

all over the world, so that the efforts cover most countries which have had anything to do with film.

So many groups in the United States are interested in the preservation of the moving image that the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Film Institute have established a grant program to help organizations "locate, restore, preserve, and catalog films of artistic and cultural value". Grants totaling \$485,500 to eight organizations were announced (*SMPTE Journal*, p. 962, Dec. 1980).

One of the recipients was the Iowa State University at Ames "to develop a preservation program for the films deposited in the American Archives of the Factual Film" which includes the films of business, industry, and education.

Historical Papers and Archives

During 1980 the effort was revived to include at each Technical Conference of the SMPTE papers of historical importance, hopefully by those engineers and leaders in the industry who were directly a part of the developments. This is consid-

ered as the opportunity for the record to be "set straight" as well as to document developments as they happened to aid in future work.

Another project relates to the many collections of early motion picture equipment all over the world. Some are on display while others are simply stored with varying degrees of cataloging. There has been no concerted effort to compile even a list of the places where this type of material is stored, and the Historical Papers and Archive Committee of the SMPTE has undertaken the start of such a catalog.

Conclusion

The year 1980 produced many changes in the fields related to education. The controlling factors were to a significant degree based on the state of the economy, and curtailed funding called for imagination and creativity in maintaining and enhancing programs at all levels where possible. The promise for the near future seems to call for more of the same.

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Daniel J. Perkins of Iowa State University for their contributions to certain parts of this report. — *Herbert E. Farmer*, Vice-President for Educational Affairs.

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EUROPEAN TELEVISION COMMUNITY

The television organizations within the European Broadcasting area that participate actively in Eurovision program exchanges reported few significant developments during 1980. No new program services were introduced, and only one organization — RTP in Portugal — officially began color transmissions. This was on 7 March 1980. Since then about 70% of the output of the first network and 80% of the second network have been broadcast in PAL color. In the United Kingdom, the Independent Broadcasting Authority was granted permission to introduce a second program service in the autumn of 1982; unlike the Authority's existing regional network, the new service, to be known as "Channel 4," will broadcast the same program throughout the country from UHF transmitters cosited with those already belonging to the other three British networks. Preliminary details of the arrangements for closing down the obsolescent monochrome transmission on 405 lines in the VHF bands during the period 1982-86 have also been announced by the British broadcasting organizations.

So far as the program schedules are concerned, the main events of the year were, of course, the Winter and Summer Olympic Games which were held at Lake

Placid (United States) and Moscow (USSR) respectively. It is not necessary to recount here the political circumstances that resulted in a partial boycott of the Summer Games, but their consequences cannot be ignored in reviewing the arrangements for coverage that were made by the EBU Operations Group on behalf of the member organizations of the Union.

In the case of the Winter Olympics, which took place from 12 to 24 February 1980, the television transmissions to Europe were coordinated by the joint Operations Group consisting of specialists from both the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and the International Radio and Television Organization (OIRT). The Operations Group staff collaborated closely with the staff of the American Broadcasting Company (ABC), who were responsible for all coverage of the events, and the various telecommunications companies that provided the sound and vision circuits across the Atlantic ocean. Because of the wish of many European broadcasting organizations to be able to choose independently among the various events while they were actually taking place, live coverage of virtually all events was distributed by means of three transatlantic television circuits routed via the Earth stations at

Goonhilly Downs (UK), Raisting (FR Germany), and Ivanjica (Yugoslavia), which fed separate terrestrial networks.

Up to 30 commentary positions were required at each of twelve locations, and for practical convenience they were installed in trailers which could be moved from one location to another as required. Although most of the local vision circuits at Lake Placid were provided by New York Telephone Co., some were installed by ABC, and one of these made use of an optical fiber link. The interconnections between the local and international circuits were made at the temporary Radio and Television center, which was housed in a new building intended for a very different purpose, and accommodated studio, recording, and editing facilities, as well as the master control room. During the period of the Winter Olympics, 88 multilateral transmissions with a total duration of about 163 hours and 195 unilateral transmissions with a total duration of some 73 hours were sent to EBU members in Europe.

