

vide additional stenographic assistance and the other will be a young engineer, assigned almost entirely to the Society's Test Film Program. His interests would be along the lines of quality control, test film production and the more accurate specification of particular films, either now being made or proposed for the future.

Expansion of publications activity by 72% was authorized and it was pointed out that the change in JOURNAL format would allow the editor to purchase the same amount of printed information for each dollar during 1951 as he did during the early months of 1950, even though general publications costs had increased considerably. Demand for additional technical work by Headquarters and by many of the committees seemed completely

justified and an increase of the services thus provided by as much as 100% was authorized.

Membership procedures have been simplified so that a fairly large increase in the rolls could be handled by Headquarters with very little additional effort. This increased efficiency makes it practical for the Society to invite membership from many potential applicants who have not been aware of the services available. Headquarters has been requested to apply additional effort along these lines, with the hope that every potential candidate for membership will learn of the Society and its JOURNAL and as a consequence will be able to judge whether the benefits warrant his joining.

## 1951 Nominations

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'VOTING' members of the Society, that is all those in the Active, Fellow and Honorary grades, are invited by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee to suggest candidates for the seven Board of Governors' vacancies which will occur at the end of 1951. Since the Nominating Committee for this year will soon begin its formal deliberations, names of potential nominees should be placed in the hands of the Chairman, Earl I. Sponable, c/o Movietone Inc., 460 W. 54 St., New York 19, without delay.

Vacancies will be for the offices held now by the following members of the Board of Governors. The only limitations on suggested candidates for these vacancies are that they be *Voting* members of the Society.

*Financial Vice-President*, Ralph B. Austrian

*Treasurer*, Frank E. Cahill, Jr.

*Governors*, Lorin D. Grignon, Paul J. Larsen, William H. Rivers, Edward S. Seeley and R. T. Van Niman

## Engineering Activities

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### Magnetic Recording

In the September, 1950, JOURNAL, it was reported that the proposals for Magnetic Sound Track on Film, originating in Glenn Dimmick's Subcommittee, were meeting obstacles in the parent Sound Committee. Those obstacles have been overcome and the proposals are now before the members of the Standards Committee, who are now balloting on their recommendation for preliminary publication for trial and comment.

### Laboratory Practices

The Laboratory Practice Committee, under the Chairmanship of John Stott, met in January and pushed ahead on its ambitious program.

The work on 35-mm negative notching is reaching a conclusion and the committee will soon be canvassed on approval of the draft specification for size and location of notches.

16-Mm negative notching has presented a more thorny problem which will require

industry-wide assistance for solution. To this end, an interim committee report is being prepared for publication, with the expectation that sufficient comments will thus be elicited to enable the writing of an adequate draft specification.

A report of the Screen Brightness Survey of the 16-mm review rooms of the film processing laboratories was submitted. On the basis of the data accumulated at both East and West Coast laboratories, it

was recommended that a 16-mm screen brightness standard be drafted, and concrete proposals to that effect are in the making.

The committee has been planning for some time to provide abstracts of chemical engineering material for a regular page in the JOURNAL. Proposals to achieve this were discussed and responsibilities fixed. We can, therefore, expect this valuable service to be initiated shortly.

## Obituaries

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**Joseph Mina Bing**, who was an influential force in amateur photography and in the photographic industry, died at his home in New York on December 9, 1950. He was 72 years old. He was born in Vienna and was graduated from the University of Vienna with the degree of Doctor of Engineering. He was engaged in consulting railroad work in Austria, South and Central American Countries and in the building of the Hell Gate Bridge.

In 1925 he became the first importer of photographic exposure meters, in which field he was an expert and designer. He later became one of the largest importers of cameras and other equipment. During World War II his manufacturing organization received two Army-Navy awards for its excellent work in producing Navy testing equipment and design of the underwater camera. Mr. Bing was an Honorary Fellow of both the Royal Photographic Society and the Photographic Society of America. He had been an Active Member of this Society for 22 years.

**Lewis M. Townsend** died on October 16, 1950. He had long been an active member in the Society. In 1925 he coauthored with L. A. Jones a paper "The Use of Color for the Embellishment of the Motion Picture Program," which was published in the TRANSACTIONS of the Society. He was also coauthor of many other papers. For several years he was Chief Projection Engineer of the Eastman Theatre and the School of Music at the University of Rochester. He was Technical Adviser on Sound Equipment for Paramount Publix from 1929 to 1932 and from 1932 until his

death he was Chief Projectionist and Head of Equipment Maintenance for Schine Theaters, Inc.

**Jack E. Beach** was killed in a plane that crashed on Mt. Moran, Wyoming, November 21. He was 23 years old. He had worked as an assistant cameraman for Coronet Studios and as cameraman for C. O. Baptista Films, before being appointed to the staff of the New Tribes Mission as Production Manager in charge of their film work, which was to have been an exposition of missionary activities in the South. It was a mission-owned plane, destined for Florida, Bolivia and Brazil, on which he was killed.

**Joseph W. Fleming**, Manager of the Technical Information Center for Philips Laboratories, Irvington-on-Hudson, N.Y., was killed in an automobile accident on February 12, near his home in Edgewater, N.J. He had been an IATSE Member and had his own radio and sound business from 1929 to 1942 when he became associated with National Broadcasting Co. as Sound and Maintenance Engineer. Well known in radio and television, Mr. Fleming had served overseas in World War II as technical adviser to the U.S. Air Force in Europe and the Royal Air Force. At that time, he was also attached to the British Ministry of Aircraft Production. He had been an Active Member of this Society since 1947. He was also a member of the Audio Engineering Society, Institute of Radio Engineers and Photographic Society of America.