

## OPENING REMARKS

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It is my privilege and pleasant duty to welcome you all to this Symposium. It is a gathering of highly distinguished representatives from twenty-one countries and thus is truly international in character. Many of you are visiting this country for the first time and to you we extend a special welcome. A number are old friends revisiting, I hope, past scenes of delight.

This is the first meeting organized in Ireland under the auspices of I.U.P.A.C. and my Committee has noted with pleasure that the General Secretary of the Union, Dr Rudolf Morf, has been able to escape for a few days from his heavy duties and to relax with us. That it has been at all possible to organize this Symposium in Dublin is due to the general financial support and hospitality which we have obtained from many sources.

The idea of holding this meeting originated with the late Professor T. S. Wheeler who as Honorary Secretary to the Committee had completed most of the arrangements before his tragic death last December. We all regret that he is not present with us to-day to enjoy the fruits of his labour and to renew acquaintance with many old colleagues.

A lot is being crowded into these few days, between lectures, fourteen in all, and social functions and we must adhere to a very tight schedule if we are to extract the maximum value and enjoyment from the proceedings. My Committee, which is organizing the Symposium on behalf of the Royal Irish Academy's Committee for Chemistry hopes that you will find the arrangements which it has made at least adequate.

The lectures are to be published by the International Union in a Special Volume. I have no doubt that this publication will rank as a valuable contribution to knowledge on the subject of yeasts and fungi.