and at the same time provide cosmetic qualities desirable in the front teeth.

Unlike all silicate fillings now in use, the new material does not craze. Although crazing is not in itself always visible to the naked eye, it penetrates deep into the surface and weakens the structure, causing short life and staining.

Today's fillings for the front teeth can be ruined in a matter of seconds in the period between mixing the filling, inserting it into the tooth and applying a protective coat.

The new material has a greater mixing tolerance, and fillings made from it can be trimmed and polished at one sitting. It also can be used for almost any type of restoration, including the repair of the cutting edge of incisor teeth.

Another new material, also sponsored by the National Research Development Corporation and developed at Warren Spring, is a dental porcelain. More than 50,000 crowns and bridge teeth have been made of it and fitted by dentists in Britain and overseas during an experimental period of three years. It is said to combine the advantage of the postwar acrylic plastics and of ordinary porcelain without the disadvantages of either.

These dental porcelains are based on alumina, an oxide of aluminum. Alumina itself is widely used in the ceramic industry for the manufacture of furnace linings, grinding wheels and insulators. Many gemstones, including sapphires and rubies, consist largely of alumina.

F. C. Livingstone

AUSTRALIA

Free hormone for dwarf children

Dwarf children are to get a growth hormone as a free benefit. The human growth hormone (HGH) will be extracted from human pituitary glands by the Federal Government's Commonwealth Serum Laboratories.

State governments are cooperating by collecting pituitary glands from hospitals and pathologists. The pituitary, a small gland at the base of the brain, is normally removed in postmortem examinations.

Health Minister A. J. Forbes says Australia would be the first country to make HGH available to the whole community, not just to selected groups for experimental purposes. Only limited supplies are available. The Humane Pituitary Advisory Committee of endocrinologists, scientists and clinicians will advise on availability and distribution. In general, HGH will be made available to treat children dwarfed by a demonstrated lack of pituitary growth hormone in their systems.

William A. Scholes

(continued from p. 228)

180 degrees F. and is not affected by rapid temperature fluctuations between these extremes, nor by humidity.

Price: \$1.25/linear foot U.S. Magnetic Tape Co. Huntley, III. 60142

Peristaltic pump

A wide variety of liquids and gases are delivered without pulsation by this pump $5 \times 5 \times 6$ inches. Compact and simple in construction the unit can be set for constant pumping speeds of 5, 10, 20, 40, 80 or 150 milliliters per hour. Tube life of the system is increased due to the elimination of friction caused by pulsation.

Price: \$250 LKB Instruments, Inc. 12221 Parklawn Dr. Rockville, Md. 20852

Chemical spreader

Designed for gardeners and experimenters, this lightweight two-wheel spreader for liquid lawn chemicals applies spray accurately to an exact area. From a spray head five inches above the ground, the chemical can be applied without drift over a 36-inch wide swath.

The unit holds five gallons and has a 41½-inch handle.

Price: \$125 Amchem Products Co. Ambler, Pa.

Boiling point indicator

Automatic determinations of boiling and melting points are made by this instrument which displays values digitally to .1 degree C. A very small sample of the substance is placed in a capillary tube and inserted into the furnace attached to the system. The experimenter presses a lever for the boiling or melting point and reads off the result.

Price: \$1,475 Mettler Instrument Corp. 20 Nassau St. Princeton, N.J. 08540

Metric indicating caliper

Developed for physicians and surgeons, this direct-reading caliper will measure both outside and inside areas up to 15 centimeters. Suitable also for industrial and research uses, the easy-to-read instrument is made of stainless steel and can be folded compactly for sterilizing or storage.

Price: \$24.00 Indicating Caliper Company Box 51 Oak Park, III. 60303

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