



*The*  
**PUGET SOUND  
CHEMIST**

Bulletin of the PUGET SOUND SECTION  
of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

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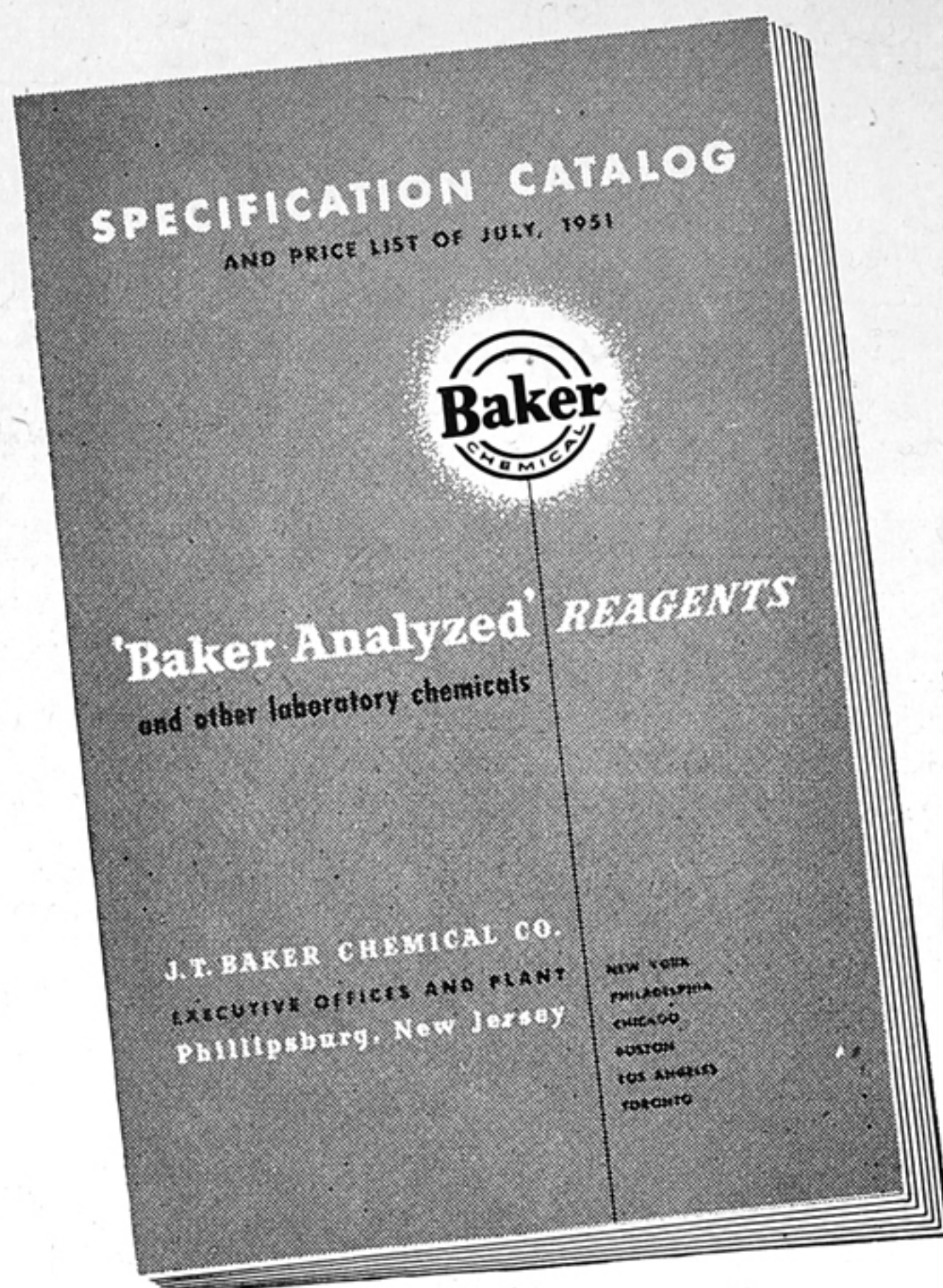
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**OCTOBER, 1951**





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## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PUGET SOUND SECTION FOR THE YEAR 1951**

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**Immediate Past Chairman**—Collis C. Bryan.

