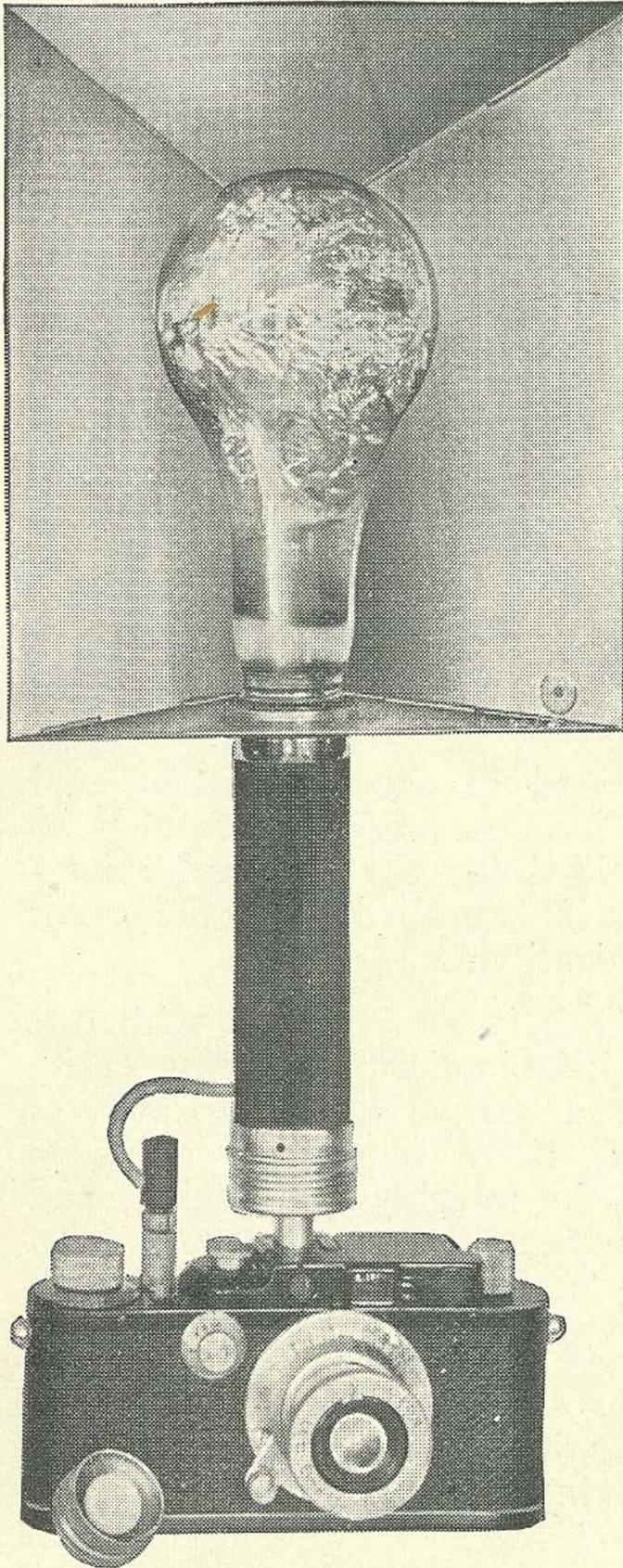




THE LEICAFLASH



The LEICA owner is often faced with the necessity of making LEICA pictures indoors and under unfavorable lighting conditions. The usual electric lamp is of course ideal for furnishing illumination, but current is not always available. Time exposures would naturally be the next thought, but seldom is the object to be photographed inanimate. This latter method is therefore at once cast aside as being impractical.

The perfect solution lies in the use of a small, independent, portable lighting unit which possesses tremendous illuminating power. The LEICAFLASH unit offers itself as one of the most perfect, compact, and efficient independent lighting outfits available.

The Photoflash Lamp

The standard Photoflash lamp, which is now obtainable from all photographic stores in three sizes and intensities, has almost entirely replaced the old-fashioned flash-powder. It is clean, safe, intense in illumination, and easy to use. It produces no smoke, requires no flash-bag, and may be used anywhere and at any time. It may be fired by the regular house current or by tiny flashlight batteries.

The Photoflash lamp fires instantaneously, and the flash durates for approximately 1/50th of a second. Various technical considerations may for the moment be ignored

for the sake of the beginner, hence we speak of 1/50th of a second in general terms which are sufficiently accurate for all ordinary purposes. This makes it possible to produce snapshot exposures with the camera shutter open on "Time" or "Bulb," as the flash itself will produce the exposure.

It is interesting to note that if one or more Photoflash lamps are placed close together with a lamp which is electrically connected, the "dead" lamps will flash out of sympathy when the electrically-connected lamp is fired.

The "dead" lamps need not even touch the electrically-connected one to produce this multiple flash. There is a fraction of a second interval between the time the "live" and "dead" lamps flash of course, although to the eye they will appear to fire simultaneously. This peculiarity of Photoflash lamps is well-known to all press photographers, and can be used to good advantage when additional illumination is required to light a particular scene.

