

Board of Governors Meeting

The Society's Board of Governors held its first 1952 meeting on January 24, in New York City. This is the meeting at which the members of the Board examine the previous year's operations, comparing carefully the report of actual performance for last year against the budget that was set up in January 1951.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Most significant administrative development of 1951 was the appointment by President Peter Mole of an Executive Committee which will assume some of the operational advisory functions formerly exercised directly by the Board of Governors. Growth of the Society's business and the importance of a number of its activities in the almost daily evolution of television and the current technical growth of motion pictures call for closer supervision of the headquarters operations than the Board of Governors could provide with its regular quarterly meetings. As a consequence, the Executive Committee will meet monthly, or more often if necessary, consult with the staff, examine the precise details of operation on a month-to-month basis and will submit recommendations for consideration by the Board of Governors when that body meets every third month. Under this arrangement, matters of general policy and questions of membership or industrial services provided by the Society can receive proper Board attention while details of execution will in general be left to the discretion of the executive body.

ENGINEERING

Test film operations were placed on a somewhat more secure footing when Fred Whitney joined the headquarters staff during the early part of 1951 and took charge of test film quality control. Precision required by American Standards or by specifications developed by Society committees for motion picture test films demands careful supervision of production. In addition, development of certain new test films through the coming year will necessitate not only agreement on the manner in which the films are produced

but also agreement on standard methods of testing. It will be Mr. Whitney's responsibility to spell out these test methods in detail and submit them for consideration by the Test Film Quality Control Committee.

PUBLISHING

The report of the Editorial Vice-President pointed out *Journal* changes made during 1951 which have been considered a marked improvement. The new style provides more words per page and the combination of type face, line length and line spacing contributes to easier reading and yields more printed words per publication dollar than was possible in the older format. With the new format now well in hand, the major objective for 1952 is the adoption of more realistic publication dates. The first three issues for 1952 will probably be somewhat thinner than usual and it is expected that the May issue will be out by the 15th of that month.

The actual cost of producing the twelve copies of the *Journal* which each member receives annually is a figure that has been quite difficult to arrive at, considering the recent major changes in accounting, the manner of operating Society Headquarters plus the format changes of the past year. Since things are now settling down, the Board asks that Headquarters prepare such a cost analysis with a view toward determining whether or not each member's dues pays his share of the cost of operating the Society. Figures that result from pro rata allocation of costs depend, of course, on membership. Unit costs go down as the total number of members goes up. That brought up the question of membership solicitation activities for last year and also for 1951.

MEMBERSHIP

A new committee, under the Chairmanship of Ray Gallo of Quigley Publications and with Beatrice Conlon of the Society Headquarters as full-time Secretary, is attempting something new in the way of membership work. Between 65 and 100 company or city member-delegates are being selected and each will be armed

with advance information about conventions, Society committees, Section meetings and membership and publications ammunition. Each of these member-delegates will be the focal point for Society information in his own community. It is hoped that many questions about the SMPTE, its engineering activities and membership requirements can be answered on the spot, to the benefit not only of the inquirer but of the Society as well.

SECTIONS

Reports of the three Section Chairmen were read into the record and it was noted that extra effort at organizing Section meeting programs was almost invariably rewarded by an increase of attendance, entirely justifying the added costs of rented chairs or screening-room facilities. Popular reaction to the repeating of Convention papers at Section meetings brought an official request for the recording on magnetic tape of certain papers for re-presentation with accompanying slides. It was suggested that a small library of such papers be assembled and made available in appropriate batches for regional meetings or student chapter sessions. There was

also a formal recommendation that the Student Chapters in Hollywood and in New York should function under the supervision of the local Section Chairmen and Boards of Managers. This would probably result in the more efficient use of funds and perhaps encourage Chapter participation in local Section meetings.

CONVENTIONS

The report of the Convention Vice-President concluded, with some enthusiasm, that the two Conventions held in 1951 had drawn better attendance than any in previous years. As a consequence, plans for the Spring and Fall Conventions in 1952 are being adjusted to provide facilities for the larger registration. The following dates were reported to and approved by the Board of Governors:

- 71st Convention: The Drake, Chicago, Ill., April 21-25, 1952
- 72nd Convention: Hotel Statler, Washington, D.C., October 6-10, 1952
- 73rd Convention: Hotel Statler, Los Angeles, Calif., April 26-30, 1953
- 74th Convention: Hotel Statler, New York, N.Y., October 4-9, 1953

Engineering Activities

New Chairmen Engineering Committees are appointed in accordance with Section V of the Society Bylaws, which states that the term of appointment expires every two years, along with the term of the appointing officer (the Engineering Vice-President) and further that Committee Chairmen are eligible for one reappointment, or for a total service of 4 years. (There is no limit on the reappointment of members, except that imposed by their degree of interest in the work of the committee.)

The four-year limitation now requires that Fred Bowditch as Engineering Vice-President appoint new chairmen to six committees, four of whom are: *Standards*, Henry Hood, Eastman Kodak 16 & 8, Malcolm Townsley, Bell & Howell Sound, John Hilliard, Altec Lansing *Motion Picture Studio Lighting Process Photography*, John W. Boyle

The two committees still without new Chairmen are Color and High-Speed Photography. It is expected that they can be announced in the next *Journal*.

ISO The Technical Committee on Cinematography of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO TC/36) was canvassed as to their interest in a meeting in New York on June 9 and 10, 1952, as mentioned in the previous issue. Affirmative replies have since been received from Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom. Based on this response, the Chairman of the ASA Sectional Committee PH 22, Dr. D. R. White, and the SMPTE Engineering Vice-President, Fred Bowditch, recommended to the ASA that the meeting be scheduled. A proposed Agenda is now being formulated, on the recommendations of the SMPTE Engineering Committees, secured in anticipation of such a meeting and including items submitted by several of the member nations. ISO procedure requires the Agenda to be circulated to all members four months prior to the meeting, in this instance by February 9, 1952. As Secretariat the United States will chair the meeting.—*Henry Kogel*, Staff Engineer.