

The prophetic words of Horace Greeley once again apply as the SMPTE invites its members and friends to "Go West" for the 76th Semiannual Convention to be held at the spacious and luxurious Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles during the week of October 18-22, 1954.

The topic slated for chief interest in the convention is color television with its many ramifications in the fields of equipment design, color-television film-production techniques, and laboratory practices for color films. The problem of supplying films suitable for both monochrome and color television will receive appropriate attention.

A large and interesting equipment exhibit is planned. Manufacturers desiring to participate should immediately contact Thomas J. Gibbons, SMPTE Exhibit Chairman, 446 North La Brea Ave., Hollywood 36, Calif., for space reservations. Other areas of interest such as high-speed photography, magnetic striping, drive-in theaters, etc., will maintain their usual prominence and attention.

Officers of the papers committee are:

W. H. Rivers, *Chairman*, Eastman Kodak

Co., 342 Madison Ave. New York 17, N.Y.

J. E. Aiken, *Vice-Chairman*, 116 N. Galveston St., Arlington 3, Va.

S. W. Athey, *Vice-Chairman*, General Precision Laboratory, 16 S. Moger Ave., Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

C. E. Heppberger, *Vice-Chairman*, 231 North Mill Street, Naperville, Ill.

G. G. Graham, *Vice-Chairman*, National Film Board of Canada, John Street, Ottawa, Canada

J. H. Waddell, *Vice-Chairman*, Wollensak Optical Co., 850 Hudson St., Rochester 21, N.Y.

Chairman for High-Speed Photography for the 76th Convention is Carlos H. Elmer, 410B Forrestral St., China Lake, Calif.

If you or someone in your organization has a potential paper for this program, word will be welcomed by the writer or by any of those listed above. Help and advice are also forthcoming upon request to any member of the Papers Committee, which is given in the April 1954 *Journal*, p. 328.—*Ralph E. Lovell*, Program Chairman for the 76th SMPTE Convention, 2743 Veteran Ave., Los Angeles 64, Calif.

Engineering Activities

A high level of committee business was reached during the meetings of the technical committees during the 75th Convention, May 3-7, 1954. The highlights are reported below.

Color Committee: Progress was reported by W. R. Holm, Chairman of the Subcommittee formed to prepare a monograph on the Elements of Color Cinematography. An outline of the material to be covered has been prepared and authors have been lined up for several of the chapters. It is expected that the remaining chapters will be assigned shortly.

A new Subcommittee to develop a standard of light quality in color film projection was formed and will be chaired by A. M. Gundelfinger. The Subcommittee was specifically charged with the responsibility of selecting a meaningful, easily applied method of specifying and measuring the color of the illumination, deciding what would constitute a preferred spectral quality in terms of the measuring system.

In addition the Committee made plans to explore the possibility of establishing a processing system suitable for all types of color negatives.

Film Dimensions Committee: A standard for the film used in the CinemaScope process was the main order of business and the Committee voted to draft and circulate a standard for consideration of the full committee.

Film Projection Practice: There was discussion of sprocket dimensions for the narrow CinemaScope perforations but no specific conclusions were reached. Sprocket dimensions for standard perforations

were also reviewed and agreement was reached on revision of the applicable American Standard, Z22.35-1947. Revision of American Standard, Z22.4-1941, was also approved and a proposal will be circulated to the full committee shortly for letter ballot.

Screen Brightness Committee: A screen brightness standard for 16mm review rooms has been under consideration by this committee and the Laboratory Practice Committee for several years. At this meeting, the deadlock over the contending proposals, $10 \pm 4 - 1 \text{ ft-L}$ vs $7 \pm 2.5 \text{ ft-L}$, was finally resolved and agreement was reached on a compromise value of $10 \pm 2 \text{ ft-L}$. This is now out to letter ballot of both committees.

A survey was initiated to determine the existing screen brightness of drive-in theaters. It is expected that the survey results will provide a basis for drafting a standard.

Consideration was given to the question of stray light and its effect on picture quality. A subcommittee is to be formed to determine the maximum acceptable level of stray light and it is intended that this specification be eventually included in the standard for theater screen brightness.

16 & 8mm Committee: The ballots on PH22.15 and PH22.16 (16mm Film Perforated One Edge, Usage in Camera and Projector) were closed and the Chairman was authorized to submit these two standards to the Standards Committee.

PH22.9 and PH22.10 (16mm Film Perforated Two Edges, Usage in Camera and Projector) were also reviewed. It was indicated that the ballots on these standards will also be closed shortly.

In addition, the committee reviewed its projects on 600-ft and oversized reels, travel-ghost test film, projection practice booklet and a test film for 8mm film pro-

jectors, and made plans for furthering the work of all these projects.

Sound Committee: Discussion was centered on test films for the CinemaScope process and on the requisite standards. Specific assignments were made for drafting such standards which will then be circulated as proposals to the full committee for letter ballot.

Magnetic Recording Subcommittee: The 16mm combination Optical-Magnetic Soundtrack proposal received considerable attention and agreement was reached to process it with minor revisions as a Society Recommended Practice rather than as an American Standard.

Specifications on 16mm and 35mm Magnetic Azimuth Test Films were reviewed and the decision taken to continue processing the 35mm film standards without change but to revise the 16mm proposal by specifying a square wave rather than sinusoidal recorded signal.

Favorable comment was received on the 16mm multi-frequency test film which has been in use for some six months and the Subcommittee agreed to standardize the specifications of this test film.

Progress was noted in the Navy Research Project to establish methods of calibrating Magnetic Sound Test Films.

Television Committee: Test films, slides and charts for color television completely occupied the time of this group. The general concepts were explored and a task force was appointed to work out the details.

Television-Studio Lighting Committee: Standardization of the varied and growing lighting terminology has been given a high priority in the work of this group. A first step in this direction has been taken by formulating the definitions of ten of the most commonly encountered terms and the group decided at this meeting to circulate these definitions to all television stations for industry-wide review and comment. It is hoped that this will both improve the work on nomenclature and lay the basis for broadening industry representation and participation in all the activities of this committee.—*Henry Kogel*, Staff Engineer.

Section and Subsection Meetings

One of the most successful meetings, regional or otherwise, in the **Central Section's** history was held on April 15 at the Calvin Company in Kansas City, Mo. This meeting followed the three-day Calvin Workshop held on their sound stage. Over 200 members and guests were present, representing all but a few of the states in the Central Section.

The meeting was also outstanding for its program. The morning session opened with a paper by Richard H. Ranger, President of Rangertone, Inc., on "Utilizing Cue-Tape in 16mm Production." Everett Miller, of RCA, followed up with two papers: "A High-Definition Kinescope Recording System," and "Economies in Magnetic Recording."

After the papers, a symposium was held