Sixty
SEMIANNUAL

MR. JAMES FRANK, JR., IN CHARGE OF LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS AND MR. WILLIAM C. KUNZMANN, CONVENTION VICE-PRESIDENT

EIGHT-HUNDRED members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and guests registered during the 62nd Semiannual Convention of the Society, which was held on October 20 to 24, 1947, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, in New York City. The Get-Together luncheon on Monday was attended by two hundred and twenty-five members and guests, and there were three hundred and twenty at the Wednesday night Banquet. President Ryder presided at both of these functions and introduced those seated at the Speakers' tables. Judge Edward C. Maguire, Co-ordinator of the Motion Picture Industry of the City of New York, was the guest speaker at the luncheon. At the Banquet, the Progress Medal was awarded to Dr. John G. Frayne; the first annual Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award was presented to Mr. John A. Maurer; the 1947 JOURNAL Award was given to Dr. Albert Rose; and thirteen Active members of the Society were elevated to the Fellow grade.

For the first time in the history of the Society, A Theater Engineering Session was a part of the general program. There were ten of these sessions and three technical sessions. Another innovation of this Convention was the holding of an exhibit, at which there were thirty-five exhibitors. At the Television session and demonstration of large-screen television, over four hundred and fifty were in attendance.

Second CONVENTION

Mr. William C. Kunzmann, Convention Vice-President, and Mr. James Frank, Jr., were largely responsible for the great success of this Convention. Mr. Robert T. Kenworthy, who was in charge of the Exhibit; Mr. Gordon A. Chambers, who secured the many fine technical papers; Mr. Leonard Satz, who was responsible for the Theater Engineering papers; and the chairmen of all of the other Convention Committees worked hard to make this meeting such an outstanding success. Mr. Kunzmann, in addition to his many other activities, obtained passes to six of the first-run motion picture theaters in New York. Through the efforts of Mr. Harry B. Braun, an excellent public-address system was installed. Publicity was handled by Mr. Leonard Bidwell and Mr. Don C. Gillette most efficiently.

Theater owners, purchasing agents, and architects, who had not previously attended Conventions of the Society, were very much in evidence.

The papers presented at this meeting will be published in early issues of the JOURNAL. These have not as yet been scheduled, but it is anticipated that the first of them will appear in the February issue.

JUDGE EDWARD C. MAGUIRE, GUEST SPEAKER AT GET-TOGETHER LUNCHEON, AND PRESIDENT, LOREN L. RYDER

PROGRESS

PRESIDENT RYDER PRESENTS PROGRESS MEDAL TO DR. J. G. FRAYNE

AT THE BANQUET held on October 22, 1947, during the 62nd Semiannual Convention of the Society, Dr. John G .Frayne was presented with the 1947 Progress Medal Award, given for outstanding achievement in motion picture technology. Dr. Frayne was chairman of the Progress Committee from 1932 to 1938; chairman of the Pacific Coast Section for 1941 and 1942; member of the Board of Governors for 1946 and 1947; and at present is chairman of the Sound Committee.

Born in Wexford, Ireland, in 1894, he received his early education in the Irish National School system. He was graduated from Ripon College in Wisconsin in 1917 and received a graduate scholarship at the University of Minnesota the same year. After serving in the Army during World War I and later as an engineer with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, he returned to Minnesota where he received the Ph.D. degree in physics in 1922.

Dr. Frayne was a member of the faculty at the University of Minnesota, professor of physics at Antioch College, and a National Research Fellow at the California Institute of Technology. For the past eighteen years he has been with the Electrical Research Products Division of the Western Electric Company in Hollywood, where, at the present time, he is development supervisor.

Since 1932, Dr. Frayne has been the author or coauthor of twelve papers published in the JOURNAL, for one of which he received the 1940 SMPE JOURNAL Award.

MEDAL AWARD

Among Dr. Frayne's technical contributions, the following are outstanding:

Investigation of reproduced sound-film print noise as a function of negative and print density, in the development of variable-density noise reduction.

Original investigation of light valve, phototube, and printer gammas, and establishment of relationships for their optimum use.

Research in sensitometric control of variable-density sound tracks which evolved into adoption of dynamic gamma control in their exposure, processing, and reproduction. Accompanying this investigation and important in establishing the benefits to be derived from it was his intensive educational program among the studios and film laboratories.

Development of the RA-1100 Integrating Sphere Densitometer, which virtually is a primary standard in the industry.

Coauthor of the intermodulation method of testing and controlling processing and sound equipment which is now universally employed in control of variable-density recording.

Investigation of sprocket-hole modulation.

Studies and applications of light valves. Actively participated in the application of MGM four-ribbon light-valve push-pull development and, more recently, development of the current three-ribbon light-valve modulator.

