

The Station News

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May 7, 1930.

Geneva, N. Y.

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PROGRESS ON : Considerable interest was aroused last week when workmen excavated four
THE BUILDING:
-----: imposing holes on the site of the new laboratory building, the assumption being that preliminary building operations had begun. It soon developed, however, that the openings were being made for the benefit of the State Architect's office in order that specifications for foundation construction could be drawn up with an intelligent knowledge of soil conditions. A representative of the Architect's office examined the soil formation revealed by the excavations, and the holes are soon to be filled in. Meanwhile, those who are to occupy the new laboratories are now engaged in locating laboratory tables, sinks, etc., on the plans of the building as drawn up by the State Architect. Final specifications for the building have yet to be drawn, when bids will be obtained and contracts let. It is not possible at this time, therefore, to say just when work on the building will actually get under way.

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MR. PARROTT : Mr. Parrott reached Geneva yesterday morning for a week's stay. He
ON : has nothing but praise for Florida weather, and one might almost think
BRIEF VISIT : one was listening to a description of California climate to hear Mr.
-----: Parrott tell about the delightful coolness of the evenings and the invigorating, tho sometimes warm air of the daytime in the environs of Orlando. Mr. Parrott expects to return to Orlando next week for a two week's stay, when he will come back to Geneva and made his headquarters here, with a possible occasional trip to Orlando for conferences. John will return with his father on his next trip north.

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HERE TO SPRAY: Foster Gambrell has been spending the past few days at the Station
EVERGREENS : supervising the opening up of the spring campaign against the pests
-----: that afflict his ornamentals. He is returning to Columbus shortly to complete the school term at Ohio State University where he is registered for his Ph. D. degree.

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STATE RETIRE-: Word was received recently from Mr. Rogalsky, Comptroller of Cornell
MENT SYSTEM : University, that the provisions of the State Retirement System were
-----: now operative in the case of all employees of the College of Agriculture and the Experiment Station. Membership in the System is now obligatory upon all those who enter the employ of the College or the Station, or who were appointed since March 21, 1930. All others are eligible to membership in the System, if they so desire. Detailed information about the provisions of the Retirement System can be obtained from the Director's office. When the State Retirement System first went into effect in 1920, employees of the Station, then under the management of a "Board of Control", had the option of entering the system, those entering the employ of the Station after a specified date automatically became members of the System. When the Station passed under the control of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, it was no longer subject to the provisions of the Retirement System as the College of Agriculture was not a member of the System, but the interests of those at the Station who had gone into the System were specifically safeguarded in the act transferring the administration of the Station from the Old Board of Control to the College of Agriculture. Recent legislation affecting the College of Agriculture therefore puts the Station back in the position it formerly occupied with respect to the Retirement System. At present, 37 employees at the Station are in the Retirement System.

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WELL PLEASED: Members of the Bacteriology and Dairy Divisions were well pleased with
WITH MEETING: the meeting of laboratory workers brought to the Station last week by
-----: the International Association of Milk Dealers. About 150 registered for the two-day session with a wide representation from all parts of the eastern United States. In addition to hearing about the dairy work at the Station from members of the two divisions the visitors conducted an extensive program of their own relating to details of dairy laboratory technic and special problems encountered in milk control work.

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BACK FROM THE: Mr. Hartzell has returned to his office in the Entomology Building
HUDSON VALLEY: after spending two weeks in the Hudson Valley, chiefly in the vicinity
-----: ty of Hudson, in conducting cooperative spraying experiments. He was
accompanied by Dr. Hamilton, and also did some work with Mr. Munding.

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CALLED TO : Mr. Parrott is planning to attend a conference in Boston next Friday
BOSTON : called by the Commissioner of Agriculture for Massachusetts for an
-----: exchange of views and information of those interested in the apple
export trade, with particular reference to the ban imposed by England on the importation of apples infested with apple maggot. The conference will discuss the closer inspection of fruit intended for export in connection with a proposed system of certification of apples with respect to maggot infestation and also new lines of work to be undertaken in the New England and eastern states with regard to the better control of the apple maggot. In this State, the problem is of special interest to fruit growers in the Champlain Valley and the Hudson Valley, many of whom make large shipments of apples abroad, and it was largely to promote investigations looking to the aid of these growers that the item of \$37,000 for researches with the peach moth and apple maggot, recently approved by the Governor, was so earnestly desired.

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IS NAMED : Dr. Conn was elected Chairman of the Central New York Branch of the
CHAIRMAN : Society of American Bacteriologists at the meeting of the group in
-----: Ithaca last Saturday. Dr. Hucker was also reelected as Secretary. The
winter meeting of the section, to be held in December, will probably come to the
Station.

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TALKS TO : Mr. Van Eseltine inaugurated the 1930 garden season with a talk before
GARDENERS : the Binghamton Garden Club last week. The Geneva Garden Club has a
-----: full schedule of flower shows ahead of it for this season, with a tulip show probably leading the list. The local Club is also interested in the State Gladioli show to be held in Geneva in August.

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TO BE MORE : Recent advices have been received at the Station that the group of bank-
BANKERS : ers coming here for their annual conference next Wednesday has grown
-----: from a probable 75 or 80 to a possible 150, with an extension of the
invitation to all rural bankers rather than to the "Key Bankers" alone. Dr. V. B.
Hart of the Department of Farm Management at the College, who is directing the conference, is to be at the Station today to make final arrangements for the meeting. Present plans call for the meeting to open in the auditorium of Jordan Hall at 9:00 o'clock with a talk by Dr. Hedrick on the work of the Station, to be followed by a two-hour tour of the Station. Dinner is to be served by the Presbyterian Church at Bellona, and an hour in the afternoon will be given over to some sort of diversion for the visitors.

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MR. TAPLEY'S: Mr. Tapley made a hurried trip to Massachusetts last week and brought
FAMILY HERE : back Mrs. Tapley and the two children. They are making their home
-----: at 231 Lafayette Avenue.

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INTERESTED : Dr. John Drew of Binghamton, representing the Dairymen's League, and
IN : M. J. Dowling, President, and W. T. Lane, Vice-president, of the Atlantic
STRAINERS : ic Stamping Company of Rochester, were recent visitors in the Dairy
-----: laboratory where they conferred with Dr. Dahlberg on the matter of milk
strainers. The Dairy Lab is cooperating with manufacturers and representatives of
dairymen in trying out various types of strainers in an effort to arrive at a standard
that will be acceptable to all concerned.

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A HAZARDOUS : Ordinarily, the managership of the New York State Fruit Testing Cooper-
OCCUPATION : ative Association, Inc., would not be looked upon as a hazardous occupa-
-----: tion, but circumstances have changed the old order and now we seriously
doubt whether our esteemed contemporary who holds this position of trust in the Association would be rated as a good risk by any competent insurance adjuster. In other words, Harry's desk is located directly above the steam "cooker" installed in the basement of the Biology Building by the Plant Pathology Division to sterilize soil for certain researches that are being conducted into soil-borne diseases. It is an overgrown "cooker" and stands about as high as a man and its presence was brought home forcibly to Harry just recently when the top let go with a head of 40 pounds of steam behind it. It didn't require as much pressure as that to move Harry, however, and he is ready to change places with anyone in the Division, not being imbued with that degree of the "scientific spirit" that would make light of a mere 40 pounds of steam under one's chair.