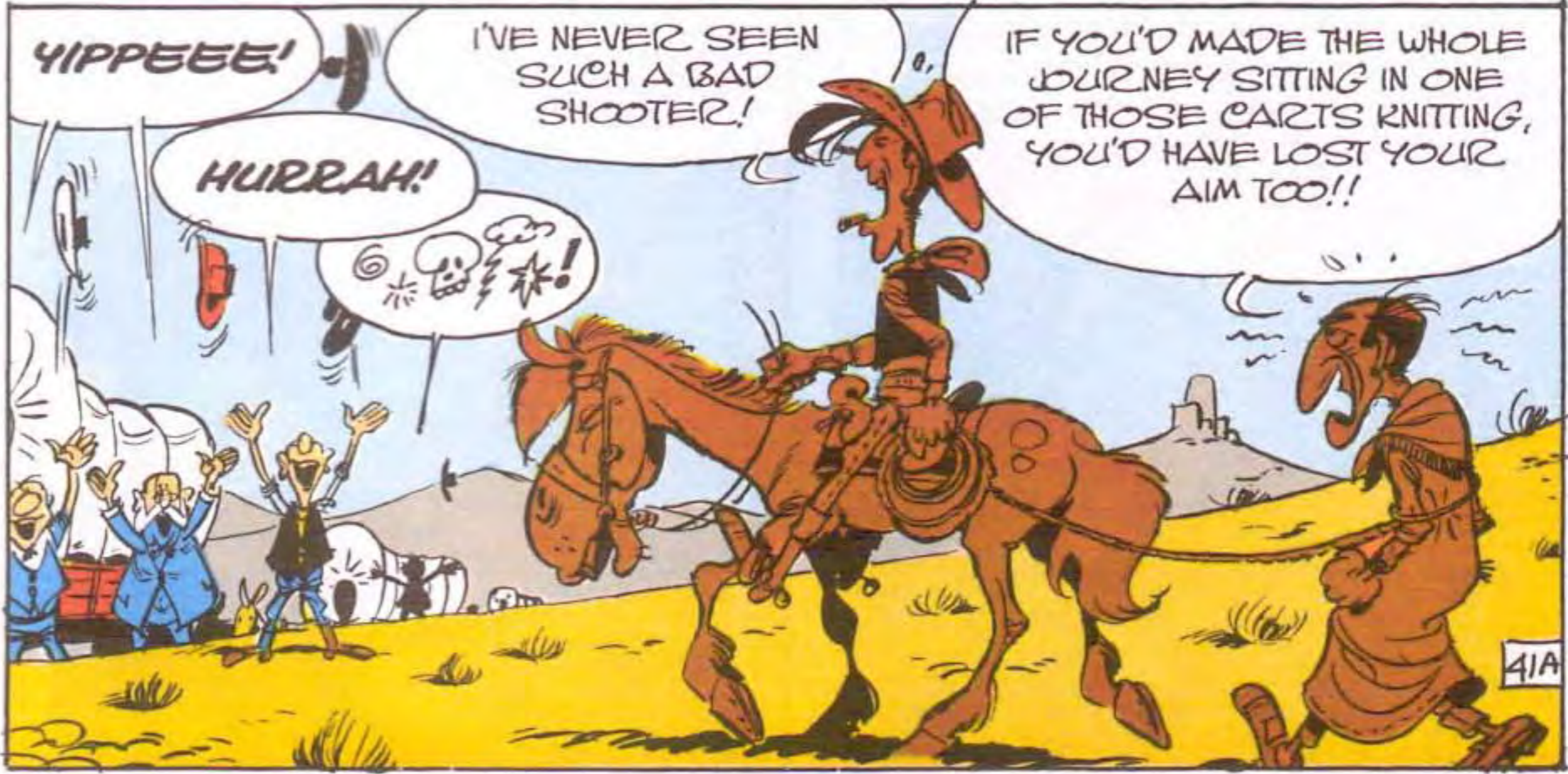
BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG! CLICK!

DID YOU HEAR THAT? SIX SHOTS!!...



I'M AFRAID THAT OUR HEROIC FRIEND...

NO! LOOK! OVER THERE! IN THE DISTANCE!



YIPPEEE!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A BAD SHOOTER!

IF YOU'D MADE THE WHOLE JOURNEY SITTING IN ONE OF THOSE CARTS KNITTING, YOU'D HAVE LOST YOUR AIM TOO!!

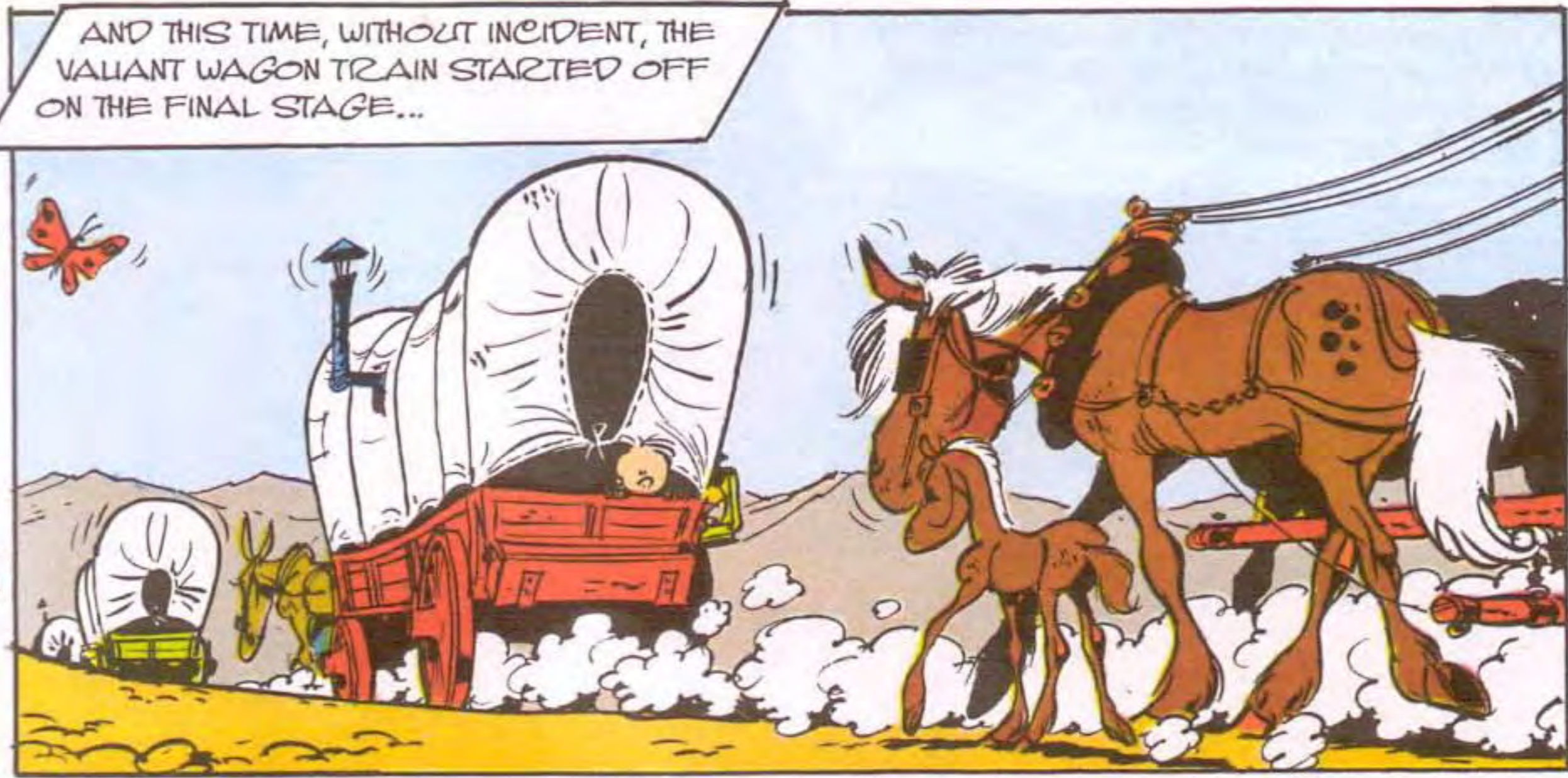
HURRAH!

6 6 6 6 6 6!

41A



ALL RIGHT!! LOCK THIS BANDIT UP IN A WAGON! WE'LL TAKE HIM TO THE CALIFORNIA COURTS! AND NOW, LET'S GET ROLLING!



