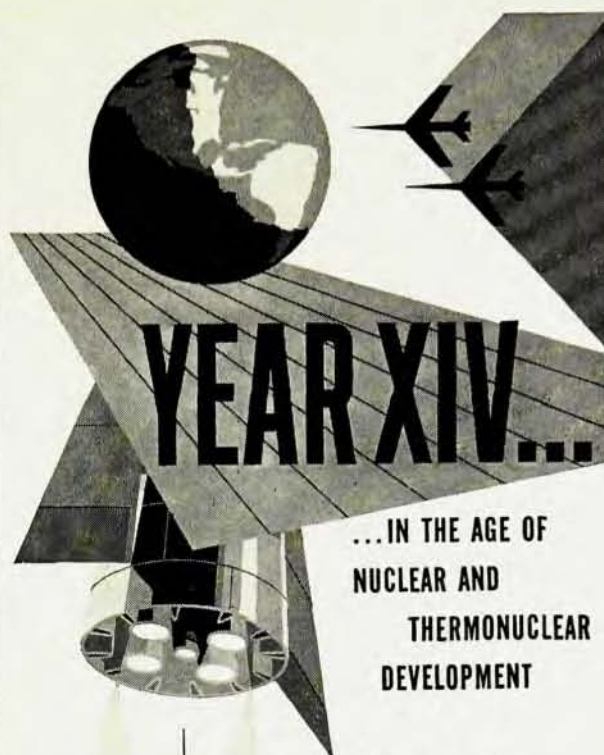


by the AEC in the same manner as requests for irradiation of other materials, according to a Commission decision removing a suspension of gem irradiations in effect since 1953. In April of that year the AEC temporarily stopped authorizing the artificial coloring of diamonds and other gems by irradiation in Commission facilities, pending a study of what the AEC's policy should be in such cases. The newly established policy is to authorize irradiations (at a fee covering costs) when reactor space is available. In announcing the new policy, the Commission noted that under a recent ruling by the Federal Trade Commission, it "is an unfair trade practice to advertise, offer for sale, or sell any diamond which has been artificially colored or tinted by coating, irradiating, or heating or by use of nuclear bombardment . . . without disclosure of such fact to purchasers. . . ." Radiations from a particle accelerator may produce blue or blue-green colors in diamonds, while irradiation in a nuclear reactor may produce a green which may be turned to brown under certain conditions of heating.

Publications

The Photoelectric Spectrometry Group (England) is investigating the possibility of publishing the proceedings of two summer schools in "Electronics for Spectroscopists" held at University College, Southampton. The work treats theoretically aspects of electronics associated with photoelectric instruments, including ultraviolet and infrared spectrometers, dealing particularly with ac and dc amplifiers, stabilized power supplies, circuit design, and fault-finding with notes on noise, semiconductors, feedback, and other features of applied interest. The decision to publish will depend upon the demand that exists for this work; those interested are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary of the Photoelectric Spectrometry Group at Unicam Instruments Ltd., Arbury Works, Cambridge, England, for further details, including a list of chapter headings.

American scientific organizations and industries last year purchased 65% more government research reports through the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, than in 1954, according to OTS Director John C. Green. Total sales for 1955 amounted to almost a quarter of a million dollars with reports selling at 10 cents to several dollars a copy. As reports are released to OTS by the Army, Navy, Air Force, Atomic Energy Commission, and other agencies, OTS announces their availability through press releases to the business and trade press and through its two monthly publications, *US Government Research Reports*, which abstracts about 300 reports each month, and *Technical Reports Newsletter*. These subscription publications are handled by the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Subscription to the *USGRR* is \$6 a year, and to *Technical Reports Newsletter* \$1 a year.



