



The BILLY MURRAY Discography

Edison Electrical Recordings

From [The Edison Discography, 1926–29](#) (Raymond Wile / Mainspring Press)

[The Billy Murray Project](#)

This discography was compiled by Raymond Wile from the original Edison files at the Edison National Historic Site (Orange, NJ), correlated with the original catalogs, supplements, and discs. Nothing has been added to or inferred from the files.

This section is arranged in chronological order to provide a full perspective on Murray's final activities with Edison. Recording dates and locations are shown on the first line. The second line shows the matrix number, with the recorded takes shown in parentheses. The 18000- and 19000-series numbers are vertical-cut (Diamond Disc) matrices; the N- prefixed are lateral-cut (Needle Type). Vertical- and lateral-cut masters were recorded simultaneously, using a split line from the microphone, and are therefore identical, other than the cut employed. The final date on this line is the date on which the coupling was decided.

Diamond Disc and Needle Type catalog numbers are shown with their -L and -R side designations, Edison's equivalent of sides -A and -B, respectively. All Blue Amberol cylinders were dubbed from vertical-cut disc masters, and were assigned their own matrix numbers, which are shown in parentheses following the catalog number. Where it has been possible to determine the take used in dubbing, that is shown following the matrix number.

All recordings were made electrically, using GE and RCA equipment. They rank among Murray's rarest recordings — particularly the lateral-cut Needle Types discs, which were on the market for only a matter of months before Charles Edison closed down commercial record production in October 1929.

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4-Oct-1928 (Thu) New York
18782 (A, B, C) / **N480** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 19-Oct-1928
Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)
Twelve o'clock waltz (Rose-Dixon-Warren)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)
Diamond Disc: 52422-L

18783 (A, B, C) / **N481** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 19-Oct-1928
Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)
My blackbirds are bluebirds now (Caesar-Friend)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)
Diamond Disc: 52422-R
Blue Amberol: 5625 (dubbed mx. 16555, from 18783-B)

5-Oct-1928 (Fri) New York
18786 (A, B, C) / **N484** (A, B, C)
Billy Murray
Doin' the raccoon (Coots-Klages)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)
Rejected

18787 (A, B, C) / **N485** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 20-Nov-1928
Billy Murray
Ho-ho-ho-Hogan (Tucker-Schuster)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)
Diamond Disc: 52448-L

8-Nov-1928 (Thu) New York
18857 (A, B, C) / **N555** (A, B, C)
Billy Murray
Doin' the raccoon (Klages-Coots)
Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)
Diamond Disc: 52448-R
Blue Amberol: 5656 (dubbed mx. 16573, from 18857-A)
See also 11-Feb-1929.

18858 (A, B, C) / N556 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 3-Dec-1928

Billy Murray

Don't do that to the poor puss-cat (Sarony-Eyton)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52454-L

Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan) was also paid for this side, but is not credited on the label.

16-Nov-1928 (Fri) New York

18874 (A, B, C) / N569 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 11-Dec-1928

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

'Round evening (Whiting-Stein-Coots)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52464-R

18875 (A, B, C) / N570 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 3-Dec-1928

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Don't be like that (Gottler-Tobias-Pinkard)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52454-R

2-Jan-1929 (Wed) New York

Murray was scheduled to sing the vocal choruses to "Give your little baby lots of lovin'" and "That's her now!" with the Seven Blues Babies, but Ermine Calloway was used instead.

5-Jan-1929 (Sat) New York

AM 18987 (A, B, C) / Mx: N678 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 14-Feb-1929

Billy Murray & the Seven Blue Babies (as Billy Murray & his Melody Men)

A gay caballero (Crumit)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

All takes rejected. Remade on 22-Jan-1929.

18988 (A, B, C) / N679 (A, B, C)

Billy Murray & the Seven Blues Babies (as Billy Murray's Melody Men)

Ever since the movies learned to talk (O'Keefe-Dolan-Kavanaugh)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

All takes rejected. Remade on 22-Jan-1929. Lateral cutter experiment S109.

22-Jan-1929 (Tue: AM Session) New York

18987 (remake: F, G, H) / N678 (remake: F, G, H) Coupling Date: 14-Feb-1929

Billy Murray & Seven Blues Babies (as Billy Murray & his Melody Men)

A gay caballero (Crumit)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Blue Amberol: 5668 (dubbed mx. 16582, from unknown take)

Remake of 5-Jan-1929.

18988 (remake: F, G, H) / **N679** (remake: F, G, H) Coupling Date: 14-Feb-1929
Billy Murray & Seven Blues Babies (as Billy Murray & his Melody Men)
Ever since the movies learned to talk (O'Keefe-Dolan-Kavanaugh)
Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit), with Marcella Shields (incidental effects)
Diamond Disc: 52518-L

22-Jan-1929 (Tue): PM New York

—
Billy Murray & Ermine Calloway
No masters made

19024 (A, B, C) / **N715** (A, B, C)
Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)
Wedding bells (are breaking up that old gang of mine) (Kahal-Raskin-Fain)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)
Diamond Disc: 52516-R
Blue Amberol: 5667 (dubbed mx. 16591, from unknown take)
Last booking at the 79 Fifth Avenue studio.

