

# SMPTE Montreal/Toronto/Rochester Mini-Conference

27-29 April 1979, Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal

By CHARLES PITTS

The SMPTE Montreal/Toronto/Rochester Mini-Conference for 1979 will be held on 27-29 April at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal. Two years ago the Montreal/Ottawa/Quebec Section joined the Rochester and Toronto sections in staging this annual event. In 1979 it will be held in Montreal for the first time.

Mini-conferences are usually directed at people in the communications field who have little opportunity to attend national conferences. Technical papers covering the motion-picture, television and audiovisual industries will be presented.

Canadian Governor and Conference Chairman Robert B. Desrosiers noted that registrants can look forward to a mini-conference of wider-than-usual scope, with papers being submitted from the western United States and Europe.

The theme of the conference, according to J. Creighton Douglas, National Film Board of Canada, who is the Program Coordinator, will be "Future Technology in Film, Television, and Audiovisual." While most papers will be presented in English, simultaneous translation in French or English will be provided at no cost to registrants.

Sponsorship Coordinator André Collette, Bellevue-Pathé Ltd., reports that companies have been responding generously to requests for sponsorship. This has enabled conference organizers to offer activities, the costs of which will, by far, exceed registration costs.

Jim LeBlanc, Arri-Nagra Inc., who is

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Membership and Publications Coordinator, will be on hand to provide information concerning membership and SMPTE publications.

A. Dunstan Russell and Pierre P. Pelletier, both of Alex L. Clark Co., Ltd., will maintain a Hospitality Center during the conference. No structured spouses' program is planned, but registrants and their spouses will be able to obtain information as to current attractions in Montreal and suggestions on shopping and dining, as well as help in making reservations.

On Friday evening, there will be an informal cocktail reception for out-of-town registrants and their spouses. Since, however, there is no planned function for Saturday evening, it is anticipated that those attending will take full advantage of the Hospitality Suite to arrange their evening for dining, entertainment, and seeing the city. On Saturday there will be a get-together for cocktails and a luncheon with a keynote speaker. The luncheon cost is CAN\$15.00, which includes wine.

For Sunday morning, 29 April, Yvon Jean, Société Radio-Canada, has arranged for conference activities to be shifted to La Maison, Radio-Canada, the French Services Division of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., and one of the world's largest and most complete broadcast centers. Following a breakfast, sponsored by the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., and while papers are in session, spouses will be given a guided tour of the elaborate broadcast and production facilities of La Maison.

The Mini-Conference organization will also be shared by: Walter H. Winchell, Canadian Broadcasting Corp., Co-Chairman; Suzanne Bertrand, Radio-Québec, and Arnold C. Schieman, National Film Board

of Canada, Executive Assistants; Leonard A. Green, National Film Board of Canada, Audiovisual Coordinator; Charles Pitts, Centraide Montréal, Publicity Coordinator; Alan J. Powell, McGill University, Educational Coordinator; and David L. Carr, Eastman Kodak Co. (Rochester), and Ray J. Brûlé, 3M Canada Ltd. (London, Ont.), Liaison Coordinators.

**Hotel accommodations** have been arranged for by Ken Hand, Canadian National Railways, at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, with rates being set at **CAN\$31.00** for a **single** and **CAN\$41.00** for a **twin/double**. Persons wishing a longer stay in Montreal, prior to the conference or after it, will be accommodated, for a few days at these same rates. In addition, there is no provincial or city tax on hotel rooms and American dollars are accepted at a premium. Registrants may reserve their hotel rooms by completing the cards they will be receiving or by contacting the hotel directly, mentioning the SMPTE Mini-Conference, at the following address:

Queen Elizabeth Hotel  
900 Dorchester Blvd. West  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H3B 4A5  
Tel: (514) 861-3511

Grant Dearnaley, National Film Board of Canada, who is Finance and Registration Coordinator, advises pre-registration since it will help avoid delays.

#### Registrations should be addressed to:

Mr. Grant Dearnaley  
c/o National Film Board of Canada  
P.O. Box 6100, Station "A"  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H3C 3H5



The Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal, site of the SMPTE Montreal/Toronto/Rochester Mini-Conference.



View of downtown Montreal.



