

"The whole world cannot produce a climate more salubrious than that of Minnesota. We have never yet known a case of fever and ague in it; nor any unwholesome water, either in wells, springs, lakes or streams. It is for our cool, healthful climate, that braces up the human frame for vigorous exertion, physical and mental, that we regard Minnesota incomparably superior....They may raise more corn in Illinois, more wool in Ohio, more pork in Iowa, more cotton in Mississippi; but Minnesota can beat them all at raising men."

From the Minnesota Pioneer (St. Paul), April 8, 1852, according to Minnesota History for September, 1948.



OLD TIMERS

Dr. Margaret NEWTON "has been awarded the Royal Society of Canada's Flavelle Medal for outstanding contributions to science," according to the McGill News for Autumn, 1948. A well-deserved honor, says Aurora!

Harry MURAKISHI, who became a Ph.D. and husband just before leaving for the University of Hawaii, sent lots of news in July: they had the "usual hectic search for a place to stay"; Mrs. Murakishi passed her examinations as a registered nurse and is teaching in a nurses training school; Harry has interesting pathological problems on which to work; and the culprit who stole and burned his car in Chicago last December "has been apprehended."

Congratulations from Aurora go on wings to Ing. Jose RODRIGUEZ, M. S. 1945, on his appointment on August 30 as Secretary of the National School of Agriculture at Chapingo, Mexico, where he has recently been in charge of the teaching of plant pathology. The Rodriguez family is now living at Chapingo also, in a roomy residence on the School grounds.

T. C. LOH reported in August his appointment as director of AMOMO (Agricultural Machinery Operation and Management Office) of the National Rehabilitation Commission at Shatong, Liuchow. Says "hello to those who still know me in the T.T."

From Hyderabad come "good-wishes" from their first emissary to plant pathology at Minnesota, Syed VAHEDUDIN, who is chief of his division in Osmania Agricultural College.

On July 15, at 17.30 hours, Ady Raul daSILVA was married to Elza Maria Ribeiro in Rio de Janeiro. Our felicitations to both.

Ing. Benjamin ORTEGA C., M. S. 1946, is now engaged in wheat improvement at Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico; reports Mrs. Ortega and the young daughter in good health, and says they look forward to a visit some day to this "unforgettable land of nice, kind and hospitable people."

Dr. J. G. "Dutch" HARRAR was of the opinion on August 4 in Mexico City that he was fully recovered from his recent illness with no ill effects other than accumulated work. Plans to stop in St. Paul on his next flight northward.

Dr. A. P. MISRA, of New Delhi, some time ago was appointed Assistant Systemat. Mycologist in the Directorate of Plant Protection and Quarantines. Sent regards in July.

"Best regards to the Seminar" were sent from Mexico City on August 4 by recent Old Timer Luis Carlos FELIX, M. S. 1947. Readers please refer to BOOKSHELF for evidence that Felix is putting to use what he learned at Minnesota about the importance of good seed, toward the improvement of agriculture in his country.

The world-wide cry: "I have not been able to get an apartment yet!" This time it comes from New Delhi, India, where Dr. M. K. HINGORANI on July 21 was expecting his family to arrive from Bombay in a few days.

Dr. M. L. GATTANI, also at New Delhi, says that "almost everyday we (Misra, Hingorani, Gattani) sit together and think of ...seminar and so many things which were ours. They are all sweet memories." Gattani is with the Division of Mycology in the Agricultural Research Institute.

Dr. Lee LING, representative to FAO, of UN, presented his regards in person to our Chief, who is mobile representative to AURORA.

Paul and Clemencia SIGGERS, of Saucier, Mississippi, sent best wishes in September and an invitation to entertain an AURORA reporter.

Married, in Montgomery, Alabama, on July 11, to Dora Mathews was Old Timer James Albert LYLE. (As a result of this change in status, we are informed, Jim owes Willie Feldman fifty dollars!) --Candy and cigars also are due Old Timers!

C. G. ANDERSON--Big andy to most of us--has joined the staff of the Division of plant industry, of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, to work on insect and disease survey and on nursery inspection. (Newsletter to Nurserymen, August 24.)

Phares DECKER, long not heard from, made himself known with news--but not about himself--from Gainesville, Florida.

