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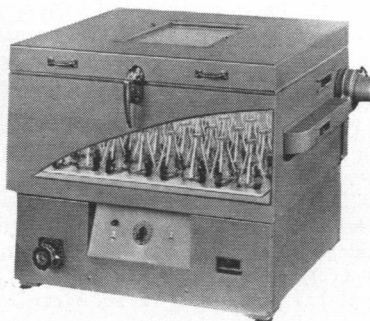
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11-13. American Meteorological Soc., Monterey, Calif. (K. C. Spengler, AMS, 3 Joy St., Boston 8, Mass.)

11-15. Ionization Phenomena in Gases, 3rd internatl. conf., Venice, Italy. (U. Facchini, Laboratori CISE, Via Procaccini 1, Milan, Italy.)

12-15. Colloquium of College Physicists, 19th annual, Iowa City, Iowa. (J. A. Van Allen, Dept. of Physics, State Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City.)

16-20. American Soc. of Mammalogists, annual, Lawrence, Kansas. (B. P. Glass, Dept. of Zoology, Oklahoma A&M. College, Stillwater.)

16-21. American Soc. for Testing Materials, Atlantic City, N.J. (R. J. Painter, ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia 3.)

17-19. American Neurological Assoc., Atlantic City, N.J. (C. Rupp, 133 S. 36 St., Philadelphia 4, Pa.)

17-19. Astronomical Soc. of the Pacific, annual, Flagstaff, Ariz. (S. Einarsson, Univ. of California, Berkeley 4.)

17-19. Health Physics Soc., 3rd annual, Pittsburgh, Pa. (H. W. Patterson, Radiation Lab., Univ. of California, Berkeley.)

17-19. Military Electronics, national convention, Washington, D.C. (G. Rapaport, Emerson Radio & Phonograph Corp., 701 Lamont St., NW, Washington 10.)

17-20. Carbon Conf., 3rd, Buffalo, N.Y. (Carbon Conf., Univ. of Buffalo, Buffalo.)

17-20. Institute of Aeronautical Sciences, natl. summer, Los Angeles, Calif. (S. P. Johnston, IAS, 2 E. 64 St., New York 21.)

17-21. American Soc. for Engineering Education, annual, Ithaca, N.Y. (W. L. Collins, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana.)

17-21. Association of Official Seed Analysts, annual, Baton Rouge, La. (L. C. Shenberger, Seed Lab., Dept. of Agricultural Chemistry, Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind.)

17-21. Canadian Medical Assoc., 90th annual, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. (CMA, 244 George St., Toronto, Ont.)

17-22. Coordination of Galactic Research, internatl. symp., Stockholm, Sweden. (P. T. Oosterhoff, University Observatory, Leiden, Netherlands.)

17-21. Internal Combustion Engine Cong., 4th internatl., Zurich, Switzerland. (C. C. M. Logan, British National Committee, 6 Grafton St., London, W.1.)

17-28. Wear Theory in Metal Cutting and Bearing Design, special summer program, Cambridge, Mass. (Massachusetts Inst. of Technology, Cambridge 39.)

19-21. Association for Computing Machinery, annual, Houston, Tex. (J. Moshman, ACM, 2 E. 63 St., New York 21.)

20-22. American Assoc. of Physics Teachers, annual, Schenectady, N.Y. (F. Verbrugge, School of Physics, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis.)

20-22. American Physical Soc., Notre Dame, Ind. (K. K. Darrow, APS, Columbia Univ., New York 27.)

20-22. Soc. of Nuclear Medicine, 4th annual, Oklahoma City, Okla. (R. Lackey, SNM, 452 Metropolitan Bldg., Denver, Colo.)

21-23. American Assoc. of Bioanalysts,

annual, New Orleans, La. (G. Hoffman, 3707 Gaston, Suite 419, Dallas, Tex.)

22-28. American Soc. of Medical Technologists, annual, Chicago, Ill. (Miss R. Matthaei, ASMT, Suite 25, Hermann Professional Bldg., Houston 25, Tex.)

23-26. American Soc. of Agricultural Engineers, E. Lansing, Mich. (J. L. Butt, ASAE, St. Joseph, Mich.)

23-28. American Physical Therapy Assoc., annual, Detroit, Mich. (Miss M. E. Haskell, APTA, 1790 Broadway, New York 19.)

