

THE FALL CONVENTION

NEW YORK, N. Y., OCT. 29—NOV. 1, 1934

HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA

Approximately two hundred members and guests of the Society attended the various sessions of the Fall Convention at New York. The Convention opened on Monday morning with a general session, including reports of Committees, election of officers of the Society for 1935, and action on a proposed amendment of By-Law 1, Sec. 3(d), as described in *Society Announcements*.

At noon of the opening day, an informal luncheon was held for the members and guests. A short introductory address was given by President Goldsmith, followed by addresses by Mrs. Frances Taylor Patterson, Director of photoplay Appreciation of Columbia University; Mr. Martin Quigley, Publisher of the *Motion Picture Herald*; Col. R. W. Winton, Managing Director of the Amateur Cinema League, Inc.; and Mr. Homer G. Tasker, the president-elect for 1935.

The program of papers and presentations, as actually followed at the sessions, was published in the November issue of the JOURNAL. At the Semi-Annual Banquet, held on Wednesday evening, the members were addressed by Dr. F. B. Jewett, President of Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., who traced the important and parallel connection between the art of telephonic communication and that of producing and projecting sound motion pictures. Dr. Jewett was appropriately introduced by President Goldsmith.

In recognition of Dr. Goldsmith's unbroken attendance at the meetings of the Projection Practice Committee during the past three years, and his unselfish and invaluable contributions to the work of that Committee the members of the Committee presented to Dr. Goldsmith, at the banquet, a solid silver combination fountain-pen and pencil. The presentation was made on behalf of the Committee by Mr. J. J. Finn, and was followed by a few words of appreciation by Mr. J. I. Crabtree, on behalf of the Board of Governors, for Dr. Goldsmith's untiring and very successful administration of the Society's affairs during the past two years.

Credit for the success of the Convention, which might be measured in terms of an increased general interest of the motion picture industry in the affairs of the Society was largely due to the efforts of Mr. W. C. Kunzmann, Convention Vice-President, Mr. J. I. Crabtree, Editorial Vice-President, Mr. J. O. Baker, Chairman of the Papers Committee, and Mr. H. Griffin, in charge of projection and other technical facilities. Others to whom credit is due were Mr. H. Heidegger, Mr. Griffin's assistant; the officers and members of Local No. 310, I. A. T. S. E., for furnishing the projectionists for the film programs and technical sessions; Mrs. O. M. Glunt, for attanging an attractive and interesting program of entertainment for the ladies visiting the Convention; Mr. and Mrs. H. Griffin, for arranging a tea and fashion show for the ladies at Wanamaker's department store;

Mr. J. Frank, Jr., Chairman of the Apparatus Exhibit Committee; Mr. W. Whitmore, Chairman of the Publicity Committee; and Mr. M. W. Palmer for his assistance in arranging the banquet facilities.

The sound and projection equipment used in the meetings and at the banquet was supplied and installed by the International Projector Corp.; Bausch & Lomb Optical Co; National Carbon Co.; Bell & Howell Co.; Raven Screen Co.; Electro-Acoustic Products Co.; National Theater Supply Co.; RCA Victor Company, Inc.; and Motion Picture Lighting & Equipment Co.

Courtesy passes were provided to the members and guests by the Radio City Music Hall, Warner's Strand Theater, and the Paramount Theater. The floor show at the Banquet was provided through the kind offices of Mr. J. H. Spray and Mr. H. Rubin. Passes to several broadcasts were provided for the Ladies Committees by the National Broadcasting Co.

Monday and Tuesday evenings were devoted to film programs as follows: *Timereel*, Fox Film Corp.; *Old Kentucky Hounds*, Paramount Pictures, Inc.; *Grandfather's Clock*, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; *Gay Divorcee*, RKO Pictures, Inc.; *Transatlantic Merry-Go-Round*, United Artists; *St. Louis Kid*, Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.; *So You Won't Talk* and *Baby Blues*, Vitagraph Corp.; *A Dream Walking*, Paramount.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Among the interesting presentations on Monday was a paper by H. Rosenberger, describing the recent developments in the technic of cinephotomicrography or micro motion pictures. This was followed by a symposium of three papers on x-ray cinematography; one by R. F. Mitchell, in which the history of cinematography with x-rays was traced; another by R. F. James, dealing with the principles of Roentgen cinematography, and another by J. R. Townsend and L. E. Abbott, describing the applications of x-ray cinematography in industrial development work.

