

News and Views

GEORGE STAINSBY

This September sees the retirement of George Stainsby, Reader in the Procter Department of Food Science at the University of Leeds since 1978, and a member of the Editorial Board of *Carbohydrate Polymers* since 1981.

George Stainsby is a product of the prestigious Cambridge colloid science school. Like many of his generation, his University education was interrupted by War Service, but he made up a little for lost time by obtaining his Ph.D. in just two years. After postdoctoral work at the National Research Council, Ottawa, for a year, he took up a permanent post at the Gelatin and Glue Research Association, where he wrote his first of many papers on gelatin in 1951.

His research interest in polysaccharide gels began in 1959 when he moved to an academic post in the (then) Procter Department of Leather Science. George pioneered the view, now widely accepted, that a full knowledge of molecular size and shape in dilute solution has to precede the development of models for association into gels. This fundamental work was paralleled by more applied research on commodities such as tea, ice-cream, etc. George's ability to apply basic scientific principles to difficult technological problems, without compromising either the science or the technology, is something his colleagues and numerous research students will always remember.

With his retirement, the University of Leeds will lose a fine teacher, the Procter Department will lose a wise and congenial colleague, and the Editorial Board of the journal *Carbohydrate Polymers* will lose an excellent food scientist. We thank him greatly for his services, and wish him a long and active retirement.

MARKET SURVEY ON NON-FOOD USE OF INDUSTRIAL BIOPOLYMERS PLANNED

Industrial Market Research International (IMR) plan a market research survey on non-food uses of biopolymers. The survey, entitled (Biopolymers, USA and Western Europe, Industrial and Oilfield' will partly

complement the earlier survey on food thickeners and stabilizers produced by the company. All non-food applications will be covered, i.e. industrial, oilfield, cosmetic and pharmaceutical.

The survey, which will be based to a large extent on a series of personal and telephone interviews, is intended to be launched in July/August 1988 with a targeted completion date approximately 10 months after start-up.

Included with the survey will be a computerized data base for use with IBM-compatible machines that contains the numerical portion of the information. This will allow users to make their own specific analysis of the market. Subscribers will also be entitled to one day of personal consultation.

Further information is available from IMR International, PO Box 28993, San Diego, CA 92128, USA.

NOTICES

1988

Frontiers in Carbohydrate Research: Food Applications

Purdue University, Indiana, USA, 13–15 September [*see* 8 (3)225]

Biochemical Engineering VI

Santa Barbara, California, USA, 2–7 October [*see* 7 (5)405]

1989

Water Relationships in Foods Symposium

Dallas, Texas, USA, 9–14 April [*see* 8 (1)67]

Cellucon 89. Cellulose: Sources and Exploitation

UK, 11–15 September [*see* 7 (3)245]