

M. B. Moore

Oct 52

Auroa Sporealis

WHEREIN ARE PRESENTED THE LIKENESSES OF THREE
WHO HAVE DRUNK FROM THE FOAMING FOUNT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
PLANT PATHOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
AND WHO GUIDED THE SPOUTINGS OF OTHERS IN THESE PAGES
FROM THE ORIGINAL ERUPTION
ON THE FIRST DAY OF AUGUST IN THE YEAR 1924
THROUGH THE MONTH OF JULY IN 1926



A. W. Henry, Chairman

Helen Hart

H. A. Rodenhiser

Caught in a moment of recollection, rumination, or
raspiration on the occasion of the reunion of Old Timers at
Ithaca in September of 1952, these three were the mycelium,
the stipe, and the pileus of the original editorial committee
of this illustrious journal!

In Tribute to Them

LET THE FOUNT FOAM AND NEVER RUN DRY
LET THE SPOUT SQUIRT AND NEVER LOSE POWER

OLD TIMERS

CHRISTMAS is gone, but it was not forgotten by Old Timers. JOYEUX NOEL et BONE ANNEE came by ship and plane to Phytobrickhaus erectus "and particularly to survivors of P. tremuloides" from Pakistan, Palestine, Haiti, Porto Rico, and Surinam; from New Zealand, England, and Canada; from India, U.S.A., Colombia, Peru, Costa Rico, and Mexico. We thank you all, and to each of you a

GELUKKIG NIEUWJAAR

Recollections from Lyle W. R. Jackson, of Athens, Georgia: "Remember how Jonas (Chris to most of us) used to sing 'I don't want to go home' while he was chasing Helminth. spores? Dr. Freeman's corn cob pipes? Miss Dossall and those musty herbarium specimens? Does Stakman still struggle with those calabash pipes. Remember the big black cigars he brought into Seminar?...Also remember the inter campus rattler on those mornings when it was 20 below zero."

Tobacco-man Tommy GRAHAM of Florence, South Carolina, has been delving after nematodes while in Washington recently. Any connection with those strings that emerge from our cigarettes every now and then?

Paul and Clemencia SIGGERS are now at home at Tula 108, Colonia Las Mitras, Monterrey, Mexico. Says he: "I have retired from writing squibs."

Ed ANDREWS, of East Lansing, Michigan, sent a thesis; and his wife sent greetings.

The home address of new Old Timer Merle MICHAELSON is 8 West Drive, Columbia, Missouri. He says, "We have enjoyed our brief introductory acquaintance with Missouri."

Sugar cane smut and traveling have occupied the time of Elisa HIRSCHHORN, of Castelar, Argentina. "We have here lately the visit of Dr. Borlaug and other people...and you can imagine that there is no come together without remembering Minn. Pl. Path."

Dr. Norman Krog, Niagara Chemical Division, Middleport, N. Y., writes that he and his family are the owners of a beautiful home with five upstairs bedrooms, surrounded by about 10 acres of fruit trees. Sounds like a dream come true for the Krogs. Also--the Thursday night seminar always welcomes the opportunity to judge the quality of fruit, especially that grown by Old Timers.

Seven pounds of BOY was born November 5 at Evansville, Minnesota, to Jim and Norma (former Secretary) EDMAN.

Not satisfied to be in the northerly region of Edmonton, Alberta, Dr. G. B. SANFORD--once a Minnesota potato boy--drove to the Yukon Territory this fall, to visit the new sub-station 100 miles west of Whitehorse. Also visited Fairbanks and Skagway.

Not since he left Minnesota for Egypt in March had we heard from Dr. Ismail Ali IBRAHIM, known to his playmates in Plant Path as Ish-mish. In the Faculty of Agriculture at Shatby, Alexandria, he wrote in November, "I miss every one of the gang and I miss the seminars very much."

Mort COHEN moved in November from Riverside, California, to Lake Alfred, Fla., to work on quick decline of citrus for the Plant Protection Board--so our informer stated. Since confirmed by Dr. Cohen himself!

