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The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

**Brooklyn College**

Bedford Avenue & Avenue H, Brooklyn 10, N. Y.

**Department of Biology**

11/30/52

Jean Bernie,

Thanks for the reprints which I received recently from you. You are certainly building up a bibliography for yourself. All power to you. Although they are out of my field I was very much interested in seeing what you were doing in the research field. As I expected, - knowing the meticulousness which you showed in the techniques you did with me years ago, - the papers are well done and the illustrations carefully prepared and significant to the text. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Ralph H. Cheney

# Brooklyn College

Bedford Avenue & Avenue H, Brooklyn 10, N. Y.

Department of Biology

November 5, 1954

Dr. Bernard Lowy  
Department of Botany, Bacteriology & Plant Pathology  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy !!!!!!!

Hello Bernie--I believe that is what we called you back in the dim past of the L.I.U. days. And congratulations upon obtaining your doctorate which I had rumors of some time ago and now I know to be an historical fact. ~~The~~ thing that prompted this "epistle" is the fact that in reading the Bulletin of the Terrey Botanical Club for July-August 1954, pages 300-303, I came upon an article,—"A New Dacrymces" by one Bernard ~~Lowy~~ and since there is only one such man in my life, I was interested in reading it. I take it that you are now a Mycologist which is a very critically important phase of this biological world. I hope that you enjoy your life in the academic existence. I have found it a very satisfactory one inspite of its ups and downs. I wish we could rest in a couple of comfortable chairs and review the recent years since both of us have wandered away from L.I.U. The biology staff has completely changed. Curtis Weathers was the last one to survive and he died very suddenly from a heart attack during the Assembly at the first meeting of the Spring Semester last February.

They now have excellent labotatories again and I hope that they will get back on their feet again academically. I have been away for eight years but I still miss Anaphy and the opportunity of working with a small student body. I enjoy it here at Brooklyn College and we have excellent equipment but the student body is so large that you do not get to know many of the students well as we did at 300 Pearl Street. When you have a chance, drop me a line and bring me up to date on your history. Meanwhile, I hope you are in the best of health and enjoying life. Are you married????.

Cordially,

  
Ralph H. Cheney

The Society of the Sigma Xi

BROOKLYN COLLEGE CHAPTER

Bedford Avenue and Avenue H, Brooklyn 10, N. Y.

Ralph H. Cheney, *President*

Dorothea Mossman, *Vice-President*

Milton J. Rosen, *Treasurer*

Harry G. Albaum, *Secretary*



*Members-at-large,  
Executive Committee*  
Walter Prenowitz  
Walter Mais

Samuel Koenig, *Chairman*  
Program Committee

1-22-57

Dear Bernie + Sara Lowy,

Greetings to the known and the unknown but whom I hope to have the pleasure of meeting someday.

Thanks for remembering us at the Holiday Season. It is late now in January but still let me wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

I am so very tardy with my greetings but December and January this year seems to have been what I call a "rat race". The A.A.S. Convention was in N.Y.C. the last week of December. I gave a paper and was tied up with several societies who were meeting here so I spend most of time in the Hotel Statler day and night to midnight when I went back to Brooklyn to sleep.

SEASON'S  
GREETINGS

and

VERY BEST

WISHES

*Ralph and Agnes Cheney*  
*1957*

Dear Bernice, It was good to get your  
Greeting Card and thanks especially for  
the picture of your two children. They  
look healthy and happy and bright-eyed.  
Now I'm doubly anxious to meet  
Sara Lowy someday as she must be  
a grand person to present you with  
two F-1 generations of that calibre!

You have apparently made a  
happy life for yourselves in Louisiana  
and it does my heart good to hear from  
you and to know everything is going well.  
I also heard from Phil Bonney & his wife (Rose Sibert)  
(now in 1954 Calif.)  
and Irving Shaw & his wife, etc. They all have families  
(Teaching in H.S. & running a Summer Day Camp)  
and seem to be flourishing. I think you will remember them.  
Good Luck and Good Health for 1958

Sincerely,  
Ralph Chenev

# The Society of the Sigma Xi

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Walter Mais

Samuel Koenig, *Chairman*  
*Program Committee*

May 3, 1958

Dear Bernie, Congratulations upon your Fulbright award. I'm mighty proud of you Bernie. It will be a glorious experience for you in every way and if you get into the Rain Forest, I'll bet you come home with some new fungi. There are so many fungi in some of those areas that they stick to your boots, — so just walk home with them! Seriously it will be a rich experience that will enhance your research work and also permeate you with information of interest and value to your students for the rest of your life. Entirely aside from your technical advantage, the knowledge of <sup>the</sup> country and its people you will acquire will be invaluable for life. I am very happy for you Bernie. You deserve it and I appreciate your letting me know about your good luck. Will madam be able to accompany you at all. I realize she could not invade the Rain Forest with you but I thought maybe she could go as far as the

school outside of Lima or will she have  
to keep the "home fires" burning in Louisiana? Well  
Bernie, have a grand trip. My best wishes  
go with you for success in your work and a  
healthy safe return next January.

I shall be at Woods Hole as usual all  
summer. I hope to work with some "Hot" caffeine  
this summer i.e. Pflizer & Co. has agreed to  
synthesize some caffeine for me with C<sup>14</sup> in it so  
I can trace its speed of penetration through the  
plasma membrane of cell types and what  
chemical reactions it becomes involved in the  
cellular metabolism.

Incidentally, I have accepted the invitation  
from L. I. M. to give the Annual Induction Meeting Address  
at the Optimates Society that Dr. Waldert, Wendel & I wrote the  
Constitution for in the early 1930's. I gave them a choice  
of 2 titles, — "Think and live" or "Collegiate Aristocracy in a Creaked Democracy".  
They chose the latter for publicity purposes. In March I went  
down to Gettysburg College to give the Annual Conventions Address for the  
Eastern Division of the Beta Beta Beta Biological Society and saw Prof. Messer  
and Bowen who are teachers there. I gave the Program Committee of  
the Tri Beta Society a choice of 2 titles, — "Death — A living Process" or  
"The Mechanics & Kinetics of Biologic Life". They chose the first title.  
I guess the College student Intellectuals favor flippant titles now-a-days.  
Anyhow I enjoyed the Gettysburg trip very much and I hope  
they have a good crowd of former Optimates members as I no longer  
know any students there and only a very few faculty are left but the Invitation appears to be getting back on its feet.

