



Station News



Vol. ~~IX~~ No. 10.

September 8, 1937.

A RECORD BREAKER

The ninety-seventh annual State Fair got off to a record-breaking start on Sunday, with the largest Sunday attendance on record, to be followed by an even greater increase in attendance for Labor Day with Monday's turnout. The crowd came early and stayed late and everyone in the Station exhibit had all he or she could do to keep ahead of the questions. Miss Welch was such a success as a cherry pitter and her "public" was so entranced with her demonstration of maraschino cherry making, especially with her pitting tool, that she had hard work not to work too hard and exhaust her week's supply of cherries on the first day. The lights of the fruit juice exhibit and the combined insect and plant disease exhibits drew the crowds like the proverbial moth and the flame, and all doubts as to whether or not the crowd would come into the wing where the Station exhibit is housed were dispelled early Monday morning. Every exhibit received its share of attention and the roadside stand was admired by all. In fact, it could have been disposed of at a profit many times over if all of the inquiries as to whether it could be purchased for use by the lake or in the mountains were authentic. All in all, the Station exhibit presents a colorful and, we believe, interesting spectacle, and it has certainly been well received by the State Fair crowd.

SIDELIGHTS

While there hasn't been much time for sightseeing up to the time this is written, we note that the cheese exhibit in the Dairy Building, along with the milk judging exhibit, has come in for much favorable comment and for genuine interest on the part of several prominent persons about the State. More power to Clifford and Jules for their role of Station emissaries in the Dairy Building.

While it is difficult to make a choice between the Farm Bureau vegetable and fruit exhibits in the Horticultural Building, both being exceptional in every respect, our vote goes for the fruit exhibit with its mammoth apple (700 pounds), which we firmly believe is a Cortland.

Reports from the College exhibit rate the display of developing chick embryos as beating all records for public interest. Everyone is so anxious to see the chick break out of their shells that it is almost necessary to call on the troupers to keep the crowd moving.

A familiar plaint in the Horticultural Building Monday was, "I seen him a minute ago, but I can't see him now"; and of course there were the usual number of youngsters who went down one aisle while the rest of the family went down the other, there being only two possibilities in the Station exhibit, to end up with usual weeping and wailing until mother was sighted again and all was peace.

The last nail was driven in the Station exhibit at 10:00 o'clock Monday morning and the show declared officially open. Despite trying delays up to the opening bell, everyone made the most of the situation and was comforted with the thought that there would be comparatively little to do another year. Mr. Hartzell won the gratitude of his associates by standing by most of Friday afternoon and late into the night keeping the corps of carpenters busy and speeding up work on the exhibit.

GOING TO WASHINGTON

Mr. Slate is going to Washington the first of the week to attend the annual meeting of the Northern Nut Growers Association of which he is Secretary.

SAILING SATURDAY

Dr. and Mrs. Kertesz and Vera sail at noon next Saturday for a year's sojourn in Stockholm, first visiting their families in Budapest.

THE FRUIT TESTING ASSOCIATION

The annual meetings of the Fruit Testing Association have become something of an institution around the Station, and each year the attendance and interest in the program and exhibits seem to increase. This year marks the nineteenth annual meeting and the date is Thursday, September 16. There will be more detailed information available about the program next week, but indications already point to the largest and best exhibit of new fruits ever staged by the Association. Perchance some reader of the NEWS may be ignorant of the fact, Mr. Harry King is Manager of the Fruit Testing Association!

HORTICULTURISTS COMING, TOO

On the seventeenth, horticulturists from the Northeastern Experiment Stations will gather here for their annual discussion of problems of mutual interest. This year special attention will be given to a list of varieties to be recommended in the Northeastern states and to the subject of rootstocks for the Northeast.

MAPPING GROUNDS

Mr. Van Eseltine, with the aid of his son Bob, has completed a species map of the plantings around the Station buildings and in the area bounded by Castle Street, Collier Drive, North Street, and Preemption Road, together with the area around Jordan Hall. Eventually, it is hoped that these maps may be published in the form of a guide to the Station plantings. The survey shows that there are over 1500 trees and large shrubs in the area covered by the map. These will all be labeled as rapidly as opportunity permits and serve as a matter of interest to the many visitors to the grounds. Most of the larger and more conspicuous are labeled now. Among others already labeled are the very interesting evergreens in the rock garden, the Golden Rain trees on each side of Jordan Hall and the Anur Cork tree south of the Chemistry Building.

MAKING CHEMICAL HISTORY IN ROCHESTER

The Station chemists are devoting most of their time this week to the meetings of the American Chemical Society in Rochester, with papers being presented by Dr. Carpenter who is reporting on further researches on the optical rotation of gelatin by Dr. Lovelace and himself and by Mr. Clark and Mr. Sayre on fertilizer studies.

TOLD OF TRIP

An interesting account of the tour of the national parks in the West from which he and his family have just recently returned was presented by Dr. Pederson last Thursday afternoon before members of the Bacteriology and Dairy Divisions and a few invited guests. His listeners were glad to learn that there are hotter places in the United States than Geneva, and were particularly interested in his accounts of the scenic trails and of the unusual country thru which their route took them. It is quite evident that the Pedersons will return to the West at the first opportunity, and it is equally evident that many of his audience have well developed ambitions along the same line.

A VOLUNTEER AID

Miss Dorothy Schroedel is serving temporarily as a volunteer editorial assistant and is also aiding Mrs. Hening in completing the inventory of the Station Library.

A REVERENT BEAST

Mr. Hartzell came to the rescue yesterday when a call came in from a local store to the effect that a peculiar bug was gracing the store window. Being of the timid sex they did not venture to disturb it. They needed one of our Entomologists to determine its species so everwilling Mr. Hartzell captured it and was overjoyed to find it to be a "Praying Mantis" which he could add to his live insect exhibit at the Fair.
