

THE INSTITUTE OF PAPER CHEMISTRY

*Appleton, Wisconsin*

54910

October 15, 1964

Professor Wilmer J. Stratton  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Midwestern Association of Chemistry Teachers  
in Liberal Arts Colleges  
c/o University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

Dear Wilmer:

I will answer your letter of October 12 at once for it is not very long before it is time for us to start for Lake Forest and I have a trip to Atlanta in between.

We have now completed a report for presentation before MACTLAC. It is rather lengthy for it contains a review of the historical development of some items and also comments on general actions not included in the Constitution and Bylaws. This report resulted from my rereading more carefully your letter of last fall which listed the objectives to be considered by the ad hoc committee. I am going to have possibly 150 copies of this report mimeographed and will bring them with me to the meeting. We are driving down on Friday morning. I think there is no reason why we cannot start early enough for me to at least get in on the latter portion of your Executive Council meeting. At this time, you can decide how you want the report handled. If after you have gone over it there seem to be items covered which really do not belong there, you may not want it passed out at all. I am enclosing a carbon copy of the rough draft of this report for your approval. You may want to send it on to someone else prior to the meeting. I think I have spoken to most of the questions you have raised in your letter, but first let me say I am delighted with the fact that you have a one year appointment as a visiting lecturer at the University of Illinois. It should be quite a stimulating year for you. I hope it will not draw you away from Earlham.

First in the matter of associate members, we have decided that having this category causes nothing but trouble, so we are proposing that we have full members, honorary members, and visitors. The full membership is defined in the original constitution. We have changed the wording a little bit so as to take account of people like Cal VanderWerf. The honorary category was never really voted, although it was recommended that at the next meeting this be taken up for a vote. Somehow, the next meeting was held without actually getting around to it. The honorary category will take care

of the people from the various foundations and others who do not fall within the currently formal teaching category but who have worked for the interests of the organization. The third will be visitors. We have defined in a fifth bylaw our attitude with regard to visitors. These would have to be invited annually.

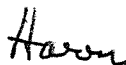
By making all associate members who are in good standing financially as of the date of the meeting, namely October 23, 1964, full members we can avoid any embarrassing situation with the present associate members. A number of these, as I pointed out, are either retired or fast approaching retirement and would be off our lists soon anyway. Any that fail to pay up this year will automatically be dropped.

I am afraid our committee did not consider the applications for associate membership which have been held pending. I think, however, that in the case of the university applications, those applying should be advised there have been changes in the constitution made necessary by virtue of the fact that the membership was becoming too large for the meetings to be held on the campuses of many of our members. The more important of these applications can be handled as guests with invitations each year, if they wish to come, but they should do the writing.

Now in the matter of the geographical area, you will note in our report that we are proposing the revision of Article I, Section 2 of the constitution to read as it presently reads but with the following statement appended, "together with areas reasonably adjacent to the borders of the above seven states not otherwise served by a similar association or agency." These additional areas represent the eastern sections of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. If the Association deems it wise, we can leave off that final sentence, but I have done a lot of traveling lately in North Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas and believe that we probably have a function to fulfill in serving these colleges. We have made a very general statement, namely, "areas recently adjacent," so as to permit us to interpret the adjacency in any way that we deem necessary. This was done at the recommendation of a lawyer on our staff here who handles our constitution and bylaws. I can see no virtue in opening up our membership rolls too widely or we are going to have a whole flood. The fact that the colleges on the southern borders and the eastern border are already served by the Ohio College Teachers Association and the South Central Independent College Association of Chemists means that they have access to a similar agency and can, if they so desire, get a real program going. If we were to drop specifically those additional areas thus indicated, we could end Article I, Section 2 with the phrase, "together with areas reasonably adjacent to the borders of the above seven states." This would permit us to use our own judgment on the applications of otherwise eligible teachers.

One of the members of our ad hoc committee has raised the question as to whether we were following the various articles in the constitution in our actions at the business meeting. It seemed to us that it would be a good idea to submit a report to every member of the association prior to the business meeting so that they would have a chance to read it through. On the other hand, it may be that it would prolong the business meeting to an undesirable degree. Your suggestion of the possibility of holding a special interest session between 5 and 6 before dinner on Friday is a good one. If we get the report of the ad hoc committee in their hands early enough, they would have a chance to read it before that special interest session. At any rate, we will bring the report and the Executive Council can do with it what it deems best. This, incidentally, is a unanimous report of the entire committee.

Sincerely,



Harry F. Lewis

HFL/kjb  
Enclosure