

The days of March 14 to 19 were red-letter days for all of us fortunate enough to be living in *Fabrikius erectus*, because they mark the presence of Dr. Ernst Gäumann in our midst. To our good fortune and the Winnipeg Rust Lab's misfortune, bad weather grounded his plane in Minneapolis, giving us two extra days of his time. His visit was crucially timed at the end of winter quarter when Gäumann this and Gäumann that had been quoted in *Mycology, Principles, History, and Seminar* until everyone was concerned with mastering *vergleichende Morphologie, Biologie der pflanzenbewohnenden parasitischen Pilze, or die Infektionslehre*. Even a movie star might have been flattered by the line of admirers with books held out to be autographed!

From early morning until late at night Dr. Gäumann was tireless, entertaining and inspiring us individually and collectively, at lunch, at coffee hour, at dinner, and special seminar, hearing about our work or telling us about his, and about Switzerland. Because Switzerland is the home of this scientific grandson of deBary, it is a country we all want to visit, for Dr. Gäumann seems to each of us a personal friend whom we want to meet again. *Aufwiedersehen!*

## OLD TIMERS

In Argentina, where recent Old-Timer Ernest P. duCHARME is beginning a study of the *tristeza* disease of citrus, former Minnesotans staged a reunion in Buenos Aires. In attendance were José Vallega (Minn. 1938), Elisa Hirschhorn (1944-45), Hugo Cenóz (1946), and E. A. Pujals. Vallega is chief of the Department of *Inmunologia*, which is concerned with the breeding of disease-resistant agricultural crops. Cenóz works on cereal rusts, the Senorita on smuts. Ernie, the contributor of this news, described the grasshopper plague--"they come over in tremendous migratory flights that look like clouds in the sky"....defoliating orange trees but not touching tangerines....Are there races?

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Missionary from Mexico J. (Dutch) G. HARRAR came to New York and Minnesota in March, arriving here with the first robin. As field director for agriculture in Mexico for the Rockefeller Foundation, Dr. Harrar inspected his three fledglings at Minnesota---M. de los Angeles Melendez, Luis Carlos Felix and Carlos Barbosa---consulted the Big Chief on policies, spoke to Thursday Seminar and to a special seminar in Agronomy. He also brought greetings from other Old Timers in Mexico, Borlaug, Rupert, Robles, Ortega, and Rodriguez.

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The last-named, Ing. José Rodriguez V., has become a big chief in his own right now, at the National School of Agriculture, Chapinog, Mexico. He has been transferred from San Jacinto, D. F., where he was working with Dr. Harrar's group, to Chapinog for teaching and research....The Rodriguezes report that they heard recently from José's former Office-mate in Room 410, Plant Pathology, Dr. Ellis F. Darley, now in Liberia:

Direct news from the DARLEYS indicate work, fun, and frolic on the Firestone Plantations--and no loss of a sense of humor, even when they think and talk of their home State, Colorado. *TIME* magazine, Dec. 30: "...In Denver, Mrs. Julia Peterson, arrested for throwing stones through windows of the strike-bound May Co. department store, denied that she had anything to do with the strike, explained: 'I'm just against Colorado and everything and everybody in it!'" Darley sent the clipping, says he saw it first, and that "Investigation revealed that the demented Mrs. P. was an agent of the jealous and disillusioned Minnesota Chamber of Commerce."

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A postcard from Jodhpur, India, mailed February 7, says:

"We had HANNA and Blakeslee over here and it has been a great pleasure to meet them. We all are proud of Minnesota and U.S." --GATTANI.

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From Dr. D. B. Mundkur, New Delhi, came enthusiastic record of speeches presented by delegate from the Canadian Research Council W. F. HANNA at the botanical section of the Science Congress...at the end of his talk to students and staff of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, he "received an ovation." ... "I personally felt a bit home-sick," says Mundkur, "when I heard his mid-west accent and wanted very much to be back at Ames or St. Paul once again."

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Jack WESTERN changes his address before we even have opportunity to send out his old one! The new one is Elswick Hall, Elswick Park, Newcastle on Tyne, England. His note reminds us of the days in the Tottering Tower and Western's friendly habit of saying Good Morning!

