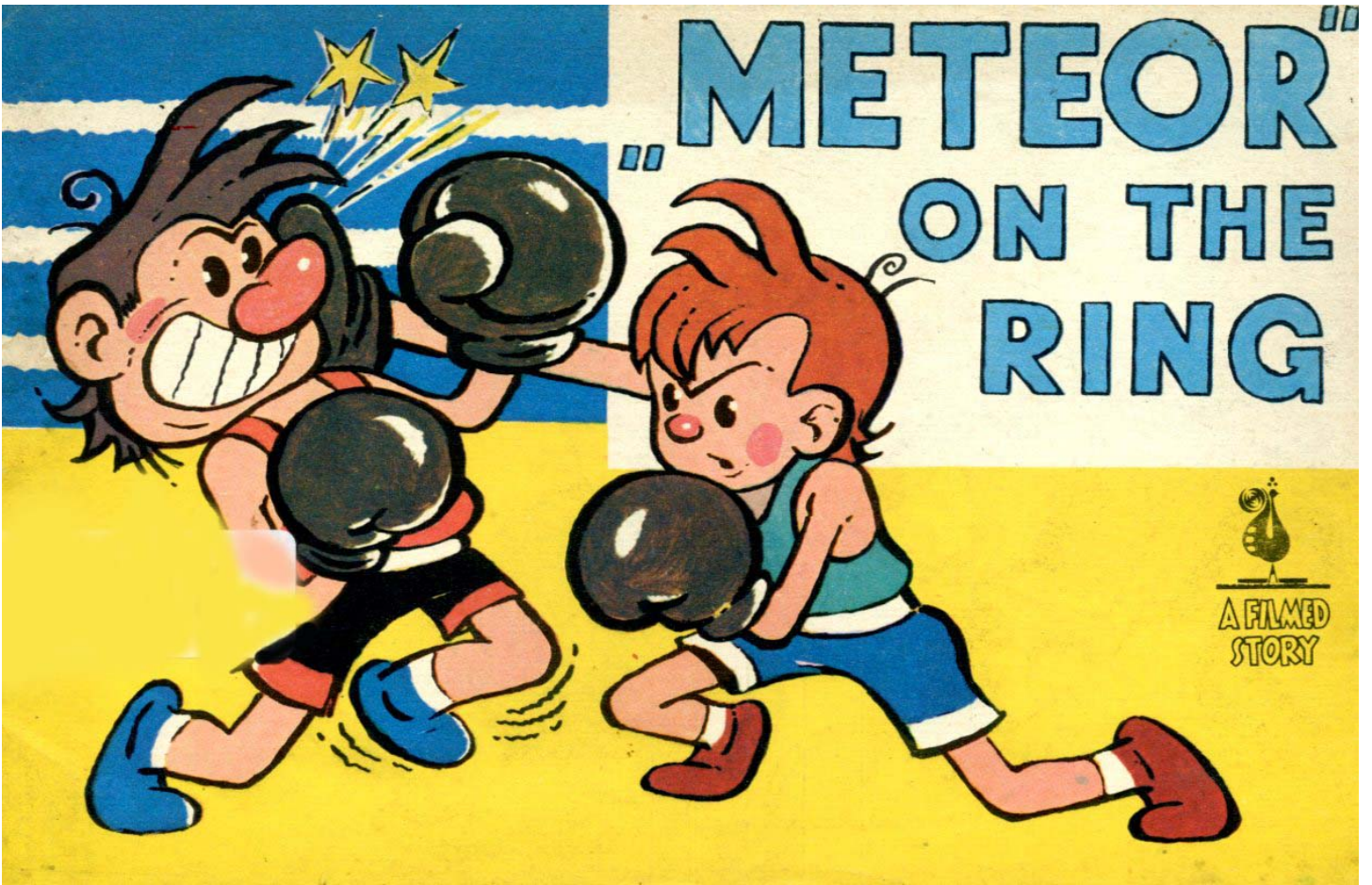
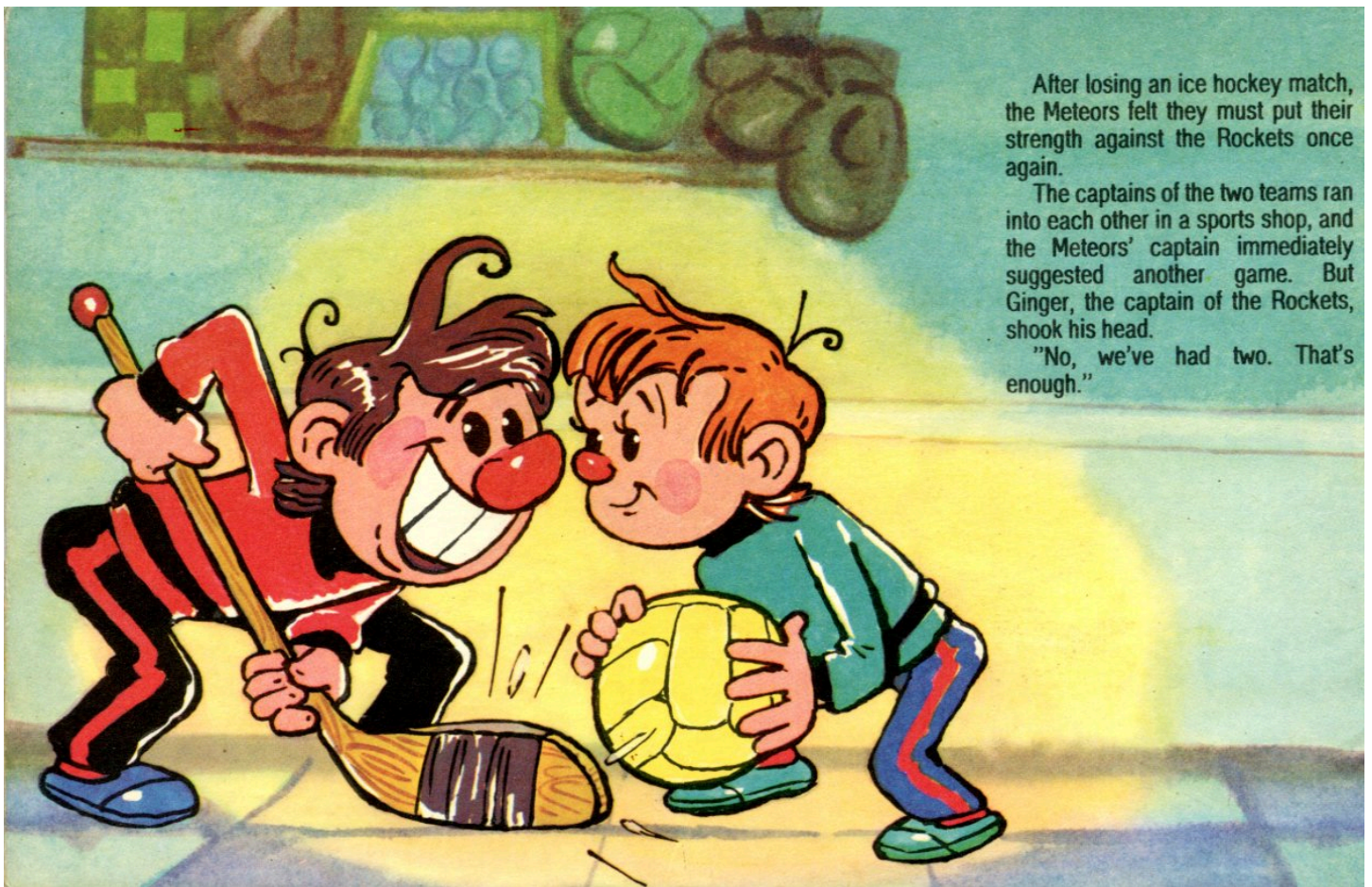


"METEOR" ON THE RING





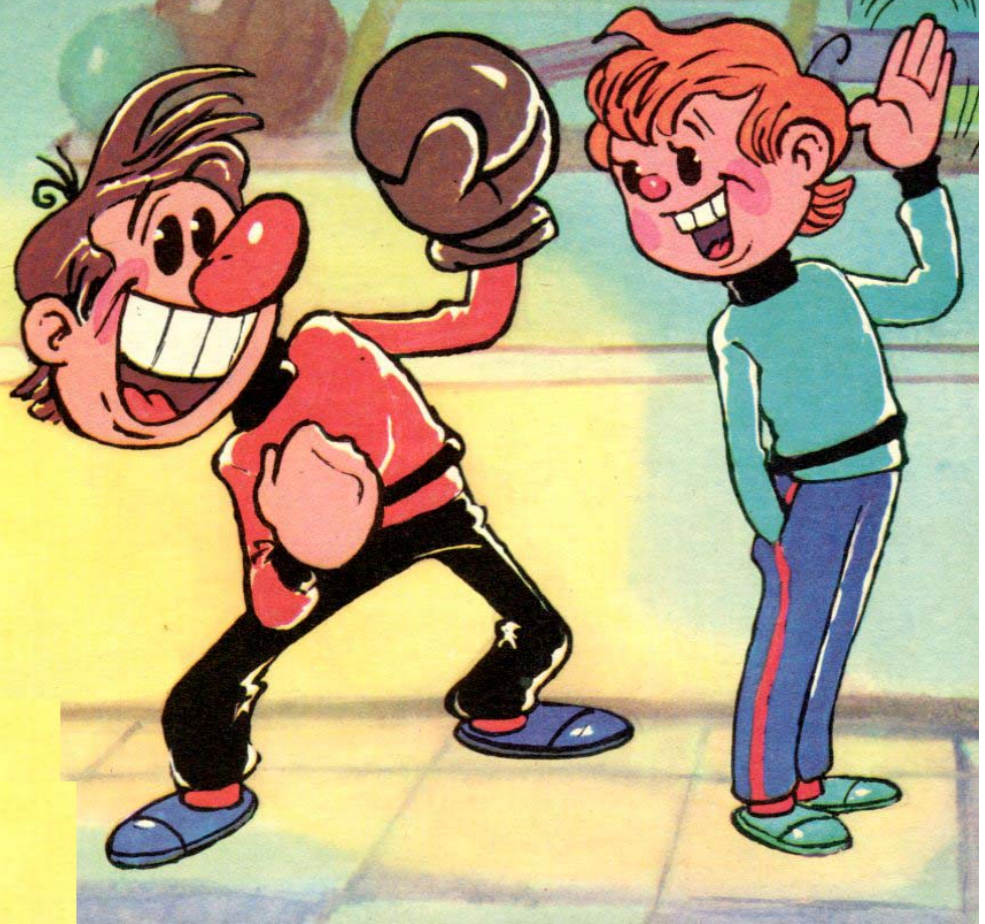
After losing an ice hockey match, the Meteors felt they must put their strength against the Rockets once again.

