

Aurora Sporealis



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

Let the fount foam and never rundry,
Let the spout squirt and never lose power.

OLD TIMERS' COLYUM

From JIMMY WALTER comes word that we don't know nothin about rain in the U.S.A. It's lucky, he says, that the diameter of the earth is more than a thousand miles; otherwise where would all the water go? Who is all wet now?

Greetings to all the old friends there. The two issues of Aurora which arrived on Dec. 23 made Christmas a more enjoyable time for me. We expected Geo. Hafstad to be here for the festive season, but he has not arrived.

The same,

Jimmy

Carrying on for Edison

Crashes pictures in 3 weeks

Picture, as you surely can, Harry Ukkelberg pretending to look at a bunch of test tubes here X and the trajectory of his glance like that

Picture, if you dare, a pulchritudinous lady with a smile on her face, but not much else anywhere else, sitting on a radiator and smiling in Harry Edison Ukkelberg's direction. Harry says she was not smiling. We thought He was a keen observer.

Harry is shown "carrying on Edison's experiments aimed at making synthetic rubber from golden rod." Now who believes what's in the newspapers, and what's in a goldenrod?

(Associated Press photo)

(Associated Press photo)

Submitted by I. L. Forbes, from a Baton Rouge, La., paper.

FIRST PRIZE

DUTCH HARRAR just missed coming to St. Louis. Instead--well, you answer that one. What do they do in Virginia New Year's Eve?

From Halle-Saale, Germany, came a note from Dr. HUBERT, with photos of the Familie and Kraftfahrrad, and Tochter Ursula plucking posies. Is there a place in the world where posies grow? Surely not in Minnesota in December!

Dr. HUBERT says he enjoys AURORA and sends greetings to all the Old Guard. He now is engaged in extension work.

Kentucky opened her arms and welcomed "THORNY" THORNBERRY back to investigate tobacco diseases. He is now back at the University with two other

Old Timers, DORNEY VALLEAU and E. M. JOHNSON.

EARL HANSING is enjoying his research and study at Kansas State, where he is investigating smut on Big Blue Stem.

HOWARD PARSON is now at Shreveport, La., investigating "bunch disease" of pecans, apparently a destructive disease. Nuts!

Vital statistics regarding the son and heir of Dr. L. J. and Mrs. TYLER: height 28 inches, weight 23 pounds. His pa avers that he shows an aptitude for playing an end position in football. Pa has been taking a shot at teaching.

EDWARD K. VAUGHAN is still collecting seeds for soil conservation, bossing Mexicans, C.C.C. workers, etc. His headquarters are at Tucson, Arizona. Vaughan wants to know about the New Plant Pathology Building. Who can tell him?

Here is the new address for Dr. CHIH TU: National Northwestern College of Agriculture and Forestry, Wukung, Shensi, China. Tu is Plant Pathologist and Dean.

This sounds like whom? "Well, I hope 1936 will bring all the best to the lads and lassies in the T. T., Cheerio!" You guessed it--FRENCHY SHARVELLE.

The new house of the DICKINSONS in Cambridge, England, is nearing completion. The Dr. allows as how the last Aurora was a good one and as how England beat the "All Blacks." Don't they draw the color line over there?

From far away Australia come greetings from the NOBLES and Noble Jr. Which reminds us:

The Kookaburra

"The Kookaburra, or Laughing Jackass, is a native of Australia and is found in all parts of the continent. Its riotous laughter is very infectious, being unlike any other bird call. They live mostly on worms, mice, fish, and small insects. They often kill snakes by taking them to a height and then dropping them to the ground."

(Sometimes that's what a fellow would like to do with SOME students.)

This was contributed by J. G. CHURCHWARD. We appear to have Kookaburras over here too, but we don't call them that.

M. N. KAMAT, College of Agriculture, Poona, India, recently sent a picture of a ceremonial procession, including some people riding on elephants. Wouldn't it be fun to ride a herd of elephants to class and then turn them loose!

Dr. HUSZ, of Budapest, says the greatest hope in Hungary for the New Year is peace. To this we say Amen.

How does "Mr. and Mrs. LOH" sound and look? Well, well, well, how time does fugit and alter things. At any rate, Loh, the shoes are still hanging in the "Canyon" waiting for some one who can fill them.

