

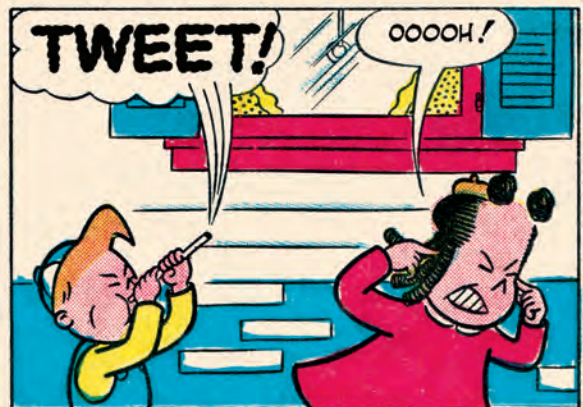
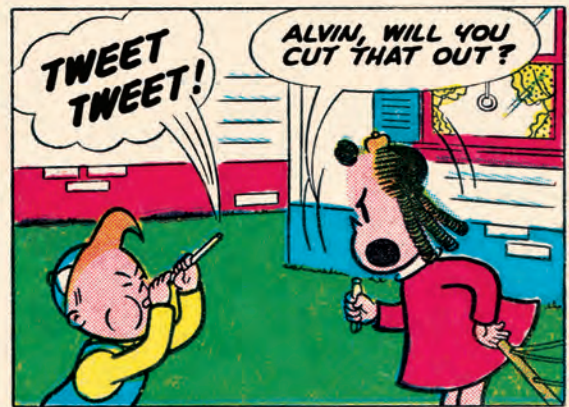
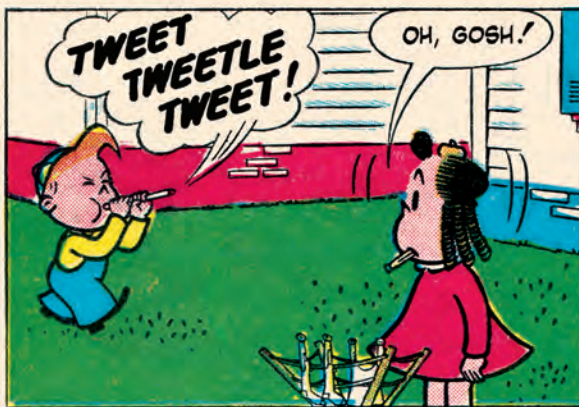
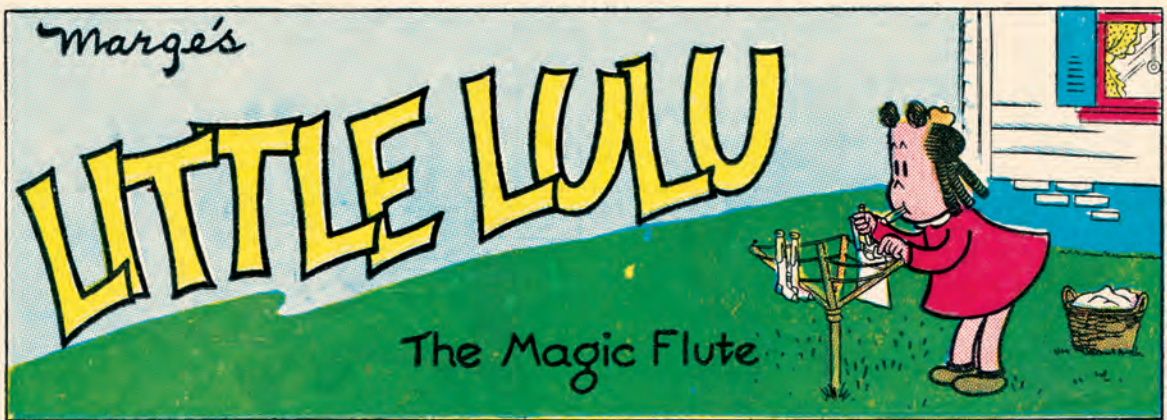
Marge's

