

# NEWS LETTER

## Association of Indiana University Chemists

July 18, 1950

Dear A. I. U. C. members:

In accordance with our announcement made in the letter sent out last fall, we have set up a card file of the names and addresses of the membership of the Association in anticipation of assuming (subject to your approval) duties of Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. As a result we find that a number of those who have sent in money for dues have never received news letters. We are accordingly sending this letter out to all of those for whom we have addresses. Will you please tell us how many letters you have received so that we can determine how much you have coming to you on the basis of the dues you have already paid.

This brings up another matter. It is difficult to get news of your activities so that we can pass the word on to others who may be interested. Your response to the postcard sent out last summer was very gratifying. Can't we induce you to loosen up just a little and help us out by sending in some information about yourselves. We want to get out another letter after the 115th Meeting of the A. C. S. in September and will need a lot of material to make it interesting. Just add these items to the enclosed postcard along with your votes on the proposed constitution and the slate of officers for next year.

We will send you a notice giving the time and place of the luncheon meeting to be held in Chicago as part of the 118th Meeting of the A. C. S.

You will find attached to the end of this letter a proposal for a "streamlined" constitution drawn up for your approval. Please signify your approval or disapproval on the enclosed card. If you have any comments, please write them out and send them in. Now that we are getting reorganized we are hopeful of giving you the best and most efficient service. Your suggestions toward this end will be welcomed. Along with the proposed constitution is a proposed slate of officers for the coming year. Please indicate your preference on the ballot provided on the card.

That takes care of the business matters except for reporting the activities of the Association. Three luncheon meetings have been held since the last news letter was sent out. On September 21, 1949 fifty-four attended the luncheon meeting held at the Hotel Madison in Atlantic City. Chairman Gucker of the Department of Chemistry presided at the meeting. At the divided meetings this past spring two luncheon meetings took place. The meeting at Philadelphia was held at the Sheraton Hotel with D. A. Rothrock of Rohm and Haas presiding. The other meeting was held in Detroit at the Book-Cadillac Hotel. Dr. Frank T. Gucker, Jr., Chairman of the Department of Chemistry, presided.

We hope those of you who come to Bloomington or pass through on your vacations will drop in to renew acquaintances or to become acquainted with us in the Department of Chemistry.

Sincerely,

John S. Peake

## NEWS OF THE ALUMNI OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

James Faucett, Ph. D. 1948, has "settled down" in Trenton, Michigan with the Trenton Chemical Company. He has worked on the designing of processes for making monosodium glutamate and products from grain and starch. He has designed and installed plants for use in Australia and Spain as well as in this country. During the war and immediate postwar years he had his own engineering firm.

Alvin Borders, Ph. D. '37, is teaching and directing research at the Institute of Paper Chemistry at Appleton, Wisconsin.

Lowell Max Wagner, Ph. D. 1949, is already well established and engaged in some important research projects at the Engineering Experiment Station of DuPont at Wilmington, Delaware.

Joseph E. Weber, Ph. D. '37, is teaching organic chemistry at Bowling Green State University at Bowling Green, Ohio.

John F. Deupree, Ph. D. '36, teaches organic chemistry at the University of Detroit.

Lella Trafelet, A. M. 1938, is associated with the Wyandotte Chemical Corporation in Wyandotte, Michigan.

Lester L. Stout, B. S. '36 is on the supervisory staff of the Ohio State University Research Foundation.

Frank B. Pope, Ph. D. '40, is now with the Sharples Chemical Company at Elmhurst, Illinois.

Floyd James, Ph. D. '37, is teaching chemistry at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. He, his wife (Reva Atkinson), and their three children visit us frequently when in Bloomington spending a holiday with their parents who live here. We have learned via Floyd that three of the four men of rank of assistant professor and above at the Virginia Military Institute are Indiana graduates. They are:

H. E. Ritchey, A.B. '28, professor, who teaches organic chemistry,

B. W. Mundy, A.M. '41, assistant professor, who teaches physical chemistry, and

R. B. Linville, A.M. '30, assistant professor, who teaches qualitative analysis.

Foster Pepper, A.M. '32, of Calco Chemical Division of American Cyanamid Company has a son, Kenneth O. Pepper, who entered Indiana University as a freshman this past school year.

