EDITOR'S PROFILE of this issue

from a historical perspective ...
with Paul Wesling, SF Bay Area Council GRID editor (2004-2014)

June, 1964:

Cover: The illustration shows retrorockets propelling the solid-propellant boosters away from the Titan III-C upper stage. United Technology Center in Sunnyvale builds the boosters.

Page 4: Stanford's professor of chemistry Eric Hutchinson speaks on science and responsibility; the article talks about humanistic and moral values, and how engineers need to sometimes consider their deepest convictions and reflect on how they apply to the engineering work they do. I had him as my chemistry instructor, and admired his approach to teaching and mentorship. In 1977, he designs the gowns and insignia used at Stanford's commencement and other formal occasions. The emblem for the school of engineering is shown below.

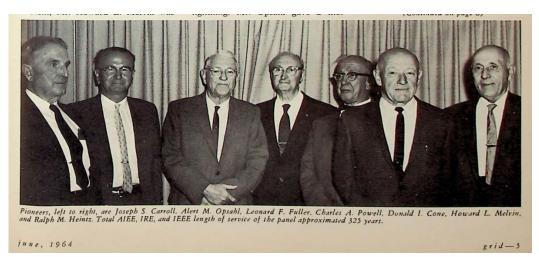
Page 4: The IRE's divisions were called "Professional Groups" (PGs). Following the AIEE/IRE merger, this designation was expanded to "Professional Technical Groups" (PTGs), since they were clearly technical in nature. Well, this got too long (and pretentious), so they dropped the "PT" part, and now they're simply called "Groups" (in the future, "Societies"). Progess is being made toward simplification.

Page 5: A photo (below) shows seven of the early pioneers of electric/electronics technologies in the SF Bay Area, gathered for the Santa Clara Valley Subsection's dinner meeting. Leonard Fuller, grandfather of a friend of mine and a professor and department head at UC-Berkeley, was the panel moderator. He discussed early radio development including the eventual dominance of the vacuum tube; in addition to his work with radio at Federal Telegraph, he had pioneered carrier-current telephone communication for the high-voltage lines to several remote hydroelectric facilities, outside San Francisco, for control purposes, expanding this to a Los Angeles-to-Hoover Dam system. Ralph

Heintz, an early HF radio pioneer, talked about issues with early air-to-ground HF

communication, and the frequency that was set aside for such use.





Archive of available SF Bay Area GRID Magazines is at this location: https://ethw.org/IEEE San Francisco Bay Area Council History

JUNE 1964 SAN FRANCISCO SECTION
INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL
AND
ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS



reminder

June 9 (Tuesday) P June 10 (Wednesday) SCVSS June 17 (Wednesday) BME June 18 (Thursday) EMC June 23 (Tuesday) CT/EC

