

after several days of excitement (and often heat and mess) in developing, washing and printing they can call their friends round to inspect their views and listen to tales of adventure and long camera stories. I think one can divide amateurs on tour roughly into two classes, 1st., those who merely take a camera as an adjunct to their holiday kit and who do not care to go out of their way at all to use it but press the button or take a view as they go along and from whatever position they may happen to be in at the moment and as often as not send their plates or films to the local man to be developed and printed from—these really do not deserve the name of Amateur Photographers at all; and 2nd, those who consider their camera as a necessity and intend to make its use and companionship an important item in their holiday programme. Some of these I trust will find help or interest from these notes.

How often does not the number of photos passed round for inspection after the tour bear but a small proportion to number of plates exposed and this owing to want of consideration beforehand in the choice and purchase of apparatus suitable for the purpose to which it is to be used, or to a proper overhauling of kit and testing of material before starting. I am often asked by friends contemplating buying, what sort of a camera do you advise me to get and what plates and material to take and the best size and other exasperating questions, showing the querists to be ignorant or regardless of the fact that in photography, as in every other pursuit, the different classes of work have to be done with apparatus made and adapted for its special use if the best results with the minimum of trouble are looked for. As the major-

ity of photographic tourists carry hand cameras I will treat this subject first. Hand camera work requires an instrument specially made for it, it must be light and portable, capable of being easily and quickly brought into action and be as inconspicuous as possible. The lens should be rapid, covering the plate easily with good definition at an aperture of $f/8$ at least, it should have at least 3 stops $f/11$ $f/16$ and $f/22$ and be provided with a shutter adaptable for at least 3 different speeds say 1-10 1-25 1-50 seconds (about).

Any attempt to adapt the camera for use for general view work or architecture by introducing a swing back and rising front, etc., will not add to its efficiency for taking snap shots, but rather the reverse. To those then about to buy photo outfit for their holiday touring, I would strongly advise the purchase of a hand camera pure and simple if snap-shooting is to be the main part of their programme and if they anticipate landscape and view work to do it with a separate instrument provided with the various conveniences fitting it for its special use. That ones purse may not adapt itself to this double arrangement does not affect the point and I think this will be more apparent when discussing shortly the scope of hand camera work. For the general worker 5×4 is the best size. Glass plates or cut films in double holders are on the whole preferable to roller film, as any particular exposure can be developed and repeated if the result is unsatisfactory. Besides they are cheaper and more certain in results and easier to manipulate than roller film.

Plates of medium rapidity are quite fast enough for most of ones exposures in good summer light, and give better results than plates of very high speed,