# First Report of the Committee on Atomic Weights of the International Union of Chemistry.

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IN September, 1930, at the meeting of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry at Liége, the Committee on Elements which has functioned since 1923 was replaced by three committees, on (1) Atomic Weights, (2) Atoms, including isotopy and atomic structure, and (3) Radioactive Constants. Hereafter the function of the first of these committees will be to prepare annually a table of atomic weights on the basis of the most recent evidence. National Committees on Atomic Weights are requested by the International Union to refrain from publishing tables of their own.

While it was impossible for the new committee to issue a report earlier this year, it is the intention of the committee normally to issue its report so far as possible in the first (January) number of current chemical and physical periodicals. These reports will cover the twelve months from October to September preceding.

Authors of papers bearing on the subject are requested to send copies to each of the five members of this committee at the earliest possible moment.

Since the reports of the German and American committees (*Ber.*, 1930, **63**, *B*, 1; *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1930, **52**, 857) adequately cover the ground of progress during 1929, only investigations published since January 1st, 1930, are reviewed in this report.

Batuecas, Schlatter, and Maverick (J. Chim. physique, 1930, 27, 36, 45) have published new determinations of  $(PV)_0/(PV)$ , by the expansion method. In column I the assumption is made that the quantity varies linearly with the pressure; in column II an equation of the second degree is used.

	1.	11.
N <sub>2</sub>	1.0040	
NH,	1.01543	1.01515
HCI <sup>®</sup>	1.00787	1.00737
CO	1.00048	
H <sub>2</sub> S	1.01031	1.01035

Nitrogen.—Moles and Batuecas (Anal. Fís. Quím., 1930, 28, 871) have redetermined the density of ammonia at various pressures. The gas was prepared (1) from ammonium oxalate and potassium hydroxide, (2) by synthesis (technical) from the elements, and (3) by hydrolysis of magnesium nitride. After chemical purification, and in most cases drying finally with phosphorus pentoxide, the gas was fractionally distilled. After correction for adsorption on the walls of the globes, the results are expressed in the weight of the litre at 0° and 760 mm.

		1 Atmosphere.		
Method of	Globe No.	3, Globe No. 2,	Globe G,	
preparation	n. 773 ml.	647 ml.	1007 ml.	Average.
		Preliminary series	2	
1	0.77167	0.77106	3.	0.7719
1	0.77994	0.77190		0.7710
	0.77234	0.77184		0.7721
	0.771220	0.77210		0.7722
,	0.77101 Awawaga 0.77101	0.77209		0.7718
1	average 0.77191	0.77202		0.1120
		Final series.		
	0.77174	0.77130		0.77152
	0.77168	0.77190		0.77179
	0.77113	0.77158		0.77136
	0.77160	0.77168		0.77164
	0 55150	0.77166		0.77166
	0.77170	0.77149		0.77160
	0.77184	0.77212		0.77198
F	average 0.77162	0.77168		0.77165
2	0.77118	0.77185		0.77152
	0.77153	0.77207		0.77180
	0.77180	0.77119		0.77149
	0.77144	0.77188		0.77166
	0.77161	0.77193		0.77177
A	Average 0.77151	0.77178		0.77165
3			0.77169	0.77169
			0.77165	0.77165
	0.77195		0.77193	0.77194
	0.77168		0.77170	0.77169
	0.77187		0.77206	0.77197
A	verage 0.77183		0.77181	0.77179
Averag	ge of all 0.77163	0.77172	0.77181	0.77169
1		2/3 Atmosphere		
-	0.76758	2/0 Humosphere:	0.76763	0.76761
	0.76734		0.76773	0.76754
	0.76839		0.76842	0.76841
	0.76803		0.76844	0.76824
А	verage 0.76784		0.76806	0.76795
9	0.76754	0.76770	0.0000	0.76762
4	0.76770	0.10110		0.76770
	0.76752	0.76769		0.76761
Δ	vorage 0.76759	0.76770		0.76764
9 4	0 76749	0 10110	0 56500	0.70704
ა	0.70743		0.70729	0.70730
	0.10131		0.70798	0.70748
A	verage 0.76740	0.56550	0.76795	0.76742
Averag	ge of all 0.70750	0.10110	0.10100	0.10113
	0 - 0 - 1 - 1	1/2 Atmosphere.	0 = 000 /	
1	0.76511		0.76624	0.76568
	0.76623		0.76597	0.77610
	0.76586		0.76557	0.76572
A	verage 0.76573		0.76593	0.76583
2	0.76592		0.76606	0.76599
	0.76582		0.76592	0.76587
Α	verage 0.76587		0.76599	0.76593
3		0.76539		0.76539
	0.76641			0.76641
	0.76577	0.76561		0.76569
	0.76610	0.76593		0.76602
	0.76605	0.76541		0.76573
Α	verage 0.76608	0.76559		0.76585
Averag	e of all 0.76592	0.76559	0.76595	0.76585

