

Industry News & Educational Activities

The Optical Society of America, 2000 L St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036, has announced the winners of several awards bestowed by OSA.

The recipient of the R. W. Wood prize is Peter Fellgett, Head of the Department of Cybernetics at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom. The prize was established in 1975 to recognize an outstanding discovery, scientific or technological achievement, or invention in the field of optics.

Recipient of the 1978 Frederick Ives Medal is Harold H. Hopkins, Professor of Applied Optics at the University of Reading. The award is presented in recognition of his many unique contributions to the field of optics including aberration theory, optical design, image evaluation, coherence theory, interferometry and fiber optics. The Ives Medal was established in 1929. It is OSA's highest award for overall distinction in optics.

Recipient of the 1978 Adolph Lomb Medal is Eli Yablonovitch of the Division of Applied Science of Harvard University. The Lomb Medal was established in 1940 to honor a person who has made a noteworthy contribution to optics before reaching the age of 30.

Recipient of the David Richardson Medal for

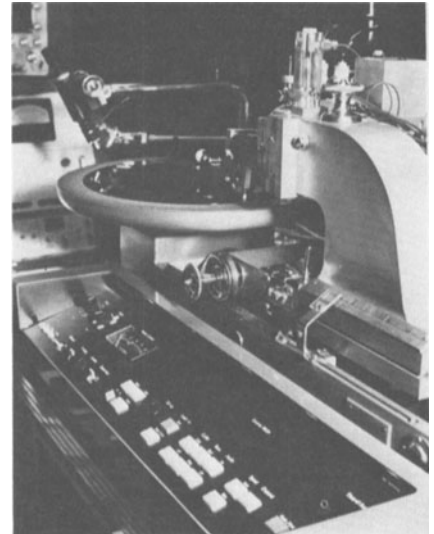
1978 is Thomas J. Johnson, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Celestron International. The Richardson Medal was established in 1967 to honor individuals for contributions to applied optics.

Winner of the 1978 Edgar D. Tillyer Award is Gerald Westheimer of the Department of Physiology-Anatomy of the University of California at Berkeley. The Tillyer award has been presented by OSA biennially since 1955 to an individual who has performed distinguished work in the field of vision.

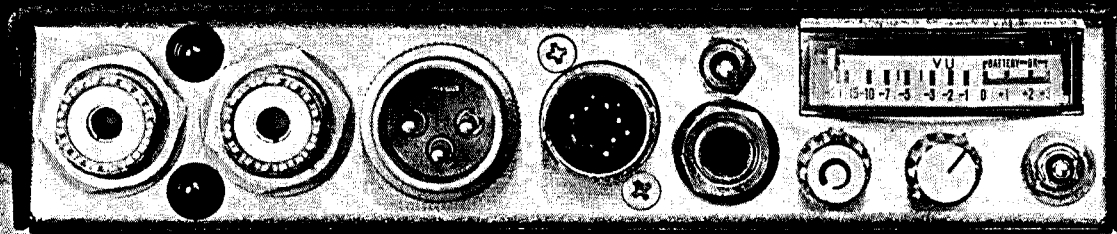
Winning entries in a national student cinema competition were screened 18 January at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., New York, NY 10019. The event was sponsored jointly by the Museum, the School of Visual Arts at New York University, and New York Telephone. The winning films, one in each of four categories are: Dramatic, *Sixteen Down* by Carol L. Dysinger of New York University; Documentary, *The Last of the Little Breweries* by Frank H. Binney of the University of Texas; Animation, *The Muse* by Paul Demeyer of CalArts; and Experimental, *TRANSCENDance* by Philip W. Pura of Boston University, an 8-min film combining animation, optical print-

ing and mathematics. The award winners had previously been honored during ceremonies at the headquarters of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences which had co-sponsored the National Student Film Awards together with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The CBS DISComputer, a computerized disk mastering lathe developed by the staff of Columbia Technology Center in Stamford, Conn., combines the abilities of a computer with those of a traditional Scully or Neumann lathe. Benefits of the automated lathe are said to be LPs as much as five minutes longer per side; recorded level increases averaging from 2 to 5 dB; im-