Ye Ed. got a great kick out of seeing the galaxy of Old Timers at the St. Louis meetings. It was better than a coupla shots in the arm, 6 haliver oil capsules, a quart of iodine, and one six fingers high. It strengthened the valves of the old cardiac pump to see the scriptural and hear the oral evidence of scientific accomplishment. Prosit N. year; Prosit Old Timers; Cheerio and a couple of pips. The NEW TIMERS have many marks to shoot at. Let's see how much farther and higher the OLD TIMERS can make them shoot by December 31, 1936.

From the East came Christmas Greetings to Aurora from M. N. KAMAT, India, from Dr. KURT HUBERT, Germany, from the WALTERS, England, from Mr. and Mrs. PAUL PETERSON, from C. T. WEI and MONICA and OLAF AAMODT, at Wisconsin. From the South H. G. UKKELBERG and FORBES AND FAMILY sent Christmas Cheer; and in the Southern Hemisphere J. G. CHURCHWARD did not forget us, while McINDOE, HAFSTAD, HINES, and WISMER thrilled us with a wireless, to say nothing of the photograph which decorated their card of brunette maidens of Liberia grinding meal. From the West came Merry Christmas from the HOLTONS, D. C. SMITH, and GLADYS KELLEY Keilman. With snow falling every day in Minnesota, to warm our imaginations we had only to gaze at the bulletin board to see African or Florida palms, green grass, green trees, English ivy, pickaninnies playing in the sun, and shimmering heat about the Golden Temple at Amritsar. We THANK YOU for your Greetings!

Personnel

There was a general departmental exodus to St. Louis. Your correspondent counted 19 there. It will be easier to name those that stayed at home. They were Miss Dosdall, Allison, Eide, Kernkamp, Cotter, Wang, Ling, and the office force. Gammel of Glasgow went to Georgia where he was snowed under, thence to Florida where the snow melted and he thawed out. Voorhees of Florida went on a secret mission to Chicago. The Gibbs of New Zealand made a round trip to New Orleans with a stop-over at St. Louis on their way back. Dr. Leach after the meetings went on to "Tennessee" to visit the old homestead for a couple of weeks. Dr. Stakman met Butler and took a jaunt through Texas to look over the rust prospects before coming back from the meetings.

Personal

Davies, Scotch by instinct but Welsh by birth, seeing his chance for a St. Louis bargain, paid 10¢ apiece for laundered shirts and got stung to the tune of 35¢ for some old silk underwear, which they dry cleaned. Oi! Oi! Oi! thirty-five cents!!

When Cormack (Le Canadiene) examined closely a diseased leaf at the Mo. Bot. Gard., Western (also a Welsher) confidentially reproached him for taking chances with his eyesight because an ascospore might hit him in the eye. "There is nothing more ferocious than an aroused ascus." Unbeknowast to the little Welshman, the ascus was practicing for its supreme squirt. The great Buller was in the next greenhouse, and the little ol' ascus sensed a chance for undying fame.

Cassell, LeClerg, Melander, Bamberg, Holton, Lefebvre, Levine, and Flor were victims on a large scale. After being robbed of \$1.75 each, on New Year's Eve (banquet tickets), they piled into a taxi (all of them, with LeClerg and Melander horizontal), were driven two blocks, and charged 75¢. Still fall guys, they paid one buck a piece for a burley-cue show. Inside they found that they were not the only suckers. Up in a box sat Hanson, Hansing, and Atkinson. Western and Syed were leaning over the rail, and Matt Moore was standing up in the back, stretching his neck. Many other plant pathologists were to be seen in the audience.

Arrivals

Irvin C. Mason, assistant biologist, Maine Agr. Exp. Sta., Croton, on leave of absence. He received his M.S. in 1932.

Thomas H. King, "Best dressed man in North Dakota," C.C.C. foreman, formerly field, greenhouse, and lab. ass't. for W. E. Brentzel and H. H. Flor. Graduated from N. D. State in July, 1934.

Charles W. (for nothing) Eide, 8 lb. boy, two lbs. under Melander's best record. Eide's second son was born Oct. 10, 1935. (Unlike our New York imitator, we're a bit late on our blessed events.)

Elaine Veelander is Dr. Leach's new WPA secretary. One of her many duties is making coffee.

Two Canadians are minoring in plant pathology, Maddell of the Dom. Rust Lab. is back and so is Stevenson of the Dom. Forage Crops Lab. in Saskatoon.