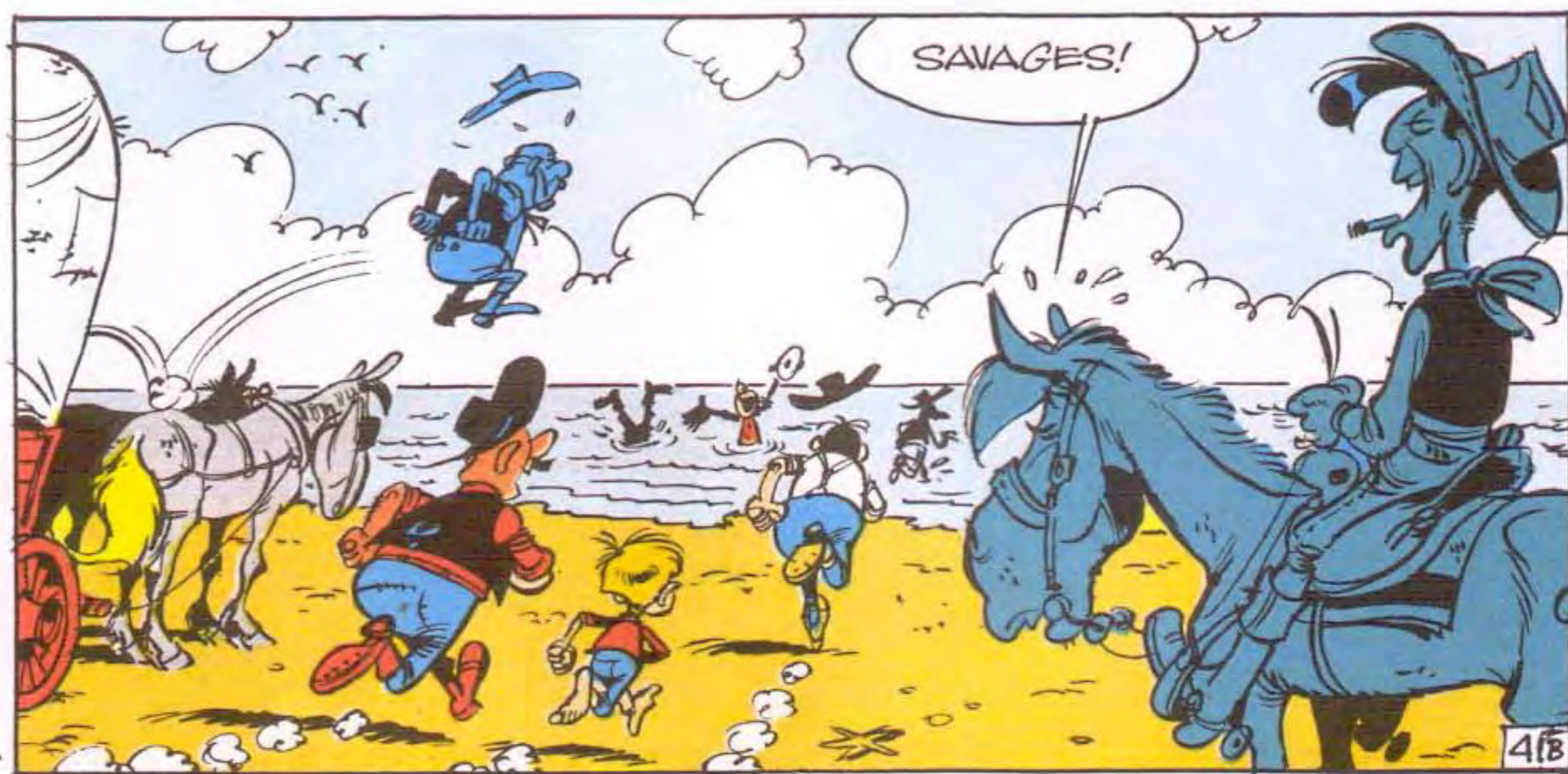
AND THIS TIME, WITHOUT INCIDENT, THE VAUNT WAGON TRAIN STARTED OFF ON THE FINAL STAGE...



A FEW HOURS LATER...

LOOK! OVER THERE! THE PACIFIC OCEAN! WE MADE IT!

-MORIS GOSWAMY

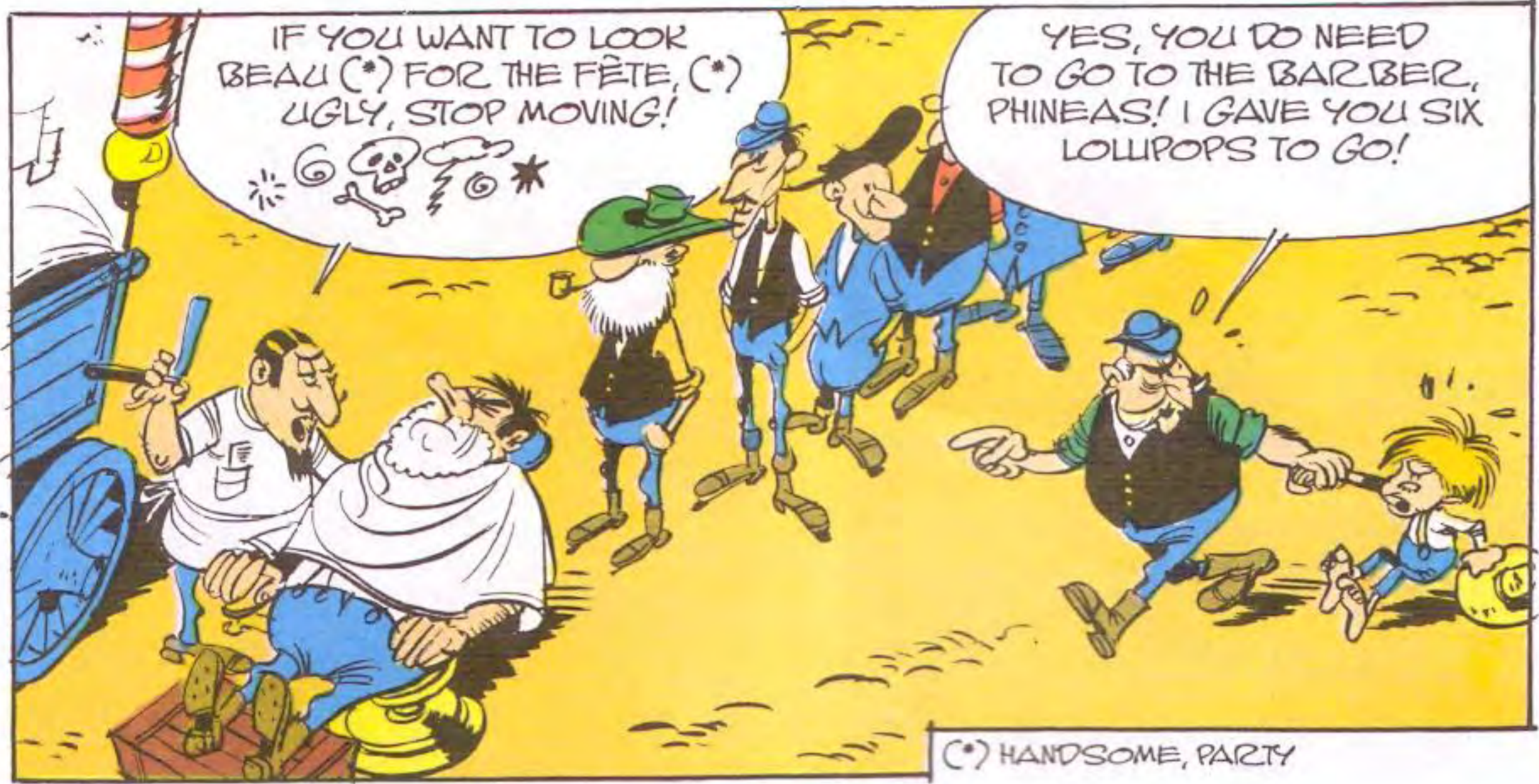


SAVAGES!

41B



MY FRIENDS! WE HAVE ACHIEVED OUR GOAL, AND SOON WE'LL PART WAYS... I PROPOSE A GREAT PARTY AT WHICH LUCKY LUKE WILL BE THE GUEST OF HONOUR!



IF YOU WANT TO LOOK BEAU (*) FOR THE FÊTE, (*) UGLY, STOP MOVING!

