

Henry Aldrich STAR REPORTER.



"No, not that. That's one of my most prized possessions," cried Henry, as he and his mother were cleaning out the Aldrich attic. "Don't throw that out!"

"But, Henry, you haven't used this printing press since your Aunt Emma

gave it to you five years ago!"

"Mother, I was just ABOUT to. Why I'm starting a newspaper . . . weren't we, Homer?" he added, as Homer appeared at the top of the stairs.

"Weren't we WHAT, Henry?"

"Starting a newspaper, Homer," explained Henry. "I was just telling Mother."

"A newspaper? . . . oh, oh yes, a

newspaper, Mrs. Aldrich."

So, when the cleaning in the attic was completed, the two boys carried the printing press down to the cellar.

"Well, it's going to be a newspaper

now, eh, Henry?" asked Homer.

"Yes, we'll call it 'The Elm Street Clarion, The Greatest Little Newspaper In The World,' announced Henry, "and I'll be editor." Homer frowned.

"You can be head of distribution,"
Henry continued. "Well, after all,
SOMEBODY'S got to deliver the papers.
We'll sell subscriptions to everybody!
Why, we'll make a million!"

Homer sat down wearily on the workbench. "Don't we have to have some NEWS to print in this paper, Henry?"

"Oh, yes, news . . . hmm."

So Henry became Star Reporter and, although the paper would carry no pictures, Homer was appointed Staff Photographer since he owned an old portrait camera that had belonged to his grandfather.

Henry stuck a card lettered "Press" in his hatband and with Homer carrying his ancient camera, they set off for Bingham's drugstore on the corner of Second and Main to ferret out some

news.

"Look, Henry," said Homer when they saw a noisy crowd gathered on the corner, "we sure picked the right place ... something's going on here!"

"Make way for the press," Henry cried, elbowing his way through the crowd and into the store. "All right, now," he continued in his most authoritative voice, "what's going on here? Who is . . .?"

He stopped suddenly and his eyes bulged and his jaw dropped.

"Gee whiz!"

Homer gasped, "Gosh, it's Elizabeth

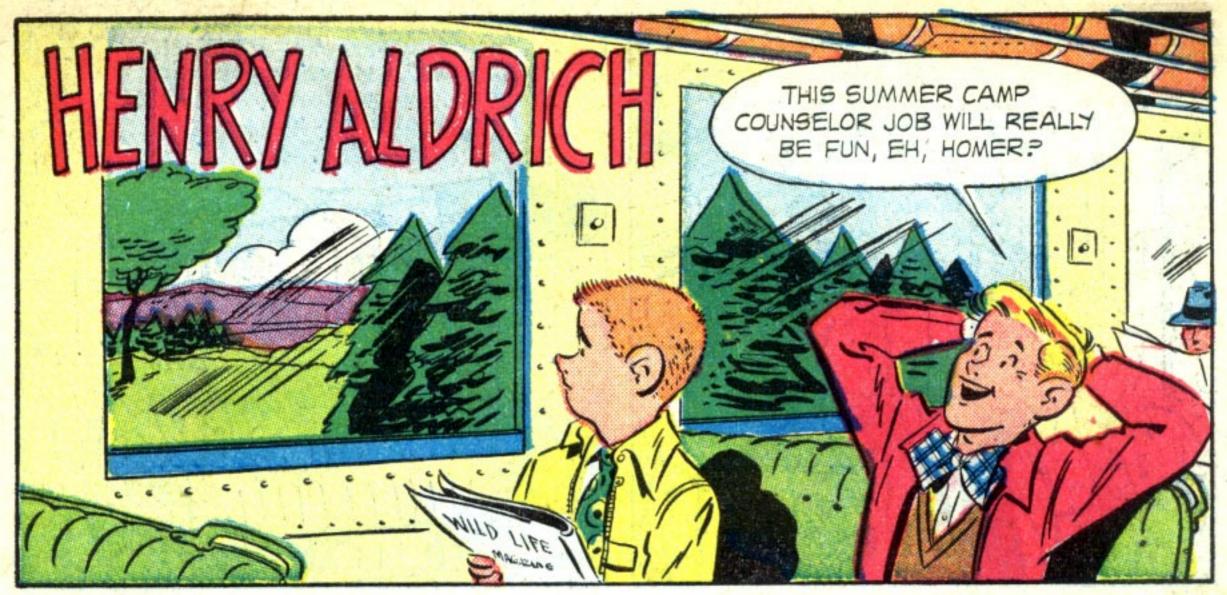
Craig, the movie star!"

Sure enough, it was lovely Miss Craig, the young star of Monarch Pictures, sitting alone in the second booth from the front, having a chocolate frosted.

Henry recovered his voice. "Ah . . . er, Miss Craig, I wonder if I could in-

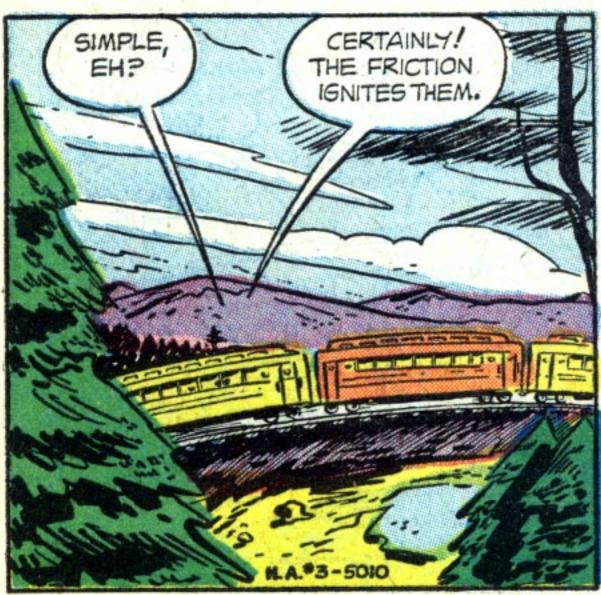
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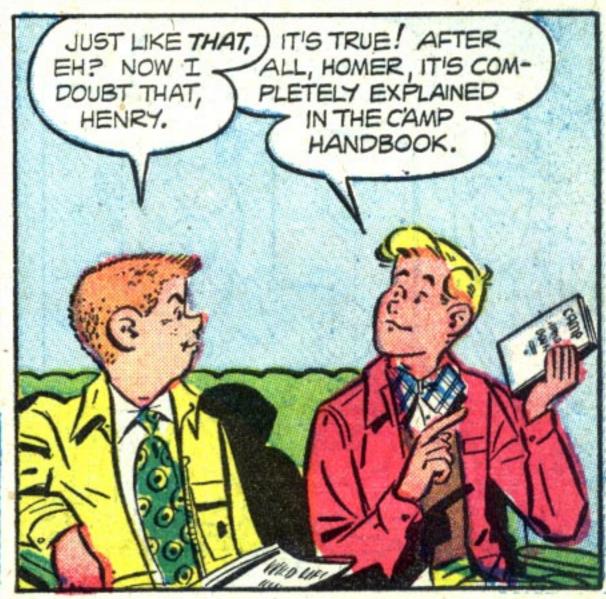
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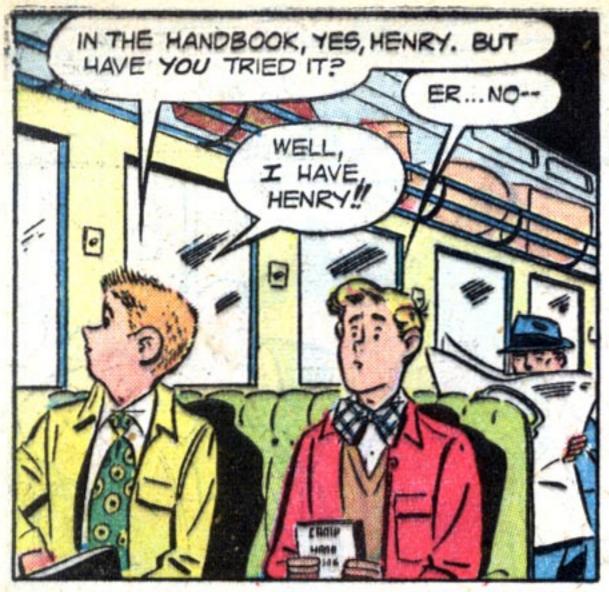


