

HENRY ALDRICH

SCHOOL
DRIVE
SLOWLY

Bill Williams

HENRY-- WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE MANY DATES FROM NOW UNTIL SPRING.

WHAT'S WRONG, GERALDINE?

I'VE JUST ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL DRAMATIC CLUB, AND WE'RE GOING INTO REHEARSAL IMMEDIATELY FOR THE SPRING PLAY.

OH-- THAT'S DIFFERENT... AS LONG AS IT'S ONLY A PLAY THAT'S GOING TO KEEP YOU BUSY.

HENRY... HENRY!!

OH, HI YA, HOMER!

I'VE GOT TERRIBLE NEWS FOR YOU, HENRY! IT'S ABOUT GERALDINE... SHE'S IN THE SPRING PLAY. AGNES JUST INFORMED ME...

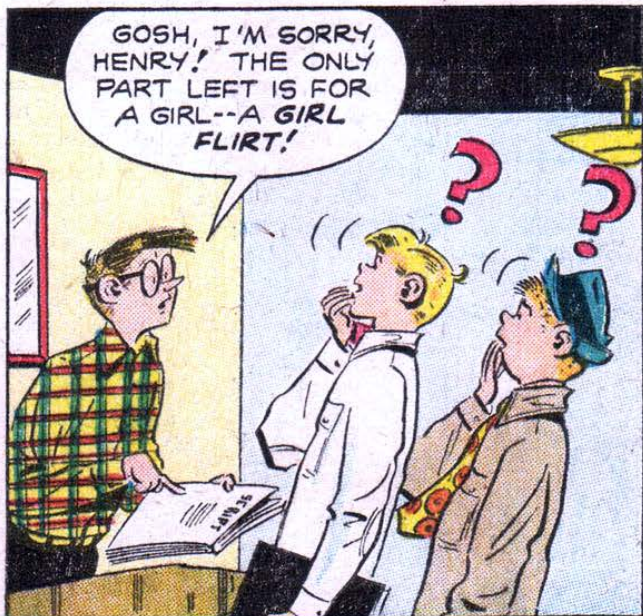
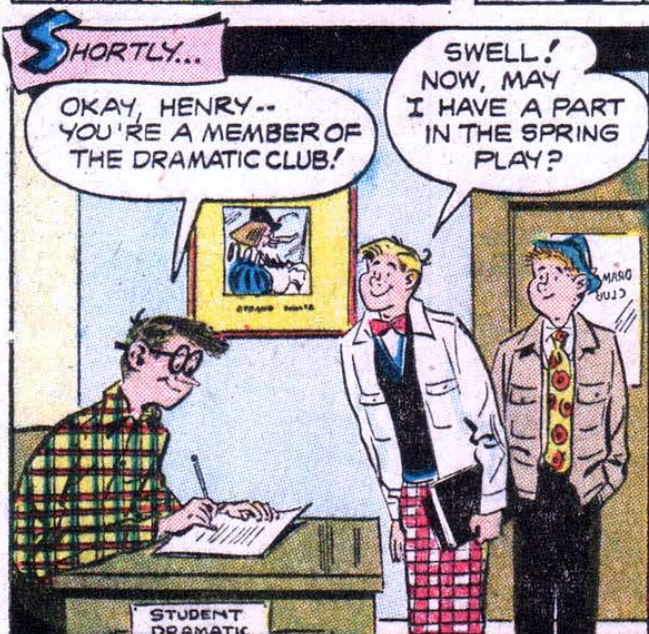
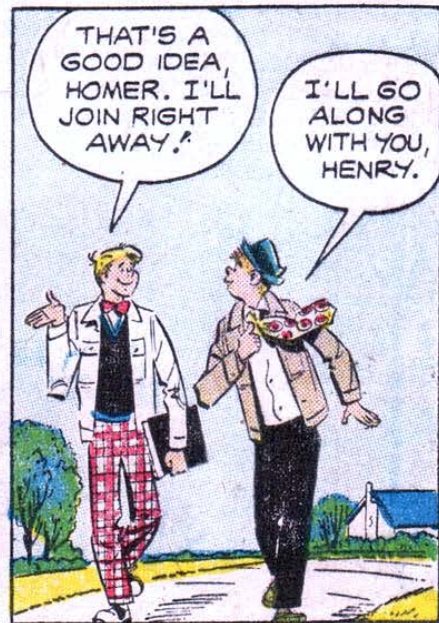
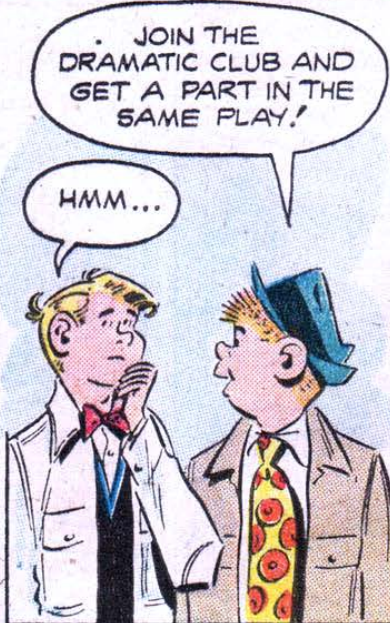
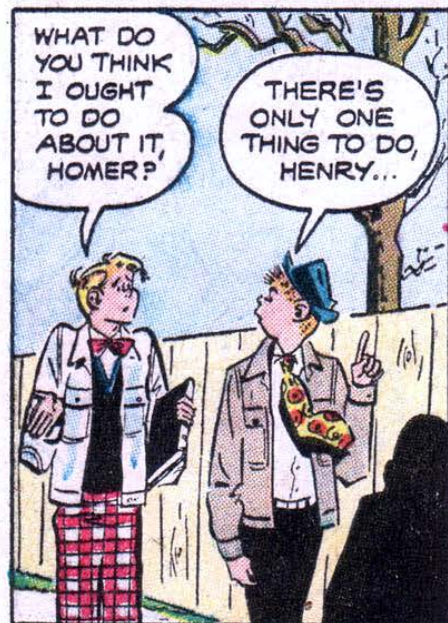
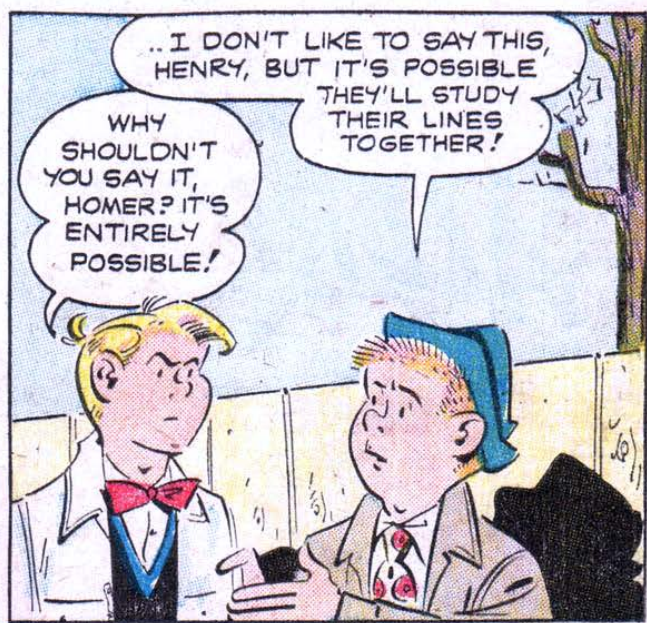
WHAT'S SO TERRIBLE ABOUT THAT, HOMER?

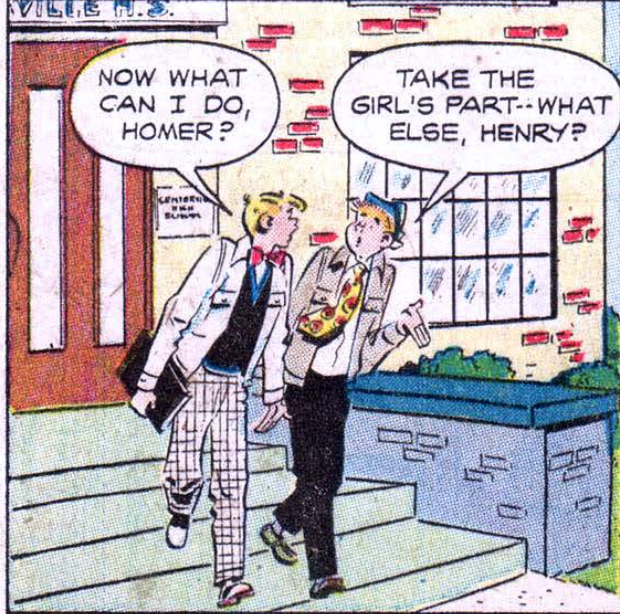
I JUST SAW GERALDINE AND SHE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT.

OH, SHE DID, DID SHE? DID SHE TELL YOU THAT GEORGE BIGELOW IS IN THE SAME PLAY?