Departures

Henry M. Darling, famous for his work on the nature of resistance of potatoes to scab, goes to Alabama Polytec. where he will work with Jimmy Seal "of Blue Room fame." The air in the blue room is no longer blue, and since Eide got some religion there is an ethereal haze in the "Rose" room next to the old blue room.

Darling will be located at Fairhope in the center of the commercial potato area, where he will improve methods of potato production, aid growers in

obtaining high grade lots of certified seed from Minnesota, and attempt to develop a type of certified seed that can be produced in the mountainous regions of the southern states for export to South American countries. Tea party was held Dec. 28, 1935.

He dreams too much

After a long discussion in seminar on the Colorado potato beetle and its establishment in Europe (on the Continent), Western partook of some of Cassell's coffee and cheese and crackers and went home to bed to dream of a Lindbergh beetle that flew from Calais to Dover to verdant English potato fields. Blyne!!!

Tonsilectomy

Performed on F. R. Davies. He's back in the lab. now much improved. He can't talk back for a while!!

VISITORS

- G. H. Coons, Principal Pathologist, U. S. D. A.
- F. E. Davey, Associate Pathologist, Davis, California
- H. H. Flor, Associate Pathologist, Fargo, U. S. D. A.
- *C. S. Holton, Pullman, Washington, U. S. D. A.
- C. W. Hungerford, Professor of Plant Pathology and Dean of Graduate School, University of Idaho
- J. C. Keane, Carbohydrate Laboratory, Bur. Chem. and Soils
- R. C. Lorenz, Assistant Pathologist, Division of Forest Pathology, B. P. I.
- C. T. Lund, American Crystal Sugar Company, Chaska
- Karl Rabbethage, Kleinwanzleben, Germany
- G. B. Sanford, Pathologist in Charge, Dominion Laboratory, University of Alberta
- Harvey Stork, Professor of Botany, Carleton College, Northfield
- J. C. Walker, Professor of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin

* And Mrs. Holton.

One thousand one hundred eighty-five students are enrolled in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics 1935-1936 as compared with 875 in 1934-35.

W. P. A. AND FEDERAL HELP

The Section of Plant Pathology has, for approximately the duration of the winter quarter, the assistance of eleven W. P. A. workers and six Federal student helpers. Consequently the regular members of the staff and graduate students are enjoying the luxury of having dishes washed, media prepared, foreign papers translated, and material in the greenhouse cared for. A certain amount of technical work is also being done.

Certain important specific accomplishments are worthy of note. The old temperature tanks in the greenhouse have been overhauled and painted. The same is now being done for some of the tables and incubators in the prep. lab.

Val Sarmiento, who took some graduate work in plant pathology several years ago, returned under the W. P. A. project, much to the satisfaction of Dr. J. J. Christensen, for whom he is now plating out barley. Sarmiento has been in Minneapolis since he left the Tottering Tower.

Dr. Leach is the supervisor of the professional W. P. A. project on the Farm campus. It is his duty to assign to the several divisions on the campus the workers who are sent out from the St. Paul office.

BOOKSHELF

Foreign	<p>Bisby, G. R., M. I. Timonin, and N. James. Fungi isolated from soil profiles in Manitoba. Can. Jour. Res. C, <u>13</u>: 32-65.</p> <p>Ezekiel, N. Walter (with J. J. Taubenhaus). Fusarium crown and root rot and Sclerophoma stem blight, of the Texas blue bell. Bul. Torrey Bot. Club <u>62</u>: 503-510. December.</p> <p>Holton, C. S. Studies on seven differentiating characteristics of two physiologic forms of <u>Tilletia tritici</u>. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1091-1098. December.</p> <p>Husz, B. Einige Welkeerkrankungen aus Ungarn. Botanikai Közlemenyek <u>32</u>: 46-51.</p> <p>Johnson, E. M., and W. D. Valleau. Cultural variations of <u>Thielaviopsis basicola</u>. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1011-1018. November.</p> <p>Valleau, W. D. Seed transmission of Helminthosporium of corn. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1109-1112. December.</p> <p>Verrall, A. F., and E. W. Graham. The transmission of <u>Ceratostomella ulmi</u> through root grafts. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1039-1040. November.</p>
Domestic	<p>Eide, Carl J. The pathogenicity and genetics of <u>Gibberella saubinetii</u> (Mont.) Minn. Agr. Exp. Sta. Tech. Bul. 106. Sacc.</p> <p>Hart, Helen, and Karol Zaleski. The effect of light intensity and temperature on infection of Hope wheat by <u>Puccinia graminis tritici</u>. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1041-1066. December.</p> <p>LeClere, E. L. Factors affecting experimental error in greenhouse pot tests with sugar beets. Phytopath. <u>25</u>: 1019-1025. November.</p>

