

Aurora Sporealis



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.*

O T C
L I O
D M L
E Y
R U
S' M

Well, Old Timers, the Editor-in-Chief has delivered ultimatums and imprecations until Ye Ed. is cowed into compliance. And that is a doleful condition to get into. Add to the HUMILIATION due to repeated admonitions and reprimands the PHYSICAL, MENTAL, and spiritual torpidity resulting from travel fatigue and BLISTERING weather, and what is the sum? SOME JOB TO WRITE! But, Ye Ed. trembles for his job. So here goes, for better, or, probably, worse.

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Ye Ed. visits

THE BEAUTIFUL CAVERNS OF LURAY
Luray, Virginia

"In the Shenandoah Valley* Miles of subterranean splendor, brilliantly lighted by electricity--The Beautiful Caverns of Luray are described in Standard Books of Reference as the most beautiful in the world. They are by far the largest in Virginia. But other caves have merit and will reward a visit. * SEE America First. "No one has traveled wisely who has not seen the Beautiful Caverns of Luray".

Yea, verily, they are beautifully magnificent and magnificently beautiful, and are they Old Timers! Echo answers Echo and tells the pop-eyed visitor that Ma Nature took 7,000,000 years to form one stalactite. How long it took if a stalagmite came to meet a stalactite is a problem, and then WOULD A STALAGMITE STICK A STALACTITE? A trip to the caves for him or her who submits the 10 best solutions. The successful candidates pay for their own trip, just as successful Ph. D. candidates pay for demonstrations of their own erudition.

Thank Allah, that filled some space.
Now where do we go from here?

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CONCRETE EVIDENCE
South Dakota not yet consumed
by
Fire and Wind

"The Aurora Sporealis has been coming to me and I appreciate receiving it. However, I wonder if you would kindly ask that my address be changed to Madison, South Dakota, 803 North Josephine Ave. Remember me to the gang. Best wishes.

Very truly yours,

"GEORGE M. FRANSEN"

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HOW DRY WE ARE

Does any Old Timer remember when it was so hot in April and early May, in Minnesota, that plants were too lazy to grow? And does any one remember when the ground was so dry that water couldn't wet it? Well, we do! And a memory as long as an elephant's is not required. The time is the present; the place, Minnesota. The Doddering Tower no longer merely dodders; it squeaks, and grunts, and groans; it is parched for lack of water. The only moisture, inside or out, comes when some bright young man says somewhat that is all wet. This morning the clouds loomed large. So did the expectation of rain. Ye Ed giraffed his necklet from the window oot and counted seven droplets of rain. For 35 minutes he waited for the 8th, but got discouraged and quit. SO DID THE RAIN.

OLD TIMER FORBES
About to become a New Timer

I. L. Forbes, gentleman from Louisiana, where the principal crops are Cain and Cajans and Hooey Long, expects to arrive at the D. T. early in June and spend the summer in the cool and salubrious Minnesota climate working on his Ph. D. opus. He sends his regards to all the Towerites and the Ex Towerites.

DR. OLOF TEDIN
Breaks long silence

Following is an excerpt from a letter written by Dr. Tedin, one time dynamo in the D.T.

Sveriges Utsädesförening, Svalöf, April 17, 1934. "I am getting on fairly well, trying different things as usual. I am sure I have told about my leaving Weibulls in 1931 (Please note change of address, which is now: Svalöf, Sweden). At Svalöf I got hold of the seed treating department which deals especially with varietal purity of Svalöf seeds. I am still in charge of that job, but fortunately my assistants are so well trained, that I have only to look to the management, and make decisions in more difficile cases, and can spend time with other things. From January 1, 1933, I took over the potato breeding here at Svalöf, and I have got immersed in the work by now - which is indeed interesting from many points of view and may even lead to some pathological work being done. Just in these days I am making ready for planting - sowing of small grains is going for full at present here, we have an unusually early spring this year.

"Please give my very best greetings to all of the old bunch, and ask them, if they have forgotten Sweden, we haven't had a visitor now since Immer in 1931!

"Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

O. TEDIN

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FROM CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND

From Dr. Sydney Dickinson, who has now been at the University of Cambridge for a year, came such questions as the following:

1. How do we reconcile the American Administration's omniscience and omnipotence with the threats of strikes, gangster activities, and other black events?
2. What is to be the fate of the British budget, when the English pay 25% of their income in tax before the local taxers even get started?
3. What is the ideal existence?
4. Who wants the British fascists, and why?

