

**Craig C. Darian** has been appointed president of Glen Glenn Sound, Hollywood, Calif. In this position, Darian will have overall responsibility for the operating, sales, and business affairs of the company. Additionally, he will oversee the execution of the first commercial all-digital-sound theatrical motion picture for MGM, and will continue the expansion of Glen Glenn's editorial and studio facilities. Darian had been Glen Glenn's executive vice-president since May 1985. Prior to that, he served as vice-president, sales, Ryder Sound Services.

**Doug Johnson**, chairman of the Board of Directors of The Droid Works, has announced that he will assume responsibility as acting president of the company, following the departure of Robert J. Doris. Johnson also announced the appointment of Donald Stults as vice-president of sales. Stults joined The Droid Works from Pioneer Technology Corp., a motion-picture equipment company he founded 11 years ago. The Droid Works, manufacturer of EditDroid™ and SoundDroid™, is an affiliate of Lucasfilm Ltd. and Convergence Corp.

**Albert W. Malang** has been appointed director, research and development, Porta-Pattern Inc. Prior to joining Porta-Pattern, he served as a director with RCA

VideoDiscs. Malang, the recipient of two Emmys for his technical achievements in the industry, also held management positions at CMX Systems, Abto Inc., and Riker Video Inc. Porta-Pattern Inc. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

**Nick Hudak** has been appointed vice-president, Professional Tape Div., Sony Magnetic Products Co. In this position, he will be responsible for all marketing and sales functions of the division and will oversee the field sales force for broadcast facilities, production houses, and professional video dealers. Hudak joins Sony from RCA Broadcast Systems Div., where he most recently served as director of domestic sales.



**Convergence Corp.**, Irvine, Calif., has announced four appointments. Michael Pettus has been named vice-president of engineering; Bruce Catlett, vice-president of finance; Doug Dodson, regional sales manager; and Fred Olimski, field service technician. Pettus joins the company from the parent company, Acquis Corp., where he worked for five years in software development. Catlett was formerly affiliated

with Portland Cement, Dodson was in video sales with Viitek, and Olimski joins the company from Sony Broadcast Products. Convergence is a manufacturer of video edit control systems.

**Ross L. Trimby** has been named vice-president, sales, Shintron Co. Inc., Cambridge, Mass. Trimby joins the company from Lifeline Systems Inc., where he was vice-president of sales. Prior to that, he was a divisional sales manager at Hewlett-Packard. Trimby will be in charge of worldwide sales and all sales personnel at Shintron, which manufactures broadcast electronics and computer imaging equipment.

**Bill Park** has been appointed vice-president, marketing, Quanta Corp. Prior to assuming this position, Park worked at Thompson-CSF, as vice-president of sales and marketing. He also served in key management positions at Sony Broadcast Products and Ampex Corp. In his new position, Park assumes complete responsibility for all of Quanta's sales and marketing functions, including product development and customer service. Quanta Corp., based in Salt Lake City, Utah, is a manufacturer of video character generators, video paint/graphics systems, and related products.

## Book Reviews

### Broadcasting and Telecommunication: An Introduction

By John R. Bittner, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1985. Hard cover, 526 pp + xiv, glossary and index, illustrations, 7x9½ in., \$26.95.

This is a non-technical overview book intended for general university courses on electronic media. It provides a good "snapshot" of current American practices in the fields of radio, television, cable, and satellite services, with some comparisons from non-U.S. sources and extensions into areas such as teletext and personal computers. The 23 chapters cover everything from the history of wireless to a study of advertising and ratings.

The author has made a most commendable effort. As he says in the Preface, "broadcasting is changing as fast as books and journals can record the transition." Surprisingly, the author compounds the problem by identifying industry names and even television programs as if they are known to every reader as a commonplace.

Listing popular home computers as the TRS80 Model III and the Lisa will not encourage the computerists, for instance.

In the historical section, the author is generous in his coverage of Marconi and the Marconi companies, leading to the formation of RCA and NBC. Other European developments are given scant coverage, however, and the start of Canadian radio broadcasting in 1922 with its impact on neighboring U.S. areas is ignored. Similarly, the start of BBC television in 1936 does not appear in the inside cover chronological survey.

Four chapters are devoted to technology, but the coverage is very nontechnical. No discussion of technical standards in use around the world is included, and in general this section will be of small value to would-be engineers and technicians. There is some detail on Videotex and Quadraphonic FM, but again this will become rapidly out of date.

A large section is devoted to the development of the American network system, both private and public. This leads into a discussion on regulatory control, with comparisons of how other countries do it.

The last chapters deal with ratings and audience research.

There is a 10-page glossary of terms, useful perhaps to remind us that engineering acronyms and jargon are not universally used in the industry. Of much more value are the 25 pages of Notes which expand on the footnotes and give further references. The index appears to be quite comprehensive.

This reviewer noted only one major technical error: "silicone" is not a crystalline substance, and was not used in crystal detectors. Even silicon was not used much, galena and other materials containing "impurities" being far more popular and effective.

