

SIXTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

Sixty years of applied research and strenuous work in the service of photography is the proud record of Ilford Limited whose Diamond Jubilee is celebrated this year.

The history of Ilford Limited goes back to 1879 when a Mr. Harman started making photographic plates in a house in Ilford. From this small beginning has grown one of England's leading industrial concerns — Ilford Limited — which has now a capital of one-and-a-quarter million pounds and comprises six factories covering a huge acreage, employing over three thousand people and with depots, agencies and branches in every country in the world.

Every type of sensitive emulsion on plate, film or paper is made by Ilford Limited, catering equally for the amateur, professional, and industrial photographer and the cine trade, for hospitals and doctors as well, and in fact, it may be stated that whatever the requirements there is an Ilford or Selo product to satisfy the need.

Ten years ago a great merger of photographic interests took place. Ilford Limited acquired such famous and old-established businesses as The Imperial Dry Plate Co. Ltd., Thos. Illingworth & Co. Ltd., Wellington & Ward Ltd., Rajar Ltd., Paget Dry Plate Co. Ltd., Marion Ltd., and The Gem Dry Plate Co. Ltd. The effect of this great merger was a unique pooling of experience, knowledge and craftsmanship. The best brains of the companies concerned became at once concentrated in the research and production of one company's products, with the result that many important new products were produced and improvements effected in various existing grades.

In the photographic industry research is of paramount importance and Ilford Limited have established research laboratories which are famous all over the world for their contributions to photographic science.

The research work of the Company is under the direction of Mr. F. F. Renwick, himself a noted investigator, and amongst the staff are many other eminent men. Dr. Olaf Bloch's name is known from one end



MAJOR-GENERAL SIR IVOR PHILIPPS, K.C.B., D.S.O.
Chairman, Ilford Limited.

of the world to the other for his work on photographic emulsions. A great deal of work has been done on the production of sensitizing dyes in the Rodenside Laboratory and this work is in the capable hands of Dr. Kendall, who contributed an important paper on the Chemistry of Organic Sensitizers, Desensitizers and Developing Agents to the last International Congress of Photography held at Paris. Dr. G. B. Harrison and Dr. S. O. Rawling of the Selo Laboratories are also well known in the photographic world. These are the men who, in addition to research

and investigation, look after the standards of existing materials to ensure maintenance of quality, who devise improvements and produce new materials. The Research Laboratories of Ilford Limited exist for the benefit of all photographers all over the world.

Each of the various factories of Ilford Limited—of which there are six in all—specialises in some particular line of the sensitized photographic trade and jointly these factories cater for the world's photographic requirements.

An army of engineers and electricians is concerned with the maintenance of the intricate machinery used in the manufacture of emulsions and coating on to base.

In each factory there are Chemists, Physicists and Scientists to watch over the purity and quality of raw materials, and the speed and gradation and other qualities of the coated materials which must never vary despite the complicated processes of manufacture.

It may be gathered from the foregoing that there is nothing haphazard in the manufacture of Ilford and Selo materials. Everything works with precision. Air is purified and washed before it enters the factory. Dust which might be carried into the factories by employees is eliminated by vacuum cleaning the staff before they enter the coating, drying and packing rooms, and floors and passages are cleansed thoroughly every day with special electrically driven machines.

To recapitulate—Ilford Limited manufacture every type and grade of sensitized material from the amateur plate and film to X-Ray Film and Cine Film, both negative and positive. All grades of Industrial materials and papers, Bromide, Gaslight, Daylight and special papers for photomechanical reproduction.

There is nothing in the way of sensitized materials which Ilford do not supply and every Ilford product carries with it a guarantee of highest consistent quality.

Ilford Limited welcome the opportunity to serve photographers everywhere. No photographic problem is too large or too small to enlist our interest on your behalf.