

Meetings

Allergen Standardization

More than 30 of the nation's top research immunologists participated in a one-day scientific conference on the problem of allergen standardization, held at the National Institutes of Health on 13 June. The participating scientists reached general agreement on a concrete program which, it is hoped, will eventually provide model systems for the purification of ragweed pollen and other allergens.

For three decades, allergen standardization has been singled out as the most important consideration in the field of clinical allergy. Most authorities in the field agree that the scientific investigator must be provided with allergenic products meeting rigid norms of potency, purity, and specificity before substantial progress can be made in this area of immunological research. At the present time, investigators are frequently unable to test for specific irritants, since most allergenic extracts are crude preparations composed of several components presumably related to the specific sensitization under investigation.

Aware that newer purification techniques promise progress toward a solution of the problem, the National Advisory Allergy and Infectious Disease Council of the National Institutes of Health last year appointed an *ad hoc* committee to assess present activities in this area and to consider future plans. Members included Jules Freund, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Dan Campbell, California Institute of Technology; Merrill Chase, the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; Bram Rose, McGill University, Montreal; William Sherman, Columbia University; Roderick Murray, director, Division of Biologics Standards, National Institutes of Health; Irvin Kerlan, Food and Drug Administration; and Harry Alexander, emeritus professor, Washington University, St. Louis (chairman of the committee).

At a meeting held in November 1958, the members learned that three investigators—A. R. Goldfarb, of the Chicago Medical School; Bram Rose, and Einer Hammarsten of the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm—employing dissimilar chemico-physical methods and working independently, had obtained highly purified and potent fractions of ragweed pollen, the most important single allergen in this country. These fractions, although not yet compared, were presumed to be similar in constitution. As a result, the committee recommended to the council that funds be provided to interested scientific investigators for characterizing and comparing the three products to determine whether or not they were

equivalent and, if possible, to create a template for future investigations of other allergens.

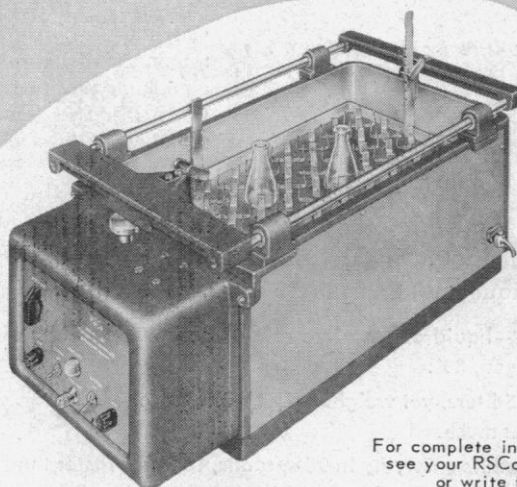
The council then established a permanent committee under the chairmanship of Campbell, who was authorized to expand its base to include representatives of other government agencies and of industry when the program reached the proper stage of development.

The recent conference held under the auspices of the council provided a forum at which the scientists were able to re-examine the unsolved elements of the problem and develop a definite course

of action in several specific areas. As one of the primary areas, the immunochemical identification of ragweed pollens was assigned to a task force under the direction of Chase. The several chemists who have fractionated this pollen agreed that their respective methods should be repeated by others to assure reproducibility. Previously, steps had been taken by the committee to assure availability of the pollen to the participating chemists.

Rose will head the serological and biological testing phase of the program and explore the possibilities of biolog-