The Darleys at Riverside, California, celebrated in November their third year in one house, which they state is a record for them.

"May your winter be mild and your pleasures many. Should either not be so, come to Ohio where the glow of intellectual enlightenment brightens the darkest day, and dulls the sharpest wind, rendering all things balmy."

--Pat (Mrs. C. C.) ALLISON

Former Secretary Shirlee Freeberg has become Mrs. Thompson, now living in Stanchfield, Minnesota.

Most recent Old-Timer secretary is Mrs. Robert (Veva) SPIER, who has returned to Columbia, Missouri, and is now Executive Secretary of the Camp Fire Girls.

From the Instituto Agropecuario Nacional in Guatemala, new Old Timer Marco FLORES requested on November 23, "Please do not forget to send me Aurora, because the one we have here is different." We admit ours of necessity must be on a lower plane!

From Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama (Box 501), Lavaniel L. HENDERSON took time from his teaching and research to send a Happy New Year and to pay tribute to old timers Jim Lyle and Dick Davidson for literature they have provided.

More recently, the same Davidson "has joined the administrative staff of Battelle Institute to coordinate relations between Battelle and its sponsors of agricultural and biological research."
--Science, Dec. 12

If you are hungry, read "Can we make the earth feed us all?" in the Saturday Evening Post of October 13 and learn what Old Timers Dutch HARRAR and Norman BORLAUG are doing in Mexico to help answer the question affirmatively.

In response to letters from the Seminar to several old timers, we got (1) admiration of our letterhead from K. W. KREITLOW, (2) insults to the Gopher football team from C.S. Chuckie HOLTON, and (3) a beautiful (and we hope good) check for \$10.00 from Coyt WILSON.

Lt. Col. W. N. CHRISTOPHER, whose move to Tripler Army Hospital in Honolulu was announced in our last issue, finds himself "wandering around gazing at the many pieces of apparatus in amazement and wonder." His address (and we ought to charge him for space) is 3286 A.U.S.C. Box 296, Tripler Army Hospital, APO 328 c/o PM, San Francisco! "The hospital is the largest, newest and most completely equipped one in the armed services," and our old timer is Chief of the Clinical Laboratory.

Although Nero may have made music in Rome, old timer Glen HEMERICK swears that he was put to work immediately upon arrival there. Living now on one of the historic seven hills, the Hemericks have shopped intensively for a house with a view, the latter, according to the Romans, being more important than plumbing.

The newly formed University of Karachi, Pakistan, boasts two Minnesota Old Timers: Dr. S. J. Hasanain as Reader (Associate Professor) and Dr. A.A. Anwar Lecturer. Dr. S. F. Hassan (Anwar's alter ego) and Dr. Abdul Kausar are in the Plant Protection Department as previously.

B. Bernarr VANCE, of Dayton, Ohio, has been made Editor-in-Chief of The American Biology Teacher. He heard the Big Chief spout to biology teachers assembled at the AAAS meetings in St. Louis.

Claim to membership in the Proud Order of Grandparents comes from Monica and Olaf AAMODT, of Washington, D. C., who state their grandson is 7 months old.

Clyde SHUMWAY, of Pine City, Minnesota, admitted when he was in St. Paul recently that he also had credentials entitling him to membership. If we remember correctly, it was Freeman Weiss who thought he was First Old-Timer Grandpapa, whereas ye Editors claimed it was Paul Peterson. Who else wants to join this honorable order of the rocking chair?

As the presses begin to roll, we proudly present tomorrow's news today: At the ceremonies marking the dedication of the Agricultural Library on January 14, the University of Minnesota will present Outstanding Achievement Awards to three plant pathology postgraduates:

H. A. Rodenhiser
Ralph M. Lindgren
J. G. Harrar

REORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department of Agriculture has been reorganized and renamed. It is now the Institute of Agriculture. The new dean is Harold Macy as Dean Bailey retired December 31, 1952.

