

# News

## Progress Report to Appear in April 1987 Issue

Maurice L. French Appointed Committee Chairman

The 1986 Progress Report will be published in the April 1987 issue of the *SMPTE Journal*, it was announced by SMPTE Editorial Vice-President Howard T. La Zare, Deluxe Laboratories, Inc. The Progress Report is intended to give an account of new developments in the motion-picture, television, and allied fields. The report will be international in scope, with information coming from SMPTE committee members from all over the world.

Maurice L. French, Canadian Broadcasting Corp., is the chairman of the 1986 Progress Committee. Members of the Progress Committee, as well as Jack Spring, Editorial Director, Motion Pictures; and Frank J. Haney, Editorial Director, Television, will provide input to the report, under the overall supervision of Chairman French.

As was the case last year, significant developments having worldwide impact are taking place within the Society's engineering technology committees. SMPTE Engineering Vice-President Richard G. Streeter, CBS, Inc., will again report on these important developments. His contribution in the 1985 Progress Report was considered to be one of the most significant parts of the issue.

To make the report as comprehensive as



Maurice L. French

possible, you are invited to submit information on developments you believe have contributed to the progress of the fields the Society serves. Please use the April 1986 issue of the *Journal* as a guide to your submission. Glossy black-and-white photographs to enhance your contribution will be welcome.

Send your report by November 14, 1986, to the Editor, *SMPTE Journal*, 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607. With your help, the 1986 Progress Report will be the best ever.

## New Student Chapter Established at Manhattan Community College

A new student chapter of the SMPTE has been established at Manhattan Community College. In making the announcement, SMPTE President Harold J. Eady, Novo Communications, Inc., noted that Manhattan Community College's association with the Society "will keep tomorrow's engineers abreast of new developments in motion-picture and television technology." The college, located on Chambers Street in New York City, had its application officially approved at the June 13, 1986, meeting of the Society's Board of Governors.

The 1987 International Symposium on Broadcasting Technology (ISBT-87) will be held September 24-26, 1986, in Beijing, P.R. China. The purpose of the symposium, which combines a technical papers program and an equipment show, is to allow manufacturers of television and

radio broadcast equipment and other industry experts to discuss the latest technological developments in the field. ISBT-87 is sponsored by the Radio and Television Broadcasting Society of the Chinese Institute of Electronics in cooperation with the China International Conference Center for Science and Technology. Additional information is available from Qiu Xuhuan, P.O. Box 743, Beijing, P.R. China.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) has scheduled an international conference on the history of television. The conference, to be held November 13-15, 1986, at IEE headquarters in London, will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the world's first high-definition television service. The program will cover the progress the television medium has made over the last half-century, from the first proposals and experiments to the most recent advances in the technology. National histories, pickup devices, receivers, antennas, transmitters, digital tech-

niques, signal distribution, and standards conversion are among the topics to be included in the technical program. Additional information can be obtained from J. Sutcliffe, Conference Services, IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2R OBL, England.

BKSTS 87, the 10th International Film and Television Technology Conference and Exhibition of the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society, will be held at the Metropole Hotel, Brighton, England, June 26-30, 1987. According to the BKSTS, the move from London to Brighton was made so that the society would be able to provide additional space to exhibitors. The annual conference provides a forum for technicians to discuss the latest advances in video, sound, and AV production. For further information, contact William Pay, Conference Coordinator, BKSTS, 110-112 Victoria House, Vernon Place, London WC1B 4DJ, England.

The National Association of Broadcasters has announced a call for papers for its 1987 Broadcast Engineering Conference that is held in conjunction with the NAB Convention. The next NAB Convention will be held Mar. 28-Apr. 1, 1987, in Dallas, Tex. Anyone interested in presenting a paper at the 1987 NAB Engineering Conference should send a one-page abstract on the proposed subject, by Oct. 10, 1986, to Engineering Conference Committee, Science and Technology Dept., NAB, 1771 N. St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. For more information, call (202) 429-5346.

