

SPRING CONVENTION

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., APRIL 23-26, 1934
CHALFONTE-HADDON HALL

Approximately two hundred members and guests of the Society attended the various sessions of the Spring Convention at Atlantic City. The Convention opened on Monday morning with a general session, including reports of Committees and a special meeting for Atlantic City projectionists, exhibitors, and managers. At the latter meeting short addresses were made by President Goldsmith, Mr. F. H. Richardson, and Mr. William Reed, who is perhaps the oldest projectionist in America, in point of length of service.

At noon of the opening day, an informal luncheon was held for the members and guests. A short address of welcome was given by President Goldsmith, followed by addresses by Mr. Thomas Husselton, Secretary of the Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce, and Major William Casey, City Commissioner.

The program of papers and presentations, as actually followed at the sessions, is presented herewith. At the semi-annual banquet, held on Wednesday evening, the members were addressed briefly by Mr. G. D. Lal, a member from India, and by Mr. Strickland Gilliland, humorist and author, of Washington, D. C. The principal address of the evening was presented by Mr. Sol A. Rosenblatt, Divisional Administrator, National Recovery Administration, who spoke on the various aspects of the motion picture code. Mr. Rosenblatt was appropriately introduced by President Goldsmith.

Credit for the success of the Convention is largely due to the efforts of Mr. W. C. Kunzmann, Convention Vice-President, and Mr. J. O. Baker, Chairman of the Papers Committee. Others to whom credit is due were Mr. Harry Blumberg, Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee; Mr. W. Whitmore, Chairman of the Publicity Committee; Mr. J. Frank, Jr., Chairman of the Apparatus Exhibit Committee; Mr. H. Griffin, in charge of projection; the officers and members of Atlantic City Local No. 310; Mrs. M. C. Batsel, Hostess; and Mr. J. Greenberg, Secretary of the Philadelphia Film Board of Trade.

The sound and projection equipment used in the meetings and at the banquet was supplied and installed by the RCA Victor Company, the International Projector Corporation, the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, the National Carbon Company, and the National Theater Supply Company.

Monday and Tuesday evenings were devoted to film programs as follows: A hand-synchronized 16-mm. travelogue, by Mr. Hamilton Jones, of Buffalo, N. Y.; *Paramount News, Let's You and Him Fight*, Paramount Pictures Corp.; *Maid in Hollywood*, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; *Stand Up and Cheer*, Fox Film Corp.; *Twenty Million Sweethearts*, Warner Bros. First National Pictures; *Sisters under the Skin*, Columbia Pictures Corp.; *Beauty and the Beast*, Vitagraph Corp.; *The China Shop* and *Three Little Pigs*, United Artists.

The last two pictures were projected at the banquet; in addition, the banquet entertainment included a Hawaiian orchestra, through the courtesy of Mr. Richard Endicott, of the Steel Pier Theater, Atlantic City. The proceedings of the banquet, between 10:30 and 11:00 P.M., including the introductory remarks by President Goldsmith and the address by Mr. Sol A. Rosenblatt, were broadcast over the red network of the National Broadcasting Company. Passes to the various theaters of Atlantic City were kindly provided for the members by Mr. Coplan, Seashore Theaters, Inc.; Mr. Endicott, Steel Pier Theater; and Mr. H. Walters, Ventner Realty and Leasing Company.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

An interesting demonstration on Monday which aroused numerous comments was that given by C. E. Lane on the properties of wave filters. A series of pendulums attached to a beam were interconnected by metal spring bands. At certain frequencies the amplitude of the wave imparted mechanically to the first pendulum was gradually filtered out so that the last pendulum was motionless.

The papers on 16-mm. equipment on Monday afternoon stimulated much discussion. This session proved to be one of the most interesting of the entire convention. Many favorable comments were heard relative to the improved sound quality on the 16-mm. films, particularly the quality of the reduction prints from 35-mm. feature pictures. The quality of the sound on the 16-mm. Kodacolor was also of a high order.

One of the most interesting demonstrations of amateur equipment was that given by H. Jones, who hand-synchronized over 50 different phonograph records with a travel picture on 16-mm. film.

The combined reports of the Projection Practice and Exchange Practice Committees, presented Tuesday afternoon, indicated that a decided stand would be taken opposing the adoption of a reel of 1700 feet length and favoring a 1000- or a 2000-foot reel. Much evidence was advanced to show the fallacy of the intermediate size of reel.

Dimnick and Belar's demonstration of the new twin triangular diaphragm sound track for noiseless recording represented, probably, the finest sound reproduction of the Convention. The demonstration was given twice on Wednesday in order that those attending the Lighting Session could have the opportunity of listening to it.

One of the liveliest discussions of the meeting occurred after B. Schlanger opened the forum Wednesday morning, on "What Is Wrong with the Shape of the Motion Picture?" The suggestions raised by Mr. Schlanger indicated much constructive thought on his part and his claim that the present picture includes only a small portion of the area covered by natural vision elicited many comments. It was evident from the resulting discussion that the wide-film pictures shown in 1930-31 approached more nearly Mr. Schlanger's ideal shape and were more realistic than present-day films.

The use of the piezoelectric properties of quartz, tourmaline, and other crystalline substances to construct extremely accurate "time clocks" for use in radio broadcasting stations and sound studios was explained in a paper by F. R. Lack, of

the Bell Telephone Laboratories, on Thursday morning. A practical application of the use of piezoelectric crystals was given during the apparatus symposium by A. L. Williams who demonstrated a microphone which utilized a crystal of Rochelle salt.

Originals and duplicates made by the British Dufaycolor process on 35-mm. and 16-mm. films were shown by W. H. Carson. This is a three-color additive process using a line screen which is coated on the film. Generally favorable comment was heard on the beauty of the colors, which were of pleasing pastel shades.

PROGRAM

MONDAY, APRIL 23RD

Morning: General Session

- "Technical Committees—Their Organization and Policies," L. A. Jones, *Engineering Vice-President*.
 Report of the Progress Committee, J. G. Frayne, *Chairman*.
 Report of the Committee on Standards and Nomenclature, M. C. Batsel, *Chairman*.
 "Some Early Experiments in Photographic and Motion Picture Work," F. E. Ives, Philadelphia, Pa.
 "Oscilloscope," H. F. Mallina, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.
 "History of Sound Pictures," W. E. Theisen, *Honorary Curator*, Los Angeles Museum, Motion Picture Division, Los Angeles, Calif.

Afternoon: Amateur and 16-Mm. Session

- "A Demonstration of the Properties of Wave Filters," C. E. Lane, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.
 "A Sixteen-Millimeter Sound Camera," G. L. Dimmick, C. N. Batsel, and L. T. Sachtleben, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.
 "Sixteen-Millimeter Sound Motion Pictures in Color," C. N. Batsel and L. T. Sachtleben, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.
 "Recent Examples of 16-Mm. Sound Pictures on Double Sprocket Hole Film," A. W. Carpenter, H. J. Hasbrouck, J. F. Nielsen, and E. R. Ross, United Research Corporation, Long Island City, N. Y.
 Report of the Committee on Non-Theatrical Equipment, R. F. Mitchell, *Chairman*.
 "Problems of the Amateur Motion Picture Maker," R. C. Holslag, Amateur Cinema League, New York, N. Y.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH

Morning: Projection Session

- "Factors Covering the Design of Projection Lamps, and Their Application to Equipments," F. E. Carlson, General Electric Company, Cleveland, Ohio.
 "Operating Characteristics of the High-Intensity A-C Arc for Motion Picture

Projection," D. B. Joy and E. R. Geib, National Carbon Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

"The Relationship of the High-Intensity A-C Arc to the Light on the Projection Screen," D. B. Joy and E. R. Geib, National Carbon Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

"A-C Adapters for Low-Intensity Reflecting Arc Lamps," R. Michling, New York, N. Y.

"Effect of Aperture Lenses on the Illumination of Motion Picture Screens," W. B. Rayton, Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, Rochester, N. Y.