So long for my job  
against "Wood Luck"  
Doc Cheney

I hope so but it is slow work for them.

Greetings Bernice. Here it is  
Thanksgiving time and my wife tells me  
the Holiday Cards ought to be on their  
way. Tempus fugit and half of your  
sojourn South of the Equator has flown.  
Hope your fungi studies have been  
rewarding and I'm sure your  
teaching in Peru must have been  
an interesting experience. Life at  
Brooklyn College is a busy one with  
more students at the dates than we  
can accept. Isn't the segregation-  
integration situation in the South a  
mess without the youngsters  
getting no High School classes at all in  
some areas while a few grown-ups like  
Fambuis go around as if they were  
blind to the facts of life and the realities of  
this present day & age. Brooklyn is the  
world's greatest working democracy and I  
rejoice in it. Incidentally for I.I.U. news,  
they had a ground-breaking ceremony for  
a huge dormitory building this week. They  
hope to attract some students from outside  
of NY City and also have a place for young faculty to  
live. Well, a Holiday Season in Peru  
will be an interesting experience and I hope  
you and your family have a wonderfully  
pleasant & happy time. Best Regards  
A.C. Cheney

A  
Happy Christmas  
and  
Best Wishes  
for  
the New Year

AGNES AND RALPH CHENEY

1959

612 DEAN AVE. BKLN 26, N.Y.

# Alumni to Honor Dr. Ralph Cheney

DR. RALPH H. CHENEY, former chairman of the Department of Biology, will be given a dinner in his honor by the executive boards of the Alumni Association and the Alumni Fund on Jan. 28 at the Hotel Astor.

Dr. Cheney, now at Brooklyn College, taught at LIU from 1928 to 1946. An outstanding scholar, he is president of Phi Beta Kappa alumni in New York and president of the Brooklyn College chapter of Sigma Xi. He teaches also at the University's Brooklyn College of Pharmacy.

Alumni officers describe the dinner as a tribute to an educator who has been "a great source of inspiration and encouragement."

Joining in the tribute will be Board President William Zeckendorf, University President Richard L. Conolly and Vice President James M. Hester. Connie Bacile, Class of '31, chairman of the Alumni Fund's special gifts committee, will preside.

## Marine Biological Laboratory

WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Sunday Evening - August 24, 1958

Dear Bernie,

Your air-mail flew here with amazing speed. It rolled off your typewriter under the date of Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> and I received it here on Aug. 19 or 20. You must have dispatched it as a Federal Gov't. plane. Anyhow I was interested to learn of your program and situation in Peru. I envy your experience there which will be a rich one in many ways. I'll bet you will be swamped with Peruvian fungi for years to come. I am intrigued by your prospect of visiting Lake Titicaca as it has always been a geographic spot which has always whetted my imagination with regard to its history, its people, its vegetation and its isolation. I am glad you are doing some teaching as well as research for it will give you an opportunity to serve as a good will Ambassador of the U.S.A. so a few Peruvians will learn at 1<sup>st</sup> hand that the U.S. is not entirely an imperialistic, Hollywood Type of individuals. How we need good interchange of our populations all over the world but particularly just now in South America. Incidentally, one of the best biochemical type of physiologists that we have had here summers at Woods Hole during the past 15 years was a Dr. Barón (Prof. @ U. Chicago) who died suddenly about a year ago & is buried here at Woods Hole, was a graduate of San Marcos University I believe. In any case he was a Peruvian by birth and went back for a short period I believe a few years ago to give some lectures there as he loved his native Peru even though he had become an American citizen. We all thought very highly of him here. If San Marcos is the correct University, I'm sure the science division must be proud of their alumnus. It is too bad some of the students got hot-headed when V. P. Nixon visited there as we like Peruvians in this country and we wish they would get a better understanding of us. You were fortunate to have a m.d.'s home available for you and I hope you all have better weather most of trip. Speaking of fog, tell your wife Sara that it can not be

worse than Woods Hole has been this year — the worst summer for weather in many years. August has not been so bad although it is raining right now but from June 15 to Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> we only had about 3 or 4 really sunshine days. Being so close to actual ocean edge and much heavy fog, our shoes, clothes, and most anything in the closets and the wood in the cellar have grown a fine crop of mold. You didn't need to go to Bern Bernice, Cape Cod right here at home has been a mold-hunter's paradise this year but I'm afraid they are all well known species. Your daughter, Myapine, will be quite an internationalist after going to school and living in So. America. It is wonderful how much better this coming generation will realize the problems and satisfactions and attitudes of different people, than we ever did at their age. So many youngsters get around new-a-days whereas most of us are really pretty provincial.

Even though she is only 5 years old, I'll bet she will remember a good deal for life especially as you talk about it occasionally as the years go by. Incidentally, I believe Prof. Kosok — you remember that unpredictable, erratic, but possessor of considerable ability — who was in the History Dept. at U. T.M., — I believe he was in Peru on some of his wanderings and was impressed by the Terrace-ploughing in some areas.

Well, this summer has been a non-productive one for me in so far as any tangible report is concerned. The C-14 coffee isotope that Pfizer Co. promised me never arrived, — due to several unexpected delays and problems of synthesis so I couldn't even start the problem I had planned. However, I have learned the Technique of handling isotopes in concentrations where atoms are exploding at a rate of over 500 per minute; and I've learned how to prepare biological material and to count these exploding atoms and so trace a tagged chemical compound so it hasn't been a total loss as it will make it possible to teach radiation physics by with more than just theoretical knowledge now. I was working with Sulphur<sup>35</sup> which is a  $\beta$ -radiation isotope just as C-14 is so maybe next summer with pay off for the labor I've put in this year.

