The reagents employed were first tested for sulphur.

| | Sulphur. Per cent. |
|---|---|
| The sodium and potassium carbonate contained..... | 0.005 |
| The sodium peroxide contained..... | 0.003 |

The rest of the reagents were sulphur free or contained but the merest trace.

## NOTE.

*Testing for a Yellow Azo-Color in Fats, Etc.*—In this Journal, **20**, 110, Joseph F. Geissler describes a delicate test for the detection of a yellow azo-dye used in coloring fats. The test has proved of the greatest service to me, and I make use of it constantly. While experimenting upon the subject, I have noted another simple test for this azo-color that seems fully as delicate as Geissler's. To a few cubic centimeters of the pure filtered fat in a large test-tube are added an equal volume of a mixture of one part strong sulphuric acid, and four parts glacial acetic acid. The contents of the tube are then heated almost to boiling, and thoroughly mixed by violently agitating the bottom of the tube. When now allowed to stand and separate, the lower layer of mixed acids will be strongly colored wine-red if the azo-color be present. Pure butter-fat imparts no color, or at most only a very faint brownish tinge to the acids. Strong hydrochloric acid may replace the sulphuric in the above mixture, or a mixture of one part strong sulphuric acid, and three parts water may be used, but I have obtained the best results in the manner described. ALBERT H. LOW.

DENVER, COLORADO, August 27, 1898.

## NEW BOOKS.

A BRIEF COURSE IN QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS. BY ERNEST A. CONGDON, PH.B., F.C.S. New York: Henry Holt & Co. 1898. iv + 62 pp. Price 60 cents.

Professor Congdon has given us a very satisfactory little text-book. While brief, the course, so far as it goes, is quite thorough.