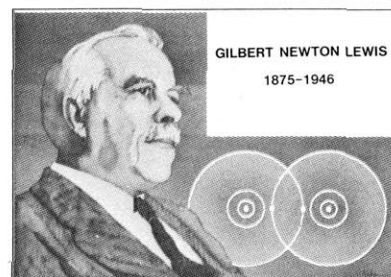


The College of Chemistry in the G. N. Lewis Era: 1912–1946

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Gilbert N. Lewis of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology accepted the position of Dean of the College of Chemistry and moved to Berkeley in the Fall of 1912. When Lewis arrived the chemistry faculty already had four members: Edward Booth who served until he died in 1917, Edmund O'Neill who retired in 1925, Walter C. Blasdale who retired in 1940, and Henry C. Biddle who left Berkeley in 1916. From MIT Lewis brought with him William C. Bray, Merle Randall, and Richard C. Tolman, together with several graduate students. Bray and Randall were to stay at Berkeley but Tolman left in 1916. George Ernest Gibson from England and Germany and Joel H. Hildebrand from the University of Pennsylvania joined the faculty in 1913. These proved to be the last non-Berkeley PhD's appointed to the faculty until Calvin's appointment in 1937 (see table). Of the permanent chemistry faculty from 1912 to the present we have known all but Booth, O'Neill, and Biddle.



The accompanying photographs are notable in that they are among the very few substantial ones of the College of Chemistry faculty, including Lewis, that have survived from the G. N. Lewis era. Soon after the Chemistry Annex was completed in 1915, a number of people moved there from the larger old building which had been completed in 1890. The first photograph (Fig. 1) was taken in front of the Chemistry Annex on 14 May 1917. It shows Lewis and his graduate students William L. Argo (at this time an instructor); Axel R. Olson; Thomas B. Brighton; Parry Borgstrom; Asa L. Caulkins; Orville E. Cushman; Guy W. Clark; and George S. Parks; Randall and his graduate student, Charles S. Bisson; Bray; Constance Gray, secretary to Lewis; William J. Cummings, glassblower; and Svend Holmstrup, shopman.

The second picture (Fig. 2) was taken in front of Gilman Hall in the fall of 1917, at about the time this building was completed. This photograph includes faculty members



Figure 1. Picture taken on May 14, 1917, in front of Chemistry Annex.

Back row (left to right)

William C. Bray, William L. Argo, Gilbert N. Lewis, Constance Gray, Parry Borgstrom, George S. Parks, Merle Randall, Charles S. Bisson, Asa L. Caulkins, Svend Holmstrup (shopman), William J. Cummings (glassblower).

Front row (seated left to right)

Axel R. Olson, Thomas B. Brighton, Orville E. Cushman, Guy W. Clark.

Eastman, Blasdale, Bray, Randall, Gibson, Porter, Stewart, O'Neill, Argo, and Lewis (Branch was away in the Canadian Armed Services while Hildebrand was apparently out of town); Lewis' secretary, Constance Gray, and clerk M. J. Fisher; graduate students Esther Kittredge, Esther Branch

(wife of Gerald Branch), Charles S. Bisson, Wendell M. Latimer, Charles C. Scalione, Roy F. Newton, William G. Horsch, William H. Hampton, John M. McGee, George S. Parks, Parry Borgstrom, Albert G. Loomis, Angier H. Foster, and Axel R. Olson; undergraduate students Carl Iddings, William D.

