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# People

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## L.L.M. van Deenen to receive Award in Lipid Chemistry

Dr. Laurens L.M. van Deenen has been named to receive the 17th Award in Lipid Chemistry from the American Oil Chemists' Society. The award will be presented during the 71st Annual Meeting of the AOCS to be held May 17-21, 1981, at the Fairmont Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. van Deenen is a professor of biochemistry at the University of Utrecht in The Netherlands.

The award, established in 1964, is presented to an outstanding scientist in the field of lipid chemistry. It recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding original research in lipid chemistry, the results of which have been presented through publication of technical papers of high quality. The award is accompanied by a \$2,500 honorarium from the Applied Science Division of Milton Roy Laboratory Group.

Professor van Deenen is being recognized for his work in the study of membranes. He was one of the pioneers in the development of reliable procedures for synthesis of stereoisomeric phospholipids that could be used as substrates for studies of the specificity of phospholipid-hydrolyzing enzymes. He applied these enzymes to the problem of the asymmetric distributions of phospholipids in biomembranes and used the synthetic phospholipids in model membrane systems to obtain detailed information on molecular interactions between the lipid components and their bearing on the phenomenon of membrane permeability. His more recent work has been concerned with lipid-protein interactions.

He is the author of more than 300 technical publications and has served as associate managing editor for *Biochemica et Biophysica Acta*, an advisory board member for both *Bioorganic Chemistry* and *Progress in Surface Science*, and coeditor of *Comprehensive Biochemistry*. He is president of the International Conference on Biochemistry of Lipids, a past chairman and secretary general of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies, has helped organize international conferences on biological membranes and lipid biochemistry and has been a member of the council of International Union of Biochemistry.

Dr. van Deenen has previously received the Heinrich Wieland Award (1971) in West Germany; the Dr. H.P. Heineken Prize (1976), The Netherlands, and the Diplome d'Honneur of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies (1979) in Yugoslavia.

He has been a visiting professor or lecturer at the University of Arizona, University of Illinois, Cornell University, City University of New York, University of Tokyo, Indiana Institute of Science, and Wake Forest University.

Dr. van Deenen is the fourth European recipient of the Award in Lipid Chemistry, following Ernst Klenk in 1965, Sune Bergstrom in 1967, and F.D. Gunstone in 1973. □

## Mounts named USDA oilseeds research chief

Timothy L. Mounts has been named chief of oilseeds laboratory research at the USDA Northern Regional Research Center in Peoria, Illinois.

As leader of research on food oil in the U.S. Department of Agriculture laboratory, Mounts has been instrumental in developing foreign markets for U.S. soybeans used in making cooking and salad oils.

In his capacity as soy oil specialist for the American Soybean Association, he has visited processors in South America, Africa and Europe to acquaint them with the latest development in soybean oil refining technology and to give advice on maintaining the quality of soybean oil.

Mounts succeeds Herbert J. Dutton, who has retired as chief of the Oilseeds Laboratory to join the staff at the Hormel Institute in Austin, Minnesota. □



## NAMM cites Applewhite

AOCS Past President Thomas H. Applewhite, left, is congratulated by R.J. Miller, vice-president of marketing for Kraft, upon receiving a plaque from the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers for Dr. Applewhite's service as chairman of the NAMM Technical Committee and Science Panel from 1977-80. The inscription reads: "In recognition of his many significant and original contributions to the Association and to the Margarine Industry. Chicago, Illinois, November 5, 1980." Dr. Applewhite is director of research services at Kraft Research & Development in Glenview, Illinois. □

## Appointments

Ernest S. Robson, vice-president for marketing coordination at Monsanto Co., has been elected to a one-year term as president of the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association. . . . John C. Edwards, Jr., has been

named marketing director for the Tintometer Co. in Williamsburg, Virginia, a U.S. firm handling Lovibond products from Tintometer of Salisbury, England. . . . **Stephen M. Greenberg** of Lipo Chemicals Inc. and **Graham Barker** of Witco Chemical Corp. have been installed as 1981 board chairman and president, respectively, for the Society of Cosmetic Chemists. . . . **Michael W. Barendts** has been appointed manager for quality standards and compliance at Durkee Industrial Foods Group of SCM Corp. . . . **Lynn D. Hayse** is now quality assurance manager for the Midwest region of Durkee. . . . **Lawrence O. Mosser**, also of Durkee, is now laboratory manager for southern region quality control. . . . **Bruce F. Wesson**, first vice-president of Smith Barney Harris Upham & Co., has been elected to the board of directors for Witco Chemical Corp. . . . **Herman J. Eichel**, president of Adria Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio, has been named the 48th Members and Fellows Awards Lecturer for the American Institute of Chemists, delivering a lecture last month in Atlanta.

