

Research Review

Christmas Plants Studied

By KAY MILLS

Pine trees and poinsettias, the traditional green and red of Christmas decorations, are objects of several research projects in the College of Agriculture.

Christmas tree breeding, production and marketing are being studied to help both customers, growers and distributors, Dr. Henry D. Gerhold, assistant professor of forestry, said.

"We are studying the Scotch pine and Douglas fir varieties of Christmas trees and consumer reactions to them," Gerhold said. "For example, most consumers who want a tree with green needles do not realize that Scotch pines turn yellow naturally, not by drying out."

Customers also look for trees that hold their needles and have a pleasing outline, he said. The form can be controlled by "shearing," or cutting back the tree tips, he added.

Gerhold said that Edward L. Klein, graduate in forestry, is attempting to determine whether a surplus of Christmas trees exists within the state, Gerhold said. There are now 91 million trees growing on Christmas tree plantations within Pennsylvania, he said, adding that in 1960 2.5 million were sold.

"These figures alone do not indicate a surplus since one must remember that it takes from 6 to 16 years to raise a Christmas tree," Gerhold said.

"Studies do seem to indicate that there has been an oversup-

ply of trees. Growers feel, however, that there is no oversupply of good quality trees. Surpluses may be reduced as quality control develops," he added.

Marketing studies indicate that retail tree buying begins about three weeks before Christmas, Gerhold said. The calendar can influence the buying pattern, especially if there is a weekend right before Christmas Day.

This research, begun in 1946, is supported by federal funds, by state money through the Agricultural Experiment Station and by the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association.

Moving into horticulture studies, poinsettia problems are probed by Kenneth Sink, graduate in genetics and breeding. Sink does basic research on the genetic makeup of these colorful flowers associated with the holiday season.

His work, supported by the Longwood Foundation, involves the chromosomes, morphology and color inheritance of poinsettias.

"In order to produce hybrid varieties of poinsettias, we must first obtain uniform plants. We need to determine inheritance patterns and methods of control before branching into hybridization," Sink said.

Information about improvements in these Christmas products through University research is distributed through the state by the Agricultural Extension Service, Alvi O. Voight, assistant professor of agricultural economics extension, said.

"The Christmas tree business is

a trifle crowded now, a condition which may cause a price drop," Voight said. "We would like to help growers determine how their land might be used if not for Christmas trees.

"With more trees being produced, we need either new markets or expansion of present markets by promotional activities and quality control.

"Studies are now underway on broadening the market for Pennsylvania trees, which are in competition with the Balsam fir from Canada and New England. A graduate student here is surveying how the consumer feels about the Canadian product in contrast with Pennsylvania plantation trees."

Most people, however, do not remember what kind of tree they had last year, but they do remember whether they liked its shape, density, stiffness, color and needle retention, Voight said. Grading of Christmas tree quality will aid the consumer in finding a dependable tree year after year, he added.

History Club to Meet

The History Round Table will meet at 6:30 tonight in the East Lounge of Atherton.

Henry S. Albinski, professor of political science, will speak at the meeting on "Afrikaners and English." He will discuss the background of the conflict within the South African European community.

The organization will also elect officers for the coming year.

Booklist Publication Continued Today

(The Daily Collegian today continues its public service of publishing booklists for the winter term. The Engineering-Architecture list was compiled by the Eng-Arch Student Council.)

ENGINEERING-ARCHITECTURE

- A E 8—Elementary Theory of Structures, Wang & Eckel, McGraw-Hill
- A E 22—Philosophy of Structures (English version)—1958, J. J. Polivka, Univ. of Calif.
- A E 401—Design of Steel Buildings (latest edition) Hauf & Pfisterer, John Wiley
- Steel Construction Manual (3rd or latest edition), American Institute of Steel Construction
- A E 451—The Effects of Nuclear Weapons—1957, U.S. Atomic Energy Comm., Govt. Printing Office
- Ag E 1—Farm Electrification, Robert H. Brown, McGraw-Hill
- Ag E 6—Dairy Engineering, Arthur W. Farrell, John Wiley
- Ag E 8—Shopwork on the Farm, Mack M. Jones, McGraw-Hill
- Ag E 11—Mathematics in Agriculture, R. B. McGee, Prentice-Hall
- Ag E 13—Soil and Water Conservation Engineering, Frevert, etc., John Wiley
- Ag E 24—Farm Power, Moses & Frost, John Wiley
- Ag E 101—Industrial Instrumentation, Eckman, John Wiley
- Ag E 402—Farm Structures, Barre & Sammet, John Wiley
- Ag E 405—Agricultural Process Engineering, Henderson & Perry, John Wiley
- Ag E 702—Shopwork on the Farm, Mack M. Jones, McGraw-Hill
- Ag E 704—Elementary Soil and Water Engineering, Frevert, etc., John Wiley
- Ag E 707—Farm Buildings (4th edition), Deane G. Carter, John Wiley
- Ag E 722—Arch Welding Lessons for School and Farm Shop, Kugler, Lincoln Arc Welding Edn.
- Ag E 724—Farm Power, Moses & Frost, John Wiley
- Ag E 726—Machines for Power Farming, Stone & Gulvin, John Wiley
- Aro E 1—Introduction to Fluid Mechanics, Wislicenus, Athletic Store
- Aro E 4—Airplane Performance Stability

