

RCA VICTOR'S

# IN THE GROOVE

SEPTEMBER, 1948



**KEEP THE M-M-M IN RHYTH-M**

*A Special Feature by Sammy Kaye*

*This Month*



**SPOTLIGHTS YOUR HIT RECORDS AND FAVORITE BANDS**



# UNTIL—AN OVERNIGHT HIT

It seems we've started a landslide. It all began with the announcement that Tommy Dorsey had a new record that looked like a greater *There Are Such Things*. You've heard about it . . . *Until*. (See IN THE GROOVE, August, 1948)

Well, naturally everybody was interested . . . till they heard the record. Now everybody is going crazy.

Disc Jockeys received *Until* first. They loved it. Played it again. And again. Then it caught on with listeners. Some of the jocks tell us they have never had so many requests for a number. But this was only the beginning.

## In Demand on the Road

Constant playing on the air has sky-rocketed demand for *Until*. Tommy played Hershey Park, Pa., only two days after *Until* had been shipped to record dealers. Yet demands to hear the number were tremendous.

At Atlantic City's Steel Pier, where Tommy played from August 15 to the 21, it was the same . . . only greater. The fans wanted *Until*. They got it till the cows came home.

Critics and music experts are amazed at the way this song caught on practically overnight.

It usually takes about two months for a song to go over.

## Other Bands Want It

At first Tommy Dorsey wanted to keep *Until* exclusive. When you have something as good as that you don't let it out of the bag. But that was impossible.

As you know, "Dorsey Brothers" published *Until*. Now the usual process in the case of a song like this is to send out courtesy copies to bands all over the country in an effort to get them to plug it.

Dorsey Brothers didn't do this. They didn't have to. Orchestra leaders . . . top men around the nation . . . have been coming in and asking for it. Imagine, actually asking to be able to play a brand new song.

## Danceable and Singable

As he continues his tour, Tommy has been asking fans why they like *Until*.

As one girl put it in Ephrata, Pa., where Tommy played an American Legion date August 22 . . . "I just feel like *Until* is my song. I love to dance to it. I've been singing and whistling it since the first time I heard it on the radio."

Yes, since the first time she heard it. That probably is the biggest reason why *Until* clicked overnight.

## IN THE GROOVE

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## AT PRESS TIME

**DID YOU KNOW:** Freddy Martin was an up and coming musical instrument salesman in Cleveland some years ago when he met Guy Lombardo. Lombardo urged Freddy to play rather than sell the instruments. It was largely through Guy's advice that Freddy formed his band, which has since made him famous.

*Easter Parade* was composed by Irving Berlin in 1918 under the title *Smile and Show Your Dimple*. It wasn't till 1933 it became a hit with new title and lyrics in the show, "As Thousands Cheer."

The first trans-atlantic disc jockey interview was staged recently when Fred Cole, ingenious Boston disc jockey over WHDH, talked with Britain's popular band leader Joe Loss by trans-atlantic telephone during the course of a broadcast.

Sammy Kaye's latest RCA Victor Record 20-2983 *Somebody Else's Picture* was originally written five years ago when it wasn't considered top material. Now it's a hit.

Vaughn Monroe is collecting "Keys to the City" awarded by doting city fathers. So far he has 14 of these honorary tokens, more than any other band leader.



**NEW! NEW! NEW!**

**The Freshest, Newest Idea  
In Popular Music Today**

**RAY MCKINLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA**

- ALL THE WAY FROM SAN JOSE
- AND BAHAMA MAMA RECORD 20-2993

FORM NO. 2K1077

# ROSE MURPHY NOW WITH RCA VICTOR

New "Chi Chi"



**Rose Signs Contract to Record New Kind of "Chi Chi" When Records Are Made Again**

**R**OSE MURPHY has been signed by RCA Victor. That's the hottest news in the world of music today. And even as it broke plans were announced that would bring a new and radically different Chi Chi Girl to Record audiences.

