

OLD TIMERS

Plant Path secretary of the 40's, "Tessa" McNeely FLOWERS, wrote from Wyoming in February that her present struggle with legal phraseology in a temporary position recalled to her the unexplored jungles of phytopathological terminology into which she was thrown when she came to Minnesota. ("Mr. Livingston I presume" wasn't here then, speaking of jungles. Mr. Livingston of Colorado of course.) Farfetched? Of course, but so is Colorado. And it's spring, tra la. and we must be foolish.

Lavaniel Lee HENDERSON Jr. arrived March 6 at Houston, Texas. Mama and papa are Christine and Old Timer Lavaniel. Congratulations!

In Puerto Rico arrived Jose Antonio BIRD on February 11. Ambassadors Stakman and Rodenhiser were at hand at the time and report there was a big flurry. Jose is the fourth son, the fifth child.

Some of us stay put; others roam. Some stay home; others hop on a plane and pull the door shut. (An original, with apologies to no one.) Anyway, Chet WISMER is at home in Hawaii, while Susie is in Missouri in April, both of them planning to be in Australia in May. (Where are you? I am here. I take flights of fancy!)

The Government of India honored Old Timer C. S. VENKATARAM, of Madras, with the award of a postdoctorate National Research Fellowship this spring.

On January 1, recent Minnesota Ph.D. P. N. Nair reached Trivandrum, India, "after a long but wonderful journey" through England, Europe, and, because it was necessary to go around the Cape of Good Hope, a few places in Africa also. Said he, believe it or not: "I liked Minnesota so much---Honestly, I loved even the Minnesota winter."

At Elvas, Portugal, where the sardines are supposed to rival those of Norway (hear that, Mr. Tveit?), Minnesota Ph.D.

J. Carvalho SANTIAGO was contemplating his viewpoints before U.S.A. and after U.S.A. A normal procedure and a salutary one. It's good for any of us to "stand back and take a good look" at oneself, one's country, one's striving, and all the frantic hustle and bustle about the little things of life. And of course it is easier to do this at a distance. As after a trip. Let's ALL take a trip!

Recently, at Raleigh, North Carolina, Dick NELSON reported that he had moved into a new house, and that, at the rate his equity accumulates, he would "soon be proud owner of the knobs on both front and back doors."

From Rosendo POSTIGO, of Lima, Peru, came an announcement that, "Bachellor still I am; Bill Loegering other bachellor, was here in last December." He continues that he is working on "rusts and wheats and...some research on alfalfa..."

Dr. John TUIITE, of Purdue, reports working on orchard and timothy grasses, grain storage, and the viruses of red clover and alfalfa. Quite an assignment and in all this activity says he misses the "rah-rah spirit." Okay, John: "Rah-Rah!"

A brief note appeared somewhere that Dr. C. R. HURSH, of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, N. C., is currently in the Orient, for a year or so.

EIDE-ODOGY

In discussing the demerits of Monday--any and every Monday--Professor Eide remarked, "So that's what they mean when they say 'sic transit gloria mundi'!"