University of California, Berkeley—Chemistry Faculty

Year Joined	Name	Degree Date	Where Taken/With Whom	Year Joined	Name	Degree Date	Where Taken/With Whom
Faculty on hand at time Gilbert N. Lewis arrived in Berkeley				1921	Olson, Axel R.	1918	UC Berkeley, Lewis
	Booth, Edward	1877	UC Berkeley		Hogness, Thorfin R.	1921	UC Berkeley, Hildebrand
	O'Neill, Edmond	1879	UC Berkeley	1922	Giauque, William F.	1922	UC Berkeley, Gibson
	Blasdale, Walter C.	1892	UC Berkeley		(Nobel Prize, 1949)		
	Biddle, Henry C.	1900	University of Chicago	1923	Rollefson, Gerhard K.	1923	UC Berkeley, Lewis
1912	Lewis, Gilbert Newton	1899	Harvard, T. W. Richards	1933	Libby, Willard F.	1933	UC Berkeley, Latimer
	Tolman, Richard C.	1910	MIT		(Nobel Prize, 1960)		
	Bray, William C.	1905	Leipzig, Luther	1937	Pitzer, Kenneth S.	1937	UC Berkeley, Latimer
	Randall, Merle	1912	MIT, G. N. Lewis		Calvin, Melvin	1935	Minnesota, Glockler (UC Berkeley, 1923, Gibson)
1913	Hildebrand, Joel C.	1906	Pennsylvania, Edgar Fahs Smith	1938	Ruben, Samuel C.	1938	UC Berkeley, Latimer/Libby
	Gibson, G. Ernest	1911	Breslau, Lummer	1939	Seaborg, Glenn T.	1937	UC Berkeley, Gibson
1915	Branch, Gerald E. K.	1915	UC Berkeley, Lewis		(Nobel Prize, 1951)		
	Argo, William C.	1915	UC Berkeley, Lewis				
1917	Porter, C. Walter	1915	UC Berkeley, Biddle				
	Eastman, Ermon D.	1917	UC Berkeley, Lewis				
	Latimer, Wendell M.	1917	UC Berkeley, Gibson				
	Stewart, T. Dale	1916	UC Berkeley, Tolman				