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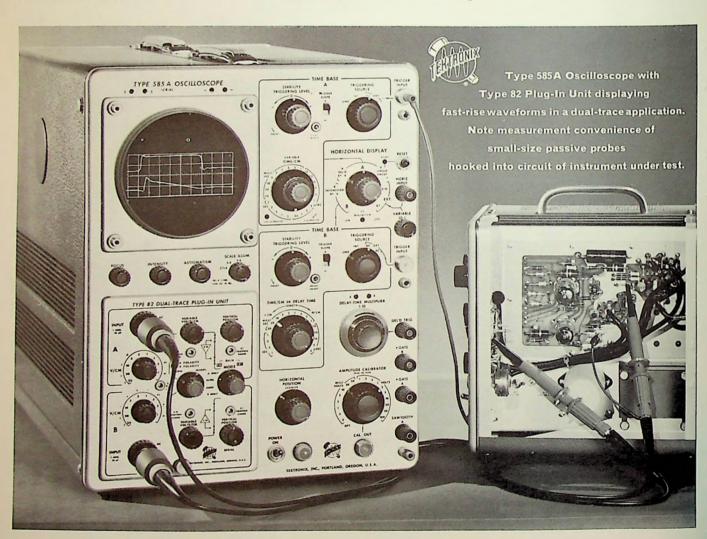
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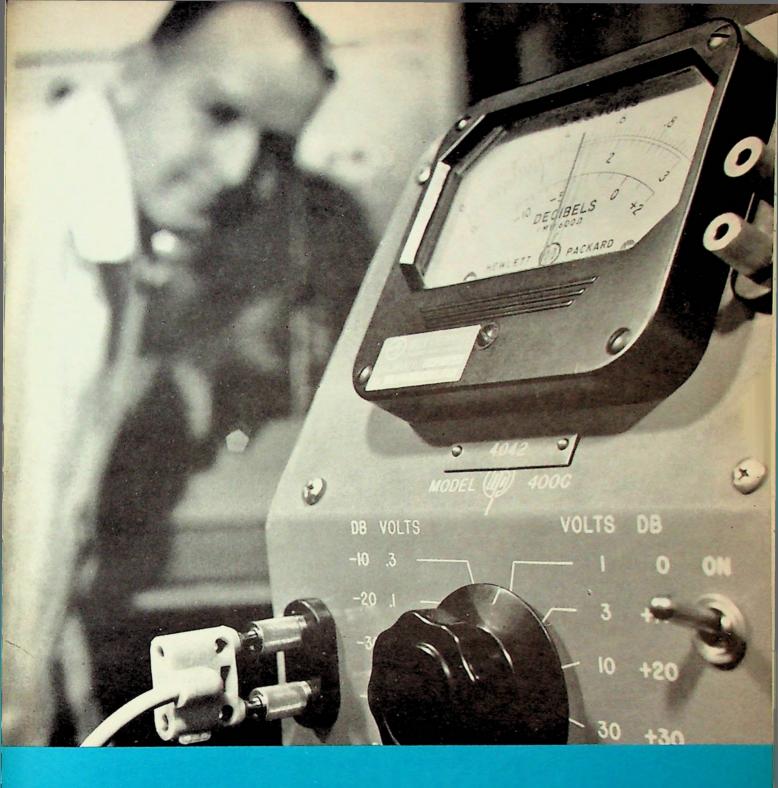
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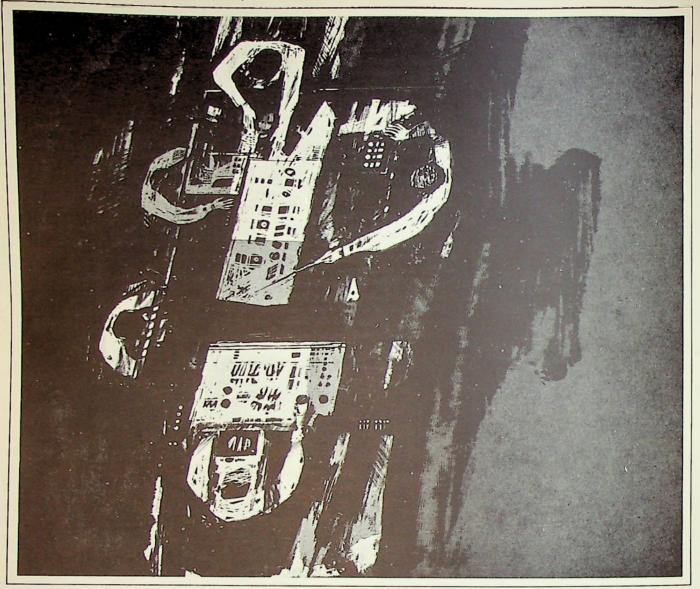
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from the chair

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

My service as chairman of the section ending on June 30, I look back upon several section accomplishments during 1963-64. The chairmanship, which is always demanding, was further enlivened this year by the growing pains of merger. Needless to say, I look forward to July I, when I turn the helm over to Jack Beckett.



Bill Edson

Plans ably laid last year by Pete Lacy, Vie Kaste, Stan Kaisel, Bob Grady, and the merger committees have worked out well. A merged approach to such important committees as awards, membership, and education and student relations, with co-chairmen bringing their knowledge to bear on interim problems, has been productive of mutual understanding and solutions.

The addition of two elected directors at large has served the Operating Committee and the section well. The new bylaws of the section, which title the governing committee the "Executive Committee," will make for conformity with national bylaws and a tighter operation. The former Executive Committee will be retitled "Executive Council" and will serve as an advisory body to the governing committee.

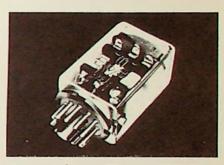
Three subsections were reorganized and have conducted active programs. Under the new bylaws, their chairmen are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. Two AIEE divisions were merged with existing group chapters: Instrumentation and Controls, and Communication. Circuit

(Continued on page 16)

cover

Saluting organization of the S.F. Chapter of IEEE Aerospace Group by Bob Sumner of Westinghouse (325-2226), clusters of retrorockets propel 250-ton solid-propellant boosters away from upper stages of the Titan III-C standard space launch vehicle. Retrorockets will be produced for the Martin Co. by United Technology Center, Sunnyvale, which also builds the boosters.





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SCIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

When viewing Nagasaki from the harbor shortly after the city's devastation in 1945, the strains of a dance tune flowed from a ship's speaker. The tune was, "Is You Is Or Is You Ain't Ma Baby." The poignant implications of this title expresses one of mankind's aged dilemmas, that of the two-edgedness of the power of science—for good or for evil.

This event begot the poetic book written by Dr. J. Bronoski, "Science and Human Values," from which the anecdote was taken. Perhaps it represents an extreme example compared with possible consequences of choices placed before scientists today; perhaps not. In any event, scientists, who are citizens and homo sapiens as well, have choices and they may very well be crucial.

