

Engineering Committee Activities

Laboratory Practice Committee

Meetings in 1970

THE FIRST MEETING OF the Laboratory Practice Committee was held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago on April 29, 1970, under its new Chairman, Robert A. Colburn. After the usual introductions and approvals of a modified agenda and minutes of the previous meeting, Alex Alden, SMPTE Staff Engineer, reported that "PH22.37, Raw Stock Cores" had been balloted and approved. However, a recommendation was made to include 8, 65 and 70mm cores in the same document. Mr. Alden was asked to circulate a revised ballot.

Dr. Frank Brackett said that a new draft on "Motion-Picture Packaging and Labeling" was ready for circulation. Since International Standards might be involved, it was decided to defer balloting until the Subcommittee could explore and resolve any conflicts that were suggested.

M. G. Michelson agreed to replace J. P. Hall as Chairman of the project on "Laboratory Exchange of Color Materials" and will report at the next meeting.

"RP-41 Color and Luminance of Review Room Screen Used for 16mm Color Television Prints" was approved by the Standards Committee and was subsequently published in the June SMPTE *Journal* for trial and comment.

When "Methods for Evaluating Safe Exposure Conditions for Motion-Picture Raw Stock" is approved, Mr. Alden pointed out PH2.22, which is referred to in that document, will be supplied by ANSI when it is ordered. Leaders for 70mm prints were discussed briefly and a Subcommittee under the Chairmanship of Fred J. Scobey was appointed to study the matter. Work on three Standards dealing with image size in various optical printing procedures was delayed because of additional data being considered, principally because of a new reversal-type intermediate film that has recently been introduced.

"PH22.27, Density Measurement" was detained awaiting a reference to PH2.19. Daan Zwick volunteered to check into the validity of this reference. "PH22.56, Nomenclature for Motion-Picture Film Used in Studios and Processing Laboratories" has been passed on to the Standards Committee, although future revisions may be required. Edward H. Reichard was asked to continue his work in any future revisions that may be required. One of the decisions was that "Super 8" and "Regular 8" would correspond to possible international designations as "8mm Type-S" and "8mm Type-R," respectively.

A discussion on a possible double-rank super-8 test film for printer use indicated that such a film was unnecessary at this time.

In response to a request that safety standards should be considered, the Chairman suggested that standards on safety practices within individual laboratories would be beneficial. After much discussion it was recommended that this area should be (since it was not strictly an engineering function) turned over to the Association of Cinema Laboratories for further study. The session ended with a paper previously presented to the ACL by R. J. Zavada called "Paper Clip Friction Test Evaluation."

The second meeting was held at the New York Hilton Hotel on October 8, 1970. Again after the usual introductions and approvals of a modified agenda and minutes of the previous meeting, the subject of a TV Subjective Test Film was brought up by Mr. Reichard. The Color Committee had approved a new film for distribution and it would be available at SMPTE Headquarters within two weeks.

The revision of "PH22.37, Dimensions of Raw Stock Cores

for Motion Picture Films" hit another snag when comments revealed that the proposed dimension tolerances would not accommodate hub dimensions of printers in the field. R. A. Morris agreed to chair a committee to review this item more fully.

Dr. Brackett had no report on the subject of "Motion-Picture Packaging and Labeling" at the time, due to the fact that both PH1 and PH22 are jointly concerned in this area.

In the area of "Laboratory Exchange of Color Materials" Mr. Michelson, reviewing the history of the project, acknowledged the fact that some of the needs expressed several years ago had already been satisfied. Mr. Reichard suggested that a new letter be circulated to laboratories to determine if any need still exists. Mr. Michelson agreed to do this and will have a report for our next meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried, that "Methods for Evaluating Safe Exposure Conditions" be forwarded to the Standards Committee, in spite of comments that reference to a PH2 Standard seemed redundant. Mr. Scobey was not present to report on "Leaders for 70mm Prints," but Dr. Brackett reported that work is progressing satisfactorily.

An ad hoc committee has been appointed with Mr. Zavada as chairman to continue work on PH22.46, PH22.47 and PH22.92, which deal with image size in various optical printing procedures and which had been held in abeyance until more experience was gained on reversal and other intermediate products.

Mr. Zwick reported by letter that the "PH22.27, Method of Determining Transmission Density of Motion-Picture Films" reference to PH2.19 was still valid. Since this Standard was reaffirmed in 1969, it need not be reconsidered until 1973. Mr. Zavada reported that a second draft of "Lubrication of 16mm and 8mm Motion-Picture Prints" has been favorably received by the 16mm and 8mm Committee. Information copies have been distributed to the Laboratory Practice Committee.

Mr. Colburn reported that a letter received from Paul Preo, Chairman of the Film Projection Practices Committee, said that "RP 39, Specifications for Maintaining Emulsion-in-Orientation on Theatrical Release Prints" was not being implemented in the laboratories, but the distributors or the exhibitors, and Mr. Alden suggested that this information be passed on to the appropriate people within their organizations. "PH22.83, Specifications for Location and Spacing of Edge Numbers on 16mm Motion-Picture Film" was reappraised, in spite of one comment from the Standards Committee that some of the body of the Standard might more appropriately be in an appendix.

Several objections were raised to "PH22.55, Specifications for Leaders and Cue Marks for 35mm and 16mm Sound Motion-Picture Release Prints" by the PH22 Committee. Mr. Alden pointed out that the EBU in handling international film exchange of television programs had developed a compromise 16mm leader, and that a joint committee was being set up by the Television Committee under the Chairmanship of Joseph A. Flaherty, Jr., to include representatives from the 16mm and 8mm Committee, the Sound Committee and the Laboratory Practice Committee. Mr. Scobey was appointed as representative from this Committee.

ROBERT A. COLBURN
Chairman

Television Committee

THE AREAS of active work by the SMPTE Television Committee include monochrome test slides, television camera