

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Meeting of the Society was held at Swampscott, Mass., October 5th to 8th, with headquarters at the New Ocean House. The technical program consisted of forty papers, in addition to reports by the various committees of the Society. The papers program was substantially the same as that published in the October issue of the JOURNAL, with a few minor changes in order of presentation.

The exhibit of motion picture apparatus held in the Colonial Room of the New Ocean House included apparatus representing twenty-one manufacturers, as well as a number of replicas of sound and picture projectors made by E. A. Lauste as early as 1912.

On Wednesday, October 7th, inspection trips were made by the visitors attending the Convention to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Harvard University, the plant of the General Electric Company at Lynn, and various points of historical interest along the Massachusetts coast.

On the evening of Sunday, October 4th, and on three succeeding evenings those attending the Convention were entertained by exhibitions of recent films of interest. The Society is indebted to the following firms for their courtesy in arranging the loan of these films: Columbia Pictures Corporation, Educational Film Exchanges, Inc., Electrical Research Products, Inc., Fox Films Corporation, General Electric Company, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures Corporation, Paramount Publix Corporation, RKO-Pathé Pictures, Inc., RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., United Artists Corporation, University Film Foundation, Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc.

Mr. Norman McClintock of the Koppers Research Corporation, Ligonier, Pa., lectured on Monday evening, October 5th, on "Wonders of the Commonplace." The lecture was illustrated by four reels of motion pictures depicting time-lapse studies of the growth of plants and interesting features of bird and insect life.

As a part of the program Tuesday evening, October 6th, the visitors were shown the first complete photoplay made in the United States. It is called *The Great Train Robbery* and was made by Mr. Edwin S. Porter, who wrote the scenario and served as cameraman and di-

rector. The interior scenes were made in New York and the exteriors in New Jersey in the fall of 1903. Mr. Porter also served as the projectionist at the first showing in 1904 in Coster and Bial's Music Hall on Broadway. Mr. Porter was present during the showing of the picture at Swampscott.

An example of the progress made in re-recording was shown by a sequence of the Fox picture *East Lynne*. Spanish words were synchronized very effectively with the lip movements of Clive Brook and Ann Harding. Both English and Spanish versions were projected.

A feature film, *Funny Foley Herself*, made in Technicolor was shown on Tuesday evening and represented the first showing of a complete sound and color picture at a meeting of the Society. A marked improvement in the quality of the reproduced color and the definition, particularly on long shots, was observed in comparison with previous Technicolor productions.

One of the most interesting papers and demonstrations given at the technical sessions was that on "Vertical Sound Records," by H. A. Frederick of the Bell Telephone Laboratories. The equipment consisted of a disk reproducer for "hill and dale" records made on cellulose acetate, and a duplex loud speaker consisting of a small cone for the high frequencies and a larger cone for the lower frequencies. A consensus of opinion of those in attendance was that the reproduced sound was the finest that has ever been demonstrated at a convention of the Society.

Another paper which excited much comment was that on "The Problem of Projecting Motion Pictures in Relief," by Dr. H. E. Ives of the Bell Telephone Laboratories. Although Dr. Ives held no hope for a solution of this problem in the immediate future, he expressed the belief that the obstacles were not insurmountable and the progress made to date has been encouraging.

Suggestions for research problems were made by several committees, notably the Projection Practice, Projection Screens, and Sound Committees. The Projection Screens Committee reported results of preliminary measurements on screen brightness preparatory to making a recommendation on a standard.

Prizes for the most effective presentation of their papers were given by President Crabtree to the following: G. E. Matthews, R. P. Schwartz, H. E. Ives, D. R. White, and H. A. Frederick.

The semi-annual banquet of the Society was held on Wednesday evening, October 7th, in the main dining room of the New Ocean



FALL MEETING
SOCIETY OF MOTION PICTURE ENGINEERS
NEW OCEAN HOUSE
SWAMPSCOTT, MASS., OCTOBER 5 8, 1931.