**Editor Puget Sound Chemist**—Eric Reaville.

## **October Meeting**

**Puget Sound Section**

**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

*Time*

**Thursday, October 25, 1951, 8:00 p. m.**

*Place*

**Seattle, 131 Bagley Hall, University of Washington**

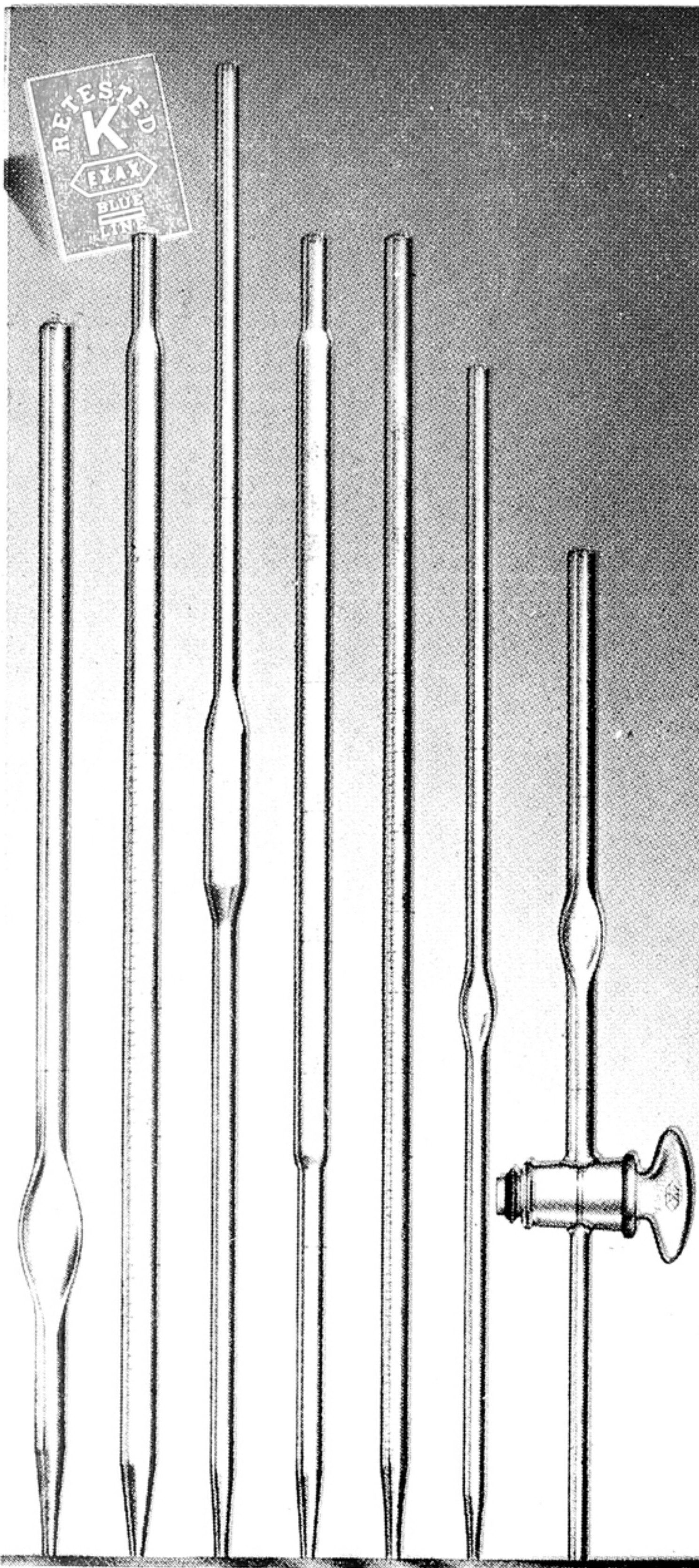
*Speaker*

**Dr H. F. EMELEUS, Cambridge University**

*Subject*

**SOME RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN FLUORINE CHEMISTRY**





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H. J. EMELEUS

## OCTOBER SPEAKER

The Department of Chemistry at the University of Washington has engaged the distinguished Dr. Harry J. Emeleus of Cambridge University to deliver a series of special seminar lectures during October. These lectures, which are scheduled for three times a week, will include a wide range of topics in inorganic and physical chemistry with several lectures devoted to fluorine compounds, on which Dr. Emeleus is one of the worlds' leading authorities.

