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A U R O R A S P O R E A L I S

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A Journal

Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations, and the raspirations of those who have drunk from the foaming fount in the Department of Plant Pathology of the University of Minnesota and who now spout forth in divers ways.

Let the fount foam and never run' dry,

Let the spout squirt and never lose power.

Published by the Seminar Committee, aided and abetted by many others.

The Committee: Helen Hart

W. C. Broadfoot

H. A. Rodenhiser (Chairman)

## Hursh Respirations

Salutations!! Hail to the Chief!!

On receiving a forwarded copy of your brilliant sheet I hasten to file with you my correct address for I would not miss a single ray. Although I now work with the forests, mine is not a desertion from Plant Pathology, rather an attempt to apply broadly the principles with which I became "intoxicated" at the "foaming fount" there in "The land of the ski." Realtors call my present city "The land of the sky," so you see that I have changed only a vowel and not a vow. No, when you folks married me to Henrietta Sapiensis Science on the eve of my departure from your midst, I was no doubt very much "intoxicated," but I took the lady for better or for worse and although she's never done much by me I'll never give her up now.

One sees by your columns that the insidious Globe Trotting Disease that so incapacitated Stak during 1920-22 has again appeared. It is like foot and mouth disease in many ways other than connotative, it affects the same parts, the cause is unknown, very infectious, difficult to eradicate, and vaccination and previous illness are not preventative. Henry's case will soon be under control, and we hope that Leach will respond rapidly to treatment. Barker tells me that he has had a severe relapse. We hope it doesn't get Stak again because the Japanese form is terrible, and the Argentine form is even worse. My own case is now quiescent but I have to be careful and not let anything aggravate it.

In regard to this Weise man who spouted in December, it seems that Ice man would be more appropriate, - his product is so sparkling yet so dense. But I really didn't intend to write so much, its a habit I got into at Stak's seminars, sort of stringing things out indefinitely. My purpose was just to express my appreciation for your efforts in supplying old grads with news of the department, and to wish you every success and a very delightful New Year. Regards to all and great Prosperity to Plant Pathology at Minnesota. Good Luck.

Long live the Dean!

Sincerely,

Charles R. Hursh.

P.S. We await Nellie with open arms, as soon as you can Doctor him up, he has his work cut out for him here.

*Valentine  
Greetings*

Romance transcribed for the  
plain American; Do you care aught for me?  
Vegetarian : Do you carrot for me?  
Mathematician : Do you care 0 4 me?

### Five Generations of Minnesota Pathologists Meet

In Washington recently five distinct generations were represented at a Minnesota luncheon held at the Occidental (or was it Oriental) Cafe. At any rate, it was next to the Willard Hotel and was the sort of place at which you slide out on glacial ice if you leave less than a fifty cent tip. The affair was promoted by Doctors Weiss, Stevenson, Brierley, and Schaal. Stakman rode over with the rest and ate more than anybody else in view of the fact that he did not have to pay his own bill. Schaal represented the modern era in Minnesota plant pathology, Brierley the pre-modern era, Weiss the medieval period, Stevenson the Renaissance, and Stakman the Dark Ages. Many things were discussed around the table; these included pathology - plant, animal, human, and political - as well as some of the higher phases of art, and the minute anatomy of automobiles.

### The Philadelphia Meetings

Another annual Phytopathological Meeting has been held. This year it was at Philadelphia, the city of brotherly love, sisterly affection, enormous manufacturing interests, a prodigiously large commerce, narrow streets, and the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia is a city rich in historic interest. So were some of the buildings in which the meetings were held. Nevertheless, the meetings were about as interesting as usual. One forenoon was devoted to an invitation program at which speeches were delivered by Professor H. L. Bolley and M. B. MacKay. There were several outstanding features. One was a round table discussion on control of fruit diseases, another an afternoon session on the control of cereal smuts. This was organized, led, and activated by Mr. F. C. Meier, the Extension Plant Pathologist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture. Participants in the discussions included agronomists, geneticists, plant pathologists, both of the investigational and demonstrational variety, and some representatives of commercial firms. The rules of the senate applied. Everybody talked as long as he wanted to about anything which happened to come into his head. The speakers, especially, enjoyed the meeting thoroughly. However, it was really one of the best plant pathology meetings which the writer has attended in many moons. There also was a conference on dusting cereals with sulphur to prevent rusts. Whetzel and Stakman alternated as presiding officer, and about the only way to keep Whetzel from talking was to keep him in the chair. Consequently, it was contrived to keep him there most of the time. Mr. Kightlinger, Professor Bolley, and Dr. Humphrey took an active part in the discussions. The question of the value of cereal dusting was not settled, but a lot of suggestions were made.