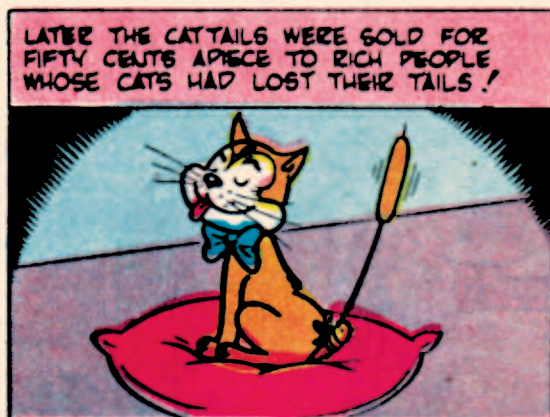
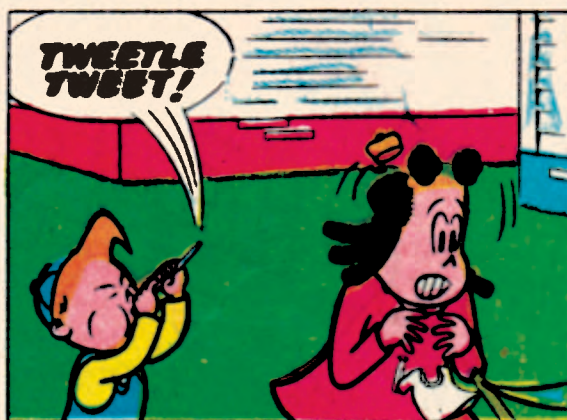
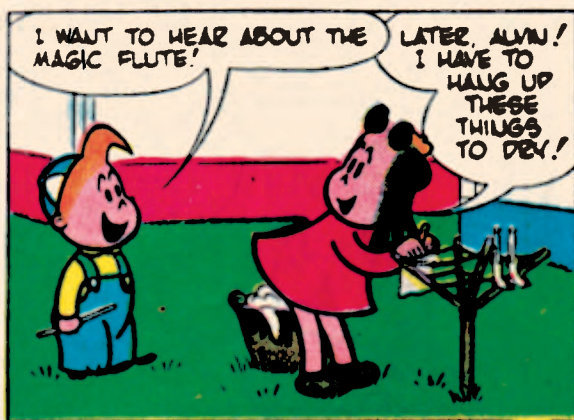
Little Lulu

**The Little Girl Who Could
Talk to Trees**



John Stanley





PICKING CATTAILS EVERY DAY IN A SWAMP WASN'T MUCH FUN—BUT IT WAS A GOOD LIVING!



BEFORE LONG—ABOUT THREE YEARS—I SAVED UP **SEVEN CENTS**!



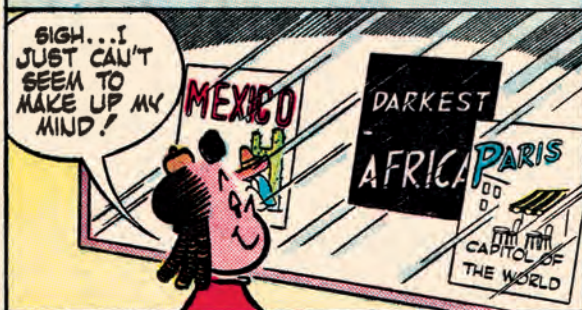
ANOTHER YEAR PASSED AND I FOUND MYSELF WITH **ELEVEN CENTS** SAVED UP!



GOSH, I WAS HAPPY! TO THINK THAT I WAS GOING TO TAKE A VACATION LIKE **OTHER** PEOPLE!



FOR A LONG WHILE I STOOD IN FRONT OF THE TRAVEL OFFICE WINDOW AND DREAMED OF FARAWAY PLACES!



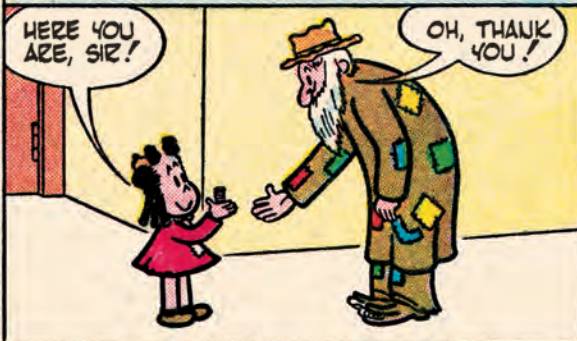
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO IN AND GET A TICKET TO MEXICO, WHEN I FELT A TAP ON MY SHOULDER!



I TURNED AROUND AND SAW THE RAGGED-EST LITTLE OL' MAN I EVER SAW IN MY WHOLE LIFE...



HE WAS HUNGRY, SO I GAVE HIM MY **ELEVEN CENTS**!



HE WAS VERY HAPPY...SO HAPPY THAT HE INSISTED ON GIVING ME HIS LAST POSSESSION!

A FLUTE?

IT'S ALL I HAVE, TAKE IT!



I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE IT, BUT I WAS AFRAID I'D HURT HIS FEELINGS IF I DIDN'T!

OH...THANK... YOU...SIR!



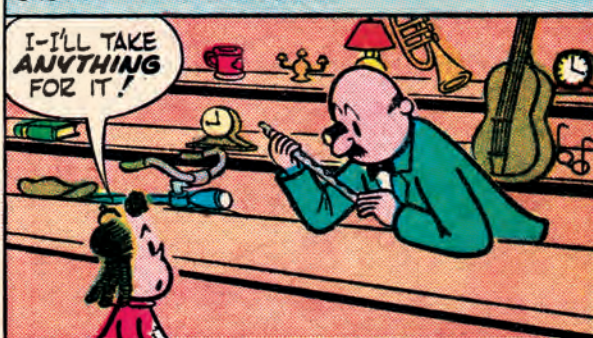
IT WAS A BATTERED, RUSTY OL' FLUTE, AND BESIDES, I COULDN'T PLAY A FLUTE ANYWAY!