Dr. Freeman WEISS, of the U. S. Department, visited St. Paul September 1. Reported his son working in Minnesota's Botany Department lab this summer, as well as working for the Master's degree.

Donald STEWART, blister-ruster from Duluth, visited on September 21 and tried to arrange for a pillow for his head when he resumes graduate studies this winter.

It isn't only the men who move about these days! Rosemary McLEOD, native Minnesotan and former secretary, was gaily flying from Tokyo to Guam on August 18, after a trip by boat from Guam to Manila, Okinawa, and Japan. Present address:
 c/o Guam Dist. Engr.,
 APO 246 c/o Postmaster
 San Francisco.

"Just a line to let you know that we had a very fine time during our brief visit to University Farm recently. It was like coming back home." A. W. HENRY, University of Alberta, Edmonton, August 23.

On returning to Appleton, Wisconsin, from a trip to paper mills in the Pacific Northwest, Old Timer Bernard SHEMA found energy enough to be very hospitable on a holiday to one of Aurora's representatives. Patsy, his 3-year old, did part of the entertaining. Among other things, Bernie is pretty good at bridge in Saturday night duplicate tournaments.

Our congratulations to J. M. WALLACE, of the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside, California, on his promotion on July 1 to full Professor.

Floraine "Tooty" Annexstad came to the big city on September 29 from her farm near St. Peter, Minnesota. Marriage seems not to have burst any of the bubbles of her natural exuberance!

Born at Fort Collins, Colorado on September 16 to Dill and Dolores THOMAS was Arthur Dill, second F₁. This one should really be a dilly!

Dr. E. L. LECLERG has changed his address from Bureau of the Budget to Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 24, D. C. His new title is Research Coordinator.

To the Bureau of the Budget has gone Dr. R. H. BAMBERG, formerly of Bozeman, Montana, according to our traveling representative Dr. Melander in August.

Other Old Timers whom Melander saw on his eastern tour were Olaf AAMODT, at Beltsville, and Leon TYLER at Cornell.

"The last Aurora did not mention some of the Minnesota news from Colorado," wrote Bob ATKINSON in August:

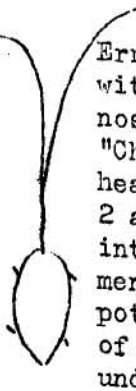
1. Ellis DARLEY left for Guatemala July 1--sold his house the same day he received confirmation of his appointment. No address available, although probably same as that for Lorenz.
2. "Dorothy GORDAN left in June for Alaska and was beginning a 'new life' on the 'lost frontier'!" No address available.
3. "Mike (Merle MICHAELSON) will come up soon for his Master's exam."
4. "Herman STARR (Wyoming) spent a week incognito in the Ft. Collins hospital in early July suffering from post-operative complications. While enroute to Laramie fromEstes Park he had a relapse...was pretty well recovered....the last week in July. "

For all this news, Bob is hereby appointed Colorado correspondent w.o.p.

R. S. MULLIN, at Norfolk, Virginia, since July 1, is happy because they "were able to get a house," but filled with remorse since his unkind remarks in the last issue about his neighbors the West Virginians.

"Just a minute while I brush the Penicillium off the typewriter case," wrote Rodrigo G. ORELLANA on September 9 from Maracay, Venezuela. "Everything seems to be a perfect culture medium during the rainy season." His work is progressing "with aches and groans" as he nurses tobacco seedlings; and the family is still living in a hotel.

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Buried in the litter on the desk of Clyde H. (Holds) Christensen, Ernie the Cockroach has again emerged from a life of suspended habitation within a peti-dish culture. After testing out his pedal extremities, Ernie nosed about at the concentration of scientists ^{a/} in the prep lab...but "Cherchez la femme," he was heard to mutter as he scurried away...when he heard of Chuck and Arly getting married, he chuckled...thinking that while 2 are company, a crowd...during coffee hour one afternoon Ernie scuttled into the seminar room...Eide is droll, mused Ernie, but the other potato men (Fridlund and Logsdon) amused him still more...men who rave over potatoes are much like people who carry on at great length about the fame of their ancestors--the best part of their excuse for living lies buried underground, so philosophized Ernie...

a/ Ernie thinks all graduate students are scientists.



