

Forthcoming Professional Meetings

Video Expo, a non-broadcast video trade show sponsored by Knowledge Industry Publications, will be held 20-22 February at the Jack Tar Hotel in San Francisco. The program will include three general sessions and a series of seminars geared to meet the needs of video users in medicine, business, education, industry and government. There will be more than 100 exhibits by major manufacturers. The general sessions will be held each day from 11:30 to 12:30. On 20 February, the American Society of Training and Development will present "Delivering on Video's Promise for Training," an examination of the gap between the potential and the reality of video applications in training. The 21 February session, "Video: New Uses," presented by the Industrial TV Association (ITVA), will look at new applications for private television, live telecasting and new VTR plug-in accessories. The 22 February session, sponsored by the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, will present highlights of what has been learned after 25 years of using television for instruction. Further information is available from Sheila Frank, Knowledge Industry Publications, 2 Corporate Park Dr., White Plains, NY 10604.

The University of Southern California, University Affiliated Program at Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles and the Southern California Region II of the American Association on Mental Deficiency are sponsoring the Ninth Annual Film Festival on 17 April 1979. The Film Festival will include outstanding professional, independent, and commercial films and videotapes produced during 1978 portraying handicapped children and adults. The films selected may be those prepared for a special professional group (i.e., physicians or educators) or may be of general interest. Special awards are given to the most outstanding films selected by a panel of representatives from the film industry, parents and professionals. Further information is available from Neil Goldstein, Director of Training in Instructional Technology, University Affiliated Program, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles, Box 54700, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90054.

Calendar

11-14 February 1979

Judd Memorial Conference on Color Metrics, Williamsburg, Va. Info from Inter-Society Color Council Inc., Arrangements Chairman S. Leonard Davidson, NL Industries, P.O. Box 700, Hightstown, NJ 08520. (See *Journal*, p. 527, Aug. 1978.)

20-22 February 1979

Video Expo/San Francisco '79, Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco. Info from Box VF, Knowledge Industry Publications, Inc., 2 Corporate Park Dr., White Plains, NY 10604. (See above.)

13-16 March 1979

Audio Engineering Society, 62nd Technical Meeting and Exhibit, Brussels/Sheraton Hotel, Brussels, Belgium. Info from Donald J. Plunkett, AES, 60 E. 42 St., New York, NY 10017.

14-16 March 1979

Simulation Symposium, Tampa, Fla. Info from Sudesh Kumar, NCR Corp., 4045 Sorrento Valley Blvd., San Diego, CA 92121.

21-24 March 1979

Alpha Epsilon Rho, 37th Annual Convention, Dallas, Tex. Info from Tom Matheson, Vice-President for Public Information, c/o KLEF-FM, 5353 West Alabama, Houston, TX 77056. (See *Journal*, p. 713, Oct. 1978.)

25-28 March 1979

National Association of Broadcasters Convention, Dallas. Info from NAB, 1771 N St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

28-31 March 1979

ITVA Conference, Dallas, Tex. Info from International Television Association, 26 South St., New Providence, NJ 07974.

2-4 April 1979

American National Metric Council Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. Info from ANMC, 1625 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

2-5 April 1979

SPIE Technical Symposium East, Washington, D.C. Info from The Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers, P.O. Box 10, Bellingham, WA 98225.

15-21 April 1979

International Science and Technology Tokyo Film Contest '79, Tokyo, Japan. Info from Shigeo Katto, Secretary General, International Science & Technology Tokyo Film Contest '79, c/o Japan Science Foundation, 2-1 Kitanomaru-Koen, Chiyodaku, Tokyo 102, Japan.

17 April 1979

Film Festival on the Exceptional Individual, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles. Info from Neil Goldstein, University Affiliated Program, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles, Box 54700, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90054. (See above.)

18-20 April 1979

Education for Professional Photography Conference, West London Institute of Higher Education, Twickenham, Middlesex, England. Info from Institute of Incorporated Photographers, Amwell End, Ware, Herts. SG12 9HN, England.

SMPTE Technical Conference

21-26 October 1979

SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Century Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles. Info from SMPTE Headquarters.

21 April 1979

SMPTE Chicago Section, 4th Annual All-Day Meeting, Ramada-O'Hare Inn, Chicago. Info from Edward Blasko, Chairman, Chicago Section, Eastman Kodak Co., 1901 W. 22 St., Oak Brook, IL 60521.

