The gels were equilibrated with three changes of excess tris-E.D.T.A. buffer for 24 hours before using.

The samples were inserted in both types of gel on slips of Whatman 3 mm. filter paper. The runs were carried out at a potential gradient of 8 volts per cm. at room temperature (approximately 16°C.) for six hours in an apparatus based on that of Smithies (1955). The top and bottom 1.5 mm. of the starch gels were sliced off and the centre section clarified in anhydrous glycerol and scanned between two microscope slides in a recording microdensitometer (Curtain, 1960). A 540 m μ second order Bausch and Lomb interference filter was placed in the light source of the low-powered ($\times 80$) optical system used. The clear acrylamide gels were scanned uncut.

The haemoglobin samples used in these experiments were supplied by Dr. B. Ryan, General Hospital, Port Moresby, and Dr. K. Dowell, Eroro Mission Station, Territory of Papua and New Guinea. I wish to acknowledge the technical assistance of Miss Joan Harris.

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A portable water-bath for use when investigating the coagulation mechanism

E. B. MITCHELL *From the Department of Pathology, St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton*

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FIG. 1. Apparatus without lid and handles in carrying position.

FIG. 2. Apparatus without lid and handles retracted ready for use.

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