

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.

John W. Porter (B.S.A. Wis. 1938) is an assistant in the corn improvement project in Genetics. He is working on the inheritance of the carotin content of inbred lines and hybrids in cooperation with Agricultural Chemistry.

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Dr. and Mrs. Pennebaker (Ph.D. 1938) announced the arrival of Judith M. Pennebaker on July 17.

Ten-and-a-half pound Niel Graham Smith, born on July 30, is the pride and joy of Dr. and Mrs. W. K. Smith.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Deakin (Ph.D. 1931) send word of the birth of a son in November.

Meetings

Mr. Nalbandov, Mr. Bell and Drs. Chapman, Casida, and Dickerson represented the department at the meetings of the American Society of Animal Production in Chicago, November 25-27. Dr. Casida introduced a symposium on the endocrine system. The work of A. B. Chapman, L. E. Casida and A. Côté on sex ratios in fetal calves was reported on by Dr. Chapman.

On November 29, Drs. Irwin and Ferguson attended the 19th Annual Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases of North America. Dr. Ferguson spoke on the blood picture of normal cows and Dr. Irwin spoke on observations on the titre of bactericidens in cattle serum for *Brucella abortus*.

September 15-17, the Wisconsin Experiment Station was host to the Corn Conference, an official organization of all federal and state corn improvement workers. Approximately 80 members were in attendance, from practically all states where corn improvement work is in progress.

On the first day, Dr. N. P. Neal, leader of the Wisconsin program outlined the work in progress in this state and in the afternoon conducted a tour of inspection of all the breeding and trial plots on the station farm. In the evening, assistant director, Noble Clark, delivered a splendid address and discussed the general philosophy behind the Wisconsin program. Copies of this address are available if any of our readers desire it. The remaining sessions were devoted to discussions of several important phases connected with hybrid corn breeding and the problems arising out of its distribution and certification.

The corn improvement project is cooperative, involving the Departments of Agronomy, Genetics and Plant Pathology. This project has just taken on four new assistants. They are R. H. Andrew (Wis.) on sweet corn and J. B. Washko (N.J.) on silage properties in Agronomy; J. W. Porter (Wis.) on carotin content assigned to Genetics; and E. C. Stevenson (Md.) on stalk and ear rots in Plant Pathology.