



The sessions auditorium was filled to capacity as this year's SMPTE Television Conference was one of the most successful in SMPTE's history.

Pictures of the Future: The 17th Annual SMPTE Television Conference February 4-5, 1983, San Francisco, California

Fabled scenery, friendly, western charm, and an excellent program and exhibit were chief ingredients of the 17th Annual Television Conference, held at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, Calif., February 4-5, 1983. General Arrangements Chairman Glen Pensinger, San Jose State University, and Program Chairman David Fibush, Ampex Corp., worked with imagination and diligence to see to it that the Conference was especially informative, timely, and well-run.

The conference was under the overall supervision of Conference Vice-President Charles A. Ahto, Tape-Film Industries, Editorial Vice-President Maurice L. French, CBC,

and Vice-President for Television Affairs L. Merle Thomas, WJZ-TV. The conference theme, Pictures of the Future, was a fitting title for two full days of technical sessions, grouped under four important categories: Programming the Pictures, Generating the Pictures, Recording the Pictures, and Manipulating the Pictures.

The 34 technical presentations from England, Germany, the Netherlands, Japan, and the U.S. provided an international forum of film, tape, and slide demonstrations, tutorials, lectures, and standardization work. There were also some 17 engineering committee meetings, geared to keeping up with the latest technological

advances.

In addition to the technical sessions, the conference featured a 43-booth exhibit of equipment directly relevant to the technical sessions. A total of 5000 ft.² of displays were used to illustrate the papers presented, and attendees were given a chance to gain a little hands-on experience with some of the most advanced equipment the industry has to offer. Twenty-two manufacturers participated, and are listed below.

17th Conference Exhibitors

Adda Corp.
Adams-Smith
Ampex Corp.
Bias Data Communications
Broadcast Marketing
Cinema Products Corp.
Emerson and Associates
Fortel Inc.
Fuji Photo Film, USA
Fujinon Inc.
The Grass Valley Group
Hitachi Denshi America
MCI Quantel
Merlin Engineering Works
3M Co.
NEC America, Inc.
Panavision Electronics
Sony Corp.
Tentel Corp.

Photographs by Donna Foster-Roizen



The SMPTE Board of Governors held their meeting on Thursday, February 3rd, just prior to the opening of the Television Conference.



The SMPTE held a briefing for the press on Thursday, February 3rd, following the Board of Governors meeting. Here, SMPTE Engineering Vice-President, Roland J. Zavada, addresses the press.

Thomson-CSF
Videocomedia, Inc.
Vital Industries

All the events took place at the newly renovated St. Francis Hotel, a city landmark since 1914. Equipped with first-rate facilities, the expertise of the hotel staff and the generous space of the meeting and exhibit rooms contributed greatly to the success of all of the activities.

Many social functions added warmth and merriment to the conference, with a wide variety of opportunities for entertainment. A Get-Together luncheon, with a reception beforehand, featured guest speaker Boris Townsend, Head of Engineering Services, IBA. Mr. Townsend's often witty remarks and easy speaking style found a receptive and appreciative audience. A wine and cheese party



SMPTE Vice-President for Television Affairs, L. Merle Thomas, speaking at the press briefing.



SMPTE Conference Vice-President Charles A. Ahto, and SMPTE Editorial Vice-President, Maurice L. French.



SMPTE President Leonard F. Coleman speaking at the Get-Together Luncheon.

later Friday evening received similar approbation, thanks to the organizational efforts of Donald Lincoln, KPIX. A morning coffee club gave early risers a chance to bolster themselves for the eventful meetings that followed and was sponsored by Ampex Corp., which also sponsored continental breakfasts for the Spouses' Program. JVC Corp. provided orchids for the ladies.

The Spouses' Program was organized by Fran Kennedy, who kept her charges busy with a tour of San Francisco, a trip to a design center, a fashion show, and a luncheon. Conference activities concluded on Sunday, when 30 lucky participants took a bus tour of the Berringer and Christian Brothers vineyards in the Napa Valley. The tour was organized by Past-President Charles E. Anderson and Judi Puckett-Fibush, both of Ampex Corp., and was a fitting farewell to the hospitality of northern California.

