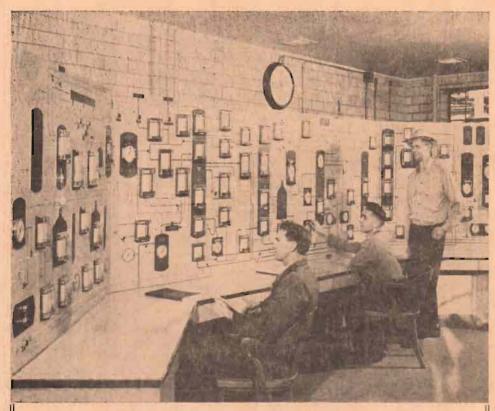


Monthly Bulletin



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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 far the 1956-57 season are:

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Canadian Oil Refineries Ltd.

Secretary

F. CROFT

Catalytic Construction Co.

Treasurer

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Catalytic Construction Co.

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 ar use of instruments and who is acceptable to the executive bady 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.

Correspondence relating to the general activities of the Sornia Section should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. F. Croft, 612 St. Clair Ave., Pt. Edward, Ont. Dues should be made payable to the Sarnia Section, Instrument Society of America and sent to the Treasurer, Mr. R. J. Rose, 675 Woodhaven, Sarnia, Ont.

Correspondence concerning programs should be sent to the Program Chairman Mr. G. M. Hicks, 280 St. Vincent St., Sarnia, Ont.

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

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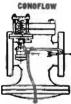
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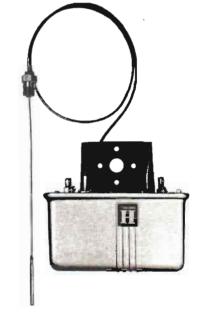
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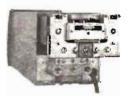
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M/52 Consists of Indicating Controller



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M/58 Consotrol
(Controller



M/59 Consotrol Valve Mounted Controller

The "BULLETIN"

VOLUME 6 NO. 10

SEPTEMBER 1957

EDITOR'S NOTE

This, the first "Bulletin" of the 1957-58 season, is being helped out a great deal by a fine group of contributors who have responded nobly to my piteous appeals for aid.

Ron Asseltine has given us a brief outline of what we can expect this coming season, but he fails to mention how hard he and the rest of the executive are working to make our year a good one. Let's get behind this hard-working group, ye shower of drones, and give them a little encouragement.

This first issue contains some of last year's "ads" because our friends, the Instrument Companies, have been a little tardy with this year's "copy".

We wish to assure both them and you, that the October issue will be more up-to-date.

Our energetic Advertising Manager, Mr. Ed. Brown, is concentrating on the delinquents, so fear not, all will soon be well.

Our good friend, Bill Kirk, is recovering nicely from his joust with a power lawn mower, and I hope we will presently enjoy more of his articles. Bill tends to be overly-modest where his literary efforts are concerned, but everything he has done for us, so far, has been both popular and informative. Come on Bill, unlimber that writing arm.

Our worthy Vice-President has kindly sent an article which attempts to outline and define the duties inherent in his position. I will not disturb his sublime placidity, but I am certain that the rest of the executive plans to use his services more frequently than he seems to think.

In the form of a "letter to the Editor", Larry Hall has expressed his views on some very important matters. Larry would like to hear other opinions, and we will be pleased to print what anyone has to say on these subjects. Don't mutter among yourselves, send it to the "Bulletin".

Our September meeting promises to be an engrossing one, and I have gone into one aspect of the subject matter in "Written on a Roll-Chart."

Come and bring your friends.

H. Hobbs.



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Ron Asselstine

Summer and vacations are almost over and we are approaching our first general meeting of the 57-58 season.

During the past months your executive met three times with a fourth scheduled for early in September. Considering the time of year, we were most fortunate, in that a majority of the executive were in attendance, willing and able to discuss the various problems that confront a new executive.

The programmes being arranged by Bob Connell of Imperial Oil, are on a level that warrants the attendance of all members and their interested guests.

We regret that Bill Kirk of Polymer Corporation was unable to act as Editor, of "The Bulletin". Bill, however, convinced the ever faithful Howard Hobbs of Dow Chemical to carry on as Editor-in-Chief for at least the coming season. A speedy recovery Bill and let us have more of "Instruments are our Line".

I am pleased to report that Bob Brayne of Cabot Carbon has recovered and has his backlog of work well in hand.

Latest reports indicate that industries in the Sarnia area are sending a large number of their Instrument Personnel to the Conference and Exhibit in Cleveland—they realize the importance of being well informed.

Be sure and attend the general meeting. It is the fourth Monday in September at the Vendome.

WHAT DOES A VICE-PRESIDENT DO?

By G. M. Hicks

I don't know if you have ever thought about the question, just what does a vice-president do. Quite frankly, the thought had never really crossed my mind until I was asked to be Vice-President and then I was so astonished that I accepted without really thinking. I enquired from various people who had held office in the past and the answers ranged from "nothing" to that hoary old chestnut about President in charge of vice". I don't really believe either but I must say my thoughts did wander happily around the possibilities of the latter.