Dr. Emeleus' brilliant career has made definite marks in the progress of science and brought him many well deserved honors. After receiving a Bachelor's degree in 1923 and a PhD degree in 1925 from the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, he did post-doctoral research with Professor A. Stock at the Technische Hochschule, Karlsruhe, Germany, on boron hydride chemistry. Then, as a Commonwealth Fund Fellow, he collaborated with Professor H. Taylor at Princeton in research on photochemical topics. In 1931, he was appointed to the Imperial College of Science and Technology. He remained there,

except for the year spent in Oak Ridge, until 1945 when he was invited to the chair of Inorganic Chemistry at Cambridge University.

For his outstanding contribution to science he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Fellow of the Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, in 1946. His published work covered a wide range of topics in inorganic and physical chemistry. Since the war, his research has been concerned mainly with the chemistry of fluorine compounds, particularly the halogen fluorides.—H. C.

## ★ MINUTES OF THE 297th REGULAR MEETING

of the  
PUGET SOUND SECTION  
of the  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
Bagley Hall, University of Washington  
September 25, 1951

This meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by C. V. Smith, vice chairman.

Collis Bryan, chairman of the nominating committee, requested that any member wishing to nominate a candidate for a section office please contact him as soon as possible.

Dr. George Cady reported to the section on the national meeting and the XII International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry, both of which were held in New York City during September.

J. Norton, councilor, reported to the section on the agenda covered in the National Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Following the meeting was a social hour.

★  
Irrationally held truths may be more harmful than reasoned errors.

—Thomas H. Huxley.

★  
Les gens de qualité savent tout, sans avoir jamais rien appris. —Moliere



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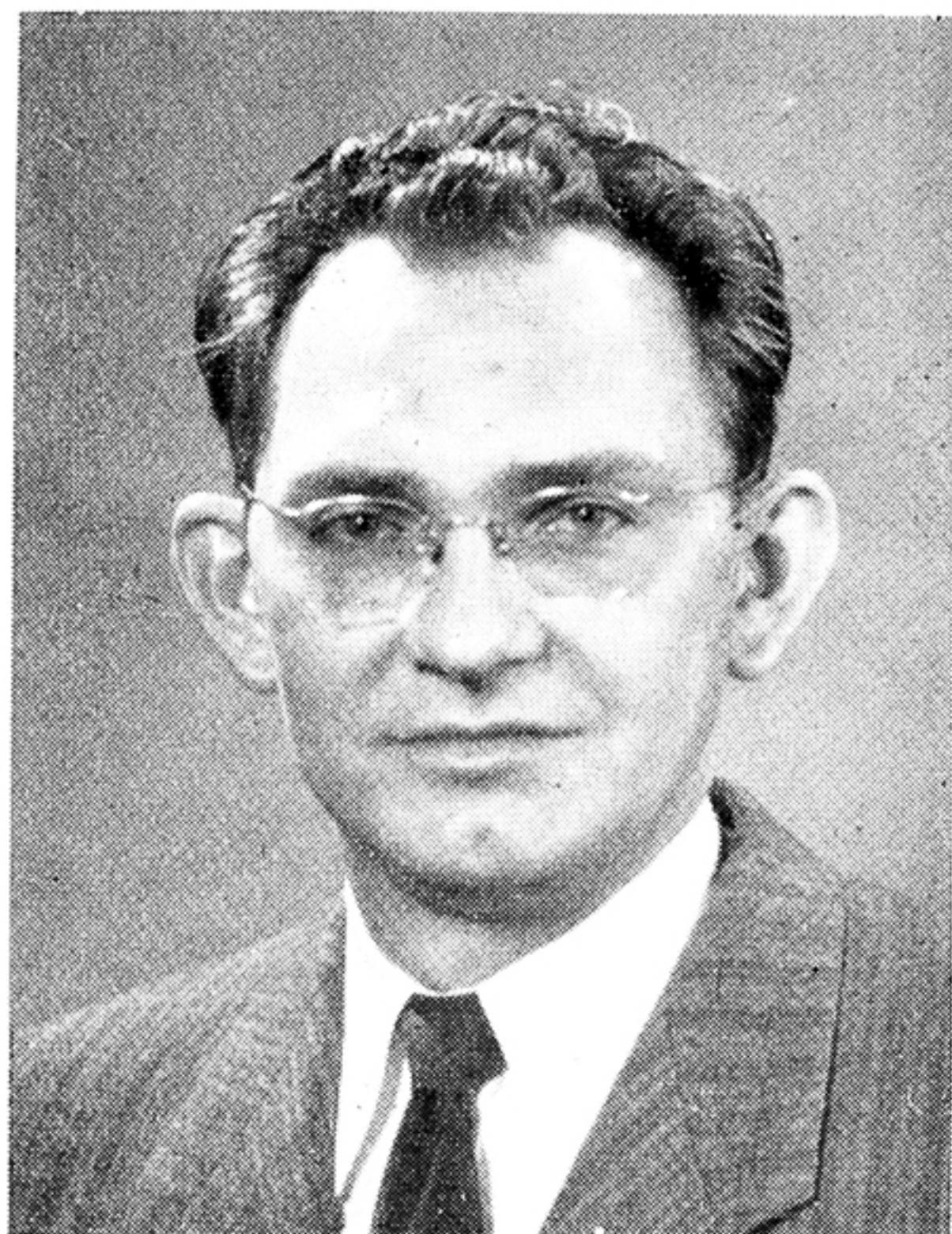
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L. N. JOHANSON  
New Staff Member



