checked by carefully controlled experiments. Folsom[5] has stated that *Pseudococcus trifolii* will kill clover plants. The possibility of mealy bugs becoming a menace to the nitrogen-fixing functions of some of our common economic legumes leads to the belief that a wider and more thorough investigation of this question should be made.

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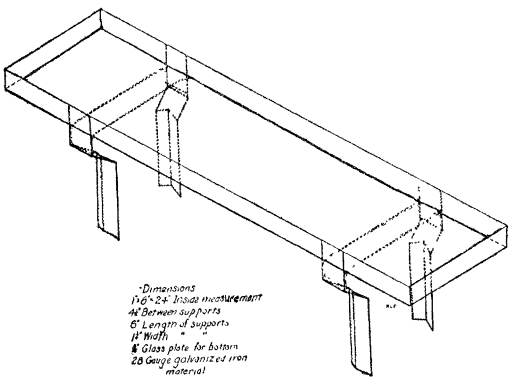
A HISTOLOGICAL SLIDE DRYING PLATE

EXPERIMENTING with a piece of plate glass balanced on top of a steam radiator as a drying plate for histological slides and having this knocked onto the floor and broken is rather disappointing. As a consequence the following piece of apparatus was devised and manufactured.

This slide drying plate is after the fashion of a shallow oblong pan with legs or supports to fit over the coils of a steam radiator. Galvanized sheet iron of number 28 gauge is the material used. The dimensions are as follows: long shallow pan twenty-four by six inches and one inch deep, inside measurement. To the sides of the pan are fastened the supports which fit over the radiator.

These supports are made of the same material as the pan and are one and one fourth inches wide by six inches long. They are fastened to the sides of the pan and to a strip of metal the same width (one and one fourth inches) which goes down the sides and across the bottom of the pan. These are riveted and soldered to the pan. The lower extremities of the supports are bent in the center line to fit more closely to the coils of the radiator for support. The edges of the pan and the legs are turned over five sixteenths of an inch to do away with sharp and rough edges (plate 1).



The pan is one inch deep in order that a glass plate may be fitted to make a smooth and level surface at the bottom below the rim of the pan. The rim or sides of the pan are to hold the slides in place. Five sixteenths of any inch plate glass is used. This is a means of tempering or evenly distributing the heat to all parts of the plate. It does not require much time to heat and retains the heat. Tests showed that the variations in temperature of the center and the sides were only one or two degrees Centigrade.

This slide drying plate does not get too hot for all ordinary drying purposes. Tests which were made averaged the following degrees of temperature with the room temperature between 21°-24° C. or 70°-75° F.

Centigrade	Fahrenheit
45°-55°	113°-131°

The capacity of this plate is forty-six slides.

The advantage of this as used with a steam radiator is that it can be left there and no regulation of the intensity of heat is necessary. The cost of this device is very little as compared to the various types on the market to-day and any tinsmith can manufacture this piece of apparatus. Many modifications are possible to fit one's needs.

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