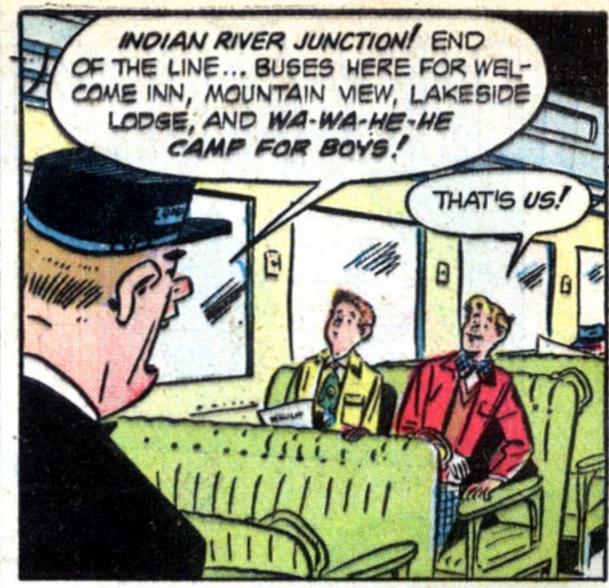


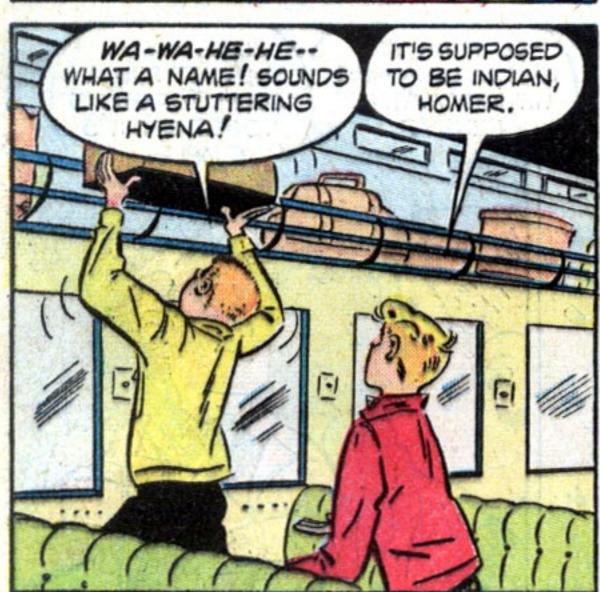




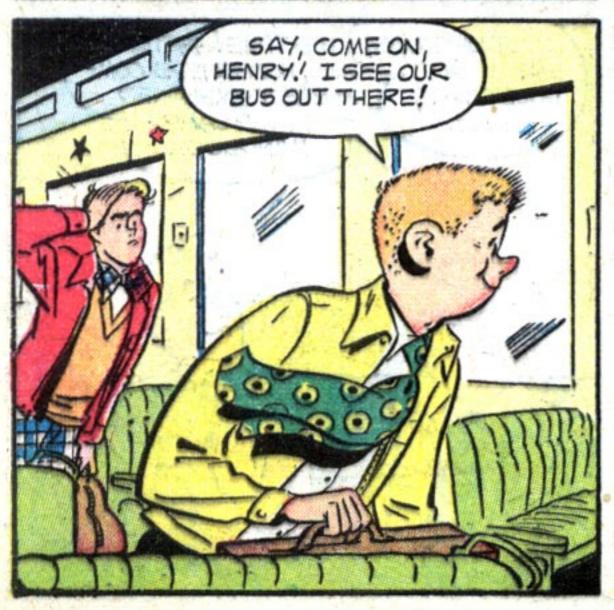


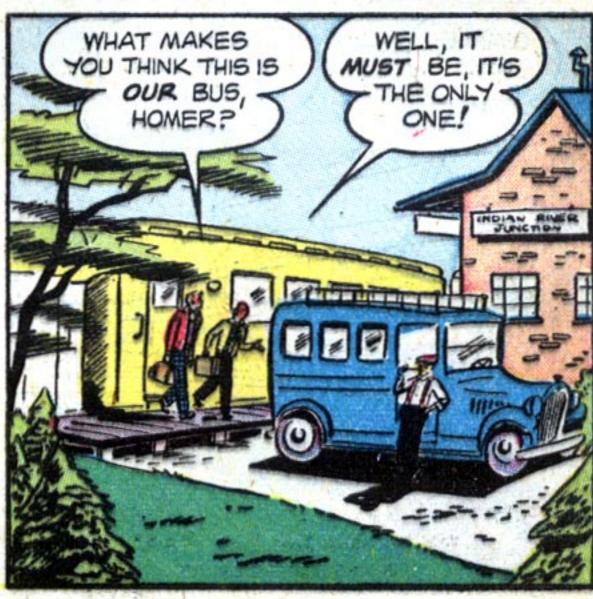


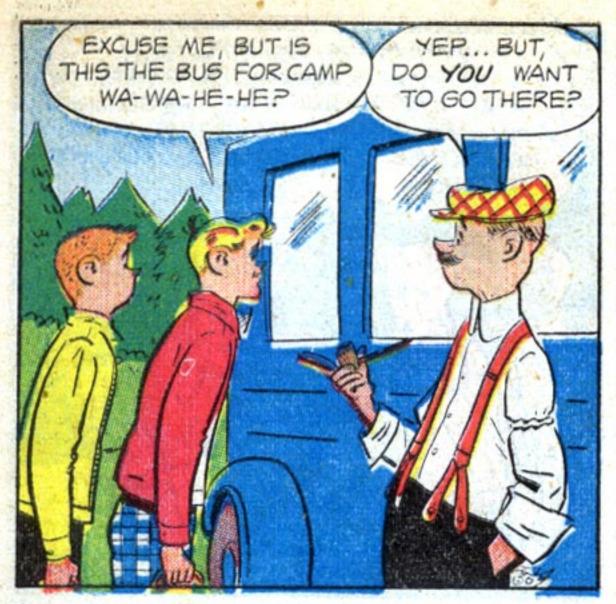










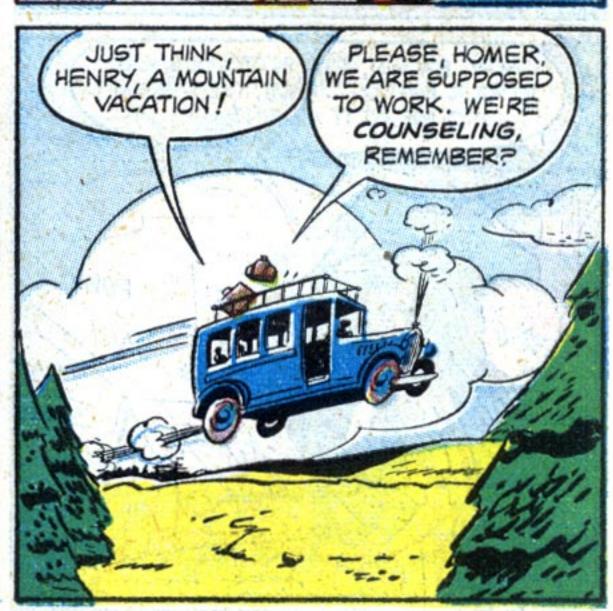


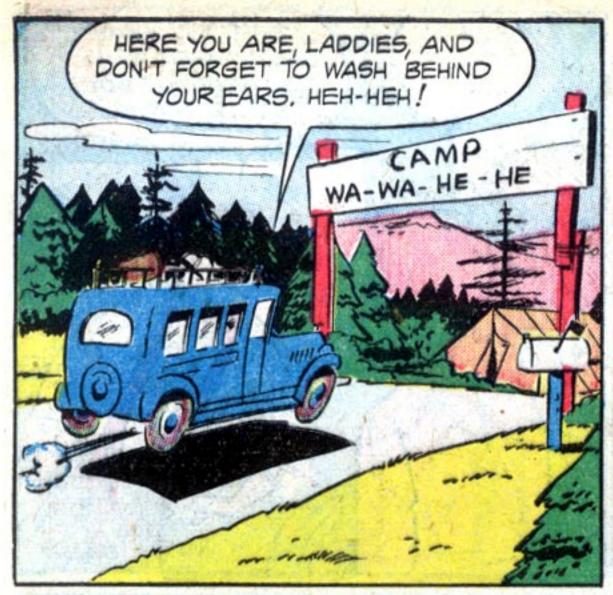






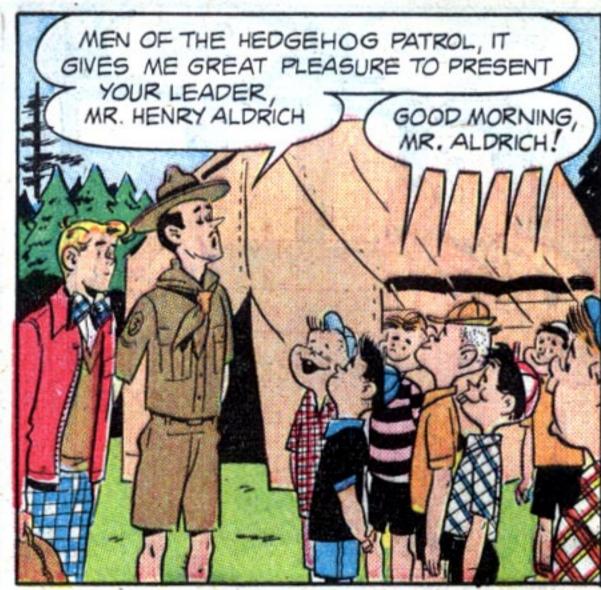




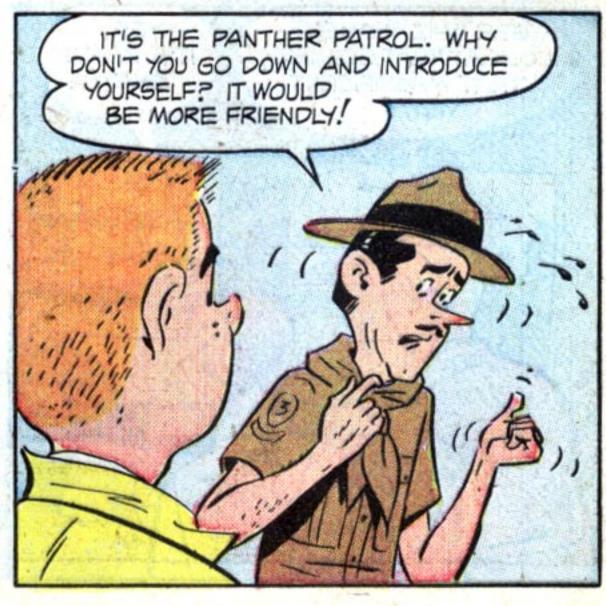




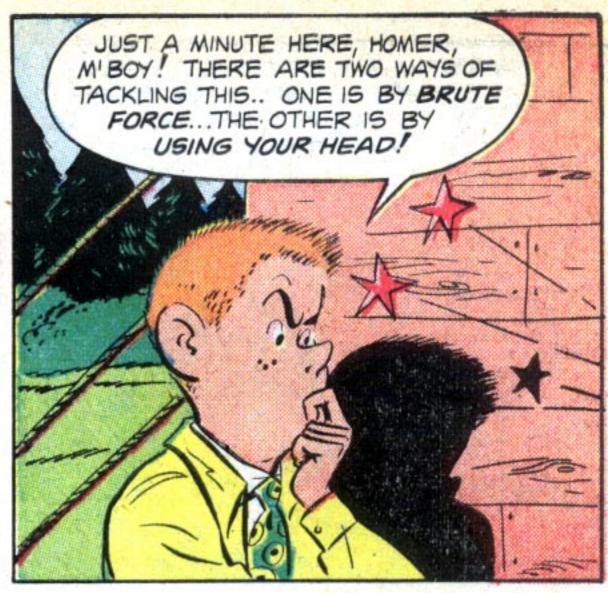






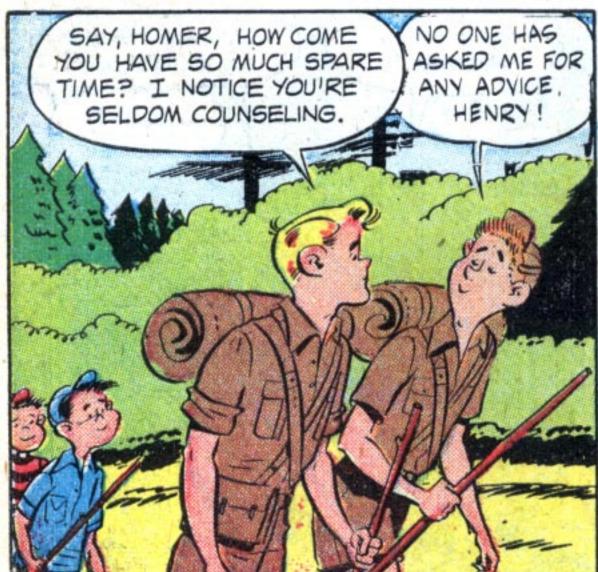








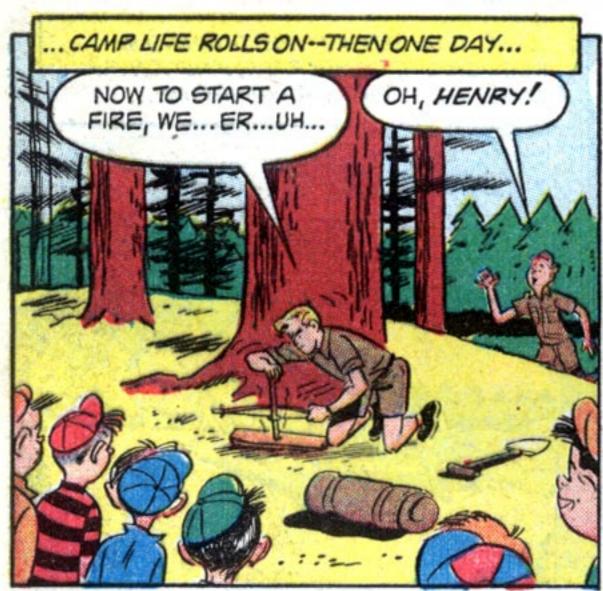




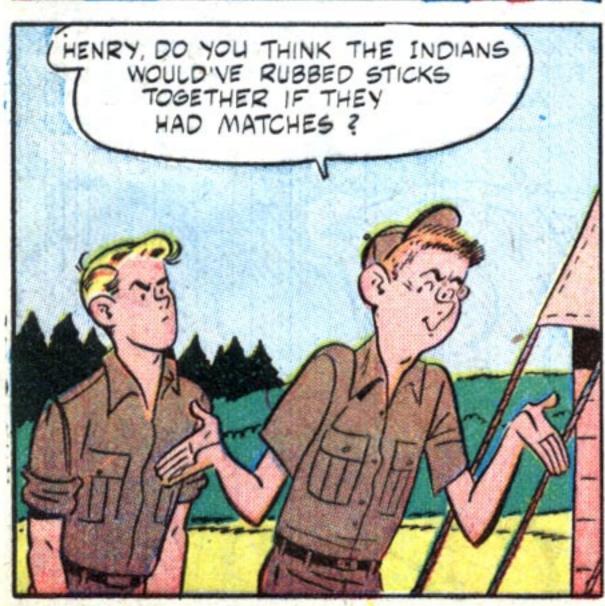




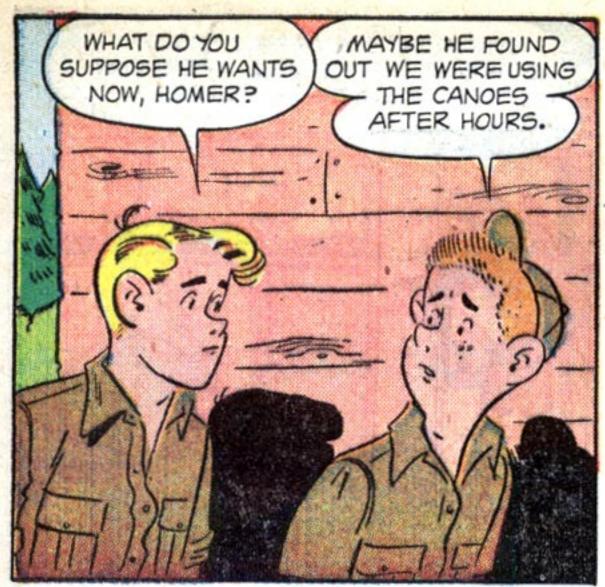


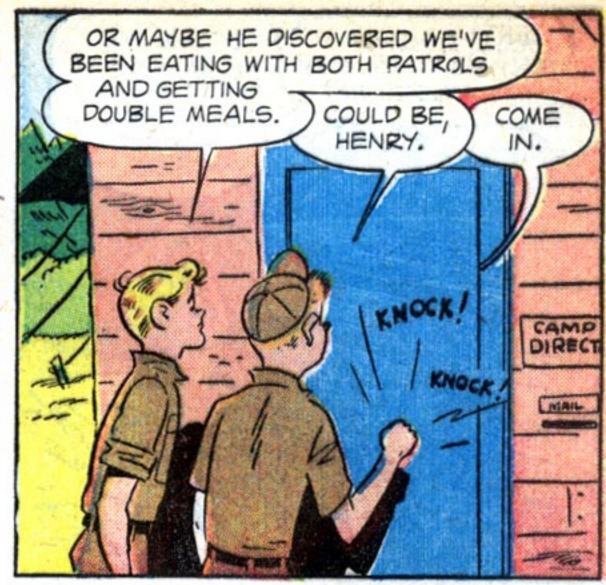




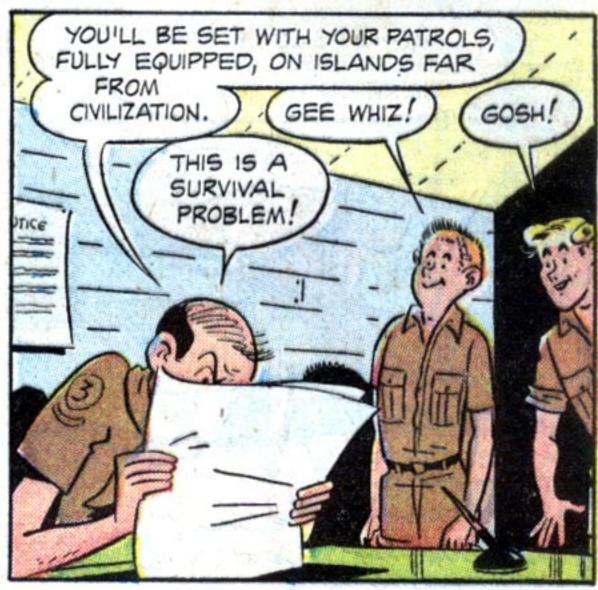








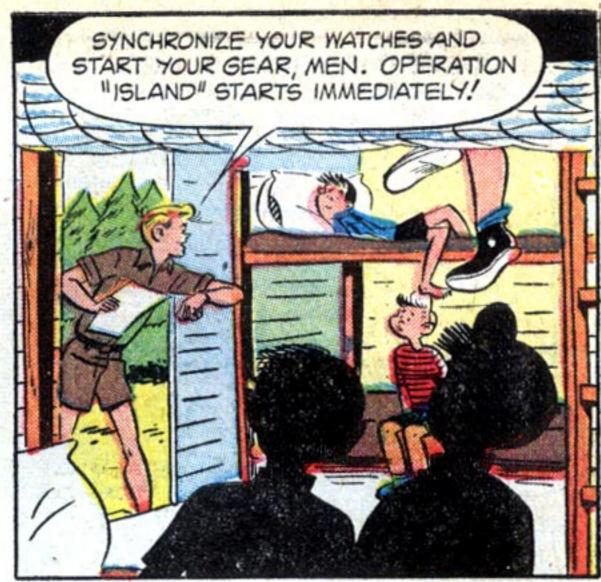




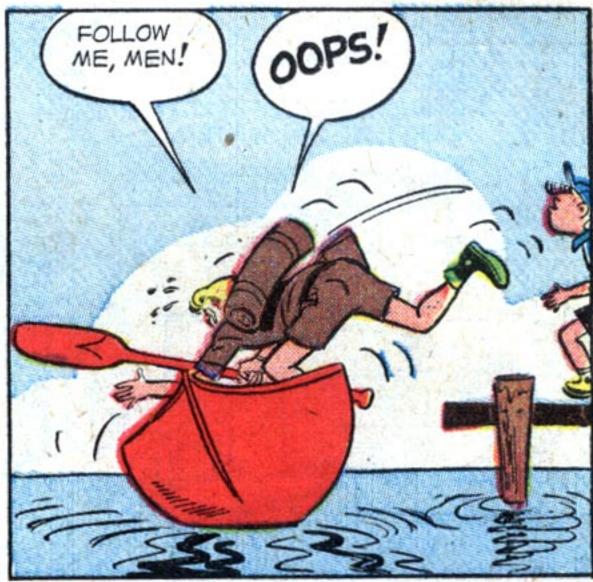


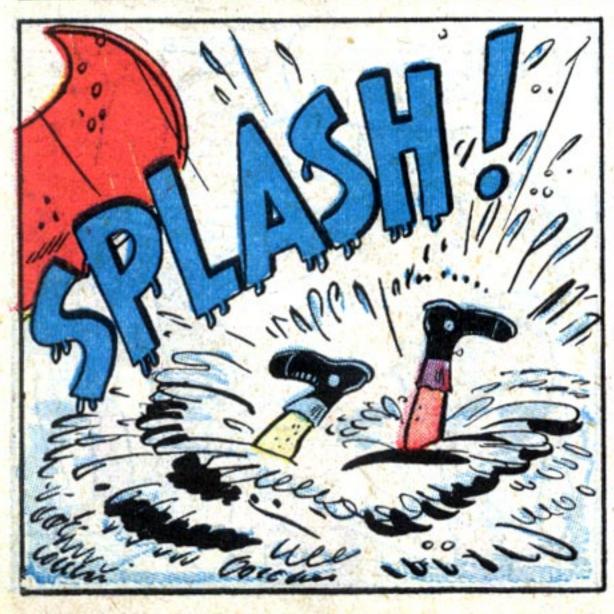












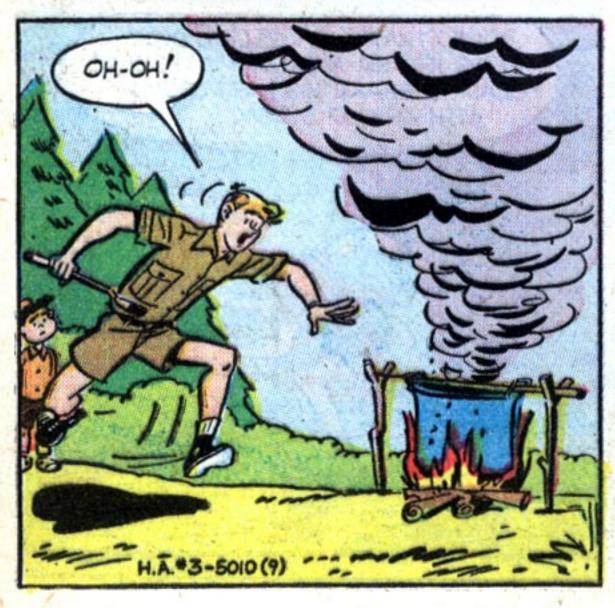




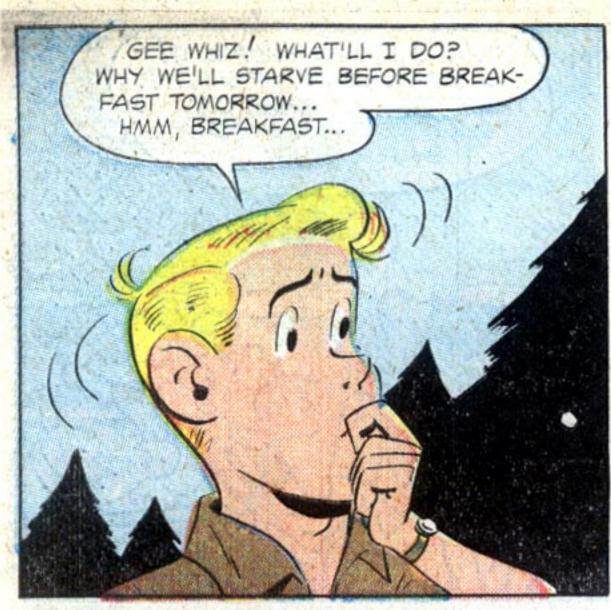






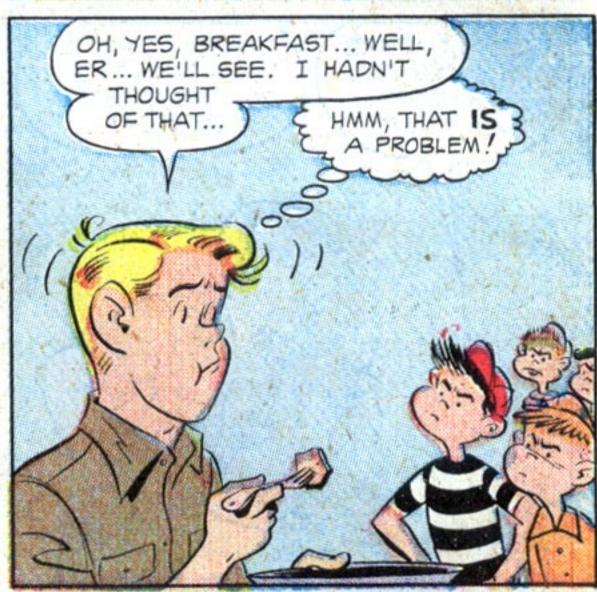








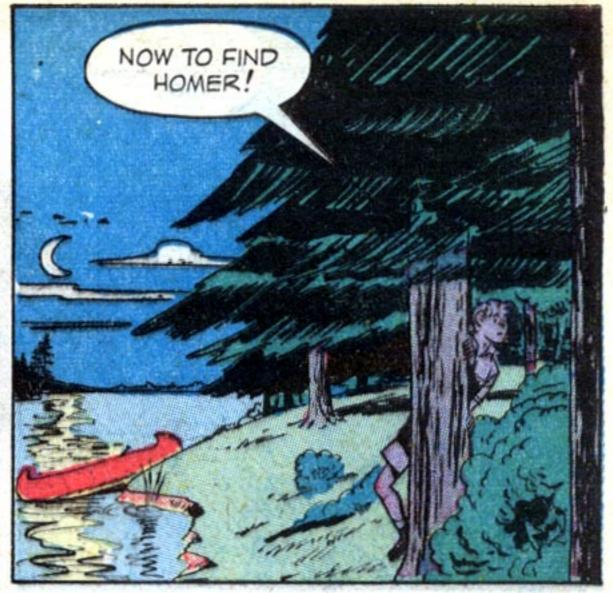












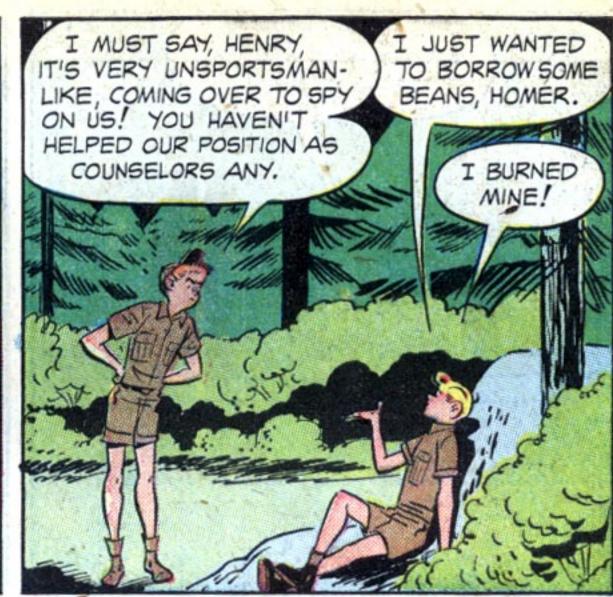




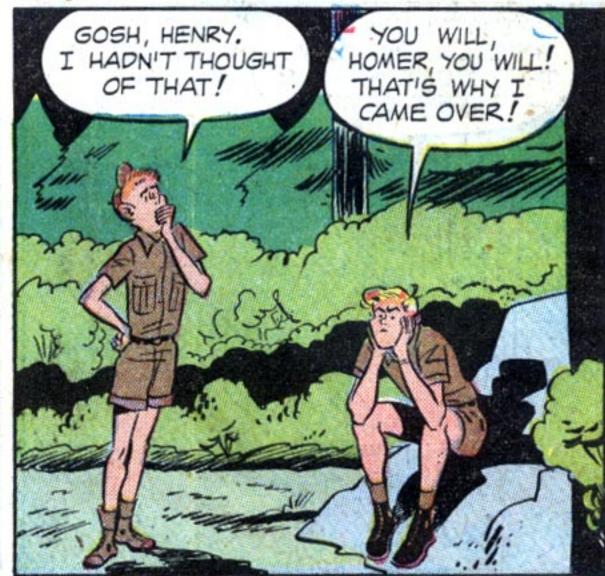


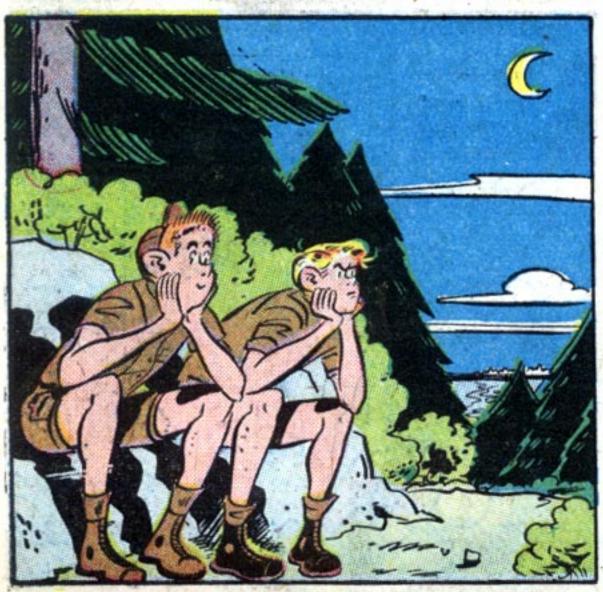


