

## OLD TIMERS

Recipient of a Certificate of Merit from the Botanical Society of America at the 50th anniversary banquet, August 29, is Old Timer DIXON LLOYD BAILEY. His citation read: "discerning analyst and interpreter of the concepts of plant pathology, enriching influence in the lives of his associates, and outstanding contributor to the vigor of scientific study in Canada." --Plant Science Bulletin 2: No. 4.

"Introductory Plant Pathology" is a new book by Old Timer M. N. KAMAT, written after his retirement at "Shantaram," Saraswat Colony, Poona, India. Reviewers here recommend the book highly.

At the second international Plant Protection Conference, held in England on June 18-21, Dr. W. F. HANNA (Canada) "described the importance of resistant plant varieties to insects and disease, especially from the background of rust-resistant varieties of wheat..." -- Science 124: 732.

Dr. P. N. NAIR, after a month in Europe embarked for India and home but due to circumstances beyond his control had to travel the long way around Africa.

News came indirectly that Stuart S. BAMPTON obtained the Ph.D. degree in England and that he is on his way to Nigeria for his first job.

Old Timers Coyt WILSON, of Alabama, and Larry MILLER, of Virginia, remembered the department in more tangible ways than by messages. They sent peanuts by the bushel, shelled and unshelled.

Ons beste wense vir 'n  
Geseende Kersfees en  
Voorspoedige Nuwejaar.

--S. J. duFleissie  
c/o Department of Agriculture  
Private Bag 116, Pretoria

News from Old Timer Karol Zaleski in  
Poznan, Poland, December 15:

"Taking opportunity of a little greater liberty with us, I am trying to make my contact with you anew...Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 1957 to all my acquaintances in the department...I am receiving Phytopathology it is true, but other books and papers from America are difficult to get. I will be very obliged to you if you will mail me bulletins and papers and news from Minnesota U Farm. I remember always the 1931 as one of the best times in my life."

L. A. "Larry" SCHAAL, potato specialist at Ft. Collins, Colorado, is bragging (as Coloradans do) about their blue skies.

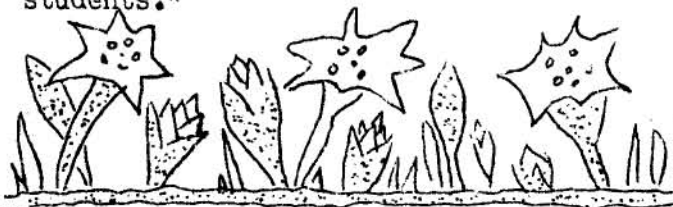
The M. N. LEVINEs, enroute home from Israel, were in Rome in December, awaiting orders for the next move.

J. Lewis ALLISONs reported on their family of 4 F<sub>1</sub>s -- evenly divided, so that those who have only boys may be jealous!

E. E. (Ed) BUTLER, at Davis, California, reported the weather there very good--naturally. Says he, somewhat doubtfully, "I suppose we still miss Minnesota."

E. J. "Andy" ANDERSON, of Honolulu, said "the nearest to any one from Minnesota to come through here recently was Bill CORMACK and his lovely wife." The Andersons are looking forward to a trip to Australia next year and thereby may not be able to attend the 50 year celebration of the APS.

Dr. Dorothy DAY spent last winter in Cassadaga, N. Y., teaching biology and physics; this winter she decided to stay at home in Salt Lake City, where she "landed in biology again, this time at Granite with a fine group of faculty and students."



The three SMITHs -- Dave, Myrtle Old-Timer Nordquist, and baby -- have moved from Montana to Brainerd, Minnesota, where Dave teaches in the Junior College.

Enroute from British Columbia to Arizona for the winter, Dr. Margaret NEWTON recalled that it would soon be a year since she spent "those wonderful three days" at Minnesota. This was the occasion on which the University gave her the Outstanding Achievement Award.

"Mrs. Ernest P. (Lucy) DUCHARME, Winter Haven high school teacher---for the past five years, has formally announced as a candidate for a seat on the Winter Haven City Commission subject to the municipal election Oct. 2...Her husband, Dr. Ernest P. Ducharme, is plant pathologist at the State Citrus Experiment Station at Lake Alfred working on the problem of slow decline..." --From Winter Haven Daily News-Chief, Nov. 29, 1956.

