

JUNE 1977

Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations and the raspitations 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 run dry
Let the spout squirt and never lose power

AS THE HEAD SEES IT

Dear Ole Timers:

Dr. E. C. Stakman was admitted to the Midway Memorial Hospital in St. Paul on July 19, 1977 with what was initially diagnosed as congestive heart disease. His condition was characterized by an accumulation of fluid in the body, high blood pressure and difficulty in breathing. The condition improved rapidly within 48 hours after admission to the hospital and he continues to improve steadily. As of July 26, he was sitting up, feeding himself and speaking clearly. There is some evidence of a very light stroke but a final diagnosis on this aspect of the problem will not be available for several days. He is in Midway Hospital, 1700 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104. A phone call would not be appropriate but I am sure he would enjoy receiving a note or a card from you. We think the problem, at least in part was a result of the excessively hot weather that we have been experiencing thus far this summer. We will keep you informed of any significant changes in his condition.

On June 7, 1977 I accepted the position Dean for Research and Professor, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida at Gainesville. The appointment is effective September 1, 1977 and the family and I plan to move during the last week of August. In the new position I will be responsible for the overall direction of Florida's statewide agricultural research program. This involves coordination of the activities of sixteen academic departments on campus and approximately 22 outstate research and education centers. It appeals to me as an excellent opportunity to become effectively involved in the broad area of agricultural research and development in a state where agriculture is one of the most important industries.

Needless to say, I am leaving the Department with mixed emotions. I have been here five years and have thoroughly enjoyed working with the staff and students of the Department and the Administration of the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics in the development and expansion of programs in research, education and extension as they relate to needs of the state in particular and the profession, the country and the world in general. I think we have made significant accomplishments during the past five years. Among the major accomplishments I would list the acquisition of new faculty, the establishment of an undergraduate major in plant health technology which currently has approximately 75 students enrolled, the development of research and educational programs in environmental pathology and increases in the amount and diversity of outside support provided to the Department.

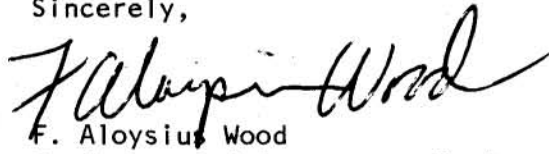
I certainly appreciate the support that you as old timers and alumni of the Department have provided and I am confident the Department and administration will be successful in finding an outstanding successor. Incidentally, a Search and Screening Committee has been appointed and Dr. Keith Wharton, College of Agriculture, 277 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108, has been appointed Chairman of the Search and Screening Committee. I am sure that he and other members of the Search Committee would appreciate receiving any recommendations you may have with respect to the search for a new head.

Finally, I want to express my most sincere appreciation to the faculty, staff and students of the Department and to the administration of the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics for assistance they have provided during the past five years. Accomplishments we have made were truly the result of a team effort which gives me all the more reason to believe they will persist.

I look forward to joining the ranks of the old timers again and to seeing many of you in East Lansing during the upcoming APS meetings in August.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Aloysius Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "F" and "W".

F. Aloysius Wood
Professor and Department Head

OLD TIMERS COLUMN

On October 29, 1976 a farewell tea was held for John Laurence, who had passed his PhD final Oct. 21, and later left to take a position with the Boyce Thompson Institute, Yonkers, N.Y. After about six months John wrote that he had been in touch with George Hudler (Cornell) and Doug Sarojak (New Jersey). "Everybody seems to be happy, although I must admit, I've got a mild case of claustrophobia, with all the ridges and eastern type mountains around here, not to mention the 10 million+ people that live here. Take care of things in the flat lands."

Howard Schwartz, MS 1975, was awarded the PhD at the University of Nebraska "recently" and, according to Phytopath News, went to work for CIAT in Cali, Colombia. He worked on bean diseases in Nebraska and he will work on bean diseases in Columbia. We learn, on good authority, that CIAT stand for Centro Internacinal de Agricultura Tropical.

Bill Anderson, PhD 1974, who has been with the National Park Service at Bay St. Louis, Miss. since he got his degree, expects to be reassigned this spring to the North Atlantic Regional Office of the N.S.P., in Boston, Mass.

George Herman Starr, PhD 1932, is retired and now lives in Fort Collins, CO after 43 years with the University of Wyoming at Laramie.

After 5 years in Brasil with Planal-sucar (Programa Nacional de Mehloramento da Cana de Acucar) Chet Wismer, PhD 1950, will return to Hawaii in May after a week in Las Vegas. He will make a short trip to Brasil in August and Sept. to help with the Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists.

A. Hadidi, MS 1962, is now Research Microbiologist, PPI, ARS, USDA, at Beltsville, MD.

Rollie Line, PhD 1962, was in Russia in July, 1976 on a team of entomologists and pathologists working on integrated pest management. He and Fran were back in Europe in September to attend the rust meetings in Switzerland and do a little sight-seeing. Fran is doing teaching and research in the Horticulture Department at Washington State U.

Don Stewart, PhD 1953, Adjunct Prof., U of Arizona, leaves May 27 for Sana in the Arab Republic of Yemen. He is going there on a 2-year assignment as an agronomist to work on sorghum production and will also take seed of rust resistant wheats to try at altitudes from sea level to 12,000 ft. Don says Yemen is noted as the empire of the late Queen of Sheba and as the place where algebra was discovered. Well.

Don's daughter Bonnie married an engineering professor May 8. They will travel to Egypt where Bonnie will complete her PhD thesis on Egyptian agriculture. Daughter Margo and husband live in California.

Lars Semb, RA 1957-58, Stein Telneset PhD 1963 and Leif Sundheim, PhD 1964, are, according to our sources, all in the same building in Vollebakk, Norway but each has a different address in the Aurora file. Perhaps one of them can explain that. Lars works on chemical control of powdery mildew of cucumbers and soil-borne diseases of tomatoes and cucumbers, all in the glasshouse. Stein is in charge of certification of potato, cereal and grass seed; he has a new glasshouse for virus work. Stein attended a potato meeting in New Brunswick in August, 1977, but didn't make it to Minnesota.