		1/3 Atmosphere.		
Method of	Globe No. 3.	Globe No. 2.	Globe G.	
preparation.	773 ml. Ó	647 ml.	1007 ml.	Average.
1	0.76328		0.76321	0.76325
-	0.76378		0.76341	0.76360
	0.76395		0.76434	0.76415
Averag	e 0.76367		0.76365	0.76366
2	0.76424		0.76314	0.76369
-			0.76348	0.76348
	0.76400		0.76403	0.76402
	0.76416		0.76260	0.76416
	0.76444		0.76387	0.76416
	0.76387		0.76360	0.76374
Averag	e 0·76418		0.76362	0.76390
3	0.76391			
-	0.76438			
	0.76342			
	0.76350			
	0.76405		0.76426	0.76416
Averag	e 0·76385		0.76426	0.76392
Average of a	11 0.76392		0.76370	0.76383

From the densities at various pressures the limiting density of ammonia is calculated by the method of differences to be 0.75990. The corresponding molecular weight of ammonia is then 17.032, and the atomic weight of nitrogen 14.009.

Phosphorus.—Ritchie (Proc. Roy. Soc., 1930, A, **128**, 551) has determined the density of phosphine at different pressures. The gas was prepared from phosphonium iodide by means of potassium hydroxide and was fractionated.

P, atm.	Globe I, 336 ml.	Globe II, 341 ml.	Average.
1	(1.5311)	1.5308	1.5308
	<b>`1</b> •5308´	1.5307	1.5308
	1.5307	1.5305	1.5306
	1.5307	1.5307	1.5307
	1.5308	1.5308	1.5308
	1.5306		1.5306
	Average 1.5307	1.5307	1.5307
0.75	1.5274	1.5272	1.5273
		1.5273	1.5273
	1.5271	1.5272	1.5272
	Average 1.5273	1.5272	1.5272
0.50	1.5241	1.5237	1.5239
	1.5242		1.5242
	1.5237	1.5236	1.5237
	1.5233	1.5238	1.5236
	1.5238	1.5238	1.5238
	Average 1.5238	1.5237	1.5238
0.25	1.5204	1.5202	1.5203
	1.5202	1.5203	1.5203
		1.5201	1.5201
	1.5205	1.5205	1.5205
	Average 1.5204	1.5203	1.5203

Assuming a linear relation between PV and pressure,  $(PV)_0/(PV)_1$  is calculated to be 1.0091.

If the normal litre of oxygen weighs 1.4290 g. and the coefficient of deviation from Boyle's law per atmosphere is -0.00096, then  $PH_3 = 34.000$  and P = 30.977. This value for phosphorus is appreciably lower than the chemical value.

Sulphur.—Hönigschmid and Sachtleben (Z. anorg. Chem., 1931, 195, 207) have completed a synthesis of silver sulphide from its elements. The compound was stable up to  $300^{\circ}$  but lost sulphur by decomposition above this temperature when reheated in sulphur vapour. Partially decomposed sulphide takes up quantitatively the deficiency in sulphur. Excess sulphur is given up at  $300^{\circ}$ . To carry out a synthesis, weighed quantities of the purest silver were heated in sulphur vapour until the reaction was complete and then the excess of sulphur was eliminated in a current of pure nitrogen at 280°. Constancy in weight of the sulphide was readily attained. The sulphur was prepared by precipitation from thiosulphate and double distillation in vacuum. Weights are corrected to vacuum. In the twelfth analysis the materials of the eleventh were reweighed in exhausted receptacles.

The	Atomic	Weight	of	Sulphur.
1 100	11000000	neguv	<i>v</i> <sub>j</sub>	Naupitar.

