



# Editorial

## Maillard Chemistry

The Maillard Reaction has long been a central and major challenge to food chemists. The original comprehensive reaction schemes of Hodge and others have been developed and elaborated by modern food chemists so that our understanding of the reaction is advancing rapidly. Nevertheless the Maillard Reaction is notoriously difficult to control and this still presents enormous difficulties to both the chemist and the food manufacturer.

This issue of *Food Chemistry* contains papers presented at a Royal Society of Chemistry meeting on the Maillard Reaction held in London on 6 December 1996 by an international group of scientists who are now at the forefront of the subject. The meeting was organised by Professor Bronek Wedzicha of Leeds University who is himself well known for his work on Maillard kinetics and inhibition of the reaction with sulphur dioxide.

**Gordon Birch**