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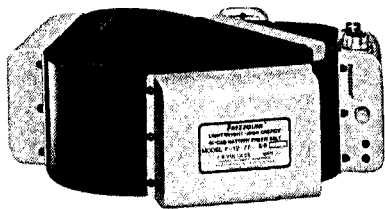
Vega, the originator of diversity receiving systems for wireless microphones, now offers the most advanced portable diversity receiver in the industry. Designed for the professional sound user, the Model 67's compact size makes it suitable for mounting to leading portable recorders, both audio and VTR's. The Model 67 offers true space diversity through independent receivers, not crude noisy antenna switching. The unit operates from either standard internal 9V batteries or an existing D.C. voltage source. Contact Vega for complete specifications on this exciting new unit.

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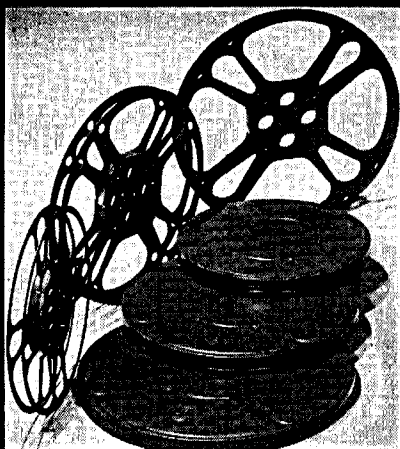
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proved sound quality and signal-to-noise ratio; improved control of distortion; and the ability to store and re-cut identical master disks with the same quality as the first master. The CBS DISComputer system is currently in use at Columbia Recording Studios in New York and Nashville.

The Professional Motion Picture Equipment Association (PMPEA) has established central headquarters at University Tower, Suite 809, 6440 N. Central Expwy., Dallas, TX 75206. The newly established national office will coordinate all of the organization's functions including the maintaining of complete records of all proceedings and membership listings. Newly elected members of the PMPEA Board of Trustees are Volker Bahnmann of the Arriflex Co. of America, and Ed Maguire of Calvin Cinequip, Inc. Standing Board Members are: Anton Wilson, Anton/Bauer, Inc.; Paul Meistrich, The Camera Mart, Inc.; Chuck Sorenson, Brenner Cine Sound; and Art Kramer, Lowel-Light Manufacturing, Inc. Officers for 1978 are: President, Chad O'Connor, O'Connor Engineering Laboratories; Vice-President, Cindi Becker, The Camera Mart; and Secretary-Treasurer, Lee Duncan, Victor Duncan, Inc.

CBS Sports coverage of Super Bowl on 15 January was highlighted by the video "paintings" of Leroy Neiman, a well known artist who gave his impromptu impression of the game with a video graphics device called the Electronic Palette, a joint development of CBS Television Network and Ampex Corp. Neiman used an electronic pen instead of a brush, an electronic tablet instead of a canvas and a computer memory instead of a color palette. The Electronic Palette utilizes digital technology to give the artist an inventory of 256 colors with complete control of the saturation of each of these colors. The results appear immediately on a color television monitor. The device allows the artist to "sketch" and "paint" in any number of modes, simulating the techniques of watercolor, oils, pen and ink and others. In commenting on this development, Joseph A. Flaherty, Vice-President, Engineering and Development, CBS Television Network, said, "This system offers unparalleled opportunity for creativity. Traditional television graphics systems limit the artist's images to fairly simple geometric shapes, while the Electronic Palette actually expands the artist's horizons."

CBS Sports also introduced the Action Track system at the Super Bowl. This system, developed by CBS Television Network and CBS Technology Center in Stamford, Conn., provides a multiple-image display of the paths of moving objects. An aerial view of the football seen with Action Track displayed the paths taken by the players during the course of a play. In golf, a putt will appear as a string of golf balls from club head to hole. A baseball pitch will appear as an arcing row of baseballs from pitcher to batter, enabling the viewers to see the exact path taken by the ball. Flaherty commented, "The Action Track System may become as important as the slow-motion replay for analyzing the style and form of an athlete's performance."

