

SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY, INC.
1966-1967



President: Verald K. Rowe

PRESIDENT:	Verald K. Rowe
PRESIDENT-ELECT:	John A. Zapp, Jr.
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TREASURER:	Robert L. Roudabush (1965-67)
PAST-PRESIDENT:	Frederick Coulston
COUNCIL:	Officers and Councilors, Earl H. Dearborn, Horace W. Gerarde, David W. Fassett, and Herbert E. Stokinger

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Earl H. Dearborn
David W. Fassett

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Kent J. Davis
Stephen Krop
Ted A. Loomis
Gilbert J. Mannering
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*Chairman

ad hoc Committees

**Educational Film and
Brochure**

Joseph F. Borzelleca*
Frederick Coulston
David W. Fassett
Gabriel L. Plaa

*Chairman

**Panel on Toxicology
Terminology**

Earl H. Dearborn
Henry F. Smyth, Jr.

SIXTH YEAR OF THE SOCIETY

1966-1967

The sixth annual meeting of the Society was held on March 23-25 at the Marriott Motor Hotel in Atlanta, GA. The President, Mr. V.K. Rowe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and announced that attendance set an all time high of 475. After calling attention to some of the decisions made by Council during the year, Mr. Rowe called upon the Secretary, Treasurer and the Chairman of various committees for reports.

Mr. Weil said there had been a steady growth in attendance: 247 in 1964, 347 in 1965, 417 in 1966. He remarked that when he took office, the former Secretary, Dr. Hays, presented him with one volume of minutes and 3 volumes of correspondence. During his four years in office, he produced 5 volumes of minutes and 10 volumes of correspondence. He also noted that the membership had risen from 183 to 348. The President expressed appreciation for a very excellent job of the Secretary and the fine manner in which he kept everyone informed of the Society's activities.

The Treasurer, Dr. Roudabush, presented the highlights of a rather detailed report and said there was a steady increase in funds and the total assets as of February 28, 1967, were \$14,571.65. The expenses were beginning to increase and he asked that members pay their dues promptly. Expenses would have been greater except that many committee members and officers paid their own travel expenses.

The Board of Publications reported that publication lag time in *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* was markedly reduced from over eight months to 5.9 months. Dr. Shaffer was responsible for editing and processing the technical material for Volumes 7-10 and on behalf of the Society the Board expressed its sincere gratitude to Dr. C. Boyd Shaffer for his splendid services as Editor of the Journal. The Board also welcomed Dr. Earl Dearborn as the new Editor.

The President stated that he was anxious for the Society to move forward on the recommendations made by the Educational Committee at the last business meeting and appointed an *ad hoc* Committee to prepare, if at all possible, a film and brochure to be used for educational and recruitment purpose. The Committee was composed of Drs. Borzelleca, Chairman; Murphy, Deichmann, Carpenter, Fassett, Coulston, and Plaa. A small group met with the audio visual unit at the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, GA and the National Institutes of Health to discuss the problem and means of obtaining technical and financial assistance. The idea of a film and brochure was favorably received but financial support would require a grant application. The Committee felt this might take considerable time and suggested looking for other avenues of support.

The Program Committee had an unusually good response to the call for papers and abstracts. Ninety-two titles were received and 87 were selected for presentation. The meeting room accommodations were excellent and concurrent sessions presented no problem.

The Technical Committee considered the matter of collecting, tabulating and distributing data with literature references on the effects of chemical agents on reproduction. This was a carry-over of the previous Committee's activity under the chairmanship of Dr. Linegar. To bring together this type of information from many sources proved an almost impossible task from the point of view of both manpower and cost. There were many alternative suggestions but the most likely one to yield results was the proposal to have a series of symposia. The Committee's concern was certainly on target, for the Food and Drug Administration had set up an advisory panel on reproduction to develop a protocol for safety evaluation under the chairmanship of Dr. Leo Friedman. As we now know, such studies have become a very important part of chronic bioassays.

An interesting activity was developing at the National Library of Medicine, which the Society of Toxicology had heard about at the previous business meeting in a talk by Dr. George Cosmides on the indexing of terms in the field of toxicology. Dr. Dearborn and Dr. Henry Smyth were asked to serve as a committee to assist in developing this program. They stated that after completing about several miles of government forms, they became consultants to the National Library of Medicine!

After being oriented to Index Medicus, the MEDLARS system and the procedures used in both, the Committee directed its attention to such things as (1) identifying areas of toxicology that should be added to MEDLARS, (2) establishing a level of specificity needed for improved information retrieval, (3) selecting and defining new terms, and (4) providing synonyms and related terms. There were many inadequacies in the system for use by toxicologists and their aim was to update it, within the limits of the computer, to make it useful. This was a very important contribution, for retrieval of toxicological information had become very sophisticated and was available to a wide segment of the scientific community.

The Membership Committee received a total of 51 applications, of which 30 were recommended for active membership. The principle reasons for non-acceptance were the same as in previous years, insufficient number of original publications and interests other than toxicology. The Committee made an interesting tabulation on academic degrees of the present membership in relation to the 30 members now being admitted;

Highest Degree	Current	Membership	New	Members
Doctorate	291	90.4%	27	90.6%
Masters	21	6.5%	2	6.0%
Bachelors	10	3.1%	1	3.4%

This would certainly indicate that the requirements for membership have been carefully considered before making recommendations for approval.

Several changes in the By-Laws were presented to the membership for consideration and were approved at the business meeting. They involved (1) meeting and reporting of the finance committee, (2) the right of members to apply for retired status because of age or disability and (3) failure to pay dues being reduced from two years to one year.

The Awards Committee received a number of nominations for both the Merit and Achievement awards. After a full day of review and discussion, the Committee recommended to the Council the names of: Dr. Arnold J. Lehman for the Merit Award and Dr. Gabriel Plaa for the Achievement Award. Both Awards were presented at the banquet on Tuesday evening, March 24, 1967. The banquet speaker for this meeting was Dr. Richard Bates, General Motors Corporation, who told us "How To Live To Be 100."