Obituaries

Merrill A. Trainer

Merrill Trainer, one of the best known and best liked personalities in the television broadcast industry, died in his sleep on 12 October 1978, at the age of 73. Beginning with 24-line television in 1927, until his retirement in 1970, he participated in all the major developments that resulted in the highly successful commercial television broadcast system we have today. While a great many others contributed to this effort, Merrill played a key role in these developments, first as a research engineer, then as an engineering supervisor, and finally as a marketing manager for television studio and transmitting equipment. Those who knew him well attribute a considerable part of his success to his engaging personality.

After graduating from the Drexel Institute of Technology in 1927, he began his professional career in the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Co. in Schenectady, New York. With a group of specialists under the direction of Dr. E. F. W. Alexanderson, he participated in the development of television pickup and reproducing equipment based on the use of mechanical scanning disks.

During the next few years, Merrill made major contributions to a number of television "firsts" including the following. In April 1928, the first television drama, *The Queen's Messenger*, was transmitted over WGY. In August 1928, Alfred E. Smith's acceptance speech as Governor of New York State was put on television. In May 1930, the first large-screen high-brightness television picture was demonstrated to the public on the stage of Proctor's Theater in Schenectady, New York.

After joining the RCA research department in Camden, New Jersey, in 1931, Merrill continued his efforts on television developments, first on more advanced mechanical systems and later on all-electronic systems using the newly invented iconoscope. This resulted in the first major installation of television studio equipment at NBC in New York in 1936 using iconoscopes for both live and film cameras. The highly successful field test of this equipment was interrupted in 1941 by World War II.

During the war, Merrill, in his position as an engineering supervisor, supported a wide variety of television projects of importance to the armed services. Following the war, Merrill was in charge of a concentrated effort to supply television broadcast stations with post-war models of television cameras and associated equipment designed to operate on the newly approved 525-line standard.

Recognition of Merrill's persuasive personality resulted in his transfer from engineering to marketing activities in 1947. In various positions in the Marketing Department at RCA, he guided the response to the enormous expansion of the market for monochrome television equipment in the early 1950s and later of color and videotape equipment in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Merrill belonged to a large number of professional and social organizations including the IEEE, the SMPTE, Tau Beta Pi and participated in the activities of industry committees sponsored by the EIA.

There is no doubt that the television broadcast industry owes much to Merrill for his efforts on all phases of television developments over his 43 year career. — *W. J. Poch*

J. Kenneth Moore

J. Kenneth Moore, Vice-President and General Manager of CBS Technology Center, the advanced research laboratories for CBS, Inc., died 21 February 1979 at the age of 48.

Moore had achieved recognition for his work in television broadcasting technology, laser image scanning and recording, electronic character generation for display and electronic photocomposition. Among the patents he held were those for a digital noise reduction system for color television which enables the broadcaster to eliminate most streaking, snow and other interference, an image-scanning apparatus for graphic arts, and electronic generation of alphanumeric characters for visual display.

He joined CBS in 1957 where he served as Director of Advanced Television Technology

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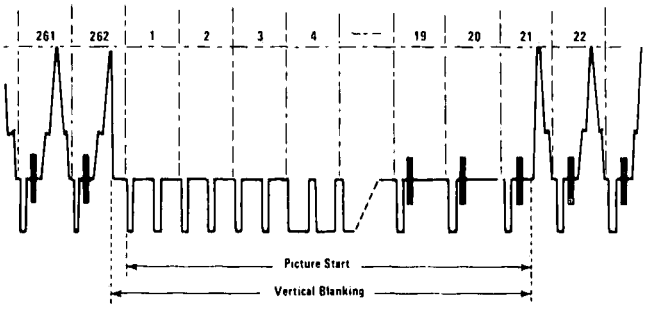
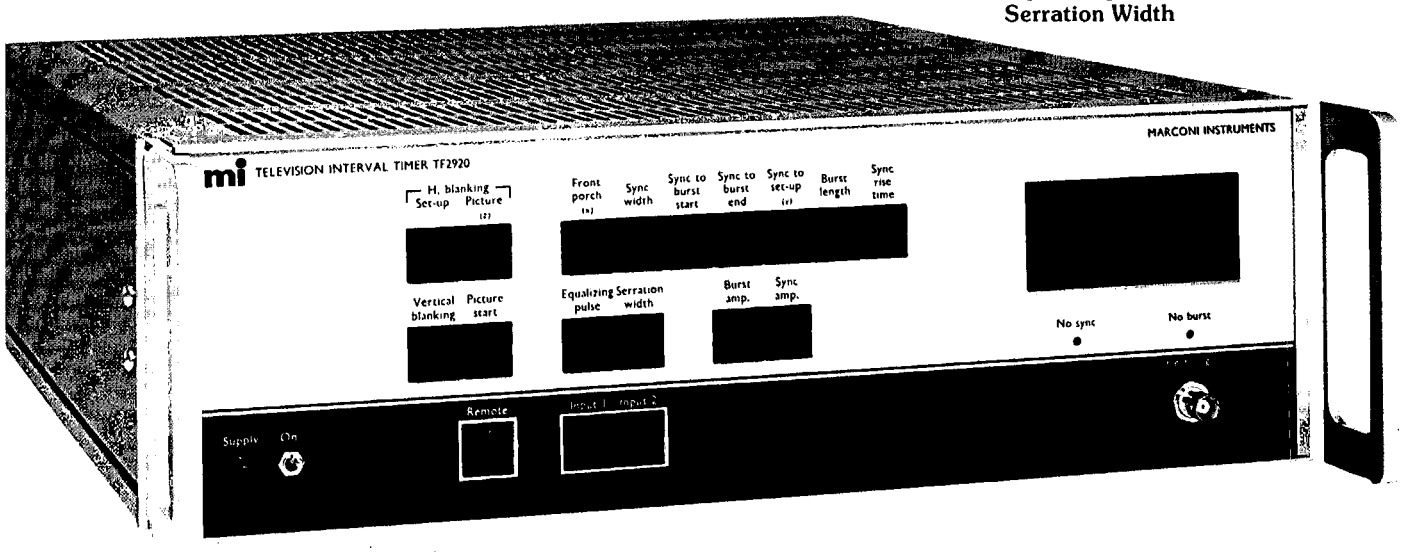