COMINGS AND GOINGS

Our fair city, descriptively if not widely known as "The Palm Beach of the North" may not have attracted as many visitors during the winter months as its rival in Florida, but such visitors as did mush in across the tundra behind their faithful dog teams found that our hearts were warm and our dispositions sunny, even if the weather was not always so. The holiday scientific meetings must have been somewhat debilitating, because it was almost three weeks after the new year had begun that our first Old Timer appeared, and the honor of being the first goes to Paul Fridlund, from the Irrigation Experiment Station, Prosser, Washington, where he is Plant Pathologist in charge, Fruit Tree Repository, who came on January 17. (They apparently do not have an apple repository, because he did not bring any apples.) On February 7, Dr. George Fischer, Head, Plant Pathology Department, Washington State College, Pullman, Washington was shanghaied off the plane by JJC and held in non-restricted confinement most of the day. He barely mentioned his and C. S. Holton's new book on the smuts (see book section) but did mention a good many other things of interest, and submitted very well to briefings on research progress on various potent projects. On February 15 came Don Fletcher, Executive Secretary of the Rust Prevention Association. His right hand man, Dr. Gene Hayden, has been out here several times during the last few months, but never signed the book, and therefore can be mentioned only unofficially, which will probably count against his record. Old Timer H. H. Thornberry, virologist at the University of Illinois, Urbana stopped in on February 21; on March 4, A. (for Andy) R. Downie, of the American Crystal Sugar Co., Denver, Colorado, paid a brief visit and urged that all of us use plenty of sugar in our coffee to cope with the cold, and on March 26, Ray Bulger of USDA Plant Pest Control was here. The list is not long, but the quality obviously is there, and while with visitors, as with research, we prefer both quality and quantity, if one of the two must be sacrificed we prefer to keep the quality.

Hardly to be classed as a visitor, but rather as a full time member of the staff until July 1 or so, is Mrs. Patricia Van Burgh Allison, who pulled in from Texas, on or about February 1, in a very snazzy looking two-tone Volkswagon with big yellow Texas license plates that practically cover the ends of the car. She soon settled into the routine of research and teaching--having taken over the course in Ecology of Plant Pathogens that M. F. Kernkamp organized and taught for a couple years before he gave up productive work and became an Administrator. She has been giving aid and comfort to a number of people in the matter of taking photomicros, in kodachrome yet, and has some good shots too, to prove that this is real, not an illusion. What with teaching this tough course to a moderately big class, research, and putting her trim shoulder to the Department Committee wheel, it is anticipated that she will not be bored for lack of activity. We welcome her back, and hope that her stay with us will be both pleasant and profitable.



Collum*

Wal here I am a/gin ritin muther collum and please Mr Ed-tor dont go changin so much my material cuz I've already looked up all the words i don' know.

Ya know there aint much happened since my last collum cept I been permoted to a sorta special student now, stead of a grad student -- It seems as if'n somebody in the dept. had demanded to know how I got into Minn. and the Dean hain't got all the answers -- so he up and makes me a sort of a special student and Dr. J.J. sez I got to dump all them 4 inch pots down in th' hole (thats wat we calls the greenhouses down at Ag Botany).

This here collum is on seminars -- wal we got 3 kinds, Formal, in the daytime (mostly reports on subjects)--Informal, at nite (Research and Literature); and a After-seminar seminar (where they discusses people) For the last seminar a given number retires to a sort-of-a saloon for the discussion. The nite seminar is a kinda inquisition which is sorta like a combination tween a 3rd degree and a Fraternuty e-nishiatiion.

Wal the Big chief has been gone, he's writtin a book ya know, and so seminar has been sorta different with out his Pphilosophizin.

Ya bet we had lots of portant speakers at nite seminar and even if'n I was sleeply I tried to look awake - That is if I was there and if'n i wasn't i had a buddy o mine down in Ag Botany sign the book for me. There wuz Andy Downy representing some sugar company and Dr or Professor or sumthin Thornberry he was interistin and then, to, gene Hayden and Pat Allison (with the purty eyes) showed sum fine movin pitchers.

Ahm thinkin about givin up Pfitopathology and takin up Administration cuz seems ifn all you got to do is to ask a lot of questions and you will be successful. Ahm wonderin if I can't ask questions better than answer them like ya gotta do as a grad student.

Th' seminar hilite in re-freshment was when hoot mon Bridgmon one o our western wuz who hails from Wyoming, served

Groundhog (so is sausage) and sagechicken sandwiches (saged capon).

At a seminar Nem-i-toad discussion one of the new stem-rusters was asked wut comes after the 3rd stage molt of a nem-i-toad and stead of the 4th stage cum the answer of Pustule -- Seemed like a gud answer to me but everybody laffed.

