

the assistant with the invention. Insofar as this reviewer is concerned, Mr. Hendricks fails to demonstrate that Dickson's contribution in any way transcended Edison's.

Unfortunately, space does not permit a very detailed analysis of Hendrick's arguments. But there are occasional errors of fact which must be noted. He states, for example, that the Edison patent caveat of October 8, 1888, is published in this book for the first time. It was published six years ago in the September, 1955, issue of the *SMPTE Journal* in an article by Harold G. Bowen. Elsewhere, Mr. Hendricks appears to misunderstand Dr. Kenneth Mees' estimate of the radiant energy candlepower of the sun. These are minor errors and would hardly be worth mentioning were it not for the fact that Hendricks ungenerously attacks older, established historians for similar, inconsequential mistakes.

Another error, however, is of crucial importance to Hendricks' thesis, for he bases a major argument upon it. In his attempt to demonstrate why Edison's first strip-film design (Caveat IV) could not work, he appears to confuse microphotography with photomicrography, and speaks of Edison *restricting* his early designs to a microphotographic operation. The point is that the motion picture process is nearly *always* a microphotographic process and is only rarely a photomicrographic one. The author's mention of the use of a 50-75 power microscope in connection with the

operation of this design seems particularly obscure since a microscope is not mentioned in the caveat text nor is a microscope employed in either the photography, the viewing, or the projection of a microphotographic motion picture image. Even if a microscope were so peculiarly employed (instead of a conventional lens system for the photography and a low-power magnifying glass for the viewing) the relationship between field size and film size which Hendricks describes is not clear. He concludes that the film would have had to have been no greater than $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in width, which does not follow either from his reasoning or from the original sketches numbered 46, 47, and 48 in the fourth caveat — sketches which are not published in this book but which may be seen in the *SMPTE* article.

But far more important is the fact that because Mr. Hendricks is so obviously partisan the professional scholar and critical reader is led to wonder to what extent accuracy may have been compromised by his pre-commitments. Many readers will suspect that Mr. Hendricks reached his conclusions long before he began his research.

Although one may legitimately question many of Hendricks' conclusions, and regret the many scholarly conceits which he sprinkles over his pages, we are all in his debt for this stimulating and carefully researched book. Perhaps it will stimulate other historians in the field to pursue their labors with the same sort of care and effort—*Raymond Fielding*

Techniques of Television Production (2d ed)

By Rudy Bretz. Published (1962) by McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 W. 42 St., New York 36. 9½ by 6 in. 518 + vii pp. illus. diagrams. Price \$10.75.

The first edition of this book appeared in 1953 and was reviewed in the *Journal* of April 1954 (p. 322) by R. A. Isberg. The second edition has been extensively revised and new material has been added to cover the many advances in the field that have taken place since publication of the first edition. Chapters on television switching equipment, projection equipment, television cameras, and television remotes have been completely revised and brought up to date.

New material added to the section on television recording includes a detailed discussion of the use of video tape. Other sections have benefited from the author's meticulous revisions and addition of updated material especially those dealing with color television and electronic special effects.

The author has had a wide experience in television production. He has been an instructor in the Theater Arts Department, University of California, Los Angeles, and has acted as consultant to television stations throughout the world, including tours of duty for the State Department and for Unesco. He is presently Head of Educational TV, Visual Communications Dept., University Extension, University of California, Los Angeles.—*R.H.*

Books, Booklets, Brochures

The Institute for Scientific Information, 33 South Seventeen St., Philadelphia 3, has announced four publications: *Current Contents of Space, Electronic & Physical Sciences*; *Current Contents of Chemical, Pharmaco-Medical & Life Sciences*; *Current Contents of Social Sciences*; and *Index Chemicus*. The "Current Contents" publications contain the Tables of Contents of current scientific journals. Published weekly, papers are listed by title and author.

The *Index Chemicus* is published twice monthly. According to the announcement, "Original journal articles are abstracted 'graphically' rather than verbally... it speaks in the universal language of the structural diagram, freeing the chemist from the necessity to use involved nomenclature in locating a specific compound." More than 100,000 new compounds are indexed yearly in this publication.

Freedom and Communications, by Dan Lacy, a publication of the University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Ill. (Price \$3.00), is a noteworthy examination of America's communications system — its past, present and future. The author raises questions suggesting that drastic developments are needed in our present system of communications if we are to preserve our freedoms.

