

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

on developments in new screen techniques. Trends in Hollywood were described in detail by Emery Huse of the West Coast Division Motion Picture Film Dept., Eastman Kodak Co. Ernest Wildi, Manager of Bolex-Kern, described his 16mm stereo system. Bell & Howell's new 16mm wide-screen production technique was reviewed by John Weber, Jr., Manager of the B & H Sales Engineering Dept. Finally, Pan-Screen was announced by Don Smith, Sales Manager of Commercial Picture Equipment Co.

The May meeting of the Section was held on May 13 at the Western Society of Engineers Building, Chicago. The entire evening was devoted to a talk on "The Role of Photography in Atomic Research," by Dr. Warren Everote, Director of Research and Production, Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Wilmette, Ill. Dr. Everote illustrated his talk with a large number of well-chosen film excerpts which provided vivid emphasis for his comments on atomic energy, photographic techniques, cyclotron operation, cloud chamber, radio activity evaluation, etc. In addition to film excerpts illustrating a 3-D television method of evaluation used at the Argonne Laboratories, three complete films, *Operation Nevada*, *Operation Greenhouse* and *Operation Ivy*, were shown to the group of 65 members who attended the meeting.

Through the courtesy of Paramount Pictures Corp., the Central Section was invited to attend the Midwestern demonstration of VistaVision held at the Chicago Theatre on Wednesday, June 2. Special invitations were dispatched to members in this area advising them of these arrangements. It was felt that this would provide an opportunity for members who did not attend the Washington meeting to see this new wide-screen production process. Over 100 members attended. As was the case in Washington, the quality of the VistaVision presentation was excellent and well received by all.

One of the most successful meetings of the year was enjoyed by the Section on June 10 prior to summer adjournment. This meeting was noteworthy not only for the very excellent program, but also for the fine dinner at Stouffer's that preceded the meeting. The Committee feels that the pre-meeting dinner is a very important part of each program, and the attendance at Stouffer's would indicate that steps are being taken in the right direction.

George Ives, of the engineering staff at WBKB-TV in Chicago, led off the meeting by discussing the terms normally used in color television, and gave the 80 members present a comprehensive list of nomenclature. During his talk, Mr. Ives explained in general terms the different methods of color transmission, with emphasis placed on the various types of film transport. Film projection using a flying-spot scanner system was compared with the 3-vidicon tube method.

The last part of the meeting consisted of a paper entitled "Fundamental Make-Up Practices for Motion Pictures and Television," presented in excellent fashion by Syd Simons and Jack DuMont. Mr. Simons is an independent make-up artist, and Mr. DuMont is head make-up artist at Wilding Picture Productions. After explaining the importance of the art and its

various applications to motion pictures and television they proceeded to make up a live model in what proved to be a most effective demonstration.—*K. M. Mason*, Secretary-Treasurer, Central Section, 137 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago.

The Pacific Coast Section held its April meeting at the NBC Studios in Hollywood on the evening of April 27, with 220 members and guests present. The program consisted of a symposium on the subject of television newsreel operations.

Roy Neal of NBC described the procedure followed at NBC in the production of routine and special-event newsreels. Frank La Tourette of CBS described his studio's news service organization which was set up last September for network and syndicate distribution. He discussed the effect on shooting, editing, script writing and televising imposed by the basic "immediate deadline" requirement which is characteristic of television newsreel activities.

Robert Allison of KTTV discussed the special problem connected with local news coverage. He explained the use of "beeper and phone" interviews, stock footage and stills in covering out-of-town news in the local television studios. The special problems of United Press Movietone News were discussed by Art de Tita, of that organization. He screened a series of outstanding spectacular news shots collected over a period of many years.

A lively question and discussion period followed the planned program. Jack DuVall, the program chairman, has been doing an outstanding job in arranging the programs for this year. With a careful eye on subjects of interest to both motion-picture and television people he has provided two programs on each of these general subjects so far this year.

The May meeting of the Section was held on Tuesday evening, May 25, in the Paramount Studio Review Theatre, Hollywood. Approximately 245 members were present.

William Milwitt of RCA Laboratories discussed and demonstrated various applications of transistors in audio and radio receiver equipment. The very active question and answer period after the presentation was indicative of the great interest of the membership in this new device.

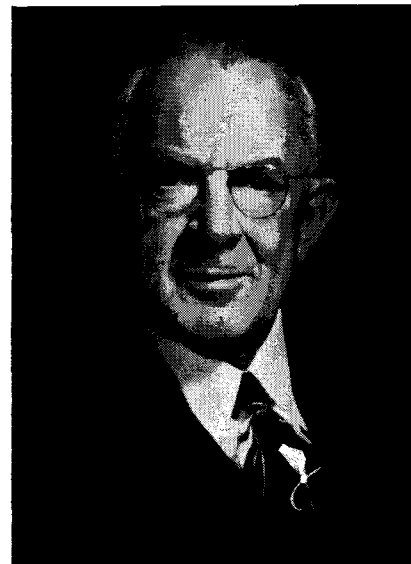
John G. Frayne of Westrex Corp. reported on his recently completed trip around the world in which he visited 40 motion-picture studios and 30 typical theaters in 12 countries of Asia and Europe. Of particular interest were Dr. Frayne's remarks regarding the impact of recent Hollywood technical advances on motion-picture releases in these countries. As an added special feature, three reels of the new Japanese feature film *Gate of Hell*, winner of the 1954 Best Picture Award at the Cannes Film Festival, were shown. This film was made available through Dr. Frayne's contact in Tokyo with Mr. Nagata, president of Daiiai Studios.—*E. W. Templin*, Secretary-Treasurer, Pacific Coast Section, c/o Westrex Corp., 6601 Romaine St., Hollywood 38.

The Southwest Subsection held a meeting on April 26 at Miller's Visual Aids, Fort Worth, Texas. The paper on "Evaluation of 16mm Professional Prints," given at the

73d Convention in Los Angeles by A. C. Robertson of Eastman Kodak Co., was presented to the meeting through the medium of tape recording and illustrated with film and slides.

Lon Fitzgerald, Visual Education Supervisor for the Texas Game and Fish Commission, gave the second part of the program. Mr. Fitzgerald discussed some of the interesting phases of his film production work and related experiences in stalking wild game with a Speed Graphic and 16mm movie camera. His talk was illustrated with color films.—*W. W. Gilreath*, Secretary-Treasurer, Southwest Subsection, 3732 Stanford St., Dallas, Texas.

## Obituary



**Dr. Loyd A. Jones**, President of the Society in 1923-25, died unexpectedly at his home near Rochester, New York, on May 15. He had retired as chief physicist of the Research Laboratories of Eastman Kodak Co. on May 1. Actively engaged in research in the physics of photography for more than forty years, Dr. Jones acquired an international reputation for his work, especially in the fields of photographic sensitometry and in the psychophysics of vision.

During his 35 years of active membership with the Society, Dr. Jones served on many committees and was chairman of the following: Papers (1921-23); Standards (1928-29); Journal (1929-30). The Journal of the Society was initiated in 1930 largely as a result of the great deal of work done while he was chairman of the Journal Committee. For the year of 1930 he served as editor pro tem until a permanent editor was obtained. He also served for seven years on the Board of Editors of the Journal. From 1935-39 he served as Engineering Vice-President of the Society and directed the important work of its engineering committees.

His interest in problems related to motion pictures began in 1919 and continued actively up to the time of his death. In an interview in April 1954, he expressed the opinion that the following papers were historically his most important contributions to motion-picture engineering: papers on illumination of the motion-picture