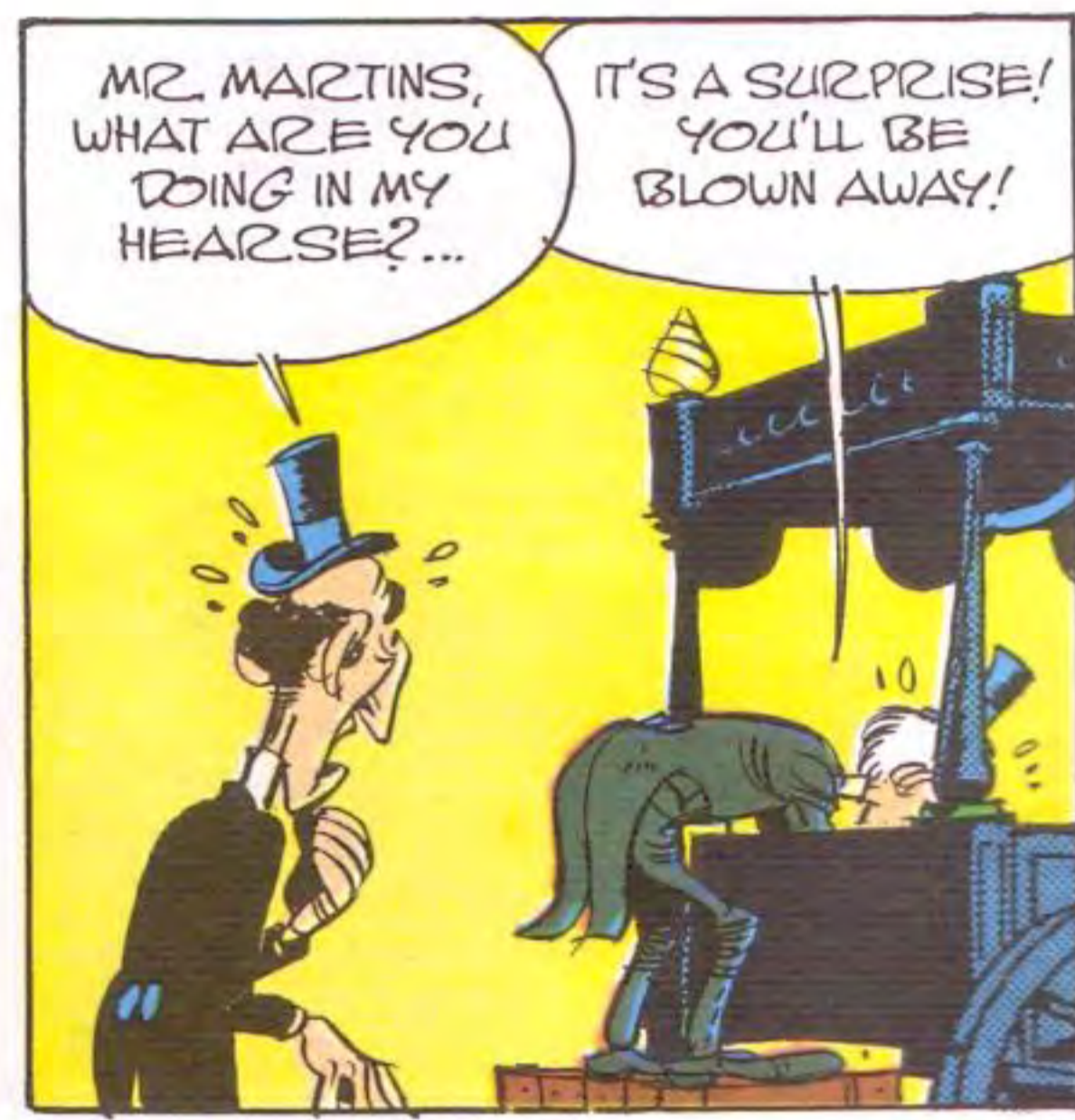
YES, YOU DO NEED TO GO TO THE BARBER, PHINEAS! I GAVE YOU SIX LOLLIPOPS TO GO!

(*) HANDSOME, PARTY



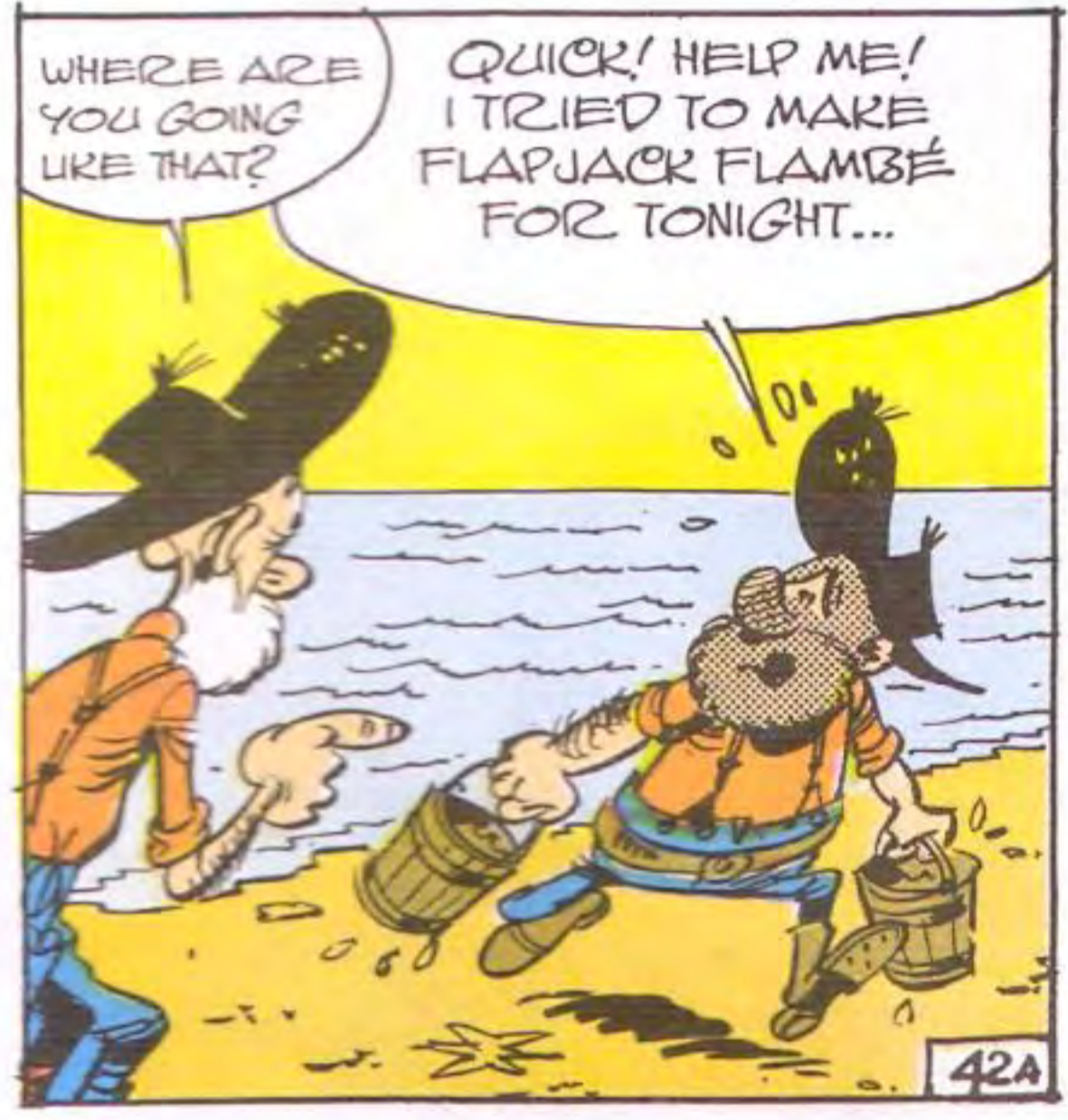
WHAT'S THIS PLACE CALLED, AMIGO?

HOLLYWOOD, SEÑOR, AND YOU'RE THE FIRST COWBOY WE'VE EVER SEEN HERE!...



MR. MARTINS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY HEARSE?...

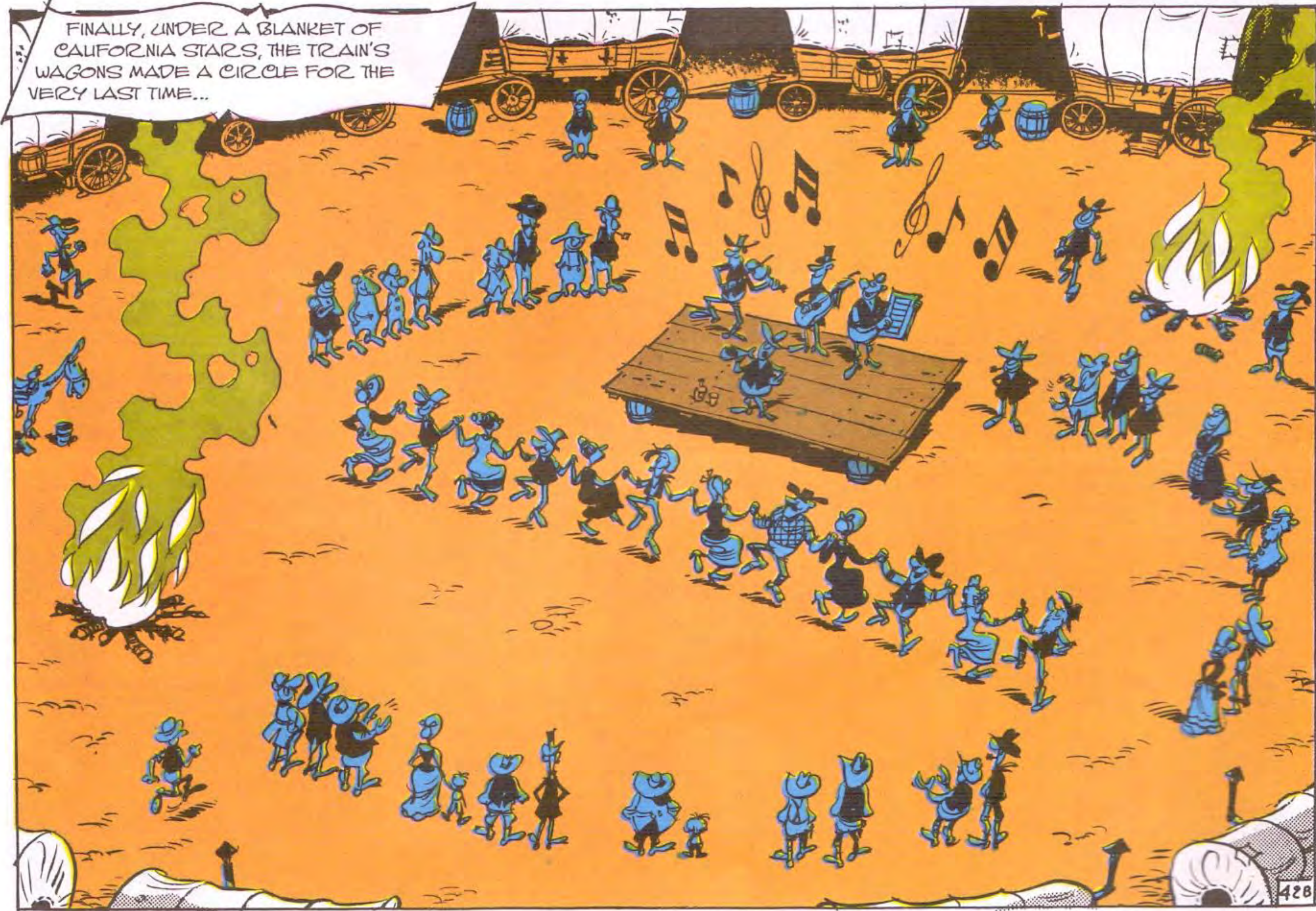
IT'S A SURPRISE! YOU'LL BE BLOWN AWAY!