House, at which about two hundred and fifty persons were present. At the conclusion of his opening address, President Crabtree presented certificates to the following honorary members of the Society as formal recognition by the Society of the granting of these memberships:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Election</i>
C. Francis Jenkins	October 4, 1926
George Eastman	April 13, 1928
Thomas Alva Edison	April 13, 1928
Frederic Eugene Ives	April 13, 1928
Louis Lumière	September 24, 1928
Eugene Augustin Lauste	October 4, 1931
Jean Acme LeRoy	October 4, 1931

Mr. Frederic E. Ives and Mr. Eugene Augustin Lauste accepted their certificates of honorary membership in person. Mr. C. Francis Jenkins, founder of the Society and its first honorary member, was unfortunately prevented by ill health from attending the convention; in his absence Mr. O. B. Depue accepted his certificate. In the absence of Mr. Edison, his certificate was accepted by Mr. A. Y. Attwell. President Crabtree represented Mr. George Eastman, and Mr. J. C. Joseph Flamand, French Consul at Boston, accepted the certificate for Mr. Louis Lumière. Mr. Merritt Crawford received the certificate on behalf of Mr. Jean Acme LeRoy.

Mr. Crabtree announced that the names of Louis Aime Augustin Le Prince and William Friese-Greene had been placed on the honor roll of the Society. Miss G. Marie Le Prince, daughter of Mr. Le Prince, replied for her deceased father.

The presentation of each certificate was preceded by short historical reviews of the work done by the various pioneers. These reviews were made by President Crabtree, Mr. Merritt Crawford, Mr. Carl L. Gregory, Mr. Terry Ramsaye, and Mr. Glenn E. Matthews. Mr. Oscar B. Depue and Mr. A. S. Victor were also present at the speaker's table.

President Crabtree announced the offer by Mr. George Eastman to the Society of fifteen hundred dollars to be used in the establishment of a fellowship in one of the eastern universities, the recipient of which is to devote his time to the study of problems relating to motion picture engineering.

A great deal of credit must be given to the Convention Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. W. C. Kunzmann, and the local Arrangements Committee headed by Mr. J. S. Cifre for the large

amount of work which they contributed toward making the Convention a success. Thanks also are due to Mrs. A. C. Hardy and her committee for arranging an attractive program for the ladies attending the Convention. The Society is also indebted to Mr. H. Griffin, chairman in charge of projection equipment, installation, and operation; to the RCA Photophone, Inc., for the installation of sound equipment, and to Mr. J. S. Frank, Jr., and Dr. Olsen for its supervision; to officers and members of Projectionists Local 245 I.A.T.S.E., Lynn, Mass.; to Mr. O. M. Glunt, and the entire Papers Committee, of which he is chairman, for the interesting papers program which was arranged.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The ballots for the election of new officers for the year 1931-1932 were counted by an appointed committee of tellers at the Monday morning meeting, October 5th, and the following results were announced by President Crabtree:

President	A. N. GOLDSMITH
Vice-President	E. I. SPONABLE
Secretary	J. H. KURLANDER
Treasurer	H. T. COWLING
Governor	L. C. PORTER
Governor	O. M. GLUNT

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

At a meeting of the Board of Governors held in the New Ocean House at Swampscott, Mass., on October 4th, the annual audit of the Society's finances was submitted by Mr. H. T. Cowling, treasurer. This audit was included in the report of the treasurer presented at the meeting of the Society on October 5th.

Honorary memberships were awarded to Eugene Augustin Lauste and Jean Acme LeRoy, and authority was given to prepare an appropriate certificate for presentation to all honorary members of the Society. These certificates were presented at the semi-annual banquet on October 7th.

In addition, the Board voted to establish an Honor Roll upon which are to be placed the names of distinguished pioneers in motion picture engineering who are deceased. The names Louis Aimé Augustin Le Prince and William Friese-Greene were placed upon this Honor Roll in the order given. Names of deceased honorary members are also to be added to this Roll.

REVISION OF BY-LAWS

The following amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the Board of Governors on October 4th.

BY-LAW I**Membership**

Section 1 (a). A motion picture engineer by profession. He shall have been engaged in the practice of his profession for a period of at least three years and shall have taken responsibility for the design, installation, or operation of systems or apparatus pertaining to the motion picture industry.

BY-LAW VI**Elections**

An addition was made to Section 1 of this By-Law, as follows:

The newly elected officers of the General Society shall take office at the adjournment of the annual fall meeting.

BY-LAW VII**Dues and Indebtedness**

Section 1. *The entrance fee for applicants for admission to the grade of Active membership shall be \$30.00.*

Section 2. *The transfer fees from Associate to Active grade shall be \$30.00.*

Section 5. Members shall be considered delinquent whose dues remain unpaid for four months. Members who are in arrears of dues for 30 days after notice of such delinquency, mailed to their last address of record, shall have their names posted at the Society's headquarters which shall be the *General Office* and notices of such action mailed them. Two months after becoming delinquent, members shall be dropped from the rolls if non-payment is continued.

