

CAMERA NEWS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



NEWS FROM PHOTOGRAPHIC AND CINEMATO-
GRAPHIC ORGANISATIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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Camera News

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Among Ourselves

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Vol. 6, No. 1

AUGUST, 1960

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All Communications to be addressed to "Camera News", P.O. Box 1594, Durban.

COVER PICTURE:

General view of "Life of Our Nation" Exhibition which has created unprecedented public interest in its showings around the country

IN April, 1955, a new star was born when Eric Vertue and his willing band of helpers produced the first issue of "Camera News". For five years they saw that they were ready for each publication date when it came round with its relentless regularity. On how many occasions did they wish that their contributors could have been equally reliable?

Despite all the difficulties that were encountered, this Journal, which has been aptly described as the life-blood of our Society, appeared punctually every month. The Editorial Committee, however, did not only function in that capacity; on many occasions it appeared as though they had also written and illustrated most of the articles. In the years ahead, when our Society has attained the stature which we all hope for it, we sincerely trust that the members will realise how much they owe to those who, all too often unheralded and unsung, kept our wide-spread members in contact with each other through the medium of "Camera News" and so provided the mortar for the strong foundations on which the future will be built.

We must also pay tribute to Fred Harris whose print criticisms have been such a feature of "Camera News" since its inception. Here at least was one contributor who could be depended upon not only to remember that there was a dead-line but who in issue after issue gave assistance and advice that must have helped many in their appreciation of beauty.

What lies ahead?

This edition is, in most respects, similar to many that have gone before. We know that certain members feel that too much "news" is printed and that there are too few articles on photographic matters. This is in many ways a thorny problem which is discussed further on another page. If this issue contains an even higher proportion of "news" than usual this the unavoidable result of the temporary suspension of publication occasioned by the difficulties of finding a new Editorial Committee and making the necessary arrangements for publication.

Report of the P.S.S.A. Honours and Awards Committee

Presented by Dr. A. D. Bensusan at the Honours
Banquet held in Bloemfontein on 24th May, 1960.

(1) Associateship.

Fifteen enquiries were received this year, and eight applications were submitted for the Associateship of the Society in the various sections.

There was more than the usual number of applications in Section C — Colour Slides, but the standards again fell considerably short of the requirements. There was, however, one exception and for the first time in four years an application was within reach of the high standards required.

It is essential that these are maintained in this particular section, in view of the ease of present-day processing facilities.

No awards were made in either the Colour Slide or Ciné Sections.

Only one print collection fulfilled the requirements, and I am pleased to announce that the Associateship of the Photographic Society of Southern Africa has been awarded to:

MYER FELDMAN of Johannesburg for a collection of twelve landscape photographs, of uniform quality and strong pictorial rendering in traditional style.

(2) Journal Awards.

No recommendations were received this year for the award of the Gevaert medals, for contributions to "Camera News".

(3) Bursary.

No recommendations were made for this award.

(4) P.S.S.A. Oscar (For Achievement & Service).

No recommendations were made for this award.

(5) Service Medals.

For some time consideration has been given to a suitable award for those who have rendered valuable service to one or other sections or divisions of the Society.

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Directors have agreed to the introduction of this Service Medal. As those who have previously received the P.S.S.A. Oscar for service and achievement or the Journal Medal awards for contributions to "Camera News" have already been honoured for their services the Commit-

tee felt that the new Service Medals must be awarded to the "back-room" boys. The following are the first recipients of this new award:—

- O. Abramowitz, Congress Secretary (Pretoria).
- R. Bell, Past-President (Cape Town).
- J. D. Chadwick, Congress Secretary (Victoria Falls).
- N. Cowan, Valuable contributions on the first Board of Directors, and to Recorded Lecture Programmes (Johannesburg).
- J. Denfield, Chairman, Print Collections Committee (East London).
- H. Geldard, Chairman Congress and Colour Division (Durban).
- A. Harber, Congress Secretary (Vereeniging).
- F. C. Harris, Contributions to "Camera News" (Cape Town).
- C. M. Knowles, Chairman, Motion Picture Division (Johannesburg).
- M. C. Margetts, First Treasurer, P.S.S.A. (Johannesburg).
- Ray Miess, P.S.S.A. Representative in the U.S.A.
- B. N. Penny, Company Secretary (Krugersdorp).
- L. A. Peyton, Film Festival Organiser (Durban).
- P. A. Scott, Treasurer, "Camera News" (Cape Town).
- L. Sher, Contributions to M.P.D. activities (Springs).
- A. R. Wilson, Hon. Auditor (Durban).

I think you will all agree that this Union Festival Congress is a fitting occasion for the presentation of these new awards.

(6) Fellowship.

Mention should be made of consideration which is now being given to the introduction of the award of Fellowship of the Society, and further details will be announced in due course. It must be clearly pointed out that any such award could only be considered for a combination of the highest degree of photographic skills and considerable service to the Society and photography or cinematography in general.

The President's Page

A. L. BEVIS.

LITTLE did I think when I penned my page for the March issue that three months would elapse before the next issue of our magazine appeared. Rumours have, I know, been going the round that P.S.S.A. was on its last legs and that no further issue of "Camera News" would appear. Nothing could be further from the truth. P.S.S.A. is firmly established and now that our new Editor and Printers have got into harness we are going to make "Camera News" an even better publication than it has been during the past five years — at least we are going to try to do so. We do not claim it will be the leading photographic journal in South Africa — another magazine has staked that claim — but we do aim to make it something that every member of P.S.S.A. will look forward to each month, for do not forget, "Camera News" is primarily a House Organ, published for the information of our 900 or more ordinary members, plus the members of nearly 120 clubs and societies which are members of P.S.S.A. As arrangements are at the moment, "Camera News" will be posted so as to arrive at your home or business address during the first week of each month. And here I would like to say a word of advice — to ensure the safe arrival of your copy of "Camera News", please notify the Secretary, P.S.S.A., P.O. Box 1594, Durban, of any change of address. You would be surprised at the number of communications that are returned annually marked "Left — No Address".

