



Mendip Caving Group Newsletter

No. 168

November 1983 (late)

alias the 1984 JOURNAL FUN SECTION.....

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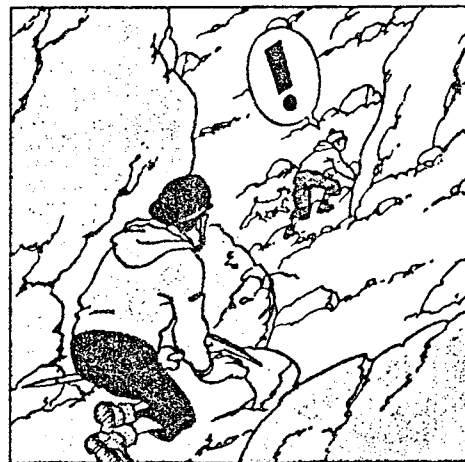
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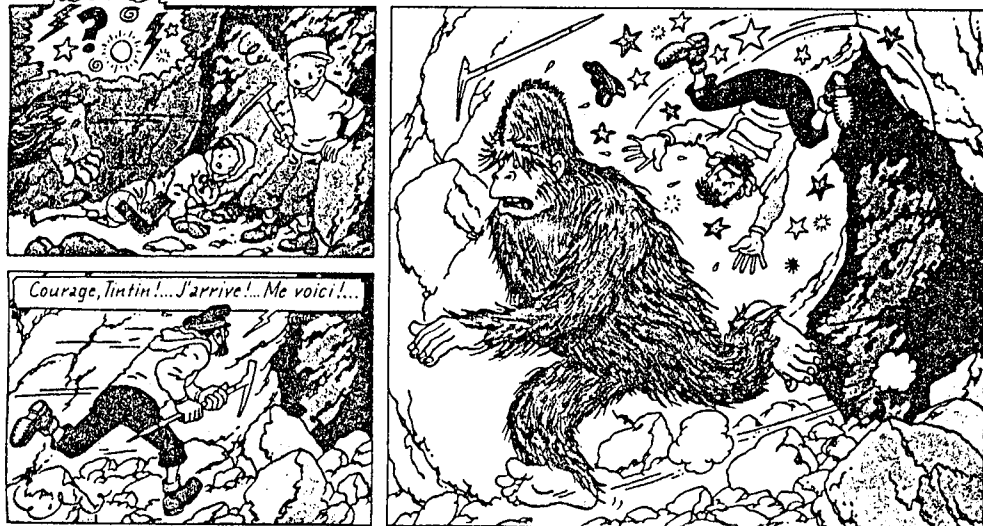
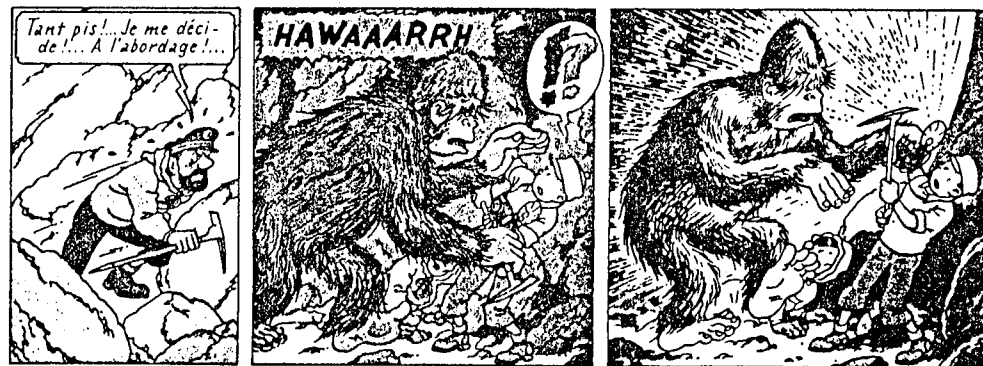
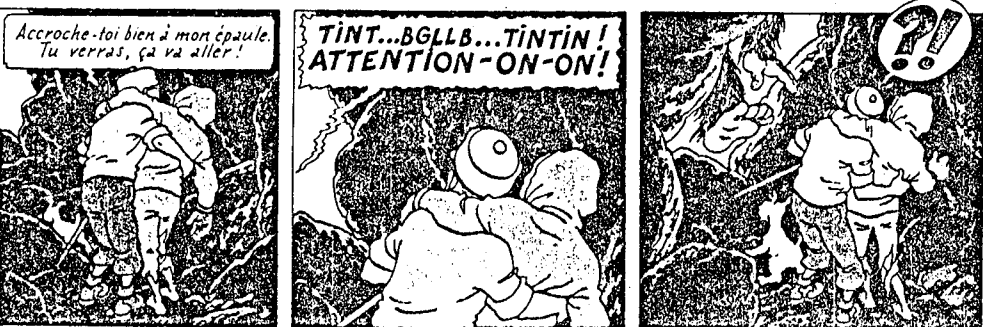
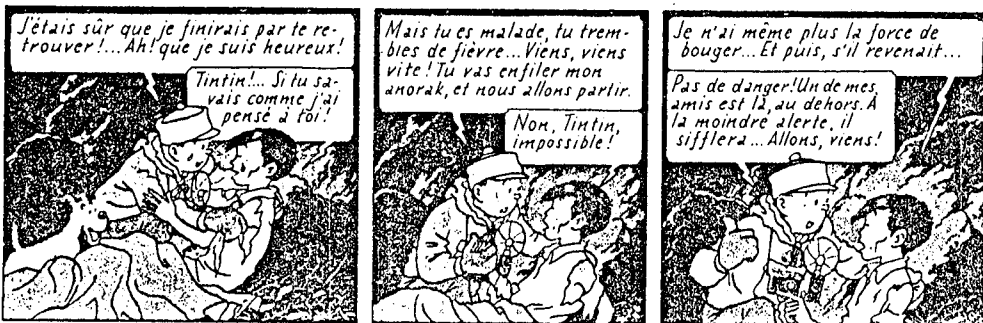
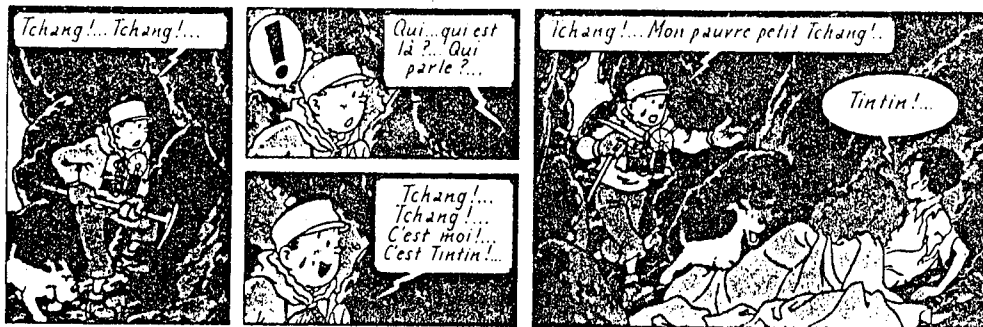
Bob Speleo β



