

OLD TIMERS' COLYUM

The dog days are coming, oh ho, oh ho! (Apologies to the Campbells) Bring on the Scotch! Time for seersuckers, sneakers, peekaboo doublets, sun helmets, crackers and boloney, when the echoes of winter winds are still in the air and frost shields still are on the gas buggies - at least one. Continual adjustment! But not only to the weather! Education too is continual adjustment, internal and external. And by education I mean learning, discovering, thinking, interpreting, recording.

Despite disdainful snorts from scoffers, every individual and every organized group must wrestle always with the problem of adjustment. And the interests of the individual and of the group to which he belongs often conflict. We are taught that as scientists we must be sceptical, critical, unorthodox. The scientific attitude tends to breed nonconformity. An orthodox thinker seldom makes real discoveries; but it is only thru discovery and change that progress is made. If scientists had believed everything that was heavily leaded with authority, we would still be mired in the mud of mediaevalism. If every one had accepted all the pedagogical precepts of the past, who would have made the advances in educational ideals and methods? Some individuals must leave the traditional grazing grounds and lead the way to better pastures.

But yet "What dare I think and what dare I say?" is not a mere rhetorical question; sometimes it is an important practical one. We are organized into groups, large and small, and for many purposes. And the group, as well as the individual, has some legitimate interests. If all the individuals in the group insisted on complete individualism, there would be no group. Coherence and community of interest and action make the group effective. But complete agreement can scarcely be attained within the group; therefore each individual must subordinate his ideas and interests somewhat to those of the group.

Conformist and nonconformist tendencies often conflict. A complete conformist merely helps perpetuate the status quo; and who or what wants to stay forever in status quo? But isn't it maybe a good idea to expect of the legion of Solomons who rebel at the status quo that they either help improve what must be or show how it can be abolished or transformed? A frisky colt prancing around and kicking up its heels in the harness may attract a lot of attention, but it doesn't help pull the apple cart; it is more likely to upset it. Sometimes it even kicks the other horses -- or mules -- in the team, and then they can't pull either.

It is hard to stick to a premise in an argument, especially if it seems inconvenient for purposes of argument. And it sometimes is hard to accept the fact that an organization can not be changed immediately, merely because some one thinks it should be changed. We have to accept some things as they are, because they are so deeply rooted in realities that we can't whisk them away with a wish.

Can individualism and collectivism be harmonized? Possibly, but it obviously depends on the individuals. No individual can or dares do exactly as he pleases in any walk of life. Every one must conform to some extent or take the consequences. Possibly it is unwise and unfair; but if the group is useful at all, we get some individual benefit from it and should contribute something to it. To a considerable extent we choose our own group affiliations (See dictionary), and we therefore have some obligation to the group as well as to ourselves. A group should be a synergism (look that up in dictionary, too, if necessary), or at least a synergy. If we choose to be members of a group, or if we must be, then we should choose to help make the group functionate as harmoniously and effectively as possible. And that should give considerable scope to any one's individual abilities. Of course, if one is really too big for the group or if the group is too big for him, then he

should oil his wings and fly or show the others how to fly too and flying is not mere flapping of wings. But time also flies, even at night --- sort of fly-by-night flies.

We started with the imminence of the dog days. Of course, some will think that the writer of the above platitudes should be put in the doghouse before the advent of the dog days. Maybe so, but remember the Lord's Prayer; and, anyhow, I have now written what I wrote; and if Her Highness the Editress and her helpers will publish it - well, my neck is out of my collar already - the heat is on. So adios, cave canem, and hasta mañana.

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"DEM CHEF UND AKADEMISCHEN STAB DER ABTEILUNG PATHOLOGIE UND BOTANIK SAGEN HERZLICHSTEN DANK FUER JUBILAEUMSGRATULATION" - ROEMER UND MITARBEITER

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REUNION IN OTTAWA

The summer meetings of the A. A. S. at Ottawa the week of June 27 attracted several OLD TIMERS and several present inhabitants of the Tottering Tower. Among the intellectual and social events was an Old Timers' dinner. This followed a lawn tea party for the members of the Association and proved to be one of the gala social events of the season--lasting one week--the season. The following were present at the dinner (some wives included, but the children remained at home):

Dixon and Helen Bailey - Toronto

W. C. Broadfoot - Edmonton

J. J. Christensen - St. Paul

I. L. and Nathalie L. Conners - Ottawa

Arnold S. Dahl - Washington, D. C.

H. H. and Iva H. Flor - Fargo, N. Dak.

F. J. Greaney - Winnipeg

Earle Hanson - St. Paul

A. W. Henry - Edmonton

M. B. Moore - St. Paul

*K. N. Neatby - Edmonton

Margaret Newton - Winnipeg

!William Newton - British Columbia

H. A. Rodenhiser - Washington, D. C.

Guthrie B. Sanford - Edmonton

E. C. Stakman - St. Paul

*G.P.S. Steinbauer - Orono, Me.

*F. H. Steinmetz - Orono, Me.

H. H. Thornberry - Urbana, Ill.

The dinner was arranged by Ibra Conners, of the Dominion Department of Botany, who acted as toastmaster except when J. J. Christensen interrupted him. Dr. Dixon Lloyd Bailey, who has lost none of the silver from his tongue and whose utterances are as pungent as of yore, introduced one or more speakers.

Speeches were made by every one present, including the ladies. After the speeches, or interspersed with them to enable each individual to think about his speech beforehand, were songs and ballads. Some of them were well sung, some were badly sung, some were almost solos, some were part choruses, and some were terrible! It was a typical plant path. songfest, spotted here and there with talent and volume but often sadly lacking in melody and harmony. Some of those who had minored instead of majoring in plant path.--actually sang in tune, their musical taste and performance not having been corrupted by too much pathology.

Several humorous anecdotes also were related with considerable histrionic inspiration and appropriate gestures. Attempts were made to get the Canadians to

* We are proud to claim part ownership, but admit reluctantly that they did not major in Plant Pathology.

! Margaret's brother -- unfortunately never in T. T, but a good Plant Pathologist and Plant Physiologist and raconteur extraordinary.

sing the Maple Leaf, but the Maple Leaf and every one else took leave without singing it, hearing it sung, or making a bough despite the imposing array of Canadian intellectual and scientific talent.

To those now endozootic in *Phytobrickhaus tremuloides* it was enjoyable and stimulating to shake and chin again with friends from both sides of the line.

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"SARACEN'S HEAD HOTEL, CHELMSFORD, ESSEX. Telephone: Chelmsford 238411. That telephone number is a true fact". Think of remembering numbers in the thousands! Ye Ed, had enough trouble with No. 2881, and doesn't now know even the present number of the T. T., altho there is only one,--T. T. This is an example of upside down journalism -- this paragraph. But the quote is the letterhead on the paper on which JACK WESTERN sent his regards to the Tottering Tower and expressed the wish that he could pop down to Redwood Falls, Minnesota, on a tour he is making of England "keeping a wary eye on the incidence, distribution, and magnitude of my old friends, the pathogenic fungi on pasture plants". Memories of Redwood Falls and Melander's Simultaneous Rust Survey! HIS TUBS reports that most of the wheat in Minnesota is Thatcher, and it is as bright and shiny as a bellflower, with Marquis and Ceres cachexiad by stem rust. Thus do times change! Come West, Western! In the meantime, Cheerio!!!

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Dr. Chih TU, National Northwestern College of Agriculture and Forestry, Wukung, Shensi, China wrote recently as follows: "Under the present trying condition, one can not do very much high grade scientific research work, altho we feel the need of science more than any other time. In spite of all the handicaps, I am still able to carry on my disease resistance work in cereals. I believe we can isolate resistant lines from the materials on hand. Of course, there are lots of problems remained to be solved. In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to express my hearty thanks to all the friends in the department for the deep sympathy shown to us. May we hope that peace will reign the world in the not distant future. With very best regards",

C. Tu

We reciprocate the sentiments; we admire the Chinese scientists for their courage and devotion to their country and their science; and we fervently hope they may soon carry on their fine work under happier conditions. Good Luck!!!

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Dr. Lee LING, wrote recently from the Bureau of Phytopathology and Entomology of Szechwan, Sa-ho-poo, Chengtu, China, that on a recent disease survey trip he found *Berberis* spp. heavily infected by stem rust. Ling received the letter from the Seminar group, says he appreciated it and sends his regards to Aurora and the T. T. Good Luck, Ling!!!

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Dr. S. J. WELLENSEK and Mrs. Wellensiek sailed from Java for Holland on July 13. Wellensiek has been appointed geneticist at the Plant Breeding Institute of the Agricultural University at Wageningen. After 8 years in Java the Wellensieks return to good old Holland, where they drink tea in the cool of the evening rather than select it in the heat of the tropic sun. The Dr. writes:

"Will you please inform Aurora about the change of address? My new address simply is Wageningen, Holland. Aurora still remains and probably will remain the only periodical which I carefully read in full.....with the best of regards.....to the whole Aurora Society, also on Mrs. Wellensiek's behalf".

Aurora congratulates the Wellensieks and wishes them the best in their new venture.

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Dr. C. T. WEI of the University of Nanking, now located at Chengtu, where LING is too, wrote recently to the effect that there had been a reunion of Minnesota chinensis at which a number of former inhabitants of the Tottering Tower were present. Dr. WEI, who received his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin, spent the

summer quarter of 1936 in the T. T. and paid us a number of other shorter visits. We will claim him as an Old Timer, if he will let us.

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W. J. CHEREWICK, who spent the fall, winter and part of the spring in the Tottering Tower, studying, working, and patiently trying to point out on numerous occasions the why, the where, the wherefore, and the whereto of the Ukraine, is now engaged in rust work at the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg. He sends his best regards to the whole group.

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Dr. A. W. "William Jennings Bryan" HENRY stopped at the Tottering Tower for several days enroute from Ottawa to Edmonton. Henry gave us a speech and demonstrated that he has as broad and vital an interest in things pathogenic, agronomic, and otherwise as in the days when he was an inmate of the T. T. This was his first visit to the T. T. for a number of years, and many remarks were made to the effect that his appearance was even more distinguished than formerly, despite the fact that the hand of time has passed gently over him without touching him.

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Bill BROADFOOT acquired a new automobile during his stay in Canada and stopped at the T. T. enroute to the Dominion Root Rot Laboratory at Edmonton. There was no evidence that the springs of the car had been broken, as Bill has managed to maintain a relatively straight front. Many comparisons were made between him and MELANDER, but the consensus of opinion was that Melander fudged when the lines were being run, or that he had not run enough, or that he had fudged too much. In the St. Paul Dispatch of Tuesday, July 12, the following paragraph appeared under "Dotson Dashes" by Perry Dotson:

"One of the tournament spectators was Bill Broadfoot of Edmonton, Alberta, who a good many winters ago was a defense bomber for the old St. Paul Athletic club hockey team. Injured in a collision with Denny Breen, Bill retired from the game to study plant pathology and now is Dr. Broadfoot of the University of Alberta. Bill retains a lively interest in sports, coaching hockey at his university, managing Edmonton's entry in the western Canada rugby and playing a lot of golf. He is one of the rugby leaders who seek to introduce more American rules into the Canadian game, a move opposed strenuously by eastern Canada. Many of Bill's golf matches are played against Eddie Shore, the great defenseman of the Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League, whom he considers the toughest hockey opponent he ever met, playing against Eddie as early as 1919. While in St. Paul, Bill is the guest of Dr. John F. Noble."

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From L. E. TYNER, who passed his prelim in a blaze of glory early in June and then returned to the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Edmonton, came the following:

"We landed back without mishap and are again on a paying basis-- Thank the Lord! Today is the first day since arriving that I have felt awake, the tendency to somnolence being due, I think, to altitude change.....Very best regards to all the bunch, with the wish that you may have a most enjoyable summer -- Larry Tyner"

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3 'OLD TIMERS' PLAY TONIGHT

The "Old Timers" attending the Girls Diamondball jubilee tonight at Dunning Field will find only three of their diamondball friends playing the game. They are "Mibbs" Pitzl, Dolly Holly and "Sis" Olson, all members of the Montgomery Ward team.

For further details regarding "Mibbs", "Dolly", and "Sis" make inquiries of Jack WESTERN, Tommy KING, or J. J. CHRISTENSEN.

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Dr. C. S. Holton writes from Pullman, Washington that things are O. K. James Reed Holton, who arrived April 16, 1938, weighing 6 lb. 14 oz. now has a displacement of 10 lb. 8 oz. Pretty soon he will be in the battle cruiser class. Teach him not to bite on the high ones, Chuck.

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Dr. Henry Barker toured the Southern Stations recently with cottony intent. He sends his regards to the Tottering Tower.

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Clyde Allison, Ph.D. writes from the U. S. D. A. Field Lab. at Greeneville, Tenn. that he is becoming a general tobacco expert. Does that mean cigars, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and smuff? Smuff to use one expertly, isn't it?

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From the classic and scientific halls of Cornell comes word from Dr. Frenchy (E. G.) Sharvelle that the Family,--The Dr., Mrs., and His Majesty, Ten Pounds on May 14-- traversed some beautiful country in their Boston bought automobile enroute to Ithaca. The Dr. is investigating physiology of apple scab. Phares Decker and Earl Hansing also are becoming plant pathologists at Cornell. The trio invited the Minnesota contingent at the Ottawa meetings to stop at Ithaca on the way back to St. Paul. So J. J. Christensen, Earle Hanson and Matthew Moore did just that. But Ye Ed had to hurry home, altho he might as well have stayed away.

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Hugh F. Fitzpatrick, newest Old Timer, became an O. T. about the middle of June, after sojourning in the T. T. since last September. After a brief visit with his parents, Professor and Mrs. Fitzpatrick at Ithaca, Fitz, Jr. hurried to New Haven to work at the Connecticut Exp. Sta. for the summer.

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"In spite of hot sticky weather, floods that washed out part of my plots, Japanese beetles, and having my new Hygrothermograph stolen (Believe it or not) I am still enthusiastic about my job and I still like New Jersey very well....My best regards to all of my friends in the Tottering Tower, esp. Q. C. F". Thus wrote Edw. K. Vaughan from the N. J. Agr. Exp. Sta, New Brunswick, N. J., where he is agenting on tomato diseases for U. S. D. A. June rainfall, 10.42 inches; mosquitoes grow one inch for every inch of rain!

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WHO'S WHO IN WASHINGTON

July 7, 1938

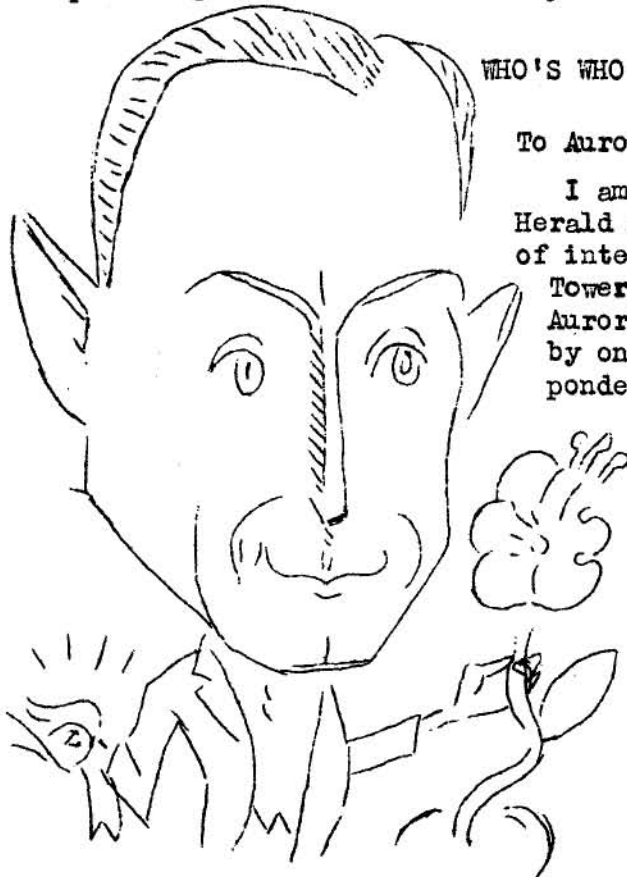
To Aurora Sporealis:

I am enclosing a clipping from the Washington Herald for July 7, 1938, which I believe will be of interest to you and others at the Tottering Tower. This may have possibilities for the Aurora's "Old Timers Column" and is contributed by one of her ever-watchful Washington correspondents.

A Washington Correspondent

Dr. FREEMAN WEISS, president Rhode Island Avenue Citizens Association.

Rests up from work as plant scientist in Bureau of Plant Industry of Department of Agriculture by raising flowers. And taking color photographs of them. Slight, young, alert; his quiet speech model of precision. High point of his year, six-week swing through South each year to see how the great show-gardens down there are doing; in particular, the azaleas in Mobile



and Charleston.

His Fourth was no holiday; he planned, stage-managed whopping all-day community celebration to mark dedication of Langdon Park as public playground. Beauty-spot in Northeast his association, one of most active of Capital's civic bodies, is responsible for. He's seeking action for branch library in community, for trade-in-neighborhood spirtity. And for converting Old Civil War forts out there into parks.

From Minnesota, graduate of Minnesota U and Cornell. Sergeant in war, in hospital service; here since. Has son, daughter, handsome new home on Vista Street, he and wife planned themselves.

Thanks, Senator -

The Herald is right as far as it goes. But it could print columns longer than The Old Timers' Colyum on Weiss'es erudition.

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Dr. Dutch (J. G.) HARRAR, the eminent lecturer on mycology, is acting head of the Dept. of Biology at Virginia Polytech. during the absence of Dr. Wilson in Alaska as a member of the Federal Reindeer Commission. Santa Claus must need new reindeer. We could use one for each member of the T. T. in winter time. But they should be striped like gophers so we could tell them from snowshoe rabbits in the Minnesota snows. See if you can fix it, Dutch.

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From R. K. (Dick) VOORHEES, University of Florida comes the following request, "Will you kindly send me a set of this year's (1937-1938) seminar paper C.O.D., or otherwise"? Well, now, the oranges, even those without rouge and lip stick stuff, were very palatable or petable-- depending on whether dunkers or ploppers were ingesting or osmosing-- , so the Seminar voted to send the Seminar papers, otherwise. If sent C. O. D. there might be justifiable complaint that some were comprehensible only to those who knew the C O D E anyhow. Then, too, they might be useful to Voorhees in the preparation of his thesis; many of the pages are almost blank. So the authors thank you for the compliment of wanting their papers, Voorhees,-- and F. O. R. D.

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Late Telegraphic News! Alan GEMMELL was granted the degree DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY by the University of Glasgow on July 2, 1938. All the lads and lassies in T. T. send congratulations to Doctorrrr Gemmell and hope he will continue on the road to fame until his renown exceeds that of his well-known countryman, Johnny Walker.

BOOKSHELF

Broadfoot, W. C. and L. E. Tyner. Studies on foot and root rot of wheat.
 V. The relation of phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen and calcium nutrition to the foot-and root rot disease of wheat caused by Helminthosporium sativum PK and B. Can. Jour. Res. C. 16: 125-134. March

Holton, C. S. A new pathogenically distinct race derived from a cross between Tilletia tritici and T. levis. Phytopath. 28: 371-372. May

_____ A simple method of inoculating wheat seedlings with paired monosporidial lines of Tilletia tritici and T. levis. Phytopath. 28: 518-520.

Peterson, Paul D. The influence of four mosaic diseases on the plastid pigments and chlorophyllase in tobacco leaves. Phytopath. 28: 329-341. May

Starr, G. H. Potato seed-treatment studies in Wyoming 1932-1936. Wyo. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 222. 1937

Voorhees, R. K. Eye-spot disease of Napier Grass. Phytopath. 28: 438-443. June

Oldtimers' Contributions

Eide, Carl J. (with A. G. Ruggles). Pest control program for fruits in Minnesota. Revised, February. Minn. Agr. Ext. Div. Cir. 50.

Leach, J. G. The biological basis for certification of seed potatoes. The Amer. Potato Jour. 15: 117-130. May

_____ and Louise Dodsall. Observations on the dissemination of fungi by ants. Phytopath. 28: 444-446. June

Ponomareff, N. V. The conidial stage of Hypoxyton pruinaum. Phytopath. 28: 515-518. July

In Brimstone Brevities, January, 1938, appears PETERSON, P. D. with U. S. Patent No. 2, 098,257 (dated Nov. 9, 1937) which covers "Catalytic Sulphur," and claims that "materials of protective and catalytic nature are added to lime sulphur solutions to prevent undesirable chemical reactions in the spray tank and to accelerate normal breakdown of the polysulphides on the foliage...." and thus that the "hazard of injury from lime sulphur-lead arsenate mixtures is....greatly reduced without an equivalent reduction in fungicidal-insecticidal value... (In connection with PETERSON, the Brimstone might be appropriate, but about the Brevities...we wonder. Does any one here recall PETERSON being guilty of a Brevity?)

LOUISIANA OLDTIMERS

"No news is good news" gives little information concerning those who trek forth from this domain girt about with a Ph. D. To this end, "ye olde scroll", Aurora, brings news of Louisiana oldtimers now stationed at the State University in Baton Rouge.

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Dr. I. L. FORBES spends his time looking at new sugar cane diseases but principally at cane mosaic. Isolation of various virus strains plus teaching of plant pathology, however, doesn't keep the good professor from retiring at 9:00 P.M. That, literally speaking leaves Forbes and the viruses both in the dark.

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Dr. Lee (Tiny) PERSON manages to maneuver a ponderous cigar ahead of him wherever he goes. Between puffs, he works on bacterial blight of bean, sweet potato soil rot, and assorted diseases of irish potatoes. Keeping that cigar lit and experiment station work on the go are more than enough for a man of "Tiny's" proportions.

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W. N. CHRISTOPHER, after a long illness, once more holds forth with his Staphylococci classification in a brand new bacteriology laboratory. When "Chris" isn't making coffee, he can be found in the classroom and laboratory amongst copious quantities of NEW microscopes and immersion oil.

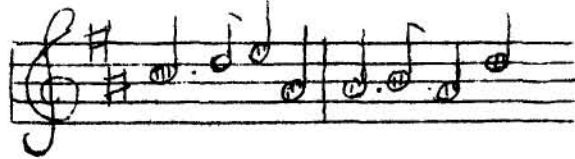
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Bob. ATKINSON spent a few days with members of T. T. after receiving his M.S. at Louisiana this spring. Bob plans to continue work on Colletotrichum falcatum and find out what makes the spores go up and down those sugar cane stalks.

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K. W. KREITLOW, most recent addition to the Louisiana brotherhood, retreated to Minnesota for the summer months. He is vacationing with 8 to 12 hours research work each day, so that he'll be in shape to return to Baton Rouge in the fall.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME"



We are proud to announce that on the occasion of the 75th anniversary celebration for Julius Kffan, the University of Halle-Wittenberg conferred the degree of Ehrendoktor der Naturwissenschaften (Honorary Doctor of Natural Sciences) on Dr. E. C. Stakman for his outstanding contributions in the field of science.

The information was cabled to the department June 7th. The diploma has been received by and will be presented by the German Consul of Chicago in person to Dr. Stakman in St. Paul sometime in August.

It is a pleasure for us to pass on to you news of our newest members of the Pay Ha Day society: F. R. DAVIES of Rohm and Haas fame and ROBERT C. CASSELL the "big mogul" of rust survey, who received the "rights, privileges, and perquisites" in June; and St. JOHN P. CHILTON who shouldered the academic hood in the July commencement.

MILTON F. KERNKAMP is on his way academically, having received the Master of Science degree in June.

TITLES

- Cassell, R. C. - Factors affecting the distribution of physiologic races of Puccinia graminis tritici Erikss. and Henn. June 1938
- Chilton, St. John P. - Further studies on the cytology and genetics of Ustilago zeae (Beckm.) Ung. July 1938
- Davies, F. R. - Studies on the nature of variation in some members of the Fungi Imperfecti. June 1938
- Kernkamp, Milton F. - The relative effect of genetic and environmental factors on growth types of Ustilago zeae. June 1938

WARD MARSHALL qualified as a member of the married men's kittenball team during June. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall are at home in St. Paul for the rest of the summer.

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ANNA HEDGES, graduate of the University of Kansas and student of parasitology and bacteriology, will spend the summer at University Farm studying fungi.

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The end of June brought the usual number of departures for "greener pastures" or vice versa. WAYNE LENZ of Bozeman returned to Montana to take a position in the experiment station for the summer, after which he will go to Louisiana for 1938-1939. NICK PONOMOREFF returned to his home in Arizona for the summer, but we expect him back this fall. HUGH FITZPATRICK returned to Cornell for a brief stay before reporting for summer work at the Connecticut Experiment Station. We'll hope to see him at the meetings this winter.

LOUISE DOSDALL is on her summer vacation at "Wild Acres" near Grand Marais on the north shore of Gitchee Gumee (Lake Superior to you). She sent us a black bear cub for our bulletin board a while ago. Has Buster the dog mutated? The North also lured DOROTHY ANN JOHNSON for part of her vacation.

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A number of the boys in the department spent the weekend of the Fourth at Cass Lake, Minnesota, fishing, swimming, and sunning. Allison, King, Laskaris, and Petty brought back proof of all except the one big fellow that broke Laskaris' line, so there were no real fish stories.



TRIP - TRIP - TRIP - THE TROOPS ARE MARCHING

E. C. STAKMAN made a rush trip to the summer meetings at Ottawa between flurries of black stem rust. We hope there wasn't too severe an epidemic started while Stak was away.

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J. J. CHRISTENSEN, MATT MOORE, and EARLE HANSON also attended the Ottawa meetings, travelling a la automobile. On the way back they stopped at Cornell to visit all our friends and former Minnesota men, PHARES DECKER, EARL HANSING, ERIC FRENCHY SHARVELLE, and ALLAN NEWHALL.

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And speaking of troops, on July 8 L. W. "TUBBY" MELANDER staged his annual Simultaneous Rust Survey of Minnesota. Three carloads of "rust specialists" swooped down on the grain fields of the state.

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The DOCTORS CASSELL, COTTER, AND STAKMAN have been making frequent trips into the wheat belt to follow the development of rust, both leaf and stem, and to determine the fate of our new friend Thatcher wheat.

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CARL EIDE (who doesn't know whether he's at top or bottom of the administrative and social ladders) has been seeing various parts of the state, keeping in touch with the conditions and diseases that have been bothering the fruit growers.

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J. G. LEACH spends considerable time at Grand Rapids, Minnesota, with his weather eye on potato diseases.

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On July 13, J. J. Christensen, M. B. Moore, and I. W. Tervet went to Visitors' Day at Morris ostensibly to take notes on the field plots but in reality, so said these three, to hear Dr. E. C. Stakman give an address to the assembly. The party was transported, guided, informed and kept in a state of perpetual motion both physical and mental by the Big Chief. The high lights of the trip, apart from the forceful assembly speech, was the barbecued beef with ice cream and coffee partaken picnic style under the shade of an old apple (or other kind of) tree.

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CLYDE CHRISTENSEN confirms our suspicions that this year is an excellent one for collecting and identifying fleshy fungi. Any number of new species (not to mention adaptations of the old ones) have been found; and diseases of hard and soft woods seem to be in fine fettle. It looks like a great year for amateur mycologists.

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J. LEWIS ALLISON and LAWRENCE HENSON toured the northern part of the state and part of Canada collecting diseases of clovers and grasses in the early days of June.

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After frequent trips ERWIN LECLERG reports that the sugar beets situation is well in hand, or shall we say can't be beat.

It was both an honor and a thrill for the younger fellows (and possibly older ones too) to welcome some of our most prominent Old Timers. Dr. A. W. HENRY (grandfather of Aurora Sporealis) and Dr. BILL BROADFOOT (Champion hand baller??) spent some time with us during the early days of July when they reminisced over their past triumphs in the Tottering Tower. We all drank tea with them in the Seminar room.

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Mr. J. R. PEACE, forest pathologist stationed at Oxford, England, and sparring partner for some of Jimmy Walters' arguments, spent a couple of days with us. He gave a fine review of the forest situation in England at one of our special seminars.

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Dr. H. P. DARSS, of the Office of Experiment Stations, visited and inspected the Minnesota Station in June and was kind enough to attend a Seminar and speak on scientific and other subjects.

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Mrs. PAUL SIGGERS took the airline route from New Orleans to St. Paul as the shortest and the quickest way in which to renew her friendships in Minnesota for about ten or twelve days this spring.

NEW ARRIVALS

A daughter - the C. M. CHRISTENSEN family
A daughter - the J. M. WALLACE HOUSEHOLD

PLANT PATH AGAIN WINS THE FARM CAMPUS KITTENBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Agronomy, Animal Industry, Biochemistry, and finally Engineering were subdued in turn. Under the able, inspiring, and dynamic coaching of E. C. S. and his assistant J. J.C., the superb and dazzling pitching of WARD MARSHALL and CHET WISMER, and with the splendid cooperative spirit from the players how could the team lose?

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As usual, BIG CHIEF passed cigars, an indication of another championship year. Members of the team are:

WARD MARSHALL	P	BILL HARLAN	CF
CHET WISMER	P and 3rd B	NORMAN BORLAUG	LF
TOMMY KING	C	MILTON KERKAMP	3rd B and OF
RALPH LORENZ	1st B	EARLE HANSON	OF
ANDY DOWNIE	RF	BILL LOEGERING	C and OF
DUDLEY PRESTON	CF	HUEY BORDERS	WATERBOY
BERNARD SHEMA	2nd B	NICHOLAS PONOMEROFF	BATBOY
EARL ANDERSON	1st B and RF	LOUISE DOSDALL	CHEERLEADER

Notable work was done by BILL HARLAN, who managed to schedule games when we could have a reserve pitcher.

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TUBBY PINCH-HITTER MELANDER made a 1.000 batting average, that is, once up, one hit, one run, one game, one Bronx cheer from Tubby to the rival catcher as he passed.

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It is also noteworthy that ANDY DOWNIE was walked more than any other one man, that is three (3) times in one game. He has a keen eye, good judgement, self-control, a self-effacing crouch, and respects the words of a coach.

FOREST PATHOLOGY IN MINNESOTA

Forest pathology has been sharing in the general upward swing of business, unimpeded by sit down strikes or more than minor employer-employee arguments, and present indications are that this happy state will continue. More graduate students now are working on problems in forest pathology here than at any time since the Tower first began to totter. Whether these more students are doing more work or gathering more education and wisdom than the fewer students did in the past is a question that can not be decided immediately. At any rate, here they are, to take their bow and be introduced to the genial readers of Aurora. N. V. PONOMAREFF, who once carelessly stuck his head out from behind a machine gun shield and almost swallowed a sniper's bullet, since has been very cautious except for sticking his neck out occasionally in seminars. He has been working on a canker of aspen caused by Hypoxylon pyrinatum and has contributed a number of things of both scientific and practical interest. He also contributed the statement that he didn't know that Ukraine was not a part of Russia and was saved from a fate worse than death only by laughing when he said it. He also contributed opinions, solicited and unsolicited, on various topics at seminar and elsewhere. During the summer he is at home in Tucson, Arizona, in a thick walled, air cooled white house with a big patio full of flowers, all of which he built with his own hands, or at least he said he did. All through our long bitter winter he showed us pictures of said home surrounded by flowers and palm trees, with people sitting in the shade quaffing long, cool drinks.

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AXEL ANDERSON AND NORMAN BORLAUG, comparative newcomers, having graduated from the College of Forestry last fall, are working on shade tree pathology, according to a statement handed out by one of them from the cavity of an old elm, along with a request for food and a more regular mail delivery. They even started a private tree and landscape service, called the Northwest Forestry Co., with an old Ford delivery truck, a ladder, a rope, a saw, a sprayer, and lots of gumption. They swing through the air with the greatest of ease. Their prices are reasonable. Call Midway 3103. Their letterhead modestly states that they are equipped to take care of problems in pathology, entomology, silviculture, reforestation, timber cruising and estimating, landscape planning, etc. That is Enterprise, and we hope they make good. They prefer to sit in the back row at seminar and speak only when spoken to, and sometimes not then.

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BERNARD SHEMA is another comparative newcomer, also having graduated from the College of Forestry a year ago. He has been working on shell rot of telephone poles, a problem that vexes a good many people sorely, including sometimes even Shema. After seeing the seminar room so full for the Tuesday afternoon seminars that he was forced to sit out in the hall he decided not to risk all on pathology alone, so he bought himself a restaurant. His Ma bakes good cherry pies. He brought one over for the writer one day and while the writer was out in the greenhouse working up a good appetite for it a pack of foragers from the upper reaches of the canyon discovered and ate it. Stak had two pieces, and gave Shema a "pass" in Seminar.

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News from forest pathologists who have inhabited the Tower in the past indicates that they are doing well. RALPH LINDGREN has gained 20 pounds since going to work for the Chapman Chemical Treatments Co., Inc. Must be he is on expense account all the time and can eat more. His duties are somewhat obscure to us, but apparently not to Lindgren, because business is flourishing as never before. FRANK KAUFERT continues his researches for DuPont on problems connected with the control of rot of cloth, leather, wood, and various other products. Some phases of his work involve frequent trips through the South, which must be pleasant in winter and not too bad in summer. PAUL SIGGERS, in charge of forest pathology at the Southern Forest Exp. Sta. almost came up to get his final exam., but decided to wait until fall so he could escape the summer heat of Minnesota. ART VERRALL, an honored old timer, also is in

New Orleans, working on some of the fundamental problems connected with the control of blue stain of lumber. Art's offspring probably will grow up and write to us before Art himself ever does, but our Bureau of Intelligence and Detection keeps us fairly well informed about these folks who never write, but in all fairness it must be said that this source is inclined to stress the darker side, so in self defence it is better to write at least once a year. HOLLAND LORENZ, who has had more field experience in forest pathology east of the Mississippi than anyone else we know, lately has been studying tree rusts in the South, with headquarters at New Orleans. Like Roosevelt, he sometimes goes fishing to relax. Some of the fish, he says, have more pull than a senator, but they are easy to tell apart because the fish don't wear suspenders or holler when they are caught. He is expected to return to Minnesota soon.

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Due entirely to the weather and not at all to the present political organization, diseases of trees have been even more prevalent than ever. Rusts, cankers, leaf diseases and rots abound, people by the score call up for advice on how to save that beautiful box elder planted back in 1902 by their wife's uncle's father-in-law, and Christensen claims he can feel an elm's pulse over the telephone. He has not yet acquired the ability to bring the dead back to life by a mere laying on of the hands, although he expects to be able to do so after a couple of more year's of practice.

WEATHER AND PLAGUES

Such a year for plant pathological observations has never been experienced by the "younger members" of the palpitating pyramid! E. C. S. and the reverend J.J.C. hounded the graduate students to make collections of the bounteous crop of fungi that has been with us for many a week. The mushrooms and other fleshy toadstools are as plentiful as the fleas on the proverbial Fido.

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The reasons for the above conditions is quite apparent when one consults the meteorologic data assembled by the T. T. Weather Bureau (rooms 203a and 403). The normal rainfall for the month of May is 3.67 inches, but this year the heavens split wide open and we had 6.97 inches. This may sound like a drop in the bucket to southerners or even easterners, but out here near the Dakotas $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of our annual rainfall in one month is quite a deluge.

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Naturally with such frequency of showers we had a great deal of cloudy weather and fairly low temperatures. In spite of these conditions there seemed to be no diminution in the insect population, for reports came in from several localities on insect injury, especially grasshoppers. Because of the overcast skies and rains, the weeds grew fast, the grain grew faster, the grains were rank, and there was a great deal of lodging. Rust and mildew were present in nearly every wheat field. The leaf rust epidemic was probably the worst on record. There was a great deal of blight on both wheat and barley and glume blotch and black chaff of wheat were quite severe in many regions. Root rots of all kinds were plentiful.

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Troubles of shade trees were ably handled by the forest pathologists and Miss Dossall was so busy answering questions on diseases of ornamentals that she had to take a vacation to recuperate. Eide and Leach have had a busy season giving advice on what should be done about fruit and vegetable diseases. We understand that Eide talked so "sweet" over the telephone that the lady to whom he was explaining why the apple tree gave up the ghost invited him to talk before her ladies aid group.

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Diseases of golf courses and lawns were grappled with by Tervet and Jonas J. Christensen. Nevertheless, giving advice on how to control or treat for brown patch hasn't improved Tervet's golf game any.

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At least four gray hairs were added to the raven locks of E. C. S. Who wouldn't get gray when continually asked to predict losses from rust as early as May and June?

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Won't some of you Old Timers write a real soothing letter to Aurora; and we'll see that your condolences are passed on to the harrassed members of Ye Olde Trembling Tower.

FIELD PLOTS

Remember when Ol'f Aarnodt (now head of the Agronomy Department at Madison, Wisconsin) with the assistance of Peter Petruskin (who went back to Russia) took care of the greenhouse and field plots? What a change! Under the able leadership of Ol'f the plots grew from a few square rods to an acre, than two acres. Since Eagle came (1921) the plots have increased in number and size many times. Instead of one assistant, Eagle has sometimes as many as a dozen (mostly W. P. A. workers). Obviously, every one who has experimental plots, must help with the planting and with note taking, consequently, the field is a big laboratory. Moreover, visitors are frequent. You too are welcome! Come!

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The workers and the type of work being done in Plant Pathology plots are given in table 1. The illustration given on page 18 should bring back days that used to be.

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The area devoted to pathological tests at University Farm, including cooperative plots with Agronomy, is 16.9 acres. A number of people also have experimental plots away from the farm, bringing the total area up to about 24 acres. Moore and Tervet have smut plots at Morris, Waseca, and Crookston. Hart, Wisner, Hanson, and Moore are studying the effect of fertilizers on the development of rusts, seedling blight, and root rot at Hastings. L. Schaal (M.S. Minnesota 1925), now a U. S. D. A. investigator) has his potato plots on scab at Elk River. Leach has his cooperative breeding plot for scab of potatoes at Coon Creek, and purple top wilt at Grand Rapids. LeClerg has sugar beet experiments at Waseca, Chaska, and Shakopee. Mr. Rose has demonstration plots, but these are not included in the total.

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Table 1. Field experiments at University Farm 1938.

Investigator	Crops	Diseases - Nature of Work
Allison, J. L.	Grasses	Septoria
Cassell, R. C.	Wheat	Increase of rust differentials
Chen, S. M.	Cereals	Rhizoctonia
Christensen, Clyde	Trees	Rots, Cankers, Leaf spots
Christensen, J. J.	Corn, Barley, Flax	Smut, blight and wilt
Cotter, R. U.	Barberries	Stem rust
Dosdall, Louise	Iris	Root rots
Downie, A. R.	Oats	Crown rust and root-rot
Eide, C. J.	Strawberries and raspberries	Root rot and mosaic

Table 1, cont'd.

Investigator	Crops	Diseases - Nature of Work
Hanson, Earle	Wheat	All diseases of wheat except stem rust
Hart, Helen	Wheat	Stem rust - Nature of variability
Henson, Lawrence	Clover	Leaf spots and anthracnose
Laskaris, T.	Sorghum	Smuts (genetic studies)
Leach, J. G.	Potatoes	Virus, Scab, Purpletop
Le Clerg, E.	Sugar Beets	Root rot and leaf spot
Levine, M. N.	Cereals	U. R. N. and dusting
Moore, M. B.**	Cereals	Seed treatment and physiologic forms of loose smut
Petty, M.	Corn	Smut (genetics)
Stakman, E. C.	Cereals	Stem and leaf rusts (Breeding for resistance)
Tervet, I.	Cereals	Physiologic specialization of smuts

** The greatest number of plots and also covers most area.

REGULAR SEMINAR

GOOD SEMINAR

Of course, all the seminars given in Plant Pathology are good, but once in a while there is one really worth remembering. Such a one was given by St. John P. Chilton on "Pleomorphism in Bacteria." Chilton covered the literature, he was critical of techniques and interpretations, and he told about it in a manner that made his hearers begin to think that perhaps the question was of vital importance.

Dr. Stakman missed much of this but came in in time to hear Chilton say that he found no evidence of an orderly life cycle.

Stak: "I disagree with that."

Chilton: "I expected you would, and was hoping I'd get over that part of it before you came in".

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FALL SCHEDULE

An even 10 out of 35 papers on the schedule this year had to be given in abbreviated form. Some of these have been written and handed in and will be given next year, while the boys are pondering the new schedule. If this keeps on we shall be a year behind.

LITERATURE SEMINAR

Laden with greetings and gifts from Germany Dr. Helen Hart, recently returned from a year at Halle, gave the customary speech expected of all people who spend more than a week away from the T. T. After describing the experiment station and some of the work she and others had been doing Dr. Hart answered questions about politics in Germany. Apparently the newspapers and magazines in the U. S. are, to some degree, liars. Miss Hart brought excellent cigars from Dr. Isenbeck and little mushrooms and candy from Dr. Hanna Becker. For these the seminar expressed boisterous appreciation.

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Smuts on
Wheat
Oats
Barley
Corn
Sorghum



Iris



Clover



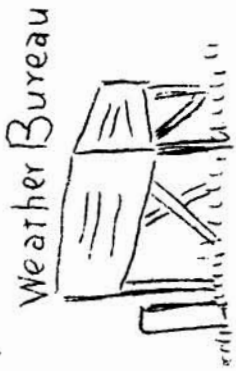
Rust on Oats

Miss

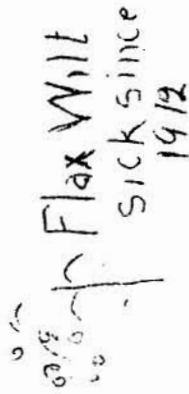


Strawberries

Raspberries



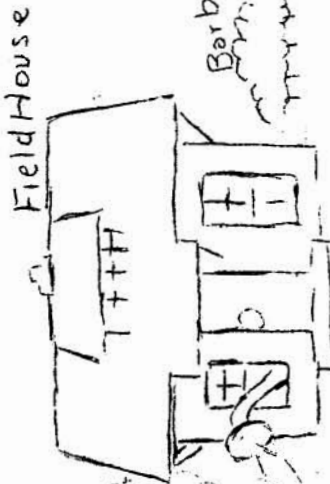
Weather Bureau



Flax Will
Sick since
1912



Wheat
grown
26 Years



Field House

Barberry Bushes

Rust Nursery
Begun in 1908



Eagle

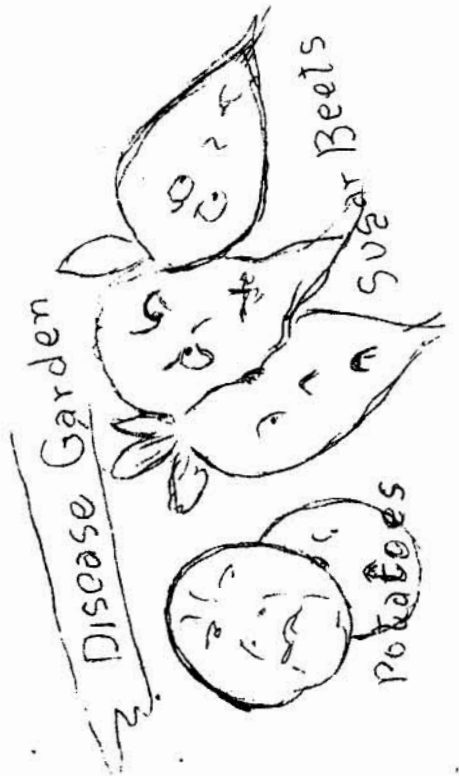
Club Root



Barley Bright



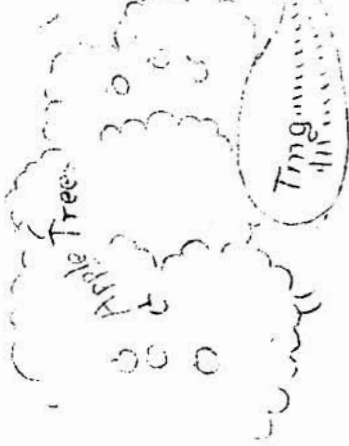
Scab Root



Disease Garden

Potatoes

Sugar Beets



Apple Trees

Tringum

On June 16, Dr. H. P. Barss, of the Office of Experiment Stations, gave another of his interesting talks which are eagerly expected when he shows up here on his annual trip. Dr. Barss, with a background of long and wide experience, and gifted with both philosophy and common sense, really leaves a great deal with the "lower strata" as well as the "higher-ups" in his interpretations of scientific events.

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Filled with the importance of one who is putting his education to "practical" use, Fred Davies returned for a "fortnight's holiday" from his job as mycologist with Röhm and Haas. Davies looked glad to return, for several reasons, one of which was to pass his Ph.D. final. Of course, Davies had to talk.

In his introduction Stak said he wished we would emulate Davies. Then he added"in certain ways. I say this so Davies won't blush" (Davies was by that time). In reality, we believe that Dr. Stakman made the last remark so the boys wouldn't think he approved of having his secretaries stolen from him.

Fred was dismayed because he found a cockroach in the laboratory and made this an occasion for bragging about how clean they keep the labs. at Röhm and Haas. His discussion of his work and the marvels of modern chemistry were interesting, but not too complete because of trade secrecy.

OTTAWA MEETING

The annual summer meeting of the A. A. A. S. was held at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, June 27 to July 2. Four Minnesotans and a host of ex-Minnesotans from all parts of Canada and the United States put away their scopes and cultures long enough to attend. The sessions were extraordinarily well planned and conducted with a minimum of confusion. All sessions of the Phytopathological Section were held in the Lisgar Collegiate Institute located within walking distance of headquarters hotel (Chateau Laurier). Only invitation papers were given, so the quality of the symposia was better than average.

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On Monday the general topic considered was "The Genetics of Pathogenic Organisms". The nature and causes of variations in viruses, protozoa, bacteria, and fungi were discussed by experts in these various fields. Three of the papers on the origin of parasitic races in fungi were presented by Minnesotans (ex-Minnesotans included). Dr. RODENHISER, the proudest papa in all the land unless it be Earl HANSING, gave a paper on the origin through hybridization in smut fungi and Dr. CRAIGIE gave a similar paper on the rust fungi. J. J. CHRISTENSEN, the great Dane and president of Plant-a-day Society, discussed origin through mutation.

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In the evening a general session was held at which several of the more distinguished gentlemen, attired in evening dress, sat on the stage (one almost fell off as the night advanced). Two of these presented papers. Dr. Stuart Rice, Chairman of the U. S. Central Statistical Bureau, Washington, D. C., gave a delightful talk on "World Standards of Living". Dr. F. E. Lathe, Director of the Division of Research Information, National Research Council, Ottawa, discussed "World Natural Resources". According to the latter it is all right to go ahead and double the size of our families because we live in a world of plenty.

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Tuesday A. M. the pathologists held a joint session with the plant physiologists and discussed "Micro-elements and Deficiency Diseases". This was an extraordinarily interesting session at which most phases of the topic were considered: micro-elements in nutrition of plants, spectrographic analysis as applied to trace elements, some relations of the micro-elements to animal life, boron deficiency symptoms in agri-

cultural plants, cytology of deficiency diseases, and thallium toxicity. Tuesday afternoon the group visited the Central Experimental Farm.

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Wednesday a symposium was given on "Root Rots and Seed Borne Diseases", with more "Old Timers" speaking their pieces. J. J. CHRISTENSEN discussed the role of infected seed in the development of seedling blight and root rot in cereals. GREANEY and SANFORD also presented fine papers, one on the soil microflora and environmental factors that influence root rots, the other on the antibiotic complex in relation to root rots.

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Very noticeable throughout the meeting was Stak's absolute silence at all general sessions and Chris's grand display of oratory.

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TOWERITES VISIT CORNELL

J. J. CHRISTENSEN, MATT MOORE, and EARLE HANSON visited the Plant Pathology Department at Cornell University on their return trip from Ottawa. They said they couldn't resist the telegram received from certain ex-Minnesotans now at Ithaca. HANSING, IECKER, and SHARVELLE made up the reception committee and kept the boys going every minute of the time. They spent one whole night telling the Towerites how really good Cornell is -- and introducing them to Jim's place.

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In the A. M. the party had breakfast with the Cornellians, went for a drive along the shores of the indescribable Lake Cayuga, visited the beauty spots of the campus, and made the rounds of the Department. Drs. MASSEY, BARRUS, REDDICK, BLODGETT, and NEWHALL were "at home" and generously showed the boys around. Apparently the rumors about Cornell's extraordinary building and fine equipment are true. Also it seems that this institution is still doing its usual high quality of research on an extensive scale.

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The boys report a very pleasant visit and request that an expression of their deep gratitude to every one of the folks who so royally entertained them be printed. They hope that their friends will let them reciprocate.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

The papers state that the CassLake Indians are on the war-path again - maybe they are merely returning the visit recently made them by a party of braves from the Tottering Tower, i. e. Allison, Petty, King, Laskaris.

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Confederate battle cries grow fainter and fainter in the T. T. Now that Chilton has left us the ugly rumor has again raised its head that maybe the Yankees did win at Gettysburg.

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Many German professors carry intriguing scars on their faces as a result of collegiate saber duels but our own Dr. J. J. Christensen has achieved an equally interesting set of scars due to his attempt at ascertaining the true strength of the framework over Dr. Hart's field plots; of course, there is another school of thought which holds to the theory that Dr. JJC was merely trying to butt the thing down.

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Confidential to Lew Allison: A good thing to remember/^{re}Rhus toxicodendron is,
"Leaves of three, let it be".

There is a good deal of argument around and about as to whether physiological
races of stem rust (discovered and reported from Minnesota) can legally be dis-
seminated if they do not bear a standard Minnesota Union label.

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Dr. C. J. Eide (Norske) was overheard to remark to Dr. E. J. Anderson (also
Norske), that it would be easy enough for them to name three famous Norwegians if
they could find out who the other one was.

Rumor hath it that Miss Mary Goddard is now Doctor M. Goddard - watch next
Aurora for confirmation, affirmation or retractation. This Old Lady Dame Rumor
sometimes slips a tongue.
