

## OLD TIMERS' COLYUM

Savant or Scientific Trademan?

"The Natural History of a Savant," by Richet, is neither very new nor very heavy, but it is worth reading. Richet says that savants are human, therefore heir to most of the frailties of humans. But they cultivate truth for its own sake; science for them is a religion. Being human, however, they must live; and they can not eat and wear the love of truth. Society does not yet subsidize savants, as savants. Therefore they must do something practical to make a living, and the better they do it, the better their chances for "savanting".

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But the thing that sets savants apart, that buoys them up, that animates their lives, is an enthusiastic interest and a profound faith in their science. "Audacity in hypothesis and rigor in experiment," scholarship, originality, and industry are their attributes. The harmonious fusion of inventor, technical expert, scholar, and professor constitutes a great savant, according to Richet. The real savant must be a discoverer, but not only a discoverer: the technician also is a discoverer, "a discoverer of trifles."... "The aim of science is knowledge about phenomena. An instrument, however perfect it may be, is only an instrument." The instrument may be indispensable, but it is only a means to an end.

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Some make a business of science, take it up as a trade; and they are likely to be tradesmen -- nothing more. Savants, on the other hand, are artists, in a way, -- idealists seeking to unravel the mysteries of the universe; men loving beauty, justice, and truth. And they are useful, for they are imbued with the hope that they may contribute to the alleviation of man's material troubles or help emancipate him from ignorance and prejudice.

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To quote from Richet, "Therefore the nation ought to provide a livelihood for savants, under pain of being extinguished in mediocrity." "Mediocrity" -- where did we hear that word before? No; it was not in the Doddering Dower (Ed. has a cold again). But -- well, who started this discussion anyhow? If any one wants to be a savant, read the book.

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News of Father Tervet

IAN TERVET sends regards to the Tottering Tower from 13 George Square, Edinburgh, but reserves the headline for the following statement: "We have again INCREASED THE FAMILY BY ONE, ONLY THIS TIME IT IS A BOY, born April 13. So the dog feels neglected." Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs., and a long and happy life to the bairn!

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HENRY (HANK) BARKER, previously DECORATED by the Haitian Government, was given an HONORARY SC. D. by Clemson College on or about May 12. CONGRATULATIONS, Hank.

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From Aberystwyth, Wales, comes news from JACK WESTERN that the last Aurora was as welcome as ever. Western opines that the Tottering Tower goes on its accustomed way, and adds, "Long may it continue to do so." Yes, indeed, it has been going on in its accustomed way recently, tottering more than ever. Maybe the recent rains have softened the ground or possibly the backbone of the tower itself. Western hopes to see J. Gordon Gibbs and Mrs. Gibbs and King George VI and Mrs. K. G. VI at the Grassland Congress at Aberystwyth in July. About the only kings and queens we ever see over here are those in a deck of cards, and some of us do not draw them very often.

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W. F. "Bill" PEEL, of White Bear Lake, University Farm, Liberia, the West Indies, and other places north and south, is now in the Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. There is a Mrs. Peel and Bill Jr.. Peel hopes

that his name will remain on the mailing list for Aurora. Yes, indeed, but we hope that Aurora will also remain on Bill's mailing list.

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SYED VAHEEDUDDIN, better known as "Syed," deposes as follows: "I am regularly getting Aurora and get a kick on every sentence I read, because I feel I am reading all these news by sitting in the Canyon as I used to do before." The boys in the canyon still kick, Syed, but missionaries are trying to put charity into their chests. Syed's health is better, although he is still subject to fevers and colds. Syed will continue his sorghum smut work, and we expect to read about further important discoveries. He is soon to give a radio talk on the United States. It is supposed to be non-political, NON-RELIGIOUS, AND NON-TECHNICAL; accordingly he is going to talk on "University Life in America." ALL tune in!

