Cosmetic Scientists Visit Europe

Fifty scientists and executives from the United States cosmetics industry participated in an international scientific conference in London and in technical meetings in Paris and Geneva during July and August.

Under the sponsorship of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists the American delegates arrived in Paris on July 28 to attend a seminar on cosmetic science arranged by the Société Francaise de Cosmetologie. They also visited plants and laboratories of the French cosmetic industry.

They were the guests of the Swiss Society of Cosmetic Chemists while in Geneva, where they observed the production of perfume materials. Scientists from both groups presented papers at a seminar on August 2.

The U. S. group attended an international conference on "The Biology of the Hair Follicle and Growth of Hair" at the Royal Society of Medicine in London on August 7–9. This comprehensive conference on hair, sponsored by the British Society for Research on Ageing, was suggested by Robert H. Marriott, past president of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists in Great Britain.

In August 1922

In an editorial entitled "Clean Up or Shut Up" the editor of the Chemists' Section, H. S. Bailey, encouraged chemists to take advantage of the seasonal lull to improve the condition of their laboratories and equipment.

R. H. Fash commented on an article entitled "Contamination of Cottonseed Oil by Mineral Oil" by A. W. Putland and clarified his own stand on the subject.

New members reported by Secretary T. B. Caldwell were William M. Perry, Blanton-Sims Company, St. Louis, Mo.; Frank R. Johnson, United Chemical and Organic Products Company, Hammond, Ind.; and W. Bradford Smith, Armour and Company, Kansas City, Kans.

Report of the Journal Advertising Committee 1956-57

IN THINKING about Journal advertising and the Society income-situation, there comes to mind the story about the prominent chemistry professor who was recognized by his colleagues as being exceptionally cautious in expressing his opinions and findings; in fact, he had developed this trait to a point that often irked some of his friends. One day when he and a friend were strolling down a country lane, a horse was seen standing nearby. The friend thought the situation was so obvious that there could be no hedging so he said, "Professor, you will admit, won't you, that that is a white horse standing there?" Whereupon the professor looked at the horse and deliberately replied, "Well, yes, on this side!"

So, in analyzing the income derived from Journal advertising since 1946, the year that we broke the 200-page barrier, it is comforting to see an almost unbroken increase year after year until, for 1956, we achieved a new high of $49,200. That is, advertising income over this 10-year period averaged $3,100 per month or $37,240 per year, changing from $26,134 in 1947 to $49,230 in 1956, for an increase of 87.1%. This gratifying performance is better illustrated by the curve in Figure 1.

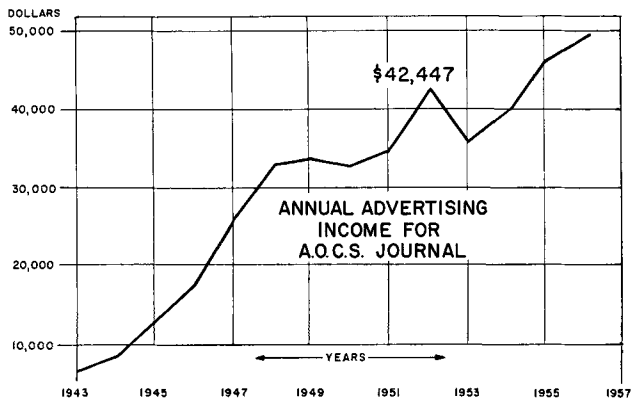


FIG. 1.

