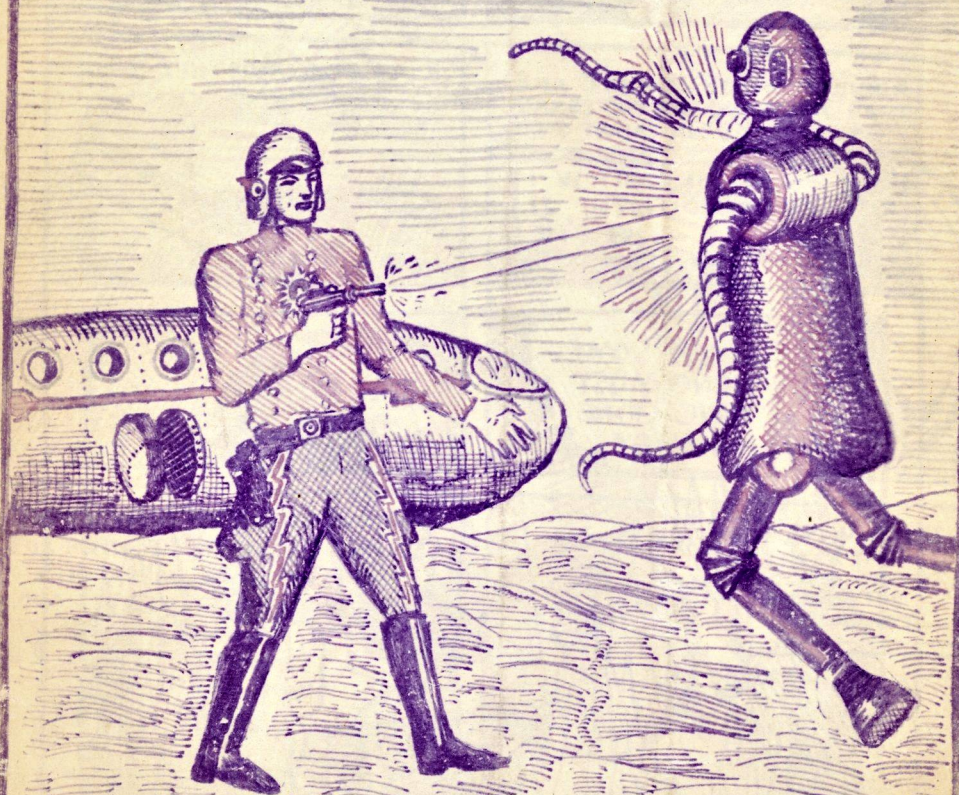


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SCIENTI- COMICS

MAY-JUNE



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VOL. 1 NO. 1.....MAY-JUNE 1940

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY PHILIP BRONSON—

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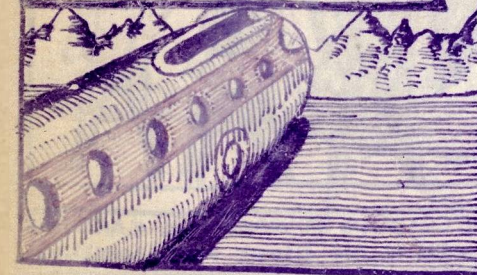
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ROBOT DOOM

A COMPLETE SCIENTI-COMIC

IN THE YEAR 2032 SPACE SHIPS DRIVEN BY ATOMIC POWER MAKE REGULAR TRIPS BETWEEN THE EARTH AND THE MOON. ONE OF THESE HAS JUST LANDED AT THE LUNAR SPACE-STATION.



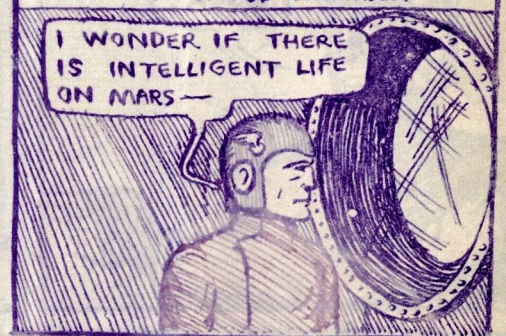
IT IS A MOMENTOUS OCCASION FOR THE MEN OF THE SPACE STATION FOR THIS IS THE MARS EXPEDITION SHIP. — SPACESUITED FIGURES SCURRY ABOUT—MAKING A LAST MINUTE INSPECTION



THE HUGE SHIP ROARS INTO SPACE



BILL TRENT—YOUNG OFFICER GAZES OUT THE QUARTZITE PORT AND THINKS ALOUD TO HIMSELF



—THAT'S WHAT MEN HAVE WONDERED FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS TRENT! —AND WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT!