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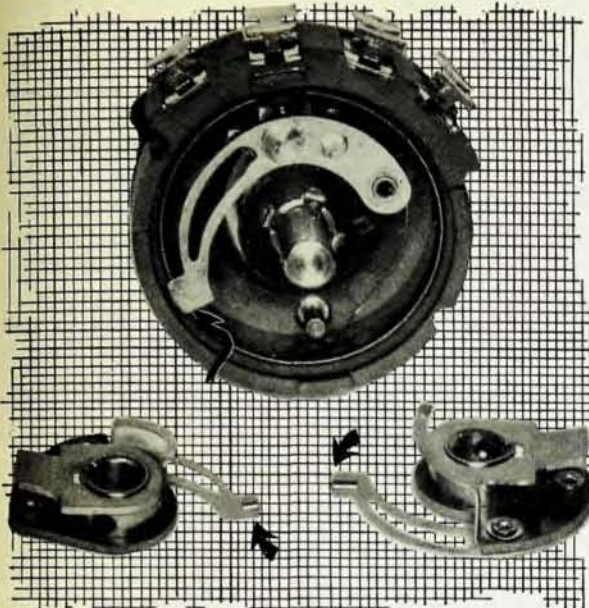
Classified outlines of subject matter in specialized disciplines have for some time been collected by the Special Libraries Association for the benefit of librarians, researchers, scientists, and others concerned with organizing the literature in their particular fields of interest. The Association maintains a loan collection including a wide range of subjects in the sciences. Efforts are currently being made to bring up to date and expand this collection of classification schemes, and the Association is soliciting contributions of classifications for all fields of knowledge, either on a permanent basis or on loan. The collection is housed at the School of Library Science, Western Reserve University. Donations of classifications or requests for further information should be addressed to Allen Kent, Chairman, Committee on Special Classifications, SLA, c/o School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland 6, Ohio.

Further revision of the Atomic Energy Commission's Declassification Guide, according to a recent AEC announcement, is now under staff consideration for later submission to the Commission. Meanwhile, guided by last year's revision of the Guide, a team of 35 scientists and engineers from major AEC installations have completed an eleven-week review of 30 773 classified research and development reports and informal memoranda in a stepped-up program to make more information available to private industry. 10 916 were declassified, 8574 were labeled "Confidential", and 11 283 were left in the "Secret" category. Declassified reports go into the open scientific literature and are available without restriction to all who wish them. Classified reports are available, in accordance with AEC regulations, to persons and firms holding access permits. Bulletins listing declassified documents will shortly be available on request through the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory has announced the availability of its revised *Radioisotope Catalog*, which lists the specifications and price of the nearly 100 different radioactive preparations made and distributed by the Laboratory. Special sections describe irradiation facilities in use, procedure for procuring isotopes, shipping information, special sources available, service or custom irradiations, neutron-activation analysis, and ORNL's waste disposal service for users. Further information may be obtained by writing to the Radioisotope Sales Department, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Union Carbide Nuclear Co., P. O. Box P, Oak Ridge, Tenn. Information regarding the 175 stable isotopes available from ORNL should be requested from the Laboratory's Stable Isotope Research and Production Division.

The Naval Research Laboratory has for the first time made available for public distribution its monthly *Report of NRL Progress*. Each issue contains articles and "problem notes" concerning the laboratory's non-

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classified research and development. Distribution of the publication is in the hands of the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.

Eugene C. Crittenden, former associate director of the National Bureau of Standards and an internationally known expert on standards of physical measurement, died of cancer on March 28th at Garfield Hospital in Washington, D. C. He was 75 years of age and had been ill for several months. Dr. Crittenden had retired at the end of 1950, but he continued to serve as a consultant to the Bureau up to the time of his illness.

A former president of the Optical Society of America (1933), Dr. Crittenden is perhaps best known for his achievements in the development and adoption of electrical and photometric standards. As vice president of the International Commission on Illumination (1939-48) and as president of its US National Committee from 1928 to 1935, he played a major role in the establishment of modern photometric units, standards, and methods of measurement which culminated in the international adoption of the "candela" in 1948. As US representative on the International Committee on Weights and Measures from 1946 to 1954, its vice chairman from 1950 to 1954, and as chief of the Bureau's Electrical Division for many years, he was instrumental in securing the adoption of the so-called absolute electrical units which now provide a basis for all electrical measurements made throughout the world.

A native of Oswayo, Pa., Dr. Crittenden attended Cornell University, received the bachelor's degree in 1905, and remained there as instructor and graduate student until he joined the NBS photometry laboratory as assistant physicist in 1909. He was named chief of the electrical division in 1921 and continued in that position until 1946, the year in which Case Institute of Technology awarded him the honorary DSc as "a devoted servant of the public, exponent of precise measurement, and international authority on the standards of science and industry". In 1933 he was made assistant director of NBS and placed in charge of the Bureau's over-all research and testing activities. In 1946 the title was changed to associate director and he served in that capacity on a full-time basis until his retirement.

A fellow of both the Physical and Optical Societies, he was active in the affairs of the American Institute of Physics and served from 1934 to 1941 as a member of the Institute's Board of Governors. He was an associate editor of the *Review of Scientific Instruments* from 1934 to 1936. A member of numerous other organizations, he was president of the Illuminating Engineering Society in 1925 and was awarded the IES Gold Medal in 1946.

His son, Eugene C. Crittenden, Jr., is professor of physics at the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif.