



# THE LITTLE MAN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
UNITED PHOTOGRAPHIC POSTFOLIOS  
OF GREAT BRITAIN

*(Affiliated to the Royal Photographic Society,  
Central Association Photographic Societies)*

All contributions should be forwarded to The Editor,  
88, Elfindale Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E.24. Bri. 3545.

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No. 15.

MARCH, 1946.

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## THE LITTLE MAN SPEAKS.

IT has again been necessary to allocate a large proportion of space to Official matters, but as the Magazine is the chief medium of passing to you information on Club affairs this is to be expected. Indeed were the space employed so fully on other matters as to exclude such information no doubt you would be quick to bring the matter to my attention.

In this issue are many items of particular interest to Members. The Central Association Exhibition at the Royal—Members will, we hope, give full support to this show for it is essentially an inter-society exhibition. Then we have the details for the May Rally, this again promises to be of particular interest and has always been a most popular feature of our Club programme. The opportunity offered for Circles to “get together” is being stressed in most note books. May 18th and 19th are dates to keep in mind.

There have been, and still are, many who voice dissatisfaction over delays in securing better club equipment. Improvement in quality is demanded from all sides. Others again are anxious to see Regional committees set up to promote provincial rallies, a venture that would prove most advantageous to all circles. Both these items appear on the Council Agenda for the March meeting and we shall expect some immediate action to be taken.

My post bag has been unusually heavy since the last issue. The article by Mrs. Rosalind Maingot resulted in many expressions of appreciation and pleasant surprise at the modesty of her views. In this issue we have pleasure to give you “Photography as I see it” by Percy W. Harris, F.R.P.S., well known to all our members as the Editor of “Miniature Camera Magazine.” I shall be happy to receive further opinions and comments on this series.

Since the A.G.M. last September we have been seeing a

steady influx of members who now return to the hobby after an all too long forced absence in the Services. Without exception these returning members have expressed admiration that the Circles have been kept active throughout the war years, and Club Officers and members unite in wishing them Welcome Home and trust that many successes await them, certain it is that they have returned full of enthusiasm and hope.

Your obedient servant,  
THE LITTLE MAN.

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### PHOTOGRAPHY AS I SEE IT.

By PERCY W. HARRIS, F.R.P.S.

Just fifty years ago my father suddenly decided to take up photography. He arrived home one Saturday afternoon with a second-hand box camera, three xylonite dishes, some pyro-soda developer, a packet of hypo, a candle-operated darkroom lamp, a box of Ilford Ordinary Plates, some P.O.P. and gold toning solution, a printing frame, a very much thumbed copy of the Ilford Manual and a strange mixture of enthusiasm and half-digested advice. For though I was only six-and-a-half at the time I remember the afternoon vividly, including the improvisation of the darkroom in a small chamber not far from the back door where it was found necessary to place a board across the aperture to provide a work bench, which was fairly convenient even if the chain did occasionally hit us behind the ear. It took quite a long time to stuff up every nook and cranny round the door to prevent the light getting in and nothing could exceed my father's pride when the first negative began to make its appearance in the dim red light. Carefully following the instructions the plate was fixed for twice as long as it took for the milkiness to disappear, washed in a stream of running water and set up to dry. Next day, following the instructions just as carefully, a print was made, gold toned, fixed, washed and dried.

It is rather strange that although I can vividly remember my father bringing home the camera, and can recall all the practical details—the smelly darkroom lamp, the xylonite dishes with their awkward habit of twisting, and the joint pride of achievement, I cannot, for the life of me, remember who or what the subject of that first photograph was! However, it was not long before we had all been photographed, and the camera soon became the indispensable companion of our holidays. And I do so well remember the vagaries of that first rather shabby box-form camera. It took twelve plates at a time all in metal sheaths, which were pressed for-

ward against the taking aperture by a spring. As soon as an exposure was made a lever was pressed and, theoretically at least, the exposed plate in its sheath dropped to the bottom of the box and the next one took its place. Unfortunately every now and again, either the plate failed to move or else half a dozen shot forward all at once and crashed to the bottom of the box in a cloud of dust. However, generally speaking it worked, and the results were clear and sharp.

