

STATION NEWS

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Geneva, N. Y.

REPORT ON SABBATIC

We are happy to welcome back to our midst, Doctor Willard Crosier, who has returned from a four month sabbatic leave, spent for the most part in the North Carolina State Seed Testing Laboratory at Raleigh. Doctor Crosier left Geneva just about the time the cold weather was moving in, early in December. In the first ten days, he traveled to Oklahoma and back to the east coast, making stops at seed laboratories in Lincoln, Nebraska, Manhattan, and Lawrence, Kansas, Oklahoma City, and Nashville, Tennessee. He reports that a great deal of emphasis in the plains states is being placed on range grasses, in line with their efforts to get the land back under the sod. The range grasses offer their own peculiar problems to seed analysts since the many rough appendages on the seeds cause them to adhere tenaciously to each other, making germination and purity analyses difficult. The Geneva scientist arrived at Raleigh in mid-December just as the cotton seed samples were coming in, at a rate of 500 samples per day. Tobacco and peanut samples also were being tested at Raleigh during the winter months. In his three months stay at the North Carolina laboratory, Doctor Crosier worked with a visiting professor from Latvia to devise a chilling method to speed up the germination of tobacco seed by 100%. The host institution plans to use this method in next season's work. Another problem on which Willard worked concerned hard seed and rotting of *Crotalaria*, a common legume in the south. The combination of seed treatment plus a sulfuric acid bath seems to have solved the matter. He reports that the Raleigh laboratory has adapted Professor Munn's slant-roll method of germination to cotton seeds with good results.

SIGMA XI ELECTIONS

Doctor Ben Clark has been chosen Vice-president of the Geneva Branch of Sigma Xi, by virtue of the election which has just been completed. Actually, this position places him in the chairmanship of Geneva activities and Vice-presidency of the Cornell Chapter. Elected to the Executive Committee were Doctors Vittum and Davis. And at its business meeting of March 22, the Cornell Chapter approved Doctor Clark's election as Vice-president and also elected Doctor Vittum to a three-year term on the Admissions Committee. Incidentally, there will be a short business meeting of the Geneva Branch at 4:30 on Monday, April 9, in the staff room of Jordan Hall. All members are asked to attend.

LADIES' NIGHT AT UNIVERSITY CLUB

Next Monday evening's meeting of the University Club has been designated as "Ladies' Night" and will feature a talk by Joseph Barnes on "The Making of Public Opinion". The speaker is a former Foreign Editor of the New York Herald Tribune and accompanied the late Wendell Willkie on his trip around the world in 1942. He has traveled extensively in Russia, Manchuria, China, Japan, and Europe and is now lecturing on Human Relations and Public Opinion at Sarah Lawrence College. His talk will follow dinner at the Hotel Seneca at 7 P.M. Members can bring any number of guests and tickets at \$2.25 can be procured from Doctor Kertesz. Reservations must be made by Saturday noon. The date, again, is next Monday, April 9th.

GENEVA DAY AT GLADIOLUS CONVENTION

The Empire State Gladiolus Society will hold its annual convention at Lima on Saturday and Experiment Station scientists will play a leading role in the program. Program Chairman is Leo Klein and he has announced that the following Geneva people will appear on the agenda: Frank Boyle--"Hormones in Horticulture"; Nelson Shaulis--"Soils and Fertilizers"; Bob Gilmer--"Virus Diseases"; and a trouble-shooting panel which will include Foster Gambrell, Bob Gilmer, Otis Curtis, and Leo Klein. In addition, Bob Wesselmann will appear in a skit with Leonard Butt, widely-known Canadian gladiolus hybridizer.

AT I.F.T. MEETING

Last Friday's meeting of the Rochester section of the Institute of Food Technologists was attended by Doctors Hand, Kertesz, Pederson, and Robinson, Bob Ransford and Ted Wisnietzky. Doctor Hand spoke on the theme of the program, "Added Chemicals in Foods". In conjunction with the meeting, announcement was made of the election of new officers for the coming year. They included Doctor Hand as Chairman and Doctor Pederson as Assistant Chairman.