BY-LAW IX**Publications**

Section 1. *Papers read at meetings or submitted at other times, and all material of general interest shall be submitted to the Editorial Board, and those deemed worthy of permanent record shall be printed in the Journal. A copy of each issue shall be mailed each member in good standing to his last address of record. Extra copies of the Journal shall be printed for general distribution and may be obtained from the General Office on payment of a fee fixed by the Board of Governors.*

BY-LAW X**Local Sections****Membership**

Section 2. *All members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers in good standing residing in that portion of any country set apart by the Board of Governors tributary to any local section, shall be eligible for membership in that section, and when so enrolled they shall be entitled to all privileges that such local section may, under the General Society's Constitution and By-Laws, provide.*

Any member of the Society in good standing shall be eligible for non-resident

affiliated membership of any section under conditions and obligations prescribed for the section. An affiliated member shall receive all notices and publications of the section but he shall not be entitled to vote at sectional meetings.

Section 9, headed "Membership," is renumbered *Section 3*, and heading eliminated.

Section 3, headed "Officers," is renumbered *Section 4*.

Section 4, headed "Election of Officers," is renumbered *Section 5*, and changed to read as follows:

The officers of a section shall be active members of the General Society. They shall be nominated and elected under the method prescribed under By-Law VI, Section 1, for the nomination and election of officers of the General Society. The word "manager" shall be substituted for the word "governor."

All Section officers shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are chosen, except the board of managers, as hereinafter provided.

Section 5, headed "Managers," is renumbered *Section 6*.

Section 6, headed "Business," is renumbered *Section 7*.

Section 7, headed "Expenses," is renumbered *Section 8*, and the following changes made:

(c) The Secretary-Treasurer of each section shall send to the treasurer of the General Society, *quarterly or on demand*, an itemized account of all expenditures incurred during the preceding interval.

(d) *Expenses other than those enumerated in the budget, as approved by the Board of Governors of the General Society, shall not be payable from the general funds of the Society without express permission from the Board of Governors.*

(e) *A section Board of Managers shall defray all expenses not sanctioned by the Board of Governors from funds raised locally, by assessment, or by fixed annual subscription, or by both.*

Section 2, headed "Meetings," was renumbered *Section 9* and changed as follows:

The regular meetings of a section shall be held in such places and at such hours as the *Board of Managers may designate*.

The Secretary-Treasurer of each section shall forward to the Secretary of the General Society, not later than five days after a meeting of a section, a statement of the attendance and of the business transacted.

Section 8, headed "Papers," was renumbered *Section 10*.

All the above amendments were approved at the open meeting of the Society on October 6th with the exception of By-Law VII, Sections 1 and 2, relative to abolishing the entrance fees for associate membership, at which time it was resolved to refer this amendment back to the Board of Governors for further consideration. In addition, at the same meeting, it was voted to change the word "assessment" in Section 7(e) of By-Law X to "donation."

S. M. P. E. FELLOWSHIP

Mr. Crabtree announced the offer by Mr. George Eastman of fifteen hundred dollars to be used for establishing a fellowship, the

recipient of which is to devote his time to the study of problems relating to motion picture engineering. The Board of Governors voted to accept this kind offer, and moved that the administration of the funds be left to the succeeding Board of Governors.

NEW YORK SECTION

At a meeting held in the Engineering Societies Building, 33 West 39th Street, New York, N. Y., on October 29, 1931, Mr. E. W. Kellogg of the RCA Victor Company, Inc., Camden, N. J., presented a paper discussing the problems and results obtained in recording on 16-mm. film by the variable width method. A demonstration accompanied the paper.

The results of the election of officers of the New York Section were announced by the committee of tellers as follows:

Chairman, PORTER H. EVANS

Secretary-Treasurer, DONALD E. HYNDMAN

Manager, MAX C. BATSEL

Manager, JOHN L. SPENCE, JR.

Dr. A. N. Goldsmith, recently elected President of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and Mr. P. H. Evans, Chairman-Elect of the New York Sections, were introduced. Approximately one hundred and seventy-five persons attended the meeting.

