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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Resumé of Dental Benefits of Fluoride Ingestion

Acute Fluoride Poisoning and Crippling Chronic Fluorosis

Metabolism of Inorganic Fluorides

Some Public Health Aspects of Water Fluoridation

Medical Aspects of Excessive Fluoride in a Water Supply: A Ten-Year Study

A Long-Term Medical Study of Children in a Community with a Fluoridated Water Supply

The External Action of Fluorides and Other Agents on the Teeth in the Prevention of Tooth Decay

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It consists essentially of a probe unit containing a photoelectric tube for detecting light energy and an amplifier to which it is connected by a flexible cable. The amplifier incorporates a milliammeter calibrated to indicate either optical density on a "log" scale or percent transmission on a "linear" scale, depending upon the model.

The logarithmic optical-density scale extends from 0 to 1.5 and density is readable to 0.01. A three-step range switch increases the range to a maximum density of 4.5 with no loss in sensitivity or precision of readings. This range represents a linear response of the receiver to variations in light intensity of over 30,000 to 1.

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The meter in the percent-transmission model uses a standard meter movement and indicates percent transmission on a linear scale. This may also be considered as percent reflectance or percent incident light upon the phototube. The full range of the scale for the first position of the range switch is from 0 to 100% transmission. Other positions of the switch provide ranges of 0 to 10%, 0 to 1% and 0 to 0.1%, respectively. The lower scale on this meter is calibrated to read directly the optical density corresponding to the percent transmission indicated on the upper scale.

The amplifier also produces an A.C. output signal, the voltage of which is a measure of the light intensity, and provision is made for utilizing the direct current of the ammeter circuit in an external circuit. The instrument therefore supplies a voltage which can be used to operate either a control mechanism or a standard ink recorder.

**Principle of Operation**

The outstanding feature of the Densichron is its patented system for magnetically modulating the space current in a phototube.* This is accomplished by applying a 60-cycle alternating magnetic field across the path of the electron beam, thereby deflecting the electrons from their path to the anode 120 times per second. The output current of the tube is thus changed from its normal steady value to a pulsating output with a frequency of 120 cycles per second. When the usual direct-current output of a phototube is amplified, the measuring instrument is subject to severe zero drift necessitating frequent recalibration, and its response is slow. The pulsating output from the Densichron phototube, however, is capable of stable, high-gain amplification with rapid response.

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