



COMICS

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85

MAGAZINE SECTION

How Binnacle Jim and Mate Became Figureheads of the "Dancin' Sal."



1. "Ol' Cap' Walrus' temper was none too sweet at th' best, but when he was struck with rheu-ma-tiz, which wusn't infrequent, they wusn't no livin' with him, an' that's why one day me an' Bill decided to desert th' ol' 'Dancin' Sal,' not-with-stand-in it wus in mid-ocean at th' time.



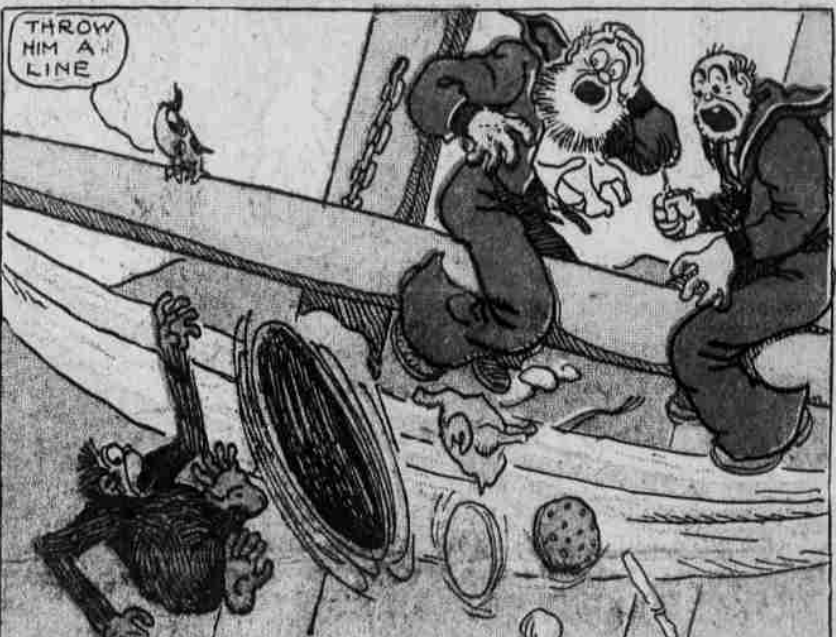
2. "We wus settin' on a cross tree when th' idee struck Bill an' I fell in im-mediate. You see it wus like this: Th' old man bein' disabled, we reckoned on stayin' aloft there and mak-in' ourselfs snug t' th' end o' th' w'gye an' then sneak ourselfs ashore, dependin' in th' meantime on Davy Jones t' smuggle up rations.



3. "After sweepin' th' deck with th' glass t' make sure th' coast wus clear, we gave Davy th' order t' go below an' you can sink me fer a lubber ef that fool ape didn't come climbin' back up th' mast with th' capt'in's own private mess.



4. "Well you can bet we wus glad t' see that grub comin', not knowin' havin' tasted anything fresher than salt horse since leavin' port, an' th' way we scrambled t' meet Davy wus enough t' make th' poor brute lose his beatin's.



5. "I wus makin' fast th' capt'in's napkin, preparin' t' put on airs when all o' a sudden th' mast reeled over t' one side and Davy lost his holt, an' afore either Bill er me could lend a hand th' faithful critter wus clean adrift.



6. "They 'us no help fer it an' we had t' set there like a pair o' barnicles an' wait fer th' smash, an' t' make things worse jist then we sighted th' capt'in come hobb in' out on th' deck t' take his bearin's.



7. "It sounds on-reasonable t' hear-tel, but I'm blowed if that ape didn't land plump on th' ol' Cap's chest jis, as he was castin' his eye aloft at th' weather. It wus th' only thing 'at saved poor Davy, but yo' ought t' o' seen th' skipper.



8. "Arter th' ol' man had picked hisself up an' found his bearin's th' way he took on wus a fright, an' Bill an' me knew it 'd be all a man's life wus worth t' let him come alongside, so we laid low and let him beller through th' trumpet.



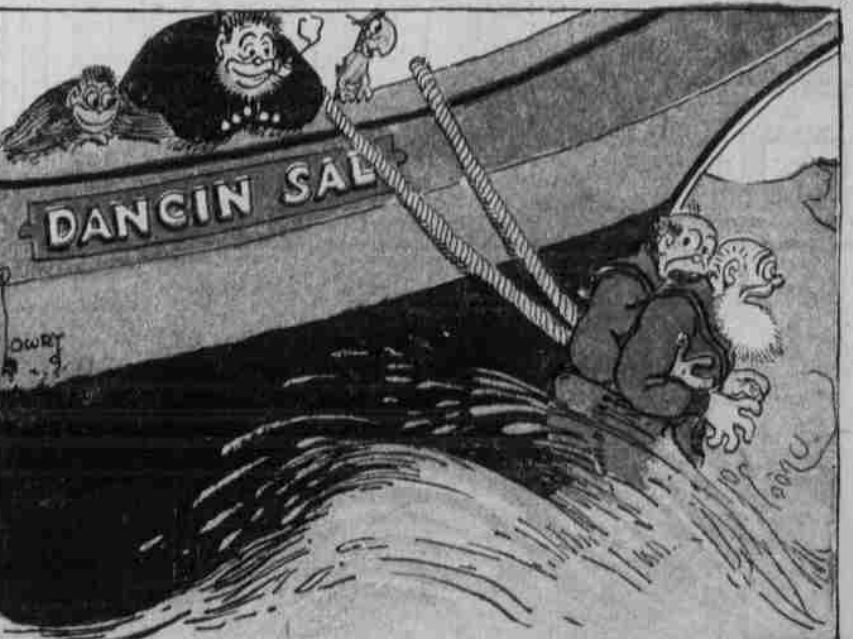
9. "Arter th' ol' feller had hollered himself hoarse, he went below an' we knowed they wus foul weather ahead, an' sure enough up he come with a harpoon gun, an' afore we could git on th' leeside o' th' mast he up an' blazed away.



10. "I never found out if th' capt'in aimed at Bill or me, but I wus sure that iron went through my jacket an' over th' yard-arm. It went clean as a whistle. I thought my time had come, but ol' Walrus paid out th' line enough t' swing me down gradu' t like.



11. "Arter the skipper had talked awhile an' cuffered me about I begin t' see things his way, and sung out t' Bill t' come below an' surrender, which he done, not bein' able to stand a long siege, anyway.



12. "Th' capt'in didn't keep us waitin' long, but jis' up an' lashed Bill an' me t' th' prow, straight off, an' thar we stayed 'til we struck port, sarvin' as a pair o' human figger-heads, as well as good example, as he said, t' th' rest o' th' crew, meanin' Davy Jones an' thar parrut."