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June 19, 1966

Dear Doc:

First - I seemed to have some stoppages with this tape before I got it to run properly. If you have any trouble with it running through your tape recorder, let me know, and I will re-cut the records onto different tape.

And second - Let me congratulate you on your wonderful playing with Benny in the Rainbow Grill. I haven't heard trumpet like that in years. Everyone I spoke to who made that scene during the three-week engagement was highly complimentary about your work. I do hope that group can stay together for a while -- if so, it will produce some fine jazz. I mentioned to Benny that the group should be recorded, and I know he has recorded it. Let's get those records on the market!

Now, about these old Cab Calloway records. Track I of the tape has 10 sides on it. I am not certain if you are on all, or even any, of these records. I think so, but I look for you to give me your opinion. There should be three trumpeters from this group of five: R. Q. Dickerson, Lamar Wright, Reuben Reeves, Edwin Swayzee, and yourself. Here are the records - they're old, so please overlook the scratchy sound:

TRACK I (halftrack, at 7½ inches per second)

July 9, 1931 - Perfect 15500 - Basin Street Blues - great trumpet, is it you?

August, 1931 - Brunswick 6141 - Black Rhythm

August, 1931 - Brunswick 6141 - Six Or Seven Times

October 1, 1931 - Brunswick 6209 - Kickin' The Gong Around

October 1, 1931 - Brunswick 6209 - Between The Devil And The Deep Blue Sea

October 12, 1931 - Perfect 15531 - Star Dust

October 12, 1931 - Perfect 15531 - You Can't Stop Me From Lovin' You

October 12, 1931 - Perfect 15541 - You Dog

October 12, 1931 - Perfect 15541 - Somebody Stole My Gal

Feb. or March, 1932 - Brunswick 6272 - The Skat Song

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I'm reasonably sure that you, Lamar Wright and Ed Swayzee are the trumpets on all these:

TRACK II

Feb. or March, 1932 - Brunswick 6272 - There's A Cabin In The Cotton (Bennie Payne w/Cab)

April 20, 1932 - Brunswick 6321 - Minnie The Moocher's Wedding Day

June 7, 1932 - Brunswick 6321 - Angeline

June 7, 1932 - Brunswick 6400 - Old Yazoo

Sept. 21, 1932 - Brunswick 6400 - Hot Toddy

(continued on next sheet)

TRACK II, continued

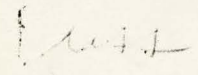
June 7, 1932 - Perfect 15659 - How Come You Do Me Like You Do
June 7, 1932 - Perfect 15659 - Swanee Lullaby
June 9, 1932 - BR 6340 - The Reefer Man
Sept. 21, 1933 - Victor 24494 - Little Town Gal
Nov. 2, 1933 - Victor 24494 - Harlem Camp Meeting
Jan. 22, 1934 - Victor 24659 - Emaline (that intro has got to be you, Doc!)

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Doc, I'm enclosing a duplicate of this list. If any comments you might make seem pertinent, I'd welcome them right on the list.

Once more, I was completely delighted with your efforts with Banny. Marvelous. I hope something big comes from it for you.

Very best wishes,


Russ Connor