

*Comments by Martin Saltzman, Ph.D., on Paul Jones's Contribution to the History of Chemistry*

Paul was a true gentleman and scholar who treated every one with respect and dignity. He saw himself as an educator first and not a person who wanted to advance his career on the backs of his students and colleagues.

I think it is best to concentrate what Paul did when he retired with respect to the History of Chemistry on which we collaborated over many years.

Paul's first major contribution occurred when he spent a sabbatical year at the Deutsches Museum in Munich where he compiled an authoritative list of British and American chemists who obtained their doctoral degrees in Germany in the 19th century. This compilation was published in booklet form by the museum and was used as a primary resource by many researchers interested in the influence of German education in the development of American and British graduate and post graduate education.

In doing this study Paul became interested in the connection between Justus Liebig and one of his early American students, Eben Horsfeld, who was one of the first German-trained chemists in the United States. Horsfeld was professor of chemistry at the Lawrence Scientific School associated with Harvard College.

Horsfeld is credited with the invention and commercialization of baking powder as an alternative to the use of yeast. He was instrumental in founding a commercial plant to produce baking powder. This plant was built in a section of East Providence, RI, known as Rumford and the company took this name. The making of baking powder ceased many years ago but the plant still stands and was being redeveloped for other purposes. Paul and I wrote a proposal to designate the old Rumford baking powder plant as an American Chemical Society national historic chemical landmark. A plaque now is attached to the entrance of the old administrative building denoting the significance of the site.

I think Paul's major long-term achievement was when he took over as editor of the *Bulletin for the History of Chemistry*. Paul volunteered to take over from the founding editor, Bill Jensen, when he needed to step away from the position. Paul's work put the *Bulletin*, which appeared twice a year, back on a sound standing. Paul was always willing to add his absolute mastery of the English language and grammar to us who were less adept in a kind and gentle fashion. Papers were reviewed in a timely manner and he always had words of encouragement to contributors for their efforts.

*Editor's note: Paul Jones was Martin Saltzman's Ph.D. advisor at the University of New Hampshire, 1964-1968. Dr. Saltzman went on to serve on the chemistry faculty at Providence College for many years.*