
Biographical Sketch

Blaine Baker,

SMPTE

Financial

Vice-President, 1983

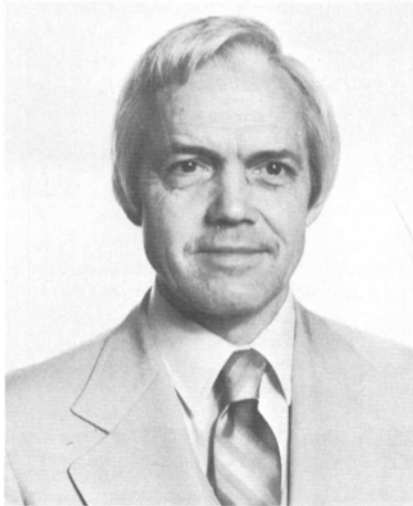
Blaine Baker, President of Motion Picture Laboratories, Inc., Memphis, Tenn., has been elected Financial Vice-President of the SMPTE. He will fill the post left vacant when Leonard F. Coleman, former Financial Vice-President, was elected SMPTE President.

A native of Arkansas, Baker was graduated from the University of Arkansas with the B.A. degree in Communications. In 1947, at the age of 18, he was National Winner of the American Legion Writing Contest with an essay on "The American Contribution to the War Effort."

He served in the Korean War, enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in October, 1950, and serving until October, 1954 as an instructor in the Radio Mechanics School. Prior to his enlistment he began his professional career in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as a radio technician with (then) KFVS. (In 1953 he had been granted a First Class Radiotelephone License by the FCC.)

At the end of his term of enlistment, he returned to KFVS-TV in Cape Girardeau as Production Manager. Later he became Manager for Versatile TV Productions. In 1966 he joined Motion Picture Laboratories in Memphis, becoming the company's president in 1978.

Baker became a member of the SMPTE in 1966, and in 1981 he was made a Fellow. He has been a Governor of the Society for two terms and has been extremely active in Section affairs, serving as Chairman of the Nashville Section and also as Program Chairman and Membership Chairman. He spends a great deal of time arranging programs and persuading members of the Nashville Section to attend the meetings. On several occasions he offered the use of the MPL plane to Memphis members to enable them to attend meetings in Nashville;



Baker holds a commercial pilot's license, which he has held for the last 25 years.

Baker has always been most generous to the academic community. Each year he speaks to film students at various universities, telling them how to work with the laboratory, providing up-to-date information on equipment and new technology, and answering questions on all phases of filmmaking. He is a featured speaker each year at the Audiovisual Institute for Effective Communication, which is held semi-annually at Indiana University.

Among other activities, he produces the "Traveling Seminars" for MPL, which travel from city to city introducing new systems. He has been appointed by the Governor of Tennessee to serve on the State Film Commission, and he serves currently on the Board of Directors of the Memphis State University Speech and Hearing Center.

Baker's main leisure-time activity is tennis. It's lots of fun and keeps him fit, he said. Baker's two main interests are his family and the SMPTE. His family consists of his wife, Anne, and his three children, daughters Sherry and Terrye, and son Daniel. Mrs. Sherry Kelley is 30, Terrye is 27, and Daniel is 18.

His devotion to the SMPTE is evidenced by his many contributions of time and effort to uphold its traditions and advance its interests. "The SMPTE is a moving force internationally in advancing the technology of motion picture and television engineering," he said, adding, "In view of the almost incredible advances that have been made within the last decade and that are still going forward at an astonishing rate, the influence of the SMPTE in maintaining a rational approach to these advances is of inestimable value."

SECTION MEETINGS

Ottawa Section Holds All-Day Meeting

Ottawa, September 16 — A film, *Behind the Scenes*, courtesy of Kodak of Canada Ltd., was the opening event of the All-Day Meeting held at the National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, with an attendance of about 100 members and guests.

The first speaker was Leonard Green, Assistant Technical Director of the National Film Board in Montreal. His presentation, entitled "Past and Present," traced the technical developments of the Film Board from its origins as the Canadian Government Motion Picture Bureau in 1921, through the formation of the National Film Board in 1939. He recalled the early days on John Street, Ottawa, where work was carried on in buildings that reached a chilly 35°F during the winter. Green illustrated his talk with numerous historical pictures, including 1955 photos of construction phases of the present facility in Montreal. He also included a clip from the first color feature produced by the Film Board in 1951, *Royal Journey*, shot on Eastman 5247 film. The feature depicted the Royal Visit of the (then) Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. Green completed his presentation by describing the latest technological developments at the National Film Board, including a new computer-controlled audio console in Theatre I, and on-going experiments with 3D IMAX photography.

The second speaker was Robert O'Reilly, Assistant Vice-President, Corporate Affairs, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, who spoke on the subject, "Public Broadcasting in Canada." To the question, "Do we have a Canadian broadcasting system?" he answered, "No." He explained that this regrettable situation has been brought about by American programming



Budge Crawley holding the Oscar for *The Man Who Skied Down Everest*.