A number of years passed before I acquired my own apparatus, although I took quite a number of photographs with my father's camera. And then, in 1912, I found myself in Constantinople (now called Stamboul) with the prospect of a year in the Near East and plenty of spare time on my hands. I promptly bought myself a quarter-plate roll film Kodak with a Goertz Dagor f6.8 lens. A few months later, in Egypt, I imported from Germany a Deckrulla Nettell 9 x 12cm. press type camera with twelve metal dark slides and a substantial tripod. The result was that when I returned to England in the summer of 1913 I had a trunk full of equipment and heaven knows how many boxes of negatives. Mercifully the Customs authorities did not open this trunk—had they done so they would have found that a 2lb. jar of anhydrous sodium sulphite had been smashed and the whole of the interior of the trunk resembled a flour mill!

Among the plates I brought home were a large number of Autochromes, and now back in England I took up very energetically the "Paget" colour plate process which subsequently became known as the "Finlay." When the 1914-18 war broke out my interest was divided between the 9 x 12cm. and half plate sizes, and in 1925 I bought my first cine camera (a 9½ mm Pathe hand turned). A few months later while in America I acquired my first 16mm camera—a Bell Howell. In 1930 I abandoned the 9 x 12cm. size and bought one of the first Rolleiflexes, exchanging it for a lever wind model when the latter was produced. In 1936 I bought my Contax II and although I still have the Rolleiflex and a number of other cameras, both modern and historic, the Contax still remains my prime favourite.

What does photography mean to me? Looking back over fifty years, it has not only provided an absorbing hobby and a means of self expression, but it has also enabled me to make priceless and permanent records of people and places and things all over the world. It has yielded the pleasure which comes from mastering difficulties and solving problems, but most of all it has taught me to *see*. It has given me an incentive to study subjects which otherwise I should have known nothing about, and, particularly during the last few years, it has led me to find more and more pleasure from the

study of paintings, engravings and sculptures—in fact, from all forms of art expression in other media. Last but not least, it has enabled me, in the last ten years, to make what was at first only a hobby, now both a hobby and a profession.

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## THE UNITED PHOTOGRAPHIC POSTFOLIOS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

**Report on the FIRST Meeting of Council,  
held at 16, Prince's Gate, London, S.W.7.  
on Saturday, the 8th December, 1945, at 3 p.m.**

In the Chair : R. C. Leighton Herdson (President).  
Also present : G. Lombardi (Vice-President), S. H. Burch (Hon. Treasurer), G. Farnsworth (Editor), J. H. Hole (Hon. General Secretary), Mrs. Marie Shaw (Recorder), Miss Barbara Wagstaff (Hon. Librarian). The following Representatives of the Circle Secretaries—Messrs. F. E. Ramsden, Sheffield ; I. J. Rees, Glamorgan ; Dr. H. C. Simpson, Carlisle ; Miss Barbara Wagstaff, London. The following Representatives of the Ordinary Members—Messrs. A. R. Cobb, Newbury ; A. E. Manning, London ; F. G. Mirfield, Horsham.

Expression of regrets for absence were received from Mr. C. J. Epril (Vice-President).

The Chairman in his opening remarks said the Council was complete with but one exception. He was most happy to preside at this, the first, meeting of Council and it was fitting that it should be at the House of the Royal Photographic Society where in September last the Amalgamation of P.M.P.P. and P.P.P. had been sealed by the joint General Meeting of those Clubs.

**APPOINTMENT OF RECORDS SECRETARY (RECORDER).**  
The only nomination before the meeting was Mrs. Marie Shaw, proposed by Mr. I. J. Rees, seconded by Miss Barbara Wagstaff. It was recorded that Mrs. Marie Shaw (*nee* Walker), had been Record Secretary of both P.M.P.P. and P.P.P. for some ten years.

This appointment was confirmed.

**MATTERS ARISING** from the A.G.M. held 22/9/45.

The **DRAFT** of the **STANDING ORDERS** 1945/46 submitted by the President was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ramsden asked if these Orders would be circulated to all Members of the Club. The Chairman replied that the Orders would be published in the Magazine.

