These experiments indicate that there is a remarkable variation in the capacity of individual aromatic acids to displace these two aldehydes when they are bound to albumen, and, also, indomethacin is particularly effective and must have a high affinity for protein lysyl ϵ-amino-groups. Neutral and basic anti-inflammatory drugs such as amidopyrine, hydrocortisone and chloroquine, did not appreciably affect the binding of these aldehydes to albumen. We have the impression that drug antagonism of trinitrobenzaldehyde binding corresponds more closely with clinical antirheumatic activity (*vide* inactivity of benzoic and anthranilic acids) than does the effect of these acids upon pyridoxal phosphate binding to plasma albumen.

Mizushima (1964; 1965) reported that 1 mM antirheumatic (acidic) drugs and sodium dodecyl (lauryl) sulphate, stabilised a bovine plasma albumen fraction against heat coagulation. Dodecyl sulphate binds to at least 14 lysyl ϵ-amino groups per molecule of bovine plasma albumen (Markus, Love & Wissler, 1964). We found that both TNP- albumen and *N*-acetyl-albumen could not be protected from heat denaturation in this way and, furthermore, neither of these modified proteins would react with trinitrobenzaldehyde. We therefore believe that Mizushima's method of screening for potential anti-inflammatory drugs *in vitro* affords a measure of the protein-binding, or more specifically the lysine-complexing, ability of the compounds being tested. Measuring aldehyde binding in the presence of potential anti-inflammatory drugs affords another quantifiable index of potency in associating with protein (lysyl) ϵ-amino-groups, the importance of which is discussed in another communication (Whitehouse & Skidmore, 1965).

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8β-Carbobenzyloxyaminomethyl-1,6-dimethyl-10α-ergoline

SIR,—We wish to draw attention to an error in the chemical name of the compound we examined in our paper entitled: Antagonism of 5-hydroxytryptamine-induced bronchospasm in guinea-pigs by 8β-carbobenzyloxyaminomethyl-l-methyl-10α-ergoline (*J. Pharm. Pharmacol.*, 1965, **17**, 423–428).

We are informed that the stated compound should be 8β-carbobenzyloxyaminomethyl-1,6-dimethyl-10α-ergoline.

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