THE DICK TWO TON BAKER DISCOGRAPHY

Two Ton’s “home” label was Mercury, and the vast majority of the recordings shown here are on that label. This info was taken from *The Mercury Labels: A Discography (vol. 1: The 1945-1956 Era)*, by Michel Ruppli and Ed Novitsky. Typographical errors and bizarre typographical usages are not corrected, and even I haven’t sorted out some of the quirky usages, but I have added some notes [in brackets] making corrections or additions. All records listed here are 78s unless otherwise indicated.

The leftmost number in the listings is the record company matrix number; if it is underlined, it means I have a copy of that recording. Likewise, an underscore under the record number (e.g., Merc 5066), means that I have that record (in a few cases, I have a copy of the recording but not the record itself).

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER) - NURSERY RHYME TIME:**
Dick “Two Ton” Baker (p, vo) with? [piano only]

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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</table>
| 399 | Pt.1: Boys and girls came out to play/  
Mary had a little lamb/  
One,two,buckle my shoe/  
Little boy blue/  
Ride a cockhorse/  
Oh where has my little dog gone |
|   | April 1946 |
|   | Merc.7008(alb.MMP-3),MG30002 |
|   | [actually MMP-4 -DB] |

| 400 | Pt.2: Simple Simon  
One-two-three-four-five/  
I love Little Pussy/  
Sing a song of sixpence/  
Jack and Jill/  
Hickory dickory dock |
|   |   |
|   | Merc.7008(alb.MMP-3),MG30002 |
|   | [actually MMP-4 -DB] |

| 401 | Pt.3: Baa baa black sheep/  
Just like me/  
Humpty dumpty/  
Little Bo Beep/  
Tom Tom/  
The piper’s son/  
Two birds on a stone/  
Bye bye bunting |
|   |   |
|   | Merc.7009(alb.MMP-3) |
|   | [actually MMP-4 -DB] |

| 402 | Pt.4: Hey diddle diddle/  
Peas porridge hot/  
Patty cake,Patty cake/  


Mistress Mary/
The queen of hearts/
Little Jack Horner/
Ding dong bell
Boys and girls come out to play

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER CHRISTMAS PARTY:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) with ? [sound effects on Night before Xmas]
September 1946

515 The night before Christmas,pt.1  Merc.7010(alb.MMP-5)
516 The night before Christmas,p2.2:
Santa’s toy shop
[house top -DB]

517 Up on the hose top/Deck the halls  Merc.7011? [yes, and MMP-5]

518 Jingle bells

All titles also issued on [LP] Merc.MG30004.

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER, HIS PIANO & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:
Incl. Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo), Little Emmy(vo) & The Maple City Four-1
(vocal quartet) [Actually, Baker on Rickety; Baker+Emma on Zip a dee;
Baker+Maple City Four on Happy birthday & Auld lang Syne; also b & gtr on Zip
a dee & Happy birthday; gtr, b & dr on Rickety rickshaw]
WGN Studios,Chicago,November 6,1946

617 Zip a dee doo dah(voDB,LE)  Merc.3047
618 Rickety rickshaw man(voDB)  1359x45(alb.A-141x45),
                      MG25135
619 Happy birthday to you[-1]  Merc.3048,5039,5039x45
620 Auld Lang Syne-1
                      1359x45(alb.A-141x45),
                      MG25135
621 (Mercury Christmas number)  unissued

DICK “TWO TON BAKER” & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr]
WGN Studios,Chicago,January  ,1947

686 Managua,Nicaragua  Merc.5016
687 I gotta gal I love (in
North and South Dakota)  -
688 Uncle Remus said  Merc.5017
689* Everybody has a laughing face*
         (voDB)  7048(alb.MMP25-98),
                     7048x45(alb.MMP25x45)
[*Actually, laughing “place.” And note that the label on the disc itself
shows the matrix number as 698 and the record number as 25-89; presumably, the
typesetter transposed the 98 & 89 in the two numbers.]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER) SING A SILLY SONG:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [“Wabbit” label 7019 and 7047 say “Dick Baker &
His Music Makers,” while 5027 is just Baker, which is obviously right, since I
don’t hear any other instruments]

