

Atlantic Coast Section

E. M. Stifle, Chairman, reelected
H. C. Milholland, Secretary-Treasurer,
reelected
Frank N. Gillette, Manager 1952-1953
John G. Stott, Manager, 1952-1953
Richard Hodgson, Manager, 1952-1953

Central Section

C. E. Heppberger, Chairman, 1952
James L. Wassell, Secretary, 1952
Kenneth M. Mason, Manager, 1952-1953

James E. Dickert, Manager, 1952-1953
William C. Eddy, Manager, 1952-1953
Reid H. Ray, Manager (appointed to fill
out Howard T. Nuttall's term), 1952

Pacific Coast Section

Vaughn C. Shaner, Chairman, 1952
Phillip C. Caldwell, Secretary-Treasurer,
1952
Arthur C. Blaney, Manager, 1952-1953
Linwood G. Dunn, Manager, 1952-1953
Alan M. Gundelfinger, Manager, 1952-
1953

Engineering Activities

Six Engineering Committees utilized the recent 70th Convention as a desirable time and place to meet. The highlights of the first three meetings are outlined below; the other three will be described in the next *Journal*.

High-Speed Photography

1. *Scope and Name of Committee.* Photography has been playing an increasing role in the solution of diverse engineering problems. This fact led the Committee to apply to the Board of Governors for a change in scope (and name) to encompass all such applications. The Chairman advised the group that the request had been rejected to preclude consideration of non-motion picture aspects of photography. It was understood, however, that all engineering uses of motion picture photography, whether high-speed or not, properly fall within the scope of the present committee.

2. *West Coast Members.* Their problems were discussed at length. These stem from their desire to have the Committee serve a dual function, part Engineering Committee and part Society Section. The suggestion was made that this latter role be correlated with other West Coast Section activity. Arrangements for this have since been made and Roy Wolford has been delegated to work through Charles Daily, Vaughn Shaner and the Section Program Chairman who still is to be appointed.

3. *Future Committee Work.* It was noted in general terms that a need exists for standards in high-speed photography

equipment and that this would be given a high priority at subsequent meetings.

4. *Next Symposium.* At the Chairman's request Mr. Painter accepted the responsibility for organizing the next symposium at the coming Chicago Convention.

5. *New Chairman.* Mr. Waddell is to step down at the end of the year, in accordance with requirements of the Bylaws, and at that time a new chairman will be appointed.

Sound

1. *Edge Guiding.* The recent ballot on revision of PH22.41, PH22.80 and PH22.81 was far from decisive and merely served to emphasize the division existing on the subject. It was felt that the ballot should have contained a more extensive story on the pros and cons of the issue. In addition a fourth alternative was proposed: guide the perforated edge at the picture gate and the sound track edge at the sound head. A Subcommittee was formed, chaired by Malcolm Townsley, to prepare a report of all the factors for use as background material in a new ballot on the question.

2. *International Standardization.* The group endorsed the program of international standards activity as proposed by Lloyd Goldsmith, Chairman, and Fred Bowditch, Engineering Vice-President.

3. *Nomenclature for Electric Filters, PH22.33-1941.* This was never an American Standard but rather a Recommendation (an ASA classification which no longer exists). The committee was asked to recommend that it be either standardized or dropped. The consensus was that it

was useful at the time of origin but no longer used or needed, and the latter recommendation was voted. The next step is action by the Standards Committee.

4. *Magnetic Recording Subcommittee Report.* In the absence of Glenn Dimmick, John Frayne made the report. This led to a very broad and thorough discussion on various aspects of magnetic recording and in turn to recommendations to the Subcommittee that it give consideration to a standard for full-width coated 16-mm double-perforated film, additional test films, and striped magnetic film. The Subcommittee was thanked for its excellent work to date.

5. *New Test Film Proposed.* The need for a scanning illumination intermodulation test film in testing 16-mm projectors was mentioned and concrete proposals for achieving this were agreed on.

6. *End of Term.* Lloyd Goldsmith is leaving the Chairmanship at the end of the year in accordance with the Bylaw requirements. He thanked the Committee for its fine support these past four years.

Laboratory Practice

1. *Negative Cuing Proposal.* The Committee has been working on this problem for quite some time and has finally come to the conclusion that the light change cuing device would have to be something other than a notch in the negative if a standard were to be produced. Lloyd Thompson of the Calvin Company has been working on an electrical cuing technique and announced at the meeting that this has been perfected, and is available, patent clear, to the Committee for standardization. This offer was accepted with thanks and plans were made to circularize all committee members and laboratories for comments.

2. *16-Mm Review Room Screen Brightness.* After a thorough discussion of the problem and a review of recent survey results it was decided to attempt standardization of the screen brightness of laboratory 16-mm review rooms. A Subcommittee formed previously was asked to draft a proposed standard specifying 14 ft. candles \pm some tolerance, use of a white matte screen and the type of meter to be used in making the measurement. This will also be circulated to all committee members and laboratories.

3. *Chemical Engineering Abstracts.* John

Stott, Chairman, called attention to the "Chemical Corner" recently established in the *Journal*, consisting of items and abstracts of interest to laboratories. He praised Irving Ewig for the one-man job he has been doing on this and noted the difficulty of one man continuing the job all alone. He asked all committee members (and any others who may be interested) to send Ewig items of interest from their varied reading, to keep this corner alive.—Henry Kogel.

