

NEWS

ASTM COMMITTEE D-12 TO MEET

H. P. Trevithick, Chairman of Committee D-12 on Soaps and Other Detergents of the American Society for Testing Materials, announces a meeting of the Committee to be held at the Hotel New Yorker in New York City on March 27 and 28.

Sections will meet all day Monday and on Tuesday morning. A luncheon will be held on Tuesday noon to be followed by a general meeting of the Committee on Tuesday afternoon. A large attendance is urged.



J. R. POWELL

News of the death of J. R. Powell, who died suddenly on December 9, 1938 at his home in St. Petersburg, Florida, came as a shock to his many Chicago friends and former associates.

Mr. Powell was born in Missal, Illinois on February 3, 1882. He attended the local schools and after graduating from Streator High School entered the University of Illinois where he received his A.B. degree in 1904. He served as chemical engineer for the Wenzelmann Manufacturing Company, Galesburg, Illinois, and as chemist for the Santa Fe Railroad until 1905 when he was employed by Armour and Company at the Chicago Packing House laboratory. The following year he was transferred to the Thirty-first Street Armour Auxiliaries to organize the chemical laboratories there. This unit of the Company comprises the soap, glue, glycerine, sandpaper and curled hair divisions, and its growth in these fields was in no small measure due to the capable technical leadership of Mr. Powell. He was Chief Chemist until 1926 when he was transferred to the position of Assistant General Manager, in which capacity he served until his retirement in 1935.

He was chairman of the Technical Division of the National Association of Glue Manufacturers for several years and was actively associated with the Chicago Chemists Club, the American Chemical Society and the American Oil Chemists Society. In connection with the latter two organizations his activities on committees on establishing of official methods for the analyses of fats and of soaps are valuable contributions to science. He was a member of Sigma Xi and Phi Lambda Upsilon and his hobbies were golf and archery.

Many young men who came into intimate contact with him owe much to Mr. Powell for the help and guidance he gave them. His kindly advice and suggestions, his zealous enthusiasm in all of the problems at hand, made him the friend of all who were associated with him. His many friends and former associates deeply regret his passing.

BOOK REVIEW

Hydrophobic Colloids

The Colloid Chemistry Section of the "Nederlandsche Chemische Vereeniging."

In English.

Published by D. B. Centen's Uitg. Mij. N. V., Amsterdam, 1937. Available from Nordemann Publishing Co., Inc., New York, New York. 180 pages, paper cover. Price \$2.50.

The symposium reported in this volume "was held under the supervision of Prof. Dr. H. R. Kruyt and presents a survey of many concepts connected with the stability of hydrophobic colloids, especially those which are at present generally accepted in the Netherlands." Ten papers and extensive discussions are reported. The general tone of the conference may be described as theoretical, and in some cases rather complete mathematical discussions of certain points are given.

One versed in the general field of colloid chemistry will find much useful and thought-provoking information in this publication. The practical colloid worker will find guiding principles and concepts as well as specific information. However, as the quotation given above indicates, this volume is in no sense a complete discussion of hydrophobic colloids, and a familiarity with the subject is presumed.

We, in the United States, welcome this opportunity to acquire a knowledge of the views on hydrophobic colloids held currently in The Netherlands, a country which has contributed much to our knowledge of the physical nature of things.

W. M. Urbain

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