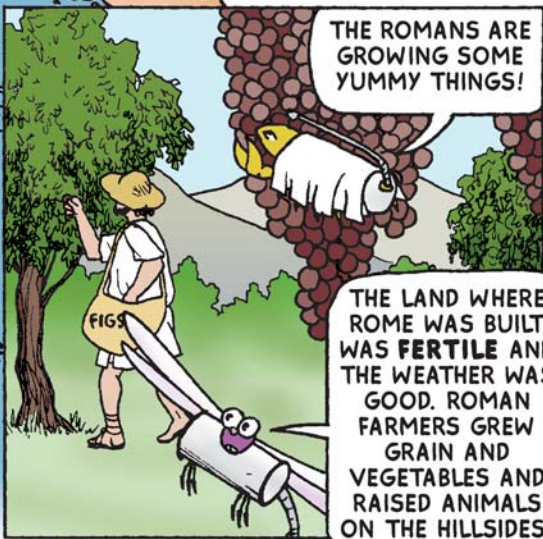


IT LOOKS LIKE WHOEVER DREW THIS MAP LIKED SHOES.

SCORPY, THAT IS THE REAL SHAPE. ITALY IS KNOWN FOR ITS BOOT SHAPE. IT'S ALSO HOME TO THE ANCIENT CITY OF **ROME!**

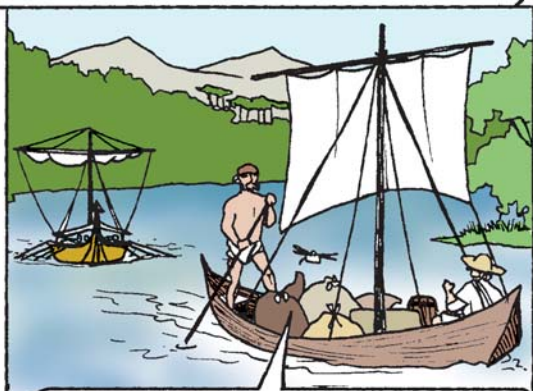
WHO IS THE GUY PLANTING?

IT'S **ROMULUS**. LEGEND HAS IT HE AND HIS BROTHER, **REMUS**, WERE LEFT AS BABIES ON THE BANKS OF THE **TIBER RIVER**. THEY WERE SAVED BY A WOLF FROM THE FOREST. ROMULUS GOT THE GODS' APPROVAL TO PLOW A TRENCH IN THE SHAPE OF WHAT WOULD LATER BECOME ROME.



THE ROMANS ARE GROWING SOME YUMMY THINGS!

THE LAND WHERE ROME WAS BUILT WAS **FERTILE** AND THE WEATHER WAS GOOD. ROMAN FARMERS GREW GRAIN AND VEGETABLES AND RAISED ANIMALS ON THE HILLSIDES.



THE HILLS AND THE TIBER RIVER ALSO PROTECTED ROME FROM ENEMIES. THE CITY WAS 15 MILES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA SO TRADERS COULD STILL REACH THE CITY AND BRING THINGS ROMANS NEEDED.



UGH! WHAT A LARGE BUNCH OF PEOPLE.

ROME SOON BECAME THE LARGEST CITY IN THE WORLD, WITH MORE THAN 1 MILLION PEOPLE LIVING THERE. THEY BECAME AN ACCOMPLISHED CIVILIZATION WITH HOUSES, APARTMENTS, PUBLIC BATHS AND SHOPS. NOW BRING YOUR TOGA - WE HAVE PLACES TO GO!

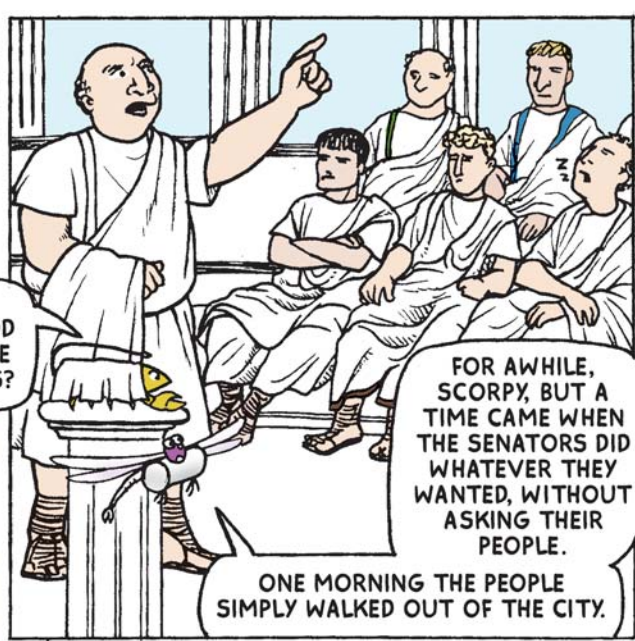


LOOK!
IS THIS
ROMULUS
AGAIN?

