

81st Convention

700 Registrants — 14 Sessions — 103 Papers

One of the most dramatic events in the annals of SMPTE climaxed the 81st Convention when an audience of approximately 200 gave a standing ovation to George Lewin of the Army Pictorial Center following the presentation of his paper on "Transparent Magnetic Tracks." This is the first instance of such a spontaneous demonstration recorded in SMPTE history. Mr. Lewin's paper described his "accidental" discovery of a method of reproducing an optical soundtrack on film which already has a full-width magnetic track. This discovery presages new approaches in the use of languages, sound and film.

The 81st Convention was noteworthy not only for the record number of papers but also for the consistently high quality of the presentations. One consequence of the Convention was the clarification of the significance of certain observable trends, such as that toward a greater interest in closed-circuit television and its applications.

The audio-visual session was attended not only by engineers but by business men and educators. John Flory of Eastman Kodak Co. released some astonishing figures illustrating the economic significance of the increasing use of audio-visual film and equipment.

An unusual session was held at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The entire session was presented on closed-circuit color television to demonstrate some of the applications in medical training. Many bizarre scenic shots fascinated the audience as the cameras were switched about the Center. The beauties of the epiglottis and the strange scenery of the esophagus were exceeded in interest only by the enormous teeth that appeared on the screen when the scene moved to the dental clinic.

The demonstration brought out how closed-circuit TV can be important in medical training and in the development of new techniques in medicine and surgery. From the beginning of the session, when the Session Chairman, Axel Jensen, appeared on the screen to introduce Dr. Paul Schafer, head of Walter Reed Television Division, the audience of 200 was intent on watching the large screen.

The two Laboratory Practice Sessions were comprised of a final total of 18 papers, making Wednesday a very substantial day indeed.

Another interesting session emphasized the importance of missile photography and its relationship to national defense and to new fields of research.

The Final Program was not greatly different from the Advance Program given in the March *Journal* — in effect, against five papers canceled or not read there were added two papers and a panel discussion.

The fine organization of the large papers program was accomplished by Joseph E. Aiken, assisted by Topic Chairmen Ellis W. D'Arcy, Ralph N. Harmon, John Flory, Garland C. Misener, Fred E. Aufhauser, Herbert Behrens, John H. Waddell, S. M. Lipton, John A. Maurer and Jack C. Greenfield. Substantial contributions to the success of this Convention were also made by Papers Committee Regional Chairmen, under Ben D. Plakun. They are a "standing" committee and are again listed in the May *Journal* as already at work for the 82d Convention.

Many Motion Pictures

An unusual aspect of the Convention was the presentation of a large number of motion pictures for entertainment and instruction, including the delightful "Short Subjects" arranged for by Ethan M. Stifle. Although the Railway Express strike broke up the exact schedule of films, the cartoons, sports and travel shorts were all enthusiastically received throughout the week.

One of the more unusual films was the *History of the Cinema* made by Halas and Batchelor of London and released through Louis de Rochemont Assoc. Ranging from the wildly amusing to the delicately witty, it offered genuine historical instruction from a "different" point of view. This film was

selected as the outstanding short for the Royal Film Performance in 1956.

Sound and Story, shown before the Friday afternoon Sound Session, was a thorough presentation by Radio Corp. of America, showing how high-fidelity disk records are made.

Shown throughout the papers program were these films which largely or completely served as a technical paper presentation:

Standardization — A Dynamic Key to Economy, Herbert C. Ruckmick, U.S. Naval Photographic Center, Anacostia, D.C. This 20-min, 35mm film explained the basic concepts and benefits of standards and the standardization process for local or international scope and for government or industry.

Effects of Communication Research on Educational Films, William H. Allen, System Development Div., The Rand Corp., Santa Monica, Calif. When Dr. Allen was obliged to cancel his personal appearance at the Convention, an 18-min film was produced — photography by John Tyo and artwork by James Fitzgerald, both of the Rand Corp. The film, made in half a day and at a cost of \$150 drew particular attention as a feature of the Session on Audio-Visual Uses of Motion Pictures and Television. It also enjoyed a further showing in Washington at the U.S. Information Agency

Fall Convention Papers Program

Following the extensive outline in the May *Journal*, one Topic Chairman has been added:

Television Studio Practices, *Richard S. O'Brien*, CBS Television, 485 Madison Ave., New York 22.

Up to the present time, no chairman has been appointed for the topic of Television Film Reproduction Technique, nor have any papers on this subject been received. Anyone who has such a paper to offer should get Author Forms from any of the Regional or Topic Chairmen listed in May, from the Editor at Society Headquarters, or write direct to the 82d Program Chairman:

Dr. Deane R. White
c/o Photo Products Dept.
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.
Parlin, N.J.

The above advice is for anyone who has a prospective paper for the Convention. No one has to wait for an invitation. All prospects are reviewed for suitability for a Convention Program; all prospects are reviewed for suitability for *Journal* publication. Acceptability for a Program is not a guarantee for *Journal* publication, and the reverse is also true.