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Personal interview was granted to Laura Hamilton by Master Keilman, he of the dark eyes and blond curls who is son of Mrs. V. F. Keilman, of Los Angeles, GLADYS KELLEY to you! She sends her best regards to Aurora.

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From our Edmonton correspondent:

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
May 11, 1937

Dear Aurora:

"None have recieved greater pleasure from reading your unique columns, and none have been less deserving than I. With this apology may I hasten to greet all ye olde tymers and newe tymers since 1925 who now constitute in might and numbers a host. Of course everyone takes for granted our achievements. However, with eleven years of reflection I can now make a statement, which, I think, cannot be challenged for accuracy or candor. After making due allowance for the work from other phyto-pathological centers, Minnesota is the greatest of them all. For what center has made, or is making, a more comprehensive contribution to the ecology of plant diseases in general (as illustrated by stem rust of wheat), or from where has there come more prolific and valuable work in regard to the role of racial specialization of pathogenic fungi and hybridization in disease phenomena? These and numerous other evidences from the Tottering Tower furnish a record of which all of us are justly proud. Again, at what center has a larger number of phytopathologists gathered from English and non-English speaking countries than have drunk at thy fount O Aurora. Truly the scientific and social fellowship enjoyed under your aegis has laid the basis for an effective league of nations more lasting than the efforts of the Tottering Tower! Who shall forget? - Class room, laboratory, field hikes, picnics, weiner roasts and soft-ball, and last, but not least....."

G. B. Sanford

(The last sentence was censored by Ye Ed, with apologies to author.) Thank you, Sanford, come often!

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CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes from the CCLYUM, Aurora HERSELF, and all of the denizens of the T. T.!

Mr. Reiner Bonde  
Miss Miriam Scott  
MARRIED

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The Antipodes are still floating on the ocean! JOHN CHURCHWARD, Ph. D., writes regarding his activities and ideas. Research work is not languishing at the University of Sydney. Chrchward writes as follows: "As it is, we kepp three greenhouses on the move most of the year with floor and cellar space equivalent to three others, while we sow cereals in the field, one-half acre at the University, three acres at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, Richmond, at Cowra Experimental Farm and one/two private farms, one situated northwest, the other southwest of New South Wales. At present I am at H.A.C., sowing 3,000 rows in the flag smut trial plots..." CHURCHWARD also states that he hears from GEORGE HAFSTAD, LOH, AND JIMMY WALTER, the nucleus of the original foreign legion in Room 305 T. T., "way back in

1932." How far back is 1932? Churchward has added to his pathological investigations geographic exploration: He visited New Zealand in January, attended the meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science, climbed some of the most important mountain peaks, SLID DOWN the FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER from TOP to BOTTOM  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and took a number of excellent MOVIE SHOTS on the way. SOME SLIDE!

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From several sources comes the information that Dr. W. L. WATERHOUSE has recently been promoted to the rank of Reader in Agriculture, University of Sydney. This corresponds to the rank of Associate Professor and is an award of real merit. He also is to be President of the Royal Society of New South Wales for 1937-38. All the OLD TIMERS join in congratulating DR. WATERHOUSE, remembered by many as the DISTINGUISHED and WELCOME professional visitor from AUSTRALIA who spent several months helping to educate us, way back beyond 1932.

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Telegram from GIBBS on May 4 from New York: "Au revoir. Have had a really jolly time." AURORA also had a good time having the Gibbs here and wish for them happy days until they come back to the U. S. A.!

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LAWRENCE A. SCHALL, who divides his time between Beltsville, Md., and Presque Isle, Me., on potato-disease investigations, writes that he is enjoying his work very much. He is making progress in investigational work and hopes to give scriptural evidence before too long.

