

conjointly with the Congress, and, on account of the interest which was manifested, appointed a Committee of Conference to consider the expediency of holding similar congresses at regularly recurrent intervals of time. The geologists have established a series of International Congresses, which meet triennially; in medicine and pharmacy similar organizations exist; and in each case the success of the meetings has been very great. The undersigned, therefore, representing the American Chemical Society, respectfully request the chemical societies of the world to appoint similar committees of conference, in order to consider whether it is desirable and practicable to organize a series of International Chemical Congresses, in which the chemists of the various nations can regularly meet together for the discussion of questions of common interest. Hoping for a favorable response, we remain, in behalf of the American Chemical Society,

Very respectfully,

(Signed,)

F. W. CLARKE,
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Soldering Aluminum.—Professor Joseph Richards contributes an article on this subject to the first number of the *Aluminum World* from which we learn that the best results have been obtained from an alloy of zinc, tin, aluminum and *phosphorus*. “This solder can be used before the blowpipe or with a soldering iron. In the former case, a little silver can be added to it without making it too hard to melt, and giving it a better color. For use with the copper bolt, this solder leaves little to be desired. The surfaces to be united are first scraped clean, and then tinned with the solder itself by rubbing it on hard with the bolt. The prepared edges are then soldered together with ease, using a hot iron and no flux of any description.”

Pure tin, or an alloy of tin and aluminum will solder, but the joints become brittle. Zinc and cadmium are useless because too brittle. Silver chloride attacks aluminum depositing silver,

and the surfaces thus formed may be soldered, but the material is too costly. Cadmium chloride can be used only when dry, and is a deliquescent salt. The Alsite aluminum solder is used only with the blowpipe; its composition is not divulged, and the melting-point is dangerously near that of aluminum. Electroplating the surfaces to be soldered is not satisfactory as the plating peels when subjected to heat. E. H.

Note on a Device for Weighing Oil for Analysis.—The following device I have for some time used, and found to be so convenient and simple, that I give a description of it hoping that it may be of service to others. It consists simply of a small glass evaporating dish, about one inch in diameter, supported upon a flat watch-glass. An amount of oil, greater than the amount desired for the experiment, is placed in the evaporating dish and the whole weighed. The proper amount of oil is then poured from the dish into the vessel in which it is to be analyzed, and its weight determined by difference. If a drop of oil should cling to the lip of the evaporating dish and run down on the outside, it will be caught by the watch-glass and will occasion no trouble. The whole affair costs but a few cents and may be cleaned with great ease, while for weighing oil it is quite as accurate as a weighing pipette.

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PARKER C. MCILHINEY.

ERRATA.—Page 348, May, 1894, ninth line from top of page, after the words *violent bumping*, insert *ninety cc. of water is now added*.

Page 349, May, 1894, in the last two lines, for *Cengola* read *Angola*.