

STATION NEWS



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Geneva, N. Y.

FRUIT TESTERS MEET TOMORROW

Fruit growers from this country and Canada will swap experiences at the annual meeting of the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative, to be held at the Station all day tomorrow. The Station's fruit breeders will discuss their seedlings and recent introductions and, in turn, will learn about the grower experiences with these new fruits in other areas. During the morning, the expected 200 visitors will have opportunities to visit the Station plantings with the guidance of the specialists. In the afternoon, Association President Lee Downer will call the meeting to order and, after a few introductory remarks, will introduce Dr. Heinicke who will welcome the group. Prof. Wellington will give his report as secretary-treasurer and Mr. King will present the financial statement. The fruit testers will also have an opportunity to meet Henry Bennett, the assistant manager. After the election of three directors to succeed Dr. Heinicke and Mr. Downer and to fill the unexpired term of the late U. P. Hedrick, members will settle down to a discussion of new fruits. Dr. D. S. Blair of the Ottawa Experimental Farm will describe the performance of some of the newer fruits in Canada and J. W. Krull of Brant, N. Y., will tell his experiences with new small fruits. Following them will be a critique by Station specialists as follows: Cherries, peaches, nectarines and apricots--Mr. Lamb; Apples--Mr. Klein; Plums--Mr. Watson; Grapes--Dr. Einset; Small Fruits--Mr. Slate; Pears--Mr. Howe. The Board of Directors will hold its meeting immediately following the afternoon program. As usual, the auditorium of Jordan Hall will be bordered by a huge array of apples, pears, peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines, and small fruits, and the pomologists will have their frozen display of out-of-season small fruits on hand.

SEMINAR TODAY

Dr. Carpenter will give an account of his travels in South America at a seminar slated for 3 o'clock this afternoon in Jordan Hall. He'll use color movies to illustrate the talk. This noon, the Station scientist will deliver the same topic at a meeting of the Geneva Rotary in the Hotel Seneca. He's been called back by popular demand after giving a similar talk to the same group some time ago.

FOOD SCIENTISTS TO BARBECUE

A divisional barbecue for the food scientists will be held at the home of the Guilford Macks on Saturday. The ante will come to \$1.50 per head and reservations must be made with Miss Hogan before 5 P.M., today.

VEGETABLE VARIETY FIELD DAY

Plant breeders from seed companies and research stations in the Northeast visited the Station yesterday on the second day of their meeting which began at Ithaca. Here, the specialists viewed work done by the Vegetable Crops and the Seed Investigations Division.

NEW GRAPES WELL RECEIVED

At tomorrow's meeting of the Fruit Testing Association, members will have an opportunity to examine the Station's five new grapes which have just been named. They're the "Alden", "Bath", "Naples", "Himrod", and "Romulus", the latter two being seedless types, sister seedlings of the "Interlaken Seedless". The other three are dessert-type grapes with "Naples" also making a bid toward wine-making possibilities. The seedless grapes are light green, sweet and juicy, and are proving as popular with the animal kingdom as they are with just plain folks. The pomologists were hard put to round up sample clusters of the Interlaken, Himrod, and Romulus because the three kinds have fallen prey to the ravages of Erer Coon. While the 'coon ordinarily will partake of an occasional grape, he usually rejects the skin and seeds of the berry. But not so with the three Geneva seedless sorts. Of course, there are no seeds to bother with but the texture, flavor, and general quality of these new varieties are so good that the 'coons eat every last bit, skin and all. Even in the Fredonia area where racoons are less numerous than in this area, they managed to seek out the Interlaken planting and save the boys the trouble of harvesting. Whether or not this speaks well of our grapes is subject to dispute. Anyway, we like 'em too.

SPEAKING OF SEEDLESS FRUITS.....

