



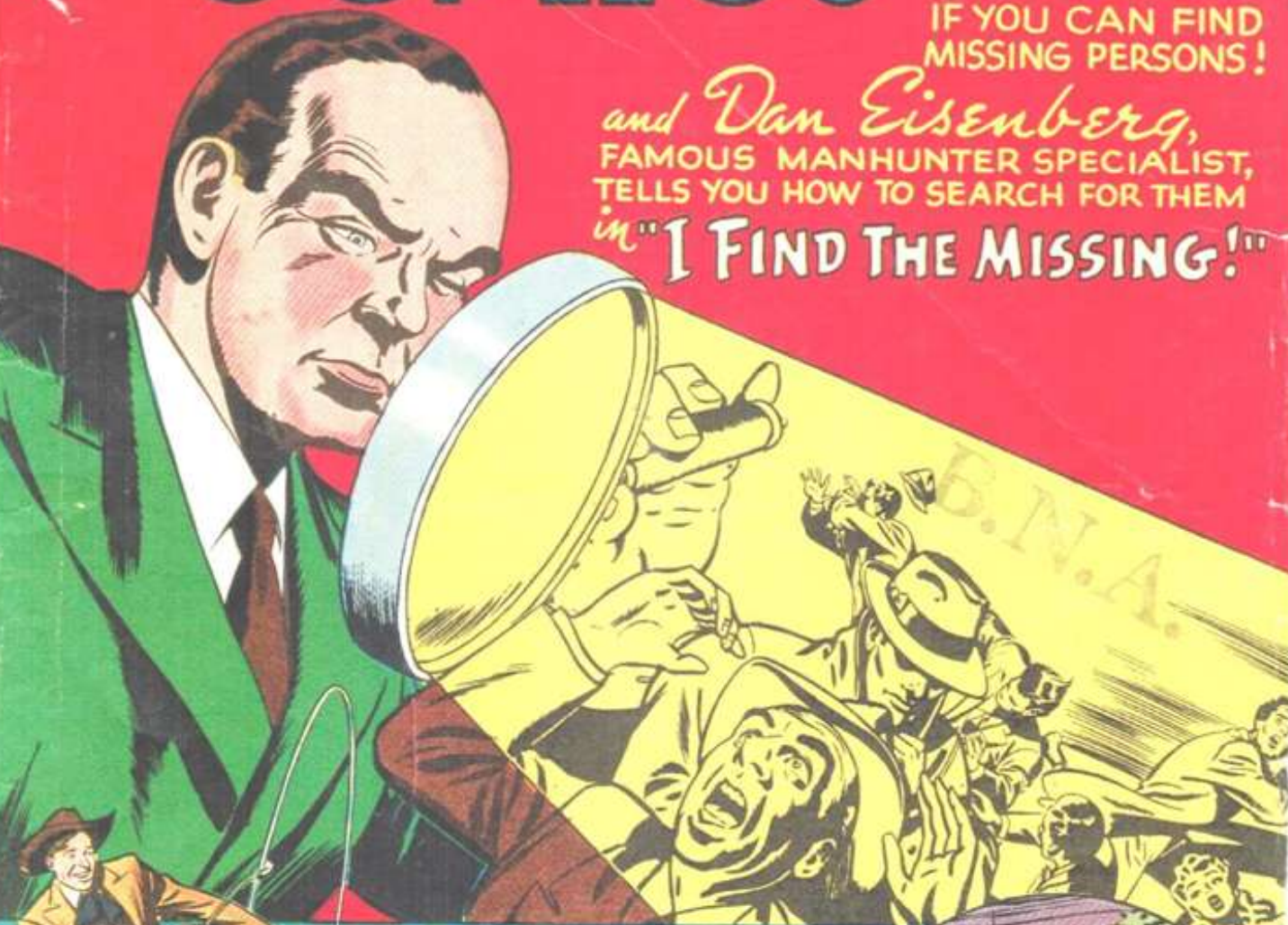
REAL

# FACT COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

In this issue:  
**\$1,000  
IN CASH  
REWARDS**  
IF YOU CAN FIND  
MISSING PERSONS!

and *Dan Eisenberg*,  
FAMOUS MANHUNTER SPECIALIST,  
TELLS YOU HOW TO SEARCH FOR THEM  
in "I FIND THE MISSING!"