A FEW WEEKS LATER THE SPACE-CRAFT NEARS THE RED PLANET—



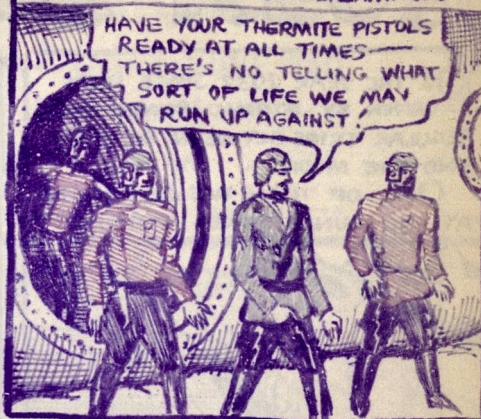
A SAFE LANDING IS MADE—THE MEN ARE EAGER TO SET FOOT ON MARS—

THE LANDING PARTY WILL BE AS FOLLOWS—
—WILSON, TRENT, WENDELL, JENSEN, AND SCOTT



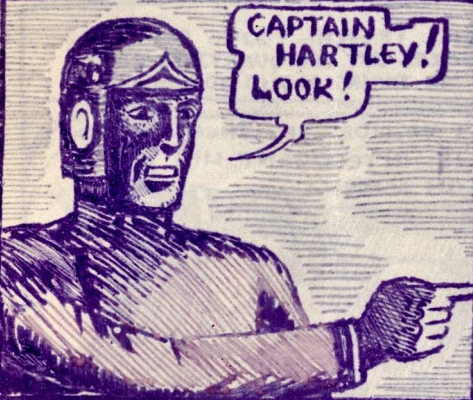
SPACE-SUITS ARE NOT NEEDED AS THE AIR IS THIN BUT BREATHABLE

HAVE YOUR THERMITE PISTOLS READY AT ALL TIMES—THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT SORT OF LIFE WE MAY RUN UP AGAINST!



PEERING OUT OVER THE RED EXpanse OF DESERT BILL TRENT SUDDENLY STIFFENS, AND HIS EYES WIDEN—

CAPTAIN HARTLEY! LOOK!



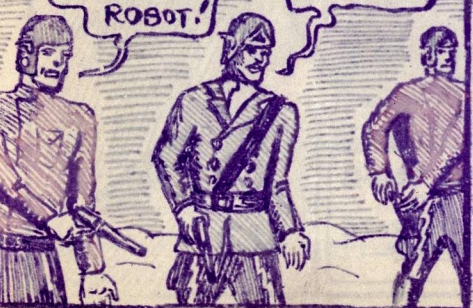
STRIDING TOWARD THE EARTH-MEN IS AN EIGHT FOOT MONSTER!



THE MEN STARE OPEN-MOUTHED AS THE WIERD CREATURE APPROACHES THEM

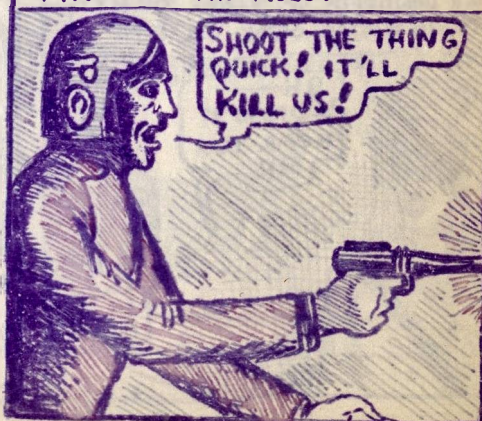
GOOD LORD! IT'S—A—ROBOT!

YOU'RE RIGHT SCOTT! IT IS A ROBOT!



WILSON LOSES HIS NERVE AND FIRES AT THE ROBOT—

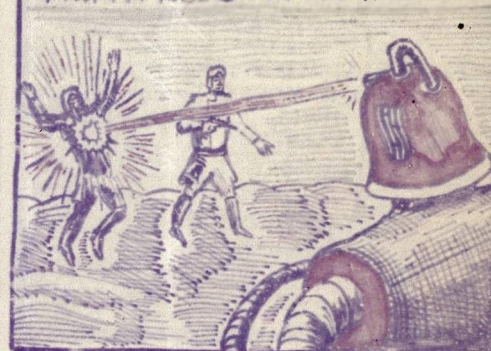
SHOOT THE THING QUICK! IT'LL KILL US!



BUT THE THERMITE BEAM BOUNCES HARMLESSLY OFF THE ONCOMING AUTOMATON—



ANGERED AT THIS SHOW OF HOSTILITY THE ROBOT DEPRESSES A BUTTON ON ITS CHEST AND A RAY FLICKS FROM A TUBE SET IN ITS HEAD—



RUN FOR THE SHIP MEN! OUR GUNS ARE USELESS!



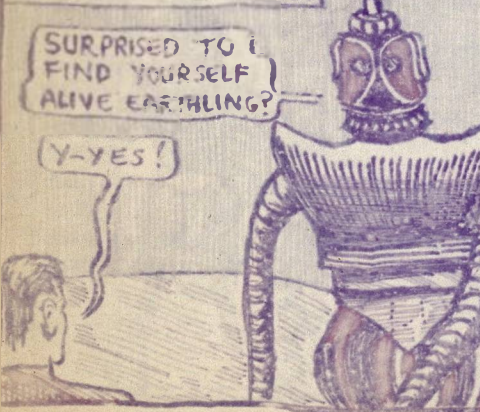
MIDWAY TO THE SHIP BILL TRENT IS OVERTAKEN AND STRUCK DOWN—



AS TRENT REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS HE OPENS HIS EYES AND IS CONFRONTED BY A ROBOT

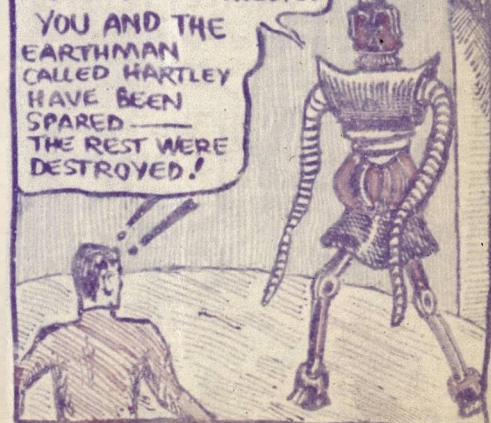
SURPRISED TO FIND YOURSELF ALIVE EARTHLING?

