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## Board of Governors Meeting

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PROGRESS was the keynote of the Annual Meeting of the Society's Board of Governors held in New York on January 24. The Chairman was Peter Mole, Society President, who took office the first of this year.

The Board first reviewed the Society's business, technical and publications activities for the year 1950, hearing reports by several officers. Since Ralph B. Austrian, Financial Vice-President was unable to attend the meeting, Frank E. Cahill, Treasurer, presented the report of business activities and a summary of the financial status of the Society as of December 31, 1950. His analysis of operations showed that 1950 was the Society's busiest year but that although the Society's income was up, administrative expenses were down, being actually slightly lower than the previous year.

### ENGINEERING

Technical activities were reported by Fred T. Bowditch, Engineering Vice-President. Among the items which he reviewed was the much discussed question of whether the Society should or should not formally request that the American Stand-

ards Association send out a call for a meeting of technical committee TC-36, Cinematography, of the International Standardization Organization (ISO). Such a meeting had been proposed for this coming summer in Switzerland and it was felt that the Society's position of responsibility in this connection made a prompt decision mandatory. After soliciting the opinions of several Society members who had been seriously interested in standards on an international basis for many years, the Board of Governors concluded that calling such a meeting at this time would be quite inefficient and would represent considerable waste of time and money because no specific agenda had been developed. The Board did recommend, however, that vigorous attention be given to the international standards picture by the ASA Sectional Committee on Motion Pictures and by our own standards and technical committees. A responsible agenda could doubtless be developed in time for the ISO meetings already scheduled for 1952 in the United States.

The Board voted sponsor approval of three proposed American Standards which subsequently require the approval of

ASA's Photographic Standards (Correlating) Committee and also of the ASA Board of Review. They cover Dimensions for 32/35-mm Negative Stock; Focus Base Point for 16- and 8-mm Cameras; and Threads and Flange Distances for 16- and 8-mm Camera Lenses.

## **PUBLISHING**

Since neither Clyde R. Keith, former Editorial Vice-President, nor John G. Frayne, Editorial Vice-President for 1951-52, was able to attend the meeting, their written reports were offered by the Secretary. Mr. Frayne announced reappointment of Arthur C. Downes as Chairman of the Board of Editors, and observed that the Society was particularly fortunate in having had such a capable engineer take a great personal interest in the Society's JOURNAL. He announced also that Edward S. Seeley had been appointed National Chairman of the Papers Committee and that he would be assisted during 1951 by five regional Vice-Chairmen and one Vice-Chairman representing a specialized industry group (see Convention story above).

Charles W. Handley had been reappointed Chairman of the Progress Committee and Edmund A. Bertram had accepted the Chairmanship of the Historical and Museum Committee. Mr. Keith observed that the budget limitations during the last three months of 1950 had forced a slight reduction in the amount of material published in the JOURNAL. Changes which he, Mr. Frayne and Victor Allen had agreed on for JOURNAL format would improve appearance of the JOURNAL and it was noted that some budget relief might be achieved. Two other changes were the addition of abstracts of technical articles published elsewhere but not generally available to members, and the preparation of semitechnical reports of local Section meetings which were of serious interest to Society members but for which no formal manuscript had been prepared by the speaker. It was suggested that members in the three local Sections might be persuaded to prepare such reports regularly.

## **RECORDING DISCUSSIONS**

Over the years, many attempts were made to record the discussions which fol-

low presentation of technical papers at Society Conventions. Stenotype operators had been employed, as well as recording methods which used embossed tape, discs and quarter-inch magnetic tape. During the convention in Lake Placid last year, a professional model of magnetic recording machine was loaned to the Society and proved to yield the best results achieved so far. Mr. Keith suggested that a similar method, somewhat simplified, might well be adopted as a permanent system for recording, since the yield was higher and the cost somewhat lower than when using a stenotype operator. The Board accepted this suggestion and authorized Mr. Keith to proceed with the design and acquisition of suitable equipment which would be owned by the Society and maintained by the Headquarters Staff.

Another project that had been under Mr. Keith's supervision was the design of a more symbolic emblem for the Society to replace the one currently used on Society letterhead. Mr. Keith resigned as Chairman of that committee and Mr. Mole was asked to discuss the further activity along those lines with Lorin D. Grignon.

## **CONVENTIONS**

In reviewing the 67th and 68th Conventions held in Chicago and Lake Placid during 1950, Mr. Kunzmann reported with some enthusiasm that income from registrations had offset convention expenses and he was able to turn in a black figure at the end of the year. He also reported on arrangements for the 69th Convention, in New York, as well as the 70th Convention, scheduled for the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel, October 15-19, 1951.

## **PLANNING FOR 1951**

With reports of Society activity for 1950 completed, the Board considered the proposed budget for 1951 and endorsed a program of expansion, which included current growth in every phase of the Society's work. Space limitations at Society Headquarters have hampered engineering and publications activities to an extent that began to assume serious proportions. In recognizing this problem, the Board authorized the Executive Secretary to acquire larger quarters and to employ two additional staff members. One will pro-

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