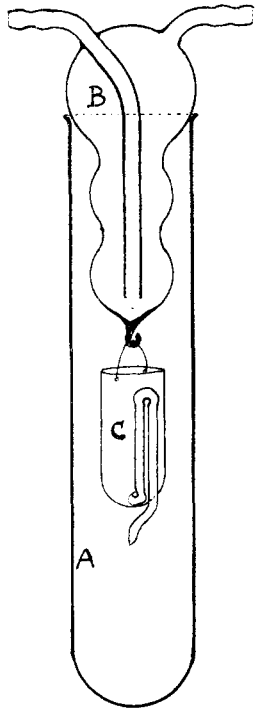
provided with a siphon for intermittent drainage. The siphon, however, need not be an integral part of the tube, since a separate siphon of small bore hung over the edge of a plain tube is generally found to fill by capillarity and operate with entire satisfaction.



A convenient size of the apparatus for use with such solvents as alcohol, acetone, or chloroform consists of an outer tube 4.5–5.0 cm. in diameter and 24–25 cm. in length with other parts proportioned about as indicated in the sketch. Glass naturally presents a somewhat less effective cooling surface than metal, so that for the more volatile solvents the condenser, as illustrated, is rather short. In winter or when specially cooled water is available, however, even this very short condenser will retain ethyl ether without excessive loss.

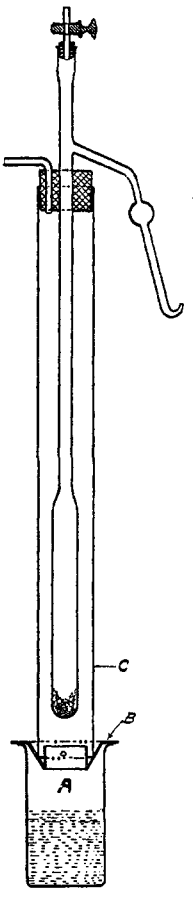
If it is desired to weigh the substance removed by the extraction, it is convenient to rinse the contents of the outer tube into a tared dish of appropriate size for evaporation. Where the extract is to be treated further without weighing, the comparatively large mass and capacity of the tube are not found to be objectionable.

It should be noted that the contents of the extraction tube are maintained at a temperature but slightly below the boiling point of the solvent. This is generally considered to be an advantage, but has the effect of preventing the use of the apparatus as described with non-homogeneous solvents such as petroleum ether, since the more volatile constituents tend to collect and boil in the extraction tube, while the siphon is superheated by the vapors of the higher boiling components and thereby rendered inoperative.

THOS. B. FORD.

BUREAU OF STANDARDS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

A Modified Jacket for a Victor Meyer Vapor-Density Apparatus.—When any considerable number of students are engaged in the determination of molecular weights by the Victor Meyer method, the breakage of outer jackets is a source of constant annoyance. These jackets are rather expensive, are easily broken, and the blowing of a new bulb is usually beyond the skill of the student. A simple device illustrated in the drawing has been found to be quite satisfactory as a substitute for these jackets



A plain beaker, *A*, takes the place of the bulb. It is provided with a copper cover, a cross-section of which is shown at *B*. The collar in the center should be of such size that the smallest tube which is to serve as a jacket will readily slip over it. The deep groove around the collar, made broad enough to take the widest tubes, serves as a water seal for connecting the outer jacket *C*. The liquid condensing on the walls of the outer tube automatically fills this seal, and the collar should be provided with several small drain holes just below the level of the flat cover to prevent the liquid from overflowing the seal. It is not necessary to connect the cover with the beaker. If the cover is flat, and the rim of the beaker reasonably true, the surface tension of the film of liquid at the joint prevents any appreciable leakage as there is very little pressure upon it. The tube *C* may be made from a broken outer jacket or from any tubing of suitable size. It is cut square at both ends and its length is readily adapted to that of any inner tube. If desired, the beaker may be replaced by a metal can or spun bulb provided with the arrangement for a water seal, and the cover could be manufactured from porcelain or glass instead of sheet copper.

W. E. HENDERSON.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

CORRECTION.

In the article by Bogert and Heidelberger in the February number of THIS JOURNAL, **34**, 183, there occurs a confusing error which should be corrected. On page 188, the concluding sentence of the second paragraph reads: "It seems odd that the phthalone should form a salt with phthalic and not with the strong mineral acids." This sentence should be eliminated, since the compound to which it refers, and with which the rest of the paragraph deals, is not a phthalate of the *phthalone* but of the *quinazolone*.

M. T. BOGERT, M. HEIDELBERGER.

NEW BOOKS.

Hilfsbuch für Nahrungsmittelchemiker. By A. BUJARD AND E. BAIER. Third Edition. 8vo. pp. xviii + 730. Price, 12 M.

The scope of the book is not confined, as the title would indicate, to the examination of foods. It also includes tobacco, water, air, soil,