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INTRODUCTION TO PAPERS FROM THE PROGRAM RECENT ADVANCES IN WOODY PLANT RESEARCH

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The papers assembled in this issue of *Wood and Fiber* are the result of a cooperative effort between the Society of Wood Science and Technology and Divisions I and IV of the Forest Products Research Society to present recent advances in woody plant research. The program, presented in Miami on June 28 and 29, was conceived to review general structure and terminology, and then to progress to discussion of individual aspects of research on formation and modification of woody cell walls. In the arrangement of the program, we attempted, in essence, to update the Pinebrook Conference on Cellular Ultrastructure of Woody Plants, organized by Dr. Côté in 1964.

The early papers in the program cover general aspects of woody plant research and the direction in which this research may proceed in the future. Cell-wall formation is then discussed in succeeding papers covering general considerations, and molecular and ultrastructural concepts in present research. Further papers discuss models for biochemical and physical processes in cell-wall formation and processing. The final papers present various aspects of chemical,

biological, and structural aspects of woody materials.

The program was necessarily quite limited in scope and depth because of the time and resources available. The series of papers should serve a useful purpose, however, in reviewing many aspects of woody plant research, and in providing evidence of cooperation between the Society of Wood Science and Technology and the Forest Products Research Society. It is anticipated that the program will serve as a juncture for further coordinated programs between the two societies.

We regret that several papers presented at the meeting do not appear in this issue because authors had prior commitments that prevented their preparing manuscripts in time to make the publication deadline. Our thanks are extended to those who participated in the program and to those who in other ways made the program possible. Program chairmen were Irving B. Sachs, SWST; Robert E. Martin, FPRS—Division I; and Bayne Doughty, FPRS—Division IV.