

BIOGRAPHIES

John P. Harris

Our new president, John P. Harris, needs no introduction to the members of the American Oil Chemists' Society. He has taken part in, and has been an energetic worker in the various activities of the organization for many years. However, a little historical review will probably give some of the newer members a better picture of our versatile president.

John Harris was born, a "bone dry" at Ottawa, Kansas, in November, 1886. After weathering the vicissitudes common to residents of Kansas, he successfully passed through the grade and high schools and was graduated from the University of Kansas in 1907, with a degree of A. B. Later he obtained a degree from Charlottenburg, Berlin, Germany.

After leaving school he went to work for Armour and Company, Kansas City, and was later transferred to Fort Worth. In all, he spent nine years as Chemist and Refinery Superintendent with this concern. From Fort Worth he went to the Phoenix Cotton Oil Company, Memphis, and spent two years there as Chemist and Refinery Manager.

He next transferred his field of activities to the Allbright Nell Company, as Chemical Engineer and remained with them two years, after which he went into business for himself as a Consulting Chemical Engineer. After four years on his own, he became Director of Practical Research of the Institute of American Meat Packers, which position he held for two years, resigning to accept his present position as Chicago Manager of the Industrial Chemical Sales Company, Inc., where he has been for the past six years.

When the United States entered the war Mr. Harris enlisted in the Chemical Warfare Service where he served as a First Lieutenant. At the present time he is a Captain in the Officers Reserve Corps.

His club and society affiliations are the American Oil Chemists' Society, of which he has been a member since 1919, the Americal Chemical Society, Sigma Chi Fraternity and the Shawnee Country Club. He also lectures at the Siebel Institute of Technology.

He lists among his hobbies, swimming, bowling, baseball and music. He is also a philatelist and claims to be an amateur gardener. Recently he has taken up golf and no one can predict at this time the outcome. However, if he persists as enthusiastically as he has in his

activities for the Society, we feel sure that he will get plenty of air and exercise whether he develops into a finished golfer or not.

In view of his past record and particularly his showing as Chairman of the Membership Committee, we predict an active and successful year for Mr. Harris, and feel sure that he will have one hundred per cent support from the members of our Society.

Gossip of the New Orleans Convention

This was the most intimate convention which we have ever had at New Orleans. The crowd stuck together throughout with an unexampled spirit of camaraderie. Younger and older members mingled constantly in and out of the meetings. This might be called a younger members' year, as the first and third vice-presidents elected are distinctly of that flight. True to form Agee, Pless, Cox and other hardy campaigners breakfasted at Gallatoire's on crab omelet.

It promises to be a long time before a more gracious and beloved couple head the Society than the retiring President, Nick Hamner and his charming wife. Their presence was an inspiration to all present.

That Vieux Carre is a never ending source of pleasure and inspiration to the out of town members—each after-

noon found a good representation prowling through such historic spots as the old St. Louis Cathedral, the Little Theater, the Louisiana Museum, viewing Napoleon's death mask, the slave market relics of Jean LaFette, etc. James Ganucheau, descendant of a fine old Creole family, makes a fine guide, as his forbears actually participated in many of the most important events of colonial days. They were, of course, particularly prominent in early scientific developments.

The Banquet at the Two Sisters in the Vieux Carre was a very enjoyable affair, and was particularly attractive to the out of town guests. It was noticed that some of the out of town men preferred a stroll in the moonlight with a beautiful young lady, or sit on a secluded bench in the garden, to the dance floor. It is reliably reported that one such couple got lost.