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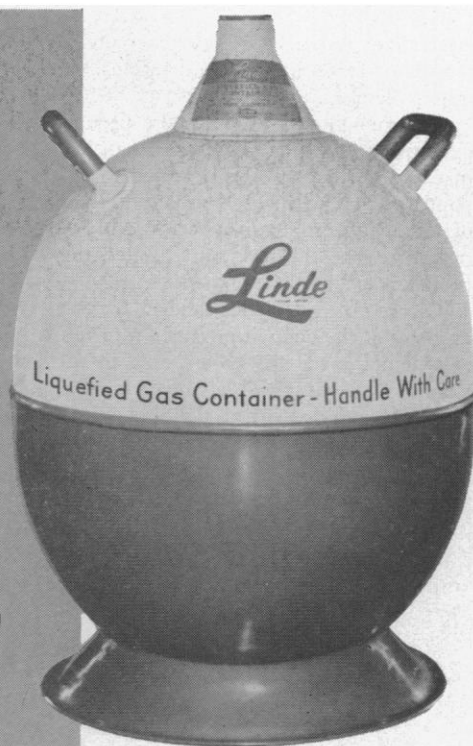
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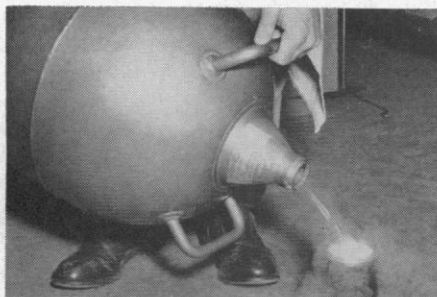
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Instrument-Automation Conference

Programs for 60 technical sessions have been arranged for the 14th annual Instrument-Automation Conference and Exhibit of the Instrument Society of America that will take place in Chicago, 21-25 September. The total number of sessions sets a new ISA conference record.

While the nearly 200 presentations will cover virtually the entire range of recent developments in instrumentation for science and technology, more conference time has been assigned to problems of computer control for industrial processes than to any other subject.

Arrangements have been made through the International Federation for Automatic Control for sessions on instrumentation developments abroad. Technical sessions will be held in the Palmer House and the Hotel Morrison, and some 350 exhibits will be shown in the Chicago International Amphitheatre.

Clinical Chemists

The American Association of Clinical Chemists will hold its 11th annual meeting at Western Reserve University, 27-29 August. Some 58 papers will be presented, and two symposia are scheduled. The first will be on the spectrophotometric method of analysis (visible, ultraviolet, and fluorometric) and the second will be a discussion of the professional status of clinical chemists. Information may be obtained from D. J. Waide Price, Institute of Pathology, Western Reserve University, 2065 Adelbert Rd., Cleveland 6, Ohio.

Nonspecific Resistance

Fort Detrick, in Frederick, Md., will sponsor a symposium on nonspecific resistance to infection on 16 and 17 September. The conference, which is being arranged in cooperation with the American Institute of Biological Sciences, will be held at Hood College, Frederick.

An international representation of specialists in this field of research will summarize their views. Visitors from abroad will include Henry Harris, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, University of

Oxford, Oxford, England; Derrick Rowley, Wright-Fleming Institute of Microbiology, St. Marys Hospital, London, England; and David W. Henderson, Microbiological Research Establishment, Porton, Wiltshire, England. The program was organized by the conference chairman, Colin M. MacLeod of the University of Pennsylvania, together with Ivan L. Bennett, Jr., and Leighton E. Cluff, of Johns Hopkins University, René J. Dubos of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, and Harold N. Glassman, assistant scientific director at Fort Detrick.

The proceedings will be published, with individual chapters somewhat expanded beyond the verbal presentations. Cluff will prepare a synthesis of the discussion from the floor and, in a foreword to the published volume, MacLeod will give his views on the implications of the symposium for future research.

Chemical Engineers

The 41st national meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers will be held at the Hotel St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn., 27-30 September. Some 2000 participants are expected.

General chairman is W. M. Poda, Economics Laboratory, St. Paul. The technical program is being arranged by A. J. Madden, Jr., of the Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota. The program will include sessions on research, new product development, chemical warfare, safety, missile construction materials, and chemical economics as a unit process. A student program is being prepared by W. E. Ranz and H. S. Isbin of the University of Minnesota.

Forthcoming Events

September

14-18. American Dental Assoc., New York, N.Y. (H. Hillenbrand, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11, Ill.)

14-19. High Energy Accelerators and Instrumentation, intern. conf., Geneva, Switzerland. (Conference Secretariat, CERN, Geneva 23.)