22-25 April 1979

National Cable Television Association, St. Louis, Mo. Info from National Cable Television Association, 918 16th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

23-24 April 1979

Inter-Society Color Council, annual meeting, Roosevelt Hotel, New York City. Info from Fred W. Billmeyer, Jr., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Department of Chemistry, MRC Bldg., Troy, NY 12181.

23-26 April 1979

Audio-Visual '79, Wembley Conference Centre, London, England. Info from British Information Services, 845 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

25-27 April 1979

Conference on Modeling and Simulation, Univ. of Pittsburgh. Info from W. G. Vogt, Modeling and Simulation Conference, 348 Benedum Engineering Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15261.

27-29 April 1979

SMPTE Montreal/Toronto/Rochester Mini-Conference, Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, Canada. Info from Mini-Conference Chairman Robert Desrosiers, 4710 Victoria Ave., Montreal, Que., Canada H3W 2N1.

30 April-2 May 1979

Noise Control Engineering, National Conference, Purdue University. Info from Noise-Con '79, 116 Stewart Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907.

1-3 May 1979

Videoshow, Los Angeles Convention Center. Info from Ellen Parker, C. S. Tepfer Publishing Co., 51 Sugar Hollow Road, Danbury, CT 06810.

6-9 May 1979

Theatre Equipment Association Convention, Del Monte Hyatt Hotel, Monterey, Calif. Info from Jerry Sunshine, Executive Director, Theatre Equipment Association, 1600 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

8-10 May 1979

Society for Information Display (SID) International Symposium, Chicago Marriott Hotel, Chicago. Info from Lewis Winner, 301 Almeria Ave., P.O. Box 343788, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

13-17 May 1979

SPSE 32nd Annual Conference, Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass. Info from Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers, 1411 K St., N.W., Suite 930, Washington, DC 20005.

20-23 May 1979

National Cable Television Association Convention, Las Vegas, Nev. Info from Robert A. Luff, NCTA, 918 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

21-23 May 1979

Television Measurement Conference, Commonwealth Institute, London. Info from Conference Secretariat, IERE, 99 Gower St., London WC1E 6AZ, England. (See *Journal*, p. 527, Aug. 1978.)

14-15 June 1979

Microprocessors, Hardware, Software and Applications, Seminar, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass. Info from Ginny Bazarian, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA 01609.

2-6 July 1979

Film 79, Royal Lancaster Hotel, London. Info from Bill Pay, Conference Coordinator, BKSTS, 110-112 Victoria House, Vernon Pl., London WC1B 4DJ, England.

17-20 July 1979

Cranfield International Conference on Mechanized Information Storage and Retrieval Systems, Cranfield Institute of Technology. Info from Cyril Cleverdon, INSPEC, Station House, Nightingale Rd., Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1RJ, England. (See *Journal*, p. 527, Aug. 1978.)

21-25 July 1979

Photographic Industry Council (Australia), Third South Pacific Photographic Convention. Info from PIC Office, 161 Clarence St., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia 2001.

24-27 July 1979

Video and Data Recording International Conference, University of Southampton, England. Info from Conference Secretariat, IERE, 99 Gower St., London WC1E 6AZ, England. (See *Journal*, p. 527, Aug. 1978.)

28 July-1 August 1979

International Exposition of Professional Photography and National Industrial Photographic Conference, Chicago. Info from Professional Photographers of America, Inc., 1090 Executive Way, Des Plaines, IL 60018.

10-13 September 1979

4th International Colloquium of Research and Educational Cinematography, Ostrava, Czechoslovakia. Info from Mrs. L. Zimmerová, Zemědělská 1, 662 65 Brno, Czechoslovakia.

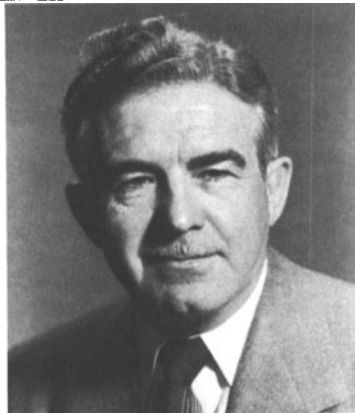
21-26 October 1979

SMPTE Technical Conference and Equipment Exhibit, Century Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles. Info from SMPTE Headquarters.

