

Appreciation and a Wish

It is really remarkable how our SOCIETY has grown and how it has become a potent factor in everyday life.

In quietly going over its several publications evidence appears that it is interested not only in pure science, but in the application of the principles of the science to all industries dependent upon such principles.

One must feel proud of the splendid contributions which fill the pages of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, and one must also recognize the worth-while things appearing in the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*. The contributions to the latter *Journal* are most helpful to the great rank and file of American chemists, who are giving, in a very unselfish way, their best efforts to the establishment of industries in the home land, a goal to which American chemists have aspired since the founding of the Republic.

Again, *Chemical Abstracts* must appeal to every member of the SOCIETY. It has meant very much to me in my own work. It has directed me to hundreds of papers which, perhaps, would have escaped my attention, or which I would have discovered only after long, tedious search.

One of the happiest moments I have had during the past year was when it was determined to institute a section on Chemical Education. Our teachers deserve the very best that can be provided. Most of them are also investigators, heroically devoting themselves to instilling the principles of chemistry into the minds of vast student bodies destined for future industrial activity. Much of this noble work is being done under most unsatisfactory conditions. The first meeting of teachers of chemistry, in New York last September, showed clearly how eager they were to be of service in this fundamental preparation and to make sacrifice for the best interests of chemistry throughout the land.

I can't refrain from expressing the wish that as all the many interests, represented in the great membership of the SOCIETY, are working for the upbuilding of American chemical industries, sight will not be lost of the fact that reciprocity is only fair; and that the industries as they arise, develop, and succeed, shall see to it that ample means are provided for research in pure science, for the erection of laboratories, for the maintenance of a well qualified group of experimenters, and last but not least, for the payment of adequate salaries to our self-sacrificing teachers, that they may be easy in mind and able to throw themselves wholeheartedly into their particular occupation.

There is no reason at all why such should not be the case; and it ought to be our purpose to acquaint our neighbors of the great laity as to what chemical science is, how closely it comes to every man, woman and child of our country, how its pursuit is, in the end, their happiness and comfort, and that they should be supporters and benefactors of a profession of which it is an honor to be a part.

The achievements in publication and in other directions have been due largely to the loyal support given the SOCIETY. Continued support may be counted upon to accomplish our future tasks.

EDGAR F. SMITH

Distinguished Service

Five years ago, on January the first, 1917, Dr. Chas. H. Herty entered upon his duties as editor of THIS JOURNAL. They have been years of great events in the world at large and years of extraordinary activity in the field of our profession. During all this period of development and stress the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* under

Dr. Herty's guidance has faithfully reflected the advances in the applications of chemistry, to industry and warfare, which have so profoundly influenced both. But it has done much more. It has voiced in aggressive and convincing editorials the sound Americanism of the chemists of the country. It has consolidated opinion. It has made clear to all who would read the close relationship between the chemical industries and national prosperity and defense.

To reach a wider audience and extend the influence of the SOCIETY Dr. Herty established the News Service, through which, with the cordial co-

operation of the press, the notable advances in chemistry have been placed before the public and their bearing upon the affairs of the community made manifest. To this Service the present general recognition of the vital significance of chemical science is largely due.

In pursuance of his clearly defined policy of establishing American chemistry in its true relation to practical affairs, Dr. Herty developed a singular aptitude for the presentation of its claims before Congressional Committees and public bodies. He convinced by the cogency of his facts, persuaded by the charm of his personality, and inspired by the splendid courage of his convictions.

The influence of Dr. Herty as an educator, his efficiency as an administrator when president of the SOCIETY, and his distinguished success as an editor were due not only to his chemical scholarship, but in large measure to his exceptional personal quality. He combines the courtesy of the Southern gentleman with the aggressiveness of the crusader. His remarkably wide acquaintance is a working asset of the utmost value, for he has a habit of converting acquaintances to friends.

For many years Dr. Herty has been an outstanding figure in the AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY. Few, if any, have served it more variously and effectively. He has earned and carries with him to his new environment the gratitude and good wishes of the chemists of America.

A. D. LITTLE

Do You Remember?

It seems only a few days ago that we were being urged to make America independent in essentials and the then Secretary of the Interior was urging men to "rediscover America." Among other things we wanted a potash industry. We wanted it so badly that every source was sought and tried. The Government experimented with kelp, we heard much of feldspar, of greensands, of alunite, of natural lakes, and of California deposits. Progress was made, millions were spent, and some research and chemical engineering of a high order performed. Chemists and investors knew some-