

## OLD TIMERS' COLYUM

## Athletics and Scholarship

On September 10, 1937, an eminent football expert whose qualifications have been called in question by many of the denizens of the Tottering Tower wrote as follows:

"It seems to me there will be a strong team but not necessarily a brilliant one. Competition is getting very keen and the team not only has to have ability but also luck to go thru a season undefeated. It is my opinion that the team this year may be powerful enough to lick everything in sight but I feel very definitely that they will have to have some luck to do it.... A team, no matter how good, can not be at its best every Saturday, and it is just a question as to whether the inevitable let-down will come on a day when there is strong opposition or whether the team will be lucky enough to have it on a day when the opposition isn't so tough."

There is documentary evidence that this was actually written on September 10. There were several let-downs against very strong opposition, and the result is that the Minnesota football team is now ranked about tenth in the national ratings. As far as Ye Ed has been able to ascertain, this has not affected the scholastic rating of the University of Minnesota; neither has it deterred good undergraduate students or graduate students from coming to the University. However, some lessons can be learned even from a football season.

It has always been the contention of this scribe that in athletics every play should be made as if the game depended upon it. "Keep your head, don't get excited, but do your best on every play," is about the best advice a coach can give an athlete. Some athletes follow the advice; some do not. It takes almost a superman to keep a sense of perspective when too many eulogies are written about him. It isn't essentially different with students. Mental tenseness is just as bad as physical tenseness. Mental jitters are just as common and just as fatal to good performance as physical jitters. Arrogance, apathy or lethargy are just as bad in mental work as in athletics. The best aid to accomplishment is to keep in physical and mental condition continually, try to increase mental and technical efficiency, and to make every play as if the game depended upon it. By which is meant that every task undertaken, regardless of how important it may be, should be performed as if one's scientific career depended upon it.

And so, without having subjected the facts and arguments to statistical analysis, we claim to have demonstrated that there is a correlation between athletics and scholarship!

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From R. K. VOORHEES comes the following message, wafted northward on the balmy breezes rising gently from the Gulf of Mexico and laden with the fragrance of lemon blossoms in Florida: "Thru the medium of AURORA and seminar papers I can somewhat keep up with the goings-on in the Tottering Tower." Pretty soon most of us will be wishing we were reading Aurora with Voorhees on his front porch!

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K. W. KREITLOW writes that he is having a lot of fun getting used to the South. He is learning correct techniques in sugar-cane chewing and cane-juice assimilation and states that things are so different in the land of the live oak and two-ton bullfrogs that he is getting his tonsils sunburned running around with his mouth open in wonderment at the unusual sights.

Yea verily, North is North and South is South  
But that shouldn't make a man get sunburned  
thru his mouth!

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O. T. F<sub>2</sub>

Late in September came a box of cigars from Dr. HENRY (Hank) BARKER with the "request that members of the old gang in the Section and Bug Club help celebrate the advent of Robert Henry. It has been rumored that Father also came thru the ordeal nicely and is doing as well as could be expected." Congratulations Papá! May the F<sub>1</sub> thrive and the F<sub>2</sub> flourish! Or do we mean "flourish" for the F<sub>1</sub> and thrive for the Father?.... The Tottering Tower enjoyed a visit from the F<sub>1</sub> -- ALMOST! Barker tantalized us with a suggestion that he might come, but the suggestion, like the hopes for an undefeated football season, floated gently away in the blue haze of Indian Summer. However, the invitation is repeated. "Come up and see us sometime, Hank."

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Dr. FRANK KAUFERT, Pathologist in the Grasselli Chemical Department of the E. I. duPont de Nemours and Company, extends an invitation for inhabitants of the Tottering Tower to visit the PLANTPESTCONTROLRESEARCHSECTIONEXPERIMENTSTATION at Wilmington, Delaware. The German influence seems to shine thru the surface of this well-compounded word. Perhaps one should expect such products from a chemical company. After Kaufert's Sunny Sunday morning argument regarding the proper way to defend against forward passes, we would expect almost any combination of ideas from him.

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From the University of Halle, the place made famous by Julius Kühn, deBary, Brefeld, and Professor Dr. Roemer, comes news of various foregatherings in early September. According to Professor Dr. Roemer, Prof. Dr. Fuchs, Doz. Dr. Isenbeck, Dr. Becker, and Dr. Helen Hart, there came to Halle two wayfarers, JIMMY WALTER and his entomological partner, D. E. Parker. Dr. BECKER states that Jimmy and Parker brought with them some good American "breeze" and pleasant recollections. According to Dr. HART, the American travelers brought with them baseball, German beers, cricket, scientific publications, tennis, food, etc., and so weiter. Jimmy makes the following deposition: "A wayfarer who was once privileged to sip from the Foaming Fount tastes of like vintage at Halle." Our own impression was that there is no vintage like that at Halle any place else in the world. "Glück auf!"

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Dr. WANG also visited Halle and wrote us glowing accounts about the wonderful time he had. As concrete evidence that Wang went where he said he did, there is a communication sending "greetings to the Tottering Tower and all therein" and signed SYDNEY, Frances, and Margaret DICKINSON and Wang himself. The signature of Miss Dickinson (aged 7 or 8) was most legible. There also is a card from Halle signed by H B, H H, and Wang himself. After having toured Europe, Wang has finally sailed for his native land. Aurora wishes him a pleasant journey and a happy and successful landing!

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EDWARD K. VAUGHAN, newest Old Timer, sends his greetings to Aurora and states that he and Mrs. Vaughan are liking New Brunswick better all the time. Vaughan's home address is 243 Hale Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

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Dr. SYDNEY DICKINSON and Mrs. Dickinson must have been busy entertaining Old Timers. In addition, the Doctor is still enthusiastically investigating rusts at Cambridge. He now has some assistance in his investigations and is also worrying about his first student's Ph.D. thesis. We expect to see gilt-edged tomes emanate from the classic halls of Cambridge, portraying all of the idiosyncrasies of the rust fungi. Good luck, Doctor! The rusts are tough, and any one who wrestles with them wants to go into the contest with no holds barred.

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Jimmy Walter sends his warmest greetings to all present denizens of the Tottering Tower. He was overcome with modesty after having seen his name in this Collyum several times and out of deference to him we are therefore making his name as inconspicuous as possible. Keep the news coming, Jimmy. We expect all of our foreign correspondents to keep us informed of what is going on on the other sides of the world.

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From Dr. RALPH LINDGREN came a letter with the postmark, Stockton, California. Since the Doctor has gone into scientific-commercial work he apparently spends considerable time on the rails, on both sides of the American continent.

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Dr. JACK WESTERN says that he appreciated the congratulatory message regarding the acquisition of his Ph.D. However, he is fearful that the Tottering Tower would be disappointed in his new academic headgear. He says he has no fancy creation resembling that of the "beef eaters" in the Tower of London but rather a copy of a bishop's mitre. However, the material is velvet. Western always was smooth! He is learning more about diseases of herbage every day, and we hope he will make it unnecessary for us to find out too much on our own. If you will come over sometime, Western, and give us a talk in your bishop's cap and flowing robes, we will build a special pulpit!

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Dr. LEE LING landed successfully in China and sent word that he had arrived at his native city of Hangchow on a train packed with refugees. It required more than 10 hours to traverse the distance of 100 miles, because the train had to stop repeatedly to avoid bombs dropped from the air. Aurora congratulates Dr. LING and expresses the hope that the air will soon be filled with something besides bombs and that China will be permitted to develop peacefully and in her own way.

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College Station, Texas, Oct. 20, 1937

Dear Aurora:

After neglecting you for those many years, I take my typewriter in hand to write a defense of one of my good friends, Phymatotrichum omnivorum, against the animadversions and base calumniations reported in your columns<sup>1</sup> and alleged to have been uttered by a person whom I shall designate as M-lander. It was stated that this wretch has suggested that P. omnivorum might be domesticated and fed on field bindweed!

... Anyone who has ever watched P. omnivorum sporting in its native haunts, happily chewing fields of cotton or alfalfa, or rows of succulent elm, fig, chinaberry, or maple trees, or drowsily gnawing at a privet hedge or a clump of rose bushes, and who still retains the slightest spark of kindly mycologitarian feeling, cannot but shudder at the thought of condemning this blithesome creature to a bindweed diet. It is true that in this part of the world it condescends at times to bindweeds, but this is just to lessen the monotony of the winter season, or to remove the flavor of a particularly tough cactus root. Almost never will P. omnivorum sink so low as to devour an entire bindweed root....

One of my cultures remarked confidentially upon hearing of this demonstration: "...I have always felt it in my hyphae that cousin Ozzie, who lives out in the blacklands, would bring disgrace on the species in some way.... Bindweed, faugh! I would sooner live on apple or pear roots!"

Cordial greetings to all of our old and new friends,

Walter H. Egelief

<sup>1</sup> Aurora 13, 1: 6. 1937.

M-lander informs the Editor he was grossly misquoted: Biological control of noxious weeds was advocated by means of some such fungus as the insulted P. o. Aurora's apologies to P. o. She fears that little Phyma would not be tough enough to do much good anyway up heah wheah it is cold!

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Aurora also has received the following message from F. H. STEINMETZ, O. T.:

"Having completed ten years in Maine, it occurred to me as a reader of Ye Columns that a second message would be spared for Ye Readers....



"The realms of research in Coburn Hall at the University of Maine are unlimited. It is, however, your collaborator's first prerogative to teach divers subjects, such as genetics, taxonomy, plant anatomy, plant pathology, mycology, answer inquiries, ..routine administration...and finally to devote spare time..to research related to the botany of Maine.

"Thus my researches have touched upon plant pathology, taxonomy, mycology, winter injury, and by "proxy" certain investigations into the Lepidoptera of Maine...."

Steinmetz saw CONNERS, O. T., at Frederickton in 1936 and last summer talked with others at Acadia University who merely knew O. T.'s, alas, second or third-handed!

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TOMMY GRAHAM and Mrs. GRAHAM arrived safely in New Jersey after surviving the vicissitudes of two weeks of Minnesota weather. Tommy sent a picture of an elm tree 35 feet in circumference, standing today at Marietta, Ohio. These forest pathologists get big ideas, but we will retain the evidence.

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Dr. W. L. WATERHOUSE, one of the early foreign emissaries to the Tottering Tower, writes that there is no dearth of pathological problems in the Commonwealth of Australia. Dr. WATERHOUSE should come back to visit us: His picture in the Seminar Room has recently been transferred to a larger frame, more commensurate with the extent of his accomplishments since we had the pleasure of attempting to entertain him as a distinguished visiting scientist.

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From Dr. CHURCHWARD in too-far-away Australia comes word that they have just finished sowing 10,000 rows in an experiment devoted to rust and flag smut trials. A new greenhouse is being built and Dr. JOHN opines that there will be no difficulty in filling it. He recommends reading "Sawdust Caesar" and "Inside Europe" in spare time.

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Dr. LEON J. (John) TYLER will spend this winter at Boyce Thompson. Apparently there are experiments under way which require attention. JOHN opines that Nebraska must have been poison to the Golden Gophers. Not only to the Gophers, JOHN, but also to some people who bet on them.

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PAUL V. SIGGERS writes from the Forest Experiment Station at New Orleans that investigational work is going well, that there is plenty to do, that some results are extremely interesting, and that VERRALL is getting along fine. SIGGERS sends his best regards to the Tottering Tower.

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J. GORDON GIBBS liked the appearance of the correspondence paper furnished by the Motor Vessel Wanganella and therefore sent a communication written between Sydney and Wellington. In reality, GIBBS stated that the paper was "classy" and that it would be a pity not to use it. After a very profitable and enjoyable trip in Europe, including a visit to the Schaumende Fount at the University of Halle, the GIBBSES finally set sail toward their native land. They spent nine days in Sydney and saw and talked in person with Dr. WATERHOUSE, Dr. NOBLE, Dr. CHURCHWARD, Dr. HYNES, and Dr. R. D. Wilson, ex-Wisconsinite who visited us last year. GIBBS says that he learned much about science from the Sydney group and offers the opinion that scientific life is very interesting even in the Antipodes.

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Believe it or not, according to ALAN GEMMELL, one of the Scotch newspapers carried a photograph of the Nebraska game in which Buhler apparently was making an attempt to tackle a Nebraska player. Whether from a spirit of emulation or not, GEMMELL has started rugby again. He states that at first he felt very senile, but persistence at the game has resulted in a certain amount of rejuvenation. GEMMELL is investigating eel worms at the West of Scotland Agricultural College at AUCHENCROIVE BY AYR. Pronounce it if you can! We hope it will be easier to get hold of the eel worms and look them over than it was for some of the Minnesota footballers to get hold of some of the Notre Dame ball carriers and turn them over.

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Well, Old Timers, it is almost lunch time, and this is the last day in the Tottering Tower for a week or longer.

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STUDENTS

The total registration for the University of Minnesota is 14,569, a slight increase over 1936. The College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics has a registration of 1564; of these, 521 are in Agriculture, 463 in Forestry, and 580 in Home Economics. Last year the registration was 1429. This fall there are 1266 graduate students registered, 144 on the Agricultural campus, and 25 members of the Tottering Tower.

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A new high in the personnel of the Tottering Tower has been reached, for the Section now has 35 members including the people working in the U.S.D.A. (36 if we count Miss Hart, now in Halle).

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HETEROGENEITY DOUBLE PLUS

If the various members of the Pathology Section of 1937 do not learn a great deal about world geography, sociology, and politics, it will not be due to lack of opportunity. The group is quite cosmopolitan. Ten states of the U. S., two provinces of Canada, and four foreign countries are represented. Attendance at a few first-class bull sessions is guaranteed to enlighten and thrill even the most skeptical, what with accounts of exploits in the narrators' native haunts being recited with an abandon bordering on recklessness.

Of the States, Minnesota leads with five representatives, although two of these are not native Minnesotans, one having come from Scotland and the other more or less indirectly from Illinois. Montana and Louisiana (Loosiana) each have two representatives--albeit Brother Chilton has more of a senatorial bearing; and one comes from each of the following states: Alabama, Delaware, Kansas, Kentucky, North Dakota, New York, and Washington. From other nations, we have one member each from the following places: Alberta, Canada; Manitoba, Canada; Halle, Germany; Vladivostock, Russia; Glasgow, Scotland; and three from China, two from Nanking and one from Peiping. (See table 1.)

Table 1. Graduate Students in the Section of Plant Pathology

Allison, J. Lewis . . . .	Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana. More recently State College of Washington.
Anderson, Earl J. . . . .	State College of Washington. More recently University of Maryland.
Borders, Huey I. . . . .	Bessemer, Alabama. More recently, University of Florida, Gainesville.
Cassell, Robert C. . . . .	U. of M. since 1932. Native of Illinois.
Chen, Shan Ming . . . . .	National Tsing Hua University, Peiping, China.
Cherewick, W. J. . . . .	University of Manitoba, Canada.
Chilton, S. P. . . . .	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La.
Downie, A. R. . . . .	U. of M. Originally from Scotland.
Fitzpatrick, H. F. . . . .	Cornell University, Ithaca.
Hanson, Earle W. . . . .	U. of M.
Henson, Lawrence . . . . .	University of Kentucky, Lexington.
Hwang, Liang . . . . .	University of Nanking, Nanking, China. More recently from University of California, Berkeley.
Kernkamp, M. F. . . . .	U. of M.
King, T. H. . . . .	North Dakota State College, Fargo. U. of M.
Laskaris, T. . . . .	University of Delaware, Newark.
Lenz, L. W. . . . .	Montana State College, Bozeman.
Moore, M. B. . . . .	U. of M.
Petty, M. A. . . . .	Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
Ponomareff, N. V. . . . .	Vladivostock, Russia. More recently from University of Arizona.

