

Soap Chemists Organize Section

A. K. Church Chosen to Direct Activities of Important Subsidiary of A. O. C. S.

ON the afternoon of October 25, a group of chemists particularly interested in the Chemistry of oils and fats as applied to the manufacture of soap and other detergents and the recovery of, and development of uses for glycerin, met in the Board of Managers' room of the New York Produce Exchange to discuss the formation of a Soap Chemistry Section of the American Oil Chemists' Society.

Mr. A. K. Church opened the meeting with an outline of the ways in which a Soap Section could begin activities, with a simple program of work along the following lines:

1. Improvement of some of the analytical methods pertaining to soap, an instance of which is the determination of the titer of fatty acids through the use of a thermocouple.

2. The preparation of a standard soap sample for the purpose of checking analytical results as between different laboratories.

3. The preparation of a standard glycerin sample for the same purpose.

4. The certification of commercial laboratories as referees on soap and glycerin analysis.

A general discussion of the plan followed, in which approval was voiced by practically all present.

A vote was taken on the desire of the members present to form a soap section, the result being unanimously in favor thereof.

A vote taken on the advisability of starting activity with the preparation of a standard sample of



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soap and also a standard sample of crude glycerin, was carried in favor of so doing.

It was voted to suggest to the Governing Committee of The American Oil Chemists' Society, the names of several members from whom a Chairman of the Soap Section might be selected.

Mr. A. K. Church, of Lever Bros. Co. and Mr. H. J. Morrison of The Procter and Gamble Co. were nominated and seconded. The Governing Committee, announced at the next day's meeting of the Society, that they had appointed Mr. Church as Chairman of the Soap Section.

The members present were:

H. J. Morrison (P & G); A. J. Stern (Colgate); J. M. Lubit (Flash); L. F. Hoyt (Larkin); B. Morey (Larkin); M. L. Sheely (Armour); A. K. Church (Lever); W. A. Peterson (Kirkman); J. E. Rutzler (Pilot Lab.); A. P. Lee (O. & F. Ind.); C. J. Gundel (Fels); R. B. Trusler (Mellon Inst.)