



80th Convention

Heavy attendance at all technical sessions, the equipment exhibit and the social activities at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, October 8-12, is a good measure of the success of the Society's 80th Convention. Much of the credit for this is due to the advance planning of the local SMPTE members who devoted much time, long before the convention officially opened to making certain that all would run smoothly.

Initial arrangements were begun more than a year ago by Convention Vice-President Byron Roudabush, who selected the members of the local arrangements committees. Actual on-the-spot direction fell to Ed Templin, Local Arrangements Chairman, who supervised pre-convention planning and the day-to-day arrangements of the meeting.

Program and Exhibits

The extensive papers program was organized by Petro Vlahos, assisted by five topic chairmen: Merle Chamberlin, Projection and Viewing; Frank Gaskins, Television; Bill Gephart, Laboratory Practice; Kurt Singer, Transistors; and Roy Wolford, Instrumentation and High-Speed Photography. This group assembled 66 papers into 15 technical sessions, running from Monday afternoon through Friday evening. In addition to the technical papers the committee arranged for demonstrations of the Du Mont Electronicam Film System, the MGM 65mm System, and 6-channel stereophonic sound as well as a tour of the NBC Burbank color TV facilities and an all-day field trip to the U.S. Navy Electronics Laboratory at San Diego for a group interested in high-speed photography. Two of the technical sessions were devoted entirely to papers on transistors—a full-scale initiation of this subject before the SMPTE. Attendance at sessions averaged 150, ranging from 40 at one session, which was running late, to as high as 300 at the Monday Evening Session at the NBC Television Studios and at the Thursday Evening Session when Ralph Evans demonstrated and spoke on "Sharpness and Contrast in Projected Pictures" and when the Ampex Videotape Recording System was given its first technical description. Other sessions of unusually high attendance were the Laboratory Practices Sessions on Tuesday; the High-Speed Photography and Sound Sessions on Wednesday morning; and the Transistor Sessions.

The motion-picture short subjects which introduced each session were gathered and arranged by Ted Fogelman.

An equipment exhibit, featuring displays of the latest film laboratory and motion-

picture and television studio equipment, was held in conjunction with the convention. Exhibit preparations were made by John Olsson, assisted by Craig Curtis. The equipment, displayed in 29 booths, represented the products of 22 exhibitors.

Registration

At the last convention held in Los Angeles in 1954 registration was 926. That figure was surpassed somewhat at the 80th where total registration was 1038. Broken down, the figures indicate that 561 members registered for the week, 115 by the day, 30 non-members registered for the week, and 155 by the day. The Ladies Program had 89 participants. There were 88 registrations issued to exhibitors. A geographical breakdown indicates that registrants came from 29 states and the District of Columbia as well as Belgium, Canada, France, Hawaii, Italy, Japan and Mexico. Responsible for the difficult and time-consuming task of directing registration was Charlie Handley, who was efficiently aided at the cash box and with registration records by auditors H. J. Herles and Arthur Johnson. Because of their efficient operations, the usual registration confusion was held to a minimum.

Hotel arrangements were under the direction of Bob Hufford. Delegates who had attended the previous meeting at the Ambassador were pleased to find that the meeting rooms, committee rooms and exhibit area had recently been remodeled to provide more comfortable and convenient convention quarters.

Luncheon

The convention was officially opened on Monday at the Get-Together Luncheon which was arranged by Carl Hunt. It was attended by 360 who were treated to three challenging and interesting speeches. Dr. Frayne gave résumé of views of current industry conditions. His luncheon address appears earlier in this issue of the *Journal*.

Following the address of President Frayne, George Sidney, President of the Screen Directors' Guild, urged members of the SMPTE to look into the problem of improving projection and sound conditions in motion-picture theaters. Mr. Sidney stated that because most motion-picture theaters were never built for current technical developments, the majority of the public does not see motion pictures as they were conceived by engineers and producers.

Mr. Sidney also offered a challenge to the engineers by suggesting they seek solutions to six production problems encountered daily. These include the need for smaller, more flexible equipment, directional sound, less cumbersome lighting equipment, less heat on the set, standardiza-

tion of production equipment and a standardized looping system.

