

NEWS LETTER II

Since so many of you have expressed your appreciation of our news letter, we have decided that it will be worth while to edit another before we are all too busy with field work to remember the events of the past winter.

The campus is again verdant and bright with roses and peonies and flowering shrubs, and everything has recovered either partially or completely from the horrors of war. The barracks of Camp Randall which once housed our S. A. T. C. warriors, are gradually being moved into green pastures where some of them will shelter the peaceful porkers of the U. W. Farm.

The men of the department who served their country here and in France have almost all returned. At first they occasionally indulged in bayonet drills and warlike hoops, but Captain Keitt is back now and order is once more restored.

Soon after the holidays, Messrs. Tisdale, Doolittle, and Clayton returned from diverse camps in this country. Later Mr. Leukel and Lieutenant Hartman arrived from overseas. In March, Dr. Keitt returned. Lieutenant Leon K. Jones is back also from his training camp experience in Washington and will be spending most of the summer in Strurgeon Bay, assisting with Dr. Keitt's cherry work and some of the raspberry diseases.

Charles Drechsler has been here since his release from service and has made a short trip to California continuing the work on alfalfa crown wart started by F. R. Jones last year. F. R. Jones and J. C. Walker have been here all winter in cooperative relation between the state and Dr. Orton's office. Dr. Walker is now on the Pacific coast inspecting onion fields and cabbage seed plantations. The latter concerns especially plans for growing seed of some of the yellows resistant Wisconsin strains.

The Cereal Department is still growing numerically and in material possessions. The lecture room in the west end of the building has been converted into three new offices and a large laboratory.

Mr. Woodworth of Dr. Cole's genetics department and Mr. Alberts of the agronomy department now belong to the cereal staff. Mrs. Bartholomew, who perhaps some of you knew better as Lucile Keene of the botany department, is also stationed here working under the direction of Dr. G. M. Reed, of the U. S. D. A. staff, on certain phases of the oat smut problem.

Dr. Johnson has spent his winter organizing his work here and in California. Mrs. Johnson and the two children spent part of the ~~winter in California~~ also, but all are expected back here about July 1.

In addition to the present cereal staff, Mr. C. S. Reddy may be here next year for special work on the flax canker and some graduate work in this department.

Professor Jones made two trips to Washington this last month where he met with the committee of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council of which he is Vice-Chairman and a member of the Executive Committee. He reports that one of the important possibilities under consideration which may directly interest some of us, is that establishment of post-doctorate research fellowships carrying an annual stipend of \$1500 or more. There is also talk of locating a research laboratory for plant pathology somewhere in tropical America.

Seed treatments and out-door plantings are replacing the greenhouse tank operations of the winter. The new dry heat sterilizing oven which the cereal laboratory has installed affords abundant space for all kinds and amounts of seed and at the same time does not necessitate watching as did our little gas oven with which Mr. Johnson and Mr. Atanasoff spent so many nights last spring.

So many of you knew the department in the days of Frank that you will be interested, I am sure, to learn of his recent abdication. With the present revolutionary wave we, too, rebelled against an absolute monarch. Long after his departure, however, we had no settled governmental policy, janitorically speaking, and dust and dirty dishes accumulated and confusion reigned. Finally, however, one John Shaw came back from training camp who really seems to have a desire to rule wisely. Frank, by the way, is now employed by his Uncle Frank, the University shepherd.

From those who are absent we get occasional reports. Miss Willis left her position as pathologist in Idaho and took a degree in home economics last fall. She now holds a position as Home Demonstration Agent under the U. S. D. A.

Floyd Bailey, whom we have as our first departmental alumnus, comes down occasionally from his farm in Prescott. He is eager to get back into pathological work as soon as he can advantageously dispose of his farm.

Mr. A. H. Gilbert wrote Dr. Jones of his change of work from Kentucky to Burlington, Vermont, where he is extension pathologist in cooperation with Dr. Orton's office. I believe he is interested in the potato mosaic problem in Vermont.

Dr. Rands writes interesting accounts of Java where he is working on a disease of the rubber tree. His family and five Methodist missionaries constitute the American population of the country in which almost every language is spoken but English.

Perhaps not all of you are cognizant of the new generation of pathologists which are growing up in various parts of the country. The Mc Kays, (Corvallis, Ore.), McMillans (Greeley, Colo.), and Hartmans (Harrisburg, Pa.) each have a baby daughter while the

Haymakers (Manhattan, Kas.) are the proud parents of a son.