Inter-Society Color Council Meeting

The Inter-Society Color Council is preparing its program for the 1952 Spring meeting to be held February 7-9 at the Statler Hotel in New York. The theme of the meeting is to be "Color in Science, Art, and Industry." The subject matter for the two days is divided between the techniques in the study of color itself, and the various uses color is put to in our time. Some of the topics to be discussed the first morning are, "The Color of Oils," Procter Thomson; "Functional Color," Faber Birren; "Color Reproduction," Arthur C. Hardy; and "Color in Television," Peter C. Goldmark. In the afternoon, Deane B. Judd will report on the ICI meeting at Stockholm; W. D. Wright and Ralph M. Evans, respectively, will discuss "Color in Relation to Vision and to Photography."

The following day such subjects will be discussed as the "Appearances of Color," Harry Helson; "Merchandising of Color," Kenneth C. Welch; "Color in Abstract Movies," A. H. King; "Color for Interiors," Gladys Miller; "Textiles," E. I. Stearns; and "Artists Colors," Martin Fischer. In the evening, I. A. Balinkin will present a special demonstration of "Color Phenomena." At the morning session on February 9 reports of technical committee activities will be received and discussed, and delegates of each of the 21 member associations will summarize their 1951 activities in color.

An exhibit, to be held as a part of this annual meeting, promises considerable interest. Over half of the ISCC's Member Bodies already have agreed to take part, and certain of the technical committees will prepare exhibits relating to their work. By means of these exhibits members may become acquainted with the many prob-

lems and activities of ISCC member associations.

The Nominating Committee of the ISCC has announced the following slate for 1952-53 officers: *Chairman*, E. I. Stearns (AATCC and IMG); *Vice-Chairman*, C. R. Conquergood (NAPIM and IMG); *Secretary*, Dorothy Nickerson (OSA and IMG); *Treasurer*, Norman

Macbeth (IES); and *Counsellors*, I. A. Balinkin (outgoing Chairman (ACerS)), Waldron Faulkner (AIA), Gladys Miller (AID), Procter Thomson (AOCS), and Frank J. O'Neil (AATCC and IMG).—*Dorothy Nickerson*, Cotton Branch, PMA, U.S. Dept. Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

Book Reviews

Ideas on Film (A Handbook for the 16-Mm Film User)

Edited by Cecile Starr. Published (1951) by Funk & Wagnalls Co., 153 E. 24 St., New York 10. i-xix + 238 pp. + 11 pp. index. 6 × 9 in. Price \$4.50.

The main purpose of this volume is to acquaint nontheatrical film users with the problems of production and sponsorship of documentary and educational pictures, and to suggest criteria of choice to the ever-increasing legions of these consumers. Miss Starr, as Nontheatrical Film Editor of the *Saturday Review of Literature*, has used wisely the columns of her magazine to serve precisely that end, and the articles of a score of her distinguished contributors form the body of this intelligent and articulate book.

The multifaceted aspect of the non-theatrical field is examined by such experts as Rudolph Arnheim, Julien Bryan, Kenneth Macgowan, Arthur Meyer, Raymond Spottiswoode, Willard Van Dyke and many others; each in his own sphere scrutinizes the challenge of the "idea" film and discusses its prospect as an expanding factor in our country's intellectual maturing. Miss Starr herself contributes important articles on a variety of subjects, in addition to selecting a list of reviews of some 200 top documentary and educational pictures, and compiling other essential data for the users of 16-mm film.

The foreword, by Irving Jacoby, tackles the basic problem of these films' purpose, which is "essentially to influence what people think." "In these troubled days," writes Mr. Jacoby, "when our freedoms and our dignities are under attack from all sides, we may not at first like the idea of being 'influenced' or even of 'influencing,'

for the word carries overtones of violence, expediency, and even contempt for the object that is to be won, changed, and redirected: the human mind." This clear understanding of the nontheatrical film's "propaganda" mission establishes, with eloquence and persuasion, the proper perspective for the whole book.

Miss Starr's collaborators are well aware of this essential nature of their chosen field, and their substantial measure of success in its theoretical and practical manifestations is what makes *Ideas on Film* a valuable and penetrating contribution to our grasp of the complexities of our times.—*George L. George*, Screen Directors Guild, New York.

Fundamentals of Vacuum Tubes

By Austin V. Eastman. Published (1949) by McGraw-Hill, 330 W. 42nd St., New York 18, N.Y. i-xxi + 600 pp. + 30 pp. appendix + 13 pp. index. 460 illus. 6 × 9 in. Price \$6.00.

Updating a long-valuable reference and study text, this third edition has revisions occasioned principally by natural advances in electron tubes. In the main, the changes are those which new types have made necessary, and many obsolete tube types have been deleted. Specific improvements over the second edition include a more complete description of the phenomena of current flow through gases, an enlargement to more useful size of many of the charts depicting tube characteristics, and a revised treatment of audio amplifiers to include the concept of gain treated as a vector, taking into consideration the phase angle of the amplifier and its effect on absolute gain and frequency response.

In view of the widespread use of voltage-multiplying circuits in many current