Dr. Sydney Dickinson, pioneer investigator on genetics of smuts, is at it again: in order to give a paper in March, he had to sidetrack the rusts and the mildews. He says conditions are not so good Cambridge: shortage of teachers, shortage of sugar, and many other things... Daughter Margaret is about to enter college... Sydney, Frances and Margaret send greetings from Linnett Hill, 213 Huntingdon Road.

The WELLENSIEKS, of Wageningen, Holland, send "Een Gelukkig en Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar."

Dr. Bela Husz wrote on December 16 that, although conditions in Hungary are not what they might be,

"A sign of improving conditions is that copies of scientific papers sent by the USDA are beginning to arrive much to our satisfaction, since for years we have not the slightest idea what happened out in the laboratories in the world."

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The rumor quoted in the last issue of AURORA concerning Chet WISMER has been substantiated! He was married on December 21 in Hawaii to Dr. D. G. Clark, a resident of Honolulu but formerly of Milan, Missouri. Best man at the ceremony was James LYLE, recent Old Timer. Another Old Timer, Dr. E. G. ANDERSON, had the honor of being one of the ushers. If the newspaper picture is any criterion, the WISMERS are due for a happy life! AURORA extends felicitations.

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Dr. Robert J. NOBLE, Under-Secretary of Agriculture in New South Wales, served on the panel of adjudicators to select "The Most Progressive Farmer" of the State, "the winner to be sent to the U.S. for six months, there to live among agricultural people...and to report on his return the latest American developments in agriculture and stock breeding methods." It will be recalled that Dr. Noble stopped in St. Paul enroute from the FAO Conference in Quebec, to which he was one of the Australian delegates.

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A. E. "Ed." ANDREWS, formerly with the State Board of Agriculture in Delaware, has gone to Pennsylvania State College, where he will be Extension Plant Pathologist under the guidance of Dr. R. S. Kirby. Kirby, it will be remembered, was one of the early rust epidemiologists at Minnesota -- about the time when Melander was serving his apprenticeship in the prep lab of the Tottering Tower.

Dr. Reiner BONDE, who had dormitory quarters in the Tottering Tower, was here on January 8 and gave a talk to the seminar on new diseases of potatoes. This man really knows his potatoes; he can also tell you how they grow them in Maine and how to protect them from diseases.

Old Timer Ralph LINDGREN, who does seem to get around, was served breakfast on March 4 in the home of Paul and Clemencia SIGGERS, at Saucier, Mississippi. Greetings were sent by the Siggers; with Lindgren probably it was a case of "eat and run."

Traveling with fruit from Wenatchee, Washington, to New York twice during the past winter on test runs, old timer Ted WRIGHT waved to us from the train as he went by--so he says! Mrs. Wright, formerly Gladys Saline, is working in a fruit brokerage firm, trying to sell the fruit before it spoils so that papa will have fewer problems to solve.....As to housing, the Wrights have progressed from the "tourist cabin squatter" class to the chief's home while he was on vacation, and then to a small cottage. The latter has no space for their 6-year-old wedding presents, which have been out of storage only 18 months in that time.

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On January 7, the newly-organized COLORADO SEMINAR sent their program, best wishes, and an invitation to the Minnesota Seminar to attend their sessions. Meetings are held on Tuesday at 7:45 p.m.

Signed by Old Timers: Robert E. Atkinson  
Dorothy Gordon  
W. D. Thomas, Jr.  
Merle Michaelson  
et al.

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The same song, but this time in Walt Thomas' voice: "My thesis gets a little farther along each night." Sends his regards from Colorado to everybody at Minnesota and wishes he could be here to see some of the returning Old Timers.

The Dane from Askov, Minnesota, Axel ANDERSON, sent one of the shortest letters on record on February 18, because he was working day and night against a deadline for his thesis at Michigan State. Incidentally, his daughter is four months old!

Max SCHUSTER, Old Timer from the Minnesota Iron Range, stopped at University Farm on January 2 to retrieve his books from storage in the sub-basement. He brought greetings from his coworkers Arden Sherf and Ian W. Tervet, stationed at Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Hans" Earle W. HANSON says that "much water has run under the bridge since I left St. Paul," which was August 1, when he took the job vacated by "Lew" Allison in Forage Crops and Diseases at Wisconsin. Already he seems to have many projects underway on diseases of red clover, but nevertheless he says he misses the seminars, particularly the evening meetings.

