

In Memoriam

Henry Edward Roys, a nobleman of the record industry and charter member of the Audio Engineering Society, died 1988 December 6, at Green Valley, Arizona, at the age of 86. He had devoted his entire career to the audio and record industry while at the Radio Corporation of America and its predecessor for 45 years. He retired in 1967 as chief engineer of RCA Records.

Roys was born in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, in 1902. He graduated from the University of Colorado in 1925 with a B.S. degree in electrical engineering. His technical achievements stressed standards and uniformity of product performance for the record industry rather than proprietary diversity and competitive provincialism; witness his FM calibrator for record-cutting styli, his advocacy of the orthoacoustic response curve approach to recording characteristics, and his emphasizing the use of standard test records and tapes for performance evaluation. Probably his greatest role was that of catalyst in the establishment of worldwide industry standards for stereo records before major producers

placed them on sale.

Active in professional societies, he was past-president of the Audio Engineering Society, chairman of the engineering and standards committees of the Recording Industry of America, the Audio Engineering Society, the Institute of Radio Engineers, the National Association of Broadcasters, the Electronic Industry Association, and the American Standards Institute. His achievements were recognized by an Audio Engineering Society fellowship award in 1953, by an American Acoustical Society fellowship in 1954, a fellowship from the Institute of Radio Engineers and an achievement award from the Professional Group on Audio (1956), the Emile Berliner award (1957), the distinguished alumni award, University of Colorado (1967), and the Audio Engineering Gold Medal award in 1973.

For his friends, colleagues, and associates without number throughout the world, he was an encouraging leader and a warm friend.

WARREN REX ISOM

(NY)

