Erpi Spending $250,000 on Reservicing Theatres

To assure that the quality of the Western Electric new process noiseless recording can be adequately reproduced the service staff of Erpi is beginning a worldwide inspection of the 7,500 Western Electric equipped theatres.

The purpose of this inspection is to eliminate all system noise in the reproducing equipment which hitherto has been completely masked by the ground noise in the sound track but which would be audible when the new type recording is used. Also it will be necessary to instruct the operators in all theatres in the additional maintenance requirements in order to keep the reproducing system to the high state of perfection necessary to obtain the full value from the noiseless recording.

It is estimated this service which is being given by Electrical Research Products to exhibitors without extra charge, and which is outside of the service called for contractually, represents about $250,000 on a monetary basis, in extra work for the service engineers and in incidental expenses.

H. M. Wilcox, Operating Manager of Electrical Research Products, stated that it would take about three months to complete the "tuning up" of equipment in the 7,500 houses.

Academy To Meet in January

The Academy Committee on Art and Technique Programs, through its Chairman, Frank Reicher, announces that a meeting of the general Academy membership will be held January 21 on the topic, "A Symposium on the Art and Technique of Motion Picture Production." The speakers will be Lawrence Grant, chairman; Milton Schwartz, William K. Howard, Clara Beranger, and Jesse Lasky.

This will be the first of a series of meetings of the Academy to be held during the Winter and Spring for the study and discussion of the art and technique of talking motion pictures.

A HEAP OF "HAS-BEENS"

ELEGATED to the "scrap-heap"—kicked into the discard by progression, lighting apparatus representing a cost of more than $80,000 recently was junked by a number of studios, to make way for modern efficient products.

Mute mockery of the past—these lights. What tales they could tell! The pomp and glory that has passed before them. Countless luminaries in silks and satins, parading their flippant finery with peacock pretence, that strutted their hour or two—and many of them, like this antiquated equipment, are but pages in the book of motion picture history.

Like climbing the stairs to an old, musty attic where hair-sofas and whatnots are covered with the cobwebs and dust of time, most every studio as well as the allied industries are forced to maintain a store-room or yard where discarded or antiquated equipment is junked. Most of it represents all makes of apparatus that in its day proved fairly dependable, but with the demand daily for equipment that will meet today’s modern requirements, a great deal of it finds its way to the scrapheap over night.

The antiques on this page represent a motley array of discarded lighting equipment that has been replaced by modern LACO INCANDESCENT LIGHTING PRODUCTS.