

Bennie (or Benny) Bartlett

Titles: 34 Sources: 1 Stills: 2

Born: Independence, Kansas; August 16th 1927

The Moving Picture Boy entry:

“Not many Hollywood kids came from Kansas, but red-haired Bennie Bartlett did. His parents (Floyd and Nina) were vaudeville people, and he was born on tour, making his debut at 10 days, though it’s not known what he sang. At the age of three he learnt the trumpet, and at four was running his own dance band, with himself as vocal and trumpet soloist. It must have been terrible.

Bennie (or Benny) now learnt piano and drums, and began writing his own songs. Soon he was singing them, and trumpeting, on the local radio station. At this point, whether by request of the Kansans or in search of higher things, the Bartlett family upped stakes and moved to California, where father Floyd got work as a dance music arranger. The boy became a public figure, in a small but noisy way, and by the time he was nine had had 15 of his songs published. He had also landed a Paramount contract.

Music apart, there was clearly some intention to set up the rowdy redhead as a new Rooney. He had that sort of pudgy truculence. But it didn’t quite happen. Behind the brass there was an anxious streak that showed, an earnestness that was actually rather redeeming. He made a nice foil for Dickie Moore, Virginia Weidler or Shirley Temple.

Bennie was in six 1943 films, including **"HE HIRED THE BOSS"**, **"NEXT OF KIN"** and **"THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS"**, and in many more over the next two decades, such as **"CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN"** (50), **"REAR**

WINDOW" (54), **"HIGH SOCIETY"** (55) and **"THE SCAPEGOAT"** (59).”

FILMOGRAPHY

Year	Age	Title	Role
35	8	MILLIONS IN THE AIR	
36	9	ANYTHING GOES	
		<i>with Jerry Tucker</i>	
36		THE PRINCESS COMES ACROSS	
36		THE SKY PARADE	
		<i>with Billy Lee</i>	
36		THE TEXAS RANGERS	
36		13 HOURS BY AIR	
36		THREE MARRIED MEN	
36		TIMOTHY'S QUEST	
		<i>with Dickie Moore</i>	
37	10	BULLDOG DRUMMOND'S REVENGE	
37		DANGER – LOVE AT WORK	
37		EASY LIVING	
37		EXCLUSIVE	
		<i>with Billy Lee</i>	
37		GANG BULLETS	
37		LET THEM LIVE!	
37		MAID OF SALEM	
		<i>with Virginia Weidler</i>	
37		TIME OUT FOR ROMANCE	
		<i>with Harry Watson</i>	
38	11	BENNIE BARTLETT'S BAND	as himself
38		BIRTH QUAKES	
38		JUST AROUND THE CORNER	
		<i>with Leonard & Sidney Kibrick</i>	
38		PENROD AND HIS TWIN BROTHER	
		<i>with Billy & Bobby Mauch, Phillip Hurlic, Jerry Tucker</i>	
38		SONS OF THE LEGION	
		<i>with Wally Albright, George Billings, Billy Cook, David Holt, Billy Lee, Donald O'Connor</i>	
39	12	THE FAMILY NEXT DOOR	
		<i>with George Billings</i>	
39		THE GREAT MAN VOTES	
		<i>with Peter Holden</i>	
39		HONEYMOON IN BALI	
39		OUR NEIGHBORS, THE CARTERS	
		<i>with Scotty Beckett</i>	
39		WHAT A LIFE	
40	13	ALIAS THE DEACON	
40		LET'S MAKE MUSIC	
40		TILLIE THE TOILER	
41	14	MEET JOHN DOE	
42	15	CODE OF THE OUTLAW	
43	16	HE HIRED THE BOSS	
43		NEXT OF KIN	
43		THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS	