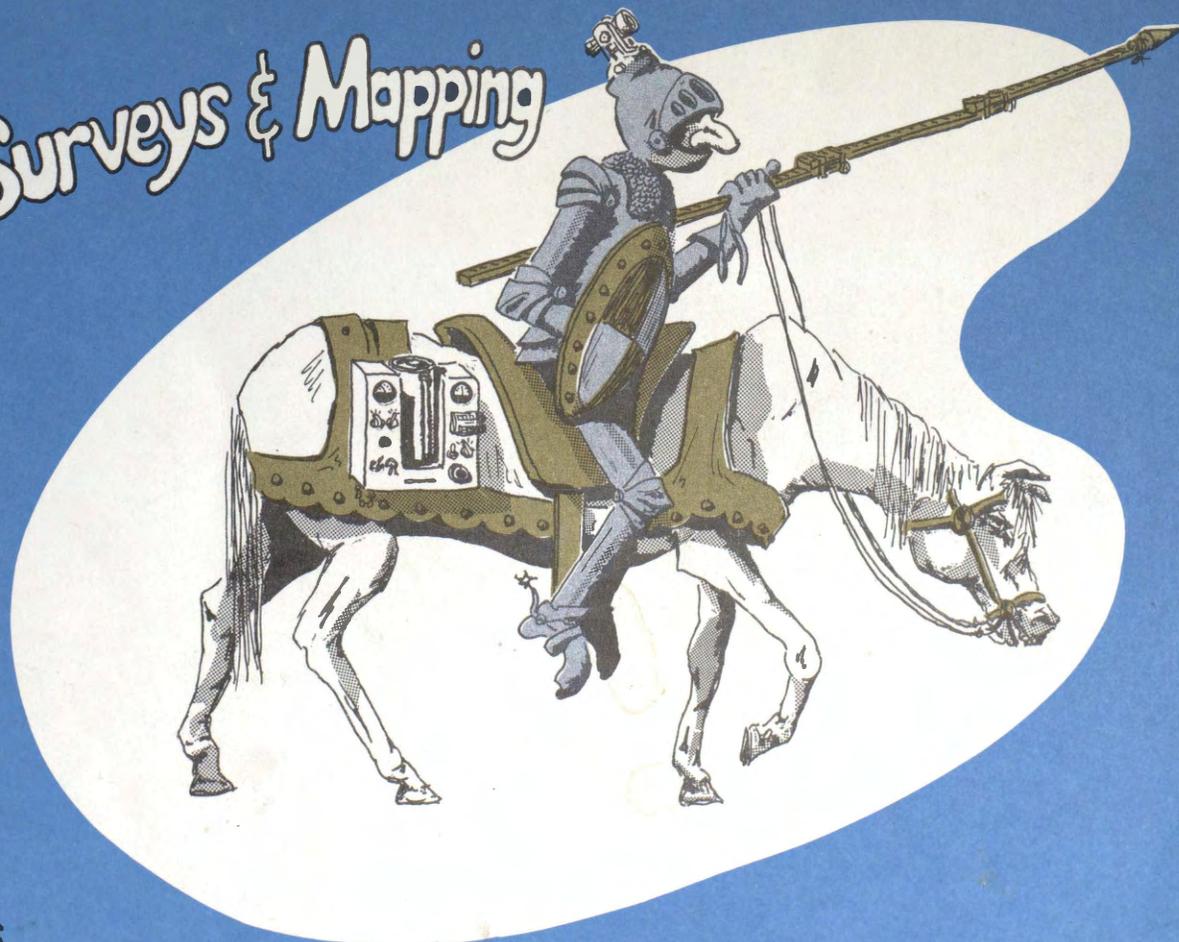


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# Sir Veyor's Impressions of Surveys & Mapping



by: W.R.Brøkes



SIR VEYOR'S  
IMPRESSIONS  
OF  
SURVEYS AND MAPPING

CONTENTS

- ▶ For the reader unfamiliar with the finer technical points of the surveying art.
- ▶ Outdoor life is not all sunshine and flowers
- ▶ Helicopters, a boon or a bugbear?
- ▶ In and around the Surveys and Mapping Branch

The Editorial Committee of *The Canadian Surveyor* gave kind permission to use many of its cartoons in this booklet.

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by: W.R. Brookes





Bill was born in Victoria, British Columbia where he attended high school and the British Columbia Institute of Technology (B.C.I.T.). It was during his survey training at B.C.I.T. that he first began cartooning the humorous aspects of a surveyor's life. In 1968, he joined the Geodetic Survey of Canada, and between surveying field trips, his cartoonist skill developed creatively into the detailed portrayal of a surveyor's experiences as he saw them. Bill is a keen observer. Like the work of successful cartoonists, his drawings should be read not scanned. There is a miscellany of cartoonist's gems tucked away in obscure corners of his work. This booklet has been published to acknowledge Bill's contribution to numerous publications, principally The Canadian Surveyor and the Surveys and Mapping News of the Surveys and Mapping Branch, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

*W.R. Brookes*

For the reader unfamiliar  
with the finer technical  
points of the surveying art.

The following caption guidelines may be read  
in conjunction with the appropriate cartoons:

CARTOON  
NO.

3. Surveyors using electronic equipment in the field must do their own battery charging.
4. Prior to 1950, Canadian surveyors mapping mountainous terrain used special cameras to depict contours of alpine areas. This was also grizzly bear country!
5. Iron survey posts often strike underground objects.
6. The junior man on a survey party is to stop walking forward on the cry of "Chain!", a carry-over from the olden days of using chain length measurement.
7. In 1970, the Geodetic Survey of Canada placed a survey party right at the North Pole. Opening packing cases at  $-40^{\circ}$  can be a grim job.
8. The Pageos Satellite triangulation system stretches from the high arctic to the tropics. Canadian surveyors work in the upper half!
9. The glass plates used with ground cameras were put into special plate-holders by a surveyor inside a large black velvet bag, called a "dark room tent".
11. Modern oil exploration requires that land surveyors become competent in surveying over offshore waters.
12. Surveyed positions must be marked by a durable monument.
14. Survey towers are built in flat country to allow surveyors to obtain long sightings. Tower construction can be exciting!
16. It is possible to see for 50 miles in all directions and still be lost.
18. Temperature affects the accuracy of a surveying instrument.
20. During the photographic observation of satellite positions, clear skies are essential.
25. Survey towers are also used in Africa. The use of giraffes has been prohibited by the R.S.P.C.A.
26. Some office equipment must be taken into the field. Rain can sometimes cause desk calculators to skip a decimal point.
27. The pilot must be given a clear indication of wind direction.
31. Helicopter lift-off problems increase with altitude. Cunning ways of getting vertical ascent are available.
33. Mountain landings are dangerous. Pilots don't like to make them unless they have to.
34. The Surveys and Mapping Branch surveyors leave for their "hard life" in the field.
35. Have you ever tried to park near a federal government building in Ottawa?
36. A new building for the Surveys and Mapping Branch has long been promised.
37. See cartoon No. 36.
38. The Boundary Commission is responsible for answering ALL queries about the International Boundary.
39. Contoured maps can be drawn using computers.
40. Does this birthplace of the S & M News really need a caption?

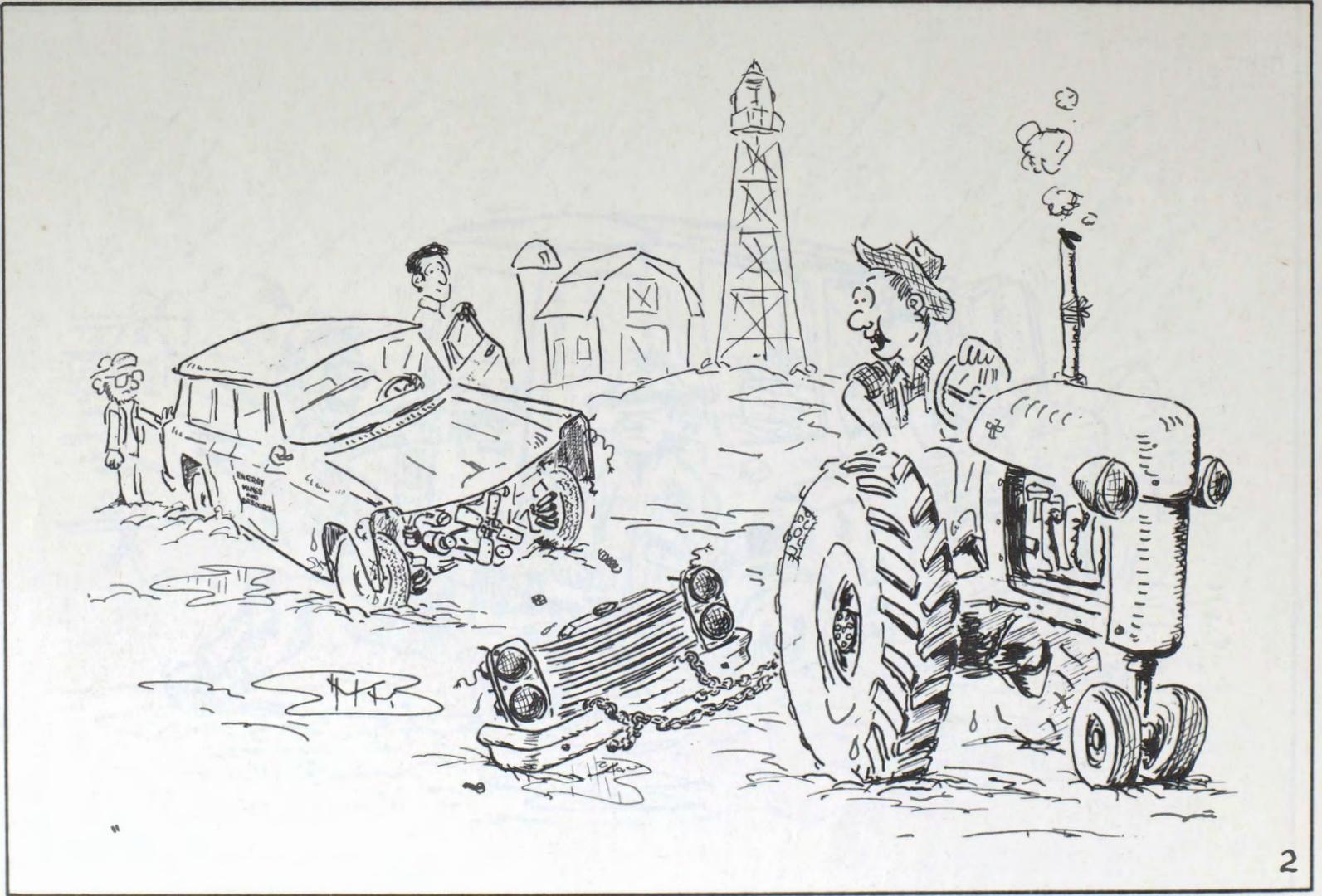
**OUTDOOR LIFE  
IS NOT  
ALL  
SUNSHINE  
AND  
FLOWERS**