AT A.C.S. MEETING

Doctor Moyer left Saturday for Boston where he is attending a meeting of the American Chemical Society. Yesterday morning, he delivered a paper on the operation of the Station's Pilot Plant, a paper prepared jointly with Bob LaBelle, Ken Holgate, and Doctor Hand.

AT ROCHESTER A. C. S. MEETING

Doctor S. Wakeman of the New Jersey Experiment Station was the speaker at Monday night's meeting of the Rochester section of the A. C. S. Attending from Geneva were Willard Robinson, Frank Lee, Ted Vishnetsky, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Holley.

DOCTOR HAMILTON BEREAVED

Doctor James Hamilton received sad news on Sunday with word of the sudden death of his sister, Mrs. S.W. Maguire at Kirkland Lake in Ontario, Canada. Meager details indicate that she was stricken after a game of curling. Funeral services were held yesterday and today.

JAPANESE VISITOR

Guest of the Station on Monday and Tuesday was Professor Yoshichi Asami of Tokyo University. The visiting horticulturist is touring this country for conferences with outstanding educators and research workers in an effort to apply some of his findings at home. Doctor Asami is the author of books on crabapples and nectarines, and self-sterility of Japanese pears. While here, he met with members of Pomology and Seed Investigations.

TO PRESENT CONCERT

The Seneca Symphony Orchestra, formerly known as the Geneva Civic Orchestra, will present its first annual concert at Schine's Geneva Theater, a week from tonight. The program is of particular interest here since three members of the Station staff will participate in the music-making, namely, Horton Durfee, Frank Boyle, and Bob LaBelle. The program is a benefit affair for the organization and will include the screen attraction, "Prelude to Fame", featuring the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets for the performance can be obtained from the above participants or Eleanor Warren, Celia DeWall, Lucile Holtby, Millie McGuigan, Austin Wagenknecht, or Bob Wesselmann. Admission is \$1.80 and the Geneva group will perform at 8:30 P.M.

JOINS AIR FORCE

Gabe Bruni, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Bruni, has enlisted in the U. S. Air Force and will begin his basic training next week at Sampson. Gabe is a 1950 graduate of DeSales High School and has been working in the Pomology Division during the past four summers and since his graduation.

ROUND AND ABOUT

Ken Goertzen, who worked in the Pomology Division until recently, is now in charge of the agricultural development of a farm out in Kansas. Ken headed west a few months ago and will try his hand at reclaiming some land which was formerly used in strip-mining operations. He is undertaking the project for Kansas State Teachers College.....The Bigelows are back from their Florida trip and report seeing several Station alumnae enroute. They visited the Magees at Bradenton, the DuBois' at Orlando, the Suits at Auburndale (where they also ran into the vacationing Traphagens) and the Weavers at Cheverly, Md. While in the southland, they also stopped at some of the many citrus packing stations.....Badminton has just about reached the end of its rope for this season. There'll be no play tonight or next Wednesday but Leo Klein has arranged one last fling for Station stalwarts two weeks from tonight.....Several Boy Scouts of Troop 4, Geneva, made a short tour of the Station last Wednesday with their Scoutmaster, Max Patterson....."Chicks Raised by Infra-red Lamps"---That was the headline which appeared over a photo of Doctor Liberty Hyde Bailey and Director Heinicke in a recent issue of a Syracuse paper. Closer examination showed that the head actually belonged to a story which ran adjacent to the photo. At any rate, the occasion for the photo was the 93rd birthday of the venerable Doctor Bailey and our best wishes go to him.....Doctor and Mrs. Elmer Stotz and family of Rochester visited friends at the Station last week. The former Station scientist is now at the University of Rochester.....There will be no Staff Meeting this coming Monday.....Dearborn writes "It has been a busy winter for me. Just finished grading out the desirable potatoes from 1500 bushel-samples of breeding material. Planning to do some strawberry breeding, some cabbage breeding, and conduct a weed control program in addition to potatoes. When do I get to go fishing? All winter long, the moose have been as common in our fields as are the beef cattle in the fields of Ontario county. They are not particularly afraid of man, either."

"Between this prosperity which no one can afford and hard times at popular prices, it's hard to choose".

"The great use of a life is to spend it for something that outlasts it."
William James

"It is never a waste of your time to find out how other people waste theirs."