

Summary of National Piano Mfg. Co/ Automatic Musical Instrument Co. data

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Document</u>	<u>Signed by NPM Co or AMI Co. Officer</u>	<u>Tune Titles</u>	<u>Rolls Made</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
7-13-20	Letter & agree- ment	S. D. Thompson, Secy & Treas (letterhead shows W. Ioor as Pres & Gen'l Mgr. and Joseph Renihan as VP)	New Orleans Hop Scop Blues		NPM Co. at "N W corner Fulton & Ionia" per letterhead; at "21-31 Ottawa Ave. N. W." per agreement
7-19-20	Letter & agreem't	S. D. Thompson	Crawfish Rag		
4-27-22	Agreement	S. D. Thompson	Muscle Shoals Blues		
7-18-22	Agreement	B. Stone, Asst. Secy	Houston Blues		
11-6-22	Agreement	S. D. Thompson	The Fives		
3-19-23	Agreement	S. D. Thompson	I've Got a Man Of My Own		National now at 1512 Union Ave., S.E.
3-24-27	Contract	B. Stone	Gary Blues		Co is now AMI Co, 1500 Union
4-6-27	Contract	B. Stone	Underworld Blues		
6-23-27	Contract	B. Stone	Lonesome Room Blues		
7-1-27	Royalty statem't	Ralph Durnbaugh, "in charge of the Music Roll Dept."	Gary Blues Underworld Blues	453 rolls 475 rolls	
7-7-27	Letter & contrct	B. Stone	I Keeps My Kitchen Clean		
9-13-27	Contract	B. Stone	Dead Drunk Blues		
10-20-27	Royalty statemt	Ralph Durnbaugh	Dead Drunk Blues The Fives I Keeps My Kitchen Lonesome Room Blues	483 rolls 30 rolls 516 rolls 684 rolls	
11-26-27	Letter & contrct	B. Stone	You Just Can't Keep A Good Woman Down		
1-13-28	Royalty statemt	Ralph Durnbaugh	Dead Drunk Blues You Just Can't Keep A Good Wom. Down	63 rolls 509 rolls	
1-19-28	Contract	B. Stone	Butcher Shop Blues		
2-9-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	The Gambler's Dream		
2-23-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Harbor Blues		

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2-28-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Gut Struggle Blues		
3-23-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Hersal Blues		
4-12-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Up In The Country Blues		correct title is "Up the Country Bls"
4-12-28	Royalty statemt	Ralph Durnbaugh	Butcher Shop Bls	484 rolls	
			The Gambler's Dream	533 rolls	
			Gut Struggle Bls	474 rolls	
			Harbor Bls	486 rolls	
			You Just Can't Keep a good woman down	29 rolls	
6-6-28	Contract	B. Stone	Stop It Up		
6-15-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Hip Shaker		
7-18-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Suit Case Blues		
7-27-28	Letter & contrt	B. Stone	Block Avenue Blues		
10-19-28	Royalty statemt	Ralph Durnbaugh	Block Avenue Blues	482 rolls	
			Harbor Blues	13 rolls	
			Hip Shaker	15 rolls	
			Sho Is Hot	477 rolls	
			Stop It Up	30 rolls	
			Suit Case Blues	509 rolls	

Notes: It appears that National/Automatic actually made rolls for nearly all the titles they contracted for. It is also obvious that some of the quarterly royalty statements are missing and a few of the cover letters. From the quantities of rolls made, it would appear that a minimum run was 13 to 15 rolls, a double run was 30, and so on. From the frequency (or infrequency) of titles they paid royalties on, it looks like they needed only about 450 to 550 of each title, suggesting that there was a series of jobbers with National/Automatic pianos on location in certain segments of the country which featured blues rolls. National/AMI made each roll in enough quantity to satisfy this "juke box" trade, then went on to other titles. No one title seems to have enjoyed significantly more popularity than any of the others, especially when you consider the evidence here is probably incomplete. I own the roll of HARBOR BLUES and it's almost a sure fact that it's hand-played. It's got rhythms in it that an arranger just couldn't dream up -- only a working pianist would have that kind of moxie. The question is, what are chances of turning up any more of these gems?