Our new Editor, A. R. (Sandy) Wilson is really keen on his new job — he has been both Auditor and Treasurer of the Society — and says that provided members will give him a reasonable amount of help in the way of articles or snippets, or let him know what they would like included in "Camera News" he will do his best to furnish the desired information. He has already received definite promises of series of articles on various aspects of photo-

graphy and has many ideas for new features. In his efforts to produce a super club magazine he is being assisted by an Editorial Committee consisting of Mr. Lawrence Spargo as Business Manager (a keen supporter of P.S.S.A. since its inception), Mr. D. R. (Mike) Winchester, Mr. Donald Seaton and Mr. Fred Parkinson (who will look after the interests of the Ciné boys).

In our re-vitalised magazine, the monthly Print Criticisms will be given by Mr. Norman Partington, A.R.P.S., A.P.S. (S.A.), with Mr. Fred Harris, F.R.P.S., furnishing an occasional contribution.

Finally, I want to express our grateful thanks to those firms who have stood by us and given vital support by way of advertisements. You too, can show your appreciation of their support when writing by referring to their advertisement in "Camera News".

I was pleased to hear that the very live club at Amanzimtoti, Natal — the South Coast Camera Club — are planning a rally of all P.S.S.A. clubs along the Natal coast during the week-end, 15th and 16th October. I do not know full details but no doubt these will be published in our next issue. What about one of the Clubs on the Reef sponsoring a similar rally of Reef Societies one week-end? A lecture or demonstration by an outstanding personality on the Saturday afternoon, followed by a dinner and a film or slide show, and an outing on the Sunday would make a memorable week-end and create a bond of friendship amongst P.S.S.A. clubs. Such rallies need not be confined to Natal or the Reef: there are many Clubs in both the Eastern and Western Provinces of the Cape within a couple of hours' run of one another, also in Pretoria and Northern Natal. Who is going to start the ball rolling?

At the Vereeniging Conference last year it was decided to amend the Articles of Association.
(Continued on page 7)

Bob and Edna

IN March we were privileged to receive a visit from the President of the Photographic Society of America, Robert J. Goldman, who, together with Mrs. Goldman, included a lightning tour of the Union as part of their "Round the World" goodwill tour. It is difficult to imagine two better Ambassadors for this purpose than Bob and Edna.

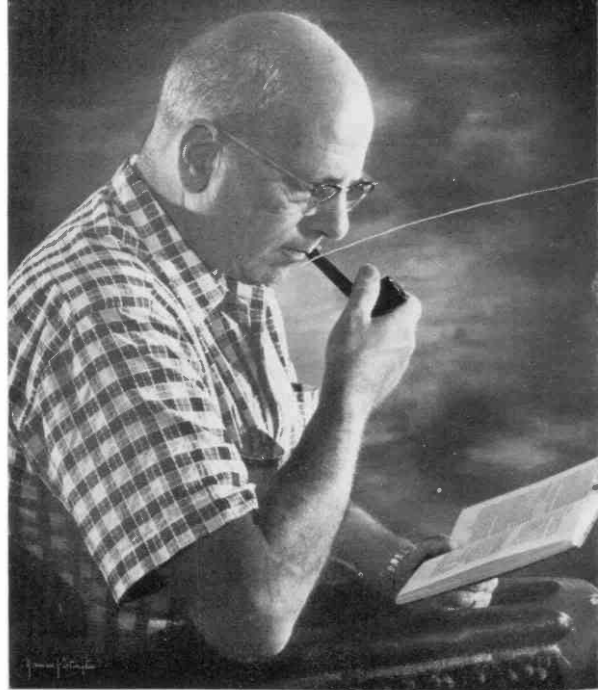
Our visitors arrived at Lourenco Marques where they were met at the dockside by local photographers.

Bob and Edna then spent several days traveling in the Kruger National Park Game Reserve and were fortunate in being able to see and photograph many varieties of game, including a herd of elephant which crossed the road in front of their car. Later on, in Durban, Edna admitted that despite the friendly rivalry between them this was one occasion at least when she had to call upon Bob for some assistance, as in her excitement, she found difficulty in focussing. (Bob's solution to the problem? "But Honey! You've got your camera upside down!").

On arrival in Johannesburg they were welcomed with a reception at the home of Betty and Kin Bensusan where they were met by members of local photographic clubs and of the Press.

The following day a tour of a Witwatersrand Gold Mine preceded a public meeting at Johannesburg's Medical School Auditorium. Charles Knowles — chairman of M.P.D. and Vice-President of the J.P.S. — was in the chair and after welcoming our guests he spoke of the benefits to photography of a body such as P.S.S.A., and thanked the Camera Pictorialists of Johannesburg for arranging the meeting.

Bob Goldman then addressed the gathering and brought messages of goodwill from P.S.A. and spoke of our great hobby, and paid tribute to those who had rendered service to their respective communities and had increased the



ROBERT J. GOLDMAN, A P.S.A. Photo by Norman Partington

bonds of friendship between photographers of our two nations.

Bob and Edna then presented their programme "Holiday in Japan", which was warmly received, and must have given many of those present renewed ideas and enthusiasm.

After the interval Bob officially opened the Photographic Foundation of South Africa, and a presentation was made to Bob and Edna of a carved imbuia buck suitably engraved with a P.S.S.A. crest.

Another full day followed, high-lighted by a reception by the Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg in their private civic apartments. On returning to their cars in the street Bob insisted on putting "... an extra ten cents in the meter because that Mayor fellow is such a grand chap".