Wt. of Ag.	Wt. of Ag <sub>2</sub> S.	Ratio, Ag <sub>2</sub> S : 2Ag.	At. wt. of sulphur.
7.90291	9.07742	1.148617	32.066
9.42181	10.82209	1.148621	32.066
9.74522	11.19355	1.148620	32.066
9.59836	11.02489	1.148622	32.067
9.20378	10.57166	$1 \cdot 148622$	32.067
10.75224	$12 \cdot 35021$	1.148617	32.066
8.28317	9.51424	$1 \cdot 148623$	32.067
9.86327	11.32913	1.148618	32.066
10.43748	11.98871	1.148621	32.066
$7 \cdot 21091$	$8 \cdot 28265$	1.148627	32.068
9.84440	11.30749	$1 \cdot 148621$	32.067
$9 \cdot 84439$	11.30748	1.148622	32.067
	Average	1.148621	32.067

Since all recent determinations of the atomic weight of sulphur have yielded a value not far from 32.06, this value has been adopted for the table.

Chlorine.—Scott and Johnson (J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1930, 52, 3586) call attention to an error in the solubility of silver chloride at 0° assumed by Hönigschmid and Chan (Z. anorg. Chem., 1927, 163, 315) in their syntheses of silver chloride which amounts to 0.002% in the weight of silver chloride.

Calcium.—Hönigschmid and Kempter (Z. anorg. Chem., 1931, 195, 1) purified calcium nitrate from marble by 10 recrystallisations, and converted the product into chloride by precipitation of the carbonate and solution of the latter in hydrochloric acid (Sample I). Sample II was prepared from commercial nitrate by 15 crystallisations. After recrystallisation of the chloride it was prepared for weighing by dehydration and fusion in hydrogen chloride, and allowed to solidify in nitrogen. The solutions of the weighed chloride were corrected for deviations from the neutral point by titration with N/100-solutions of acid and base, and then were compared with silver in the usual way, and the silver chloride was collected and weighed. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

### Atomic Weight of Calcium.

			Ratio,	At. wt. of
Sample.	Wt. of CaCl <sub>2</sub> .	Wt. of Ag.	$CaCl_2 : 2Ag.$	ealcium.
Î	1.84526	3.58692	0.514441	40.082
Ī	1.62314	3.15509	0.514451	40.084
I	1.42216	2.76444	0.514447	40.083
T	$2 \cdot 21933$	4.31400	0.514448	40.083
Ι	1.03950	2.02064	0.514441	40.082
Ι	1.45783	2.83364	0.514472	40.088
п	2.93786	5.71052	0.514464	40.086
п	$2 \cdot 45368$	4.76952	0.514451	40.084
II	2.11276	$4 \cdot 10689$	0.514441	40.082
		Average	0.514451	40.084
			Ratio,	At. wt. of
Sample.	Wt. of CaCl <sub>2</sub> .	Wt. of AgCl.	$CaCl_2 : 2AgCl.$	calcium.
Ĩ	1.97942	$5 \cdot 11225$	0.387191	40.083
1	$2 \cdot 35393$	6.07937	0.387199	40.086
Ι	1.67385	$4 \cdot 32284$	0.387210	40.089
I	1.62314	4.19217	0.387183	40.082
T	1.42216	3.67297	0.387196	40.085
I	$2 \cdot 21933$	5.73153	0.387214	40.090
			Ratio,	At. wt. of
Sample.	Wt. of CaCl <sub>2</sub> .	Wt. of AgCl.	$CaCl_2: 2Ag.$	calcium.
п	1.03950	$2 \cdot 68467$	0.387198	40.086
II	1.45785	3.76499	0.387206	40.088
		Average	0.387200	40.086

The average of both series, 40.085, is slightly higher than that found earlier by Richards and Hönigschmid, viz., 40.071. For the present, 40.08 is recommended. A. V. Frost and O. Frost (*Nature*, 1930, **125**, 48) claim to have discovered a concentration of Ca<sup>41</sup> in a potassium felspar containing 0.042% of calcium oxide. Only 0.15 g. of calcium oxide was available. From the ratio CaCl<sub>2</sub> : CaBr<sub>2</sub> the atomic weight of calcium was found in two experiments to be 40.23. Similar experiments with ordinary calcium which had been purified in the same way gave 40.10.

