

## Obituaries



**Samuel R. Todd**

Samuel R. Todd, a consulting engineer, died in February 1975 at his home in Arcola, Ill., at the age of 87 after a long and active life which included service in World War I (during which he attained the rank of Colonel) and World War II as well as many outstanding professional activities.

Col. Todd was graduated from the Armour Institute of Technology (now Illinois Institute of Technology) in 1913 with a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. In 1913 he was appointed to the post of Supervising Engineer for all electrical inspections and approval of plans for electrical, projection and sound motion-picture installations in Chicago theaters. He remained in that post until 1939 with the exception of two years service (1918-1919) with the U.S. Army in France as Battalion Commander and Acting Signal Officer of a combat division. In October 1918 he was awarded a special citation for restoring telephone communications between French 10 Corps Headquarters and the Headquarters of the 81st U.S. Infantry Division in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. He was also awarded the Legion of Merit by the United States in 1947 for outstanding communications operations in World War II.

In 1949 he was appointed by the Secretary of Labor to represent the United States in Geneva, Switzerland, at a conference of Electrical Experts, sponsored by 60 nations, for the purpose of drafting a World Wide Electrical Safety Code for use in the construction of factories and industrial plants.

During the time he was in charge of the electrical inspection of the Chicago motion-picture theaters, he designed a new type of safety film containers; enclosed motor-driven rewinding; safe fire roller traps; a new take-up device; and a design of a (then) modern projection room. Before the advent of "safety" film, fires in the Chicago theaters were reduced from about three fires a week to about three fires a year due to new regulations Col. Todd put in effect and rigidly enforced.

A member of the Society since 1945, he became a Fellow in 1965. He authored a paper for the *Journal*, "Safety Requirements in Projection Rooms and Television Studios" (Sept. 1952).

Organizations, other than the SMPTE, of which he was a member included the IEEE, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Western Society of Engineers and the Union League Club of Chicago.



**Donald McMaster**

Donald McMaster, a former Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Eastman Kodak Co., died 25 May in Rochester, N.Y., at the age of 80.

Born in London, England, he attended Cornell University from 1913 to 1916 and received an Arts Chemistry degree from the University of Buffalo in 1917. He joined Eastman Kodak in 1917 and a few months later he left for military service spending 15 months overseas as a flight sergeant with the Army Air Service. He returned in 1919 and became Assistant General Superintendent of Film Manufacturing at Kodak Park before transferring to Kodak Office as Assistant to the Production Manager in 1933.

In 1935 Mr. McMaster went to Kodak Ltd., Harrow, England, as Assistant Manager of the Kodak factory. A few years later he became Director of Kodak Ltd. and in 1945 he became Assistant Deputy Chairman of the Board of Kodak Ltd. and Joint General Manager for European Countries. In 1946 he was named Deputy Chairman of the Board of Kodak Ltd. and in 1947 he returned to Rochester to become a Vice-President and Assistant General Manager. In 1958 he became Chairman of the then newly created Executive Committee. He retired from that post in 1961 and in 1963 he retired from the Kodak Board of Directors. In addition to being a Director of Kodak Ltd., Mr. McMaster was also a Director of Kodak Pathe, in Paris, France, a Vice-President of Kodak Near East, Inc., and President and Chairman of the Management Committee for Distillation Products Industries, a division of Kodak.

A Fellow of the SMPTE, he had joined the Society in 1930. Other professional organizations of which he was a member include the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain of which he was an Honorary Fellow; the British Institute of Photographers which awarded him an Honorary Membership in 1942 "for service to photography"; and the Professional Photographers Association of America which named him Honorary Master of Photography in 1956. He was also a charter member and Honorary Fellow in the Photographic Society of America.

**John G. Stott**

John G. Stott died 23 January 1975 at the age of 57.

He was graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1940 with the degree of B.S. in Engineering and shortly thereafter he joined Eastman Kodak Company where he did constructive research and development work in the Research Laboratories and later in the Motion Picture Film Department.

