

An innovation at this convention was the Equipment Papers and Demonstrations Session, held on Tuesday afternoon, at which exhibitors presented ten-minute papers describing new equipment, and/or demonstrated the equipment itself. Since this was the first time such a session had been arranged, much valuable experience was gained in the mechanics of organizing and staging it to the best advantage, which should make this feature a more valuable opportunity for exhibitors and audience alike at future conventions. Great credit for improvising and running it goes to Jim Wassell, of Bell & Howell, who undertook the job on short notice, and to Harry Teitelbaum, of Hollywood Film Co., who ably assisted him.

An unfortunate conflict of dates kept Exhibit Chairman John Olsson away, but the Assistant Chairman, George Gill, and the indefatigable Reid Ray filled the gap more than adequately and gave the Society one of the finest exhibits it has ever had.

The Coffee Shop, an SMPTE Institution since RCA began it at the Lake Placid Convention in 1950, was sponsored in fine style at the Fontainebleau by L. B. Russell Chemical Co., with Irving Ewig as host. It was one of the best attended hotel sites, especially before and after sessions.

The Miami Location

At this, the first convention for SMPTE in the southeast area of the U.S., many special benefits obtained. With the international aspect a strong one in the papers program, there were natural bridges for local visits.

When Channel 12 was set up in Havana as a color TV station depending exclusively on film for its programming, Telecolor was set up as its cinematographic branch. Delegates to the Convention were invited to visit the Havana Hilton Hotel which houses the station, by Gaberiel Casanova, General Manager of CMBJ-TV, and also Telecolor, of which Raul Amado Blanco is Manager.

Mr. Goar Mestre, President of Circuito CMQ, S.A., extended an invitation to visit Radiocentro in Havana, including CMAQ-TV. Members who were able to accept Mr. Mestre's gracious hospitality were impressed by the excellent equipment and up-to-date facilities. Other Havana stations, including CMBF-TV, Channel 4, extended similar invitations.

Before the Convention, Program Chairman Misener visited Havana and was welcomed by a committee of four: Eduardo More of Circuito CMQ; Pedro E. Misner of Siboney Advertising; Raul A. Blanco, Manager of the Telecolor film laboratory; and Pablo Epstein of Telecolor.

Besides the University of Miami, just a bit to the south, there was Patrick Air Force Base several hours to the north. A special Post-Convention tour of the Base's photographic facilities and laboratory was arranged by Major General Donald N. Yates, Commander of the Air Force Missile Base. General Gates was present on Monday evening at our Convention as a special guest of the Society. A caravan of hired autos left the Fontainebleau early on Saturday for Patrick. The group was briefed on the activities of the base by Major James



Norman Bean, Local Arrangements Committee Chairman.

F. Reid, Chief, Community Relations Branch, Patrick Air Force Base, and by Major Roy Jarman, Technical Service Laboratory. Slides and motion pictures were shown of rocket and missile firings and of the plan of the processing laboratory.

Local Arrangements

It is an axiom that no Convention can be a success without the devoted efforts of many behind-the-scenes workers. Although the local Arrangements Chairman, Norman Bean, had the intangible aid of the Florida climate in making this Convention a memorable one, the intangibles alone would have meant nothing without his earnest labors. Others who deserve more than a word of congratulation for their able handling of Convention details are George H. Gill, Hotel Arrangements and Assistant Exhibit Chairman; William J. Reddick, who was responsible for the smooth running of the Registration process; Bert Toppa, who handled Publicity; and Spears Mallis, who controlled the myriad details of the Luncheon and Banquet arrangements. The famous hospitality of Miami Beach was exemplified in the person of Edmund Read, Hospitality Chairman. The Ladies Program was in the capable hands of Mrs. George Gill. Earl Lewis, Local Membership Chairman and Auditor Arthur Hertz ably performed their demanding tasks. Projection and recording facilities were provided by Larkin C. Webb Projectionist Corp. Administrative Assistants Ralph Schneelock, Jr. and Harold Hornstein conscientiously fulfilled their duties.