But a cautious-professor look at "the other side" serves as an alarm clock to awaken us rudely to some of the unpleasant facts in this connection, one of the most important of which is that the number of pages of advertising in the Journal has been standing almost still during this 10-year period, at about an average of 25½ pages per month or 306 pages per year. This nagging situation is better illustrated by the curve in Figure 2. If this fundamental weakness that underlies our financial situation isn't sufficient to galvanize you into action, then consider the fact that this

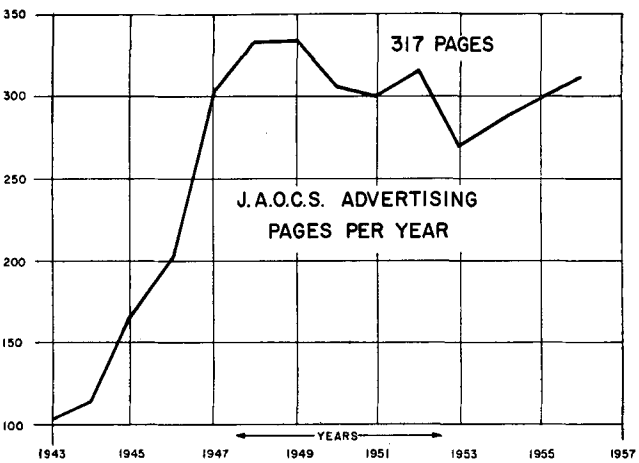


FIG. 2.

PICTURED above are recent visitors at the Southern Utilization Research and Development Division of Agricultural Research Service, U.S.D.A., New Orleans, La. Left, H. G. R. Reddy, Bangalore, India, graduate student at Texas A. and M. College, confers with J. W. Dieckert on the structure of fats. *Center,* Audrey Gros discusses acetoglycerides with K. S. Saunders, an executive of the technical department of the British firm of Unilever Ltd. *Right,* Gunnar Wode (center), of Margarinbolaget AB, Stockholm, Sweden, exchanges ideas on the quality of oils for margarine production with R. O. Feuge (left) and F. G. Dollear.

slow-motion performance pagewise has been taking place during a time of steady increase for both membership in the Society and total circulation of the Journal; in fact, net circulation has climbed from 2,947 in 1947 to 4,660 in 1956 for a gain of about 58.1%. This situation is illustrated in greater detail by the data in Table I.

TABLE I

A.O.C.S. Journal Advertising by Years

Year	Amount	Percentage Increase	Pages	Percentage Increase	Accounts	Net Paid Circulation
1944	$ 8,068	.....	114½	.....	25	1,800
1945	12,579	56.3%	170½	49.3%	33	.....
1946	17,309	37.3	201½	18.2	39	2,450
1947	26,134	50.8	307	52.5	59	2,947
1948	32,981	26.4	335	9.1	65	3,156
1949	33,779	2.4	336¼	0.4	63	3,515
1950	32,730	−3.1	308¼	−8.3	61	3,640
1951	34,479	5.3	302	−1.3	62	3,857
1952	42,447	23.1	317½	4.7	65	3,912
1953	35,307	−16.8	266	−15.4	64	3,987
1954	39,167	10.9	285½	7.1	73	4,194
1955	46,170	17.9	299½	4.9	69	4,433
1956	49,230	6.8	310½	3.7	70	4,660

In painting the foregoing somewhat gloomy picture, it is not intended to convey the idea that our advertising sales efforts have been lacking in direction or energy; on the contrary, it should be emphasized that our past advertising sales efforts have been remarkably successful under the circumstances. From a selling standpoint one of the largest handicaps stems from the fact that we do not have anyone whose full-time work is concerned with advertising; it is true that we have an advertising representative, but the commission rate and volume potential apparently have been considered to be too small to justify a full-time effort. Therefore the advertising that has appeared in the Journal has come from the part-time efforts of not only the advertising representative but also of the Journal editor, the executive secretary, the members of the Journal Advertising Committee, and, of course, various other members of the Society who have cared enough to put in some words with a supplier for the good of the cause. In other words, the fine advertising results that have been obtained have resulted from the combined efforts of many members of the Society; and it is considered that an even greater structure can be erected on the base already established if, to the experience of the many who have expanded time and effort in this connection in the past, there can be added a mass action effect of even greater membership participation in the selling and promotion of advertising in its broad aspects.