In 1942 he joined General Chemical Defense Corp. and from 1943 until 1945 he worked on the Atomic Bomb Project at Oakridge, Tenn. During that time he invented a device used in the production of the bomb for which a patent claim was made in his name by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. He returned to Eastman Kodak in 1954 after having been associated with DuArt Film Labs. In 1956 he was made Assistant Manager of Television for Eastman Kodak.

In 1971 he joined the A-R Color Labs Inc. in Rochester. The following year he joined WRS Motion Picture Laboratory in Pittsburgh. At the time of his death he was affiliated with the Nashua Photo Products Group at Greensburg, Pa.

A member of the Society since 1942, he was made a Fellow in 1952. He was active in the work of the Society, serving on various committees including Standards, Membership and Laboratory Practice (of which he had been Chairman). He was a major contributor to the formation of the Association of Cinema Laboratories (now the Association of Cinema and Video Laboratories) and continued active in that organization.

He authored a number of technical papers; those appearing in the *Journal* include: "Application of Potentiometric Methods of Developer Analysis" (July 1942); "The Processing of Two-Color Prints by Deep-Tank Methods" (Oct. 1947); (with Weller and Jackson) "Automatic Timing of Color Negatives" (Apr. 1956); (with Priesthoff) "Ion Exchange Recovery of Eastman Color Developers" (Sept. 1956); (with Lovick and Seeman) "Scene-Change Cueing in Motion-Picture Printing" (Nov. 1956); and (with Cummins and Breton) "Printing Motion Picture Films Immersed in a Liquid — Part I, Contact Printing."



**Wilhelm Steenbeck**

Wilhelm Steenbeck, founder of W. Steenbeck & Company, died 24 March 1975 in Hamburg, Germany, at the age of 79.

Born in Hamburg 28 February 1896, he was graduated from the engineering school in Hamburg in 1922. Following graduation he

travelled widely in foreign countries to gain experience in his chosen profession and in 1931 he founded W. Steenbeck & Company which now manufactures horizontal film editing machines and film handling equipment for all motion-picture formats. Following World War II Mr. Steenbeck rebuilt the plant which had been heavily damaged and in 1956 he built a new plant. The plant was expanded and modernized in 1966 and further expanded in 1972.

In 1973 Mr. Steenbeck was made an Honorary Fellow of British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society "for his great services to the film industry in designing and providing high quality editing equipment." The citation noted that "Wilhelm Steenbeck designed and produced in 1952 the first 16mm four-plate editing table which introduced a completely new concept of technical advances in film and sound editing (which) has found worldwide appreciation of the highest order."

### Leon Shamroy

Leon Shamroy, a cinematographer who four times won the Academy Award and was nominated for the award 21 times, died 7 July 1974 at the age of 72 at the end of a long and illustrious career behind the camera.

He was born in New York City in 1902 and studied engineering at Peter Cooper Institute. In 1920 he was employed in the laboratory of Fox Film Corp. Following a long working day he would go into the studio and watch the ca-

meramen at work studying their technique and learning from observation about lighting, camera angles and other basics of cinematography. He also acquired a still camera to teach himself by the trial-and-error method the basics of photography.

His first step toward the goal he had set himself was that of becoming an assistant to a cameraman, his duties including taking care of a Bell & Howell camera and operating a Pathe camera.

In 1924, Charles "Hurricane" Hutchison, an actor who starred in his own pictures, gave Shamroy his first opportunity as a full-fledged cameraman, the two of them making eight films a year together and taking a week to shoot each one.

During 1928 and 1929 he was associated with Robert J. Flaherty in the filming of a documentary and during 1930-1931 he was cameraman for the Huntington Ethnological Expedition covering Japan, Siam, Burma, India and Egypt.