Schlegtendal, M. . . . . University of Halle, Germany. More recently at  
Washington State College, Pullman, for one year.  
Shema, Bernard. . . . . U. of M.  
Tervet, I. W. . . . . University of Glasgow and West of Scotland College of  
Agriculture, Glasgow.  
Tsiang, C. T. . . . . University of Nanking, Nanking, China.  
Tyner, L. E. . . . . University of Alberta, Canada.  
Wisner, C. A. . . . . Kansas State College

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LITERATURE SEMINAR

September 2. The company was distinguished by the presence of two new disciples, Dr. Earl J. Anderson, National Research Council Fellow from Maryland, and Milton Petty from Louisiana, both of whom stood up and took bows, the company giving them "big hands" at the direction of Master of Ceremonies, "Big Hand" Allison.

We were further honored by the presence of two post disciples, Frank Kaufert and Clyde Allison, both of whom stood up and made speeches. Allison, it seems, has a whole greenhouse in the town of Greeneville, Tenn., and Lord knows how much tobacco all to himself, with nothing to do but find out why the tobacco gets sick. Kaufert tests fungicides, collects golf balls, and thinks the du Ponts are just about all right.

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September 9. Dr. LeClerc reviewed the results of his invasion of Colorado, including his observations on sugar-beet diseases there.

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September 16. German Garcia-Rada, Professor of Plant Pathology at Lima, Peru, discussed Peru, its climate, principal crops, and common plant diseases.

Henry Darling, O. T., now potato expert for the Southern Potato Growers Ass'n., discussed potatoes and potato diseases of the South.

Eats by "Man Mountain" Henson.

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September 23. Three speakers: Dr. R. H. Bamberg, returned from Bozeman, Montana, to regale us with tall ones about 96-bushel wheat yields.

George Hafstad explained about geography--the result of graduate work at the University of Chicago.

E. C. Stakmen, by special request, gave a lecture on stem-rust epidemiology.

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September 30. Tommy Graham, O. T., after being introduced by the Big Chief, presented the seminar with a gavel made of elm infected with Graphium ulmi, and then proceeded to tell us about the war against this "terrible" pathogen. Tom gave one of the best and most clearly presented talks the seminar has heard this year. Vera Graham, O. T., also favored us with her presence, but didn't talk.

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October 7. A long discussion was held punctuated with motions, amendments, and objections about how to get people to review literature at literature seminar. Stak complained that he never got a chance to review his (he didn't have any that night), which is just about true of every one.

A long discussion of international affairs followed.

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October 21. Seminar held at Dr. L. W. Melander's home. Dr. S. B. Fracker of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine gave a very interesting survey of the major plant disease control projects in the United States. Thanks to Mrs. Melander for good eats.

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October 28. R. C. Rose talked about extension work in general and extension plant pathology in particular.... Did you know that Tolaas (1914) was the first Extension Pathologist in Minnesota and the second Extension Pathologist in the United States?

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REGULAR SEMINAR

The Seminar started off under full power this year, due to the fact that there were several hold-over papers from last spring. These were all mimeographed and handed out a week ahead of time; so it looks this year as if the Seminar would actually be run according to the ideal for which we have always striven--that is, unless some one gets weak and forgets to start working on his paper.

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New subjects were selected by the speakers, with the approval of the committee.

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The popularity of the Seminar has not waned with the passing years; in fact attendance grows, but the seminar room remains the same size, and the bottoms of the chairs actually wear out. So many of the cane seats have been replaced with pressboard that one has to come 20 minutes early if he expects to sit in comfort. This applies to the seminar committee too, since there is no respect on the part of the rising generation for age or dignity of position. So far, 40 or 41 people, counting Stak as one, have been present each time, filling the back of the room and part of the hall. When Dr. Hart gets back, it's going to take a lot of dirty looks to get the position by the door with a clear passage to fresh air in the hall. There are usually five people between that place and the door now. Needless to say, the air gets pretty bad, even if no one speaks. A new ventilating fan was installed a year or so ago but makes so much noise that ordinary speakers can not be heard.

What we need is a NEW BUILDING. Well anyway, here's the schedule and the highlights.

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September 28. Dr. Stakman's sermon was on the text, "No one can educate you, you've got to do it yourself." This took only 30 minutes, with 10 more minutes on how to get papers in on time.

Mr. Kernkamp started his paper on "Cyclic variation in fungi."

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October 5. Kernkamp continued and finished.

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October 12. One hour of questions on Fusarium, then Allison started on "Serologic classification of the fungi." Finished too.

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October 19. Earle Hanson started his paper on "Diseases of rubber trees," but Stak made a few introductory remarks about rubber which took the entire period.

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October 26. Hanson finally got started and finished.

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Dr. Leach is now a full Professor!

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DEPARTMENT PICNIC

The Plant Pathology Annual Picnic was held at Hidden Falls on the left bank of the Mississippi River below the Ford Plant on October 14, 1937. A goodly crowd was on hand to partake of the hamburgers + onions as prepared by Chief Chef J. J. C. and Assistant-to-the-Chief-Chef Ian Tervet of the Edinburgh Tervets. The good old Plant Path. spirit was there!

After the delicious repast, so-called singing was indulged in. E. C. S. with the voice of Caruso sang with every delegation from the Irish to the Spanish. The festivities soon degenerated into an old-southern prayer meetin' and many notables were "called." "Home Sweet Home" was sung to the accompaniment of packing dishes. 'Twas with a great deal of effort that we persuaded E. C. S. and L. W. Melander to go on home and that they couldn't sing anyhow.

The picnic was a great success, and all 55 "odd" participants went home with gladness in their hearts and hamburgers + onions in their \_\_\_\_\_.

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SPORTS

Minnesota's football season opened September 25 when they tangled with North Dakota Agricultural College. The game turned out to be a track meet, with all due



respect to North Dakota: Minnesota 69, North Dakota Aggies 7. On October 2 Nebraska upset Minnesota by a score of 14 to 6. The Gophers came back and defeated both Indiana and Michigan by scores of 6-0 and 38-7, respectively. Then the Fighting Irish on October 30 turned out to be eleven specimens of Amanita muscaria. Their football was fine as flagella, and they moved as fast as Vespula maculata: Notre Dame 7, Minnesota 6.

FLASH ----- Minnesota 35, Iowa 10. Minnesota is the top team in the Big Ten this week ----- Whoops.

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We understand that Bill Broadfoot, due to his peculiar golfing ability, has been collecting silver-plated, glass-bottomed steins. Speaking of golf, attention is called to the fact that the Annual Ag Campus Golf Bugs' Championship was won by Ward Marshall. He recently broke his own record--it now stands at 72.

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And we hear that the boys at Bristol, Pennsylvania, had no success in giving our Fred Davies competition in the tennis singles. Fred was just better than they were.

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Pheasant season opened and closed, but during that short time Artist Gill George bagged one blackbird, and Leach got three English sparrows.

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A new sport has been instituted at the Tower by THE BIG CHIEF ----- Yea for Rope Climbing!

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The Annual Married vs. Single Soccer Contest is now in the wordy stage. The Single team is boasting of its superior offensive power, and the Married Men are likewise gloating over their defensive power.

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Handball has taken a large quota of the would-be-researchers from the dim halls of the Tower. Clyde Christensen (The Champ, but ask Stak) has challenged every inmate to a couple of rounds.