Delegates to the **CENTRAL ASSOCIATION**, Miss B. Wagstaff (proposed by Hole, seconded by Mirfield), and S. H. Burch

(proposed by Hole, seconded by Dr. Simpson), were appointed as Delegates to the C.A.

**CLUB CALENDAR** : Mr. Hole undertook to prepare a Calendar of Club events for publication in the Magazine.

**ADVISORY NOTE BOOK.** Mr. Hole informed Council this book had not completed the Rota of Circle Secretaries but had been withdrawn pro tem in order to have it available at this meeting. Matters arising therefrom would be brought forward under other Urgent Business.

**CIRCLE SECRETARIES REPRESENTATIVES ON COUNCIL** : Mr. Hole reported that nominations and ballot had been taken. The following were elected to Council : Miss Barbara Wagstaff, Messrs. F. Ramsden, I. J. Rees and Dr. H. C. Simpson. All being present today.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** : The following were appointed to this Committee : S. H. Burch (Convenor), Messrs. R. C. Leighton Herdson, C. J. Epril, G. Lombardi, J. H. Hole, G. Farnsworth and A. R. Cobb.

**EXHIBITION AND COMPETITION COMMITTEE** : The following were appointed : J. H. Hole (Convenor), R. C. Leighton Herdson and A. R. Cobb.

Discussion arose over the proposition submitted by Mr. Dudley Styles and seconded by Mr. G. Farnsworth. Which read : "That the Exhibition Committee of the Central Association be requested not to exhibit work submitted by postfolio Clubs as a separate exhibition or class".

Miss Wagstaff said there was some doubt in the Club as to whether this section of the exhibition was actually part of the C.A. Exhibition. Mr. Mirfield queried whether we were eligible for the Switch Shield Competition of the C.A. The Chairman replied that we were eligible and had competed this last three years. We were, in fact, an equal partner in the C.A. with other Member-Clubs. Mr. Lombardi said he understood that the Postal Clubs as a whole had very little recognition in the past, this additional privilege at the Exhibition was the result of an uphill struggle to secure recognition. This purpose has now been fulfilled.

Mr. Mirfield felt the need for a separate exhibition was not now necessary. Mr. Hole thought we had been most fortunate in having this valued concession, but now we should fall in with the other Clubs. Mr. Herdson supported the motion.

It was **RESOLVED** : "That the Exhibition Committee of the Central Association be requested *not* to exhibit as a special class those works submitted by Members of Postal Clubs," Carried unanimously. (This resolution was handed to the C.A. Exhibition Committee on 4th January, 1946.)

EDITOR OF THE "LITTLE MAN" MAGAZINE : Appointment of George Farnsworth as Editor was confirmed.

HON. LIBRARIAN : Appointment of Miss Barbara Wagstaff to this office was confirmed. RESOLVED : That Members having items from the Library on loan shall pay cost of postage one way.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.

Vote of thanks to the Royal Photographic Society for use of premises was supported with acclamation.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT. Chairman submitted specimens. Discussion made it doubtful as to the qualification for such certificate, the Advisory Note Book was not in favour of such an award to winning print in each round. (The Advisory Note Book circulates amongst the Circle Secretaries). It was suggested that the highest scoring print (or Slide) in each round be given a small adhesive label (such as employed at exhibitions for accepted entries) and at the end of each twelve rounds the twelve leading prints, one from each round, be submitted to a Panel of Selectors which would award the Certificate to the best print of the twelve. Matter was referred back to the Advisory Note Book for further discussion and advice.

OTHER PORTFOLIOS AND AFFILIATION TO U.P.P.

Discussion on this matter arose when Mr. G. Lombardi asked if postal clubs outside the U.P.P. could affiliate with this Club. Chairman stated the same question had arisen from overseas clubs.

It was decided that any such affiliations were not possible nor desirable. Any outside portfolio could be taken into the Club as a going concern, but it would lose its identity and become a circle of this Club.

It was RESOLVED : That the Club should have Circles for Lantern Slide Workers.

Mr. Mirfield proposed that this Club should not pursue its present policy of expansion but restrict itself to the present twenty-six circles. There was no seconder for this motion. The matter was accordingly dropped.

