



Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations and the raspitations of those who have drunk from the foaming fount of 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

## OLD TIMERS

By "Zeepost" comes a message from Wageningen (Holland) signed by Bill BROADFOOT, hockey-professional-turned-amateur, and Internationalist Hollander (research at Java, Minnesota, and Holland) named S. J. WELLENSIEK. They say that "it is very nice to be able to renew old friendships". This on the heels of a card from Svalof, Sweden, from Bill Broadfoot and Olaf TEDIN, in which Bill writes "I can recommend to all and sundry the hospitality of the people of Sweden-it cannot be beaten" (Ed. Note: Better than Minnesota Swedes, Bill?).

B. Bernarr VANCE (who sweated thru the Canyon during a hot summer in the thirties) serves notice that he has just moved from Dayton, Ohio, to 127 Scott Ave., Apt. 6, Vandalia, Ohio. BB, upon his return from a 6-weeks' trip to Alaska, wrote that "my newest project is the starting of a manuscript for a college biology textbook for general education and teacher training with a co-author from Iowa State College".

From Portland, Oregon, comes a note that Frances HAGLUND is "peeking" at the West. Miss Haglund recently worked a year at Minnesota but is remembered for planting corn while wearing pretty white shoes.

Dr. E. L. LeCLERG, Rhizoctoniologist, sugar beeter, and statistician, has now assumed new duties in the Office of the Administrator in the Agricultural Research Service. He is "organizing a consulting biometrical service for the research staff both at Beltsville and in field locations". Interested in his address? Here it is: (Biometrical Services, A.R.S., Pl. Ind. Sta., Beltsville, Md.)  $x XY^2$  Solve for X.



News of a get-together in Chapingo, Mexico, of Old Timers Leonel and Magdalena ROBLES, of Monterrey, and Jose and Guillermina RODRIQUEZ came from Sra. R, known as Billy at Minnesota. Jose (Pepe), we are happy to learn, has forsaken the mayorship of Texcoco in favor of science.

LONDON JUBILEE MEETING

September 13th-17th, 1954 were great days for the British Old Timers since Dr. STAKMAN was one of the invited guests of the Association of Applied Biologists at the Jubilee meeting in London. The natives were delighted to meet again in addition to the Big Chief himself, Messrs. K. W. NEATBY, Bill BROADFOOT, J. PONCHET, Syed B. ALI and Ed VAUGHAN, all of them looking well and in good form. Your reporter, Jack WESTERN, 1/ started off one evening for a quiet evening meal with his professor and collected on the way other members of the great man's former classes in the persons of G. R. BISBY, Alan GEMMELL, Ed VAUGHAN and J. PONCHET and a very enjoyable time followed for all concerned. Dr. Stakman delivered a plenary lecture, on a subject not unfamiliar to Aurora ruminants, with his customary verve, and received a great ovation at the end of it. A nameless listener in the audience was heard to remark at the end of ten minutes that he would bet that E.C.S. couldn't maintain the pace for an hour. The intervening rows of occupied chairs prevented an acceptance of the challenge but perhaps it would have been just robbery to have taken the money. We all enjoyed the visit tremendously and hope that it will be repeated in the not too distant future. How about sending Professor J. J. Christensen over to see us? (Sure, if you send Jack Western to see us).

1/ O. T. Dr. Jack Western, Senior Lecturer in Agricultural Botany at the University, Leeds, England. (Ed. Note: Our thanks to Jack for this excellent report.)

## COMINGS

Rosemary McLEOD, secretary in Plant Pathology in the days of Big Andy, J. G. Leach and Gladys Kelly, reminisced in St. Paul enroute from England where she writes job descriptions at air bases. She came home to get warm, she says.

Miss CAGLAR, from Turkey, for a 6-week stint...

Dr. and O.T.) Rod ORELLANA, from the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Costa Rica. (He and wife stayed long enough to have Staphany, a baby girl...)

J. LOREDO, Director of Extension, Mexico...

James MACKAY, Plant Breeder from Svalöf, Sweden...

