

noon's golf tournament by J. P. Harris, the first day's session was adjourned.

SECOND SESSION

The second day's session of the meeting was called to order by President Richardson at 9:30 a. m., Friday, May 13. In the absence of M. F. Lauro, *chairman* of the Olive Oil committee, the report of that committee was read by the secretary of the Society.

An original paper entitled "Determination of the Hydroxyl Value of Oils, Fats, and Related Substances" by J. T. R. Andrews and R. M. Reed, was submitted by President Richardson. The report of the Smalley Foundation committee was then received. W. H. Irwin, *chairman*, submitted the report of the Referee Chemist Examining Board.

The next order of business consisted of an informal discussion by the members present with the Chemists' Committee of the National Cottonseed Products' Association. This discussion was led by Thomas C. Law, *chairman* of the Chemists' committee and past president of the Society. The discussion covered particularly methods of analysis of cottonseed and oil, which have been developed by the American

Oil Chemists' Society and adopted by the National Cottonseed Products' Association as official.

A paper entitled "The Technology of Palm Oil," by H. P. Trevithick and M. F. Lauro, was then read to the meeting, followed by reports of the Sampling committee, C. V. Serbell, *chairman*, Moisture committee, N. C. Hamner, *chairman*, and Fat Analysis committee, W. D. Richardson, *chairman*. The report of the Committee on Revision of Methods was presented by W. H. Irwin, *chairman*.

E. A. Sigworth, of the technical staff of Industrial Chemical Sales Company, presented an original paper on "Evaluation of Bleaching Carbons."

The report of the Planning and Uniform Methods committee, with the recommendations of that committee covering the reports of the various standing committees of the Society, was presented by John J. Vollertsen, *chairman*.

The report of the Committee on Crude Mill Operations was prepared in two sections. The first section, covering the relationship of chemical analysis to mill efficiency, was read to the meeting by Andrew K. Schwartz, *chairman*, and

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Palm Oil Producers Form Association in Malaya

INCREASING importance of the palm oil industry in Malaya and the need for an organization to look after the interest of this industry has resulted in the formation of the Palm Oil Producers' Association of Malaya. The objects of the association are as follows:

To promote, foster and protect the palm oil industry and the interests of its growers and shareholders, and to do all such lawful things as the association may deem incidental or conducive to the attainment of any or all of the objects of the association;

To represent to the Government and legislature and other public bodies of this and other countries, the views and interests of those persons interested in or connected with the cultivation or production of palm oil;

To afford members of the association and others, facilities for cooperation in all matters affecting the interests of persons interested in or connected with the cultivation, growth, preparation, shipment, sale and utilization of palm oil.

All of the palm oil growers of Malaya were circularized by one of the leading shippers of palm oil, with the result that estates representing about 70 per cent of the total acreage under palm oil have joined the association, while the majority of the remaining estates are considering the matter. After the election of officers it was decided that one of the first activities of the association should be to endeavor to place rat destruction on oil palm estates on a scientific basis.

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our next president. It started as a committee of the American Chemical Society, and became later a committee of our Society also. In its somewhat detached status, it has done a splendid work. It may henceforth be desirable to have a general committee on fat analysis more closely drawn into the administrative organization of our Society.

In the future, cooperation with other societies will be as desirable as in the past, but it may be questioned if all other technical societies in this country combined will take half the interest in fat analysis which we will take. The American Oil Chemists' Society should become the recognized leader in attacking problems relating to the analysis and the evaluation of all oils and fats of primary interest for use in soap or in edible products. We will not seek prestige for its own sake, but it is doubtful if any other organization will assert sufficient initiative to become the clearing house of suggested methods of fat and oil analysis and the recognized authority on standards.

There is much work ahead for the Fat Analysis committee and all other committees. One of our serious needs is to draw new talent into this work. Possibly we are too prone to appoint the same group of members again and again to our committees. The usual procedure is for the president to confer with the committee chairman; between them, they select the committee. There is no objection to this procedure, but two men have at best a limited acquaintance with the whole membership. Spe-

cifically, two suggestions are offered. In the first place, members should not hesitate to volunteer for committee work. In the second place, the older members should suggest the names of younger or newer members to the president for committee work. Usually such suggestions are greatly appreciated.

I believe that our most serious problem arises from the fact that the services of our officers and of our committee workers are subject to demands that are necessarily prior to the demands of our own work. Especially is it difficult for the average committee chairman to spare the time which he personally thinks the work of the Society deserves. The situation does not improve with the passing years, and I believe it impossible to overemphasize the seriousness of the situation as it applies to committee chairmen.

It is not a simple problem, and I have no practical suggestions to offer. I can only voice faith and hope—faith that our work is worth the time it requires and hope that each example of an active committee worker will inspire others to similar activity.

During the past year a considerable part of the time and energy given to the Society had to be diverted to attempts to rebuild what we had lost in our journal. It is hoped that no similar disturbances will affect the coming years, and that our energies will go increasingly to furthering the work of our technical committees. If this happens, the outcome is almost certain—we will fulfill in a practical way the purposes of our Society, so well expressed in our constitution.

Cuba to Increase Cultivation of Sesame Seed

Stimulated by an almost prohibitive import tariff on vegetable oils and animal fats, Cuba has been making considerable headway in the cultivation of oleaginous seeds. The cultivation of sunflower seed, inaugurated last year, is increasing rapidly.

A new development is the attempt to stimulate the production of sesame seed on a large scale. This attempt is sponsored by a large local manufacturer of compound lard, it being claimed that sesame oil is especially well adapted for the manufacture of compounds.

The local manufacturer has recently circularized all sugar mills, large farmers, etc., offering to purchase any amount which they may raise at a price of 2½ cents a pound, c.i.f. Habana. The circular states that plantings must be made at once and that written agreements for the sale of the resulting crop must be entered into by the grower before the 15th of May. According to information contained in the circular, the yield of sesame seed per caballeria (about 33 1/3 acres) is about 40,000 pounds and the time from planting to harvesting, four months.