

Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations and the respirations 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 diverse ways

Let the fount foam and never run dry
Let the spout squirt and never lose power

OLD TIMERS

H. J. HYNES, M. S. Minnesota 1925, on reading our historical issue in Sydney, Australia, where he is with the Department of Agriculture of New South Wales, remembered having a part in "scratching for a suitable name" for AURORA and also going to AAAS meetings in Washington in 1924 with OTs Sandford, Craigie, and others. With air travel, Hynes says he will not yet give up hope of going abroad again.

Air travel brought to us one OT from Australia and Java--J. G. "Johnny" CHURCHWARD, Minnesota Ph.D. 1936, who managed a few days here in June in the course of an official trip. Since, according to the new editorial policy that all visitors belong in the "Comings and Goings" column, we can't tell you a word about Churchward's vigorous appearance, his interest in other Old Timers, now nor good it was to have him with us again.

Harry MURAKISHI, Assistant Plant Pathologist with the Hawaii Experiment Station, is learning how to grow orchids, among other things. And yet--believe it or not--this is what he says: "I hope that all of you are thriving in that God's country of Minnesota. Needless to say, we missed the ice and snow last winter and would have given anything to feel the crunch of ice under our boots." (Maybe he has something there: St. Paul temperatures during the past week have run something like this: 98, 101., 96, 98, 100, 95, 100.)

M. L. GATTANI, of the Research Institute at New Delhi, India, sent regards to the Seminar in March and introduced to us new student K. S. Bedi, of East Punjab. Says Gattani, "I have narrated him all about our division, have shown your (Stakman's) photo, Chris', Clyde's, Miss Hart's.... and he has derived a great inspiration from all." (To your reporter this appears to be a new form of advertising!)

Change of address: Gordon C. CURRAN, formerly of Wooster, Ohio, now at 120 Fourth St. N. W., Mason City, Iowa.

The Potomac Division of the American Phytopathological Society, in February, elected as new president C. L. LEFEBVRE, of the USDA's Division of Forage Crops and Diseases.

In Pathfinder for February, p. 30, appeared OT John MITCHELLS's picture, in connection with work on green hormones, carried on at Camp Dietrick, Md.

According to West Virginia Mountaineer, v. 4, no. 4, Dr. J. G. LEACH steals out every now and then to watch the erection of steel for his new building at Morgantown.

Tewfik-Abdul HAK, Ph. D. 1948, is much occupied with research at Giza, Egypt, involving cereals, cotton, sugar cane, onions, sesame, etc. Says he has five research assistants, laboratory helpers, and a secretary! Good luck to him!

H. R. WANG, special student here from July '45 to June '46, would like some materials for his study of cereal rusts at Peking University, but according to our postal department the mails are still closed for that area.

From the National School of Agriculture at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, came a long letter from Felix PIERRE-LOUIS, Minnesota M. S. 1944. He is working hard and wants to visit Minnesota again; he enjoys reading AURORA.

Harry YOUNG, plant pathologist at the Geneva, New York, experiment station, who obtained his Ph.D. June 11, sent cigars recently and enclosed the following note:

Greetings, people!

Have a cigar on the Ph.D. of Harry C. Young II

Yes-- and then have another cigar on the birth
of Harry C. Young III !

Dr. L. W. MELANDER, for many years the Minnesota State Barberry Leader, has traversed the United States from coast to coast in connection with his present work of nursery inspection. Through his courtesy the following Old Timers sent greetings:

C. S. Holton (Ph.D. '32), Dean Stanley Swenson (minor in Plant Path.), both of Pullman, Washington

C. G. "Big Andy" Anderson, plant pathologist with the State Department of Agriculture, at Salem, Oregon

Godfrey Hoerner, a pioneer in physiologic specialization in Puccinia coronata, and now a "hop" pathologist; Ed Vaughn, Ph.D. 1942, a plant pathologist of diverse crops, both of Corvallis, Oregon

Lambert Erickson, seed specialist, Moscow, Idaho

Bob Atkinson and Walt Thomas, at Fort Collins, Colorado

Max Schuster, plant pathologist at Lincoln, Nebraska

Nancy LING, temporary Old Timer while in Washington, D. C., in late June, reports that Washington weather can not be compared with Minnesota weather. (She simply wasn't here at the right time!) Says she saw Honorary OT Dr. Coons, and heard indirectly that the Kotila-Roane baby is "very cute."

