

JAN 58

INSTRUMENT
SOCIETY of
AMERICA

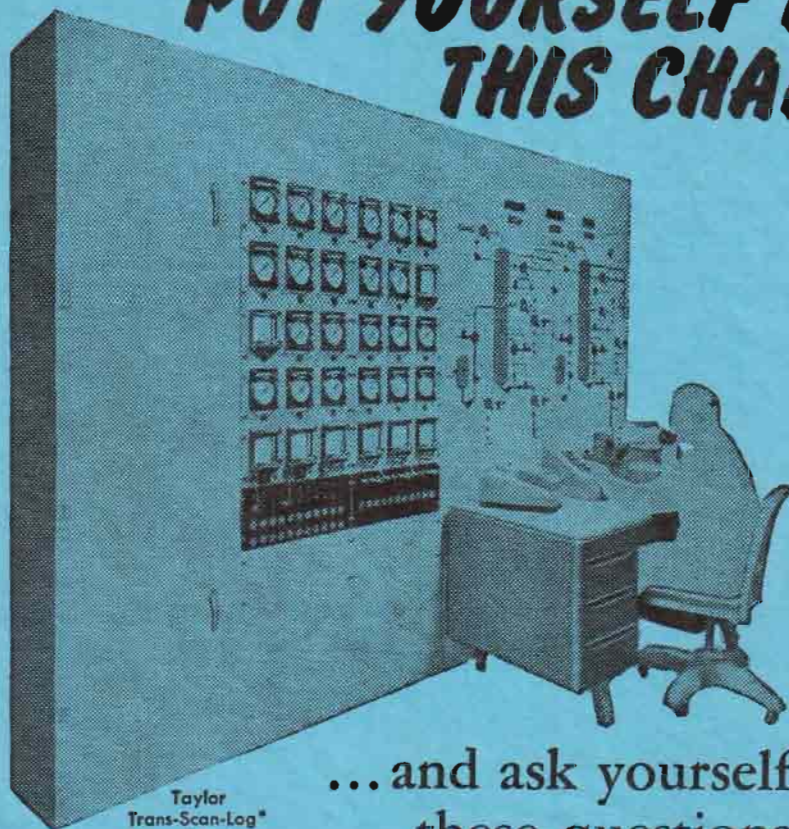


SARNIA SECTION



Monthly Bulletin

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The Instrument Society of America

SARNIA SECTION

has as its objective the advancement of the arts and sciences associated with the theory, design and use of measuring and control instruments in the various industries in the Sarnia area.

The immediate benefits derived by the Sarnia members include a monthly meeting at which a qualified speaker discusses an instrument subject after which members fraternize with other instrument men and interchange ideas and news at a social hour, a subscription to the "I.S.A." JOURNAL, a subscription to the Sarnia Section "BULLETIN", access to all technical data, servicing techniques and standardization policies developed by the National Committees of the ISA and an annual school for mechanics and technicians.

As a member of the National body of the Instrument Society of America, a rapidly growing and influential technical society, the member partakes indirectly in the progress of instrumentation made possible by the work of the various National Committees.

Executive Officers for the 1957-58 season are:

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Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month from September to May inclusive at 8.00 P.M. The meetings are held at the Vendome Hotel unless otherwise announced.

Anyone earning his livelihood through the manufacture or use of instruments and who is acceptable to the executive body may become a member of the Sarnia Section, I.S.A. Dues are \$12.00 per annum. Associate Members are those who are associated with instruments but who do not earn their livelihood directly from them, such as stationary engineers, process operators, etc. Their dues are \$7.50 per annum.

Copy for "THE BULLETIN" should be sent to the Managing Editor, Mr. H. Hobbs, 122 Cameron Street, Sarnia, Ontario.