ER-- NO...

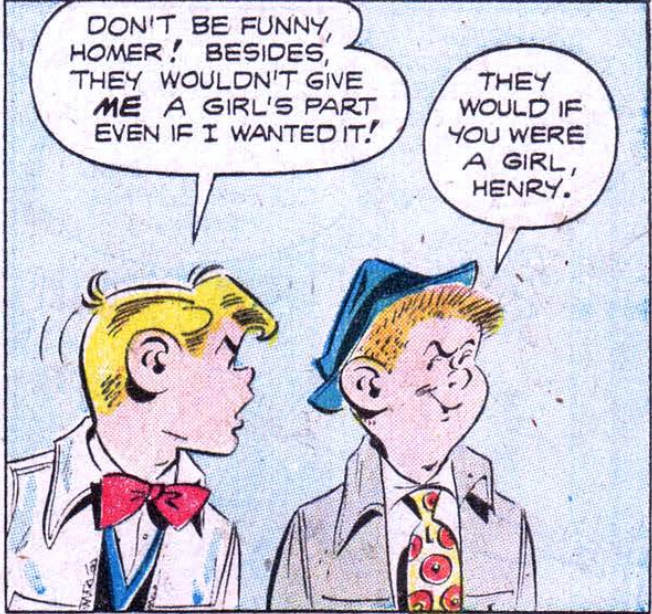
I THOUGHT NOT.





NOW WHAT CAN I DO, HOMER?

TAKE THE GIRL'S PART--WHAT ELSE, HENRY?



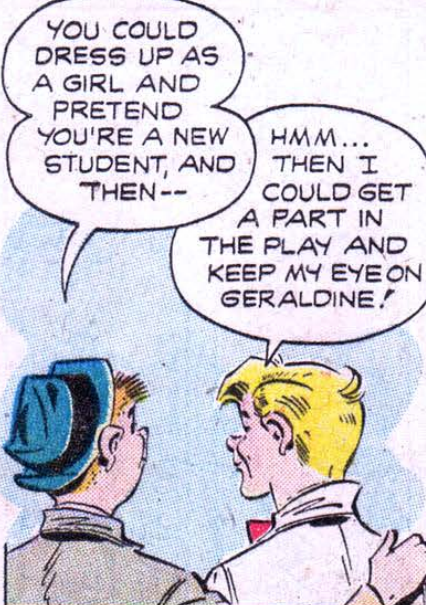
DON'T BE FUNNY, HOMER! BESIDES, THEY WOULDN'T GIVE ME A GIRL'S PART EVEN IF I WANTED IT!

THEY WOULD IF YOU WERE A GIRL, HENRY.



WELL, I'M NOT A GIRL!

NO, BUT YOU COULD BE, HENRY!



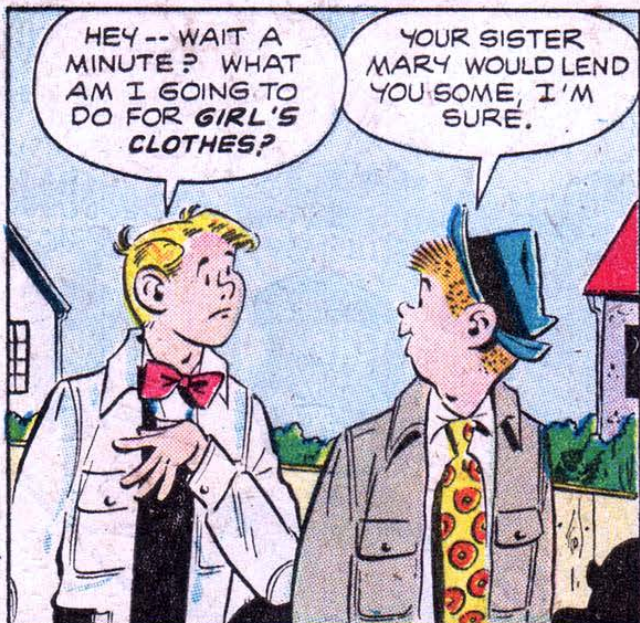
YOU COULD DRESS UP AS A GIRL AND PRETEND YOU'RE A NEW STUDENT, AND THEN--

HMM... THEN I COULD GET A PART IN THE PLAY AND KEEP MY EYE ON GERALDINE!



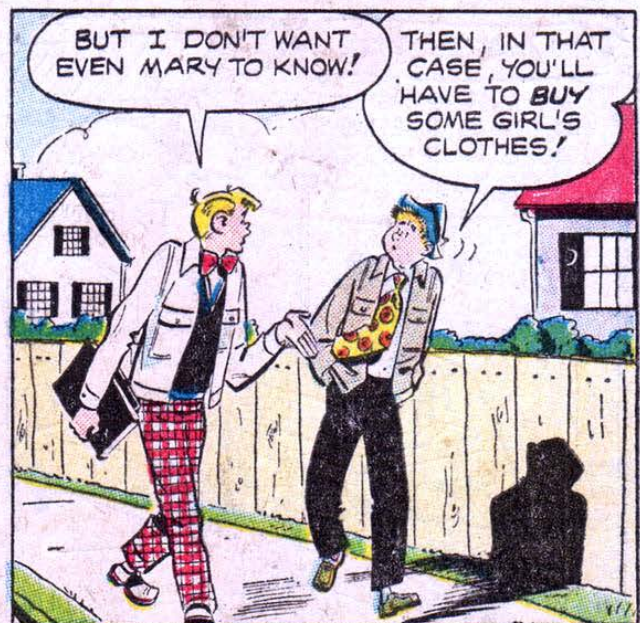
SURE! AND YOU COULD SAY YOUR NAME IS HENRIETTA SMITH, AND NO ONE WOULD KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!

YEAH...



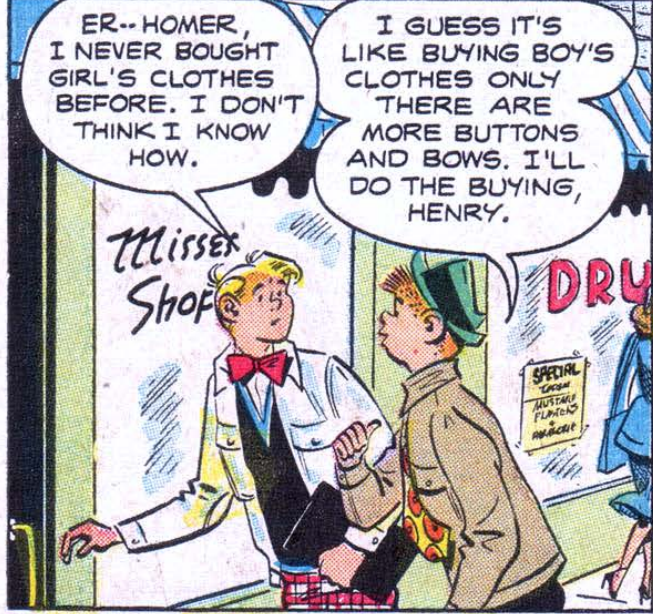
HEY -- WAIT A MINUTE? WHAT AM I GOING TO DO FOR GIRL'S CLOTHES?

YOUR SISTER MARY WOULD LEND YOU SOME, I'M SURE.



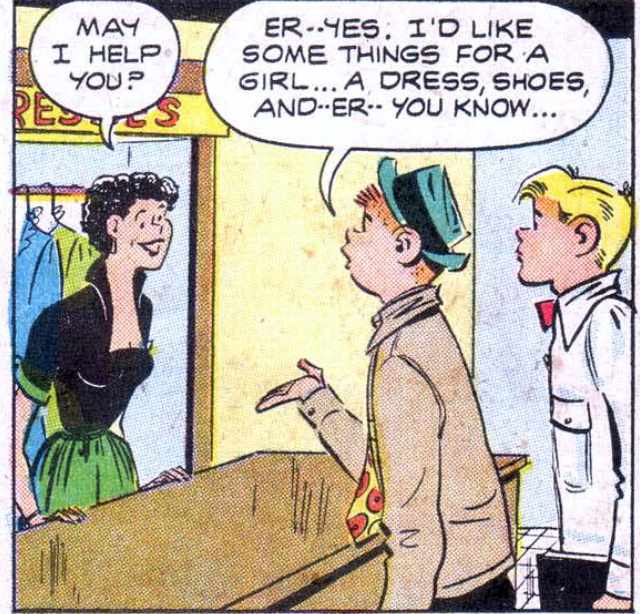
BUT I DON'T WANT EVEN MARY TO KNOW!

THEN, IN THAT CASE, YOU'LL HAVE TO BUY SOME GIRL'S CLOTHES!



