

New Orleans Convention

MEMBERS of the Society enjoyed one of the most interesting Spring Meetings in the history of the Society when they gathered on May 5th and 6th at the Jung Hotel in New Orleans.

The program was replete with good papers and the Chairmen of Committees reported a substantial volume of work handled by their committees through the year. A number of speakers who were new to the Society's programs appeared, prominent among whom was D. F. J. Lynch, Director of the new Southern Regional Research Laboratory.

The Convention enacted two changes in the By-Laws at this meeting. The first change instituted an annual audit to be made by a recognized auditor. It has been impossible, due to lack of time, for an Auditing Committee of Society members to do a satisfactory job of auditing the Society's books. The second change gave to the Chairman of the Journal Committee the right to appoint annually an Editorial Advisory Board of fifteen members. This replaces a previous arrangement under which this Board consisted of nine members, three of whom were appointed each year for three-year terms.

The Society elected the following members as officers for the ensuing year:

H. C. Dormitzer, President
H. A. Schuette, First Vice-President
Lamar Kishlar, Second Vice-President
A. P. Lee, Third Vice-President
C. P. Long, Fourth Vice-President.

The Governing Board elected J. C. P. Helm as Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing year and this action was confirmed by the Convention.

BANQUET

The banquet was presided over by Mr. Tom Law, who handled the duties of Toastmaster in his inimitable manner. It was held as scheduled in the historic Patio Royal down in the French Quarter. Unfortunately, the weather was a bit unkind and the plans to hold the affair out in the Patio's courtyard under the stars had to be slightly changed. The promised crayfish bisque and other famous New Orleans dishes were served and enjoyed. The banquet ended with a "cafe diable." This was presented in a realistic manner; all of the lights were extinguished and the burning of spices and brandy was effectively enacted in a quaint ritual by a yelping, costumed devil. Thus was fulfilled the second promise to our visitors, namely, a "cafe brulot." The winners in the Golf Tournament were introduced and given their rewards

for a hard day's play. Five acts of vaudeville were enthusiastically applauded, and as the last act vanished from the floor, and banquet was transformed into a grand ball with Leslie George's orchestra furnishing the swing for the dancing.

LADIES ENTERTAINMENT

The Ladies Entertainment, as usual, was very ably handled by Mrs. Stryker. A schedule of the proposed entertainment was distributed to all of the ladies attending on the eve of the Convention, so they would know and plan to take advantage of the splendid entertainment offered. On the first day they were given a sight-seeing bus trip throughout the city which terminated in a complimentary luncheon and boat ride on the Mississippi River on the yacht "Louisiana." This was a particularly nice event, as it offered the opportunity of viewing the many sights along the famous harbor of New Orleans. The second day's entertainment consisted of a walking tour through the historic Vieux Carre. Under the direction of competent guides, they visited many places of historical interest in Old New Orleans. This tour was very well attended and very much enjoyed by all those that participated. The fact that year after year many of the ladies have been seen repeating this event is testimony of its fascination. Leaving the Vieux Carre, the ladies were given a complimentary luncheon at the Southern Yacht Club.

The Fall Convention of the Society will be held in Chicago. The Local Committee on Arrangements held an early meeting on May 31 to lay the groundwork of plans for the meeting. Members are promised a good meeting this Fall at Chicago.

NEW A.O.C.S. PRESIDENT

H. C. Dormitzer was born in New Orleans, La., and spent the first six years of his life in that city. He lived for one year on the Mojave desert in California, after which his family moved to Chicago.

Mr. Dormitzer was educated in the Chicago Public Schools and was graduated from Armour Institute of Technology as a Chemical Engineer. After his graduation he spent three years as a testing engineer for the Illinois Central Railroad and then took a position with Wilson & Co., Inc. Chicago, which position he now holds. In the Wilson organization he has worked in the laboratory and in the By-Products and Refinery Divisions. His present work is that of Director of Operations for the Refineries and By-Products.



Left to Right — B. H. Bruce, G. A. Crapple, H. E. Brownfield.

Left to Right — J. C. P. Helm, E. C. Ainslie, T. C. Law, J. J. Vollertsen, E. R. Barrow, R. H. Fash, H. S. Mitchell.

