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## **The Wisconsin genotype: a news letter to former students. No. 22 January 1937**

University of Wisconsin. Dept. of Genetics  
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THE WISCONSIN GENOTYPE

A News Letter to Former Students

Edited by the present Graduate group

Department of  
Genetics  
Number 22.Harry Laidlaw  
EditorNick Cuthbert  
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Agriculture  
Jan. 1, 1937FOREWARD

The Linkage Group members now at Wisconsin extend the season's greetings to former members of the Genetics Department.

The last number of THE GENOTYPE consisted of information on the whereabouts and activities of members who have left Wisconsin to go to various parts of the world. In the present number we have chosen to remain closer home.

EXTRA!

A baby girl, Harriet Anne, was born to Dr. and Mrs. M. R. Irwin, November 19, 1937, at 3 AM. The Brinks could not see any reason why the Irwins should have all the glory, so they adopted a baby girl. Margaret Alexandra Brink is her name!

FACULTY WORK

Dr. L. J. Cole relinquished teaching the elementary Genetics Course this year because other Departmental duties had increased to the point where he had insufficient time to devote to the course. He is still carrying on his research work with pigeons and doves.

The Department is proud that its Chief has recently been made Consulting Editor of the McGraw-Hill publications in the Agricultural Sciences. He was also this summer elected a Fellow of the Poultry Science Association.

Dr. R. A. Brink, Professor of Genetics, is working on the problems of developing a means of detecting uncontrolled pollination in crossing fields and in developing winter hardy, wilt resistant strains of alfalfa which have good seed setting capacity. He is also studying the physiological effects of plant colors in corn.

Dr. M. R. Irwin, Associate Professor of Genetics, is teaching the elementary Genetics Course, which is now Genetics 1 (4 cr., including laboratory) rather than 101. He is also making genetic studies of the biochemical characters in the red blood cells which differentiate species, principally doves.

Dr. G. H. Rieman, Associate Professor of Genetics, Horticulture and Plant Pathology, is studying the inheritance of scab resistance in the Irish potato.

Dr. L. E. Casida, Assistant Professor of Genetics, is working on the physiology of reproduction in cows as related to breeding efficiency. He will teach a course next semester in the reproduction of farm animals, and he is at present with Dr. Dickerson teaching a Short Course class in animal breeding.

Dr. D. C. Cooper, Assistant Professor of Genetics and Research Associate in Botany, is engaged in making cytological studies of the plants which the members of the Department are working with genetically.

Dr. N. P. Neal, Assistant Professor of Agronomy and Genetics, is in charge of the breeding program to supply crossing stocks for commercial producers of hybrid corn.

Dr. W. K. Smith, Assistant Professor of Genetics and Agronomy, is continuing his work on the correlation between the toxic effects and coumarin content of sweetclover. Dr. Brink's discovery that Melilotus dentatus, a non-toxic sweet-clover, does not contain coumarin has added strength to the belief that coumarin is the cause of the toxicity of other species. Rabbits are being used to test the toxic effect of the sweetclover hay.

Dr. A. B. Chapman, Instructor in Genetics, is conducting the fly laboratory which is now part of the elementary genetics course. He is also working on the inheritance of ovarian response to the gonadotropic hormone in rats.

Dr. G. E. Dickerson, Instructor in Genetics and Dairy Records, in addition teaching in Short Course, is doing research on the improvement of cattle through a breeding program. Next semester he will assist Dr. Cole in teaching Animal Genetics (Genetics 105).

#### GRADUATE STUDENTS

Donald Bell, M.S., Assistant in Animal Husbandry and formerly of Rupert, Idaho, is minoring in Genetics. He is experimenting with alteration of the heat period in sheep.

Warren Black, B. A. '36 Ohio State, and John Dick, B. A. '32; M.S. '33 Ohio State, are assisting Dr. Irwin with the immunogenetic work. They each have some phase of immunology as a research problem.

John Boyes, M.S., University of Saskatchewan, is majoring in Botany and working on various members of the Plumbaginaceae. He is minoring in Genetics.

Vernon C. Brink, B.S. '34; M.S.A. '36 University of British Columbia, is assisting Dr. W. K. Smith with the sweetclover toxicity studies.

Kenneth Brown, M.S. of Kansas City, Missouri, is assisting Dr. Rieman in the potato breeding program work.