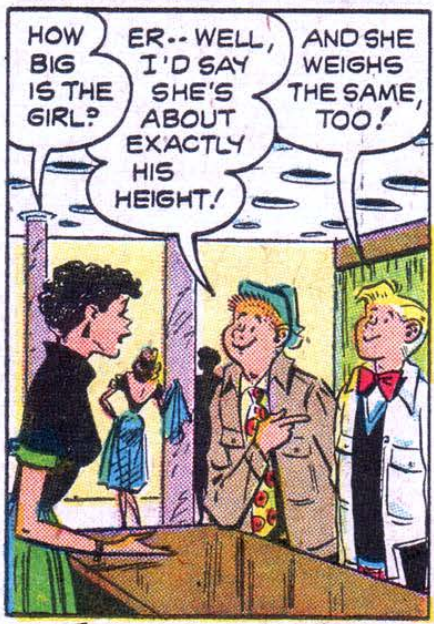
ER--HOMER, I NEVER BOUGHT GIRL'S CLOTHES BEFORE. I DON'T THINK I KNOW HOW.

I GUESS IT'S LIKE BUYING BOY'S CLOTHES ONLY THERE ARE MORE BUTTONS AND BOWS. I'LL DO THE BUYING, HENRY.



MAY I HELP YOU?

ER--YES. I'D LIKE SOME THINGS FOR A GIRL... A DRESS, SHOES, AND--ER-- YOU KNOW...



HOW BIG IS THE GIRL?

ER--WELL, I'D SAY SHE'S ABOUT EXACTLY HIS HEIGHT!

AND SHE WEIGHS THE SAME, TOO!



DO YOU THINK SHE'D LOOK WELL IN THIS? IT'S ON SALE!

HMM... LET ME SEE...



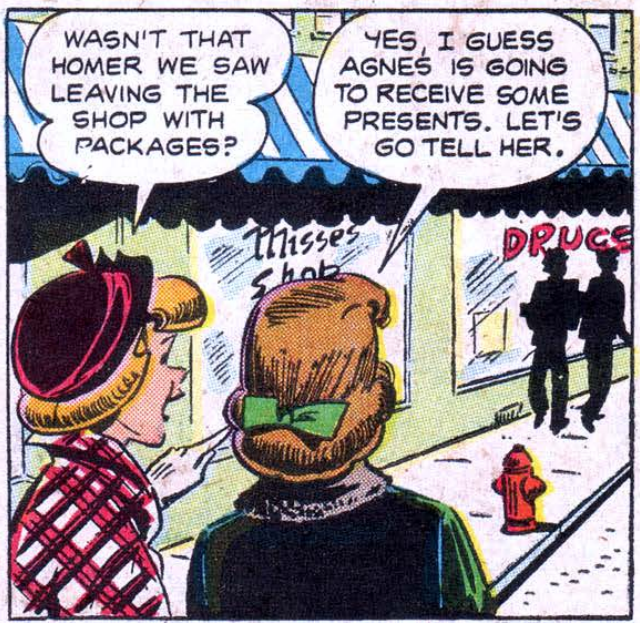
YES, I THINK SHE'D LOOK FINE IN THIS!

HOMER--DON'T!



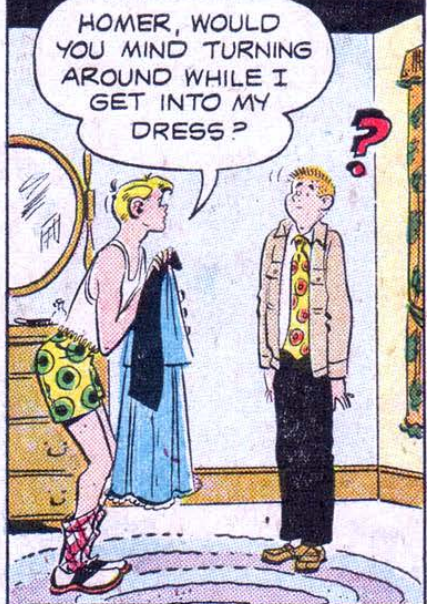
TEN MINUTES LATER... MY MOTHER'S NOT HOME, SO LET'S RUSH OVER TO MY HOUSE AND YOU CAN GET INTO THESE THINGS.

OKAY.



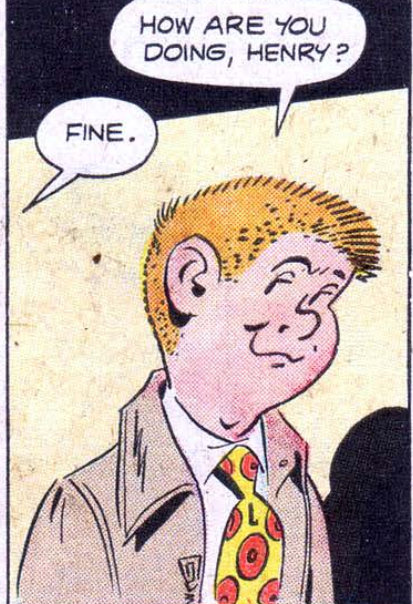
WASN'T THAT HOMER WE SAW LEAVING WE SAW LEAVING THE SHOP WITH PACKAGES?

YES, I GUESS AGNES IS GOING TO RECEIVE SOME PRESENTS. LET'S GO TELL HER.



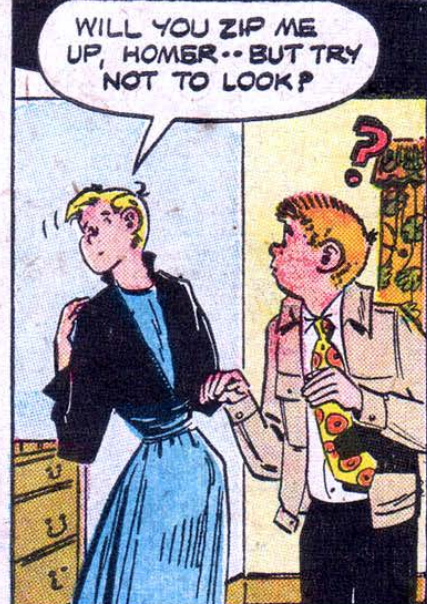
HOMER, WOULD YOU MIND TURNING AROUND WHILE I GET INTO MY DRESS?

?



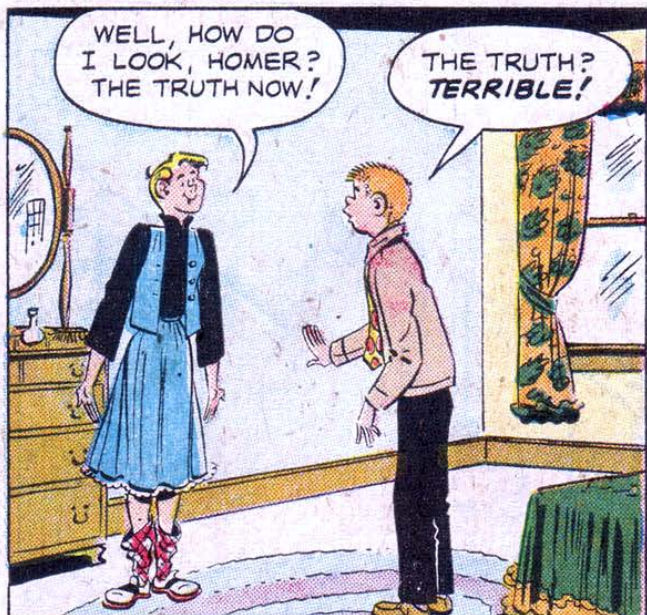
HOW ARE YOU DOING, HENRY?

FINE.



WILL YOU ZIP ME UP, HOMER-- BUT TRY NOT TO LOOK?

?



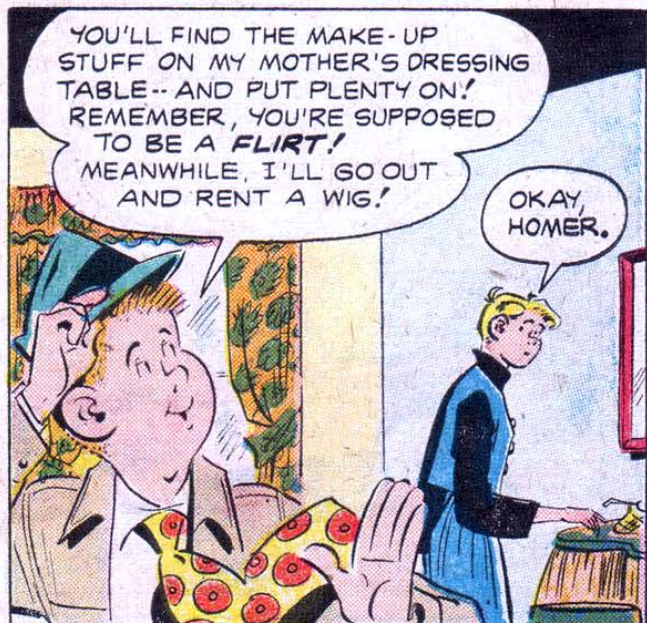
WELL, HOW DO I LOOK, HOMER? THE TRUTH NOW!