The Dean of the Institute has five major assistants:--

1. The Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Dr. H. J. Sloane.

2. The Director of Resident Instruction, which includes the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics and the Office of Short Courses, Dr. A. A. Dowell. Henry Schmitz, formerly Dean, is now President of the University of Washington.

3. An Assistant Dean of the Institute, T. N. Fenske, who will function as Administrative Assistant to the Dean. He will be responsible for certain administrative units and for the coordination, integration and supervision of schools of agriculture and outlying experiment stations.

4. An Assistant Dean in Charge of the School of Veterinary Medicine. This position is vacant, as Dr. W. L. Boyd retired June 30, 1952.

5. Extension Director, Mr. Paul Miller

The teaching and research divisions are now designated as departments, and the top man as Head.

(Asks Eide, "Will the Big Chief be Big Head?")

TUESDAY SEMINAR

The eyes of those uninitiated in the mysteries of Tuesday afternoon Seminars grew wider and wider the first session as the Big Chief oriented the group on the purposes, theories, and practices of seminar. However, as the quarter progressed the same eyes were seen to blink, half close and even shut completely, (especially in that hallowed spot behind the pillar where you can doze in comparative security.) Seminars are a gradually changing panorama. Each week the papers seem to get longer, the smoke thicker, the room more crowded (A public speaking system to pipe the seminar to the coffee room is being contemplated), and the chairs harder!!

From a frequency standpoint, rust headed the list of papers given. Rust-experts S. Goto, Dave Smith, and O. Sosa, fortified by the expert opinions of E.C.S., astounded the neophytes and amazed the mossbacks with their discoveries and discussions. Late-blight was second in frequency distribution, with Olmsted and Thurston presenting papers on spraying and epidemiology.

Leon Wood told the seminar what is being done to protect that priceless precursor of the golden brew (barley) from the ravages of disease. Bob Skiles (recently of Colombia, S. America) summarized his work on viruses of strawberries; Chuck Logsdon told of the difficulties of correlating planting date with potato ring rot severity; and Bob Campbell brought us up to date on the activities of Chalara quercina. Fred Frosheiser (from the wilds of Wyoming) described a new soybean disease in Minnesota--brown rot, and Riley Konerza amazed King and the seminar with the large number of pea diseases that he found prevalent on his pea survey this summer.

Oldtimer Irvin L. Forbes, Associate Director of the Louisiana Station, gave the seminar an interesting talk on agriculture and various pathological problems in Louisiana.

More proofs that Tuesday seminar is not an entirely inflexible institution are these: In addition to a drastic change in credits (2 to 1), another milestone was marked off recently, when five graduate students prepared and presented a symposium on plant disease resistance and not a single word was uttered by the faculty once the symposium got under way!!!!

CHRISTMAS PARTY

At our traditional Christmas party, the little kids got plenty of attention, the bigger kids traded toys, occasional punches and shouts, while the biggest kids sung themselves hoarse, laughed occasionally, drank large quantities of coffee and exchanged best wishes with one another. Stak joined in and led many second and third choruses of old familiar songs. Tom Wyllie organized an entertainment program which called upon the talents of such extremely fine performers as Don Stewart, Eagle, Keplinger, Hildreth, Smitty, Thurston, Moore, King, Mrs. Wyllie, Mrs. Drescher, Makila, Tuite, and J.J. Christensen. The children were delighted with Santa (Melander) Claus weighed down by his bundle of gifts. All joined together to wish a Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Old Timers who honored us with visits during the fall of 1952 came from near and far.

Dr. and Mrs. I. L. Forbes spent most of the week of October 13 on the St. Paul Campus. Dr. Forbes is Associate Director of the Louisiana State Experiment Station, but no one was sure if he was here for business or pleasure. As far as we're concerned, it was pleasure.