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Some time ago a box of Valencia oranges without the feminine "make-up" arrived at the T. T. The inhabitants, after having consumed a couple of bushels, decided that taste and complexion were NE PLUS ULTRA, despite the lack of COSMETICS on the PEEL. This might be a suggestion to what some one has playfully nicknamed the FAIR SEX! To DICK VORHEES we are indebted for the gustatory delight and for the object lesson in how to be beatifully natural and naturally sweet. VORHEES states that he had a very pleasant visit with Mr. and Mrs. GIBBS when they stopped in Florida on their peregrinations thru Eastern United States. He sends best wishes to the Gang, and the Gang reciprocates and thanks vermuch for the naranjs.

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K. C. MCINDOE, Ph. D., Plant Breeder, Plant Pathologist, director of the research department of the Firestone Plantations, INTREPID LEOPARD HUNTER, and successful EXPONENT of MAORI DANCES, recently wrote from Daside, Liberia, that CHUCK WISMER surprised every one by his sudden determination to see the world by traveling around it. WISMER is now here and will soon edify us with an illustrated travelogue. MCINDOE has had no malaria for a long time and says that he keeps pretty fit. MAC, LEE HINES, and another man are living EN FAMILLE, which presumably means that all three are living in the same house. MAC suggests that so many students in the T. T. have recently got themselves wives that there must be a surplus of prospective ones in this country. He also suggests that we ought to have a good idea of what to avoid. HE SAYS HE HAS TOO!

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DR. WELLENSIEK wrote from Switzerland about the middle of April that he was about to leave Europe and return to Java. His address will be Buitenzorg, Java, as it was before his recent trip around the world. The WELLENSIEKS send their regards to the T. T.

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HARRY UKKELBERG wrote recently from Ford Farms, Ways Station, Ga., and sent his regards to the Gang. More recently he unexpectedly visited the TOWER and gave us a very interesting talk on the experimental work being carried on in the FARMS. Unfortunately Ukkelberg's father died, which accounts for his visit to Minnesota at this time.

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The last official report from Mr. and Mrs. GIBBS came from Jacksonville, Fla., and from private sources the COLYUM learned that they completed their trip and caught QUEEN MARY, who took them to England for the CORONATION.

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FRED DAVIES writes that he is gradually settling down in his new job with the Rohm and Haas Company at Bristol, Pa., and is trying to find out a few of the whys and wherefores of his job. Davies apparently likes his job and the job certainly will like him.

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GEHEIMRAT KAUFERT is pretty well settled in his position with the DuPont Company at Wilmington, Del. He sends regards to every one around the TOWER. The GEHEIMRAT states that research work with the DuPont Company still is on quite as high a plane as that in universities.

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GEORGE HAFSTAD has been given a fellowship for 1937-38 at the University of Chicago. He is now geographically inclined, taking courses in Soviet Lands, Europe, Conservation of Natural Resources, and Urban Geography. The COLYUM congratulates!

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Dr. and Mrs. J. M. (Peewee) WALLACE served tea in their charming new home at Riverside, California, to Miss Laura Hamilton of the T. T. and conducted a tour of other points of interest, including avenues of palms and roses and groves of blossoming orange trees. Peewee fondly exhibited his lawn of infant grass, the first week's birthday of which was soon to be celebrated!

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Old Timer LEON J. TYLER is kept so busy at Ithaca with work on the Dutch elm disease and work on his thesis manuscript that he states he can't go to very many baseball games! Apparently he has devoted some time, however, to training the younger generation along this line, for he says that "Deny is two now...and loves to kick his football and has become surprisingly adept at punting (that is, in keeping his balance and timing the kick)." Is this a challenge? He asks, in addition, to "tell my old mates in Literature Seminar hello, hi-ho and a bottle of rum, or something. Ha!"

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Thus ENDETH the COLYUM. Good LUCH and G. B. Y.

