

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PACIFIC COAST SECTION

At the regular monthly meeting of the Section, held on April 18th at the Norman Bridge Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology, Dr. I. S. Bowen, of the Institute faculty, presented a demonstration lecture on the subject of spectroscopy.

Dealing with light and color, and particularly in view of the current interest in color photography, the meeting was very interesting and instructive, and was well attended.

MID-WEST SECTION

On May 2nd the regular monthly meeting of the Section was held at the Exchange of the Paramount Picture Distributing Corp. in Chicago. As this exchange is regarded as perhaps the finest of its kind, the members of the Section were provided an insight into the operation of a modern up-to-date exchange, under the guidance of Mr. H. Busch, followed by a showing of selected new films. Prior to the meeting an informal dinner was held in the Japanese Room of the Stevens Hotel.

NEW YORK SECTION

The New York Section held its regular meeting on April 17th in the review room of the Fox Film Corp. at New York. A paper entitled "Progress in the Development of Sound Recording and Reproducing Equipment" was presented by Mr. E. I. Sponable, chief engineer of Movietone News, describing and illustrating, step by step, the advances that have been made in recording and reproducing since the earliest times. Some of the work of the early pioneers was illustrated by means of lantern slides; some of the actual equipment of the Tri-Ergon group of investigators was available for inspection; various types of flashing lamps developed by Theodore Case were demonstrated; and samples of old and modern newsreel cameras and other equipment were displayed to the members.

Following the presentation, the Section was entertained by a preview of *Ten Dollar Raise*, courtesy of the Fox Film Corp.

PROJECTION PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Meetings of the Committee were held on April 18th and May 2nd, at the Paramount Building in New York. The report of the Committee to be presented at the Hollywood Convention, May 20th-24th, was drafted and approved. The projection room layouts have received the severe scrutiny of the Committee, and a number of changes and additions have been made to bring it thoroughly up to date and to make it quite complete in its specifications.

SOUND COMMITTEE

The question of producing a frequency standard for variable-width and variable-density film was discussed at the meeting of the Committee held at the General Office of the Society on April 12th. Prints of such standards are being made, which will be calibrated periodically against the master positive, and eventually reference standards of frequency will be available for checking and comparing recording and reproduction by various methods and types of equipment, and in various studios.

The question of where, in the complete scheme of transmission of sound from the microphone to the loud speaker, frequency characteristic compensations should be effected, received the serious consideration of the Committee and is to be investigated further at subsequent meetings. Other items of the agenda include: a definition of "volume range"; a proposal to mark the proper sound level upon release prints; possible standardization of processing, as to density measurements, *etc.*; and theater and review room characteristics.

PROGRESS MEDAL AWARD

The Progress Medal Award Committee will meet on June 27th, at which time any suggestions received from the membership of the Society or from any other interested persons will receive consideration. A description of the medal, with photographs, was published in the April, 1935, issue of the JOURNAL, p. 378. It is to be awarded "in recognition of any invention, research, or development which, in the opinion of the Progress Award Committee, shall have resulted in a significant advance in the development of motion picture technology." All proposals of recipients of the medal must reach the Chairman of the Committee not later than June 20th, and shall be addressed to the General Office of the Society.

The medal will be awarded at the Annual Fall Convention.

A. N. GOLDSMITH, *Chairman*
M. C. BATSEL C. DREHER
J. CRABTREE W. B. RAYTON

HOLLYWOOD CONVENTION

As this issue of the JOURNAL goes to press at the time of the Spring, 1935, Convention at Hollywood (May 20th-24th), details concerning the Convention will be published in the July issue. The tentative program and general plans of the Convention will be found in the May issue of the JOURNAL on p. 465.

The Society regrets to announce the death of one of its members:

MAX RUBEN
April 26, 1935
