



## books reviewed

### Kino

By Jay Leyda. Published (1960) by Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11. 494 pp. incl. appendixes, list of sources, index + 32 pp. of plates. Other illus. 6 by 9-in. Price \$9.50.

This ambitious and meticulously documented work traces the development of the Russian film from 1896 (when the first Russian Film Theater was opened at 46 Nevsky Prospect) to 1948. The author explains in the Introduction, "A consciousness of a common historical hazard (the too-recent past) has prevailed to end my narrative proper with the death of Sergei Eisenstein in 1948. The ten years since then are treated, more generally, in the form of a postscript." Closely packed with enlightening comments and bits of information, this work is worthy of careful attention on the part of the reader. Although replete with firsthand stories of film personalities, quotations from diaries, documents, letters and conversations recorded or recalled by the author, the book is in no sense a patchwork of anecdotes. Rather, the author has used this method to develop his main theme of the continuity of Russian filmic art from its beginnings to the present, and its development artistically and technically. One of the author's contributions (perhaps the first of this kind) is his examination of the Russian Revolution (Chapters V, VI and VII) in terms of its effect on the motion-picture industry.

The author brilliantly develops the theme that the future of cinematography in the Soviet Union is linked to its past and that there is a clearly discernible line of development.

Illuminating comments and bits of historical information should not be overlooked by the careful reader. For example, Chapter V (from February to October) gives an interesting sidelight on the climate of the times: "The February Revolution was joyfully greeted by the film workers. Nevertheless, in the confusion everyone forgot to film anything on the first days — February 26 to 28. Not until March 1 did the cinematographers collect their wits and take their cameras out into the streets."

Another interesting account is that of the association of the "tall Swede named Edward Tisse" with the great Eisenstein. Tisse began his career as a newsreel cameraman and by a fortunate meeting began a life-long association of great importance to the artistic development of both men. The author says that "Many of the accomplishments in *Potemkin* (usually re-

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garded as Eisenstein's masterpiece) can be ascribed to the understanding with which Eisenstein and Tisse worked together."

All in all, *Kino* can be described as a fascinating book well worth the time of anyone whose cultural interests include the art of the motion-picture.

### From Microphone to Ear (2nd ed.)

By G. Slot. Published (1959) by Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11. (1st ed. published 1956 by N.V. Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken, Eindhoven, Holland — translated by E. Harker, Mitcham-Junction, England). 258 pp. incl. index and appendix. Illus., graphs. 8 by 5½-in. Price \$4.50.

The book discusses all phases of sound recording and reproduction in simple, nontechnical language. Intended as much for music lovers and "gramophone" owners as for sound technicians, the author ranges from the history of the reproduction of sound through the scientific principles involved and includes helpful hints on how to care for records and needles. The second edition has been revised and enlarged to include discussions of stereophony and other recent technical developments and a chapter on stereophony has been added which discusses directional hearing, the stereophonic record, amplifiers, loudspeakers, and stereo and monophonic records. The author, in the Foreword, states that the intent of the book is "to answer as many as possible of the questions posed

by gramophone owners (so as) to be understood by readers without technical training . . ." The "gramophone owner" envisaged by the author apparently has considerably more interest than the average owner in understanding all the technical details of each step of sound recording and reproduction and a more than ordinary desire to become aware of the possibilities and limitations of tape and disc.

### Moon Base

By T. C. Helvey. Published (1960) by John F. Rider Publisher, Inc. 116 W. 14 St., New York 11. 72 pp. incl. glossary. Illus. Paperbound. 5½ by 8½-in. Price \$1.95.

The American flag will first be raised on Lunar ground by three people — two men and one woman, making up a team of specially trained space scientists, that is if plans now underway and sketchily outlined in this impressive little volume are completed on schedule.

Neatly skirting the sociological and moralistic implications of such an arrangement, the author reports on discussions of the technical and psychological considerations involved. (The author is Principal Biophysicist of the Research Division of Radiation, Inc., Orlando, Fla.)

