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Introduction

The Developing Role of the Enforcement Analyst

When invited by the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry to take part in SAC '83—an International Conference and Exhibition on Analytical Chemistry—our Association welcomed the opportunity to arrange a symposium illustrating the enforcement and advisory functions, to local authorities and others, of analysts in this country. Clearly the duties have developed so considerably over the years that it was not possible in one afternoon session to deal with anything other than a few selected topics. "The Developing Role of the Enforcement Analyst" is the outcome.

The first four papers are by leading members of our Association and the fifth reflects the special role of the referee analyst provided by the Laboratory of the Government Chemist.

The introductory talk by L. E. Coles—well supported on the occasion by suitable illustrations—is intended to set the scene for the other speakers. The paper by P. Smith is an interesting general account of the analyst's duties in the safe and economic development of former industrial sites. B. I. Brookes deals with combined sophisticated techniques for sampling and analysis applicable mainly to problems in environmental investigations and monitoring requiring the detection and determination of low levels of unknown pollutants. The paper by R. A. Evans illustrates the way methods have had to be developed to prevent exploitation and debasement of traditional products resulting from advances in meat processing technology. The final talk by N. T. Crosby indicates the need of the referee analyst to develop and improve methodology with reference to nutrients and undesirable in animal feeding stuffs.

The Association is grateful to the speakers for their contributions to the symposium and for preparing the following papers; also to the Analytical Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry for the continuing close co-operation in matters of mutual interest.

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