

Obituary



Wilford W. Gebhart

Wilford W. Gebhart died August 2, 1962, in Nashville, Tenn. Born on May 6, 1915, he spent the greater part of his life in Nashville where his father was head of the Music Department of George Peabody College. There he acquired his knowledge of music and his love of the theater. He was graduated from the Peabody Demonstration School in 1933 and later attended and was graduated from the RCA Institute in Chicago.

While still in high school he actively pursued his hobby of motion pictures which led to the organization of his own film processing firm, Southern Cine Service. He was also a motion-picture photographer and a consultant in audio for the Tennessee State Game and Fish Commission. He was

also active in the field of sound. He was a radio engineer at WLAC in Nashville from 1941 until 1946 and from 1946 through 1956 he was with WSM-TV.

In addition to his professional activities, he pursued motion pictures and sound as a hobby, converting one floor of his home into a well-equipped home theater.

He became a member of the Society in 1952 and was a charter member of the Nashville Section where he served on the Board of Managers, on the Membership Committee, and as Program Chairman.—*William D. Hedden.*

section reports



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The Atlanta Section met on January 3 with an attendance of 21. Due to unfortunate circumstances, the previously scheduled program, "Thermoplastic Recorders," which was to have been presented by W. E. Glenn, General Electric Co., was postponed.

Charles D. Beeland, Beeland Co., Atlanta, presented a program of color slides taken during his recent three month trip to North Africa to film a public relations documentary in 35mm Eastman Color Negative for the Marathon Oil Co.

The slides shown were photographed in conjunction with the motion-picture footage and outlined the trip from New York to Tripoli, via Rome. Several side trips to Bengazi, Tobruk, Tunis and southward into oil drilling regions of the Sahara were illustrated, giving an excellent view of the topography of that area. Mr Beeland's narration gave a vivid insight into the cultural background of the Lybian people. Those attending remarked that the color slides were some of the finest they had seen, from the standpoint of sharpness, exposure and composition. A question-and-answer period followed.—John C. Horne, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 404 Page Ave., N.E., Atlanta 7.

The December 11 meeting of the **Chicago Section** and an attendance of 50. Jack Behrend, Behrend's, Inc., presented two papers. "Motion-Picture Camera Design Features" described camera components so that various cameras could be compared by separately analyzing the systems of which the complete design is comprised. Various slides illustrated the paper.

"Lens Testing Procedures" described a portable columnator. A special projector with a test retical was used to demonstrate characteristics of various lenses. A "bad" lens was used to describe inherent flaws, and various modern lenses were used to show what image characteristics one might expect. Of special interest was the demonstration of a zoom lens.

The meeting started with *Freedom 7*, a film depicting the orbit of John Glenn,



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which was produced by General Dynamics Corp.—Jack Behrend, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Behrend's, Inc., 161 E. Grand Ave., Chicago 11.

The **Chicago Section** meeting held on January 29 was preceded by a Board of Managers' dinner which was attended by 26 people. The meeting itself was attended by 120 members and guests and was very well planned and highly interesting. Charles Probst, Cinefonics Div., Cook Electric Co., utilized sections of motion-picture film from productions made for agencies interested in aerospace photography to illustrate his presentation.

During a break in the meeting some of the test facilities at Cook Electric, the host organization, were made available for inspection. Two men from Cinerama Camera Corp. demonstrated some of the latest

70mm high-speed cameras and some standard 35mm high-speed cameras.—Jack Behrend, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Behrend's Inc., 161 E. Grand Ave., Chicago 11.

Papers on "A New Color Negative Film for Better Picture Quality" and "A Higher-Speed Color Print Film" were presented for an audience of 110 persons at a meeting of the **Chicago Section** March 12 at the Guild Theater.

Presenting the papers was Walter I. Kisner of Eastman Kodak. Mr. Kisner showed slides and 16mm and 35mm motion picture film of improved quality, particularly in grain and color reproduction. He answered several questions from the floor after the presentation.

An outstanding 35mm color film, *Westward Ho*, made for the British Travel Association by Associated Pathe Ltd., was shown before the session.