Very recent Old Timer W. E. "Sax" SACKSTON has been attending flax meetings in Winnipeg, listening to the Minneapolis symphony on their visit there, buying another dictionary--all typical Sackstonian activities.

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Old Timers at Cincinnati. (or Better Late than Left Out?)

Thirty-four old timers and thirty young ones did their best to keep the old fount foaming and the spout squirting with all its power at the Cincinnati, Phytopath meetings. All agreed they were among the best we have had, particularly the bull sessions with all their old flavor. The only sour note was the absence of the Big Chief, whose train was sidetracked to Boston for the AAAS meetings.

South, North, East and West were all represented. "Pepe" Rodriguez, Ortega, Rupert, and Robles flew up from across the border with greetings from Dutch Harrar and Norm Borlaug and maybe a brazo for Miss Melendes. Cincinnati was a stopover for Wes Martin enroute to Washington. From the South, this side of the border, came E. K. Vaughn along with Chilton to preside over one of the sections and introduce Coyt Wilson for his talk on goober rots. Old timer and golfer Jimmie Seal was on hand to lend Coyt moral support.

Dorny Valteau, "Man Mountain" Henson and Ed. Johnson drove in from old Kentucky. Dorny expounded on tobacco diseases while Ed kept the council working all hours of the day and night. Extension specialist Tommy King and Prof. Clyde Allison came across the line from Ohio. Clyde knows the hotel manager -- hence the good chow at the Minnesota dinner.

"Doc" Leach and John Vaughn came over from the Mountaineer State and Axel Anderson and Rodenhiser left the Maryland pathogens to shift for themselves. Rollo Lorenz, late of Peru and now stationed in Washington, was on hand, as was Dr. Beech to give his speech from a high chair. Kreitlow, Tyler, Ed Andrews, Davies, Davidson, Bonde and Newhall complete the roster of Easterners.

New Old Timer Eric Sharvelle was around to uphold his reputation as a story teller. Thornberry and Dave Gottlieb left Illinois long enough to tell us about streptomycin. Bob Cassell made up the third member of the Illinois contingent. Berny Shema, from some paper mill in Wisconsin, and Hank Darling, professor at Madison, provided a place in the sun for the Badger State.

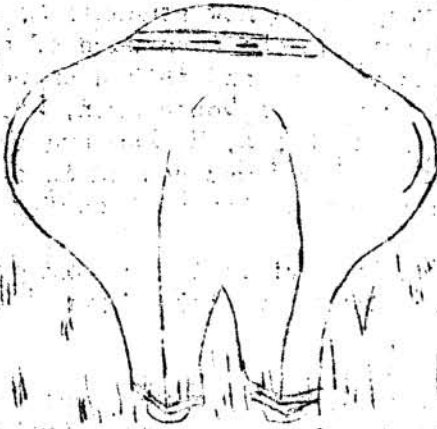
Old Timers from the West included Ardon Sherf from Nebraska and Earl Hansing from Kansas. Earl has thrown away his cane and no longer hobbles in his search for new and better smut races. Preston moved in from the ten-gallon country of Oklahoma, and dart-thrower Bob Atkinson braved the snow drifts of the mile-high mesa to give us the lowdown on Colorado weather.

"Barney" Peturson was there from the Winnipeg Lab, to tell us about the effect of leaf rust on wheat, and President Craigie came from Ottawa to finish his job of running the Society.

The Minnesota Dinner was one of sobriety and reflection. Memories of past achievements like Chilton's case of "The Disappearing Promycelium" were brought to mind by the chairman, Mike Boosalis. Commendations were even in order as Silverberg and Peturson were congratulated for getting haircuts especially for the meetings. And Chris-- everyone remarked how big a "kick" they got out of his teaching when they were back in school learning pathology. They remember too, how he helped them over the sore spots in their education. So, like meetings of yore, this too is fading into legend.

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THIS VALUABLE ADVERTISING SPACE FOR RENT



Each future issue of Aurora will have a few pages available to "little Minnesotas" scattered around the globe. In the past, such groups assembled special editions of Aurora, and these were contributed by only the largest groups. Since the population of old timers is densely scattered over the world through the active disseminations of one E.C.S., greater participation would be possible through contributions which would fill a page or so of each Aurora. WHO would like this space? Please let us know as soon as possible.

