

Report of the Membership Committee, 1945-46

FOLLOWING the pattern laid down by preceding committees, the Membership Committee for 1945-46 has served (a) as a group to bring in new members on the one hand and (b) as an admissions group on the other to pass on the qualifications of applicants.

It has been the custom of past years in publishing an annual directory to provide information about current and past officers, technical and administrative committee appointments, membership, history of the Society, and—as an innovation this year—a detachable page at the back of the book which could be used as an application for membership. In addition, a form letter of welcome to new members was prepared, also a post card acknowledgment form for applications. The issuance of numbered membership cards, begun in 1944, with yellow as the color, was repeated for 1945-46 with blue as the color and the signature of H. L. Roschen, secretary.

This year a new procedure for passing on memberships was instituted. In the past the membership chairman took care of all of the detail work, including the acknowledgment of applications, sending out of ballots to the Membership Committee for balloting on the applicants, notifying the applicants of their election, and then advising the executive office when an applicant had been accepted. This was changed during the past year, transferring these activities to the executive office in Chicago, where on receipt of an application, post card acknowledgment form was sent to the applicant. The ballots for action of the Membership Committee were sent out and returned to Chicago and the form letter of welcome, over the signature of the chairman, was also sent out from Chicago. The above has helped immeasurably in expediting and handling applications, and we would recommend that this program be followed by other committees as there is one central point which is familiar with the details from year to year.

The total of new members as of May 13, 1946, is 314. These have been invited in part by members and in part through solicitation by the committee. Solicitation involved the use of a list of contacts made in Europe last summer by K. S. Markley, president of the Society in 1944-45 and a representative of the federal government in inspecting establishments of the fat and oil industry in formerly occupied countries. Membership lists of paint and varnish clubs throughout the United States were also used in solicitation, and a general appeal to the Society membership by letter during April, 1946, was quite successful in obtaining new members.

Concurrently with the growth of foreign circulation for the journal through subscriptions from non-members of the Society there has been a steady increase in the number of foreign members. As of April 30, 1946, the total stands at 59, with four of these Americans and 24 new members. Omitting the Americans, the tribution is as follows:

Canada.....16	Mexico..... 7
England.....11	Europe..... 5
Latin America.....11	Miscellaneous..... 5



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From the audit of March 31, 1946, the following figures are taken to show the detailed report of the past year:

	Honor-ary	Active	Indiv. Assoc.	Corp. Assoc.	Total
Membership, March 31, 1945.....	2	881	30	59	972
New members.....		181	1	23	205
Transfer of membership.....	1	1*			
	3	1,061	31	82	1,177
Deductions for death, resignations, drops.....		49	4	2	55
Membership, March 31, 1946.....	3	1,012	27	80	1,122

* Loss.

Previous audit figures indicate clearly the steady growth in membership of the Society:

Year	Honor-ary	Active	Indiv. Assoc.	Corp. Assoc.	Total
1934.....	4	264	6	21	295
1942.....	3	548	19	27	597
1943.....	3	616	19	43	681
1944.....	3	712	16	46	777

The new member detail for these same years is as follows:

- 1933-34— 66 (from Oil & Soap report, August, 1934)
- 1942-43— 93 (from audit)
- 1943-44—152 (from audit)
- 1944-45—216 (from audit)
- 1945-46—205 (from audit)

Qualifications for membership in the American Oil Chemists' Society as stated in the by-laws are thus:

Active members shall be persons actually engaged in chemical and/or technical work relating to fats, oils, waxes, and allied products and shall have at least five years' chemical training or its equivalent. Active-referee members must, in addition to possessing the requirements for active membership, pass an examination before and to the satisfaction of the Referee Examination Board of the Society.

Associate members shall consist of corporations, firms, or individuals engaged in the manufacture, handling or sale of fats, oils, waxes, or allied products, who may be interested in the development of the chemistry and/or technology essential to such industries. They shall be elected in the same manner as active members and shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Society, to receive its publications and be present at its meetings by representation, but shall not be entitled to vote. Corporations and firms who are associate members shall designate one employee as an official representative at the meetings or on committees of the Society.

Dues are \$6 a year for active and individual associate members; \$10 for corporation associates. The dues year runs from June 1 to May 31 except that members joining in April and May are carried through to May 31 the following year. Subscription to Oil & Soap is included in the membership.

In planning for the future, the Membership Committee will follow recommendations of the Governing Committee in including a geographical breakdown of the membership and the constitution and by-laws in the membership directory when feasible. Information about the occupational breakdown of the membership is also being gathered for the circulation records of Oil & Soap.

Respectfully submitted by

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