The book contains a fair number of photos, indifferently printed. Apart from some historical data, many seem to have been included simply to fill out the page.

It is difficult to say what the reader will gain from this book. It covers everything on the assumption (surely dubious) that anyone reading it is totally ignorant of the subject. This is perhaps inevitable in a book that is an extended set of course notes. The coverage of individual areas of interest is necessarily very superficial, even though a limited bibliography is included. It does have the advantage of giving the whole picture of American broadcasting in 1984 within one book.

—M. Barlow

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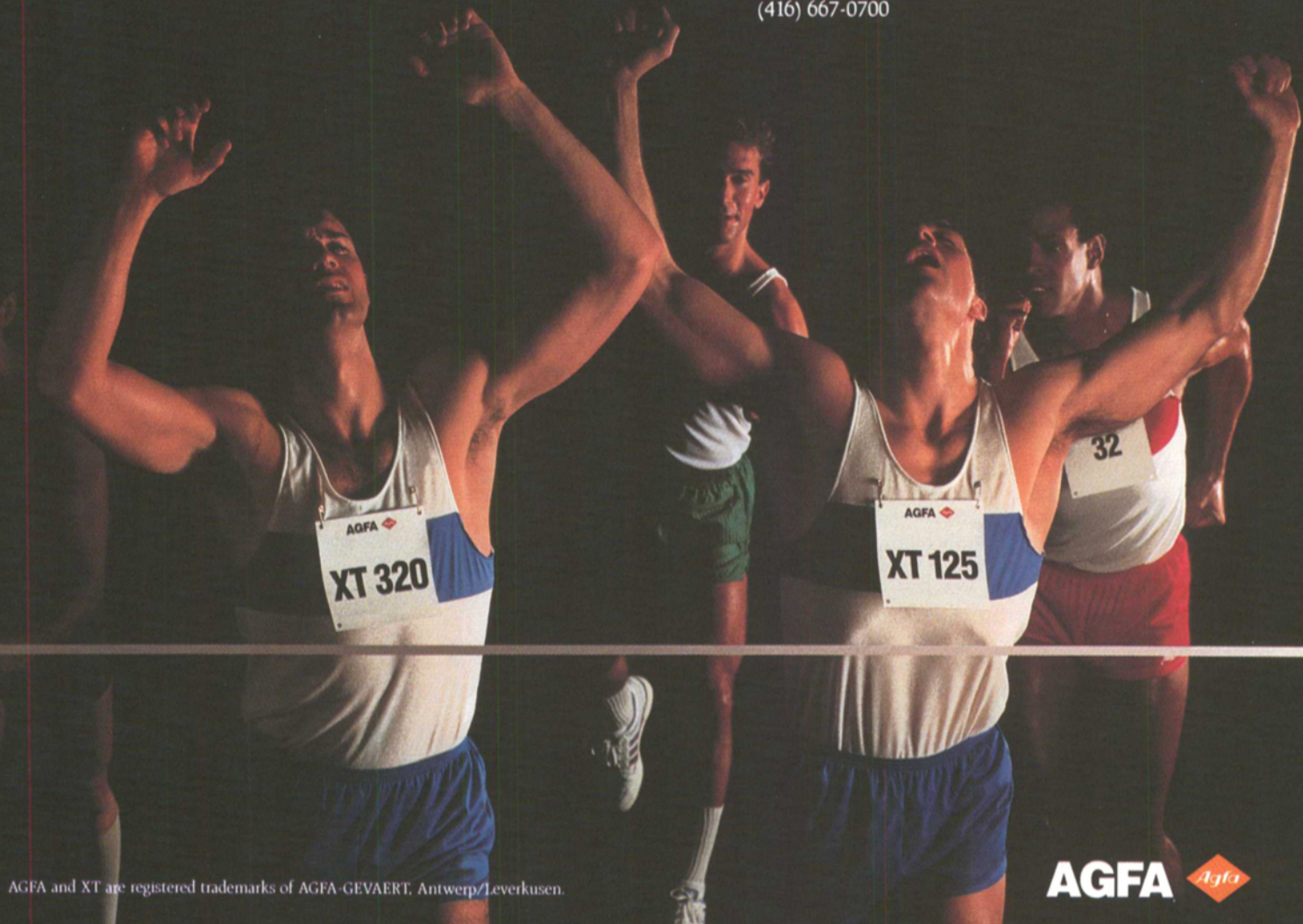
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## International Film, Radio, and Television Journals

Edited by Anthony Slide, Greenwood Press, Westport, Conn., 1985. Hard cover, 428 pp. + xiv, appendices, bibliography, index, 6½×9½ in., \$49.75.

*International Film, Radio, and Television Journals* is a surprisingly interesting book that should appeal to those who have been in the motion-picture and television industries for a long time, and to those newcomers who wish to know what has been published before. Its primary value, however, would seem to be for libraries and scholars.

