

"A Year of Change"

Address by J. C. Cowan, President, at the annual meeting of The American Oil Chemists' Society in San Francisco, California, April 20-24, 1969

Just a year ago, April 1968, the Society met in Washington, D.C., and our immediate Past President, Raymond Reiser, concluded a very successful year in office. Events at that time, the abdication of LBJ, the murder of Martin Luther King, and the riots in Washington and elsewhere, showed all the new officers that times were changing and that we should have a progressive and not a stagnant Society. I believe changes in the past year and the ones now in planning stages have improved and will improve and keep our Society vital. There will be and have been problems involved with these changes but I am sure that if we communicate properly and work at our assignments, the Society will continue to grow and prosper.

A sage once said "Change is the one real thing." And we have had changes. New Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws were approved on April 1, 1968, and this year we have been operating under them. Most of you have noticed little change but our constitution and bylaws are now more flexible and permit us to operate the society somewhat more efficiently. Unfortunately, the bylaws need revisions and the Governing Board will vote on two proposed amendments. This matter will probably be brought to your attention in a short business meeting to be held at Minneapolis—a legacy that I hereby bequeath to your President-elect, George Cavanagh.

The Governing Board now meets on the last day of the Meeting or the next day thereafter which does not fall on a Sunday. New Governing Board members are invited to sit in to hear the dying gasps of the old board and initiate their own program. Representatives of local sections have been invited to attend the Governing Board Meeting. This year, George Cavanagh asked me for advice about how to proceed to set up his committees for next year. My advice was to get started in January and maybe a complete roster could be achieved by April 24. George is to be congratulated! His roster is complete and they are most eager to take over. Rest assured that as soon as it is proper and fitting to do so, this gavel will be passed to George's TLC, Tender Loving Care.

Meetings

Last fall, we had a very successful meeting in New York City. Frank White, the General Chairman; Steve Chang, the Program Chairman; and the other committee chairmen of that meeting deserve praise. Mr. Solomon who promoted a new innovation in exhibits, miniexhibits, is to be highly commended. The Chairman for the New York meeting suggested that service pins and tie clasps for service in the Society should be made available for recognizing hard working people. The Governing Board agreed to this proposal. The pins and tie clasps have been designed and ordered. They will shortly be awarded to the active ladies and gentlemen of the New York Committee. At New York, Daniel Swern, one of our own members, an organic chemist of unusual ability and a diligent worker, received the Society's "Award in Lipid Chemistry" and most important, a check from its sponsor, Applied Science Laboratories. Speaking of Awards, we have a new one, another change, the AOCs Award of Merit. Jay Harris has been appointed to chair this committee and the first award is scheduled for next fall.

As you have heard from N. T. Joyner, our Treasurer, the Executive Committee is recommending to the Governing Board that dues and *Journal* subscriptions be raised. We operated the Society at a loss last year primarily because of increased publication costs. The 1969 budget anticipates a smaller deficit but we should not tolerate this deficit financing for long. The Executive Committee recommended an increase in membership dues to \$24 and a \$10 increase in journals to nonmembers.

Bylaw Proposals and Short Courses

The chairman of the Examination Board, Ed Hahn, the chairman of the Uniform Methods, Dan Henry, and the Director of Publications, A. R. Baldwin will soon be ex-officio members of the Board. Past Presidents have been assigned the following specific liaison duties:

1st Past President, National Program and Planning Committee, Nominating and Election Committee

2nd Past President, Smalley Committee

3rd Past President, Award Administration Committee

4th Past President, Education Committee

Short Course

Last year we had only one short course led by Walter Supina but this year three short courses are planned: "Subcellular Particulates: Medical and Biochemical Application," A. M. Siakotos, Chairman; "Oilseed Proteins: Chemistry, Technology and Economics," (joint with the Cereal Chemists) L. H. Going and F. E. Horan, Co-Chairmen; and "Production and Application of Fatty Acids" K. T. Zileh and E. S. Pattison, Co-Chairmen.

Publications

Major changes are now in progress that will affect our *Journal* and its companion publication, *Lipids*. Our *Journal* has grown to about the same size as we had when we formed *Lipids* from a part of it to better serve our members. *Lipids* is also growing and the Governing Board has agreed to expand the number of its issues to 12 per year.

In the *Journal* office, an IBM Magnetic Tape Selectric Composer is now operating and assisting in the publishing of *Lipids*. When fully operating, we expect to see some savings in cost in publication that will justify this expense.

Open Forum

At the last meeting in New York, we held an Open Forum that was well attended and enjoyed by most of the participants. It was indeed an innovation.

A letter requesting that questions or subjects for discussion be sent to me was mailed to all members and an announcement in the *Journal* was made to give any member a chance to raise questions about our Society's procedures or operations. Four replies were received. These questions were excellent ones and all of them were thoroughly reviewed and answered by four of the officers. Scheduling of the program here in San Francisco did not permit our holding one today. George Cavanagh is considering the time and place for the next Open Forum.

There have been other changes and innovations but I will conclude for the sake of brevity.

