

## Industry, Education News

The *Frontier*, published by the Armour Research Foundation, brings reports on widely varying research for industry. The Armour Research Foundation of the Illinois Institute of Technology, 10 W. 35 St., Technology Center, Chicago 16, was founded in 1936 with three staff members and with less than a half-dozen research projects. The 1956 report lists more than 1200 full-time staff members and 700 research projects.

The Foundation's 1956 Report, "20 Years of Service Through Research" (52 pp., illus., 8½ by 11-in.), lists a few of its achievements which illustrate the wide range of its research activities. Among its contributions, during the 20 years it has been in existence, have been the first commercially practical magnetic recorder; flexible ceramic coatings that can be applied to a wide variety of materials at comparatively low temperatures; magnetic sound on film; an electronic instrument which measures and counts microscopic airborne particles such as dust, smog, moisture and pollen, 1000 times faster than by other methods; and the first stable, dry tortilla flour acceptable to the Mexican public.

Members of this Society have known for ten years and more about the Foundation's work on magnetic sound, from papers by Marvin Camras—"Magnetic Sound for Motion Pictures" in the January 1947 *Journal*; "Magnetic Sound for 8mm Projection"

in the December 1947 *Journal*; and "New Magnetic Recording Head" in the January 1952 *Journal*.

Research during 1956 was carried on in eight main areas: Ceramics and Minerals, Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Economics, Mechanical Engineering, Metals, Physics, and Propulsion and Fluid Mechanics. There also is an international department which conducts projects in other countries.

During 1956, the Foundation carried on continuous research in magnetic recording, color measurements, high-speed photography, and optical system analysis, among other projects of special interest in the field of motion-picture and television engineering. One research project of less specific but of wide general interest is a study presently being carried on of sound propagation.

When an airplane flies faster than the speed of sound (760 miles per hour at sea level), it creates shock waves which are actually sound waves. People living in the vicinity of air fields have reported earthquake-like disturbances including shattered windows and dishes. One phase of sound propagation investigation covers the concentration of these disturbances and how the shock waves focus and coalesce.—R.H.

The shrinking world is becoming still smaller as the result of a 3 million dollar telephone-television system linking Cuba and the United States. A joint project of

American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and International Telephone and Telegraph Co., the system makes use of transmitter antennas 60 ft sq which focus radio beams toward the receiving point. Although the curvature of the earth prevents direct reception of the beams, the signals are "bounced" off the atmospheric layers above the earth.

Placed into operation for telephone Sept. 12, there is considerable speculation as to just what this venture will mean to television. Television time will be sold at the rate of \$600 for the first hour and \$150 for each additional hour. The system is capable of carrying 200 telephone calls and 2 TV programs in each direction.

The system on the United States side is owned by AT&T's Long Lines Dept. and on the Cuban side by Radio Corp. of Cuba, an IT&T subsidiary. The system links Florida City, Fla., and Guanabo, Cuba. Nearest large cities are Miami and Havana to which programs will be carried by conventional microwave.

A 20-million dollar deal involving the distribution rights to a library of 600 feature motion pictures has been closed by Universal Pictures, Inc., and Screen Gems. Under the terms of the agreement Universal has licensed its pre-1948 film library to Screen Gems in return for a minimum guarantee of 20 million dollars over a 7-year period. Screen Gems will receive a graduated scale of distributor's fees and Universal will retain rights to the films. The television earnings of the films may amount to more than the 20 million guarantee.

The Television Division of the University of California Los Angeles has acquired a truck and trailer mobile unit for the pickup of remotes or outside broadcasts. The truck is a 2-ton GMC with over 6 ft of headroom and an overall length of 15 ft. It contains a built-in 5-kw generator sufficient for the University's 3-vidicon chain and enough lighting to make the unit independent of other power sources. The trailer is 20 ft long and is fitted with production and video desks, cabinets and interior lighting.

The American Institute of Physics has moved to new quarters at 335 E. 45 St., New York 17. The Institute, formerly located on 55 St., purchased the new building several months ago. Remodeling operations were completed in time for the scheduled move on June 7.

Forty-five outstanding medical motion pictures were shown at the American Medical Assn. annual meeting held June 3-7 at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York. There were films from 15 countries, almost all of them in color and all in English. Many of the films carried magnetic tracks with the English recording made in the country of origin. Film-running time varied from 10 to 53 min. Two films of general interest were: *The Motion Picture—A New Technique of Medical Investigation*, produced by J. Schlitz, Paris; and *Foreign Films in Health Education Around the World*, produced by the International Cooperation Administration, Washington, D.C.

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Technirama's first use in England is described briefly in an article in *Kinematograph Weekly*, June 27, 1957. "Technirama's Large Frame Suits a 'Small' Picture," by Douglas Slocombe, explains the reasons for using Technirama in the motion picture *Davy*, a drama set in the small dressing rooms and narrow corridors of an old-fashioned English music hall.

