


THE
CHESAPEAKE
CHEMIST



DECEMBER 1953

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MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE DECEMBER MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Maryland Section will be held on Friday, December 18 in Remsen Hall on the Johns Hopkins University campus. Dr. Bernard L. Oser, director of Food Research Laboratories, Incorporated, will give a talk entitled "Recent Developments on the Food Additives Front." This refers to chemical additives, present either incidentally or intentionally in foods as they are marketed. The subject is actually of great general concern, because of the extensive use of additives, and the fact that proper utilization of the results of research in this field is often complicated by existing legislation on food and drug adulteration.

Dr. Oser's use of the word "front" in the title of his talk is intended to reflect the frequent struggles encountered in making lawful practice in the use of food additives compatible with scientific fact. In regard to the situation, Dr. Oser states that "recent activities in the field of chemical additives to food... are of great importance to chemists and food technologists alike. Government regulations under the present laws, and as they may be influenced by pending legislation, impose certain limitations on the manner and extent of use of such additives as well as on research and development programs designed to develop new ones. Necessity to establish the safety of chemical additives requires co-ordination of the production schedule with toxicological investigations." In his talk, Dr. Oser will consider "inadequacies in the present law which controls the presence of chemical additives through the provisions governing food standards and adulteration, as well as current proposals for amending the law so as to impose tighter controls, such as the provisions for prior approval based on evidence for usefulness and safety. The evolution of a basic philosophy governing chemical additives will be discussed."

DINNER reservations must be placed by December 15 with Dr. W. H. Summerson, 504 W. University Parkway, Baltimore 10, and are preferably paid in advance (\$2.25).

Section Officers

Chairman Winslow H. Hartford, Mutual Chemical Company
of America, Baltimore 34
Vice-Chairman William H. Summerson, Chemical Corps,
Army Chemical Center, Maryland
Secretary H. H. Lloyd, Goucher College, Baltimore 4
Treasurer E. A. Metcalf, 907 Litchfield Road, Baltimore 42

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Editor Stephen S. Hubard, 4423 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore 4

OFFICERS AND COUNCILLORS FOR 1954

As a result of the elections held at the annual business meeting of the Maryland Section on November 20, and of continuations otherwise provided for, the following are the officers, councillors, and members-at-large of the Executive Committee for 1954:

Chairman, William H. Summerson; Vice-Chairman, Belle Otto; Secretary, J. Elston Ahlberg; Treasurer, E. A. Metcalf.

Councillors--Winslow H. Hartford, A. H. Corwin, Giles B. Cooke; Charles Brambel is the fourth councillor, provisional with respect to section membership.

Alternate Councillors--Sylvan Forman, Amos Horney; Stephen S. Hubard is the provisional alternate councillor.

Members-at-large of the Executive Committee--George P. Hager, Evans B. Reid, Lloyd Felton, Henry Freimuth, C. W. Perry.

New incumbencies become effective as of January 1. The professional affiliations of those elected were given in the November issue, page 2.

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During 1953, the following persons were transferred to the local section as a result of the re-definition of the boundary between the Maryland and Washington sections; except where stated, the address is Annapolis: ANDERSON, Ross E.; BAKER, Henry H. Jr.; BAUMEL, Irwin M.; CARRITT, Dayton E.; COOK, Edward J.; COX, James C. Jr.; DANEK, George J. Jr.; EVANS, Allan P.; FORMWALT, Donald E.; GRANT, Walter E.; GREENBERG, Melvin; HARING, Robert C.; HEBBARD, George M.; HELM, Charles D., Severna Park; HOPKINS, Robert D.; KELLEY, John F. Jr.; McMICHAEL, Ruth K.; MILLER, Norman E., Crownsville; OLDHAM, Morris M.; POLAK, Roger J.; RESSLER, Robert R.; ROLLINS, Orville W., Arnold; ROSENBERG, Reuben; SMEDLEY, William M.; STOOPS, James A.; VELTMAN, Preston L., Severna Park; ZIMMERMAN, John G.; ZIURY, Genevieve B.

The following associate member was received in 1953: STAPLETON, Edward, Baltimore.