MAYBE I CAN SELL IT TO A PAWUSHOP!



I TOOK IT TO THE NEAREST PAWUSHOP AND SHOWED IT TO THE MAN!

I-I'LL TAKE ANYTHING FOR IT!



BUT THE MAN WOULDN'T GIVE ME ANYTHING AT ALL FOR IT!

IT ISN'T WORTH ANYTHING!



BUT I DIDN'T FEEL SO BAD...I FELT GOOD WHEN I REMEMBERED HOW HAPPY I MADE THE RAGGEDY OL' MAN!

MAYBE I CAN LEARN TO PLAY THIS THING!



I SAT DOWN ON THE CURBSTONE AND PUT THE FLUTE TO MY LIPS...

TWEETLE TWEETLE TWEETLE...

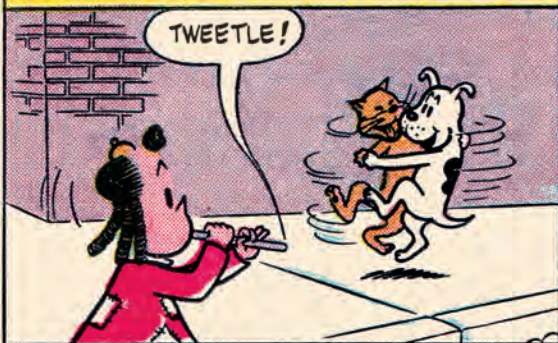


I WAS THINKING IT DIDN'T SOUND SO BAD AT ALL, WHEN I LOOKED UP AND SAW THE STRANGEST SIGHT!

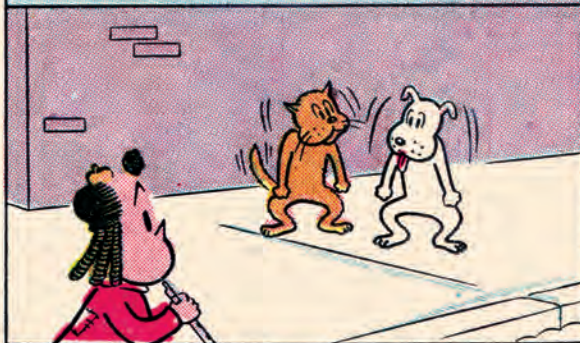
TWEETLE TWEETLE!



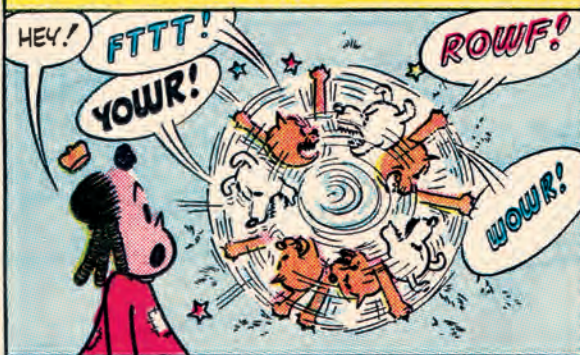
GOSH! THERE WAS A CAT AND A DOG DANCING! RIGHT BEFORE MY VERY EYES!



BUT AS SOON AS I STOPPED PLAYING, THEY STOPPED DANCING —



AND BEGAN FIGHTING!



QUICK AS A FLASH I STARTED PLAYING AGAIN... AND THEY STARTED DANCING!



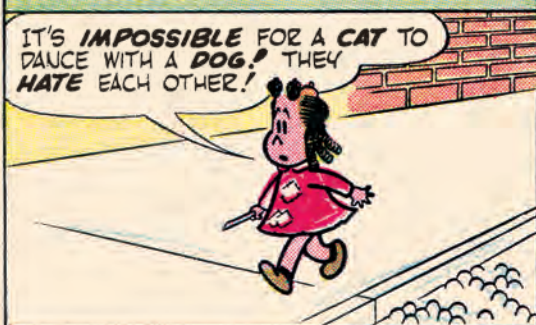
I COULDN'T PLAY FOREVER — I FINALLY HAD TO STOP TO CATCH MY BREATH...



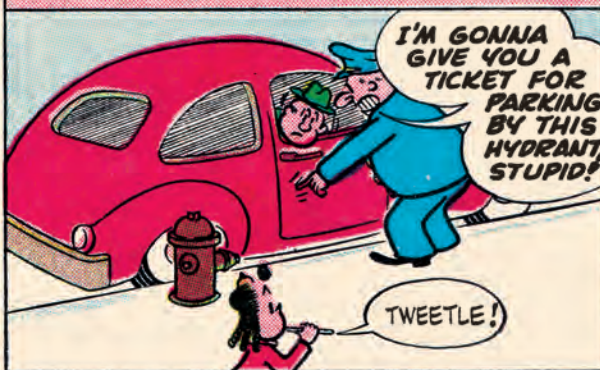
...AND RIGHT AWAY THE DOG CHASED THE CAT UP A TREE!



