

## • Local Section News

### Southwest Section

The Southwest Section of AOCs started off its 1969-1970 year with a meeting on September 18, 1969 at which "old-timers" were given special recognition. The technical part of the meeting was a presentation by Walt Hackett, the director of the Building Maintenance Products Research and Development Laboratory of Purex Corporation on the subject "Antibacterial Cleaning."

The meetings for the rest of the year are scheduled as follows (all to be held at the Michael's Los Feliz Restaurant in Los Angeles): Nov. 20, 1969, Monsanto (Tentative), Detergent Enzymes; Jan. 15, 1970, Chemetron Corp., Votator Division, Edible Oil Processing; March 19, 1970, FMC Corporation, to be selected from current research; and May 21, 1970, Ladies Night.

### Northern California Section

Seventy chemists and their guests attended the September 26, 1969 dinner meeting held at The Elegant Farmer's Restaurant in Jack London's Square, Oakland, California. Among these were 22 ladies. The technical program was on the topic of Instrumentation in Vegetable Oil Processing. The guest speaker for the evening, Thomas Smiley (Senior Sales Engineer, Foxboro), gave a background account of the developments in this field, described the capabilities of instrumentation, how it can be made to work once the technical problem areas are clearly defined and the objectives understood.

Frank Sullivan was the moderator for the evening. Questions from the audience were answered by Thomas Smiley and three other Foxboro representatives.

The evening's program was well attended and offered a better insight into the problems existing and the numerous possibilities of instrumentation in the vegetable oil processing industry.

### Northeast Section

There was a good turn out of members at the September 23 meeting of the Northeast Section at Whyte's Restaurant in New York. B. H. Thurman ('15), one of the most distinguished members of the AOCs Northeast Section, was presented with an Achievement Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the technology of lipids. Mr. Thurman was introduced to the audience by M. Mattikow, Program Chairman, with a biographical sketch whose contents are highlighted below.

B. H. Thurman, a native of Cheraw, South Carolina, is a graduate of Davidson College, class of 1910. After taking advanced courses in organic chemistry and biochemistry at Cornell University, he went to work with the Southern Cotton Oil Company, Savannah, Ga. as a refinery chemist. He left to become refiner and control chemist for the Phoenix Cotton Oil Company. He re-



Left to right: B. H. Thurman receives Achievement Award from August Rossetto, Jr., Member of Board of Directors, NEAOCs.

joined the Southern Cotton Oil Company in 1914 as assistant to the General Superintendent of the By-Products Division, which was engaged in manufacturing distilled fatty acids and dynamite glycerin.

Mr. Thurman then went to work with the Jacob Dold Packing Co. in 1916 to put in a refinery and hardening plant. His next position was with the American Linseed Company and Best Foods, which included Nucoa Butter Co., in their New York office, in charge of manufacturing. He later was made vice-president in charge of all operations including research and was elected to the Board of Directors.

He left Best Foods in 1928 when it was sold out to Gold Dust, to form National Biscuit Co. In 1929 he went to work for the Glidden Company and, with the formation of Durkee Famous Foods, was made vice-president in charge of research.

In 1934 Mr. Thurman began his association with Refining Inc. to develop processes for continuous refining of oils and manufacturing of soap and lecithin. He left in 1944 to become a consultant to the fatty oil industry, retaining his consultantship with Refining Unincorporated and Benjamin Clayton. Some of his clients since that time have been Corn Products, Nestle's Chocolate, Pillsbury Mills, Spencer Kellogg, HumKo, Kraft Foods, E. F. Drew, Canada Packers and Wm. Wood Price.

His publications include "Losses in the Refining of Edible Oil," 1923 and "Colors in Vegetable Oils and Methods of Removal," 1932. He participated as a speaker in the 1948 and 1953 Short-Courses sponsored by the American Oil Chemists' Society. His topics were Oil Refining and Miscella Refining, respectively. He has been granted 80 patents that cover a wide spectrum of subjects, mostly in the field of fatty oils and by-products. Mr. Thurman developed pioneer processes for the recovery of lecithin from crude vegetable oils, continuous miscella refining and deodorization of fatty oils at high temperatures to recover tocopherols and sterols in relatively higher concentrations in a deodorizer of his own design.

After brief remarks by Mr. Thurman, J. K. Weil ('51) of the USDA, Eastern Research Laboratories, Philadelphia, spoke on Fatty Ether Alcohol Sulfates. Mr. Weil lectured on research developments of considerable significance to the surfactant industry. He described the influence of alkylene oxide structure on distribution of ether-alcohol products and on the solubility, krafft point and critical micelle concentration of their sulfates.

The Northeast Section Program for 1969-70 has been announced. The following are the dates and places of the meetings: Dec. 2, 1969, Newark, Topic: Pollution Problems in Edible Fat Plants, Chairman, Bob Casparian, Carver-Greenfield, Speaker: W. R. Bradley, Wm. R. Bradley Assoc.; Feb. 3, 1970, New York, Topic: Fatty Oils and Derivatives in Cosmetology, Chairman: Henry Molteni, Drew Chemical, Speaker, Lloyd Copeland, Avon Products; April 14, 1970, Newark, Topic: Symposium, Chairman: M. Eijadi, Drew Chemical; June 2, 1970, New York, Topic: Toxins and Residues in Fats and Oils, Chairman: Stan Dominik, Baker Castor Oil, Speaker: Kenneth Mogareidge, Food, Drug and Research Lab, Inc.



Left to right: M. Mattikow; A. N. Wrigley, President of Northeast Section; and D. S. Fritz, Vice-President of Northeast Section.