• *AOCS Past Presidents Series*

With the following biographical sketch of V. C. Mehlenbacher, the *Journal* continues a series begun in the October issue, compiled and written by R. W. Bates. The series will include the twenty presidents who have served the Society since 1947, when the first series of this kind was completed.

J. R. MAYS, JR., 1950

J. R. Mays, Jr., was the 41st president of The American Oil Chemists' Society.

Bob was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Oct. 8, 1895.

He was educated in the local public schools and obtained a BS in Chemical Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1915 and an MS in Chemistry from the same school in 1916.

J. R. Mays, Jr.

His first job was with the Barrow Laboratory Co. in 1916. He was employed by the Tallulah Cotton Oil Co. in 1917 and served with the Armed Services in World War I in 1918. He established a branch laboratory for Barrow-Agee Laboratories at Shreveport, Louisiana, and managed it until 1936 when he moved to Memphis as a service engineer for Barrow-Agee. He became vice president of Barrow-Agee Laboratories in 1946 and president in 1955. He retired in June, 1963.

His activities in AOCS have been extensive. He served on the Meal, Color, Free Fatty Acid, Membership, Bleaching, Refining, Oil Color, Safety, Nominations and Elections, and other committees, including the Referee Board from 1950–1953. He was vice president of the Society in 1923 and in 1949. Bob has been a member of the AOCS for 51 years.

Bob was also active in the National Cottonseed Products Association. He served on the Chemists Committee (Chairman, 1953–1965); Technical Advisory Committee, Seed Grading, Uniform Feed Laws, and Basic Research Committee. He was elected to the Old Guard in 1954.

Mrs. Mays passed away in 1967. Bob now resides in Baton Rouge, La.

• *New Products*

BROOKLINE INSTRUMENT COMPANY, White Plains, N. Y., has designed a new weighing system for high-sensitivity requirements. The Model 100R is ideal for weighing chemicals, precious metals, radioactive materials, metal powders, and for use in standards laboratories, conveyor belt weighing, automatic sorting, etc., since it has a sensitivity of less than one gram, with a basic weighing capacity of 200 kg. Modifications of this instrument can be made to meet special requirements.

BENDIX SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS DIVISION, Cincinnati, Ohio, has developed a completely new, solid state Bendix Mass Spectrometer, Model MA-1. This instrument is a Time-of-Flight mass spectrometer which includes many characteristics of higher resolution instruments but at a much lower price. Features are: 1) low cost with full performance; 2) fast scanning; 3) mass range—1 to over 500 amu; 4) unit resolution greater than 150; 5) simultaneous 4-mode scope and recorder readout; 6) excellent reproducibility; 7) solid-state plug-in electronics; 8) adaptable as residual gas analyzer.

• *Local Section News*

Northeast Section

E. S. Rothman Addresses October Meeting

E. S. Rothman of the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory, Philadelphia, Pa., addressed the Northeast Section, AOCS, Oct. 31, 1967. Following is the abstract of his most interesting presentation.

"Enol esters, such as isopropenyl stearate, are useful intermediates for functionalizing saturated aliphatic fatty acids. Under given conditions, whereas *methyl* stearate remains unreactive up to 400 C, by contrast, the *isopropenyl* stearate ester efficiently liberates hexadecylketene at 170C with the simultaneous expulsion of "isopropenyl alcohol" i.e. acetone. In the presence of even difficultly acylatable OH or NH compounds, the liberated aldoketene combines, usually quantitatively, with these hydrogen-bearing compounds to form esters or imides. In this manner such resistant materials as barbituric acids, hydantoins, N-butylstearamide, acetanilide, t-butyl alcohol, and succinimide may be converted to stearoylated derivatives. In the absence of reactive substrate and with strong dependence on the nature of the reaction medium, liberated hexadecylketene tetramerizes to derivatives of gamma pyrone, or forms stearone, or stearoylates the enolic rearrangement product, heneicosane-2,4-dione. The latter compound, in forming, has increased the eighteen carbon chain length to twenty-one continuous carbon atoms. Diisopropenyl esters with polyfunctional acetylatable materials, such as bis-N-alkylazelaemide or sucrose, give rise to unusual linear polyimides or three-dimensional network polymers or oligomers."

Northeast Section Meeting

Water Pollution Discussed

The guest speaker for the December 5 meeting of the Northeast Section was Eugene Roche, New Jersey State Department, Water Pollution Control Program, Division of Clean Air & Water of New Jersey State Department of Health. Mr. Roche is the Principal Public Health Engineer.

His talk covered industrial case histories as viewed from the New Jersey State Department's position. He also discussed the Government's role in making monies available for demonstration plants for industrial wastes, and the effect of new legislation on the processing of industrial wastes.

The meeting was held Dec. 5, 1967 at the Military Park Hotel, Newark, N. J.

Northern California Section

Point Orient Restaurant, Point Richmond, Calif., was the setting for the Nov. 17, 1967 meeting of the AOCS Northern California Section.

Speaker for the evening was Laurance Kinsell, Director, Institute for Metabolic Research, Highland General Hospital, Oakland, Calif. Dr. Kinsell's topic was "Cholesterol, Polyunsaturates and Heart Disease."

An added attraction for the evening was a review of the highlights of the AOCS Fall Meeting held at Chicago, Oct. 15–18, 1967.

Southwest Section

Michael's Restaurant, 4500 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles, Calif., was the setting for the Novmber 16 meeting of the Southwest Section, AOCS.

Speaker for the evening was Gene Clay, who is associated with North American-Rockwell, Inc., where he works in Advanced Planning Activities and Technical Marketing Support. He is a graduate and former staff member of Pomona College. For over 18 years, Mr. Clay has made active design contributions to such advanced aircraft as the famous P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell Bomber, F-86 Sabre Jet, Glove "Swift" and the XB-70. His topic was the Apollo Program.