



79th Convention

Trends in the way of developing the papers program and in the nature of sessions for Society conventions continue in at least two ways.

More Program Vice-Chairmen

For each of the last few conventions, the Program Chairman has increasingly allocated areas to vice-chairmen for that convention—these in addition to high-speed photography, television and screen brightness topics which have often been handled by vice-chairmen. These program or topics vice-chairmen serve for a specific convention. They are not to be confused with Papers Committee Vice-Chairmen who usually are appointed for two-year terms and who help gather papers for all conventions.

Any member of the Papers Committee (see the April 1955 *Journal*, p. 197) will give advice and gladly facilitate the submission of possible papers for the 79th Convention. The Chairman, and the Vice-Chairmen, by topic, for the forthcoming convention are:

Program Chairman

Bernard D. Plakun
General Precision Laboratory
Pleasantville, N.Y.

Laboratory Practice

W. H. Rivers
Eastman Kodak Co., Room 626
342 Madison Avenue,
New York 17

Motion-Picture Projection Production and Viewing

W. Borberg
General Precision Laboratory
47 Ossining Rd.
Pleasantville, N.Y.

TV Studio Lighting

H. Gurin
National Broadcasting Company
RCA Bldg, Rm. 586, Radio City
New York 20, N.Y.

Popular Papers

H. Barnett
General Precision Equipment Corp.
92 Gold St.
New York 38, N.Y.

High-Speed Photography

J. Waddell
Fairchild Camera & Instrument Corp.
88-06 Van Wyck Expressway
Jamaica 1, N.Y.

Sound Recording

G. Lewin
1573 East 35th St.
Brooklyn 34, N.Y.

TV General and Educational

S. W. Athey
General Precision Laboratory
47 Ossining Rd.
Pleasantville, N.Y.

Screen Brightness

C. E. Heppberger
231 North Miss Street
Naperville, Ill.

The Week's Program

The week's sessions are tentatively laid out to follow the order in which we have listed the topics chairmen — laboratory practice on Monday morning and afternoon; a tour of the Du Mont studios on Monday evening; motion-picture projection and viewing on Tuesday, especially Todd-AO papers at the Rivoli Theatre in the morning and also a concurrent session of TV studio lighting; Tuesday evening, an open evening or more motion-picture papers; Wednesday morning and afternoon, concurrent sessions of high-speed photography (at the Statler Hotel) and television

studio lighting at NBC's Colonial Theatre; Wednesday evening, popular TV and high-speed photography papers; Thursday morning and afternoon, sound topics; Thursday evening, semiannual banquet and dance; Friday morning, TV in general and education; Friday afternoon, screen brightness.

Developmental and Discussion Papers

In keeping with the policy to have papers that may benefit from discussion, Program Chairman Plakun has added this advice to the "Hints for Authors":

Subject Matter: At conventions, papers which deal with the development trends in the industry are particularly desirable, as are timely tutorial papers. Equipment papers containing only detailed descriptive matter are not desired for oral presentation, as such material can be more effectively and impartially presented at the Equipment Exhibit associated with the Technical Program. At any time, regardless of connection with a convention, equipment and other papers may be tendered for publication in the Journal, and will be reviewed on their own merit. Oral presentation is not a condition for publication.

Exhibits for New York Convention

With the 79th Convention still five months away, sale of exhibit space for the motion-picture and television equipment show to be held in conjunction with the meeting is going remarkably well. Everett Miller of RCA, chairman of the Exhibit Committee reports that 26 of the 32 booths currently available have already been sold. Exhibits will be set up in the Penn Top South of the Hotel Statler in New York City, and will be open from Monday afternoon, April 30, through Friday noon, May 4, to all convention registrants and guests of exhibitors. Contract forms and additional information may be obtained from Mr. Miller at RCA, 411 Fifth Ave., New York 16.

Society Awards

The annual presentation of the Society's awards took place on Tuesday, October 4, 1955, during the 78th SMPTE Convention at the Lake Placid Club.

Honorary Members

In the absence of Fred Bowditch, chairman of the Honorary Membership Committee, Dr. E. K. Carver presented the following citation appointing John George Capstaff to Honorary Membership in the Society.

If amateur motion pictures had never come into being, John George Capstaff would long be remembered for his work on film processing, for his work on additive and subtractive color processes, and for many other developments in the motion-picture field. He is a persistent experimenter

who has taught many a theoretical scientist that the impossible can sometimes be achieved. He is a leader who imparted enough of his own qualities to many younger men so that they have always been proud to be known as members of the "Cappy Gang." But it is for his work in the field of amateur motion pictures that he is most widely known.

Successful amateur motion pictures required a film that was safe and inexpensive and that could be underexposed or overexposed and still give a good picture. Acetate film was safe but was expensive. The film could be reduced in size, but it was still expensive. The use of a camera negative and a positive print allowed errors of exposure to be corrected in the print, but required two films to make one print. A reversal process might eliminate

half the film cost by eliminating the print film, but the reversal processes had no way of correcting for errors in the original exposure.

Capstaff came up with the answer. He measured the errors in the original exposure, scene by scene, and by a controlled second exposure corrected for these errors. He designed a continuous processing machine on which this correction could be made.

John George Capstaff, a creative thinker who entered a field explored unsuccessfully for twenty years, recognized the unsolved problems, invented the answers to them, and founded a new industry, Home Movies. We are proud to number him among the honorary members of our society.