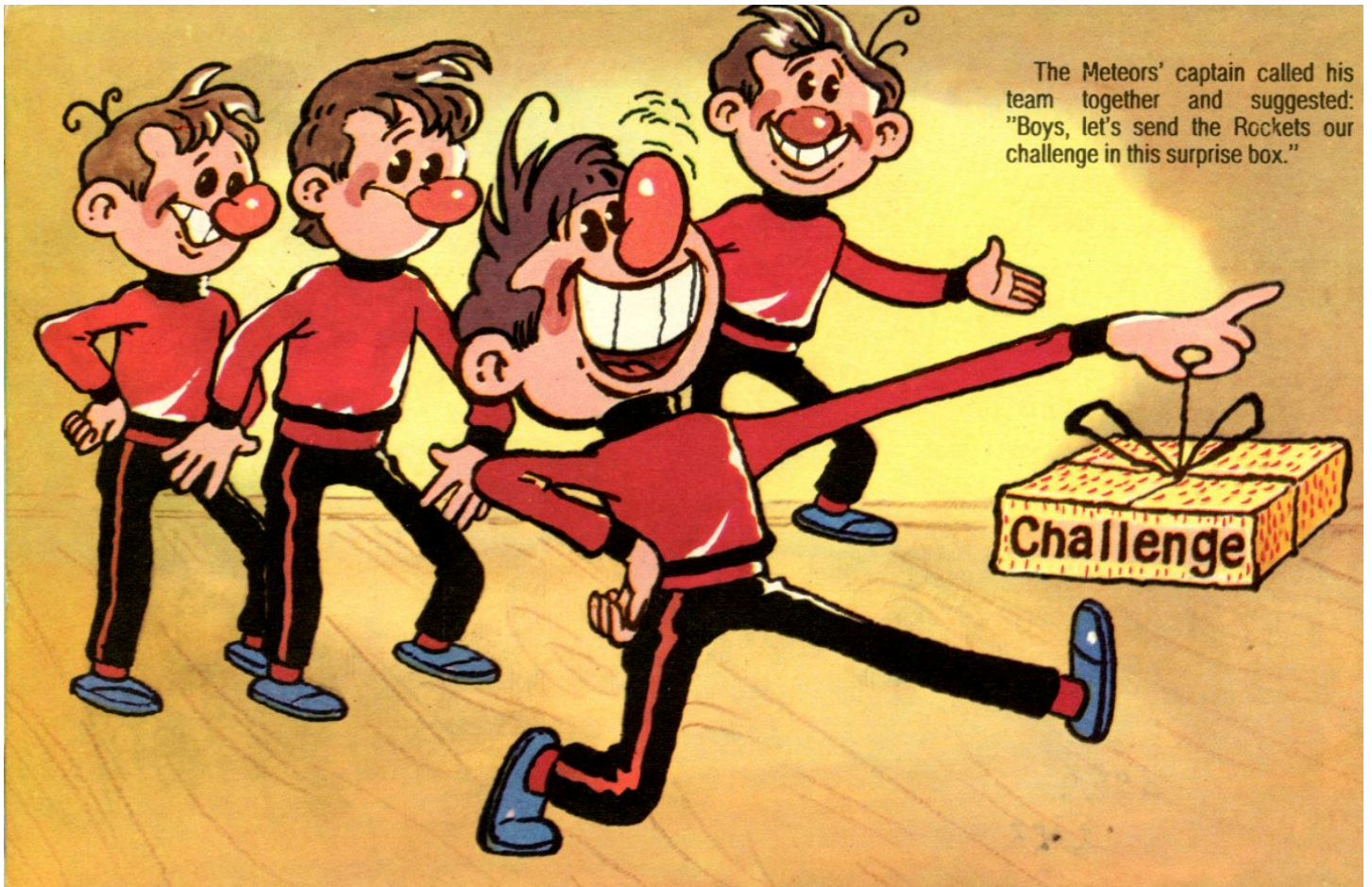
The captains of the two teams ran into each other in a sports shop, and the Meteors' captain immediately suggested another game. But Ginger, the captain of the Rockets, shook his head.

"No, we've had two. That's enough."

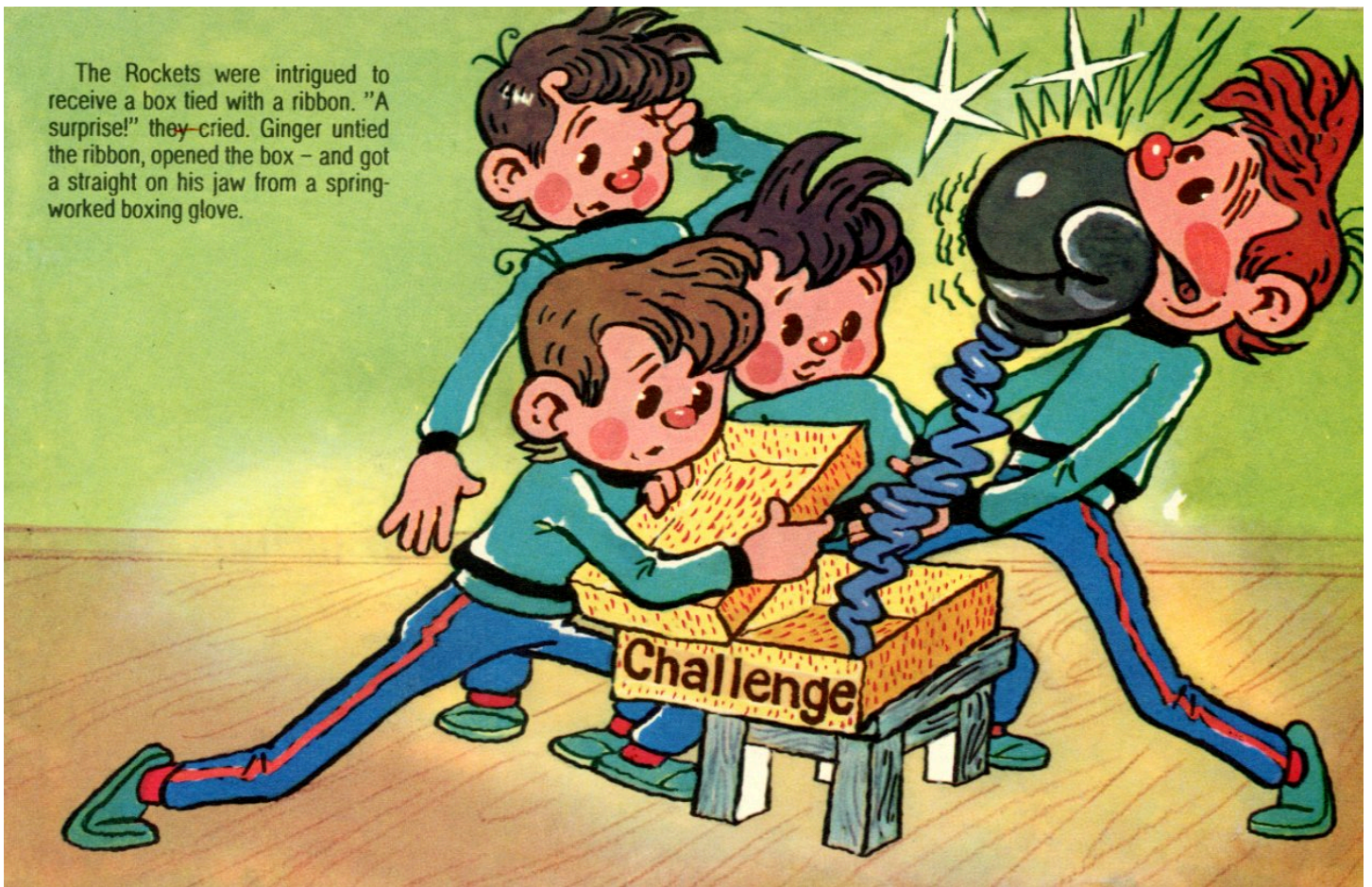
Then the Meteors' captain grabbed a boxing glove from the counter and challenged Ginger to a boxing match.

