

# news and reports

## 99th Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit May 1–6, Sheraton Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

George Murphy, Republican Senator from California, will be the guest speaker at the Get-Together Luncheon of the 99th SMPTE Technical Conference.

The luncheon, to be held Monday, May 2, will formally open the 5-day conference, marking the 50th anniversary of the Society in the city of its birth, Washington, D.C.

The Society could hardly have picked a more appropriate speaker for this significant event. Senator Murphy is a former movie actor and dancer and has, himself, played an important role in the history of motion pictures.

Another highlight of the Get-Together Luncheon is the tentative *Special Award to the First Cinematographers in Space*. Astronauts McDivitt and White have been invited, by SMPTE President Ethan Stifle, to accept the award at the luncheon. A paper describing the design criteria of the space photographic equipment has been promised, but not yet confirmed.

### Papers Program



Program Chairman  
Arthur L. Foster

Arthur L. Foster, Program Chairman, Chief of Laboratory, Motion Picture Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, has reported the early receipt of numerous papers, with many more being scheduled. These include:

Instrumental and Industrial Uses of Fiber Optics; A New Method of Television Waveform Display; An Automatic Video-Tape Editing Device; Choice of Aperture in the Image Dissector Tube; Break-Up of Liquid Drops; Surface Irregularity Tracking System; Protoelastic Studies of Dynamic Stresses in High Modulus Materials; Ultrarapid Film Systems for Data Display and Computer Interlock; Characteristics of Exploding Wire Light Sources; An Investigation of Agitation in a Continuous Immersion Film Process; Printing Thermoplastic Tape to Motion-Picture Film; and Some Aspects of Miniaturization in High-Speed Photography.

In addition, Chairman Foster announced a paper by Lawrence E. Mertens on Underwater Photography which will be longer than the usual paper. According to Foster, this paper will be one of the highlights of the Conference.

Part of the papers program will be a review of the Seventh International Congress on High-Speed Photography which was held in Zurich, Switzerland, last September. Max Beard, who will conduct the review, has arranged for several speakers to report on the Congress. Coverage of the Congress should take two sessions, in addition to the high-speed photography sessions headed by Topic Chairman Thomas Liddiard.

### Evening of Historical Films

A program of early and historical motion pictures from the collection of the Library of Congress has been planned for the Conference. Program Chairman Foster reports that the Library of Congress will present a paper describing its collection of representative motion pictures for archival preservation of "pictorial America," planned so future scholars may see how this generation lived. A program of films will be presented, including one made by Georges Méliès and the first film directed by Mack Sennett.

The National Archives and the Smithsonian Institution have also been asked to participate in the program, but their plans are not yet complete. The National Archives collects government films, the Smithsonian Institution collects motion-picture equipment, whereas the Library of Congress collects only non-government films.

### Ladies Program

Sam Gale, Ladies' Program Chairman, has tentatively scheduled the following events for the Ladies attending the Conference: Tour of the White House; A Visit to the Swiss Embassy; A Dutch Treat Luncheon at the Jockey Club; and a Specially Reserved Barge Trip on the C & O Canal. In addition, a fashion show has been tentatively scheduled.

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