

83d Convention Program

Before the 82d Convention had begun, Papers Committee Chairman Ben Plakun and 83d Program Chairman Herb Farmer had their general plans made in cooperation with Editorial Vice-President Glenn Matthews. Author Forms for the 83d Convention have been prepared and in modest circulation for the past six weeks.

Deadline for abstracts to reach the Program Chairman is February 3. Deadline for advance copies of manuscripts is March 17. Author Forms are available from Society Headquarters, the Papers Committee Chairman and Regional Chairmen (p. 8, April 1957 *Journal*, Part II), but preferably from: Herbert E. Farmer, c/o Cinema, Univ. of Southern Calif., University Park, Los Angeles 7.

The complete list of 83d Convention Topic Chairmen will be published in the next *Journal*.

An exhibit of the latest motion-picture and TV equipment will be a feature of the Convention. Exhibit Chairman is John B. Olson, c/o Houston-Fearless Div., 11801 West Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles 64.

International High-Speed Photographic Congresses

The First International High-Speed Congress took place in 1952 concurrently with the 72d Semiannual SMPTE Convention in Washington, D.C. It was there planned that a similar congress should be held in about two years' time in Europe and in 1954 the Second International Congress took place in Paris. At this meeting it was agreed that further congresses should be held at two-year intervals and a schedule was set up calling for congresses in England in 1956, Germany, 1958, and U.S., 1960.

The 1956 congress took place in London, September 10-15. Scientific developments of great significance to the art were covered at this meeting and the personal contact made possible among specialists from different countries was most valuable. It was generally agreed that a two-year interval between meetings is not too little in view of the increasing importance of high-speed photographic techniques in such areas as gas dynamics, ballistics, thermo-hydrodynamics, rocketry, detonations, nuclear weapons, thermo-nuclear fusion, etc.

The 1958 Congress will be held September 22-27 in Cologne, Germany. It will take place during the same week as the Photokina, the annual photographic exposition held in Cologne, so that visitors will be able to attend both events. The Photokina management will provide a special section at the exposition where manufacturers of high-speed equipment will have an opportunity to display their products.—*Dr. H. Schardin*, 10 Rosenstrasse, Weil am Rhein, Germany.

82d Convention

An excellent and well-balanced program of technical papers, a series of highly enjoyable social occasions scheduled over the unfamiliar setting of a weekend, the fine accommodation provided by the shiny new Sheraton Hotel, and 500 registrants from all parts of the country, were all factors in making the fall convention in Philadelphia, October 4-9, both valuable and stimulating.

The Philadelphia area, where the Society was meeting for the first time in more than thirty years, has long had a heavy concentration of the electrical and communications industries; in recent years it has grown to be one of the most important television and electronics centers in the country. This note was stressed at the start by Theodore A. Smith, Executive Vice-President, Industrial Electronic Products, Radio Corp. of America, who gave the keynote address. After Barton Kreuzer, as SMPTE President, had officially opened the proceedings with his report to the Society, he introduced Mr. Smith. The report and the address appear earlier in this *Journal*.

Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the Society, called on this occasion to vote on a number of proposed amendments to the Bylaws, details of which were published in the September *Journal*, was held at the

beginning of the afternoon session on Friday, October 4. Since a sufficient number of voting members was not present to constitute a quorum, the amendments could not be voted on, and the matter was returned, as the Constitution provides, to the Board of Governors for action.

Program

The man most responsible for organizing the fine selection of technical papers at this convention was Program Chairman Deane R. White. He was ably assisted in varying portions of his task by the Topic Chairmen: *Ellis W. D'Arcy*, Bilingual Films for Intercontinental Television; *Herbert Barnett*, Closed-Circuit Television; *J. Paul Weiss*, Color Photography; *H. E. Behrens*, Film Projection Practice; *D. Max Beard*, High-Speed Photography; *J. B. McCullough*, Industry Milestones; *John G. Stott*, Laboratory Practice; *Max C. Batsel*, Military Uses of Television; *Frank L. Marx*, Projection Television; *Edward Schmidt*, Sound Recording; *Petro Vlahos*, Studio Lighting; *Richard S. O'Brien*, Television Studio Practice; *George H. Brown*, Video Tape Recording.

Several sessions drew unusually large audiences. The group of closed-circuit television papers, followed by three papers on video tape recording, on Saturday afternoon, was one of these. Another was the Tuesday evening session on inter-

G. Carleton Hunt, Convention Vice-President, taking call on pocket-sized RCA radio receiver and transmitting instructions to Miss Regina M. Przywara of the convention staff.