14-19. Treatment of Waste Waters, symp., Newcastle upon Tyne, England. (Wastes Symposium, Public Health Engineering Section, Dept. of Civil Engineering, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.)

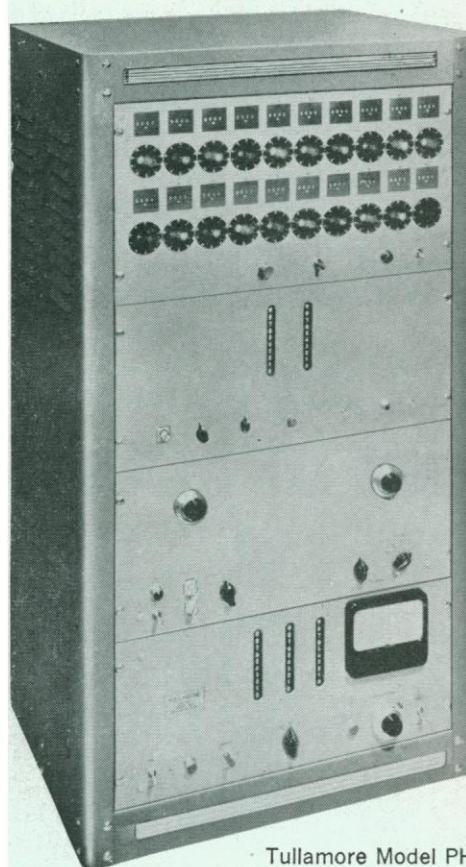
18-21. European League against Rheumatism, cong., Istanbul, Turkey. (H. Kocas, Medical School, Ankara, Turkey.)

18-25. International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (5th meeting of the general assembly), Ann Arbor, Mich. (ICPHS, 19, avenue Kleber, Paris 16^e, France.)

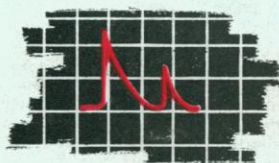
19-22. Planning of Science, intern. symp., Prague, Czechoslovakia. (Secre-

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tary, Intern. Symp. on Planning of Science, Gorkho Manesti 23, Prague 3.)

19-26. American College of Gastroenterology, Los Angeles, Calif. (D. Weiss, 33 W. 60 St., New York 23.)

20-25. Biological Standardization, 5th intern., Lyon, France. (C. Merieux, 17, rue Bourgelat, Lyon.)

21-24. International Dental Federation, 47th annual, New York, N.Y. (IDF, 35 Devonshire Pl., London W.1.)

21-25. Instrument-Automation Conf., 14th annual, Chicago, Ill. (R. T. Devore, Instrument Soc. of America, 313 Sixth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.)

21-26. Mother-Infant Interaction and Its Relation to Mental Health, Ciba Foundation symp. (by invitation), London, England. (G. E. W. Wolstenholme, Ciba Foundation, 41 Portland Pl., London, W.1.)

21-28. Biology of Sardines (FAO world meeting), Rome, Italy. (FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome.)

21-3. Permanent Intern. Assoc. of Road Congresses, quadrennial congress, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (PIARC, 43, Avenue du President Wilson, Paris 16^e, France.)

22-24. Some Aspects of Magnetism, conf., Sheffield, England. (Conference Secretary, Inst. of Physics, 47 Belgrave Sq., London, S.W.1, England.)

22-25. American Roentgen Ray Soc., Cincinnati, Ohio. (C. A. Good, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.)

22-26. Cancer Cytology, intern. conf.,

Madrid, Spain. (Miss E. L. Hughes, 3007 Salzedo, Coral Gables, Fla.)

23. Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis, New York, N.Y. (New York Acad. of Medicine, 2 E. 103 St., New York.)

23-2. International Film Cong., 13th, London and Oxford, England. (Intern. Scientific Film Assoc., 3 Belgrave Sq., London S.W.1.)

24-25. Solid Propellants Conf. (American Rocket Soc.), Princeton, N.J. (A. F. Denham, ARS, 925 Book Bldg., Detroit 26, Mich.)