There is lots more about Lucy, who worked in the Plant Path lab at St. Paul before she became Mrs. Ducharme, but our space is limited. According to Head JJC who visited in Florida in December, Lucille is a great little actress, too, as he saw her perform. Certainly the study of slow decline has no reference to Lucy.

Margaret and Mal SHURTLEFF, both Old Timers, announce the birth of Mark Steven at Ames, Iowa, on November 20. "Maybe he'll grow up to be a football player and play for Minnesota in the Rose Bowl--or Iowa," says papa.

An Italian Award was presented to Dr. David Gottlieb, Department of Plant Pathology. Dr. Gottlieb received the Medal of the University of Pavia, Italy, by order of the Rector, for his scientific contributions in the field of antibiotics. The Medal was presented by Dr. Raphael Ciferri, Plant Pathologist and Mycologist, of the University of Pavia, who visited the University of Illinois on May 11-15. Dr. Gottlieb gave two lectures on antibiotics at Pavia in 1950 and in 1953...Phytopathology 46, No. 7.

In October, came word from Dr. Shosuke GOTO, of Hawaii, who sent a suitably-inscribed contribution to the Seminar library. Diseases of tropical fruits and ornamentals plus teaching Principles and a class on phytocpathological literature keep Dr. Goto out of mischief.

A note from Riley KONERZA tells us of his new employer, the Cargill Hybrid Corn Co., in Grinnell, Iowa. Riley writes that he "longs for the Minnesota climate".

Reprint of an article on "...Infection in Pilonidal...Disease" was sent by junior author Warren N. CHRISTOPHER, of Tripler Army Hospital in Honolulu. He expresses hope that it "may contribute toward the broadening of the education of...students." Retired last June as Colonel in the Army and Chief of Clinical Pathology; the next day he resumed duties as a civilian in the same capacity. Says Rudy CHILTON, from Louisiana State University, spent a week or more with him last spring.

Dr. Mortimer COHEN, formerly at Gainesville has "jumped to the Agricultural Experiment Station...at Fort Pierce," Florida. "Lots of sunshine and oranges here."

Around the world in a year is the schedule of Dr. and Mrs. Guthrie SANFORD. By December 21 they had reached Melbourne, Australia, where Sanford sent "Best Season's Greetings to all my friends at Plant Path of yester-year vintage." Of those he placed in this category, Helen Hart was the youngest. This piece of information will indicate to the reader whether he rates in Sanford's classification as a vintage year!

The train which brought Minnesotans home from the APS meetings at Cincinnati threw open its doors at Lafayette, Indiana, in order that Old Timers might greet Eric (Frenchy) SHARVELLE and his three gals-- Gladys (Mrs. S), blonde Cynthia, and brunette Linda--whom he had promised to have on the station platform.

At Christmas time, Australian Old-Timer Robert J. NOBLE reported: "We have increasing numbers of visits from overseas agriculturalists and recently were delighted to have Olaf AAMODT visit us."

From Indonesia came greetings from another Australian, John CHURCHWARD: "Give my regards to any of the people in P.P. who may still remember me." This means the Old Timers of the rarer vintage years.

Former rust-race analyzer Bill LOEGERING, now of Beltsville, was a roamin' in December: understood to be in Cuzco, Peru; seen in Lima; but certified by himself as in San Carlos de Baralochi, Argentina, which he praises highly indeed--"This is beautiful country-- lakes, flowers, mountains--as beautiful as the north country of Minnesota."

The report on Loegering in Cuzco came from R. S. (Dick) DAVIDSON, of the Battelle Memorial Institute, who was traveling in South America late in 1956: "Spent four weeks in Peru, also had a brief visit in Santiago, saw Joe RUPERT and Dr. GOTTLIEB, who is spending the year in Chile."

In Lima, Peru, the wheats, oats, and barleys were being examined by Loegering and Rosendo POSTIGO, former Rockefeller Fellow at Minnesota and faithful follower of Puccinia.

