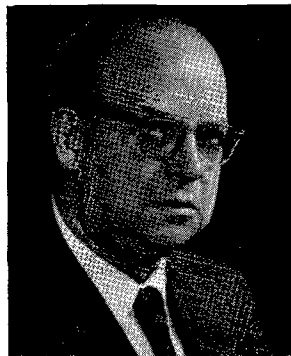


## A. J. Stirton, Authority on Detergents, Dies After 40 Years of Service With USDA

A. J. Stirton (737), a U.S. Department of Agriculture chemist since 1930, died suddenly July 26 at his home, 8012 Stenton Ave., Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa. Dr.



A. J. Stirton

Stirton, 63, headed investigations on detergents at the Eastern Utilization Research Laboratory of USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Wyndmoor, Pa.

Dr. Stirton was noted for his research on detergents from animal fats. Because fat-based detergents are biodegradable, they offer promise for avoiding foaming in streams and other polluting effects that have been attributed to conventional detergents.

Earlier this year, a reception was held at the Wyndmoor laboratory honoring Dr. Stirton for the completion of 40 years as a USDA scientist. His retirement was to become effective at the end of July.

A native of Gagetown, Mich., Dr. Stirton graduated from Wayne State University in 1930 and went to work for the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., as a research chemist. Meanwhile, he continued his education, receiving his M.A. degree from George Washington University in 1932 and his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland in 1938.

In 1940, Dr. Stirton transferred to the new laboratory in Wyndmoor, becoming one of the first members of its scientific staff. He is the author of over 90 scientific papers and articles, mostly on the subject of detergent chemistry, as well as 18 patents. In 1968, the Department awarded him an outstanding rating for his research, and he received a quality within-grade salary increase.

Dr. Stirton had been an active member of the American Oil Chemists' Society since 1937. He served as a member of that society's national program and planning committee from 1960 to 1962. He also lectured in the AOCS summer short courses in 1952, 1954 and 1962.

Since 1928, Dr. Stirton had been a member of the American Chemical Society. From 1938 to 1967 he served as an abstractor for the society's publication, *Chemical Abstracts*. He organized and conducted in 1955 an evening continuation course sponsored by the ACS Philadelphia Section on fats and detergents.

### • New Literature

A new folder providing specifications and chemical compositions for 25 Neo-Fat fatty acids in easy-to-read tabular form has been introduced by Armour Industrial Chemical Co., with improved specifications shown for 10 of the products.

Armour Industrial Chemical Co., a subsidiary of Armour and Company, is a leading producer of fatty acids and fatty acid derivatives.

Copies of the Neo-Fat specification sheet may be obtained by contacting Armour Industrial Chemical Co., P.O. Box 1805, Chicago, Ill. 60690.

The "Proceedings of the International Symposium for the Chemistry and Technology of Rapeseed Oil and Other Cruciferae Oils—Gdansk 1967," is now available. Even though the publication of these proceedings has been delayed, much of the information should be of interest to those working with rapeseed and other oils. Copies of the book are available through Export and Import Enterprise RUCH, Warszawa, Wronia 23, Poland, at a cost of \$8.00.

## Chromatography, Spectroscopy Use Rises Sharply in Germany

Rapidly growing public and private expenditures for research and development have doubled the demand for chromatographic and spectroscopic instrumentation in the Federal Republic of Germany in the past two years.

The U.S. Department of Commerce will help American manufacturers of this equipment enter or increase their share of this expanding market by staging an exhibition of chromatography and spectroscopy in the U.S. Trade Center in Frankfurt January 18-22, 1971.

Market research conducted for the Department's Bureau of International Commerce (BIC) shows an annual growth rate of 17% in West German demand for this type of equipment. The volume of chromatographic and spectroscopic instrumentation in West Germany this year is expected to be in excess of \$35 million, twice the 1968 volume.

BIC's studies reveal that government expenditures for science in the period 1966 to 1968 increased 18%. Both science and education have priority in the government's proposed 1971 budget, with budget requests for these items up 43% to \$1.08 billion.

Research and development expenditures among the major industrial users of chromatographic and spectroscopic equipment rose sharply during the 1964-1968 period, the BIC studies indicate. Increases include a 16% rise in the chemical industry, a 43% boost in the iron and steel industry, and a more than 700% (\$98.3 million) in the nonferrous metals industries.

BIC market development experts will conduct a comprehensive promotional program well in advance of the Frankfurt exhibition to attract buyers, distributors and agents to the January trade event.

This will be the second exhibition of chromatographic and spectroscopic instruments and equipment in the Frankfurt Trade Center. The first was held in January 1969 with 37 exhibitors. The latest Commerce exhibition of this type of equipment was held in the Milan Trade Center in May of this year.

U.S. manufacturers interested in participating in the January 1971 show in the Frankfurt Trade Center may obtain further information from the U.S. Department of Commerce (BIC-938) Washington, D.C. 20230 or any of the Commerce Department's 42 Field Offices.

## Achema Year Book 1968/1970

The developments in the field of chemical engineering during the last three years are reflected in the new edition of the Achema Year Book. The editor is Dieter Behrens, acting for the Dechema Deutsche Gesellschaft für chemisches Apparatewesen with the support of the member societies of the European Federation for Chemical Engineering and the European Federation of Corrosion.

The Yearbook comprises the three following volumes:

Volume 1, "European Research and Education in Chemical Engineering," reports on international cooperation, and gives a clear picture of the major relationships within the chemical engineering field. More than 300 institutes from 20 countries report on their activities.

Volume 2, "Technical Developments in Chemical Engineering," presents 421 reports by 301 manufacturers of chemical engineering equipment from Europe and abroad.

Volume 3, "Guide to Chemical Engineering in Europe," contains full addresses and main fields of activity of those firms, societies and institutions contributing to the Achema-Yearbook 1968/1970, and a list of trade names with explanations and owners. Of particularly high informational value, is a list of some 6,000 key words classified by the five largest technical fields covered by the Achema: plant engineering, laboratory engineering, measurement, control and automation engineering, materials, nuclear science and engineering. The comprehensive key word index is in German, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

Copies of the Achema Year Book 1968/1970 may be acquired through Dechema, 6000 Frankfurt (Main) 97, Postfach 970146.