

OLD TIMERS

T. C. LOH, whose soccer shoes had a place of honor on the walls of the Canyon in the Tottering Tower, alongside Sharvelle's etching of a flax section, reported from the regional office of C.N.R.R.A. at Liuchow, Kwangsi, on September 11 that he was "still alive and kicking." For 3 years he worked on a tung oil disease, the causal fungus being named after him, and on mushroom culture. Warfare necessitated a retreat to Kweichow province, where he taught in the University of Kwangsi and later was made Dean of the College of Agriculture. Rejoicing over the Japanese armistice was followed on the next morning, according to LOH, by a flood which took a toll of 6,000 lives, but in which his wife and children were spared. He next joined the CNRRA as advisor and accompanied President Truman's personal representative on a 16-day survey of famine areas. Along with this work, he runs a tractor training school in Shatang. Asks for the address of Jimmy and Johnny (Walter and Churchward) and closes with these words: "Hope you still have my soccer shoes, which I shall wear again when I get a chance to come over."

Mu Hwa FU, technician, who spent the latter part of his year of training at Minnesota, proclaims from the National Agricultural Research Bureau at Nanking that he is married! "The one year in the United States is one of my most valuable and happiest time in my life... Regards to all the people I knew." (October 29)

H. R. (Alfred) WANG reported on November 23 that he was happy "working in the department of plant pathology of a newly established agricultural college of Peking University," but that he misses Minnesota. A snapshot was enclosed of a very attractive bride and groom, the Wangs, about to cut the wedding cake.

"W. L. WATERHOUSE, reader in the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Sydney, Australia, was appointed by the University Senate at its last meeting to be research professor in agriculture in recognition of his work in cereal pathology." Science 104: 591. Dec. 20.



Sprrrring, beautiful sprrrring was the season that was beginning in Argentina in late September, when Old Timer Elisa HIRSCHHORN was feeling lyrical enough to write us. She was leaving for Northwest Argentina to search for smut "and their characteristics in the fields of sugar cane." Offered to send us some meat from their abundance. Wished she could attend the Plant Path fall picnic and also hear the first Seminar of the fall quarter. On December 18 she wrote that it was very hot: "Here we are three Minnesotans at the same building--VALLEGA, sub-director, CENOZ, and I. We would like to have some snow to celebrate better our holidays....Regards to those I know and do not know!"

Since that time, a new Old Timer has arrived in the zone which lacks a white Christmas: Ernest duCHARME arrived by plane in Concordia, Argentina, and in early December was setting up a laboratory for the study of the tristeza disease of citrus. Other news about Ernie could not be wrested from our source of information, but there IS some, and we probably will hear all about it SOMEDAY!

Mohan Lal GATTANI, 1946 Ph.D., reported in November that it was wonderful to be with his family again, in Ada Bazar, Jodhpur, India. Hoped that everybody at Minnesota was "engaged and absorbed" in his work. "Will you please remember me to the seminar?"



From Budapest, Hungary, comes slightly more optimistic news from Old Timer Dr. Bela HUSZ, who is of the opinion that the new stabilized currency has been helpful in controlling the unprecedented inflation. "Work in laboratories is going on. . . . We are teaching but there will probably be vacations for 3 months because of lack of heating material."

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One of AURORA's roving reporters flew to Mexico this fall to find out just how big the oranges were, why the Big Chief liked it so much, and other things equally important and significant. Under the influence of sunshine, spicy red carnations that come in armloads, sightseeing under the guidance of Guillermina "Billy" Rodriguez, savory dinners with Old Timers, mountain picnics in pine woods, and swimming in pools strewn with fresh gardenias, the investigative spirit was forgotten, and orange juice was thirstily imbibed without consideration for the size of the shell!

However, a few facts came to our attention without effort. . . . The Chief had his picture taken with Henry Wallace at Chapingo. . . . John D III got to the Harrars' only one day ahead of your reporter. . . . The Robles family had to search for weeks for an apartment. . . . Joe Rupert is returning from Cincinnati to Mexico for another year. . . . and the Big Chief made several false starts at leaving in September because, reportedly, he could indulge just so much more often in those Mexican embraces called the "brazo."