WELL... I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK! THEN I THOUGHT MAYBE I WAS ONLY DREAMING!

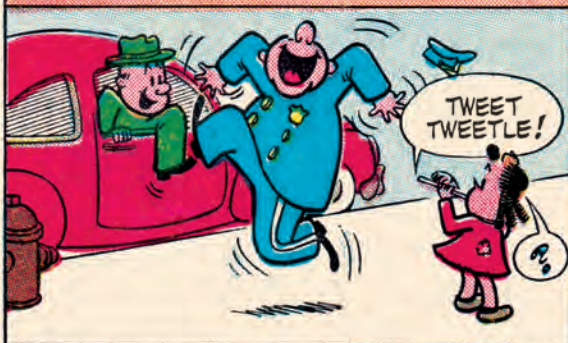


I PUT THE FLUTE TO MY LIPS AGAIN...

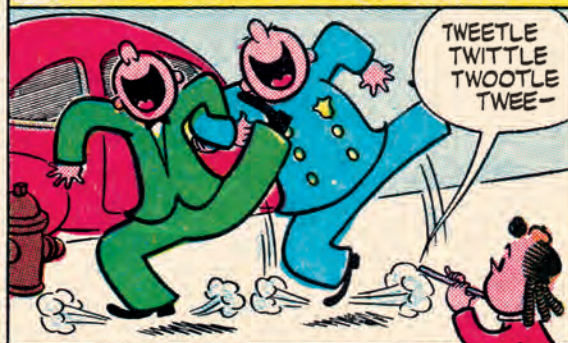


TWEETLE!

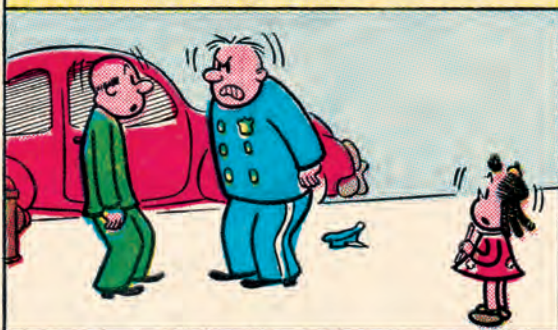
I BLEW A COUPLE OF NOTES, AND THE STRANGEST THING HAPPENED!



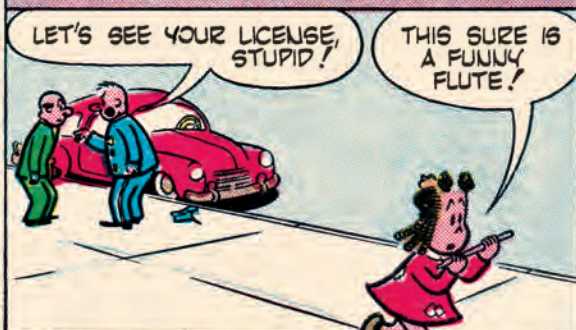
A POLICEMAN STARTED TO DANCE! AND ANOTHER MAN, TOO!



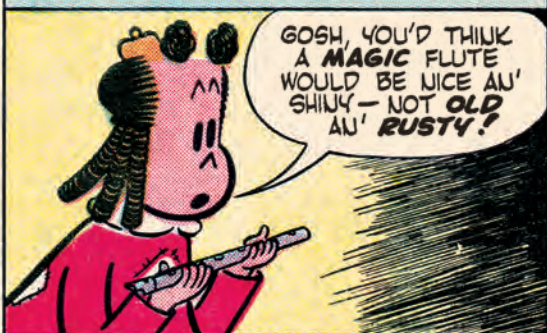
I WAS SO SURPRISED THAT I STOPPED PLAYING...AND THEY STOPPED DANCING!



THE POLICEMAN SEEMED TO BE VERY MAD ABOUT SOMETHING, SO I WENT AWAY!



I BEGAN TO THINK THAT MAYBE MY FLUTE WAS **MAGIC** OR SOMETHING!



JUST TO BE SURE, I DECIDED TO TRY IT OUT ON SOME **MORE** PEOPLE!



THE FIRST WAS A FAT LADY WHO DIDN'T LOOK LIKE SHE COULD DANCE!



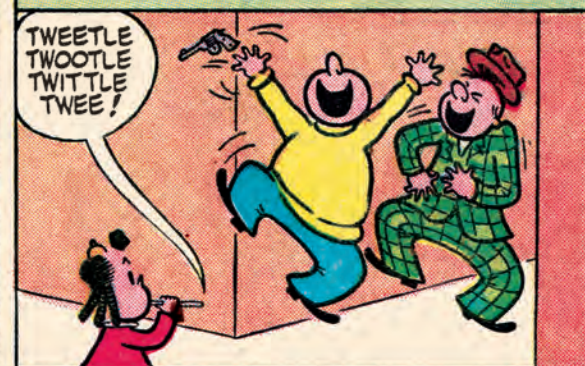
BUT SHE COULD!



