BOOK REVIEWS

Color Television, Ed. Ted Rzeszewski. Published (1983) by John Wiley & Sons Inc., 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10158. 387 + vii pp. Diagrams. 8½ × 11 in. Price $44.95.

A book of reprints is usually not very exciting, and this one is no exception. The papers are ones that television engineers have seen ad nauseam, but they are truly the golden oldies of the world of television engineering.

An owner of this book will no longer need to wade through stacks of *IEEE Transactions*, *RCA Reviews*, and assorted journals, nor dig through files of photocopies. It's all here in one handy volume.

The book first presents introductory material on the theory of color television to give the reader the background necessary to appreciate the more receiver-oriented parts which follow. The book contains four separate parts: Background, Tuning, IF and Composite Video Detection, and Post-Detection Processing. An extensive bibliography follows each section.

The background section covers introductory material and the theory of color television. The next section is on tuning. In the last ten years, television tuning systems have changed from being mainly mechanical tuners with little application of remote control, to being mainly electronic through the use of varactor diodes.

The third section is concerned with IF and composite video detection. The fourth part is on post-detection processing, which consists of both luminance and chrominance processing. As such, it is concerned with the circuitry between the video detector and the video display. This area has seen a constant increase in the level of integration.

With the trends toward sophisticated signal processing, perhaps by digital techniques, and additional features expected to continue, readers will find this book invaluable as a research tool.

— *Barry Detwiler*

BOOKS, BOOKLETS, BROCHURES

Strategies for Higher Definition Television, a 400-page report by Tim Johnson, a consultant on developments in communications, predicts that high-definition television will have a major influence on the film industry during the next 10 to 20 years. The report is available from the publishers, Ovum Ltd., 14 Penn Rd., London N7 9RD, England, at a price of $395.

According to the author, there are three main areas where the new technology can change the motion-picture industry: the distribution of films to theaters; electronic cinematography; and better reproduction of film quality on home screens.

The HDTV system developed by NHK is likely to be used for motion-picture distribution, at least in the U.S. and Japan, the report states. Films would be broadcast directly to theaters over satellite links. The report suggests that the advantages of HDTV distribution would include faster, and less expensive, distribution than is possible when using film prints. By 1990, there could be at least 1000 HDTV theaters in the U.S.

The author admits that using HDTV technology in filmmaking is likely to prove difficult; however, he states, "When the problems have been overcome, HDTV technology combined with powerful computerized editing will bring a dramatic increase in the productivity of filmmaking."

The report reveals that Francis Ford Coppola, and his Zoetrope Studios, has been among the leaders in experimenting with the new technology. According to Coppola, possible benefits of high-definition movie production include speeding the flow of production through preparation on video; immediate viewing of each day's takes, saving expensive filmstocks and prints; computerized editing; and extension of special effects capabilities.