## WE SAY HELLO

Added to the University of Washington Chemical Engineering staff this fall will be Dr. L. N. Johanson and James Buckham. They are returning from positions in industry to enjoy once again the inspiring atmosphere of a university campus.

Dr. Johanson, alumnus of the University of Utah and the University of Wisconsin, is a native of Salt Lake City, Utah. He has come to the University of Washington from Richfield Oil of Wilmington, Calif., where he had been engaged in process development work since 1948. His more important fields of specialization are catalytic dealkylation and the study of xylenes.

Mr. Buckham, class of 1948, University of Washington, has been doing graduate research at the University since last fall. Before returning to his alma mater, he was employed by the Standard Oil Company of California at El Segundo, Calif.

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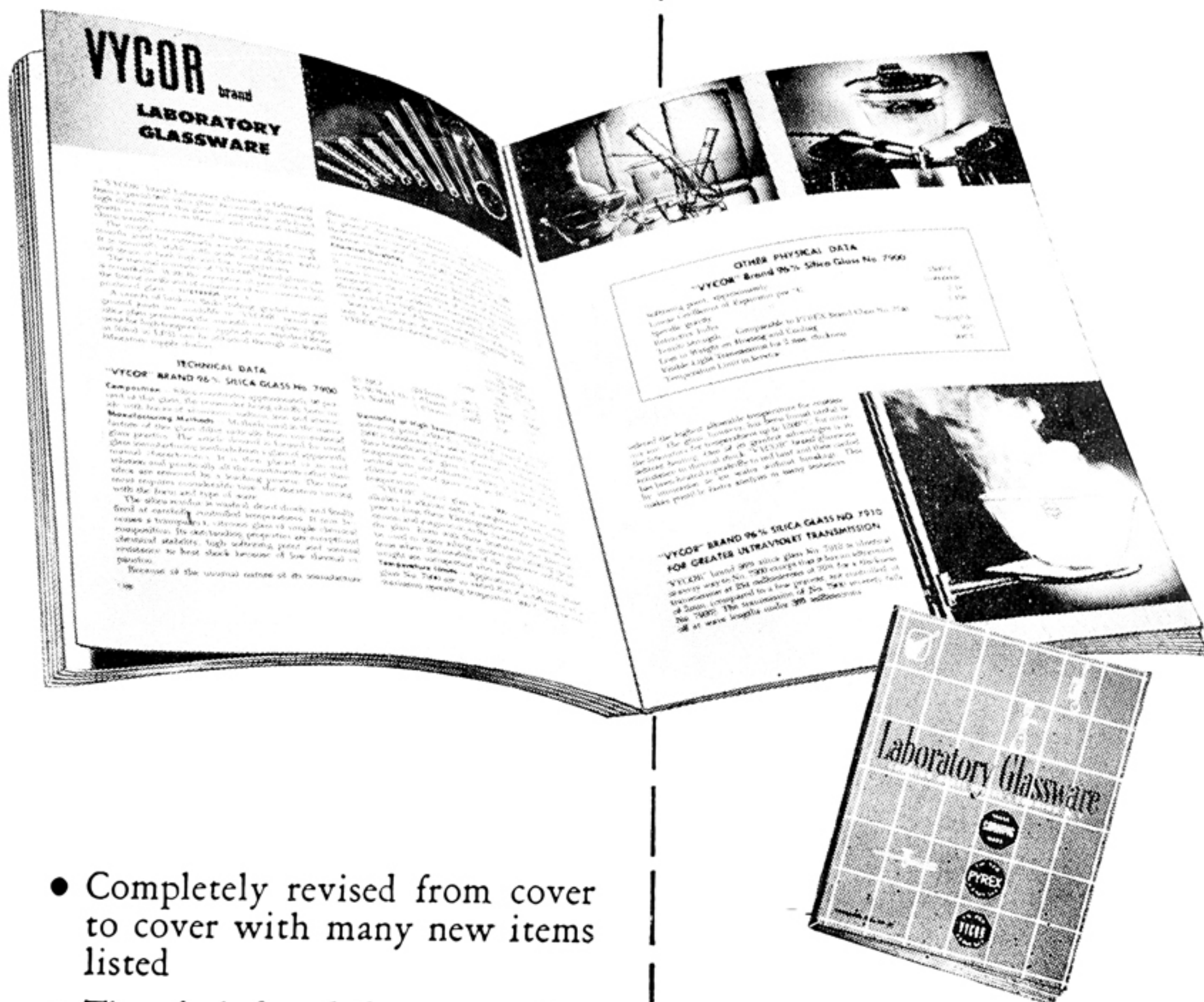
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## **WE SAY GOODBYE**