THE NEXT WERE TWO BAKERS WHO WERE TALKING ABOUT DOUGH!



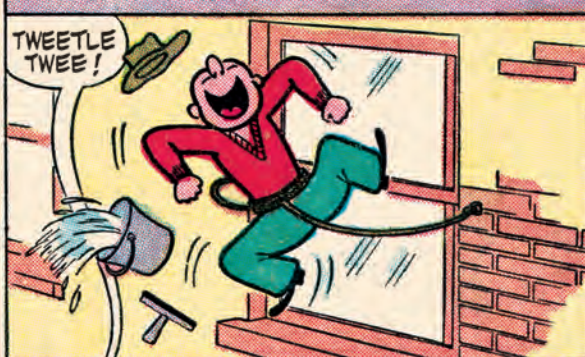
THEY DANCED TOO!



THEN THERE WAS A WINDOW CLEANER WAY UP ON A TALL BUILDING...



HE DANCED TOO!



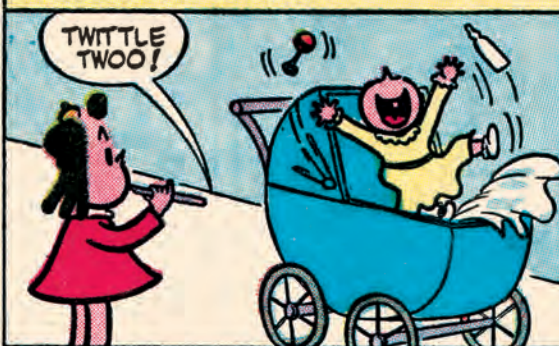
AND A MAN DIGGING A WELL...



AND A GIRAFFE IN A ZOO!



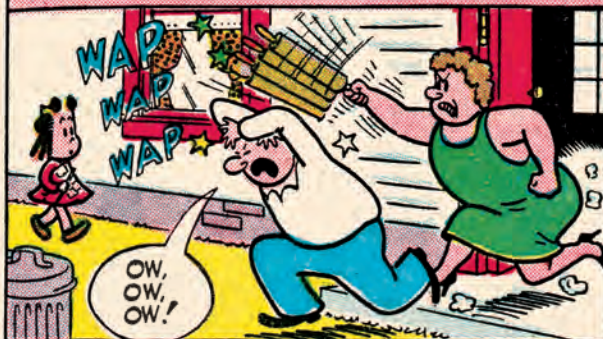
AND A BABY WHO WAS CRYING BECAUSE IT'S TEETH HURT, I GUESS...



AND AN ANT WHO WAS DRAGGING A LEAF SOMEPLACE!



...AND A LADY WHO WAS HAVING A LITTLE ARGUMENT WITH HER HUSBAND...



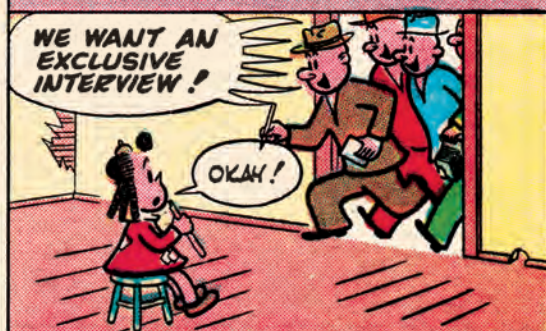
THEY ALL DANCED WHEN I PLAYED MY FLUTE!



BY THIS TIME THOUGH, PEOPLE ALL OVER TOWN KNEW ABOUT MY MAGIC FLUTE!



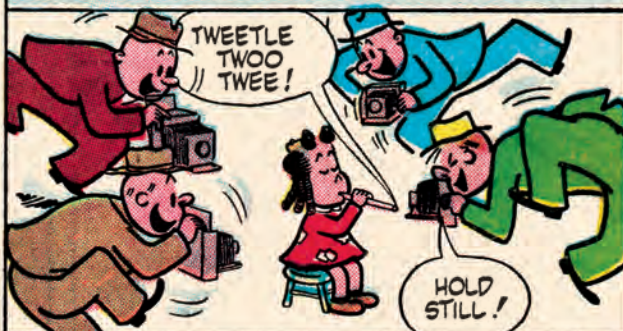
NEWSPAPER REPORTERS CAME TO ASK ME QUESTIONS AND TAKE MY PICTURE!



