

oil & soap

VOL. XI

NUMBER 10

OCTOBER, 1934

Bigger and Better Meetings

Those of us who recall the earlier meetings of the Cotton Products Analysts' Society are certain to get a great deal of pleasure and to take some little pride in the development of the meetings of The American Oil Chemists' Society to their present high state of scientific merit, as well as in the large attendance and great interest which is shown at these meetings.

But, good as the New Orleans meetings have become, the outstanding feature of the Society and the one which is building it up and making it known as one of the really worthwhile scientific groups in this country, are the fall meetings which originated in New York only eight years ago, and which have reached a fuller development at Chicago where the past four meetings have been held and where the eighth annual meeting is being held this month.

The work of Harry Trevithick in putting across those early meetings at New York should never be forgotten by the Society. The meetings were so successful that they fulfilled their mission and led to the broader development, which was possible at Chicago because Chicago is not only the center of a very large group of members but is easily reached; because the oil chemist naturally gravitates to Chicago and feels at home there, and because he finds so many interesting plants there where he is made welcome.

Looking back five years we recall the first Chicago meeting, which was held at the Congress Hotel, in quarters which were decidedly inadequate, because even the most optimistic of that fine, aggressive Chicago Convention Committee had not anticipated the large attendance, based upon previous experience at New York and New Orleans.

The following year saw the meeting moved into the Florentine Room, with fine exhibits right in the meeting room, and the bowling tournament moved from the Stevens Hotel Annex (many of you will recall the description of how to reach the Alleys which sounded like directions for getting through the Crystal Maze).

Up to that time the entertainment had consisted entirely of

the bowling (aside from the ladies' entertainment which was adequate from the very start). Informal and intimate luncheons had become a regular feature, and this second year saw an informal group get together before the bowling and enjoy a dinner party that was long remembered, and which was repeated the following year.

So last year it was decided to combine the bowling and the dinner at the Medinah club, and to add a card party for those not interested in bowling. This dinner was generally pronounced the best entertainment ever presented at any meeting, but the Chicago convention committee says, "You haven't seen a thing yet," as they have arranged for a better dinner, under more favorable circumstances, with orchestral accompaniment (you may dance if you please) this year. And this year's meeting will be held at the Medinah Club, which will concentrate it and make it more intimate than ever, with the finest club facilities available to all stopping at the club. Our advice to anyone coming in for these fall meetings at Chicago is not to make any arrangements to try to do anything outside of the meeting. That Chicago committee thinks of everything, and every moment is taken up, with three major meetings, luncheons each day, a golf tournament, a bowling tournament, a dance, a card party, and the finest lot of exhibits ever shown.

W. H. Irwin, chairman, has led an earnest and ambitious Chicago convention committee through five years of untiring effort to make this the best meeting of its kind in the country. With such men as J. J. Vollertsen, L. M. Tolman, R. C. Newton, A. E. King, A. W. Putland, and others, upon the committee, success never was in doubt.

We have been pleased to mention the development of the entertainment features of the meeting, but the real meeting lies in the quality of the programs presented, and the improvement in these programs is even more praiseworthy and astonishing than the improvement in entertainment. The first program at Chicago was a good one. The second program was better. Everyone present remarked at the serious interest taken in the meetings. Those attending stayed through to the finish, even though the meetings sometimes lasted long past the allotted time.

During the third meeting, out-of-town members said to the Chicago committee, "You are building something very fine in these meetings."

Last year the program was the best ever presented. But, this year, even the high point of last year is far exceeded. This year's program is so outstandingly meritorious that it is attracting tremendous attention, even outside the fields of Oil and Soap. One glance over that program fully convinces any Oil and Soap technician that he can ill afford to miss it. Since it was announced, members of the Chicago committee have received dozens of letters saying, "I'll be back," or "I've never attended before, but I'll be with you this time."

These "Bigger and Better" meetings mean much for the society. Every member should be proud of them, and should tell all his friends about them.

WHO

WHAT

Chinese Peanut Crop

Although the 1934 peanut acreage in China is believed to be somewhat smaller than last year, the commercial crop will be about the same because of anticipated good yields, according to a recent radiogram received by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai. The exports of the new crop peanuts from China during 1934-35 will probably be larger than last year because prices in European markets are higher than last season, says Dawson. Chinese peanut producers and shippers considered the 1933-34 season as unsatisfactory because of low prices and a poor export demand.

