THE STROMBERG-CARLSON COLLECTION

An Inventory of the Material in the Library of the Rochester Museum and Science Center

Prepared by Mary Ellen Orgel
November, 1978
HISTORY

In 1894, after Alexander Graham Bell's patents had expired, Alfred Stromberg and Androv Carlson, both immigrants from Sweden, decided to start their own telephone manufacturing business. Having had previous experience in this field, their work was so successful that they were induced to come to Rochester. The offices of the company were first located in the Triangle Building downtown. They set up a factory on a ten acre plot at the corner of University Avenue and Culver Road. Once this was done, they returned to Chicago, the birthplace of the enterprise.


During the First World War, Stromberg-Carlson concentrated a major part of their production on communications equipment for the government. They made telephone sets and switchboards for the battlefield and army camp. It was Stromberg-Carlson telephones that transmitted official reports at the peace conference at Versailles.

With the invention of the radio in 1920, Stromberg-Carlson went from only manufacturing telephones and switchboards to making radio receivers. Their first home radio went on the market in 1924. After much experimentation, the Company designed radio transformers that were capable of transmitting a broad band of speech and music frequencies. They also made headsets and loudspeakers with fine tone quality. They were trailblazers of innovations in the radio industry. With the growth and development of the business, they built expanded manufacturing operations on a forty-eight acre site at Blossom and Humboldt Streets. The new headquarters office was also here, on the Company's own private Carlson Road.

Stromberg-Carlson went on to introduce many telephone and switchboard "firsts". They manufactured the first self-contained (bell in the base) handset in the United States in 1931, the first dust-free dial in 1946, and the first completely water-proof telephone in 1949. In 1944, the Company took over the new "XY Switch" systems in the XY dial (developed in Europe) for use in the United States and Canada. It has been improved and expanded on for widespread use in many telephone companies across the land. The Company also produced unique equipment for recording toll charges automatically.

The Second World War brought a concentration of production for the armed services, in exclusion of civilian radio and television manufacturing. Stromberg-Carlson was one of the twelve largest producers of electronic equipment for the Signal Corps, Air Force and Navy. They made aircraft, radio, radar, telephone,
sound, and battle-announcing equipment. The superior excellence of
the Company was recognized by additional stars awarded five times on
the Army-Navy "E" production flag. Stromberg-Carlson's sound equip-
ment was used aboard the U.S.S. Missouri, when Japan formally surren-
dered. It was also used at the trials in Nuremberg, Germany.

Stromberg-Carlson was very instrumental in the development of
the radio and television media in Rochester. In 1927, they bought
Rochester's first radio station, WHAM, which was operating out of
the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music. They devel-
oped this facility into one of the most powerful AM stations in the
country. The Company in 1939 was the first to manufacture a full
line of FM receivers. They operated the first FM radio station in
upstate New York beginning in the same year.

The year 1939 was also the year of the first appearance of
Stromberg-Carlson's television receivers. The Company was the first
in the city to broadcast television programs on their WHAM-TV sta-
tion in 1949. This television station and the two radio stations
centralized their studios in a million dollar building next to the
main plant. It was referred to as "Rochester Radio City", first
open to the public in early 1948. In 1954, Stromberg-Carlson was
the third company to produce color television receivers.

Besides manufacturing telephone, switchboard, radio and tele-
vision equipment, Stromberg-Carlson became a leader in production
of sound equipment for paging, inter-communications, and music dis-
tribution - for use in businesses, schools, transportation centers
and places of amusement. Electronic carillons were another pro-
duct Stromberg-Carlson manufactured. Appropriately enough, the
Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Company changed its name
to the Stromberg-Carlson Company in 1943.

On June 30, 1955, General Dynamics merged Stromberg-Carlson
Company, and went on to manufacture communication, electronic, and
information storage and retrieval equipment. In 1978, the Company
moved their total operation in Rochester to Tampa, Florida. At
this time, the Rochester Museum and Science Center was offered the
Company's records listed in this inventory.

(Adapted from "The Stromberg-Carlson Story", Rochester Commerce,
Sept. 1954.)
INVENTORY

Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Company
(becomes Stromberg-Carlson Co. in 1943)

Box 1. Warrants & Script Dividends, Common Stock

Ledger, 1903

Ledger, 1904

Minute Books

No. 1 March 1902 - June 1908
Minutes of stockholders' and Board of Directors' meetings, correspondance, affidavits of notices of stockholders' meetings.

No. 2 July 1908 - May 11, 1912
Minutes of stockholders' and Board of Directors' meetings, correspondance, affidavits of notices of stockholders' meetings, balance sheets.

No. 3 May 24, 1912 - August 10, 1914
Minutes of stockholders' and Board of Directors' meetings, correspondance, affidavits of notices of stockholders' meetings, affidavits regarding liquidation and transfers of patents and notices of sales.

Executive Committee Minutes - Minutes, correspondance, accounts, balance sheets, and miscellaneous company material.

No. 1 1906 - 1908

No. 2 1909 - June 1911

Box 2. Executive Committee Minutes

No. 3 July 1911 - Nov. 1913

Minutes - Minutes, correspondance, affidavits, miscellaneous records and materials

No. 1 June 1914 - Dec. 1919

No. 2 Jan. 1920 - Jan. 1926

No. 3 Feb. 1926 - Jan. 1930

No. 4 Feb. 1930 - Aug. 2, 1934

No. 5 Aug. 29, 1934 - Jan. 28, 1937
Box 3. Minutes

No. 6 Jan. 6, 1937 - Jan. 4, 1939
No. 7 Jan. 18, 1939 - Dec. 1941
No. 8 Jan. 1942 - Aug. 7, 1944
No. 9 June 28, 1944 - Dec. 1946
No. 10 Jan. 1947 - Feb. 1949
No. 11 March 1949 - Dec. 1951

Box 4. Minutes

No. 12 Jan. 1952 - March 1954
No. 13 April 1954 - June 28, 1955

Supplements to Stockholders' Meetings - Minutes, certificates, 1946.

Stockholders' Meeting - Complete transcribed account, 1951.

Authorization, Issue and Sale of 72,025 Shares of 4 1/2% Convertible Preferred Stock (bound collection of papers)
Minutes, correspondance, affidavits, miscellaneous records and materials, 1954.

Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Company of Canada Limited (becomes Stromberg-Carlson Company Limited in 1944)
Minutes - Minutes, correspondance, affidavits, miscellaneous records and materials.

First binder - 1906 - Nov. 1945
Second binder - Nov. 1945 - Sept. 1952
(chronologically arranged from most recent to earliest)

Patents - Various patents of mid-nineteenth century to early twentieth century.

Note: A list of officers of the Company from 1902 - 1914 is located in Box 1, Minute Book No. 1.
APPENDIX I

Presidents of Stromberg-Carlson Tel. Mfg. Company

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eugene H. Satterlee</td>
<td>4/10/02 - 12/8/05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Stromberg</td>
<td>12/8/05 - 1/11/06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John C. Woodbury</td>
<td>1/11/06 - 7/25/07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albrecht Vogt</td>
<td>7/25/07 - 1/14/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank N. Kondolf</td>
<td>1/14/09 - 7/1/14*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W. Todd</td>
<td>1915 - 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Roy McCanne</td>
<td>1924 - 1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley M. Angle</td>
<td>1936 - 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray H. Manson</td>
<td>1946 - 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert C. Tait</td>
<td>1950 - Merger</td>
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*The dates after 1914 are taken primarily from the Rochester City Directories, and may be approximate. See the material in the collection for more information.