

SMPTE Represented at Montreux and BKSTS Conventions

The SMPTE continued to play an important international role as it participated in two major European conferences over the summer. The Society had a booth at both the Montreux Symposium and BKSTS 85. The Montreux International Television Symposium was held in Switzerland June 6-12, and the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society's BKSTS 85 took place in London June 30-July 5, 1985. Both international conventions basically follow a format similar to SMPTE's conferences, with technical presentations complementing the exhibits. The two conferences, which are held biennially on the odd-numbered years, have grown in stature and size as the technology has expanded.

Montreux Television Symposium

Attendance at the Montreux Television Symposium was among the highest in recent years for the papers presentations and the exhibit, in which over 200 manufacturers participated. The technical sessions concentrated for the most part on which TV standard (if any) should be adopted by the TV industry; when a standardized digital VTR will be available at reasonable cost; the new esoteric TV services coming into being; the number of MAC systems proliferating; and the choices among all of the current hi-tech hardware available. In addition, the results of the world's first all-digital TV production were demonstrated to the delegates.

BKSTS 85 Convention

Attendance at the BKSTS convention topped 2000. Speakers from both sides of the Atlantic presented papers reviewing the current situation as it pertains to various aspects of the motion-picture and television industry. Papers were given on such topics as



The SMPTE booth at the Montreux Palace Hotel. Representing the Society were Lynette Robinson, Executive Director, and Alex Alden, Manager of Engineering. Glen Pensinger, San Francisco State University, was visiting. (Photo courtesy Donna Foster-Rolzen.)



An SMPTE engineering meeting was held near the booth.



Montreux was a beautiful setting for the symposium. The Montreux Palace is shown on the right, and the Maison des Congress exhibition hall in the center. (Photo courtesy Donna Foster-Rolzen.)

motion-picture special effects, audio-visual and computer graphics, 3-D computer animation, television and video technology, sound technology, and laboratory technology. The exhibit included over 70 international companies from the U.K., Australia,

Europe, and the U.S. At the annual BKSTS Fellowship Luncheon held on July 3rd, several members of the SMPTE were honored with Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship awards. Further details appear on page 1112 of this issue.

The Society's Role

Executive Vice-President M. Carlos Kennedy, Ampex Corp., was the designated SMPTE official at Montreux, and President Harold J. Eady, Novo Communications, Inc., fulfilled that function at BKSTS. The Society's booths, manned by Executive Director Lynette Robinson and Manager of Engineering Alex E. Alden, as well as a number of officers and/or governors who were in attendance, provided a personal means for SMPTE members to meet and discuss their mutual interests, pay dues, see the latest in SMPTE publications and test materials, and receive information on future SMPTE conferences. The booths also served as centers for engineering committee meetings, international relations committee meetings, and as a place for members to renew friendships with old acquaintances or to meet and talk to new members of the Society.

The Society hopes that in future years at similar international meetings, members will stop by to say hello, introduce new members, and meet with its elected officers. The Society will continue to maintain a presence at international meetings for the convenience of its members and for persons interested in joining the SMPTE.



The rear terrace of the Maison des Congress was crowded with satellite dishes and outside exhibits. (Photo courtesy Donna Foster-Rolzen.)