WP4.2:\CLOR.OX DARKROOM

## SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE

is better known as Laundry Bleach. It is like Holographic Bleaches in that it does oxidize or bleach something, but its oxidizing effects on Holographic Plates can be quite devastating. One of its functions in the Holographic Chemical Cabinet is to remove the emulsion from unsuccessful holograms so that the glass can be used for other things. The duds are placed in the bleach and it is so much fun to see the gelatin coating just melt off. A quick rinse and the plates are ready to be used as cover glasses, to accept a DCG coating, or whatever.

Another job for this chemical is removing stains not from clothes but from the holographer, pyrogallol stains in particular. This developing agent tans gelatin as it works, which is pretty much the same thing as skin. So to get rid of those tell tale pyro fingers, a brief dunk in the bleach will get your digits Saturday night spic and span.

But remember what this stuff did to the holographic emulsion, and you can feel its effect on you by the hardening of the skin after bleaching. Try to minimize the need for this use and you'll be happier for it. Otherwise rinse the laundry bleach off, wash with soap and water, and use a good skin cream to replace the moisture in the hands.