

TWENTIETH YEAR OF THE SOCIETY

1980-1981

This year the Society of Toxicology held its annual meeting at the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, California on March 1-5, 1981. At the annual business meeting on Tuesday, March 3, the President, Dr. Perry Gehring, announced that 1957 individuals had registered for the meeting. He said this was a year of controversy and that he had probably received a record number of letters from the members expressing concern and discontent. The most controversial issue was the Council's decision to consider discontinuing mandatory subscription to the Society journal, *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology (TAP)*. In negotiations, Academic Press noted that the cost of membership subscriptions was very dependent on the number of copies printed and could range up to \$150.00 per individual subscription if there were only a few individual subscriptions. The issue was resolved when the Society decided to maintain mandatory subscription for its membership, thereby holding member subscriptions to \$40.00 per year.

A decision was made to initiate a new Society-owned journal, *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology (FAAT)*. There were some who thought the new journal would replace the official journal, but this was never intended. The new journal, *FAAT*, was initiated to fulfill a need to publish material not normally found in *TAP*, such as reviews, proceedings of symposia and papers on safety evaluation and regulations.

This year brought the first increase in dues since 1962 when they were raised from \$10 to \$20 per year. This did not add very much to the revenue since inflation took care of most of it. The total dues, therefore, amounted to \$40 for *TAP*, \$25 for the new journal, *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology* and \$20 for the Society. Dues for non U.S. members was increased to \$120 because of increased mailing cost of the journal, Newsletter and miscellaneous material.

A major accomplishment was the analysis of the ED₀₁ (megamouse) study conducted by the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR). It was a big undertaking but a credit to the Society and reflected its commitment to the dissemination of information. Dr. Gehring said that perhaps no scientific society had ever committed so much of its financial resources to attain truth in scientific research. The Task Group that undertook the review was Drs. William Carlton (Chairman), Jerry Smith, John Doull, Robert Neal, RoIf Hartung, David Clayson, Phil Watanabe, and John Quest.

The American Board of Toxicology, Inc. gave its first certification examination in July 1980 to 460 applicants, of which 217 were approved. The next examination was scheduled for October 1981.

The Toxicology Laboratory Accreditation Board, Inc. was, Dr. Gehring said, taking more time in getting organized but several laboratories had indicated a desire to seek accreditation. He explained to the members that its purpose was to promote good laboratory practices in toxicology by recognizing those laboratories demonstrating competence in various areas of toxicology through a system of accreditation.

Through the efforts of Dr. Tom Miya, the Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award was developed during the year and 34 applications were received for its \$35,000/year for three years. Only one award is to be made each year. Dr. Gehring hoped that other organizations would fund similar programs that are aimed at supporting the career development of toxicologists and to stimulate teaching and research in academic institutions that have a commitment to toxicology as a basic science.

The Council voted to discontinue at the end of this year the Distinguished Fellow Award because of lack of interest and the difficulty in knowing who was or who was not deserving of this recognition. Dr. Gehring recommended that the Arnold J. Lehman Award be given to an outstanding regulatory toxicologist in recognition of his/her work and would be a real tribute to Arnold Lehman. He also felt that the members were becoming complacent about making nominations for the various awards and said it was their duty to support all the activities of the Society.

The Treasurer, Dr. Harold MacFarland, submitted his last official report as Treasurer of the Society. He said he had found it difficult to convene the Finance Committee each year and utilize it in any effective manner. Since the Council must make the final decision about financial matters, he felt the Committee to be unnecessary and recommended to Council, via a memorandum of August 5, 1980, that it be abolished. In its place he suggested that the Treasurer, with the assistance of two or more members of Council, one being the Executive Secretary, deal with the major financial items and report to the Council for decision. In drafting the Constitution and By-Laws, the Founders considered the need for a Finance Committee, to be *elected* by the members in order to give the membership a voice in financial matters other than the Council and to take advantage of the expertise in the Society of those who have had experience and training in budgeting, accounting procedures, investments and banking. This may not always have been the case but it was our thought that the Nominating Committee would take this into account when selecting nominees for this very important part of the Society's organizational structure.

Income for calendar year 1980 was \$344,547.98 while expenses were \$307,264.75. This provided a net of \$37,283.23. The main sources of revenue were annual meeting, membership dues, corporate associate dues and interest.

