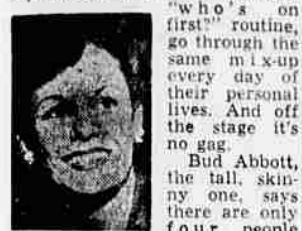


.... AROUND HOLLYWOOD

By VIRGINIA MacPHERSON
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood, May 25 — (U.P.) — Abbott and Costello, who hit the top brackets with their confused "who's on first" routine, go through the same mix-up every day of their personal lives. And off the stage it's no gag.



Virginia MacPherson
United Press Correspondent

Bud Abbott, the tall, skinny one, says there are only four people who don't at one time or another—take him for Lou Costello, the short, fat one.

They are: (1) Mr. Abbott's banker, (2) Mr. Abbott's wife, (3) Mr. Costello's banker, and (4) Mr. Costello's wife.

Nobody else, moans Abbott, seems to be able to remember which is which.

"Not even our producer," he grins. "He's always calling me 'Lou' and 'Bud'. Everybody at the studio does it—sooner or later. Even our press agent."

Bud gets far more mail for Lou... and vice versa. Same way with bills. Lou once got a subpoena issued to Bud because he couldn't convince the server he wasn't Abbott.

Always Linked Together

"The public links us up together," Bud says. "Even when we go out separately. Anybody I'm with has got to be Lou—whether he looks like him or not. Same way with Lou. He

could go out with his sister, I bet, and have somebody take her for me."

Then there's the classic story of the red cap in the Los Angeles railroad station who carried Lou's bags and told his buddies: "I just put Abbott and Costello on the train."

"The kids do it all the time," Abbot said. "They've got two approaches: They either say to me: 'How about an autograph, Mr. Costello?' or—if I'm out with somebody who isn't Lou—they get mine and then say to my friend: 'How about you, Lou?'"

Why Disappoint Them?

Their fans'd be flabbergasted, Abbot chuckled, if they knew how many ersatz autographs floating around signed "Lou Costello" were really scribbled by his press agent, attorney, brother-in-law, business manager, etc....

"Why disappoint 'em?" Bud says.

He (Bud, that is) just opened a suitcase, selling "Bud Abbott television sets." And if the checks come in made out to Lou Costello he won't be one bit surprised.

The boys've tried everything. They got the studio to put separate pictures at either side of theater lobbies with their names in big, black letters.

This worked fine, for a while. Then came the inevitable juggling. Bud's picture had Lou's name under it, etc....

"We gave up," Abbott shrugged. "And you know what did it? We even got ourselves mixed up!"

"I was telling somebody a story about Lou the other day and I absent-mindedly called him 'Bud'. That's all brother!"

"So far, our wives have kept us straightened out—and we can't cash each other's checks. 'But we can fool everybody else.'"

WILD ABOUT MOVIES

Corinth, Miss. — (U.P.) — T. O. Simmons doesn't need a vacation for relaxation. He goes to the movies. Simmons attends a movie every day except Sunday and in the last 10 years he hasn't missed more than three shows a year.

More golf is played at Pinehurst, N. C., than anywhere else in the world. There are five courses in the immediate vicinity.



BUYS FIRST POPPY—Mayor Diamond Flynn bought the first poppy in the annual Memorial week-end sale sponsored by the American Legion auxiliary and Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary. The sale will be held Friday and Saturday and members of both groups will sell the familiar bright red poppies on the city's streets and in business houses. Popping the poppy on Mayor Flynn's coat is Mrs. Irving Housechild, chairman of the sale for the Legion auxiliary and other Legion auxiliary members, left to right, are Mrs. Tom Ginn, secretary of the unit, Mrs. Clark Walker, president, and Mrs. Leo Williams, department Camp White chairman. —(Brainard photo).

A marsupial is an animal equipped with a pouch for carrying its young.

There are 16 state parks and recreational areas complete or under construction in Tennessee.

Tasmania is half the size of Florida and has a shore line of about 900 miles.

Thursday, May 25, 1950

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