

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Seventeenth Annual Convention of the American Oil Chemists' Society has passed into history characterized by a great amount of constructive accomplishment. It is doubtful if the Society has ever held a meeting where so much good work was produced in a spirit of such pronounced harmony.

With very few changes the sessions proceeded according to program. The papers presented appear elsewhere in this number of the Journal. President Vollertsen showed a thorough appreciation of the problems of the Society as they had developed under his administration, and his opening address was an account of fine achievement. Secretary-Treasurer Helm's report indicated that his office had been functioning remarkably well and his work fully merited the appreciation expressed by the membership.

Although the Committee Reports are available in their entirety, to be examined by the reader as he may wish, attention should be directed to some of the more important features. Chemists should be sure to read the report of the Referee Board, as changes have been made in the certification of Referee Chemists that are of major importance.

The Report of the Refining Committee of which C. B. Cluff has been the Chairman, showed the result of much hard work and the discussion ensuing brought out the need for working out a more scientific method of determining the value of crude oils. A committee was appointed for this purpose, and R. K. Brodie, Procter & Gamble Company, offered the facilities of his laboratory to carry on the work.

The report of W. W. Richardson of the Committee on Analyses of Commercial Fats and Oils showed the need of revising the methods of the Society so that trading should be kept distinctly apart from the actual physical and chemical operations.

G. S. Meloy of the Department of Agriculture gave a very interesting exposition of methods of seed analyses which he had worked out. There was nothing in Mr. Meloy's talk to show that the new method reported by the Seed Committee, D. C. Picard, Chairman, need conflict, and it is trusted that ere long there will be put in practice the practical grading of cottonseed along the same lines as wheat and other cereals. Perhaps there is no one thing more greatly needed by the industry. Dr. Tilson's report showed more work is needed on the subject of moisture.

In discussing the report of the Fuller's Earth Committee, it was decided that a Fuller's Earth conforming to the present standard 1XLOO should be adopted. The report of the Detergents Committee showed considerable progress in this important problem. Mr. Jamieson's report on the constituents of Crude Cottonseed Oil is a valuable contribution to

this interesting subject. Mr. Trevithick's report of the Color Committee was accepted and arrangements made to carry out his recommendations. Dr. Wesson in his paper on the Protein of the Cottonseed gave the underlying reasons why his much talked of synthetic beefsteak was well within the range of possibilities.

E. R. Barrow's report on the Basic Research Committee drove home the importance of its work and the great aid the industry is receiving from the Department of Agriculture. H. C. Moore, Chicago, gave the results of the Smalley Foundation work and announced the winner of the contest. Mr. Jasspon gave a fine address, stressing the need of close relation and cooperation between the manufacturing and commercial ends. In other words, we must have team work. The Hon. Christie Benet, General Counsel of the Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association, made a rousing talk wherein he told of the importance of the work of the chemists to the industry and the inference was plain that future growth and development depend on their efforts. It was his opinion that the time is near when we can look forward to the Research Department as an integral part of the industrial organization, as important and indispensable to oils and fats as to any other industry in the country.

H. J. Morrison's personal observations of the oil and fat industries in Europe was full of interest and was news to most of his listeners. Mr. Brodie, of Proctor & Gamble, gave an impressive demonstration of the Munsell system of recording colors and showed its ready application to cottonseed meals. It was learned afterward that this system was adopted by the Rules Committee of the Interstate Crushers' Association, which was a great triumph for Mr. Brodie's painstaking work.

The installation of R. H. Fash as the new president of the Society completed the business session. The finale to what everyone regarded as a highly successful convention was the banquet on Tuesday evening. That was an event of such moment that it makes a separate story.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

On account of the voluminousness of the convention report, only the first days' proceedings have been published in this issue of the Journal. The remainder of the report will appear, complete, in the Journal of June 15.