- and Control, Perkins & Hase, John Wiley
- Aro E 7—Aircraft Structures, Peery, McGraw-Hill
- Aro E 411—Aerostaticity, Biplinghoff, Ashley & Halfman, Addison-Wesley
- Aro E 412—Applied Hydraulics & Aeromechanics, Prandtl & Tietjens, Dover Pub.
- Fundamentals of Hydraulics & Aeromechanics, Prandtl & Tietjens, Dover Pub., Wiley
- Aro E 413—Dynamics of Flight, Etkin, Wiley
- Aro E 510—Molecular Flow of Gases, Patterson, John Wiley
- C E 21—Transportation Engineering (1961 edition), Hay, John Wiley
- C E 40—Elementary Structural Analysis (2nd edition), Norris & Wilbur, McGraw-Hill
- C E 41—Design of Steel Structures, Gaylord & Gaylord, McGraw-Hill
- Steel Construction (Manual of the American Institute of Steel Construction, 5th edition), American Institute of Steel Construction
- C E 42—Reinforced Concrete Fundamentals, Ferguson, John Wiley
- C E 43—Elements of Structural Engineering, Harris, Ronald Press
- Steel Construction (Manual of the American Institute of Steel Construction, 5th edition), American Institute of Steel Construction
- C E 44—Introductory Soil Mechanics and Foundations (2nd edition), Sowers & Sowers, MacMillan
- Engineering Properties, Karol, Prentice-Hall
- C E 46—Elementary Structural Analysis, Norris & Wilbur, McGraw-Hill
- C E 51—Hydrology for Engineers, Linsley, Kohler, and Paulhus, McGraw-Hill
- C E 61—Elementary Fluid Mechanics (4th edition), Vennard, John Wiley
- C E 62—Elements of Hydraulic Engineering, Linsley & Franzini, McGraw-Hill
- C E 90—Engineering Contracts and Specifications (3rd edition), Abbott, John Wiley
- Principles of Engineering Economy (4th edition), Grant & Ireson, Ronald Press
- C E 112—Topographic Manual (Part 2 Photogrammetry), Govt. Printing Office
- C E 421—Highway Engineering (2nd edition—1960), Ritter & Paquette, Ronald Press
- C E 431—Construction Planning, Equipment, and Methods, Peurifoy, McGraw-Hill

(Continued on page eight)

Committee Plans European Seminar

The Committee on Inter-Religious Affairs will sponsor a European seminar for undergraduate and graduate students this summer.

The tour is planned for June 24 to July 22. It is open to all students. Clifford A. Nelson, assistant co-ordinator of religious affairs, will be director of the seminar.

The exact itinerary for the tour has not been established, but the group will visit London, Amsterdam, Rome, Bern, Geneva and Paris. The group will fly from New York to London via EL-AL Airlines.

Two additional 10-day extensions of the tour are also offered: extension "A" to Nice, Lourdes and Paris, France; and extension "B" to Basle, Heidelberg, Bonn and Frankfurt, Germany.

The seminar will include sight-seeing tours of each city, informal discussions with the people of the countries, lectures by European politicians, educators, churchmen, artists and students, and participation in various social events.

Cost of the tour is \$985, and the cost for either extension is \$150. Applications and further information are available from Clifford A. Nelson, 211 Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel.



