



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

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Radios
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0060.S01.01.Radios
Date:	1893-1992
Extent:	2.44 Cubic feet (consisting of 4.5 boxes, 1 folder, 5 oversize folders, 2 flat boxes (partial), 1 map case folder.)
Creator:	Warshaw, Isadore, 1900-1969
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](#).

- [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 Kendra Jae, 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

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.

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 Includes business and marketing material from General Electric and Motorola.
Box 1, Folder 4	Madison, James, 1937-1942 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 Show advertisement for <i>Life and the World</i> .
Box 1, Folder 6	R-S, 1897-1956, undated Contains marketing material and a piece of ephemera from the Radio Corporation of America (RCA).
Map-folder 1	Radio Corporation of America, undated 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 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
One catalogue per company unless otherwise noted.
- Box 2, Folder 1 A, 1921-1957
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
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
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
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
Lafayette Radio Electronics (8 catalogues, 1956-1967), Leonard Radio
Incorporated (1959).
- Box 3, Folder 3 M, 1913-1967, undated
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
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
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

Siemens and Halske AG (1930). Contains German language material.

Box 3, Folder 7

W, 1945

Walker-Jimieson Incorporated (1945).

Oversize 180, Folder
1

Oversize Miscellaneous

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

Regulations Governing Radio Communication, United States Department of Commerce.

Box 4, Folder 3

Reports, 1930

Radio Markets of the World 1930, 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
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
Excerpt.

Popular Radio, 1922 June

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

Radio Broadcast, 1922 May

Radio Daily, 1944 February 11

Volume 26, Number 30.

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

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

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Subject, 1927-1949

Box 5, Folder 1-2 Radio and Society, 1927-1949
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
Pre-1940 Worlds Fair publication.

Box 5, Folder 3 Radio and War, 1942, undated
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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