Hönigschmid and Kempter (Z. anorg. Chem., 1931, **195**, 1) attacked the same problem with calcium extracted from sylvine by von Hevesy. After preliminary purification the average atomic weight through the chloride was found to be 40.22. Spectroscopic investigation, however, revealed the presence of strontium. After removal of this impurity by fractional precipitation of the oxalate, the observed atomic weight was lowered to 40.093. The material still contained 0.015 atom % of strontium, so that the value to be

expected is 40.091. Since the sylvine is a geologically younger mineral than the felspar, a smaller concentration of  $Ca^{41}$  is to be expected, so the question as to appreciable variation of  $Ca^{41}$  in nature is still an open one.

Vanadium.-Scott and Johnson (J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1930, 52, 2638) have analysed vanadyl trichloride. This was made by heating purified vanadium trioxide in a current of chlorine, and the product was purified by vacuum distillation, after removal of excess chlorine with mercury and sodium. Portions for analysis were removed in sealed glass bulbs in the later stages of the distillation. After being weighed, the bulbs were broken under either nitric acid In the former case the glass was washed with nitric or ammonia. acid and collected on a filter. In the latter, after the supernatant liquid had been filtered, the precipitate was dissolved in nitric acid and the glass was washed and collected. The solutions were then compared with silver in the usual way, and in some cases the silver chloride was collected. The analyses are arranged in the order of decreasing volatility of the chloride samples. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

The Atomic Weight of Vanadium.

Wt. of VOCl <sub>3</sub> .	Wt. of Ag.	Ratio, VOCl <sub>3</sub> : 3Ag.	At. wt. of van- adium.	Wt. of AgCl.	Ratio, VOCl <sub>3</sub> : 3AgCl.	At. wt. of van- adium.
		Aci	d hydrolys	sis.		
$8 \cdot 15697$ $8 \cdot 29538$ $7 \cdot 60527$ $7 \cdot 01143$	15.23143 15.48986 14.20111 13.09218 Average	$0.535535 \\ 0.535536 \\ 0.535541 \\ 0.535543 \\ 0.535543 \\ 0.535539$	50.950 50.950 50.951 50.952 50.951	20.23483 20.57872 18.86755	$\begin{array}{c} 0.403115\\ 0.403105\\ 0.403087\\ 0.403102\end{array}$	50.97350.96950.96150.968
	0	Alkali	ine hydrol	ysis.		
7·75120 7·88453 9·19783 6·69572 8·04970 7·62984	14.47384 14.72386 17.17614 12.50344 15.03136 14.24666 Average	0.535532 0.535493 0.535500 0.535510 0.535527 0.535553 0.535519	50.949 50.936 50.938 50.941 50.947 50.955 50.945	19·56218 22·81924 19·96976	0·403050 0·403073 0·403094 0·403072	50.94550.95550.96450.955

Experimental evidence was found that the nephelometric endpoint was slightly affected by the presence of vanadic acid, but the effect on the atomic weight of vanadium is less than 0.005. The average of the comparisons with silver, 50.948, agrees almost exactly with the recent results obtained by McAdam, and by Briscoe and Little.

Chromium.—Gonzales (Anal. Fis. Quim., 1930, 28, 579) has applied to chromyl chloride the recently developed method of preparing volatile inorganic compounds by fractional distillation in vacuum. The compound was prepared by the action of concentrated sulphuric acid on a mixture of sodium chloride and potassium dichromate and, after fractional distillation under low pressure, was collected in sealed glass bulbs. The bulbs were broken under water and the halogen was determined by comparison with silver in the usual way. Ultimately the silver chloride was determined. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

# The Atomic Weight of Chromium.

		Ratio.	At. wt.		Ratio,	At. wt.
Wt. of	Wt. of	$CrO_{2}Cl_{2}$ :	of chrom-	Wt. of	$CrO_2Cl_2$ :	of chrom.
CrO <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> .	Ag.	$2 \mathrm{Ag}$ .	ium.	AgCl.	2AgCl.	ium.
9.56543	$13 \cdot 32143$	0.718049	52.012	17.69786	0.540485	52.029
9.54415	$13 \cdot 29120$	0.718080	52.019	17.65929	0.540640	52.022
	Average	0.718085	52.016		0.540473	52.026

The average result, 52.02, is only 0.01 unit higher than the current one, and no change is recommended for the present.

