

Economic League Vote Power of the Courts

The Press is indebted to Mr. Samuel M. Hastings, former mayor of Highland Park, for the following from the New York Times regarding the result of a nation-wide vote recently taken by the National Economic league of which Mr. Hastings is a member:

More power to judges in instructing juries, better methods of selecting judges, higher requirements for admission to the bar and authority

for less than 12 members of a jury to return verdicts in both civil and criminal cases are urged for the improvement of the administration of justice in a nation-wide preferential vote taken by the National Economic league. The results of the vote were made public yesterday.

"The vote, cast by States, called for an expression of preferences on 18 proposals for the improvement of judicial methods and procedure. Men of high standing in their respective communities and known for their interest in public affairs participated

in the balloting.

"The four aforementioned reforms received the highest number of votes in the order mentioned.

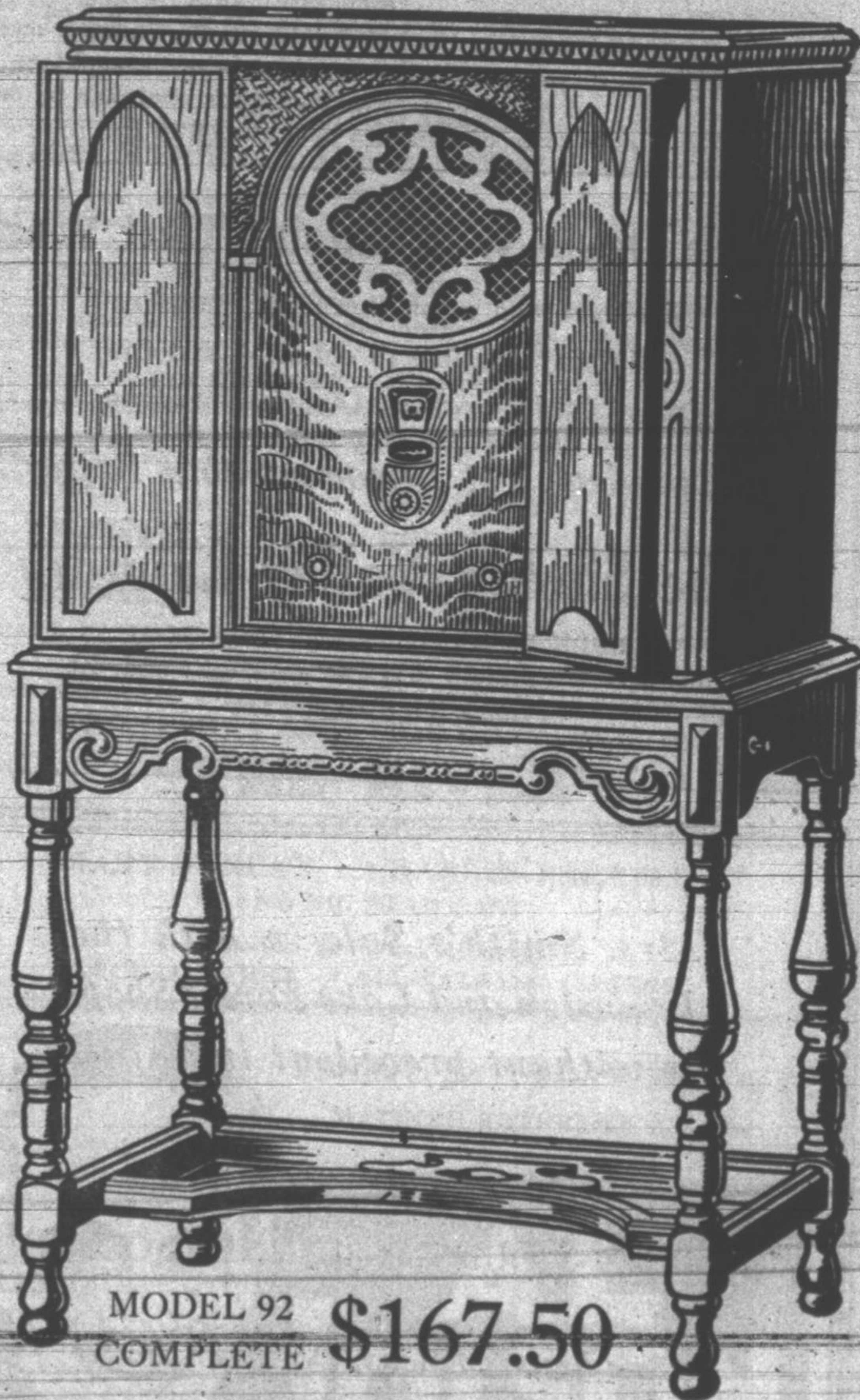
"Other reforms approved and given in the order of their preferences were:

"Providing for experts to determine the mental capacity of defendants; small juries for misdemeanor cases; arbitration of business disputes; better methods of determining rules of practice and procedure; improving the technique of lawmaking; giving a defendant the right to waive jury trial; establishment of a judicial council;

establishment of an official State bar organization with powers of self-discipline; unification of the judicial system; change in tenure of judges; more power to courts of appeal; reclassification of crimes; a better method of prescribing the organization of the administrative and clerical side of courts and a provision for public defenders."

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