THE TRUTH? TERRIBLE!



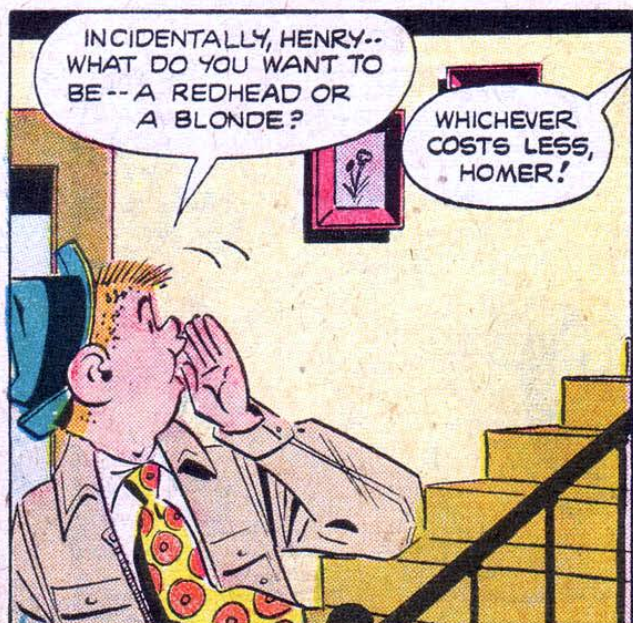
YOU NEED LIPSTICK, POWDER, MASCARA, NAIL POLISH, AND-- A HEAD OF HAIR!

OH, GEE, THAT'S RIGHT!



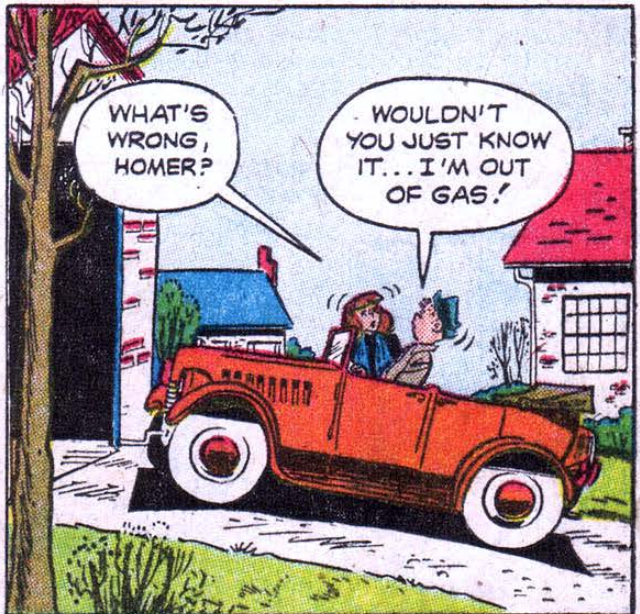
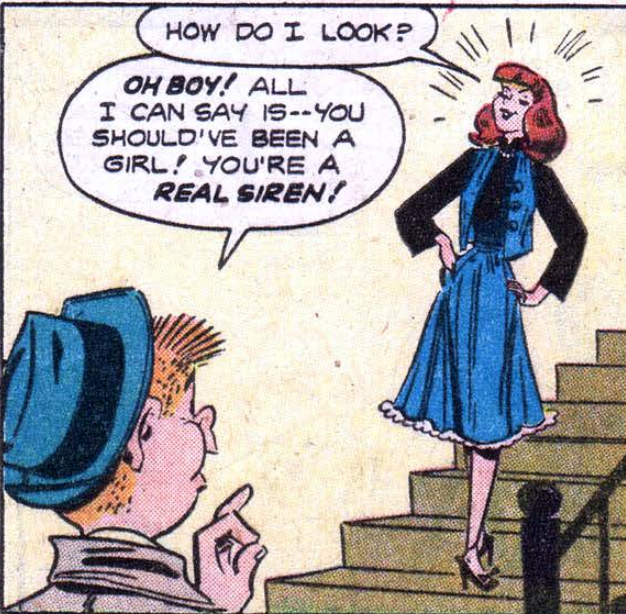
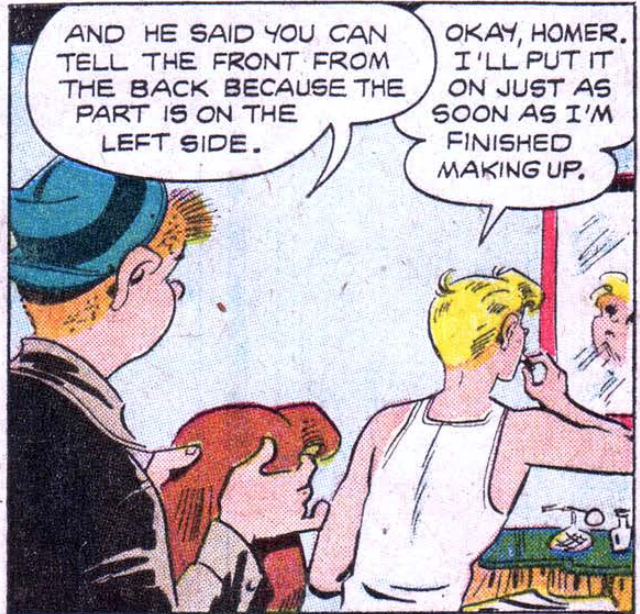
YOU'LL FIND THE MAKE-UP STUFF ON MY MOTHER'S DRESSING TABLE-- AND PUT PLENTY ON! REMEMBER, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A *FLIRT!* MEANWHILE, I'LL GO OUT AND RENT A WIG!

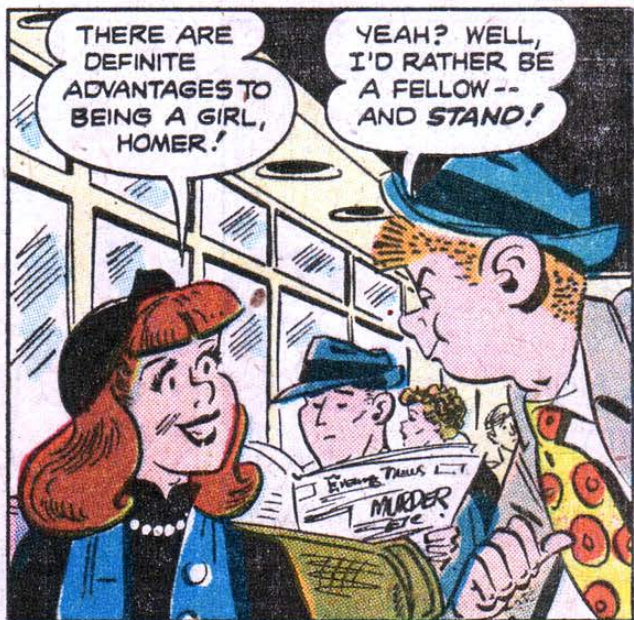
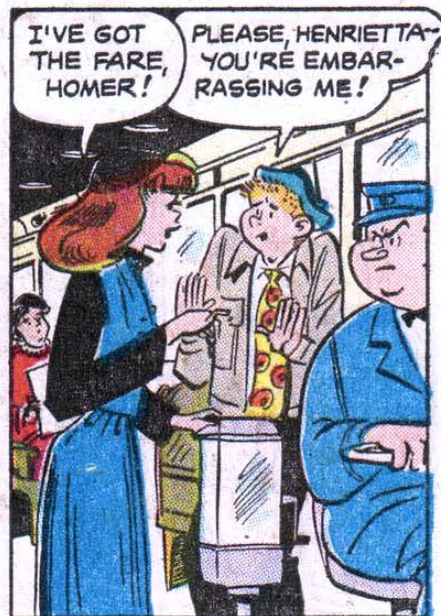
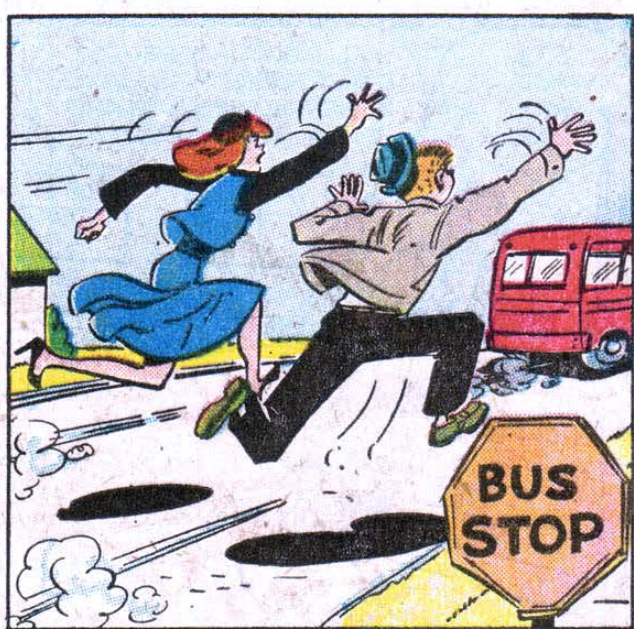
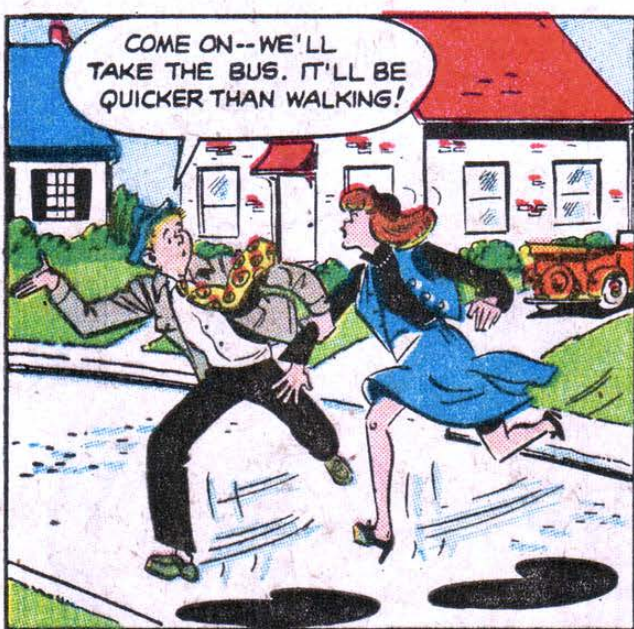
OKAY, HOMER.



