Book Reviews

Informational Film Year Book, 1948

Published (1948) by the Albyn Press, 42 Frederick St., Edinburgh, 2, Scotland. 200 pages. 21 figures. $5^3/_4 \times 8^3/_4$ inches. Price, 12*s.* 6*d.* net.

This second volume of the *Informational Film Year Book* follows the same pattern as the initial volume published last year. However, many additional data have been included making the book of even more value than before to producers and consumers of nontheatrical motion pictures. Eight feature articles appear on various phases of documentary films, filmstrips, and equipment. The remainder of the book consists of listings and directories covering films of the year, who's who in documentary, various organizations and societies the world over, film producers, special service firms, and equipment suppliers. The pictorial section, although not everything to be desired, adds flavor to the book and prevents it from becoming a mere compilation of articles and other information. Because of the international character of the publication, it would be helpful if a few notes were given concerning the contributors since it is not generally the case that authors are well known outside their respective countries.

LLOYD E. VARDEN
Pavelle Color, Inc.
533 W. 47 St., New York, N. Y.

The High-Current Carbon Arc, by Wolfgang Finkelnburg

Published (1947) by the Office of Military Government for Germany (U. S.) Field Information Agency, Technical, Final Report No. 1052, through the Office of Technical Services, U. S. Department of Commerce (Publication Board No. 81644). Paper covers, photo offset from typewritten manuscript. 219 pages + x pages. 129 figures. 8 tables. 90 references. $7^1/_2 \times 10$ inches. Price, $5.00.

This book, in the first German edition of 1944, was prepared as a confidential text for the guidance of scientists in Germany working on carbon-arc searchlight development. Since the Allies came to rely on radar communication while the enemy was still expanding the size and intensity of his antiaircraft searchlights, these latter reached a much higher state of development than here in the United States. For instance, 450- and 1000-ampere carbon-arc searchlights were in active combat use and an advanced stage of development, respectively, in Germany, as compared with the 195-ampere maximum employed by United States forces. Since searchlight arcs differ in no important theoretical respect from those employed in motion picture photography and projection, these developments are of particular interest to technicians in the motion picture industry. The book presents "the whole knowledge" in Germany of the physical properties, theory, and application of carbon-arc light sources. In addition to a treatment of previously published material, a large amount of hitherto unpublished information from the author's own laboratory as well as from other German workers and firms is included.