	Leach, J. G. Insects in relation to plant diseases. The Botanical Review 1: 448-466. November.
	Christensen, J. J., and F. R. Davies. Does heterocaryosis account for the production of variants in <i>Helminthosporium</i> ?
	Leach, J. G. The relation of soil temperature to the development of <i>Fusarium</i> wilt of muskmelon and the demonstration of internal seed transmission.
Abstracts	Levine, M. N., R. H. Bamberg, and R. E. Atkinson. Microorganisms antibiotic or pathogenic to cereal rusts.
	Moore, M. B. A partial vacuum method for the inoculation of wheat and barley with loose smuts.
	Pathogenicity of different collections of <i>Ustilago tritici</i> and <i>U. nuda</i> .
	Vaheeduddin, Syed. Hybridization between <i>Sphaelotheca cruenta</i> and <i>Sorosporium reilianum</i> .
Speeches	Leach, J. G., F. A. Krantz, and H. M. Darling. Progress in selection of scab-resistant breeding stock. Potato Assoc. Amer., St. Louis.
	What plant pathologists can and should contribute to a potato improvement program. Potato Assoc. Amer., St. Louis.
	Stakman, E. C. The promise of modern botany for man's welfare: The botanist as a protector. Joint meeting of botanical societies, St. Louis.

THE ST. LOUIS MEETINGS

The 27th annual winter meeting of the American Phytopathological Society was held in conjunction with the A.A.A.S. meetings in St. Louis, Missouri, during the Xmas vacation. The attendance at the meeting was fairly large, possibly due to the very central location of the meeting place. The sessions were scheduled for the Municipal auditorium, but due to certain circumstances sufficient space could not be obtained, necessitating moving the botanical meetings to Washington University.

The papers presented numbered approximately 120, only 15 of which were presented by Minnesota members past and present. This is not a very large percentage, considering the fact that inmates and former inmates of the T. T., over 40 in number, comprised nearly 20 per cent of the total attendance. Well, some one has to listen, and I have always said an intelligent listener was next best to being an intelligent speaker. We will not question the intelligence of the speakers, but if you heard the seminar discussions on some of these papers judge for yourself the quality of the listening.

The meetings got under way on Tuesday morning with a general session, followed in the afternoon by a joint meeting with the botanists, plant physiologists, and mycologists. This session included an address by B. O. Dodge on reproduction and inheritance in the Ascomycetes followed by a symposium on the promise of modern humans for botany's welfare. One of the three speakers was the "Big Chief" whose exposition on plant protection ranged from sprays to barberry eradication, touching also on Ribes eradication. But, sensing

Earle Hanson's presence, he dropped the Ribes subject lest an argument should arise. Sez Earle, "I sure put him straight on that in seminar last week."

Wednesday morning was taken up with a general session together with Gussow's presidential address. In the afternoon the joint session with the mycological society was held at which J. J. Christensen talked heterocaryosis for 15 minutes. At the same time, in other quarters, a conference on the coordination of plant disease research and extension took place. Haskell, Layton, and Muncie were leaders in the discussion; Stakman, Rose, and Moore contributed.

Valleau and Johnson gave the virus section the latest dope on the tobacco mosaic question and later told them how the various strains of this virus should be described. The joint session with the genetics, agronomy, and horticultural societies was particularly interesting. Hayes and Dorsey ably represented Minnesota in the round table discussion on genetics and plant breeding. In the diseases-of-cereal-crops section "Chuck" Holton pinched hit for a colleague who was unable to attend. Matt Moore gave them the low down on the loose smut situation and in a later paper explained his "cumbersome method" used for getting such high infection. Flor reported on the Browning disease of flax and Lefebvre on a Pythium root rot of Milo, followed by Vaheeduddin Syed's paper on the hybridization between Sphacelotheca cruenta and Sorosporium reilianum, which incidentally was one of the outstanding papers of the meeting.

