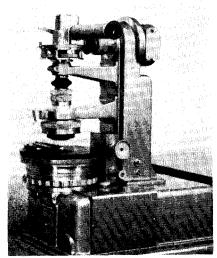


### Microscopic Attachment Permits Spectroanalysis of Small Specimens

A microscopic attachment for infrared spectrometers that permits infrared spectroanalysis of a single crystal or microscopic tissues now available from Perkin-Eimer Corp. The microscope



attaches directly to the Perkin-Eimer single beam infrared spectrometer. The device has been used to obtain infrared spectra of a single textile fiber. The microscope is designed so that only radiation passing through the sample reaches the recording device. A complete spectrum can be recorded in about 20 minutes **PE1** 

### Titanium Available for Food Processing, Chemical Equipment

Commercial grades of titanium, precision rolled to thin gauge and foils are now available from the American Silver Co. The corrosion resistance and heat tolerance of titanium might prove interesting to the chemical, food processing, and bottling industries, according to American Silver. Titanium strip has been used for instrument parts, metering equipment, valves and pumps in the chemical industry. **PE2** 

# Maleic Hydrazide Controls Sprouting in Potatoes and Onions

A formulation of maleic hydrazide MH-40 produced by the Naugatuck Chemical Division of the U. S. Rubber Co. controls the sprouting of stored potatoes and edible onions when sprayed on the plants before they are harvested. The USDA has just approved the material for use on these crops. Naugatuck claims that several months can be added to the storage life of these vegetables by the new technique. The actual increase in storage life depends upon the variety of the potato or onion plant.

Onions are sprayed with the material 1 or 2 weeks prior to harvesting, while potatoes should be sprayed 4 to 6 weeks before harvest.

MH-40 is the same material which has been widely used this year by gardeners to temporarily retard the growth of grass in waste areas. **PE3** 

# Feeder Air Lock for High Pressure Applications

A rotary feeder air lock for handling bulk material under high pressure or vacuum is available from Beaumont Birch, Philadelphia. Applicable to chemical and food processing, the air lock is available in cast iron, stainless steel, or monel.

Beaumont states that high pressured application is possible because of method of sealing ends of rotor. This is accomplished by a seal, which may be spring loaded, of rawhide, neoprene, asbestos or teflon either run dry or lubricated as required. Further assurance against leakage is obtained by the injection of an inert gas under pressure between ends of rotor and casing. This is important when noxious or poisonous gases are involved in the process.

The shaft is also scaled against leakage and bearings may be either ball bearing or high temperature bronze. Beaumont claims that in addition to its high pressure applications, this rotary feeder is unique in that the casing ends are fastened with only four bolts, an advantage in applications such as the food industry where frequent dismantling for cleaning after each batch is a requirement. **PE4** 

### Pipette Modification Protects Laboratory Workers Handling Bacteriological Material

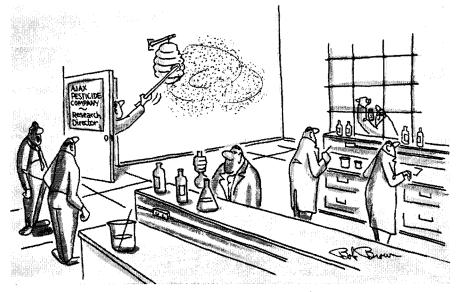
A new pipette with a built-in constriction designed to facilitate use of the conventional cotton plug for the protection of both laboratory workers and the solutions and cultures with which they work, has been developed by the Kimble Glass Company, a subsidiary of Owens-Illinois Glass Company.

The constriction is placed near the mouth-end of the pipette. Although large enough for easy cleaning, the constriction permits use of the cotton plug without risk of it slipping into the body of the pipette.

The cotton plug serves a dual purpose. Providing a safeguard for the laboratory worker pipetting solutions containing bacteria, it also prevents contamination of solutions or cultures by bacteria from the breath of the operator.

The new pipettes are available in 5 ml. and 10 ml. sizes both of 350 mm. length. Made of standard flint glass, the lines and numbers on the pipette are blue glass for easy readability. **PE5** 

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He claims it stimulates research