

Keep Your Lenses in Order.

Messrs. Taylor, Taylor & Hobson, of Leicester, give the following useful hints on this subject in the *News Almanac*:

How to Preserve Lenses.—Lenses should be kept in a pure, dry atmosphere, away from dust and damp. These impair the polish of a high-class instrument, and, by scattering some of the light which passes through, produce a degree of "fog" in its images and negatives.

Use an old clean cambric handkerchief to remove dust. Never *rub* the glass, nor use whiting, leather, paper, or anything likely to contain a "suspicion" of grit; but only brush it lightly with such a smooth, soft duster as the clean old cambric handkerchief.

A visible speck on a lens is of less importance than an invisible and general imperfection of polish, or a film of fine dust or moisture.

Lenses should not be left before a fire nor in the sun to become unduly heated; nor should they be so cold, when used in a damp atmosphere, that moisture is condensed upon their surfaces.

It is difficult to drop a lens without damaging it, though the effect may be outwardly invisible. A damaged lens should be repaired without delay.

In screwing together the part of a lens, or putting the lens in its flange, turn first in the wrong direction until the fittings snap together in the position for starting, then reverse the motion to screw them together.

To guard against a frequent cause of fogged negatives, and to secure the full effect of a high-class lens, the inside of every camera should be quite black and free from any trace of shininess. This is a very important matter, commonly neglected, but needing constant attention.

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