

# Notes of the Industry

## Discuss Tests of Olive Foots

Representatives of eighteen of the country's largest olive oil foots consumers and importers met in New York April 9, to discuss the advisability of readjusting the rule on maximum impurities and the technique of the impurities test. At the present time olive oil foots are sold on a basis of 3 percent maximum impurities with a penalty for poorer oil, but no adjustment for better grades. Although the hot kerosene test is official for detecting impurities, ether is more widely used. Some of those present were opposed to making any change in the present 3 percent maximum. A large user suggested a maximum of 1 percent impurities, with a penalty for excess. One of the large importers offered a compromise of 2 percent, with a provision for a lower price in case of excess impurities and a higher price for better grade oil. The meeting was practically unanimously in favor of making the ether test official, inasmuch as it corresponds more closely than the hot kerosene test with the carbon bisulfide method, which is in general use in producing centers. It is expected that an official ruling will be promulgated by the Produce Exchange Committee shortly after May 1.

## Chemical Industries Exposition

The Twelfth Exposition of Chemical Industries, being held at Grand Central Palace, New York, the week of May 6th, surpasses all previous Chemical shows by a wide margin. The exhibits include raw materials, finished products and the machinery and equipment used in the chemical industries, together with many educational exhibits which set forth the results of most recent research by government departments and large industrial organizations. An important feature of the Exposition consists of the Students' Course on the Fundamentals of Industrial Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Practice, sessions of which will be held each morning during the week of the Exposition. Professor W. T. Reed of the Texas Technological College will act as Chairman of the Course.

## Imports of Fatty Foods

The Foodstuffs Division of the Department of Commerce has issued figures showing the value of imports and exports of foodstuffs

during the year 1928, with comparative figures for 1927. Exports of animal fats and oils, edible, exceeded imports many times in value, while the trade in edible vegetable oils and fats showed a preponderance of imports, which consisted entirely of olive oil and cocoa butter. Imports of oil cake and oil-cake meal increased substantially in both quantity and value in 1928 over 1927, imports of soya bean cake particularly showing almost 100 percent increase. The Foodstuffs Division's comment on the trend of foodstuffs exports and imports is as follows: "The balance is preponderantly in favor of exports of all products produced in the United States, but the heavy consumption of tropical and subtropical products results in imports of foodstuffs exceeding the total of exports."

## Sixth Annual

### Chemical Industries Banquet

The most important get-together dinner of the chemical and allied industries is held annually in New York under the auspices of the leading technical societies of the country. The dinner this year will be the sixth renewal of the event, and is being held at the Roosevelt Hotel, Thursday, May 9th, under the auspices of the American Chemical Society, American Electrochemical Society, American Institute of Chemists, American Leather Chemists' Association, Chemical Warfare Association, American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists, Manufacturing Chemists' Association, Societe de Chimie Industrielle, Society of Chemical Industry, The Chlorine Institute, Compressed Gas Manufacturers' Association, Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers' Association, Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry, Salesmen's Association of the American Chemical Industry and the Chemists' Club. The principal speaker of the evening will be Colonel William J. Donovan, formerly Assistant Attorney General of the United States.

Standards Yearbook for 1929 has recently been compiled by National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., and is available at \$1.00 per copy, through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington.

## Mayonnaise Makers Declare for Quality

William R. McKeldin, Chairman of the Trade Practice Committee of the Mayonnaise Products Manufacturers, has addressed the members of the Association in a bulletin urging the maintenance of the highest quality in all their products and the abandonment of expensive trade practices, such as cut prices, free goods, special deals, etc. We quote excerpts from the bulletin: "Quality is the only way to build up a permanent business on a firm foundation. Quality and cut prices, free goods, special deals, do not travel together for very long . . . Trade Associations in every line of endeavor are daily realizing the necessity for getting together to eliminate some of these expensive practices, and if we are properly informed, the results have been very gratifying and well worth the trouble and time taken . . . Every member can help by advising the Secretary of the Association or the Trade Practice Committee of the evils existing in his territory and of any suggestions to correct them and then let every member cooperate to correct such conditions when the time comes."

## Oil and Fat Research

At the Seventy-seventh Meeting of the American Chemical Society, held at the University of Ohio, Columbus, April 29 to May 3, several papers of interest to our readers were presented, particularly at the meetings of the Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. Among the papers read to this Division of the Society were the following:

"Effects of Variation of Ingredients upon the Color of Chocolate Cake" by Emily Grewe and E. O. Whittier.

"A Study of the Official Method for the Polarimetric Determination of Lactose in Milk" by E. F. Almy.

"A Formula Expressing the Relation between Fat and Protein in Normal Milk" by A. E. Perkins.

"Fatty Acid Glycerides" by H. E. Robinson, J. N. Roche, and C. G. King.

"The Commercial Utilization of Waste from the Cotton Gin" by C. L. Fly, H. J. Harper, and O. M. Smith.

## Referee Applicant

Mr. Harry M. Bulbrook, Industrial Laboratories, Fort Worth, Texas, has applied for Referee Chemist's Certificate of the American Oil Chemists' Society on all products covered by the Rules of the Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association. (*Second Publication.*)

## United Africa, Ltd.—Palm Merger

When the merger of the African & Eastern Trading Co. and the Niger Co. is completed, the combined companies will operate under the name of United Africa, Ltd.