At 5 degrees below zero in St. Paul we enjoy recording an exotic note from Mexico City where Harry SCHRÖEDER is engaged in a strawberry research program. Says Angelita (Mrs. S), "We have eaten so many that I do not enjoy it any more." At this distance we do not enjoy thinking of how we might enjoy ourselves if we were not at this distance.

Another couple who are both Old Timers-- Vera and Tommy GRAHAM of South Carolina-- report their status as quo. "Tommy is still searching out the nematodes," says Vera, and "I'm still doing what I was doing last year." If we remember correctly, her activities were civic, wifely, and maternal--"Just a merry race day after day."

Ex-short stop and melon wilter Harry H. MURAKISHI, formerly of the University of Hawaii, left first to accept a Guggenheim Fellowship at the University of California, to work on orchard viruses, then later to accept a position at Michigan State University as plant pathologist. He also made a contribution

of refreshments to the Minnesota seminar and was impersonated by former crony Kommedahl, who seemed to know more about Murakishi than about Kommedahl.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

After the tremendous burst of visiting reported in the last issue, the period covered by the present notes was comparatively quiescent so far as quantity is concerned, although the quality remained high. Only 11 Old Timers, and a total of 31 visitors, signed the Guest Book on JJC's well polished desk, which practically amounts to gross neglect. Even Dr. Melander, who lives only 2 blocks from the campus, came up to see us only once. Maybe people are staying home recuperating physically and financially from the jaunts and jumps of last summer. Or even working.

The Old Timers who favored us included Dr. R. S. Davidson of the Battelle Institute, Columbus, Uhiuh (non-natives sometimes refer to it, incorrectly, as O-HI-O) on Oct. 11; Dr. H. A. Rodenhiser of the U.S.D.A.-ARS, at Beltsville on Oct. 18; Dr. L. W. Melander of Research and Development, the American Chemical Paint Co., who kills weeds as easy as pie, on Oct. 22; Dr. I. L. Forbes, Asst. Director of the Experiment Station, L.S.U., Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 25; John B. Kotheimer, who has fought his way up to the rank of Private in the U.S. Army at Ft. Detrick, Frederick, Md., on Oct. 30, and whom we hope will be back for keeps before too long. On Nov. 2, Dr. George E. Hafstad, now with the Dutch Elm Disease Lab of the Wisconsin State Dept. of Agriculture at Madison. Yes, they have the Dutch elm disease well established in Milwaukee and environs now where in the company of all the other Dutchmen it ought to thrive. George seemed to. On Nov. 8, Drs. Bjorn Peturson, Plant Path. Lab., Winnipeg, Man., Canada, H. H. Flor of flax rust fame at North Dakota A. C., Fargo, and Merle E. Michaelson of Brookings, S. C. On Nov. 23 Dr. Ralph Lindgren who pitched our softball teams to glory back in the days when Plant Pathologists were MEN, spent the afternoon here. Liked it so well he came back again just after Christmas and spent several more. On Dec. 19 our last Old Timer of 1956, Dr.



N. E. Krog, Group Leader, Biological Research, the Niagara Chem. Div., Middleport, N. Y.

### Leavings

Dr. J. M. Walter, who also was quite a ball player in the Good Old Days as well as a smutologist of parts, now working with vegetable diseases in sunny Florida, was here for most of the fall quarter. Soon as it got cold and the snow started blowing around he got that sort of hunted, haunted look in his eye that people from the subtropics or tropics get when they figure our invigorating, salubrious winter is about to descend on man, beast and automobile. Claimed he had to get back. So he left. We are glad he came, and sorry he left, and hope he will come back again for a longer visit. Matter of fact, just after he left the weather warmed up again and got real balmy and stayed so until past Christmas, so we didn't even have a white Christmas, and people were going around without overcoats--except Fuentes, who takes no chances and always wears his arctic-type fur-lined parka, complete with hood, plus mitts, and makes out like we were way up past the DEW line at least, and that he might congeal like a Cheerio in the deep freeze if not adequately protected.

### DR. FEZER--NEW CEREAL PATHOLOGIST

Big, blond Karl Fezer arrived in November, 1956, to put his 6 ft., 2 in. frame and German blood to work on the solution of disease problems of cereals, particularly wheat and barley.