Helen Conners, daughter of OT Ibra L. CONNERS, of Ottawa, Canada, graduated in June from Smith College, Northampton, Mass., summa cum laude; with Phi Beta Kappa, and Sigma Xi. We hear she leans toward statistics.

A letter just received from Mu Hwa PU, although written April 18, states that mails to foreign countries had opened. Also that the name of his institution has been changed to "Agricultural Research Institute of North China, Peiping (7), China. In 1945 Mr. Pu was a special student at Minnesota; in China, he is continuing his work with the rusts.

Dr. J. Lewis "Lew" ALLISON has left the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, U. S. Department of Agriculture, to work with forage crops at North Carolina State College, Raleigh, beginning July 1.



TYPICAL
OLD-TIMER?

The editors appreciate very much the kind words about the anniversary issue of AURORA sent by Dr. Earle HANSON, of Wisconsin, and others.

LINCOLN, NEBR. 6-28- For the past two days Plant Pathologists of the North Central Division of the American Phytopathological Society have been in Lincoln for a two-day meeting sponsored by the Plant Pathology Department of the University of Nebraska. A large contingent, 16 in all, arrived from Minnesota, and all comments from this group indicated that Professors Allington and Livingston and their staff did a very fine job of arranging the program and handling the meetings. The group was welcomed on Monday morning by Dean Lambert; Dean Goss discussed the agriculture of Nebraska. After lunch at the college cafeteria the group of 70 were shown through the laboratories and greenhouses. A discussion of Wheat-mosaic followed. In the evening a banquet was held at the Cornhusker Hotel with the main speaker, an "imminent" scientist, discussing the use of atomizers in the workings of the atom bomb. Very interesting and informative. On Tuesday morning the group visited the experimental plots, and after lunch the annual meeting was held. Dr. Ralph M. Caldwell (Ind.) was elected president, and L. E. Melchers (Kansas) Vice-President. M. F. Kernkamp of Minnesota will continue as Secretary-Treasurer. Those who attended from St. Paul were Fletcher, Kernkamp, Shepherd, Daly, Munnecke, Ibrahim Boosalis, Loegering, Reilly, Hemerick, Tveit, Goto, Kommedahl, Gibler, Bedi, and Anwar.

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ALONG THE BEATEN TRACK

In ancient days all roads led to Rome and in modern times the corner of Fifth Avenue and Fifty-second street is supposed to be the crossroads of the world. Minnesota lies along the beaten track for some peculiar people known as phytopathologists and agricultural scientists. Once in Minnesota, such folk oft experience a yen to return -- we know not whether it is to gloat over those still mired there, to review past glories, or to sip once more at the foaming fount.

Ted and Gladys Saline Wright and young Linda drove into St. Paul from their home in the Wenatchee Valley of Washington one day in early April. Ted was on his way to the nation's capitol and the Beltsville Station for a month of special work.

In late April Rodrigo Orellana and his family stopped for about two days in our domain on their return trip from Venezuela, where Orellana had been for the past year and a half. And on the 18th of April four graduate students from the University of Nebraska, H. J. Walters, H. A. Skoog, Yuen Chiu, and R. C. Bellingham, toured the division and compared notes with our Minnesota grad students.

Opera devotees, Harold and Iva Flor and their daughters Majorie and Marylyn, and the Thorvalder Johnsons, visited the Twin Cities in mid-May when the Metropolitan Opera Company played their 3-day stand on the University campus. For once plant pathology took second place, but 'tis not always thus.

Andy Downie deserted his sugar beet fields in Rocky Ford, Colorado, for a short time and came to Minnesota to see how our sugar beets were doing.

For a few hours of a June afternoon Dr. M. F. Barrus and Mrs. Barrus, formerly of Cornell University, visited our labs; and just a few days later Dr. H. B. Humphrey formerly of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, came for a very short visit. These lucky travelers were on the way to the West Coast.