Rose, her managers and RCA Victor engineers have had their heads together for a long time and they say that special recording effects will be used, when record-making resumes, that will project Rose's style of singing and playing as they have never been heard before.

## Success Came Overnight

Rose Murphy was discovered while playing for a friend's birthday party in Cleveland. It seems she could never remember the lyrics of songs and hence used her chi chi effects to fill in the gaps.

The manager of the Cedar Gardens Club in Cleveland, who had hired Rose the minute he heard her, was well pleased when his club patrons demanded encore after encore.

Later Rose played at the Famous Door in New York, the Club Versailles, the Blue Angel, to name only a few. Cafe society cheered Rose to fame virtually overnight.

The Chi Chi girl always per-

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## Thespis Flirts with Kaye Sammy Winks Back

### Der Bingle May Turn Sports M. C.

Every time somebody writes a biography of Bing Crosby he suddenly comes up with a new activity, displays a new side of his personality, and automatically adds another chapter.

Right now Bing is telling his friends that if he gives up the movies, he will turn to broadcasting the Pittsburgh Pirates' baseball games. Rumors are there is a big commercial deal afoot with Bing going on a nation-wide sports hook-up.

### Spike Returns after Nuptials

Spike Jones is in the midst of a fresh tour after spending a two week honeymoon with his bride, the former Helen Greco.

Spike just completed a stay at the Cal-Neva Lodge in Las Vegas, Nevada and now has launched a series of dates on the coast.

On October 1st Spike's CBS radio show "Spotlight Revue" goes back on the air.

Sammy Kaye, RCA Victor recording star, currently appearing on the Chesterfield Supper Club, has been offered the lead in a dramatic Broadway production titled "Double Exposure."

Kaye acknowledged to IN THE GROOVE reporters that he definitely wants to accept the legitimate stage offer, but that as he sees it now, musical commitments may prevent him from doing so.

Right now the managerial wheels are in motion in an effort to adjust Sammy's fall schedule so he can make a legitimate theater appearance in a few months.

### Beneke Is Stricken

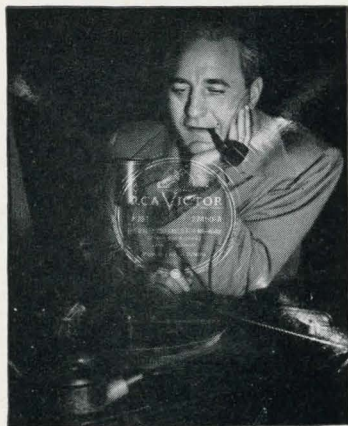
Tex Beneke was stricken with acute appendicitis while playing at Eastwood Gardens in Detroit.

Beneke was rushed from the bandstand to the hospital for an immediate operation. His condition is good after completion of the emergency operation.

## ROLL OUT THE POLKA

See Page 10

### Old Romance



Perennial favorite, Wayne King reminisces on his success with RCA Victor. Hear his latest — *The Things You Left in My Heart* — 20-2840.

# ANDRE PREVIN

## Man and Musician



By LEONARD FEATHER

**T**WO years ago, at RCA Victor's Hollywood studios, I stayed behind after a record session, to cut a couple of test sides with a 17-year-old pianist who had been recording for a small local company.

The records we made that evening, though they were never released, resulted in the signing of Andre Previn by RCA Victor and the recording of a whole album, released last month, featuring the modern keyboard style of this phenomenal youngster.

Andre's father is a music teacher in Hollywood; his uncle, Charles Previn, will be remembered by many New Yorkers as musical director of the Radio City Music Hall. Half French, half German, Andre was born in Berlin in April 1929; his family fled to France just before the war, and brought him to this country a year later.

The amazing thing about Andre's jazz talent is that his entire musical background was strictly classical. He studied under Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco and Joseph Achron, and was playing classical concerts when he first ran into Art Tatum's record of *Sweet Lorraine*.

Within a couple of years, he had become a rabid jazz fan, absorbing the styles of Cole, Waller, Hines and Wilson; at sixteen, he had made his first records.

