

Engineering Activities

New Staff Engineer

Henry Kogel is the Society's new Staff Engineer, having replaced Bill Deacy who resigned to take up the challenge of engineering opportunities with Reeves Soundcraft.

Henry Kogel has come to the Society from Sperry Gyroscope Co. where he was a Project Engineer, specializing in developmental work on demodulators, electronic and magnetic amplifiers and instrument servomechanisms. Two of his specialties were the designing of all required test equipment and the productizing of components for magnetic control systems. Henry is an electrical engineer, having been graduated from Columbia University in 1948. His undergraduate work at the University of Michigan was interrupted by five years of military service with the Army Signal Corps, where his electrical interests were applied to radio communications. Since leaving the Army in 1946, he completed his study at Columbia, taught courses in electrical theory, radio and television maintenance, and, like Bill Deacy, had an opportunity to practice industrial engineering—in Henry's case it was the planning of a plant layout and production system for a New York corporation.

Bill Deacy was transferred and thoroughly absorbed by the end of November in his new work at Reeves Soundcraft Corp., 10 E. 52d St., New York 22. Reeves manufactures magnetic recording tapes, films and television tubes. Bill is primarily occupied with Reeves' new program of putting magnetic stripes on film. Bill, who is a product of the Lehigh University School of Electrical Engineering, spent three and one-half years with the George S. May Co., during which he applied his industrial management talents to complete overhaul of an enormous commercial laundry and, among others, to a wire cloth mill. For two years before the United States was involved in the war in Africa, Bill worked with the Overseas Division of Douglas Aircraft on the construction of air bases across Africa, the Middle East and India. On return to this country in 1943, he joined the staff of the American Standards Association and, while working with J. W. McNair at ASA, he made an indelible mark in the electrical components and photographic war standards work sponsored by the War Production Board and in which this Society played a major role. For over two years, Bill has been, in effect, Assistant Engineering Vice-President for our Society, and his contributions are not only well known but are well documented by the technical material published in the JOURNAL. We all wish him the best of good fortune in his new venture.

Engineering Committees Activities

Although neither the number of man hours spent at committee meetings nor the bulk of the meeting minutes which follow is a measure of useful results, they are both clear signs that members are active on Society projects and that something is being accomplished. From that point of view, members who attended the 68th Convention ran up an impressive score: 116 of them attended 11 different meetings over the 5 days. In the process, they generated enough rational discussion and arrived at enough conclusions to fill 71 pp. of formal minutes on a variety of subjects. Several merit mention in this general review of those proceedings.

Screen Brightness

A nationwide survey now being made of screen lighting conditions in about 100 motion picture theaters was discussed by the Screen Brightness Committee, and

a report on the West Coast portion of that survey, recently completed under Charlie Handley's guidance, was reviewed. The members agreed upon procedures to be followed by local survey teams in the remaining theaters. The next step calls for a series of incident and reflected light readings in New York film laboratory screening rooms. One of the major objectives of this project is to provide studios and film laboratories with data on present and recommended practices for theaters. Another is to tell projection equipment manufacturers how the equipment they make is actually used. Better understanding of current theater projection room practices and knowledge of light levels employed should be of considerable help to the general cause of improved picture quality. Chairman of the Committee is Wallace Lozier.

Test Film Quality

F. J. Pfeiff called a meeting of his Test Film Quality Committee to study the best possible combination of procedures which would insure maintaining high overall quality of the many test films produced by the Society and sold both through the Society and through the Motion Picture Research Council. A number of details were considered at length and it is likely that this new committee will be handing out specific projects at its next meeting early in 1951.

Color

The Color Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. H. Duerr, again looked into the use of lead sulfide phototubes with motion picture sound tracks in color. At the present time there are a variety of lead sulfide cells having different response characteristics, and in the interests of uniform reproduction, manufacturers now using them are testing all cells for response in the infrared. The Committee hopes to arrive at a standard test which manufacturers may apply and which would pave the way for general adoption of the lead sulfide cell, if they feel that the change is a beneficial one. Original plans to prepare and publish a comprehensive review of all motion picture color processes now in use were upset by the reluctance of some film companies to supply the essential information. A new angle of attack is being considered, with the hope that it will be more productive. A subcommittee was appointed to arrive at a more descriptive term than "color temperature" to describe the spectral characteristics of light sources used in commercial color photography.

