

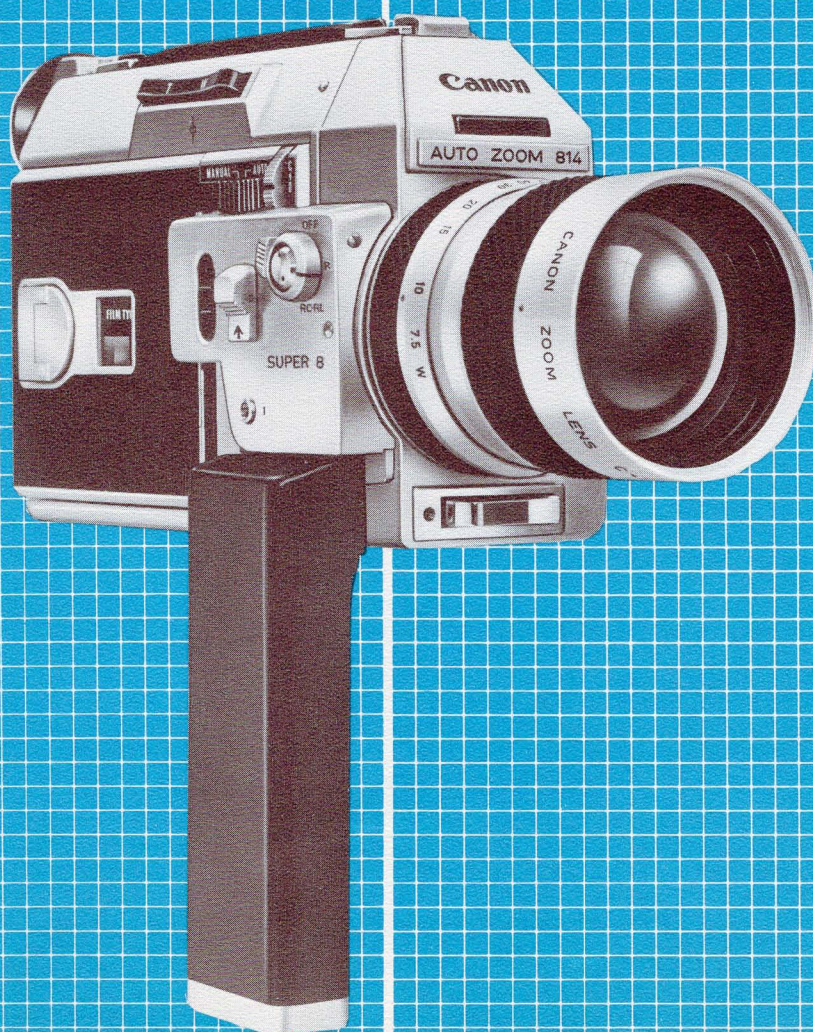
POPULAR PHOTO-
GRAPHY

tests the new

Canon

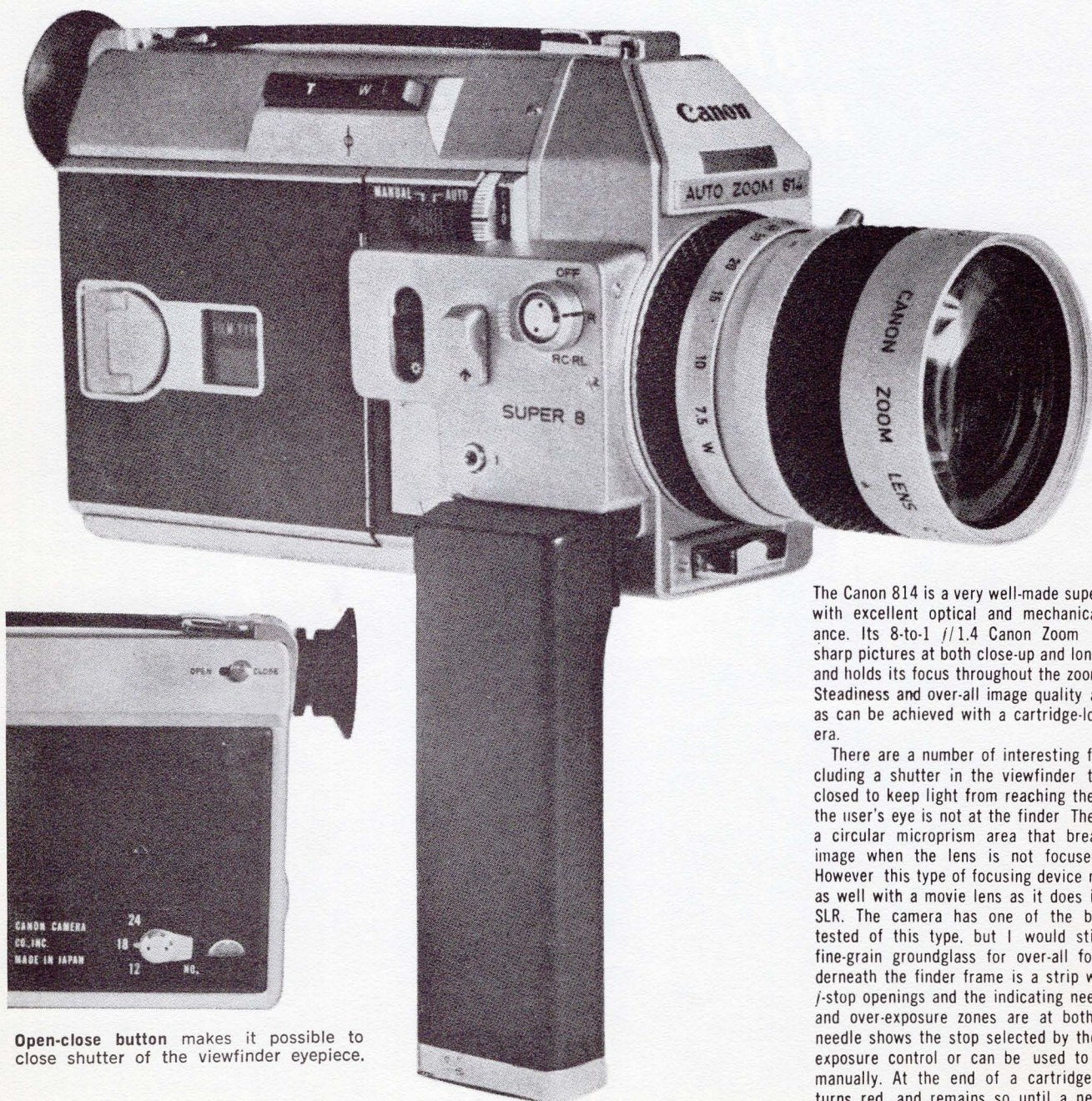
***814 SUPER 8
MOVIE CAMERA***

FEBRUARY 1968 ISSUE



MURRAY DUITZ REPORTS
ON NEW PRODUCTS

8-TO-1 ZOOM, 3 FILMING SPEEDS



Open-close button makes it possible to close shutter of the viewfinder eyepiece.

The Canon 814 is a very well-made super 8 camera with excellent optical and mechanical performance. Its 8-to-1 $f/1.4$ Canon Zoom lens yields sharp pictures at both close-up and long distances and holds its focus throughout the zooming range. Steadiness and over-all image quality are as good as can be achieved with a cartridge-loading camera.

There are a number of interesting features, including a shutter in the viewfinder that can be closed to keep light from reaching the lens when the user's eye is not at the finder. The finder has a circular microprism area that breaks up the image when the lens is not focused properly. However this type of focusing device never works as well with a movie lens as it does in a 35-mm SLR. The camera has one of the best I have tested of this type, but I would still prefer a fine-grain groundglass for over-all focusing. Underneath the finder frame is a strip with marked f -stop openings and the indicating needle. Under- and over-exposure zones are at both ends. The needle shows the stop selected by the automatic exposure control or can be used to set a stop manually. At the end of a cartridge, this strip turns red, and remains so until a new cartridge is inserted and you can do more shooting.

