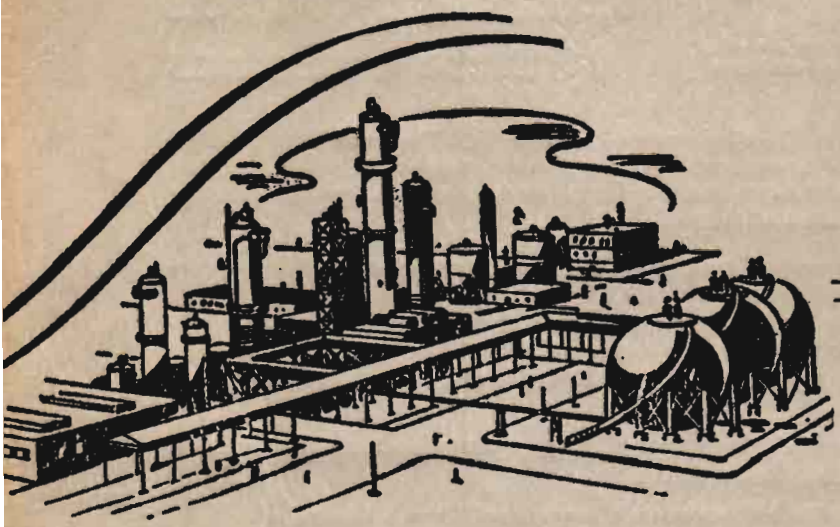


Nov 57

INSTRUMENT SOCIETY of AMERICA

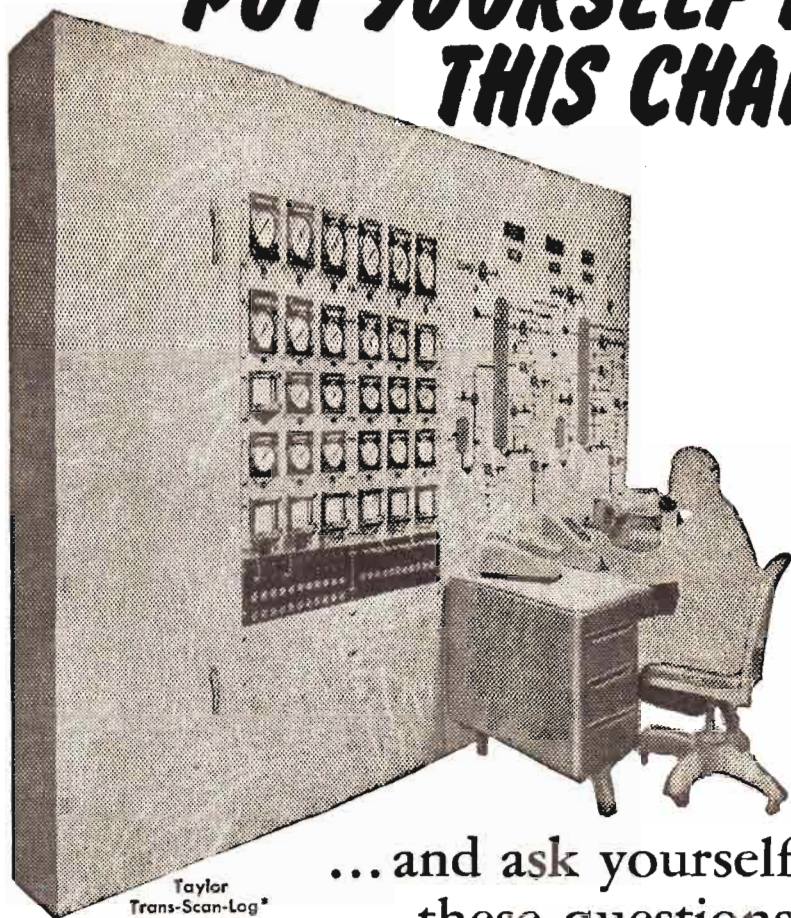


SARNIA SECTION



Monthly Bulletin

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Your Taylor Field Engineer will supply you with further information or write for Bulletin No. 98268.