The survey field party meets many hazards: inclement weather, isolation, wild animals and mechanical failures. Such predicaments form a rich field for the observant cartoonist.





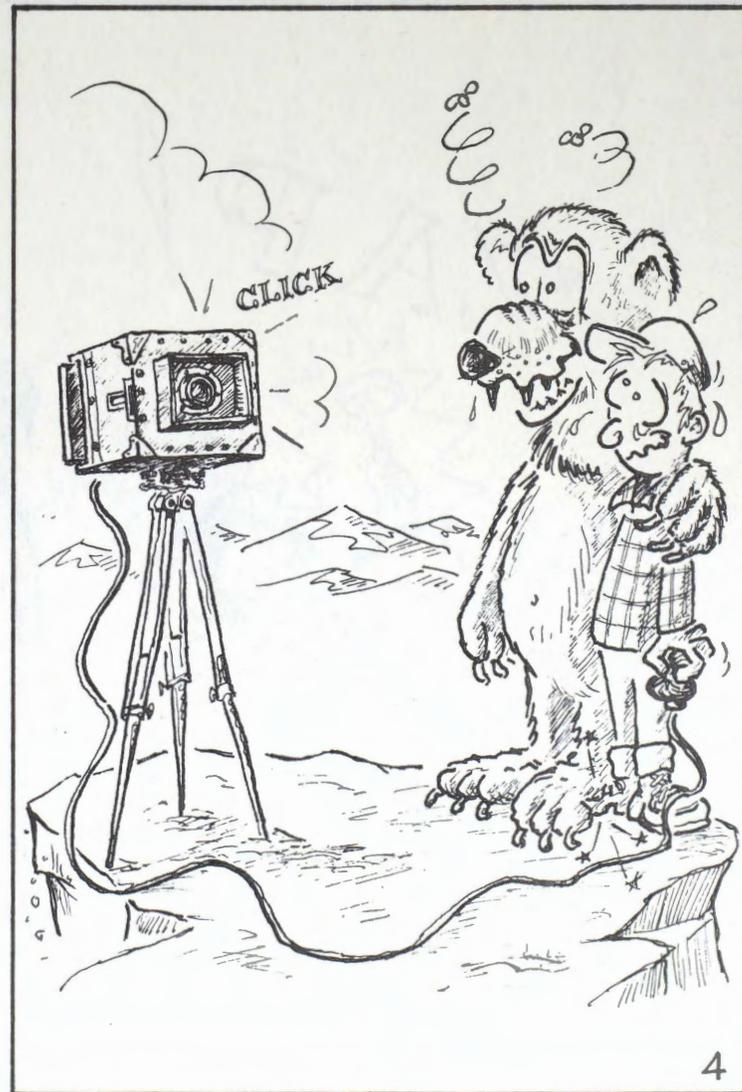
I'll Never Again Complain About the Boredom of the Office!



Do You Want to try Pushing it Now?



Charge! Dammit Charge!



The Harmony of Photo Topography.



I Think Charlie has Found the Cable.

