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# Editorial

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## Seventh Fall Meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society

The fall meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society will be held in the Congress Hotel in Chicago, October 12 and 13. The date of the convention this year has been advanced in order to afford our members an opportunity of visiting A Century of Progress which should be at its best by the first of October. A Century of Progress, which depicts the developments of the last century, offers innumerable things that the scientific man should be interested in, and therefore in addition to the fact that we expect to have the best scientific program and a larger attendance than at any previous meeting of the Society, an opportunity will be afforded for viewing more developments of science than were ever gathered together before in the history of the world.

In considering scientific developments, particularly those of the last quarter of a century, we believe that the American Oil Chemists' Society and its members have contributed in no small way to progress, particularly along the lines of development of processes for the improvement of edible and inedible oils and fats.

In the early days of the cotton oil industry the several chemists advised their principals in regard to the effect of certain chemical methods on trading rules, etc., but there was no organization, nor were there any uniform methods of analysis, and as a result, controversies between the buyers and sellers were frequent.

The early history of our society discloses that in about 1909 a small group of chemists, among whom were David Wesson, Tom Law, E. R. Barrow, F. Smalley, F. Paquin, Lehman Johnson, G. W. Agee, R. B. Hume, R. W. Perry, and others, formed the nucleus of the present American Oil Chemists' Society. At the time of its organization, however, the Society was known as the Cottonseed Products Analysts and was so known until 1920.

Progress at first was rather slow due to a desire of the individual members of the organization for secrecy and personal advantage, but gradually these barriers were broken down. The first work undertaken by the Society was the development of satisfactory and uniform methods for the analysis of cottonseed and cottonseed products. Committees were formed for the study of methods for moisture, ammonia, refining loss, color, etc., etc., and each year many improvements in the old methods, and developments of new methods have resulted.

At the present time our membership is approximately 300 and we number in our membership representatives of practically every oil mill, refinery, soap factory and packing house in the United States and Canada. Our methods, which are published in loose leaf form, are revised each year and are generally recognized in the oil, fat and soap trades, and their use in the various laboratories has resulted in practically eliminating controversies which were the rule a number of years ago.

The analytical methods developed, however, were only a very small part of the contributions of our members to the general progress of the oil, fat and soap industries. In the cotton oil industry the methods of manufacture and handling the product from the raw seed through the crude oil stage to the refined product have been so improved that a great deal of the products

marketed 20 to 25 years ago would no longer be considered marketable.

The development, particularly in the deodorization, hydrogenation, and stabilization of vegetable oils has resulted in many new products and many new uses for these products.

Our committees are the most active of any scientific organization in the country and the quality of the papers presented at our meetings is improving from year to year and attracting wide attention in scientific circles.

Every chemist in the oil, fat and soap fields should be numbered within our membership, and while in the last three years we have suffered a slight loss in membership, we feel that the turn has come, and that we should increase our membership during the coming year.

We suggest that you make plans to attend the Fall meeting in Chicago, at which time we expect to have the best meeting ever. This will also allow you to avail yourself of the opportunity of visiting the World's Greatest Fair.

Send your reservations in at once to the Congress Hotel because ours is only one of 1,500 or more conventions scheduled for Chicago.

## Chicago Will Entertain You in October

A Century of Progress International Exposition has been built for the primary purpose of depicting—illustrating in vivid, unforgettable form—the story of man's advancement in the last 100 years. In that 100 years man has conquered more forces, developed more inventions, and gone farther in his march toward a higher plane of civilization than in all previous time.

Everything accomplished has been done through orderly thinking. Man has come to understand many things which from the birth of the world were unsuspected or mysteries.

In that hundred years man has brought into being:

The telegraph, reaper, sewing machine, typewriter, air brake, vacuum cleaner, celluloid, barbed wire, telephone, phonograph, arc light, incandescent light, adding machine, cash register, electric welding, aluminum process, linotype, steam turbine, automobile, electric car, dynamite, fountain pen, ice machine, safety razor, motion picture, photography, half-tone, radio, television, telephotography, bakelite and a thousand other things of vast importance in our daily lives.

Take note, as you travel through the exposition grounds of the strange new types of buildings. Visit the eleven houses in the Home Planning section. Don't fail to visit the House of Glass, the houses made of steel, and the house made entirely of bricks even to its floors, staircases and book shelves.

You will find here building materials employed that you have never heard of before. You will find colors and color combinations that you didn't know existed. You will find the newest and most surprising furnishings and equipment that you have ever seen.

There are many things to see at the World's Fair—very many things. The statisticians say that if you visit every one of the thousands of exhibits you will have to walk 82 miles.

So don't try to do it all in a day. Take time.