

## Awards

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The fields of interest of the Society are served in one way, among others, by an attempt to recognize formally important contributions by individuals. Several awards are conferred annually upon those whose work has been considered significant in their particular fields of interest. Those who were selected during 1951 were presented awards during the Fall Convention of the Society in Hollywood. Their names and awards are listed here.

As has been done in past years there were published earlier this year, in April, the recommendations, citations, and former recipients of the Progress Medal Award, the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award, and the Journal Award. Recommendations and description of the David Sarnoff Gold Medal Award first presented in 1951 were given in the June *Journal*.

### New Fellows of the Society

President Mole formally inducted the following as new Fellows of the Society:

*Don M. Alexander*, Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs, Colo.

*Clarence S. Ashcraft*, C. S. Ashcraft Manufacturing Co., Long Island City, N.Y.

*Louis A. Bonn*, J. E. Brulatour, Inc., New York

*Howard A. Chinn*, Columbia Broadcasting System, New York

*Alan A. Cook*, Wollensak Optical Co., Rochester, N.Y.

*Ellis W. D'Arcy*, De Vry Corp., Chicago

*William C. De Vry*, De Vry Corp., Chicago

*O. B. Hanson*, National Broadcasting Co., New York

*William F. Kelley*, Motion Picture Research Council, Hollywood

*Frank La Grande*, Paramount Pictures, New York

*Cornelius G. Mayer*, RCA International Div., New York

*Otto H. Schade*, RCA Tube Div., Harrison, N.J.

*Hubert J. Schlafly*, Twentieth Century-Fox, New York

*Vaughn C. Shaner*, Eastman Kodak Co., Hollywood

*Ethan M. Stifle*, Eastman Kodak Co., New York

*Lloyd Thompson*, The Calvin Co., Kansas City, Mo.

### Journal Awards

The Journal Award went to *A. B. Jennings*, *W. A. Stanton* and *J. P. Weiss* of the Technical Div., Photo Products Dept., E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., Parlin, N.J., for their "Synthetic Color-Forming Binders for Photographic Emulsions," which was published in November 1950.

*C. E. Ives* and *C. J. Kunz*, of the Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N.Y., received honorable mention for their "Simplification of Motion Picture Processing Methods," which appeared in the *Journal* for July 1950.

Honorable mention was conferred on *Pierre Mertz*, of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York, for "Perception of Television Random Noise," which appeared in the January 1950 *Journal*.

### Special Commendation Award

Each member of the Color Sensitometry Subcommittee of the Color Committee received a scroll in honor of his work on the "Principles of Color Sensitometry" report. This Special Commendation Award was made at the Wednesday night banquet of the



**Earl I. Sponable, Past President of the SMPTE, and technical director of 20th Century-Fox, receives two awards—the first man to be so honored by the Society. Awards were made for outstanding contributions to technical advancement of the motion picture art. Participating in the presentation are (from left) Col. Nathan Levinson, Sound Director of Warner Bros., Jack Warner, Production Executive, who presented the annual Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award, Mr. Sponable and Peter Mole, SMPTE President, who conferred the 1951 Progress Medal. Presentations took place at the Wednesday banquet at the Convention.**

Convention to *C. F. J. Overhage*, Editor, and his confreres: *H. E. Bragg, L. E. Clark, J. G. Frayne, A. M. Gundelfinger, C. R. Keith, G. C. Misener, H. W. Moyse, S. P. Solow, M. H. Sweet, J. P. Weiss, J. A. Widmer, F. C. Williams* and *H. H. Duerr*. Dr. Duerr as Chairman of the Color Committee authorized and guided preparation of the noteworthy report.

#### **Progress Medal and Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award**

*Earl I. Sponable*, Technical and Research Director of Twentieth Century-Fox and Past-President of the Society, received the Progress Medal and the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award during the Wednesday night banquet at the Convention, thus becoming the first man to receive the two awards simultaneously. The Warner Award was presented to Mr. Sponable by Col. Nathan Levinson, Sound Director of Warner Bros.

President Peter Mole presented the Progress Medal which the Society conferred "in recognition of outstanding contributions to the technical advancement of the motion picture art, particularly with respect to sound on film, color and large screen television." This formal citation was read by D. B. Joy, Chairman of the Committee which made the selection. All of Mr. Sponable's professional efforts have been channeled in a single broad constructive direction and it was the unanimous view of the Committee that the results of his efforts were far more than adequate qualification because they "resulted in a significant advance in the development of motion picture technology."



