

BATMAN

AND
THE
SUPER
HERO
STARS

HOLY COMICS. IT'S BATTIER THAN A BALL PARK!

The Caped Crusader puts his bat's foot forward as he does a typical teenage dance called the Sock 'n' Roll.



fastest pun in the West

Paging Adam West.

There!

On the road!

It's a black streak!

A wild racer!

A dark tornado!

It's the Batmobile!

And at the wheel—

BATMAN.

Fearless foe of foolhardy felons. (Felons are men with melons instead of heads. Men who could fool Laurel but they couldn't fool Hardy. Unholy finks who mistakenly think that crime pays. Dropouts from the Good Guys club.)

And at the side of the courageous Caped Crusader—

ROBIN.

The Boy Wonder.

Maybe they call him that because he's always wondering how Batman will figure out the latest riddle of the Riddler or turn the cards on the Joker or give the Penguin the bird.

zowie, son of powie!

The original BATMAN, back in 1943, was actor Lewis Wilson. For 15 chapters, in Colum-



"Holy fanna leaves, Batman!" cries Robin. "No need to get sore because you found out Bela Lugosi was in the Bat Business before you were!"



**THE GREEN
HORNET**

BATMAN

He gave a buzz to the fuzz.

The Original Serial Crime Fighter.



ZOWIE!

