

Radio Station Sheet Music – in the CHRS Archives

By Bart Lee, K6VK, CHRS Archivist

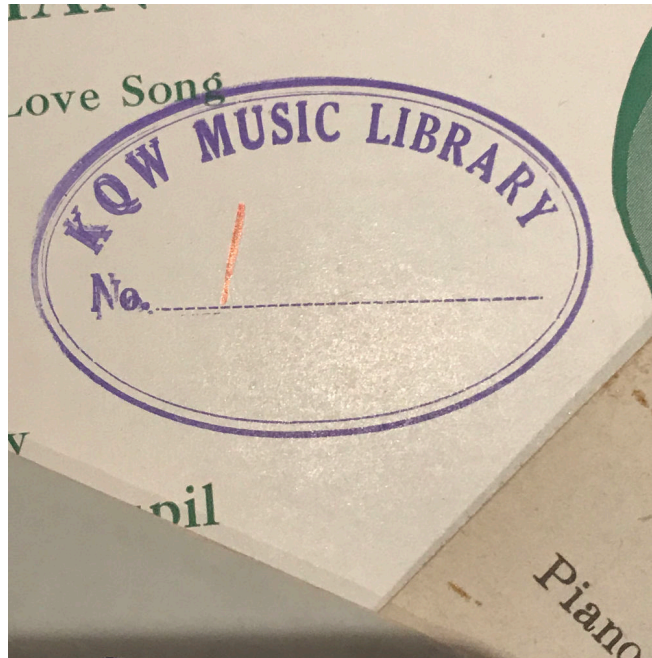
In the early days of radio, much of the music heard by listeners came by the efforts of studio musicians. To be sure, more and more recorded music got on the air over the years, but many radio stations used in-house musicians. KDKA in the East was one of the first broadcasters, more than a hundred years ago. Soon it's studio looked like this:



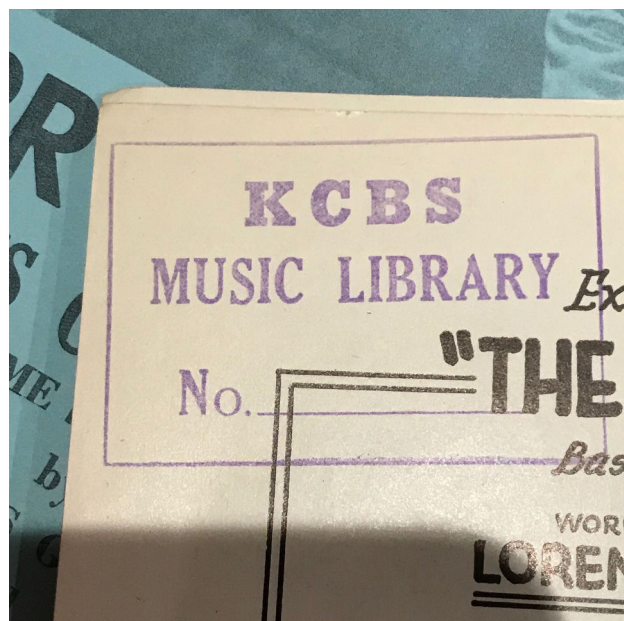
(Reprinted from *Pittsburgh's Golden Age of Radio* by Ed Salamon courtesy of KDKA (pg. 18, Arcadia Publishing, 2010).

The CHRS archives hold sheet music library-stamped by two local radio stations:

KQW (Doc Herrold's old station):



and KCBS:

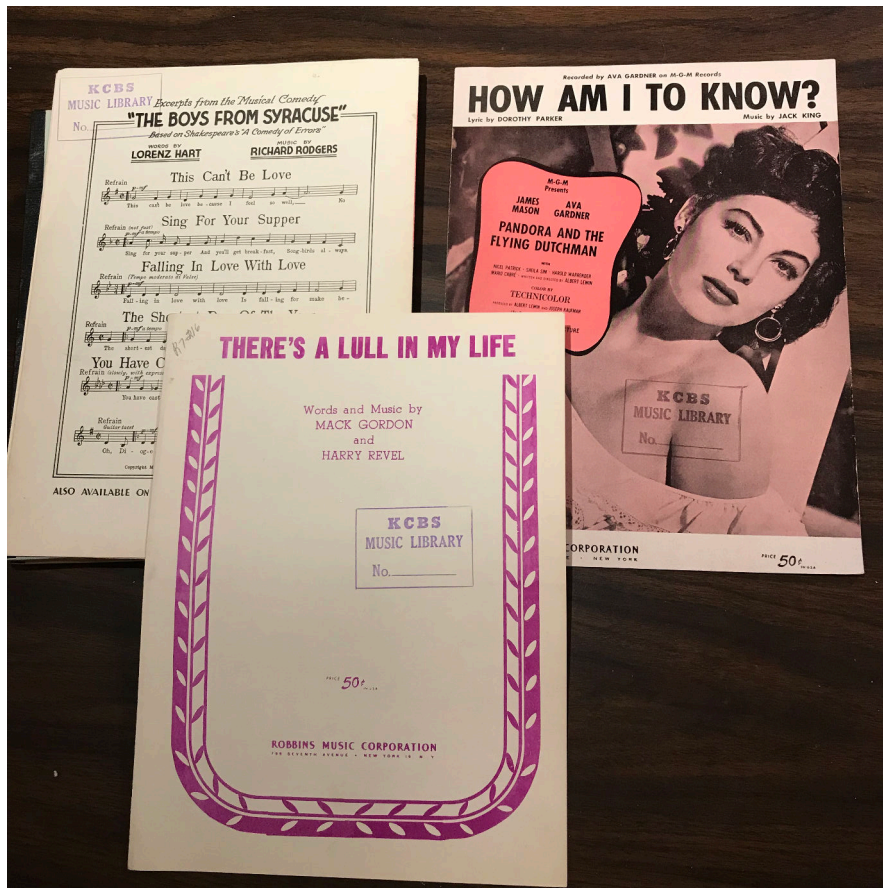


The KQW music seems considerably older.



There's a copyright notice threatening legal action if the radio-only sheet music be used for anything other than a radio performance: *WARNING: fine, imprisonment, prosecution... by the publisher.* In latterdays, recording artists featured on the front cover, no doubt to promote public sale.

KCBS, likely some years later, also maintained a studio music library for on-the-air performances.



Ava Gardner apparently could sell sheet music as well as movies. Note, also that “The Boys from Syracuse” derived from “A Comedy of Errors.”

This music collection was donated by probably Art Lieberman, some time ago. The CHRS archives will be retaining much of it and all of the stamped copies.

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