

The CLINICAL Chemist

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS, INC.

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 1.

JANUARY 1952

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SUBMITS CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Joseph Benotti, Louis B. Dotti, Max M. Friedman, Samuel Natelson, Miriam Reiner, Harry Sobotka, and Warren M. Sperry met in New York on November 11, 1951 and proposed the following slate of officers for the National Executive Committee to serve from July 1, 1952 to June 30, 1953.

President: Albert E. Sobel—
New York, N. Y.

Vice-President: Hugh J. McDonald—
Chicago, Ill.

National Secretary: Max M. Friedman—
Queens, N. Y.

National Treasurer: Louis B. Dotti—
New York, N. Y.

Members: Arthur Knudson—
Albany, N. Y.
Marschelle H. Power
Rochester, Minn.
John G. Reinhold—
Philadelphia, Pa.
Harry Sobotka—
New York, N. Y.
Arnold G. Ware—
Los Angeles, Calif.

The procedure for elections is determined by Article IX of the Constitution: "The Nominating Committee shall deliver to the secretary of this Association a list of persons nominated by them for election as officers and members of the Executive Committee not later than sixty days before the Stated Annual Meeting of this Association.

"The Secretary shall mail a letter ballot listing the nominees of the Nominating Committee to the voting members not later than 45 days before the stated Annual Meeting, such letters ballot including a notice that the names of persons other than the nominees may be written in. All ballots received up to but not later than fifteen days before the Stated Annual Meeting shall be counted."

All members in good standing as of January 1, 1952 are eligible to vote. The name of any member of the Associa-

DR. KNUDSON IN SIAM

Dr. Arthur Knudson, Associate Dean and Professor of Biochemistry at Albany Medical College, has been granted a year's leave of absence to teach in the two medical schools at Bangkok Thailand (Siam), it was announced by Dean R. S. Cunningham of Albany Medical College.

Dr. Knudson's Bangkok assignment was the result of his earlier appointment as a Visiting Professor to the Washington University School of Medicine Faculty. In conjunction with the United States Economic Co-operation Administration, Washington University has developed a reciprocal teaching program between the Faculties of its School of Medicine and those of the two medical schools at Thailand.

Dr. and Mrs. Knudson left for Bangkok on June 25.

N. Y. ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

The New York Academy of Science appointed 99 new fellows from among its 6536 members. Forty-three of these newly appointed fellows, singled out for recognition of outstanding scientific achievements, were chemists and chemical engineers.

Dr. Otto Schales, Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans, La. member of the AACC, was in this group. Dr. Schales is Secretary-Treasurer of the Division of Biological Chemistry of the American Chemical Society.

tion may be substituted for any or all of the names on the enclosed ballot by using the blank lines available under each proposed name. In addition, seven new members of a Nominating Committee are to be elected from among the membership to serve from January 1, 1952 to December 31, 1952.

All ballots must be returned by March 18, 1952 to be counted.

Biographical sketches of the proposed officers and Executive Committee will be found on page 4.

COMPLETE STUDY URGED ON BOARD CERTIFICATION

The following is a chronological record of events and correspondence between the American Board of Clinical Chemistry and the American Association of Clinical Chemists, Inc. The publication of this record has been ordered by a resolution of the National Executive Committee of the AACC for the complete information of the membership.

1948 DECEMBER 15, American Association of Clinical Chemists founded.

1949 APRIL 19, American Association of Clinical Chemists incorporated in the State of New York.

1950 APRIL 12, Dr. W.E. Harrison addressed the Association Annual Dinner-Meeting at Philadelphia, Pa., as Secretary of the Board of Clinical Chemistry.

APRIL 18, American Board of Clinical Chemistry incorporated in the State of Delaware.

DECEMBER 18, CHEMICAL AND ENGINEERING NEWS published the news release of the formation of the ABCC together with the by-laws concerning the qualifications for certification.

1951 JANUARY, The Certificate of Incorporation of the ABCC was transmitted to the Executive Committee of the American Association of Clinical Chemists. These papers together with the by-laws were published in THE CLINICAL CHEMIST, Vol. 3 No. 1. The editorial statement made at that time invited comments from the membership.

