

THE RECORDINGS OF FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

ARMSTRONG PERIOD

An Annotated Tentative Personnel - Discography

All titles reissued by Chronological (sic) Classics (F) are listed thus. Known alternate takes reissued by Canadian Forte are listed thus (see review of this CD issue in 'Storyville 150-234).

FLETCHER HENDERSON

089	FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA	New York,	Oct. 07, 1924
	Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Don Redman – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt; Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms; Don Redman – arr (2)		
140092-3	Manda	Col 228-D,	Chronological Classics 647
140093-2	Go 'Long Mule	Col 228-D,	Chronological Classics 647

This now is the Fletcher Henderson band at the beginning of their first climax, with the young Louis Armstrong bringing Southern rhythm and phraseology into their somewhat stiff and wooden music. From this moment on, jazz music changed its development into a different direction. Just listen to the inner rhythm of Armstrong's phrases and compare them with those of the other soloists.

When doing so, Charlie Green from the Mid-West can be found more on Armstrong's path than the other players.

Cecil Scott recalled Clara Smith's session of this same day (matrices 140090/140091) as his first recording session – together with Don Redman and Fletcher Henderson – and he thus probably is the third saxophone player on this session. Buster Bailey did not reach New York earlier than on October 06, 1924, and may thus not have been able to participate in a Henderson recording date.

ADDITION May 31, 2021: Javier Soria Laso of Madrid, Spain, just let me know by e-mail that he does not hear a third saxophone on this session. And he is absolutely right: there is no third saxophonist (second alto) on these sides, and thus there is no need to decide whether he might be Buster Bailey or Cecil Scott! Thanks a lot, Javier!

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia p.144*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Don Redman, clarinet and alto sax; unknown, possibly Cecil Scott (or Buster Bailey), clarinet and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.

- Storyville 153-120: "Klaus-Uwe Dürr thinks that a short passage on 'Manda' might be played by bassoon – and that's what I (Laurie Wright – KBR) hear. The tonal quality of the bassoon can be separated from that of the bass sax, even on these early recordings."

- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (cl, sop); Don Redman (cl, alt); Coleman Hawkins (cl, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Cecil Scott or Buster Bailey (less likely), cl, as; Don Redman, cl, as, gfs; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Manda: CH ten 8 + 3 + 4; LA m-cnt 16; DR clt obl over ens 19

Go 'Long Mule: CG m-tbn 16; DR clt 2 + 2; CH ten 2 + 2; DR clt obl over ens; LA o-cnt 14; DR alt mouthpiece 18; LA m-cnt – CG m-tbn over ens 18

090	FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA	New York,	c. Oct. 10, 1924
	Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Don Redman – alt, clt, oboe; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;		

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
Don Redman – arr (4)

105604	Tell Me, Dreamy Eyes	PA 036157,	Chronological Classics 647
105605	My Rose Marie	PA 036156,	Chronological Classics 647
105606	Don't Forget You'll Regrett Day By Day	PA 036266,	Chronological Classics 647
105607	Shanghai Shuffle	PA 036157,	Chronological Classics 647

With the addition of young Louis Armstrong, the band still have to wait for new material and arrangements to accomplish the demands to really achieve the top position of coloured dance bands in New York. Armstrong decidedly is the most impressive musician in the band and lifts their musical level to a degree unheard before. But the rest of the band – for the time being - still abide in their style of before, until Redman had grasped Armstrong's methods and tools and had slowly transformed them into the band's style by developing his arranging style.

The first three titles of this session clearly show the gap between the band's performance of dull dance arrangements and Armstrong's elevating the music into early jazz by his own brilliance.

Yet, in Redman's arrangement of 'Shanghai Shuffle' we find an early sign of his understanding of Armstrong's methods, and the result definitely shows the way to go. Listen to to Marshall's use of a three-quarter rhythm of cymbal-strokes set against the dominant four-quarter rhythm of the band in the initial verse. And later Charlie Green's gruff and striking muted-trombone solo which still later – after Redman's "oriental" strain on oboe – is topped by Armstrong's rhythm dictated hot solo.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p145*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet and sax; Don Redman, clarinet, alto sax and oboe; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*3,*4: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -o -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, as; Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Tell Me, Dreamy Eyes: LA o-cnt 2; LA o-cnt 16; LA m-cnt 2 + 8
My Rose Marie: CD bjo 8; LA o-cnt 16 +6; BB clt obl over ens 32
Don't Forget,: CG o-tbn 30
Shanghai Shuffle: CG m-tbn 30; LA o-cnt 30

091 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York,

Oct. 30, 1924

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
Don Redman – arr (3,4)

13925	Words	Voc 14926,	Forte F-38001
13926	Words	Voc 14926,	Chronological Classics 647
13928	Copenhagen	Voc 14926,	Chronological Classics 647
13929	Copenhagen	Voc 14926,	Forte F-38001

Continuation of Henderson's series of recordings with Louis Armstrong on third trumpet.

Starting with 'Words' we have a dance tune almost entirely of long held sustained notes without rhythmic variety. The arrangement seems to be from stock and does not have any jazz value, but Armstrong's solo bursts out with a fantastically aggressive cornet break (see 'Differences' below) into a gem of jazz solo.

'Copenhagen' played in a jazzy arrangement from Don Redman has a classic Armstrong blues chorus solo and afterwards very nice clarinet obligato over the ensemble by Buster Bailey. There is little soloistic activity by Charlie Green, here. And only one somewhat dubious tenor sax solo by Hawkins, which may indicate that the former star musician of the Henderson band first had to find his path among three other great soloists.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p147*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet and sax; Don Redman, clarinet and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Words: LA o-cnt 2+16; CH ten 14; EC o-tpt 15 over tbn; CG m-tbn 8 below reeds
Copenhagen: CG o-tbn 1 + 1; LA o-cnt 12; CG o-tbn 1 + 1; CG o-tbn 1 + 1; BB clt 8 + 8 obl over ens; BB clt 6 + 6 obl over ens
Discernible differences of takes:

- 13925: *Armstrong's entrance break into his solo: tonal sequence d-e-e-d-f-d-bb-a-ab-g*
 13926: *Armstrong's entrance break into his solo: tonal sequence a-ab-a-c-e-d-f-d-bb-a-ab-g*
 13928: *Armstrong's solo bars 8/9: tonal sequence bb-f-ab-g-f*
 13929: *Armstrong's solo bars 8/9: tonal sequence ab-f-ab-g-f*

092 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York,

Nov. 07, 1924

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, clt, sop; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
 Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
 Don Redman – arr (1)

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 13950 | Shanghai Shuffle | Voc 14935, | Chronological Classics 647 |
| 13952 | Naughty Man | Voc 14935, | Forté F-38001 |
| 13953 | Naughty Man | Voc 14935, | Chronological Classics 647 |

The next Henderson band-session brings a recreation of 'Shanghai Shuffle' in Redman's arrangement in a slightly altered form, together with - at a medium pace - a throughout arranged dance-music tune called 'Naughty Man' which will appear again at a later session with beautiful soloistics and an altered arrangement (see session 094 below).

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p147*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet, alto and soprano saxes; Don Redman, clarinet and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Shanghai Shuffle: LA o-cnt 29; CG m-tbn 14

Naughty Man: CG m-tbn 2+7

Discernible differences of takes:

- 13952/13953: when comparing the alternate takes of this title, I found myself unable to locate a recognizable difference between both takes on my fantastic Canadian 'Louis with Fletcher Henderson' Forté set. This may indicate that John R.T. Davies erroneously selected two different records, yet containing identical takes, or, that the musical differences are most diminutive and not distinguishable by ear. Unfortunately, there is only one instrumental solo – by trombone – in the arrangement, which seems to be scored. Here, differences may be found being micro-rhythmic.

093 FLETCHER HENDERSON'S ORCHESTRA

New York,

c. Nov. 10, 1924

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
 Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| 5712-1 | One Of These Days | Ban 1457, | Chronological Classics 647 |
| 5713-1 | My Dream Man | Ban 1475, | Chronological Classics 647 |
| 5713-2 | My Dream Man | Ban 1475, | Forté F-38001 |

Both these titles are dance music, with little jazz content, only. But the first title has a very good Armstrong-solo based on the melody, and yet hot and strong. (J.R. Morton: "Jazz is: to play a melody with a beat!")

In 'My Dream Man' Armstrong can be heard leading the brass section in the 16-bar verse after the second chorus. And still, no honest tenor solo by Hawkins on all these sides since Armstrong's arrival in the band!

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p148*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

One Of These Days: LA o-cnt 14+14; CG o-tbn 6+3; BB clt obl over ens 14

My Dream Man: CD bjo 8; DR alt 31; BB clt obl over ens 32

Discernible differences of takes:

- 5713-1: Clarinet middle-break in last chorus: first tonal sequence is: bb-eb-d-f-eb-g-f-ab
 5713-2: Clarinet middle-break in last chorus: first tonal sequence is: bb-eb-g-f-g-f-bb

094 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA		New York,	Nov. 14, 1924
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Don Redman – clt; Buster Bailey – clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt; Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms			
140138-4	The Meanest Kind Of Blues	Col 249-D,	Chronological Classics 647
140139-3	Naughty Man	Col 249-D,	Chronological Classics 647

'The Meanest Kind Of Blues' is a very nice composition featuring Louis Armstrong playing the melody twice in his very own jazzy way, sometimes accompanied by Charlie Green, and in exchange with the clarinet section (there obviously is no saxophone heard on this title). 'Naughty Man' by Redman and Dixon then is the recreation of the same title of the 07 November session, but in a much jazzier way here and at a faster pace. And again, with the exception of Coleman Hawkins tenor sax solo spot, there are clarinets used only by the reed-men.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p148: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet, tenor sax and c-melody sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "Hawkins doubles C-melody-sax (from its range and tone)."
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (cl, sop); Don Redman (cl, alt); Coleman Hawkins (cl, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

The Meanest Kind Of Blues: LA o-cnt 1+6+7 – CG m-tbn below cnt (theme); LA o-cnt 1+4 - CG m-tbn 4 below cnt (theme); CG m-tbn 4 break; LA o-cnt 6 + 1; LA o-cnt 10 (7 sustained f); LA o-cnt 2 (break); LA o-cnt 2 over ens
Naughty Man: CG o-tbn 9; CH ten 15; CG o-tbn 1+7; CH ten 1+6; LA o-cnt 2+16

095 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA		New York,	c. Nov. 17, 1924
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt; Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms			
5728-1	How Come You Do Me Like You Do?	Ban 1445,	Chronological Classics 647
5728-2	How Come You Do Me Like You Do?	Ban 1445,	Forte F-38001
5728-3	How Come You Do Me Like You Do?	Ban 1445,	Forte F-38001
5731-1	Araby	Ban 1470,	Chronological Classics 647
5731-2	Araby	Or 303	not on LP/CD

In the second chorus of 'How Come You Do Me ...' the trombone plays ad-lib behind the three trumpets, and it becomes apparent that very probably the arrangement lacks a fourth part for brass. The third part had been played by the trombone in pre-Armstrong days, but had now been transmitted to Armstrong, leaving Green space for ad-lib behind the trumpets. As usual at this time commercial arrangements (stocks) were disposed for two trumpets and one trombone making three-part harmony. Henderson had been working this way. With Armstrong now, the band had to change their whole book of arrangements to include a fourth-part. This certainly needed some time, and in the meantime Armstrong or Green had to play ad-lib parts when the brass was playing. The same happened two years later, when Jimmy Harrison was added to the personnel on second trombone and had to find his own parts improvising with the brass.

Note: Rust*3 lists a take 5728-4, WC Allen does not!

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p.149: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (cl, sop); Don Redman (cl, alt); Coleman Hawkins (cl, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d. Note: Rust*3 lists a take 5728-4, Allen does not!
- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

How Come You Do Me ...: LA o-cnt 8; CG o-tbn 4; LA o-cnt 4; LA o-cnt 4; CH ten 4

Araby: No ad-lib solos here

Discernible differences of takes (from Allen, Hendersonia and own analysis):

5728-1: First chorus: Charlie Green plays ad-lib from eighth bar on
5728-2: First chorus: Charlie Green plays ad-lib from start
5728-3: 4-bar introduction is omitted
5731: As take -2 is not reissued comparison is impossible.

