

Address of the President

IN this report to you I shall depart from precedent to some degree both in the arrangement of material and in the emphasis I shall place on events of the past year. If I seem to boast of our accomplishments, be sure that I do so from no feeling of personal achievement but rather with deep gratitude for my capable and willing associates who have made this another successful year for our Society. Our officers in previous years have given us a smooth-running organization, and we are receiving the benefits of the momentum their work has created.

During the year we have had severe losses, both at home and abroad. With great sorrow I must announce that we have lost by death Sam Slack and Bruno Rewald, both of England; E. V. Valdes of the Philippine Islands; and F. E. Carruth and W. T. Reddish of this country. Dr. Rewald was a world authority on phosphatides. Many of you knew Dr. Carruth, who regularly at-



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tended our meetings, and you will miss his stimulating contributions.

Your Governing Board has functioned smoothly and with complete harmony during the year. Both elected and appointed officers have performed their duties with great efficiency. In the longer reports you will receive from our secretary, treasurer, and Journal editor, you will learn in detail the satisfactory state of Society affairs. Again, in this field I must report a pending loss. After 11 years of devoted labor for our Society, H. L. Roschen has asked that a new editor be considered for the Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society. Harry deserves more from us than we have to give. The best and most lasting tribute to his services as editor is the Journal itself. Look at the Journal articles of 11 years ago and compare them with a current issue, and you will see the tremendous progress which we owe to his efforts.

The Society has passed many milestones during this year. At the fall meeting in Chicago the Vitamin Committee held an open meeting to discuss new vitamin A standards. This was one of the most important events in recent years for the entire vitamin field and drew an extremely large attendance from all sections of this country. It is a fine tribute both to the wisdom of those who established the committee and to N. D. Embree and his committee members. I hope we can continue to attract and encourage these vitamin chemists.

Our new and revised Methods of Analysis are being



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- NO COLOR CHART NECESSARY—Each strip is printed with its own chart.
- UNBREAKABLE CONTAMINATIONPROOF CASE—Packed 250 strips per package.
- EXTREMELY ACCURATE WITHIN .1 pH—Available in nine ranges.
- IDEAL FOR OPERATIONAL CONTROL WORK—Can be used by normal plant personnel.

RANGES			
0.3-1.8	2.7-4.2	6.0-7.5	9.6-11.1
1.2-2.7	3.9-5.4	6.6-8.1	11.1-12.6
1.8-3.3	5.4-6.9	8.1-9.6	2-12

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pH 11
pH 10
Indicator
Compare Test colour pH 9
pH 8
pH 7

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translated into Portuguese for use in Brazil. We may expect requests for translation into other languages, and indeed A.O.C.S. methods may become international and world-wide in scope. This is a direct result of the fine editorial revision that we owe to our Methods editor, V. C. Mehlenbacher. We must see to it that we maintain our gains in this all-important field of analysis and, by cooperative study, careful testing, and constant revision, maintain our high standards.

After several years of labor by Lamar Kishlar and his Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee, we shall have a new constitution within the next few days. Many of us, particularly those with long experience, felt that revision of the old constitution and adoption of the new might prove an almost impossible task, but in only two years' time the goal has been reached. Thanks to Lamar, I shall have the pleasure of seeing this adopted while still your president.

In many respects this past year has marked a true "coming of age" of the Society. The rapid and phenomenal growth in membership through the past few years may have brought with it "growing pains," but these are now minor. Growth has also brought advantages, with an accompanying increase in responsibilities and privileges. During the year we have affiliated with the Inter-Society Color Council, the outstanding national authority on color problems. Our color experts attend their meetings, and we benefit from their help. We are joined with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which is the largest association of scientists in the world. As a large national organization we are holding our next meeting this coming fall in New York City where our large eastern membership will not have to travel so far to attend. It may surprise you to know that in and around New York City we have more members than we have in Chicago and vicinity. I am personally grateful to Foster D. Snell and his capable convention committee for making this possible. It is with some pride also that I mention Dr. Snell, H. E. Longenecker, and Mr. Mehlenbacher as the American representatives on the Commission for Fats and Oils of the International Union of Chemistry. In one sense it is the American Oil Chemists' Society that represents the United States in the International Union, and, as the report Dr. Snell presented last fall shows, we shall play an important part in determining the methods and standards for world-wide use.

Your previous presidents have repeatedly urged the establishment of a "Planning Committee" to chart the activities of the Society in accordance with present-day needs. Instead of a committee under this name the Governing Board has had three special committees working on segments of this important problem. Reports from these hard-working committees have been received, carefully reviewed, and acted on. I should like to summarize these briefly. The Section Development Committee has recommended that no change be made in our present system of meetings and that no effort be made to sectionalize the Society. The Award Committee presented a number of proposals to the Governing Board. After careful consideration, the Board decided that an award, scholarship, or fellowship would not be the most fruitful activity at the present time. Finally, the



Some of the faculty for the first short course on vegetable oils to be sponsored by the Society and the University of Illinois at Urbana on August 16-21 were gathered at the 39th annual meeting in New Orleans: (l. to r.) J. E. Slaughter, E. W. Colt, W. H. Coss, H. C. Black, and A. E. Bailey; (standing) three members of the Education Committee—R. T. Milner, J. P. Harris, chairman, and R. R. King.

Education Committee has perfected an excellent plan for a short course to be given in cooperation with a big university. This plan has received enthusiastic endorsement from the Governing Board. I shall not give you details at this time. Announcements have appeared in the Journal and a further report will be given you by J. P. Harris, who, as chairman of the Education Committee, has been responsible for this new venture.

This new opportunity and service which the Society is offering to all those interested is, in my opinion, one of the best and most important advances we have made. This short course, to be given next August, will cover vegetable oils from production to final use. The interest and enthusiasm aroused by the first announcement of the course and the list of outstanding speakers who are appearing both testify to the need for the course.

Three processing companies have been of special help in the organizing of the short course program. Although it entails trouble, inconvenience, and expense to them, Allied Mills, A. E. Staley and Company, and Swift and Company will throw open their plants at Taylorville, Decatur, and Champaign, respectively, for inspection trips during the Course.

I believe that the Society should advance along this path. Courses on other subjects can follow in future years. We are benefiting our members, the industries and institutions which we serve and are truly following our declared objectives of uniting "... fraternally and professionally all chemists and technologists ..." and cultivating and promoting "... friendly relations and interchange of constructive suggestions ...".

R. T. MILNER.

President Harry S. Truman presented the JOHN WESLEY HYATT AWARD on May 25, 1948, to John D. Cochrane, Jr., director of research and development of the Formica Insulation Company, Cincinnati, O. The award has been presented annually since 1941 to the person judged by the Hyatt Award Committee to have made an outstanding contribution to the plastics industry during the preceding year.

D. P. Morgan joined the Mathieson Chemical Corporation, formerly the Mathieson Alkali Works, on May 15 as administrator of research and development.