

Week Honors New Chemical Advances

One week each year is set aside as Chemical Progress Week. This year it is April 8 - 12 inclusive.

In conjunction with chemical progress the Canisius College chemistry students will present displays and experiments to acquaint the public with some of the contributions the industry makes toward a better America.

Some indication of the significance of the chemical industry and the science of chemistry can be gleaned from the general observation that chemical change is essential to the form of everything you know and to all life processes.

Virtually everything the world requires in a material sense is related to the six basic needs of mankind: food, clothing, shelter, transportation, communication, and medication.

In food, chemical progress contributes most directly to your welfare through new and better fertilizers and pesticides which have made possible more food per acre. Preservation and packaging have also been advanced by chemical research.

Chemical improvements in clothing have been made through more durable natural fibers, and the introduction of a variety of man-made fibers. Also, blends of natural and synthetic fibers have made Americans the best dressed people in the world.

In shelter or housing, chemical preservatives protect lumber used in home-building. Products used for roofing and siding materials are chemicals derived from petroleum and coal. Reinforced plastics have been perfected for sections of many modern structures. Tile, flooring, and counter-tops have added beauty and longer life to the modern kitchen.

Modern transportation benefits from chemical research in construction materials, plastics, finishes, fuels, rubber, and road surfaces.

In the communication field chemicals are essential in all types of equipment from telephone systems to radar units.

A longer and healthier life is

foreseen as a result of the conquest of disease through medicinal chemicals, notably the antibiotics, and gains made through vitamins, hormones and sulfa drugs have been one of the most heartening chapters in American chemical progress.

And now the world has a new and effective way of producing chemical change—atomic radiation. This field alone presents a challenge that staggers the imagination.

If it be the newsprinter's ink or paper or the new tranquilizing drugs, chemical progress has been involved.

At the annual Open House, the future and hopeful chemist will try to show and to explain to the public the effect which chemistry plays in the improvement of mankind.