

news and reports

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Papers for the 83d Convention, April 21-25, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles

Since the announcement of the topics and Topic Chairmen in the December *Journal*, p. 778, progress has been made for various sessions, the work for one of which is described in detail below.

By late January, time has nearly run out. The deadline for abstracts to reach Program Chairman Herb Farmer is February 3.

If you have a subject or know about a prospect for a paper or if you have been corresponding with a Topic Chairman about a paper, please advise the Topic Chairman if you can but by all means send at once the information of title, authors and abstract to

Herbert E. Farmer, SMPTE Program Chairman,
c/o Cinema, University of Southern Calif.,
University Park, Los Angeles 7, Calif.

The format of the Convention will very soon be established—the number, sequence, location and concurrency of sessions. For this planning, the Abstracts due by February 3 are required—then the advance copies of manuscripts due the Program Chairman by March 17 are the basis for definite scheduling of a paper in the Final Program.

Abstracts and papers submitted after deadline will be given every feasible consideration but cannot be scheduled without special permission of the Program Chairman and Papers Committee Chairman. Late papers will be assigned to unfilled sessions (whenever there are such) and amounts of time and projection facilities will be made available as best possible—but only in second priority to papers received on time.

Exhibit planning is complete and shown in detail in the announcement on the opposite page.

1958 Directory for Members

Does the label on the envelope in which this Journal came to you or the April 1957 Journal Part II have an error or inconsistency in your address or listing?

The 1958 Directory is planned to have the same general content and arrangement as the 1957 Directory. Please send corrections and suggestions to Society Headquarters. New members and new addresses are expected to be included if received by March 5 and they will be taken into account as far as feasible during the remainder of March. Suggestions for improving the Directory will be welcome at any time.—*Ed.*

Education, East Coast

Ed Schuller, Chairman of the Eastern Subcommittee for Education of Sound Technicians, has just received results of his survey regarding the proposed repeat of the course in motion-picture sound recording that was sponsored by SMPTE at New York University last year. His committee finds that the response is insufficient to conduct a course this spring and plans a course in the fall, instead.

James W. Kaylor, Chairman of the Eastern Subcommittee for Education of Laboratory Technicians, announces that after careful consideration his committee has decided to postpone until September the presentation of the color motion-picture laboratory course originally planned to start in February.

Papers on Closed-Circuit TV

In October, Topic Chairman Boyce Nemec made 35 formal inquiries of organizations with possible interest and received 24 replies, many with detailed and useful suggestions.

Those who responded were manufacturers of closed-circuit TV equipment, organizations that have studied the market, and persons who have taken part in technical and operating tests of equipment. Of the group circularized, home pay-TV was lowest on the list of specific subjects designated but it is recognized that this may not reflect the feeling of the Society. The greatest interest expressed was in the subject of educational TV, with the emphasis on classroom rather than on large-group education.

Other closed-circuit applications which were mentioned a significant number of times included industrial (group meetings, traffic, personnel monitoring and control) and theater TV.

The responses indicated that, for maximum appeal, the papers presented should deal largely with distribution systems, pickup environment and pickup equipment. In describing applications and operating aspects, authors should avoid over-optimism in describing (or failing to describe) specific limitations.

Case histories will be welcomed and Author Forms should be filled out for each 5-minute or longer case history as well as for 20-minute papers. In presenting brief case histories, authors should describe the problem and present the solution with emphasis on its unique or evolutionary aspects. The presentation should also include a candid appraisal of the results with, possibly, new directions or trends in the field.