

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
of the
Society of Motion Picture Engineers

Name

1. The name of this association shall be Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

Objects

2. Its object shall be: Advancement in the theory and practice of motion picture engineering and the allied arts and sciences, the standardization of the mechanisms and practices employed therein, and the maintenance of a high professional standing among its members.

Membership

3. The membership of the Society shall consist of Pioneer Members, Honorary Members, Active Members and Associate Members. A Pioneer Member is defined as one who was in the art as a principal fifteen years or more antedating the time of the organization of this Society; an Honorary Member as one who has been actively engaged in designing, developing or manufacturing materials, mechanisms or processes used in this or allied arts for more than ten years; an Active Member as one who shall not be less than 25 years of age and shall be:

(a) A motion picture engineer by profession. He shall have been in the practice of his profession for a period of at least three years and shall have taken responsibility for the design, installation or operation of systems or apparatus pertaining to the motion picture industry.

(b) A person regularly employed in motion picture or closely allied work, who by his inventions or proficiency in motion picture science or as an executive of a motion picture enterprise of large scope, has attained a recognized standing in the motion picture art. In the case of such an executive, the applicant must be qualified to take full charge of the broader features of motion picture engineering involved in the work under his direction.

An Associate Member as one who shall not be less than 21 years of age, and shall be a person who is interested in or connected with the study of motion picture technical problems or the application of same.

Eligibility

4. Any person of good character may be a member in any or all classes to which he is eligible.

Prospective members for Active Membership shall be recommended in writing by at least two Active members in good standing, and for Associate Membership by at least one Active member in good standing, and may be elected only by the unanimous vote of the members of the Board of Governors in session.

Applications

5. All applications for membership or transfers shall be made on blank forms provided for the purpose, and shall be accompanied by the required fee.

The entrance fee shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for admission to the grade of Active Member, and ten dollars (\$10.00) for admission to the grade of Associate Member.

The transfer fee from Associate to Active grade shall be the difference between the admission fee or twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

The annual dues shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00) for Active Members, and ten dollars (\$10.00) for Associate Members, payable on or before October 1st of each year.

Active Members and Associate Members elected by the Board of Governors, prior to, or at the Spring meeting, shall pay the full annual dues, and those elected after the Spring meeting and prior to the Fall meeting, shall pay half annual dues.

The dues for Pioneer Members shall be \$250 and its payment exempts the member from all future dues.

The dues for Honorary Members shall be \$100 and its payment exempts the member from all future dues.

Officers

6. The officers of the Society shall be a President, the Past President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Governors. The above named officers and four Governors shall be elected to their respective offices at the annual Fall meeting by a majority of autographed ballots of the members, and counted by a committee of tellers appointed by the President. All officers shall hold office for one year or until their successors are chosen, except the Board of Governors, as hereinafter provided, and the Vice-Presidents; one of whom latter-named shall be elected for two years and one for one year, and then one for two years, each year thereafter.

Governors

7. The Board of Governors shall consist of the President, the Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Section Chairmen, and four other Active members; two of which last-named shall be elected for a two year term, and two for one year, and then two for two years each year thereafter.

Duties

8. The duties of the several officers are those usually appertaining to each such office, together with such additional duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Governors.

The Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Board of Governors.

Meetings

9. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held in such places and at such hours as the members may have designated at the preceding meeting.

A quorum shall consist of twenty-five or more voting members. Special meetings may be called by the Board of Governors when necessity therefor arises. Active members only shall be entitled to vote. The Board of Governors shall meet quarterly at such time and place as they may select. Special meetings may be called by the President when occasion requires, or upon the request of any three members of the Board of Governors, not including the President.

Publications

10. All matters of general interest deemed worthy of permanent record shall be published in serial volumes as soon as possible after each regularly called Members' meeting. A copy shall be mailed each member in good standing to his last address of record. Extra copies shall be printed for general distribution, and may be obtained of the Secretary on the payment of a fee fixed by the Board of Governors.

Emblem

11. The emblem of the Society shall be a facsimile of a four-hole film-reel, with the Letter S in the upper center opening, and the letters M, P and E, in the three lower openings, respectively. In the printed emblem, the four hole openings shall be orange, and the letters black, the remainder of the insignia being black and white. The Society's emblem may be worn by members only.

Delinquents

12. Members who are in arrears of dues for thirty days after notice of such delinquency, mailed to their last address of record, shall have their names posted at the Society's headquarters which shall be the office of the Secretary, and notices of such action mailed them; and thirty days after such posting the members shall be dropped from the rolls if such non-payment has continued.