The Phytopathological banquet was decidedly different this year from those which have been held during the past few years. The buffoonery of previous years was represented by a yawning void. The affair was quite serious. It was a testimonial dinner to Dr. Erwin F. Smith. Professor L.R. Jones, Dr. Welch of Johns Hopkins, and Dr. F. V. Rand spoke concerning Doctor Smith's contribution to plant pathology, animal pathology, and to science in general.

The following subscribers to *Aurora Sporealis* attended the meeting: Margaret Newton, Olaf Aamodt, Reiner Bonde, C.V. Kightlinger, Allen Newhall, F. J. Schneiderhan, W.D. Valleau, R.S. Kirby (we can't claim him entirely, but he once was here), and E.C. Stakman.

### Visitors

The Mayo Foundation lectures sponsored by the Graduate Schools of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa deal, this year, with plant pathology and physiology in their relation to human affairs.

As the first lecturer in this series, Dr. L. O. Kunkel of Boyce Thompson Institute, Yonkers, N.Y., visited the University and the Division of Plant Pathology on January 13. Dr. Kunkel discussed his researches on aster yellows. The outstanding points of interest brought out were the wide host range of the aster yellows virus and the specificity of the virus for its insect host.

Dr. G. H. Coons of Michigan, Dr. H. H. Whetzel of Cornell, and the Big Chief of Minnesota are scheduled for future lectures in this series.

Dr. M. B. McKay, plant pathologist at the Oregon Experiment Station, Corvallis, Oregon, recently visited Minnesota and addressed a seminar meeting of division members and guests. Dr. McKay discussed the results of his researches on western yellow blight of tomatoes, pointed out that there is evidence that the virus which causes western yellow blight is identical with the virus which causes curly top of sugar beets.

### Local Color

Dr. Wellensiek gave a very interesting talk before the Plant Path. literature seminar, Thursday nite, Feb. 3, at which the Plant Physiologists were our guests. Dr. Wellensiek spoke on "Premature Tuber Formation in Early Potatoes." We were extended an invitation to visit his country in the near future, and see some of the things he spoke about (not that we needed further proof of his experiments).

Refreshments were served by the seminar committee. After a song service in which the leitmotif consisted of the oft recurring strains of "How Dry I Am," Miss Hart poured lemonade. It was good, but not abundant. It flowed joyously enough down the gullet, but, oh, how grudgingly it trickled from the lips of Florence Flask. Either we must have more lemons hereafter, or we must squeeze them harder.

To the tune of jingling sleigh bells and the beat of Dancers impatient hoofs, the annual Plant Path. Christmas party was ushered in. Appropriate gifts were piled high under the Christmas tree, and after they had been distributed, everyone seemed satisfied, especially Eddie Freeman with his raffle game, and Rodney Harvey with his lady "Ethylene."

A group of promising German students rendered a heart rending song, and the light of accomplishment kindled in the eyes of their teacher as verse after verse rang out. Mr. and Mrs. Wellensiek favored the group with a few Dutch songs and were later ably assisted by Dean Freeman and Dr. Stakman. The rest of the time was divided between eating all kinds of good things and singing every song written between "Ham and Eggs" and "Gubba Nua."

Dr. Leach was host to the Plant Path. literature seminar group, Thursday, January 27, at his home. Gathered around the fireplace, we listened to Mr. Kightlinger and Mr. Aamodt report on the papers given at the Philadelphia meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Discussions followed each paper, and refreshments followed the discussions.

