



STATION

INTERNATIONAL DAY

A delegation of Nova Scotia fruit growers and three representatives of the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Washington presented themselves in the Editor's office simultaneously last Wednesday. The five growers had participated in the fruit tour of the Champlain Valley sponsored by the State Horticultural Society last week and were "taking in" the Station on their way home by way of Niagara Falls. They were particularly interested in seeing several of the new apples developed here, some of which they have growing in their orchards.

The Soviet delegation included Anastasia Emelianova and Aleksandor Alpatiev, agronomists of the Foodstuffs Department of the Purchasing Commission, and B. Devyatkin, interpreter, who has accompanied other Russian groups on visits to the Station. They spent three days studying work underway here with vegetable crops.

AT BELTSVILLE

Mr. Claude Heit is attending a seed testing school sponsored by the Federal Seed Laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, Md., this week. Enrollment in the school is limited to one representative from each state, hence Claude is carrying the banner for the Empire State.

FRUIT TOURS

Farm Bureau fruit tours in Niagara and Wayne counties are occupying the attention of members of the Station Staff this week. Yesterday, Doctor Mack and Professors Harman and Wheeler were in Niagara County; while today, Dr. Glasgow and Professor Hartzell are in Wayne County.

REPORTS PROGRESS

A recent letter from Rex Collison from his ranch near Geyserville, Calif., to Professor Slate conveys the good word that he is recovering the use of the eye that necessitated hospitalization for a period last winter. "My eye is again in fairly good shape, not completely normal but vision is not too bad," he writes. "Three months out has rather played hob with my plans and my place, mainly due to lack of irrigation at a critical period....Hear old man Gloyer has retired. Good for him. Will give him a new lease of life. Hear he has been vacationing in the Great Smokies of North Carolina."

SAILED SATURDAY

Doctor and Mrs. John Einset sailed Saturday for Bergen, Norway, and a visit with relatives in that country. John is also planning to spend some time in Sweden visiting horticultural experiment stations there.

DIANNE STOTZ

Our congratulations to the Stotz family on the arrival of Dianne on August 6th in Cambridge, Mass.

FIELD DAY

The Station was well represented at the Potato Field Day held near Bliss last week, with Professor Sayre, Mr. Pew, Doctor Vittum, Mr. Traphagen, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Stevens among the estimated 3,000 or more persons in attendance. While the Station research program is not concerned with potatoes, the Potato Field Day has always been notable for demonstrations of new farm machinery and new ideas in cultivation, harvesting, and soil management applicable to other vegetable crops as well as potatoes. The 1946 revival of the event was highly rated by all who participated.

IN THE MAIL BAG

A recent letter from Doctor Magie tells of a new home purchased by the Magies in Bradenton and of the apparently improved health of the boys under the influence of the Florida sunshine. Bob also spoke enthusiastically of his work on gladioli disease control. He also mentioned of having seen the Suits recently. Doctor Suit is located at Lake Alfred about thirty miles from Bradenton.

A postcard from Professor Munn revealed that he had visited the seed testing laboratories at the Montana and Idaho experiment stations, and that he and Mrs. Munn were well along on their way to California.

A WEDDING

Earl Withiam, who is employed in the Vegetable Crops Division, was married to Miss Withiam (no relation) of Tioga Falls, Ohio, on Saturday, August 10th. Earl met his future wife in India where he served for two and a half years as a sergeant in the Army and where she was serving with the WAC. He had completed three years at Cornell, working summers here at the Station, at the time that he entered the Army, and expects to register as a senior at Ithaca this fall. Our congratulations and best wishes to the Withiams!

A FARM POLICY

Recently, in his column in the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Mr. L. B. Skeffington commented on Chapter 651 of the Laws of 1946, enacted by the Legislature as a declaration of State policy regarding agriculture. Entitled a "Declaration of Policy and Purposes", the bill states, "The agricultural industry is basic to the life of our State. It vitally concerns and affects the welfare, health, economic well being, and productive and industrial capabilities of all our people. It is the policy and duty of our State to promote, foster, and encourage the agricultural industry, with proper standards of living for those engaged therein; to design and establish long-range programs for its stabilization and profitable operation; to increase through education, research, regulation, and scientific means the quantity, quality, and efficiency of its production; etc., etc." In other words, it is now the announced policy of the State to regard all matters pertaining to agriculture as of general concern, not just for the benefit of the farmer alone.

Commenting further, Skeff says, "Without food there could be no life, and life can be happier for all people when and if there is an ample supply of food produced, processed, and placed in the hands of consumers. That in effect is what the State now says.....It admits a responsibility and tells why. For instance, public funds appropriated for agricultural research might seem at a first glance to be for the benefit of farmers alone. But I remember that once I asked the late Dr. Carl E. Ladd, then Dean of the New York State College of Agriculture, how much benefits of such research was passed on directly to the consuming public. Unhesitatingly, he said: 'At least 90 per cent.'"
