

VOL 51
FALL
2022
No.
3

The
Indiana
Historical
Radio Society



OCTOBER
MEET INFO

SUPER
NAVIGATOR

ARVIN 41

COOL CREEK
MEET PIX

ALSO IN
THIS
ISSUE:





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Historical Documentation

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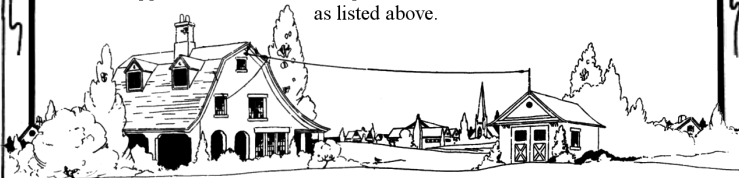
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The INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY is a non-profit organization founded in 1971. Annual membership dues of \$15.00 includes the quarterly IHRS "BULLETIN." Radioads are free to all members.

Please include an SASE when ordering information.
Send applications for membership and renewals to Treasurer Don Yost as listed above.



Greetings to the membership of the IHRS. It's been a nice, hot, summer, full of activities.

It's hard to believe that fall is almost upon us. My wife and I have been hard at work rehabbing our second house, which was built by my maternal grandparents, from a Sears and Roebuck kit, in 1916. The home has been uninhabited since my grandmother's death in 1982, but has received basic maintenance, which made the place eminently fixable. It's a nice getaway from the west side of Indianapolis, where we currently reside.

Our annual Cool Creek Park meet, which was August 13, was about the smallest it has ever been. The iffy economy, inflation and high gas prices have evidently not spared the IHRS. We did have about 6 or 7 vendors, and some good stuff showed up. The 25 or so that showed up did have an enjoyable time....fellowship is always a good thing. There are no contest results, and there was no silent auction, as a snafu with park management and their security team did not allow the shelter house to be opened until after 10am. By that time, some had already packed up and left. However, park management made it right with the club, and our fees to rent the park will be applied to next year's meeting. Thanks to IHRS Vice President, Mike Feldt, for setting up everything, renting the facilities, and bringing the donuts and drinks.

I'm sure that most of you reading this remember the great event in Richmond in 2019— we had a combined meeting with the Cincinnati Antique Radio Society (CARS). The turnout was about the biggest we had in many years, reminiscent of the “good old days” of the 1990s and 80s. COVID prevented us from gathering in Richmond in 2020 and 2021, but this year we are back, and this one should be the best yet. Both CARS and the Columbus Antique Radio Association (COARA) are teaming up with the IHRS to do, as Bill Morris has described it, a “Supermeet” on Saturday, October 8. We will have a contest with two categories: “Indiana Made” and “Ohio Made.” There will also be a donation auction—further details are described in this issue. Thanks to Bill Morris and Mike Feldt for their help in organizing this show. Bill has designed a flyer, which will be given to the folks at CARS and COARA for distribution to their members. We're all expecting, as Ed Sullivan would say, “a really big show.”

Once again, I'll close with the statement that all the IHRS officers are available for your questions, comments, suggestions, or if you'd just like to talk about the club in general. Feel free to contact any of us....we want to hear from you. Remember, it's YOUR CLUB!

I hope to see a bunch of you at Richmond, on the 8th!

**Notes From
The President's Desk**

by Alex Whitaker



ALL EYES LOOK EASTWARD...



INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY



INVITE YOU TO,

FALL SUPERMEET

2022

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 8**

**Springwood Park Pavilion
Richmond, Indiana**

**FREE ADMISSION
\$10 Fee for Swap n Sell**

Setup space available indoors and in parking lot.

Popular Vote Contest Categories:

*Indiana Made or Brand Radio

*Ohio Made or Brand Radio

**MORE INFO
NEXT PAGE**



SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

This meet will be open to all kinds of vacuum tube electronics and pre-1980 solid state electronics. This includes antique radios, vintage stereo & hifi equipment, phonographs, TVs and accessories, test equipment, literature, electronic parts, etc. Windup phonographs and Victrolas are also welcome.