Arsenic.—Krepelka (Coll. Trav. chim. Czechoslov., 1930, 2, 255) has published details of the analysis of arsenic trichloride noted earlier (Nature, 1929, 123, 944). Recrystallised arsenic trioxide was reduced with sugar charcoal, and the metal resublimed. Conversion of the metal into chloride was followed by repeated vacuum distillation of the latter. Samples were collected for weighing in sealed evacuated bulbs. Hydrolysis with ice water was followed by comparison with silver in the usual way. In two cases the silver chloride was collected and weighed. Vacuum weights are given.

The Atomic Weight of Arsenic.

		Ratio,	At. wt.		Ratio,	At. wt.
Wt. of	Wt. of	$AsCl_3$ :	$\mathbf{of}$	Wt. of	AsCl <sub>3</sub> :	of
AsCl <sub>3</sub> .	Ag.	3Ag.	arsenic.*	• AgCl.	3AgCl.	arsenic.*
3.98710	7.11681	0.560237	$74 \cdot 944$			
4.81766	8.59961	0.560218	74.938			
6.27437	11.20020	0.560201	74.933			
$2 \cdot 42721$	4.33242	0.560244	74.946	5.75672	0.421631	$74 \cdot 934$
3.86442	6.89796	0.560227	$74 \cdot 941$			
5.09819	9.10041	0.560215	74.937			
5.46890	9.76222	0.560211	74.936			
$5 \cdot 10039$	9.10415	0.560227	74.941			
5.71146	10.19540	0.560200	74.932			
3.05992	5.46180	0.560240	74.945			
1.49994	2.67755	0.560191	74.929	3.55734	0.421646	74.941
	Average	0.560219	74.938		0.421638	74.938
* Colorile	tod with	01 25.457	The	former airron	by the	author ar

\* Calculated with Cl = 35.457. The figures given by the author are calculated with Cl = 35.458.

This value is slightly lower than the value which has been in use for some time, and slightly higher than that found by Aston with the mass spectrograph after correction for the presence of  $O^{18}$ , viz., 74.927. The value 74.93 is adopted in the table of atomic weights.

Tantalum.—Krishnaswami ( $\dot{J}$ ., 1930, 1277) has analysed the chloride and bromide of tantalum. Metallic tantalum was first obtained by reducing purified potassium tantalum fluoride with

sodium in an atmosphere of argon. When examined spectroscopically the metal appeared to be free from impurities, although it contained a small percentage of oxide. The metal was converted to halides by the action of pure dry halogens, and the halides were twice distilled in vacuum and collected in sealed glass bulbs. After being weighed, the bulbs were broken under ammonia, and the solutions filtered to remove glass and tantalic acid. To find the weight of the glass, the tantalic acid was dissolved in oxalic acid and the glass was collected on a weighed crucible. The solutions were then compared with silver and the silver halides were collected and weighed. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

		Ratio,	At. wt.		Ratio,	At. wt.
Wt. of	Wt. of	$TaBr_5:$	of tant-	Wt. of	TaBr <sub>5</sub> :	of tant-
TaBr₅.	Ag.	5Ag.	alum.	AgBr.	5AgBr.	alum.
3.07127				4.96415	0.61869	181.36
3.72095				6.01413	0.61870	181.37
3.81890	3.54594	1.07698	181.34	6.17267	0.61868	181.35
3.59654	3.33939	1.07700	181.36	5.81303	0.61870	181.37
2.69071	$2 \cdot 49831$	1.07701	181.37	4.34926	0.61866	181.33
2.61163	2.42488	1.07702	181.37	4.22133	0.61868	181.35
3.92094	3.64064	1.07699	181.35	6.33750	0.61869	181.36
2.04583	1.89956	1.07700	181.36	3.30681	0.61867	181.34
	Average	1.07700	181.36		0.61868	181.35
		Ratio,	At. wt.		Ratio,	At. wt.
Wt. of	Wt. of	$\operatorname{TaCl}_{5}$ :	of tant-	Wt. of	TaCl <sub>5</sub> :	of tant-
TaCl <sub>5</sub> .	Ag.	5Ag.	alum.	AgCl.	5AgČl.	alum.
3.15350	4.74301	0.66488	181.35	6.30152	0.50044	181.37
2.96215	$4 \cdot 45549$	0.66483	181.33	5.91874	0.50047	$181 \cdot 40$
4.08061	6.13756	0.66486	181.34	8.15438	0.50042	181.36
3.21073	4.82972	0.66479	181.30	6.41613	0.50042	181.36
3.49922	5.26278	0.66490	181.36	6.99201	0.50046	181.39
	Average	0.66485	181.34		0.50044	181.37

