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CHEMICAL PUBLICATIONS IN AMERICA IN RELATION TO CHEMICAL INDUSTRY¹

THE American Chemical Society holds a unique place among the chemical societies of the world. It combines functions and activities which could, heretofore, be found only in separate organizations. It is the only large chemical society in the world which includes both those who are engaged in the application of chemistry to the industries and to chemical engineering and those who are engaged in teaching and in researches with no immediate practical bearing and which provides adequately for the interests of all classes of chemists. There are two reasons which justify this policy. In these days of intense specialization one of the greatest dangers to a professional man is that he will become so intensely absorbed in the field in which he is working that he loses all interest in other lines of work and falls out of touch with the rapid advances which his science is making in every direction. This tendency is almost as marked and fully as dangerous for those who are engaged in pure research as for those working in applied chemistry. Both classes of our members find that contact with chemists having a radically different point of view is exceedingly stimulating and useful. The advantages of an Abstract Journal which covers both fields are so self-evident as scarcely to require remark.

The second reason which justifies the

¹ An address delivered at the New Haven meeting of the American Chemical Society, July 2, 1908.

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