

# **THE EDUCATIONAL TALKING PICTURE**

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The educational talking picture by Frederick L. Devereux

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**FREDERICK L. DEVEREUX**

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# THE EDUCATIONAL TALKING PICTURE

➤ BY FREDERICK L. DEVEREUX

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IN COLLABORATION WITH

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## FOREWORD

TALKING pictures have already been used at various educational levels—elementary, secondary, and college. Several of them are now being made for the general course in the Division of the Physical Sciences under the New Plan of the University of Chicago. They are a regular part of the course and add in an extraordinary degree both to the interest and to the effectiveness of the presentation of the subject. It is our intention to introduce them into the general courses in the Biological Sciences and possibly into the Social Sciences and the Humanities. They are being produced through the co-operation of members of our faculty and the staff of the Erpi Picture Consultants, Inc. This co-operation between an academic group and an industrial organization is a notable feature of the enterprise and is one of the matters discussed in the volume.

In these pages Colonel Devereux and his colleagues have analyzed all the phases of educational talking-picture production. They begin with the selection of the educational materials and continue through the definition of the unit of instruction and the refinement of standards on the mechanical as well as on the educational side. They conclude with an account of the methods that have been employed in measuring the success of the pictures in actual classroom use.

The book is timely and will be of special interest to all those who, while realizing the possibilities of talking pictures as a medium of instruction, have not had an opportunity of becoming familiar with the details of their production and application.

ROBERT M. HUTCHINS



## PREFACE

**T**HIS book has been prepared to present preliminary solutions of some of the more important problems encountered in adapting the talking picture to the service of education. The first six chapters deal with the development of fundamental bases of production, with the experimentation which has been conducted, and with suggested problems for future research. The remaining chapters are devoted to the practical problems involved in utilizing the film effectively in educational programs.

In undertaking the development of the educational talking-picture program which is the basis for this volume, I have been fortunate in having the continuous assistance and counsel of an advisory committee consisting of Professor N. L. Engelhardt, Teachers College, Columbia University; Professor Paul R. Mort, director of the school of education, Teachers College, Columbia University; and A. J. Stoddard, superintendent of schools, Providence, Rhode Island. In preparing this book Dr. V. C. Arnspiger, director of research; H. G. Stokes, director of production; Dr. M. R. Brunstetter and Dr. Laura Krieger Eads, research associates, have also contributed largely. The other specialists of the educational and technical production staff of Erpi Picture Consultants, Inc., and the engineering and acoustic consultant departments of Electrical Research Products, Inc., have been helpful. To these individuals I acknowledge a debt of gratitude for their assistance. I also wish to express my appreciation to the many others in the field of education who have been interested and helpful.

FREDERICK L. DEVEREUX