



By Michael Dolan

In this column, we provide interesting historical briefs from the Journal articles of days past. The purpose of this column is primarily entertainment, but we hope it will also stimulate your thinking and reflection on the Society's history, how

far we have come in the industry, and (sometimes) how some things never change. This is not meant to be an authoritative reference, and no attempt is made to correct any past errors or omissions of the Journal. We simply hope you enjoy the material.

25 Years Ago in the Journal

The February 1982 *Journal* published in: "The Video Disc System: A Technical Report by the SMPTE Study Group on Video Disc Recording" by C. Robert Paulson, Chairman: "The method used to obtain a video signal from a circular plastic medium has taken several forms in its ultimate product-type definition. Product design philosophy has been predicted on perceived market segments and achievable efficiency of scale for player and disc manufacturing. The combination of these elements, in an order of priority that most fits the manufacturing organization, has resulted in technological differences for each format. The consequence of these differences, that four basic formats continue to exist, are discussed in this report...In its purest form, the term video-disc describes the process by which video signal information is encoded on a circular platter. The circular platter (or disc), when rotated at a predetermined rate, allows the pickup device of the playback appliance to begin the decoding process for display of a video image...The four basic formats have been given acronyms, and these are defined here for future reference: (1) Laser Optical Reflective (LOR); (2) Laser Optical Transmissive (LOT); (3) Capacitance Electronic Disc (CED); and (4) Video High Density (VHD)."

50 Years Ago in the Journal

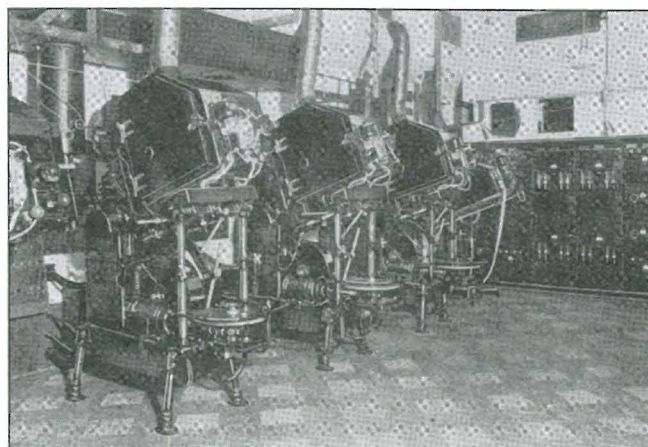
The March 1957 *Journal* published in: "A Dustograph" by Charles A. Morrison: "The rapid, volumetric determination and recording of the dust content in the atmosphere are of increasing importance in industrial and civic operations...A portable instrument for the...recording of the less than 1- to over 100-micron particle content in atmospheres is described. Dust is collected by impingement on a moving ribbon of acetate film. Optical density is measured at the site of deposition on the ribbon and recorded. Constancy of air flow and positioning of the ribbon with respect to the orifice are controlled by the application of aerodynamical principles. Provision is made for the visual viewing of the deposit under the orifice. Ribbon speed

Sponsored by Television Broadcast Technology

is controllable to allow for wide ranges of dust concentration...If the air is not completely dry, the rapid expansion of the air after passage through the orifice causes each particle of dust to become the nucleus of a condensed water droplet which aids the adhesion of the particle to the film during mechanical impingement. The film, governed by the Bernoulli effect, automatically assumes a fixed position from the orifice, and the volume of air passing through the orifice per unit time is constant..."

75 Years Ago in the Journal

The March 1932 *Journal* reported in "Sound in the Los Angeles Theater—Los Angeles, Calif." by D. M. Cole: "The sound reproducing equipment used in the Los Angeles Theater is described in a general manner. Many refinements have been used in this installation, including aids for the hard of hearing, broadcast pickup, and a public address system, which enable the exhibitor to furnish better entertainment and more comfort to the patrons. Means are provided for reproducing the picture and the accompanying sound in the lounge, and provision is also made for disk reproduction, in addition to film reproduction. A reproducer set is also provided for the reproduction of non-synchronous commercial records, making possible the running of continuous programs for entrance music, exit music, and sound effects...The amplifiers and control panels are mounted on five racks, centralizing all the panels, with the exception of the public address control equipment, which is located in a room adjacent to the projection room. Two sets of amplifiers are provided, permitting simultaneous reproduction of two programs; i.e., while sound pictures are being shown in the theater auditorium, announcements can be made to other parts of the theater, if required."



View of equipment installed in projection booth.