PUBLICITY. Mr. Lombardi commented upon the amount of publicity given to some Clubs, very much smaller Clubs than this, whereas the photographic press gave us very small notices.

NEXT AGENDA. The Editor of the Club Magazine gave notice that he wished to put a motion before Council that the Magazine should carry advertisements and illustrations.

Mr. Lombardi questioned if membership was open to amateur and professional workers. It was stated the Membership had always included both classes on equal status.

In reply to further questions the Chairman said he would be pleased to have a circle reserved to members of the Institute of British Photographers if there was any real call for such a Circle.

Mr. Hole reported that Mr. Copper had taken over the Secretaryship of Mr. Snelling's Circle.

The Editor asked Council to press Circle Secretaries to submit reports of their Circles for publication in the Club Magazine.

The Meeting closed at 5-18 p.m.

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**THE UNITED POSTFOLIOS OF GREAT BRITAIN.  
Standing Orders 1945—46.**

1. The Council shall meet at least four times each year during the first weeks of March, June, August and December. The President can convene other meetings of the Council at his discretion. (*Article 6*).

There shall be published in the Club Magazine as soon as possible after each meeting, under the heading "Council Meeting," a statement of such business done at the meeting as the Council shall direct, including the following : Date of the Meeting ; the names of the Chairman and Members present ; the composition of any Committee that the Council may appoint ; the names and addresses of candidates accepted into membership ; the name of any Honorary Member elected.

2. The Council shall vote only upon such questions as may be specifically set forth in the Agenda accompanying the notice of meeting, excepting the following item, which shall be held to be sufficiently indicated by the term "Other Urgent Business," viz. : (a) Reading of Minutes of previous meeting, (b) the receiving of presents, (c) passing of accounts for payment, (d) reading of letters. It shall, nevertheless, be in order for the Chairman to put additional matter to the vote, but if it is objected that due notice has not been given and the Chairman considers the matter one of urgency, it shall be in order to propose that the matter is urgent, and if two-thirds of those present vote in favour of urgency, that matter shall be considered in the same way as if due notice had been given.

3. The President shall be a member, *ex officio*, of all committees ; the two Vice-Presidents shall be members, *ex officio*, of the Finance Committee ; the Hon. Treasurer shall be a member, *ex officio*, of all committees involving expenditure of finance.

4. Cheques upon the Club's Bankers shall be signed by the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary of the Club or the

President and the Hon. Treasurer of the Club ; or in the absence of the Hon. Treasurer by the Hon. Secretary and the President.

5. The Council may nominate a member of each committee to be the convener, who shall be responsible for the summoning, conduct and reporting of that committee.

6. At its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting the Council shall appoint the Hon. Editor of the Club Magazine, "THE LITTLE MAN," who shall be responsible to the Council for the reports of Council Meetings as in (1) hereof, and such other articles, reports and correspondence as he shall deem suitable for publication.

7. At its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting the Council shall appoint an Hon. Librarian to manage the Club's Library of books, lecturettes and such other documents as the Council may deem suitable for circulation amongst the Circles of the Club, any member of the Club may have on loan any available items from the Library providing his application is countersigned by the Secretary of his Circle.

8. At the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting the Council shall appoint an Hon. Records Secretary to record all proposals submitted to the Council, all press notices, and such other official records as the Council may desire to retain.

9. Voting at Council meetings shall be by show of hands, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

10. At every meeting of Council seven shall form a quorum. (Article 17).

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**CLUB CALENDAR**  
of the  
**United Photographic Postfolios of Great Britain.**

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March (first week). Council Meeting.

March 26th. Last day for receipt by Hon. General Secretary of Central Association Exhibition entries.

June (first week). Council meeting.

July 1st. Closing day for Nominations.

July 21st. Last day for sending out Ballot Papers.

Aug. 1st. Last day for return of Ballot Papers.

Aug. (first week). Council Meeting.

Sept. 1st. Annual Subscriptions due.

Sept. (normally 2nd Saturday). Annual General Meeting.