The symposium on antibiosis was well attended; papers were given by Levine, Sanford, and Weindling, followed by a general discussion. In the section on the diseases of southern crops Ezekiel and co-workers added two more papers to the ever growing literature on Phymatotrichum root rot. Leach presented a paper on his extensive experiments with the Fusarium wilt of muskmelons.

In the potato association meetings the following "Minnesotans" contributed: Folsom on virus diseases, Krentz, Leach, Darling, and Bonde on breeding for disease resistance, and Tolaas discussed new disease problems encountered in certifying seed potatoes and also the evaluation of new potato varieties.

In the horticultural section we note a paper by E. D. Hansing et al. on the hardiness of some perennial Sedums.



COUNCIL FIRES



The festive board of good fellowship and rumination for imbibers of the Foaming Fount was planked at Mark Twain Hotel in St. Louis just a short time before our two missionaries Nose Levine and "Blue Nose" Sanford put on their Antibiosis acts for the Big Phytopath Symposium. Were THEY nervous!

Big Chief Life Timer Stakman, aided and abetted by "Calliope" Melander and "Great Dane" Christensen, topped his council of 43 tribesmen. Between mouthfuls of beef tenderloin and gulps of potent Missouri coffee Big Chief spun legends of his braves and warriors, recounted all their deeds of prowess, and rekindled

latent sparks of ambition in the hearts of the mighty host. There were legends of Rose-the-Mighty-Duck-Hunter; of Gibbs, the brave from the New Zealand tribe, who travelled 10,000 miles to Minnesota because he knew the mystic lore of club root of Swedes; of Johnny Stevenson who might have been governor of Cuba or the Carribean Isles had he not heeded the call of the Mycological Monster; of Lefebvre who tried his skill with the Harvard accent and now roams the smiling plains of Kansas with fleet-footed Hansing at his side.

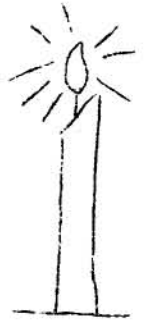
The Guardians of the Peace Pipe and Protectors of Lady Nicotine were at the council fire: Dorny Valteau and his Pride and his Joy, E. M. Johnson and H. H. Thornberry. Folsom-Once-Yucca-Cytologist-Now-Spud-Pathologist from the Nebraska, Phi Beta Kappa, and Maine tribes brought along a little Maine papoose (Mason) to be exposed to the rigors and hardships of the Minnesota wigwams for several moons. "Hayseed Parson" left the Nuts of Louisiana, Sanberg deserted the deserts of New Mexico and Arizona, "Brimstone" Paul Peterson crawled out of the canyons of New York, and "Snaats" Holton found a trail out of the Palouse Country. Even Charlie Hursh left the primeval forests of Carolina for the Council on the Big Water.

Syed Vaheeduddin, alias Vaheeduddin Syed, was in St. Louis under an assumed name. Frandsen was reported present but evaded capture; and Simons and his squaw were wrestling with Missouri mud during the Big Hunt. C. T. Wei came all the way from China via Wisconsin, and Darling with his bow and arrow and all his worldly wampum followed the St. Louis trail on his journey to the Murphies of Alabama. Yount ceased scalping Barberryans in the Valley of the Platte; Black-Leg-Leach, Spud-Breeder-Krantz, Tolaas-of-the-Bowler-Hat, and Hort-Path-Hybrid-Mattson buried their tomahawks in the potato fields of the Upper Mississippi Valley; and Flor left his teepee on the Red River of the North to travel many hours towards the South Wind.

KenKnight emerged from the Happy Hunting Grounds of Michigan to take council with his Buddy Freddie Davies, medicine man of the Alberta and Minnesota tribes. Manitoba-Alberta-Cormack left the sweet clover to the mercies of Fusarium, Speculator-and-Philosopher-Atkinson "ceased his idle chatter," Firestone Hanson hollowed out his gum-tree-canoe, and Welsh-but-Devonish Western took the warpath to hunt buffalo and red brothers. Cassell and his squaw rode thru the wildernesses of Iowa and Illinois planting two maize kernels where only one had grown before. Long-Bearded-Sugar-Beet-Prophet-LeClerg, Smut-Shooter-Moore, Aunty-Biosis-Bam, and Stomata-Hart left their wigwams on the Borders of Aurora Sporealis to join the great Conclave near the Father of Waters. From Far and Wide the warriors came to listen to the words of wisdom of the Big Chief, to try their skill at matching wits, to seek the magic wonders of their science, and to drink once more at the Fountain of Youth.

