

Optical Engineering in Great Britain

L. R. Baker

Sira Institute Ltd.

South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent, England and
67 Alta Vista, Orinda, California 94563 USA

This issue is devoted to a variety of papers describing work in the general field of optical engineering which has been carried out recently in the United Kingdom. The titles included were among those submitted as a result of an invitation extended to a wide range of organisations known by your guest editor to be working in this field. A considerable number of offers to prepare historical reviews of achievements at various centers were received but were excluded in favour of contributions describing more recent work.

Rather than concentrating upon a particular technical theme or the development of work in a particular type of organisation the papers have been chosen to illustrate the great variety of technical work in progress at different types of organisations. Thus there are papers on systems design, component fabrication, production technology, special test instruments and electro-optical systems which have originated from a number of different development centers such as the Government Industrial Research Establishments, the Research Associations, the Universities, the Ministry of Defence and Industry.

It is unfortunately not possible to present a complete and balanced picture of current UK activity in optical engineering in this way and apologies are therefore offered in advance to all those groups doing excellent and relevant work just ready for publication but which was not known to your guest editor at the time contributions were required. I feel sure that your resident editor will be pleased to hear from you directly.