### Lohengrin Grins Again

The announcement of the marriage of Mr. Philip Brierley, one time imbiber at the Foaming Fount, and Miss Myrtle Shireman, will be of great interest to all Aurora readers. Fortunately, a very graphic account of the ceremony has been submitted by a n (eye) witness, and is reproduced below for the benefit of Brierley's numerous distant (no reflection is intended on the closeness of his near) friends who will want to wish him and Mrs. Brierley well.

The ceremony was performed at midnight. An inability on the part of the bride and groom to agree on a particular date led to this ingenious compromise. The groom spoke his vows at 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 23, the bride following at 12:01 a.m. the next day with hers. Thus they had each their respective ways at the start. The Old Arcadia dance hall was the scene of the event, it being conveniently near the apartment in which the young people now dwell.

Charlie Dawes was best man. An effort to secure James J. Tunney in this capacity failed owing to the champion being detained on his literary assignments in connection with the Bunk of the Month Club.

Lenore Ulric was the bridesmaid. Her play, Lulu Belle, now current in New York City kept her in the metropolis during the ceremony, but she broadcast her part from Station W.J.Z., whence it was relayed by W.E.A.F. in Washington and received at the Arcadia on the groom's six test tube set. (We do not know what a bridesmaid is supposed to do, but we bet that Lenore could do it.)

Dr. Clarence True Wilson, Secretary of the Methodist Board of Public Morals, was the officiating clergyman. Inadvertently he had neglected to bring his copy of the Case for Prohibition, which he is accustomed to use as a service book on such occasions, so read in lieu of the service a few lines from The American Tragedy. "No one cares about the details of a marriage service anyway," he said in explanation, "the object being only to use up sometime." (The book referred to is admirably adapted to this purpose.)

The bridal party was preceded by Charles Drechsler as Cupid, daintily garbed in a pink sash, and strewing popcorn along the aisle over which the bride approached. Miss Shireman wore a pantalon bouffant of iridescent crepe, and a hat of spun glass in a luminous shade of bleu océan, thus anticipating the fashions of 1957 as foreseen by Paul Poiret. The groom wore an apple-green gandourah and a white laboratory coat, borrowed for the occasion from his colleague E. Artschwager.

After the ceremony the young couple retired to their new apartment in Foggy Bottom, where they waited on the doorstep until 3 a.m. when the milk man delivered their first quart of milk.

On January 3 the groom served refreshments of the usual order.

(N.B. The reporter of the Aurora was not actually present at this marriage, and was unable to interview any one else who was there except the two principals. As both of them are likely to prove biased witnesses, he rejects their testimony as unreliable and has chosen to supply the necessary details from his imagination. He believes that license should be granted him to do this as he has, like Mark Twain, never on any previous occasion deviated from perpendicular fact.)

F.W.

Excerpts from German Class.

- E.C.S. - What is the meaning of Gefahr, Thornberry?  
H.H.T. - Oh ----- Ah ----- Why ----- I don't know.  
(Two minutes later)  
E.C.S. - What is the meaning of Gefahr, Thornberry?  
H.H.T. - Uh ----- Lemme see ----- Oh ----- Uh -----  
(Four minutes later)  
E.C.S. - Same question again.  
H.H.T. - Ah ----- Why, we had that word just a while ago--Ah-- Uh-  
(At intervals of two minutes for the next ten minutes)  
E.C.S. - What is the meaning of Gefahr, Thornberry?  
H.H.T. - (Gives various versions of the above answers, but finally surprises everyone with the following reply.)  
Ah ----- Oh ----- Uh ----- DANGER.

Doctor Stakman has recently returned from a very pleasant vacation at Washington, D. C. Besides receiving about 200 callers and attending 50 afternoon teas, Doctor Stakman wrote a complete report of Rust Epidemiology, attended the Philadelphia meetings, and conferred with the American Cyanamid Company at New York. Some vacation!

Mr. Ralph Nelson spent the first three weeks of January with Doctor Colley at the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, working on cultural identification of different types of wood rots.

Mr. Ray Bulger, in charge of Barberry Eradication in South Dakota, is helping with rust epidemiology work and doing a little graduate work out of hours this quarter. Bulger says that he enjoys life with the gang in the "Totterin' Tower".

