

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

ORDINARY MEETING

AN Ordinary Meeting of the Society was held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6th, 1963, in the Meeting Room of the Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W.1. The Chair was taken by the President, Dr. A. J. Amos, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

The subject of the meeting was "Particle Size Analysis" and the following papers were presented and discussed: "The Size Analysis of Insoluble Drugs," by M. J. Thornton, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.; "Particle Size Analysis in the Formulation of Pesticides," by C. G. L. Furmidge, B.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.I.C.; "Particle Sizing in Aerosol Systems," by D. A. Blyth, B.Sc., J. M. Creasey and N. W. Wootten, B.Sc., A.Inst.P.

MIDLANDS SECTION AND MICROCHEMISTRY GROUP

A JOINT Meeting of the Midlands Section and the Microchemistry Group was held at 6.30 p.m. on Friday, December 14th, 1962, in the Chemistry Theatre, The University, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15. The Chair was taken by the Vice-Chairman of the Midlands Section, Mr. W. H. Stephenson, F.P.S., D.B.A., F.R.I.C.

The following paper was presented and discussed: "The Determination of Carbon and Hydrogen in Organic Materials," by Miss A. M. G. Macdonald, M.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.I.C.

The meeting was preceded by a tour of the new laboratories in the Haworth block of the University.

MIDLANDS SECTION

A JOINT Meeting of the Section with the Birmingham and Midlands Section of the Royal Institute of Chemistry was held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 24th, 1963, at the Technical College, Stoke-on-Trent. The Chair was taken by the Vice-Chairman of the Midlands Section, Mr. W. H. Stephenson, F.P.S., D.B.A., F.R.I.C.

The following paper was presented and discussed: "Recent Advances in Polarography," by G. F. Reynolds, M.Sc., Ph.D., M.R.S.H., F.R.I.C.

MICROCHEMISTRY GROUP

THE thirty-seventh London Discussion Meeting of the Group was held at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19th, 1962, at "The Feathers," Tudor Street, London, E.C.4. The Chair was taken by the Chairman of the Group, Mr. C. Whalley, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

The meeting took the form of a Review Meeting, at which any subject related to those already covered in the Discussion Meetings was raised.

THE thirty-eighth London Discussion Meeting of the Group was held at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23rd, at "The Feathers," Tudor Street, London, E.C.4. The Chair was taken by the Chairman of the Group, Mr. C. Whalley, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

A Discussion on "The Microdetermination of Mercury" was opened by R. F. Milton, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C., M.I.Biol.

BIOLOGICAL METHODS GROUP

THE eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Group was held at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, December 13th, 1962, at "The Feathers," Tudor Street, London, E.C.4. The Chair was taken by the Chairman of the Group, Mr. J. S. Simpson, F.I.M.L.T. The following Officers and Committee Members were elected for the forthcoming year:—*Chairman*—Mr. W. A. Broom. *Vice-Chairman*—Dr. M. W. Parkes. *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*—Mr. K. L. Smith, Standards Department, Boots Pure Drug Co. Ltd., Nottingham. *Members of Committee*—Dr. Jillian M. Bond, Mr. D. C. M. Adamson, Mr. L. C. Dutton, Dr. F. W. Norris, Mr. J. S. Simpson and Mr. G. Sykes. *Hon. Recorder*—Miss A. M. Jones. Mr. D. M. Freeland and Dr. J. H. Hamence were re-appointed Hon. Auditors.

Immediately following the Annual General Meeting a Discussion Meeting on "The Assessment of Vitamins in Feeding Stuffs" was opened by A. J. Amos, O.B.E., B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C.

ATOMIC ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY DISCUSSION PANEL

THE Inaugural Meeting of the Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy Discussion Panel of the Physical Methods Group was held at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12th, 1962, in the Meeting Room of the Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1. The Chair was taken by the Chairman of the Panel, Mr. W. T. Elwell, F.R.I.C.

The following paper was presented and discussed: "Aspects of Atomic Absorption Analysis," by D. J. David, M.Sc. (see summary below).

ASPECTS OF ATOMIC ABSORPTION ANALYSIS

MR. D. J. DAVID said that, since the introduction of atomic absorption analysis and the apparatus essential for it by Walsh in 1953, research in Australia and New Zealand had been conducted along three main lines. These were—

- (a) The study of vaporisation of samples in flames, entailing examination of inter-element effects arising from variations in general composition of samples, interaction between flame gases and sample and the effect of organic solvents.
- (b) The study of alternative means of vaporisation of samples, notably use of the sputtering chamber for metallic samples.
- (c) The search for means of increasing sensitivity by choice of absorbing line and modification of apparatus.

Recent research in the United States had dealt mainly with the study of increase in length of light path through the vaporised sample as a means of gaining sensitivity and the use of a continuum as source of radiation in place of line sources. The speaker discussed these points and emphasised those upon which further advances might depend.

In the discussion that followed, many members of the audience expressed opinions on these points and on other matters of technique that held a general interest.