The final luncheon speaker introduced as Dr. Hoffman, a distinguished engineer from abroad, proved to be an entertaining surprise with his description of an amazing new system called Vunderscope which "delivers stereoscopic images without glasses, stereophonic sound without horns, in full natural color (using black-and-white film). It uses only one single celluloid strip and is 69mm film." The inventor of this marvelous new process, for which investment shares were readily available, then advised his audience that if he had insulted anyone he was grateful for the opportunity and revealed himself as the actor, Vince Barnett.

Banquet

The traditional banquet was held on Wednesday evening in anything but a traditional manner. The cocktail party took place around the pool and the 601 who attended this and the banquet which followed were treated to a water ballet and diving exhibitions made possible through the courtesy of General Film Laboratories. Following the aquatic activities guests adjourned to the Coconut Grove for a Hawaiian lauau complete with roast pig and exotic Oriental dishes. There were leis for the ladies, entertainment by a Hawaiian group, and dancing to the music of Freddy Martin's orchestra. The major entertainment was supplied by the unusual dance team of Chiquita and Johnson and the famous operatic star, Marguerite Piazza. Banquet arrangements were most ably handled by Alan Gundelfinger and entertainment arrangements were made by Sid Solow. To them SMPTE members are grateful for a pleasant and unusual banquet.

With several tours and demonstrations held away from the hotel and the ladies visits to points of interest around Hollywood, the hospitality and transportation desk was kept busy arranging for buses and dispensing information and SMPTE literature. Ted Grenier, undaunted chairman, assisted by Betty Hartlane of ABC and a group of studio pages, managed to head everybody in the right direction and on time, too.

The Membership Committee was also on hand with application blanks and descriptive literature. Under the direction of Harry Lehman, Western Regional Membership Chairman, the committee signed up 25 new applicants and dispensed quantities of application blanks and membership information to interested prospects.

The extensive papers program kept the projection and public address and recording committees at their tasks almost continuously throughout the week. Bundy Smith and his crew of IA projectionists

did a fine job with the multitude of slides and motion pictures; and Jim Pettus and John Stork handled the public address and recording duties in a most helpful manner.

With the excellent facilities of the Ambassador Press Room at their disposal Marty Waldman, Sue Grotta and Mrs. Alan Gundelfinger fed quantities of information on the program to the trade papers, wire services and Los Angeles dailies. Interviews with many of the speakers provided the press boys with additional timely stories on industry developments.

Always available to lend a hand where needed was Administrative Assistant Herb Farmer.

For the ladies the program included a trip to Disneyland, tea at the Beverly Hills Hotel and lunch and a tour of the Warner Bros. studios in Burbank. Arrangements were made by co-hostesses Mrs. John G. Frayne and Mrs. Norwood Simmons.

One of the most important events of the convention was the 1956 SMPTE award presentation ceremonies. The planning and coordination of arrangements for this session were done by Eric Howse. The citations and awards are published in a separate story.—S.G.

Society Awards

One of the high points of this and every Fall Convention is the Awards Session. One of the most rewarding obligations of the Society as a whole is that of selecting from its members those who are most deserving of the special recognition embodied in the awards granted for outstanding achievements within particular categories.

The 80th Convention's Award Session, October 9, 1956, was, in many respects, a solemn occasion. The David Sarnoff Award was granted posthumously to Robert E. Shelby and Honorary Membership was granted to the then gravely ill Dr. Alexander Ernemann whose death occurred five days later (obituary p. 621). The Award was accepted in his absence by his friend, Dr. Eduard S. Schneider, German Consul General for Los Angeles. The posthumous Award to Robert E. Shelby was accepted by his widow.

Honorary Members

Dr. Eduard C. Schneider, German Consul General for Los Angeles, accepted the Award Certificate for Dr. Alexander Ernemann. The name of Dr. Ernemann, who died October 1-1, will be added to the Society's Honor Roll. Loren L. Ryder read the following citation:

This is one of the greatest honors that this Society can bestow upon a man and once so honored, this honor stays with him through life.

While most of us in the United States are familiar with the developments which have originated in our country, the record shows that much of the development work in motion pictures took place on the other side of the Atlantic.

Today we are honoring a man who can look back and recall clearly the introduc-

tion of motion pictures. His age is 80. His home is in Stuttgart, Germany. Independently of the early work which was done in motion pictures in the United States, he developed one of the first motion-picture projectors. Through the years he has continued to design and develop projectors through Stahl Projector to today's Ernemann X. Dependability, performance and fine workmanship have given Alexander Ernemann an excellent reputation in the industry. He developed the first projector with enclosed gears and full lubrication. He was also the first to use air and water for cooling.