BOOKSHELF

FELIX, Problemas de la certificacion de semillas en Mexico, Tierra, Aug. PETURSON, NEWTON*, Effect of leaf rust on wheat, Can. J. Res. Feb. FOLSOM, BONDE*, Bacterial xylem disease of potato, Pl. Dis. Rep. No. 6; also WEISS, check list rev. cont'd. CORMACK, Snow mold of alfalfa etc., Can. J. Res. Feb. TYNER, Cereal root rot: crop debris etc. and soil microbiological flora, Ibid. NYLAND, Undescribed Heterobasidiomycete from Washington, Mycol. July-Aug. THORNBERRY*, Synthetic medium for *Streptomyces griseus*, Arch. Biochem., March; also* Utilization of carbohydrates by *Streptomyces griseus*, Ill. Acad. Sci. Trans. 39: 57-64 (1946). KAUFERT, Aspen preservative treatment, USDA Lake States Aspen Rep. 19. LEFEBVRE*, Ergot and sterility in Bahia grass; BRIERLEY*, Aster yellows in shallot and gladiolus, Phytopath. July. In Pl. Dis. Rep. July 15; KREITLOW, Powdery mildew on forage legumes in greenhouse; THORNBERRY*, Peach bacterial spot in Illinois; THOMAS*, Dutch elm disease in Colorado; MARTIN, Lupine brown spot in Louisiana; GARCIA RADA, Peach powdery mildew control in Peru. ANDERSON, Axel, Gibberella zeae on wheat, Phytopath. Aug. Sept. issue: DAVIDSON, Development of bacterial soft rot of potato tuber initials; KHAN, Technique for growing citrus seedlings under aseptic conditions. VAUGHN**, Potato ring rot control thru seed dips etc., Mich. Agr. Exp. Sta. Quar. Bul. Aug. Pl. Dis. Rep. Aug. 15 and Sept. 15; WEISS, Check list rev. cont'd. In Sept. 15 also the ff.: THOMAS, Potato late blight, Colorado; SACKSTON, 2,4D on flax disease, Canada; ROANE, Oat varieties and powdery mildew; PRESTON, Oklahoma host list cont'd. WELLENSIEK, Rye pollen and kernel weight, Landouwkundig Tijdschrift Mar/Apr. (Also articles 7, 8 on *Pisum* crosses in Genetica 1945 and 1946). (MAINE Old Timers*)—Potato research, repr. from Me. Bul. 460, June.

Omitted in report of USDA Yearbook 1943-47: AAMODT*, Grasslands in Alaska, 607-16; ALLISON (J.L.), Some diseases of forage grasses, 261-66; JOHNSON (Howard W.), Some diseases of forage legumes, 267-72.

Output by the local yokels:

C. M. CHRISTENSEN*, oak wilt, Minn. Hort. May.
KERNKAMP, should soybean seed be treated? Minn. Farm and Home Sci. May. J. J. CHRISTENSEN, Disease gardens test new varieties, Ibid. STAKMAN, LOEGERING, Reaction of wheat varieties in seedling stage to P. gr. tr. races in greenhouse, mimeogr. See DAVIDSON in other section also.

* Other authors also.

LOCALS

Wedded on August 20 at the St. Petri Lutheran Church were Arloine Schmidt, Secretary of the Division, and Charles E. Logsdon, research Associate and potato-man-extraordinary. Representatives from *Phytobrickhaus erectus* were prominent among those attending the ceremony, including even the Big Chief. The Logsdons are now at home in a pretty little cottage which nestles close to the Rosemount potato plots.

As a direct result of the item above and Arloine's subsequent retirement, two bright new faces have appeared in the front office: the Misses Margaret Johnson, the new secretary, and Helen Hermstad.

The Chief's policy of not accepting honoraria has again resulted in benefit to the seminar library. The fifty dollar check offered to Dr. Stakman by Dr. J. G. Horsfall, director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, for an address delivered at their annual Field Day has been turned over to the seminar library for the purchase of books.

A light gray Studebaker is carrying two gentlemen from Hyderabad on a month's tour of the west: A. A. Anwar and Syed Hassan decided to see America first and

picked the Mountain and Pacific States as the area they wanted to tour.

