

SQUIRTERS' CHOICE...

Nalgene® Wash Bottles

For every lab rinsing, dispensing and washing need, Nalge has the bottle. And every one is unbreakable, chemically-inert, non-contaminating.

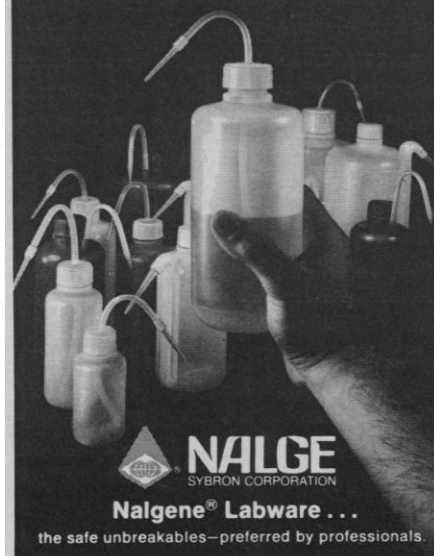
Nalgene Economy Wash Bottles (Cat. No. 2401) offer unrestricted control of rate, volume and direction of stream. One-piece, flexible polyethylene dip tube can be bent at different angles without crimping, breaking or cracking. Tapered, molded tip can be cut back to increase flow or removed for maximum flow. Uniform walls of conventional polyethylene permit almost effortless operation without weakspots. Six sizes: 30-1000 ml.

Nalgene Wash Bottles (No. 2402) are molded in one piece (bottle and tube) by a patented process—eliminating any possibility of leakage. No tipping or shaking necessary to empty completely. Four sizes: 125-1000 ml.

Nalgene Teflon FEP Wash Bottles (No. 2403) handle strong solvents or liquids which might damage other plastics. Autoclavable—use them where no contamination is acceptable. For use at temperatures as low as -200°C , as high as $+200^{\circ}\text{C}$. Four sizes: 125-1000 ml.

Nalgene Safety Wash Bottles (No. 2404) molded of red conventional polyethylene for high visibility, with vertically ribbed surface for accurate touch identification. Indicate inflammable or dangerous contents. Protect light sensitive liquids. Two sizes: 250 and 500 ml.

Order from your Lab Supply Dealer. For details write Dept. 4210B, Nalgene Labware Division, P.O. Box 365, Rochester, N.Y. 14602.



Circle No. 86 on Readers' Service Card

Historical Footnote

In the government circles of Washington, D.C., an important letter may be written by from one to a dozen individuals, but never by the person who signs it; and ever since the appearance in 1945 of Vannevar Bush's *Science, the Endless Frontier* (1), the question has arisen from time to time of who wrote President Franklin D. Roosevelt's letter of 17 November 1944, asking Bush to prepare the famous blueprint for federal support of fundamental science after World War II?

Now comes the answer from the man who did it—Oscar M. Ruebhausen, a senior partner with the New York law firm of Debevoise, Plimpton, Lyons & Gates.

According to Ruebhausen, the idea came from another lawyer, the late Oscar S. Cox of Washington. As general counsel for the Lend-Lease Administration during the early years of the war, Cox watched with admiration the contributions to the American military effort by the Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD), the wartime agency conceived and directed by Bush. In common with other thoughtful Americans, Cox decided that after the war the government should find ways of using for civilian purposes the science-support devices that OSRD had designed.

Sometime in the fall of 1944, Cox had a thought that he promptly passed on by phone to his friend, Ruebhausen, then general counsel for OSRD. Would it not be a good idea, Cox asked, to prevail on the President to request Bush in writing to suggest means by which the government could continue as a patron of science when peace came? Ruebhausen, impressed, relayed the notion to his boss. "Bully!" was Bush's reaction. "But we'd better draft the letter ourselves. After all, we want the President to ask us the right questions." So Ruebhausen prepared a draft and cleared it with Bush and Cox. He then carried it in person to Roosevelt's speechwriter, Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, who excised a couple of paragraphs before having it readied for the President's signature.

Ruebhausen no longer recalls the contents of the deleted sections. He does remember "the youthful pride I had in the rhetoric of the second paragraph . . . which I thought was so like FDR's style" (2). His reference is to the statement in the President's letter that the "information, the techniques,

and the research experience developed [during the war] by the Office of Scientific Research and Development and by the thousands of scientists in the universities and in private industry, should be used in the days of peace ahead for the improvement of the national health, the creation of new enterprises bringing new jobs, and the betterment of the national standard of living."

Today, the spirit of these words lives in the National Science Foundation, the federal organization that the Bush report recommended as a peacetime successor to OSRD.

MILTON LOMASK

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References

1. V. Bush, *Science, the Endless Frontier* (National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C., 1945).
2. O. M. Ruebhausen, letter to D. Wolfe, 7 June 1972.

Fractionation Services

As a service to the scientific community, the American Red Cross National Fractionation Center provides facilities and staff for the large-scale (up to 100 liters) isolation from blood and tissue of purified proteins, cellular enzymes, membrane fractions, and so forth, which are not available from commercial sources. No charge is made for the services of the center.

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