Don de Zeeuw pulled into town on a rainy May-Day morning, ready to check the finishing touches on his Ph.D. thesis and to face the examining committee. Shortly after Don's return to Michigan State, Ed Andrews left East Lansing and came to Minnesota for a few days of peace and quiet and a conference on his thesis.

The Sackstons (both Sax and Lois) reveled in Minnesota climate for a whole week at Commencement time, when Sax received the important scrap of paper called the Ph.D. degree. Earlier in the spring Sax had made the special trip from Winnipeg to defend the monstrous monograph of his thesis before the oral examining committee.

Local visitors occasionally find their way to Phytobrickhaus. Dr. Betty Sullivan, director of research for Archer-Daniels Mills in Minneapolis, and Mr. Grant Ashford from that laboratory visited us in May.

Foreign visitors, a scarce commodity during the early forties, once again are finding their way to Minnesota doorsteps. Dr. S. J. duFlessis, pathologist from the University of Stellenbosch in the Union of South Africa, spent a number of days at Minnesota in early June, just about enough to make him a full-fledged Old Timer. From Germany came Dr. B. A. Rudorf, one of the directors of research in the Kaiser-Wilhelm Institute at Möncheberg, seeking information on researches and new materials for breeding disease-resistant crops. Later, again from Germany, came Dr. Werner Schulze from the production department of the agricultural ministry of Niedersachsen and also Mr. Dobimar von Kameke as head of the plant breeders in the British Zone.

Java, on the other side of the world, sent Johnny Churchward, now director of research for the Anglo-Dutch Plantations, on a special mission to these United States to gather first-hand information on soils, fertilizers, breeding, diseases, and various other things agricultural. Seventeen years ago John was a carefree grad student in the old Canyon of the Tottering Tower, expounding the glories of "Austraylya" and the Pacific regions. World War II caught him in Java and kept him in a Japanese prison camp for more than two years, where his avoirdupois slipped from the neighborhood of 170 to 78, although one would never realize it today. He talks in terms of thousands of acres of rubber, thousands more of tea and tapioca, hemp, cinchona, et cetera, et cetera.

Old Timers in the vicinity of Washington and Beltsville staged a very impromptu and partial reunion during Churchward's visit there. George Hafstad, Bob Cassell, Bamberg, LeClerg, and Tervet reminisced on the old days in the Canyon and renewed their youthful experiences at the Fount.

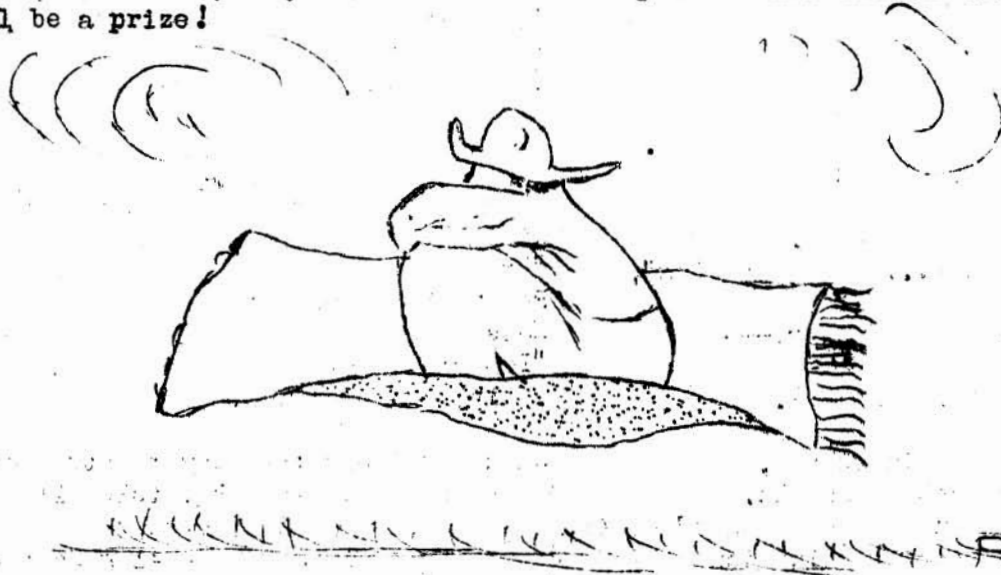
Bob Cassell must have had nostalgia for Minnesota because he was granted special leave from his post at Camp Detrick to spend some weeks at Minnesota in June. With him came Clyde E. Peet to view the grandeur and luxuriate in the salubrious climate of the North Star State. On June 20 along came Ian Tervet to persuade Cassell that Camp Detrick wanted to see him before the end of June. It was a nice interlude anyway, Bob.