The Chemical Engineering Division at the University of Washington recently suffered the loss of several able professors and research associates in the stiff personnel competition with industry. Drs. Frank B. West and Curtis F. Gerald concluded their academic duties with the division this summer, and Dr. Nalini R. Mukherjee will leave the campus soon.

Assistant Professor West has been in the Chemical Engineering staff since 1939, with the exception of the period with the duPont Company during the war years of 1942 to 1946. During his years at the University, he was in charge of the unit operations laboratories and in supervision of graduate research relating to unit operations, especially liquid-liquid extraction processes. He is now with the research group of Shell Development at Emeryville, Calif.

Assistant Professor Gerald came from the Universal Oil Products of Chicago to teach at the University in 1947. He was active in directing research in catalytic cracking, fluid flow, and liquid-liquid systems and in giving undergraduate and graduate courses in these fields. Dr. Gerald left the University to rejoin Universal Oil Products this July.

Dr. Mukherjee, research associate from India, is leaving to teach at the University of Alaska. He joined the University in 1949, engaging in crystallographic studies.

Dr. Putnam, research associate in the Engineering Experimental Station since 1947 and former editor of PSC, is going into the fields of material preservation and of consulting work in the Seattle area. He has been in charge of electrochemical research.

It appears, thus, in the competition for professional personnel, the Northwest has suffered indeed no small setback in losing these talents for the training of the coming generation of the chemical profession. Regretting the loss, PSC wishes Drs. West, Gerald and Mukherjee great success and luck in their new positions and Dr. Putnam in his business venture.—Henry Cheung.

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## TIME — A DIMENSION OF TRUTH

Because of the pressure of other duties and other problems, it is necessary for me to resign as editor of the **Puget Sound Chemist**. I urge the membership to give Eric Reaville, our new editor, even greater support than has been given me, to the end that the **Puget Sound Chemist** will effectively reflect the ideas and ideals of Puget Sound chemists.

It the last few issues, we have tried to point out that "Time is usually a dimension of truth." The characteristics of people, nations, dollars, materials and of the science of chemistry change with time. As any parent knows, a child converts chemical energy into mechanical energy far more efficiently than does an adult. The National Research Council estimates that the deterioration of our material wealth by corrosion, weathering and bacterial decay amounts to about \$12 billion per year (1951), more than twice the material cost of our Korean activities. In a society that we may call mature, the changes usually result in degradation, in disorder, in deterioration.

Perhaps it is also desirable to recognize the relativistic aspect of change. In the space of five years have our new friends of Rome, Berlin, Tokyo and Madrid (and our new enemies) changed—or have we?

—G. L. Putnam



## SOME IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT PSYCHOLOGY

By HARRY HELSON

Professor of Bryn Mawr College, Phi Kappa Phi Journal, December, 1940.