SPORTS

Spring is here! It arrived March 9th -- in spite of calenders and in spite of the weather! On that date the first soft ball practice got underway -- what better criterion could there be? But prospects for the coming season look black. No one, not even the Big Chief, has heeded our plea for a new first baseman and a new pitcher. We must plan the season with old and decrepit S. B. Silverberg on first base, and older and more decrepit "Wild Bill" Loegering on the mound! Won't someone please hear our final cry for new material?

Minnesota basketball was strictly for the home fans this year -- the Gophers didn't lose a game on their own floor. While out on the road they lost to Ohio State (41-43), Iowa (64-77), Purdue (63-66), Wisconsin (51-60), and Michigan (25-44), and won from Illinois (34-31) and Michigan State (73-59). At home everything was on the winning side as they cleaned up Michigan (48-37), Indiana (59-56), Northwestern (63-61), Purdue (81-69), Iowa (59-55), and even Wisconsin (58-55).

It is the opinion of this lowly sports writer that down in Oklahoma they can't see beyond their noses -- either that or Dudley Preston, in particular can't read. His unworthy comments on the Gopher basketball prowess leads me to defy those bush-league Oklahoma Aggies to invade the lair of the Golden Gopher -- in basketball or anything else! They would only be added to the list already mentioned of those who came, saw, and were conquered!

The bowlers continued to rise in the standing of the twenty teams of the Ag-Campus league. The Scrubs, with a percentage of 366 at the last report, finished the season in a tie for 13th place with a percentage of 474, 27 won and 30 lost. Mal Shurtleff was high with an average of 157 for the season, while Mort Cohen was low with 85. Plant Path, 533 at the last report, moved up to finish in 7th place with a percentage of 544, 31 won and 26 lost. High man for Plant Path was S. B. Silverberg with 148, and Kernkamp was low with an even 100 average.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

January saw the arrival of one new student, A. I. Ibrahim of the faculty of Alexandria University, Egypt, and the departure of one W. E. Sackston. Good luck "Sax." Dr. Reiner Bonde visited and talked on potato viruses at a special seminar Jan. 7. Dr. Paul Neergaard of Copenhagen, Dr. I. Hatch, formerly of the penicillin research lab here, and Dr. R. H. Bamberg (old timer) now of Montana state, all visited in January. "Bam" was coaxed into talking at a special seminar on Rescue wheat and its use in connection with sawfly control.

Bernie Shema and Don Stewart left the fold once more on March 14th. "Best wishes and many publications for both of you," says the seminar -- until we meet again.

Dr. Ernst Gäumann of Mycology fame spent five days with us in March. His talks at Seminar and Coffee sessions proved highly enjoyable as well as stimulating. Dr. J. G. Harrar "Dutch" came on a combination good-will and idea-exchange trip from Mexico. We hope he got fair return for the useful information he imparted. Briefer visits were paid during the month by Dr. Brewbaker of the Great Western Sugar Co., Dr. James Johnson and old timer Hank Darling of Wisconsin, Julis A. Bianchi, wheat investigator of Guatemala, Dr. Rudy Peterson of the Dominion Laboratory at Winnipeg, and Dr. Dietz of the Du Pont Chemical Company.

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LITERATURE SEMINAR:

R. O. Bulger, in charge of Barberry Eradication, was a visitor to the 9 January Literature Seminar. Bill Loegering introduced Mr. Bulger, who outlined the work of barberry eradication, pointing out that the work remaining in the 18 states is the hardest part of the job as far as difficult terrain is concerned.

Old Timers Davidson, Hendricks, Shema, and Donald Stewart were introduced, as well as a newcomer from Montana, John Gibler.

A copy of "Life History of an American Naturalist" by Dr. Francis B. Sumner was presented to the Seminar Library by old timer Dr. George W. Fischer, who is now head of the Department of Plant Pathology at Washington State College.

Newly returned old timer Walt Hendricks discussed diseases of papaya in the Hawaiian Islands.

Refreshments were furnished by Mal Shurtleff, who, after the usual heckling, was finally passed by the Seminar.

16 January.

Thor Kommedahl read a letter from the recently organized Colorado A and M Literature Seminar. The two Chairmen of this group have been old timers -- Walt Thomas and M. E. Michaelson who is the present incumbent. In their letter the Colorado group claimed to be intellectual "grandchildren" of the Minnesota Seminar. Your reporter disagrees and believes that this is simply another case of reproduction by simple fission, that the group is a haploid sister organization.

