

REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE*

Summary.—Statement of the activities of the Standards Committee during the past six months, leading to completion of the revision of the SMPE standards published elsewhere in this issue of the Journal.

There have been but two meetings of the Standards Committee since the last report was written. One of these was devoted to a final correction of a series of drawings that had been practically approved, and the second one dealt with the initial drafts of fourteen new drawings completed during the summer. These drawings covered 8-mm. film standards, a revision of the drawings for the 35-mm. and 16-mm. projection sprockets, and reels for 35-mm., 16-mm., and 8-mm. film.

35-Mm. and 16-Mm. Projection Sprockets.—In connection with the sprocket drawings, no essential changes in either design or dimensions have been suggested.

Projection Reels.—For the 35-mm. reels, both 1000- and 2000-ft. capacity, dimensions are being prepared. The 2000-ft. reel dimensions will agree essentially with the specifications proposed by the Academy, although only the basic dimensions will be given in the SMPE drawings.

In the case of the 16-mm. reels, objection has been raised toward standardizing the reel with the square hole on one side and the round hole on the other side, so that the present proposal by the Committee is to use two standards: the square-round combination to be used by those who wish to use it, and the square-square combination to be used by those who prefer that. The main objection to the square-round combination is that this feature is patented. At its last meeting, the Committee did not feel justified in standardizing exclusively on any patented feature of this sort.

For the 8-mm. reels, standards are being prepared only for the projection reels. The camera reels vary according as the manufacturer desires to use the double-width 8-mm. film in the camera and to slit after processing, or to use the single-width 8-mm. film the camera.

* Presented at the Fall, 1937, Meeting at New York, N. Y

Sound Records and Scanned Area, 35-Mm. Film.—A ballot was taken during the summer on the following proposal:

"In the case of the push-pull track, the space separating the two halves of the track shall be 0.15 mm. (0.006 inch) wide, and centered upon the center-line of the sound record."

Although the balloting was in favor of this proposal, there were enough objections to the 0.006-inch width to warrant going further into the matter, especially as there is some disagreement as to the actual practice used in the trade. Mr. J. O. Baker has been appointed a committee of one to investigate this problem thoroughly and to report back to the Committee. Anyone having definite ideas on the subject should communicate with the General Office of the society.

Perforation Dimensions.—The Committee has not forgotten the recommendation of its Sub-Committee on Perforation Size that the dimensions of the positive perforation be changed so as to coincide more closely with those of the old Bell & Howell perforation. Work was started last spring on a punch and die to be built in accordance with the specifications of Howell & Dubray. Owing to press of other work, and to the desire to have these dimensions as accurate as would be obtained in commercial work, special cams were designed and built, and the punches have been finished only within a few days. A thorough, practical test on film perforated with these dimensions is being undertaken by the Committee.

Standardization of Densitometers.—Owing to Dr. O. Sandvik's absence in Europe, no practical steps have been taken during the summer to prepare samples of film standardized by means of the integrating sphere for use in standardizing densitometers in the trade. The matter, however, will receive attention as soon as possible.

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