096 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA		New York,	c. Nov. 24, 1924
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;			

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
Louis Armstrong – voc (1)

5748-1	Everybody Loves My Baby	Dom 3444,	Chronological Classics 647
5748-3	Everybody Loves My Baby	Ban 1471,	Chronological Classics 647
5749-2	Naughty Man	Or 437,	Upbeat URCD 304
5749-3	Naughty Man	Or 437,	Chronological Classics 647

This ‘Everybody Loves My Baby’ take -1 is the very first recording presenting Louis Armstrong’s special personal voice. Drummer Kaiser Marshall remembered in 1943: “*Thursday nights were vaudeville nights at Roseland, with prizes for the most popular performers. One Thursday, there were not enough acts to fill the program, so Louis was persuaded to sing in the show – he had ‘mugged around’ on some of the songs previously. We got Louis out on the stage, and he did ‘Everybody Loves My Baby But My Baby Don’t Love Nobody But Me’. He sang it and he played it on the trumpet; the crowd surely went for it. ... He just walked off with first prize. From then on they used to cry for Louis every Thursday night, and he would play his horn and sing his songs.*” But we have note that “*Louis himself, however, later claimed that Fletcher did not let him sing!*” (Allen, Hendersonia, p. 127).

‘Naughty Man’ “*known only on a very rare Oriole issue. The latter is similar in routine to the Columbia version (see session Nov. 14, 1924 above – KBR), but the solos are different; the Vocalion ‘Naughty Man’ is an entirely different arrangement (see session Nov. 07, 1924 above – KBR)*” (Allen, Hendersonia, p. 127). Take -2 of this title has just recently (March 2021) been reissued on British Upbeat URCD304, while it was exclusively issued before on Canadian Jazz Oracle BDW 8047 ‘A Gift From The President’, which was distributed as such by the Jazz Oracle people to ardent collectors on John R.T. Davies’ instructions.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).*
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).*
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p149: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.*
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d; Louis Armstrong, v.

Solos ad-lib:

Everybody Loves My Baby: LA m-cnt 16 + 1+6; CD bjo 12; CG o-tbn 1 + 8
Naughty Man: CG o-tbn 1+8; CH ten 15; CG o-tbn 1+7; CH ten 1+6; LA o-cnt 2+16

Discernible differences of takes (from Allen, Hendersonia and own analysis):

- 5748-1: Intro 4 bars saxes (deleted on some LP issues!), three Armstrong vocal breaks at the end.
- 5748-3: No saxes intro, no Armstrong vocal breaks at the end.
- 5749-2: Pace c. 230 / Armstrong’s solo entrance sequence of notes: eb-bb-c-eb-c-gb-gb-f-eb-f-eb
- 5749-3: Pace c. 236 / Armstrong’s solo entrance sequence of notes: bb-eb-c-g-eb-gb-g-eb-gb-eb-c-eb

097 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York, c. Nov./ Dec. 1924

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
Don Redman – alt, clt; Buster Bailey – alt, sop, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

1973-1	Prince Of Wails	Pur 11367,	Chronological Classics 633
1973-2	Prince Of Wails	Pur 11367,	Forte F-38002
1973-3	Prince Of Wails	Pur 11367,	Forte F-38002
1974-1	Mandy, Make Up Your Mind	Pm 20367,	Chronological Classics 633
1974-2	Mandy, Make Up Your Mind	Pm 20367,	Forte F-38002

This session brings us two heavily arranged tunes with little solo work in ‘Prince Of Wails’.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).*
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).*
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia p150: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet, soprano & alto sax; Don Redman, clarinet and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet & tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.*
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, ss, as; Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Prince Of Wails: FH pno 2 + 2 + 2 + 15 below ens
Mandy, Make Up Your Mind: LA o-cnt 1+14; FH pno 14

Discernible differences of takes:

- 1973-1: Charlie Dixon strumms falsely on measures 1 and 3 for two bars.
Start of Henderson’s third piano break uses blue-notes in his right-hand chords.
- 1973-2: Charlie Dixon strumms falsely on measures 1 and 3 for two bars.
Start of Henderson’s third piano break uses blue-notes in his right-hand chords.

- 1973-3: Charlie Dixon strums correctly on measures 2 and 4 for two bars.
Start of Henderson's third piano break does not use blue-notes in his right-hand chords
- 1974-1: Alto sax, bar 19 of first chorus: Redman plays the melody correctly as known: d-e-d-e-d-e-b-d.
- 1974-2: Alto sax, bar 19 of first chorus: Redman plays the melody falsely: d-e-d-e-e-b-d

098	FLETCHER HENDERSON'S ORCHESTRA	New York,	Jan. 1925
Probably:			
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;			
Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Don Redman – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;			
Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;			
Trixie Smith – voc			
1995	Everybody Loves My Baby	Pm unissued	not on LP/CD
1996	How Come You Do Me Like You Do	Pm unissued	not on LP/CD

As no test of this session seems to have been found and issued, nothing can be said about these sides.

Notes:

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: not listed (?)
- Rust*2: prob: Howard Scott (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Probably Phil Napoleon -t; Miff Mole -tb; Jimmy Lytell -cl; Frank Signorelli -p; Jack Roth -d; Trixie Smith -v.
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia* p153: "Unknown personnel, possibly including Louis Armstrong, trumpet, and other members of the Henderson orchestra at this time; Trixie Smith, vocal."
- Rust*6: "Probably similar to, if not exactly as for, the next session below; the following titles were remade using the same matrix numbers and vocalist (Trixie Smith) but with a white quintet strongly suggesting the Original Memphis Five."

