PROFESSORS AT OUTF

Former Teacher of Chemistry Seeks Revenge.

HE DEFAMES HIS RIVAL.

Then, with Prudent Foresight, Sails for Europe.

Dr. Wheeler Discovers a Saccharine Substance Which May Prove to Be of Value.

For two years the name of E. A. Schneider appeared on the books of the University of Chicago as assistant professor of analytical chemistry.

Last fall his contract with the University closed and he terminated his connection with it, to the great relief of most of the members of the department. But the professor did not take the severance of his relations with the university kindly and has just executed his grand coup for revenge.

It consisted in this: He made a type-written compilation of extracts from criticisms of the published writings of Professor Nef, head of the department at Chicago, by writers of an opposing school, and sent them to the students in chemistry at the university, and presumably to others throughout the United States. Then, remembering the fate of him who fights and runs away, he hastily embarked for Germany. Accompanying the list of extracts is this note:

This compilation is for the benefit of those who desire to take a course in chemistry at the University of Chicago. Chemistry, like most professions, is nowadays over-crowded, and only those who have a thorough all-round training have a chance of success in practical life. It is a well-known fact that at the University of Chi-
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Chicago the main stress is laid on the chemistry, a branch of the science for which there is little demand in the United States. Moreover, the entire staff of teachers in the chemical department consists of specialists in organic chemistry.

"The young gentlemen who have read these opinions are advised to consider the question whether a recommendation given by Mr. Nef is likely to have much weight with other chemists. In Europe Mr. Nef is evidently unfavorably known, in the United States practically unknown, as his publications appear in foreign journals."

"E. A. SCHNEIDER."

Opinions of the Students.

Professor Nef was unwilling to discuss the letter, but the advanced students in the department were ready to talk.

From the general expression of opinion from students who have studied in all the larger universities of this country and many of them in Germany, a Nef anthology could easily be compiled. Mr. Nef is a genial, unassuming man, without any touch of the academician about him, and is very popular even among those who do not take his courses.

Of the various science departments, chemistry leads in point of numbers. Professor Nef has eighteen pupils, all of whom are taking the most advanced work for a doctor's degree. Where Schneider is known his letter will react in favor of Professor Nef and his teachings, and where he is not it will receive the fate usually accorded anonymous communications.

"This move," said a student in chemistry, "was not wholly unexpected. Schneider showed a very ugly temper last fall, and made several threats then. I believe there was some thought of binding him over to keep the peace. It is now an open secret that he was asked to resign at the end of the first year, but refused and hung on another year by a season of a contract which he had with the university."

Saccharine Discovery of Dr. Wheeler.

While Schneider was seeking vengeance, one of Professor Nef's students, Dr. Henry L. Wheeler, formerly of Yale, and a resident of this city, at No. 1813 Prairie avenue, was making a discovery of a substance sweeter than the saccharine which was found in Professor Remsen's laboratory at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Wheeler guards his secret rather carefully; in fact, he is developing the old sleuth habit of twisting his eyes so as to see behind him without turning his head.

The product is a new compound made from coal tar. It is yellow in color and not easily soluble in water. A piece put in the mouth does not yield up its sweetness quickly, but the taste stays by one for hours. Dr. Wheeler will have it tested by an expert on poisons to see if it is harmless, and then thinks it may be found serviceable commercially. As it also has the flavor of licorice, he thinks it may be used instead of molasses and licorice in the preparation of the delectable plug tobacco.
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The more I think over the matter of my private laboratory the more I see that it is quite essential that I move into the room now occupied by the English department. I spoke about this to Dr. Harper at the Convocation, but I would like to have an understanding about it which is quite definite before matters are entirely disposed of. In regard to qualitative and quantitative work, I had the understanding that Lengfeld and Stieglitz were to take charge of those branches, but that I was to have direction of all of the inorganic work. I think that it is essential to a uniform course that one plan should be carried out throughout the entire inorganic course. This would not take much of my time after we have a good start as the men will then go on without any interference on my part, but I should want to have authority to settle disputed points and to change matters if they were not going satisfactorily.

What is needed is a good strong preparatory course and to have this unity is necessary.
THE ROLE I CAME OVER TO TELL YOU OF MA INTUITION

I must tell you that I am not sure if the topic you are discussing is what I am thinking. I hope you can help me to understand it better.

Thank you for your help.

[Signature]

[Date]
My scheme for a medical preparatory course would include, among other things, such as the languages, the following:

1st. year- Physics (mechanics, sound, light and electricity).


Enough elective space should be left to allow the student to work in some advanced chemistry if he wants to, or to let him specialize in biology, histology, anatomy or some other line. Our medical men here all agree that, as the profession of medicine now stands, a man cannot have too much chemical training. In pharmacology alone he must be able to follow through the chemistry of the new synthetical preparations and in urinary analysis he has need of first class training in chemistry. Lombard has told me that he wishes he had more chemistry and Vaughan and Cushny both have chemical laboratories. Dr. Dock the professor of theory and practice here did some work on the occurrence of aceto-acetic acid in the urine last year which took a good deal of chemical work.

I am progressing on my typewriter so well that I can write as fast as with pen and ink, and soon I hope to be able to beat the record. It is a great deal easier than the old way.

