

Official and Tentative Methods

PRACTICALLY all trading in cottonseed, peanuts, soybeans, and other oil-bearing materials, as well as in many products derived from them, is now conducted in an orderly manner under trading rules maintained by trade associations and governmental agencies. Many of these rules and the contracts for purchase specify the use of methods for evaluation purposes which have been investigated and adopted by the American Oil Chemists' Society. The assurance with which these methods are used has been instrumental in establishing greater confidence between buyers and sellers, thus almost completely eliminating trade controversies.



T. H. Hopper

A further use of the Society's methods is in the field of research on oil-bearing materials, fats and oils, and the products derived from them. By providing standardized means of evaluation, these methods permit the properties of similar products to be measured and compared, process control in research and production to be followed, and fundamental research results of different workers to be correlated.

The standardization of analytical methods was the basic purpose behind the origin of the Society and is one of its principal functions today. Article II of the present constitution provides for the standardization of analytical equipment, materials, and methods. This purpose is further described in Article VII of the by-laws, which directs that the Society shall investigate, adopt, and publish such methods of analysis in the field of oils, fats, waxes, and constituents and compounds or allied and associated products as may appear to be in the public interest, convenience, or necessity. The research and collaborative work is conducted by technical committees appointed by the president of the Society.

ALL methods of analysis and changes in methods of analysis, originated by the technical committees, are referred to the Uniform Methods Committee for review and recommendation for adoption by a two-thirds vote of this committee. If approved by the Uniform Methods Committee, the methods or changes in methods are submitted to the Society for approval at one of the semi-annual meetings. A majority vote of those present at the meeting is required for approval.

The Uniform Methods Committee is appointed by the president and consists of seven members familiar with the Official and Tentative Methods of the Society. This committee suggests work which may be needed to improve or confirm the Society's methods. It receives from the president, or from any member of the Society, suggestions for the improvement of existing methods or for the establishment of new ones. The Uniform Methods Committee may refer these matters to existing technical committees or may request the president to appoint new committees to investigate specific subjects. The chairman of this committee reports at each meeting of the Society, and the report is published in the Journal.

The methods of analysis, when first approved, become tentative for a period of not less than one year. After one year they may be adopted as official at any subsequent meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the Uniform Methods Committee and by a majority vote of the Society members present.

From accomplishing the original objective of developing a standardized analytical procedure for the extraction of oil from cottonseed, the collaborative work of the technical committees has evolved to provide 173 official and tentative methods. These methods cover the essential requirements for the evaluation of vegetable oil source materials, oilseed by-products, commercial fats and oils, soap and soap products, glycerine, sulfonated and sulfated oils, soap stock, lecithin, and drying oils. Some gaps remain unfilled, but the coverage will increase as the interests of the Society and the purposes it serves increase and expand.

THE policy of the Society has been to standardize and adopt methods specifically adapted to the products to be analyzed and not for general application. The procedures are explicit and do not provide for alternates. This has contributed to the satisfaction with which they have been used for evaluation purposes by trade associations and to the understanding and acceptance of reports on research in which they have been applied.

The methods as adopted are not considered the ultimate obtainable but are subject to change and improvement as additional evidence is acquired by collaborative work and as the validity of this new evidence is recognized and accepted. The interest and value attached to the work on methods of sampling and analysis are attested by the fact that 144 appointments to the 12 technical committees and their subcommittees were made to 105 members of the Society for the 1950-51 year.

Liaison is maintained with the technical or chemists' committees of various trade associations, particularly with those of the National Cottonseed Products Association and the National Soybean Processors Association, in regard to the need for new and improved methods of analysis.

(Continued on page 26)

Carl M. Lyman, Texas A & M College, College Station, Tex.
H. W. Vahlteich, Best Foods Inc., Bayonne, N. J.

