Due to mechanical difficulties, such as the laying of expensive cables for transmission, and to the lack of some means of paying for programs, television is not yet ready for general use in this country. But extensive experiments, aimed at improvement of apparatus, are being conducted in New York, and elsewhere, with such good results that an entirely satisfactory performance may be expected when television is introduced on a large scale. Since the transmission of pictures of news events as they happen will be an important feature of television, tests include work with a portable outfit. The iconoscope camera is trained on some person or object and the transmitter flashes pictures of the scene to receivers before which sit engineers to view the finished product and to suggest means for improvement. Just recently the portable unit caught pictures of a new model automobile arriving at the curb and discharging passengers. The unit transmitted the scene to a receiving set high up in a building near by, with what engineers described as satisfactory results. While the television pictures seen on the screen of the receiving set were not nearly as distinct as photographs of the same scene, they were clear enough for identification of persons within reasonable distance of the iconoscope camera.