

# Board of Governors Meeting

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Highlights of the April 26 meeting will be briefly projected. Fill-light, if not even more illumination, is provided by the next item in this *Journal*, a general report by the Executive Secretary. This was the first item on the Board's agenda.

An oral report by Treasurer Kreuzer was approved and followed by Board discussion of convention registration fees, membership dues in arrears and the investment of Society funds. The Board, in accordance with the suggestion of Peter Mole, instructed the Executive Committee to act at appropriate times to decide whether the Treasurer should reinvest the funds of maturing government bonds in current bond issues or in savings and loan accounts.

Following approval of Henry Hood's report as Engineering Vice-President, there was discussion of the need for the Society to be active in standardization for stereo pictures and sound. After observing that it is during the time of new developments that the Society serves greatly by supplying a forum where differences are clarified and understanding developed, it was pointed out that the Society should lead the way in setting standards, but without favoring one system over another.

The desirability of better coverage of new developments by the *Journal* was accented by reports about members who have complained locally that information reaches them too late. Mr. Nemeč explained that resources of the *Journal* staff and the production time needed have precluded seeking any great amount of material that would require special preparation. He suggested that a Technical Progress Board is needed, with sections in Hollywood, Chicago and New York, which would meet once a month for lunch and write a letter to the *Journal*, reporting new developments.

The report of Editorial Vice-President Simmons was approved as submitted. This included a 7-page Analysis of the SMPTE Membership Service Questionnaire of early 1953 (this tabulation is to appear in the next issue of the *Journal*), a reiteration of editorial policies and the recommendation that the number of *Journal* pages for this year be increased by 20% and that

one person be added to the staff, these last to be covered by a \$10,500 increase in the publications budget.

William H. Offenhauser Jr. suggested that on certain new developments like stereophonic sound, bibliographies giving the background be published along with current articles to bring the subjects up to date. He also reported on membership promotion activities of the Atlantic Coast Section.

C. E. Heppberger reported briefly about the activities of the Central Section, commenting particularly on the benefits the section has derived from the practice of rotating chairmen for successive meetings.

In the absence of Vaughn Shaner due to illness, the Pacific Coast Section report was read by Henry Hood.

Convention Vice-President Services reported first on the extent of the arrangements for the current convention, the reasons for the complicated local arrangements and the great success with which these were made by Mr. Shaner. The Board discussed the traffic problems and the admittance controls necessary for showings of CinemaScope, Cinerama and the Universal-International program. Second was the location of conventions. There was much sentiment for holding an occasional convention away from the usual large cities. Keeping in mind the time of year, the following were noted: Lake Placid, Silver Springs, Pinehurst, Colorado Springs and someplace in Canada. The Convention Vice-President was directed to plan holding a convention in such a location, without specifically obtaining Board approval, for not more than one convention in six.

After thorough discussion, the Board instructed that the Executive Committee rule on the matter of charging a higher convention registration fee and of issuing distinguishing badges for nonmembers.

As fully described just earlier in this *Journal*, two names were added to the Society's Honor Roll. The basis for establishing and augmenting the Honor Roll was reviewed. There was some questioning about the overall awards program of the Society, and John Frayne gave a brief

history of the awards, including formulation of the bases upon which they are made. Mr. D'Arcy observed that, in his opinion, it is becoming increasingly difficult to choose individuals for awards because business and research organizations are so much larger than they used to be, and so making

awards to organizations may be in order. President Barnett asked for permission, which was granted, to appoint a committee from the Board to consider revision of the rules governing the several medals and to propose other medals if such are desirable. —V.A.

## Report of the Executive Secretary

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[As a part of the agendum for the spring meeting of the Society's Board of Governors, this summary of the general operation of the Society was presented by Boyce Nemeec.]

The first quarter of 1953 was noteworthy for the volume of work entailed in serving members, the industry and the press. Many of the activities derived from the turbulence created by the sudden expansion of projection systems. Most of the extended functions, however, were normal steps of steady progress in the traditional business of the Society.

On the *publications* side there are several highlights:

- The organization and timely content of the *Advance* and the Final Programs of the 73d Convention.

- The enlarged *Journal* with its better supply of manuscripts.

- The Membership Service Questionnaire — the analysis of the returns has affirmed the value of the *Journal* to its readers and substantiated the wisdom of our editorial policy of continuing improvements to make it of maximum use to the maximum number.

- The *Journal*, besides the usual coverage of theoretical material, is meeting the immediate practical needs of individual engineers. Currently featured are color and theater television, stereoscopy, high-speed photography and magnetic striping.

- Worthy of note here is the prior attention given by the *Journal* to outstanding developments, now currently receiving wide attention. Some twenty years ago there was published in the *Journal* the foundation technical matter for the present wide-screen and three-dimensional processes. Considerable material on stereophonic sound was published beginning fifteen years ago.

- Reprints of papers and engineering reports in great demand have been supplied as part of a growing service to members and industry.

- A number of 3-D reports and instructions were published and disseminated among the exhibitor organizations, theater owners and operators, and other concerned groups.

- Our 1953 Plan of Operation called for the publication of special engineering studies written in nontechnical language for the benefit of exhibitors, businessmen and operating personnel. This project was organized and put into operation in January. Details will be reviewed below.

### Engineering

The outstanding accomplishment of Engineering in the first quarter was negotiating final industry agreement on film-image areas for video recording for television film reproduction. This project is in the process for issuance as a standard.

Engineering activities have hit a new high, as have the activities of all other headquarters departments. All standards have recently been reviewed. Most of them have been reaffirmed; many have been revised; a few have been withdrawn. A number of new standards projects initiated last year have been developed to the stage of agreement. In consequence, there will be an increasing output of standards as the year unfolds.

Among the proposed standards being developed are those in cooperation with the Motion Picture Research Council for stereo motion pictures. These include nomenclature in general, identification of 3-D film and release-print leader, projector alignment for different screen widths, magnification, and basic nomenclature in stereoscopic transmission.