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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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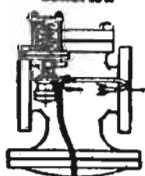
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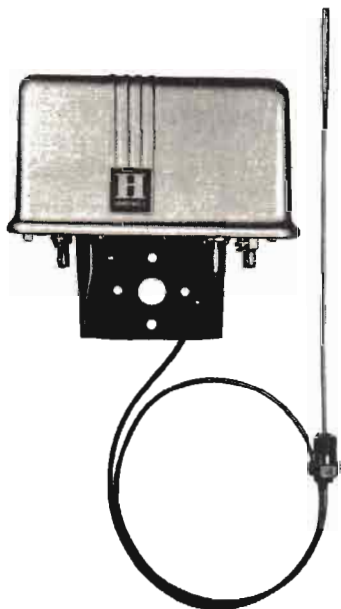
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The "BULLETIN"

VOLUME 7: No. 3

NOVEMBER, 1957

EDITOR'S NOTES

In this November issue of the Bulletin, we enjoy the help of several kind contributors.

Our Vice President, Mike Hicks, has submitted an article on Conventions and the mental and physical hazards thereof. Let us hope that in this case, a normally veracious man has exaggerated. I wonder who has the liniment concession.

Our old friend Neville Knowles may have a new cartoon for us by press time. Let us all hope so, because the public are starting to catch on that we are re-printing old ones. The whole thing is my fault, because I often don't give him sufficient warning.

Bill Kirk is with us again with a very timely article, Accounting streams grow more numerous and controversial day by day. This method probably won't end debate but it may shorten the shouting matches.

Our President, by dint of clever footwork, and by merely coughing nervously when I spoke about it has failed to contribute. This sort of evasiveness must cease. Be ready next month.

Our energetic Program Chairman, Bob Connell, has come up with another good one for this month. Come and bring your friends, and learn the road to throwing out those Prima-Donnas, the infra-red machines.



OCTOBER MEETING

The regular general meeting of the Sarnia Section, for October, took place the 28th, at 8 p.m. in the Vendome Hotel. The meeting was very well attended, with some sixty members and friends being present.

We led off proceedings with a Bell Telephone Company film entitled "The Transistor". This film supplied a lot of basic information on the development of manufacturing methods and uses of these devices, on which, we are led to believe, Bell holds patents. This film was quite enlightening and certainly demonstrated that pure materials and accurate methods are essential in this field.

After the film we had a short business meeting, which covered, among other things, the matter of a special meeting of the membership to discuss the projected changes in the membership rules. As this meeting will have been held between this moment and the time our next bulletin comes out, any comment of mine would savour of crystal gazing and may well be dispensed with.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Tom McGill of Honeywell Controls Ltd., Union, New Jersey Office. His subject, "Transistors and the Application to Instruments". Mr. McGill had his very imposing qualifications listed when he was being introduced to us, and, while lack of shorthand training prevented my copying them down, I recall a distinct impression of being strongly impressed. This feeling was intensified by the lecture itself. By means of slides, Mr. McGill showed us much of the electrical properties, conduct, construction, limitations and far-reaching future of this seemingly simple device. Even the dullest of those present (namely me) left the meeting feeling that he had learned a great deal. Every question from the floor was answered with the greatest of ease which demonstrated to everyone that Mr. McGill was master of this subject. I am one of those, who cannot think of clever questions at the time, but someone should have asked him when we will see the last of the 12AX7's.

Thank you Mr. McGill and Honeywell for a very worth-while evening.



INSTRUMENTS ARE MY LINE

By E. W. Kirk

For some time in this series of articles, I have tried to deal with various methods and shortcuts used by the people of our trade, but one thing I feel should be dealt with, is the keeping of records.

No matter how much we learn about metering, this information is not fulfilling its utmost duty unless we can have records that are easily read and simple to keep.

This subject of records really hit home to me a couple of years ago, when I spent a season on our Accounting Meter Staff.

I believe most of us are familiar with accounting meters of some sort, but for this article, I am going to use for an example, the dual meter system. When trying to keep two meters within 1% accuracy each day, it is difficult, because so many things can effect the final result.

We had many files filled with information, that various people had observed and thought affected our metering. It was difficult and time consuming to sort this information out in order that we could definitely be sure what condition caused these errors in our meters. This I feel is an important issue because unless you have good proof, that certain conditions do affect your metering, no one will do much towards helping you make installation or process changes.

