

news and reports



Activity in preparation for this outstanding event, sponsored by the SMPTE for reports on instrumentation and high-speed photography techniques and equipment from all over the world, is steadily advancing. The list of eleven National Delegates from other countries published in the September *Journal* has now been increased by two:

Civ. Ing. Tryggve Ramqvist
Försvarets Forskningsanstalt
Stockholm 80, Sweden

Kay Weedon
Boks 137
Ramstad near Oslo, Norway

Preliminary Author Forms for those wishing to submit papers for the Congress may be obtained from Society headquarters, Congress Chairman Max Beard, 10703 E. Nolcrest Dr., Silver Spring, Md., or from the Topic Chairmen whose names were listed in the November *Journal*, p. 771. A folder announcing the Congress, which will take place at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C., October 16-22, 1960, is also available from Society headquarters.

87th Papers Program

Deadline for Author Forms to be submitted by Topic Chairmen to the Program Chairman is February 15 — authors must complete their plans and forms somewhat earlier to be assured of the most desirable scheduling.

Recognition of a rapidly broadening field of industry interest will be shown by a substantial group of papers on space age motion pictures and television. Other sessions will include new techniques in industrial and educational films, sound recording in instrumentation photography, and film and television training from the international point of view.

The topics and chairmen were listed on p. 772 of the November *Journal*. Forms and other information are available from Society headquarters and from: **Herbert E. Farmer**, 87th Convention Program Chairman, c/o Cinema, Univ. of Southern Calif., University Park, Los Angeles 7, Calif.

The 87th Convention, which will include an Equipment Exhibit, will be held May 1-7, 1960, at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

The 86th Convention, New York

The Theme of the recent Convention in New York was *Motion Pictures and Television in the Age of Space*, an impressive reminder of the long, long way the Society (and civilization) has traveled in the 43 years since the Society was founded. In 1916, discussions of space probes, space vehicles, soft landings on the Moon and Man's personal exploration of space would have seemed utter madness, placed in serious context. It is a tribute to the Society's (and Man's) adaptability that the papers presented by distinguished scientists during the two sessions on Space Technology and Image Sensing represent an application of the art and science of motion-picture and television engineering which is accepted today, if not exactly as a commonplace, at least as a logical extension of the Society's sphere of interest.

The keynote speech, delivered by Edward P. Curtis, on Engineering in the Space Age, stressed that "any engineering activity must be evaluated and considered in the framework of Man's entry into the Space Age."

One of the especially appropriate moments of the Convention occurred at the Get-Together Luncheon when President Norwood Simmons acknowledged on behalf of the Society the "dedicated behind-the-scenes work" of the men who labored diligently to make the Convention a success. He thanked especially Glenn Matthews "our very able Editorial Vice-President" and Reid Ray "our most energetic Convention Vice-President" for their "usual expert handling" of the duties of their offices which are basic for all successful conventions.

The entire program maintained the high standards set by the Space Sessions, a credit to the painstaking efforts of Program Chairman J. Paul Weiss. An innovation in the development of this Convention was an advance announcement in July which contained the detailed program for two full days—Tuesday's Space Technology Sessions organized by Sidney Sternberg and Thursday's Sessions on Television Equipment and Practices developed by Ralph Harmon.

Among many outstanding papers, one deserving special note was presented during the Monday Morning Session on Cinematography: F. H. Perrin's scholarly survey of "Methods of Appraising Photographic Systems." Other distinguished papers were assembled for that Session by Topic Chairman Herbert E. Behrens.

A new two-terminal semiconductor device, the tunnel diode, was described for the first time to members of our Society, on Friday morning by C. J. Gallagher, General Electric Company. This device is

expected to play an important role in satellite technology.

The Program Format

A point that is not always made clear in reporting a Convention is the careful planning that goes into the arrangement of the Sessions. Once the papers are assembled by appropriate topics, the arrangement must be considered in terms of the greatest possible convenience for members who are especially interested in certain subjects or papers. For this convenience, several sessions were informally separated into Photography and Television subjects. The Photography Sessions covered Laboratory Practice (Topic Chairman was Paul A. Kaufman); Sound Recording and Reproduction (Edward Schmidt), and Instrumentation and High-Speed Photography (Charles W. Wyckoff). The Television Sessions covered International Television Equipment and Practices, and Scientific and Military Uses, with Topic Chairmen Ellis W. D'Arcy, Ralph N. Harmon and George Gordon.

The Symposium on Film Steadiness held Monday afternoon was organized by Topic Chairman Gordon A. Chambers. Two papers on color printing, "Color Matching Between Picture-Tube Phosphors and Color-Film Dyes" by Lloyd F. Hope and "Techniques in Color Duplication" by Robert O. Gale and Walter I. Kisner, were presented following the Film Steadiness presentations.

Tuesday, both morning and afternoon, was given over to the Space Technology and Image Sensing Sessions. From these sessions, eight papers are expected to be organized to appear in the January *Journal*. A Summary was presented at the close of these Sessions by Topic Chairman Sidney Sternberg. The convention closed with a well attended session on Video-Tape Recording on Friday afternoon.

Short Films

The motion-picture short subjects, the responsibility of John Flory and Tom Hope, were carefully chosen for aptness of subject matter and technical excellence. Among this group of entertaining and informative films, those of special interest included *Atlas—the ICBM*, produced for the U.S. Air Force by Convair. The subject of this film was especially timely and appropriate. *Assignment Jet Colorama*, a production of Informational Films, Eastman Kodak Co., was shown a second time during the week to accommodate those who were unable to attend the first showing. This film, showing jet planes on the ground and in flight, was photographed from