It is not unfair to the older psychologists to say that the view of the educated or superior individual which they gave us was in terms of the larger number of **associations** or connections which he is able to form as against the smaller number of the uneducated or mentally inferior individual. While this view had

the merit of appearing to furnish the only quantitative account of learning and intelligence, it suffers from its neglect of certain very important facts which it cannot readily explain. The famous case of "K", investigated at Columbia University some years ago, shows how oversimplified this view is. "K" could give the population of every town and city in the United States over 5,000; the names, number of rooms, and the location of about 2,000 leading hotels; the county seats of all counties in the country; the populations of 1,800 leading foreign cities; the distances of all cities in this country from New York and from Chicago and also the distance of each city and town to the largest city in its state; statistics concerning 3,000 mountains and rivers; and the dates and essential facts connected with over 2,000 leading inventions and discoveries. Yet in spite of this vast number of accumulated facts, "K" with a chronological age of 38 obtained a mental age rating of only 11 years and ten months on the Stanford Revision which signifies an I.Q. of 0.74 and places him on the border-line between the so-called feeble minded and normal.

---

Excerpt from address delivered at a general assembly of the University of Maine Summer Session, July 26, 1940.



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The analytical, sampling and testing facilities of Laucks Laboratories, Inc., have been purchased by Laucks Testing Laboratories, Inc.

The new corporation is headed by Francis P. Owens, a member of the Laucks staff for the past 17 years, and Gerald O. Freeman, a member of the Laucks staff for 12 years.

The Puget Sound Chemist wishes every success to Mr. Owen and Mr. Freeman in their new venture.

