

# STATION NEWS



A house organ for  
Station Employees

Not for publication  
without consent



## WEEK'S WEATHER

	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	PRECIPITATION
Nov. 25	44	26	Trace of snow
Nov. 26	47	23	.08 inches of rain
Nov. 27	33	23	Trace of snow
Nov. 28	30	19	1.3 inches of snow
Nov. 29	29	10	3.2 inches of snow
Nov. 30	22	11	.5 inches of snow
Dec. 1	30	18	.2 inches of snow

Vol. <sup>70</sup> No. 47

December 3, 1958

Geneva, N. Y.

### NOTICE FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE IN ITHACA

An increase in the rate of payroll deduction for old-age and survivor's insurance is effective January 1, 1959. The new rate is 2½ per cent of gross salary up to \$4800.00 annually.

The date of payment governs the rate applicable, regardless of the period covered by the payment. Salaries paid on January 1, 1959, and thereafter, will be subject to the new rate of 2½ per cent despite the fact that most of the period covered by the payment may be prior to January 1, 1959.

Temporary Service Vouchers received in the Business Office after Dec. 16, 1958, will be processed and paid in January, 1959. Social Security on these payroll's will therefore be subject to the 2½ per cent rate.

It is suggested that you contact the business office in Ithaca if you desire additional information on this subject.

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### PARTICIPATES IN CONNECTICUT POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Leo Klein left Tuesday morning for Berlin, Conn. to attend the 68th annual meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society. Leo is on the Wednesday afternoon session and will present a paper on "Newer Apple Varieties Worthy of Trial in Connecticut". Leo is also taking along a small apple display of Station introductions and selections, newer varieties, and color sports of standard varieties. Leo is being interviewed over WITC television Station in Hartford on Wednesday noon. The interview is in connection with fruit varieties.

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### SEMINAR

There will be a Station seminar in Jordan Hall on Friday, Dec. 5th, at 3:30 P. M. At that time Doctor Kertesz will speak on "Agriculture in Ethiopia."

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### STAFF MEMBERS DOING ALOT OF TRAVELING

Professor Sayre, Dr. Atkin, Dr. Barten, and Dr. Schroeder will attend the annual New York State Canners and Freezers Association Convention in Buffalo on Friday.

John Cain is leaving today for Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Cain will present a paper on "Fruit Tree Nutrition" at Duke University where the symposium on the "Mineral Nutrition of Trees" is being held.

Dr. Clark spent Monday in New York City attending a meeting of the Atlantic Seedsmen's Association. Dr. Clark gave a talk entitled "Problems in Seed Testing".

Dr. Crosier and Earl Waters will spend Thursday in Buffalo. They will visit an Eastern States Farmers Exchange Mill. to see a hot water seed treatment process.

Dr. Braun left Tuesday for Newark, Delaware to participate in a NE 34 Technical Committee meeting. NE 34 is a regional project on nematodes.

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## SOCIAL NOTE

Ed Glass and family visited his brother in Chicago for Thanksgiving before going on to Grand Rapids where Ed will speak at the Michigan State Horticultural Society Meeting.

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## UNIVERSITY CLUB SPEAKER

Doctor Elmer Stotz of the University of Rochester Medical School and former head of the Station's Department of Food Science and Technology will be guest speaker at the University Club at the Seneca Hotel next Monday evening, Dec. 8th, at 7:00 P. M. His subject will be "Exploring the Cell with a Biochemist". Non-members of the University interested in the subject are cordially invited to attend the dinner and meeting. Former colleagues at the Station will probably want to take this opportunity to hear him speak. Advance reservations are requested and should be made through Louis M. Collins, phone 9 - 4343.

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## SCHOLARSHIP DANCE

The 4th annual scholarship dance will be held at the Geneva Country Club on Saturday, December 13, from 10:00 p. m. to 2:00 a. m. This dance is open to the public and tickets may be obtained from Cap Bigelow and Ken Hanson. The proceeds from this dance go into the scholarship fund for Geneva students.

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## WHAT'S A "BLIZZARD"

Here's the way the U. S. Weather Bureau defines a "blizzard": The whole atmosphere becomes filled with needlelike snow and ice crystals, which driven by a cold wind of gale force, sting the flesh and sift through the finest crevices. Caught in such a blast, one runs the risk of suffocation with ice dust, which penetrates the thickest clothing and is more choking than a summer dust storm. It is impossible to see more than 10 feet — there is such a roaring and commotion that the human voice can scarcely make itself heard. Technically, a blizzard rides on winds of more than 32 miles an hour, with low temperatures, and snow cutting visibility to less than 500 feet. A severe blizzard rides on winds of more than 45 miles an hour with temperatures below 10 degrees, and near - zero visibility in heavy blowing snow. According to the weather bureau, it doesn't even have to snow to be a "blizzard".

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## THIS MODERN AGE

Note to all typists who are agitating for an electric typewriter, and a warning to those who already have one.

"Change over to an electric typewriter and for five hours of typing your food energy requirements drop 75 calories a day or 375 a week." Our authority for this is Hazel K. Striobeling, Director, Institute of Home Economics, Agricultural Research Service of the USDA. ( Those extra calories are most apt to show up where you sit. The solution is to walk briskly for half an hour each day or cut down on calories). The items in the brackets are our own commentary.

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## NATURE NOTES

The first snow fall has brought about a lot of activity on the part of the birds. A flock of Cedar Waxwings spent part of the day on Monday and Tuesday feeding on maple buds in the rock garden trees, the ground is littered with shredded buds. Half a dozen Juncos were feeding under the shrubs at the west end of Jordan Hall during the snow squalls on Monday. Out at the farm the Chickadees and Nuthatches have made off with half a gallon of sunflower seeds during the past week and with the help of Downy and Hairy woodpeckers have consumed about a pound of suet. Heard a Screech Owl in the woods behind the house last Sunday about 4 P. M.. Bundled the kids up, took the binoculars and we went out to find him. Finally located him in a hollow beech and sat down on a log to watch. During the lengthy process of pointing him out to the kids he became alarmed and retreated into the hole. A few squeaks against the back of the hand brought him out again. A curious grey squirrel in another hole a few feet higher up also popped his head out and regarded us with deep suspicion. The owl watched us for a few minutes and then abruptly tipped forward and down, spread his wings and soundless as a shadow melted into the darkening woods. Another owl is becoming more vocal now, any evening we can step on the front porch and hear the deep "HOO'S" of the Great Horned Owl. That's a wild sound, just right for the dark winter woods. The kids are not just sure yet whether or not they want to go into the woods with me at about dusk to try to get a good look at one.

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