INCIDENTALLY, HENRY-- WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE-- A REDHEAD OR A BLONDE?

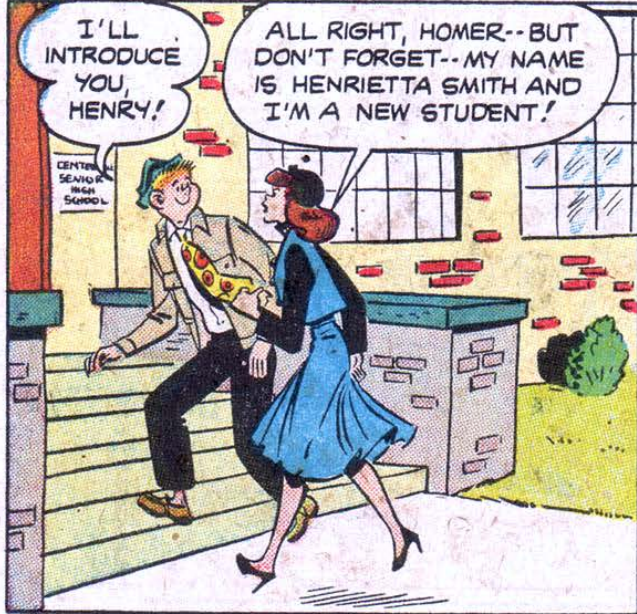
WHICHEVER COSTS LESS, HOMER!





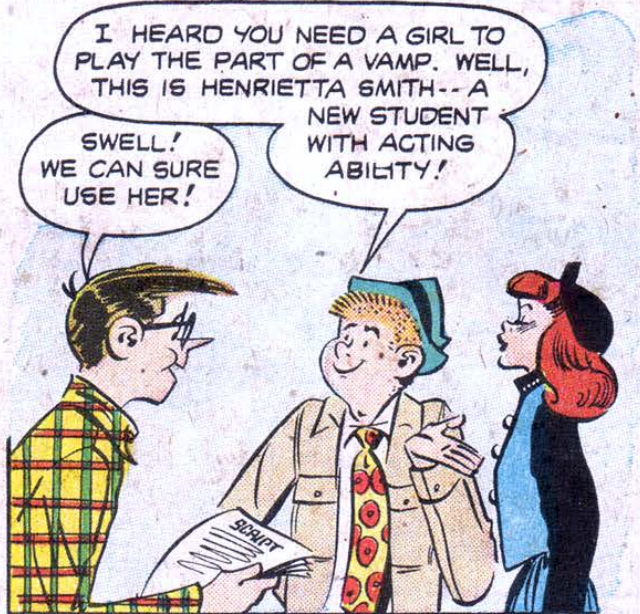
WHO, ME?
I MEAN, WHO
ME...? ♪
♪

YEAH? WELL,
I'D RATHER BE
A FELLOW --
AND STAND!



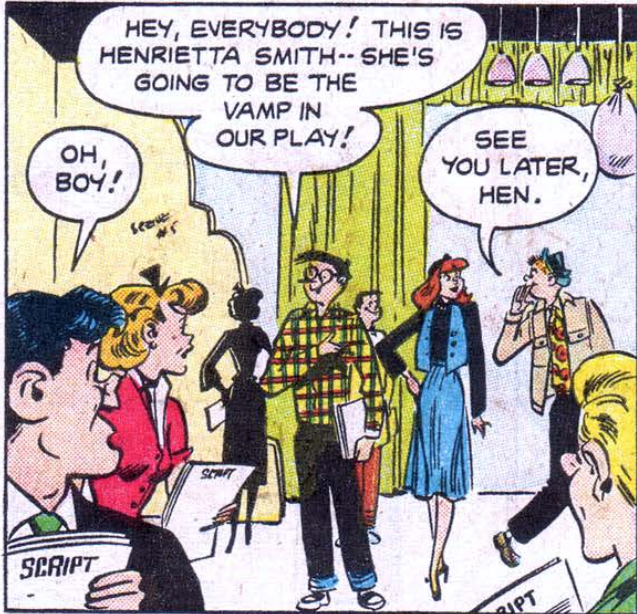
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU, HENRY!

ALL RIGHT, HOMER-- BUT DON'T FORGET-- MY NAME IS HENRIETTA SMITH AND I'M A NEW STUDENT!



SWELL! WE CAN SURE USE HER!

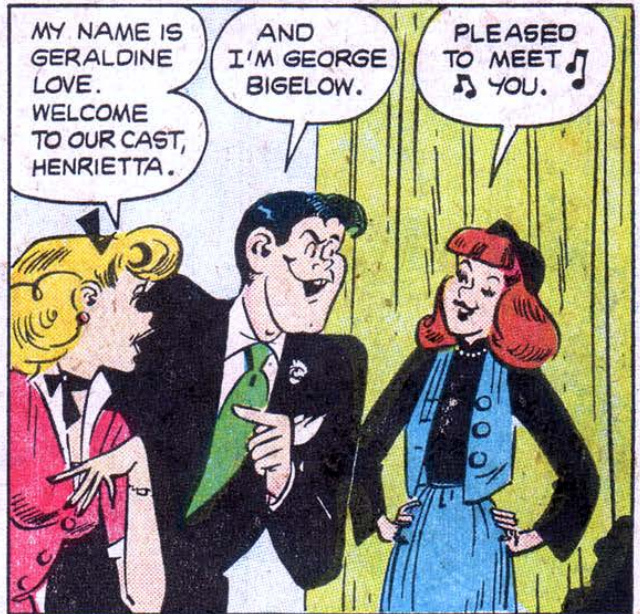
I HEARD YOU NEED A GIRL TO PLAY THE PART OF A VAMP. WELL, THIS IS HENRIETTA SMITH-- A NEW STUDENT WITH ACTING ABILITY!



HEY, EVERYBODY! THIS IS HENRIETTA SMITH-- SHE'S GOING TO BE THE VAMP IN OUR PLAY!

OH, BOY!

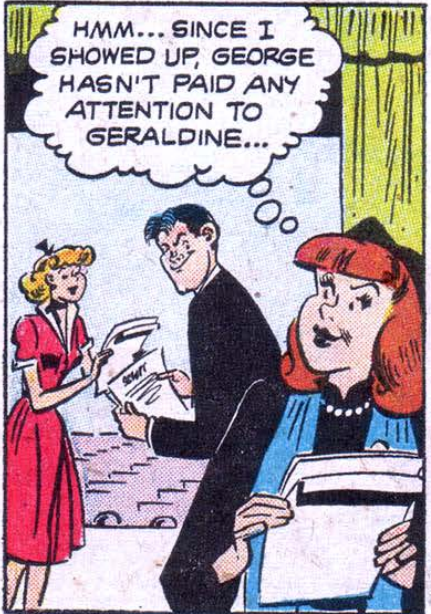
SEE YOU LATER, HEN.



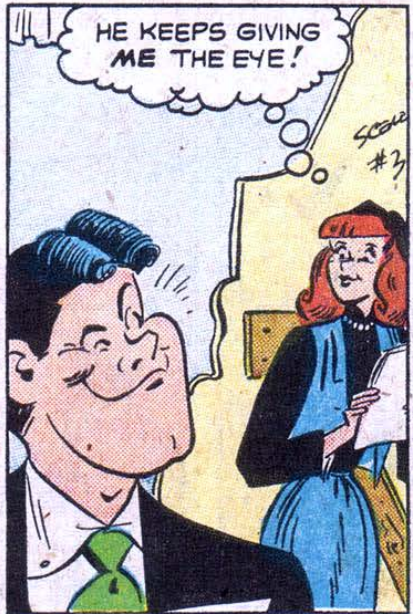
MY NAME IS GERALDINE LOVE. WELCOME TO OUR CAST, HENRIETTA.