Active supervision of development of sound-film movements which are now standard and outstanding in their simplicity and performance.

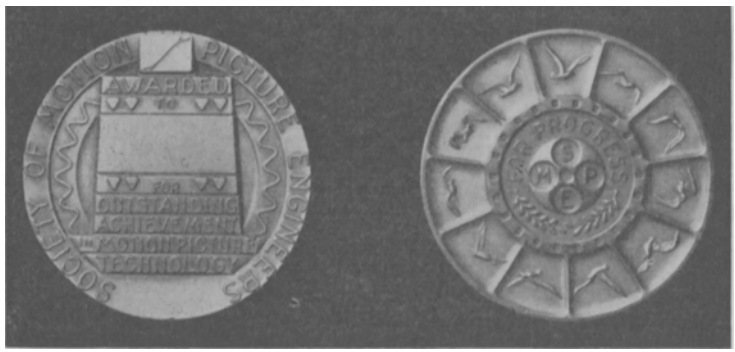
Development of a frequency-modulated control track for release prints.

Supervision and development of several improved recording and reproducing optical systems.

Contributions to the field of anticipated noise reduction.

Development and supervision of new variable-area light-valve-type modulators.

In addition to his technical achievements and the documenting of his work, Dr. Frayne has contributed in a broader sense by his sincere interest in the field of education and by his inspiration to his fellow engineers. An indication of the esteem in which he is held by the Society is given by the unanimous proposal that he be awarded the 1947 Progress Medal.



PROGRESS MEDAL AWARDED FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN MOTION PICTURE TECHNOLOGY

SAMUEL L. WARNER

MR. JOHN A. MAURER RECEIVES WARNER AWARD FROM PRESIDENT RYDER

THE FIRST annual Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award, for the most outstanding work in the field of motion picture engineering, was presented to Mr. John A. Maurer during the Banquet held on October 22, 1947. This Award consists of a gold medal and an accompanying bronze replica, and it was established by the Warner brothers in memory of their brother, Samuel. It was fitting that the first recipient of this Award should be a farsighted pioneer in his field, in much the same way that Mr. Warner was in his. As Mr. Warner had faith in the value of the talking picture, so Mr. Maurer staked his judgment and his career on the usefulness of the 16-mm sound-recording medium.

One of the first engineers to appreciate the need for high quality in 16-mm sound recording and reproduction, Mr. Maurer has dedicated his career to furthering this objective. Not only has he promoted this cause by manufacturing equipment of his own design, but he has given unselfishly of his time and ability to assist in every way possible to improve 16-mm sound quality.

Mr. Maurer started his work by the design of the first precision 16-mm camera and sound-recording devices to reach the commercial market. In order to provide a specialized laboratory service to the users of 16-mm equipment, he collaborated in the establishment of a motion picture laboratory where 16-mm film could receive the necessary treatment to ensure excellence of results.

MEMORIAL AWARD

When, during the War, the Armed Services asked for the cooperation of the Society and that of the American Standards Association in the preparation of a large number of War Standards in the fields of both 35-mm and 16-mm motion pictures, Mr. Maurer was one of the first members of the Society to be drafted for this work. Throughout the War, he gave liberally of his time to this project, and his extensive background of experimental activity was the source of much useful information to the committees.

His outstanding contribution was the design and construction of special film-recording machines for the manufacture of 16-mm test films to complement the standards which he had helped to prepare. A series of test films was prepared to provide a means of testing any 16-mm sound equipment then or now in use. These films, which are available through the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and the Motion Picture Research Council, provide the tools whereby the engineers of the industry can test their equipment and evaluate their results.

Mr. Maurer was appointed to serve out an unexpired term as Engineering Vice-President in 1945, and was elected in 1946 to serve a two-year term in this same capacity. During his tenure of office, the work of the Standards Committee, for which he, as Engineering Vice-President, is responsible, has gone forward steadily.

The industry owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Maurer, who has made available to it equipment, methods, processes, test films, and above all, an inspired leadership, to bring 16-mm sound films to the point where they compare favorably with the 35-mm films with which the industry leads the world.

SAMUEL L. WARNER MEMORIAL AWARD PRESENTED ANNUALLY FOR MOST OUTSTANDING WORK IN SOUND MOTION PICTURE ENGINEERING

JOURNAL AWARD 1947

PRESIDENT RYDER PRESENTS CERTIFICATE TO DR. ALBERT ROSE

FOR HIS PAPER on "A Unified Approach to the Performance of Photographic Film, Television Pickup Tubes, and the Human Eye," which was judged to be the most outstanding paper originally published in the JOURNAL during 1946, Dr. Albert Rose was presented the JOURNAL Award at the 62nd Semiannual Banquet.