Marconi Instruments Ltd., Longacres, St. Albans, Herts AL4 0JN, England, will supply television monitoring equipment for the new television center being built in Moscow for the 1980 Olympic Games. Marconi will supply its Television Automatic Monitoring Equipment (TAME) to measure all the incoming signals from the competition areas and 20 outgoing

program channels from the television center which, according to the USSR, will be the largest of its kind in the world. Engineers from Marconi Instruments and from the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and the Ministry for Communication Production will cooperate in the engineering and installing of the complete system. Soviet engineers will visit Marconi Instruments St. Albans factory to establish compatibility between Soviet-made test generators and Marconi's analysis equipment.

The Variable Speech Control Company, Dept. A, 2088 Union St., San Francisco, CA 94123, has appointed the National Translation Institute of Science and Technology (NATIST) of Japan as exclusive distributor in that country of VSC Company's speech compressor/expander. NATIST is a technical institute which offers foreign language courses — with emphasis on technical translation — to Japanese businessmen, engineers, scientists and government personnel.

The VSC speech compressor/expander utilizes specially developed integrated circuits to correct for pitch distortion as the speed is accelerated or slowed down. The technology can be incorporated into cassette or reel-to-reel tape recorders, record players, dictating equipment and other sound-producing machines at the time of manufacture. A 60-min recorded tape can be played back in less than 30 min on a VSC-equipped unit. Conversely, the same tape can be slowed down by 40 per cent. In each case the VSC circuitry virtually eliminates the distortion effect. With VSC-equipped teaching machines a language student can use normal or slow speeds to help grasp correct pronunciation. As he becomes more proficient he can accelerate to tape to simulate the "real" speech of a native speaker.

Four seminars and three courses on microprocessors are available on videotape from Genesys Systems, Inc., 1121 East Meadow Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94303. Associated workbooks and texts for individual study also are available. Titles of four seminars are: Microprocessors, The Basic Hardware Course; Military Microprocessor Systems; Microprocessor Interfacing Techniques; and Bit Slice — Building an Actual CPU with Slices. The three courses, conducted at Colorado State University and available on videotape from Genesys are: How Do I Master Microprocessors?; Logic Design of Digital Systems for Implementation With a Microprocessor; and Designing With the 6800. In addition, two basic microprocessor courses are available with audiocassettes and workbooks.

Marconite, a building aggregate for producing electrically conductive concrete, has been developed by Marconi Communication Systems Ltd., Marconi House, Chelmsford CM1 1PL, England. Marconite[®] produces concretes of normal compression strengths with a wide range of pre-determined volume resistivity values when used in place of conventional concrete fine aggregates. It offers the possibility of permanent earthing, screening for electrical and electronic equipments, and protection from the hazards of static electrical charges. The announcement explained that in using conventional methods, the provision of power and radio frequency earths for radio, television and radar transmitters, signal processing equipments, computers and similar equipments and the screening of areas from electromagnetic interference can be complicated and time consuming. Not only is there the necessity of taking electrical connec-

tions back to the conventional earths physically buried in the ground, but the actual siting of the earth electrode system is critical in many cases to avoid mutual interference between equipments installed in the same location.

By contrast, the use of Marconite to provide an earth plane in the form of a floor screen provides simple universal earthing and screening which can be continuously extended as work progresses. Its laying requires no skills other than those already present in the civil engineering and building industries.

The uncompacted bulk density of Marconite is in the order of 800 kg/m³ (501 lb ft³) or about half the weight of conventional aggregates. Marconite is chemically inert at normal temperatures; in particular, the sulphate and chloride contents are low, permitting it to be used with all conventional types of cement, proprietary resin-based cements, gypsum plasters and adhesives.

Video Craftsmen, 6311 Romaine, Hollywood, CA 90038, is a new firm founded by Henry Ball, formerly Director of Program Operations, RCA SelectaVision. Ball has taken over the plant formerly used in the production of mastering tapes for videodisc. The new company offers VIR equipped film to tape transfers and CMX editing and color correction services.