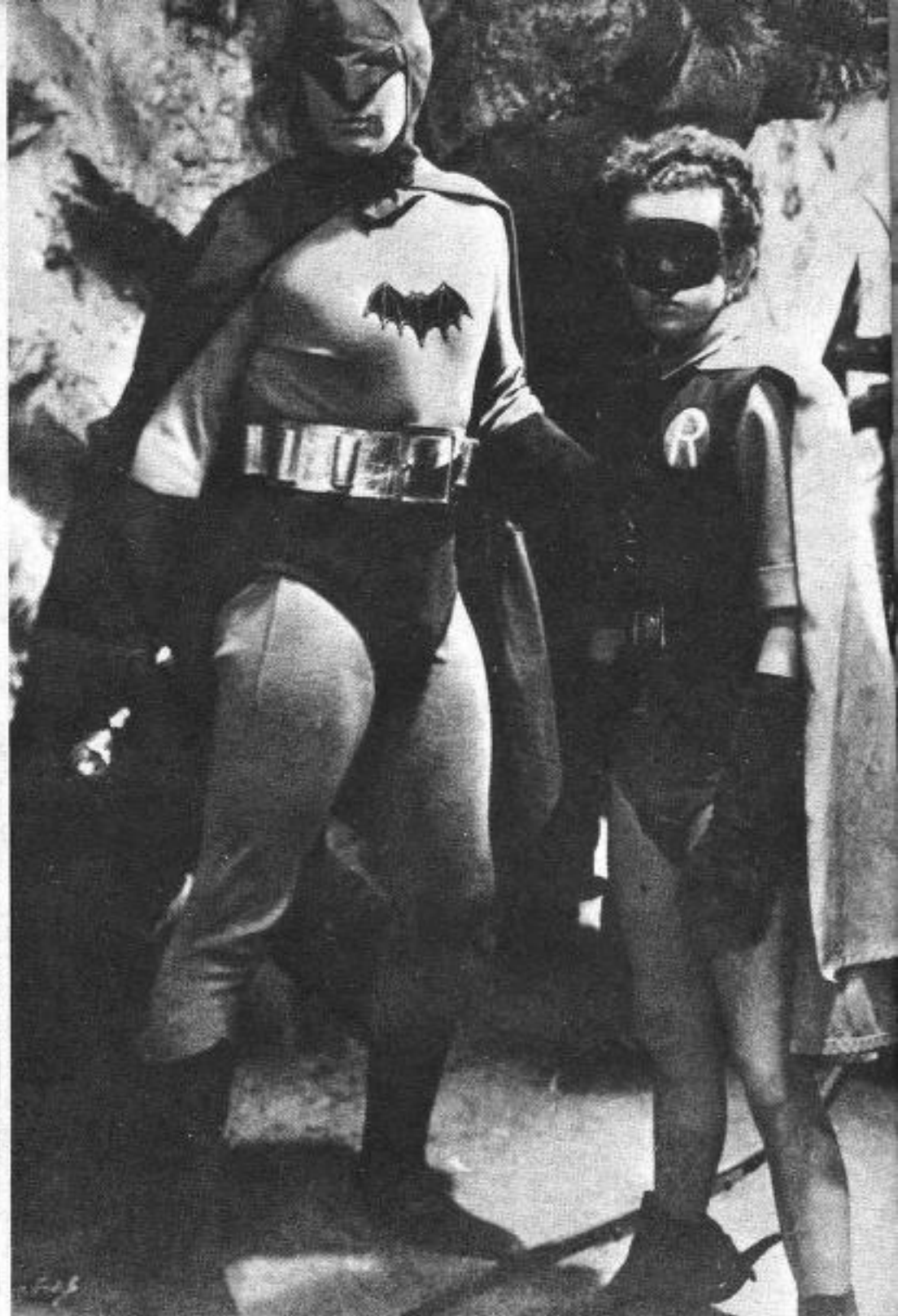
