the mistreatment of their colleagues, or are they merely glad of the opportunity of a few vacancies thus left open? Is it perhaps the unceasing and relentless propaganda which threatens to spread its vicious tenets throughout the world that prevents them from seeing in the proper light what is being done, in the name of nationalism, to degrade and dehumanize the best that there is in man?

Perhaps it is not sufficiently known that, in addition to the hundreds of professors who have been and are still being removed from their positions, in addition to hundreds of physicians and lawyers who are prevented from practising their profession, editors are removed from their positions without even proper credit, and men of science and learning are degraded in more ways than one. A few of the more recent illustrations may suffice.

Those professors who were left at the universities because of their war service record are being gradually removed on account of students' strikes. Neither the government nor the faculty does anything about it, and the former seems not only to acquiesce in that but takes advantage of the situation to remove the remaining professors.

At the recent meeting of the Society of German Chemists,[1] it was decided that non-Aryans could not be active members of the society.

The names of Haber, Willstätter and Neuberg have been left out as editors (honorary, without pay) from the *Berichte deutscher Chemischer Gesellschaft* and only those of Hofmann, Wollmer and Leuchs left! Compare the difference in reputation of the three first named with the latter ones!

The name of Grassmann was added to that of Neuberg as editor of the *Biochemische Zeitschrift.* How long will it take before the name of the latter is dropped altogether?

Hans Pringsheim has been removed as editor of *Cellulosechemie,* without even the customary decency of inserting a statement that he was former editor of this journal (has actually built it up)! These illustrations could be multiplied many times.

And so the process goes on! But how far! Is there no courage left among the men of science to say "Thou shalt go no further"? There were times when men of science were willing to die for their convictions! Or are these only cheap mountebanks that do not deserve the name of "Men of Science," that do not dare to raise the voice of protest against the mistreatment of their colleagues, teachers and friends? Many of them actually assist in spreading vicious propaganda by enclosing among their reprints cheap claptrap about the Polish Corridor, about France's mistreatment of Germany and about other matters on which they have no accurate or verifiable knowledge. Should a rare and solitary protest reach them from abroad, they dismiss it easily as foreign propaganda against Germany.—*A Correspondent.*

[1] Verein deutscher Chemiker, Berlin, November 28, 1933—*Angew. Chemie,* 46 (50): 790, 1933.

# REPORTS

## GRANTS OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

THE American Philosophical Society has made grants during 1933–1934 to the following:

Admiral Richard E. Byrd to make the echo sounding equipment available for the Byrd Antarctic Expedition.

Warren K. Moorehead to help finance the work he is undertaking on the Amerinds of New England.

William B. Scott to enable him to prepare a monograph on the fossil mammals of the White River formation in Dakota and Nebraska.

James T. Young in support of a survey of local rural government in Pennsylvania.

Robert A. Millikan in support of work on the determination of the geological time scale in years.

Alfred C. Lane in support of a cooperative research in physics and chemistry as to the relations of the various radio-active elements and the lead produced therefrom.

Felix E. Schelling, chairman of the Supervisory Committee on the Variorum Shakespeare of the Modern Language Association of America, for the completion of the two plays now in progress and being edited by Professors Black and Shaaber for the Shakespeare Variorum.

W. F. G. Swann for investigation in nuclear physics.

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

John R. Murlin for investigations into the effects of high frequency currents on the energy metabolism of animals and the human subject.

P. W. Whiting for investigations on genetics and sex-determination of the parasitic wasp Habrobracon.

A. J. Dempster for investigations of the exact atomic ratios of the chemical elements by the methods of mass spectroscopy.

Edward L. Bowles and Henry G. Houghton, Jr., in support of an investigation of the transmission of radiation through fog.

J. Lincoln Cartledge in support of an investigation of the factors which are responsible for increased mutation rate in aged seeds of Datura; the effects on the mutation rate of temperature, moisture, oxygen supply and other experimentally applied factors,

and the effects of aging seeds under natural conditions as when buried in the soil; the study and determination of the changes brought about by these means.

A. V. Grosse for one year—the extraction of 1 gram of the radioactive elements 91—protactinium—from about 5 tons of raw material and its isolation in the form of pure salts and finally in the metallic state itself.

