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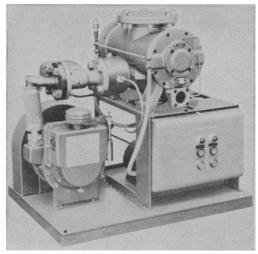
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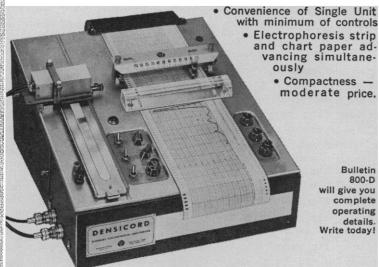
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Electron microscope (model TRS-50S) is announced as the first instrument capable of resolving 15 to 20 Å priced to sell for less than \$15,000. Small industry and educational institutions are considered as potential purchasers. The microscope features a "fixed-lens" system wherein all lenses and apertures are permanently mounted within 3 μ of centricity. This prealigned construction allows the electron source to be centered with the use of only two controls. A three-stage electromagnetic lens system provides magnification of 30,000 and 50-kv accelerating potential. A double speciman holder is controlled from outside the vacuum. Astigmatism-free operation is said to be attained within 5 minutes and all components subject to contamination can be rapidly removed for cleaning. Replacement of the speciman holder and re-establishment of a working vacuum are said to require less than 1 minute.—R.L.B. (Bendix Cincinnati, Division of the Bendix Corp., Dept. S449, 3130 Wasson Rd., Cincinnati 8, Ohio)

Pulse propagation meter is a device for measuring the velocity of longitudinal mechanical pulses transmitted in materials of small cross section such as fibers and films. Since the factors of micro or molecular structure that determine mechanical properties also determine the velocity at which mechanical energy is propagated, the measurement of velocity can provide insight into both physical and chemical structure. The instrument has been designed for the continuous measurement of the transit time of a longitudinal pulse traveling between two piezoelectric transducers coupled to a test sample. The transit time per unit length is inversely proportional to the pulse velocity. The transit time may be read directly in usec from the panel meter of the instrument or it may be plotted continuously from a suitably connected strip-chart recorder. The range over which accurate measurements can be made extends from approximately 5 to 400 μ sec. Full-scale readings of 40 usec are obtainable. Measurement of transit time is made 195 times per second by starting a linear sweep voltage at the time a pulse is introduced into the test specimen by one transducer and stopping the sweep at the time of reception of the transmitted pulse by the second transducer. The maximum sweep voltage, proportional to the transit time, is measured by a

peak-reading voltmeter. To correct for electrical and mechanical time delays inherent in the system, a correction factor determined by extrapolation to zero spacing of the transducers is subtracted from the readings. The excitation pulse is produced by a thyratron pulse generator that applies a negative spike of approximately 500 volts to the transmitting transducer. The transducers are made with Rochelle salt bimorph twister crystals and damping materials mounted in a protective housing. According to the manufacturer, accuracy of transit time measurement will be ±1 percent when temperature changes are small or when the effects of such changes are measured and taken into account.-J.s. (KLH Research and Development Corp., Dept. S458, 30 Cross St., Cambridge 39, Mass.)

Laser attachment provides extremely short bursts and narrow pulses. The device consists of a reflecting device mounted on a rotating disk. As the disk rotates, the reflecting plane becomes briefly perpendicular to the long axis of the laser rod which is unsilvered at one end. Consequently, after the rod is pumped by the excitation light source, it will oscillate only in the brief interval during which the reflector is perpendicular to the light path. At high speeds of rotation this provides light pulse widths on the order of a tenth of a microsecond and peak power from 0.1 to 1 Mw. Energy output is on the order of 0.3 joule. The speed of rotation and the amount of pump energy determine the number of pulses per burst. Two models of the device are available. The MH-1 has a synchronous motor with fixed speed of 3600 rev/min and is equipped

The material in this section is prepared by

The material in this section is prepared by the following contributing writers:
Robert L. Bowman (R.L.B.), Laboratory of Technical Development, National Heart Institute, Bethesda 14, Md. (medical electronics and

biomedical laboratory equipment).

