

SAM DUTREY [JR.]

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I [only]--Digest--Retyped ^{L. T. [unclear]}
April 14, 1962 Also present: William Russell

Samuel O'Donnell [~~SD~~] Dutrey, Jr. was born May 29, 1909, on Lowerline Street, New Orleans. SD remembers hearing his father play in a band at the Buffaloes Club, in the 17th Ward [now begins at Carrollton Avenue and extends toward Jefferson Parish--PRC], when SD was quite young. SD, JR, heard that when SD, Sr., first came to N. O., he opened a pressing shop; he later became a barber, and began playing music with various local bands; SD, Jr., thinks his father died about 1941; he doesn't know when he was born, or how old he was at death. SD, Jr.'s uncle Peter Dutrey, played violin; his uncle Honore Dutrey was a ^{trumpet} ~~trumpet~~ ~~trumpet~~ (WR says Baby Dodds always called him "Norah"). The only band that SD, Jr., remembers his father's playing with [i. e., being a regular member?] was Amos Riley's marching band [i.e., Tulane Brass Band]; the father was playing at the lake [same band?]. The father had quit playing music before his death, and had returned to barbering. The last time SD, Jr. heard his father was at the Pythian Temple Roof [Garden]; the musicians [union] had a ball there, and SD, Sr., played flute in the band. (WR mentions Bab Frank, piccolo player; SD, Sr., also played piccolo.) SD, Sr. also played alto sax, although he began on C melody sax; SD, Jr., doesn't give the date he started playing sax. Peter Dutrey was the oldest of the three brothers, Honore the youngest. Honore came back through N.O. in 1918, during World War I; he went to Chicago [where he took up or had taken up residence]; he came back to N.O. on an excursion; then SD, Jr., didn't see him until 1933, when he himself went up [river] with Sidney Desvigne on the [Streckfus boat, and SD, Jr., had just graduated from high school, and was given the

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trip as a reward; Honore was then playing with King Oliver; others in the band were Louis Armstrong, Baby Dodds, Lil [Hardin Armstrong], Jackson (SD thinks) [i.e., Bill Johnson?] on banjo, Johnny Dodds on clarinet.

SD, Jr., first began playing on clarinet; the first person who gave him a chance to sit in with a band was George Lewis, then working with [Kid] Rena. SD, Jr., studied with his father at first, but quit and learned on his own later. ~~WR~~ says Manuel Manetta says SD., Sr., could read music better than the downtown musicians, who claimed to be better. Talk of Albert and Boehm system clarinets. Story of Louis Armstrong's being frightened by SD, Sr., because SD, Sr., was known to be a strict man about music. The father showed SD, Jr., the fingering on sax, and SD, Jr., learned the rest by himself. SD, Jr., began studying clarinet when he was about eight years old; he continued his study, with his father for eight or ten years.

Peter Dutrey was almost exclusively a barber in his later years, playing very seldom; he, like the other two brothers, died when he was between forty-five and fifty years of age. He played piccolo, as well as violin. SD, Jr., knows that his uncle, Honore Dutrey, played in the best brass bands; he thinks one was the ^EXcelsior; Honore left SD, Jr., some caps from that band, when he, Honore, went to Chicago. There were three caps, the regular funeral cap [black], the regular [general use] cap, which was white, and a cap with a white band around it; SD, Jr., doesn't know what the third cap was for. SD, Jr.'s sister is younger than he. SD, Sr., had his own band, the Silvertone Orchestra, at one time; some of the members: Lawrence Marrero, banjo; Harrison Barnes, trombone; "One-eyed Babe" Phillips, bass; one of the Hall brothers (a brother of Edmond and Clarence Hall [i.e., Robert ^{of} Herbert?],

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tenor and baritone [saxes]; SD, Sr., alto sax.