**Robert Desrosiers, Mini-Conference Chairman.**



**J. Creighton Douglas, Program Chairman.**



**Charles Pitts, Publicity Chairman.**



**Ken H. Hand, Hotel Arrangements Chairman.**



**Yvon Jean, La Maison de Radio-Canada.**

**Registration rates**

Member . . . . .	CAN\$12.00
Member and spouse . . . . .	CAN\$15.00
Nonmember . . . . .	CAN\$15.00
Nonmember and spouse . . . . .	CAN\$18.00
Student . . . . .	CAN\$5.00

**Schedule of Activities**

*27 April 1979, Friday, 6 to 9 p.m.:* Informal cocktail reception for out-of-towners; the Hospitality Desk will be in operation to help arrange social activities for registrants and spouses.

*28 April 1979, Saturday:* Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.; the Mini-Conference pa-

pers presentations are in session from 8:45 to noon and coffee breaks are sponsored; cocktails from 12 to 12:30 p.m. followed by a luncheon with a guest speaker; 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., continuation of technical papers presentations.

*29 April 1979, Sunday:* Departure from the hotel at 8:30 a.m. for La Maison de Radio-Canada; 9:00 a.m., breakfast; 10:00 a.m. to noon, papers presentations and guided tour for spouses.

Additional information on the Mini-Conference is available from:

Robert B. Desrosiers  
Chairman, 1979 Mini-Conference  
4710 Victoria Ave.  
Montreal, Que.  
Canada H3W 2N1  
Tel. (514) 486-4423

or Walter H. Winchell  
Co-Chairman  
c/o Canadian Broadcasting Corp.  
7925 Cote St. Luc Rd.  
Montreal, Que.  
Canada H4W 1R5  
Tel. (514) 488-2551

or Charles Pitts, Publicity Coordinator,  
(514) 288-1261 (see address in footnote).

# Report on the 13th SMPTE Television Conference

## San Francisco, 2-3 February 1979

By E. STANLEY BUSBY, Jr.

San Francisco in February is a nice place to be. The sun was shining on the 13th Television Conference, and no topcoats were required. As is now usual, another record was set in terms of attendance. Paid registrants assembling at the St. Francis Hotel numbered 820 and, counting exhibitor personnel and authors, those attending professionally totaled about 1100. Well over 2000 people toured the exhibit area.

The Conference was organized by members of the San Francisco Section under the supervision of SMPTE Vice-President for Television Affairs Frederick M. Remley of the University of Michigan. In overall charge of this Conference was General Arrangements Chairman Donald E. Lincoln of KPIX-TV. The program was the responsibility of Papers Program Chairman Carlos Kennedy of Ampex Corp. Sue Blumenberg of ABC in San Mateo was Registration Chairman, and Joe Roizen of Telegen arranged valuable publicity. Kay Kibby of W. A. Palmer Films, Inc., was Audio Visual Chairman and also oversaw

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the opening videotape presentations. The Friday evening wine and cheese party at Sabella's Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf was arranged by Joseph Semmelmayr of Eastman Kodak Co. And finally the sound recording of the presented papers and the panel discussion was arranged by W. A. Palmer of W. A. Palmer Films, Inc. Donna Roizen assumed the duties of Conference Photographer. Thanks go to all these people for contributing so much to the success of the program.

**Opening of the Conference**

Friday morning opened with the replay of a tape "Jerusalem. . . The Old City," produced and sponsored by the Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association. It was a beautifully artistic treatment of the subject, and moreover offered examples of television production in an environment hostile to delicate equipment. Included was one travelling shot from what must be the world's most unstable camera platform, the back of a camel. Later in the morning, a paper was to allude to these and other rough conditions.

The traditional welcoming speech was delivered by Fred Remley, Vice-President for Television Affairs. Remley traced the

growth of the conference, both in terms of attendance and range of subject matter, beginning with the snow-bound first TV Conference in Detroit. Noting that 40% of registrants were not members, Remley urged that sector to enhance their obvious interest by joining.

**One-Inch Production Session**

The morning session was chaired by David Fibush, assisted by Glen Pensinger. Fibush found himself in the odd position of introducing himself as the first speaker of the morning to deliver the One-Inch Helical Standards Subcommittee report. He outlined the efforts of the subcommittee's working groups — including the vertical interval time code, one-inch tapes and reels, and one-inch test materials groups.

Ray Schneider of CBS indicated that reduced costs enabled CBS to justify the dedicated assignment of VTRs to a particular studio, as opposed to using a central VTR pool with assignment switching. Growth, he said, was easier and less costly than expansion of a large assignment switching system. He gave as an example Studio 51 in New York City, located 30 blocks from CBS TV Center. Three VTRs are used to record the raw studio output. These are re-