VITAL STATISTICS

On January 28 the department received a box of cigars and a huge box of candy from Doctor and Mrs. Henry. A card arrived at the same time and these are the words thereon:

John Alexander Campbell  
eight pounds  
Jan. 2, 1927

On February 4 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Melander sent candy and cigars around in honor of their young son, Harlan.

### Expression of Pathological Juices.

Publications during 1926 in the Department at Minnesota, as ever, have been prepared only under duress, accompanied by prolonged and recurring pains - recurring at each revision. Our Chris, most pained of all when in the agonies of authorship, survived an article on Sorosporium reilianum and a technical bulletin on physiologic specialization of Helminthosporium, but came out of it limping mentally and had to be assisted by the Big Chief through his too enthusiastic descriptions of some mutations of Ustilago zeae and in predictions as to the future of corn if U. zeae and Puccinia sorghi continued to specialize. It seems that 20 out of 21 plants died, and this proved something very important.

Tables compiled by Broadfoot - some fancy and others just plain kitchen variety - were supposed to show that Fusarium lini also had physiologic forms. They were submitted to Phytopathology because he knew the editor had a complex on physiologic forms, so it got into print. Broadfoot is now ill.

Rodenhiser thought he would get in good, too, so he delivered himself, with effort and at the loss of several heavy dates, of an article on physiologic specialization of Ustilago nuda and U. tritici. Phytopathology was glad to get even this.

Melampsora lini got an article out of voluble Miss Hart, and a technical and popular bulletin out of Doctor Henry. Right after he finished the last one, though, he went to England for a year's vacation.

Mrs. Sorokin wrote up an abstract on what she had seen in a mosaic tomato through the microscope. It seems she looked so long that she began to see things move.

Lambert, Rody and Flor contributed recipes on the use of fungicides for smut to the home-brew section of Phytopath: Pete collaborated on a spray program for our State; Rose contrived to issue two leaflets on celery and cucumber diseases; Sanford explains in an article about Actinomyces scabies that the soil seems to have something to do with it; Stakman restricted his undying enthusiasm for Puccinia graminis to a few words on the status of the situation and a few more to rust prevention; Hynes described the activities of the same popular fungus on Federation and Khapli; it took several to get out an abstract on sulfur dusting for rust on wheat; and a circular issued from Washington on susceptibility of spring wheats to rust bears the name of E. C. Stakman - inconspicuously, to be sure, but it is there.

Leach, after playing for a long time with potato bugs or something like that (they're called Phorbia fusciceps and must be nearly as important as Helminthosporium), brought out a particularly dark skeleton from their potato cellar. As a reward for exposing the secret, he is being sent to Europe to investigate black legs there. In the meantime, for recreation, he had to "drop" to lettuce with Mr. Gilbert.

Next year, according to the editor of Phytopath., we hope to write "more and better papers."

TRUE CONFESSIONS

Doc Freeman admits that he can skate although he may not be able to do another thing. Shades of figure-eights and Maltese crosses and the like on that little old frozen fish pond!

Bill Broadfoot admits that he can follow Lambert's complicated mathematical formulae while possibly Doc Leach and the rest of us cannot.

We suspect that Bulger has a confession to make after what happened at Lit. Sem. the other night. At the moment Lindgren mentioned getting some dope from the "Official Record" Bulger's feet took flight, landing him on the floor amidst a bevy of upturned chairs. At least attention was distracted from the "Official Record".

If any of our stenos are caught squeezing the hands of nice young gentlemen in the hall - well, somebody will have a confession to make.

Laura Hamilton admits that she had a good time in Washington, D. C. Our correspondents were unable to cover the assignment.

Chris has confessed to being a Dane.

