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THE APRIL MEETING

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3 The next meeting of the Section, on Saturday afternoon, April 20th, will take the form of a visit to the Fairfield Plant of U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc. The activities of the company and some of the processes which the visitor may expect to see are described in the article on the fourth page of this issue. The Maryland Section is grateful to U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc. for this invitation to visit their plant.

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104 Members of the Section will provide their own transportation. Those going by streetcar should take a number 6 car marked Fairfield, which will take them directly to the plant at 1701 Patapsco Avenue. Those going by automobile should go down Hanover Street to Brooklyn, turn left on Patapsco Avenue and continue straight down this street and under the railroad underpass. The U. S. I. plant is the first plant on the right beyond the underpass. An alternate route involves turning left in Brooklyn on Chesapeake Avenue at the stoplight, going straight down Chesapeake Avenue to the railroad underpass, and turning left through the underpass. Members are reminded that this visit is to the Fairfield Plant of U. S. I., not to the Curtis Bay Plant.

23 The trip through the plant will begin promptly at 2:30 P. M. and will require about two and one-half hours. Since the management has set a limit of one hundred visitors, the trip will be open only to members of the Maryland Section, and must be further restricted to the first one hundred who signify their intention to attend. Members who plan to make this trip should notify the Chairman of the Program Committee at once (the form on the fourth page may be used). Mr. Herculson will accept notifications in the order in which they are received and will notify those whose acceptances arrive too late.

Section Officers

Chairman Giles B. Cooke Vice-chairman John A. Herculson
 Secretary C. W. Wilson Treasurer C. W. Wilson

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THE REMSEN LECTURE

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 3 The Committee on the Remsen Memorial Lectures Awards is happy to announce that the lecture for 1946 will be given by Dr. Roger Adams. Dr. Adams is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the ACS and a former president of the Society. He is a member of the Department of Chemistry of the University of Illinois, to which he has just returned after valuable and varied war service. Dr. Adams returned recently from Germany, where he acted as consultant for the Office of the Secretary of War. While in Europe, Dr. Adams was presented with his most recent honor, the Davy Medal of the Royal Society. The Maryland Section is fortunate indeed that the first of the Remsen Lectures will be given by so able and eminent a chemist. The subject of the lecture and the time and place of the meeting will be announced in the next issue of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST.
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NEW CHEMISTRY BOOKS AT PRATT

18 1/2 The Industry and Science Department at Pratt Library has added a number of new books of interest to chemists. These include

- 24 Bell -- American Petroleum Refining
 Chatfield -- Varnish Constituents (London, 1944)
 DeMent -- Fluorochemistry
 Frier -- Introduction to Industrial Chemistry
 Höber -- Physical Chemistry of Cells and Tissues
 Jacobson -- Encyclopedia of Chemical Reactions, Volume I
 Leffingwell and Lesser -- Glycerine, Its Industrial and Commercial Application
 Lohse -- Catalytic Chemistry
 Mantell -- Calcium Metallurgy and Technology
 Mason and Manning -- Technology of Plastics and Resins
 McLaughlin -- The Chemistry of Leather Manufacture
 Nieuland and Vogt -- Chemistry of Acetylene
 Pigman -- Advances in Carbohydrate Chemistry
 Sachanen -- The Chemical Constituents of Petroleum
 Simonds -- Industrial Plastics
 Steacie -- Atomic and Free Radical Reactions
 41 Weygand -- Organic Preparations

46 1/2 The library suggests that, if a reader wishes to secure a book which has already been borrowed, he may request the Department of Science and Industry by letter or telephone to reserve the book. When the book comes in he will be notified and it will be held for him for forty-eight hours. There is no fee for this service.