Things began to move rapidly. Andre appeared in a series of Frank Sinatra broadcasts, made background recordings and even wrote arrangements for M-G-M, and wound up with a staff writing job for that studio, a position which many men two or three times his age would be glad to attain.

No less amazing is Andre's rapid Americanization. Though barely half of his nineteen years have

been spent in this country, he speaks perfect English. He has the poise and assurance, plus the general intellectual outlook, of a man many years his senior.

Andre has branched out from jazz into all forms of popular commercial music, as you can tell from his RCA Victor Album, P-214, which shows how he can combine a good jazz beat with a semi-"society" style.

Where does Andre go from here? He has crammed into a period of three or four years what would normally be the lifetime span of a successful musician's career.

It remains to be seen whether he can broaden his musical horizons and outlive the sometimes temporary glory of a child prodigy.

One thing is certain; Andre's case history proves once again, beyond a shadow of doubt, that the traditional environment and background are not always essential to the acquisition of a good jazz sense.

Whether you're a sixty-year-old from New Orleans who can't read music, or a sixteen-year-old from Berlin with complete academic schooling, if you can listen to jazz a few times and get the feeling for it, you're in!

## MOVIE PREVIEW

For a session in the Cinema to leave your breath coming short and your heart beating in a dotted eighth, sixteenth pattern, take in (when it visits your burg) "A Song Is Born," Sam Goldwyn's latest musical extravaganza.

I say this to music lovers in particular since music is what the picture's got in large measures as well as Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo and Hugh Herbert.

The music? These names tell the story: Tommy Dorsey, Louis Armstrong, Charlie Barnet. These assorted cats from the various cults of jazz (swing and what have you, have plenty of sound track on which to Meow to their hearts content.

In short, the director lets the boys drift off in their own idiom and they make the kind of music each knows best.

Among the songs featured in the film are these jazz classics, all available for a satisfying preview on RCA Victor Records:

*Muskat Ramble*, Lionel Hampton, Record 26107; *Getting Sentimental Over You*, Tommy Dorsey, 20-2932; *Redskin Rhumba*, Charlie Barnet, 20-1756; *Daddy-O*, Page Cavanaugh Trio, 20-3065; *A Song Was Born*, Louis Armstrong Jazz Group, 20-3064; *Flyin' Home*, Lionel Hampton, 26595.

## ROSE MURPHY

(Continued from page 3)

forms completely unrehearsed. And she is in a perpetual state of fright before a mike or on the stage.

Though she was born in Xenia, Ohio, Rose considers Cleveland her home. She is 5' 6" tall, 31 years old, and when filling in the question as to weight she merely rolled her humorous brown eyes and set down a question mark.

Rose says it's like realizing a dream to be signed by one of the biggest labels in the record business.

She expects to realize her other big dream this winter when she buys a home in the country.



**T**HE other night I spent a few wonderful hours at a friend's home listening to his collection of old and rare recordings. There's no doubt but that his imposing record collection represented years of work and effort.

Personally, I've never been the collecting type. Probably because I never had the time to devote to such a hobby. Still, my imagination toyed with the things I should like to collect, if it were possible. The list went something like this:

I'd like to have the trombone Tommy Dorsey used when he first played "Marie."

In my collection, proudly displayed, would be a copy of Al Jolson's birth certificate. It would really be an inspiration!

## Hair of Gold—A New Sound

The new sound comes from a band that's kicking off under the RCA Victor label with one of the hottest juke-box numbers around today, *Hair of Gold*.

They're called the Drugstore Cowboys, a name you'll be hearing plenty of during the next few months.

The Drugstore Cowboys play a collection of instruments calculated to cause Arturo Toscanini to moulit his eyebrows and wear a worried look for years—the Ukelele, the Mouth Organ and, hold your hat, the Jug.

What the Cowboys do with these instruments is nothing short of incredible.

