

VANDERGELDER/ERMENGARDE

VANDERGELDER

....Damn! How can I be expected to play Yonkers My Yonkers with all that bellowing in my ears!

ERMENGARDE

I can't help it, Uncle. I love Ambrose Kemper!

VANDERGELDER

And I say you're too young to be in love with anybody! Here, take this!

(Thrusting drum into HER arms)

ERMENGARDE

I'm not too young! I'm seventeen, and in another year I'll be an old maid.

VANDERGELDER

Well, I forbid it! Dare to be an old maid, Ermengarde, and I'll cut you off without a cent!

(HE hits drum, SHE screams)

And don't cry in front of the store!

ERMENGARDE

I can't help it! I'm unhappy!

(Running L to enter Feed Store)

VANDERGELDER

(Following HER in)

Then by thunder you'll go and weep for awhile in New York where it won't be noticed! Now go upstairs and start packing your trunk, and don't get any tears on the lock! It was just oiled!