Shareholders in African & Eastern approved the merger March 28. The approval of the Niger stockholders has been looked on as a foregone conclusion since the largest block of stock is held by Lever Bros., Ltd. Under the agreement reached by the two boards, the two companies will go into the merger on an equal basis. African & Eastern will receive 6,500,000 shares of Class A stock and Niger will have the same number of shares of Class B. All of the holdings of both companies are involved with the exception of minor operations on both sides. United Africa, Ltd., which will be capitalized at £14,000,000, will have a dominating position in West African trade in palm oil, cocoa, etc. The plan is to make the merger effective April 30 at which time plans for the New York subsidiaries will probably be announced. Neither J. H. Redding or R. G. Morris, respectively heads of Niger and African & Eastern in the United States, are in position to give out any definite information at this time.

The Baltimore Butterine Company, Baltimore; Ed. S. Vail Butterine Company, Chicago; and Kansas Nut Margarine Company, Salina, Kansas, have filed suit in the Federal district court in Denver, Colorado, asking for an order against Governor Adams, Attorney General Winbourn and the State Dairy Commissioner, restraining them from enforcing the law which would class nut oil products as margarin and subject them to the 10-cent Federal oleomargarin tax. Attorneys for the plaintiffs contend that the law is unconstitutional. The Colorado law specifically applies to those nut oil products which are colored and packed like butter, even though plainly marked "Nut Products."

## Charles E. Carpenter

Charles E. Carpenter, president and general manager of E. F. Houghton & Co., industrial oils, Philadelphia, died April 7 at Miami Beach. He was sixty-six years old. Mr. Carpenter, for more than thirty-five years, was active in local, State and National Republican politics. He was a member of the Manufacturers' Club, Poor Richard Club, Philadelphia Country Club, White March Valley Country Club, Manasquan River Yacht Club and a number of other organizations. A wife and a son, A. E. Carpenter, survive.

## Interstate Crushers' Convention

The Interstate Cottonseed Crushers' Association will meet in their annual convention at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 15, 16 and 17. The Rules Committee will meet at the same place on May 13 and 14. Chairman Harry Hodgson and other members of the Rules Committee invite suggestions or recommendation for changes in the Rules of the Association. These suggestions should be prepared for presentation according to Section 2, Article 2 of the By-laws.

Mr. E. T. George has again agreed to serve as Chairman of Arrangement Committee and Master of Ceremonies. Other Committeemen are:

- H. H. Landry, Vice Chairman—Arrangements.
- A. D. Geoghegan, Chairman—Reception.
- Mrs. L. G. Cosgrove, Chairman—Ladies Entertainment.
- E. Percy Chivers, Chairman—Hotel Reservations.
- W. E. Jervey, Chairman—Golf Tournament.
- Dan W. Feitel, Chairman—Harbor Trip.
- A. F. Aschner, Chairman—General Entertainment.
- H. P. Rowley, Chairman—Dance and Theatre.
- T. W. Coffer, Chairman—Banquet.
- I. T. Rhea, Chairman—Publicity.
- Jack Murphey, Chairman—Markets.
- George Sarrat, Chairman—Automobiles.
- A. M. Juge, Chairman—Registration and Badges.

## Shortening and Oil Association

At the last meeting of the Shortening and Oil Division of the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association, the members present devoted the meetings to a discussion of the problem of eliminating the discriminatory and uneconomic conditions in distribution of cottonseed oil products to the retail trade resulted in the adoption of a resolution providing for such modification of the Code of Trade Practices as will enable members distributing to the retail trade to make such sales on the basis of open prices and terms publicly announced, as is now done with sales to the wholesale and baking trade.

If the proposed modification of the Code is given the approval of Senator Benet, Counsel of the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association, it is expected that members will soon begin merchandising to the retail trade on the basis of prices publicly announced.

Members expressed the belief that discriminatory and other uneconomic and uncompetitive conditions now existing in distribution to the retail trade might be eliminated largely by extending the provisions of the Code to cover such trade. The successful operation of such a plan, it was pointed out, obviously would require that distributors make their prices likewise public. Considerable discussion concerned the question of the extent to which distributors of members' products might voluntarily co-operate with and ensure the success of the plan by giving publicity to their own prices and terms of sales.

It was repeatedly emphasized during the discussion and thoroughly understood by all members of the Division that in selling to distributors manufacturers would have no right to dictate to such distributors or use any coercive methods with respect to the prices or terms such distributors might employ in making resales of members' products.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas there is a discrimination in the present tariff schedule between edible vegetable oils of a similar character, whereby one such oil, namely Sesame Oil, is on the free list, while others are dutiable at various tariff charges, and

Whereas such discrimination is unjust and disturbing to the economic situation of edible oils in United States markets,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Shortening and Oil Division of the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association respectfully requests the House Ways and Means Committee at Washington, in its consideration of necessary changes in the present tariff laws, to place Sesame Oil on the same basis as other edible vegetable oils of like character.

Amtorg Trading Corp., representing Soviet Russia commercial and industrial organizations, recently moved from 165 Broadway to 261 Fifth Ave., New York. The seventeenth and eighteenth floors have been leased at the new location, giving the company 28,000 sq. ft. of floor space.

The new \$1,000,000 plant being built by Continental Can Co. at Los Angeles is rapidly nearing completion. It was built to replace the plant destroyed by fire some months ago. William Berryman, formerly with Western Can Co., San Francisco, will manage the new plant.