

Address of the President

LAST year at Memphis you honored me by electing me to the highest office in the Society. At this time it is necessary that I should give a report of the year's activities and such this paper will be, rather than an address.

The past year's work has been rather strenuous and has been divided into several groups. The first comprises the usual routine appointments, such as committees, etc. This year we have appointed in addition to the usual committees, the Olive Oil, Linseed Oil and Sampling Committees. This last committee was appointed simply to consider whether any of the present sampling devices in use comply with the requirements of the Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association rule, and if not, to see if it is possible to design such a sampler. The Planning Committee also has been completely revamped with the idea of having each man represent some particular group in the industry, the idea being that this Planning Committee will be a sort of permanent committee, with the Chairman keeping the records and supervising the work of all committees, while the particular individuals assigned to any industry would have more or less supervision over the work of the committees in his particular line. In this work I have had the most cordial co-operation of every member in the Society, and I wish to thank them for it.

At this time in connection with the subject of committees I might say that the Chairman of the Detergents Committee, Mr. Hoyt, found it impossible to continue to

serve as Chairman, and it was necessary to find a new Chairman. I wrote every member of that committee regarding the matter, and the interest displayed in the face of the many obstacles confronting that committee was very surprising. The problems assigned to that committee are almost unsolvable, and yet every member was interested in the work and felt that the work should continue, whether the results were negative or positive. Mr. Guernsey of the Cowles Detergents Company accepted the Chairmanship, provided his assistant, Mr. Howell, could be Vice-Chairman.

The reports of all these committees will be given in due course at this meeting.

Fall Meeting

Another division of the work was the fall meeting of the Society in New York last October. This meeting was well attended, there being fifty or sixty present, with members from points as far as Dallas, Chicago, Atlanta, New Haven, Washington, etc., and the interest displayed was very encouraging. One fact developed from this meeting which was very surprising to myself, and that was that there are between thirty or forty members of the Society in the Metropolitan District. It would seem advisable to have a meeting at least once a year somewhere in the Northern section of the country, in order that the northern members could attend more conveniently. At this fall meeting preliminary reports of most of the committees were presented. Also the Fat Analysis

Committee had a very interesting meeting under the leadership of Dr. Richardson.

The Revision Committee has completed the work of editing the methods and taking out everything that does not strictly belong in them, such as Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association rules, etc., so that they are now ready to be published, and the Society should consider at this meeting the question of how they should be published, the cost, etc.

Also the Moisture Committee has more data on the glycerine oven, and will recommend this instrument as the official oven. I strongly recommend that this oven be adopted as official for the Society.

Progress on Color Standards

Finally and possibly the most important is the question of color and Lovibond glasses. As you will remember last year, Mr. Priest reported that he had finished the preparation of the fundamental standards for the red Lovibond glasses. The question of how they were to be used and who would do the standardizing of our glasses was left to be settled by correspondence later. Mr. Priest returned to Washington; took this matter up with several concerns and the net result was that while they were willing to undertake this matter, there was considerable preliminary work which had to be done by the Bureau of Standards irrespective of who actually calibrated the glasses. This preliminary work consisted of finding glasses which were as nearly as possible whole units or whole fractions of units, and also of preparing the instruments to be used in standardizing the glasses.

As a preliminary Mr. Priest of-

fered to examine all red glasses which should be submitted between 7 and 8, and pick out any which read actually 7.6, and he also promised that he would examine all 35 yellows submitted. We, therefore, submitted to him 200 glasses, about 125 reds and 75 yellows and he started his examination. This was not entirely satisfactory to the Society, however, as it did not insure getting our glasses standardized, and so the Bureau offered us the use of the facilities of the Bureau, provided we furnished a research associate to do this work, as the Bureau of Standards had neither the personnel nor the appropriation to expend on it. The Governing Board, therefore, decided to employ Miss Geraldine Walker and placed her in the Bureau. Mr. Priest then enlarged his program and not only picked out the actual 7.6 red glasses and accurate 35 yellows from those submitted, but actually graded all the glasses submitted, a tremendous amount of labor.

