

CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

ITHACA, N. Y.  
Mar. 20, 1936

Mr. Marion E. Dice  
General Petroleum Corporation  
2525 East 37th Street  
Los Angeles, California

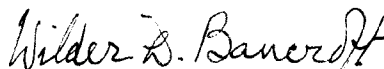
My dear Mr. Dice:

It was my good fortune to go with the American Chemical Society to Southern California in 1910 and again in 1935. We were received with open arms on both visits; but there was no local section at the time of the earlier visit. Parsons tells me that we acted catalytically and were the cause of the formation of the local section. By that I presume that he means that we sat round and did nothing, while somebody else worked very hard.

Be that as it may, I am very proud of any credit that may be coming to me, rightly or wrongly, for anything connected with the growth of your local section. The change in the quarter-century has been marvelous. Southern California is now one of the leading scientific and industrial centers in the country. While some credit for that is undoubtedly due to location and climate, it is the chemist who is responsible for a great part of the development.

In 1910 people did not ask us to come out and develop chemical science and chemical industry. They asked us to buy building lots in the outskirts of Los Angeles. We were not wise enough to do that; but we can see what the chemists have done in the last twenty-five years and wish you, with every prospect of success, a still greater development in the next quarter century.

Yours sincerely,



Wilder D. Bancroft