740 I like you, you’re silly/
Polly wolly doodle  Merc.7018?*(alb.MMP-9)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>741</td>
<td>The soup song/Eachy peachy pie</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>742</td>
<td>The tree in the woods</td>
<td>Merc.7019*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>743</td>
<td>I wuv a wabbit</td>
<td>Merc.7047 alb.MMP-24-98, 5127, 7047x45 alb.MMP-24x45</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All titles also issued on Merc.MG30002.

[740-741 are indeed Mercury 7018; 742-743 are indeed Mercury 7019]

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, gtr, b, dr, + bass cl on Bloop Bleep] 1947

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>832</td>
<td>Bloop bleep</td>
<td>Merc.5058</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>833</td>
<td>A chocolate sundae on a Saturday night</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>834</td>
<td>Kokomo, Indiana</td>
<td>Merc.5055</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>835</td>
<td>Chick-a-biddy boogie</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr] 1947

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>957</td>
<td>Near You</td>
<td>Merc.5066, 1360x45 alb.A-141x45, MG25135</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>958</td>
<td>Civilization</td>
<td>Merc.5067, 1361x45 alb.A-141x45, MG25135</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>959</td>
<td>I’m a lonely little petunia (in an onion patch) (voDB)</td>
<td>Merc.5066, 5083, 7048 alb.MMP25-98, 7048x45 alb.MMP-25x45, MG30002</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>960</td>
<td>Dancers in love(instr.)</td>
<td>Merc.5067</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER):**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo,p) with ? [bass drum & sound effects] 1947

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>977</td>
<td>Boomer the bass drum, pt.1</td>
<td>Merc.7022 alb.MMP-11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>978</td>
<td>Boomer the bass drum, pt2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both parts also issued on Merc.7022x45 alb.MMP-11x45, MG30002.

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc b, dr, + gtr on With a hey] 1947

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1141</td>
<td>Too fat polka</td>
<td>Merc.5079</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1142</td>
<td>With a hey and a hi and a ho ho ho</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1143</td>
<td>The cocoanut song</td>
<td>Merc.5083</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1144</td>
<td>I’m a little teapot</td>
<td>Merc.5127, 7047 alb.MMP-24-98, 7047x45 alb.MMP-24-98x45</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BEN ARONIN & “TWO TON” BAKER:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo) & Ben Aronin(narr) with sound effects and music. 1947

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Artist(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Label/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1145</td>
<td>Sparkle plenty’s birthday party, pt.1</td>
<td>Merc.7038 alb.MMP-19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1146</td>
<td>Sparkle plenty’s birthday party, pt.2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[This appears to be in error: I have the disk; Two Ton isn’t mentioned on the]
cover, nor is he heard on the recording.]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo) with Ross [actually, Ros –DB] Metzger & Frank Worth’s Orchestra. 1948

1757  Red’s back in town                   Merc.5151*
1758  An old flame never dies
[*These same two sides were issued as Metro Record Company No. 101-102 with notation “Not for Public Sale.”]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [dr, acc, bass cl, gtr; female vocal group, whistler (could be Baker)]

2067  Deep freezer Dinah*                      Merc.5281
[*actually, Deep Freeze Dinah; credit on 5281 label is just “Two Ton” Baker—no mention of Music Makers]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS*:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr, + acc on Sunflower]

2186  Roll the patrol                      Merc.5239
2187  Sunflower                           - 1360x45(alb.A-141x45), Merc.25135
2188  Oogoo the worm                       Merc.5257,5346
2189  My little pup with the patent leather nose and the wiggly waggly tail - 5292,MMP-52,MMP-52x45
[*78 labels for all four credit “Richard (Two-Ton Baker,” no mention of Music Makers.]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS*:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [b on Lucy; b & dr on Drop the Gun; b & gtr on Engine]

2519  Put your shoes on, Lucy               Merc.5266**
2520  All right Louie, drop the gun         Merc.5266(2)**
[actually, Louis]
2521  What the engine done                  Merc.5281
2522  Myrtle the turtle and Flip the frog   Merc.5266(1)**,MMP-52,MMP-52x45
[Actually, credit just Two Ton Baker on the three sides I have.

