

Perhaps at some future meeting one of the above installations, or perhaps both, could be presented in a paper that would be of great interest to the Society.

## Papers Committee Report

By L. C. PORTER

Gentlemen:

An engineering society such as ours is of use first to its members; next to the industry they represent; third to the public in general, largely in proportion to the amount of data that is collected, analyzed and exchanged through the mediums of convention papers, committee meetings and personal contact. Such data forms the basis of standardization, of practice and equipment, as well as development and progress.

Success along these lines means that our organization will take its place among leading engineering societies of the country, thereby becoming a powerful factor in the standardization and growth of the motion picture industry.

Your papers committee, whose privilege it is to have most to do with the securing and presenting data in the form of papers and committee reports, has felt a very keen responsibility in their work. While the results have not been entirely satisfactory to the committee and may not be to the society, we have worked hard and offer no apologies, but earnestly solicit constructive criticism and welcome suggestions on which we can act in the future.

It may be worth while to take the time to point out to you the general line of procedure which we have followed in preparing for this convention.

First: In order that the different members of the committee should not unnecessarily duplicate work a tentative program was laid out last November and different members of the committee assigned specific things to do as follows:

1. To classify the Society membership into the various branches of the industry and find out how many, if any, papers have been contributed pertaining to each branch and to make special effort to get papers on the branches having few. This classification appeared in the Pittsburgh Transactions.

2. To send a letter to the entire membership requesting them to express their preference as to subjects and authors for convention papers. This was done, but received little response.

3. To keep the membership posted from time to time as to the nature and amount of material being secured for the Montreal Convention. This was accomplished through multigraph copies of the papers committee's monthly progress report sent out by our society.

4. To study the transactions of the engineering organizations whose work overlaps that of our society, such as the Illuminating Engineering Society, and secure a resumé of papers presented before such other organizations as have a bearing on our work.

Also to get in touch with such societies and the authors of such papers with a view of securing joint papers or at least an exchange of speakers.

Unfortunately, pressure of business has prevented this work from being done. It is the hope of the papers committee to have the work taken up by someone who will have the time to carry it through.

5. To make a study of the possibilities of securing such papers as would contribute to a possible educational course. This work has been outlined to you as suggestions in connection with the report of the Educational Committee.

6. To form a new committee known as the Progress Committee whose work would be to review and report the advance of the entire art since the last convention. The very interesting report of this committee testifies to its success.

7. To prepare a definite program time schedule for the convention, grouping papers and committee reports bearing on similar topics.

8. To leave no stone unturned in securing papers that we believe desirable.

In carrying out the last work the committee has used approximately fifteen pounds of stationery, representing two thousand sheets, 8 by 10 inches, typewritten material, the majority of which is composed of dictated letters.

Nomenclature lists and the society pamphlet "Notes on the Preparation of Papers and Discussions" were sent to all prospective authors.

An effort was made to secure synopses of the various papers considerably in advance of the text. These synopses were turned over to the trade papers as fast as they were received.

Advance copies of some of the papers were prepared and sent to those requesting them and a return postal card sent to the entire membership. The only reason that advance copies of all the papers were not available is because the papers committee did not receive the texts in time. In fact, some of the papers have not yet been turned in. If they are to appear in the *Transactions*, they must be received in the very near future as we shall try and send the *Transactions* to press June 1st. The various papers are being edited for appearance in the *Transactions*. In this work no changes are made in the fundamental data or text, but the phraseology and terminology are being dressed up to conform to our recognized nomenclature and to be suited to the dignified transactions of an engineering body.

We have been unable to accept several proposed papers on account of an overflowing program. It is our hope that the authors of these papers will re-submit them in ample time for the Fall convention and that the members of the Society will assist the papers committee by personal efforts to put us in touch with men who are doing interesting work of value to our membership and worthy

of consideration for presentation to this society as a convention paper.

It is the earnest recommendation of the papers committee that in the future, individual discussions of the papers be strictly limited to four minutes. We believe that the meat of any discussion can be presented in such time. The rest of it, if desired, can be submitted in writing for use in the *Transactions*.

We also urge that stenographic reports of these four-minute discussions be taken down, edited and printed with the paper in the *Transactions*.

## **Supplement to Report of Papers Committee**

### EDUCATIONAL SUGGESTIONS

In considering past activities, present program and the future policy of the Papers Committee, the members of this committee have many times discussed the advisability of a complete educational program for the projectionist. With the diversified program which has been arranged for this convention, it seemed the proper time to suggest the consideration of such educational activities of the Society.

The National Electric Light Association, which is an association of all the large electrical illuminating companies in the country, has prepared a correspondence course for the education of the illuminating companies' employees. This correspondence course is sold to the employees and has met with great success, both in the results obtained, and the financial return to the association. It is the suggestion of your Papers Committee that a similar idea be carried out by this Society for the purpose of bringing before the projectionist in lessons the combined knowledge of the experts of the various lines represented in our Society. There are several handbooks available for the projectionist but none of them are in educational form.

It is the suggestion of your Papers Committee that in the future as many papers as possible be presented with the idea in view of incorporating the material therein into lessons which will ultimately be combined into a correspondence course. It is the further suggestion of your Papers Committee that a committee be appointed to consider this question and report to the convention before its adjournment.

Should such an educational program be decided upon, we would suggest that a standing committee be appointed which would be composed of representatives of each line of activity represented in this body. Each representative of the line of activity would become the chairman of a sub-committee covering that particular activity. The members of each sub-committee should be all the members of the Society interested in that particular subject. For instance, on the subject of the projection machine; one of the representatives of one of the manufacturers of a projection machine would become a member of the standing committee and automatically become chairman of the sub-committee on projection machines.