

THE ANALYST

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS AND OTHER ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS

NORTH OF ENGLAND SECTION

THE Twentieth Annual General Meeting of the Section was held in Manchester on Saturday, January 27th, 1945. The Chairman (Mr. W. Gordon Carey) presided over an attendance of thirty. The Hon. Secretary presented the Report and Financial Statement, which were adopted.

Appointments were made as follows:—*Chairman*: H. M. Mason; *Vice-Chairman*: C. H. Manley. *Committee*: H. F. Bamford, W. Gordon Carey, W. F. Elvidge, C. J. House, J. G. Sherratt, R. W. Sutton. *Hon Auditors*: U. A. Coates, J. R. Walmsley. *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*: Arnold Lees.

The following paper was read and discussed:—"A Note on the Determination of the Specific Gravity of Sterilised Milk," by Dr. G. H. Walker, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

A meeting of the Section was held in Leeds on Saturday, April 14th, 1945. The Chairman (Mr. H. M. Mason) presided over an attendance of twenty-one. The following papers were read:—"Our Society," by W. Gordon Carey, F.R.I.C. (retiring Chairman); "The Peroxide Value of Oils and Fats," by H. Weatherall, F.R.I.C., and C. B. Stuffs, A.R.I.C.

PHYSICAL METHODS GROUP

A GENERAL Meeting was held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 3rd, at The Chemical Society's Rooms, Burlington House, London, W.1, with Mr. R. C. Chirnside in the chair. Mr. C. A. Bassett and Dr. D. C. Garratt were elected Honorary Auditors. The draft rules were approved by the meeting. A paper was read by Dr. H. W. Thompson on "Infra-Red Spectrography in Relation to Chemical Analysis."

MICROCHEMISTRY GROUP

A MEETING of the Microchemistry Group was held in conjunction with the Manchester and District Section of the Royal Institute of Chemistry on Friday, May 25th, at Manchester.

The Microchemical Laboratories at the Manchester College of Technology were visited, through the courtesy of Prof. J. Kenner, F.R.S. Apparatus for inorganic and organic semi-micro-analysis was on view and demonstrations were given, by the students, of inorganic analysis by drop methods and chemical microscopy.

The meeting was opened at the Grand Hotel, Aytoun Street, by the Chairman of the Group, Prof. H. V. A. Briscoe, who thanked Prof. Kenner for arranging the excellent demonstration of microchemical methods. Prof. Briscoe referred to the work of the Group Committee which had recently been instrumental in arranging for a census to be taken of all educational institutions in the country to find what provision was made for the teaching of microchemical methods. The policy of the Group Committee was to hold three meetings per annum, one to be held in London and the others at suitable provincial centres. The present meeting was the first provincial meeting of the Group, and the next would be held in Newcastle in the autumn.

The following papers were then read.

"Physical Methods used in Microanalysis," by Dr. Cecil L. Wilson. A review of recent micro-methods for the determination of viscosity, surface tension and refractive index was given.

"The Determination of Trace Amounts of Sulphur Dioxide, with Special Reference to the Determination of Sulphur in Ferro-Alloys," by Mr. G. Ingram.

After combustion of the sample in a quartz tube the sulphur dioxide produced is passed into hydrogen peroxide. Wire-form copper oxide is added to the sulphuric acid produced, the excess is removed by filtration and the copper in solution is determined by adding sodium diethyldithiocarbamate and measuring the colour produced in a Spekker Absorptiometer. The amount of copper is related to the sulphur and allows the percentage present in the original sample to be calculated.

"Micro-methods used in the Analysis of Cotton," by Miss M. Corner. A short review was given of micro-methods used in the examination of cotton and other textiles and, in particular, methods used for the detection and determination of metals present.

ANALYTICAL METHODS COMMITTEE

FORMATION OF A SUB-COMMITTEE ON VITAMIN ESTIMATIONS

THE Analytical Methods Committee has appointed a Sub-Committee on Vitamin Estimations to examine the methods that have been proposed for the determination of vitamins in foods, biological materials and medicinal preparations, and to put forward, when considered necessary, standardised procedures. The Sub-Committee is investigating in the first instance the determination of aneurine, riboflavin and nicotinic acid in (*a*) cereals and cereal products, (*b*) malt products, including malt extracts, (*c*) yeast and yeast products, and (*d*) meat extracts. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee is Dr. E. B. Hughes and Mr. Eric C. Wood has been appointed Honorary Secretary.

Three Panels have been formed by the Sub-Committee to carry out the investigations which must necessarily precede the formulation of standard procedures. Any individuals or institutions not at present represented on these Panels who feel that they are in a position to contribute to the advancement of the work are invited to communicate with Mr. Wood, Virol Ltd., Hanger Lane, Ealing, London, W.5.

DEATHS

WE deeply regret to have to record the deaths of the following members of the Society

John Evans	Martin Onslow Forster	Frederick Henry Newington
------------	-----------------------	---------------------------