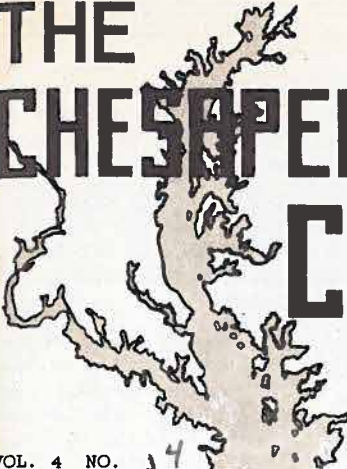


THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST



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MARYLAND SECTION ACTIVITIES

The April Meeting The next meeting will be held on April 30th on the Homewood Campus. Dr. Ben B. Corson, of Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, will speak on "Production of Butadiene from Ethyl Alcohol." Dr. Corson is an organic chemist of note. He received his college and university training at Harvard, and followed this by several years of teaching at Middlebury College. He served as research chemist at Universal Oil Products during the 1930's, and in 1939 joined the staff of Mellon Institute, where he is now Administrative Fellow. Much of Dr. Corson's work in the last ten years has been in the field of catalysis. During the war he devoted most of his time to work on the catalytic production of butadiene and styrene, and hence is particularly qualified to discuss the topic he has chosen for his address to the Maryland Section.

The dinner preceding the meeting will be held at the Johns Hopkins Club. Reservations must be made before noon on Thursday, April 29, with Dr. A. H. Corwin, Department of Chemistry, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore 18 - telephone HOPkins 3300, Extension 58. The dinner is open to all members of the Section.

Chemical Corps Association Meeting at Edgewood The Chemical Corps Association is holding its third annual meeting at the Army Chemical Center, Edgewood Arsenal, on May 20, 21 and 22. The Association has extended a cordial invitation to attend these sessions to the members of nearby sections of the American Chemical Society, including the Maryland Section. Members of the Section wishing to attend any of the sessions should notify Dr. A. H. Corwin (address in the paragraph above) by April 24. Dr. Corwin will then notify the Chemical Corps Association. Further details concerning the issuance of tickets and registration will be sent later to those accepting the invitation. (to page 3)

Section Officers

Chairman J. A. Herculson, 407 Murdock Road, Baltimore 12
 Vice-Chairman A. H. Corwin, Department of Chemistry,
 The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore 18
 Secretary-Treasurer H. H. Lloyd, Goucher College, Baltimore 18

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WHO COMES TO LOCAL MEETINGS?

It is always a source of concern to the officers of the Maryland Section that they do not know personally more members of the Section. Local chemists come to the meetings at Homewood, some occasionally when the topic interests them, some with great regularity. Who are these people, what do they do? A better personal acquaintance among the members would develop a better and a stronger organization, and the officers would be better able to direct the activities of the Section into the most useful and profitable channels. The bond which joins us all is a bond of professional interests, but those interests can be benefitted and enriched by a better knowledge of what our fellow members are and think and do.

How can this better acquaintance be fostered? More space for free circulation and chatting after the meeting hour would be desirable, but is not at present feasible. How else can we do it? Your officers will welcome your suggestions in this matter. At national meetings every member is identified by a name tag. Shall we do this? Do we need a committee whose special responsibility it is to see that A meets B, to catalyze our rather sluggish reaction mixture? Talk about this with your fellow members and with the officers of the Section. But this may raise the question -- Who are the officers, what do they look like? Would it help to label them? They are not bashful, even if you are. Give them a chance, give yourself a chance, and perhaps we can all be better members of a better section.

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Recent additions to the books at Pratt Library include:

Bikerman -- Surface Chemistry for Industrial Research (1947)
 Buffalo U., Dept. of Chem. -- Symposium on Plasticizers (1947)
 Buttrey -- Cellulose Plastics (1947)
 Cork -- Radioactivity and Nuclear Physics (1947)
 Fowles -- Lecture Experiments in Chemistry, 3rd ed. (1947)
 Griffith -- The Mechanism of Contact Catalysis, 2nd ed. (1946)
 Hougen and Watson -- Chemical Process Principles, pt. 3 (1947)
 Meggers and Scribner, comps. -- Index to the Literature on Spectrochemical Analysis, 1940-1945 (1947)
 Migrdichiau -- The Chemistry of Organic Cyanogen Compounds (1947) (American Chemical Society Monograph 105)
 Simon -- German Research in World War II (1947)
 Speakman -- An Introduction to the Modern Theory of Valency, 2nd ed. (1946)

from page 4) Southern States Laboratories

The fertilizer plants of Southern States are located in Baltimore, Norfolk, Salisbury, N. C. and Culpepper, Va. Samples of mixed fertilizer ingredients are received daily from these plants for analysis. The mixed fertilizers are analyzed for nitrogen in various forms, potash, and available phosphoric acid. Tests are made for free acid, boron, chlorine, magnesium oxide and for the acidic or basic qualities of the fertilizer.

