

STATION NEWS

Vol. XXIX, No. 4.

July 28, 1937.

Geneva, N. Y.

TO WORK IN STOCKHOLM

With authorization from the Dean's office for a sabbatical leave beginning October 1, Dr. Kertesz is completing plans for a year's study on the pectic enzymes in Stockholm, Sweden, under the direction of Prof. Hans von Euler, winner of the Nobel prize in chemistry for 1929. Dr. Kertesz has been working on pectin and the pectic enzymes for the past several years and has published a number of bulletins and papers in scientific journals on the subject. His most recent work on the pectic enzymes of tomatoes will be presented before the American Chemical Society at its meeting in Rochester in September just before he leaves for Stockholm. Dr. Kertesz is particularly interested in identifying the enzymes which are responsible for the softening of fruits and vegetables during ripening, and hopes later to separate these enzymes so as to study their action independently of each other in order to establish their role and behavior in fruit.

Dr. Kertesz will conduct his investigations abroad under the auspices of a Fellowship recently awarded him by the Rockefeller Foundation. The Kertesz plan to sail for Italy about the middle of September and land in Naples. They expect to meet Prof. von Euler in Rome during the Volta Congress to be held there at the end of September. After visiting Florence and Venice they will proceed to Budapest for a brief visit with their families, thence to Warsaw where Dr. Kertesz will visit Prof. Smolenski at the University of Warsaw who is also engaged in pectin research. Sailing from Gdynia, Poland's new seaport, the Kertesza will arrive in Stockholm the second week in October where they will take up their residence for a year.

The NEWS takes this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Kertesz on this splendid opportunity for study and extends best wishes to all of the family for a most enjoyable and profitable trip.

ON THE HONOR ROLL

In anticipation of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Morrill Act and the 50th anniversary of the Hatch Act by the Land Grant College Association at its meeting in Washington in November, a request has been made for a list of all of those members of the Staff, both active and retired, who have had twenty-five years or more of service in the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture or in a Land Grant college or experiment station. These persons are to be honored in a "Pioneers Program" to be given on the evening of November 14. According to a list compiled in the Director's office, the following persons on the Station Staff qualify as "Pioneers": Dr. Hedrick, 44 years; Mr. Stewart, 43 years; Mr. Wheeler, 40 years; Mr. Parrott, 39 years; Mr. Clark, 33 years; Mr. Wellington, 31 years; Mr. Collison, Mr. Hartzell, and Mr. Gladwin, each 28 years; and Dr. Breed, Dr. Conn, Mr. Munn, Dr. Reinking, Dr. Glasgow, and Mr. Gloyer, each 25 years.

A HISTORY OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

While on things historical, Miscellaneous Publication No. 251 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has just come to hand to make the third and final monograph in a series dealing with a summary and history of agricultural education, extension, and research in the United States. The current number in the series is entitled "A History of Agricultural Experimentation and Research in the United States, 1607-1925". As evidence that the document begins at the beginning, the opening sentence reads, "The first permanent English colonists in North America, at Jamestown, Va., in 1607, and Plymouth, Mass., in 1620, profited greatly from the primitive agriculture of the native Indians, but soon set about improving it."

LOST--A FIELD NOTEBOOK

Mr. S. L. Hsiung, who is working in the Pomology Division this summer, reports the loss of a field notebook about 6 by 10 inches in size with a white cover. If found, its return to Mr. Hsiung would be greatly appreciated and our prestige as the finder of lost articles still further enhanced.

A BUSY SIX WEEKS

After a journey of over 8,000 miles thru five countries, Mr. Munn is back on the job with vivid impressions of things he saw and experienced. He attended two international congresses as a delegate from the United States, the International Seed Control Congress at Zurich, Switzerland, and the International Grassland Congress at Aberystwyth, Wales. Following the Seed Congress he spent five days as the guest of the Swiss government in a circuit of the country, visiting four of their experimental farms or stations as well as getting a glimpse of the Jungfrauoch and the Rhone glacier. He also spent a day with Dr. Dorner at the Dairy Institute at Liebesfeld near Bern. It will be remembered by several members of the Staff that Dr. Dorner at one time spent several months studying cheese problems here at the Station. He sent his regards to his Geneva friends. The high light of the Grassland Congress was an opportunity to see the King and Queen of England during their visit to Wales, the delegates to the Congress being given a special audience by their Majesties. Among other experiences, Mr. Munn encountered sit-down strikes on his ship, the SS. Roosevelt, and at hotels and restaurants in Paris. Mr. Munn was elected Vice-president of the International Seed Testing Association and continues as a member of the Executive Committee. The next International Seed Congress will be held in Washington in 1940.

MISSING FROM THE LIBRARY

Volume 33 (1926) of the Journal of Agricultural Research is missing from the Library and is urgently needed. Information as to the whereabouts of the volume will be appreciated.

ATTENDED GOAT MEETING

Mr. Marquardt was the guest speaker before the Central New York Goat Breeders Association at an outing at Highland Park near Fabius in Onondaga County last week. Mr. C. A. Harris of Fabius, well known at the Station, was host to the Association. About 200 members of the Association and their friends feasted on "chevon" or kid meat, eleven kids (meaning young goats) furnished the chevon for the repast. During the afternoon one of the older members of the Association in commenting on the desirability of chevon as a food, related a story attributed to Dr. Jordan. It seems that on one occasion Dr. Jordan served chevon to several members of the Station Staff, all of whom commented quite favorably on the fine quality of the meat until informed that it was kid meat when they immediately developed digestive discomforts. At a later date the same group dined with the Jordans when chevon was served as "veal" with no ill effects noted by anyone. So evidently there is something in a name after all. Incidentally, the production of chevon is rapidly developing into a sizeable industry in certain sections of the United States.

MORE VACATIONISTS

The list of vacationers has been supplemented by the following: Dr. Carpenter who is fishing in the lakes north of Quebec, Dr. Lovelace who is relaxing in the Finger Lakes area, Dr. Conn who will spend his time in the White Mountains, Dr. Norton, and the Misses Sperry.

ARRIVE FROM IOWA

Dr. and Mrs. Guy S. Green and younger son arrived in Geneva Monday evening to spend several weeks with the Hedricks.

UNSUNG AND UNWEPT

Because we were not here to do the honors personally, the fourteenth birthday of the NEWS on the first of July slipped by without so much as a word of recognition of that important anniversary. However, we rejoice with our readers at having survived another milestone and hope that the mutual forbearance that has marked the past will be our common lot for the coming year.