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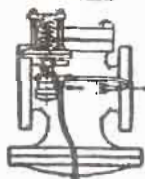
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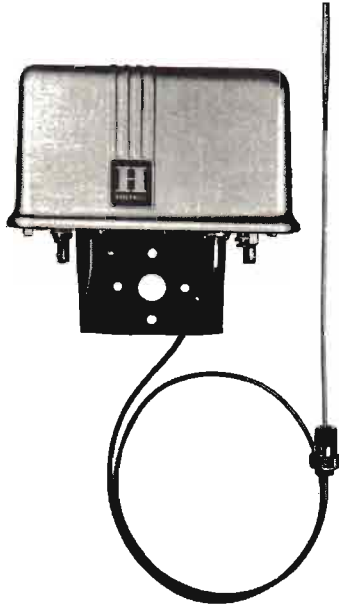
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The "BULLETIN"

VOLUME 7: No. 5

JANUARY, 1958

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Ron Asselstine

Once again we are entering a new year and as usual are faced with the problem of attempting to keep those New Year Resolutions. I hope all members have resolved to pay their dues by January 31, 1958. This is the deadline! National Office has advised us that if they have not received payment on the above date, delinquent memberships shall be terminated. Payment may be made direct to National Office or to the local section. EITHER WAY—DON'T DELAY—DO IT TO-DAY.

One other problem will very shortly confront you as members, and that is the election of officers for the 1958-59 term. Since 1952 there has not been an election in the Sarnia Section. Members have meekly accepted the recommendations of the nominating committee, thereby giving up their constitutional right to vote for a nominee of their choice. This is not meant to reflect on the recommendations of previous nominating committees, but is an effort to instill more enthusiasm by the members in the management and organization of the section.

★ ★ ★

INSTRUMENTS ARE MY LINE

By E. W. Kirk

With the (groan) season of good cheer and hearty eating once again behind us, we begin to settle down for the cold months ahead.

We instrument people, with our regular routine of maintenance, are always trying out new gadgets or ideas. Some of these ideas work in certain areas better than others.

Some ideas are not new, as in my last article, which centred around Saunder's valves. Someone said to me, "That's old stuff, we have had relays on those valves for years." Perhaps this is true. However, with so many different controls, they do sometimes get very complex and puzzling and it is the simple things, that we tend to overlook.

For instance, the chap who said he used relays on Saunder's type of valves, was using it for an entirely different reason than my previous ar-

ticle stated. In the first place, it was the older one, a spring type of valve, and secondly the valve was installed in a glass pipeline. The problem was that each time the valve closed the hammer effect would break the glass pipe, resulting in costly shutdowns. Since the glass pipe had so many advantages over a glass lined pipe, it was desirable to keep using it, if this hammer effect could be eliminated.

This was accomplished by installing a snap action Moore relay unit, in the controlled air line, after the regular 1 to 1 relay. The output from this snap action relay went to a 3 way valve, which also is installed in the controlled air line. The control point of the relay can be set wherever desired, in this case approximately 5 lbs. Now so long as the controller was sending more than 5 lbs. output the valve operated in the conventional way, because the air pressure was above the set point of the relay unit, thus the 3 way valve would be open straight through. However, if the controlled air dropped below 5 lbs. the snap action relay operated by sending air to the 3 way valve, which would close off against the controlled air line, at the same time bleeding off the air from the control valve very slowly to atmosphere. Thus the valve closed gently. If so desired, a reverse action can be obtained by reversing the 3 way valve and the relay.

On first inspection of this installation with its array of copper tubing, valves, relays and gauges, it was like an engineer's nightmare, but it did the job very nicely, without any major revamping of present equipment.



TRAINING OF INSTRUMENT MEN

By Larry Hall

Our friend and former colleague from Dow Chemical Company, Laurie Porker, now rocketed to the position of Instrument Engineer for Canadian Petrofina Limited in Montreal, visited in Sarnia over the holidays and paid the writer a visit to discuss instrument maintenance, always a perennial problem. Laurie was plagued with the problem, common to heads of instrument departments everywhere, of where to get trained instrument men. There are hundreds of men throughout industry who call themselves "instrument men", but when the cards are down, find that they cannot produce. Instrument training is more than time. It is not good enough to put in five—or, even ten years—on instrument work and expect that this experience alone makes one an instrument man. I have seen men with two months training on instruments who can do more practical instrument work than some so called instrument men who boast two years

experience. If you find this hard to believe you will find it also hard to believe that at Sun Oil, we literally take a journeyman pipefitter "off the streets" and after two months training, put him on shift—alone—to look after some 2000 instruments. He may call up the Instrument Technician who is "on call" for that week if he runs into an unfamiliar problem, but this is a comparatively rare experience—about once a month.

