



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>.*

of man's first steps on the moon, as well as the tragedy of a failed expedition that caused the loss of life. Taft Broadcasting's job is to provide television services to the men and women of the NASA Johnson Space Center. This covers a very wide range of tasks and a wide range of technology ... Taft also has the responsibility to repair and maintain over 5000 pieces of installed television equipment, mostly monitors and video recorder/players ... Some challenging engineering task have included the following: Conversion of field-sequential video to NTSC color television. Cameras on the shuttle were originally selected to be field-sequential to save bandwidth

**25 Years Ago in the Journal**

**T**he April 1994 *Journal* published in: "Television and the Johnson Space Center" by John J. Culp: "The NASA Johnson Space Center in

Houston, Texas, is the lead NASA center for manned space flight. Mission Control in Houston takes over as soon as the Space Shuttle clears the launch tower, and television takes America along for the ride. We have seen the exploration of space - live. We have witnessed the achievements

Digital Object Identifier 10.5594/JMI.2019.2898488  
Date of publication: 21 March 2019

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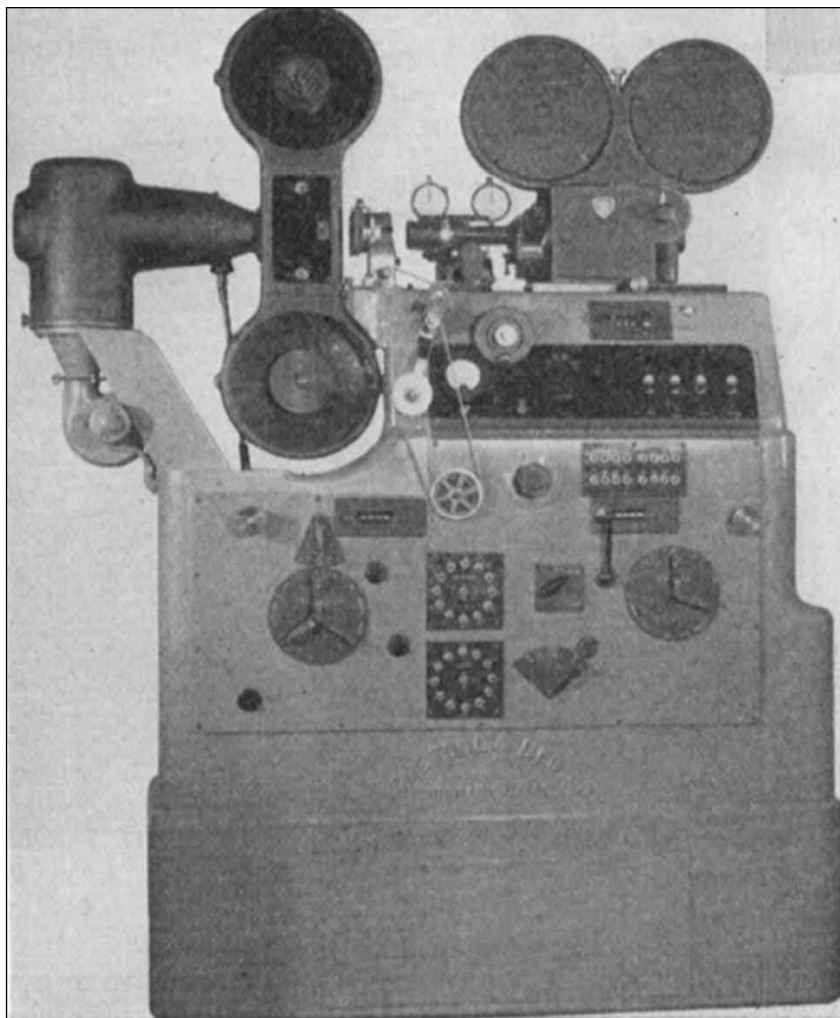
and preserve the high-resolution capability of black-and-white TV.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7270211>

### 50 Years Ago in the Journal

The April 1969 *Journal* published in: “Standards and Recommended Practices”: “Two Draft USA Standards are published here for a trial period and public review ... PH22.41, *Dimensions of Photographic Sound Record on 16mm Motion-Picture Print*, Ph22.124, *Specifications for Screen Luminance for Indoor Motion-Picture Theaters* ... Two Proposed Recommended Practices are published here ... RP 32, *Specifications for a Super 8 Test Film for Projectors and Printers* ... RP 37, *Color Temperature for Color Television Studio Monitors* ... ISO ... approved, in July 1966 Recommendation R 490, *Single Magnetic Sound Stripe on 16mm Motion-Picture Film Perforated Along One Edge* ... The member’s attention is directed to the fact that only technical content is published here. Copies of the complete Recommendations are available from the USA Standards Institute.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7227446>

### 75 Years Ago in the Journal

The April 1944 *Journal* published in: “The New Acme-Dunn Optical Printer” by Linwood S. Dunn: “In the Acme-Dunn optical printer the writer has utilized his 15 years of experience with major studio optical printing requirements in endeavoring to design a machine which can do anything that has been done on any all-purpose optical printer, with special emphasis on ease and flexibility of operation. Governmental demands for optical printers have afforded me the opportunity to design what I have often visualized as a ‘dream printer’. ... This optical printer is of radically new design, constructed as a complete unit, with cast iron base and housing, and low optical center. As shown in Fig. 1, all threading and operating are done from one side of the machine.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7252424>



Acme-Dunn optical printer (Fig. 1, *JSMPT*E, Apr. 1944, p. 205).

### 100 Years Ago in the Journal

The March 1919 *Journal* published in: “White Light for Motion Picture Photography” by Wm. Roy Mott: “The famous psychologist, Professor Munsterberg, wrote a few years ago a book on motion pictures, and he there asserted that the production of motion pictures by the best companies had graduated us an Art to rank coequal with painting, sculpture, and music. By attention to mode and variation of lighting, many new psychological appeals can be made, including the portraying of the thought images in the minds of the characters of the play in a way that cannot be duplicated on the theater stage ... There is spent annually three to four hundred million dollars by the people of the United States for the privilege of attending the motion picture theaters. The daily attendance is said

to average between ten and twenty millions of people. Of the fifty thousand motion picture theaters in the world, there are about twenty thousand in the United States... ‘As to photographic difficulties encountered in outdoor work in England, it is ridiculous to say that they cannot make pictures there. It is true, production is more expensive, perhaps twice as much because we have to wait for the Sunshine’. Thus in foggy England, the difficulties are much greater on account of poor light than in the West or East of the United States. The invention of the high amperage white flame arc lamps and carbons and of other artificial light sources such as the daylight gas filled tungsten lamps and the mercury arc lamps, have eliminated these expensive waits for sunshine.” For the full article, see: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7229943>