The reds were finished in the fall, and were returned to their owners in the early winter. For the yellows, however, Mr. Priest found it necessary to establish the fundamental standard as this had not been done heretofore, with the result that these glasses were not finished until late in the winter, and were returned to their owners in February or March.

Due to this work and the preliminary work necessary before calibration could be started, it was January 15th before we could submit glasses to Miss Walker for standardization. Mr. Putland with the earnest co-operation of his employer, Mr. Herman Aspegren, consented to handle this matter, and has received all glasses for stand-

ardization. He then sorted them into lots of 25 which were as nearly as possible alike, and submitted them to Miss Walker. This work is now proceeding satisfactorily.

Research Associate

Referring again to the matter of the research associate, due to the fact that Miss Walker could not start work until about the first of February, the Society has been under considerable expense. Further, there are a number of other groups interested in these glasses, such as the Sugar and Turpentine Industries, the Paint & Varnish, and the Petroleum Interests. It would seem only fitting, therefore, that the Bureau of Standards should assume all financial responsibility for this standardization of glasses, as it is not proper that our Society should be responsible, particularly when so many other groups are interested. Further, the Bureau of Standards already does such work for many interests, charging reasonable fees for such work. We, therefore, endeavored to have the appropriation for the color division of the Bureau of Standards increased \$5,000, and succeeded in getting this amendment through the Senate. However, through a misunderstanding it was refused by the House and failed in conference. We hope to get the matter through in the second deficiency bill, however, which will be considered by Congress very soon, and in that case the Bureau of Standards will have funds available to continue this work.

In considering the details of the expenditures for this work, please consider several facts: First, the 200 glasses originally submitted were calibrated free of charge; second, the necessity for prepar-

ing the instruments for use in matching glasses, also the necessity of finding accurate units and tenth unit glasses consumed much time; third, after the work of calibration was finally started, the speed of the work increased gradually through increasing familiarity with the methods, so that now our revenue of \$1.50 a glass is about meeting expenses.

I, therefore, recommend that this work be continued, if necessary, until our glasses are standardized, unless of course, Governmental assistance is available before then. I also strongly recommend that the thanks of the Society be tendered by proper resolutions, to Dr. Geo. K. Burgess, Director of the Bureau of Standards, to Hon. Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, to Mr. Priest and his assistants for their co-operation. I also recommend that our thanks be given by proper resolutions to Senators Harris and Smoot and to Congressmen Oliver and Bacon for their assistance. Also, unless Congress appropriates this money to be available July 1st, I recommend that efforts be continued by the new Governing Board to get this increase through Congress next fall.

The various committees of the Society have all functioned very satisfactorily under the leadership of their respective Chairmen, and their reports will prove very interesting and profitable to the membership.

Our membership shows a very healthy growth this past year, due to the energetic leadership of the Chairman of the Membership Committee, and includes more men in allied lines.

OIL & FAT INDUSTRIES has continued to improve under the able direction of Mr. Lee, and we ex-

pect even greater improvement in the future.

Mr. Law, at a considerable sacrifice of time, has handled the preparation of the samples for the Smalley Foundation, and our thanks are especially due him and Mr. Moore for their able and painstaking work.

As I have said before I have had the utmost co-operation from every member of the Society, particularly from the Governing Board, and I wish at this time to thank them for their help, as without it, it would have been impossible to have handled the matters for the Society.

Our Secretary has been very efficient and has given me the most whole-hearted co-operation.

Planning Committee Delays Final Report

THE experience of the Planning Committee of the American Oil Chemists' Society is that the Convention is not the proper time to make a report; in fact, there is not much necessity to make a report. Its function, theoretically, is to advise and counsel other committees.

At the last moment this paper was made up at a time when reports from only fifty per cent of the committees had arrived.