Later on Bob was interviewed at the S.A. Broadcasting Corporation when he told a nation-wide audience of the ideals of P.S.A.

The Goldmans then flew to Durban where they were met by Lionel Bevis — President of P.S.S.A. — and whisked off to a banquet at the Marine Hotel. At an appropriate moment Mrs. Bevis made a presentation of a Photographic Album.

Next morning was devoted to sight-seeing and then after lunch Bob had a sitting at Norman Partington's Studio, while Edna was experiencing the joys of bargain-hunting in the

Indian Market. The result of the portrait-sitting is shown in this issue; we are only sorry that we are unable to show the results of Edna's bargain-hunting!

The day finished with a public showing of "Holiday in Japan".

Early on the following morning Bob and Edna set out on their travels once more, this time to Cape Town, with a "whistle-stop" at Port Elizabeth where they were again welcomed by local photographers.

At Cape Town the Goldmans were met by Terence Stafford Smith, who took them to their ship, then straight on to the lecture hall to "vet" the arrangements for the showing of "Holiday in Japan" that evening.

Bloemfontein Film Gala

The 23rd May, 1960, saw the opening of a week's Film Festival in the Capitol Theatre, Bloemfontein, as part of the Union Festival celebrations. This was a combined First S.A. International Professional Film Festival, the Sixth M.P.D. Film Festival and the "Life of our Nation" Film Festival. It was held under the auspices of the P.S.S.A., Johannesburg Film Society, "Life of our Nation" Ciné Committee, Personality Magazine and the Bloemfontein Camera Club. It was also sponsored by the South African Government in celebration of the fiftieth year of Union, and was officially opened by the Administrator of the Orange Free State.

On this momentous occasion, as the Honourable J. W. J. C. and Mrs. du Plessis walked to their seats, the lights dimmed for the first showing in South Africa of a film based on the verse of "Die Stem". Special permission was obtained at Prime Minister's level for Dr. A. D. Bensusan to make this stirring film of our National Anthem with the full S.A.B.C. Orchestra. The capacity audience then settled in their seats to the most ambitious film project undertaken in South Africa under the direction of Dr. and Mrs. Sergay and his Committee of "Life of our Nation" — Messrs. Butkow and Groer, and Graham Cousins and his Committee in Bloemfontein — Messrs. Cordiner, Thompson, M. Cousins, G. Crawford, Bruce

Saturday was another full day for Bob and Edna, who were taken to Steenbras by Don McKellar in the morning, on a tour of the Peninsula by Vera and Eric Vertue in the afternoon, and then as guests at a braaivleis in the evening. Unfortunately the tour of the Peninsula got no further than Hout Bay where our visitors were enthralled by the scenery of which Bob claimed he had got his best two shots ever.

An all too short visit ended next day with an excursion round Chapman's Peak Drive and a picnic lunch and tea.

Many new members of P.S.A. were enrolled during the few days our visitors were in the Union. "Holiday in Japan" was shown to appreciative audiences in three centres where attendances totalled over 1,000.

Fairbrass, Paulus Visser, H. D. Prince, C. Krog-scheepers and Mrs. Cockroft.

"To the River's End", by F. A. Meyburgh of Bloemfontein, and "Whispering Wings" by D. D. Reucassel of Johannesburg, brought prolonged applause from the audience, and the next film, "Glass", by Bert Haanstra of Holland must rank as one of the most outstanding we have seen for a long time in this country. The musical accompaniment was superb and a subtle touch of humour made this a documentary with a difference.

After interval, Dr. and Mrs. Sergay's prize-winning film specially produced for the Festival was screened, being the life of Louis Botha under the title of "A handful of earth". This is one of the most ambitious amateur projects of its kind running for nearly 40 minutes, with its own theme song, and battle scenes of the Boer War re-enacted with historical accuracy. It was followed by the Japanese film "Boyhood of Doctor Noquchi", by Hideo Sekigawa, which was a moving story of the early life of this great man. It was received with rounds of applause. The audience left the theatre well content that they had enjoyed a wonderful experience which augured well for the remainder of the week's festival. There was a different programme each night, and several matinees with many outstanding films. It is hoped that this Bloemfontein Film Festival will pave the way to future co-operation, which could place South Africa on the map in the world of the film.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Will you kindly inform your membership committee that I do not wish to renew my membership for 1960. In case you would like to know the reasons here they are:—

As an ordinary member the only benefit I derive from the Society is "Camera News". If I am interested in this magazine I can buy single copies much cheaper than by subscription. I said "if I am interested", but frankly I am not. Apart from the valuable, though naturally one-sided, print criticisms, there has only very occasionally been an article of interest or guidance for the average photographer. A notable exception was the series on Print Improvement. I appreciate the difficulty of getting suitable material, but that is not the concern of the reader. I expect, in a photographic magazine, articles for beginners and advanced workers on techniques and new developments in equipments; discussions on the merits of various papers, chemicals, films, etc.; regular information on forthcoming Salons, etc.; in short, what you find in the various overseas magazines.

I am tired — and I wonder how many others are — to read again and again what a wonderful hobby photography is, or how enjoyable it is to meet old friends or make new ones . . . Even notices on club awards in local competitions interest only the members concerned.

Yours, etc.,
"EX-MEMBER".

* * *

Dear "Ex-member",

I am extremely sorry to learn that you have received so little benefit from your membership of our Society, and also that you have decided to resign.

I think, however, that having made your grievances known you might have withheld your

resignation until the Society had been given an opportunity to rectify them.

I would point out that there are many benefits made available to the ordinary member apart from "Camera News". Have you ever made use of the Print or Colour Slide Criticism Services, Colour Slide Competitions, etc.? If not, then you have perhaps not been using your membership to its fullest advantage.