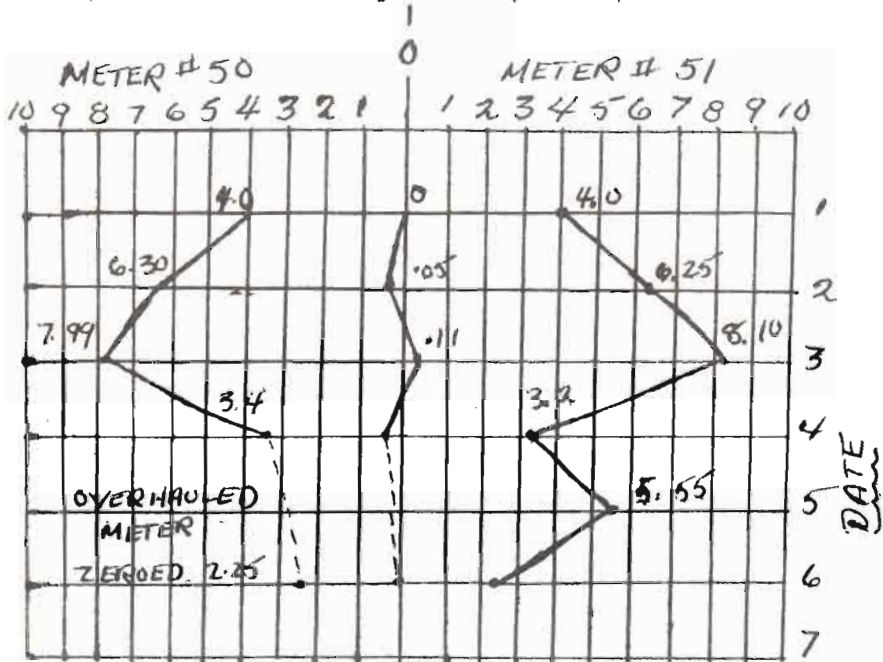
After much discussion, the result was a filing system using graphs for keeping all the information about our meters. I think this system is good because.

1. It is fairly easy to keep up.
 2. At a glance you can look at a month's run and spot the ex-
-

act day a range tube was changed or if there were low flows, etc.

- 12 sheets are required per set of meters for an entire year's record, which is a tremendous saving in filing space.
- For Accounting Meters it provides a handy check back for months previous.

I hope the enclosed drawing is self-explanatory.



The outer lines indicate the planimeter readings of the charts each day. The centre line is the % error for each day. As you will note, we tagged the error to the high reading meter as a matter of formality only. The above chart illustrates a meter with one pen. If it had contained a press pen, the reading would have been a multiple of 10 or 40 instead of 4.

We also found the graph contained enough space to note anything unusual for each particular day, eg. cycles, product purity, etc.

★

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WHAT HAPPENS AT A CONVENTION

By G. M. Hicks

Everybody has some weakness of which he doesn't normally boast and I must confess that alas I'm no different from the rest. I have no less and I hope no more sins than the average male: I take a drink; I like good food; and I look at pretty girls' legs. Why any or all of these should be

sinful I don't know but I am told that they are. However, these fall into insignificance compared to what I am about to disclose. I read the agony, or advice to the love lorn, columns in the morning or evening newspapers. Whenever I feel depressed or down in the dumps I can always find something to cheer me in these columns and am, in fact, amazed that such complications can arise in the ordinary course of wooing, winning, and keeping a wife.

Possibly you may wonder what all this has to do with the title of this piece. Bear with me and you shall soon find out. The other day the whole of one such column was devoted to the complaints of a lady concerning the behaviour of men in general and her husband in particular at such a convention and I must say I found it most interesting.

According to the correspondent, life at conventions consists of one long round of undiluted pleasure and/or sin. This goes on from morn till night with little or no interval for sleep no interval at all for work. Now I don't know whether I attend the wrong conventions or whether I mix with the wrong people but fortunately or unfortunately depending on how you look at it, this never seems to happen to me. I feel that this fact should go on record otherwise, knowing the power of women in this day and age, the remarkable institution known as a convention might cease.

It might then be legitimately asked, what does happen at a convention. My impression on looking back seems to consist of feet, noise and instruments, and I would put them in that order.

Consider feet first. In common with most Canadians I cannot walk. True, I can shamble for a hundred yards or so from place to place if needs be, but I cannot now walk or stand for longer than 15 minutes or so without feeling weary and at the end of the day I am completely prostrate. Why instrument manufacturers think that everybody likes to stand I don't know but in 3 days at the I. S. A. convention I was never offered a seat by a manufacturer and in 95% of the stands there was not even a seat available. Before I left my feet and legs felt like lumps of lead and on my return to Sarnia I didn't stir off my backside for a whole day. Discussion with various colleagues disclose that I am not alone in this.