Professor, you always did make us think,

Answers will be found in next Aurora - if some one will send them.

NATIONAL WU-HAN UNIVERSITY,
WUCHANG, HUPEH,
CHINA

GETS Dr. Chih Tu - temporarily at least

Dr. Chih Tu, gold medalist in his senior year at Minnesota, has leave of absence from Honan University for one semester to start cotton breeding work and pathological survey work at Wuchang. Where, oh where, is that atlas gone? Tu wishes to be remembered to all friends, wherever they may be.

VIELE GRÜSSE AN ALLE BEKANNTEN
von
Dr. K. Isenbeck, Halle-Saale

Dr. Isenbeck, in a recent letter, states that war is being waged against unemployment in Germany, that benedicts are more numerous than formerly, that it is expensive to be a bachelor, but that marriage - not mirage - seems to have the following result: "Man sagt, dass das Licht im Arbeitszimmer abends nicht mehr so lange brennt wie früher". Pardon the liberties taken with the quotation, Herr Dr. Isenbeck has many scientific ideas seething in his head. His letter is evidence

FROM A HALLE TO LEIPZIG
AND
LEIPZIG TO HALLE
DAILY COMMUTER

Dr. Kurt Hubert teils mit, to wit:

"I am working hard and have a rather trying time in traveling from Halle to Leipzig and back each day. But I enjoy my work at the seminary. In the meantime - from February 22 until March 22 - I was teaching in a so-called "Landwirtschaftsschule" = Agricultural School, in a very nice part of our country in the southern part of the mountain Harz. You can easily see from the picture the nice scenery of the little country town Wippra. During these four weeks I had a very good practical exercise in teaching. The conditions in Germany improve more and more..!"

* * *

BOOK REVIEW

Frank J. Greaney, Ph. D. Studies in Cereal Diseases XI. The prevention of cereal rusts by the use of fungicidal dusts. Dom. Canada Dept. Agr, Bul, 171. 90 pp, 1934. Price ? .

One expects the best in a publication emanating from the Dominion Rust Lab. Although one does not always gets what he expects in this vale of dust and drought, the reader will find the best in DR. GREANEY'S thoroughgoing treatist on the value of sulphur dusting for the prevention of cereal rusts, including stem and leaf rusts of wheat, stem and crown rusts of oats, and some minor diseases of wheat. 107 references are listed: To borrow the words of Old Timer Freeman Weiss, "Noteworthy complete and skillfully organized, this bibliography will

prove an indispensable reference work to student and professional plant pathologists." Covered in delicate alvellaneous buff, bound in neat black, the volume is enriched with chatty charts and illustrated historically from the period of the horse-drawn duster to that of the airplane. Incidentally, the bulletin includes results of experimental work at Winnipeg from 1925 to 1930, covering the toxicity of copper and sulphur dusts to germinating aeciospores and urediospores, the relative fungicidal effectiveness of these dusts; the value of sulphur dusts as protectants when applied before inoculation and as preventives after infection, their effect on yield; varying effectiveness under different conditions of temperature and humidity, etc, etc, etc. Damage to wheat and oats by stem rusts at Winnipeg is calculated statistically. In conclusion, too much can not be said in praise of the acknowledgements: They are adequately gracious and graciously adequate in the author's own illimitable style. Justly, this compendium of invaluable information protrudes its throbbing chest from out the confines of Aurora's classic shelf. - L.H.

THE HUNT AND CHASE

MACINDOE SHOOTS AFRICAN LEOPARD

Intrepid Scotchman from New Zealand risks life and pulchritude in routing Jungle Terror

