

IRVING BERLIN

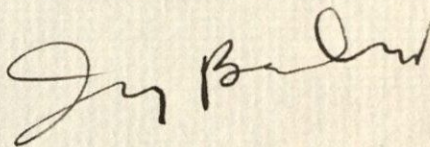
November 23, 1942

Dear Mr. Levy:

I meant to thank you before this for that wonderful hat. Believe it or not, it really looks well on me -- the first hat I've had in years that does. It was very thoughtful of you to make it up, and I appreciate it.

I was sorry not to have seen your collection of songs, but hope to get another chance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Irving Berlin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Yours sincerely,".

CC:Rabbi Lazaron

November 11th, 1942

Mr. Irving Berlin
607 Belvedere Hotel
Charles and Chase St.
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Mr. Berlin:

At the suggestion of my friend, Rabbi Lazaron, I am taking the liberty of writing to you.

One of the boys in your company, -- whom I have known for a number of years -- tells me that you recently mentioned you found it difficult to secure a hat which pleased you.

Now, my vocation is hat-making; but my avocation, for many years, has been the collecting of American popular songs. (Incidentally, I have about four hundred of your own.)

So, struck by the realization that music-masters think of hats sometimes just as hat manufacturers turn to music, and with information about your head size furnished by Elliott Shapiro (of Shapiro Bernstein), I just went ahead, -- and designed a hat!

I believe it would be becoming to you.

If you will accept it with the compliments of one who has had many years of pleasure from your music, I should be grateful. It is ready for delivery if and whenever you so designate.

Hoping to have the privilege of presenting it to you, I am

Respectfully,

Lester S. Levy