099	FLETCHER HENDERSON'S ORCHESTRA	New York,	c. Jan. 12, 1925
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;			
Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt, sop;			
Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms			
5810-1	I'll See You In My Dreams	Ban 1470,	Chronological Classics 633
5811-2	Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me ?	Ajax 17123,	Chronological Classics 633

W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, says: "The fact that the various issued versions of these two titles have take numerals over the range -1 to -6, plus the fact that the arrangements differ in the high- and low-numbered takes, suggests that an initial and a remake session were both involved." Against this I have to state that the performed arrangement of 'I'll See You ...' in both sessions is almost entirely identical (the third chorus of 5810-1 is played by two clarinets and a soprano, while this chorus in takes -5 and -6 is played by three clarinets; and take 5810-6 leaves the very first two bars of the intro out.)

'Why Couldn't It Be ...' has a brass section in the first half of the second chorus of take -1 which is replaced in takes -4, -5, -6 by a chase interplay of trombone and reeds; and a bass-clarinet half-chorus in takes -4, -5, -6 by Redman (or perhaps Bailey) which replaces the split solo chorus of Hawkins and Green in take -1. (The try-out with the bass-sax is a bit embarrassing.)

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p154: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "The fact that the various issued versions of these two titles have take numerals over the range of -1 to -6, plus the fact that the arrangements differ in the high- and low-numbered takes, suggests that an initial and a remake session were both involved."
- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

I'll See You In My Dreams: CG o-tbn 1; LA o-cnt 2+14

Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me?: LA o-cnt 2+14; CH ten 1+14; CG m-tbn 2+14; EC o-tpt 2

Discernible differences of takes:

See next session 099-1 below!

099-1	FLETCHER HENDERSON'S ORCHESTRA	New York,	c. mid-Jan. 1925
Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;			
Don Redman – alt, clt, bcl; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;			
Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms			
5810-5	I'll See You In My Dreams	Reg 9775,	Forte F-38002
5810-6	I'll See You In My Dreams	Ban 1470,	Forte F-38002
5811-4	Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me ?	Ban 1476,	Forte F-38002
5811-5	Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me ?	Ban 1476,	Forte F-38002
5811-6	Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me ?	Ban 1476,	Forte F-38002

In the first title, please, listen to the very nice forward-looking "jazzy" tpt-section above Hawkins playing straight melody! Was this Redman's attempt to pep-up an otherwise simple and dull dance arrangement of the usual kind? And then, Armstrong in full glory, starting to ad-lib the verse with a fiery break, typically Louis Armstrong. Great.

'Why Couldn't It Be ...' is played in a different arrangement here – from the one used on the preceding session (see above) – leaving out simple melody parts played by the saxophones and replacing them by more soloistic performance by trombone and bass-clarinet. Coleman Hawkins' soloistic efforts in all these band recordings of the "Armstrong-period" leave much to be desired, in my opinion! I attach the bass-clarinet to Don Redman because the handling of this instrument is not so much different and difficult to a normal clarinet that Buster Bailey would have given such a poor performance as we hear it on these sides.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p154: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "The fact that the various issued versions of these two titles have take numerals over the range of -1 to -6, plus the fact that the arrangements differ in the high- and low-numbered takes, suggests that an initial and a remake session were both involved."
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

I'll See You In My Dreams: CG o-tbn 1; LA o-cnt 2+14

Why Couldn't It Be Poor Little Me?: LA o-cnt 16; BB bcl 2+16; CH ten 1+14; CG m-tbn below tpts 30

Discernible differences of takes:

- 5810-1: Six-bars intro has trombone break in second bar.
 Armstrong's entrance break into verse: 2 quarter-notes f-d, 8 eighth-notes d-ab-a-c-ab-a-c-b, quarter-note bb
- 5810-5: Six-bars intro has trombone break in second bar.
 Armstrong's entrance break into verse: dotted eighth-note c, sixteenth-note db, 2 eighth-notes d-f, quarter-note d, eighth-note f, quarter-note d, eighth-note db, 2 quarter-notes c-f.
- 5810-6: Four-bars intro has no trombone break.
 Armstrong's entrance break into verse: dotted eighth-note c, sixteenth-note db, 2 eighth-notes d-f, 2 quarter-notes d-f, 4 eighth-notes d-db-c-f
- 5811-2: 4-bar introduction by saxophones
- 5811-4: 4-bar introduction: 2 bars trumpets, then Armstrong cnt phrase: eighth-triplet g-a-bb, 6 eighth-notes-b-g-f-d-g-a, 2 quarter-notes b-b
 Bar 7 of Armstrong solo contains eighth-triplet upward run a-bb-b to quarter-note c
- 5811-5: 4-bar introduction: 2 bars trumpets, then Armstrong cnt phrase: eighth-triplet g-a-bb, 6 eighth-notes-b-g-f-d-g-a, 2 quarter-notes b-b
 Bar 7 of Armstrong solo contains no eighth-triplet upward run
- 5811-6: 2-bar introduction: starting with Armstrong cnt phrase as above (without first 2 bars brass)
 Bar 7 of Armstrong solo contains eighth-triplet upward run a-bb-b to 4 eighth-note c-a-f-d and quarter-note f

100 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York,

Jan. 23, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;

Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

140356-2 Bye And Bye

Col 292-D,

Chronological Classics 633

140357-2 Play Me Slow

Col 292-D,

Forte F-38002

140357-3 Play Me Slow

Col 292-D,

Chronological Classics 633

Continuing the series of dance-band tunes and – probably – stock-arrangements we always are enthused when Armstrong enlivens procedures with his New-Orleans-styled comet breaks and solos directing the music to the jazzy side. Hawkins seems to be retaining, to learn from Armstrong, perhaps. There are very few clarinet outings by Buster Bailey, but Charlie Green blows some "mean" bluesy trombone parts. Hear his two chorusses in 'Play Me Slow'.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia* p155: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet, tenor and C-melody saxes; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, Cm; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Bye And Bye: LA o-cnt 2+15; CH ten 8; FH pno 15; LA o-cnt 2; DR alt 1

Play Me Slow: CH ten 2; CG m-tbn 2+12 + 12; CH ten 1+15; LA m-cnt 1; LA m-cnt + BB clt 16 over ens

Discernible differences of takes:

- 140357-2: Armstrong's entrance break to last 12-bar ensemble: eighth-note d, quarter-note d, eighth-note d, quarter-note high b
- 140357-3: Armstrong's entrance break to last 12-bar ensemble: eighth-note d, quarter-note d, eighth-note d, quarter-note e

101 FLETCHER HENDERSON'S ORCHESTRA

New York,

c. Jan. 31, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
 Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
 Don Redman – arr (1,2,3)
 5835-2 Alabamy Bound Apex 8309, Chronological Classics 633
 5835-3 Alabamy Bound Ban 1488, Forte F-38002
 5835-4 Alabamy Bound Apex 8309, Forte F-38002
 5836-1 Swanee Butterfly Apex 8317, Chronological Classics 633
 5836-2 Swanee Butterfly Ban 1508, Forte F-38003
 5836-3 Swanee Butterfly Ban 1508, Forte F-38003

And again, a two-titles session with a number of alternate takes by the ARC company.