Then I turned hopefully to the I.S.A. National Office manual on the subject. This rambled on for about $2\frac{1}{2}$ pages on the subject of Vice-President's duties. I was to be ready to "leap into the breach"

for the President should he drop dead. At the time of writing Ron Asselstine looks horribly healthy so I don't think I should be called on for that! I was to study the operations of the section so that in the event of my being elected to the august office of President next year, I shall have my finger on the pulse and my hand on the throttle (next year's nominating committee please note the remarks in the manual made about "it is usual but not necessary". I shall get to be President yet if I plug this line long enough.) However, perusal of the manual disclosed it to be almost as full of cliches as this article and I abandoned the LS.A. Manual.

My thoughts then turned to an American play of the early '30's called "Of Thee I Sing". A character rejoicing in the name of Alexander Throttlebottom was elected to be Vice-President of the United States without even knowing whether he was a Democrat or a Republican let alone anything else. A study of various United States Vice-Presidents (no names—we must not spoil United States-Canadian relations) disclosed that although this was fiction it could easily happen. I therefore concluded that no one really knew what a Vice-President should do and happily resigned myself to a year of doing nothing except basking in the reflected glory of the President.

Then the roof fell in. A particular portion of the roof was pushed by Don Vetter our secretary. (I nearly wrote the time honoured phrase "hard working secretary" but then stopped and thought of the jobs he had palmed off on me.) It seems that Don and I have different ideas of what a Vice-President should do. Don's definition is that anything that is not formally defined as being anybody else's duty is done by the Vice-President. You can see that this covers a multitude of sins ranging from acting as janitor to keeping the Bulletin editor happy by writing things like this. Unfortunately none of the duties so far mentioned as part of a Vice-President's job seem to be pleasant ones like making sure that all the beer is finished at the end of a Monday night meeting or entertaining all the pretty female speakers we are going to have this year in an effort to increase membership (these duties may not be the Vice-President's but I am going to make sure they are not the secretary's either—I have at least one vote).

I am afraid I still don't really know what a Vice-President's duties are in spite of Don but at any rate I will try and do the best I can. I will also try and tell you a bit about what the committee does and says at its monthly meetings. We hope to institute quite a few changes this year and I will try to keep you posted. Some of the changes you won't like, some you will, but at least we hope the I.S.A. will be both different and interesting this year.

I will also try and get off a few blasts at things about the I.S.A. I don't like and you never know, if sufficient people agree with me they might even be changed. At any rate, let us know if you don't like anything about the organization or the Bulletin and we will see what we can do.

Page 10

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, I. S. A. Bulletin, Sarnia Section, I. S. A.

Sir

I should like to comment, as a member of the Sarnia Section, I.S.A on the proposed changes in the I.S.A. constitution, as it affects grades of memberships. I believe the proposed changes to be unwise, because they will weaken the body of the I.S.A. in various ways.

Looking back on the history of I.S.A., we find the first move was to consolidate the efforts of about a dozen independent instrument societies, one of which was the old "Sarnia Instrument Society." This was a good move as the subsequent rapid growth of the I.S.A. showed.

Next came the foundation of the LS.A. Journal. This was premature and has been carried as a loss by the society ever since. If we needed a Journal, its growth should have been predicated on a self-supporting proposition, just as our local "Journal" has been. It may be good business to take a loss for a year or two, but if an item continues to lose, it should not be subsidized indefinitely. It should be made to pay, cut back, or dropped. With the rise in dues to help subsidize the Journal, membership dropped off and the turnover rate became high.

Now the policy of the Executive Council seems to be. "Boost the membership rates and make an "exclusive" society out of the remnants. In that way, we will become strong." I cannot understand this policy and would urge the utmost caution before taking such a drastic step.

It may be true that the majority of I.S.A. members are in the "professional" category, although I still should like to see some figures on this point. It is not true, that they are in the majority in some sections, such as the Sarnia Section. Three years ago, when I was President of the Sarnia Section, the membership was 80% non-professional and only 20% professional. I am told that this proportion has shifted lately in favor of the professional group, but not, you will note by an **increase** of professional members; only by a **decrease** of non-professional members. This trend has undoubtedly been aggravated by rumours and announcements of a swing to a professional type of society. If the complete change is made, it will become a landslide of cancelled non-professional memberships and this I think will be a pity.

The I.S.A. was founded to serve all those whose interests or occupation lay in the Instrument field. If it relegates non-professional members to an "affiliated" membership with no voting privileges and less services, they will undoubtedly lose interest and allow their memberships to lapse. While it is true that a great many non-professional Instrument men do not belong to the I.S.A. this is no argument to abandon them altogether. I think, we sometimes forget the vast potential

SECTION NEWS

existing among the large number of non-professional men. For every Instrument Engineer, there are at least ten non-professional men. (In the Sarnia area, the ratio is probably twice this.) The fact that they are not members of the I.S.A. is not wholly their fault. It is partly the fault of the I.S.A. I do not wish to take space at this time to pursue this point, for it is well known, what my own feelings on it are, as past articles in the Journal will show. But it does point up my argument, that the I.S.A. should so shape its policies, as to encourage the non-professional man to join and participate rather than the proposed change in the opposite direction.