7:00 am: Outdoor setup.

9:00 am: Bldg open for setup. There are only 20 large tables available for indoor setup, first come/first serve. Plenty of room for extra tables if you bring your own.

9:00-

10:00 am: Register for the Meet and Auction. Auction Setup.

9:30 am: Popular Vote Contest setup.

10:00am-

12 Noon: Vintage Radio Evaluation. Bring a radio for condition and value estimates.

11:30am: Popular Vote Results Announced

12 Noon: Donation and consignment auction of vintage radio and radio related equipment.

THE AUCTIONS

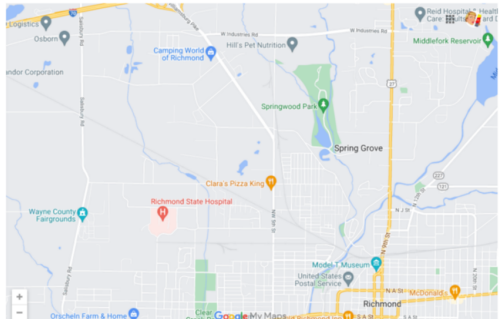
All auction buyers will be issued a bid number at meet registration.

Donated radios will benefit both the IHRS and COARA equally.

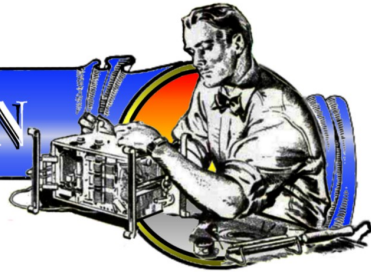
IMPORTANT: Donated equipment not sold will be removed by the owner of the equipment. The sale dollars will be collected immediately following the donation auction.

CONSIGNMENT AUCTION: Owners of radios in the consignment auction will register the item(s) to be sold. When sold to the highest bidder, the money will be collected by the IHRS Treasurer. 10% of the sale will benefit the IHRS and COARA equally, the dollar amount of the sale, minus 10%, will be sent the seller within two weeks by way of an IHRS check.

The Pavilion at Springwood Park is located on the north side of Richmond, Indiana at 65 Waterfall Road.



RESTORATION



mufflers and exhaust systems over the years. They started building car radios in the early 30's and entered the home radio market in 1935 with the model 41.

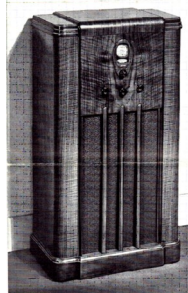
I picked up this little Arvin a couple of years ago and I finally got around to working on it. The cabinet was in pretty good shape; only two small pieces of veneer were missing, some loose places needed re-gluing and the finish was peeling off. The two front feet were missing, but they're simple 3/8" triangular pieces of wood. The chassis was rust free but dirty. All the tubes were in their places. The grill cloth was dirty but in good shape along with the original knobs. When I removed the speaker, I found it to be perfect, free of holes or rips. This was a good radio to restore.

I have to thank Preserving Arvin at preservingarvin.com for the following historical information. Arvin was located in Columbus, Indiana and was noted for producing parts for the auto industry. Exhaust systems come to mind because I have bought Arvin

Arvin's First Home Radio: The 1935 Arvin Model 41

by Ed Dupart

Everything IN RADIO THAT YOUR CUSTOMERS WANT *and Can Afford*

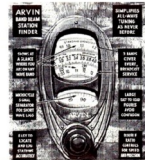


MODEL 41. Walnut veneered mahogany, about 18 1/2" high, 12" wide, 12 1/2" deep. See inside drawers complete with operating all broadcast tubes. Three-hand dial - 100 to 1700 KC. 7-7.5 MC. 12 to 120 MC. Chromalok full-range 17" diameter speaker.

