• *Local Section News*

Northeast Section

The Northeast Section will convene its 8th Annual Symposium, entitled "New Processing Techniques," next April 15, 1969. The site will be the Military Park Hotel, 16 Park Place, Newark, New Jersey. The Chairman of the Symposium Committee is Manuchehr Eijadi, Drew Chemical Corp.; Registration, A. N. Wrigley, U.S.D.A.; Publicity, Robert Casparian, Carver-Greenfield Inc.; Finance, Daniel Meshnick, Drew Chemical Corporation.

PROGRAM
April 15, 1969

MORNING SESSION: 8:30–9:15 A.M., Registration; 9:15 A.M., PAPER NO. 1, "Continuous Winterization," Dr. Giacomo Perolo, Plant Mgr., Drew Produtos Quimicos, Ltda., Sao Paulo, Brasil; 10:05 A.M., PAPER NO. 2, "Continuous Acidulation," Mrs. Lois Crauer, Chief Chemist, DeLaval Separator Company; 10:55–11:20 A.M., RECESS; 11:20 A.M., PAPER NO. 3, "Packaging of Plastic Fats," Mr. Stanley N. Weissman, Technical Supervisor-Rigid PVC. Allied Chemical Corporation; 12:10–2:45 P.M., LUNCHEON; GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. Philip M. O'Cone, Commodity Manager, Drew Chemical Corporation, SUBJECT: "Lauric Oils."

AFTERNOON SESSION: 2:50 P.M., PAPER NO. 4, "Distillation of Crude Tall Oil," Mr. D. F. Bress, Head-Process Division, Agricultural Products and Specialty Chemicals, Foster Wheeler Corporation; 3:40 P.M., PAPER NO. 5, "Instrumentation and Computerization," Mr. G. J. Miller, Division Systems Manager, Foxboro Company.

For Registration—Information contact: M. Eijadi, Drew Chemical Corporation, 416 Division Street, Boonton, New Jersey 07005.

REGISTRATION INCLUDING LUNCHEON: Northeast Section Members, $7.00; All Others, $8.00; Students (Matriculated), $3.50. Make checks payable to: Dan Meshsick, Treasurer, Northeast Section, AOCS. Mail to: M. Eijadi, Drew Chemical Corporation, 416 Division Street, Boonton, New Jersey 07005.

Procter Thomson, AOCS 44th President, Dies

Procter Thomson ('33) the 44th President of the American Oil Chemists' Society, died of a cerebral hemorrhage on February 21 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Procter Thomson

Mr. Thomson was born in Astoria, Oregon in 1888 and received the degree of Chemical Engineer in 1912 from the University of Missouri. After working with the Forest Products Chemical Company, the Solvay Process Company, Sears, Roebuck, and the Brunswick Balke Collender Company, he joined the Procter and Gamble Company in 1920 as a Chemical Engineer. He retired from Procter and Gamble in 1956 as an Associate Director of the Chemical Division.

Throughout his entire technical career, "Proc" was vitally interested in the activities of the American Chemical Society, The American Oil Chemists' Society, and the Engineering Society of Cincinnati. He was chairman of the Cincinnati Section of the American Chemical Society and was the 44th President of the American Oil Chemists' Society in 1953.

Mr. Thomson is survived by his wife, three children, and four grandchildren.

• *Industry Items*

A new analysis system to measure precise rate constants of molecular reactions has been introduced by the Spinco Division of Beckman Instruments, Inc. Designated the Model 260 Reaction Kinetics System, the new instrument is designed to study molecular binding sites of enzymes, proteins and other biochemical solutions, as well as to yield information on metal ion complexing and proton transfer in inorganic chemistries. (Technical Information Section, Spinco Division of Beckman Instruments, Inc., 1117 California Ave., Palo Alto, Calif. 94304.)

V. D. Mattia, president and chief executive officer of HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC. has announced the construction of the world's largest vitamin C plant, designed to produce 8,500 tons a year in a fully automated, computerized operation. This modern plant, which is scheduled to be in full operation late in 1970, will cost approximately $40,000,000. It will open up potential new uses of vitamin C (ascorbic acid) in agriculture and industry, in addition to its current role in the pharmaceutical field and in food technology.

The PMA (Portable Materials Analyzer), a new x-ray fluorescence tool that provides direct concentration analyses of many sample types in 10 sec, is being marketed by JARRELL-ASH DIVISION OF FISHER SCIENTIFIC CO.

The compact, light weight unit is ideal for speeding up and simplifying the analysis of ores, metals, oils, glass, chemicals, paints, papers, soils and water. The standard table model unit is capable of measuring up to six elements in each sample. Its portability, ease of operation and analytical speed make it the ideal medium for on-the-spot analyses of solid, liquid, powder and slurry samples.

For more specific information, write to Jarrell-Ash Division of Fisher Scientific Co., 590 Lincoln Street, Waltham, Mass. 02154.

A newly modified, high sensitivity laboratory photometer now being manufactured by Photovolt Corp., New York, N.Y., has been designed for such typical uses as light measurements in microscopy and laser optics and for precise exposure in photography and film processing. A solid state electronic device, the 502-M Photometer measures light levels as low as 0.001 footcandles—sufficient to accurately measure high density opaque films or weakly emitting fluorescent solids or liquids. (Photovolt Corp., 1115 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10010.)

An expansion of more than 50% in sodium chlorate production capacity at the Columbus, Mississippi, plant of HOOKER CHEMICAL CORPORATION was announced. The first phase of the two-stage expansion is due to go on stream in April 1969, said Raymond W. VerHoeve, general manager of the Industrial Chemicals Division.

The 26,000-ton annual capacity increase projected for this facility will enable Hooker to serve the growing needs of diverse agricultural and industrial requirements. This represents the fifth time within 14 years that Hooker has expanded chlorate capacity at Columbus to serve growing markets in southern states. The Columbus plant first went on stream in 1954 as a 12,000-ton-per-year plant. It is currently rated around the 45,000-ton mark.

Much of the sodium chlorate produced at Columbus is sold to the pulp and paper industry to make chlorine dioxide. In addition, sodium chlorate is one of the most commonly used weed-killing chemicals, and is also employed in cotton defoliation and as an oxidizing agent in the metallurgical, textile, and dyestuffs industries.

A new digital concentration readout system that automatically calculates and displays concentration data from laboratory analytical instruments is available from the PERKIN-ELMER CORPORATION. It is designed for use with atomic absorption, infrared and ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometers which have a strip chart recorder output connection. (Instrument Division, Perkin-Elmer Corporation, Norwalk, Conn. 06862.)

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