

Book Review

Noise and Sound Transmission, Report of the 1948 Summer Symposium of the Acoustics Group

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We are indebted to the Acoustics Group of The Physical Society (London) for the publication in this book of 41 papers on sound transmission and noise presented by a gathering of experts from twelve countries. Although the principal emphasis in most of the papers is on the insulation of sound in homes and apartments, there are also reported in the volume fruitful studies of the nature of air-borne and impact sounds, recommended standard and field methods of measuring the sound insulation of floors, walls, windows and other partitions, and a variety of other related topics.

Some findings reported at the symposium, of interest to motion picture and radio engineers, are the following:

"...double glazing (of windows) is slightly worse acoustically than single glazing of the same total superficial weight... There is no acoustical advantage in fitting glazing heavier than about '24 oz.' unless the opening sections of a window have a very good closure." [G. H. Aston]

"The reduction of the stiffness of thin panels increases their sound insulation." [L. Cremer]

"The loudness levels in phons of some typical complex noises are shown to be 3 to 17 phons greater than the corresponding sound levels in decibels as determined by a sound level meter." [A. J. King]

"In England, the noise from the banging of the neighbors' doors appears to be more troublesome than that from their radios." [W. A. Allen]

A reading of the papers presented at the symposium reveals that at least in the construction of residential flats and apartments, the Europeans are making more progress than we are in the control and insulation of noise. Anyone interested in noise and sound insulation problems will find practical solutions to many of these problems in *Noise and Sound Transmission*.

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