Dr. and Mrs. Ernie DuCharme from the Citrus Experiment Station at Lake Alfred, Florida, were here at the same time. Both couples made new acquaintances and renewed old ones at the annual PP picnic.

The Flax Institute in November brought OTs Waldo Sackston (complete with large mustachios) from Winnipeg and Arden Sherf from Ames, Iowa.

OT Eric eminent-banquet-speaker Sharvelle stopped to see us on his way from the 6th Annual Potato Marketing Clinic at East Grand Forks, Minnesota, where he was the banquet speaker--of course.

Dr. Jack Mitchell came from Camp Detrick, Md.

A Thanksgiving reunion of the Hanson family in St. Paul brought OT Earl Hanson from Madison, Wis. From him we got the details on the Minnesota-Wisconsin 14-14 tie.

OT Clyde Shumway, Veterans Agriculture teacher at Pine City, Minn. paid us a visit between Christmas and New Years.

Mrs. Malcolm Shurtleff (Margaret Johnson) former office secretary, came home from Rhode Island for a visit and brought greetings from OT husband.

Other distinguished visitors came from all parts of the world. Among them were Mr. M. Nageraj from India, now a student at the University of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Barnes (entomologist) from the Rockefeller Foundation in Mexico City; Dr. William Kehr, plant breeder for the California Packing Co., Rochelle, Illinois; Dr. David Beard, Chief, Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, USDA; and Mr. Carleton Garrison, Director, National Foundation Seed Project; Dr. B. L. Sethi, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, State College of Agriculture, India; Dr. B. W. Bragdon, Chief, Department of Plant Pathology and Botany, Iowa State College, and Dr. Lewis from the same institution; Dr. J.E. Kuntz, Forest Pathology, Rockefeller Foundation, New York, N.Y.; Dr. George Cockerham of Scotland, who is doing research on potato problems at Wisconsin and Dr. Kenneth Wailer, U. S. Weather Bureau.

Early in the fall, Gabriel Murillo returned to Mexico with Master's Degree; later Rosendo Postigo became OT by virtue of completing work for his M.S. and departure to his home in Peru. Another OT became an inhabitant of South America; Robert Skles, with Ph.D. went to the Rockefeller Foundation unit for Agricultural Research at Medellin, Colombia. On the last day of 1952, Herb Johnson severed official relations with Minnesota Plant Pathology and became an official employee of the Green Giant Co., LeSueur, Minnesota.

Robert Klug, biology instructor at St. Thomas College in St. Paul, resumed his graduate studies this fall and is majoring in agricultural botany.

New graduate students in Phytobrickhaus are: Fatch M. Turk, Karachi, Pakistan; Hosmi A. Mohamed, Egypt; Kishun D. Paharia, Kanpur, U.P., India; C. S. Venkataram, Calcutta, India; Minoru Aragaki, Hawaii (student of OT Harry Murakishi); Howard Bissonnett, graduate of St. Thomas College, St. Paul.

Old Timer Dr. Jack Levitt from the University of Missouri at Columbia visited the Department during the Christmas holidays.

THURSDAY EVENINGS.

Puccinia graminis tritici, in addition to being glorified for posterity by two full pages in Life magazine, still basks in the limelight on Thursday evenings in PP 401. The mentor of the seminar, in spite of several extended absences to such world capitals as Washington and Paris (a very gloomy place in the fall, to quote E.C.S.), still managed to keep us well informed on new developments in the study of Puccinia graminis et al., kept the fount foaming and elicited questions such as is an X an X, and are rust reactions degrees in a race of the fungus between phytocide and suicide?

The man from Missouri--Iron-Hand Logsdon--kept the seminar functioning smoothly and in a truly democratic style. During the discussion of the annual plant pathology picnic it was moved that we have no more picnics. The vote was close, about 50-2, but the

eyes (JJC and EGS) had it, according to Chairman Logsdon; so the following week a fine time was had by all at a rugged picnic in the Ag Union.