More news about vehicles: (a) The beautiful 1948 Mercury station wagon, complete with radio and white sidewall tires, to be seen parked outside our third floor parking space, is the final generous answer of the University authorities to requests for a personnel and equipment carrier for field trips and work in outlying plots. To show the veneration in which the new Mercury is held, it is reported that Mr. Eagle now has two pair of trousers always at hand, the old ones for the truck, the fine ones for the station wagon. (b) Proud new owners of the only car on the campus with a canvas fender are J. M. Daly and M. Shurtleff.

Current guardian of the traditions of the Division is Professor Tommy King. Tommy's first campaign was to revive the afternoon coffee hour tradition which had fallen victim to general laxness and absence of cookies. We are happy to report that under Dr. King's prodding both defects have been remedied.

"Mose" Levine reports that daughter Barbara in California has made him a grandfather: Elizabeth Karen Reinhart was born on August 31. This is the second Aurora item on an Old Timer "granpa" — but there must be others. Let's hear about them, huh?

Night Brings Out the Stars

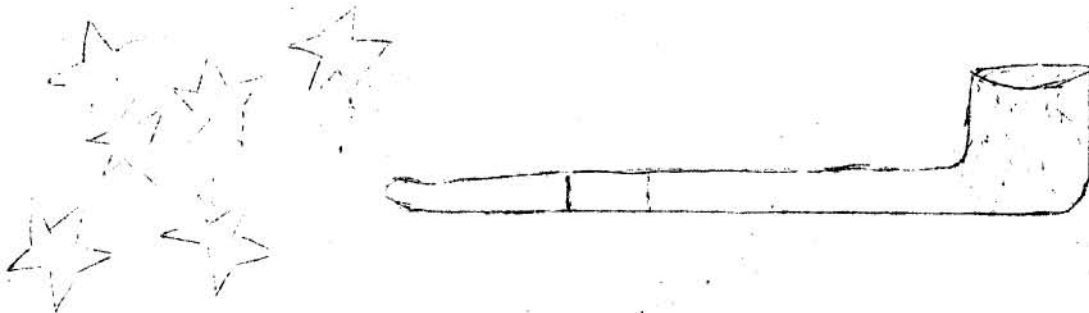
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This was a favorite topic for essays in those early days when children were supposed to be philosophers. There always seemed to be some disdain of writing about something concrete or something that the youngster could understand. Unless he was aspiring to the stars he was supposed to have no intelligence. It was in those days also that there was considerable disdain for including in the school curriculum anything that required the use of hands or that did not have top spiritual priority. Those days have changed. There is an insidious tendency now to over-emphasize the immediately utilitarian. The idea is prevalent that education should consist largely of training and indoctrination.

There are no patent-medicine panaceas in education. When people are told what to think, indoctrination is substituted for education. When people are told exactly how to do research they are not doing research; they are operators and not investigators. When people, on the other hand, are expected to do research and contribute to the solution of problems without being given the necessary time and facilities, there is deplorable lack of comprehension and perspective as to needs and values in research.

No country has a monopoly of wisdom and facilities for enabling teachers and investigators to contribute to progress. Some countries, however, are more backward than others; and yet, just as man in his evolution has learned to overcome the effects of unfavorable environment, just so can the best scientists function despite handicaps and even change attitudes with respect to research. It is of course absurd to say that scientists will do their best work when the weight of discouragement is heaviest. This attitude is more or less epitomized by the old cliché that "Night brings out the stars." Stars probably do appear brighter on a dark night; but scientists do not thrive because of hardships and handicaps but rather in spite of them. Those who do survive discouragements, however, and contribute significantly to progress are after all the real stars.



Have you seen the cover page of SCIENCE for September 24?????????????

APS HAS ANOTHER BABY!

Seventy-three people signed the seminar book on July 22 and 23 as evidence that they attended the first summer meeting of the North Central Division of the American Phytopathological Society. Of the 73, 28 were local and 45 from outside of Minnesota. Seven of the 45 "foreigners" were Old Timers. Representatives from Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio, Nebraska, Indiana, South Dakota, Michigan, Illinois, Oklahoma and Kansas were present.