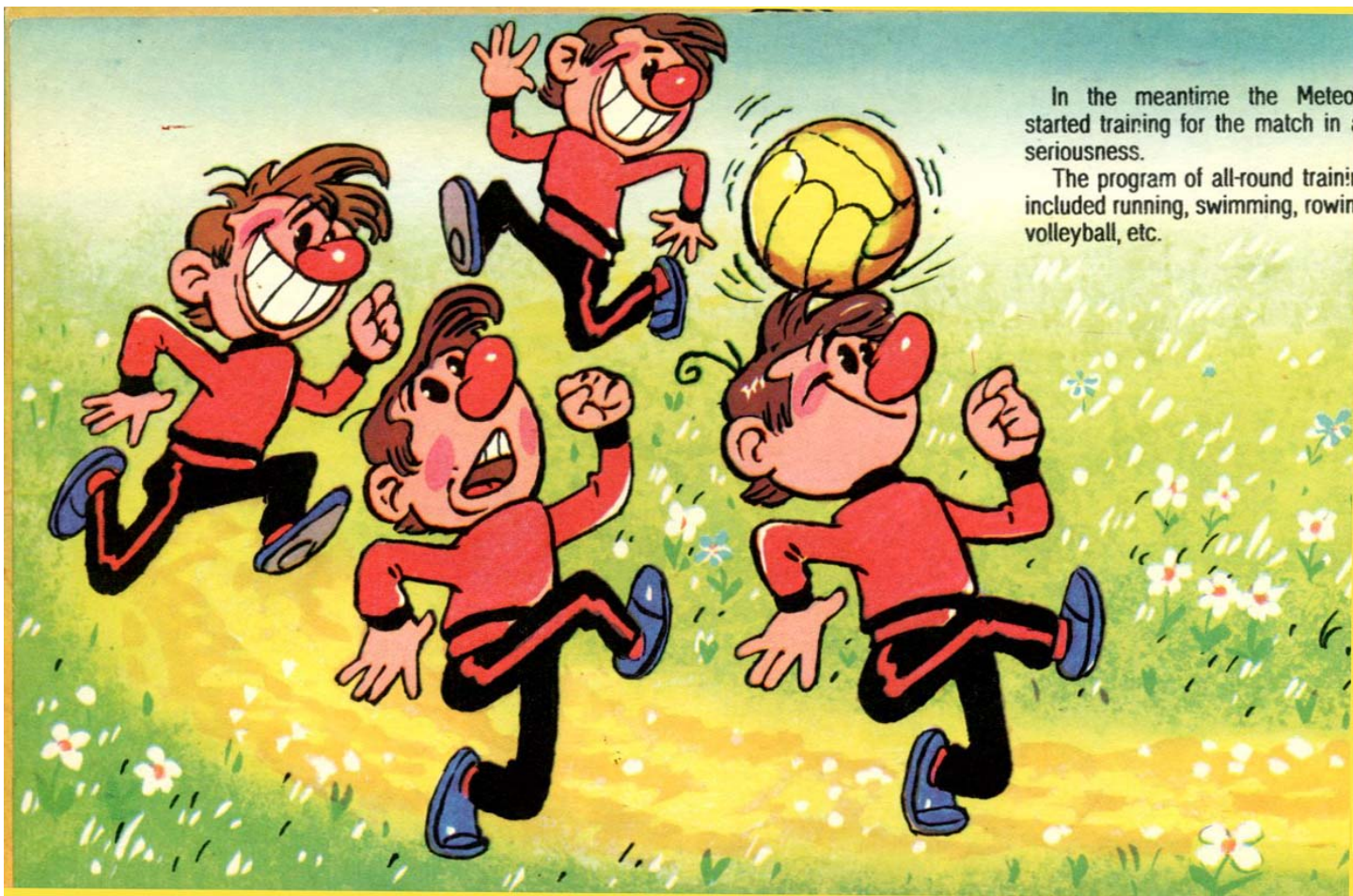
"Okay," Ginger agreed. "But it must be proper boxing, according to the rules."





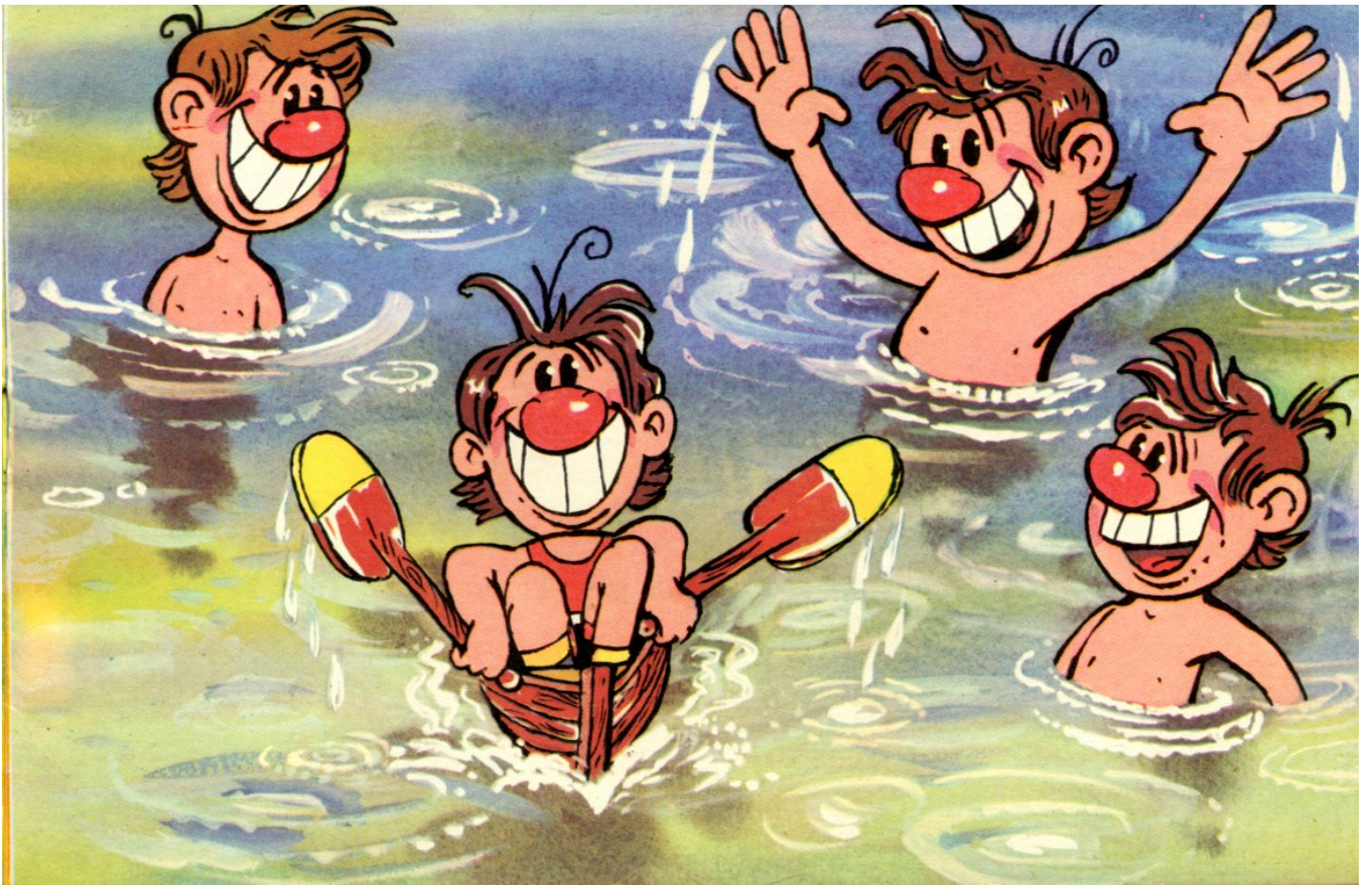
The Rockets were intrigued to receive a box tied with a ribbon. "A surprise!" they cried. Ginger untied the ribbon, opened the box – and got a straight on his jaw from a spring-worked boxing glove.