Consider next noise. The human animal en masse makes a most appalling noise. I am not referring now to choral singing (glee club members can relax) but to the normal uproar made by people talking, shouting and shuffling of feet together. I do not know how it affects you, but I find that I go through three stages. At first I am astonished that anybody can converse intelligently in such a background. This quickly changes when talking to your first salesman and you find that you can ignore the background. The third stage, however, creeps up on me and I find myself walking slowly around in a daze, hearing nothing in particular and yet overwhelmed by the general background. It is impossible to distinguish particular noises and I have on occasion been hailed at about two paces distance and not heard a thing.

When you consider the twin problems of noise and feet, I think that a toast should be made to the unsung heroes of conventions, the salesmen.

How he can preserve the unfailing interest and apparent pleasure in discussing my personal instrument problems after six or seven hours of talking the same thing with other inquirers is something beyond me. However, I am no salesman so I don't suppose I should worry. It does, however, lead me to my third impression, namely instruments. I am amazed that so many instruments and instruments companies exist. What they are all used for intrigues me and when I think I am meant to know how most of them work, I am appalled. I can but hope that I am never asked to expound on some of them. If it is a good thing for the soul to be humbled occasionally, I cannot think of a better way to humble a dedicated instrument man than to send him to the I. S. A. show. There are literally acres of instruments all different and all used by somebody for something. If I had a criticism of the show it would be that surely there must be some more inspiring way of arranging the exhibits of the instrument makers art than this. The mind bobbles at the ranks of stands all laid out like a Chinese bazaar. I am afraid this is destructive criticism but possibly it might stimulate somebody's imagination.

I trust that I have shown that the convention is not all beer and skittles. Anybody who can remain there for a whole week earns any free drinks that he can freeload as far as I am concerned. The fair sex may rest easily, no great harm comes to anybody at a convention.



PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 25 MEETING

On November 25 we plan to discuss gas chromatography, which is a fairly recent development in the field of continuous gas and vapour analysis. Until the advent of the gas chromatograph, continuous gas analyzing jobs could be done only by the highly expensive and intricate mass spectrometer. Since process people are becoming more and more aware of the benefits of continuous analysis of plant streams, a discussion of gas chromatography should be of considerable value to us.

Our speaker will be Dr. Charlie Skarstrom, from the Process Research Division of Esso Research and Engineering at Linden, New Jersey. Dr. Skarstrom is one of the best informed speakers we could have chosen for this topic, inasmuch as he designed the first continuous gas chromatograph to be installed and successfully operated in an Esso plant. He is also quite familiar with the efforts of various instrument companies to produce a satisfactory equivalent.

It is often promoted that the gas chromatograph is going to replace the mass spectrometer on a number of applications. If this is so, then we will get at least a look at some of these applications through our film "Eye to the Unknown." This sound colour publication, produced by the Consolidated Electrodynamics Corporation, shows many of the uses which can be made of the mass spectrometer. It has been recommended to us as a very interesting film.

MEETING NOTICE

- TOPIC: **GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY**
- SPEAKER: **DR. C. SKARSTROM**
Process Research Division
Esso Research and Engineering Company
Linden, New Jersey
- DATE: **NOVEMBER 25th, 1957**
- TIME: **8.00 P.M.**
- PLACE: **VENDOME HOTEL**
- FILM: **"EYE TO THE UNKNOWN"**
(Consolidated Electrodynamics Corporation sound/colour
publication on the uses of the mass spectrometer).
-

WRITTEN ON A ROLL CHART

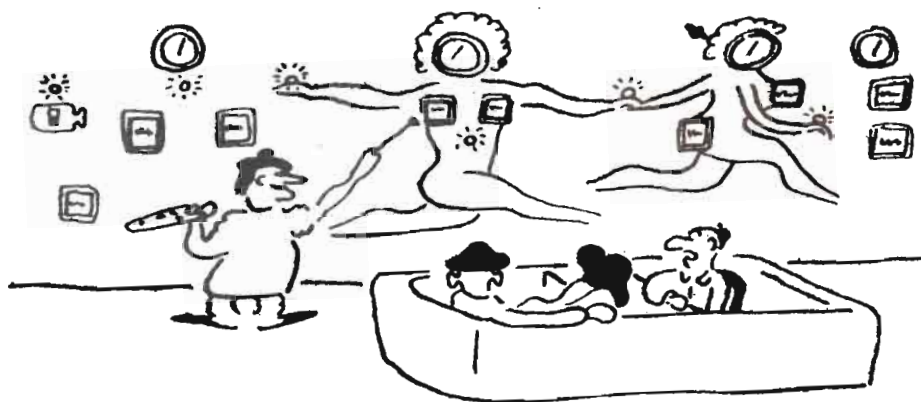
Peek a boo,
I'll see you,
Over at
The 4-0-2.