Karl earned his B.S. degree from Cornell in 1951, the M.S. degree from Haverford, Pennsylvania, in 1952, and the Ph.D. degree from Cornell, in 1956. Thus he is well-equipped, physically and mentally for the tasks that set before him. Moreover he brought with him a charming, dark-haired wife, Lorraine, who hails from Massachusetts. They have been exposed to our salubrious Minnesota climate and show signs of adaptation.



### LOCALS

Since the last report, two were granted degrees, P. N. Nair, Ph.D. (India) and Ken Knutson, M.S. (an Eide potato man), and two emerged victorious from final oral exams: Julio-I-move-we-pass-the-candidate Bird, pride of Puerto Rico, and Charles Olien, plant pathologist and electrical wizard from Hibbing.

Elisa Louise Elliot, born to the Art Elliots, recently added to the growing list of the department's descendants.

Near Christmas time, Ed Christensen journeyed home to colorful Colorado to have and to hold colorful Carol as his colorful (blushing) bride. The spirit is contagious as Ted Reiling plans also to make the fateful plunge, and the latest reports indicate that he will lead Lois Marie Ehlenz to the hymeneal altar, on January 5.

In a one-sided "election", typical of Seminar, a new Seminar Committee was swept into office (and later swept the floor). Profiting (?) by the landslide were George Aspergillus Papavizas, Chairman; Al Falfa Ellingboe, Vice-Chairman; Roger Giantpea Lambert, Secretary and Librarian; and B. P. Chakravarti, Treasurer. The new officers were sworn in during a ritual where Officiator J.J.C. hurled salvo after salvo of oaths, pledges, and Latin names at the preordained committeemen. Predicting a new and glorious era, the elected forbade occupancy of the building after 6 p.m., without authorization, and made window closing mandatory for everyone except Matt Moore.

A large cavernous pit marked the woodland immediately north of Phytobrickhaus erectus and a campus communiqué certifies that this pit is to hold a new Soils Building. This construction has altered the already worn-thin topics of the "303 Club" (a gathering of sandwich munchers), and members now discourse on the driving skills of the cement-mixer operators, as they negotiate the winding roadway that meanders through the arboretum.

The sound of students coughing in the agricultural botany laboratory is dying away. No longer is one seen groping his

way from a cloud of fumes, gasping for air, and wiping his tear-laden eyes. Yes, it's true. An exhaust fan has been installed in the hood. Other changes have taken place also.

The frequent (quarterly) trips of DeVay, Linck and Kommedahl to the Inventory Warehouse has resulted in the acquiring of lab and office furniture and equipment and, according to some, more is now in Ag Botany (Tottering Tower) than is currently in the warehouse.

When Dr. Krog (Niagara Chemical) came back to his old haunts, he was surprised that he could see across the lab; he was here in 6 B.H. (before hood). When he saw the controlled environment rooms and the radiochemistry labs, Norm doubted that he was in the right building. The 25 cent tour included a look at the Sartorius balance, with which the time saved in weighing is about 2/3, according to a recent time-motion study.

The low-temperature lab has a new paint job. This was precipitated probably by Linck's rise to fame via the pictures in newspapers and in the farm and home science magazine. Many indoor gardeners and technical representatives of chemical companies as well as scientists of other departments have studied the installation.

DeVay, Kommedahl and Linck have moved to private offices (on the mezzanine) in the Tottering Tower. The reason for the move from their common office in 206 is not clear; however it might be because of the worn-out floor caused by the steady flow of visitors. Another theory is that the plaster in the new locale has not been subjected to as much strain. In 206, the plaster recently fell down, caused presumably by the advisers raising their voices at recalcitrant graduate students, or the voices of defiance raised by students.

Not to be outdone, those in the Tottering Tower have a luncheon club that rivals that in Phytobrickhaus erectus in intellectual content. One day, for example, Dr. Rowell compared the relative earning powers of university professors and ditch diggers. At another time, Ray Landon read poems from a collection of limited circulation. "Jokes

are sometimes told" would be an understatement.