As you may or may not be aware there has been a recent change in the Editorial Committee of "Camera News". The new committee in Durban is making every endeavour to obtain the type of article you ask for, and although we cannot be certain of success without the support of our fellow-members the magazine may in future approach closer to your ideal. We stress that we require the support of our fellow members. Many members who feel that they are unable to assist in any way could be of great help even if they only suggested to speakers at their local club that "Camera News" would welcome a résumé of their talk!

May I suggest that you might, perhaps, reconsider your resignation and, further, that if you decide to continue with your membership you should try to make fuller use of the facilities outlined above.

Yours sincerely,
THE EDITOR.

* * *

NOTE: We would welcome the views of our readers on this or any other matter. In particular we are anxious to know what kind of magazine our readers would like although, of course, it may not be possible to please everyone. It must be remembered, however, that a certain amount of the space available in each issue is required in order to keep the Society's members advised of the various activities that have taken place.

The President's Page

(Continued from Page 3)

ciation so as to afford every member (except subscriber members) an opportunity of voting for the Directors of the Society. Elsewhere in this issue you will find an announcement calling for nominations for a President, two Vice-Presidents and seven Directors. I hope you will give this earnest consideration and send in your nominations before the final date. Ballot papers will be circulated with the September issue with a return date approximate to the Annual General Meeting which will be held in October. It is entirely in your hands what sort of Directorate you have.

Another decision taken at the Vereeniging Congress was to admit Joint Members, i.e., husband and spouse, at a reduced subscription of £2/2/- (all privileges but only one copy of "Camera News"). Have YOU taken advantage of this alteration? If not, I suggest you enclose an additional 10/6 on behalf of your wife when renewing your subscription.

In conclusion, I ask your indulgence over the delay in publishing "Camera News" and appeal for your whole-hearted co-operation in making P.S.S.A. a society of which we can be proud.

Advance Notice

The annual general meeting of the Society for 1960 will be held in conjunction with a P.S.S.A. Regional Rally which is being organised by The South Coast Camera Club from 15th-16th October. The provisional programme includes a showing of the Durban Camera Club's Annual Colour Salon, a Print Exhibition, Film Show, Outing, Addresses by prominent personalities and a P.S.S.A. Banquet. Further details will be announced in our next issue, including information about available hotel accommodation. PLEASE NOTE this function is NOT restricted to Natal members. All will be welcome, so start planning now to keep these days free.

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"SHOE SHRINE"

By A. J. Bowland (*Natal Mercury*)

Here we have South Africa in all its aspects; South Africa at work; South Africa at play; South Africans—men and women, old and young, European and non-European—but all South Africans; South Africa itself—the mountains, the seas surrounding our shores, the quiet farm-lands, the cities but all South Africa; Ons Volk, Ons Land.

On 18th May, 1960, this exhibition was, for the first time, offered to the public as South African photographers' contribution to the national celebrations and as their tribute to our country.

The response was overwhelming. Here at last was an Exhibition with a Message. Not only a

"RACE OF THE PLOUGHS"

By *Cape Times*



"One man in his time plays true of any man it is surely true of is, however, probable that posterity valuable contribution to our day and as Organiser of the Life of Our Nation remitting efforts of a small band of possible.

LIFE OF OUR NATION

This representative collection of photographs from nearly a quarter of a million Photographers' contribution to the exhibition and its value now, and perhaps even in the future, is incalculable.

The public are unanimously of the opinion that they should go Overseas to help counteract the effects of apartheid in Africa. So far no group or organisation has been organised for such a tour, but it is to be hoped that it will not be missed. There are also suggestions that the exhibition should be permanently housed in Johannesburg.

Our cover picture this month is a photograph from the Exhibition in the Johannesburg City Hall in June, 1960, and we have also been able to include a few pictures from this collection.

ONS VOLK, ONSE LAND

A small entry fee is charged for the exhibition, but the profits will all be devoted to the Photographic Foundation in South Africa for the promotion of photography and cinematography.

Don't miss Life Of Our Nation, a stimulating experience, but, in addition, a contribution to the Photographic Foundation.

plays many parts . . ."; if this is true of Dr. A. D. (Kin) Bensusan. His posterity will judge that his most important and age was the rôle he played at our Nation Exhibition. Only the understanding of stalwarts made this exhibition

OUR NATION

tion of some 325 prints, selected from a million photographs, is Organised for the Union's Jubilee Celebrations and will give it even more its value in years to

message to our country, but a message to many of our country's critics who, perhaps, say too much and, tragically, often know too little about us!

This Exhibition, which has already been seen in Bloemfontein, Johannesburg and Durban, will also be on view at East London (21-27 July), Port Elizabeth (1-8 August) and Kimberley (11-17 August). No one should miss their opportunity of seeing this unique collection of pictures which has been described as at least the equal of the Family of Man Exhibition which toured the country and well lives up to the claim of being the greatest photographic show of our time.

ly of the opinion that the Exhibition will counter adverse comment on South Africa. The organisation has come forward to back the exhibition and hopes that the opportunity will not be missed. Suggestions that the Exhibition should be held in Johannesburg or Pretoria.

month shows a general view of the exhibition at City Hall during its showing there and has also been privileged to reproduce a photograph.

