



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 is sponsored by Television Broadcast Technology, Inc., since March 2001: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7257346>.

25 Years Ago in the Journal

The November 1993 *Journal* published in: “Introducing the CBC Broadcasting Centre, Toronto, Canada” by Brian D. Baldry: “Imagine an opportunity to design an integrated television and radio plant from scratch...when a decision was finally made to build a new facility for its many operations in Toronto, Canada. This decision had been long awaited, as the English language television and radio networks and the local Toronto stations in English and French struggled to operate as a leading-edge broadcaster from a collection of buildings that included a converted school, a showroom, office buildings, and theatrical stages spread out over metropolitan Toronto, and equipped with facilities that were not only trailing edge, but already some distance behind that! The facility was to encompass some 1.7 million square feet of space and, concerning the television facilities, was to house a national television network and all its production facilities, two local television stations, one Northern television network, a 24-hr cable television all news

service, together with all the support areas such as scenery shops, wardrobe, makeup, and production offices. Close to 3,000 people were to be relocated from their workplaces in 24 different locations to this one facility, without losing a minute of airtime or causing disruption to many production and administrative processes of this large integrated broadcaster.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7238690>

50 Years Ago in the Journal

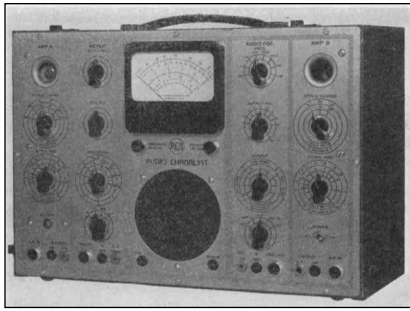
The November 1968 *Journal* published in: “Ad Hoc Color Television Study Committee Formed” by William T. Wintrin’gham: “For some time, particularly since the upsurge in color programming and the increased consumer acceptance of color television receivers, there have been reports of a lack of color uniformity as observed on home television receivers...Primarily, the complaints have been directed toward differences observed in the chroma level and hue among stations serving the same city, as well as differences observed in the adjacent program segments on any one station...Recognizing the importance and industry scope of the problems, the Engineering Vice President of Society of Motion Picture and Television

Engineers called a meeting of the Joint Committee on Inter-Society Coordination (JCIC)* on June 26, 1968, at Society headquarters...

*The Steering Committee of I-R-S was formed in 1950 by the IRE, and RMA, and the SMPTE to coordinate standardizing activities in the field of television. NARTB was invited to join in 1951 and the name of the committee changed to JCIC. The present members are the Electronic Industries Association (EIA), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), and the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE).” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7262736>

75 Years Ago in the Journal

The December 1943 *Journal* published in: “RCA Audio Chanalyst—A New Instrument for the Theater Sound Engineer” by Adolph Goodman and Edward Stanko: “With the many new instruments available, there came a demand for a light, compact test instrument that would incorporate the functions of many of the meters now carried by the engineer. Through the facilities of the RCA Engineering Division and the practical knowledge gained by field engineers, the requirements for such an instrument were met by the RCA audio chanalyst. Not only does this instrument fit the needs for compactness and efficiency, but it offers an entirely new service technique, known as audio signal tracing.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7252265>



Front view of complete RCA audio channel instrument (Fig. 1, *JSMPE*, Dec. 1943, p. 468).

100 Years Ago in the Journal

The November 1918 *Journal* published in: “Standardization of the Motion Picture Industry, and the Ideal Studio” by John W. Allison: “Owing to the tremendous growth of the industry from the beginning, due not only to its novelty, but primarily

to its human interest, the Pioneer Producers had their hands full in trying to supply the demand for motion pictures which was increasing by leaps and bounds from day to day, so that it was impossible to stop and give thought to the systematizing or standardization of production...

First: That as the ultimate success of the picture depends primarily upon a perfect exposure, *the conditions under which the exposure is made must be standardized.* *Second:* That my reason for insisting upon the necessity of a *time and temperature* system of development, is not only because it is the *only method* by which you can *actually standardize development*, but to do away as far as possible with the *human factor*. The constant changes in the personnel of the developing staff, where the old method of

development by examination is in use, makes it almost impossible to get uniform results, and this applies particularly under present labor conditions, when it seems impossible to keep an operating staff intact, owing to so many being called to the colors, and others leaving to take up positions made unusually remunerative by the needs of war. *Third:* That the proper use of makeup, and the use of color combinations must be given more attention in order to get the best results. *Finally:* That the above results can only be accomplished by the installation of a research department composed of thoroughly competent help, and then only if their instructions are followed out.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7229491>

SMPT

ERRATA

Re: September 2018 Journal

On p. 47, column 2, there is a typo in the second web address listed for David Reisner. Should read: David Reisner is a consultant at www.d-cinema.us and synthesis.com.

On p. 55, Figure 5. Alfred Hitchcock is holding a David White Stereo Realist camera, not a Kodak camera, as the caption reads.