"Scientific Blinkers" are important for most of us in honest pursuit of our work; however, it is vital that we not only recognize that they are on, but be able to remove them at propitious moments. Otherwise, there are real prospects of intellectual death; the very thing we hoped to avoid by putting them on. Bigotry or fanatical devotion to "our cause" in science is self-defeating. So points out both Philip Abelson in a recent editorial in Science and Arthur Bronwell in the last issue of the IEEE Spectrum.

John W. Gardner, president of the Carnegie Foundation, expresses his belief in his new book, "Self-Renewal: the Individual and the Innovative Society," that the vitality of societies is essentially the vitality of their individuals and institutions. He further questions our educational system and speaks in rather frank and humanistic terms about his theme: "Many moderns would rather walk barefoot over hot coals than utter an outright expression of moral concern. They have to say it obliquely, mix it with skepticism or humor, or smother it with pessimism. But embarrassment about the expression of moral seriousness is a disease of people far gone in affectation and oversophistication. Unaffected people will regard it as normal to consult their deepest values and to exhibit allegiance to those values."

Our speaker on June 17, Dr. Eric Hutchinson, has frequently spoken about convictions that he believes are important to the scientist:

that the scientist devote more attention to the responsibility he bears;

that he question the values he is living by and for;

that there is no public misrepresentation of decisions labeled, "scientific"; that is, that political decisions

MEETING CALENDAR

SANTA CLARA VALLEY SUBSECTION

6:00 P.M. • Wednesday, June 10

Plant tour and social meeting

Place: Paul Masson Vineyards, off Pierce Rd., Saratoga Dinner: At the plant, about \$3.50 per person, ladies welcome Reservations: Mrs. Jenny George, 735-2226 by June 5

teservations. Mrs. Jenny George, 100-2220 by June e

GROUP CHAPTERS

Bio-Medical Engineering

8:00 P.M. • Wednesday, June 17

Science and responsibility

Dr. Eric Hutchinson, professor, department of chemistry, Stanford University

Place: Room M-104, Stanford Medical School, Stanford

Dinner: 6:15 p.m., Red Cottage Inn, 1706 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

Reservations: Con Rader, 326-1970, ext. 327, by June 16

Circuit Theory

8:00 P.M. • Tuesday, June 23

(Joint with PTGEC-see below)

Cellular logic with applications to integrated circuits

Robert Minnick, senior research engineer, SRI

Place: G.E. Computer Lab, 310 De Guigne Ave., Sunnyvale

Dinner: 6:30 P.M., Old Plantation, El Camino and Bernardo, Sunnyvale

No reservations required

Electromagnetic Compatibility

8:00 P.M. • Thursday, June 18

Instrumentation for wide-band spectrum analysis

Presented by H. L. Halverson and A. Fong, Microwave R&D Labs, Hewlett-Packard Co.

Place: Hewlett-Packard Auditorium, 1501 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto

Tour of Hewlett-Packard plant to follow; reservations are necessary Dinner: 6:00 P.M., Rick's Swiss Chalet, 4085 El Camino Way, Palo Alto Reservations: Glenn Gillett, RE 9-4321, ext. 24834 or 23268, by June 16

Electronic Computers

8:00 P.M. • Tuesday, June 23

(Joint with PTGCT-see above)

Power

7:30 P.M. • Tuesday, June 9

Symposium and round table discussion: EHV in the West

E. G. Lambert, supervising electrical engineer, Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

E. W. Lewis, Pacific Coast zone electric utility engineer, Westinghouse

J. B. Tice, manager, application engineering, electric utility sales division, GE Co.

Place: Engineers' Club of San Francisco, 206 Sansome St., San Francisco

Dinner: Cocktails 5:30 P.M., Dinner: 6:30 P.M., \$3.75

Reservations: GA 1-3184 by Friday, June 5

student branch news

HEALD COLLEGE OFFICERS

Recently elected officers of the IEEE student branch at Heald College, San Francisco, are Frank Frankos, chairman; Harry Jung, vice chairman; Herbert R. Zajac, secretary; Tom Bellucci, treasurer; and Harvey Edmark, membership chairman. Roy O. Hurd is faculty adviser.

section news

PT DROPPED

The IEEE board of directors voted on April 23 to change the name "Professional Technical Groups" to "Groups," effective immediately. Local chapters will therefore be referred to in the Grid and elsewhere as the San Francisco Chapter of the IEEE Automatic Control Group, for example.

are not couched under the scientific bailiwick;

that he clarify his realization that science does not itself constitute reality, rather of its consistency of many truths about reality. We expect this to be a stimulating meeting and hope that all interested, whether a member of the BioMedical Engineering Group or not, will attend.

WILLIAM HALPERN

SPECTRUM ANALYSIS

Harley Halverson and Arthur Fong of Hewlett-Packard microwave R&D laboratory will address the Electromagnetic Compatibility chapter at its June 18 meeting. They will discuss instrumentation for wide-band spectrum analysis to view simultaneously many signals, such as those encountered in electromagnetic compatibility and spectrum signature investigation.

