Obituary

Lang S. Thompson

Lang S. Thompson, 1310 Hackberry Lane, Winetka, Ill., died July 9, 1957. He was Executive Vice-President of Wilding Picture Productions, Inc. He joined the firm in 1948 as account executive and was elected Vice-President in 1956. He was also President of Wilding-Henderson, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary.

The first state-sponsored educational closed-circuit television system will be installed in the Conley Hills Elementary School, Fulton County, Georgia, by the Radio Corp. of America during the summer. The multichannel installation will include four camera chains linked by closed-circuit with 26 receivers installed in classrooms throughout the school. Film and live TV programs will originate from a centralized TV studio within the school. The installation will be conducted on an experimental basis with a TV workshop established in Fulton County to acquaint teachers with the operation and scope of closed-circuit TV as an educational medium.

William Kenneth Cumming, former Director of Television Development at Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., and author of *This is Educational Television*, has been appointed Station Manager for WJCT, Channel 7, Jacksonville, Fla. A member of this Society, Mr. Cumming is also a member of National Association of Educational Broadcasters, Speech Assocation of America, University Film Producers Association and Association of Education in Journalism. Among other activities in the field of television he acted as consultant to RCA on the design of the TK-15 vidicon camera.

Loren E. Steadman has joined the Motion Picture Unit of Convair Astronautics, San Diego, Calif., as audiotronic engineer. Prior to his present position, he was technical director of Photographic Analysis Corp. North Hollywood. He served two years in the Army Signal Corps, Army Pictorial Center, Long Island City, N.Y.

S. W. Simmons of Dekko Cameras, Ltd., Telford Way, East Acton, London W.3, has been appointed a member of the Board. Mr. Simmons has been with the company since 1938 and has specialized in the development of kinematograph equipment.

Florman & Babb, 68 W. 45 St., New York 36, has announced two additions to the company's sales staff. Gerry Rich, formerly with Camera Equipment Co., has been appointed General Sales Manager. Leonard W. Hollander, formerly with De Luxe Laboratories, will specialize in nontheatrical and audio-visual services.

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books reviewed

Acoustical Engineering (3d ed.)

By Harry F. Olson. Published (1957) by D. Van Nostrand Co., Princeton, N.J. i-xix + 703 pp. + 14 pp index. 571 illus. 6 by 9-in. Price $13.50.

This third edition of Dr. Olson's book on the subject of acoustics has had its title shortened to *Acoustical Engineering* from *Elements of Acoustical Engineering* that appeared as the heading of the second edition in 1947 and the first edition in 1940. The original edition made use of certain of the subject matter included in a series of 30 lectures prepared by the author for use at Columbia University. The second edition retained much of the material of the 1940 book, and, in addition, incorporated many of the advances that were made during the seven years intervening between the two editions.

There are 16 chapters and 703 numbered pages in the third edition, compared to 14 chapters and 527 pages in the preceding one. The headings of the 14 chapters that appear in the second edition have been used without change as headings for corresponding chapters in the third edition but the material in the chapters has been expanded and brought up to date where developments have been significant. The fourteen chapters cover such subjects as: sound waves, acoustical radiating systems, mechanical vibrating systems, dynamical analogies, acoustical elements and measurements, microphones, loudspeakers, miscellaneous transducers, architectural acoustics, speech, music and hearing, underwater sound, and ultrasonics.

In the second edition, the subject of "Complete Sound Reproducing Systems" is discussed in the last ten pages of the chapter headed "Architectural Acoustics," whereas in the 1957 edition it is expanded to 32 pages and occupies an entire chapter of its own. Stereophonic disk and magnetic tape reproducing systems are considered in this third edition, as is a binaural magnetic tape sound reproducting system and a multiple-channel sound motion-picture reproducing system (stereophonic). Transistor-type hearing aids as well as those employing subminiature vacuum tubes are included, and a number of block diagrams are provided showing both amplitude and frequency-modulated radio broadcasing system layouts as well as a perspective view of a complete television system.

The other added chapter is headed "Means for the Communication of Information" and covers a considerable amount of new material including such subjects as: sound generators, facsimile, visible speech, speech and music synthesizers, language