24-26. American Assoc. of Medical Clinics, Chicago, Ill. (E. P. Jordan, Box 58, Charlottesville, Va.)

24-26. American Assoc. for the Surgery of Trauma, Bretton Woods, N.H. (W. T. Fitts, Jr., 3400 Spruce St., Philadelphia 4, Pa.)

24-26. Central Assoc. of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Chicago, Ill. (E. J. DeCosta, 104 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 3.)

27-30. American Inst. of Chemical Engineers, natl., St. Paul, Minn. (F. J. Van Antwerpen, AICE, 25 W. 45 St., New York 36.)

28-30. American Oil Chemists' Soc., fall, Los Angeles, Calif. (Mrs. L. R. Hawkins, AOCS, 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill.)

28-30. Telemetry, natl. symp., San Francisco, Calif. (G. L. Larse, Lockheed Aircraft Corp., Missile Systems Div., Sunnyvale, Calif.)

28-1. Recent Developments in Research Methods and Instrumentation, 9th annual symp. and exhibit, NIH, Bethesda, Md. (J. B. Davis, National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, Bethesda 14.)

28-2. American College of Surgeons, 45th clinical cong., Atlantic City, N.J. (R. M. Cunningham, Jr., ACS, 40 E. Erie St., Chicago 11, Ill.)

30-1. Industrial Electronics, 8th annual symp., Pittsburgh, Pa. (R. H. Delgado, 954 Brentview Dr., Pittsburgh 36.)

30-1. Mississippi Valley Medical Soc., St. Louis, Mo. (H. Swanberg, 510 Maine St., Quincy, Ill.)

October

1-4. American Soc. of Industrial Designers, Asheville, N.C. (Mrs. R. R. Larisch, ASID, 15 E. 48 St., New York 17.)

1-4. Electrochemical Thermodynamics and Kinetics, annual intern., Vienna, Austria. (M. P. Van Rysselberghe, CITE for the U.S., Dept. of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Stanford Univ., Stanford, Calif.)

4-7. American Inst. of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, fall, Dallas, Tex. (E. O. Kirkendall, AIMMPE, 29 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

4-9. Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, semi-annual conv., New York, N.Y. (C. S. Stodter, SMPTE, 55 W. 42 St., New York, 36.)

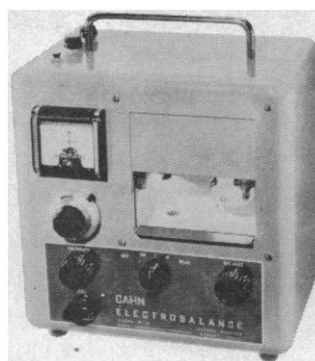
5-7. Aeronautical Communications, 5th symp., Utica, N.Y. (L. G. Cumming, Inst. of Radio Engineers, 1 E. 79 St., New York 21.)

5-7. Chemical Engineers, annual, Essen, Germany. (Dr. Miessner, VDI-Fachgruppe, Verfahrenstechnik, Rheingaulallee 25, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany.)

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5-7. National Assoc. of Corrosion Engineers, Northeast regional, Baltimore, Md. (T. J. Hull, NACE, 1061 M & M Bldg., Houston, Tex.)

5-8. American Acad. of Pediatrics, Chicago, Ill. (E. H. Christopherson, 1801 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill.)

5-9. American Soc. of Anesthesiologists, Bal Harbour, Fla. (J. W. Andes, 188 W. Randolph St., Room 1101, Chicago, Ill.)

5-9. Audio Engineering Soc., 11th annual, New York, N.Y. (AES, P.O. Box 12, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11.)

5-10. Society of Automotive Engineers, aeronautical meeting and aircraft manufacturing forum, Los Angeles, Calif. (R. W. Crory, Meetings Operation Dept., SAE, 485 Lexington Ave., New York 17.)

5-16. Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, biennial Anglo-American conf., New York, N.Y. (R. R. Dexter, IAS, 2 E. 64 St., New York 21.)