Technical

- Cellulose Yield:** L. N. Rogers, chairman, Buckeye Cotton Oil Company, Memphis, Tenn.
E. C. Ainslie, Buckeye Cotton Oil Company, Atlanta, Ga.
W. S. Hude, Southern Chemical Cotton Company, Chattanooga, Tenn.
R. E. Knipple, Barrow-Agee Laboratories Inc., Memphis, Tenn.
E. H. Tenent, Woodson-Tenent Laboratories, Memphis, Tenn.
P. A. Williams, South Texas Cotton Oil Company, Houston, Tex.
- Uniform Methods:** J. T. R. Andrews, chairman, Procter and Gamble Company, Cincinnati, O.
M. M. Durkee, A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company, Decatur, Ill.
J. J. Ganuchau, Southern Cotton Oil Company, Gretna, La.
T. H. Hopper, Southern Regional Research Laboratory, New Orleans, La.
R. R. King, Mrs. Tucker's Foods Inc., Sherman, Tex.
T. C. Law, Law and Company, Atlanta, Ga.
L. B. Parsons, Lever Brothers Company, Cambridge, Mass.

More appointments will be announced in the August issue of the Journal, and the forthcoming edition of the membership directory will carry all.

Kenneth E. Mulford has been appointed general manager of ATLAS POWDER COMPANY'S Industrial Chemicals Department, succeeding J. R. Frorer, who was elected a vice president of the company at a meeting of the board of directors on May 2. J. Peter Kass was named director of the Research and Development Department, succeeding K. R. Brown, who was elected vice president.

Methods

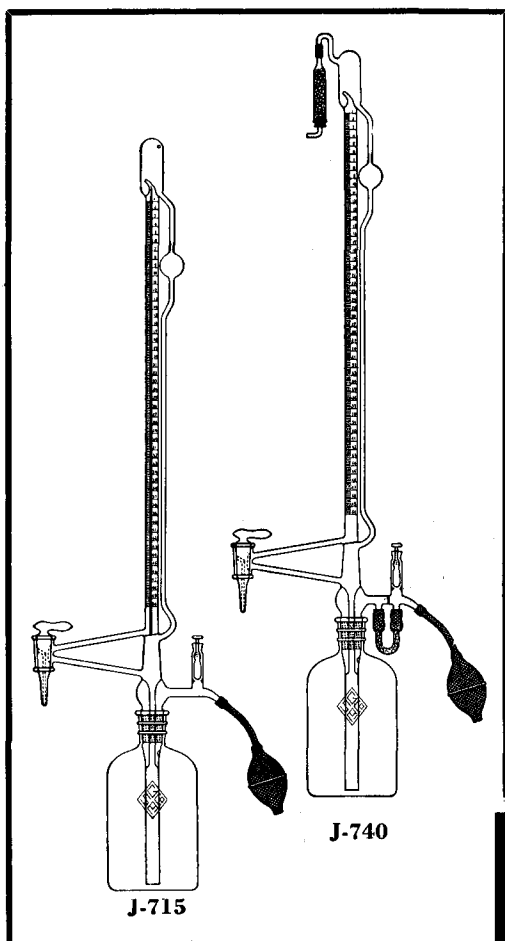
(Continued from page 4)

All tentative and official methods of the Society are reviewed annually from both editorial and technical standpoints to be sure they are kept up-to-date and are suitable for the purposes intended. The present looseleaf edition permits ready deletion, revision, and addition of methods. Each purchaser should obtain the additions and revisions, as issued, to keep his volume up-to-date.

All members using the methods have a responsibility for calling errors and needs for revision or additional methods to the attention of the president, chairmen of technical committees, the chairman of the Uniform Methods Committee, or the editor of methods.

T. H. HOPPER
Editor, A.O.C.S. Methods

The acting governor of Tanganyika, E. R. E. Surridge, on May 14, 1951, laid the foundation of the buildings for a new plant of VICTORIA OIL MILLS LTD. in Mwanza. The new factory represents an important step in the industrialization of Tanganyika, stimulating cottonseed production and providing a welcome source of edible oils. It is being supplied by BAMAG LTD. of London and will represent the latest in cottonseed oil refining technique, including the new high-vacuum, non-drip deodorizer.



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