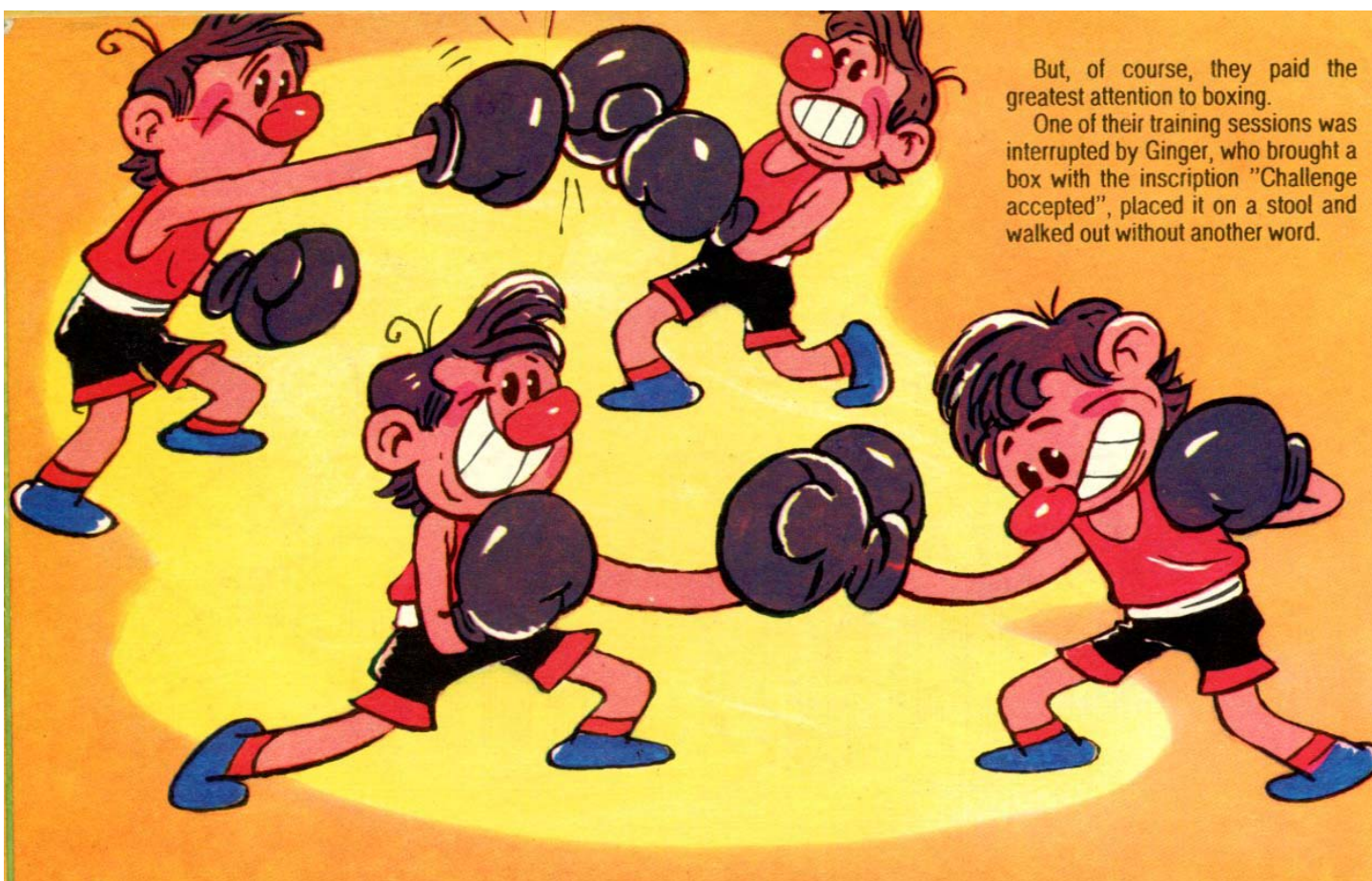




In the meantime the Meteors started training for the match in a seriousness.

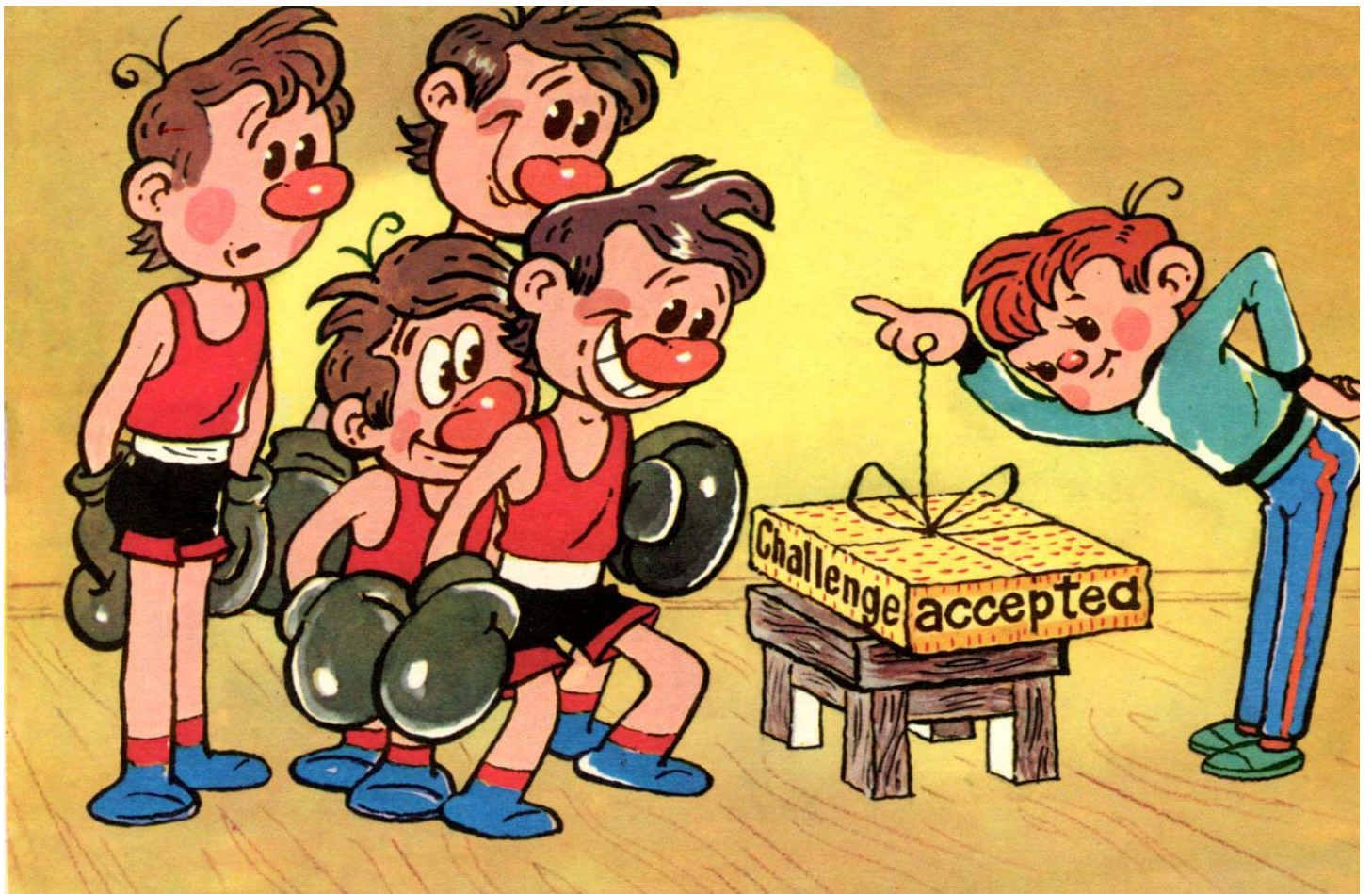
The program of all-round training included running, swimming, rowing, volleyball, etc.

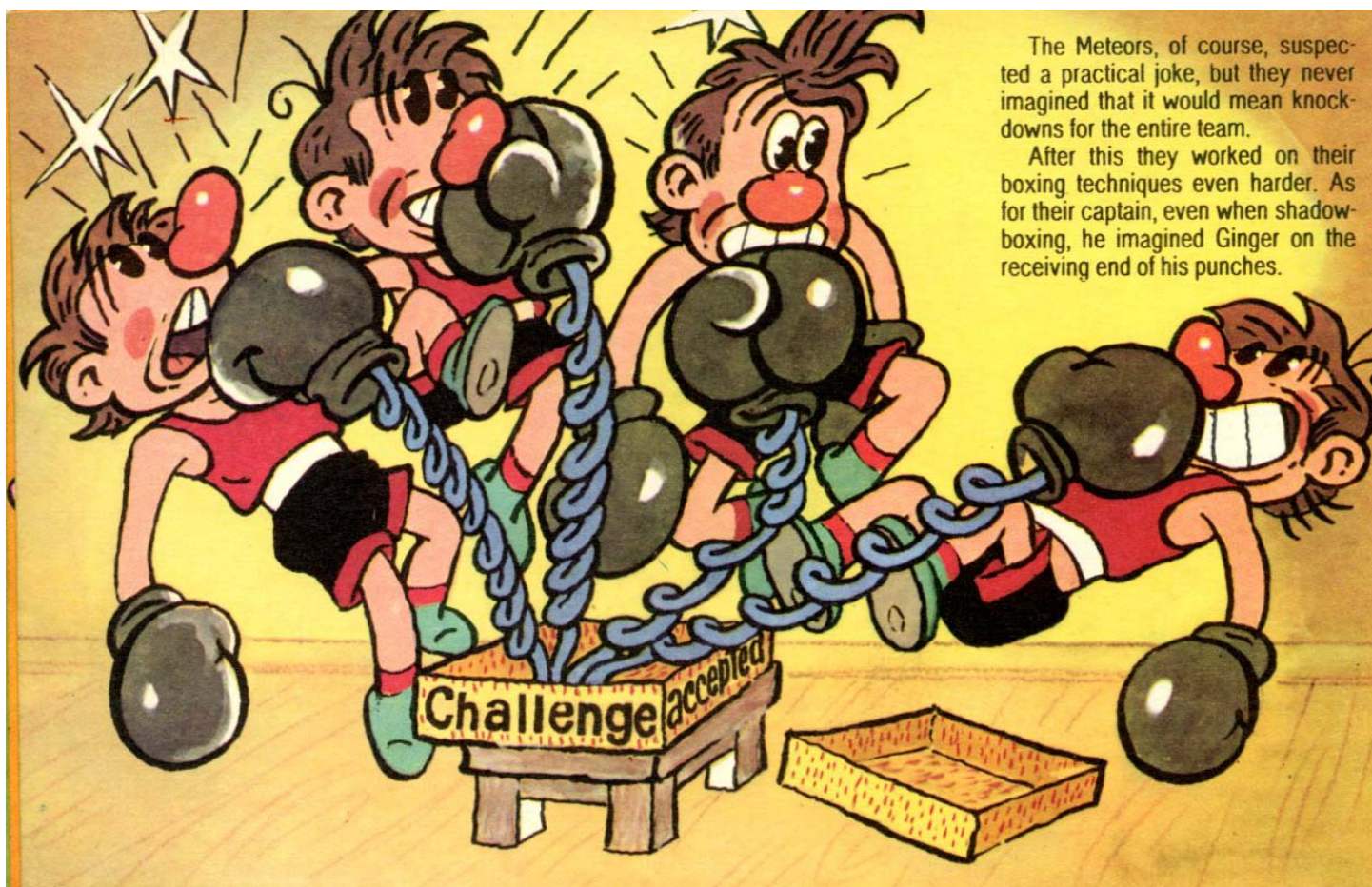




But, of course, they paid the greatest attention to boxing.