Dr. Ernemann's achievements will live forever and we of the Society are happy that we can honor him today.

Fellows

Herbert Barnett, Chairman of the Fellow Awards Committee, presented Award Certificates with the following citation to the sixteen members who were given the grade of Fellow:

One of the more satisfying responsibilities within the Society is assigned to the Fellow Award Committee. It is through this committee and by approval of the Board of Governors, that members of this Society are elevated to the grade of Fellow.

To achieve this distinction one has, by his proficiency and contributions, attained to an outstanding rank among engineers or executives of the motion-picture or television industries. Each year the Committee, composed of all the Society Officers, Section Chairmen and Chairmen of all engineering committees carefully examines candidates' names compiled from nominations emanating from many sources. Recommendations are then passed to the Board of Governors who approve, modify or expand the selections arrived at by the Committee.

Again, this year we have a distinguished list of engineers and executives whom, I am sure, you will agree are well worthy of this honor. I take pleasure in announcing the names of those achieving grade of Fellow for 1956:

Willy Borberg	Fred Hynes
Jasper S. Chandler	Warren R. Isom
John W. DuVall	Walter I. Kisner
Edward Furer	Frank L. Marx
Edouard P. Genock	John B. McCullough
Herman M. Gurin	Richard O. Painter
Wilton R. Holm	Michael Rettinger
Robert G. Hufford	John G. Streiffert

Progress Medal

In the absence of Dr. Otto Sandvik, Chairman of the Progress Medal Award Committee, Gordon Chambers read the citation. Presentation was made to Barton Kreuzer who accepted on behalf of the recipient, Dr. Alfred Norton Goldsmith who was unable to be present. Mr. Kreuzer read Dr. Goldsmith's acceptance speech:

The Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers has selected Dr. Alfred Norton Goldsmith as the recipient of its Progress Medal Award for 1956.

The Progress Medal is being awarded to Dr. Goldsmith for his many contributions to the progress of many phases of sound motion-picture and television engineering, particularly for his early recognition of the

importance of a tricolor kinescope and his concept of means for accomplishment.

Dr. Goldsmith was graduated from the College of the City of New York with a Bachelor of Science degree. He received his Doctor of Philosophy degree in science from Columbia University where he studied under the eminent scientist, Professor M. I. Pupin. Later he received honorary Doctor of Science degree from Lawrence University.

Since his early academic career at the College of the City of New York, where he became Professor of Electrical Engineering, Dr. Goldsmith has held many prominent positions in the industrial field.

He has been active in research and invention and over two hundred patents have been issued to him, including the very basic patent on the aperture mask phosphor-triad color kinescope tube.

Dr. Goldsmith continues to be active in motion-picture and television engineering and is a Past-President of SMPTE and IRE.

He is a fellow of many learned societies including the SMPTE, the IRE, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and the American Physical Society. He has received many awards including the Medal of Honor and the Founders Award of the Institute of Radio Engineers, the National Pioneers Award and The Radio Pioneers Award.

For his contributions to the science and technology of sound motion-picture and television engineering, Dr. Alfred Norton Goldsmith is awarded the Progress Medal of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

Acceptance Address for Progress Medal Award

There are good reasons why I should regard this meeting as a highlight occasion for me. It includes, in fact, a rare combination of what I may paraphrase as "the time, the place, and the Society." The time is one when the video and audio arts and sciences are fully blossoming, to the great satisfaction of those of us who have been privileged to be workers in so luxuriant a vineyard. The place is this great Metropolis of the Pacific which saw the birth, growth and fruition of the recorded picture in motion. And the Society is one which has fittingly grown and prospered together with the industries which its membership have so capably served and developed.

Seldom, in fact, could there have been so happy a combination of accompanying circumstances as that which marks my presence before you today. And this is particularly so since I have had the honor in the past of acting as the President of this Society, and as a Board and Committee member and chairman for many years. Most appropriately, I wish first to express my deep gratitude to the Awards Committee and to the Board of Governors which have conferred a great honor upon me. And I am pleased that the Progress Award has been granted to me for so wide and varied a group of contributions in the several fields of engineering in which this Society is active.

Yet this occasion would not be complete nor pertinent implications clear unless I emphasized one particular aspect of the conditions surrounding this Award—namely, that dealing particularly with the