
PROGRESS MEDAL AWARD

AT THE BANQUET held on October 12, 1949, during the 66th Semiannual Convention of the Society, Dr. Harvey Fletcher was presented with the 1948 Progress Medal Award, given for outstanding achievement in motion picture technology.

Dr. Fletcher was born September 11, 1884, at Provo, Utah. He received a B.S. degree from the Brigham Young University in 1907, and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago in 1911, and numerous honorary degrees from other institutions of higher learning in the United States.



HARVEY FLETCHER

Dr. Fletcher was Professor of Physics at Brigham Young University from 1911 to 1916, when he left the university to join the Research Department of the Bell Telephone Laboratories. In 1933 he was appointed Director of Physical Research at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, a position which he still holds.

For a period of over thirty years, he has contributed immeasurably toward an understanding of the fundamental nature of speech and hearing. The results of his work appear in the design of microphones, equipment for electrical recording of speed and other sounds, and the development of loudspeakers which reproduce sound with high fidelity. His studies on hearing and the effect of sound intensity on aural frequency response were a substantial contribution to the motion picture art which led to recording techniques now used in the production of motion pictures. His development of facilities for transmitting music played by the Philadelphia Orchestra in the city of Philadelphia to Washington, D. C., by wire were a substantial early contribution to the somewhat later development of stereophonic recording. His work has done much to advance the art of transmission and recording of speech.

The Progress Medal was awarded to Dr. Fletcher

"in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the art of motion picture sound recording and reproduction."

SMPE—SAMUEL L. WARNER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR 1949

EACH YEAR THE SOCIETY has the privilege of presenting the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award to an engineer selected by the Society for outstanding technical work in the field of sound motion pictures. This award was established by the Warner brothers in memory of their brother Samuel L. Warner, who was a pioneer in the production of sound motion pictures.

This year the award was presented to Ralph M. Evans on October 12, 1949, for

"his outstanding work in color motion picture films and related subjects."

Mr. Evans, a Fellow of the Society, is superintendent in charge of the Color Control Department at the Eastman Kodak Company, where he has served in this capacity since the formation of the department in 1946. The function of the department is to maintain quality control on all color photographic processes at the Eastman Kodak Company and to carry on develop-



RALPH M. EVANS

ment work on these processes after their release to the public. Prior to the organization of the Color Control Department, Mr. Evans was in the Research Laboratories of the Eastman Kodak Company in charge of the development of color photographic processes. As part of this work he conducted a considerable amount of research on visual effects in photography, and this work is continuing under his direction.

Mr. Evans first came to Eastman Kodak in 1928. Later he was away from the Company for six years, employed by the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and DeLuxe Laboratories. This time was spent on color photography and control and development work in black-and-white motion picture photography.

He is past chairman of the Color Committee of the Society, and as the representative of this organization, he is on the Inter-Society Color Council. During the past two years he has served as chairman of the Inter-Society Color Council and is now a member of its Executive Committee. He is also a member of the Color Committee of the Illuminating Engineering Society.

Mr. Evans is well known for his illustrated lectures on color and color photography, which have been delivered in all parts of the country to scientific and technical societies.

Mr. Evans has written a comprehensive book* called "An Introduction to Color" which divides the subject of color into three sections—physics, psychophysics, and psychology. This is a new approach to the subject, and Mr. Evans' years of experience provide a background for this broad viewpoint.

He is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he majored in optics and photography and received the degree of Bachelor of Science in physics.

* Reviewed in the JOURNAL for February, 1949, page 236.

JOURNAL AWARDS—1949

THE JOURNAL AWARD for 1949 was presented to Mr. Fred G. Albin on October 12, 1949, for his paper "Sensitometric Aspect of Television Monitor-Tube Photography," published in the December, 1948, issue of the JOURNAL.



Fred G. Albin was born in Springfield, Ohio, on December 11, 1903. He received his education as electrical engineer from the University of California at Berkeley and California School of Technology at Pasadena.

In 1930 he became associated with United Artists and Goldwyn Studios in Hollywood as research engineer of sound recording, embracing the fields of acoustics, audio frequency, and photography. He gained renown for advancements in variable-density sound recording, contributing several articles to the JOURNAL of the SMPE.

In 1940 he became associated with the Radio Corporation of America as development engineer. During the war he developed high-powered radio-frequency generators for industrial applications. Toward the end of the war he developed large-screen television projectors of the instantaneous type; also the kinescope recording systems now extensively used by television broadcasters.

In his paper, which is an outstanding and well-detailed report of an engineering study, Mr. Albin reviews the practices of cathode-ray tube photography on motion picture film. He analyzes, from the standpoint of conventional photographic sensitometry, the photographic and electronic aspects of television film recording procedures that are currently in use.



FRED G. ALBIN

tice in motion picture professional photography.”



Honorable Mention was awarded to Mr. Charles R. Fordyce for his paper, "Improved Safety Motion Picture Film Support," which appeared in the October, 1948, issue of the JOURNAL.

Mr. Fordyce presents with utmost clarity and in a very readable style the history of the recent development of a safety film support which is suitable for professional motion picture use as a base for either 35-mm negative or release positive film. His report follows this new film base through its several stages of labora-

Picture reproducibility is a difficult problem, because the combined gammas of the several elements of a typical television system do not approach unity and therefore an original scene picked up by a television camera cannot be faithfully reproduced by a subsequent linear photographic process without resorting to some practical form of gamma correction.

The author shows that this problem can be solved through the use of nonlinear electrical circuits which are designed to produce an over-all television system gamma of approximately 1.5. Modern photographic techniques can then produce a resulting motion picture film record that "... equals conventional prac-



C. R. FORDYCE

tory development into commercial "trade tests" that were designed to provide comparative performance data between the new safety film and conventional nitrate release positive film.



Mr. John A. Maurer received Honorable Mention for his paper, "Optical Sound-Track Printing," published in the May, 1948, issue of the JOURNAL.

Mr. Maurer reviews current commercial practices in the printing of motion picture sound track, explaining the nature of the more serious defects produced in the printed film, together with a study of contributing causes. By way of solution, he presents in remarkably understandable language, the detailed history of the development of a printer differing markedly from conventional types.



JOHN A. MAURER

Fellow Awards—1949

AT THE BANQUET held on October 12, 1949, President Sponable presented the Fellow Award to the fourteen members of the Society whose names are listed below:

JOSEPH E. AIKEN
Naval Photographic Center

GERALD M. BEST
Warner Brothers Pictures

DANIEL J. BLOOMBERG
Republic Studios

HERMAN H. DUERR
AnSCO Corporation

ALLEN B. DUMONT
Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc.

FERDINAND L. EICH
Paramount Pictures, Inc.

PHILO T. FARNSWORTH
Farnsworth Television and Radio Corporation

CHARLES R. FORDYCE
Eastman Kodak Company

LORIN D. GRIGNON
Twentieth Century-Fox Films

M. A. HANKINS
Mole-Richardson Company

GARLAND C. MISENER
AnSCO Corporation

EDWARD S. SEELEY
Altec Service Corporation

JOHN E. VOLKMANN
RCA Victor Division

FRED WALLER
Vitarama and Cinerama Corporations
