

Conventional procedures for the concentration of heat sensitive compounds, biological extracts and solvents of low volatility are outmoded by the BIRD "SPIN-VAC". By employing the principle of wetting the entire inner surface of the evaporating flask, a much larger evaporating surface is obtained. This feature, plus the applying of a negative pressure, greatly speeds evaporation.

A nickel plated brass shield with inner glass sleeve is rotated at approximately 75 rpm by means of a continuous duty series motor chain drive assembly. The speed can be varied by using an auxiliary speed control, such as a rheostat or variable transformer. The motor is iso-

lated from the evaporating unit by means of the chaindrive assembly thus minimizing the problem of heat transfer. Supplied complete with \$\mathbb{T}\$ adapter, glass connecting tube, support rod, clamp and one 1000 \$\mathbb{T}\$ 24/40 round bottom glass flask. Where lower speeds are desirable, variable speed control for operation on 115 volts is available.

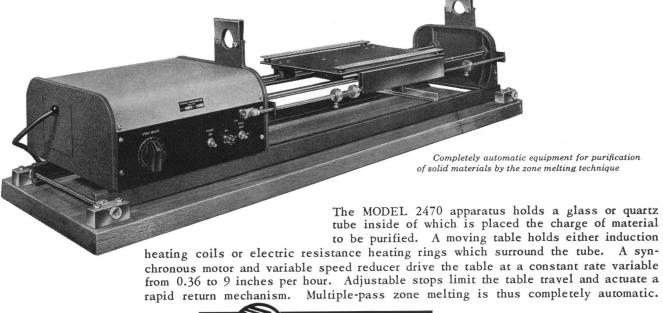
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Manufacturers & Distributors of Scientific Equipment

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The new RSCo MODEL 2470

## ZONE MELTING APPARATUS



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## Equipment

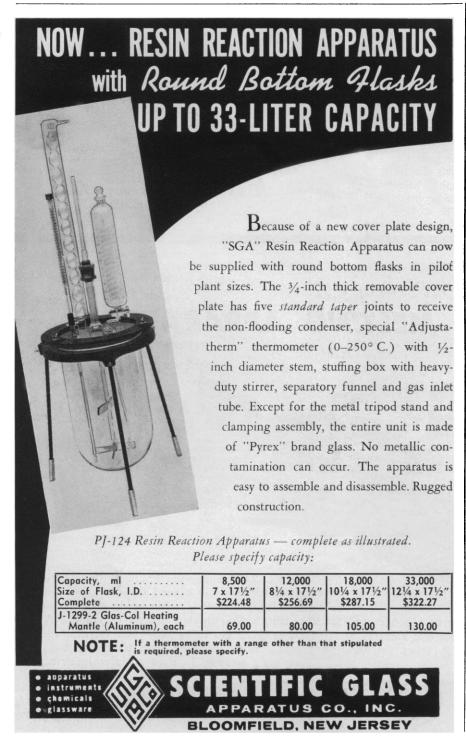
The information reported here is obtained from manufacturers and from other sources considered to be reliable. Science does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information. A coupon for use in making inquiries conconcerning the items listed appears on page 1406.

■ WATER DEMINERALIZER is portable and requires no electrical outlet for monitoring water purity. Flow of up to 60 gal/hr is delivered. A built-in water-purity indicator operates on a mercury battery. The unit is 9 in. in diameter and 23 in. high. (Comroe Laboratories, Dept. 104)

■ DIRECT-READING ATTACHMENT is interchangeable with the 20 in. camera of the manufacturer's 3-meter research spectrograph to permit rapid, direct read-out analysis on routine applications without interference with research use of the spectrograph. The attachment provides for simultaneous analysis of up to eight constituents, performing the analysis in less than 2 min. Resetting of the spectrograph to eight elements can be accomplished in less than 1 hour. Changes in alignment resulting from environmental changes are automatically compensated. (Baird-Atomic Inc., Dept. 84)