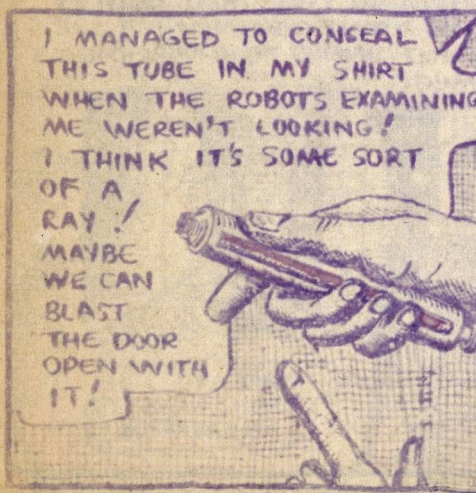
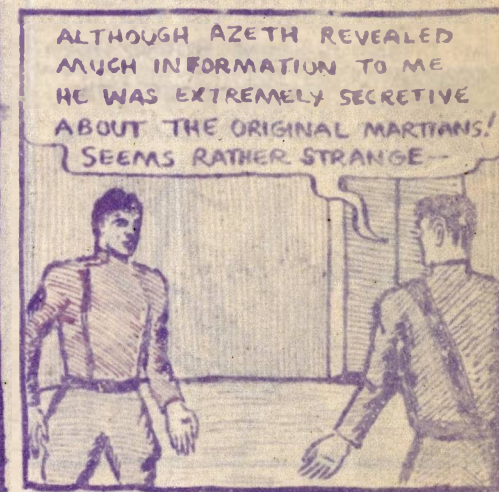
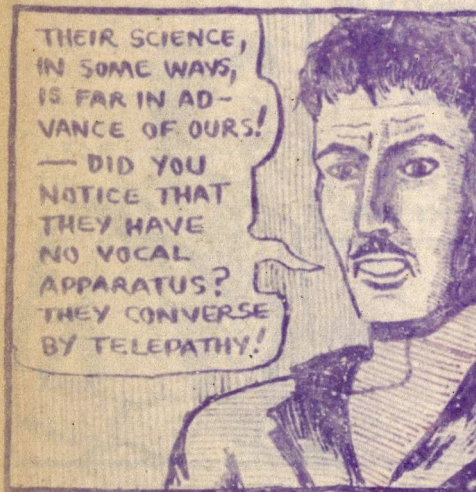
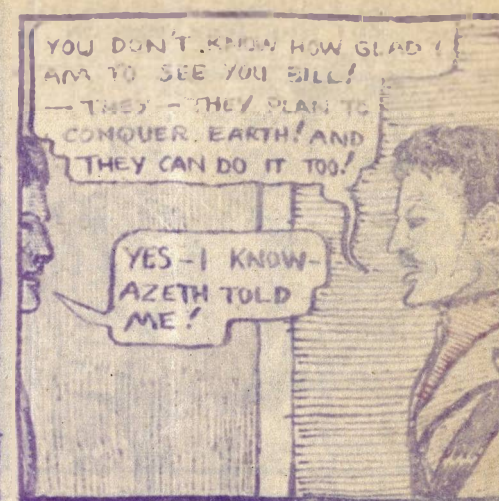
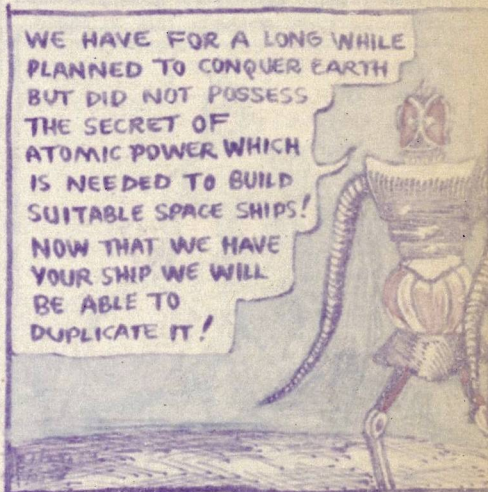
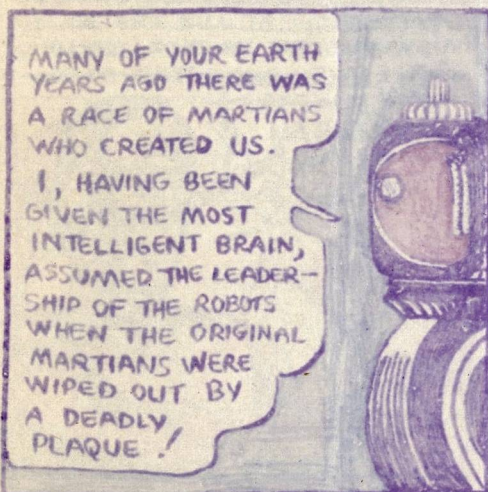
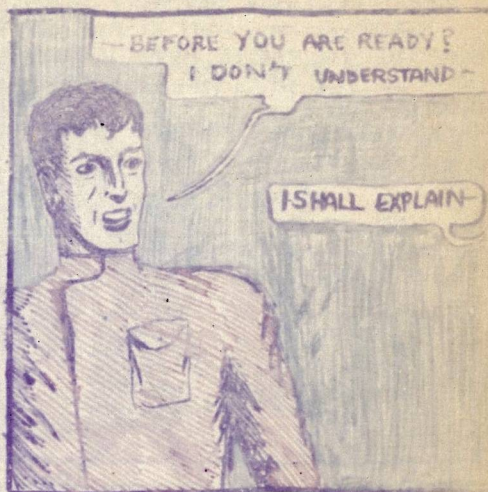
Y-YES!