AND I'M GEORGE BIGELOW.

PLEASUED TO MEET YOU.



HMM... SINCE I SHOWED UP, GEORGE HASN'T PAID ANY ATTENTION TO GERALDINE...



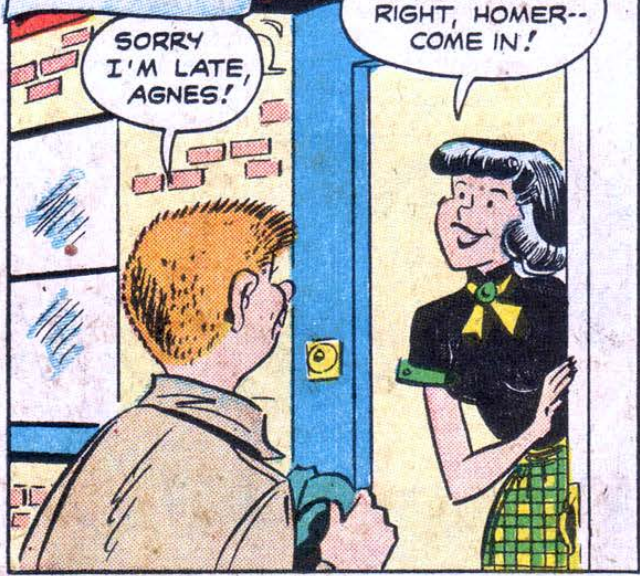
HE KEEPS GIVING ME THE EYE!



PSST-- HOW ABOUT MY BUYING YOU A SODA AFTER REHEARSALS, HENRIETTA?

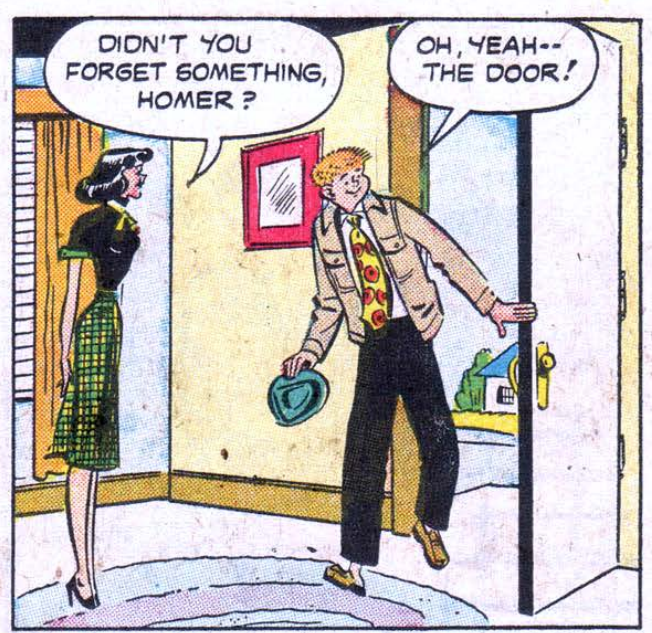
ER-- THANKS ANYWAY, BUT I'VE GOT A DATE.

MEANWHILE...



SORRY I'M LATE, AGNES!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, HOMER-- COME IN!



DIDN'T YOU FORGET SOMETHING, HOMER?

OH, YEAH-- THE DOOR!



NO-- I MEAN THE PRESENTS!

WHAT PRESENTS?

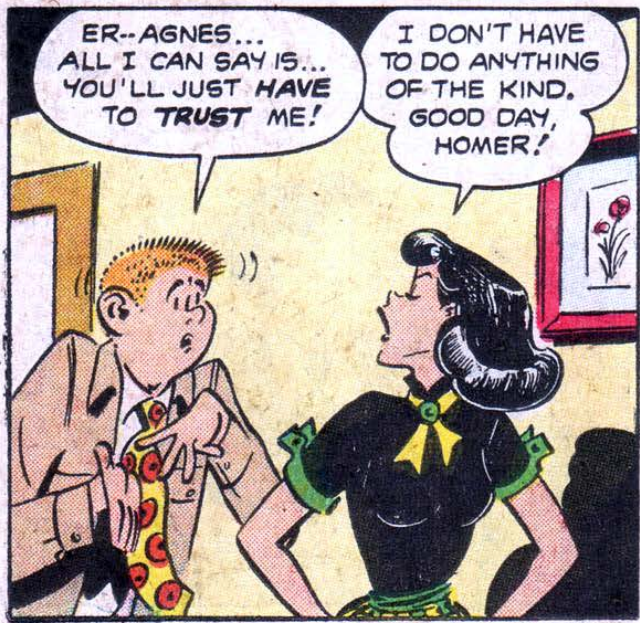


HOMER BROWN-- YOU WERE SEEN COMING OUT OF THE MISSES' SHOP WITH PACKAGES-- AND DON'T DENY IT!

ER-- YEAH-- B-BUT--

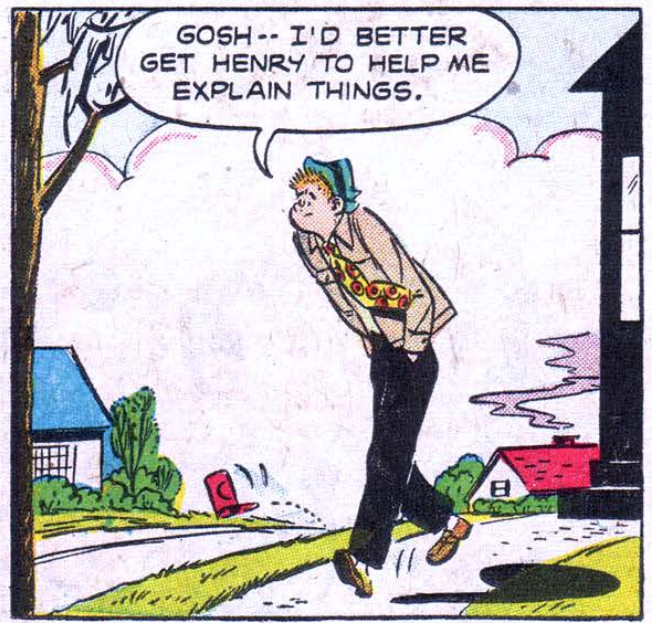


AND DON'T TRY TO TELL ME THEY WERE FOR YOUR MOTHER! SHE COULDN'T GET INTO MISSES' SIZES WITH A BUTTONHOOK!