Well Bernice — Good luck to you + drop a line whenever you can.  
Cordially — Ralph Cherry

## BROOKLYN COLLEGE

BROOKLYN 10, NEW YORK

March 7, 1957

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Dear Bernie,

You will never know fully how much I appreciated your recent letter regarding the dinner in my honor a few weeks ago. I wish you could have been there and seen at first hand what a wonderful evening it was for me. Few teachers have the opportunity to hear so many tributes. My mind flashed across the continent time and again to those of you now located all over this country but I did not have as long a close association with any of them as with you through your undergraduate days and subsequently as my Research Assistant. They were happy years. Bernie and I often think of them with the most pleasant memories.

I knew I had some friends among my former students at C.I.U. but I never realized how many. It was an evening my wife and I will never forget and if I ever feel downhearted I will just look at that plaque and come up smiling!

Well Bernie you must have had

an interesting experience in South America.  
Someday, when our paths cross, I want to hear  
all about it. I hope it proved to be a  
rewarding year scientifically for you also. I'm  
sure it must have been as the South American  
flora is so rich in all divisions of botany. After  
all, this life in teaching and research is a  
very satisfying one, isn't it? If I were doing it  
all over again I would choose the same  
profession, — And Gladly Teach.

Well we are both back in the routine now, —  
you home from Peru and I have gradually come down  
from the clouds of that evening of January 28<sup>th</sup> when the  
L. I. U. Alumni Association repaid me 1000-fold  
for anything I may have <sup>ever</sup> done for any of them.  
I have always given my students all I had but  
I never believed before that they appreciated <sup>it</sup> so much.

Cheeris and Warm personal regards and Good Luck

Sincerely,  
Ralph Cheney

# Alumni Honor Prof. Cheney

IT WAS 13 YEARS AGO that he left the Brooklyn Center's College of Liberal Arts and Science, but Prof. Ralph Holt Cheney was never forgotten. Good teachers, of course, never are. Having touched the lives of their students, they become inextricably a part of those lives.

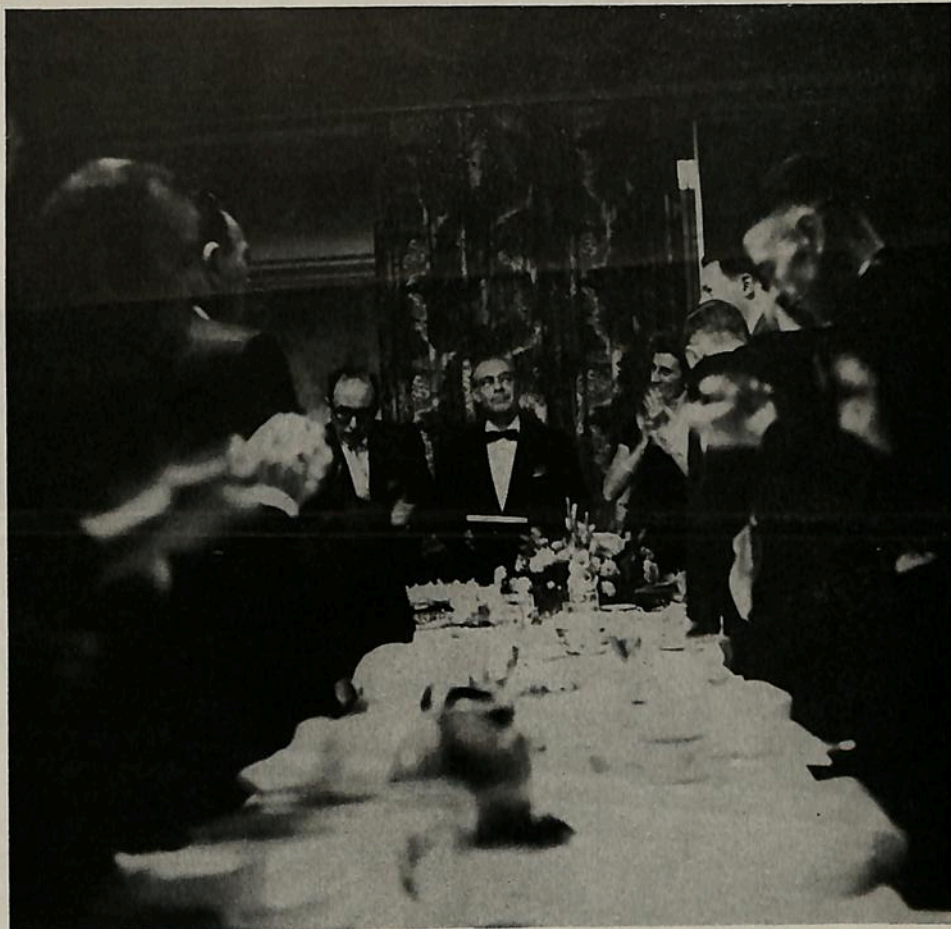
One evening last month 60 men and women who had sat in Prof. Cheney's biology classes as far back as 30 years ago gathered at the Hotel Astor to express their appreciation for the training and guidance he had given them. One after another, physicians, teachers, lawyers and businessmen rose to tell him of the deep effect he had on their lives.

"The heartwarming tributes that seemed to come spontaneously from all corners of the room," Prof. Cheney said later, "left me in the happiest daze I have ever experienced."

He told the alumni: "My association with you as students in the classroom, in your extra-curricular activities, and even as a guest at some of your weddings, caused me to hold so many of you in warm personal regard. To be remembered so many years later has engraved on my memory a deep feeling of humility and gratitude."

Joining in the tribute were Board President William Zeckendorf, University President Richard L. Conolly and Vice President and Provost James M. Hester.

## Tribute to a teacher



TO A GREAT FRIEND: Dr. Ralph H. Cheney, former chairman of the Biology Department, gets an ovation as he accepts a plaque honoring him as "a great friend and teacher." The presentation was made for the Alumni Association by Dr. Harry Sberman '31, president. Presiding was Constance Bacile '31, an officer of the Alumni Fund.



A PLEDGE: Psychiatrist Albert L. Deutsch '31 holds the attention of his fellow alumni as he recounts anecdotes of Prof. Cheney's early days at the University. A major contributor to the Alumni Fund, Dr. Deutsch announced at the dinner he will make the same gift each year for the rest of his life.