Society Business and Committee Meetings

Convention time is no time for any priorities but SMPTE business for the Officers, Board of Governors, and standing and local Chairmen.

On Friday evening before a convention, the Local Arrangements Chairman and the Convention Vice-President call all hands together for a run-through of one thousand and one items accomplished or still open.

The Board of Governors meets before the Convention, usually for a full day's business and usually on Sunday. Reflections and results from these meetings ap-

pear in the SMPTE President's Monday Noon speech at the Get-Together Luncheon. These reports have been restyled and made slightly more formal and published in the *Journal* biannually in recent years.

Often amounting to almost another whole convention by itself is the schedule of committee meetings, particularly for engineering. Six of the engineering committees met at Miami Beach to consider technical specifications to be included in proposed American Standards and SMPTE Recommended Practices. As a result of the committee discussions several items of old business were resolved and many new projects were added to the committees' program of work.

Besides engineering and standardization matters, administrative (especially convention and exhibit planning) and editorial meetings are manifold. Well attended sessions were held of the Papers Committee, Board of Editors and Publications Advisory Committee. About 20 persons joined together for the Publications Luncheon on the beautiful terrace dining room facing the formal gardens of the Fontainebleau.

SMPTE Test Films

Test films planned by the Society's technical committees and produced under the Society's exact supervision are available from the headquarters office at 55 West 42 St., New York 36. Catalogs containing brief descriptions of each film are obtainable on request.

These films are used by manufacturers for testing the performance of new equipment, by television station technicians for lining up and adjusting film pickup systems, by maintenance men for "in service" maintenance of projectors and sound equipment, and by dealers for testing and demonstration equipment.

Films are available in the following categories.

Television — Picture Only, Color or Black-and-White

CinemaScope

Visual 35mm — Picture Only

Magnetic — 16mm Sound Only

Picture and Sound — 16mm

Picture Only — 16mm

Glass Slide — 16mm

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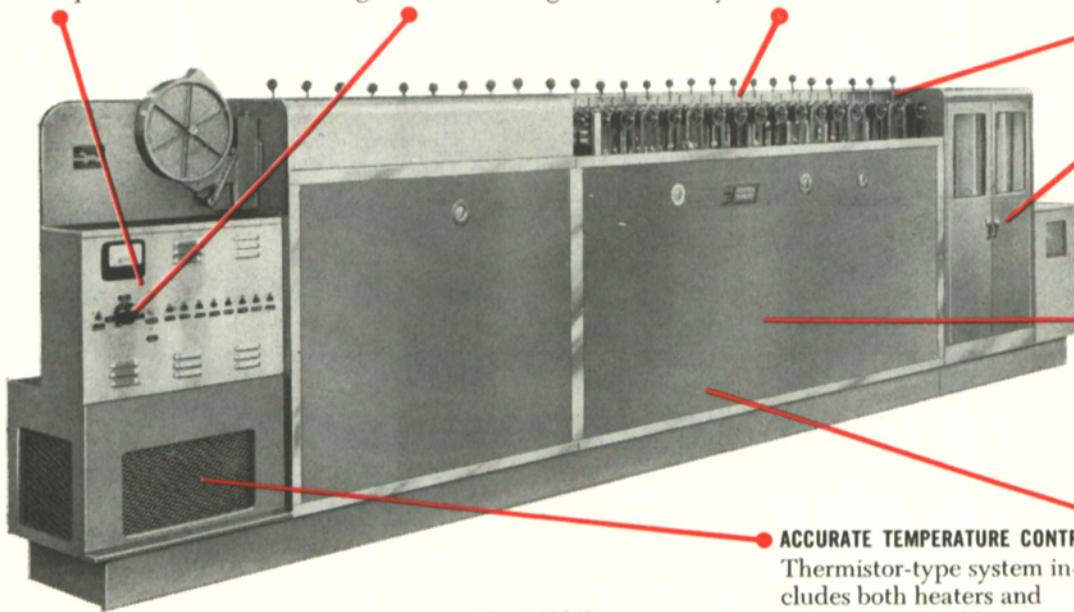
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