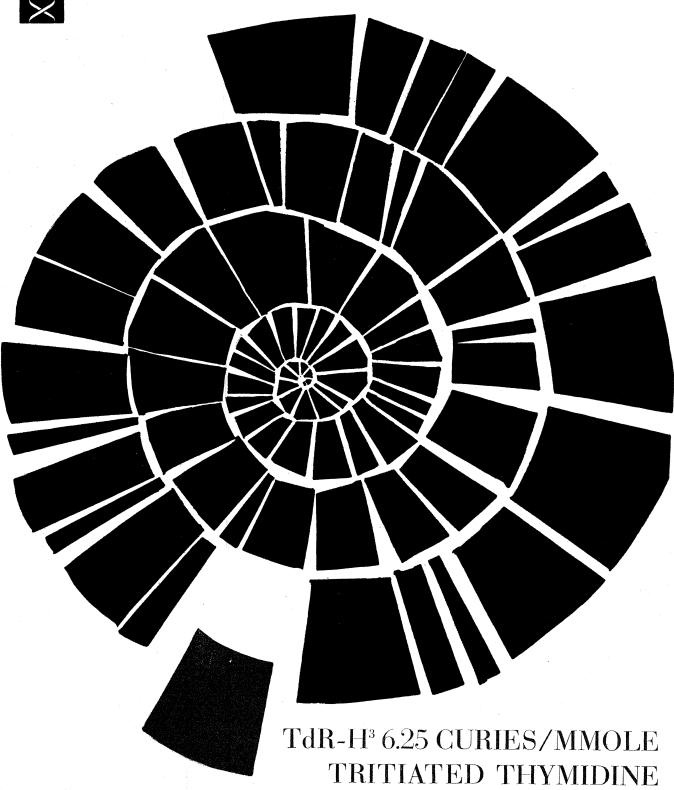
Joshua Stern (J.s.), Basic Instrumentation Section, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D.C. (physics, computing, electronics, and nuclear equipment)

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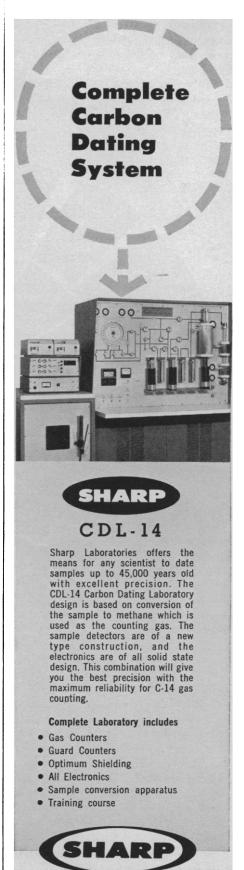
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The type CMB11 capacitance comparator is designed to measure capacitance of ceramic capacitors at 1 Mcy/ sec. Without balancing, the difference between a standard capacitor and the unknown is measured and indicated in both sign and magnitude. The measuring range is from 1 to 1000 pf full scale and differences as small as 0.02 pf can be read. Measurement accuracy is said to be ± 1 percent of the reading +1 percent of full scale or ± 0.05 percent of the capacitance value, whichever is greater. If the terminals for the standard capacitor are left open, the instrument measures directly the capacitance of the unknown in the same meter indication range and with the same accuracy. The circuit is designed so that stray capacitance of the unknown does not affect the measurement. A guard system makes possible remote measurements and permits the capacitor to be placed in a thermostatically controlled oven for measurement of temperature coefficient.-J.S. (Radiometer, Dept. S391, 72 Emdrupvej, Copenhagen NV, Denmark)

The model 420-R 10 frequency measurement extender when used with a 10-Mcy/sec digital counter permits measurement of frequency up to 220 Mcy/sec with accuracy said to be ± 1 cy/sec, subject to the accuracy of the associated counter. The extender uses the 10-Mcy/sec reference output generated by the crystal clock in the counter as a basic reference. A twoposition band selector switch and a 13-position incremental selector on the instrument's panel select harmonics of the clock frequency in 10-Mcy/sec increments. The harmonic is heterodyned with the unknown signal in a mixer system that eliminates ambiguity. The circuit locks out all extraneous frequencies except the difference frequency and also suspends delivery of an output signal to the counter until the difference frequency falls within the 10-Mcy/sec bandpass of the instrument's output filter. Thus, as the



