

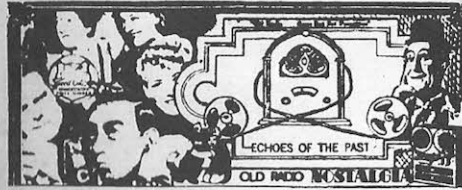
Perhaps some of you collectors of old radio who have "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" on Lux wonder why Tim didn't recreate the part he played in the movie. Believe it or not it was because the Producers of Lux told him he wasn't right for the part. It's funny John Houston didn't notice that at the time he made the movie.

When Rogers and Austry went to TV Tim said no. After 27 years he was tired of it, and retired from the movies to Oklahoma City, with his lovely wife and wonderful 3 children, where he has lived for the last 10 years.

I asked Tim what he liked best about his years as movie acting.

"Davey Sharp and I pulled some stunts that were just unbelievable, you've seen that gun pass we did in "Clementine" where I slid the gun down toward Bond, and it lit in his hand cocked? Davey and I developed that. We could run down the street and pass a gun to one another on the run, and would land in the other man's hand cocked, all he had to do was have his hand ready for the trigger. Nobody else had ever been able to figure out how we did it. I also had a lot of fun in the fights, but they used to save them for Saturday morning, that was the last day of the picture, and that way if you got hurt you didn't hold up production. We had this Jewish Producer named Selhalom, and he never caught on to what we were doing in 10 years. He'd say now boys watch that piece, its rosewood and thats expensive, and don't touch that pice over there, but its alright to wreck that one over there, well you know what Davey and I did. We never rehearsed a fight, we'd just start it. He never caught on to it in 10 years. It never dawned on him in 80 pictures what we were doing."

Tim Holt is far from forgotten. His old western movies are being shown on some TV stations around the country, and he still has many fans. I think he will be remembered for many years to come. I for one will never forget the many wonderful hours I spent watching his movies in that small town in Central Illinois.



ECHOE OF THE PAST

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SPECIAL ISSUE

LUM N ABNER & TIM HOLT



- Lum: "Now Abner we got to understand that space is money, every inch of space that we take up with something that don't sell coats us money."
- Abner: "Now Lum there isn't nothing in this store that don't sell."
- Lum: "Well, what about those high-button shoes?"
- Abner: "You know Grandpappy Spears won't wear any other kind, and there's no place else he can buy them. No Lum, we can't throw these away as long as grandpap's alive and breathing, and he aims to be doing that for a long time to come."
- Lum: "Well what about these whale-bone corsets?"
- Abner: "You throw them out and you'll give Aunt Charity the hives. She just can't stand those new steel stays they put in these corsets now-a-days."
- Lum: "Oh yeh, I forgot about Aunt Charity and her whalebones. But, Abner we got to throw away something."
- Abner: "Now Lum just stop where your at, don't you stand there staring at me, and don't start throwin me no place neither."

REMEMBER ?

LUM 'N' ABNER

Lum (Chet Lauck) and Abner (Juffy Goff), sons of Mena business men, grew up, getting good educations, but showing little aptitude in applying their learning in the businesses of their fathers. They preferred to indulge in the fun of youth, specializing in amateur music, art, and home talent plays. But it was never suspected around town in those days that either showed signs of real genius. Then one day when the Lions Club met at the Elks Home it was announced that Chet and Juffy had gone to Hot Springs for a tryout in radio and a loud speaker was installed in the Elks auditorium

so homefolks could hear the boys broadcast. At the close of the program they walked downstairs, appearing before the startled Lions Club members. They had simply connected a mike upstairs and the Hot Springs tryout was all a hoax.

Then, as homefolks will, everybody was enthusiastic about the little sketch and urged the boys to sure enough seek a tryout. That wasn't hard to arrange as KJHS was giving time on Sunday afternoons to promising amateurs. The outcome was that Lum and Abner was soon a regular weekly feature over there.