Perhaps the most astonishing thing about this book is that it is so matter-of-fact. No more than five years ago it might

have been considered for publication in one of the more "way-out" science fiction publications. Its flat, declarative style makes it all seem so appallingly real. The book discusses such matters as radiation shielding ("A certain amount . . . may be necessary on the moon surface for tolerable long-term lunar mission . . . the protective suit is made of glass fiber of the lead silicate type . . . The suit weighs about 150 lb on earth — 25 lb on the moon"); a plastic lunar shell; crew equipment for the lunar surface; design of routine task program; equipment for the maintenance of the crew's physical and mental health ("Provision for bathing facilities or other means for personal cleanliness is an unsolved problem"), and other practical considerations. Communication devices will probably include a video circuit over the earth-moon r-link.

The book is easy to read and is recommended for a brief glimpse of the workaday world of the near future. It is enhanced by apt and witty illustrations.

### Symposium on Radiation Effects on Materials, Vol. III

Sponsored jointly by the American Society for Testing Materials and the Atomic Industry Forum. Published (1959) by American Society for Testing Materials, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia 3. 164 pp. Illus., graphs, tables. 9 by 6-in. Price \$4.25.

Twelve papers, presented at a Symposium held in Boston in June, 1958, are published in this volume. The papers are grouped in three categories: Dosimetry Considerations; Irradiation Facilities and Techniques; and Studies on Radiation Effects. A particularly interesting paper was presented by John L. Colp and H. N. Woodall on "Effects of High Neutron and Gamma Fluxes on Transmission Characteristics of Some Optical Glasses." Specimens of several types of optical glasses used in this study were supplied by Bausch & Lomb Optical Co. Most of these glasses are of the radiation-tolerant, or "Protected," type developed by the firm under AEC contract. The research was undertaken for the Sandia Engineering Reactor Facility with the aim of determining the feasibility of viewing a 5-mw reactor, during operation, through a periscope. The research indicated that "protected" optical glasses could be safely used for the proposed periscope.

### Television Crime-Drama:

#### Its Impact on Children and Adolescents

By R. J. Thomson. Published (1959) by F. W. Cheshire, Melbourne, Australia, for the Department of Audio-Visual Aids, University of Melbourne. 5½ by 8½ in. 197 pp. incl. appendixes and bibliography. Price 25 shillings (about \$3.50).

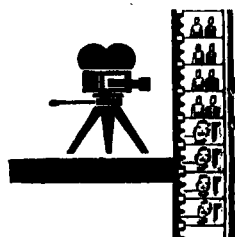
A series of experiments is being conducted by the Department of Audio-Visual Aids of Melbourne University to determine the psychological effects of various types of television programs on children and adolescents. The first published report was on the effects of the "Western" program (*Journal*,

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p. 794, Nov. 1958). This second book in the series examines the effects of crime-dramas on selected groups of high-school and grade-school pupils.

The plots of three of the dramas viewed by the children centered around (1) the murder of a young girl by a sex-maniac; (2) the murder of a young man by his mistress, he having been hypnotized by the psychoanalyst husband, and the subsequent murder of the husband by the erring wife ("Rita seems stunned as she watches her husband's death throes" — quotation from the script); and (3) a woman killed in a particularly horrifying street accident (her head is bashed in by a swinging crane as she waves to her child who is on the way to school) is projected twenty years into the future in the instant before her death. There she "lives" through a particularly miserable day before the camera returns to the "close-up of the onrushing steel mass to Mrs. Clarke's face transfixed with horror." It is interesting to note that TV programs of this type would, in the United States, be described as "horror movies" rather than "crime dramas." These, in the United States, usually follow the familiar "cops and robbers" pattern where the action revolves around the discovery, chase and capture of the criminal.

In making these studies, ultraviolet photographs were taken of the audience during the viewing and later examined to determine and classify changes of facial expression as the plot developed. The children were also given a written "film quiz" on their reactions to the various programs, and other tests were given. Among the main findings as set forth in a summary: "On the whole, the television and film frequenters of crime drama programs did not exhibit as high a degree of emotional responsiveness . . . as children matched with them for similarity of personality, etc. . . . There is possible evidence here of some sort of natural safeguard operating to protect the typical crime-drama audience from stress effects. . . . There was no evidence that viewing a crime drama provoked any criminal or psychopathic tendencies in the great majority of viewers."

As a further check some groups were recalled for viewing sessions during which motion-picture films were made in complete darkness using infrared emulsions. The investigators were thus enabled to watch the audience throughout a complete sequence rather than at one selected point and thus have a record of the viewer going from a calm state to one of tension and vice versa.

