

THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

SEPTEMBER 1954

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MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The Maryland Section will open the activities of the 1954-1955 season with a meeting on Friday, September 24, at the usual time and place - at 8:30 P.M. in Remsen Hall on the Johns Hopkins campus at Homewood.

The Executive Committee of the Section decided to make the address at the opening meeting this fall one whose subject matter and presentation would be of interest to all adult members of the family, not just to its chemists. The Maryland chemist is urged to bring his wife and teen-agers to this meeting, and "his sisters and his cousins and his aunts" will be welcome too.

John A. Herculson, of our own Section, will be the speaker for this occasion, and he will talk about "Chemistry for the Maryland Racing Commission". Mr. Herculson is chief chemist to the Racing Commission and well qualified to deal with his subject. He is moreover an able and experienced speaker whose presentation will be interesting and lively. His address will be supplemented by slides.

Maryland was one of the earliest states to maintain its own laboratory for detecting doping of race horses. A mobile laboratory, actually a specially designed laboratory-in-a-trailer, was used at the opening of the 1946 racing season for on-the-spot biological and chemical testing for drugs in the urine and saliva of race horses. Maryland has maintained its pioneering activities in this field through the expansion of staff and facilities. In addition to the testing program, carried out at each track as the mobile laboratory moves about the state, the staff under Mr. Herculson conducts research on new methods of testing for old and new drugs which the ingenious hope will speed up or slow down the horse of their interest. Mr. Herculson will describe the laboratory, which is so carefully and conveniently planned that those who design kitchens might well take note, and will discuss the methods of sampling and testing used. (to page 28

Section Officers

Chairman	William H. Summerson, Chemical Corps, Army Chemical Center, Maryland
Vice-Chairman	Belle Otto, Goucher College, Baltimore 4
Secretary	J. E. Ahlberg, 3709 Kimble Road, Baltimore 18
Treasurer	E. A. Metcalf, 907 Litchfield Road, Baltimore 12

THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST is published each month from September through May by the Maryland Section, American Chemical Society.

from page 27) The September Meeting

Mr. Herculson is a New Englander who has become a Baltimorean by adoption. A graduate of Tufts, he did graduate work in chemistry at Johns Hopkins and served as chairman of the department of chemistry at Morgan College (now Morgan State College) for a number of years. In 1947 he became chief chemist to the Maryland Racing Commission, the position he now holds. Mr. Herculson has served the Maryland Section with effectiveness and faithfulness for many years, service which culminated in his election to the chairmanship of the Section in 1948 and in 1949.

A DINNER for members of the Section will be served at 6:30 at the Johns Hopkins Club, and is open to members of the Section and their guests. Reservations must be made not later than Tuesday, September 21, with Dr. Belle Otto, Goucher College, Baltimore 4, telephone Valley 5-3305, and preferably may be paid for in advance (\$2.25).

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOTES

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Section was held on May 25, 1954, at the home of Secretary J. Elston Ahlberg. A summary of the topics discussed, and the actions taken, is presented herewith. Members of the Section who have any views or suggestions concerning these matters are urged to bring them to the attention of the Chairman or any other officer of the Section.

The National Society, through its National Committee on Local Section Finances, has asked for an expression of opinion concerning the desirability of establishing a central fund for the investment of local section funds, this central fund to be administered by the National Society. An alternate proposal is to offer investment guidance to local sections. Dr. Metcalf, reporting for the Section sub-committee on the investment of funds, stated that a letter had been sent to the Committee on Local Section Finances expressing interest in their proposals but without committing the Section further.

There was considerable discussion concerning the question of vocational guidance and the stimulation of the interest of young people in chemistry or chemical engineering as a profession. Two groups have been active locally in this respect. Dr. C. W. Wilson described the activities of the Maryland Counsel-Guidance Group, which is composed of representatives of secondary schools, colleges and universities, as well as of the local sections of the national scientific and engineering societies. The function of this group is to stimulate interest in engineering, including chemical engineering, as a profession, and to provide educational guidance along these lines. It was agreed to continue representation by the Section on this group, and to continue support at the present level.

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from page 28) Executive Committee Notes

The second group which has been active in vocational guidance is the Maryland Section's Committee on Chemical Education, under the chairmanship of Dr. George P. Hager. This group has provided speakers for vocational guidance classes in local high schools, and has sponsored presentations before interested audiences of the film "Decision for Chemistry", which members of the Section will recall having seen at the September meeting last year. Dr. Hager presented an extensive and carefully prepared report on the activities of his group during 1953-54, which was accepted by the Executive Committee with an expression of appreciation for Dr. Hager's outstanding services to the Section in this connection. In his report, Dr. Hager emphasized that the guidance program cannot be effective unless the initiative is taken in guidance activities such as the arrangement of plant trips, displays, talks, and motion picture presentations for secondary school groups. It was agreed that vocational guidance activities should be strengthened and, where possible, coordinated with the activities of other groups working along the same lines.

