

THE NEWS is again glad to announce the annual Xmas party. This year the program will be varied somewhat and all the arrangements will be made entirely for the benefit and pleasure of the children. The festivities will begin promptly at 7:00 o'clock and the childrens' program will terminate by 8:30 P. M. Entertainment is being provided for the grownups who desire to spend the remainder of the evening. The Botany Division is in charge and all indications point to a banner party for all who wish to absorb a little more Xmas spirit.

Word has been received of the death of Mr. Theodore Gatey formerly an assistant in the Division of Horticulture. Mr. Gatey left the Station in 1921 and purchased a large fruit farm near Poughkeepsie where he has lived for the last seven years. Mrs. Gatey will carry on with the management of the orchards which they have developed.

Mr. E. C. Thompson and Mr. R. S. Fleming of the Borden Company spent some time with members of the Division of Bacteriology last week in connection with certain investigations which have been under way for some time by the members of this Division.

THE SPRAY Service and the County Agents held their annual school last Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Several members of the Divisions of Botany and Entomology assisted in the instruction. Messrs. Shear, Munding, Hockett, Clayton, and Hervey from the substations were also present.

MR. LUCKETT left Saturday for Indiana where he plans to spend the holiday season with his family. Mr. and Mrs. Luckett will return to Geneva about January first.

DR. CONN spent a few days in New York City this week in conference with representatives of the Chemical Foundation.

THE STATION is represented in the Industrial Quoit League by a team from the service men. This team incidentally has been very successful following a rather hesitant beginning of the season. They are scheduled for a match this evening and if successful will enter into a triple tie for second position in the League. Any evening that lights are noted in the basement of Jordan Hall it is generally a safe conclusion that the Quoit team is "working out."

EVEN THE unobserving have noted the progress of the installation of the new water main. The Station owes a debt of gratitude to the men who have been responsible for meeting the needs of the Station for additional water pressure for fire protection. The work at this end of the line should be completed this week as well over twenty men have been busy for the past few days with the excavations. The first water mains are being installed today.

AFTER ALL we loathe having our regular routine varied. A member of the Staff this morning upon arriving at the Station attempted to drive in and park as he had for ten years. The driveway was barred with the usual yellow gates. He hesitated expecting the fence to be removed but the laborers dug steadily on. A conference was held but his New England accent made little headway against the practical boss. He finally used the drive by the Chemistry Building and arrived at his laboratory happy at again being able to follow the time worn paths.

MISS HAYNES left last evening to spend Christmas at her home in Springfield, Mass.

XMAS GREETINGS received from the Carpenters indicate that they plan to spend the Yuletide in Sweden.

THE DAIRY DIVISION has had its peaceful way somewhat ruffled of late. It develops that a shiny new clock was borrowed from the laboratory and temporarily installed in the Dairy Barn. However, some envious person has appropriated the clock and left in its stead a much used and dilapidated one of the "Big Ben" variety. The members of the division have requested that anyone "knowing the whereabouts, etc." should return the lost timepiece.

SEVERAL MEMBERS of the staff have been fighting a hard cold which at present is being called the "Flu".

DR. BREED and Mr. Hansen were in Rochester Saturday visiting pasteurizing plants in connection with the work on heat resistant bacteria under way in the Division of Bacteriology.

A WHITE Xmas is imminent. Those who have helped "Santa" to pick out sleds, etc. will view the threatening skies with pleasure. Anyway what's Xmas without snow?

THE BACK of the "triple house" is finally painted. The painters have worked slowly but none the less steadily and their efforts are beginning to be noticed. The small strip of yellow paint on the barn is evidence that the "spray gun" has been demonstrated and will be used more generally as soon as weather permits. The general appearance of the Station grounds is an important factor in our well being and all those interested should take an active part in keeping things in shipshape. Those who have lately been accustomed to drive their cars across the lawn, when none is looking, should realize that the tire marks spoil the lawn. The short cut in front of the Dairy Building makes an unsightly path. Orderly surroundings are conducive to orderly work.

DR. HEDRICK is attending the banquet given to the Master Farmers of the State in New York City on Wednesday. In commenting, the American Agriculturist gives the following explanation of this movement:

"The Master Farmer project is a nationwide movement to honor outstanding achievement in agriculture. Nearly every other business, trade or profession has its master craftsmen, why not agriculture, which Washington called, 'The most healthful, the most useful and the most noble employment of man.'

"The Master Farmer work is conducted under the auspices of the Standard Farm Papers and since its inception in 1925 it has centered public attention on and brought honor to more than three hundred farmers in twenty-one states. AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST has conducted the work in New York State this year for the first time, and the banquet will be held in New York at the Town Hall, when Governor-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt will, in the name of AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST and the Master Farmer judges, make the award to twenty Master Farmers.

"Master Farmers are outstanding farmers, good homemakers and high class citizens. They were selected by the board of judges after studying exhaustive reports made by representatives of AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST, working in close cooperation with the New York State College of Agriculture, from actual visits to the homes and farms of the nominees. To achieve this honor, a farmer must first be nominated by his own neighbors and friends. A searching investigation is then made of every phase of his farming, his home, and his standing in the community. Not only must he be financially successful, but he must represent also the highest type of rural citizenship as shown by his interest and participation in matters pertaining to the welfare of the home, the community and the State. The Master Farmer banquet will be one of the outstanding agricultural affairs of the East during the year and we sincerely hope you can join with us in paying due honor to the Master Farmers of New York "