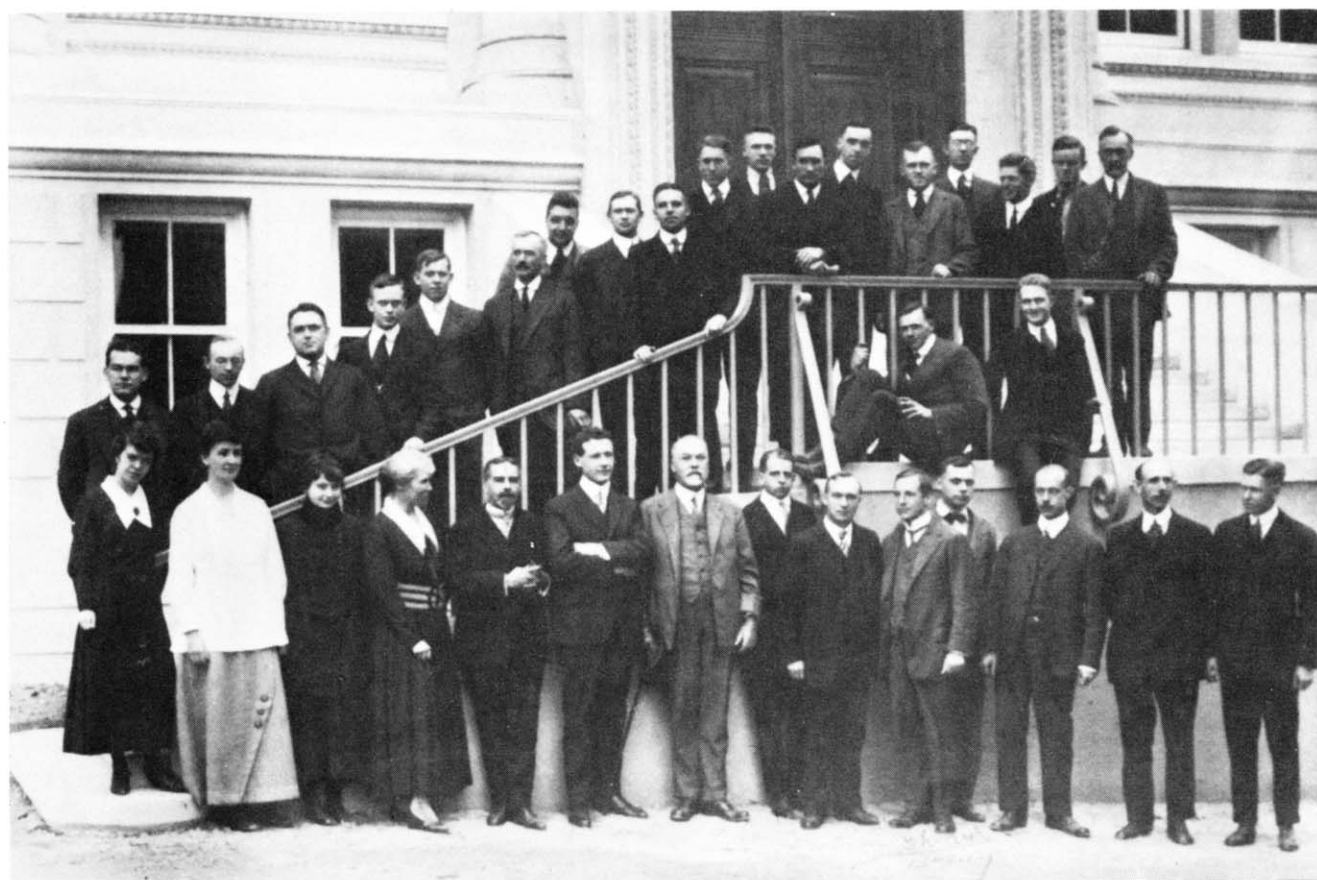


Figure 2. University of California College of Chemistry Staff Members in Front of Newly Constructed Gilman Hall (Fall of 1917).

Front row (right to left)

Ermon D. Eastman, Walter C. Blasdale, William C. Bray, Merle Randall, G. Ernest Gibson, C. Walter Porter, T. Dale Stewart, Edmund O'Neill, William L. Argo, Gilbert N. Lewis, Constance Gray, Esther Kittredge, Esther Branch, and M. J. Fisher, (bookkeeper).

Ascending Stairs (left to right)

Charles S. Bisson, Wendell M. Latimer, William J. Cummings (glassblower), Carl Iddings, Reginald B. Rule, J. T. Rattray (woodworker), Charles C. Scalione, Hal D. Draper, William G. Horsch, William H. Hampton, Willard G. Babcock, John M. McGee, George S. Parks, Parry Borgstrom, Albert G. Loomis, George A. Linhart, William D. Ramage, and Harry N. Cooper.

Seated (left to right)

Alex R. Olson and Angier H. Foster.