MEDICAL SCIENCE AND HUMAN WELFARE is the general theme of the ninth annual series of evening lectures sponsored by Sigma Xi. The speakers, all members of the medical faculty, will speak on successive Fridays beginning January 24.

The old parade ground on the main campus is now ancient history. Modern machinery is preparing the way for the new ADULT EDUCATION building. It will be an L shaped, three story building which in addition to class rooms and lecture halls will provide living accommodations for about one hundred persons. Its purpose is to serve as a place where professional people can check up on the latest developments in their respective fields.



Happy Birthday to you
 Happy Birthday to you
 Happy Birthday, PHYTOPATHOLOGY
 Happy Birthday to y...oo...u

New Year's Eve started out with the Phytopathologist's Dinner on the Mezzanine of the Hotel Statler. Sounds impressive, n'est pas? But it turned out to be a birthday party for a very precocious young lady of 25. Her parentage was indeterminate, but guardianship has fallen to the lot of several pathologists during the young lady's brief yet brilliant career. She was first Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep by L. R. Jones, then Donald Redlick took her thru the worst of the teething stages along with the measles, mumps, and whatnot. W. A. Orton had a hand in teaching her to walk and talk, and then Perley Spaulding took a turn at educating her. In her teens she was under the tutelage of E. C. Stakman and later was turned over to the tender mercies of H. B. Humphrey and his finishing school.

Her admirers have been legion, many of them like Traubenhaus, Ezekiel, and co-workers returning to her pages again and yet again. Her sweethearts are scattered to the four winds and her correspondence travels to at least twenty-six countries of the world. But like all popular young ladies she is an enormous expense to her fond papa, who does his best to strain and stretch a budget so that she may be decked in the gayest of seagreen gowns and have the very latest in phytopath fads and fancies. What to do? What to do? Shall we increase the young lady's allowance? How? Shall we curtail her wardrobe? Shall we deny her the pictures, the words, the abstracts? What to do?

If she is to take her place in society, she must be able to maintain her position among the First Journals of the Land. Humphrey and Stakman are all for her, as they said that night, not in just so many words, but in a mellifluous flow of exposition and oratory. Jones, too, gave the young lady a boost by proxy, altho he was unable to attend the birthday party. The Tottering Tower Tarzans smiled on the young damsel; they emptied their pockets and signed away future income to the extent of a couple of hundred dollars for her endowment. Adoring swains with the urge to write agreed to contribute a dollar for each sweet page in her journal.

Danish Nightingale Jonas Jergen C. collected his serenaders for the young lady's benefit. Tubby took the high notes and two Porters took the low notes, but Kincaid and Western outsang them. Johnston, Cation, and Smith filled out the double quartet that rattled off ditties thruout the evening. Enthroned in the midst of the birthday candles was the young lady herself, 25 fat volumes set off by a magnificent backdrop of Grecian temples, with Phytopath columns gleaming in the rosy glow of a Fusarium sun, rising ever upward over the entire Kingdom of the Cryptogams and pressing forward far into the future.

x x x

Authentic version of Phytopath history
 is here presented for first time

x x x

'Twas back in 1911
 When pathology was a pup
 They thought they oughta make some noise
 And so they talked it up.

They met in beany Boston town
 And had a drink or two,
 They said we ought to publish more
 Now what in hell to do?

A flock of birds with graying hair
And some with shiny beak
Began to spread the gospel
"Let's have a magazine."

And so they polished up their pens,
Oh! boy how they did write,
Thus Phytopath was borne to us
In a tap room late at night.

Those early volumes ran along
Like a germ tube pleasure bent,
They published many articles
In advance of being sent.

Pathologists both here and there
Supplied financial pap,
The editors just whooped it up
And cried, "Let's go, giddap."

And now she's all of twenty-five
Voluminous and fat,
A thousand pages every year,
Who's going to pay for that?

Refrains and Refreshments

She's all of twenty-five, she never had a slump
Was Können wir doch noch jetzt tun
To keep her figger plump?

We're all a'going to pay, we're all a'going to pay
We're going to pay for Phytopath
Or there'll be hell to pay.

THE FOREIGN LEGION

The Foreign Legion is still in its old billets (Room 305), but there are signs that in the near future some of the Legionnaires may be offered alternative accommodations in the new rooms immediately below.