Nov. 1st. Last day for receipt of entries by Hon. Gen. Secretary from Circle Secretaries for Inter-Circle Competition.

Dec. (first week). Meeting of the Council.

**NOTICES.**

The May Exhibition Rally will be held again this year, the dates being May 18th and 19th. On the Saturday there will be an informal meeting at the Royal Photographic Society, when the projection of the C.A. Slides will take place. The Sunday ramble will be a stroll around London, "New Vistas after Bombing." Sunday meet at steps to Westminster Pier (opposite New Scotland Yard) at 10-30 a.m. You are advised to wear the Club "LITTLE MAN" Badge.

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**1946 EXHIBITION.**

Members who are entering work for the 1946 Exhibition of the CENTRAL ASSOCIATION must let the Hon. General Secretary, J. H. Hole, 103 Northbrook Street, Newbury, Berks., have their entries by MARCH 26th next. There are no entry fees, and accepted work will be hung at the Royal Photographic Society during the month of May. Pictorial and record and scientific work is wanted, both in prints and slides. If we have sufficient backing in the pictorial prints and slides we shall compete for the Switch Shield. Any pictures or slides submitted that have for subject matter a "street scene with figure or figures" will automatically be entered for the W. L. F. Wastell trophy competition. All you have to do is to pack your entries in two batches, one pictorial the other record or technical and send them to Mr. Hole by MARCH 26th, 1946. Get your entry away as soon as you can and so help the exhibition committee. This is open to ALL members of the U.P.P. and the usual exhibition standards of mounts are required, 15 x 12 and 20 x 16 for preference. Put your name and address and the Club name upon the back of mounts or on the binding of slides. Enclose addressed and stamped label for the return of your work after the exhibition.

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**CHANGE OF SECRETARY.**

E. Ralph has resigned the secretaryship of his Circle. This became necessary when Ernie changed his job and had to leave Sheffield. We record our deep appreciation for the generous and efficient services he rendered the Club and in particular to his Circle. We are most happy to announce that the leadership of the Circle has been taken over by another old and valued Member of the Club, Mr. Sydney Pollard, of 80, Owley Wood Road, Weaverham, Cheshire, to whom we send greetings and all good wishes for the future of his Circle.

**EDITOR'S POST BAG.**

R. W. J. Norton, A.R.P.S., of the A.R.P.S. Portfolios and the Anglo-American Portfolios writes: "I have enjoyed the 'Little Man' and found the Rules and Constitution of interest too."

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Mr. Reg. Elias has raised the point of the foundation date of Circle Seven shown in our last issue, page 14, as being 1944. This should of course have been February, 1934. Circle Seven at that time being restricted to users of the Leica camera. When in 1937 the Leica portfolios of P.M.P.P. left us to form the foundation circles of the Leica P.P. the Circle was re-formed, with Mr. C. Rickard as its Secretary and the restriction on make of camera was then removed. On Mr. Rickard's retirement from the Club Mr. Elias, its present Secretary, took over the control of the Circle.

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Mr. J. H. Hole writes that there seems to be some misunderstanding amongst Members as to the offices of the Hon. General Secretary and that of the Hon. Treasurer. All matters affecting finance or supplies of materials, printing etc. should be addressed to Mr. S. H. Burch, the Hon. Treasurer. Matters that are concerned with the administration of the Club or the Circles should be addressed to Mr. Hole, Hon. General Secretary of the Club. If Members would kindly make a note of this much time and a good deal of cash would be saved.

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Two very interesting letters have been received from Honorary Members still serving overseas. Unfortunately lack of space prohibits these being published in full. Sgt. T. H. C. Bartrop stationed in Kenya tells how he gets the Mag. regularly and speedily sent on to him by his wife who sends it out in two halves by air mail. (Congratulations, Mrs. Bartrop.—ED.) Bartrop goes on to give a very realistic description of the country around his Station and compares the area of 175,000 square miles with his home rural district of Chelmsford with its area of some 85,000 acres. He concludes his letter by giving his wholehearted support for the steps taken at the A.G.M. for the future of the Club. Our best wishes to you, Sgt. Bartrop, may we soon be seeing you home again. Like all Honorary Members in the Forces, your place in your old Circle is being kept for you.