As a sort of silver lining to the foregoing dark clouds, it is especially gratifying to report that, because of the renewed and continuing vigor put forth by the Society's promotional and selling efforts, dollar volume of advertising in the Journal rose to a new high of about $49,200 for the year 1956, or a gain of about 6.8% over 1955; some 310½ pages of advertising were run during 1956 for a gain of about 3.7% over 1955. However this performance is no cause for complacency because part of the dollar gain stems from rate increases and, in any event, there isn't sufficient advertising volume to serve as a cushion in case declining industrial activity should result in curtailment of advertising expenditures. As a straw in the wind, it should be noted that advertising revenue for the first three months of 1957 was $10,800 as compared to about $12,400 for the similar period of 1956, or a loss of about $1,600 or 17 pages in three months. Should this trend continue through 1957, we will be confronted with a situation by the year's end in which the Society's expenses will exceed income! Therefore, before it is too late, it behooves the entire membership to bestir itself in behalf of more advertising in the Journal.

A JOURNAL Advertising Committee meeting was held at the Shamrock-Hilton hotel on April 25, 1956 at the Houston meeting of the Society with the following being present: A. Ernest MacGee, chairman; A. R. Baldwin, chairman, Journal Committee; H. C. Black, vice president; R. J. Vander Wal, B. W. Beadle, F. H. Smith, R. E. Nisbet, H. D. Fincher, and B. P. Neil. Another meeting was held at the Sherman hotel on September 26, 1956 at the Chicago meeting with the following being present: A. Ernest MacGee, chairman, J. P. Harris, vice chairman; T. H. Hopper, president; H. C. Black, vice president; A. R. Baldwin, chairman, Journal Committee; H. D. Fincher, B. W. Beadle, Ralph Berger, L. A. Schnurr, F. H. Smith, D. E. Whyte, L. A. Spielman, S. P. Taylor, and R. E. Terrill and staff.

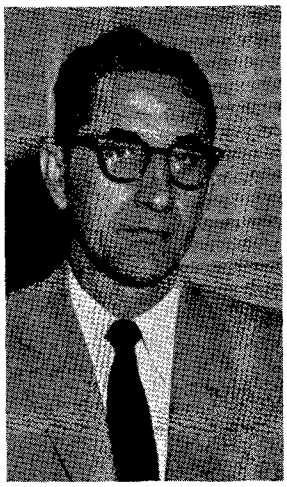
The Journal Advertising Committee, as now constituted, is composed of 22 members distributed geographically as follows: five in the South, five in the East, one in the West, seven in the North Central, and four in the Midwest.

Both President Hopper and Vice President Black expressed thanks to the entire committee and went on to say that the Journal was one of the largest activities of the Society and that advertising therein was an extremely important source of income necessary for financing the many items with which the Society is concerned. Baldwin emphasized the necessity of maintaining and even increasing advertising revenue because of the gradual climb of nearly all production costs.

Without attempting to cover the details, let it suffice to say that the following summarizes the accomplishments of the several meetings and the subsequent efforts of the various members of the Journal Advertising Committee during the past year.

1. The "advertising promotion list" had become antiquated so it was carefully screened to eliminate incorrect and needless addresses and to add numerous correct and worthwhile addresses; thus we now have an up-to-date promotion list of about 2,500 addresses of purchasing agents, advertising managers, works managers, and others of firms who should be interested in advertising in our Journal.

2. Several subjects were proposed as suitable for mailing to this new promotion list. In fact, the first of this new series of promotion pieces was sent in March 1957 by Mrs. Lucy Haw-



Keator McCubbin has been appointed president of the Henry Weis Manufacturing Company, Elkhart, Ind., where he plans to continue engineering and consulting work in the cereal and oilseed field.

kins, executive secretary, over the signature of the Advertising representative, H. L. Ward. This sales promotion piece effectively presented the story of "Two Points of View" as outlined by Messrs. Harris and Baldwin in their articles "An Open Letter to Advertisers" and "Our Journal—What Is It?" Sales promotion pieces of this type, if sent on a regular basis, should pave the way for personal contacts.

3. It was considered desirable that each member of the committee have available for reference a list of advertising prospects so each member has been supplied with the addresses on the new promotion list.

