

Very noteworthy is the ease and rapidity with which this evaporation is made. Unlike the nitro-sulphuric acid boiling down, the boiling proceeds very quietly and without any bumping and spattering even at the moment of solidification and after, so that no attention is required.

In high carbon steels the silica is brown from undissolved carbon which, however, upon ignition immediately burns off.

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## NOTE.

*Preparation of Sodium Benzenesulphonate.*<sup>1</sup>—The directions given by Gattermann in his "Praxis des organischen Chemikers" are usually so accurate that it seems desirable to call attention to a needed alteration in the details of the method for preparing sodium benzenesulphonate (p. 217).

Repeated experiments show that by adding the products of sulphonation, when using fuming sulphuric acid (sp. gr. 1.87), to three or four times the volume of saturated salt solution, as he directs, a sulphonate, containing on an average thirty-seven per cent. of sodium chloride, is obtained.

This contamination may be avoided almost entirely by using four volumes of a less concentrated salt solution. One showing a specific gravity of 1.151 at 18° gives the best results.

The advantage of the modified method is seen from the details of two preparations, in each of which twenty grams of benzene and seventy-five grams of sulphuric acid (sp. gr. 1.87), were used. In No. 1, 240 cc. of a saturated salt solution (sp. gr. 1.204), in No. 2, 254 cc. of a solution (sp. gr. 1.151), were used. The yield of crystals, after filtering through asbestos and drying on a porous plate, was :

No.	Yield in grams.	Composition, in grams.	
		C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> Na.	NaCl.
1	75	48.1	26.9
2	46	45.6	0.4

With a slight sacrifice in yield a high degree of purity is obtained.

The method outlined by Prof. W. A. Noyes, "Organic

<sup>1</sup> Read before the Cincinnati Section, April 15, 1898.

Chemistry for the Laboratory," p. 84, is less simple, but gives an equally pure product with a loss, however, of about ten per cent. in the yield.

HENRY W. HOCHSTETTER.

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### NOTICE.

The Organization Committee of the Third International Congress of Applied Chemistry requests the American chemists wishing to send contributions to that Congress, either papers or reports of any description, to transmit the full title, together with an abstract of the papers, as soon as possible to Prof. Dr. F. Strohmer, IV/2 Schönburgstrasse Nr. 6, Wien, Austria. It is desired to publish the full program of the papers to be presented in the near future, and the American chemists are earnestly requested to send forward their contributions without delay.

H. W. WILEY,

*Chairman American Committee.*

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### NEW BOOKS.

ANIMAL FATS AND OILS. By LOUIS EDGAR ANDÉS. Translated by CHARLES SALTER. New York: D. Van Nostrand Co. 1898. xii + 240 pp. Price \$4.00.

This volume deals with the technology of animal fats and oils, and is a valuable work, not only for the student, but also for the practical manufacturer of oil and fat products. The first few pages, which are devoted to the occurrence, origin, properties, and chemical constitution of animal fats, deal briefly with the raw materials from which commercial fats and oils are derived, and review the chemical structure of these products. The modern methods of preparing animal fats and oils in general, are then exhaustively described.

The various forms of machinery for breaking down the raw material, the pans and apparatus for melting the fat, the presses and filters for separating the oil, are all described in detail with the aid of numerous excellent illustrations, some fifty pages being given to this part of the subject. The methods of preparing the various animal fats and oils are then taken up separately, the processes being described fully, beginning with the raw material and following it through to the finished product.