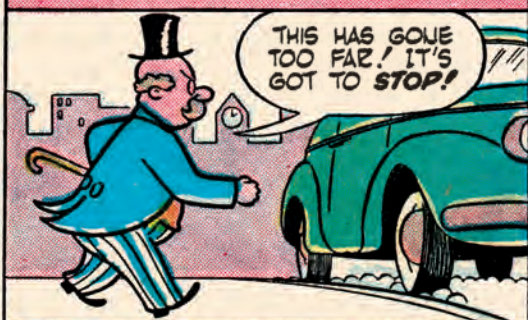
THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE ASKING ME QUESTIONS...



BUT THEY DID HAVE A LITTLE TROUBLE TAKING MY PICTURE WHILE I WAS PLAYING MY FLUTE...



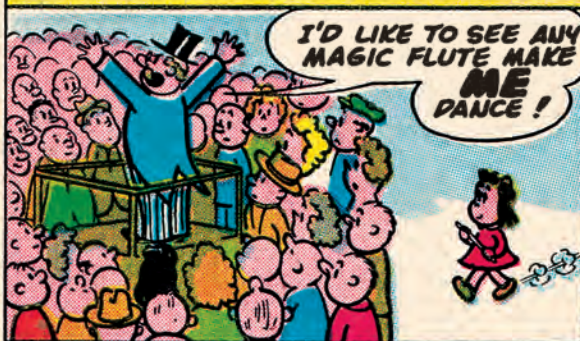
THERE WAS SO MUCH EXCITEMENT IN TOWN THAT THE MAYOR FELT HE HAD TO CALL A MEETING OF ALL THE TOWNSPEOPLE...



WHEN EVERYBODY WAS GATHERED IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE, THE MAYOR BEGAN TO TALK...



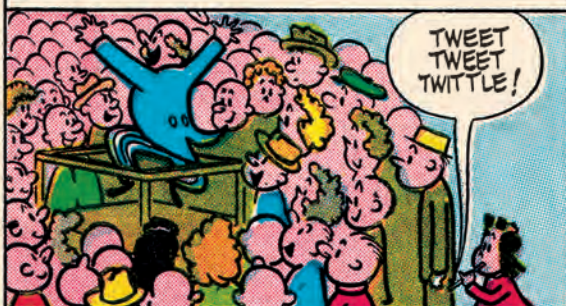
WHILE HE WAS TALKING, I HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY—WITH MY FLUTE...



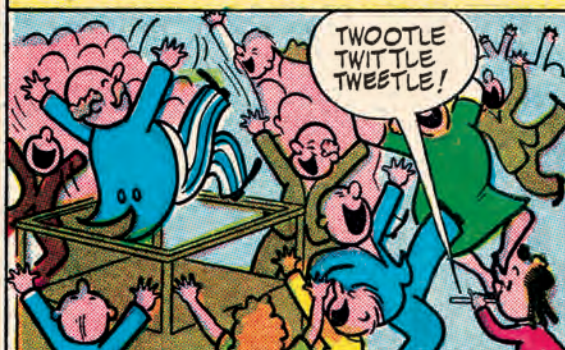
I PUT THE FLUTE TO MY LIPS AND BLEW A FEW NOTES—JUST TO KEEP IN PRACTICE..



THE MAYOR WAS THE FIRST TO HEAR THE FLUTE—AND THE FIRST TO START DANCING!



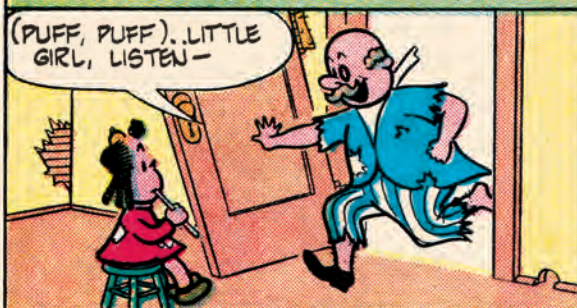
THEN EVERYBODY ELSE DANCED!



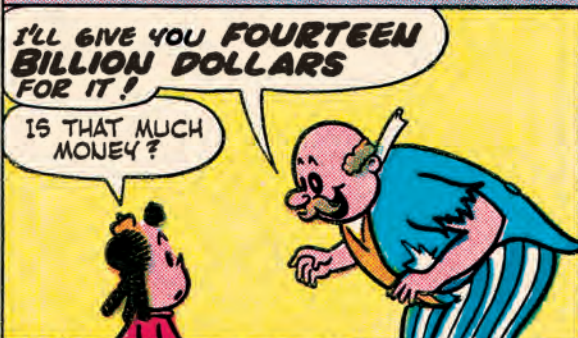
GOSH, I WAS AFRAID I'D FALL DOWN AND EVERYBODY WOULD TRAMPLE ON ME AND MAYBE BREAK MY FLUTE, SO, STILL PLAYING, I RAN AWAY AS FAST AS I COULD...