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#### VISITORS

DR. H. P. BARSS, Associate in Experiment Station Administration, Office of Experiment Station, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; MR. J. R. LUTTON, Special Representative of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; MR. GEORGE W. EADE, State Leader of Barberry Eradication, Brookings, South Dakota; DR. A. J. GRASOWSKY, Assistant Director of Forestry, Palestine Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Jerusalem, Judea, Palestine; DR. CARL HARTLEY, Principal Pathologist, Division of Forest Pathology, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.; DR. R. J. HASKELL, Senior Pathologist, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; MR. W. L. POPHAM, Senior Pathologist, Division of Plant Disease Control, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; MR. FRANCIS B. POWERS, State Leader of Barberry Eradication, Lansing, Michigan; MR. S. A. ROHWER, Assistant Chief of Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; W. M. STANLEY, Rockefeller Institute Medical Research, Princeton, New Jersey; HARRY G. UKKELBERG, Ford Farms, Ways Station, Georgia; MR. C. T. WEI, Instructor of Plant Pathology, University of Nanking, Nanking, China. Now candidate for the Ph. D. degree, at Wisconsin; MR. R. D. WILSON, Australia. On fellowship from Sydney University, Sydney, Australia, at Wisconsin University, Madison, Wisconsin; DR. SOLOMON ZEMACK, Director of Radoorie Agricultural School, Mount Tabor, Nazareth, Palestine; WHITTEMORE LITTEL, Assistant Director of the Commonwealth Fund, New York, N. Y.

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#### BOOKSHELF

Leach, J. G. Cabbage yellows in Minnesota. Minn. Hort. 65: 44-45. March  
LeClerg, E. L. Treatment of sugar-beet seed increases stand and yield. Minn. Agr. Ext. Div. Cir. 57. March.

- Ling, Lee, and M. B. Moore. Influence of soil temperature and soil moisture on infection of stem smut of rye. *Phytopath.* 27: 633-636. May.
- Fervet, Ian W. An experimental study of some fungi injurious to seedling flax. *Phytopath.* 27: 531-546. April.
- Tcheeduddin, Syed Intergenetic hybridization and evidence of heterosis in loose and head smuts of sorghum (Abs.). 24th Indian Congress, Hyderabad, 1937: 4.
- Western, J. H. Sexual fusion in Ustilago avenae under natural conditions. *Phytopath.* 27: 547-553. April.

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Three Doctor's and one Master's thesis have been presented to the Graduate School. They are as follows:

- Ph.D.: Clyde M. Christensen. Studies on Valsa sordida Nitschke, Cytospora chrysosperma (Per.) Fries, and Valsa nivea (Hoff.) Fries.
- Lee Ling. The physiology and parasitism of Urocystis occulta (Wallr.) Rab.
- Ralph Lindgren. Some relations and effects of fungi causing bluestain of wood.
- M. S.: Alan Gemmell. A study of the interaction of two fruit rotting fungi.

#### REGULAR SEMINAR

March 2. A paper on growth promoting substances by K. W. Kreitlow (local boy) stimulated a long argument. Gemmell and Clyde Christensen said oxygen is a food. Stak said no (at considerable length). Matt Moore said that he couldn't see that it made a darn bit of difference. It was agreed that barnyard manure is a growth promoting substance.

March 9. Lawrence Henson (of the Kentucky Hensons) presented his paper on the formation of the perfect stage in the Discomycetes by the question and try-and-get-an-answer method. It took an hour. Cassell started by the same method. He asked Downie a question and got an argument on what is evidence. That was as far as he got. It was almost time to quit when he started anyway.

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March 16. This was really examination week, but E. J. Wheeler (major, Horticulture) who was returning to East Lansing next quarter, and W. H. Waddell (major, Agronomy), returning to Canada, were graciously allowed to present their papers, as this was their last chance.

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March 30. This was the first seminar of the spring quarter. Dr. Stakman gave his lecture on the I's of personality: Intelligence, Interest, Industry, Initiative, Integration, Integrity, and Introspection. This is a pretty good lecture, but seemed to include a couple more I's than it had when last we heard it. Stak said this was absolutely the last sermon of the year. Cassell resumed his paper started March 9.

