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THE FOLLOWING NOTICE is taken from the LOCAL NOTES, of Dec. 6, a publication issued bi-monthly by the employees of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C .:

"Mr. Alwin Berger spent most of last week in the Division of Plants, Mr. Berger is one of our most distinguished students of succulent plants and has written a number of very important books on this subject. He is now engaged with Prof. U. P. Hedrick of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, New York, in preparing an extensive monograph on the small fruits in cultivation, such as strawberries, blackberries, and gooseberries. Mr. Berger spent considerable time in going over the large collection of these plants in the National Herbarium and in selecting certain specimens which he desired to have sent on to Geneva for further study. He also

spent considerable time in the cactus house of the Department of Agriculture and made a selection of quite a number of plants which he wished to have sent on for cultivation. Mr. Berger was for many years Curator of the beautiful botanic gardens of the late Sir Thomas Hanbury in northern Italy, Here he grew in the open more than 4,000 plants. Under his direction this garden was rapidly becoming one of the chief centers for the study of many groups of plants. It is located in Italy just over the French border overlooking the most beautiful spots along the Riviera. No one who has ever visited this beautiful garden could forget the wonderful views and this remarkable collection of plants,"

Dr. Berger has returned to Geneva, accompanied by Mrs. Berger and daughter, and is at present occupying an apartment in the Old Administration Building.

ATTENTION is again called to the annual Christmas party for the children. which will be held in Jordan Hall on Friday afternoon, at 4:30. As stated in last week's NEWS each guest is expected to bring a small present to be placed on the Xmas tree.

DR. AND MRS. BREED spent the week end in Brooklyn, Penn., with Dr. Breed's mother who is slowly recovering from a painful injury following a fall. Enroute to Geneva, they plan to spend Tuesday at Cornell.

MR. BEATTIE is confined to his home with chicken-pox.

DR. C. J. BETTEN, Director of Resident Teaching at the State College of Agriculture, requests that announcement be made that members of the Geneva staff will be welcome at all meetings of faculties of which they are members. The faculty of the College of Agriculture meets on the first Wednesday (4 P.M.) and that of Cornell University on the second Wednesday (4 P.M.) of each month.

MRS. HENING has just returned from a visit over Thanksgiving with relatives in Glandon, Ontario.

MR. CLARK has just returned from the annual meetings of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists and Association of Feed Control Officials of the United States which were held in Washington, D. C. on November 19, 20 and 21. Mr. Clark was reelected Secretary and Treasurer of the latter organization, an office which he has held since 1915, and was also appointed on an important committee dealing with the composition and definition of corn sugar molasses, a by-product in the manufacture of corn starch. The Feed Control Officials publicly expressed their appreciation of Mr. Clark's services.

THE MAJORITY of the Station Staff missed an opportunity to see its water nymphs, George Slate and J. C. Marquardt, disporting themselves upon the beach of Seneca Lake near the outlet a few days ago, and apparently enjoying a plunge into its chilly waters. However, the sea urchins promise to give due notice of their contemplated January plunge, so that anyone who does not care to enter into the festivities may at least enjoy the role of spectator. It is said that iced-tea and Eskimo pie will be served as refreshments.

ALL EMPLOYEES of the Station are requested by the Director to exercise care in turning off electric lights when not needed, in laboratories, offices and halls. Please use the electric current as sparingly and economically as possible.

NOTICE: A folding camera (Burke & James, No. 3A Goertz lens) has been borrowed from the vault in the Biology Building, and the Entomology Department requests that it be returned. The camera is Station property and is in constant demand for field work.

MRS. TUKEY and two children, Loren and Lois, left Friday evening for Woodland, Michigan, for a short visit with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Davenport. Mr. Tukey will join her in Chicago Saturday, where they will spend Xmas with his parents.

the major part of which will be spent in Indiana. Altho not in need of a vacation, the Editor feels that his absence as directing genius of the NEWS may warrant a greater appreciation of his services on his return.