National Governor Kenneth M. Mason, pinch-hitting for Section Chairman Harold Kinzle, presided over the meeting.—James E. Dickert, *Arrangements Chairman*, 642 Ash St., Winnetka, Ill.

Fifty members of the **Detroit Section** met on February 26 at the General Motors Photographic Sound Studio. The meeting opened with the screening of the film *This Is GM Photographic* by James Bostwick, Section Chairman. This was followed by the presentation, by Allen Hilliard of Geo. W. Colburn Laboratories, of two papers: "A Multiple Head Reduction Printer—16mm to 8mm" by Geo. W. Colburn; "A Multiple 8mm Magnetic Sound Printer" by E. A. Cunningham and Geo. W. Colburn. Next, Richard C. Gerhart, Vice President of Cousino Electronics Corp., discussed continuous rewind devices for ½-in. tape or 8mm film. In conjunction with this discussion a number of equipment items, such as recorders, magnetic tape controlled slide projectors, etc., were demonstrated.—Richard O. Painter, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 811 Atlantic, Milford, Mich.

On January 29, 240 members of the **Hollywood Section** met at the Lytton Center of Visual Arts. The meeting began with *Journey to the Stars*, a Fine-Arts-Cinerama film which was projected in the Center's unique dome. This realistic ride into space was prepared by Cinerama Camera for showing in the Boeing Spacearium at the Seattle World's Fair and was shown by permission of Seattle's continuing Pacific Science Foundation.

Guy Hearon and Wm. Littschwager, Cinerama Camera Corp., described the projection problems and challenges presented by the Boeing Spacearium including preparation and construction of the Spacearium and film, lens and camera requirements.

Les Goldman, Quartet Films, screened three films demonstrating new techniques and dimensions for animated productions of scientific subjects. The camera and mechanism used to produce one of the films, *Motion Graphics*, were discussed. John Whitney, Industrial Motion Graphics Designer, who collaborated on the production, was available for a question-and-answer period. The very interesting subject matter was appreciatively received.

The four speakers and Charles Aidikoff were entertained at a premeeting dinner.—D. J. White, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Magnasync Corp., 5546 Satsuma Ave., North Hollywood, Calif.

The February 21 meeting of the **Hollywood Section** brought 181 members and guests to ABC-TV. Guest speakers outlined details of the TK-60, RCA's newest 4½" image orthicon camera; the portable Ampex VR-1500 video tape recorder, and the Ariflex 16M professional motion-picture camera.

Warren Charles of RCA said stabilized circuitry had been used extensively in the camera chain, permitting a major reduction in the number of operating controls for the TK-60. Built-in circuitry has been provided so the camera can be set up and tested through the viewfinder display. J. L. Pettus, T. C. Sharp and Adron M. Miller also represented RCA.

The new Ampex recorder, said Joseph Roizen of the firm's product management

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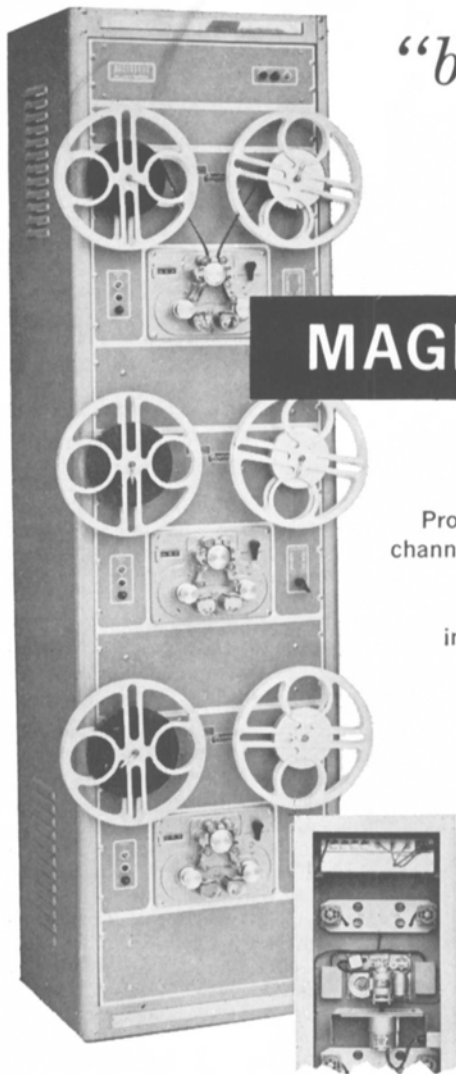
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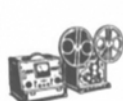
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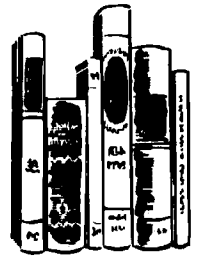
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department, makes it possible for the owner of a closed-circuit television system to record, store and reproduce picture and sound with live program quality. Fully transistorized and compact, the recorder—one was brought to the meeting—weighs only 120 pounds. Other Ampex representatives present were Robert Day, Len Willig and Marcel Griffard.

