

LABORATORY NOTE

DEMONSTRATION OF PERISTOME TEETH MOVEMENTS

THE demonstration of the movements of the peristome teeth of *Funaria*, etc., is annually carried out in these laboratories.

The method, which we believe was first applied by Professor Drummond when at Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, consists in alternately passing dry and wet air over a capsule on which the peristome teeth have been exposed.

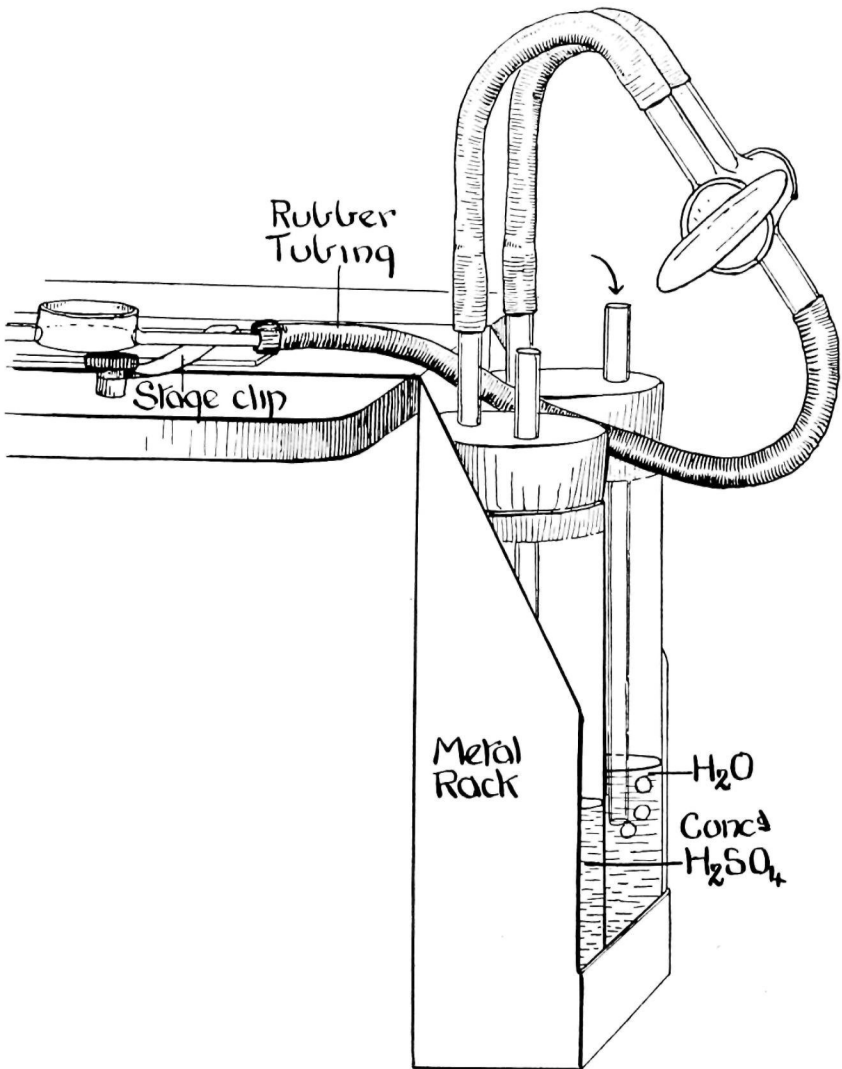


Fig. 1.

The air is dried by bubbling through concentrated H_2SO_4 , and saturated with moisture by bubbling through water.

The capsule, which is kept in place on a block of cork by a smear of vaseline, should be at such a stage of development that the operculum either has just fallen off, or can easily be removed with a needle.

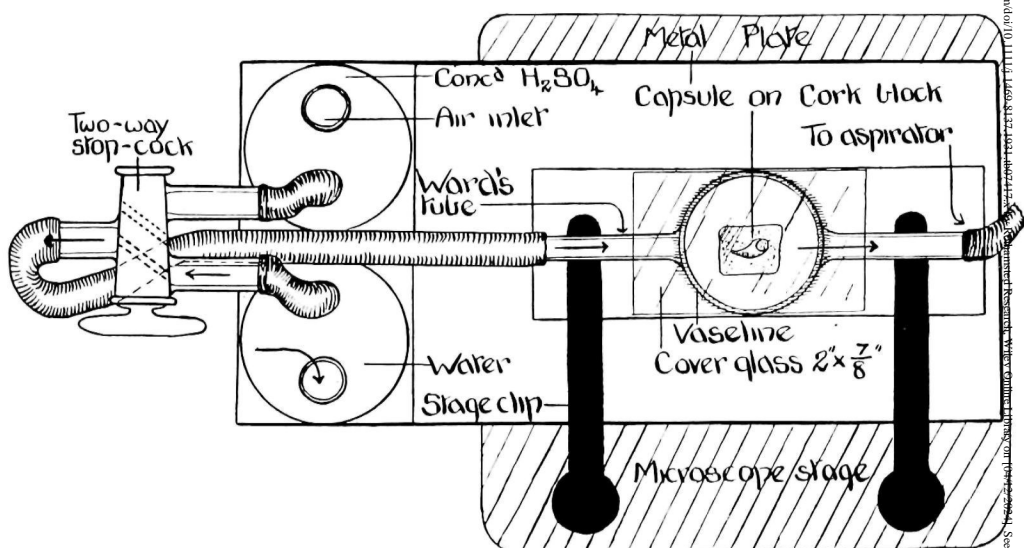


Fig. 2.

All tubes leading from the stop-cock to the Ward's tube chamber should be perfectly dry.

The cover slip is sealed by smearing the rim of the Ward's tube with vaseline.

Reflected light should be used for inspection.

This compact apparatus can be used for various purposes by substituting other liquids (or gases) for the water and sulphuric acid.

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