

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING 1936 CONVENTION, CHICAGO, ILL.

As this issue of the JOURNAL goes to press while the Convention of the Society at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, is in progress, it will not be possible to describe the highlights of the Convention until the next issue. The tentative papers program and abstracts of the presentations were published in the April issue of the JOURNAL.

GREAT BRITAIN ADOPTS S. M. P. E. 16-MM. STANDARDS

(Press release of the British Standards Institution)

For some time past the development in this country of 16-mm. sound-films, both for amateur productions and for educational and propaganda purposes, has been severely handicapped through the absence of a national agreement as to the position on the film of the sound-track, and also as to which side the emulsion should be.

There have been two different standards available in this country during the past two years, differing fundamentally in that both the emulsion and the sound-track are in opposite positions, so that the films are not interchangeable. If this situation had been allowed to continue both users and producers would have been severely handicapped.

However, those directly interested in the production of apparatus and in making film libraries were unanimously of the opinion that a single standard was essential, but they could not reach agreement among themselves as to which standard to adopt. In a very public-spirited manner, they all agreed to accept the ruling of an independent arbitrator to be appointed by the British Standards Institution, to whom they referred the question.

The arbitration which was recently held in the Middlesex Guildhall (London) to determine what is to be the British Standard for this purpose is, therefore, a matter of considerable public interest. Lord Riverdale kindly undertook to act as Arbitrator.

The two rival standards correspond closely with the S. M. P. E. (American) Standard on the one hand, and the DIN (German) on the other.

The case of those supporting the DIN standard was presented at the arbitration by Mr. Bruce-Woolfe, of Gaumont British Equipments, while the case on behalf of those supporting the S. M. P. E. standard was put forward by Mr. F. A. Hoare, of the Western Electric Co., Ltd. Lord Riverdale's decisions were as follows:

(1) At the request of all the parties concerned I agreed to act as Arbitrator in regard to the standard which should be adopted as the British Standard.

(2) Accordingly, I attended at the Middlesex Guildhall on Wednesday, 26th of February, to hear evidence. In addition, I have carefully examined all the written material which has been furnished to me of every kind.

(3) My award is that the S. M. P. E. standard shall be adopted as the British Standard.

(4) Quite apart from my award, and not affecting it in any way, I venture to suggest that the parties might get together and endeavor to find some means of minimizing the inconvenience and possibly giving a little time for those who have been working on any other standard than the S. M. P. E. to make the change-over.

This decision, which, it must, of course, be remembered, refers *only* to the 16-mm. sound-film, will shortly be implemented by the issue of an appropriate British Standard Specification. In the meantime the constituent parts of the British Empire have been consulted and it is anticipated that they will accept this decision, Australia having already indicated her willingness to do so.

The decision means that throughout the English-speaking world educational films will be interchangeable.

In regard to paragraph 4 above, it was fully recognized that whichever standard was adopted, it must necessarily result in some inconvenience to those who have to make the change; but that the advantages of a single standard will enormously outweigh any temporary inconvenience or loss.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

At a meeting held at the General Office of the Society on April 9th, revised drawings for the Standards Booklet, prepared by Mr. George Friedl, Jr., were considered by the Committee, and much progress was made toward the revision of the Booklet. Although there will be no important change in the context, the form of presentation of the various standards will probably be altered considerably in the interest of clearness and simplicity.

SECTIONAL COMMITTEE

The first meeting of Sub-Committee No. 3—Acoustical, of the Sectional Committee on Motion Pictures, ASA, was held at the office of the Society on April 16th. The purpose of the meeting was to outline the plans of the Committee and to investigate possible national standards relating to sound in motion pictures. The personnel of the Committee is as follows:

P. H. EVANS, *Chairman*

M. C. BATSEL
C. FLANNAGAN

F. L. HUNT
W. A. MACNAIR
J. A. MILLER

O. SANDVIK
H. G. TASKER

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Admissions Committee held at the General Office of the Society on March 31st, the following applicants for membership were admitted to the Associate grade:

