

# United States

Lemaitre

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[54] **METHOD FOR PRODUCING OPTICAL ELEMENTS WITH ASPHERICAL SURFACES**

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### [57] ABSTRACT

A method for producing optical elements with aspherical surfaces with a pneumatic device for deforming the plates to be formed into optical elements. The plates are deformed by reducing the pressure in a central chamber independently of the reduction of pressure in one or more concentric annular chambers. Toroidal sealing members are provided between the chambers and serve as supports for the plate to be deformed. The invention is particularly useful in optical instruments for astronomy.

**8 Claims, 2 Drawing Figures**

