

The CLINICAL

Chemist

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THE SECRETARY REPORTS

Plans are now in progress for the Sixth Annual Meetings of the AACC. These will be held in New York City during September 13-16, 1954 in conjunction with the 126th National Meeting of the American Chemical Society. The many interesting features of our past meetings will again be carried through, including the Ernst Bischoff Award and Annual Dinner.

Some of the newer members in the Association may not be aware of the fact that membership certificates are available to them. These engraved certificates are suitable for framing and may be obtained by sending a check to the amount of four dollars to the National Treasurer and indicating the name to be inscribed as well as degrees if one so wishes.

Negotiations are now being carried on with an outstanding publishing house for a journal of clinical chemistry. It is hoped that a complete report on this matter will be ready for the next issue of THE CLINICAL CHEMIST.

The first number of a newsletter by the British Association of Clinical Biochemists reached us a short time ago. From our own early experience with THE CLINICAL CHEMIST we can well imagine the thrill that this first effort must have given to our British colleagues. We most certainly extend to them our best wishes in this editorial venture.

ORIGIN OF THE MIDWEST SECTION

The need for increased participation in the activities of the national association at the Section level was stressed at the Chicago meeting last September (see also *Clinical Chemist*, page 80, Dec. 1953). The Executive Committee and National Officers expressed a desire for the formation of more local sections.

Following the meetings in Chicago, a survey of all members of the Association in Iowa and nearby areas was made. Letters were sent to each member proposing the formation of a Midwest Section, outlining the activities of such a section, and requesting ideas and interest in its formation. Encouraging replies were returned from several members in Iowa, Nebraska, and western Illinois.

The favorable response to this first survey encouraged us to further our efforts to obtain new members in the area and to make definite plans for the formation of a Midwest Section. Within a short time, the group in Iowa City grew from two to fifteen and more members were obtained in the area.

On January 14, an organizational meeting was held at the University Hospital in Iowa City. A temporary Chairman (J. I. Routh) and a temporary Secretary (L. C. Kier) were elected and requested to petition the Executive Committee for the formation of the Midwest Section. Iowa was to serve as a nucleus of the area including Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Missouri, and western Illinois. It was felt that the members in this relatively large area could profit by participation in section activities until such time as new local sections were formed in the member states. The petition for official recognition of the Midwest Section contained thirty charter members.

This might also be a good time for a reminder that the First European Congress on Clinical Chemistry is to meet in Amsterdam from September 23-28, 1954. This Congress has been organized by the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and extends its cordial invitation to American participants.

Max M. Friedman, National Secretary

The first meeting of the Midwest Section was held at the Iowa Methodist and Blank Memorial Hospitals in Des Moines, March 5th. Kurt Dubowski and Mary Doris Sandin arranged a tour of the hospitals and the laboratories. The tour was concluded by a discussion of the problems, the activities and the plans for clinical chemistry in the two hospitals by Dr. Dubowski. Nineteen members of the section were joined for lunch in the Doctors Dining Room by Dr. Dunn, the hospital pathologist. A business meeting followed the lunch. The group worked on by-laws for the section and discussed officers, election of officers, formation of committees, etc. Future programs were considered and plans were made to visit several laboratories in the section.

J. I. Routh

NACL CONVENTION

The National Association Of Clinical Laboratories held their 1954 National Convention at the Hotel Hollenden, Cleveland, Ohio, May 14-16.

This Sixth Annual Convention featured as part of the scientific sessions, "A Symposium On Recent Improvements In Laboratory Procedures". The speakers were: Charles C. Croft, John D. Porterfield, Roger W. Marsters, Nelson F. Young, S. W. Eisenberg.

BACK NUMBERS

The Editorial Committee has available a limited number of back issues of THE CLINICAL CHEMIST for the years 1952 and 1953, Vols 4 and 5. Members that do not have complete volumes for those years or are missing single issues can obtain them by sending a post card to the committee at **Box 123, Lenox Hill Station, New York 21, N.Y.** The card should state the date of election to membership in the AACC as preference will be given to those members that were elected during the year. The number of available copies are limited and they will be distributed according to date of request.