MONROVIA, LIBERIA, W.AFRICA - "But thinking that the New Year week-end would be better employed by some hunting, two German fellows and myself decided that we would go in search of the denizens of the forest. Accordingly we took three days off in order to reach the happy hunting grounds, do the hunting, and return. The destination was the Gibi mountains, which can be seen in a dim haze to the East of the New Development. We took a day's hard walking to reach our destination (a native Bassa village) and another day to return. We spent two nights trying to sleep in the kitchen of the town; the unusual cold and the fact that the inhabitants put on a drum recital for our special benefit made a wreck of sleep. The town was in the middle of miles and miles of "big bush" - forest penetrated only by the tunnels of the native trails. Evidences of bush-cow, antelope, leopards, and monkeys there were in plenty. But of the three of us, I was the only one who met up with 'big game', or who had real excitement. And believe me, I had it in plenty. This is how it happened: On the first night, we each took different trails, as each of us had an electric head lamp. Accordingly I set off up my trail, accompanied by a boy with a cutlass. The beam of my light illuminated a small area, the rest was absolutely impenetrable blackness and jungle. I had proceeded cautiously about half a mile, when suddenly on rounding a corner in the trail, a pair of red eyes appeared about twenty-five paces ahead. I had been told that antelope's eyes were green, and that a leopard's eyes would be red. Well, these were red right enough, and scintillating angry red at that. "My lad", I decided, you have a leopard without a doubt." The eyes seemed to crouch and I could see the faint outline of a wicked looking head and ears. I determined to make sure of the shot, and carefully adjusted the beam of light along the barrel, and let fly. There was a roar, and a long, yellow shape leapt across the trail and into the bush. Did I get him? I didn't know, but out of the bush, seemingly about thirty feet from the trail came a succession of the most blood curdling snarls I ever want to hear. Oh heart, stop thumping! The noises were really not snarls, but more like long drawn out snores, which I had been told the leopard delights to make when he is on the warpath. Then the snores stopped, and there was a dead silence. I flashed my light into the bush, but there was no answering gleam of eyes. I said to the boy, who was clinging to me behind, "You think I hit him proper, boy?" "Yes, sah, yes, sah!" "You think he die?" "No sir, he no die proper." "You fit go see, yah?" "No sah, no sah!" Well, I didn't think I was fit either, so deeming it best to follow the boy's advice to come back "morning time",

we beat a careful retreat, I with many a backward glance of the flashlight, for I had also been informed that a wounded leopard is wont to play funny tricks. However, we reached the town without further incident, and I was glad of the boy's assurances to back up my story to the other two doubting Thomases, who had returned without seeing anything. Accordingly next morning, I returned to the place with four boys this time, with cutlasses, hoping to find my leopard in rigor mortis. Well, he was not to be seen, but a trail of blood evidenced that he had been hit. The trail petered out after a while, and we spread out looking for it again. I was advancing slowly, peering at the ground for traces of blood, and did not particularly observe a large tree with buttress roots about twenty feet to my right. Suddenly there was a crash, and a huge leopard bounded out from between the roots, and lit out with twenty foot bounds for the tall grass and deep woods. I attempted to get in a shot, but by the time I had got over my surprise and had disentangled my gun from some creepers, the beast had disappeared. The boys yelled and shinned up trees as fast as they could lick. I own that my heart thumped some more. But my leopard had gone, and I could only thank whatever God watches over me that he didn't decide to leap at me, as he well could have done in one bound. He must have been crouching and watching me for a full minute, and what on earth influenced his leopardian brain to leave me alone, I cannot imagine, for it appears that the wounded leopard makes no bones about that sort of thing. He had been lying all night, licking his wound, I suppose, and the natives say that he will not travel far and will eventually die. They will go out to look for him after a few days, when they figure he is dead, and perhaps I may see my leopard skin yet. If I had got that beast, I would have let the others do all the shooting they wanted while I slept in the village. But as it was I had to content myself with three monkeys (black fellows with red legs) and a couple of large birds, which was easily the biggest bag. I have decided, however, that there are more healthy sports than leopard hunting. If I ever try it again, I shall take care to have somebody else with me, also with a gun. If you come to Liberia again while I am here, will you come out with me? Thrills and excitement are assured, far greater than those to be got even by watching Minnesota's team beat Wisconsin. On our way back to the Plantation, we had to cross by canoe the Farmington, a river about two or three times as big as the Du. The three of us were paddled safely across by the boy in the stern, but in attempting to land, one of the Germans, a large, fat, unwieldy individual, stood on the gunwale of the canoe instead of the bottom. The result was in complete harmony with the laws of buoyancy and bodies floating in water. The pirogue lurched, teetered for an agonising moment at a precarious angle, and finally turned turtle, precipitating the other man, myself, and the boy into the river. You can conjure up a mental picture of me up to my neck in water, attempting to hold my gun aloft, and struggling towards the shore, eventually emerging in a rage at the idiot who had caused the upset, and who by some evil dispensation, had escaped a ducking himself. There ain't no justice in life. But it was a good trip, and a welcome change to everyday existence."