RIGHT! AS FOUNDER OF ROME HE CHOSE
100 OF THE BEST SOLDIERS AND CALLED
THEM **SENATORS**. SENATORS WERE ASKED
TO LOOK AFTER POORER AND WEAKER MEN.

THIS WAS THE
BEGINNING
OF ROMAN
GOVERNMENT.

WERE THE
SENATORS GOOD
AT LEADING THE
OTHER ROMANS?



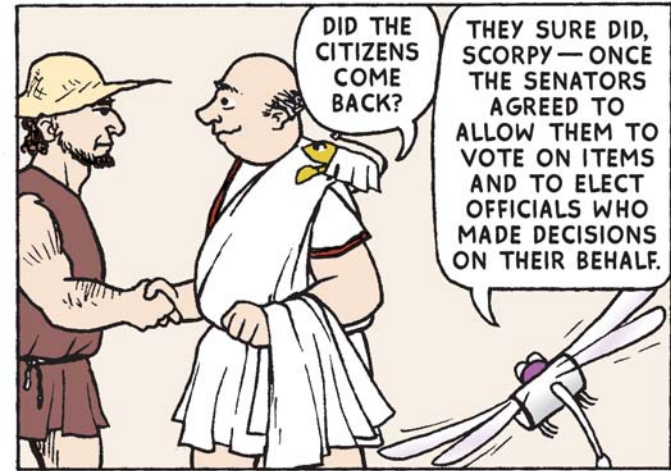
FOR AWHILE,
SCORPY, BUT A
TIME CAME WHEN
THE SENATORS DID
WHATEVER THEY
WANTED, WITHOUT
ASKING THEIR
PEOPLE.

ONE MORNING THE PEOPLE
SIMPLY WALKED OUT OF THE CITY.



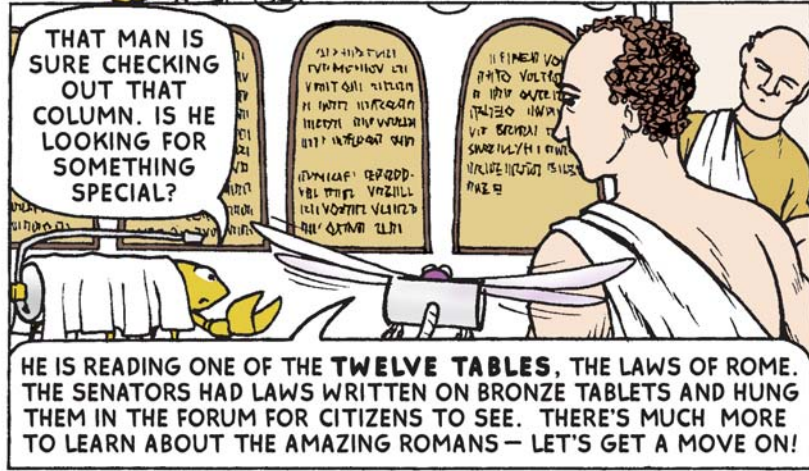
WOAH!
TRAFFIC
JAM!!

THE CITIZENS REFUSED TO RETURN
UNLESS SENATORS AGREED TO LISTEN
TO THEM. NOT ONLY WERE THE
SENATORS STUCK WITHOUT PEOPLE,
BUT THEY ALSO DID NOT HAVE AN
ARMY! WITHOUT THE ARMY'S
PROTECTION, ROME WOULD FALL.



DID THE
CITIZENS
COME
BACK?

THEY SURE DID,
SCORPY — ONCE
THE SENATORS
AGREED TO
ALLOW THEM TO
VOTE ON ITEMS
AND TO ELECT
OFFICIALS WHO
MADE DECISIONS
ON THEIR BEHALF.



