

PLAN

A U R O R A S P O R E A L I S

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A Journal

Wherein are recorded the recollections, the ruminations,
and the respirations of those who have drunk from the foaming
fount in 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.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

(This year if you get it in time; next if you don't)

Published by the Seminar Committee, aided and abetted
by many others.

The Committee: Helen Hart

H. A. Rodenhiser

A. W. Henry (Chairman)

Nordic Notions

Being unable to think of anything more or less original to talk about, I have to excuse myself for taking up the same subject as Mrs. Sorokin, in the last issue of this paper: a few things that have impressed me in the life round an American University.

First, although I have been lucky enough over in Sweden not to meet with quite such dignity-upkeeping professors as pictured by the lady mentioned, I must confess that the spirit of good "scholastic democracy" at the American University has impressed me rather much. When such occurs in the old country, it is looked upon as something outstanding, not as is evidently done here, as something absolutely natural, something it-cannot-be-otherwise.

Second, I was told, by people who pretended to "know America", that if I wanted to get much out of my visit here I would have to use my elbows and thoroughly hide what small amount of timidity I might be endowed with. Although it may seem too early, with half a year more to spend here, I cannot but use the opportunity to state that I feel most obliged for the way in which it has been demonstrated to me that this statement was, to put it in a kind way, somewhat remote from the truth. In fact, I have found here an amount of friendliness and good fellowship that is the equal of any that I have been accustomed to.

In close connection with the good fellowship is, I suppose, the spirit of cooperation in the scientific work that is so highly developed at University Farm, and which so favorably contrasts with the "jalousie de métier" that is altogether too often found among scientists in old Europe. Such feelings can be to a high extent explained by the tremendous overcrowding and the competition caused thereby which is one of the serious problems of the European academies. This may perhaps partly excuse the fault with us; certainly it does not diminish the merit with you nor the pleasant feeling of living in such an atmosphere.

There is another thing that is rather remarkable for a student from a European university. It is a little phenomenon (at least I believe so), the word in which there are four letters, the first one being a "q" and the last one a "z". At first, I must confess, I felt a little uneasy about it, but now I have become accustomed to it, and, taking it as a sport, even if one sometimes is thrown for heavy losses, there is the fun too of gaining a few yards through the rather formidable tackle of certain all-American stars. And since it is about ten years since the last time I went round and wondered if I knew my lesson or what mark I might get for an essay or a written quiz, it has made me feel about just those ten years younger--quite an agreeable feeling.

This, however, fits well with another outstanding phenomenon in this country: that nobody ever seems to pass out of his teens. And the most pleasant, perhaps, of all the discoveries I have yet made is the one that boys are boys be they Europeans gathered round the glasses filled with what the Danish pathologist Ferdinandsen once characterized as the best germicide against tediousness, or Americans round the

somewhat less intoxicating ice-cream. And round here everyone seems to be a boy, who doesn't happen to be something still more superior.

As is finishing in a proper way, with a deep reverence for the ladies, I have to leave out another very important thing: the car.

O. Tedin
Svalöf, Sweden

Personals

Dr. C. R. Hursh has been awarded a National Research fellowship for 1925-1926 and is situated at the Boyce Thompson Institute, Yonkers New York.

Mr. W. F. Hanna has returned to Edmonton after spending a year in France and England. He visited us on the way.

Mr. William Peel, graduate student in Forest Pathology, has accepted a position with the Firestone Rubber Company. He left Bordeaux, France, on November 19 for Liberia, Africa, where he expects to study the production of rubber.

Mr. Noel F. Thompson, formerly of Wisconsin, is now with the Conference for the Prevention of Grain Rust, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The marriage of Miss Knutson and R. U. Cotter was announced September 12, 1925.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Melander announce the arrive of L. W. Junior on Friday, the thirteenth of November.

The Department was entertained Tuesday evening, December 1, in honor of Dr. Bela Husz of Budapest, Hungary. Dr. Husz spent the past six months at Minnesota studying American methods in Plant Pathology. We have enjoyed his short visit and regret his departure, but look forward to hearing from him and seeing him again in the future.

Two Masters of Science and one Doctor of Philosophy! Mr. G. B. Sanford received his Ph.D. at the commencement exercises on December 17 last, and William Broadfoot and Lawrence Schaal received their M. S. degrees. All three men majored in Plant Pathology. Mr. Sanford's minor was in Plant Breeding, and his thesis subject was "A Study of Some Factors Relative to the Pathogenicity of Actinomyces scabies (Thaxter) Güssow. Mr. Broadfoot minored in Plant Breeding and the subject of his thesis was "Studies on the Parasitism of Fusarium lini Bolley. Mr. Schaal's minor was in Entomology, and his thesis subject was "Studies on the Parasitism of Orange Leaf Rust of Wheat (Puccinia triticina).