The North Central Division was formally organized, complete with a constitution, officers, and dues of \$5.00 per year. Officers elected were Dr. H. C. Young, President, Dr. J. C. Walker, Vice president, Dr. M. F. Kernkamp, Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Buchholz, Councillor.

No formal papers were presented except a dissertation on late wilt of flax, by Thor Kommedahl, which was given at the banquet held at the Union. Comments on this paper indicate that the general consensus was that Thor should give up science. He could probably serve his country best by joining Jack Benny on the radio, thus being able to contribute large amounts to the Federal treasury as income tax.

Several round table sessions were held to discuss matters of regional importance to plant pathology, and demonstrations of research work were made in the field, greenhouses, and laboratories. Due to the drought, the cereals were not in ideal condition for disease demonstration. J. J. C. tried hard to take the blame for the drought, but hardly anyone believed him. In the laboratory, Matt Moore's gadgets for inoculating plants and otherwise mechanizing science drew much attention.

A group photograph was taken, reproduced below:

AAAS CENTENARY CELEBRATION, SEPTEMBER 13-17

When the Big Chief returned from the recent AAAS Centenary in the Nation's capitol, the inhabitants of Phytobrickhaus erectus shook the hand that shook the hand of the President of the United States, Harry S. Truman. This is not hearsay but fact substantiated by the author, who was an eye witness.

Besides shaking the hand of Harry Truman, the President-elect of the AAAS was a very busy man attending innumerable committee meetings, executive meetings, and the like, in preparation for his becoming Acting President in 1949.

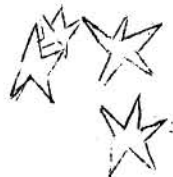
As is well known by now, this meeting of the AAAS celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the organization. The theme was "One World of Science"—very apropos under present strained world conditions. The mornings and evenings were devoted to symposia and special sessions covering a range of scientific subject matter that could tax the imagination of the most widely educated scientist. The afternoons were devoted to tours of the many scientific centers located in and around Washington, among them Beltsville, The National Naval Medical Center, Army Medical Center, National Bureau of Standards, and U. S. Naval Research Laboratory.

Considerable effort was expended in discussing atomic research in various scientific fields; and one room of the Statler was adorned with amazing gadgets, instruments, radio-active algae, frogs, fungi, and various other strange phenomena that not only confused the writer but scared him a little.

Old Timers seen at the meetings were Dr. and Mrs. Tervet, Dr. and Mrs. Cassell, Drs. J. Lewis Allison, LeClerg, Rodenhiser, Barker, Weiss, Lambert, Mitchell, Ezekiel, Dorothy Day, and Fred Thatcher, the last-named from Canada. Also present was Honorary Old Timer G. H. Coons. Present inhabitants of Phytobrickhaus erectus attending were, if you haven't guessed, The Big Chief and Kernkamp.

"COMINGS AND GOINGS"

- July 1 - Mary Ann Swaebly from Marquette University joined us to work for a Ph.D in Plant Pathology. She received her degree from Marquette in journalism.
- July 4 - Dr. John R. Vaughn and family stopped enroute from Michigan to Colorado on a vacation trip. In the summer time yet! And was it warm!
- July 9 - Melander Day. "Spike" Stewart and Melander, Doc, and Loegering led the three cars. As car no. 2 passed car no. 1 parked on the outskirts of Minneapolis, Tubby was recognized by his profile. "Little Napoleon" Hamilton kept the show on the road, and her car got back early --at 10:30 p.m.
- July 11- Doc left for an Executive Committee meeting of the AAAS. While there he saw many O. T.'s, including the Tervets at Camp Detrick. He returned on the 15th.
- July 13- Dr. Cavel from Uruguay visited for several days. Dr. Cavel was interested in gathering some information on corn and soybean diseases.
- July 14- New Indian student Abrar M. Khan arrived and intends to stay for a couple of years work in plant pathology. Khan was formerly a lecturer at the Moslem University in Aligark, India.
- July 15- Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Henry of Edmonton, Alberta, paid our Thursday evening Seminar a surprise visit. Dr. Henry gave a short summary of his recent travels through the States and Canada.
- July 19- Ewald Favret (wife + 1 baby) of the Instituto de Fitotecna in Castelar, Argentina, joined us for some advanced work on rusts. He intends to stay for three or four months.
- Dudley Preston came to make some forest path collections for class use in Oklahoma and to attend the N.C. Phytopath meetings.
- July 20 to 21 - Forty-five miscellaneous plant pathologists arrived to partake of the North central States Phytopath. Meetings.
- July 22 to 23 - The same forty-five left.
- July 26- Inam U. Khan left for California.
- July 28- H. A. Rodenhiser O. T. PhD arrived from Washington D. C., spoke at Thursday night Seminar about cereal mildew in the Middle and South Atlantic States, and departed the next day.
- August 2- The Pillsbury group visited the greenhouse and lab.
- August 4- Dr. Garcia, head of the Department of Agriculture of Ecuador, visited. He is an old friend of Orellana and Rodriguez.
- Dr. Dykstra visited.
- August 7- Miss H. Hart left for San Diego for a vacation.
- August 9- Nieseau, of Norway, spent the morning in the department.
- August 10- Nancy Ling returned to write up her thesis for publication.



