

**Finding Aid for the Samuel Goldwyn Studios Sound Recording Manuals
Special Collection #33**

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OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION:

Origination/Creator: Western Electric, Westrex, American Telephone and Telegraph Company, Electrical Research Products, Inc., Samuel Goldwyn Studios
Title of Collection: Samuel Goldwyn Studios Sound Recording Manuals
Date of Collection: 1930-50's
Physical Description: 10 boxes; 4.17 linear feet
Identification: Special Collection #33
Repository: American Film Institute, Louis B. Mayer Library, Los Angeles, CA

RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS:

Access Restrictions: Collection is open for research.
Copyright: The copyright interests in this collection remain with the creator. For more information, contact the Louis B. Mayer Library.
Acquisition Method: Donated by Goldwyn Samuel Studios, March 29th, 1972

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORY NOTE:

The Samuel Goldwyn Studios refers to the Lot located on the corner of Formosa Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard formerly owned by Samuel Goldwyn. The site was originally acquired by Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks in 1919 and was named the "Pickford-Fairbanks Studios". In 1928 it was named "United Artists Studio" as it was being used by independent producers, one of which was Samuel Goldwyn. After a legal battle in 1940, Goldwyn outbid Pickford for naming rights of the studio and renamed it "Samuel Goldwyn Studios". After a brief ownership by Warner Brothers from 1980-1999, the lot was sold and renamed "The Lot" which still stands today.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

This collection spans from the 1930's to the 1950's and is comprised of Sound Recording Manuals from Western Electric, formerly known as "Westrex" (within the film industry), and Electrical Research Products. It is broken down into series based on publication.

Series 1: **Western Electric Sound Recording Systems**

Includes complete Volumes I, II, and III of *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes* from Western Electric Sound Recording Systems. There are 2 copies of each volume, one hard bound and the other indexed and tabbed.

Series 2: **Western Electric Miscellaneous Publications**

Includes miscellaneous publication from Western Electric. *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Type "Q" and "QB" Portable Recording Channels* is similar to the other published volumes but focuses on Type "Q" and Type "QB" and is not volumized. There are also several instructions for various Western Electric equipment.

Series 3: **Westrex Corporation, Hollywood Division**

Includes technical bulleting for various Westrex equipment like recorders, amplifiers, and disk machines.

Series 4: **American Telephone and Telegraph Company**

Includes two versions of the book *Principles of Electricity Applied to Telephone and Telegraph Work: A Training Course Text*, published by The American Telephone and Telegraph Company. One copy is the 1928 edition and the other is the 1938 edition. They vary slightly and are thus, listed on separate lines. The other part of this series includes 5 sections of the *Application of Electricity and Magnetism to Transmission in the Telephone Plant*. Each section is bound separately.

Series 5: **Electrical Research Products, Inc.**

Includes one text: *Equipment Bulletin Handbook*, No. 30, published in 1933. This is one of the earliest publications under Western Electric which was called Electrical Research Products at the time.

Series 6: **Samuel Goldwyn Studios**

Includes a unique document called *Equipment Electrical Characteristics*, and it is a compilation of various equipment tests performed by the sound department at Samuel Goldwyn Studios.

Container List

Box 1

Series 1: **Western Electric Sound Recording Systems**

f. 1: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume I, Studio Systems*, [2 copies, one tabbed and indexed], 1932

f. 2: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume II, Portable Systems*, [2 copies, one tabbed and indexed], 1929

f. 3: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume III, Drawings*, [2 copies, one tabbed and indexed, includes diagrams], no date

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Series 1: (Continued) Western Electric Sound Recording Systems

f. 1: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume IV*, [includes diagrams], 1937

f. 2: *Index to Operating Instructions Methods and Processes Vols. I, II, III, and IV*, 1941,

f. 3: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume V*, [2 copies, one tabbed and indexed, includes diagrams], 1944, Dec. 31

f. 4: *Various Technical Information Bulletins for Vol V*, [includes ASL-32341, ASL-32387, ASL-32439, ASL-32435, ASO-32427, RA-1124, RA-1186, RA-1195], 1943

Box 3

Series 1: (Continued) Western Electric Sound Recording Systems

f. 1: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Volume V*, [2 hardcover copies, includes diagrams], 1947, June, 30

f. 2: *Notebook containing 1945-47 supplements to Vol. VI*, [includes diagrams and images], 1946, Sept. 14

