

Obituaries

Albert Narath

Prof. Dr. Albert Narath, an Honorary Member of the Society, died at his home in Berlin, West Germany, in September 1974. He was born in Utrecht, 29 January 1900. Educated at the Gymnasium in Heidelberg and Heidelberg University, he studied chemistry, mathematics and physics and, in 1925, he was granted the Ph.D. degree with a major in chemistry. Upon leaving the university he accepted the post of Scientific Assistant to Prof. Dr. Adolf Miethe at the Technical Institute of Berlin-Charlottenburg where he remained until 1927.

In 1927, Dr. Narath joined AEG as Research and Development Engineer in the AEG Research Laboratory where he worked on sound film; by 1929, the laboratory under Dr. Narath's leadership developed a sound recording system which employed a Kerr cell as a light valve. That same year the system was introduced by Klangfilm GmbH and used in several experimental films. In 1931 the AEG Sound Research Laboratory was acquired by Telefunken where Dr. Narath remained until 1945, continuing his research and development activities in the post of Chief Engineer.

In 1945 he went to Klangfilm GmbH as Director of their Research Laboratory. Previously (in 1936) he had become a member of the faculty of the Technical Institute of Berlin-Charlottenburg and, in 1939, he became an Associate Professor, carrying on his educational work in addition to his work at the laboratory.

Following World War II he helped in the reconstruction of the Technical Institute, destroyed during the war. After 1945 he was appointed Provisional Director of the Institute for Applied Photochemistry at the Technical Institute. During that same time, in the capacity of Chief Engineer, he constructed the Research Institute for Cinematography, Sound Film, Photo-Technology and Optics in Babelsberg where the famous UFA Studios were located. In 1948 he was appointed to the Chair of Applied Photochemistry and Film Technology as Associate Professor and in 1956 he was made a full Professor and Director of the Institute.

Scientific Achievements

The scientific achievements of Dr. Narath encompassed many related fields. His work was concerned mainly with sound-film recording and his pioneering research, while in the Telefunken laboratory, resulted in original published works on the Kerr cell effect, the determination of the Kerr constant and linear and nonlinear distortions. For the first time the photographic transfer of information was represented by a general and mathematically exact theory valid not only for sound film but also for every photographic system.

He developed procedures and instruments for the measurement of distortion. Among his activities he studied background noise as a function of frequency; properties of diverse types of sound recording systems; photometric procedures and measuring instruments; recording with nonsilver emulsions; and other related investigations.

In the field of scientific photography he conducted research on the latent image; photohalides; the Weigert effect; and inner mechanisms during the manufacture of silver and

nonsilver emulsions — specifically emulsions using plastics.

Later Years

In later years Dr. Narath's research led to the development of emulsions for nuclear investigations, such as measurement of radiation doses, and applications to autoradiography and xeroradiography. He also investigated gelatins and developed procedures for colorimetry of small-area samples. He also developed methods using isotopes for detecting counterfeits mainly with application to philately.

He is the author (with H. Lichte) of *Physics and Sound-Film Technology*, an important scientific book published in 1941. He had a deep understanding and appreciation of the work of other pioneers in the field and a desire to have their talents and achievements recognized. His interest in Oskar Messter (whom he described as "the founder of the German motion-picture and film industry") led to his contribution to the *Journal* of an important paper covering not only Messter's life and achievements but also the development of motion-picture technology in Germany from the late 19th through the early 20th century ("Oskar Messter and His Work," *Journal*, October 1960).

Organizations other than the SMPTE of which Dr. Narath was a member include a number of German societies, among them, the Society of Motion-Picture Technology for Film and Television Production (of which he had been President); the Society of Motion-Picture and Television Research (of which he was a member of the Board of Governors); the Society of Chemists; the Society of Applied Optics; and the Society of Photography. He was First Chairman of the German Film Library.

Among other honors, he was the recipient of the Oskar Messter Medal presented by the Society of Motion-Picture Technology for Film and Television Production and the Gold Medal of the Vienna Society for Photography.

He had many interests apart from his scientific work. His published works include papers on printing and colorimetry in philately, the history of mail to overseas countries (especially Central and South America), and a study of the lineage of ancient noble families. He also published papers on the history of medicine — an understandable interest because his father was a noted surgeon. Dr. Narath was also an enthusiastic amateur pianist.