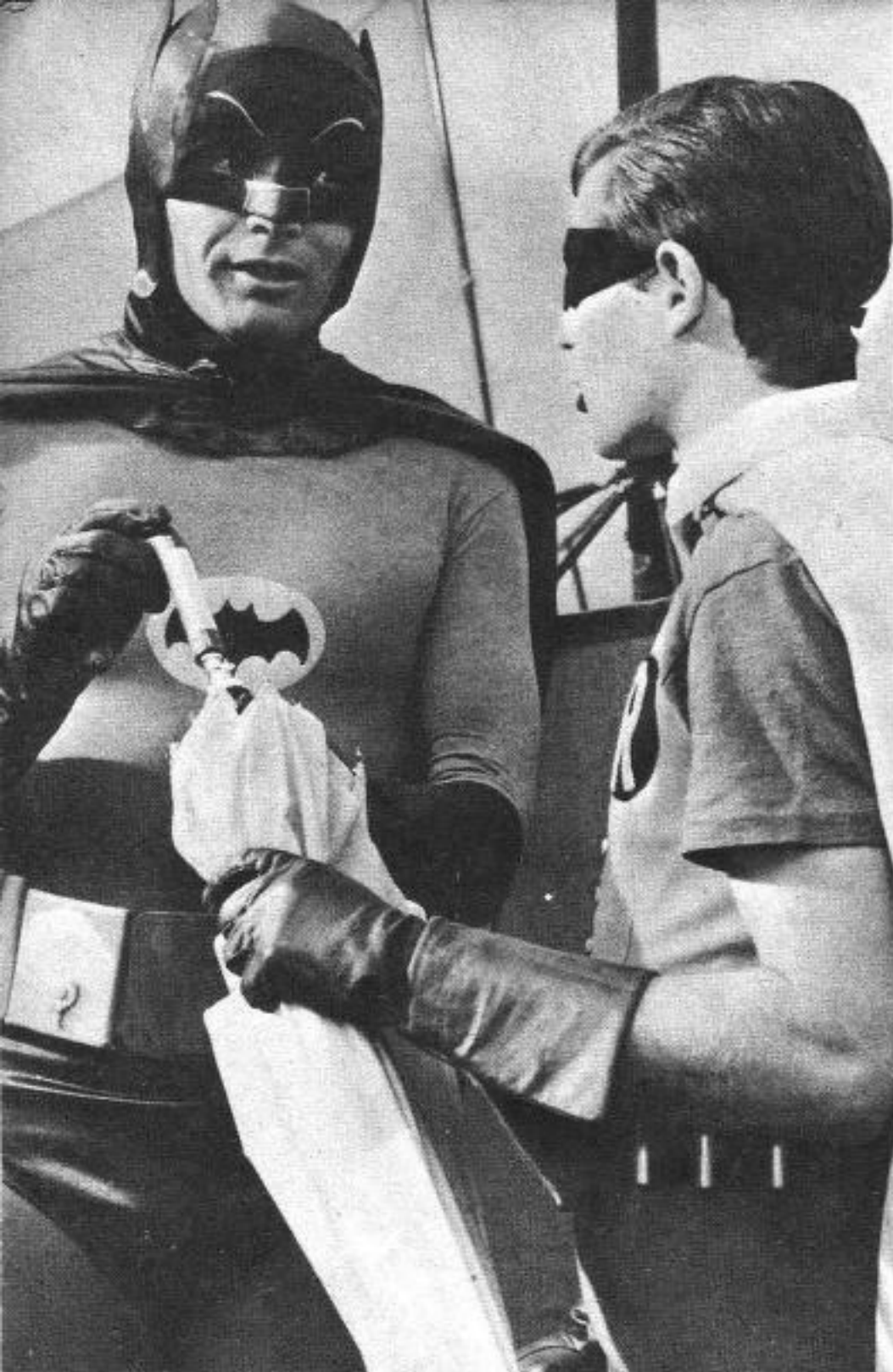
BIFF!

