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Carson J. Robison Correspondence

Carson J. Robison, the Cowboy Radio Singer,
1903-1988

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Letter, 1955 January 5, from George W. Tye to Carson Robison

George W. Tye

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The Hillbilly-Folk Record Collectors' Club

Representatives in Australia, Eire, Scotland, Sweden, U.S.A.

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BURL IVES

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BROMLEY,
KENT.

1.5.55.

Dear Carson,

Very many thanks for the two extremely nice letters I have had from you during the last few weeks, also the photographs, record information, and as you put it, the "blurb" on your life.

This very modest article on your career I will be sending on to my pal George Haxell...the chap who does all the hard work and must take all credit for the progress our club has made. Will ask him to try and get it in the next issue if possible.

I really liked the photographs...especially the one on "Life gits tee-jus"! As soon as possible I will have these copied. Will always be pleased to see anything else you may have to spare in the way of photos and snapshots etc.

Before I completely forget, I have to return your two cheques as due to the currency position I find we are unable to cash them over here. Can I therefore ask you to make the cash payable to Joe Nicholas so that he can hold it to our credit? We have contacted Joe about these but he was also unable to change them owing to the different name.

I have recently answered an enquiry from J. Bolton who wrote me after hearing from you, and immediately on receiving your last letter I sent off the last two issues of the journal to Miss Kath Brimson, together with membership and a welcome to the club. I'm sure Miss Brimson will, and I most certainly do appreciate this wonderful gesture on your part.

Just before the war I can just remember I used to listen to the Luxembourg programme. It was years before I stopped thinking of your group as just..Carson Robison and his Oxydol pioneers. I had an idea you had visited England but had no definite information or was I aware that you had been here three times altogether.

The list of recordings made by you over here is very interesting. Some of the titles were completely unknown to me and I had no details of them at all. I knew of others but have^{not} been able to obtain the actual records and of course some I have in my collection. I was lucky enough recently to get a copy of your Decca recording..issued on Panachord label... of "We love to play to people when they talk". Another friend has promised to let me have a copy of the Zonophone recording of Tree Top Serenade, if I'm right I believe this is backed with another whistling solo "Nola".

The "Stack-o-Lee Blues" you mentioned. Was this a two sided recording on Decca? I did once have this one but passed it on to my pal in Australia in exchange for another one of yours.."Why did I get married".

While on the subject of recordings I wonder if you can settle

a little "argument" some of us are having over here? We have a Decca recording (pressed in Eire) of Snow Deer/Red Wing. Labelled by Buell Kazee. You are also present in good voice on this record though not given label credit, and the record sounds very much like some of your "Billings Bros" recordings. So much so that it has caused some of us to believe that this is in fact a record by yourself and Frank Luther. Some are quite convinced that Buell Kazee is indeed Frank Luther! I know this is only a minor issue, but possibly you may retain some recollection of the actual record, which I believe was issued in America as by Buell Kazee and "Sookie Robbs".

We will be only too pleased to run an ad' on your book of poems. I believe Joe did mention something about this in one of his letters. I'm unable to quote a price for this at the moment, but if you can let me have the exact information I can get some quotes from the printer. Our rates for a normal full page ad are listed in the latest journal, but of course these do not run to "cuts" as you will realise. I would suggest Carson that if you let me have ALL details, title page etc and full instructions as to what you want done. We will then do our best to do as you wish, probably try and get it done similar to our cover if that would be ~~prefer~~ preferred by you. We can then send you the cost and get you to pay Joe again and complete the deal, or send you the quote and await your further instructions. In any case, let me have details and your preference.

Well I think that seems to have covered most points so will close now with thanks for your really appreciated help, and all sincere wishes to you and your folks.

Best of luck,
Cheerio,

George