

The Station News

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Geneva, N.Y.

MORE CON-

TRACTS : During the past week, three more contracts were let for construction here. One of these provides for the installation of a heating plant in the Biology Building which will serve to heat that building, the new building, and the new greenhouses. Presumably work will begin at once on replacing the present heating system in the Biology Building with this new equipment. Then, too, a contract has been let for the installation of an electric elevator in the new building. This innovation is expected to increase very materially the efficiency of those working on the upper floors of the new building by conserving energy for their several duties that would otherwise be expended on tramping up and down the stairways. Also, it will be a great help in getting supplies from the basement to the upper floors, and is the envy of those who must labor in the older buildings where such equipment is lacking. The elevator and the heating plant will be cared for out of the original appropriation for the new building. The third contract relates to much-needed repairs and changes in the Chemistry Building which will aid materially in putting it in better shape for the work of the Chemistry Division when the readjustment in space is made at the time that the new building is ready for occupancy. This contract is covered by a special item in the budget for that purpose.

GREENHOUSES : Dr. Hedrick went to Albany yesterday for a final conference on the **WILL BE NEXT:** plans for the greenhouses. He expects, as a result of this trip, that bids will be opened on the greenhouses early in August and that actual work on these structures will get under way next month. With the construction of the greenhouses, the only thing remaining in the immediate building program for the Station is the alteration of the Biology Building to meet the needs of the Dairy and Bacteriology Divisions when they take over the building this fall. Governor Roosevelt intimated last spring that he would approve an appropriation for this purpose when the building was vacated by those who move into the new building.

DR. BETTEN : A statement has been issued by Cornell University to the effect **ACTING DEAN:** that Dean Mann will enter upon his new duties as Provost of the University on August 1 and that Dr. Cornelius Betten, Director of Resident Instruction in the College of Agriculture has been named Acting Dean, pending the appointment of Dean Mann's successor.

AN UNPLEASANT : Miss Riley, stenographer for the Chemistry Division, had the **EXPERIENCE :** misfortune last Monday evening of being involved in an automobile accident on the Waterloo road. According to such information as is available, her injuries, fortunately, are not serious but are none the less deplorable. It is hoped that she will soon be able to return to her duties here.

VACATIONING : Miss Mary Darrow and a party of friends left last Saturday for a **IN CANADA :** vacation in Canada which will include an extended automobile tour of sections around Montreal and Quebec and a boat trip on the St. Lawrence.

EXAMINE : Mr. Streeter and Dr. F.M. Blodgett of the Department of Plant **LIMESTONES :** Pathology at Cornell left the first of the week for a three day trip into Pennsylvania, particularly the section around Bellefonte and State College, to inspect limestone quarries with reference to sources of lime for use in spray mixtures, a problem in which Mr. Streeter is especially interested in his insecticide investigations.

MAKES HIS : Dr. H.S. Cunningham, who now occupies the position vacated by **DEBUT HERE :** Dr. Clayton at the Vegetable Research Farm at Riverhead, made his first call at the Station last week when he spent a short time here in conference with Mr. Stewart and others. Dr. Cunningham entered upon his duties several weeks ago upon his arrival from Bermuda where he had been employed for some time as a plant pathologist by the Bermuda government.

RECENT VISITORS: Dr. and Mrs. R.J. Anderson have been spending the past few days with friends in Geneva. Dr. Anderson, formerly head of the Division of Biochemistry here, is now research professor in chemistry at Yale. Among other visitors to the Station during the past week were Mr. Miller of Milton, Oregon, one of the largest producers of seedling nursery stocks in the West, and Dr. P.A. Downs of the Dept. of Dairy Husbandry at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Downs called at the

SOME NEW : Upon receipt yesterday from the printer of the last of the publications
BULLETINS: authorized during the past fiscal year, Mrs. Hoag is putting into the
----- : mail this week the following bulletins:

- Tech. No. 176. Factors affecting the quality of commercial
canning peas, by C.B. Sayre, J.J. Willaman,
and Z.I. Kertesz.
Tech. No. 177. China aster seed treatment and storage, by
W.O. Gloyer.
Tech. No. 178. The enzymic clarification of grape juice,
by J.J. Willaman and Z.I. Kertesz.
Tech. No. 179. Factors influencing the pectin content of
stored apple pomace, by Z.I. Kertesz and
E.L. Green.