Their recording of *Hair of Gold* is full of sparkle and bounce with a beat that'll curl your toes. This is novelty plus. It's more than just a stunt; it's a shuffle rhythm treatment that make just doggone good music.

Under the direction of Jack Lathrop, the Cowboys do "You Call Everybody Darlin'," on the B side another new tune that you hear all the time. Get Record 20-3109.

## Meet the Jock



**WMGM Jockey Len Feather, right, chats with Charlie Ventura on Len's daily ether stint.**

"Temptation" is the song which saved my life, musically speaking, and in an honored spot in my hobby room would be the piano on which Nacio Herb Brown composed this great number.

Add one special gold phonograph for the exclusive playing of recordings by a great man and superb musician—Glenn Miller.

If I had a strong-box, I could label it, "Do not open until 1999," and fill it with recordings of Goodman, Dorsey, James and Monroe. Then posterity could decide once and for all who was king.

### A Drone From Spike

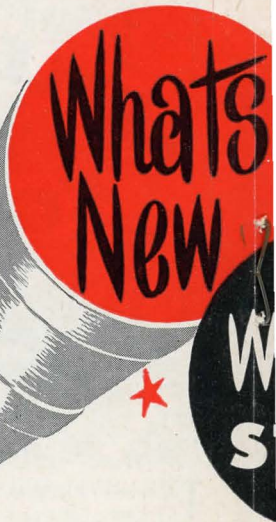
I think it would be interesting to display the two airplane motors which were part of the string section of Spike Jones' first band.

Maybe along the line somewhere I'll come across one or two things of my own worthy of being included in the dream collection outlined above.

I certainly hope so.



★ Here we find Mr. and Mrs. Louis Prima at their wedding party recently in the colonnade room of the Essex House in New York.



★ Here we see Spade Co. "Western Swing" and RCA Victor on their return from a country tour. Spade and Archer.



★ Meet lovely Jane Pickens, Soprano, who entertains you so royally on her Sunday afternoon show over NBC. Comedian Phil Leeds and Baritone Jack Kilty work with Jane on the program.



# With the STARS

ade Cooley, "King of West-  
RCA Victor artist and band,  
from a 16,000 mile cross-  
ade shakes with Agent Jack



★ A double portion of hilarity broke loose recently when Spike Jones, left, and Mickey Katz, whose Koshers Jammers record for RCA Victor, dined together.



★ Pretty and petit Shirley Lloyd, one of bandsman Sam Donahue's most attractive assets, turns a solid lick on a special vocal chorus during one of Sam's down-south engagements.

# KEEP THE M-M-M IN RYTHM-M

BY SAMMY KAYE • • •



## FAN CLUB NEWS

The Three Suns tell us that about two out of every three fan letters they receive begin with this line: "This is the first fan letter I have ever written." That means fan interest is really on the upswing.

Your editor is flattered to acknowledge his honorary memberships, just received, to the "National Hal McIntyre Fan Club" and the "National Freddy Martin Friendship Fan Club." Manager of the clubs, Joe Kotch of Roebing, New Jersey, is a real plugger.

"GIVE me, give me what I cry for . . . *sweet rhythm.*"

For centuries, the ballad, a sweet musical item, was hummed and strummed 'neath the windows of that lady fair. Although the procedure isn't exactly the same today (the lady fair is usually sitting ringside at a smart night spot) the love song is still tops in the music world.

Why?

The teen-agers find the ballad a perfect setting for young love; the oldsters smile and remember the good old days; the young married couples forget the usual money troubles; all the world loves a lover and every lover loves to serenade!

The ballad, more aptly termed, "the language of love" has been championed by great men of this and other generations. Men like George Gershwin ("*The Man I Love*"), Irving Berlin ("*A Pretty Girl Is Like A Melody*"), Cole Porter ("*Night and Day*"), Hoagy Carmichael ("*Stardust*"), Jerome Kern ("*Stay As Sweet As You Are*"), Ball and Olcott ("*When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*") and Noel Coward with his production of "*Bittersweet*" have immortalized sweet music. In the future, other men, like these, will take up the task of making the heart speak—through the ballad.