After a good deal of literature had been reviewed the seminar adjourned for refreshments furnished by Mortimer Cohen, who, during the ensuing questioning, modestly admitted that Brooklyn is the first city of the world.

23 January.

This was really a seminar! In the first place we had Dr. R. H. Bamberg, old timer, as visitor; in the second place a number of students had just passed the German language requirement; impressive bit of horseplay was last but not least

On a previous motion by the Chief it was voted that all those who had just passed German should make a short speech in that language. Syed Z. Hassanain of Mandwa, India, led off with a prepared speech (he's the cautious type). His talk must have been good; everyone applauded. Next came a short spiel in German by A. P. Misra of Lucknow, India. Harry Murakishi, next gave out in a cheerful voice in what purported to be German, something about loving the Chief and what a fine teacher he was also. Curt Roane's contribution was to the effect that he'd learned to read, not speak, Deutsch. John Rowell remarked (in French of doubtful parentage) that he was now trying to learn French, having finished his German.

Following all this the Chief introduced Dr. Bamberg, who told us of the Sawfly problem in wheat growing in Montana.

The next part of the program was a surprise to all except the plotters. Up front to the speaker's table went Mike Boosalis, veteran and humorist, where he delivered extemporaneously and solemnly an address dealing with loyalty to one's country (supposedly the U.S.A.), biological warfare, protection of atomic secrets, and "look out for the communists." The listeners wondered and worried--foreigners in particular; they didn't know whether (a) to cable Uncle Joe what to do, or (b) to refuse to talk without their lawyers. One man considered leaving the room.....As the address became more and more confusing as to purpose, wonder and worry thickened.....Was Boosalis trying to defend the American Legion or conspire against it? Had the strain of war been too great for him? Without our realizing it, had he become a patriotic crackpot?.....Those who ought to know say that it was one of the all-time high points in literature seminars, since listeners, except the few co-plotters, were completely nonplussed!.....In this atmosphere surcharged with patriotism and the reek of expiring and forgotten cigars, comedy relief came when seminar members were called upon to stand, to extend their right arms, and to wiggle their first two fingers at a giant germinating teliospore (courtesy of Mal Shurtleff).....Then, and only then, when there was a relaxing of the tension, an oath of allegiance was administered, as follows:

"I pledge allegiance to physiologic special-  
ization and to the races for which it stands;  
one concept indivisible, with hybridization  
and mutation for all."

It was a superb performance.

30 January.

This seminar was opened by Tewfik Hak, who introduced his fellow - Egyptian and student here, Ismail Aly Ibrahim, of Cairo.

The Seminar accepted as a gift from Old Timer Jim (Yeeow Solid!) Lyle a copy of "Calabashes and Kings" by Porteous.

Apronons donations of books by Old Timers, The Chief said that he wished that in future all donors would tell why they think the book is a good book. He pointed out that it would be of great historical and literary value to have the thoughts of the Old Timers on this subject!!

Dr. Eide, who reads city magazines, reviewed an article in the New Yorker. Donald Stewart, on leave from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, talked and showed slides on his work with white pine blister rust in Minnesota.

6 February.

Smoking a pipe the while, Dr. C. J. Eide (Assisted by the Chief) showed us on the map the locations of branch experiment stations in Minnesota. The score is now ten stations in operation, with a new one soon to be opened at Rosemont.

The railroad empire of Jim Hill and his Great Northern road was described by Dr. Stakman. During the ensuing discussion on the geography of Minnesota (we got this far by a rational progression), it was stated that the Minnesota lakes are really glacial potholes. (This sounds like heresy to your reporter, who had always been given to understand that Minnesota lakes are the finest, deepest, purest, bluest bodies of water on earth!).

13 February.

During the review of literature the subject of bean mosaic diseases came up. This led to a description of the crops grown in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. During his talk the Chief was constantly heckled by Dr. L. W. Melander, who kept shouting, "they are dry peas in the east of Oregon." (Ed. note: we don't know what he meant either). After considerable literature, refreshments were served by Donald Stewart.

