

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

FELLOW MEMBERS AND GUESTS:

IT GIVES me great pleasure to welcome you all to another annual convention of the Society, with such delightful surroundings and with such a promising program. As I look back over nearly ten years, during which I have been a member of the Society, I share with you in the pride and satisfaction in its growth, progress and accomplishments.

Most of the significant inventions and developments in our industry during the past decade have been announced or demonstrated at our conventions. Our Society has become the recognized authority for the reference of any questions pertaining to our industry and our TRANSACTIONS have an international reputation as the greatest contribution to its technical literature.

Our material and financial condition has kept pace with our scientific progress, so that the financial problems which formerly caused us much anxiety have been practically eliminated.

In looking over the former executive addresses, one is strongly impressed with the number of recommended changes in the administrative department of the Society. As a result of the changes which were made in accordance with the recommendations, the Society's business is now administered much more simply and I believe effectively by your Board of Governors than it was formerly conducted in open meeting with consequent confusion and loss of time during our conventions, which are now more profitably employed in the presentation and discussion of the valuable papers which are contributed on these occasions.

Probably few of the members who have not participated directly therein, realize the great amount of work which is undertaken and successfully accomplished by a few individuals who make up the committees and members of the Board of Governors.

Four years ago, we had 25 different committees functioning with more or less activity in our Society. Today, as much or perhaps more work is being accomplished by six committees. This of course means that the members of the present committees are devoting a larger proportion of their time and energy to the Society's business. This committee work has been facilitated to a considerable extent by the continuation on the various committees of men who have had several

years of experience in their respective capacities and have, therefore, acquired the ability to handle the work with a maximum of efficiency. It is only because of this familiarity with the duties as your executive that I felt justified in accepting the nomination for a third term as president, although two of my predecessors had each held a third term as your executive.

About 80 firms or organizations have membership in the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, and we may with confidence assert that we are fairly representative of the technical part of the motion picture industry. As a result, there is hardly a department of the industry that is not benefited by the activities of our Society. However, this is not as well known as it should be, and in spite of its importance, the Society is numerically small and comparatively unknown to a large number of people who are eligible for membership and who would be benefited thereby.

We are not in urgent need of increased membership, but we welcome new members who are in sympathy with the objects for which this Society was formed. The activities of the Society are wide in scope, and we are very liberal in our requirements for membership in our organization. With all this in mind, I earnestly request all members of our organization to do whatever they can to have the industry as a whole realize what we are doing. Speak a good word for the Society of Motion Picture Engineers whenever you can and assist in every possible way to show the entire industry why this organization should receive their full support. We wish the attendance at our meetings to be as large as possible, and we feel that every organization that sends a representative to attend our conventions will be well repaid.

In conclusion, let me extend my sincere appreciation to every member whose efforts have contributed to our success, to the organizations who have extended their support, and to the press and trade papers who have given us publicity.