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American Society of Agricultural Engineers

Status changed from an Associated to an Affiliated Society, AAAS

THE American Society of Agricultural Engineers, formerly an associated society of the AAAS, was recently elected an Affiliate. The Society was organized in a meeting at the University of Wisconsin in 1907 and was chartered as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Michigan in 1935. Through consistent growth it has become an organization with more than 4200 members, four technical divisions, a college division, and twenty-four geographical sections. It has more than 220 members in 45 countries other than the United States and Canada.

Objects of the Society, as stated in its constitution, are "to promote the science and art of engineering in agriculture; to encourage original research; to foster agricultural engineering education; to advance the standards of agricultural engineering; to promote the intercourse of agricultural engineers among themselves and with allied technologists; to encourage the professional improvement of its members; and severally and in cooperation with other groups to broaden the usefulness of agricultural engineering."

ASAE is represented in cooperative relations with several other technical and professional organizations. In addition the Society cooperates informally as occasion arises with state and federal agencies as well as with other engineering and scientific societies.

An annual meeting of the Society is held in June of each year, the place is fixed by the Council. A winter meeting each December, in Chicago, features sessions of the four technical divisions: Power and Machinery, Farm Structures, Rural Electric, and Soil and Water.

The Society's primary executive body is its Council. Current members are the president, E. W. Tanquary, engineer, International Harvester Company; past-president, I. D. Wood, engineer, Soil Conservation Service; past-president, Stanley Madill, executive engineer, Deere and Company; vice presidents, L. H. Skromme, chief engineer, New Holland Machine Division, Sperry Corporation; E. L. Hansen, partner, Hansen Brothers; and J. W. Martin, head, agricul-

tural engineering department, University of Idaho; and councilors, H. N. Stapleton, head, agricultural engineering department, University of Massachusetts; Howard Matson, chief, Region 4, Water Conservation Division, Soil Conservation Service; and Harry W. Dearing, Jr., agricultural engineer, Tennessee Coal and Iron Division, United States Steel Corporation.

Named to represent ASAE on the AAAS Council is G. A. Cumings, agricultural engineer with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland.

Agricultural Engineering, the monthly technical and professional journal of the Society, is its primary means of building up the literature of its field. It carries specially prepared original papers and research reports, as well as papers presented at meetings of the Society and its various sections. Standards, recommended practices, and other technical data are also published and a yearbook is in preparation.

Activities of the Society are shaped, in general, by the immediately pressing problems of agriculture; by opportunity to cooperate with agricultural scientists in work on physical factors influencing the productivity of crop plants and livestock and the control of pests; by occasion to implement the farm application of new knowledge produced by science; by continuing improvement in engineering materials, equipment, and methods; by the requirements of national defense; and by the outlook of its members on the continuing importance and long-range values of basic research.

Some of its currently active committees deal with extension methods, farm work simplification, farm safety, agricultural processing, professional registration, instrumentation and controls, hay harvesting and storage, fertilizer application, crop drying equipment, agricultural aviation, feed handling, heat lamps for brooding, animal shelter ventilation, erosion control, drainage, and irrigation.

RALPH A. PALMER
Assistant Secretary

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