Ostensibly the main purpose of seminars is to review pertinent phytopathological literature and research. Presentations are often side-tracked by such classics as U. zaeae, P.g. tritici, and H. sativum, supposedly to crystallize and clarify the contributions of the papers. Forager (Lt.Col.) Kernkamp was led astray in a report he was giving on the viability of Corynebacterium indisiosum bacteria in forage alfalfa stems, first by Eide and Moore who voraciously took opposite sides on the effect of the medium on the pathogenicity of bacteria, then the Big Chief interrupted with a related point on cretinism which prompted Johnny Rowell to bring in des-oxy-ribonucleic acid and Agrobacterium tumefaciens. Naturally, this forced Elsa Jackson and EGS to bring in strict mycelial and strict sporidial lines of U. zaeae, which gave smut expert Kernkamp his chance to get back into the discussion.

A wide variety of other subjects was also reviewed, including new sexually pleomorphic discomycetes, winter injury of ornamental trees, converting fungi to algae, plant disease control by antibiotics, and the occurrence of mycelial mats of Chalara quercina in Minnesota. I move we pass the candidates.

The fall picnic of '52 made a splendid debut,
As cool breezes out yonder would have made us less fonder,
We gathered the clan and followed the plan.
Into the Union we came which to Matt Moore was INSANE,
For to him a picnic isn't so, if it isn't outside and 10 below!!
Nevertheless, a fine time was had by most, which is really a modest boast.
Included in our orb was a visitor named Forbes,
Who came up north to be our guest.
The festivities lasted for three hours plus, with a gradual dispersal of the
populus,
And so at the end of this gale affair, only those who were on clean-up had a
care!!!

LOCALS

One of the largest and most impressive of recent additions to the divisional physical plant is perhaps that of the new rust greenhouse. This all-aluminum, 3-section, 38 x 75-foot greenhouse has been in operation since mid-October. It is located below the front entrance of the building and north of the farm machine shop. It was a long fight to get the plumbers, electricians, and their helpers moved out onto the dump pile, but, like the Kenya wheats, their resistance was broken after several days exposure to temperatures of 85°F. Of particular interest are the cast concrete greenhouse benches with raised lips around the edges, which permit all watering of plant material to be done from the bottom. Temperature control is much improved over previous houses in that thermostatically controlled exhaust fans (installed) and automatic vent openers (on order) will make noon-time temperature peaks a thing of the past. With more space and better temperature control, intricacies of host and pathogen are being unravelled at an appalling rate.

An international Wheat Rust Conference was held in Winnipeg, Canada, from January 5 to 7. Perhaps it could better be called a meeting of Minnesota alumni, for Old Timers were rampant. T. Johnson, Barney Peterson, Bill Hanna, Neatby, Cherewick, Sackston, Broadfoot, and Greaney were among the Canadian contingent. Representing the group south of the line, or lines, as the case may be, were Rodenhiser, Harrar, Young Jr., Borlaug, Gibler, Campos, Helen Hart, Hayden, and Stakman. Discussion centered around the rusts, leaf and stem, the organism, the search for resistant varieties, and allied problems. Tentative plans call for a similar meeting two years hence. The extent to which overall international planning and cooperation have been developed is certainly worthy of special mention.

The 15-below-zero weather in Winnipeg was more than offset by the warmth of the Canadian reception. Highlight of the first day's activities was the

evening banquet given by the Canadian Department of Agriculture in honor of Dr. Stakman for his contributions to rust research. Subhighlights were an historical summary of rust research in Canada by Dr. Neatby; the speech by Old Timer Harrar on behalf of the group, presenting a gift to the guest of honor; and the acceptance by Dr. Stakman. After comparing the Big Chief's present "portfolio" to a carpet bag, Dr. Harrar presented a brief bag from the group.

