

BOOK REVIEWS

Cinematographic Annual 1930. *American Society of Cinematographers*, Hollywood, Calif. Edited by HAL HALL. 606 pp. \$5.00. Thirty-eight authors, each noted for his ability in some branch of the motion picture arts or sciences, have contributed papers to this first annual of the A. S. C.

The reader is certain to be impressed with the diversity of the subject material presented in this volume. It is a text book for the motion picture worker designed to give a general education for the studio and laboratory personnel. Its content is divided equally among five subjects: (1) Artistic and dramatic features of production, (2) photographic theory and technic, (3) mechanical equipment used in the industry, (4) sound theory and production technic, and (5) amateur cinematography. Despite this diversity, only a few of the subjects suffer from a lack of detail. That the annual is intended as a reference text for the industry is evidenced by a thirty page section which gives useful tables and formulas. The value of the book for the reference shelf would be considerably enhanced by a classification of material into sections and by indexing.

C. M. T.

A Dictionary of Color. A. MAERZ AND M. RAE PAUL. *McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc.*, New York, 1930. 207 pp. In this work the authors present the results of an exhaustive investigation of the use of color words and the particular color sensations they identify. Not only have the names in common usage in the English language been given but, in so far as possible, the origins of these names are included. A bibliography of books dealing with color names is found on pages 20 and 22. The authors discuss the three attributes of color, which they have decided should be known as value, purity, and hue. Definitions of these attributes and of other color terminology are given on pages 10 and 11.

For the purpose of reproducing the color sensations associated with color names there are fifty-six color plates and each plate is divided into 12 rows and 12 columns. In these plates the colors are arranged in groups as follows: Red to orange, orange to yellow, yellow to green, green to blue-green, blue-green to blue, blue to red, and purple to red. Each group is presented in eight plates of which the first shows the color graded from its highest purity into white. The remaining seven plates of each group have increasing amounts of gray until the colors approach black. On the left-hand page facing each plate the color names in current usage are given in spaces which correspond to the color samples.

A brief history of color standardization is given which describes the work of Werner, Hallock, Dauthenay, Ridgeway, and others. The index of color names completes the volume which should prove valuable to those individuals who wish to know the relation between colors and the names by which they are identified in common usage.

E. M. L.