

as to the relation of the figures of the analysis to the "poisoning point" of the water.

## ANALYSIS:

	Parts per million.
Free Ammonia .....	15.000 !!!
Albuminoid Ammonia.....	2.800
Chlorine.....	46.000
Nitrites and Nitrates.....	traces.

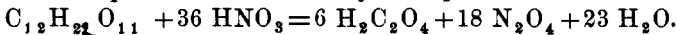


## ACTION OF OFFICIAL NITRIC ACID ON SUGAR.

BY PROF. W. P. MASON.

As every one knows, strong nitric acid acts upon sugar with production of oxalic acid.

Let us represent the reaction by the equation :



Official nitric acid has a specific gravity of 1.068 corresponding to 11.66 % pure  $HNO_3$ . One hundred c.c. of such acid, acting upon sugar during a period of two days, gave no trace of oxalic acid at the end of that time. Fifteen drops of official acid, further diluted with water, is the maximum dose. As was to have been expected, this still weaker solution was also without action on the sugar during the stated two days time.

I mention this fact simply because it has recently come to my knowledge that a physician of this vicinity was discharged on the ground of ignorantly poisoning his patient with oxalic acid, by advising the sweetening of an ordinary dose of nitric acid.