Dr. Giles Cooke brought up for discussion the question of affiliation of the Section with other scientific, engineering or technical societies operating within the territory of the Section. There is nothing in the present by-laws of the Maryland Section which provides for such affiliation. It was agreed to prepare a by-law covering this situation, which would be submitted first to the National Society and then to the members of the Section for an expression of opinion.

There was some discussion concerning the desirability of increasing the size and scope of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST, and including paid advertising, thus to make THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST comparable to the publications of certain other local sections such as THE INDICATOR (N.Y. Section), THE CAPITAL CHEMIST (Washington Section), THE DETROIT CHEMIST, etc. It was agreed by those present that such a move would require careful consideration of all facets of the problem, and it was recommended that no action be taken until a complete analysis of the situation was available for study.

The Committee noted with regret that it was necessary for Dr. Stephen S. Hubbard to relinquish the editorship of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST because of the pressure of business responsibilities in connection with his new job in New Jersey. Even though Dr. Hubbard had left Baltimore some months earlier, he continued his services to the Section until the May issue of THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST was distributed. The Committee expressed its sincere appreciation to Dr. Hubbard for his unselfish devotion to the interests of the Section, and wished him well in his new position. It was then recommended that the Chairman appoint a sub-committee to find an Editor and an Assistant Editor for THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST.

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OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of the Section will be held at Camp Detrick, Frederick, Maryland on Friday, October 22. Dr. Edward Shantz is in charge of preparations for this meeting, details of which will appear in the October issue of The Chesapeake Chemist.

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J. A. Herculson

NEXT MEETING September 24 TIME 8:30 P.M.
 PLACE Remsen Hall, Johns Hopkins
 Charles & 34th Streets
 SPEAKER John A. Herculson
 SUBJECT Chemistry for the Maryland
 Racing Commission
 DINNER 6:30, The Johns Hopkins Club
 Charles & 34th Streets
 RESERVATIONS See page 28, this issue
 SAVE Friday, October 22, for a meeting at Detrick

COURSES OF INTEREST TO CHEMISTS DURING THE COMING SEMESTER

The purpose of this note is to remind members of the section that the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland offer college courses in technical subjects which may be taken during the evening or on Saturdays, and which provide an excellent opportunity for those who wish to obtain advanced training or special knowledge in technical and allied fields. McCoy College is the name of the branch of The Johns Hopkins University which provides such educational opportunities. Registration for courses in McCoy College may be made at Shriver Hall, on the Homewood Campus, on Saturday, September 18, and Saturday, September 25, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.; and on Wednesday, September 22, Monday, September 27, and Tuesday, September 28, from 5:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Classes start Thursday, September 30. Among the courses offered which should be of interest to chemists are the following:

Frontiers of Science 31. 173 Ten meetings beginning October 7. Thursdays, 8:30-9:45. A series of lectures by members of the University Faculty dealing with recent developments in various fields of scientific inquiry, with an opportunity for discussion after the lectures. Among the topics included are: Trapping of Solar Energy (W. D. McElroy); Hemoglobin and Chlorophyll (A. H. Corwin); Our Enemy-The Environment (A. Wolman); Developments in Guided Missile Technology (R. E. Gibson); and others.

Quantitative Analysis 3. 105-106. Monday and Wednesday, 6:30-10:00.

Physical Chemistry 3. 109-110. Lectures, Friday, 8:30-10:10.

Physical Chemistry Laboratory Practice 3. 111-112. Wednesday, 6:30-10:00.

Advanced Organic Chemistry 3. 115-116. Monday, 8:30-10:10.

Modern Physics 17. 401-402. Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00-8:15.

Writing for Engineers 6. 175-176. Monday, 8:30-10:10; also Wednesday, 6:30-8:10.

Unit Operations-Theory (Chemical Engineering) 54. 105-106. Monday, 6:30-8:10 and Thursday, 6:30-7:10. Laboratory-Thursday, 7:15-10:00.

Chemical Plant Design 54. 111-112. Hours arranged to meet individual needs. First meeting Saturday, October 2, 10:00 A.M.

The University of Maryland offers courses in Baltimore on subjects which include the following: General Bacteriology (Monday at 7 P.M.); French (Monday and Wednesday at 7 P.M.). For further details write to the Dean, College of Special and Continuation Studies, University of Maryland, Lombard and Greene Streets, Baltimore.