(Continued on page 8)

Newsletter of the American Association
of Clinical Chemists, Inc.

P.O. Box 123
Lenox Hill Station New York 21, N.Y.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Harold D. Appleton, *Chairman*
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*Views expressed in the editorials and
opinions advanced by contributors do not
necessarily represent the official position
of the American Association of Clinical
Chemists.*

VOL. 4, NO. 1 JANUARY 1952

DR. JOS KAHN

The Editorial Board and Editorial Advisory Board extends its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family of Dr. Jos Kahn, one of its members. The AACC has lost not only an outstanding scientist, but also a kind and gentle man who gave unstintingly of his time and efforts to further the dignity and advance the status of all clinical chemists.

In writing the history of our profession and Association, the memory of Dr. Jos Kahn, Clinical Chemist, will rightfully assume its honored place.

OUR RECORD

We are a scientific organization. Our record, going into the fourth year, shows that we have advanced the scientific status of clinical chemistry.

We are a professional organization. Our activities, through our National Committee on Legislation and Local Section committees, contributed to the establishment of professional status to qualified non-medical scientists. These activities are only motivated in the public interest. Our personal interests lie only along these lines.

Contrary to what some misinformed individuals may think, we are not a pressure group. We would like to see harmonious relations established between the medical and non-medical scientists. We hope that our Associa-

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the American Association of Clinical Chemists, Inc., has reviewed the statement of the American Board of Clinical Chemistry published in this issue, explaining its principles and objectives. The statement together with the Board's action in making several changes in its By-Laws, dispenses of some doubts and questions concerning its requirements for certification and other matters. It also demonstrates that the Board is aware of its responsibilities for the development of clinical chemistry as a profession.

The Executive Committee therefore reminds its previous advice not to apply for certification and urges all clinical chemists to carefully study the exchange of statements printed in this issue. It is suggested that members form their own opinion on certification and act accordingly.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Saul Roseman, Bobs Robert Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Ill., is arranging a program of scientific papers on clinical chemistry to be given as the scientific session of the Stated Annual Meeting. The scientific session will be held jointly with the Division of Biological Chemistry of the American Chemical Society on April 3.

Dr. Margaret M. Kaser, Veterans Administration Center, Wood, Wisc., heads a committee which is making the arrangements for the Annual Dinner, Stated Annual Meeting and other Association activities.

The Stated Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the American Chemical Society's 121st Meeting, at Milwaukee, Wisc.

tion may be an instrument for this harmony.

We are a democratic organization, comprising, we believe, through the efforts of this newsletter, one of the best informed organization memberships.

Members are urged to study the complete correspondence between the American Board of Clinical Chemistry and our Association. All the facts are published in this issue.

BOX 123

Letters From Members

Dear Sir:

I quite agree with the theme of the editorial published in November and I think it is very well expressed. However, I think that it represents only one facet of the entire picture.

The cost of medical care at present puts it beyond the reach of the average member of the middle class. The employment of trained chemists in hospital laboratories will add more fuel to the flames. The final criterion should be benefit to the public (Dean A. Clark, M.D., *New England Journal of Medicine*, Nov. 1, 1951, p. 671). On the other hand, hospital administrators are by no means blameless. Most of them will admit that the laboratory makes a profit and that this money is used to reduce deficits elsewhere in the hospital. This gives the public a false impression of laboratory costs. If the laboratory could stand on its own feet, it could employ better trained people with only its current revenue.

I spent an entire month last summer visiting laboratories throughout the state of Florida and some of those problems were repeatedly brought home to me very vividly. I think your argument applies very directly to the larger hospitals but the solution for the smaller installations is not so clear. One suggestion received during the summer from a pathologist, would establish central laboratories in each community to which would automatically be sent all lab work except for the barest routine. This central lab could then afford to employ professionally trained chemists, bacteriologists, etc.

This is not to be taken as in any way a criticism of the argument for the employment of more and better trained clinical chemists. However, I feel that we will be better received if at the same time we show some appreciation of other phases of the problem and what we think can be done about it.