**Film-Making on a Low Budget**, No. 29 in a series of Reports and Papers on Mass Communication, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Place de Fontenoy, Paris 7, is a report on a pilot project launched by Unesco and the United Nations Relief and Works Administration to determine the possibility of establishing a self-contained film production unit with a small outlay of capital and to study the potentialities of newsreel production on a small scale. Authors of the report are Myrtle Winter, Chief, Visual Aid and Photographic Division, UNRWA; and Norman F. Spurr, Unesco Visual Aids

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Specialist. A report on work-in-progress on the pilot project was contributed to the *Journal* by Mr. Spurr and published in the August 1957 issue (pp. 470-472).

In the Unesco report, Miss Winter discusses the aims and achievements of the project and Mr. Spurr describes in detail the technical aspects.

**To Pay Or Not To Pay: A Report on Subscription Television** by Robert W. Horton (published (1960) by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Box 4068, Santa Barbara, Calif. 12 pp. 8½ by 11-in.; single copies available upon request.)

The author presents a thoughtful analysis of the Pay-TV controversy. "The outcome of the Pay-TV controversy," he states, "will have a direct influence upon our constitutional right of free expression, our right to hear all sides of an issue; specifically, it will affect our educational, political, economic and general cultural activities." Topics discussed include The History of Pay-TV Proposals; The Opposition; The Proponents; The Costs of Pay-TV; The Five Pay-TV Systems; The Rights of the Public, and The Responsibilities of the Industry. In his discussion of the five main systems, the author notes "If this multiplicity of systems actually went into operation, there could be electronic chaos. The FCC has done nothing to prevent this potential confusion."

**A Primer on Television Tape Recording** by George B. Goodall (48 pp.) describes in nontechnical language the basic principles of video-tape recording. Illustrations and diagrams accompany descriptions of components and equipment. The book is written in clear and simple language; it should be easily understood by the interested laymen and of interest to the engineer. It is published by Robins Industries Corp., Flushing 54, N.Y. It is priced at \$1.00.

## Electronic Engineer's Reference Book

Ed. by L. E. C. Hughes. Published (1958) Macmillan Co., 60 Fifth Ave., New York 11. 1312 pp. incl. numerous tables, diagrams, list of abbreviations. 5 by 7-in. Price \$18.00.

This British handbook on electronic engineering makes a valiant effort to serve in part as textbook on electronics as well, by including considerable general explanatory text material, and also by covering briefly many fringe arts. Among the latter are radio astronomy, nuclear chemistry, photocopying, computers, automation, engineering education and patent procedures. However in order to keep the book manageable there are excluded radar, radio and television (some radio propagation and a little on color television are retained), telecommunications, wavefilters, and all military equipment. Since these essentially are the arts that really developed electronics, they are significant omissions.

Some fifty specialists have compiled the work, which is formally grouped under Fundamentals, Radiations, Electrics, Valves (electron tubes), Materials, Vibra-

tions, Computers, Automatics, and Miscellaneous.

Under "Valves," among other things, 32 pages are devoted to a systematic discussion on the design of pentodes. There is a listing of the major characteristics of some 500 to 600 types of British-made electron tubes, and of over 140 bases. However, it is interesting to note that there is not a word about interchangeability problems or possibilities with U.S. tubes.

The British seem to love our "alphabet soup" designations — but theirs are mostly unpronounceable. There is an abbreviations list of over 1500 of them, which still misses some used in the text (whatever is SRBP on page 1159?). There is a short table of equivalent nomenclatures in the U.S. and U.K. This has some suspect terms ascribed to Americans, such as "analogy" and "analogous" for the English "analogy" and "analogous," and "hix" for "picture" (probably a misprint for "pix").

It is interesting that the handbook carries advertising pages scattered amongst the text — to the extent of some five per cent. The paper used throughout is fairly heavy and durable — the 1312 pages take 2½ inches of thickness (covers additional).

For the motion-picture and television engineer the principal interest of the book will be in its extensive general sections, and those on such topics as materials, acoustics, music and photoelectrics, or again in consultations needed on British-made equipment.—*Pierre Meritz*, 66 Leamington St., Lido Beach, L. I., N.Y.

