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SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACOUSTICS FOR RECORDED AND REPRODUCED SOUND

James Y. Dunbar, acoustic engineer for Johns-Manville Sales Corporation, New York, presented a discussion on "Space Acoustics for Recorded and Reproduced Sound" before the Atlantic Coast Section of the Society at its February 19 meeting. Mr. Dunbar discussed the basic principles of acoustics, outlining his ideas as to how acoustics developed through the ages as vocal and musical presentations were increasingly presented in enclosed spaces.

Mr. Dunbar also outlined specific applications to motion picture theaters, broadcast, recording, and television studios. He described some of the latest applications of materials now in use and various types of treatment that have proved to be most suitable.

In the discussion period which followed Mr. Dunbar's talk a great many questions were asked by Section members and guests indicating a wide interest in the subject of acoustics. About 200 attended the meeting, held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

AUTO-COLLIMATOR AND SLIDE PROJECTOR DESCRIBED

Malcolm G. Townsley, chief research engineer of Bell and Howell Company, Chicago, discussed aspects of his paper, "Auto-Collimator for Precise Measurement of Flange Focal Distance of Photographic Lenses", which was recently published in the *Journal* of the Optical Society of America, at the February 13 meeting of the Midwest Section in Chicago. Mr. Townsley explained details of the system relating to camera testing. It was pointed out that this system gives twice the accuracy of reading the focal plane position compared with any other method, such as the telescope or microscope test. An explanation was given of the method of determining the film position during running of the film. The instrument was demonstrated by Mr. Townsley following the meeting.

The second speaker was Paul C. Foote, also of Bell and Howell, who gave a discussion on "Modern Slide Projector Design". The problems of general optical design, including filament size, reflector position, heat filters, and slide temperature, were described in detail and their application to the two new Bell and Howell 2 × 2-in. slide projectors were discussed. The 300-watt projector was presented as a relatively long design of condenser system, allowing natural draft cooling.

The 750- and 1000-watt projector uses a close-coupled condensing system and down-draft cooling over the base-up lamp enabling fresh air intake over the slide. The larger projector was used for the slides during the talk, and was demonstrated after the meeting.

An inspection of the Lincolnwood plant of Bell and Howell was conducted for the Section members and guests, under the direction of C. E. Phillimore.

MIDWEST SECTION JOINS ENGINEERING COUNCIL

The Midwest Section of the Society has become affiliated with the Chicago Technical Societies Council, organized to promote general engineering activities and to publicize meetings held by technical societies in Chicago. Membership in the Council is held by 46 national and local technical groups, and their various activities are announced in Sci-En-Tech News published monthly by the Council.

PHOTOELECTRIC SPECTROPHOTOMETER

The Pacific Coast Section of the Society, at its meeting on Feb. 11, 1947, heard a paper on "Spectrophotometry" by Dr. Arnold O. Beckman and Robert Moulton of the National Technical Laboratories, South Pasadena, Calif. Mr. Moulton, who read the paper, described a quartz photoelectric spectrophotometer and explained its application to the color analysis of solids, liquids, and gases by both transmission and reflection. Although this instrument was not specifically designed for motion picture work, some ideas on its application were presented.

During the discussion period, which was led by Dr. Beckman, Allen Gundelfinger of Cinecolor explained some of the specific applications in his laboratory for an instrument of this type.

A 16-mm motion picture in color devoted to the general subject of color analysis, shown through the courtesy of General Electric Company, dealt with the use of a spectrophotometer in this field.

About 130 members and guests attended the meeting, held in the review room of Western Electric Company, Hollywood.

NEW LETTER SYMBOLS FOR CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

A new American Standard covering 163 letter symbols designed to give chemists and chemical engineers a uniform system of "shorthand" for use in their mathematical calculations has been completed and is now ready for distribution.

The new group of symbols is designed to provide the chemist and the chemical engineer with an agreed group of letter symbols which will permit a new degree of uniformity in writing and discussion of chemical problems, particularly in textbooks, scientific papers, lectures, and the like.

The symbols covered in the new work, which is part of a much larger American Standards Association project in the whole field of letter and graphical symbols already agreed on or under development, are defined as follows in the standard:

"A letter symbol is a single character, with subscript or superscript, if required, used to designate a physical magnitude in mathematical equations and expressions."

The symbols included in the present standard cover only the field thus defined and are not to be confused with those designating chemical elements or groups.

In addition to a section covering 83 such general concepts as acceleration, diffusivity, entropy, molecular weight, surface tension, thermal conductivity and others, the new standard has special sections dealing with terms relating to heat transmission, flow of fluids, evaporation, humidification, dehumidification, gas absorption and extraction, distillation, drying, sedimentation, filtration, screening and sampling, crystallization, centrifugation, and also various dimensionless numbers used by chemists.

The new standard, designated as *Z10.12*, was developed under a representative committee of which J. H. Perry, technical investigator, development department, E. I. du Pont de Nemours, was chairman, and it is available from the American Standards Association, 70 East 45th Street, New York 17, N. Y., at 50 cents per copy.

NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL ELECTIONS

A Committee on Nominations has been appointed by President Ryder, in accordance with By-Law VII of the Constitution and By-Laws, to recommend nominations for offices expiring December 31, 1947. General elections are held prior to the October convention; offices expiring and incumbents are given on the reverse of the contents page of this issue of the *JOURNAL*.

Voting members of the Society (Honorary, Fellow, and Active) are invited to submit recommendations for candidates to the Nominating Committee, sending names to the Chairman, E. A. Williford, 230 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y., or to members of the committee as follows: Emery Huse, E. I. Sponable, H. W. Moyse, J. W. Boyle, E. W. Kellogg, K. F. Morgan, J. K. Hilliard, and M. G. Townsley, whose addresses are given in the last Membership Directory.

Only Honorary, Fellow, and Active members may hold office. A report of the Nominating Committee will be submitted to the Board of Governors at the July 1947 meeting.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

POSITION WANTED

Film Editor, 20 years' experience in newsreel and educational film production, and dubbing work, both 35-mm and 16-mm. Desires connection with motion picture organization. Member Film Editors' Union Local 771. Write Louis L. Hess, 174 East 96th St., New York 28, N. Y.