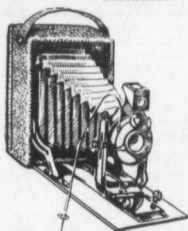


FOLDING PLATE AND FILM PACK CAMERAS.



These cameras are similar in working equipment to the roll film models, but are especially adapted for film packs and plates. The dark slides or plate holders are

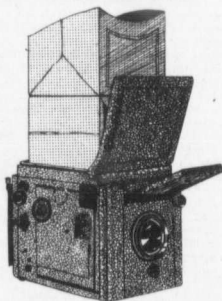
made of metal, each one holding a single plate, and as a dozen of them do not occupy much more room than a dozen plates, a great number can be carried without discomfort. The plates are inserted after the slide has been withdrawn (in the dark room, of course), by pressing the plate down into the little channel at the bottom and allowing it to spring into the corresponding groove at the top of the slide.

These cameras provide for the great advantage of focussing and composing the picture on the ground glass. To accomplish this turn the small metal disc on the shutter until it points to T, and by pressing the trigger the shutter will remain open. If the back of the camera is now examined and the image observed on the focussing screen, it will be seen that the object desired can be brought to a sharp focus by moving the front forward or backward, as desired. If the camera is placed on a tripod you will then be able to have your picture composed exactly as desired. The plate, when inserted, will occupy exactly the same position as the focussing screen. When film packs are used the film pack adapter is inserted in a manner similar to a dark slide, and the pack fits into it just as supplied by the makers.

Film packs offer considerable facilities to the tourist in the way of lightness, and the films are, moreover, flat, and can be used singly as required in alternation with the ordinary dark slides with plates.

The films are changed by merely pulling out the black paper tab which is attached to the end of each film. It is a very convenient and effective method of using films.

REFLEX CAMERAS.



The popularity of the reflex type of camera is due to the fact that the image can be seen of actual size in the finder right way up at the moment of exposure. The shutter speeds range from 1-15th of a second to 1-1000th. This instrument is fitted inside with a mirror, which throws the lens-formed picture on to a ground glass fixed in the top of the camera. By

this means we can do our focussing by looking at the ground glass picture. We also see the size and arrangement of the picture as it will appear in the negative. This being judged satisfactory, a small lever outside the camera throws the reflector out of the way and permits the lens picture to pass to the plate and the exposure is made. The advantages of this system are very considerable. It enables us to focus any object without the effort of estimating distances. It enables us to select any stop and see the effect on the picture generally. It enables us to select our point of view, so as to include or exclude this or that part of our picture at will. It enables us to photograph a moving object right up to the very instant of making the exposure. On the whole this

type offers very substantial advantages, which should be carefully considered in selecting a camera. The lens fitted to this camera is a first-class anastigmat F4.5, and in a recent test a chart containing 55,000 letters was successfully photographed on a $3\frac{1}{4}$ inch by $4\frac{1}{4}$ inch plate by one of these high-class lenses. For street scenes, portraits of children, animals and snapshots at close range it has no equal.

Note.—We wish these notes to be as instructive and helpful to our readers as it is possible to make them, and any difficulties you are having photographically will be cheerfully treated if you will submit them. Address the Editor, Mr. Coles' next article will be on "Portraiture at home."—EDITOR.

Christmas Among the Poor Children of Tokyo

REV. P. G. PRICE, B.A.

THE Wednesday before Christmas of last year I was favored with an invitation to visit the Azabu Girl's School, which I gladly accepted. I did not know exactly what was on the programme for the afternoon, but heard in a vague way that it was an entertainment for poor children. That caught my ear at once, but I did not see what connection poor children had with the Azabu Girl's School. However, after we arrived at the school we were conducted to the church near by. As it was already nearly full of children, we took seats in the small gallery at the back, where we could see everything.

It was a good sized church, much like one of our smaller city churches. The seats in the centre had been removed and Japanese matting was spread on the floor. On this the children sat close together in Japanese fashion. It was very cold, and this is their method of keeping warm.

There were children of all sizes. Many little ones carried babies on their backs. This was very amusing and yet pitiful, because one wondered how the burden-bearer could stand it. However, they do not seem to mind, and the baby usually goes to sleep with its head hanging backward in an apparently lifeless condition.

After examining the closely packed little figures I saw that they were divided into groups and that each group had a young lady with them. Before the programme commenced the latter were moving about keeping order among the children and making preparation for the various exercises. These teachers, for such they were, made a very pretty sight as they tripped along in their modest, though attractive, Japanese costumes.

The boys and girls for the most part were poorly and thinly dressed. I could see that they came from poor homes. Where then did these children come from? How did these seven hundred children come to the Azabu School, which is far from the district in which they live? Were they Christian children? No, their parents were not Christians. How then did these children come to a Christmas gathering?

It is a very simple story and easily told, and yet one that should cause heart searching among our Epworth League workers. Among the Bible students of the Azabu Girl's School a normal class has been formed to prepare Sunday School teachers for work in the poor districts. These young women go down into the poorest parts of the city and hold their Sunday Schools. Each one has a complete school of her own, held in a small room rented for the purpose by

the Azabu School. Thirty-five of these schools were formed with an average attendance of twenty. Sunday after Sunday these Japanese girls of their own free will and desire went down to these rooms and told the Gospel Story to neglected little children for the sake of Him who said "Suffer the little ones to come unto Me."

And so from these schools the children came and this day was their Christ-



REV. P. G. PRICE, B.A.

mas entertainment. Nearly every class had its representative on the programme. It may have been a drill, a motion song or a dialogue. All were of fascinating interest to us on our first Christmas in a strange land. Perhaps the most striking of all was the manly way in which the little boys gave their recitations.

After the programme came the distribution of presents. Each little crooked head had a name; they were all different, though they seemed so much alike to us. It was great fun to see them walk up to the front to receive their gift, and make their pretty bow. At a late hour the long-looked-forward-to programme was finished and the little ones separated to return again to their homes, for their Christmas was over.

When I saw that sight and the able leadership of the W. M. S. in developing at the one time the Christian character of the Japanese girls and teaching so large a number of needy children, I said to myself, "Our young people in Canada would like to know about this." So I have written it that it may be eyes to some, to see the road to helpfulness among the needy children of Canada.