

Obituaries



Frederick G. Albin

Frederick G. Albin died May 3, 1968, at the age of 64. At the time of his death he was Development Engineer in the Sound Department of 20th Century-Fox Studios in Hollywood.

He was born in Springfield, Ohio, December 11, 1903. He received his education as electrical engineer from the University of California at Berkeley and California School of Technology at Pasadena. In 1930, he became associated with United Artists and Samuel Goldwyn Studios in Hollywood as research engineer of sound recording, embracing the fields of acoustics, audio frequency, and photography. During the next 10 years he gained renown for advancements in variable-density sound recording. In 1940, he joined RCA as Development Engineer. During World War II he was instrumental in developing film synchronization equipment, large-screen television projectors, kinescope recording systems and high-powered radio-frequency generators for military and industrial applications.

From 1956 to 1959 he was Director of Technical Operations for Paramount Sunset Studios in Hollywood and from 1959 to 1961 he was Chief Engineer for Ryder Sound Service, Hollywood, where he designed sound recording and reproducing equipment.

His design of an automatic speed control for the camera as driven from a dc to an ac converter is still widely used today. At the time of his death he had recently completed research and development on a specialized miniature tape recorder for NASA for use in space exploration.

He was a member of the Society for more than 30 years and was made a Fellow in 1948. He was a member of the Sound Committee for many years and became Chairman in 1966. He was also a member of the Standards Committee. He received the Journal Award in 1949 for "Sensitometric Aspect of Television Monitor-Tube Photography" which appeared in the December 1948 issue of the *Journal*. Among many other honors, he was awarded an Honorable Mention by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 1940 for the origination, development and application of the Delta dB tests to photographic sound recording for motion pictures.

Over the years he contributed a number of outstanding papers to the *Journal*, including "A Dynamic Check on the Processing of Film for Sound Records" (August 1935), "The Silent Wind Machine" (April 1939),

SMPTE test films for television



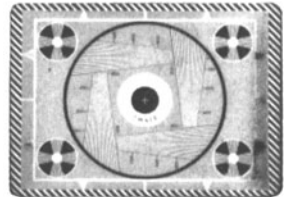
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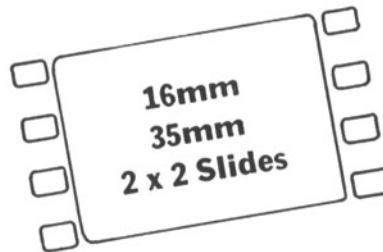
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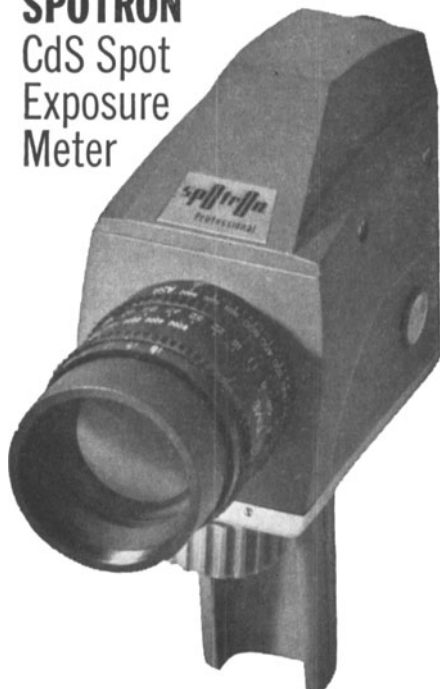
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"Independent Camera Drive for the AC Interlock Motor System" (April 1939), "Linear Decibel-Scale Volume Indicator" (November 1937), "Sensitometric Aspect of Television Monitor-Tube Photography" (the award-winning paper), "Intermodulation Distortion of Low Frequencies in Sound Film Recording" (January 1946), "Camera Drive Power" (November 1962), "Standardization of Sound Negatives and Prints, Pt. I (November 1962) and Pt. II (February 1965).

Organizations of which he was member, other than the Society, include the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Edit. note: The Society is indebted to James P. Corcoran for supplying much information for this obituary.



Millard W. Baldwin, Jr.

Millard W. Baldwin, Jr., died July 1, 1968, at his summer home in East Sebago, Maine, at the age of 65. He had retired from Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J., on July 1, 1967.

He received a degree in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University in 1925 and the M.A. degree from Columbia University in 1928. Following graduation, he entered the Research Department of Bell Telephone Laboratories to work with H. E. Ives on the various early telephotograph and television projects that were then being developed. During the 42 years that he was to spend in the Laboratories he would be working largely on one or another of the major television research problems on the Bell System. He worked on the experimental two-way television system of 1930, which reappeared in modernized form as the videophone exhibit which he set up at the 1939 New York World's Fair. In the meantime, he studied, with H. E. Ives, the performance of television signal transmission, from the light of the original subject to the light of the final viewed image and the effects of color component superpositions in that image. His experience with television signals led him to make contributions to radar in World War II. At the time of his retirement he was associated with development of telephotography, television over coaxial cable, studies of transmission of

color television and engineering of Picture-phone service station sets and loops.

Mr. Baldwin also made a distinguished name for himself on the various standardization and standards coordinating committees of the former IRE and AIEE (the present IEEE), as well as the EIA, ASA, CCIR, IEC and of this Society. He was remarkable in this work for an insistence on clear and logical wording to describe realistic and workable criteria for the terms, concepts and qualities defined. He was made a Fellow of the IRE in 1948 and of this Society in 1962.

He also found time to be a member of the Borough Council in his winter home of Glen Ridge, N.J.

Those of us who have worked in image transmission pursuits and indeed in many other fields, will greatly miss our friend "Baldy," as he was familiarly known; and will regret that he was not to enjoy a long life in retirement. —Pierre Mertz

Edit. note: This obituary was requested of Dr. Mertz because of his long friendship with Mr. Baldwin and their close association at Bell Telephone Laboratories.



Robert J. Harrington

Robert J. Harrington, General Manager of Andre Debric of New York, died suddenly on Wednesday, June 26, in Boston, where he had been for a short time in hospital. Known to many members of the Society through his business activities and his frequent attendance at SMPTE Conferences, Bob will be greatly missed.

After graduating from Newark College of Engineering in 1940 Bob was with ITI Electronics Inc., and subsequently with Belock Instrument Corp. (now Applied Devices Corp.), where he took charge of the Andre Debric of New York Division, concerned with marketing the film processing and printing equipment manufactured by the Etablissements Andre Debric of Paris. In recent years Bob was active in SMPTE affairs in spite of some severe bouts of ill health. He helped with the organization of the Equipment Exhibit at the 101st SMPTE Conference in New York and took a leading part in the affairs of the New York Section, of which he was a Manager at the time of his death.