In September 1979, the Council officially approved the recommendation of an *ad hoc* Committee, appointed by Dr. Leon Golberg, that the Society endorse, and the Council provide, operational guidance in the formation of regional chapters and specialty sections within the Society of Toxicology. A Task Force was appointed by the Council to implement the recommendation. Model By-Laws and procedural guidelines were developed and approved. As of February 8, 1981, there were four regional chapters and three specialty sections in various stages of development. These groups and the individual designated as the primary contact were as follows:

Regional Chapters

Mid-Atlantic Chapter—Dr. Gary L. Lage, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy & Science

Michigan Chapter—Dr. Jerry Hook, Michigan State University

Mid-West Chapter—Dr. Michael Evans, University of Illinois

North Carolina Chapter—Dr. John Keller, Research Triangle Park

Specialty Sections

Mechanisms—Dr. Stephen Aust, Michigan State Univ.

Metals—Dr. Edward T. Massaro, Pennsylvania State University

Reproductive Toxicology—Dr. E. Marshall Johnson, Jefferson Medical College

The International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) was officially voted into existence during the plenary session of the IUTOX Council in Brussels, July 1980; Dr. Seymour Friess was elected President. The major toxicological organizations from approximately 14 countries and regions in Europe, North America and Asia voted to create the scientific union and adopted a Constitution and By-Laws. At least five or six national societies were in the final stages of formation and indicated a desire to join IUTOX. It was really a great step forward for toxicology and the Society of Toxicology could look with pride at being a founding member of the International Union.

In late 1980, Dr. Robert Neal, Editor, submitted his resignation and Dr. A. Wallace Hayes was elected editor of *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology (TAP)*. From January 1, 1980, to December 31, 1980, the Editorial office received 528 manuscripts with 221 accepted and 215 rejected. The remaining 92 were under review. This ever increasing number of papers and the complexity of managing the Journal took more time than any active scientist could possibly commit. The Board suggested a reorganization of TAP that would allow the Editor and his associate to concentrate on the scientific aspects and have Academic Press assume more responsibility for the business part of publishing the Journal. Dr. Hayes was asked to develop a plan for consideration at the next Board meeting.

The new journal, *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology (FAAT)* was launched during 1980-1981 and would be published out of the Society's office in Akron and under the same procedure used by AIHA. Dr. Robert Lee of the office of SOT was selected to manage the publication of the journal. The Board appointed Dr. Carlton and Dr. Philip Watanabe as Editors. The scope and purpose was to publish scientific articles and reports relating to those broad aspects of toxicology that were relevant to assessing the risk or toxic effects of chemicals, including drugs and natural products on human and animal health. This would include statistical and mathematical methods of risk assessment, safety evaluation, policy papers on regulatory issues relevant to toxicology, and scientific reviews and symposia. The Board set a manuscript handling fee of \$35 the same as for TAP. Numerous manuscripts had already been received and were under review.

To deal with the various proposals being made, the Regulatory Affairs and Legislative Assistance Committee established five separate groups, selected from the members, to undertake a specific project. Group I reviewed the Wampler Bill, No. H.R. 6521; Group II, the

OECD Short and Long Term Toxicology Test Proposals; Group III, the OECD Mutagen Testing Proposal; Group IV, the NCTR Proposal for Data Submission Formats Under TOSCA; Group V, the House Agriculture Committee Hearing on Food Additives. Their reports, submitted to Council, later appeared in brief form in the Newsletter.

The Technical Committee reviewed and commented on several proposals that impacted on the Society of Toxicology. On February 1, 1980, there appeared in the *Federal Register* "Interpretive Guidelines on Employment Discrimination and Reproductive Hazards." It was an attempt by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Department of Labor to establish an approach to enforcement of legislation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The main issue was protection of the unborn child in pregnant women vs protecting women of childbearing age. One member of the Committee did not agree with the report and submitted a minority opinion. The concern was that the Committee thought both pregnant and women of childbearing age should be protected and this raised a question of discrimination. For example, a veterinary product with a statement that it should not be handled or be administered by women of childbearing age would exclude a large percentage of women veterinarians. Indeed there was such a product and the label was changed to limit the excluded class to pregnant women. The Committee issued comments on the "Research Modernization Act" (H.R. 4805) having to do with the establishment of a national center for alternative research, increasing the use of alternative methods; eliminating duplication and testing on live animals. The Committee and the Society went on record as opposing such legislation and asked the members to write to the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Science, Research and Technology. The Committee studied and prepared a very thoughtful draft document on "Criteria For Human Risk Assessment: With Special Emphasis on the Regulation of Potential Carcinogens," but it contained little information on methodologies to be used.

Finally, the Committee made a "Survey of Professional Organizations Relative to Priorities for Agricultural Research, Extension and Higher Education." This was at the request of the Director of Science and Education, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Membership Committee recommended for acceptance by the Council 110 candidates for Active membership in the Society; 39 for Associate and 13 for Student membership. This was the largest number proposed and accepted in the Society.

