TABLE 1

Purpose of experiment	Specimen identification	Time of extraction	Bio-assay* γ/cc of extract
Reproducibility of results	P.U. 1A	6 hrs.	63
	P.U. 1B	6 "	63
Time of complete extraction	P.U. 2	24 "	42
	P.U. 2A	4 "	42
	P.U. 2B	8 "	42
	P.U. 2C	16 "	42
	P.U. 3AI.	4 "	42
	P.U. 3AII.	2 "	28
	P.U. 3AV.	1 "	28

* Rat Unit = $1\frac{3}{4}$ γ estrone

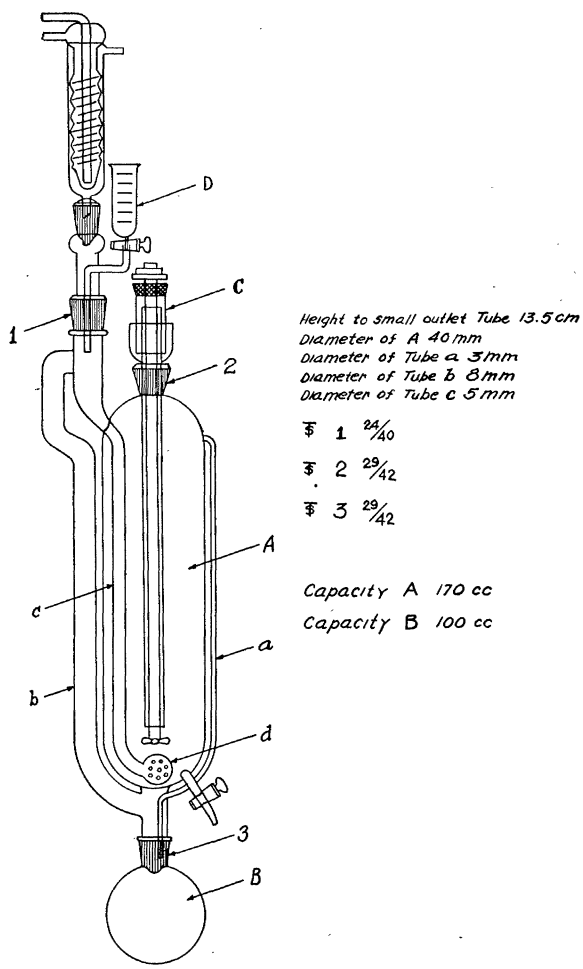

FIG. 1

Results indicate both reproducibility and relatively great efficiency.

This apparatus has given complete extraction of identical quantities requiring less time than with the use of other extractors.

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OBTAINING BLOOD FROM MICE

WHILE testing the sera of individual mice for antibodies several years ago, the writer obtained blood more easily and in larger quantities by severing the axillary artery than by cardiac puncture. Since a number of papers have appeared recently in which the investigators reported using cardiac puncture in bleeding mice, the method employed by the writer is hereby described with the hope that it will be useful to others.

The mouse is anesthetized, placed on its back on a dissecting board and its extended legs fastened with spring clips. The hair is thoroughly moistened and, with scissors, a mid-line incision is made through the skin from the abdomen to the neck. The skin of the right side is grasped with small hemostatic forceps and reflected by pulling until the muscles of the right foreleg are exposed. A pocket will be formed between the skin and body wall in the axilla. When the mouse shows signs of regaining consciousness, the axillary artery is severed by cutting deeply with sterile scissors through the center of the pectoral muscle into the axilla. A pool of blood immediately forms in the pocket and can be removed easily with a sterile pipette. A greater yield is obtained if the mouse almost recovers from the anesthesia before the artery is severed than if it is cut during deep anesthesia. The bleeding is so profuse that the animal rapidly loses consciousness. This method also has been used successfully on rats and may be useful in bleeding small birds.

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