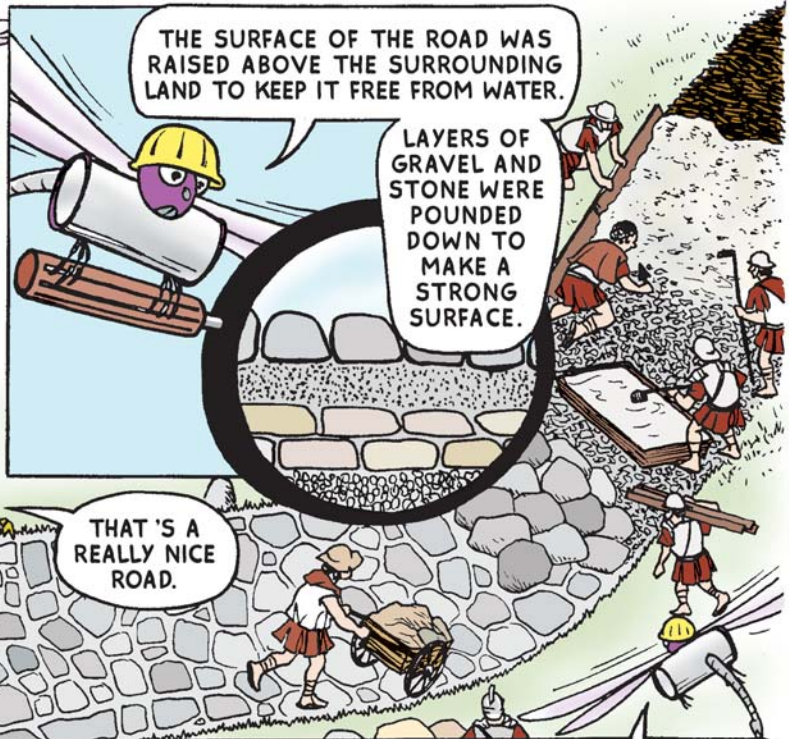
THAT MAN IS
SURE CHECKING
OUT THAT
COLUMN. IS HE
LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING
SPECIAL?

HE IS READING ONE OF THE **TWELVE TABLES**, THE LAWS OF ROME. THE SENATORS HAD LAWS WRITTEN ON BRONZE TABLETS AND HUNG THEM IN THE FORUM FOR CITIZENS TO SEE. THERE'S MUCH MORE TO LEARN ABOUT THE AMAZING ROMANS — LET'S GET A MOVE ON!



HEY, DRAGONFLY, THOSE MEN ARE PUTTING TOGETHER A REALLY BIG JIGSAW PUZZLE.

NOT QUITE, SCORPY — THEY ARE BUILDING A ROAD. THE ROMANS BUILT THEIR ROADS AS STRAIGHT AS POSSIBLE TO MAKE TRAVEL FASTER.

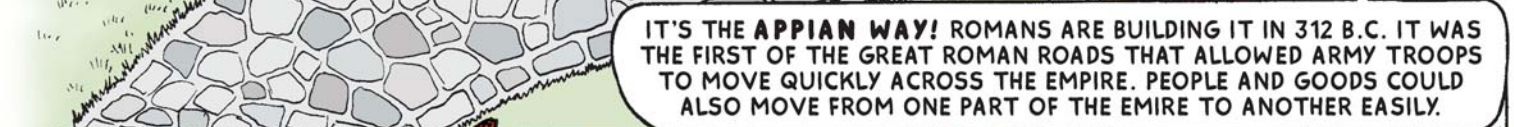


THE SURFACE OF THE ROAD WAS LAIN ABOVE THE SURROUNDING LAND TO KEEP IT FREE FROM WATER.


LAYERS OF GRAVEL AND STONE WERE POUNDED DOWN TO MAKE A STRONG SURFACE.



THAT'S A REALLY NICE ROAD.



IT'S THE APPIAN WAY! ROMANS ARE BUILDING IT IN 312 B.C. IT WAS THE FIRST OF THE GREAT ROMAN ROADS THAT ALLOWED ARMY TROOPS TO MOVE QUICKLY ACROSS THE EMPIRE. PEOPLE AND GOODS COULD ALSO MOVE FROM ONE PART OF THE EMPIRE TO ANOTHER EASILY.



