

Perseverance To Pay Off In Ph. D. For Professor

By Mary Walton

The target of a repeated charge of questions about logarithmic calculations, breakers, non-returnable lab equipment, and the proportions of a chemical solution, not to mention the perplexity of Anne Miles at boiling some chalky substance with the top on—what a faux pas (she is a French student, you know), managed somehow to answer a few questions dealing with graduate study, research, dissertations, and fluorine analogues of riboflavin.

B. Carson French received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Here, also, after making a study of the coloring matter of red sumac leaves, he received his Master of Arts degree in chemistry.

Still later, working with sleep-producing drugs called hypnotics (barbiturates) and moth flakes (the same substance as moth balls) to produce a non habit forming drug, he earned his Master of Science degree.

Mr. French did some industrial work and was with a company on the Charles River. Still continuing with his school studies, he completed forty hours in science education at Harvard. Among the professors which he had are two whom we may recognize as authors of some of our textbooks: the psychologists Dearborn and Burton.

The summer of 1950 was spent teaching school at Newpaltz, N. Y. It was here that Mr. French made his decision to start working for his doctorate. Coming South in 1951, he joined the faculty of Salem College. In the year '52-'53, the same year that Rev. Sawyer left, he was granted leave of absence to do graduate work at Carolina, where he had been given one year's credit for his work on his master's degree.

For the other required year he received a Le Doux Fellowship. At Carolina he did work equivalent to five summers and one year, making his hours in chemistry total over

150. Being modest about his work, Mr. French said, "Most of us like to study. We're sort of perennial students."

His actual research started on October 15, 1952. He had to study the background for reactions and do other relative reading, much of which was written in French and German. Every problem took a month or two to solve.

For his study, Mr. French had to choose between two problems, one which may be beneficial in dealing with tuberculosis and a second which deals with fluorine analogues of riboflavin. The second problem was Mr. French's choice.

His research is a promising innovation in the study of cancer since the substance which he has made prevents the growth of cells. It may perhaps do away with cancer entirely.

Ribose, from which the name riboflavin was formed, is an extremely expensive sugar, costing two dollars per gram or three hundred dollars per pound on a large scale basis. For this reason, Mr. French was a bit reluctant to undertake this research, but now he feels that his work was very rewarding, to him personally as well as to his colleagues and perhaps to medical science.

Although he is still working on experiments, his dissertation was accepted Thursday of last week. In May, he will be examined orally by the Department of Chemistry at Carolina, composed of fifteen or twenty professors.

On May 5, he has been asked to talk to the American Chemistry Society about his research, but, says Mr. French, "I'll be back in time for May Day."

Now that the work is practically over, he can look back and say from experience that getting a Ph. D. is "a matter of perseverance, patience, and plain, ordinary hard work; but if a census does work, it is beneficial to humanity."

Mr. French hopes to receive his degree sometime around May 4.

"Anyone . . . I Say, Anyone For Tennis?"

Six New Courts Ready For Play

Salem's six new composition courts will be completed by this weekend if weather conditions remain favorable. The workmen are now laying the final topping on the courts.

These courts will require practically no maintenance. They can be played on in summer or winter. They should drain so well that they may be used one hour after a summer shower.

F. C. Feise Company of Narberth, Pennsylvania, constructed the courts. This company not only surfaces the courts, but also furnishes and puts up new fences and net posts. The school has bought new nets for the courts.

This type composition court is called "Teneflex" by the Feise Company. The courts are first graded; then an asphalt penetrated macedam stone base is laid. The green topping which they place on top of this base is their own secret mixture. It is said to be a more flexible material than asphalt.

Mary Walton Chosen Head Of Baptists

Mary Walton, a rising senior from Glen Alpine, has been elected president of the Baptist Student Union for the coming year. The new officers were installed in a meeting on the night of April 16.

Mary Griff Wooten was installed as first vice-president; Lucinda Oliver, second vice-president; Pat Shiflet, third vice-president; Martha Wilkins, secretary; Cordelia Scruggs, treasurer; Jane Shiflet, Sunday School representative; Janet Garrison, publicity. Mr. Donald Britt is advisor to the organization.

The lines painted on the court with aluminum paint are one of the few maintenance problems. They have to be painted once every two years.

Salem is now in step with the University of Florida, the University of Delaware, the Riverdale Yacht Club, and the Electrolux Corporation—all of which have this type of composition court as part of their facilities.

Pairings For Tourney Made

Pairings for Salem's annual tennis tournament are in the process of being drawn up and will be completed so that entrants may begin play the early part of next week. Betty Morrison was last year's

winner and is to be top-seeded in this year's tournament. She has won the tournament for three years with her steady, controlled game.

Betty Rene Webster, last year's runner-up, will be seeded second. The two semi-finalists, Jo Smitherman and Betsy Smith, will be seeded third and fourth respectively.

Eighteen girls have entered the 1956 tournament. They are Susan Glaser, Brenda Goedel, Jane Langston, Amory Merritt, Anne Miles, Betty Morrison, Katherine Oglesby, Betsy Smith, Jo Smitherman, Ann Webb, and Betty Rene Webster.

Barclay Ball, Mickey Clemmer, Carol Crutchfield, Mimi Joyner, Margaret MacQueen, and Mary Jo Wynne are the freshmen who will have their first try at Salem's tennis championship.

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