Richard Theile

Richard Theile died suddenly 10 August 1974 while he was on a vacation trip to the North Sea. He was 62 years of age. He was born in Marburg an der Lahn. He attended the University of Marburg receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1938. His doctoral dissertation was on the subject of television camera tubes. He worked in the research laboratories of the Telefunken company where he specialized in the development of TV camera tubes.

Following World War II he joined the Pyc company in England, remaining there until 1952. In 1953 he joined the directorate of the television department of the Rundfunktechnische at Nürnberg. In 1957 when the Institut für Rundfunktechnik (IRT) was established he became the Director of the Munich branch

and in 1973 he became the Director of the entire IRT. He was appointed Honorary Professor, Technical University of Munich, in 1959.

He was a Fellow of the SMPTE and of the Royal Television Society of London. Among many other honors and awards he held the Bavarian Order of Merit. He was awarded, posthumously, the Society's Special Commendation Award for his contributions to radio and television technology.

He was a member of a number of national and international scientific and technical organizations including (in Germany) The Association for Communication Technology (NTG). He was First Chairman of the Society for Television Technology (FTG) and President of the Society for Motion-Picture Technology (DKG). He succeeded in bringing about the merger of these two organizations, the new organization being named the Society for Television and Motion-Picture Technology (FKTG). He was President of the new organization until the time of his death.

He was also a member of the Bureau of the E.B.U. (European Broadcasting Union) Technical Committee.

Dr. Theile was the author of a number of scientific and technical papers, including "The Technical Aspects of Television Program Production on Film or Videotape" (with Fix and Gondeson) which appeared in the April 1972 issue of the *Journal*.

Although his work centered about the scientific aspects of television he was also deeply concerned with the program content of television broadcasting and his influence extended throughout the multifarious technology of broadcasting.



Jean-Paul Massé

Jean-Paul Massé died suddenly on 15 November 1974 while attending the Society's Technical Conference in Toronto in the capacity of official host for Canadian Broadcasting Corp. He was 69 years old. He retired in 1970 from the post of Corporate Supervisor of Contracting and Program Inventory for CBC; however he returned to active duty as CBC's official host at the Society's 110th Conference in Montreal and the 116th in Toronto where he died on the last day of the Conference.

Jean-Paul Massé was warm, friendly, human and a complex personality. He was born in Hull, Quebec, 26 June 1905, just across the river from the city of Ottawa where he spent most of his working life. Most of his education was in Ottawa and Hull schools leading to graduation in business but he ex-

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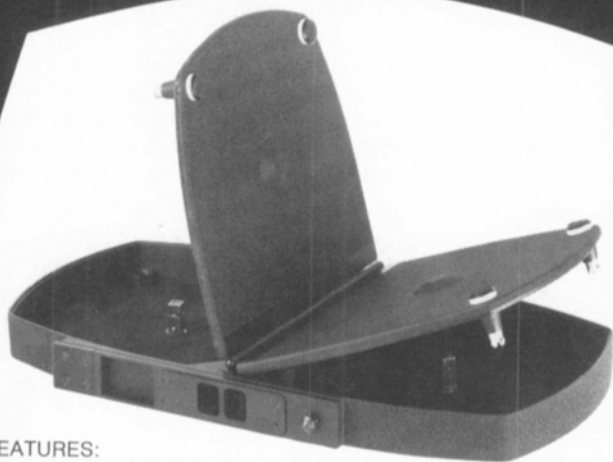
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tended his education through additional courses in philosophy and economics.

Although it seems to the rest of us that he must always have been with the CBC he did in fact work in a number of government departments in Ottawa before joining the CBC in December 1937. It is difficult to give meaning in today's terms to the positions that Paul held in the early days of CBC. We were pioneering then in the development of public radio in North America and a great deal of seminal work was done in setting up high standards for news and public affairs broadcasting.

Television came to Canada for the first time in September 1952 when CBC inaugurated a French station in Montreal and an English station in Toronto. Paul had been transferred to Montreal in 1950 and contributed a great deal to the planning and development of Canada's first television station. About two years later he was transferred back to Ottawa where he spent the rest of his career, with one exception, working on the national problems of developing a television service. The exception was Expo '67. During that time Paul was one of the half dozen most important organizers of CBC's worldwide broadcast activities and it is safe to say that because of his house-keeping responsibilities at the end he was the last to leave and return to regular work.