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April 6. Tsiang presented his paper on "Factors affecting the development of Puccinia glumarum."

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April 13. Miss Hart was absent and Chris (J. J.) got her place by the door at the head of the stairs. There was a little talk of drawing lots for the location while Miss Hart is in Germany, but so far nothing has been done about it. Royse P. Murphy (major, Agronomy) gave a paper on breeding sorghum for smut resistance.

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April 20. C. T. Wei, graduate student in plant pathology at the University of Wisconsin, who spent several weeks with us last summer, reviewed his research on "Factors affecting the development of bean rust, Uromyces appendiculatus." Wei has done a very fine piece of research, and the students and faculty in plant pathology at Minnesota appreciated very much the opportunity to hear him tell about it.

April 27. David Reid (major, Agronomy) presented a paper on "Breeding barley for resistance to imperfects."

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#### LITERATURE SEMINAR

March 3. J. G. Gibbs showed moving pictures of Texas, Mexico, Indian Pow-wow, the Grand Canyon, and Syed's Departure. J. J. C. furnished ice-cream and cookies.

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March 11. From the chairman's record: "When the chairman arrived there was a bright debate on politics in progress, which swung from the supreme court to British politics and back to Minnesota mayoralty candidates. The latter raised a heated discussion among ardent Gophers." (Maybe the chairman (Gemmell) mistook Farmer-Laborites for Gophers.) Cassell and Gibbs presented their views on how to pass a prelim, both having done so recently. E. L. LeClerc furnished a good supper.

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March 25. The evening was devoted to reviewing papers by F. R. Davies, soon to leave for the East. Some of the papers had not yet been published, so the reviewers drew on their imaginations. The one on "spreaders" by Dr. Leach was especially illuminating. Dr. Leach became acquainted with spreaders while he was still on the farm.

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April 1. Melander gave his lecture on weeds (impromptu). Suggested that the field bindweed be killed off with Phymatotrichum omnivorum. Thought that the plant pathologists were overlooking a good bet, and said so several times. A little later Clyde Christensen, Rollo Lorenz, and Tommy King arrived, bringing with them Dr. Carl Hartley. Dr. Hartley gave an interesting talk on sanitation as a means of plant disease control. This talk gave us several new and significant ideas about sanitation, which seems such a logical thing to recommend for the control of many diseases. The elementary students in plant pathology are going to hear about this. Cup cakes and coffee (very weak) were furnished by the seminar committee.

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April 8. Dr. H. P. Barss, of the Office of Experiment Stations, as speaker of the evening, gave an exceedingly interesting and instructive talk on "cooperation without regimentation" as practiced by plant pathologists in the United States, and responded with more information to the usual questions. After a lunch furnished by C. S. Wang, Dr. Barss (with the customary aid of the maps) gave an entertaining account of his rise (or fall, as Gemmell would have it) as a plant pathologist. Cheered by the coffee (a little stronger this time) Dr. Barss spun yarns about his early training; about early plant pathologists, such as E. F. Smith and Farlow; and particularly about Roland Thaxter, with whom Dr. Barss studied at Harvard. Thanks to him, we now have in our minds a picture of Dr. Thaxter that we will be a long time forgetting: Thaxter pedalling his "two-wheeled" bicycle serenely along the cinder paths of Harvard; Thaxter the master craftsman of his profession, bending over a hand-lens and micro-manipulating the Laboubeniales with a kitten-whisker! This was a most enjoyable seminar.

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April 15. Better than an hour was spent in electing kitten-ball officers (see elsewhere). Kreitlow perceived that he was going to play kitten ball for plant pathology, and not the Minneapolis Y. M. C. A., Baptist or no Baptist. LeClerc reviewed three papers and Dr. Stakman spoke (or answered questions) for two hours on a variety of topics, ranging from American Men of Science to culture. The culture part is still a bit hazy.