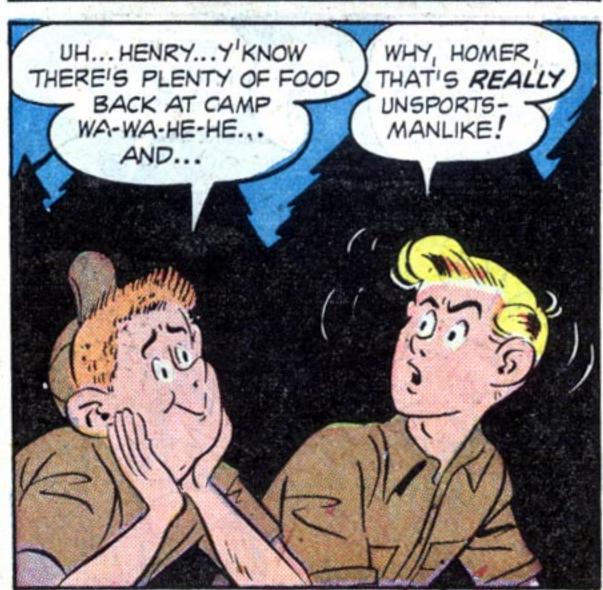








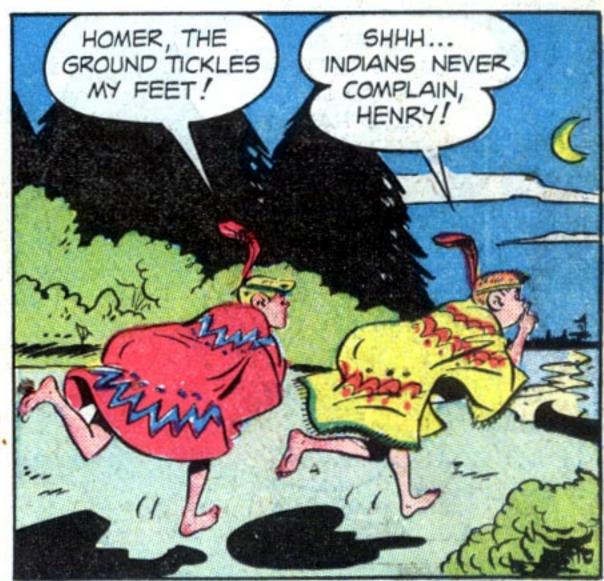




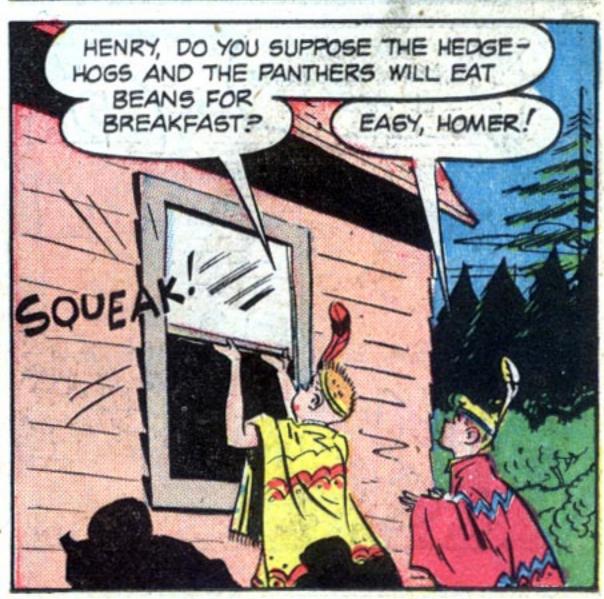


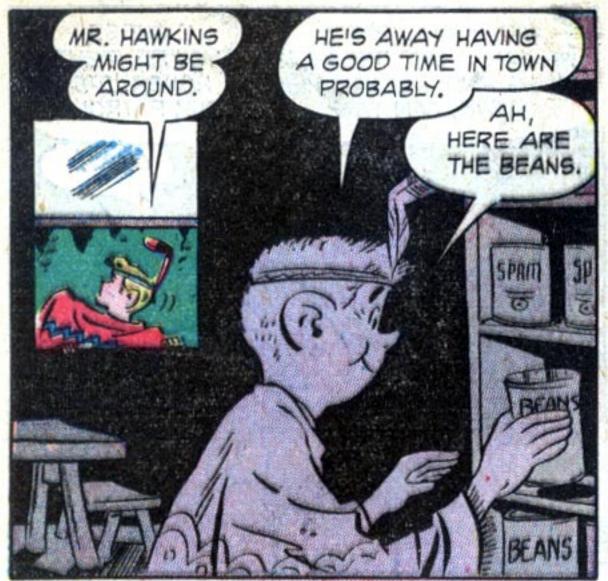


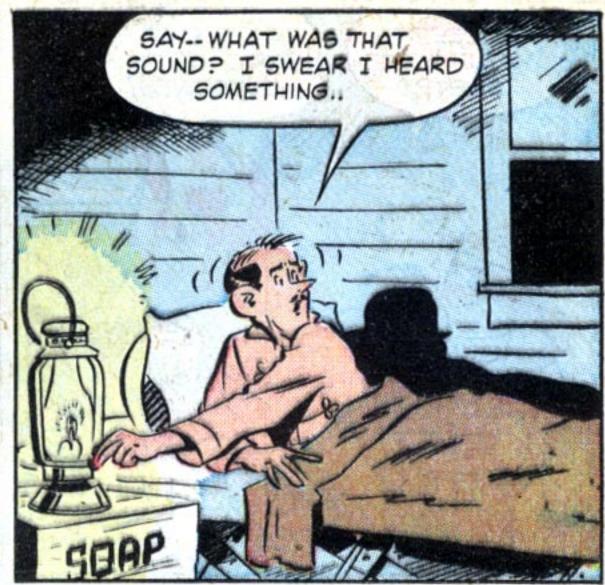




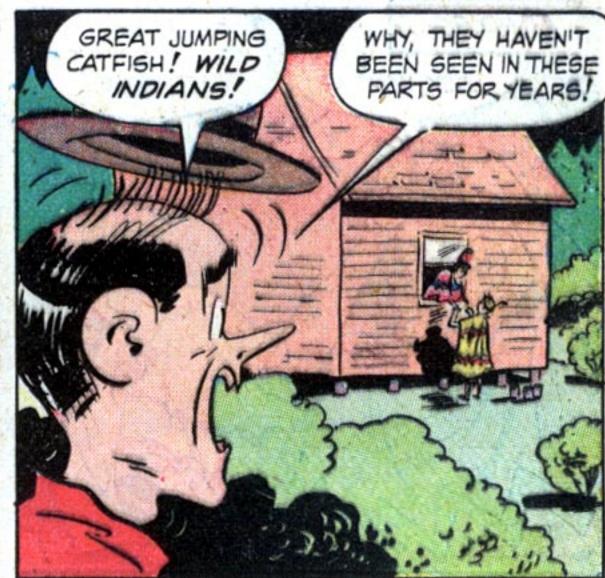












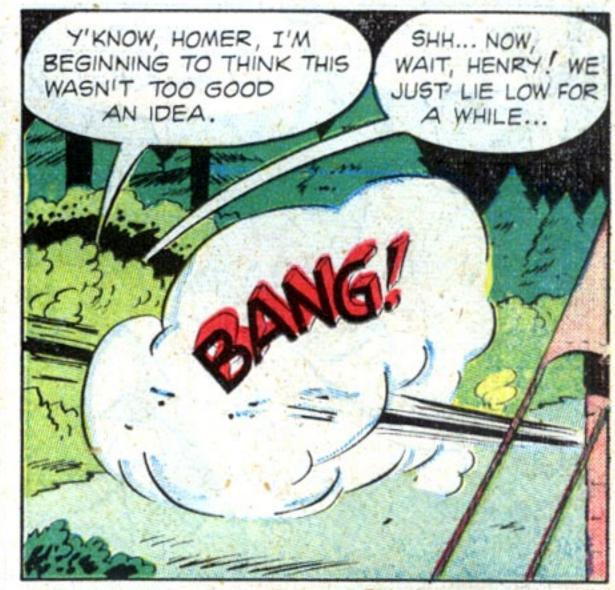






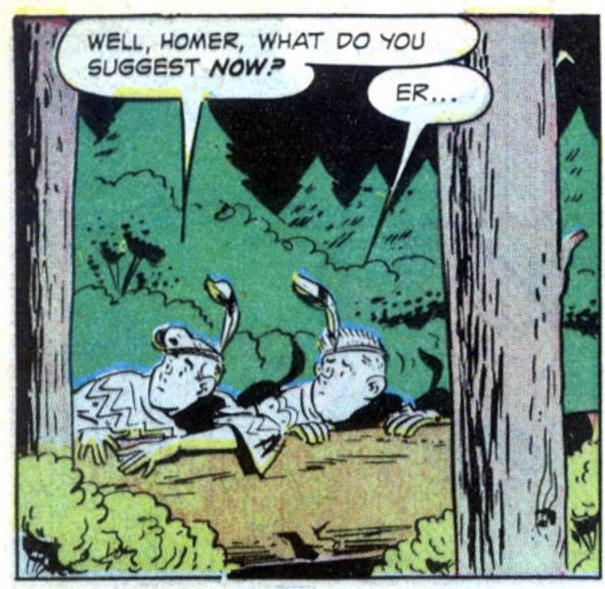




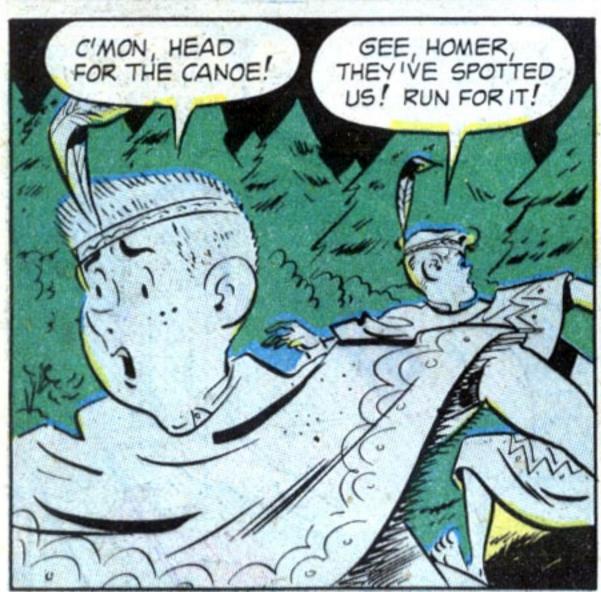












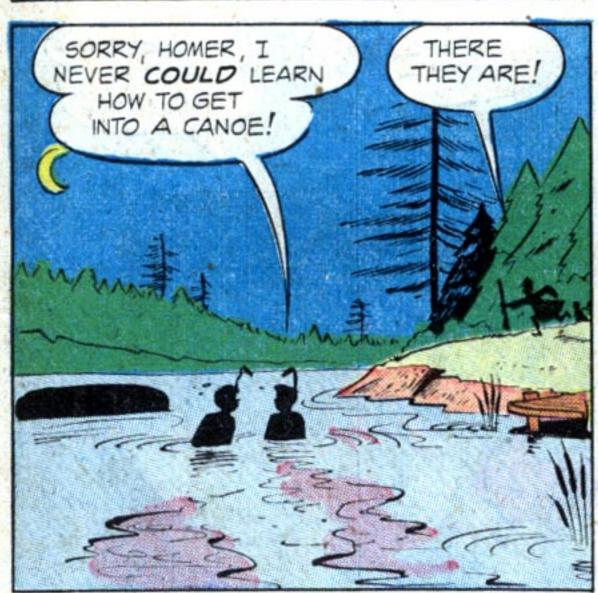








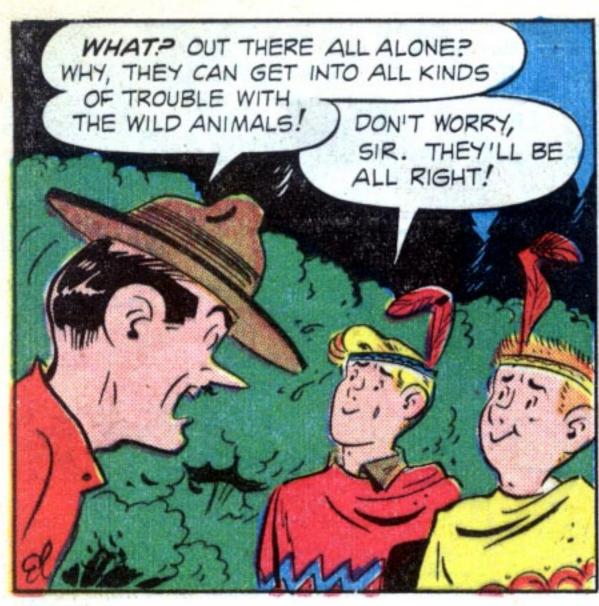


























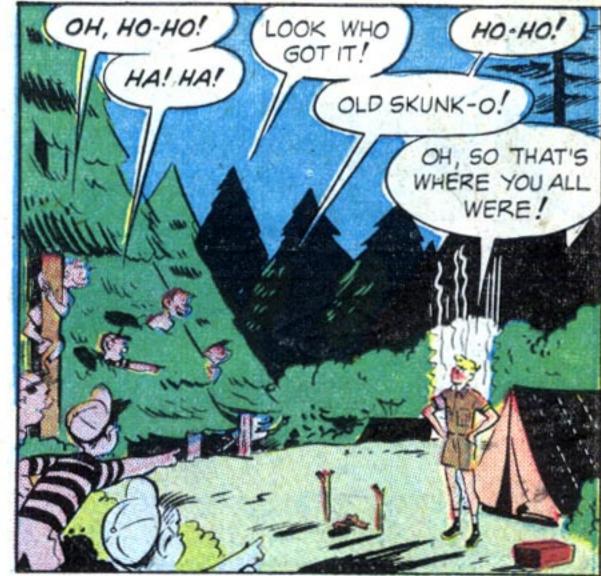






















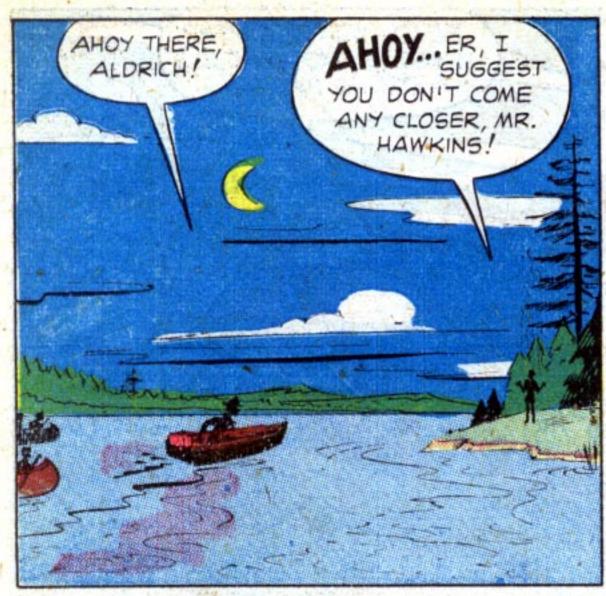


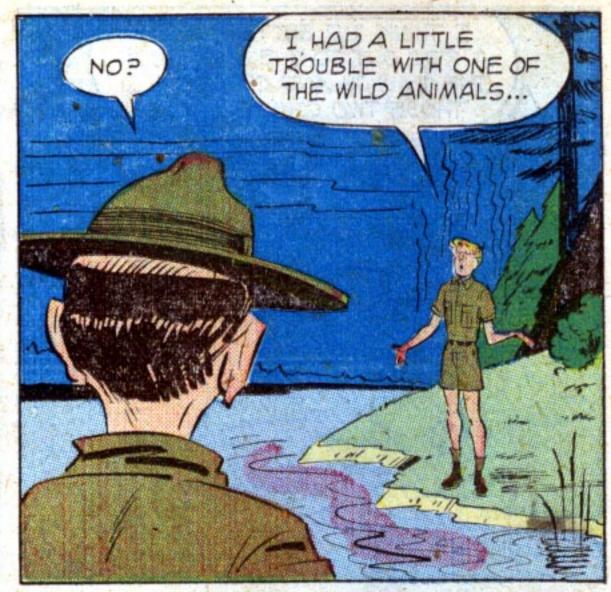






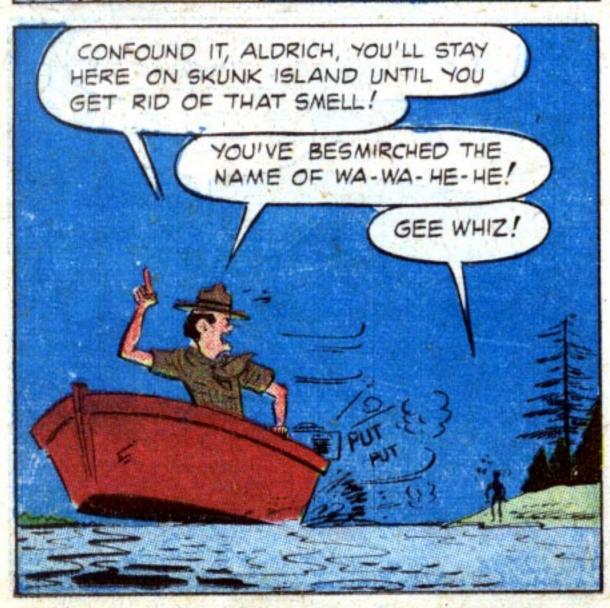


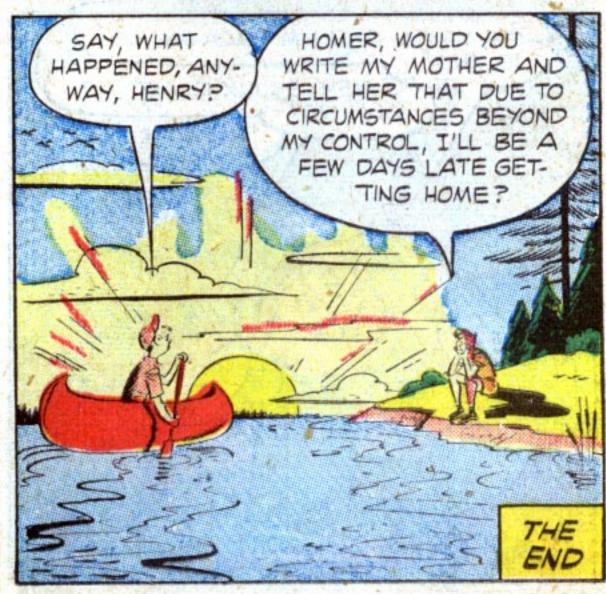


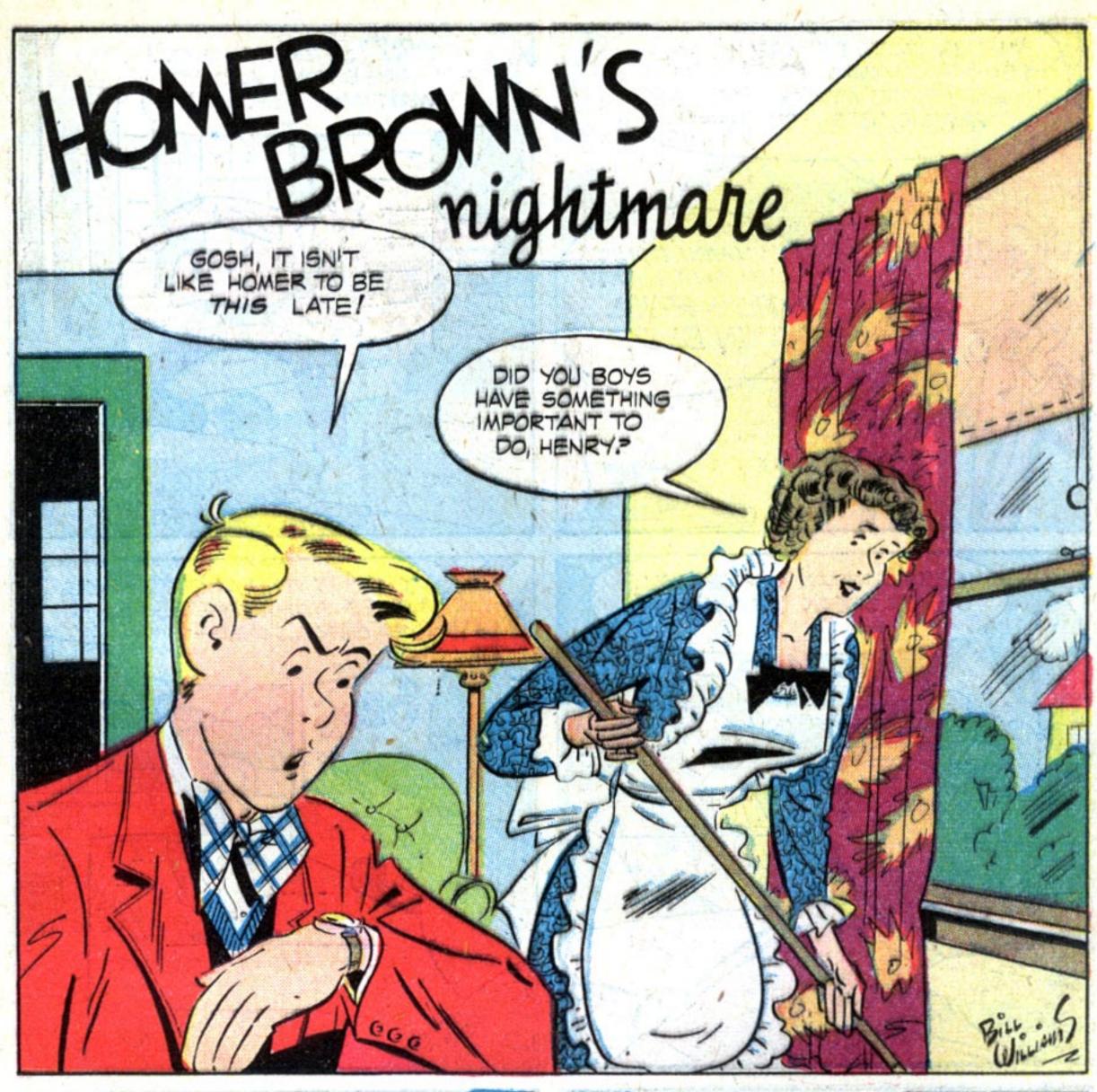








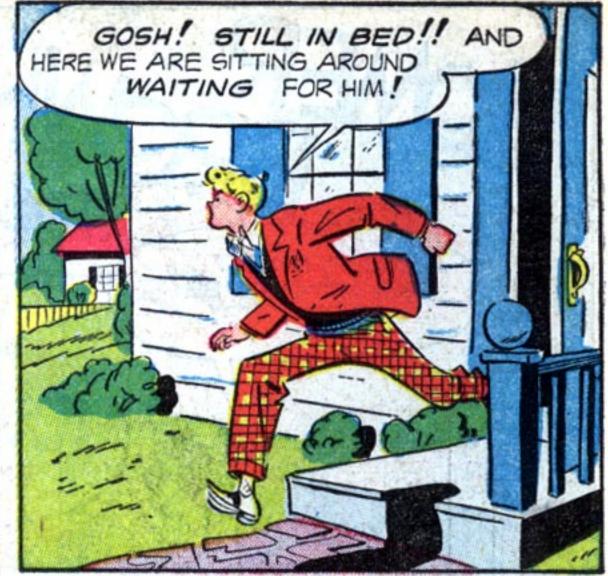












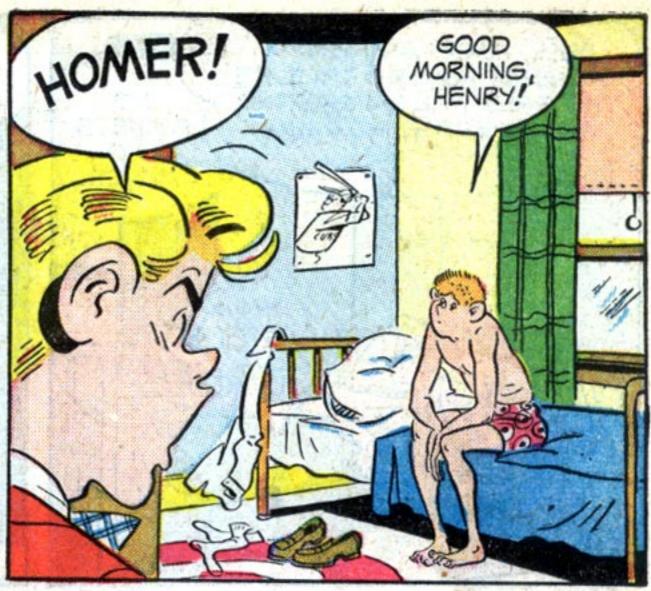


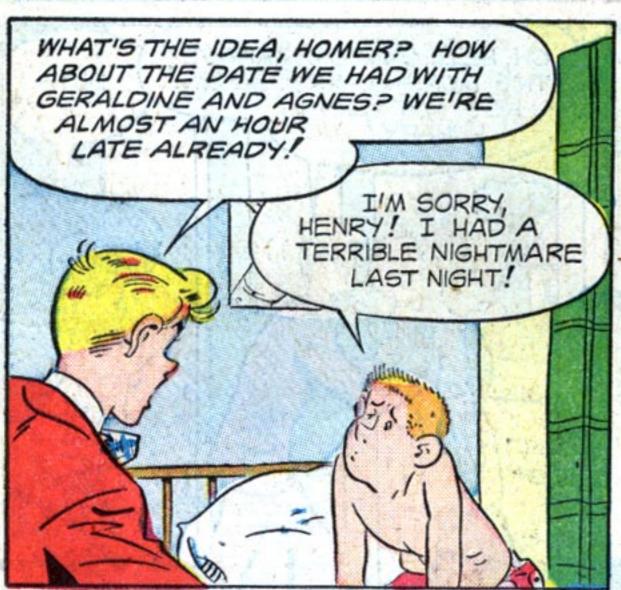


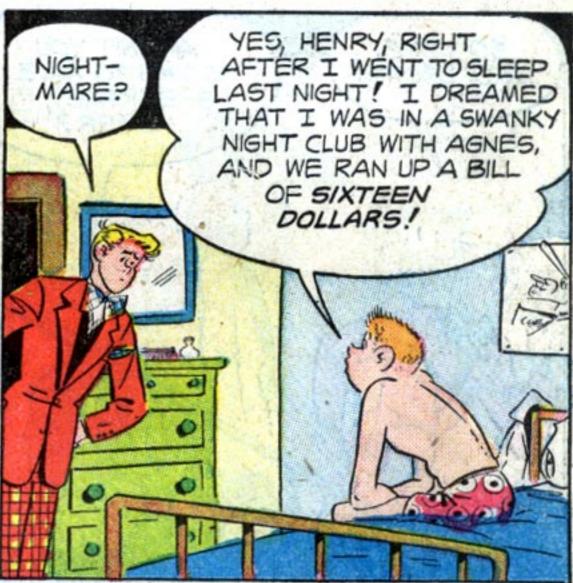




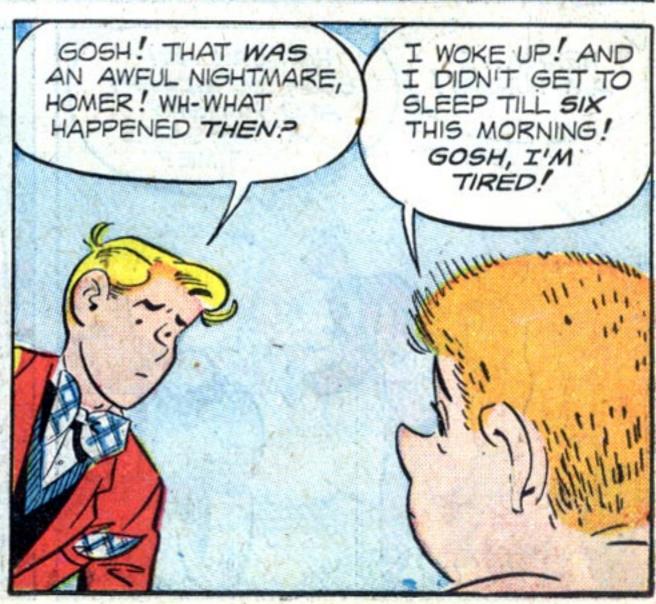


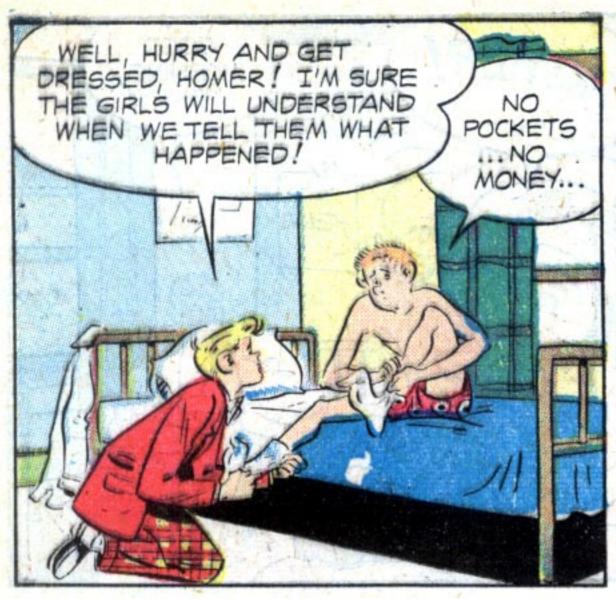




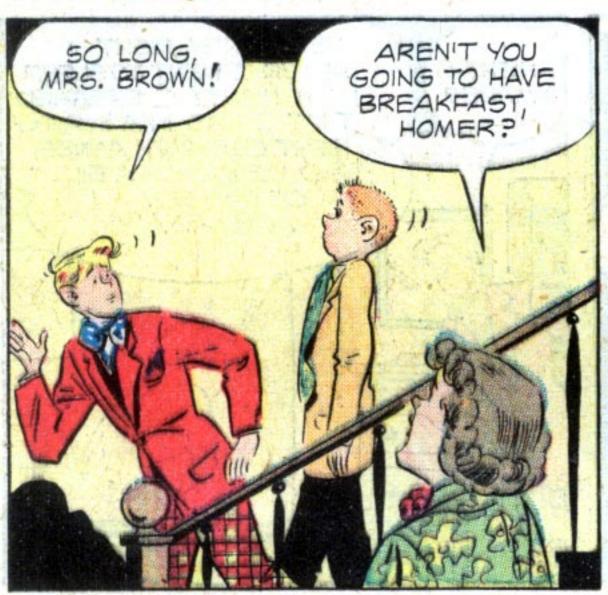


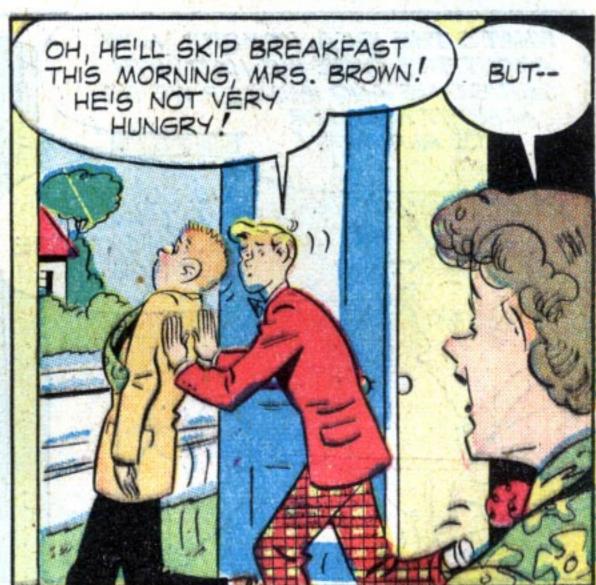