Dr. Robert NEWTON, Old Timer, Biochemist, and President Emeritus of the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada (Here to receive Honorary Doctorate from Minnesota)...

Dr. and Mrs. GWYNNE, of the England Extension Service, newly doctorated at Michigan State College...

Dr. Kermit KREITLOW, O.T., now of Range and Forage Crops Section, USDA

Dr. Jack MITCHELL, frequent dropper-inner from Camp Detrick...

Roy ACKER, also of Camp D...

Dr. S. GOTO, O.T. and authority (?) of Schuss Yucca, plus Col. EAKINS, both of Camp Detrick. (Dr. Goto recently dug his way out from Dugway)

Mr. NEWBERG, from Oregon State College

Drs. John PARKER and A. J. LEJEUNE, of the Midwest Barley Improvement Association, Milwaukee (Brave but third\*), Wisconsin...

David J. GRIFFITHS, of Iowa State College...

Dr. Norm BORLAUG (and family), forester, flax-wilter, wheat breeder, rusher, wrestler, and former Christensen Crony, now of Mexico City..

Dr. Herman Alonzo RODENHISER, former member of the mysterious WCF-----an organization active only in retrospect.

Charles E. LOGSDON, Head and complete staff of, Department of Plant Pathology, Palmer, Alaska...

Dr. GRASSO, 1953 O.T. from Italy, here for a while on a scholarship sponsored by the Foreign Operations Administration

Rajah (RAH=RAH) HAIK (Now Mrs. Jack Kolb), secretary in Plant Pathology during the Lyle-Daly-Boosalis-era, dropped in one day...

## GOINGS

Antonio RODRIGUEZ, to Mexico with an M.S. degree...

Robert DRESCHER to the Buckman Chemical Co., Milledale, Ohio...

M. F. KERNKAMP to Alfalfa Improvement Conference at Davis, California....

Mary Ann SWAEBLY back to Marquette University in Wisconsin to teach...

Clyde CHRISTENSEN to the biological station at Itasca, Minnesota to teach.

Laura Mae HAMILTON and practically everyone else except Mr. EAGLE TO Estes Park, Colorado...

E. C. STAKMAN is not included in COMINGS or GOINGS because we never know whether he is coming or going, but O.T. Jack Western has written of him already in this issue.

\*Milwaukee Braves Baseball Team finished in third place this year.

THURSDAY NIGHT AT 8

Seminar on Thursday nites during the summer consisted mainly of talks by our many visitors, most of whom were Old Timers. Dr. Andy DOWNY entertained as well as educated when he discussed the sugar beet industry and its problems. His skirmishes with J. J. were hilarious. Missourian Chuck LOGSDON, olde ring rot, shed much information on Alaska in his usual painless and witty way. Another high point of the seminar session was Ady DaSILVA'S discussion of the experiment station set up in his country, Brazil, and some of the problems confronting agriculture there. There was a well-illustrated talk on certified alfalfa seed production in California by Kerny. This talk was reinforced by another visitor, Dr. L. ELLING from the Dept. of Agronomy, who, in addition, gave a short talk on foundation seed. Dr. ORELLANA, ex-Spanish instructor at Minnesota, spoke on the Inter-American Inst. of Agr. Studies in Costa Rica and especially of his research on cacao. Highlights of California agriculture were given by ex-Seminar Chairman Don MUNNECKE in relation to his specialty--ornamentals. Carlos OCHOA of Peru discussed some of Dr. Stevenson's ideas about breeding resistance of potatoes to late blight.

E. C. STAKMAN, who may be classified as a visitor these days, briefed us on the current development of rust throughout the U.S. and on his return from England we heard some favorable comments on graduate education in that country. Duane LeTOURNEAU, back from Idaho for his final Ph. D. exam, elucidated his findings on the relation of catalase activity of wheats and their rust resistance. We heard about Swedish agriculture from James McKAY, the many aspects of Portugal from "Jack" SANTIAGO and the set up of research and extension service in Mexico (renowned for the big oranges) from J. LOREDO. Two research reports of interest were those of Nelson's and his new heterocaryotic races of stem rust and Chuck Schneider's striking field results on root-rot resistance

of sugar beets.