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#### PERSONAL AND PERSONNEL

APRIL 19, DR. HART added her name to the list of the departed but only for a year. She is spending the year in Germany, studying Puccinia glumarum. We hope she greets Dr. Becker for us all.

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DR. RALPH U. COTTER was also among those who enjoyed the beauties of the East this spring. Dr. Cotter was stationed at Washington, D. C. for a month, for the purpose of/a large number of varieties and species of Barberry under natural conditions at the Plant Introduction Garden located at Bell, Maryland.

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CHET WISMER, the pride of Kansas, just returned from Liberia where he has been working as a pathologist on the Firestone plantations.

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MISS HAMILTON, after purchasing a slick new car, CHEVROLET, by name, decided the only way to break it in was to make a trip to California. We hope she has lots of interesting adventures to relate when she returns.

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BOB CASSELL is enjoying the spring to his utmost for he passed his prelim successfully. We congratulate you Bob.

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DR. CHRISTENSEN and LAWRENCE HENSON made a survey of the clover fields in the southern part of the state.

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F. R. DAVIES is now an American citizen and is stationed at Bristol, Penn. He is studying the behavior of various fungi in regard to the production of enzymes for Egan and Haas, a Commercial Company.

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DR. LEACH and MATT MOORE were the feature speakers at a "Better Seed Meeting" conducted by Clyde Shumway at Cambridge, Minnesota.

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A. R. DOWNIE and J. LEWIS ALLISON are wearing big smiles now days for they passed their German exams at the beginning of the spring term.

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WILBUR V. HARLAN, son of H. V. Harlan, in charge of Barley Breeding in U. S. Department of Agriculture, is now one of the members of the department. He is working on the affect of various physiological factors in relation to susceptibility of Puccinia graminis on several varieties of wheat.

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EARLE HANSON is driving a new Ford V 8 now days and it certainly makes Miss Dossdall envious.

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PHARES DECKER has accepted an exchange fellowship at Cornell University for next year. H. Fitzpatrick, son of N. M. Fitzpatrick, will take Deckers place next year.

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K. KREITLOW will uphold the prestige of Minnesota and Plant Pathology at the University of Louisiana next fall. He should feel at home. He'll meet lots of Minnesotans there.

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A. G. TOLAAS just returned from a potato inspection trip to Alabama and Louisiana. In Alabama he saw Hank Darling, who sent greetings to the group. At Baton Rouge he was greeted by three Minnesotans: Forbes, Person, and Atkinson. He reports that Christopher is ill. The Aurora wishes him speedy recovery.

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All was serene and quiet in the T. T. for a couple of weeks. The Big Chief had deserted us. He attended the meetings of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council on the 24 and 25 of April. On the 27 and 28 his presence graced the meetings of the National Academy of Sciences. The 29 was occupied by conferences (monologues?) with various people in the Department of Agriculture.

His subsequent itinerary was as follows.

- a. Drove to Penn. (State) with W. L. Popham

- b. Saw many large elusive barberries with salt on their tails, a la Melander carte.
- c. Attended conferences with barberry eradication agents at Montrose, Pa. and at Morgantown, W. Va.
- d. Bussed to Akron where he consulted with the Firestone officials.
- e. Arrived home with "flu".

All in all a very pleasant trip.

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The new authority on Liberia, Chet Wismer, broke into print in the World's largest College newspaper, with an article on Liberia.

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When F. D. R. heard of Earle's proposed field experiments he asked congress for another 150,000,000 dollars. We understand that Earle is not the only one increasing his acreage, as Dr. Leach has almost doubled his scab resistance breeding plots at Coon Creek - PROGRESS.

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MISS HART has trod the path of scientific fame and fortune in following such immortals as J. J. Christensen, J. G. Leach, Clyde Christensen, Clyde Allison, and Frank Kaufert to Germany. In her case, however, she was "CALLED" and will show them what Minnesota has in the way of Rust Epidemiology. Indidentally she is the sixth from the Tottering Tower to go to Germany, excluding, of course, the Big Chief, who by reason of his peregrinations, is known in every Scientific German household. From Germany have come, Dr. Isenbeck, Dr. Hubert, and Dr. Becker. They need a fourth for bridge - who will it be?