A MATTER OF PRIDE: Prof. Cheney, shown here with the University President, Admiral Conolly, told alumni: "It is obvious that you are proud of your Alma Mater, and you have great cause to be proud. Long Island University is in a state of full flower. Now is the time to help her to set fruit."

Marine Biological Laboratory

WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

July 17, 1959

Dear Bernie,

Your reprints were forwarded to me from Brooklyn College so I have read them and shall take them back to file with my box for "Publications of former students".

You and Vesta Drill are the chief contributors (mycology) (Pharmacology) to that Box. Not only am I glad to have them because they are your product but I have a very warm spot in my heart for botany even though my major work for years has been in physiology.

One of my earliest publications was a taxonomic description of a new form of *Adelphinium* I collected in New Hampshire while I was a graduate student and used to climb the Presidential Mountain Range of the White Mts. It appeared in "Rhodora" over 30 years ago.

I was interested in your method of making Herbarium sheets of fleshy fungi as you reported on in *Bonus*. I recall

very vividly the "mess" I got into  
trying to mount *Agaricus campestris*  
and *Boletus edulis*, etc. when I attempted  
to start an herbarium for them at  
my U. when I first started teaching  
there in 1923.

Anyway, too, it was good to hear  
from you.

Cheers + Good Luck,

Ralph Cheney

Greetings - Bernie (and Sara and children whom I have never met but hope to do so someday). When the holidays roll around we always think back to the happy days we enjoyed at 300 Beal Street.

Hope 1961 proves to be a banner year for you all.

Last summer I spent at Woods Hole as usual. The last few years have been in irradiation. Expect to show some movies I took last summer on fertilization + early embryology at the AAAS in Dec. I still keep one hand in botanical affairs. Just accepted or agreed to serve on the editorial board of a new journal in 1961 to be called "Quarterly Journal of Cerebral Drug Research" to be published in Amsterdam, Holland. So I keep myself busy and out-of-mischief. Hope you are all well and your research progressing.

Cheerio - Ralph Cheney

May you have \* \* \*  
a joyous Christmas  
a truly happy New Year  
countless blessings always

AGNES AND RALPH CHENEY

Greetings, — To Bernie + Sara  
and the F-1 generation for 1967.

Wish by some fortunate  
situation that you would appear  
at the ASAS meeting\* in  
Philadelphia later this month  
but probably Baton Rouge  
is too far and too nice and  
comfortable weatherwise to  
cause you to gamble on cold  
Philadelphia in January.

Hope things are happy  
with you academically and  
otherwise.

Best regards,  
Cheney,  
D. Cheney

\*I'm giving 2 papers on  
Radiation Biology that has occupied  
my attention for the past 5 years.  
How is the Fungus?

IT'S EVERYWHERE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
HAPPY NEW YEAR



THE CHENEYS

BROOKLYN COLLEGE  
OF  
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
BROOKLYN 10, NEW YORK

April 16, 1964

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Dear Bernie,

To-day's mail added another paper to my reference files of articles by former students of whom I am particularly proud. You have been accomplishing good work in your research on the fungi and I am very much pleased and happy for you with the promotion to Full Professor. Congratulations. It is satisfying to gain top ranking and it is long over due for you Bernie. You have certainly gotten around in last few years and your contributions make you the authority on the Tremellales for the American tropics. You can be sure a few people like your wife and your old prof are cheering for you all along the way. I hope you have a pleasant summer and find Costa Rica a rewarding place also in terms of the Tremellaceous Fungi.

Best Regards and Good Luck,  
Ralph Cheney

P.S. I do not recall what I have sent you with regard to my work in recent years but I am sending along some items under separate cover just <sup>to</sup> notify you I am still producing and so keep going!

BROOKLYN COLLEGE  
OF  
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
BROOKLYN 10, NEW YORK

March 17, 1965

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Dear Bernie,

Maybe the Irish in Louisiana are not celebrating but in New York today they are all parading up Fifth Avenue. Thanks for the reprints just received. The text and the illustrations are well done as I have come to expect from you. No careless work came from you in the 1930's and you are showing the same meticulous calibre of performance in the 1960's. As I write I can glance up to the top shelf in my office and see a carton box labelled, - Caffeine Research tissues embedded for sectioning by Bernard Lowy. 1938. Golly that is 27 years ago, - Talk about "Tempus fugit", - it certainly does! I appreciated the careful assistance you gave me at that period and it is nice to see that your natural meticulous habit is paying off in your favor personally now. How far removed is fungal taxonomy and pathology from animal physiology and pharmacology! Yet the principle of the scientific approach to a biological problem and the care essential to good investigational procedure are aligned closely, are they not?

Well, a NEW Genus and a NEW species is on the books---Congratulations! What a far-cry it is from the type of research we did together 27 years ago. I have always been a hybrid in my biological interests and the breadth and diversity of experience is valuable to any professor of biology whatever his field of specialization. As I think back, one of my earliest publications in the 1920's was a minor paper on taxonomy, - a new "form" of *Delphinium Ajacis* L. forma alba, forma nova, published in *Rhodora* (*Journ. of the N.E. Bot. Club* vol. 27, No. 320, August 1925)! It is a long way from my current studies on the effects of gamma and ultraviolet radiation on cell fertilization and early development. But past and present research has all been fun. I have always enjoyed taxonomic identification perhaps because I collected plants with my father and classified as to their common names when a boy long before I went to college. Also their utilitarian value and differences between even closely related species has always intrigued me even though I have wandered far afield to other interests and research studies.

BROOKLYN COLLEGE  
OF  
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
BROOKLYN 10, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

Just to prove I still have a botanical half to my heart I'm enclosing a fairly recent (1963) publication in Economic Botany along with a couple of recent Abstracts on my radiation studies at Woods Hole summers which proves that I am still a hybrid scientific character. I am retiring in September 1966 because of mandatory age and with my present good health and vigor I just hate to think about a time when I shall not have laboratory facilities available as I have many unfinished problems to settle. Guess I might have more reputation in one field if I had not divided my energies with so much diversification but it has been fun and has helped my classroom teaching greatly and I have always really enjoyed the classroom. It has given me "hybrid vigor". So I do not really regret my scientific diversity. I think I'd do the same thing again.

