

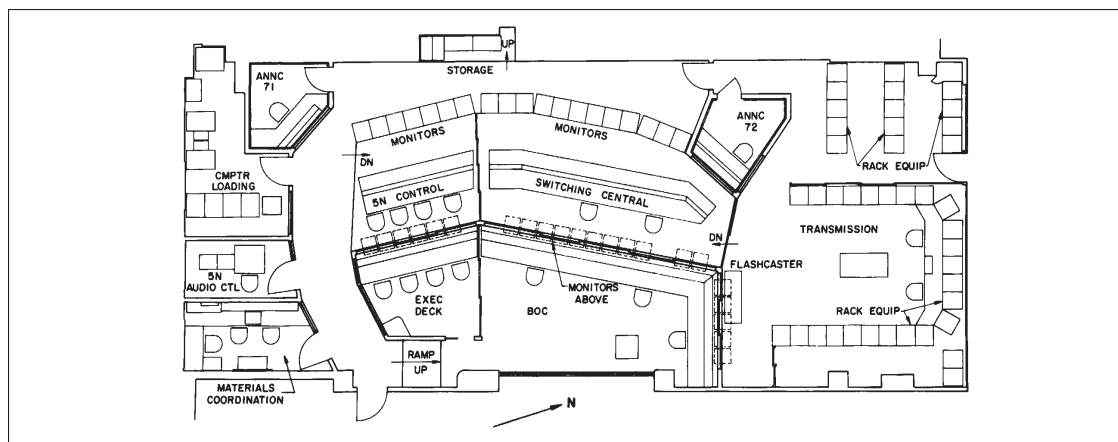


BY MICHAEL DOLAN



25 Years Ago in the Journal

The September 2001 *Journal* published in: “Multichannel Sound in Television—Technical and Aesthetic Approach.” A new system of Digital TV broadcasting by satellite was launched in Japan in December 2000. With this system, 5.1 and 3–2 multichannel sound programs can be broadcast. Many 3–1 multichannel sound programs have already been broadcast with HDTV, and various experimental recordings of 3–2 multichannel sound have been conducted at NHK. Multichannel sound opens a new dimension of sound production in television. It also confers substantial advantages in sound reproduction such as spatial impression and sound source localization in a horizontal plane. But it is also true that multichannel sound production is much more complicated than ordinary two-channel stereo recording.” For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/mpjwbfsx>



NBC Television Central. Layout plan showing special relationships of various areas (Fig. 5 from *SMPTÉ J.*, Oct. 1976, p. 794).

50 Years Ago in the Journal

The October 1976 *Journal* published in: “Papers on the NBC Television Central System.” Large television centers have evolved over the years to include numerous production studios, telecine equipment, videotape machines, master control for audio and video, incoming and outgoing audio and video circuits, viewing rooms, equipment rooms and other technical services. At NBC’s New York plant, Television Central coordinates these relatively independent technical areas to assure smooth and efficient release of program signals to the

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.



“Large television centers have evolved over the years to include numerous production studios, telecine equipment, videotape machines, master control for audio and video, incoming and outgoing audio and video circuits, viewing rooms, equipment rooms and other technical services.”

NBC Network and to WNBC-TV...The new Television Central area layout was designed to allow optimum personal communication (**Fig. 5**)” For the full article, see <https://tinyurl.com/thzt69my>

75 Years Ago in the Journal

The September 1951 *Journal* published in: “Engineering Activities.” **Optics.** The Optics Committee met on May 3, 1951, under the Chairmanship of R. Kingslake. Two subjects were discussed at this meeting: (a) the Proposed Standard for Lens Aperture Calibration and (b) the general problem of standards for 8-mm, 16-mm and 35-mm projection lenses....**Film Projection Practice** Specific issues tackled were: 1. *Projection-Room Plans*. This is to be reviewed and revised by a task group of three and prepared for *Journal* publication...2. *Projection-Room Maintenance Instruction*...3. *Lamp-Mounting Dimensions*. The need for standardization was emphasized and a survey on existing equipment proposed. 4. *Review of Standards*. Two Standards, PH22.28 and PH22.58, were studied as potential International Standards but rejected on the grounds that they required revision. Messrs. Schlanger and Todd agreed to draw up a new draft of PH22.28.” For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/y8zmxbwu>

100 Years Ago in the Journal

The October 1926 (issue 27) published in: “Preservation of Historical Films by Fred W. Perkins.” Mr. Will H. Hays, head of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, suggested recently to President Coolidge that the Government of the United States should make efforts

toward the preservation of motion-picture films possessing historical value, he brought to public attention a need that has been increasingly realized by those who believe in the value of a visual record of the great events of our Nation and of the world...The need was illustrated less than a month ago in the motion picture laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Washington office of the Panama Canal asked us to prepare for inspection and projection [of] some old films that had been found lying in a closet in the Capitol building. We found that the films included ten thousand feet of original negative showing the construction work on the Panama Canal. Decomposition resulting from lack of care had ruined two thousand feet of the negative, and doubtless would have ruined all of it had not somebody stumbled upon this valuable record. During the World War the Signal Corps of the Army had numerous motion cameramen in the training camps in this country, at the embarkation and debarkation points, and in the camps and fighting zones. The result is 1,800,000 feet of negative dealing with all phases of the war that could be filmed.” For the full article, see: <https://tinyurl.com/4tsybm6f>

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