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From fren's in the Frenatae we gathered that Dr. Stakman is still conceiving species in his own "quaint" way (Ask Lou "Montana" Allison).

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#### Liberian - Defences and Offences

Liberia is that great republic where men are born more or less free and equal, while women are born to slave for them. They are a decidedly brunette race with now and then a redhead or an albino cropping out - a mutation? The Liberians proper, their forefathers having come from this country, are a few shades lighter than the natives. Pomp and ceremony are their middle names and parades in frock tails their favorite pastime.

They have quite a complex judiciary system. It ranges from the Supreme Court on down to district commissioners and chiefs of the tribes. Lawyers evolve on payment of a ten dollar fee to the government. This is a popular sport for many Liberians and rather expensive for many natives who cheerfully pay a fee in order to exercise that great privilege bestowed on them by civilization, the right to sue some one who has offended them or owes them a few shillings. Usually the defender is forced to pay a heavy fine of which the injured party receives nil. Women palaver is the most common grievance.

If it is impossible for them to pay the fine, they are kept in prison and forced to work on the road. Higher crimes, are liable to punishment in a federal prison in which the treatment of prisoners is very severe, while high-class murderers are hung. The Liberians have a frontier force which is instrumental in retaining and, at times, making the tribes subservient to the government. When more taxes are needed it is sometimes necessary to conquer a few more of the wild tribes in the interior. They also have a reserve corps which on special occasions marches proudly down the street with long guns, short guns, and middle-sized guns, remnants of older times. The best method to get them to break up ranks is to throw coins among them--the scramble is terrific--but miraculously there is seldom a serious casualty. Finally, order is maintained in the great capital city by policemen whose chief duty is to arrest you if you go over ten miles an hour.

SPORTS

Kittenball

Kittenball has again assumed an important place in the affairs of the Plant Pathology Department as judged by the discussion and election of officers at the regular Literature Seminar, April 15.

The following officers were elected:

Coach	- E. C. Stakman, Big Chief
Playing Manager	- Thomas King - From Devils Lake
Ball Boy	- E. L. LeClerg, Sugar Beet Investigator
Bat Boy	- "Nick" Ponomareff, Arizona and also from Russia
Water Boy	- "Larry" Henson, Kentucky
Wicket Keeper and Pig Tail	- A. R. Gemmell - Hails from Scotland
Cheer Leader	- Dr. Louise Dodsall, Mycologist
Legal Advisor	- St. J. P. Chilton, Esq., Louisiana
Supreme Court	- Lee Ling, C. T. Tsiang, C. S. Wang, and S. M. Chen, All four from China

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April 22, Agronomy was snowed under 22 to 10. Clyde Christensen performed effectively on the mound as his team came thru with a few timely hits to roll up the score.

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May 6. The fight was taken out of Biochemistry by a third inning rally, in which eight scores were pushed across the plate. We went on to win, 24 to 10.

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Dr. J. J. Christensen has finally turned his catching position over to King, nevertheless, he is still a first class player and we miss his homeruns, but he has been very helpful in coaching first base.

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The Unusual Can Happen

1. Downie caught a fly ball in a game.
2. Dr. J. J. advised a base runner to hold his base. (Not to get off.)
3. Ralph Lorenz stopped a grounder at first and couldn't figure out what to do with it. Result all hands safe.
4. In a 7 inning game Third didn't get a chance while Short got 9.
5. Kernkamp missed a pop fly in center field.
6. A post mortem was held at Literature Seminar, in which Stak pointed out the weaknesses of the team.
7. Dr. C. J. Eide was caught cheering from the sidelines.
8. Two runners tried to get on third at the same time. Purely a mistake.