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Series 2: Western Electric Miscellaneous Publications

f. 1: *Operating Instructions Methods and Processes, Type "Q" and "QB" Portable Recording Channels*, [2 copies, one tabbed and indexed, includes diagrams], 1937

f. 2: *Operating Instructions methods and Processes for 316-D and 335-D Film Recording Systems*, issue 1, [2 copies, includes diagrams and images], 1947

f. 3: *E.R.P.I. Instructions, RA 1171 Power Unit, RA 1051 Double Film Att., RA 1061 Type Light Valves, Miscellaneous Operating Instructions*, [tabbed and indexed, includes diagrams], 1941

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Series 2: (Continued) Western Electric Miscellaneous Publications

f. 1: *Notebook: Section 1: Technical Information Bulletins on Power Units, Section 2: Technical Information Bulletins on Amplifiers*, [includes diagrams and images], 1945-1949

f. 2: *Western Electric Vacuum Tubes for Radio Telephone Broadcasting*, Issues #7, 1941 and #8, 1942

f. 3: *Western Electric Microphone Sound System*, [2 copies tabbed and indexed, includes diagrams and images], no date

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Series 2: (Continued) Western Electric Miscellaneous Publications

f. 1: *Western Electric Vacuum Tubes for Use with Amateur Radio Eephone Transmitting Equipments*, [includes diagrams], 1933

f. 2: *Recording Instructions and Diagrams*, miscellaneous sheets, 1937-40

f. 3: *Synchronous Sound Recording Equipment: Index to Apparatus*, [includes diagrams, in binder, some papers loose], 1931

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Series 3: Westrex Corporation, Hollywood Division

f. 1: *Preliminary Technical Information Bulletin Operation and maintenance Instructions for 1035 , Magnetic Recording*, Issue 2, [includes diagrams and photographs], 1952

f. 2: *1135 Magnetic Recording System*, [includes diagrams], 1951

f. 3: *Supplement No. 1 to Technical Information Bulletin for RA-1474-A Amplifier*, 1952

RA-1554-type Amplifier Technical Information Bulletin, 1955

RA-1556-Type Amplifier, Technical Information Bulletin, 1955

RA-1573-A Amplifier, Technical Information Bulletin, 1955

RA-1570-A Reproducer, Technical Information Bulletin, 1956

Supplement No. 1 to Technical Information Bulletin for RA-1506-A Multitrack Recorder, [includes diagrams], 1954

RA-1251-B Re-Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1948

RA-1417 Re-Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams], 1950

RA-1505-Type Re-Recorders, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams], 1954

RA-1506-H Multitrack Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams], 1954

RA-1506-H Multitrack Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1955

RA-1509-A Recorder-Reproducer, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1952

RA-1547-A Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1955

RA-1552-A Recorder and RA-1565-C Transmission Cabinet, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1956

RA-1552-C Recorder and RA-1565-D Transmission Cabinet, Technical Information Bulletin, includes diagrams and images], 1956

RA-1552-E Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1956

RA-1497-A Magnetic Recorder, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1951

2A Recorder and A-115B Amplifier, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1952

2B Recorder and ra-1574-A Amplifier, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagrams and images], 1956

RA-1358 Modification of D-85249 Disk Recording Machine, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes diagram], 1951

RA-1389 Disk Recording Machine, Technical Information Bulletin, [includes images], 1951

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Series 4: American Telephone and Telegraph Company

f. 1: *Principles of Electricity Applied to Telephone and Telegraph Work: A Training Course Text, 1928*

Principles of Electricity Applied to Telephone and Telegraph Work: A Training Course Text, 1938 Edition

- f. 2: *The Application of Electricity and Magnetism to Transmission in the Telephone Plant:*
Section I: Elementary Principles – Direct Currents, 1923
Section II: Elementary Principles – Alternating Currents, 1923
Section III: Specific Applications - Telephone Repeaters, 1923
Section IV: Specific Applications – Measuring Work at Test Boards
Section V: Specific Applications – Transmission Measurements

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Series 5: Electrical Research Products, Inc.

- f. 1: *Equipment Bulletin Handbook*, No. 30, [indexed and tabbed, includes diagrams], 1933

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Series 6: Samuel Goldwyn Studios

- f. 1: *Equipment Electrical Characteristics*, [tabbed, includes sound department equipment tests, records of equipment changes], 1937-48?)