SCOTCH ARE GREAT:

SO IS SCOTCH.

Now will the Liberian Trinity send other stories of adventure, in addition to Mac's wild hunt and Hafstad's false-teeth story? The readers of Aurora yearn!

We ain't go not leopards here in Minnesota

BUT

We got kittens.

* WOE IS US, WOE IS US *

Kittenball kittenized by Plant Path. Kittens.

Does any Old Timer, with a morbid joy in exploring whatever is dank and dismal in the past and in exhuming the decaying remains of deceased glories, remember when a Plant Path. Kätzchenball team took kittenball literally enough to play with the ball like a bunch of kittens while the opposition got muscular hypertrophy of the heart in legging it around the bases? Ach, Gott, we don't too!

Gods of the Old Timers, be with our kittens yet
Lest they forget, lest they forget!
Odds bodkins, but how they did forget;
How they did forget!

For the depressing details read the sports section - when and if the sports Ed. can steel his heart to write the gruesome story.

* Je und Jammer *
* Je und Jammer *

AND NOW THE HEAVY HEART SEEKS SURCEASE FROM LEADEN SORROW AND WAITS WITH MELANCHOLY STOLIDITY FOR A KITTENBALL VICTORY, SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS, CONTRIBS.FROM OLD TIMERS, AND RAIN

HASTA LA VISTA

VISITORS TO THE TOTTERING TOWER
(Phytobrickhaus tremuloides)

T. W. Graham

Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, was well represented at the Tottering Tower on March 6. Kenneth Kopf and James H. Bywater, graduate students in animal genetics, visited our department while on their round of inspecting the various divisions on the Ag. campus.

Accompanying these two visitors was A. U. Scindeth, a student from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland. assistant in animal genetics.

On March 8, "Tubby" Melander was very busy showing around two of his contemporaries, state barberry eradication leaders, and his chief, W. L. Popham, from the barberry eradication office, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Popham and the two district barberry eradication leaders, R. O. Bulger from South Dakota, and George C. Mayoue from North Dakota, gave interesting talks to the literature seminar group on the date of their visit.

On Monday April 30 our department was favored by a distinguished visitor, Dr. G. H. Coons, in charge of sugar beet investigation work, U. S. D. A. He spoke to us during the regular seminar period, Tuesday, May 1, about some of the sugar beet work and about some of his investigations on a bacterial parasite of the European corn borer.

Another distinguished visitor was in our midst May 3 and 4. Dr. H. H. Whetzel, head of the department of plant pathology, Cornell University, addressed an open meeting of the plant science group on May 3. His subject was "Coming - The

Practicing Plant Pathologist." His subject at a similar meeting the following day was, "Scholastic Freedom, or the Right to Learn."

SPORTS ##### SECTION

The kittenball season opened officially on April 25 with Plant Pathology meeting Entomology. Three preseason games with the A. G. R's and Biochemistry resulted in wins for the department. By defeating Entomology 6-2, Plant Path. opened its official schedule with a 1000% rating. Bamberg pitched a two-hit game, while the opposing pitchers allowed 8. Sharvelle was the leading hitter with a homerun and a single. Tight infielding and adequate outfielding turned many potential entomology hits into put-outs.

The team roster is as follows:

Pitchers - Bamberg, Harrar, Marshall
Catchers - Christensen, J. J., Hanson, E&C.
1st - Graham, Tyler
2nd - Harrar
3d - Marshall, Wismer
Right short - Sharvelle, Bamberg
Left short - Person
Left field - Kaufert, Cassell
Center field - Wismer
Right field - Christensen, C. Hanson, E.

Capt. - L. H. Person

Manager - R. H. Bamberg

Coaches, Doc, The Chief, and E. C. Stakman

To date there have been no major casualties. Bamberg received a line drive on the nose, while Hanson is sporting a dainty shiner which just missed being a shanty. Incidentally, Hanson shows signs of becoming a valuable catcher.

Tervet is in training for the ping-pong tournament. He expects to play singles and pair with Syed in the doubles.

Harrar is runner-up in the all University singles handball championship and Harrar and Deters are runners-up in the doubles championship,

On May 5 Plant Path. met Animal Industry in a postponed kittenball game. Handicapped by the absence of three regulars, the home team took a decisive defeat by a score of 15-10. The winners got 14 runs in the first three innings, as a result of numerous hits plus many errors on the part of Plant Path. A change of pitchers and tighter play held the winners to one run in the last four innings of play. The hitting of Plant Path. was poor until the sixth inning when a 5-run rally was staged. A return game is to be played some time this week.

