



NO INTOXICATION—You can't get drunk just by inhaling the fumes of alcohol. David Lester, left, and Leon A. Greenberg, right, are here performing experiments with an assistant showing that alcohol vapor, even though inhaled in this manner, does not intoxicate.

MEDICINE

Fumes Will Not Intoxicate

➤ IF YOU take your alcohol by inhaling it, you can take all you want without getting drunk. But persons taking antabuse treatment for alcoholism should stay away from alcoholic fumes such as might be found in factories where industrial alcohol is used. They might have as violent a re-

action as if they took a drink while on antabuse.

These conclusions are reported by David Lester and Leon A. Greenberg, research associates in the Yale Laboratory of Applied Physiology. They say "it is virtually impossible" for a person to become intoxicated simply by inhaling a large amount of alcohol.

Up to 62% of alcohol vapor inhaled can be absorbed into the blood stream. The remaining 38% is usually exhaled. But the 62% absorbed by the blood is burned by the body fast enough to prevent intoxication.

A person who is drinking alcohol, however, will get drunk much faster if he is in a room with large amounts of alcohol vapor in the air. Details of the studies are published in the Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol (June).

Science News Letter, June 9, 1951



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● **RADIO**

Saturday, June 16, 1951, 3:15-3:30 p.m. EDT
 "Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Dr. W. E. Dove, director of entomological research, U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc., Baltimore, Md., will discuss "War Against the Insects."

INDUSTRY

Razor Blades of Glass Produced by New Method

➤ RAZOR BLADES made of glass, designed to replace the ordinary steel type, are produced by a method on which the government has issued a patent. The keen cutting edge on the glass blade is made by grinding followed by treatments in an etching bath.

The blanks from which the blades are made are similar in size, thickness and quality of glass to high quality microscope slides. It has been found, the inventors claim, that glass blades of superior keenness and edge-holding quality can be produced economically by their process.

It includes grinding on a relatively rough stone, rotating away from the edge, and then subjecting the edge to a series of short dips in an etching bath, following each dip with rinsing or cleansing. The etching bath contains hydrofluoric acid.

Inventors are Irving D. Wallach, Port Washington, and Emil C. Joost, Springfield Gardens, N. Y. They received patent 2,555,214.

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