The original plans for coverage of the Summer Olympic Games were undoubtedly the most elaborate that have ever been prepared by an EBU Operations Group, and as they had ultimately to be modified substantially in order to meet the revised

requirements of EBU member organizations, the EBU staff had a particularly complicated task, both in Moscow and at the Eurovision coordination center in Brussels, as indicated by the following description of the arrangements.

Initially, a total of seven vision circuits from Moscow to Western Europe were planned, together with 50 sets of commentary and control circuits. In fact, all these circuits were required, although in some cases the uses to which they were put and the routes they followed were different from those originally envisaged. Two vision circuits were used for multilateral transmissions which were distributed throughout Western Europe; four provided exclusive coverage for individual member organizations, and one was available for unilateral transmissions. The two multilateral sequences were assembled in the Broadcasting Center from the signals incoming from the 24 locations at which the events took place. All technical facilities were provided and staffed by the Olympic Radio and Television Service, which had been created by the USSR broadcasting organization Gostelradio for the purpose, in accordance with schedules established well in advance in collaboration with EBU representatives.

The Broadcasting Centre was accommodated in three television studios in a new production center at Ostankino, two of which remained available for production of unilateral transmissions and announcements. The floor of the third studio was occupied by the main facilities allocation office, through which all requests for facilities were coordinated. Extensive telecine and tape recording facilities were available, together with editing installations and a color film processing unit. Three sets of ENG equipment provided a particularly valuable means of supplementing the main coverage.

In such a complicated situation, it was essential to avoid overloading the available human and material resources, and this was ensured by strictly enforcing the booking arrangements, which required at least four hours notice for every reservation. Notwithstanding the problems that these restrictions posed for a staff accustomed to rapid decision-making, the successful accomplishment of the task of bringing coverage of these events to viewers throughout Europe reflects great credit on all who participated in it.

Together the two multilateral circuits carried 90 transmissions having a total duration of some 250 hours; and the EBU unilateral circuit carried 206 transmissions lasting nearly 100 hours, despite the fact that four exclusive circuits were also in use.

The only other major event in 1980 that should be mentioned is the Presidential Election in the United States, which involved requests for the transmission to Europe of a total of about 67 hours of coverage, 49 hours of which consisted of unilateral items produced by means of ENG equipment. Unfortunately, the long-established arrangements for sharing the traffic among the four international carriers based in the United States by means of a rota had been terminated in June 1980, and in the subsequent competitive situation, in which complicated procedures were necessary to avoid overloading the limited facilities available, it was not possible to satisfy all the demands.

As may be expected in an Olympic year, the statistics for the transmissions coordinated by the Eurovision staff in 1980 show a significant increase in traffic compared with the previous year. The total duration of these transmissions attained 4429 hours, corresponding to an increase of 30% and the total number of transmissions, disregarding the regular exchanges of news

items, amounted to 8894 which was 25% greater than in 1979. On the other hand the total number of news items originated during the three daily transmissions was virtually unchanged at 6371.

One of the few growth areas during 1980 was that of teletext broadcasting, and by the end of the year regular transmissions were taking place in eight European countries. In all of them the existing television broadcasting organizations are responsible for the transmissions, although in a few cases the press has also participated in the preparation of certain pages. The number of receivers equipped to display teletext remains relatively small, but it is expected that sales will increase as soon as the required integrated circuits become available in large quantities.

It is now evident that two teletext systems will continue to coexist in Europe: the British system, in which the position of each broadcast data group in the data line normally determines the horizontal position of the corresponding display character on the teletext page, and the French system, known as Antiope, in which these positions are independent. In order to minimize the inconvenience that the coexistence of two systems may cause, the EBU has been active in encouraging the development of a "universal" teletext decoder equally suitable for either system, and the harmonization of the available display characteristics so that pages originated with either system may be converted for transmission by the other system, or by videotex, without any impairment. Considerable progress has already been achieved towards both these objectives.

Research into other potential applications of digital techniques in broadcasting is also being pursued, notably with the aim of facilitating the operation of domestic receivers, as well as that of providing new services.

CALL FOR PAPERS

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Julian D. Hopkinson, Program Chairman, announces a call for papers on the following topics: Video, Sound, Lab Practices, Ecology and Environmental Protection, and Film Technology. Forms are available from Lynne Robinson, SMPTE, 862 Scarsdale Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583.