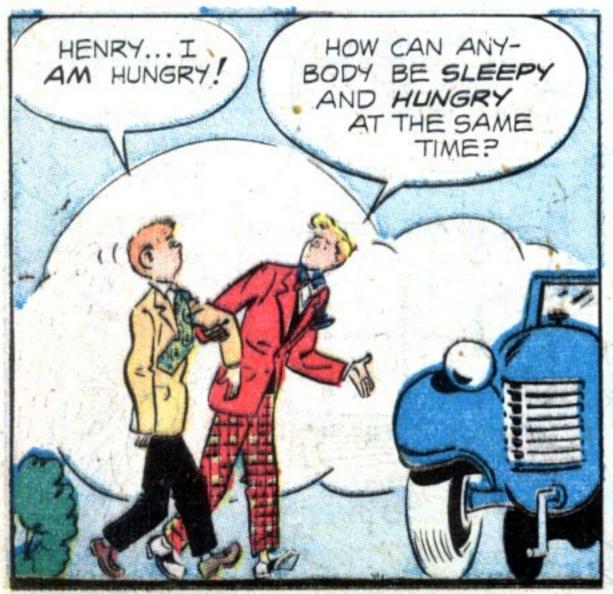


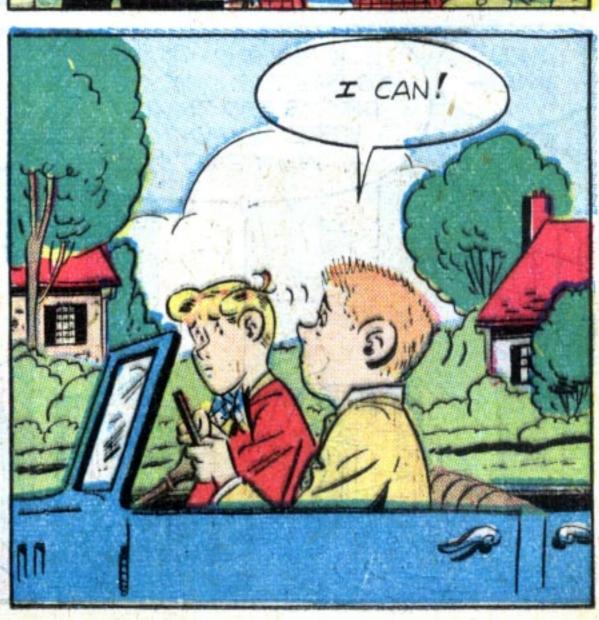


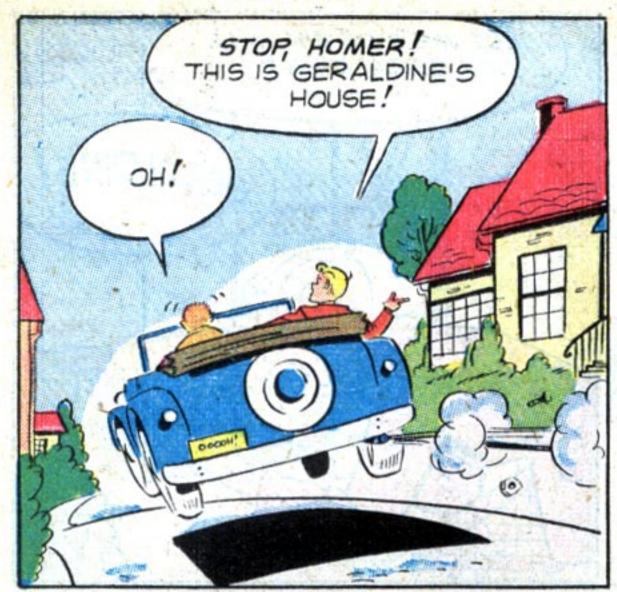






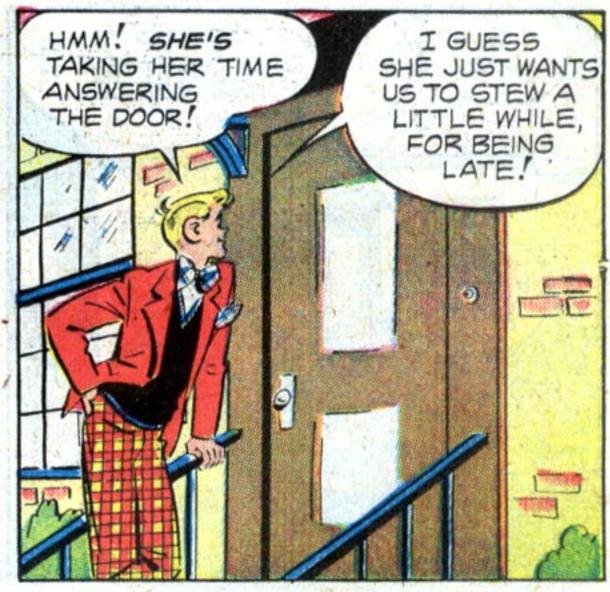


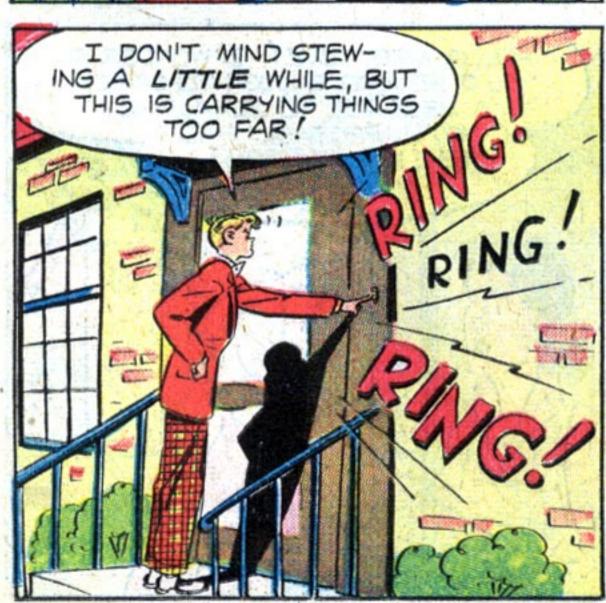


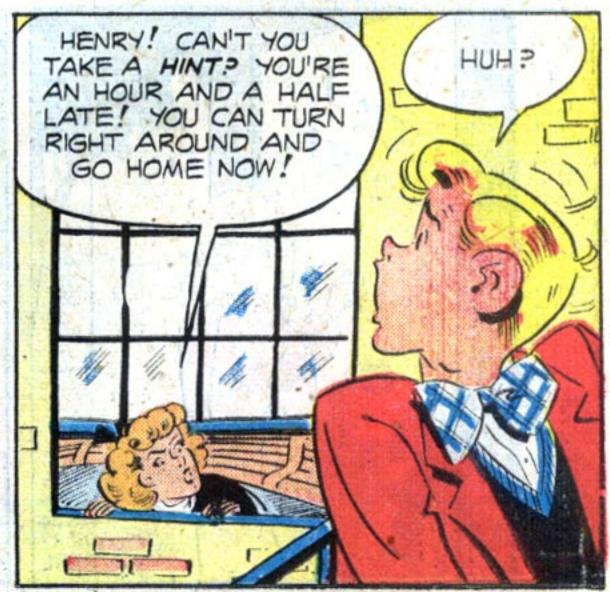


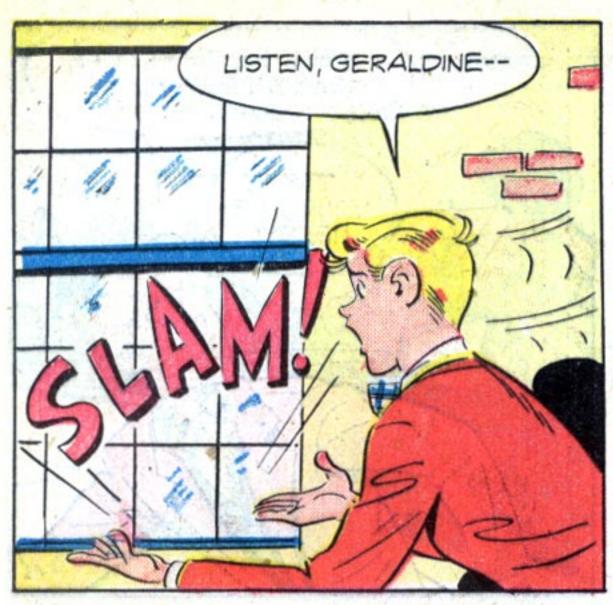








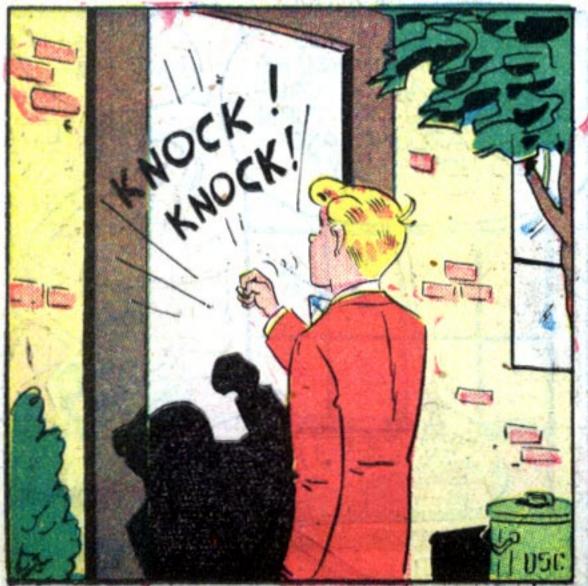








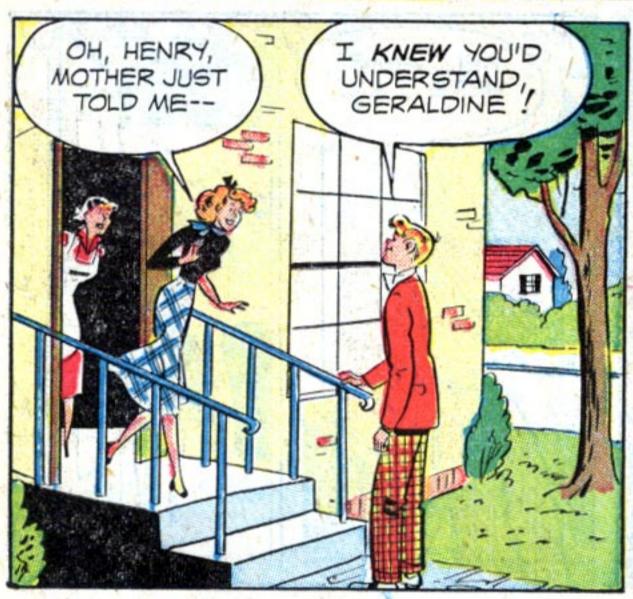




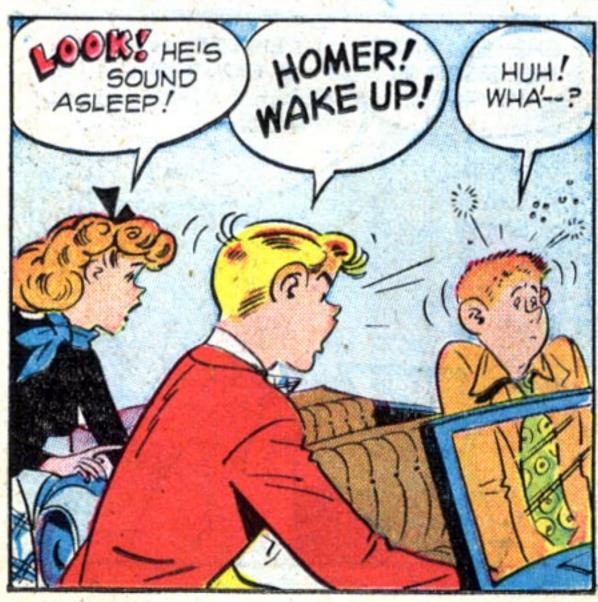


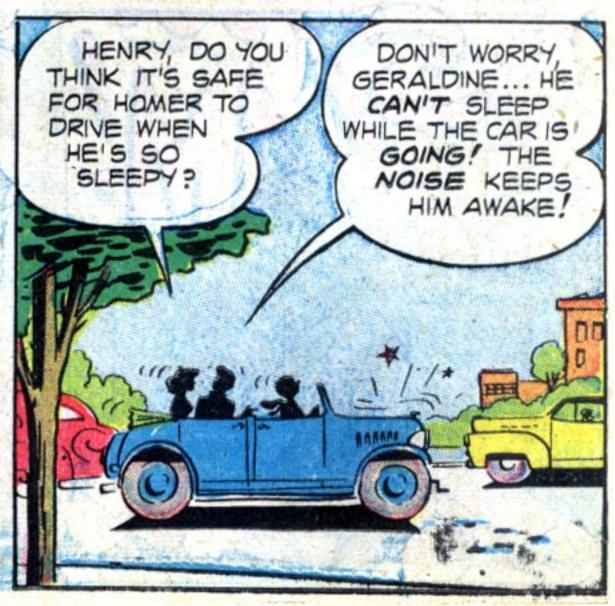


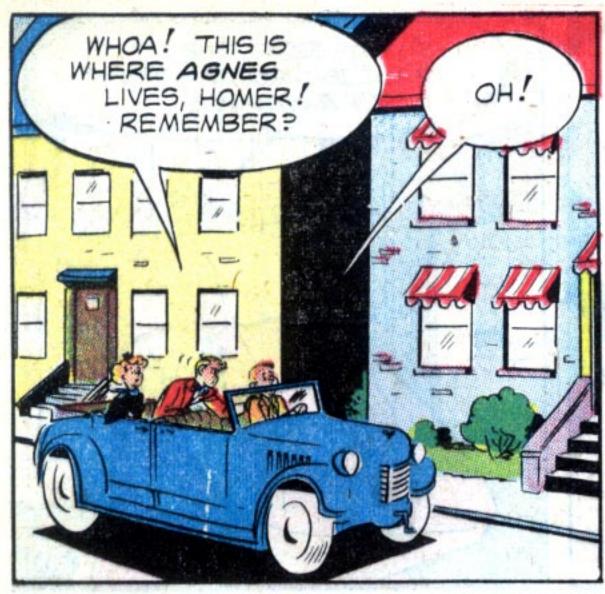


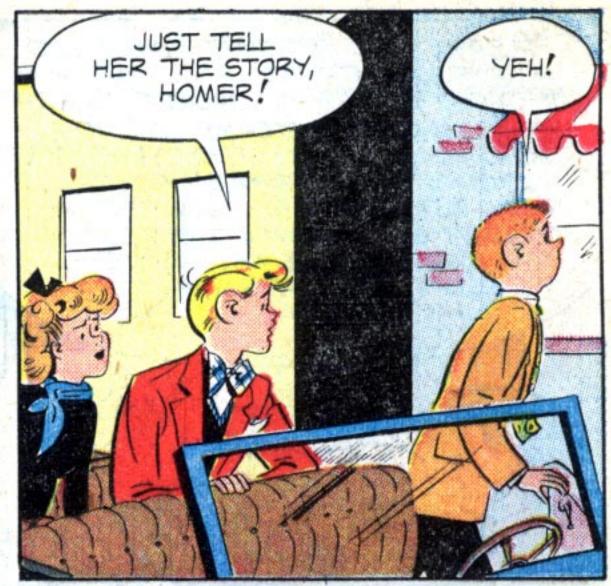


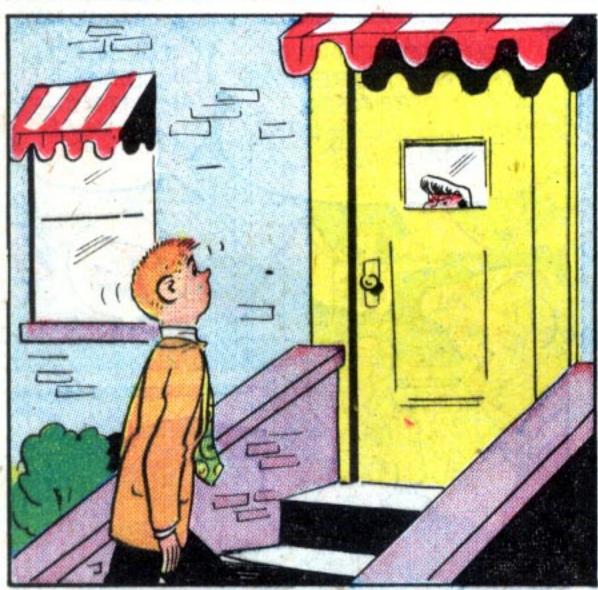


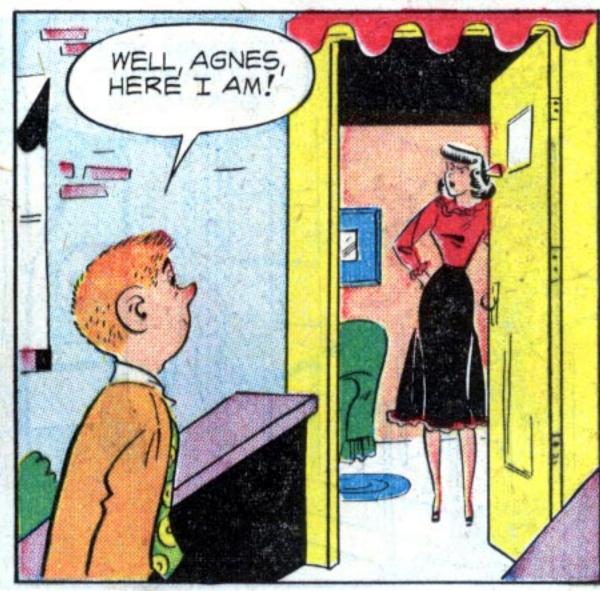


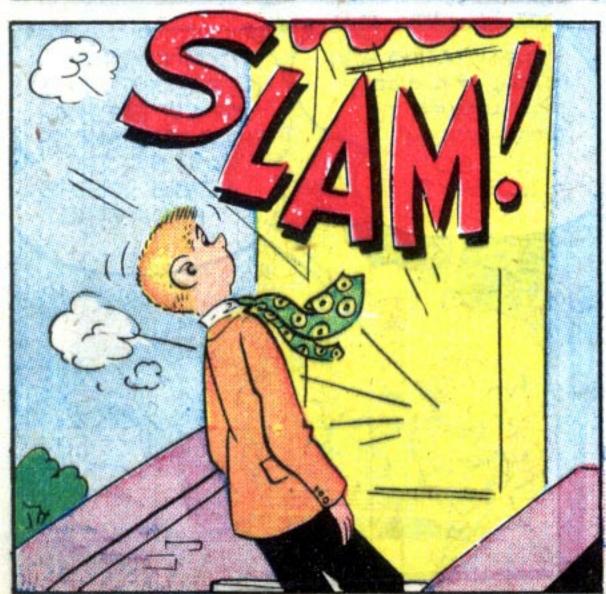


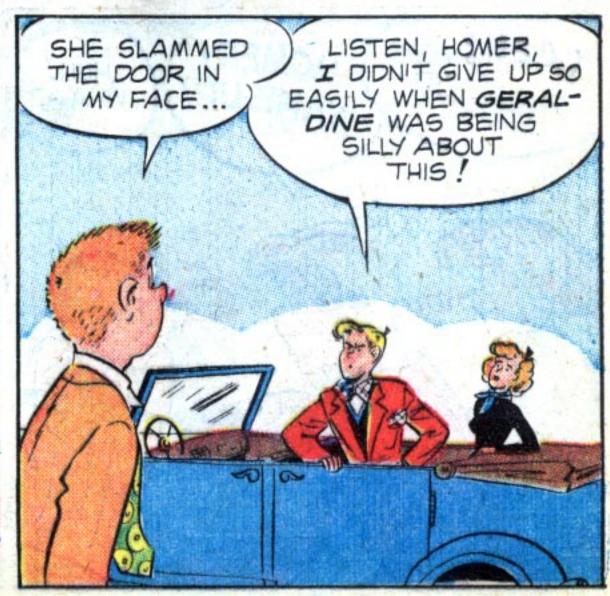




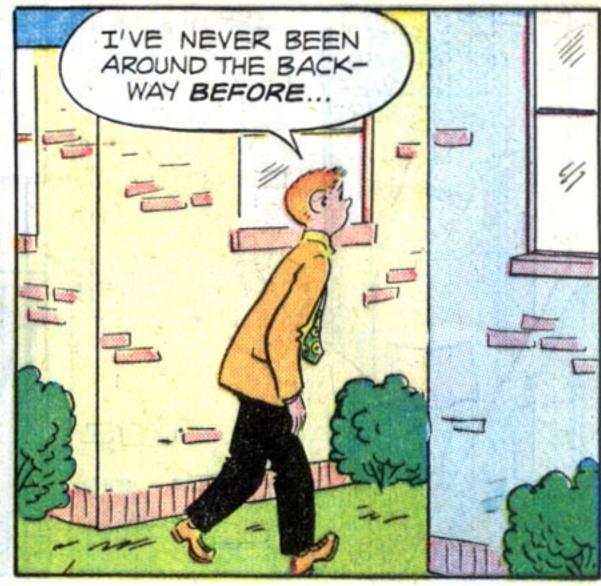




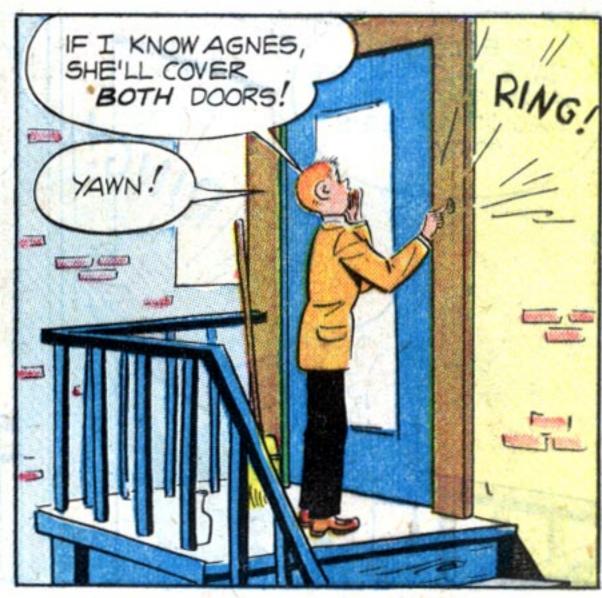








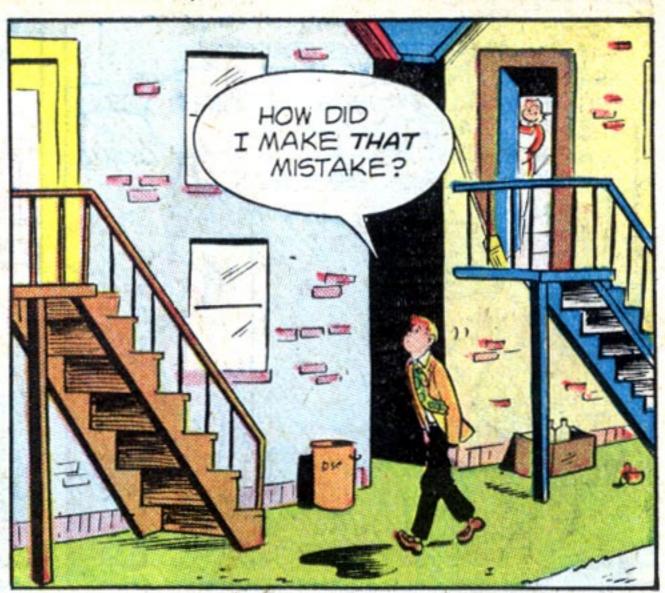




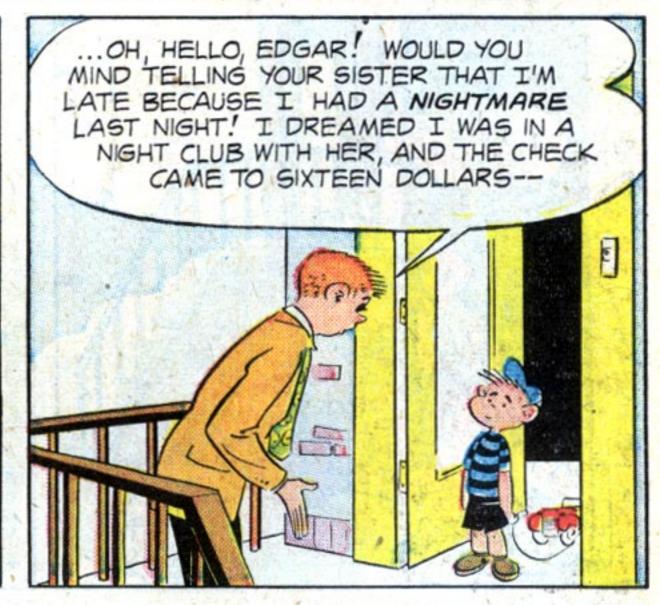


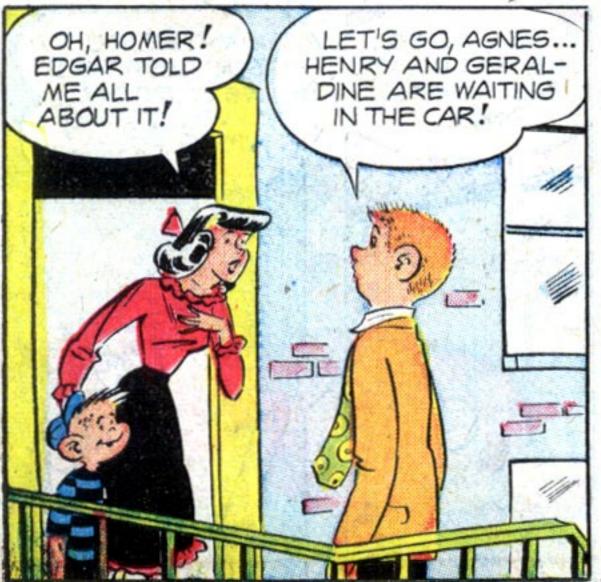


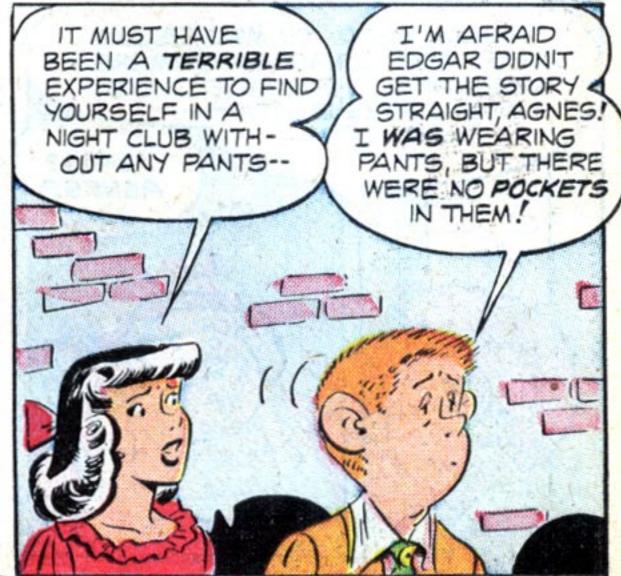


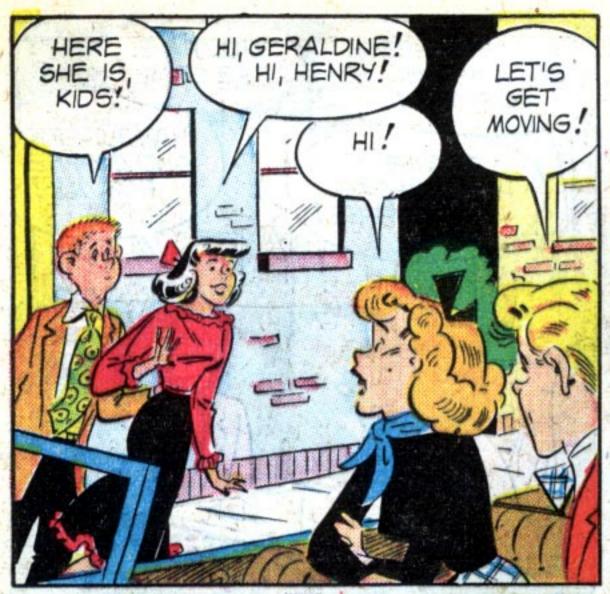


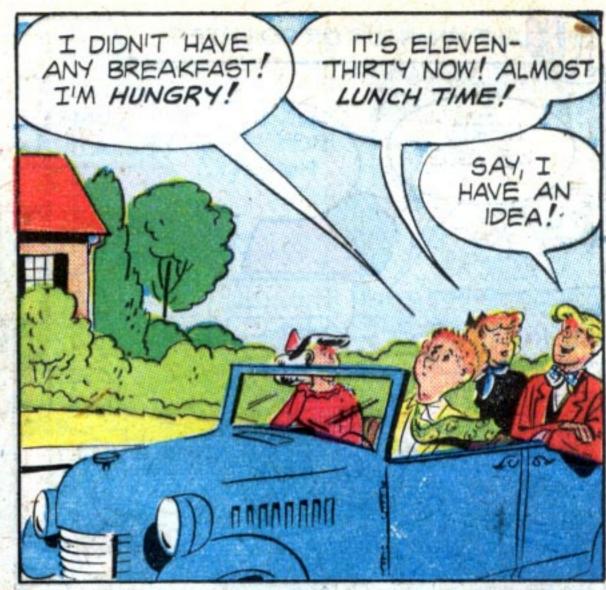




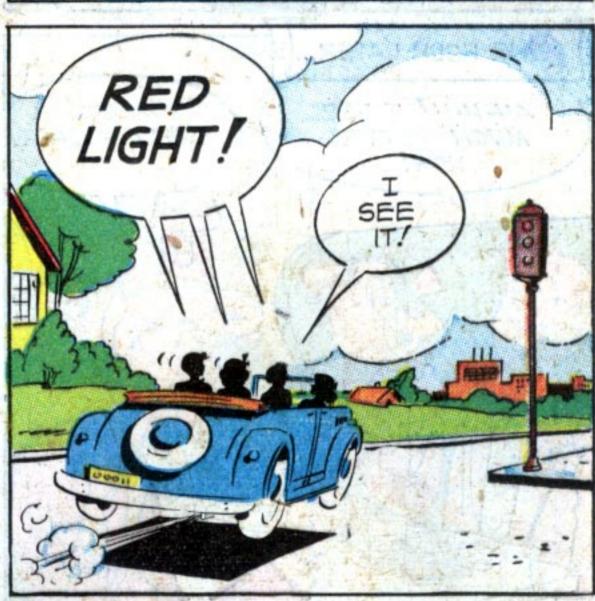


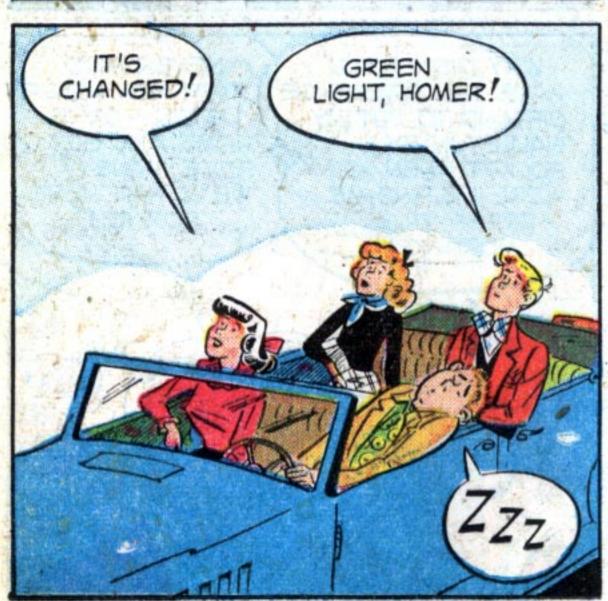


