

vanometers? A. There is nothing absolute about a galvanometer, except those of special construction. Generally they have to be calibrated before their readings can be interpreted directly. Galvanometers can be and frequently are (as in ammeters and voltmeters) constructed for uniform readings for given currents. 4. About how many heat units are there in a cubic centimeter of zinc? A. In conversion into oxide it will liberate 121 kilogramme calories. 5. I have made the motor described in SUPPLEMENT, No. 783, and it works to perfection, going so fast it hums. Now, as I understand it, the centers of greatest attraction of the field magnets are right next to the coils; therefore, the armature revolves, being attracted on one side and repelled on the other. Am I right? A. Yes. 6. On the motor referred to, one side of the armature is positively and the other side negatively magnetized, is it not? A. Yes.

(4111) W. H. W. asks: 1. Will you

please inform me through your paper what is the difference between nitrate of silver and oxide of silver, and how each are formed and what are their characteristics?

A. Silver nitrate is a compound of the nitric acid radical and silver, and is made by treating silver with nitric acid. It is a white solid, fusible and known often as lunar caustic. Silver monoxide is a brown powder formed by precipitating the above in solution with caustic alkali. 2. What is the substance called salicylic acid and how formed, and in what way is salicin connected with it? A. It is ortho-oxybenzoic acid, $C_6H_4(OH)CO_2H$. It is made by heating sodium phenate in a stream of carbon dioxide. It occurs free in the flowers of *Spiraea ulmaria*, and as a methyl ether in oil of wintergreen. Salicin is a glucoside, $C_{12}H_{18}O_7$, not directly related to salicylic acid. It is contained in the leaves and young bark of the willow, poplar, and other trees. Your other questions we cannot undertake to answer.

(4112) A. C. writes: 1. Last year bought

Hopkins' "Experimental Science." Constructed motor as therein described, page 497, etc., using cast iron

magnet; did not double number of coils and convolutions; used field magnet just as it came to me from foundry. Should four volts make such motor move sufficiently to test accuracy of winding and connections?

A. The voltage should be sufficient to overcome the resistance of the machine. The amperage must be great enough to produce the power. With an E. M. F. of 4

volts and 4 or 5 amperes the motor should work very well. 2. With what degree of accuracy should halves of magnet be fitted together, and if inaccurately fitted, can failure to respond to four volts be attributed to that cause? A. The joints of the magnet should be as perfect as possible. Your trouble was probably due to insufficient current. 3. What is the difference if, in winding armature, the terminal end of each of the twelve coils comes from the inside (or under) of core in place of from outside, as in illustration, page 500? A. No difference.

(4113) T. D. W., Jr., asks: 1. What kind of battery is required to run the electric tray illuminator as described in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, vol. lxv., No. 21, page 329? I wish to construct one of the same for a year? I would not use it every day, but only once every now and then. Sometimes it is a month before I will take a picture. A. Use 4 or 6 cells of Leclanche battery or 3 or 4 cells of Fuller. The cost is very small when the battery is used only occasionally. It would not cost more than 50 cents per year after the batteries are provided. 2. Is the flash made by the flash light (described on the same page as above) instantaneous or does it require a time exposure? Is the lens left uncapped and the flash made, or is the flash made and the exposure made a time one? Also what number of Seed's or Cramer's plates should be used? A. The flash is instantaneous. Use the quickest plates. The lens may be left uncovered. 3. Will beeswax do as well for lining tray for silvering paper as paraffin? A. Yes.

(4114) J. B. M. asks: 1. I have some

statuary made of composition (sample inclosed) having a similar appearance to Rogers groups in finish. The outer coating or finish is wearing off, giving them a soiled, spotted appearance. What can I use to restore this brownish, or drab finish? It is a dead color, not a gloss. A. Give it a coat of paint made of white lead, rawumber, a very little oil and turpentine. Tube colors such as are used by artists can be used after thinning with turpentine. 2. What will restore the gloss to frame work of a type writer that has become dull? A. A thin coat of hard drying japan varnish. A fine quality of furniture varnish with refined lamp black added is sometimes used.

(4115) J. A. P. writes: 1. I have a boat

12 feet long. What size motor would it require to run it 5 or 6 miles per hour? Would two simple motors like those described in Hopkins' "Experimental Science" answer? A. You will hardly get more than three miles an hour with the simple motor. 2. How many cells

storage battery would it require? A. 12 cells. 3. How

many square feet of positive plate would it require to each cell? A. 2 or 3 square feet. 4. How can I anneal cast iron? A. Imbed in blacksmith's cinder and oxide of iron and heat in closed iron boxes to redness for several days. 5. How much current does a storage battery receive in circuit with a 16 candle power 110 volt lamp? A. Half an ampere.

J. N. L. says: Kindly give me a receipt for an ink eraser in liquid form.—C. R. D. says: Will you please

give me a good receipt for making soldering fluid to be used in jewelry?—F. C. A. says: Tell me of a cheap

substance that can be melted and run into moulds and become hard like rubber when cold.—A. F. J. says:

Will you please let me know how to dissolve amber in

some quick drying solvent, so as to dry about as quick as shellac in alcohol?—G. B. B. asks for a copying

paper.—J. H. says: I noticed the article on cement for

metals made of zinc oxide and zinc chloride. Won't

you kindly let me know how it is prepared?—W. W. G. says: Please inform me what is generally used in

making plaster of Paris moulds, and how to mix it?—C. A. B. asks: Can you inform an old reader of what

that compound is, and the manner of making it, that

rubber hand stamp manufacturers use to take their impressions of the type in?—W. B. R. asks: Can you tell us in your paper the kind of rubber cement that is used on the back of felt letters by which they are stuck to cloth, simply by running a hot iron over them? What is the cement made of and how is it applied to the felt?—W. M. says: I should like to know of some washing preparation.—C. J. M. says: Please answer through your Notes and Queries column how to make colored crayons for the purpose of rough sketching on paper.—A. D. says: If it is not outside your province, will you kindly give me the recipe for making koumies out of cow's milk?—P. C. asks for a reliable washing compound.—G. W. S. asks for a formula for a benzine-resisting preparation to apply to corks.—F. C. & Co. ask for burnishing ink for the use of shoemakers.—A. B. C. says: 1. Please inform me how carbon paper such as used with the typewriter in making transcripts is made. 2. How can typewriter ribbons be renewed or re-linked?

Answers to all of the above queries will be found in the "Scientific American Cyclopaedia of Receipts, Notes and Queries," to which our correspondents are referred. The advertisement of this book is printed in another column. A new circular is now ready.

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INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Granted

March 1, 1892.

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE.

[See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]

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