

The Tramp and the Baby's Bottle

(aka: "Chokee Bill and the Baby")

UK : 1899 : dir. : Riley Brothers / Bamforth

Silent : 72 sec

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

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Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	∞	M	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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The British Film Catalogue 1895-1985
listing:

"Comedy. Tramp steals a baby's bottle and is caught by policeman."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Tramps were a frequent butt of early films, somewhat as popular to Victorian society as the asylum claimant is today. Presumably Chaplin will have seen some of these titles, growing up as a boy in London. It's interesting to speculate whether he was consciously trying to redress an imbalance when he made his own tramp incarnation the most beloved character in all silent cinema, more hero than pest.

Denis Gifford's *British Film Catalogue* is a staggering work of research, listing virtually every live action film shot in the UK over the first ninety years of the cinema, but uniquely valuable for information on these earliest silent pieces, the great majority of which we must assume to be lost.

See subject index under **BABIES & INFANTS, COMEDY, POLICE / SOCIAL WORKERS, SILENT CINEMA and TRAMPS, VAGABONDS & HOBOES.**