what would happen if this technique were applied indiscriminately by a beginner in inorganic or radiochemistry, for example for placing ^{103}Pd onto a paper and then using the wire for some other radioactivity. It is of course common sense not to do such things, but then most techniques of paper chromatography are common sense, so why give details at all unless they are absolutely foolproof. Then there are some rather puzzling chapters, for example that on circular chromatography and that on ion-exchange papers. Circular chromatography is as usual described as space saving (is there really such a housing shortage?) but leaves the beginner in doubt as to whether after reading this chapter or that on ion-exchange papers he should not forget all about the usual sheet chromatography and from now on work only with the technique advertised.

In the volume on electrophoresis we welcome very much the fact that only a relatively small part is devoted to the separation of serum proteins on paper strips and much space devoted to haemoglobins, cellulose acetate electrophoresis and starch (gel, block, etc.) electrophoresis. There is also a short but adequate chapter on high voltage electrophoresis and another short but less adequate chapter on continuous electrophoresis. The mention of some of the commercial types of continuous apparatus would seem essential.

In spite of these few shortcomings these books can be strongly recommended to anyone intending to use chromatographic and electrophoretic techniques in clinical and biochemical problems.

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Estudio de la Proteinas del Suero Humano por Medio de la Electroforesis en Papel, by JUAN A. MORALES MALVA, Editorial Universitaria, Santiago de Chile, 1958, xix + 169 pages.

After many years of research in the field of haematology Prof. JUAN A. MORALES MALVA has written a book on the study of proteins by electrophoresis. This small volume is neither a treatise nor a guide to electrophoresis, but a personal and critical contribution dealing with his work on the use of this technique in the diagnosis of diseases. Methods are only considered as a means to diagnostic work.

The first part of the book (pages 1–52) deals with an examination of the properties of serum proteins, particularly those in abnormal and pathological sera. The second part, which is divided into two sections, describes the techniques of electrophoretic separation and quantitative determination, and a series of previously unpublished experiments by the author.

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