*Eye piece
solidly made*

*Precise
Control dials*

*Very well
made*

*Excellent option
and mechanical
performance*

*Number of
interesting
features*

*Excellent
focusing device*

The eyepiece is solidly made and threaded to adjust for the user's optical prescription. And—luxury of luxuries—a locking ring is provided to hold the adjustment, once it is made. A rubber eyeshade of generous size completes the finder assembly.

The usual built-in filter for Type A film in daylight is controlled by a sliding switch with symbols for sun and lamp, instead of the more usual arrangement of having a movie light on the camera move the filter automatically. Insertion of a Type A cartridge automatically cancels the filter regardless of the position of the filter switch, thus reducing the chance of error.

This brings us to the purely mechanical aspects of the camera. All of the control dials snap unmistakably into place and cannot be dislodged inadvertently. The speeds are 12, 18, and 24 fps. The main camera dial has an off position that disconnects camera and exposure meter as well as the zoom motor. The R position is for normal filming and RC is for continuous filming. The camera can be run by cable release as well as by the trigger.

The zoom motor is extremely smooth over the entire range, at just the right speed for the 8-to-1 zoom. It has ample power and no tendency to bump or hesitate. The manual zoom has a comfortable amount of resistance to permit fairly rapid zooming over the entire range in one quarter of a turn. The zoom motor is controlled by a rocker switch that fits under two fingers, and which moves the lens in the telephoto direction if pressed one way, and in the wide-angle direction if pressed the other way.

The battery case, which hinges down and doubles as a pistol grip, is slightly offset from the center of the camera. This causes a slight imbalance and loss of comfort in holding and triggering the camera. It is not a serious problem, but I would use the camera with the battery case folded up, or possibly use an external pistol grip screwed into the tripod socket on the bottom. These accessories are available at low cost.

Another innovation is the diaphragm control wheel, which performs several functions. It can be used for fade-in and fade-out shots by making a slight turn while the camera motor is running. Any desired *f*-stop can be set by moving the exposure control switch from Auto to Manual, and watching the needle indicator in the finder. A more sophisticated application is to set a lower limit on the automatic exposure system. For example, if the diaphragm control is set to *f*/8, the camera will not open up to a wider aperture even if the lighting conditions would normally call for one. It will, however, close down to any aperture smaller than *f*/8 that is indicated by the CdS meter. On automatic operation, the camera responded quickly to changes in lighting.

Several other features are worthy of mention. A socket for the remote-control cable is on the back and a cable release socket for single-frame shooting is near the pistol grip. An indicator on the side of the camera shows when the unusually quiet motor is turning. The footage indicator is marked in feet, and the numbers are large and highly legible.

The camera offers a combination of excellent performance and construction as well as many advanced features. It will appeal to the movie maker who is really serious about his film making.

The Canon 814 is priced at \$369.95 and distributed by Bell & Howell Co., 7100 McCormick Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60645.

*Extremely
smooth
zoom motor*

*Unique
diaphragm
control*

*Many
advanced
features*

CANON SUPER 8 MOVIE CAMERAS

Here's the complete line of Canon Super 8 movie cameras. There's a model to fit every need, every pocketbook. From 3 to 1 zoom to the fantastic 12 to 1 zoom, Canon precision lenses assure the

sharpest possible movies under all kinds of conditions. All cameras have reflex viewing, through-the-lens CdS electric eye, drop-in Super 8 cartridge film loading, and electric drive.



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f/1.8 3-1 zoom lens
manual zoom control



**MODEL 85C
(518)**
f/1.8 5-1 zoom lens
manual zoom control



**MODEL 87C
(814)**
f/1.5 8-1 zoom lens
POWER ZOOM



**MODEL 86C
(Auto Zoom 518)**
f/1.8 5-1 zoom lens
POWER ZOOM



**MODEL 88C
(1218)**
f/1.8 12-1 zoom lens
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