A Golden Jubilee Merit Citation went to Elvin Charles Stakman "for his illustrious international leadership in science; for his recognized world leadership in researches on the pathogens of cereal smuts and rusts and for his genius in inspiring students and workers to labor untiringly to provide food for mankind." --Plant Science Bulletin 2, No. 4, 1956.

At last we have broken the social barrier: The late Dean Freeman's granddaughter, who married Grace Kelly's brother, thus is Aunt to the very new Princess Caroline of Monaco.

#### MATT MOORE--USED CAR MAGNATE

Two-car staff members are not uncommon, nor is it unheard of even among graduate students. However, Matt has 4 (some say 5) cars on his woody and spacious lot. The geneology of these cars involves a number of Old Timers; however all were acquired legally; all run but not all start.

One frosty morn Matt sallied forth to start his current favorite (of recent vintage), but the motor failed to turn over. Car Number 2, parked behind Number 1, would not start either. Then by transferring the battery from Car Number 3 (parked behind Number 2) to Car Number 2, the latter started. Unfortunately Car Number 1 blocked Car Number 2, and because switching the battery from Number 2 to 1 failed to result in the starting of Number 1, Matt rode the bus to school.

The asking price for Matt's cars is reasonable, and it is possible that a trade could be effected (for example, 2 older cars for 1 of Matt's). Eventually with appropriate trades, Matt may have a corner on the antique car market. If interested in trading cars, write to: Prof. Matt Moore, CARS, University of Minnesota, St. Paul.



UMI  
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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Amid roars of laughter and running feet, the annual Christmas Party was staged on December 20 in the Ag Union. The laughter came in response to a presentation of a typical 3-year program of a graduate student. This satire began with a scene of a fatherly welcome by Head JJC and his associate CJE. Skits in rapid order thereafter included the intellectual development of coffee hour, seminar, and conventions, as well as a bout with Miss "Hartless" (HH) in attempting the language hurdle. New students were dismayed and veterans amazed at the accuracy of the portrayals.

After this burlesque came the running feet as a search began for Santa Claus. The Union was rocked to its foundations, but the rocking ended when Santa appeared. All went well until one tot accidentally (we think) brushed off a substantial portion of the beard. Glances of horror among parents faded when Santa quickly recovered his composure, and beard, and hastily made his exit.

COLLUM \*

by Shotgun

"Wal it hain't a full time job but yours truly has been asktd to write a collum for the Aurora (Ya noticed like Dr. Christensen ((of Molde and Man fame)) woulda wanted I got the genus underlined.

"Tain't a real feature collum but more ezzackly like a special one-time rodeo feature cause the boss don't think I should stay on in Graduate School and Ya can tell by the way hiz eyebrows wiggle an he pats his head that he means it. but Ahm an adaptable cuss and Ah figgers to wrassle them gramini coyotes til he says "draw yore time and git"

"This here Article is to be on the picnic of this here Pfitopathological De-partment and the Ed-tor sez I got not to forget to wind my Almanac cuz this here collum was due yestidy. And if'n I don't get it in Ah can't write the next special collum on the Seminar.

"Wal we had it, long about October 11th out at Como Park. Thats the Whut, When and Where of a good collum like the news-

paper folk want.

"Ya see Me and a buddy o' mine down in Ag Botany went down to this here picnic and there we up and found Dr. Linke who hain't got nary a kid--in charge of a Kiddy parade and a treasure hunt--Wal there we seed the man with the EAGLE eye playin Soccar (kind-of-a european foot-ball) jest as good as them there foreign students we have.

"Seem'd ifn everybody was there cept the Big Chief an he couldn't make it--course I din't care coz he scares me anyhow-- Ahm a progeny of this here new Administration.

"Out at this dadburned picnic one small boy was hurd to remark, "Whose the man sellin hot-dogs (JJC)? Wal it wuz soon evident that they had 2 kinds of hot dogs with and without--Ifn you was unfortunate enuf to ask for them without you soon found out that it wuz without a wienie.

"Group and special singin wuz in order followin the Pot Luck dinner and everybody had a gud time

Yurs truly

/S/ Shotgun

\* This column arrived too late for referral to the usual Editorial Staff and we are therefore sending it directly to the printer. If material here is duplicated elsewhere please forgive us. --Ed.





