

REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE C ON 16-MM LABORATORY PRACTICE*

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Subcommittee C on 16-Mm Laboratory Practice has been setting up specifications for 16-mm motion picture release prints. As explained previously, these specifications are intended to be War Standards, but many of them will be applicable to peace-time laboratory practice.

To date the Committee has reached agreement on the following items in 16-mm print specifications:

- (1) Materials—Fine-grain raw stock is recommended.
- (2) Print treatment—Prints shall be treated over the entire width of the emulsion surface to facilitate projection.
- (3) Methods of marking prints—A standard of marking prints has been set up so that the location of titles, type of print, and emulsion position will always be noted in the same location.
- (4) Physical defects—A separation of well-known defects into tolerable and intolerable classification has been made.
- (5) Splices—A standard width has been established, and an allowable number of splices per reel has been decided upon.
- (6) Residual hypo content—A method of measuring residual hypo content of prints has been chosen, and the maximum allowable content decided upon. This will probably be changed when permanent standards are set up, as the consensus of opinion was that the allowable hypo content could be greater for war prints than for library prints.
- (7) Density and gamma variations—Limits of allowable density and gamma variations from print to print have been established.

On the following points decision has not yet been reached:

- (1) Resolution specifications.
- (2) Distortion and signal-to-noise ratio—This will probably be

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referred to Subcommittee *B* on Sound, as methods of test have not yet been agreed upon.

(3) Measurement of printer slip.

(4) Dimensions of 16-mm printer aperture for picture.

(5) Leaders and trailers—Up to the present time it has been the custom to use the standard Academy 35-mm leader. There is apparently no particular reason for this in 16 mm, and a standard 16-mm leader will be proposed, as well as a standard trailer on which measurements may be made for both sound and picture uniformity and quality.

On completion we hope to have set up standards of sound and picture processing which any purchaser of 16-mm printing may use as a basis for writing laboratory contracts.