Well Bernie I guess I've raved on long enough. It is a sign of ageing they tell me to reminisce too much. Good Luck to you on your sojourn in Brasil. I am noting your address there. Is this a sabbatical or a special grant situation? Whatever it is it will be another rich experience for you and you are certainly getting around the last few years.

Cherrie for now,

*Ralph Cheney*  
Ralph Cheney

P.S. I have been invited back to the 25th Reunion of the Classes of 1939 and 1940 on March 26th on the relatively new campus of L.I.U. It will be pleasant to see and talk with the students I had a quarter of a century ago at 300 Pearl St. and see if they still have their Hair! I still have mine although it is suggestive of a snowbank.

March 22, 1965

Dear Dr. Cheney,

As always, it is good to have news from my much respected professor and good friend. I rarely get to New York and when I do, it is generally in the summer, when you are busy at Woods Hole. I would love to have a good long chat with you but don't know when we shall have the chance to reminisce a bit together. After all, I guess I can qualify for this since I am now almost 50. I vividly remember my first classes in Biology as your student, in the old Pearl Street building ... especially the laboratory sessions and the oral quiz periods you used to hold there. Yes, I can still hear the rustle of your white starched lab coat as you would walk to a stool and be seated, Leafax in hand and begin the round of questions. My memory does not fail me. There sat a gentle man, master of his subject and in complete command, eager to teach and to guide his students. What passerby could dream, seeing that scarecrow of an old building, that such dignity was to found inside? Well, Dr. Cheney, it is easy and enjoyable to conjure up memories like these. I am delighted that you are as vigorous as ever and profoundly hope that your retirement will only mean the beginning of a new phase of work and continued research in your distinguished career.

Your reprints are most welcome. I am proud that I can claim publication in the same journal, and in the same year, (*Economic Botany*, Jan. 1963) as the one in which your paper on Rooibos tea appeared. In this number I reviewed Singer's book on Mushrooms and Truffles. Other reviews have appeared in Jan. 1962 and Jan. 1964, with 4 others now in press in the same journal.

I look forward eagerly to my sabbatical year in Brasil. I shall be there with a Fulbright award for research and teaching, much like my first one to Peru in 1958. Tropical America has a great attraction for me and this time I expect to further into the Amazon, for at least part of the time. Of course a vast amount of botanical work remains to be done in that great wilderness and although many phanerogamic botanists have studied and collected there, few mycologists have been moved to do so.

Next week (beginning March 29) I shall be in Washington for a 5-day orientation and consultation program offered by the Department of State for Fulbright grantees prior to their departure. I understand all of us will be kept busy more or less on a 9 to 5 basis trying to drum some sense into our little brains in an effort I suppose, to make sure that even if it is beyond us to make friends abroad, at least we may be prevented from making any enemies. I'll be leaving with my family for Sao Paulo near the end of May and expect to return to the Univ. in August or September of 1966.

So, Dr. Cheney, that's enough gossip for now. I'll hold forth on another occasion and send you a report from south of the border.

Dear Bernie,

Things are certainly booming for you. Congratulations and you deserve it all, — TV, Trips as Mycological Trails, etc. — one interesting situation after another seems to have been on your schedule now for several years. All Power to you.

Have a wonderful sabbatical year academically and I hope everything is well for you and your family.

Incidentally I think they have a copy of my old book on Coffee (Com. Study of the species of the genus Coffee) published way back in 1925! Maybe they have burned it up by now!

Well, Good Health +  
Good luck. Have a  
wonderful 1965.  
Sincerely — Dr. Cheney

Instituto de Botânica — São Paulo

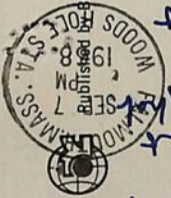
Dr. Ralph H. Cheney  
612 Ocean Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11226

Wishing you  
a happy  
Holiday  
Season





Held up to light & you will see particles encircling my cottage  
AERIAL VIEW OF WOODS HOLE SHOWING MARINE  
BIOLOGICAL BUILDING AND OCEANOGRAPHIC  
INSTITUTION, CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS.



Department of Biology & Plant Pathology  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge,  
Louisiana 70803

Bromley & Company, Inc., Boston, Mass. 02215

and you will see how convenient  
it has been for you to get my report  
- The m. B. l.  
Thank you for the most helpful  
pines taken Oct. 17, April 1968 p. 118-129.

As always your publications  
stimulate a keen as you on doing  
so meticulous & work as modern  
colleagues were so careful.  
Contribution of Ben Wilkie for your  
future endeavors. I am staying at  
Woods Hole this year until Oct. 1st as  
I am not covering any School Ball  
this year. But I have lots of mail to try  
at the 1968-1969 season.

MA627 color photo by Mike Roberts  
at the 1968-1969 season.  
Bromley & Company, Inc., Boston, Mass. 02215  
Bromley & Company, Inc., Boston, Mass. 02215  
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348-7181

16-IV-68

March, 1968

TO: Certain Professional and Research Contacts During Past 40 years.  
FROM: Professor Ralph H. Cheney - Biologist  
SUBJECT: Reprint "Close-Out"

The retirement stage in my academic life has arrived. My address until June 1, 1968 is Long Island University, Room M1001, DeKalb and Flatbush Avenues, Brooklyn, New York 11201.

Research activities during university academic years in the New York area and many summers at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, has resulted in annual publications involving several fields of investigation within the biological sciences. My papers have dealt PRIMARILY with the effects of methylated xanthines (caffeine, theobromine, and theophylline); nicotine; ultra-violet and gamma irradiation especially on muscle types; and, in cellular pharmacology employing Arbacia punctulata (sea urchin) gametes as the test organism for studies in fertilization and early embryonic development. As a professional "hobby" my interest has been in plant alkaloids, the botanic sources, constituents, and effects of non-alcoholic World Beverages and Medicinal Plants.

