

THE STATION NEWS

Vol. II, No. 5.

January 30, 1924

Geneva, N.Y.

THE REGULAR MONTHLY staff meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. next Tuesday, February 5. The principal topics on the program are brief reports on the meetings of the A. A. A. S. at Cincinnati and a discussion of the proposed Code of Ethics for Experiment Station Workers. Mr. Stewart has been asked to give a rather detailed account of the action taken at Cincinnati by a joint conference of plant pathologists, nurserymen, nursery inspectors, etc., with regard to crown gall of nursery stock. Other members of the staff will report on the meetings of their respective organizations.

The question of the adoption of a code of ethics for research workers in the several experiment stations should provoke an interesting discussion. Copies of the proposed code have been furnished each member of the staff and extra copies may be seen in the offices of the Director or the Editor.

THE NEWS was informed recently by Mr. Wellington that Prof. W. H. Alderman of the University of Minnesota and formerly Assistant Horticulturist at this Station was elected president of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society for the current year.

THE MUNNS are receiving the congratulations of friends on the advent of a son, Irving Mancel.

MR. PATCHIN has sufficiently recovered to resume his duties at the office. It seems that news of Mr. Patchin's poetical talent leaked out down at the hospital from something that was said in a recent issue of the STATION NEWS, with the result that he was asked to contribute to the news sheet put out at the hospital. Apparently, tho, the hospital people were no more successful than the NEWS in stimulating the Muse to action.

SEVERAL HUNDRED CUTS used in earlier bulletins of the Station have been returned by the J. B. Lyon Company of Albany, who at one time handled the Station printing. Mrs. H. E. Aldrich of Cherry Street has been called in to sort out the illustrations by bulletins and to file them for possible use in the future.

MR. CASLER is suffering from a painful injury to his right hand which has resulted in a serious infection. It became necessary for him to have surgical attention at the City Hospital today.

THE STATION has wood for sale at \$3.00 per cord delivered. Orders should be left in P. O. Box 14.

Patrick O'Neill
Poultry Foreman

After being general handy man for Smith Nursery Company for two years "Patsy" started working for the Station as foreman of the poultry houses and was so well adapted to the work that no one has been able to replace him during his 35 years of service. Many interesting incidents and developments have been experienced by the Poultry Department since the advent of its foreman. One of the most fascinating tales told at the poultry headquarters centers around the development of the various exhibits which were sent from the Station to shows, fairs, etc., many of which were of more than local interest. Under Patsy's careful guidance two particular showings are worth mention, that made in Chicago at the World's Fair in 1893 and later in New York City at an International Poultry Exposition. In Chicago, so Patsy relates, the Station fowls were so much in demand that several were stolen and later found distributed among poultry food dealers who were demonstrating them as having been raised on various mixtures from cracked corn to gravel. The exhibit in New York won prizes in all classes entered, but being a government institution only the honors and no financial rewards were forthcoming.

The authorities in charge of the Poultry Department, some years ago, looked askance at the "new fangled" incubators, but Patsy with borrowed labor and a picture from an advertisement as a pattern improvised a workable outfit. With a kerosene lamp for heat, and minus a regulator, he succeeded in securing a "good hatch" using eggs from his own private flock which so impressed the local poultrymen and Station experts that two "Prairie State" machines were purchased and are still on exhibition at the poultry barns.

"Patsy's" good nature and generosity can be ascribed to by all those who perennially receive fourteen eggs for a dozen for "some of the eggs may be a little small". His honesty is without question when we learn that for 20 years he has been "taking up the collection" in his church and is still free and not rated in Bradstreet. His political ambitions were also smothered by his integrity after rising to the office of trustee of the Preemption School.

Patsy's praises will probably go unsung as he is timid and unmarried but nevertheless, after 52 years of general experience, 35 of which have been spent in the employ of the Station, Patsy has developed a characteristic personality which has won for him many friends. Patsy is another of our loyal standbys who has done his bit to make the Station efficient and generally popular.