A Canadian Regional Papers Committee has been formed under the Chairmanship of:

Rodger J. Ross, 784 Duchess Dr., Applewood Acres, Port Credit, Ont., Canada.

Newly appointed members are:

Gerald G. Graham, Box 6100, Montreal 3, Que.

Ivor B. M. Lomas, 275 Billings Ave., Ottawa 1, Ont.

M. J. Pappas, 1778 Beaudet St., St. Laurent, Que.

It is expected that additional appointments will soon be made for Vancouver, B.C., and Winnipeg, Man.

Deadlines

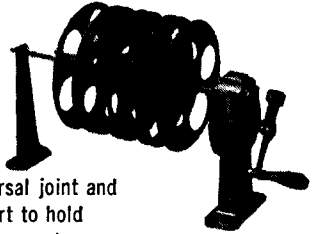
Before August 7, the Program Chairman, Dr. White, must have received from prospective Program authors: the Author Forms; three copies of a 50- to 75-word abstract, typed double-spaced; and two self-addressed business-size envelopes.

Before August 30, copies of the manuscript and brief biographical information, as described on the Author Forms, are due the Program Chairman, the Editor and Publicity Director.


Due to summertime work on the Program, early cooperation will be especially helpful and will ensure proper scheduling of your papers.

HF
REWINDS and ACCESSORIES

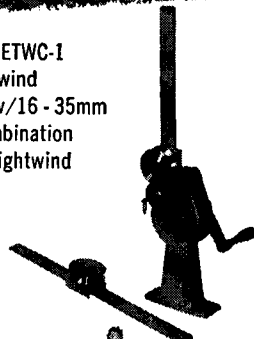
REU-1
 rewind w/universal joint and end support to hold up to 5 - 35mm reels.




REF-1
 friction control rewind w/1 reel shaft 35mm.



RETWC-1
 rewind w/16 - 35mm combination tightwind



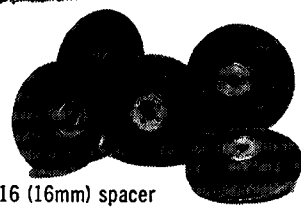
RE-1
 rewind w/1 reel 35mm shaft



SB-1
 swivel base attachment for rewind



SP-16 (16mm) spacer
SP-35 (35mm) spacer

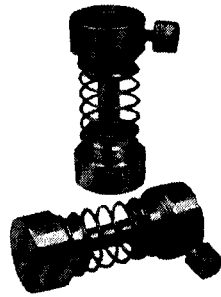


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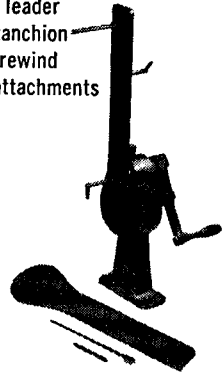
ASC-35
 35mm aluminum shaft male or female cores
ASC-16 (16mm)



SL-1
 spring locks



LS-1
 leader stanchion rewind attachments



precision film editing equipment, reels, cans and shipping cases
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 630 Ninth Avenue, New York, New York Circle 6-9309

as an outstanding example of a low-cost film.

New Methods of Recording 16mm Magnetic Lip-Sync Sound Using a Magnetic-Optical Sound Projector, Lee T. Askren and Raymond J. Dwyer, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N.Y. After projecting the film which described the methods and demonstrated results, Mr. Askren answered questions in the usual Convention discussion procedure.

Fader Control for Continuous Printers, Garo W. Ray, Cine Video Productions, Inc., Milford, Conn. After a brief introduction, a film completely described and demonstrated the system. The paper appeared in the April 1957 *Journal*.

New Studio Design Features for Commercial Production, James E. Larsen, Academy Films, Hollywood, was a 7-min, 16mm film which supplemented the paper and lantern slides presented by John Flory for the author.

Table 210, Glenn E. Miller, Lockheed Missile Systems Division, Van Nuys, Calif., was a 35mm color film with narration, showing, step by step, how a documentary film is produced under a military contract. Word-of-mouth publicity for this film caused it to be shown twice during the Convention.

There were, of course, several technical papers with which the authors projected sample film — particularly in the case of

George Lewin's paper on "Transparent Magnetic Tracks."

Local Arrangements

Despite the good work of general and local planners before the Convention, there were sufficient cries for help during the week to keep Convention Vice-President Carl Hunt a very popular man. Hotel facilities for exhibits and Society plans for future exhibits were up for some attention — see the separate story on Exhibits which follows.

Local Arrangements Chairman Keith B. Lewis had the heavy responsibility of pre-convention planning and supervision of all arrangements. Howland Pike, Registration Chairman, assisted by Auditor C. E. McGowan, kept registration operations from becoming even normally confused. On the lighter side of events were the results of fine preparations by: Ladies Committee Chairman Henry M. Fisher; Banquet Chairman Dudley Spruill; Entertainment Chairman Lefferts A. McClelland; and Hospitality Chairman Frank H. McIntosh. The success of their efforts may be summed up in the venerable old expression, "a good time was had by all." On the committee to assist Mr. Fisher were Mrs. Keith Lewis, Mrs. Eric Johnston and Mrs. Nathan Golden.