6-8. Aeronautical/Astronautical Problems of High Speed Flight, Stanford, Calif. (E. Haynes, Deputy Director, Aero Sciences Directorate, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Washington 25.)

6-9. High Temperature Technology, intern. symp., Asilomar, Calif. (Public Relations Office, Stanford Research Inst., Menlo Park, Calif.)

7-8. Advanced Propulsion, 2nd symp. (classified), Boston, Mass. (Lt. Col. P. Atkinson, Propulsion Div., Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Washington 25.)

7-9. Vacuum Technology, symp., Philadelphia, Pa. (American Vacuum Soc., Box 1282, Boston, Mass.)

7-11. International Conv. on Nutrition and Vital Substances, 5th, Konstanz-Zurich, Switzerland. (Secretary General, Benmeroderstrasse 61, Hannover-Kirchrode, Germany.)

8-10. American Assoc. of Textile Chemists and Colorists, natl. conv., Washington, D.C. (G. P. Paine, AATCC, P.O. Box 28, Lowell, Mass.)

8-10. American Ceramic Soc., Bedford, Pa. (F. P. Reid, ACS, 4055 N. High St., Columbus 14, Ohio.)

8-10. American Soc. of Tool Engineers, semi-annual, St. Louis, Mo. (H. E. Conrad, ASTE, 10700 Puritan Ave., Detroit 38, Mich.)

8-10. Biology of Pyelonephritis, intern. symp., Detroit, Mich. (E. L. Quinn, Henry Ford Hospital, W. Grand Blvd. at Hamilton, Detroit 2.)

8-10. Optical Soc. of America, annual, Ottawa, Canada. (S. S. Ballard, Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville.)

9-13. American Soc. of Civil Engineers, Los Angeles, Calif. (E. S. Kirkpatrick, ASCE, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

11-16. American Acad. of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, Chicago, Ill. (W. L. Benedict, 15 Second St., SW, Rochester, Minn.)

11-16. American Inst. of Electrical Engineers, fall general, Chicago, Ill. (N. S. Hibshman, AIEA, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

11-16. American Soc. for Testing Materials, Pacific area natl., San Francisco, Calif. (R. J. Painter, ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.)

12-14. Clay Conf., 8th natl., Norman, Okla. (C. G. Dodd, Eighth Natl. Clay



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Conf., University of Oklahoma, Norman.)

12-14. Electronics Conf., 15th annual natl., Chicago, Ill. (NEC, 228 N. La Salle St., Chicago 1, Ill.)

12-16. Macromolecules, intern. symp. (IUPAP), Wiesbaden, Germany. (W. Mauss, Intern. Symp. on Macromolecules, c/o Kalle & Co., Rheingaustrasse 25, Wiesbaden-Biebrich, Germany.)

12-19. Venereal Diseases, intern. cong. (by invitation), London, England. (G. E. W. Wolstenholme, Ciba Foundation, 41 Portland Pl., London, W.1, England.)

13-17. International Union against the Venereal Diseases and the Treponematoses, London, England. (Institut Alfred Fournier, 25, Boulevard Saint-Jacques, Paris 14^e, France.)

14-16. Parenteral Drug Assoc., annual conv., New York, N.Y. (H. E. Boyden, Parenteral Drug Assoc., 130 E. 59 St., New York 22.)

14-17. American College of Chest Physicians, 25th, Albuquerque, N.M. (M. Kornfeld, 112 E. Chestnut St., Chicago 11, Ill.)

15-16. American Ceramic Soc., Glass Div., Wernersville, Pa. (F. P. Reid, ACS, 4055 N. High St., Columbus 14, Ohio.)

15-17. Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio. (B. B. Moss, Suite 1035, 55 E. Washington St., Chicago 2.)

15-17. National Soc. of Professional Engineers, fall meeting, Seattle, Wash. (P. H. Robbins, NSPE, 309 Bancroft Bldg., Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln.)

16-17. Association of Midwest College Biology Teachers, conf., Notre Dame, Ind. (G. R. Bernard, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind.)

