

1956. No studios are provided at the station. The video signal from the Kirk O' Shotts transmitter is picked up at a Post Office receiving station at Cupar and relayed to Old Meldrum via a two-stage microwave link. Additional microwave aerials and receivers are available for use with outside broadcast units. The audio signal comes over Post Office landlines with some inevitable loss of the higher audio frequencies. A low-power (500 W. vision, 125 W. sound) transmitter, manufactured by Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., is installed for use should the main transmitter fail. It is supplied from a diesel alternator. The main transmitter can draw its power from either of two independent 11-kV. ring mains operated by the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, and the customary stand-by diesel alternator has been dispensed with.

Patent Office Library Centenary

THE Patent Office Library, at 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, has just celebrated its centenary year with an exhibition of literature illustrating the development of the industrial arts through the century of its existence. The exhibition showed industrial development by decades and included specifications of basic inventions, manufacturers' catalogues and scientific and technical periodicals which appeared in each period of the century covered. The material displayed was an attempt to demonstrate the resources of the Library and to illustrate the importance of patented inventions in the foundation of great industries. Some original examples of manufactured products, now widely known and used, were displayed as a focus to the exhibition of literature. A special tribute was paid in the exhibition to Bennet Woodcroft, F.R.S., the first clerk to the Commissioners of Patents and founder of the Library.

Documentation of Spectra by Punched Cards

THE documentation of new scientific data so that it remains within readable bounds presents a growing problem, and the difficulties are especially acute in those fields of pure and applied research where the solution of a particular problem demands a preliminary exhaustive search in the literature for physico-chemical reference data. For example, there is a recognized urgent need for spectral data in a compact form. This applies especially to infra-red and Raman data for use in physical or organic chemistry and for analysis, all the more since lack of space and costs now prevent full publication of such material in the scientific journals. A joint Anglo-German scheme for the documentation of molecular spectra, recently announced by Butterworths Scientific Publications (88 Kingsway, London, W.C.2) and Verlag Chemie (Weinheim/Bergstrasse), is therefore welcome news for many academic and industrial laboratories. The spectra of pure compounds, and of other technological products, will be provided on punched cards, with much other structural and spectral information. A detailed code which applies to the punched holes has been designed so that the cards can be used to provide the answers to a wide variety of questions which often occur in research. The spectral cards are also linked to a current literature survey, which adds to their intrinsic value. Details of the scheme, which is expected to begin in 1956 with about two thousand cards annually, can be obtained from the publishers.

Hair Embroidery in Siberia and North America

No. 7 in the series of Occasional Papers on Technology of the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, deals with the subject of "Hair Embroidery in Siberia and North America" (pp. 83+16 plates; from the Museum, 1955; 15s.). Mr. Geoffrey Turner, who has been closely associated with the Museum for many years, has made a deep study of the North American Indians and their material culture, and no one in Great Britain is better at placing a given specimen. Moose and reindeer hair embroidery are often confused with porcupine quill work, and Mr. Turner shows how they may be distinguished, also explaining how the various techniques are carried out and where they are found. In addition, he outlines what is known of the historical background, showing the effect of French influence on the development of the craft in North America. The paper will be indispensable to all museum curators who have North American or similar Asiatic material under their care, and it is to be hoped that more of Mr. Turner's learning will be published in future numbers of the series.

Illuminating Engineering Society

At the first meeting of the Illuminating Engineering Society for the 1955-56 session, Mr. A. G. Higgins, assistant secretary of the Institution of Gas Engineers, took office as president. Mr. Higgins formerly held a number of positions with the South Metropolitan Gas Co., including that of outdoor lighting superintendent.

The following awards have been made for papers presented to the Society during the past year: *Leon Gaster Memorial Premium*, to Dr. W. E. Harper (Plastics Division, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.) and Mr. A. G. Palmer (North Thames Gas Board) for their paper entitled "Lighting of Hazardous and Corrosive Locations in Industrial Plants"; *Silver Jubilee Commemoration Award*, to Mr. K. R. Ackerman (British Broadcasting Corporation) for his contributions to lighting design and brightness patterns.

Royal Institution: Lectures

THE programme of lectures at the Royal Institution up to Christmas includes seven Friday Evening Discourses, beginning October 28, as follows: Sir Edward Salisbury (director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), fruit and seed production; Sir Graham Sutton (director of the Meteorological Office), weather forecasting—the future outlook; Dorothy L. Sayers (author), 'Oedipus Simplex'—freedom and fate in folklore and fiction; Dr. C. F. A. Pantin (reader in zoology, University of Cambridge), the primitive nervous system; Dr. B. F. J. Schonland (deputy director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell), lightning and the long electric spark; E. J. H. Corner (lecturer in botany, University of Cambridge), botanical collecting with monkeys; and Sir Lawrence Bragg (resident professor and director of the Laboratories at the Royal Institution), the discovery of useful electricity. In addition to the Discourses, Prof. J. B. S. Haldane (Weldon professor of biometry, University College, London) will deliver the Woodhull Lecture on October 27 at 6 p.m., speaking on "The Prospects for Eugenics". R. H. Macmillan (lecturer in engineering, University of Cambridge) will give four lectures on Tuesdays (at 6 p.m.) beginning October 25, on the subject of automatic control and production. On November 3, 10 and 17 (at 6 p.m.), Dr. R. C. Sutcliffe (deputy director of the Meteorological