23-28. National Assoc. of Power Engineers, natl., Grand Rapids, Mich. (E. J. Schuetz, NAPE, 176 W. Adams St., Chicago 3, Ill.)

23-29. American Library Assoc., annual, Kansas City, Kans. (D. H. Clift, ALA Hq., 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11.)

23-30. Rheumatic Diseases, 9th internatl. cong., in conjunction with American Rheumatism Assoc., Toronto, Ont., Canada. (E. Dunlop, Box 237, Terminal "A," Toronto.)

24-26. Aging, 10th conf., Ann Arbor, Mich. (Div. of Gerontology, Univ. of Michigan, Rackham Bldg., Ann Arbor.)

24-26. American Soc. of Heating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Murray Bay, Quebec, Canada. (A. V. Hutchinson, ASHAE, 62 Worth St., New York 13.)

24-27. Agricultural Inst. of Canada, with six other Canadian agricultural socs., annual, Vancouver, B.C. (W. J. Anderson, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Univ. of British Columbia, Vancouver.)

(See issue of 19 April for comprehensive list)

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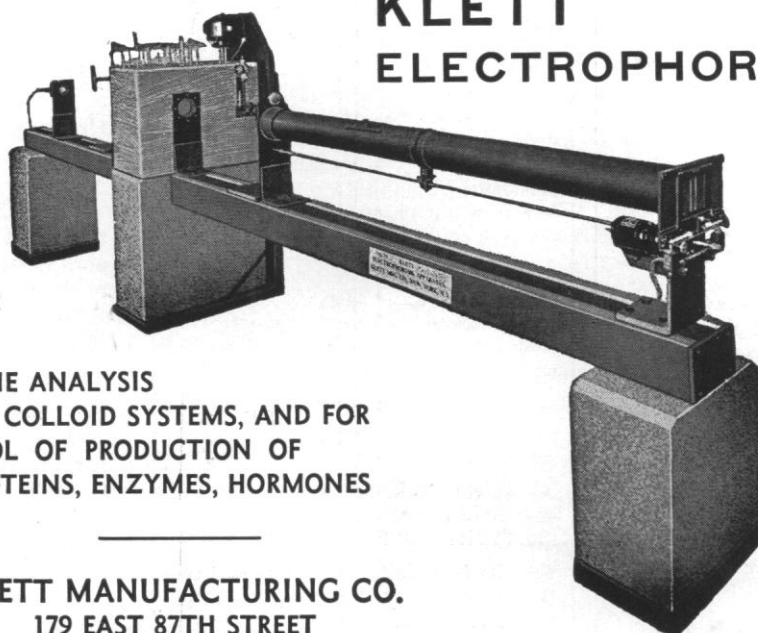
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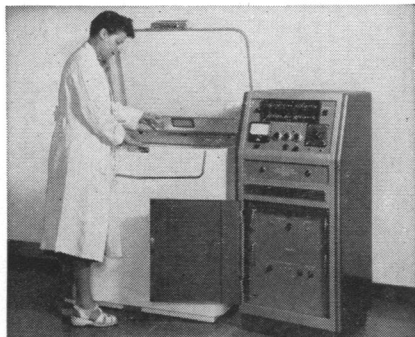
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For additional general information request Bulletin 314. For specific information on your requirements, provide application details.

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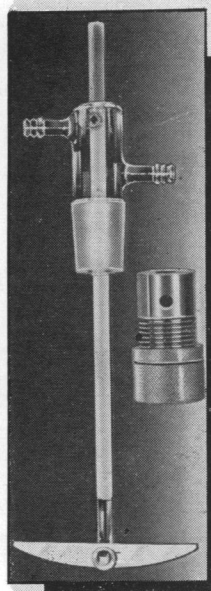
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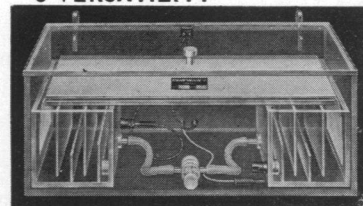
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Russell W. Bunting, School of Dentistry, University of Michigan.

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LETTERS

The editors take no responsibility for the content of the letters published in this section. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Letters intended for publication should be typewritten double-spaced and submitted in duplicate. A letter writer should indicate clearly whether or not his letter is submitted for publication. For additional information, see Science 124, 249 (1956) and 125, 16 (4 Jan. 1957).