'Alabamy Bound' is reportedly played in a Redman arrangement which, yet shows little of Armstrong's rhythmic influence. But listen to Redman's very nice use of Armstrong's drive and vibrato in his fast downward arpeggio runs in the B-part of the verse, beautiful in front of the otherwise motionless brass-part behind Armstrong.

'Swanee Butterfly' is Henderson at his most symphonic. And: who needs ad-lib hot solos in "Symphonics"? W.C. Allen in *Hendersonia*, p. 156, writes: "Both Don Redman and Fletcher Henderson, on having 'Swanee Butterfly' played for them on separate occasions, averred that the Henderson band did not make this title. Since the tenor sax solo is quite characteristic of Hawkins at this period, however, the evidence of the label credits and its proximity to a 'hot' Henderson title which is not in dispute compel us to accept it is a genuine Henderson, albeit of no jazz interest. It may have been recorded from a contemporary stock orchestration and promptly forgotten by the men in the band."

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p149: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, Cm; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Alabamy Bound: LA o-cnt 1+14; CG o-tbn 8 behind saxes; CH ten 8; CG o-tbn 8 behind saxes

Swanee Butterfly: No ad-lib solos

Discernible differences of takes (from Allen, *Hendersonia*):

5835-2: Bells in intro. Start of Armstrong's solo: eighth-note bb, quarter-note b, eighth note d, quarter-note b, 2 eighth-notes g-a, 2 quarter-notes g-g
 5835-3: Bells in intro. Start of Armstrong's solo: eighth-note bb, quarter-note b, eighth note d, quarter-note b, eighth-note bb, 2 quarter-notes b-g
 5835-4: No bells in intro, no train effects in coda.
 5836-1: brass fanfare and 4-bar intro, Hawkins fluffs in bar 6 of his solo
 5836-2: brass fanfare and 4-bar intro, Hawkins does not fluff in his solo.
 5836-3: intro 8-bars ens, no fanfare

102 FLETCHER HENDERSON ORCHESTRA

New York,

c. Feb. 04, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman – alt, clt; cms; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;
 Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
 'Ukulele Ike' Cliff Edwards – uku (3)
 105829 Poplar Street Blues PA 036214, Chronological Classics 633
 105830 Twelfth Street Blues PA 036214, Chronological Classics 633
 105831 Me Neenyah (My Little One) PA 036213, Chronological Classics 633

W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p. 156: "Since Cliff Edwards (vocal and ukelele (sic)) recorded matrix 105832, adjacent to the Henderson session, he may conceivably be the ukelelist on 105831; alternatively, it might have been either Charlie Dixon or Henderson himself." Although Henderson may have used a ukulele when accompanying Clara Smith in April 1924, I would exclude him from doing so in his own band context (his "dignity"), and the manner of "strumming" as heard is not Dixon's. Thus, it may well be 'Ukulele Ike' Cliff Edwards playing, and the manner of strumming heard here is in the scope of what we know of him on his own recordings. But: is this really Coleman Hawkins heard soloing on C-melody-sax in the middle of the tune as assumed by W.C. Allen – accompanied by an especially strong and busy ukulele and leading the saxophone section? Or could it possibly be Don Redman?

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia* p156: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet, tenor and C-melody saxes; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "A guitar or ukulele is audible on 105831, Hawkins plays C-melody sax."
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, Cm; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d; unknown g (or u?) audible toward the end of the third side.

Solos ad-lib:

Poplar Street Blues: CG o-tbn 2 + 2 + 2; CG o-tbn 8; CD bjo 15; LA m-cnt 16 + 8; CH ten 2 + 2 + 8; LA o-cnt 1
 Twelfth Street Blues: CH ten 2 + 16; BB clt 14; BB clt 16; LA m-cnt 7; CG m-tbn 6; BB clt 14 over ens; LA m-cnt 2+8
 Me Neenyah: ?CH cms 16; ?CH cms 1+6;

103 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York, Feb. 20, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

401 King Porter Stomp

Br, Voc unissued not on LP/CD

402/404 She's My Sheba, I'm Her Sheik

Br, Voc unissued not on LP/CD

As no tests of these two titles seem to exist and have been issued, nothing can be said about the musical substance.

Notes:

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).*

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia* p157: "Personnel presumably same as for previous Henderson sessions by the full orchestra. These may actually have been recorded electrically."

- Rust*2: not listed

- Rust*3: Howard Scott -Elmer Chambers -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, Cm; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

104 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York, Apr. 18, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong - tpt; Charlie Green – tbn;

Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt, bsx;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

729 Memphis Bound

Voc 15030, Chronological Classics 633

732 When You Do What You Do

Voc 15030, Chronological Classics 633

The Henderson band with Joe Smith now, and at their jazziest for the time. Obviously, Henderson's long-time endeavour to engage Joe Smith on a permanent basis had been successful at last. And he immediately gets a full-chorus cornet solo, Louis Armstrong playing the melody only. But compare their so different trumpet/cornet styles – and tones - here! It is Chambers then leading out after Smith's solo in 'Memphis Bound'.

'When You Do What You Do' also gets a very jazzy treatment in the arrangement, and I have to assume that both arrangements come from Redman's pen. W.C. Allen lets you know: "that these are probably electric recordings."