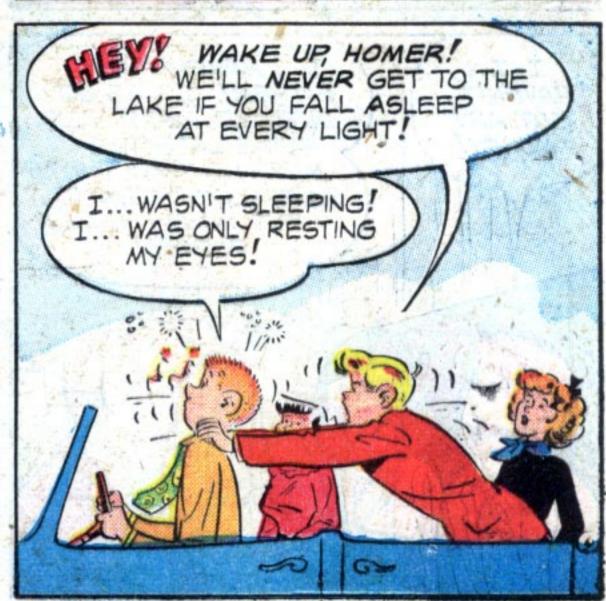




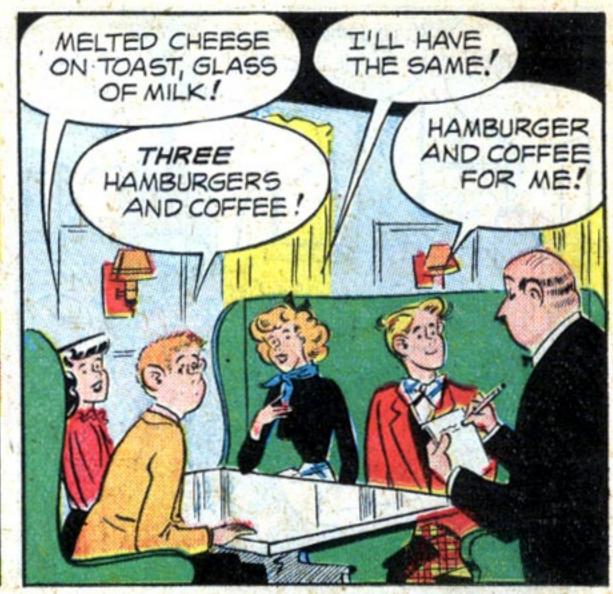




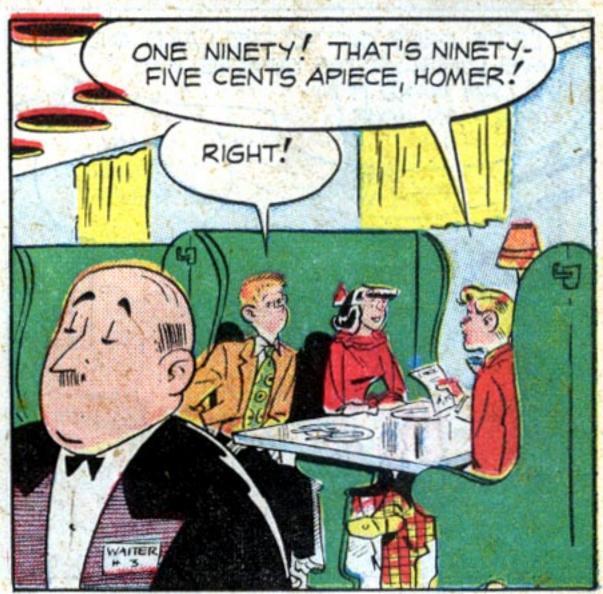






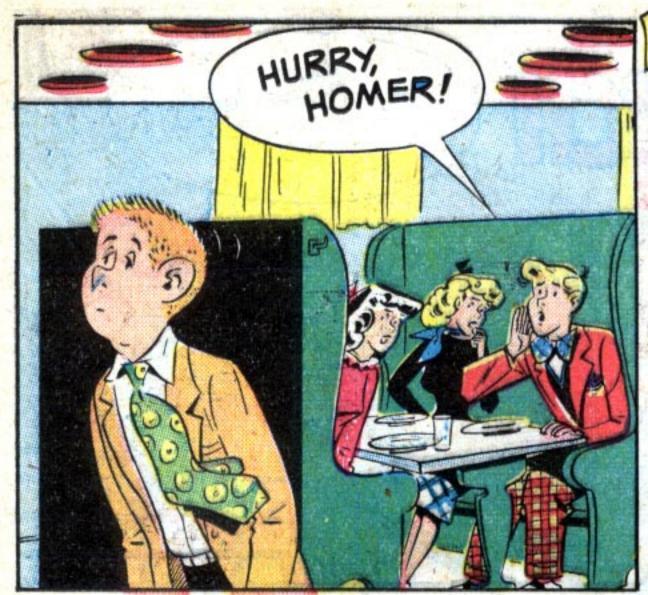




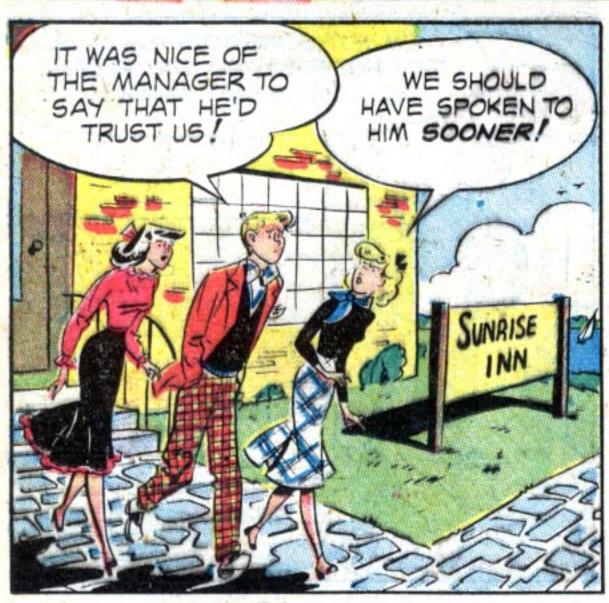






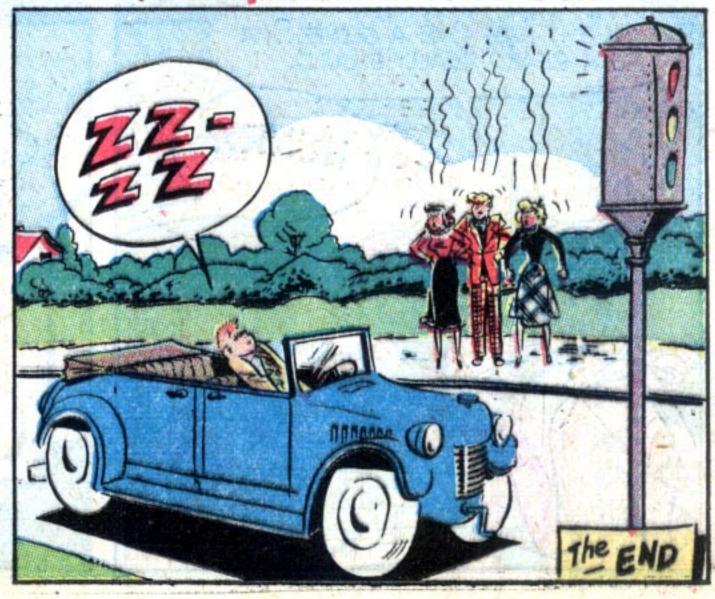


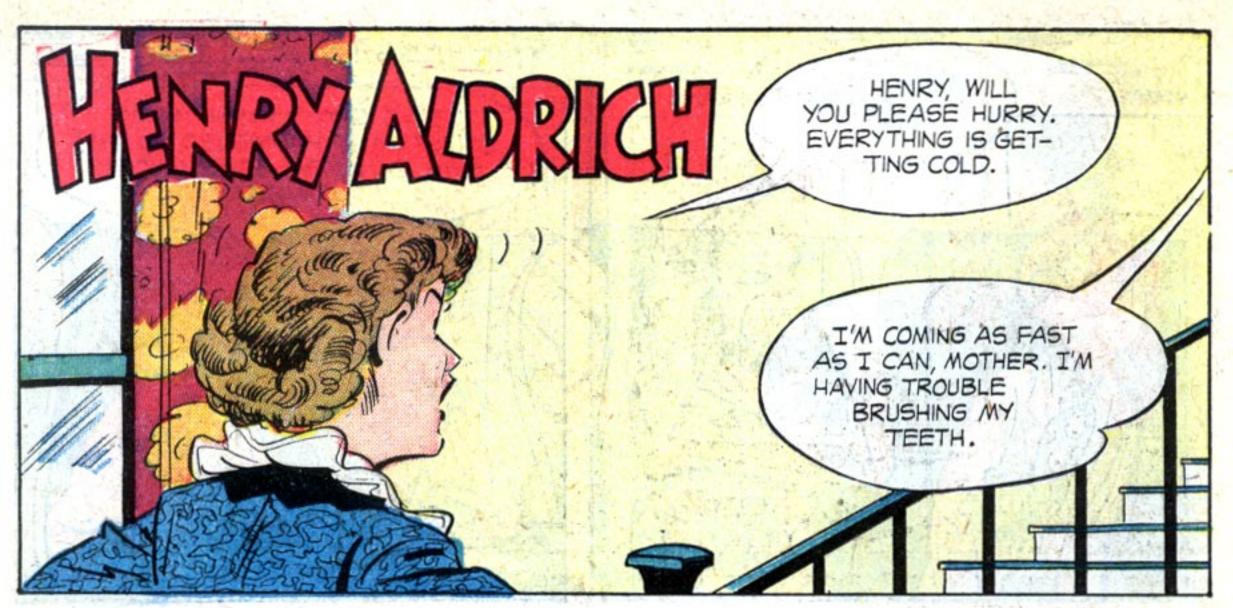


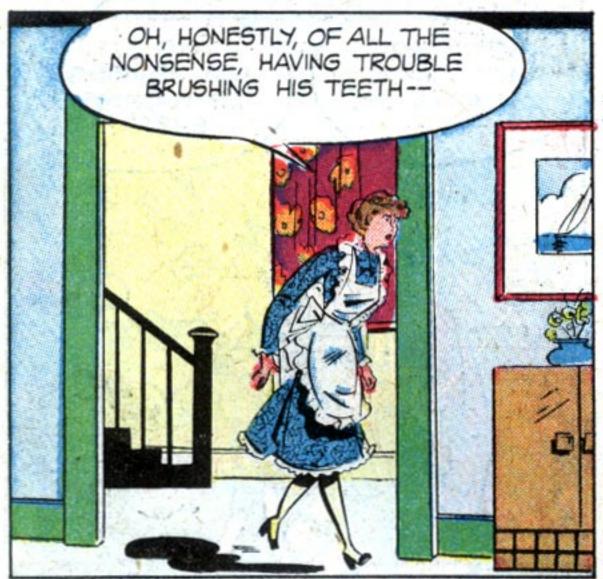




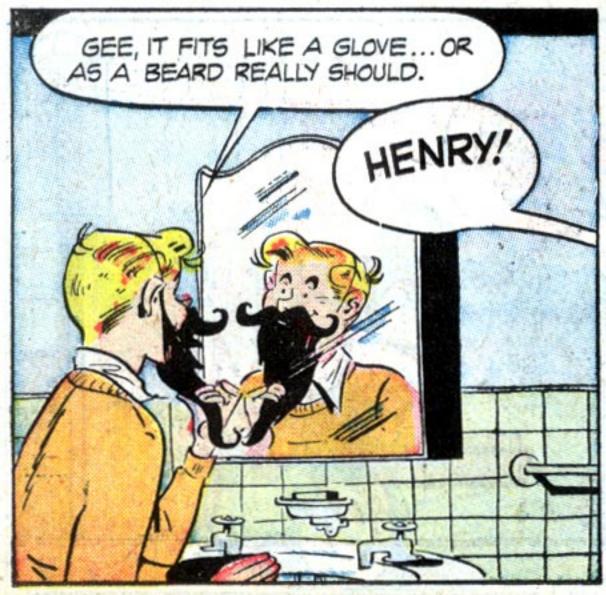








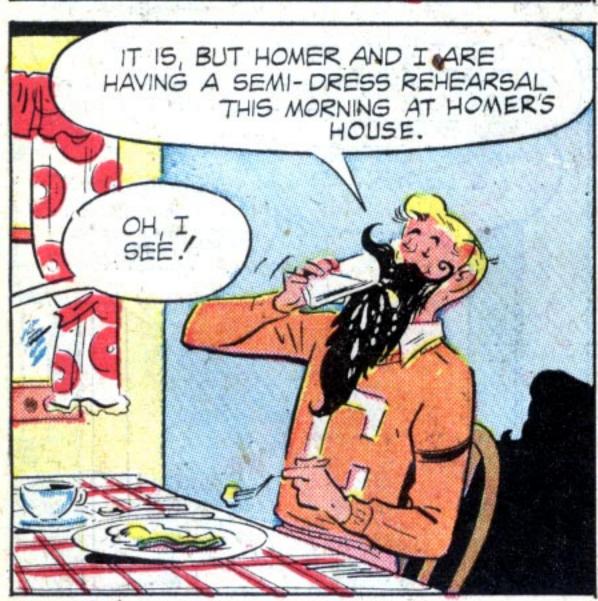




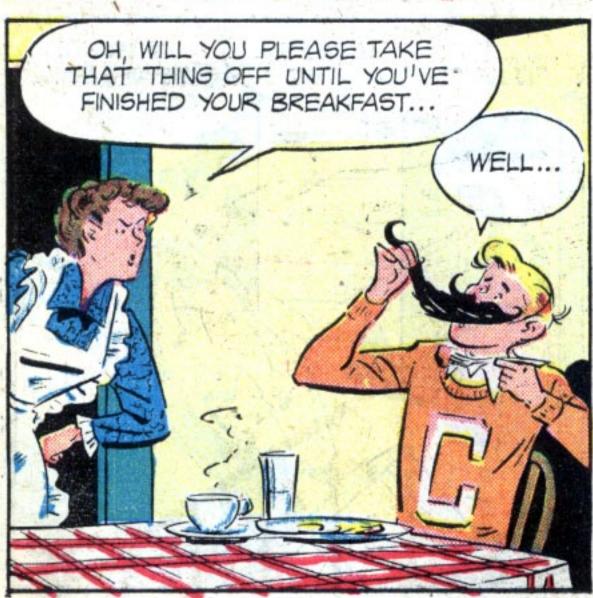
















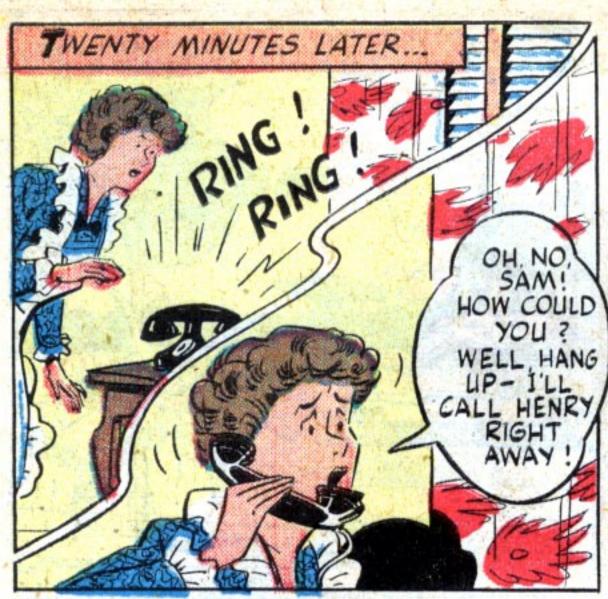










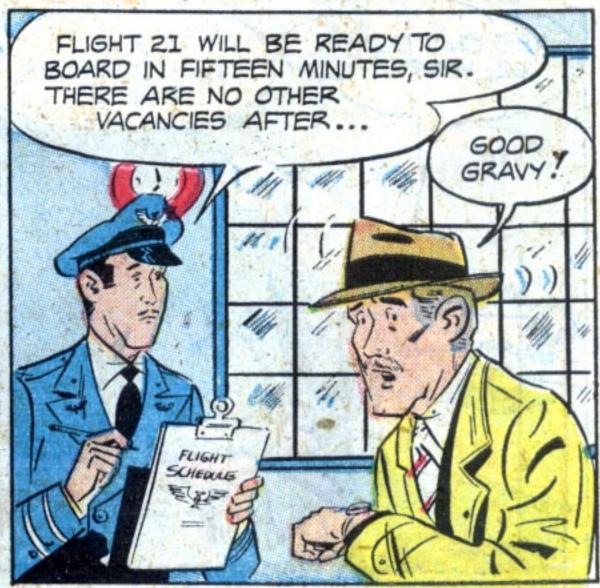






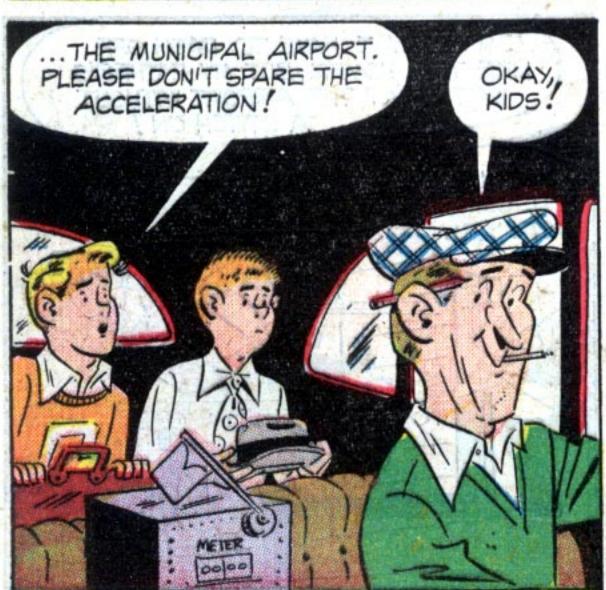




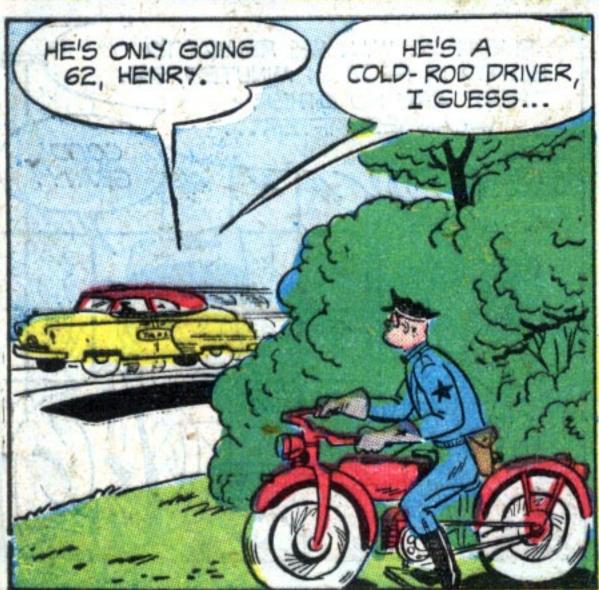


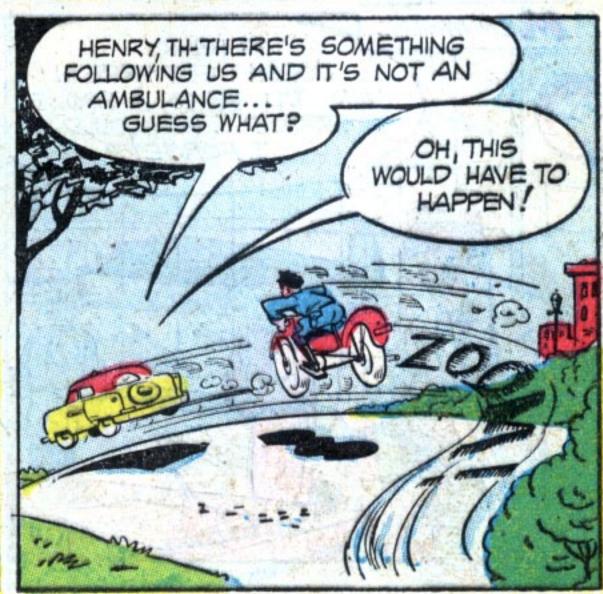


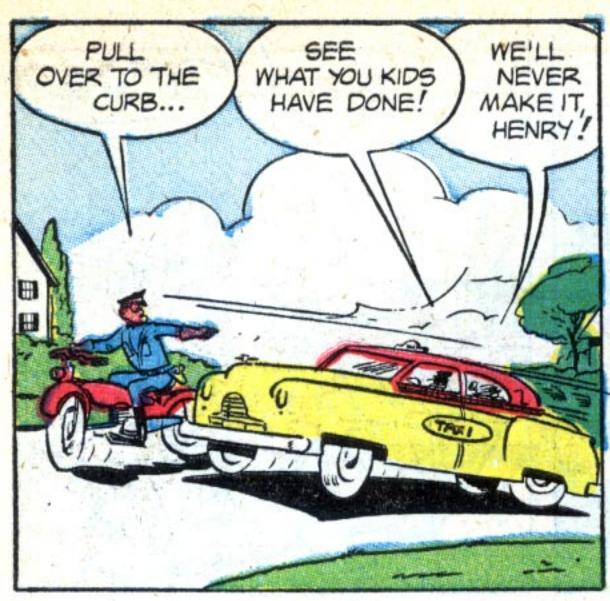


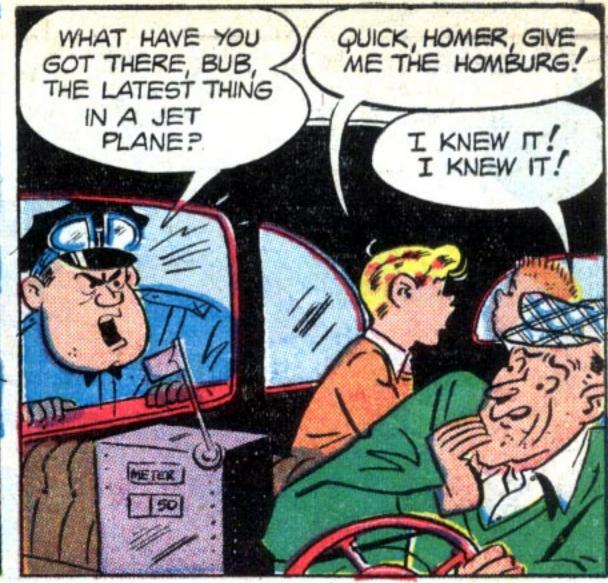




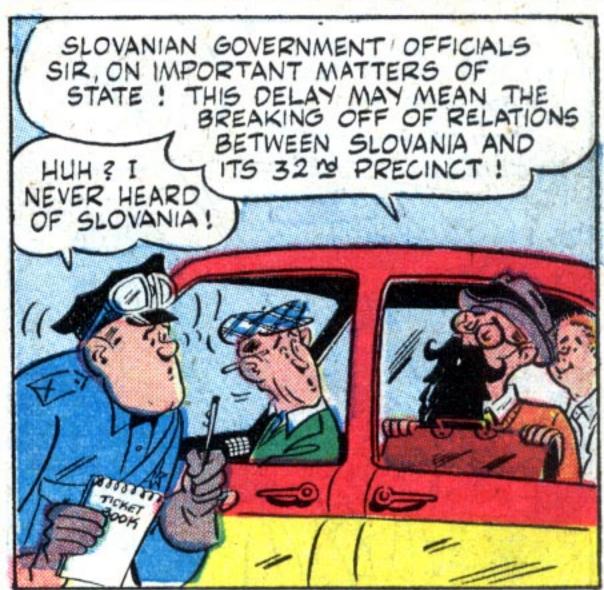




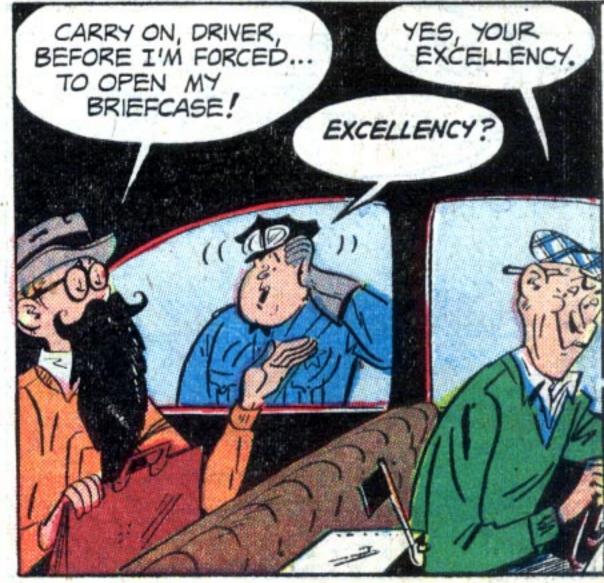


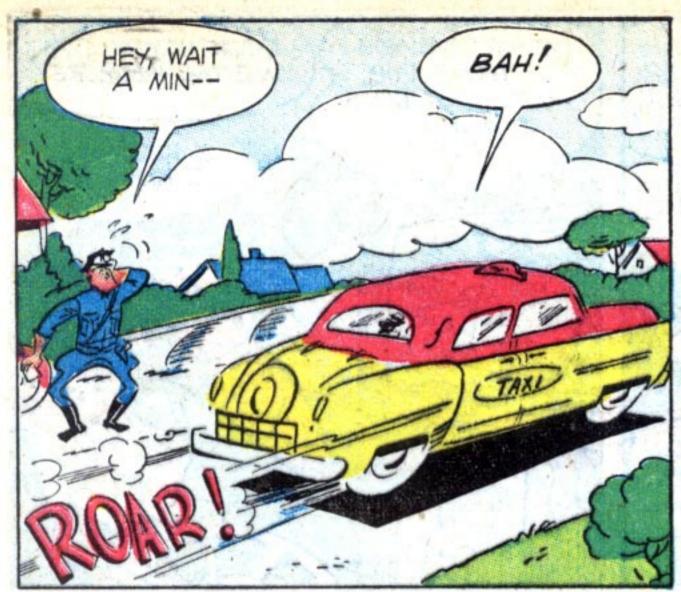


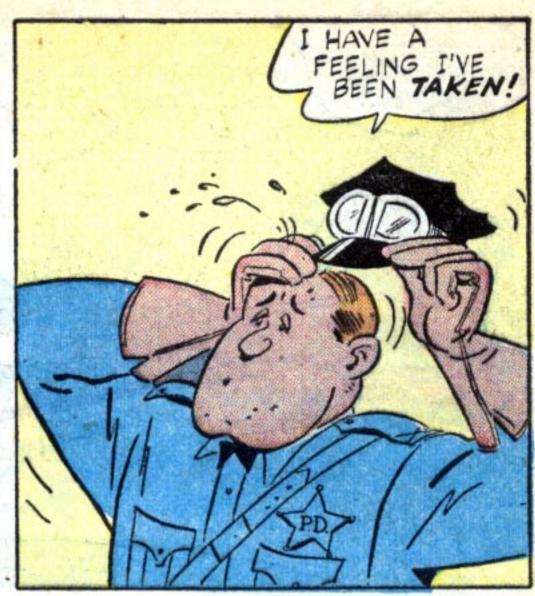








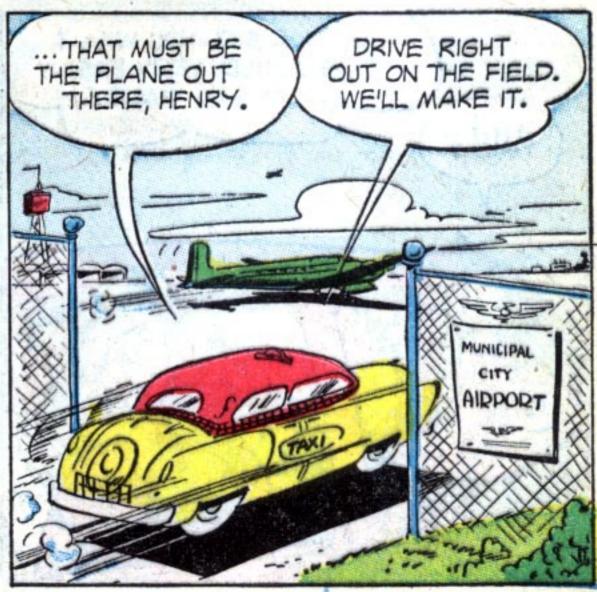


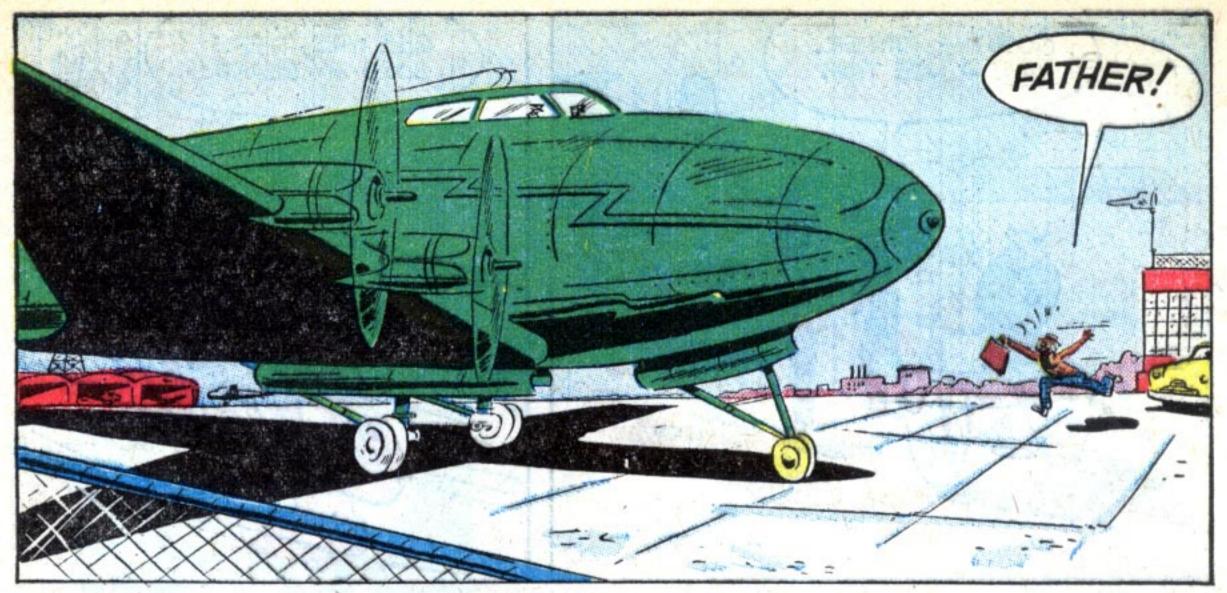










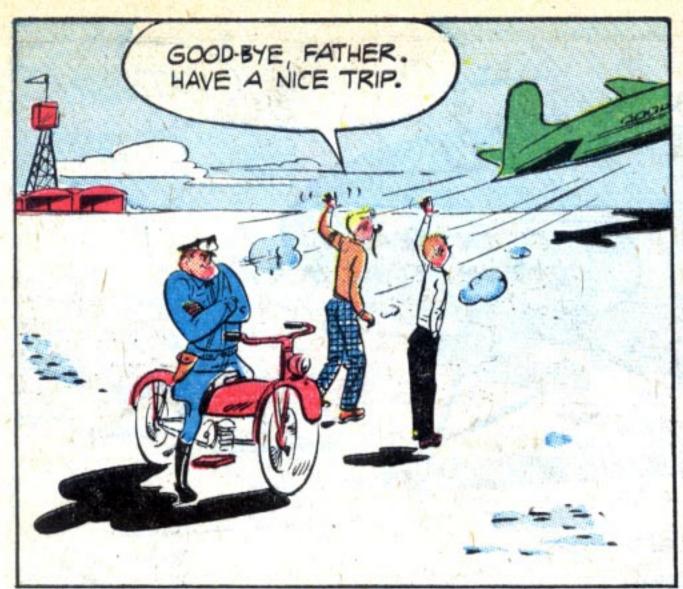


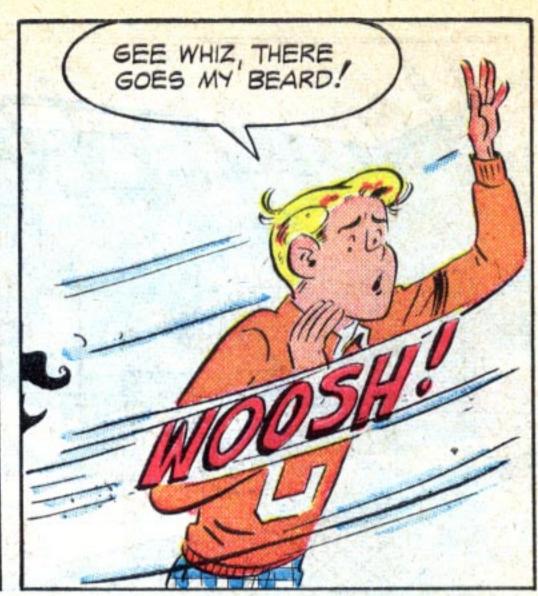


