

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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approximately  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 11\frac{1}{4}''$ , sufficient for most professional work.

Acetate sheets may be purchased from the Celanese Corp., 290 Ferry St., Newark, N.J., or Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N.Y.

**Q** In the production of special effects, how are the "turn-over" effects—both vertical and horizontal, and also the "book turn" produced? I refer to the type of effect where the action continues in the scene as the "turn-over" effect is in progress.—*Q.Z.*

*Answer:* One method is as follows: The picture action is projected through

a translucent screen, with the picture area approximately  $5'' \times 7''$ . Both the projector and the screen are supported by a unit so constructed that it can rotate on an axis centered on the screen. The camera is so positioned that it can photograph the projected picture in the position of the page to be turned. Both the projection and the photography are done by stop-motion—that is, one frame at a time. The projection screen used for this work must be of very fine grain material. Sometimes a panel of flash-opal glass has been used with good results.

**Q** How can I obtain the diffusion or soft-focus effect that characterized much of the motion picture photography a couple decades ago?—*J.R.B.*

*Answer:* During the thirties, much of this soft-focus effect was obtained through use of special filters made by Harrison & Harrison, Hollywood, who at one time was turning out diffusion filters in six grades ranging from "just a suggestion of diffusion" to one producing full fog effect.

Using filters of this type will aid you in achieving the soft-focus effects desired.

**Q** Please name source of data on aspect ratios, aperture dimension for all wide-screen systems.—*M.H.H.*

*Answer:* The forthcoming American Cinematographer Manual. ■



## Cineking's Spotlight Election Coverage

If you watched the Democratic Convention in Los Angeles on TV it is likely that you saw events which were lit and/or photographed by Birns & Sawyer rental equipment. Photograph above shows national TV cameras in hotel ballroom balcony. Film cameras on floor, focussed on election candidates. All lights were ColorTran-Cineking's, all rented from Birns & Sawyer.

The following national news-gathering agencies availed

themselves of Birns & Sawyer facilities: ABC-TV; CBS-TV; NBC-TV; Movietone News. Items rented: Zoom Lenses, ColorTran and Cineking Lights, Auricon Cameras, Polecats, and Frezzolights.

Birns & Sawyer Cine Equipment Co. is located in the Heart of Hollywood, at 6424 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles 38, California. Call HOLLYWOOD 4-5166 and make them prove their Election Campaign Slogan of

**"The Best Equipment and The Best Service at The Lowest Possible Price."**