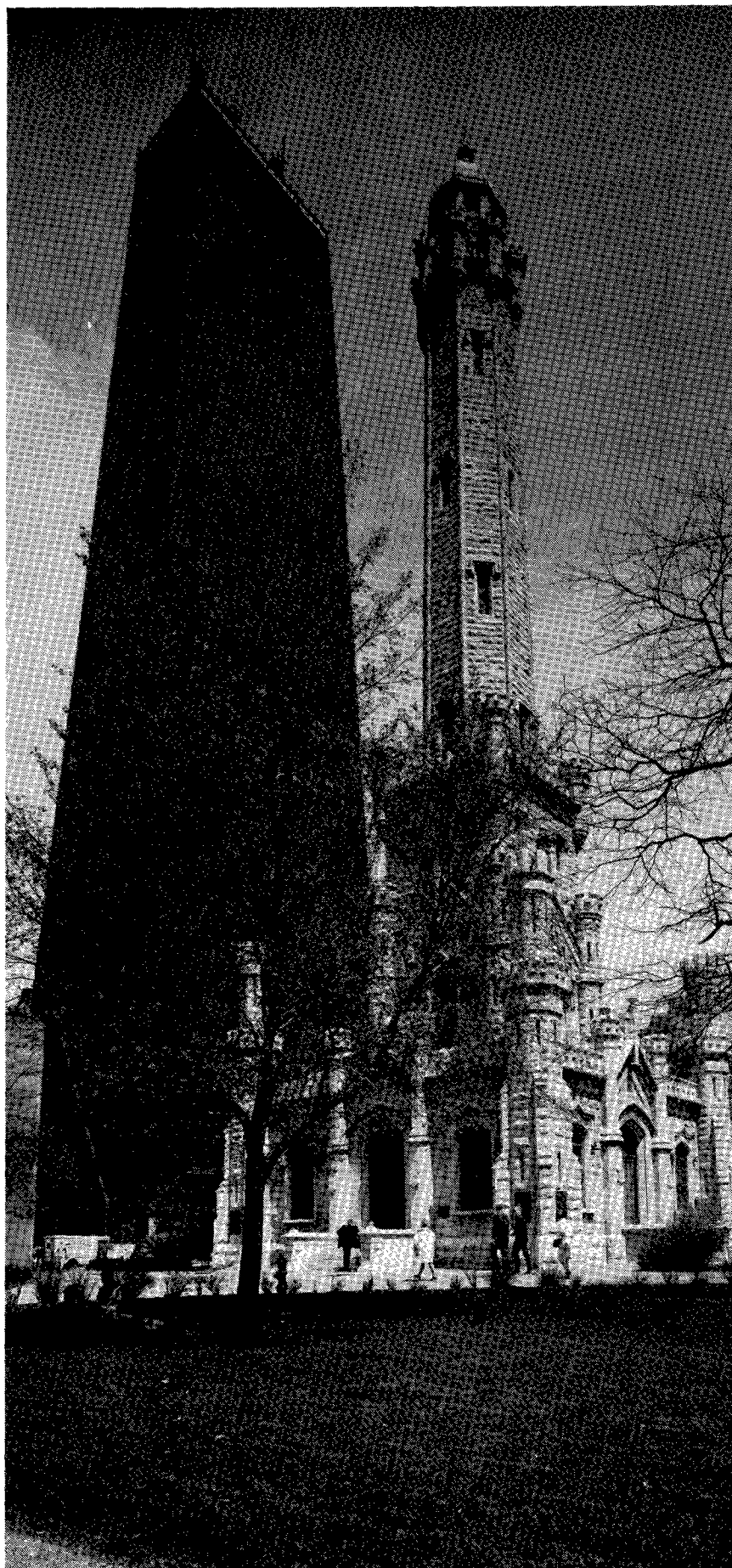


Oil chemists to converge on heart of Midwest

Chicago—Giant fingers reach toward the sky from the flat prairie land. These are the massive skyscrapers that make up the downtown section of the city, and the bird's eye views they provide are fascinating. One of the best vantage points is the observation deck of the John Hancock Center. "Big John," as Chicagoans fondly refer to it, is 100 stories tall and the highest apartment-office building in the world.