← THE MOST FAMOUS  
COWBOY OF 'EM ALL-  
*Will Rogers*  
**DIARY of  
DEATH!** →

THE MOMENT-BY-MOMENT  
ACCOUNT OF THE CENTURY'S  
MOST DISASTROUS HURRICANE!





When you want to know  
ask the expert

REAL FACT COMICS

Fred Pough



# Keeper OF THE Jewels



MEET  
*Dr. Frederick H. Pough.*  
IMPRESARIO OF THE MOST GLAMOROUS ICE SHOW ON EARTH! HE HANDLES THE WORLD'S MOST PRECIOUS DIAMONDS, RUBIES AND SAPPHIRES AS CASUALLY AS A MINER TOSSES ABOUT LUMPS OF COAL!

SHORTLY AFTER PEARL HARBOR, A SERIOUS CRISIS WAS REACHED BY SCIENTISTS WORKING ON THE ATOM BOMB...

GENERAL, WE CANNOT CONTINUE OUR WORK UNLESS WE OBTAIN TWENTY MORE POUNDS OF "MINERAL X" BY NEXT WEEK! AND THERE ISN'T AN OUNCE IN THE U.S.!

INDEED!



"MINERAL X!" HMM... THAT'S RARE! ONLY ONE MAN CAN HELP US FIND SOME— DR. FREDERICK H. POUGH. HE KNOWS MORE ABOUT MINERALS THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD!



MEANWHILE, AT NEW YORK'S GREAT MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, WHERE DR. POUGH SERVED AS CURATOR OF THEIR FABULOUS GEM AND MINERAL COLLECTION...

THIS JADE BOULDER IS OUR LARGEST SPECIMEN. IT WEIGHS HALF A TON AND COMES FROM SILESIA. IT TAKES TWO WORKERS THREE DAYS TO POLISH IT.



THIS GOLD CROWN, STUDDED WITH DIAMONDS, SAPPHIRES AND GARNETS, WAS WORN BY A VIZIER OF MOROCCO IN THE 18TH CENTURY! IT IS PRICELESS!

... AND HERE WE SEE SOME OF THE MUSEUM'S 1,970 DIFFERENT MINERALS. ANGLESITE... COLLINSITE... SINCOSITE... MOONSTONE... SUNSTONE... BLOODSTONE ... AND AMAZON STONE!



THAT AFTERNOON...

AND SO, BECAUSE YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT MINERALS THAN ANYONE ELSE, THE ARMY IS ASKING YOU TO HELP US FIND 20 POUNDS OF THIS PRECIOUS SUBSTANCE.

ACCORDING TO MY GEOLOGICAL MAPS, IT CAN BE FOUND IN A CERTAIN VALLEY IN BRAZIL. I'LL FLY THERE AT ONCE!

THREE DAYS LATER...

EUREKA! I'VE FOUND IT... A WHOLE VEIN OF THE STUFF!









WHAT WAS DR. POUGH'S STRANGEST CASE? IT BEGAN WHEN A STEAMSHIP COMPANY DELIVERED A CARGO OF SILK TO A NEW YORK HARBOR...



BUT WHEN THE CASES OF SILK WERE OPENED IN A WAREHOUSE...

WHAT'S THIS? WORTHLESS PIECES OF ROCK INSTEAD OF SILK! CROOKS MUST HAVE SUBSTITUTED THE ROCK FOR THE SILK SO THAT DISCOVERY OF THE THEFT WOULD BE DELAYED!



THE POLICE SOUGHT OUT DR. POUGH...

...AND IF YOU CAN TELL US WHERE THESE ROCKS CAME FROM, WE'LL BE ABLE TO KNOW AT WHICH PORT OF CALL THE GANG OPERATED!

HMM... THAT'S A MEDIUM-GRAINED, LIGHT-COLORED IGNEOUS GRANITE...

THERE IS A DEPOSIT OF EXACTLY THAT TYPE OF MINERAL IN SANTOS. I'D SUGGEST YOU SEARCH THERE FOR THE GANG, CAPTAIN!

THANKS, DOC!