Very cordially yours,

Paul E. Freer.
My career for a secretarial occupation seems very

promising. Secretaries can make a very good living. I have always

enjoyed business work and I believe that I am suited for this

field. There are many opportunities in the field of sales, finance,

and other areas. I feel that I would be successful in this field.

I have already completed a business course in shorthand and

typing. I am confident that with additional training I can

become a skilled secretary.

I am very interested in this field and I plan to take

additional courses in the near future.
Dr W.R. Harper

I enclose part of a letter from P.C. Taeer. It does look as if something might be done with him. In taking, as he offers, general physical and analytical chemistry, he takes the undergraduate work chiefly. I think a division might be made, leaving the graduate work in my charge and the undergraduate work in Taeer's charge. I should not object to any such arrangement but I should object, and I imagine you would too, to making my promotion conditional on Taeer's promotion. You will see that the salary element is the chief consideration in Taeer's case as I saw long ago. I should be pleased to hear an expression of opinion from you on the subject yours very sincerely,

J. V. C. P.
your letter 1 June 28 has been
here for some days but I haven't
answered because I wanted to think
matters over. The salaries in this place
are to be raised after Sept 1st so the
regents have decided, the difference
between salaries here and in Chicago
will then be 0 by I cannot say for
the promise that salaries will
be raised these within a year
that depends on whether raising the
money he has had the present
difficulty in getting the last
million he hasn't collected it yet
for that matter.
I am going to have a leave of absence
here next year will go to Europe to study
with Ashwill 9th when I return I will
develop a dept of physical chemistry
with an assistant Prof at the head
I sent you a reprint of some work done
in that line the work of physical
chemistry in this country is very low
en deput I should be started at Chicago. Now if Harper will undertake to give me a year abroad after the laboratory is started at Chicago, and will do what I hope the results of my work will do for me (i.e., let my salary be paid to me when my absences), I will be well ago there to take charge of my work in full. I go & even analytical chemistry provided he fixes it so that this will lead to a 700$ a month when the rains is able to pay both of us such a sum. I would then undertake to do good research in physics & chemistry. I would like unfailingly well a song, hot in a bath with you. The two of us could keep all borders if they were raised at the highest standard, but I am so well fixed here that I can't leave without good inducements.
Ann Arbor, 189

I got the last 100 grams from Luin this Fall. Perhaps I can raise 25 grams more for you from Vaughan - I'll see tomorrow.

I should have enjoyed seeing Dr. Harper's face when he got your letter - you did just right - if one was compelled to turn exactly another side a laboratory as we have in all the other institutions in this country it seems have taken all your fun out of it. Let me know about Harper songs as soon as you can.

Yours most cordially,

R. Freer.
Ann Arbor, 189
Round-trip ticket for $90 - a great saving. I am told it is a good line but it lands you in Liverpool. Then under the weather again and laugh set out and breathe for a while. Overall young.

P. Freer.
In regard to what I wrote to you in my last, anda your straighten matters up as soon as possible? Dr. Harper told me that all could be fully settled by Feb. 1st but as yet no action has apparently been taken. I need to know definitely at once however, because I must make out my order for apparatus and chemicals for next year here and get it off as soon as possible. I can’t help thinking but that Dr. Harper will see the reasonable ness of our position and straighten matters out all right in the end. It would be a great disappointment if everything fell through finally. I notice that the ad. Bd. Acad. etc. only requests a hint service in these “if possible” - that looks as if they merely wish to know. Please let me know as soon as possible.

Yours most cordially,

F. C. Green.
Horsec.
Jan 11th

Dear Sir,

I hope to be in Munich about June 15th. Hotel Bellevue.

If I change my plans, I will telegraph you to come to Venice. Shell then next Monday.

Hotel Victoria

Yours, F. Smal.
CLARK UNIVERSITY,
WORCESTER, MASS.

Sunday morning.

Dear Dr. [Name]:

I fear not finish my conversation with you, yesterday as I would like.
I much your wish to
day something more, and
which I think you will
be glad to hear.
I shall be at Dr. Hall's
house until about 10 o'clock
this afternoon, and if you
can conveniently come here
after before 3 o'clock
I shall be very glad to see.
Very truly,
Edward Carter
Venice June 16

Dr. Nef:

Dear Sir,

I find that it will be inconvenient for me to come to Munich and I discover this too late to ask you to come then. I shall, however, be at the Fall of the Rhine (Zurzach) Hotel Schwarzer Hof Sunday evening or Monday morning. Nef. Shall be pleased to see you there. I have written to you so many times that I feel somewhat acquainted with you and I certainly ask a favor of you should you conclude to come to Munich.
I want to buy a set of garnet jewelry for my wife and I am told that Munich is a good place in which to buy it. I want something small, nearly set with quick small ear cluffs, nothing long or large. Could you undertake too much trouble bringing me two or three sets "of approval"? I am told that I ought to get something from 60 to 100 francs. If this will in any way trouble you do not do it.

If I charge my Fr. Fried. Leifmark

One table I will telephone for Salzburg Wt.
I want to know how to
get there. I have
found a map for our
journey. Can you
please help me
with this?

I understand that you
have some experience
with this area.

If you could provide
me with more
information, it would
be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for taking
the time to assist me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]