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SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

It was rumored that Eagle has purchased steel helmets for his greenhouse staff to wear when entering greenhouses November first and second during the noon hour when Kittenball practice is underway.

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Late Miss Dodsall has been seen making numerous trips out of the building with a basket under her arm, we wonder if she really does work on her Irises or if the basket is just a decoy and she is giving her V-8 a little fresh air and sunshine.

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Is this a racket or is this a racket? Every spring someone collects tribute ostensibly for the purchase of kittenballs and bats, but our candid reporter says there is evidence that much of it goes for replacing broken windows. In the ordinary garden variety of rackets they break windows only if you refuse to pay.

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"Oh where Oh where is my wondering boy tonight?" This is the tune we have heard

Stakman humming these spring nights when he has found the "Tottering Tower" almost empty. Don't worry; this is just one of the signs of spring.

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Dick the dishwasher says, "I have two ambitions in life - One is to get out of a barber shop without telling the barber goodbye, and the other is to catch up on orders for petri dishes."

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Morituri Le Saluamus

I always have a peculiar feeling when spring comes. A sort of happy pleasant cotton-wooly feeling that prompts me to sit for hours doing nothing, gazing at nothing, pleasantly idling away my time. However, I don't give a darn, for with the first soft breeze, the first glint of a spring sun through the trees, my conscience goes bounding off down Como, along Raymond, and away towards St. Paul.

This year things are even better. My conscience is tearing hell-bent along Robert just now, and where once I would have been in full pursuit, now I just sit and laugh and laugh and laugh for I find myself in very congenial company. Conscience is a funny thing. I never knew what one really was until I came to the Tottering Tower and saw how people acted who had none. I was very jealous. At nights I'd slink out to practice evil and lose mine early, but I couldn't do it.

I watched Chris and did all he did, but to no purpose. I next modeled myself on Eide but even that was of no avail. Finally I resolved to be just natural and having none that, it flew right out the window.

Now I can steal with no pangs. I can skip Seminar with no qualms, and lying has become an easy matter. It's easy therefore to say that I'm glad to be leaving the Tower. To say au revoir to its inmates and co-totterers is a simple thing to a liar such as me. To say that I'm glad to go delights this evil heart of mine, and the sight of sad faces when I go is one of my pleasantest anticipations.

I am sorry that I learned so much, and can now say "Puccinia sorghi" instead of "black stem rust." I used to like barberries because they had thorns, but now I'm fond of them because they harbor Puccinia helianthi. In fact my knowledge knows no limit and in that I find my chief regret. However, I am glad I can forget it all before Independence Day (4th of July to Western, a co-Britisher) and return to my former bovine existence.

Since this is my last Aurora, and since I won't have this chance again, I am going to say that I dislike Minnesota intensely, the people in it are horrid - present company excepted - and I'm happy and glad to be going home.

Here comes my conscience back again. So long folks.

A. R. Gemnell

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POET'S CORNER

Sweet Spring

Wenn in die Schloughs die Blackbirds all tun singen  
Wenn die Bluebells uf'n Prairie schweetly klingen  
Wenn in die Krick die Buben all tun schwimmen  
Wenn die Dresses tinner get uf all die Vimmen  
Dann wird bei uns Eggspermental Fields bebaut  
Und mächtig auch die Kittenball gehaut  
Dann wird um Theses toll gehetzt  
Und gredduate Students fast behext  
And Spring, sweet Spring iss nochamal gekommen!

ALICE QUATSCH

The poet apologizes to Mencken and his AMERICAN SLANGUAGE and quick sneaks back to the Poet's Corner.



The legislature failed to pass the bill calling for a New Building with two wings one to house Plant Pathology and the other Agronomy. The original bill calling for an appropriation of \$465,000.00 was cut to \$300,000.00 and approved by the committees of both houses, but the entire item was excluded from the final bill as passed. Oh Well! better luck next time.