James Hatfield, Ph. D. '34, is Works Manager for the Willard Storage Battery Co. in Cleveland, Ohio. He and his son Hayes dropped in to see Professor Brown one day early in July.

Dorothy Arndt Inglis, A. B. '24, reports that she has been doing spectrographic analysis at the Rustless Iron and Steel Division of Armco since 1942 when she started as part of the war effort. Becoming quite interested in her work she has stayed on after the war.

M. W. Mead, A. B. '46, is in the research department of the Oldbury Electro-Chemical Co. at Niagara Falls, New York.

Dr. William V. Hare, A.B. '41, is now Professor of Pathology at the University of Mississippi.

W. P. Metzner, A. B. '33, is now Director of Research for the Rubber Service Department at the Monsanto Chemical Co., Nitro, West Virginia.

J. H. Young, Ph. D. '38, has been with the Anaconda Wire and Cable Co. at Marion, Indiana since 1941 except for time out during the war when he taught chemistry for the Navy. In addition to his daytime job with Anaconda in the x-ray and spectroscopy laboratory, he has also taught night classes at extension centers for Indiana and Purdue universities.

John Sloan, B.S. '39, is a research chemist in the Starch and Dextrose Division of the Department of Agriculture's Northern Regional Laboratory at Peoria, Illinois.

Maurice Felger, Ph. D. '38, with his wife (Eleanor Colson) and their three children called on us during Commencement week. They had come to the campus for the reunion of the Class of '30. Maurice is employed as Development Chemist at the General Electric Co. at Fort Wayne.

Eugene Wagoner, A. B. '30, is a chemist in the Electrochemicals Department of E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Co. at Niagara Falls. Eugene visited the Chemistry Department this spring.

Robert Treadway, Ph. D. '36, was unavoidably absent from the Philadelphia luncheon meeting though he is employed by the Eastern Regional Agricultural Research Laboratories of the Department of Agriculture which are in Philadelphia. He had been called to Main in connection with his specialty, potatoes.

Dr. R. R. Sayers, A.M. '07, retired from the U. S. Public Health Service in August of 1948 after thirty-five years association with that organization. However, as Dr. Sayers stationery shows, he is Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board of the United Mine Workers of America Welfare and Retirement Fund.

Lloyd G. Miller, B.S. '47, is employed as an analytical chemist by RCA Victor in Marion, Indiana. He received a M.S. degree from Purdue University in 1950.

David A. Rothrock, Jr. A.B. '32, is Sales Manager of the Plastics Department of Rohm and Haas Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dave visited the campus last November for the Indiana-Purdue football game. He also very kindly took charge of the luncheon meeting at the Hotel Sheraton in Philadelphia on April 11 on just two hours' notice.

DeLoss Grant, A.B. '17, was recently given a testimonial dinner by his friends and the officials of the Chicago District Branch of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Co. in honor of his twenty-five years of service as credit manager of that organization.

Dr. Chester Brothers, A.B. '18, is practicing medicine near Fort Wayne.

Otis W. Fortner, A.B. '40, is a research chemist for the Air Reduction Sales Co. at Stamford, Connecticut.

Dr. R. H. McIlroy, A.B. '31, is practising medicine and specializing in surgery at Pueblo, Colorado. He served for four years, mostly in the South Seas, with the Army during World War II.

C. E. Inman, A.B. '41, is a research chemist for the Pennsylvania Salt Co. at their White Marsh Laboratory in Philadelphia. He is working on fluorine substitutes and organic compounds for lubricants.

H. B. Knowlton, A.B. '12, has been with the International Harvester Company. He is supervisor of Materials Engineering.

V. L. Miller, A.M. '39, is Research Administrative Assistant with the Pittsburgh Corning Corporation at Port Allegany, Pennsylvania. He is also secretary of the Western Pennsylvania Section of the American Chemical Society.

Ralph W. Davis, A.M. '42, dropped in to see us during the writing of this letter. He is doing research on the synthesis of organic fluorine compounds in the Chemical Engineering Laboratory of The Dow Chemical Company.