There are some who scoff at this assertion with the observation that such a man does not really do instrument work—just plugs in components. This is not wholly true. In that two months of training, the man can adequately perform the following tasks:

1. Completely strip down, reassemble and calibrate a dry type Flow Transmitter.
2. Completely strip down, reassemble and calibrate a Pressure transmitter.
3. Remove from the line, strip down, clean, lap in plug and seat, pack, set up valve positioner, set up valve travel, and replace in the line any control valve.
4. Completely strip down, repair and reassemble a Consotrol type recorder or controller.
5. Completely strip down, clean, repair and reassemble a "Leveltrol" type of Level Transmitter or Controller.
6. Operate a portable potentiometer in taking temperature and checking calibration of strip chart and transmitter types of potentiometers.
7. Do minor trouble shooting on potentiometer type instruments.
8. Zero and check all of the above types of instruments in the field and isolate the trouble spots.

This list is not complete, but represents a minimum level of work to be learned in the training period of two months. Some men learn more.

It is to be assumed that these men are no better nor no worse than the average man who starts into instrument work anywhere. It is true that they have had five years or more experience on pipefitting in the construction field and, have, therefore, proved themselves to have an average amount of mechanical ability; but they have not seen the inside of an instrument, and know next to nothing about theory. Nor are they exceptionally well educated. Education varies from 8th grade to grade 12 with the average about grade ten.

It seems, then, that we must look elsewhere for the reason that such men can accomplish so much in so short a time.

MEETING NOTICE

TOPIC: RADIATION AND ITS INDUSTRIAL APPLICATION.

SPEAKER: MR. ERIC LEAVER
President, Electronic Associates Ltd.
Toronto, Ontario

DATE: JANUARY 27, 1958

TIME: 8.00 P.M.

PLACE: VENDOME HOTEL

FILM: "A IS FOR ATOM"
(General Electric Company sound/colour publication on
the uses of atomic energy)

WRITTEN ON A ROLL CHART**Bon Santé!**

On the bank of blue St. Lawrence,
Lies the place called Point ah trom,
Where Jacques Cartier's girders soar across
the sky.

And although the name resembles
In its spelling, Pointe aux Trembles,
You can speak it like a native if
you try.

A happy place, a lovely place,
Where great Cat crackers sprawl,
And hydrocarbons odorize
the breeze

And the mighty flare-stacks nightly
Make the sky glow redly, brightly,
As they guide the ships from all
the seven seas.

Let me cease this verbal thunder
Lest you all begin to wonder
Why I've leaped with such abandon,
overboard.

For within those oily quarters,
Dwell a group of my supporters,
And, as such, they shall no longer
be ignored.

I was told by one who knows them,
(And who promised to expose them),
That culture is most highly thought
of here.

So they organized a bus-ride
Through the rocky hills, Laurent-ide,
To travel-test both poetry
and beer.

There was never a safari
Quite so brilliant and merry,
As this junket through the sylvan
countryside.

And as gulleets grew the wetter,
Why, they liked my stuff much better,
And certain members obviously
 cried.

So let no one cast aspersion,
On this cultural excursion,
As the narrow-minded sometimes
 like to do,
For their praise is very pleasant,
And I'll liquidate the peasant,
Who intimates the influence
 of brew.

Blessings on that happy valley,
May their Costs and Yields all tally,
Their tracers work, control valves
 never plug.
May their furnaces keep burning,
May their charts continue turning,
And setbacks meet with cheerful
 gallic shrug.

I assure this splendid group,
Of my fondness for pea-soup,
And my admiration for
 Jean Beliveau,
It is evident that we,
Share a thorough amity,
And, frankly, how much farther
 can I go?

