

STATION NEWS



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Geneva, N. Y.

CANNERS CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK

On Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, the New York State Canners and Freezers Association will hold its 28th annual Raw Products Conference in Jordan Hall. The program has been arranged in cooperation with the College of Agriculture and the Experiment Station and will bring the cannery fieldmen up-to-date on developments in the state during the past year. This year, for the first time, a special session will be devoted to fruit production, since many canning crops growers are also engaged in fruit work. The speakers will include Messers Klein, LaBelle, Slate, Braun, Steinkraus, Einset, Lamb, and Watson, who will discuss their specialties as they may affect the processors. This section will be held in the staff room on Tuesday morning. Concurrently, the rest of the processors will meet in the auditorium for a session devoted to pea production. Station men on this program include Professors Vittum, Swenson, Sayre, and Moyer. Insect resistance will come up for discussion in the afternoon when Dr. Chapman addresses the group. The traditional banquet will be held at 5 P.M. at the Canandaigua Hotel, Tuesday evening. Wednesday morning, Dr. Vittum will tell about his 1952 irrigation studies on canning crops, and Professor Topley will discuss the bean variety trials and harvesting results with a mechanical picker. In the afternoon, Dr. Chapman and Dr. Palm will talk about the state's research program on the influence of soil applied insecticides on spray residues and quality; Dr. Hervey will speak on broccoli insects and low-gallonage sprayers; Dr. Davis will tell the effects of soil applied insecticides on growth and quality of canning crops; and Dr. Schroeder will discuss downy mildew of spinach. The morning sessions are slated to begin at 9:30 and the afternoon sessions at 1:30. About 200 are expected at the meetings.

CSEA MEETING

The Geneva Chapter of the Civil Service Employees Association will hold a business meeting in Jordan Hall on Monday evening, Feb. 9, at 8 P.M. The main item of interest will be the election of officers for the coming year.

SPEAKS TO OHIO GROWERS

Professor Slate is in Columbus where he is attending the meeting of the Ohio Horticultural Society. He's scheduled to give talks this afternoon and tomorrow morning, covering the topics of strawberry, raspberry, and blackberry culture.

YATES COUNTY MEETING

Provided he gets back from Ohio in time, Mr. Slate will join Professors Mundinger and Braun at Dundee on Friday for the winter small fruit school for Yates County growers.

TREE FRUIT CARE

Doctors Glass, Smith, and Lienk will make a two-day stand in Niagara County on Thursday and Friday. They'll speak at winter fruit meetings in Ransomville and Johnson's Creek.

NEW FORMAT

On the centennial of its first issue, the Country Gentleman magazine has presented its readers with a new format--smaller-sized pages and more of them. Special pages of farm business reports are included for the section of the country to which the subscriber belongs and the Country Living section has been expanded to include homemaking, gardening, foods, and fashions.

CLASSIFIED

The results of some soil-testing work have come to the Station from the Agronomy Department in Ithaca but efforts to find the person who requested the tests have been to no avail. The 5 samples were received by Ithaca on Jan. 22, and were tested for N, P, K and pH. Claimant may pick up the results at the NEWS office.

FRIDAY THE THIRTEENTH

"What a darling costume! What's your husband going as?" "He doesn't know--I haven't decided yet. How about yours?" "Oh, he says he's going just as he is but I'm afraid they'll think he's supposed to be a hobo".Well, next week's costume party sponsored by the Ceres Circle has become quite a conversation piece. Everyone in the Station family is invited to come out for a relaxed good time. The doors will be thrown open at 8 P.M. on St. Valentine's Eve and a rollicking program is in prospect. In order that the chef-de-cuisine may be fully prepared, it's vital that those planning to attend notify Mrs. Ed Smith by Friday of this week. Her phone number is 6812. Admission at the pre-inflation prices of 40¢ per each, 75¢ per couple, includes eligibility for the door prizes.

THE BRIDGE CLUB

Thirty-four fans turned out for last Friday's bridge party sponsored by the Station Club. The Gilmers and the Vittums took North-South honors while the Macks and the Joneses were high among the East-West teams. The players recently acquired their own duplicate boards and are now making an effort to gain possession of a sufficient number of card tables. They'd appreciate the donation of old card tables, and they don't have to be old. Anyone willing to contribute may call Mr. Wishnetsky at 2884.

CHIT-CHAT

Miss Bernice Traphagen is due home today from Strong Memorial Hospital. She underwent a tonsillectomy last week and is well along toward complete recovery.... We're sorry to hear that Mrs. LaBelle has been incapacitated by a strained back. It seems that those fast-growing youngsters are getting too husky to lift....Little Donna Klein is nursing a bad ankle incurred while sledding a few days ago....Members of the North Street Home and School Group pass out a reminder that another square dance will be held in the North Street School Gym this Saturday evening. A live band will provide the music and the proceeds from the do-si-do frolic will be used for classroom equipment. A similar undertaking a couple of weeks ago was very well received....Max Patterson's leave of absence for study at Ithaca has expired and he's back on the job in Veg Crops. Incidentally, Max was named a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church election last week. Dr. Breed, who resigned from active duty with the board of sessions, was promptly named an honorary member....It's good to see so many of our number taking an active part in matters religious--but it doesn't seem to be doing the Lutheran bowlers any good. They dropped four more points last week and are in a tight fight for 13th place in the league....Someplace near the top is the squad carrying the Experiment Station banner. Last week, Keith Kimball took team honors by bowling his second 600-plus total of the season....Lt. Col. Hugh Hoefler was a caller at FS&T last Friday. Some of the Station veterans will remember him as an assistant to Dr. Pederson back in 1934. A native of Newark, N. Y., the army medical corpsman was recently transferred from San Antonio to St. Louis....At last week's meeting of the Northeastern Corn Improvement Conference in New York City, Dr. Barton was elected chairman of the Sweetcorn Committee....His favorite topic will come up again on Thursday when he'll join in a Rochester meeting of the State Canners Sweetcorn Committee.

SPRING IS HERE

If you don't believe it, ask Dr. Kuang Li of FS&T. He tells us that February 4th is the first day of spring, computed by the lunar calendar, which the Chinese use. And on the first day of spring eggs can be made to stand on end, according to Chinese lore. Seems that fresh eggs, uncracked, won't stand up on any other day of the year but it's a simple task on spring-day. You just take any egg, set it on either end...and it stays there. There's a certain precise time of the day when the task is extremely easy. Fact is, you can move them about in a group, or pick them up individually and set them right back on end again. As the critical time is passed, it becomes increasingly difficult. And after an 18-hour period, the eggs just won't cooperate at all. Any eggs which are up-ended and left standing, will automatically roll off balance when the 18-hour period is over. As we said, February 4th is the first day of spring for the Chinese, and today is February 4th...but today was yesterday on the other side of the International Date Line so it's too late to do any egg-juggling this year. Our editor-in-charge-of-debunking-ancient-Chinese-legends saw several of Henry Bennett's finest put to balance for several hours during the witching hours so we can vouch for that part of it, but, what with the price of eggs what it is, we couldn't afford to try it again today.

And let the thought-for-today guide those who would spend time to explore the above legend: God gave us two ends--one to sit on and the other to think with. A man's success depends on which he uses more. It's a case of heads you win; tails you lose.