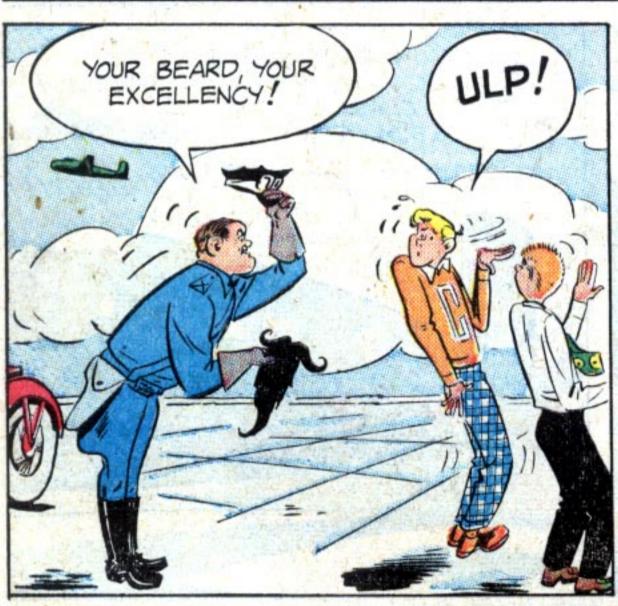








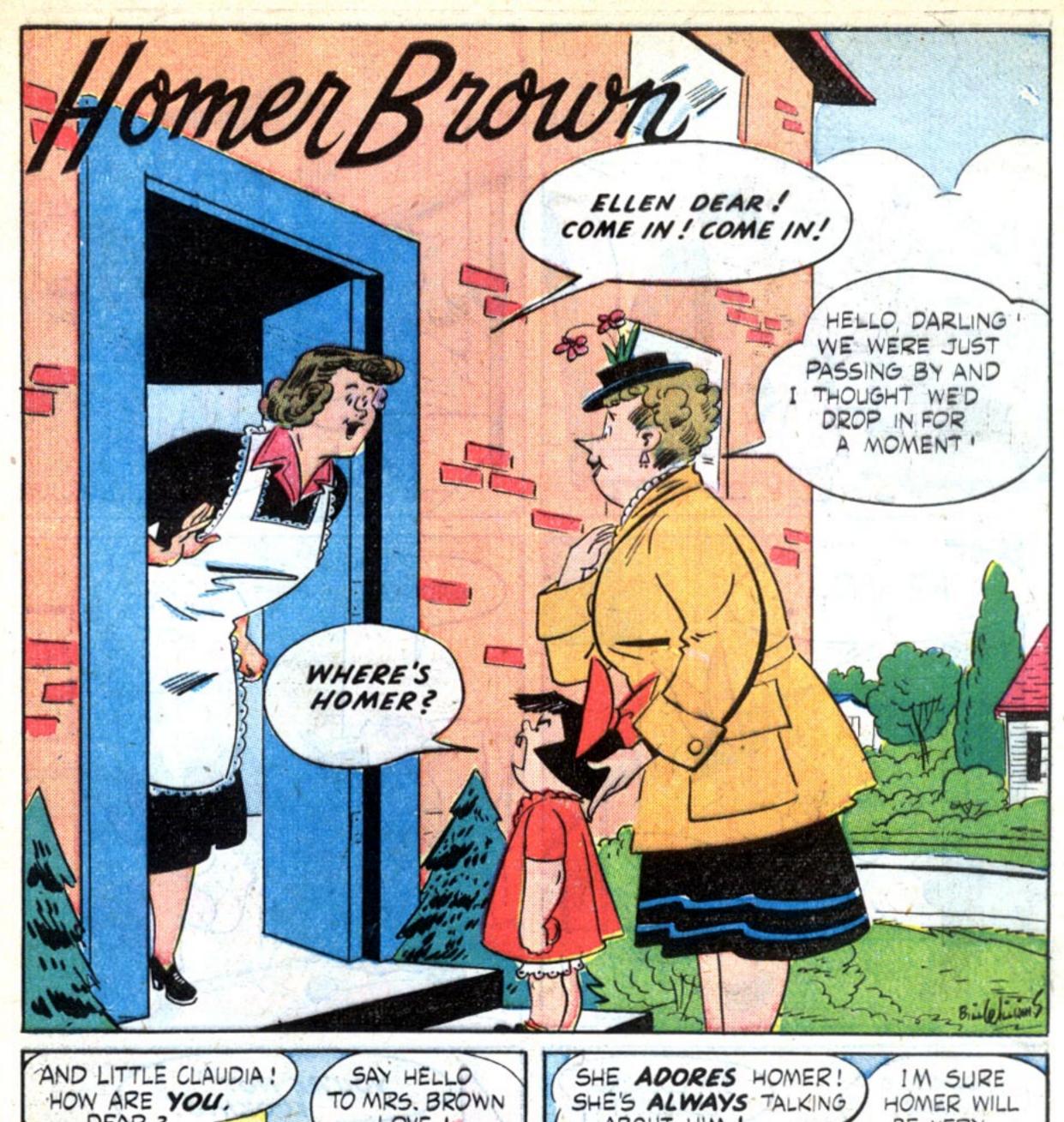






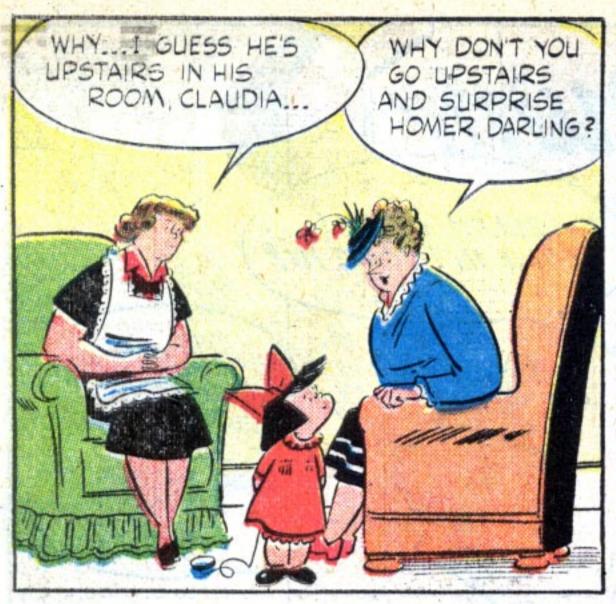






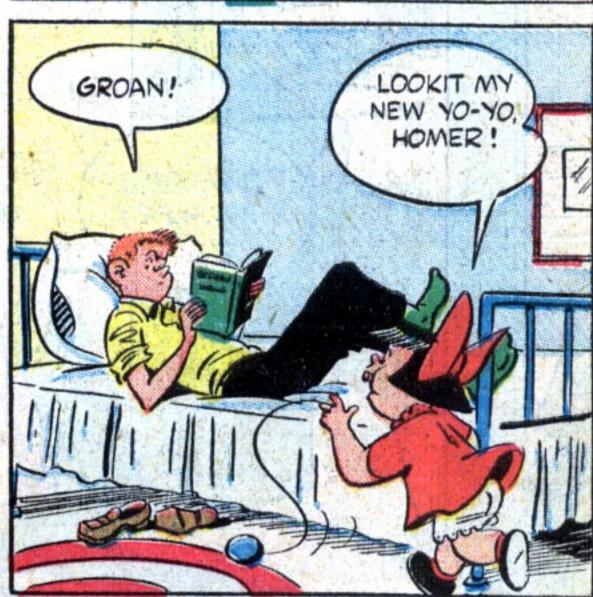


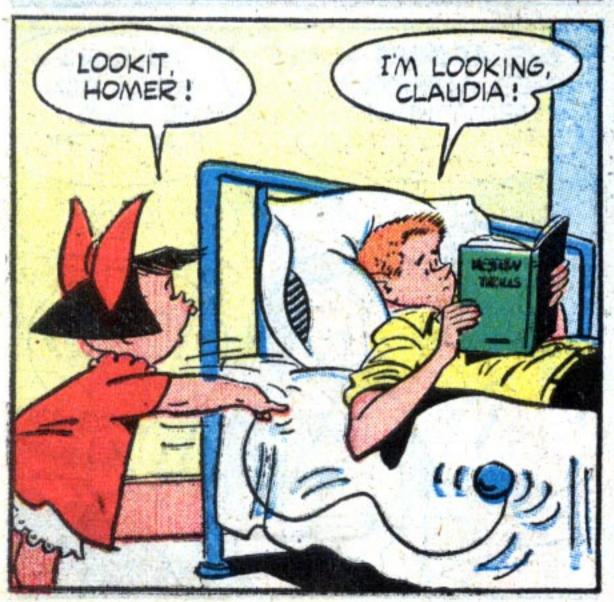


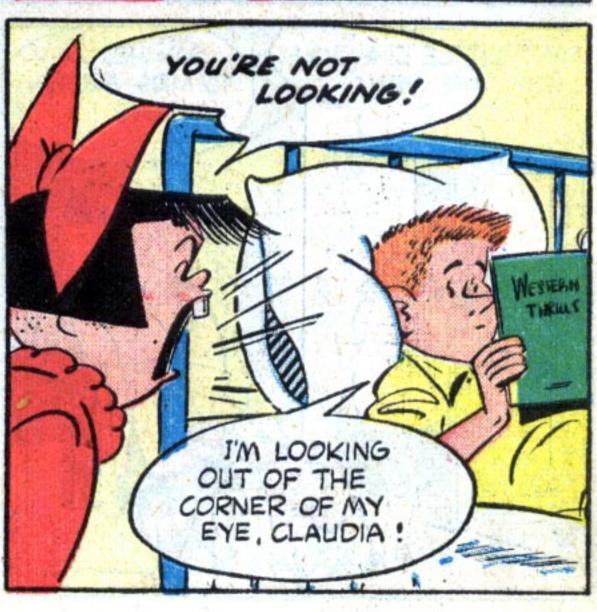


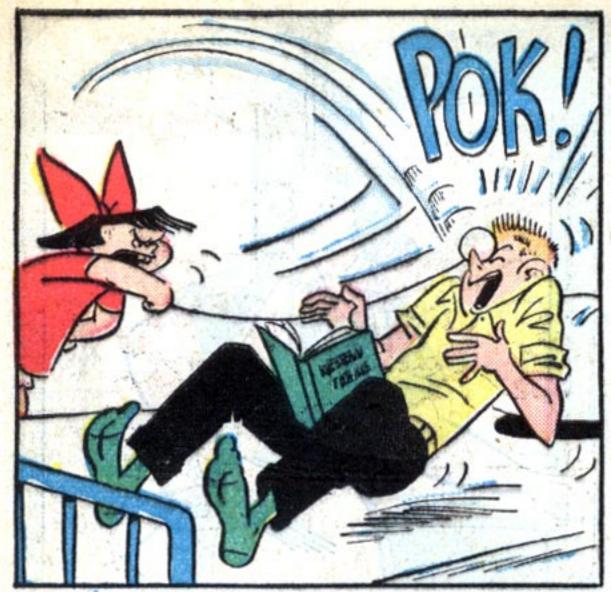






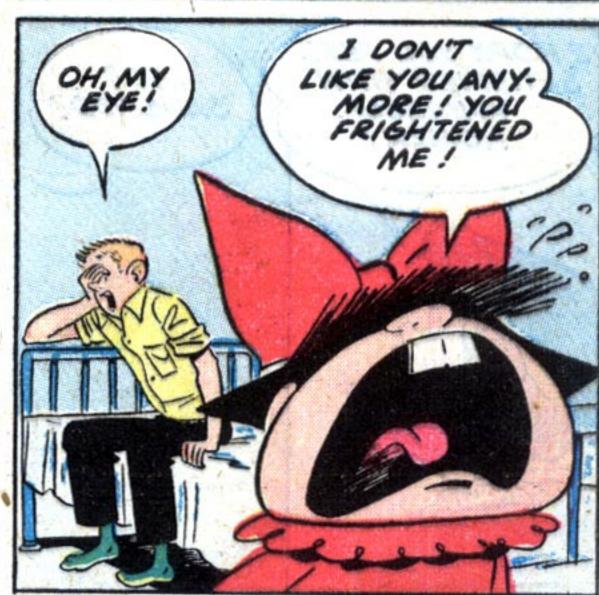




























HENRY ALDRICH, STAR REPORTER

(Continued from inside front cover)

terview you for my paper. You see, I—"
"Our paper," corrected Homer.

"Why, certainly," said Miss Craig, sweetly. "Do sit down, I was expecting you."

Henry gulped, "Uh, you were?

Gee . . ."

Just then the crowd parted and two

men came up.

"Ah, Miss Craig," said the short, fat one, "I'm afraid we're a little late but we'll go right ahead with the interview and pictures anyway. I'm John Smedly from the paper and this is . . ." he stopped when he saw the "Press" card in Henry's hat.

"Who's this?" he asked, pointing to

Henry.

Miss Craig smiled, "Why, he's a reporter too!"

"Sure, that's right," said Henry.

"The Elm Street Clarion!"

"The Greatest Little Paper In The

World," Homer added.

