EQUIPMENT NEWS

All inquiries concerning items listed here should be addressed to Science, Room 604, 11 W. 42 St., New York 36, N.Y. Include the name(s) of the manufacturer(s) and the department number(s).

- **FREQUENCY METER** operates in the range from 0 to 42 Mcy/sec with an accuracy of ± 1 cy/sec. It can also be used as an elapsed-time meter (range, 1 usec to 10 Msec), an events-per-unit-time meter, a time-interval meter, a period meter, a frequency-ratio meter, and as a high-speed electronic counter. By use of auxiliary plug-in equipment, the range can be extended to 515 Mcy/sec at the same accuracy. (Beckman Instruments, Inc., Dept. S136)

- **TEMPERATURE CONTROLLER** that utilizes a thermistor as its detecting element provides sensitivity of control of 0.25°C. The unit provides three modes of control — on-off, proportional, and adjustable-differential. It can be used to regulate water baths, ovens, hot plates, heating mantles, and other laboratory equipment. (Fenwal, Inc., Dept. S137)

- **REFLECTING OBJECTIVE MICROSCOPE** is designed for work in visible, ultraviolet, and infrared light. The reflecting objectives are available in the magnification range from ×15 to ×172. The working distance at ×15 is 24 mm. (Ealing Corp., Dept. S140)

- **CHROMATOGRAPH** is designed to make continuous samplings of any gaseous process stream. Each sample is automatically passed through a packed column of absorbent material that breaks the mixture into its component parts and then registers on a graph the percentage of each component. The information can be fed into a control system. (Beckman Instruments, Inc., Dept. S147)

- **STANDARD-TAPER SLEEVE** consists of an elongated cone of polytetrafluoroethylene film 0.003 in. thick that fits over ground-glass cones of sizes from 10/30 to 55/50. The sleeves are chemically inert except in the presence of metallic sodium, and they can be used at temperatures in the range between −75° and 300°C. The Quorn sleeves are designed to eliminate the problem of joint seizure; greases are not required to establish a seal. (Arthur F. Smith Co., Dept. S148)

- **HIGH-VACUUM FURNACE** for study of metals and alloys attains temperatures as high as 2000°C and accommodates standard crucibles with capacity of 2 lb of steel. It is available with either glass or metal bell jars. (National Research Corp., Dept. S153)

THE FUTURE OF ARID LANDS

A symposium volume of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Edited by Gilbert F. White
Department of Geography, University of Chicago

6 x 9 inches, 464 pages, 49 illustrations, index, clothbound, October 1956

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It contains the papers and recommendations of the International Arid Lands Symposium and Conference, Albuquerque and Socorro, New Mexico, April and May 1955.

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The more than sixty scientific papers included in this volume were presented at the first International Conference on Venoms during the AAAS Meeting in Berkeley, California. The authorship spans the globe, and the coverage of all aspects of the problem is equally comprehensive.

E. R. Trethewie of Australia reports experimental studies on certain pharmacological antagonists used in an effort to prolong life, providing more time for therapeutic measures. B. W. Halstead of the College of Medical Evangelists in California covers present knowledge on poisonous fishes. H. A. Reid of Malaya describes clinical effects of the bite of the sea snake (Enhydrina schistosa) in three fatal cases. Giovanni Favilli of the University of Bologna, Italy, discusses spreading factors in animal parasites and venoms, and some properties of hyaluronidase. The last subject is also covered by Paul Boquet, of the Institut Pasteur, in Paris. B. R. Criley and associates, of the Wyeth Laboratories, Marietta, Pennsylvania, describe the development and standardization of a multivalent refined antivenom for the family Crotalidae. The final article by H. L. Keegan of the U.S. Army Medical Corps presents an invaluable list of all known antivenins available throughout the world for all types of poisonous bites, with information on producers, sources, indications, dosages, and other details. The random selection is only a small sample of the wealth of valuable material by outstanding world authorities.

This book covers: poisonous fishes and marine organisms, many species of venomous snakes, the Gila monster, toads, scorpions, spiders, caterpillars, wasps and other venom-bearing insects; hyaluronidase-like substances and other spreading factors in venoms; various chemical components of venoms, coagulant and anticoagulant factors, antigenic principles; various experimental and suggested clinical uses of venoms; clinical considerations such as mortality rates in various localities throughout the world; and treatment of many kinds of envenomation (by snakes, scorpions, spiders and other organisms). Included are new developments in serotherapy and types of supplementary medication (as cortisone, ACTH, antihistamines). The dangers of refrigeration for treatment of envenomation are discussed.

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