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In two recent papers^{1,2} referring to two earlier papers of mine^{3,4}, Dr. Graham suggests that it is not certain whether the ion-exchange mechanism was effected using my experimental technique, since the paper strips were impregnated with free amine so that amine thiocyanate could only be formed in situ during development with the aqueous solutions of NH₄SCN.

I would like to explain that the paper strips were, in fact, impregnated with the thiocyanate form of the amine, prepared by shaking 0.2 M benzene solutions of amine with aqueous solutions of NH₄SCN acidified with an equivalent amount of H₂SO₄. In view of the higher affinity of HSCN to amines, extraction of sulphate ions is negligible⁵.

The misunderstanding is presumably due to the fact that in the preliminary communication³ and in the English summary of the full text⁴ it is stated that paper strips were impregnated with amine, full details of the technique being given in the Polish text4.

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