



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 column has been sponsored by Television Broadcast Technology, Inc., since March 2001: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7257346>.*

## 25 Years Ago in the Journal

The July 1991 *Journal* published in “Message from the President” by Blaine Baker: “Anniversaries are special occasions in our lives. It is a time to reflect on our histories—and SMPTE has a proud history. Starting with ten engineers in 1916, we have grown to one of the world’s most respected organizations, with more than 9000 members. And yet, during that growth, the aims of the founders have remained unchanged: ‘...advancement in the theory and practice of motion picture engineering and the allied arts and sciences; the standardization of the mechanisms and the practices employed therein; and the maintenance of high professional standing among its members.’ Anniversaries are also proper times to look to the future. We are now entering a new frontier of imaging and sound technologies. While the medium of motion picture film continues to improve and grow, the video and electronic signals are now expanding into uses not imagined a few years ago. The SMPTE will provide the engineering talent and structure for important, critical standardization.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7234219>.

## 50 Years Ago in the Journal

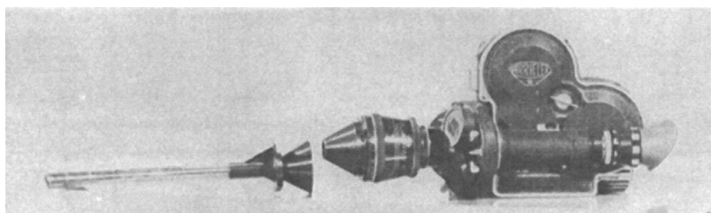
The July 1966 *Journal* published in “Proctoscopic Photography” by Jack Behrend: “The Techniques of endoscopic photography generally and proctoscopic photography in particular have been refined through the years by J. D. Brubaker, P. H. Holinger, J. E. Brubaker and others working in the field. (See *SMPE Jour.*, Sept. 1947, motion pictures in medical research.) The first equipment consisted of proctoscope camera and light source—all assembled in a single unit, with the camera designed for this specific purpose. A beam splitter allowed the physician to see through the instrument at a reduced light level. The light source consisted of a standard 100 W, 6 V lamp mounted beside the distal end of the proctoscope, the light being reflected down the tube by a first surface mirror. . . We used a standard Arriflex 16S camera, taking advantage of the 100-ft film load and mirror-reflex viewing. The 90 mm Makro-Kilar lens was coupled to the proctoscope by removing the filter holder and machining a cone-shaped adapter

which screws into the filter holder threads (Fig. 1).” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7262761>.

## 75 Years Ago in the Journal

The July 1941 *Journal* published in “Salute to the SMPE” by Will H. Hayes: “When your Society was founded twenty-five years ago, the motion picture, with slow and faltering steps, was just beginning to grope its way into the hearts and affections of the public. The pioneers of that seemingly far away period had enthusiastic confidence in this youngster among the arts, but the world at large too often looked down its nose at the “movies.” The child grew and developed, soon was taking prodigious strides, until today the motion picture is the most democratic of the arts of our century, and the universal entertainment of all the people everywhere. Of the past, with its heartaches and its exhilarations, with its defeats and its unparalleled triumphs, we can be justly proud, but it is the present and the future that now concern us most. If we are going to develop this art-industry to its fullest potentialities, as I know we are, then the work in no small measure will have to be done by the technicians and engineers of your group. In a basic sense, the motion picture is a mechanical art, the product of technical wizardry.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7252992>.

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Arriflex 16S, 90 mm Makro-Kilar lens, and proctoscope with cone-shaped adapter which screw into filter holder threads (Fig. 1, *JSMPT*, July 1966, p. 655).