

WHO'S WHO AT CANISIUS

By *FRAN BALL*

One of those rare persons who have their profession as their hobby is the Rev. John A. Frisch, S. J., Professor of Biology. Besides doing a lot of



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intensive biological research work, Fr. Frisch enjoys collecting snakes. This explains the presence of the garter snake on his desk. The development of like hobbies among his students was one of the prime purposes which he had in mind when he formed the Gregor Mendel Club.

"By means of field trips, I hope to interest college men of superior scholarship in some particular phase of the natural sciences," said Fr. Frisch. "This, of course, helps them to become more proficient in their work while at college, and can be carried into later life as a hobby and form of recreation. Some of the Mendel Club members have already started collections. Albert Oesterle, a Junior, is specializing in mosses; Daniel S. Po Chedley, a Freshman, is studying moths and butterflies, while Mike Menza, a Senior, is preparing skeletons of animals studied in the laboratory. In addition, some club members are collaborating in the preparation of two exhibits, one on the human blood and the other on genetics. Both have been booked as coming attractions for library exhibition."

Club Contacts Alumni

"Many of the visiting lecturers addressing the club have been alumni actually engaged in some form of biological research. The Mendel Club attempts to act as a contact with all the alumni, especially those of the premedical course and to keep them informed of all the activities being sponsored by our group. This year we intend to sponsor a formal dance as a homecoming for the doctor members of our alumni. In this way, the Mendel Club hopes to promote more intimate relations between the alumni and the undergraduates."

Organizes Research Project

For the past five years, Fr. Frisch has been engaged in research work on Protozoan Physiology and has studied "The Contractile Vacuole in Paramecium". He expects to publish his findings in a biological journal in the near future. During his theological studies at Woodstock, Md., he did extensive work on "The Habits and Instincts of the Hunting Wasps." At the present time, Fr. Frisch is enthusiastically organizing a research project in blood chemistry, consisting principally of an investigation of the serum proteins and their probable relation to cancer. He plans to collaborate with an institute actually engaged in the treatment of cancer.

College Mineral Collection "Tops"

Most Canisians wonder what lies behind that mysterious door in the basement labeled "Museum." Father Frisch explained: "The College possesses an excellent geological collection and its assemblage of fossils and minerals surpasses that of any science museum in the city. It boasts probably the best existing collection of Niagara Frontier specimens. Most of the minerals were gathered together by Mr. Austin McTigue, Professor of Geology, who at present is studying for his doctorate at the University of St. Louis. The museum is now badly cramped for room, but it is expected that adequate display space will be obtained soon."

Death Rattle Takes Rattler

Fr. Frisch attributed the death of Herman, college pet, to mouth infection. Herman, a two-foot rattler, had endeared himself to the students in the biology department. Although he was caged in the same box as two white mice, mice meat held no enticement for him and he never became a mouse-eater. Fr. Frisch explained this as perfectly natural since poisonous snakes rarely eat in captivity and especially not in time of hibernation.

Doctorate at Johns Hopkins

Fr. Frisch rates the distinction of being one of our old grads. He completed his classical course at Canisius High School and spent a year at the college. He then entered the Jesuit novitiate, St. Andrew's on the Hudson. During his regency, he served as head of the biological department at Holy Cross College. In June of nineteen twenty-two he was ordained to the priesthood at Woodstock, Md. A year later he joined the faculty of Canisius. The biology laboratories were installed in the new wing of the college building under his direct supervision. In twenty-six, he returned to Woodstock for his tertianship. Then, he spent three years as Professor of Biology at Georgetown University. He served in the same capacity at Loyola College, Baltimore, for five years. While at Loyola, he studied at Johns Hopkins University and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Zoology in nineteen hundred and thirty-four. Fr. Frisch then rejoined the Canisius College faculty.

Phi Beta Kappa Member

While studying at the university, Fr. Frisch was made a member of Alpha chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, exclusive scholarship fraternity and Sigma Xi, scientific fraternity. Fr. Frisch considers his membership in Phi Beta Kappa the higher distinction. Fr. Frisch is also a member of the American Society of Zoologists, the Ecological Society and the Natural History Society of Maryland, and holds a fellowship in the Association for the advancement of Science.

William Cody of Ebenezer, N. Y., was the winner of the Free Trip to the Rose Bowl game awarded by the Senior Class.