I AM AZETH RULER OF THE ROBOTS!

YOU AND THE EARTHMAN CALLED HARTLEY HAVE BEEN SPARED—THE REST WERE DESTROYED!





THE TWO PRISONERS HURRIEDLY CLIMB OUT THE HOLE MADE IN THE DOOR



LET'S FOLLOW THE CORRIDOR DOWN THIS WAY

OKAY!



RACING DOWN THE SEEMINGLY ENDLESS CORRIDOR THE TWO HEAR AN OMINOUS SOUND BEHIND THEM

A ROBOT WE'VE BEEN DISCOVERED!



WATCH ME FIX THAT ANIMATED HUNK OF METAL WITH MY LITTLE RAY TUBE!



BUT TO THEIR DISMAY THE TUBE REFUSES TO SEND FORTH ITS DESTRUCTIVE BEAM!

CHARGE MUST BE EXHAUSTED! C'MON! RUN LIKE THE DEVIL!

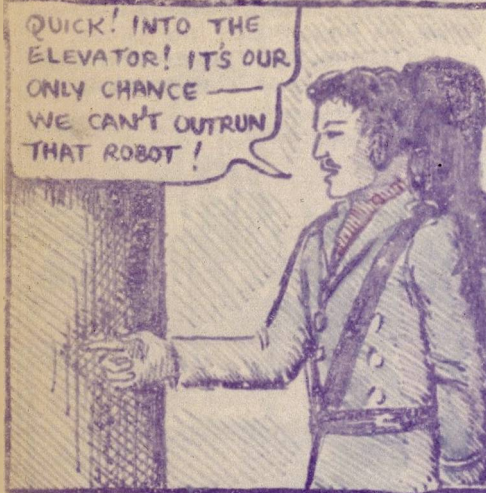


RUNNING LIKE MAD HARTLEY AND TRENT COME UPON A POINT WHERE FOUR CORRIDORS MEET.



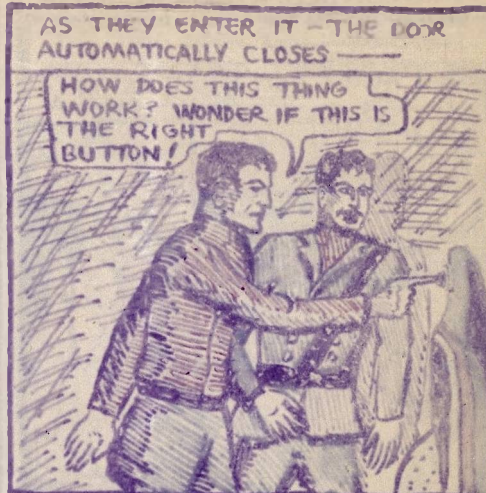
WHY - IT LOOKS LIKE AN ELEVATOR!

QUICK! INTO THE ELEVATOR! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE - WE CAN'T OUTRUN THAT ROBOT!



AS THEY ENTER IT - THE DOOR AUTOMATICALLY CLOSES

HOW DOES THIS THING WORK? WONDER IF THIS IS THE RIGHT BUTTON!



AS TRENT PRESSES THE BUTTON THE ELEVATOR DROPS WITH SICKENING SPEED



STOP THE THING QUICK!

AGAIN DEPRESSING THE CONTROL BUTTON TRENT BRINGS THEM TO A HALT - THE DOOR AUTOMATICALLY SLIDES OPEN -



THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN ANOTHER CORRIDOR IDENTICAL WITH THE ONE THEY JUST LEFT

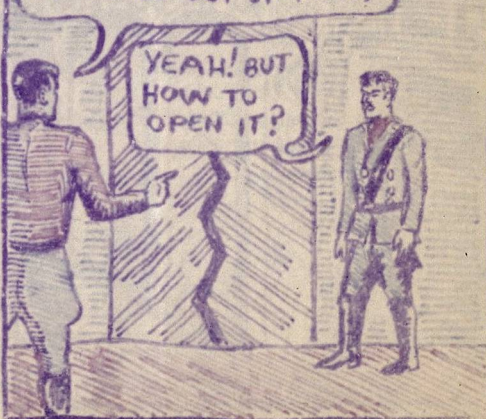
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

LET'S JUST KEEP WALKING AND HOPE WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS PLACE!



LOOK! HERE'S A DOOR! MAYBE IT LEADS OUT OF HERE!

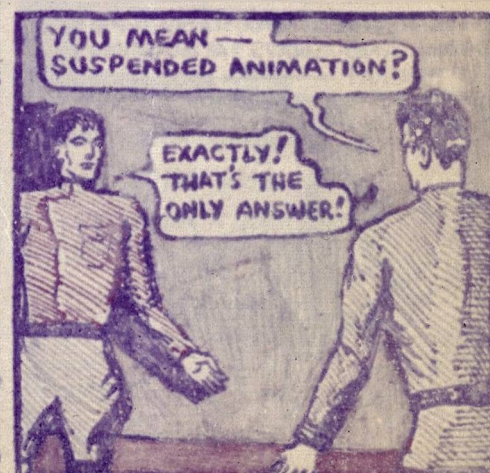
YEAH! BUT HOW TO OPEN IT?