The	Atomic	Weight	of	Tantalum.
	1100110000		~	<b>_</b>

The average value,  $181 \cdot 36$ , is lower than that found by Balke in 1910, viz.,  $181 \cdot 50$ . Balke's method, in which the ratio  $TaCl_2 : Ta_2O_2$  was determined, has been found to be untrustworthy because of the uncertain composition of most oxides. The new value therefore has been adopted.

**Rhenium.**—Hönigschmid and Sachtleben (Z. anorg. Chem., 1930, **191**, 309) have taken advantage of the increased quantities of rhenium now available by analysing silver per-rhenate. Three specimens of material were prepared. (I) Potassium per-rhenate was recrystallised and the silver salt precipitated; retained potassium was removed by reprecipitation and crystallisation. (II) Metallic rhenium was burned to heptoxide in oxygen, and after solution of the oxide in water silver per-rhenate was precipitated with silver nitrate. (III) The third sample was prepared by dissolving silver oxide in per-rhenic acid.

The silver salt was prepared for weighing by fusion in air of a mixture of the per-rhenate with an excess of acid. Weighed

	The	Atomic Weig	ht of Rhenium.	
	Wt. of	Wt. of	Ratio,	At. wt. of
Sample.	$AgReO_4$ .	AgBr.	$AgReO_4 : AgBr.$	rhenium.
Ī	5.36365	$2 \cdot 81186$	1.90751	186.34
11	7.83577	$4 \cdot 10795$	1.90747	186.33
11	8.55829	4.48684	1.90742	186.33
II	6.34973	$3 \cdot 32894$	1.90743	186.33
ш	8.90918	4.67111	1.90729	186.30
III	6.95494	3.64684	1.90712	186.27
III	7.85704	4.11955	1.90726	186.30
		Average	1.90735	186.31

amounts of salt were dissolved in water and the silver was precipitated as silver bromide. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

This result is 2.4 units lower than the preliminary value found by W. and I. Noddack by analysis of the disulphide, but in view of the inferiority of the latter method and the small quantities weighed, the new value 186.31 is adopted for the table.

Thallium.—Hönigschmid and Stribel (Z. anorg. Chem., 1930, **194**, 293) prepared thallous bromide by precipitation from a solution of the purified sulphate. After distillation in nitrogen the salt was weighed in a quartz tube. Solution in hot water was followed by hot precipitation with a nearly equivalent amount of silver. The end point was found with a nephelometer in the usual way. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

#### The Atomic Weight of Thallium. Preliminary series.

Wt. of TlBr.	Wt. of Ag.	Ratio, TlBr : Ag.	At. wt. of thallium.
3.86281	1.46582	2.63526	204.38
3.78429	1.43583	2.63561	204.41
3.96949	1.50639	2.63510	204.36
3.94471	1.49669	2.63562	204.42
	Average	$2 \cdot 63540$	204.39
	Fir	nal series.	
4.01222	1.52251	2.63527	204.377
3.97142	1.50692	$2 \cdot 63546$	$204 \cdot 397$
3.90498	1.48170	2.63547	204.399
4.07193	1.54509	2.63540	204.391
3.68886	1.39974	$2 \cdot 63539$	204.390
4.04739	1.53580	$2 \cdot 63536$	204.387
	Average	$2 \cdot 63539$	204.390

This value agrees exactly with that found earlier by Hönigschmid, Berkenbach, and Kothe through the analysis of thallous chloride.

Lead.—Baxter and Bliss (J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1930, 52, 4848) have determined the atomic weight of two specimens of Ra-G. The first was extracted from Swedish kolm, and the second from uraninite from Wilberforce, Ontario, Canada. Purification was effected by crystallisation as chromate, sulphate, nitrate, and chloride. After resublimation, the chloride was fused preparatory to weighing. Comparison with silver was carried out as usual. Weights are corrected to vacuum.