Convergence Corp., a manufacturer of videotape editing systems, will offer a series of seminars for video editing operators. The courses, to be conducted at Convergence, will cover the operation of the company's A/B roll edit-controllers, post-production preparation and organization, edit list management and cleaning, the nature and use of time code, and other topics. Starting dates for the remainder of 1986 are September 15, October 13, November 10, and December 8. Class hours run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The fee is \$300. Additional information is available from Lorraine Pinney, Convergence Corp., 1641 McGaw, Irvine, CA 92714.

A course on magnetic recording engineering will be presented by Finn Jorgensen, September 30-October 3, 1986, in Santa Barbara, Calif. The four-day course, tailored for technical people entering the field of data storage or audio/video recording, stresses the fundamentals of magnetism, recording techniques and equipment, magnetic tapes and heads, and digital write and read functions. Jorgensen has over 30 years of experience in

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**Jim:** "It's simply amazing how quickly and cleanly I can build a scene with sound effects, dialogue and, if need be, music. You simply download your original natural sounds, say, waves crashing on a beach, into the system once, and they are stored on disk or memory for instant recall. Furthermore, once I have my waves

(or any sound, for that matter) the velocity/pressure sensitive keyboard gives me fantastic creative control over the pitch, attack, delay, and many other aspects of the sounds."

"It simply saves hours of time because it has a built-in digital memory recorder (up to 32 tracks) that is analogous to recording but with no tape. I can assemble all my sound effects for a show, play them and record them in real time, locked to video via SMPTE. In addition, I can set a readout on the terminal and make a precise edit point which is fast and perfect. It's quite unbelievable how fast you are able to score sound effects or a commercial."

**"It was absolutely the best decision we made in 1985."**

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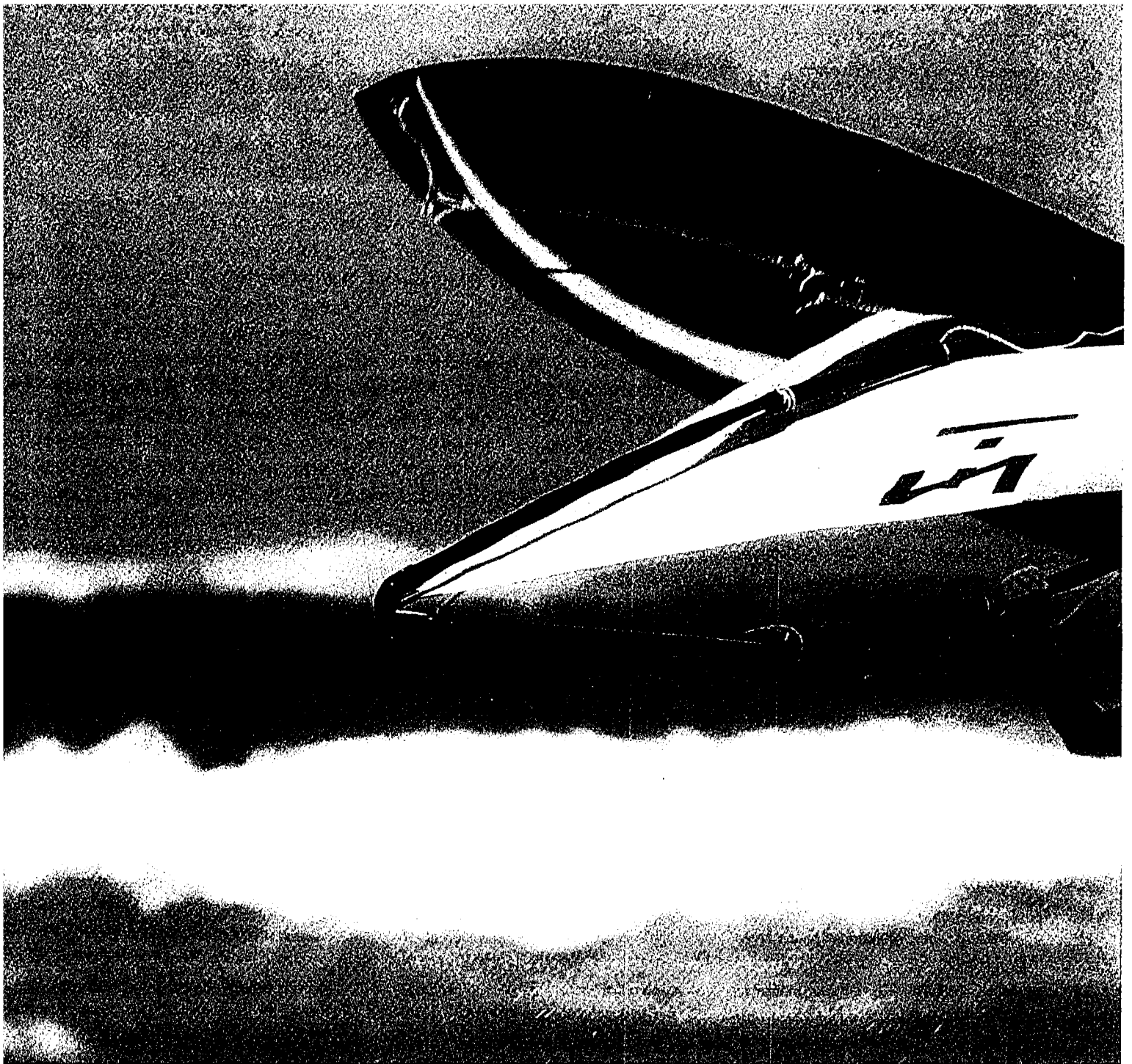