"Ha, don't let them fool you with that 'member of the press' technique," said Mr. Smedly. "There's no such paper in this town. Now, run along, Sonny."

"No, wait," interrupted Miss Craig.
"I think he's cute. Why couldn't he be
my date in the publicity photographs?"

Henry blushed and swallowed twice. Mr. Smedly brightened up, "Say, that IS an idea . . . not bad . . . I can see it now, 'Miss Craig visits small town . . has date with local boy . . . sodas for one, with two straws,' and all that sort of thing. That's a great idea!"

Henry gasped, "Oh, no, no," he cried. "What would Geraldine say?"

"Please stay," said Miss Craig, patting Henry's hand.

"But . . . my girl . . . she'll . . . "

"Don't worry," cried Mr. Smedly, "take her hand, boy, look into her eyes. We want this to be good!"

Miss Craig moved closer. This was

too much for Henry.

"Homer . . . help," he cried weakly, but the flash bulbs popped and the directing voices of Mr. Smedly and his friend, the publicity agent, drowned out all protests. Henry was photographed ordering from the menu, eating banana splits, helping Miss Craig with her coat, and even holding her hand.

Meanwhile Homer was assuming his duties as staff photographer for "The Elm Street Clarion." He finally got his camera set up and was preparing his primitive flash powder when "POOF!" there was a blinding flash of light and a cloud of acrid, white smoke filled the drugstore.

The crowd fought its way in much confusion out onto the street, shouting and coughing. Mr. Bingham was very much upset, but Homer managed to get away unnoticed with Henry closely

behind.

"Phew, Homer," gasped Henry when they'd reached the quiet of the Aldrich cellar, "you did it, all right, with that darned flash powder!"

"Well, Henry, you wanted me to get you out of that lovely predicament,

didn't you?"

They were interrupted by Mrs. Aldrich, "Oh, Henry, telephone for you!"

"Oh, they've come after me," he moaned as he climbed the cellar steps.

Henry wasn't gone long and when he returned, he was sadder than before.

"Who was it, Henry?" asked Homer. He paused, "Er . . . not Geraldine?"

Henry sighed. "Yes, Homer, Geraldine. She called to say she was in the crowd and had seen everything. She

says she's through!"

Needless to say, that was the end of "The Greatest Little Paper In The World." Next day, the trash man hauled the press away.



