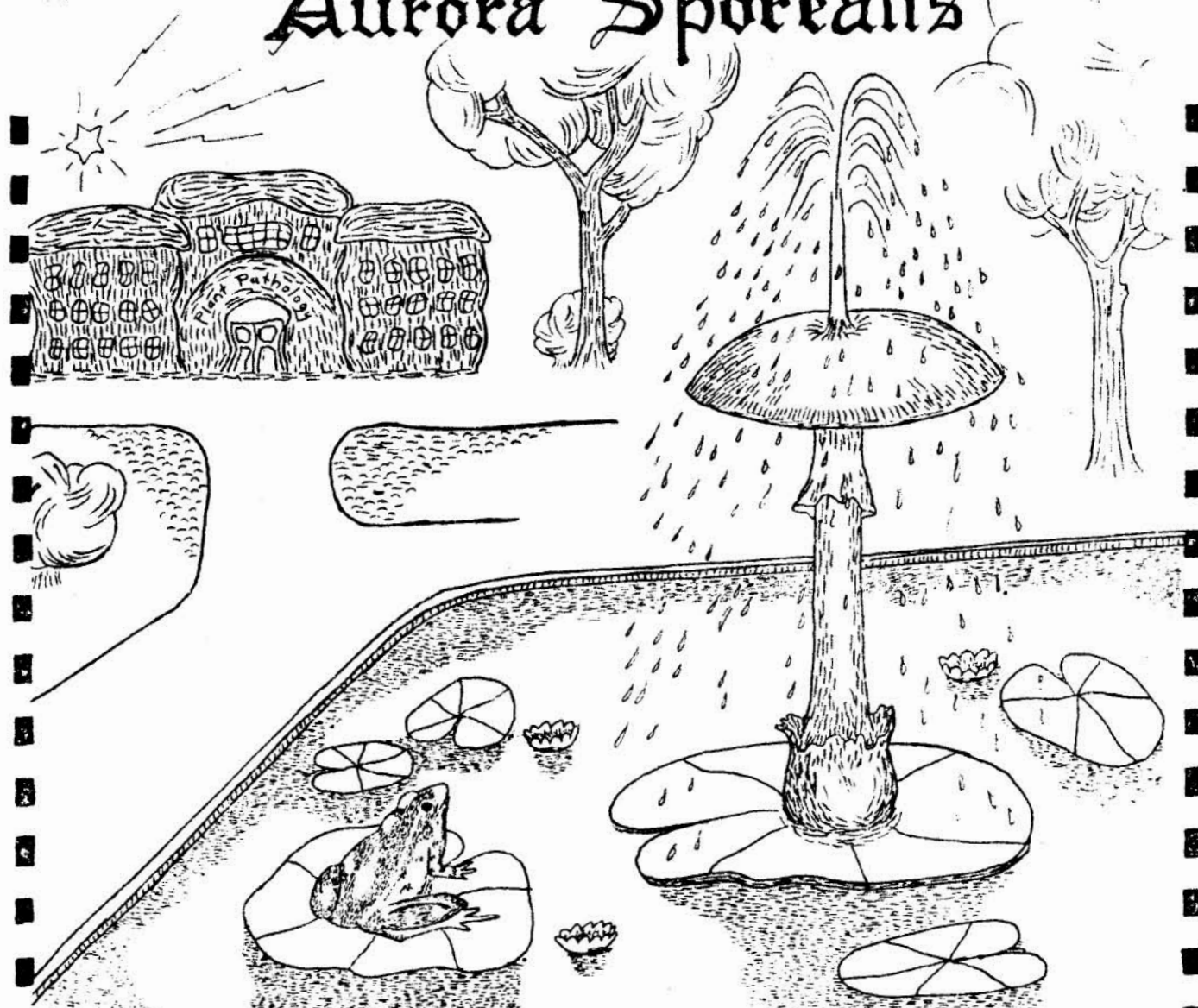


1903
Aurora Sporealis



Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations and the raspibrations 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 rundry,
Let the spout squirt and never lose power.



Editor's Note

It was the intention of the editorial committee that this issue of Aurora should be produced by the Foreign Legion and that every member should contribute something to it. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, this has not proved possible, and we have had to manage without contributions from Cormack and Davies who both left the Department hurriedly and could not be expected to write articles.

An effort has been made to include all the other Legionnaires, but Wang begged to be excused, due to pressure of business, and his smile was so persuasive that the editor felt bound to consent to his request.

The Foreign Legion earnestly requests that, in the years to come, this issue of Aurora Sporealis be not held against it.

T. T. Topics

Visitors

Fuat M. Halis, Agronomist from Ankara, Turkey, visited us this month. He has been studying at Wisconsin.

C. T. Wei, who spent last summer at University Farm, also came up from Wisconsin for a few days.

George Hafstad and Lee Hines, back from Liberia, have also dropped in and told us something of their experiences.

Arrivals

Milton M. Evans - arrived from Arizona where he worked with Brown on vegetable crops. Evans took his Masters Degree at Ames and he has published a paper on Sclerospora graminicola in association with George Harrar. He intends to work on wheat diseases here.

E. K. Vaughan - has returned to University Farm after an absence of two years, during which he worked on Soil Conservation projects in the South. He tells us that Phymatotrichum root rot has destroyed many thousands of forest trees in the nurseries. He intends to don the mantle cast off by Clyde Allison and will work on barley smuts.

