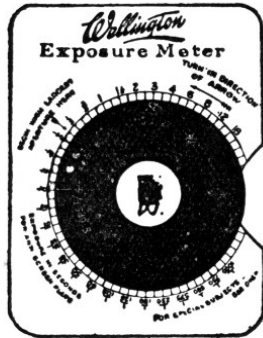


The Wellington Exposure Meter.

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A form of exposure meter which has obtained much greater popularity on the Continent than it has in the British market is that in which the light-value is determined by the point of extinction of visual detail in the subject when the latter is viewed through an adjustable blue viewing screen. This principle has been adapted to an exposure meter of simple and novel type which has just been marketed at the price of 1/6 by Messrs. Wellington & Ward, Ltd.

In most meters embodying this method the adjustment of the viewing screen is brought about by rotating a gradated blue screen behind a given small aperture, so as to expose successively areas of gradually varying density; but the Wellington meter adopts the converse method of passing before a given small section of blue screen a series of apertures of steadily decreasing size, cut in a rotating disc of black celluloid material. This method is obviously very much simpler and less costly, and, if perhaps not quite so satisfying in theory, it is certainly effective in practice.

The meter consists simply of a stout card, bearing the disc of celluloid, by the rotation of which the series of holes are brought over the piece of blue screen inlaid into the card.

For the determination of an exposure, the card is held to the eye and, with the widest aperture over the screen, the subject is watched. The disc is then rotated until the aperture covering the screen is so small that the shadow details in the subject are only just discernible. With the disc in this position the exposure required for Anti-Screen and similar plates is read off at once on the circular scale on the card against the appropriate F number mark on the disc. The back of the card bears instructions, including those for special cases in which a modified procedure is preferable.

In addition to its primary use in the field, the makers claim that this device is unequalled for the determination of exposure in enlarging. A projected image is focussed up and viewed through the meter until the shadow details are about to vanish. The point on the black disc which lies opposite the exposure figure 1 is permanently marked, and the exposure required in this particular case is found and taken as standard.

On subsequent occasions the image is viewed as before and the disc adjusted. Assuming that the same paper is used, the exposure figure opposite the mark on the disc will then indicate the factor by which the previously found standard exposure must be multiplied in this individual case.