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BOOKSHELF

-- Here we are again folks, all dusted off for the fall writing-up season! --

Husz, Bela. Contributions to the control of the coddling moth, scab, and mildew of the apple tree. Bull. Roy. Hung. Hort. Coll. 3: 32-49. 1937.

Henson, Lawrence (=New Timer) and W. D. Valleau. Sclerotium bataticola Taubenhaus, a common pathogen of red clover roots in Kentucky. Phytopath. 27: 913-917. September.

Johnson, Thorvaldur, and Margaret Newton. The effect of high temperatures on uredial development in cereal rusts. Canadian Jour. Res. C, 15: 425-432. September.

Newton, Margaret, and Thorvaldur Johnson. Nature 139: 800. May.

Sanford, G. B. Studies on Rhizoctonia solani Kühn. II. Effect on yield and disease of planting potato sets infested with sclerotia. Scien. Agr. 17: 601-611. June.

Schneiderhan, F. J. Preparation and properties of Bordeaux mixture. W. Va. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 283. June.

Thornberry, H. H., and H. W. Anderson. Some bacterial diseases of plants in Illinois. Phytopath. 27: 946-949. September.

Western, J. H. (with Wm. Davies). The development of certain grasses and clovers during the seeding year. The Welsh Jour. Agr. 13: 152-160. 1937.

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Christensen, Clyde M. Cephalosporium canker of balsam fir. Phytopath. 27: 788-791. July.



Leach, J. G., L. W. Orr, and Clyde Christensen. Further studies on the inter-relationship of insects and fungi in the deterioration of felled Norway pine logs. Jour. Agr. Res. 55: 129-140. July 15.

LeClerc, E. L. Relative efficiency of randomized-block and split-plot designs of experiments concerned with damping-off date for sugar beets. Phytopath. 27: 942-945. September.

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#### SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

EIDE found a good specimen of Nidularia (Bird's nest fungus to you) and proudly showed it throughout the T. T. Queried one of the prettiest stenographers, "What does the fungus that laid the eggs look like?"

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Overheard in the corridor: "Huey (Southern Gentleman) Borders says mycology was an interesting course until Sex reared its ugly head."

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Dick the dishwasher says: "A fellow came in and made up a solution the other day, then looked at the formula to see if he had made it right; so we had two sets of flasks to wash. Life is like that. Too many of us act first, then think afterwards, to our sorrow." --

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While the Tottering Tower was host to Professor G. Garcia-Rada of Lima, Peru, it was the pleasure of J. L. Allison and Man-Mountain Henson to take the guest to visit the Mayo Clinic at Rochester, Minnesota. Two of the T. T. newcomers accompanied them. The tour was successful until Dr. Bollman of the clinic led the group into the small animal operating room. Here the two neophytes (probably induced by the odor of ether?) promptly went into the first stages of "passing out." Before Dr. Bollman and Professor Garcia-Rada could get them out into the open air, their faces had acquired an olivaceous hue. The inspection was thus rudely interrupted for half an hour while the two in question regained their normal (?) composure.

Be it resolved that hereafter all new members of the T. T. must be thoroughly tested before being exposed to the public eye (Anderson and Petty, please note.).

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Dr. ALLISON of Tennessee writes: "Bobby has chicken-pox and I have a cold. 'Mrs.' isn't feeling so well and the cat and dog are sick. Otherwise we are all fine. There are three good cafes in town, so you can stop there and eat when you come to visit us." C. C. A.

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#### PERSONAL AND PERSONNEL

Dr. C. J. EIDE has been all smiles too, for he is sporting a new Chevrolet coach. It looks as if Miss Dosedall will have to trade her Ford in for a car ---- Ifshe is to keep up!

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Dr. RALPH U. COTTER has just returned from a rust survey trip to Oklahoma and Kansas. He reports fall infection of stem rust. Dr. Cotter still grows "glads."

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Mr. IAN TERVET, bringing wife and son, returned to good old U. S. A. from the land of the golfing Scots. Ian is now a member of the staff, residing in the Tottering Tower in the chair vacated by Ed Vaughan.

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Miss EDNA BRUEGGEMAN took a three weeks vacation in the East, and was Melander busy while she was away!

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October 21, J. J. CHRISTENSEN (substituting for E. C. S., who couldn't be present or even speak at two places at the same time) spoke to the Extension Specialists on important problems in Plant Pathology.

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A. G. TOLAAS attended the Red River Valley Potato Show at Moorhead, Minn., on November 3, 4, and 5. The professor participated in the program and also acted as judge.

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N. V. PONOMAREFF, after spending the summer in Arizona, is back with us again continuing his study and work on Hypoxylon canker.

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C. A. WISMER spent the summer at home in Kansas and traveling in the Pacific Northwest, but got back in time for the fall quarter.

ROBERT C. CASSELL has been strutting the past few weeks--a beautiful baby girl has Bob all "ga ga." Too bad it's so near winter: we won't be able to watch Bob walking around the block pushing the buggy.

Aurora slipping! Miss Dorothy Ann Johnson, stenographer in the main office, has been here a year and no word of greeting from Aurora. Shame, apologies, and a belated welcome!

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#### SPECIAL EVENTS

The expression "A prophet is without honor in his own country" can not be true, for Dr. E. C. Stekman was "called" for convocation on October 21, 1937. Facts and figures flashed in his vocal peregrinations on the "Biologic phases of Agriculture," and a titillating panorama of rust and smut was shown in beautifully colored lantern slides.

It was finally decided by the "Big Chief" (as far as could be gathered) that one of the essentials of a successful agricultural economic system is the stabilization of annual yields by a removal of biological hazards as exemplified by the reduction of epidemics ascribable to phytopathological phenomena and the production of varieties capable of withstanding the debilitating effects of pathological and meteorological extremes.

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#### A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

Professor GERMAN GARCIA-RADA, Professor of Plant Pathology at the University of Lima, Peru, and Plant Pathologist at the Experiment Station near Lima, spent a couple of weeks visiting the Department in September. The Professor, whose native language naturally is Spanish, made his maiden speech in evening seminar and told us a great deal, not only about plant diseases in Peru but also about general conditions. A random sample of the denizens of the Tottering Tower attempted to give the geographical location, population, topographic features, and agricultural and mineral wealth of Peru. The estimates of population ranged from about 1 million to 100 million. Other estimates were equally diverse. However, the Professor very patiently and clearly and interestingly gave us lessons in geography as well as in plant pathology. From the standpoint of the members of the Tottering Tower it was an extraordinarily delightful visit, and the Tottering Tower hopes that it was at least somewhat pleasant and profitable for the visiting Professor.

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#### RETURN OF AN INMATE

(He was out on probation)

How dare I tell my reasons for returning to Minnesota? We all obey sometimes. A man tries to keep some vestige of self-determination, despite a double harness. Truly I would like to say that the Gopher State is my idea of Paradise, but the Big Chief emphasizes scientific accuracy and that means truth. So here comes the revelation. Dragged back here, "here" meaning anywhere between Mexico and Canada, by the ear by the Better Half (so-called). I had no choice. Not that Minnesota is not wonderful; congealing winters and torrid summers. To leave Scotland with its glorious, ever-giving (kind of a paradox eh!) clouds, fleeting glimpses of the sun, and the all embracing fog, is hard, darned hard, but I guess I can take it.

Of course the T. T. has changed. It is the same old building but with many new faces. But some old stagers still remain, Chris with his plaintive "I want ice cream!" Moore sternly rebuking a seeker of equipment. Eide still collecting photographs of the gentler sex. Others too numerous to mention, each with his pet foible. And the Big Chief, well I am slightly embarrassed but I'll admit it; with no first-rate, fist-thumping argument for two years I simply had to return. --

I. W. Tervet.

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Twenty members from Plant Pathology expect to attend the meetings at Indianapolis. See you there!!