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Harry J. Skornia, who has had experience in both commercial and educational broadcasting at home and overseas and is now Professor of Radio and Television at the University of Illinois, has a vision of what American broadcasting could and, according to him, should be. *Television and Society* is an incisive analysis of the status quo in the mercantile-minded television industry and an impassioned plea for making the electronic communications medium into a true profession. In his final chapter, "An Agenda for Change: Some Proposals and Recommendations," he makes some specific suggestions "for national discussion, rather than as definitive proposals." But he feels that time is of the essence and hopes that "the drastic changes necessary in broadcasting can be made before the full effects of satellite and color broadcasting are added to the present [problems]."

Dr. Skornia's "Agenda for Change" includes calls for a national study of "the changes in broadcast structure, policy, leadership, and goals, which the nation requires"; the establishment of a national public-service radio and television network which would exist parallel to commercial networks and "serve in the electronic area the same purpose that the *Congressional Record* and government publications at the federal, state, county, and city levels now serve in printed form"—he points to New York City's WNYC as a precedent; the in-

stallation of feedback mechanisms on privately owned television and radio sets to make them "electronic instruments of democracy"—the hardware for such a two-way communications system is now in use on some pay TV; regulatory changes, possibly including the creation of a Department of Communications headed by a man with cabinet rank, since, Dr. Skornia says, "there is little hope that the present Federal Communications Commission, the Communications Law of 1934, and later amendments to the latter can do what is needed"; congressional steps, including the divestment of broadcast interests by congressmen "serving on committees supervising the FCC and broadcasting"; industry steps, including the installation of a lock on each set sold, so parents can control what youngsters watch; and impartial research into the efforts of television, which Dr. Skornia sees as far more deleterious than does the industry which says it is "giving the public what it wants."

Dr. Skornia has deep faith in the electronic media despite his despair. "American television could probably do more than the United Nations to lay the foundations of peace," he declares. "United States broadcasting with its great potential could lead all the rest of the world in such a crusade. It should; it must. Even now United States television is making history. For history records the failures of nations and leaderships as unremittingly as their successes."—*Ed.*



The Fourth Symposium on Instructional Communication, sponsored jointly by The University of California, UCLA and Berkeley Campuses, and the Society's Hollywood and San Francisco Sections was held May 18 with concurrent sessions conducted at UCLA and the Berkeley campus. The theme of the Symposium was "Lesser Known Techniques in Telephonic Visual and Aural Communication."

Two-way audio public address systems (covering the 475 miles between the two Campuses), slow-can television (ITT Videx) and Electronic Blackboard (Electrowriter) systems enabled both audiences to hear the same speaker, ask questions and see simultaneously the same documents, photographs, TV live scene still frame shots, diagrams, equations, sketches, etc. Conventional 3 kc telephones in the University's intercampus private line telephone system were utilized, one for two-way audio and two others for two-way video transmission.

Chairmen of the afternoon session were Ken Winslow, Berkeley, Coordinator EYV,

and John Beeston, Director Academic Communications Facility, UCLA.

The evening session consisted of a joint meeting of the Society's Hollywood and San Francisco Sections conducted through two-way audio and visual communication channels. Jack Hall, Hollywood Section Chairman, and Stewart Macondray, San Francisco Section Chairman, were in charge.

The audience at Berkeley included more than 125 persons during the afternoon, and about 80 at night. The UCLA audience exceeded 200 at both sessions. Many persons traveled from Colorado and Nevada, but most of the group were from areas within 10 miles of the two campuses.

At Berkeley, informal groups ate together at the Student Union prior to the meeting, and early-comers were able to examine the equipment before the meeting. Introductions between two groups were on an *ad-lib* basis and the general tenor of the meeting was one of spontaneity. Audience reaction was excellent, and after the conclusion of the question-and-answer period

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between the two groups, a local discussion at Berkeley continued. At Los Angeles, there was a pre-meeting dinner which was attended by 38 SMPTE members and guests.

At the morning session, Introductory comments were given by Robert D. Tschirgi, University Dean of Academic Planning and Professor of Physiology and Anatomy at UCLA, and the following papers were presented:

"ETV Development in the State of California," by Dr. L. T. Frymire, ETV Coordinator, Dept. General Services, State of California;

"Description and Demonstration of Videx Two-Way Slow Scan Television Transmission Between Berkeley and Los Angeles," by Chet Weber and Paul Keller, ITT Corp., New York; and

"Electronic Blackboard Two-Way Transmission Between Berkeley and Los Angeles and Description of Intercampus Telephone Conference Facilities," by Robert K. Adler, General Telephone Co., Santa Monica, James Kline and Howard Giles, Victor Comptometer Corp., San Francisco, and Al Isberg, University of California Communications Engineer.

At the evening session the Chairmen were Jack Hall at UCLA and Stewart Macondray at Berkeley.

Papers presented at the morning session were repeated for the evening session and two additional papers were presented:

"A Review of Methods for Electronic Visual Communication," by Hal Kuerschner, Head of Planning and Development, UCLA Academic Communications Facility;

"New Methods for Television Transmission," by David Hooker, Asst. to President, Pitzer College, Claremont, Calif.

An evaluation of the transmission and other comments were presented by Mr. Kuerschner and Mr. Isberg.

The evening session was opened by presentation of a film produced by Pacific Telephone Co., "Tele-Lecture in Education," showing the application of two-way amplified public address facilities for instructional communication.

CHICAGO, April 20—The April meeting of the **Chicago Section** was held at Behrend's, Inc., where the topic of motion-picture production equipment was discussed.