The United States was formerly an important importer of peanuts from China but the increase in the duty in 1930 combined with a considerable increase in domestic production has reduced imports to a negligible factor. The Chinese peanut situation, however, is still of interest to

WHERE

WHEN

American farmers because of the competition of Chinese peanuts and peanut oil with American cottonseed oil in European markets.

The production of peanuts in China is concentrated mainly in northern China in the Provinces of Shantung, Eastern Honan, Southern Hopei, and in the Kwangtung Leased Territory extending into Manchuria. From 50 to 65 per cent of the exports move out via Tsingtao in Shantung. The crop last year was about 5 per cent below the large 1932 crop, but the supply available for export was about the same as the year before because of the heavy carryover.

WHY

This year there seems to be no burdensome carryover. Practically all old crop peanuts in the principal marketing centers will be exhausted by the end of the 1933-34 season on October 31, 1934, due to the good demand from other Chinese markets in recent months, says Dawson.

Tsingtao peanut merchants have been disturbed recently by increased competition from producers in Southern Man-

churia. The 1934 South Manchurian crop is expected to be the same as that for 1933.



Wood Turpentine Licenses

A public hearing on proposed amendments to the license for processors and distributors of wood turpentine and wood rosin, was held at room 0039, South building, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., on September 20, at 9 a. m., states the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. The amendments propose to alter the method of the selection of the control committee in charge of the license to give more equitable representation of the industry on the committee. Other provisions of the proposed amendments tend to clarify the present terms of the license.



Manchurian Soybean Crop Reduced

The 1934 soybean crop in Manchuria is now estimated at between 4,000,000 and 4,500,000 short tons as compared with the 1933 crop of 5,071,000 short tons, according to a radiogram just received in the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from Agricultural Commissioner O. L. Dawson at Shanghai. A larger crop was expected but excessive rainfall in South Manchuria in June and in North Manchuria in July necessitated a downward revision in the estimate, says Dawson. Because of the reduction in the crop and the increased interest shown by buyers, prices at Dairen rose rapidly during July. The Dairen Exchange quoted beans at 4.52 silver yen per picul (\$20.50 per short ton) and bean cake at 1.28 silver yen per picul (\$5.80 per short ton) during the first half of August. The Dairen trade expects that the demand for the new crop will be maintained at a good level. The European demand for soybeans has been active all summer and exports for the 1933-34 season are expected to be near 4,000,000 short tons. Exports of soybeans during the 1932-33 season amounted to approximately 3,000,000 short tons. The commercial carryover is now expected to be near 250,000 short tons, which is about normal, says Dawson.



Flaxseed Declines

The world supply of flaxseed during the current season is expected to be considerably less than last year which was below the supply of previous years, according to a review of world flaxseed prospects by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. A small crop of flaxseed this year in the United States and Canada is accompanied by smaller production in India where the crop this year will be the smallest since 1931, it is expected. The August 1 estimate of a production of 5,252,000 bushels of flaxseed for the United States is the smallest crop on record and compares with an average of 18,664,000 bushels for the five-year period 1927-31. The Canadian crop is forecast as the smallest for several years. Early reports from Argentina indicate an expansion of acreage. The flaxseed market has been influenced by restrictions upon the movement of flaxseed and its by-products in various countries and by the reduced demand for linseed oil following the decline in building activity. Recently, however, there has been increased industrial consumption of oil, reflecting the improvement in building constructions.

To Protect American Markets

The Institute of American Fats and Oils, with headquarters at Washington, has been organized for the purpose of protecting American-made oil and fat products against foreign competition and against domestic discriminations in the sale of the healthful and wholesome finished product made from their raw materials.

Objects of the Institute

In commenting upon the purposes of the Institute, C. O. Moser, its president, says:

"Fats entering the uses for human food are usually higher in price than when used for inedible purposes, such as soap stock. Tremendous quantities of these oils have found their way into the lowly soap kettle and wash tub instead of being served as food. The anomaly of the situation is the deplorable fact that 40 million under-nourished and under-privileged people among our citizens are unable to buy the quantity of high-priced food fats necessary for health and bodily vigor.

