



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Radios

NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Radios

Max Howell

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Radios
Date:	1893-1992
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Radios
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
Extent:	2.44 Cubic feet (consisting of 4.5 boxes, 1 folder, 5 oversize folders, 2 flat boxes (partial), 1 map case folder.)
Language:	Collection is in English, with select items in German.
Summary:	A New York bookseller, Warshaw assembled this collection over nearly fifty years. The <i>Warshaw Collection of Business Americana: Accounting and Bookkeeping</i> forms part of the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, Subseries 1.1: Subject Categories. The Subject Categories subseries is divided into 470 subject categories based on those created by Mr. Warshaw. These subject categories include topical subjects, types or forms of material, people, organizations, historical events, and other categories. An overview to the entire Warshaw collection is available here: Warshaw Collection of Business Americana

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Radio is a portion of the Business Ephemera Series of the Warshaw Collection of Business Americana, Accession AC0060 purchased from Isadore Warshaw in 1967. Warshaw continued to accumulate similar material until his death, which was donated in 1971 by his widow, Augusta. For a period after acquisition, related materials from other sources (of mixed provenance) were added to the collection so there may be content produced or published after Warshaw's death in 1969. This practice has since ceased.

Forms Part Of

Forms part of the [Warshaw Collection of Business Americana](#) .

Missing Title:

- [Series 1: Business Ephemera](#)
- [Series 2: Other Collection Divisions](#)
- [Series 3: Isadore Warshaw Personal Papers](#)
- [Series 4: Photographic Reference Material](#)

Processing Information

In 2016, with funding provided by the Smithsonian Institution's Collections Care and Preservation Fund, the Archives Center at the National Museum of American History implemented the use of minimal level processing standards to increase information about and facilitate access to more of our collections.

For this subject, minimal processing included arrangement to the folder level, based on prior processing and preservation action, with retention of the pre-existing arrangement when possible, if applicable. Otherwise, an order was imposed by the Processing Archivist. Some materials were consolidated to eliminate excess bulk but items within folders were not arranged further. The guide may or may not include a more refined list of folder contents. Nonarchival housing was replaced for long-term stability, but staples and other fasteners have not all been removed.

Minimal level processing and machine-readable finding aid completed by Max Howell, 2016 December.

Preferred Citation

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Radios, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Some items may be restricted due to fragile condition.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Scope and Contents

The radio category contains material primarily related to radio company products, radio broadcasts and programs, technical documentation on the use of radios, and material documenting the effect of radio on modern life. The bulk of the material covers sales catalogues and advertisements, though no complete records for single companies are present.

The radio broadcast transcripts and programs include fictional or anecdotal stories, transcripts of contests, interviews, or speeches, and notifications about future broadcasts.

Literature concerning the effect of radio on modern life includes brief radio historiographies, discussions about the need for advanced education for the radio field, and documentation of the use of radio in leisure time or in rural life. Additional publications address the uses and effects of radio during times of war. While no extensive documentation exists on any one topic, the publications may provide general histories of the radio with snapshots of specific facets of radio history.

Arrangement

Radio is arranged in three subseries.

- Business Records and Marketing Material
- Genre
- Subject

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Broadcast advertising
- Broadcasting
- Broadcasting -- United States
- Consumer goods -- Catalogs
- Periodicals
- Radio
- Radio -- 1930-1940
- Radio -- Antennas
- Radio -- Apparatus and supplies
- Radio -- History
- Radio -- Receivers and reception
- Radio -- Receivers and reception -- Design and construction
- Radio -- Transmitters and transmission
- Radio advertising
- Radio audiences
- Radio broadcasting
- Radio broadcasts
- Radio comedies
- Radio in politics
- Radio programs
- Retail trade
- Transmission of culture
- War
- advertising -- Business ephemera

Types of Materials:

- Advertisements
- Advertising
- Advertising cards
- Advertising fliers
- Advertising mail
- Bulletins
- Business cards
- Business ephemera
- Business letters
- Business records
- Catalogs
- Catalogues
- Commercial catalogs
- Commercial correspondence
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Illustrations
- Invoices
- Letterheads
- Logs (records)
- Manuals
- Manufacturers' catalogs
- Print advertising
- Printed ephemera

Printed material
Printed materials
Publications
Publications -- Business
Radio scripts
Receipts
Reports
Sales catalogs
Technical manuals -- 20th century
Technical reports
Trade cards
Trade catalogs
Trade literature
Transcripts

Container Listing

Business Records and Marketing Material, 1897-1961, undated

Scope and Contents: Comprised of general business documentation and advertising such as receipts, invoices, clippings of ads, circulars, price lists, with a small amount of correspondence, typically transactional in nature.

Arrangement: Arranged into folders alphabetically by company or proprietor name. Material within the folders are not ordered. Records and marketing material for proprietorships may be filed under either the first or last name of the individual, researchers should look in all applicable alphabetical folders.

Box 1, Folder 1	A-D, 1921-1939, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	E-F, 1921-1938
Box 1, Folder 3	G-M, 1920-1950, undated Notes: Includes business and marketing material from General Electric and Motorola.
Box 1, Folder 4	Madison, James, 1937-1942 Notes: Contains requests for the publication <i>Comedian</i> , plus <i>Gag Albums #1</i> and <i>Gag Albums #2</i> , and other general correspondence.
Box 1, Folder 5	N-P, 1919-1959, undated
Map-folder 1	National Broadcasting Company Radio Network, undated Notes: Show advertisement for <i>Life and the World</i> .
Box 1, Folder 6	R-S, 1897-1956, undated Notes: Contains marketing material and a piece of ephemera from the Radio Corporation of America (RCA).
Map-folder 1	Radio Corporation of America, undated Notes: Advertising poster.
Box 1, Folder 7	U-V, undated
Box 1, Folder 8	W, 1902-1961, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Z, 1927-1956, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Correspondence, Warshaw, 1941-1992 Notes: Contains 8 items and 6 empty mailing envelopes.