Public address, recording and projection facilities and services were amply provided by the combined efforts of Jack Greenfield, Wilson Gill, William Youngs, Harry De Furia and Don Atkinson.

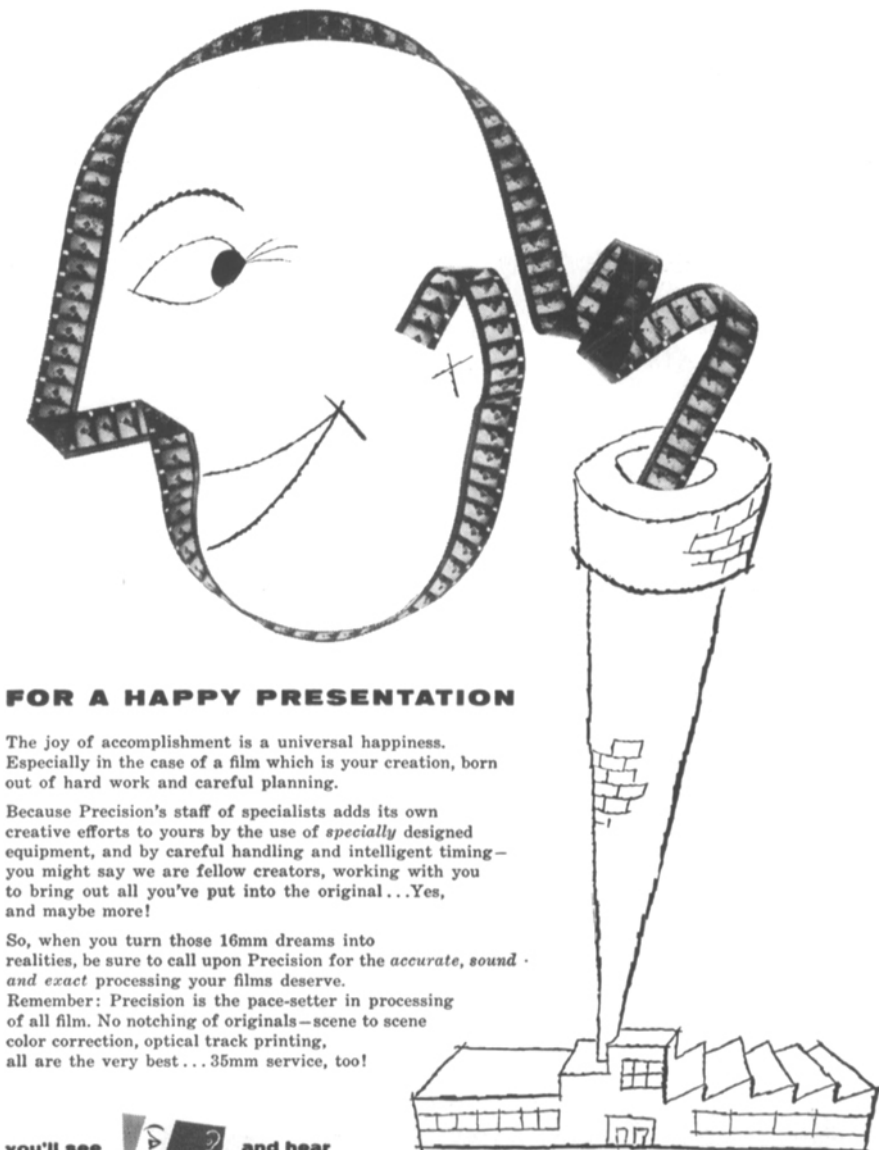
Hotel arrangements were handled by Arthur Rescher, and transportation by Frank G. Kear. Administrative Assistants for operation of registration and the convention generally were Nick Galminas and Lawrence Wilkinson. James A. Moses, besides being often a special on-the-spot helper, was Publicity Chairman. To the fortuitous combination of know-how, advice and work contributed by Mr. Moses may be attributed the excellent notices of the Convention in the trade-papers and press.

Other Activities

The 81st Convention was officially opened by the traditional Get-Together Luncheon at which SMPTE President Barton Kreuzer made in informal fashion the report appearing at the front of this issue of the *Journal*. The guest speaker at the luncheon was Jack Woolley, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy. Extracts from Mr. Woolley's speech appear on p. 368 in this *Journal*.

Wednesday night is traditionally "fun night" at Conventions when scientists and engineers relax from the responsibilities of the papers sessions and enjoy good food, good company and good entertainment at a cocktail party, banquet and dance. Music for the cocktail party was supplied by Ruth Palmer, accordionist. The Eddie Pierce Orchestra played for the dance and entertainment was provided by The Hubbels, Gene Archer and the Crosby Sisters, singers, dancers and comedians.

Engineering and administrative committees held 20 formal meetings during the Convention. Reports and results of these meetings will be reflected in the *Journal* pages from time to time.—R.H.



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