

National Program and Planning Committee

IN REFLECTING scientific and technological progress in the field of fats and oils, the American Oil Chemists' Society has become acknowledged throughout the world as the leading authority in these endeavors. The Governing Board, keenly aware of its obligation to promote the prestige of the Society, discharges part of its responsibility by investing an increasingly greater proportion of the Society's funds in the publication of the *Journal* each year. Realizing that the reputation of the *Journal* depends in large measure on the quality of the many papers which are originally presented at our annual meetings, the Governing Board several years ago created a Special Committee on National Programs to encourage more effective presentation of new and useful information. By improving the general quality of the technical programs of the annual meetings, this committee has contributed materially to enhancing the professional caliber of the *Journal*.

This year, in order to expand its activities and better to serve the ever-widening interests of the Society, the committee has been reorganized as the National Program and Planning Committee. This new group consists of five subcommittees which represent the major categories of activity in the fat and oil industry. Each subcommittee has as its chairman a well-known member of the Society who is a recognized authority in the area for which his group is responsible. We are fortunate to have the following on the committee: R. R. Allen, Fats and Oils; W. C. Ault, Chemicals and Fatty Acids; M. W. Formo, Drying Oils and Paints; J. C. Harris, Soaps and Detergents; and Raymond Reiser, Biology and Nutrition.

In order to maintain the continuity of the committee's activities each subcommittee will have two vice chairmen so that, after serving for a one-year term, each subcommittee chairman will be suc-

ceeded the following year by one of his vice chairmen. To provide for proper liaison between this committee and the successive convention committees, the program chairman for each annual meeting is automatically also a member of the National Program and Planning Committee during the year in which his convention occurs.



C. W. Hoerr

The other two members of this committee for the next year are: T. J. Potts, spring meeting in St. Louis, and W. C. Pritchett, fall meeting in Chicago.

IT is intended that, with this new organization, the National Program and Planning Committee should be in a better position to fulfill its responsibilities, not only by insuring that all areas of interest to the Society are adequately represented by the technical programs of the annual meetings but also by guaranteeing that future programs will present a better balance of interests. For example, meetings in the past have generally occasioned the presentation of only a minimum of papers in the drying-oil field, and papers relating to soaps and detergents seem to have been presented chiefly during special symposia. There have been

complaints, on one hand, that too many research papers have been presented at certain meetings and, on the other hand, that too many processing papers have not been sufficiently technical. It is perhaps in this area that the committee can be of real service by encouraging the presentation of more papers which attempt to translate basic research into practical, readily-understandable information and of others which try to interpret industrial processing in terms of the fundamental principles involved.

The various subcommittees will, from time to time, publish notices in the *Journal* requesting commitments to present papers on certain topics considered to be of current interest or importance. Admittedly the committee members cannot be expected to be aware of all the types of work going on in their respective areas. Each member of the Society should consider it his responsibility to help the committee in advancing the science and technology of fats and oils by volunteering to present any significant new information which he is free to report. Those who commit themselves to present papers are reminded of their duty to prepare their manuscripts with care and to have them cleared through the proper channels in time to meet the necessary deadlines. Observance of these simple courtesies not only will help tremendously to ease the work of committee members in organizing a worth-while program but will enhance the general quality of our presentations.

It is hoped that the members of the Society will feel free to communicate their ideas, suggestions, comments, and criticisms to any member of this committee. In turn, this committee is pledged to do its best to offer everyone the maximum opportunity to contribute to the prestige of the Society by promoting the science and technology of our industry.

C. W. HOERR, chairman
J. C. HARRIS, vice chairman