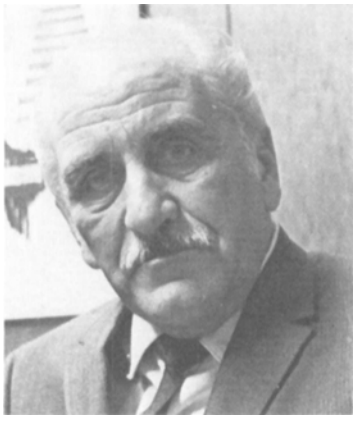
Obituaries



Dan Monaco

Dan Monaco died 11 December 1975 at his home in San Francisco at the age of 75. One of the pioneers who early recognized the commercial potential of 16mm film, in 1929 he founded the first laboratory in San Francisco (other than the Kodak processing laboratory) that serviced those film producers who had had the courage to shoot films in the new medium. Until that time 16mm had been considered a film for amateur use only.

The Monaco Laboratory first made use of the rack and tank method and supplied both reversal and negative/positive processing services. Monaco's first printer was a Shustek, primarily a 35mm to 16mm reduction printer which, however, he adapted to print 16mm to 16mm by the step contact method. In 1935 he altered the reduction printer to make blow-ups from 16mm to 35mm for a film about the building of the San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge. This is believed to be one of the first instances in which a commercial film originally shot in 16mm reversal was released in 35mm. The film was incorporated in a presentation by the California Highway Authority at the 1939 World's Fair on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay.

Dan Monaco continually experimented to improve duplication quality in the 16mm to 16mm medium before specific duplicating stocks were available. He used regular positive stock for reversal prints as well as for internegatives and he devised a special machine to coat the back of the positive stock with a water-soluble red dye to eliminate the halation effects of the over-exposure required on the high-contrast positive stock to yield satisfactory negatives or reversal duplicates.

As soon as new materials were available after World War II, Dan designed and installed a dual purpose processing machine on which he processed both reversal and negative/positive materials. The machine was a sprocket-drive type with many tubes containing single loops of film located around the periphery of central storage tanks for the chemicals. Film for reversal processing made the entire circuit up one side and back on the other while negative/positive films used only the second side.

The quality and consistency of the film turned out on this machine brought ever increasing business so that Dan had to hire an assistant and could no longer maintain the operation of a one-man laboratory. In 1957 increasing demand forced a move to larger quarters and Monaco Laboratories expanded to include color processing and sound recording facilities.

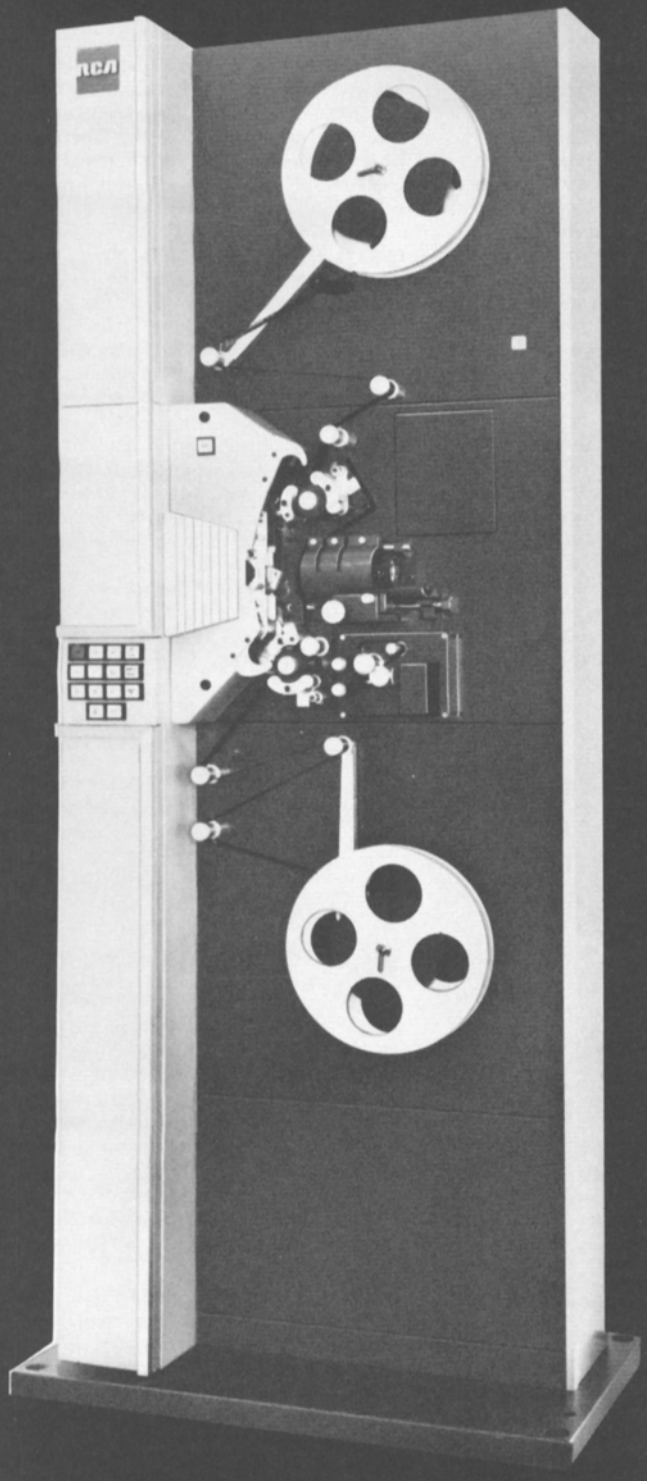
Dan Monaco had been a member of the SMPTE since 1956. At the time of his death Monaco Laboratories was in the process of a second major move to a much larger plant which will continue under the direction of Dan Monaco's son, J. R. (Dick) Monaco who has served as general manager for the last 10 years. — *W. A. Palmer*

Charles J. Hirsch

Charles J. Hirsch, Fellow of the Society, died early this year (1976) at the age of 73. Born on 25 October 1902, in Pittsburgh, Pa., he spent his early years in France (1904–1916) where he received his undergraduate education. His later education took place in the United States where he graduated from Columbia University's School of Engineering in 1925 with the Electrical Engineering degree.