COMMITTEE FOR PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL FILMS

Mr. J. I. Crabtree has agreed to serve, together with Mr. L. B. Newell of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange, 85 John Street, New York, N. Y., on a committee appointed by Mr. Will H. Hays to make recommendations to President Hoover with regard to suitable methods of preserving historical motion picture films in the proposed Archives Building in Washington.

INTER-SOCIETY COLOR COUNCIL

The first meeting of the Inter-Society Color Council was held in the Museum of Science and Industry, New York, N. Y., on September 21st. Delegates from about sixteen societies interested in the standardization of color nomenclature and specifications were present. It is understood that the Color Council will act not as an independent society, but more as a congress for the purpose of assimilating and putting into concise form the widely diverse activities of the groups

engaged in color work in each society. Mr. L. A. Jones, a past-president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, was elected vice-chairman of the Council.

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers was represented by Mr. R. M. Evans. As this meeting was mainly for organization purposes, it is of present interest to note only that plans were made for forming committees on (1) membership in the Council, (2) color nomenclature, and (3) measurement and specification of color. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held prior to January 1, 1932.

ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mr. M. C. Levee, executive manager of Paramount Studios, was recently elected president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, succeeding Mr. William C. de Mille, who has held the office for the past two years.

Other officers elected were: Mr. Conrad Nagel, re-elected vice-president; Mr. Fred Niblo, re-elected secretary; and Mr. Frank Lloyd, named as treasurer. Messrs. Clinton Wunder and Lester Cowan were re-elected executive vice-president and executive secretary, respectively.

Mr. Frank Capra, a director, and Mr. Max Ree, an art director, took their places in the board of directors as new members elected for three-year terms. Former directors re-elected for terms of the same length are Messrs. M. C. Levee, Benjamin Glazer, and Conrad Nagel.

The Society regrets to announce the death of one of its honorary members,

THOMAS ALVA EDISON

on October 18, 1931. By action of the Board of Governors, Mr. Edison's name is hereby added to the

HONOR ROLL

of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. A detailed account of Mr. Edison's accomplishments will be given in a later issue of the JOURNAL.

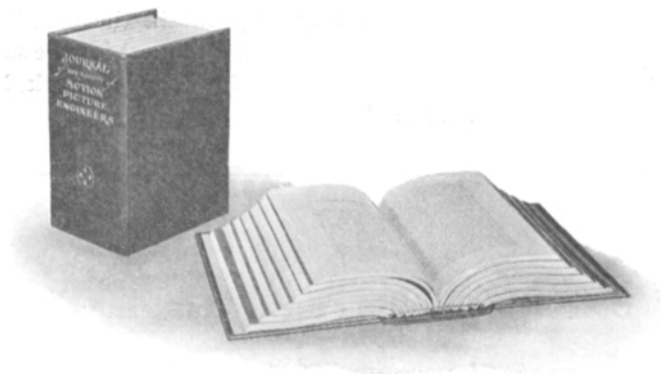
The Society regrets to announce the death of Mr. H. Frank Johnson, on September 9, 1931, at Angola, Indiana.

HONOR ROLL
OF THE
SOCIETY OF MOTION PICTURE ENGINEERS

Louis Aimé Augustin Le Prince
William Friese-Greene
Thomas Alva Edison

JOURNAL BINDERS

The binder shown in the accompanying illustration serves as a temporary transfer binder or as a permanent cover for a complete



year's supply of JOURNALS. It is made of black crush fabrikoid, with lettering in gold. The binder is so constructed that each individual copy of the JOURNAL will lie flat as its pages are turned. The separate copies are held rigidly in place but may be removed or replaced at will in a few seconds.

These binders may be obtained by sending your order to the General Office of the Society, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., accompanied by a remittance of two dollars. Your name and the volume number of the JOURNAL may be lettered in gold on embossed bars provided for the purpose at a charge of fifty cents each.

LAPEL BUTTONS



There is mailed to each newly elected member, upon his first payment of dues, a gold membership button which only members of the Society are entitled to wear. This button is shown twice actual diameter in the illustration. The letters are of gold on a white background. Replacements of this button may be obtained from the General Office of the Society at a charge of one dollar.

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

Associate members of the Society may obtain the membership certificate illustrated below by forwarding a request for the same to the General Office of the Society at 33 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y., accompanied by a remittance of one dollar.

