

ports, functional groups, and commercially available solid phase RIA kits.

The concluding chapter, "Solid-Phase Sequencing" by Richard A. Laursen, concerns an important improvement in the Edman degradation by which the primary structures of proteins can be ascertained through cleaving amino acids stepwise from the N-terminus of the peptide or protein. In the improved method, of which the author was a major developer, the peptide to be analyzed is anchored to an insoluble support by bonding at or near the C-terminus before the sequential degradations are performed. This chapter is similar to Chapter 1 with regard to the richness of experimental detail presented; there is some small overlap of chemical subject matter as well. Chapter 10 not only covers the chemistry of protein degradation and attachment to a variety of supports, but also treats such important matters as sources of reagents and their required purity, thin layer chromatography of the phenylthiohydantoin derivatives of amino acids produced by cleavage, construction of columns and equipment and the like. Examples are also given of the results obtained with several proteins.

Overall, this volume should prove of value to workers concerned with the technology of enzyme applications and enzymatic analysis as well as those concerned with the immunochemistry and primary structure of proteins. Because of the richness of detail presented, including the number of references, this collection of reviews will serve as a convenient reference book for active researchers in these fields.

ROBERT W. COUGHLIN
Department of Chemical Engineering
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, PA 18015

BACK COPIES NEEDED

AOCS needs the following back copies of the *Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society*: Volume 51(1974), July and Volume 52(1975), January. The Society will pay \$1.50 for each copy received in reusable condition. Send to AOCS, 508 South Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820.



Ways and Means Committee

The Ways and Means Committee is an Administrative Committee with responsibilities to develop feasible operating procedures for the implementation of specific projects assigned to, or developed by, this committee. Projects can include (a) ways to implement motions adopted by the Governing Board; (b) functions developed by the Society Improvement Committee; and (c) specific assignments from the President, the Executive Committee,

the Governing Board, Society officers, and other Society committees.

The present chairman is Robert J. Hlavacek and members are R.J. Bell, J.G. Endres, H.G. Salomon, and R.J. Sims.

RETIRING THE MORTGAGE

Background

Part of the original concept of the AOCS Foundation was to generate funds to retire the mortgage. In 1974, the Executive Committee assigned this responsibility to the Ways and Means Committee, with the specific charge to develop an appropriate plan. Subsequently, the Ways and Means Committee recommended seeking professional fund raising guidance, which was approved by the Governing Board.

In December 1974, two Ways and Means Committee members met with professional counsel, who made several important recommendations. These recommendations were not acted upon by the Executive Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee was once again charged to develop a plan.

Current Status

Its October 1975 report to the Governing Board was the entire Ways and Means Committee's first opportunity, since the January report, to convene and review the prospects of a "burn the mortgage" campaign. It was the unanimous recommendation of the committee that such a fund raising campaign be abandoned for the following reasons, many of which were reported in January 1975:

1. There is no demonstrated financial need.
2. It is impossible to generate any appealing, industry-wide cause based on the availability of an additional \$20,000 per year which might then be available.
3. The total amount of the mortgage, \$60,000-\$70,000, is not a large enough sum to really excite the zeal of potential contributors.
4. A building fund many years after the purchase of a new facility will gain little membership enthusiasm, particularly with our present financial situation. Such a campaign should have been undertaken before or concurrently with a commitment to new facilities.

If there was a need to generate additional resources, the Ways and Means Committee recommended that the Governing Board consider small increases in dues, the need for which was well publicized to the membership. In its October report, the committee suggested that the entire country is now reconciled to inflation as a way of life; small dues increases of perhaps \$2.00 would probably result in less attrition than a single, much larger increase after several years.

ACTIVITIES OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

It is the general consensus of the committee that it should be responsive to assignments from the Executive Committee or the Governing Board. The Ways and Means Committee should probably not generate its own program but rather attempt to outline the ways and means to establish specific Society goals. The committee has had only one assignment in recent months, and the members feel that their responsibilities in this area have been fulfilled.

To maintain a viable committee, the members feel that other assignments should be forthcoming from either of the previously mentioned groups. As an alternative, the Ways and Means Committee might write to each active committee, offering its services in the solution of major problems with which they are faced.

(Continued on page 273A)