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).*

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).*

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p159: *Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet, tenor and bass saxes; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "Personnel derived from aural identification, and confirmed by Don Redman on hearing the record; although some believe only Smith and Armstrong comprise the trumpet section, another lead trumpet can be heard who is probably Chambers. Note that these are probably electrical recordings."*

- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Russell Smith -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4, *6: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, cl, as; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, bsx; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Memphis Bound: LA o-cnt theme 22 + 6 + CG m-tbn 22 + 6 + BB clt 30, CH bsx 16 + 6, FH pno 8, JS tpt 24

When You Do What You Do: LA m-cnt 2, LA o-cnt 30, FH pno 8, CG m-tbn 8

105 MAGGIE JONES Henderson's Hot Six

New York, May 05, 1925

Maggie Jones – voc;

Joe Smith – cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Buster Bailey – clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo

140583-1 Cheatin' On Me

Col 14074-D not on LP/CD

140583-3 Cheatin' On Me

Col 14074-D, Document DOCD-5349

140584-1 Mama (Won't You Come And Mama Me?)

Col 14074-D, Document DOCD-5349

What a wonderful and swinging combination of Henderson musicians they are when accompanying singers, and the more so when playing band choruses! This is Joe Smith the more moderate one – the more romantic when with Bessie Smith. Nothing needs to be said about the musicians, only that I believe to hear some tuba notes in both titles, which would then explain the band's name. But these certainly result

from Henderson's choice of bass notes on the piano. But listen to the final band chord at the end of the first title: there is a retarded bass note in it which does not seem to be played by the piano – no tremolo here. Could this be proof for the presence of a tuba in the background?

Notes:

- *W.C. Allen, Hendersonia, p.159: Joe Smith, cornet; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo. (No tuba or drums audible). "There is no personnel information in the Columbia files; the personnel and identifications given above were derived from aural study."*

- *Rust*3,*4,*6: Joe Smith –c; Charlie Green –tb; Buster Bailey –cl; Fletcher Henderson –p; Charlie Dixon –bj; Ralph Escudero –bb.*

- *BGR*2: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo; Ralph Escudero, bbs.*

- *BGR*3,*4: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo.*

Discernible differences of takes (from W.C. Allen, Hendersonia):

140583-1: instrumental intro 8 bars

140583-3: instrumental intro 4 bars

106	BESSIE SMITH	Henderson's Hot Six	New York,	May 05, 1925
	Bessie Smith – voc;			
	Joe Smith – cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Buster Bailey – clt;			
	Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo			
140585-2	Cake Walkin' Babies (From Home)		Col 35673,	Frog DGF 42

Now that Joe Smith is with the Henderson organization it seems that he becomes the favourite accompanist for vocalists. Bessie Smith's favour of his is well known and accordingly, he leads a small group from the band – comprising the "hot" stars of the band, but disregarding Armstrong – to accompany the "Empress of the Blues", although her utmost classic session with Armstrong as accompanist is past for four months only. And what a beautiful recording this is, although Smith is a bit too much restrained. Against almost all the discographies there is no Coleman Hawkins playing on this title, neither tenor sax nor possibly bass saxophone!

Notes:

- *Delaunay, New Hot Discography: Joe Smith (c); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Kaiser Marshall (d).*

- *W.C. Allen, Hendersonia, p.160: Joe Smith, cornet; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo. "There is no personnel information in the Columbia files; instrumentation and identities derived by aural study. There is no dass sax, tenor sax, or tuba on these titles: the "Six" is a misnomer."*

- *BGR*2,*3: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Coleman Hawkins, ten; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo; Ralph Escudero, bbs.*

- *BGR*4: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Coleman Hawkins, ten; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo.*

- *Rust*3,*4,*6: Joe Smith –c; Charlie Green –tb; Buster Bailey –cl; Coleman Hawkins –ts; Fletcher Henderson –p; Charlie Dixon –bj;*

Ralph Escudero –bb.

107	BESSIE SMITH	Henderson's Hot Six	New York,	May 06, 1925
	Bessie Smith – voc;			
	Joe Smith – cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Buster Bailey – clt;			
	Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo			
140586-1	The Yellow Dog Blues		Col 14075-D,	Frog DGF 42
140586-2	The Yellow Dog Blues		Col 14075-D,	Frog DGF 42

Early discographies list this and the preceding sessions as one session dated 05 May, 1925. Musicians at both sessions are identical. And again, against almost all the discographies there is no Coleman Hawkins playing on these sides, neither tenor sax nor possibly bass saxophone! And there isn't a tuba here, as well.

Notes:

- *Delaunay, New Hot Discography: Joe Smith (c); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Kaiser Marshall (d).*

- *D. Mahony, Columbia 13/14000-D Series: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Fletcher Henderson, p; C. Dixon, bj; R. Escudero, tu.*

- *W.C. Allen, Hendersonia, p.160: Joe Smith, cornet; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo. "There is no personnel information in the Columbia files; instrumentation and identities derived by aural study. There is no bass sax, tenor sax, or tuba on these titles: the "Six" is a misnomer."*

- *BGR*2,*3: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Coleman Hawkins, ten; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo; Ralph Escudero, bbs.*

- *BGR*4: Joe Smith, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Coleman Hawkins, ten; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo.*

- *Rust*3,*4,*6: Joe Smith –c; Charlie Green –tb; Buster Bailey –cl; Coleman Hawkins –ts; Fletcher Henderson –p; Charlie Dixon –bj;*

Ralph Escudero –bb.

Discernible differences of takes (from Hendersonia, p.160):

140586-1: Last chorus, bar 5: "You got to vamp it".

140586-2: Last chorus, bar 5: "They had to vamp it"

108	FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA		New York,	May 19, 1925
	Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong - tpt; Charlie Green – tbn;			
	Don Redman – alt, clt, ten; Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;			
	Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms			
140616-1	I'll Take Her Back If She Wants To Come Back		Col 383-D,	Chronological Classics 633
140617-1	Money Blues		Col 383-D,	Chronological Classics 633
140617-2	Money Blues		Col 383-D,	Forte FRP F-38003

Again, we start with well-played but dull dance music. But there is great electric sound and nice four-beat banjo playing by Dixon. There is an unusual two-tenor sax passage in 'I'll Take Her Back', but only one improvised tenor sax solo by Hawkins.

