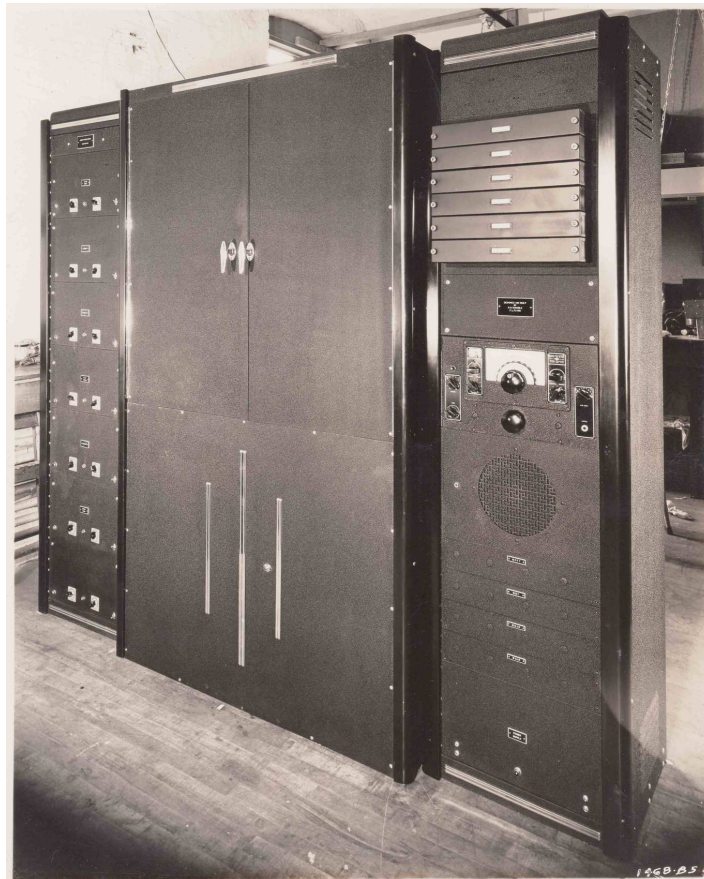


Hi-End Radio & Hi-Fi, 1947

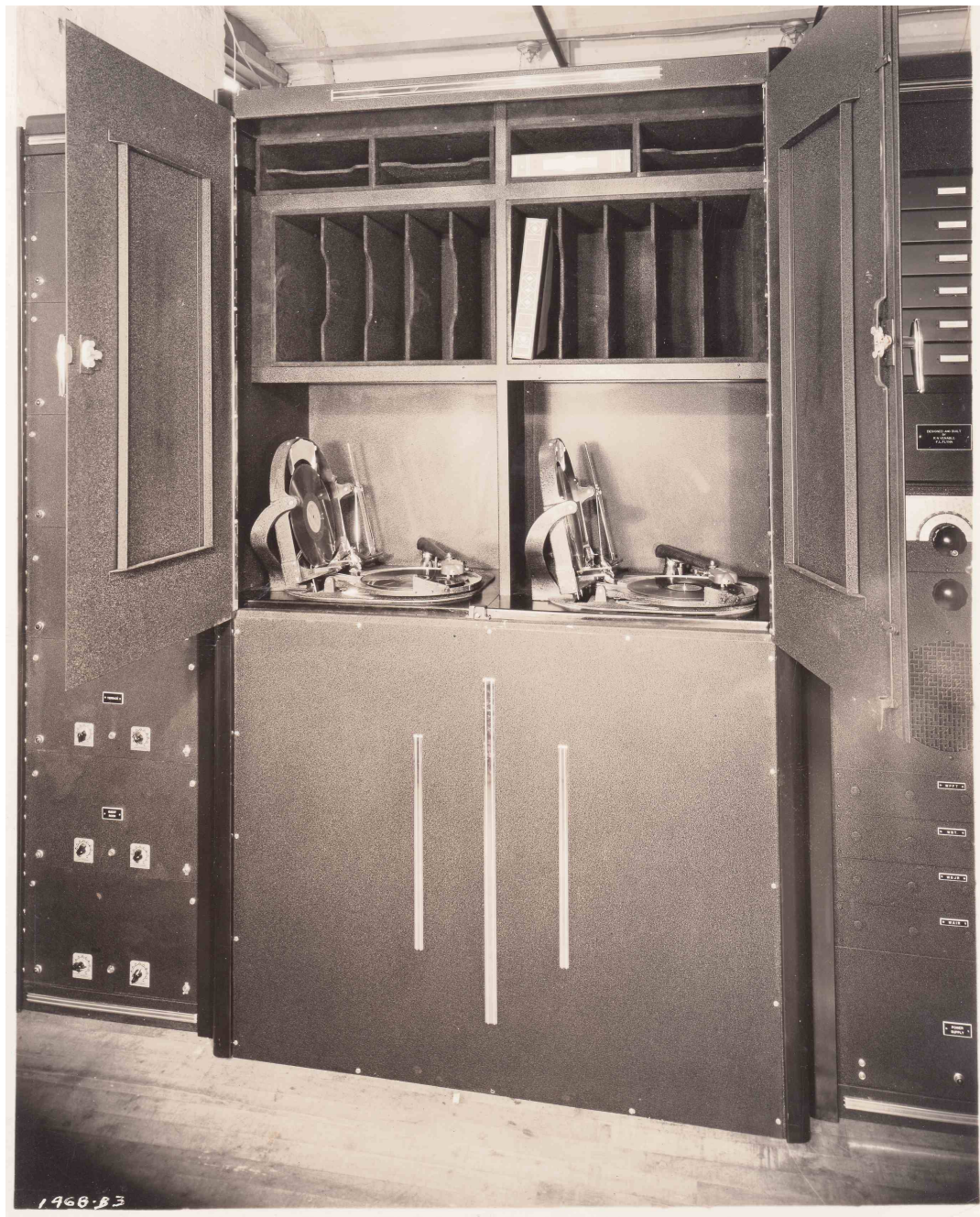
An Archivist's note by Bart Lee, K6VK

Hi-End Radio & Hi-Fi, 1947 -- Rene Bowers and Myra Venable have donated to CHRS photos of some of Richard N. Venable's work in about 1947 (and a DeForst DV-3!). Mr. Venable, Rene Bower's father, completed the RCA Institutes Radio and Television course in 1939. He served in Naval Aviation Airborne Radar in WW II and in India. Around 1947 he worked for Liberty Music in New York, putting in high-end Capehart / Farnsworth high fidelity equipment for what we now call the One Percent (*e.g.*, at a R.J. Reynolds' home and in a home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright).