A spectrum analyzer will be shown which displays frequency spectrums from 30 kc to 2 gc wide at scan rates of 1 per 30 seconds to 30 per second. Center frequencies of 10 mc to 40 gc can be analyzed.

Practical applications, such as adjustments of signal sources, harmonic generators, parametric amplifiers, and other laboratory devices, will also be discussed.

Halverson is project supervisor in charge of the RF work on the analyzer and is a graduate of South Dakota



Shown with the H-P spectrum analyzer, 8551A/851A, are (left to right) George C. Jung, who supervised development of display unit; Harley L. Halverson. who supervised development of R-F unit; Arthur Fong, section manager; and Howard C. Poulter, engineering manager. At lower right is typical spectrum, 0 to 200 MC.

State College and Stanford. Fong is manager of the section in which the analyzer was developed and is a graduate of University of California and was formerly on the staff of MIT Radiation Laboratory.

A tour of Hewlett-Packard facilities will follow. Reservations are needed for the tour to determine the number of guides.

meeting review

SECTION/SUBSECTION APRIL DINNER MEETING HONORS EE PIONEERS

"Pioneers' Night," held at the Lamplighter in Sunnyvale on April 22, was very well attended with approximately 135 members and guests present.

Leonard F. Fuller, noted for his work on early carrier systems and telegraph, did an excellent job as panel moderator for the evening. His first introduction was Charles A. Powell, past president AIEE 1945, a pioneer in early utility systems. Mr. Powell reminisced on the early days of power industry, way back when 50 watts was good for 16 candle power! He described the Buffalo Light and Power Plant of 1896 which was the first to be installed at Niagara Falls.

Next, Mr. Howard L. Melvin was

introduced. Mr. Melvin went into very interesting details of early distribution systems, the kinds of insulators they used "in those days," and how the small power companies formed pools through interconnection of their respective lines. This was undoubtedly the formative era for the large and extensive power companies as we know them today. When asked from the floor if he could relate any differences of opinion between Mr. Edison favoring DC and Mr. Westinghouse favoring AC, he hedged by saying that this was a matter of record.

Mr. Alert M. Opsahl was introduced as a pioneer in the study of lightning. Mr. Opsahl gave a thor-

oughly energetic presentation on some of his lightning studies and experiences and went into detail of the first oscillograph in the USA, designed by him. It would almost fill a small room! Mr. Opsahl ended an excellent presentation with a slide showing a patented lightning "fireball trap." (This was not Mr. Opsahl's patent and he explained why it wouldn't work anyhow!)

Next, Joseph S. Carroll was introduced, his work including early power and corona studies. Mr. Powell gave an excellent explanation of corona phenomena and of the high losses that were experienced on long transmission

(Continued on page 6)



Pioneers, left to right, are Joseph S. Carroll, Alert M. Opsahl, Leonard F. Fuller. Charles A. Powell, Donald I. Cone, Howard L. Melvin, and Ralph M. Heintz. Total AIEE, IRE, and IEEE length of service of the panel approximated 325 years.

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wema news

LEVELING OFF CONTINUES FOR WESTERN ELECTRONICS

Growth of the total electronics industry in the West appears to have reached a plateau that will carry through 1964, according to the Western Electronic Manufacturers Association (WEMA).

Figures compiled by WEMA in its annual survey of the industry indicate that consolidated sales of western companies this year will show no significant gain over the 1963 record of \$3,875 billion.

WEMA President Burgess Dempster, president of Electronic Engineering Co. of California, Santa Ana, pointed out that despite the general leveling-off, a majority of the companies are forecasting increased sales for the year.

"The aggregate growth in the West, however, is offset by considerable downturns foreseen by one out of four companies," he said.

Dempster attributed the slowdown to lagging U.S. military expenditures in the western states. "The companies experiencing the biggest sales dips are those which are most dependent on government contracts," he declared.

He explained there have been no major projects awarded to the West by the Department of Defense or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration since Apollo in 1962.

In addition, some of the big jobs begun three or four years ago are now phasing out. Others, such as Skybolt and DynaSoar, have been canceled altogether.

"On top of reductions in the defense dollar," Dempster said, "we are faced with changes in government buying policies which increase costs, and pressures to 'spread the work' which tend to direct business away from our area."

While 1963 sales volume in the West was up 8.1 percent over the 1962 level of \$3,585 billion, year-end employment in the industry was off 4,800 from the 255,000 people employed at the end of 1962.

"A good deal of the employment drop can be explained by individual company efforts to step up efficiency and by tighter management controls," Dempster said. He foresees slight additional employment cuts, even though sales levels should remain the same.

The WEMA president is confident that the West will re-establish its growth curve in 1965 and, possibly, by the latter part of this year.

"Fortunately," he said, "the commercial and overseas markets for electronic equipment are expanding and will account for an increasing share of the industry output.

"Of greater importance, a number of dramatic technological advances, such as integrated circuits and lasers, are moving into the production phase."