At the meeting tomorrow, Professor Slate will display a new filbert whose possibilities he is contemplating. This seedling had its first good crop this year and Mr. Slate found that it is definitely a seedless type. This is the kind of nut for which growers have long been searching. To us, the potentialities loom tremendous. Nut growers who find squirrels and chipmunks a problem could set out a few of these trees and surprise the dickens out of our furry friends. Imagine, if you will, the happy family group of papa squirrel, mama squirrel, and their romping young ones gathered around the family hearth on some bitterly cold night in the dead of winter. Papa squirrel, in a festive mood, would celebrate another successful year of robbing mankind of his harvest by cracking open some of Professor Slate's new filberts. Can't you just see the expressions on their bewhiskered faces when they find that the shells are completely void of kernels? Imagine their panic when they find that their entire winter's supply of food consists of nothing but empty shells! How remorseful they will be as they painfully starve to death while the merciless cold closes in on them! Ha, ha. We never laughed so much in all of our lives. The agonizing screams of the dying baby squirrels will pierce the frozen stillness of many a winter's night as their little stomachs collapse. What fun! Professor Slate has a small supply of the nuts available for planting next year.

TO CONTINUE STUDIES

Max Patterson, research associate in Vegetable Crops, will be among the students who register for the new session at Ithaca on Monday. Max put in a semester of work toward his master's degree last year and will add another during the slack season. He'll be back with us in February.

VISITORS

The field day for the members of AIBS at the Station last Thursday brought many old acquaintances to Geneva. Dr. W. H. Chandler, retired horticulturist for UCLA and former head of pomology at Cornell, visited with friends here.....Mr. and Mrs. Roger Bledsoe, formerly of this Station, and their four children renewed friendships. They're now at Gainesville, Fla.Dr. G. W. Kitt, plant path head at Wisconsin, spent some time with local plant pathologists.....Visiting the Pattersons were Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Baker of the pomology department at Purdue.....In other fields, Dr. E.G.D. Murray of McGill University and Mr. N. R. Smith, retired from the USDA, are consulting with Dr. Breed in the compilation of the new edition of Bergey's Manual.....Trades people called on entomologists on Monday. They were Gene Gonzales of Dupont and Dr. Herron of the Velsicol Corp.

SCHOOL BELLS

Registration for the fall semester of college is calling many of our summer assistants away. Pilot Plant workers Joel Trupin and Jon Scott have returned to Cornell, as will Janet Copeland of the bacteriology section.....Beezy Peck of Veg Crops and Marlene Crosier of Seed Testing are returning to their Ithaca studies.....Barbara Calkins of Plant Path will windup her William Smith studies this semester and Jackie Jones of Veg Crops will begin hers.....Also in Veg Crops, Warren Herendeen will begin at Hobart and June Gibson, Virginia Pendleton, John Keyes and Lester Steglin will report to Cornell.....Foster Gambrell, Jr., will launch his studies at Ithaca this year.

UNCLASSIFIED

Dr. Palmiter has returned to the Poughkeepsie Lab after completing a six months' sabbatic leave on the west coast. His family joined him during the summer and returned with him.....Dr. Holley is attending the meetings of the American Chemical Society in Atlantic City.....Mrs. Betty Jean Ketcham of Stanley began work Monday as a laboratory assistant in FS&T. She's working in the feed and fertilizer laboratories. Husband Vance is doing a stint with the armed forces.....Mr. and Mrs. Leon Jones have moved back to their Seneca Castle home after passing the summer at their Kashong cottage.....Pete Gigliotti has taken his family on a trip through Pennsylvania. Not to be outdone by Adlai Stevenson, Pete will reverently pay his respects to the house in which he was born a few years back.....Prof. and Mrs. Luckett will make their semi-annual trip to Lafayette, Indiana, this weekend to return her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams to their home.....The Bigelows spent the weekend in New York City, after taking part in a friend's wedding on Long Island.....Relatives are visiting the Glass house on the White Springs Road. They are her father, Mr. L. P. Webb, and her sister's family, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wray and children, all of Virginia.....September 30th is the deadline for renewing operator's licenses for many drivers. A small supply of the reregistration blanks is in the Business Office for your convenience.

SPORTS PARADE

Bowling is underway again, and the two teams composed of Station personnel are at it hot and heavy after only two nights of play. The Lutherans, captained by Willard Robinson, put in a red hot performance last week with three members topping the 500 mark. M. T. Vittum scored a 518, Robby tallied 502, and the surprise of the evening was Ed Glass' sizzling 549. At the present time, Captain Gilmer's Experiment Station team has won 6 points--the Lutherans have taken 4.....On the links over the weekend, Leo Klein took top honors in the City Golf Tournament's tenth flight, while Herb Reitmann did likewise in flight eleven.....Badminto is scheduled to begin in about two more weeks. This is open to novices as well as to experienced players. Details later.