

(Continued from previous page)

marking a second spring of slapstick. Having seen them in the army and the navy, we promised ourselves that when they transferred to the Air Force we would be among those present to see them bail out.

But instead of completing the obvious trilogy, they have gone off on a wild ghost chase and rather missed the bus. *Hold That Ghost* is not nearly so funny as its predecessors. It's still good for a laugh, but one is left with the feeling that the stock of old jokes with which the pair embarked on their

screen career is running out. In this latest effort the pair even try to crack a few new jokes though as comedians they should know that the old ones are always best. Indeed, half the fun of *Buck Privates* and *In the Navy*—and it was fun—arose from the skill with which one ancient gag was dovetailed into another.

The plot of *Hold That Ghost*, if it could be said to possess one is faintly

reminiscent of some of the old Wheeler and Woolsey comedies. Abbott and Costello, together with the romantic interest and a spare girl, find themselves dumped in a deserted road-house in the middle of a thunderstorm. There are secret doors, corpses, clutching hands, cobwebs and cetera, and Mr. Costello spends most of the time screaming for help. In fact, we had quite a headache when we got out.

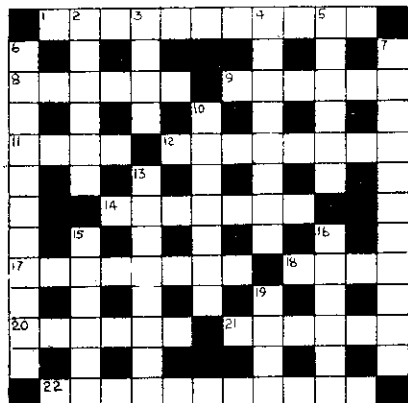
Next time we hope they'll do the decent thing and join the Air Force—and give our nerves a rest.

We almost forgot to mention that the cast includes Mischa Auer, the Andrews Sisters, and Ted Lewis and his Orchestra, but Mischa Auer hardly appears at all and as for the others, well it was Freud who said one forgot the things one didn't want to remember, wasn't it?

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(Constructed by R.W.C.)

(No. 91)



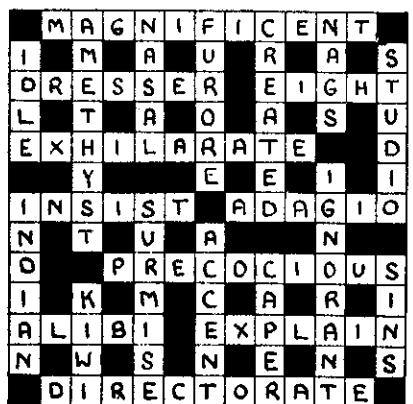
Clues Across

1. Can Tui try it? (anag.).
8. Her art is somewhat confused.
9. Push in to inflict a penalty.
11. Not a very suitable place to play polo—unless it's water polo.
12. The garden roller?
14. Malignant.
17. Bite a cad (anag.).
18. Stalk.
20. Fairness.
21. This allowance is not air.
22. Charles Laughton's role in a film of this name.

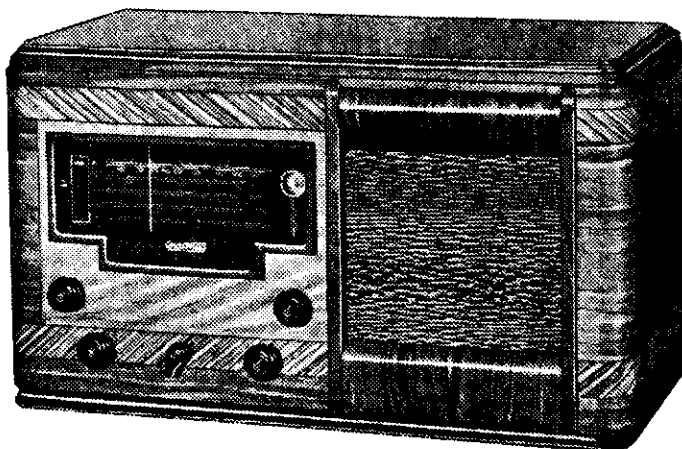
Clues Down

2. Our hat becomes this person.
3. Hardly time for this.
4. Loathsome.
5. Tests.
6. Appeases by means of a tip-top rise.
7. Fault.
10. Under the bean?
13. Inducing sleep.
15. Charge.
16. Attempt to make rivets.
19. Comes before the storm.

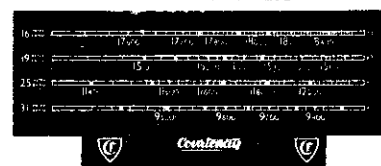
(Answer to No. 90)



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