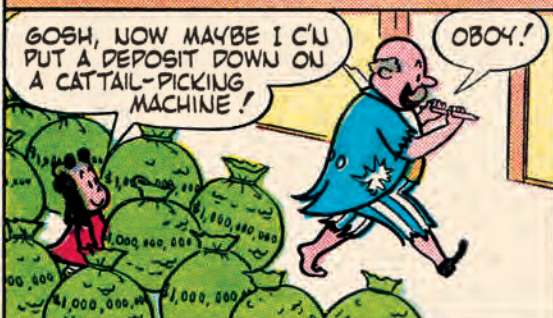
I WASN'T HOME MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES WHEN THE DOOR BURST OPEN...IT WAS THE MAYOR AGAIN!



HE REALLY BELIEVED IN MY MAGIC FLUTE NOW! HE WANTED TO BUY IT!



I COULDN'T IMAGINE WHY HE WANTED A MAGIC FLUTE, BUT I SOLD IT TO HIM ANYWAY BECAUSE THE PRICE WAS GOOD...



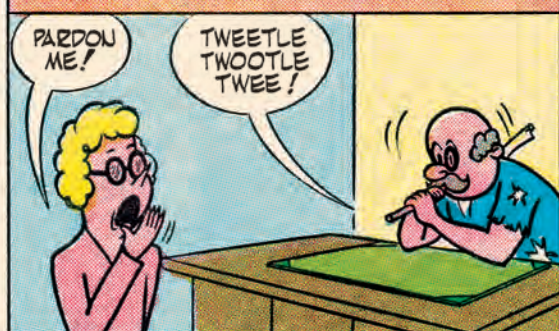
ON HIS WAY INTO HIS OFFICE, THE MAYOR BECKONED HIS SECRETARY TO FOLLOW HIM...



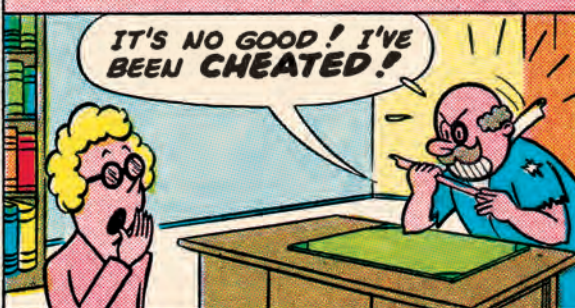
HE WANTED TO TRY OUT HIS MAGIC FLUTE ON **HER** FIRST!



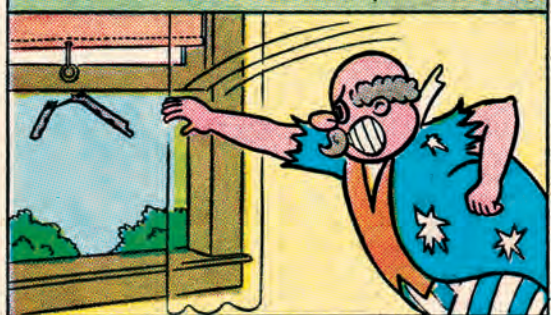
BUT NOTHING HAPPENED...MISS TWIGGE JUST YAWNED!



HE BLEW UNTIL HE WAS EXHAUSTED, BUT MISS TWIGGE DIDN'T BUDGE...THE FLUTE JUST WASN'T **MAGIC** ANY MORE!



GOSH, THE MAYOR WAS FURIOUS! HE BROKE THE FLUTE IN HALF AND THREW IT OUT THE WINDOW AS FAR AS HE COULD!



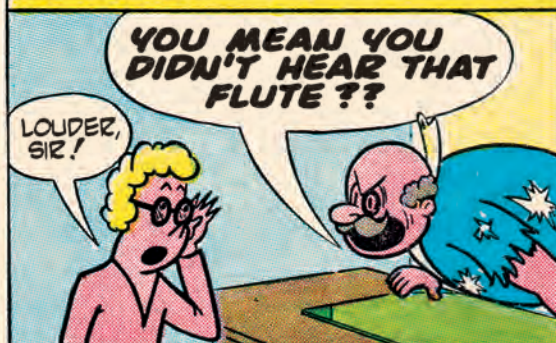
HE WAS JUST THINKING THAT MAYBE HE SHOULD THROW **HIMSELF** OUT THE WINDOW TOO, WHEN MISS TWIGGE SPOKE UP!



IT SEEMS MISS TWIGGE HAD TROUBLES OF HER **OWN**...

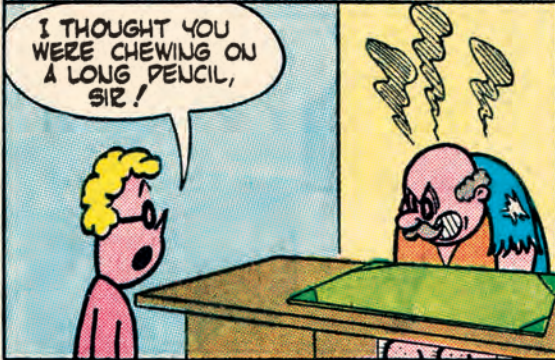


MISS TWIGGE HAD **COTTON** IN HER EARS ALL THE TIME!