And now let the Mena Star, the "County Seat Newspaper" on Lum and Abner programs, tell the story:

"From obscurity to national recognition and a contract with the National Broadcasting Company in the brief space of eleven broadcasts is the unique record of one of KJHS radio features-----Lum and Abner"

Five years of hustling, triumphs intermingled with a period when they returned home out of a contract, it was whispered that maybe they were through, found the boys under contract with Horlick's Malted Milk. They reached a new high in their work that year when they broadcast a special program from the Arkansas State Capitol in Little Rock, dedicating the changing of the name of Waters, Ark., where Dick Huddleston's store is located, to Pine Ridge. On that day the Mena Star stated "Thousands pay honor to Lum and



Abner for it's Lum and Abner Day in Arkansas." They were photographed with the governor, greeted at the Albert Pike hotel by Harvey Couch, chairman of the board, Kansas City Southern Railway, and hundreds of their boyhood friends." Thus had two Mena boys brought about the change of the name of the Arkansas village.

Before the turn of another year, according to the Star, "Lum and Abner join Arkansas colony in Hollywood and with Bob Burns and Dick Powell make a quartet of Arkansas boys named among the ten most popular radio entertainers of 1936. About that time, "Over 100 'Got 'em Down' stores have been granted permission to use that name for their businesses," and "The old fashioned wall phone party lines by now known as Lum and Abner lines by telephone linemen and engineers because the boys use that type of phone so much in their show."

By 1938 the "County Seat newspaper" was saying, "The sages of Pine Ridge made their bow over 48 radio stations today, starting on contract with General Foods." During Christmas holidays they were guests at KJHS in Hot Springs where, just a few years before they had appeared as two country boys asking for a tryout.

Lum and Abner usually return each summer to the old home for visiting and fishing purposes. Despite their experiences out in the world and much traveling in far places, they like nothing better than to get started back to their boyhood haunts. Polk county and Arkansas has shown high regard for them in many ways. The highway leading to Pine Ridge has been designated as the Lum and Abner Highway; the General Assembly in Arkansas passed a resolution honoring these two sons of Arkansas who have served their state well in bringing it renown and heralding its wonders to a listening world. Mena folks have advertised Lum and Abner on local car license tags, on postcards, awenirs, on billboards on highways entering Mena and much general literature informs the world that Mena is the home of Lum and Abner.

DICK HUDDLESTON GENERAL STORE "We Deliver Anywhere"	LUKE SPEARS LUNCH ROOM "If You Don't See It—Ask for It"
AUNT CHARITY SPEARS Hemstitching and Quilting "Highest Quality—Lowest Prices"	CALEB WEEHUNT Blacksmithing "Satisfaction Guaranteed or Your Money Back"
CHERRY HILL GROCERY "We Will Not Be Undersold"	SISTER SIMPSON BOARDING HOUSE "Board by Week or Month"
MOSE MOOTS BARBER SHOP "Try-Us First"	SQUIRE SKIMP Insurance—All Kinds "We Lead—Others Follow"
COUNTY SEAT FURNITURE STORE "We Stand Behind Everything We Sell"	THIS SPACE FOR SALE CHEAP
ADVERTISE IN THE PINE RIDGE NEWS	COMPLIMENTS OF A FRIEND
JOT EM DOWN STORE PARTY LINE RING—2 LONG—1 SHORT "WE DELIVER ANYWHERE"—"TRY US FIRST" "IF YOU DON'T SEE IT—ASK FOR IT" "WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD" "HIGHEST QUALITY—LOWEST PRICES" "WE LEAD—OTHERS FOLLOW" "WE STAND BEHIND EVERYTHING WE SELL" "SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK" "BOARD BY WEEK OR MONTH" "ADVERTISE IN THE PINE RIDGE NEWS" "THIS SPACE FOR SALE CHEAP" "COMPLIMENTS OF A FRIEND"	
LUM AND ABNER, PROPS. PINE RIDGE	

While radio was the first love of Lum and Abner and the medium by which they became nationally appreciated as entertainers, now they have turned to the silver screen, making it possible for the movie going public to see the mythical Pine Ridge of the air.