The first job of SD, Jr., ever played for pay was in a trio he and the others--[Son Lennis?], drums, and Jerome "Jerry" Green, banjo--formed; the job was for the opening of a drug store. Then Detectives Lennis and Tegan hired them regularly "for their little outings". SD, Jr., later went to Biloxi, playing with Isaiah Morgan, he thinks. Then, on the recommendation of Danny "Sun Do" Barker (relative [nephew] of Paul Barbarin), SD, Jr., joined a band with [led by?] "Fess" [i. e., Davy] Jones, [Saxophone] and [5] Lee Collins, [trumpet] including [bass?] Roy Evans, Barker, [drums], [banjo], and [piano] Joe Robichaux. Afterwards, SD, Jr., played spot jobs with Isaiah Morgan. Then he worked at the Entertainer, with Willie O'Connell, [clarinet?] Percy Jones, and Roy Evans. Then SD, Jr., worked with Sidney Desvigne, making some trips on the boat with him; he joined Desvigne around 1930 or 1931. After Desvigne, he went with Joe Robichaux. SD, Jr., says his father [put me in the local musicians' union] [of the musicians' union] when he was twelve years old. SD, Jr., also played with William [Marcel [?]] "Baba" Ridgley, at the Owls Club [on Jefferson Highway?]; others in the band; Emma Barrett [piano], Gilbert Young [trumpet], Harrison Barnes [trombone], Meyer Kennedy [sax], Jim Hohnson [bass?]; the year was 1929. SD, Jr., joined Desvigne and left during the early part of 1934, joining Robichaux, remaining with him until the name of the band was changed to John Lunsford [and after J. Lunsford [?]]. SD, Jr., didn't record with Robichaux, [cf. discographies, RBA] The Lunsford band [Lunsford] broke up because many of the members were drafted during World War II. SD, Jr., joined the Freddy Kohlman band. [See discographies.] When he left that, he began free-lancing. SD, Jr., played and engagements in Opelousas, Louisiana, in 1943; he married

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a couple of years later, and somewhat after that moved to Oprlousas, as his wife was home-sick. [Cf. Chester Jones, Waldren Joseph, Jack Willis, interviews]

SD, Jr.'s father and uncles came from Ponite Coupee Parish, where [the town of] New Roads is located. Jimmy Dutrey, another brother of SD, Sr., was a bass player, but died when he was about sixteen years of age; SD, Jr., says it was told that Jimmy was the youngest of the brothers.

SD, Jr., played with the Black Eagles Band, of N.O.; he also played with Kid Thomas [Valentine]'s Band; in fact, he had played with most all the N.O. bands.

t. The clarinetist SD, Jr., liked the most was Artie Shaw. He heard Lorenzo Tio [Jr.], but didn't like him too well. SD, Jr., liked Georgie Boyd, and thought he could play more than all the rest of the N.O. clarinetists of that time. SD, Jr., also liked Captain [John] Handy. He also liked the "top N.O. Clarinetist," [Irving] Fazola, *who had a trio on WWL Eredis station*.

End of Reel I

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just graduated from high school, and was given the trip as a reward; Honore was then playing with King Oliver; others in the band were Louis Armstrong, Baby Dodds, Lil [Hardin Armstrong], Jackson (SD thinks) [i.e., Bill Johnson?] on banjo, Johnny Dodds on clarinet.

SD Jr. first began playing on clarinet; the first person who gave him a chance to sit in with a band was George Lewis, then working with [Kid] Rena. SD, Jr., studied with his father at first, but quit and learned on his own later. WR says Manuel Manetta says SD, Sr., could read music better than the downtown musicians, who claimed to be better. Talk of Albert and Boehm system clarinets. Story of Louis Armstrong's being frightened by SD, Sr., because SD, Sr., was known to be a strict man about music. The father showed SD, Jr., the fingering on sax, and SD, Jr., learned the rest by himself. SD, Jr., began studying clarinet when he was about eight years old; he continued his study, with his father, for eight or ten years.

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the members: Lawrence Marrero, banjo; Harrison Barnes, trombone; "One-eyed Babe" Phillips, bass; one of the Hall brothers (a brother of Edmond and Clarence Hall [i.e., Robert or Herbert?]), tenor and baritone [saxes]; SD, Sr., alto sax.

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[Ward] "Bucket" [Crosby] (who played drums and was from Chicago), and Robichaux.
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SD, Jr.'s father and uncles came from Pointe Coupee Parish, where [the town of] New Roads is located. Jimmy Dutrey, another brother of SD, Sr., was a bass player, but died when he was about sixteen years of age; SD, Jr., says it was told that Jimmy was the youngest of the brothers.

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End of Reel I