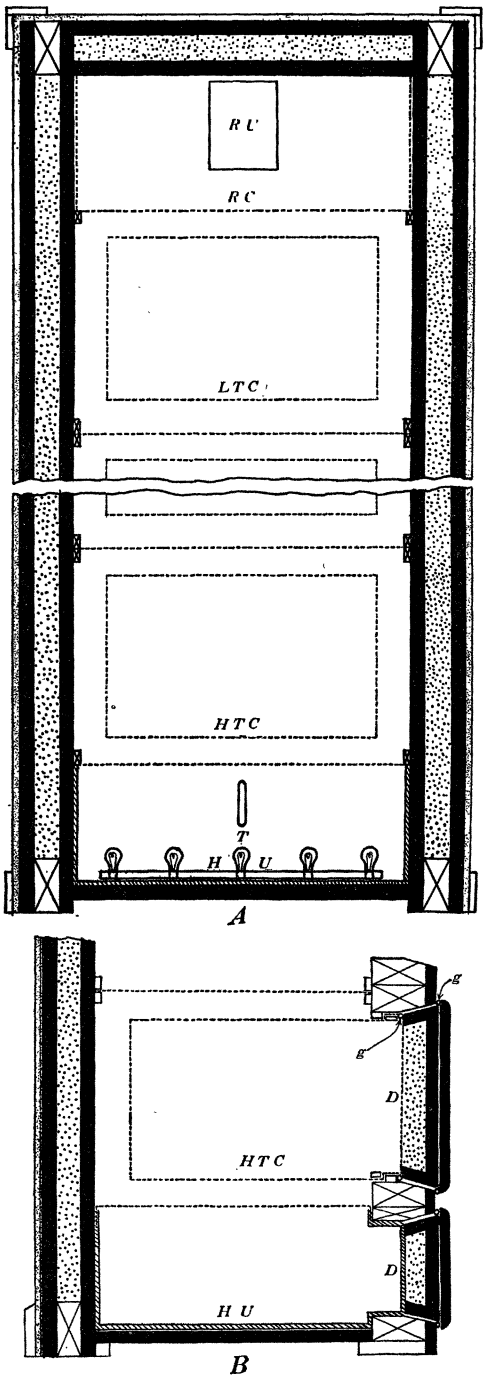

FIG. 1. Apparatus used to maintain a series of constant temperatures. A, optical section as seen from in front (middle portion omitted); B, optical section as seen from the side (upper portion omitted); heavy black lines, wood boards ⅞ inch thick; fine stipple, celotex sheet ½ inch thick; X, wood frame; coarse stipple, sheet cork 2.5 inches thick; cross hatch, asbestos board ¼ inch thick; broken lines, 14 oz. hard red copper sheet; H U, heating unit; T, electric thermo regulator; H T C, high temperature compartment; L T C, low temperature compartment; R C, refrigerating compartment; R U, refrigerating unit; D, door; g, gasket.

The apparatus was built by the university carpenter and plumber. It cost complete approximately $600. That was in 1928. The cost would now be considerably less, and this could be reduced by reducing the size and the number of compartments.

It would be advantageous to have the height of the heating and the refrigerating compartment the same as that of the other compartments and to have side doors of the same size on all, with the view of using the heating and the refrigerating compartments, as well as the other compartments, for experimental purposes.

S. O. MAST

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

A NEW COVER FOR CULTURE JARS

IN some water-culture experiments with seedlings, recently carried out at the University of Pennsylvania, the tall 500-ml Pyrex beakers used as culture jars were fitted with a new form of cover that has advantages over covers previously used for such experiments. As shown in the accompanying figure, these were Pyrex Petri-dish covers, perforated and annealed by the university glass-blower. The size and number

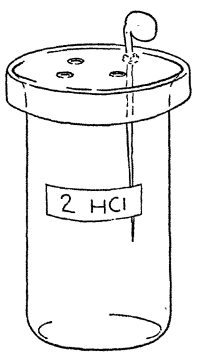

FIG. 1. Culture jar with glass top and one seedling in place.

of holes were determined by the size and number of seedlings to be used. Cotton was sometimes used where the seedling passed through the perforation, to aid in supporting the plant in an upright position. Convenient to handle and easily cleaned, these covers support no bacterial growth, and they practically prevent contamination of the culture solution.

RUTH BEALL

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A LABORATORY SUGGESTION

THE slightly greasy film of dirt which microscopic slides acquire after having been put away for several months can be very easily removed with "Windex," a preparation sold for washing windows.

JOHN FRANKLIN HUBER

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