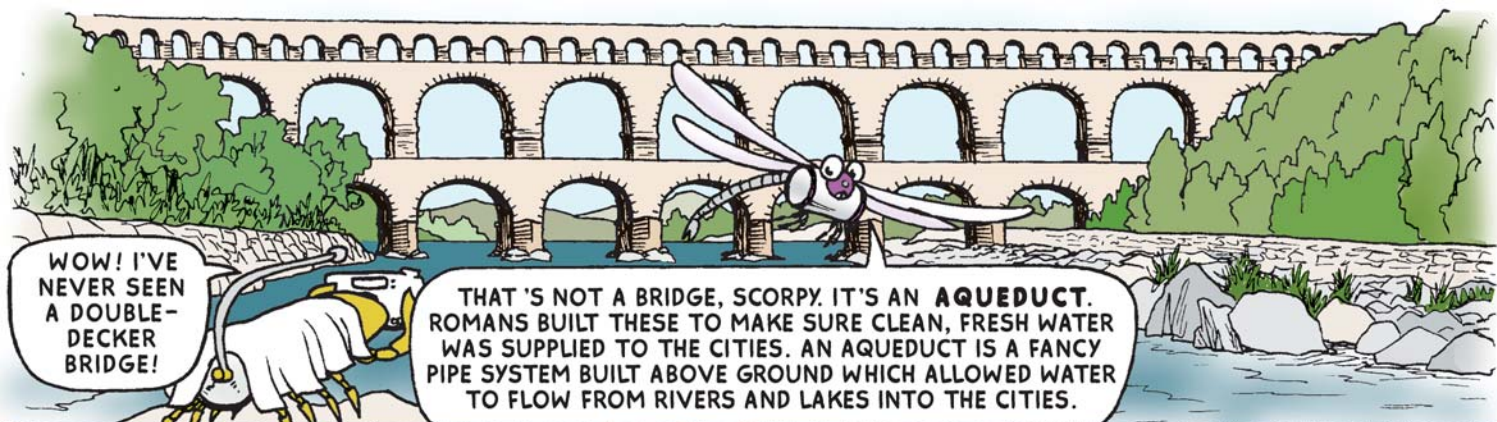
THAT'S A LOT OF SOLDIERS. THE ROMAN ARMY MUST HAVE BEEN HUGE!

THE ROMAN EMPIRE WOULD NEVER HAVE GROWN WITHOUT THE ARMY. EVERY ROMAN MALE CITIZEN HAD TO SERVE IN THE ARMY. THE ROMAN ARMY WAS DIVIDED INTO HUGE GROUPS CALLED LEGIONS. A LEGION COULD CONTAIN 6,000 SOLDIERS! WHEN NOT FIGHTING, LEGIONS WERE EXPECTED TO BUILD ROADS, FORTS, BRIDGES, WALLS...



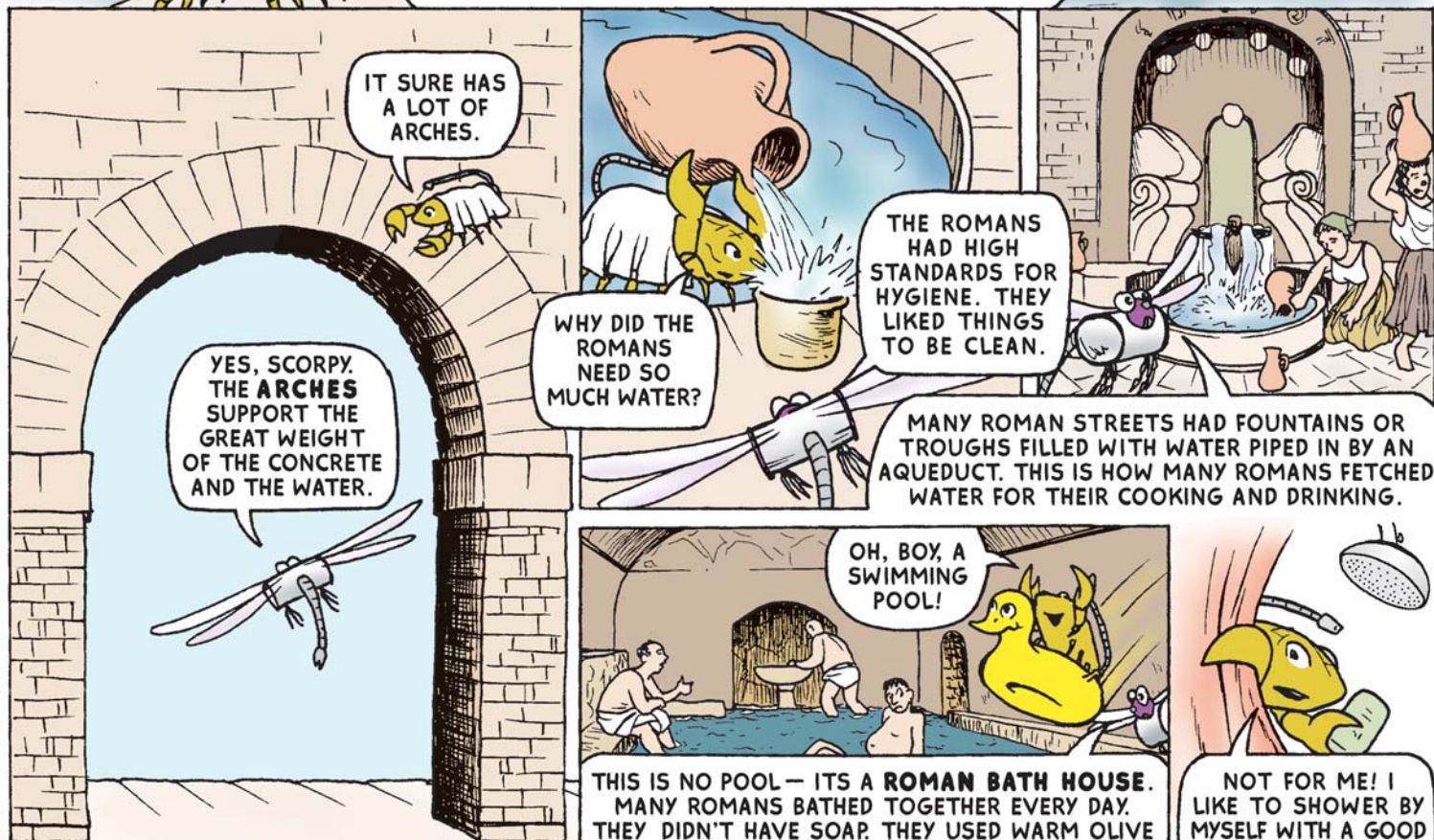
NOW IS THIS A ROMAN ROAD?