Papers Program

The 17th Annual SMPTE Television Conference featured the presentation of 33 important technical papers, grouped under four different topic areas. The first subject covered Generating the Pictures, under the supervision of Session Chairman Gerry Brill, Ampex Corp., and Session Vice-Chairman Ken Manley. The seven papers in this topic area were presented Friday morning and included discussions on the latest broadcast technology.

On Friday afternoon the papers on Manipulating the Pictures were presented, with Session Chairman Steve Kerman, Tektronix, and Vice-Chairman Bob Daines, Custom Video Systems. The papers, eight in all, discussed such things as computer graphics and digital special effects and generated lively interest from the audience.

Saturday morning saw the presentation of the papers on Recording the Pictures, with Program and Session Chairman David Fibush, Ampex Corp., and Vice-Chairman Tom Mehrens, Sony Corp., attending. Some of the seven presentations featured discussions on the type-C format, analog and digital components, digital video recording, 8-9 block code.

Saturday afternoon wrapped up the Papers Program with the session on Programming the Pictures. The presentation of the 11 papers in the session was overseen by Session Chairman Merrill Weiss, KPIX-TV, and Vice-



General Arrangements Chairman Glen Pensinger introducing the guest speaker, Boris Townsend, at the Get-Together Luncheon.



SMPTE General Arrangements Chairman Glen Pensinger, Conference Program Chairman David K. Fibush, and Audio/Visual Chairman Vernon Kipping.



Queuing up to register for the SMPTE Television Conference.

Chairman Roy Trumbull, KRON-TV. The papers discussed the various applications of microcomputers in television technology and other related subjects. A joint SMPTE/EBU report on the status of serial digital control of television and related equipment was presented as well.

The papers presented at the conference will be published in their entirety in SMPTE's new book, *Video Pictures of the Future: High Definition Television/Television Graphics and Special Effects/Videotape For-*

mats/Microcomputers. The book is available as of April, 1983.

Engineering Committee Meetings

A number of important Engineering Committee meetings sponsored by the Society took place during the conference as well. The purpose of the Engineering Committees is to aid the development and maintenance of engineering standards and practices for the television arts. The 17 committees that met during the conference are as follows:



John Carlson, Leo Diner, and Kay Kibby at the SMPTE Information Booth.



Donna Foster-Roizen, Membership and Publications Chairlady and official photographer.



Wine and Cheese Party Co-Chairman Donald E. Lincoln.



SMPTE Secretary Carlos Kennedy, SMPTE Sections Vice-President Frederick M. Remley, and Spouses' Program Chairlady Fran Kennedy at the Wine and Cheese Party.



Students of television at the College of San Mateo volunteered their time to work at the SMPTE Publications and Membership Desk. Shown are Lowell Blank, Josie Morris, and Aaron Strain.

- The Subgroup on Camera/Recorder System Design
- The Subgroup on Camera/Recorder Interface
- The Working Group on Camera/Recorder Component Analog
- The Working Group on Digital Video Standards
- The HDTV Subgroup #2 — Psychophysics
- The HDTV Subgroup #4 — Equipment
- The Working Group on Digital Tape Recording
- A Study Group on Digital Tape Recording
- A Study Group on Digital TV, The HDTV Subgroup #1 — Production
- The HDTV Subgroup #3 — Distribution
- The Study Group on Digital Studio Implementation
- The Working Group on Time and Control
- The TV Technology Committee
- The Study Group on HDTV
- The Standards Committee
- The Working Group on Digital Control of TV Studio Equipment.

The Get-Together Luncheon

Now a tradition at the Television Conference, the Get-Together Luncheon was held this year in the West Ballroom of the St. Francis Hotel. A reception was held beforehand, where guests enjoyed cocktails and light snacks before being seated for lunch.

Speaking from the dais, President Leonard Coleman welcomed the guests, saying that he was pleased with the enthusiasm shown for the Television Conference, and that it promised to be among the best ever. He introduced Arrangements Chairman Glen Pensinger, San Jose State University, who in turn introduced guest speaker Dr. Boris Townsend, Head of Engineering Information Services, IBA. The text of Dr. Townsend's address follows.