Afternoon: Exchange and Theater Session

"Simple Theory of Three-Element Vacuum Tubes," H. A. Pidgeon, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.

Report of the Sub-Committee on Exchange Practice, T. Faulkner, *Chairman*.

Report of the Projection Practice Committee, H. Rubin, *Chairman*.

"Reel Problems in Exchange Practice," T. Faulkner, S. M. Chemical Company, New York, N. Y.

"Technical Aspects of Theater Operation," R. M. Wilcox and L. W. Conrow, Electrical Research Products, Inc., New York, N. Y.

"Cheapness Does Not Always Pay," F. H. Richardson, New York, N. Y.

"The Motion Picture Theater Auditorium," B. Schlanger, New York, N. Y.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25TH

Morning: Sound Session

"Some Recent Improvements in Equipment and Technic in the Production of Motion Pictures," E. A. Wolcott, RKO Studios, Hollywood, Calif.

"Some Considerations in the Design of Sound Reproducing Equipment," F. Marion and G. Friedl, Electrical Research Products, Inc., New York, N. Y.

"On the Realistic Reproduction of Sound, with Particular Reference to Sound Motion Pictures," H. F. Olson and F. Massa, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.

Report of the Sound Committee, L. W. Davee, *Chairman*.

"An Improved Sound System for Noiseless Recording," G. L. Dimmick and H. Belar, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.

"Recent Optical Improvements in Western Electric Sound Film Recording Equipment," W. Herriott and L. B. Foster, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.

"Care and Operation of Theater Sound Systems," J. S. Ward and P. T. Sheridan, Electrical Products, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Morning: Lighting Session

"Studio Lighting," S. W. Woodside, Westinghouse Lamp Company, Bloomfield, N. J.

"The Application of the Bi-Plane Filament Light Source to Spotlighting Service," G. T. Mili, Westinghouse Lamp Company, Bloomfield, N. J.

Open Forum: "What Is Wrong with the Shape of the Motion Picture?" "How Can the S. M. P. E. Be of Better Service to the Industry?"

- "Developments in Spotlighting," H. Kliegl, Kliegl Bros. Stagelighting Company, New York, N. Y.
- "Thyratrons and Their Application," E. H. Alexander, General Electric Company, Cleveland, Ohio.
- "Stroboscopic Light High-Speed Photography," H. E. Edgerton and H. Germeshausen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26TH

Morning: Laboratory Session

- "Continuous Optical Reduction Printing," A. F. Victor, New York, N. Y.
- "A Non-Slip Sound Printer," C. N. Batsel, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.
- "An Optical Reduction Sound Printer," C. N. Batsel and L. T. Sachtleben, RCA Victor Company, Camden, N. J.
- "Properties of Piezoelectric Crystals," F. R. Lack, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.
- "The English Dufaycolor Film Process," W. H. Carson, New York, N. Y.
- Open Forum: "Suggestions for Improvements in Motion Picture Laboratory Practice," "Possible Motion Picture Applications of the Principle of Auditory Perspective."
- "A Small Developing Machine," H. R. Kossman, Andre Debrie, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Afternoon: Photographic Session

- "Piezoelectric Microphones," A. L. Williams, Brush Development Company, New York, N. Y.
- "Equipment for the Hard-of-Hearing," D. D. Halpin, Sonotone Corp., New York, N. Y.
- "Some Properties of New Agfa 35-Mm. Film," P. Arnold, Agfa Ansco Corporation, Binghamton, N. Y.
- "The Failure of the Reciprocity Law in Photographic Exposure," L. A. Jones and J. H. Webb, Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.
- "A Year's Practical Experience with a High-Speed Timing Camera," H. T. Day, Electrical Research Products, Inc., New York, N. Y., and F. Tuttle, Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.
- "The Microdensitometer as a Laboratory Measuring Tool," W. R. Goehner, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.
- "A Sweep Oscillator Method of Securing Wide Band Frequency Response Spectra on Short Lengths of Motion Picture Film," J. Crabtree, Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, N. Y.