

Yale Boss

Titles: 78 Sources: 1 Stills: 2

Born: Utica, New York; October 18th 1899
Died: Augusta, Georgia; November 16th 1977



Source: *The Moving Picture Boy*

The Moving Picture Boy entry:

"Fair and flop-haired, Yale Boss ("Yale" an anglicisation of his Swiss grandmother's maiden name) was perhaps the best-loved of all America's early film children. He was a better-looking Mickey Rooney, usually cast in cheeky parts but perfectly capable of dignified pathos. He could "provoke shouts of laughter or cause unbidden tears to flow", and was prodigal in "little touches which would only be expected of actors of great experience". His sisters Matilda and Frances also acted, though apparently with less power.

In 1907 he had a leading role in a Broadway musical called "Top of the World", and his first screen appearance was directed by D.W. Griffith for Biograph. After a brief move to Thanhouser, he settled with Edison in 1911, on a five-year contract at \$25 a week. During this period he played in a constant stream of two-reelers. His total tally is said to have been more than 300 titles... He was best known latterly as the office boy in the series "**DOLLY OF THE DAILIES**".

At this point Boss took a two-year break from acting, in order to "complete his education". In December 1916 "Moving Picture World" heralded his return to the studios: "As a boy he earned wide popularity among film patrons by his cleverness and his engaging personality".

In 1917 he had leads in "**THE HALF-BACK**" and in "**KNIGHTS OF THE SQUARE TABLE**" (with Andy Clark and Paul Kelly also in the cast), but over the following three years he only averaged earnings of eight dollars a week. His career faded out - his last featured part seems to have been in "**SOULS FOR SALE**" (23) - and after leaving the movies he was at various times a clerk with the U.S. Shipping Board, a book-keeper with an ice company, a pencil manufacturer, a private detective, a bricklayer, a salesman and a motor mechanic.

In this last capacity Yale Boss worked for the Georgia Power Company throughout the 1930s and until enlisting in the U.S. Navy during World War Two. After the war he bought a piece of land and built his own garage and service station. Also, in 1948, he became the proud father of twin boys."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Filmgoer's Companion"]

FILMOGRAPHY

Year	Age	Title	Role
1909	10	HIS FIRST COMMUNION	
09		I DID IT, MAMA	
10	11	THE ACTOR'S CHILDREN	
11	12	APRIL FOOL	
11		AT THE THRESHOLD OF LIFE	
11		BOB AND ROWDY	
11		A CURE FOR CRIME	
11		EDNA'S IMPRISONMENT	
11		FOR THE QUEEN	
		with <i>Robert Tansey</i>	
11		AN ISLAND COMEDY	
11		JOSH AND CINDY'S WEDDING TRIP	
11		THE LITTLE GIRL NEXT DOOR	
11		PAPA'S SWEETHEART	
11		A PERSONAL AFFAIR	
11		THE QUESTION MARK	
11		THE RANSOM OF RED CHIEF	
11		ROWDY AND HIS NEW PAL	
		with <i>Philip Tannura</i>	
11		A SANE FOURTH OF JULY	
11		SANTA CLAUS AND THE CLUBMAN	
11		STAGE-STRUCK LIZZIE	
11		THE STORY OF THE INDIAN LEDGE	
11		TOMMY'S GEOGRAPHY LESSON	
11		TRADING HIS MOTHER	
11		UNCLE HIRAM'S LIST	
11		THE UNFINISHED LETTER	
11		WINNIE'S DANCE	
11		THE YARN OF THE "NANCY BELL"	
12	13	THE ARTIST AND THE BRAIN SPECIALIST	
12		BOBBY'S DREAM	
12		BOBBY'S LONG TROUSERS	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
12		THE BOY AND THE GIRL	
12		THE "CUB" REPORTER	
12		CURING THE OFFICE BOY	
12		HOGAN'S ALLEY	
		with <i>Philip Tannura</i>	
12		HOW BOBBY JOINED THE CIRCUS	
12		HOW THE BOYS FOUGHT THE INDIANS	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
12		THE LITTLE ARTIST OF THE MARKET	
		with <i>Robert Tansey</i>	
12		THE LITTLE DELICATESSEN STORE	
12		LUCKY DOG	
12		MAX AND MAURICE	
12		MR PICKWICK'S PREDICAMENT	
12		MOTHER GOOSE IN A SIXTEENTH CENTURY THEATER	
		with <i>Andy Clark, William Porter Jr</i>	
12		REVENGE IS SWEET	
12		THE STOLEN NICKEL	
		with <i>Philip Tannura</i>	
12		THE SUNSET GUN	
12		THE TOTVILLE EYE	
12		WHAT HAPPENED TO MARY	Series
12		THE WINKING PARSON	

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13	14	ALL ON ACCOUNT OF A PORTRAIT	
13		ARCHIE AND THE BELL-BOY	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
13		AUNT ELSA'S VISIT	
13		BOY WANTED	
13		THE DREAM FAIRY	
13		ENOCH AND EZRA'S FIRST SMOKE	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
13		HE SWORE OFF SMOKING	
13		HOW A HORSESHOE UPSET A HAPPY FAMILY	
13		THE INVENTOR'S SKETCH	
13		THE JANITOR'S QUIET LIFE	
13		A MISTAKE IN JUDGMENT	
13		MR NEWCOMBE'S NECKTIE	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
13		THE OFFICE BOY'S BIRTHDAY	
13		THE TITLE CURE	
13		THE TWO MERCHANTS	
13		WITHIN THE ENEMY'S LINES	
13		A YOUTHFUL KNIGHT	
14	15	ANDY GOES ON THE STAGE	
		with <i>Andy Clark</i>	
14		DOLLY OF THE DAILIES	? x serial
14		THE GHOST OF MOTHER EVE	
14		HOW BOBBIE CALLED HER BLUFF	
14		THE JANITOR'S FLIRTATION	
14		MOLLY THE DRUMMER BOY	
14		SHORTY	
14		A TALE OF OLD TUCSON	
14		THE TEMPLE OF MOLOCH	
15	16	CARTOONS IN A SEMINARY	
15		THE HOUSE OF FEAR	
		with <i>Johnny and Stephen Carr</i>	
15		THE IVORY SNUFF BOX	
15		THE MAN WHO VANISHED	
17	18	THE HALF-BACK	
17		KNIGHTS OF THE SQUARE TABLE	
		with <i>Andy Clark, Paul Kelly</i>	