

## 1970-71 President's Inauguration Address

*By incoming President S. S. Chang at the 61st AOCS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, April 30, 1970*

Twenty one years ago, I attended my first AOCS meeting. I remember distinctly that it was in Chicago, and that I reported a technical paper. I was overwhelmed by the various activities of the meeting. It was awesome for me to see in person those famous oil chemists about whom I had heard and read so much. At that time, as a graduate student and a non-immigrant visitor from China, I did not dare to dream that one day I might become the President of this great Society.



**S. S. Chang**

Now, having been given this great honor, I guess I had better start acting busy and important. This reminds me of the new doctor who had just opened his practice in town. One day he was sitting alone in his office with no patients. Suddenly he heard someone coming into his office. In order to impress this potential patient, he immediately grabbed the phone and said, "No, I cannot see you today. All my appointments are filled up. I can only squeeze you in on Thursday." After a pause, he said, "No, not this Thursday, next Thursday." He then looked up at the man coming into his office and said, "What is your trouble?" The man said, "No trouble, Doc. I'm from the telephone company and I'm here to hook up your new phone."

As we are all aware, our Society is composed of oil chemists who are interested in a wide range of specialized areas in the general field of lipids, from processing and engineering to biochemistry and nutrition, from edible oils and fats to drying oils and protective coatings, from seed proteins to soaps and detergents. The success of our

Society is a summation of the progress of the activities in each of these areas. Sometimes, however, a program which is of great interest and importance to oil chemists in one area may not look as important and interesting to those who are specialized in other areas. I would like to illustrate this with the story of an old Indian and his little boy who saw some white men labor for months to build a lighthouse in the bay. One night, heavy fog rolled in and the new lighthouse turned on its light and sounded its foghorn. The old Indian watched it for a while, sighed, and then said to the little boy, "I told you that the white men were no good. Look, the light is whirling and the horn is blowing, but the fog is still coming in!"

I therefore believe that we should pay equal attention and give equal encouragement to the activities of all the sections. Each of us must appreciate and support the programs, not only of his own area, but those of other areas as well. We must remember that the progress of our Society depends upon the success, not only in one or two areas, but in all the areas.

I am sure that all of us would like to see this Society grow in quantity as well as in quality. However, we must remember that this Society has some unique characteristics. I personally believe it is because of these unique properties that our Society has become the unchallenged leader in its field throughout the world, and it is because of these unique properties that we love this Society so dearly and come to attend its meetings year after year. One of the unique characteristics is that we are a closely-knit group. When we come to the meetings of the American Oil Chemists' Society, we come to a group of friends, not to a group of strangers. During the next year, with your help, we will try our best to make our Society grow bigger and stronger, but it must be within the limits that our Society will maintain its unique characteristics.

In conclusion, let me say, I will do my best to serve this great Society. Please give me your help.

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**Promote Lipid Research**

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### **HONORED STUDENT AWARD FUND**

Each year the AOCS makes awards to several honored students covering their expenses to attend one of its national meetings. In 1970 all honored students will attend the ISF-AOCS Congress in Chicago, and for this occasion the program is being extended to include foreign students.

We invite the participation of all members and friends of the AOCS, corporate or individual, in this worthy activity of the society, and we solicit contributions in any amount. Such contributions are tax deductible in the United States. Make checks to AOCS Honored Student Award Fund, and send to:

**Ralph T. Holman, Chairman  
Honored Student Committee  
The Hormel Institute  
801-16th Ave., N.E.  
Austin, Minnesota 55912**

**Help a Student!**

**Aid the AOCS!**