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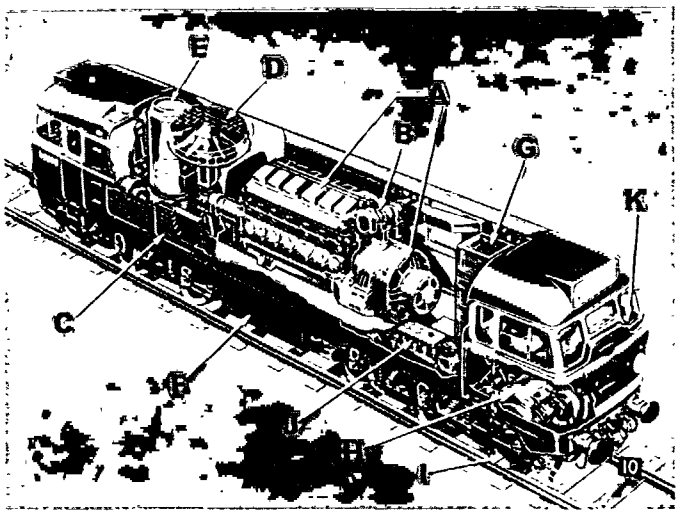
Diesel Electric Loco Filmstrip

Filmstrips which really hit their target with no waste frames are something of a rarity. Whatever the users may think, the blame for this cannot all be laid at the commercial producers' door: this is a difficult market, and borderline customers must be attracted.

'How a Diesel-Electric Locomotive Works' (black and white, 41 frames) is an excellent example of a no-nonsense filmstrip, but British Transport Films are on a pretty easy wicket here. They have resources – financial, technical reference, and production – and a subject they know all about for people who want to know. So – no need to entertain or amuse, no gimmicks, no jokes; no real need for colour – so no colour; technical excellence essential – so expensive and excellent cutaway diagrams provided.

Versions of the cutaway diagram of the 1,365 h.p. 104 ton loco seen here appear at intervals – each time isolating the detail to be described in the next frame or two. The introductory frames give an idea of the assembly of the various parts, and the last two or three cover the driving controls; otherwise we are concerned only with the functioning of the various parts of the locomotive. The whole strip deals with the engineering reality, without abstraction or more than passing reference to principles. The lecture notes make few allowances and the strip's production is of a high standard to match the technical content.

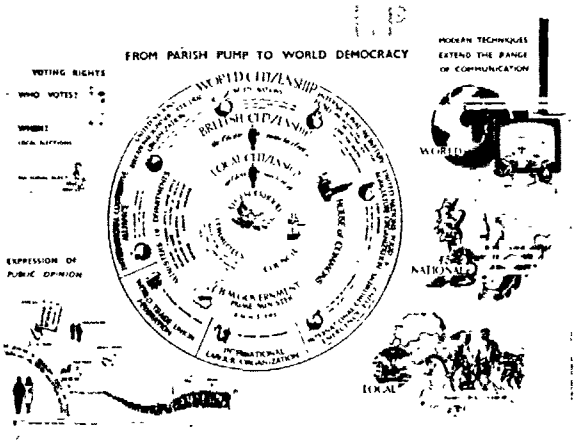
This is a strip for railway enthusiasts and for future and present engineering students – electrical or mechanical. It is available from British Transport Films, 25 Savile Row, London W 1, on free loan or for sale at 10*s*. A companion strip dealing with the diesel-hydraulic loco will also be available very shortly.



Frame 10 from the British Transport filmstrip, 'How a Diesel-Electric Locomotive Works', showing the layout in the form of a cut-away view

VISUAL AIDS

A regular feature giving news and comments on events and productions in the field of visual aids for technical and scientific teaching and training



'Citizenship' – one of the latest charts issued by the Pictorial Charts Unit (see below)



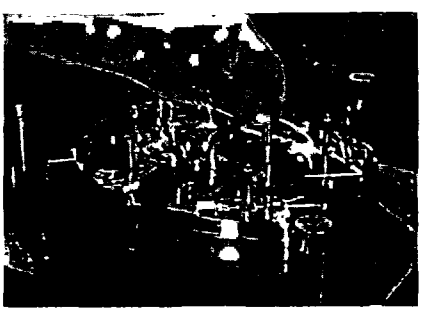


Left top: The mixing of plastic

Left bottom: The thread molecules in thermal movement

Below: The die

These three stills are from the German films 'Plastics, their Structure and Properties' and 'Plastics, their Processing' (see 'New films in the Teaching of Metallurgy', Technical Education, February 1963).



