a sheep with these combined factors—virus and enteric toxin[9]—and recently we have produced paralysis in a horse by injecting these combined elements.

JOHN A. TOOMEY

HEMORRHAGIC NECROSIS AND REGRESSION OF SARCOMA 180[1]

BACTERIAL substances capable of eliciting the phenomenon of local skin reactivity to bacterial filtrates in rabbits[2] produce, upon intravenous injection, hemorrhagic necrosis and regression of transplantable malignant tumors of guinea pigs,[3] mice and rats.[4] There is, however, a high death rate in animals thus treated.

In experiments on the phenomenon of local skin reactivity to bacterial filtrates in rabbits it was observed that, in certain proportions, mixtures of *B. typhosus* culture filtrates with homologous antisera possess a high phenomenon-producing and low lethal potency. Studies were then made on the effect of single intravenous injections of these mixtures and of toxic filtrates alone upon 132 mice bearing twelve days old sarcoma 180. Best results were obtained with a mixture of 300 *B. typhosus* reacting units with 200 neutralizing units of antityphoid horse serum[5] tested in 27 mice. There was no early mortality (*i.e.*, 24 hours after the intravenous injection). Late mortality (*i.e.*, 2 to 20 days after the intravenous injection) occurred in 5 mice. Prompt hemorrhagic necrosis took place in 23 mice and complete regression of tumors with uneventful healing in 21 of these mice. According to Woglom,[6] untreated mice show only 1.33 per cent. of spontaneous regressions. As the amount of filtrate in mixture with 200 neutralizing units of the serum was increased, there occurred early mortality and a roughly proportionate rise in late mortality. The incidence of complete regressions of tumors of surviving mice was approximately the same. Doses of 125 and 250 reacting units of the filtrate alone (*i.e.*, without the serum) elicited early mortality as high as 70 and 95 per cent., respectively.

It becomes obvious from these experiments that in certain proportions mixtures of *B. typhosus* filtrates with homologous antisera possess a comparatively low lethal potency and yet elicit prompt and intense hemorrhagic necrosis with subsequent complete regression of sarcoma 180 in a high percentage of mice well above normal expectancy. Further work is under way in order to determine the effect of these and other combinations of bacterial filtrates with immune antisera upon animal and human spontaneous tumors.

GREGORY SHWARTZMAN

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

A THYRATRON CONTROL FOR INCUBATORS AND WATER BATHS

THE use of an electromagnetic relay for the control of heating elements in incubators and water baths has two fundamental disadvantages. (1) The current required to operate even highly sensitive relays is more than is desirable at the mercury platinum junction of the thermoregulator. This can be corrected by the use of an amplifying vacuum tube, but adds to the complexity of the set-up without avoiding the second disadvantage. (2) Any relay, no matter how well made, is apt to stick and possibly ruin an extensive experiment. This can be avoided by using a duplicate relay and thermoregulator, but again the system is complicated. These disadvantages are obviated by the use of a thyratron to replace the amplifying tube and relay. For this purpose we have used a General Electric Thyratron, FG154, which is a four-electrode, Argon-filled, low-grid current control tube. This tube is rated to carry a current of 2.5 amps. continuously, which is sufficient for the temperature control of most incubators and the average water bath. Under ordinary conditions, with currents not exceeding the maximum rated value, a tube may be expected to serve for at least one year. Another tube, FG98, capable of carrying .5 amps., is available for smaller incubators or temperatures near to that of the room.

The figure gives a wiring diagram of the set-up used. The tube has six terminals, four which fit into the base and are lettered F, F, P and G. F and F connect with the ends of the filament and P with its midpoint. G connects with the shield grid. The terminal of the control grid is at the side of the tube and the terminal of the anode at the top. The heating unit may be in any desired form. The filament transformer must be capable of delivering 35 watts at 5.0 volts A.C., and the filament current should be as nearly constant as possible to ensure a long life for the tube. The two batteries may be dry cells. The current drawn from them is so small that they may be expected to last approximately their "shelf life."

[9] *Idem, Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. and Med.*, 32: 1346, 1935.

[1] From the laboratories of The Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City. Preliminary report. This investigation has been aided by a grant from the Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation.

[2] G. Shwartzman, *Jour. Exp. Med.*, 48: 247, 1928.

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[5] G. Shwartzman, *Jour. Exp. Med.*, 52: 781, 1930.

[6] William H. Woglom, personal communication.