Vacationists stopped by to get a glimpse of the drudgery they were escaping temporarily. The I. L. Forbes family with son Ben and his chum apparently swung around most of the western half of the North American continent during their brief vacation from the sunshine of Louisiana. The Kreitlows came down out of the hills of Pennsylvania to vacation in the land of 10,000 lakes, and the Axel Andersons drove from Michigan to their old Minnesota homeland. June 20 to 24 was just like Old Home Week for us.

About that same time the Dudley Prestons popped in after a short drive from San Diego State Teachers College in California. Dudley has settled down for the summer and plans to work on a host index for the fungi of Minnesota.

Comings seem to be more frequent than Goings, and yet a few O T s have departed from these hallowed halls. Bernie Shema, having completed his spring quarter of work in the division, returned to the Institute of Paper Chemistry at Appleton, Wisconsin. Mir Ahmed Ali Khan Anwar and Syed Fakhrul Hasan gathered up their photographic equipment, clutched their recently won doctorates to their bosoms, and departed in early July for to see other phytopathological laboratories in the United States before they return to take up scientific careers in their native Hyderabad, India.

Big Chief ECS still holds the record as Comer and Goer: Went Apr. 7 to New York, Atomic Energy committee meeting; thence to Florida, where he spouted at the University on science; returned for half a day at Minnesota on Apr. 13, enroute to Idaho, to speak under auspices of Wm. Edgar Borah Outlawry of War Foundation. On Apr. 21 went to Washington, D. C. for AAAS executive meeting, thence directly to Mexico City, coming again on May 18 to be Big Chief for a time. On June 9 went to Washington, D.C. for AEC meeting, returning on the 18th; on the following day took off for Vancouver, B. C., for AAAS divisional meetings.....How long would these journeys have taken Marco Polo? Magellan in his ship? Hannibal with his elephants? Don Quixote on his horse? Father Hennepin by canoe? or even Aladdin on his magic carpet Let him who is statistically minded work on this problem and send in his answers. There will be a prize!



SPORTS

The plant path sport spotlight this spring focused on that typical American pastime -- baseball. Things got off to a bad start for coach Bernie Shema's boys, when, after a week of balmy practice weather the first game was called on account of snow! Yessir, the big April blizzard put the pitchers mound under 12 inches of the white stuff and the umpire couldn't scrape the ice off home plate, so the boys stacked the snow balls and snow shoes in the corner and decided to wait for a better day. The second scheduled game fared no better than the first, this one being called because of a liquid downpour (rain, that is)

The weather conditions looked up, for the third game, but fate looked down on the Fathers and they lost to AGR by one run behind the pitching of Joe Duncumb. The plant path team finally hit the win column for the next two games with Bill Loegering twirling for the first win against IVCE, and Ed Clausen outlasting the Forestry pitcher for the second. The last two games with the Grad Club and University Grove East were disappointments. Both teams took early leads and held them throughout the game. Bill Leegering, Ed Clausen, and Mike Daly, shared the mound duties.

The team batting crown goes to third baseman and string pitcher, Mike Daly. With centerfielder Mel Shurtleff a close contender. Dwane Le Tourneau, catcher and Don Munnecke short stop, turned in their usual precision performances. Thor Kommedahl

and Ralph Anderson in the outfield and Bob Bothen at first base shared honors as "rookies of the year" with all three turning in fine performances as stickers and fielders. Cecil Ayers, plant path minor helped out in relief work as utility man.

Seminars that meet in the spring...tra la

On Tuesday, March, the twenty-ninth,
Seminar met in exotic warmth
When Ibrahim felt mightily
The "Influence of environment on variability
In oat stem rust..."
And Hashim too, in fashion true
Made several toasts to "Alternate hosts
In the occurrence of stem rust epidemics
In the United States
Since 1948".

