



C. K. Wiesman admires Vander Wal's canvas.

• *Hobby Department*

TO HIS FELLOW CHEMISTS Robert J. Vander Wal (1945) is known as the head of the triglycerides section of Armour and Company, Chicago, but in the art world he is thought of as an amateur painter and fabricator of glass figurines. He has been painting as a hobby since 1941 and recently won a second-place medal in the first exhibit he had ever entered, the American Chemical Society exposition in Chicago, with "Light and Shadow in Packingtown."

His experimental work has led him into such an art process as painting on a fine emery abrasive cloth. Though he has done oils, he prefers watercolors; and though he has done impressionistic and modern works, he always returns to the traditional. In college he turned to glass-blowing to help pay expenses and later mastered the technique of fashioning heated glass into decorative objects.

Mrs. Vander Wal is an interested and sympathetic critic of his output, helping set the standards by which he rejects or accepts a canvas. Much of his work he throws away; some he gives to friends; and three paintings he has given to C. K. Wiesman of Armour to replace other art on the office walls.

Along with this activity Dr. Vander Wal has been busy in the American Oil Chemists' Society, having served as technical correspondent for the Journal from 1949 to 1955, as a member of the Advertising Committee, of the Chicago convention committee in 1953 and 1956, of the Journal Committee from 1956 to 1959, and as chairman of the National Publicity Committee from 1957 to 1959.



Critic Vander Wal confers with Painter Vander Wal.

Scientifically he has also acquired a reputation since graduation from Iowa State College in 1936, having contributed numerous papers on his specialty, reviewed many papers for the Journal of the A.O.C.S., and developed along with L. A. Van Akkeren a modified lard as a superior shortening for cake-baking and other uses. A patent was granted in 1951 on the basis of a "rearrangement of the lard molecules."

• *Names in the News*

J.V. Karabinos (1953), formerly of Blockson Chemical Corporation, Joliet, Ill., is now with the Organic Research Department of Olin Mathieson, New Haven, Conn.

H.C. Speel (1954) has accepted a position in the Chemical Products Development Department of the Universal Oil Products Company, Des Plaines, Ill.

H.E. Robinson (1940), vice president in charge of the research laboratories, Swift and Company, Chicago, Ill., has assumed direction of a number of products-for-industry operations, succeeding E.A. Moss, vice president, who retired June 23 after 40 years of service.

A.O. Beckman, president of Beckman Instruments Inc., Fullerton, Calif., received an Illini Achievement Award for leadership in the field of precision instruments in ceremonies at the University of Illinois on June 18.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was recently awarded to Alfred W. Weitkamp (1945), by Midland College, Fremont, Neb. Dr. Weitkamp, who is research associate at the Whiting, Ind., laboratories of Standard Oil Company, joined Standard in 1937 after obtaining his doctorate in chemistry at the University of Nebraska. His work in separating and identifying the components of such complex mixtures as petroleum and natural fats and oils has been called outstanding by many other experts in the field. In recent work, he has been concentrating on studying high-energy fuels for jet engines.

B.W. Minshew (1956) has joined the staff of the Fats and Oils Research Department, Rath Packing Company, Waterloo, Ia.

L. J. Garrison (1958) has been appointed supervisor of the new Field Services Section of Jefferson Research and Development Laboratories, Austin, Tex. He will be in charge of planning and supervising a program of technical service to the field sales force.

James Fisher has been appointed to the Colgate-Palmolive Company's Biological Research Laboratories, New Brunswick, N.J.

S. K. Reed has been named director of research for the Chemical Divisions, Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation, New York, N.Y. J. A. Garman will fill Mr. Reed's former position as research and development director of F.M.C.'s Chemicals and Plastics Division.

Emil Ott has resigned as vice president for research and development of the Chemical Division, Food Machinery and Chemical Corporation, New York, N.Y. He will continue as a part-time consultant for the company and plans to devote himself to academic activities.

L. I. Terry has been appointed laboratory manager of the Dearborn Chemical Company, Chicago, Ill. He will have complete charge of laboratory business, personnel administration, and coordination of research and development projects. R. A. Larrick will succeed Mr. Terry in his former position of director of analytical services.

Andrew Dravnieks has been named scientific advisor in chemistry research at Armour Research Foundation, Chicago, Ill. A native of Latvia, he received a chemical engineering degree from the University of Latvia, did graduate work at the University of Latvia and the University of Marburg, and received his Ph.D. from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1949.