Under pleasant escort we were enabled to see things of interest to Old Timers also. . . . Norma Jean Borlaug, who is getting to be a big girl now, in her home in an American apartment house. . . . the Ortegas being welcomed on their return to Mexico by dozens and dozens of relatives and friends. . . . the seminar at San Jacinto, where an argument ensued that might have been blown straight from Minnesota but where the members looked so slick that unflattering pictures of Minnesota seminarians came unbidden to eye. . . . we looked into a glamorous past at the site of the pyramids and into a prosperous future on the sites of much new construction. . . . and every time we stepped into the Rodriguez apartment we saw the compelling glance of one E. C. Stakman from a photograph in a place of honor on the radio!

Finally we had to come home, to become devotee No. Unlimited to the Mexican people, if NOT a supporter to the size of the orange, and with the definite desire to make more common in Minnesota the friendly handshake as a greeting, if NOT the brazo!

Ibra D. CONNERS, Old Timer who has been with the Canadian Plant Disease Survey since 1929, paid us a long-overdue visit on November 5. Long-overdue, because he had been gone so long that he found it a little difficult to recognize some of the people he used to know at Minnesota. Some of you will recall that previous to 1926 Mrs. Connors was Nathalie Carlson, librarian on the Agricultural campus. Helen, their daughter, is now a sophomore at Smith College.

Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, December 4

In order that I may not miss the recollections, the ruminations and the respirations emanating from Department of Plant Pathology of the University of Minnesota please note a change in my address. After spending more than seventeen years at the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Edmonton in the vicinity of the Sanfords, Cormacks, Tyners and Henry's I have transferred to the Division of Botany and Plant Pathology, Ottawa, to join the Craigies, Connors, Neatbys and others in the environs of the mighty Ottawa River and the Gatineau Hills.

Best personal regards,
W. B. Broadfoot
Plant Pathologist

M. W. "Bill" CORMACK, of Edmonton, says they miss Bill Broadfoot, that he himself is very busy with forage crop diseases, and that he hopes some of the large number of new students entering Agriculture at Alberta will be inspired to enter plant pathology.

Dr. W. (Bill) H. HANNA, in charge of the Dominion Laboratory at Winnipeg, was reported to be flying to Delhi, India, to attend the Indian Science Congress, just at the time when other phytopathologists were up in the air over this and that at Cincinnati.

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From the Hawaiian Islands, where we envisage the plant pathologist wandering among the pineapples and the sugar cane with notebook AND ukelele, comes greetings from Jim LYLE. He says: "I miss the folks, but not the snow."

Happy in the same haven of heat is Old Timer Rosemary "Rosy" McLEOD, who reported that former Minnesotans Chet WISMER, Jim LYLE, and she herself had a nice visit together. No report of the findings of the conference was included. Rosemary has a new job as Classification Analyst for the 7th Air Force. Says she is "rather sold on Hawaii" but plans to be home for Christmas in 1948.

The E. J. ANDERSONS—Marion, David, and Earl—inquire about the "weather and the world of phytopathology in the lair of the Golden Gophers," asking whether the team in 1946 was composed of "the mighty men of the pathology kittenball squad." Say they have enjoyed visiting with Chet Wismer and Jim Lyle, that Wismer was on his way to Samoa, that "a very good Minnesotizer is Lyle."

Announcing the arrival
of ROBERT SPENCER JR.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. MULLIN, November 8

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"I have been missing you," writes Glenn KENKNIGHT to Aurora on October 29. "You probably still have me listed at the University of Idaho." His current address is U. S. Date Garden, Indio, California, where he is affiliated with the State Department of Agriculture.

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Mrs Ellis F. DARLEY arrived in Liberia with the two children, Marshall and Paul, on September 4. They left New York by plane on the 1st, bypassed Newfoundland because of fog, landed in Labrador, returned to Newfoundland, and breakfasted in Ireland, where Delight asked what cereal they had. "Porridge," was the answer. "What kind of porridge?" brot forth the statement that it was safe to eat, and was oatmeal, of course! Next stop was Lisbon, with its buildings of figured tile, from whence they departed at 2:30 AM of the third day, making an unscheduled stop at Casablanca for gas, lunched in Dakar, and made a blind landing in Liberia in rain and fog at 7 PM. on the 4th. On arrival, Mrs. Darley stated that she felt no different about plane travel than before beginning the trip. "The queerest feeling was...to see the crew stading back at the water cooler chatting" while the plane was on the automatic pilot and their lives were dependent "on a puny little piece of machinery."

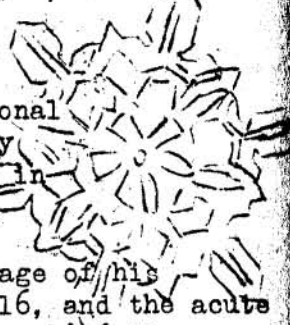
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Rumor has it that C. A. (Chet) Wismer was married on December 21(?) in Hawaii(?) to a Missourian(?).

News of Max SCHUSTER should have got into the last issue. His running around to this meeting and that reminds us a little of the Big Chief: 1. Bean meetings, with participation in panel discussion; 2. Colorado sugar beet meetings where Schuster, Brewbaker, Russel Nelson, and Isaacson reminisced about Minnesota and 3. High Plains potato meetings, where the "Minnesota Norwegian" L. A. Schaal was dared to give a talk on scab without mentioning "strains."

From the November West Virginia MOUNTAINAIRE:

"Dr. J. G. Leach was elected a member of the National Council of the American Association of University Professors and attended a meeting of the Council in Chicago on June 7 and 8, where he was elected a member of the executive committee."



Other items in the same journal (?) included the marriage of his daughter Margaret Ann to Sam J. Sanfilippo on November 16, and the acute hotel shortage in Columbus, Ohio, at the time of Dr. Leach's address before the Plant Institute of Ohio State University, which was solved by permitting him a room in the girls dormitory.

Clemencia and Paul SIGGERS, again at Saucier, Mississippi, recorded that they enjoyed their automobile trip to Mexico last fall and particularly their visit with the HARRARS, whom they knew at Minnesota.



What kind of parent is Tommy KING, of Columbus, Ohio? We neglected to publicize the birth of his cheeseild, and he has failed to rebuke us for our neglect. It's a boy, and big, but why didn't he send us an announcement?

Maybe he wanted a gurrul!

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Marion and Ed ANDREWS, of Cheswold, Delaware, speaking in unflattering terms of their cold weather, say: "We've agreed long ago that we'd rather have a real Minnesota snow storm." As the keys tap out The Andrews' cheerful message, one of those real storms is swirling about outside, and the reporter's muscles ache from the weight of the snow shovel. However, with Colorado news coming up next, we don't dare go further!

Surprising indeed is it to find no single word of the Colorado climate in the two single-spaced pages of Walt THOMAS' letter from Fort Collins. There is mention of Minnesotans ATKINSON and MICHALLSON, of theses, of fence-post preservatives, of teaching, of the walking and talking young daughter, of the housing situation, but nary a whiff of the weather. Under these circumstances Walt can scarcely be considered a Colorado supporter. He is an optimist about shelter, however: "Though we lived for the first two months in a cottage camp, we are now in a comfortable Quonset in the college Veterans Village.."

Apparently less fortunate is Old Timer Richard NELSON, now in the Physics Department at Northwestern University, who says, "So far we are living in a furnished room again, a state to which we are becoming resigned but not reconciled." He finds his work stimulating and association with friends in Chicago pleasant.

Faith GUGLER, one-time secretary in plant physiology, later a Washington WAVE, sent greetings as follows: "So good to hear about old acquaintances in the AURORA. I'm kept mighty busy being secretary to a pathologist--M.D., that is-- here in Duluth."

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The Atlanta (Georgia) Journal of November 24 carries a picture of Old Timer L. W. R. JACKSON, in tuxedo and black tie, on the occasion of election to Gridiron Club membership. "one of the most valued tributes accorded by the university." Eleven students and six well-known Georgians were honored by membership. From the University's George Foster Peabody School of Forestry, JACKSON wrote as follows:

November 25

"Enclosed is a clipping that I thought would be of interest to the plant path group. I resigned from the U. S. Division of Forest Pathology on Sept. 1 and took over the position of Professor of Silviculture here in the forestry School. I am enjoying the work very much. It is a real pleasure to get rid of the red tape.

"We are now giving graduate work in forestry and I now have 2 candidates for the Master's Degree in Silviculture. Expect about 2 more next quarter. I am really busy with the teaching load, writing up past little leaf results and starting new research.

"Greetings to all of the members of the plant path and Forestry school. Hope I can get up to see you all someday in the not too distant future. When you Yankees come down South be sure to call on us."