A rejuvenated Plant Path. team met Entomology on May 9 and shut them out with a score of 17-0/ Three Plant Path. pitchers allowed only one questionable hit while the home team was collecting 24. During this game Plant Path. looked like a pretty good aggregation with tight fielding and aggressive hitting and base running.

Due to conflicts three games have been postponed so that there are still two games to be played with Biochemistry and one with Animal Industry. It is expected that these games will all have been played by May 22. Plant Path. must win all these to take the championship.

EIDE SAVES APPLE GROWERS MILLIONS

On Monday morning, April 23, Carl J. Eide, eminent staff member of the Tottering Tower and prospective wearer of the philosopher's hood, was doing his daily snooping tour of the campus. Of course he was looking for his daily contribution to science. At precisely 10:38 a.m. central standard time Carl noticed a curious looking object lying on the ground in a pile of debris and enveloped in a bluish-black haze. Carl dropped to his knees and bent over the curious looking object. Ha! an old apple leaf! What were those peculiar spots on the leaf? As Carl reached for his hand lens to make a more detailed examination, something hit him on the end of the nose.

"My Gawd!", said Carl, "That must be an ascospore." He bent closer over the object and studied it carefully with the hand lens. Sure enough, millions of asci were busily shooting spores into the air and producing the previously mentioned bluish-black haze.

"Venturia inequalis!" exclaimed Carl. "I must spread the alarm." And so, like Paul Revere, he went straight to work. By nightfall every radio station and every newspaper in the vicinity of University Farm was broadcasting the advent of Venturia inequalis.

Twenty-four hours later drug stores and chemical companies all over the north-west were reporting huge sales of lime sulfur. Orchardists dug out and polished up the old spray machinery. Soon the air was brown with lime sulfur. The darkening of the heavens on several occasions, which has been attributed to dust storms, was really the result of the extensive spraying activities of orchardists stimulated by the warnings of Mr. Eide. The recent high winds have carried the excess spray for hundreds of miles so that, in all probability, apple scab will be controlled this year not only in Minnesota but in the entire Mississippi Valley and Western Canada.

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Mr. Rose, Extension Pathologist, has been very busy during the spring months. He has been conducting meetings throughout the state discussing seed potatoes and holding seed treating demonstrations. According to Rose, there has been much interest in the planting of malting barley this spring. He has, therefore, focused much of his attention on barley diseases and the treating of barley. Rose also discussed fruit diseases at the Duluth Short Course on April 4 and 5.

It is well for us of the Tottering Tower to bear in mind the importance of the extension service and its relation to our own efforts. We should keep in close touch with Rose and his work.

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*****PERSONALS*****

Vaheeduddin Syed arrived at the Tower on March 4, 1934. Syed came from Hyderabad-Deccan, the largest native state in India. He graduated from Poona Agricultural College in 1928 and has been working in the Department of Agriculture H.E.H the Nizam's Government from the time of graduation until he left to come to the Tottering Tower in pursuit of further knowledge of Plant Pathology. Syed is the first resident of his state to come to the U. S. to study Plant Pathology and also the first from his state to attend the University of Minnesota. He holds a Leave of Absence Allowance from the Nizam's Government while studying in this country. Syed plans to spend two and a half years here working chiefly on Puccinia purpurea, which is fairly common and destructive disease on grain sorghum in India.

Frank Kaufert passed his "Prelim" on March 17 and we all enjoyed candy and cigars the following week. Frank now holds a Firestone Fellowship here at the Station.

E. C. Stakman Visits Mexico -

Dr. Stakman left the Tottering Tower on April 10 and headed for San Antonio, Texas, where he joined Mr. Butler. Changing from train to Ford and donning traveling clothes, Stak and Butler headed South into Mexico to study evidence of overwintering of rust and to make collections for identification of physiologic forms of early appearing rust in Mexico. The states of Nuevo Leon, Tamarlipas, and Coahuila were visited and rust samples were secured from these areas. Stak reports that he felt much safer traveling through Mexico than he did while passing through Chicago or even perhaps St. Paul. He returned by way of Washington, where he attended the meeting of the National Research Council. An automobile trip was made with Mr. Meier, who is in charge of Barberry Eradication and Dr. Salmon, in charge of Wheat Investigations, into Southwestern Virginia to study the B. canadensis situation. The weary worn traveler returned to St. Paul on April 27, arriving just in time to see the opening game of the kittenball season. Dr. J. J.C. has been acting as Coach in the Big Chief's absence.