## LITERATURE SEMINAR--THEN AND NOW

The writer recently had the great privilege of attending Literature Seminar for 12 successive weeks. This was the only opportunity for this Old Timer to drink at the Foaming Fount since June 1933. The drink (not the coffee now served) was truly refreshing; but it was plain to be seen that some evolution has been going on.

Back in the 1929-33 era, each of the students was assigned certain journals; he read the articles about plant diseases that appeared in them, and he reported these articles on some Thursday evening unless the Big Chief used up all of the time, for a dozen sessions hand-running, conducting quizzes or telling stories.

Way back then, the Big Chief's use of the time in this fashion seldom accounted for more than 49 of the 51 meetings per year. Each of us had the choice between (1) coming prepared to review two or three publications, or (2) in case his notes had been lost during the long delay, coming loaded with questions that could be depended upon to start the Big Chief on long stories of heuristic value. Not many articles were reviewed, but the students benefitted greatly, as all old-timers of the era will now attest.

Now there are about twice as many graduate students as there were in the '29-'33 era. Yes, and there are about twice as many visiting firemen, all of whom are introduced and induced to say a few words. A larger share of the time is required for announcements and discussion of organizational matters, but it is all educational. The regular schedule now includes Research Reports and an inquisition of the donor of the refreshments (no connection with birthdays) as well as Literature Reviews.

Research Reports are made by staff-members as well as by those whose only research is on thesis problems. With the number of workers in the department now so large, and specialization in research so intense, yet covering such a broad field, this new feature of the seminar accomplishes three very important objectives. It gives the reporter a chance to practice in presenting his subject; it also gives him the chance to benefit by suggestions from many

fellow students who view his problem from slightly different angles; and it lets all other members of this greatest of seminars know what is going on in the far-flung department. It was most gratifying to the writer to learn through this medium about the numerous fundamental researches now in progress. These current studies encompass many more facets of plant pathology than did the research of 25 years ago. Those heard by the writer included such diverse subjects as the identification of nematodes and the shifting of the necrotic spot (reaction of some varieties to infection by rust) out of position by passage of electric current through the wheat leaf.

One can readily recognize the inquisition of the donor of the refreshments as an outgrowth of the former birthday inquisitions and there is no doubt that JJC and others learn many things about the victim in the process. The victim is fair game for anything any of his fellows in the seminar wish to ask him. Several of the fellows, including Thor Kommedahl, fire as many questions as does J.J.C. The questions usually begin with, "Why were you born?", but from that point may explore anything that the victim doesn't know. Seldom is the candidate passed before a third motion by the fellow most anxious to get home before midnight.

There are still very few reviews of publications. It is the writer's impression that the average during his visit was not much more than one paper per two sessions. There is now no assignment of journals--each graduate student is free to report any type of article that has caught his interest. This freedom makes one fact about the Seminar a bit more noticeable than it was 25 years ago. Yes, it is still the case that relatively few of the students have overcome their shyness to a degree that they will speak up, and avail themselves of the wonderful opportunity to get practice in expressing themselves. Of course, the writer can remember that it took him at least two years to see Literature Seminar in this light. Perhaps this observation is a fine example of the meaning of education