"Home economic authorities maintain that an adequate fat diet is 36 pounds of table spread, in addition to 16 pounds of cooking fats, salad oils, bacon, etc. While, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture the average consumption of butter in the United States is only 17.8 lbs. and of margarine approximately 2 lbs., in Germany the per capita consumption of margarine is 17.6 lbs. and in some other European countries is even higher. Yet these people consume practically as much butter as do the United States.

"An adequate amount of table spread in the United States would require a 75 per cent increase of the combined quantity of butter and margarine, with perhaps the percentage of increase in favor of margarine because the new-process-all-domestic-fat product is an all-purpose fat—that is, it is a practical and economical fat for cooking as well as for table use.

An Adequate Fat Diet

"A well-rounded adequate fat diet in the United States would require a 25 per cent increase in the consumption of butter, and an increase of 250 million lbs. of milk, 500 million lbs. of cottonseed oil, 400 million lbs. of beef fat, 200 million lbs. of neutral lard and large quantities of other fats. It would virtually absorb the surplus of all the edible fats and oils produced in the United States."

To bring about the increased consumption of home-grown fats in the form of margarine necessitates changes in national and state laws, and to a certain extent changes in the unfounded prejudice against the product.

The recent report of the Tariff Research Committee on Dairy Products, with headquarters at Madison, Wis., among other things says: "The influence of oleomargarine substitution on butter prices is negligible in spring and summer, when our butter production is ordinarily so large as to cause our prices to equal or go below world market prices. * * * Virtually all the oleomargarine now consumed is used admittedly as a substitute for the higher priced butter.

Old Arguments No Longer Good

"Dairymen can no longer rely on the fraudulent sale argument nor the inferior nutrition argument as weapons against oleomargarine competition. Existing legislation insures the sale of oleomargarine on its own merits, and oleomargarine has already been manufactured which has

been demonstrated to contain vitamin A, while vitamin D can be contributed by the process of irradiation. Moreover, the average American's diet is so diversified that he does not have to depend on spreads for his vitamins."

Mr. Moser adds: "To bring the truth and force of these facts to the attention of federal and state lawmakers and the public generally is an educational task beyond the financial ability of these impoverished farmers. Recognizing the common interest which they have with the processors and manufacturers of the finished products in increasing their consumption, the representatives of the farmers concerned called a meeting early this summer at Chicago, in which they invited the processors to join with them in setting up the Institute of American Fats and Oils."

At a meeting held in Chicago on August 6 of the newly-organized Institute the following officers and directors were elected: C. O. Moser, New Orleans, La.: pioneer cooperative marketing leader and for many years president of the cotton cooperatives, president; F. E. Mollin, executive secretary, American National Live Stock Association, Denver, Colo., vice president; C. G. Henry, general manager, Mid-South Cotton Growers Association, Memphis, Tenn., treasurer; and Rae Epstein, formerly assistant secretary, American Cotton Cooperative Association, New Orleans, secretary and assistant treasurer. Other directors are: B. A. Stufflebeme, president, Texas Cooperative Council, Dallas, Texas; T. H. Gregory, president, National Cottonseed Products Association, Memphis, Tenn.; H. R. Davison, vice president, Institute of American Meat Packers, Chicago, and John F. Jelke, Jr., manufacturer, Chicago.

In addition to legislative activities, the Institute will have a home economics section under the direction of Lois Dowdle Cobb, well-known home economics authority, lecturer and writer, and former president of the Southern Agricultural Workers' Association. She will work with experts in diet and health in overcoming the unfounded prejudice which still exists in the minds of some people who are not familiar with the improved methods of manufacturing margarine from home grown raw materials.



Paste Form Pigment for Aluminum Paint Available

In announcing paste form pigment for aluminum paint, the Aluminum Company of America says: "The paste is prepared quite differently from powder. Instead of stamping the aluminum flakes from sheet and polishing the powder separately, the paste is made direct by reducing the metal to a very fine powder in the presence of mineral spirits. The resulting pigment, when mixed with a suitable vehicle, shows excellent leafing characteristics and produces a film which is not only high in light reflecting but also very durable.



Correction

(Correction in the Stability Committee of the A. O. C. S.)

The name of Mr. J. W. Flynn of Lever Bros., was inadvertently left off the Stability Committee. Mr. Flynn was a member of the committee last year and we are glad to understand he will serve again in the coming year.