

substances. Boiled dialyzed renin with added plasma or protein-free filtrate of boiled plasma was vaso-inactive.

These results suggest that renin is an enzyme-like substance which is activated by a kinase-like material contained in the protein fraction of plasma and whole blood.

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### Iodine in Samples Containing Little Organic Matter Other Than Urea.\*

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In the combustion of samples for iodine analysis, if very little organic matter is present this may be broken up by alkaline fusion and the decomposition products burned by a micro-Kjeldahl technic in the micro still (Fig. 4<sup>1</sup>).

Two hundred cc of water or 5 cc of urine plus 1 pellet NaOH is evaporated to dryness in a nickel crucible and 2 mg rare earth oxide added. Dry samples, such as seaweed or thyroid gland, are chosen small enough to contain about 0.2  $\gamma$  of iodine and are fused with NaOH in a nickel crucible. A urine sample may require 1 g NaOH for fusion and a water residue about the same. Heating is continued until bubbles of NH<sub>3</sub> cease to be given off. Water is added to dissolve the fusion and 5 mg sodium azide added to destroy nitrite and reduce iodate. The samples are then transferred to the micro still and analyzed by the McClendon-Bratton method.<sup>1</sup>

TABLE I.

	Iodine in sample	I <sub>2</sub> added	Total	Difference	% error
200 cc Minneapolis tap water	0.43 $\gamma$	0.54	0.98 $\gamma$	0.55 $\gamma$	2
200 cc LaGrange deep well water	0.59	0.55	1.13	0.54	2
2.5 cc urine	0.975	—	—	—	—
5 cc urine	1.95	0.5	2.44	0.49	2

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<sup>1</sup> McClendon, J. F., and Bratton, A. C., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 1938, **123**, 699.