

## Editorial

For the first time in nearly four decades, a new volume of the Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society will begin without A.R. Baldwin as editor. Thomas H. Applewhite, director of research services at Kraft Inc. Research and Development, has been appointed by the AOCS Governing Board to succeed Dr. Baldwin, who will continue as chairman of the AOCS Publications Committee.

In observance of the change, JAOCS is pleased to publish three brief articles. The first, by Dr. Baldwin, chronicles developments in the publications program during the past four decades; the second is a chronology of major events during Dr. Baldwin's tenure as editor, and the third is a brief commentary by Dr. Applewhite.

To get involved in interesting and challenging AOCS activities is easy. Well do I remember asking H. C. Dormitzer (Dormy) and J. J. Vollertsen at the fall meeting in 1945 if there were something that I could do to contribute in a meaningful way to AOCS activities. That's all it takes! Bingo! I was appointed to the Journal Committee and have been on it ever since.

Harry Roschen was editor of the journal for two more years and then Buell Beadle and Reid Milner asked if I would be editor—quite an interesting challenge for a “kid just out of school.”

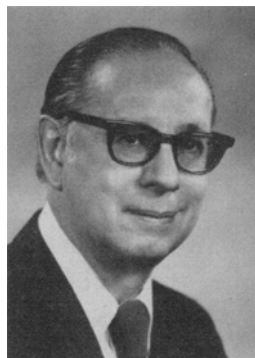
As it turned out I couldn't do it then because my father's illness suggested that I should ask for a leave of absence (which I got) from Corn Products to go home and operate the family farm. I did agree to do the editorial work if I returned to being a chemist. Reid agreed to be editor until that question was resolved. I guess there weren't many other candidates for the job! Reid did a good job at being editor and at convincing me to “give it a try.”

So, in December 1948, Lucy Hawkins, the executive secretary and managing editor, had a new trainee editor. I always found Lucy a delight to work with and we developed into quite a team. Reid was very supportive and the transition had no complications.

The first decision I remember well had to do with a large backlog of reviewed and edited but nonpublished manuscripts. These had accumulated because of conservative publishing policy that was intended to limit the size of each issue. The new kid on the block recommended that they be published pronto and that from now on we “keep current.” I still think that's a good policy.

Handling the review of so many manuscripts (250+ per year) seemed to me to call for an organized group of associate editors. This was gradually put into place and expanded. I have never worked with a finer, more willing group of people over the years than the associate editors. Many began to work with the journal reviewing process and found the association so interesting they expanded their activities to become members of the Governing Board and even society president. Thanks to each one! Being an associate editor is a great entry path to other AOCS activities.

After World War II the AOCS had the timely opportunity to become better known around the world. We changed the name of our publication from *Oil &*



A.R. Baldwin



T.H. Applewhite

*Soap* to its present, more scientific sounding, name in the hopes of attracting better quality papers and more worldwide attention. I believe the new journal accomplished both objectives. Such was recognized at least by Deutsche Gessellschaft für Fettwissenschaft (DGF) when it presented the Normann Medal to the editor in 1951. International circulation increased and we began to receive an ever-increasing flow of scientific and technical papers from abroad. This we all considered to be good! AOCS activities continue to expand to serve better our fellow members and the fats and oils industry around the world through the world conference series, new endeavors on standardized analytical methods, joint annual meetings with Canadians, Mexicans and Japanese, and most recently with the new international news network that is aborning.

The journal had never had a cumulative index so, in 1952, after failing to con someone into indexing all the past issues (35 years worth), I tackled the job myself. I believe—at least hope—that lots of people made use of it. Anyway, further cumulative indexes have been published periodically. With the aid of computers the job now is much easier, but the whole indexing policy for *JAOCS* and *Lipids* may need to be reviewed one of these days.

My move from Corn Products to Cargill in October 1954 did not affect the editing. I didn't do the work at the office anyway so who could object, except my family. They were very supportive of the work; in retrospect I suppose my AOCS activities along with many other extracurricular projects did make me reclusive to the family more than I would have liked. Lesson one!