Scorned by critics as sentimental, mushy and blah-blah, melodies of love are as old-fashioned as holding hands across the table and as new as television. The refrain of "boy meets girl—boy loses girl—boy gets girl" is perennial in the fields of literature, art, drama, and especially—in music.

Phases of musical exhilaration—ragtime, jazz, blues, swing and bebop have caught the public's fancy at one time or another. These may thrive in the musical kingdom for a time—but sweet music never has been and never will be a

"fad"—for one good reason. It has a purpose—to serenade.

Since the public seems to prefer the sentimental ballad, we have chosen this as the intermezzo of our style.

We're going to keep that m-m-m-m in rhythm-m; we're going to let people dance and sing to the "language of love."

Sammy Kaye's baritone, Don Cornell, was the guest of honor at a surprise party thrown for him by 50 representatives of the Don Cornell Fan Clubs in the Hotel Edison in New York recently.

Shirley Wiers of 6645 Pelham Road, Allen Park, Michigan, tells us that her Perry Como fan club is preparing a number of social and charitable activities for this autumn.

## Carl and Mercer Tête à Tête



A pleasant moment in the Coconut Grove, Hollywood, as Frankie Carl and Johnny Mercer flash those golden smiles. They'll soon be in a big musical together.



**A HANDFUL OF STARS**

**TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAYS**

**AT THE WANE OF SUMMER**

**POPULAR**



**BERYL DAVIS**  
DON'T BLAME ME  
THE BLUE ROOM

Record 20-3019



**DEEP RIVER BOYS**

THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED  
TO SUCCEED  
AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'

Record 20-2998



**SAMMY KAYE**  
TOMORROW NIGHT  
LONESOME

Record 20-3025

AIN'T DOIN' BAD  
DOIN' NOTHIN'  
SOMEBODY ELSE'S PICTURE

Record 20-2983

**RAY  
McKINLEY**



ALL THE WAY  
FROM SAN JOSÉ

BAHAMA MAMA

Record 20-2993

**BUDDY  
MORENO**



I WENT DOWN  
TO VIRGINIA  
WHEN THE RED, RED, ROBIN  
COMES BOB, BOB,  
BOBBIN' ALONG

Record 20-3053



**LOUIS PRIMA**

THE SAD COWBOY  
BUBBLE-LOO  
BUBBLE-LOO

Record 20-2982

**HENRI RENÉ**



CUCKOO BIRD  
WALTZ

HOW DID HE LOOK

Record 20-3062

TUNNEL OF LOVE—  
Novelty—Fox Trot

PORTRAIT OF A TOY SOLDIER  
(A Musical Impression)

Record 25-1123



**JEAN SABLON**

EVERY TIME  
(from the film  
"Midnight Waltz")

AU REVOIR AGAIN

Record 20-3050

**RE-ISSUES**

**VAUGHN MONROE**

YOURS  
(Quierémo Mucho)  
TANGERINE

Record 20-2984

**ARTIE SHAW**

TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF,  
BABY  
(And Start Runnin' Through  
My Mind)  
LOVE ME A LITTLE LITTLE

Record 20-2994

**COUNTRY  
AND WESTERN**

**JENNY LOU CARSON**

I FEEL LIKE CRYIN'  
(Over You)

TROUBLED HEART

Record 20-2996

**GOLDEN WEST  
QUARTET**

EVERYTIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT  
SINGIN' AS I GO

Record 20-2986

**PEE WEE KING**

QUIT HONKIN' THAT HORN  
FORTY-NINE WOMEN

Record 20-2995

**DUDE MARTIN**

ATOM BOMB BABY  
WISHY-WASHY WOMAN

Record 20-2985

**JIMMIE REWARD**

PLAYBOY'S BREAKDOWN  
TULSA WALTZ

Record 20-2987

**BILLY WILLIAMS**

JUST AS BIG AS TEXAS  
THAT TUMBLEDOWN SHACK  
(In the Valley)

