

WAS IT THE GORILLA?

(Continued from Page 15.)

Never once did Uttley's fingers slip.

The gorilla was groaning and panting. The veins stood out clearly on Uttley's forehead, and his teeth were hard set. Gurgling noises came from the cavernous mouth of Chako. The great creature was no master for its keeper.

For fully a minute Uttley rocked it to and fro in that savage grip, then he hurled it from him.

"Let that be a lesson to you not to fool with me again!" he said wrathfully.

With that he righted the heavy settee and stretched himself out to sleep once more. Two minutes later his eyes were closed and he was breathing normally.

Paul Terhune was amazed. The man was stronger than the gorilla!

Judging by his actions, Uttley intended sleeping for some time. This might be the very chance needed to catch them together.

The obvious thing was to

ring for aid, but a phone in a disused house would be cut off, and the slightest noise would

arouse Chako.

It would be necessary to get outside and use a phone box. It would be a message which would startle everyone at headquarters.

Up the stairs went the detective without mishap. A

draught from the open window guided him to the room by which he had entered, and not many minutes later he had swung out on to the drainpipe.

Down he went, tingling with excitement at what he had just seen. He landed lightly, stooped to brush his knees, and just then a heavy hand fell on his shoulder.

"Caught in the act! Don't make a struggle—or it will be the worse for you."

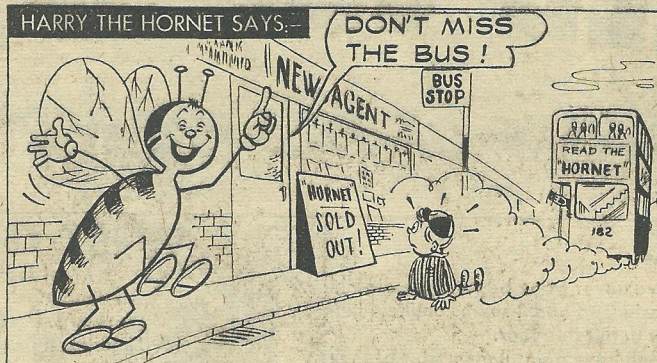
Terhune twisted to find himself in the grasp of a burly policeman who brandished his patrol stick in one hand. The detective gasped for breath.

"See here, I'm no house-breaker. I can explain. Come with me to the nearest phone box, and—"

He may have given a slight twist of impatience as he spoke, but the constable thought it was a prelude to a break for liberty. He was taking no chances. Over came his patrol stick. Wham!

Paul Terhune saw a thousand stars, then the world went black as he slumped to his knees in the policeman's grasp.

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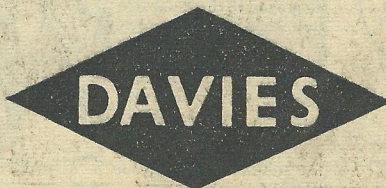
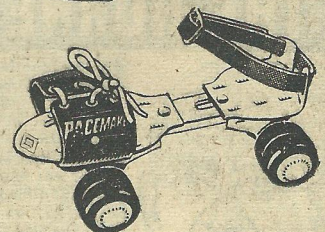
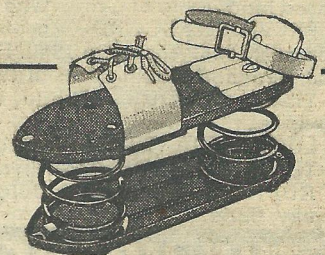


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