TINTIN TROUVE UNE GROTTTE.

Tintin et Capitaine Haddock cherchent Tintin's old ami Tchang, qui est missing après un accident d'avion dans les Himalayas. Après many aventures, ils trouvent l'écharpe de Tchang, et follow un Yeti a l'entrance d'une petite grotte.





The Cave of the Ice Dragon.

In the lands to the North, where the black rocks stand guard against the cold sea, in the dark night that is very long, the men of the Northland sit by their great log fires and they tell a tale.

They tell of a king who left his castle and his peaceful land to travel through the dark woods to meet a dragon in the Hot-Water Valley beyond the Glass Mountains. Noggin was the name of the king.

Aided by his faithful companions, Noggin finds the dragon, who is unable to sleep due to mysterious fires in his cave.....

A small plume of smoke was rising from the cave mouth. Noggin and Thor Nogson peered into the smoky darkness. They could see nothing.

"We must go in and look," said Noggin.

Thor Nogson, Captain of the Royal Guard, was a brave man. He said: "I will go in there, I'm not afraid."

He drew his sword and crept down over the

rocks to the cave mouth. Silently he made his way down the long passage until, as his eyes grew used to the dimness, he saw a high chamber lit by the faint flickering glow of a bonfire.

Two more things he saw and both of them filled him with amazement. One was the vast glittering heap of jewels, precious stones, silver and gold ornaments and weapons that covered the floor.



The other was the tall angular evil figure of Noggin's uncle, Nogbad the Bad, who was shovelling the stuff into sacks and chuckling to himself.

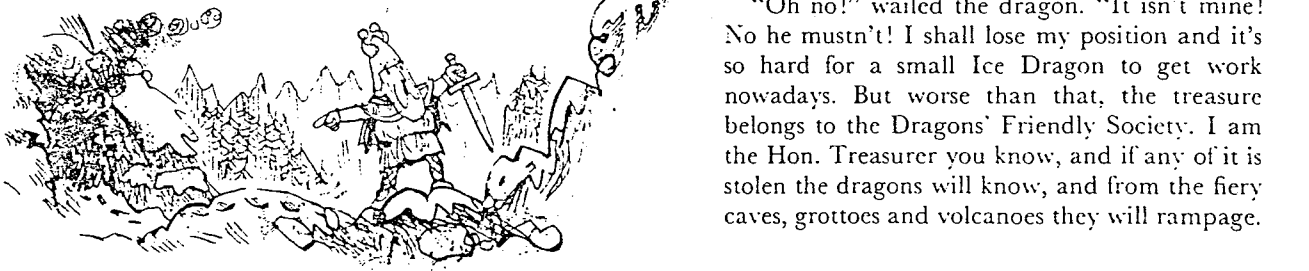
"Huh, huh, huh. Riches beyond the dreams of avarice! Jewels for the ransom of a hundred emperors! Huh, huh, huh...."

Thor Nogson backed away out of the cave.

"There's your uncle Nogbad in there!"

"Nogbad!"

"Yes and there's treasure, jewels and stuff. Masses of it. He's bagging it up in sacks."



"Oh no!" wailed the dragon. "It isn't mine! No he mustn't! I shall lose my position and it's so hard for a small Ice Dragon to get work nowadays. But worse than that, the treasure belongs to the Dragons' Friendly Society. I am the Hon. Treasurer you know, and if any of it is stolen the dragons will know, and from the fiery caves, grottoes and volcanoes they will rampage.

From "Noggin and the Ice Dragon".

Fungus the Bogeyman.

Due to the serious risk of cavers of a nervous disposition having bad dreams and falling out of top bunks, the Fungus story was not considered suitable for a caving publication. Anyone wishing to read about Fungus the Bogeyman may borrow the book from the MCG library if they show the librarian a note from their Mum.

