

of the series. After incubation at 37 degrees for 48 hours, the sterility of the experiments was proven by broth cultures and the increase in amino N determined by the micro apparatus.

The increase in amino nitrogen with various enzyme preparations has varied from 14 to 26 mg. per cent. By varying the H-ion concentration of the solutions a maximum activity was found at  $P_H$  7.0 with a decrease on both the alkaline and acid sides of neutrality. The acid endpoint of activity was about  $P_H$  4.5. It was further found that heat destroyed the enzyme very readily. At a temperature of 56° C. for ten minutes in the absence of substrate, the enzyme deteriorated to such an extent that only a few mg. of amino nitrogen were obtained by its action. Higher temperatures completely destroyed it. Concentration curves at the optimum H-ion concentration approximated the usual curves for enzymes.

#### 116 (1698)

### **A study of the Wassermann reaction in one hundred and forty cases of diabetes mellitus.**

By JACOB ROSENBLOOM.

In a study of one hundred and forty cases of diabetes mellitus, a positive Wassermann reaction was found in sixteen cases. Eight of these sixteen cases presented signs of tertiary syphilis. These eight cases were treated for the existing syphilis. There was no increase in tolerance for carbohydrate following the treatment. This may be due to the fact that the fibrosis of the pancreas produced by the syphilis is not changed by the treatment.

#### 117 (1699)

### **Blood pressure studies in one hundred and forty cases of diabetes mellitus.**

By JACOB ROSENBLOOM.

Blood pressure estimations were carried out on one hundred and forty cases of diabetes for varying lengths of time. Some of these cases have been studied for a period as long as ten years. On the basis of these studies it may be concluded that the blood