17-18. American Acad. of Psychotherapists, 4th annual conf., New York, N.Y. (AAP, 30 Fifth Ave., New York 11.)

17-25. Plastics Industry, intern. fair, Düsseldorf, Germany. (Nordwestdeutsche Ausstellungs Gesellschaft (NOWEA), Ehrenhof 4, Düsseldorf.)

18-22. Electrochemical Soc., Columbus, Ohio. (R. K. Shannon, ES Inc., 216 W. 102 St., New York 25.)

18-23. American School Health Assoc., Atlantic City, N.J. (A. O. DeWeese, 515 E. Main St., Kent, Ohio.)

18-23. American Soc. of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Miami Beach, Fla. (T. R. Broadbent, 508 E. South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.)

19-21. High Polymer, 9th Canadian, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (K. E. Russell, Dept. of Chemistry, Queen's Univ., Kingston, Ontario.)

19-22. Semiconductor Symp. (Electrochemical Soc.), Columbus, Ohio. (A. C. Beer, Battelle Memorial Inst., 505 King Ave., Columbus 1, Ohio.)

19-23. American Public Health Assoc., 87th annual, Atlantic City, N.J. (B. F. Mattison, 1790 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.)

19-23. American Soc. of Civil Engineers, annual conv., Washington, D.C. (W. H. Wisley, ASCE, 33 W. 39 St., New York 18.)

19-31. International Cong. of Therapeutics, Strasbourg, France. (Prof. Fontaine, Dayen de la Faulte de Strasbourg, France.)

19-31. Pan American Medical Assoc., 10th conf., Mexico, D.F., Mexico. (J.

Eller, PAMCA, 745 Fifth Ave., New York 22.)

20-22. Standards, 10th natl. conf., Detroit, Mich. (K. G. Ellsworth, American Standards Assoc., 70 E. 45 St., New York 17.)

20-23. Clean Air, intern. conf., London, England. (National Soc. for Clean Air, Palace Chambers, Bridge St. London, S.W.1, England.)

22-24. Acoustical Soc. of America, fall meeting, Cleveland, Ohio. (W. Waterfall, ASA, 335 E. 45 St., New York 17.)

22-24. American Documentation Inst., annual, Bethlehem, Pa. (R. S. Taylor, Lehigh Univ., Bethlehem, Pa.)

22-25. British Medical Assoc., annual clinical, Norwich, England. (W. Hedcock, BMA House, Tavistock Sq., London, W.C.1, England.)

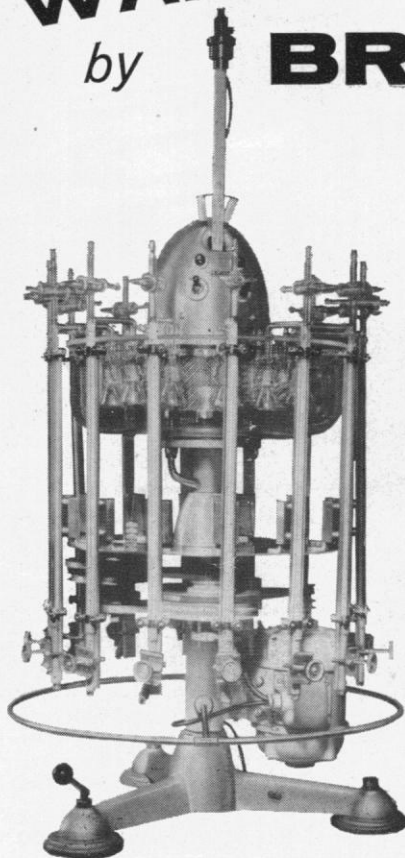
23-24. Canadian Soc. for the Study of Fertility, Montreal, Canada. (J. F. Campbell, 238 Queen's Ave., London, Ont., Canada.)

23-25. American College of Cardiology, 8th annual, Philadelphia, Pa. (P. Reichert, ACC, Empire State Bldg., New York 1.)

