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Canty et al.

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- (54) **FLUID FLOW CELL**
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- (*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A flow cell device for observing a fluid including a housing defining an inlet and an outlet and a viewing assembly coupled to the housing. The viewing assembly includes a first viewing member disposed adjacent to an aperture in fluid communication with the inlet and the outlet. The first viewing member is configured to enable a viewing of the fluid in the aperture and is adjustable with respect to the housing so that a thickness of the aperture is variable. In addition, a method for observing a fluid in a flow cell includes passing the fluid through an adjustable aperture that is defined on a first side by a first viewing member that is moveable so that a thickness of the aperture is adjustable. The method also includes viewing the fluid through the first viewing member as the fluid passes through the aperture.

- (51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G01N 7/10**
- (52) **U.S. Cl.** **356/246**
- (58) **Field of Search** 356/36, 244, 246, 356/440, 436; 250/576, 459.1, 491.1; 422/52, 63, 65, 82.05, 82.68, 102, 104; 359/894, 895, 440

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30 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

