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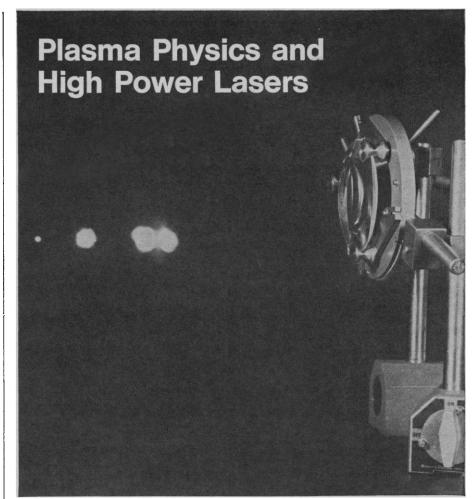
Washington Acad. of Sciences (J. K. Taylor, The Academy, Washington, D.C.)
Wildlife Soc. (J. L. Buckley, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C.)

27-30. American Astronomical Soc., 123rd mtg., University of California, Los Angeles, (G. C. McVittie, The Society, Univ. of Illinois Observatory, Urbana)

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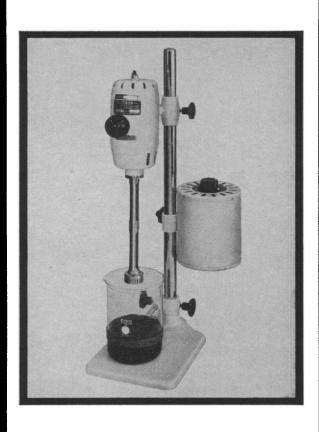
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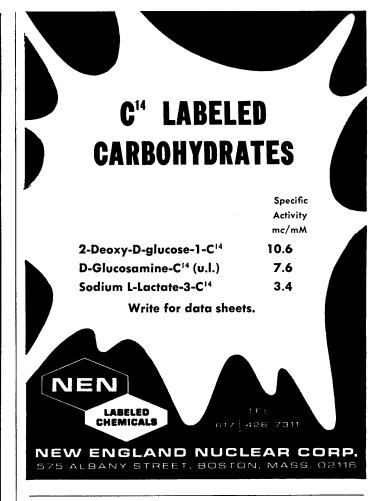
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SCIENCE, VOL. 154



The Federation of European Biochemical Societies (FEBS), which comprises 21 Biochemical Societies in the European area, has decided to create an international journal devoted to the publication of original papers of high quality on all aspects of biochemistry or molecular biology. The FEBS Journal will be named

European Journal of Biochemistry

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The FEBS Journal will be published by Springer-Verlag early in 1967 on behalf of the Federation.

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The way to become a writer may be to take a course in penmanship or typing. This phase of preparation is rarely emphasized. Apparently on the same principle, relatively few teachers in subjects based largely on microscopic observation bother much about teaching the use of the microscope. The student is expected to have picked it up from a knowledgeable lab partner back in high school freshman biology. With luck, this training will have been supplemented by figuring out the foreign language in the instruction manual that was left behind in the case in the attic when Uncle Arthur pawned greatgranddad's microscope in '31.

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*Some people stack four or five of these types together in a single exposure.

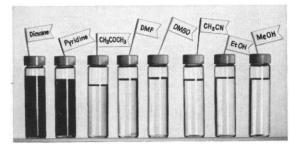
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Solvents and solvatochromic compounds

Fifteen years ago we suggested (J.A.C.S., 73:5350)† that certain dyes be used as indicators of solvent polarity, but it fell to another investigator (*Ibid.*, 80:3253) to bring the idea off.

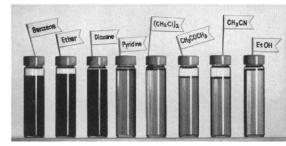
The dye he chose, 4-Carbomethoxy-1-ethylpyridinium Iodide, we now offer as EASTMAN 9765, which shifts its absorption band toward the blue with increasing solvent polarity. Put it into some solvents, look through a band-pass filter that removes the distractions of color, and arrange in the order of decreasing wavelength instead of by dielectric constant. You



now have a series that may relate better to the intermolecular forces that govern solvation behavior than does dielectric constant (Angew. Chem., internat. Edit. [English], 4:29).

A dye that shifts its absorption band in the opposite direction, i.e., toward the red with increase in solvent polarity, is the merocyanine, *N,N-Dimethylindoaniline* (EASTMAN 9766).

Here is another solvatochromic dye, *Pyridinium Cyclopentadienylide* (EASTMAN 10009), seen through a filter that passes only one of its four absorption bands, the one that is most sensitive to a change in solvent polarity (*J.A.C.S.*, 81:856):



There is also [Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-p-benzoquinone (EASTMAN 9967). Not only is it solvatochromic but also piezochromic, thermochromic, fluorescent, and soluble in both acid and base (J.O.C., 30:4107).

There must be plenty of occasions in chem labs when it would be handy to look into an eyepiece to find out whether Solvent A is more polar than Solvent B. If this pops an idea into somebody's head, he'd better note that the compounds here mentioned can be ordered from Distillation Products Industries, Rochester, N.Y. 14603 (Division of Eastman Kodak Company). Prices (f.o.b. Rochester, N.Y., subject to change without notice): EASTMAN 9765, 5 g. for \$4.75; EASTMAN 9766, 1 g. for \$3.45; EASTMAN 10009, 10 g. for \$6.60; EASTMAN 9967, 5 g. for \$3.45. With a \$10 minimum on orders, might as well order them all.

†For a more recent publication on the subject from our laboratories, see J.A.C.S., 87:2443.

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