VERTICAL BLANKING MEASUREMENTS
Total Vertical Blanking Interval
Picture Start
Equalizing Pulse Width
Serration Width



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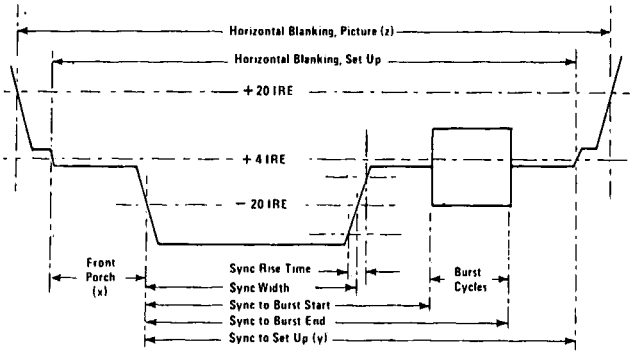

HORIZONTAL BLANKING MEASUREMENTS
Set Up Blanking (+4 IRE)
Picture Blanking (+20 IRE), (z)
Front Porch, (x)
Sync Width
Sync to Burst Start
Sync to Burst End
Sync to Set-Up, (y)
Burst Length in cycles
Sync Rise Time

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Burst Amplitude in IRE
Sync Amplitude in IRE

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at the Center prior to his appointment as Vice-President and General Manager in 1978. Born in Lufkin, Texas, in 1931, he was a cum laude graduate of Williams College where he earned the B.A. and M.A. degrees in physics.

Among his technical achievements, the Digital Noise Reducer for Color Television, of which he was coinventor, earned an Emmy Award in 1978.

Moore joined the SMPTE in 1971. Other professional organizations of which he was a member include the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers and the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers.

Deadline for News Releases

Releases and other material intended for use in any of the columns of the *Journal*, especially for the Meetings Calendar and the Forthcoming Professional Meetings column, must arrive at SMPTE Headquarters at least six weeks before the month of the issue in which it is to appear. For example, announcements for the August issue must arrive no later than 15 June. We regret that when information arrives too late it cannot be used. — *Edit.*

Book Reviews

Modern Photographic Processing: Volume I

By Grant Haist. Published (1979) by John Wiley and Sons, 605 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, a Wiley-Interscience Publication, 781 pp. Illus. 6 × 9 in. Price $45.

The author of this book, Grant Haist, has been a Research Associate at the Kodak Research Laboratories of the Eastman Kodak Company since 1949. He is a Fellow of the Photographic Society of America, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a Life Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society. He received his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Michigan State University, and he is certainly a most noteworthy member of the photographic community.

The book he has now presented us with is obviously the fruitful conclusion of an enormous, persistent and well directed effort sustained by the author over many years. His work may well become a classic in its field, and certainly merits a place next to such works as Mees's *The Theory of the Photographic Process*. It is written in the same spirit of tough and thorough scientific investigation, coupled with a clarity of style and exposition which brings each of the multitudinous topics treated to the immediate understanding of the reader.

Starting with basic atomic chemistry and going from there to such general chemical categories as acids, bases, salts, carbon compounds, etc., the author takes the reader on an attention-holding voyage through all the steps a photographic emulsion undergoes during its useful life. He tells how emulsions are prepared, and tells it from a contemporary viewpoint within an historical perspective. This is particularly helpful in understanding how over the years photographic technology acquired the high degree of sophistication it exhibits today. That historical perspective permeates the whole work. Each chapter is preceded by an excerpt or excerpts from one or the other of the pioneers in photographic science.

A book on the theory of modern pho-