See price with tubes..... **\$89.50**

MODEL 41 M. Same as Model 41, except equipped for 6 standard tubes. List price with tubes..... **\$99.50**

Prices of all models slightly higher Dealer and Retail



The NEW ARVIN BIRD BEAM System Radio with Mirrorable Signal Separator, clear glass tubes, new case, simplicity and economy in all cases. Features: A bright beam of light shines through the dial face from behind, comes up and down as the range dial and illuminates the control settings on the chassis wire board. The beam or secondary dial is controlled by the same dial knob that operates the range dial. It is calibrated from 1 to 100, used in conjunction with the complete resistance to ease range setting. The large dial. All having double-acting tuning dial facilities, except for all-wave observation tuning.



MODEL 41. A 12-tube, non-permanent cabinet for high 30's price. 12 1/2" high, 12" wide, 12 1/2" deep. Complete with operating all broadcast tubes, a 17" speaker, a 7-7.5 MC. chromalok full-range speaker, a 100 to 1700 KC. 7-7.5 MC. chromalok full-range speaker, a 100 to 1700 KC. 7-7.5 MC. chromalok full-range speaker, a 100 to 1700 KC. 7-7.5 MC. chromalok full-range speaker.

See price with tubes..... **\$19.95**

For Complete Specifications and Features Turn



They also made popular small metal radios from the late 30's to the early 50's. Arvin also made a great line of transistor radios starting in the mid 50's.



What did I find when I really looked inside? Lots of stink bug carcasses were in front of the chassis. Out came the vacuum cleaner and I sucked them up along with the dirt. All the tubes were removed as well as their shields. That allowed me easier access to vacuum dirt from the chassis top. Both a paintbrush and toothbrush assisted in getting into hard-to-reach areas.



Inspecting the underside revealed that little had been done to the chassis over the decades. All but one of the paper capacitors had an Arvin stamp on them. The two filter capacitors had been replaced and needed to be replaced again. Otherwise, everything looked original and it was very clean. The line cord was totally shot.

I took a gamble and replaced the line cord, filter capacitors and the audio coupling capacitor--they always seem to go bad. A meter was connected to the 80 rectifier to monitor the B+. Upon applying power, the radio came to life. No smoke, no static, just lots of stations coming in. I was happy!



The Arvin capacitors' outer jackets fascinated me, so I decided to pop out their old guts and put new capacitors inside. It's a little extra work, but it maintains the originality of the radio. Some of you are thinking, "Who's going to see the underneath of the chassis?" Answer: people like me. I checked the old caps and they were all very leaky--it made me wonder how this radio worked so well. Oddly, the only capacitor that checked good was a blue Solar capacitor. Usually they are bad, but in any event, it was replaced anyway. The resistors looked fine, none needed replacing.

Upon re-applying power, the radio came to life and sounded great on strong stations, but squealed and howled on weaker stations. It sounded like a bad bypass capacitor. I got out my capacitor substitution box, suspecting one of the new capacitors I put in was bad. When I touched the screen grid terminal of the 6A7, the

squealing quit. I traced the wire and it went to the screen grid of the 6F7. I put the sub box to that point and the squealing quit. What I discovered was a capacitor was never installed there! The factory never put one in. Upon installing a new cap, the radio played fine. It is C13 in the Riders schematic in volume 6-16. I'm guessing whoever bought the radio only played it on strong stations and would never have noticed that problem. If a weak station was tuned in, the squealing would stop when the volume was reduced-- this was a common problem with TRF sets of the 30's, so this may have been considered acceptable back in 1935-36.

When a technician has worked on thousands of radios, TV's and other electronic equipment--as I have--they are bound to find errors made at the factory. Once in a while we will see a part come up missing and usually in a non-critical area. The usual problems we see are no-solders; a direct connection that either didn't get soldered or a part on a printed circuit board that didn't get soldered. These no-solders may work fine for a few months, even years, then suddenly develop either intermittent problems or down right failure. Flow solder on them and the set works again.

