tinue studies on the measurement of the effective height of the Kennelly-Heaviside layers.

CHARLES PALACHE, professor of mineralogy, to continue work on revision of Dana's "System of Mineralogy."

HUGH M. RAUP, research associate in the Arnold Arboretum, to continue the investigation of the systematic and geographic botany of the subarctic Mackenzie River basin in northwestern Canada.

ALBERT SAUVEUR, professor of metallurgy and metallography, COMFORT A. ADAMS, professor of engineering, and JACOB P. DEN HARTOG, assistant professor of applied mechanics, for the study of metallurgical and stress problems of welding and stress relieving.

DONALD SCOTT, director of the Peabody Museum, to permit the Peabody Museum to cooperate with the Division of Anthropology in an expedition to Kashmir and the Tibetan border.

HARLOW SHAPLEY, director of the Harvard College Observatory, and DONALD H. MENZEL, assistant professor of astronomy, for an expedition headed by Dr. Donald H. Menzel to observe the Siberian total eclipse June 19, 1936.

JABEZ C. STREET, instructor in physics, to study the production of induced radioactivity by neutrons and the disintegration of atomic nuclei by protons and deutons.

RICHARD P. STRONG, professor of tropical medicine, to prepare illustrations for the monograph—"Onchocerciasis, with Special Reference to the Central American Form of the Disease."

YELLAPRAGADA SUBBAROW, Austin teaching fellow in biological chemistry, to isolate and investigate the structure of substances in liver which are active in pellagra and pernicious anemia, and which cause reticulocytosis in guinea pigs.

MORGAN UPTON, assistant professor of general physiology, to study the integrative action of the central nervous system by means of experiments on the binaural localization of sound.

WILLIAM F. WELLS, instructor in sanitation, to study the effect of ventilation factors on the viability and dispersion of bacteria and other living elements in air.

JOHN H. WELSH, JR., instructor in zoology, and FENNER A. CHACE, JR., assistant curator of marine invertebrates, to study the eyes of deep-water crustaceans.

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

A SIMPLE DEVICE FOR THE RAPID OBSERVATION OF OBJECTS IN LATERAL AND VENTRAL VIEWS

THE necessity of observing all surfaces of amphibian eggs with the least amount of manipulation has resulted in the development of several devices.[1,2] The simple apparatus here described has the advantages of being inexpensive and of requiring only about 25 minutes to make or repair; it is not easily damaged. In rapid succession one may obtain lateral or ventral views, or both simultaneously.

A diagrammatic section through the device is shown in Fig. 1. It consists of a solid, rectangular block of paraffin (*b*), in one side of which is excavated a chamber just large enough to hold firmly the two juxtaposed 90° prisms (p^1 and p^2), which are cemented in place with a warm scalpel. The upper face of one prism (p^1) forms the floor of a reservoir (*r*) into which is placed the object (*e*) to be observed. The walls of this reservoir are composed of paraffin on three sides, the fourth being formed by the upper portion of the external prism (p^2). Ventral views (*vv*) or lateral views (*lv*) or both simultaneously may be obtained by simply altering the position of the device with reference to the microscopic objective (*ob*). The floor of the reservoir (*r*) may be made perfectly level by planing thin strips from the lower surface of the paraffin block.

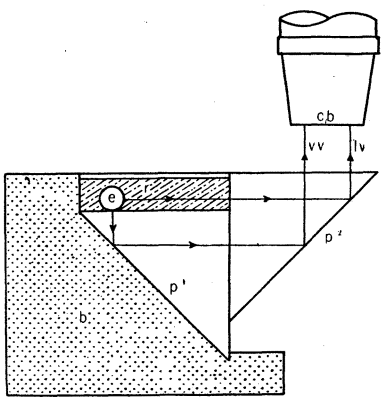

FIG. 1

[1] J. F. Daniel and A. B. Burch, *Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool.*, 39: 201, 1933.

[2] A. M. Schechtman, *Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool.*, 39: 303, 1934.

A. M. SCHECHTMAN

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES

A MICROTOME KNIFE HOLDER FOR SAFETY RAZOR BLADES [1]

CONSIDERABLE difficulty has been experienced in using the razor blade holders commercially obtainable. The blade is not held sufficiently rigidly to permit of fine sectioning. The razor blades available seem to have quite as good an edge as the ordinary microtome knife and are, of course, much less expensive. Cham-

[1] From the laboratories of insect physiology and toxicology, Division of Entomology and Parasitology, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.