20 February.

Speaker of the evening was --- H. W. Bockstahler who showed slides of his work on diseases of sugar beets, particularly black rot. Bocky's talk took up most of the seminar period; however, there was time for Misra to propose that a group photograph be taken of the Seminar. There were immediate and violent objections to having their picture taken by those "wanted;" but after some delay, occasioned by the inability of the chairman to count hands, it was voted to have the picture made. Tonight marked the return of the Chief from a short official trip. Things always seem better when the Chief returns, and all seem relieved and happy that he's back.

27 February.

The passing around of a box of cigars marked the opening of this session. It seems that Sr. Felix (from Mexico) was furnishing the food and felt that cigars beforehand would be a nice gesture. - It was - Indeed it was.

After considerable literature had been reviewed came refreshments and the inevitable inquisition of the donor. Whenever Sr. Felix ran out of answers (which involved knowledge of the minutest details of life, statistics, etc., in Mexico) he was ably and glamorously assisted by Senorita Angelita Melendez, who does indeed know the answers.

6 March.

High point of this seminar was a talk by Mr. F. W. Self (Department of Agronomy, he's from Oklahoma) on bacterial blight of cotton. Mr. Self also showed slides.

\*\*\* The score is correct, but not all of them have official standing as branch stations--Ed.



13 March.

After three false starts, three motions, six seconds, the meeting was opened by Laura Hamilton on behalf of Dr. L. W. Melander, who had lost out on a previous vote. After this was settled, Old-New Timer Walt Hendrix showed us a number of beautiful kodachrome slides of the Hawaiian Islands and told us of life and his work there. Hendrix' talk and slides took up the time of the meeting.

Refreshments were furnished in absentia by Old-Timer Earl Hanson (now at Wisconsin), to whom we are deeply indebted for his generosity.

20 March.

This was quite a night. First the seminar had its picture taken, and then there was a talk by Dr. J. G. Harrar on agricultural research in Mexico. The group, having its picture made, was a stirring sight -- neckties were worn, coats were worn, shoes were worn -- gad, they were beautiful! Dr. Harrar's talk was most interesting and instructive, as all who have heard him in the past will know is normal for a talk by this eminent Old Timer.

27 March.

The Seminar took a quick gander at a diploma, suggested by the Chief and executed by Thor (Rembrandt) Kommedahl. This diploma acknowledges the fact that Old Timer Sr. Rodriguez is the first "Professor of Plant Pathology" of Mexico. With a slight push from the Chief, Sr. L. C. Felix (also from Mexico) gave a nice description of what it REALLY MEANS to be a Professor of Plant Pathology in "Mehico!!"

The Chief read letters from several Old Timers. (Old Timer's letters are greatly appreciated) Dr. Helen Hart introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Rudi Peterson from the Winnipeg Dominion Lab who gave us an interesting talk on wheat breeding in Canada.

Refreshments were furnished by Dr. M. F. Kernkamp. As is the custom of the country, Dr. Kernkamp took the Chair after refreshments and was subjected to questions of a deeply scientific nature. An example has been selected at random: Q. "How large does a city have to be before it can wear outskirts?"

Seminar adjourned at 10:47½ C. S. T.

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REGULAR SEMINAR

Between the 7th January and 28 January inclusive, papers were given in the following order:

- "The Nature and Inheritance of Resistance to Scab in Potatoes" by Sr. Rodrigo Orellana (from Ecuador).
- "Inheritance of Resistance in Wheat to Stem Rust" by Leonard Shebeski (Canada)
- "Breeding for Disease Resistance in Grasses" by J. Ritchie Cowen (Canada).
- "History of Peanut Leaf Spot Control" by L. I. Miller (Virginia).

It was during the seminar of 14 January that the Chief really got going on one of his real old-time seminar talks. He chose as his text an article that appeared in Scientific Monthly entitled "The Principles of Poor Writing." These are:

Ignore the reader

Be pompous, vague, verbose

Never revise what is once written

The Chief was in top form and really gave forth with an inspiring talk, in the course of which he brought into use such 30-cent words as "anachronism," "ambiguity," "antecedent," all of which were apropos the text on pomposity and verbosity in writing, with their consequent loss of naturalness and commonsense.