1 from fourth page) U. S. I. has pioneered in the production of new chemicals and the expansion of sources of supply for raw materials. An outstanding example is the development of solvents and plasticizers for lacquers. In 1923 the rapidly growing automobile industry, handicapped by time-consuming paint and varnish operations, turned to lacquer for speed in finishing. U. S. I. developed its own continuous manufacturing processes for producing ethyl, butyl and amyl acetates for use as solvents and ethyl, butyl and amyl phthalates for use as plasticizers. U. S. I. has also pioneered in the production of many other chemicals formerly available only in small quantities and at high cost. Among those produced at the Fairfield plant are: ethyl acetoacetate, acetoacetanilide and other acetoarylates, ethyl sodium oxalacetate, ethyl chloroformate, ethyl benzoylacetate, urethan, refined fusel oil, amyl alcohol, alkyl oxalates, and diethyl carbonate. 15

During recent years a new laboratory has been erected and staffed for the development of new products. Insecticides, pest killers and fungicides are being investigated. The insect repellent Indalone, produced at Fairfield, was used extensively by the Armed Forces in World War II. A process was developed for the industrial production of Noval Ketone, which was used in large quantity for the preparation of atebrian and other antimalarials. 22 1/2

In World War II, as in World War I, the production department operated "going" processes at much above normal capacity in order to meet urgent war needs. This activity was matched by that of the research staff, which has been busy with a long-range program to adapt the processes and facilities of all U. S. I. plants to the needs of peace. Reconversion is now under way at Fairfield. Resins and many new chemicals will soon be in production. Each year will see the addition of new processes, new buildings and new facilities. 32

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OPEN MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO MARYLAND CHEMISTS

35 1/2 The Johns Hopkins Chapter of the Society of the Sigma Xi will meet at 8:00 P. M. on April 16 in Room 110, Maryland Hall, Homewood Campus. Dr. Lowell J. Reed, Professor of Biostatistics and Vice-president of the University, will speak on "The Dynamics of Epidemics".

47 The Baltimore Chapter of The American Institute of Chemists will meet at 8:30 P. M. on April 18 in the Chemistry Lecture Hall, Loyola College. Dr. Lawrence H. Flett, Chairman of New Products for Allied Dye and Chemicals, will speak on "The Antiseptic Action of Nachonol".

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50 1/2 The February issue of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST carried a request from the Johns Hopkins Library for back volumes of Chemical Abstracts. The Chemistry Department has reported that a number of offers were received immediately, and wishes to express appreciation for the cooperation of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST and local chemists. 55 1/2

NEXT MEETING: April 20

TIME: 2:30 P. M.

PLACE

Fairfield Plant, U. S. Industrial Chemicals

PROGRAM

Plant Inspection Tour

This is the only notice of this meeting which you will receive.

MAY MEETING

Save May 24th for the Remsen Lecture.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH CHESAPEAKE CHEMISTRY

IV. U. S. INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS, INC.

(Courtesy of F. C. Hettinger)

During the summer of 1915 swarms of workmen descended upon the quiet and peaceful farmlands at Stone House Cove, near Baltimore. Railroads were laid and as fast as tracks were bolted into place, carload after carload of material was hauled into the fields and orchards. A chemical plant was being erected by the Curtis Bay Chemical Company, formed jointly by U. S. Industrial Alcohol Company and Hercules Powder Company, to supply Britain with large quantities of acetone. This chemical was needed for the manufacture of Cordite, used for loading small arms cartridges and big naval shells. It was produced by a new process which consisted of neutralizing acetic acid with lime and heating the resulting calcium acetate in specially designed retorts. When the British contracts expired early in 1917 there came a lull, but the entry of the United States into the conflict brought new contracts for acetone and a new product, methyl acetate, to be used for "dope" on airplane fabrics. At this time the Hercules interests were taken over by U. S. Industrial Alcohol Company, and the infant Curtis Bay Chemical Company was supplanted by a new corporation, the U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc., which assumed operation of the business, with new contracts with our own government.

A new Research Laboratory was erected and a staff of chemists and engineers moved in. While war requirements were being met, a long-range research program was carried on to adapt facilities and processes to the needs of peace. By the end of World War I the research files were filled with plans and patents for many new chemical processes. With the cessation of hostilities in 1918, reconversion was begun. New roads and buildings were constructed and motorized transportation was installed. Each year saw the addition of new buildings and facilities, until at the start of World War II the farmlands of 1915 were the site of a modern chemical plant of sixty-eight buildings. (to third page

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Mr. John A. Herculson
Morgan State College
Baltimore, 12, Maryland

I will attend the meeting at the Fairfield Plant of U. S. I.
on April 20th.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____