WHERE ARE YOU GOING LIKE THAT?

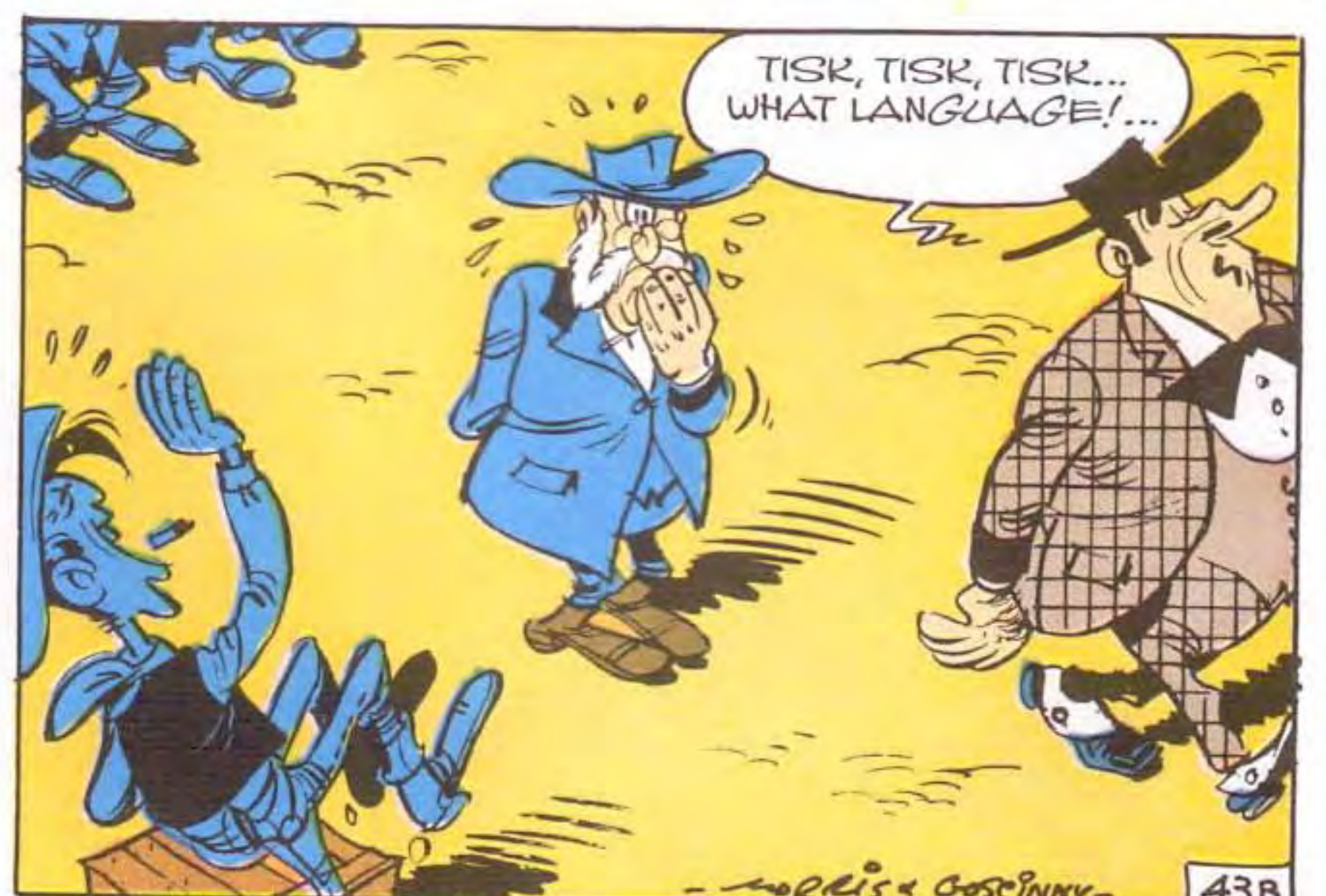
QUICK! HELP ME! I TRIED TO MAKE FLAPJACK FLAMBE FOR TONIGHT...

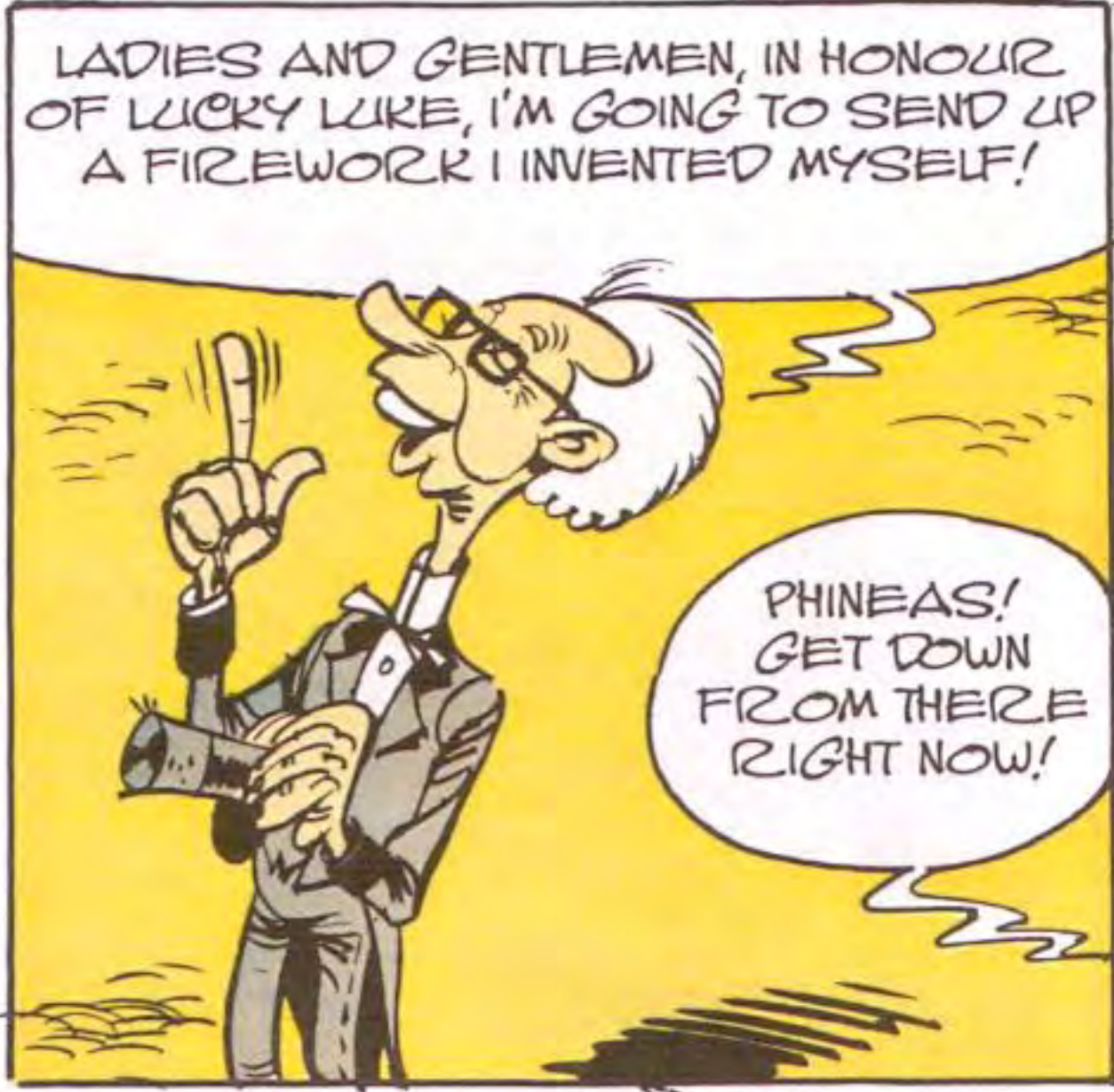
42A



FINALLY, UNDER A BLANKET OF CALIFORNIA STARS, THE TRAIN'S WAGONS MADE A CIRCLE FOR THE VERY LAST TIME...