23-27. American Heart Assoc., annual, Philadelphia, Pa. (W. F. McGlone, AHA, 44 E. 23 St., New York 10.)

24-29. Darwin Centennial, intern. cele-

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24-29. First All-India Cong. of Zoology, Jabalpur. (B. S. Chauhan, Zoological Survey of India, 34 Chittaranjan Ave., Calcutta 12.)

27-27. Griseofulvin and Dermatomycoses, intern. symp., Miami, Fla. (H. Blank, Dept. of Dermatology, Univ. of Miami School of Medicine, Miami 36.)

26-28. Aeronautical and Navigation Electronics, IRE conf., Baltimore, Md. (L. G. Cumming, IRE, 1 E. 79 St., New York 21.)

26-28. Analytical Chemistry in Nuclear Reactor Technology, 3rd conf., Gatlinburg, Tenn. (C. D. Susano, Oak Ridge

Natl. Lab., P.O. Box Y, Oak Ridge, Tenn.)

26-28. Gas Lubricated Bearings, 1st intern. symp., Washington, D.C. (S. W. Doroff, Power Branch, Office of Naval Research, Washington 25.)

26-28. National Rehabilitation Assoc., Boston, Mass. (E. D. Callahan, 14 Court Square, Boston 8.)

26-28. Society of Automotive Engineers, natl. transportation meeting, Chicago, Ill. (R. W. Crory, SAE, 485 Lexington Ave., New York 17.)

26-30. Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers, natl. conf., Chicago, Ill. (SPSE, Box 1609, Main Post Office, Washington, D.C.)

New Products

The information reported here is obtained from manufacturers and from other sources considered to be reliable, and it reflects the claims of the manufacturer or other source. Neither Science nor the writer assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information. A coupon for use in making inquiries concerning the items listed appears on page 470.

■ **VECTOR IMPEDANCE LOCUS PLOTTER** is a portable laboratory instrument designed to measure continuously and plot automatically and simultaneously the rectangular components, resistance and reactance, of the equivalent complex impedance of any passive electrical element. (Chesapeake Instrument Corp., Dept. 1)

■ **RANDOM NOISE SOURCE** provides a choice of balanced or unbalanced calibrated output, each with several impedances. Noise figure, defined as the ratio of actual noise power to ideal-system noise power, may be read directly from a meter. Frequency range is 5 to 220 Mc/sec. Noise-figure range is 0 to 16 db at nominal 50-ohm impedance and 0 to 23.8 db at 300 ohm. The indicating meter is calibrated logarithmically in decibels for noise figure and linearly in milliamperes d-c. (Kay Electric Co., Dept. 2)

■ **COMPACTOR** uses kneading action to prepare samples of bituminous mixes, asphaltic concrete, soils, and similar materials. Compaction pressure, time of dwell, and rate of compaction are adjustable. Two molds (4 and 6 in. in diameter) are provided. A heated-foot assembly is available, as an accessory. Manual or automatic electrohydraulic operation is provided. (Soiltest, Dept. 3)

■ **COMPARISON BRIDGE** measures resistance, capacitance, and inductance at 60 cy/sec. Resistance range is 3 ohm to 5 megohm; capacitance 500 pf to 1000 μ f; inductance 3 mh to 10,000 hy. Five meter ranges indicate full-scale differences from 1 to 25 percent. Accuracy on range 1 is ± 0.1 percent. A switch that may be foot-operated protects the meter circuit during insertion or removal of components. (Metronix Inc., Dept. 4)

■ **RESONANT REED RELAY** responds by contact closure, for a fraction of each cycle, to signals of proper frequency. A typical relay provides 32 channels from 30 to 1000 cy/sec with bandwidths less than 1.5 percent and sensitivity of 1.5 mw. Frequency variation with temperature is less than ± 0.5 percent from -60° to $+150^\circ$ F. The device is resistant to vibration up to 10 g in the plane of reed motion and to 20 g in the other axes for vibration frequencies between 20 and 800 cy/sec. Size is $\frac{1}{2}$ in.² by $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. (Wurlitzer, Dept. 8)

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