

said he hopes to see SMPTE membership in the Soviet Union grow to 2000 over the next few years. He concluded with greetings and best wishes for the SMPTE Soviet Section from the Minister of Cinematography and the Minister of Radio and Television.

Next, Canadian Governor Gordon Ballantyne conducted the election of the new Section's officers and managers, resulting in the following slate being approved by a show of hands: *Chairwoman*: Dr. Eleanora Vinogradova, NIKFI; *Secretary/Treasurer*: Dr. Valery S. Ershov, NIKFI; *Managers*: Vladimir V. Jegorov, Vladimir G. Makoveev, Alexander S. Mkrtnumov, Jevgeny I. Ivanov, Valery P.

Belousov, and Anatoly V. Sokolov.

Executive Vice-President Blaine Baker congratulated the organizers of the Section, saying that the future of the Society depends on the strength of its sections, and that he was pleased to see the Soviet Section a reality. He expressed Maurice French's regrets that he could not continue his scheduled trip from Munich to Moscow, to inaugurate the new Soviet SMPTE Section, as it was necessary for him to return to Canada on Sunday, October 30, because of a family emergency. Speaking on behalf of President French, Baker said, "He sends his congratulations and best wishes for your success, and he was pleased to

contribute to this historic event." Mr. Baker then read the speech that French had prepared. The text of this speech follows this report.

In closing, Mr. Baker presented gifts to each member of the organizing committee in appreciation of their work towards the realization of an SMPTE Soviet Section. A plaque commemorating the inauguration of the Section was presented to the first Chairwoman, Eleanora Vinogradova.

The ceremony was followed by a buffet reception featuring traditional Russian foods for the enjoyment of all participants.

Inaugural Address, SMPTE Soviet Union Section Moscow, USSR

Prepared by SMPTE President Maurice L. French

This is indeed a historic occasion in our Society's history, and I send you greetings and best wishes from the officers and the Board of Governors. I would like to congratulate the Soviet Organizing Committee, Vladimir Makoveev, Vladimir Jegorov, and Eleanora Vinogradova. Their dedication and commitment has made this new Section a reality. An event such as this of course requires the support and assistance of many people, and everyone who has contributed to the creation of this new Section is to be commended.

This new Soviet Union Section is the fourth SMPTE Section to be opened in Europe in the past 16 months. These activities reflect the increasing international participation in our Society, so important and necessary if we are to manage and effectively utilize escalating motion-picture and television technology for the common good. Attending today's celebration are Executive Vice-President Blaine Baker, Engineering Vice-President Stan Baron, 1991 International Governor John Barry, Canadian Governor Gordon Ballan-

tyne, and Executive Director Lynette Robinson.

The formation of an SMPTE Soviet Union Section, I believe, constitutes an extremely important beginning in the affairs of our Society. A section provides a unique and ideal opportunity for engineers and scientists in the Soviet Union to assemble on a regular basis throughout the year to hear the presentation of technical papers from both the motion-picture and the television disciplines. Regular section meetings will also provide a forum for discussion and an exchange of ideas. These meetings also provide the opportunity for you to invite specialists from other countries to present technical information on new advances and developments.

Canada, like the Soviet Union, is a large country, and the Canadian members are separated by many miles. This has resulted in the formation of new sections in major Canadian cities. In recent years, through the courtesy of Global Television Network, occasional Toronto Section meetings have been transmitted via satellite to local meetings of the membership across Canada. If facilities and cooperation could be obtained here in the Soviet Union, this teleconferencing technique would benefit your distant members.

The Australian and Canadian Sections also arrange extremely successful two to four-day technical conferences. These conferences attract international experts who present highly informative papers at the technical sessions. In the case of Australia, a technical equipment exhibit is also included.

The exchange of technical information and the participation in the Society's standardization activities is a two-way street. It is therefore important that the Soviet members become involved in the affairs of the Society through publication of technical papers in the Society's *Journal*, the presentation of technical papers at SMPTE conferences, and the involvement in the many standards activities that the Society undertakes.

The Society headquarters provides support to assist you in developing your new events. The Society officers who are responsible for specific activities will be only too pleased to help you.

Annually, the Society sponsors a training seminar for the new section chairmen and engineering committee chairmen. This provides an excellent opportunity for the chairmen to more fully understand how our Society functions. We look forward to your participation.

Text of President Maurice French's address prepared for inaugural meeting of new SMPTE Soviet Section, on October 1, 1990, in Moscow, USSR. Executive Vice-President Blaine Baker read the speech in French's absence.