MORE PIONEERS REVIEW

lines. It was not too long ago, for example, that on lines crossing the desert, hot weather losses of 10 KW per mile were noted. He also detailed some of the early work at Ryan Labs where giant water resistors were used between lines in order to accurately measure power.

Donald I. Cone was the next speaker, a real pioneer in early telephone systems. Mr. Cone gave a very enlightening and humorous talk on inductive hum picked up in the telephone lines when the power companies and the telephone companies each use the same poles. From what he said, there was considerable difference of opinion between the power and phone companies, but everything was straightened out to mutual benefit!

Next, Ralph M. Heintz disclosed some of the early problems in aircraft-to-ground radio. Initially, a spark transmitter was used; later when RF was feasible, 33.33 meters was sort of set aside as a "miracle frequency"—it really worked well. Only one problem developed on the early airplanes and

that was, where do we hang the ground wire? Finally, out of desperation, someone suggested it be fastened to the air frame. It worked.

As the final speaker, Mr. Fuller, the panel moderator, reminisced over some early RF generators that preceded the vacuum tube. Back in 1902 the DC arc was the thing; next came the radio frequencies—Goldschmidt alternators, frequency multiplying transformers, and so on. There were all sorts of mechanical gimmicks—tone wheels, rotary tickers, etc., used to generate RF until the vacuum tube obsoleted all of this equipment quite the same way the solid state devices are obsoleting the vacuum tubes to-day.

The above gentlemen, all truly pioneers in the electrical and electronic arts, were warmly applauded. It is most gratifying to see men like this willing to share their experiences and at the same time retain very lively senses of humor. It is hoped that Pioneers' Night can be made an annual affair.

ROBERT W. SUMNER

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Charles Wilson describing planning and development of Ampex VR-1500 video tape recorder (recorder is to the left of speaker)

meeting review

PEP GROUP HEARS AMPEX R&D SUCCESS STORY

Ampex Corporation was the host for the January meeting of the PTG-PEP chapter. In an opening film, Ampex's founder and chairman of the board, Alexander M. Poniatoff, recalled the early beginnings of tape recording. One of the first uses of tape recordings was during World War II when Hitler recorded messages to his troops. These were later played during air raids to build troop morale by giving the impression Hitler was in the city. From this early beginning, tape recording has advanced to pictures as well as sound. Video tape recording is currently used in education, military training, sports training, and Pilot Landing Aid Television (which allows pilots to visually review their landings).

After the film, Charles E. Wilson, fabrication manager at Ampex, described what it took to put the VR-1500 video recorder into production, in his talk "Breadboard to Breadwinner." First, a group surveys the market potential and plans a product, complete with cost and time estimates. These plans are reviewed by management, and if approved proceed to the development cycle, which includes theory, breadboard, engineering model (no castings), and prototype. The Ampex normal development cycle target is 18 months; however, this was not met in the VR-1500 due to several specification changes.

One of the most important decisions involves when to release the product to production. Marketing interests dictate an early release, while lab instinct would tend to engineer the product to death. After the production release the normal manufacturing cycle is eight months; however, this was com-

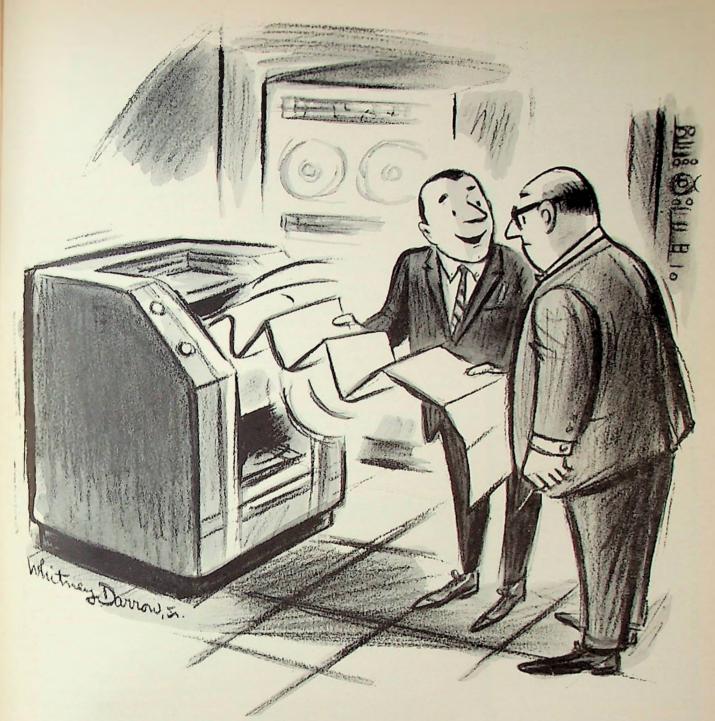
pressed to two months in the case of the VR-1500 due to competitive reasons. Materials are ordered at the same time operation, fabrication, and method sheets are being written. Work orders are then scheduled to be completed when the purchased parts arrive. Next, units are built and debugged. The assembly part of the cycle has been shortened by a photographic technique which records exploded assembly pictures on a drawing format. Previously this involved time-consuming artist's hand drawings. Finally, thorough testing is performed before shipping.