We had an interesting challenge from lipid biochemists in the early 1960s. There obviously was a need for the AOCS to make a “home” for them. Membership drives, biochemical symposia at meetings and calls for lipid-type papers for the journal were more or less successful, depending on how one views percentages. Anyway, after we built up the flow of “lipid” manuscripts to a respectable level, it seemed logical to develop a new topical publication. The Journal Committee, Publications Committee and Governing Board unanimously approved publishing a new journal, devoted to lipids, to be called *Lipids*. After we were unsuccessful in trying to develop some kind of

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working relationship with the *Journal of Lipid Research*, it became my privilege to organize a Lipids Advisory Board (many prestigious people agreed to help) and a group of associate editors to help start the new publication. We launched *Lipids* on a bimonthly basis in January 1966. I was thankful that Walt Lundberg agreed to take over the editorship of *Lipids* from me in 1967. He and his successors (Ralph Holman, and now Wolfgang Baumann) at Hormel Institute have done an excellent job of making *Lipids* an internationally recognized, prestigious scientific journal. We all hope the new format for *Lipids* will serve it well in the years to come. Keep up the good work!

A major hurdle arose when, during our planning to move the AOCS office from Chicago to Champaign, Carl Hauber, then executive secretary and managing editor, suddenly resigned. Fortunately several good things occurred so that we did not even miss an issue: Carl agreed to remain until we hired a new executive director; I was able to secure backup editorial help from three previous employees, and we were able to hire a very capable new executive director, Jim Lyon, from the National Council of Teachers of English, from which we bought a lease on our present building. All worked together well; editing continued, presses rolled and I guess I was the only one to lose sleep. Jim has continued to do a great job for the AOCS. Besides, it's been a real pleasure to work with Jim and all the staff that he has brought together. Each one should take a bow! They are a hard-working, conscientious, effective crew.

In 1973 we tried to get a little more ambitious in the publishing business. A very respectable group of papers was presented at a symposium held in April 1972 on the subject of tumor lipids. Rather than publish these collectively in either *Lipids* or *JAOCs*, we decided to print them in a hardcover book. And the first of our monograph series was launched.

A Monograph Subcommittee of the Publications Committee was formed to lead this new form of society publications. This has been a very successful venture with the publication of 14 more monographs on subjects pertinent to AOCS interests. The Monograph Committee, now chaired by Robert Burton, has five or six more books in the works. Closely related to this activity is the writing and publishing of a second edition of Mehlenbacher's book on *Fats and Oils Analysis* for which Marv Formo is editor.

The series of world conferences presented a new challenge in the form of editing and publishing their proceedings. After considerable deliberations, it was agreed that these be published in the journal. The first such publication (in the January 1974 issue of *JAOCs*) was of the proceedings of the World Soy Protein Conference held November 1973 in Munich. This was such a timely success that it was easy to decide to publish in the journal the proceedings of the first AOCS World Conference on Oilseed and Vegetable Oil Processing held in Amsterdam in 1976. Subsequently we have published six other world conference proceedings in the journal and one as a monograph. The proceedings from the Cannes World Conference on Emerging Technologies in the Fats and Oils Industries will be published as a separate hardbound book.

I believe these conferences and proceedings have done much to help the AOCS serve better the worldwide community with common interests in lipids, fats, oils, detergents, oleochemicals and vegetable proteins. We have had wonderful help and cooperation from interested societies, associations and organizations in more than 50 countries, especially in The Netherlands, Switzerland, Mexico, Malaysia and France. Future world conferences are planned for 1986 in Switzerland on Surface Active Agents, for 1987 in Hamburg, West Germany, on Biotechnology, for 1988 in Phoenix, Arizona, on Jojoba and for 1989, somewhere in the Orient, on Vegetable Food Proteins.

With the beginning of international activities, the Governing Board in 1976 approved the request of the Publication Committee to hire a nontechnical news staff editor for a two-year trial period. This marked the start of an expanded news section for *JAOCs*. George Willhite did such a good job in this position that the job not only became a permanent one but George has been appointed managing editor of AOCS publications.

The news section of the *JAOCs* has flourished under George's direction with many new and expanded features. Our latest project is to develop an international news network among societies and associations throughout the world to provide an improved means of international communication of noteworthy industry, governmental and scientific news related to our many areas of interest. Jim Lyon and I have discussed this project with society and industry leaders from many countries, including Japan, Malaysia, Germany, France, Italy, England and the U.S. So far, at least until we get a better idea of costs, everyone greets the idea with enthusiasm. We'll continue to work on it and you can expect to see the results showing up gradually in the journal. If it is as successful as we hope, the AOCS may ultimately launch a new international news media.

After the World Conference on Soaps and Detergents and the publication of its proceedings in the January 1978 *JAOCs*, it seemed like a good idea to provide a special section in the journal for surface active agents. This was done with the hope that it would expand to the point where a separate AOCS publication could be formed, as was done for *Lipids*. This has not yet become feasible, but it is still a worthy goal for the Surface Active Agents Advisory Committee to pursue. Maybe someday!

