

news and reports

George A. Mitchell Made Honorary Member of SMPTE

George A. Mitchell, who developed the famous Mitchell camera, has been made an Honorary Member of the Society. Honorary Membership is the highest accolade of the Society. It honors an individual who has performed eminent service in the advancement of engineering in motion pictures, television or the applied arts and sciences and whose contributions represent substantially a lifetime's work.

In recognition of Mr. Mitchell's Honorary Membership, a plaque was presented to him at a special luncheon held January 24 in the Century-Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles. At the same luncheon, Jack Warner was honored by the presentation of a plaque in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the motion-picture industry. SMPTE President Wilton R. Holm presented the plaques to both men.

Mr. Mitchell joined the Society in 1922. At that time he noted that he had had ten years experience with motion-picture cameras, of which four years had been spent in the development of the Mitchell camera.

From 1919 until 1934, he was Chief Engineer of the Mitchell Camera Corp.;

during that time he was granted some 50 patents on photographic apparatus. From 1936 until 1940 he was with the Hale Observatory on Solar Instruments

and from 1940 until 1944 he was with the Office of Scientific Research and Development, Mt. Wilson Group, where he developed a method of milling glass with diamonds. He also designed a fast shutter for aerial mapping.

Mr. Mitchell was made a Fellow of the Society in 1961. His early contributions to the Society include a paper in the August 1927 issue of the *Journal*, "A New Camera Pulldown Mechanism."



George A. Mitchell addressing luncheon meeting after receiving plaque commemorating his being made an Honorary Member of the Society.



Jack Warner, holding Special Recognition plaque, in conversation with SMPTE President Wilton R. Holm.



Charles Van Enger, the first man to use the Mitchell camera, admires the plaque presented to Mr. Mitchell, who is reminiscing about the early days of motion-picture photography.



Jack Warner, George A. Mitchell and Wilton R. Holm.