

NEW ELECTRIC LIGHT BURNS WEEK FOR TWO CENTS

A new form of electric light that uses so little current that if burned steadily for a week the electricity costs less than two cents was an important development of the past year, according to a report to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

The new lamp, which is intended more for indicator or marker purposes than for general illumination, is known as the "Moore gaseous conductor lamp", after its inventor, and contains a mixture of the rare atmospheric gases Helium, neon and argon. Inside the bulb are two electrodes, with no metallic connection between them, but when the current is turned on the gas glows around one of them, or both, if the current is alternating.

While the actual candlepower of the lamp is very low, about one two-hundredth of a candle, its low current consumption permits it to be used as an indicator on an electric iron to tell when the current is on. Or it can be placed in an electric switch to facilitate finding it in the dark. Another advantage of the lamp is that unlike the ordinary incandescent lamp, which continues to glow for a moment after the electricity has been turned off, the new lamp goes on and off instantly. This quality is a necessary requisite of lamps for certain scientific uses and this type of lamp is used in apparatus for telephoning photographs. The lamp at the receiving end, throwing light on the photographic film must vary precisely as the current supply is increased or diminished by the light sensitive photoelectric cell at the transmitting end.

Among the other recent developments in electric lighting cited were the use of half billion candlepower searchlights, visible for 150 miles, as beacons for the air mail at night; the scientific study of lighting changes and industrial production, sponsored by the National Research Council; and the greater attention being given to specialized training for illumination experts.

THINKS FLYING BEST ANTIDOTE FOR AVIATORS' NERVOUS SHOCKS

Turning the other cheek has been found to be the best policy for aviators who have suffered from nervous shock in airplane disasters, according to Dr. H. Meier-Mueller, chief surgeon of the Swiss Aviation Corps, who has himself crashed several times.

The best way to avoid bad mental after-effects is to return the patient to his occupation as speedily as possible after an accident, Dr. Meier-Mueller said. He claims success for this Spartan treatment even with men whose skulls had been fractured more than once. It is the excessively long period of several minutes which elapses between the realization of the coming disaster and the actual crash, which is liable to cause mental upset later, he explained. A violent reaction usually follows a day or so of euphoria. The men are much better off, mentally, financially and otherwise, back in the service, than with a disability pension, he claims.