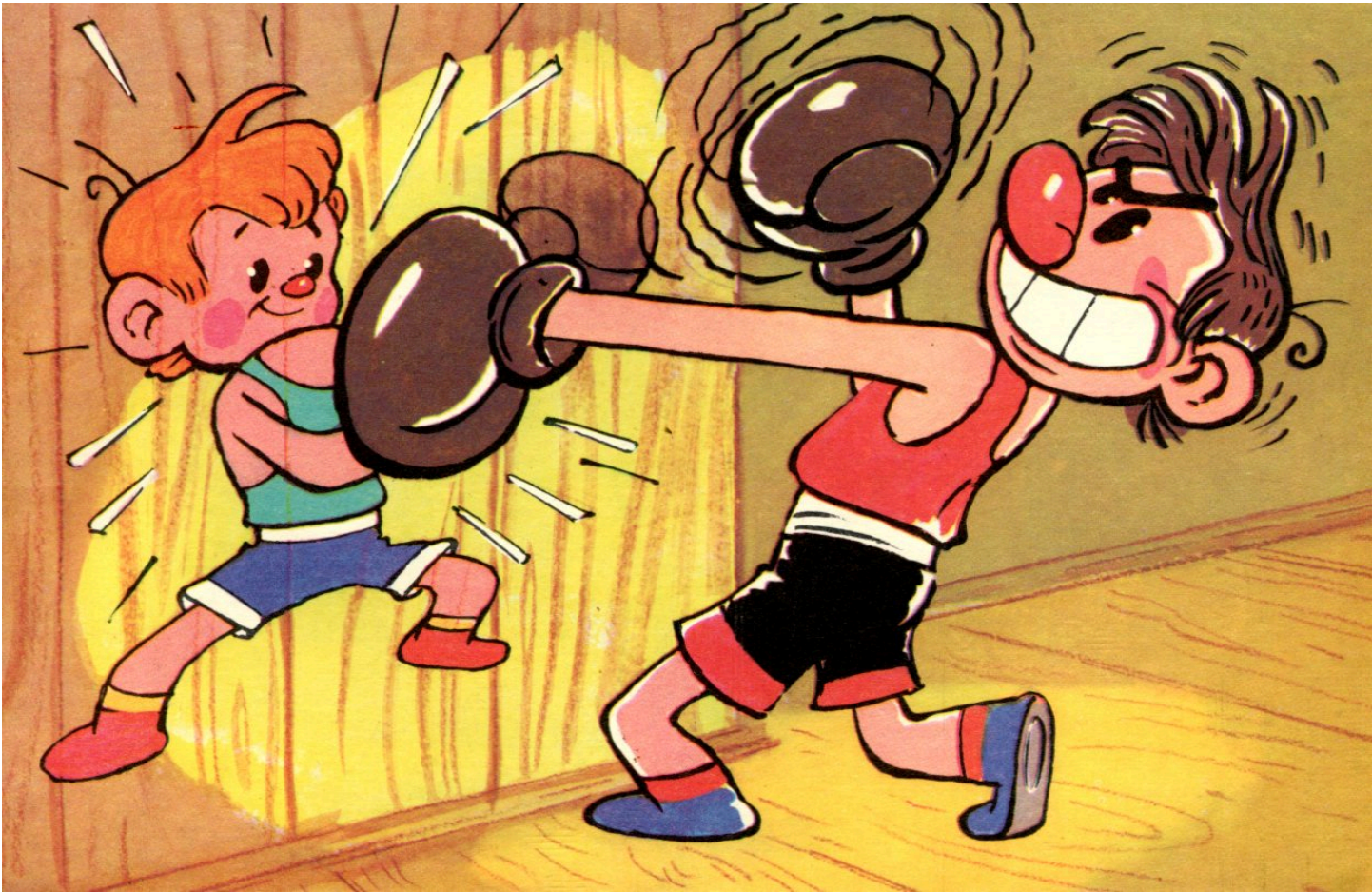
One of their training sessions was interrupted by Ginger, who brought a box with the inscription "Challenge accepted", placed it on a stool and walked out without another word.

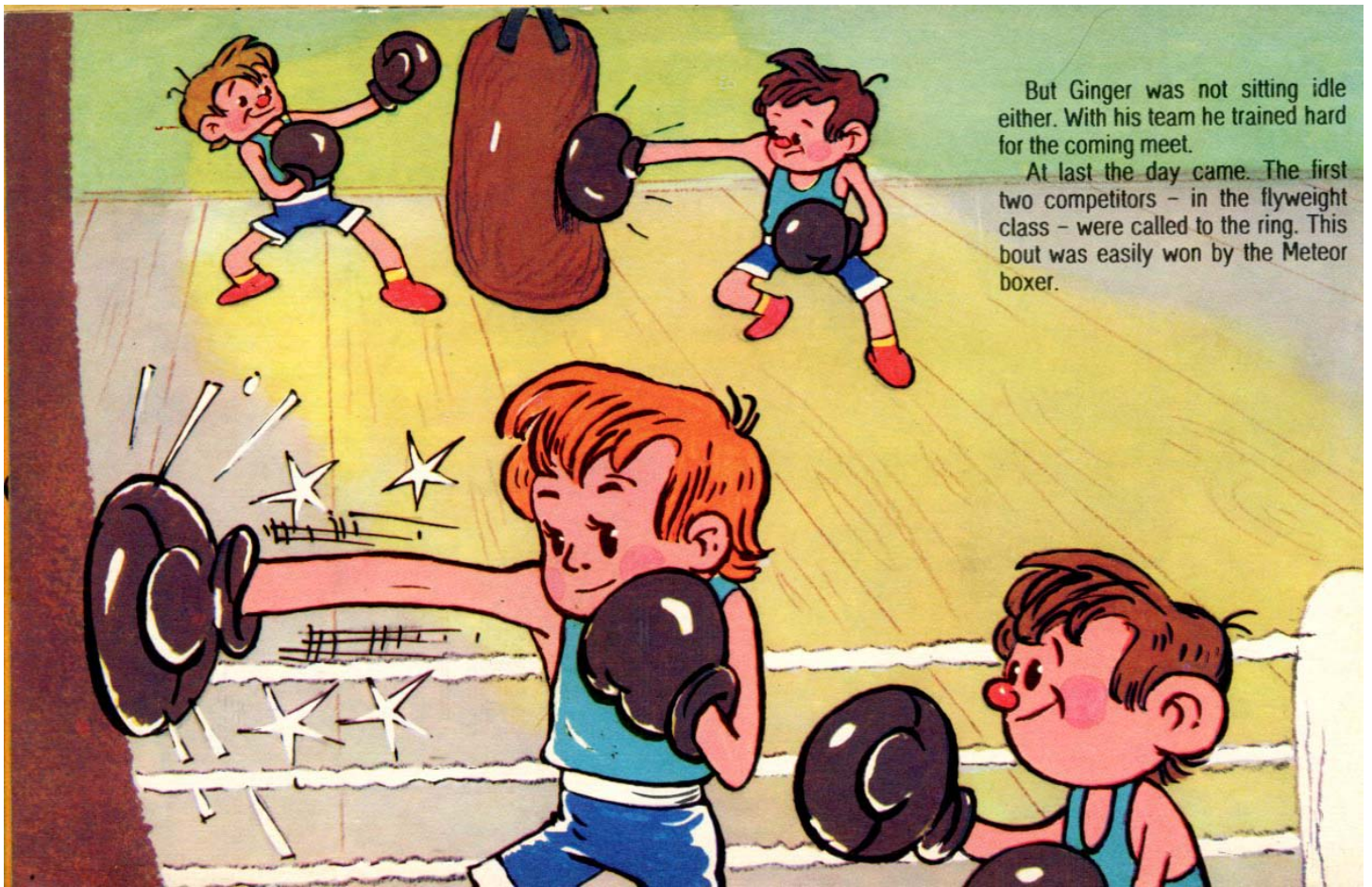




The Meteors, of course, suspected a practical joke, but they never imagined that it would mean knock-downs for the entire team.