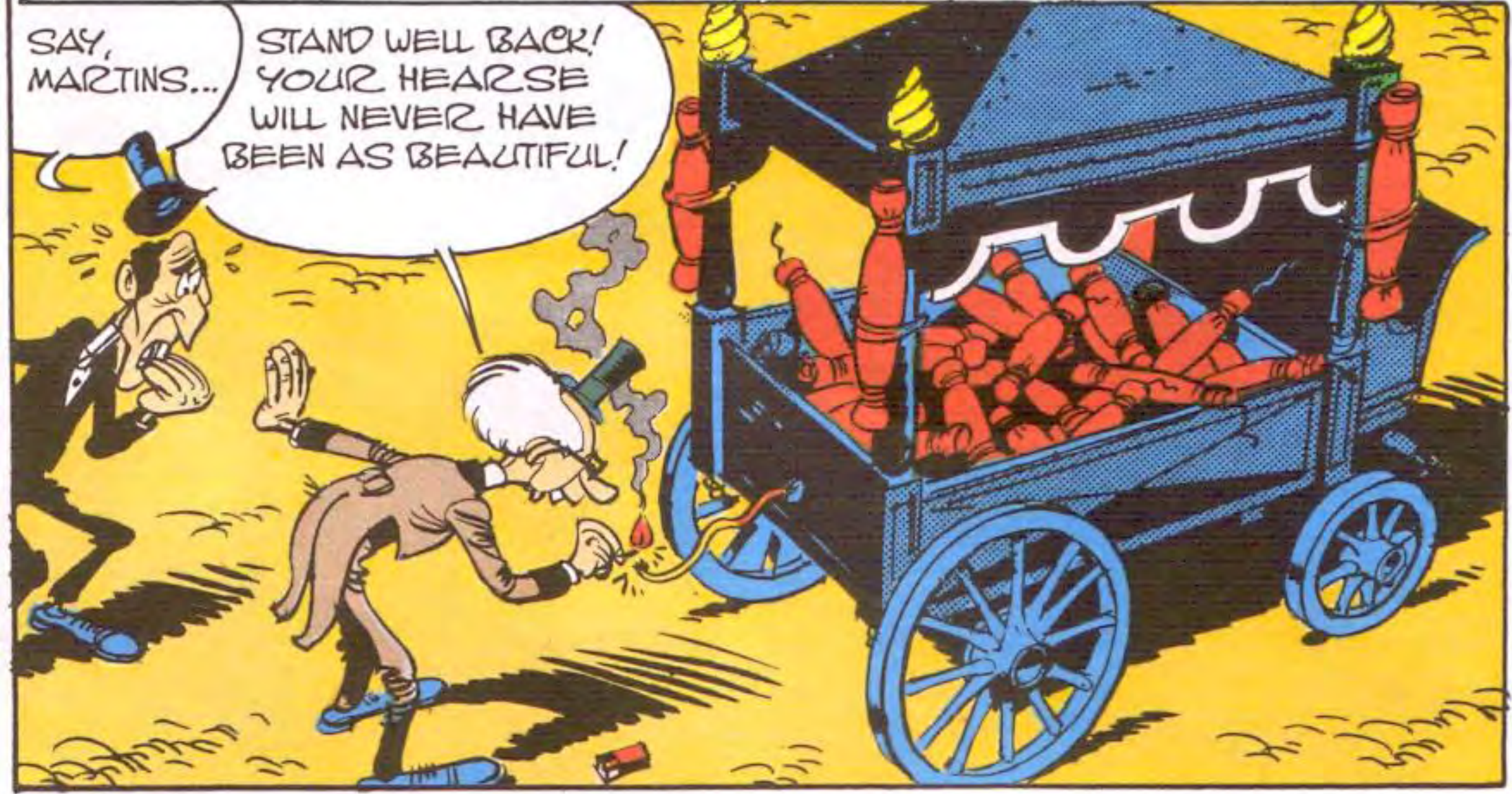
42B





LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IN HONOUR OF LUCKY LUKE, I'M GOING TO SEND UP A FIREWORK I INVENTED MYSELF!

PHINEAS! GET DOWN FROM THERE RIGHT NOW!



SAY, MARTINS...

STAND WELL BACK! YOUR HEARSE WILL NEVER HAVE BEEN AS BEAUTIFUL!

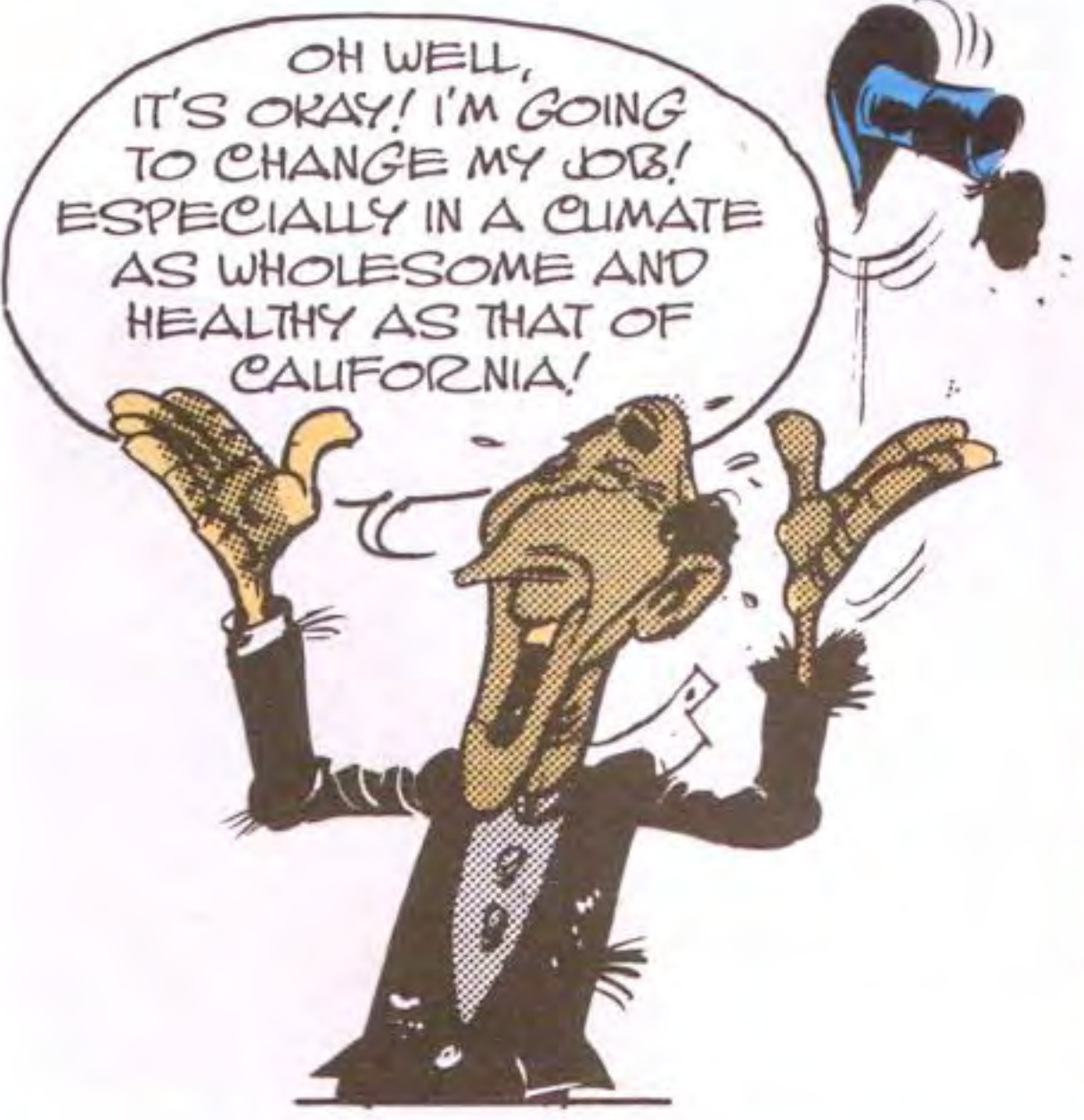


BLAMM!...



ERRR... THERE YOU GO...

44A



OH WELL, IT'S OKAY! I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY JOB! ESPECIALLY IN A CLIMATE AS WHOLESOME AND HEALTHY AS THAT OF CALIFORNIA!

