



Membership Report, 1953-1954

THE report of the Membership Committee for 1953-54 shows a total membership, as of April 9, of 2,159. Due to this year's early convention date this committee has had only 11 months in which to work. Because of the non-conformity of our fiscal year with the tenure of office of the Membership Committee, a direct comparison with the past several years is difficult to make.

The fiscal year ends December 31 while in general the Membership Committee's tenure covers a period roughly from May 1 to April 30. However the membership totals will be shown for the last five years on a fiscal-year basis:

	Total	Increase (Decrease)
12/31/49.....	1948	
1950.....	2024	76
1951.....	2106	82
1952.....	2156	50
1953.....	2110	(46)
4/1/54.....	2159 ¹	

¹ Including those in process.

Thus it may be seen that the trend toward a declining membership has been reversed, and we are again on the upgrade.

A continuing growth in membership is absolutely imperative if the Society is to prosper. While a substantial amount of revenue is derived from dues (22% of all revenue), about twice as much percentage-wise is derived from Journal advertising. Advertising rates are based almost entirely upon circulation. Therefore an increase in memberships and/or subscriptions to the Journal will directly affect the advertising revenue.

Each member of the Society should consider himself as belonging to the Membership Committee and do everything possible to attract new members to the Society.

We have a worthwhile bill of goods to sell, and we should miss no opportunity to bring before eligible non-members the benefits of membership in our national organization. The newly-adopted policy of creating local sections should have a salutary effect in this direction. Already two sections have been chartered, The Northeast Oil Chemists' Society, head-

quartering in New York, and The Northern California Oil Chemists' Society, which received its formal charter at the San Antonio meeting.

A large and enthusiastic group has already been formed in Chicago and quite likely will be the third section to receive recognition.

Several years ago Reid T. Milner, then chairman of the Membership Committee, prepared a map showing membership distribution in the United States. It seemed appropriate at this time to bring this map up-to-date, and this has been done on the basis of data taken from the latest membership directory.

It will be noted that the greatest concentration of membership exists around the metropolitan areas of New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and Minneapolis. Texas, also, has a sizeable representation but principally spread out over such cities as Houston, Fort Worth, and Dallas. This membership distribution provides a clue to where new sections of the Society are likely to be established.

The Governing Board is also giving consideration to the establishment of a student class of membership, which should have the effect of stimulating membership in that category.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of this year's committee for their excellent work and to extend my best wishes to my successor, W. A. Peterson.

C. E. MORRIS, chairman.

Suriano Joins Bates

R. W. BATES, who recently left Armour and Company, Chicago, to establish the North American Laboratory Service at 1405 W. Hubbard street, Chicago, announces that the word Inc. has been added to the title and that Jack Suriano has purchased an interest in the business and will be associated with him in its operation.

Mr. Suriano, who joined the American Oil Chemists' Society in 1953, is a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1947, with a degree in chemical engineering. He was employed as a chemist and development engineer by Armour for about five years.

Mr. Bates, chairman of the Smalley Committee of the Society and retiring chairman of the Referee Examining Board, was elected in April 1954 to the office of secretary of the Society.