THE PHANTOM

SUPERMAN

A masked marvel of mind & muscle.

About to fly like a bird!



The TV Duo (right) as compared with the original **BATMAN & ROBIN** in the Columbia serial (left) that set new records when re-released as a cliffhanging comedy.

Recognize the bearded man in the hot seat? It's old Ming the Merciless (Chas. Middleton), arch enemy of Flash Gordon, here himself menaced by J. Carroll Naish in **BATMAN & ROBIN**.



bia's World War 2 serial, he fought against the mad scientist Dr. Daka, maker of electrically controled zombies. By Batman's side was young Douglas Croft. Together they finally conquered the evil Oriental, played by J. Carroll Naish.

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF BATMAN & ROBIN came out in 1949 and this time it was Robt. Lowery & Johnny Duncan who portrayed the amazing caped caper-cutters.

Now, as we scarcely need to tell YOU, Batman lives again—and soon you'll be seeing him in a brand new full-length adventure at your favorite theater in bat-o-color & criminascope.

the "spirit" of '36

Exactly 30 years ago a new cartoon character known as The Phantom appeared in American newspapers. From deep in the jungle he began dispensing justice from his Skull Throne and today he has a worldwide readership in over 500 daily & Sunday papers.

Known as "The Ghost Who Walks", Tom Ty-



The fabulous Batmobile, supercar that is the terror of all bad guys!

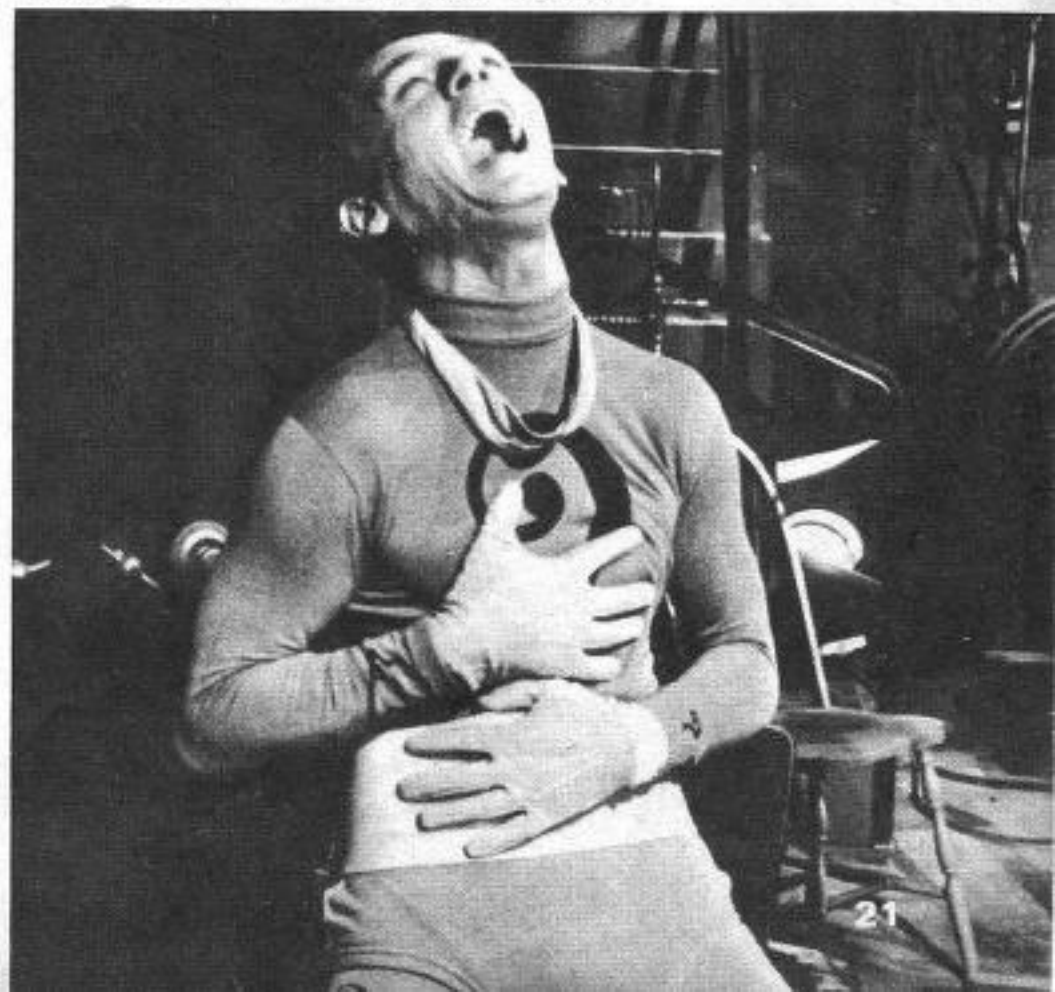
ler first brought **THE PHANTOM** to the screen in the exciting 15-episode serial of 1943. Frank Shannon, who had played Dr. Zarkov in the **FLASH GORDON** serials, played Prof. Davidson, who was seeking the fabulous lost city of Zoloz. Great chapters like "The Sign of the Skull", "The Man Who Never Dies", "The Mystery Well", "In Quest of the Keys", "The Fire Princess", "The Chamber of Death", "The Emerald Key", "The Fangs of the Beast" & "The Road to Zoloz" filled viewers with weekly excitement.

