

section reports



The Atlantic Coast Section held its fourth program meeting of the calendar year on April 27. The program, in the Moderne Room of the Belmont-Plaza Hotel, consisted of a symposium on magnetic editing. The panel members were: Col. Richard Ranger of Rangertone Inc.; Stanley Russell of George Blake Enterprises; Richard Mack of Langlois Filmusic; James Townsend of Unifilms, Inc.; Mauro Zambuto of Italian Film Enterprises; Alan Wolf of Westrex,

Hollywood; and Moderator Burton Perry of Westrex, New York.

Each of these gentlemen, representing some aspect of magnetic sound recording and editing, delivered a brief talk about his connection with the use of magnetic tape or film and the manner in which he approached the editing problem. Following the prepared part of the program, the audience asked questions and engaged in discussions with the panel members. It appears that splicing, maintaining sync and exact spotting of key words or sounds were the matters of chief interest. Richard Mack presented an example of addition of music to an old silent cartoon. The music came from a magnetic library and was edited to be effectively in sync with the cartoon action. This emphasized his point that magnetic editing could be both precise and feasible with respect to cost and time.

Attendance approached a total of 200 members and guests, with some of the section members coming from as far as Ottawa, Canada; Providence, R.I.; and Schenectady, N.Y. Prior to the meeting, approximately 50 members and guests dined together at the Belmont-Plaza. This was the first endeavor in this direction in many years for the Atlantic Coast Section. It was the consensus of opinion of those present that the section should plan its programs for future meetings to include an occasional down to earth "How To Do It" type of meeting such as this.—George Gordon, Secretary-Treasurer, c/o Eastman Kodak Co., 342 Madison Ave., New York 17.

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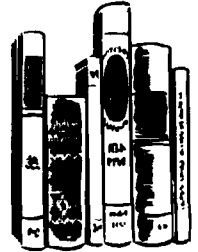
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books reviewed



Mathematics in Type

Published (1954) by the William Byrd Press, 1407 Sherwood Ave., Richmond, Va. i-xii + 58 pp. 6 × 9½ in. Paper covered. Price \$3.00, with 50% discount to educational Institution staff members.

The mission of this difficult little book is more than to expose the abilities and attitudes of The William Byrd Press; it is to bring practical education to those who teach and lead by writing in mathematical language. Study of this treatise will create a basic ability with mathematical symbols, economical habits and an understanding of why mathematical language is printed as it is. The organization and text of this little volume are concise and most efficient in order to cover thoroughly: Factors Affecting Difficulty of Composition; Methods of Composition; Setting and Spacing; The Eccentricities of Letters; Preparing and Marking Manuscript (including such information as a list of symbols frequently confused); Variables of Style in Manuscript, in Type; Proof Changes and Corrections; Kinds and Sizes of Type; List of Symbols. An apt quotation in the book is one from Alfred North Whitehead—"By relieving the brain of all unnecessary work, a good notation sets it free to concentrate on more advanced problems, and in effect increases the mental power of the human race."—V.A.

The 1955 Film Daily Year Book of Motion Pictures

Published (1955) by the Film Daily, 1501 Broadway, New York 36. 6 × 9 in. 1264 pp. incl. adv.

This well-known trade handbook has reached its 37th year, and its accumulation

of information by now makes a weighty package. From general essays on the progress of the industry down to the most detailed statistics and actual information there is practically nothing to do with the organization of the motion-picture business that cannot be found somewhere in this volume. Names, addresses, film titles, industry statistics of all kinds are all here. Especially noteworthy is the increasing amount of information about the television networks, including detailed personnel listings of television stations.

A few copies of the Year Book are available at \$10, but it is available free of charge to subscribers to *The Film Daily*. Subscriptions, which cost \$15 per year within the U.S. and \$20 per year abroad, entitle the subscriber to 5 copies of the *Film Daily*, issued five days a week, in addition to the Year Book.—D.C.

Of Publishing Scientific Papers

By George E. Burch. Published (1954) by Grune & Stratton, 381 Fourth Ave., New York 16. 40 pp. 8 × 10 in. Paper covered. Price \$2.75.