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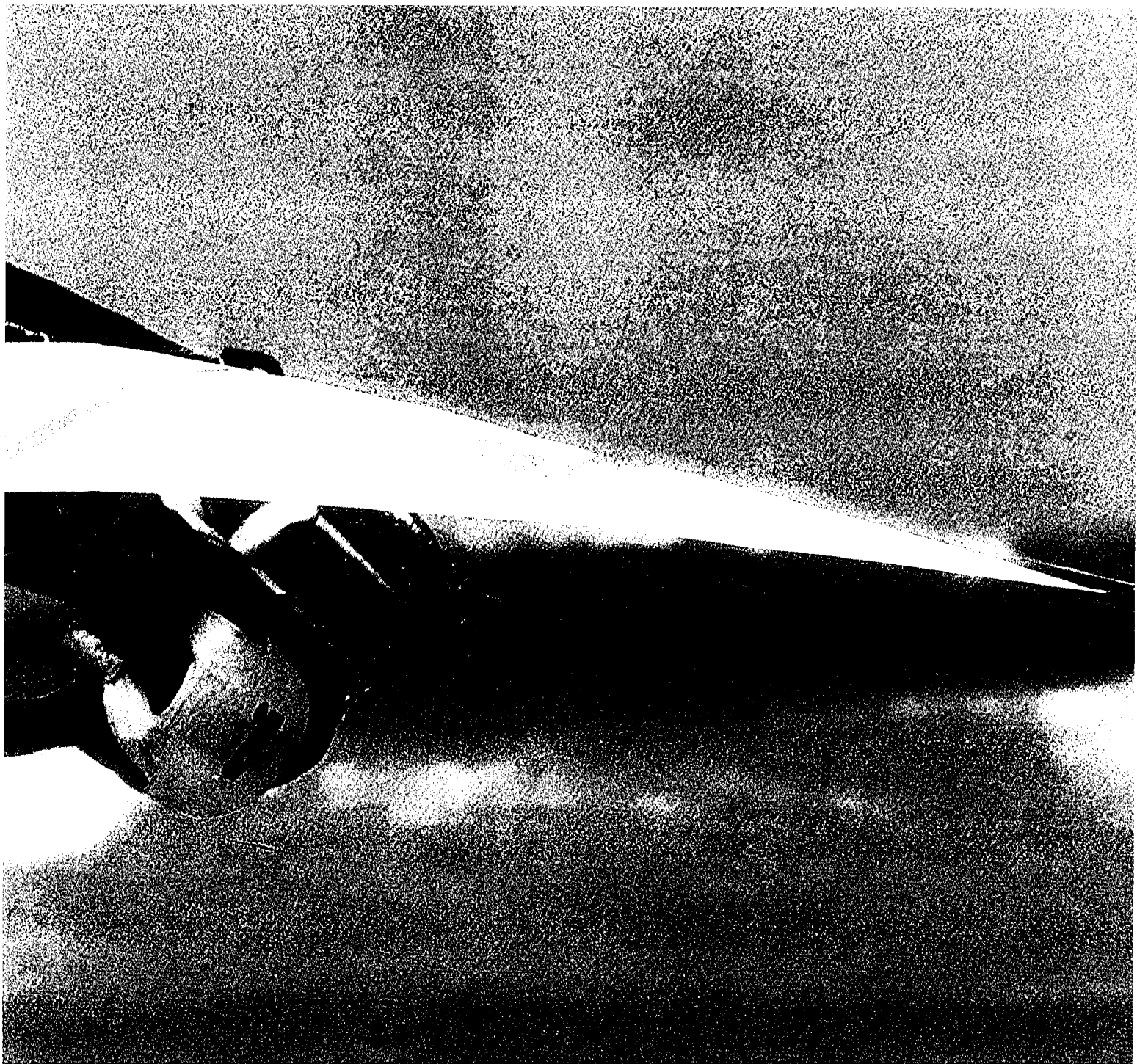
In the eyes of the viewer, the reproduction of soft film characteristic

