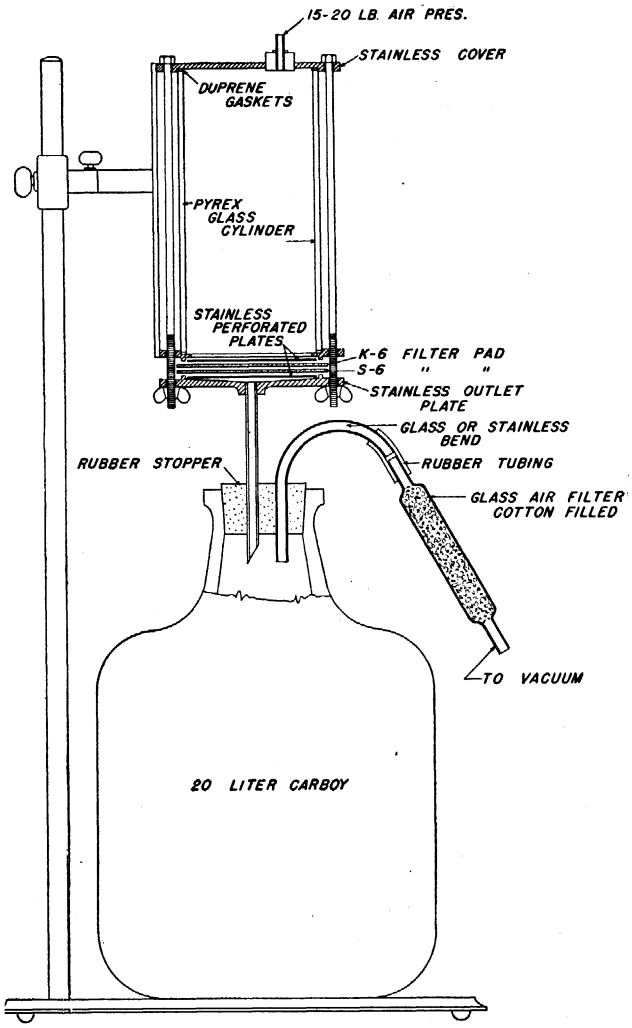

FIG. 1

not remain in contact with the filter pad for any great length of time, an additional precaution to avoid clotting.

When filtration has been completed, the plasma is immediately transferred to final containers and frozen. It has been found desirable that the filling and freezing processes be done within 3–4 hours after filtration.

Over 200 lots, each lot consisting of 15–18 liters of citrated plasma, have been filtered by this method without a single contamination of the final bulk material.

Chemical studies indicate that there is no apparent difference between filtered and unfiltered citrated normal human plasma. These studies will be reported in detail later, but one interesting point may well be mentioned here. It is found that this method of filtration removes traces of red cells so fine that they escape detection by the naked eye.

Summary: Large amounts of fresh citrated plasma can be filtered easily through specially prepared asbestos-composition pads without clotting. A description of the technique is given.

LEO RANE
DAVID M. BALDWIN

LEDERLE LABORATORIES,
PEARL RIVER, N. Y.

EFFICIENT HANDLER FOR SMALL MAMMALS

THE author devised this apparatus shown in Fig. 1 which has proved to be extremely useful when rats are

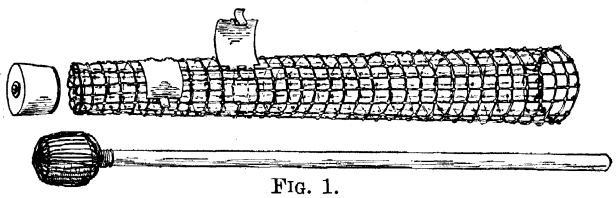

FIG. 1.

wild and hard to manage. It was first used to handle large numbers of rats and mice in feeding and inoculating experiments without the use of anesthetics. The device has been used for a number of years at the University of Illinois and is now being used in several other universities.

The gadget consists of a wire cloth cone 18 inches long of half-inch mesh for use with rats; a quarter-inch mesh is better for mice. The large cone here described is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter at one end and tapers to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches at the opposite end. Wires are clipped out at convenient places near the small end and a sheet metal door with a fastener covers this opening. A wooden plunger handle to which is screwed a large plunger cork tipped with a sheet metal disk and another large stopper cork with metal disk complete the essential equipment. To insure free movement in the cone the plunger cork may be wrapped with wire.

To use the instrument insert the stopper cork in the small end of the cone and place the large end into the animal cage so as to crowd the animal into a corner. Slip the end of the cone over the head of the rat or mouse while holding the cone at about a 45° angle. In attempting to escape the animal will run quickly up the incline to the stoppered end. The plunger is inserted at once and the animal is ready for use. The animal is freed into its cage by pulling the stopper cork and if necessary by stimulating its exit by means of the plunger.

LYELL J. THOMAS

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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