ONS LAND

ged for entry to the Exhibition and led to the establishment of a Photo-Club in Africa for the furtherance of photo-

lation. Not only are you assured of a good time, in addition, you will be helping the

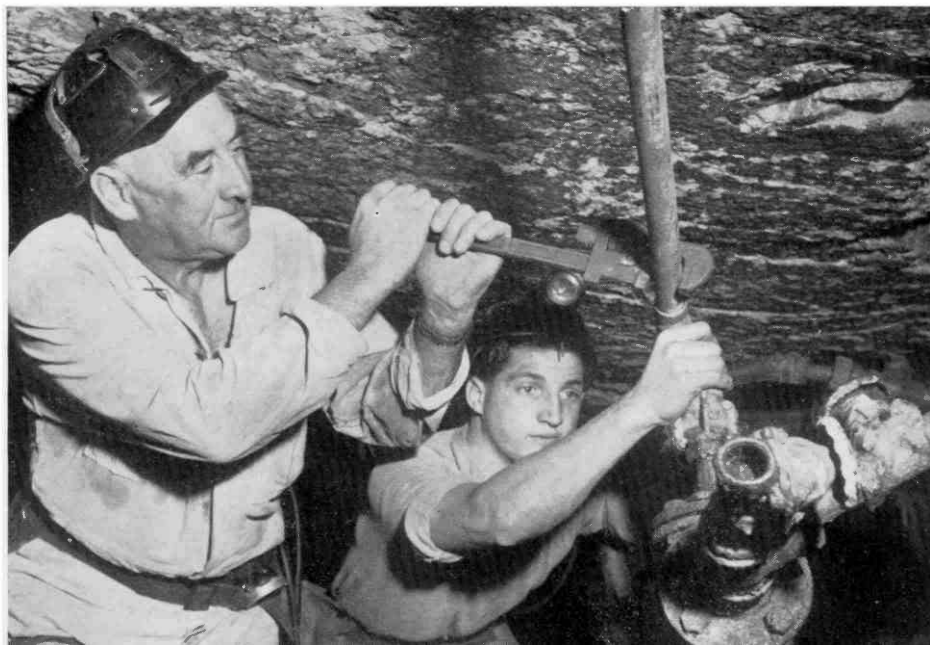


" COOLING OFF AFTER MATRIC "
" Matriekkoors Gebreek "

By Hilary Young

" MEN OF GOLD "

By Chamber of Mines



Photography and the Historian

By A. L. BEVIS, A.P.S. (S.A.).

(Durban Museum and Art Gallery)

In an article that appeared some twenty-five years ago in a photographic magazine long since defunct, Kenneth Baker, A.R.P.S., wrote: "What's wrong with you is that you are taking pictorial photography all too seriously: what you need is a side line. You've got to go on taking photographs if you are going to keep yourself efficient on the craftsmanship side, or else, when you want to do something further, you'll be out of practice and your technique will let you down . . . Why don't you start making records of fonts, or old customs, or cats, or something . . ."

Yes, why not make a photographic record of your town or district or of an industry, or of the native population of your part of the country, or the geological features: in fact anything to keep your hand in and your technique up to scratch.

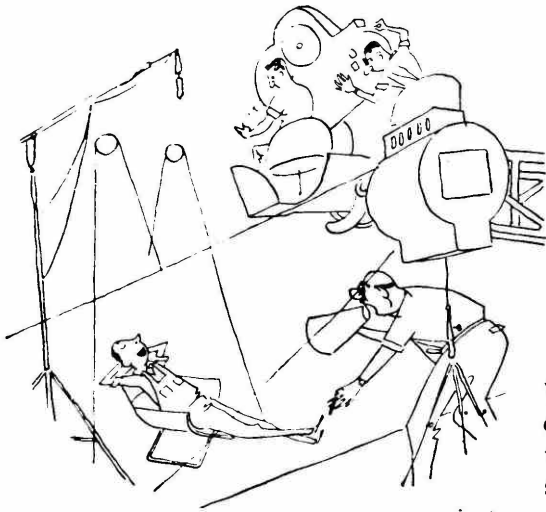
In most photographic societies emphasis is placed on pictorialism, a sphere in which, unfortunately, only a few reach the top rung of the ladder, the majority being rebuffed by

the constant rejection of, or hard criticism of their work, excellent though it may be technically, and in a short time they lose heart and resign, or more probably, switch to colour which doesn't call for so much effort on their part, unless of course they aspire to pictorial colour photography which is another story. Turning to a compilation of some photographic record is a certain and sure way of retaining interest, and at the same time knowing that you are doing a job of work that will be of inestimable value fifty or more years hence. Just how many of you can remember what the main buildings in the main street of your town looked like ten or twenty years ago? Change and decay, no, rather progress, is all around us these days, in the big cities more rapidly than in the smaller villages, but going on in the latter nevertheless.

At the present time there are only three or four photographic collections of any extent in South Africa. One, that compiled thirty or forty

years ago by that veteran photographer, the late Arthur Elliott, and acquired by the Archives after his death; the second, a very extensive and comprehensive collection housed in the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, and covering all aspects of the history and life of our country; the third in the Old House Museum, Durban, devoted to the history and development of Durban and Natal; and the most recent, the collection exhibited at the Jubilee Festival of the Union under the title "Life of our Nation — Ons Land Ons Volk". In the East London, Grahamstown, Kimberley, and Port Elizabeth Museums, and in the Voortrekker Museum in Pietermaritzburg there are small but extremely valuable collections of interesting photographs, many of which, owing to exposure to light, are fading and badly need copying before it is too late—a task in which many members of P.S.S.A. and other

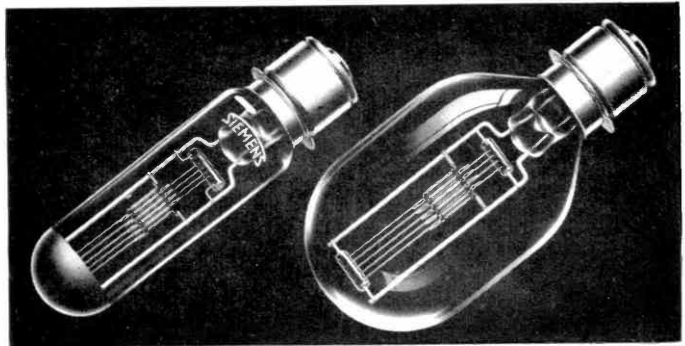
(Continued on page 12)



We've been well screened

We have no yearnings for a starring role. We don't even want a 'bit part'. We're quite content to go on making the picture—so far as the final screen image is concerned. There's scarcely a projector anywhere which won't give a better, brighter, more sharply illuminated picture if it's fitted with Siemens lamps. And there's scarcely a projectionist either who won't be a lot happier, because a change to Siemens inevitably means a sharp reduction in lamp troubles of every kind. You'll find a lot more information about the Siemens range in the Projector Lamps Catalogue—yours for the asking.

