

S P E C I A L

Special Devices for Hard of Hearing, Deaf, and Deaf-Blind Persons

D E V I C E S

Joel Hurvitz

Richard Carmen

F O R H A R D

O F > H E A R

I N G D E A F

A N D D E A F

B L I N D > >

P E R S O N S

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*SPECIAL DEVICES FOR  
HARD OF HEARING, DEAF,  
AND DEAF-BLIND  
PERSONS*

Joel Hurvitz, M.A.

Audiologist

Veterans Administration Medical Center

Sepulveda, California

Richard Carmen, M.A.

Audiologist

Veterans Administration Medical Center

Sepulveda, California

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HAL

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# *Preface*

This book is a compilation of products manufactured for hard of hearing, deaf, and deaf-blind persons. The collecting of data and the searching out of new manufacturers have been ongoing for several years. The authors maintain up-to-date files on all products and manufacturers, with the intent of periodic publication.

Hundreds of manufacturers were contacted by the authors and queried about their products. Only those manufacturers and products meeting general criteria were included in this book. There seems to be a relatively large turnover of both products and manufacturers in this business, so obtaining a truly current list of products is difficult. In the event any reader experiences this problem, it is suggested that the manufacturer be contacted directly.

In general, technical information is rarely supplied by manufacturers. It is hoped that this book will stimulate new *and* renewed interest in more extensive research and investigation, development of prototypes, more rigid self-imposed product specifications, improved marketing and distribution, increased sales, greater professional awareness of special products for a special group of people, and a practical use of these products by those who truly can benefit from them.

The table of contents provides a general idea of information in the book; the index provides more specific information and cross-referencing. In addition, the appendix lists all the manufacturers and their addresses and telephone numbers for direct contact by the reader.

Each product description contains one or more of four symbols, presented in the upper right corner of the page. These denote for whom the particular product is recommended. The symbols are as follows: H—Hard of Hearing, D—Deaf, DB—Deaf-Blind, and P—Professional. These are merely suggestions since, for example, some products listed as D may well be appropriate for people in category DB as well.

Telephone companies vary widely in their special products to customers; it is therefore recommended that the reader contact the business office of the local telephone company and inquire as to what may be available. Prices tend to be reasonable and the company is stable; thus service on a product when needed is likely to be good.

It should be noted that some companies do not sell directly to the consumer and that a professional may have to function as a middleman. Also note that the prices quoted in the book are only *approximate* prices. Some products will cost more or less, with educational and quantity discounts available from many manufacturers and distributors.

The authors at no time underwrite, promote, approve, or otherwise recommend purchase of these products. Purchase is at the reader's risk. In addition, no statement regarding the integrity of the manufacturer or quality of the product has been made in the book. The purpose of the book is to provide a major listing of what is available in the field for a specific population.

If the reader is aware of any product or manufacturer or distributor not included in this book, or any information that appears to be inaccurate by virtue of the reader's experience and knowledge, please inform the authors at VA Medical Center/ Sepulveda, Audiology and Speech Pathology Service 665/126, 16111 Plummer Street, Sepulveda, California 91343.

J.H.  
R.C.

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# *Acknowledgments*

We wish to thank a few special people for their thoughtful contributions to this book.

Some years ago during the early stages of this resource compilation, a close friend suggested that there was value in its contents beyond our own personal, local needs and that more professionals should have access to the information. He suggested that we consider putting the compilation in book form. For this idea, we are grateful to our close friend and colleague Dion Svihovec, Ph.D., Audiologist at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Sepulveda, California.

We are very appreciative of all the cooperation from Ray Disenger, Customer Operations Supervisor for Pacific Telephone Company in Los Angeles. He turned a complex, red-taped system into channels of communication.

We are also very grateful to Kathleen McCarthy for her assistance in the compilation of manufacturers and for handling many fine details that otherwise might never have been completed.

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# *User Codes*

**H**—Hard of Hearing

**D**—Deaf

**DB**—Deaf-Blind

**P**—Professional

*SPECIAL DEVICES FOR HARD OF HEARING, DEAF, AND DEAF-BLIND PERSONS*



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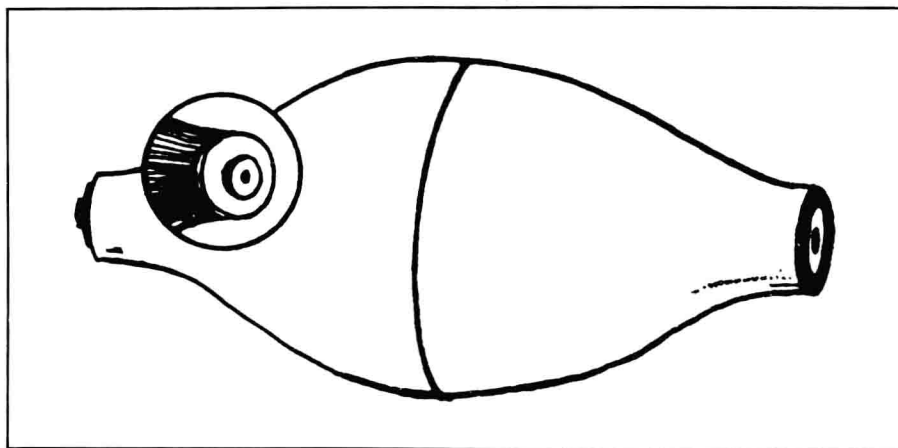
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*Accessories*