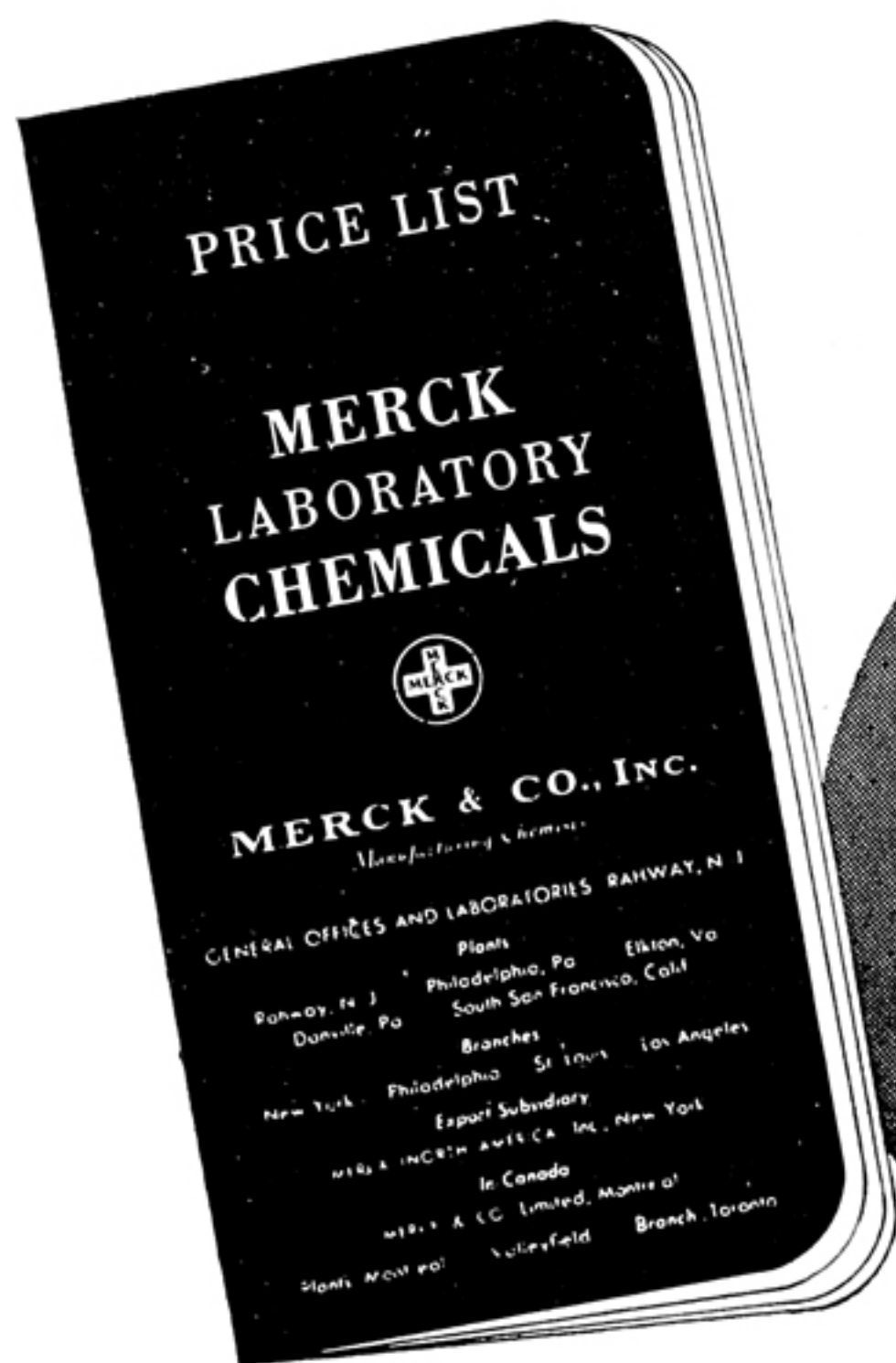


It is an impudent kind of sorcery to attempt to blind us with the smoke, without convincing us that the fire has existed.

—Junius

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## WELL . . . WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

Th American Chemical Society, with its 66,000 members making it one of the largest scientific societies in the world, this year celebrates its golden anniversary. Truly this great Society is powerful, making its influence felt . . . or is it? Let us examine the picture.

Chemists in the Pharmaceutical Industry have given us many wonderful new drugs . . . but in the news stories they are apt to be termed "medical scientists." A small matter, one may say, but let us look further.

According to law in many, if not all of our States, a chemist may synthesize new drugs to his heart's content . . . he may work out the complex problems involved in their large-scale production . . . he may control the processes . . . he may even carry out the process but he can not be in responsible charge of the operation. This is reserved to the pharmacist, for the pharmacist, unlike the chemist, has looked after himself in the halls of our legislatures.

Again, a chemist may devise a new procedure for the determination of the iodine content of blood serum. He can publish his method in technical journals and gain an enviable reputation in scientific circles. But, unless he is also qualified in various accessory fields, this chemist cannot determine the amount of reducing sugars in urine . . . in fact, he cannot legally even determine the specific gravity of urine . . . for this field is reserved to the clinical technologist and to the Doctor of Medicine who have not been above showing an interest in matters legislative.

What is the answer to this constant chipping away of the field of the chemist? Licensure . . . Certification . . . or what? Above all, what has the American Chemical Society done in combating this situation?

A few years ago, and at great expense, the membership of the Society was polled upon this important question. As might have been expected, the results

of this great button-holing operation were equivocal, so nothing at all has been done. We are still drifting along, rudderless, in the stream of events.

Only last Spring did the Council finally get around to appointing a Committee on Professional Regulation. We trust that this Committee will speedily bring forth some concrete proposals which will be acted upon by the Council and Board of Directors. For too long our leaders have held their ears to the ground, an attitude certainly no more dignified than the traditional position of the ostrich . . . and no more productive.

Quoted from Scalacs.

### COMMENTS INVITED



Never argue at a dinner table, for the one who is not hungry always gets the best of the argument.

—Anon.

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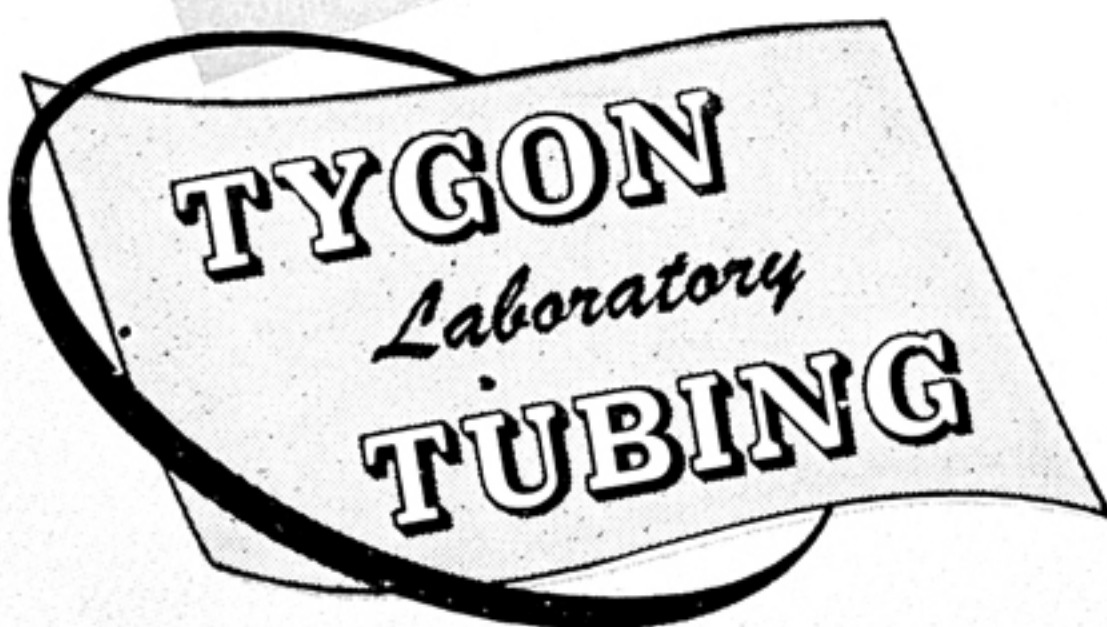