Some recent changes have occurred in the Tottering Tower: Dr. Ralph Cotter and Don Stewart moved from the Plant Path Bldg. to Ag Botany -- seems the peace and quiet of the old library on the fourth floor (Puff, Puff!), as well as the nearness of the lower greenhouses, was irresistible. There is a rumor that Dr. Melander also has cornered a desk in the dizzy heights.

In fact, the Ag Botany building must be improving, because, of all the buildings on farm campus, Entomology chose Room 106 of the Tottering Tower in which to do research on infestation of stored grain by insects.

BIRTHS:

A daughter, Carol Jeanne, to Gene and Gloria Hayden on December 18.

FLASHBACK TO 1939

Springtime is degree time. Here they are--look 'em over. LARRY TYNER, L. HWANG, and PAUL SIGGERS have completed requirements for the Ph.D. degree. Lew ALLISON has also passed his prelim. Congratulations and salutations.

JOHN PRESLEY has returned to Sacaton, Arizona, where he will continue his cotton root-rot investigations, during the summer. However, he expects to return to the Tottering Tower next fall.

Old Timer BOB ATKINSON is back with us again. For the past three years Bob has been at L.S.U., where he worked out his masters thesis on the red rot disease of sugarcane. Welcome back, Bob!

VALLEGA has been giving his Ford (Cherry-Bounce) another workout. He has recently returned from Ames, Iowa, after visiting various departments and making pow-wow with several investigators there.

That the Tottering Tower is still holding its own is evident by its new Sigma Xi initiates, namely: SIGGERS, TYNER, VALLEGA, CHILTON, HWANG, LASKARIS, HANSON and KING. Congratulations to all.

HAVE YOU HEARD? The Big Chief (Dr. STAKMAN) has been honored with the chairmanship of the section of plant pathology, at the 1940 meeting of the International Botanical Congress, to be held in Stockholm, Sweden. Congratulations to the Chief.

--Aurora Sporealis XV, No.3

SPORTS IN A MUSHROOM

With the year's first blizzard a forgotten event, it seems strange to talk football, but following a spectacular season and an abundance of bowl games, old man football is dying a slow death at evening coffee hours. At the risk of raising the dead, it can be said that Minnesota finished a strong contender for the Big Ten title, being deprived of the Rose Bowl trip by a final 20-20 thriller against highly favored Wisconsin, this year's bowl team. The overall conference record found the Gophers winning from Iowa, Northwestern and upsetting the Illini, while dropping a tough one to Michigan at Ann Arbor and tying Purdue and Wisconsin.

Minnesota's Paul Giel, brilliant tailback, was rightly chosen All-Conference, All-American and most valuable Big Ten performer. He was truly outstanding.

For the records, Purdue and Wisconsin tied for the conference lead, with the Badgers elected as the Big Ten representative.

As a final recap on football, the important bowl games found U.S.C. edging Wisconsin 7-0, in the grandpappy of the bowl games, Texas 16-Tennessee 0 in the Cotton Bowl, while Palmolive Tech really cleaned up on Dirty U. in the Wash Bowl.

On the basketball front, Minnesota's overrated championship hopes went fading with defeats by Marquette and Northwestern, which had been preceded by a thrilling 77-73 triumph over Illinois, the country's top ranking team, and rather unimpressive wins over Bradley, Xavier and Michigan State. The quintet definitely lacks one guard and a forward of Big Ten caliber and is woefully weak in reserve strength. Our only forte lies in our phenomenal shooting, which seems to be running hot and cold. This season inaugurates an 18-game conference schedule with the champ probably boasting a final 14-4 record.

The Minnesota hockey team is a definite championship contender and, paced by a sensational first front line, should put Gopherville back on the hockey map.

Within the department, we argue profusely, reminisce sadly, and exercise little. Spurred on by the Chief's enviable record, a few are playing handball and others work out in the gym. The bowling team is steadily climbing in the tough 15-man league. In all seriousness, the old department is still the same, sports being definitely king of extra-curricular activities. It is rare indeed when someone isn't talking sports of some kind, somewhere in the department. Yes, sports is still king!

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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