On April fifth, 'twas Ayers and Bothun.
Ayers expressed a dire need
For fungicidal treatments
Of mechanically-injured seed".
They came to ask for "... Pasm on flax",
From Bothun,
And Sackston too, of sunflowers---
And flax in part
(it's the flower of his heart).

In Yankee style and Chinese too,
Bunt was taught by Rohde and Chu.
Rohde's the "...status of dwarf bunt" oration
Preceded Chu, with the "Germination
Of (its) chlamydo spores".
To end the twelfth, came Abrar Khan,
No relative of Kublai, he talked upon
"Black tip of Mango".

Smuts in grass and molds in grain---
Such topics discussed again and again
On April nineteenth, by Thysell and Johnson
"The role of stripe smut in blue grass....
Improvement", and,
"Molds in relation to grading of grain".

Lin, and Maung and Gibler, et al,
Were especially alert at the ring of the bell
With slides and with tongue,
The twenty-sixth rang loud
With the "Resistance of ...plants
To insect vectors of viruses", And
From the "Economic importance of rice blast",
To "Control of...stem rot of soybeans",
They roamed.

Tviet of Norway, Ling of China,
Heal of America, and Reilly was too,
On this tenth of May, at least four
Will remember:

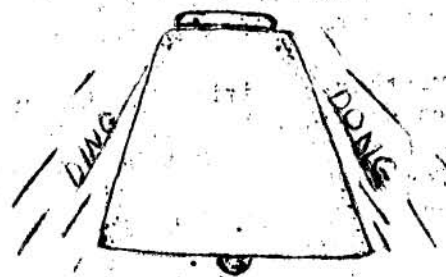
"Quarantines against golden nematodes",
"Physiologic characteristics...
For identification... of bacteria",
"The virus diseases of peas", and,
"The problem of blind seed...
In ryegrass".

On May seventeenth, though hallowed it be,
(Independence of Norway and birthday of
E.C.S.) was held in defiance, to
Discuss topics various--First Goto in
"Breeding disease-resistant oats," then
Pon with "Helminthosporium teres." And
Hassan concluded with the great
"Importance of stone fruit viruses---
in nursery stock."

An unusual day this May twenty-fourth,
A lone speaker, Cordoba, told all from
the North
Of work done in Mexico--"Flag smut of
Wheat..." (with some help from the gang,
and of course, from the Chief).

And last but not least on the last day
in May

Came Hsia, Shema, and Jen, so they say,
First was the "Effect of repeated passage
Of plant pathogens, through a host
On their stability".
"The microbiological degradation of felts",
Was followed in turn by "Soybean seed
treatment"



Thursday Evenings at Eight

APRIL

Education and entertainment featured the seminars for April. Among other things, books arrived from Colombia from Dan Mesa, Titles, in Spanish, which were read, albeit hesitatingly, by Mort Cohen, ... And since Old Timer John Rowell was present, introductions were made by both Daly and Eide, the former of whom in a recital of Johnny's accomplishments alluded to his honorary A. A. degree (Artist of Angling). Rowell subsequently gave a talk on turf diseases, and later presented "The Compleat Angler", Izaak Walton, wouldn't you know!

The annual softball situation again cropped up and the following positions were filled by election and otherwise:

Player-Coach: Berny Shema, by unanimous vote.
Assistant Coach: Mary Ann Swaebly, J. J. Christensen - runnerup.
Treasurer: Herb Johnson and P. R. Mehta were elected in a tie vote--the vote for both men being unanimous. Whereupon, campaign managers were elected for each candidate; Kernkamp for Johnson and King for Mehta. Speeches given by candidates and managers finally, on the seventh ballot, gave the post to Mehta.
Waterboy: Nancy Ling won, with J. J. Christensen, runnerup.
Batboy: E. C. Stakman, with J. J. Christensen, runnerup.
Cheerleader: Miss Dosedall, by acclamation.
Mascot: Dr. Eide, by acclamation.
Diamond Cutter: Lu, with Boosalis runnerup.
Publicity man: Alfredo Campos.
Ticket seller: Hemerick, with Miss Hamilton and Stakman, corunnerups.
Refreshment Stand Operator: Macent the Bartender, by acclamation.