George M. Reed for one year—influence of the nutrition of the host on smut development.

Dr. V. Slipher for the Lowell Observatory for extending the search of the ecliptic covering a wide belt of the sky, for outer members of the solar system, because the small size and faintness of Pluto made it seem not improbable that other similar bodies would be found, and showed that such an exacting and complete search would be required to give answer to this important question.

Dr. Edward L. Thorndike for one year's work in support of a research in the psychology of animal and human learning.

# SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

## AN ADJUSTABLE STAGE FOR MICROSCOPES

A STAGE which may be raised or lowered to bring various parts of a dissection into focus, while both hands are occupied with the dissecting instruments, is here described. In the dissection of small animals, and especially insects, it is often an advantage to continually adjust the microscope to obtain a depth of focus upon the region which is being examined and at the same time have both hands free for the dissecting work. This adjustable stage offers the above advantage. In addition, there is the added factor that it may be easily and cheaply constructed in any laboratory and with materials which are nearly always available. The type here described is small, compact and very convenient. It may be placed, with ease, beneath any type-dissecting microscope. The dimensions, however, are flexible and the instrument may be made of almost any size. Plywood or any metal of suitable thickness may be used for the building.

The apparatus consists of three parts, as shown in Fig. 1: base (A), stage (B) and revolving disk or

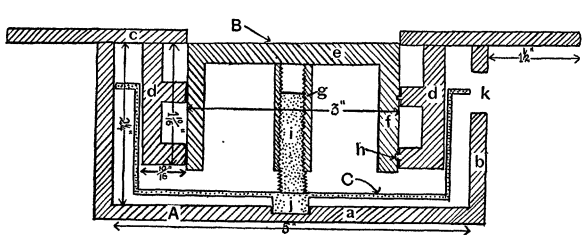


FIG. 1

rotor (C). The base (A) has an inside dimension of $5'' \times 5''$ (a) with a height of $2\frac{1}{4}''$ (b). The top (c) is $5'' \times 5''$, with an additional $1\frac{1}{2}''$ extension on two opposite sides forming the arm rests. In the center of the top a $3'' \times 3''$ opening is cut. On the under side of the top are placed four braces (d) which serve as a sleeve in which the stage is raised and lowered. These are put into the positions shown and are of the dimensions given. The figure is a side view and therefore only two braces are shown.

The stage (B) is an inverted cup with a square base (e) $3'' \times 3''$ and a depth of $1\frac{3}{4}''$ (f). In the exact center of the bottom of the cup is placed a nut, which is $1\frac{3}{4}''$ long (g). Two longitudinal grooves are cut in the outside wall along the length of the sides (f) of the stage. These grooves will fit into notches (h) and prevent the stage from rotating as it is raised and lowered.

The rotating disk or rotor (C) is a circular disk with a diameter of five inches and shaped as shown. In the center is placed a screw (i) threaded to fit the nut (g) on the stage. Directly on the opposite surface of the disk a collar (j) is placed which fits snugly into a 1/16" socket made into the base as indicated. A slot is cut in the side (b) of the base (A), as shown at (k). It is at this point that the rotor is exposed and the stage adjusted. This opening is located directly beneath one of the arm rests mentioned above.

FORREST W. MILLER

ANNVILLE, PA.

## A SIMPLE METHOD FOR THE ISOLATION OF GLUTATHIONE FROM YEAST

ABOUT 4 kgms of fresh baker's yeast were mixed with two liters of water. After one hour six liters of 95 per cent. alcohol, to which eight cc of conc. sulfuric acid were added, were poured in a slow stream into the yeast with constant stirring. The suspension of yeast was allowed to stand at room temperature for 3 hours and was stirred occasionally. After that it was filtered off under suction in large Buchner's funnels. To the filtrate were added 400 cc of copper sulfate solution, which was prepared immediately before use by mixing a 3 per cent. solution of $CuSO_4$ in water with an equal volume of 95 per cent. alcohol. The precipitated substance was allowed to settle for a few hours; the supernatant liquid was decanted; the sediment was centrifugalized off and washed with alcohol and ether. It was suspended