It finally became time to leave the journal editing to someone else. I have enjoyed especially working with literally hundreds of very fine AOCS members on these publication activities. Tom Applewhite will do a fine job as editor. I'm especially pleased to see that he has the manuscript flow computerized. Nancy Heinsch handled such record keeping and correspondence for me during the processing of thousands of manuscripts. Thanks go to her for devoted, efficient and careful work for the editor.

So, you see, it's easy to get involved in interesting and rewarding AOCS activities. Just ask Dormitzer or Vollertsen what you can do. If you can't find them, please ask me—I've got some ideas for you.

A. Richard Baldwin

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- 1948— A. Richard Baldwin, a member of the Journal Committee since 1946, was asked to become editor of the journal when Harry L. Roschen stepped down in 1948. Baldwin did not take the position as he was going on a leave of absence from Corn Products Refining Co., Argo, Illinois, to operate the family farm. However, while not editor, he did assist interim editor Reid Milner during this year. A milestone for AOCS at this time was sponsoring its first short course, "Production, Processing and Uses of Vegetable Oils," held on the University of Illinois campus.
- 1949— *JAOCs* in February announced that Baldwin, then a chemist with Corn Products Refining Co., had been named assistant chairman of the Journal Committee. In May, Baldwin took over as editor.
- 1951— Baldwin became the first non-German to receive the Normann Medal from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Fettwissenschaft in recognition of his work as editor of the journal. The award followed his presentation of a paper to the DGF on fats and oils developments in the United States.
- 1953— An index compiled by Baldwin of the first 35 years of AOCS publications (1917-1952) was published.
- 1954— Baldwin left Corn Products to join Cargill Inc.
- 1960— Baldwin served as AOCS vice-president during 1960-61.
- 1961— He became AOCS president for 1961-62.
- 1965— The AOCS Executive Committee in July approved publishing a new bimonthly journal, *Lipids*, starting in January 1966.
- 1966— The first issue of *Lipids* appeared in January. Baldwin served as editor of *Lipids* as well until January 1967, when W. O. Lundberg, then director of the Hormel Institute of the University of Minnesota, became editor.
- 1973— The first AOCS monograph was published. This was *Tumor Lipids: Biochemistry and Metabolism*, based on a symposium held in April 1972.
- 1974— The Publications Committee published its first international proceedings in the January journal. The proceedings were from the World Soy Protein conference, held in November 1973 in Munich, West Germany. Publication of such proceedings became a journal tradition under Baldwin's direction.
- 1976— AOCS sponsored its first world conference. The conference, focusing on oilseed and vegetable oil processing technology, was held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. In addition, the Governing Board approved hiring a nontechnical staff editor for a two-year trial period. This marked the start of an expanded news section in *JAOCs*.
- 1983— Baldwin retired as vice president for research from Cargill Inc.
- 1984— At the annual meeting held in Dallas in May, Baldwin was formally presented with honorary AOCS membership, a status bestowed on him by membership vote earlier in the year. As such, he became the 20th person elected to honorary membership and the first since 1975.
- 1985— The Governing Board at the annual meeting in May formally appointed Thomas H. Applewhite of Kraft to succeed Baldwin as editor of *JAOCs*.

Looking back on the six months that I have been editor, I find it has been an interesting and educational experience. Fortunately, I have worked for nearly 18 years as an associate editor under the guidance of my good friend, Dick Baldwin. And what I have done as editor, to date, has been mainly to manage and add to the excellent system of manuscript processing developed under Dick's leadership during the 37 years he has been editor.

Recently, the manuscript handling system has been computerized in our office. This speeds up the work of my capable editorial assistant, Janemarie Antonczyk, allowing her (or me) to find the status of papers quickly and to develop up-to-date reports of various kinds for management overview of the flow of manuscripts from authors to associate editors to reviewers, etc. We are excited about the system but we've also learned quickly that human error (our own as well as that of

others) still causes problems.

As we now enter our first full year with a new editor, I hope that the editor's office, associate editors, reviewers, authors and the fine AOCS production staff under managing editor, George Willhite, can work together harmoniously to continue the fine traditions established and nurtured in the journal. We continue to be the premier international technical journal in fats and oils and related topics. Currently, we are working to have an even stronger international stance in our news sections.

These are exciting times. There is much to be done. As editor, I view the possibilities with great anticipation. I'm confident the ever-growing membership of the American Oil Chemists' Society shares this excitement.

Thomas H. Applewhite  
Editor