



Figure 8. Picking up the plastic support film and attached grids. A: grids (*g*) are spaced on a floating Formvar film (*f*). A piece of index card (*c*) is touched to the film (parallel and close to one edge of the plastic film) and the card is pushed straight down (*down arrows*). B: the downward thrust of the card is continued, and the grids are being forced against the card. C: the entire film has been forced against the card. At this point the card is withdrawn vertically.

clad grids be placed in the oven, or they will certainly be ruined. When the grids are dry they are ready for carbon coating.

Note: Preliminary tests utilizing a method developed by H. C. Aldrich (personal communication) for stripping Formvar films from slides indicated it could be an acceptable alternative to the method described above. The chief advantages of this alternative method are that the Formvar films release more easily from the microscope slides, and the slides do not have to be warmed as was necessary with the preceding procedure. This alternative procedure is described below with only slight deviation from Dr. Aldrich's outline.

Clean the grids, and prepare the Formvar solution as described before. Prepare a solution from laboratory detergent powder (e.g. Alcanox, Hemo-sol)—0.5 g/100 ml water should be sufficient. The exact concentration does not seem to be critical. Clean a microscope