Editorial

BUSINESS MANAGER BENNETT RETIRES

Effective during June 1979, Bob Bennett has retired from the ChE Department at the University of Florida and has resigned as Business Manager of *CEE*. Bob became Business Manager in 1967 when the University of Florida took over the publication of *CEE*. It was his initial responsibility to set up our financial records, open checking and savings accounts, and to hire assistants to keep the books. During those early days he shared his own small office with student assistants whom he had to train to keep the records and do the bookkeeping. The workload of the Business Manager was so immense at that time that after a year or two he resigned. When, in order to assist the Publications Board in locating a successor, he listed his duties, the list required several single-spaced typewritten pages! As a result, the Publications Board authorized additional secretarial help and Bob agreed to continue as Business Manager.

Bob then hired two part-time assistants: one a faculty wife and the other a mature student wife. These positions were later consolidated into one when he hired Bonnie Neelands as Staff Assistant.

When Bob went on leave for two years to teach in Algeria, Art Westerberg became Business Manager. However, when Art left the University of Florida, the duties of the Business Manager were shared by the editor and Ms. Neelands, who had been well-trained by Bob to perform many of his duties. Upon Bob's return he again graciously agreed to help out as Business Manager. His renewed presence became highly important during the 1977-78 academic year when the editor was on leave and it became necessary to replace Bonnie Neelands, whose husband was graduating and seeking employment outside of Gainesville. Bob then secured for us the services of an outstanding replacement in Carole Yocum.

CEE owes much to Bob Bennett, whose efforts, along with those of Mack Tyner, who serves diligently as Associate Editor, have often been overlooked. It is hoped that this editorial will inform our readers of some of the contributions he has made to *CEE*.

R.W.F.

ChE letters

MACDOUGAL MACNEAL MACAMUNDSON RREQUESTS RREDRRESS FRROM ARRIS MACPHERRSON RRUTHERFORRD

Dearr Sirr:

My Scots colleague A. MacPherrson RRutherrforrd ha rresponded to the indignity perrpetrrated on my grrreat grrand nephew MacNeal and I should like to rreinforrce the caprriciousness of this dastarrdly act of indescrretion. MacNeal would neverr remonstrrate for he gives not a haggis about such things (I think he has a smidgeon of Irrish in him, on his motherr's side of courrse). But, I, sirr, am made of sterrnerr stuff and am prreparred to purrsue this villainy to its most bitterr conclusion and demand satisfaction on the field, St. Andrrews (the Old Courrse, of courrse) with the chiefs of Glenlivet and Pitlochrry in attendance. (I should really ask the Anderrsons but those poor chaps could neverr learrn to spell the name of theirr own clan (Amundson), in spite of the valiant efforrts of (great)[16] grrand uncle Knute Knutson Amundson, but that is another storry). If we do not rreceive adequate rredrress and vows of no furrthurr such intrrrancigences, we will be forrced to convene an emerrgency meeting of O*W*P*C (Orrganization of Whiskey Prricing Clans) and of courrse you know what that will mean. (We do this knowing full well our scion's prrediliction for the spirrrits).

We in Inverrness are preparred for all eventualities what with the warrmth of the kilt, the abundance of lassies, the beauty of the heatherr, the vapourrrs of the still, and that botherr in the Norrth Sea. I await your apologetic rreply and rremain yourrrr obedient and humber serrvant.

MacDougal MacNeal MacAmundson
B.A., G.C., K.G., V.D., F.R.H.S., etc., etc.
Inverness

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

Dear Editor:

Recently the Chemical Engineering Education Projects Committee of the AIChE received a copy of the "Codata Bulletin #30 and Guide for the Presentation in the Primary Literature of Physical Property Correlations and Estimation Procedures" Dec. 1978. This six page report was prepared by an international task group with Arnold Bondi, Malcolm Chase and Ron Danner being our task force members. Included are recommended statistical procedures for evaluating and reporting physical properties (procedures, significance tests and methods of reporting results), and a 32 entry bibliography. This reference would be of general interest to educators but of primary interest to thermodynamicists and editors.

More information about this publication can be obtained from Professor Edgar F. Westrum, Jr., Dept. of Chemistry,

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research grants—this year totalling something near $750,000.

RESEARCH

OUR LARGE, GROWING AND diversified faculty generates a research program with the same qualities. The program is augmented by outstanding facilities in the Zachry Engineering Center. The remarkable quality of the research laboratories is due in part to the fact that they were designed by the members of the faculty who originally utilized them.

The principle areas of research here are thermodynamics, kinetics, catalysis, coal conversion, rheology, electrochemical applications, process control, pollution abatement, solar energy, alternate fuel sources, heat transfer, separation operations, biomass conversion, tertiary oil recovery, transport phenomena, and polymer studies. The specialized equipment mentioned above forms the hardware base for these projects. Specific topics range from engineering practice and development to fundamental theory and modelling. In general, members of our faculty work together on various projects. This cooperation increases progress and reflects the congenial atmosphere in the department.

Research efforts also take the form of specialized centers at Texas A&M. Two which receive direct involvement by the Chemical Engineering Department are: The Polymer Research Center and the Thermodynamics Research Center. The polymer group is a relatively recent grouping of various faculty members from chemistry, physics and chemical engineering. The thermodynamics group is a well established and respected data correlation and evaluation center best known, perhaps, for its API-44 activities.

THE FORESEEABLE (?) FUTURE

WE THINK OUR UNDERGRADUATE enrollment has finally plateaued and we have stabilized the faculty size at about 20 members. Our goal is to maintain a permanent faculty of about 20 with one or two visitors each year. We are still seeking an increase in graduate enrollment. We hope to have about 5 graduate students per faculty member—we stress personal contact here and prefer to keep the ratio small enough to assure faculty interest and availability. We also expect a small increase in numbers of postdoctoral associates—currently there are six.

Two very important events will have a direct bearing on the future of the Chemical Engineering Department at Texas A&M. The first will be the newly announced J. D. Lindsay Lecture Series. This activity will bring prominent men from our profession to Texas A&M for personal contact with faculty and students and for presenting lectures to the academic community. The series will honor our first department head as both a chemical engineer and as a genuinely appreciated person. The second major event will be construction of the Engineering Research Center. This project will commence in 1981 and will add research space equal in area to the Zachry Engineering Center.

Overall, faculty, students, research associates, and staff are proud of both the Chemical Engineering Department and Texas A&M University. The department and the university are committed to increased quality and productivity. This commitment coupled with a traditional can-do attitude promises a truly bright future. □

LETTERS

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University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

I hope that you will bring the availability of this publication to the attention of the readers of **Chemical Engineering Education.**

Dr. D. R. Woods, Chairman
Chem. Eng. Ed. Projects Committee

ChE news

PIGFORD HONORED

Dr. Robert L. Pigford, University Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware, received the first Francis Alison Faculty Award as the most outstanding member of the faculty, at the university's 130th commencement exercises held June 2.

Named in honor of the colonial scholar who established the Academy of Newark to which the university traces its origin, the new $5,000 prize was established last year by the university's Board of Trustees in recognition of the scholarship, professional achievements and dedication of the faculty of the university.

A native of Meridian, MS, he received his bachelors from Mississippi State College and his masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois.