

STATION NEWS

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Geneva, N. Y.

A YEAR AGO TODAY

This is the anniversary of D Day which marked the beginning of so much sacrifice and struggle that was to end before the year was out with V-E Day. TODAY is an especially good day, therefore, to buy that extra war bond in the mighty 7th War Bond campaign.

A NEW FEATURE

Prof. William B. Ward, recently named to succeed Prof. Bristow Adams as Editor of the Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics at Ithaca, spent last Friday at the Station discussing joint publication activities of the Colleges and the Station and meeting members of the Station Staff. Professor Ward came to Cornell from the War Food Administration where he was in charge of the information services of that important agency. Among other things discussed last Friday was a proposed radio program to be known as "What's New in Farm Research", the leads for which will come from material appearing in Farm Research. Present plans call for the program to go on the air the first Tuesday of each month, beginning in July, with Director Guterma of the Experiment Station at Ithaca and Director Heinicke serving as masters of ceremonies on the broadcasts. It is expected that the program will partake of the nature of a discussion of the project under review by the Director and the research worker concerned. The program will be broadcast simultaneously over WHCU at Ithaca and WGY at Schenectady by means of a direct line from the Ithaca studio to WGY. The first three programs will probably feature research at Ithaca, to be followed by three broadcasts on work at Geneva.

BETTER LATE

In the Station NEWS of May 31, 1944, there appeared an item stating that, "If this is not the worst mosquito year in Geneva, it is plenty bad enough as any Victory gardener can testify; or for that matter, anyone who ventures outofdoors." With the memory of the hordes of bloodthirsty brutes that pursued us at this time last year and in view of the superabundance of moisture this spring, we "interviewed" Doc Glasgow on the mosquito prospects for this season. While declining to make any predictions, Doc says that he cannot find as many mosquito larvae as were present in woodland pools at this time last year, nor are there as many adults in evidence--not yet anyway. Nor are the mosquitoes that are now out as ravenous as usual, altho that relief is only a matter of temperatures--a few really warm days will restore them to normalcy in that respect. Well, anyway, we can be thankful that the early mosquitoes are late--and may they all freeze aborning!

NO MEAT SHORTAGE HERE

In a recent letter to his father, Herbert Conn tells of a week-end trip to some rocky hills in West Virginia where he and his wife found and killed a rattlesnake. "Jan and I took it home," he writes, "for any source of meat is not to be sneezed at these days. However, Monday we did not have time to do anything with it, till Don called up and asked where the snake was. We said it was in the ice box, and he asked if he could come over and help us prepare it. Don skinned the snake and fried us each a tender morsel. The meat looks like fish when it is raw, and when it is cooked it tastes just like fried chicken. It was a small snake, but we think there is enough meat left to make us a decent stew. If you forget what it is, you could actually enjoy a full meal of it!"

STUDY MAPPING

Mr. S. C. Tye, a post graduate student from Harvard, and Mr. George Low, a graduate of the University of California, both civil engineers, are assisting Mr. Wilbur Secor of the Ontario County Soil Conservation District in mapping the Darrow farm. They are studying map making and map reading under the joint auspices of the China Institute in America and the Soil Conservation Service.

SERVICE NEWS

Word has been received in the Entomology Division from Floyd Wallace who is with the army of occupation in Germany and from Don Webster who is with the Army Air Forces in England. Don expects to be back in the USA before long. We hear, too, that Pharmacist Mate Lawrence Ansley is expected home on furlough in the near future. Stephen Cass of the Coast Guard, brother of Beatrice, is home on furlough from numerous invasions in the South Pacific. Anne Hucker is now serving as a medical WAC at an Army hospital at Atlantic City. Roy Bergstresser is a frequent visitor in the Entomology Division. Roy is still under medical care at the Army hospital in Utica, but is progressing nicely. When last heard from, Wilson Hey was at Camp Blanding, Fla. His address is Pvt. Wilson J. Hey, 42203192, Co. D, 215th Bn., Camp Blanding, Fla.

RALPH CELMER MARRIED

Ralph Celmer, formerly a member of the Chemistry Division and now chemist for the Taylor Wine Company at Hammondsport, was married on May 7th to Margaret Severance of Bath, in Sage Chapel in Ithaca.

IN DEFENSE OF THE HOE

For the benefit of those who scorn the homely hoe in favor of oil sprays and other modern methods for fighting weeds, Extension Echoes recently reprinted Doctor Liberty Hyde Bailey's tribute to his father's hoe. Following suit, here it is:

"Either side the clock in my workroom hangs a weapon. On one side is a fearsome musket that one of my ancestors is said to have captured in the War of the American Revolution. On the stock is crudely punctured the legend, 'Samuel Mash, 1777'. The bayonet and its leather sheath are still in place; I shudder to think what horrible traffic that blade may have executed. . . .

"The other side the clock hangs my father's hoe. No other object is so closely wrought into my memories; my father left it hanging in the shed before the summons overtook him to leave the farm forever and I brought it home with me that I might know it every working day. There is not merely a hoe. It is a symbol of a man's life. . . .

"Wonderful execution the old hoe has wrought. It would be difficult to estimate how many millions of young weeds have succumbed to it; the big weeds were pulled by hand, but the little growths fell beneath its steady even march. . . .

"Often I am tempted to contrast these two old implements, the gun and the hoe, and to estimate their values. I reflect that the gun does not express a man's life, but is a weapon to be used on occasion, and for this one the occasion was indeed dire and heroic. Its conquests ended, it was hung away and was brought out only for display. But the hoe was a companion thruout a man's productive lifetime. It was never on parade. It did its work steadfastly and well and no one paused to give it notice. . . .

"All this is very crude and far away; but the old hoe still hangs by the clock as the days are ticked off one by one, and I am glad that it led me thru the rows of corn."

Commenting on this same hoe elsewhere, Doctor Bailey has said, "The sound of that hoe in the early morning told me that my father was in the garden and all was well."