Until the Planning Committee can have the full view of the situation and the desires of the membership at large, it is hardly in position to plan to the best advantage. It has, therefore, been thought best to postpone making any recommendations at this time but to hold a meeting of the incoming Planning Committee immediately after this convention, at which time it is hoped to meet with such

chairmen as may be holding over or appointed by the incoming president, and then plan the work for the coming year. This suggestion has met with the approval of certain of our officers and will be tried out this year.

The planning of the work of the Society has always been a difficult question, and for this reason it is hoped that by having a personal conference with the various committee members more can be accomplished in an hour here than all the correspondence which has been lavished upon it in the past.

Congress Gives Money for Standardization of Glasses

An appropriation of \$5,000 for the color division of the Bureau of Standards was passed by the last Congress and signed by President Coolidge, thereby enabling the division to add Miss Geraldine Walker, a research associate, to the staff. The color division will carry on the standardization of the Lovibond glasses of the American Oil Chemists' Society and will relieve the latter of all financial responsibility for such work. After July 1 all glasses should be sent direct to the Bureau of Standards, as neither the president nor the secretary of the society will have authority to handle them or to collect the necessary charges.

Commission Grants Stay on Removal of Labels

The Federal Trade Commission has notified the edible oil industry that it would be given until August 1, 1928, to dispose of all containers and labels which do not conform to the rules adopted by the industry at the trade practice conference held on December 9, 1927. This action gives members of the industry an extra three months to conform to the rules, for the previous order of the Commis-

sion stated May 1 as the date. The change in time was made by the Commission after several companies had requested that it be done.

Board Reports 28 Referees

AT the beginning of the 1927-1928 season, there were twenty-six referee chemists certified. During the year two have been added to this number, making a total of twenty-eight functioning at this time, according to the Convention report of the Referee Board of the American Oil Chemists' Society.

During the past year the Referee Board has passed upon four applications—one was passed for all products, another given a partial certificate, two were rejected.

At the present time, the Board has before it seven applications for certificates. Should all those now certified reapply and their applications be allowed and the new applications granted, there will be thirty-five referee chemists on the list.

Refining Committee Makes Ten Recommendations

The Refining Committee of the American Oil Chemists' Society, under the chairmanship of C. B. Cluff of the Procter & Gamble Company, has made ten recommendations that embody the essential points covered by its report to the recent convention at New Orleans. The recommendations are as follows:

1. On oils with free fatty acids not over three per cent, one of the tests shall be made with the maximum amount of the stronger lye, and the other two tests with eighty per cent of the maximum of the two respective lyes. On oils with free fatty acid over three per cent, two of the tests shall be made with the maximum amount of the two respective

lyes, and the third test with eighty per cent of the stronger lye.

2. Omit the ten degree lye from the refining tables and change the required lyes for oils with less than one-and-a-half per cent F. F. A. from ten and fourteen degrees to twelve and fourteen degrees for Hydraulic oils, and from twelve and sixteen degrees to sixteen and twenty degrees for Expeller oils.

3. Limit the number of refining tests to the three specified in recommendation number one, thus eliminating the additional tests covered by sections (b) and (c) of rule 264.

4. Omit the permission to use intermediate strengths of lye between the two specified in the table, thus requiring only two strengths to be used by all operators on a given oil.

5. Change period of coal agitation from "ten minutes" to fifteen minutes for Hydraulic oils.

6. Change period of cold agitation from "thirty to sixty minutes" for Expeller oils to forty-five minutes in all cases.

7. Change period of agitation in the hot bath from eight minutes to twelve minutes in all cases.

8. The present refining procedure as amended by the above recommendations should be adopted for the coming year.

9. For next season further study should be made of the refining of cold pressed oil, corn oil, and other oils, and of the Natural Oil Method; also of the color of the oil recovered by re-melting the soap stock.

10. All purely development work of the committee should be put into the hands of an investigator who can give almost all of his time to this work for a sufficient period to determine the points involved. Arrangements for financing this work should be made by cooperation between the American Oil Chemists' Society and the Interstate Association. The committee feels that this method of handling development work is well justified, and that it is the only way in which the required information can be obtained and put into practical use within a reasonable time.