CRUMBS PICKED UP BY THE EDITOR'S DOG

IT DON'T

HE DON'T

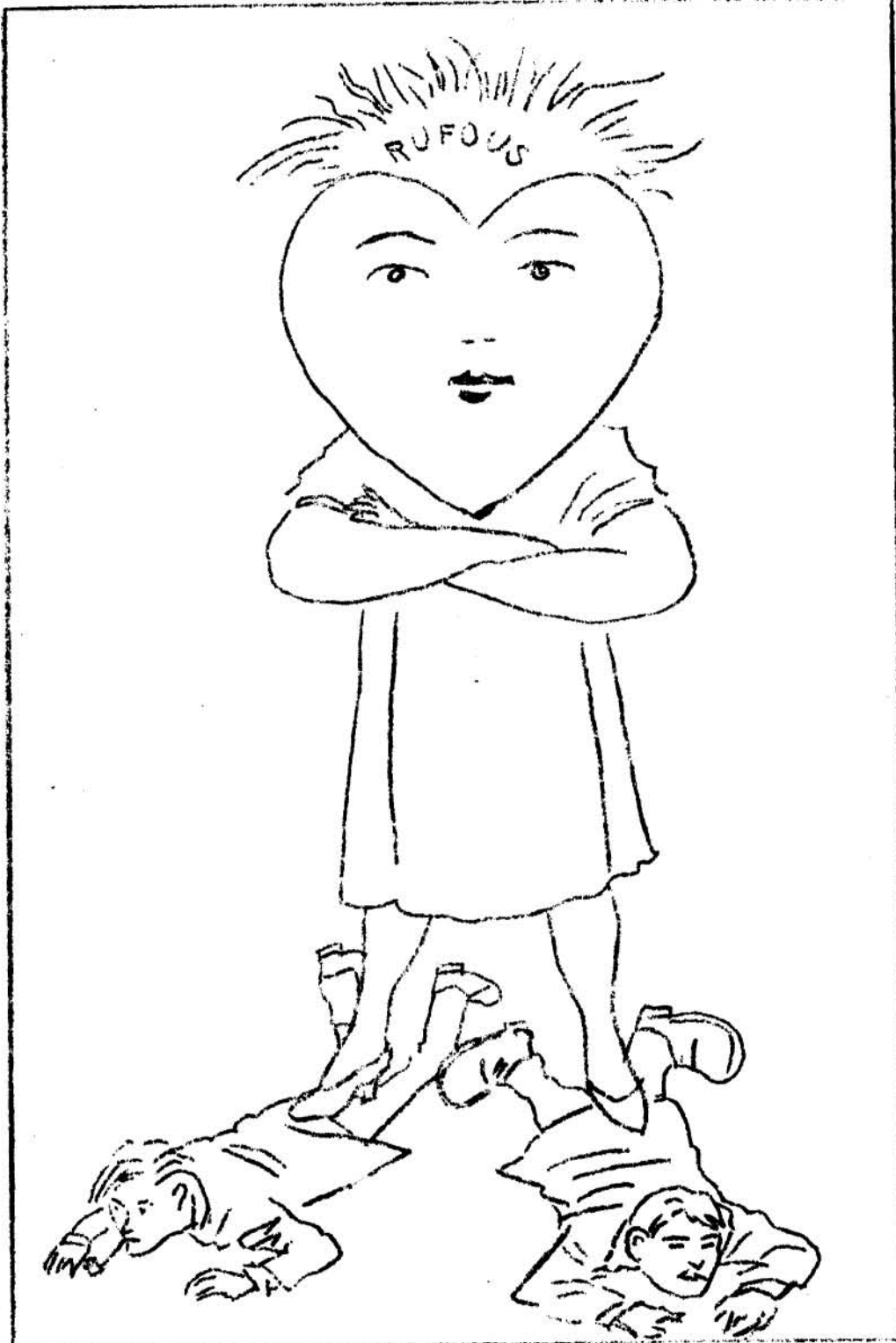
The table contains all this data in the table.  
This isn't the same one he reported I don't think.  
The creeping barberries have blueberries.  
(From a Botanical Gazette article) - I obtained the specimens from the plant pathology laboratory of the University of Minnesota, from a "mummy"- (Who could have been responsible?)  
The speaker has consented to ask all the questions we wish to answer him.  
Who's gonna go with?

YEAH

TA - TA



-8-  
And they like it too



This Editorial Committee  
is ruled by the Hart, not the  
Rod or Broadfoot.