Arvin was trying to save money on this set and make it affordable. Instead of five tubes it uses only four, but it is still a superheterodyne. The 6A7 is a typical mixer/oscillator combination, but the 6F7 is a little different. The pentode section is a typical IF amplifier, the triode is grid-bias detector, which also acts as an audio amplifier. This was a popular circuit in the four-tube TRF radios and Arvin decided to use it in this

set. While this did save money, the disadvantage is that there isn't any AVC. The grid-bias detector also has more distortion than the diode detector used in most five-tube sets¹. Overall, the set sounds good. With a good antenna, it picks up lots of stations. Strong local stations come in just fine with a short antenna. At \$19.95 it wasn't a bad deal for 1935.

While the alignment was very close, I touched it up and the set played beautifully.



The cabinet had some loose veneer and two small missing pieces, so I did a lot of re-gluing and replaced the missing pieces with two pieces of scrap veneer. I also had to make the two front feet--easy to do with the band saw and scrap wood. The cabinet is now very solid.

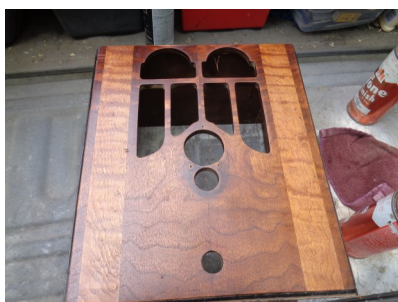


I took pictures of the cabinet so I would have an idea about the color configuration. Removing the bezel revealed that the original color was a very dark brown. The website for Arvin had some excellent pictures and they aided me in my selection of stains and toner lacquers. As I consider this a historic radio for Arvin, my goal was to get the cabinet as close to the original.

I didn't use any strong chemical stripper; instead I used an orbital sander and removed the old finish. When I was done, the cabinet was very smooth and ready for refinishing.



The top appeared to have a slight red cast to it, so I mixed a dark red stain with a dark walnut stain and applied it. A red mahogany toner lacquer was added to the top and that quickly set the stain.



A dark walnut stain was used for the sides and the front. The veneer in-

serts were very light in color, so I used a Gunstock stain for them. I taped off the inserts and sprayed the rest of the front with Van Dyke brown toning lacquer. The entire cabinet was then sprayed with satin lacquer and wet sanded between coats. The top had gloss lacquer applied to it.



The grill cloth was dirty but the backside looked like new so I simply reversed it. I put it all back together and was rewarded with a great looking and playing radio!

Footnotes:

1. RCA Receiving Tube Manual, Copyright 1959, by Radio Corporation of America, pg. 40-42



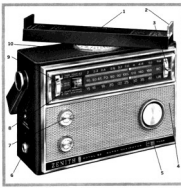
TRANSISTORS

**Whatever the weather,
a Zenith solid-state portable radio
means more safety
and fun aboard!**

America's most sensitive 5-band portable RF.

"The Super Navigator"

Even when you're out of sight of land... or in fog or rain... or at night... highly sensitive "Super Navigator" does a superb job of picking up the most remote and faintest transmitters... especially those which are out of the ordinary... Operates on the 500-1000 cycle "A" battery... Also features a built-in speaker... Also includes a built-in antenna... Model No. 970... \$19.95... (includes batteries)



The "Super Navigator" is built with famous Zenith quality throughout. A Spring-Airline gives... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)

Powered by the world's Zenith's incompressible 5-band "Super-Oscillator" radio

The Trans-Oscillator

... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)



Superb reception of FM, AM and 11 shortwave bands... Zenith's all new Super-Oscillator

The Super-Oscillator

... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)



The quality you're familiar with... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)

ed his kind & generous offer. Said I could have it for shipping cost.