There were many new graduate students introduced: one of them, Neil Anderson, made an interesting comment in his acceptance speech. He said he felt like the young goat who fell in the cement mixer--a crazy mixed-up kid! (Ed. Note: A concrete example of the humbleness of new students).

LOCALS

This was a vacation year, inspired mainly by the locale of the annual Phytopath meetings. Out West motored King, Kernkamp, Eide and Moore. While Kerny got as far as California, and Eide as far as Tacoma, Washington, Moore just slid over the continental divide and back again to Caspar, Wyoming. King had car troubles. Doc Eide visited and reminisced a bit with Dr. Schmitz, President of Washington University. Dr. Schmitz was formerly Dean of the College of Agriculture at Minnesota. Matt Moore felt great "sympathy with Eide on the beauty of the plains and the range". Kerny felt no great yearning to ford rivers, climb mountains (except by car), nor camp under the canopy of western stars.



"Builder-of-the-Name" Award

Back in the Twin Cities, the "Builder-of-the-Name" Award was presented to Mrs. Freeman for our former Dean Freeman. The citation reads as follows:

The Regents of the University of Minnesota

As a token of high esteem and

In recognition of services to the University by

Edward Monroe Freeman (1875-1954)

For 25 years dean of the University's

College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics

Founder of its world-renowned Plant Pathology Department

Dynamic teacher in lecture hall, field, and laboratory

Revered for his devotion to the highest educational standards

Beloved by students for his wise and generous counsel

Deem him to be and designate him as a

Builder of the Name

Conferred on June twelfth, nineteen hundred and fifty four

W. T. Middlebrook  
Secretary

J. L. Morrill  
President

POTPOURRI OF LOCAL NEWS

Jim Miller, grad student from Crookston, Minnesota, married lovely Norma Enge of the same town in September....

Born to Dick and Sally Nelson: Richard the Third in August...

A Ph. D. degree to Duane LeTourneau, now of Moscow, Idaho...

An M. S. degree to Antonio Rodriguez of Mexico...

Bill Roberts (Oat Research, USDA) and Dick Nelson (Rust Genetics, Rockefeller) have moved to the Tottering Tower to the room also occupied by Ralph Cotter and Don Stewart (the former Library in the T. Tower)...

Graduate students Tom Wyllie, P. N. Nair, Bill Silverman, and Mary Ann Swaebly occupy offices in the Tottering Tower to relieve population pressure in PHYTOBRICKHAUS ERECTUS...In fact, both buildings are rapidly becoming crowded...

AG BOTANY NEWS (*Phytobrickhaus tremuloides*):

O.T. Duane LeTourneau, on a short leave-of-absence from the University of Idaho, where he is Assistant Professor in Biochemistry, returned to Minnesota to complete work for the Ph. D. degree. Duane majored in Ag Botany, using physiological techniques

to study rust resistance in wheat. Prior to the invasion of Plant Path. majors, Dick Dedolph and Bob Klug were (and still are) the Anchor Men in Ag Botany. Two "new" staff members have been added to Agricultural Botany. They are Jim DeVay and Thor Kommedahl. Thor has taken over the teaching and research work of Al Larson, who retired June 30th. T.K. continues work in flax pathology also. Jim is responsible for research and teaching in physiology of plant pathogens as well as for research on corn pathology. Ray Landon (winter hardiness) and Harry Heggeness (weed control) complete the staff in the Tottering Tower. Along with the addition of staff has been an increase in facilities for research and teaching. The physiology lab is now equipped for serological and chromatographic studies, and the acquisition of a paper electrophoresis apparatus is in the offing, we hope. Rotary action shakers, a new hood, and a number of brand-new student microscopes (monocular and stereoscopic) are available. Classrooms, offices, and labs have been remodeled somewhat, and more is anticipated.

