

but it will never 'snow' you back.

Sometimes you can't help it. In certain weighing situations no matter how hard you try, a balance gets dirty from spilled or overflowing powders. Or from dust in the air.

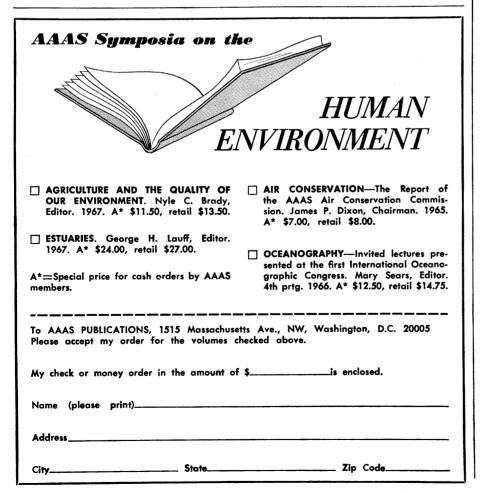
When this happens on a conventional knife-edge balance, the knife-edge fulcrum becomes dirty-gets gummed up, and eventually wears. Increased friction, decreased sensitivity and inaccuracy result. (In time even small amounts of dirt in the atmosphere will have this effect.)

On the other hand, with a Torsion Balance based on fulcra which twist instead of roll, this cannot happen. There are no friction pivots or knifeedge fulcrum; thus no metal-to-metal wear, and the weighing mechanism cannot be affected by foreign material. The balance will not become sluggish, it retains its initial accuracy and sensitivity, and because of its virtually one-piece construction, adjustment is permanent.

The Torbal DWL2 shown above is a 120-gram capacity balance with a dial accuracy of 5 mg.; silicon fluid damping for fast weighing; dials with 9 g x 1 g, and 1 g x 0.01 g graduations, to eliminate use of small loose weights. Write today for literature.

The Torsion Balance Company TORBAL Department J

Department J Main Office and Factory: Clifton, N. J.; Sales Offices: Birmingham, Ala.; Chicago, Ill.; Richardson, Tex.; San Mateo, Cal.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Plants and Offices in Montreal, Quebec and London, England



Toxicity of New Drugs

My letter of 8 July 1966 expressed concern as to whether pharmaceutical manufacturers investigating new drugs were reporting toxicity findings to the Food and Drug Administration. As a drug investigator, I became aware of this problem when I learned that the toxicity data of our Dornwal study for Wallace and Tiernan in 1961 had not been reported to the FDA. The suppression of information about this tranquilizer led a federal district court to impose a maximum \$40,000 fine on the company and place its medical director on probation for 1 year.

I reviewed reports of 26 new drug studies made between 1954 and 1966 and asked the FDA if the reports about safety had ever been received from the pharmaceutical companies as required by the the New Drug Section of the Pure Food and Drug Law of 1938. This law, which is the result of the 100 deaths of the 1937 sulfanilimide disaster, requires a manufacturer to test each new drug for safety and submit the data to the government before the drug can be marketed. My concern was confirmed when I learned that the FDA had received only 10 of 26 reports on drug safety which had been submitted to 19 pharmaceutical manufacturers. The 14 companies which failed to submit toxicity reports included some of the largest and most scientifically capable pharmaceutical houses.

I recommend that Congress require each investigator of new drugs to send a copy of his entire report to the FDA and other government agencies concerned with drug safety and efficacy. Also the law should require that each new drug investigator be provided with reports of all other investigators who are studying the same or similar compounds. New drug research demands full exchange of information among the responsible scientists. Maximum safety demands informed collaboration between the investigator, the federal government, and the pharmaceutical manufacturer. The Senate Subcommittee on Antitrust and Monopoly headed by Senator Philip A. Hart of Michigan is currently studying changes in the laws governing drug research. Drug investigators should express their views to this subcommittee.

PAUL LOWINGER

School of Medicine, Wayne State University, 951 East Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan 48207