drawing.
Some determination of contraction of filament through wet and dry heat have also been carried out. By wet heat at $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ filament drawn to nine times of its original length contracts almost completely to its original length. By dry heat at $250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ filament drawn as high as five times, contracts competely.

## 37. On the Heat Decomposition of of Polyvinyl Alchol Fiber

Kiyoshi Hirabayashi and Jun Hiramatsu<br>(Sakurada Laboratory)

X-ray investigation of the process of heat decomposition of polyvinyl alcohol (P. V. A.) fiber have been carried out. After the heat treatment ( $200^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 7 \mathrm{~min}$.) P. V. A. were dried ( $110^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 24 \mathrm{hrs}$.) and subjected to heat decomposition in an electric oven. The oven was heated from $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and $415^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and during the heating fibers were not allowed to contract. The process may be divide into four stages. 1), growth of crystallites between $150^{\circ}$ and $200^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. 2), growth of crystallites and their disorientation between $200^{\circ}$ and $250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. 3), melting of crystallites and decomposition between $250^{\circ}$ and $350^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. 4), carbonization above $350^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Rate of the weight loss of the sample due to dehydration was the greatest between $250^{\circ}$ and $300^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

## 38. Determination Carboxylic Groups in Vinylon Fiber

Kiyoshi Hirabayashi and Shoji Yamamoto<br>(Sakurada Laboratory)

Determination of carboxylic groups of Vinylon fiber have been carried out according to the method of reversible methylene-blue absorption. Polyvinyl alcohol (P. V. A.) fiber is subjected to heat-treatment ( 5 min . at ca. $215^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ), then partially ( $35-40 \mathrm{~mol} \%$.) formalized so Vinylon is obtained. As is shown in table 1, various preteatment gives different results, so we cannot determine the true contents of the carboxylic groups of the Vinylon fibsr. But it seems, that this method is useful for the technical characterization of Vinylon fiber.

Ths table 2 shows M. B. absorption of Vinylon after bleaching.