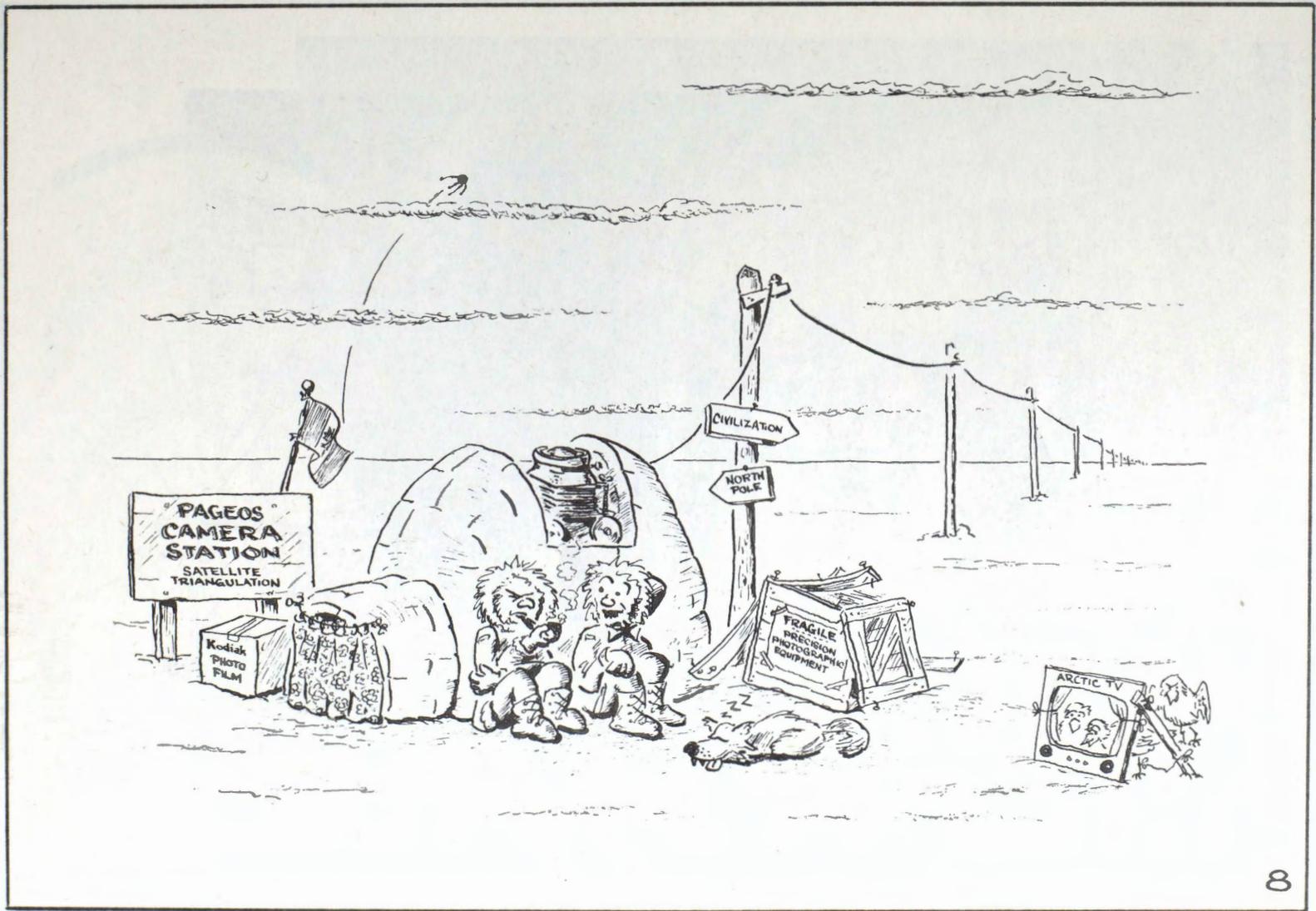


6

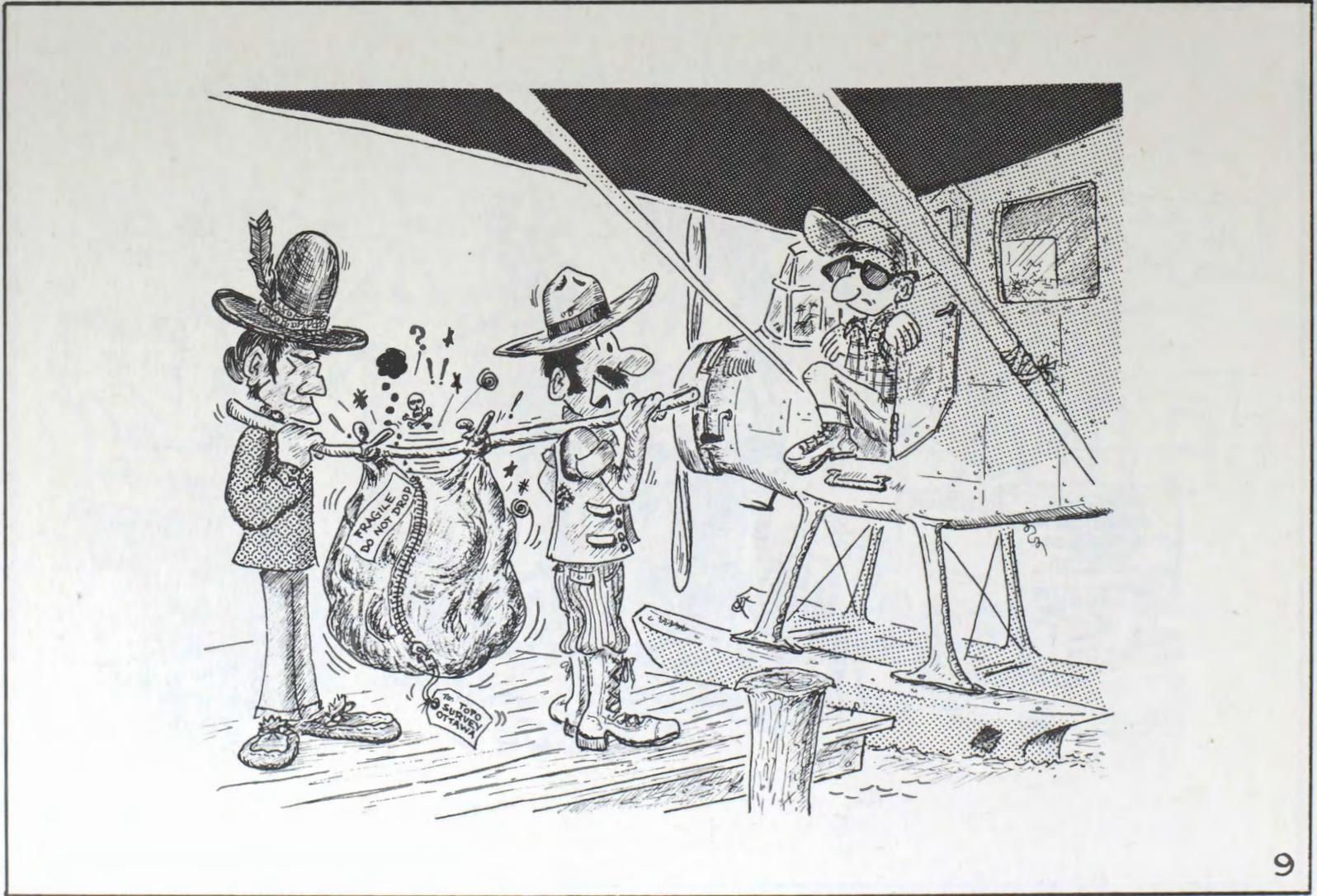
Perils of the Hinterland.



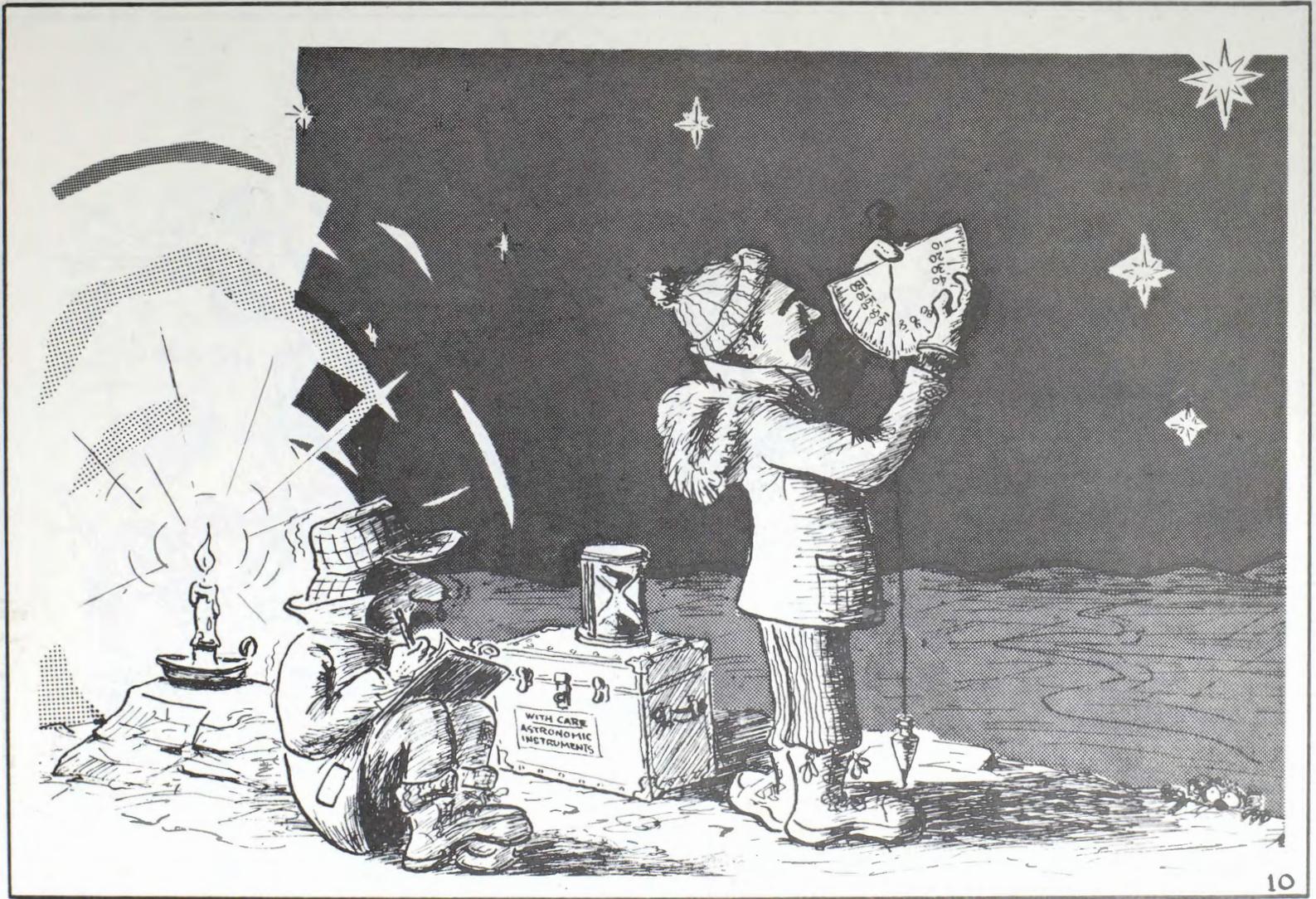
Hey, Axel, Which Packing Case has the Pencils In It!



With Luck, We'll Get Sent to the Bermuda Station.



It's the Party Chief...the Zipper Jammed in the Dark Room Tent.



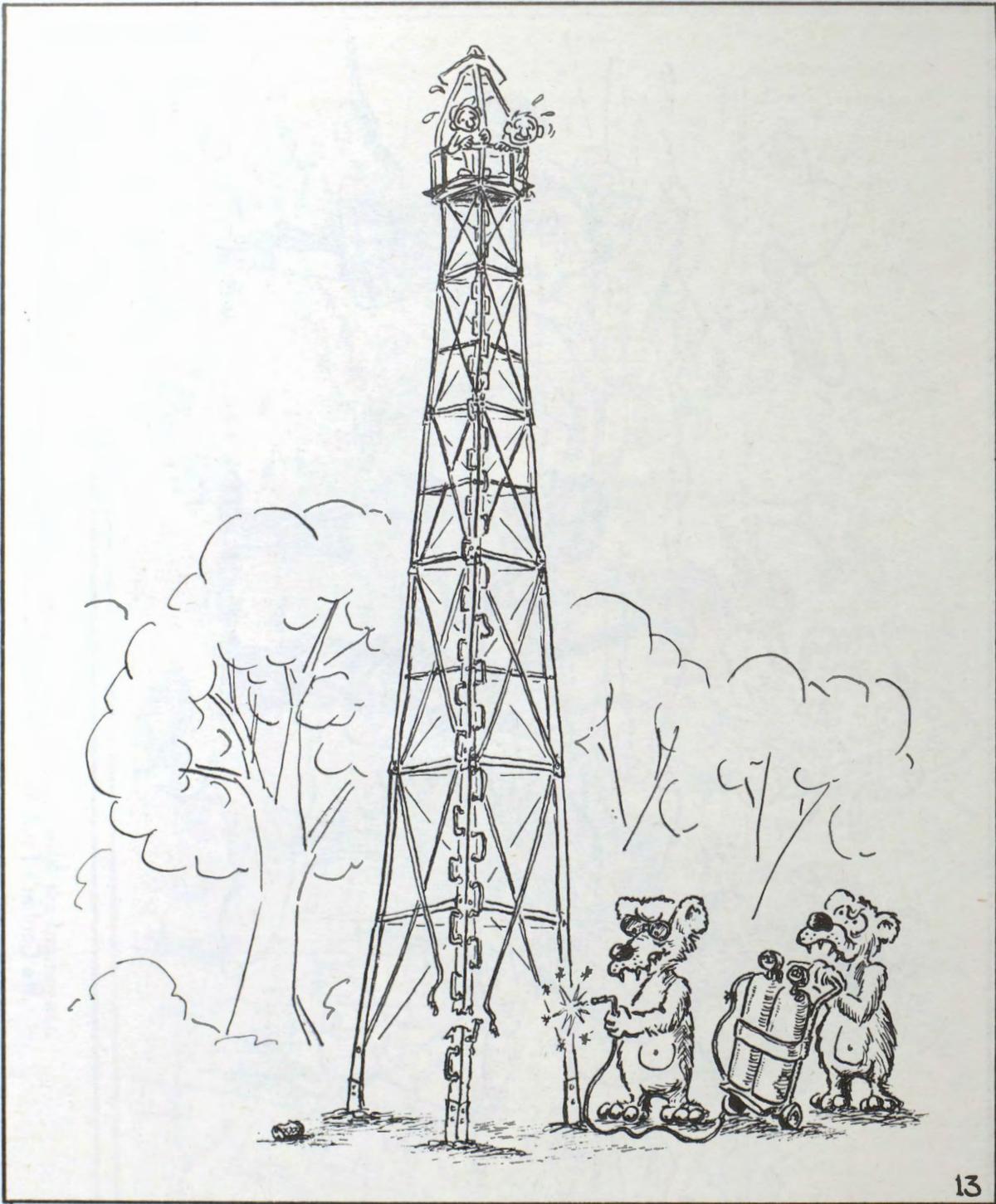
Quit Griping! Just Turn Over the Hour-glass and Hand me the Compass So I Can Get This Azimuth.