YES, SCORPY. THE ROMANS WERE SUCH GREAT BUILDERS AND ENGINEERS THAT MANY OF THEIR ROADS STILL EXIST TODAY. PRETTY AMAZING!!!



WOW! I'VE NEVER SEEN A DOUBLE-DECKER BRIDGE!

THAT'S NOT A BRIDGE, SCORPY. IT'S AN **AQUEDUCT**. ROMANS BUILT THESE TO MAKE SURE CLEAN, FRESH WATER WAS SUPPLIED TO THE CITIES. AN AQUEDUCT IS A FANCY PIPE SYSTEM BUILT ABOVE GROUND WHICH ALLOWED WATER TO FLOW FROM RIVERS AND LAKES INTO THE CITIES.



IT SURE HAS A LOT OF ARCHES.

YES, SCORPY. THE **ARCHES** SUPPORT THE GREAT WEIGHT OF THE CONCRETE AND THE WATER.

WHY DID THE ROMANS NEED SO MUCH WATER?

THE ROMANS HAD HIGH STANDARDS FOR HYGIENE. THEY LIKED THINGS TO BE CLEAN.

MANY ROMAN STREETS HAD FOUNTAINS OR TROUGHS FILLED WITH WATER PIPED IN BY AN AQUEDUCT. THIS IS HOW MANY ROMANS FETCHED WATER FOR THEIR COOKING AND DRINKING.

OH, BOY, A SWIMMING POOL!

THIS IS NO POOL — IT'S A **ROMAN BATH HOUSE**. MANY ROMANS BATHED TOGETHER EVERY DAY. THEY DIDN'T HAVE SOAP. THEY USED WARM OLIVE OIL AND PUMICE STONE POWDER TO GET CLEAN.

NOT FOR ME! I LIKE TO SHOWER BY MYSELF WITH A GOOD OLD BAR OF SOAP!




HEY, DRAGONFLY,
THAT'S ONE
HUGE STADIUM!

SCORPY, THAT'S
THE COLOSSEUM
— ONE OF THE MOST
FAMOUS ROMAN
BUILDINGS STILL
STANDING TODAY!
THE COLOSSEUM
WAS LARGE
ENOUGH TO SEAT
50,000 PEOPLE.



LOOK AT
THOSE
BEAUTIFUL
ARCHES.

NOT ONLY WERE THEY BEAUTIFUL,
BUT THEY SUPPORTED THE HEAVY
WEIGHT OF THE COLOSSEUM.



WHAT A GREAT
PLACE FOR THE
SUPER BOWL!

THERE WAS NO FOOTBALL OR BASKETBALL
BACK THEN. THE COLOSSEUM HAD ROMAN
SPORTING EVENTS FREE TO THE PUBLIC.
THE MOST POPULAR
EVENT WAS THE
GLADIATOR
BATTLES —
OFTEN FOUGHT
TO THE DEATH!




SOMETIMES
MEN BATTLED
LIONS.

THAT LOOKS
VIOLENT AND
SCARY.



THEY ALSO ENJOYED
WATCHING CHARIOT
RACING.



THEY EVEN FLOODED
THE ARENA TO
REENACT SEA
BATTLES.

I THINK I'LL
STICK WITH
FOOTBALL!