



IN THIS ISSUE

On the cover

The picture on this month's cover was taken at the recent Friday Evening Demonstration Lecture in the High Voltage Laboratory—details of which can be found on page 16. The particular demonstration shown on the cover is known as the horn gap, or Jacob's Ladder, and, just to prove that the camera can lie like anything, that isn't the way it actually looks at all.

The horn gap is used as a protective measure, a part of lightning arresters on transmission lines. As over-voltage is produced on a line it causes an arc by jumping a horn gap to another wire grounded through a resistance, thus preventing excessive voltage between wires. As the current jumps from one wire to the other, the air is heated by the arc, which carries the current stream upwards in ever increasing arcs until it runs out. On our cover these arcs appear as one continuous flame—the result of a time-exposure. Thus, at the expense of scientific accuracy, the camera was able to record some of the startled spectators' reactions to the spectacular demonstration. Hugh Stoddart took the picture.

Friday lectures

Speaking of demonstrations, these are the Friday Evening Demonstration Lectures scheduled for the remainder of the term. They're given in 201 Bridge, at 7:30 p.m., and are, of course, all open to the general public.

February 18—"Liquid Air", by Professor E. C. Watson

February 25—"Genes and Enzymes", by Professor N. H. Horowitz

March 4—"The Determination of Stress by Photoelasticity", by Professor George W. Housner

March 11—"The Kinetic Theory of Gases", by Professor R. A. Millikan

Spring Recess

April 1—"Rocks under the Microscope", by Professor Ian Campbell and R. von Huene

April 8—"Plant Growth Regulators", by Dr. S. C. Wildman

April 15—"Flow in Rotating Channels", by Professor R. T. Knapp

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