

the overall combination of compression and expansion were not complementary. A considerable variation from the 1:1 ratio was found to be acceptable. In this respect, the Nutcracker Suite from Walt Disney's *Fantasia*, projected at a 3:1 screen aspect ratio, was found to be very effective.—*E. W. Templin*, Secretary-Treasurer, Pacific Coast Section, % Westrex Corp., 6601 Romaine St., Hollywood 38.

The Southwest Subsection met jointly with the I.R.E. and A.I.E.E. in Karcher Auditorium on the Southern Methodist University campus, Dallas, February 19. Axel G. Jensen, Director of Television Research, Bell Telephone Laboratories, and SMPTE Engineering Vice-President, spoke on the present status of color television. Starting with a résumé of the color television hearings before the FCC in 1950-51, Mr. Jensen covered the many interesting developments that led up to the present system of compatible color television. A very worthwhile discussion followed the talk. Unusually bad weather kept attendance at this meeting to about 100.—*W. W. Gilreath*, Secretary-Treasurer, Southwest Subsection, 3732 Stanford St., Dallas, Tex.

Engineering Activities

Ten committees, listed below, are scheduled to meet concurrently with the 75th Convention in Washington, D.C. As usual, the meetings will be open to all and neither lack of committee nor Society membership will be a bar to participation in these deliberations.

- Color
- Film Dimensions
- Film Projection Practice
- High-Speed Photography
- Optics
- Screen Brightness
- Sound
- Television
- Television Studio Lighting
- Theater Television

An Engineering Committee Manual describing committee procedures, processing of American Standards and the overall Engineering operations is in a final stage of preparation and should be off the press shortly. This will be distributed to all com-

mittee members and to those interested parties who request a copy.—*Henry Kogel*, Staff Engineer.

Obituary

David P. Boyle, Consulting Engineer, died on January 6, 1954, at his home in Pacific Palisades, Calif., at the age of 36.

After graduating "cum laude" from Dartmouth College in 1940, Dave Boyle joined the Research Laboratory of Eastman Kodak Co. at Rochester and spent a year there before going to Washington to do research work for the Navy. At the outbreak of war he joined the Signal Corps, went to England, and worked there with the Royal Air Force on airborne radar. After further training at Bell Laboratories in the U.S. Dave took the latest air radar equipment to Guam, where it was effectively used by our bombers in destroying the Japanese oil refineries. Upon release from the Army he joined the Pathe Industries, and was there until the time of his death from cancer.

Book Review

Techniques of Television Production

By Rudy Bretz. Published (1953) by McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 W. 42d St., New York 36. Television Series, Donald G. Fink, Consulting Editor. xii + 464 pp. + 10 pp. index. 377 illus. 6 × 9½ in. \$10.00.

This book fills a long-felt need for information on the television production techniques, not only as they apply to large network-operated television stations but also as they pertain to the practices in small local stations.

The author visited 76 operating television stations from coast to coast, as well as two in Canada, and the practices in some of these stations are described. He also obtained material from many other television authorities, manufacturers and the television networks.

The book is well organized, easy to read, and is equally interesting to persons who have been engaged in television work, as well as those who are new to the field.

The complex problems of staff responsibility, camera handling, control-room