

Chicago—Your Host City

Chicago will again be your host city which welcomes you to the 35th Fall Meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society on October 30 to November 1, 1961. We of the North Central Section of our Society feel honored in having you as our guests.

This city of ours is a great convention center and the only rival we recognize is New York City. There are weeks when Chicago's hotels accommodate as many as thirty conventions. The completion of McCormick Place, a 35 million dollar exposition center on the shores of Lake Michigan, enhances our reputation as the "Convention City."

We have, without doubt, the most beautiful front yard of any city in the United States. Michigan Avenue, its majestic skyscrapers forming the western wall, and with open areas of grass and trees stretching eastward to the edge of the lake, is one of the great boulevards of the world.

As our convention hotel is on Michigan Avenue I would like to talk about this, rather than our great public projects such as expressways, O'Hare International Airport, and the Port of Chicago, all near completion, which will maintain Chicago's position as the transportation center of the nation.

Imagination, courage, and creative ability combined to make this an avenue of distinction. North Michigan Avenue, often called the Magnificent Mile, has such famous skyscrapers as the Wrigley, Palmolive, and Tribune Tower buildings. South Michigan Avenue proudly claims the Standard Oil, Fairbanks-Morse, Crane, Zenith, and IBM edifices. New structures such as the Prudential, Borg-Warner, and National Cash Register buildings, attest the continued dynamic growth of the avenue. Tribute is due the civic planners, the architects, the contractors, and builders

who brought these buildings into being and made Michigan Avenue great.

On South Michigan is the famous Art Institute which covers a four block area from Monroe to Jackson on Michigan Avenue, and extends east to Inner Drive. Here is the largest art school in the world where over 6,000 students, from age six to those obtaining a master's degree, attend classes. The



A.A. Rodeghier

main building, of Bedford limestone in Italian Renaissance style, is flanked by a lovely formal garden where three circular fountains play in a large rectangular pool. But the Institute building is loved most for the two fine and friendly bronze lions who guard its portal, and whose tails are kept well polished by the children who slide on them. They were sculptured by the American artist, Edward Kemeys, and have stood guard duty for nearly 70 years.

The Art Institute houses some of the finest collections of any museum, its group of 19th and 20th century French paintings being particularly famous. The Japanese prints and Chinese bronzes are unsurpassed and there are rare collections of other prints, fabrics,

tapestries, glass, sculpture, and furniture. Each year there are temporary exhibitions of works from many other museums and collections.

But there are noble buildings on other streets as well. There are great hotels known the world over, great office buildings, fashionable and famous shops and stores. In the Chicago area there is a concentration of schools and colleges, hospitals, research organizations in medicine, sociology, law, and many activities in the arts and sciences, which benefit all America.

Convention headquarters will be at the famous Pick-Congress Hotel, located on Michigan Avenue and Congress Parkway, which is often termed the "Front Window of Chicago." Historically, the Congress gained fame as the "Home of Presidents." Nine successive presidents, from Grover Cleveland to Franklin Roosevelt, stayed at the Pick-Congress while in Chicago. Other than being a fine hotel it is an ideal convention center because of the newly refurbished meeting rooms which are connected by escalators, and are served by a huge check-room. The hotel has undergone extensive remodeling in public rooms and guest rooms to make it one of the most attractive and best equipped institutions in the country for conventions, social affairs, and transient guests. We of the Chicago committee feel that, because of all these new features, this is an excellent convention hotel for our Society.

The various committees are working hard in an endeavor to make your visit to Chicago a most pleasant one. We hope to see you on Sunday, October 29, 1961, for our early-arrival get-together at the Pick-Congress Hotel.

ADOLPH A. RODEGHIER
1961 Fall Convention Chairman