The author who is Henderson Professor of Medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine has in 30 paragraphs done a neat clinical job. Originally an address, it is now published in attractive form with cartoon illustrations which by their simplicity and bluntness may belie the incisiveness of the text. Beginning with the "investigator author" who is further faceted as sometimes a self-plagiarist, self-aggrandizer, etc., the book finishes with the "lay press," the cartoon displaying the printer arriving with a fresh report titled "Kidneys Make Urine," to the obvious satisfaction of the "sensationalist" author. Although very rewarding, this essay seems over-priced.—V.A.

The Proceedings of the Symposium on Modern Network Synthesis conducted by the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn April 13-15, 1955, will be published in book form in October 1955 as Volume V of this series of Proceedings. Areas covered include network design methods, time domain synthesis and active networks. Price of the book will be \$5.00 and orders should be addressed to: Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, Microwave Research Inst., 55 Johnson St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y.

A List of American Standards — 1955 edition — has just been published by the American Standards Assn., 70 E. 45 St., New York 17. The publication has an index to about 1500 American Standards. There are 210 for construction and civil engineering; 153 mechanical standards; 272 electrical; 62 metallurgy; 69 chemical; 165 textiles and wearing apparel; 158 safety; 251 photography and motion pictures; 74 petroleum products; 10 office equipment and supplies; 32 letter symbols, drawings and abbreviations; 38 gas-burning appliances; 18 mining; 11 rubber; and a miscellany of other. A separate section on consumer contains an index of standards for household appliances, wearing apparel, hobby cameras, etc.

Developments in Large-Screen Closed-Circuit Television

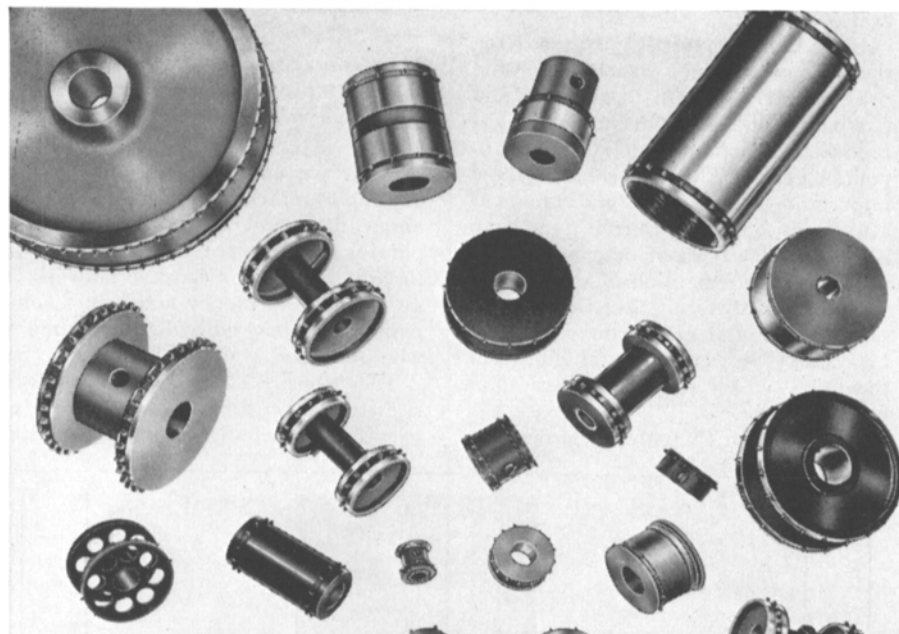
[A report presented on April 20, 1955, at the Society's Convention at Chicago]

CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION, now averaging one telecast per week, is growing into a major communications medium. Bringing special information, entertainment and sports to selected audiences, closed-circuit TV is contributing a positive television service wholly different from broadcasting. Sometimes known as the private life of television, closed-circuit TV is a powerful force in reaching selected audiences with drama and impact.

Little known a few years ago, it is estimated that more than four million persons have viewed closed-circuit TV in the last few years, and that the public has spent more than five million dollars to see theater television.

Company sponsors have spent over six million dollars in closed-circuit TV business meetings. This corporate use of a relatively new medium suggests an important future for it.

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