Word began to trickle back home that the boys might get into movies. Then there came the night when Lum and Abner called up everybody on the party line bidding them good-bye. As the Star says, "The final program was full of pathos as the two comedians with tearful voices discussed the closing of the Jot 'em Down store preparatory to making a picture.

The time was set for the Mena showing of "Dreaming Out Loud", and on August 23 when the "Southern Belle", the Kansas City Southern's first steamlined train, rolled into Mena on its initial trip who should step off by Abner Peabody who was welcomed home by 1500 old time friends and neighbors, holding the crowd together in friendly greeting thirty minutes after the crack new train had sped on its maiden journey to the Gulf City of New Orleans. A few days later Lum arrived just in time to make his personal appearance along with Abner at their home town theatre, the Lyric, during the first showing of their "Dreaming Out Loud"

Their second picture, "The Bashful Bachelor," was released in May, 1942, and was another success. One year later their third movie, "Two Weeks to Live," was released and once again Lum and Abner scored a box-office hit.

Editors Note: The fore-going is a partial reprint of an article written some thirty (30) years ago by a Mr. G. C. Konkler. There is no copyright on the article, and where-ever Mr. Konkler maybe I hope he doesn't mind us using part of his article.

The Lum 'N' Abner skit on Page #1 was from an old movie. Mr. Lauch and Mr. Goff redid this skit for Gene Arnold of Houston, Texas. Mr. Arnold was kind enough to allow me to sit in during his interview with these two gentlemen.

Lum and Abner Museum
by Charles K. Stumpf

Chester Lauch and Norris "Juffy" Goff are both natives of Mena Arkansas. Their radio fame as Lum and Abner have brought them world wide renown. They based many of the characters they played on the air on actual folks back in their old home town. Grandpappy Spears, Ezra Seestrunk, Cedric Wehunt, Dick Huddleston, and many others were taken from real life.

Some years back the town of Waters, Arkansas changed its name to "Pine Ridge" in honor of the old boys. Did you know that there is a genuine Dick Huddleston's Store located there? And right next to it stands the "Lum and Abner Museum."

Ralph and Dorothy McClure are the new proprietors of the Original Old Country Store. They took over in January 1970 and moved in with 19,000 pounds of merchandise to line the shelves. Most of the original merchandise had been sold off, but a few old items including men and women's and children's shoes, and "shapeless" pink satin lingerie are still on display. Other items on display in the original show cases are hard collars, seeds, coal oil wicks, and documents of various scales and cash registers are still to be seen. The store now features a vast gun and glass-ware collection.

The building which houses the museum was built in 1904 by Mr. A. A. McKenzie. It used to stand on what is now Highway 88, but was later used as a hay barn. Mrs. Ethel Graham, daughter of Dick Huddleston made a gift of the museum.

If your travels should take you out Pine Ridge way be sure to stop in and say hello to the friendly folks there. Its located on Highway 88 between Oden and Cherry Hill, and not far from Pencil Bluff and Ink, Arkansas.

Editors Note: Chester Lauch, and Norris Goff are currently syndicating their old radio series to stations throughout the country. Lum and Abner is currently heard on eighty three (83) stations, and if one of the stations is not in your listening area you might pick a likely candidate and call the program director, asking to have that station broadcast Lum and Abner.

Lum and Abner made seven (7) full length movies, and five (5) shorts. They were "Dreaming Out Loud"(1940), "Bashful Bachelor"(1942), "Two Weeks to Live"(1943), "Going to Town"(1944), "Partners in Time". "So This is Washington", and their last movie "Lum and Abner Abroad", which was filmed in Yugoslavia in 1955.

Mr. Lauch's owns the rights to these movies, and I would assume that your local tv station could make arrangements to show them by writing, Chester Lauch, Meyer Bldg. 4, Hot Springs, Arkansas. This is the same address to use also if inquiring about the Old Radio shows.



