

[Letter to Harold Spivacke]

HOTEL · COTTON

TUB AND SHOWER IN EACH ROOM · RUNNING ICE WATER

Gen'l Delivery

COTTON and MOFFATT LESSEES RUSK and FANNIN STS. HOUSTON TEXAS

April 10, 1939

Dr. Harold Spivacke Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Spivacke:

Mr. Lomax has asked me to make to you for him a sort of report of progress, or lack of progress, with the machine.

1. All shipments received to date. Paid \$6.00 plus express on shipment of records. Alan wrote us to expect sapphire pointed cutting needles. Those received are marked steel, but seem to cut very well.
2. Broken tube discovered by Austin radio mechanic. Tube replaced.
3. Machine set up in hotel room, Houston seemed to work perfectly; made good sample recording of "Sam Bass".
4. Machine set up in Providence Home, Guadalupe Church, for recording of singing parts of sacred drama, The Good Thief. Spoken introduction and one song recorded well. Then something happened, machine failed. No mechanic to be found on Sunday. Machine to be

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examined today. Hope no serious trouble. Have made engagement to go out to Sugarland later to get songs of "The Good Thief" from Lopez family.

Machine wiring in bad condition, which might have caused shorts. No duplicate tubes came with machine.

5. Could you send a few small discs? They are more appreciated and less expensive than tips in some instances,— with institutions ,for instance.

6.No book of instructions came.

7. Don't be frightened.After things get going good,we shall not bother you with all the gory details.

We were very sorry to know that Mrs. Spivacke has been ill. Please give her our best wishes. Our regards also to the office family. All of you have been very kin d and patient with the Lomax tribe and we appreciate it. You are probably head over heels in work for the April concerts.

Sincerely yours. Ruby Terrill Lomax for John A. Lomax

Shall write Presto for list of service station. Thanks.