In a large measure, Paul's hobbies were his family and broadcasting — in that order. However, he was particularly fond of light music and had a broad knowledge of operettas, both American and European.

It is difficult to single out one anecdote in the life of a person with a quiet and persistent sense of humor but one does come to mind. For many years Paul sported a well-developed moustache. On one of his visits to the costume department in our Montreal production center he acquired a moustache that looked exactly like the permanent one. At home, later, he announced that he was going to shave the moustache. That evening sure enough he arrived at the dinner table without his upper lip decoration. Many remarks were passed about the change in appearance. However, the following morning when he appeared at breakfast the exact duplicate acquired from make-up had been put in place and with his wonderful ability to maintain a straight face he was able to create a certain amount of confusion among the other members of the family before everything was sorted out.

At the time of his death he was living in Hull with his wife, Adrienne. He is survived also by his two children, Robert and Monique. — *Don Lytle*

Augustus Wolfman

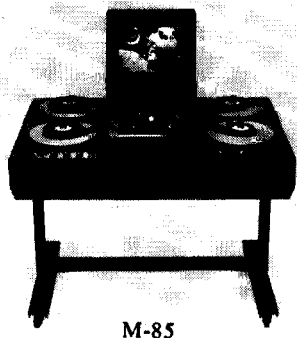
Augustus Wolfman, 66, editor and publisher of the Wolfman Report on Photographic Industry in the United States died 21 October 1974 at his home in Bayside, Queens.

He attended Long Island University's College of Pharmacy and following graduation he worked as a pharmacist for several years. He then engaged in photography, first as a hobby, then as a profession. He took special courses at the Institute of Photography and at City College of New York.

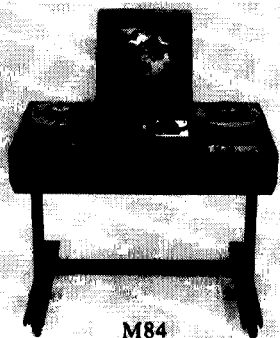
In 1936 he joined the United States branch of E. Leitz, Inc., as advertising manager and editor of *Leica Magazine*. During World War II he was a photographic instructor at Fort Benning, Ga.

Later he became Editor-in-Chief of *Mod-*

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ern Photography, Photo Dealer and of the American Photographic Book Publishing Company. He was the founder and Editor-in-Chief of *PMI* (now *Photomethods*).

He was the author of *The Fine Grain Negative* and the author of a column on printing techniques for *Modern Photography*.

Mr. Wolfman joined the Society in 1953. He was also a member of the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers.



John G. Bradley

John G. Bradley, a Life Fellow of the Society, died 12 October 1974 at his home in San Diego, Calif. He was 88 years old.

He was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) in 1913 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He then attended the University of Chicago where he engaged in postgraduate work in the liberal arts curriculum. Upon graduation he became an instructor in English at Trinity University in Texas. During World War I he attained the rank of Captain in the 5th Texas Cavalry.

Following the war he engaged in various research assignments and market surveys after having moved to Washington, D.C. In 1933 he was made Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Library, a post he held until 1935 when he became Chief of the Division of Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings at the U.S. Archives. In that capacity he directed various research projects on film preservation techniques, fire prevention and similar subjects. He directed a project at the National Bureau of Standards under grants from the Carnegie Foundation and the National Bureau of Standards leading to the development of motion-picture "safety" film. He also developed (and patented) safety storage cabinets for nitrate motion-picture film.

Mr. Bradley joined the Society in 1935 and, among other activities, served as Chairman of the Committee on Preservation of Film for several years. In addition to committee reports he is the author of a number of *Journal* papers relating to the preservation and storage of film, among them: *Motion Pictures as Government Archives* (June 1936); *Changing Aspects of the Film-Storage Problem* (March 1938); *Motion Pictures and the War Effort* (May 1943); *War-time Cataloging of Motion Picture Film* (March 1944); *A National Film Library — The Problem of Selection* (July 1946); *Specifications on Motion Picture Film for Permanent Records* (February 1947); and *Film Vaults: Construction and Use* (August 1949).

His wife, Grace Breiner, died 2 March 1974. An accomplished musician, she conducted a music studio for a number of years in Washington, D.C., where she taught voice and piano.