NEW STUDENTS

With JJC being swamped with admittance applications, room was made to accommodate the new students. Suddenly they came. They are: Neil Anderson and Kenneth Knutson (Minnesota), Robert Goth and Mrs. Beulah Lindberg (Wisconsin), Herbert Mohr (Texas), Lloyd Brinkerhoff (Oklahoma), Kenneth Walker (Jamaica), Alfredo Campos (Mexico), Bob Hawn (Canada), Juan Orjuela and J. J. Castano (Colombia), and Stuart Bampton (England). With 47 graduate students and 20 staff members, it is just about necessary to get seminar ticket reservations from Chris, if you plan to attend.



WELCOME

ESTES PARK MEETINGS: ANNUAL MEETING PHYTOPATH SOCIETY.

Old Timers had quite a time in Colorado. They participated in 26 per cent or 55 out of 214 papers listed in the program of the Society. A brief resume of the topics is as follows:

Cereal smut in its various facets was handled by Hansing (Kan.), Holton (Wash.), Munnecke (Calif.), Tyner (Alberta) and Moore, Rowell, and DeVay of Minnesota. Cereal rusts were controlled by Borlaug (Mexico), Bromfield (Md.), plus a gang from St. Paul: Ali, Hayden, Hart, Mohamed, Papavizas, Smith, Nelson, Roberts, Silverman, and Wilcoxson. Rounding out the cereal problems were Schroeder (Minnesota) on scab and Wood and Christensen (Minnesota) on barley spot blotch. Often included with cereals is flax; rust was reported by Flor (No. Dak.) and seed damage by Kommedahl (Minnesota).

Viruses and nematodes are receiving increasing attention every year. The former were discussed by Nyland and Wallace of California, Cohen of Florida, Murakishi and Aragaki of Hawaii, Anderson of Michigan State, and Fridlund of St. Paul. In all-night sessions nematodes were glorified. Among the principals in this all-night stand were Schuster (Neb.), Martin (La.) DuCharme (Fla.) and Graham (S.C.).

Campbell and French of St. Paul took on oak wilt while Darley (Cal.) led on to Armillaria mellea. From mushrooms, the pendulum of topics swung to storage molds as Tuite and Christensen (St. Paul) held forth, and Boosalis, without his fat cigar, narrated the story of fungus parasitism.

Potato diseases received loving treatment at the hands (or tongues) of Eide (Minnesota), Logsdon (Alaska), Ochoa, (Peru), Castronova (Argentina) and Thurston (now at Colombia). Other exotic crops were reported on. Crellana (Costa Rica) told of troubles with cacao. Murakishi (Hawaii) considered papaya black spot. Somewhere in between, Kernkamp and Frosheiser solved the soybean problems, and Skiles pointed out the terrific losses

from diseases that were encountered on crops grown in Colombia.

Other topics getting the "koda-chrome and parlez" treatment ranged from greenhouse facilities and equipment (Mitchell of Md.) to soil fungi (Paharia and Kommedahl of Minn.) and smog in California (Darley). Leach (W. Va.) on bacterial exudates, Hanson (Wis.) and DeZeeuw (Mich.) on root rots, Martin (La.) with temperature effects on Phytophthora, and King and Bissonette (Minnesota) on races of Aphanomyces added to the variety in subject matter. In conclusion, Munnecke (Cal.) Graham (S.C.), Moore and Olien (Minn.) told their tales of soil fumigation and seed treatment.

Extra-curricular activities received more than their usual attention at Estes Park. Loegering and DuCharme were seen laboring up mountain peaks. Chilton, limping his way over the uncertain terrain, was perhaps not happy about Colorful Colorado.\* Schaal as the genial master of ceremonies at the Minnesota Dinner (held in the cozy employees' kitchen) met and introduced all the "newcomers" in the field of plant pathology, as well as their families. Coraling strays at the Chuck Wagon Dinner was effectively done by Walt Thomas on horseback. And who will forget the quarter-mile queues at meal time?