What a neat radio! From what I could find on-line, looked like this design came out in 1965. This set probably was built in 1969 as Joe said there were many date-codes from that year.

Pulled the battery tube and saw that one of the wires was corroded by earlier battery leakage, so I cut all the wires off and attached 5" long pig-tails to which I soldered on a 9V battery clip.



The Zenith Royal 97 Super Navigator

by John Raskauskas

In future use I'll use either a 9V battery or 6 "AA" cells to power the set. I'll clean the factory battery enclosure and put it into storage (always try to keep all original parts for future owners).

One of the P-P output transistors was in the "driver" socket, so after determining proper pinout, installed in its correct place. I had a Japanese 2SB56 PNP audio transistor in my parts drawer, so installed it for testing. Believe it or not, the Zenith output transistors were made in Holland! Found this out after removing heatsink. The service info was from an earlier version with nearly identical chassis, but used rectangular sockets for its outputs which had in-line pins.

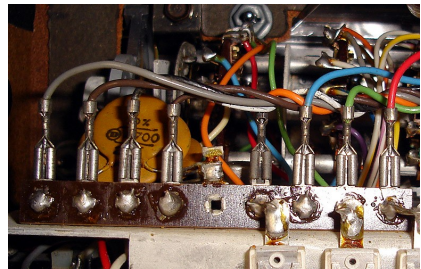
Powered it up and it works fine on all bands. And the backlight illuminates everything---wow!

The chrome is in excellent shape & the leather is great--still SMELLS like leather! Plan to pull chassis to detail clean and flatten the slight dents in speaker grille. Will probably recap when apart even though it works well as is.

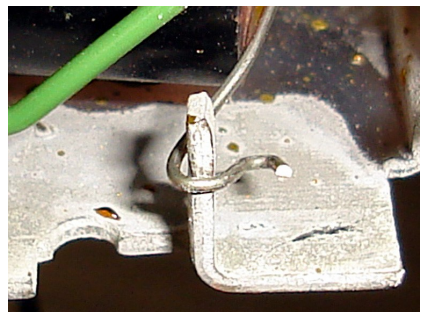
Not to worry about the white powder--pretty sure it is zinc from galvanizing. Have seen ductwork in damp crawlspaces with same "stuff" as well as on other radios that were in a damp environment.

I didn't see a switch for "navigation", thought that RF level control had to be used at all times. Looked at the service info that Dave sent me and saw a switch in schematic. Found that it was part of the RF level control. When off, the normal AVC cir-

cuit is active---but when turned it off, the radio goes dead. Tried it again and it worked great in "off" position with AVC functioning! Looked like either the switch contacts were a bit dirty or spring tension were weak as there is a delay before they make connection... Something for other owners to keep in mind.



After taking clear pics of antenna wiring connections & lead dress, I disconnected its lugs, removed knobs, jacks, and four screws to pull chassis. It's like a "miniature" Trans-Oceanic inside. While searching for the electrolytics, noticed that the positive lead of the large "dual" filter cap was only loosely bent around chassis terminal and NOT even soldered--AND only barely touching (see pic below) ! An obvious factory error---amazed it worked so well.

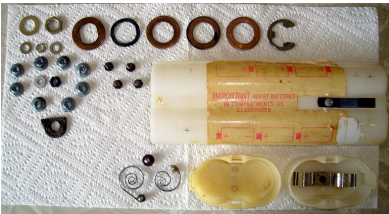


Joe was right about that powder on chassis and components---fingertips were covered with it while handling

chassis. Sure hope it is zinc! But am being careful to wash hands and tools after contact.

Appears that the front panel should come off case easily since studs are "nutt'd", so hope that cleaning & "flattening" of minor dents in grille will be fairly simple.

Disassembled and detail cleaned all knobs & case components. Didn't realize how much crud had gotten into the grille mesh from dirty fingertips ! Took quite a bit of vigorous scrubbing with toothbrush & dish-soap solution to get it clean. Was able to work out most of the minor denting with fingers. Was surprised to find that the front panel was a heavy chrome metal casting—thought that since this radio was newer it would be plated plastic.