Adrien Côté, L.S.A. '32 University of Montreal, is working with Dr. Casida in studies of the physiology of reproduction.

Nick Cuthbert, B.A. '36 Iowa University, M.S. '37 University of Wisconsin, is working on the ovarian cycle of Ring Doves and assisting Dr. Cole with the pigeon and dove records.

Lloyd Ferguson, D.V.M. Instructor in Veterinary Science, '34 Ohio State University, M.S. University of Wisconsin, is working on immunogenetic reaction of cows and is assisting Dr. Irwin with the work on Bang's disease.



Cecil Harrington, M.S., is now an Entomology-Genetics joint major. He is working on resistance to aphid in the pea.

C. E. Holmes, M.S., Assistant Professor of Poultry, passed his prelims this year and is now dividing his time between finishing his thesis and teaching.

Harry Laidlaw, B.S.'33, M.S.'34 Louisiana State University, is working on the morphology of the reproductive organs of the queen bee.

George Ledingham, B.S.'34; M.S.'36 University of Saskatchewan, is working on alfalfa hybrids.

Andrew Nalbandov, B.A.'32, Munich Germany; M.S. Oklahoma A. and M., is assisting Dr. Casida with the work on the physiology of reproduction in cattle.

Ray Owen, B.S.'37 Carroll College, is doing work on color inheritance in mice.

John Shuman, B.S.'34 Penn. State College, Ph.M.'37 University of Wisconsin, is studying the cytogenetics of a partially inbred line of corn.

Bon Smith, B.A., '34, M.A.'36 University of Virginia, is working on quantitative characters involving seed size and yield in corn. He is also assisting Dr. Brink with the alfalfa work.

Paul Smith, a Plant Pathology major and Robert M. Smith, of the Poultry Science Department, are minoring in Genetics.

Louise Wipf, M.S., Assistant in Agricultural Bacteriology and Agricultural Chemistry, is working in Dr. Cooper's Lab. Louise is making a cytological study of the root nodules of red clover.

Emanuel Waletsky, B.A., M. A., Wisconsin, is continuing his work with Dr. Jollos in the Zoology Department. Yes, his experimental animal is Drosophila.

#### SEMINAR

The Genetics Seminary was divided this semester into a plant group with Dr. Brink in charge and an animal group with Dr. Cole in charge. This division was made to allow the members of each group to devote themselves to subjects relating to their particular field of interest. Both groups meet together for the first twenty minutes and then they separate for their respective presentations. The two groups will be combined in the second semester.

#### DEGREES

Willard Hollander was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy last June. Ned Shrigley, Gordon Dickerson, and W. L. Henning received the Doctor's degree in August.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS

The registered Summer School students this year were O. W. Anderson, Adrien Cote, Nick Cuthbert, Gordon Dickerson and Gordon Pennebaker. In addition to these, Al Golden, Andrew Nalbandov, Warren Black, John Dick and Lloyd Ferguson were here working on their research problems.

MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS AND ADDRESSES

In March 1937 Dr. Irwin spoke on the "Multiple independent antigens in red blood cells of birds" before the American Association of Immunologists.

On May 3, Dr. Cole talked to the Zoological Seminar group at Michigan State College on "The relationships of animals."

May 21, Doctors Cole, Casida and Dickerson went to Washington, D. C. to discuss plans for the establishment of a Regional Cattle Breeding Laboratory. July 19-26 they attended a meeting of the American Dairy Science Association at Lincoln, Nebraska, where they presented the regional breeding plan to Experiment Station Workers.

July 10, Dr. Cole attended a Poultry Meeting in Chicago, and July 15, a bee breeding conference in Washington, D. C.

In October Dr. Cole attended an Experiment Station - Poultry Industry Conference in Chicago, held under the auspices of the National Advisory Committee on Research in Subjects Related to Eggs and Poultry, of which he is chairman. He was also chosen as temporary president of the Board of Trustees of the Poultry Products Revolving Fund, Inc., which has been established for the purpose of aiding poultry research.

Dec. 1 - 3, Dr. Brink, Dr. W. K. Smith and Dr. D. C. Cooper attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Agronomy at Chicago. Dr. Brink presided over the two sessions, one the Alfalfa Improvement Conference, and the other a symposium on "Induced polyploidy in relation to plant improvement."