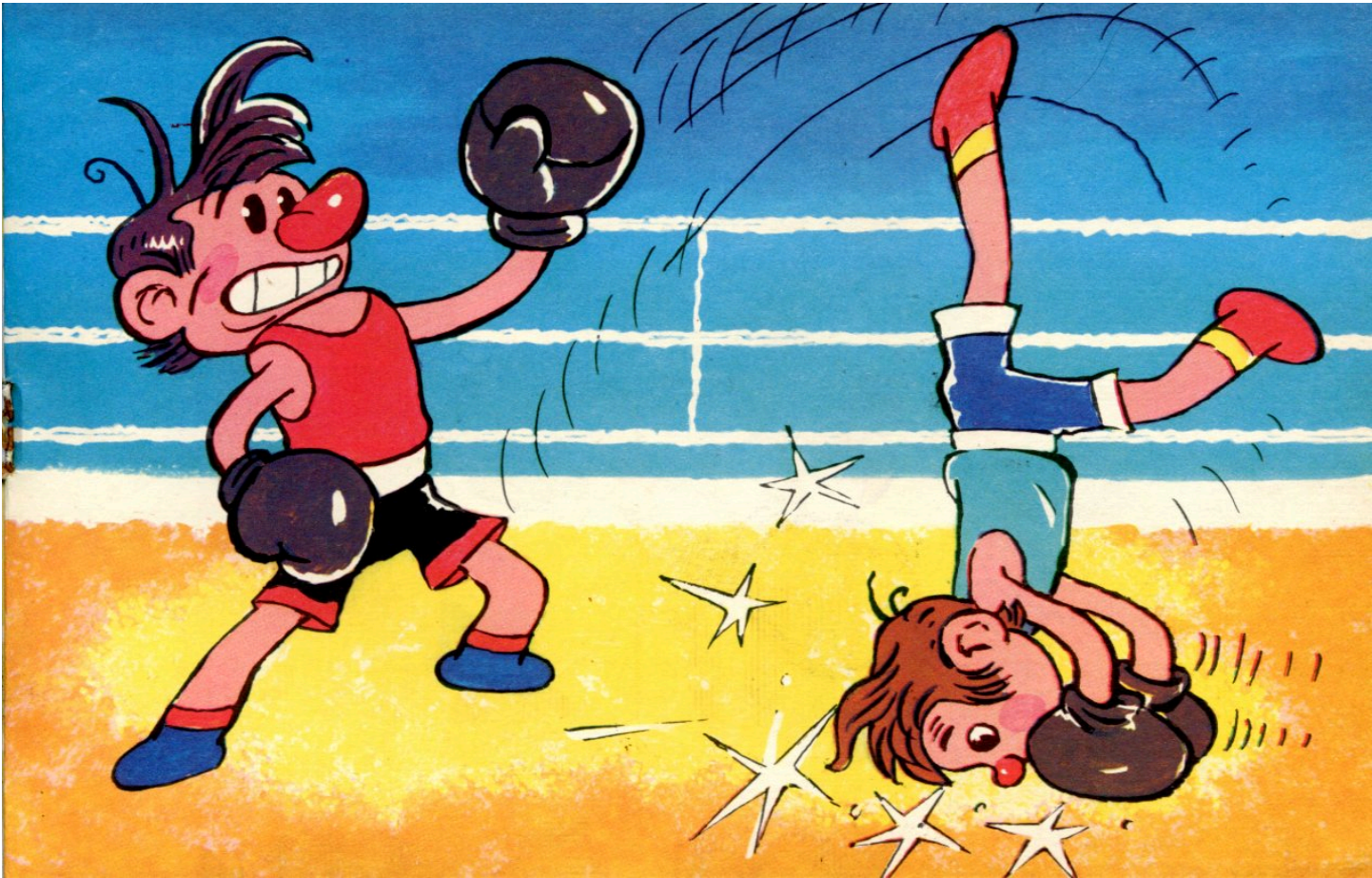
After this they worked on their boxing techniques even harder. As for their captain, even when shadow-boxing, he imagined Ginger on the receiving end of his punches.

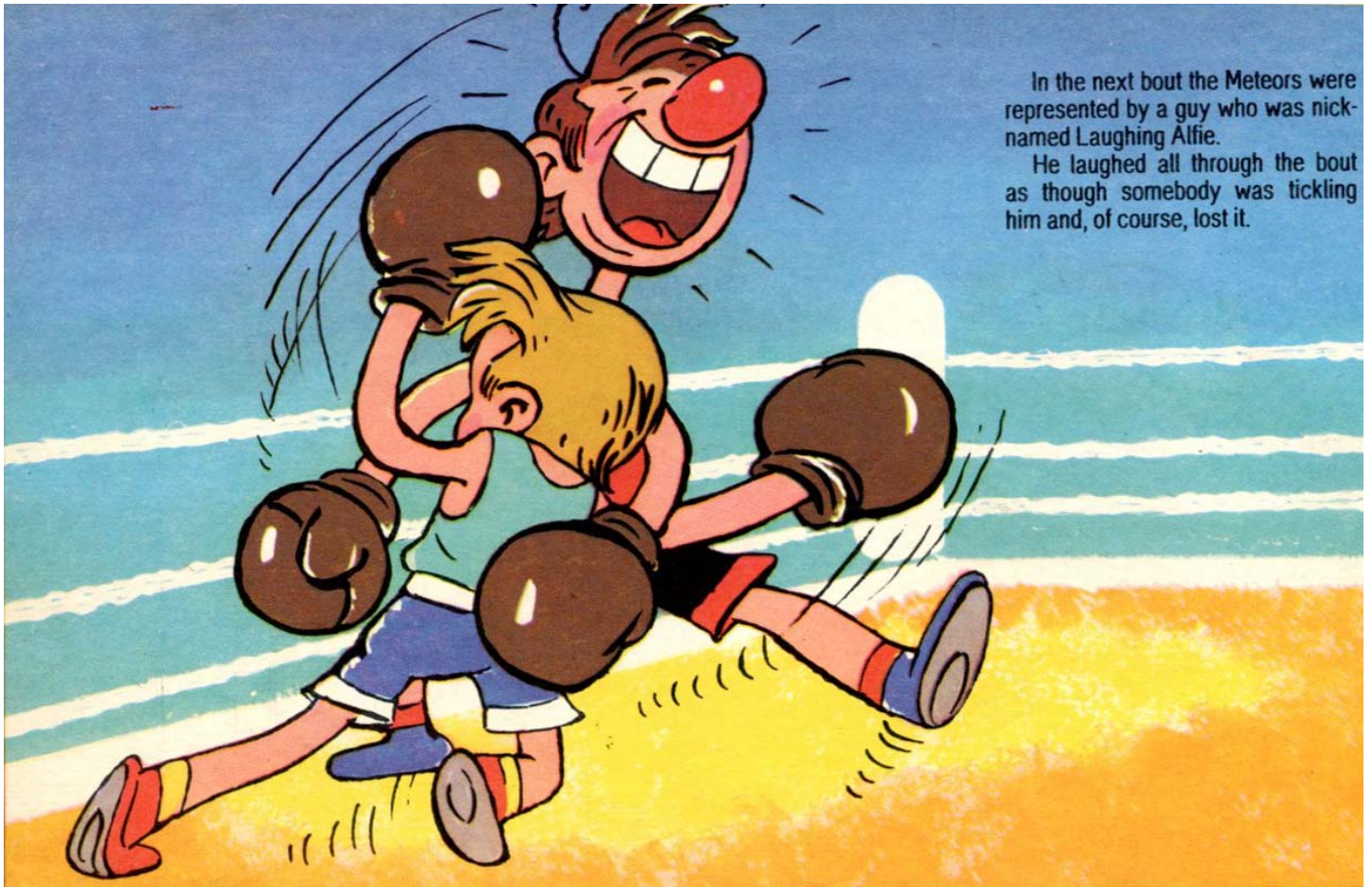




But Ginger was not sitting idle either. With his team he trained hard for the coming meet.

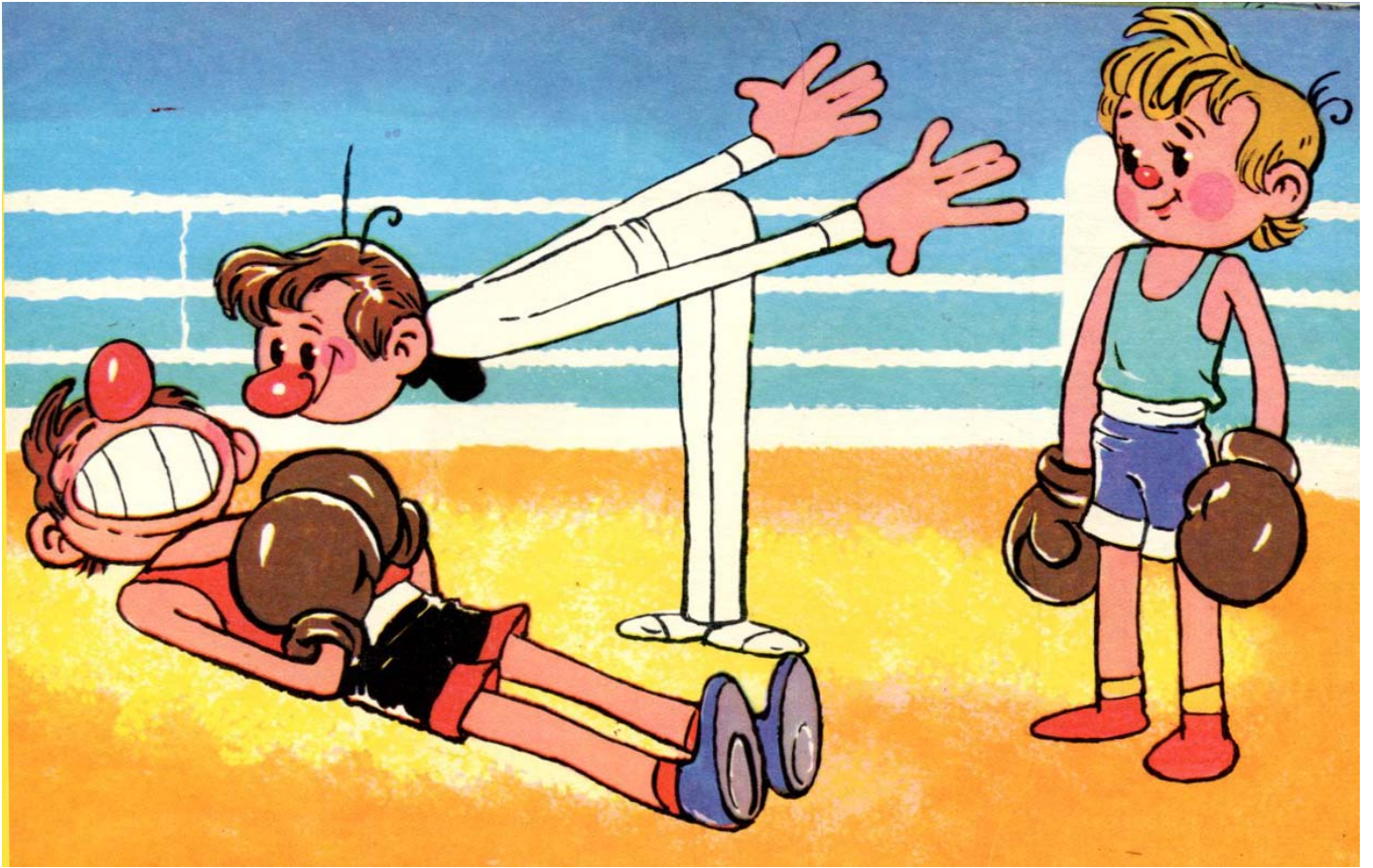
At last the day came. The first two competitors - in the flyweight class - were called to the ring. This bout was easily won by the Meteor boxer.