4. It was recommended that each of the A.O.C.S. sections, namely, the Northeast Section, the North Central Section, the Northern California Section, and the Southwest Section, establish within their organizations a Journal Advertising subcommittee to collaborate with the Journal Advertising Committee in contacting advertising prospects and others within their area in an effort to assist the Journal staff and selling advertising space in the Journal. It is planned that at least the chairmen of the several sectional advertising subcommittees will also be members of the Journal Advertising Committee; this should strengthen our committee work and fill a much needed want in obtaining the "personal touch" in contacting advertisers, exhibitors, and like prospects throughout the country.

5. Directories, including telephone numbers, are to be prepared of key members of the various Sections, particularly of the chairmen and those connected with advertising work, so as to facilitate "passing the word" in connection with contacting advertising prospects and in executing other work of the Committee, especially in the Chicago and New York areas.

6. An intensive effort was made to get some of the major operators in the oil, fat, and food industry to run a series of ads about their products; likewise a special point was made of getting some of the manufacturers of safety equipment to run some ads, particularly in the March 1957 issue of the Journal since that issue had the articles and minutes pertaining to the meeting of the Technical Safety Committee. Although these efforts so far have been unsuccessful, it does appear that the seed will bear fruit later on.

7. During the year numerous "thank-you" and "service-offer" letters were sent by the chairman and various members of the Journal Advertising Committee to advertisers and prospective advertisers in addition to a host of personal and phone contacts that they made. In addition to this, by way of passing along information on various subjects, the chairman sent five letters to all members of the Journal Advertising Committee with copies to the president, vice president, the Journal editor, and staff.

Needless to say, attendance of committee members at meetings is a prime requirement for unearthing usable ideas, crystallizing lines of action, and otherwise accomplishing the mission that is assigned to the group. Likewise the prompt execution of assigned tasks by the members is vitally important if worthwile results are to be obtained. Therefore, for diligence in attendance at committee meetings and in performing assigned tasks that was over and beyond that which might be associated with the usual duty of membership on the Journal Advertising Committee, this opportunity is being taken to express appreciation to the following, who also deserve the thanks of many others comprising the Society's membership.

J. P. Harris	H. D. Fincher	J. E. Slaughter
C. H. Haurand	R. E. Terrill	L. A. Schnurr
B. W. Beadle	F. H. Smith	R. E. Nisbet
D. E. Whyte	R. W. Berger	S. P. Taylor
L. A. Spielman	B. P. Neil	R. J. Vander Wal
F. B. White		

In closing, it might be mentioned for emphasis that advertising income accounts for about 60% of all money received by the Society's Journal with which to defray expenses incident to its publishing, such as office space, stationery and supplies, telephone, abstracting, and salaries. This condition is illustrated more clearly by the data in Table II.

TABLE II

Annual Journal Income as Related to Advertising

Year	Total Income	Per Cent Income From Advertising	Per Cent Income From Subscriptions
1949	$44,200	76.4%	17.9%
1950	44,100	74.1	29.7
1951	60,600	57.1	26.4
1952	65,300	64.7	25.0
1953	65,000	53.8	27.1
1954	66,100	59.1	27.2
1955	75,700	60.7	26.1
1956	81,300	59.8	27.5

From the foregoing it is seen that it takes a lot of money not only to pay for the publishing of the Journal but also to maintain it in the excellent form to which we all have become accustomed, as well as to defray the host of other expenses that necessarily arise in the every-day work life of the Society, therefore, if the Journal and other activities are to continue on the present high plane, it is obvious that income of the Society must be maintained. Since advertising income represents a sizable percentage of total income, this means in practice that we must maintain advertising for our Journal or soon find ourselves in financial hot water, which only could be cooled by reducing Society services and Journal quality or by increasing membership dues, obtaining donations or an endowment, staging a series of "box suppers," or otherwise raising the money the hard way.