The Arriflex presentation was made by Michael Zois, the firm's West Coast manager. Mr. Zois said the 16M incorporates all the famous Arriflex features, but is more compact than previous models. As standard equipment, it has a 60-cycle signal generator and automatic electric slate for synchronous sound filming. Mr. Zois said two blimps—a fiberglass model for location

filming and an aluminum alloy sound-stage blimp—are being developed for the new camera.—D. J. White, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Magnasync Corp., 5546 Satsuma Ave., North Hollywood, Calif.

On January 31st, 43 members of the **Rochester Section** assembled to hear a report by Robert M. Corbin, Eastman Kodak Co., on the motion-picture industry in the Far East. His discussion of production and lab facilities, techniques and theaters was enhanced by significant 35mm color slide projections. In conclusion, several 16mm and 35mm film trailers of features made in the Far East were shown.—Bruce R. Beiswenger, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 1653 Titus Ave., Rochester 22, N.Y.



books reviewed

Photographic Instrumentation: Techniques — Equipments — Applications

By Kenneth Shaftan and Dean Hawley. Published (1962) by the Society of Photographic Instrumentation Engineers, 205 Ave. I, P.O. Box 288, Redondo Beach, Calif. xliii + 325 pp. incl. appendixes + 9 pp. for addenda. Illus. Tables. Bibliography. 8½ by 11 in. Price \$20.00.

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"Through the years SPIE has been requested to locate and publish the *Shaftan Papers*. . . They were finally located in U. S. Navy Archives and permission was granted for their publication." And so, thanks to the efforts of the SPIE Publications Committee headed by J. E. Christian, the *Shaftan Papers* are available for ready reference.

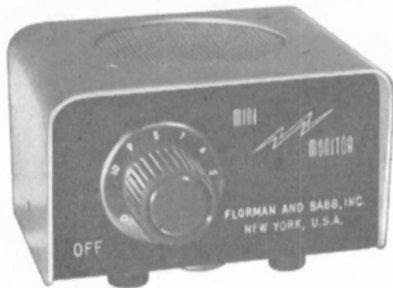
Of the seven chapters, Chapter 4: Equipment for Photographic Instrumentation is the main chapter, requiring over one-third of the pages (136 out of 368 pages). Here can be found a reasonably complete description of scientific photographic equipment and accessories, as of 1952 (with the notable exception of equipment in the USSR). Chapter 3 on "Techniques of Photographic Instrumentation" (38 pages) and Chapter 5 on "Applications of Photographic Instrumentation" (53 pages), to a large extent, constitute the rest of the "meat" of the book. The Bibliography (Chapter 6; 36 pages) contains 440 titles, none of which are dated later than April 1949. Chapter 1, Introduction, of only a single page, could profitably have been combined with the 5-page Chapter 2, General Considerations. The last Chapter, No. 7, Appendices,

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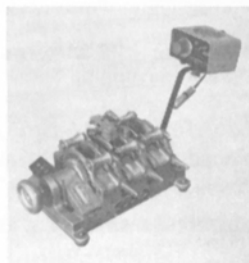
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