On Monday evening, preceding the motion picture show, an illustrated lecture by Dr. C. E. K. Mees entitled "Certain Photographic Aspects of Sound Recording" was presented by L. A. Jones. The presentation constituted a valuable résumé of the large amount of research work carried out by various experimenters to date.

The paper by A. L. Williams on the piezoelectric loud speaker, followed by a demonstration of the performance of such a speaker, stimulated much discussion and interest. The reproduction of the orchestra, singers, and speakers at the banquet on Wednesday evening was through a piezoelectric microphone operating according to the same principles.

C. E. Lane repeated his demonstration of the mechanical analogue of electric wave filters, which he had originally presented at the Atlantic City Convention last spring, in a more detailed and elaborate form.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, Dr. Goldsmith discussed at quite some length the possibilities of engineering developments in the motion picture industry, in which many fertile fields for research and investigation were pointed out. This

paper prompted considerable discussion and suggestions for further study and improvements in motion picture technic.

Perhaps the outstanding session of the Convention was that devoted to the theater and projection, on Tuesday afternoon, which was opened by Dr. Goldsmith's presentation. The report of the Projection Practice Committee was followed by a vigorous and interesting discussion on the merits of reflector guards for projection machines, and the paper by D. B. Joy and E. R. Geib described a non-rotating high-intensity arc, which operates more efficiently and provides a quality of light comparable with that obtained from the conventional high-intensity arc.

The report by Messrs. Schlanger, Wolf, and Jones, outlining in a very interesting manner the architectural and acoustical features of motion picture theaters, was based on information assembled with the view of subsequently presenting it before architectural societies.

The way in which the lighting of the Centre Theatre, Rockefeller City, New York, is controlled by means of electronic tube devices formed the subject of an interesting presentation by J. R. Manheimer and T. H. Joseph.

On Wednesday morning Dr. S. E. Sheppard, in his paper on photographic sensitivity, outlined the various theories proposed to date explaining the reason for the sensitivity of the photographic emulsion to incident light; and some of the mysteries of rear projection for process photography were explained by G. G. Popovici and H. Griffin, their presentation representing a valuable contribution to studio practice.

In the afternoon of Wednesday inspection trips were conducted to various studios, laboratories, and manufactories in the New York district, which were well attended and apparently greatly appreciated by the members, judging from the large turnout for each trip.

"What is Light?" constituted an extremely interesting presentation by S. G. Hibben, which was accompanied by illuminating demonstrations. The author predicted an increasing application of light sources such as the sodium, mercury, and zinc vapor lamps. Also on Thursday, J. D. Edwards, of the Aluminum Company of America, displayed samples of polished aluminum electrolytically treated so as to attain an extremely high reflecting power.

A new method for controlling humidity, by passing the air to be conditioned through a saturated solution of lithium chloride, was described by F. R. Bichowsky.

An innovation of the Convention was a symposium on "Construction Materials for Motion Picture Processing Apparatus," in which Dr. LaQue of the International Nickel Company described the new alloy, Inconel, and Mr. Foote, of the Synthane Corporation, Oaks, Pa., described the various molded bakelite products. Dr. Mitchell, of the Carnegie Steel Company, mentioned a stainless steel containing molybdenum in addition to chromium and nickel, which should display greater resistance to corrosion than the usual 18-8 stainless steel alloys.

"A Developing Rack for Continuously Moving the Film during Processing by the Rack-and-Tank System" was described by C. E. Ives. With this mechanism it is possible to produce an equally uniform degree of development as is attainable with the larger processing machines.