Syed has distinguished himself during the last few weeks, firstly, by obtaining his Master's degree with a thesis upon hybridization between Sphacelotheca cruenta and Sorosporium reilianum and, secondly, by a very well delivered paper upon the same theme at the meetings in St. Louis.

Bill Cormack was observed frequently in conference with ex-Legionnaire Sanford at St. Louis, and the conversations were continued a few days later at the Tottering Tower.

Alan (Annie Laurio) Gemnell has just completed an extensive tour of the Southern states but is picking up again nicely now, and the same may be said of Sergeant Gibbs who returned a little earlier from a similar expedition.

The rest of us are still here, but we have had no new additions to the Legion this quarter. We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Freddie Davies in his recent bereavement.

(Editor's Note: F. R. D. lost his tonsils January 18th, 1936.)

WINTER QUARTER CLASSES

Dr. Stakman is delving deeply into the History of Plant Pathology. This course has not been given for some time and has attracted a good sized class. It meets every Monday at 4 P. M. and continues until finished.

The Big Chief is also expounding the Principles of Plant Pathology with the aid of Dr. Allison. Nine students are taking advantage of this course which is one of the most fundamental and valuable of those offered. The students also play an active part by taking turns in setting up demonstrations to illustrate the lectures.

Dr. Christensen is providing an interesting and lively course in Diseases of Field Crops. By means of lectures and demonstrations his eleven apparently bright students are first being made thoroughly acquainted with the Smuts.

Forest Pathology is being taught by Clyde Christensen and Dr. Eide. A large class of nineteen students is being initiated into the mysteries of the wood rotting fungi.

Courses which are being continued from last quarter are: Insects in Relation to Plant Diseases with nine students and Mycology with eight students. In Mycology Miss Dodsall has started out by providing a bewildering array of Imperfects for identification and from there will lead on to the Ascomycetes.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Frozen ears and frost bitten noses! Signs of the times! Cheer up; spring is sure to follow!

Forty-two \pm former inmates of the Tottering Tower assembled around the festive board at St. Louis. Symptoms of the "Wim and Wigor" of the northern clan.

The recent cold spell has furnished differential symptoms for separating the occupants of the Tower into two physiologic forms.

Key:

• No frozen ears--The Hardy

Frozen ears --The Foolhardy

Have you noticed the self-satisfied expression on J. G. Leach's face recently? A transfer student came in the office last week and asked for Dean Leach.

Some time ago we suggested the following sign over the door of the Tottering Tower: "Open all night--we never close." With the various teas, coffees, and lunches these cold days we might add "Meals at all hours."

Dorothy Harmala is a cheerful soul. She was overheard consoling a young lady as follows: "I didn't have any more brains than you have when I started to work here."

You have all heard of a "Collegucation." Now Western has a fungus that stains with "Gentianviolently."

Dick the dishwasher says: "It sure is going to be hard on these college professors when the W.P.A. is thru and they have to go back to doing their own work."

REGULAR SEMINARS

During the past two months short papers have been presented at the regular seminar on Tuesday afternoons. Some of these papers, supposed to require twenty minutes for presentation, have, with various interruptions, lasted three periods.

November 12. The period started with a penetrating discussion of the factors which make corn smut a difficult disease to control. Dr. Stakman related the parable of the corn field and the manure pile. Then as the pangs of hunger began to assail the listeners J. G. Gibbs, of New Zealand, began a discussion of club root. He did not finish.

November 17. Dr. G. H. Coons favored the seminar by discussing the early history of sugar beet production and recent efforts in breeding varieties resistant to curly top and Cercospora leaf spot.

November 26. The species concept was brought down off the shelf and discussed. Gibbs finished the paper on club root begun two weeks previously.

December 3. Mr. Wu (Agronomy) presented a paper on the inheritance of resistance to bunt in wheat. Then up rose Dr. Stakman to draw a chlamydospore of Tilletia tritici on the blackboard. He seemed to have some difficulty with the reticulations, and the result was not entirely convincing. Finally the problem of low and high bunt arose, bringing with it the question "Are the bunted plants stunted because they are bunted or are the stunted plants bunted because they are stunted, or vice versa"?

December 10. Harold Mattson (Horticulture) discussed breeding potatoes for disease resistance, and H. K. Schultz (Agronomy) talked on the inheritance of resistance to black chaff and stem rust in wheat. W. H. Leonard (Agronomy) started a paper on bacterial wilt in alfalfa.

