

PORTABLE X-RAY AIDS PLUMBERS AND JEWELERS

The plumber, electrician, jeweler, and builder can now use X-rays to aid them in their work. Dr. W. D. Coolidge, inventor of the Coolidge X-ray tube, has devised in the research laboratories of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, New York, a new portable X-ray machine that weighs only 30 pounds and that can be plugged into an ordinary electric light socket. The whole apparatus is contained within a box less than a foot square and a push of a button produces the penetrating radiation.

Dr. Coolidge made first practical use of his new invention when he used it to locate pipes in his bathroom floor. Crystals produce characteristic diffraction patterns when a small beam of X-rays is shot through the stone and observed in a fluoroscope, allowing the new apparatus to be used in testing the genuineness of diamonds and other precious stones.

DO TRANSPLANTED EYES SEE? SCIENTISTS IN ARGUMENT

Do transplanted eyes see? Can the eye of an animal, taken out of its socket and transplanted into the head of another animal, or into the opposite side of the same head it was taken from resume its normal function?

Scientists of two continents are in dispute over the experiments of Dr. Theodore Koppanyi at the University of Chicago. Obviously, if Dr. Koppanyi's experiments are successful, they may eventually be of immense importance in surgery. But Prof. Joseph Imre, Jr., Dr. Koppanyi's countryman, claims that successful transplantation has not been accomplished; while Prof. A. J. Carlson, in charge of the Chicago laboratory where Dr. Koppanyi is working, states that the experiments have had at least partial success.

Numerous newspaper reports relative to the possibility of transplanting the eye aroused the controversy among scientists which comes to light in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Professor Joseph Imre, Jr., head of the department of diseases of the eye in the State University of Pecs in Budapest, points out that he considers it his moral duty to relate the results of investigation in this connection. His investigations have shown him that Dr. Koppanyi, a biologist, performed experiments on rats and rabbits in attempts to find out whether or not an animal with a transplanted eye could see. According to Prof. Imre, Dr. Koppanyi cut the muscles and cut tissues around the eyeball and left the eye in place, and there was no proof that the optic nerve was cut through. He says, furthermore, that in every case in which the operation was witnessed by physicians and the eyeball was removed from its place, there never was any other result but complete destruction of the eye.

Professor Imre believes that even if the optic nerve could grow again, a condition which has never been established, and even if there were a possibility of transplanting a complete eye from one man to another, the question could not have any practical importance, because no physician should be allowed to, and no physician with any conscience, would remove an eye with good vision for making a rather uncertain experiment.

Following the publication of Prof. Imre's article, Prof. A.J. Carlson, of