Presidential Address

HE time has come again for your president to make his address before the Convention assembled. I shall try to make this address as brief as possible as most of the items that normally come in a report of the president will be covered by individual reports, more in detail. During this past year the activities of the Society have progressed along the same general lines as in preceding years. The various committees



S. O. SORENSEN

have been active throughout the year on their various assignments and you will, in turn, hear from them as to progress that has been made by the individual committees.

I wonder if the Society as a whole realizes the activities that are covered by our various committees. I would refer them to the membership list which covers this very active group of workers and call to their attention that during the year we have had 26 committees and 17 sub-committees made up of a total of 331 individuals. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing to the chairman, and through the chairmen to their committees, the appresiation of the Society for the activities that they have

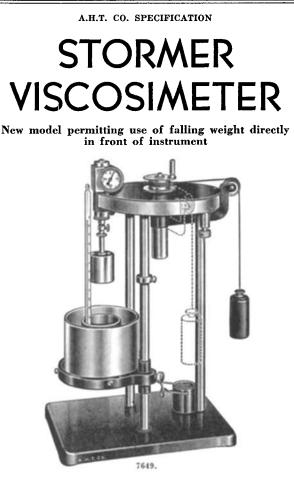
sponsored and carried on during this last fiscal year. The activities of these committees are one of the three principal reasons why the Society has progressed as it has in the past. When you consider that 331 members of the Society out of a total membership of 1,435 are taking an active part in one of the principal activities of the Society, I think it is a very healthful situation and certainly indicates that the membership are very serious in their undertakings and deliberations.

Under the able leadership of R. T. Milner, as chairman of the Membership Committee, there has been added to the roster 338 new members to the Society up to the presentation of this address. There will undoubtedly be others that will be brought into membership before this convention closes and I want to express to our chairman of this important committee our heartiest congratulations for a job well done.

Your Society is in an excellent financial condition, and you will hear the details from the treasurer when his report is submitted.

There are a few suggestions that I would like to leave for the consideration of the incoming officers and also for the membership as a whole. If you will look back over the roster of committees that have been active in the years gone by you will find that there are a number of individuals who have given very generously of their time and effort and to them belongs a great deal of credit for the success of our Society up to date. would like to suggest to the incoming officers and to the chairmen of the various committees that in the selection of their personnel they try to interest other individuals of the Society in taking an active part in the work who have not been active in the past. I would like to suggest that sub-committee work be handled by men who have been in the organization for some time and that these leaders include in the personnel of their committees some of the newer members who have joined us in recent years. In other words, extend the activities of our Society over as broad a range of membership as possible because I definitely feel that the reason for the success of our Society has been the active participation in one form or another of a large number of its personnel.

Mr. Lamar Kishlar, in his presidential address of three years ago, made a very worthwhile suggestion which I am repeating for the consideration of the incoming Board and that is that a committee be formed, known as the Future Planning Committee, to study and report their recommendations as to the activities of the Society to fit our present day needs. Whereas it is true we have done a remarkable piece of work up to date, our membership has increased tremendously, many problems are presenting themselves that we didn't have before us before, and it might be well to take a look at the whole picture of



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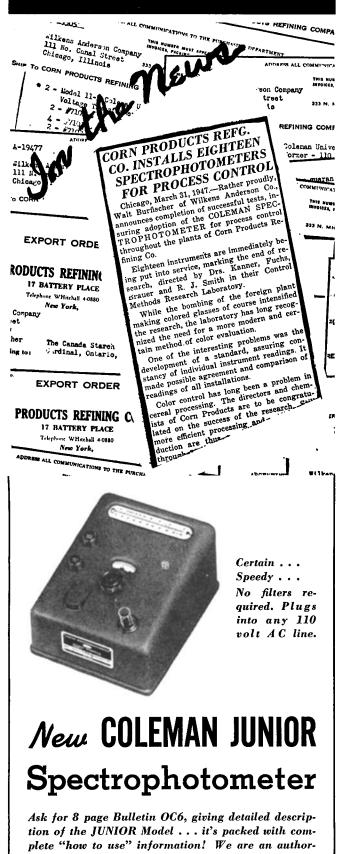
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the activities of the Society to see whether or not improvements can be suggested. I am thinking primarily of the office of president at this time. As the activities continue to grow, it is placing more of a burden on the man who is acting as president in that it takes a great deal of his time from his regular duties and I am simply presenting it as a question as to what could be done to assist the president in his office. Considerable progress has been made in the last two years in streamlining the duties of the president, but I think there is still room for considerable improvement.

 A^s FAR as the activities of the president are concerned, this is in effect my "swansong," so to speak. Outside of following through on the election of officers and the few items of business that come before the Society at the final business session, at the close of this meeting my activities are just about finished. I would like at this time to express my very keen appreciation for the honor that the Society has conferred upon me in allowing me to be its president for this past year. It has been a lot of work, but I don't know of any activity in which I have been engaged in the past few years from which I have derived more genuine pleasure. I have in the past been engaged in many other activities, particularly of fraternal and community groups, but in none have I had the pleasure of participating as I have in serving this organization as president this last year. Reactions of this type do not just happen. The reasons for such pleasant relations are not the result of one man's activity but are based on the activities of many. Not only in the year just past, but in the 37 years preceding, the founders of our Society built a firm foundation and those that followed carried along the very fine traditions that were laid down originally and these have continued through the many years. The Society is particularly fortunate in still having the advice and counsel of the men who laid the first foundation for our Society as well as those who have followed. I would like to be able to express my appreciation to all of the individuals who have so splendidly cooperated this last year. Everybody did their job very well; nobody refused to take on work or in many cases added work. I would like particularly to commend the chairmen of our various committee activities and their personnel who have done such excellent work during the year. There have been many problems for all of the com-mittees, but they have risen to the challenge in each case in a very admirable manner.

During the year there were called from our midst the following: C. A. Browne, Feb. 3, 1947; R. C. Hatter, Feb. 26, 1947; A. J. Anderson, Aug. 1, 1946; N. E. Katz, July 23, 1946; and J. M. Burmaster, October, 1946. I would like the Convention to arise for a moment in memory of those who have passed to the Great Beyond.

The results of the election for next year are not yet known but will be on Thursday afternoon and it will be with pleasure, but with some regrets, that the year has finished and the mantle of office, will be passed on to others. I have the utmost confidence in the officers that you have selected for the next year and know that they will measure up in every way to their predecessors of the past.

S. O. SORENSEN.

COMMENT ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

THE committee on the president's address feels that our re-tiring president, Mr. S. O. Sorensen, has been too modest in the listing of the accomplishments of his administration. His zeal for work is brought out by the fact that during his term your Society had 26 committees and 17 subcommittees working, having a total of 331 members or, roughly, one out of four participating in committee work, which in any group is excellent.

He leaves the Society strong in members, in finance, and in good fellowship, which has always made the AOCS just a little different from other scientific groups.

The president's suggestion that a Future Planning Committee be formed to bring a broader view and scope to our Society is a step in the right direction. The committee feels that streamlining of the duties of his office and relieving him of routine decisions should be put into practice.

The president expresses his appreciation of the honor the Society has conferred on him. However, we feel that the Society has been honored and that it has profited much under his able administration.

Respectfully submitted, G. WORTHEN AGEE T. H. HOPPER JAMES J. GANUCHEAU, chairman.

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