**Something’s screwy here: The Mercury discography has these three songs all on Mercury 5266, which is impossible. I have three copies of that record, and the two songs on them are “Put Your Shoes On, Lucy” and “All Right Louie.” The “(1)” and “(2)” after 5266 on “Myrtle” and “Louie” seem to indicate that the compilers of the discography intended to explain this incongruity, but there are no such notes to be found.]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER*:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, acc, dr]

2751  The beautiful blonde from bashful bend Merc.5292
DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) with ? [acc, b, dr] 1949

2760 Ev’rybody kissed the bride Merc.5306

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, b, dr on Stinky Cheese; acc, dr & vcl chorus on Ellie] 1949

2771 I like stinky cheese Merc.5306, MG25135
2772 Ellie the elegant elephant Merc.MMP-53*, MMP-53x45

[*actually, 78 is MMP 53-79]

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, gtr, b, dr] 1949

2861 Gus the gopher Merc.5346, MMP-51-79

2862 Why fall in love with a stranger Merc.5329

“TWO TON BAKER” & TINY HILL:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker,Tiny Hill(vo) with ? [p, gtr, b, dr on Bigger Man; p, banjo, b, dr on Dixie] 1949

2878-2 I’m a bigger man than you Merc.5324
2879 Nobody loves a fat man unissued
2880 Cryin’ jag rag -
2881 Are you from Dixie? Merc.5324

DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:
Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc only on Looey; acc, b, dr on Pansy; fem. vcl on all four Gus sides; gtr, dr, b, acc on the part of 2986 that’s a repeat of 2861]¹ 1949

2921 Looey the local locomotive Merc.MMP-53², MMP-53x45
2922 I’m just a little pansy in a flower pot Merc.5329
2923 Under the mistletoe unissued
2924 Our body is a little house,pt.1 Merc.MMP-54-79, MMP-54x45
2925 Our body is a little house,pt.2 - -

As of 4/8/17, when I finally found Myrtle the Turtle, “Our body” is the last known Two Ton recording that I’ve never found.

2986³ Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.1 Merc.MMP-59
2987³ Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.2 -
2988³ Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.1 Merc.MMP-60
2989³ Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.2 -

¹May 2006 email from Tim Gainer says that his mother, Elmira Roessler, was the uncredited voice of Gus the Gopher.
²actually, 78 is MMP 53-79
³Actually, titles are “You Got to Be a Hero Nowadays,” parts 1 & 2; record number is MMP 59 on decorative sleeve, but 59-79M on record label.
⁴Titles are “It’s a Merry Christmas After All,” parts 1 & 2; record number MMP
60-79M on record label.]

[The Mercury discography treats this batch as one recording session, but the gap in matrix numbers makes that unlikely. I suspect that the four “Gus the Gopher” sides were done in a separate session. And note that 2986 seems to be just a repeat of the 2861 Gus the Gopher song with an added “gopher palaver” introduction spliced on.]