- August 17 - J. Lewis Allison arrived by private plane to discuss soybeans.
- August 18 - The Big Chief spouted on "Science and Human Subsistence" before about 500 attending the Connecticut Experiment Station annual Field Day at New Haven. Three members of the audience were Old Timers C. V. Kightlinger, of Massachusetts Agricultural College, John Rowell and A. W. Feldman of Rhode Island. After the talk, Dr. Stakman was presented with a gavel made from wood of the famous old Wethersfield elm, victim of the Dutch elm disease. Hand-turned by Dr. J. G. Horsfall, plant pathologist and Director of the Station, the symmetrical and beautifully grained gavel reminds one of an apothecary's mortar, a symbol of science.
- August 28 - Dr. Teller left for a position with Park Davis Co. in Detroit.
- August 30 - M. Timonin from Ottawa, Canada, arrived on his way back from Agronomist meeting in Colorado.
- September 3 Freeman Weiss of Washington, D. C. here for a short visit.
- September 7 Wayne Ellet departed to reassume teaching duties at Ohio State.
- Margaret Johnson, new secretary, reported to replace Mrs. Logsdon.
- Howard Ehrlich, of Milwaukee, Wis., and Marquette University, arrived to study for a Ph.D. in plant pathology.
- September 9 Doc left for Washington and Chicago to attend meetings in connection with the Atomic Energy Commission, the AAAS Centenary, and Review of Microbiology. All in one swoop!
- September 13 Martin Tviet of Norway arrived to take one year of advanced work in plant pathology.
- September 15 "Thorny" and wife, Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Thornberry, of Illinois, drove in for a short visit--we believe the first for many years. They had been stopping at experiment stations and elsewhere along their way through Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota and were enroute to Canada.
- September 17 "Arly" Logsdon left to assume duties as housewife at Rosemount.
- Louise Dodsall began an enforced rest. Friends may write to her at home, 1332 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul.
- September 19 J. J. Christensen spent several days at Camp Detrick, Maryland, and Washington, D. C.
- September 20 "Bocky" Bockstahler returned to initiate the new sugar-beet King, C. T. Schneider.
- September 22 Abdel G. Kausar, from the Agricultural College and Research Institute in Lyallpur, West Punjab, Pakistan, arrived to spend two years working towards a Ph.D.
- September 28 Bjorn "Barny" Peturson and wife arrived from Winnipeg for six months at Minnesota.
- September 30 Tewfik Abdel-Hak departed for Beltsville and his native Egypt.

Seminar faced stiff competition from members of the lowly plant kingdom for attention this summer, and even failed to meet in at least one instance. Moreover, there occurred the unusual this year, for, instead of plant diseases, it was the pathologists who were endemic, and yes, even epidemic. That they were endemic was shown the first Thursday in July, when talks of field excursions were given by Spike Stewart, Daly, Kommedahl, Gibler, Kernkamp, Ellett, Fridlund, Goto, and the Chief, on what they saw of country life in Minnesota...and more, as Dr. Kerny introduced Dr. King as a new staff member here...then Miss Swaebly of Marquette University was elected to our scientific clique, reserved only for the elite.... when virtues of establishing an agricultural museum were fully emphasized, Stu Andrews spoke feelingly on the pole blight of western white pine.