"It was primarily," Mr. Slocombe said, "in order to emphasize the claustrophobic atmosphere. . . that we embarked on this entirely new venture of using the biggest possible frame to show a small picture." The experiment was an artistic success, Mr. Slocombe reported. "Owing to the great clarity of the system," he said, "we were able to pick out and use to great effect many unexpectedly rich touches of color that stood out against the dingy background, such as posters on the grimy gray walls and blobs of make-up on the artistes' littered dressing tables."

W. J. Turnbull has been elected Vice-President and member of the Board of Directors of National Theatre Supply Co., 92 Gold St., New York 38. Since 1951, he has been Vice-President in charge of the Company's Eastern District Sales. Mr. Turnbull has been with the company since 1933 when he was graduated from Georgia Tech.

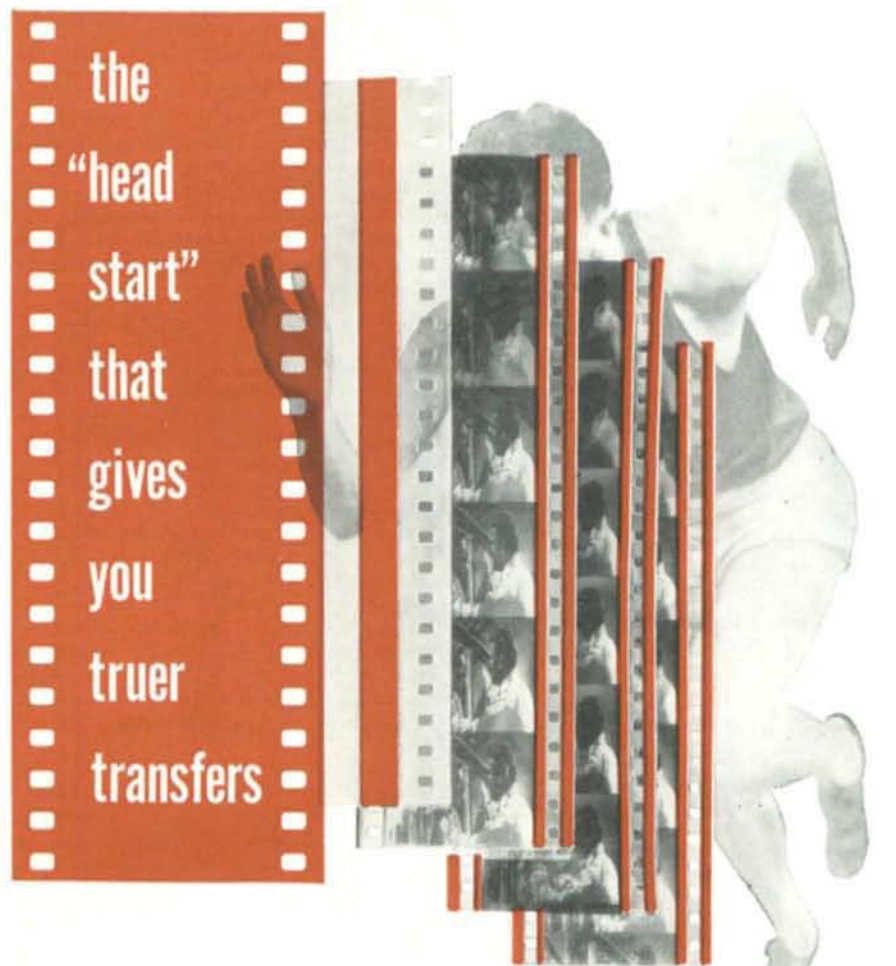
Three new staff appointments have been made by Roger Wade Productions, Inc., 15 W. 46 St., New York 36. William Buckley, former president of Buckley-Loomis Productions, has been appointed production chief. Frank Furio, former TV-art director of Quality Bakers of America, is the new art director, and David C. Bigelow, former production manager of L. L. Loft Productions and vice-president of R. C. Bigelow Co., has been appointed production coordinator. The new appointments are made in conformance with the company's expansion plans.

United National Film Corp. is the recently approved name of the firm formerly known as Dallas Film Industries, Inc. It maintains the same address, 1011 Mercantile Securities Building, Dallas, Tex., where a new studio is nearing completion.

A second story addition to Editing Film Center, Hollywood, Calif., is expected to be completed in October. The new facilities will include 60 film storage vaults, 25 editing rooms, 2 projection rooms and office areas.

The Harwald Co., 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, Ill., has announced the opening of a new plant at that address. Manufacturers of Inspect-O-Film machines, the company has recently acquired the Movie-Mite 16mm sound projector.

The New York Branch of the Hollywood Film Co. has moved from 630 Ninth Ave. to 524 W. 43 St. The move was made because of the need for additional warehouse space and to provide for on-day service in the New York area.

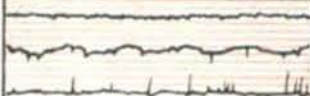


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