Now set 'em up, bartender,
For all the noisy crowd,
Then stand just here,
And lend an ear,
While a strong man cries aloud.
In this, your place of business,
The race of man files by,
And the amber ale
Draws many a tale
Of woe and misery
And you, the only fixture,
In an ever-changing scene,
Seem unafraid,
By nature made,
For the tired ones to lean.
In me, you see the wreckage,
Of a once substantial guy,
And now I skulk,
A shattered hulk,
With a shifty and watering eye.
Once was, I ruled a process,
With a gay and confident air,
I met each day,
In my sprightly way,
With a manner debonair.
And all the workers loved me,
As decent workers should,
For I meant no ill
And a bitter pill
May later do some good.
And all went very merry,
As a merry marriage bell,
And each one heard
My every word
And could it's wisdom tell.

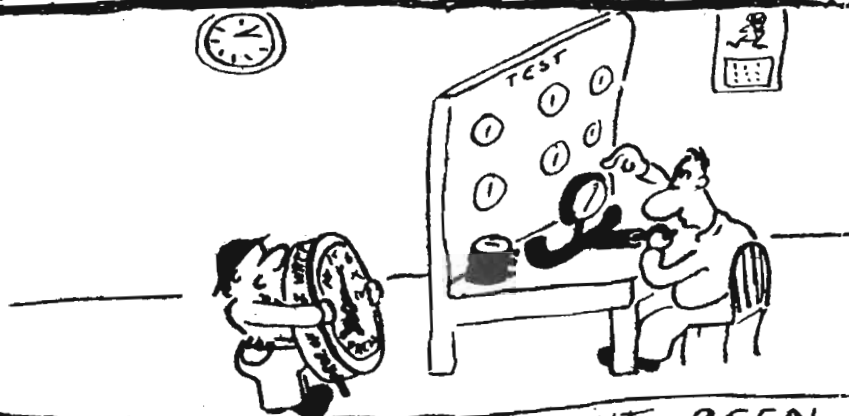
Each one, that is, except one,
Who aft the panel bides,
And mutters long,
A tuneless song,
Wherein, rebellion hides.
And each one did my bidding,
Except for this same one,
Who finds more use
For a lame excuse
Than duty bravely done.
Mayhap there'll stand a meter,
In obvious decay,
With wounds agape,
And wire and tape,
Employed in a lavish way.
He won't admit it faulty,
In the very least degree,
He'll howl and fight
From morn till night
And place the blame on me,
He'll say a pump's not pumping,
He'll hint at plugging pipe,
And in a trice,
Dream up some ice,
To verify his gripe.
So, set em up, bartender,
Fill tankards to the brim,
And through the foam
I'll dream of home,
And a world that holds not him.

Peek a boo!

—H. Hobbs.



IT SURE IS A SNEAKY WAY OF
GETTING US TO WATCH THE
PANEL BOARD



HERE'S ONE THAT HASNT BEEN
CHANGED FOR SOME TIME. I FOUND
IT ON A STEAM PUMP BEHIND
THE UNIT.