RCA American Communications, Inc., has announced plans to shift cable television traffic to its RCA Satcom I (F-1) satellite which will be reserved principally for cable television program transmissions. This move will provide the potential of doubling the numbers of channels which can be received by a single cable system earth station, the announcement stated.

RCA Corp. has introduced its first fiber optics data link designed for use in digital-data computer links, digital telephony, secure communications, process control and high-voltage optically isolated data systems. Optical fibers promise to supplement both wires and radio waves in many cases, the announcement stated. The new system consists of a transmitter containing an RCA gallium-aluminum-arsenide LED and a receiver equipped with an RCA silicon photodiode. The two units may be connected to fiber optics cables. The transmitter and receiver are housed in compact modules each measuring about two inches square by one inch thick.

Ampex Corp. has announced a \$5 million expansion of its Opelika, Ala., magnetic tape manufacturing facility. The expansion will add 40,000 ft² of new space to the 317,000 ft² currently being utilized and will make it possible to increase the number of production lines from five to seven, the announcement stated. Ampex headquarters are at 401 Broadway, Redwood City, CA 94063.

Philips Audio Video Systems Corp., 91 McKee Dr., Mahwah, NJ 07430, has announced the opening of a new West Coast regional office at 3940 Higuera St., Culver City, CA 90230. As an adjunct to the firm's main warehousing and service facilities in Norwalk, Conn., the new West Coast Center will warehouse, ship and service all products for each of the firm's product groups — AKG Acoustics, Philips Video Products, Audiocom Products and Neutrik Products.

Capron Lighting and Sound has opened a new office at 991 State Road 7, Plantation, FL

33317. The newest Southeast Office maintains an inventory of theater, television and film equipment and supplies in addition to rental equipment. Head of the new office is Howard Packer.

Teletronics International, Inc., has officially changed its name to Video Corporation of America, it was announced by George K. Gould, Chairman. The change was made to reflect the firm's broadening base of activities in the television, corporate and home video markets, Gould said. Headquarters are at 231 E. 55 St., New York, NY 10022.

Videocopy, a company formed to provide total videocassette duplication services, has been established at 6464 Sunset Blvd., Suite 900, Hollywood, CA 90028, according to a recent announcement. The new company offers duplication on all videocassette formats including U-Matic, Betamax and VHS. Videocopy also provides videotape editing services, air checks and film-to-tape transfers from super 8, 16mm and 35mm formats as well as recycling programs, master storage facilities and drop shipping for national mailings of videocassettes.

A&G Concepts, 1660 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108, has been acquired by Vidtronics, a Hollywood-based videotape post-production facility. Phil Arenson, President of A&G Concepts, has been named to the post of Director of Production for Vidtronics and will head the company's new division, which will offer full stage and remote production facilities.

Books, Booklets, Brochures

Digital Signal Computers and Processors, a Book of Selected Reprints, edited by Andres C. Salazar of Bell Laboratories, is available from the IEEE Service Center, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854, at a price of \$25.95 (with discounts for IEEE members). The book is an up-to-date compilation of carefully selected papers dealing with the hardware aspects of digital signal processing. The emphasis is on the architecture and applications of high-speed computers and processors that implement digital signal algorithms. The 44 reprinted papers are organized into the following subject categories: Economics, Comparisons, Trends; Architecture; Elements of a Digital Signal Processor; Applications. The papers on architecture are subdivided into four sections — Computing Units for Digital Filters; FFT Computing; Multiple Configurations; and D/D and D/A Conversion.

A handheld monocular type light meter for measuring motion-picture screen brightness is described in Bulletin FL available upon request from Fotomatic Corp., 4030 W. 10 St., Indianapolis, IN 46222. The device, designated Model FL Foto-Meter, is designed to provide reflected light readings of any type screen from any angle with readings appearing directly in footlamberts. The Foto-Meter can read an area of 2° within the total 20° view making it possible to check small areas of the screen for either light balance or reflectivity. The device is powered by mercury batteries.

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