

The A.O.C.S. and the Detergent Industry

ENLARGING OUR SCOPE. The American Oil Chemists' Society has long been active in the development of methods for the analysis of those detergents known as soaps, and its members have made outstanding contributions to the over-all knowledge, both fundamental and practical, of the soap industry.

With the remarkable development of new classes of detergents, commonly known as synthetic, it has been only natural that the soap chemists should be in the forefront of the development of synthetic detergents and their uses. In fact, now that 65% of the detergents produced in the United States are synthetic, much of the emphasis has shifted from soaps to synthetic detergents. A.O.C.S. members, versatile as they are, have shifted with the times.



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Significant progress was made, methodwise, when the A.O.C.S. Fat Analysis Committee was enlarged and divided into task groups and began to collaborate with the A.S.T.M. Committee D-12. This collaboration simplified the cooperation of two groups outstanding for their work on analytical methods for detergents, both soap and synthetic. The A.O.C.S. collaborates similarly on analyses with the A.O.A.C.

The new committee structure for a joint A.O.C.S.-A.S.T.M. Committee for the Analysis of Soaps and Synthetic Detergents is an indication of our continuing policy of keeping in step with the times.

It is only natural that much of the significant work on synthetic detergents has been and is being published in the Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society.

Further recognition of this young giant, synthetic detergents, is being shown at the Fall Meeting, September 24-26, in Chicago this year. A full day (Wednesday, the 26th) will be devoted to a symposium on synthetic detergents. An attempt will be made to cover the general view of the field, as is shown from the program which follows:

- Introduction to Field of Detergents, by W. M. Bright, Lever Bros. Company
- Alkylaryl Sulfonates, by J. Kircher, Continental Oil Company
- Fatty Alcohol Sulfates, by D. B. Hatcher, Stepan Chemical Company
- Alkylolamides, by Jerome Kritchevsky, Ninol Corporation
- Nonionic Detergents, by Chapin Stevens, Antara Division, General Aniline and Dye Corporation
- Amphoteretic Surfactants, by D. L. Anderson, General Mills Inc.
- Sugar Esters, by L. Osipow, Foster D. Snell Inc.
- Analytical Test Methods
 - Organic, by W. G. Spangler, Colgate-Palmolive Company
 - Inorganic, by J. C. Harris, Monsanto Chemical Company
- Physical Test Methods, to be announced
- Applications of Synthetics, by Carl Pacifico, American Alcolac Corporation
- New Applications
 - Oil Field Flooding, by C. E. Johnson Jr., California Research Corporation
 - Soil Conditioning, by J. L. Seymour, Illinois Farm Supply Company

This program should set the stage for numerous discussions and perhaps provide inspiration for future papers.

TIME MARCHES ON. It is to the Society's credit that it is flexible enough to grow with the times. Research on detergents will continue to be of increasing importance to members of our Society, and naturally with this increase in effort will come increased coverage and importance in our Society. Let's be prepared for growth!

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