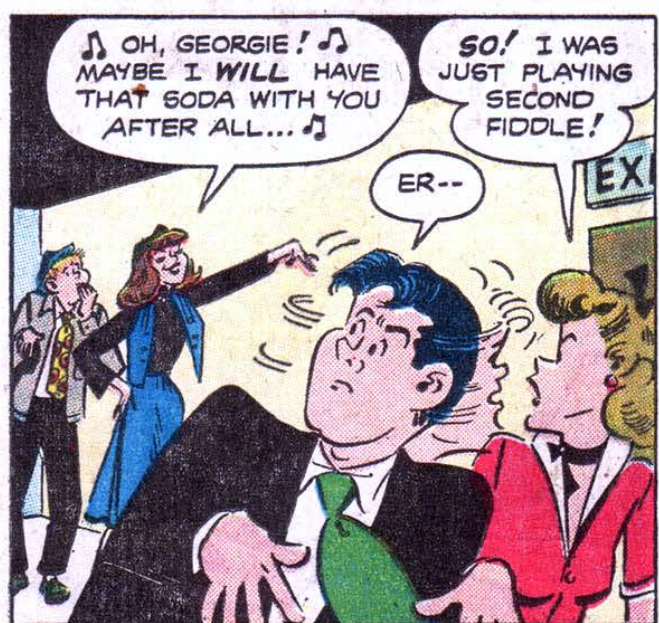
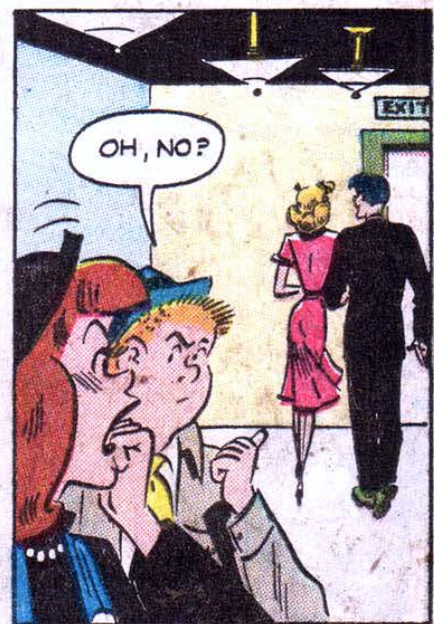
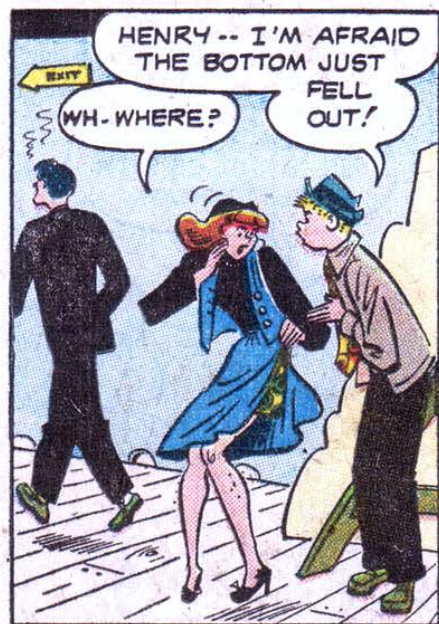
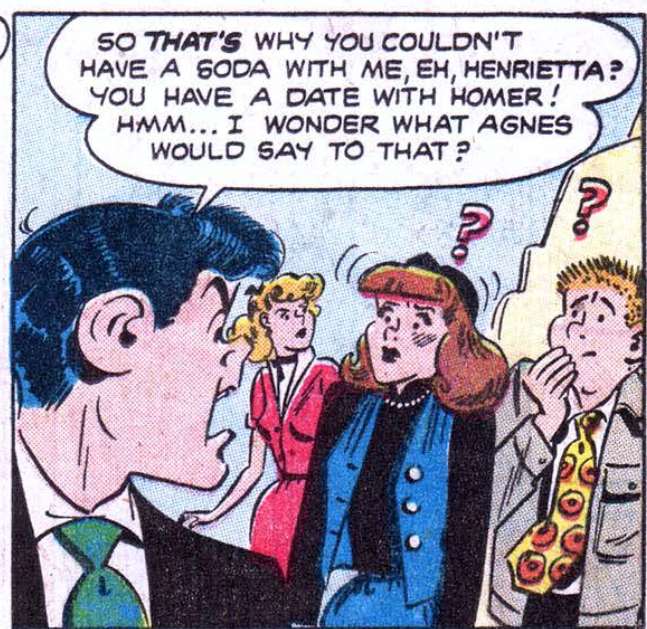
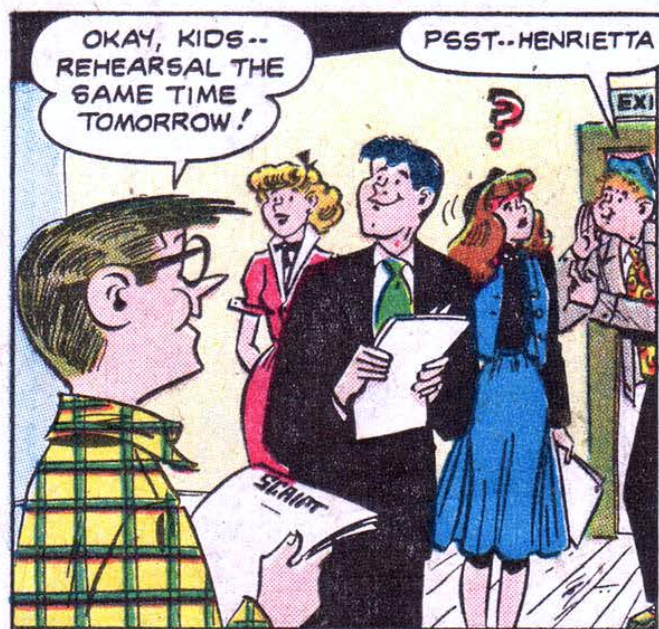


ER-- AGNES... ALL I CAN SAY IS... YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO TRUST ME!

I DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING OF THE KIND, GOOD DAY, HOMER!



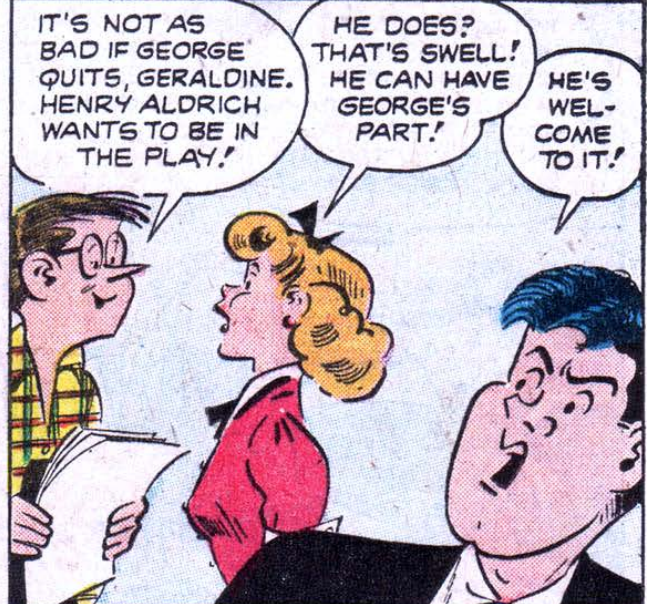
GOSH-- I'D BETTER GET HENRY TO HELP ME EXPLAIN THINGS.





I'M QUITTING THE PLAY! I REFUSE TO SPEAK ANY LINES TO YOU!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL, I'LL QUIT THE PLAY!



IT'S NOT AS BAD IF GEORGE QUILTS, GERALDINE. HENRY ALDRICH WANTS TO BE IN THE PLAY!

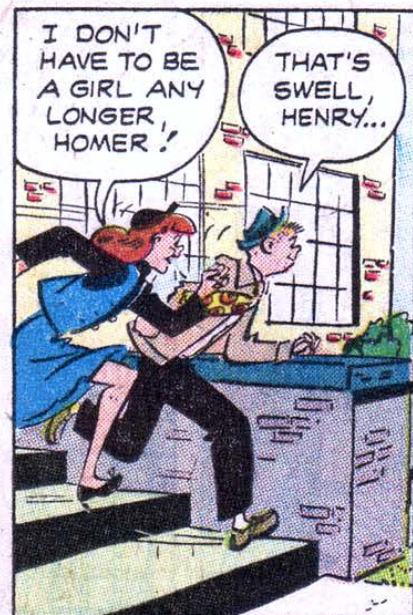
HE DOES? THAT'S SWELL! HE CAN HAVE GEORGE'S PART!

HE'S WELCOME TO IT!



WELL, LET'S GO, HENRIETTA!

♪ ER-- LET'S MAKE IT ANOTHER TIME, GEORGE! ♪ ♪

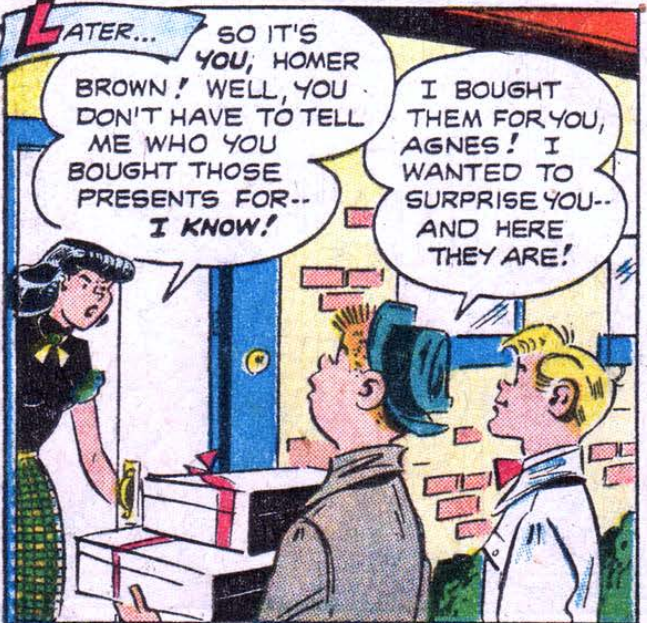


I DON'T HAVE TO BE A GIRL ANY LONGER, HOMER!

THAT'S SWELL, HENRY...



...NOW LET'S HURRY TO MY HOUSE, SO YOU CAN GET INTO YOUR OWN CLOTHES. I NEED THESE!



LATER...

SO IT'S YOU, HOMER BROWN! WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME WHO YOU BOUGHT THOSE PRESENTS FOR-- I KNOW!

