

# XIth ISF Congress attracts participants from 36 countries<sup>1</sup>

During June 18-22, the XIth World Congress of the International Society for Fat Research (ISF) took place in Göteborg, Sweden. President for the congress was Sune Bergström, Stockholm, and secretary general was Kåre Larsson, Göteborg. The preparations were made in close collaboration with ISF Secretary General R. Marcuse, Göteborg. The congress was attended by more than 600 participants from 36 countries. The program was divided into six sections and five symposia, shown in the following tables, which also contain the number of papers read.

Sections		Number of papers
Topic	Program chairmen	
Lipid biosynthesis, composition, and analysis	L.-Å. Appelquist, Sweden O. Renkonen, Finland	55
Lipid metabolism in relation to clinical problems	P. Björntorp, Sweden	29
Lipids in foods	O. Braekkan, Norway	14
Surface chemistry	S. Friberg, Sweden	11
Oil processing	P. Möller, Denmark	21
Industrial fatty acids	R. Ohlson, Sweden	16

Symposia		Number of papers
Topic	Chairmen	
Flavors and lipids	S.S. Chang, U.S.A. E. von Sydow, Sweden <sup>a</sup>	9
Lipid biophysics	D. Chapman, England S. Abrahamsson, Sweden <sup>a</sup>	11
Lipid oxidation analysis	A. Seher, W. Germany R. Marcuse, Sweden <sup>a</sup>	13
Lipase, lipoxigenase and related enzymes	J. Boldingh, The Netherlands C. Eriksson, Sweden <sup>a</sup> T. Olivecrona, Sweden <sup>a</sup>	33
Marine oils	E. Stansby, U.S.A. O. Notevarp, Norway <sup>a</sup>	8

<sup>a</sup>Cochairman.

Although held in Sweden, the congress was regarded as a Scandinavian affair. Representatives from the Scandinavian countries took part in the preparations, as members of the committees and as chairmen and vice-chairmen of the sections and symposia, and companies from all Scandinavian countries contributed to the costs. The congress was also supported by Swedish as well as Scandinavian research boards.

The following four plenary lectures were given: S. Bergström, Karolinska Inst., Stockholm, Sweden, "From Essential Fatty Acids to Prostaglandins—Powerful Bioregulators with Medical Utility"; T. Kristensen, Inst. f. Udviklingsforsk., Copenhagen, Denmark, "World Market Prospects for Fats and Oils"; L.L.M. van Deenen, Biochem. Lab. der Rijksuniv., Utrecht, The Netherlands, "Structure and Function of Phospholipids in Membranes"; L.D. Bergelson, Inst. f. Chem. of Natural Prod., Academy of Sci. of USSR, Moscow, "Diol Lipids—New Types of Naturally Occurring Lipid Substances."

A collection of abstracts of the papers has been prepared. Some copies of these abstracts are still available

and can be received on request by writing to ISF's secretariat: c/o SIK, Fack, S-400 21 Göteborg 16. Price US\$4.00 (postage included). The full text of the papers will not be published in collected form. According to general opinion the scientific program was of high quality and very well organized. Intensive discussions took place in the various sections and symposia. During the days before and after the congress three short courses were arranged, namely: "Mass Spectrometry in Lipid Research with Special Regard to the Application of Computers"; "Chromatographic Methods in Fat Analysis"; "Surface Chemistry with Special Regard to Liquid Crystals." The number of participants averaged 20. The social events were also successful. On the evening before the opening, members of the congress were invited by the City of Göteborg to join a reception at the famous Art Museum where the lord mayor of the city Kapten Hans Hansson welcomed them to Göteborg. A gay and lively crowd had gathered there and from this very beginning the atmosphere was friendly and the organization effective.

The opening ceremony next day took place in the Concert Hall of the city in the presence of representatives of the state and the municipality of Göteborg, as well as its university, its technical university, Chalmers, and other scientific institutions. Congress President Sune Bergström expressed his welcome, whereafter Erik von Sydow, Göteborg, chaired the plenary lectures of Bergström and Thorkild Kristensen, Copenhagen. The ceremony included presentations of the "Orkesterforening" under conductor H. Stenström, presenting typical music of well known composers from the four Scandinavian countries.

On one evening a boat trip was arranged to the old town of Marstrand situated on the island of the same name in the archipelago of Göteborg. Afterwards time was spent by candlelight in the halls of the medieval fortress of Marstrand.

