

What's the Matter with the Well

Charlie Burse and his Memphis Mudcats (1939)

Now early this morning, at half past four
I went to the well, I couldn't draw no more

What's the matter with the well? *It done run dry*
What's the matter with the well? *Don't you tell no lie*
Tell me now darling, oh, what's the matter with the well?

I bought a brand new bucket and a brand new rope
Put the bucket in the well and my rope broke

What's the matter with the well? *It done run dry*
What's the matter with the well? *Don't you tell no lie*
Tell me now darling, oh, what's the matter with the well?

I tried all summer, and half of the fall
I went to the well, I couldn't draw at all

What's the matter with the well? *It done run dry*
What's the matter with the well? *Don't you tell no lie*
Tell me now darling, oh, what's the matter with the well?

Sax solo

I don't want to be bad, I want to be good
Don't fool around my well, I don't mean no good

What's the matter with the well? *It done run dry*
What's the matter with the well? *Don't you tell no lie*
Tell me now darling, oh, what's the matter with the well?

Well well (the way that you draw it), well well (the way that you draw it)
Well well (the way that you draw it), well well (the way that you draw it)
Well well, oh, what's the matter with the well

Sax solo

verse:

A, A

A, A

chorus:

D, D

A, A

E, F-E, A, A