The battery holder had a bit of dried leakage residue and rust inside the tube, so I scrubbed it first with vinegar then dish-soap solution before a final rinse and dry. Was very careful not to damage label.

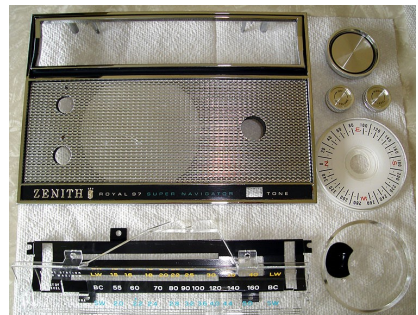


The clear plastic tuning dial was nearly flawless except for a small, thin outline of where a splash of paint had been. Tried Isopropyl alcohol on one of the mounting tabs to make sure it was safe to use, then carefully wiped off this residue. It left some cloudiness, so I went over entire outer surface with Novus-2 and it appeared better than before.

While I had the antenna assembly off for cleaning, decided to reconnect it to chassis and peak the tuning cap RF trimmer. Had the radio tuned on my favorite low-power station (WSAL 1230) which is around 70 miles away. It is the only daytime AM station which plays great oldies. Grateful that the signal level came up significantly, thus putting this set into the "more usable" category.

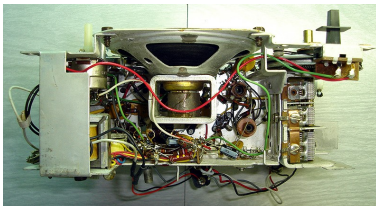
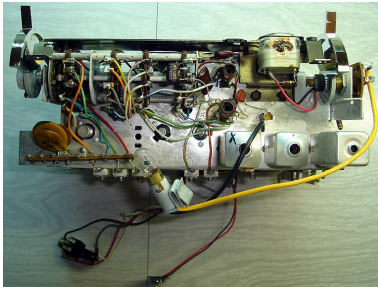
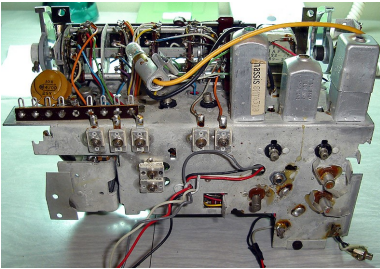
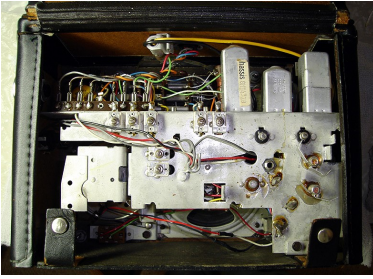


Below are the parts pics after cleaning. Note the circular light diffuser which mounts under compass. The "collector tab" sits over the top of dial-lamp---neat engineering.



After recapping with new electrolytics, I was rewarded with an excellent performing set. Sounds MUCH better--especially at higher volumes...

Below are the chassis pics.



Here is the finished set. The leather hinge back cover is the only cosmetic issue with radio—it has torn even more with my handling, unfortunately. The rest of case is pliable & excellent.

Note the fold-up sights at each end of antenna bar.

Wish I could get a good pic of this "lit up". the dial-light not only brightly illuminates the entire tuning dial but the compass rose as well---sure looks neat!



The last pic shows this radio next to 1958 Royal 1000-D for size comparison. As Joe mentioned, this set had components with 1969 date codes and I found a couple parts dated 1968.



The "Old Man" Says:



"If you haven't already, now's a great time to renew your IHRS membership."