'Money Blues', then, is a stomping and jazzy vehicle for the real jazzers in the band. And Marshall delivers great after-beat cymbal work for

Louis. At last Hawkins seems to be on his own way, here.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Russel Smith, Joe Smith (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p161*: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Clarinet and alto sax; Don Redman, alto and tenor sax; Coleman Hawkins, tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.

- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Russell Smith -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, as; Don Redman, as, ts; Coleman Hawkins, ts; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

I'll Take Her Back: CH ten 8

Money Blues: LA m-cnt 1, LA m-cnt 22, BB clt 12, CH ten 22, CG m-tbn 20

Discernible differences of takes:

140617-1: Armstrong break in intro: entirely clean and clear

140617-2: Armstrong break in intro: 4 eighth notes after triplet unclear and crumbly

109 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York,

May 29, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;

Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;

Don Redman - arr

140639-2 Sugar Foot Stomp

Col 395-D,

Chronological Classics 633

140640-2 What-Cha-Call-'Em Blues

Col 395-D,

Chronological Classics 633

'Sugar Foot Stomp' is the big-band version of Joe King Oliver's very famous 'Dippermouth Blues'. (Oliver himself also named his original 'Sugar Foot Stomp' when he recorded it exactly one year later – to the day – with his 'Dixie Syncopators' in Chicago. It has since become one of the most-played tune of classic jazz and swing jazz.)

Listen what is happening in the tenth and twelfth/last choruses: Hawkins ad-lib, together with the 'hot' players of the band, over a smoothly swinging harmonized back-ground, and beautiful cymbal work by Kaiser Marshall, very modern for the time. And Escudero playing smooth four-four-rhythm on his big horn. This seem to be the first indications of Henderson's first stylistic transition which at the long last led to the swing-period.

'What-Cha-Call-'Em Blues' is no blues at all, but a 16-bar composition using no blues changes, but comprising three different strains, the first one with a nice little modulation C-major to Ab-major and back. There is no Armstrong solo, but Henderson's colleague from Ethel Waters-Black Swan days, Joe Smith, just recently with the band, has the solo honours, together with Charlie Green.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Russel Smith, Joe Smith (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p162*: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet and tenor sax; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums.

- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Russell Smith -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4: Elmer Chambers - Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts; Fletcher Henderson -p -a -dir; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*6: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, as; Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, bsx; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

Sugar Foot Stomp: CG m-tbn 10, LA m-cnt 'Oliver solo' 10+10+10

What-Cha-Call-'Em Blues: JS m-tpt 1+18 theme, CG o-tbn 2, JS m-tpt 2, CG o-tbn 1+16

110 FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

New York,

Aug. 06, 1925

Probably:

Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;

Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms

140812 Red Hot Henry Brown

Col unissued

not on LP/CD

140813 Loud Speakin' Papa

Col unissued

not on LP/CD

As these titles are unissued and no tests of this session seem to have survived, nothing can be said about the music.

Notes:

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p. 162*: Probably same personnel as for above session. "There is no personnel information in the Columbia files. ... For some unknown reason, these recordings were adjudged unsuitable for issue, so they were re-recorded by Dick Johnson's

Charleston Chasers on August 28, 1925. ...No matrices of the Henderson versions are in existence, and were presumably destroyed; and no tests of these have ever been found."

- Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).

- Rust*3: Russell Smith -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

- Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts; Fletcher Henderson -p -a -dir; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.

111 THE SOUTHERN SERENADERS

New York,

Aug. 07, 1925

Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;

Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;

Billy Jones – voc (1); Don Redman - arr

140819-2 I Miss My Swiss Har 4-H, Chronological Classics 633

140820-2 Alone At Last Har 5-H, Chronological Classics 633

This session has long been overlooked and is first listed in Rust in the fourth edition, with the following comment by the author which explains the doubts connected with this matter: "Although a certain amount of controversy still centres round the products of this session under this name, the Columbia files bear an artist credit to what looks like 'Fletcher Henderson And His Orchestra', each letter and the spaces between each word being obliterated with X, and the above pseudonym written in above. Had this been a Sam Lanin session, as the late Walter C. Allen and other authorities contended, surely his name would have been entered, even if it had subsequently been obliterated also. A record date by a collaboration of Henderson and Lanin musicians is dimly remembered by some of each according to various collectors who interviewed them (and vigorously denied by others!), but while such a collaboration is unlikely as long ago as 1925, it is not out of the question, although there is always the possibility that the sides made were never issued, or were issued and have yet to be discovered. In view of the evidence of the CBS file card and the sound of the sides themselves, I am prepared to accept the assertion of Louis Armstrong and Don Redman that the band responsible was Henderson's, with white vocalist Billy Jones added for one side." But since 'Afterthoughts 311' in Storyville 66 of September 1976 this matter seems to be settled as to the presence of the entire Henderson band.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong, Russel Smith, Joe Smith (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).

- A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory*, Vol. 4: "Considered by some collectors to be Henderson's Orchestra. Louis Armstrong (cor) is featured and vcl by Billy Jones. It is quite likely that this is a Lanin group in actual fact."

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p. 162: "On August 7, 1925, Louis Armstrong, Don Redman, Charlie Green and perhaps other members of the Henderson band recorded two titles for the Harmony label, under the name *The Southern Serenaders*. Rust (1970 edition, page 1568) lists these as by the full Henderson band, supposedly based on a brief interview with Armstrong himself. Previously, Don Redman had identified himself on these, and the band as Henderson's.

However, the recollections of other musicians indicate that this session may correspond to a dimly-remembered mixed date of Sam Lanin and Fletcher Henderson bandsmen including Armstrong, who on Another occasion corroborated this latter theory. He is not the only musician whose statements about this date have differed on different occasions; unfortunately, there is so much contradiction and so little verifiable fact that no firm conclusion can be reached. But for what it is worth, my own opinion is that this is more likely to have been a Lanin-Henderson collaboration than by the Henderson band alone. Accordingly, this session is listed, with a fuller discussion, in Chapter XXI, 'Miscellany'."

