

STATION NEWS

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Geneva, N. Y.

SOCIAL YEAR FINALE

Meteorologists may still be puzzled as to why Hurricane Hazel suddenly veered into this area last Friday, but everyone who attended the Station Club Dinner at Banker's on Thursday night knows the reason. Everyone had a high old time and the breaking up of the party resulted in a sudden low-pressure area--which naturally deflected the hurricane from its original course.

Even the fussiest of appetites were sated by the huge smorgasbord spread and the mood was mellow when the members convened for their annual meeting in the Candlelight Room. New departmental workers were introduced as Ed Smith handled the gavel for the final function of the Club's year. A concise statement by Charlotte Pratt comprised the Secretary's report, and the auditing committee of Barton, Davis and Lamb gave the stamp of approval to their next-door neighbor, John Natti, as Treasurer. Violating all rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Roberts Rules and protocol, the Treasurer's report was approved even though none had been given! While the Station News abhors taking sides in such affairs, it looks like another one of those political messes which is left for the succeeding administration to straighten out. Following the reports, Mr. Luckett of the health and welfare committee submitted the names of the Misses Jessie and Mabel Sperry, Mr. and Mrs. James Harlan, and Roy Smith, for honorary membership. All were approved unanimously. The nominating committee, composed of M. T. Vittum, Willard Robinson and Vic Hopkins, then presented its slate of officers for the coming year: President - Bob Wesselmann, Vice-president - Herb Reitmann, Secretary - Alice Middleton, and Treasurer - John Atkin. The entire panel was railroaded through without delay. Director Heinicke was called on for a few complimentary remarks and he responded generously.

For a nicely-arranged and highly-successful party, thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Clark and their committees: Mr. and Mrs. Dolan and Mr. Herink on decorations; Mr. and Mrs. Wilson on punch; Mr. and Mrs. Holley on reservations; and Mrs. Hand on the card-playing arrangements. Also a special word of praise for the capable musical presentations by Mrs. Gibbs and Mr. Steinkraus, and the choral conducting by Mr. Wagenknecht. And congratulations go to the outgoing officers for a year which was tops in enjoyment.

AFTERMATH OF THE HURRICANE

Many nearby areas took more of a beating last Friday night than did the Experiment Station. Nevertheless, there was plenty of evidence that Fazel had passed through. The vehicle garage next to the greenhouse was stripped of the better part of its metal and asphalt roofing, mayhem was wrought on a large number of trees around the Station proper, and Pomology reports the loss of a few fruit trees and a good share of the apples not yet harvested. And a social problem was created in the Chapman household. Mrs. Chapman, planning a Saturday dinner party for newcomers Dr. and Mrs. Freeman McEwen, had to change her menu when electric power didn't come back on Saturday morning. Since there wouldn't be time enough to roast a turkey, she sent the man of the house to the market for some steak as a substitute. As dinner time approached, the electricity still hadn't been restored. The result--the Chapmans and their guests dined downtown that night--and the host and hostess will be eating turkey for the next several days!

SPEAKS AT I.F.T. MEETING

Dr. Hand was the speaker at last Friday's meeting of the Western New York Section of the Institute of Food Technologists in Rochester. In his talk, the local food scientist discussed food problems as observed in Formosa. Several Station staff members were in attendance.

VEGETABLE MEN ADDRESS GROWERS

Some aspects of the Station's vegetable-breeding work were discussed last evening by Dr. Barton and Dr. Natti at a meeting of the Ontario County Vegetable Growers Council in the Geneva High School. Projects aimed at improving present varieties of peas and corn as well as breeding for yellows-resistance in cabbage were explained by the speakers.

CSEA MEETING FRIDAY

The next regular meeting of the local chapter of the Civil Service Employees Association will be held in Jordan Hall on Friday at 8 P.M. The speaker will be Mr. Conlon, district CSEA representative. Chapter President Weir will report on the Association meeting in Albany last week. Following the business meeting, several turkeys will be raffled off, and coffee and doughnuts will be served.