The more sedate seminars included Johnson on everlasting chrysanthemums, and Melander, throttled in the cutest bow tie, describing a new type sprayer, and R. U. (yes, he is) Cotter, revealing the latest regarding the spread of rust from Texas nothward to Minnesota.

MAY

Old Timers introduced to seminar began with good-natured Don deZeeuw, a dog lover. Eide, a fellow dog lover and recent convert of Miss Dosedall's, in his introductory speech, cited dogs as retaining affection for man long after humans forget. Don reaffired his affections for canines and also for the work at Michigan State College.

O.T.'s Ted Wright and Wife Gladys also attended seminar; and Ted, one of Doc Eide's former potato boys, showed colored slides of fruit pathology and scenery in Washington. He later sent a box of delicious cherries to the seminar. Yum, Yum.

A book financed from Winnipeg, Canada, by Wally Sackston was presented to the seminar; however, since the book was not "properly inscribed," the seminar voted to tear out the flyleaf and send it to "Sax" for said inscription. Later, he returned to personally effect the inscription. Our peace of mind is now restored.

Thesis research was presented by Anwar and Loegering. Anwar's on the survival of Fusarium lini and Felminthosporium sativum in soil, and Loegering's, concerning survival of rust races, will undoubtedly appear in subsequent issues of Phytopathology. Petite Hamilton delimited delightfully the boundaries of rust in the United States, as of the 19th. In the same evening, a celebration for the independence of Norway-ancestral Minnesota, was carried on in conjunction with the birthday of the Chief by

means of a conversation flavored with a Scandinavian dialect between Tveit, a direct introduction from Norge, and Kommedahl, one generation removed, in imitation of two men trying to determine the identity of Stakman, by means of certain clues, such as, a former storekeeper in Brownston. Sombrero-less Stakman, in summing up the agricultural situation of Mexico, emphasized the need for rust resistance in wheat and for nitrogen in the soil.

JUNE

Visitors and old timers at seminar included Wally Sackston and wife Lois, Cassell, Clyde E Pete and Dr. S. J. du Plessis, the last named relating items of interest concerning the Union of South Africa---from whence he came.

At another seminar, Tervet, Pete, Axel Anderson, and Cassell were present, causing many to wonder who stays home at Camp Detrick to do the work. Axel has excuse, he works at Michigan. Speaking of Cassell, the spirit moved this versatile gent to give advice to the young "fellers", which was "watch out for the jobs they get you"! He told amusingly about some of his--in one spot he learned on arrival that on the succeeding day he was to begin teaching classes in Soils, Fruit Crops, Field Crops, Drainage and Surveying! For a plant pathologist, whew!

It was the middle of June...hot...sticky...the only breeze blowing came from the South ...and genial Doc Eide, in preparation for a comfortable evening, rather ceremoniously hung a towel over the back and seat of his chair in the seminar room, presumably to circumvent the possibility of fusion. He is a sly one, that Eide. The hot weather also stifled any intelligent remarks that might have been elicited from recent graduates with advanced degrees. For example, Loegering had no more to say than this, "no advice to give, except not to wait so long", and Munnecke (M.S.), "no recollections of any feelings on the stage". Even Anwar failed to rise to his customary oratorical heights, and Boosalis (M.S.) ended with a curt, "Thank you." This might better be titled "Operation Phff-t."

Matt Moore and Martin Tveit each had demonstrations to speculate upon. Moore via Shurtleff showed the differential reaction of 19 Brazilian oat varieties to the Victoria blight-- an experiment performed by undergraduate students in the elementary plant pathology course. The triumvirate of Moore, Daly, and Shurtleff won acclaim for their outstanding work in teaching this course. Even such projects as testing fungicides for control of athlete's foot were tried-- are things thereby doomed to "defeat"?

Tveit described an "upset" (setup) for demonstrating how chlorosis in beans, flax, and strawberries might be alleviated by carrying out an idea dreamed up by King and Tveit. Details will appear sometime later.