But we can continue to raise the necessary money the easy way, namely by selling advertising space in our Journal, if all of us who are connected with the use, designation, and/or purchasing of chemicals, equipment, and processes utilized in the plants of the oil and fat industry will lend a hand by letting representatives of the various suppliers know that you see their advertisements and appreciate the fact that money derived therefrom helps the Society; this can be done with an absolutely clear conscience because, in fact, you will be doing the supplier a favor since the A.O.C.S. Journal cuts a wide swath clear across the oil and fat industry with its readers and the Society membership representing not only chemists but operating engineers, plant superintendents, technical directors, and managers of the plants in the industry. Thus the Journal is the best medium that suppliers of chemicals, equipment, and processes can use in order to get their selling story across to their users and potential users in the plants of the oil and fat industry.

A. Ernest MacGee, chairman

Now Available . . .

A 20-page catalog listing "Polyethylene Laboratory Ware" is available from Harshaw Chemical Company, Cleveland, O.

❖

Artificially soiled fabrics for determining the cleaning efficiency of detergents are now available from Foster D. Snell Inc., New York, N. Y., in unit packages of consecutively numbered swatches.

❖

"Sodium Dispersions" is the title of a 42-page bulletin recently published by U. S. Industrial Chemicals Company, Division of National Distiller and Chemical Corporation, New York, N. Y.

New Books

ORGANIC SYNTHESIS, by Vartkes Migrdichian (Reinhold Publishing Company, New York, N. Y., 2 volumes, 1,822 pp., 6 x 9 in., 1957, $35). This treatise is intended to cover completely and systematically both standard methods and new developments in organic synthesis. Contents include: Volume I—hydrocarbons, alcohols, inorganic esters and carbohydrates, ethers and related compounds, formation and reactions of carbonyl compounds, aliphatic carboxylic acids, aliphatic esters and ester condensations, aliphatic acid halides, amides and related compounds, aliphatic nitriles, amines, and related compounds, aliphatic halogen compounds, the Grignard reaction, the Friedel-Crafts reaction, aliphatic nitro and nitroso compounds, sulfonic and sulfinic acids and related compounds, organometallic compounds, and organic compounds of nonmetals and metalloids; Volume II—olefinic compounds, unsaturated compounds with functional groups, acetylenic compounds, diene synthesis, alicyclic hydrocarbons and their derivatives, aromatic hydrocarbons, phenols and quinones, aromatic carbonyl compounds, aromatic carboxylic acids and related compounds, aromatic amines and related compounds, aromatic sulfonic acids and related compounds. A third volume covering heterocyclic compounds is contemplated.

Literature references are accumulated at the ends of the chapters. Numbered reference citations are voluminous; for example, Chapter 6 on aliphatic carboxylic acids has 261, and Chapter 12 on the Grignard reaction has 480. Many of the numbered citations contain multiple specific references to journal articles and reviews.

The index is found in Volume II and occupies pp. 1,735-1,822, but no distinction is made in the index among entries from Volume I and those from Volume II.

Although the author states that no effort was spared to make the index complete in every respect, the index has one defect that makes it less useful to the reader. This defect is failure to handle uniformly entries referring to basic types of reactions such as oxidation, reduction, halogenation, nitration, etc. It would be more valuble to the reader if the various specific methods discussed in the text had been itemized under such general headings. Thus "halogenation," "bromination," and "hydrogenation," for example, are not found as entries in the index. "Reduction," "oxidation," and "iodination" are mentioned only with reference to specific classes of compounds; but under "chlorination," nitration," and "sulfonation" several methods are listed for accomplishing these reactions. Thus "chlorination with N-chloranilides" is specifically indexed but *not* "bromination with N-bromosuccinimide," despite the latter's greater importance in synthetic organic chemistry. These general methods are itemized to some extent in the detailed table of contents, but it is not so convenient to find them there as in the index. Bromination with N-bromosuccinimide is listed in both the index and the table of contents as the "Wohl-Ziegler" reaction, requiring the reader to be familiar with this name.