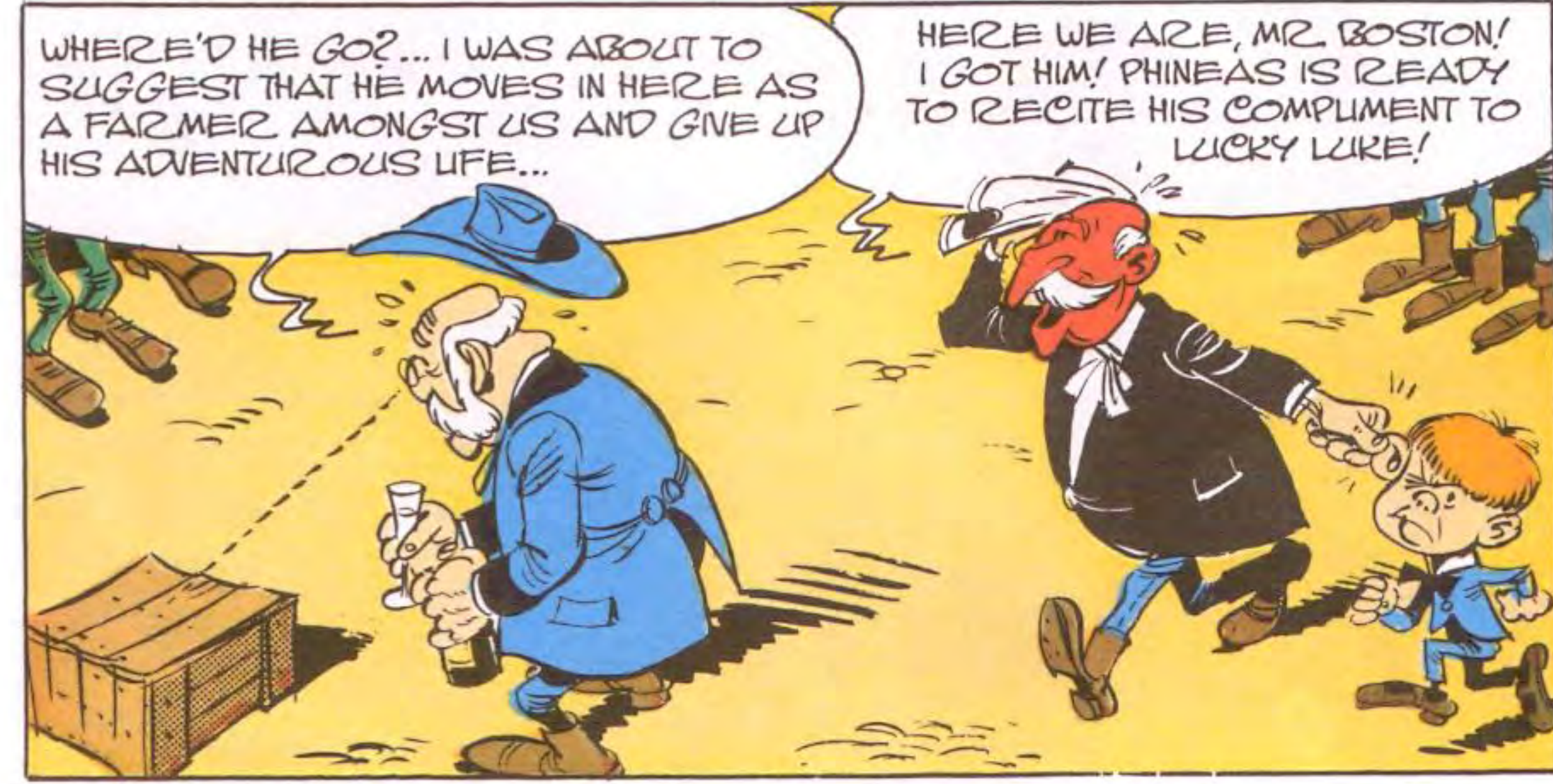


WE'LL JOIN FORCES AND SELL YOUR INVENTIONS!

YOU'LL SEE! I HAVE A BUNCH OF EXPLOSIVE IDEAS!

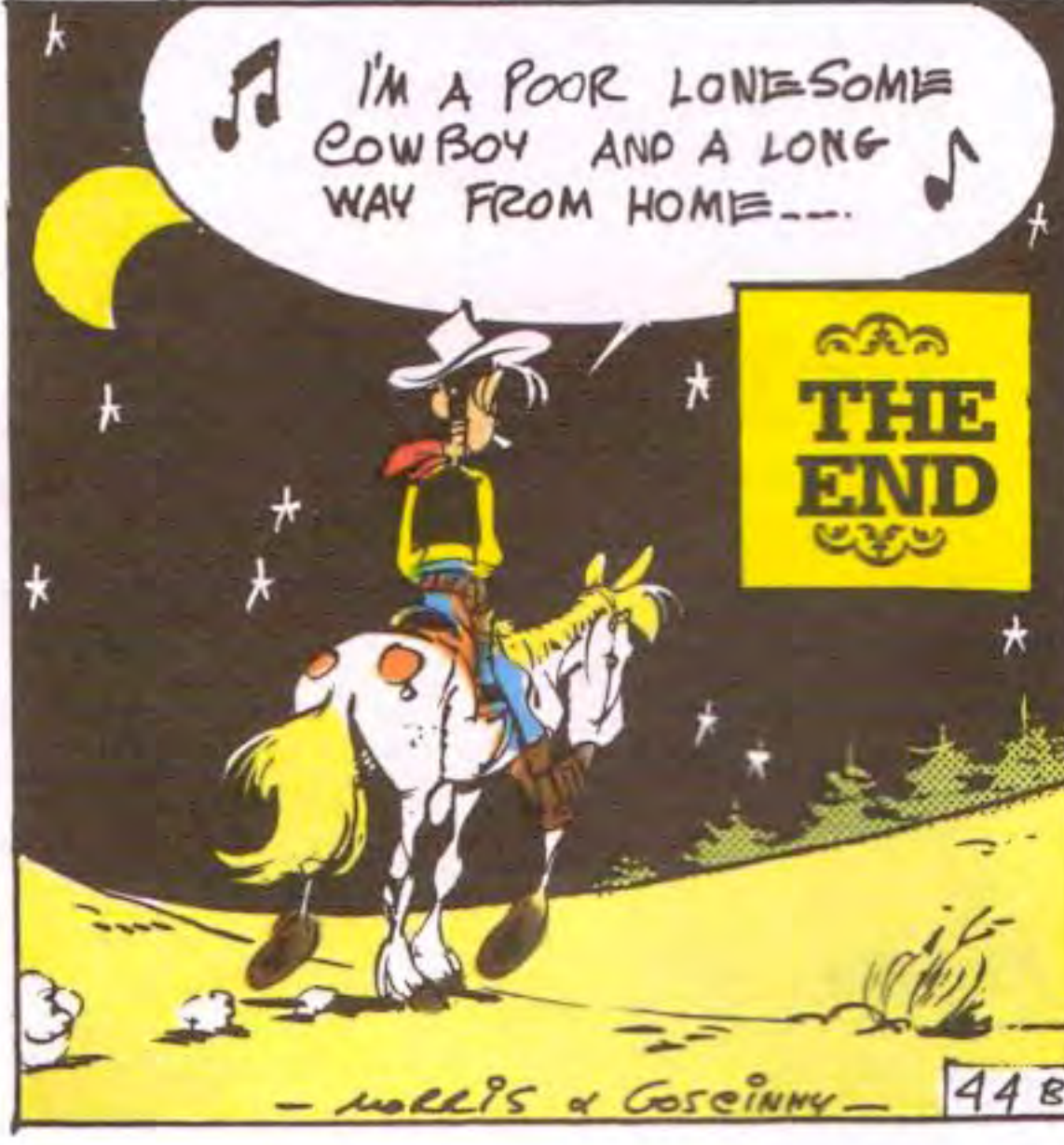


AND NOW, DEAR LUCKY LUKE...



WHERE'D HE GO?... I WAS ABOUT TO SUGGEST THAT HE MOVES IN HERE AS A FARMER AMONGST US AND GIVE UP HIS ADVENTUROUS LIFE...