Record 20-2997

**COUNTRY  
AND WESTERN  
BLUES  
AND RHYTHM**

**ARTHUR CRUDUP**

KATIE MAY  
BOY FRIEND BLUES

Record 20-2989

**LIL GREEN**

I GOTTA HAVE IT  
THEM THERE EYES

Record 20-2999

**JESSE STONE**

THE DONKEY AND THE  
ELEPHANT  
DON'T LET IT GET AWAY

Record 20-2988

# Roll Out the Polka



By CHARLES SCHAFHAUSER

**T**HERE'S a big noise coming out of the Middle West that has teen-age hepsters all over the nation grinning with delight and tapping their feet to an old-world pattern . . . which is news.

Post-moppet sophisticates . . . solid Joes and Jills to the last thread of their bobbysox, are cutting themselves a swath of carpet from an entirely new pattern. They've taken hold of the Polka . . . a European importation from way back . . . and slapped it right on the American production line.

What goes? You'll know in a minute, Jack, because here's the story of a ball:

The wonderful riot took place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They called it formally Milwaukee's "First Annual Polka Festival."

Eight thousand students of the jump and toss school of dancing gathered in the Municipal Auditorium. They danced to music made up mostly of a Continental shake, a Brooklyn Bounce and a New Orleans Stomp. Yes, the Polka has come a long way under the guidance of such renowned bands as Lawrence Duchow and his Red Ravens, the Six Fat Dutchmen, Frankie Yankovic and others.

The festival went on for five full hours. Five hours, mind you, of the zaniest kind of dancing fun you can imagine.

You see, in Milwaukee they often set the Polka to swing time. Lawrence Duchow and his boys, whom you know on RCA Victor records for their recording of *Swiss Boy* and other hits, mix it up with an alternating slow and fast beat . . . but always solid. The Six Fat Dutchmen played an authentic, old world kind of polka.

While Polka orgies don't draw 8,000 kids in the east or west, the dance is still a hot item on any campus and getting hotter every day. If you want a generous sample, get these records:

*Tuba Polka*, 25-1118, The Six Fat Dutchmen; *Juke Box Polka*, 25-1115, Johnny Vadnal; *Lenny's Polka*, 25-1122, Ernie Benedict; *Swiss Girl*, 25-1099, Lawrence Duchow.

Yes, the latest kind of kick is a polka kick; 8,000 Milwaukeeites can't be wrong. Neither can millions of teen-agers all over the country. Try it and see.

## Sons of the Pioneers Ride into Their 15th Birthday

(Picture on back cover)

**I**t's fifteen happy, entertainment-packed years for the Sons of the Pioneers. Fifteen!

That's a lot of years, but listen to this: During those years the "Sons" have been featured in 100 . . . yes, 100 motion pictures.

Virtually everyone who collects records seriously has at least a few Sons of the Pioneers items on their shelves. Hit tunes like these: *Cool Water, Stars and Stripes on Iwo Jima* RCA Victor 20-1724; *Tumbling Tumbleweeds, The Everlasting Hills of Oklahoma*, 20-2077; and many, many others.

And members of the "Sons" have written many of those hits — 20 per cent of the cowboy and western music currently popular, is the original work of the Sons of the Pioneers.

Of course everyone knows of the climax of their career — stardom in Walt Disney's "Melody Time" with Roy Rogers.

This month we salute the Sons of the Pioneers . . . America's "Favorite Sons."

### MICROPHONE COWBOY



Elton Britt at the mike recording "Chime Bells" for his new album "Elton Britt Singing Country Hits," P-221.



