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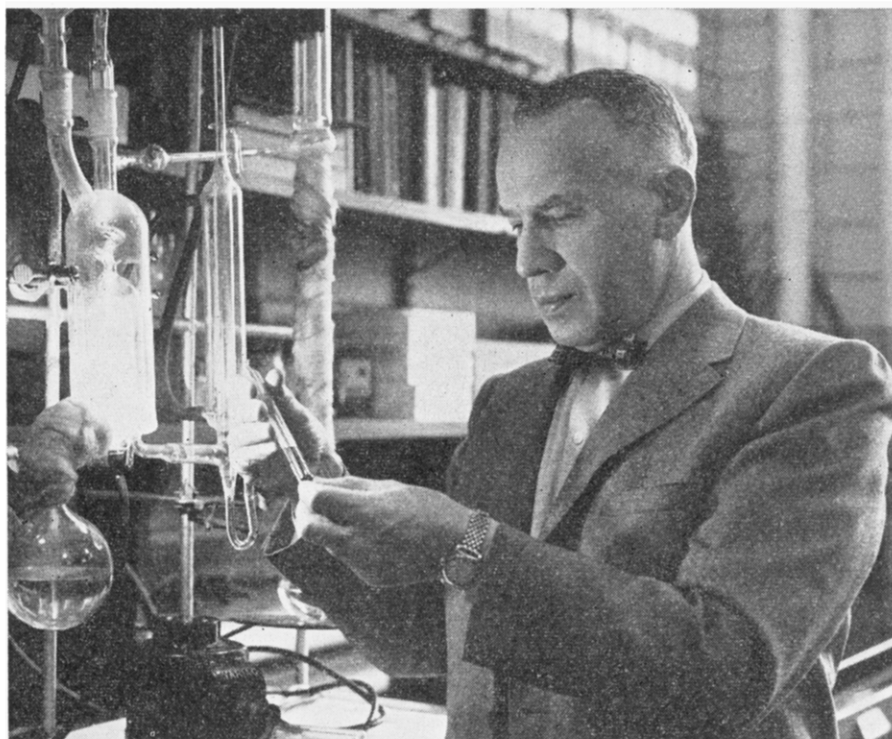
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MORRIS S. KHARASCH
(1895–1957)

The services rendered to the Journal of Organic Chemistry by Dr. Morris S. Kharasch were very extensive and most significant. It was he, more than anyone else, who gave the necessary impetus to its founding. Then, in several capacities,

original publishers, the Williams and Wilkins Co., was used for the printing of extra pages. There were times when even this money was not adequate to publish additional worthy papers. Then it was that Dr. Kharasch, assisted by a small group, displayed



he helped nurture its growth and development. He served for many years on the Board of Editors and on the Executive Committee, giving unsparingly of his time and energy. Over the years of his very active life he was a regular contributor to its pages.

The money which came to the Journal from the

an extra talent for obtaining supplementary financial assistance from various sources, particularly the chemical industries. Subsequently the Journal was put on a sounder fiscal basis by a finance committee, of which Dr. Kharasch was chairman. The equitable arrangement, devised by this committee,

involving two types of subscription was cordially supported and proved eminently satisfactory. Some time after this plan was inaugurated the Journal, which had always been associated with the Division of Organic Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, became one of the publications of the American Chemical Society. The important role played by Dr. Kharasch in the sound growth of the Journal cannot be over-emphasized.

Dr. Kharasch was born in the Ukraine on August 24, 1895. He was educated at the University of Chicago from which he received the Ph.D. degree in 1919. During both World Wars he made notable contributions to the Chemical Warfare Services. Actually, at the time of his death in Copenhagen on October 9, 1957, he was actively assisting the Chemical Corps. He made significant contributions to the Government Synthetic Rubber Project. In his work for the U. S. Government, whether as a contractor or as an adviser, he always brought a fresh point of view that was realistic, practical, and stimulating.

His numerous publications cover a broad range

of researches with particular emphasis in recent years on free radicals in reaction mechanisms. His book with Dr. Otto Reinmuth on "Grignard Reactions of Nonmetallic Substances" is one of classical excellence. In his research publications and lectures he demonstrated a high measure of vigorous, critical insight that reflected his personal interest and dedication to his chosen profession.

After the completion of his formal training, Dr. Kharasch served on the chemistry staff at the University of Maryland until 1928 when he returned to the University of Chicago. At the time of his death he was Director of the Institute of Organic Chemistry at the University of Chicago.

The illustrious career of Dr. Morris S. Kharasch will long be remembered not only for his notable researches and writings in the field of organic chemistry, his teaching and training of many students, his professional services to the Government, but also for his effective work over a long period to set a sound course for the Journal of Organic Chemistry.

HENRY GILMAN