From Gibraltar we have had a letter from our old friend L.A.C. Stephen S. Taffler, from him we learn that he has started a very successful Club on The Rock. This has the title of "The R.A.F. Photographic Society, Gibraltar." Stephen is now Chairman of the Club which has proved so successful that it embraces all R.A.F. units and formations on the Rock, it has spacious accommodation which includes two dark rooms complete with enlarger and a studio well equipped with lighting units. The President of the Club is Sqdn. Leader the Rev. J. W. Nowers—our congratulations to the Padre for this most valued support to the lads and his interest in the hobby. All Members of U.P.P. will certainly join with us in wishing this Club and all concerned with it, every success and we are proud that one of our own Honorary Members played so outstanding a part in its inauguration. In the Club's own publication there is a short history and the opening paragraph thereof states "A successful enterprise deserves due recognition"—how heartily we agree with that.

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**PHOTOGRAPHY AS I SEE IT.**

SIR,—Mrs. Maingot's article was a most encouraging one, and I for one much enjoyed and appreciated it. It is very comforting to those, who like myself, have not travelled very far along the road of photography, to know that such outstanding workers as Mrs. Maingot see Photography from very much the same angle as we lesser lights.

One is apt to think that such eminent workers as these think very differently photographically than we do, one imagines their thoughts to be only of picture construction and highly involved technique. To find them having the same "homely" thoughts makes the gulf between these workers of great renown and us poor strugglers very much narrower, and provides a feeling of reassurance. In fact, as you progress up the ladder of Photographic successes those earlier thrills of Beginner Days, those early joys of snapping each other, ever remains in our thoughts and albums. Such an article was of real interest, value, and encouragement, I shall look forward to the others you have promised.—Yours sincerely, CHARLES ROBERTS.

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From Capt. Crosby comes a plea for stronger and more modern equipment. In his letter he says (and many of us will agree with him), "it is time we had done with string and brown paper, and were equipped with proper fibre boxes and straps complete with label panel etc., but please let us have all corners of boxes reinforced STEEL, fibre reinforcement is as good as useless. Please lend your ear to this plea

and play wops with Syd until he provides the real articles." I do not know exactly what "play wops" means, but I can assure Capt. Crosby that Syd Burch is very much concerned over this problem himself and has been for some time trying to make contacts for such boxes.—EDITOR.

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Wagstaff's Circle, old P.M.P.P. Circle seven, will be glad to know that we have heard from a very old friend of theirs, Allen Hoare, one of the Circle's Founder Members. Allen is now living at Cullompton in Devon, Glorious Devon. He is hoping to resume his membership of the Club.

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### **THE LIBRARY.**

The Hon. Librarian emphasises the value of the Library Service. That this service could be developed in many ways is acknowledged, but it is not easy to expand the library under existing circumstances. New books of outstanding interest have been secured either by gift or purchase.

Those books that are not suitable for circulation in the circle portfolios, either because they are too large or heavy, or would take too long for reading during the short period one is able to hold the portfolio, can be had on loan by individual members, the member paying postage on the return of the volume. Application should be made direct to the Librarian.

The Library catalogue has been circulated to all Secretaries who will in turn send it around the circle via the March portfolios. Some of the Lecturettes have now been in use over a number of years and without doubt, and with little trouble would be improved by revision. Authors of lecturettes are invited to consider undertaking such useful work.

Members who have leading works of photographic interest and would be willing to lend such books to other members would be giving useful service to the Club by informing the Librarian of such available material. It is known that such a mutual help arrangement could be of exceptional value to all.

Through the generosity of a member we shall have available for loan immediately it is published, "Thirty-Five m.m. Photo Technique" by H. S. Newcombe. This is a work of outstanding merit and its value to the miniature camera user will be greater than anything we have previously seen. The book has been reviewed by Percy Harris who highly recommended it.

The Librarian as well as the club membership would much appreciate your full co-operation. All correspondence should be sent to Miss B. Wagstaff, A.R.P.S., 1/21, Northwood Hall, Hornsey Lane, London, N.6.