See Sports Column for results of game.

Rose Marae McCloud, Librarian and Secretary, returned from a week's vacation exhibiting two large boils, and it was rumored that she had a third. From all appearances Rose Marae has completely recovered and is seen regularly around the building once more.

Miss Dorothy Harmala has returned to her duties as Tolaas' secretary after undergoing an operation for appendicitis. Since her return Matt Moore has been more in evidence around the smutlab.

Clyde Allison has returned to work after an absence of over a month. Clyde believes in doing things in a big way. He was not satisfied with mumps alone so he had pneumonia along with mumps. Quite a heated argument arose between Matt Moore and J. J. C. as to whether Clyde has a mump or mumps. The question has not been settled, but Clyde assures them that what he had was deserving of the rank MUMPS.

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AURORA BOOKSHELF

The postman brought us only a little reading matter:

- Husz, Bela. Über die Zugehörigkeit von *Phellomyces sclerotiophorus* Frank und dessen Unterscheidung von *Spondylocladium atrivirens* Harz. Zeitschr. f. Pflanzenkr. u. Pflanzenschutz 44: 186-191. 1934.
Hanna, W. F. and W. Popp. Bunt infection on spring wheat by soil-borne spores. Scient.Agr. 14: 257-258. January.
Ezekiel, Walter N. and J. J. Taubenhaus. Variety tests in the differentiation of two cotton wilts. Phytopath. 24: 292-295. March.

Domestic sources also were unproductive:

- Eide, Carl J. Apple scab. Minn. Hort. 62: 44-48. March.
Allison, C. C. Powdery mildew of flax in Minnesota. Phytopath. 24: 305-307. March
Stakman, E.C. and R. H. Bamberg (see H. K. Hayes, etal) Correlated inheritance of reaction to stem rust, leaf rust, bunt, and black chaff in spring-wheat crosses. Jour. Agr. Res. 48: 59-66. January.

ENVELOPES, CARDS, TACKS, AND EAGLE

All of our white card labels 2" x 3½" are gone, 50 lbs. of good chewing wax has been melted, many thousand tacks have been driven thru the paraffined cards into the 1' pine stakes. Moore has treated numerous samples of grain. Shumway has inoculated wheat with physiologic forms of bunt. Eagle and Co. have weighed out or counted out thousands of samples of grain and put them into brown envelopes, 3" x 5½".

At present stakes are appearing in the field daily by hundreds, yeah by the thousands. Planting has been completed at Waseca, and on the sandy soil at Coon Creek. We are still at it on fields E5-6-7 and on A5-6-7 and 8. (Eagle insists that the rows must be straight).

For the second time we actually got all our bunted seed sown before the temperature of the soil rose about 8°C. What's the use - no rain for over two weeks. Seeds are not germinating and now (April 30) the air temperature has reached 91°F. Dry - dust storms - sore eyes. In fact, it is so dry that Dr. Ausemus and Bam. (Pl. Path. K-ball pitcher) are installing a sprinkling system to be put into actual use at once.

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MINNESOTA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

The movie film entitled "The Interrelation of the bark beetles and blue stain in Norway pine" by Dr. J. G. Leach, Mr. Clyde Christensen, and Mr. L. W. Orr, was presented at the second annual meeting of the Minnesota Academy of Science at Rochester on April 21, and stimulated considerable favorable comment. In fact the whole program was very well received.

A paper by Mr. Ralph D. Brown, University of Minnesota, entitled "An Indian Rock Shelter in the St. Croix" also was presented. This was a report of excavations made by Mr. Brown under a rock shelter on Dr. R. B. Harvey's farm.

One of the most interesting numbers on the program was an informal discussion on the "Ballistics of Gun Shot Wounds" by Dr. L. B. Wilson of the Mayo Clinic. He pointed out that if the nations continued to increase the velocity of the bullets from various firearms, the wounds that were caused would be practically fatal because as the velocity of the bullets is increased a **larger area of tissue around the wound is killed**. To illustrate this he stated that during the World War it was necessary to cut away the tissue about three-fourths of an inch around the ordinary gun shot wound but that in the next war if high velocity bullets were used, it would be necessary to cut away at least four inches.

