

THE STATION NEWS

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Geneva, N. Y.

THE NOVEL method employed last week by the Bacteriology Division in putting its work before the Staff by demonstration proved interesting and instructive. While members of the Staff outside the Division of Bacteriology do not consider them "expert bacteriologists", nevertheless they have a much better conception of the problems and the methods of attack in this field of the Station's activities. Certainly the plan might well be extended to other Divisions with profit to the entire Staff.

MR. SAYRE, designated by the Director as Chairman of the Staff Business Committee to replace Mr. Collison who is leaving for six months' study, announces that the March meeting of the Staff will be devoted to a discussion by Dean R. A. Emerson of the work of the Graduate School at Cornell, with particular reference to our relations to the Graduate School. The meeting will be held Friday, March 2, and will be featured by a Staff dinner.

DIRECTOR Morrison announced at the Staff meeting that six months' leave of absence had been granted to Mr. Collison by the Agricultural Council, effective this month. Mr. Collison is planning to leave Geneva next Sunday for an extended trip through the Southwest with Davis, Riverside, and Berkeley, California, the principal objectives. On his way to the Coast he plans to visit the areas in southern New Mexico where the production of high-nicotine tobacco for insecticidal purposes has reached the proportions of an important industry. As the production of high-nicotine tobacco is one of the chief projects of the Agronomy Division, Mr. Collison hopes to gain considerable information to aid him in his work here. On the Pacific Coast, and also at several of the northern experiment stations on the return trip, particularly the Wisconsin Station, Mr. Collison will make a study of investigations under way on the nutrition of fruit trees, a subject which is now occupying much of the time of the Station agronomists. Mr. Collison will be accompanied by Mrs. Collison and Beverley. The trip will be made by auto, returning to Geneva about the middle of August.

FARMERS' Week at Cornell and the eastern meeting of the State Horticultural Society at Poughkeepsie will occupy the attention of several members of the Staff next week. Those scheduled to participate in the Farmers' Week program include Director Morrison, Dr. Breed, Mr. Dahlberg, Mr. Gloyer, Mr. Henning, Dr. Jones, Mr. Marquardt, Mr. Munn, Mr. Parrott, Dr. Rankin, Mr. Sayre, Mr. Slate, and Mr. Wellington. At Poughkeepsie, Mr. Shear and Mr. Munding, Plant disease specialist and entomologist, respectively, of the Hudson Valley Fruit Investigations, and Director Morrison, Dr. Hedrick, and Mr. Parrott will appear on the program. The Station will have its usual display of apple varieties at Poughkeepsie under the direct supervision of Mr. Slate, with Mr. Anderson, horticulturist for the Hudson Valley Investigations, assisting.

DR. HEDRICK is in Amherst this week giving a series of five lectures on horticultural subjects.

THE MAILING room is sending out the much-delayed Annual Report, Technical Bulletins Nos. 130 and 131 by Dr. A. H. Robertson, and Bulletin No. 548 on Commercial Fertilizers in New York in 1927 by Dr. Van Slyke.

MR. DAHLBERG has been granted a year's leave of absence for graduate study, beginning next fall.

PLANS are progressing for the Station Club dance on Friday, February 17. A modest fee of 75 cents per couple has been set, and already more than thirty couples have signified their intention to be present. In order to avoid embarrassment when it comes time to settle with the orchestra at the close of the dance, those in charge suggest that the fee be paid in advance. Either Mr. Gambrell or Mr. Moore will accept your contributions. Also, the books are still open to new subscribers who are urged to take part in the gaiety of the evening.

MR. KARL Brase, a native of southern Germany and recently employed in Zurich, Switzerland, joined the Station Staff today as Mr. Tukey's assistant in the nursery investigations.

DR. JONES will attend a conference on seed treatment at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research at Yonkers next Friday.

MR. William Ulmer, formerly a helper in the Dairy Barn here and now a student in the Veterinary College at Ithaca, is visiting friends at the Station today.

"ANDY" Brown had an unfortunate experience with his car recently, when an avalanche of snow from the roof of the Biology Building broke through the roof of his car parked at the rear of the building. Fortunately, no one was in the car at the time.

THE 1928 ice crop is being harvested from the Station pond. Considering the season, the ice appears to be in good condition.

THE GENEVA Garden Club will make its official debut on Tuesday, February 21, when Dr. E. A. White, head of the Department of Floriculture at Cornell University, will speak to an open meeting of Geneva gardeners on "The Development of the Garden and its Importance to the American Home."

THE following books have been added to the Station Library since the last list given in the NEWS:

Transactions of the Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts, and Manufactures. 1801 (Horti.)
Annals of the Pickett-Thomson Research Laboratory. Vol. III. (Bact.)
Cheese, Van Slyke and Price.
Composition and distribution of the protozoan fauna of the soil, Sandon.
Soil Mineralogy, Burt.
The economics of land reclamation in the United States, Toole.
The desk reference book, Orcutt.
Mathematical statistics, Rietz. (Ent.)

THE Agronomy Division passes on as a bit of news of the first order that the printers are at work in their quarters.

THE exploit of one of the Station stenographers mentioned in last week's NEWS called forth the following communication:

The Editor, The Station NEWS, Dear Sir:

Since a Station employee received such high praise in your issue of Jan. 31, 1928, because she was only nine minutes late for work one day, I am writing to ask if I would not merit honorable mention in your columns because I was at work exactly on time this morning, and also on the job five minutes ahead of time after dinner. I have been a subscriber to your paper for several years and always felt that you believed in fairness to all and honor to those who most deserved it. ---- Jealous Subscriber.

Our alibi is that payment of the 1928 subscription will entitle "Jealous Subscriber" to unlimited space in our columns.

ALSO, Mr. O. M. Taylor, long a member of the Horticultural Division and still vitally interested in the efficiency of the Station, rises to remind us that for many years it was his duty to ring the farm bell which was the signal for the men to start work on the Station farm. In only one instance was his record for always sounding the bell at the appointed hour endangered and that one morning when the alarm clock failed to accomplish its purpose. He awoke in his quarters in the "Octagon House" to find that he had only three minutes to dress and reach the bell. He assures, however, that the bell rang on time. From that day on the alarm clock stood on a tin plate in order that its summons might not again pass unheeded.