Film Dimensions

Final adoption of proposed standards for 32-mm perforations on 35-mm raw stock has been again deferred because some members of Dr. E. K. Carver's Committee on Film Dimensions feel that there was inherent danger in the ultimate slitting of 35-mm stock to the 16-mm width. Not all motion picture film is coated on safety base; therefore the possibility of nitrate film being slit still remains, as does the question of the moral obligation of those who are concerned with the standardization of film dimensions. A standard would, however, be an aid to equipment designers and manufacturers.

Work over the past several years on a proposed single negative-positive perforation for 35-mm films has been drawing nearer completion. Several wear tests have been conducted on two possible combination sprocket holes and the committee has tentatively agreed to circulate a ballot on its recommendations for adoption of the new proposal, known as the Dubray-Howell perforation.

Several other committee projects reviewed at length during the 68th Convention will be reported upon in the January JOURNAL.

Films for Television

The Committee on Films for Television, under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. L. Garman, met informally to talk over work on the development of a proposed new release print leader that might serve equally well not only for both 16- and 35-mm films in theaters but also for television broadcasting use. Emulsion position problems in 16-mm release prints that have plagued users of educational films for years are now giving trouble in television projection. Prints made by commercial processes may have the emulsion and therefore the sound track facing the screen or facing the projection lamp and it is often necessary to splice both kinds of prints together on the same reel. If picture and sound track are in focus in one position, they are out of focus in the other and agreement on one position is essential if television picture and sound quality from a film program are ever to be predictably good.

Employment Service

Position Wanted: Belgian, 38; specialist in high-speed photography, educational and documentary films; thorough knowledge and experience script-to-screen production technique; first-class organizer; desires position as executive director of production plant (10 to 100 crew) in the States; married, more details on request. Write LB27, c/o Fred J. Pagenstecher, Seeley Lake, Mont.

New Members

The following have been added to the Society's rolls since the list published last month. The designations of grades are the same as those in the 1950 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:

Honorary (H) Fellow (F) Active (M) Associate (A) Student (S)

Aronson, Arthur H., Cameraman, Taylor Film Co. **Mail:** 864 Linn Dr., Cleveland 8, Ohio. (A)

Avellana, Angel P., Recording Engineer, Movie Technical Services. **Mail:** 192 La Torre, Sta. Ana, Manila, Philippines. (A)

Bremer, Frank V., Vice-President, Bremer Broadcasting Corp. **Mail:** 1020 Broad St., Newark 2, N.J. (M)

Buscher, Chris P., Jr., American Television Inst. **Mail:** 1017 S. Oak Ave., Oak Park, Ill. (S)

Castagnaro, Dominick, Development Engineer, National Broadcasting Co. **Mail:** 1726 75 St., Brooklyn 4, N.Y. (A)

Faunce, Nat L., Audio-Visual Sales, Westcott, Slade & Balcom. **Mail:** 210 Waterman Ave., East Providence, R.I. (A)

Flaherty, Robert H., Hollywood Sound Institute. **Mail:** 5608 Lexington Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. (S)

French, Hubert, Television Technician, National Broadcasting Co. **Mail:**

795 Meeker Ave., Brooklyn 22, N.Y. (A)

Friedman, Thomas B., Chief Engineer, Television Station WXEL. **Mail:** 1900 E. 30 St., Cleveland, Ohio. (M)

Genis, Daniel, University of Southern California. **Mail:** 2714 Severence St., Los Angeles 7, Calif. (S)

Gretener, Edgar, Engineer, Dr. Edgar Gretener A.G., Ottenweg 25, Zurich 8, Switzerland. (M)

Haidar, Chicralla, University of Southern California. **Mail:** 903 W. 35 St., Los Angeles 7, Calif. (S)

Jacobs, Arthur A., Sound Technician and Production Assistant, Toby Anguish Productions. **Mail:** 11568 Blix St., North Hollywood, Calif. (A)

Jacobs, George G., Chief Engineer, KOTV, Cameron Television. **Mail:** 3050 S. Madison St., Tulsa, Okla. (A)

Johnson, Winston O., Mechanical Research Engineer, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. **Mail:** Brinton Lake, Concordville, Pa. (M)

Kear, Frank G., Consulting Radio Engi-