NOMINATIONS TO NATIONAL OFFICES

A circular letter to editors of local section publications and to councillors from Mr. Emery, the national executive secretary, stresses the need of proposals from individual members of the Society for nominations to national offices. Failure to assume this responsibility not only weakens a democratic procedure, but deprives the Committee on Nominations and Elections of data which it urgently needs in order to make wise selections and to cover the ground fairly. Nine men necessarily have a small knowledge of 70,000 unless they receive widespread assistance!

In March, 1954 the subject committee will meet to select nominees for the following posts: President-elect; Director-at-large; regional directors for the fourth (southeastern states) and sixth (western states) districts; Council Policy Committee (only 1954 councillors eligible in the last case). All suggestions must be received not later than March 8, 1954, with supporting data, by Dr. Robert C. Elderfield, Secretary, Committee on Nominations and Elections, ACS, Department of Chemistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. The supporting data should consist of a biographical sketch, a list of Society posts previously held, and any information, including professional accomplishments, which justifies the proposal for the particular post. Although suggestions must be made individually, you are at liberty to obtain any help you wish in assembling facts. Past issues of C & E News may be consulted for other details of this matter, including the names of the present incumbents of the positions involved.

OUTSIDE MEETINGS

Chemical Engineering Symposium (20th annual) of the ACS--to be held at the University of Michigan, December 28 and 29. The general topic is the flow of liquids through barriers, represented by fifteen papers and a color film on fluid distribution in porous systems. A banquet for the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry is scheduled. Local arrangements are being handled by Professor D. L. Katz, University of Michigan.

American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, December 27-30. Section C, Chemistry, will feature a program of papers of unusual interest and from a wide variety of laboratories on "Feeding the Nation". These meetings will be held in the Mechanics' Building. The Chemists' Dinner will be served in the Statler Hotel on December 29; Dr. Randolph T. Major of Merck and Co. will speak on the subject "Of Food, Feed, and Drugs". Reservations (\$4.25) should be made for the dinner in advance, with Dr. E. F. Degering, George Washington Inn, New Jersey Ave. and C St., Washington 3, D. C.

These meetings are called to the attention of any of our members who may find it convenient to attend during the Christmas holiday period.

LOCAL SECTION CHARTERED IN ARIZONA

The recent chartering of the 144th local section of the American Chemical Society, to be known as the Southern Arizona Section, gives the Society, for the first time, a local unit in each state of the Union. Puerto Rico and Hawaii also have local sections.

The establishment of the new section is associated with the growing industrial importance of southern Arizona. Local industries include rubber goods manufacturing, cement making, the production of explosives, and the manufacture of paints and varnishes, as well as the familiar activities of mining and the refining of metals.

Colleges and universities in the section area include Arizona State College and Phoenix College, as well as the state university. The first chairman of the new section is Dr. Mitchell G. Vavich, Associate Professor of Nutrition at the state university.

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Enoch Pratt Library--Recent accessions at the main branch include

Darken, L. S., and Gurry, R. W., Physical Chemistry of Metals
Gurney, R. W., Ionic Processes in Solution
Ketelaar, J. A. A., Chemical Constitution (first English edition)
Moss, T. S., Photoconductivity in the Elements
Pitzer, K. S., Quantum Chemistry
Walker, J. F., Formaldehyde (second edition)
Zimmerman, O.T., Industrial Research Service Handbook of Material Trade Names
Sakaidis, B. C., and Coates, J., Literature Survey of the Thermal Conductivity of Liquids

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THE EDITOR would appreciate items on the newsworthy activities of chemists in the local section. Very little information of this sort has been received since last spring. If members would act individually, using only a postcard if that is large enough, the gathering of such news would not be a burden on anyone. Inclusion of this material in THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST helps to tie the section together, and a given item is less likely to be missed than in the more numerous pages of C & E News.

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ATTENDANCE at local section meetings is satisfactory by comparison with the percentage of members present on the average at these meetings over the nation, but we should like to see more of our approximately 870 members in regular attendance. Let's try to fill Remsen 1 on occasions other than the Memorial Lecture in May!

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NOTE the inclosed reminders for local section dues and contributions toward the Remsen Meeting!

NOTE that the January meeting is on the fourth (not the last) Friday, the 22d. The talk on ion exchange resins will stress recent industrial developments, including the use of these resins in making sea water potable.

from page 6) Executive Committee Notes

A tentative program of local section meetings was presented by the Vice-Chairman and was approved as follows: regular meetings with speakers on technical subjects, December 18 and January 22; the (postponed from October, 1953) Army Chemical Center meeting in March, and the Remsen meeting in May. An effort will be made to secure the national president-elect, Harry Fisher, as a speaker at some date when he is available.

