

# The Station News

Vol. XIV, No. 20.

May 14, 1930.

Geneva, N. Y.

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**WHY THEY COME :** Today the Station is host to the "Key Bankers" and their friends of  
**TO THE STATION:** the State Bankers Association in their second annual conference and  
-----: tour. Experiment Station folks have so few opportunities to come  
in direct contact with bankers that considerable interest has been aroused as to just  
what our visitors hope to get from an inspection of the work of the Station. As a  
matter of fact, New York State bankers, especially outside the metropolitan districts,  
have long had a very real interest in and knowledge of agricultural conditions in  
this State. The State Association has a standing committee on agriculture of which  
A. G. Stone, president of the Tompkins County National Bank in Ithaca, is chairman.  
This committee sometime ago designated one banker in each of the strictly agricultural  
counties of the State as the "Key" banker for the county. In Ontario County, for  
example, the Key Banker is W. H. Rogers of the National Bank of Geneva. This group  
of Key Bankers forms a nucleus about which the State Association develops its agricul-  
tural program. Last year, at the request of the Association, the College of Agricul-  
ture arranged for a conference of the Key Bankers at Ithaca, the purpose of which was  
to familiarize the bankers with the functions and work of the College, and by means  
of tours, to observe various types of farming. At the conclusion of the conference,  
the agricultural committee asked that a similar meeting and tour be arranged this  
year and suggested that an inspection of the State Experiment Station would be parti-  
cularly welcome, with visits to fruit farms and cash crop farms in western New York.  
Briefly, then, this is the history of the meeting here today. The proceedings are to  
open with a brief address by W. K. Payne of Auburn, president of the State Bankers  
Association, to be followed by a talk by Dr. Hedrick on the purpose and work of the  
Station and a tour of the Station laboratories. Dinner is to be served at the  
Presbyterian Church at Bellona, where the Dairy Division will give an effective demon-  
stration of certain of its projects in the shape of cream cheese, cottage cheese, and  
ice cream. The group will return to the Station at about 2:00 o'clock, when, weather  
permitting, there will be a plowing contest for certain chosen representatives of the  
bankers in the field south of the Chemistry Building. Mayor Gaylord and Dr. Hedrick  
are to serve as judges, and suitable prizes are to be awarded the winner and the  
"runner-up" by Dr. Hedrick at a banquet to be held at the Fowers Hotel in Rochester  
tonight. The prizes were donated by Mr. Gaylord. In case of rain or "wet grounds",  
a hay pitching contest in the dairy barn will be substituted. Enroute to Rochester,  
the party will visit the farm of J. L. Salisbury, near Phelps, and tomorrow will  
visit several types of farms between Rochester and Batavia. In Genesee County special  
attention will be given to 4-H Club work in which the State Bankers Association is  
especially interested.

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**VAN SLYKES :** Dr. and Mrs. Van Slyke are expected to arrive in Geneva this afternoon,  
**COME TODAY :** following a prolonged vacation in Hawaii. Upon his retirement from the  
-----: Station, Dr. Van Slyke announced that he would eventually make his  
home in Geneva and engage in certain literary pursuits he has in mind. Their many  
friends at the Station and in the City will have a warm welcome for the Van Slykes,  
for many of us feared that the unequalled allurements of Hawaii and the beach at  
Waikiki had worked a spell that could not be broken. Dr. and Mrs. Van Slyke will make  
their home temporarily with Dr. and Mrs. Breed.

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**THE STATE :** With a preliminary meeting of the Exhibits Committee last week, plans  
**FAIR AGAIN :** for the 1930 State Fair were set in motion, even if at this date the  
-----: motion is scarcely perceptible. Experience has shown, however, that  
considerable momentum needs to be attained before State Fair plans take on a tangible  
form, and mention of the Fair is made here at this time by way of accelerating the  
mental processes that are required to make a satisfactory exhibit.

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**MRS. CONN :** Mrs. Conn returned Monday from a stay of three weeks in Groton, Mass.,  
**RETURNS :** where she had been called upon the serious illness of her sister,  
-----: Mrs. Branigan. Many at the Station will recall a visit to Geneva by  
Mr. and Mrs. Branigan about a year ago, and will be glad to learn that Mrs. Branigan  
is now well on the road to restored health.

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**MR. LAWSON :** Word has been received from Jim Lawson that he will probably arrive  
**DUE SOON :** in Geneva tomorrow to resume his work on the preparation of material  
-----: for the museum. Mr. Lawson has traveled far since he left here last  
fall, having had a fellowship for study abroad which has taken him to England and the  
Continent. He will remain at the Station at least thru the summer months.