

## Section Meetings

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### Atlantic Coast

At the meeting of the Atlantic Coast Section on February 16, 1949, the principal topic was "Direct Positive Variable-Area Recording with the Light Valve." A paper on this subject by L. B. Browder of Western Electric Company, Hollywood, was read by C. R. Keith. It was shown how direct positive sound tracks are obtained by reflecting light from the ribbons rather than by transmitting light between them. A 16-mm recording of speech and music made by this method was played.

"A New 16-Mm Studio Re-Recording Machine," by G. R. Crane of Western Electric Company, Hollywood, was read by C. R. Sawyer. In addition, two examples of variable-density sound tracks on Kodachrome were played. One showed the result which may be obtained by printing from a suitable black-and-white positive and the other was the result of recording directly on the Kodachrome film.

### Central

Four papers previously presented at the Washington Convention were given at the January 13, 1949, meeting of the Central Section.

M. J. Yahr of RCA's Theater Equipment Division read the first two papers: "Theater Installation, Instantaneous Large-Screen Television," by Roy Wilcox and H. J. Schlafly, reported installation problems, programming methods, and audience reactions to the installation made in June, 1948, at the Fox-Philadelphia theater for the Louis-Walcott fight. "Equipment for Television Photography," by Ralph V. Little, Jr., reviewed the art of television kinescope photography for record purposes, or for rapid processing, and subsequent rebroadcast or theater projection uses.

C. E. Heppberger delivered a paper on "Optimum Performance of High-Brightness Carbon Arcs," by M. T. Jones and F. T. Bowditch. The first draft of this paper was presented at the June, 1948, Cleveland meeting; the completed manuscript and slides covered subsequent work with water-cooled jaws and special carbons of high heat conductivity developed to meet the demand for more and more light.

I. F. Jacobsen presented "Influence of Carbon Cooling on the High-Current Carbon Arc and Its Mechanism," by Wolfgang Finkelnburg. This paper reported the results of an extensive independent investigation of this subject.

General discussion of future possibilities for brighter screens for drive-in theaters and cooler, more dependable operating arc lamps followed.

At the February 17, 1949, meeting of the Central Section Reid H. Ray presented "The Use of 35-Mm Ansco Color for 16-Mm Release Prints." Since the requirements of his company's clients called for 35-mm color release prints as well as 16-mm color releases within a short space of time, the following procedure was worked out:

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Original photography is 35-mm on Ansco Type 735 camera film with appropriate filters. This original is processed at the Houston Laboratory in Los Angeles and a "daily" is printed on all footage using an average printer light and average color filter balance on 732 print stock. After editing the final picture a scene-by-scene color-corrected and density-balanced print is made. When this is approved the 35-mm release prints are made.

A selected 35-mm release print is used for a master to make 16-mm release prints on Kodachrome duplicating film in a standard Depue reduction printer. At the time of making the final re-recording of the sound track for the 35-mm prints, a second track is made with special equalization for reduction printing to the 16-mm Kodachrome releases.

Demonstration reels of identical scenes in the 35-mm releases and the 16-mm reductions were presented. Although the sound in both cases was excellent and the color in the 16-mm matched the 35-mm exceedingly well, the 16-mm suffered some loss of definition in the reduction printing process.

The next paper was one previously presented to the National Society in Washington on "Recent Advances in Densitometry" by Monroe H. Sweet. In addition to showing the newly developed densitometer using a photomultiplier tube and sharp cutoff filters, several additional pieces of equipment were described: (a) an attachment for measuring liquid color densities and (b) an automatic strip reading device which traces the readings directly on a paper record.

The next meeting of the Central Section will be held on May 12, 1949, at 8:00 P.M.—82 East Randolph St., Chicago. Samuel R. Todd, of the Bureau of Electrical Inspection, Department of Buildings, City of Chicago, will present a paper on "Potential Trends for Projection-Room Booth Specifications Due to Advent of Acetate Film." "Film-Distribution Considerations" will be given by Thomas McConnell, Attorney.

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## Book Review

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### **Friese-Greene: Close-up of an Inventor, by Ray Allister**

Published (1948) by Marsland Publications, Ltd., 122 Wardour St., London, W. 1, England. Distributed by The Falcon Press, 6 and 7 Crown Passage, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1, England. 176 pages, + XIII pages, + 6-page index. 19 illustrations,  $5\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$  inches. Price, 12s. 6d. net.

We have here an oddment of the lore of the motion pictures' yesterdays, restating the curious, contradictory, and erratic tradition of William Friese-Greene, one of the more nebulously connected of the many claimant fathers of the motion picture.