It may be argued that present non-professional members may become full members in the new society by merely paying the increased dues. No examinations are required. This is an especially sore point with me. If we are going to have a professional society (this is only a hypothesis) then make it a professional society. Do not adulterate such a group with non-professional men. This "concession", so called, seems to me to be dishonest. Certainly no honest man is going to pass himself off as a professional Instrument man by paying extra dues. It could do him no good with his employer or his associates in his area. It would serve only that small group, who travel around until they are where they are unknown, and then take on a temporary highly paid job on the strength of being a "member" of a professional group. When it is found that they cannot produce, it is a black mark against the whole I.S.A.

To sum up, these are my reasons for objecting to the proposed changes:

- (1) It will further reduce the non-professional membership which, in potential, is ten to twenty times as great as the professional group.
- (2) By allowing present non-professionals to enter the professional classification merely by paying extra dues, it will offset the benefits of a professional society far out of proportion, than the number of non-professionals would warrant.
- (3) Disenfranchising "affiliate" members will encourage lapses in that type of membership.

I should appreciate any comments, pro or con, on this subject. Only by talking and thinking about it, can we arrive at a decision. This, I think, the executive of the section should encourage and then make known our views to the Executive Council Committee on Constitutional changes before next January deadline.

Larry Hall.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 23 MEETING

Those of us who regularly receive a copy of the Taylor Instrument Company's publication Technology, will probably have noticed an occasional article on Frequency Response Analysis, or Dynamic Analysis. This is a subject which Taylor Instruments are quite qualified to discuss. Their research and engineering groups have done considerable work on it. Courses on frequency response analysis have been held at Rochester twice yearly to acquaint instrument technicians and engineering personnel with the uses of this tool.

At our September 23rd meeting, frequency response analysis will be discussed by Bob Edelman, a member of Taylor Instrument Companies Application Engineering Department at Rochester. This should be a great opportunity for us to clear up our questions on what frequency response is, and what it can be used for.

The Taylor Instrument Companies have an excellent sound-colour film entitled, "Information at Work", which illustrates the value of instrumentation. This film is being reserved for us for showing at our

MEETING NOTICE

PLACE:

VENDOME HOTEL

DATE:

SEPTEMBER 23, 1957

TIME.

8.00 P.M.

SPEAKER:

MR. R. I. EDELMAN

APPLICATION ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

TAYLOR INSTRUMENT COMPANIES

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

TOPIC:

FREQUENCY RESPONSE ANALYSIS

FILM:

"INFORMATION AT WORK"

(Taylor Instrument Companies sound-colour

publication)

WRITTEN ON A ROLL-CHART

"Frequency Response Analysis", the topic for our September meeting, is one of great general interest for everyone. I am sure that many matters, that have heretofore suffered from a usually unscientific approach, will be exposed for what they really are.

We cannot, of course, predict with any pretense of accuracy, the exact form that Mr. Edelman's speech will follow. By conducting an informal poll among our associates, however, enough information has been gathered to enable us to feel certain that there are three main types of frequency response which, in all fairness, our speaker should devote his full powers of analysis, and a goodly percentage of his time.

Without boring you with too many statistics, public opinion divides frequency response into three main types:

- (1) "What with the children and the housework, I'm so tired that I can hardly - -".
- (2) "You beast! Is that all you ever think of?"
- (3) (Stony silence, followed by more or less light snores.)

It is our firm conviction that the above frequency responses are those most commonly encountered, and are worthy of the most searching investigation. I know that everyone in the Section is anxious to clear these matters up, and will be looking forward to the question period following Mr. Edelman's lecture.

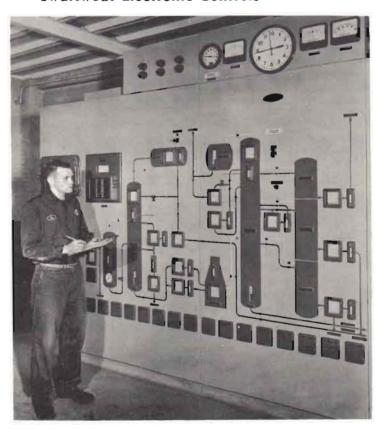
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H. Hobbs.

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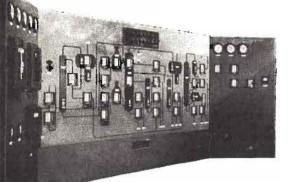


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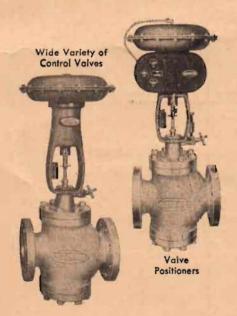
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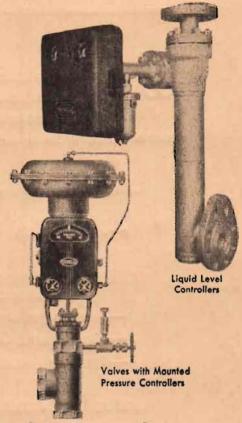
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