Left to Right — L. Kishlar, A. G. Thompson, W. D. Hutchins, J. T. R. Andrews.



*H. C. Dormitzer
New President,
A.O.C.S.*

Mr. Dormitzer is a member of Tau Beta Pi, honorary Engineering Fraternity, also a member of Theta Xi and the American Chemical Society.

This Journal joins Mr. Dormitzer's many friends in wishing him a successful administration.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

By C. H. Cox

"When you elected me your President a year ago, I undertook the duties of the office with some concern. I did not know how I was going to direct the activities of this Society which has grown to such large proportions and which numbers in its membership the leading scientific men in the Oil and Soap industries. It loomed as a big task and one to which I was not accustomed. However, a glance at the program of this meeting and the Fall meeting held in Chicago will indicate that the activities of this Society are carried on largely by committees whose untiring efforts constitute a distinct contribution towards smooth running progress of the Society and continued improvement of our analytical methods.

"We have a right to feel proud of the chemical methods of The American Oil Chemists' Society. They are regarded as classics in the chemical world. These methods didn't just happen. They had very crude beginnings. They are the summary of the activities of your committees working in season and out, smoothing out details, and improving technique. As the reports of these committees are presented at this meeting, you will be impressed with the enormous amount of unselfish effort which has been performed during the year for the benefit of our profession as chemists and for the good of this Society. As your President, may I remind you of the obligation you owe to these members and their spokesmen, the committee chairmen, and urge your earnest attention to this thoughtfully prepared program.

"Some years ago a fortunate decision was made to hold two meetings a year — a Spring meeting in the South and a Fall meeting in the North or Middle-west. The effect of this policy on the growth of the Society has been most gratifying. It has brought about a large increase and diversification in our membership. The Spring meeting is devoted largely to reports of the Society's committees, business operations,

and finances. The reports of the technical committees deal largely with chemical methods of primary products whereas at the Fall meeting practically all of the subjects discussed deal with methods relating to processed or finished products. I urge our Southern members to make an extra effort to attend these Fall meetings, and we should endeavor to interest more of our Northern and Western members in the value of attending the Annual Spring meeting in the South. There is great benefit to be derived from the interchange of ideas and fellowships developed.

"The Fall meeting held in Chicago was a splendid success. The attendance record for all time was surpassed. The program which was arranged by Dr. R. C. Newton contained many very excellent papers. Several of these papers have already been published in OIL AND SOAP. The entertainment was most enjoyable and the whole convention arrangements splendidly and efficiently handled by general chairman John P. Harris. Not only was the meeting successful from both scientific and social standpoints, but financially as well. This was due largely to the sale of exhibit space at the headquarters hotel. A large number of chemical supply and apparatus houses and related business firms displayed their wares in a most creditable manner.

"While on the subject of finances, you will note from the report of the Secretary-Treasurer that the Society is in excellent financial condition. During the year a Government bond was purchased. This was in accordance with a resolution by the Governing Board limiting the officers to this type of investment for any of the Society's surplus funds.

"During the year the Secretary reported that the stock of Fuller's Earth, standard samples, and other supplies on hand was valued in excess of one thousand dollars. It seemed wise to cover this with fire insurance and the Governing Board authorized the placing of an adequate policy.

"Mr. W. R. Hoerner, a certified public accountant of this City, was employed to audit the books of the Society submitting to the annual meeting a report of its financial condition as of May 1st. As a matter of sound business administration, I recommend a continuance of this policy. The finances of the Society have grown too large for an auditing committee composed of members appointed during the meeting to make a satisfactory audit of the books and accounts.

"That the committee work for the year has been capably done is shown by the reports submitted for this meeting, and it is almost certain that some, at least, of the suggestions offered to the Uniform Methods Committee will meet with favorable action and become additions to, or changes in, our official methods.

"It is to the great credit of the Uniform Methods Committee that they have adopted and rigidly adhered to a conservative policy in the consideration of recommendations effecting changes in the methods. Any suggested change in methods which is not supported by authenticated data has little chance of receiving this Committee's favorable action. Such a policy is to be commended and heightens the respect with which the Society's methods are held.

"The difficult work of the standing committees is little understood and appreciated by members of the Society, but were it not for the continuous, painstaking efforts of the Membership, Advertising, and