Upon retirement, I still have Reprints of some of my technical and semi-popular papers which I shall distribute or discard. I cannot contact the long list of domestic and foreign colleagues with whom I have exchanged reprints through the years. Therefore, I am enclosing my bibliography and a few examples, not necessarily what I consider my best work but they are among the reprints still available and they indicate the diversified nature of my papers. The mailing includes approximately only 50 friends or academic colleagues with whom I have exchanged papers or who have published in related areas of the biological sciences. The simple fact is merely that if you happen to have an interest in any of the bibliographic items for reference, I shall be happy to send them to you if they are still available (I have none of some and 30 or 40 of others). JUST DROP A CARD with the JOURNAL AND DATE of any item desired, - if any! If none of them interest you, your Waste-Basket will receive them as happily as mine at this moment of their final distribution.

Best Wishes for your own research endeavors.

Sincerely,

*Ralph Holt Cheney*

Ralph Holt Cheney, - Professor Emeritus: Brooklyn College

Address Until June 1968 - Director: Biology Graduate Seminars  
Long Island University - Room M1001  
DeKalb and Flatbush Avenues  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Address Thereafter: 612 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11226

B I B L I O G R A P H Y

of

Ralph Holt CHENEY

1925 - - - 196<sup>7</sup> inclusive

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1968

LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY  
THE BROOKLYN CENTER  
ZECKENDORF CAMPUS  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

Tuesday, May 14, 1968

RALPH HOLT CHENEY, Sc.D.  
ADVISOR TO THE BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
DIRECTOR: BIOLOGY GRADUATE SEMINARS

Dear Bernie,  
It was mighty thoughtful of you to write me regarding my retirement. You were too generous in your praise but as one of my own old professors (Prof. Osterhout of Harvard + Rockefeller Univ.) told me when I wrote him a kind note on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, — "I must admit what you said was "Music" to my ears".

I recall from your holiday greeting of last December that you and your wife Sara expected to have an exciting year in 1968. Golly doesn't time fly — It is hard to believe your children are ready for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades in school. Now that the children are old enough to allow your wife to arrange her time, isn't it wonderful that she can teach at Southern University. Please do congratulate her for keeping the academic fires burning in your spirit through the years. I hope all goes well for her Ph.D. fulfillment at Columbia. You are keeping your eye on the neotropical Tremellales. Taxonomic groups that have not been revised

recently can stand revision with great profit.

You mentioned the possibility that you might get to N.Y. in January to give the herbarium at the NYPL "the once over" but I assume you didn't do it as my telephone didn't ring. It would have been pleasant to reminisce and chat for a while. Much water has gone over the dam or under the bridge or however you express it in both of personal and professional lives in the last quarter of a century and it has been longer than that since we labored together at the old L.I.M. Lab. at 300 Pearl Street. It is now a part of the NY Community College. L.I.M. has been in a turmoil over exactly what was going to happen regarding this Brooklyn Center Campus of the University. Would it be taken over by the City University? The answer seems to be "No". Just what the re-organization will result in is anybody's guess at the moment. It is a curious situation as it is really a flourishing unit but administrative disagreements and the large financial need for their expansion requirements, etc., etc. will make it almost impossible to do scholastic work (other than Classroom instruction) for several years until they regain stability at the administrative level. So I resigned March 1<sup>st</sup> i.e. I told the Dean I would not return in September. He tried to talk me out of it but at my age I require a more peaceful environment altho I have no personal complaints.

I have conducted the Biology Graduate Seminars and counseled undergraduate science majors and programmed the Biology Graduate Students, and managed to do a little writing and give a few lectures during the 2 years I have been back but I decided I'd call it a day!

Dr. Avery, Director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, has given me space (one whole end of a large laboratory room) in which to write and work as I wish (no responsibilities & no pay!) so I have been gradually transporting part of my library and all my steel files and research records, etc. etc. of the years out to the Garden. Other library items will be taken home. Gilbe (Mrs. C.) and I plan to go to Woods Hole as usual but chiefly for rest and leisure this summer and then return to Brooklyn in September or October. It is difficult for me "to let go" as I really enjoy my research. So I have a place to sit down and the Garden is a beautiful place to be environmentally so I can not complain.

Best of luck to you in your research and to Sara in her new position.

Sincerely,  
Ralph Cheney

P.S. This week-end I shall go to Boston as the Guest of Boston University at the Golden Anniversary of my Class 1918 of which I was President as an Undergraduate. It will be fun to see how many of the boys are bald, or white on the roof, and what has been activities as I have seen most of them since graduation - 50 yrs. ago!

We spend 4 months in Woods Hole as usual this summer with perfect weather.

Now my professional address is the Bklyn. Botanic Garden. Dr. Avery, the Director has granted me laboratory space as "Honorary Research Associate".

I go there afternoons and do a little writing on unpublished data in my files and also continue my work as the American Collaborator on the Editorial Board of 2 Bio-medical Journals published in Holland: "Acta Phytotherapeutica" and the "Quarterly Journal of Crude Drug Research".

So I keep busy being Chief, Honorary, & Lady's maid to my wife ever since she broke her hip 2 years ago and change my thoughts from home to the garden afternoons.

Love  
Beth & Agnes Cheney

Greetings to you folks from the Cheney.  
The 3 youngsters on this card are "taking" their joys to the world and we hope their blessings will reach you and bring you

Happy  
Holidays!

Did Bernice get to Puerto Rico<sup>\*</sup> last summer? I recall you wrote a year ago that you might get to it myself last January and if so "shock" me with a phone call but I assume you didn't get here or you flew in & out in a hurry.

Whatever you are doing I hope 1969 is a very satisfactory year for you folks everywhere.

AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Greetings of the Season

Greetings Bernie & Sara and family.  
"That family" must be growing up fast by now.  
We spent the summer at Woods Hole  
for the 40<sup>th</sup> year but in the winter we  
hibernate in Brooklyn. We have hoped to travel  
a bit when I retired but I waited too long  
and my wife is not well enough to travel around.

