lished in the July, 1950, JOURNAL for a 90-day trial period leading to its eventual adoption as ASA Standard Z22.82.

The proposed American Standard for Acoustical Terminology developed by ASA Sectional Committee Z-24 on Acoustics was reviewed and suggested changes forwarded to that committee.

In May, 1948, a Subcommittee on Magnetic Recording was set up, with G. L. Dimmick as Chairman, and charged with the formulation of standard sound track dimensions and speeds of magnetic recording on 35-, 17½-, 16- and 8-mm motion picture film. With the help of several task forces assigned to specific aspects of the problem, the subcommittee prepared for the Sound Committee proposed standards which are now in the hands of the Standards Committee with the recommendation that they be published in the JOURNAL for six-month's trial and criticism. A progress report of the subcommittee was given at the 1949 Fall Convention.

The Magnetic Recording Subcommittee is about to prepare specifications for magnetic test films of the types that may be required by industry and sold by the Society. At the moment, an azimuth film, multifrequency film and buzz track appear to be most needed and will probably be made available first.

It is anticipated that problems associated with magnetic recording and reproduction will constitute the major part of the committee's work for the coming year with particular emphasis on standards, test films and television sound problems.

Theater Television Committee Report

By D. E. Hyndman, Committee Chairman

DURING 1948 AND 1949, the work of the Society's Theater Television Committee was devoted to the consideration of all engineering phases of the use of television in motion picture theaters. It reviewed the design, construction and operation of theater television equipment, from the standpoint of alterations that might be necessary within a theater, power supplies, viewing conditions, screen brightness, program distribution facilities and the like.

Presented on October 20, 1950, at the Society's Convention at Lake Placid, N.Y.

In June, 1949, the Federal Communications Commission requested the Society along with Paramount Pictures, Inc., and Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp. to file a statement concerning the allocation of frequency bands for a theater television service. This request brought to an end the more or less broad general consideration that was being given to all phases of this work and forced the committee to concentrate on a statement which would outline in specific terms what the industry needed in the way of radio frequencies to establish a nation-wide theater television serv-

ice. On August 29, 1949, the committee filed such a statement with the Commission.

It was realized at that time that some of the conclusions reached by the statement, while based on good engineering judgment, could not be backed up by actual engineering data. It was also realized that such concrete information would have to be provided at the time of the public hearing if the industry had any hopes of having the FCC grant their request.

1950, therefore, has been devoted to securing the technical data on distribution facilities, which would substantiate the 1949 statement. As a means to this end, a subgroup was established under the chairmanship of George L. Beers of RCA. This group is composed of theater television equipment manufacturers and representatives of the common carriers. They were requested to investigate four specific characteristics of a theater television distribution system. The first dealt with the bandwidth required, the second with permissible signal-to-noise ratio, the third with distortion, and the last with the compression which could be tolerated on such a distribution system.

RCA agreed to provide the laboratory facilities for conducting these tests, provided the committee reviewed the test methods proposed and gave its assistance in interpreting the test results. At present, work is in progress on the first two of the assigned tasks, namely bandwidth and signal-to-noise. The subcommittee has approved the test methods prepared by Otto Schade and is awaiting an opportunity to judge the results on a large-screen theater system. So far, only limited viewing tests have been conducted and these on a small-screen direct-view cathode-ray tube. As soon as a large-screen laboratory setup is made available, it is hoped definite conclusions can be reached.

From the standpoint of practical operating problems, a wealth of experience will be gained from the actual theater installations that have been made in recent months. Nine theaters in seven cities now have equipment installed and are carrying weekly programs of various sports events. It is reported that before the first of the year, there will be 16 theaters so equipped. Since both cable and radio facilities are being used for program distribution to these theaters, much will be learned that will assist Mr. Beers' group in reaching rapid conclusions.

The Theater Television Committee plans to continue this activity to arrive at the answer to the basic engineering problem. When this preliminary work has been completed, it is anticipated that appropriate standards and recommendations will be set up as the Society has done in the past in the field of motion pictures.