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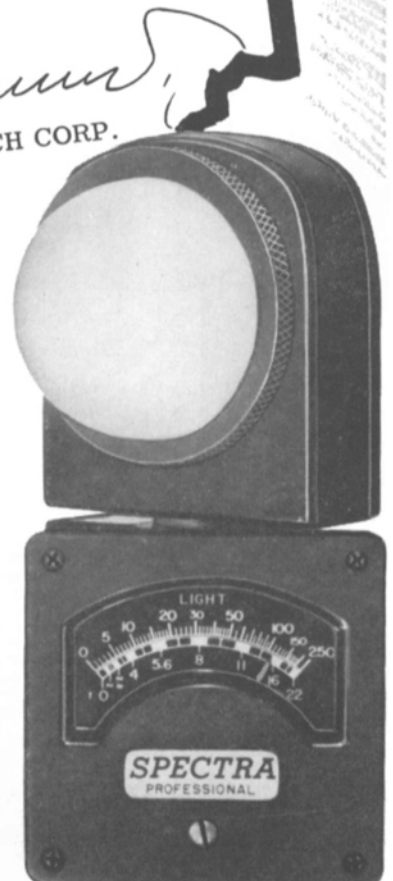
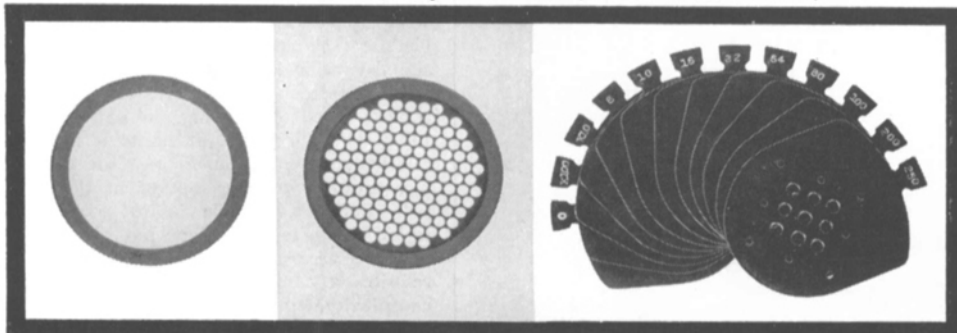
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national television, when George V. Denny, Jr., Vice-President of the People-to-People Foundation (and formerly of American Forum of the Air fame), introduced the technical papers with a talk on the promise that international television broadcasting holds for better understanding between nations. Both high-speed photography sessions were enthusiastically attended, with particular interest shown in the film about the Pegasus mobile mount for underwater cinematography and the sequences of a rattlesnake's strike.

Motion-Picture Shorts

With the help of Jack B. McCullough, and through the courtesy of the various

producing companies, a very fine group of motion-picture short subjects was assembled for showing at the beginning of sessions. The following titles were seen:

A Chairy Tale and *Carnival in Quebec*, National Film Board of Canada

Blue Danube and *Alpine Glory*, Warner Bros. Picture Corp.

How to Have an Accident at Home, Walt Disney Productions

Magoo's Masquerade and *Matador Magoo*, Columbia Pictures Corp.

Declaration of Independence, Teaching Film Custodians, Inc.

Photography and the IGY



Fillmore R. Park

At the Awards Session, which is reported in detail below, and after the formal presentation of awards had taken place, a most interesting talk was given by Fillmore R. Park, Senior Research Officer of the National Research Council of Canada, on the role of photography in the International Geophysical Year. By a remarkable coincidence, while Mr. Park had the minds of his audience firmly fixed in outer space, the first news reports were brought in of the successful launching of Sputnik, adding considerable piquancy to the occasion. Excerpts from Mr. Park's talk are given below (with *italics* supplied) and will undoubtedly serve to whet appetites for the full technical paper on this subject which we hope to print in a future issue of the *Journal*.

"The part which photography will play in this great scientific enterprise is two-fold. The first and most obvious use is to provide a pictorial history of events and to bring to the public a first-hand account of what scientists are doing in the various disciplines. I am quite certain that the members of this Society are fully aware of the opportunities and the problems involved in this work.

"The second application of photography and photographic techniques during the IGY is to provide a convenient medium for the recording of scientific data. In this application the film record is not the end result but only a means to the end. It is this application of photography with which I am most familiar and I would like to take some time to illustrate and describe a number of ways in which film and special photographic techniques are used to record data.

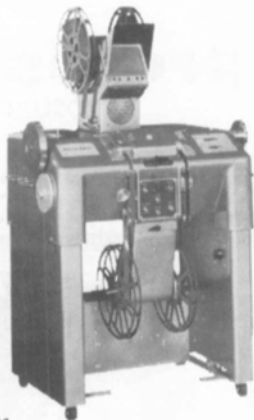
"Either of two basic schemes or principles is usually employed in obtaining a film record of instrumental or observational data. In the first, the information or data, which is generally derived as a time varying electrical signal, is converted to a light signal varying in intensity and/or position with respect to time. This is generally accomplished by using a cathode-ray tube. The varying light signal is focused on the film which moves past the lens at a constant rate, the motion of the film providing a time scale against which the signal is recorded. Since no shuttering action is necessary this scheme, in general, requires a camera of simple design, the complexity, if any, occurring in the electronic circuitry required to display



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