

R. T. O'Connor Wins AOAC Wiley Award

A. P. Mathers, President of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists, recently announced that R. T. O'Connor, US Department of Agriculture, New Orleans, Louisiana, is the 1967 winner of the AOAC Harvey W. Wiley Award.



R. T. O'Connor

The \$750 award is presented annually to the scientist who has made outstanding contributions to development of analytical methods in fertilizers, feeds, food, drugs, cosmetics, pesticides, oils and fats, and other areas important to agriculture and public health.

The Association established the award in 1956 in honor of Harvey W. Wiley, the "father" of the Pure Food and Drug Act and also one of the founders of the AOAC.

The award gives recognition to the importance of adequate methods of analysis for research and for regulatory control of commodities.

In announcing the award, Dr. Mathers said the Wiley Award Committee members were especially impressed with Mr. O'Connor's "outstanding investigations and development of spectroscopic methods for the analysis of agricultural products, and their application to studies of composition and chemical structure essential to utilization research." They also noted his "keen insight, unceasing enthusiasm, and marked ability to inspire his coworkers, supplemented by critical judgment and careful organization of results." Mr. O'Connor has authored and coauthored 135 publications, has received numerous professional honors, and is a member of several societies.

Mr. O'Connor is presently Chief of the Cotton Physical Properties Laboratory, Southern Utilization Research and Development Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is responsible for the research program on applying chemistry, physics, and cotton technology in developing new information on cotton and its products. His group is also responsible for the development or improvement of physical methods and instrumentation for application to research on utilization of cotton, cottonseed, peanuts, and other agricultural commodities of the South.

Mr. O'Connor began his career in 1937 with the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the American University Station, Washington, D.C. He later worked in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Beltsville, Maryland, and in June 1941 was transferred to his present location to work in the Bureau of Industrial and Agricultural Chemistry. In February 1961, Mr. O'Connor was promoted to the position he now holds. He was born June 27, 1909, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, and has a bachelor of science degree and graduate study in chemistry at George Washington University.

Formal presentation of the Wiley Award will be made to Mr. O'Connor at the Association's banquet the evening of Oct. 9, 1967, during the annual meeting, Marriott Motor Hotel, Twin Bridges, Washington, D.C.

**AOCS FALL MEETING
EXHIBITS
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Official Chemists to Hold Meeting

The Association of Official Analytical Chemists will hold its 81st Annual Meeting Oct. 9-12, 1967, at the Marriott Motor Hotel, Twin Bridges, Washington, D.C.

About 1,500 North American scientists are expected to attend, representing Federal, State, Provincial, and local government agencies as well as universities and industrial firms. Over 200 papers will be given on methods, instrumentation, and techniques for analysis of cosmetics, drugs, feeds, fertilizers, pesticides, hazardous substances, food additives, and many other materials and products related to agriculture and public health. Papers will be published in the Association's Journal, and analytical methods adopted as "official" will appear in *Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC*. Both publications are well known and used internationally.

An outstanding part of the program will be a special drug symposium in which seven distinguished scientists from abroad will participate. They will discuss drug regulatory and analytical problems plus analytical methods compendia. Participating will be P. Siderius, Ministry of Health, The Netherlands; G. B. Marini Bettolo, Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Italy; H. Davis, Ministry of Health, United Kingdom; K. Nagasawa, National Institute of Hygienic Sciences, Japan; I. Nir, Ministry of Health, Israel; T. Canback, Apoteket Ugglan, Sweden; and H. Hellberg, Statens Farmaceutiska Laboratorium, Sweden. Their attendance will be possible through a Public Health Service grant.

Another highlight of the meeting will be an address by J. H. McPherson on creativity at the banquet Monday evening, October 9. Dr. McPherson is Manager of Personnel Research and Development at the Dow Chemical Company, and is a well-known authority on "the creativity domain."

All sessions will be open to interested scientists, officials, and general public. There will be no registration fee. Address inquiries to Mr. Luther G. Ensminger, Assistant Secretary, Association of Official Analytical Chemists, P.O. Box 540, Benjamin Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044.

Purdue Honors Discoverers of High Lysine Corn

E. T. Mertz, biochemist, and O. E. Nelson Jr., geneticist, two men credited with discovering high lysine corn, have been named the second recipients of the Purdue University Herbert Newby McCoy Award. The honor, conferred at a Purdue faculty convocation, was made for "making the greatest contribution of the year to science." Each received a \$500 cash prize.

AACC Awards Lectureship Honors Dr. Whelan

W. J. Whelan, British biochemist famed for his work in polysaccharide enzymology, has been named the first recipient of the Carl Alsberg Memorial Lectureship by the American Association of Cereal Chemists. The award, established in 1965 by Corn Industries Research Foundation, is in honor of a starch chemistry pioneer whose works and publications are regarded as major classics in starch history.

Dr. Whelan is the author of 125 scientific papers covering the structural analysis of polysaccharides, the synthesis of disaccharides, the metabolism of starch, the metabolism of glycogen, the specificities of starch- and glycogen-metabolizing enzymes and other topics.

Presently head of the Department of Biochemistry, Royal Free Hospital, University of London, England, Dr. Whelan will become associated with the University of Miami, Miami, Florida, this summer.