(L to r) Chester Lauch, R. G. Bright, and Norris Goff.





TIM HOLT

by

R. G. Bright

When I was a youngster in a small town in Central Illinois every Friday evening I would go to the movies to see Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, or if I was lucky, my very favorite of them all, Tim Holt. Recently I had the pleasure of spending the afternoon with him in Oklahoma City, where he resides. I found him to be a really great guy, and one of the nicest entertainers past or present that I have ever met.

Tim Holt was born in Beverly Hills, California, the son of actor Jack Holt. He started his career in 1937, while still in his teens, with pictures such as; "History is Made at Night" (1937), and "Stagecoach" (1939), in which he played with another young up and coming actor named John Wayne, with whom he is still very friendly. Tim told the following story about his 11 year old son Jay, and Mr. Wayne.

"The day before commencement they took my son whose 11, in groups of six out of his class, and they were told to improvise a little play to last about 3 or 4 minutes, and so help me I didn't coach him at all, and he was going to play a drunken cowboy playing poker in a saloon, he was to pull a cap pistol and shoot a guy. Well, they worked it out, and it came time for the play, and he couldn't find his cap pistol, so he asked me. Well, now you know daddy doesn't know where he lost his cap pistol and he asked his mother, and she's just as stupid as I am, so naturally he's going to ask grandma. He's got a whole box of toys, and he asked grandma as he's going through his toys, where's my cap pistol. She said to him, Jay don't you think your too old to play cowboys and indians. He turns to her and says, tell that to John Wayne. I told it to Duke and he said I've been waiting for somebody to tell me that I'm too old to play cowboys and indians for the last 20 years. My son has got the drierst

sense of humor, I think his pants would be on fire, and he's have to smell smoke and then tell him about it, because he wouldn't say anything".

In 1942 Jim made "The Magnificent Ambersons", and "Hitlers Children" along with several westerns, and was voted the top money making Western Star by the Motion Pictures Herald's Fame Poll. An award he also received in 1943, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, and 1953.

"The Magnificent Ambersons" was Orson Wells follow-up to "Citizen Kane. Although I don't think most collectors on old radio realize it, Jim did his share in that medium as well as in movies. Among other things he appeared at various times on the "Mercury Theater", after Wells moved it to the West Coast, and "Lux Radio Theatre".

He was a bomber in the 2nd World War, but just before leaving for the Army, made 6 Westerns in 54 days. His daddy accused him of joining up just to get out of work.

In 1946 he played with Henry Fonda in the John Ford movie, "My Darling Clementine". Then the following year he made what is in my opinion his best movie, John Houston's, "Treasure of the Sierra Madre", with Humphrey Bogart and Walter Houston. Apparently this was also an opinion shared by the late Nick Adams.

"I think that one of the funniest things that happened was one Christmas Day, and this Christmas fell on Sunday, because I was reading the funny papers to the kids, and this was before Nick Adams passed away. There came a knock on the door, now nobody knows where I live, and I sent the oldest boy, Jack, to see who it was, and he came back with the funniest look on his face, and said daddy its the Rebel. I said what, and he said its the Rebel. This kids had too much Christmas candy and here it is only about 10 o'clock in the morning. Well, it was Nick Adams, whom I had never met in my life before, so I invited him in you know, and the guy with him was John Ashley, whose a Tulsa boy. Nick Adams is a "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" nut, he knows every line, and he's got a copy of the film, so what he wanted to talk about was doing a sequel to it. In "Treasure" I was left alive and supposedly went back to Texas. It was going to start in Mexico with Adams playing the Bogart part, and Ashley playing my part, hearing about this gold mine, and these three men that had found it, they trace me to Texas and I take them back up on the hill, and the same thing happens all over again. Which would have been a fine idea, and a great story."

All told Jim made 149 movies, 110 of them were classified B-Westerns, although they are thought of by many as some of the best Western action pictures ever made. In "Arizona Rangers" his favorite, he played son and father with his daddy Jack. This is the only time it was ever done.