and syringe needle not be sterilized. The needle and the tip of the syringe are filled with water, and a sample of air is secured by inserting the needle in one of the rubber tubing connections. . . . The method is easy to use and duplicate analyses can be made in from twenty to twenty-five minutes. . . . The method is very satisfactory for determinations in which an accuracy of 0.3 per cent is sufficient." 4 references.

J. C. M. C.


"It is known that cocaine potentiates the effect of stimulation of the sympathetic nervous system and of injected epinephrine. . . . While the present work was in progress, a paper appeared by Lawrence, Morton and Tainter, showing that cocaine interferes with the inactivation of epinephrine. . . . A solution of epinephrine was perfused through the Laeven-Trendelenburg frog preparation, the rabbit ear, and the rabbit leg, before and after treatment with cocaine. . . . The conclusion is drawn that cocaine interferes with the inactivation of epinephrine in the tissues. The postganglionic fibers from the superior cervical ganglion were stimulated in the rabbit ear preparation of Gaddum and Kwiatkowski. The perfusate from the ear was tested on the blood pressure of the cat. The results of these experiments show that the fluid passing through the tissues when the sympathetic nerve is stimulated has a greater vasopressor action than the perfusate collected under the same conditions in the absence of cocaine. The conclusion is drawn that cocaine also interferes with the inactivation of sympathin." 18 references.

J. C. M. C.


"The effect of slow cocaine infusion on the phenol metabolism of living cats was studied by determination of the free and conjugated phenol content of the blood and the corresponding urine samples. . . . Results indicate that cocaine, even in low concentrations, inhibits the enzymatic processes involved in the conjugation of phenol in the living animal. They also lend an indirect support to the theory of Richter that epinephrine may be inactivated partly by esterification of the phenol ring." 17 references.

J. C. M. C.


"The use of an extract of curare (Intocostrin—Squibb) as a means of improving muscular relaxation during inhalation anesthesia revealed the fact that curare causes more respiratory depression during ether anesthesia than during cyclopropane anesthesia. The available evidence seems to indicate that, although there is some direct effect on the respiratory center, curare in single therapeutic doses affects peripheral muscular action by interfering with the ability of the muscle cell to respond to the nicotinic action of acetylcholine. It seemed likely, therefore, that the greater respiratory depression which occurs when curare is used during ether anesthesia might be caused by a peripheral action of ether on the humoral mechanism of the transmission of nerve impulses. The investigation was done by determining the response of the gastrocnemius muscle of the dog to intraarterially in-