**Otto H. Shade of the RCA Tube Dept., Harrison, N. J., receives from President Peter Mole the David Sarnoff Gold Medal Award for outstanding achievement in television engineering.**

Mr. Sponable first gained prominence shortly after World War I for his development of most of the electrical and mechanical units required for a complete system of sound-on-film recording and reproduction, constituting the basis for the sound motion pictures of today. In 1927, he helped develop the first sound newsreel and, under his supervision, expanded it into a worldwide news coverage medium. He has also been a pioneering leader in the development of equipment and techniques for large-screen theater television.

It was for Mr. Sponable's years of research and development work in the recording of sound-on-film that the Samuel L. Warner Memorial Award was most appropriately presented.

#### **David Sarnoff Gold Medal Award**

The David Sarnoff Gold Medal Award, for outstanding technical achievements in the field of television and motion pictures, was first presented this year to Otto H. Schade of the RCA Tube Dept., Harrison, N.J., at the luncheon opening the Convention. Selection of the recipient was made by a committee under chairmanship of Pierre Mertz. Presentation of the award, established in 1951 by the Radio Corporation of America and named in honor of its Board Chairman, was made by SMPTE President Peter Mole.

In appraising Mr. Schade's qualifications the Committee cited him for his recent work in evaluating the gradation, graininess and sharpness in motion picture and television images, and his proposed generalized aperture theory by which the performance of camera lenses, films, television tubes and their circuits may be combined and specified for the first time in objective mathematical terms.

The award was presented to Mr. Schade "for his outstanding accomplishments in the fields of television and motion picture science and engineering, in outlining the potentialities of television and film systems as to fidelity of photography and reproduction of images."

## HONORARY MEMBERS

Lee de Forest  
Edward W. Kellogg

A. S. Howell  
V. K. Zworykin

*The distinction of Honorary Membership in the Society is awarded to living pioneers whose basic contributions when examined through the perspective of time represent a substantial forward step in the recorded history of the arts and sciences with which the Society is most concerned.*

## SMPTE HONOR ROLL

Louis Aimé Augustin Le Prince  
William Friese-Greene  
Thomas Alva Edison  
George Eastman  
Frederic Eugene Ives  
Jean Acme Le Roy  
C. Francis Jenkins  
Eugene Augustin Lauste  
William Kennedy Laurie Dickson

Edwin Stanton Porter  
Herman A. DeVry  
Robert W. Paul  
Frank H. Richardson  
Leon Gaumont  
Theodore W. Case  
Edward B. Craft  
Samuel L. Warner  
Louis Lumiere  
Thomas Armat

*Elevation to the Honor Roll of the Society is granted to each distinguished pioneer who during his lifetime was awarded Honorary Membership or whose work was recognized subsequently as fully meriting that award.*

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## Engineering Activities

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As mentioned in the November issue, six Engineering Committees scheduled meetings at the 70th Convention in Hollywood. Three (High-Speed Photography, Sound and Laboratory Practice) were described in the previous issue and the key aspects of the last three will be outlined below.

**Color** 1. *Lighting for Color Films:* At present, three different types of tungsten bulbs are in use, having color temperatures of 3200 K, 3350 K and 3400 K. The advantages of standardizing on one were enumerated and the related engineering factors discussed. Dr. Duerr, Chairman, questioned whether this project was properly one for Color Committee consideration. In a subsequent discussion with Mr. Kelley of the Research Council, Mr. Bowditch was informed that the subject is receiving active experimental consideration in many studios with insufficient data presently at hand to justify the specification of a single preferred color temperature.

2. *Laboratory Processing of Color Film:* It was noted that the processing of the color film of the three manufacturers is very similar in many respects, but that the differences are sufficient to provide serious problems for the laboratories where the present-day economics of the situation preclude specializing in just one of the three processes. Recommendations were made that the film manufacturers cooperate to eliminate the differences. This might more appropriately be considered by the Laboratory Practice Committee, but could very well be a joint project of both groups.

**Screen Brightness** 1. *Theater Survey of Screen Brightness:* Ways and means for utilizing the recently completed survey report (published in the September 1951 *Journal*) for improving the viewing conditions in theaters were discussed. Specific recommendations are to be formulated by Wallace Lozier, Chairman, in a brief article for release to the motion picture trade papers.