Wal I gotta get goin to take miss Hart an apple cause she's gonna try me for my language exam next week.

yore fren

/s/ shotgun

* This column was showed under our door written on the back of a badly soiled paper towel. If the material here is not readable, please forgive us, as we had trouble separating the words from the smudges.--Ed.

LOCALS

Since January, Ph.D. degrees have been granted to Julio Bird, George C. Papavizas and Theodore P. Reiling. Julio has returned to Puerto Rico.

Rumors state that George (of storage mold and seminar chairmanship fame) has offici-ated at so many teas lately that he cannot endure one for himself. Thus we find Dr. George still chairman Thursday night telling J.J.C., "No, you cannot make any more announcements".

Ted Reiling has returned to his work with Green Giant at Dayton, Washington, staying here only long enough to finish his degree work and to marry Miss Lois Marie Ehlenz in St. Paul on January 5.

Other members of the department who should be "out" soon include Chieh-Yuan (Steve) Liu, Juan Orjuela, and Roy Wilcoxson, all of whom passed their "prelims" since our last report.

The nematology section of our department (Don P. Taylor and Roger Anderson) recently visited another institution (Wisconsin) for

a three day visit with nematologists Gerald Thorne and Vernon Perry. Adding to their spiritual uplift was the discovery that the most active "nematologist" at Madison was old timer H. M. Darling who is now concerned with the potato rot nematode.

In an effort to bring the quality of equipment in Agricultural Botany up to that of the work being done, a new American Water Still model "C" that puts out distilled water at the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per hour has been installed. The old still, frequently plugged and straining to keep up with the need for water, has been retired from service but still hangs in memory of its faithful decades of service.

The building is also being rewired for high-powered work. The conduits, looking like pneumatic tubes, were suspected at first to be a means of communication between staff and students.

Contrary to rumors, Ag Botanists are not going into the chicken business. The egg hatching cabinet will be used for obtaining a more uniform environment in which to run chromatograms.

As of July 20 the ties between Plant Pathology and Ag Botany will be strengthened by marriage. A. J. Linck, Assistant Professor in Ag Botany, will wed Vandora Pierson of Isle, Minnesota, a Home Economics student whom he met while she was employed part time in the Plant Pathology office.

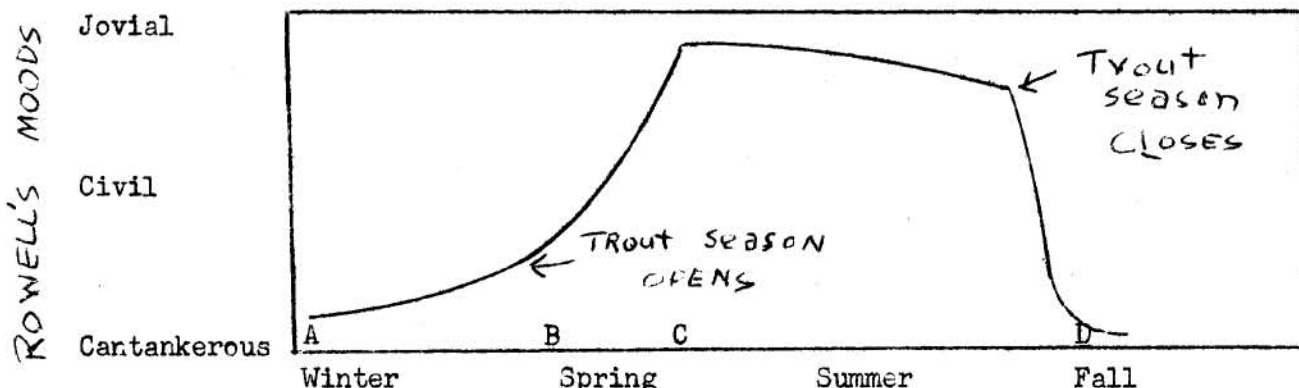
Since the last Aurora raised a few eyebrows at the goings on of the Tottering Tower (*Phytobrickhaus tremuloides*) Lunch Club, its members have decided to place a cloak of secrecy around the topics discussed in order to protect the innocent.