"Living" Molecule

G. W. Beadle's recent suggestion [*Science* 125, 9 (1957)] that nucleic acids might be regarded as the first "living" molecule presents an opportunity to re-emphasize the fact that such interesting speculations must still be regarded as highly controversial. It would be unfortunate if too little theoretical and experimental consideration continues to be given to alternate views (i) that genes are recent [C. C. Lindegren, *Nature* 176, 1244 (1955); *N.Y. Acad. Sci.* (Dec. 1956)] rather than primary, and (ii) that they may act, to a large extent by inhibiting a "totipotent" cytoplasm [W. Braun, *Science* 104, 38 (1946); B. Commoner, report at AAAS meeting (Dec. 1956)]. Bateson's [W. Bateson, *Problems of Genetics* (Yale Univ. Press, 1913)] and Goldschmidt's [R. B. Goldschmidt, *The Material Basis of Evolution* (Yale Univ. Press, 1940)] arguments that gene mutation per se does not afford a satisfactory explanation of evolution still remain to be answered.

CARL C. LINDEGREN
*Biological Research Laboratory,
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale*
WERNER BRAUN
*Institute of Microbiology, Rutgers
University, New Brunswick, New Jersey*

The Sick Feeling Remains

On 1 March, I learned, via your editorial [*Science* 125, 381 (1957)], all about triage. A little sober reflection eliminated the first waves of nausea, but the sick feeling remains. It is difficult to reconcile a civilized spirit with the science (if this is what it is) of triage.

This is not written in criticism of Ziperman or of DuShane; indeed, I thank you for introducing me to this macabre game. With a little imagination, we can envision the glorious band which has survived five or six consecutive disasters through the Machiavellian hand of the "sorting officer." Naturally, the "sorting officer" of the hostile power will have weeded out his necessary and superior crop. Thus the world (if there be one left) will be minus the everyday human flotsam and will be happily inhabited by those necessary to survival—including "sorting officers."

It is devoutly hoped that more time, energy, and diplomacy will be channeled into avoiding these "civilian disasters," so that triage and its disciples are left without a future.

ERIC WINSTON
7814 Provident Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Limited Attendance

There is a statement in "Social aspects of science" [*Science* 125, 145 (25 Jan. 1957)] to the effect that our recent Conference on the Practical Utilization of Recorded Knowledge found it necessary to hold parts of its deliberations behind closed doors and to refrain from publicizing the full record of these "confidential" sessions.

The sessions were not confidential, but rather attendance was limited to those in various subject areas who might contribute best to these sessions. As per plan, summaries of these sessions have been published in the book *Documentation in Action*, edited by Shera, Kent, and Perry (Reinhold, New York, 1956), which records the proceedings of the conference.

We believe that the technique of limiting attendance in certain types of meetings helps to stimulate discussion by spe-

cial interest groups who might otherwise be inhibited from presenting their views in public. This was indeed the case in these sessions.

ALLEN KENT
*Center for Documentation and
Communication Research, Western
Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio*

Damaging Rumor

The main part of your editorial "Scotching a damaging rumor" [*Science* 125, 7 (4 Jan. 1957)] is a letter from the State Department, the contents of which seem to be quite clear. Contrary to your belief, however, the letter will be considered by a great many people abroad as a definite confirmation of the absolute truth of the "damaging rumor."

The State Department definitely says that one visit may not be damaging—"Repeated visits . . . may raise a question as to the visa applicant's political affiliations."

This means that, whatever your reasons for visits to Moscow may be, you cannot, in the eyes of State, escape the red taint if you go there more than once.

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HANS F. MELDAHL
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The information reported here is obtained from manufacturers and from other sources considered to be reliable. Science does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information. All inquiries concerning items listed should be addressed to Science, Room 740, 11 W. 42 St., New York 36, N.Y. Include the name(s) of the manufacturer(s) and the department number(s).