Despite this criticism of the index the reviewer feels that Dr. Migrdichian has done an excellent piece of work in compiling this treatise. In comparison with other books of similar nature, the present work appears superior not only in breadth of approach but also in the frequent inclusion of information on such subjects as mechanisms of reactions, experimental details, and multistep syntheses. All of this extra information helps the reader to understand the scope and limitations of a preparative method and to apply a method in an intelligent manner to the synthesis of new compounds.

This treatise would be a valuable addition to any organic chemist's library. Although it is well worth its price in comparison with other scientific books, the reviewer believes that it is somewhat expensive for purchase by individuals. Probably it will find its largest market as a reference work in institutional and industrial libraries. The real value of a reference work to the chemist cannot be judged in advance but must be determined by its success over a period of

time in helping to solve his daily problems. The reviewer believes that "Organic Synthesis" will pass this test.

H. M. TEETER
Northern Utilization Research and Development Division
Peoria, Ill.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING REPORTS (How to Search the Literature and Prepare a Report), 4th Ed., by Kenneth A. Kobe (Interscience Publishers Inc., New York, 175 pp., 1957, $3). These reports furnish a thorough description of the chemical literature, including an introduction to the patent literature and various research agency reports. The chemical economic literature is likewise thoroughly reviewed. The preparation of the various types of technical reports and letters is well outlined and should serve as an aid to the organization, presentation, and writing of both scientific reports and publications. The form of literature citations adopted by the various chemical and engineering journals is listed.

This book therefore should serve as a handy guide to those who may be writing for two or three different journals that employ different methods for literature citations. This book is well organized, easy-to-read, and easy-to-use. It would be an asset to chemists, engineers, editors of scientific journals and their secretaries.

J. W. DUNNING
V. D. Anderson Company
Cleveland, O.

PROPERTIES OF PETROLEUM RESERVOIR FLUIDS, by Emil J. Burcik, 1st ed. (John Wiley and Sons Corporation, New York, N. Y., 190 pp., 1957, $7.50). Although this is an excellent book, it deals specifically with field or production matters of petroleum mineral oils and therefore would not have a general interest for technical men in the vegetable and animal oil industries. The book is written in an easily readable style, which employs numerous curves, tables, and drawings to supplement and better illustrate the subjects being discussed.

The book is written on good quality flat paper with cloth binding, and the contents are well organized into seven chapters plus several appendices which give thermodynamic, specific gravity, and other properties of propane, pentane, and other items with which the text and prospective readers are concerned. Although a large part of the subject matter deals with reservoir fluid characteristics and applications or things in which only oil field production technologists would be primarily interested, about half of the book is devoted to a general discussion of properties and behavior of gases, fluids, and hydrocarbon system; this discussion is concise but simple and straightforward and is supplemented by chemical formulas, tables, curves, and mathematical equations. Futhermore numerous references are cited in each chapter so that the reader could readily go to the original subject-matter if he considered it desirable to do so. Therefore, even though the book is intended to appeal primarily to those interested in oil field production technology, it is considered worthwhile for inclusion in libraries of plants and laboratories of the oil and fat industry as a reference source on petroleum hydrocarbons and their behavior as gases or volatile liquids.

A. ERNEST MACGEE
Skelly Oil Company
Kansas City, Mo.

THE CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY OF WAXES, by A. H. Warth, 2nd ed., Reinhold Publishing Corporation, New York, pp. vii-940, 1956, $18). This second edition can best be defined as an excellent compendium on waxes. In its 10 chapters the author discusses the chemical components of waxes, the variety of waxes available, such as natural waxes, fossil and earth waxes, petroleum waxes, and synthetic waxes. He deals with the commercial modification of waxes and waxy-type products as well as two important chapters on uses of waxes and one chapter on methods for determining wax properties. For most people this book will give an excellent insight into the ramifications of waxes and the products in which they are used. An excellent list of references is given at the end of each chapter, and it appears that the literature has been examined selectively and the most pertinent papers selected.