Seminar moved forward at normal rate between 4 February and 18 March, with the following papers being presented:

"Helminthosporium on Common Cultivated Grasses" by J. R. Thysell

"The Effects of Nutrients on Development of Virus Diseases" by M. W. Teller

"Virus Diseases of Peas, Beans, Soybeans" by F. S. Warren

"The Nature of Resistance to Seedling Blights and Root Rots in Corn" by  
E. C. Young

"Charcoal Rot (Sclerotium bataticola) of Corn and Sorghum" by E. G. Heyne

"The New Helminthosporium Disease of Oats" by Wilson H. Foote

"Breeding for Bacterial Blight Resistance in Cotton" by Ferd W. Self

There was no regular seminar on 18th of March, as it was postponed until 8 pm in order to give us the privilege of hearing Dr. Ernst A. Gumann. This is covered in a special report by a better writer.

#### LOCALS

Stork News: Don and Dorothy deZeeuw (Michigan) announce the arrival of a baby girl on February 6. Walt and Mrs. Hendrix (Hawaii) also had a baby girl on January 12. Chris made no comment!

February was another month of cigars and candy, exams and degrees, teas and speeches, farewells and tears. Dick Davidson hurdled his Ph. D. final on Feb. 8 after returning from Rhode Island, to which he turned around and went back again. ...St. Valentine's Day had another massacre in Ye Olde Seminar Roome. M. K. Hingorani (India) passed his prelim in the morning; and Willie Feldman (North Carolina) squirmed while waiting to take his prelim in the afternoon. After the ordeal they both disappeared for a couple of days!! Must have been flu.

"Heigh ho, I'll marry C,  
The farmer in the dell" says Floraine Toutenhof. Her Minnesota Valley "agriculturist" (farmer to us) gave her a ring in January, and they plan to be married after harvest.

Hot Air Department: On March 12 the Chief went to Madison, Wisconsin, to deliver an address on "Science and Its Sphere of Influence...Needs and Limitations." On February 23 he was in Washington, D.C. (District of Confusion), as representative of the executive committee of the A.A.A.S., to attend a meeting of the Inter-Society committee on Science Foundation Legislation.

Dr. Eide went to Crookston for a delightful weekend in mid-February to attend the Red River Valley winter show. He was accompanied by no lesser notables than the Lieutenant-Governor of Minnesota, by Dean Bailey and Vice-Director Macey.

At the Crop Improvement day meeting held on the Farm campus on February 7, Dr. Stakman and Matt Moore delivered very enlightening talks on cereal diseases.

The Branch Station meeting held February 12 had Matt and Eide telling them all about cereal diseases and spuds. The Chief, who spoke also, told us privately that he was quite impressed with his colleagues' contributions!

Chris was speaker ne-plus-ultra at the Northwest Barley Improvement convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 18-19. The meeting was held in Association with the Cereal Chemists.

Moore and Clyde Christensen delivered themselves on the subjects of cereal diseases and seed treatment at the Farmers Grain Terminal meeting on March 3. Matt also talked on seed treatment to the Farm Managers Association February 6.

During Education Month, when St. Paul's Business and Professional Women had a program on "Education for the Living," Dr. Helen Hart was invited to spout at a luncheon meeting on March 27..... "Spout" doesn't seem quite the right word for Miss Hart, but it is Aurorian phraseology and does not imply any unnecessary activity on the part of the speaker!

Radio is getting a pathological airing these days, with such fine speakers as Dr. Eide, who talked on Feb. 26 over the University Farm hour on seed treatment and damping off, and Dr. Kernkamp, who talked on soybean diseases on March 26 and 27.

### Seasonal Notes

Another Minnesota winter is almost gone. As usual, it was both SALUBRIOUS and BRACING, even if some of the members with a more prolonged southern exposure profess to doubt that. Now there are signs of spring, although admittedly it requires an experienced and acute observer to spot a Minnesota spring as it dodges past. There have been no Chinooks in these parts since Lew Allison, native of Yegen and Hesper, or Hesper and Yeger, left; but in spite of that the snow has melted, the grass is almost green on the south slopes, and a robin was seen last week. When two robins are here, it is summer.

Chris is worried about the annual division of available field space among the many share croppers; Matt Moore has the most involved and extensive seed treatment tests yet conceived by man, all planned and ready to plant; plot labels are written, paraffined and attached to stakes; slave labor is busy counting out seeds and putting them in packets; while some of the overseers have been sharpening up hoes and taking practice cuts. At least we hope that is what they were doing. Eide and his henchmen are ready to again blanket the state with so many late-blight control tests that Phytophthora infestans will not even get a start. Slides by the thousand, for the annual survey of rust spores in the air, have been sent out to all parts of the civilized world and even to Texas, where it is suspected that the natives might collect the slides to use as trinkets or ornaments to decorate the females of the tribe.