Although it is far from the complete overview of American and foreign film, television, and radio periodicals, as the publishers claim, the book is comprehensive and informative. Included in the book are what the publisher calls in-depth essays of more than 150 magazines from all periods of entertainment history. Some of the essays are more in-depth than others. For example, the essay on *Daily Variety* runs approximately three pages and gives a good history of the publication. This essay was written by the editor of the book, Anthony Slide. However, the *Hollywood Reporter* essay fills less than two pages. Because both publications span a similar period, one would have liked to have seen a little more detail in the essay for *Hollywood Reporter*. Indeed, that pinpoints one of the major disadvantages of the book, that each essay is written by a different writer, each with a different approach.

When this book arrived on my desk, the first thing I did was to check if the *SMPTE Journal* was included. Much to my delight, it was. In fact, the essay about the *Journal* is quite lengthy, running some six pages, and is exceptionally well done, having been written by Stephen Chamberlain. He provides a superb overview of the SMPTE, its history and, in this reviewer's judgment, a very accurate historical picture of the *Journal*. Indeed, the *SMPTE Journal* has possibly the best essay in the entire book. Stephen Chamberlain should be praised for the job he did in putting this piece together.

The *SMPTE Journal* is fortunate to be part of this book. In fact, the listing of journals by type and subject matter in the appendix included only a small category for technology publications. The absence of many publications will be disappointing to those interested in the technical end of motion pictures and television. Although this book purports to cover an international spectrum of publications, which indeed it does, magazines such as the *BKSTS Journal* and *Fernseh & Kino Technik* are missing. The omission of these publications and most of the broadcast engineering publications that many of us are familiar with gives one the feeling that the book is incomplete and makes one wonder what else is missing.

There have been many publications in the fields of radio, film, and television, some quite esoteric. The essays about these publications are unusually interesting. Several publications got their start 60, 70, 80, and 90 years ago. Many are long gone.

One of the most disappointing essays in the book was on *American Cinematographer*. Although it receives approximately six pages of coverage, most of those pages are dedicated to listings of articles. Reading paragraph after paragraph of article titles tends to get boring after about the first half-paragraph. It would have been far better had that segment been presented in a narrative format similar to the one that was presented on the *SMPTE Journal*. The difference between the *American Cinematographer* essay and that of the *SMPTE Journal* emphasizes the book's inconsistency.

Slide, a film historian who had held executive positions with both the American Film Institute and the Academy of

Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has done a good job with this volume. Its flaws do not diminish the book's value to film historians, libraries, and people in the film and television fields. A lot of the listings are entertainment-oriented, which adds a certain element of glamour to the book.

The book includes, in addition to the general publications, essays on in-house magazines published during the sound era by various production distribution companies; film publications produced by the government-sponsored organizations of various countries; magazines published by fan clubs; and other reviews of technical journals devoted to the radio and television industries. Most of the publications included in the book have research value including trade papers, magazines, academic journals, foreign language periodicals, and popular reading matter. The appendix breaks down periodicals by type, subject matter, and country of publication.

—Jeffrey Friedman

## Books, Booklets, Brochures

**Successful Sound System Operation**, by F. Alton Everest, explains how the audio engineer can attain maximum performance in a sound system. The guide gives complete background information on how a sound system works, then suggests ways in which the engineer can effectively coordinate the microphone, amplifiers, acoustics, and other components for optimum performance. A section on equipment usage is also included. The guide, which contains 321 illustrations, can be ordered from Tab Books Inc., Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214. The hardbound edition is \$24.95; the paperback is \$17.45.

**Strategies for Electronics Test**, by Craig Pynn, examines the methods, technology, rationale, and history of the printed circuit board test process. In the 174-page guide, the author demonstrates, in a step-by-step format, a highly effective approach that electronics manufacturers can use to improve manufacturing productivity. The comprehensive book tells how to frame a test strategy, describes the production test tools now available, and explains how rapidly evolving technology will affect production testing during the next few years. The book is available at a cost of \$19.95 from McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1221 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

**Contemporary Electronics Circuits Deskbook**, edited by Harry L. Helms, is a compilation of circuit designs and applications taken from recent electronics magazines. Each circuit diagram is reproduced di-

rectly from the original source and is accompanied by descriptive copy. Engineers and technicians can use each circuit as shown or modify it easily to meet the desired requirements. The guide examines such important areas as transmitters and receivers, audio circuits, test and measurement, video and television, and digital circuits. The illustrated guide, containing 253 pages, is available from McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1221 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, at a price of \$29.95.

**A catalog of videotape storage systems** has been announced by The Winsted Corp., 9801 James Cir., Minneapolis, MN 55431. The full-color, 12-page catalog describes the videotape storage systems available from Winsted, and provides complete information on costs and specifications. Included are descriptions of the company's open-shelf storage systems, pull-out cabinets, high-capacity systems, and super-density movable cabinets. The catalog is available from The Winsted Corp. at the above address.

**A brochure of motion-picture and television technical books** is available from Alan Gordon Enterprises, 1430 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90078. The books are listed under nine category headings, among them sound, animation, cinematography, and post-production. Each title in the 33-page brochure is accompanied by a descriptive paragraph and an illustration. An index and order form are included.