SEPTEMBER: The Station is to be the scene of a series of meetings in September,
MEETINGS : details of which are lacking at present, altho the dates have been
----- : announced by the groups concerned. The first will be a field meeting
of the State Vegetable Growers Association which is to be held on September 3.
On September 16, the Northern Nut Growers Association will hold its annual meeting
here, and on the next day, the 17th, the New York State Fruit Testing Association
will hold its annual meeting and exhibit of new fruits. These last two organiza-
tions will doubtless attract many from outside of the State as their memberships
are far reaching.

HONOR TO WHOM : We are pleased to hand herewith to Dr. Pederson such medals and
HONOR IS DUE : emoluments as would most fittingly mark the completion of the
----- : first full plan of a State Fair exhibit for 1931, the specifica-
tions for his display coming to hand just about as we go to press. As a runner-up
we also present Dr. Yale who writes to Dr. Breed from his office in the State Food
Laboratory in Albany that he is giving thought to the details of his part of the
exhibit. We should also say by way of honorable mention that Dr. Kertesz and
Mr. Green have gone so far with their plans as to incur expense against the State
Fair fund, indicating activity at least; while Dr. Horsfall is "experimenting"
with an exhibit idea in the greenhouse to determine whether or not it will work at
Syracuse. All of which is very encouraging and we hope stimulating to others
directly concerned with the Fair.

UNION : From 3:00 a.m. to midnight is a day's work in the Bacteriology
HOURS? : Division, if any one cares to know, at least Mr. Trudell and Mr. Jennings,
----- : student assistants in that Division, seem to think so. Whether or not
they were given to understand that these are the usual hours of labor at the
Station or whether they are the victims of a conspiracy, or sad examples of "forced
labor", we have been unable to learn. It seems, however, that the collection of
samples in the investigation with which they are especially concerned takes them
far afield, and rather than set a leisurely pace which would mean absence from
Geneva over night, they leave early and return late, completing work on each batch
of samples before calling it a day. It's a stiff pace, but it should be productive
of results.

MORE DATA : A writer in the current number of The Fertilizer Review tells of an
NEEDED : observation at the Michigan Experiment Station in which it was
----- : noted that a mole that started down the center of a check plot in a
fertilizer experiment with potatoes was rebuffed by the fertilizer treatments on
each side of the check when he tried to escape, with the result that he was forced
to travel the length of the check row. It is suggested that fertilizing in circles
around moles might result in these little creatures being overcome with dizziness
in attempting to find a way out. Further research is awaited, however, before
publishing on this project.

WHAT THEY: Fathers who are constantly admonished by mothers to beware of their
KNOW : language in front of the young hopefuls may glean some comfort from
----- : an account in SCIENCE for last week on "The Information of Kinder-
garten Children", in which the writer conveys the impression that youngsters do not
absorb so much after all from the conversation around them. For example, out of
100 children between the ages of five and six, not one could answer the question,
"Who is Herbert Hoover?" Al Smith, on the other hand, displayed a 100% advantage
over Herbert when one youngster professed to have heard of him before. Lindberg was
known to 87 and Andy Gump to 74. Of the 132 questions asked, only 4 were answered
correctly by all of the children. These were: "How many legs has a horse?" "What
do we use to cut cloth?" "What do we use to cut meat?" "What do you use a saw
for?" According to some of the youngsters, a carpenter fixes carpet sweepers; butter
milk comes from butterflies; and a plumber pulls out plums; while for some
unknown reason, a man who raises corn or wheat is called a bachelor. A further
comforting thought for Dad is that thruout the test boys rated better than girls on
all types of questions except those dealing with the weather(?) and other natural
phenomena.