Dr. J. B. Rowell is again looking forward to trout season. The following graph of his moods throughout the year, proposed by A. J. Linck, slipped past the lunch club censor.

Richard Herrett, plant physiologist, is competing with Dr. Linck for being the most photographed member in Ag Botany. Mr. Herrett's picture appeared on the cover of the February issue of Minnesota Farm and Home Science. They are now comparing circulation data in order to determine the winner.

In February, on the St. Paul Campus, Dr. and Mrs. Thor Kommedahl were named Godparents by the School of Agriculture class of 1958. "Agricultural Botany, Weeds, and Seed Testing are three courses that have been taught by Dr. Kommedahl in the School..."--Agreview 35, No. 1.

Continued Light from the Roamin' Candle.
He who is known to the Latins as El Jefe Grande and to others as "Stake" flew Washington-ward in February, picked up Old Timer "Rody" Rodenhiser and flew to Puerto Rico (where the Julio Birds were having another fledgeling) and on to the Virgin Islands. Returning, ECS went directly to New York, where he became a galley slave over proofs of the forthcoming opus on Principles. Home for a



- A-B: mood improves at thought of approaching trout season
- B-C: logarithmic improvement of mood as fish begin to bite
- C-D: slight deterioration in mood due to less biting and more "pot" fishermen
- D-A: the less said the better

short time, he agreed to spout on agricultural education and other things at Oklahoma A & M College and at Kansas State College. To other institutions he was invited but could not go. More distant trips await the pleasure of the book presses. Passport being renewed.

Campus Buildings

Progress is progressing very well on the St. Paul Campus. Old Timers will have difficulty orientating themselves on campus because of the many new buildings abuilding, built, or in the stakes-and-men-peering-thru-the-transit stage. Much hallowed ground has been foully desecrated (desecrating the view from the Seminar room). The field trip for the course in Weeds can soon be conducted without leaving solid concrete sidewalks, if the weeds are not covered by buildings and sidewalks.

The new Soils Department building is growing rapidly and can no longer be classified as a cavernous pit. In the process of its construction a steam tunnel was completed connecting it with the Agronomy Building, by-passing Phytobrickhaus erectus. Is this in reality a secret passage? Heavy equipment working on the tunnel caused a sudden increase in reports of Brownian movement (sometimes of tables, desks, etc.) on the east end of the building. To add to the confusion, loaded sand trucks and concrete mixers have pulverized the roadway to the North gate to such a degree that the gate has to be bolted and locked. What price progress!

In spite of this blight (Soils bldg.) on mother nature's nature, window space has been at a premium on the north side of the building since construction began because of the "sidewalk-construction-supervisor" gene that seems to exist in all males of the species, Homo sapiens. Watching a bulldozer push dirt from one pile to another at -5°F , or 20 men pouring concrete at -13°F , fascinates the possessors (or professors) of the aforementioned gene (especially when the watching can be done at 82°F with a relative humidity of 18 per cent.)

The old Pendergast Hall (the building on the highest spot in Ramsey County) has been demolished with gusto and a new, modern dormitory is going up in its place. The old cow pasture behind Thatcher Hall has been invaded by large numbers of apartment buildings (8 family units per building) designed for married students. The change they will make in the macro- and microflora of the pasture is depressing to contemplate. If married students become, rare, however, the poultry department will have ready-made facilities for their work. Dairy (on the udder side of the campus) is also the proud expectant parent of a new building.

TUESDAY AT FOUR

The winter quarter seminar was highlighted by reports on nematode problems, led capably by Don "Ivy League" Taylor, Chief Nematologist at the University of Minnesota, who "clued in" the tropps on the internal and external anatomy of a "hypothetical nematode". The team of Ed Christensen (no relation to you know who) and John Dreher sounded the battle cry against these damaging plant pests--complete with a new vocabulary and sketches.