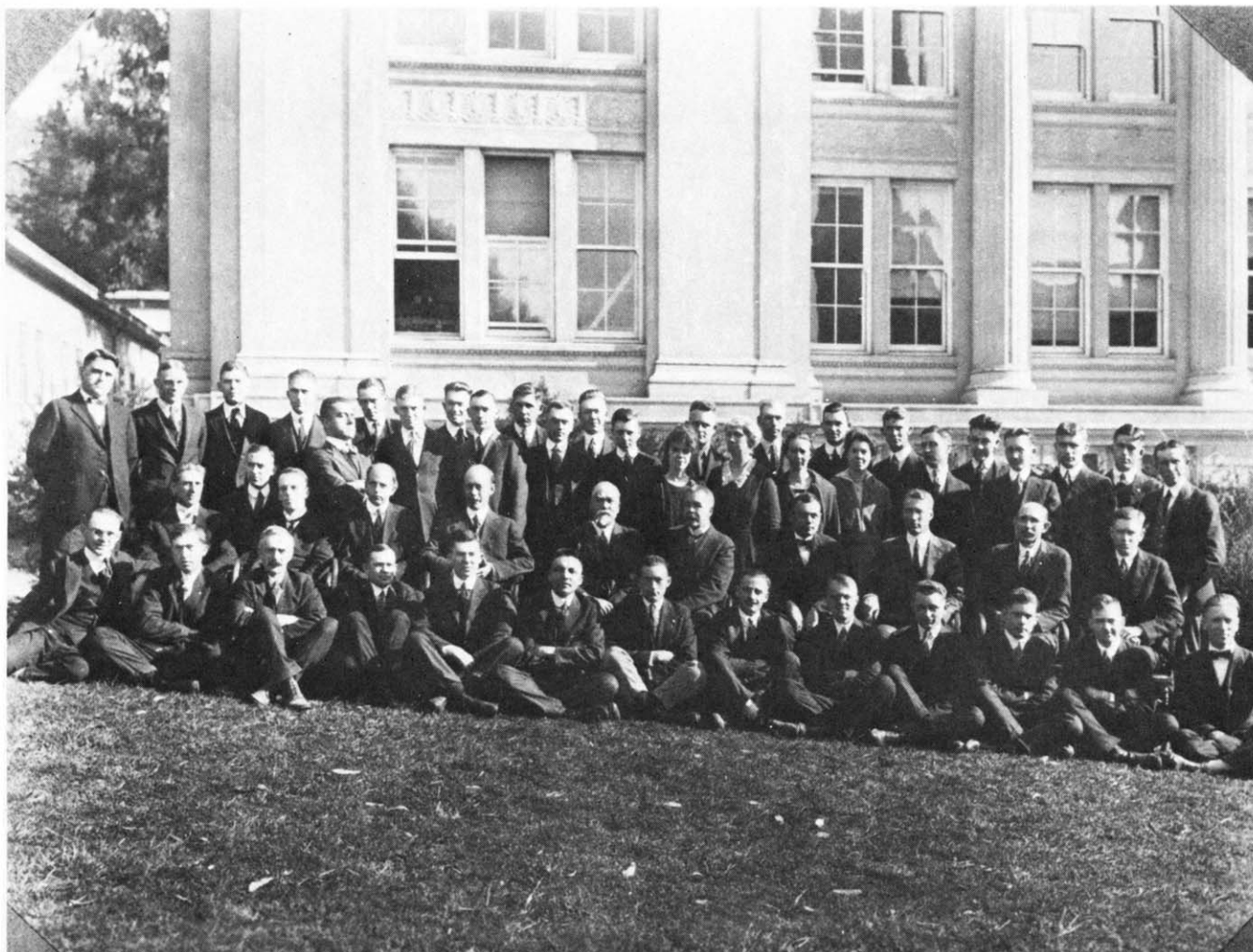


Figure 3. University of California College of Chemistry Staff Members in front of the north end of Gilman Hall, November 1920.

From left to right, seated, first row

Philip S. Danner, H. W. Chapman, James T. Rattray, Hal D. Draper, Nelson W. Taylor, Theophil F. Buehrer, Allyn M. Shaffer, Roscoe H. Gerke, Francis R. Bichowsky, Reynold C. Fuson, T. Fraser Young, Thomas E. Phipps, and Roy M. Bauer.

Seated, second row

George F. Nelson, Wendell M. Latimer, Gerald E. K. Branch, T. Dale Stewart, William C. Bray, Edmund O'Neill, Gilbert N. Lewis, Merle Randall, Joel H. Hildebrand, Walter C. Blasdale, and Ermon D. Eastman.

Standing, third row

Eustace J. Cuy, Robert M. Evans, William M. Hoskins, Roy F. Newton, Albert P. Vanselow, Maybelle J. Fisher, Constance Gray, Edna R. Bishop, Anna L. Elliott, Clarence A. Jenks, and Gustav E. Ostrom.

Standing, fourth row

William J. Cummings, John A. Almquist, Russell W. Millar, W. Albert Noyes, Jr., Albert M. Williams, Maurice L. Huggins, Evald Anderson, Dwight C. Bardwell, Harry K. Ihrig, Bruner M. Burchfiel, William F. Giauque, Sherwin Maeser, Karl R. Edlund, Thorfin R. Hogness, James B. Ramsey, and Manuel L. Zavala.

Ramage, Willard G. Babcock, and Reginald B. Rule; assistant George A. Linhart; glassblower William J. Cummings and woodworker James T. Rattray and curator Harry N. Cooper.

The third picture (Fig. 3) was taken outside Gilman Hall in November, 1920. Seated in the second row front are George F. Nelson (chief machinist), and faculty members Latimer, Branch, Stewart, Bray, O'Neill, Lewis, Randall, Hildebrand,

Blasdale, and Eastman (Gibson, Olson, and Porter are missing). Also included are Constance Gray (secretary to Lewis), M. J. Fisher (secretary to O'Neill), Rattray (woodworker), Cummings (glassblower), H. W. Chapman (machinist), postdoctoral fellows Francis R. Bichowsky and W. Albert Noyes, Jr., and Roy F. Newton (instructor). All the others are graduate students and are identified in the caption.