Movies were shown on two occasions, one series of films pictured botanical phenomena by time-lapse photography, including (1) plant growth, (2) seed dispersal, (3) sensitivity of plants, and (4) fungus growth. At another time Tveit, our one-man Norwegian Chamber of Commerce, showed color films of Norway and Sweden, and to complete "Scandinavian Night", Eric Johnson, our hard-working custodian, sang Swedish songs accompanying himself on a home-made zither.

Despite competition from speakers, movie operators, and demonstrators, a few papers were reviewed and discussed--papers dealing with the male gametophyte in angiosperms, Chrysanthemum stunt, biology of pathogenic fungi, the rhizosphere and the incidence of plant diseases, cold weather and its effect on injurious insects, chemotherapy, minor elements, strains of the sugar beet virus, and reports on work carried on in Nebraska, by men who attended the divisional meetings held at Lincoln. Several excursions were announced and reported on by members of the Embryo Plant Pathologists' Marching and Chowder Club.

BOOKSHELF

DICKINSON, Studies in physiology of obligate parasitism I. Stimuli determining growth direction of rust and mildew germ-tubes, Ann. Bot. n.s. 13, Jan., II. Rust germ-tube behavior in contact with membranes, Apr.

WEISS, Weeds, fungi, and education of botanists, Scien. Monthly Apr.

CHILTON*, Glomerella-linkage, Am. J. Bot. March

McINDOE*, Full-spiral tapping of Heavea brasiliensis, India Rubber World Feb.-Mar.

LEFEBVRE*, Helminthosporium on Buchloe dactyloides, Mycologia, Mar.-Apr.

BORLAUG, RUBERT, Metodos que pueden aumentar la produccion de trigo en Mexico, Oficina de Estudios Especiales, Sec. Agr. y Gan. Mexico, Fol. Divul. 4

In Plant Dis. Reporter, May 15: Stuart ANDREWS*, Scopularia on western white pine in Northwest; LINDGREN*, Root disease and weed control in southern pine nursery; June 16: THOMAS, Bean varietal reaction to Colorado red-node virus;

LAMBERT*, Nematode-predaceous fungus.

HOLTON, BAMBERG, Tester races for dwarf bunt resistance factors in winter wheat varieties; and HOLTON*, Inheritance of reaction to dwarf bunt T-16 and hybrid race in winter wheat crosses, Agron. J. June

SHEMA*, Lignin-destroying fungi on carbohydrate fraction of wood, Archives of Biochem. April, and Preservation of groundwood pulp during storage, Tappi May.

VAUGHN*, Action of actidione on plant tissue and upon certain fungi, Mich. Agr. Exp. Sta. Quart. Bul. May. SHERF, Root inoculation in ring rot of potato, Phytopath. June.

HASANAIN*, Relation of morphological and functional characters to stem rust resistance of wheats, Indian J. Agr. Science, Oct. 1946.

PRESTON, Seed treatment for field legumes, Okla. Sta. Bul. B-332, March, and Bacterial canker of cowpeas, Okla. Sta. Bul. B-334, May.

Robles, Trigo mejorando en Mexico, Agronomia (Monterrey) Bol. 4: FELIX, Proyecto para la produccion de semilla certificada de algodón, Ibid.

Also EHRLICH*, Nuclear history in basidia and basidiospores of Schizophyllum commune, Amer. Jour. Bot. Apr. (Author is not yet an Old Timer; this represents work done before he came to Minnesota.)

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MOORE*, Treated seed grains fatal to hogs, Minn. Farm and Home Sci. Feb.

DALY, Influence of nitrogen source on wheat stem rust, Phytopath. May.

CHRISTENSEN, C. M., Bread molds, Bakers Digest Apr.

*Asterisk indicates other authors.

LOCAL

Too much illness in the Division this period. Prof. Clyde Christensen has undergone an operation to correct a back ailment. Everyone joins in wishing Clyde a speedy recovery and a quick return to his work.... Also recently under the surgeon's knife was Shih-I Lu with eye trouble. Lu feels better than ever now.... Critical illness in the bride's family caused a number of postponements of the marriage of Maxine Carlson to Paul Fridlund, but they've now tied the knot that binds.

