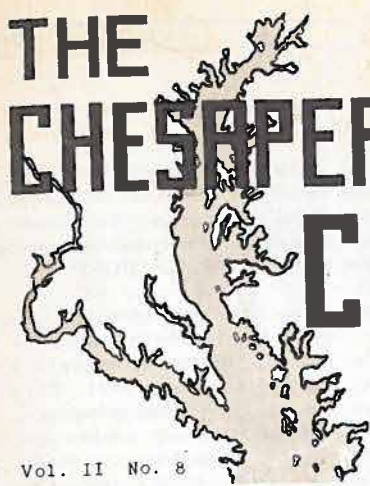


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THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST



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SECTION ACTIVITIES

Dr. W. A. Noyes, who was to have been the speaker at the November meeting, has been called to Paris in connection with his work for UNESCO, and will not return in time for our meeting. We regret his absence and hope that he can come at some future date. The November meeting will be held as scheduled on Friday, November 22. Arrangements for the speaker had not been completed when this issue of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST went to press.

Our October meeting as guests of the Standard Oil Company was an outstanding success. Mr. Kuhl and Mr. Long of Standard Oil, who planned the affair, are to be congratulated on the remarkable smoothness and efficiency with which all details were managed. Members of the Section are united in high praise of the hospitality of the Company and the thoughtfulness of its officials. Other officers of the Company who were our hosts at dinner included Dr. Burks, Manager of Standard's eastern refineries, and Mr. W. J. McClintock, General Superintendent of the Baltimore refinery. Dr. Frolich's excellent address was interesting and instructive. The Washington offices of the ACS were represented by Secretary Emery and Editor Murphy and members of their staffs. So successful a meeting should launch the Section upon its winter activities with energy, enthusiasm and a renewed spirit of cooperation.

The Remsen Lectures are again receiving national public notice. An article on "Ira Remsen and Roger Adams--A Chemical Centennial" by Winslow Hartford appeared in the October issue of The Scientific Monthly. Dr. Hartford is Publicity Chairman of the Section.

Dr. Charles Bramble will take charge of that section of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST which lists meetings of other organizations. Early information about local meetings in allied fields should be sent to Dr. Bramble at Mercy Hospital, Calvert and Saratoga Sts., Baltimore 2, phone SARatoga 5400.

Section Officers

Chairman Giles B. Cooke Secretary-Treasurer C. W. Wilson
 Vice-chrm. J. A. Herculson Asst. Sec.-Treas. P. K. Leatherman

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YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 901

The responsibilities of a member of the American Chemical Society may be as heavy or as light as he wishes to make them. They may involve thoughtful, time and energy consuming exertions in support of the activities of local and national groups. They may go no further, for the disinterested or lazy, than sending a check for dues and journal subscriptions. But every member derives from his membership more benefits than he perhaps realizes, and owes to his profession and his society a certain irreducible amount of support and cooperation beyond the prompt payment of dues. One small opportunity and obligation has come through the mail this month. Have you supplied the needed information for the directory? Have you filled out the war service questionnaire? This cooperation, in particular, you owe your profession, for support of efforts made in behalf of all chemists.

Have you voted? The choice of candidates is commonly puzzling for most of us. The candidates are all men whose professional achievements we delight to honor. But in many cases we do not know much of their special qualifications for office. The candidates make no "campaign speeches," so we cannot learn their opinions by such means. The ACS is faced with problems for which wise solutions must be found, and the choice of leaders with special competencies is important. It is fortunate that our process for nomination assures the selection of able men, no matter who may be elected. Nevertheless, from time to time it is well to scrutinize such machinery to see if it is still functioning well. Such examination has resulted in recent suggestions that candidates for ACS offices be requested to state their viewpoints on controversial questions. Is there merit in this proposal?

Now, before November 21, 1946, the chemist must cast his ballot as best he can, and fulfill those other obligations to his organization. If YOU have not done this, do it NOW!

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Recent additions to the books of the Industry and Science Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library, include:

Brookes -- Poisons; Their Properties, Chemical Identification, Symptoms, and Emergency Treatment (1946)
 Bunn -- Chemical Crystallography (1946)
 D'Alelio -- Experimental Plastics and Synthetic Resins (1946)
 Emulsion Technology, a Symposium (1946)
 Soskin -- Carbohydrate Metabolism (1946)
 Zimmerman -- Handbook of Material Trade Names (1946)

WARTIME CHEMISTRY IN THE CHESAPEAKE AREA

V. The Hopkins Department of Chemical Engineering

In addition to the work done in the field of plastics, which was reported in THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST for February, 1946, three wartime projects were carried out by the Department. One of these, directed by Dr. Paul H. Emmett for the NDRC, had to do with the improvement of gas mask charcoals for poison gases that might be encountered in the field. In the process of this work, the surface areas of many hundreds of different charcoals were determined by the low temperature adsorption of nitrogen. Methods were developed for measuring the pore value and pore size distribution in charcoals and for altering the latter. The extent of adsorption of a number of poison gases on standard gas mask charcoals was determined, along with the rate and extent of water adsorption on a number of charcoals. From the results of these tests a theory was worked out for predicting the adsorption of any gas or vapor on a charcoal, and criteria were developed for predicting the effectiveness of any base charcoal.