Would You Quit Rocking the Boat...I'm Trying to Level the Instrument.



We Couldn't Find Any Rocks for the Cairn...Will that Snowman Do?

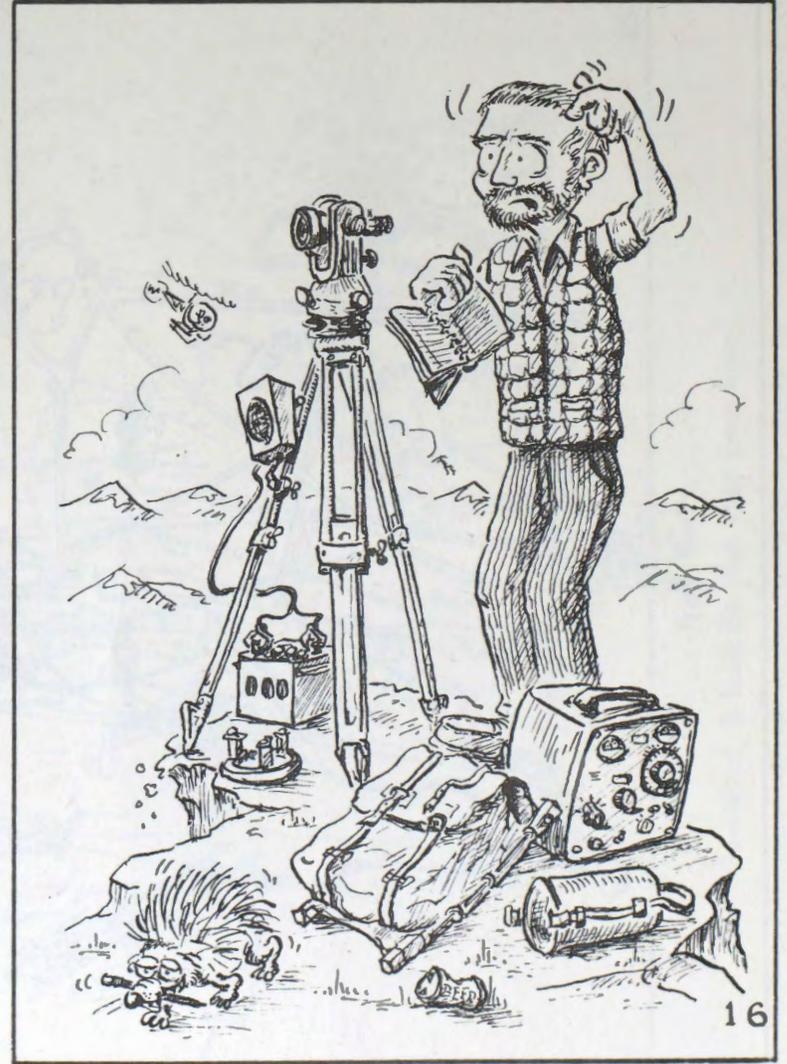


Gee-Whiz! It Must Be that Yogi Bear from T. V.

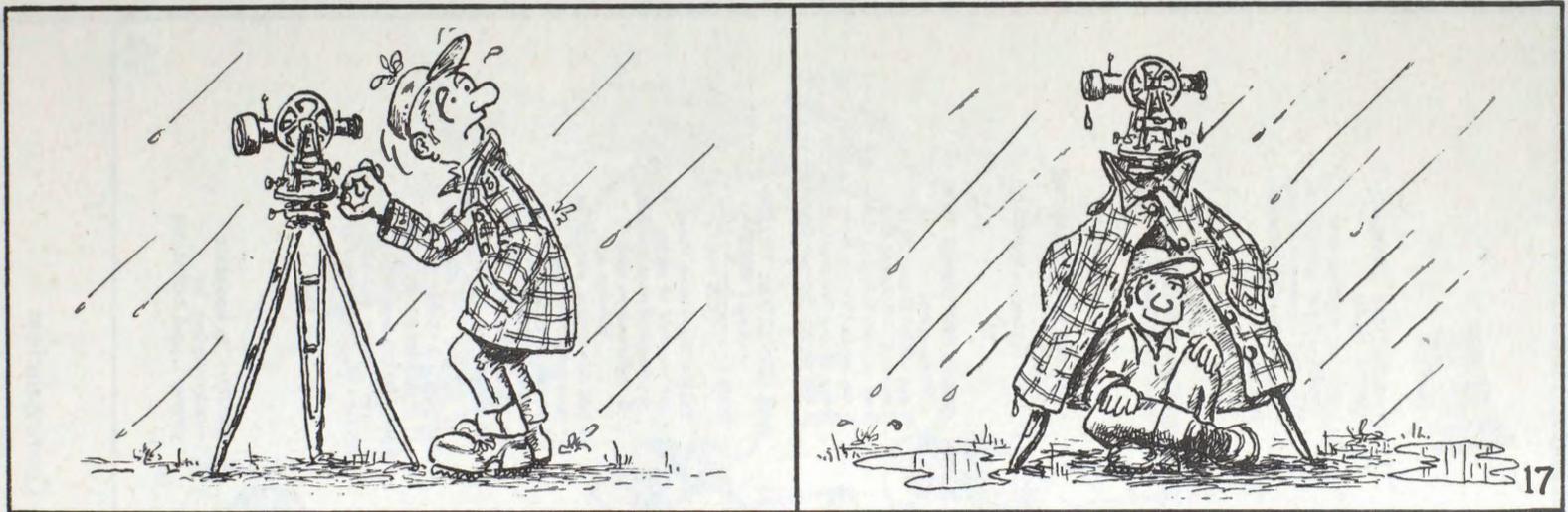




Temperature 40 Below...But Not Inside.