An illustrated folder giving a detailed description of the Mach-Tronics MVR-10 portable TV tape recorder is available from Mach-Tronics, Inc., 185 Evelyn Ave.,

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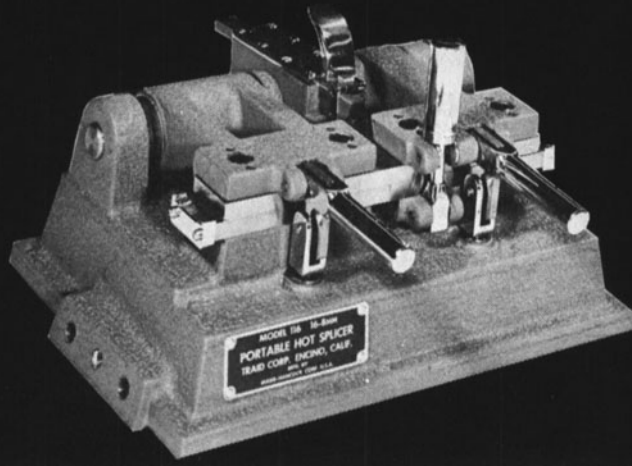
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Mountain View, Calif., a firm founded in November, 1961, by Kurt R. Machein and Henry W. Howard. The tape recorder, introduced in June, is designed specifically for closed-circuit TV, it was announced. Features described in the folder include use of 1-in. tape, weight of only 90 lb, ease of operation, solid state design, printed circuitry and tape interchangeability.

A 52-page illustrated catalog describing a new line of semiflexible aluminum-sheathed coaxial cables, matching connectors and accessories is available from Prodelin, Inc., Hightstown, N.J., upon request for Catalog 591. The firm designs and manufactures antenna and transmission line systems. The catalog also gives step-by-step installation and assembly procedures, recommended pressurization practices and describes typical installations.

Specifications and characteristics of 25 Spectroline ultraviolet lamps for laboratory and industrial use are given in an 8-page illustrated catalog (Bulletin 1462) available from the manufacturer, Black Light Eastern Division, Spectronics Corp., Westbury, L.I., N.Y. Emission and transmission characteristics of ultraviolet light sources and filters are given and applications described for units in laboratory and industrial work.

Hundreds of camera repair items are listed in an illustrated catalog available

from the National Camera Repair School, Box 174, Englewood, Colo. The catalog, entitled "Equipping Your National Camera Servishops," is priced at \$1.00. Each item is indexed and the catalog is divided into four main sections, General, Electrical Supplies and Test Equipment, Tools and Accessories, and Fixtures and Supplies.

A folder giving details of E.P.A.'s European film program is available from Mrs. Mabel A. LeFevre, O.E.E.C., Suite 1223, 1346 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington 6, D.C. The E.P.A. maintains a large European reference library of productivity films. The films are at the disposal of the Productivity Centres in the 17 member countries for viewing prior to selecting films for purchase for national programs.

A 4-page illustrated leaflet describing recent models of the Auricon camera is available from S.O.S. Photo-Cine-Optics, Inc., 602 W. 52 St., New York 19. Included are descriptions of the Cine-Voice II, the Pro-600 and the Super-1200.

A sound effects catalog listing sound effects and mood music records is available upon request from Florman & Babb, Inc., 68 W. 45 St., New York 36. The firm recently was appointed exclusive United States distributor of the Masque library of sound effects records. Other records listed include Major, Standard Radio, Speedy-Q, Gennett, Musifex, and E.M.I.

The Genarco Audio-Visual Equipment Catalog No. 356 is a 4-page illustrated leaflet describing a line of 3000-w slide projectors for front and rear projection and an electric slide changer for 3½ by 4 slides. The catalog is available upon request from Genarco Inc., 97-04 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica 35, N.Y.

SMPTE Test Films

The Society has available a number of films for testing projection and sound equipment in the various fields listed below. These films are planned by SMPTE Engineering Committees and manufactured to a high degree of precision to serve the needs of maintenance and other engineers, dealers, manufacturers, and audio-visual equipment users.

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A catalog containing details and prices of all the films available in these categories can be obtained from SMPTE headquarters.

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