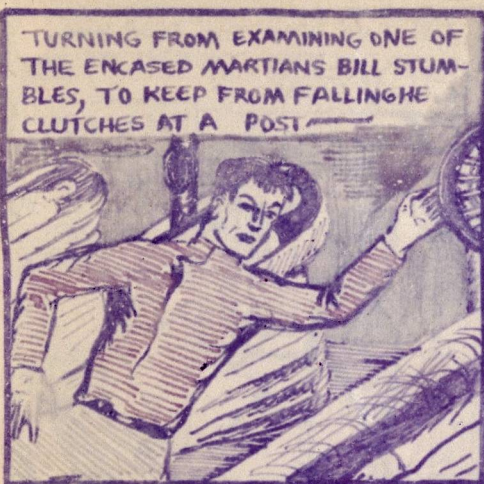


TRENT INTICES A CURIOUSLY SHAPED
LEVER SET IN THE WALL ALONGSIDE
THE DOOR —



THE DOOR SLIDES NOISELESSLY
OPEN AS BILL PULLS THE LEVER —
ENTERING, THE TWO EARTHMEN —
TO THEIR SURPRISE FIND THEMSELVES
ON A BALCONY —





TURNING FROM EXAMINING ONE OF THE ENCASED MARTIANS BILL STUMBLES, TO KEEP FROM FALLING HE CLUTCHES AT A POST



HEY BILL! LOOK OUT! YOU TURNED THAT WHEEL!—AND IT MUST OPERATE SOMETHING CONNECTED WITH THESE CASES!

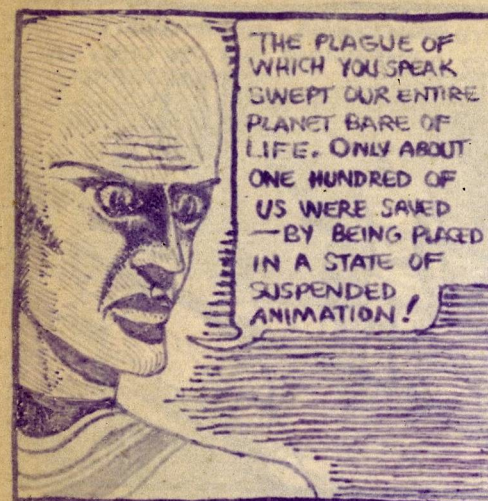


LOOK! THE CASE IS OPENING!— WE BETTER GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE MARTIANS AWAKEN AND RECAPTURE US!

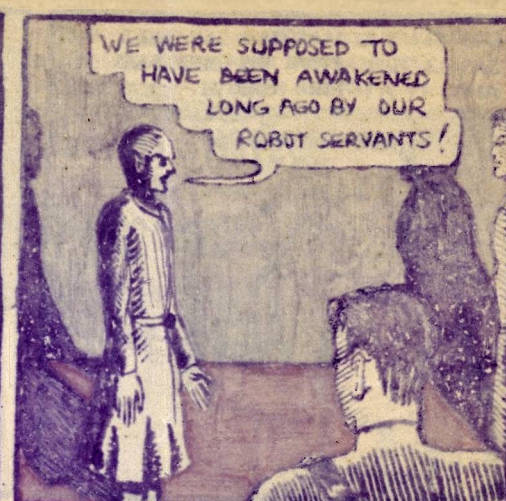


WITHOUT HESITATION THE EARTHMEN RACE FOR THE DOOR— BUT HALFWAY THERE A SHARP COMMAND SOUNDS IN THEIR MINDS

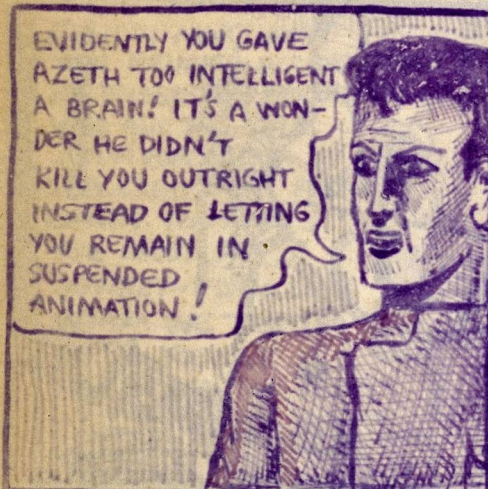
STOP!



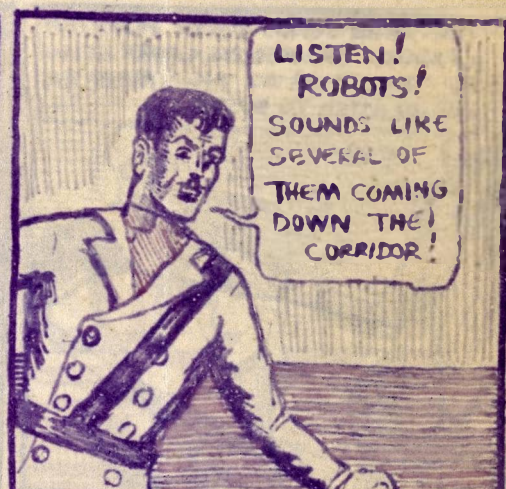
THE PLAGUE OF WHICH YOU SPEAK SWEEPED OUR ENTIRE PLANET BARE OF LIFE. ONLY ABOUT ONE HUNDRED OF US WERE SAVED—BY BEING PLACED IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION!



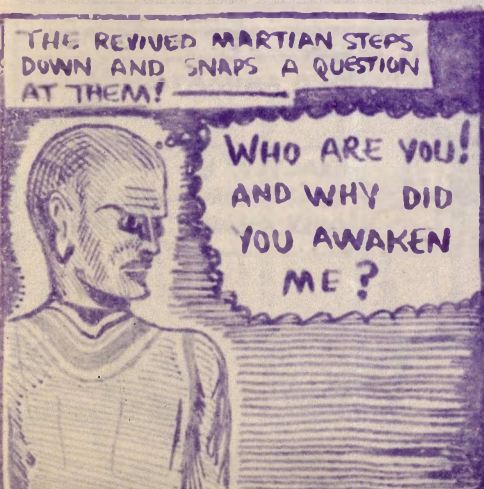
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN AWAKENED LONG AGO BY OUR ROBOT SERVANTS!