## Deaths

### Ralph H. Potts

AOCS Honorary Member Ralph H. Potts died Jan. 2, 1981, at his winter home in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was 80 years old.

Mr. Potts designed and built the first commercial unit for production of nitriles and amines, thus laying the groundwork for the industry of developing industrial chemicals from fats and oils. He is acknowledged as the originator of the use of fractional distillation for producing fatty acids from low-grade fats and oils. He had received more than 50 patents in the U.S. and others in Canada and Europe. He had published more than 20 technical articles, many of which first appeared in *JAACS*.

He was graduated in 1922 from Lehigh University and joined Armour & Co. the same year, spending his entire career with the firm. At the time of his death, he was a consulting chemical engineer for Armak Company at the research laboratories in McCook, Illinois.

Honorary membership in AOCS is bestowed only by a vote of the AOCS membership and for Mr. Potts, this honor was received during the 61st Annual Meeting in New Orleans (1970). He had originally joined AOCS in 1938 and been an active member of several committees. In 1960, Mr. Potts received the Alton E. Bailey Award from the North Central Section of the AOCS and in 1973 was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy; two sons, John G. and Robert, and five grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Lehigh University or the American Heart Association.

### J.R. Mays, Jr.

Former AOCS President J.R. Mays, Jr., died Dec. 5, 1980, in Houston, Texas. He was 85 years old.

Mr. Mays joined AOCS during its 1916 meeting, served as president during 1950 and became an emeritus member in 1966. He served as president of the Barrow-Agee organization until his retirement. Barrow-Agee was a successor firm to a laboratory founded by Mr. Mays' uncle, Edward



Potts



Mays

R. Barrow, who was a charter member and also a president of the AOCS.

Mr. Mays was a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, receiving his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Louisiana State University in 1915 and 1916, respectively. He began work with the Barrow Laboratory Company in Memphis, Tennessee, on a part-time basis during the summers of 1914 and 1915. After service as an army officer during World War I, he rejoined the Barrow-Agee organization in 1919.

Mr. Mays was active in numerous committees, including the refining, oil color, Smalley, and membership committees, as well as the Examination Board for certification of official AOCS referee chemists. He was third vice-president of the Society in 1923-24, 1944-45 and 1948-49.

Survivors include a son, John R. Mays III of Memphis, Tennessee; a daughter, Caroline Mays Whitehall of Houston, Texas; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to Louisiana State University.



### A.E. 'Doc' MacGee

Former AOCS President Alfred Ernest "Doc" MacGee died Nov. 14, 1980, in Kansas City, Missouri, at the age of 81.

"Doc" MacGee served as AOCS president during 1962. He first joined AOCS in 1931. During a 1977 interview, he had listed three favorite accomplishments within AOCS. The first was serving as chairman of the first advertising committee for *Oil & Soap*, helping establish it as a successful publication; the second was initiating industrial displays at AOCS national meetings; the third was helping establish the technical safety and engineering committee. The AOCS

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Honored Student program began during his term as president and initially was known as the "MacGee Award."

"Doc" MacGee was a graduate of Louisiana State University and Ohio State University. He spent most of his professional career with Skelly Oil Co., directing the firm's entry into the hexane solvent business. He retired as manager of the solvent-industrial and petrochemical division. After retirement from Skelly, he remained active as a consulting manager engineer until the late 1960s.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War I and the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a member of Phi Lambda Upsilon, Sigma Xi and Alpha Chi Sigma, as well as being a Mason and a Knight Templar.

Survivors include his wife, Jane; a daughter, Jane; a son, Dr. Edwin E. MacGee, and three grandchildren. Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, American Heart Association or St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Kansas City.



### Foster D. Snell

AOCS Emeritus Member Foster D. Snell died Dec. 28, 1980, in New York City. He was 82. Dr. Snell had joined AOCS in 1929.

Dr. Snell had opened his own consulting firm in New York in 1923. Within AOCS, he was an active member of the soap analysis committee and served as Fourth Vice President of the Governing Board from 1942 to 1944. He was chairman for the 1948 fall meeting in New York City.

In 1949, he was the second American to receive the Gold Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry, London. Dr. Snell's fields of interest included surface active phenomena. In the announcement of his death, *Chemical Week* noted his firm conducted early research on detergents and was credited with having invented pressurized shaving cream.

Dr. Snell received his bachelor's degree from Colgate in 1919, and his master's and doctorate from Columbia University in 1922 and 1923, respectively. He became an emeritus member of AOCS in 1971.

### Frank S. Mitchell

AOCS has been informed of the Nov. 25, 1980, death of Frank S. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell was president of Mitchell Foods Inc. of Fredonia, New York.

He initially joined AOCS in 1944 while a research chemist with Spencer Kellogg & Sons Inc. in Buffalo. Mr. Mitchell received his M.S. degree in 1941 at North Dakota State Agricultural College.

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