

In its half-dozen years of existence the UFPA has grown in accordance with its original plans. It is today an incorporated, nonprofit organization whose members include teachers, professors, film makers, film technicians, film companies, film laboratories, film distributors, equipment manufacturers and dealers, and university motion picture students.

Annually, during the month of August, the Association meets in a city chosen by the members. August of 1952 will find the organization guests of Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. The week-long conference includes a variety of program subjects, such as technical problems of film production, research, film curriculums, distribution, film screenings and films for television. Equipment manufacturers and distributors display and demonstrate new equipment at the meetings. The lectures, demonstrations, round tables, panel dis-

cussions and original papers offer the membership introduction to new areas and developments in the film field. A highlight of the annual session is the presentation of awards for outstanding films produced by the university film makers.

Officers of the organization are:

John R. Winnie, University of Iowa,  
*President*  
Wilbur Blume, University of Southern  
California, *Vice-President*  
Roland J. Faust, Indiana University,  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Communication regarding membership should be addressed to the Secretary. Information concerning Journal subscription or manuscript submission should be sent to the Editor, Lu Snyder, Audio-Visual Center, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.—*John R. Winnie.*

## Obituary

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**Louis Gerard Pacent**, an early researcher for sound motion pictures, died in April at the age of 58.

Mr. Pacent began experimenting with wireless transmission when he was a youth and he had his own amateur station when he was 16. In 1913 he was a communicator in the Naval Militia and in 1917 he served aboard the U.S.S. Gloucester. Also during World War I he worked on the development of military communications equipment.

After that war he organized the Pacent Electric Company, Inc., which was active in the design and production of electric and radio facilities for General Electric, Westinghouse, Western Electric, RCA and the Government. Before World War I he was influential in encouraging and instructing amateurs and in 1921 the first short-wave transatlantic message was transmitted to Scotland from Greenwich, Conn., on 200 meters which had been Mr. Pacent's suggestion.

Mr. Pacent was active in research for sound motion pictures in the 1920's. He is reported to have designed the first all power-operated motion picture sound

equipment while a consultant for Warner Brothers Pictures, the equipment having been installed in 1928.

At the time of his death he was president of the Pacent Engineering Corp., a firm which he had founded 20 years ago. The corporation developed portable sound reproducers, inter-office communicating equipment, high-fidelity radio and public address systems.

In 1946 Mr. Pacent was given a Certificate of Appreciation by the War Department in recognition of his firm's valuable assistance to the Signal Corps during World War II.

He was a native of New York and was graduated in 1916 from Pratt Institute of Technology with the degree of Industrial Electrical Engineer. He was the author of many papers and books on communications engineering. He was a Fellow of this Society and also of the Institute of Radio Engineers, and a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. In 1951, he received the Marconi Memorial Medal of Achievement from the Veteran Wireless Operators Association.