At the moment, my wife is in the hospital for an  
examination for some sort of rectal or intestinal  
difficulty but I hope to have her home for the  
New Year so we can be together at home.

We hope 1970 proves to be a Banner Year  
for you all Healthwise and in every other  
way including New Fungidimension!

Charlie — With Warm Personal Regards

Ralph Cheney  
1970



THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
**BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN**  
1000 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, 11225  
212-622-4433

RALPH HOLT CHENEY, SC.D.  
HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

January 6, 1970

Dear Bernie,

Happy New Year!

I suspect that the following reference is probably of no interest to you as it does not refer to your particular Order of Fungi but some of it does deal with some fungi and algae. Since the five papers are in the August issue 1969 of the American Zoologist instead of a Botanical Journal, I thought maybe you or some colleague might have missed the reference and might perhaps be interested in the chemistry and physiological significance of the activity of these fungi. There are part of a Symposium on the "Penetration of Calcium Carbonate Substarates by Lower Plants and Invertebrates". which was held during the AAAS Meetings in Dallas, Texas in December 1968.

Anyhow I happen to run on to it yesterday when I was perusing the literature for something else. I do more digging into the literature now-a-days than I do experimental work. Incidentally Bernie, - YES--the slides which are the products of your labor and so well done (for which I have always been mighty grateful) ARE STILL in existence! They form part of the bulk of material which I have always kept on file to justify the papers and lantern slides which I presented at the scientific meetings in those days. Incidentally too, I discovered recently that your old professor has been recorded in the volume, -"World Who's Who in Science, Ed. I (1968) pg.326!! Frankly, I am grossly overrated to be included but it is pleasant to feel that my activities and publications must have stood the test of time in international science. I guess when you are a Senior Citizen you appreciate a degree of flattery!! What is it Bernie, --Second Childhood!?!?!.

Cheerio and Best Wishes to you for 1970.

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
Sincerely, *Ralph*  
Ralph

CHENEY, Ralph Holt, Am. biologist; b. Maynard, Mass., June 3, 1896; s. Levi Raymond and Mary E. (Billington) C.; B.S., Boston U., 1918, A.M., 1919; D.Sc., L.I.U., 1962; M.S., Harvard, 1922, Sc.D., 1923; m. Agnes Lyford Gray, June 11, 1924; Instr., Western Res. U., Cleveland, 1923; asst. prof. N.Y.U. 1924-29; prof., chm. biology dept. L.I.U., Bklyn., N.Y., 1929-46, prof. biol. scis. Coll. Pharmacy, 1932-66, seminar professor, adviser biology students Brooklyn Center of Long Island University, 1966-68; investigator physiology and pharmacology Marine Biol. Lab., Woods Hole, Mass., 1929-; resident in econ. plants Bklyn. Bot. Garden, 1930-1951, hon. asso., 1951-; asso. prof. biology Bklyn Coll., 1946-48, prof. biology 1949-66, emeritus, 1966-. Cons. to beverage industry, 1925-; Applied Physiology and Pharmacology, 1930-. Fellow A.A.A.S., N.Y. Acad. Scis.; mem. Soc. Gen. Physiologists, Soc. Cell Biology, Am. Soc. Pharmacology and Exp. Therapeutics, American Society of Zoologists, Bot. Soc. Amer., Torrey Bot. Club (president 1967), Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi. Author: Coffee (sci. monog.) 1925; also numerous articles. Adv. editor Econ. Botany, 1947-57; Amer. collaborator Acta Phytotherapeutica, 1952-, Quar. Jour. for Crude Drug Research, 1961-. Research on effects of caffeine and caffeine-containing beverages on muscles and nerves of frog, rat, rabbit, and man, also comparative effects of caffeine, theobromine, and theophylline on gametes, effects gamma and ultraviolet irradiation and radiomimetic chems. on sperm and eggs and early dev. of Arabacia, medicinal plants. Home: 612 Ocean Av., Bklyn, N.Y. 11226; (summer) Marine Biol. Lab., Woods Hole, Mass. 02543. Office: Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225.

Bernie, - you have established yourself in the international  
literature on Fungi. Congratulations + with personal  
regards to you. -  
Cheers - your old Prof. -  
Ralph Henry  
4/13/71

LOWY, B., Keys to Neotropical Tremellales

1970. 32 pages. Separately printed from Nova Hedwigia, 19.

DM 10,- (\$ 2,75)

LUTTRELL, E. S., Taxonomy of the Pyrenomycetes

(Univ. Missouri Stud., 23:3) 1951 (Reprint 1967). 120 pages. (Bibliotheca Mycologica, 6)

DM 40,- (\$ 11,-)

"This book is one of the most discussed and recognized publication in Ascomycete taxonomy. New concepts in the classification of this group are presented. In modern literature, Luttrell's classification is often used and compared with those of other authorities in this field."

MARTIN, GEORGE W., Revision of the North Central Tremellales

(Univ. Iowa Stud. Nat. Hist. 19:3) 1952. (Reprint 1970). 122 pages. (Bibliotheca Mycologica, 22)

DM 40,- (\$ 11,-)

"Among comprehensive studies on Tremellales, Martin's revision is the most recent one. This treatise includes all species thus far recognized from the north central states of the U.S. together with the southern portions of the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Manitoba. Ten families with 52 genera are treated. Keys to all genera and to most species are provided."

MIRZA, F., Taxonomic Investigations on the Ascomycetous Genus Cucurbitaria S.F. Gray

1968. 40 pages, 7 tables. Separately printed from Nova Hedwigia, 16.