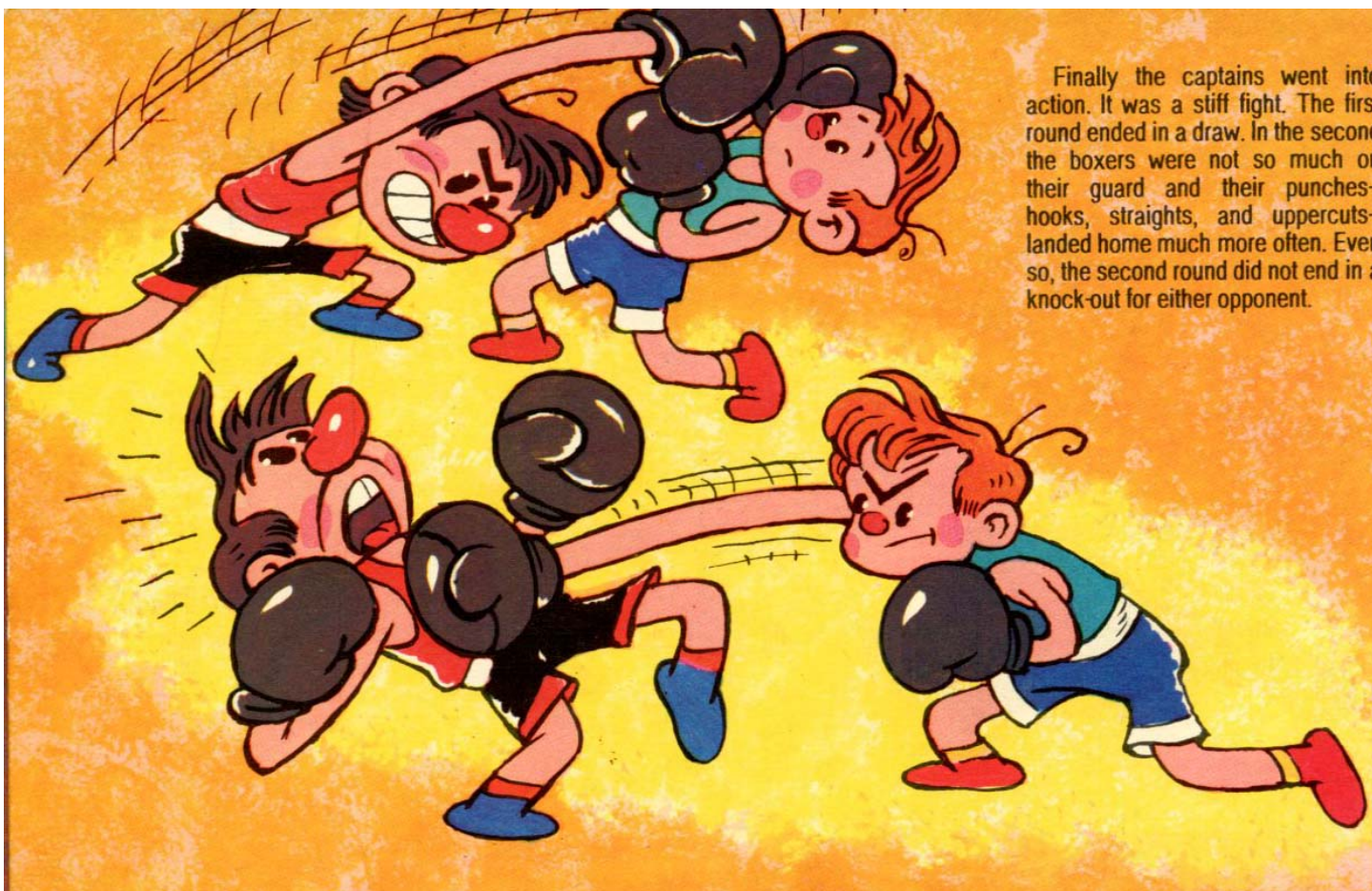




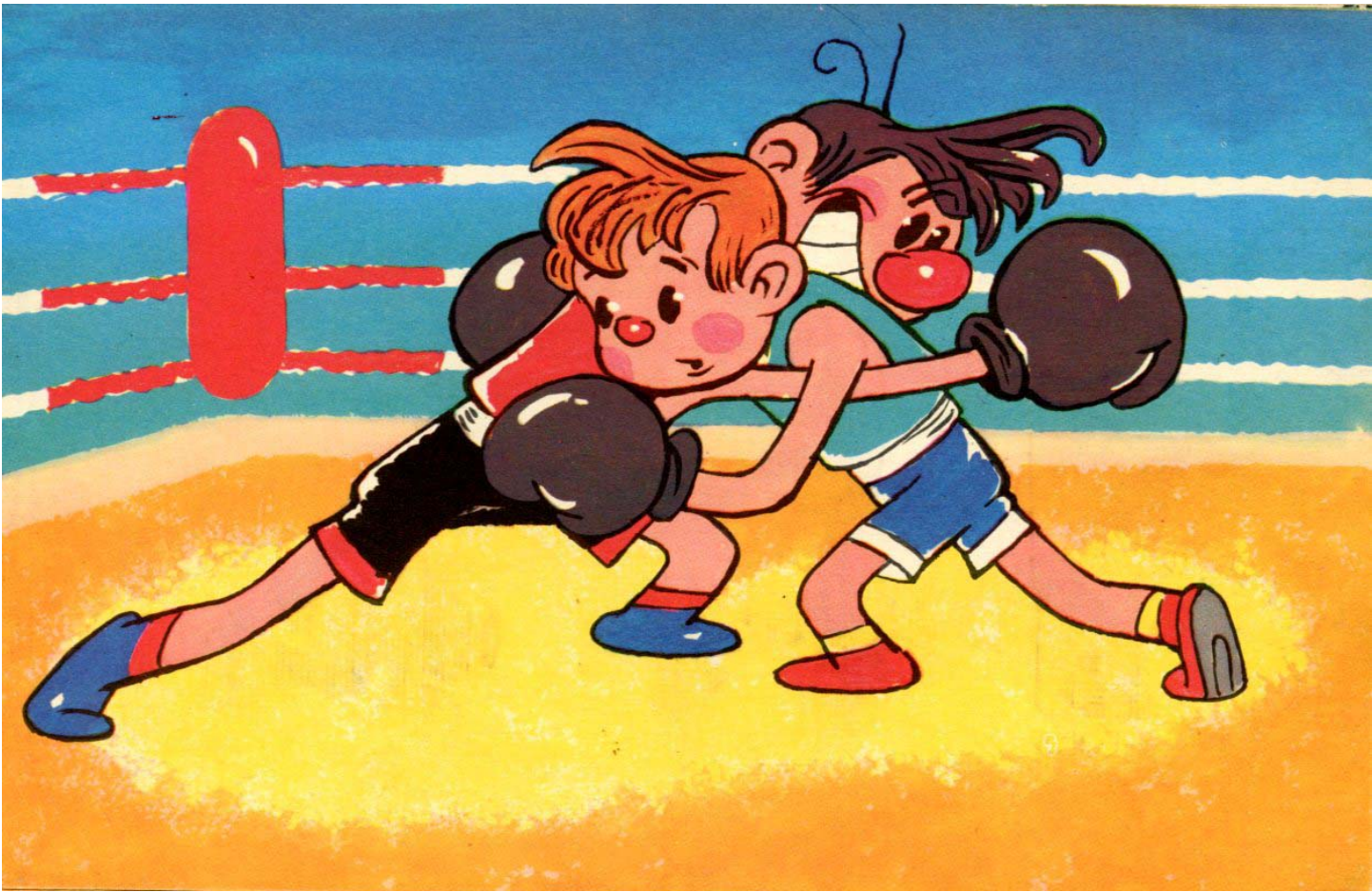
In the next bout the Meteors were represented by a guy who was nicknamed Laughing Alfie.

