

THE GHOST GALLERY

By DREW MURDOCH



THE DOPE WHO SAID, 'CRIME DOES NOT PAY,' WAS JUST SOME SAP REFORMER SOUNDIN' OFF FANCY WORDS TO THE DUMB PUBLIC." SUCH WAS WILLIE POGGI'S CODE... AND HE WAS RIGHT-DEAD RIGHT! HADN'T WILLIE STUDIED ALL THE ANGLES? HE DIDN'T PULL A JOB UNTIL HE KNEW IT WAS FOOLPROOF - THEN HE WENT TO WORK...

TAKE YOUR TIME, SNUB, WE WANT EVERYTHING WHAT'S COMIN' TO US... GET IT ALL!

QUICK, WILLIE, NUMBER THREE TELLER'S GOT A GUN!

GOIN' TO PLAY HERO, EH? TOO BAD, KID, BUT YOU ASKED FOR IT. GET GOIN', MEN!

OHHH...



OFFICER, CAN YOU DIRECT ME TO PINE STREET?

TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT CORNER, LADY. WHAT-A BANK HOLDUP!

HEY, LOOK! PHOEBE'S SIGNALING-A COPPER! GET GOIN'- I'LL COVER UP!

THEY'RE SHOOTIN', MISS. KEEP BEHIND ME - WHY - SHE'S HIT!

OHHH...

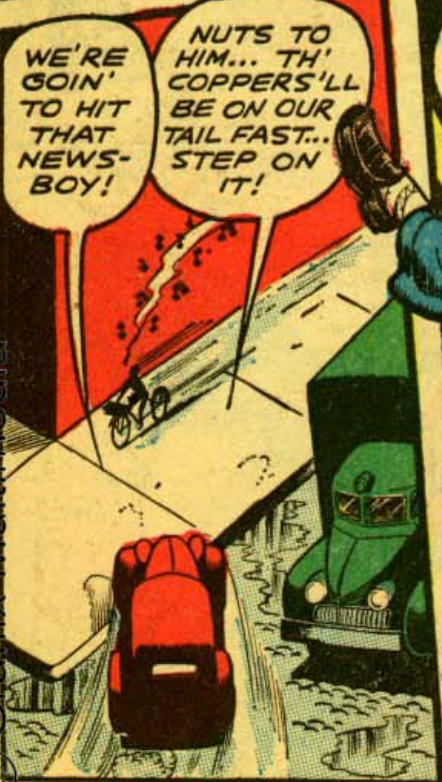


YOU'RE TRIGGER-HAPPY, WILLIE... FIRST THE TELLER, THEN THE GIRL... LOOK! THAT TRUCK'S BLOCKIN' THE STREET.

SWING UP ONTO TH' SIDEWALK, YOU FOOL!

LET GO... I CAN MAKE IT- LOOK OUT...

I COULDN'T HELP IT, I TELL YOU, PHOEBE... IT WASN'T MY FAULT TH' DUMB DAME GOT IN TH' WAY.



WE'RE GOIN' TO HIT THAT NEWS-BOY!

NUTS TO HIM... TH' COPPERS'LL BE ON OUR TAIL FAST... STEP ON IT!

WHAT-OHHH!

PRECINCT NINE... THREE MEN AND A GIRL JUST HELD UP THE MIDTOWN BANK... KILLED A TELLER, A GIRL, AND A NEWSBOY IN THEIR GETAWAY... THEY'RE HEADING OUT OF TOWN ON ROUTE THREE!



BUT DOZENS OF ROADS CROSS ROUTE THREE, AND STILL DOZENS OF OTHERS CROSS THESE... AND SOMEWHERE IN THAT VAST LABYRINTH, AN OLD HOUSE SETS BACK FROM THE ROAD... WHERE, NEXT MORNING...

THE KILLERS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THE POGGI MOB... THEIR VICTIMS ARE RALPH HOLLAND, BANK TELLER, SUSAN WALSH, A MEDICAL STUDENT AND SAMMY GREEN, NEWSBOY.

