

From the editor



This issue begins the 68th volume of *JAOCS* but only the second year of a publication that now needs to stand totally on its scientific merits. Before last year, the *Journal* served as the news organ of the Society as well as the vehicle for the publication of primary research reports. With the creation of *INFORM* in January 1990, that dual role no longer exists. During the past year, the *Journal* therefore contained only peer-reviewed research manuscripts. Thanks to Editor Dr. Thomas H. Applewhite, the Associate Editors, and the Publications staff in Champaign, the transition has been smooth and certainly successful in terms of circulation and quality. At the time of the division of the news and the technical reports, Dr. Applewhite consented to continue his editorship for *INFORM* but relinquished his position as editor of *JAOCS* after 1990. Last April at the Annual Meeting, the AOCS Governing Board appointed me as Dr. Applewhite's successor; last September we began a gradual changeover in editorship, and with this issue I take on sole responsibility for the *Journal*.

Let me introduce myself in terms of my past experience. My undergraduate and graduate degrees were in physical chemistry, with emphasis on colloid chemistry. After post-doctoral studies at the University of Southern California and a research assignment in the army, I accepted a research position in 1960 at the Northern Regional Research Center (recently renamed the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research) of USDA in Peoria, Illinois. After serving for 14 years at the bench, I became Laboratory Chief in 1975, Associate Director in 1982, and the Center Director in 1984, from which position I retired this past September. During my 30 years in Peoria, I have participated actively in several scientific organizations, including the American Chemical Society, the Society

for Economic Botany, the Illinois State Academy of Science, and, of course, our own Society. The past eight years I had the pleasure of serving AOCS as Associate Editor for this journal. During that time I served with two magnificent Editors, Drs. A.R. (Dick) Baldwin and T.H. (Tom) Applewhite. However, it has been only in the past four months that I have discovered how much they have been aided in their success by an exceptionally dedicated and capable group of Associate Editors, peer reviewers, and staff members at Headquarters.

During the past few months, we have worked down our backlog of accepted manuscripts, thanks to the publication of outside issues in the last two months of 1990. We intend to have all future issues contain at least 100 pages of good scientific information. So, please, mail us your research papers; we promise to process them expeditiously. Authors can help their own manuscript preparation by closely following instructions that appear in this issue and every other January issue, and by returning manuscripts and galley proofs as soon as possible. Finally, in the case of any problems related to the publication of your papers in the *Journal*, please feel free to contact any of the staff members in Champaign, the Associate Editors, or me. I can be reached by mail through the Champaign office, or more directly by telephone or fax at (309)-691-9148 and 691-9498, respectively.

I take on the editorship of *JAOCS* in the hope that with your professional interchange and interest, the *Journal* will continue to represent the best and latest technical information for our Society.

L.H. (Bert) Princen
Editor, *JAOCS*