

## HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Chairman: STEPHEN VISHER, Indiana University  
FAY K. DAILY, Butler University, was elected chairman for 1960

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### ABSTRACTS

**Sources of the Executives of Leading Evansville Factories.** B. H. SCHOKEL, Aurora, Indiana.—Six months of interviewing in and analysis of 200 factories in Evansville, Indiana was followed by about five months spent in review of literature (including newspapers) in the study of several hundred factories of Evansville, between 1830 and 1930. One phase of this research required an interview with the chief executive of each factory and the circumstances leading to his rise in leadership. Here is reported some of the information concerning fifty of the larger factories as of 1933 compared to fifty of the larger earlier ones from 1830 to 1930. The available data indicate that the chief executive was selected from the general office department most often. The sales department ranked second as a source of chief executives, the production division third, the purchasing division fourth; a few rose from the ranks of advertising or public relations.

Major qualifications of these executives were: 1) desire to found a new establishment; 2) the possession of much capital or access to such via wealthy connections; 3) experience, especially in selling or as secretary of an executive; 4) inventiveness: useful in the factory; 5) desire to start independent firm after gain of experience; 6) activity during expansion of a firm or merging of firms; 7) inheritance; 8) nepotism.

**Anacardium, A Curious Psychopharmacological Drug of Antiquity.** LAWRENCE J. KING, Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y.—A review of the ancient uses of the fruit of *Semecarpus anacardium* (Anacardiaceae) is presented. This fruit, known by the older botanical name, anacardium, has a reported therapeutic use in the treatment of mental disorders, and in "re-establishing the memory and facilitating perception of ideas." Its usage extends far back into antiquity—having been used in both ancient Arabian and Indian medicine. It reportedly was the "golden acorn" (*Chrysobalanos*) of Galen, and both Paulus of Aegineta and Avicenna and other Arabic physicians were familiar with it. Serapion, Rhases, as well as Avicenna recommended it in mental disease—especially in loss of memory; while it was briefly noted by Myrepsus and Actuarius. A prescription for its preparation has been found in the 17th Century *Pharmacopoeia Augustana*, or Augsburg Pharmacopoeia.