Miss Coerper is leaving us at the end of this week and those of you who have known the place she has occupied in the department for several years know how we are all going to miss her. On June 26 she is to marry Mr. Pembroke Brown of the Economics Department of Illinois University.

Miss Anna Strang, who took her master's degree here in 1916, is also to be married on June 21 to Mr. James Phinney Baxter. They will live in Colorado Springs.

In order to give a more orderly picture of what you would find in the way of "after the war" work under way this spring in the pathology laboratories and greenhouses here, we have gone around the circle and asked each one now with us to own up to what is the thing he is most interested in just now that we may list it for you.

Please remember that if you are to hope for another letter next autumn we shall need to learn most of the news from your letters, so send in any items when you write Dr. Jones or report them to "the editor" or Maude Miller "Departmental Editor".

#### PLANT PATHOLOGY

##### University Staff and Graduate Students.

L. R. Jones. General direction. Special research interests: Frost necrosis of potato, etc.; soil temperature in relation to potato scab; bacteriosis of clover and other legumes.

G. W. Zeitt. In charge of orchard and small fruit disease investigations. Special work continued on apple scab and shot-hole of cherry.

R. E. Vaughan. In charge of extension work and summer course in plant pathology.

Ernest Bailey. Shed burn of tobacco and barberry eradication work.

J. W. Brann. Potato certification work and seed treatment.

E. E. Clayton. Cooperation with U. S. D. A. The relation of soil temperature and moisture to Fusarium wilt of tomato. Summer in Connecticut, tobacco work under Dr. Jas. Johnson's supervision.

F. M. Coerper. Bacterial diseases of legumes. Editorial work.

S. P. Doolittle. Mosaic of cucumber.

C. P. Drechsler. Crown wart of alfalfa until July 1, then Helmintho sporium investigations for cereal laboratory.

L. E. Jones. Diseases of small fruits. ~~Assistant to Dr. Keitt~~ in cherry work at Sturgeon Bay.

F. R. Jones. Crown wart of alfalfa. Pea disease investigations including root rots and Septoria.

B. Koehler. Relation of soil temperature and moisture to infection with Fusaria of wheat; cereal disease survey during summer.

H. L. Lewis. Relation of temperature to germination and infection in bunt of wheat.

Maude Miller. Potato frost necrosis of potato. Bacterial diseases of legumes.

H. H. McKinney. Relation of soil temperature to potato scab. Now on "take-all" and other investigations.

B. L. Richards. Relation of soil temperature to Rhizoctonia of potato; seed treatment for Rhizoctonia.

C. M. Slagg. Must of tobacco.

W. H. Snell. In charge of white pine blister rust campaign in Wisconsin.

Ellis Stokdyk. Assisting with experimental work on fruit diseases at Sturgeon Bay.

Ruth Tillotson. Seed treatment for black leg of cabbage.

W. B. Tisdale. Relation of temperature to the occurrence of yellows in cabbage seedlings.

J. C. Walker. Cooperative relation with University and Dr. Orton's office. Diseases of truck crops, especially cabbage black-leg and onion smut.

#### CEREAL LABORATORY

A. G. Johnson. In charge. Helminthosporium problem.

J. G. Dickson. First assistant to Dr. Johnson. Fusarium investigations of wheat and corn.

H. W. Albertz. Corn disease investigations.

D. Atanasoff. Taxonomic phases of Fusarium diseases of cereals.

Mrs. L. K. Bartholomew. Oat smuts, soil temperature in relation to infection and other special phases of the problem.

- M. T. Binney. Seed treatment and supervision of field plots.
- L. S. Cheney. ~~Field survey work~~ in the rusts of grains and grasses.
- E. M. Gilbert. With botany dept., assisting in overwintering studies on the rusts.
- E. D. Holden. Seed treatment and agronomic phases of Helminthosporium.
- Miss H. Johann. Taxonomic phases of Fusarium problem.
- W. L. Plaenert. General supervision of greenhouse and field work.
- Edith Seymour. Rusts of grains and grasses (overwintering germination tests). Now transferred to "take-all" problem at St. Louis.
- Grace Wineland. Seed treatment and certain phases of the Fusarium problem.
- C. W. Woodworth. Flax breeding, with especial reference to disease resistance qualities.
- M. C. Zelmer. Assistant in "take-all" problem.

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