On the last evening of the XIth Congress, the participants gathered for the festival banquet at the Rondo Hall belonging to the amusement park Liseberg of Göteborg. Erik von Sydow, on behalf of the organizing committee, extended his hearty welcome. L.D. Bergelson expressed the thanks of the guests to those involved in the preparation and the organization of the congress. Finally, E.G. Fedeli, Milan, in the name of new ISF President R. Paoletti, Milan, invited the participants to the next ISF Congress which will take place in 1974 in Milan. An elite group of boys and girls in national costumes performed some beautiful Swedish folk dances.

After the congress a chartered flight was arranged to Kiruna in the north of Sweden, in order to give the participants a chance to see the midnight sun. More than 80 participated in this typically Swedish epilog to the XIth ISF Congress in Göteborg.

## President Bergström conducts ISF business meeting

In connection with the XIth Congress of the ISF, a business meeting took place on June 18 at the Park Avenue Hotel and was chaired by Sune Bergström. This meeting was attended by more than 100 members.

The secretary general of ISF, Reinhard Marcuse, reported on the development of ISF since the last meeting, arranged during the Xth ISF Congress in Chicago in 1970. It was concluded that international relations of ISF have been further strengthened; this is shown by an increasing percentage of non-European participants at ISF meetings. At the last European congress in 1968 in Rotterdam, the percentage was ca. 8%; at the present meeting in Göteborg it was 11-12%. The secretariat is developing a system of contacting persons in various countries, and a list of organizations operating in the field of lipids has been collected. Several journals working in this field have offered to publish ISF information. The secretariat has been much involved in the preparations for the XIth ISF Congress in

<sup>1</sup>This information was received from Reinhard Marcuse, *JAOCs* Four Corners Corresponding Secretary from Scandinavia.

Göteborg, especially regarding international publicity and correspondence. The Swedish Institute for Food Preservation Research donated its services in this regard.

The new president of ISF is R. Paoletti of Milan. For the ISF Congress in 1974, an invitation has been received from the Società Italiana Per Lo Studio Delle Sostanze Grasse to arrange this congress in Italy. The proposal was very welcome and was approved with acclamation.

As is customary for ISF, the XIIth Congress in 1976 was also discussed. Proposals to have it arranged in Russia are now being examined. Also, an invitation by the Institut Francais des Corps Gras was forwarded by M. Naudet to organize it in Marseille, France.

Certain problems were expressed by speakers at the following discussion, among others the desirability to have more papers of medical-physiological nature included in the programs of the congresses. The program committee for the present congress in Göteborg was aware of this need and had arranged a section, "Lipid Metabolism in Relation to Clinical Problems," and a symposium, "Lipase, Lipoxygenase and Related Enzymes." As to the next congress in Milan, Paoletti informed those present that such aspects will be represented still better in the program.

Further, the question of the most suitable rhythm of the ISF congresses was discussed. It was decided to continue with 2 year intervals.

Finally, the secretary general listed certain questions that ISF must consider, e.g., better coordination with meetings of other international organizations, better exchange of information with these organizations, and, finally, better contact between ISF and the lipid-interested individuals throughout the world. Decisions in this respect can and should not be made by one person only. It was therefore proposed by the secretary general to establish an Advisory ISF Council as a center for contact and deliber-

ation. Members of this council should be former presidents or secretary generals of ISF, as well as other persons elected by the council. Members of the council must meet during ISF congresses and be able to communicate with each other by writing. This proposal was accepted by the audience, and the first meeting of the newly formed council took place on June 19.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AWARD OF MERIT

The Society Award of Merit is to be presented to qualified Society members at the 64th Annual Meeting, New Orleans, April 29-May 3, 1973.

The Award is given to recognize current and past achievements in serving the Society:

- (a) Active productive service to AOCs committee work.
- (b) Marked leadership in technical, administrative or special committee or Society activities.
- (c) Outstanding activity or service that has particularly advanced the Society's prestige, standing or interest.
- (d) Any distinguished service to the Society not herein otherwise specifically provided for.

Nominations shall cite the record of the nominee which qualifies him for the Award, and five copies of the nomination shall be submitted to James Lyon, Executive Director, American Oil Chemists' Society, 508 S. Sixth, Champaign, Illinois 61820 before February 2, 1973.

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