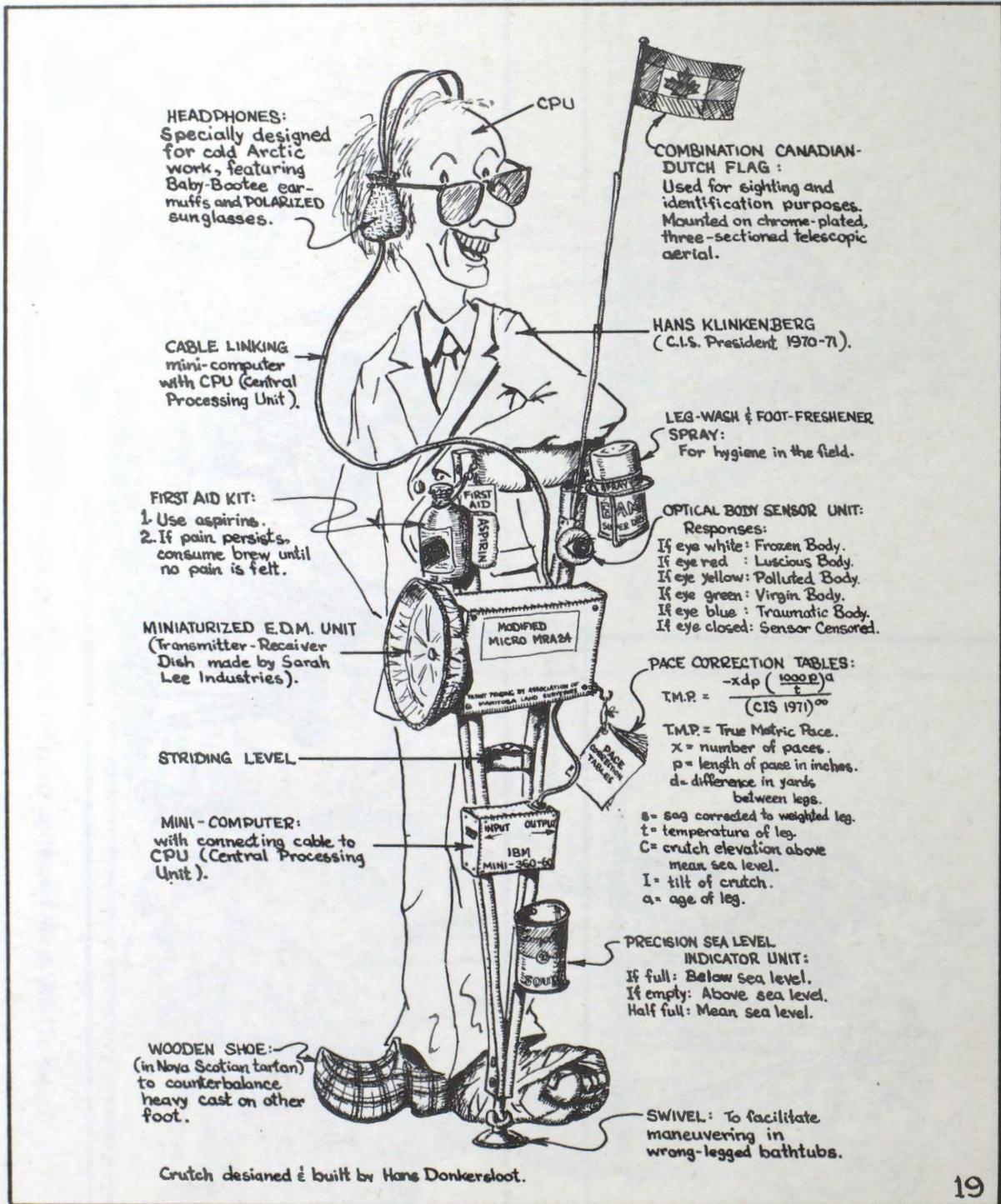
Now, Which Way is West?



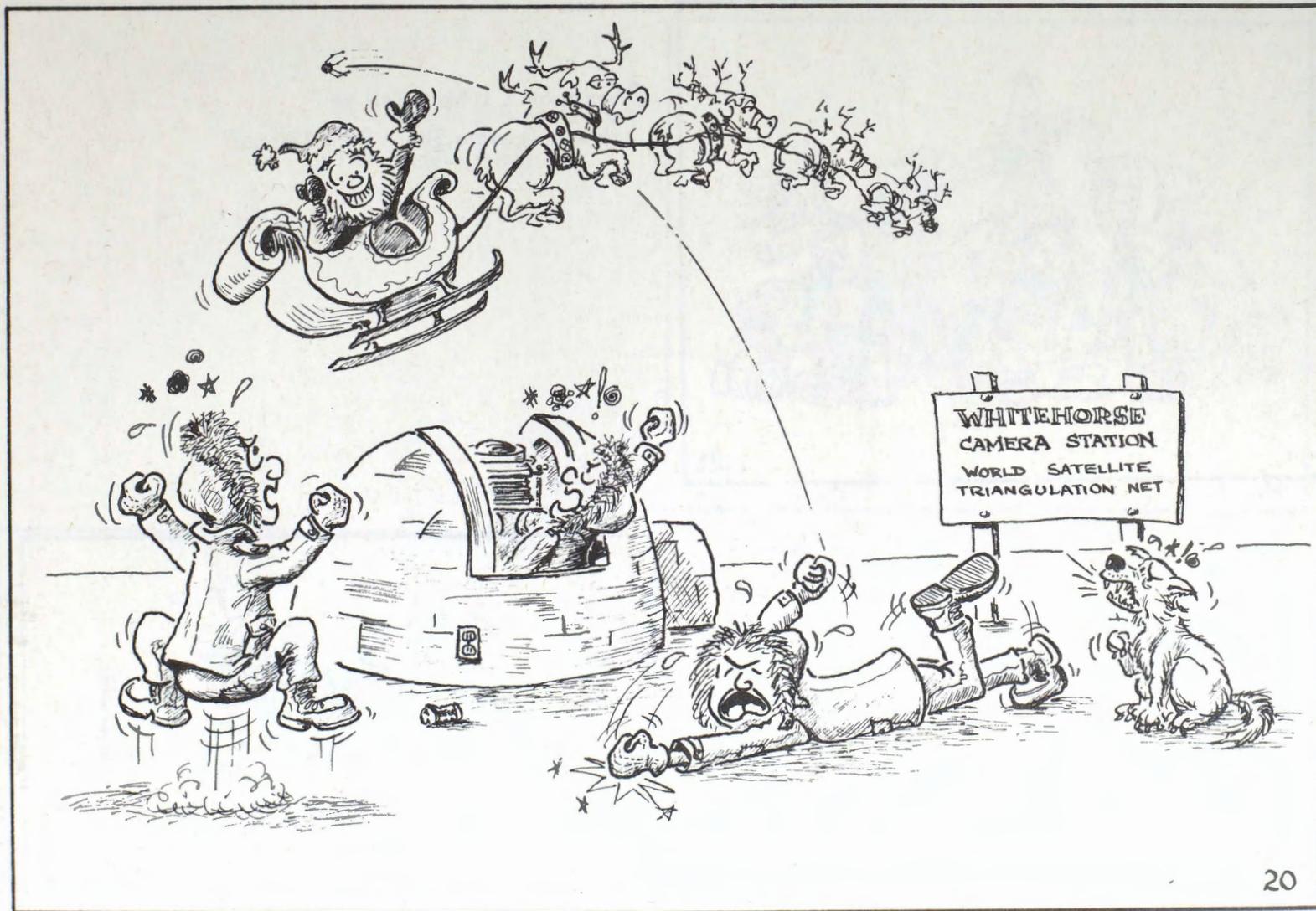
Innovation-the Key to Survival.



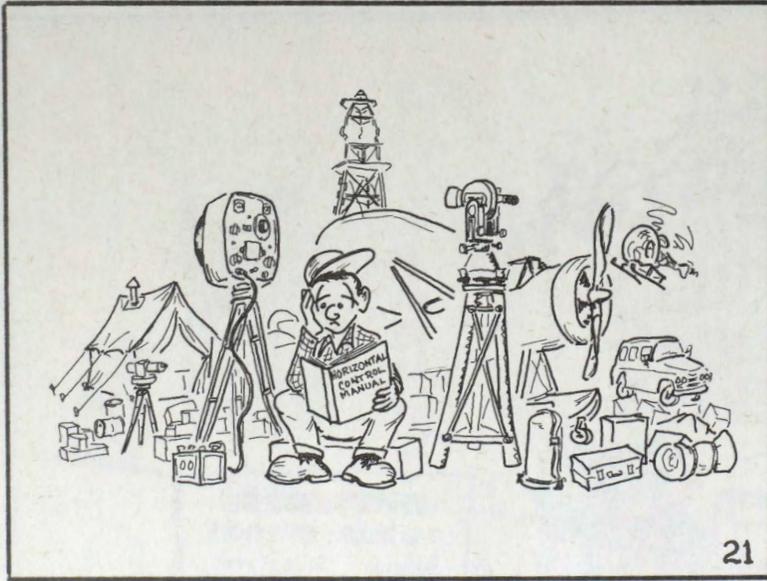
Elevation Determination Under Extreme Conditions.



A Surveyor Must Prepare for All Contingencies!



First It's the Clouds! Then the Aurora Borealis!...and Now this Nut!

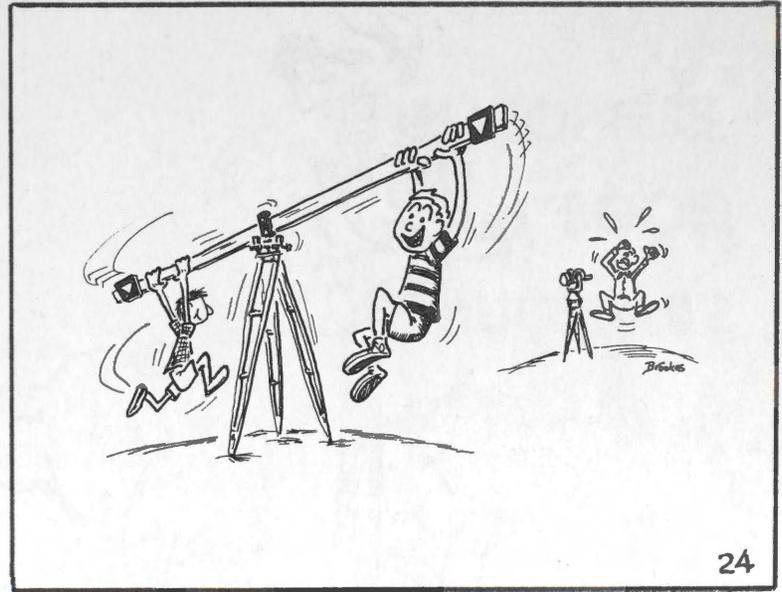


◀ Somewhere, It Must Tell you  
How to Operate These Darn Things? ▶

Jeeppers! Me Mother-in-Law! ▶



Surveying in Settled Areas ▶  
Has its Own Problems.