Mains voltage Biplane projector lamps shown here, are the result of intensive research at Siemens' Preston Laboratories. This development enables equipment incorporating these lamps to be connected direct to the 200/250 Volts mains without the introduction of a transformer, thus effecting a considerable saving in both cost and weight of projector apparatus.



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Photography and the Historian (Continued)

photographic organisations could, and should, undertake.

In the early 1920's the Durban Branch of the South African National Society commenced collecting early documents and photographs of the town and its inhabitants during the sixties and seventies with the object of preserving them for posterity. Many of the photographs were copied and exhibited in the Old Durban Room of the Durban Museum, but those copied were only a small proportion of the photographs that had been collected and filed. In 1929, as a result of a suggestion from two members of the Durban Camera Club, the present collection comprising past and present photographs and based upon the leading British photographic survey and record collections was commenced. One of the leading professional photographers in Durban, Mr. Lynn Acutt, kindly placed the whole of his collection of negatives, his dark rooms and enlargers at the disposal of the Club, and three or four members spent nights working to one or two in the morning making whole-plate enlargements from the more interesting of his negatives. Within twelve months, over 300 prints had been completed, mounted and labelled in uniform style. The Director of the Museum, Mr. E. C. Chubb, realizing the value of the collection that was being assembled gave permission to the writer to devote every

Friday afternoon to copying the National Society's collection of prints, and provided a four-drawer vertical filing cabinet to house the mounted prints. At the time of writing the collection numbers well over three thousand prints. To-day, in addition to the prints, the collection at the Old House Museum includes some 2,500 quarter-plate negatives, plus many hundreds of half- and whole-plate negatives, and even a collection of approximately 100, 15 x 12 glass negatives made by the late John K. Murray in 1880. The late Mr. Murray toured Natal in a horse-trap—taking his dark-room with him and doing all his development on the spot—but his negatives are as clear and crisp to-day as on the day they were taken. The Museum also possesses a collection of many hundreds of lantern slides made from the assembled negatives and used for lectures on the History of Natal and Development of Durban which are given regularly to classes from the local schools who visit the Museum for the purpose of hearing such lectures.

It must be recognised that there are, amongst the members of the photographic societies and clubs in the Union, a large number who are not, nor have the temperament to become, pictorial photographers, and to these photographic record work presents an ideal outlet for their desire to indulge in their hobby. This aspect of photography is not always recognised, for, in the first flush of listening to a lecture on composition or picture-making,

and seeing the splendid prints displayed by the lecturer, many sally forth with their cameras confident that the first exposure they make will produce the masterpiece that will bring their name to the forefront of photography. Alas, how sadly they are doomed to disappointment, and after a few rebuffs at the hands of salon juries and judges of club competitions, they come to the conclusion that it is no use their trying to win fame in this way and gradually their interest wanes. However, let them be brought to realize that by a little systematic effort their work can be made to produce not only personal interest, but results which may be of present and future value and their interest is immediately stimulated.

What would historians give to be able to view a photographic record of the trials and hardships experienced by those hardy pioneers, the Voortrekkers, or, say, Cape Town at the time of the arrival of Van Riebeeck. But, alas, photography was not invented in those early days and we have to rely largely upon the written word, sparsely augmented by drawings and paintings, crude as they may be. A hundred years hence, our descendants will look back upon the wonders of the present day, that is, if only amateur photographers in South Africa will throw their heart into the compilation of a photographic record of their own particular district.

(To be continued.)

The following are a few of the Tapo Recorded Lectures available to organised members.

1. **PICTORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY** by Bertram Sinkinson, F.R.P.S., F.I.B.P., 30 (M) slides. 1 hour. Fee: 7/6 (temporarily withdrawn owing to breakage of several slides).
2. **ELEMENTARY FAULTS IN COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY** by Dr. A. D. Bensusan, F.R.P.S., F.P.S.A. 20 (C) slides. 16 mins. Fee: 5/-.
3. **COLOURFUL CALIFORNIA** (travelogue). Kodachrome transparencies by Fred Hankins of Taft, Calif. 60 (C) slides. Fee: 7/6.
4. **COMMENTARY ON PRETORIA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY'S COLLECTION OF PRINTS AWARDED THE A.P. OVERSEAS PLAQUE IN 1955** by Drs. A. D. Bensusan, J. K. du Toit and B. Danzig. 23 (M) slides. 30 mins. Fee: 7/6.
5. **PHOTOGRAPHING OLD CAPE DUTCH HOMESTEADS** by Eric Vertue, A.R.P.S. 27 (M) slides. 30 mins. Fee: 7/6.
6. **PICTURES (pictorial) BY AN OFFICIAL WAR PHOTOGRAPHER IN NORTH AFRICA** by E. K. (Ted) Jones. 15 (M) slides. 15 mins. Fee: 5/-.
7. **LET'S DO A TRAVEL TALK** by Nat Cowan, A.R.P.S., A.P.S.A. 62 (C) slides. 35 mins. Fee: 7/6.

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Make **Your** Wishes Count

IN one respect, at least, 1959 was an epoch-making year for P.S.S.A. At the annual general meeting at Vereeniging the necessary resolutions were passed to ensure that for the first time the control of the Society passed out of the hands of the organisational members into the safe keeping of the ordinary members. How will the ordinary members honour this trust, for trust it is, which is now reposed in them?