lines is a visible improvement over previous television camera technology. And there are more advantages to the Bosch KCM 125. A decentralized computer system composed of several microcomputers controls and monitors all important functions. Camera alignment, for example, takes only a few short minutes, regardless of the

number of camera systems. And the KCM 125 has a promising future. It produces the output signals for all the analog and digital TV studio components of tomorrow.

**Top picture quality through automatic lens error correction**  
It is often said that a camera is only as good as its lens. The KCM 125





## the sky is no longer the limit

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television camera is better. It is equipped with a dynamic, state-of-the-art lens error correction system that automatically compensates for lens tolerance. And all KCM 125 lens values are stored in the camera's computer system. A micro-computer corrects the picture signal according to the zoom and focus position. This means a sharp tele-



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you beyond the limits. Write to us today. Robert Bosch GmbH, Television Systems Division, P. O. Box 429, D-6100 Darmstadt, West Germany.

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magnetic recording and is the author of *Handbook of Magnetic Recording* and several technical papers. Additional information on the course is available from Danvik, 1201 Bel Air Dr., Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

**Eastman Kodak Co.** has opened a film and video marketing and technology center in Hollywood, Calif. The \$3 million facility houses Kodak's sales and technical staff, and contains state-of-the-art analytical, densitometry, and sensitometry film laboratories and modern videotape testing equipment. There is also a 44-seat motion-picture screening room in the facility, along with a technical library and two auditorium-style seminar rooms.

According to spokesman William A. Koch, the new center preserves the historic building first purchased by George Eastman in 1927 to house the technical staff he sent from Rochester to deal with problems arising from the rapid shift from silent to sound motion pictures during the late 1920s. The marketing and technology center was literally constructed around this corporate landmark, Koch said.

**Auditronics, Inc.**, a manufacturer of professional audio equipment, has acquired Tapecaster. The acquisition makes it possible for Auditronics to add Tapecaster's

tape cartridge machine to its product base. The entire manufacturing operation of Tapecaster, originally based in Silver Spring, Md., was moved to a facility adjacent to the Auditronics headquarters in Memphis, Tenn.

**Samuelson Group, Inc.**, a supplier of film, video, and AV production equipment, has recently acquired Victor Duncan, Inc., Irving, Tex., a firm with a similar product line. The acquisition represents an effort on the part of the Samuelson Group to expand its operations in the U.S. Samuelson Group, Inc., is located in Los Angeles, while the Victor Duncan management and staff will remain intact in Irving.