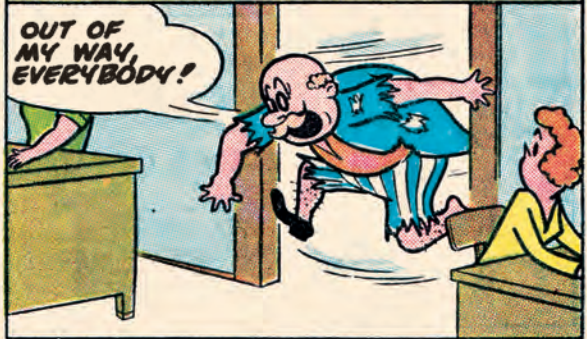
SHE NEVER HEARD THE MAGIC FLUTE!

I THOUGHT YOU
WERE CHEWING ON
A LONG PENCIL,
SIR!



BUT THE MAYOR SUDDENLY JUMPED UP AND
RAN OUT OF THE ROOM AND DOWNSTAIRS!

OUT OF
MY WAY,
EVERYBODY!

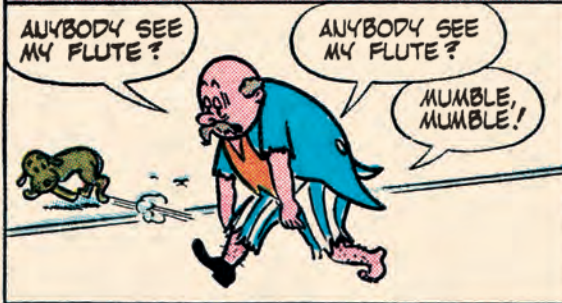


HE SEARCHED THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD...
HE SEARCHED THE WHOLE TOWN...AND
OTHER TOWNS NEARBY...

ANYBODY SEE
MY FLUTE?

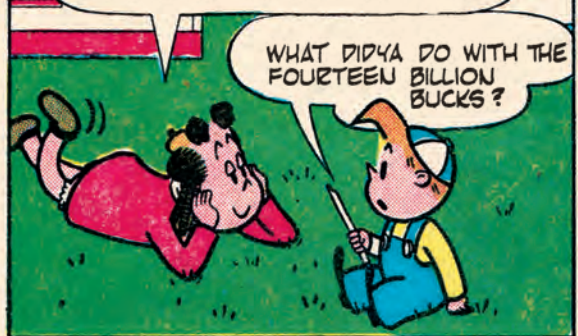
ANYBODY SEE
MY FLUTE?

MUMBLE,
MUMBLE!



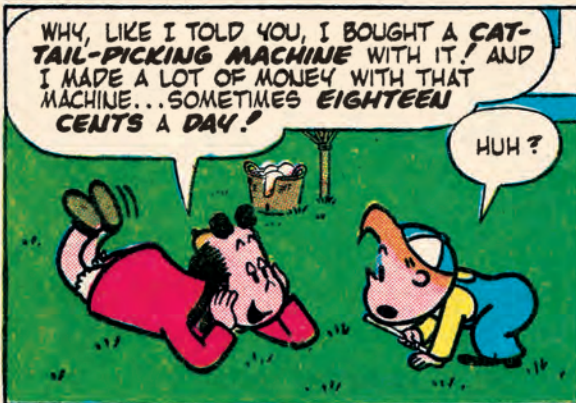
BUT HE NEVER FOUND THAT FLUTE!
AND I LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER!

WHAT DIDYA DO WITH THE
FOURTEEN BILLION
BUCKS?



WHY, LIKE I TOLD YOU, I BOUGHT A CAT-
TAIL-PICKING MACHINE WITH IT! AND
I MADE A LOT OF MONEY WITH THAT
MACHINE...SOMETIMES EIGHTEEN
CENTS A DAY!

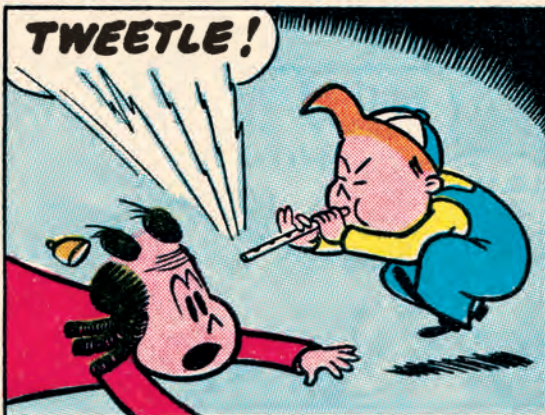
HUH?



WELL...DID YOU ENJOY
THE STORY, ALVIN?



TWEETLE!



ALVIN, I'LL GIVE YOU SUCH
A SMACK!

MAAAAA!



THE
END