11-Feb-1929 (Mon)

Experimental 185 (B) Electrical recording, vertical cut, 30 rpm, 300 lines per inch (12")
Edison Hour, Station WJZ — Second Part

This is a low-speed air-check made at the Edison laboratories from a live WJZ broadcast commemorating Thomas Edison's birthday. It is the second part of the program, the first having been devoted entirely to classical music. The recording begins with a brief message from Mr. Edison, relayed from Fort Meyers, Florida. There then follows a program by Edison artists including B.A. Rolfe's Orchestra, the Ed Parker Quartet, and Billy Murray, who sings "Doin' the Raccoon" with orchestra accompaniment. The recording was not made for commercial release, and is marred in some portions by noise from a defective power tube, which in the words of the Edison engineers, "went Democratic."

Multiples copies of this recording survive at ENHS.

20-Feb-1929 (Wed) New York

19057 (A, B, C) / **N748** (A, B, C)
Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)
I'm marching home to you (step by step, mile by mile) (Silver-Sherman-Lewis)
Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

"First orchestra and vocal since studio was draped with flannel cloth..Rug was not on floor." Rejected. Remade on 11-Mar-1929. "Goodness gracious, Gracie" was also scheduled, but not recorded (see 2-Apr-1929).

11-Mar-1929 (Mon) New York

19057 (remake: F, G, H) / N748 (remake: F, G, H) Coupling Date: 2-Apr-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

I'm marching home to you (step by step, mile by mile) (Silver-Sherman-Lewis)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52549-R

Blue Amberol: 5701 (dubbed mx. 16619, from unknown take)

Remake of 20-Feb-1929. N748 rejected (all takes).

19092 (A, B, C) / N783 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 2-Apr-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Oh! Baby what a night (Brown-von Tilzer)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52549-L

Blue Amberol: 5691 (dubbed mx. 16613, from unknown take)

N783 remade on 2-Apr-1929 (no vertical remake).

19-Mar-1929 (Tue) New York

19116 (A, B, C) / N807 (A, B, C)

Bernie Stevens & his Orchestra

Wipin' the pan

Vcl: Billy Murray

All takes rejected. N807 was remade on 19-Apr-1929 (no vertical remake).

28-Mar-1929 (Thu) New York

19129 (A, B, C) / N822 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 12-Apr-1929

Billy Murray & the Seven Blue Babies (as Billy Murray & his Merry Melody Men)

She's got great ideas! (Tobias-Bennett-Carlton)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52559-R

19129-A and -B and N822-C approved. N822-A and -B rejected.

19130 (A, B, C) / N823 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 21-Apr-1929

Billy Murray & the Seven Blue Babies (as Billy Murray & his Merry Melody Men)

Kansas City Kitty (Leslie-Donaldson)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52559-L

Blue Amberol: 5716 (dubbed mx. 16637, from unknown take)

N823 ok (all takes). "Your Looks and My Brains" was originally slated for 19130.

2-Apr-1929 (Tue)

New York

N783 (remake: F, G, H)

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Oh! Baby what a night (Brown-von Tilzer)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Remake of 11-Mar-1929 (no vertical remake).

19139 (A, B, C) / **N832** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 2-May-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Goodness gracious, Gracie (Abbott-Casem-Wimbrow)

Acc: Orchestra

Diamond Disc: 52570-R

Originally scheduled for 20-Feb-1929. 19139-A rejected, -B approved. N832 approved (all takes).

19-Apr-1929 (Fri)

New York: 34th Street studio

N807 (remake: F G H)

Bernie Stevens & his Orchestra

Wipin' the pan

Vcl: Billy Murray

Remake of 19-Mar-1929 (no vertical remake).

N863 (A, B, C)

Bernie Stevens & his Orchestra

Be your age

Vcl: Billy Murray

23-Apr-1929 (Tue)

New York

19165 (A, B, C) / **N864** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 8-May-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

That's my idea of heaven (Whiting-Steiner-Lieb)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52573-R

Needle Type: 14021-R

Needle Type 14021 included in Release N4 (shipped 8-May-1929).

19166 (A, B, C) / **N865** (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 8-May-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

She's a new kind of old-fashioned girl (Rose-Rose)

Acc: Orchestra

Diamond Disc: 52573-L

Needle Type: 14021-L

Needle Type 14021 included in Release N4 (shipped 8-May-1929).

22-May-1929 (Wed) New York

19208 (A, B, C) / N912 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 21-Jun-1929

Billy Murray (as Cy Pitkin & The Town Band)

Main Street (Brooks)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies [as The Town Band] (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52609-L

Needle Type: 14014-L

N912-C approved. 10414 was included in Release N3 (30-Aug-1929). "In old Tia Juana" was originally scheduled for this session, but was moved to 5-Jun-1929.