**Fred Austin and Tom Johnston** have been promoted, respectively, to executive vice-president, operations, and vice-president, production, Deluxe Laboratories, Inc., Hollywood, Calif. In his new position, Austin assumes responsibility over all phases of laboratory production at the firm. He joined Deluxe in 1959, and served as senior vice-president, operations, prior to the promotion. Johnston will supervise in the production area, reporting directly to Austin. Johnston joined Deluxe in 1955, and was formerly assistant vice-president, television.

**Dennis Boxall** has been elected president of the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society (BKSTS), headquartered in London, England. Boxall comes to the BKSTS from the education sector, currently serving as an assistant dean at Harrow College of Higher Education. Previously, he was head of the Photography and Film Unit of the Biological Research Dept. at Glaxo Laboratories. Boxall, who received a BKSTS Fellowship in 1970, has been instrumental in shaping the Society's education and training policy.



**Charles P. Ginsburg**, the former Ampex Corp. executive who in the 1950s headed an engineering team that developed the first commercially practical videotape recorder, has joined the consulting firm, AVP Communication, as a technical planning consultant. In his new association with AVP, Ginsburg will work with the firm's founder and managing partner, Bob Paulson, in providing technical advisory services to current and new manufacturer and end user clients. AVP is located in Westborough, Mass.

## Book Review

### Television Engineering Handbook

K. Blair Benson, editor-in-chief. McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., New York, N.Y., 1985. Illus., 1478 pp., hardcover, \$89.50.

This long awaited updating of the familiar 1957 "Fink" version of the *Television Engineering Handbook* comprises the efforts of some 70 authors who have contributed their expertise, coordinated by Editor-in-Chief K. Blair Benson. This review examines the Handbook's evolution: the changes it has undergone in spanning the intervening years' technological advances while continuing to serve as a basic reference on the many branches of television's supporting sciences, arts, standards, and recommended practices.

The advances in television technology may be graphically symbolized by noting that eight new chapters, largely on specific advances in television hardware since 1957, have been added, while four subjects of a more fundamental nature are no longer given specific chapter coverage by title. That the new edition is half again as thick as its forerunner, even though the vacuum tubes in the illustrations have been replaced by transistors and integrat-

ed circuits, could be said to further symbolize the magnitude of these advances.

The new chapter titles are Cable and Satellite Home Distribution Systems, Broadcast Production Equipment Systems and Services, Video Tape Recording, Video Disc Recording and Reproduction, Film Transmission Systems and Equipment, Digital Television, Digital Video Effects, and Electronic Editing. The subjects losing chapter status are synchronization of scanning and color coding, video amplification and dc restoration, wideband RF and IF amplification, and wideband modulation and demodulation. They are adequately treated, however, mainly in chapters on receivers and broadcast equipment.

All other subjects in both editions fit roughly under 12 broad categories, all of which are updated and some of which are covered by several of the same authors (including, of course, Donald G. Fink) and variously grouped co-authors. The broad subject groups are properties of light, vision, photometry, color representation and reproduction, and optics; monochrome and color visual information transmission; video waveforms and spectra; wave propagation, radiation, and ab-

sorption; television transmitters and auxiliary equipment; transmitting antennas, transmission lines, and radiators; electron optics, scanning, deflection, and color registration; photosensitive camera tubes and devices, camera chains, and color terminal equipment; cathode-ray devices, monochrome and color image displays; television receivers; television standards and recommended practices; and reference data, numbers, equations, and definitions.

### Cable and Satellite Home Distribution Systems

The first of the new technology chapters, Cable and Satellite Home Distribution Systems, was written by D. Stevens McVoy, Coaxial Communication Corp., and Joseph L. Stern, Stern Telecommunications Corp., with contributions from others. It reports on an industry that had its beginning as the first edition of the Handbook was being written in the early 1950s, and which in 1986 is serving over 45 million subscribers, or 52% of television households.

The elements of CATV systems (head ends, trunk systems, neighborhood distribution systems, and subscriber drops) are covered in depth as is subscriber-premises equipment (converters and descramblers). Bidirectional systems and regional interconnections for cost-effective sharing of services via microwave amplitude-modulated links (AML) are de-