Crowe[5] and more recently additional evidence to support the theory has been reported by Hughson and Witting.[6] True, it would seem unlikely that the cochlear aqueduct was of sufficient size to function in this "safety valve" capacity.

In all but one of the animals tested the bulla and middle ear on the operated side were entirely clear when examined at autopsy. In one case granulations filled both the middle ear and bulla, making the improved transmission of all frequencies even more remarkable.

CONCLUSIONS

(1) Experiments designed to obstruct the cochlear aqueduct in cats have resulted in a marked increase in the intensity of spoken voice and pure tones transmitted by the operated ear.

(2) Without histologic proof of actual occlusion withdrawal of fluid from the labyrinth and the resulting decrease in efficiency of the ear by intravenous injection of a hypertonic NaCl solution has been definitely obviated by the experimental procedure.

WALTER HUGHSON

THE JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICAL SCHOOL

A SIMPLE METHOD FOR MAKING LOW-POWER PHOTOMICROGRAPHS

SEVERAL days ago it became necessary to make a series of low magnification photomicrographs of insect dissections. Believing that other organizations may be in the same financial position as we are and in need of such an apparatus prompts me to describe it. It was made from materials found in the laboratory and cost only a little time.

An ordinary student's microscope is mounted upside down on a vertical iron rod by means of two condenser clamps. Above it is similarly fixed a 300 watt gas-filled electric lamp. A housing that might be used for projection drawing is fashioned of a light wooden frame and beaver board. The measurements of this box are 12″ high by 24″ by 18″ with the bottom and the 24″ front open. A hole cut into the center of the top fits snugly around the microscope tube. As the device now stands it may be used as a small demonstration projector for class work or for making projection drawing.

To convert it into a camera all that is needed is a blanket or a large piece of black oilcloth. We used three regular rubberized laboratory aprons. The operator sits in the position to make a projection drawing and envelops himself and the open side of the housing with the dark cloth. The plates used are Eastman Slow Lantern Slide Positives. The plate holder is an empty lantern slide plate box. The procedure is simple. The slide is focused on a piece of paper as for drawing. The closed lantern slide box containing a plate emulsion side up is moved into place and the light turned off. The cover of the box is then removed and the light again turned on for the duration of the exposure. The cover is then replaced and the slide taken to the dark room for development.

We found that so long as the operator was unable to read the lettering on the box cover the interior of the "camera" was safe for these plates. Satisfactory negatives were made with the following combinations and exposures.

Objective	Ocular	Projection distance	Exposure
16 mm	7.5×	11 inches	20 sec.
Zeiss a_2 3×	7.5×	11 inches	2 sec.

F. MARTIN BROWN
LEIGH E. CHADWICK

COLORADO BIOLOGICAL SURVEY
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

SELENITE—A CRITERION OF EFFECTIVE WIND SCOUR

THE future student who explores the intricacies of geomorphic literature will, according to his nature, be amused or exasperated in comparing Lang's note "Selenite Not a Certain Indicator of Wind Effect"[1] with our note published four years earlier[2] entitled "Selenite Fragments or Crystals as Criteria of Wind Action."

We hold that laboratory experiment in sandblasting produces a frosted surface on selenite so quickly that "it is inconceivable that bright selenite fragments could exist in an area having effective action by wind-blown sand." We suggest that selenite surfaces are dulled by solution within a few years in the climates prevailing in most parts of the United States where such fragments are found on the surface. Yet even this is a long time compared to the few minutes necessary for frosting by the sand blast. Therefore the presence of such fragments on the surface may be used as indicative of the general absence of effective wind scour.

[5] See note 2.

[6] Walter Hughson and E. G. Witting, *Acta Oto-Laryngologica* (in press).

[1] Walter B. Lang, SCIENCE, 80: 117–118, August 3, 1934.

[2] Walter H. Schoewe and Kirk Bryan, SCIENCE, 72: 167–170, 1930.