Sincerely,

L. W. R. Jackson

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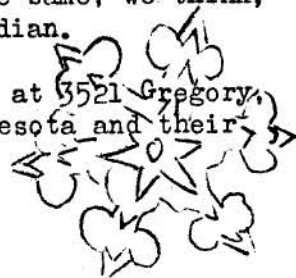
Dr. L. H. PERSON, years ago the fighting captain of one of our famous kittenball teams and now the hard working pathologist at Louisiana, stopped off in December to say "Hello." He said he was going fishing near Bemidji, but the temperature fell to about 45°F. and Teeny got sick and failed to catch fish or to make Cincinnati.

Dr. W. S. BEACH (a real Old Timer) from Penn. State, born and educated in Minnesota and a firm believer in physiologic races, conferred Christmas greetings upon us personally.

From Oklahoma came Dudley PRESTON to spend a few days with us in December. He reported progress on his thesis. Dudley looks well and still spends a lot of time on mycological problems.

"The Sharvelle tribe thrives, appear to enjoy the Hoosier State, find life interesting and most worthwhile, and occasionally wish they were back with the old gang...." This flowed from the agile pen of Old Timer Eric, at Lafayette, Indiana, where he says it was so much warmer than Minnesota that strawberries bloomed in November and the Sharvelles attended the Purdue-Wisconsin game in their shirtsleeves!The fall picnic at Minnesota will never be the same, we think, without the famous story of the four doors in Eric's French Canadian.

Maryon, Earle, and little Paula Jean HANSON are at home at 3521 Gregory, Madison 5, Wisconsin. They proclaim they like it, but miss Minnesota and their Minnesota friends.



Vera and Thommy GRAHAM, of Florence, South Carolina, promise to come to Minnesota next spring with their two children, and according to Vera, who has not been here for five years, "they can hardly wait."

Two of the Vaughn family of Morgantown, West Virginia, would like to come to Minnesota next spring also--both John and Dorothy, who aspire to finish up their respective degrees, work on which was interrupted by marriage, parenthood, and warfare.

The Wenatchee Daily World, of Wenatchee, Washington, which is the new home of Old Timers Ted and Gladys WRIGHT, carried an article in October which ran as follows:

"Since the machinery to do the job is not available here, Edwin Smith, senior horticulturist, and T. R. Wright, assistant plant pathologist, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture regional laboratory here, are shown wrapping by hand experimental Delicious apples in a test of a new film-like wrapper which has drawn national attention..."

The Wright's present home is a tourist court outside of town, which is attractive but very, very expensive! (But better to be a pauper and pay, than to stay out nights and sleep in the hay. Orig., with apologies to no one).

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- Christmas Greetings

Most old-timers probably can recall the end of the fall quarter in plant pathology: Preparation for final examinations, plans for attending the annual meeting of the Phytopathological Society, and Christmas cards on the bulletin board. It is a matter of happiness and pride to everyone at home to be remembered by so many who have come and gone, and by the time the cards are removed in January, they have been thoroughly thumbed by everyone in the building, the pictures admired, and their messages read and re-read. Biographical sketches of the senders are delivered orally by graying and decrepit staff members for the benefit of the younger generation, and when two such raconteurs happen to be present the ensuing session is likely to be prolonged and hilarious. Generally the impressions of the departed subjects are favorable, and the benefit to the scientific training of the awed youngsters is considerable.

Taxonomically inclined individuals have attempted to classify the 48 cards received according to some logical system, but without success. As to language, most are in English, but some are in Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese. Some have recent photos of the old timer together with his spouse and numerous offspring. Others have pictures of the land in which the fortunate individual now swells, e.g. the mountains of Colorado. W. N. Christopher's contained money; a Chinese 50 cent note. We didn't see the stamps on the envelope this came in, but the last letter we saw from China had \$3200 worth of postage on it. The easiest way out for the would-be taxonomist is to fall back on the old familiar truth, and say that "(Christmas cards) comprise numerous physiologic forms." However, like Ustilago zeae they are really all the same thing, in this case tokens of good wishes and good will, and we thank all the thoughtful people who sent them.

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--Overheard in the Hotel Elevator in Cincinnati--

1st man: "What's this bunch of people they got around here?"

2nd man: "Hmm----let me see, I think they're called psychopaths."

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BOOKSHELF (Otherwise known as the Complaint Department)

Paid advertisement: Send copy or title of your articles, and maybe there will be fewer complaints and less dissatisfaction!