Dr. Johanna Becker, of the University of Halle, Germany, came to Minnesota early in May on an exchange arrangement. But we are still trying to find somebody who would be suitable exchange material. Miss Becker is known through her researches on rusts. She graduated from a girls' school, from a boys' school, took home economics, got a Ph.D. in Agriculture, helped run a farm, and holds a research position at the University of Halle. During her sojourn at Minnesota, Miss Becker will make investigations of the nature of resistance of potatoes to scab, will attend seminars, get as many ideas as she can regarding Americans and American institutions, and attempt to find enough amusement to fill in her spare time. The Tottering Tower and the foreign and domestic contingents welcome Miss Becker!

Departures

Clyde Allison has left us to take up a position in Alabama, where he will be studying diseases of tobacco. His farewell tea included a long speech by J. J. (Big Hyena) Christensen upon human pathological diagnosis which amounted to a sermon on the theme "I told you so". Allison bore it with becoming fortitude. We shall miss Allison's pithy remarks in the lab, but we wish him every success in his new surroundings.

I. C. Mason has gone back to Maine, but we hope to see him here again in the fall. He departed, after much cogitation, when the floods were at their height, but he arrived home safely.

Bill and Mrs. Cormack left for Edmonton the same night. Chris, Matt Moore, and some of the gang spent a busy evening seeing the various people off but all were eventually dispatched safely.

Fred R. Davies has left us for the summer to take up work connected with fruit trees in Delaware. He had a hard time convincing the Consul that he was a fit and proper person to enter "God's own Country" but all is well now, and we look forward to welcoming him back to Minnesota next October.

Scientific

Dean Freeman delivered a paper entitled "In Praise of Parasitism" at the Minnesota Academy of Science meeting, held at Northfield this month. Syed also spoke at the same meeting on "Observations and experiments on diseases of plants in Hyderabad State, India".

Here and There

Shumway will be engaged in nursery inspection work during the summer.

The super optimist - James Walter trying to grow sweet corn in England! Matt Moore has sent him some "Pickaninny" corn upon which the ears are so low that the gophers stand on their hind legs and eat the kernels. Incidentally, this is the most smut-susceptible variety known to mankind.

No marriages to report this quarter! What's wrong with everybody?

Miss Hart, though still editing as strongly as ever, now spends much of her time measuring light intensities. She has an efficient helper in the person of Mrs. Leister.

Sarmiento is back in the department, and his smile rivals that of Syed.

Doc Leach is now busy with his new duties as College Administrator for the W.P.A. On the strength of this appointment he now has a secretary in the person of Miss Velandar. Since her advent the top floor coffee party has grown considerably.

Spring is in the air in the office, and the place hums with four typewriters. Misses Hamilton, McLeod, and Pearson have now been joined by Miss Jensen.

Syed passed his prelim this month and hopes to have his doctor's thesis well on the way by next Christmas.

Ling is still busily engaged in investigating the private life of Urocystis occulta.

Mason gave us a cinematograph talk on the beauties of Maine which was most appreciated. Syed, also, delivered a lantern lecture which went down well until the operator of the lantern discovered that the camels he showed us came from Egypt. The lecturer denied any intention to deceive, so the company forgave him.

Skating Parties

The skating gang enjoyed two excellent parties in March. At the first Miss McLeod entertained a very disreputable looking bunch after an evening spent at the Arena in Minneapolis. After admiring the feats of Messrs. Moore and Decker on the ice, we made short work of a goodly pile of "wieners" accumulated by our hostess.

A few days later Miss Hart and Miss Dorothy Harmala entertained more or less the same gang to dinner, after which the party adjourned to the Minneapolis Skating Carnival. As far as we have been able to ascertain, nobody disgraced himself, and everybody spent a most enjoyable evening.

STOP PRESS!

Letter from Freddie Davies! - He tells us he has arrived in Delaware after a good journey in the course of which he visited Madison, Warsaw, and Pittsburgh. The car behaved itself, probably because Freddie was not going to a hockey match, and everything apparently went well. We look forward to further communications.

Sports Section

Departmental Basketball Shooting. - Another King loses his crown!

Returning from a Spring vacation in North Dakota and feeling secure in the old Minnesota hunting grounds, Champ (for a fortnight) King met some stiff opposition. Downie won from Eagle and held the title for two minutes: Chris beat Downie, and Eagle won from both Chris and Downie, placing him in the final, which he won from King in a close game.

Kittenball

According to the spectators who were privileged to witness the preliminary workout of would-be kittenballers, the exhibition was considered very c(g)lassical.

The club held its annual meeting at the close of the Seminar on April 23rd. The following officers were elected:

Captain, - Clyde Christensen Business Manager, - Earle Hanson
Honorary Cheer Leader - Miss Louise Dodsall
Honorary Pitcher (without ball) - V. Syed

The meeting terminated in uproar with J. J. C. endeavoring to drive Western off the plate by means of more or less well directed navel oranges. The proceedings ceased when somebody noticed the lifted eyebrow of Marshall Ward and Dickinson, from his perch on the west wall, was heard to mention something about shaking his isolater.

In the first game, in spite of the absence of the Chief, Plant Path. emerged victorious over the "All Stars" (origin uncertain) by 28-4.

