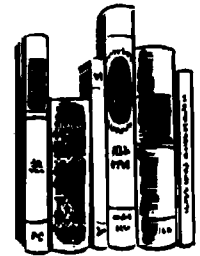


**Maggi, Louis**, Boston Univ. Mail: 110 Lonsdale St., Dorchester 24, Mass. (S)  
**Mallinson, Donald Foster**, Boston Univ. Mail: 98 Willow St., Wilmington, Mass. (S)  
**Martenson, Richard B.**, Sales Mgr., Sylvania Electric Co., 169 Lindenwood Rd., Great Kills, S.I., N.Y. (M)  
**Martinez, Salvador V.**, Draftsman, Unicorn Engineering Corp. Mail: 428 W. Garfield Ave., Glendale 4, Calif. (A)  
**McGaughey, Robert P.**, TV Eng., ABC Mail: 5110 Harold Way, Los Angeles. (A)  
**McKay, William Joseph**, Vice-Pres., Lytle Engineering & Mfg. Co. Mail: 901 Adams, N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. (M)  
**Miller, Alan**, Rochester Inst. Technology. Mail: 148 Troup St., Rochester, N.Y. (S)  
**Noack, Harry S.**, Film Editor, Bulova Watch Co., 62-10 Woodside Ave., Woodside, N.Y. (A)  
**Power, Raymond V.**, Mech. Eng., Unicorn Engineering Corp. Mail: 7674 Shadyglade Ave., N. Hollywood. (A)  
**Quigley, George P.**, Lab. Supvr., Cuban Color-film Corp., Calle 26, 504, Santiago de Las Vegas, Cuba. (A)  
**Rath, Earl E. J. Jr.**, Cinemat., USAF Mail: 3150 W. 75 St., Los Angeles. (A)  
**Robitaille, Glenn Alfred**, Director Eng., London Free Press Printing Co., 442 Richmond St., London, Ont., Can. (M)  
**Rufino, Ernesto D.**, General Mgr., Luzon Theatres, Inc., Avenue Theatre Bldg., Manila, Philippines. (A)  
**Sage, Richard Blair**, Mot.-Pic. Studio Mgr., Filmways, Inc. Mail: 243 Riverside Dr., New York. (A)  
**Sante, Achilli**, Cameraman, Cinecitta. Mail: Piazza dei Consoli 11 Scala D. Int. 12, Roma, Italia. (A)  
**Simons, Fred M.**, Eng., CBS. Mail: 33 Perry Street, New York 14, (A)  
**Simons, Robert Glen**, Boston Univ. Mail: 30 Wolcott St., Dorchester 21, Mass. (S)

**Smith, Elgin E.**, Photo., Skelly Oil Co., 7227 Springfield, Kansas City 13, Mo. (A)  
**Snyder, Malcolm M.**, Boston Univ. Mail: 15 Russell St., Brookline, Mass. (S)  
**Spiller, Francis Edwin**, Film Producer, National Film Board of Canada. Mail: 925 Tasse St., Apt. 2, St. Laurent, Montreal 9, Can. (A)  
**Stenbeck, Edna M.**, Film Editor, Librarian, Ramo-Wooldrige Corp. Mail: 959 30 St., Manhattan Beach, Calif. (A)  
**Stenger, Charles Edmund**, Owner of sound recording & mot.-pic. studio, Audio Services Co., 48 W. Biddle St., Baltimore 1. (M)  
**Stodter, Charles Stowe**, Exec. Secy., SMPTE. Mail: 705 Merion Ave., Havertown, Pa. (M)  
**Tahara, George**, Mot.-Pic. Producer, Independent, 1847 Fort St., Honolulu, T.H. (A)  
**Taleporos, Apollo D.**, Broadcast Engr., Columbia Broadcasting System. Mail: 68 Hillcrest Ave., Staten Island 8, N.Y. (A)  
**Tamblyn, Maxwell**, Mot.-Pic. Techn., USAF, 1448 Tabor Ave., Dayton 10, Ohio. (M)  
**Wallace, Andrew Burt**, Engr., Unicorn Engineering Corp. Mail: 859 Wilcox Ave., Hollywood 38. (A)  
**Wheeler, Robert Raymond**, Instructor of Motion Picture, U.S. Government. Mail: 67 Alameda Court, Shrewsbury, N.J. (M)  
**White, Merrill G.**, Head Film Editor, King Bros. Productions. Mail: 242 N. Western Ave., Apt. 603, Los Angeles. (M)  
**Willette, Edward G.**, Sales Mgr., The Animation Equipment Corp. Mail: Seminary Hill Rd., Carmel, N.Y. (M)

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**Plakun, Bernard D.**, (A) to (M)  
**Smith, Donald C.**, (S) to (A)



## books reviewed

### Annuario del Cinema Italiano 1954-1955

Published by Cinedizione, Via Po 50, Rome. Approx. 1020 pp. Price 5000 lire.