- ANDERSON, A. I.
Cinesound Productions, Ltd.
Ebley St.
Waverley
Sydney, Australia
- ANDRESEN, S.
c/o United Amusement Corp., Ltd.
5887 Monkland Ave.
Montreal, Canada
- BAKER, H. W.
628 South Fifth St.
Kansas City, Kansas
- BATSEL, C. N.
RCA Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Camden, N. J.
- BENNETT, M. F., JR.
321 W. 44th St.
New York, N. Y.
- CANADY, N. C.
3463 Franklin St.
Bellaire, Ohio
- DARMSTAEDTER, E.
Rambla de Cataluna 89
Barcelona, Spain
- DINSMORE, W.
Six Third St.
Eastport, Maine
- FUJIOKA, S.
No. 2, Ginza-Nishi
5-Chome
Kyobashiku
Tokyo, Japan.
- GEMEINHARDT, G.
3047 Wilson Ave.
Chicago, Ill.
- GIBBS, H. C.
53 Flinders St.
Adelaide
South Australia
- HARTLEY, I.
210 W. 78th St.
New York, N. Y.
- HIRSCHFELD, W. H.
c/o The Enterprise Optical Mfg. Co.
4431 W. Lake St.
Chicago, Ill.
- HOBBS, G. D.
38 Duke St.
Kensington
New South Wales
Australia
- IRSKY, G.
Bolshaia Dimitrovka, 12
Kvartira 4
Moscow, U.S.S.R.
- KALISHKIN, A.
Shostka
Krasnoznamenskaia Ulitza
dom 4
Tchernigovskaia Oblast
U.S.S.R.
- KING, G. L.
Kinelab Film Service
484 George St.
Sydney
New South Wales
Australia
- KURTZNER, H. A.
1279 Lake Ave.
Rochester, N. Y.
- LEACH, T. F.
205 E. 42d St.
Room 1201
New York, N. Y.
- MACLEAN, D.
66 W. 91st St.
New York, N. Y.

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|---|---|
| MARTENSEN, A.
315 M. & M. Bldg.
Houston, Texas | ROCKWELL, H. P., Jr.
Weston Electrical Instrument Corp.
Newark, N. J. |
| MAYER, W.
211 Murray Ave.
Larchmont, N. Y. | ROSENTHAL, L. W.
17 W. 60th St.
New York, N. Y. |
| MOLDAWSKY, B. W.
10 Place Albert Leemans
Brussels, Belgium | SCHODER, E. G.
35-20 82d St.
Jackson Heights
Long Island, N. Y. |
| NITTA, K.
Nitta Sound Laboratory
No. 5, Ginza-1-Chome
Kyobashiku, Tokyo, Japan | SMITH, F.
338 Prospect Place
Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| OELLER, E.
1811 N. Oak St.
Rosslyn, Va. | SOLOVIEV, S.
Petrovsky bulvar
dom 8
Kvartira 3
Moscow, U.S.S.R. |
| O'HARA, G. O.
19820 Lorain Road
Cleveland, Ohio | WEITZEL, A. G.
923 Hardesty Blvd.
Akron, Ohio |
| PATI, C.
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture Corp.
1540 Broadway
New York, N. Y. | WITT, H. A.
1701 N. Linder Ave.
Chicago, Ill. |
| REIBEISEN, J.
221 Linden Blvd.
Brooklyn, N. Y. | |

In addition, since the publication of the list of members of the Society in the April issue of the JOURNAL, the following applicants have been admitted by vote of the Board of Governors to the Active grade:

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| BOOTH, G. T.
604 Merton St.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada | MORIN, E. R.
23 Robson Place
Fairfield, Conn. |
| HAYWARD, C. H.
P. O. Box 261,
Trinidad, B. W. I. | TAYLOR, W. H., JR.
165 Broadway
New York, N. Y. |
| WAITE, S. A.
219 North Palm Ave.
Hollywood, Calif. | |