

THE STATION NEWS

Vol. II, No. 19.

May 7, 1924.

Geneva, N.Y.

THE REGULAR monthly staff meeting for May will be held next Friday, May 9. The subject for discussion will be Insurance and Annuity Protection for Station Workers. Dr. Breed, who has given the matter considerable study, will outline the State retirement system and will lead the discussion. Dean Mann is expected to be present to take part in the discussion as the Cornell authorities are making a study of various pension systems with a view to the adoption of some suitable plan for their faculty.

ON SATURDAY of this week the Central New York Branch of the Society of American Bacteriologists will hold its annual spring meeting in Jordan hall at 2:30 in the afternoon. The afternoon program will be followed by a dinner at the Seneca Hotel after which Dr. Geo. H. Smith of Yale University Medical School will give an address on The History of the Development of the Bacteriophage and Its Uses Clinically. During the afternoon visitors who do not care to attend the formal session will be entertained at a tea at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Breed. The full program of the session is appended to this number of the NEWS and any members of the Staff interested are welcome to attend. Mr. Mickle, Dr. Breed, and Mr. Marquardt are among those who will present formal papers.

DR. THATCHER left last night for Washington and Long Island. He will return Friday morning.

DR. CONN and family expect to leave today for Wakefield, Mass. Dr. Conn, who is on a six months' leave of absence, will devote his time during the summer to a further compilation of information on biological stains.

JUST 22 YEARS ago today the Station experienced a serious fire in which three barns, the poultry houses, and some miscellaneous sheds were destroyed. At 3:50 A.M., May 7, 1902, night watchman Hoffman discovered a fire in the main barn which stood where the present cattle barn is now located. He immediately aroused Mr. Churchill, Dr. Van Slyke, and Mr. Hall, who were soon on the scene. Only small hand extinguishers were available, however, and because of the dense smoke which made it impossible to get close enough for effective work the fire was soon beyond control. When the City apparatus finally arrived it was found that the water pressure was too weak to afford any relief and attention was turned to saving the stock in the barns and to preventing the fire from spreading further. A strong southwest wind made this difficult and several times the window sills on the Biology Building and the roof of the forcing house caught fire. Most of the stock was removed before the fire reached the lower part of the barn, but in spite of the efforts of those engaged in removing the animals several calves and two bulls were burned to death. The origin of the fire was never definitely fixed, but it was thought to have been started thru the carelessness of a tramp.

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MRS CLAYTON returned home last Friday evening after having successfully photographed most of the Staff. It is expected that she will come to Geneva again in the fall to complete the record with sittings of those who were not available for photographing at this time.

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THIS IS moving time in the Bacteriology Laboratory. Plans have been made to tear out the old cheese rooms on the second floor of the Biology Building and convert the space into additional laboratory room for bacteriological work. The cheese rooms have been used chiefly as storage rooms of late years and the accumulated supplies in these rooms are now being moved out.

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Central New York Branch  
of the  
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BACTERIOLOGISTS

\* Annual Spring Meeting \*

Geneva, N. Y.                      May 10, 1924

P R O G R A M

Jordan Hall - 2:30 P. M.

Studies on gas-producing organisms in tomato ketchup.                      (10 minutes)  
F. L. Mickle, New York Agri. Exp. Station, Geneva, N. Y.

Special studies on certain animal diseases.                      (15 minutes)  
W. A. Hagan, New York State Veter. College, Ithaca, N. Y.

A study of some types of peptonizers in milk.                      (10 minutes)  
M. P. Moon, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

A statistical review of the types of pneumococci.                      (10 minutes)  
H. N. Jones, Syracuse Municipal Lab., Syracuse, N. Y.

Taxonomic studies of the red chromogenic rods.                      (10 minutes)  
Robert S. Breed & Margaret E. Breed, N.Y. Agri. Ex. Sta.

Symposium on Bergey's Manual.                      (15 minutes)  
Led by R. S. Breed  
Discussion by S. Bayne-Jones, J. M. Sherman, and others

A survey of the work in Bacteriology now under way in                      (20 minutes)  
certain laboratories in Europe.  
S. Bayne-Jones, Univ. of Rochester, Rochester, N. Y.

INTERMISSION - 10 Minutes

Observation on the surface tension factor in spontaneous (25 minutes)  
agglutinability of bacteria.  
R. R. Mellon & H. S. Hastings, Highland Hospital, Rochester.

Results of the use of the Shick test on grade school                      (10 minutes)  
children. Ruth Stevens, Pub. Health Lab. Auburn, N. Y.

Effect of clarification and filtration upon flora of milk. (5 minutes)  
J. C. Marquardt, N. Y. Agri. Exp. Station, Geneva, N. Y.

Certain thereuptic applications of acidophilus milk.                      (10 minutes)  
H. A. Cheplin, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y.

A review of our present knowledge of abortion in cattle. (15 minutes)  
W. L. Gilman, New York State Veter. College, Ithaca, N. Y.

HOTEL SENECA, 7 P. M.

The History of the development of the Bacteriophage and its uses  
clinically. George H. Smith, Yale University Medical School,  
New Haven, Conn.

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:STEPHEN MOULTON BABCOCK, :  
:A.B., Ph.D., LL.D., Sc.D., :  
:CHEMIST :  
:-----:

Among the group of early workers at the Geneva Station, perhaps no name stands out more prominently in agricultural circles than does that of Dr. Stephen M. Babcock, originator of the "Babcock Test" for butterfat in milk. Dr. Babcock, now emeritus professor of agricultural chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, did not perfect the method that bears his name and that plays such an important part in the dairy industry thruout the country, at this Station, but his early work along that line, some of which was done here, laid the foundation for its final accomplishment at the Wisconsin institution.

Dr. Babcock was born at Bridgewater, N. Y., in 1843. He took his undergraduate work at Tufts where he received the A. B. degree in 1866. In 1879 he received the Ph. D. degree from Göttingen University. Tufts, in 1901, conferred the degree of LL. D.; and the University of Wisconsin, the degree of Sc. D. in 1917. Several medals have been presented to Dr. Babcock by state and civic organizations in recognition of his work in dairy chemistry.

Dr. Babcock came to the Station as a chemist in 1882, having formerly been connected with Cornell University as an instructor in chemistry. His period of service at the Station continued until 1888, when he accepted the position of chief chemist and professor of agricultural chemistry at the Wisconsin Experiment Station and College of Agriculture.

Dr. Babcock's publications from this Station had to do with the chemical composition of certain plants rather than with his work in dairy chemistry which later played such an important part in his career.