In the course of the chapterplay the Phantom narrowly escaped death from the jaws of alligators, the body-crushing grasp of a gorilla, explosions, poison gas, a collapsing bridge, drowning, a landslide of snow, a blazing pit, a mad lion & other bloodcurdling perils.

the vanishing serial

Little is known nowadays of **THE VANISHING SHADOW** but once, over 30 years ago, your editor went every Saturday afternoon to

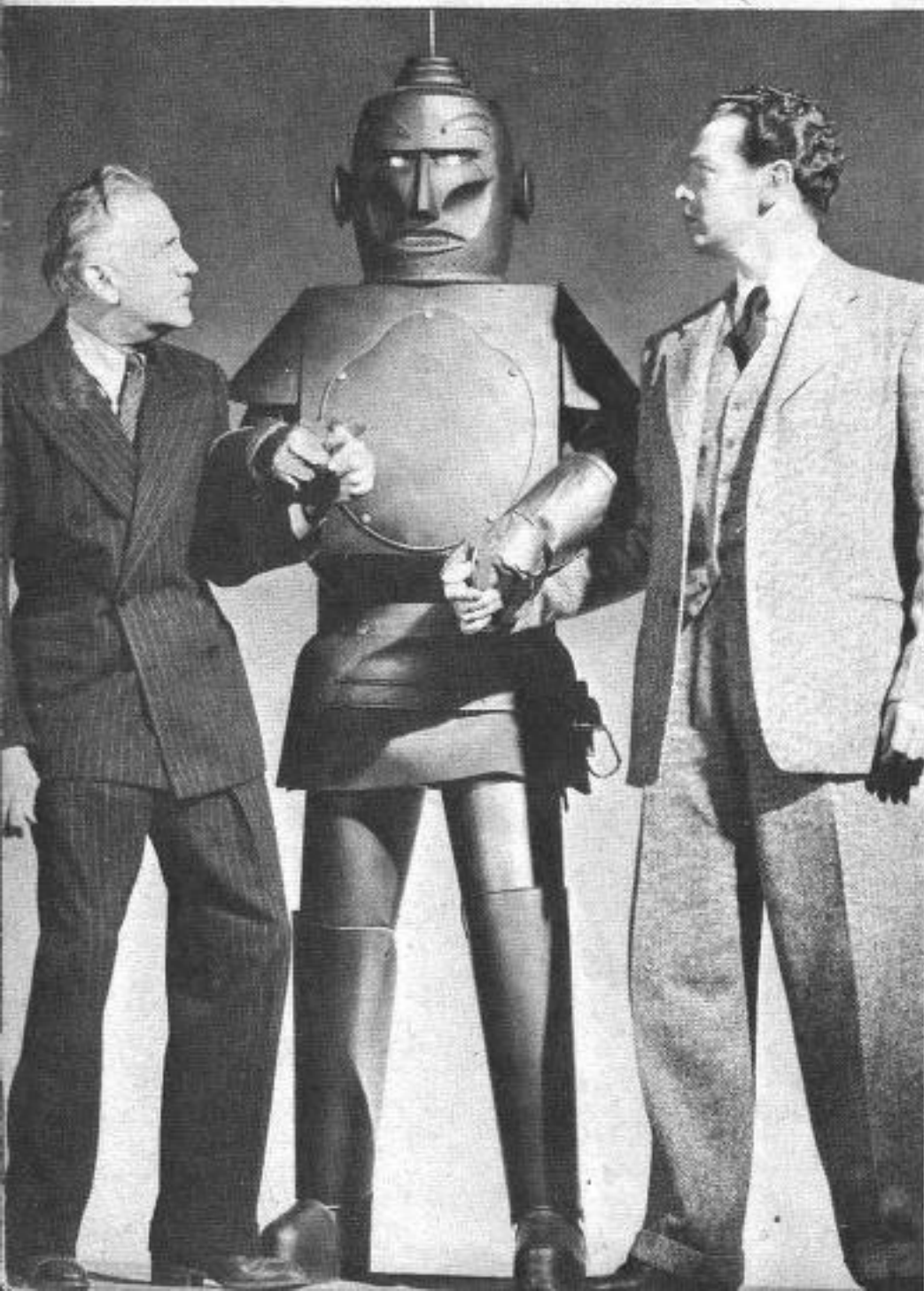
Pity TV Batman, up against a villain like this! Will Batman have the answer to this riddle? Holy Frankenstein! Tune in next week!