EVIDENTLY YOU GAVE AZETH TOO INTELLIGENT A BRAIN! IT'S A WONDER HE DIDN'T KILL YOU OUTRIGHT INSTEAD OF LETTING YOU REMAIN IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION!

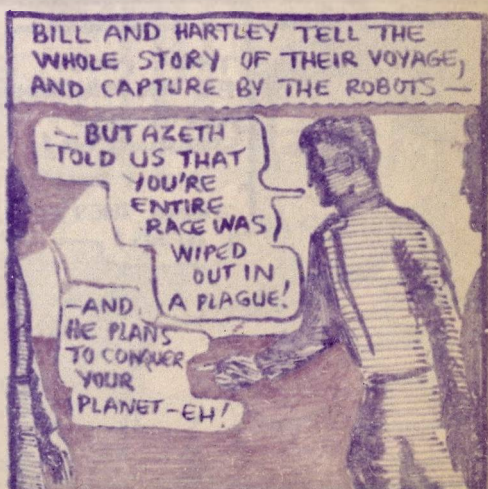


LISTEN! ROBOTS! SOUNDS LIKE SEVERAL OF THEM COMING DOWN THE CORRIDOR!



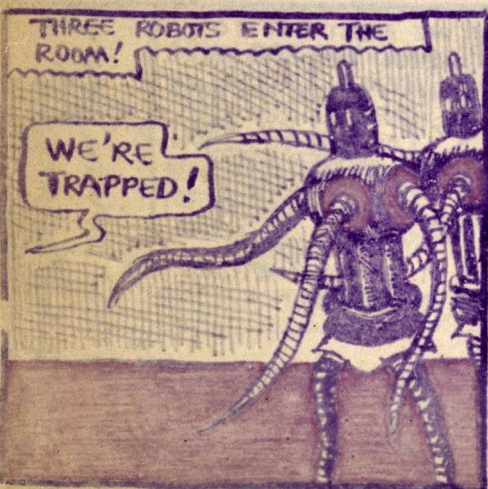
THE REVIVED MARTIAN STEPS DOWN AND SNAPS A QUESTION AT THEM!

WHO ARE YOU! AND WHY DID YOU AWAKEN ME?



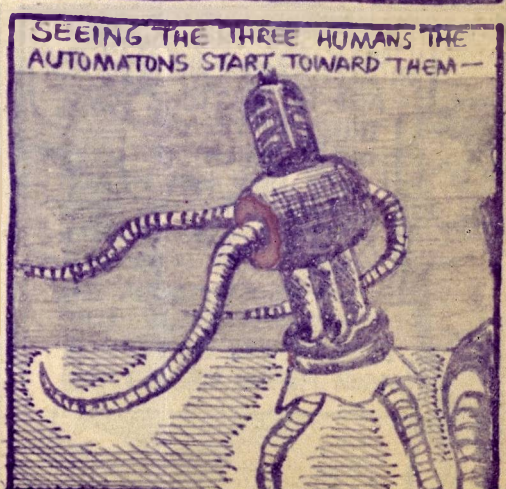
BILL AND HARTLEY TELL THE WHOLE STORY OF THEIR VOYAGE, AND CAPTURE BY THE ROBOTS—

—BUT AZETH TOLD US THAT YOU'RE ENTIRE RACE WAS WIPED OUT IN A PLAGUE!—AND HE PLANS TO CONQUER YOUR PLANET—EH!