## NEWS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

The news of the Department of Chemistry which will be of most widespread interest to members of the A.I.U.C. is the retirement of Prof. Mathers. We know that he has the wishes of all the alumni for many years of good health and the freedom to do the things which he enjoys. His long record of service shows its most tangible results in the large number of chemists who have received a considerable part of their training through his efforts. This past winter Prof. Mathers was ill as a result of a coronary occlusion. The long rest forced upon him has renewed his usual good health, and he is now back at the Chemistry Building nearly every day.

Since the death of Mrs. Brown last November, Professor-emeritus O. W. Brown has been spending even more of his time with his research assistants. He is in to supervise them almost daily, and his health appears to be better than it was twenty years ago.

Three new men were added to the staff of the Department of Chemistry during the past year.

Dr. William Nebergall who received his Ph. D. degree in 1949 from the University of Minnesota is now an assistant professor and is teaching in the field of inorganic chemistry. Dr. Nebergall comes to us with about ten years previous teaching experience in several colleges and universities of the middlewest.

Dr. Ralph Seifert is an associate professor specializing in physical chemistry. He was formerly head of the Department of Chemistry at Carleton College at Northfield, Minnesota. Dr. Seifert also directs certain research projects at the Argonne National Laboratory.

Dr. Henry Thacher came to Indiana from Yale University where he was associated with Professor Lars Onsager in work in theoretical chemistry. He is an assistant professor and is teaching in the field of physical chemistry.

Dr. Kenneth J. Radimer resigned his position in the Department of Chemistry to take a position with the General Chemical Division of Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation. His place in the inorganic division of the staff is being taken by Ward B. Schaap who is doing his doctoral research at the University of Illinois.

Dean Herman T. Briscoe spoke at the colloquium held just prior to the Christmas recess. His subject was "My Philosophy of Teaching." Many university faculty members from other science departments as well as the Department of Chemistry faculty and graduate students attended. During this summer Dean Briscoe is completing another revision of his textbook, *College Chemistry*, while spending part of the summer at his cottage on Put-in-Bay.

During the past school year Dr. Frank T. Gucker, Jr., Head of the Department of Chemistry, has travelled greatly to deliver various lectures and take part in symposia

concerning aerosols and related subjects. In November he was at the new University of California at Los Angeles and in Pasadena at a symposium sponsored by the Stanford Research Institute, the California Institute of Technology, the University of California, and the University of Southern California. In January Dr. Gucker spoke at Purdue University, DePauw University, and the University of Illinois. In April Dr. Gucker attended an Army Technical conference at the Army Chemical Center, Camp Detrick, Maryland.

Dr. L. L. Merritt, Jr. spent the first semester of the school year on leave of absence and was a Visiting Professor at California Institute of Technology. The Merritt family returned to Bloomington in February and had to rush Mrs. Merritt to the hospital immediately for an emergency appendectomy.

Mr. Carl Kretschmar for the past three years in charge of the Library of Chemistry and Bacteriology in the Chemistry Building, the Geology Library in Owen Hall, the Biology Library in Biology Hall, and the Medical and Physiology Library in the Medical Building has taken a position as the librarian of the Indiana University School of Medicine at Indianapolis.

The new librarian who is taking Mr. Kretschmar's place is Mr. Albrecht M. Kronenberger. Mr. Kronenberger comes to us from the Central Air Documents Office, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio where he developed methods for and supervised the cataloging of more than 55,000 captured German and Japanese documents of technical interest. Prior to that Mr. Kronenberger was an assistant librarian at Teachers College, Columbia University. He has his library training from Columbia University's School of Library Service in New York, and also a "Referendar" degree and a "Doctor Juris" degree from the Universities of Frankfurt and Würzburg, respectively. He practiced law in Weisbaden, Germany prior to coming to the United States.

A private office for the librarian has been built by closing off the separate hall leading to the Industrial Laboratory.

