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Saponification of Fats

Sender: Department of Justice, Department of Planning

Addressee: Global Institute for Technological Research

Laboratory of Organic Chemistry

Subject: Saponification of fats

On behalf of Comrade Minister of Justice, we forward you the following task: the commission “ad hoc”, which deals with a fair distribution of goods, has encountered the problem of fat. You have been appointed to elaborate an operational solution to this problem. The necessary funding for the research project has been concurrently requested from the ministry of finance. The problem is the following:

In attempting to quantify the inter-worldly and inner-worldly relationships, the above-mentioned commission focused on a single parameter, namely the amount of fat stored in the human body, from which non-quantifiable parameters of the single worlds, such as the relative economic, historical, political, cultural, and religious situation can be projected. Simple parameters, such as body size, body volume or body weight, initially lent themselves to quantification, but they have proved inadequate. Therefore, the ministry of justice feels compelled to approach the issue of justice from its chemical side. The preliminary findings are as follows:

In the first world, one can make out a secondary tendency to lose weight, which, however, cannot override the basic tendency towards obesity. A basic tendency that manifests itself in some North American specimens as monstrosity. This accumulation of fat leads to various forms of obesity and sclerosis. In this context, one would have to mention forms of obesity that lead to a paralysis of emotional capacities, and to cerebral sclerosis with the ensuing “formalistic” mental rigidity.

The second world is in a transitional stage between lack of fat and obesity. However, this should not be regarded as a state of equilibrium and dismissed under the name of “socialism”. On the contrary: everything indicates that the prevailing tendency is also obesity. Since the pathological aspects of fat do not appear yet with the same clarity as in the first world, there is a tendency to a higher consumption of animal fats (vegetable fats are not available). Some observers have called this tendency “progressiveness.” The second world is in a phase that the first world has already left behind.

The majority of the bodies of the third world stores only the minimum of fat which is needed for their functioning on the lowest level. However, there are also some bodies that are even fatter than those in the first world. This can be observed particularly well in Arabic countries. The bodies with a low amount of fat are moving in the direction of fat. Some observers describe this as “economic motivation”, others as a “revolutionary movement.” Since this movement encounters other fat bodies [in the third world] it is aimed at these and not at the first and second world.

The bodies of the fourth world are skeletal and do not dispose of the necessary energy for any movement. Some observers call this “lethargy” and “fatalism”, others, especially those suffering from obesity discover what they call “alternative forms of life”.

The empirical method applied so far aims for a balancing of fat distribution. What is usually called “international trade” is an attempt at exchange. This method however has revealed itself unapplicable for the following reasons: (1) the excess fat of the first world is undigestible. (2) The second world does not have any excess fat and mainly focuses of the absorption of fat from the third and fourth world. (3) Every excess of fat in the third world is drained by the fat bodies located there. (4) The lack of fat in the fourth world is a consequence of the fat exploitation by the first world, and at present this world does not participate in the exchange.

A scientific method for the balancing of fat distribution is therefore needed. The commission mentioned before is in favour of a saponification of fats. This has been tried out in an experimental fashion in Germany in 1940s of the 20th century. It basically consists of a separation of esters into alcohols and acids. The advantages to be expected from this are the following: (1) By means of a saponification of fat bodies in the first, second and third world one could produce the necessary soap to clean up the scene. (2) The glycerine obtained through this process can be used either as a remedy against fatty hearts, or as explosives to be used against the [revolutionary] movements in the third world. (3) The alcohol obtained can be used as an anaesthetic to appease the tendency towards more fat in the second world. (4) The acids obtained can be used as a counterweight for the decomposing forces of alkalis. Furthermore, the commission suggests perfuming the soap produced in this process in the most pleasing way.

We are looking forward with great interest to concrete proposals from your laboratory for a technical solution of this question. Long live the five-year plan for the establishment of Eternal Justice on Earth!

Mexico City, March 7, 2001

Comrade Planning Commissioner