December 17. Leonard continued his paper on bacterial wilt. The discussion strayed to citrus canker, white pine blister rust, and big locomotives hauling boards over the mountains. Leonard did not finish.

January 7. A. E. Davey, of Davis, California, told us about the institutions of higher learning in California, particularly about the departments of plant pathology. He also discussed his work on Sclerotium rolfsii. After Mr. Davey's talk, Leonard finished his paper on bacterial wilt of alfalfa, and Cassell presented the results of the 1935 physiologic form survey of Puccinia graminis.

LITERATURE SEMINAR

The literature seminar met December 5 and 19, 1935, and January 16, 1936. At the meeting of December 19 songs to be sung at the St. Louis meetings were practised (we almost wrote "sung" there). On January 16 most of the time was devoted to the discussion of the St. Louis meetings.

ONE END OF THE CONVERSATION

Stakman: Is this the main campus?
Mayor's office! Mayor of what city?
Well, pardon me, I don't care to speak to the mayor this morning.

SPORTS

Minnesota, the No. 1 ranking football team for the season of 1935, recently scored another Glorious Victory when Bernie Bierman declined an offer of \$15,000 per year to return to Tulane. There must be a reason, and if we are not mistaken we think that Bierman would rather have the outstanding team for 1936. The spirit of football is being carried high on the campus here, and we are proud of the record that our team has achieved. With the Old Master back as our coach all we can say is that the Maroon and Gold will be mighty hard to stop in 1936.

With the ground covered with snow and temperatures frequently dropping below zero it seems that skating is the favorite sport for members of the Department. We understand that there are a few playing handball, but it doesn't provide the thrills that skating does. "Practise makes perfect." So we are told, but certain of our members have taken this to mean learning how to fall on the ice without experiencing the usual ill effects. Yet we would not make light of one falling on the ice, as even the best of skaters slip sometimes. Ask Dorothy.

Basketball

At the start of the season Minnesota was rated as a contender for the cellar position in the Big Ten. But with hard work the team has succeeded in upsetting both Northwestern and Michigan. These were both very good games, and it was only the fighting spirit of the players that enabled them to win. With two games remaining to be played we are wagering that they will not hold the cellar position.

Hockey

The hockey team had little trouble in winning their only conference games, which were with Michigan. Defeated, however, by the University of Manitoba and lost one and won one with Princeton.

Wrestling

The wrestling team appears exceptionally strong this season, as they have won four straight victories. They have defeated such teams as Nebraska and Chicago and seem headed for an undefeated season. Yes, we produce mat men in Minnesota in addition to pathologists.

A few of the warm weather fellows nearly froze up the other morning when the temperature dropped to 33.5° F. below zero. Now that we have not seen the thermometer rise above zero in two weeks the boys from the South have begun to wonder if spring is ever going to come, when we can again hear the birds singing in the trees and feel the soft breezes blow. Oh, yes, we love the snow and all of the so-called Beauties of Winter, but enough is enough. We would rather experience the call of spring, when the brooks again start to flow and when the grass begins to grow, with an occasional flower to brighten our pathway. Yes, when nature calls to every normal person to come out and live again. Such it would seem to us to be more inducive to research--but don't ask what research!

PUBLIC SERVICE

Address

Dr. Stakman addressed a group of high school students at the Minneapolis Public Library on December 5. His subject was "Diseases of Plants."

Radio Talk

Under the auspices of the National Emergency Council Dr. L. W. Melander gave a talk over KSTP. He discussed the barberry eradication campaign in Minnesota.

Potato Meeting

A. G. Tolaas and R. C. Rose did their bit in November in making the Red River Valley Potato Show a success.

Farm and Home Week

The registration this year was near the 3,500 mark, exceeding by several hundred last year's record attendance.

Altho the Supreme Court put a crimp in the discussion groups on Agricultural Adjustment, there were many other very interesting features.

A colt-breaking demonstration by Harry Linn of the Iowa Horse and Mule Breeders' Association drew a record crowd.

There was much interest this year in stem rust problems. Thatcher wheat is now on the map. Seed treating for cereals also was of great interest to farmers.

A goodly number of Department members were represented on the varied program, among them J. J. Christensen, A. G. Tolaas, M. B. Moore, C. C. Allison, Louise Dossall, and C. J. Eide.