

from the top to the bottom, helps to guide the fluid down and prevents it from clogging the narrow tube and enclosing air bubbles.) By completely exposing the vein to a length of 2-5 cm and using a canula with a fairly narrow opening, blood is prevented from entering the canula. The height of the fluid column is determined by venous pressure and canula resistance and obviously does not influence the inflow from the pipette into the open tube. Incidentally, since it follows venous pressure changes, it might be used to indicate a sharp endpoint in the digitalis assay; the ceasing of the heart action, by increasing the venous pressure, suddenly raises the fluid level; this is followed by a drop, representing the complete arrest of the heart.

The reservoir, which is a burette used as Mariotte-bottle and thus delivers under nearly constant pressure, and the pipette are clamped to one stand, which by means of a rack and pinion can be raised or lowered. The pipette is shortened by cutting it off at the zero level, where it is ground with emery. Its height is adjusted so that it is completely filled from the reservoir without overflowing, the surface tension provided by the dry, ground top preventing the fluid from leaving the lumen even when the air-inlet tube of the reservoir is somewhat above the zero level of the pipette. This preparation of the pipette eliminates a slightly inaccurate filling which would otherwise occasionally occur from the inflow disturbance caused by the air bubbles entering the Mariotte-burette. The venous inflow tube is clamped to a second stand, at a height determined by the position of the animal. The position of reservoir and pipette above the entrance point of the fluid into the inflow tube determines the emptying level of the pipette, which is easily adjusted by turning the pinion, with the motor running. The level to which the pipette empties represents the amount of fluid per "stroke" which, together with the number of revolutions of the stopcock, determines the amount infused per minute. (A revolution counter, driven by the stopcock, allows of calculating the total amount infused at any given time more accurately than can be done by reading the burette level.) The synchronous motor (Telechron, C2M) has one r.p.m. of the shaft, which, by means of two gears, drives the stopcock at 3 r.p.m.; this makes for 6 infusions per minute, which are more or less leveled out in the glass tube. The accuracy of the pump depends solely on the accuracy of the pipette. For our purposes, a "Kahn pipette" (0.2 ml, calibrated in 0.001 ml) is being used.

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## AN EASY METHOD FOR MAKING AN INDEX

RECENTLY confronted again with the odious task of preparing an index for a book of more than a hun-

dred pages, I sought for an easier method than writing the entries on twenty-six sheets lettered A to Z and then alphabetizing each sheet. I also wanted a less expensive and time-absorbing technique than using a separate filing card for each entry. The plan hit upon worked very well. Sheets of typewriter paper were fed into the typewriter. On each with double spacing were typed the needed entries, starting each entry on a new line:

Light for photosynthesis .....	95
Photosynthesis, light for .....	95
Transpired water .....	96
Water, transpired .....	96

With a photographic trimmer, the lines were later chopped apart and sorted into piles A to Z. A roll of Scotch tape was then partly unrolled, placed on the opposite side of the work table with the unwound part toward me, adhesive face up. The Z slips were arranged alphabetically and pressed to the nearer end of the tape, starting with the last of the group. Next the Y slips, and so on. The tape was later cut between slips at about eleven-inch intervals and made satisfactory copy for typing out the complete index, starting at Aa, the last slip fastened in place.

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

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- JONES, INIGO. *The Climate of Australia during the Hypothetical Jovian Sunspot Cycle, 1913-1924, together with the Monthly and Annual Rainfall Observations*. Ninth Paper of the Crohamhurst Observatory. Pp. 111. The Observatory, Brisbane.
- SMALL, LYNDON F. and others. *Studies on Drug Addiction with Special Reference to Chemical Structure of Opium Derivatives and Allied Synthetic Substances and their Physiological Action; Supplement No. 138, Public Health Reports*. Pp. viii + 143. Illustrated. Superintendent of Documents, Washington. \$0.60.
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- TRAUB, HAMILTON P., Editor. *Herbertia, Volume 5*. Pp. 218. 2 figures. 34 plates. American Amaryllis Society, Orlando, Florida.
- VOKES, HAROLD E. *Molluscan Faunas of the Domingine and Arroyo Hondo Formations of the California Eocene; Vol. XXXVIII of the Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*. January 4, 1939. Pp. iii + 246. The Academy.