

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

AT THE Lake Placid Fall meeting of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers in September, 1928, your Membership Committee reported that 130 new members had been accepted and added to the society during the year, making an increase of more than fifty per cent in the membership.

At the same time, we announced that the object of the membership committee was to obtain a total of 1,000 members by the end of 1930. The membership committee takes pleasure in reporting again, the greatest expansion of the Society yet accomplished. In the past six months since the Lake Placid meeting, we have accepted and added to the society over 200 new members. In addition, about 40 applications are pending before the Board of Governors for action. We are thus well on our way toward the goal of 1,000 members.

The Membership Committee takes this opportunity of urging every member to send in the names of all technical workers he knows to be eligible so that the membership committee may extend them a cordial invitation to join the society.

Fifty of the new members are of the recently established London section, the formation of which was accomplished by Dr. Hickman in London, where he spent considerable time last summer discussing the Society's affairs.

Your committee has made a special effort to obtain members in foreign countries, and has been successful in securing members not only in Germany, France, and Italy, but in such far countries as India, and Japan, and Australia.

Particular efforts are being made to extend the S.M.P.E. benefits and membership to the younger technical workers, and quite a large number of the new members are Sound Picture technicians who have been attracted to our Society through our interest in sound picture production.

In conclusion, we feel compelled to remind you that the society has changed. The society of today is not the society of yesterday. It has the same ideals, the same high scientific purpose, but its personnel and its opportunities have undergone an expansion which demands re-adjustment.

Two years ago, we were faced with the choice between remaining a small relatively unknown scientific society or becoming a large internationally known technical organization. We have chosen the latter course; but this choice carries great obligations. To those already in the society, no matter what their standing, it carries the necessity for re-adjustment, to those joining us, it gives the privilege of contributing, to the most progressive movement in the motion picture industry.

We find there are a large number of the younger technical workers in the motion picture industry who feel that the entrance fee and dues are rather high, and we believe that a reduction of the entrance fee should be made as soon as it is shown that finances of the society will permit. The advisability of having the same dues of active and associate members should be considered. There appear no particular reasons for discriminating against active membership.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

H. T. Cowling, Chairman

J. W. Boyle	M. L. Mistry
E. E. Blake	B. E. Norrish
J. W. Coffman	E. C. Schmitz
J. T. Flanagan	J. L. Spence, Jr.
E. R. Geib	C. M. Williamson
K. C. Hickman	F. C. Zucker