A great many incidental improvements have been made in the Chemistry Building and a number of important supplies bought. Representative of these are the fire-showers which have been installed in each of the undergraduate laboratories; the employment of Mr. Earl Sexton full-time as a glass-blower; over \$22,000 worth of scientific equipment has been bought; \$8,000 spent for electrophoresis equipment; models showing molecular structure have been bought for the organic chemistry classes; the subsidiary stock-rooms have been remodeled to stock more supplies; and a group of four instrument rooms containing an air-conditioned room with closely controlled temperature, a dark room, and x-ray room, and a large room for instruction in instrumental methods have been especially re-designed and refitted.

Mr. Seidel, assistant to Dr. Gucker, is at present checking the plans of a new building to be built for atomic energy research. This building will be a seventy-five foot long, one-story cement block building to be constructed south of the east end of the Chemistry Building. It will be a semi-permanent building containing a laboratory

for the preparation of radioactive material, an animal room, a research laboratory for post-doctoral students, a laboratory for instruction of students in the use of radioactive material, a classroom, counting rooms, an office, and storage rooms with showers.

At the present time the Department of Chemistry holds over \$100,000 worth of research grants and fellowships from outside sources. Of these four are U. S. Public Health Service fellowships and grants which include a post-doctoral fellowship held by Dr. J. C. Muhler and supervised by Dr. Harry G. Day, a grant for cancer research supervised by Dr. E. E. Campaigne, and a grant for chemistry and a pre-doctoral fellowship held by C. F. Crampton both supervised by Dr. Felix Haurowitz. There are three Fred. Gardner Cottrell Chemistry grants from the Radio Corporation of America held respectively by Drs. Campaigne, Fischer, and Merritt. Dr. Campaigne supervises fellowships given by E. I. du Pont de Nemours Company and the Sterling Winthrop Research Institute. Dr. Day has under his direction fellowships supplied by the Nutrition Foundation, Corn Industries, Standard Brands, Inc., and the Department of the Army for fluorine research. Dr. Frank T. Gucker, Jr. supervises two extensive research projects which obtain their finances from the Department of the Army and the Department of the Navy, respectively.

Three new grants have just been obtained from the Atomic Energy Commission. Two of these will be supervised by Drs. Haurowitz and Merritt, respectively; and the third is for anti-metabolite research supervised jointly by Drs. E. E. Campaigne, Harry G. Day, and Randall Thompson who is at the Indiana University Medical School at Indianapolis.

During the past school year one member of the Department of Chemistry's group of graduate students, Mr. Marvin Bothwell, has held a University Fellowship. For the coming year University Fellowships have been given to Mr. Bothwell and to Mr. Dale Fisher.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY CHEMISTS

*Article I*

The name of this organization shall be

*Association of Indiana University Chemists*

*Article II*

The objectives of the association shall be to serve its membership as a medium for the gathering and dissemination of information of interest to the membership and to sponsor meetings of the alumni of the Department of Chemistry of Indiana University.

*Article III*

The membership in the Association of Indiana University Chemists shall include graduates of the Department of Chemistry of Indiana University, present and former faculty members of the Department, and former graduate students of the Department.

*Article IV*

*Section I.* The business of the Association shall be transacted by officers elected annually by the written vote of the membership. These officers shall be a President and a Secretary-Treasurer.

*Section II.* The duty of the President shall be to preside at meetings of the Association. The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be to edit and publish news letters each year, to collect dues, to supervise the records and finances of the Association, and to call meetings of the Association.

*Section III.* A slate of candidates shall be proposed by the Chairman of the Department of Chemistry and one space shall be provided opposite the name of each proposed candidate for recording any votes for alternate candidates proposed by the member casting the ballot.

*Section IV.* In the event that conditions make it impossible for the officers to discharge their assigned duties for their full term of office, the Chairman of the Department of Chemistry shall make interim appointments for carrying out the work of such officers until the next regular election.

Please check the proper box on the enclosed card indicating whether you approve or disapprove of the above proposed constitution. If you do not approve, will you kindly write in your suggestions for improvement?

Slate of Candidates for Officers of the  
Association of Indiana University Chemists.

For President— Mrs. William J. Sparks (Meredith Pleasant)

or

For Secretary-Treasurer— John S. Peake

or

Please indicate your choice for the above officers, writing on the card the name of your candidates on the blank lines if you wish to propose someone.