Catalogue Corner

Please write directly to the company indicated for any publication you wish mentioning the bulletin number and *Science*. Publications are gratis unless otherwise noted.

Darkfield Quebec colony counter. A new, improved design of the Spencer Darkfield Quebec Colony Counter is now available. The front surface is inclined at an angle found to be most convenient to the average technician. An auxiliary tilting base can, however, be supplied when there is an individual preference for further adjustment. The scientifically designed reflector provides illumination, free from glare, uniform over the entire field, and adequately bright to reveal and distinguish small colonies from other structures. Emphasis has been laid on correct illumination to facilitate counting and to reduce fatigue. The 4½-inch lens, mounted on a sliding rod for focusing purposes, has the standard 1.5X magnification specified by the American Public Health Association. It is so positioned that errors from parallax are avoided. If required, additional magnifications can be provided by the addition of an auxiliary lens. When not in use, the lens and mount may be pushed down and out of the way. Wolffhiegel, Steward, and Jeffers guide plates are available. Centering screws are provided so that a Petri dish may be positioned when circular ruled plates are used. *Brochure M–84 246 SC–51.* American Optical Company, Scientific Instrument Division, Buffalo, N. Y.

New portable stroboscope. Model 1210, the newly developed stroboscope of Communication Measurements Laboratory, employs a novel circuit arrangement, using a self-blocking oscillator. Rotary or vibratory motion can be "stopped" when the moving object is examined with stroboscopic light source. The speed covered is from 600 to 48,000 r.p.m. (10–800 cycles per second), in four ranges. A synchronized reed is provided for accurate calibration against the line frequency. All four scales can easily and quickly be calibrated within – 3 per cent.

The light source is contained in a probe attached to a four-foot flexible cable. This feature makes CML 1210 useful when using the stroboscopic light in small out-of-the-way places. The light probe and cable are housed in the cabinet when the stroboscope is not in use. CML 1210 weighs only 19½ pounds and is housed in a compact cabinet, $10\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. *Descriptive Bulletin SC–51* may be obtained from Communication Measurements Laboratory, 120 Greenwich Street, New York 6, N. Y.

Resistance measuring instrument. A four-page bulletin has just been issued by James G. Biddle Company, describing three different types of their "Megger" instruments for measuring low resistance. These include the "Bridge-Meg" Resistance Tester—a combination Wheatstone Bridge and "Megger" Insulation Tester; the "Ducter" Low Resistance Ohmmeter, which operates by pointer deflection down to .000001 ohm; and the Midget "Megger" Circuit Testing Ohmmeter, which reads from a fraction of an ohm up to 200,000 ohms. Described in *Bulletin 1805 SC–51.* James G. Biddle Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sex endocrinology. The Schering Corporation has published an interesting and authoritative 88-page booklet on the history, chemistry, physiology, and therapeutic usage of the important hormones in modern medicine. It is profusely illustrated with informative diagrams and actual case photographs. The complexities of endocrinology are clarified, and the subject becomes readily understandable. *Sex endocrinology, Booklet SC–51.* Schering Corporation, Bloomfield, N. J.

Experimental dehydration unit. National Research Corporation is now manufacturing a small dehydration unit, Type 3501, for use in the laboratory or in pilot production. This unit is a complete unit for the desiccation or concentration of heat-sensitive biologicals, antibiotics, food products, and fine chemicals. The pumping system consists of a two-inch oil diffusion pump backed by a 12.5 c.f.m. mechanical pump, which is also used for roughing. Time required to pump down to 200 microns of Hg from atmospheric pressure is four minutes, and the blank-off is 1 micron or less. Water vapor is handled by a carbon dioxide and acetone (or alcohol) cold trap with a capacity of four pounds of ice. Three thermocouple gauges, at the fore pump, diffusion pump, and cabinet, indicate vacuum conditions. Provision for four thermocouples in the cabinet permits control of heat input. All controls and gauges are located on a central control panel.

The drying cabinet measures $16 \times 16 \times 24$ inches, and it is possible to connect larger containers to the system by means of four outside nipples. The cabinet is equipped with three adjustable shelves electrically heated with a controllable input of 1 kw. For complete details request *Release 3501 SC–51.* National Research Corporation, Boston 15, Mass.

Miniature thyratron. A new miniature thyratron measuring only 2⅛ inches and mounted in a T–5½ bulb, suitable for many electronic control applications where equipment must be compact, portable, or light-weight, has been announced by Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., Radio Tube Division. The tube may be operated in any position and is not affected by ambient temperature. Typical ratings and characteristics of the type 6D4 miniature thyratron are as follows: heater voltage, a–c or d–c, 6.3 volts; heater current, 250 milliamperes; maximum voltage between elements, 450 volts; heating time, 30 seconds; maximum peak anode current, 100 milliamperes; maximum heater-cathode, voltage, – 100 volts, + 25 volts. Write for *Information Sheet SC–51.* Electronics Division, Sylvania Electric Products, Inc., 500 Fifth Avenue, New York 18, N. Y.