Another project, directed by Dr. Charles F. Bonilla for the Foreign Economic Administration, involved an investigation of the properties of the wax in West Indies sugar cane and possible methods for its recovery. A satisfactory extraction process was evolved, and a wax was recovered which is sufficiently hard and pure for direct use in a number of ways. Still another project, directed by Dr. Bonilla for the Rubber Reserve Company, provided accurate data for the design of heat transfer equipment for the GR-S synthetic rubber plants. The problem arose because after the plants had been operating for some time, the pipes and heat exchangers became plugged (and in some cases actually burst) with a new type of polymer, a cross-linked "self-vulcanized" substance which was called "popcorn" because of its appearance. Methods were devised for retarding and even preventing growth of active seeds of "popcorn."

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Dr. R. M. Archibald has been appointed Professor of Biochemistry and Chairman of the Department at the School of Hygiene, The Johns Hopkins University. His staff includes two newly appointed Assistant Professors: Dr. J. Dziewantkowski, who will work on tracer elements in intermediary metabolism, and Dr. Laurence Layton, whose specialty is biophysical chemistry. Friends of Dr. E. V. McCollum will be pleased to hear that he is continuing his researches in a laboratory in Mergenthaler Hall on the Homewood Campus of the University.

Robert L. Pendleton, a new member of the Section, is a soil scientist attached to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture. He is at present on loan to the Department of Geography at Johns Hopkins as Professor of Tropical Soils and Agriculture. He has just returned from Bangkok, where he served the Siamese Ministry of Agriculture in connection with his work for the U. S. government. 54

NEXT MEETING 8:30 P.M., Friday November 22
PLACE Room 401, Remsen Hall, Johns Hopkins, Charles & 34th Sts.
This is the only notice of this meeting which you will receive.
The meeting is open to anyone who may be interested in attending.
Save Friday, December 13, to hear Bradley Dewey, President of ACS.

CHEMICAL LIBRARIES IN BALTIMORE, II

Elsa von Hohenhoff, Head
Industry and Science Department, Enoch Pratt Free Library
(These notes continue a series begun in the May, 1946 issue)

Mutual Chemical Company of America. The Baltimore plant manufactures chromic acid, chromates and dichromates. In 1934 scattered library files were assembled and arranged in an original classification system based upon chromium compounds and their uses. The library is a division of the Research and Development Department. The staff, headed by Miss Jennie Douglass, consists of three members. It compiles and disseminates information for the Company personnel here and in the Jersey City plant. Monthly lists of new accessions are circulated among the employees. The library contains 300 volumes of standard titles and important treatises on chromium and its uses, about 12,000 references and 700 foreign and domestic patents. References are virtually complete for the past decade, and some date back to 1811. About 30 technical periodicals and numerous trade papers are received and abstracted regularly. Among British titles are British Chemical Abstracts BI and BII, S.C.I. publications, Chemical Trade Journal and Chemical Engineer. Only the more important journals are retained permanently, because of space limitations. The library is also collecting original source materials on the history of Fells Point, particularly the area occupied by the plant. Miss Douglass will be happy to assist anyone who needs information about chromium compounds. 1348 Block Street.

Sealtest, Inc. The library serves mainly the research staff of Sealtest, although specialists may enter and receive help upon application to the librarian, Mrs. Kathleen B. Hamilton. The collection is about ten years old. It contains standard works on dairy products, chemistry, bacteriology and related subjects. It has complete sets of Allen's Commercial Organic Analysis, Chemical Abstracts, Biological Abstracts, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station bulletins, Abderhalden's Handbuch der Biologischen Arbeitsmethoden, and a file of the Experiment Station Record. Emphasis is more upon journals than upon texts. The periodical list includes 111 American and British journals, with complete runs of the Journal of Dairy Research and the Journal of Dairy Science. The librarian issues a monthly list of articles of interest for circulation to the staff. 1403 Eutaw Place.

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Dr. Harry E. Iwamoto has been appointed Assistant Professor of Pharmacology at the School of Medicine, University of Maryland.