COPY



- ACROSS
1. SAD MOLES SOMEHOW FOUND IN THE BLACK KELD SYSTEM (8)
 5. DESCRIPTIVE OF STARLIGHT CHAMBER, IN SPIRIT ANYWAY! (6)
 9. EDGES PITCH TOGETHER FORMING THE WALL OF AN UNDERGROUND POOL (8)
 10. SEMI-PRECIOUS METAL ALLOY USED FOR COINAGE (6)
 12. SHORT CONNECTING RIB IN GOTHIC VAULTING (6)
 13. SECTIONS OF CAVE FOUND IN LITERATURE (8)
 14. FUN TO FONDLE AND GOOD TO WALK OVER ON MENDIP (6 & 6)
 18. WATER FROM HERE FLOWS TO BRANTS GILL OR DUCK GILL (9 & 3)
 23. PATCHIER MAKEUP IN CAVE FORMATION (8)
 24. ALWAYS IN THE DIRECTION FOR CAVE GRADING (6)
 26. MENTAL WEARINESS BROUGHT ON BY BOREDOM (6)
 27. WHEREIN IS CONTAINED HEROICA POT (4 & 5)
 28. LEARN WITHOUT A NOVICE - DESERVE IT (4)
 29. CONFUSED CAVER LIT THIS POT - ONE OF TWINS (8)
- DOWN
1. STEPS MADE FROM THIS IN YORKSHIRE (6)
 2. FILLED WITH WATER PERHAPS? (6)
 3. PEACE BETWEEN NATIONS (6)
 4. LANCASHIRE RIVER ON WHICH CATON STANDS (4)
 6. IS TOWNS CAVE FOUND ON THE TURBARY ROAD (7)
 7. ABOUT TO BEQUEATH AND DIGNITY TO A LOWER POSITION (8)
 8. ONES MOLE COULD BE DESCRIBED AS THIS WHEN ALONE UNDERGROUND (8)
 11. SHORT CHORAL WORK (7)
 15. SURVEYING VISUALLY (7)
 16. A SEIZURE (8)
 17. CHARMING WAY TO START A CAVING TRIP (8)
 19. INITIALLY IN CHARGE MIXED WITH LARGE ICE FORMATION (7)
 20. DESCRIPTIVE OF CAPING GILL CERTAINLY (4 & 3)
 21. PERTAINING TO SOME IRON COMPOUNDS (6)
 22. THIS CLUE SHOULD BE LAST - AT THE END ANYWAY (6)
 25. BEWARE! LATIN SPELEOLOGISTS FOUND HERE (4)

The first correct solution received by Bryan Terry will receive 3 pints of beer.

SEVERE
REFUEL

PHREATIC
PHREATIC

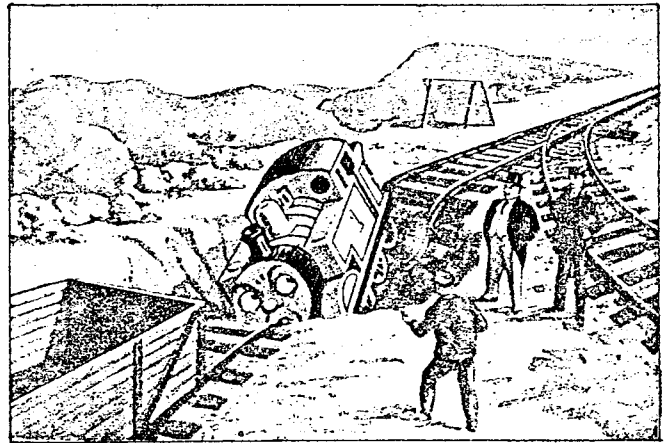
FOUR
GILL
CURL

CAVERLY
-ETC-

CLUE
-E-U-L-

Thomas the Tank Engine Goes Down a Mine.

Thomas could just see out of the hole, but he couldn't move.
 "Oh dear!" he said, "I am a silly engine."
 "And a very naughty one too," said a voice behind him, "I saw you."
 "Please get me out; I won't be naughty again."
 "I'm not so sure," replied the Fat Controller. "We can't lift you out with a crane, the ground's not firm enough. Hm . . . Let me see . . . I wonder if Gordon could pull you out."
 "Yes Sir," said Thomas nervously. He didn't want to meet Gordon just yet!
 "Down a mine is he? Ho! Ho! Ho!" laughed Gordon.



From "Gordon the Big Engine".

Edited by Fungus McBogle. With apologies to Herge, Oliver Postgate, and the Rev. W. Audrie for borrowing their material without permission, to the MCG for publishing it, and to Raymond Briggs for not publishing his material, with or without permission.