The 74 members in attendance attended three separate equipment demonstrations. Jack Behrend, president of Behrend's, led the demonstrations, assisted by Bill Findley, sound recording equipment, Sam Erwin, lighting equipment, and Len Gangel, camera equipment. The meeting included a tour of Behrend's equipment storage spaces and service shops.—Allen F. Hilliard, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 164 N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60606.

CHICAGO, May 18—High-speed motion-picture photography was the subject at the May meeting of the **Chicago Section** held at the Knickerbocker Hotel. Fifty-one members heard Ernest Walker, Scientific Photographer, Lewis Research Center, NASA, Cleveland, describe the status of

motion-picture instrumentation work at the Lewis Research Center. His presentation reviewed the equipment and techniques used to accomplish the work.

The meeting was concluded with the showing of a 16mm demonstration reel of unusual high-speed motion-picture applications.—Allen F. Hilliard, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 164 N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60606.

HUNTSVILLE, April 20—Robert D. Shoberg, president and founder of Red Lake Laboratories, presented a paper on "The Latest Design in Rotating Motion-Picture Cameras," to 30 members of the **Huntsville Section**. The meeting was held at the Sheraton Motor Inn.

Shoberg described the unique design features of the Hycam camera and how it is possible to eliminate all gearing in the optical system by placing the film sprocket, rotating prism, and segmented disc shutter on one shaft. According to Shoberg, this design improves image quality to a point almost equal to that of intermittent action mechanisms.

Following the meeting, an open discussion was held. The officers of the Huntsville Section entertained the speaker at dinner prior to the meeting.—Roy E. Bush, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 1510 Willow La., Rt. 1, Madison, Ala.

MONTREAL, May 11—Meeting at the Northern Electric Labs in Ottawa, Ont., the **Montreal Section** heard talks by Don Dashney of RCA Victor, and S. F. Quinn, of CBC on basic theory of Color TV systems.

In all, 102 members and guests were present including contingents from Montreal and Belleville.

Dashney's paper outlined the basic theory of color TV system operation and the generation of the encoded color signal. Quinn presented the results of the CBC color evaluation scheme and outlined the practical significance of these measurements in system operations.

Considerable interest in color TV exists in the Canadian sections due to the imminent lifting of the freeze on color TV in Canada.

Refreshments were supplied by Northern Electric Co., and equipment was loaned by Central Dynamics Ltd.—Michael W. Barlow, *Chairman*, 5052 Chestnut Ave., Pierrefonds, Montreal, Que., Can.

NASHVILLE, May 15—A tour of RCA's new Nashville Studios highlighted the opening of the **Nashville Section** meeting. The chief engineer, after showing the facilities, conducted a question-and-answer session during which many of the technical aspects of sound recording were discussed. The construction of the main studio was also discussed.

The meeting was continued, after a social period, at the TRAFCO studio. Vilmar Zile of TRAFCO presented a paper, "Adventures of Magnetic Sound Tracks in Hollywood" which described his attempts to arrive at a standard calibration for his X-400 recorders. Charts were used to plot the results of his findings using the SMPTE standard as a guide.

Plans were made to meet in Atlanta on June 19 for a joint meeting of the Nashville, Huntsville, and Atlanta Sections where Bill Heddon, Calvin Productions, Inc., Kansas City, will be guest speaker.—Robert E. Hawkins, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 1208 Rose Bank Ct., Nashville, Tenn.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 16—At a joint meeting between the **San Francisco Section** and the I.F.P.A. at the Town House, Stewart Macondray, W. A. Palmer Films, Inc., gave a comprehensive report on the 97th SMPTE Technical Conference held in Los Angeles last March. Macondray presented the highlights of several papers and showed Ektachrome slides which he took of the exhibits.

The second part of the program was devoted to a personal autobiography of Karl Freund, the well-known cinematographer. Freund told of many experiences he had over the years in the motion-picture business. He described his early work in Germany and the United States. The role he played in the invention of many photographic effects and methods were discussed, as were the many famous people he has known. After his talk, the group kept him busy with questions and discussions.—John B. Steiger, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 13456 Mandoli Dr., Los Altos Hills, Calif. 94022.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 8—New Anso Motion Picture Film Processes was described by Dr. Francis Gerhardt, Regional Manager for Product Services, Photo and Repro Div., General Aniline and Film Corp., before 18 members of the **San Francisco Section**.

Gerhardt described the various characteristics of the processes using graphs and charts, emphasizing chemical and photographic aspects. Samples of each film were projected. The new high speed processing method for these films was covered and the results of both methods were shown. A discussion period followed the presentation.

Refreshments were served courtesy of Leo Diner.—John B. Steiger, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 13456 Mandoli Dr., Los Altos Hills, Calif. 94022.

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 26—Bernard P. Miller, Manager of The Ranger Project for the Radio Corp. of America, described and illustrated the Ranger TV System, the information gathering component that was used in the Ranger 7, 8, and 9 missions, before 29 members and guests of the **Washington, D.C. Section**. The section meeting was held at the National Academy of Sciences.

Following Miller's presentation, Donald H. Kindt, Ranger TV Subsystem Project Engineer for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, showed slides and a 16mm film of the performance of the system: the Ranger pictures of the moon. After the presentation, there was a brief question-and-answer period.

Members and guests joined the speakers at the Flagship Restaurant. After the meeting, refreshments were served, courtesy of the General Aniline and Film Co.—Wesley R. Sandell, *Secretary-Treasurer*, c/o Kodak Processing Laboratory, 1350 Okie St., N.W., Washington 13, D.C.

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