

# STATION NEWS

A house organ for  
Station employees

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without consent



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Geneva, N. Y.

## SIDLIGHTS OF THE 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION--By Lucille Holtby

Contingent upon the accomplishment of an event as complex and detailed as was our 75th Anniversary celebration, there are always behind-the-scene episodes that provide a chuckle, or at the least a grin, to relieve the tensions that sometimes accompany the efforts involved. We record here a few of the incidents which sidelighted our celebration.

For some reason the lowly onion received a great deal of publicity, perhaps because it is a favorite vegetable of Governor Harriman's, as well as being a principal commodity of Orange County. The Governor displayed considerable interest in the subject enroute from the Sampson Airport to the Experiment Station and asked what we at the Station do in the way of research on that tear-provoking vegetable. Dr. Hucker explained to him that since our work on vegetables deals mainly with those grown for processing, research on the onion is carried out for the most part on the Ithaca campus. Controller Pederson mentioned with pride the superior disease-resistant strain developed at Ithaca. However, since the Governor, as he approached the Station, could not help but be aware of the Plant Introduction onion plantings near the entrance to our "show case" plots, he naturally enough gave Geneva credit for the new variety and congratulated us during his address on our accomplishments with the onion.

It should be noted that even though New York is credited as ranking high in its production, sour grape seedlings of the breeding program were not used for making the delicious white grape juice served during the day in Jordan Hall. It was prepared from sweet Niagara grapes.

If the newly-sharpened, recently autographed shovel the Governor wielded at the ground breaking ceremony seemed to lift the sod rather too easily, it was due to the efforts of Wilson Hey's crew who had previously cut and sectioned a neat square yard of turf, loosened the dirt, removed stones and roots, watered it well and replaced the sod, to prevent undue strain at the ritual. The Governor obviously appreciated the assistance, for he commented that occasionally he was able to get the shovel only an inch or two into the earth and with difficulty could pry out only a few handfuls of dirt. (We were relieved not to see any old Indian bones uncovered).

From some of the senior members of the staff comes the correction of the nomenclature of the cafeteria as given in last week's NEWS. It seems luncheon was served not in the "calf barn" as stated, but in the former "covered exercise shed for cows". Thanks to the Anniversary celebration this ambulatory cow shed now has a floor covering of fine crushed stone, uncomfortable perhaps for its former occupants, but of great benefit the day of the luncheon as a dustless floor covering, superior to straw or sawdust, and greatly appreciated at present by those parking Station vehicles within.

This same bovine gymnasium provided one of the biggest headaches of the event. The whitewash applied to the walls and ceiling transformed the shed into a reasonable replicate of one of the Waldorf Astoria dining rooms and all was harmonious until it became apparent that the distinguished guests were going to be in peril of having their barbecued chicken decorated with soap flakes of whitewash which refused to cling to the rafters. Bob Larsen's gang bravely undertook to festoon the ceiling with cheesecloth (now serving as dust cloths and insect cages) to catch the fall out. No sooner had the Junior Prom atmosphere been accomplished, than two pigeons (I like "doves" better), obviously looking for honeymoon quarters took up housekeeping between the new false ceiling and the roof. Special lures and sweet talk finally brought them out.

Thanks go to Mrs. Betsy Ross Moyer who at the very last moment stitched together red and white material and with the aid of her husband and Herb Palleon made the several markers placed to outline the site of the new Food Science building. We understand that Mr. Betsy Ross paced up and down in front of Penney's impatiently waiting for the store to open that morning so he might purchase the material used in the flags.

## SIGMA XI

On Friday October 18th the Geneva Branch of the Cornell Chapter of Sigma Xi will be hosts to the members of Sigma Xi from Ithaca and the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory at Buffalo. A lunch in Jordan Hall and a tour of the Experiment Station have been arranged. The lunch will be at 12:30. Following the tour of Experiment Station projects the group will again gather in Jordan Hall for a social hour. If you plan to attend the luncheon and have not yet made reservations, contact Loyd Powell (phone 2919) before 5:00 p.m. today. When making reservations please indicate choice of fish or turkey. Cost of the luncheon will be \$1.00 payable at the time of registration. All Station personnel whether members of Sigma Xi or not are encouraged to attend.

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## STATION CLUB DINNER

Tickets for the Station Club Dinner at the Lafayette Inn on October 29 at 6:30 P.M. may now be obtained from the ticket sales captains, strategically located as follows: Veg Crops—Miss Smith, Plant Path—Mrs. Teichner, Seeds—Mrs. Dumbleton, Pomology—Mrs. DeWall, Sturtevant Hall—Miss Hogan, Chemistry—Miss Updike, Entomology—Mrs. Allen, Jordan Hall—Mrs. Middleton, Greenhouse and Garage—Pete De Maria, Field Crew—Wilson Hey, Heating Plant—Everett Henecke. Tickets must be purchased before 5:00 P.M. Monday Oct. 21st in order to enable the committee to complete arrangements with Lafayette Inn. The price for the delicious ham dinner is \$2.00 for Station Club Members and \$2.50 for non-members. (This does not include the tip.) When you purchase your ticket you will notice a stub which when properly processed at the door of Lafayette Inn will entitle the holder to a chance to win one of the many lavish door prizes planned for this year's event.

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## AGRICULTURAL CIRCLE RECEPTION

Approximately 14 Station people spent a very enjoyable evening at the Agricultural Circle Reception in Ithaca Tuesday night. Mrs. Heinicke was among those who poured.

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## MEETS TODAY

The technical committee for the NEM 22 project will meet at the Station October 16th and will have a business meeting in the morning and spend the afternoon looking over Plant Introduction and Forage Crop Trials. This is a new project just activated this year to develop better methods for measuring the varietal purity of Forage Crop seeds.

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## ATTENDS ROCHESTER MEETING

Austin Wagenknecht went to Rochester Monday to attend a meeting of the First Formal Assembly of Food, Beverage, and Confectionary Sub-Group, IMG Quality Control Group. The Group made a plant tour of the Gerber's Products Company and discussed their Quality Control Program.

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## NEW YORK STATE SEED ASSOCIATION MEETS

The New York State Seed Association will hold its Annual Meeting in Utica on Monday, October 21st. Dr. Clark is heading a delegation of seed analysts from the Station. Vegetable Crops may also be represented.

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## CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy is extended to Margaret Albury, whose father died last week.

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## SOCIAL NOTE

Sam Kayn has visitors. His grandson, Sgt. Gary Brake, a marine stationed at the Embassy in Rome, was married two weeks ago and he and his bride are honeymooning in this country. They stopped in Geneva and are spending some time with the Kayns.

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## LONE FISHERMAN (WIDE GESTURE WITH THE ARMS AND --- "THIS LONG")

Dr. Hamilton spent last week at his sister's home in Canada. He spent most of his time golfing and fishing (caught several yard long northern pike). This means several, yard long pike, not a several yard long pike.

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## NOTICE

Orders for Northern Spy apples should be placed in the Pomology office by Thursday of this week.

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## TEMPORARY COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

Members of the New York State Temporary Commission on Agriculture were guests of the College of Agriculture on October 14th and 15th. The purpose of the Conference is to show the members on the Commission some of the important research projects being carried on for the benefit of farm people and consumers, and to acquaint them with teaching and extension progress. Department Heads attended Tuesday's session.

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## A PRIZE WINNER

Leonard Mattiuk's beagle won first in his class, and first in the reserve winners at the Dog Show in Rochester Sunday.