... THE POLICE ARE COMBING EVERY INCH OF THE CITY AND SURROUNDING COUNTRY...

YOU'RE BLAMIN' ME FOR KILLIN' 'EM, AIN'T YOU?.. BUT I COULDN'T HELP IT...

THAT MEANS WE'LL BURN IF WE'RE CAUGHT, WILLIE.



YOU KNOW I COULDN'T!.. STOP STARIN' AT ME... TH' COPS WON'T FIND US HERE - LISTEN! SOMEONE'S OUTSIDE!

AND TO WILLIE'S EARS, CAME THE SHRILL PIPINGS OF A HARMONICA.



ONLY A NEWSBOY DELIVERIN' PAPERS... BUT WE DIDN'T ORDER ANY... WONDER WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT OUR JOB?

HEY, WILLIE, WHERE YOU GOIN'? WHO WAS IT?

NO ONE... I'LL BE DOWN LATER.

MUSTN'T LET 'EM SEE IT... THEY'RE JITTERY ENOUGH ALREADY...

HE'S ACTIN' FUNNY... WE'D BETTER KEEP OUR EYES ON HIM, BOYS. COME ON!



BANK TELLER KILLED!
 RALPH HOLLAND, THIRTY-ONE YEAR OLD EMPLOYEE OF THE MIDTOWN BANK, SHOT DOWN BY NOTORIOUS POGGI MOB. THE YOUNG MAN HAD GAINED CONSIDERABLE RECOGNITION AS AN AMATEUR INVENTOR AND...

"...HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT HE HOPED SOON TO PERFECT A SAFETY CONTROL BEAM WHICH WOULD ELIMINATE TRAIN ACCIDENTS." WHY, WHO'S THAT?

"THE MAN YOU KILLED, WILLIE... YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT!"

WHY, YOU... I'LL BLAST YOUR HEART OUT!

"NO, WILLIE, YOU'VE ALREADY DONE THAT. I ONLY NEEDED ONE MORE YEAR, AND THEN MY INVENTION WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTED... WHY, JUST NEXT SUNDAY, I WAS GIVING A DEMONSTRATION..."

THAT VOICE!.. THOSE FIGURES TAKIN' SHAPE!

SEE, MR. FERGUSON, THERE'S A RADAR BEAM PROJECTED FROM THE ENGINE. WHEN IT'S CUT...

... IT STOPS! WHY, RALPH, IT'S GREAT... YOU'VE REALLY GOT SOMETHING.

"BUT LOOK CLOSELY, WILLIE... LOOK AT THAT TINY FIGURE... THAT'S YOU, WILLIE POGGI... YOU'RE SHOOTING AT MY INVENTION... DESTROYING IT..."

"AND THE TRAINS ARE CRASHING, WILLIE. AND PEOPLE ARE DYING AND WILL GO ON DYING... FOR WHEN YOU KILLED ME, YOU KILLED MY SECRET, TOO!"

A, OUTSIDE THE ROOM...



SHHH... LISTEN TO HIM! HE THINKS THAT TELLER'S THERE WITH HIM.

HE'S SCREAMING LIKE CRAZY. WHAT'LL WE DO, PHOEBE?



I DON'T KNOW... REMEMBER, HE'S GOT A GUN. IF ONLY HE HADN'T GONE KILL-CRAZY. WAIT... I HEAR HIM TEARING PAPERS.



YOU'RE JUST A PICTURE OF A GUY THAT GOT IN MY WAY... YOU'RE NOT REAL...

... I'M GOIN' TO BURN YOU- BURN YOU! WHAT!



BRILLIANT CAREER OF YOUNG MEDICAL STUDENT CUT SHORT BY GANGSTER'S GUN. SUSAN WALSH, INNOCENT BYSTANDER, FALLS IN FRONT OF MIDTOWN BANK...



WHO ARE YOU? - WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?

I'M THE GIRL YOU KILLED. WILLIE POGGI...



