

able upon request from Buhl Optical, 1009 Beech Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15233. The mobile multiplexer is a film chain that permits a color or monochrome camera to serve as both a studio and film chain camera. Additional hints are provided for improving light distribution and for balancing light sources from two to three slide projectors which feed into the mobile multiplexer.

The Reel Directory '79 contains more than 1000 listings in 16 categories, including producers, laboratories, equipment supplies and facilities, sound, and video. The listings include addresses and brief descriptions of the services offered. The book (ringbound) is available from the publisher, Bonnie Carroll, P.O. Box 31581, San Francisco, CA 94131, at a price of \$7.50.

Literature and a price list of Hamamatsu video equipment, vidicon cameras, image disector cameras, measuring video systems, and image analysis systems are available from Hamamatsu Systems, Inc., 332 Second Ave., Waltham, MA 02154. Descriptions include the C-1000 computer compatible video camera, the C1055 x-y tracker, and the C-1285 image analysis system.

A drive component specification and price list for 16mm and 35mm continuous photographic processing machines is available from Lab Methods Corp., 7645 Densmore Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406. The publication includes dimensioned drawings and prices of 16mm and 35mm pacer and film rollers, glass and stainless steel ball bearings, roller spacers and spring inserts, drive disks, and soft-touch tires.



Section Meetings

New York, 11 June — An expectedly large turnout of more than 250 members and guests showed up at CBS Television Broadcast Center for two interesting presentations.

The first presentation was the first public showing of the new 3/4-in U-Matic test tape produced by the SMPTE. Charles Ahto of Tape-Films, Inc., introduced the tape and explained the purpose of the various signals and pictures. The tape is intended to help people to adjust their television sets so as to provide a much more consistent display quality.

The second presentation which was on Loudness in Television Programming was presided over by Joseph Flaherty, Vice-President, Engineering and Development, CBS Television Network. Flaherty introduced the two speakers, Emil Torick and Bronwyn Jones of the CBS Technology Center. Owing to the wide interest in the practice of loudness measurement and perception, special invitations were sent to producers and advertising directors and over 50 of them showed up.

The papers presented by Torick and Jones outlined the history of sound measurement and pointed out that presently VU and peak meters do not accurately indicate loudness as perceived by humans. As a result of recent psychoacoustic

research, CBS technicians are developing a new loudness meter. Demonstrations of differing program content and comparisons of measurement by VU, peak meters, and the CBS loudness meter were provided. — Richard Marcus (Reporter), Rombex Productions Corp., 245 W. 55 St., New York, NY 10019.

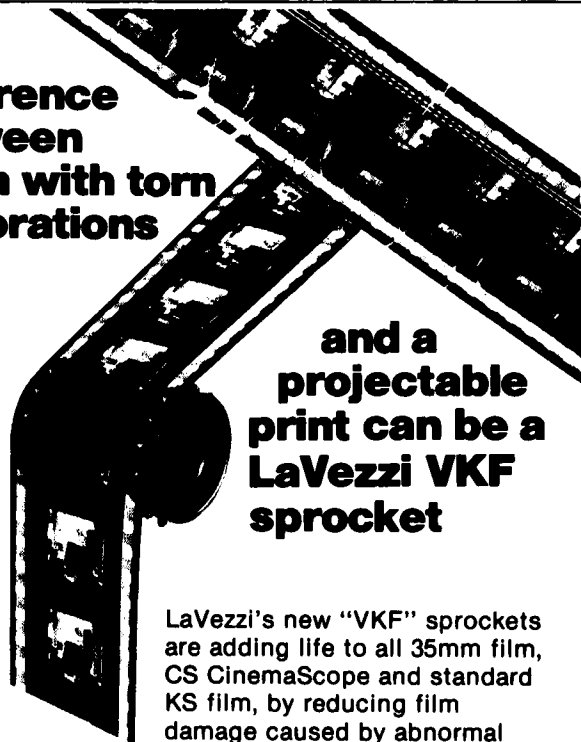
Pacific Northwest, 27 July — The meeting was held in Vancouver, B.C., with an attendance of 23 members and guests. John Luccock, Jr., and his father presented a program on the development of amateur cinematography using equipment and film from their collection. All equipment and films are for the 9.5mm gauge. The collection, started by John Luccock, Sr., 56 years ago contains some 500 titles and 15 pieces of early equipment. Included in the program was an exhibit of the baby Pathé projector and camera (1922) which used notched titles, the Pathé Vox projector (1935), and the Bolex G-2 projector (1938). The projectors were used to show early films and Kodachrome 9.5mm films shot in Vancouver from 1950 to the present. — Thomas J. Bowles, (Secretary-Treasurer), King Video-cable Co., 320 Aurora Ave., N., Seattle, WA 98109.

San Francisco, 14 August — The meeting was held at Eastman Kodak Company's Regional Marketing Center with an attendance of 200 members and guests. Richard Edlund, Special Effects Supervisor and Director of Photography at the Kerner Co., gave an extremely interesting talk and slide presentation on production of the special effects for *Star Wars*. In addition to the detailed discussion of the special effects for *Star Wars*, Edlund gave the group some preview information on the sequel, *The Empire Strikes Back*, scheduled for release next year.

Three major tools were used to produce the special effects. First, a camera that could repeat very accurately using 12 channels of computer controlled servo information. Using the computer control, it is also possible to perform the same actions on a different scale depending on the size of the models being used for a particular part of a shot. Second, the very large blue screen matting system which allows a complete shot to be built up from a number of separate pieces. Third, the many models some of which are built in as many as three different scales for use in various types of shots. A great amount of effort went into building models, some of which are shown in only a few frames of the film, particularly when the purpose was to show an explosion.

Other items discussed were the special printers used, location shots in the desert, the use of a painted background to give the effect of longer distances, and other interesting information about the film. It took two years to produce the 13 minutes of special effects actually used in the film. After the formal presentation, Edlund answered a great number of questions from the audience. — David K. Fibush (Secretary-Treasurer), Ampex Corp., 401 Broadway, MS 3-59, Redwood City, CA 94063.

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