

when new approaches are made that new and original consequences come out. Very often, such new proposals may look strange and unrealistic at the beginning. There should be enough attention devoted by senior scientists to seeing through the possibilities and consequences of such fresh proposals, and encouraging them, even though they may not bear fruit in the beginning. There is a large responsibility put

on the senior scientific community in the country in fostering the direction of research activities in the proper way, so that, even with the restricted facilities and opportunities that are available in the country, the bright young men who are available in the country can contribute substantially to the development of world science in the advancing fronts of knowledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLD'S SMALLEST PRECISION SPECTROPHOTOMETER

The Bausch & Lomb MINI 20 Spectrophotometer is a miniaturised, portable, precision spectrophotometer that provides lab quality results with no need for an external power source. Small enough to fit in your pocket and weighing only 520 g, it produces accurate, highly reproduceable, on-the-spot spectrophotometric analyses, with results comparable to larger, more expensive bench models; no subjective colour matching.

The easy-to-read meter scale is linear in percent transmittance, nonlinear in absorbance. Blank scale overlays are provided which can be calibrated in concentration or any other desired units. The Bausch & Lomb MINI 20 Spectrophotometer has a precision,

diffraction-grating monochromator that provides a continuous 400–800 nm wavelength range and a 20 mm spectral slitwidth. Its wide sample handling capabilities include $\frac{1}{2}$ " test tubes, flat-bottom cylindrical cuvettes, 10 mm rectangular cuvettes, and 25 mm long path cells. The Bausch & Lomb MINI 20 is completely rechargeable; full charge gives you a minimum of 400 readings at 30 seconds each. It is ruggedly constructed to be impact-resistant, chemical-resistant and protected against humidity, dust and fumes.

Further information may be had from: John Morrison, *Search*, Lloyd Media, PO Box 340, Mona Vale, NSW 2103.

TINPLATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The impact of various types of packaging on the environment is of great concern these days, and a major packaging material such as tinfoil must satisfy both consumers and legislators in avoiding excessive waste. This article in 'Tin and its Uses' No. 138 describes the progress made in recycling the used tinfoil containers from domestic wastes, and schemes

to recycle scrap tinfoil directly back into the iron or steel making process. The trend to thinner tin coatings on the steel makes this type of process increasingly attractive. (International Tin Research Institute, Fraser Road, Perivale, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 7AQ, England).