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER** [actually, “Two Ton Baker and the Temp Tones”]:

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) with ? [accordion, guitar, clarinet, bass, drums]

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<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3138</td>
<td>The bicycle song</td>
<td>Merc.5368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3139</td>
<td>I’ve got tears in my eyes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3140</td>
<td>Music! Music! Music!</td>
<td>Merc.5369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3141</td>
<td>Chattanooga shoe shine boy</td>
<td></td>
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1950

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(p,vo) with ? [flute, bass cl, muted tp, gtr, glockenspiel or xylophone, Hammond organ, dr + others? Add female vocal chorus for Cinderella & One little candle]

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<tr>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3208</td>
<td>Peter Cottontail</td>
<td>Merc.5397,MMP-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3209</td>
<td>Cinderella work song</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3210</td>
<td>One little candle on a two layer cake</td>
<td>Merc.5426,8-50, MG25135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3211</td>
<td>The boy with the rip in his pants</td>
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[also have 45 rpm copies of 5397 & 5426.]

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo) with The Mercury Studio Orchestra.

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<tr>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3434</td>
<td>Kansas City Kitty</td>
<td>Merc.5445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3435</td>
<td>Let’s do it again</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER & JERRY MURAD’S HARMONICATS:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo) with Jerry Murad, Al Fiore, Don Les(hca) + ? [acoustic gtr, xy, bassoon on the oom-pah, but no tuba!]

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<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3762</td>
<td>Frosty the snowman(voDB)</td>
<td>Merc.MMP-76,MMP-76-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3763</td>
<td>Tubby the tuba song(voDB)</td>
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[The uncredited “little girl” voice on Frosty sounds very much like Elmira Roessler, the voice of Gus the Gopher.]

**DICK “TWO TON” BAKER:**

Dick “Two Ton” Baker(vo) & Jerry Murad’s Harmonicats: Jerry Murad, Al Fiore, Don Les(hca) + ? [p, gtr, xy; p presumably Baker]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3896</td>
<td>Please say goodnight to the guy, Irene</td>
<td>Merc.5527,5527x45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3897</td>
<td>Dingya d’ dingya-1</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

-1:as by Jerry Murad’s Harmonicats & “Two Ton” Baker.
*Date should be 1950, as I found a Mercury ad in Billboard for October 21, 1950, listing this as among its best-sellers.

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:
Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) with David Le Winter Orchestra. 1951

3918 The thing  Merc.5548,5548x45,
1361x45(alb.A-141x45),MG25135

[Note that all the Mercury listings above are from a published Mercury discography; until proven otherwise, I presume it’s complete. All the listings that follow, however, are here because I’ve stumbled across the recordings. There could be others on these and other labels. Please help me find them.]

ON THE DECCA LABEL (78)

HOOSIER HOT SHOTS AND TWO TON BAKER
Paul “Hezzie” Trietsch (whistle); Ken Trietsch (gtr), Charles “Gabe” Ward (cl); Gill Taylor (b); unknown, trombone; Dick “Two Ton” Baker (p/vo)
Prob. Chicago, Ill., Nov. 13, 1945

73119 You Two Timed Me One Time Too Often  Decca 18738
[A side of Decca 18738 is “Someday (You’ll Want Me to Want You”) by the Hoosier Hot Shots and Sally Foster]

73120 Sioux City Sue  Decca 18745
[B side of Decca 18745 is “There’s a Tear in My Beer Tonight” by the Hoosier Hot Shots and Sally Foster.]

ON THE CORAL LABEL (78)

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER WITH ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY LEW DOUGLAS July-Aug 1952?

83034 (I’m Afraid to Marry) Marietta  Coral 60807*
83035 Give Me Back  -
*Marked “Sample copy--not for sale.”

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER VOCAL WITH MUSICAL EFFECTS
Baker (vo/p) plus violin, kettle drum, mandolin, saxophone, trombone, cl, flute, b.

83036 At the Music Shop, Pt. 1  Coral 69023
83037 At the Music Shop, Pt. 2  -
1953?

DICK TWO TON BAKER WITH ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY REMO BIONDI 1953

? Fuzzy Wuzzy  Coral 69025
83673 Bert the Turtle (The Duck and Cover Song)*

*Have this song as reissued on DVD/CD documentary Atomic Platters: Cold War Music from the Golden Age of Homeland Security; don’t have the disc.