The Academy had the pleasure of listening to a short address by Dr. W.J. Mayo, who discussed a possible field of research for obtaining more moisture from the air and increasing the water supply. However, he offered no suggestions as to how this could be done.

After the formal program those interested visited the Institute of Experimental Medicine connected with the Mayo Clinic. This is about three miles out of Rochester and has a fairly large research personnel and good equipment. On the return from the Institute an opportunity was given to see a large number of exhibits on Hygiene and Medical Research prepared by the staff of the Mayo Clinic.

There was a large delegation at Rochester from the University of Minnesota. The Tottering Tower was represented by Drs. J.G. Leach, E. L. LeClerg, M.N. Levine, L. W. Melander, and R. B. Harvey.

--L. W. Melander

HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE

Wot-a-spring! Wot-a-spring! The hottest, driest, windiest, and above-all dirtiest on record. Dust on the desk, dust in the soup, dust in the eyes, nose, mouth, hair and shoes. Dust so thick in the air that the sun resembles an anemic cheese. I scarce dare venture out on the table tops at night lest the articulation of my legs and antennae become so clogged that they stiffen and break. As it is the Mrs. has to clean my antennae before I can bend them. Oh, for a Hafstad to clean things up so that I could skitter and scamper again.

For days Chris has worried and fretted and torn his hair - figuratively. He goes out to the field and returns haggard and care worn. Requests keep coming in for field space. He mutters, "There ain't none." Well, yesterday I snuck into the cuff of his trousers and went out with him to see this field situation for myself. No wonder he worries and mutters. Half of the field has been blown over on top of the other half and then half of that has piled up again, and the third reduction is now under way so that soon the area will be only an eight of normal.

Poor Chris! If only his best friend would tell him. Allison could grow barley in the smut lab., Tyler could dry-form his sorghum in the histology lab, and Leach could certainly plant spuds in the prep. lab and every one could sprout corn in their ears.

Why does Chris yell, "Hi?" I nearly molt my shell every time he does it. When some one shouts, "Chris," he yells, "Hi." When they shout, "Hi," he shouts, "Hi," and today on 3d floor there goes a "Ha Chooo!" and 4th floor, "Hi".



When some one again feels like defining terms I wisht he'd distinguish between "discussion" and "dispute", and between "argument" and "wrangle".



REGULAR SEMINARS

- Mar. 6. J. G. Harrar finishes a discourse on taxonomy of poisonous mushrooms.
- Mar. 13. Miss "Mouldy" Haglund presents a gruesome description of the effects of mushroom poisons.
- Mar. 20 and 27. Vacation.
- Apr. 3. Person (Lee H.) discusses the serological reactions of fungi and bacteria. A discussion of taxonomy ensues. Frenchy (of Signs and Symptoms) ventures the opinion that there are "forms" in the species Homo sapiens.
- Apr. 10. Cassell surveys sex in fungi - and does it in an hour.
- Apr. 17. Will Myers of Agronomy brings us up to date on the cytology of the fungi. A very fine paper. Good discussion.
- Apr. 24. We hear a discussion of concepts of sex, gender, etc. by the old specialist, L. J. Tyler. Argument lasts until 5:50 even though Stak is in Washington. Tyler decides we are too dumb to learn.
- May 1. A special treat. Dr. G. H. Coons enlightens us concerning curly top and other diseases of sugar beets. Also tells us about this corn borer bacterium.

LITERATURE SEMINARS

The literature seminar dragged along until Mar. 29, when E. G. Sharvelle

presented his Doctor's thesis work on "The nature of resistance of cultivated flax to rust, Melampsora lini."

Apr. 5. A. F. Verrall presents his Doctor's thesis on "Variability in Fomes igniarius. After Verrall finished candidate Tyler made known some of his discoveries on "Studies on variability in Sphacelotheca sorghi" and so far into the nite.

Apr. 19. Eide goes to the wailing wall and tells of his experiences with Gibberella saubinetii.

Apr. 26. A red letter day. Seminar held at Miss Hart's apartment. Everybody there except Miss Hart. She left a lot of food, however, and so her absence was forgiven. Miss Dodsall and Dr. Leach reviewed literature.