The VR-1500 was designed for a 3megacycle bandwidth with 3½ inches per second actual tape speed, or the equivalent of 650 feet per second tape versus head speed. This was achieved with a helical scan design where the tape scans two fixed heads.

After Wilson's talk, the audience was given a unique plant tour via video tape. Earlier in the day when the plant was in operation various shots of the manufacturing and assembly areas had been recorded on the VR-1500. Now the audience was able to view this activity without leaving their seats.

Finally, our hosts recorded and played back various shots of the audience via the VR-1500 recorder. This dramatized the immediate playback and editing capability of such recorders. In summary, the meeting presented an insight into the planning and development process necessary to bring a video tape machine into production, plus an effective demonstration of the machine itself.

RONALD K. CHURCH



"It says it's exactly one year old and wants a new supply of tapes of MYLAR" for its birthday."

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wescon news

1964 COMMITTEES NAMED

Thirty industry executives who will head the working committees of WESCON were named recently by S. H. "Penny" Bellue, Packard-Bell Electronics, who is chairman of the executive committee for the 1964 show.

WESCON will be held in Los Angeles August 25-28, with exhibit areas in Memorial Sports Arena and Hollywood Park racetrack, and technical sessions at the Statler-Hilton Hotel. Exhibits will total about 1,200 booths, nearly equal to previous years, Bellue announced.

WESCON committee chairmen and vice chairmen head 14 committees which will have an eventual membership of 300 volunteers. Half of these committees, more closely related to the "convention" side of WESCON, will report to the convention director, Ralph A. Lamm (Bendix Pacific); the other seven, more concerned with "show" activities, report to Hugh P. Moore (Technical Systems Inc.), who is show director. Bellue, Lamm, Moore, Manager Don Larson, and Edward C. Bertolet (Behlman-Invar), chairman of WESCON's board, make up the 1964 executive committee.

Bellue announced the following appointments:

Technical Program: Dr. Robert R. Bennett (TRW Space Technology Laboratories), chairman; Dr. George F. Smith (Hughes Research Laboratories), vice chairman.

Future Engineers: Charles M. Edwards (The Bendix Corporation), chairman; E. H. Schreiber (Pacific Telephone), vice chairman.

Exhibits: Ben Warner (Packard-Bell), chairman; Edward W. Watts (Instrument Specialists Inc.) and Robert Guss (Beckman), vice chairmen.

Distributor-Manufacturer-Representative Conference: Herb Becker (Herb Becker Co.), chairman; Homer Neilsen (Kierulff Electronics), vice chairman.

Banquet: John J. Guarrera (Guide Manufacturing Co.), chairman; John F. O'Halloran (O'Halloran Associates), vice chairman.

Cocktail Party: R. E. Darringer (Pacific Scientific Co.), chairman; Jack Beamish (Litton Industries), vice chairman.

Facilities: Einar Ingebretsen (Lockheed Missiles & Space Co.), chairman; Spence B. Varian (The Singer Co.)

and Benton Bejach (Mincom Div. MMM Co.), vice chairmen.

Hospitality: William J. Moreland (Conrac), chairman; Charles C. Olsefsky (Lockheed Missiles & Space Co.) vice chairman.

Industrial Design: Philip J. Quinn (Mincom Div. MMM Co.), chairman; George Akin (FI Industries), vice chairman.

Public Relations: David T. Traitel (Electro-Optical Systems), chairman; Don Flamm (Aeroneutronic), vice chairman.

Registration: T. L. Golmis (Hughes Aircraft), chairman; John E. Barker (Space and Information Div., NAA), vice chairman.

Technical Tours: John H. Ganzenhuber (Hughey & Phillips Inc.), chairman; V. J. Braun (System Development Corp.), vice chairman.

Visitors Services: Robert C. Tetherow (Arnold Engineering), chairman; Charles R. Fetty (WESTRON), vice chairman.

Women's Activities: Mrs. Dana Johnson, chairman; Mrs. Burgess Dempster, vice chairman.

Among other interesting findings in a recent study were that more than half of the WESCON visitors devote more than four hours to exhibit viewing, that most engineers plan their exhibit viewing in advance, and that most of them spend most of their time studying exhibits that are related to their own jobs or fields of interest.

Since most visitors "know where they are going in advance," there was confirmation of another finding in the study: that booth location has very little effect on the interest of the audience in that booth. In the study, such elements as the education, job title, age, and area of general technical interest were considered for every responding visitor.

It was also determined, Bellue said, that the relatedness of interest among categories—i.e., between components and automatic control, for example—are measurable with accuracy. The study design, prepared by Peter Sherrill of West Associates, former Grid publications advisor, included a correlational matrix which, through computer analytic techniques, compared each of 48 "gross" product categories with every other one in terms of specific interest by visitors.