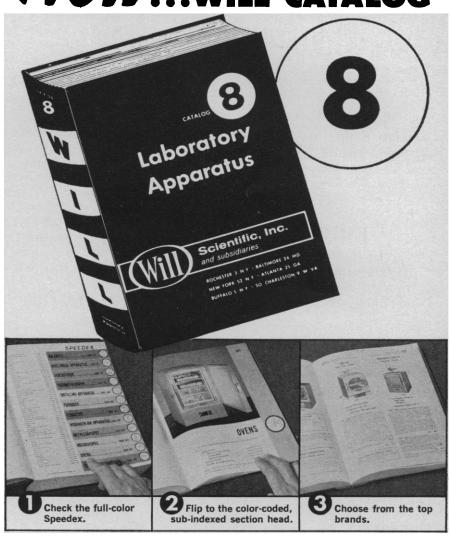
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reference frequency control is rotated to successively higher settings, no count is registered until the difference frequency is small enough to be measured. The indicated value, added to the setting of the control dial, equals the frequency of the unknown signal. No fine tuning or interpolation of dial or meter readings is required. Input sensitivity is 2 mv (r.m.s.), 50-ohm impedance, and output amplitude is 2 v peak-to-peak.—J.s. (Transistor Specialties, Inc., Dept. S451, Terminal Drive, Plainview, N.Y.)

The model MR2A microminiature relay is a hermetically sealed unit measuring 1/4 inch in diameter and 1/2 inch high. Weight is 0.075 oz. Standard coil voltages available are 6, 12, 24, and 28 v d-c, with others available on special order. Power at rated voltage is 0.280 w. Contact rating is 0.5 amp and 28 v (max.) non-inductive. Operation and release times are each less than 2.5 msec. Life is stated to be 100,000 cycles at rated load. Environmental specifications include operation from -65° to $+125^{\circ}$ C, vibration tolerance without opening of contacts is 20 grav at 5 to 2000 cy/sec, and shock resistance is 50 grav for 11 msec.—J.s. (Miniature Electronic Components Corp., Dept. S460, Holbrook, Mass.)

The type 9120 precision d-c potentiometer is a four-dial seven-digit instrument with single-window readout. Resolution is said to be 1 part in 20 million and accuracy ±(0.0015 percent of reading $+0.1 \mu v$). The total measuring range, 2.099,999,9 volts, is covered without change of range setting. The instrument is designed for use as a general-purpose potentiometer of particular value when voltages requiring use of the first dial need to be compared to a fraction of a microvolt, as when comparing standard cells. The instrument consists of two potentiometers in tandem. The upper potentiometer battery current is controlled by a five-dial rheostat. Dials 1 and 2 give 20 steps of 0.1 volt and 99 steps of 0.001 volt. The lower potentiometer is supplied from a dry cell with Zenerdiode control. A standardizing switch connects the galvanometer to the standardizing circuit that incorporates nine resistors of dial 1 and the total of dial 2. The same standardizing switch is used to compare the total of dial 3 with the first step of dial 2. The lower potentiometer gives 99 steps of 10 μ v

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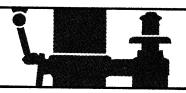
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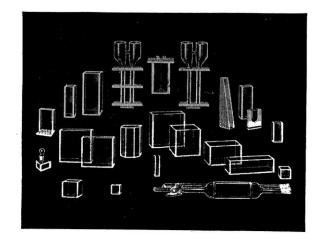