Oversize 53, Folder 1-2 Oversize Advertisements, 1921-1959, undated

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Genre, 1893-1967

Box 1, Folder 11 Broadcast Transcripts and Programs, 1923-1942

Catalogues, 1921-1957

Notes: One catalogue per company unless otherwise noted.

Box 2, Folder 1 A, 1921-1957
Notes: Allied Radio (1957), American Radio and Research Corporation (1921), Atwater Kent Radio (3 catalogues. 1925-1934).

Box 2, Folder 2 B-C, 1893-1910, undated
Notes: The Brooklyn Wireless and Electrical Novelty Company (1910), Calrad (undated), The Chicago Talking Machine Company (1893), Crosley Radio (undated).

Box 2, Folder 3 F-G, 1923-1945, undated
Notes: Fada Radio (undated), Freed-Eisemann Radio (2 catalogues, 1924-1925), General Electric (2 catalogues, 1945), General Radio Company (3 catalogues, 1923-1936).

Box 2, Folder 4 H, 1965

Box 2, Folder 5 H-K, 1928-1963
Notes: Harvey Radio Corporation Incorporated (1965), Heath Company (2 catalogues, 1957-1962), Hudson High Fidelity (3 catalogues, 1957-1958), Kolster Radio Corporation (2 catalogues, 1928 plus 2 pamphlets listing patents, trade marks, and copyrights).

Box 3, Folder 1-2 L, 1956-1966
Notes: Lafayette Radio Electronics (8 catalogues, 1956-1967), Leonard Radio Incorporated (1959).

Box 3, Folder 3 M, 1913-1967, undated
Notes: Manhattan Electrical Supply Company (2 catalogues, 1913, undated), Matsushita Electric Corporation of America (1967), Midwest Radio Corporation (3 catalogues, 1937-1938), Miller Quality Products (undated).

Box 3, Folder 4 N-O, 1924-1939, undated

	Notes:	National Radio Institute (1939), Nelson Electric Company (undated), Norris Alister-Ball Company (1925), Novelty Electric Company (1924), Ohio Rubber and Text Company (undated).
Box 3, Folder 5	R, 1924-1969 Notes:	Radio Corporation of America (5 catalogues, 1939-1969), Radio Specialty Company (1924), Radio WEB (1928). Contains German language material.
Box 3, Folder 6	S, 1930 Notes:	Siemens and Halske AG (1930). Contains German language material.
Box 3, Folder 7	W, 1945 Notes:	Walker-Jimieson Incorporated (1945).
Oversize 180, Folder 1	Oversize Miscellaneous Notes:	Contains business advertisements and newsclippings. Radio Corporation of America (RCA) is heavily represented. Includes Volume 1, Number 3 of the South Pole Radio News clipping, displaying photographs and educational captions about one of the Admiral Richard E. Byrd expeditions to Antarctica.
Box SUPP 25, Folder 3	Publications, 1934, undated	
	Radio as Culture, 1934	
	Washington 1st Annual Radio Show Convention Hall, undated	
Box 4, Folder 1	Radio Station Logs and Bulletins, 1940-1945	
Box 4, Folder 2	Regulatory, 1913 Notes:	<i>Regulations Governing Radio Communication</i> , United States Department of Commerce.
Box 4, Folder 3	Reports, 1930 Notes:	<i>Radio Markets of the World 1930</i> , United States Department of Commerce.
Box 4, Folder 4	Serial Publications, 1922-1944	
	Literary Digest, "Letters And Art: The Jinn In The Radio Bottle", 1922 May 13 Notes:	Excerpt, column, p. 27-30.
	Midwest Radio News Flash, 1937	
	New York Herald Tribune, "What a Coach! Will Rogers On the Air", 1933 November 14	

Notes: Excerpt.

Popular Radio, 1922 June

Radio Photologue, The Chicago Daily News, 1924-1925
Notes: 2 issues: 1924 December, 1925 January.

Radio Broadcast, 1922 May

Radio Daily, 1944 February 11
Notes: Volume 26, Number 30.

Box 4, Folder 5-6 Technical Documentation, 1912-1958
Notes: Contains material describing radio functions, installation processes,
and common radio terms.

Box 4, Folder 7 Technical Documentation - Heintz and Kaufman, 1941-1944
Notes: Contains construction diagrams for gammatrons.

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Subject, 1927-1949

Box 5, Folder 1-2 Radio and Society, 1927-1949
Notes: Topics include brief overviews of radio history, proposals for mass
educational programming through broadcasts, the effect of radio on
rural life, and commentary on proposed legislation impacting radio
broadcasting.

Oversize 226 Our Americas, 1939
Notes: Pre-1940 Worlds Fair publication.

Box 5, Folder 3 Radio and War, 1942, undated
Notes: Contains information about how radio was utilized to share news
during World War II, and transcribed excerpts of notable broadcasts
from the era.

Oversize 222 Ten Telling Years, The Mutual Broadcasting System, undated

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