

Penny Scales and American Twentieth Century Popular Culture



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Hollywood Embraced The Penny Scale.



Studios put pictures of their stars in penny scales and penny scales in their pictures.



Over the years, I have collected a long list of penny scales in Hollywood films. Proceed to see 5 of my favorites.



***The Live Ghost* 1934**

A short film

Starring

Laurel and Hardy.

Penny Scale Scene

Stan and Oliver
shanghai sailors in
front of penny scale
for a dollar a head.



***The Milky Way* 1936**

A Comedy

Starring Harold Lloyd,

his most successful talkie. It tells the story of a Brooklyn milkman who becomes middleweight boxing champion.

Penny Scale Scene

Harold Lloyd crashes into a penny scale on a sidewalk with his Milk Truck.



Modern Times 1936

Starring

Charlie Chaplin

Penny Scale Scene

Charlie, starving and searching for a meal, walks by scale in background while a rich man, in the foreground, has plenty of food.



San Fernando Valley 1944

Starring

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were not married when Republic shot this film. Rogers plays opposite Dale a feisty ranch owner. Roy does the "Taming of the Shrew" bit, and plays a ranch cook so he can win over Dale.

Penny Scale Scene

Later we see Roy stop to pet a dog in front of this penny scale on the street.



***An Ounce of Pink* 1965**

Starring

The Pink Panther and a Talking Weight and Fortune Machine. It is hilarious.

The **coin-operated talking weight and fortune machine** convinces the Pink Panther to bring the scale home with him to help predict the future and find fortune. The Pink Panther buys the machine but whenever the machine is about to disclose the expected important information, it goes silent, requiring the panther to insert another dime in the coin slot.

