

# Progress 1980

## The World of

# Motion Pictures and Television

Prepared by the Progress Committee of the SMPTE

Edited by Rae Hargrave

### FOREWORD

SMPTE members and many other readers of the *SMPTE JOURNAL* rely upon the annual *Progress Report* to provide accurate and significant information on recent developments in motion picture and television engineering. The Progress Committee Chairman, with the approval of the Society's Board of Governors, selects, from countries throughout the world, experts to serve as members of the Progress Committee. Our four Affairs Vice-Presidents (Roderick Ryan, Vice-President, Motion Picture Affairs; Frederick Remley, Television; Lincoln Endelman, Photonics; and Herbert Farmer, Education) have compiled sections covering significant happenings in their special areas during 1980. Also, the committee members from the various countries have reported important developments in motion picture and television technologies in their parts of the world.

The roster of the Progress Committee is published with this report. As Chairman of the Committee, on behalf of the Society, I wish to thank our Affairs Vice-Presidents, members of the Progress Committee, and the many other people who have contributed to this report. Through their efforts, the latest information on television and motion pictures is available.

This report is organized with two things in mind: first, each Affairs Vice-President has provided an introduction to his report which summarizes the most significant developments in his area. The Progress Report provides a general overview of the situation prevailing during 1980 in the motion picture and television industries with an analysis of possible effects on future developments. A detailed report is provided in the four main sections covering Motion Pictures, Television, Photonics, and Education. Some of these detailed reports are further enhanced by illustrations. These four sections contain information of vital interest to all readers involved with or interested in any aspect of these four disciplines. The international (National Areas) section can provide either an overview of all countries or specific information on an individual country and thus has something of interest for all readers.

While this report presents information on the technical progress in our industries, important happenings within our Society should be mentioned. Under the leadership of our President, Robert Smith, much activity was initiated. Perhaps the most visible events were in the international area. In February 1980, Smith, accompanied by his wife, spent several weeks in the Soviet Union meeting leaders of television and motion picture activities in the technical field. Problems affecting standardization and other technical affairs of common interest were discussed.

In May and June, President Smith led a delegation from the Society to the Far East, visiting Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and Australia. As in the Soviet visit, new ties of friendship were formed by those face-to-face meetings, solidifying the international aspects of our Society.

**“The Society’s position today is vigorous, active, and growing. With excellent participation by its talented members, it is providing valuable service to the television and motion picture industries. The Progress Report provides a general overview of our industry with an analysis of the effects of progress on future developments.”**

The SMPTE was represented in other meetings with other societies during 1980. A membership booth at the Photokina in Cologne, Germany, in September, introduced the Society to an international gathering. At that event a significant number of qualified persons became members of the Society. A membership booth at the International Broadcasting Convention (IBC 1980) at Brighton, England, in September, was also the means of gaining new qualified members for the Society. Many of our members, including officers, attended and participated at the IBC 1980, one of the sponsors of which was the SMPTE.

In April, a task force representing the SMPTE met with members of the European Broadcasting Union in Europe. An invitation to the EBU to hold a meeting in San Francisco adjacent to the Winter Television Conference was extended, and the invitation was accepted. This meeting of the EBU in San Francisco will be their first ever to be held outside of Europe.

Also in April, the Society conducted a seminar on Digital Television at the meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters, which was well attended.

During 1980, the Society’s membership reached an all-time high of 9267 members. Each Section presented a well-assorted group of interesting programs at the monthly meetings. Section meetings and section attendance reached an all-time high. Special one-day programs were held by the Chicago Section and the combined Toronto-Rochester-Montreal-Ottawa Sections.

Both the Annual Technical Conference in New York and the Television Conference at Toronto attracted record or near record attendance. At the New York Technical Conference about 350 exhibitors displayed their latest equipment, the Exhibit being the largest and best attended to date.

The various working committees continued their important discussions on widely related engineering standardization.

The Society’s position today is vigorous, active, and growing. With excellent participation by its talented members, it is providing a great many valuable services to the television and motion picture industries.

Again I wish to thank the many people who have contributed to make this report interesting and helpful, especially Miss Rae Hargrave at Society Headquarters for her help, advice, and tender loving care in supervising the preparation of this report.

**William D. Hedden  
Progress Committee Chairman**