The amazing electronic menace in **ATOM MAN VS. SUPERMAN**.

Making friends with the sinister metal man in **THE MONSTER & THE APE**, Columbia serial 1945.



his neighborhood theater to see a chapter of this Universal cliffhanger. I don't remember any cliffs in it, or any hangings, but there was plenty of action on the part of a giant metal robot and there was a belt of invisibility often operated by Onslow Stevens. The serial was made around the time of Claude Rains' great **INVISIBLE MAN**. The star was Onslow Stevens, who a year or two later appeared in the science-suspense film, **LIFE RETURNS**, and in 1945 thrilled audiences in **THE HOUSE OF DRACULA** as the mad doctor who had to contend with John Carradine as Count Dracula and Lon Chaney Jr. as Larry Talbot, the Wolf Man.

stings to come

There was a big buzz about a new serial coming from Universal in 1939 and sure enough, like a whizzing wasp, it came—**THE GREEN HORNET**. With his faithful sidekick, Kato. Gordon Jones was the original comicbook hero come to life and so successful was the serial that the next year it was **THE GREEN HORNET STRIKES AGAIN**. The second time around the superhero was portrayed by Warren Hull.

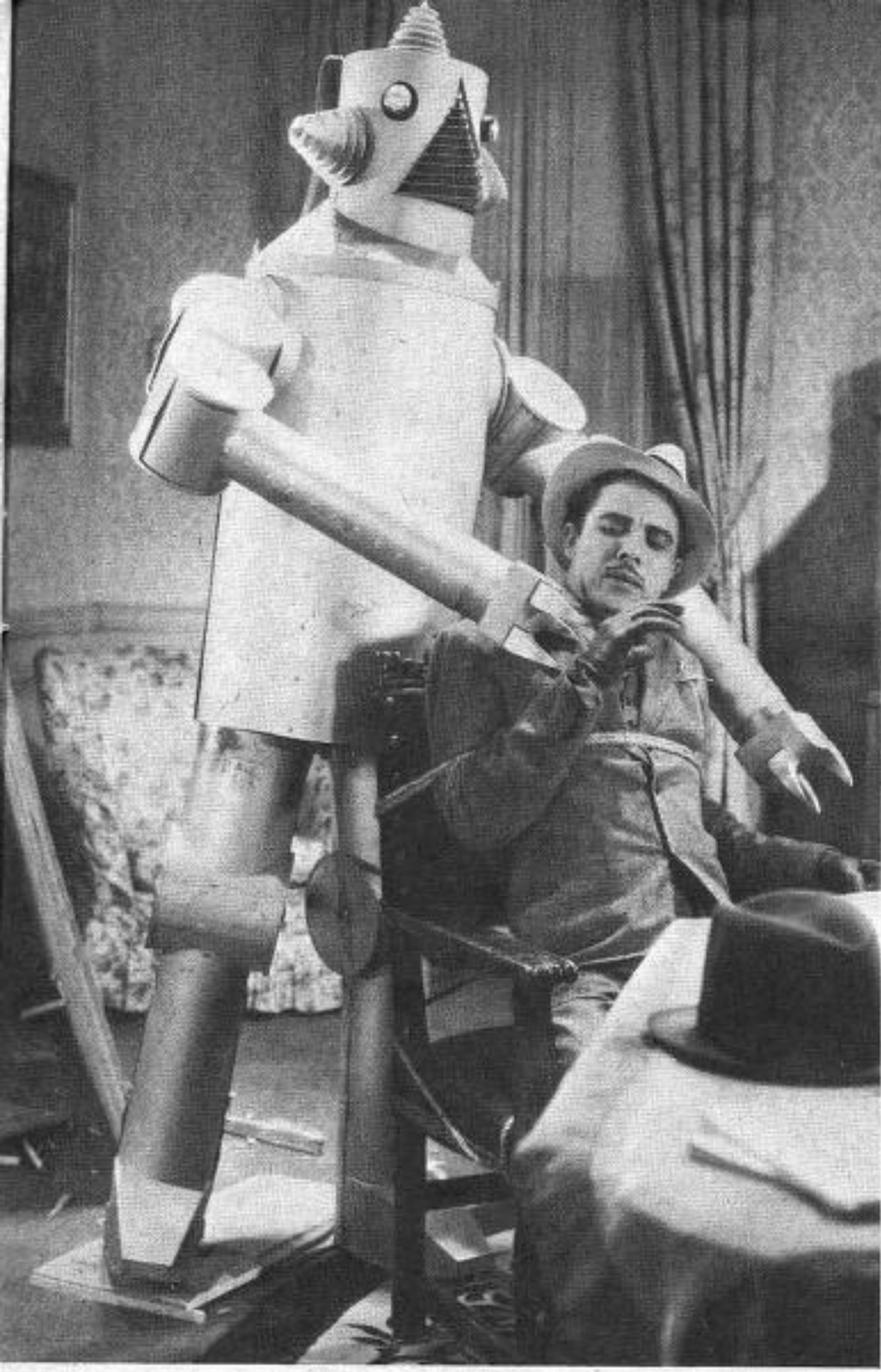
batman goes ape

Then, in 1945, Robt. Lowery, who 4 years later was to inherit the cape of the Caped Crusader,—Robt. Lowery starred in **THE MONSTER & THE APE**, the thrill serial of a mechanical monster gone mad. It was the ape, of all things, that fought crime in this one. As we go to press we don't have the exact word but the gorilla was probably "Crash" Corrigan. Involved in the exciting episodes were Ralph (victim of **THE MONSTER-MAKER**) Morgan & Geo. (**SOUL OF A MONSTER**) Macready.

the man of steel

Krypton, a world far removed from ours, was dying. Dying with their ancient, highly developed scientific civilization were a mother & father whose greatest concern was that their son should survive. In a small rocket they shot their baby out into the void in the last hours of their doomed planet. The superbox arrived safely on earth and grew up in the city of Metropolis to become—**SUPERMAN!** Kirk Alyn in '48 was an instant hit as the all-powerful hero. He repeated the role in '50 in **ATOM MAN VS. SUPERMAN**, with Lyle Talbot playing the bald villain Luthor, arch enemy of Alyn. At one point Luthor projected Superman into a "phantom zone" so that he became like a ghost who floated thru walls and could not hit or grasp anything. For awhile it looked like Luthor had Superman outwitted. But Clark Kent was able to report his "friend's" triumph in the final reel.

Superman went full-length in 1951 with **SU-**



PERMAN & THE MOLE MEN, starring a new Clark Kent in the person of Geo. Reeves. In England the film was title-changed to SUPERMAN & THE STRANGE PEOPLE. In the TV series it later became episodes 25 & 26, UNKNOWN PEOPLE. The tele-chapters number over 100, and 17 technicolor cartoons were made between '41 & '43, with such exciting titles as "The Mummy Strikes", "The Electric Earthquake", "Mechanical Monsters", "The Arctic Giant" & "The Underground World".

Yes, in the words of serial authority Sam Sherman, super-heroes like Superman, Batman, the Phantom, etc., *"always deliver the sock-a-minute excitement that fans of this type of entertainment demand. In comic strips, movies, radio shows & on TV these fearless crusaders have never let their legion of admirers down. Forever zooming into action, they provide amazing adventures for thrill fans of all ages."* **END**

Left, in the clutches of the Terrible Tincanman in the Universerial THE VANISHING MAN; below, Superman Geo. Reeves receives futuristic weapon from inner earth midgets in SUPERMAN & THE MOLE MEN.