Dr. Rose was graduated from Cornell University in 1931, and received his doctorate from there in 1935. That same year he accepted a position in the research laboratory of the electron-tube plant of the Radio Corporation of America in Harrison, N. J. The work at Harrison was dedicated to the development of a pickup tube that would provide greater light-sensitivity contrast and picture quality, and would require less space in the camera than the iconoscope. He conceived the idea for the orthicon camera tube, forerunner of the image-orthicon television picture tube which was developed by Dr. Rose in collaboration with other members of the RCA Laboratories staff. It was for his work on the image-orthicon tube that Dr. Rose received the 1946 Morris Liebmann Memorial Prize from The Institute of Radio Engineers.

In 1943 the image orthicon was turned over to the Army for use in guided missiles. Because of military security restrictions, it was not made available for commercial television until after the end of the war.

Dr. Rose is a member of the American Physical Society, The Institute of Radio Engineers, and Sigma Xi.

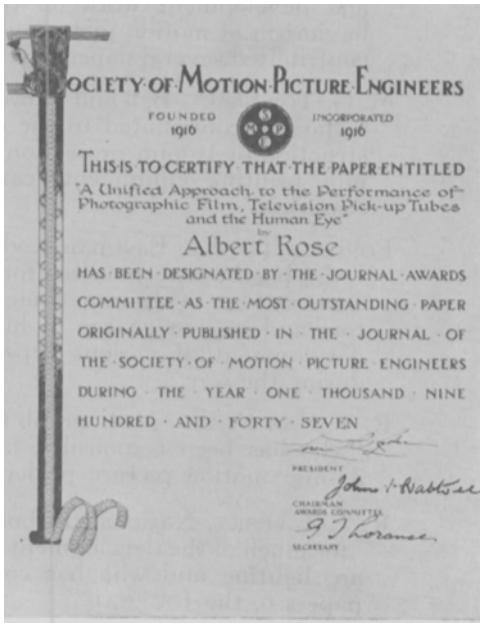
FELLOW AWARDS
1947

THIRTEEN ACTIVE members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers were elevated to the Fellow grade at the Banquet held on October 22, 1947. The names of the recipients and the citations are listed below.

F. E. ALTMAN, Eastman Kodak Company,
"for original work in the field of optics of camera and projection lenses."

A. C. BLANEY, RCA Victor,
"who has done much of the research and development work on the problem of photographically recording sound on film."

KARL BRENKERT, SR., Brenkert Light Projection Company,
"for his work on the design, construction, and distribution of 35-mm projection lamps and projectors."


SOCIETY OF MOTION PICTURE ENGINEERS

FOUNDED 1916 — INCORPORATED 1916

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE PAPER ENTITLED

"A Unified Approach to the Performance of Photographic Film, Television Pick-up Tubes and the Human Eye"

by

Albert Rose

HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE JOURNAL AWARDS COMMITTEE AS THE MOST OUTSTANDING PAPER ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF MOTION PICTURE ENGINEERS DURING THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY SEVEN

PRESIDENT

CHAIRMAN AWARDS COMMITTEE

SECRETARY

CERTIFICATE AWARDED TO DR. ROSE FOR MOST OUTSTANDING PAPER PUBLISHED IN JOURNAL DURING 1946

P. E. BRIGANDI, RKO Radio Pictures,
"who has been responsible for development work in sound recording.

C. C. DASH, Eastman Kodak Company,
"for the design and manufacture of motor-generator sets used extensively in the motion picture industry."

A. J. HATCH, Strong Electric Corporation,
"who has been responsible for development work on projection lamps."

R. KINGSLAKE, Eastman Kodak Company,
"for his work on the design of the camera and projection optics."

R. G. LINDERMAN, Mole-Richardson Company,
"who has been responsible for the design and construction of studio lighting equipment and is considered one of the top specialists in this field."

R. H. TALBOT, Eastman Kodak Company,
"who has been responsible for much research and development work on the physical behaviorism of motion picture film and who has contributed several papers to the JOURNAL."

M. G. TOWNSLEY, Bell and Howell Company,
"who has contributed to the design and construction of 16-mm projection equipment, 35-mm printing equipment, cameras, and accessories."

FORDYCE TUTTLE, Eastman Kodak Company,
"who has been responsible for the design and construction of 16-mm cameras and projectors and was in charge of highly specialized development of various types of equipment during the war."

R. T. VAN NIMAN, Motiograph Corporation,
"who has been responsible for the design of 35-mm motion picture projectors."

R. J. ZAVESKY, National Carbon Company,
"for much of the development work on carbon-arc lighting and who has contributed many papers to the JOURNAL."