The short introductory chapter sets the stage for the book with a brief early history of waxes and a definition of what is considered wax-like and therefore worthy of discussion in this book. The second chapter deals with the types of building blocks which go to make up the different wax types. In this it can be seen that a wide variety of chemical types are present in natural waxes so that a study of their composition is a complicated problem because of the variety of units which occur. Chapter three deals with natural waxes, which are broken into four parts: waxes from insects, waxes from animals, waxes from plants, and waxes from micro-organisms. This chapter, which makes an exhaustive study of commercial and non-commercial sources, might better have been broken into several smaller chapters although this may be just a matter of preference. The fourth chapter deals with fossil waxes, earth waxes, peat waxes, montana waxes, and lignite paraffins. Types of petroleum waxes from white oil to the micro-crystalline waxes are well covered. In the synthetic wax chapter some 14 different types of synthetic waxes are discussed with particular attention to their chemical and physical properties and uses of them.

The brief chapter on the blending of waxes, both with themselves and with nonwaxy materials, is of interest as it illustrates some of the variations in properties that can be obtained by proper compounding. Chapter eight deals with emulsified waxes and then discusses various kinds of fatty acids and metallic soaps which are available. This seemed a rather strange combination in one chapter. The chapter on methods of determining the constants of waxes is comprehensive, and many of the instruments used are illustrated by actual pictures as assistance if one is not familiar with these particular instruments. The chapter on wax technology is certainly comprehensive, covering most of the

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1. Vitamin A Acetate or Palmitate dissolved in refined winterized cottonseed or corn oil (no color added).

2. Vitamin A plus Vitamin D (with or without any of the two coloring agents below).

3. Vitamin A with Pfizer Beta Carotene (a stable, nutritional coloring agent that imparts a uniform, true, natural color).

4. Vitamin A with Pfizer Vegetable Color (The latter is an oil-soluble 20% suspension derived from annatto beans).

Pfizer combination vitamin and color products can be pre-blended to your specifications, so that you can fortify and color with maximum ease and best results. You will find Pfizer Vitamin A *odorless, tasteless and highly stable.* Count on Pfizer, a leader in vitamin research and development, for products of uniform high quality in convenient forms.

Pioneer and Leading Manufacturer of Vitamins

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CHAS. PFIZER & CO., INC.
Chemical Sales Division
630 Flushing Ave., Brooklyn 6, N. Y.
Branch Offices: Chicago, Ill.; San Francisco, Calif.; Vernon, Calif.; Atlanta, Ga.; Dallas, Tex.

known uses of waxes. The chapter is interesting since it not only outlines where waxes may be used but gives actual compositions which illustrate the type of use. There is an appendix of 24 pages, which is an excellent summary of many of the physical properties of waxes in tabular form.

The author index and subject index seem quite adequate, and the whole book is well printed on excellent paper with surprisingly few errors. This book can be recommended both to those who are actively working in the field as well as to those who would like to acquire a good general background of knowledge in waxes as most of the material is put down in an easily readable style. This book is mainly factual in its presentation and does not attempt to theorize or develop any special premises.

D. E. WHYTE
S. C. Johnson and Son, Inc.
Racine, Wis.

DICTIONNAIRE DES HUILES VEGETABLES, by Paul-H. Mensier (Paul Lechevalier, 1957, 772 pp., 10,000 francs). The book sent for review was a paper-bound pulp edition with uncut pages, size 10 x 7 octavo, purchasable through the Library Service Association, 11 Rue Lavoisier, Paris, France, at $29 postpaid). There are several features of this work: its comprehensive coverage, alphabetical listing by botanical name, and the inclusion of native names along with the common. More than 3,000 plants are described, from which glyceridic or fixed oil is extracted, beginning with Abelmoschus Moschatus (musk mallow) and ending with Zizyphus Xylopyra (jujube). Such an arrangement has the advantage of international understanding and avoids confusion. For those acquainted with common names only, there follows an alphabetical index of these in French and other tongues including the dialect of local habitat, through Aa, Ab, Ac, etc., to Zy. Opposite each is given the botanical classification for reference to the dictionary proper. At the end is a short glossary of terms. In effect, the book is a veritable encyclopedia containing brief, concise, but accurate description of plant and oil and the production, characteristics, composition, and usages of the oil. It is apparent that many years of research, study, and abstraction have gone into this work to cover the field, bring it up to date, and present this at finger-tips.

