



The Photographic Society

OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, LIMITED

P.O. BOX 2007, JOHANNESBURG

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- E. Dickinson 26 Gulfoss Road, Valhalla, PRETORIA.

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- Chairman Membership Committee Mr. C. Marik, Box 6175, Johannesburg
- Chairman Honours and Awards ... Mr. E. Dickinson
- Chairman 1965 Congress ... Mr. D. Seaton

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

P.S.S.A. Congress 1964

WE wish to remind all those who attended Congress at Pretorius Kop, that the last day for accepting entries is January 16th, 1965, and that the competition is open only to those who attended Congress.

The competition is in the Three Sections of Prints, Transparencies and Ciné, and a prize of 5 consecutive days stay at the Skukuza guest house, is available in each section.

This is a worthwhile prize, so send your entries now to P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg, marked "Nature Competition."

If you have lost your entry form, apply to the above address or phone Russell Stephen 51-4116 between 5.30 and 7 p.m. evenings.

RECORDED LECTURES

What they are; to whom available, and how they can be obtained

THE Recorded Lectures Service of P.S.S.A. was inaugurated in May, 1955, for the benefit of member clubs, and since that date over 1,100 lectures have been borrowed by 147 clubs in South Africa and the Rhodesias. Is your club amongst those who have availed themselves of this service? If not, we suggest you urge your Committee (if your Club is a member of P.S.S.A.) to take steps to borrow lectures from time to time. If your Club is not a member of P.S.S.A. it is up to you to see that it becomes a member at once.

The Recorded Lectures Service consists of a number of tape recorded talks, illustrated in most cases by from 20 to 100 monochrome or colour slides, but in the case of talks specially prepared for use by ciné clubs, the talks are not illustrated.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Who can borrow these lectures?

The Recorded Lectures Service of P.S.S.A. is offered to member clubs only. The lectures cannot be borrowed by individual members—it is strictly a club activity.

What equipment is needed to use the lectures?

Any standard dual track tape recorder with speed of 3½" per second will handle the sound for the average club meeting room—of course, large halls will need additional amplifiers to provide adequate volume. The lectures average 25 to 50 minutes running time, but a few are only of 15 minutes duration. Any standard manual projector with a minimum wattage of 300 and taking a 2 x 2 inch slide is all that is required for projection.

What about subjects of lectures?

Of the 33 lectures at present in the catalogue, 8 are of

special interest to ciné enthusiasts; 7 deal with comparison and picture making; 1 specially of interest to nature photographers, and the remaining 17 of general interest and of particular interest to colour enthusiasts.

Where can a list of the lectures be obtained?

Application for a copy of the catalogue and details regarding the loan of lectures should be made to Mr. Lionel Bevis, Chairman, P.S.S.A. Recorded Lectures Committee, P.O. Box 1594, Durban.

How are lectures booked?

(a) Select the lectures you desire from the catalogue, and if possible give several choices. The number of the lecture and title should be given to avoid confusion. (b) State meeting date, giving alternate choice of dates if you want a special lecture. Send request at least 21 days in advance (longer if you live in S.W.A. or Rhodesia). Urgent requests will be accepted but delivery cannot be guaranteed. Enclose the necessary booking fee (uncrossed Postal Orders made payable to P.S.S.A. Recorded Lectures Committee, Durban, preferred) with your application and forward to the address given in the previous paragraph.

How do you receive and return lectures?

The lectures are packed in special cases. They are sent to you by Insured Parcels Post to arrive, if possible, a week or ten days prior to your meeting. You repack the lecture box in which it was received, and return it by Insured Parcels Post postage paid to the Chairman, P.S.S.A. Recorded Lectures Committee, P.O. Box 1594, Durban, or to such address as may be specially given to you, the day after your meeting.

How are new lectures announced?

Details of new lectures will be given on the P.S.S.A. page in "Amateur Photography" as soon as they become available.

The success of this service depends entirely upon the prompt despatch of the lecture the day after use.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Society is pleased to receive and publish letters from members. We do not consider that we are, by any means, perfect and adverse criticism is often far more constructive than that of a laudatory nature. Letters should be addressed to P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

re: 11th ANNUAL CONGRESS OF P.S.S.A.

Having attended a P.S.S.A. Congress, the one held at the Kruger National Park, for the first time, I noted with interest the fact that the President, Chairman and Acting Secretary all commented on the excellence of the gathering. I have, therefore, compiled a list of "don'ts" which are apparently essential if a Congress is to be a "success", and which might assist the Natal Club which will be arranging the 1965 event.

1. DON'T introduce Delegates to each other.
2. DON'T explain the programme. Let everyone guess where they should go and what they should do.
3. DON'T have a central meeting place.
4. DON'T have minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and special General Meetings. In fact, don't have a Secretary.

5. DON'T encourage "enemies and saboteurs" to attend. The words quoted were mentioned in the Presidential report.
6. DON'T have certificates or medals available for presentation to those who have won or been awarded honours.
7. DON'T have a Congress photograph taken. Perhaps some delegates would rather they had not attended.

I do hope that these "don'ts" will be accepted in a spirit of constructive criticism, and that when this is published in the P.S.S.A. magazine (it should help to fill some space), letters to the Editor in reply will be encouraged.

I wonder if these don'ts should be sent to P.S.A. to tell them how P.S.S.A. attends to matters such as the Annual Congress.

Yours faithfully,

HILLIARD M. ENTIN, J.P.

The Secretary replies . . .

I acknowledge and on behalf of the Board, wish to thank you for your letter of 22nd October. This has, most certainly, been accepted in a spirit of constructive criticism and it is hoped that some of the points you have mentioned will not occur in the future.

Answering your "Don'ts" in your order:—

1. Every delegate, including you, was given a "name tag" to wear on his/her shirt or lapel. This was to enable members to get to know one another—the only possible method of introduction; don't you agree?

2. Each delegate, including you, was given a printed programme.

3. This should really have been No. 1. The full programme and procedure was issued in "Amateur Photography" of October 1964. The meeting place was stated to be the Stoep outside the Dining Room—the Chairman sat there during most of Saturday morning until the A.G.M. and was approached by only one delegate.

4. The absence of the Company Secretary was regrettable and he has been taken to task by the Board. It had been his intention to attend Congress but business commitments at the last moment prevented this. However, there was no excuse for his not passing the Minutes Book to someone else and this will not be permitted to occur again.

5. You misunderstood the President's remarks. Every member of the Society was invited, through many issues of our Journal, to attend Congress.

6. We quite agree with your comment and this will not be allowed to occur again. The certificates were, in fact, ready but the Chairman of the Honours and Awards Committee was unable to locate a Director who intended attending Congress, during the preceding week.

7. In the past a Congress Photograph has been taken. Last year not one photograph was ordered by any delegate. In the circumstances the Board felt justified in assuming that delegates preferred to take their own photographs rather than having their own photographs taken.

In closing we would ask you to bear in mind that all executives of the Society are unpaid volunteers and their normal business must take prior claim on their time.

Yours faithfully,

D. W. BRADLEY, APS (S.A.),
Hon. Executive Secretary.