Special problems which have been investigated in the Laboratories have included studies on curing fertilizers and on packaging fertilizers in paper containers. Numerous animal feeding tests have been conducted with minerals, vitamins and feeds. A special study on roasting soybean meal led to development of a test, now widely used, to determine if soybean meal has been properly roasted for animal feeding. Many animal feeds contain urea to furnish a source of nitrogen for protein, and if urea and a poorly roasted soybean meal are mixed in feed, decomposition takes place which results in a steady evolution of ammonia, -- a situation which is highly alarming to the farmer.

The Laboratories work in close cooperation with the Research Department and manufacturing units of Southern States Cooperative. The work of the Laboratories, which assures quality control, is combined with proper feeding formulation, under the director of research, to produce the best feed at the lowest cost. Quality control by the Laboratories also supplements the proper formulation and mixing of fertilizer ingredients. The result of these joint operations guarantees to the farmers who own the Cooperative the best possible feeds and fertilizers.

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from page 1) Chemical Corps Association Meeting

A varied program has been planned for the three-day meeting, but the sessions on Friday, May 21, will probably be of greatest interest to chemists. Numerous inspection visits to plants and laboratories will be arranged, and many new and novel features developed in chemical warfare will be displayed. Overnight accommodations at a charge of \$1.00 will be available if requested, as will breakfast and luncheon at \$1.00 per meal. On Friday the hours from 8 A.M. to noon will be devoted to registration and a variety of activities. Lunch (\$1.00) will be served from 12:00 to 1:00. From 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. there will be a demonstration, for which no charge will be made. Plans also include a "mixer" from 5:00 to 7:00 (charge \$1.50), dinner from 7 to 9:30 (charge \$3.50) and a dance and entertainment at 10 P.M. (charge \$0.50). The total cost to anyone attending all sessions on Friday will therefore be \$6.50.

The Chemical Corps Association has planned a varied program for information and entertainment, and any chemist who spends Friday, May 21, at Edgewood should find the day both profitable and pleasant. This is a trip which should have great interest for members of this section, for Edgewood Arsenal, within our own sectional territory, is seldom open in this way to groups of visitors.



Dr. Corson

NEXT MEETING 8:30 P.M., Friday, April 30
PLACE Room 404, Remsen Hall, Johns Hopkins
Charles & 34th Streets
SPEAKER Dr. Ben B. Corson
SUBJECT Butadiene from Ethyl Alcohol
DINNER 6:30 P.M., Johns Hopkins Club
The meeting is open to any who are interested.
Bring another chemist.
Save Friday, May 28th, for the Remsen Lecture.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH CHESAPEAKE CHEMISTRY
XVII. Southern States Laboratories

(Courtesy of Doris McComas)

Southern States Cooperative, Inc., as described in an employee handbook, is "a farmer's cooperative which purchases, manufactures or processes high quality feeds, seeds, fertilizers, and farm and home supplies for nearly 200,000 farmers in five states, and distributes those supplies through nearly 800 Cooperative Service Agencies at fair prices. It also helps farmers process and market various farm products." The organization operates in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and Kentucky. The members of Southern States Cooperative and local affiliated cooperatives own and operate five feed mills, six farm supply warehouses, five fertilizer plants, two poultry dressing plants, two vegetable canneries, four terminal egg markets, and many other facilities for processing and distributing farm production supplies and for processing and marketing farm produce.

Southern States Laboratories, a part of the Cooperative, are located in Baltimore at 2404 East Fort Avenue. The Laboratories were established to aid in maintaining the high quality of the products marketed by the Cooperative. The staff of six chemists is under the direction of William McAllister. A great part of the work done in the Laboratories consists of control analyses on feeds and fertilizers, but constant check analyses are also made on such products as flour, insecticides and seeds. In the solution of special problems the Laboratories cooperate with the Research Department, of which Dr. Charles D. Caskey is director.

Feed samples are received daily at the Laboratories from the mills at Roanoke, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Norfolk and Statesville, N. C. Routine analyses of these feed samples are made to determine their protein, fat, fiber, moisture and mineral content. Routine tests are also made on some of the constituents which are used in manufacturing the feeds, and include determination of Vitamin A in alfalfa meal, salt in fish meal, and free fatty acids in meat and fish meals. Other feeds ingredients on which analyses are often run include soybean, linseed, cottonseed, corn, gluten, coconut, alfalfa, hominy and citrus meals, fish and meat scrap, dried distiller's grains and brewer's grains. (to page 3