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Preface

Joel L. Williams^a

^a Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

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Preface

Vivian Thomas Stannett's creative work in the area of synthesis and characterization of graft copolymers of cellulose and cellulose derivatives is truly unsurpassed in the field. His outstanding work has not only led to many practical and useful contributions to cellulose science, but has trained numerous young scientists who are now employed by various institutional segments of the cellulose community. Naturally, it is only appropriate that the proceedings of the Anselme Payen Award Symposium in honor of Professor Stannett reflect one of his strongest areas of interest: Graft and Block Copolymers of Cellulose and Its Derivatives.

Prior to beginning his creative and illustrious research career in polymer science, Dr. Stannett recorded his industrial knowledge in the book *Cellulose Acetate Plastics* which he wrote while a graduate student with Professors R. B. Mesrobian and H. Mark at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

The first part of his research career began in 1952 at the Forest Chemistry Department at the State University College of Forestry at Syracuse University. A most productive phase of his career came as the Associate Director of the Camille Dreyfus Laboratory in 1961. It was during this period that I first met Dr. Stannett and quickly developed a sincere friendship and deep respect for his scientific creativity. Since 1967, Dr. Stannett has continued his research and teaching career at North Carolina State University as Camille Dreyfus Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering.

Aside from his many contributions to polymer science, over 230 publications, Dr. Stannett has had over 70 graduate students perform their thesis work under his direction. Most of his students and colleagues are now dedicated and well-known scientists in their field sparked by early interactions with Dr. Stannett. Many of these colleagues have contributed papers to this symposium, an integral part of the 1974 Anselme Payen Award, in tribute to Professor Stannett, their close friend and fellow scientist.

Finally, I would like to add a more personal note to Dr. Stannett's Anselme Payen Symposium. It is all too infrequent that highly remarkable scientific capabilities are combined with outstanding personal qualities. Through his ability and extraordinarily pleasant personality he is able to solicit the maximum potential from his students and associates which inevitably leads to outstanding creative contributions in polymer science as exemplified by the individual contributions to this symposium. It is then with pleasure that I have had an opportunity along with my fellow colleagues to pay tribute to Dr. Vivian Thomas Stannett, a truly outstanding person and recipient of the Anselme Payen Award in 1974.

Joel L. Williams
Research Triangle Park,
North Carolina
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