Annual Membership \$15

Send your payment written to the **INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY** to:

Don Yost c/o IHRS
3814 E 400 N
Windfall, IN 46076

Include your current mail address and email address (if applicable)

IN MEMORIUM

It is with a heavy heart to report that Shirley Gross, wife of the late IHRS Member Herman Gross, died on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. She was 86 years old. Shirley was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Shirley met Herman in 1950, and fell so deeply in love with him that she wanted to quit school and marry him right away. Herman encouraged her to finish high school first. On September 10, 1955 they married at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Wauwatosa, WI. They were married 65 years.





COOL CREEK SUMMER MEET



The Cool Creek Summer Meet was held on August 13. Despite low turnout and facilities problems, the meet produced some good deals for many of the participants.



Due to the same circumstances involving low turnout and facilities issues, no contest was held.



RADIO ACTIVITY



Check each organization's webpage for upcoming meets, etc:



Indiana Historical Radio Society
www.indianahistoricalradio.org



Antique Radio Club of Illinois
www.antique-radios.org



Central Ohio Antique Radio Association
www.coara.org



Mid-South Antique Radio Collectors
 Available on Facebook



Antique Wireless Association
www.antiquewireless.org



Cincinnati Antique Radio Society
www.cincinnati-antique-radio.org



Michigan Antique Radio Club
www.michiganantiqueradio.org



Mid Atlantic Antique Radio Club
www.maarc.org



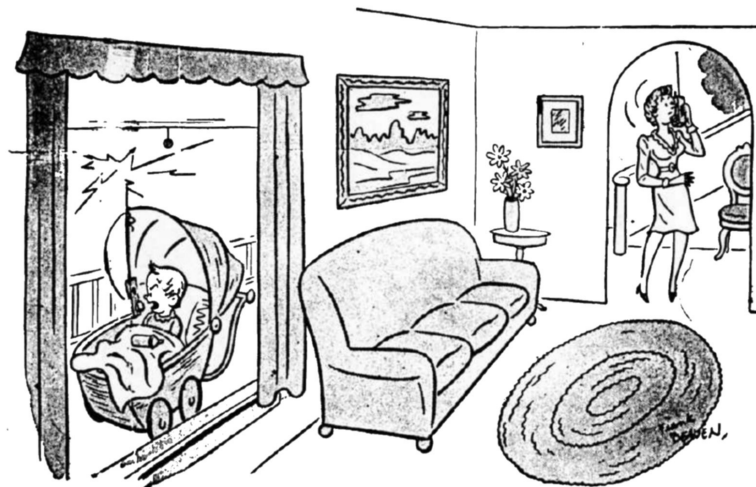
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No. 73 "Backyard Conference"

Courtesy of Radio-Craft Magazine



No. 72

Courtesy of Radio-Craft Magazine "Mama, my bottle is empty!"

More traffic
More business
More profits
with **RCA VICTOR "45"**

Model 9JY

**NOW
ONLY**

\$12.⁹⁵



**YOUR GREATEST LEADER EVER . . .
WITH THE GREATEST PROMOTION EVER!**

Lowest Price in History for an Automatic Record Changer!

● Just in time for your heavy-selling Fall and pre-Christmas seasons, RCA Victor puts a sensationally low price tag on the 9JY. . . the world's fastest record changer!

Here's your big chance to make new customers, more profits!

NOW is the time to get ready for the terrific RCA Victor consumer promotion which begins on September 20. NOW is the time to make sure your stock of RCA Victor "45" players and RCA Victor "45" records is complete so that you can take advantage of the gigantic factory-run promotion. Contact your RCA Victor distributor today!

Look at these sales-building "45" promotion pieces!

- Traffic-stopping window displays
- Eye-catching RCA Victor promotion pieces
- Hard-hitting newspaper ads
- Attention-getting radio commercials
- Highly effective television film commercials

Only RCA Victor makes the Victrola
"Victrola"—T.M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

RCA VICTOR



DIVISION OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA

RCA VICTOR—World Leader in Radio...First in Recorded Music...First in Television