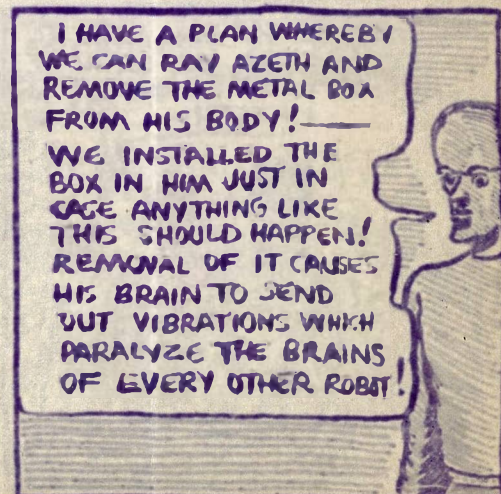
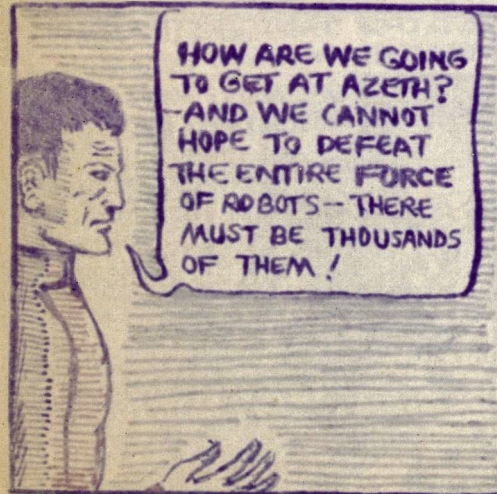
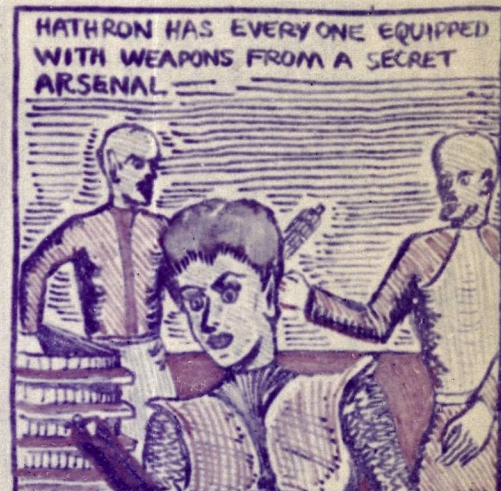
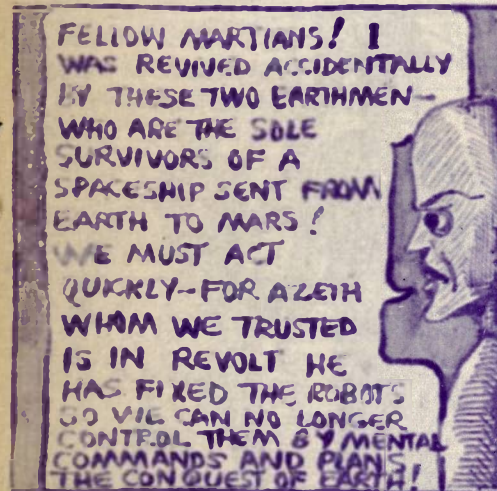
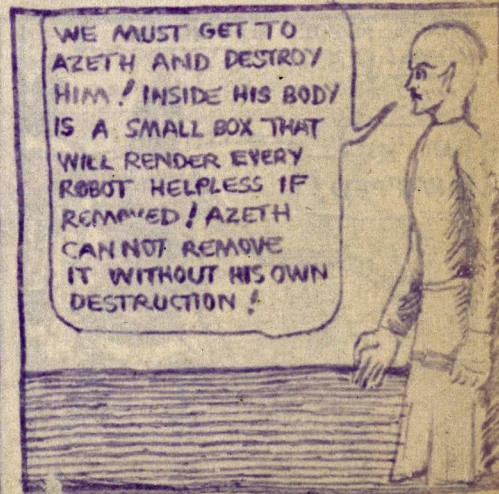
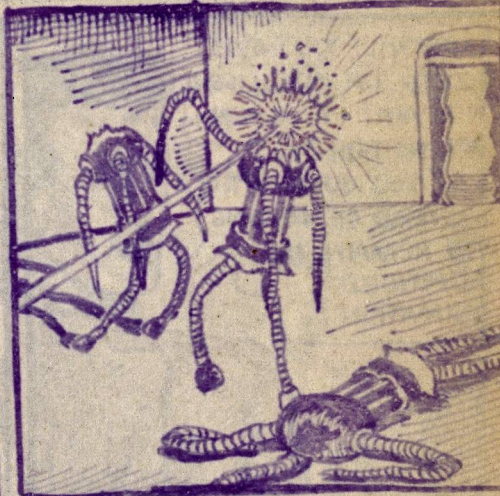
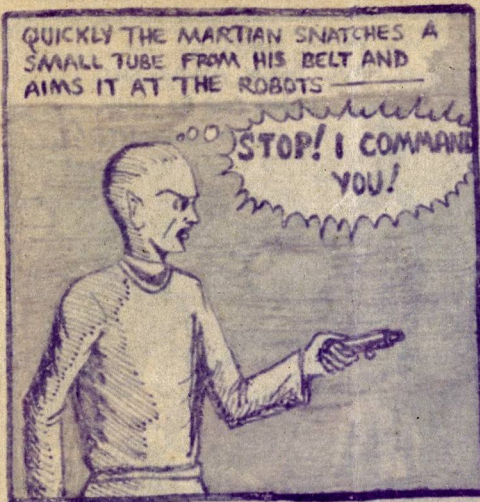


THREE ROBOTS ENTER THE ROOM!

WE'RE TRAPPED!



SEEING THE THREE HUMANS THE AUTOMATONS START TOWARD THEM—



HATHRON DISCLOSES A TUNNEL
AND THE EARTHMEN AND SEVERAL
MARTIANS FOLLOW HIM INTO IT—



THE ROBOTS DO NOT KNOW OF
THIS TUNNEL— IT LEADS
TO A ROOM WHERE AZETH
COMES TO REPLENISH HIS
ENERGY!



THIS ENABLES AZETH TO—
MAINTAIN SUPREMACY OVER
THE OTHERS
OF HIS
KIND!



YES— BUT WHAT ABOUT
THE REST OF THE
MARTIANS WE
LEFT BACK THERE?
— IF THEY ARE
DISCOVERED —



THEY WILL HAVE TO
HOLD OUT UNTIL WE
CAN DESTROY
AZETH—



AT LAST THEIR DESTINATION IS
REACHED —

WE MUST HIDE
OURSELVES



THEY QUICKLY CONCEAL THEMSELVES
AMONG THE MASSIVE MACHINERY —



AZETH WILL
ENTER BY THE
DOOR WE ARE
FACING —
BE PREPARED!

AFTER WAITING FOR HOURS THEY
HEAR THE HEAVY TREAD OF
ROBOTS IN THE CORRIDOR —



SOUNDS LIKE —
MORE THAN ONE!
— JUST OUR LUCK!

