

From Dewey G. Steele (Ph.D. 1926) at Connecticut State College, Storrs, Connecticut, comes a graphic description of the New England hurricane in September. "Over 1200 trees are down on our beautiful campus. The majority of the ones Blakeslee helped to plant are gone-----no loss of life here in the college community." Dr. Steele notes that Kathleen Dietrich (B.S. 1924) has joined the home economics staff at Connecticut State College.

Dr. F. B. Hutt (M.S. 1925) wrote us that R. B. Hinman (Ph.D. 1926) of Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, had a sabbatical leave for the fall semester and planned to spend it with Crew in Edinburgh.

Louis E. Hawkins (Ph.D. 1930) has sent a copy of the report of his year's activities as Agricultural Commissioner of the Kansas City, Mo., Chamber of Commerce. In addition to aiding in the promotion of agriculture generally, the work includes cooperating with agricultural organizations and attendance at many meetings.

Consulting Geologist, Dr. S. Boshnakian (1912-14), who, while at Wisconsin went as B. Sarkis, because it was easier to let his name stand that way than to get it revised on the university records, writes to Dr. Cole from Carora, Estado Lora, Venezuela: "Almost three decades have rolled by since I had the good fortune of becoming one of your students," and goes on to recall some incidents in the early history of the department. H. L. Ibsen (Ph.D. 1916) will appreciate feelingly Boshnakian's recollection that "somewhere near the piggery you had a cat department, but gave it up when they all died through flea disinfection."

News of scientific agriculture in war-torn China comes from Lien Chao (Ph.D. 1927) writing on the 22nd of August at the Agricultural Improvement Institute, Chengtu, Czechwan, China: "Since the on-coming of the Japanese force to Nanking my staff members and I left the capital just in time for getting away all our important rice materials and working equipments. "At Hunan with the aid of 50 technical agricultural workers and some agricultural students, some 3,000 co-op societies were formed to increase rice production. Similar rice programs have been set up at Kwangsi and Czechwan. Chao concludes optimistically: "The new institute may serve as a forerunner for the national revival in agriculture after the Japanese are driven out."

Dr. Brink is spending his semester of research leave at the Biological Division of the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. He sends reports of progress in his incompatibilities study in alfalfa.

P. H. Senn (Ph.D. 1931) has been elected the first president of the new chapter of Sigma Xi recently installed at the University of Florida.

SEMINAR

During the current semester, the seminary is reviewing and discussing the historical development of modern genetics. Under the direction of Dr. Cole,

whose first-hand contact with these questions is of interest to the graduate students, the topic seems to be a valuable one.

For the past six months the graduate students in the department have been meeting once a week as a group without professorial guidance. We have named our new meetings "The Translocation". Subjects of talks range from chemical theories concerning the nature of the gene to a report on William Beebe's new book, Zaca Venture. The credit for organizing The Translocation goes to Ben Smith and Ray Owen.

PERSONALITIES

Dr. Cole returned from five weeks' vacation in New Mexico to tell us of conditions on the sheep range. At Fayetteville, Arkansas, he met two former students, W. R. Horlacker (Ph.D. 1929) and Isabel Bunten Watts (Bot. Ph.D. 1930). Dr. Horlacker is head of the Animal Husbandry Department and has charge of bacteriology and dairy manufactures--quite enough to keep one man busy. Incidentally, he recalled that the name of THE GENOTYPE was his suggestion. At present, Mrs. Watts is "at home" in her scenically located house. Her husband is pathologist in the Horticulture Department.

Robert H. Andrew (B.A. 1938) is majoring in genetics. He is assisting in Agronomy with the sweet corn breeding and testing program which was initiated in 1937.

W. Tom Atkinson (B.S.A. Univ. Sydney, 1934) is spending a year here on a research fellowship. He is interested in alfalfa.

C. R. Burham (Ph.D. 1929) has transferred from the University of West Virginia to the Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, University Farm, University of Minnesota, St. Paul.

Russell W. Cumley (Ph.D. Univ. Texas, 1938) is replacing John Dick as assistant to Dr. Irwin on immunogenetic studies of pigeons, doves, and domestic fowl. At Texas, he worked on species differences in some fifteen species of *Drosophila*, using precipitin and complementary fixation methods.

Peter G. Hogg (M.S.A. Univ. Sask. 1937) is assisting Dr. H. L. Ahlgren on the sudan grass problem in Agronomy and is minoring in Genetics.

W. H. Hollander (Ph.D. 1937) is with us again after a tour of Universities and pigeon farms of the East and South. He is helping Dr. Cole get the pigeon-dove-hybrid records ready for publication.

Wesley Keller (M.S. Utah State), grass breeding agent at Logan, Utah, has returned to finish some work on seed setting in alfalfa.

John S. McFarlane (B.S. Montana State College 1938) is assistant to Dr. G. H. Rieman in the potato improvement work.

W. H. McGibbon (B.S.A. McGill 1932) of Moore's Mills, New Brunswick, is working with Dr. Irwin as graduate student. In New Brunswick, Mac did extension work for the Poultry Division of the Department of Agriculture.