■ **RC OSCILLATOR** covers the 20-cy to 20-kcy/sec range in a single dial sweep. Automatic sweep can thus be achieved for this range by equipping the instrument with a motor drive. Calibration of the oscillator is essentially logarithmic. Output is constant to within ± 1 db over the entire frequency range. Distortion is rated as less than 1 percent at all frequencies. Output voltage is 20 v on open circuit or 10 v into a 600-ohm load. (Hewlett-Packard Co., Dept. S257)

■ **LIQUID-LEVEL SWITCH** uses radioactivity to sense level. A beta source is separated from a Geiger-counter detector by the liquid. The electric signal corresponding to the change in radiation is amplified to actuate a relay, which operates controls or alarm signals. Accuracy is ± 0.1 in., and response time is 0.05 sec. (Robertshaw-Fulton Controls Co., Dept. S252)

■ **NULL DETECTOR** is battery operated to provide isolation from power lines. Sensitivity is 3 v for 1-percent deflection. Tuned circuits permit a sharp balance in the presence of harmonics. (Industrial Test Equipment Co., Dept. S320)

■ **LIQUID-METAL-LEVEL INDICATOR** is sensitive to 1-mm change in height. Measurement is made through the wall by means of a balanced inductance-bridge circuit. Adaptation to different wall thickness is made by varying the excitation frequency. Wall material must be nonmagnetic. (Nuclear Development Corp. of America, Dept. S295)

■ **MILLIVOLTMETER PYROMETERS** employ high-strength magnet material, printed circuits, and miniature tubes and relays to save panel space. Accuracy is ± 0.5 percent of instrument span, and sensitivity is 0.1 percent. Available are a two-position controller; a three-position, dual-index controller; a three-position, single-index controller; an oven temperature protector; a proportional output controller; a time-proportioning controller; and a millivoltmeter indicator. (General Electric Co., Dept. S301)

■ **CONDUCTIVITY METER** is designed for measurement of water quality. Ionic purity is indicated as NaCl content. Direct-indicating range is 0 to 50 ppm. (Crystal Research Laboratories, Inc., Dept. S300)

■ **INFRARED SPECTROPHOTOMETER**, a double-beam prism instrument, is designed for table-top use. Provision has been made to allow for differential analysis by addition of a fixed-slit mechanism, a variable-scan drive, and an a-c bias. A narrow-slit program device can be used in high-resolution studies. A recycling mechanism for kinetic studies is also available. (Baird-Atomic Inc., Dept. S324)

■ **VAPORIZER REGULATOR** is designed to convert into vapor liquid samples with boiling points up to 300°F and to regulate the pressure of the vapor to within ± 0.1 lb/in² gage. Pressure may be adjusted from 0 to 50 lb/in² gage. Heat for vaporization is supplied by steam. (Consolidated Electrodynamics Corp., Dept. S231)

■ **POLYETHYLENE BEAKERS** with a heat-distortion temperature of 250°F are available in capacities from 250 to 1000 ml. (American Agile Corp., Dept. S268)

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■ **FREQUENCY TRANSDUCER** accepts a sinusoidal signal of frequency from 0 to 600 cy/sec and provides either a voltage analog or a 10-mv positive pulse at 8 times the input frequency. The analog output is a 0- to 100-mv signal. Rise time is 10 msec for a 40 to 600 cy/sec step. (Fischer and Porter Co., Dept. S203)

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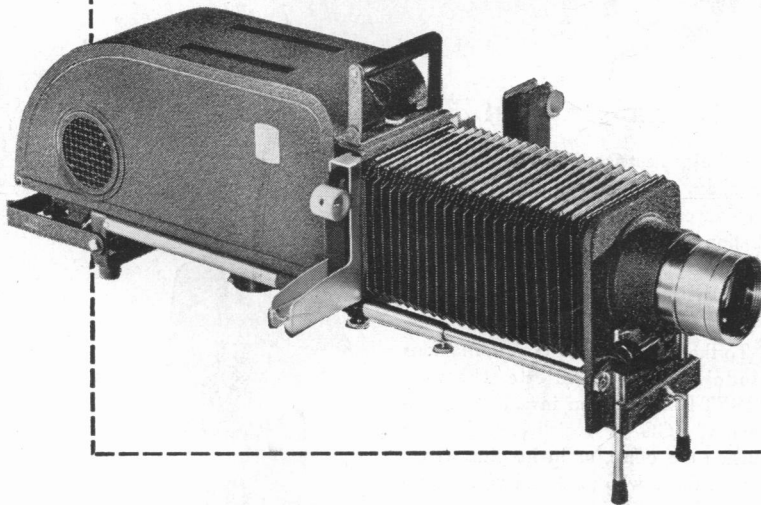
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