#### KUDOS AT ESTES PARK

In a VERY IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY, the Degree of DOCTOR OF WYOMING LORE was presented to a number of outstanding plant pathologists in the United States, and in particular, to some of our very own Old Timers. It was the Wyoming Delegation, of which Old Timers John Vaughn and G. H. Starr were a part, that nominated these illustrious persons. President Phyton P. Logos and Secretary-Professor Solanum Tuberosum set their signatures upon this unusual award.

\*  
Chilton's unhappiness stems primarily from a broken wrist encountered in a fall in the dark.

In explanation, a skit was put on by the Men of Wyoming, in which examiners from mythical schools questioned several nationally-known plant pathologists for their fitness for the degree of "Doctor of Wyoming Lore". Such questions as, "What is the average altitude of Wyoming?" were asked of the candidates. The Wyoming Contingent is to be congratulated for the entertaining show.

The first Old Timer to "merit" this degree (Wyo. L.D.) was Chris, who passed a short but snappy exam. His citation read:

"Jonas Jergen (better known as J.J.) Christensen, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Head of the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota, noted for his speculative farming and teaching of impractical smutty plant pathology, now candidate for the degree of Doctor of Wyoming Lore."

The second Old Timer who was especially articulate when taking his oral was Dr. Leach, whose citation follows:

"Julian Gilbert Leach, B.S.A., M.S., Ph.D., Head of the Department of Plant Pathology, Bacteriology and Entomology, University of West Virginia, ex-centerfielder, noted for his famous creation of roast robbin stuffed with ripe strawberries, now candidate for the degree of Doctor of Wyoming Lore."

Then came the CROWNING EVENT OF THE WHOLE EVENING when Two Tremendously Significant Events Transpired. First of all, the new President-Elect of the American Phytopathological Society proved to be our own MISS HART. We all feel proud of that. If that were not enough, Miss Hart also was awarded the HONORARY DEGREE IN DOCTOR OF WYOMING LORE. What a thrilling evening!

Her citation, as read by Dr. Bridgman, is as follows:

"The candidate we are now to present to you is a native of Wisconsin and one of the most potent big cheeses that state has ever produced. She was conditioned to men at an early age by membership in a neighborhood gang of boys in her home town of Janesville; and this probably was an important in her scientific career as the later training she received in Dr. Stakman's department at Minnesota. In addition, she has that most rare and precious trait in woman—the gift of silence. Never known to be long-winded, verbose, or voluble, her friends say that she gives forth speech in public with as much pain as a Scot gives out his money. Rison to the present position of eminence among plant pathologists without benefit of self-advertisement, she is that unique woman who sees all, listens to all, and tells nothing.

"Helen Hart, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., listed in American Men of Science, Who's who in American Education, Who's Who in Minnesota, Who's Who Among American Women, Women of Distinction in America, member of Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Delta Epsilon, and Delta Gamma."

NEXT:



SUMMER PUBLICATIONS OF STAFF

1. Butler, Edward E. Radiation induced chlorophyll-loss mutants of chlorocella. Science 120: 274-275. 1954.
2. Christensen, J. J. Barley Diseases ---Outbreaks can be costly. Crops and Soils. 6: 18-19. 1954.
3. Olafson, Jon H., C. M. Christensen and W. F. Goddes. Grain Storage Studies XV. Influence of moisture content, commercial grade, and maturity on the respiration and chemical deterioration of corn. Cereal Chemistry 31 (4) 1954.
4. Rowell, J.B. and J. E. DeVay. Genetics of Ustilago zeae in relation to basic problems of its pathogenicity. Phytopathology 44: 356-361. 1954.
5. Stakman, E. C. Recent studies of wheat stem rust in relation to breeding resistant varieties. Phytopathology 44: 346-351. 1954.
6. Stakman, E. C. People, pathogens, and progress in international disease control. Phytopathology 44: 421. 1954.
7. Stakman, E. C. and J. J. Christensen. Edward Monroe Freeman, Pioneer Plant Pathologist. Science 120: 285-286. 1954.
8. Stakman, E. C. Rust, a persistent threat to wheat. Ag and Food Chem. 2: 14. 1954.

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