Between 1925 and 1937 he was Chief Engineer of various radio companies in the United States, France and Italy. From 1937 to 1942 he was Chief Engineer of Majestic Radio and Television Corp. In 1942 he joined Hazeltine Corp. as Design Supervisor, later being made Executive Vice-President for Research and Director of Hazeltine Research Corp. In 1959 he joined RCA Corp. where he was on the Corporate Staff for Research and Engineering. He retired in 1967. Following his retirement he became a consulting engineer on air navigation. Beginning in 1970 he provided consulting services to Hazeltine Corp. on air traffic control, navigation and landing.

Internationally recognized as an authority on color television, he was frequently invited to lecture before distinguished professional groups. Between 1968 and 1970 he gave five series of lectures on color television to leading manufacturers, each series consisting of 20 hours of lec-



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tures on the principles of NTSC, SECAM and PAL color television. Among numerous other awards he received, in 1959, was the IRE-EIA Plaque for his contribution to national and international standardization of color television and stereo sound.

In 1973 Hirsch received the Herbert T. Kalmus Gold Medal Award presented by the SMPTE for his leadership in the development of the Hazeltine Color Analyzer which won an Academy Award in 1970. The invention was described in the January 1958 issue of the *Journal* ("An Instantaneous Electronic Color Film Analyzer" by Charles J. Hirsch, et al.)

A member of the SMPTE since 1957, Hirsch was made a Fellow in 1967. Among other contributions to the Society, Hirsch served on the President's Advisory Committee on Television for the 1964–65 term.

During his active and distinguished career, he was granted more than 30 patents for inventions in color television, avionics, computers, an electronic previewer for motion pictures, and other devices. He authored numerous papers on such subjects as color television, stereophony, film editing, avionics, computers, etc. He contributed a chapter to *Principles of Color Television* (Ed. Knox McIlwain and Charles E. Dean of the Hazeltine staff). (The book was reviewed by Pierre Mertz in the March 1957 issue of the *Journal*.)

Kenneth B. Lambert

Kenneth B. Lambert, a Life Fellow of the Society, died 22 January 1976 at the age of 74. Born in Iowa City on 11 December 1901, he was educated at Iowa State University where he was graduated in 1921 with the degree of Bachelor of Electrical Engineering. In 1939 he received the professional degree of Electrical Engineer from Iowa State University. In 1925 he was United States Alternate-at-Large for the Rhodes Scholarship.

His professional career, encompassing motion-picture engineering and various aspects of communications engineering, began in 1921 as an Apparatus Development Engineer with Western Electric Co. (later Bell Telephone Laboratories) where he developed telephone transmission measuring equipment, sound recording and reproducing equipment, and electric wave filters and equalizers. In 1928 he joined Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as a motion-picture engineer where he had a variety of duties involving both sound and motion-picture production.

During World War II he entered active duty in 1941 as Major, Coast Artillery Corps. He was transferred to the Signal Corps and to the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army. In 1944 he became Deputy Chief of the Operations Analysis Section, Hq. Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Areas, Hickam Field, Hawaii, where he served until his discharge from active duty with the rank of Colonel.

In 1945 he returned to MGM where he remained until 1956 when he joined Columbia Pictures Corp. in Hollywood as Supervisor, Sound Production, principally for television. He left Columbia in the fall of 1957 to become a Los Angeles-based consulting motion-picture engineer for Artransa Pty. Ltd., Sydney, Australia.

In 1958, he joined Hughes Aircraft Co.'s Engineering Div., as Scientific Staff Representative with the responsibility of recruiting and evaluating scientific and engineering personnel for employment. He remained with the firm until his retirement in 1967.

A long-time member of the Society, his contributions include a paper entitled "An Improved Mixer Potentiometer" appearing in the September 1941 issue of the *Journal*.

James A. Whitehead, Jr.

James A. Whitehead, Jr., Chief Sound Recordist and Mixer for Calvin Communications, Kansas City, Mo., died 15 February 1976 of a heart attack at the age of 60. Born 12 November 1915 in Pittsburgh, Pa., he came to Kansas City as a child and remained in that area the rest of his life.

On 14 December 1941 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. where he attended radio school and gunnery school where he became an instructor. Upon the completion of his service in World War II he enrolled at the Midland Radio Institute in Kansas City, graduating with a First Class FCC License.

His career with Calvin Company began in 1950 and he remained with that firm until his death. His abilities in sound recording and mixing were of a high order of technical quality. More than this, Whitehead's personal dedication to his work endeared him to both his fellow employees and to those who received his professional services.

He joined the SMPTE in 1960. In addition to his membership in the Society he was also a member of the Audio Engineers Society.