

Proceedings of Societies.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting held on the 1st inst. Mr. J. TRAILL TAYLOR occupied the chair.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from the Queen, which was considered to be very gratifying both to the member to whom it was addressed, and to the Society.

Mr. J. STUART, of Glasgow, showed a large number of interiors and groups of large size taken with magnesium flash-lamp.

Mr. A. HADDON would like to remind Mr. Stuart that he had promised to show some results with a certain lens.

Mr. STUART said that he had found the lens imperfect, and the results not worth showing.

A large accession to the Society's library, presented by Mr. P. J. King, was received, and thanks awarded.

Mr. A. L. HENDERSON then gave his promised demonstration of a perfect method of emulsion making. The first point, he said, was that it was very important to have pure water, in illustration of which he gave several instances of non-success owing to impurity. He particularly cautioned against the use of rubber pipe other than the black kind, having known spots to arise from the sulphur adhering to the inner surface of white and even red rubber. He always used distilled water for making emulsion, and even then avoided that which was left at the bottom of the bottle, as it became impure by keeping. He also recommended that the first washing of the emulsion should be conducted with distilled water, and said that it would be better to use distilled water all through. To make emulsion that should be free from green or red fog, he considered it essential that the gelatine should not be in contact with free silver, and this he brought about by converting the silver into carbonate to begin with. He then prepared an emulsion by dissolving 120 grains of nitrate of silver in 3 ounces of water, and added 80 to 90 grains of dry carbonate of potash, also dissolved in 3 ounces of water. After allowing the precipitate to subside, part of the supernatant liquor was poured off, and the remainder with the carbonate of silver was poured into a solution containing 240 grains of gelatine and 90 grains of potassium bromide. The gelatine was previously well washed and thoroughly drained, and melted with as little adherent water as possible. The solutions were mixed at a temperature of 150° Fahr., and when the bromide was formed, one per cent. of potass. iodide was added, or more for subjects of great contrast; also in this case more gelatine. When set, it was broken up and washed in the usual way, and on melting made about 15 ounces of emulsion. The rapidity would be about 16 on the sensitometer, but, by adding to 10 or 15 ounces of the finished emulsion, 2 grains of potass. nitrate, 1 grain potass. bromide, and $\frac{1}{2}$ a grain of chrome alum, and keeping it at a temperature of about 80°, it gained very much in speed, and in twenty-four hours would register the highest of the sensitometer numbers. For straining the emulsion before coating he used chamois leather, and washed the skin carefully with soap followed by alkali and plentiful rinsing. If canvas was used for breaking up the emulsion before washing, either a fresh piece well washed from dressing should be used each time, or it should be very thoroughly freed from any bromide left from a previous straining. He did not use any alcohol, and if pits arose, they could be prevented by the addition of carbonate of ammonia to the finished emulsion—about $\frac{1}{2}$ a grain to the ounce. If it was intended to use a centrifugal separator, only a small quantity of gelatine would be used in emulsifying—say 15 grains—and for great density (as in the case of plates for the lantern or for line work) he used citrate or acetate of silver in place of carbonate.

Mr. J. B. B. WELLINGTON had not found the dust from rubber pipes cause spots. He had even squeezed out the milky substance from a new pipe and added it to the emulsion; also he had sprinkled in dry sulphur, and had not found spots to be caused thereby.

Mr. J. J. BARKER pointed out the difference in the water from different supplies, and found that boiling made that which he used quite satisfactory.

Mr. A. HADDON said that the Society had originally been especially an emulsion society, and he was glad to have the subject revived, and trusted more experimental work would again be done by the members.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Henderson for his demonstration, which had created so much interest.

Mr. W. E. DEBENHAM, in seconding the vote, hoped that the interest in emulsion making might be revived, and many more members might be induced to work at it occasionally, at all events, instead of being strangers to that interesting part of photographic work.

The Rev. E. Healey and Mr. Maas were elected members of the society.

CROYDON CAMERA CLUB.

THE permanent rooms of this Society are now at 56, George Street, Croydon, instead of number 96 in the same street.

The first of the regular fortnightly meetings in the new rooms will be held on Monday, 12th October, when the winter session will be inaugurated by a discourse on "Flash-Light Photography," with demonstrations, by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. R. White.

CROYDON MICROSCOPICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY CLUB (PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION).

A MEETING was held on October 2nd, when the chairman, Mr. J. WEIR BROWN, read a brief paper, in which he met objections recently raised, and referred to articles which had appeared, with respect to the uranium toning of bromides, and gave the results of his later experiments. This paper will be communicated to the photographic press in due course.

Mr. W. LOW SARJEANT exhibited a cardboard "double-back" for films, which weighed, when loaded, only 2½ ounces. He also mentioned that, in a recent tour on Dartmouth, on opening a packet of films flashes of light were visible when he separated them. Query—Was it due to electrical discharge or phosphorescence? He feared that when he developed them they would be streaked.

Mr. E. MARRIOTT then read a paper on the use of gelatino-chloride printing-out papers. He gave details of printing, toning, fixing, mounting, &c.

Most members had found difficulties in mounting, and the merits of starch, india-rubber dissolved in wood-naphtha, gum-arabic prepared with methylated spirit, were advocated.

The next meeting, October 16th, will be a lantern night; members' slides—trial night.

BATH PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

ON the 30th ult. the Society, by permission of the Prior, was afforded an opportunity of visiting and photographing at the monastery of St. Gregory, Downside, near Chilcompton. The party reached the college gates about mid-day, when work was at once begun in earnest. This extensive pile of buildings, by no means completed, comprises a large priory church, monastery, and numerous other buildings, such as swimming baths, masters' residences, &c., and are excellent specimens of early English style. They are approached from Stratton-on-the-Fosse by a pleasant carriage road, and at almost any point present a picture suitable for the camera. The noble proportions and rich detail of the church were photographed by some twenty of the party.

This was the last excursion of the season, and, thanks to the glorious day and excellence of the subjects presented, formed a capital wind-up to the summer work of the Society.

DUNDEE AND EAST OF SCOTLAND PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION. THE first general meeting of the session was held in Lamb's Hotel, Dundee, on October 1st.

Mr. J. D. COX, president, submitted the annual report, in which he stated that in the course of the past session thirty-two new members had been enrolled, that being the greatest number admitted during any year. He said the want of premises of their own was a great drawback, and until they had club premises he feared the attendance would not increase