The Committee on National Nominations and Awards has submitted a complete slate to the Washington office. Evans Reid suggested that in future this committee try to amplify its data on proposed candidates as much as possible, and include reprints of published papers.

Sylvan Forman reported for the ad hoc committee appointed to investigate radio and television possibilities for the Maryland Section. A tie-in with the established programs of either Johns Hopkins or the University of Maryland is possible provided subjects can be found that lend themselves to "action" presentations. After some discussion, the committee was asked to present at a future executive meeting some possible specific television programs, from which one or more could be chosen for use on, preferably, the Johns Hopkins Science Review.

George Hager reported fully on the recent activities of the Committee on Chemical Education (see THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST for NOVEMBER, page 6). As one means of pursuing this work, it was decided to buy the film "Decision for Chemistry," so that it can be exhibited in local schools when appropriate. It was suggested that one major inadequacy of this film, the omission of the period of school training, could be met by inserting shots obtained locally. More examples of progress through research could also be obtained in this way. It was decided to send THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST regularly to the presidents of local student affiliate groups.

The Remsen Memorial Lecture Committee will be asked to report to the Executive Committee before taking action. It was explained, in answer to a question, that this will make the procedures consistent for all appointed committees.

Reporting for the Committee on Hospitality, Raymond Costa suggested that means be sought to increase the attendance at dinners preceding meetings. Such an increase would have to be kept in line with Johns Hopkins Club limitations. Sponsoring of individual attendance by industrial organizations would presumably bring an increase, but the initiative would necessarily come from these organizations, and not from the local section.

The Chairman reported that E. S. Hopkins (a past chairman) has been reappointed as the section representative on the Associate Council of the Engineers' Club; Channing Wilson has been appointed to the Committee on Guidance sponsored by them. Letters were sent to all transfer members affected by the recent boundary changes. It was decided to make a contribution to the American Cancer Society, in memory of Mrs. Channing Wilson. (Adjourned)



Bernard L. Oser

NEXT MEETING December 18 TIME 8:30 P. M.
 PLACE Room 101, Remsen Hall, Johns Hopkins
 Charles and 34th Streets
 SPEAKER Dr. Bernard L. Oser
 SUBJECT Recent Developments on the
 Food Additives Front
 DINNER 6:30, The Johns Hopkins Club
 Charles and 34th Streets
 SAVE Friday, January 22 for a talk by Dr. H. P.
 Gregor, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, on ion
 exchange resins

DR. BERNARD L. OSER

The December speaker received his doctorate in biochemistry in 1927. He has been associated with Food Research Laboratories, Incorporated, Long Island City, New York, for twenty-seven years, and has been its director for the past twenty years. Out of his interest in various aspects of nutrition, which involved considerable experimental work, on animals and man, he became concerned with toxicological problems relating to the presence, either incidentally or by intention, of chemical additives in food. Dr. Oser is the author of several papers on this topic, as well as of numerous scientific reports on nutritional subjects. He has been chairman of the Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, ACS, and is a member of the Vitamin Advisory Board of the U. S. Pharmacopeia. Formerly an editorial advisor for Analytical Chemistry and Food Technology, he is now on the advisory board of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. Dr. Oser shares one accomplishment with the chairman-elect of the Maryland Section--that of being co-author of Practical Physiological Chemistry, by Hawk, Oser, and Summerson. This is a standard work in its field, and the thirteenth edition is currently in preparation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOTES

H. H. Lloyd, Secretary

The Executive Committee of the Maryland Section met on October 20 at 8:00 P.M. at the house of Chairman and Mrs. Hartford. Fifteen members were present.

Status reports were made by the Treasurer, and by Leslie Hellerman for the Nominating Committee appointed to present a slate for the annual elections in November. Plans for the special interest meeting to be held in November, which were not quite complete, were detailed by John Gryder, and several suggestions were made for rounding out the program.

The Chairman reported on the dinner and meeting of the Washington Section on October 8, attended by four of our officers (Hartford, Hubbard, Ahlberg, Lloyd) upon invitation. Intersectional liaison was promoted, and tentative plans were discussed for a joint meeting with the Maryland Section to be held in April, 1954, probably at Beltsville.

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