

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Nomenclature Committee

YOUR Committee has worked hard to discover for the words listed the definition which most nearly expresses the idea in the minds of those who use the term, on the assumption that the words used define the thing, function, or act visioned in the minds of authorities in the art.

In an effort to unify the terms used in our own art with those employed elsewhere, the personnel of the Committee was selected from wide sources of employment.

Certainly a definition should apply to the same article when used in different branches of the same art, for example, it would not do to say that an "Objective is the imaging lens on a projecting machine," when, as a matter of fact, an "Objective" is a lens which forms images in a variety of instruments, in our own, as well as in many different arts.

It has been difficult to determine what should be included, and what should be omitted. But after a great deal of discussion, the following were adopted as working rules, namely, that—

(1) The Committee should give to words used in older arts and industries, their previous accepted meaning.

(2) Definitions of words should be selected which define their meaning rather than explain uses.

(3) Definitions should be as short as consistent with unquestionable identification.

(4) Definitions should not be included in the list which are so self-evident or of such wide use as to make our work seem cumbersome and trifling.

And that the following three classes of words only be defined:

(1) Expressions belonging to the projection industry alone, the meaning of which has long been accepted by the whole industry.

(2) Expressions from other industries used universally in motion-picture work, with specialized meanings.

(3) Expressions the meaning of which may be difficult to find in ordinary reference books or which are already used in more than one way in other industries.

Your Committee has been engaged in this work for more than four years now, in a conscientious effort to meet all objections without the destruction of the entire fabric, but so far without very definite result, because it is so easy to criticise and so difficult to constructively amend.

The Committee feels, therefore, that further criticism of a definition should be accompanied by a definition believed by the proponent to be more desirable.

It is obvious that whatever is adopted should be added to from

time to time, and the proposal of terms and their definitions is earnestly solicited.

However, as it is believed unlikely that better definitions than those read and amended in open meeting last May, and printed in the transactions of that (Washington) meeting, and which doubtless all of you have read and considered, the Nomenclature Committee recommends as a beginning that that list be adopted as printed, after the correction of typographical errors.

C. F. JENKINS, *Chairman.*

Motion Picture Nomenclature

Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

Definitions adopted by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, at its Buffalo, N. Y., meeting, October 31, and Nov. 1, 2 and 3, 1921.

ACTION—The director's signal to the players to begin performing.

ARC—A column of very hot light-emitting gas, carrying an electric current sustaining this condition.

BACK FOCUS—The distance from the principal focus of a lens to its nearest face.

BUSINESS—Action by the player; e. g., business of shutting door.

CAMERA—The director's signal to the photographer to begin taking the scene.

CHANGE-OVER—In projection, the act of changing from one projector to another without interrupting the continuity of projection.

CINE—A prefix used in description of the motion picture art or apparatus.

CLOSE-UP—Scene or action taken with the character close to the camera.

CONDENSER—The lens combination which deflects the diverging rays of the luminant into the projection lens.

Collecting Lens—The lens of the condenser nearest the light source.

Converging Lens—The lens nearest the objective.

Center Lens—The lens of a three lens combination, lying between the collecting lens and the converging lens.

CUTTING—Editing a picture by the elimination of unacceptable film.

CUT-BACK—Scenes which are returns to previous action.

CUT-IN—Anything inserted in a scene which breaks its continuity.

DEVELOPING—Making visible the latent image in an exposed film.

DISSOLVE—The gradual transition of one scene into another.

DIRECTOR—The person who superintends the actual production of the motion picture.

DOUBLE EXPOSURE—The exposure of a negative film in a camera twice before development.

DOUBLE PRINTING—The exposure of a sensitive film under two negatives prior to development.

DOUSER—The manually operated door in the projecting machine which intercepts the light before it reaches the film.

DUPE—A negative made from a positive.

EFFECTIVE APERTURE—The largest diameter of a lens available under the conditions considered.

Definitions Submitted by the Nomenclature Committee for Consideration by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers

EQUIVALENT FOCAL LENGTH—The equivalent focal length of a combination of lenses is equal to the focal length of a simple thin lens which will give an image of a distant object of the same size as does the combination lenses.

FILM SIZE—See Special Report of Committee.

FRAMING—Moving a frame into register with the aperture during the period of rest.

LANTERN PICTURE—A still picture projected on the screen by a stereopticon.

LANTERN SLIDE (Stereo Slide)—A transparent picture for projection by a stereopticon.

PROJECTOR—A lantern for suitably moving and projecting motion picture film.

RETAKE—A second photograph of a scene.

SPLIT REEL—A reel of film of two (or more) parts, the subject of each part unrelated to the subject of the other part.

Special Report Nomenclature Committee

The Nomenclature Committee recommends, on the following matter, referred to it by motion of this session, that—

The $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch film in wide use for so many years shall be known as *Standard Film*; and, that—

The film at present known as safety standard shall be known as *28 Millimetre Film*.

C. FRANCIS JENKINS. *Chairman.*

The convention adopted this report for action at the next meeting.