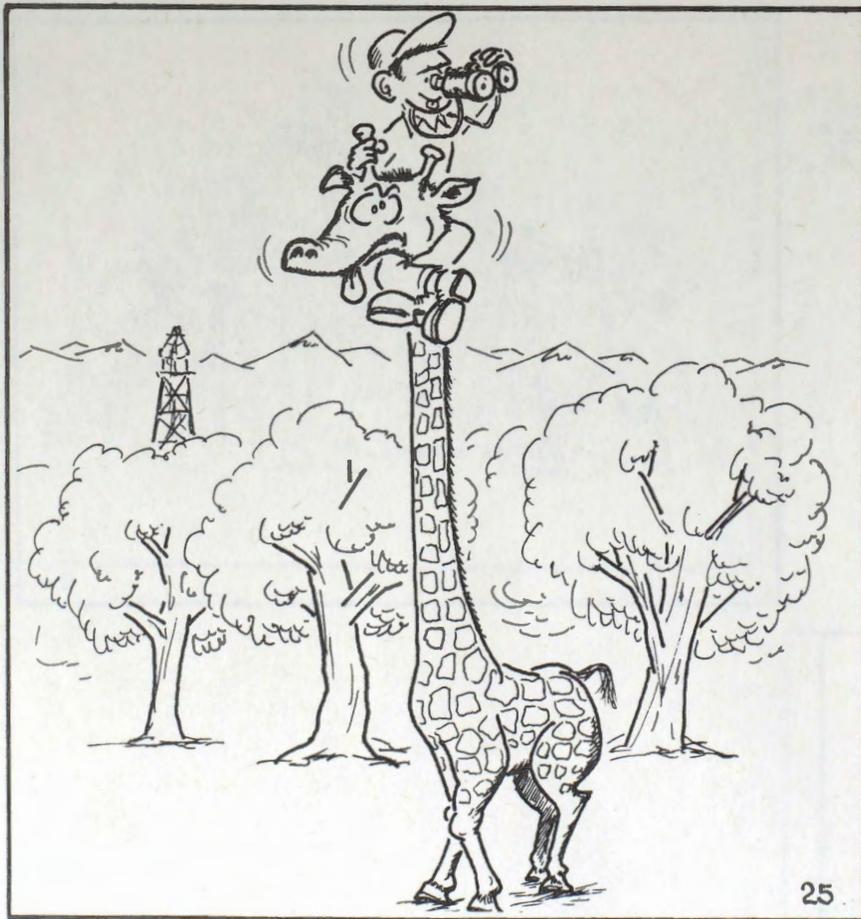


24



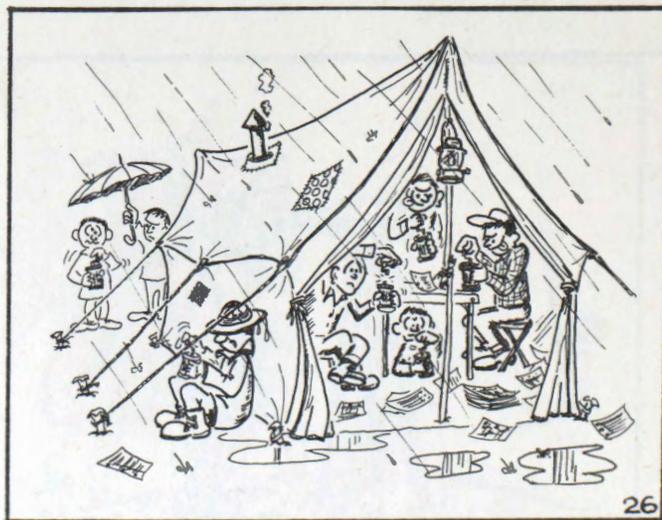
23

◀ Hold that Middle Staff Still.



◀ Well! It's Easier than Building a Tower.

First to Find the Missing Decimal Point, Goes Home! ▶



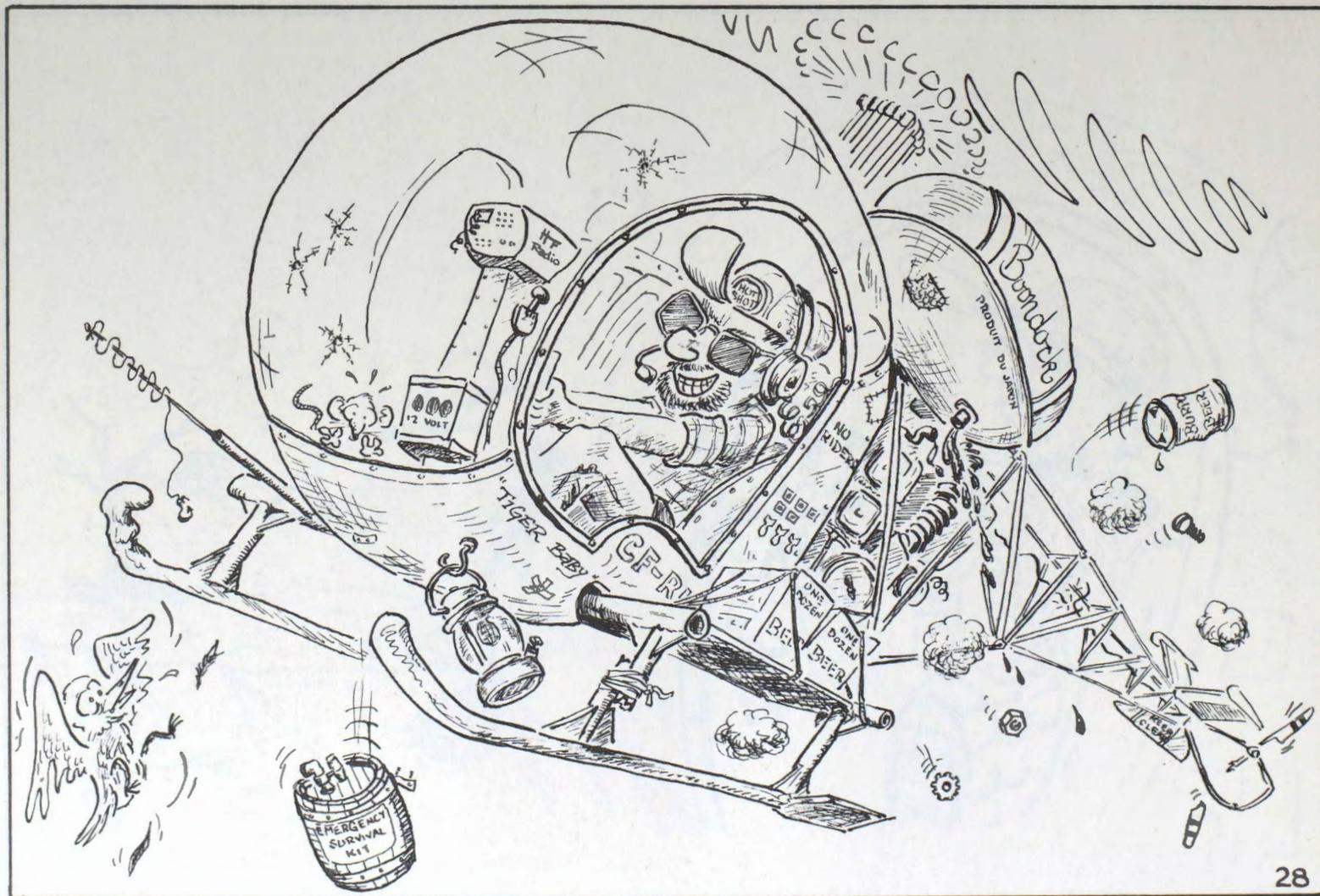
# HELICOPTERS, a BOON or a BUGBEAR?

In the remote areas of Canada, helicopters are widely used. But despite their facility as a means of transport, they do have some peculiar habits.





According to Frank Down There, the Wind's from the West!



