Interactive comment on “A short history of ocean acidification science in the 20th century: a chemist’s view” by P. G. Brewer

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This manuscript reads very well and give an exciting presentation of the history of the development of the study of the marine carbon system with an Ocean Acidification touch. I only have a few minor comments that the author should consider for the final version.

Line 18 on page 8717. I suggest to write out partial pressure of H₂, instead of pH₂ as this can be confusing to a non-expert in this paper dealing with pH (minus logarithm of H⁺).

Equation (1) same page. The give the temperature that is used to get the constant 0.0577.

Line 22 same page. The standard temperature is in Kelvin, not degrees Kelvin. So delete degrees.

In the citation of Clark on the same page and next it is written [H⁺] without the plus being superscript. Maybe this is how it is written in the original text, or?

Line 9 on page 8728. Should be "that proved to be powerful."

Line 27 same page. It is stated that the precision in pH with the spectrophotometric techniques are ± 0.001 and that the earlier techniques had 100 times lower precision. I don not agree that the potentiometric method had a precision that was only 0.1 pH units. Accuracy could have been that bad but not the precision.

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