

## REPORT OF THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE\*

*Summary.*—*The Committee is endeavoring to augment the motion picture exhibit at the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, which the Board of Governors has chosen as the official museum for historical exhibits collected by the Society.*

*A complete list of motion picture exhibits at the Museum is given, and a plea is made for assistance by the members of the Society in adding to the accessions.*

A previous committee was successful in obtaining a number of exhibits for deposit in the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., the official depository of the Society. Among the new exhibits obtained were notably those of Thomas Armat and C. Francis Jenkins. The complete exhibits of these two distinguished members of the Society and pioneers in the art have now been turned over to the National Museum.

The Committee Chairman has held two meetings with officials of the National Museum and jointly outlined a policy to be followed in obtaining future exhibits. The first and most important matter was to obtain a complete inventory of all material now on deposit in the National Museum Motion Picture Exhibit. This inventory has now been prepared and is attached hereto. The Committee especially desires that members of the Society who know of the existence of appropriate exhibit pieces advise us as to where they may be located. We are particularly anxious to obtain advice as to the location of an Edison "Peephole" mechanism.

Dr. Carl W. Mitman, Head Curator of Arts and Industries of the United States National Museum, has stated that if we can get a promise of sufficient new material he believes he can have additional space set aside in the National Museum to accommodate the exhibit. In this connection it is planned to build a fine, new Industrial Arts Building in the future development of Washington governmental buildings, to be located about one block from the National Museum. Space will be set aside for a motion picture exhibit if we can find the additional necessary material fully to represent the development of the motion picture art.

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\* Presented at the 1940 Fall Meeting at Hollywood, Calif.; received October 20, 1940.

It is noted that a number of small exhibits have been started by various private concerns associated with pioneer members of the Society. These private exhibits are viewed by only a limited number of persons and the Committee hopes that the owners can be persuaded to cooperate by sending this material to the National Museum, where it can be incorporated in the main SMPE collection for the benefit of the many thousands who visit Washington each year.

The National Museum has asked us to obtain the cooperation of the members of the Society familiar with early developments in the motion picture art in order that they might know what exhibits would be most desirable.

H. T. COWLING, *Chairman*

THOMAS ARMAT

HERBERT GRIFFIN

RAYMOND EVANS

O. B. DE PUE

F. H. RICHARDSON

ACCESSIONS RELATING TO THE INVENTION OF MOTION PICTURES  
IN THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Accession No.	Source	Material
88755	Mot. Pict. Prod. & Distr. Amer.	2 Edison motion picture cameras (motor driven), 1911 1 Edison light-testing machine, with one motor, 1913-15
90393	E. H. Amet	3 Motion picture machines 11 Samples of motion picture film, 1896-98
90396	Int. Mutoscope Reel Co.	1 Projector 3 Cameras 2 Magazines
92450	John U. Perkins	1 "Movee" camera and projector
94132	E. H. Amet	A small piece of early motion picture film: $3\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$ negative of a model basin with miniature battle fleet in action, earliest utilization of models for full-size motion pictures 1 news clipping from an 1898 newspaper relating to motion pictures 1 business card, with a cut of the Magniscope, one of the early forms of motion picture apparatus

Accession No.	Source	Material
100180	Mary E. Trueman	13 Animated lantern slides
102921	Mot. Pict. Prod. & Distr. Amer.	1 Glass mirror screen
105044	C. Francis Jenkins	Radio movies receiver
106273	Mot. Pict. Prod. & Distr. Amer.	1 Synchronizer for Edison talking machine
		1 Projector
110071	Eastman Kodak Co.	1 11 × 14 transparency showing steps in production of Kodachrome motion picture film
112261	Stanislaus Schneider	33 Pieces of early motion picture apparatus comprising cameras, projectors, film frames, printer, perforators
119335	John F. Daniel	1 Edison projecting Kinetoscope
124316	Eugene Augustine Lauste	21 Photos of Lauste's inventions in silent and sound motion pictures
		1 Portrait of Mr. Lauste
126197	B. B. Heal	1 Motion picture camera, 1 tripod
		1 Williamson perforator, 1 can containing 15 short pieces of film
127113	Francis Marsten	1 6-Inch strip of 35-mm film with perforations, bound in flexible metal
129430	Bell Telephone Laboratories	
	1—1908-9	Vibrating mirror records reconstructed with old parts
	2—1911-12	Microphone relay with double telephone, used by Lauste to amplify sound photo
	3—1910	Quadruplex telephone set, for testing sound-on-film
	4—1904-5	Acetylene gas light-valve
	5—1926	Compressed-air loud speaker, showing magnet with armature and comb valves, unfinished
	6—1908	Koenig flame recorder mirror, used in connection with recording sound from phonograph disk to film
	8—1910	Carbon microphone—used by Lauste in his early experiments

