New BKSTS Fellows

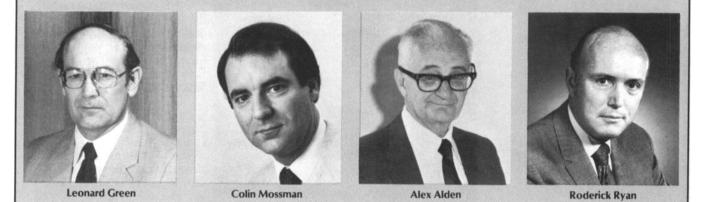
Seven SMPTE members, newly elected BKSTS Fellows, were among those honored at the Fellowship Luncheon held June 29 at the Royal Garden Hotel. They are: Duncan Calder, Calder Equipment Ltd., Herts, England; Chris Geyer, Geyer-Werke, Hamburg, Germany; Leonard Green, National Film Board of Canada; Colin Mossman, Rank Film Labs, Middlesex, England; and Roderick T. Ryan, Eastman Kodak Co., Hollywood.

Alex E. Alden was made a

BKSTS Honorary Fellow. Alden, an SMPTE Fellow, is Manager of Engineering at SMPTE Headquarters, and has served ably in that post for the last 22 years. He has been widely recognized for his work in behalf of international standardization, and for his dedicated service in the advancement of motion-picture and television engineering.

Leonard Green, an SMPTE Fellow, is currently a Governor for the Canadian Region. Roderick T. Ryan, an SMPTE Fellow, has continued to engage in activities of importance to both the BKSTS and the SMPTE. Colin Mossman, an SMPTE Fellow, has contributed papers to the SMPTE Journal and has served the BKSTS in various capacities.

Alan Hirst, BKSTS President, welcomed the new Fellows. In acknowledgement, Leonard Green stressed the mutual interests of the two societies and their continuing cooperation.



SMPTE Report

The Montreux International Symposium

By Barry C. Detwiler

Switzerland is truly international. This magnificently beautiful country of Alpine "skyscrapers" was an ideal setting for an international television conference. Visitors came from all over the world to Montreux's International Symposium, the thirteenth held on the shore of Lac Leman. There was a large turnout, not only from Europe and North America, but from the Persian Gulf States, South and Central America, Southeast Asia, and China. Because of the large number of participants, lodgings were at a premium. Guests were booked in accommodations up to an hour's bus ride from Montreux. A conference bus was provided for the convenience of the participants.

At the symposium, some of the topics demonstrated and presented in technical papers were High-Definition Television, Multiple Analog Component (MAC) Television, Enhanced Television (at the receiver), and Satellite and Digital Systems.

High-Definition Television

Of particular interest at this Symposium was a series of high-definition TV demonstrations produced by six European broadcasting organizations. 'These productions, the first of their kind in Europe, were presented in wide-screen 3:5 HDTV.

Organized by HDTV advocate Joseph Flaherty of CBS, the productions were prepared by SSR of Switzerland; ORF, Austria; SFP, France; TSS, Soviet Union; BBC, United Kingdom; and RA1, Italy. They were presented with two high-definition projection systems made by Panasonic. Besides these demonstrations, an entire day of the technical sessions was devoted to high-definition systems. The sessions included two papers: "High-Definition TV for Production," followed by "Technical Considerations in Choosing HDTV Studio Standards and Problems of Broadcasting Distribution."

Enhanced Television

Kerns Powers, RCA, presented the view that the industry need not concentrate on HDTV systems with greater bandwidth and a higher number of scanning lines. He emphasized that many improvements are possible to enhance the performance of home receivers, and that developmental work should be concentrated in this direction.

Philips announced a CCD field store and demonstrated a technique for sequential transmission of color information, with reassembly being performed at the receiver.

Satellite and Digital Systems

Direct broadcast satellite systems were the subject of a full-day program.

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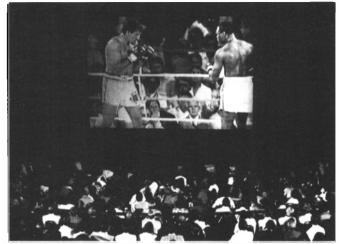
Entertainment: Theatre television, closed-circuit TV events, overflow crowds, special effects.

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View from finish-line projected in racetrack lounge is preferred over grand stand by many patrons.



View from ringside transmitted live to guests in Caesar's Palace lounge.



View from spacecraft transmitted live from NASA to sell-out planetarium crowd.



View from armchair at home is duplicated between races to draw extra admission fee at racetrack lounge.





A paper from the United Kingdom on a 12-GHz DBS system, and another from France on the use of satellites for Eurovision were presented. Three supporting papers dealt with multinational satellite use. Other papers were given on spacecraft, receivers, and scrambling.

An entire day was also devoted to the topic of Digital Systems. Two of the papers presented were "Implementing the TV Digital Standard" and "Progress on Digital Recording."

In a room at the Pavilion (away from their booth), Sony demonstrated the latest DVR prototype. Its major features were multi-standard (NSTC or PAL) recording capability; use of the SMPTE/EBU world standard for digital sampling rates, 13.5 MHz, 4:2:2 family level (luminance and color difference signal bandwidth-ratios); and dual standard simultaneous playback with a new Sony standards converter. This demonstration exhibited excellent quality images in slow or fast motion, as well as multi-channel digital audio.

William Connolly, CBS, presented a paper on the physical cassette parameters work of the SMPTE Digital Recording group he chairs.

RCA demonstrated a charge-coupled device (CCD) color camera, which was said to be a major breakthrough. Performance characteristics include high sensitivity, adequate resolution, and no lag. Visitors were impressed with the camera's handling of specular highlights, even in 10,000:1 ratios and a smooth image gradation. The demonstration compared the CCD camera in a split-screen demo with a normal high-quality tube camera.

SMPTE Booth

On duty at the SMPTE booth at the conference were Lynette Robinson, SMPTE Executive Secretary; this writer; and Eva Patten, the tri-lingual Swiss woman who helped answer questions from our international visitors. High interest was shown in the SMPTE by many of the attendees. Many joined the Society at the symposium, and several from our home continent said it was good to see the SMPTE represented in Europe.

The Montreux Symposium was a meeting of East, West, North, and South for the benefit of better television communications. The consensus seemed to be that it accomplished the purpose well.

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