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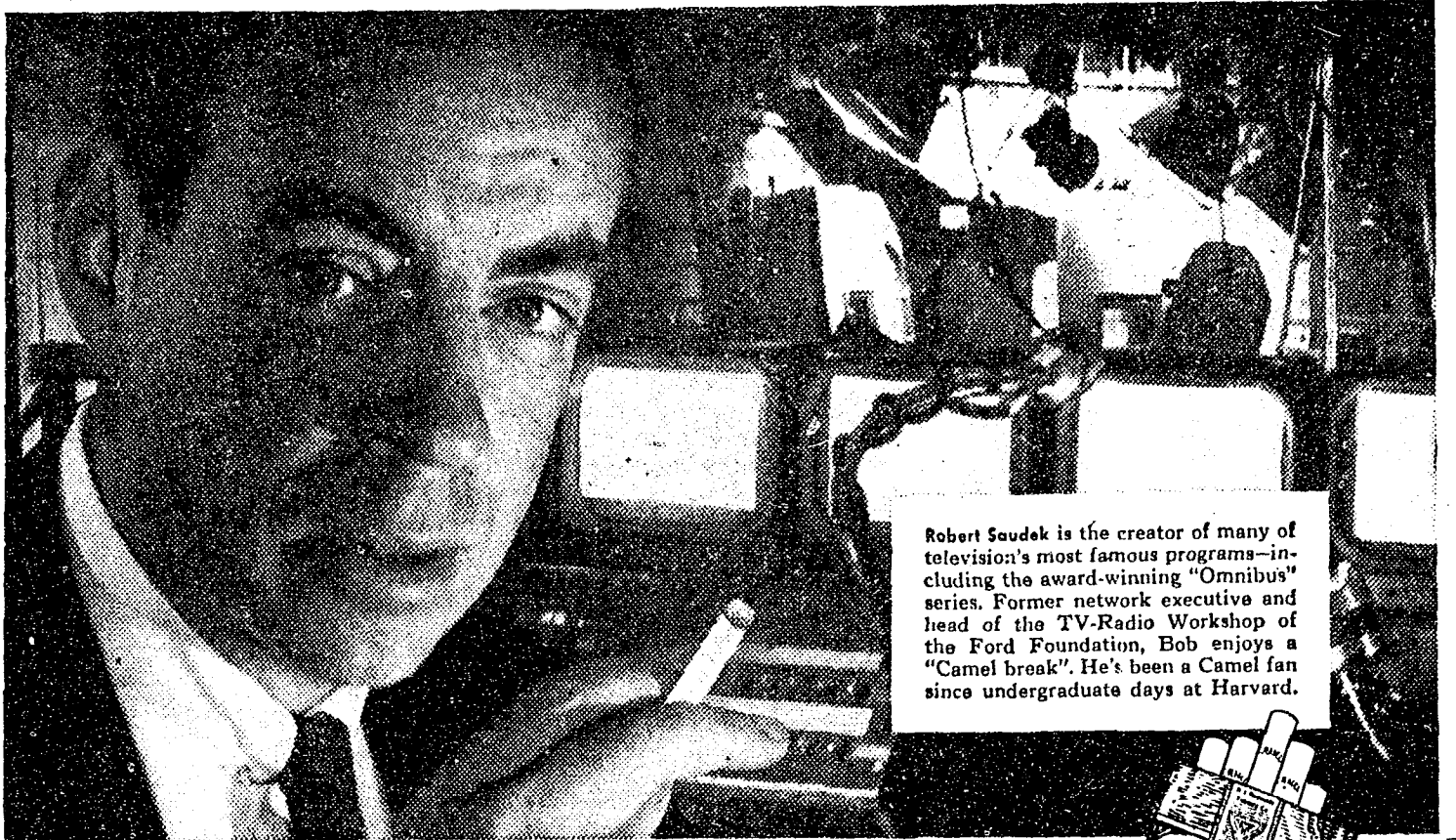
If that seems paradoxical, look at it this way: the more men who go out for specific positions on the ball club, the more chance you have to wind up as manager!

Today's world—in government, business, the arts, even science—needs the well-rounded man. He's the man who

can see the entire picture...the man who can draw on a broad background of knowledge, evaluate the problem, then assign the details to specialists.

The world of entertainment may seem somewhat special, but it's a case in point. These days, it demands more of its people than ever before. Today's musical comedy score is often as sophisticated as grand opera. Drama draws heavily on psychology and history. Television productions are concerned with nuclear science and political science. If you've ever watched 'Omnibus' you may have seen how our productions have run the gamut of a wide range of man's interests.

So I suggest to you that even though you may concentrate on one special field of interest, keep your viewpoint broad. Keep your college curriculum as diversified as possible. Attend lectures and concerts, the theatres and museums. Above all, read and read, and listen and listen! But pay scant heed to the oracle who says there's no route to the top but that of specialization. I don't believe it!"



Robert Saudek is the creator of many of television's most famous programs—including the award-winning "Omnibus" series. Former network executive and head of the TV-Radio Workshop of the Ford Foundation, Bob enjoys a "Camel break". He's been a Camel fan since undergraduate days at Harvard.

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