THE DOOR SLIDES OPEN AND THE
ROBOT RULER ENTERS— FOLLOWED
BY TWO OF HIS SUBJECTS —



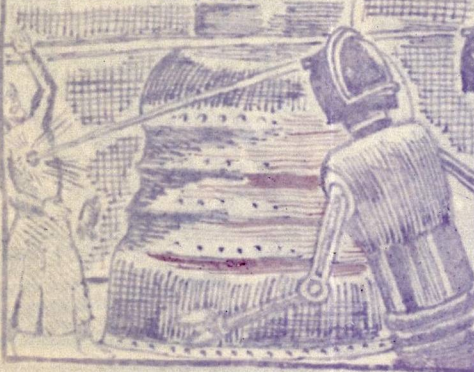
INSTANTLY AZETH'S HEAD IS
BLASTED TO NOTHINGNESS BY
FOUR RAY TUBES!



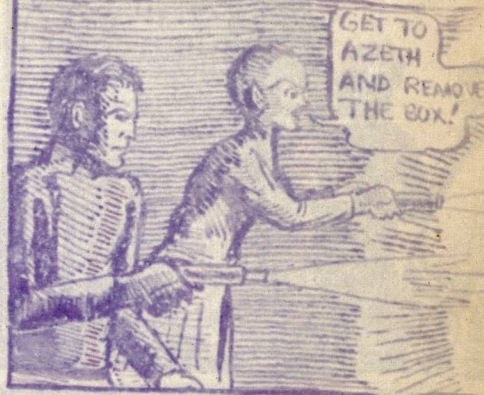
MEANWHILE THE REST OF THE MARTIANS LEFT IN THE SUSPENDED
ANIMATION ROOM ARE DISCOVERED AND ATTACKED BY A HORDE
OF ROBOTS!



AS AZETH CRASHES TO THE FLOOR HIS ATTENDANTS LEAP INTO ACTION TWO OF THE MARTIANS FALL UNDER THE DEADLY RAYS



TRENT AND HATHRON RUSH FORWARD FOLLOWED BY HARTLEY



GET TO AZETH AND REMOVE THE BOX!

ONE OF THE ROBOTS SEIZES HATHRON IN ITS ARMS AND SMASHES HIM AGAINST THE WALL WITH CRUSHING FORCE



UNDER THE CONCENTRATED FIRE OF HARTLEY AND TRENT ANOTHER OF THE AUTOMATONS GOES DOWN



BUT THE ONE REMAINING ROBOT HAS COME UP BEHIND THEM AND HIS RAY PIERCES THEIR HEARTS

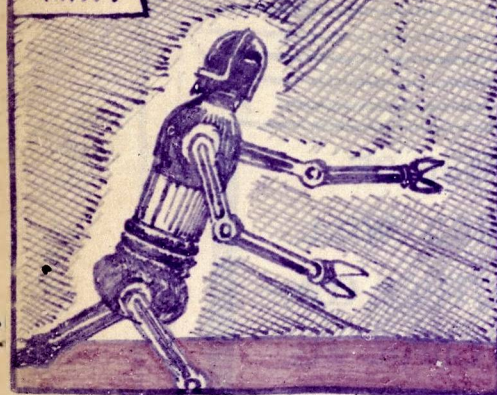


DYING — HATHRON DRAGS HIS BATTERED BODY TOWARD THE REMAINS OF AZETH —

HIS-BRAIN-IS-DESTROYED BUT-I-CAN STILL-BRING ABOUT-THE PARALYSIS OF THE-REST-OF THEM.



SEEING WHAT HATHRON INTENDS TO DO THE ROBOT RUSHES AT HIM!



BUT TOO LATE! THE MARTIAN REMOVES THE SMALL METAL BOX—MAKES SEVERAL ADJUSTMENTS ON IT AND SINKS BACK LIFELESS AS IT SENDS OUT ITS VIBRATIONS—



THE MARTIANS IN THE SUSPENDED ANIMATION ROOM ARE FIGHTING DESPERATELY TO ESCAPE BEING KILLED BY THE ADVANCING ROBOT ARMY WHEN THE BOX RENDERS THEIR ATTACKERS HELPLESS —



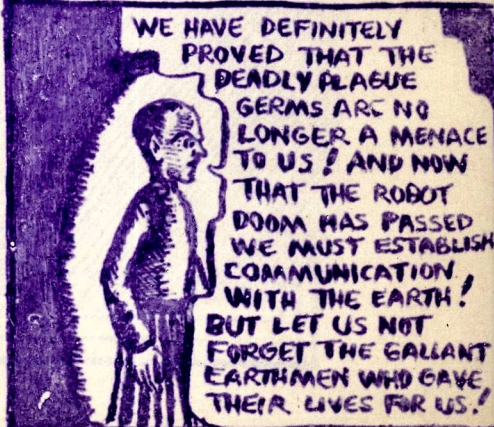
THE ROBOTS ARE HELPLESS! HATHRON AND THE EARTHMEN MUST HAVE DESTROYED AZETH!!



MANY DAYS LATER, THROUGH THE UN-TIRING EFFORTS OF THE SURVIVING MARTIANS, THEIR CITY IS RESTORED TO ITS PROPER ORDER.

URZAK, NEWLY ELECTED LEADER ADDRESSES HIS PEOPLE —

WE HAVE DEFINITELY PROVED THAT THE DEADLY PLAGUE GERMS ARE NO LONGER A MENACE TO US! AND NOW THAT THE ROBOT DOOM HAS PASSED WE MUST ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION WITH THE EARTH! BUT LET US NOT FORGET THE GALLANT EARTHMEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR US!



THE END

THE NEXT ISSUE OF
SCIENTI-COMICS WILL
FEATURE ANOTHER COM-
PLETE STF COMIC ALL
IN COLOR.....

