

Obituary

Norman F. Oakley, special adviser on motion-picture sales in the Du Pont Company's New York District, died November 4 after an illness of several months. Aged 61, he was in the 40th year of his career with the Du Pont Company.

A veteran in the manufacture and sale of motion-picture films, Mr. Oakley had been associated with the Du Pont Company since its entry into the photo products field. Formerly general supervisor of experimental design, construction, and operation for Monmouth Chemical Company, Keyport, N.J., he joined Du Pont in 1916 as a supervisor of experimental

film base production at Parlin, N.J. He was instrumental in the design and operation of Du Pont's first experimental and commercial film manufacturing plants and designed much of the equipment used in the process.

Mr. Oakley entered motion-picture product sales in the late 1920's. He became manager of motion-picture sales in the New York District in 1946, a post which he held until the middle of this year. He was a member of this Society, and of the American Society of Cinematographers, Lambs Club of New York, the Motion Picture Pioneers, and an honorary member of Cameramen's Local 644, IATSE.

section reports



In the memory of even the oldest **Central Section** member, the Fall Regional Meeting at Minneapolis-St. Paul, October 28-29, 1955, was one of the most outstanding in its history. No little credit for this is due to the fine arrangements made by Bill Wetzel of Minnesota Mining and Reid Ray of Reid H. Ray Film Industries who were co-hosts.

Members arriving from Chicago were met at the station with a truck for their baggage and provided with transportation directly to the new auditorium in the Magnetic Products Research Building where the first sessions were held. A tour of the facilities at Research Products preceded the formal sessions. All methods of magnetic tape testing were demonstrated to the group.

When the first session opened at 4:15 P.M. on Friday, some 85 people were in attendance. Jim Wassell, Central Section Chairman, after his opening remarks, introduced the first speaker, R. A. Von Behren of Minnesota Mining, whose paper was entitled "Some Design Criteria for Magnetic Tape." Don Cain, Production Manager of the Audio-Visual Department at the University of Minnesota, then presented a very interesting paper entitled "Photographic Research at the University of Minnesota." Mr. Cain illustrated the many different ways in which motion-picture photography is used for scientific, industrial and medical research.

On adjournment of the afternoon session, the group was treated to a cocktail party by 3M's Magnetic Products at Conroy's. An excellent dinner followed.

The feature paper of the meeting was given on Friday evening by R. C. McClelland, Manager of Training Services, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester. His paper, co-authored with Tom Miller, was entitled "Effective Use of Visual Aids in Presentation of Technical Lectures." This presentation was enhanced by several very excellent color slides. Following Mr. McClelland's paper, there was a vigorous discussion which lasted until late in the evening. All hands were ready for the very fine accommodations at the Calhoun Beach Hotel when the session was adjourned.

On Saturday morning at 9 A.M. the session opened on the Reid Ray Film Industries sound stage in St. Paul. A very excellent program was scheduled, including the following papers: "The New Trade in the Fifth Estate," by Bob Shafer, Associate News Director, WCCO-TV; "A Realistic View of Color Photography," by Gordon Ray, Reid H. Ray Film Industries.

After Gordon Ray's paper, the various types of 35mm and 16mm color production techniques were illustrated by projection. This again provoked a very interesting discussion period shared in by everyone.

The group was then conducted on a complete tour of the facilities at Reid Ray, including stage, art and animation, editing, processing, etc.

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FOR RESEARCH ASSISTANCE WRITE TO:
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Director Photographic Research

FOR TECHNICAL SERVICE WRITE TO:
CHARLES F. LO BALBO,
Motion Picture Technical Advisor



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