

THE BIG PARTY of the year--the Christmas party--is set for next Wednesday, December 22. Our hard-working Social Committee announces that the festivities will open with a supper to be served at 5:30 in Jordan Hall. Immediately following the supper will come a brief program replete with thrills for both young and old, and of course as the chief event of the day--Santa Claus. This party is for children up to seventy years of age or older, and all are cordially invited.

THE CARD party last Wednesday brought out forty ardent Bridge fans and was a success in every way. Mrs. Rankin and Dr. Hedrick shared the honors for high scores, while Mrs. Harlan and President Sweeney achieved the more difficult feat of qualifying for the so-called "booby" prizes.

DR. CARPENTER is displaying a beautiful silver medal received just the other day for his exhibit at the Rochester flower show early last summer. The award is known as the Mitchell medal for "Achievement in Horticulture", and is appropriately inscribed. This is one of several awards brought home by Dr. and Mrs. Carpenter from the Rochester show, and once again we take pleasure in extending congratulations.

THE NEWS regrets to note the death within the past few days of Volney Steele's father.

FRED GLADWIN of the Vineyard Laboratory at Fredonia arrived in Geneva Monday evening and spent yesterday with Mr. Wellington and Mr. King on a trip to the grape district about Urbana where a number of grape cuttings were procured. Mr. Gladwin is making plans for a demonstration of methods of grafting grapes, used so successfully by him at Fredonia, at the fruit growers meeting in Rochester next month.

"JIMMIE" Hefferon journeyed down to Ithaca the other day with the big truck and brought back an apple tree of fair size growing in a tup upon which Prof. Oskamp of the Pomology Department of the College of Agriculture has made several kinds of grafts. This tree, with other material supplied by Prof. Oskamp, will be one of the features of the Station exhibit at Rochester and will serve to illustrate a demonstration of grafting methods which Prof. Oskamp is planning for the noon hour of the three days of the meeting.

MR. MARQUARDT, able correspondent for the NEWS, has left for his home in Wisconsin for the holidays.

DR. THATCHER announces that Conrad Mohr has been made a member of the technical staff. Mr. Mohr will be given the title of Florist in the organization list.

DR. BREED and Mr. Eglinton report the formation in Rochester last week of the "New York State Dairy and Milk Inspector's Association". This organization will include all milk and dairy inspectors in the State and laboratory workers in milk company and municipal laboratories. The new Association expects to affiliate with the International Association of Dairy and Milk Inspectors.

MRS. STEWART has gone to the Clifton Springs Sanitarium for a brief rest.

MR. SLATE has been requested by one of his friends at the Arnold Arboretum to supply some cuttings from the "Lafayette tree" west of Geneva. It seems that this tree is an unusual type of poplar and it is desired to establish a specimen in the Arboretum. He has also been asked to obtain cuttings of the very fine specimen of "witches broom" which is growing in one of the evergreens on the grounds of the "Church Home" on Eastle Street. This parasitic growth is famous among botanists of this region because of its unusual size.

PAY DAY is always an interesting time around the Station, and it occurred to us that it might also be of interest to find out a little something about the magnitude of the payroll and the number of people covered in this monthly distribution of lucre. The December payroll, Mr. Bowen tells us, will include 113 names. Of this number 57 (researchers, etc., not varieties) are on the so-called technical staff, 51 of them here at Geneva and the other six at the out-lying laboratories. There are nine members of the clerical force, bringing the total for Geneva up to 60. Also, there will be 47 individuals on the December payroll classified variously as janitors, mechanics, technicians, herdsman, laborers, etc., etc. This figure again includes the force maintained here and at the research laboratories at Fredonia, Hudson, Poughkeepsie, and Riverhead. The number of names in this group varies from month to month, depending largely upon the season of the year, and is now about at its lowest. Exact figures for the December payroll cannot be given quite yet, but for November, which will practically duplicated in December, the total disbursement by the Station for "personal service", otherwise known as salaries, amounted to \$18,153.73. Obviously, from the standpoint of salaries alone, the Station is conducting a quite sizable business.