

on a satellite delivery system. Cancom is licensed to distribute Canadian and American off-air programming to remote areas of northern Canada, providing these areas with television service more nearly like that available in the south. In addition, Cancom distributes radio signals over the same system.

Preece described the reasons why Cancom decided to scramble their signal. First, it was a requirement of the CRTC, promulgated mainly to prevent the stations then being distributed from becoming superstations. Second, with an open skies policy, scrambling prevents unauthorized reception of the signal. Cancom chose Oak equipment for the scrambling, because Oak Industries was the only company which had a proven working system three years previously, when the decision to scramble was made. Preece described the various coding system options and the inherent versatility. The system, he explained, is quite flexible, allowing for 49 levels of tiering and complete control from the head end of the operation. Deletions of individual components or the entire service can be made by computer from the central control. He described some problems with the bandwidth of the receivers and said he looked forward to decreasing costs of decoders and to the advent of direct broadcast satellite transmission.

The meeting was held at the National Film Board Theatre, Ottawa, with an attendance of 35. Following the presentations and a question-and-answer period, the audience was invited to the Cancom offices (in the same building) for a demonstration of decoding equipment — Ross Mutton (Chairman), Carleton University, Colonel By Dr., Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6.

Rocky Mountain, March 24 — The Caribou Ranch Recording Studio was the scene of the meeting, hosted by Jerry Mahler, chief engineer for the ranch. The meeting consisted mainly of a buffet dinner, prepared by the Caribou cooking staff, and a tour of the ranch and the recording studio. More than 150 members and guests attended. — Jeff Grazi (Secretary-Treasurer), Communication Unlimited, Inc., 6528 Mar Vista Pl., Denver, CO 80220.

San Francisco, February 17 — The meeting was held at the employee cafeteria of Ampex Corp., Redwood City, which had been set up with audiovisual facilities, including slide projectors, and the Ampex VPR-3, a Type-C, 1-in. videotape recorder. The speakers were Tom Hasty and Glen R. Rose, assisted by Jay Baker and Mitchell Yawitz.

Hasty spoke on the Ampex VPR-5, reviewing the work done by both Ampex and Nagra with the aim of creating the world's smallest and lightest Type-C videotape recorder. The use of dc-current-management with microprocessor control econo-

mizes on power consumption, thus extending battery life. The VPR-5 can record either for 20 minutes with small tape reels or up to one hour with larger reels. Some of the features described by Hasty include the built-in SMPTE time code, the time-base-corrector interface, and the plug-in modular design.

Glen Rose described the VPR-3, which is a studio production VTR. He described the circuit innovations which permit the machine to start up quickly and to be responsive to user requirements. He demonstrated the machine, showing the operational sequences and other features that make the VPR-3 easy to service.

The meeting was attended by more than 100 members and guests. — Donna Foster-Roizen (Secretary-Treasurer), Telegen, 1742 Willow Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303.

San Francisco, April 26 — "Film and the Future" was the subject of the first presentation, which was given by Chris Clark, Eastman Kodak Co. He reiterated his company's commitment to innovation in imaging technology and showed a series of slides illustrating this theme.

Don Adams and Beverly Wood, Eastman Kodak, continued the program. Adams described the DataKode, a transparent magnetic layer which does not interfere with normal picture projection while providing control codes to be recorded on it for editing, automation, and other film control functions. DataKode provides an electronic address for each film frame and is machine-readable, thus bringing computerized automation to film.

Wood covered new film-stock materials, such as the 7291 and 7294 emulsions, and also showed a short 16-mm film illustrating some of the capabilities of these advanced films. The films are intended to replace

current Eastman Kodak Color Negative products 7247 and 7293 — Donna Foster-Roizen (Secretary-Treasurer), Telegen, 1742 Willow Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Toronto, May 12 — Walter Bebenek, Ampex Canada, gave a brief history of the development of magnetic tape recording from the introduction of the VR-1000 in 1957 at the NAB Convention, through the VR-2000, ACR-25, VPR-2, and the third generation of Type-C by Ampex. He noted that the helical scan 2-in. VR-8000, made in 1958, did not have interchangeability. He noted also that a \$3 million, 2-in. VTR had been delivered to NASA. Following standardization of Type-C, Ampex introduced the VPR-2, and Sony, the BVH-1000.

The VPR-3, he told the audience of more than 200 gathered at the Gemini I Room in the Constellation Hotel, is the third generation of the development of the Type-C format. Its features include air-guided and vacuum-controlled tape handling, tape acceleration to 500 in./sec shuttle in one second with one-hour reel; fail-safe dynamic braking, and superior built-in audio features. However, the development of Type-C continues to move on, Bebenek said. Slide and equipment demonstrations were used to illustrate the presentation.

Tom Hasty gave a presentation on the latest portable Type-C VTR, the VPR-5, which was developed jointly by Ampex and Nagra. Although it is a 20-min VTR, the mechanics for changing to accommodate one hour are self-contained. A time-base corrector and data base are provided.

The meeting was preceded by a dinner at the Crock and Block Restaurant. — Fung F. Lam (Secretary-Treasurer), Sony of Canada Ltd., 411 Gordon Baker Rd., Willowdale, Ont., Canada M2H 2S6.

OBITUARY

André Coutant

André Coutant, past president of UNIATEC, died May 25, 1983, at the age of 76. He was a native of Paris, France, and began his career in 1925 at the Continsouza Research Laboratory. In 1939, he became technical director for Eclair. Among his many inventions and developments was the Eclair 16, which won the French Exportation Prize in 1965.

In 1949, Coutant invented the Magnetoscope. In 1959, he founded Kinotechnique, of which he was president and general manager. His inventions included cameras and other equipment for various applications, including special cameras for military use, cameras for scientific research, and automatic sensitometric devices for cinematographic tracking of space vehicles.

Coutant achieved worldwide recognition and was the recipient of many honors and awards. He was an officer of the Legion of Honor, Commander of Cinematographic Merits, and Knight in the Order of Research and Invention.

Correction for Theater Evaluation Form

The Theater Evaluation Form appearing on pages 758 and 759 of the July *Journal* was printed incorrectly, and was confusing as to whether optimum was at the center or right-hand side of the rating scale. Please substitute the revised form appearing on pp. 990-991 for the original form printed.