

investigated, and it has already been found to be possible to obtain this in clear, transparent form quite similar in appearance to fused quartz.

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK
RECEIVED APRIL 17, 1925
PUBLISHED JULY 3, 1925

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Filling Mercury Manometers.—The method of filling mercury manometers described by Swan¹ is similar to one which has been found very convenient in this Laboratory. In the latter method, the mercury is distilled into the manometer in a high vacuum. The apparatus is shown in Fig. 1. The bulb A contains the mercury. B is a by-pass for the escape of any gas liberated during the distillation after mercury has sealed off the bottom of the manometer. The vacuum pump is connected at C. After the manometer is filled, the constriction at D is sealed off, air is admitted and a cut made at E.

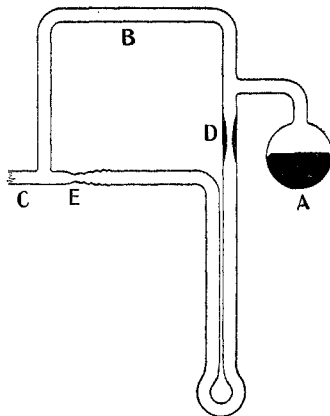


Fig. 1.

The distillation makes it easy to obtain clean mercury surfaces and does away with the necessity of boiling out small tubes. If care is taken to see that all air held by the mercury and the tubes is driven off before the outlet through the manometer is closed by mercury, the by-pass may be found to be unnecessary.

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE
CHEMISTRY LABORATORY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
RECEIVED MAY 13, 1925
PUBLISHED JULY 3, 1925

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¹ Swan, THIS JOURNAL, 47, 1341 (1925).