

separation of the fatty acids, add 500 to 600 mls. of water and boil until the fatty acids are completely melted and clear.

4. The aqueous layer containing the sulphuric acid may be removed from under the fatty acid layer by an appropriate syphon. Again add 500 to 600 mls. of water and boil two or three minutes, making sure that all of the fatty acids are melted and clear.

CAUTION: Hard fats and other high melting point fats are sometimes slow to melt and clear. Fatty acid layer should be carefully inspected while it is quiet, to be sure all has melted.

5. Syphon off water again and repeat, if necessary, with water as under 4 until wash water is neutral to litmus paper.
6. Carefully remove fatty acids so as not to include any water. Filter these while entirely melted through a rapid filtering paper. Heat the filtered

acids on a hot plate to 130° C. to remove traces of moisture and pour into the test tube. Fill the latter to a height of 57 mms. from the bottom.

NOTE: If excessive moisture is present, the acids should be decanted, after having stood for a few minutes, refiltered and reheated. Acids must be thoroughly dry.

CAUTION: Fatty acid should never be overheated or held at a high temperature for more than a few minutes. Unless samples can be stirred out shortly after separation, it is best to hold them at cool temperature and heat them to 130°C. just prior to stirring.

SOLIDIFICATION OF FATTY ACIDS:

1. Fill and adjust the temperature of the water bath. The temperature of the water should be 20° C. for all samples having titers of 30° C. or higher, and approximately 10° C. below the titer point for all samples with titers under 30° C.

2. Place the test tube with the separated fatty acids in the assembly as shown in the drawing. Insert titer thermometer and place in position so that the immersion mark on the thermometer coincides with the upper level of the sample.

3. Stir with the glass stirring rod in a vertical manner at the rate of 50 complete up and down motions per minute. The stirrer should travel through a vertical distance of about 1.5 inches or 3.8 cms.

NOTE: The stirring may be performed by mechanical means by attaching a small motor with suitable reducing gears to and above the stirring rod.

4. Stir at the directed rate until the temperature remains constant for 30 seconds. Discontinue stirring immediately and observe the increase in temperature. Report as the titer the highest point reached by the thermometer. Duplicate determinations are normally expected to agree within 0.2° C.

Report of the Journal Committee

THE official journal of the Society, OIL AND SOAP, has again been published at regular monthly intervals during the past year. There have been no changes in the mechanical form of the Journal, no significant changes in the volume of its editorial content or in the volume of its advertising accounts.

The Journal Committee and the Editorial Advisory Board have again, during this year, critically examined each manuscript prior to publication. In this connection it has frequently been necessary to ask individuals other than members of the Editorial Advisory Board to review and criticize papers. Since the Board was set up for this purpose it was felt that it might be advisable to expand the membership of the Board to include some individuals who have been assisting us in this work. The Journal Committee has approved a suggestion to expand the Board to fifteen members. This suggestion has been transmitted to

Mr. Cox for consideration of the Governing Board and since it entails a change in the By-Laws will probably be acted upon at the Spring Convention of the Society.

It will be recalled that in November of 1937 our publishing contract with the Gillette Publishing Company was modified. The modified contract gave the Society a share in the gross revenue of the Journal. At the present time figures are available for the first fifteen months of operation under this contract. The Society received as its portion of the returns \$962.67 during these fifteen months. Under the contract under which we operated prior to November 1937, there would have been no return to the Society.

This increase of return to the Society has been made possible largely through a moderate increase in the volume of advertising carried in the publication. This advertising has been secured largely through efforts of the Advertising Committee under Victor Conquest.

Much work remains to be done in this connection to convince the industry to advertise in OIL AND SOAP before the volume of advertising is brought up to a point which the publication should rightfully enjoy. All members should take advantage of every opportunity presented them to bring before prospective advertisers the advantages of advertising in our publication.

There is still much room for improvement in the number and quality of papers published in the Journal. The Journal Committee urges all members to cooperate by writing up and sending in their papers or by giving suggestions regarding the improvement of the Journal.

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