5-Jun-1929 (Wed) New York

19237 (A, B, C) / N942 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 25-Jun-1929

Billy Murray & the Seven Blue Babies (as Billy Murray & his Melody Men)

If I'm wrong, sue me (Ryan-Violinsky)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52611-R

19237-B and N942 (all takes) approved.

19238 (A, B, C) / N943 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 25-Jun-1929

Billy Murray & the Seven Blue Babies (as Billy Murray & his Merry Melody Men)

In old Tia Juana (Ti-a Wa-na) (Steele-Heagney)

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit)

Diamond Disc: 52609-R

Blue Amberol: 5720 (dubbed mx. 16655) (unissued)

Needle Type: 14014-R

Originally scheduled for recording on 22-May-1929. 19238-B, and N943-A and C approved. Blue Amberol 5720 was scheduled but not released. 14014 included in Release N3 (30-Aug-1929).

24-Jun-1929 (Mon) New York

19266 (A, B, C) / N975 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 9-Jul-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Sweet Madelon (Parish-Abraham)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Diamond Disc: 52619-L

Needle Type: 14031-L

N975-C approved. 14031 included in Basic Stock release of July 1929.

19267 (A, B, C) / N976 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 9-Jul-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Painting the clouds with sunshine (Burke-Dubin; film "The Gold Diggers of Broadway")

Acc: Orchestra

Diamond Disc: 52619-R

Needle Type: 14031-R

19267-B and N976-C approved. 14031 in Basic Stock release of July 1929.

28-Jun-1929 New York: 19th Street studio

N989 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 2-Jul-1929

B. A. Rolfe & his Lucky Strike Dance Orchestra

The flippety flop (Robin-Coslow-Whiting; film "The Dance of Life")

Vcl: Billy Murray, Ray Leoni

Needle Type: 14033-L

All takes ok; C used. 14033 in Basic Stock Release of July 1929.

N990 (A, B, C) Cpl: 2-Jul-1929

B. A. Rolfe & his Lucky Strike Dance Orchestra

True blue Lou (Robin-Coslow-Whiting; film "The Dance of Life")

Vcl: Billy Murray, Ray Leoni

Needle Type: 14033-R

N990 (all takes) approved, -C used. 14033 included in Basic Stock Release of July 1929.

12-Jul-1929 (Fri) New York

19292 (A, B, C) / **N1018** (A, B, C)

Billy Murray & Gladys Rice

That's you, baby (Conrad-Mitchell-Gottler; film "Fox Movietone Follies of 1929")

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit, with one extra musician)

Diamond Disc: 52642-R

All takes initially rejected, but 19292-A finally accepted and issued. Remade on 24-Jul-1929.

24-Jul-1929 (Fri) New York

19292 (remake: F, G, H) / **N1018** (remake: F, G, H)

Billy Murray & Gladys Rice

That's you, baby (Conrad-Mitchell-Gottler; film "Fox Movietone Follies of 1929")

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit with 1 extra musician)

Remake of 12-Jul-1929. 19292 and N1018 rejected (all takes). 19292-A, from the original session, was finally used for issue.

19312 (A, B, C) / **N1036** (A, B, C)

Billy Murray

The poison kiss of that Spaniard

Acc: Seven Blue Babies (California Ramblers unit with 1 extra musician)

All takes rejected. Test pressings of 19312-A and 19312-B survive.

28-Aug-1929 (Wed) New York

N1086 (A, B, C)

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Then you've never been blue (Lewis-Young-Fiorito)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Needle Type: 14067-R

Take C ok. 14067 scheduled for Release N15 (22-Nov-1929).

N1087 (A, B, C)

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Sunnyside up (De Sylva-Brown-Henderson; film "Sunnyside Up")

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Needle Type: 14067-L

Takes B and C ok; C approved. 14067 scheduled for Release N15 (22-Nov-1929).

12-Sep-1929 (Thu) New York

N1126 (A, B, C)

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

When I see my Sugar

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

All takes ok.

N1127 (A, B, C) Coupling Date: 16-Sep-1929

Billy Murray & Walter Van Brunt (as Walter Scanlan)

Sergeant Flagg and Sergeant Quirt (I'll tell the cock-eyed world) (Klein-Moll)

Acc: Orchestra (Irwin Schloss, conductor)

Needle Type: 14066-R

"Special Release" — To have been listed in Release N10 (10/18/1929).

This session produced Murray's last issued Edison records. The final Studio Cash Book entry for Murray is on 30-Nov-1929, when it was noted that a check for \$346.20 was written to Murray, with the notation "three weeks." This probably Edison's buyout of the final three weeks of Murray's 1928-29 contract. Walter Van Brunt received the same amount, with the same notation.