

# Station News

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April 29, 1942.

Geneva, N. Y.

## DANDELIONS BY AIR

The Director received a letter from the U. S. Department of Agriculture the other day advising him that a quantity of seed of the Russian dandelion, Taraxacum kok-saghyz if you want to be technical, was being shipped to this country by plane for test as a potential source of rubber. A pound of the seed is to be sent to this Station and will be turned over to Mr. Sayre for trial on the Canning Crops Farm. He will subject it to various cultural and fertilizer trials in an effort to determine its adaptation to New York conditions. This test will form part of a widespread search for possible sources of rubber by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with various agencies, including this Station and the College of Agriculture. One of the important advantages of the Russian dandelion over other promising latex-bearing plants is that it is an annual, whereas the others require from two to four years to produce a crop. Little information is available, however, on just how much of a part Russian dandelions might play in meeting the rubber shortage. Mr. Sayre's tests will throw some light on that point.

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## AN INVITATION

The following invitation was received at the Station last week:

The Trustees and Faculty of Hobart and William Smith Colleges request the honor of the presence of the Staff of the Geneva Experiment Station at the Commencement Exercises, Saturday, May 9th, to Monday, May 11th, 1942.

A program of events will be found on the bulletin board in Jordan Hall. Commencement Day is Monday, May 11, with the exercises beginning at 10:00 o'clock. Theodore H. Greene, Professor of Philosophy of Princeton University, will be the Commencement speaker.

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## CONGRATULATIONS, LIEUTENANT!

John Parrott is home on a 10-day leave from Camp Lee, Virginia, where he has just completed an officer's training course and has been commissioned a lieutenant in the Quarter Master's Corps. Nice going, John!

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## MR. PIERCE TAKES OVER

Henry Pierce who has been working in the Plant Pathology Division will take over Leon Tyler's duties in the Milk Room on May 1st. Mr. Pierce took NYA training in dairying and is well qualified for his new job.

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## FIRST AID CLASS POSTPONED

The First Aid class which was started in Jordan Hall on April 20th experienced over a hundred per cent increase last Monday evening with 18 prospective first aiders present. This marked increase in attendance assures the continuation of the class in Jordan Hall. However, due to the fact that the two instructors will be deeply involved in issuing sugar rationing books next week, the next meeting of the class will be held Monday, May 11th.

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## ODDS AND ENDS

They are cleaning house in the fruit juice laboratory and there's a chance to get something for nothing as long as the supply of odds and ends of fruit juices holds out. There is no raspberry, apple-raspberry, cherry cocktail, or straight apple juice left, but there are a number of other combinations available in small lots. See Dr. Pederson or Mr. Beattie if you are interested.

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## SPEAKING OF FIRST AID

The recent "poem" on first aid which appeared in these columns has called forth the following anonymous effusion which we take to be a sort of tribute to the Station wives who have suffered as "patients":

The heroines of many tales untold  
Are the Station ladies both calm and bold.  
We humbly dedicate to them our daily chores,  
While they knit and work to help settle major woes.  
In the main, they shun riches, fame, and power;  
Or being referred to as the lady of the hour.  
As a tribute to them it is just to state,  
The stories they tell are too good to relate;  
To type them further in a special way,  
Is a task reserved for a rainy day.

As Mr. Ace would say, "Ain't that awful!"; but maybe the "victims" will appreciate it.

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## UNIVERSITY CLUB NEXT MONDAY

Because Hobart Commencement comes on the usual meeting date of the University Club, the May meeting has been advanced a week and will be held next Monday evening, May 4th, at 6:30 at the Seneca Hotel. Mr. Henry D. O'Connell, President of the Rochester Central Trades and Labor Council, will speak on "The Accomplishments and Future of Organized Labor."

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## EXPECTED HOME THIS WEEK-END

When last heard from, Dr. and Mrs. Breed were in New York City and are expected to arrive in Geneva either Saturday or Sunday.

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## HOME FROM COLLEGE

Frank Hopkins has returned home from Wheaton College and is now working with the spray crew of the Entomology Division.

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## FROM WASHINGTON

Mr. C. M. Packard, chief of the Division of Cereal and Forage Insect Investigations of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, was a recent visitor to the Station.

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## FROM ICE CREAM TO TRANSFUSIONS

Work done at this Station on gelatin in connection with ice cream some years ago has been cited by a medical research group at Northwestern University as furnishing a lead for the use of gelatin in transfusions in the case of severe bleeding, according to a recent communication received by Dr. Carpenter. The Station studies were concerned with the use of gelatin in ice cream and investigations of gelatin as a protein and were participated in by Dr. Carpenter, Dr. Dahlberg, Mr. Honing, and Dr. Lovelace. Just another instance of research of a fundamental nature finding an application entirely outside the field in which it had its beginning.

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## BUY DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

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