"The nine categories of exhibits 'emerged' from factor analysis, and so did the optimum grouping of them at



"Penny" Bellue

the Sports Arena and Hollywood Park," Bellue commented.

Bellue said that WESCON's technical program will be transmitted on closed-circuit TV, so that a visitor to the exhibit arenas can participate in technical sessions. Special hookups will be provided for asking questions from the viewing rooms.

Shuttle buses will be scheduled on a continuous basis from downtown to both arenas, between both arenas, and from both arenas to the airport area.

The annual WESCON cocktail party will be held in the spacious clubhouse of Hollywood Park, Bellue said, and noted that unlimited parking at both the Sports Arena and Hollywood Park will be available. Full restaurant and refreshment facilities will be open at both locations, and registration of visitors will be undertaken at both arenas.

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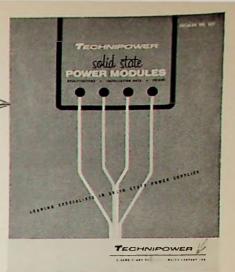
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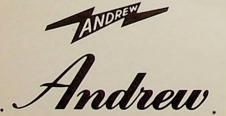
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meeting review

DATA RETRIEVAL MACHINE

Jacob Goldberg and LeRoy Younker, senior research engineers at Stanford Research Institute, addressed the January meeting of the PTG chapter on Electronic Computers, describing the research and development leading to MIRF, a data retrieval machine using an associative memory.

The machine was designed to shorten the "user to documents to ideas to user loop" encountered in information retrieval, document abstracting being used to allow a greater number of articles to be searched. Coordinate indexing is used, which consists of a set of descriptors or key words for each document, conventional card indexing schemes having the problem of field indeterminacy resulting from the many possible locations of a descriptor in a string. This is solved by using the technique of superimposed coding, a single code or field describing a document. Retrieval is accomplished by comparing the code derived from an inquiry with all of the items in memory. This comparison in the MIRF is accomplished simultaneously, i.e., during a single memory cycle.

The feasibility model was designed to store the superimposed description code, an accession number, and associated data for up to 5,000 documents. Each document could have up to 8 descriptors with a maximum of 10 alphabetic characters each. A vocabulary up to 3,000 descriptor words was allowed.

The machine is comprised of two associative memories, a control section, and an input/output typewriter. One MIRF is used to store the document information while the other stores the dictionary for making the transformation from alphabetic descriptors to compact binary codes. The memories are comprised of split "C"-shaped cores with interlaced wiring forming a permanent memory. The information is wired into memory using a special machine which allows the information to be transferred from cards to wires. The wiring is done by hand, although it was suggested that it could be automated. The parallel interrogation is accomplished by activating the cores with the interrogation code and sensing the induced voltage on the wires.

A typical inquiry consists of the following sequence: (1) the set of descriptors is typed and converted to a search code, (2) the file is interrogated and a yes/no response produced in 5 usec indicating if the file had any matching items, (3) if there were matching items the number of items responding is read out in microseconds, and finally (4) the accession numbers of the matching items are typed at a millisecond rate.

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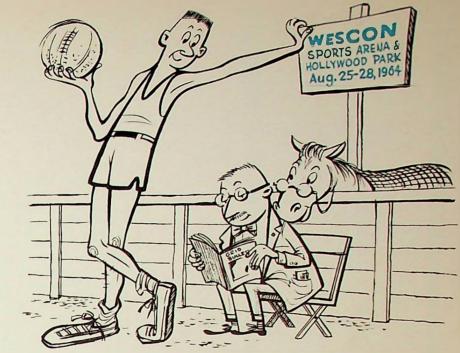
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chine stems from the real time response which allows a search request to be modified based on the previous response. For example, if after making a request the machine indicates that there are 400 documents that satisfy the description, the operator would make a more specific request to screen out many of the documents.

The special problem of false response using the superimposed coding technique was discussed. The machine also had automatic correlation of synonyms and was able to handle cross references originating from the retrieved documents.

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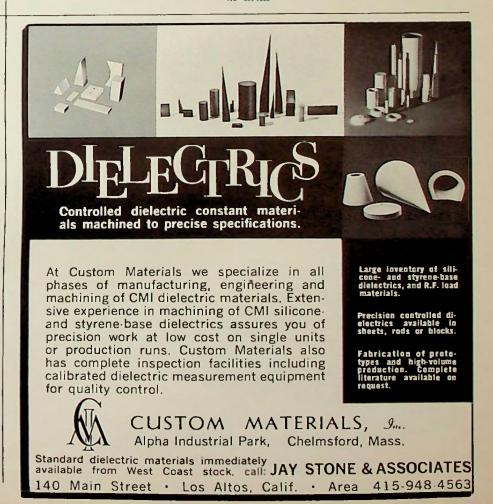
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PHASE MEASURING

On January 22, the PTCMTT chapter heard two speakers describe microwave phase measurement systems. The first was Dr. Peter Lacy of Wiltron Co., followed by Dr. Seymour Cohn of Rantec Corp. A panel consisting of Richard Borghi, Bernard P. Hand, Richard Honey, and Vernon Price then discussed the two systems described.

