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12.xi.96.

Dear Prof. Fitzgerald.

Dr. Ramsay has sent on your letter to me, and as I see from it that I have not succeeded in making my meaning clear in one part of the paper on Heats of Saponisation, I thought I might take the liberty of explaining what I intended to say. I quite agree with Mr. Trottin in his doubt about the surface evaporation correction. The loss of wt., during boiling, due

to surface evaporation can't be measured, & as far as I can see can't be estimated by means of any data at my disposal.

The ^{only} correction that I have introduced is one allowing for the loss due to surface evaporation during the period of preliminary heating, i.e. before the liquid is allowed to boil.

This is not the complete correction, but I think it ought to bring me a little nearer the truth. As a matter of fact, it does not seem

to have any appreciable effect on the numerical result.

I am sure you will forgive me troubling you with a letter, and I will try to express this more clearly when I get a proof of the paper. I am afraid it must have been carelessly worded, because it is just this inability to get at the true correction that has been bothering me so long.

I remain,

Yours very truly

Dorothy Marshall