- CORMACK, Sclerotinia as alfalfa and clover root parasites, Scien. Agr. Sept.
- LEACH*, Purple-top wilt of potatoes, W. Va. Bul. 326
- NOBLE, Food and the United Nations, Inst. Public Adm., June.
- CONNERS*, 25th Ann. report Canadian Plant Disease Survey
- CHILTON*, New race, Cercospora oryzae, on rice, Phytopath. Nov.
(Special to AURORA) Reprints from Me. Bul. 442:

1. Fruits; 2. Potatoes

Old Timers who were contributors to "1946 epiphytotic of late blight of tomato" in Pl. Dis. Repr. Suppl. 165: PERSON, VALLEAU, VAUGHAN, WILSON AND SEAL, DAVIDSON, KING, THOMAS, SHERF.

WEISS, Check list revision (cont'd); Ibid.

- Oct. 15; THORNBERRY, X disease on chokecherries, PRESLEY, Tomato spotted wilt, Ibid. Nov. 15; LeCLERG, Potato, VALLEAU-JOHNSON, Tobacco and other diseases, PERSON*, Sweet potato internal cork, Ibid. Dec. 15.

LeCLERG, Early-blight resistant potato breeding, ANDERSON (Axel)*,

Wetting and adhesive agents in conidial suspensions for inoculation, Phytopath. Dec.

WALLACE*, Evidence of virus nature of citrus quick decline, Citrus Leaves. Dec.

See ff. Phytopath. abstracts also: BONDE*, Potato virus; BOOSALIS, Soybean necrosis; CHILTON*, Glomerella segregation; CHILTON*, Actinomyces antibiotic to Pythium in sugar-cane soils; DAVIDSON, Nitrogen compounds specific for bacterial pathogens; VALLEAU*, Nicotiana spp. and streak; GOTTLIEB*, Streptomyces griseus; RODENHISER*, Structures produced on agar by cereal rust urediospores; KOMMEDAHL and J. J. CHRISTENSEN, Flax late wilt; KREITLOW, Timothy stripe smut; MADER and TELLER, Differentiation of Sclerotinia cultural types; MOORE and KOMMEDAHL, Serial dilution technique; ORELLANA, Actinomyces and bacteria antagonistic to A. scabies; PETURSON, Resistant varieties and rust epidemiology; PETURSON, NEWTON*, Effect of leaf rust on wheat; RODENHISER*, Fusion bodies in cereal rust germ tubes; TELLER and MADER, Sclerotinia pectin changes; THORNBERRY, Streptomycin from peanut and soybean; VALLEAU and JOHNSON, Nematodes from tobacco brown root rot; VAUGHAN, * Onion seed treatment; VAUGHAN and LEACH, Potato sprays; WILSON, Fungi associated with peanut rots.

*As usual, some credit goes to other authors.

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Regular Seminars

5 XI. Vachhani, from India, talked about wheat rusts in India. To add variety to the session, Young from Ohio discussed nutritional deficiency symptoms in corn; and Ferguson, from Canada via Colorado, spoke about the nature of resistance of onions to neck rot and smudge. It was election day, so seminar was dismissed at 5:40 for the purpose of casting ballots.

12 XI. The problems and successes in breeding rust-resistant varieties of fibre flax in western Oregon were described by Nelson. Among his worries was a new race of flax rust, capable of attacking Crystal. Helgason, from Manitoba, discussed some of the disease problems encountered in breeding sunflowers in Canada. The seminar was concluded by Johnson, who pointed out the relation of the microflora of corn seed to the quality of the seed.

19 XI. The unscheduled seminar, by ECS, emphasized the necessity of working hard, and presented some interesting facts from the point of view of the personnel manager. The discussion was summarized by Kommedahl's gem, "Graduate study is not preparation for a job, it is a job." The scheduled seminar was given by Huey Borders, on the effect of certain fungicides on the control of late blight of tomato in Florida.

26 XI. Silverberg led off with an account of oak wilt, allegedly caused by a fungus that produces the odor characteristic of apple cider. The seminar was continued by Hasanain's discussion on breeding rust resistant wheats in India, introduced by a brief history of wheat.

3 XII. Hasanain concluded his talk, and Misra got started on his, dealing with flax rust.

10 XII. Misra concluded his paper, and de Zeeuw finished up the last seminar of the quarter with a paper on bacterial black chaff. In an informal discussion before seminar dispersed, the student members indicated unanimously their disapproval of the grade system for graduate students, giving numerous reasons for their stand.

