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December 7, 1963

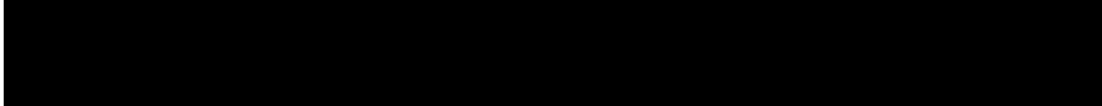
3 File

Variable Width Film Reader.



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Work was started last July and delivery is due 30 March. They are presently a few weeks behind schedule, but [redacted] hopes to have the machine ready-for assembled and ready for test by the end of February. That would give them the month of March to check it out.

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That estimate seems a little optimistic, I doubt if they can make up their time. I suspect a few weeks delay isn't critical, so I did not press the point.

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[redacted] has done an excellent job of checking out the unknowns of this gear in the breadboard stage. I wish their sister subsidiary in West wood did as well.

The operating model of the liquid gate worked beautifully. To eliminate bubbles going across the gate, they are building a low velocity pressure, high volume slow acting pneumatic operated pump. It will operate about 5 strokes per minute so there will be no vibrations generated by it.

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

They are greatly concerned about operator convenience in changing spools and are working hard on this aspect. It is difficult because the spools are enclosed in the liquid chamber and the rollers and gate are submerged. [redacted] seems the best answer for threading.

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[redacted] is doing their optics. He is probably best known for his wide angle anamorphic Panavision Motion Picture Lens. [redacted] recommended [redacted] for the projection optics and he is currently working on the condenser optics. This will probably be one lens with auxiliary elements for the different powers. [redacted] is not presently satisfied with the uniformity of illumination he is getting on the screen. The optics work is behind schedule and is holding up some of their other design work.

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They will use a 5 KW Xenon arc lamp as a light source. The lamp is in hand and they are about to start testing it. The digital counter for the Optosyn reading head will be delivered to NRI by [redacted] by the end of next week.

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[redacted] the [redacted] project engineer seems to have most of the problems well in hand. [redacted] says they have good control of their costs and expect to come in on budget.

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