

commission abstains from proposing definite directions for the execution of these investigations.

INVERT SUGAR.

“The quantitative determination of invert sugar in raw sugars is to be made according to the method of Dr. A. Herzfeld (*Zeitschrift des Vereins für die Rübenzuckerindustrie des Deutschen Reiches*, 1886, pp. 6 and 7).”

Furthermore the following resolutions were adopted:

“The commission declares that only well-closed glass vessels will insure the stability of samples.

“To obtain correct results it is desirable that the samples contain at least 200 grams of material.”

All of the above resolutions were adopted *unanimously* by those present.

The chairman then declared that he considered the work of the commission completed, and he requested the convention to authorize him to prepare and to accept the protocol, and thereupon to declare the commission dissolved.

Mr. Wiley, however, stated that he considered it necessary that the commission be made a permanent one. He proposed that Mr. Herzfeld be again elected chairman. This resolution was unanimously carried.

After Mr. Wiechmann had expressed the thanks of those assembled, to the chairman, the session was closed.

FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1900.

The members of the commission, in accordance with the resolutions adopted on Tuesday forenoon, attended the session of Section V, of the International Congress for Applied Chemistry, and there heard the lecture of Mr. Pellat on the “Influence of Temperature on the Specific Rotation of Sugar.”

F. G. WIECHMANN, *Secretary*.

NOTE.

Estimation of Fat in Sweetened Condensed Milk.—In the Journal for October, 1900, appears an article by J. F. Geisler, on “The Estimation of Fat in Sweetened Condensed Milk,” in which reference is made to “A Method of Analysis for Canned Condensed Milk”¹ wherein the results are stated to be “so utterly out of harmony with the composition of commercial condensed milk, etc.,” that I feel it only proper to call attention to the eight determinations obtained by my critic in extracting the

¹ This Journal 21, 439 (1899).

fat with petroleum ether, and "ether-petroleum ether"—results ranging from 8.31 to 8.468 per cent. which, while approaching some of my own results, are still somewhat lower than might be expected after the painstaking methods of extraction.

As to the statement that, "In the writer's experience, it is the rare exception rather than the rule, for condensed milks to contain less than a proportion of 25 per cent. of fat in the milk solids," it would seem that such experience is not exactly in harmony with some of the recognized authorities; for it is only necessary to refer to the article by T. H. Pearmain and C. G. Moor¹ where several analyses are given in which the fat is less than 2 per cent. of the whole, or less than 7 per cent. of the milk solids.

Moreover, the highest result, 8.468 per cent. fat, as given in the article by J. F. Geisler, would be by calculation 25 per cent. of 33.87 per cent. milk solids,—a result decidedly lower than the usual percentage of milk solids in condensed milk, judging from the published analyses of Leffmann and Beam, T. H. Pearmain and C. G. Moor.

Hence the possibility, in view of the omission to state the total solids and cane-sugar, that my critic may have proved the rare exception in his experience by obtaining fat proportionately less than 25 per cent. of the milk solids.

I have taken this opportunity to make the above statements, because of the criticism offered, before the general meeting of the Society in June, when I was unable to attend.

FREDERIC S. HYDE.

NEW BOOKS.

VICTOR VON RICHTER'S TEXT BOOK OF INORGANIC CHEMISTRY. EDITED BY PROF. H. KLINGER. AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION, BY EDGAR F. SMITH. Assisted by WALTER T. TAGGART. Fifth American, from the tenth German edition, carefully revised and corrected. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1900. xii + 430 pp. Price, \$1.75.

The recent edition of von Richter's inorganic chemistry, translated by Professor Smith sustains the reputation of former editions in containing a large amount of subject-matter in a limited space, and in presenting the most recent additions to the

¹ *Analyst*, 20, 268.