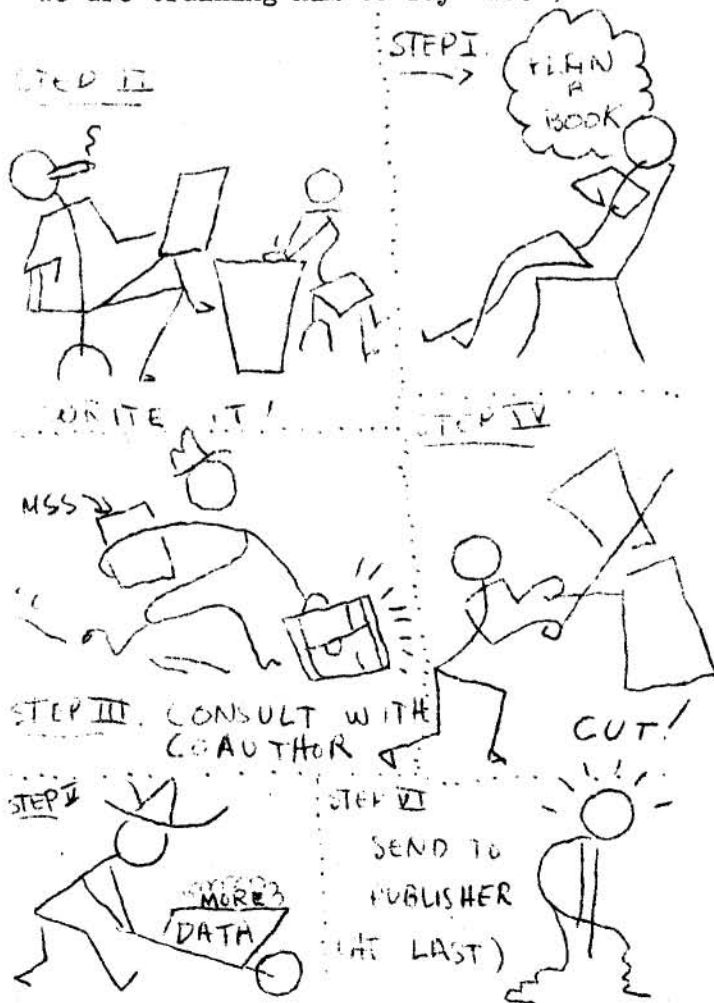
ECS: Roamin' Candle of (Scientific) Light TUESDAY AT 4

Roamin' away from the Foamin' Fount went El Jefe Grande E. C. Stakman in late October to attend the annual meeting of the Rockefeller Foundation's Board of Consultants in New York, and to work on the manuscript of the forthcoming book on Principles of Plant Pathology by ECS and J. G. Harrar. This writin' was interrupted briefly by a speech on agricultural education before the Land Grant College meeting in Washington. In late November ECS came home long enough to get packed to go to Oak Ridge and the University of Tennessee for some consultin'. Sunday, December 2, was spent at home. Monday he spread his wings in the direction of Louisiana to give a speech, returnin' to Minnesota via the APS meetin' in Cincinnati. On December 16-18 our Roamin' Candle lit in Madison with a special educational committee of the National Science Foundation. Since then he ain't been nowhere or done nothin' (excitin') except to push pencils perseveringly against a deadline of year-end December 31. (He's had chances, but we are training him to say "no.")

With the commencement of activities this year, the seminar was welcomed by new seating accomodations. Through the diligent efforts of Dave French, the old, straight backed chairs were retired in favor of form-fitted, arm chairs. Needless to say, the additional comfort afforded has prompted certain individuals to reserve their places in advance. Dr. Eide was heard to murmur, "Now they'll all go to sleep".

An international flavor spiced the Fall series as Julio Bird (Puerto Rico) and C. Liu (Formosa) reported on the ever present, but difficult to define, viruses. Hoo Chung (Korea) enlightened the mass on Black Smut of rice, while Subhi Qasem (Jordan) expanded the host range of the storage molds to include corn (nothing is safe any more). N. Oshima's (Japan) physiological work on several fungi rounded out the international group. With the enthusiasm of a Costrican speaking about coffee, M. Flores described and illustrated with slides the major coffee diseases. But when it was noted that coffee sells for only 45¢/lb in his native country, motions filled the air that a bag--or a ton--be secured for the Coffee Club.

Meanwhile back at the ranch the home guard was not inactive. Ron Covey summarized a summer of kicking over cornstalks into a talk about stalk rot. Bob Goth bemoaned the fate of soybeans due to Brown Stem Rot, and Jim Bernardini pointed out that the smoky sunshine of California (smog) was not conducive to good crop yields. Dick Frederiksen reported on the diseases of flax. R. Line and H. D. Thurston pounded the drum for potatoes with Thurston proclaiming P. infestans still victorious in the battle of the late blight. Dr. J. Walter of Florida quietly described the disease problems in that state. B. Haglund sadly acknowledged that Bissonnette was right--there definitely are root rots nibbling away at a lot of peas in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Bill Roberts and Jim Miller sang the "Rust-Raiders" chorus on P. graminis tritici and P. graminis avenae (seems that they (the rusts) are still a problem). Bob Renfro rounded out the old guard with a report on the diseases of forage crops.