FOLLOWING THE STONE SLEUTH'S TIP, SOUTH AMERICAN POLICE WERE SOON ABLE TO ROUND UP THE SILK-THIEVES...

YOU ARE ALL UNDER ARREST! HANDS UP!

CARAMBA! HOW DID THEY FIND US?





DR. POUGH IS THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPERT ON GEMS AND MINERALS BECAUSE MINERALOGY HAS BEEN HIS HOBBY EVER SINCE YOUTH.

AT THE AGE OF 12 HE LED BOY SCOUTS ON FIELD TRIPS...



WHEN DO WE STOP HIKING, FRED? I'M TIRED!

JUST AS SOON AS WE FIND SOME GREEN PREHENITE.

PRESENTLY...

THIS SAMPLE'S A BEAUTY! THAT MAKES 185 DIFFERENT MINERALS OUR TROOP HEADQUARTERS NOW HAS!



ONE DAY, DIGGING IN THE PALISADES, YOUNG FRED MADE A THRILLING DISCOVERY.

WHAT A FIND! AN OLD INDIAN QUARTZ ARROWHEAD! I'LL DONATE IT TO THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.



THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY...

THANKS FOR YOUR OFFER, MY BOY, BUT I MUST REJECT IT. THERE IS NOTHING RARE ABOUT YOUR FIND. BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME!

THE YOUNG GEOLOGIST LINGERED AT THE MUSEUM, STUDIED SOME OF THE RARE GEMS ON EXHIBIT THERE...

THE FINEST AND LARGEST SAPPHIRES, RUBIES, AND TOPAZES IN THE WORLD—HERE! SOME DAY I'M GOING TO BE CURATOR OF THIS COLLECTION!



THE MIDNIGHT STAR 175 CARATS

THE MORNING STAR TOPAZ 1,665 CARATS

STAR OF INDIA 563 CARATS



YOUNG POUGH DETERMINED THAT HE WOULD LEARN MORE ABOUT MINERALS THAN ANY-ONE ELSE IN THE WORLD. HE STUDIED MINERALOGY AT HARVARD...

WHEN ARE YOU TURNING IN, FRED? IT'S AFTER MID-NIGHT!

JUST AS SOON AS I CAN MEMORIZE THE STRUCTURE OF THIS PIECE OF HEMATITE!



AFTER GRADUATION, HE STUDIED CRYSTALLOGRAPHY AT HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY IN GERMANY...

HERR POUGH, I WANT YOU TO NAME THESE ROCKS.

YES, PROFESSOR. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT THEY ARE SYNDELPHITE, PHARMACOSIDERITE, EUDIALYTE AND MOCHA STONE.



RECEIVING HIS DEGREE, POUGH VISITED ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

SIR, I THINK I KNOW MORE ABOUT MINERALS THAN ANY-ONE ELSE. GIVE ME A TRIAL HERE AND I'LL PROVE IT.

I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE. GOOD LUCK.



FRED POUGH MADE GOOD; A FEW YEARS LATER, WHEN THE HEAD CURATOR RETIRED, HE OBTAINED THE POSITION HE HAD DREAMED OF AS A YOUTH...

THAT'S DR. POUGH, THE NEW BOSS, EXAMINING A METEOR SOMEONE JUST DONATED TO THE MUSEUM!

IT'S HIS LUNCH HOUR, AND HE'D RATHER STUDY IT THAN EAT. CAN YOU IMAGINE ANYONE LOVING ROCKS LIKE THAT!



DR. POUGH WORSHIPS HIS MINERALS MORE THAN LIFE ITSELF. ONCE, BRAVING THE FIERY LAVA AND GAS FUMES OF A MEXICAN VOLCANO, WHILE ON VACATION...

GRAY OBSIDIAN... THE ONLY PIECE IN THE WORLD... FORMED BY VOLCANIC ACTION... I MUST HAVE IT.



ONE HALF OF THIS RARE MINERAL POUGH DONATED TO THE MUSEUM; THE OTHER HALF WENT TO HIS WIFE...

WHAT AN UNUSUAL RING YOU'VE GIVEN ME FOR MY BIRTHDAY, DEAR. WHERE DID YOU GET THIS BEAUTIFUL GRAY STONE?

OH, IT'S JUST SOMETHING I PICKED UP.



THE END