- ■BIOLOGICAL INACTIVATOR forms a smoothly flowing film of liquid by centrifugal force and continuously irradiates the flowing film with ultraviolet light. The apparatus is designed for vaccine production, but use for research in other fields such as food sterilization is suggested. (Spinco Division, Beckman Instruments Inc., Dept. 97)
- MICRO VAPOR-PRESSURE APPARATUS is based on the method devised by A. Y. Mottlau. The apparatus provides two identical vapor-pressure bulbs with mercury-sealed injection orifices. To perform a measurement, a bulb is evacuated, its pressure is measured, and a 1-cm<sup>3</sup> sample is injected. Four cubic centimeters of bulb volume remains as vapor space. The sample comes to equilibrium at the 100°F temperature of the water-jacketed bulb in 1 minute. Equilibrium pressure is then measured at a total volume of 5 cm3. Five-fold improvement of accuracy over previously used methods is claimed. (Fisher Scientific Co., Dept. 87)
- COBALT-60 IRRADIATION UNIT provides dose rates of several million roentgens per hour. The unit is self-contained and automatic in operation. No additional room shielding is required. The cavity for items to be irradiated is 6 in. in diameter by 7½ in. high. Samples are inserted by a motor-driven mechanism, and exposure is terminated automatically. (Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd., Dept. 99)
- COMPONENT TESTER is programed by a hand-punched card which, when inserted into the instrument, determines connections for the particular test to be performed and for values and tolerances. Components which can be tested include inductors, transformers, transistors, and relays. (California Technical Industries, Dept. 102)
- MEGACYCLE COUNTER resets from any number to zero in less than 1 µsec. The unit is a decade counter using a beamswitching tube. Indication is by neon number-electrode tube. All ten outputs are available for print-out. Power requirements are 300 v, 30 ma d-c and 6.3 v, 0.9 amp a-c. (Burroughs Electronic Tube Division, Dept. 106)
- POWER SUPPLIES furnish from 250 to 1000 va at frequencies ranging from 330 to 3700 cy/sec. Units are usable with loads having power factors from 0.7 leading to 0.7 lagging. Full power output is available over the output-voltage range of 90 to 130 v r.m.s. Voltage regulation is ± 2 percent. Frequency stability is better than ± 0.25 percent after 15-min warm-up. (Tel-Instrument Electronic Corp., Dept. 107)

Joshua Stern National Bureau of Standards





## Research in electroluminescence

## Single crystals led General Electric's Dr. William W. Piper to new understanding of light sources

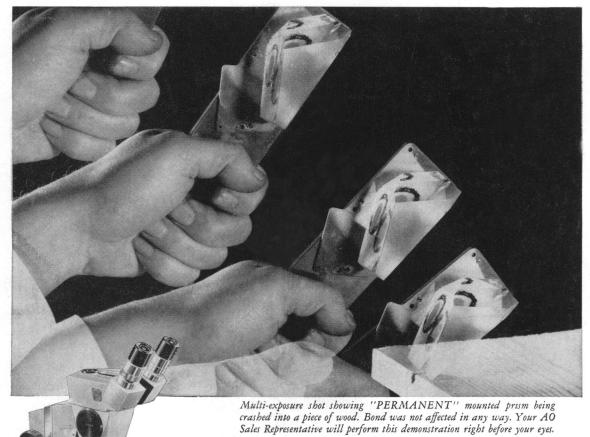
Electroluminescence, the process in which electrical energy is converted directly into light within a phosphor, has been known for many years. Only in the last decade, however, have scientists obtained detailed knowledge of its characteristics. Early studies were carried out with samples consisting of large numbers of microscopic phosphor particles. The complexity of this experimental system made it difficult to interpret the data obtained in terms of a fundamental explanation of electroluminescence.

Shortly after Dr. William W. Piper joined the staff of the General Electric Research Laboratory, he learned how to grow single crystals of zinc sulfide phosphors. His studies of these single crystals soon led to the successful identification of the means by which electroluminescence occurs in this material.

The improved understanding of the basic processes involved is aiding in the development of new light sources, such as electroluminescent ceiling panels and radar plotting boards, contributing both to a higher level of living and the national defense.

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