

STATION NEWS

Vol. 43, No. 9.

September 20, 1944.

Geneva, N. Y.

NEW FRUITS

The Pomology Division is assembling its annual display of new fruits for the meeting of the New York State Fruit Testing Association in Jordan Hall tomorrow. Supplemented by contributions from members of the Association, the display is expected to be unusually good, particularly as compared with last year's exhibit which suffered from the severe freeze of the winter of 1942-43. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, grapes, and miscellaneous fruits will be shown in abundance, with all their tempting aroma and color. But despite the fact that the affair is a gathering of "fruit testers," visitors will not be encouraged to "test" the new varieties, but simply to look and admire. Tours of the Station fruit plantings and nurseries will be arranged for the visitors as they arrive in the morning, with the formal program getting under way about 1:00 o'clock.

STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Members of the New York State Employees Association will meet in the Staff room in Jordan Hall tomorrow evening at 7:30 for the purpose of electing officers and of appointing delegates to the annual State meeting of the Association to be held in Albany October 17th. All members and others interested in the Association are urged to be present.

INTERESTED IN GRAPES

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Wagner of Baltimore spent a day at the Station last week inspecting the grape varieties and seedlings under test here. Mr. Wagner is editor of the Baltimore Sun and grows grapes as a hobby as well as for profit, with large vineyards near Riderwood, Md. He was quite favorably impressed with several of the seedlings now fruiting in the Station vineyards.

IN ACTION

Recent newspaper accounts of action in France and in the Pacific have mentioned the names of men formerly connected with the Station. In an International News Service dispatch dated "In a Siegfried Line Fort, Germany," Richard Tregaskis of Guadalcanal Diary fame, describes one of the so-called "strong points" in the much-publicized Siegfried Line and goes on to say, "'But the best defenses in the world aren't worth a nickel if they aren't manned,' Lt. Col. Derrill M. Daniel of Geneva, N. Y. (and the New York State Experiment Station, he might have added), just muttered.'" The only thing out of character about this story is that we just can't imagine Derrill saying "worth a nickel," but that's Mr. Tregaskis' story.... Then there's the story about Sammy Moracco being awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge for his execution of duty under fire against the Japs at Bougainville. At the time he entered the service, Sammy was dipping out the milk in the Station milk room. Since then he has become a rifleman in a veteran infantry regiment of the "Americal" Division, the first Army division to relieve the marines on Guadalcanal and the only combat division bearing a name rather than a number. The name is a combination of "America" and "New Caledonia"...Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Carleton have just received a letter from their son Lt. "Tex" Carleton from somewhere in France. Stating that he had been on the move for so long that he began to feel like a gypsy, Lt. Carleton said that his first impressions of France were not too favorable since it had been raining steadily for the past thirty-six hours and as they were "living in an orchard" it was not too comfortable. However, he was looking forward to better days ahead and to getting acquainted with the French people: Lt. Carleton is with the 448th Odr. H. A. M. Co., APO 518, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

REELECTED

Doctor Tukey was reelected Secretary-Treasurer and Editor of the Proceedings of the American Society for Horticultural Science at the meeting of the Society in Cleveland last week. Doctor Warren B. Mack of Pennsylvania State College was named President. The time and place of the next meeting of the A. A. S. and affiliated organizations have not yet been determined.

MILK SANITARIANS

Doctor Breed and Doctor Hucker are on the program of the 22nd annual conference of the New York State Association of Milk Sanitarians which convenes in Syracuse today for a three-day session. Doctor Hucker handles the "Question Box" and Doctor Breed is discussing methods for testing for coliform bacteria in milk. Doctor Sherman of the College of Agriculture and Mr. Marquardt of the State Department of Agricultural and Markets are also on the program.

MARGARET RANDOLPH MOYER

Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Moyer are receiving congratulations on the arrival of a daughter on Saturday, September 16th.

DIANNE VAN ESELTINE

Word has been received by Mrs. Glen P. Van Eseltine of the birth of a daughter on August 28th to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Van Eseltine in Hawaii. Bob is now in the Army and is librarian at an Army post in Honolulu. At the time of writing to his mother he had not yet seen the new arrival. Congratulations to all the family!

TEACHING AT KEUKA

Mrs. Hugh Glasgow is serving as an instructor in physiology and anatomy for cadet nurses at Keuka College three days a week.

GETTING ACQUAINTED

Doctor C. O. Eddy, newly appointed director of research for the Niagara Sprayer and Chemical Company, spent yesterday at the Station consulting with the entomologists and plant pathologists. He was accompanied by Doctor H. W. Dye, plant pathologist for the Company.

HOW OLD IS "OLD"?

The address by Dr. Thomas Midgley, Jr., president of the American Chemical Society, in New York City recently, in which he developed the theme that too many old men hinder progress in science, brings us up rather short. Especially when the Doctor classifies as "old" all those past 40--just when life is really beginning, we thought--and goes on to say that, "Youth is not relative, but absolute. Nor can all the hormones and vitamins in nature alter the fact." As evidence to support his argument, Doctor Midgley cites a table of 85 important inventions compiled by the U. S. Patent Office, ranging from the steam engine by Watt to the airplane by the Wright brothers. Forty-six of these inventions were by men 35 years old or less and 58 of them were by men under 40. But that still leaves 27 "important" inventions, or a little less than a third, by the "old" men of 40 or over. Granting that there is much truth in Doctor Midgley's claim for the superior genius and imagination of youth, yet, as with all generalities, we can think of many brilliant exceptions--which may prove the rule.

TAKING RECORDS

Doctor Glasgow and Mr. Hartzell are spending the week in the Chautauqua grape belt making a survey of results of grape pest control experiments in that area.