Obituary

It was with deep sorrow that we learned of the death of Frank J. Piemeisel. Piemeisel was one of the early graduate students in the

Department of Plant Pathology. He obtained his M. S. degree in the spring of 1915. His thesis was entitled "Life History and Parasitism of Ustilago zeae (Beckm.) Unger. Even in his thesis work Piemeisel demonstrated that he had the capabilities of a genuine scientist. After he had charge of the rust epidemiology work for the United States Department of Agriculture, where he made a real record. Shortly after the outbreak of the war, he entered the army and went to France, where he was meteorological observer until the end of the war. On his return to the United States, his health failed him, and he never recovered from the effects of his experiences in France. Not much can be said. Books have been written about lesser matters. Piemeisel was a real scientist and a real man. We feel that in his death the United States has lost one of its most promising workers in the field of plant disease research.

We were very sorry to learn of the death of Mr. T. Johnson's father shortly after his departure from Minnesota to take up his new duties with the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Our sincere sympathy is also extended to Dr. J. J. Christensen and parents in their recent bereavement. Dr. Christensen's brother, Mr. Harley Christensen, was a young man of great promise, and his death from infantile paralysis came as a great shock to his many friends.

Pathologists, Attention!! Something to Discover

At a meeting of the American Electrochemical Society held at Chattanooga, Tennessee in September, one of the papers dealt with the control of the peach borer by means of paradichlor. Incidentally, certain information of interest to plant pathologists was given to the world. This is summarized in the following clipping from the Chattanooga Daily Times, kindly sent by our Oregon Correspondent, Mr. G. R. Hoerner.

"Mr. -- was asked if anything similar to paradichlor had been discovered to destroy black rust in wheat and its sister destroyer ~~the wildfire~~, which ruins the tobacco plants.

"'Nothing has yet been specifically discovered which will relieve the farmers of these pests,' he said. 'One reason is because their cause has not yet been identified or isolated. When that is done it will not be long before a specific is found. In 1922, in cooperation with some of the great western flour milling interests, we conducted experiments on black rust at our laboratories, but, owing to the lack of knowledge of what black rust is and what produces it, we were unable to make much progress. But sooner or later the discovery will be made and another menace to our agricultural development removed.'"

Further Additions to the

Pathological Anthem*

1. Achilles was the strong arm Greek in Homer's "Odyssey",
Aeneas sung by Virgil sowed wild oats upon the sea,
Dante's angel Lucifer got crowned for mixing booze,
Our hero is a modern guy, his name is Bela Husz.
2. A Ph.D. in Pathology once came from Hungary,
He had a name as funny as anything could be,
From trying to pronounce it, you'll have to "please excuse"
It's B E L A -- Bela, and his other name is "Husz".
3. Russia's only claim to fame is in its Soviets,
England always brags about her "bally suffragettes",
Scotland's known everywhere for good old barley juice,
Hungary is known as the home of Bela Husz.
4. Every country has its pests as can be clearly seen,
The U. S. A. has Stakman and Sweden, Doc. Tedin,
But over there in Hungary they differ from the rest,
They simply called in Bela Husz, he killed the Budapest.
5. The blue room is well named, the air is always blue,
They smoke P. A. and Carleton Club and stuff that smells like
glue,
When Dr. Husz first went up there, he got a whiff of air
And when he woke he hardly spoke, but whispered Migod, air.
6. There was a man from Hungary, and Bela was his name,
He came to Minnesota and acquired glowing fame,
We like him much and tell him such, and hope he'll come again,
Until he does his ears will buzz across the bounding main.

Visitors

Dr. Fukushi of Japan visited the laboratories and experimental plots at University Farm during the early part of September. He was on his way to St. Louis, Missouri, where he expected to do research work under Dr. Duggar on mosaic diseases.

Dr. Folsom of the Maine Experiment Station spent his vacation recently in Minneapolis. On the afternoon of December 1 he gave an illustrated lecture on "Virus Diseases of the Potato" at the regular Plant Pathology seminar period.

Dr. Riker, Pathologist with the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station and the Crop Protection Institute, stationed at Madison, Wisconsin, gave us a very interesting talk on "What is and What Isn't Crown Gall" on December 16.

Dr. G. R. Bisby spent several days on and near University Farm on his way to Brookings, South Dakota. He expects to attend the Kansas City meetings of the A. A. A. S. before he returns to Winnipeg.

*The inspiration as may be surmised was Dr. Husz's departure from University Farm.

Did You Know That

The "Drill Hall" (the present Plant Pathology building) was erected in 1893 and was then the largest of the buildings on the campus. Besides a larger drill hall and gymnasium, it supplied rooms for drawing and wood working, office, lecture, and recitation rooms for the professors of Horticulture and Entomology, a museum, a temporary blacksmith shop, and dormitory facilities for eight students.

We have finally secured some more greenhouse space in the old Botany greenhouse on the Main Campus.

I. L. Conners visited St. Anthony Park a few days before Christmas. He was seen frequenting certain parts of Langford Avenue, but further than that we have no information as to his whereabouts or his behavior while here.

Dr. W. N. Ezekiel of the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station is spending the winter with us at University Farm on a fellowship from the National Research Council.

H. J. Hynes recently informed us that Australia is still on the map. We want definite proof however and will therefore expect confirmation of the statement in a two page article for the next issue of the "Aurora Sporealis".