### Handbook of Electronic Tables and Formulas

Compiled and edited by Donald Herrington and Stanley Meacham. Published (1959) by Howard W. Sams & Company, Inc. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc., 2201 East 46 St., Indianapolis 6. 128 pp. incl. Table of Contents, List of Tables. Illus., numerous charts, graphs. 5½ by 8½-in. Price \$2.95.

The information in this handbook is divided into five major classifications as follows: (1) Formulas and Laws of Electronics; (2) Constants, Standards, Symbols, and Codes; (3) Service and Installation Data; (4) Mathematical Tables and Formulas; (5) Miscellaneous. Included are such items as Formulas for Resistance, Capacitance and Inductance in (1), Electronic Symbols and TV Channel Frequencies in (2), Coaxial Cable Characteristics and Miniature Lamp Data in (3), Decimal Equivalents of Fractions and Trigonometric Functions in (4), and Characteristics of the Elements and Metric Equivalents in (5). Eight nomographs and twenty-two tables help materially in presenting this information in a concise form. The usual reactance charts, frequency-wavelength conversion, logarithmic tables, the Greek alphabet and so on are in this category. Emphasis has been placed to quite an extent on the practical usefulness of the contents, exemplified by including such items as the standard color code for resistors and capacitors.

An effort has evidently been made to present information with the utmost clarity and simplicity. In this respect the

book succeeds to a considerable extent. It is anticipated that even those whose technical training is relatively limited will find most of the material in the book quite understandable. Those who have a more academic background will probably miss some of the data usually found in larger handbooks such as derivatives, integrals, natural logarithms, radio propagation data, and so on.

The choice of material included in this book was undoubtedly made very carefully and judiciously with the purpose in mind of satisfying the basic needs of a large number of service engineers, technicians, amateurs, and non-specialists in the electronic field. Since it is a relatively thin volume it is not overburdened with a wealth of information that might be useful to only a limited number of people. Criticisms can easily be made regarding both the selection of material included and the material omitted. For instance, such important new fields as semiconductors and computers receive relatively scant treatment. On the other hand, the relatively lengthy description of the methods used in calculating with logarithms will be considered by some to be superfluous. On the whole the choices made seem to be quite satisfactory for the members of the electronic fraternity that this book is evidently intended to reach.

What is somewhat disturbing about this volume, though perhaps understandable in a first edition, is the number of errors that were discovered without attempting to proofread the entire text thoroughly.

The formulas at the top of page 19 are evidently transposed, exponents are missing in several equations on pages 29 and 30, one of the figures in Table I is in error, the formula for attenuation on page 38 is obviously wrong, all these items contribute to an uneasy feeling that there may be still other undiscovered misprints. The index was also found inadequate in several respects.

In a future edition it would be desirable, of course, to eliminate these errors and to improve the text in perhaps several other respects. Instead of the Indian Head Test Pattern, the EIA Standard Resolution Chart also approved by the IRE would appear to be a better choice. Also since the Standard Color TV Signal Waveforms are presently included in this volume, consideration should be given to the inclusion of the Standard Monochrome Signal Waveform also.

Many other suggestions for changes, additions, and improvements will undoubtedly be received by the publishers which should eventually result in a second edition more accurate and useful than this first volume.—*W. J. Poch*, 3 Haines Dr., Moorestown, N.J.

### Keemag Graphic Solutions in the Use of Lenses

By Joseph D. Brubaker. Published (1958) by Joseph D. Brubaker, 949 Sherman Ave., Evanston, Ill. 50 pp. incl. two calculator dials, charts, graphs, etc., 8½ by 11-in. loose-leaf cardboard cover. Price \$15.00.



This is a collection, in a loose-leaf binding, of a series of diagrams, graphs and tables pertaining to a number of elementary optical relationships. The information will probably be of great value to the practical photographer. It is presented in a ready-reference form to enable him to determine quickly the required lens and camera settings for a variety of magnification ratios, as well as corresponding field sizes, exposure corrections for lens extensions, and depths of field. Two computers of the rotating dial type are included, one for determining exposure corrections corresponding to various magnifications, and the other showing the relationship between the per cent of reduction or enlargement of original subjects and the corresponding dimensions of the reproductions.—*Allan L. Sorem*, Research Laboratories, Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester 4, N.Y.