..I'VE COME TO SHOW YOU THAT WHEN YOU KILLED ME, YOU KILLED HOPE FOR THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN, WILLIE POGGI...

"THIS IS WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW."

I'VE GOT IT! I'VE ISOLATED THE GERM... NOW I CAN PERFECT THE SERUM.



AND WILL IT WORK? WILL IT WIPE OUT INFANTILE PARALYSIS? THIS IS THE TEST.



I CAN WALK! I CAN RUN AND PLAY LIKE OTHER LITTLE GIRLS AND BOYS!

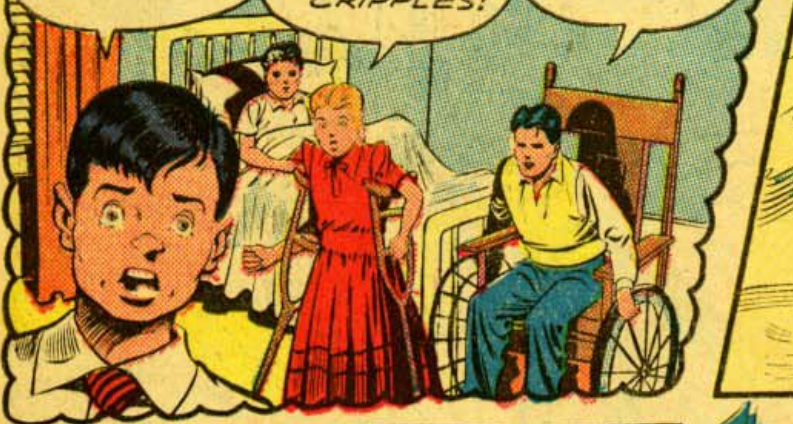
IT IS WONDERFUL, DOCTOR WALSH. YOU HAVE CONQUERED THE DISEASE!



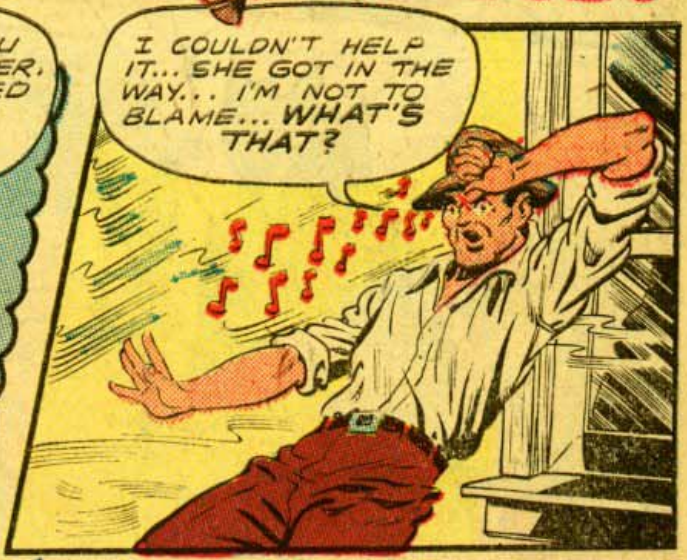
THAT'S WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED, WILLIE POGGI, IF YOU HADN'T KILLED HER.

YES... YOU ARE TO BLAME THAT WE WILL ALWAYS BE CRIPPLES!

WHEN YOU KILLED HER, YOU KILLED ALL HOPE FOR US!



I COULDN'T HELP IT... SHE GOT IN THE WAY... I'M NOT TO BLAME... WHAT'S THAT?



THAT HARMONICA AGAIN... THAT SAME NEWSBOY BACK... HE STARTED ALL THIS... LISTEN TO HIM YELL!



WUXTRY! WUXTRY! READ ALL ABOUT IT! BANK ROBBERS CAPTURED... WUXTRY!



WHAT'S HE DOIN', SNUB?

HE SMASHED THE FRONT WINDOW, NOW HE'S CLIMBING OUT. GOSH... HE JUMPED... COME ON!