The Education Committee was requested to consider making a film on toxicology and that funds would possibly be available from the National Science Foundation (NSF). However, it soon became evident that it would take about \$100,000 with the Society contributing \$10,000, but NSF, when approached, did not consider films to be a good investment. Other groups were suggested but time and money were the main constraints.

For the past four or five years a number of target organ symposia were held that were co-sponsored with NIEHS and the Society of Toxicology. In May 1980, there was one concerning the endocrine system; in October, immunotoxicity; and in February, the eye and other special senses. The Committee felt that it was probably time to reassess the program since most of the target organs had been covered. A list of universities offering graduate programs in toxicology was revised and was available to anyone requesting it. Council approved \$5,000 to be divided

among graduate students attending the 1982 SOT meeting who needed financial assistance. If more applications were received than money was available the Education Committee would select them by lottery.

A code of ethics was developed and adopted by Council to aid toxicologists in maintaining ethical conduct in the exercise of professional duties and responsibilities. The code of ethics was published in the February/March 1981 issue of the Newsletter.

Dr. William E. Rinehart replaced Dr. Mark Hite as Director of the Placement Service and Dr. Fred R. Johannsen of Monsanto became Co-Director. The activities continued along the same lines as previously established. There was a significant decrease in 1980-81 in the number of applicants and employees registered with the Employment Service, There were 235 applications and 41 employers with available positions. Estimated number of matches was 7, a decrease of 8 from the previous year. Funds received amounted to \$3,433.16 but the cost of operation was \$3,553.51 or a net loss of \$120.51. Dr. Rinehart suggested that Council should monitor this activity and decide whether it should be retained if registration continued to fall off.

The Program Committee had an unusually difficult task in that it received 587 titles and abstracts for presentation at the scientific sessions. These were divided into 17 Platform Sessions with 226 papers and 13 Poster Sessions with 361 posters. These covered all phases of toxicology and related disciplines. On Monday afternoon, March 2, 1981, there was a symposium on "Perspectives in Metal Toxicity" with Drs. M.G. Cherian of the University of Western Ontario and R. Craig Schnell, University of Nebraska Medical Center, as Co-chairman. On Monday, March 2, there was a specialty section meeting on "Mechanisms of Toxicity" with Dr. Stephen D. Aust, Michigan State University as Chairman. On Tuesday morning, March 3, a symposium "Reproductive Toxicity in Animals and Humans" was held in the main ballroom with Drs. B.A. Schwetz and K.S. Rao of Dow Chemical Company serving as co-chairman. On Wednesday morning a symposium on "Immunotoxicology" was scheduled for 8:30 a.m. and was chaired by Richard D. Irons, CIIT and Paul M. Newberne of MIT. On Thursday morning, Dr. William W. Carlton presented an analysis of the ED₀₁ report of the NCTR study, and in the afternoon a joint symposium with the Environmental Mutagen Society discussed "Mechanisms of DNA Repair." A special symposium on "Prophylaxis and Treatment of Organophosphate Poisoning" was held on Friday, March 6, and was sponsored by the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Indiana University School of Medicine, the Society of Toxicology and the U.S. Army Research and Development Command.

A "Refresher Course: Inhalation Toxicology" was scheduled for Sunday, March 1 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. as part of the continuing education program. It covered the anatomy of the lung, methodology of inhalation exposure, deposition and clearance of inhaled material, and assessment of non-pathologic end points.

At the banquet on Tuesday, March 3, 1981, the President, Dr. Perry Gehring presented the Frank R. Blood Award to Meryl H. Karol, Christine Dixon, Martin Brady and Yves Alarie for their paper "Immunologic Sensitization and Pulmonary Hypersensitivity by Repeated Inhalation of Aromatic Isocyanates" (*TAP* 53:260-270, 1980). The Education Award was presented to Dr. Frederick Sperling, Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Howard University,

Washington, D.C. The Arnold J. Lehman Award was presented to Dr. Gabriel L. Plaa for his scientific excellence and continuing contribution to the field of toxicology. The Merit Award recipient was Dr. John H. Weisburger for a long and distinguished career in toxicology. The first Burroughs Wellcome Toxicology Scholar Award was presented to Alan P. Poland, M.D., McCordle Laboratory for Cancer Research, University of Wisconsin. There was no Achievement Award.

Distinguished Fellow Awards were given to Drs. Joseph F. Borzelleca, Victor A. Drill, Seymour L. Friess, Leon Golberg, Sheldon D. Murphy, Harold M. Peck, Robert A. Scala, and Henry F. Smyth, Jr.