5-8 November 1979

Photolab Expo, Alexandra Palace, London, England. Info from British Information Services, 845 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

Biographical Note



William A. Mueller

The Samuel L. Warner Gold Medal Award of the Society is offered annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the recording of sound for motion pictures. The Society owes a great debt to William A. (Bill) Mueller who, while serving on the Board of Governors, persuaded Jack Warner, the manager of the Warner Bros. Studios, to put up the funds for the annual presentation and guarantee in writing to continue it in perpetuity. Considering that there have been four changes of ownership of Warner Bros. since that time, the original subsidy has been strictly adhered to.

There are very few sound engineers around today who have had a longer experience in sound recording for motion pictures than Bill Mueller. Now retired and living at Newport Beach, Calif., he joined Bell Labs in 1922, immediately following graduation with a B.S.E.E. degree from the University of Nebraska. Starting there in September 1922, he was soon assigned to a group developing the electric phonograph, a project which the BTL had undertaken for the Victor Talking Machine Company.

This project was immediately successful, and the same group then turned their attention to developing a talking-picture system using the same system of recording and reproducing but now synchronized with the corresponding motion-picture action film. This system was first used for the musical score of the otherwise silent film, *Don Juan*, with John Barrymore in the lead and was previewed in New York on 6 August 1926 to a wildly enthusiastic audience.

Encouraged by this success, Warner Bros. formed the Vitaphone Corporation with Major Nathan Levinson in charge of the Western Division. Levinson recruited Mueller from BTL to be his chief engineer in September 1926. Bill's job was to install the disk sound systems in all the major cities west of Denver. Upon completion of this task, he built the first sound studio in Hollywood to record vaudeville shorts.

This effort culminated in the production of *The Jazz Singer* with the first dialogue recording of a motion picture. Bill Mueller was in charge and responsible for that recording of this historic movie. He recounts many interesting tales of the reaction of some of the Hollywood movie moguls to this new form of entertainment — Louis B. Mayer saying it was just "a toy" and Zukor calling it a "gimmick." Bill also recounts the trials and trib-

ulations of the old silent stars trying to adapt to the new sound medium. Bill told Corinne Griffith that she had to move her lips if she was going to be heard. The cameraman countered by saying that such movement would cause wrinkles. Corinne got so upset she walked off the stage and never made another movie.

Bill was chief engineer of the Warner Bros. Sound Department for 26 years and, upon the death of Levinson, became Sound Director in 1952, retiring in 1958. During his tenure at Warner Bros., he was the studio representative at the Motion Picture Research Council, serving as Vice-Chairman for many years. Among his many awards was the Academy sound award for *Sayonara* in March 1958. He also won the Academy's award for distinctive achievement for his method of re-recording, in which the level of the dialogue automatically controls the level of the accompanying music and sound effects. This invention was universally adopted by the industry.

Following his retirement in 1958, he headed a task force for Hughes Electronics, Inc., on the dehumanizing of the individual in manufacturing assembly operations. He was selected by the State Department to go to Indonesia to build and install a motion-picture studio and train the native Indonesians to operate it. He also served as a consultant to President Sukarno. He spent two years in Indonesia, leaving in 1961.

On his return to Hollywood, the U.S. Air Force asked him to take over the Sound Department in their studios in Mount Hollywood. In this activity, he made many trips to Japan, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, etc. One of his major projects was making a monthly progress report on Vietnam for President Kennedy.

During his career, he was awarded fourteen patents, including one on the parabolic reflector microphone. Among his inventions are the use of companders and expanders in sound recording and reproduction, a microphone boom with rotating microphone, a method of inserting foreign dialogue in place of the English soundtrack, and many others.

Now 78 years old, Bill is in perfect health and plays golf regularly near his home in Newport Beach. His son, Bill, Jr., is a scientist at the Jet Propulsion Labs in Pasadena, California. His two daughters, Madeline and Claire, live close by in Orange County. He keeps in close touch with his old associates who unfortunately are a steadily diminishing number. He was very prominent in the affairs of the Society in the past and is now a Life Fellow. — *John G. Frayne*

Deadline for News Releases

Releases and other material intended for use in any of the columns of the *Journal*, especially for the Meetings Calendar and the Forthcoming Professional Meetings column, must arrive at SMPTE Headquarters at least six weeks before the month of the issue in which it is to appear. For example, announcements for the May issue must arrive no later than 15 March. We regret that when information arrives too late it cannot be used. — *Edit.*