Accession No.	Source	Material
		in recording and reproducing sound-on-film
7—1908		Koenig flame acoustic recording box—modified by Lauste, used in connection with recording sound from phonograph disk to film
9—1913		Film-gate, used in connection with reproducing sound re- corded by 3 to 1 revolving cylindrical lens
10—1908		Light-valve recorder (iron hy- droxide solution), original model
11—		Two carbon ball microphones
12—1913-14		Electrodiamagnetic double-rib- bon recorder
13—1912-13		Single-wire light-valve, with mi- croscope for enlarging wire
14—1913-14		Three to one frame revolving cylindrical lens film-gate as- sembled on demonstration stand to show application of principle. (Handwheel, stand, base, thumbscrew, and lock nut are new)
15—1913-14		Light-valve with oil damper (magnet missing); light was projected through small round window
16—1910		Electrodiamagnetic recording light-valve, with single vibrat- ing wire (replica original valve in Lauste sound-recording ma- chine)
17—1909-10		String recorder, oscillograph prin- ciple using optical slit, perma- nent magnet, single vibrating wire, oil damper. This was Lauste's first experimental string recorder
18—1913-14		Microphonic relay for sound amplification; diaphragm and glass rod are new
19—1912-14		Microphonic relay (horizontal) used in amplification magnet

Accession No.	Source	Material
		with clamping bar and nut; two coils, iron cores, and diaphragm are new
20—1913-14		Microphonic relay (vertical) used for amplification; complete receiver, electrical magnet; adjustment bar and slide are new
21—1912		Lamp holder for gas-filled lamp, used by Lauste to replace singing arc, original
22—1906-14		Selenium cells, used by Lauste in recording and reproducing sound between 1906-14
23—1906-14		Selenium cells (B. Bildwell cell) used by Lauste
24—1906-14		Selenium cells (A. Presser Ernst cell) used by Lauste
25—1906-14		Selenium cells used by Lauste
26—1909-10		Grate light-valve (oscillator missing)
27—1908-9		Three types grate light-valves for recording sound only (all reconstructed)
28—1900		Grate light-valve for recording in variable-density
29—1911-12		Ducretet transformer, adjustable core and primary used by Lauste in connection with light-valve (original)
30—1911-12		Ducretet transformer, adjustable core and primary used by Lauste in connection with light-valve (reconstructed with old parts)
31—1908		R u h m e r photographophone bought by Lauste in 1908
32—1908		Original arc lamp used by Ernest Ruhmer in his recording of sound waves, called the "singing arc"
33—1908		Selenium cell used by Ernest Ruhmer in his photographophone
34—1908		Ruhmer photographophone, reconstructed by Lauste (all new)

Accession No.	Source	Material
35—1911-12		Early specimen of film used by Lauste to record sound and scene and sound only, with his apparatus, showing picture and sound; original
36—1898		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Carpentier-Lumière "Cinematolob" with original mechanism, spare parts
37—		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Biograph No. 6 head
38—		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Cinematolob, original mechanism with attachments by Le Roy
39—		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Le Roy acmegraph head
40—		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, J. B. Colt Criterioscope, head
41—1893		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Edison projecting Kinetoscope head
42—1895		Jean Acme Le Roy Collection, Edmund Kuhn camera built by Honeck, New York, 1895; used film 2 7/16 wide
43—1910		Lauste continuous printing machine for sound, entire outside refinished
44—1913		Lauste condenser loud speaker, original
45—1912-13		Lauste sound and scene camera
46—1910-11		Camera projector for sound and scene, Pathé original film, sprockets, intermittent motion, drive shaft with gear, flywheel, intermittent gear, lens holder, pressure cover with bearings for film sprockets
47—1908-09		Lauste sound reproducer
48—1911-12		Lauste sound recorder
49—1908-09		Lauste jacket to hold lens used in sound recording (original)
50—1912-13		Lauste original projector head (modified Pathé head)

Accession No.	Source 51—1912-13	Material
		Lauste sound and scene projector
		14 Portfolios relating to E. A. Lauste; scrapbooks, Lauste's history of his own work, patent suits, articles, <i>etc.</i>
134910	Lauste	2 Pairs head-phones, 1 copy <i>Nouvel Art Cinematographie</i> , 1 copy Honorary Membership SMPE, 1 copy <i>Variety</i> , 1 copy <i>Sunday News</i> , 1 photo of Doublet, first operator for Lumière Bros., 1895, and Lauste
139045	Soc. Mot. Pict. Eng.	1 Edison spool-bank projecting Kinetoscope; No. 429, 1897 12 Films, photographs, <i>etc.</i>
147084	Mot. Pict. Operators Protec. Union	1 Simplex projector 1 Powers Cameragraph head
147528	Alton J. Pratt (Warner Bros.)	1 Pathé projector head
147537	Frederick Gooch	1 Edison Kinetoscope motion picture head, 1908
148290	Frederick Gooch	1 Powers Cameragraph head No. 5 with projection lens
149912	Frederick Gooch	1 Baird projector, no lens 1 Graphoscope No. 1679 projector, no lens
150153	Frederick Gooch	1 Bausch & Lomb projection lens, No. 14798 1 Gundlach-Manhattan Optical Co. projection lens
152678	Rudolph Schneider	1 N. Powers Co. intermittent 1 Lumière Cinematographe motion picture projector with lens No. 71, 1895
152762	G. J. Badgley	1 Demeny motion picture camera, 1907; made by L. Gaumont
156475	Leon F. Douglas	1 Piece of motion picture film in color in display case, invented by Douglas more than 25 years ago
157202	Betty B. Heal	1 Motion projection head
148846	Francis Marsten	1 Universal motion picture camera No. 16 made by hand in 1914, 1 mag., no lens