NEW AND/OR INTERESTING IN MICROSCOPY

It is with much sadness that we advise that Morton D. "Mort" Maser, Executive Secretary to Council of both the Microscopy Society of America and the Histochemical Society, died unexpectedly on Saturday, March 18, 1995 as the result of a heart attack.

Memorial services celebrating his life are being planned for the summer months. Details will be announced as they are finalized.

In memory of Mort, his family is establishing the Morton D. Maser Scholarship Fund. Contributions can be sent to: Larry Maser, P.O. Box EM, Woods Hole, MA 02543. Please designate your gift to the Morton D. Maser Scholarship Fund

The Microscopical Society of Canada has announced its 22nd Annual Meeting to be held on June 4-7, 1995, at the University Centre Building, University of Ottawa, Ottawa. A varied and interesting scientific program has been planned and will consist of a combination of interdisciplinary symposia presented by speakers from around the world, separate physical and biological symposia, oral and poster presentations, workshops on TEM specimen preparation of materials and cryo-SEM specimen preparation and X-ray analysis, and commercial exhibits.

For information on the program contact Jim Corbett, University of Waterloo, at tel.: (519)885-1211.

For information on registration contact Shea Miller or Paula Allan-Wojtas, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, at tel.: (613)957-4347, ext. 7908.

On 2 March 1995, Thermo Instruments Systems (the current parent of NORAN Instruments) announced that it has signed a purchase agreement with Fisons, plc to acquire the Scientific Instruments Division of Fisons (the current parent of Kevex and VG Instruments) for 202 million British pounds sterling, subject to a post-closing agreement.

As would be expected, this action was an active topic of discussion at Pittcon between both the employees and product users of NORAN and Kevex. The only rumor-of-possible-value was that it seemed unlikely that the two companies, under common ownership, will continue to compete with each other. The remaining options might then be:

1) The merging of the resources, products, etc. of both NORAN and Kevex into one company. Or, of you like, the acquisition of major talent, products, etc. of one company by the other.

2) The breakout and sale of one of the companies to another party. There seems to be a rumor that there is at least one outside company interested in purchasing "one" of the two companies.

The American Vacuum Society's (AVS) Education Committee has developed an interactive HyperCard® stack, an interactive program, designed to help students at all levels learn the fundamental principles of vacuum science and technology. The stack is divided into four sections; What is Vacuum, Vacuum Pumps, Vacuum Gauges and Applications.

The cost of the HyperCard stack is $15.00. For more information, or to place an order, contact Angela Mulligan, AVS, 120 Wall Street, 32nd Floor, New York, NY 10005. Tel.: (212)248-0200, Fax: (212)248-0245.

NEW PRODUCT NEWS

Leica Inc. is pleased to introduce the newest member of the DM family of microscopes, the LEICA **DM C** Comparison Macroscope. The LEICA **DM C** is ideally equipped for any forensic examination. This instrument provides clear-cut evidence by optically magnified "side by side" or superimposition of two objects in one field of view, allowing direct visual comparison of sizes of object structures or spaces. This instrument was developed to meet the demand for new illumination and imaging techniques for the increasing number of investigations of traces on plastics as opposed to metals. Coaxial illumination, using Leica's proven Macrozoom objectives, is the only technique capable of producing high-contrast, flare-free images of opalescent or very shiny plastic surfaces. The modular design of the LEICA **DM C** Comparison Macroscope allows universal application potential due to its modular system. This modular design of the LEICA **DM C** makes it an all-purpose tool for...

- **Forensic labs** - The zoom objectives enable continuous matching of the magnifications to allow for firearm traces on fired ammunition parts, comparison of objects bearing toolmarks, comparisons between original and forged documents, currency, stamps, and seals;
- **Security Printing Works** - Quality assurance of printed matter;
- **State-Operated Mints** - Quality assurance of currency;
- **Banks** - Authenticity testing of modern and antique currency made of precious metals;
- **Industry** - Quality assurance in imaging of surface structures.

The LEICA **DM C** features five illumination units and its capable of observation and documentation, simultaneously with photo and video camera.

For further information regarding the LEICA **DM C** Comparison Macroscope contact Leica Inc., 111 Deer Lake Road, Deerfield, Illinois, USA, Telephone toll-free (800)248-0123, Fax (708)405-0030. **Ccircle Reader Inquiry #22**

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- The EICAS-9400 - Add digital capability to video microscopy. A one monitor solution that includes image analysis, removable archiving, and image database.
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- The ORION - Digitize your analog SEM or upgrade your digital SEM. ORION features include: image capture up to 8K x 8K, display modes, up to 1600 x 1200, and amazingly noise-free averaged or integrated images.

Call (516)773-4305 for more information. Circle Reader Inquiry #20

M.E. Taylor Engineering introduces the MTP-1 Magnetically Driven Twin-Jet Electropolisher. The MTP-1 is used to produce thin foils, electrochemically, for viewing in the TEM.

Based on the research of Dr. Wang Yongrui, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, the MTP-1 offers features not generally available. Electrolyte is pumped through the twin jets by a magnet pump. The motor for the pump is in a scaled compartment separate from the working chamber; so it is never exposed to a harsh environment. The light and sensor are built into the jets. Since they are coaxial, pre-alignment for the smallest size pinhole is assured.

Another unique feature of the MTP-1 is the ability to cool the electrolyte with a liquid nitrogen heat exchanger. Other types of cooling are also built-in. For further information, contact M.E. Taylor Engineering, Inc., Brookeville, MD, (301)774-6246, Fax: (301)774-6711. **Circle Reader Inquiry #21**