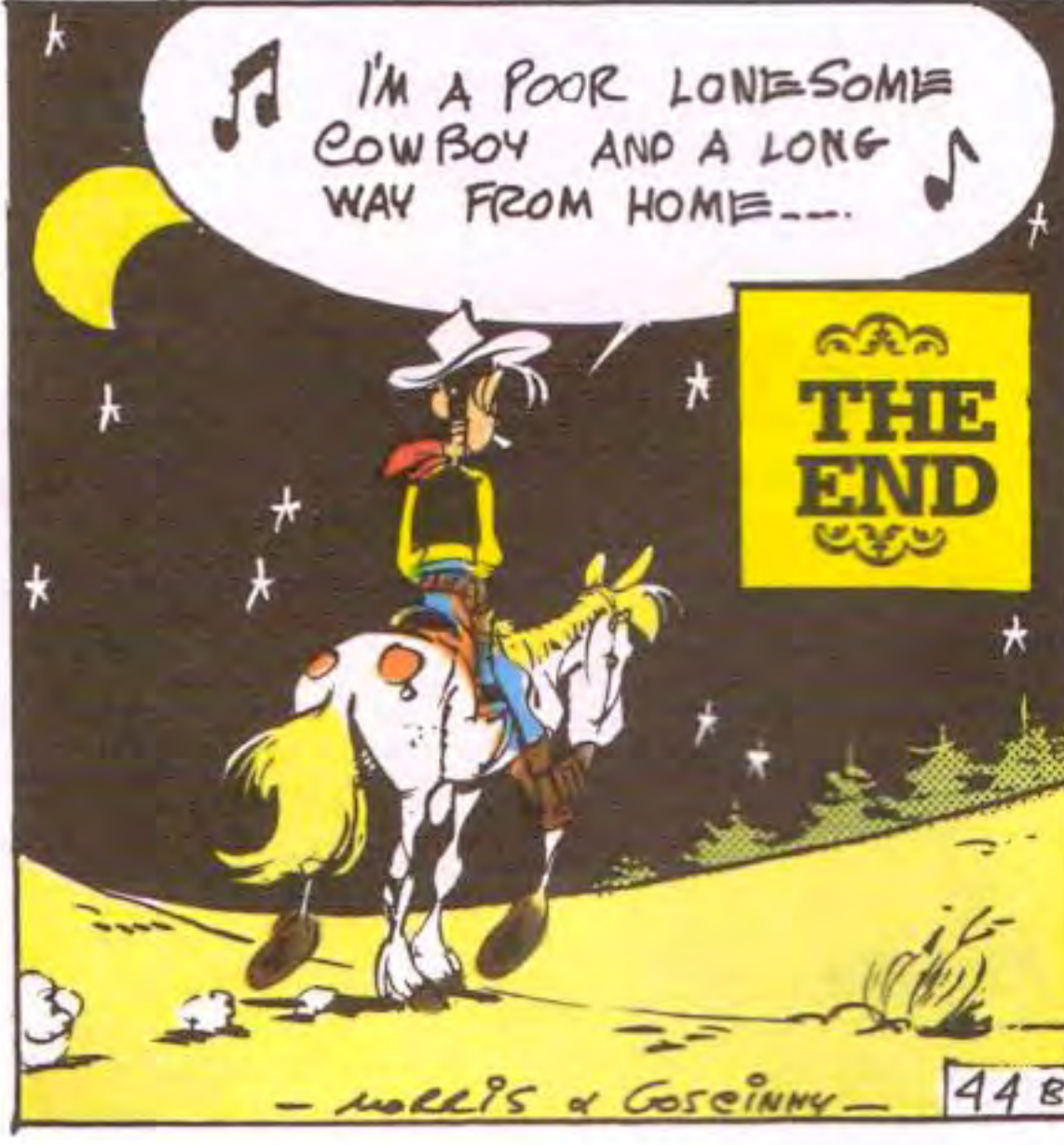
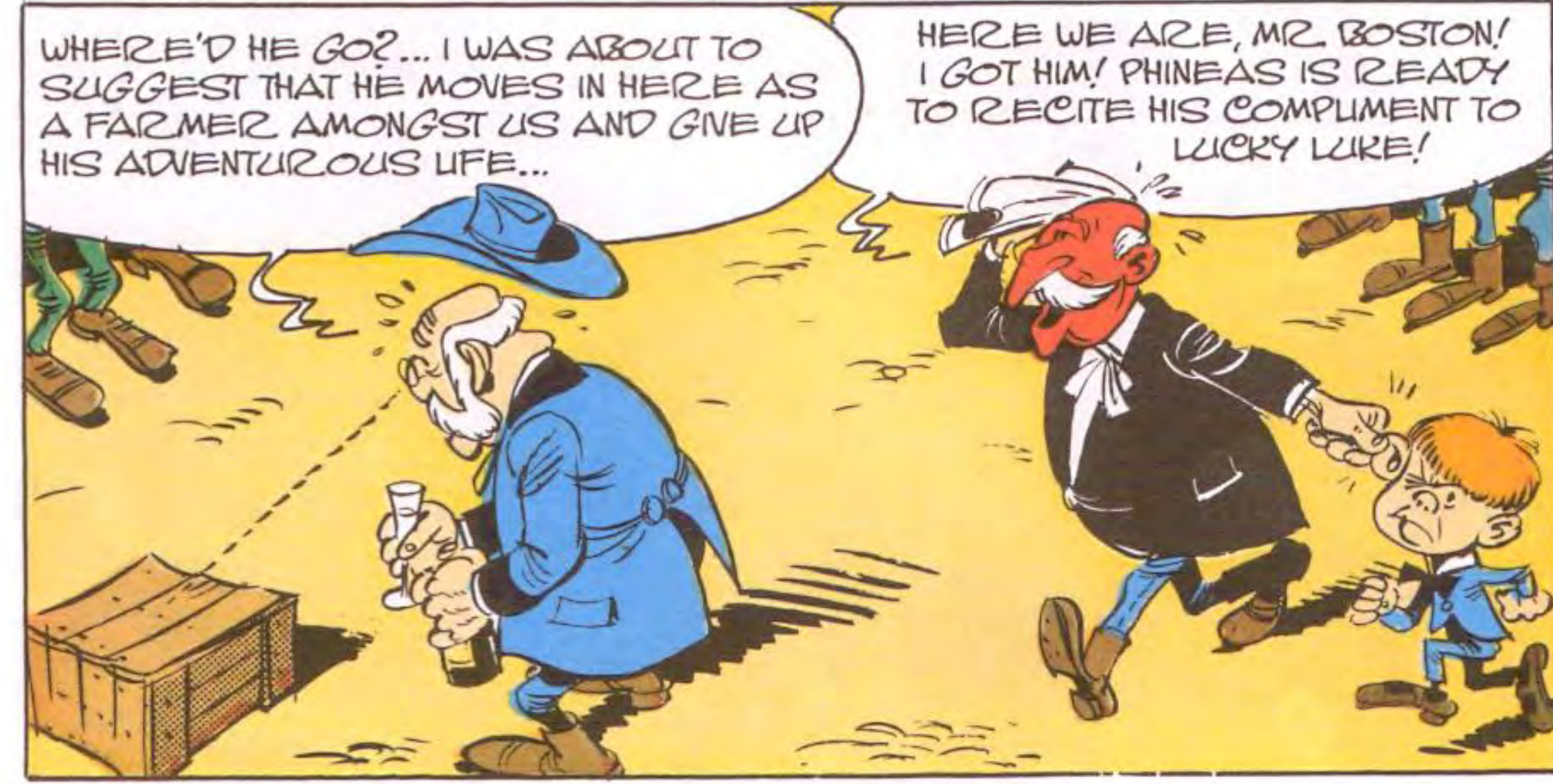
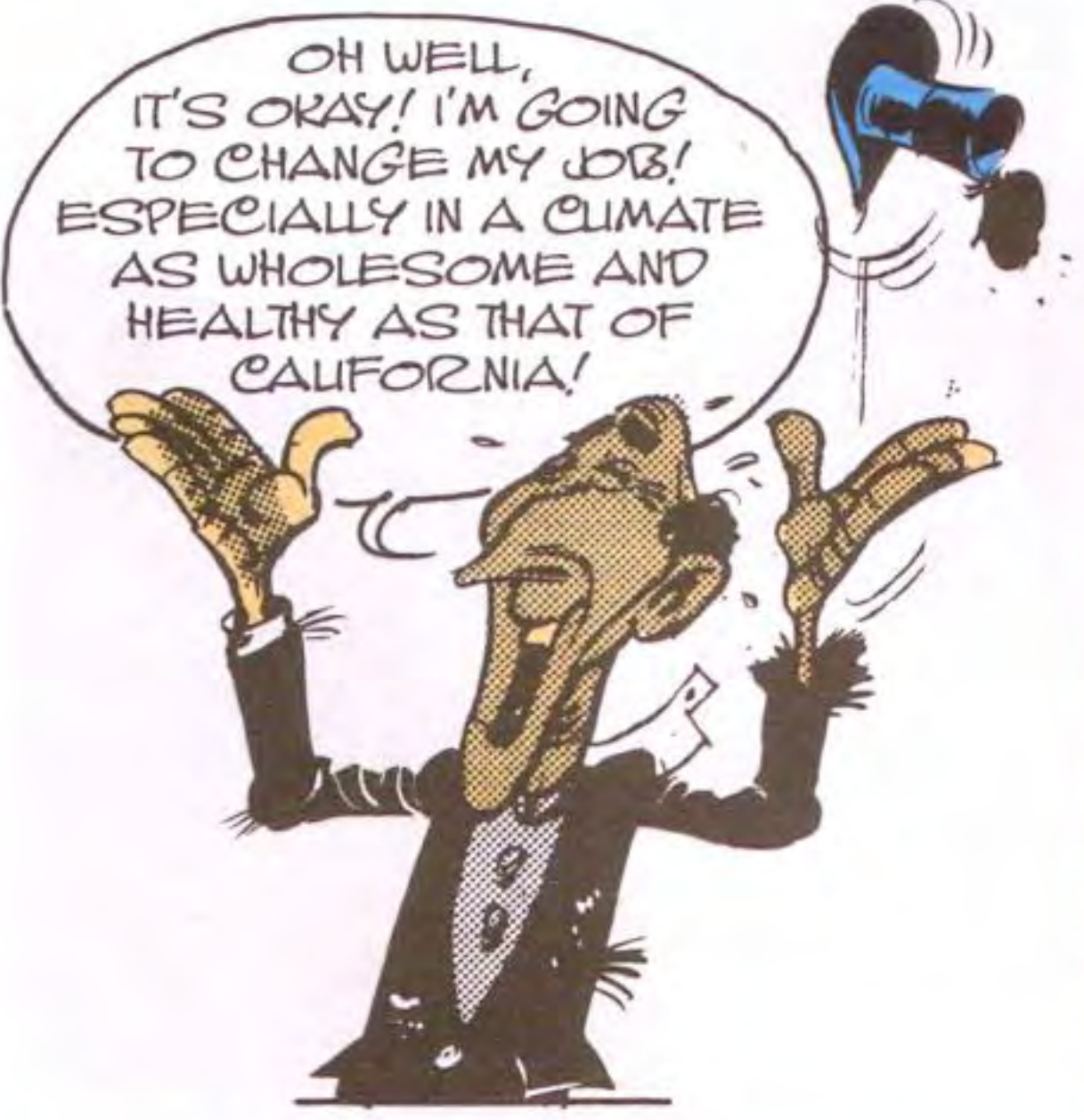
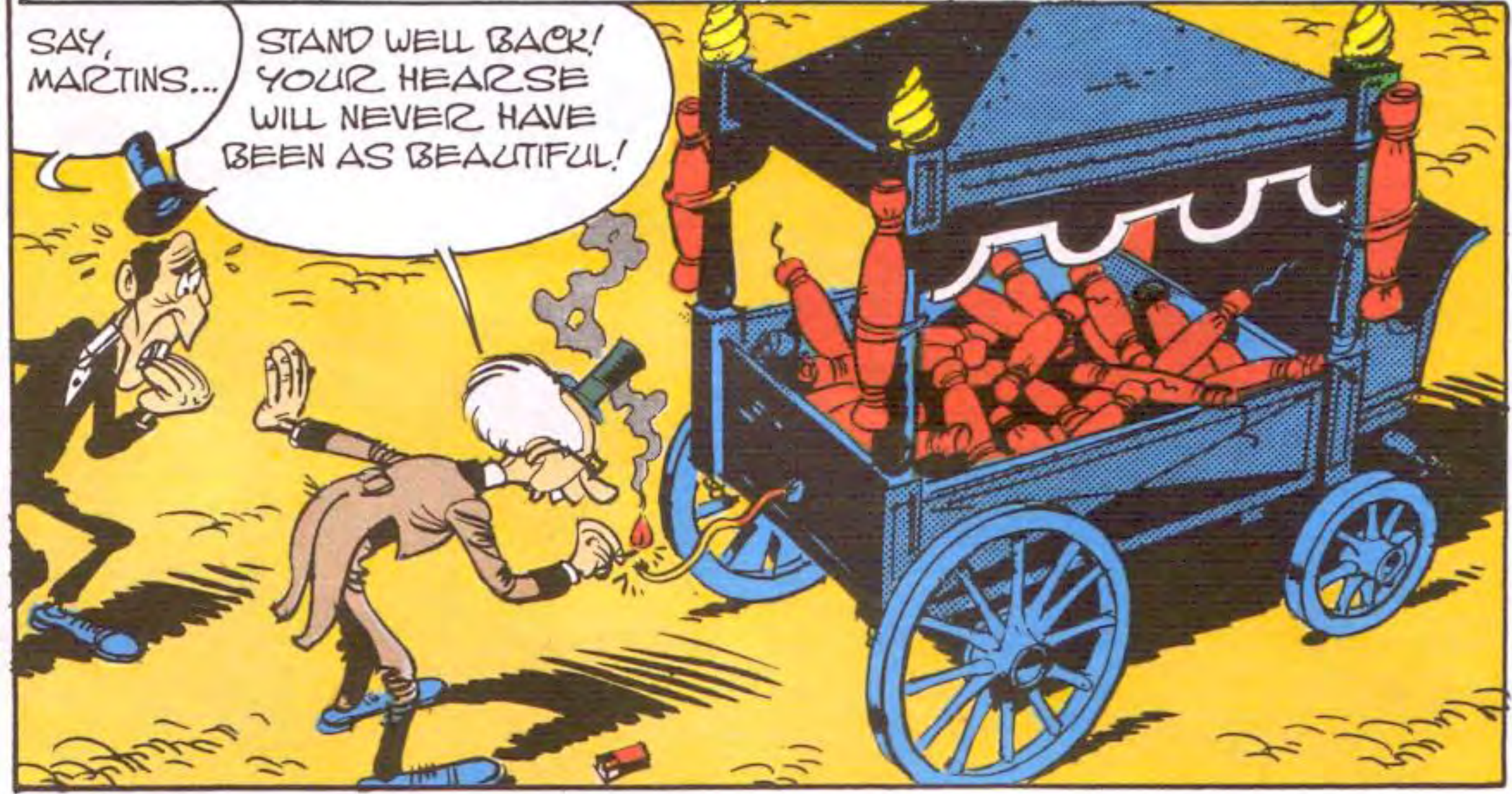
HERE WE ARE, MR. BOSTON! I GOT HIM! PHINEAS IS READY TO RECITE HIS COMPLIMENT TO LUCKY LUKE!