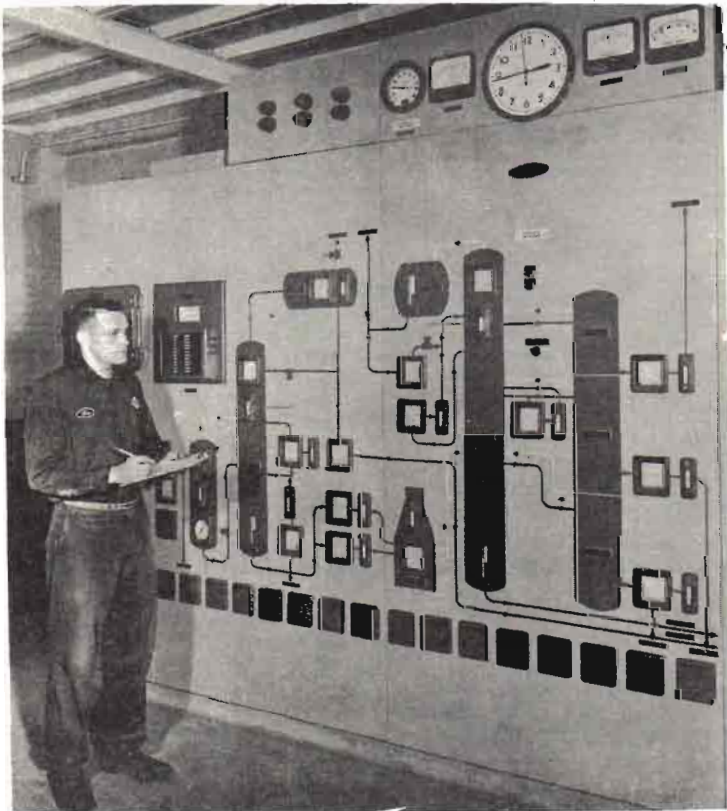
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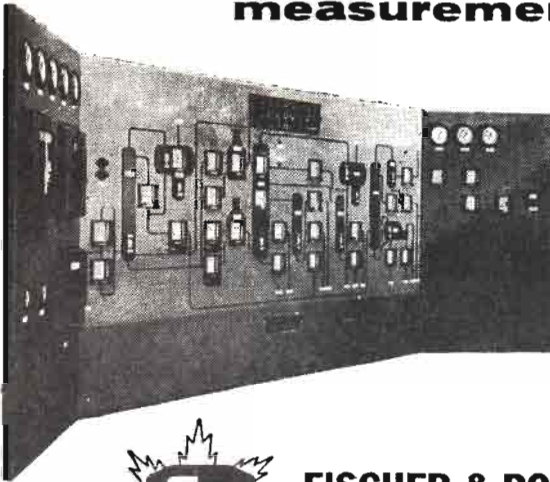
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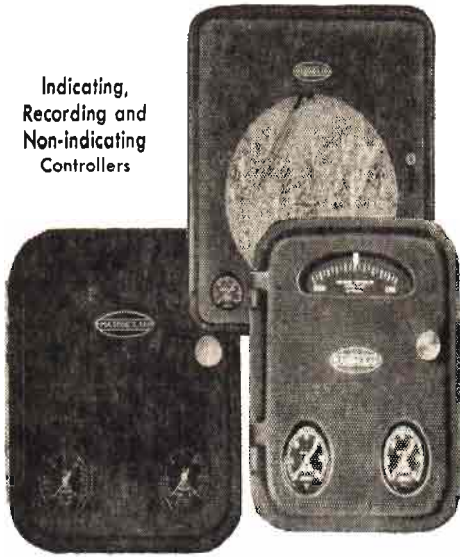
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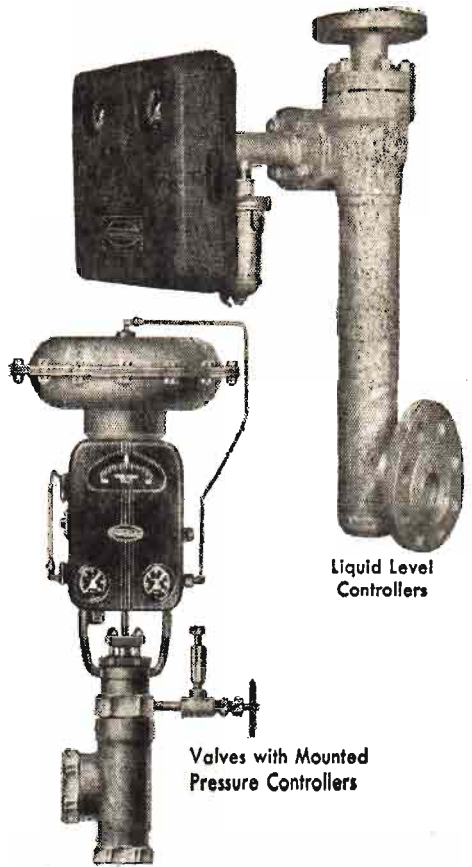
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Non-indicating
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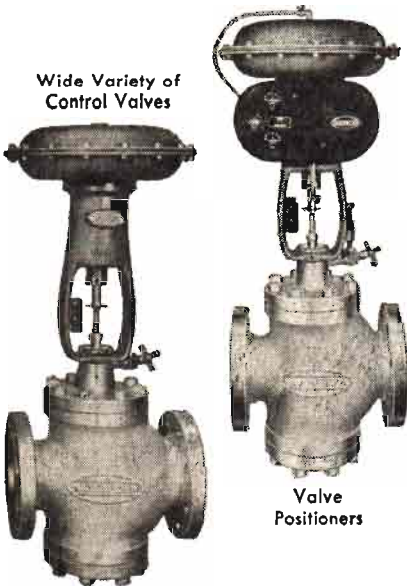
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