

the slightest evidence that the academy ever did such a thing as Ball claims.

On the contrary, the academy bestowed upon Gauss at an early age the highest academic honors.

The record of the French Academy is clear and all in favor of Gauss.

ARNOLD EMCH

LEEUWENHOEK LETTERS

SOME American libraries and collections may possess letters written by and to Antony van Leeuwenhoek; and photographic copies of such letters are be-

ing sought by the Royal Academy of Sciences of Amsterdam, which is preparing a critical edition of Leeuwenhoek's correspondence. A list covering about 100 missing items is published in the appeal of Dr. G. van Rijnberk in *Nederl. Tijdsch. v. Geneeskunde*, December 1, 1934.

Readers knowing of such letters in America are asked to communicate the information to Dr. van Rijnberk, or to the undersigned.

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SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

AN EXTRACTOR USING A SOLUTION OF VOLATILE AND NON-VOLATILE PHASES

UNLIKE most extractors which are limited in their use to volatile solvents, a simple device is suggested which extracts with a solution consisting of one volatile phase and one or more non-volatile phases. Its success is due to the fact that if the vapor-disengagement area is sufficiently reduced, entrained solution is carried with the vapor.

A flask (Fig. 1) is filled with solution to a single

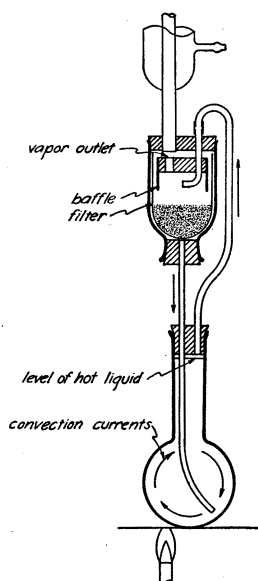


FIG. 1

small outlet. When boiled, vapor and solution are carried up to the filter. A baffle separates the vapor from the liquid. The return of the liquid through the filter to the bottom of the flask is facilitated by convection currents caused by heating the flask on one side.

The process is continuous and the velocity is controlled entirely by the amount of heat supplied.

Larger quantities of liquid may be delivered to the filter than by condensate devices, since only a small part of the liquid has to be vaporized. This device may also extract by condensate alone by simply lowering the level of the liquid in the flask, thus increasing the disengagement area.

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A SIMPLE METHOD FOR OBSERVATION OF CIRCULATION IN THE WEB OF THE FROG'S FOOT

CIRCULATION of blood in the web of the frog's foot may be observed very clearly if the spread foot is strapped over the hole in the frog board with a strip of wet Cellophane secured to the board by thumb tacks (Fig. 1). The preparation is more quickly made than

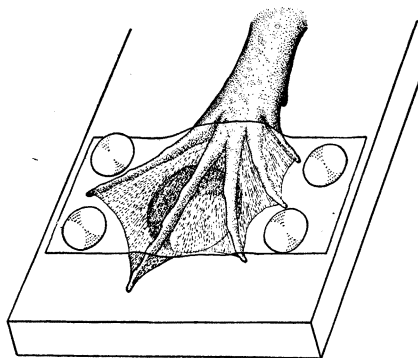


FIG. 1

are preparations in which the foot is spread by tying the toes, and is superior in a number of other respects. Since the animal is relatively comfortable, movements of the foot are reduced to a minimum. The web may be kept moist by occasional moistening of the Cellophane, or by introducing a film of water between the web and the Cellophane. Since the web is relatively flat, a good picture may be obtained with the 4 as well as with the 16 millimeter objective, without the use of