Miami, Fla. George T. Lewis, Ph.D.

QUIDNUNCS

WILLIAM H. GOLDWATER, formerly Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Medicine, Tulane University Medical School, New Orleans, La., is now associated with the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory, San Francisco, Calif.

THOMAS H. CONNOR was appointed Clinical Chemist at St. Joseph's Hospital, Providence, R. I.

THE SECRETARY REPORTS

With this issue of the newsletter the membership will receive a directory with the list of members as of January 1, 1952 and a ballot for the annual election of the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee.

Perhaps the following notes may be of assistance to those who may not be clear as to the procedure in the election of national officers. According to Article V of the Constitution "A Nominating Committee of seven, at least five of whom shall be full members of the Association, shall be elected to hold office for one year." This Nominating Committee is elected by the membership in a manner specified in Article IX. "The Secretary shall, not later than sixty days before the Stated Annual Meeting, mail to each voting member in good standing a list of all the voting members in good standing and the names of the institutions with which they are affiliated, together with a letter ballot on which the voting members may designate their choice for election to the Nominating Committee and the seven persons receiving the greatest number of votes shall constitute the Nominating Committee."

The Nominating Committee therefore receives a direct mandate from the membership to propose a slate of officers and members of the Executive Committee. After the personnel of the Nominating Committee is announced the members have at least six months in which to direct to this group their recommendations. And after the Nominating Committee proposes its slate, the voting member further enjoys the privilege of writing in the name of any other member as his choice.

This electoral process may appear cumbersome, but the end-result is an Executive Committee that has been selected by the choice of the membership. In each past election of the Association more than 60 per cent of the members have returned their ballots. Although a much greater percentage vote would be desirable, yet it must be reluctantly admitted that for a scientific society that conducts its ballot by mail a 60 per cent vote may be considered a good response.

Max M. Friedman, National Secretary

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BECKMAN MODEL B SPECTROPHOTOMETER WITH FLAME ATTACHMENT provides a moderate priced precision instrument for rapid, routine analyses for both absorption and flame methods. Especially recommended for clinical determinations such as sodium and potassium. *Average measurements require only 1 to 3 ml of solution such, for example, as undiluted serum.* Can be used with either aqueous or non-aqueous solvents. The solution is drawn up through a straight palladium capillary and sprayed directly into the flame. No air supply is required.

Beckman Model B Glass Prism Spectrophotometer (as described on pp 1098-1099 of our catalogue) range 320 to 1000 m μ and effective band width of 5 m μ , is provided with a high resolution monochromator which gives a continuous selection of wavelengths with resolving power sufficient to separate completely most of the easily excited emission lines, and which is free from scattered radiation, thereby minimizing interference.

Because of this high resolving power of the monochromator and of the high light output of the torch-type burner flame, sodium and potassium are easily detected when present in concentrations as low as 0.1 ppm. Calcium and magnesium can be detected in concentrations as low as 1 ppm and 10 ppm, respectively. Reproducibility of $\pm 0.5\%$ is obtainable for individual readings and of 0.2% for the average of several readings.

9087-C. Spectrophotometer, Beckman Model B, with Flame Attachment, complete assembly as shown in illustration, with set of four 10 mm plastic cells and constant voltage transformer for operation from 115 volts, 60 cycles, a.c., and with atomizer burner assembly for acetylene-oxygen flame, with rigid mounting platform and regulators and gauges in auxiliary control panel.... 1,170.00
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More detailed information sent upon request.

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Biographical Sketches of Proposed New Officers



PRESIDENT

ALBERT E. SOBEL, Head of the Department of Biochemistry of the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn is also Adjunct Professor of Chemistry at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He was born in Luko, Hungary on September 24, 1906. He holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science (1930) and Chemical Engineer (1935) from Cooper Union. He was awarded a Masters degree from Columbia University in 1936 and received his doctorate from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1940. He is the author of 76 papers on micro methods, mineral metabolism, sterols, gastric ulcers and aqueous dispersion of fat-soluble vitamins.



