

## ADULT EDUCATION

THE A.O.C.S. has made history by three ventures into adult education on vegetable oils, edible fats, and drying oils, respectively. After the lapse of a year, the fourth course on Soap and Syndets will get under way at Rutgers University the evening of July 6th. Details of the speakers, the day chairmen, the industrial trips, the fees, appear elsewhere in this issue.



**F. D. Snell**

What does such a course signify? It is a disinterested effort on the part of those who are experienced in the field, who have made their mark, to pass on their experience to the younger men who are coming along. These are not research conferences which research directors and research men attend to give and receive new information and inspiration. Rather they are founded on an old, old principle, well known to educators, that a mature person who wishes to study concentratedly for a period of a week or two can absorb an amazing amount of knowledge.

The target-student aimed at is one who was graduated 3-5 years ago and has been in some branch of the detergent industry since that time. It is expected that in addition to his formal education he has picked up a practical knowledge in some specific branch of the detergent industry. By the unselfish efforts of leaders in the field he can now round out that experience to get a broad knowledge of the fields of soaps and their newer rivals, the syndets. By so doing he can appreciate the significance of his personal daily efforts as they affect the whole industry.

THIS is in one sense a sales talk to the men higher up, urging that by one week at the short course, conducted by the A.O.C.S. in cooperation with Rutgers University, their younger men can get an amazing concentration of information. That education picked up piecemeal from their associates would not be accumulated in years, largely because they would have little or no contact with appropriate sources.

A limit of 200 was set in advance on the persons who might attend the course on the basis that a speaker—a temporary professor so to speak—could hardly be expected to lecture to more than 200 students and, in fact, that even that size of class would be undesirably large.

It is interesting to note that the first preliminary announcement of the course brought an inquiry from France from a Society member who would come to the United States at whatever date the course was given in order to take it.

In conclusion, I want to take this opportunity to thank the speakers in advance. Such thanks are certainly extended on behalf of the committee, and I believe also on behalf of the Society and the detergent industry for a task which will have been efficiently completed by the end of the day on July 11th.

FOSTER DEE SNELL  
*Chairman, 1952 Short Course*