

155G Note ~~12/24/24~~

INTER-SOCIETY COLOR COUNCIL

NEWS LETTER NO. 5

Statement from the Chairman

For some time the officers of the Council have realized that the Articles of Organization and Procedure, under which the Council was originally formed, were inadequate and so indefinite as to seriously handicap the Council's future program. This was brought out quite strongly at the last meeting of the Council, at which time it was decided to revise the Articles in such a manner as to more clearly and definitely set forth the plan of organization and administrative machinery. It was felt also that certain changes in basic organization should be made, particularly to give the members designated as cooperating associates a more equitable representation in the affairs of the Council.

Your Chairman, with the advice of the Secretary and the Treasurer, has now completed this work of revision and the new Articles of Organization and Procedure are in the hands of your Executive Committee for careful scrutiny prior to submission to the delegates for formal action.

The officers of the Council, after carefully considering the subject, decided it would be inadvisable to call a formal meeting of the Inter-Society Color Council under the old Articles, and therefore postponement of the December meeting has been decided upon and approved by formal vote of the Executive Committee.

Your Chairman believes that a meeting of the Council, to insure best attendance, could probably be held in February, immediately preceding or following the joint meetings of the Optical Society of America and the American Physical Society.

Within the next few days, the Secretary's office will furnish to the attention of the entire mailing list, copies of the new Articles of Organization and Procedure for your inspection. All criticisms and comments regarding these proposed Articles of Organization and Procedure should be placed in the Secretary's hands immediately. A letter ballot will be furnished all official delegates, in order that they may vote on the question of adopting the new Articles, within thirty days after their receipt.

L. A. Jones.

Deane B. Judd, National Bureau of Standards -

PREPARATION AND COLORIMETRIC PROPERTIES OF A MAGNESIUM-OXIDE  
REFLECTANCE STANDARD - Bureau of Standards Letter Circular No. LC-395.

The smoke from magnesium freely burning in air deposited on a satisfactory base forms a uniform, fine-grained diffusing surface of high reflectance. By observing a few simple precautions, this surface of magnesium oxide may be made reproducible; hence, it serves as a convenient and reliable standard. The letter circular describes in detail the necessary precautions.

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C. H. Graham, Clark University -

THRESHOLD LIGHT INTENSITY DETERMINATIONS.

Researches going on at present involve the determination of threshold light intensity as a function of the distance separating two illuminated stimulus patches. Determinations have been made in the periphery of the eye, and thresholds obtained for both patches together and for each patch alone. The results may be summarized as follows: (1) Within limits (up to a separation in terms of visual angle of  $2^{\circ}30'$ ) the threshold for both patches when exposed simultaneously decreases with decreased separation of these patches. (2) When the patches are separated by an angle of more than  $2^{\circ}30'$  the threshold is the same as the lower of the two single patch thresholds.

These results are interpreted as demonstrating interaction of a summative type between subliminally stimulated retinal areas. The amount of this interaction is a function of the distance separating the areas. The summation process must be a nervous process and it would seem to be similar in nature to the effects noted in the retinae of excised eyes by Adrian and Matthews and in the decerebrate preparation by Granit. On this basis it is concluded that the locus of the visual threshold effect is in the synaptic layers of the retina.

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All notices, abstracts, and requests for further information regarding any of the items appearing in this letter, should be addressed to M. Rea Paul, 105 York Street, Brooklyn, New York.

December 21, 1934.