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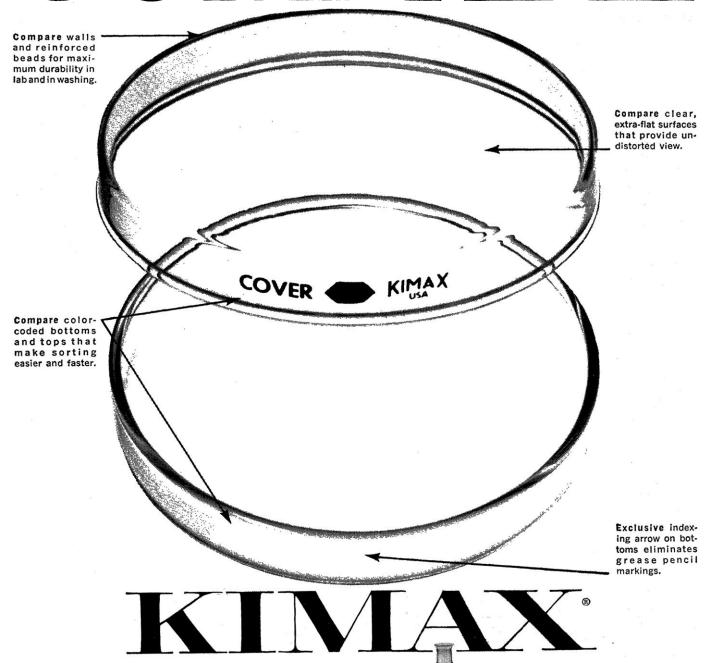
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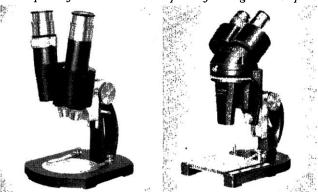
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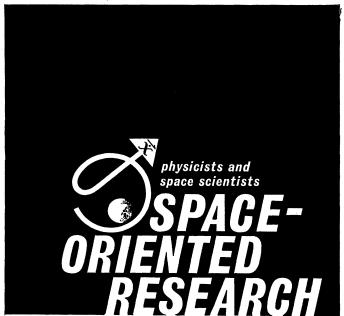
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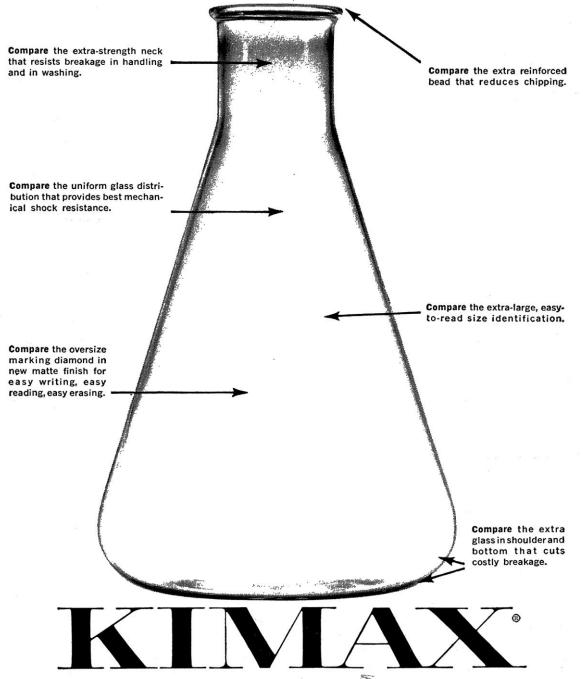
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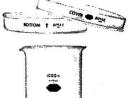
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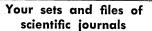
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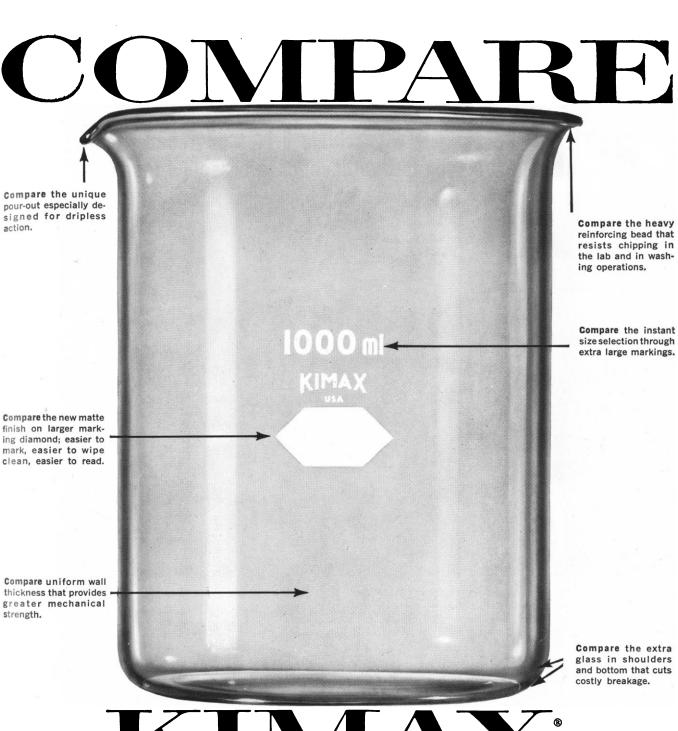
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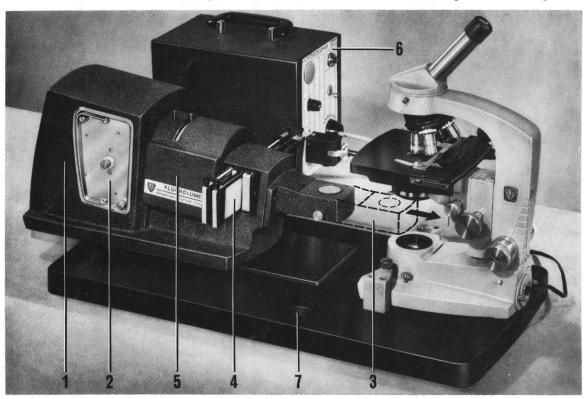
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