Old Timers will remember that once upon a time spring did not arrive officially until kittenball practice got under way, but since the recreational approach has crept into athletics, this has lost much of its significance. Those with mycological leanings have been looking for the first spring fungi — when the morels come out in abundance we will know for sure that Spring is Come!

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BOOKSHELF

One of those who reads the Bookshelf and doesn't always find his name therein spews forth his ire in part as follows (only the quotable part):

"...A few of us...behind closed doors...expounded at length upon the unforgivable shortcomings and nearsightedness of the Bookshelf Editor. During the past few years there has been a most paltry summation of the best literary efforts of many Old Timers.....claimed that we had been told to send in our titles...Certainly Aurora has not asked for...titles since the beginning of the Modern Era...It is indeed a sad situation when the editorial staff does not trouble themselves to make a complete perusal of the literature in order to give acclaim to all the spoutings of the squirts..."

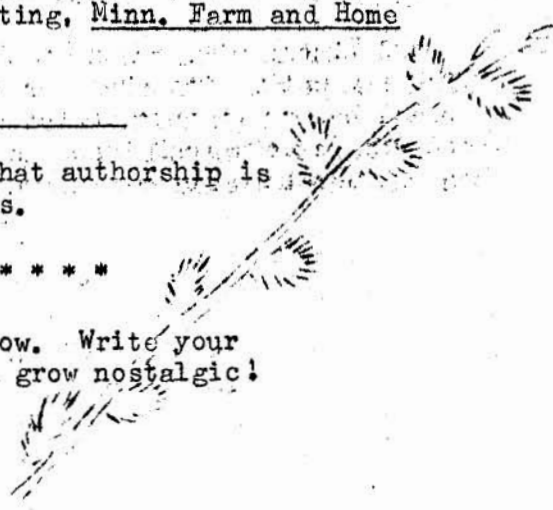
- PRESTON\*--Fall leaf rust in Oklahoma--Pl. Dis. Rep. Jan. 15
- FORBES--Helminth on oats in Louisiana--Ibid
- E. M. JOHNSON--Corn crazy top--Ibid. Feb. 15
- WEISS--Check list rev. cont'd--Jan. 15, Feb. 15, March 15
- VALLEGA\*--Barley varietal reaction to Erysiphe gr. hordei--Rev. Argentina Agron. Dec.
- VAUGHAN--Shipping tomato plants by air from north to south--Southern Seedsman Nov.
- HANSING\*--Victoria blight of oats--Kans. Ext. Service Jan.
- BONDE\*--(copy to Aurora) Teton, ring-rot resistant potato--Amer. Potato Jour. Nov.
- BONDE\*--Fungicides vs. DDT for potatoes--Ibid. Dec.
- FOLSOM--Potato yellowtop+unmottled curly-dwarf--Me. Bul. 1446
- JOHNSON+NEWTON--New strains of P. triticina in Canada and reactions--Scien. Agr. Sept.
- KREITLOW\*--Crown-rust resistance in Festuca elatior var., Phytopath. Jan.
- ANDERSON (Axel)\*--Piricularia oryzae,--Ibid. Feb.
- GRAHAM\*--Organic compounds for tobacco blue mold--Ibid.
- LEFEBVRE\*--Helminth. rostratum on corn, sorghum, pearl millet--Ibid. Mar.

LOCAL STUFF includes "Plant pathologist's merry-go-round," Jour. Hered. Sept., by STAKMAN, who also wrote "International problems in plant disease control" in Proc. Amer. Philosophical Soc., Feb. Then there are contributions by the Christensen clans: CLYDE M. with DARLEY\*--Polyporus guttulatus and Ptychogaster rubescens, in Mycologia Nov.-Dec..... CLYDE M. alone--Molds and bacteria in flour... Bakers Digest Feb..... MOORE and J.J.C.--Protect injured flax seed by treating before planting. Minn. Farm and Home Sci. Feb. 28.

\*As usual, an asterisk means that authorship is shared with others.

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