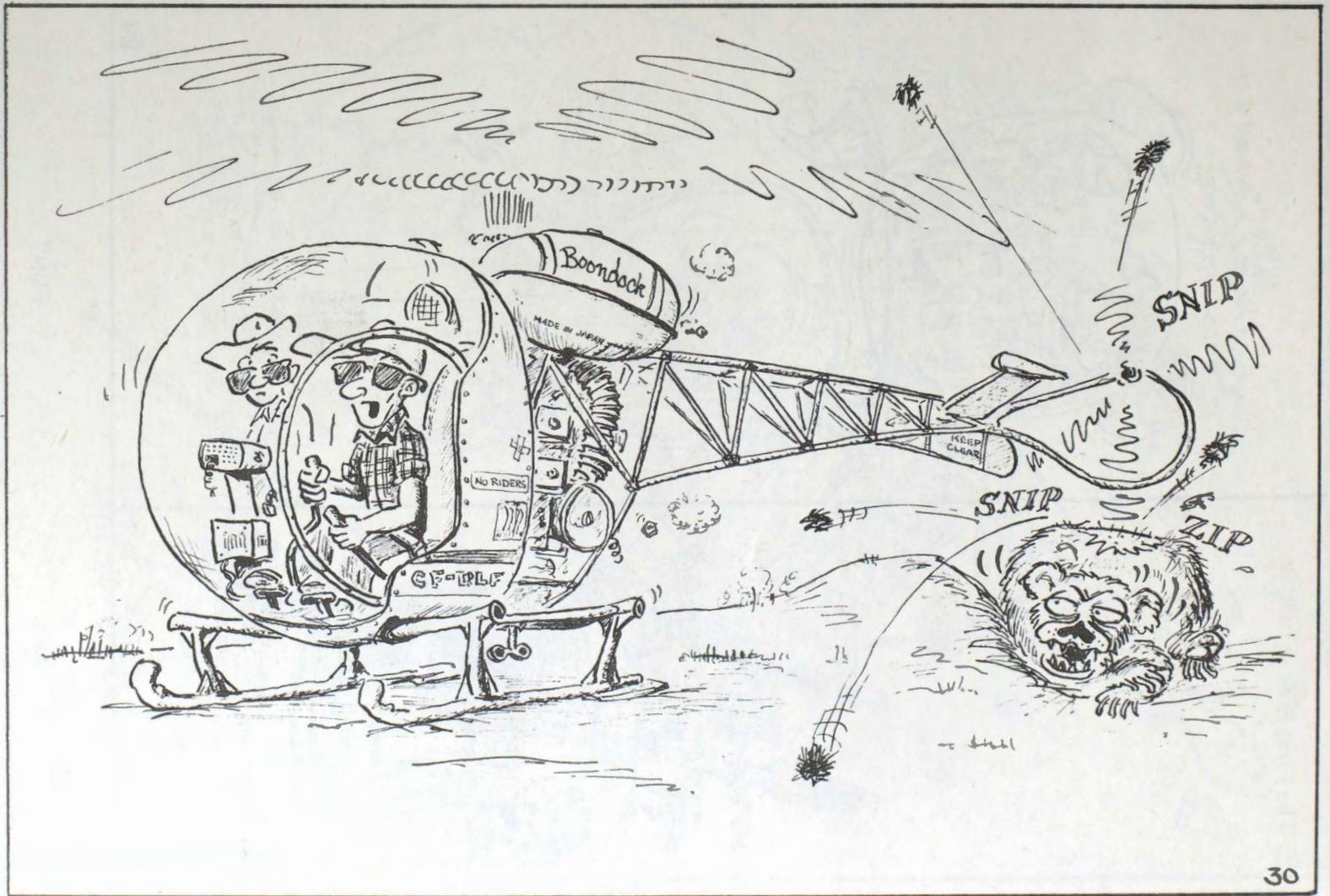
Some Helicopter Pilots Are on Cloud Nine!

The First Ride

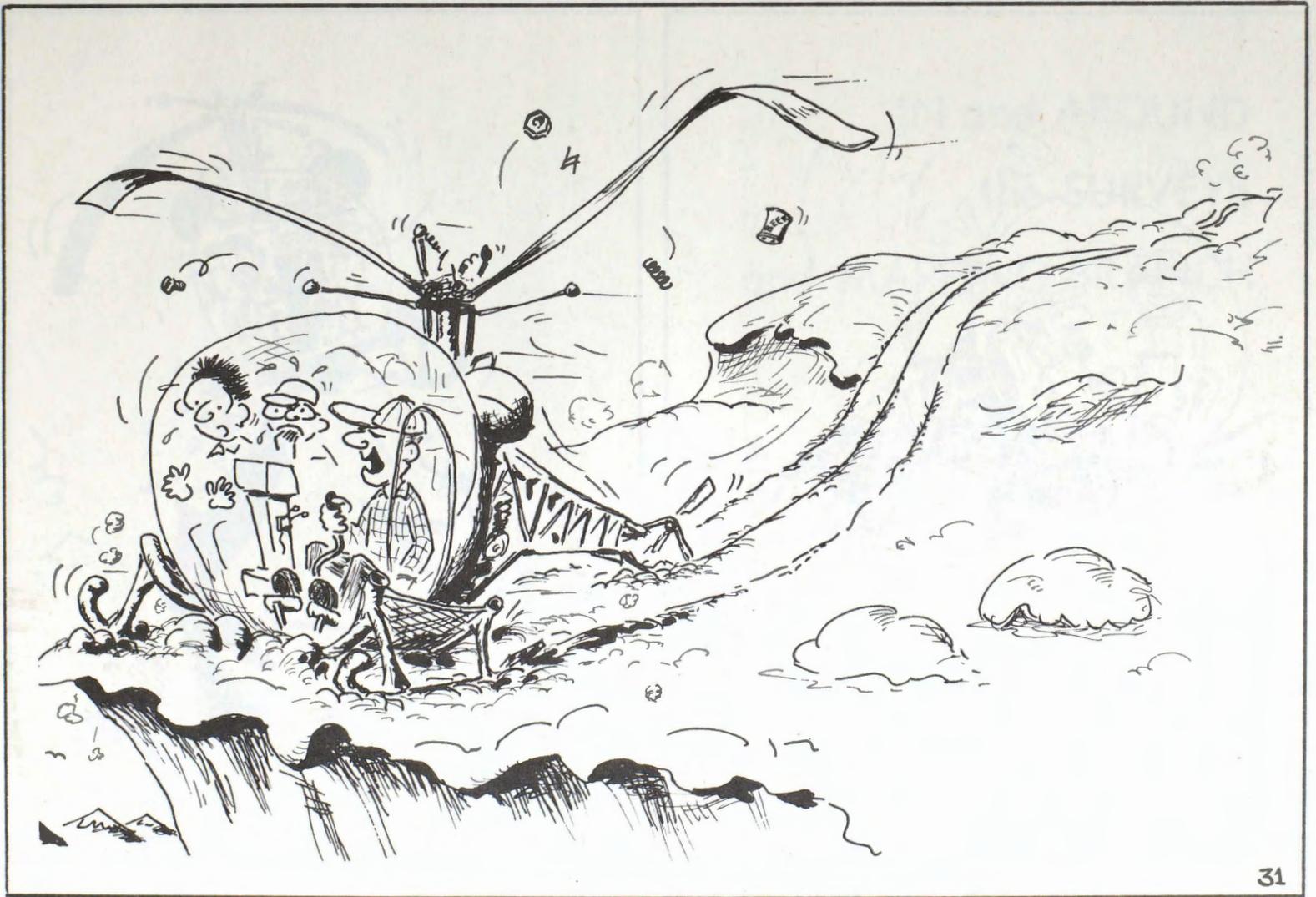


"Oh Boy, this Should Be

FUN"



I Think We've Just Scraped the Tail Rotor.



31

Quit Worrying! It Makes for an Easier Lift-off.



Did You See that Mountain Goat When We "Buzzed Him"?



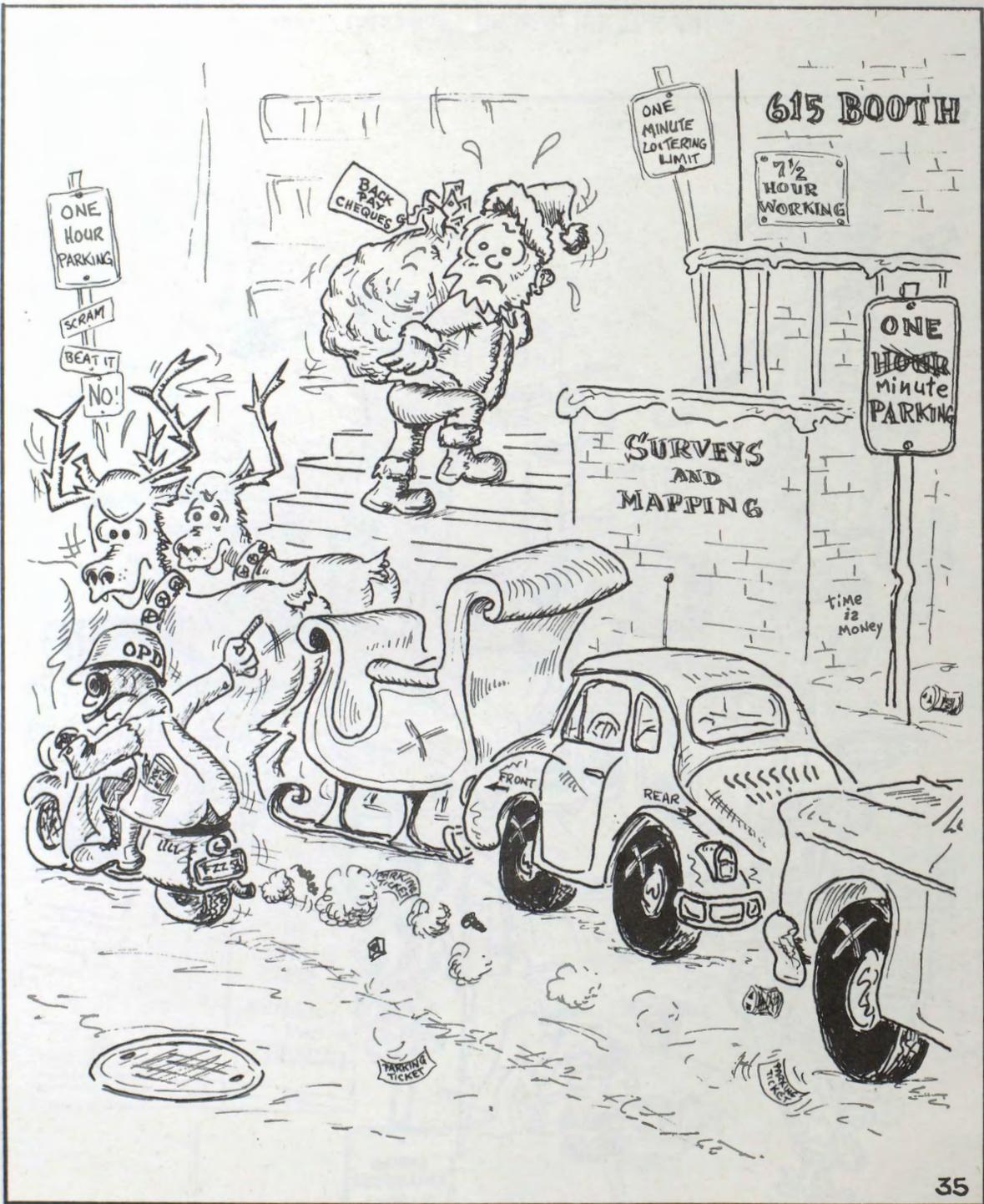
On Second Thought, I Think This is the Wrong Mountain!

