

BOOK REVIEW

Making Better Movies. A. L. GALE AND R. C. HOLSLAG. *Amateur Cinema League, Inc.*, New York, N. Y., 1932, 205 pp.; a limited edition for distribution to members of the League.

The purpose of the book is to unravel some of the mysteries that motion pictures seem to hold for many amateurs, particularly those who are new at the work, and to discuss the problems of "making better movies." For that reason, it is written in a rather elementary manner; and although the book might be of questionable value to professional motion picture engineers, it should be of interest to those engineers, at least, whose commercial activities bring them into contact with the amateur and the amateur market, so that they may be fully cognizant of the problems facing the purchasers and users of their equipment and material.

Necessarily, the book deals with 16-mm. film and equipment, a few allusions being made to the 8-mm. systems. The nature of the book can best be appreciated by considering its contents: Chapter 1 contains an introduction to the subject, instructions on how to handle the camera, a discussion of sizes of film, exposing, stop numbers, lighting, planning the picture, footage, *etc.* The second chapter deals with handling the projector, caring for the film, editing, making splices, and titles. The third chapter discusses lenses, artificial lighting, subjects for photographing; and the fourth chapter deals with fades, multiple exposures, irises, and dissolves. The last chapter explains the use of Kodacolor, animation, close-ups, and various other applications of motion pictures. Finally, a few pages are devoted to the purposes and aims of the Amateur Cinema League.

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