

centuries. During the European Architectural Heritage Year which was held last year, Amsterdam completed several restoration projects. I have in mind the Round Lutheran Church, the Pinto House, the Historical Museum at the one-time Civic Orphanage, the reopening of the restored Rembrandt House. For all these activities, Amsterdam has been designated one of the "pilot cities" in the European Architectural Heritage Year.

I do hope that during your stay in Amsterdam you will make acquaintance with this historical aspect of Amsterdam. And that after this Conference you will also be enthusiastic over the facilities Amsterdam has to offer. But, above all, I hope that the facilities Amsterdam offers may contribute to the success of your Conference.

I wish you a very successful Conference and at the same time a very pleasant stay in Amsterdam.

CALL TO ORDER

THOMAS H. APPLEWHITE, Conference Chairperson, and Manager, Edible Oil Products Laboratory, Research and Development, Kraftco Corporation, Glenview, Illinois, USA

Thank you very much, Dr. Samkalden! We are very honored by your being with us. You have reaffirmed with your excellent discussion of our industry here some of the good reasons why we have assembled in Amsterdam. I'm sure I speak for all the members and guests of the Conference in acknowledging our appreciation for your warm welcome to Amsterdam. We are all pleased to be here in this beautiful city, and I know that our stay will be most enjoyable and profitable.

Ladies and gentlemen, my colleagues from around the world, and distinguished guests—Good morning! It is indeed a great honor for me to call this Conference to order. Many hours of effort have gone into the organization and preparation for this meeting by a host of people. I would direct your attention to the program. There you will find pictures of, and information about, all of the dedicated members of our profession and others who have collaborated to make this Conference a success. Time does not now permit me to mention them all by name, but later, as those appear who are participating as session leaders or as speakers, we will offer a brief introduction and acknowledgment.

It is not listed in our program, but we are very pleased to acknowledge the presence, this morning, of two very important groups. First, the participants in the Ladies' Program of the World Conference. Welcome to the opening session of the Conference! We know you have a fine program arranged by our hosts here in Amsterdam. Second, we have in attendance a group of nearly 200 leading soybean producers from many countries. They are delegates of the American Soybean Association. This group will be our guests and observe the proceedings during the opening day of our Conference. We extend a warm welcome to these guests.

Several people have played key roles in developing the Conference, and, as most of them are participating here only behind the scenes, I must acknowledge their contributions now. First to be introduced is Mr. James C. Lyon, Executive Director of the American Oil Chemists' Society in Champaign, Illinois. Jim and his staff have worked tirelessly on the myriad of detail that goes into a successful meeting.

Next is the man who first conceived the idea of this Conference and is now responsible for the publication of the Conference Proceedings—the Editor of the *Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society*, Dr. A. Richard (Dick) Baldwin.

Another man who assumed the difficult task of fund raising so that some of our colleagues from developing nations around the world could be with us this week is Ad Blankestijn, President of VERNOF, President of NOFOTA, and Vice-President of FEDIOL. He and his committee deserve special mention because they have made it possible for over a dozen people to be fully supported as Conference participants.

The next person to be introduced is here in two capacities. He is Dr. William E. Link, President of the American Oil Chemists' Society, who also will be a speaker later this morning. He has given the whole-hearted support of his important office to the Conference.

Finally, I express some specific words of warm appreciation to one particular person. That man is my co-chairman and good friend, Dr. C.J.M. Meershoek, Secretary General of VERNOF and the person most responsible for all the arrangements here in Amsterdam. He will welcome you officially as your Dutch host.



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C.J.M. MEERSHOEK, General Local Chairperson, and Secretary General, Association of Dutch Oils and Fats Industry (VERNOF), The Hague, The Netherlands

Thank you, Dr. Applewhite, for your kind words, but please wait until Friday with your judgment. But, anyhow, it's good to thank at this time my committee members, who have done a lot of work. First of all: Miss De Boer, who is supervising the registration. Mrs. Elkhuizen, the chairman of the ladies' committee, has worked with a lot of enthusiasm, always thinking of the small, but necessary, details. And, last but not least, Pieter Biesheuvel, of Cargill, always ready to do what should be done, staying calm in all circumstances. I'm sure we all extend our gratitude to them for many hours of thoughtful hard work.