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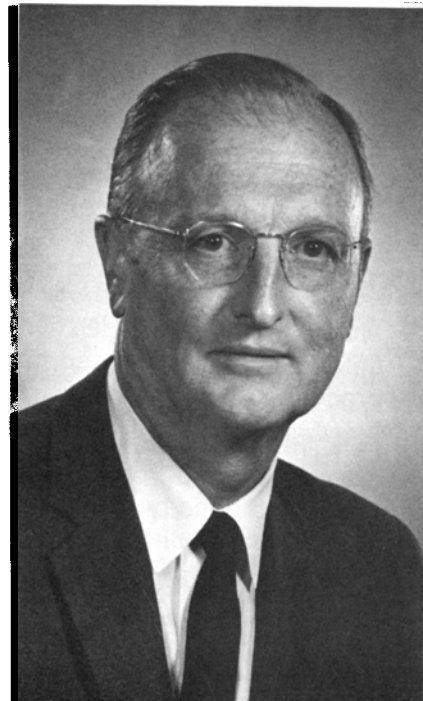
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OBITUARY

Norwood Simmons

Norwood Simmons, President of the SMPTE for the 1959-1960 term, died October 11, 1981, at his home in Pauma Valley, Calif., at the age of 69.

Simmons was born in Washington, North Carolina, September 22, 1912. He attended the University of North Carolina, where he received the B.S. degree in Chemistry in 1933. He received the M.S. degree in Chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 1935, and then returned to the University of North Carolina to continue his graduate work. He received his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry in 1937. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Chi Sigma (professional chemistry fraternity), and Sigma Xi (honorary scientific fraternity).



In 1937 he joined Eastman Kodak Co. in Rochester, N.Y., as a member of the engineering staff of Eastman Kodak's Motion Picture Film Department. Throughout the years he held various executive posts in Eastman Kodak, retiring in 1973 as Assistant Vice-President.

Simmons joined the SMPTE in 1941 and was made a Fellow in 1948. Among his many services to the Society, he held the post of Editorial Vice-President for two terms. He served a term as Governor and was a member of various committees. He served as Chairman of the Public Relations Advisory Committee, the Papers Committee, and the Admissions Committee of the West.

(continued on p. 126)

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(continued from p. 124)

He received the SMPTE Progress Medal Award in 1972 "in recognition of the energies and talents he has contributed during his professional career to the advancement and growth of the motion picture industry . . .," the citation read, in part.

He belonged to a number of professional associations, among them the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the American Society of Cinematographers, and the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers. He was a Fellow of the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society.

He is survived by his wife, Helen, their five children — Elizabeth Lee, Joel, Ann, Peter, and James — and seven grandchildren.

BOOK REPORT

Digital Television: Bandwidth Reduction and Communication. By Richard H. Stafford. Published (1980) by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 605 Third Ave, New York, NY 10016. xiv + 387 pp. Illus. 9¼ x 6¼ in. Price \$34.95.

This book covers both theoretical and practical aspects of digital image processing. Three introductory chapters provide the theoretical groundwork on applicable pulse modulation systems and the principles of pulse code modulation (PCM) encoding. In Chapter 4, a detailed treatment (126 pp.) is given for modern techniques of bandwidth reduction; the techniques treated include statistical reduction, direct digital processing, differential PCM, delta modulation, bit-plane encoding, contour interpolation, frame-to-frame correlation, significant-bit selection, transform-coding methods, and channel-sharing techniques.

The technique of pseudorandom noise coding (PRN) is then explained, and a new method is introduced for combining PRN and PCM. It is also shown how PRN sampling can be combined with pulse-position modulation (PPM).

Other topics discussed are the convolutional codes and the Reed-Solomon codes (the latter codes have powerful error-correcting properties and simple decoding algorithms).

There is also a useful detailed *Bibliography* of research on digital TV communications systems and error-correction coding. Especially welcome in a field containing a rapidly growing vocabulary of abbreviations is a detailed list of *Symbols and Abbreviations*, providing a definition as well as a citation to the page on which each term is discussed.

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