In 1928 he received the Honor Film Award presented by the National Board of Review for his work as co-producer (with Dr. Paul Fejos) and cinematographer on *The Last Moment*. The films for which he received the four Academy Oscars are *The Black Swan* (1942), *Wilson* (1944), *Leave Her to Heaven* (1945) and *Cleopatra* (1961). He was under contract to 20th Century-Fox Studios from 1939 until his retirement in 1968.

He joined the SMPTE in 1946. He was a member of a number of other professional organizations including the American Society of Cinematographers and the International Alli-

ance of Theatrical Stage Employees (Photographers Local 659 of which he was Past President).



Fred J. Pfeiff

Fred J. Pfeiff, a Life Member of the Society, died in August 1974 at the age of 71 at his home in Cocoa Beach, Fla.

He joined Altec Service Corp. in 1938 and, among other activities, he designed and developed certain improvements to sound equipment of considerable importance to the motion-picture industry. In 1958 he joined the Todd-AO Corporation and in 1968 he joined North American Philips Co. in the capacity of Technical Manager of the Motion Picture Equipment Division.

He had been an Active Member of the SMPTE since 1947 until 1971 when he became a Life Member.

Mr. Hansen plans to continue his participation with the various photographic organizations and will devote much of his time to the development of test materials and manuals for the audio-visual field.

### Association of Cinema and Video Laboratories (ACVL) Management Seminar

The ACVL Management Seminar was held 6-7 May in Rochester, N.Y. Topics included Economic Review and Forecast; Motion Picture Film Markets and Trends; Raw Stock and Print Security; and Video II, Review and Outlook. Among the speakers were Ted Bahl, Vice-President of the Lincoln-Rochester Bank; Roland E. Connor, Manager, Market Planning, Motion Picture and Audiovisual Markets Div., Eastman Kodak Co.; Wilton R. Holm, Executive Vice-President, Assn. of Motion Picture and Television Producers, Inc.; and Thomas W. Hope, President of Hope Reports, Inc.

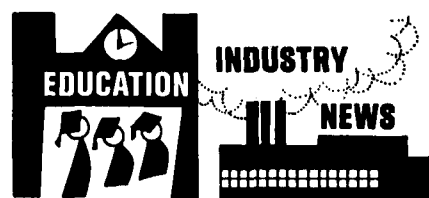
The afternoon session was held in the Eastman Kodak Marketing Education Center where the members were welcomed by Kenneth M. Mason, Assistant Vice-President of Eastman Kodak Co. Highlights of the session included a panel discussion of Eastman Kodak's commitment both to the present and the future motion-picture industry. Kodak experts discussed briefly such topics as film technology; emulsion research; ecology guidelines affecting the industry; advertising as related to the motion-picture market, the outlook for super 8; and raw stock distribution.

The session was followed by a tour of the Education Marketing Center and, later, a re-

the Society's Audio-Visual Committee for Conferences. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Technical Division of the Photographic Society of America before the merger with the Society of Photographic Engineers and he continued on the Executive



Board of the Techniques Division of PSA which succeeded it. He has served also as Treasurer of the Industrial Photographers of New Jersey and as President of the New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers. He is also a member of the Industrial Photographers Association of New York and the National Microfilm Association.



### Arthur Hansen Retires

Arthur W. Hansen, who held the post of Test Film Engineer at SMPTE Headquarters since 1966, retired from the Society on 1 June 1975. Mr. Hansen came to the SMPTE from DuPont Photo Products Department in Parlin, N.J., where for 22 years he was employed as a Technical Assistant in their control and research operations. At the SMPTE he was head of the entire Test Film Program under the Engineering Department with responsibility for the preparation, manufacture and distribution of the test materials offered through the SMPTE Test Film Program.

A naturalized U.S. citizen, he was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, and his knowledge of languages was valuable in handling the foreign transactions of the Test Film Department. He has been connected with some aspect of photography for practically his entire career.

Mr. Hansen is active in a number of photographic organizations. He has been a member of the SMPTE since 1953. A Senior Member of the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers, he served as a member of its Board of Directors and as a Director of its New York Chapter. At present he is Chairman of