

## CLOSING SPEECH

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Closing the debates of our Symposium devoted to "Chemurgy of Fats" we can estimate the purpose of organizing such a meeting and its scientific results.

This Symposium was as far as I know the first international meeting exclusively devoted to the problems of fats technology based mainly on chemical phenomena. The need for such a meeting has been confirmed by the fact that already in 1976 an International Congress devoted entirely to fats technology is going to be organized in Amsterdam. Thus, the marked disproportion between the group of basic research on chemistry, physical chemistry and biochemistry of lipids — and the strictly technological papers, the former outnumbering the latter, will gradually decrease as the industrial requirements aim at the constant progress leading to the widening of the assortment of products, and the improvement of their quality according to the requirements of nutrition physiology and the raise of consumers' standard of living.

So our Symposium commences the series of such international meetings and therefore, it may be regarded as the first one on the world scale.

The submitted papers reflect the interests in this problem. In the first session devoted to oxidation and ozonolysis, two problems groups have been exposed; one concerned the conversion of rapeseed oil, particularly its main component, that is erucic acid, into derivatives of technical utility value using ozonolysis as the main stage of this technology. The second group comprised the problems of laboratory methods applied in the basic research on the course of oxidation and ozonolysis of fatty substances.

The next session has been devoted to interesterification. The application of this reaction for industrial purposes is not exhaustively described in scientific literature. Therefore, with great interest we have li-

stened to the information on the correlation of chemical structure changes and the physical properties of glycerides of animal and vegetable fats.

In the third session devoted to hydrogenation the majority of papers was concerned with the used catalysts or the ones that may find application in the industrial hardening of fats. The second group of papers related the results of studies on the mechanism of hydrogenation and the proposed modifications of this technology. The information on the side reactions taking place during this process has also played the important role in this group.

During the fourth session dealing with the synthesis of fatty acid derivatives, the wide range of information on the technology of new derivatives of fatty acids, their changes during technological processes as well as the properties of final products has been presented.

As it is evident from this short review, the symposium has exposed very vital problems of fats technology, yet insufficiently discussed on congresses or in scientific journals.

The natural contacts in private discussions between the most eminent specialists in the said sphere contribute to still another positive feature of the symposium. They allowed for the exchange of knowledge, closed mutual relations and eventual for the profises of visits devoted to the fields of scientific interests.

If the symposium fulfilled its task then it is above all the credit of those participants who had presented the results of their research in the reviews and the papers. We are indebted for their efforts in the elaboration of their pronouncements, particularly highly we esteem the participation of those who have sometimes arrived from very distant cities. We express our thanks to all chairmans, deputy chairmans and secretaries of debates of each session.

Our symposium has been granted by funds of the V Departament of the Polish Academy of Sciences, therefore I sincerely thank Professor Rutkowski, the deputy secretary of this Department.

I express my worm thanks to the Rector of the Technical University of Gdańsk, Professor Staliński for his personal participation in the inauguration of the symposium and for the assistance rendered by the Technical University.

We deliver our acknowledgements to the Main Technical Organization, particularly to engineer Flissikowski the chairman of the Society of Engineers and Technicians of Food Industry for affording the possibilities to carry out the meeting in this nice and new building "Dom Technika".

I would like to mention the Fat Factory in Gdańsk as well as the

Board of Household Chemistry "Pollena" in Warsaw. These industrial firms contributed in many ways to the organization of this congress.

This symposium could take place only with the great contribution of organizing of all employess of the Department of Fats Chemistry and Technology of the Gdańsk Technical University. Literally all staff of this Department took part in the preparations and during the debates of the symposium. I most sincerely thank our co-workers for their personal engagement at every stage of the symposium course.

In conclusion I would like to deliver most cordially acknowledgement to Doc. dr W. Zwierzykowski Chairman of the Organizing Committee, the present head of the Department of Fats Chemistry and Technology, and the deputy director of Institute of Organic and Food Chemistry and Technology. This congress has been held on his own initiative for the celebration of 25th anniversary of our Department and to the some extent it was linked with my retirement. I was deeply moved listening to the cordial addresses given by Doc. Zwierzykowski during the ceremony of inauguration and then during the social meeting in the town-hall. I would like to assure that in spite of my formal retirement I will be actively engaged in further research and the international relations linked with fats chemistry and technology. Therefore, I hope that bidding today farewell I may say we see again as participants of other symposiums.