

Obituary

Alfred R. Ulmer

Alfred R. Ulmer died in Longboat Key, Fla., on May 2, 1970. Al, as his many friends knew him, retired on November 1, 1966, after a long career with RCA.

A native of Pennsylvania, after receiving a degree in Electrical Engineering from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa., in 1928, he joined the Victor X-Ray Corp. He was assigned to installation and field service operation in Texas. Early in 1930 he joined RCA and was assigned to the Engineering Department in Camden, N.J. Ex-



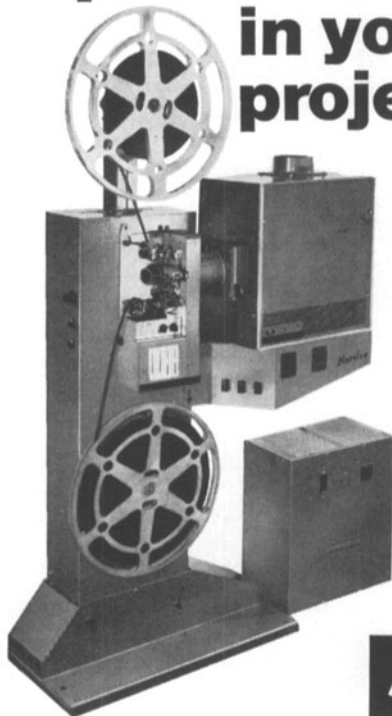
cept for a brief lay-off during the depression, Mr. Ulmer's tenure of service with RCA was continuous to the date of his retirement in 1966. In the late 30's after completing an assignment in South America for the Film Recording Activity, he was transferred to the RCA Film Recording Studio and Eastern Sales Office located at 411 5th Ave., New York. Although his headquarters were located in New York City, Mr. Ulmer's contacts with the motion-picture industry, particularly with recording studios and motion-picture processing laboratories, extended from the Canadian Border to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Eastern Seaboard to the Rocky Mountains. Through these contacts his effective application of his knowledge and background of experience, also by his honesty and sincerity he gained many friends for himself and for the company he represented. Long recognized as an authority on motion-picture sound film processing, his guidance and advice were frequently sought by many of the major East Coast film laboratories. His contributions and recommendations as a field engineer led to many improvements in the design of the RCA variable-area motion-picture sound recording system. He also held several patents on certain design aspects of the variable area recording optical system.

Late in 1959 when RCA terminated its film recording operation in New York, Mr. Ulmer transferred to the RCA Service Co. and was later assigned a position as recording engineer at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala. He remained at that location until his retirement four years ago.

He joined the Society in 1935 and he was made a Fellow in 1965. On that occasion, the citation noted that "... through his unswerving effort to maintain the utmost in quality and his carrying of this effort to others in the industry he has greatly advanced the state of the art of motion-picture sound recording. He has unselfishly given of himself in teaching and assistance to others to the benefit of the industry. ..."

The citation also spoke of "his faithful service to the Society and his chosen field." His contributions to the Society included service on various committees, including the Membership Committee, the Samuel L. Warner Award Committee and the Education Committee. He was very active in the educational work of the Society; among other activities, he arranged for instructors and meeting places for the SMPTE courses in Sound Recording Techniques—*Everett Miller*

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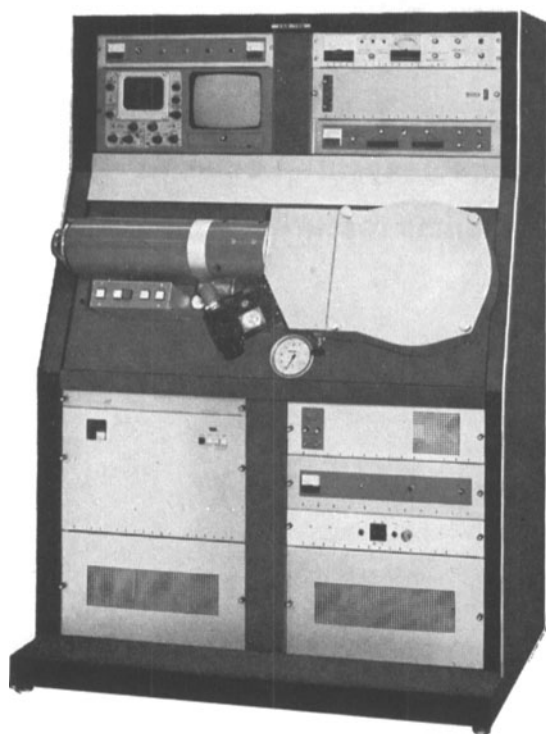
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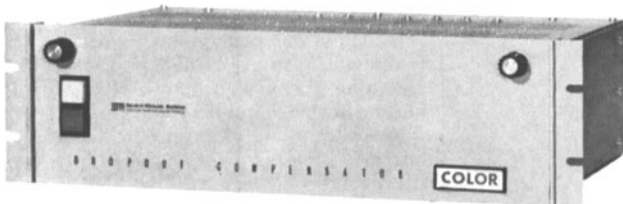
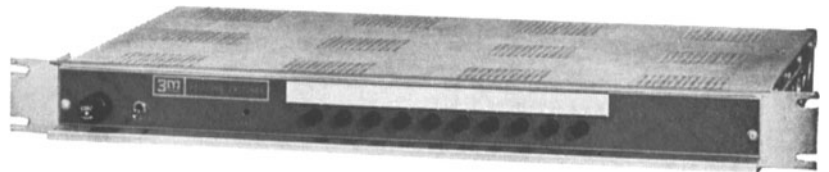
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