

The Opening Session

The Technical Sessions of the 124th Conference officially began with the Opening Session on Monday, Nov. 8, at 9:30 a.m. in the Trianon Ballroom of the New York Hilton Hotel. With four distinguished speakers, an opening film from Disney Studios, and capacity attendance, the Opening Session was an appropriate beginning for the week-long technical presentations, grouped under this year's Conference theme "Commitment to Tomorrow's Technologies."

Featuring 125 papers, tutorials, demonstrations, and film and slide presentations, the Technical Program covered a wide variety of topics in film and television engineering, and presented the latest research and advances in areas such as laboratory practices, digital time-code sound recording, and motion-picture special effects.

Arranged through the hard work of Program Chairman Gary Borton, Eastman Kodak Co., this year's program had, in addition to up-to-date reports from the many topic areas, a truly international sampling of papers as well. The papers, some 27 in all, came from 11 foreign countries. France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, England, Yugoslavia, the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Canada, and Switzerland were all represented at the Conference by some of their finest engineers and technicians.



Editorial Vice-President Maurice L. French and Program Chairman Gary L. Borton.

The Conference Opening Address was given this year by President-elect Leonard Coleman, Eastman Kodak Co. Addressing the large audience, Mr. Coleman urged member support of the Society, explaining that "for SMPTE's Tomorrow's Technologies to exist, we require a commitment

from each of you. . . . Become involved," Mr. Coleman said, noting that the time and talent of members was "a requirement so necessary for the future of SMPTE." For the complete text of Leonard Coleman's address, see p. 4 of this issue.

The next speaker at the session opening was Judith A. Schwan, Assistant Director of the Eastman Kodak Research Laboratories. Miss Schwan is a member of the American Chemical Society, a Fellow of SMPTE (from whom she received the Herbert T. Kalmus Gold Medal Award in 1979), and a member of the Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers. In February of 1982 she was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Miss Schwan, also a member of the Industrial Research Institute, presented a most interesting discussion of "some of the future directions for motion picture film technology," noting in particular the progress of color films and silver halide technology, the "remarkable advancement of electronics technology," and the "fusion of film and electronics," pointing out the "exciting opportunities for the photographic scientist" that the "synergistic relationship between the two represents." Miss Schwan concluded by



Judith A. Schwan addressing guests at the Opening Session.

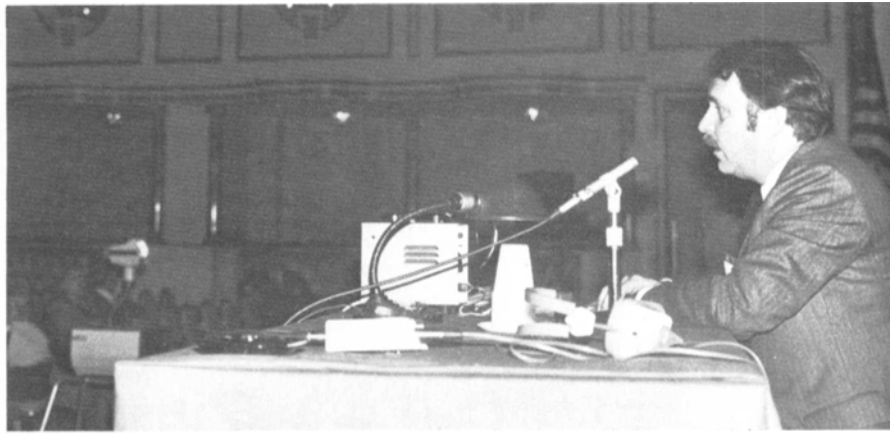
stating that "our commitment is to innovation in imaging technology," promising that "this commitment will continue for the motion picture industry . . . far into the future."

The complete text of Miss Schwan's presentation, titled "Film and the Future," will appear in a future issue of the *SMPTE Journal*.

Dr. Kerns Powers' presentation immediately followed that of Miss Schwan.

The holder of five patents and the author of numerous papers in communications and television, Dr. Powers was eminently qualified to address the knowledgeable body of engineers gathered for the Opening Session. He is currently Staff Vice-President, Communications Research, for RCA Laboratories and has been with RCA since 1951. Dr. Powers held an Industrial Fellowship in Electronics at MIT from 1953 to 1955, and was awarded the Navy's Forty-One for Freedom Award in 1967 for his outstanding work in support of the Polaris program. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, a member of SMPTE, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu, and Sigma Xi.

In his address, titled "The Television Look — The Next-to-the-Last Debate," Dr. Powers emphasized that film and television "are both participants in the same industry." He further defined this industry "as the collection of all of those organizations involved in the production, distribution, and display to the ultimate consumer of entertainment and informa-



Program Chairman Gary Borton introducing the guest speakers at the Opening Session.



Conference Vice-President Charles A. Ahto and Editorial Vice-President Maurice L. French were responsible for the overall supervision of the Conference.



Dr. Kerns H. Powers.



Engineering Vice-President Roland J. Zavada.

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tion." Dr. Powers went on to call for an end to the debate, at least temporarily, between proponents of "film versus tape for shooting and editing," and "cinema screens versus television screens for displays." He detailed recent changes in videotape/broadcasting technologies, outlining new areas where film and tape are likely to compete for use. He further noted that "this intermixing of two technologies challenges us in both the film and television media to work together [as a] team . . . to produce the best that each of us has to offer in improving the quality of the motion picture

product."

The next distinguished speaker was Engineering Vice-President Roland J. Zavada, Eastman Kodak Co. A member of SMPTE since 1962, and a Fellow since 1968, Mr. Zavada is the SMPTE representative to the American National Standards Institute, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the International Electrotechnical Commission, the International Radio Consultive Committee, the Inter-Society Color Council, the Joint Committee on Inter-Society Coordination, the Joint Technical Committee on Theatrical Presenta-

tion, and the National Association of Theatre Owners Technical Advisory Committee. From his very knowledgeable point of view, Mr. Zavada spoke to the gathering about SMPTE's continuing role in motion-picture and television standardization.

After Mr. Zavada's address and the round of applause which followed, the floor was returned to Program Chairman Gary Borton, who thanked everyone for their attendance and gave his best wishes to all for an informative and productive Conference.



Local Arrangements Chairmen pose for a group photograph. From left to right are: Charles A. Ahto, Irving Rosenberg, Robert M. Smith, Gary L. Borton, Neal Pilzer, Alvin J. Siegler, John Low, William L. Cooper, Jr., Dorothy Eady, Edward J. Burns, and James Hannafin.