Who is responsible for the smooth running of our Society's affairs? Believe it or not, you are — and so are you, AND you. Although the day-to-day decisions are made by a small standing committee of directors, assisted by the rest of the board, who are consulted on all major policy matters, and on many of the other aspects of the Society's life whenever time permits, you, the ordinary member, are now charged with the responsibility of deciding who will control this Society of ours.

You may often have felt, and perhaps even said, that the directors and other office-bearers were not worthy of the high office held by them.

At Vereeniging, disappointment was expressed in many quarters that no new names were proposed for election to the board; this complaint may have had a certain justification behind it. In order to obviate the possibility of a similar situation arising this year the Standing Committee is taking this opportunity of reminding all members that they are entitled to propose any member for election to the directorate.

The only stipulations are that all candidates must be proposed and seconded by members of the Society and must themselves signify in writing that they are willing to accept office if elected. Unfortunately time is now short and all proposed names must be submitted to Headquarters before 15th August.

A specimen form appears at the foot of this article, but this need not necessarily be

used; recommendations may be made on a plain sheet of paper so long as all the necessary requirements are met.

For your information the present office-bearers are as follows:—

President: A. L. Bevis, A.P.S. (S.A.)*

Vice-Presidents: Fred C. Harris, F.R.P.S.*

Graham M. Cousins.*

Directors: R. Bell, A.P.S. (S.A.)*

Dr. J. K. du Toit.

H. Geldard.

C. M. Knowles.*

B. N. Penny, A.C.I.S.

E. C. Pullon.

W. A. Robb.

A. Rosewitz.*

Dr. J. Sergay, A.R.P.S.*

T. Stafford-Smith.

R. H. Tibbs.

Dal Wallace.*

D. R. Winchester.*

Those marked with an asterisk are due to retire at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, but, are of course, eligible for re-election provided that they are willing to serve for a further term in office, while Mr. Bevis, as retiring President becomes a Director ex officio.

NOMINATION PAPER

Name (of Candidate)

Office

Proposed by

Seconded by

I am willing to accept the above office
in the event of my election thereto.

.....
(Signature of Candidate)

All nominations must be sent to:—

P.S.S.A.,

P.O. Box 1594,

DURBAN,

so as to arrive on or before 15th August, 1960.

All privileges carry corresponding duties: you now have the privilege of controlling your Society; you also have the duty to exercise this right.

PLEASE SUBMIT THE NAMES OF THOSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE MANAGING THE AFFAIRS OF P.S.S.A. DURING THE COMING YEAR.

Exhibitions you may care to try

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INTERNATIONAL SALON.
Closing Date — 30th September — Prints Only.
P.O. Box 2431, Cape Town.

CAPE TOWN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY SLIDE FEATURE SALON.
Slide Stories of not less than 20 slides with a Tape of not more than ten minutes.
Closing Date — 31st August.
P.O. Box 2431, Cape Town.

13th WITWATERSRAND INTERNATIONAL SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY.
Prints and Slides.
Closing Dates: Prints, 31st July; Slides, 20th August.
P.O. Box 2285, Johannesburg.

Dum Dum, 3rd International Photographic Exhibition:
Monochrome and Colour Prints only. Entries close 31st August, 1960. Hon. Secretary, Photographic Association of Dum Dum, 467 Jessore Rd., Calcutta — 28, India.

Northwest International Exhibition of Photography:
Prints only. Entries close 3rd September, 1960. North West Photographic Exhibition, Western Washington Fair, Puyallup, Washington, U.S.A.

III Salao Internacional de Arte Fotografica, Lisbon.
Monochrome and Colour Prints and Colour Transparencies. Subjects—Artistic, Marine and Fishing, Air Navigation. Entries close 23rd September, 1960. Grupo Cultural e Desportivo la Companhia Nacional de Navegacao. Rue do Comercio, 85, Lisbon.

1st Sarawak International Salon of Photography:
Monochrome or Colour Prints. Entries close 24th September, 1960. Sarawak Photographic Society, 16 Carpenter Street, Kuching, Sarawak.

11th New Zealand International Monochrome Exhibition:
Monochrome Prints. Entries close 1st August, 1960. P.O. Box 2035, Dunedin South, New Zealand. Prints returned 5th September.

London Salon of Photography:
Monochrome and Colour Prints (no transparencies). Entries close 17th August, 1960. Hon Secretary, 26-27 Conduit Street, New Bond Street, London, W1.

Sixteenth Chicago International Colour Slide Exhibit:
Entries close 3rd October, 1960. Cora A. Gruner, Chairman of Exhibit, 5952 N. Hermitage Avenue, Chicago 26, Illinois, U.S.A.

(Entry forms available from Hon. Secretary, P.S.S.A., P.O. Box 1594, Durban.)

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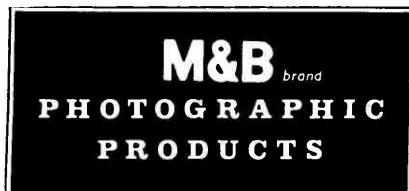


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Round the Clubs

(This feature has, unfortunately, had to be curtailed for this issue, but we would like to thank all those who have submitted club notes and to apologise for our liberal use of the blue pencil.)

A.C.C., Johannesburg.

The Reucassel Trophy, awarded annually to the lady member of the club who produces the best film in the annual competitions, was won this year by Miss Marie Coetzee with "Fiesta" — an 8 mm. film of exceptional quality and interest.

A new committee was elected at the A.G.M. and is already at work under the guidance of our new President, Ray Allenby.

Albany Photographic Society.

April competition, subject, "Old Age"; prints by Messrs Duffield, Mahls and Hewson were placed in "A" category.

Dr. R. L. Sykes, chairman since 1958, is leaving to take up residence in London in June. Dr A. Weighell has been appointed Chairman in his place; other new appointments are: Treasurer, Mr. M. Hill; Committee Member, Mr. P. Brandt.

