

## Ciné Photography

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The present field-work season has seen a new departure in the activities of the Society. Hitherto no ciné records of cave exploration taken under actual conditions have been attempted in England except for a few short lengths taken in some of the more easily accessible show caves, such as those at Cheddar, for commercial cinema work.

The equipment used consisted of four paraffin-vapour flood lamps of nominal 1000 candle power each, with one smaller lamp of nominal 300 candle power. Two cameras taking 16-mm. film were first used, but it was soon found that the Ciné-Kodak model "B," with a maximum lens aperture of F 1.9 and taking fifty feet of film, gave much the better results, although its maximum lens aperture was less than that of the other camera. The film used throughout was the Agfa "Novopan," which gave us the best results.

It has been found that for effective pictures to be obtained the lights should not be farther than 10 to 20 feet from the subject being photographed, and this quite often necessitated the camera being well behind the lights. If the lights are placed farther than 20 feet from the scene being taken the film is usually under-exposed.

The difficulties of this work are considerable. It is no easy task to transport the lamps through narrow and intricate passages. Many effective scenes could not be "shot" as it was found impossible either to place the camera or the lights, or both, correctly, but in spite of these and other difficulties an effective series of "shots" depicting typical scenes has been obtained in Goatchurch Cavern, Read's Cavern, Aveline's Hole, The Gulf at Sandford Hill, and Swildon's Hole. In all some 800 feet of 16-mm. film recording scenes in these caves are now in the possession of the Society; this length will be added to from time to time.