PRIVATE RECORDING (78)

-7-
DICK BAKER (piano, vocal)

Rock Roll and Jump
You’re Hitting Me Right Where I Live

Privately recorded 78 made at Webb Recording Co, 55 W. Wacker Dr, Chicago 1, Ill.

Prob. late 1950s

ON THE MOPPET LABEL (45s)

Two-Ton Baker
Baker plus gtr, dr, b.

KS-5 The Froggy Song Moppet 7003
KS-6 Clink Clank (in My Piggy Bank) -
KS-7 I’m a Little Weenie Moppet 7004
KS-8 Rub-a-Dub-Dub (in a Tub) -

These four songs also issued as Side B of a 10” LP, Imperial DJ-ET 101, which, with DJ-ET 102, was a promotional set with a different children’s performer on each side. Imperial was part of the same West Coast family of labels as Moppet.

ON THE HEARTBEAT LABEL (45s)

“Two Ton” Baker, The Music Maker
Baker p, vo plus HB-3 = acc/bjo/b/vo chorus; HB-9 = tp on Wonderful Mother, tp & bongos on Mother of Mine; HB-12 = dr or rhythm machine, Hammond organ on St. James; H-23, H-41, H-51 = same quartet as LP below; H-33 = Hammond organ; H-49 = gtr/tp/b/dr.

Late 1950s-1960s

[no #] No Beer in Heaven! HB-3
[no #] Lawrence Welk Polka -
[no #] Big Daddy Piano HB-5
[no #] Ping Pong Banjo -
[no #] My Wonderful Mother HB-9
[no #] Mother of Mine -
[no #] Scotch and Soda HB-12
[no #] St. James Infirmary -
[no #] Beautiful Baby -
[no #] I’m a Lonely Little Petunia -
[no #] I’m Forever Blowing Bubbles H-41
[no #] Five Foot Two -
[no #] Barking Dog H-49*
[no #] The Music Goes 'Round and Around -
[no #] Sunny Deb H-51
[no #] Satin Doll -
[no #] Luck Be with You (Kenahora— Knock On Wood) H-56
[no #] The Ducky Dance (Waddle, -
Waddle, Waddle)
[*I have tape copies of H-49, but no disk]

ON THE SUNNY LABEL

“TWO TON” BAKER, THE MUSIC MAKER (45s)
Two Ton Baker, p, vo; 504 = dixieland band; 513AB & 515-A = same quartet as LP below; 515-B = drums & various rhythm; 518 = quartet as LP + Hammond organ; 523 = trick (thumbtack) piano, tuba, bjo, dr
late 1960s–early ’70s?

* Las Vegas SR-504
  When My Sugar Walks Down the Street -
  It’s Al Jolson Time (medley) S-513
  It’s George M. Cohan Time (medley) -
  Sentimental Journey S515
  Right On! -
  It’s Eddy Howard Time S516
  It’s Ted Lewis Time -
  The Party’s Over S-518
  Silver Dollar/You’re Nobody -
  ’Till Somebody Loves You -
  China Town S-523
  Down Yonder -
  South S-528
  Makin’ Whooppee -

*No Sunny 45s have matrix numbers.

A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY WITH TWO TON BAKER (LP)
Sentimental Journey

Love Medley:
  I Can’t Give You Anything but Love
  My Blue Heaven
  Sweet Georgia Brown
  It’s Only a Shanty in Old Shanty Town
  Alexander’s Rag Time Band
  I’m a Lonely Little Petunia
  Too Fat Polka
  If I Could Be with You / Lazy River

Medley:
  Red Roses for a Blue Lady
  One Dozen Roses
  Anytime

Medley:
  For Me and My Gal
  Carolina in the Morning
  Oh You Beautiful Doll

Medley:
  Pretty Baby
  I Don’t Know Why
  Honey
  You Made Me Love You

Medley:
  Silver Dollar
  You’re Nobody Till Somebody Loves You

Eddy Howard Time:
  If I Knew Then

-9-
Careless
Ted Lewis Time:
  Me and My Shadow
  When My Baby Smiles at Me
Satin Doll

Two Ton Baker, p/vo; Seymour Schwartz, cornet; Paul Friedman, b; Phil Stanger, dr. Sunny S-5001, 1972. LP evidently compiled from 45s made at previous sessions for the Heartbeat label.