- Rust*2,*3,*4,*6: Russell Smith, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong (cnts); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno, ldr); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms); Billy Jones (vcl)

Solos ad-lib:

I Miss My Swiss: LA m-cnt 16, BB clt obligato 16

Alone At Last: LA o-cnt 30

112 COOT GRANT AND KID WESLEY WILSON

Fletcher Henderson's Orchestra

New York,

c. Sep. 1925

Leola B. Wilson, Kid Wesley Wilson – voc duet;

Louis Armstrong – cnt; Charlie Green – tbn; Buster Bailey – clt;

Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo

2279-1 You Dirty Mistreater Pm 12324, Document DOCD-5563

2280-2 Come On Coot Do That Thing Pm 12317, Document DOCD-5563

2281-2 Have Your Chill, I'll Be Here When Your Fever Rises Pm 12317, Document DOCD-5563

2282-1 Find Me At The Greasy Spoon (If You Miss Me Here) Pm 12337, Document DOCD-5563

2282-2 Find Me At The Greasy Spoon (If You Miss Me Here) Pm 12337, Document DOCD-5563

"Big" Charlie Green immediately starts proceedings in the first number with a typical and real down-to-earth trombone chorus, even before anybody starts to sing. (Is there a meaning to it?) He is much more into the blues than any one of his colleagues. But there's beautiful Armstrong behind the vocalists all through. And what grandiose ensemble playing in 'Come On Coot' and the subsequent titles. And hear Armstrong at the end of 'Have Your Chill'! A great recording-sessions, by all means! But I do not hear a drummer here.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography*, 1948: Louis Armstrong (c); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (dm).

- W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia*, p163: Louis Armstrong, cornet; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, clarinet; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; . "Personnel derived from aural study; Bailey has reportedly recalled making this session.

BGR*2,*3,*4: Fletcher Henderson's Orchestra: Louis Armstrong, cnt; Charlie Green, tbn; Buster Bailey, clt; Fletcher Henderson, pno; Charlie Dixon, bjo; Kaiser Marshall, dms.

- Rust*3,*4,*6: Fletcher Henderson's Orchestra: Louis Armstrong -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr; Charlie Dixon -bj; Kaiser Marshall -d.

Discernible differences of takes:

2282-1: Bar 4 of introduction: Armstrong plays quarter- note bb, three-quarter-note f

2282-2: Bar 4 of introduction: Armstrong plays quarter-note d, eighth-triplet bb-g-gb, half-note f

113 **FLETCHER HENDERSON AND HIS ORCHESTRA** New York, Oct. 21, 1925
 Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong – tpt/cnt; Charlie Green – tbn;
 Don Redman, Buster Bailey – alt, clt; Coleman Hawkins – ten, clt, bsx;
 Fletcher Henderson – pno; Charlie Dixon – bjo; Ralph Escudero – bbs; Kaiser Marshall – dms;
 Don Redman – arr (1); Elmer Schoebel – arr (2)
 141170-1 T N T Col 509-D, Chronological Classics 633
 141171-4 Carolina Stomp Col 509-D, Chronological Classics 633

This is Louis Armstrong's last recording date as member of the Henderson band. The Henderson band was not anymore what they had been for a year. Redman had developed as an arranger and Hawkins as a tenor saxophonist. And I dare say that they did under Louis Armstrong's spell. And then compare this Henderson band with that of exactly one year ago, and think about it. This is Fletcher Henderson and his 'Jazz' Orchestra, now.

Notes:

- Ch. Delaunay, *New Hot Discography, 1948*: Louis Armstrong, Russel Smith, Joe Smith (tp); Charlie Green (tb); Buster Bailey (cl); Don Redman (as); Coleman Hawkins (ts); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bjo); unknown (b); Kaiser Marshall (dm).
 - A. McCarthy, D. Carey, *Jazz Directory, Vol. 4*: Elmer Chambers, Howard Scott, Louis Armstrong (cor); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt); Don Redman (alt); Coleman Hawkins (ten); Fletcher Henderson (p); Charlie Dixon (bj); Bob Escudero (bs); Kaiser Marshall (d).
 - W.C. Allen, *Hendersonia, p162*: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, trumpets; Charlie Green, trombone; Buster Bailey, Don Redman, clarinets and alto sax; Coleman Hawkins, clarinet, tenor and bass saxes; Fletcher Henderson, piano; Charlie Dixon, banjo; Ralph Escudero, tuba; Kaiser Marshall, drums. "Personnel confirmed by Don Redman after listening."
 - Rust*2: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong (cnt); Charlie Green (tbn); Buster Bailey (clt, sop); Don Redman (clt, alt); Coleman Hawkins (clt, ten); Fletcher Henderson (pno); Charlie Dixon (bjo); Ralph Escudero (bbs); Kaiser Marshall (dms).
 - Rust*3: Russell Smith -Joe Smith -Louis Armstrong -t -c; Charlie Green -tb; Buster Bailey -cl -ss -as; Don Redman -cl -as -a; Coleman Hawkins -cl -ts -bsx; Fletcher Henderson -p -ldr -a; Charlie Dixon -bj; Ralph Escudero -bb; Kaiser Marshall -d.
 - Rust*4,*6: Elmer Chambers, Joe Smith, Louis Armstrong, t; Charlie Green, tb; Buster Bailey, cl, as; Don Redman, cl, as, a; Coleman Hawkins, cl, ts, bsx; Fletcher Henderson, p, a, dir; Charlie Dixon, bj; Ralph Escudero, bb; Kaiser Marshall, d.

Solos ad-lib:

TNT: LA m-cnt 4+4, LA m-cnt 14, CH ten 4, CG o-tbn 4+4, JS m-tpt 1+15
 Carolina Stomp: CH bsx 2, FH pno 2+2, CG m-tbn with brass 14, LA m-cnt 12, DR alt 1, CH bsx 1+1+6, LA m-cnt 2, LA m-cnt 1+1+8, DR alt + CH bsx chase 14, FH pno 2+2, DR alt + CH bsx chase 14, BB clt obligato 14

K.-B. Rau
 21-03-21