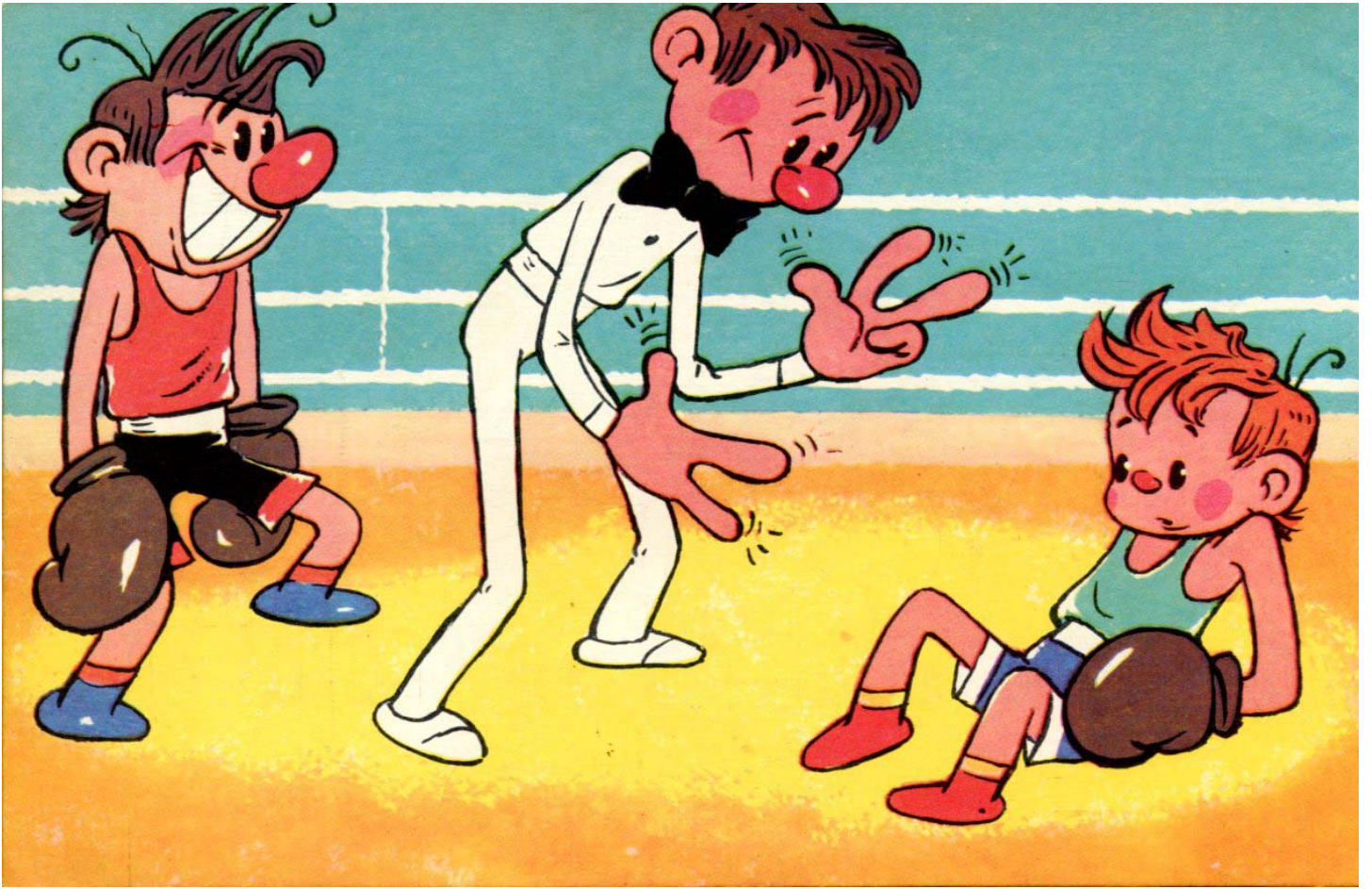
He laughed all through the bout as though somebody was tickling him and, of course, lost it.





Finally the captains went into action. It was a stiff fight. The first round ended in a draw. In the second the boxers were not so much on their guard and their punches—hooks, straights, and uppercuts—landed home much more often. Ever so, the second round did not end in a knock-out for either opponent.





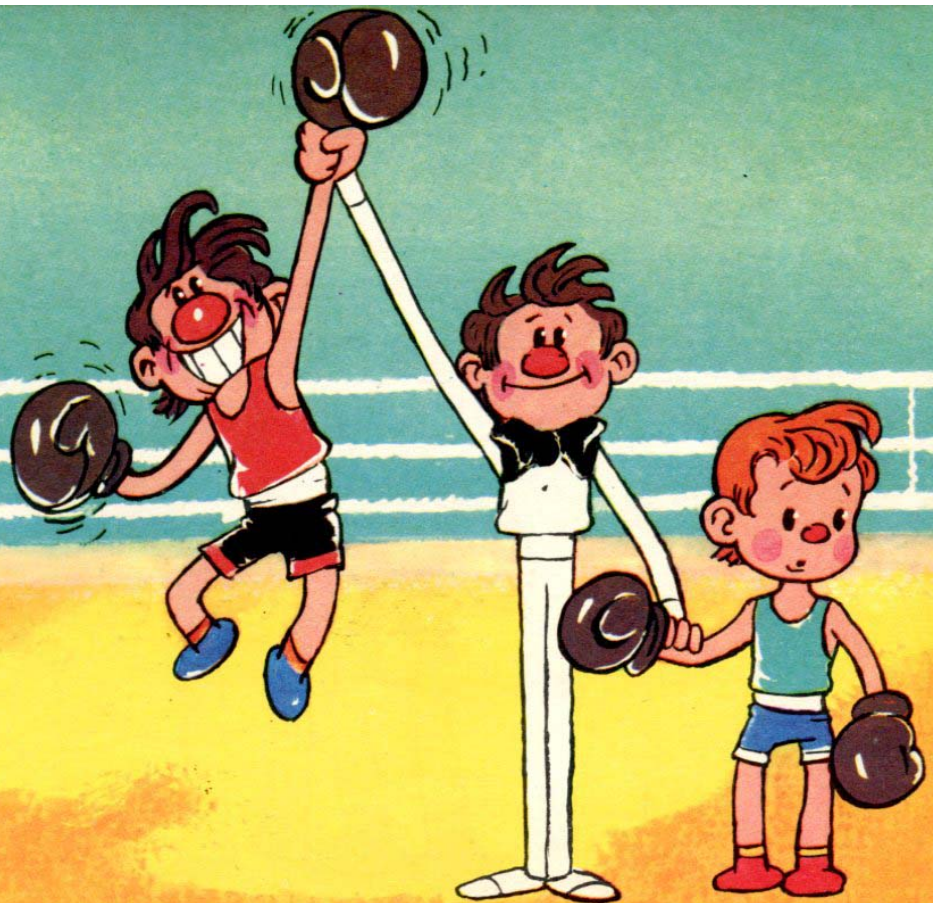
But in the third round Ginger was sent into a knock-down.

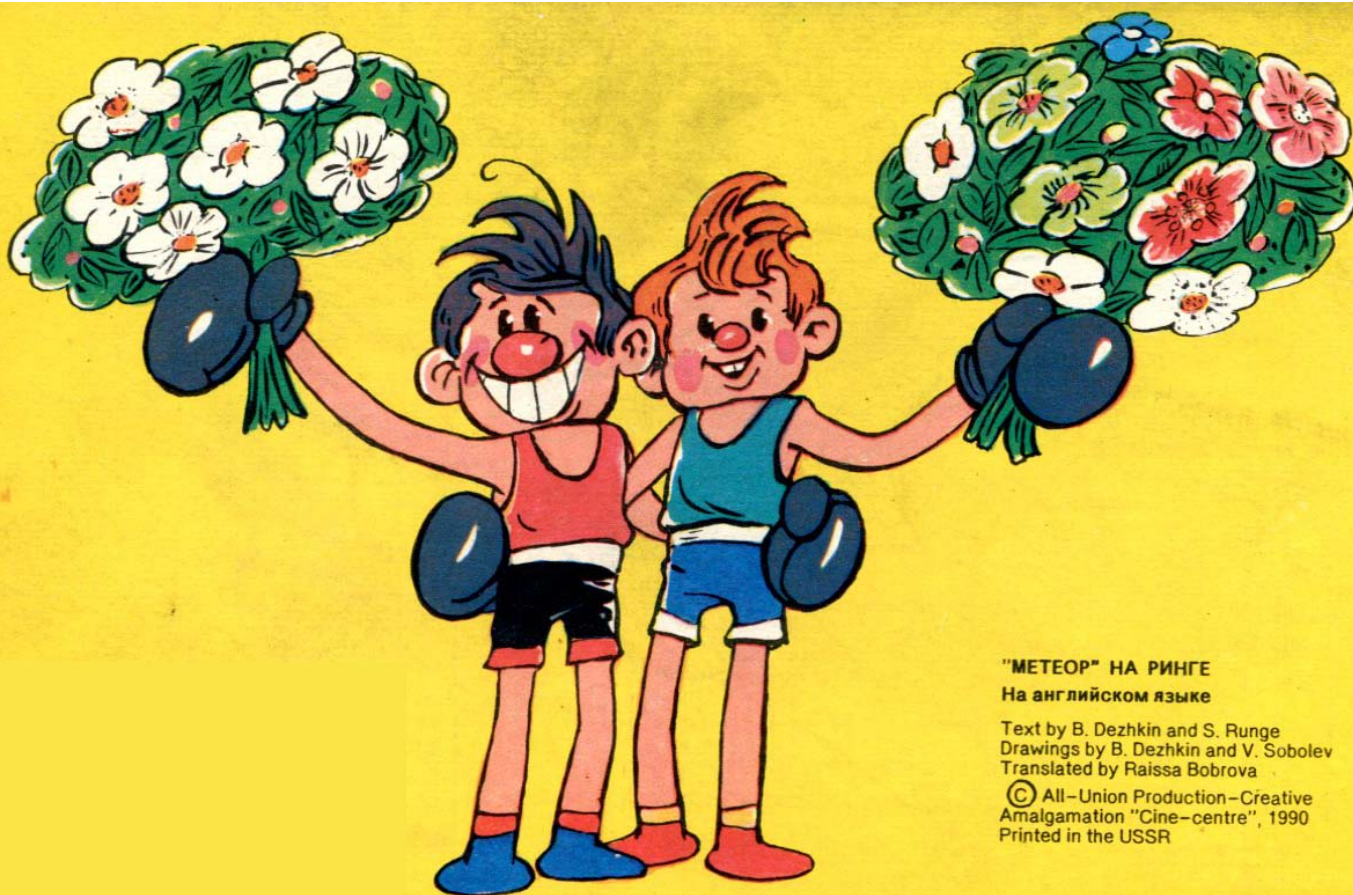
"One, two, three. . ." the referee started the count.

At the count "Six" Ginger rose to his feet. Still, the Meteors' captain won on points.

So this time the former braggarts were as good as their word.

The defeat did not break the spirit of Ginger and his team though. They decided they would train hard and win the next meet without fail.





"МЕТЕОР" НА РИНГЕ
На английском языке

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