

news and reports

86th Convention Papers Program

Under the general theme of "Motion Pictures and Television in the Space Age," and under Program Chairman J. Paul Weiss, the expected roster of ten Topic Chairmen is nearly complete. The chosen topic areas and the chairmen for each will be published in the next issue of the *Journal*.

In the meantime, Author Forms are available from Society Headquarters and from: J. Paul Weiss, 86th SMPTE Program Chairman, Du Pont Photo Products Dept., Parlin, N.J.

Dear Mr. Plakun:

Since Mr. Glenn E. Matthews has confirmed my appointment as National Regional Chairman of the Papers Committee for Argentina, I feel it to be my duty to present myself to you, and through your kindness, to all the members of the Papers Committee.

I think it has been an excellent move of the SMPTE to extend its activities on an international scale. Working conditions vary according to the general character of each country; and as a consequence each country may have its own idiosyncrasies. It may be necessary to do the same things in other ways in different surroundings, and still may be possible to arrive at the same results. As this new program gets really

under way, the exchange of knowledge which will result from it should be extraordinarily fruitful.

It was very pleasant for me to read in the minutes of the meeting of the Papers Committee of Tuesday, October 21, 1958, the particular interest this committee is taking in its relations with Latin America. I have always felt that the people of this — our American Continent — have more in common than is realized generally. All of the peoples of this continent have been faced with pioneering problems: first in settling the land, and then in creating everything from nothing. The genuine creativeness which resulted from this, is, I feel, the common American inheritance.

It is the engineer's, as well as the tech-

Bearing upon the growing success of the Papers Committee in carrying out the policies of the Society, we publish below a letter from Sr. Pablo Tabernero, Laboratories Alex S.A., Buenos Aires, written in acknowledgment of his reappointment as National Regional Papers Chairman for Argentina. It seems of special interest as an encouragement toward increased activities beyond the Society's habitual boundaries. It is published through the courtesy of General Papers Chairman Ben Plakun and with the permission of Sr. Tabernero.

nician's, the artist's, the scientist's, privilege to create things; and on this common ground, I am sure, Americans of the North and Americans of the South will understand each other very easily. I like to think of the, as yet distant, day when the membership of the SMPTE in Latin America will be large enough to warrant a Spanish edition of the *Journal* or, at least, a Spanish edition of the most outstanding papers published by it.

As for myself, I am trying to do my best to help in extending knowledge of the SMPTE. With my respectful greetings to you and to all the members of the Papers Committee I remain,

Yours very truly,
PABLO TABERNERO

Education, Industry News

A delightful "Texas story" has come to the *Journal's* Editorial office in the form of a release from the McLendon Corp., motion-picture producers of 2008 Jackson St., Dallas, Tex. Difference between this and other tall stories is that this one's true.

"Texas," the release starts out, "has wheeled around in its well-worn tracks and taken direct aim on the California celluloid capital." Since the release conforms to Texas tradition in length as well as hyperbole, it appears below in condensed form.

"Already, two full-length motion pictures have been churned out by the nation's newest producing company with headquarters and shooting studios located on the shores of Lake Dallas. Setting sights behind the venture are two of the Southwest's elder business men and long-time showmen, B. R. and Gordon B. McLendon. This Texas father and son combination... plunked down an initial \$500,000 for a 500-acre tract of land formerly occupied by a financially ailing film production company. To insure top-flight facilities, the pair immediately anteed up another \$250,000 for scheduled improvements, a giant new sound stage and renovation of a 14,000-sq ft lodge to house cast and crew during filming.

"All this was not done without exhaustive research and depth probings of other film renegades who have flopped in their fight for a beachhead in motion-picture producing outside of Hollywood.

"The first release, *The Killer Shrews*, stars Ingrid Goude and James Best. Miss Goude... as Miss Sweden, made her buxom bow as runnerup in the 'Miss Universe' in 1957... The second feature, *The Gila Monster*, spotlighted newcomer Don Sullivan and international beauty, Lisa Simone, the former 'Miss France'...

"In both pictures, 27 hand-picked Hollywood technicians and crewmen have been flown into the Lone Star State to get the new firm off on solid production footage, among them Ray Kellogg, a 30-year veteran of directing and special effect wizardry at 20th Century-Fox, to serve as Director. Rounding out the staff heads were Chief Cinematographer Wilfred Kline, Chief Camera Operator George Nogel, Lighting Specialist George Satterfield and Film Editor Aaron Stell, all of Hollywood. To beef up front office operations... appointments of James H. Foster as Financial Vice-President and Mitchell I. Lewis as Advertising and Publicity Chief were announced.

"In all, the McLendons are presently up to their elbows and in the motion-picture business to stay. With Dallas daring, dynamics and dollars the insatiable appe-

tites of aggressive theater owners and hungry movie consumers can eagerly look forward to a tasty new fare — Texas style!"

Omission and Error

The footnote to "A Flying Spot Film Scanner for Color Television," by H. E. Holman, G. C. Newton and S. F. Quinn, abridged for the *Journal* (March 1959, pp. 137-140) failed to credit Electrical & Musical Industries Ltd., Research Laboratories, Blyth Road, Hayes, Middlesex, England, where the paper was prepared for its original publication in the *Proc. of Electrical Eng.*, from whom permission was obtained for the publication of the Abridgment in the *Journal*. (Since the paper first appeared, one of the authors, Mr. Quinn, has joined Canadian Broadcasting Corp., Engineering Div., Montreal, Que., Canada.) The *Editor* sincerely regrets this oversight, which was called to our attention by Mr. Newton.

An item in the Education, Industry News section of the March 1959 *Journal* (p. 176), "The Committee on International Nontheatrical Events (CINE)..." incorrectly lists Riviera Productions, Los Angeles, as producers of the film *Silk*. The film was produced by Wheaton Galentine, New York.