Lourdes Serrano "Lulu" de la Isla and Der-Fen "Daphne" Chen added a touch of glamour to the Seminar, reporting on corn stunt virus and vitamin production of Torula utilis, respectively. Miss Chen had some difficulty controlling the high-frequency, nerve-racking scratch of the chalk while writing on the board. CMC took it just so long--with an uninhibited dash, he broke the chalk into pieces saying, "Let's break this darn thing before it drives us all NUTS!!!" A demonstration on the proper method of writing on the board followed.

The world-wide picture was rounded out by Ken Walker's report on citrus rot, Chakravarti's lament on P.g.t. in India and Fernandez' account of the banana blight fungus.

R. M. "Nat" Natour confused the seminar with the toxin story. When questioned

by CMC on the validity of vivotoxin studies, "Nat" evaded the issues with great dexterity, only to be confronted with similar questions, plus comments, by Dr. Eide. The young pathologist gave a nice exhibition of broken-field running and finished his report in a record two seminar periods.

Art Elliot's report on the control of molds on stored fruits and vegetables by the use of gases met similar questioning by CMC; this time he expressed his concern about companies advertising "insecticides which also control molds". He commented briefly on the ethics of "Tightwad" companies wanting experimental results without investment into research.

When questioned on the nomenclature of a grass, one seminar speaker replied, "That grass belongs to the genus *Poa*, but I don't know its specific epitaph."

And so it came to pass: the winter seminar faded out, and in a few weeks another session would begin--with its different characters, varied subjects, thought-provoking questions and discussions--and so it goes, the "young" become educated and the "oldsters" become wise--a never ending process in which we have the good fortune to participate.

WINTER QUARTER PUBLICATIONS

LeTourneau, Duane and H. G. Heggeness. 1957. Germination and growth inhibitors in leafy spurge foliage and quackgrass rhizomes. *Weeds* 5: 12-19.

Frosheiser, F. I. 1957. Studies on the etiology and epidemiology of *Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *caulivora*, the cause of stem canker of soybeans. *Phytopathology* 47: 87-94.

Levine, M. N., and R. C. Hildreth. 1957. A natural occurrence of the aecial stage of *Puccinia rubigo-vera* var. *tritici* in the United States. *Phytopathology* 47: 110-111.

Christensen, Clyde M. 1957. Deterioration of stored grains by fungi. *The Botanical Review* 23: 108-134.

Oshima, Nagayoshi and M. F. Kernkamp. 1957. Effects of viruses on overwintering of red clover in Minnesota. *Plant Disease Reporter* 41: 10.

Landon, R. H. 1957. Dormancy in crop plants. *Minnesota Farm and Home Science*, Vol. 14, No. 2, pp. 5, 7, 9.

Agrawal, N. S., C. M. Christensen, and A. C. Hodson. 1957. Grain infesting insects and storage molds. *Minnesota Farm and Home Science*, Vol. 14, No. 2, pp. 17, 19.

Thurston, H. David. 1957. The culture of *Phytophthora infestans*. *Phytopathology* 47: 186.

Watson, I. A. and Donald M. Stewart. 1956. Sources of wheat stem rust resistance. *Agronomy Journal* 48: 526-527.

Watson, I. A. and Donald M. Stewart. 1956. A comparison of the rust reaction of wheat varieties Gabo, Timstein, and Lee. *Agronomy Journal* 48: 514-516.

Christensen, C. M. 1956. Moisture content, molds, and sick wheat. *Grain and Feed Journals*, 44-46. (Translated into German and published in *Die Mühle*, Heft 47: Seite 693-694. November 1956)

Aurora Committee

Laura Hamilton
Louise Dossdall
James E. DeVay
Kenneth Walker
T. Kommedahl, Chm.



JUNE 11-12

SUMMER MEETINGS