Benoni Camera Club.

Messrs. Richards and Daly, of the Johannesburg Camera Club, were guests at the May meeting. Mr. Richards put on a most interesting show, including shots taken on a "hike" over the Drakensberg, and some superb Natural History and Record Slides.

Messrs. Richards and Daly later judged the club's monthly competition.

Dunlop Slide and Movie Group.

At our April gathering we enjoyed a new experience when flash-shots were taken of members at the beginning of the meeting on High Speed Ektachrome, and the film was then processed, mounted and projected before the end of the evening. This most interesting demonstration was put on by Messrs. Lawrence, DuBrey and Cleaver.

East London Photographic Society.

The highlight of the May meeting was a slide show by Mr. Chapman: "The Golden Jubilee of the Mombasa Boat Club". Also in May a special meeting, when an audience of between 30 and 40 people attended Harry Williams' talk on "The Perfect Negative".

Johannesburg Photographic Society.

Basil Smith has presented a fitting trophy to the Ciné Section consisting of an exact scale model of a camera on a tripod. This trophy will be competed for annually, and the first set subject is "A Film about a Song".

Recent promotions from Beginner to Intermediate Cinematographers include Mr. R. Smukler for his films "It Grew from Gold" and "Out of Town", and Mr. R. D. Churchman for his films "Buttons" and "The Tongueless Ones". Basil Smith has recently added to his many successes by winning the runner-up award in the "Life of Our Nation" Competition with his film "Saga of a City".

Northern Rhodesian Photographic Society.

M.P.D. Annual Film Festival will be held at either Ndola or Kalulushi on Saturday, 20th August. The Colour Division Annual Colour Exhibition will be held early in November at a venue to be arranged.

The present Office-bearers of the Society are as follows:—

President: Dr. F. W. Hanford, A.P.S.(S.A.), P.O. Box 98 Luanshya.

Vice-President: L. E. O'Brien, Esq., P.O. Box 967, Lusaka.

Hon. Secretary: J. D. Chadwick, Esq., P.O. Box 1310, Kitwe.
Chairman (Pictorial Div.): J. F. Borland, Esq., 24, 6th St., Chingola.
Chairman (M.P.D.): Dr. C. M. Phillips, P.O. Box RW 46, Ridgeway.
Chairman (Colour): R. Whiting, Esq., 19 Geddes Crescent, Kalulushi.
P.S.S.A. Rep.: E. C. Pullon, Esq., P.O. Box 220, Broken Hill.

Pretoria Ciné Club.

The Novice Competition films were screened at the March meeting, the highest marked film being "Onderwater" — Mr. F. van Oostenryk — which received 69.11%. Later in the evening Mr. V. Palmelrim screened his film "Scenes in the Drakensberg" which was rated at 66.88%. At the April meeting Mr. E. Jones provided the Ciné Thought with a suggestion that rubber bands suitable for 300-400 foot reels could be cut from an old motor car tube. Films shown at this meeting were "Scenes in the Eastern Free State" — Mr. C. A. v. d. Ven; "Bernadine (Part II)" — Mr. E. Jones; "Overseas Tour" — Dr. C. Geffin.

The film that was rated during the evening was "Bernadine" — 69%.

The Randfontein Camera Club.

The March competition was judged by members of the Johannesburg A.C.C. and was won by Mr. A. Arenson. The same judges also criticised the club film "Dinner with Piet", and the evening was then completed with a screening of films by the members of the A.C.C. At the April meeting the bi-monthly print and colour slide competitions were judged by Mr. Rosewitz. The film "Uranium" by Messrs. Harrison, Routledge and Aires tied for third place at the International Salon at Bloemfontein. Mr. R. Vader had two slide acceptances, one of which won a bronze medal, while Mr. J. Bailey had one acceptance. At the May meeting Mr. Reucassel screened his films "Whispering Wings" and "Thar She Blows", which were very much enjoyed by all who were present. The club is at present making a News Reel and an Album of all the important events of the Festival Year 1960, which, when completed, will be presented to the Town Council.

Uitenhage Camera Club.

The following Office-bearers were elected at the recent A.G.M.:—

President: Mark Kaplan.

Vice-President: Eric Inggs.

Secretary: Rikus van der Hoek.

Treasurer: Oswald Fricardi.

Ad. Members: Ken Hirds, Jean L. Camons.

Awards for the year went to the following:—

Open Section (Merlyn Trophy): Jack Robinson.

Set Subject (Bacon Cup): Rodney Dare.

Ferrania Trophy for Colour: Jack Robinson.

Progress Trophy: Rikus van der Hoek.

Vereeniging Photographic Society.

The Annual "Still" Competitions were held in March and judged by Messrs. M. Feldman, A.R.P.S. and D. Arden, A.I.B.P., who made the following awards:—

Best Pictorial: "The Ancestor", Mrs. J. Ibbotson.

Best Portrait: "No Regrets", Mrs. J. Ibbotson.

Print of the Year: "The Ancestor", Mrs. J. Ibbotson.

Best Beginner's Print: "That Certain Smile", Mr. J. B. B. Wolmarans.

Slide of the Year: "Two Small Boys", Mr. J. Geerdink.

Best Junior Prints: Mr. J. B. B. Wolmarans.

Best Inter. Prints: Mr. R. D. Bowman.

Best Advanced Prints: Mrs. J. Ibbotson.

Best Colour Slides: Mr. E. H. Campbell.

Recent Ciné winners were:—

"Old Cape Buildings", Mr. J. J. F. Van Heerden — Mark 2.

"Sappersrus", Mr. W. P. Carter — Mark 2.

The many recent outings have included a visit to the S.A. Salon in Johannesburg where Joan Ibbotson and Johnny Hong had acceptances.



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