VICE-PRESIDENT

HUGH J. McDONALD, Born, Glen Nevis, Ontario, Canada, July 27, 1913; Queen's University, 1930-1932; B.Sc. in Chemistry (with highest honors), McGill University, 1935; M.S., Carnegie Institute of Technology, 1936; D.Sc., 1939. Major work for doctorate in physical chemistry, with minors in organic chemistry, physiological chemistry and physics.

Research fellow, teaching assistant and part time instructor, Carnegie, 1936-1939; instructor in chemistry, Illinois Institute of Technology, 1939-1941; Assistant Professor, 1941-1943; Associate Professor, 1943-1946; Professor, 1946-1948; Professor and Chairman, Department of Biochemistry, Stritch School of Medicine of Loyola University, Chicago, since 1948. Consultant, Argonne National Laboratory, since 1946. Manhattan Project, Columbia

University, 1943. Awarded competitive scholarship, Royal Institution for Advancement of Learning, 1933-1934. Sigma Xi research award, 1944; research award, American Academy Arts and Sciences, 1945.

Fellow, A.A.A.S., 1946; Member, American Chemical Society; American Association Clinical Chemists (Chairman, Committee on Education); Electrochemical Society; American Association University Professors; Sigma Xi; Phi Lambda Upsilon; Alpha Chi Sigma, Chaos Club (Chicago).



SECRETARY

MAX M. FRIEDMAN, Senior Chemist at Queens General Hospital, New York, Consultant Chemist at Lebanon Hospital. He was born in Austria on January 24, 1907 and completed his undergraduate work at the University of Alabama in 1930. After also studying at Columbia and New York University he was awarded his Doctorate by the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1947. His main scientific interest is body water or, more specifically, extracellular fluids. His research for the past several years has been divided between body fluids and nucleic acid in normal and pathological tissues.



TREASURER

LOUIS BASIL DOTTI is Chemist at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City and Lecturer in Physiology and Biochemistry at the New York Medical College. He was born in New York City on August 13, 1903, and graduated from Columbia University in 1929. He also did his post-graduate

work at Columbia, receiving his M.A. in 1931 and his Ph.D. in 1936. He has worked extensively on carbohydrate and calcium metabolism, digestive enzymes and liver function tests.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JOHN GUNTHER REINHOLD, Associate in Charge of Chemistry at the William Pepper Laboratory of Clinical Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, also holds the rank of Assistant Professor of Physiological Chemistry at the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania. Born in Milwaukee, Wis., on October 29, 1900, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1924 and received his M.S. degree at Yale in 1926. In 1933 he was awarded a doctorate in physiological chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. During the war he served as chemical consultant to the Commission on Liver Diseases of the Army Epidemiological Board.

HARRY SOBOTKA is Head of the Department of Chemistry at Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York City. He was born in Vienna, Austria, on August 4, 1899, and after studying at the University of Vienna received his Ph.D. from the University of Munich. He did post-doctorate research at the University of Munich and microbiological studies in Copenhagen. In addition to numerous research papers, reviews, articles and text-book chapters in the fields of clinical chemistry, enzymes, organic chemistry and colloid phenomena, he is the author of two books on steroids and on bile.

MARSCHELLE H. POWER is Professor of Physiological Chemistry in the Mayo Foundation, Graduate School, University of Minnesota, and Head of the Division of Biochemistry at the Mayo Clinic. He was born in Edgar, Nebraska, September 1, 1894, and graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1917. He received his Ph.D. degree in organic chemistry from the University in 1923. His publications have included papers relating to the nature of the blood sugar as studied by means of *in vivo* dialysis, carbohydrate metabolism, hyperinsulinism, renal function, acid-base equilibrium in the blood, metabolic abnormalities in Addison's disease and in Cushing's syndrome, the use of radioactive iodine in the study of the thyroid gland and the metabolic effects in man of administration of adrenocorticotrophic hormone and of various steroid hormones of the adrenal cortex.

ARTHUR KNUDSON, Associate Dean and Professor of Biochemistry at Albany Medical College, Albany, N.Y. Dr. Knudson was born in Milwaukee, Wisc., August 13,

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