That plant pathologists were epidemic at University Farm was evident on July 22nd, when the campus seethed with them. In lieu of seminar, members of the about-to-be-formed North Central Division of the A. P. S. met in the Ag. Campus Union to discuss the Research and Marketing Act.

In the intervening seminars, this is what happened.... "Seminar shall not meet tonight," was intoned through these learned halls on the near-disastrous July 8.... Melander Day! And the rust scouts roamed far and wide searching desperately for that Minnesota Golden Rust.... meanwhile the seminar room was vacant, and, as retribution for this mass truancy, nature cloaked the state in nervous darkness as the mercury rose to an enervating 101 degrees, and the relative humidity hovered about 110 per cent. But came the dawn and with it, normalcy.

The following week, July 15, witnessed the appearance of A. M. Khan; teacher and scientist from northern India... Our good friends A. W. Henry and Kathleen returned to visit seminar, and, in his greetings, Dr. Henry admitted the roads of the United States were a shade better than those of Canada... After having related the misfortunes of one M. F. Kernkamp, who was rained out of a gathering of farmers at Fulda and completely forgotten in the program at Waseca, Moore, Loegering, and Miller, in each of three different trips, related their adventures... The tea subsequently held in honor of Stu Andrews was garnished by such elegant praises as to evoke from the Chief the remark that Andrews must be the "apotheosis of charm and a paragon of intellectual efficiency".

New to our conclave is Ewald A. Favret, who left Argentina to study here, and arrived at our seminar July 29th... Munnecke's review of Keitt's paper on *Venturia inaequalis* touched off an inquiry of the composition of asci in a given perithecium... Mutterings by Carl Eide, during this discussion included.... commercial men are saviours of the race.... and, one should strive to be happy, though agnostic on certain scientific questions....

On August 5th, Goodman finished reviewing his paper in time for Boosalis to tell of Warren's discovery of an undescribed species of *Papulospora*... according to Boosalis, several pronounciations of this genus are possible... Prexy Munnecke called attention to an article on hybrid corn, where it is stated categorically that Henry Wallace did not invent hybrid corn, popular magazines to the contrary notwithstanding... That settled that... J. J. Christensen, father of 3 boys, reported on the flax situation as it exists in western Minnesota.

Bockstahler outlined the tale of the tap root tip rot^a of sugar beets, which led eventually to the effect of salt on various crops... J. J. Christensen, again told of flax and included this time a report of the brassy flea beetle, vector for *Bacterium stewartii*... The bad habit of cigarette smoking was, shall we say, condoned, just before the Chief reviewed a paper on quick decline... That just about ended August the 12th.

^a Often confused with tip root tap rot of sugar beets.

Greetings from Kightlinger, Horsfall, and others from the East were transmitted through Dr. Stakman, August 19th...Gripes concerning refrigerators and open windows during rainy weather were reasonably brief, and then Boosalis, frequently expressing his admiration for Bawden, reviewed one of his papers on viruses...Professor Eide revealed the presence of late blight in the Red River Valley, as found by his friend, Fridlund.

Melander turned up on August 26th with greetings from old timers, met en route from here and there...The taxonomy of tobacco by Kommedahl was followed by Kernkamp's summary of the proceedings of the Alfalfa Improvement Conference, held at Lincoln, Nebraska.

The five seminars held in September consumed the literature offerings of Clyde Christensen, Munnecke, Krog, LeTourneau, Eide, Stakman, and Daly...New students introduced during these times were Howard Ehrlich of Marquette and Klaus of Pakistan...Herbert Johnson and Bjorn Peturson, former students here, have returned to continue their association with the Minnesota Seminar...Special talks included Miller's on the tobacco culture and physiology of fermentation...Momentous decisions made this month saw the scheduling of a Division picnic, at Happy Hollow? Langford Park? Macent and Branca? No...Como...Honors for being the most able in introducing Old Timers and for the ability to pass-the-buck when convenient, go to J. J. Christensen, for his skillful performance on September 30th when introducing Peturson...Bjorn finally had to introduce himself...Tsk...Tsk...Treats for tonight were furnished in absentia by Old Timer Rodrigo Orellano...

