



Bruno E. Stechbart

AFTER 37 YEARS of designing precise mechanisms for the motion picture industries, Bruno E. Stechbart resigned from active work with the Bell & Howell Co. He joined Bell & Howell in 1927 as Development Engineer, became Assistant Chief Engineer in 1929 and ten years later, when A. S. Howell, one of the Company's founders and its Technical Director from the beginning, retired, he became the Chief Engineer. He was elected Vice-President in Charge of Engineering in 1944 and held that position until July 18, 1950, his 60th birthday and the official date of his retirement.

His application for membership in the Society was dated August 8, 1921. At that time, he was Chief Engineer of the American Projecting Co. in Chicago. In 1929, the Society elevated him to the grade of Fellow.

Mr. Stechbart was born in Lode, Russia, (later Poland and Germany), on July 18, 1890. He came to the United States in 1906 and, having both interest and aptitude along mechanical lines, found regular work in machine shops. To round out his knowledge, he studied during off hours and at night. In 1913, he became so interested in a 35-mm combination camera-projector venture that he decided to cast his lot permanently with the camera apparatus end of the then-growing motion picture industry. After a period of experimentation, he developed a 35-mm projector, the Projectoscope, which was taken up by the American Projectoscope Co., a subsidiary of the American Film Company. He was then employed by them for a period of six years. In 1926, he joined the De Vry Corporation as Chief Engineer, leaving there a year later to become a Development Engineer at Bell & Howell.

Among his former associates, he is known for his engineering skill and meticulous attention to details of design. The products developed under his guidance present adequate corroboration as does the technical article "The Bell & Howell Fully Automatic Sound Picture Production Printer" that appeared in the JOURNAL for October, 1932. He was coauthor with A. S. Howell and R. F. Mitchell. At the present time, he holds 46 patents and has several applications pending.

Now, in retirement, Mr. and Mrs. Stechbart have moved from Chicago to 206—49th Street West, R. D. No. 1, Bradenton, Fla.

Meetings of Other Societies

American Physical Society, Apr. 26-28, Washington, D.C.

Acoustical Society of America, May 10-12, Washington, D.C.

American Physical Society, June 14-16, Schenectady, N.Y.

American Physical Society, June 25-28, Vancouver, Canada

American Institute of Electrical Engineers, June 25-29, Toronto, Canada

Biological Photographic Association, 21st Annual Meeting, Sept. 12-14, Kenmore Hotel, Boston, Mass.