

Foreword

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS of the members of the Color Committee that a report outlining the principles of color sensitometry would be one of the most urgently needed contributions the Color Committee could make to the membership of this Society and to the industry as a whole.

A Subcommittee was organized in March, 1949, with that objective in mind. They undertook the preparation of a report that would review the functions of color sensitometry, the fundamental concepts involved, their approximate realization in practical use and with available instruments, and the areas in which further research is necessary before definite procedures can be recommended for general adoption.

It was recognized that a rather difficult and insufficiently developed subject had to be presented. It is a matter of great satisfaction to report that invitations to serve on the Subcommittee were accepted promptly and assignments carried out with unusual promptness considering the highly technical and frequently controversial nature of the work. From its beginning, the project has enjoyed excellent support from all quarters in the motion picture industry.

The Subcommittee has stressed the fact that the present understanding of the fundamental principles of color sensitometry is incomplete. Further research is necessary to establish the theoretical foundations of color sensitometry and a great deal of industrial experience is required to evaluate the practical merits of the procedures discussed in this report. However, it is believed that the initial objectives of the Committee have been adequately covered.

It is to be hoped that the technical knowledge and guidance provided by the report will be helpful to the industry and that it also will have the effect of directing industrial practices into channels so that in years to come standardization of the more important aspects of color sensitometry can be undertaken with a greater expectation of unanimity of acceptance than would otherwise be possible in this complex field.

The report of the Subcommittee appears as a uniform, anonymous presentation, reflecting the views of all members. The editing was done by the Chairman, C. F. J. Overhage, who acknowledges the valuable assistance of his associates: A. M. Koerner, R. H. Morris, G. Wernimont in the preparation of Sections III and VIII, and F. C. Williams in the final review of the entire report. Special credit should be given to those members of the Subcommittee who prepared the first complete drafts of the other Sections: L. E. Clark (Section V), A. M. Gundelfinger (Section VI), M. H. Sweet (Section VII), J. P. Weiss (Section II), and F. C. Williams (Sections I and IV). The efforts of the West Coast members of the Subcommittee were effectively co-ordinated by J. G. Frayne.

The Chairman of the Color Committee wishes to express his appreciation to the members of the Subcommittee for their enthusiastic support of the program. Special recognition is due Mr. Overhage who has been the driving force behind the project.

HERMAN H. DUERR, *Chairman*
SMPTE Color Committee