I'VE SEEN ENOUGH, BOYS. WE'LL GET ON DOWNSTAIRS TO THE PORCH.

YOU'RE RIGHT, PHOEBE. HE'S CROUCHIN' BY THE GATE WITH HIS GAT OUT... STARIN' OUT ON-TO THE ROAD.



THERE COMES THE KID NOW. I'LL TEACH HIM TUH SNOOP AROUND HERE!



YEAH... HE'S A SPOTTER FER THE COPS... WHY, THAT MUSIC AGAIN... IT'S TELLING ME ALL ABOUT HIM.



"I'M SAMMY GREEN, THE NEWSBOY YOU KILLED, WILLIE POGGI. I WOULD HAVE BROUGHT PLEASURE TO MILLIONS IF I HAD LIVED..."



BRAVO!... HE'S THE GREATEST VIOLINIST IN THE WORLD TODAY.

YES... AND HE USED TO RIDE A BICYCLE AND TOOT AWAY ON A HARMONICA.



"AND THEY WOULD HAVE ERECTED A MONUMENT IN MY NAME, WILLIE POGGI, BUT YOU STOPPED ALL THAT WHEN YOU KILLED ME, DIDN'T YOU?"



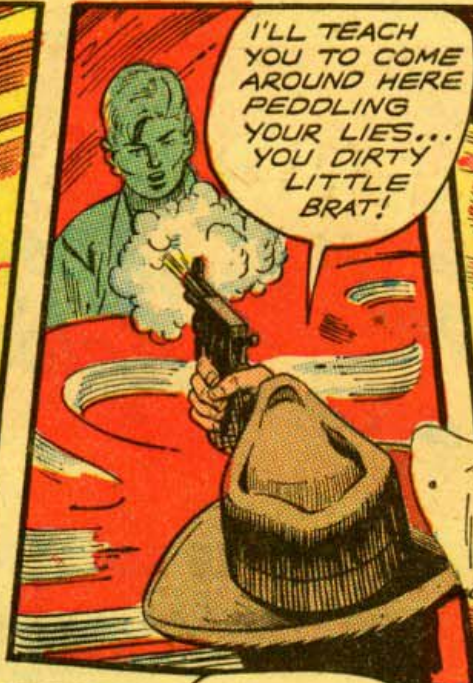
IT'S ALL CRAZY... MUSIC CAN'T TALK... HERE COMES THE KID!

SAMUEL GREEN
FAMOUS MUSICIAN
BORN 1936 DIED 1970

"READ ALL ABOUT IT... WILLIE POGGI, GANG LEADER, KILLED BY OWN MOB. SHOTS BETRAY HIDEOUT TO POLICE."



SMART KID, EH? TRYIN' TO PUT A FINGER ON ME, HUH?



I'LL TEACH YOU TO COME AROUND HERE PEDDLING YOUR LIES... YOU DIRTY LITTLE BRAT!

I'VE SHUT YOU UP... I'VE TORN YOUR FILTHY LYING PAPERS TO BITS!



TOO BAD... WILLIE WAS A GOOD GUY UNTIL HE GOT TRIGGER-HAPPY. WE'LL BURY HIM IN THE CELLAR... LOOK-COPPERS!



HE'S CRAZY... SHOOTING AND FIGHTING SHADOWS. GET SET, BOYS, WE GOTTA SNUFF HIM OUT QUICK!



NOW WE'RE SAFE. I'VE KILLED THE THREE OF THEM ALL OVER AGAIN. OHHH...




DROP THOSE GUNS... DON'T ANYBODY MOVE!... COME ON, MEN!

IT'S THE POGGI MOB SURE ENOUGH... AN' LOOK... THOSE SHOTS WE HEARD WAS THE GANG BUMPIN' OFF WILLIE HIMSELF!

51 Daily Herald

EXTRA!!

GANGSTER SHOT!



WILLIE POGGI, GANG LEADER, KILLED BY OWN MOB. SHOTS BETRAY HIDEOUT TO POLICE.

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