New Wallcharts

Eighteen charts – covering such topics as 'World Religions and Philosophies', 'The Elizabethans and the Scientific Revolution' and 'Communication by Letter' – are issued each year by the Pictorial Charts Unit. The one illustrated could be of value in general studies courses, providing material on 'Citizenship'. Each chart costs 7*s* 6*d*, teachers notes 1*s* extra, or purchasers can join the subscription service, costing £4 17*s* 6*d* and receive 18 charts a year (six a term). Pictorial Charts Unit, 181 Uxbridge Road, London W 7.

Two 20in by 30in charts entitled 'Plastics' are now available. The first deals with the making of plastic materials, the second with eight different methods of processing them. Each costs 1*s* 6*d*, from Educational Productions Ltd, East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

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Electronics Booklets

A new series of booklets from Mullards, entitled 'Educational Electronic Experiments' give theoretical and constructional details of five pieces of electronic equipment. These are: a double beam simulator for use with the simple oscilloscope; a 1 megohm per volt d.c. meter; an experimental transmitter/receiver; an EHT power supply unit (0-5kV at 2mA), and an experimental amplifier/oscillator.

An oscilloscope to build in class, for grammar and technical schools, is described in a manual entitled 'Students' Constructional Oscilloscope', which contains full instructions, specification, circuit and wiring diagrams, components list and building, testing and operating directions.

It should be noted that, as usual, Mullards do *not* supply either made-up kits, or kits of parts for these equipments, but the above publications are available free from Mullard Educational Service, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London W C 1.

Sponsored Films in Demand

The demand for sponsored films has soared, according to the latest figures from Sound-Services Film Library. In 1962, 207,810 16mm films were supplied by them to 83,124 audience groups – a 33 per cent increase on the comparable figures for the previous year. The total audience reached increased by over a million to 4,160,356.

Sound-Services – who have what is claimed to be the largest sponsored film library in the UK – have recently completed a major re-organisation, based on mechanical handling procedures and work study in order to keep up with the constant rise in bookings.

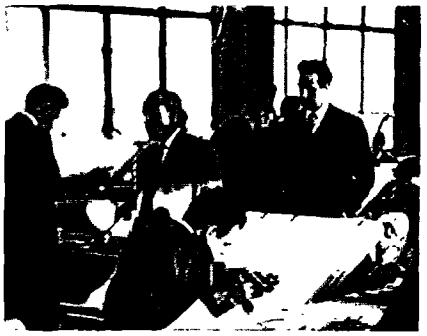
Films on Careers and Training

Men of Skill (colour, 20 minutes) from the Electricity Council has been well designed in content and style for secondary modern leavers. These boys really need to know what a craft apprenticeship looks and feels like – both to decide whether to aim for one, and to have some standard by which to judge whatever opportunities come their way.

The producers set out to interest youngsters with brisk camera-work and cool music, and all the explanations come from apprentices, themselves only a year or two ahead of the enquiring young hero.

Also released is *Power is his Business* (colour, 13 minutes), which follows a student apprentice entering training on the commercial engineering side.

Applications for free loan of these films may be made to Area Electricity Boards or regional headquarters of the CEGB.

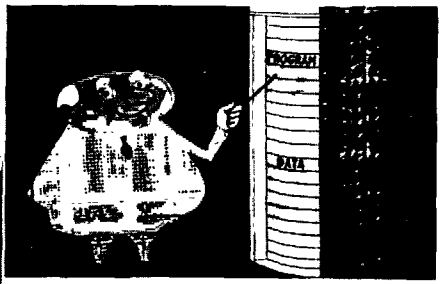


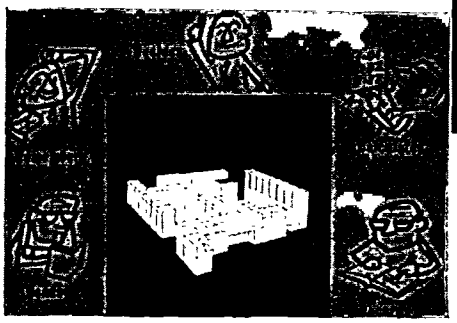
A still from 'Profit by Design' (black and white, 29 minutes), a British Productivity Council film, which sets out to show the need for every company to recognise the importance of the design stage. Available from the Central Film Library – hire charge for one day 19s 6d



"You're storing too much air!" comments the O and M man to the Stores Manager, looking around the half filled shelves and bins. A scene from the British Productivity Council's film 'Introducing O and M' (black and white, 29 minutes), noted in our December 1962 issue. Available from the Central Film Library – hire charge for one day 15s

Right: "The magnetic drum contains the programme of instructions and data."
Below: "In operation the computer does five things: reads,





remembers, decides, calculates and records."

Both these frames are from the ICT strip 'The Basic Principles of Data Processing, Part 4' (colour, 35mm, with commentary) – see also 'Computer Films').



A still from the Electricity Council film 'Men of Skill' – Arthur grinding the tip of a turbine blade with a portable Lorenco grinder

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