



Honorary Publicity Secretary's Column

Item Type	article;article
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Download date	2024-08-15 04:52:47
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14394/6558

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Even though I say it myself, the Division's Schools' Lecture programme has proved a great success, with capacity audiences turning out on nearly every occasion. A number of Regions have already started planning for next year when Professor Alan Townshend will be the Schools' Lecturer. With a bit of luck, a Schools' Lecture will become a regular part of every Region's programme. The glossy brochure has also gone over in a fairly big way, in that nearly all of the 5000 copies have been distributed. A second edition, with minor revisions, is planned and it is hoped that these will be available for the start of the academic year. Just write and let me know how many you want.

I have been in touch with Regional and Group committees concerning (a) the general efficacy of the Divisional publicity machinery (Groups Bulletin, Regional Mailings, etc.), and (b), the suitability or otherwise of venues chosen for meetings. The responses to (a) indicate that the publicity obtained for meetings through the Divisional office is, on the whole, satisfactory. However, if you think differently, let me know. This has arisen from discussions at Group Liaison and Policy (GLP) Committee concerning the attendance at meetings, a subject that crops up at Region and Group Committee meetings from time to time. GLP has also initiated an exercise to review Group structure following discussions between Special Techniques and Automatic Methods Groups. However, there does not seem to be any strong move away from the *status quo*.

There will, though, be strong Group participation in the next SAC Conference (July 20–26, 1986, at Bristol University); the strongest of all will be that of the Atomic Spectroscopy Group which, together with the Spectroscopy Group of the Institute of Physics, will be holding the 3rd Biennial National Atomic Spectroscopy Symposium in conjunction with SAC 86. The 3-BNASS part of SAC 86 will be from the Wednesday to the Friday (July 24–26). The first circular for the conference has recently appeared.

Recent conferences have included Analyticon 84 in London, September 4–6 (could this develop into a European "Pittsburgh"?) and the regular RSC Autumn meeting (September 18–20 at Hull University). The analytical theme for this was "The Analysis of Drugs and Their Metabolites." The Annual Congress in 1985 will be at St. Andrews, March 25–28, at which the AD theme will concern fossil fuels. In the summer of 1985 the Ninth International Symposium on Column Liquid Chromatography will be held, July 1–5, Edinburgh, followed by the 7th International Meeting on NMR Spectroscopy, July 8–12, in Cambridge and Flow Analysis III (the third in the series of international conferences on continuous flow analysis with emphasis on flow injection techniques), September 5–8, Birmingham. The future of Autumn Meetings has come under scrutiny at Divisional Affairs Board and it has been decided to hold at least one more, reduced in length to two nights and with an effort to revert to the original concept of involving younger people. This will be in 1986, of course, as there will not be an Autumn Meeting in 1985 because of the IUPAC Congress, September 9–13 in Manchester. This is followed immediately by PSA 85, September 16–20, at Bradford University.

Returning north of the border for a moment the Scottish Region is celebrating its 50th AGM on November 9 this year with a lecture by Professor J. F. K. Huber on "The Evolution of Modern Chromatography" at 4.00 at the Royal Society of Edinburgh, followed by a dinner - dance in Edinburgh University Staff Club at which the speakers will be the Division's President, Peter Cobb, and the Rt. Hon. Tam Dalyell M.P. Not to be outdone, the North West Region is celebrating its 60th AGM on November 2, 1984, with a dinner at Salford University. The Regional flavour of the menu will be continued throughout the evening when Professor Stuart Bark will deliver an address entitled "Reminiscences on the North West Region."

Forthcoming Divisional meetings include

"Laser Applications" (October 24), "Process Control" (December 5) and "Modified Electrodes" (February 6, 1985). The Division may also be involved with the British Association meeting at Strathclyde University in 1985.

Turning to analytical publications, the Books and Reviews Committee has given the go-ahead to the production of a volume concerning aspects of the history of analytical chemistry. This will be compiled by Professor Thorburn Burns and will consist of reprints and added material. The publication of Volume 14 of the Annual Reports on Analytical Atomic Spectroscopy (ARAAS) is also guaranteed. The second edition of "The Chemical Analysis of Water" should be out in 1985, as should the new version of "Official and Standardised Methods of Analysis." Computerised production of "Analytical Abstracts" commenced in April and retrospective computerisation (to 1980) is planned. *Analytical Proceedings* will increase in size to A4 (the same as *The Analyst*) from January, 1985. The Analytical Editorial Board is considering starting a new journal in the field of analytical atomic spectrometry.

Now for some awards. Professor I. M. Koltoff has been awarded the second Robert Boyle Medal and Professor M. Grasserbauer (of the Institute of Analytical Chemistry, Technical University, Vienna) the 1985 Theophilus Redwood Lectureship. Silver medals have been awarded to Dr. M. S. Cresser (University of Aberdeen, Soil Science Department) and Dr. J. F. Alder (UMIST, Department of Instrumentation and Analytical Science). Dr. J. Marshall (University of Strathclyde, Department of Pure and Applied

Chemistry) has been awarded the Hilger Spectroscopy Prize for his work in the field of electrothermal atomisation. The Atomic Spectroscopy Group will be awarding another Hilger Prize in 1984; nominations must be made through a Group Committee member. Copies of the regulations are available from the Group Honorary Secretary, Mr D. Willis. Dr. W. I. Stephen (University of Birmingham) has been awarded the first BDH AnalR Gold Medal for his work on analytical reagents. Professor D. Thorburn Burns has been elected a Fellow of both The Irish Academy of Sciences and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, while Professor J. H. Knox has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

The International Council of Scientific Unions has a Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) which publishes news of its projects in a "Newsletter." The most recent of these contains an outline of the Global Cycling of Toxic Metals project and the activities of the Metal Cycling Sub-Committee. Other projects include the "Environmental Effects of Nuclear War" and "Mussel Watch II." SCOPE reports can be obtained from John Wiley and Sons Ltd., Baffins Lane, Chichester, Sussex, PO19 1UD, and details of SCOPE activities, which obviously involve considerable analytical input, can be obtained from the Secretariat, 51 Boulevard de Montmorency, 75016 Paris, France.

Further details of any of the above items may be obtained, in the first instance, from Miss P. E. Hutchinson, Secretary of the Analytical Division of the RSC, at Burlington House.

J. F. TYSON