	The	e Atomic We	eight of Lead.	
Sample.	Wt. of Pb.	Wt. of Ag.	Ratio, PbCl <sub>2</sub> : 2Ag.	At. wt. of lead.
Common	$2 \cdot 74332$	$2 \cdot 12809$	1.28910	207.222
	3.60741	2.79852	1.28904	$207 \cdot 209$
	3.07537	2.38565	1.28911	$207 \cdot 224$
	2.81471	$2 \cdot 18351$	1.28908	$207 \cdot 218$
			1.28909	$207 \cdot 218$
$\mathbf{Kolm}$	1.61294	1.25678	$1 \cdot 28339$	205.990
	1.60407	1.24983	1.28343	205.999
	$2 \cdot 56499$	1.99842	1.28351	206.016
	1.83748	1.43167	1.28345	206.003
	3.32075	2.58729	1.28349	206.011
	3.07451	$2 \cdot 39530$	1.28356	206.027
			1.28347	206.008
Uraninite	3.74779	2.91608	1.28433	$206 \cdot 194$
	5.63102	4.38436	1.28434	$206 \cdot 196$
			1.28434	206.195

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The kolm lead has a lower atomic weight than any other specimen yet examined and seems to consist almost entirely of the isotope Pb<sup>206</sup>.

Aston (Proc. Roy. Soc., 1930, A, 126, 511; 1931, A, 130, 302; Nature, 1930, 126, 200, 348) has extended the usefulness of the mass spectrograph to the determination of the chemical atomic weight of complex elements by micro-photometric measurements of the intensities of the isotopic lines in a mass spectrogram. The following table gives the percentages of the components, as well as the packing fractions and the atomic weight calculated on the basis of chemical oxygen.

Isotopic Weights and Percentage
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							$\begin{array}{l} {\rm Packing} \\ {\rm fraction} \\ \times \ 10^{4}. \end{array}$	At. wt. ( $O = 16.000$ ).
Chromium	50	52	53	<b>54</b>				52.011
	4.9	81.6	10.4	$3 \cdot 1$				
Zinc	<b>64</b>	65	66	<b>67</b>			- 9.9	65.380
	48.0	$2 \cdot 5$	25.9	5.3				
	68	69	<b>70</b>					
	17.1	0.85	0.38					
Molybdenum	92	<b>94</b>	95	96			- 5.5	95.97
•	14.2	10.0	15.5	17.8				
	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	100					
	9.6	$23 \cdot 0$	9.8					
Krypton	<b>78</b>	80	82	83	84	86	- 8.8	83.77
	0.42	2.45	11.79	11.79	56.86	16.70		
Tin	112	114	115	116	117	118	- 7.3	118.72
	1.07	0.74	0.44	14.19	9.81	21.48		
	119	120	121	122	124			
	11.02	27.04	$2 \cdot 96$	5.03	6.19			
$\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{e}\mathbf{n}\mathbf{o}\mathbf{n}}$	124	126	128	129	130		- 5.3	$131 \cdot 27$
	0.08	0.08	27.30	$2 \cdot 13$	4.18			
	131	132	134	136				
	20.67	26.45	10.31	8.79				
Mercury	196	198	199	200			+ 0.8	200.62
•	0.10	9.89	16.45	23.77				
	201	202	204					
	13.67	25.27	6.85					

The close agreement of the calculated atomic weights with those found by chemical means in the case of chromium, zinc, molybdenum, tin, and mercury indicates that the method is capable of giving results of a high degree of accuracy. In the case of krypton and xenon, the calculated and the experimental (density) values are discrepant, and, as pointed out by Aston, new determinations of the densities and compressibilities of these gases should be made.

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			-				
	Sym-	At.			$\operatorname{Sym}$	At.	
	bol.	No.	At. wt.		bol.	No.	At. wt.
Aluminium	Al	13	26.97	Neon	Ne	10	20.183
Antimony	$\mathbf{Sb}$	51	121.76	Nickel	Ni	28	58.69
Argon	A	18	39.944	Niobium	Nb		
Arsenic	$\mathbf{As}$	33	74.93	(Columbium)	(Cb)	41	93.3
Barium	$\mathbf{Ba}$	56	137.36	Niton	Nt		
Beryllium	$\mathbf{Be}$	4	9.02	(Emanation)	(Em)	86	222
Bismuth	$\mathbf{Bi}$	83	209.00	Nitrogen	N	7	14.008
Boron	в	<b>5</b>	10.82	Osmium	$\mathbf{Os}$	<b>76</b>	190.8
Bromine	$\mathbf{Br}$	35	79.916	Oxygen	0	8	16.0000
Cadmium	$\mathbf{Cd}$	<b>48</b>	$112 \cdot 41$	Palladium	$\mathbf{Pd}$	<b>46</b>	106.7
Cæsium	$\mathbf{Cs}$	55	132.81	Phosphorus	$\mathbf{P}$	15	31.02
Calcium	Ca	20	40.07	Platinum	$\mathbf{Pt}$	<b>78</b>	195.23
Carbon	$\mathbf{C}$	6	12.00	Potassium	$\mathbf{K}$	19	39.10
Cerium	Ce	58	140.13	Praseodymium	$\mathbf{Pr}$	<b>59</b>	140.92
Chlorine	Cl	17	$35 \cdot 457$	Radium	$\mathbf{Ra}$	88	225.97
Chromium	$\mathbf{Cr}$	<b>24</b>	52.01	Rhenium	$\mathbf{Re}$	75	186.31
Cobalt	Co	<b>27</b>	58.94	Rhodium	$\mathbf{R}\mathbf{h}$	<b>45</b>	102.91
Copper	Cu	<b>29</b>	$63 \cdot 57$	Rubidium	$\mathbf{R}\mathbf{b}$	<b>37</b>	85.44
Dysprosium	$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{y}$	66	162.46	Ruthenium	$\mathbf{Ru}$	<b>44</b>	101.7
Erbium	$\mathbf{Er}$	<b>68</b>	167.64	Samarium	$\mathbf{Sm}$	62	150.34
Europium	$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{u}$	63	152.0	Scandium	$\mathbf{Sc}$	21	$45 \cdot 10$
Fluorine	$\mathbf{F}$	9	19.00	Selenium	$\mathbf{Se}$	<b>34</b>	79.2
Gadolinium	$\mathbf{Gd}$	<b>64</b>	157.3	Silicon	$\mathbf{Si}$	14	28.06
Gallium	Ga	31	69.72	Silver	Ag	<b>47</b>	$107 \cdot 880$
Germanium	Ge	32	72.60	Sodium	$\bar{Na}$	11	22.997
Gold	Au	<b>79</b>	197.2	Strontium	$\mathbf{Sr}$	<b>38</b>	87.63
Hafnium	$\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f}$	<b>72</b>	178.6	Sulphur	$\mathbf{S}$	16	32.06
Helium	${\rm He}$	<b>2</b>	4.002	Tantalum	Ta	<b>73</b>	181.4
Holmium	Ho	<b>67</b>	163.5	Tellurium	Te	52	127.5
Hydrogen	н	1	1.0078	Terbium	$^{\mathrm{Tb}}$	65	159.2
Indium	In	<b>49</b>	114.8	Thallium	TI	81	204.39
Iodine	1	53	126.932	Thorium	$\mathbf{Th}$	90	$232 \cdot 12$
Iridium	$\mathbf{Ir}$	77	$193 \cdot 1$	Thulium	$\mathbf{Tm}$	69	169.4
Iron	$\mathbf{Fe}$	26	55.84	Tin	$\mathbf{Sn}$	50	118.70
Krypton	$\mathbf{Kr}$	<b>36</b>	$82 \cdot 9$	Titanium	$\mathbf{Ti}$	22	47.90
Lanthanum	$\mathbf{La}$	57	138.90	Tungsten	W	<b>74</b>	184.0
Lead	$\mathbf{Pb}$	82	207.22	Uranium	U	92	238.14
Lithium	Li	3	6.940	Vanadium	$\mathbf{v}$	<b>23</b>	50.95
Lutecium	Lu	71	175.0	Xenon	$\mathbf{Xe}$	<b>54</b>	130.2
Magnesium	Mg	12	$24 \cdot 32$	Ytterbium	Yb	70	173.5
Manganese	Mn	<b>25</b>	54.93	Yttrium	Y	<b>39</b>	88.92
Mercury	Hg	80	200.61	Zine	$\mathbf{Zn}$	30	65.38
Molybdenum	Mo	<b>42</b>	96.0	Zirconium	$\mathbf{Zr}$	40	91.22
Neodymium	$\mathbf{Nd}$	60	144.27				