

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY
1963-1964



President: Paul S. Larson

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PRESIDENT-ELECT: Harry W. Hays
SECRETARY: Carrol S. Weil
TREASURER: William B. Deichmann
PAST PRESIDENT: C. Boyd Shaffer
COUNCIL: Officers and Councilors, Harold C. Hodge, Arnold J. Lehman, Bernard L. Oser, and Verald K. Rowe

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Keith H. Jacobson
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Lloyd W. Hazleton
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THIRD YEAR OF THE SOCIETY

1963-1964

The annual meeting this year was held in the Conference Center of the Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, VA, on March 6-12, 1964. Dr. Paul Larson, President, opened the business meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday and was pleased to note that over 200 had registered for the meeting. He said this was a very important year for the Society for it was our first attempt to prepare for an independent scientific meeting, committees were becoming more active, membership requirements were still a matter of concern and it was the year the Society became incorporated. He then called on Dr. Drill to discuss proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Dr. Victor Drill, chairman of an *ad hoc* Committee to consider changes in the Constitution and By-Laws introduced two propositions for consideration by the membership and which had previously been sent to all the members.

Proposition 1. Qualified persons who have conducted and published original investigations in some phase of toxicology or **qualified persons who have devoted a major portion of their time to work in the field of toxicology at a professional level and who have a continuing professional interest in toxicology** shall be eligible for membership subject to conditions set forth in the By-Laws.

Proposition 2. Qualified persons who do not meet the requirements for active membership but who have devoted a major portion of their time to work in the field of toxicology at a professional level and who have a continuing professional interest in toxicology shall be eligible for **associate membership** subject to conditions set forth in the By-Laws. This was a divisive issue and although many favored the amendment it was defeated. However, it did not discourage efforts to bring about a change in membership requirements.

The Program Committee was busy reviewing abstracts and by September 15 had accepted a total of 73 papers, which necessitated having concurrent sessions at the annual meeting. However, the location of the meeting rooms was very convenient and presented no difficulty. This, of course, was a very special meeting for everyone and we were delighted when the Pfizer Laboratories offered to supply all registered members with a very attractive clip board folder. Dr. Lloyd Hazleton of the Hazleton Laboratories sponsored the social hour and Dr. Ben Oser of the Food and Drug Research Laboratories provided wine for the banquet. Few will forget the banquet, the southern hospitality, the peanut soup, chicken with Virginia ham, and the typsy squire dessert. Above all was the wonderful presentation by Dr. Horace Gerarde of a trip he and some of his colleagues had taken to Russia to see firsthand their approach to industrial hygiene. The success of this part of our program was due in large part to the many helpful suggestions by Dr. and Mrs. Paul Larson.

At this point the Technical Committee had no special assignment but it did express its concern about the limited extent of formal training in toxicology and suggested that the Society, collectively or individually, initiate, encourage, stimulate and endorse instruction in various

facets of toxicology in academic institutions. It felt we needed more and better trained people in this rapidly developing field and that the stature of toxicology would depend upon the availability of training for future toxicologists. It is of interest that as early as 1964 there was real concern about engendering interest in toxicology through better education and the creation of separate departments in universities.

The major activity of the Board of Publications was the operation of the official journal, *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*. This was still a bi-monthly publication and was in its sixth volume. Following the resignation of Dr. Kenneth DuBois on April 1, 1963, the Board elected Dr. Fred Coulston as the new Editor. The Board and Academic Press concurred in a decision to expand the format of the journal, beginning with Volume 6. The new page size was set at 5 x 8 inches and the page allotment was increased to 750 pages. It was estimated that this change would result in 25-30 percent increase in yearly scientific content and with no increase in cost (\$10 per year) for member subscriptions.

From April 1, 1963 to February 1, 1964, the Editor received 91 manuscripts of which 37 were accepted, 25 were under review, 24 were under revision and 5 were rejected. The change in format was aimed at helping to speed up the publication.

We had no written requirement as to format for submission of abstracts, so authors sent what they thought would be acceptable. What we got was what one might expect, many styles of format and organization. Again my secretary, Mrs. Taylor, came to our rescue and typed 73 abstracts and lists of papers to be presented at each session, and Florence M. Carleton did the editorial work. Registrants were provided bound copies at no cost.

The Educational Committee with Dr. DuBois as Chairman took a stronger position on the status of formal training in toxicology. The Committee felt that little if any expansion of activity in this area had taken place in medical schools in spite of the increased responsibility of physicians in dealing with drug toxicity and hazardous chemicals. Departments normally responsible for this aspect of medical education, they said, had been slow to accept their added responsibility and this should be of concern to the Society. The Committee felt very strongly that toxicology is outgrowing its status as a subdiscipline both with respect to its scope of activities and its importance, and suggested that the Society of Toxicology give serious thought to a mechanism by which departments of toxicology could be established and a mechanism by which formal training could be expanded.

The Society of Toxicology became officially incorporated in July 1963, having filed the necessary papers in the District of Columbia. The only thing remaining was to ring out the old and ring in the new. Mr. William E. Hays, our legal counsel, instructed the officers on the procedure to be followed at the conclusion of the business meeting. Dr. Larson called to order a meeting of the members of the incorporated Society namely: Drs. Deichmann, Hays, Hodge, Larson, Lehman and Shaffer with Dr. Larson, chairman, and Dr. Hays, Clerk of the Meeting. The first order of business was the matter of officers. Upon motion duly made and seconded, all members of the incorporated Society being present and voting, it was "Voted: to elect as officers, council members, and elective committee members, the following persons for terms of office coinciding with terms held by such persons in the unincorporated Society of Toxicology."

It was then proposed by Dr. Larson that present members in good standing of the unincorporated Society of Toxicology should become members of the new organization. It was thereupon, on motion duly made and seconded, all members present and voting “Voted: to accept as active members of the incorporated Society of Toxicology, such persons who are certified by the Secretary of the unincorporated Society of Toxicology to be the active members in good standing thereof and to accept as honorary members of the incorporated Society of Toxicology, such persons who are certified by the Secretary of the unincorporated Society of Toxicology to be the honorary members in good standing thereof, all such members both active and honorary, in addition being designated as Charter Members of the incorporated Society of Toxicology.”

This was another milestone and we were very fortunate to have as our counsel and parliamentarian for this meeting the Honorable William E. Hays, Massachusetts State Senator.

Early in the organization of the Society, the council recognized the need for an appropriate seal and Louise Shaffer, wife of C. Boyd Shaffer, offered to design something that would reflect the science of toxicology. After several months of research she submitted a number of ideas and, with minor modifications, the Council approved what is now the official seal which appears on all transactions of the Society and on the cover of abstracts and official journals of the Society and newsletter.

Mrs. Shaffer gave an explanation of the symbolism shown on the seal. The overall idea is “Safety and Protection from Poison Through Increasing Knowledge.” The significance of the symbols are as follows:

SALUS-Latin for “safety”

The ribband-A token of pre-eminence or superiority

The arrow-Toxicum (Latin for poison arrow)

The shield-Protection

The wreath-Symbol of success

Radiating lines-Force manifesting itself: victory over ignorance

If the seal were to be done in colors, these would be white for the shield; red background suggesting warning or danger; a black arrow meaning ignorance; a white ribband meaning wisdom, and olive green for the wreath indicating vigor.