It might be mentioned that in the course of Miller's talk, JJC, apparently triggered by the word, "wheat", rippled forth a wave of questions--"How many acres of wheat in Minnesota, in the US, in the world? What is the average yield??? How many kernels are required to make a loaf of bread (1½ pound size)? etc." When the seminar was restored to order, the Head expounded and gestured the absolute necessity for acquiring such vital, factual knowledge--mainly for Oral Exams. The sentiment was emphasized by certain other colleagues.

And so it came to pass with the adjourning of the last seminar for the Fall Quarter, the students (not the staff) scampered out of Room 401 imbued with a plethora of information and intoxicated with the spirits of scientific argumentation.

MINNESOTA DINNER AT CINCINNATI

It was an expeditious luncheon: Christensen (JJ) bossed it (via seminar chairman Papavizas), Sharvelle seasoned it, and Stakman missed it. Miss Hart distinguished it, as 48th president of the American Unpronouncable Society, as it is sometimes called...In fact the maitre d'hotel in the Pioneer Room of the Netherland-Hilton asked to be instructed in the pronunciation of "Phytopathological"...For the same reason, the Burlington railroad dubbed the Minnesota car on the trip to Cincinnati "The Potato Car" (Some of us Puccinias almost balked at getting on)...Now Dr. French has a letter addressed to the "Department of Plant Mythology"...But I digress...

Ninety (90) Old Timers bolted their food, puffed and wheezed on JJ's cigars, and relived the past, in the dimly-lit Colony restaurant. Valteau, Chilton and Chris vied for notoriety in one corner. Borders of Florida was not to be found. "Frenchy" Sharvelle introduced Assistant Director Kernkamp as a "mouse preparing to become a rat". Kerry together with another assistant director George Hoot-Mon Bridgmon, on leave from Wyoming, and the department head (JJC) lent an official atmosphere to the trip of 38 motley Minnesotans who left St. Paul; 9 others traveled by other means. But I digress...

Real-estate magnate Bockstahler of Michigan State was reported to be still at work in controlling tap root tip rot of sugar beets by breeding tipless tap-roots--an idea suggested years ago by e.c.stakman.

Chewing a tasty bun, Pat Allison of Houston, ~~Texas~~ Texas, told of her problems with nematodes, i.e. whether roots would knot or not or rot or not and whether the knots would rot or not, that is if the knots rot not or if the roots knot.not... But I digress...

The Rust Prevention Association's Gene Hayden was introduced by Silasob of Aksarben (spelled backwards) as being, among other things, currently employed.

Ex-centerfielder Dick Nelson, when not working on diseases of corn in North Carolina, or publishing papers, or reciting the 7 wonders of the world, has been experimenting with Striga, a witchweed. Which weed you say? According to Dick, the 7 wonders are the pyramids, statue of Zeus, the temple of Diana, Diana? But I digress...

Return once again, Old Timers, to the dinner scheduled for Palo Alto, in August, and in the meantime, may your shadow never be less.

\* \* \*

Next come:



and



Any candidates?

FALL QUARTER PUBLICATIONS

Linck, A. J. 1956. Controlled-environment rooms aid plant research. Minnesota Farm and Home Science 14 (1): 9, 14.

French, D. W. 1956. Oak wilt and its control. Minnesota Farm and Home Science 14 (1): 13-14.

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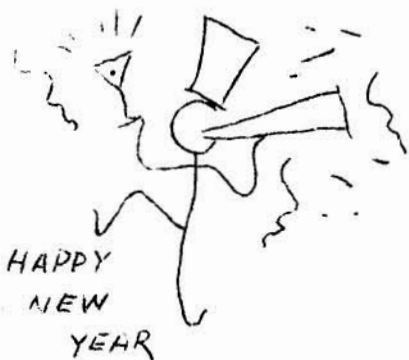
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(24 abstracts presented at Cincinnati; published in Phytopathology 47.)



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