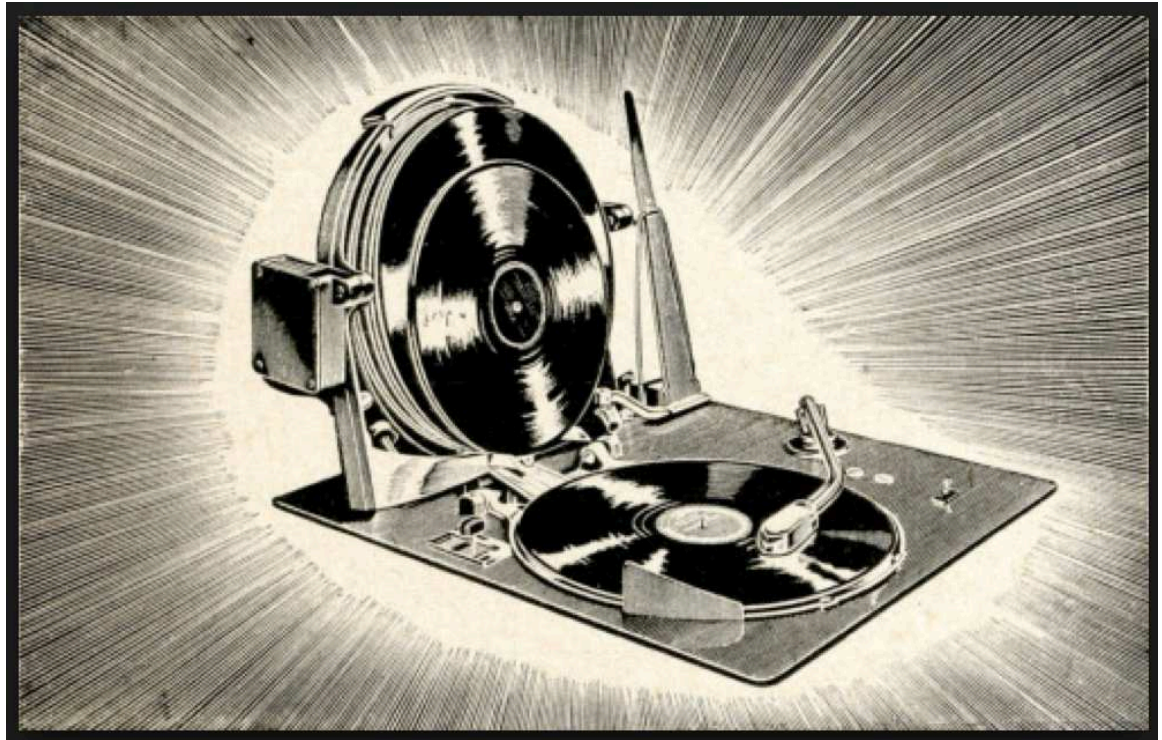


Note the state-of-the-art National NC-100 shortwave receiver.

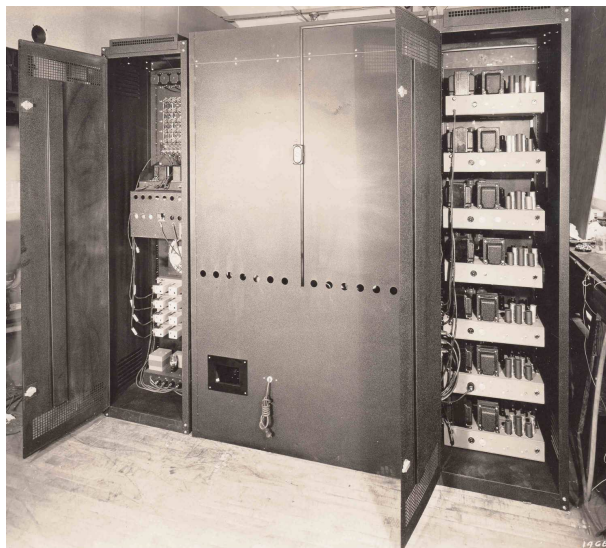
The installation pictured featured a National NC-100A shortwave and broadcast receiver, what looks like four dedicated receivers or IF decks for local broadcast stations, two of the Capehart changers, and seven audio-out decks for different parts of the "estate." The stations are: WPFT, South Carolina; WBT North Carolina; WJBR, x N.C.; WAIR, N.C. -- so this may be the Reynolds installation.



The Capehart “turnover” record changer could play both sides of 20 records.



The photos appear to have been taken in the shop -- the nameplate says: Designed and Built by R. N Venable and F.L. Flynn).



The whole system could be controlled from any of seven complicated remote controls around the house, pool and tennis courts. It became the basis for a Capehart / Farnsworth sales brochure for those with similar “estates.”

Venable also installed Farnsworth Television sets. In 1953, according to Ms. Bowers, her father moved on to the Navy as a civilian, to: “ ... the Naval Underwater Research Laboratory in Orlando creating and assembling underwater sonar equipment. I assume his skills from the TV and sound system repairs had given him the skills used there.” Born in 1908, he died in 1987.

Homer Capehart saved Wurlitzer, then linked up with Phil Farnsworth (who invented TV in San Francisco, defeated RCA in patent litigation, and then sold high end TVs). Capehart then served several terms in the Senate.

(de K6VK) ##