AOCS members will convene in Chicago for their 47th Annual Fall Meeting, September 16-19, 1973, in the Pick Congress Hotel. General Chairman Wally Quick, Technical Program Chairman Dave Erickson and Entertainment Chairman Bart Greenwell report that plans are underway for an exciting, informative meeting. Exhibits Chairman Bill McPherson advises that a few choice booths remain; any exhibitor who has not yet purchased space should contact Sully Gaskins, Room 2408, 919 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611; phone (312) 642-0139.



Chicago's famous Water Tower, one of the few buildings to survive the fire of 1871, stands in marked contrast to the sleekly modern 100-story John Hancock Center which rises behind it on the city's Magnificent Mile along Michigan Avenue.

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Belgium M. Loncin, B. Jacobsberg

Coordination of research in fat chemistry is a new goal within the Common Market. This effort has been initiated by a survey of activities in this field in private and public research laboratories. It is hoped that eventually a common program will be achieved.

The Belgian Ministry of Scientific Research has decided to sponsor private research that may be of public interest. Pollution control is one of the subjects for which funds have been granted and, more specially, the degradation of lipids by microbiological agents.

Fats and oils research in Belgium is represented by international bodies such as IUPAC, ISO and the European Club of Centers for Lipid Research. The following projects are underway.

Quality of and resistance to oxidative degradation: By multiple curvilinear regression, a highly significant correlation could be established for crude palm oil, as well as olive oils from the Mediterranean area, between the levels of pro- and antioxidants, free fatty acid content and age, and amounts of primary and secondary oxidation products (Institut des Industries de Fermentation—Institut Meurice Chimie, CERIA, Brussels). Oxidative spoilage is also being examined with regard to metal catalysis and deep frying (University of Louvain).

Monitoring of fat texture: Kinetics of the transesterification with Na-K eutectic on simple triglycerides are being studied by gas liquid chromatography and electron microscopy (Institut des Industries de Fermentation—Institut de Meurice Chimie). The analytical aspect of crystallization behavior (University of Ghent) and kinetics (Institut des Industries de Fermentation—Institut Meurice Chimie), as well as the formulation of industrial margarines by linear programming (Institut des Industries de Fermentation—Institut Meurice Chimie), are other topics of investigation.

Analysis: Butterfat and detection of foreign fats (University of Ghent). The possibility of using hydrocarbons as indicators for irradiation of foods is being examined, since hydrocarbons are the main radiolytic splitting products of fats (University of Louvain).

Brazil R.F. Kohlmann

New soybean crushing plants to open

Two important soybean crushing plants will be opened this year in Ponta Grossa, State of Paraná, where conditions are excellent for soybean growth. Cargill is complementing its 1000 metric tons per day crushing facility with a refinery capable of processing 200 tons of oil per day. SANBRA S/A (of the Bunge & Born group, South America) plans to implement its 2000 metric tons per day plant in the second quarter of 1973.

Balanced feeds plant in planning stage

Balanced feeds production has been expanding continuously in Brazil, using important quantities of soybean meal.

New plants are being located principally in the State of São Paulo, the most important consumption center. To a great extent this business is in the hands of U.S. companies, which have over 65% of the market shares, such as Purina, Anderson Clayton, Cargill and Central Soya. The latter has announced that its management has approved construction of a new balanced feeds plant, with a production capacity of ca. 5000 tons per month, with only one shift, in its initial phase. This new plant will be located in Campinas (60 miles from São Paulo), on an area of ca. 150,000 m², and should begin operating early in 1974. The new factory is part of a program to expand Central Soya's activities in Brazil.

France M. Naudet

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