

BOOK REVIEWS

See and Hear. W. H. HAYS. New York, *Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America*, 1929, 63 pp. In this small book is presented a concise and yet quite complete story of the growth of the motion picture industry from the days before the advent of the "nickelodeon" through the introduction and acceptance of the sound picture. A review is included of the departmental activities of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. Credit is given the engineer for his contribution of devices which have made possible the sound motion picture. A closing chapter predicts a greater expansion and further perfection of sound in conjunction with pictures, and the ultimate adoption of a larger screen giving more realistic perspective to the projected picture.—*Kodak Abstr. Bull.*

Sound. A. JAMES AND J. A. ARCHER, editors. New York, *Ex. Daily Rev.*, \$2.00, 210 pp. Several well-known executives and technical workers have contributed short articles to this special edition of the Exhibitors' Daily Review and Motion Pictures Today. Subjects discussed include among others: an historical review of commercial sound picture production, problems of the sound director, recording difficulties, sound news reels, theater installations and acoustic problems, make-up of the program, and fundamentals of projection. One author feels that the universal appeal of the motion picture will be lost with the production of sound, unless the vital parts of plot action are not spoken, but are expressed in pantomime. Greater experience in the use of sound in theaters with improved acoustic conditions is considered by another authority, before the best from sound pictures will have been fully realized. An outline is given of the new laboratory technic required in the development of variable density sound films. Lists of theaters wired for sound pictures in 1929, features released, names of studio personnel, and description of new equipment are included in this volume.—*Kodak Abstr. Bull.*