

Reports on D.G.F. Meeting

AT the same time the American Oil Chemists' Society was holding its Fall meeting in Chicago, the fraternity of German oil chemists met for their annual convention of the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Fettwissenschaft (German Oil Chemists' Society). In contrast to the A.O.C.S. the D.G.F. holds only one meeting each year and, on this occasion, over 1,100 scientists participated, of whom 40 were from foreign countries and represented nine different nations. A. R. Baldwin of Illinois was among these, and he was elected unanimously by the board of directors of the D.G.F. to receive from the president of the organization the Normann Medal, the highest honor awarded by the D.G.F. The name of the medal is derived from the inventor of fat hydrogenation, Wilhelm Normann, and it is bestowed once each year. No awards were made from 1939 to 1949. For the year 1950 it was presented to the president of the Persil Werke in Düsseldorf, Hugo Henkel, and, at the same time, to Dr. Baldwin for the year 1951. This was the first time a foreigner had ever been chosen for this honor.

Prior to the meeting Dr. Baldwin's speech entitled "Recent Developments in the Field of Fats and Oils" was translated into German in order that it might be understood more clearly. It appeared in the September issue of Fette und Seifen, a copy of which was presented to each participant in the convention.

The 77 speeches delivered at the convention, which will be published either completely or in abstract form in Fette und Seifen, contributed much that was interesting from both a scientific and technical viewpoint in the field of oil and fats. The visits made to various industrial plants furnished proof to the foreign visitors that the German people have a strong desire to live and to progress. The evening festivities in which both the Germans and the foreign guests participated in a spirit of friendship and fun furnished an opportunity for everyone to heal the breach which had been caused by the war.

We hope that both Dr. and Mrs. Baldwin will return to this country with many fond and lasting memories of their trip to Europe and to Germany.

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