

oil & soap

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The Mecca for those interested in the chemistry and technology of soaps, oils and fats is, and should be, Chicago at the time of the Annual Fall Meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society. This year on October 11th and 12th the pilgrimage rightly enough led its devotees to the Medinah Club where the local committee on arrangements had, happily for all, established convention headquarters. This beautiful and commodious building lent itself perfectly to every requirement of the meeting and during its entire course there was no need for the visiting members who were guests of the club to leave its sheltering walls.

Even some of the local members had reserved rooms in the club that they might better attend the meetings and look after the comfort and pleasure of the visitors.

The Medinah Club in itself deserves more space than could properly be given to this entire article and it is beyond the pen of this scribe to do justice to its beautiful architecture and interior arrangement and decoration. Suffice it to say that its guest rooms are the equal in comfort and service to the best hotels to be found anywhere, and it has under its forty story tower accommodations and amusements to suit all tastes.

The Fall Meetings have become justly celebrated for the outstanding character of the papers presented and this year's scientific program was in all truth "a feast of reason." It would be impossible here to attempt comment on these papers, which will be later published in these pages, but as a yardstick of their general quality and careful preparation we mention that scholarly presentation by Prof. William E. Anderson of Yale University, "Biochemical Aspects of Fats." Interesting to some of the members and to this writer was his mention in connection therewith of certain work now being done by Felix Paquin, Jr., son of the first president of the American Oil Chemists' Society.

The arrangements for the scientific program were perfect, including excellent lantern facilities for slides illustrating the numerous fine papers, and the interest of those privileged to be present was attested by the full attendance throughout the meetings.

President W. D. Hutchins from far away Savannah, Georgia, opened the meeting on Thursday morning and after a few well chosen remarks concerning the Society and the Fall Meeting turned the gavel over to Mr. M. L. Sheely, Chairman of the Soap Division, who presided over the morning session.

Upon adjournment a delicious luncheon was served in the Grill Room of the Medinah Club, at which the ladies in attendance were guests. Those present grouped themselves in congenial parties at small tables and enjoyed relaxation from the serious part of the meeting.

President Hutchins presided over the afternoon program which was completed at about four o'clock, following which the Bowling Tournament began, running from 4:30 to 6:30 and again from 8:00 to 10:00 P. M. This event was hotly contested with the Amaizo Challenge Trophy and numerous other prizes as awards for team and individual prowess.

Thursday evening the members present, with the

ladies as guests, sat down in the Tropical Ballroom of the Medinah Club to a delightful banquet, made even more pleasant by hospitality, informality and the absence of speeches. All, including those who otherwise might have squirmed throughout the dinner at the thought of having to speak, enjoyed themselves.

Following the dinner there was dancing to strains of the orchestra that had entertained the diners, and a card party in the club's beautiful lounge which was a great success, handsome prizes being awarded to those fortunate enough to hold good cards and skillful enough to play them.

Friday morning's program was presided over by Mr. A. A. Robinson, Vice President, and was again noteworthy for complete committee reports and fine papers. At its close the Fall Meeting for 1934 adjourned, regretfully, this writer is sure, for all who had been so fortunate as to be present.

Friday afternoon about twenty confirmed golfing fiends were escorted by the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. Tolman, and his colleagues, Messrs. Vollertsen and Robinson, to the Edgewater Golf Club where they enjoyed golf on a perfect day, a fine course and splendid greens. Prizes were given both to the good golfers and to some of those who were not so good and at least one of the latter decided to leave himself in the hands of his friends in all future events where blind bogie prizes are played for.

To W. H. Irwin, Chairman of the Local Committee, and his entire committee membership, it would be difficult to give adequate praise and thanks for all that they did both during the meeting and for many previous weeks, to make it a success. The consciousness of having achieved their objective must surely be their reward, together with the warm and sincere appreciation of all those who enjoyed the result of their effort.

No less important to the pleasure of the visitors, both ladies and men, was that group of charming ladies of the Entertainment Committee who added their gracious presence to all the features of the meetings and omitted nothing to make the entertainment complete.

Comment on this Fall Meeting could not be concluded without reference to the cooperation of the exhibitors, whose displays of chemical apparatus and equipment, chemicals and industrial supplies, were a noteworthy part of the meeting. Grouped at the ends of the convention hall they added to the scientific aspect of the occasion and attracted much interest. Mr. John P. Harris, who had charge of arrangements for exhibits, deserves special credit for their excellence.

It is unfortunate for the oil chemists of the South that they cannot in large numbers attend these Fall Meetings, but of course they are unusually busy at the time due to the seasonal operation of the plants and laboratories in which they work. A few of them led by President Hutchins did attend and were more than repaid for the effort. In sustained interest and scientific value the entire program was a rare treat.

In closing be it said that the charming hospitality and cordiality extended to their guests by our friends of Chicago could not have been more real and spontaneous and we all look forward to returning.

G. WORTHEN AGEE.

ATTENTION, A. O. C. S. MEMBERS

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