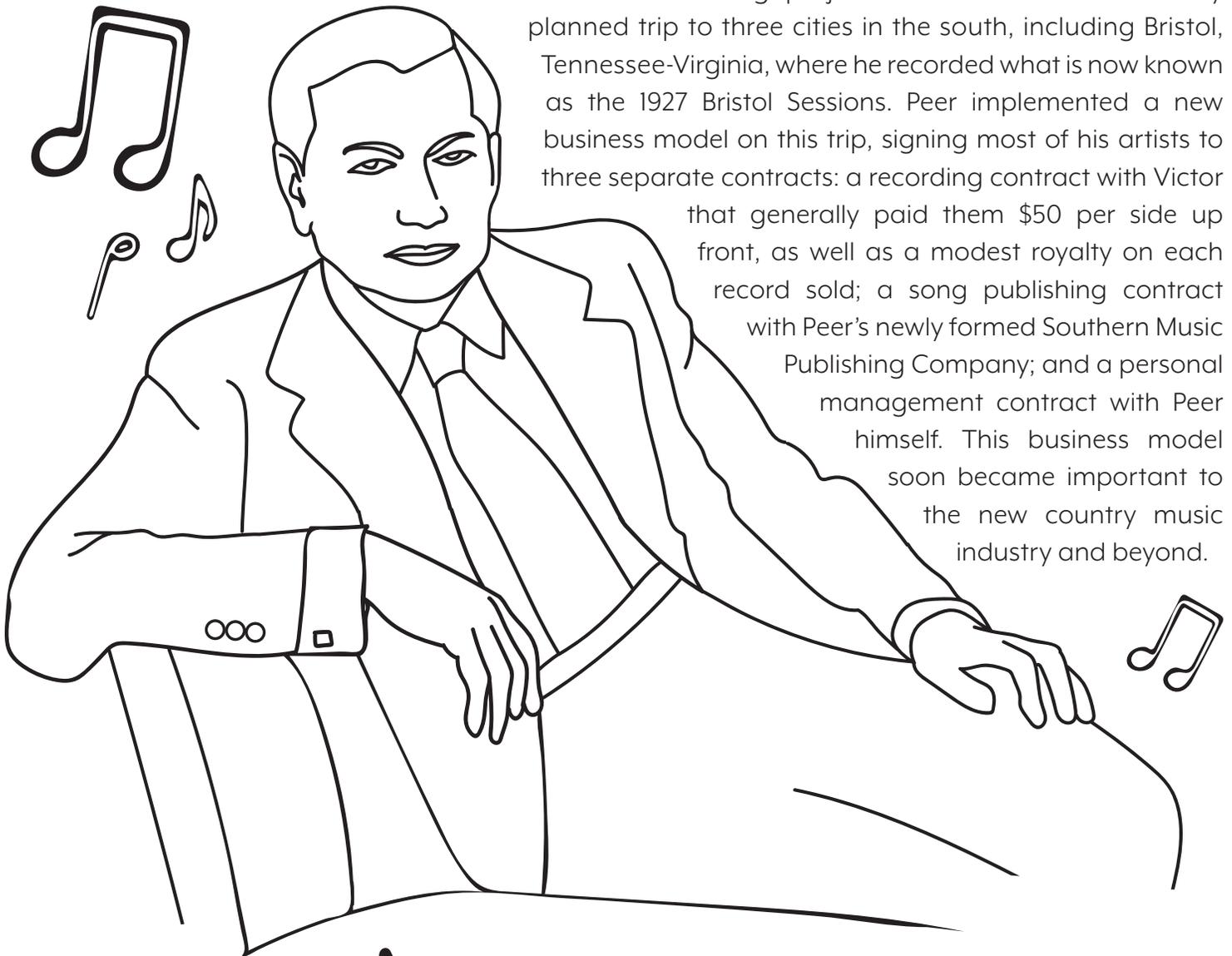


RALPH PEER

Record producer Ralph Peer was an important person in the early recording industry. In 1923, he was responsible for the first commercially released recording of “hillbilly music” with a record featuring old-time musician Fiddlin’ John Carson on the Okeh label. In 1926, Victor Talking Machine Company was lagging behind its rivals Okeh and Columbia in capitalizing on the country music boom and hired Peer to build up its catalog.

Peer’s first recording project for Victor was a carefully planned trip to three cities in the south, including Bristol, Tennessee-Virginia, where he recorded what is now known as the 1927 Bristol Sessions. Peer implemented a new business model on this trip, signing most of his artists to three separate contracts: a recording contract with Victor that generally paid them \$50 per side up front, as well as a modest royalty on each record sold; a song publishing contract with Peer’s newly formed Southern Music Publishing Company; and a personal management contract with Peer himself. This business model soon became important to the new country music industry and beyond.



COLOR IN RALPH PEER!

BIRTHPLACEOFCOUNTRYMUSIC.ORG

CODE BREAKING!

Use the code to figure out the blank words!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Ralph Peer produced the first recordings of 20 8 5 3 1 18 20 5 18

6 1 13 9 12 25 and 10 9 13 13 9 5 18 15 4 7 5 18 19 at the 1927

Bristol Sessions.

He was born in 9 14 4 5 16 5 14 4 5 14 3 5, Missouri in 1892.

Ralph Peer worked in a variety of genres, and he recorded Mamie Smith's

"3 18 1 26 25 2 12 21 5 19," the first blues bestseller in 1920.

Music licensed by Ralph Peer's publishing company was used in *Saludos Amigos*, a film by

23 1 12 20 4 9 19 14 5 25.

Ralph Peer's hobby was 7 18 15 23 9 14 7 6 12 15 23 5 18 19, especially camellias.

He has been credited with coming up with the name for early country music –

"8 9 12 12 2 9 12 12 25 music" – after a conversation with some musicians from North

Carolina and Virginia who he recorded in 1925.