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Thursday Evening Seminars

7 XI. Misra in chair. Ernest DuCharme, back from Florida, had a demonstration of the relative sizes of oranges from California, Mexico, and Florida. In that order they were the size of a walnut, a grapefruit, and a volleyball! In honor of one of the holiest festivals in the Moslem world, Hasanain told of 'Id ul Azhar, the festival, and also of the history and role of the Moslem faith. The food was put on by the Moslem students, and included a rice dish, popular in Egypt, prepared by Ayad (a minor in pl. path.) and three large chocolate cakes, decorated appropriately by Hassan. From the post banquet chair, Ayad then summarized the account of Islam.

14 XI. DuCharme spoke on citrus production in California, diseases of citrus, sprays to control diseases, pests, and nutritional deficiencies, and the taxonomy of citrus fruits. Food was put on by E. O. Mader, who would acknowledge only questions asked in German, to which he replied in that language. He was assisted by a counsellor-at-large and a counsellor-at-little. When a question was referred to the counsellors, if they disapproved of the answer, one would say "Nein," and other "Ten." If they approved, they would chorus "Ya, Ya, Ya" together.

21 XI. Seminar was treated to some beautiful colored slides, prepared by Rollo Lorenz while he was stationed at Tingo Maria, Peru. His photographs included shots of diseased and healthy rubber and cinchona plants, other forest trees of the region, and some breath-taking scenic views. The food was furnished by Sackston and featured cookies from Canada.

28 XI. Seminar called off an account of Thanksgiving. Two thirds of the seminar collected in the seminar room at the usual time and spent two hours trying to decide if seminar was called off an account of Thanksgiving, or if the original settlers declared a Thanksgiving holiday when they heard Seminar had been called off one Thursday.

5 XII. ECS led a discussion on language requirements for graduate students. This was followed by a demonstration, arranged by Matt Moore, of some work done by his students in the elementary Plant Path course, on factors affecting emergence and growth of corn. Seminar was so impressed, it decided that either its members should enroll for Matt's course, or else his students should be enrolled in the graduate faculty. After all, some of them might be good kittenball players. Silverberg reviewed a paper on pitch canker, a new disease on some southern pines; and Feldman reported on a short semi-popular article on the effect of supersonic waves on microorganisms.

12 XII. Daly led a discussion on the intellectual and social needs of graduate students on the farm campus. Representatives of the six largest graduate departments on the campus had been called together to formulate recommendations to the Graduate Faculty, and Seminar was asked to express its ideas on the subject. It was decided that social needs were fairly well met, since in most cases "married life and studying keeps most of the men busy." To meet the intellectual needs of Agricultural campus students, it was decided to recommend the presentation of courses on the Philosophy of Science and the History of Agriculture.

The food was provided by Ellis Darley, now in Liberia. His representative, the man who knows most about Liberia and Colorado, was Dr. Stakman. When he appeared for questioning, the Chief was flanked by two "bulldogs," Huey Borders and Thor Kommedahl. Borders was decked out in lab coat, large leather belt from which was suspended an even larger machete, and a topee. Kommedahl was lovely to behold in swallowtail coat, silk muffler tightly knotted around his neck, and derby hat set squarely over the brows; he was armed with a long Mexican knife. All questions directed to the candidate were referred to one of the two bulldogs, who displayed a remarkable capacity for double talk, Borders in a Southern accent that could have been cut with his leather belt, and Kommedahl in a Swedish American that would never get past Ellis Island in these days of restricted immigration. Two of the questions and answers can be quoted as typical:

"What is a fjord?" "A fjord ain't no Buick, suh!", and "Are there any ants in Africa?" "In Africa there ban ants sometimes in der pants and sometimes on der family tree."



19 XII. Seminar dismissed in order that members could go and cheer while Morris Teller received his M.S. degree.

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LOCALS

The new year was blessed with a New Timer when Mr. and Mrs. Morris Teller (Brooklyn, N.Y.) announced the birth of a 4,077 gm. baby boy on Jan. 1st -- Chris was elated!

The holiday spirit hung heavy in Phytobrickhouse erectus, glad tidings and cheer echoed continuously. Yes, it was Christmas. The gay voices of Tooty, Raja and Eagle could be heard in the familiar carols as they stood in front of the Chief's office and it wasn't long before the mecca was on with everyone joining in.