This peculiarity of these lamps is mentioned here to serve more as a caution to the beginner than a suggestion, for because of this characteristic, care must be used to keep extra lamps away from the one which is to be fired. In other words, do not hold spare lamps in the hand in close proximity to the one to be fired—not that they will do any harm, but there is no need to waste them.

The LEICAFLASH Unit

As will be seen from the accompanying illustration, the LEICAFLASH consists of a metal tube which slides into the clip found on every LEICA camera, a folding metal reflector, and connections for the camera shutter release button. A simpler device could not be devised.

The batteries (Eveready No. 935) are contained in the metal tube, and the reflector, being made of heavy gauge metal, chrome-finish-lined, folds so as to be extremely compact. One socket is provided for the standard Photoflash lamp and the miniature testing bulb which is supplied with the outfit for testing the power of the batteries and synchronization.

As the shutter release button is pressed, the flash is set off, thus with one hand, photographs with the LEICAFLASH illumination becomes easily possible. Those who have attempted to rig up a similar device themselves will appreciate the excellent characteristics of this outfit. There is nothing to get out of order, it comes apart for compactness in carrying or packing, and may be depended upon for light on a moment's notice.

Brief Instructions for Using the LEICAFLASH

1. The small pilot light (No. 14, 2½ volt) which accompanies the outfit serves to test the contact and gives an accurate interpretation as to whether the batteries are in full strength.

(a) For testing the equipment, set it up on the camera by inserting the metal pillar in the clip provided for its base on the top of the LEICA camera.

(b) Remove the knurled protection collar which surrounds the camera shutter release button by unscrewing it. The special knurled collar device which comes with each unit is now screwed in place over the shutter release button in place of the camera protection collar. The little metal pin which is attached to the pillar by means of a rubber-insulated wire is then in-

serted into the hole in the center of the special collar which belongs to the LEICAFLASH outfit, which has just been installed on the camera.

(c) Screw the small pilot testing lamp and its socket into the standard socket on top of the pillar.

(d) Wind the camera shutter as though preparing to make an exposure, and press the shutter release flash button (which now stands approximately 1½ inches high from the roof of the camera).

(e) Note carefully whether the pilot testing lamp lights when the camera shutter is released.

(f) If the lamp does not light as the shutter is pressed (or released), it indicates that proper contact is not being made through the outfit. The proper degree of contact may be secured by adjusting the slotted screw which is situated on top of the release button adapter which accommodates the contact pin of the LEICAFLASH unit. By screwing this adjusting screw up or down slightly until the bulb lights at the precise moment when the shutter clicks, full control can be secured so that the flash will synchronize with the exposure on the film. The camera lens can be removed from the camera when making this test so that the actual movement of the shutter can easily be seen in conjunction with the lighting of the testing lamp. Many workers find a mirror helpful in synchronizing the light with the shutter.

(g) It is necessary to use the pilot testing lamp only when first installing the LEICAFLASH outfit on the camera, but of course it may be used at regular intervals in order to keep a check on the synchronization to make doubly certain that everything works properly.

2. When ready to use the LEICAFLASH for photography, the pilot testing lamp is unscrewed from the metal pillar. The standard socket accommodates the Photoflash lamp of all sizes. Obviously the folding metal reflector must be fitted to the pillar before the Photoflash lamp is screwed into place. CAUTION: Never use a Photoflash lamp without the reflector, for once in a great while one will shatter when fired, hence the reflector acts not only as a reflector but a shield for the photographer as well.

3. The Photoflash lamp may be used in two ways.

(a) The shutter may be set for "Z" (bulb on the LEICA) and opened. the flash can then be fired directly afterward, after which the shutter may be closed. This, incidentally, is the most favorable method of using the equipment for it precludes all difficulties in regard to synchronizing the flash and the shutter when faster shutter speeds are used.

(b) For moving objects and snapshot speeds, care should be taken to test the synchronization. A shutter speed of at least 1/60th of a second should be used so that the exposure can be made during the "peak" of the flash. Great care is needed, however, to bring both the flash and the shutter exposure together. Method (a) is suggested wherever possible.

4. The metal reflector comes folded, which makes for extreme ease in carrying in the pocket. It will last a life-time, and can be built up to its operating shape in a jiffy. Two snap-fasteners hold the four sides together.

5. In order to change batteries it is only necessary to unscrew the bottom of the pillar, just like a standard flashlight. Two cells are contained in the pillar, and new ones for replacement may be secured anywhere, as they are standard.

6. The LEICAFLASH uses dry cell batteries number 935.

For replacing the pilot testing lamp, simply ask for lamp number 14, 2½ volt flashlight bulb.

PRICE

51,810 VACUB LEICA Synchronized Photoflash Unit, complete, with up-right pillar (which accommodates batteries) with lug which fits into clip in all LEICA Cameras, set of batteries, receptacle for miniature testing lamp and standard Photoflash lamp, electrical connection for shutter release button, and folding metal reflector ----- **\$7.50**

Additional Informative LEICA Literature

Circular 1215—Quick Reference Data for the LEICA

Circular 1223—REELO and CORREX developing equipment and electric agitators

Booklet 1192—Developing, Printing, and Enlarging LEICA Pictures, by Morgan and Barleben (price 25c.)

Booklet 1206—The LEICA in Science, by Morgan (price 25c.)

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