

Chemical Corner

Edited by Irving M. Ewig for the Society's Laboratory Practice Committee. Suggestions should be sent to Society headquarters marked for the attention of Mr. Ewig. Neither the Society nor the Editor assumes any responsibility for the validity of the statements contained in this column. They are intended as suggestions for further investigation by interested persons.

Chemical Treatment Produces an Oil-Retaining Rust-Resistant Surface The Octagon Process, Inc., 15 Bank St., Staten Island, N.Y., markets a chemical preparation "Rustshield," which is a phosphatizing compound that imparts to a steel or iron surface a rust-resistant, highly absorbent quality thereby greatly increasing its oil-retention properties. The surface needs less lubrication and remains rust-free longer.

Increasing Emulsion Speed In an article by L. Jacobs, Jr., in *U.S. Camera*, 14: 41-43, March 1951, a new chemical called "Hydram" is described as increasing negative emulsion speed as much as ten times. Hydram is intended for use with conventional developers. The effect of this chemical is not to increase the threshold speed values but to increase the contrast in the toe part of the H&D curve. Hydram is not recommended when the developer contains sodium bisulfite, potassium metabisulfite, tartaric or citric acid.

Add More Life to Your Hypo *The British Journal of Photography*, 98: 191-92, April 1951, contains an article which has various suggestions for increasing fixer longevity: (1) use of an acid short stop; (2) use of a two-bath fixer arrangement; (3) removal of silver by some suitable means and replenishing the various chemicals which have been depleted; and (4) the addition of ammonium sulfate to the fixer. Ammonium sulfate imparts to a fixer increased fixing speed and longer life. Various formulas are also discussed.

New Plastic Sheeting A transparent plastic sheeting manufactured by The Alsynite Co. of

America, 4670 DeSoto St., San Diego, Calif., may have applications in the laboratory or on the lot. This plastic is shatterproof, eliminates glare by light diffusion, is fire resistant, reduces heat transmission, has a high impact and load strength, is light in weight and is easy to install. It comes in flat panels and various colors. The sheet may be handled just like wood with a saw, nails or drill. Alsynite says that it is an improved substitute for glass.

Dispensing of Liquid From Carboys and Demijohns Greatly Simplified L. B. Russell Chemicals, Inc., 60 Orange St., Bloomfield, N.J., sell a small inexpensive (\$15.50) hand-operated dispenser which fits into the mouth of carboys and demijohns of any type. Heavy carboys do not have to be rocked or tilted. The mere pressing of the bulb of the gadget dispenses the liquid from the carboy and the hazard and odor of splashing liquids are avoided. This device is made of acid-resistant plastic and fits all the way down to the bottom of the container so that all the liquid may be drawn off.

Liquid Stainless Steel The Lockrey-Frater Corp., 38-13 Tenth St., Long Island City, N.Y., may have the inexpensive answer to the laboratory's problem of protecting and decorating equipment with their "Liquid Stainless Steel." This is a paint-like material which is a suspension of finely divided actual stainless steel combined with a vinyl plastic. The liquid when applied will dry fairly rapidly and leave a coat of stainless steel on wood, metals, composition board, concrete, brick, etc.

It gives the appearance and much of the permanence of the metal itself. The coating offers the impermeability to moisture that 302 stainless steel does by an overlapping and interlocking of the flakes as they dry. Liquid Stainless Steel may be applied by spray, brush, or dip and gives a permanent coating in the bluish-gray, non-shining cast of stainless steel.

How to Get Better Film Washing BFI #20, a proprietary formula of The Brown Forman Industries, 1908 Howard St., Louisville, Ky., is claimed to increase washing efficiency and to reduce to one-twentieth the amount of hypo remaining in the film which would be there if washed with water. One gallon of BFI #20 will treat 36,000 ft of 35mm film.

Meetings

The Central Section of the SMPTE has scheduled two papers for its meeting at the Bell & Howell Co., 7100 McCormick Blvd., Chicago, on March 27. Bruno G. Staffen, development engineer of the Jensen Manufacturing Co., will describe a new low-cost theater speaker system, and there will be a description of the new Bell & Howell magnetic and optical 16mm sound projector by J. B. Weber, H. H. Brauer, F. J. Schussler and M. G. Townsley. C. E. Heppberger is Central Section Chairman, and John S. Powers is Program Chairman.

The Atlantic Coast Section of the SMPTE will meet on April 16, 7:30 P.M., at the Henry Hudson Hotel, New York City, when Robert Dressler of Paramount Pictures Corp.'s Chromatic Television Laboratories will present a paper and a demonstration on electrooptic sound recording on film.

71st Semiannual Convention of the SMPTE, April 21-25, The Drake, Chicago

Other Societies

American Physical Society, Mar. 20-22, Columbus, Ohio

Optical Society of America, Mar. 20-22, Hotel Statler, New York

American Physical Society, May 1-3, Washington, D.C.

Acoustical Society of America, May 8-10, New York

American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Summer General Meeting, June 23-27, Hotel Nicollet, Minneapolis, Minn.

American Physical Society, June 30-July 3, Denver, Colo.

National Audio-Visual Association, Convention and Trade Show, Aug. 2-5, Hotel Sherman, Chicago

Photographic Society of America, Annual Convention, Aug. 12-16, Hotel New Yorker, New York

American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Pacific General Meeting, Aug. 19-22, Hotel Westward Ho, Phoenix, Ariz.

Illuminating Engineering Society, National Technical Conference, Aug. 27-30, Washington, D.C.

International Society of Photogrammetry, Conference, Sept. 4-13, Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D.C.

Test films are the customary tool for checking picture and sound performance in theaters, service shops, in factories and in television stations. Twenty-seven different test films in 16mm and 35mm sizes are produced by the Society and the Motion Picture Research Council. Write to Society Headquarters for a free catalog.