In conclusion, it was noted that, although there was much for seminar to compare against, the attendance for a comparable period in 1947 showed a difference of only 1.5 persons...And this difference is not statistically significant...

Are You Having a Nice Vacation?

In the Good Old Days, long before Plant Pathology had championship kittenball teams, some of the members of the department were in the habit of making annual treks to Itasca Park. There they fished, swam (or more probably just waded), discussed the situation, and once in a while, just before dinner, ventured as much as 50 yards into the woods on what they were pleased to call botanical or mycological forays. To them, Itasca Park is synonymous with Vacation.

This year, during August, Christensen, C., went up to the Forestry and Biology Station at Itasca to teach mycology. During his tenure there he received a few brief notes from members of the department who were basking in the pleasant sun in the experimental plots at St. Paul. That is, when they were not resting in their modern, comfortable offices. All of these notes ended with the statement that the senders hoped Christensen was having a nice vacation at Itasca. This puzzled Christensen. As he labored through bogs up to his chest, or pushed through hazel brush that would stop a Sherman tank, or clambered over poison ivy up to his waist, laden with a packsack containing 40 to 70 pounds of assorted logs with wood-rotting fungi on them, beset by hordes of hungry mosquitoes, and attacked by big, black, bald-faced kamikaze hornets, he often wondered whether he was having a Vacation.

His doubts were resolved when Don Munnecke and Mike Boosalis came up, the last week of the session, to collect material for most of the classes taught in the department during the school year. Within half an hour after they arrived they were deep in the brush near Floating Bog Bay, nearly concealed by swarms of mosquitoes that were after their fresh blood. They could be recognized only by the fact that, here or there, the toe of a boot, the blade of an axe, or part of a long saw protruded out beyond the dark, swirling swarm of mosquitoes. An occasional hornet, jet

propelled, broke through the screen of lesser insects and got in a few jabs. They were late for dinner, but it didn't matter, because the dinner that night was stew, and neither of them likes stew. After dinner they worked in the lab., on specimens they had collected, until midnight, when a break in the wire north of the park put the place in darkness. They slept well, if not long.

The next morning, by the time Moore, Hart, and Eide had dawdled into their pleasant offices back at U. Farm, Don and Mike had felled two trees, each 18 inches through, had cut them into six-foot sections, and hauled the sections out to a woods trail. Just as they got the last of approximately half a cord of logs out to the trail, Christensen appeared. He was enjoying their nice Vacation, and suggested that they cut enough aspen infected with Hypoxylon to do for a class of 50 students, and hoped that it could be done by noon. So they felled aspen, in a dense stand of poison ivy, cut out sections of the trunks with the cankers on them, and hauled them out. In the afternoon they went across the lake, and, deep in the brush about 2 miles off any trail, found some fairly large trees bearing good fruit bodies of Fomes pini, Fomes pinicola, and other desirable fungi. These trees they cut and hauled back to the lake, on their shoulders, across bogs, through thickets, up and down hill. During this second day the blisters and aches they developed were on their hands and in their backs, hardly the place where plant pathologists at University Farm get aches and blisters. In the evening they had more fungi to study.

After 4 days of this Vacation, Munnecke, looking at his raw and bleeding hands, put down his axe as he was cutting a mammoth aspen, took a deep breath, and said with strong feeling, "— —, Christensen, the first so-and-so back at the University Farm who asks me if I have had a 'nice vacation' I am going to bust him one." Christensen straightened up, with the help of both hands on his aching back, glared back at Munnecke, and growled, "When you get the -!- *x /- down, I'll kick him!" Boosalis, still in the pink, carelessly brushed away a tall sprig of poison ivy that had been scratching his face, flicked a giant hornet off his wrist, where it had been trying vainly to sting him, spit in the eye of an advancing wolf and said, "All right, boys, lets get on with this Vacation and then we'll have a beer." They did.

The rest of the week was more or less the same. Boosalis found some truffles. Stak in seminar the next week claimed that he used to find them all the time, but Boosalis had the actual truffles to prove that he had found some. They collected a wealth of material for various classes. But they still do not think that it was a nice Vacation. Doubters are referred to Christensen, C.