

Book Reviews

Fundamental Mechanisms of Photographic Sensitivity

(Proceedings of a Symposium held at the University of Bristol in March 1950.) Edited by J. W. Mitchell. Published (1951) by Butterworths Scientific Publications, London. Distributed in U.S.A. by Academic Press, 125 E. 23 St., New York 10. i-viii + 347 pp. + 270 illus. 7 × 9½ in. Price \$9.50.

This represents an excellent and up-to-date review of data and theories on the fundamental mechanisms of photographic sensitivity. Original papers as presented at an International Conference in Bristol, England, in March 1950, have been assembled in book form by the editor.

By arranging the papers in groups, such as "Photographic Sensitivity" and "Latent Image Formation," the editor has made it convenient for the reader to follow the latest trends and developments in these concepts. Professor N. F. Mott, in an introduction to the book, outlines the latent image theory as proposed by him and Gurney in 1938 and gives its present status, pointing out the problems which still need explanation. This introduction will be helpful to those who are not too familiar with the subject.

The book contains contributions and first publications of papers from a large number of European, British and American scientists. It is interesting to note from these papers that their various observations and theories about latent image formation, photographic sensitivity and optical and chemical sensitization begin to dovetail with the basic concept of Gurney and Mott and the evolution of this theory by concepts proposed by Pohl, Stasiw and Teltow, West, Mitchell and others.

The book also contains a series of articles under the general headings: "Physical Properties of Silver Halide," "Production and Properties of Silver Halide Grains in Photographic Emulsions" and "Nuclear Track Emulsion." A summary prepared by the editor after the conference gives a critical review of the status of the theory of the physical properties of the silver

halides and the theory of photographic sensitivity as it appeared to him.

The book will be of interest primarily to those working in the field of photographic research and development; however, it should also appeal to those working on practical applications of photography and interested in knowing what makes photography work. The book is well printed and illustrated.—*Herman H. Duerr*, Anso, Binghamton, N.Y.

Einführung in die wissenschaftliche Kinematographie (Introduction to Scientific Motion Picture Photography)

By Dr. Werner Faasch. *In German*. Published (1951) by Verlag von Wilhelm Knapp/Halle (Saale), Germany. 76 pp. + 63 illus. 5½ × 8 in. Available in U.S.A. from Stechert-Hafner, Inc., 31 E. 10 St., New York 3. Price \$1.30.

At this time, when photography is being recognized more and more as an indispensable tool for scientific and technical investigation, the appearance of any book which surveys some part of the field should not be ignored. This book is intended merely as an introductory survey to the applications of motion picture photography as a means of scientific study.

The opening chapter is concerned with time-lapse and high-speed motion picture studies, and in particular with German apparatus for use in these fields.

Among the special applications of motion picture photography dealt with in succeeding chapters are motion photomicrography, x-ray and electron microscope motion photography, endoscopic studies and photography of operations, astronomical and photoelastic studies, Schlieren photography and a number of other applications. The final chapter treats the important subject of evaluation of the photograph.

The book would have its greatest appeal to the general reader. It is confined to known practices, and is devoted almost entirely to German equipment. It is well illustrated.—*Walter Clark*, Kodak Research Laboratories, Rochester 4, N.Y.