Annual dues for the succeeding year shall be paid prior to the annual Fall meeting, and only members in good standing, who shall have paid all dues to that date, may vote or otherwise participate in the meeting.

Suspension

13. Any member may be suspended or expelled for cause by a five-eighths vote of the Board of Governors; provided, he shall be given notice and a copy in writing of the charges preferred against him and shall be afforded opportunity to be heard ten days prior to such action.

Local Sections

14. Sections of the Society may be authorized in any State or locality where the Active membership exceeds 10. The geographic boundaries of each section to be determined by the Board of Governors.

15. Upon written petition, signed by ten or more Active members, for the authorization of a Section of the Society, the Board of Governors may grant such authorization if the necessary membership exists within the locality specified in the petition.

Meetings

16. Meetings of the Section shall be held at time and places fixed by the Section's Board of Managers.

Officers

17. Each Section shall nominate and elect a Chairman, two Managers and a Secretary. The Section Chairman shall automatically become a member of the Board of Governors of the General Society, and continue in that position for the duration of his term, as Chairman of the Local Section.

Election of Officers

18. The Officers of the Section shall be elected to their respective offices at the annual Fall meeting of the Section, by a majority of autographed ballots of the Active membership of the Section, and counted by a Committee of Tellers appointed by the Section's Chairman.

19. All Section Officers shall hold office for one year or until their successors are chosen, except the Board of Managers, as hereinafter provided.

Managers

20. The Board of Managers shall consist of the Section Chairman, the Section Past Chairman, the Section Secretary, and two Active members, one of which last named shall be elected for a two year term, and one for one year, and then one for two years each year thereafter.

Business

21. The business of a Section shall be conducted by the Board of Managers.

By-Laws

22. A Section may formulate By-Laws for its conduct, which shall conform with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, and with the policy of the Society, as fixed by the Board of Governors. Proposed By-Laws, when approved by the Board of Governors of the General Society may be adopted by a two-thirds vote, at a regular or special meeting of a Section; notification of such meeting, together with a copy of the proposed By-Laws shall be sent to all members of the Section at least 10 days prior to the date fixed for its holding.

Expenses

23. As early as possible in the fiscal year, the Secretary of each Section shall submit to the Board of Governors of the Society a budget of expenses for the year.

24. The Treasurer of the Society may deposit with each Section Secretary a sum of money, the amount to be fixed by the Board of Governors, for current expenses.

25. Other expenses than those enumerated in the budget, as approved by the Board of Governors of the General Society, to be payable from the funds of the General Society, must first be authorized by the Board of Governors.

26. A Section Board of Managers may authorize, and shall provide for the payment by local assessments of any expenses of a Section beyond those authorized to be paid from the general fund of the Society.

27. The Secretary of the Society shall supply to each Section all stationery and printing, aside from notices of meetings, necessary for the conduct of its business.

28. The Secretary of each Section shall send monthly to the Treasurer of the General Society an itemized account of all expenditures during the preceding month.

Meetings

29. The regular meetings of a Section shall be held in such places and at such hours as the members may have designated at the preceding meeting.

30. The Secretary of each Section shall forward to the Secretary of the General Society, not later than five days after a meeting of a Section, a statement of the attendance and of the business transacted.

Papers

31. Papers shall be approved by the Section's Papers Committee previous to their being presented before a Section. Manuscripts of papers presented before a Section, together with a report of the discussions, and the proceedings of the Section meetings, shall promptly be forwarded by the Section Secretary to the Secretary of the General Society. Such material may, at the discretion of the Papers Committee of the General Society, be printed in the Society's Transactions.

Membership

32. Should the Active membership of a Section fall below 10, or the average attendance at meetings not warrant the expense of maintaining the organization, the Board of Governors may cancel its authorization.

33. All members and honorary members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers in good standing, residing in that portion of any country set apart by the Board of Governors to be tributary to any local Section, shall be considered members of that local Section, and shall be so enrolled and they shall be entitled to all privileges that such local Sections may, under the General Society's Constitution and By-Laws, provide.

Constitution and By-Laws

34. Sections shall abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, and conform to the regulations of the Board of Governors. The conduct of Sections shall always be in conformity with the general policy of the Society as fixed by the Board of Governors.

Amendments

35. These By-Laws may be amended, altered or added to at any regularly called Members' meeting on a two-thirds vote by ballot of the members present at the meeting.