

June 5, 1943, letter from B.A. Botkin to Dr. Willis James

June 5, 1943 Dr. Willis James The Fort Valley State College Fort Valley, Georgia

Dear Dr. James:

As I wrote President Bond, we have extended the Fort Valley recording project to the end of June. I trust this will fit into your schedule. Could you let me know what your recording plans are? President Bond mentioned some new war songs by Buster Ezell. We have just filled a request for Buster Ezell's Bottle Up And Go recorded by John Work a couple of years ago. Since the record is very noisy and bumpy, I should like to have you rerecord it with special emphasis on the text. The tendency is to place the guitar too close to the microphone and drown out the words.

It might also be a good idea for you to rerecord some of the songs which you have already recorded but which are marred by tangled threads. Perhaps together we can draw up a list of the best of the titles to be salvaged.

With best wishes,

Faithfully, B. A. Botkin Assistant in Charge Archive of American Folk Song

BAB/k