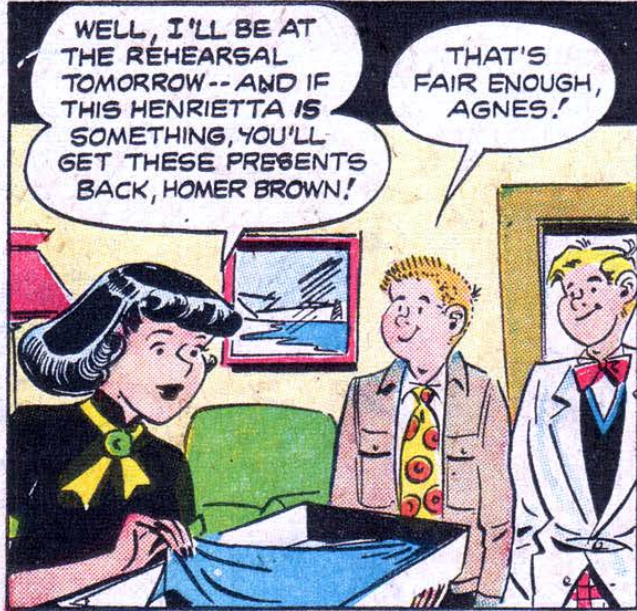
I BOUGHT THEM FOR YOU, AGNES! I WANTED TO SURPRISE YOU-- AND HERE THEY ARE!



HMM... THEN WHO IS THIS HENRIETTA SMITH WHO SHOWED UP AT THE DRAMATIC CLUB TODAY? GEORGE BIGELOW TOLD ME ALL ABOUT HER!

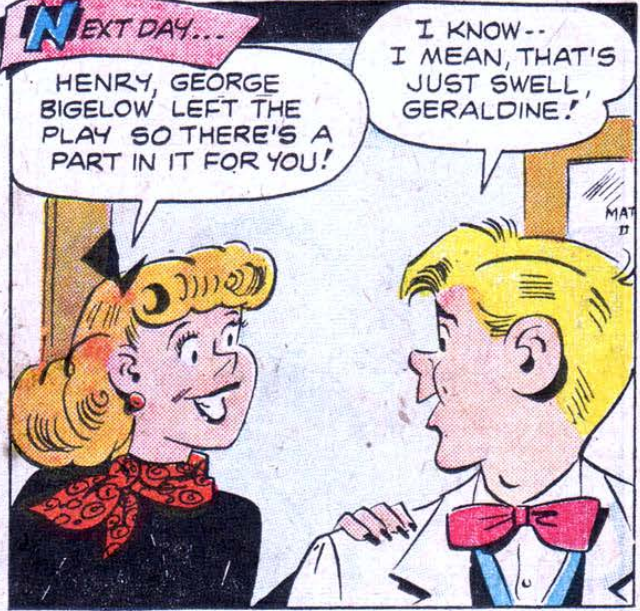
SHE REALLY IS NOTHING, AGNES!

SHE'S N-NOTHING, AGNES.



WELL, I'LL BE AT THE REHEARSAL TOMORROW-- AND IF THIS HENRIETTA IS SOMETHING, YOU'LL GET THESE PRESENTS BACK, HOMER BROWN!

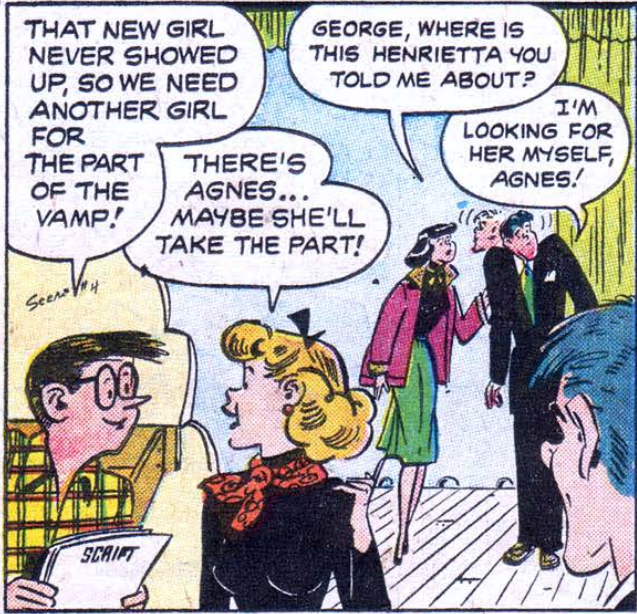
THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH, AGNES!



NEXT DAY...

HENRY, GEORGE BIGELOW LEFT THE PLAY SO THERE'S A PART IN IT FOR YOU!

I KNOW-- I MEAN, THAT'S JUST SWELL, GERALDINE!

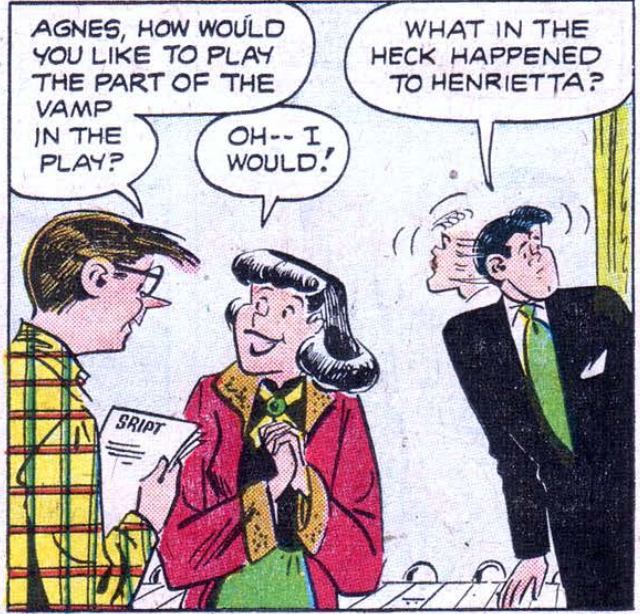


THAT NEW GIRL NEVER SHOWED UP, SO WE NEED ANOTHER GIRL FOR THE PART OF THE VAMP!

GEORGE, WHERE IS THIS HENRIETTA YOU TOLD ME ABOUT?

I'M LOOKING FOR HER MYSELF, AGNES!

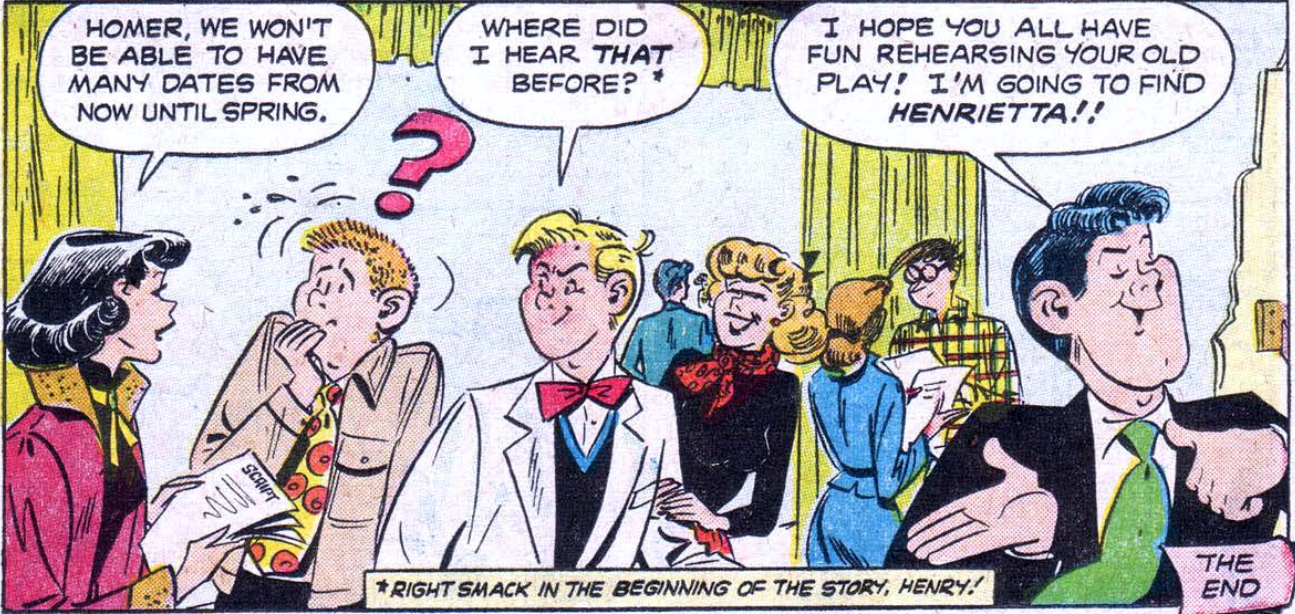
THERE'S AGNES... MAYBE SHE'LL TAKE THE PART!



AGNES, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY THE PART OF THE VAMP IN THE PLAY?

OH-- I WOULD!

WHAT IN THE HECK HAPPENED TO HENRIETTA?



HOMER, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE MANY DATES FROM NOW UNTIL SPRING.

WHERE DID I HEAR THAT BEFORE? *

I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE FUN REHEARSING YOUR OLD PLAY! I'M GOING TO FIND HENRIETTA!!

*RIGHT SMACK IN THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY, HENRY!

THE END