

THE STATION NEWS

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Geneva, N.Y.

HOW MUCH is agricultural research worth in dollars and cents? This has always been a fertile field for speculation, and now Dr. A. F. Woods, Director of Scientific Work for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, comes out with his estimate based on observations of the research activities of the Department workers. To quote Dr. Woods' comments as given in the OFFICIAL RECORD, "The department expends for research about \$10,300,000 a year. This represents about 23 1/10 per cent of its total expenditures. The experiment stations of the country, closely affiliated with the department, expend about the same amount, making a total in round numbers of \$20,000,000 a year for research in the interest of an industry capitalized at approximately \$60,000,000,000 and with an annual gross income of approximately \$12,500,000,000. This is an extremely small appropriation to spend for the promotion of an industry of such scale.**** A careful analysis of results of the research work that has been done by the department shows that for every dollar expended for research there is an annual yield of \$500, or, to state it another way, each dollar invested yields an annual return of 50,000 per cent."

WORD has been received from Dr. Anderson that due to Mrs. Anderson's health their plans for a trip abroad this summer have been altered and that they will return to Geneva about July 15. Dr. Anderson has spent the past academic year at Yale University where he has been engaged in biochemical studies of the tuberculosis organism.

MR. JACKSON of the American Cyanamid Company was a recent visitor to the Station.

LAST Saturday Dr. Hedrick was host to the upper classes of the Middlesex High School who inspected the buildings and grounds of the Experiment Station.

MRS. COOK is attending a regional meeting of the New York State Library Association in Phelps today.

MR. VAN ESELTINE and Mr. Mohr journeyed to Ithaca last Saturday to inspect a flower show being held in the College greenhouses. The exhibits were chiefly representative of student work in floriculture.

AS AN outgrowth of the flower show held here last week an opportunity is being offered to anyone interested in augmenting their stock of tulip and narcissus bulbs to combine their orders and secure a special rate on large quantity orders. Applications for terms and varieties should be made to Mr. Van Eseltine.

MR. DAHLBERG attended a meeting of the State Dairymen's Association in New York City last Friday.

MESSRS. Hartzell, Slate, Gambrell, and Leendertz joined Dr. Eaton in his annual bird trip thru Potter's Swamp last Sunday. Aside from local bird enthusiasts, thirty-five bird men from western New York made up the party.

"LIBRARY Work as a Profession" was the subject of a talk by Mrs. Cook before students at William Smith recently.

DR. NEBEL attended a meeting of International Education Board fellows at Cornell last Friday. There are about twenty scientists at Ithaca on fellowships supplied by the Board.

FARM BUREAU Committeemen from Steuben, Seneca, and Ontario Counties are planning to hold a conference in Jordan Hall on June 29th when they will be addressed by Mr. Chester R. Gray, Secretary of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

A REGIONAL meeting of the State Grange is scheduled for June 28th at Geneva.

RECENT additions to the Library include the following:

- Macdougall. Hydrostatic system of trees (Carnegie publ.)
- Glinka. Great soil groups of the world
- Pirtle. History of the dairy industry
- Ferold. Treatise on viticulture
- Chamberlain. Methods in plant histology
- Sutermeister. Casein
- Jamieson. Volumetric iodate methods
- Ross. Care and handling of milk
- Waksman. Principles of soil microbiology
- Toumey. Seeding and planting.

ATTENTION is respectfully directed to the foot scraper that has been placed just outside the entrance to Jordan Hall.

THE WEATHER for the past few days has made mushroom hunting an attractive sport, and Mr. Stewart and Mr. Lawson have been making the most of their opportunities. We heard certain rumors about one of their recent trips and upon sending a NEWS reporter to interview the gentlemen were supplied with the following account: A scientist and a philosopher were taking their usual walk over hill and dale, examining the beauties of nature, especially the flowers and mushrooms. As was their custom, they discussed many profound subjects. Seeing some peaceful sheep in a nearby orchard the discussion drifted to the reasoning power of animals. The scientist enumerated many cases where animal behavior verged on reason. The philosopher contended that animals (like most humans) showed no reasoning power whatsoever and that brute force was the only power recognized. Absent-mindedly they continued their journey into the midst of the sheep and their arguments became more and more heated. A ram, overhearing the conversation, decided to show the intruders that animals had a sense of humor as well as some reasoning power. With a bound and a loud, elfish "Baa", he was in their midst and disseminated them in diverse directions, especially to the higher branches of convenient apple trees. The philosopher, who was carrying a basket, was the main center of attack for the ram evidently assumed that the basket contained choice carrots. The philosopher tried to reason with the ram but without avail, and about sundown decided to use force. So he cut a switch, deliberately descended from his tree, and took to his heels for the nearest fence. The ram tried to reach the goal first but failed due to lack of speed. The mushrooms were salvaged and will soon appear as beautiful models in the Station museum, a fitting tribute to the rule of reason.

THE BALL game between the "Upstarts" (sometimes known as the Assistants) and the "Intellectuals" (or the rest of the Staff) which was scheduled for yesterday afternoon had to be postponed on account of wet grounds and will be played off next Friday at 5 P.M. in Jersey Field, weather permitting. The "hot dog" and "pop" concession has been let to Messrs. Hartzell and Cecil who have already erected their stand on the road to the ball field. The probable line-up of the two teams is as follows:

Upstarts
Pederson (Capt.), C.
Hening, P.
Gambrell, S.
Marquardt, 1b.
Sweeney, 2b
Harman, 3b.
Slate, L. F.
Harlan, Traphagen, C. F.
Walsh, Prickett, R. F.

Intellectuals
Tukey, Eglington, C.
Shriner, Clark, P.
Parrott, Cecil, S.
Sayre, 1b.
Dahlberg 2b.
Munn, Gloyer (Capt.), 3b.
Jones, Luckott, L. F.
Rankin, C. F.
VanEselstine, Glasgow, R.F.