New Young'uns coming on the scene are calculated to bring joy to the heart of J. J. Christensen. The following boys have been born: Kimberly Norman Krog to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Krog, Jerol Ralph Heggeness to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Heggeness and Charles Louis Logsdon to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Logsdon.

Graduation exercises at the Stadium on June 11 saw the granting of five Ph.D and two M. S. degrees to candidates from Plant Pathology. The lucky (and hard-working people) were:

Ph.D. DEGREES

- Harry C. Young. "Resistance in corn to several pathogens causing seedling blights and stalk rots."
John B. Rowell. "The pathogenicity of *Alternaria dauci* f. g. *solani*."
W. E. Sackston. "Studies in the pasmo disease of flax."
A. A. Anwar. "Factors affecting the survival ability of *Helminthosporium sativum* and *Fusarium lini* in soil."
S. F. Hassan. "Root rots of oats in relation to varietal improvement."

M.S. DEGREES

- I. A. Ibrahim. "The effect of some environmental conditions and chemicals on the development of races 2, 6, 7, and 8 of *Puccinia graminis avenae*."
D. E. Munnecke. "The pathogenicity of certain haploid monosporidial isolates of *Ustilago zaeae*. (Beckm) Ung."

Sigma Xi showed the following new members elected in the Spring of 1949 from the Plant Pathology Division:

Members

A. A. Anwar
Wm. A. Loegering
John B. Rowell
W. E. Sackston
Harry C. Young II
Morris E. Teller
Isaak Wahl

Associate members

Carlos Barbosa Gomez
M. G. Boosalis
Donald E. Munnecke

Tommy King, the Duke of Sartorial Splendor, recently elevated his preeminence in this field by appearing in a shirt of Strontium pink. "Pink" actually does not do it justice. The closest approximation in shade is Schiaparelli's "Shocking," popular in lip rouge and other accessories.

June Brides and June Degrees

June brides and June degrees always provoke certain thoughts and sentiments. What percentage of June brides fulfill their explicit and implicit promises; and what percentage of June doctors of philosophy fulfill the implied promises of continued evolution toward intellectual enlightenment and spiritual refinement?

Indeed, what percentage of those on whom the doctorate is conferred are really intellectually enlightened and spiritually refined? How many are satisfied with a technologic training instead of an education? And, in the field of science, how many develop genuine zeal for discovering and humanizing scientific truths?

It is easy to ask such platitudinous questions but it is harder to answer them. But the answers are important; the progress of civilization depends on the answers and on the methods developed for improvement if some of the answers are unsatisfactory.

The doctor of philosophy degree is conferred on many who do not deserve it, because the implication of the degree is that recipients are really educated instead of being merely trained in some technology. But, it is not deserved by many others who have merely acquired a veneer of polite learning without having become either trained or educated. And it is not deserved by many because their development stops or stagnates with the acquisition of the degree.

Whether a person earns his degree can be determined before he obtains it; whether he deserves to keep it cannot be determined until years later. If a person accepts a degree, he should live up to it. Would the provisional degree Ph.D. pro. tem. help solve the problem? This would imply that the owner is capable of deserving to be a doctor of philosophy provided he has staying power. After all, even a race horse does not deserve to be called a miler if he always quits at the quarter-mile post.

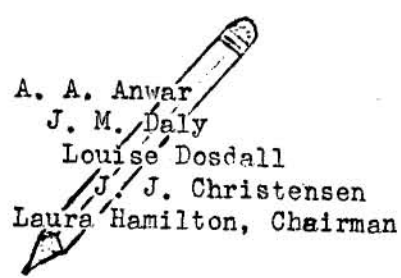
All doctoral candidates ought to take an appropriate Hippocratic oath; in the absence of an official administrator, they ought to administer it to themselves.

If they violate the oath, they ought to give up the degree. Of all dead degrees were buried, how big a degree cemetery would be needed? To avoid taking too much land out of cultivation, more degrees should die a burning. Some day the Ph. D. pro. tem. may possibly become a reality; but Aurora Sporealis fervently hopes that none of its subscribers will ever contribute to the desirability of the possibility becoming reality.

Tune in again for the next issue; maybe somebody will write something fresh and deep.

ECS

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