—H. Hobbs

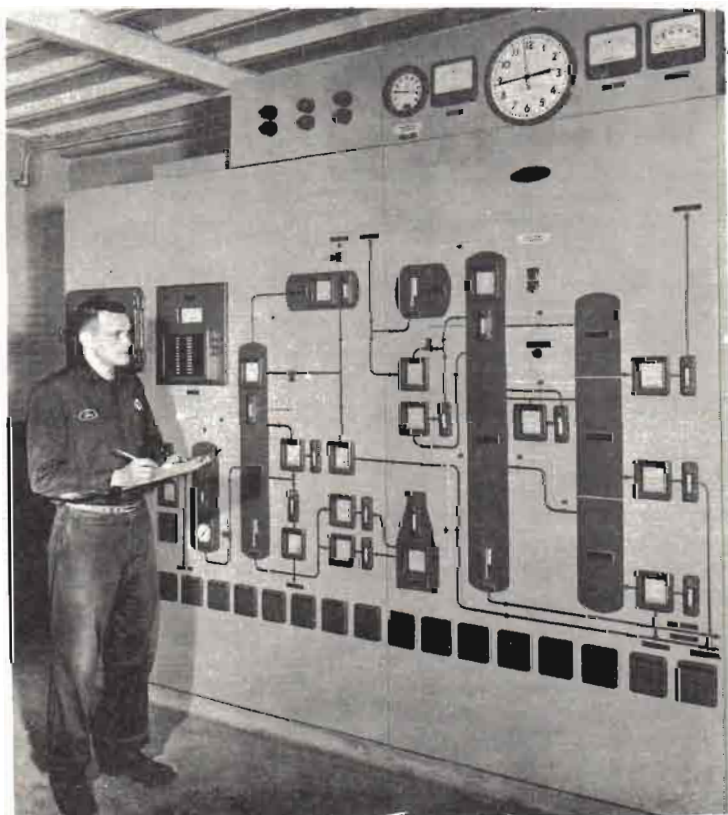
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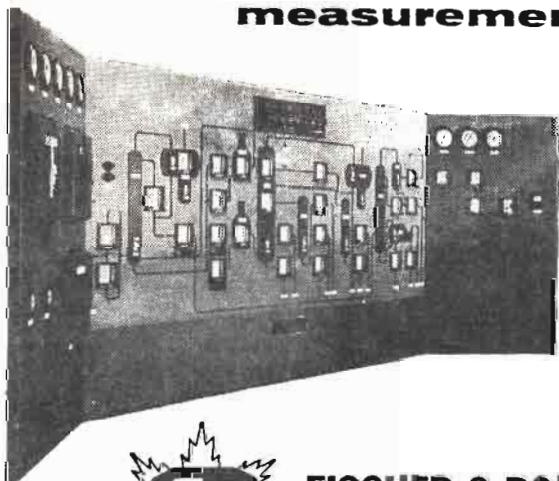
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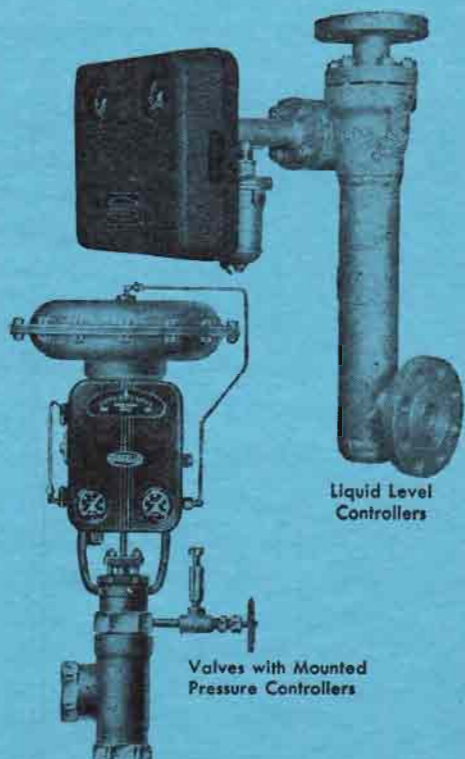


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