Doctors Cole, Brink, Irwin, Casida, Rieman and Shrigley attended the meetings of the AAAS in Indianapolis during the Christmas Holidays. Dr. Cole presided over the meetings of the Genetics Society of America in the absence of Dr. E. M. East, the president of the society. Dr. Irwin gave a paper entitled "Genetic analysis of species differences in Columbidae." Dr. Casida presented a paper entitled "Augmentation of pituitary gonadotropic extracts by heme," and Dr. Shrigley presented a paper entitled "Qualitative and quantitative differences in the morphology of spermatozoa from members of two dove species and from their F<sub>1</sub> and backcross hybrids." Mr. Shuman, Dr. Ferguson, Mr. Ledingham, Mr. Waletsky and Professor Jollos also represented Wisconsin at the meetings.

GENETIC PARTY

The Linkage Group held their annual fall get-to-gether November 15 in the Memorial Union. The program was made up with the idea of introducing the members of the group to each other as well as entertain them, and we think it served both purposes well.

EXTRA! EXTRA!!

Just as we go to press Dr. E. P. Stork reports that he has just left a nine pound son for Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Dickerson.



## THE BREEDING SCHOOL

This new attempt at agricultural education seems to have been accepted with enthusiasm by cattle breeders throughout the state. The school met for the first time in the spring of this year for a period of one week of lectures and discussion. A similar one week session was held this fall. Instruction was given in genetics (Dr. Cole), endocrinology (Dr. Casida), and the keeping of dairy cattle records (Dr. Dickerson). Dr. McKenzie of the University of Missouri, Dr. Kendrick of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and Dr. Hoizer of the Ohio State have generously assisted with the instruction. The bulk of the attendance was formed by cattle breeders, fur breeders, and cow testers.

In a similar fashion, Doctors Casida and Dickerson have been carrying breeding information to dairymen on their home grounds by means of breeding-schools out in the State. Series of three to four meetings in each of eighteen Wisconsin counties have been held.

## VISITORS

Mrs. Margaret Smith signed our guest book December 23, 1937. Margaret left last September as department secretary, to take up residence at Menomonie, Wisconsin, where her husband is teaching at Stout Institute. Members of the Linkage Group who were associated with the department at some time during the past seven years will always remember "Margaret" for her cheerfulness, pleasant-ries and industry. Good luck, Margaret!

Following are former Linkage Group members who have signed the visitors' book since the fall of 1936. Many of these attended the Poultry Science meetings here this past summer:

Jay L. Lush, Professor of Animal Breeding, Iowa State College; Mildred H. Willoughby, Zoology teacher, Rockford Senior High School, Rockford, Ill.; W. A. Craft, Director Regional Swine Breeding Laboratories, U.S.D.A., Ames, Ia.; Chas. W. Turner, Dairy Dept., Univ. of Mo.; Earl J. Renard, Plant Breeder, Canners Seed Corp., Lewisville, Idaho; Ralph J. Bushnell, Instructor in Genetics, University of Georgia; A. D. Faville, Wheatland, Wyo.; L. D. Hershberger, Hortonville, Wis.; C. E. Lampman, Dept. Poultry Husb., Univ. of Idaho; L. A. Henke, Professor of Agriculture, University of Hawaii; F. B. Hutt, Prof. Poultry Husb. and Animal Genetics, Cornell Univ.; R. George Jaap, Poultry Dept., Oklahoma A. and M.; Lewis W. Taylor, Poultry Dept., Univ. of California; V. S. Asmundson, Poultry Dept., Univ. of California; W. J. Rao, University of Saskatchewan; Earle S. Snyder, Ontario Agric. College; H. L. Kempster, Prof. Poultry Husb., University of Mo.; M. O. North, Head of Poultry Section, Univ. of Wyo.; Morley A. Jull, Univ. of Maryland; J. Holmes Martin, Prof. of Poultry Husb., Univ. of Kentucky; Agnes (Zeimet) Hill, Madison; Adeline (Bakken) VanLone (former Dept. Secretary), West Lafayette, Ind.; Geo. F. Potter, Prof. of Horticulture, Univ. of N. H.; A. R. Albrecht, Asst. Agronomist, Alabama Polytechnic Inst.; Willard F. Hollander, 3204 West Ave., Austin, Texas.

NOTE: The editor fractured his leg this fall and remained in the Infirmary several weeks. The publication of the genotype was delayed until he was out and able to make the necessary interviews. We beg your pardon for the delay and pledge that the Spring issue will be on time.