WIDOW OF FORMER WORKER DIES

Mrs. O. M. Taylor of Geneva passed away in Schenectady last week. She was the widow of Oren M. Taylor, former small fruits specialist at the Station who retired in 1926 and died shortly thereafter. The Taylor red raspberry was named in his honor

Mrs. Virginia Hurlbutt Woodard of Seed Investigations has resigned her position in order to devote full time to her home-making duties in Gorham. She came to the Seed Lab in July of 1949.---Mrs. Betty Ketcham, a two-year veteran of FS&T, has also resigned, effective November 1st. Betty was a lab assistant in the Chemistry Building--- And with the termination of her temporary appointment in Entomology, Mary Grainger has taken off for a vacation in the Adirondacks before returning to her Pennsylvania homeland.

DR. TOMKINS BEREAVED

Dr. John Tomkins was called to Pennsylvania last week by the death of his father who had been ill for a considerable period of time. We extend our sympathy to the survivors.

TOURS

We thought the tourist season had long since passed but a glance at the weekly calendar belies the fact. On Monday, about 30 FFA boys and their teacher, Mr. Reniff, of Hannibal, visited the Museum, Feed and Fertilizer Laboratories, Entomology, Seed Labs, Greenhouses (to hear about fruit and vegetable breeding), and the Root-stock Farm..... On Thursday, the second section of a Syracuse University genetics class will stop in to hear talks and demonstrations by Professors Slate and Barton.. And, also on Thursday, the Seed Department will play host to a group of California alfalfa seed growers who have been touring the Midwest and the East. In their own chartered DC-3, the Certified Alfalfa Seed Council arrived in the area to spend today at Ithaca and will motor to Geneva to see the trueness-to-type trials tomorrow. After their Geneva visit, they'll enplane at Sampson for the next leg of their trip which will take them to State College, Pa.

SIGMA XI SLATES MEETING

On Monday, October 25th, at 8 P.M., the local branch of Sigma Xi will hold its first lecture meeting of the season in Jordan Hall. The speaker will be Prof. F.C. Steward of Cornell's Botany Department, and his topic will be "Some Investigations on Nitrogen Metabolism by the Use of Chromatography". The speaker, who was educated in England, is recognized as a world authority on this subject. All interested are invited to attend.

CALIFORNIA VACATION

There's a gala vacation in prospect for Miss Agnes Ryan of the Publications Department. She'll board a plane at Sampson on Friday morning and will wind up, that same evening, in Los Angeles to be met by her two nieces who will be her hostesses for the next couple of weeks. They are Mrs. Elden Ruberg and Miss Agnes Maloney, two former Genevans, now residing at Pacific Palisades.

FINGER LAKES GEOLOGY

The Geneva Historical Society and Hobart College are sponsoring a lecture to be given at Smith Hall (William Smith College) this evening at 8 P.M. The speaker will be Dr. Samuel Eelsall and his topic will be "The Post-Glacial Geology of the Finger Lakes District". The lecture is open to all who are interested.

IT'S A GIRL

John Watson was the donor of all the cigars being puffed around the Station earlier this week. The occasion was the birth of a daughter to Mrs. Watson at the Geneva Hospital on Sunday morning. The nameless one weighed a full 9 lbs. 5½ oz. at birth. Congratulations to Mrs. and Mrs. Watson who now need only one more of something to have a full house.

FINISHING UP

Mr. Lamb has been granted a month's leave of absence and has left for the University of Minnesota where he is putting the finishing touches on the thesis for his doctor's degree.

JOINS ENTOMOLOGY STAFF

Dr. Freeman L. McEwen has joined the Station staff as an Assistant Professor in Entomology. A native of Canada, he received his undergraduate training at McGill University's MacDonald College. This year he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin and, since that time, has served with the Science Service Lab of the Canadian Department of Agriculture at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. He and Mrs. McEwen and their infant son will make their home in the Garden Apartments

CHIT CHAT

Word has been received of the Moyers' safe arrival in London after an enjoyable ocean-crossing. They'll visit some sights and research centers in the Isles before heading for the continent... All of the men in the Seed Department, plus Dr. Dolan and Dr. Barton, were in Ithaca on Monday for a meeting of the New York State Seed Association.