A surprising number of oils are included not usually encountered and not likely to be found elsewhere, or if so, requiring diligent and tedious search. Many have names peculiar to the locality of origin or growth; the peanut for example has more than two hundred. Since some of them may and do reach this country from tropical Asia, Africa, and South America, the listing is particularly serviceable in helping one to find and learn about them.

There is the natural shortcoming inherent in a dictionary in that recourse must be had to other authors for the full picture or for collateral details, but the salient points are contained so that "he who runs may read." The common commercial oils are not too elaborately treated. As to the odd and rare oils, one is astonished that so much information is available. To illustrate, here are a few: asparagus, bobblenut, cockle burr, fennel, henbane, larkspur, mango, morning glory, physic nut, pimiento, sumac, spinach, thistle, vetch, and woad; even the gum trees, copal, and lac are mentioned for their content of fixed oil. There are oils also with no English equivalent.

To those who, like the reviewer, desire a technical set of books, each one dealing with a particular field or branch of science and embracing in condensed, accurate form all essential information, this book is a welcomed addition. The specialist would, of course, require more than this. Nevertheless lay or professional, if one likes his lore in packaged form and wants to lay his hands on ready information especially about oils, new or old, with strange or localized names, he would do well to own the dictionary. This applies to chemist, pharmacist, botanist, and trader. Unfortunately the price is high for the individual—it is not a "must"—but not too high for institutional or organizational libraries.

M. P. LAURO
New York Produce Exchange
New York, N. Y.

W. A. Peterson, former president of the American Oil Chemists' Society, is now associated with the United States Testing Company, Hoboken, N. J.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHEMICAL REACTIONS, vol. VI, compiled by C. A. Jacobson, edited by Clifford A. Hampel, Reinhold Publishing Company, New York, 438 pp. 1956, $12.50). This volume contains the reactions of compounds of samarium, scandium, selenium, silicon, silver, sodium. The editor states that the material in this volume and succeeding volumes represents almost entirely the file compiled by the late C. A. Jacobson, based upon abstracts by more than 100 abstractors. Dr. Jacobson's aim was a complete compilation of chemical reactions involving inorganic reagents. Consequently the form in which the material is presented is that of file cards. A typical example of interest to members of the American Oil Chemists' Society is:

$$(C_{17}H_{35}COO)_3C_3H_5 \xrightarrow{NaOH} \text{VI-1406}$$

In the soap-kettle manufacture of soap the fat or oil is usually saponified with sodium hydroxide.

$$3\,NaOH + (C_{17}H_{35}COO)_3C_3H_5 \rightarrow C_3H_5(OH)_3 + 3C_{17}H_{35}COONa$$

W. E. Sanger, Chem. & Met. Eng., **26**, 1,211 (1922) 44

While this method of presentation is unique, it is nevertheless difficult to see what contribution this encyclopedia makes to the investigator's reference books. In view of the admitted incompleteness of the coverage, the research chemist would undoubtedly feel much safer using the orthodox chemical abstracts and available comprehensive inorganic treatises to determine what has been done in his field of investigation. It is also doubtful that it is going to be worthwhile to master the system of classification employed in this encyclopedia even though it is not very complicated because it is always going to be necessary to make a more complete study of the literature in the standard reference works.

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July marked the 25th anniversary of the STEPAN CHEMICAL COMPANY, Chicago, Ill., suppliers of raw materials for synthetic detergents.

❖

SCHAAR AND COMPANY, Chicago, Ill., has moved to a new location at 7300 W. Montrose avenue.

❖

A systems division has been established at BECKMAN INSTRUMENTS INC., Anaheim, Calif., to permit expansion of engineering and marketing programs for automatic process monitoring and control systems.

❖

THE TAPECOAT COMPANY, Evanston, Ill., has established a separate research and development department concerned with protective coatings, paints, anti-corrosion agents, new resins, and polymer formulations.

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