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Obituaries



Terry Ramsaye, film historian and one of the best-known pioneers of the motion-picture business, died August 19 at Norwalk, Conn., aged 68.

Mr. Ramsaye was born in Tonganoxie, Kansas, and studied engineering at the

University of Kansas. He worked briefly in the engineering department of the Bell Telephone and Western Electric Companies before going into newspaper work as a reporter for the Kansas City Star and Times. As his journalistic career progressed, so did his interest in motion pictures, and as a reporter for the Chicago Tribune he later combined the two by collaborating with the late Moses Annenberg in promotional efforts that resulted in a series of stories on the then popular motion-picture serials.

In 1914 he entered the motion-picture industry as an editor and producer. Some of his early experience was gained in the Edison studio then located in the Bronx,

where he produced a great many short entertainment films including some with sound recorded on disks. As publicity and advertising director of the Mutual Film Corp. he founded the Screen Telegram, a newsreel that had notable success during World War I. After producing and editing patriotic shorts for the Treasury Department, a number of scenic and travel films, including Martin Johnson's *African Hunt*, and a session as editor in chief of Pathe News and Pathe Audio Review, Ramsaye joined the Motion Picture Herald as editor in 1931. From then until 1950 when he became consulting editor to the Quigley Publications, he was very active and was widely known through-

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out the industry for the incisiveness with which he conducted the Herald's affairs. Throughout his editorial career, he never lost sight of the closely knit and uniquely standardized technical foundation on which the motion-picture industry securely rests, and he gave continuous support to the engineers and their work.

Terry Ramsaye is perhaps best remembered for his history of the beginnings of the motion-picture business *A Million and One Nights*. This two-volume book, which was compiled during the period from 1920 to 1925, contains a great wealth of anecdotal material about the early days and has become a standard work of reference. He was a Fellow of this Society. He last addressed the Society at the Convention at Lake Placid in 1950.

Arthur W. Carpenter, one of the earliest members of the Society, died July 17th at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He was 63 years old.

Dating from his early experience as a research photographer and radiographer at the Massachusetts Psychopathic Hospital, Arthur Carpenter was long active in the field of medical and scientific photography. For some years he had been associated with the Army Medical Research Laboratory at Fort Knox, where his latest position was as Roentgenological and Radiations Scientist.

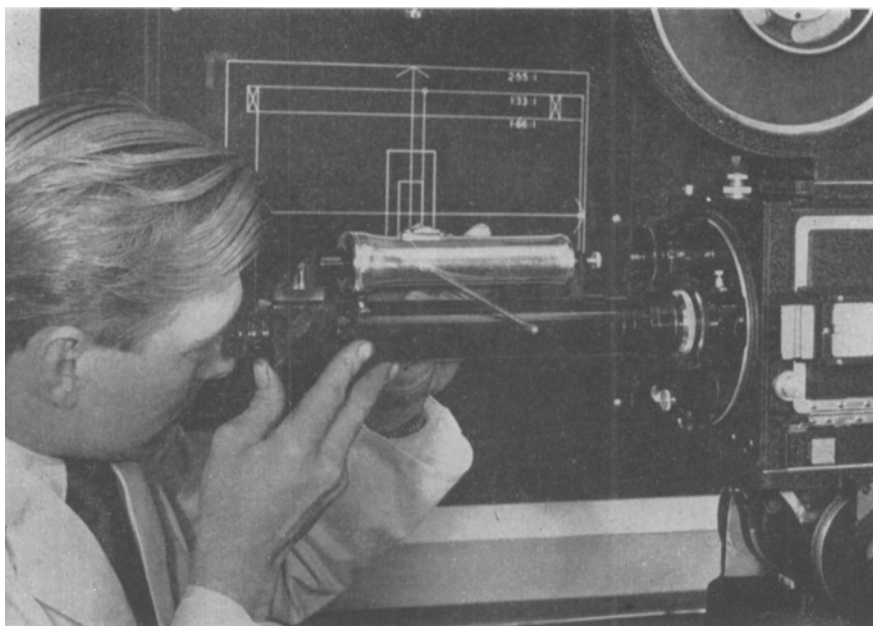
At the Fall 1953 Convention of the SMPTE, in Washington, D.C., Arthur Carpenter was one of the Society's pioneers honored at a special dinner, and the recipient of a certificate commemorating his long and distinguished membership in the Society.

New Products

Further information about these items can be obtained direct from the addresses given. As in the case of technical papers, the Society is not responsible for manufacturers' statements, and publication of these items does not constitute endorsement of the products or services.

The Taylor-Hobson Camera Focus Autocollimator is a new studio instrument announced by Taylor, Taylor & Hobson Ltd., 37-41 Mortimer St., London W.1. Whenever rough handling or temperature changes may have shifted the lens with respect to the film to make the focusing scale inaccurate, the Autocollimator permits setting the camera lens in a focus at infinity. The instrument provides an infinitely distant image of an illuminated graticule which can be picked up by the camera and focused on the film plane, thus establishing a true infinity focus. Any error then in the focusing can be eliminated by correcting the fiduciary mark. The instrument consists of two systems built in one body, the projector system, or collimator, and the viewing system or telescope.

With standard $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. ($\times 20$) eyepiece, and setting on film emulsion, the Camera Focus Autocollimator is suitable for checking camera lenses between 1-in. and 8-in. focal length. For camera lenses below 1-in., which give rise to high magnification



of the film emulsion, a lower power eyepiece will be available. Detailed informa-

tion about accuracy and application is available from the manufacturers.



In Du Mont's new Tele-centre at 205 E. 67 St., New York, all five studios have isolated unit control rooms, such as shown here. The production unit, on the lower level, is separated by glass partitions from the video unit (rear, lower level) and the audio and lighting unit (upper level).

All five control rooms are located in a vertical bank with cables tying in a straight line to the master control, providing the shortest possible run, to enhance the quality of picture and sound. Film projection facilities on the second floor include the Du Mont Multiscanner, which is adapt-