

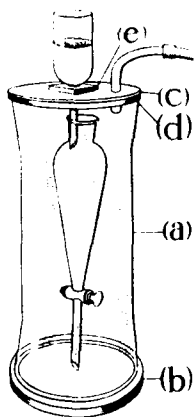
# NEW APPARATUS

## APPARATUS FOR FILTRATION UNDER REDUCED PRESSURE

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DURING analytical operations, in order to avoid quantitative transference of a filtrate and the further washing involved, it is frequently advantageous to filter under reduced pressure into a vessel not made to withstand it. The apparatus described, which can be used for direct filtration into various sizes of beakers, separators, basins, flasks, etc., is simple and readily constructed. The metal parts are easily made in the laboratory workshop, while the glass tubing and glass discs are standard items which can be obtained from suppliers of chemical glassware. The apparatus consists of a standard 12-in. length of 4-in. diameter butt-ended Pyrex tubing (a) of approximately  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in. wall sealed at the bottom with a 6-in. glass inspection-disc (b) cemented with Canada balsam or other suitable adhesive. The top plate (c) is made from a 6-in. diameter metal disc about  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in. thickness drilled with a central 1-in. hole and fitted with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in.

diameter tube for connection to the pump brazed half-way between the centre and circumference. A rubber washer (d) forms a gasket between the plate and glass tubing and a second thick rubber washer (e) ensures an airtight junction between the filter funnel or Gooch adaptor and the metal disc. Using the above dimensions filtration is possible into graduated flasks up to 500 ml. and separators up to 250 ml. capacity. Smaller apparatus may be raised to a convenient height on wooden blocks.

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colour with Reinecke's salt and a yellow colour with trinitrophenol and with sulphuric acid and potassium iodate. *d*-Tubocurarine chloride, dried at 100°C. for 4 hours, loses not more than 11.5 per cent. of its weight, and contains 9.5 to 10.2 per cent. of chlorine, calculated on the dried material. The weight of the residue obtained by treating an aqueous solution with sodium bicarbonate, extracting with chloroform, removing the chloroform and drying is not more than 3 per cent., calculated on the dried material, and the residue itself is insoluble in water, but soluble in dilute hydrochloric acid. *d*-Tubocurarine chloride has a specific rotation in 1 per cent. w/v solution of  $-208^\circ$  to  $+217^\circ$  (the most probable value for pure anhydrous *d*-tubocurarine chloride is  $-215^\circ$ ). It is standardised biologically by the rabbit "head-drop" method: the standard "head-drop" dose HD50, calculated as  $C_{33}H_{44}O_8N_2Cl_2 \cdot 5H_2O$ , is 0.15 mg./kg. of body weight, and references to the method of assay are given. *d*-Tubocurarine chloride is used to reduce the tone or contractile power of skeletal muscle in anaesthesia, shock therapy, and in certain spastic states. It is also used for the diagnosis of myasthenia gravis.

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