May 3. Dr. Stakman throws a party in honor of Prof. H. H. Whetzel. Christy wore the white apron and dispensed the potables. After they were gone a singing school was held, with Stakman, Christensen (Clyde), and Whetzel doing the heavy work. Pretty good too, in view of the fact that both Miss Hart and Sharvelle refused to play the piano. We don't believe they ever saw one before.

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EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA HONORS

A photo and front page article in the world's largest college newspaper, a notice in Science, and special articles in all of the twin city papers, all announcing that Prof. E. C. H. I. Stakman was recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences. According to the writeup in the Daily, "Membership in the Academy, one of the greatest honors which can be bestowed upon a scientist, has been given but one other University faculty member, Samuel C. Lind, professor and director of the School of Chemistry." Congratulations, Doc.

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AURORA * SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Whereas in the past the chief gripe around here has been the intense cold, or the lack of clean glassware, a new cause for general disapproval seems to have seeped into this building, and has been seized upon by all and sundry as the unwitting cause of all our ills.

They tell me its the heat or the lack of rain that's causing so much discomfort and anxiety. If this keeps up the "Big Chief" prophesies the camel will replace the car as the most popular form of transportation in Minnesota (or words to that effect).

In view of the threatened water shortage, and doubtless inspired by the recent liquor war in Minneapolis, the worthy Scotch associate, to wit I.W.T., has laid in a goodly supply of gin. That's not a bad idea Scotchman - just gin and bear it,

E.C.S.: (admiring a new blue teapot acquired by the office staff): "My, how good looking. It looks almost like "Wedgeworth". At least it's a good imitation of "Edgeworth"."

R.Mc: (ironically) "Oh, no, it's "Spade"."

Our one and only "Champ", our blue-eyed, curly headed little "Dutch", Professor J. G. Harrah (it must be swell to have a couple of biblical names) recently expressed fears that he was on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

That's o.k. "Champ", I felt that way when I was taking mycology too. Really it isn't nervous prostration but rather severe indigestion. I used to use the chocolate-coated kind.

Miss Harmala recently spent two weeks in the hospital having her appendix abbreviated. A certain young man wore out two pairs of shoes traveling between here and the hospital with his daily floral offering. Now she's back we wonder what she has to show for it.

Dr. H. H. Whetzel in an interesting lecture divulged the interesting fact that although there were very few openings for women in plant pathology, the women in the department at Cornell, with one or two exceptions, had enjoyed considerable success in obtaining their "Mrs!" degree after one or two years of graduate work.

From a hasty perusal of the records of this division it appears that the batting average is rather low at Minnesota. However, there are one or two still working for their degree.

How's your graduate work coming "Mouldy"?

A new vogue has recently been instituted by the Lit. Seminar Committee. Recently our worthy "Editor-in-Chief" played the role of hostess (in absentia) to followers of lit. seminar. However, Miss Dossdall entertained the group with a 75 minute oration on the playful antics of the Neurospora nuclei, while Dr. Leach rounded off the bill of fare with a delightful delivery on the Maine spud situation. (It was decided to preserve the memory of this meeting by designating it the "Dossdall-Leach night".)

Not to be outdone the Big Chief played host to the group the following week. Dr. H. H. Whetzel, the guest of honor, after a little dexterous priming with a measure or two of delightfully, delectable drinkables, was induced to render his historic version of "Grandma's Old Armchair".

Christensen (Clyde) wonders why some of the unmarried lads stayed in the kitchen all evening.

We understand that after July 1, the theme song of the Tottering Tower will be: "Kelley doesn't live here any more".

Having succeeded in weathering unscathed several issues of Aurora the time has come for "Ye Reporter of Ye Signs and Symptoms" to still his erstwhile active pen, never again to officially roam across the pages of Aurora. Still; maybe fate will be kind and maybe periodically the old pen will be reawakened and maybe it will give birth to other 'brain children' in the future. Yes! Maybe!

Inasmuch as the above constitutes the final efforts of "Yours truly", the writer would like to take occasion to express his appreciation to the "Columns of Aurora" for the opportunity of contributing to its columns, and to the members of the department for their forbearance. May I bid you adieu Aurora, and may I wish you all the best. May I express the hope that in the future Aurora will spread her wings and fly to me across the sea bearing tidings of the "Tottering Tower", to keep alive very happy memories of the past two years amongst its inmates. *E. S.*