Dr. Leach's new house on Hythe Street is practically completed. He expects to move in about the first of the New Year.

Dr. D. L. Bailey is spending his Christmas vacation near his home at Winchester, Ontario. It is rumored that this trip is almost certain to produce results.

The "Old Main" the first University building on the Main Campus was seriously considered at one time as a home for the feeble minded. Enough said.

Mrs. Sorokin is teaching Botany in Hamline University. She has given several lectures this fall on her experiences in the Russian Revolution before various clubs and societies, and is scheduled for several more.

Bill Broadfoot and family left for Regina, Saskatchewan, a few days ago to spend the holiday season with friends and relatives there.

Dr. Dodsall, Dr. Sorokin, Dr. Stakman, Dr. Tedin, Dr. Leach, and Messrs. Peterson and Rose spoke at the recent annual meeting of the Minnesota Horticultural Society held in Minneapolis.

Frank Greaney is spending the Christmas vacation in Winnipeg.

Reiner Bonde of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station is doing important work on the early blight organism as a cause of a rot of potato tubers.

Dr. G. B. Sanford has returned to western Canada and is now stationed at Saskatoon, where he is in charge of the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at that point.

To "big" Andy's various experiences as pathologist for the United Fruit Company at Corocito Junction, Honduras, have been added that of gold mining and of "rescuings" lead men who perished in recent floods there.

People still ask ridiculous and embarrassing questions at the State Fair. This year we had several specimens of diseased plants preserved in their natural colors on exhibit in a prominent place. People seemed to think we were representing the Division of Home Economics, and frequently asked for information on canning fruits and vegetables.

Going Up!

The doleful Jack who climbed the hill
Had nothing on our modern Jill,
The skirts she wears mid snow and ice
Are certainly like his device
"Excelsior"!

One Consolation

Picture post cards of a Kansas City hotel carry this message: "This hotel fully equippea with automatic sprinklers. Statistics show loss of life has never occurrea in a sprinkled building; in case of fire, you may get wet, but not burnea".

To one traveler (no doubt Mose Levine) this brought some thought, and he wrote thereunder the following prayer:

"Now, I lay me down to sleep,
Statistics guard my slumber deep,
If I should die, I'm not concerned,
I may get wet, but won't get burned".

Overheard on the Fourth Floor

She: "I wonder if you remember me? Years ago you asked me to marry you".

Absent minded Pathologist: "Ah, yes, and did you?"

Nellie: "What did they do with that girl who was shot for trumping her partner's ace?"

Doc Freeman: "They buried her with simple honors".

--

Wonder if this is our Laura
"Laura doesn't take any chances, does she?"
"Not many--she wouldn't accompany me on the piano without a chaperone."

Little Brachy: "Father, one of the boys in my class said I
 looked like you."
 Proud Papa Chris: "And what did you say?"
 Little Brachy: "Nothing. He's a lot bigger than me."

--

Prof. Nelson: Well, what's the plural of genus?
 Student: Species.

Elementary Pathology student in quiz: "The blue and green moles
 pray on apples and other pugnacious fruits".

Sweet Cider

Proud Possessor of 15 gallon keg of cider: What in thunder can
 a person add to cider to prevent development of acetic acid
 bacteria?
 Budding Microbiologist: Wouldn't mercuric chloride do it?

Our All-American Team

Stakman (c)
 * Pullback

R. Wayback ? Leach L. Wayback ? Christensen

Freeman
 ? Comeback

%	/	+	#	#	/	%
Henry	Fior	Schaal	(Superficial	Melaner	Wallace	Rotenhiser
(short end)	(R. scout ball)	(R. Eraticator)	conivium)	(L. Eraticator)	(left hand eye pro-	(long end)
				Broadfoot	mycelium)	

Nelson - Director
 Lambert - Coach
 Tolaas - Waterboy

As usual it was very hard to select this team as there was such
 an abundance of good material* around the country this year. However,
 we believe that our team can compare with any in the country, as it
 has age, weight, experience, and brains--the four essentials of any
 championship team.

The following men show great promise but owing to the one year
 ruling they were ineligible this season--Watch them next year--

Runback - Greaney; Parson, Tu, Husz.
 Comebacks - Tedin, Eagle, Ezekiel.

*Levine has been out since the early part of the season due to a
 "cold". No doubt he would have placed on the first team had he been
 "lucky".

Famous Sayings of Famous People

Dr. Tedin - Nat u rally - Yah.

Tolaas - I would like to fill my hod just once more with your
good tobacco.

Dr. Christensen - Ta Ta

Dr. Huzs - Excuse please.

Big Chief - Yeah.

Miss Wetzell - I want fifty cents for seminar papers.

Dr. Freeman - Topped it by Gosh! I'll have to change my swing.

Dr. Leach - You people must sign out for this stuff when you
take it out of the laboratory.

Nellie - On every green ???!!!***---&&

Pete - ----- (Insufficient space to record in
this issue).

Melander - That car of mine is a wonder. The best part of it is
that it is all paid for.

FUSSING
ABOUT LADY NICOTINE

