

William Casey, who retired from the Station in 1943 after 33 years of service, died at his home at 75 Cherry Street Monday morning. He was 79 years old. Mr. Casey was Mrs. Leon Tyler's father. Our sincere sympathy to the family. "Casey", as he was known universally to all Station employees, had become a tradition even before he retired with the dispersal of the Station herd and the transfer of the dairy work to Ithaca. Among his many accomplishments and extra-curricular activities was the operation of the famous Station barber shop and especially his popularity as an "old time" fiddler. Those of us who had the good fortune to know Casey in his prime will long remember his homespun philosophy and his delight in expounding on the virtues of the Station herd to gullible visitors. There was only one "Casey", and he will be remembered with affection by all who knew his un-failing good nature and friendliness.

MEETING HELD IN JORDAN HALL

The State Department of Health's Water Pollution Control Board held a public hearing in Jordan Hall on Monday evening. The meeting was called to discuss recommended classifications of quality and purity for designated waters of New York State, specifically the Finger Lakes Drainage Basin, a 3,000 square mile area. This is the result of work by the Portable Laboratory which was parked down by the Heating Plant.

FARM & HOME WEEK

As part of the Farm and Home Week at Ithaca in early March the Experiment Station is furnishing the Pomology Department at Ithaca with a large display of apple varieties which are grown in New York State. Part of this exhibit will be fruit breeding. Featured will be apples from promising seedlings and their parents. Photographs will show steps in breeding a new apple. A seedling population will be shown, with the parents and a group of progeny of the cross.

CHESS MATCH

The Finger Lakes Chess Society will hold a chess match with The Cornell Chess Club Sunday afternoon. Bob LaBelle, Zoltan Kertess, and Jerry VanBuren will be playing for the Finger Lakes Chess Society, despite the fact that Bob and Jerry are Cornell graduates.

BACK AFTER A MONTH IN BROOKHAVEN

Charlotte Pratt is back from a month at Brookhaven. She has been using equipment and facilities at Brookhaven to check irradiation damage to apples and grapes. She also removed material from the Gamma Field. This material had been in place three or four years. Some of this material will now be grafted and grown at the Station.

MAIL BAG

The Bigelows have heard from the Rodneys. Dave is in Yuma, Arizona working with citrus growers. They are waiting to sell their home in Riverside before they buy in Yuma. Their address is: 921 La Mesa, Yuma, Arizona....The Seed Laboratory heard from Doris Traphagen. She writes that her mother has a new job: Housemother in a private school in California.

GRIPE DEPARTMENT

This is a one-man crusade against a specific case of very sloppy diction that has crept into all horticultural and agronomic literature in recent years. I refer to the use of the word "screening" to describe any kind of a comparative test. Scientists are supposed to use words that have a very precise meaning; but a "screening" test as now used in scientific literature may mean anything from sifting materials for particle size to shading or hiding objects, or comparing varieties for disease resistance or comparing chemicals in regard to their toxicity to various plants or any other comparative test.

"Screening" peas in a processing plant means specifically putting them through a series of sieves that size-grades them. But "screening" peas in a field may mean grading the seed for size, or it may mean comparing varieties in regard to yields, or resistance to disease, or any kind of a comparison.

"Screening" fertilizer means specifically separating into various particle sizes, but a "screening" test of fertilizers may mean a comparison of different kinds of fertilizers or different rates of application. In brief, saying that a "screening" test was conducted means nothing until the author tells you what he means this time by "screening". Another time his "screening" may mean something else. So why use that vague indefinite word in the first place. Scientists should be accurate in their statements so why not use precise terms in describing your tests.