must be assigned.

This point can be decided when the active and one of the two inactive heptitols resulting from its reduction are prepared from heptoses of known configuration.

VOLEMITE.³

By F. B. La Forge.

[ABSTRACT]

THE natural heptitol volomite described by Bourquelot and Fischer was shown in a previous article⁴ to be very similar in properties to α sedoheptitol obtained from sedoheptose by reduction.

A sample of natural volomite obtained later was found to correspond in all its properties with α sedoheptitol. In addition to other derivatives of sedoheptitol already described, its acetal was prepared by condensation with acetaldehyde. This compound showed $[\alpha]_D$ in chloroform solution = -45.55 which agreed with the rotation given for volomite acetal by Bougault and Allard.⁵ The melting points of the two heptitols were identical and the mixed melting point showed no depression. As the formula

mirror image as shown in the article must be the formula for sedoheptose, this must also be the one which corresponds to volomite.

³Published in *J. Biol. Chem.*, **42** (1920), 375.

⁴*J. Biol. Chem.*, **30** (1917), 61.

⁵*Compt. rend.*, **135** (1902), 796.