The list of motion-picture terms in five languages which was published in the February 1956 *Journal* has been the subject of numerous comments and inquiries. Readers interested in this field should know that what appears to be an excellent example of such a listing, on a far more comprehensive scale than we have yet been able to accomplish, may be found in the *Annuario del Cinema Italiano 1954-1955*.

This handbook of the Italian motion-picture industry is a highly useful compendium of information, quite apart from the glossary, distinguished by a quite outstanding clarity of organization and a minimum of advertising. The various sections include addresses of organizations and individuals in the industry; legislation, with detailed

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information on wages and prices; statistics on Italian film production since 1930; and an extremely comprehensive directory of companies, publications, theaters, exchanges, trade unions and other organizations of interest to the industry both in Italy and abroad. Even though the user may not be entirely at home with the Italian language the book is so well arranged that it is actually easier to use than some of the similar handbooks printed in English.

The glossary of motion-picture terms, in Italian, English, French and German, is arranged alphabetically and covers more than 2000 words. There are occasional misprints and some translations with which every reader will be able to disagree, but by and large the level of accuracy seems to be extraordinarily high and for anyone who needs equivalents in any of the four languages given this glossary will be of very great value indeed.—D.C.

### Photographic Optics

11th revised ed. by Arthur Cox. Published (1956) Focal Press, 31 Fitzroy Sq., London, W1. 375 pp. Illus. Graphs. 4½ × 7½. Price \$5.75

Although primarily for still photography, this book has material of value for cine and TV technicians. Of particular interest is the consolidated treatment of lenses of Asiatic, European and American origin. Recent large-aperture types up to *f*/1.2 are described in this new edition. Specific lenses are identified by their trade names for positive recognition, and lenses in the same design category are conveniently grouped. Optical schematics are given.—*Bernard D. Plakun*, General Precision Laboratory Inc., Pleasantville, N.Y.

### Actes du Colloque International: Les Techniques Nouvelles Appliquées au Cinema.

Published by Commission Supérieure Technique du Cinéma, 92 Champs-Élysées, Paris 8. 156 pp. 8½ × 11½ in. Illus. Price 1500 francs.

In this book are published the transactions of an international conference on new motion-picture techniques held in Paris, May 12-16, 1955. The conference was arranged by the Commission Supérieure Technique du Cinéma Français and motion-picture engineers from Belgium, Great Britain, Italy, New Zealand, East Germany, West Germany, Switzerland, the U.S.S.R. and Unesco took part in the discussions.

The papers are grouped into five sections. The first, on sound recording and reproduction, has papers on the comparative qualities of photographic and magnetic sound, the problem of sound quality in relation to the various new stereophonic systems, stereophonic techniques in the motion-picture theater, sound recording and reproducing problems, magnetic sound recording on film and its use in radio and television.

The second section covers wide-screen projection, new lighting techniques, taking lenses of variable focal length, television lighting and large-screen television.

The third section is concerned with color and is subdivided into groups of papers dealing with picture composition

and color contrast, printing and processing requirements, and descriptions of the Agfa, Eastman, Gevaert and Ferrania color systems.

In the fourth section the results reached in the preceding three sections are synthesized, and in the fifth and last a report is given of a special meeting of the French office of standardization for the motion-picture industry, under the chairmanship of Andre Debric.—D.C.

**60 Ans d'Evolution.** With this special issue *La Technique Cinématographique* celebrates its 25th anniversary and, at the same time, the 60th anniversary of the birth of motion pictures (an event which apparently took place on December 28, 1885). The history and development of the industry in France, as well as its contemporary problems, are dealt with in a

number of articles by some of the leading French technicians, while contributions from the U.S., England, Germany, Italy, Spain and Belgium cover developments in those countries. The issue, priced at 600 francs, is available from *La Technique Cinématographique*, 54 Rue de Clichy, Paris 9.

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