

(1) A uniform suspension, avoiding sediment, may be selected, since the whole pipette is in full view of the operator, instead of in distorted myopic perspective.

(2) There can be neither infection *per os* of a careless or fatigued technician nor spattering of drops on floor or bench top.

(3) Uniform delivery of uniform dosage is made directly into the disinfectant solution without spattering and without loss on sides of test-tubes.

(4) No organisms can be left on the sides of the medication tube where they might escape immediate and complete contact with the test solution.

(5) Time ordinarily consumed in needful caution when using a pipette in the ordinary way and in the multiple motions for positioning tube and pipette is made available for useful attention to precision of technique.

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AN INEXPENSIVE MAGNIFIER FOR READING FILM COPIES OF SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

SINCE the library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been distributing copies of papers in the form of film copies, there has been considerable ingenuity shown in various institutions to find some method of reading them. A recent paper,¹ for instance, reports the use of a binocular dissecting microscope for this purpose.

It is now pretty well known that there is a magnifier for this purpose on the market and that a special projector is being developed for rendering the films easier to read than with the use of the magnifier. To the writer it seems as if the ideal method for any institution to arrange for reading these films received by its members would be to have a projector in some central place, designed for use in careful study, and a magnifier intended for more superficial perusal available to each member of the staff who would be likely to receive articles sent out in this form. The present cost of the magnifiers, however, might make this out of the question in some institutions.

For this reason it was with much interest that a still cheaper magnifier already on the market (price \$1) was recently observed. This magnifier is ordinarily sold as a sort of toy and designed for looking with both eyes at stereoscopic views of pictures put out by the company manufacturing the magnifier. The magnifier is sold under the trade name "Tru-vue" and is a product of the Rock Island Bridge and Iron Works,

Rock Island, Illinois. The films that the company supplies for use with this magnifier are standard 35 mm cinema films, the same as used for the film-stat reproductions. Accordingly, the latter can be used in this "Tru-vue" magnifier by simply blocking up one eye-hole in it so that one is not looking at one page with one eye and at another page with the other.

The magnification thus secured is less than with the magnifier designed especially for reading these films, and no focusing is possible. The "Tru-vue" magnifier is set in focus for use with normal eyes, and as a result a far-sighted or near-sighted person can not use it except with his glasses in addition. The writer has had a number of different individuals try it, however, and although some have experienced more difficulty than others in reading the text, no one has proved unable to do so if he also used properly fitted glasses and had sufficient illumination.

Although this magnifier is not as perfect, therefore, as the one put on the market for this particular purpose, it has two advantages over the latter: first, its low price; and second, the fact that it is so small that it can be carried in a pocket or handbag. This latter feature should make it of use to travelers who wish to carry a film collection of articles with them.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

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- DAVIS, HAROLD T. *Tables of the Higher Mathematical Functions.* Vol. II. Pp. xiii + 391. Principia Press.
- DUNCAN, JOHN C. *Astronomy.* Third edition. Pp. xvii + 448. 183 figures. 67 plates. Harper. \$3.75.
- DUPONT, G. *Cours de Chimie Industrielle.* Tome I: *Généralités—Les Combustibles.* Pp. vi + 184. 121 figures. 35 fr. Tome II: *Les Industries Minérales.* Pp. 337. 142 figures. 55 fr. Gauthier-Villars, Paris.
- GREENE, EUNICE C. *Anatomy of the Rat.* Vol. XXVII, New Series, Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. Pp. 370. 339 figures. The Society, Philadelphia.
- LEENHARDT, MAURICE. *Vocabulaire et Grammaire de la Langue Houailou.* Travaux et Mémoires de l'Institut d'Ethnologie—X, Université de Paris. Institut d'Ethnologie, Paris. 125 fr.
- LISON, L. *Histochimie Animale; Méthodes et Problèmes.* Pp. vi + 320. Gauthier-Villars, Paris. 50 fr.
- SCHLEICH, CARL L. *Those Were Good Days.* Translated from the German by BERNARD MIALL. Pp. 280. Illustrated. Norton. \$3.50.
- SEIFRIZ, WILLIAM. *Protoplasm.* Pp. viii + 584. 179 figures. McGraw-Hill. \$6.00.
- SNYDER, THOMAS E. *Our Enemy, the Termite.* Pp. xii + 196. 56 figures. Comstock. \$3.00.
- SPERANSKY, A. D. *A Basis for the Theory of Medicine.* Pp. 452. 23 figures. 46 plates. International Publishers, New York. \$4.00.
- VAN WERT, LELAND R. *An Introduction to Physical Metallurgy.* Pp. xi + 272. 177 figures. McGraw-Hill. \$3.00.
- WHITE, WILLIAM A. *20th Century Psychiatry.* Pp. 198. Norton. \$2.00.

¹ G. R. Coatney, *SCIENCE*, 82: 105, 1935.