**IN and AROUND  
the SURVEYS  
and MAPPING BRANCH**

Headquarter's planning and operation has its unexpected setbacks. With his licence to exaggerate reality, the cartoonist captures some of the vagaries of the Surveys and Mapping Branch working life.

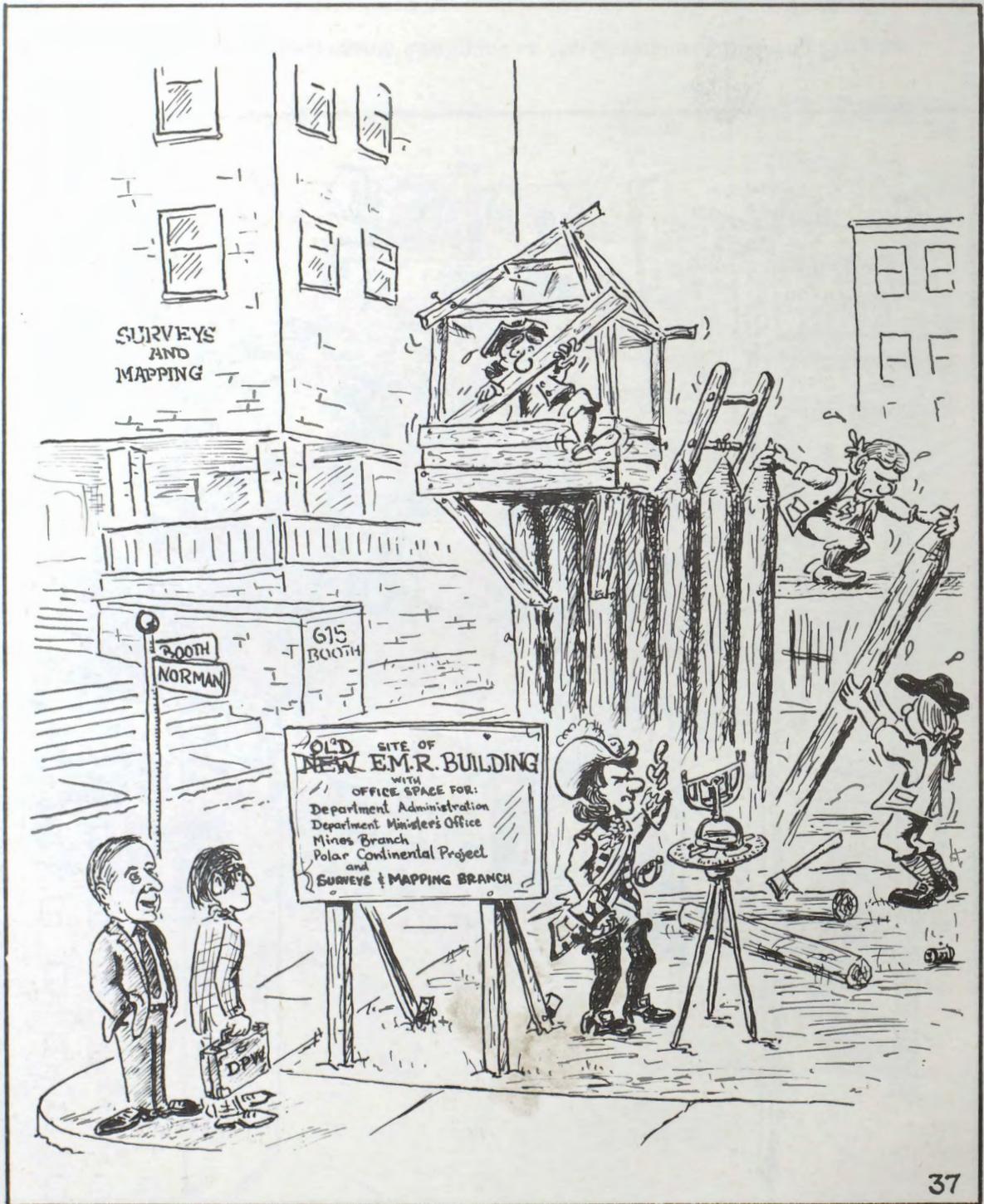






No Matter How Welcome the Visitor, Parking is Still a Problem.



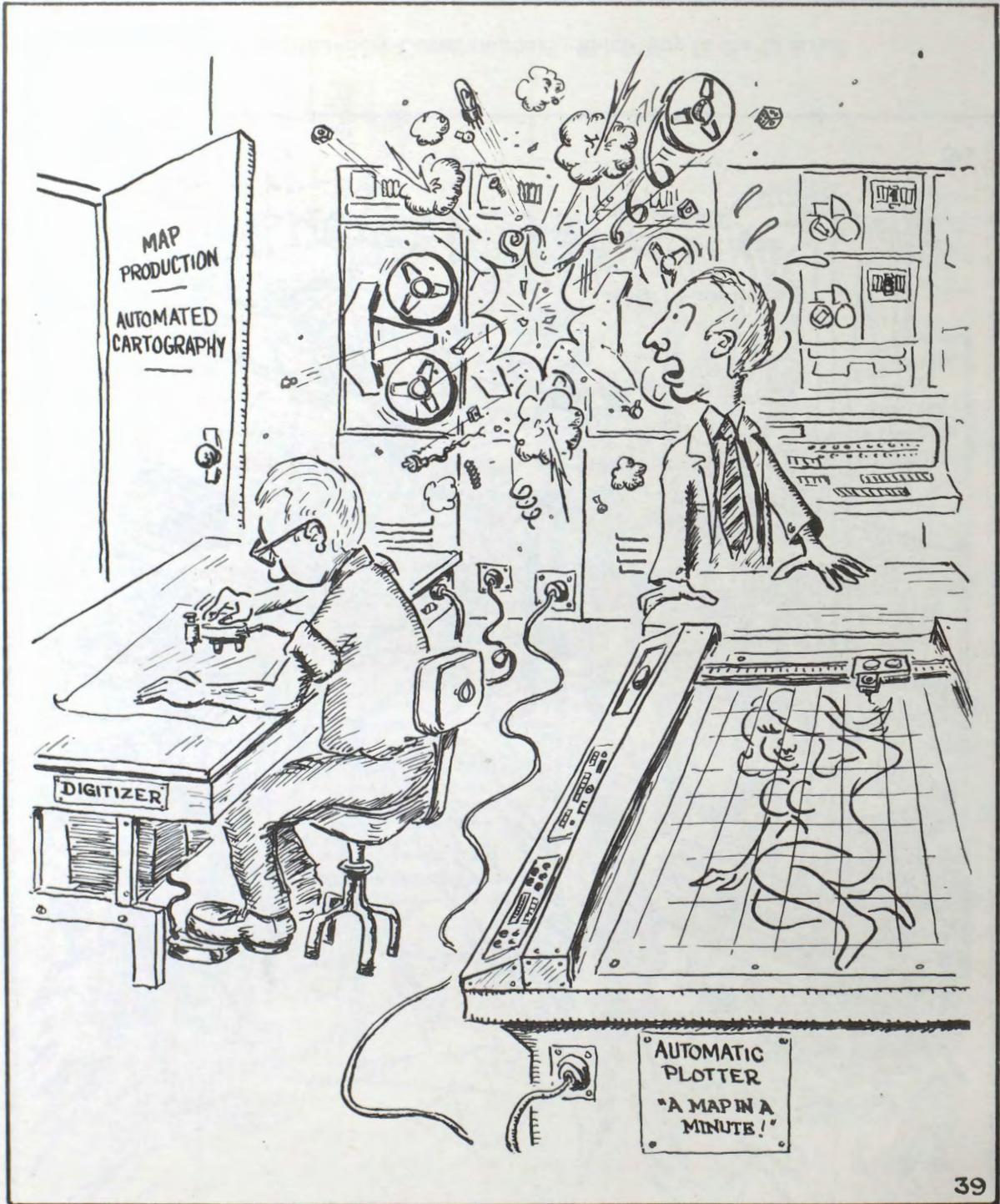


I Understand the Building Plans Have Been Kicking Around for Quite Some Time!



38

Is that the Boundary Commissioner? Which Way is the U. S. A. ?



I Told You Those Coordinates 34-28-36 Would Blow a Fuse!