### The Science of Photography

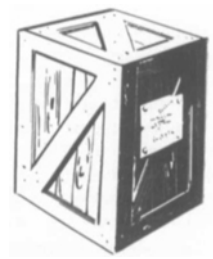
By H. Baines. Published (1958) by Fountain Press 46/47 Chancery Lane, London W.C. 2; distributed in U.S.A. by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York 16. 320 pp. incl. index. Profusely illus. 8½ by 5½-in. Price \$7.50.

The Foreword by Percy W. Harris describes *The Science of Photography* as "a treatment of photography from the scientific viewpoint without any attempt to dodge the difficult parts and yet couched in language which the ordinary photographer can understand." The book admirably conforms to this description.

Pellucid prose and a sound scientific approach are all too seldom combined in the same treatise, so a perusal of this work is a delight not only to the photographer but to the less tutored reader as well.

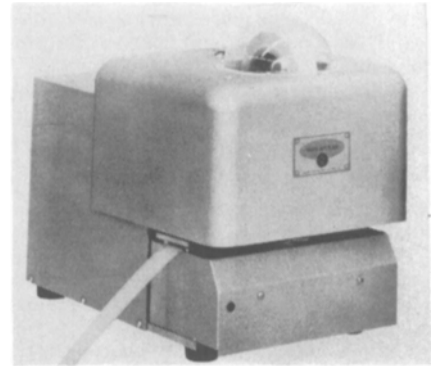
The book does not contain a bibliography, but careful, scholarly research is evident on every page. As a random example, the first chapter (How Photography Began) contains such little gems of information as, "Silver nitrate was known to Albertus Magnus before 1280..." and then goes on to give—with rare economy and clarity—a survey of the history of photography. The book's 25 chapters range over chemistry, developers, sensitometry, reciprocity failure and other photographic effects, granular structure, color photography and other subjects having to do with the science of photography as distinguished from photography as an art.

**They See What You Mean: Visual Communication With the Overhead Projector** is published by the Audio-Visual Department of Ozalid Division, General Aniline and Film Corp., Johnson City, N.Y. The 88-page book is divided into sections dealing with (1) Visual Communication and the Overhead Projector; (2) Handmade Transparencies; (3) The Diazo Process; (4) Transferon; (5) Transparency Mounting Techniques; and (6) Transparency Design. The book contains a bibliography and a list of Ozalid products referred to in the text. It is profusely illustrated.

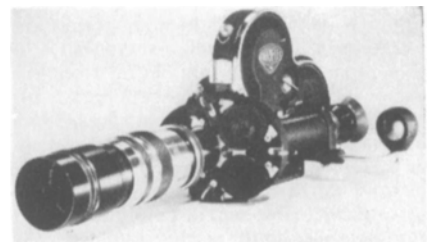


## new products (and developments)

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Further information about these items can be obtained direct from the addresses given. As in the case of technical papers, the Society is not responsible for manufacturers' statements, and publication of these items does not constitute endorsement of the products or services.



**The Unicorn Automatic Film Splicer** for darkroom splicing operations has been announced by Computer Measurements Co., 12970 Bradley Ave., Sylmar, Calif. The splicer is designed to be used safely in total darkness with the automatic splicing operation completed in six seconds. In operation, the two film ends are placed in positioning grooves and clamped in place and a button is pushed to complete the splice. The manufacturer recommends the use of pressure-sensitive Mylar tape (a product of E. I. du Pont de Nemours) for unbreakable splices. The splicing tape is rolled completely around the trimmed edges of the film and the corners and edges are sealed to permit free passage through processing machines, precision squeegees, applicators and slitters. Dimensions are 12 by 15 by 11-in.; weight is 47 lb; power requirements are 115-v, 60-cycle a-c. Three standard models are available for 16mm, 35mm and 70mm film. Splicers for other film widths are available on special order. Price of the 16mm and 35mm models is \$2200. The 70mm model is priced at \$2700.



**The Auxiliary Target Finder** for Arriflex cameras has been announced by Arriflex Corp. of America, 257 Park Ave.

at your service!

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BLACK & WHITE

reversal printing and processing

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COLOR PRINTING

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- Color-to-Color Prints
- Color-to-B & W Prints
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