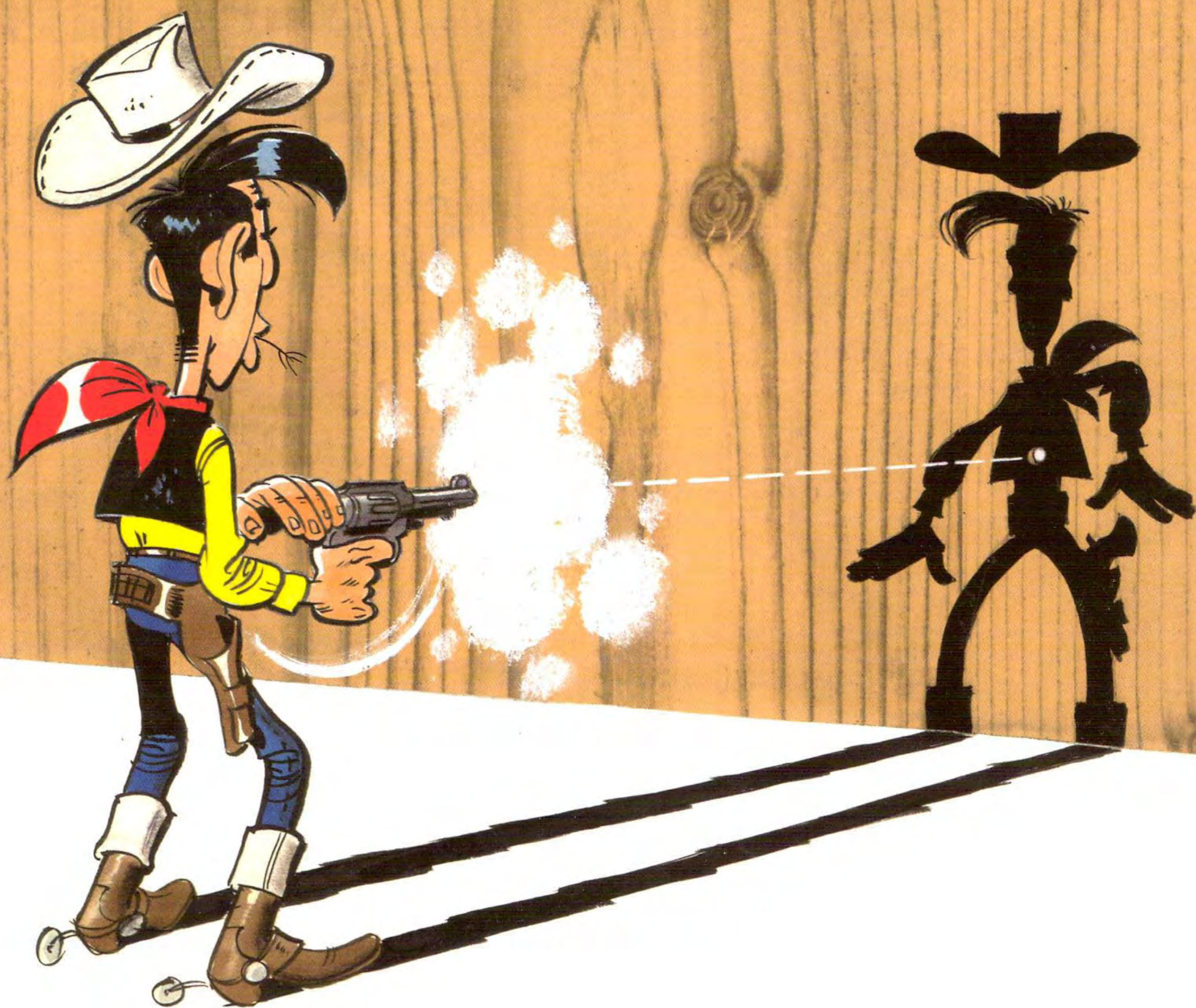


I'M A POOR LONESOME COWBOY AND A LONG WAY FROM HOME...

THE END

- MORRIS & GOSWAMY - 44B





LUCKY LUKE

The man who shoots faster than his own shadow