

## SOCIETY NOTES

*Local Sections.*—None of the sections have held technical meetings during the past month.

*Meeting of the Board of Governors.*—At the Board meeting held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, N. Y., September 22nd, a large number of business matters were transacted including the following:

(1) Resolved that the resignation of the chairman of a local section from the Board of Governors can only become effective upon resignation as chairman of the section.

(2) Replying to an invitation from the London Section to hold the fall convention of 1931 in London, it was resolved that this would be impossible since the Board has recommended that the Society meet in Hollywood during the spring of 1931 and it would not be desirable for the Society to meet in two such widely separated localities during the same year.

(3) Resolved that the By-Laws should be changed to permit of a quorum consisting of a majority of the elected members of the Board. There are now four Board members who obtain their positions automatically by virtue of their election as section chairmen. In view of the frequent impossibility of attendance by section chairmen, it has been difficult invariably to insure a quorum of eight members. Under the new ruling a majority of the Board would consist of six elected members.

(4) Resolved that Section 3, By-Law 7, be changed to read: "Nine dollars of the members' dues shall be applied for annual subscription to the monthly publication." This is a formality to conform with the requirements of the Post Office Department to insure second class postage privileges in connection with the JOURNAL.

(5) Resolved that if any member of the Board objects to an application for the grade of Active membership the Board must then be re-circulated at which time these objections should be clearly outlined to each Board member and a new vote taken. If the vote shows that a majority of the Board approves of the applicant's qualifications, he is thereby elected to membership.

(6) Resolved that all non-member authors of papers appearing in the JOURNAL shall be given, free of charge, three copies of the issue in which their paper appears.

The Board received the report of the special committee appointed to investigate the various applications for the position of editor-

manager of the Society but no definite appointment was made at that time. .

The President appointed a committee to report on the location of suitable headquarters for the Society in New York City.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Cowan, Manager of the Technical Bureau of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, outlined some of the technical activities of the Academy in Hollywood and discussion followed regarding ways and means for closer coördination of the efforts of the Academy and the Society.

At Board meetings held on October 19th and October 23rd, respectively, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, N. Y., the following matters were transacted:

(1) A number of prospective candidates for the position of editor-manager of the Society were interviewed and by a unanimous vote of the Board Mr. Sylvan Harris received the appointment at a salary of \$6000 per year.

(2) A committee consisting of Secretary J. H. Kurlander and Mr. M. W. Palmer was authorized to engage office space in the Aeolian Building, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., at terms of \$1800 per year for three years for 600 square feet of space.

(3) The Secretary reported that second-class mailing privileges for the JOURNAL had been secured from the Post Office Department.

(4) It was resolved that a section of the JOURNAL be devoted to technical activities of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The President was authorized to communicate with the Academy, asking their collaboration in the way of supplying the editor-manager with an official record of the activities of the Academy.

(5) No action was taken on a communication from the Historical Committee recommending that honorary membership be granted to Messrs. Eugene Augustin Lauste and Jean Acme LeRoy.

(6) Resolved that the booklet "Standards Adopted by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers" be distributed gratis.

(7) Resolved that the Society take up membership in the American Standards Association and the National Fire Protection Association.

*The Editor-Manager.*—Mr. Sylvan Harris, the newly appointed editor-manager of the Society, was formerly in the Research Department of the Fada Radio Corporation and before joining the Fada Corporation was managing editor of Radio News and served for several years as director of radio research for the Stewart Warner Corporation.

He is a member of the Radio Institute of Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers, American Physical Society, Optical Society of America, and Radio Club of America, and is a graduate in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Harris' chief duties will be to edit the JOURNAL and carry on the routine work of the offices of the Secretary and Treasurer. He will be located at the Society headquarters.

*New Headquarters for the Society.*—Official headquarters of the Society are room 701, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. When in New York City members are invited to visit the Society headquarters and call upon Mr. Harris for any information relating to the activities of the Society.

*The Fall Meeting.*—The fall meeting of the Society was held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, N. Y., October 20th–23rd, inclusive.

The convention was called to order on Monday morning, October 20th, and the members welcomed by Major Edward J. Bowes, Managing Director of the Capitol Theatre, New York, N. Y. An extensive and interesting series of technical papers was presented during the four days' sessions which were well attended.

Some of the outstanding features of the papers sessions were open discussions on "Methods of Securing a Large Screen Picture" and "Advantages and Disadvantages of Placing Sound and Picture on Separate Films." A complete record of these discussions will appear in a future issue of the JOURNAL.

On Monday afternoon examples of the following color processes were projected: Sennettcolor, Multicolor, Harriscolor, Photocolor, and Colorcraft. This demonstration was arranged by Mr. W. V. D. Kelly, chairman of the Color Committee.

Excellent facilities were available for the projection of sound films made possible through the courtesy of the Electrical Research Products, Inc. Mr. H. Griffin was in charge of projection and the services of the projectionists were donated by Local No. 306 to which the Society is indebted.

On Monday evening, October 20th, a motion picture entertainment was presented for the benefit of members and guests of the Society. The feature pictures were: *Play Boy of Paris*, courtesy of the Paramount Publix Corporation, and *The Big Trail*, courtesy of the Fox Film Corporation.

The banquet on Wednesday evening, October 22nd, was in honor of the producers. President Crabtree outlined the aims and accom-

plishments of the Society and introduced Dr. A. N. Goldsmith, Vice-President of the Radio Corporation of America, and Mr. H. B. Charlesworth, Vice-President of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., as member engineers representing large research organizations. Mr. Will Hays, President of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., then introduced the various producers, including Messrs. J. Lasky, J. E. Otterson, C. J. Ross, H. G. Knox, L. E. Thompson, Paul Gulick, and L. I. Monosson. The Russian director, Mr. Serge Eisenstein, and the star of *The Big Trail*, Mr. John Wayne, also spoke briefly.

On Thursday, October 23rd, the technical sessions were held in the auditorium of the Bell Telephone Laboratories and the members were given a demonstration of two-way television. On Thursday afternoon special trips through the laboratories were arranged, including demonstrations of binaural hearing, automatic call announcing, *etc.*

President Crabtree donated a prize to the author making the most effective paper presentation during each day of the convention. The winners were Mr. James McGuinness for his paper entitled "Scenarios for Sound Pictures;" Dr. A. N. Goldsmith for his description of "An Entertainment City;" Mr. J. B. Taylor for "Some Observations on Stereoscopic Projection;" and Mr. F. F. Lucas for his description of "The World's Most Powerful Microscope."

An amendment to By-Law No. 7, Section 3, was approved by the membership to read as follows: "Nine dollars of the dues shall apply for annual subscription to the monthly publication."