**AIR BLOWER**  
(catalogue no. 236)

**H  
D  
P**

**Price:** \$3.49  
**Source:** Hal-Hen Co.

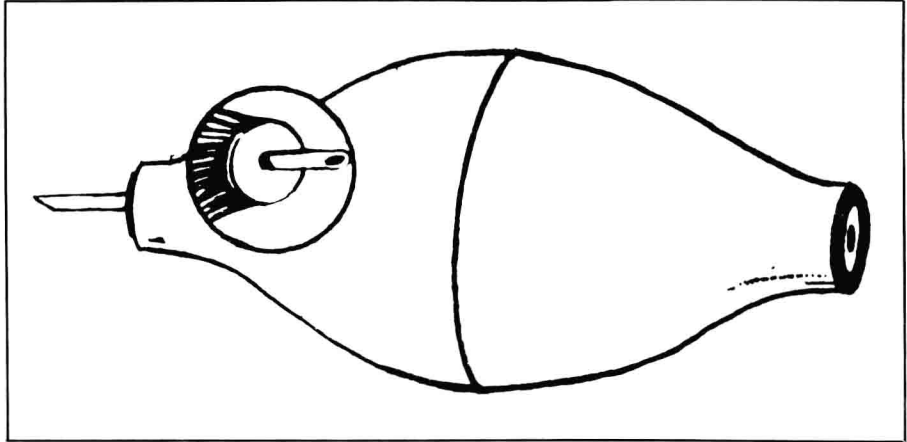
**Specifications:**  
None available

**PURPOSE**

The Air Blower is designed to snap onto a custom earmold. The user can blow moisture due to perspiration or a cleaning process through and out of the earmold.

**DESCRIPTION**

It is made of either rubber or a synthetic material.



## AIR BLOWER (catalogue no. 731)

**H  
D  
P**

**Price:** \$3.49

**Source:** Hal-Hen Co.

**Specifications:**

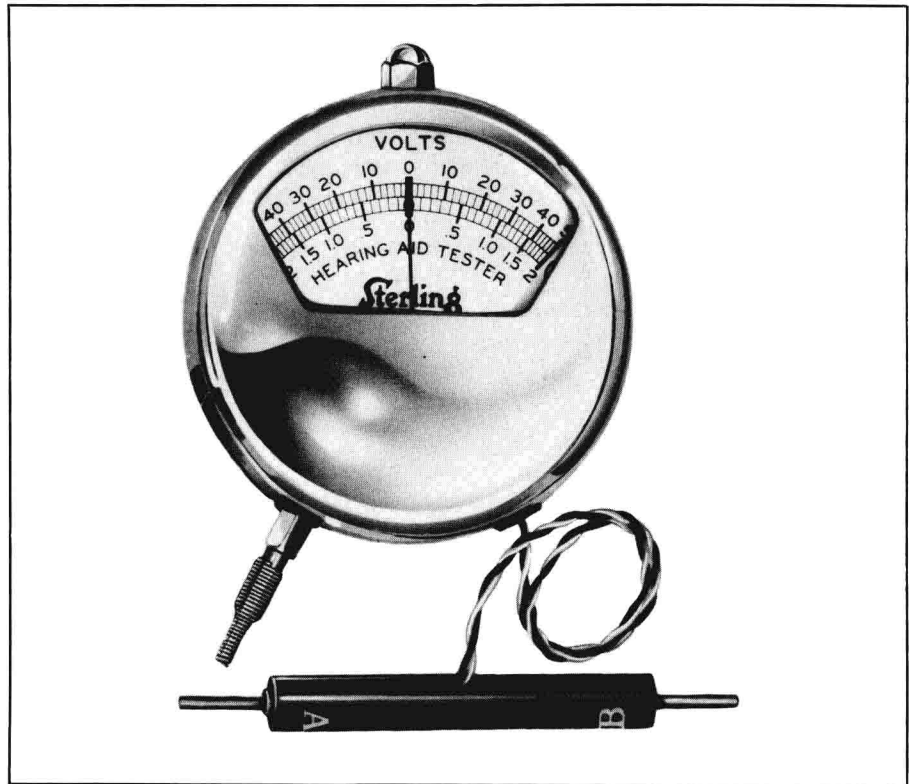
None available

### **PURPOSE**

The Air Blower is designed to attach onto the tubing section of the earmold, and the user is able to blow moisture due to perspiration or a cleaning process through and out of the tubing and earmold.

### **DESCRIPTION**

It is made of either rubber or a synthetic material.



## BATTERY TESTER (catalogue no. 267)

**H  
D  
P**

<b>Price:</b> \$15.00 <b>Source:</b> Hal-Hen Co.	<b>Specifications:</b> None available
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### **PURPOSE**

The tester is designed to measure the current of a hearing-aid battery or of other similar-sized batteries.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The metal-encased moving coil voltmeter has a 2.0-v range with a parallel scale providing a 50-v range. An extension lead from the voltmeter provides a positive polarity, while the voltmeter itself acts as the negative. The whole unit is pocket-sized.