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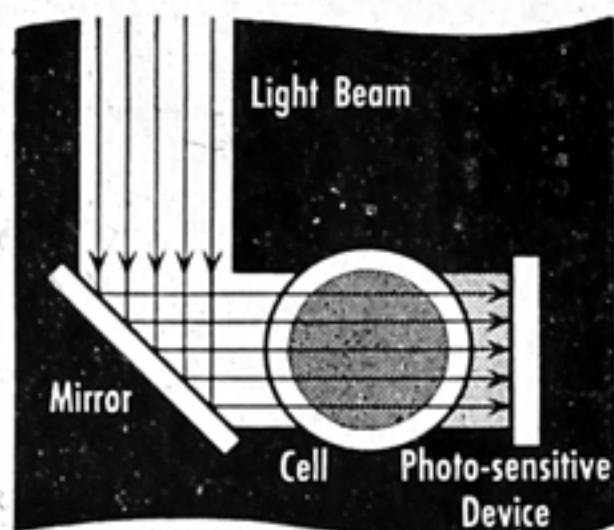


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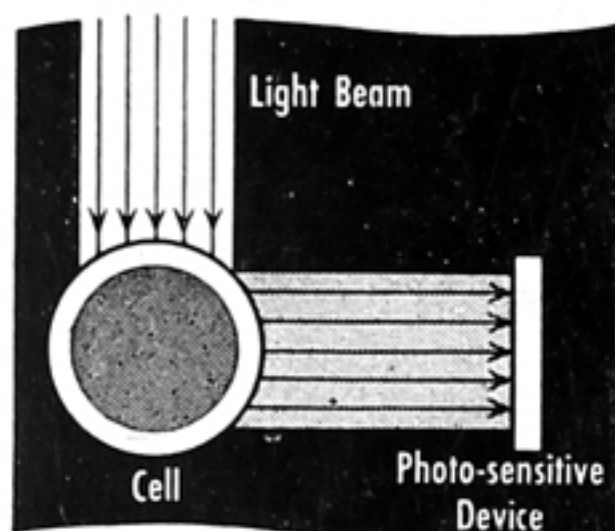
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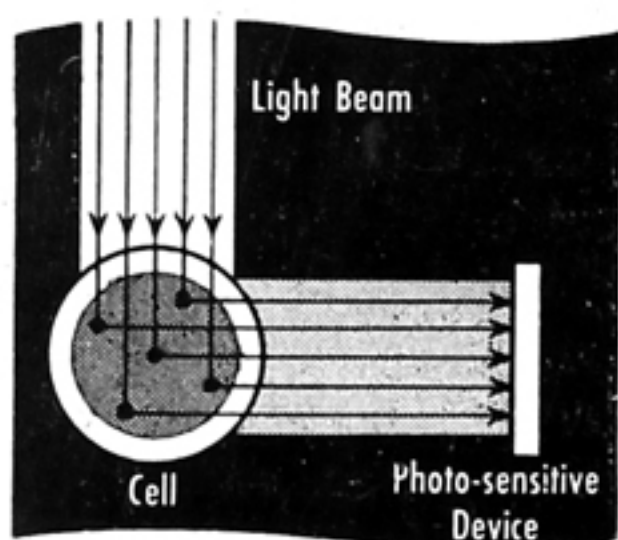
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