Dr. Lacy explained a phase-measuring technique using a slotted line and a carriage containing two probes. A reference signal is fed into one end of the line, and the unknown signal into the other end. The resulting nulls can then be located with the probes, and phase determined from this location. In some applications carriage travel provides the desired information, as when measuring a differential phase shift. The slotted line can also serve as the indicator in a phase bridge.

These systems cover several octaves in coaxial lines and full bands in waveguide, and can provide an accuracy of 0.2°. The signal being measured can be either pulsed or modulated at one kc/sec. The same system can also measure delay time. In this application it can resolve delay distortion of one nanosecond.

In the device described by Dr.

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June 8—1st Annual Conf. on Industry & Comm. Power Systems, Oct. 6-8, Philadelphia, Pa., I&CPS/TC. A. M. Killin, Union Carbide, Ashtabula, Ohio.

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Cohn the rf signal is split into two branches, one of which contains the unknown. After one signal is modulated at a one kc/sec rate, the two signals are recombined in a phase discriminator. The discriminator circuit produces signals proportional to sin⊙ and cos⊙, and tan⊙ is then found by a ratiometer which is calibrated to display the angle, ⊙.

When making cw measurements with this device the output of the test component can be as low as — 50dbm, but this advantage is lost when making pulsed measurements. Since the phase discriminator produces signals equal to sin⊙ and cos⊙, the basic equipment can be used to make a Smith chart plotter, and both phase indicators and impedance plotters have been built.

R. J. PRICKETT

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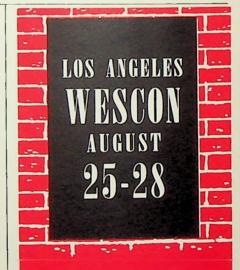
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William S. Price is one of three engineers who have joined the power systems engineering group of Bechtel Corp., San Francisco. A well-known authority on extra high voltage transmissions systems and substation insulation coordination, he is currently serving on ten IEEE technical working committees and is chairman of one. He was formerly manager of electrical research for American Electric Power Service Corp. Wendal A. Morgan was formerly a special projects engineer for a power company in the Pacific northwest. Jack B. Sullivan spent the past 15 years in design and construction of transmission lines in the mid-west.

events of interest

IEEE PAPERS CALLS

June 30-NEREM (Northeast Elec. Res. & Engineering Mtg.), Nov. 4-6, Boston, Mass., Region 1. Dr. James E. Storer, Boston Sect., 313 Wash. St., Newton 58, Mass.

July 1-11th Nuclear Science Symp.
-Instrum. in Space & Laboratory,
Oct. 28-30, Philadelphia, PTGNS.
W. A. Higinbotham, Brookhaven
Natl. Lab., Upton, L.I., N.Y.

July 15-1st Natl. Conf. on Automotive Electrical & Elec. Eng., Sept. 22-23, Detroit, Mich., E. A. Hanysz Labs. Gen. Motors Res., G.M. Tech. Center, Warren, Mich.

MORE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Theory and Power chapters were organized and activated; Vehicular Communications and Aerospace organization is under way. Two former AIEE groups-Industrial, and Science and Electronics-continue as local units without benefit of portfolio from New York. Moves are afoot which might give these two a national body to relate to. Meantime, the unofficial meetings of the Industrial chapter have attracted turnouts as good as most of the chapters and subsections, an average over-all attendance figure of 59.3, highest in the history of the section, having been achieved in calendar 1963.

The principal continuing problems of the section are the handling of communications and mailing lists by headquarters, and financial problems resulting from local cutbacks and growing competition for the advertising dollar. I am confident that Jack Beckett and his fellow officers can cope with these and other problems which may arise.

WILLIAM A. EDSON



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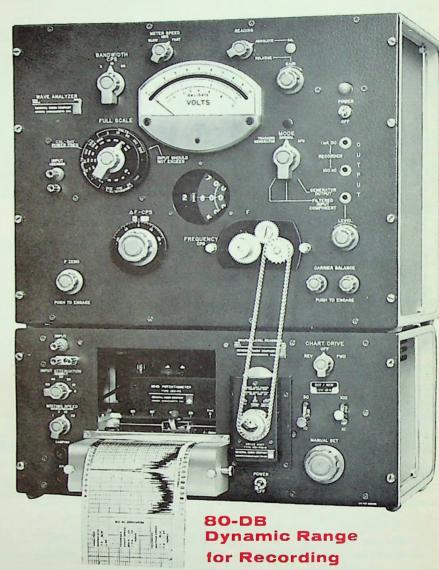


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