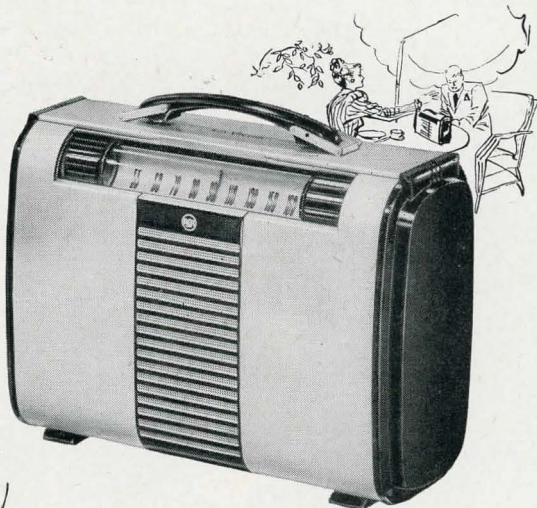
**HENRI RENE** THE CUCKOO BIRD  
RECORDS TWO  
and How Did He Look  
20-3062

*Infectious Melodies*

**TUNNEL OF LOVE**  
and Portrait of a Toy Soldier  
25-1123

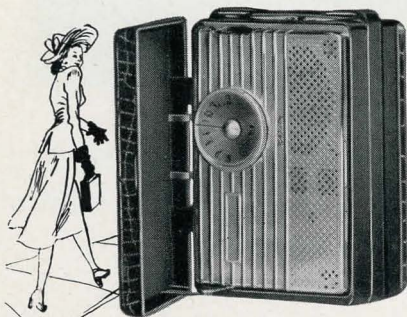
## Powerful

Extra range and power are yours with the "Globe Trotter", amazing sensitivity, plenty of volume even for outdoor dancing. That handsome case is lightweight aluminum and plastic with a special, weather-resistant finish on the aluminum. Plays on house current (AC-DC). Plays on its self-contained RCA battery that turns on the second you lift the dial cover. It's a star performer with the marvelous tone of the famous "Golden Throat".  
\$49.95\* less battery.



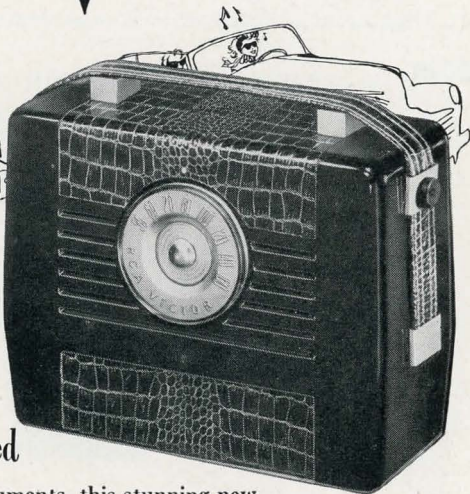
# The pick of the Portables

by  
**RCA VICTOR**



**Pocket Size**

Just 6¼ inches high, this tiny "Personal" gives you room-size volume. It's built like a fine camera, has rugged RCA batteries, tiny but sturdy RCA Victor tubes. Plays instantly when you open the handsome case. Choose yours in black, brown, red or ivory alligator-grained plastic! \$29.95\* less battery.



## Prudently Priced

Like all RCA Victor instruments, this stunning new portable is an outstanding value. It has fine volume and the glorious tone of the "Golden Throat". Plays on AC or DC house current or on its long-life RCA battery. Lightweight—in durable maroon plastic with non-tarnish golden finished trim and a handsome saddle of smart luggage-type covering. It's a welcome companion at home or wherever you go! \$34.95\* less battery.



finest tone system in  
RCA Victor history

\*Prices subject to change without notice. Western prices slightly higher.

# "Favorite Sons"



*The Sons of the Pioneers celebrated their 15th birthday. See story page 10.*

FROM:

Sec. 562, P. L. & R.

TO:

"RCA monogram in a circle, 'RCA Victor,' the representation of a dog listening to a phonograph, the phrase 'His Master's Voice,' the words 'Red Seal,' and the word 'Bluebird,' are registered in The United States Patent Office as Trade-marks of The Radio Corporation of America."