Instrument abbreviations above:  p = piano; vo = vocal; b = string bass; gtr = electric guitar, acc = accordion; dr = drums; cl = clarinet; xy = xylophone; tp = trumpet; bjo = banjo

TRANSCRIPTION DISCS

Transcription discs were specially recorded and sent through the mail to subscribing radio stations for later playback. There were transcription discs in the 78 era, but Two Ton’s were all 33 1/3 rpm discs, some of which were 16" in diameter, a size that radio station turntables could handle but that never caught on with home machines. Also, transcription discs typically didn’t have grooves leading from one track to the next. It was felt—rightly, I’m sure—that if an engineer’s attention lapsed, it was better to have a few extra seconds of dead air than to have the next show start unexpectedly.

CROSLEY & BENDIX FIVE-MINUTE RADIO SHOWS, 1955
  Labeled “Two Ton” Baker the Crosley Music Maker or “Two Ton” Baker the Bendix-Washer Music Maker, 5-Minute Radio Shows, Pressed by RCA Victor Division of Radio Corporation of America, Frederick Jack Productions, 520 North Michigan, Chicago, Ill.
  Each disc has five shows plus a “closing theme” track. I have five of them:
    Show Record No. 1  – for Crosley
    Show Record No. 2  –
    Show Record No. 15  – for Bendix
    Show Record No. 20 –
    Commercial Record No. 22 – for Bendix (12" disc; others are 16")

THE “76” SPOTS, 1957
  Labeled “76” Spot Announcements featuring Two-Ton Baker, Modern Recording Studio, 55 Wacker Dr., Chicago 1, Ill., Produced by American “76” Company, Skokie, Ill. Each side of each disc has six 60-second jingles for the beverage, which seems to have been a lemon-lime 7-Up clone. All are 12" discs.
    MR-1096/1097 [no series label]
    MR-7661B/7662B – Series B
    MR-11831/11832 – Series C

TUNE FOR TODAY, Early 1950s?
  I never had the actual discs in hand for this set, just 48 of the shows. Each ran 4 1/2 minutes: one minute intro, one minute piano interlude for local announcements or commercials, then the tune for the day.

WEATHER FORECASTS WITH TWO TON BAKER, date unknown
YOUR FAVORITE SONGS, 1955

RADIO SHOWS

Not strictly “discographical” material, but some of Two Ton’s radio shows have survived, so I’ll document them here. As with everything else, I’m eager to acquire more.

Mutual Network Show

Two Ton Baker did a 15-minute show from Studio 2 in his “home” station of WGN that was fed to subscribing stations all over the country on the Mutual Broadcasting System. I have three shows, all of which came from nostalgia radio host Chuck Schaden in Chicago. (The dates are from Schaden, but the second one is suspect, as Baker refers to something happening on Aug. 8 as if it were a few days in the past.)

August 1, 1947 — songs are
Smile Right Back at the Sun
My Blue Heaven
Dancers in Love (Stomp for Beginners)
Red Sails in the Sunset

August 5, 1947
Ragtime Cowboy Joe
You’re the Only Star in My Blue Heaven
Bloop Bleep
Gimme a Little Kiss

August 18, 1947
Mazel
Dream
I Do Do Do Like You
Let the Rest of the World Go By

Interview by Chuck Schaden

On his “Those Were the Days” show on May 2, 1972 (WLTD, Evanston), Schaden did a 15-minute telephone interview with Two Ton.