

antigens from the known anaphylactogens, is their ability to elicit second, third, fourth, and more contractions from the same sensitive horn, by the repeated addition of the *same* amount of antigen to a fresh bath. This failure to conform with the quantitative rules governing the successive partial neutralization of precipitins, as demonstrated by Coca and Kosakai, and confirmed by the authors in the anaphylactic guinea pig uterus, together with the failure to demonstrate precipitins and passive transfer of sensitivity in this group of animals, makes it problematical whether we can include these antigen-antibody reactions under the heading of anaphylaxis as we understand that term at present.

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### The nature of the pollen atopen.

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It has been assumed that the exciting agent of atopic coryza and asthma in pollen is a protein.

We were at first inclined to the belief that this agent was a non-dialyzable protein, on account of the observation that, although about two-thirds of the nitrogen of the pollen extract could be eliminated by dialysis, the atopic activity of the extract remained unaltered.

This belief was proved to be incorrect by the further observation that, after digestion of the protein with trypsin, and thorough dialysis, the pollen extract was found to be just as active as before this treatment, although no trace of its original nitrogen content remained in it.

This result seems to place the pollen atopen in the general category of the enzymes, without, however, in any way demonstrating that the substance possesses the function of an enzyme.