The annual Plant Path Christmas party was held at the Ag. Union on the nite of Dec. 23rd with Dr. Melander as the jolly St. Nick. The Chief's voice was in great form -- probably because everyone was so busy doing justice to a multitude of hot dogs, cake, coffee, candy, and peanut butter.

On Dec. 14th, J. J. Christensen officiated as Santa at a Christmas party for the youngsters of the faculty and graduate students on the Ag. campus. Chris was thrilled no end -- he had all the boys he could hold and there was no limit to his giving -- One youngster returned the next day to cart away Phytobrickhouse erectus!

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It might have been Fri., Dec. 13th, but it was a great and momentous day for W. E. Sackston (Winnipeg, Canada) who passed his prelim that afternoon and threw a party that nite. Quite an accomplishment for one day, especially Friday the 13th!

The month of December kept Dr. Stakman on the go. On Dec. 12th the Chief was at River Falls to deliver a convocation talk on Mexico at River Falls Teachers College. On Dec. 14th he was at Chicago to attend the regional Plant Science Technical Committee meeting, and in Boston (Dec. 27-30) with the A.A.A.S., where the Chief, as Vice President for the Section on Botanical Sciences, spoke on "The nature and importance of physiologic specialization in phytopathogenic fungi."

Laura Hamilton recently returned from a month and a half trip below the Rio Grande. She was welcomed by many old timers, who showed her the typical Mexican life in and around Mexico City. Her report on the trip: "Everybody in Mexico loves Dr. Stakman."

Minnesota's salubrious weather was just too good to last. Mr. Eagle was busy today trying to put the mercury back into the window thermometer. The temperature has been so low during the past 2 weeks that the metallic stuff solidified and dropped out. He thinks that it passed the -23°F. mark, at least!

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COMINGS AND GOINGS

Visitors to the department in November and December included some from foreign lands and several of our old timers -- Herminis J. Giovdans, Agronomist with the ministry of Agriculture of Argentina and Dr. Stanislaw Jasnowski, potato breeder from Warsaw, Poland were interested in all the investigations here. Dr. Jasnowski kindly talked about his work at an informal seminar. Both Martha Kotila and Isabel Christensen visited us briefly during the Christmas holidays.

Ernie DuCharme was appropriately "teed" but the eulogies were mostly felt rather than spoken when he made his departure for South America in December. DuCharme's first and largest problem will be the "Tristeza" disease of citrus, so destructive there.//Bernard Sherma, Dick Davidson, Donald Stewart and Walt Hendrix, all old timers, have returned to the tower for the winter quarter. One new student, John Gibler, has also arrived to begin work. Gibler is a Montana state graduate and worked under old timers Bamberg and H. Schultz. Stewart has worked some years on the white pine blister rust survey and has also studied at Berkeley (U. of California). His undergraduate work and part of his graduate work was at Minnesota.

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SPORTS

Too bad there aren't as many football games each season as there are basketball games -- Minnesota's football aggregation just got really going when the season was practically over. They really upset the predictions with three straight wins over Purdue (13-7), Iowa (16-6) and Wisconsin (6-0) to end the season in a blaze of glory. Since the majority of this year's team was freshmen, we anticipate a trip to the Rose Bowl in 1947, or at the latest in 1948! In the Rose Bowl department it was nice to hear Illinois trim the West coast this year to further spread the word of Big Nine football prowess!

With the snow and cold weather comes the basketball season, and there Minnesota has more than held their own. The Gophers roundly shellacked De Paul (54-39), South Dakota (65-33), North Dakota (75-34), St. Louis (40-36), Iowa State (51-41), and Nebraska (68-58). Defeats have come only from Washington University (2 games: 47-61; 68-72) and Ohio State (41-43). The Conference ledger doesn't look too good, but then the season has just begun!

The department's two bowling teams have both bettered themselves since the last account. The Scrubs moved their percentage points up from 250 at the last report to the present 366 (Won 11 - lost 19). While Plant Path has moved up from 333 to 533 (Won 16 - lost 14). High honors still go to the Scrub's Mal Shurtleff with a season average of 152, while gutter-ball dishonors go to the Scrub's R. C. Rose with a 92 average.

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(As we go to press, our special report on Old Timers at the Cincinnati meetings has not been received.

Also late is a report of OT's at Boston).

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