DM 16,- (\$ 4,40)

MIX, A. J., A Monograph of the Genus Taphrina

Kansas Sci. Bull. 33) 1949 (Reprint 1969). 168 pages. (Bibliotheca Mycologica, 18)

DM 60,- (\$ 16,50)

"98 species of Taphrina are here described and redefined (other species being reduced to synonymy or excluded). These are distributed by hosts as follows: On Ferns, 24 species; on Populus and Salix, 4; on Betulaceae, 23; on Fagaceae, 5; on Ulmaceae, 2; on Rosaceae (except Prunus), 7; on Prunus, 17; on Rhus, 1; on Acer, 11; on Aesculus, 1; on Sebastiana, 1; on Zingiberaceae, 2"

MOSER, MEINHARD, Die Gattung Phlegmacium (Schleimköpfe)

1960. 442 pages, 33 coloured and 5 plain plates. (Die Pilze Mitteleuropas, IV)

DM 180,- (\$ 49,50)



THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
**BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN**  
1000 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, 11225  
212-622-4433

RALPH HOLT CHENEY, SC.D.  
HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Monday, September 27, 1971

Dear Bernie,

It was nice to hear from you at this annual holiday season but this year I am thrilled by the calibre of your monograph No. 6 on the Tremellales for the Flora Neotropica and I appreciate your kind statement you inscribed on it for me.

Unfamiliar as I am with the details of the Tremellales as a botanic group, it is obviously a very careful study and an excellent, scholarly work that will be the classic in the field for many years. You are to be congratulated and I am proud of you. Much publication occurs now-a-days in fragmentary contributions in all specialized areas but the appearance of a sound, scholarly Monograph is rare. It will bring honor to your name for many years ahead. It is the quality of production that true scientists, particularly research men, have admired in all ages. It places you on an enviable pedestal in the opinion of other mycologists I am sure even if you never publish again. But you will and all Power and Success to you.

I was interested in your paper on the  
"New Records of Mushroom Stones from Guatemala".  
It is well done as I have come to expect in papers  
by Bernard Long; but that Monograph has your old prof  
Cheering for you!

Tell your wife and family that "Papa has rung the Bell"  
this time but not to worry as your innate modesty  
will still enable you to wear the same size Hat!  
I wish you were in the New York area so I could  
invite you to have lunch with me at the Harvard Club  
to celebrate this milestone in your scientific career.

Well Bernie, here's hoping you and your family  
are blessed with a Healthy, Happy 1972.

Cheerio, — With Warm Personal Good Wishes,

Ralph Henry

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

BATON ROUGE · LOUISIANA · 70803

College of Arts and Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

January 7, 1972

Dear Dr. Cheney,

Your letter concerning my little publication is a reward in itself. You are very generous and your kind words mean a great deal to me. But after all, you always insisted on the highest standards and amply demonstrated by your own work what this means in terms of scholarship. I would hardly be a worthy student of yours if I did not at least try to emulate and achieve that desirable goal! In any case, I hope the paper will really serve students and scholars who have an interest in the subject.

I would like nothing better than to visit you, but our schedules appear to be so incoordinated that we never find ourselves in the same place at the same time.

My best regards, or ever, to you and Mrs. Cheney.

Barnes

P.S. I spent last year (June & Nov.) at Woods Hole and Dec. - May  
in Bismarck and did a little writing.

RALPH AND AGNES CHENEY

Mrs. Ralph H. Cheney  
612 Ocean Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11226

Christmas and the New Year

Everything Good for

Dear Bernice and Sam + family - Greetings from your old friend.  
Here's hoping this happy season of Chanukkah and  
Christmas - as both are celebrations of joy, will shower  
the blessings of their spirit and love onto you and all.  
I get real pleasure annually when I receive Greetings  
from the students of so many years ago and have accomplished  
as much in the biological sciences as you have in your approach  
division of it. Have you flown the coop? You do splendid work  
or have you stayed put "for a change"? You do splendid work  
in your research as I know from the carefully written  
papers you have published as I know you must have a lot of  
personal satisfaction in making the contributions to science that  
you have done. Here's hoping 1972 proves to be a healthy, happy  
and rewarding year for you Bernice and your family.  
Love - Ralph Cheney

Ralph Holt Cheney  
11 Park Street  
Woods Hole, Mass. 02543

IT  
ER

Merry Christmas

May the holidays  
bring you pleasant

memories (you and I have  
many of the 1930's)

and much happiness.

Ralph Holt Cheney

Cheer us with Warm personal Greetings  
at Best Wishes for a happy, healthy New Year in 1974  
In you and your family.

Received May 1, 1974!  
(sent to old address)

December 12, 1973

Dear Bernice,

My wife died due to a cerebral thrombus on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. I am experiencing an unbelievable degree of loneliness. We were married so happily for 49 years that the loss of her warmth + wisdom and devoted companionship, has left me feeling as if I were stranded in a vacuum without much significant meaning to the years ahead.

All my memories are happy ones so I am keeping busy and trying to adjust to living alone in so far as it is humanly possible.

I'm fixing up a basement room in my house here where I have retired at 5711 Park St.,  
Woods Hole, Mass. 02543

and if I can stir up interest enough I will try to continue to do a little writing.

Hope you and your family are healthy & happy and enjoy a gay holiday season together.

Sincerely, Ralph Cheney

Ralph Holt Cheney  
11 Park Street  
Woods Hole, Mass. 02543

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

BATON ROUGE · LOUISIANA · 70803

College of Arts and Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

May 1, 1979.

Dear Dr. Cheney,

The card you wrote last December, bearing the sad news of your wife's death, has just reached me.

After a lifetime of happy companionship together - something that very few of us are fortunate enough to enjoy - I think I can understand the profound difference that such a loss must make to you. No words can be adequate. I can only send you my heartfelt condolences.

But you must know that a Professor's responsibilities to his old students (and conversely as well, of course), must go on as ever, so I hope to hear from you soon - and especially about any new projects that you may already be working on or contemplating.

I'm not sure whether you have received the enclosed reprints, so I'm sending them along. They are brief, so perhaps you may find the time to

read them during a coffee break.

Above all, keep well and continue to work!

Affectionately,  
as always,  
Bernst

December 11, 1974

Dear Bernie and Sarah,

I know Sarah only by your letters Bernie but someday I hope to meet her. The Hanks Festival of Light and Joy started this week and the Christmas Season follows so the whole month ought to be a happy one for everyone.

I hope your whole family is blessed with contentment and good health in spite of some much of the world being in a hectic state. I am retired permanently to Woods Hole and enjoy it there as the three scientific institutions there are all year-round affairs now-a-days so there are interesting meetings all the time. Guess I'm getting to be a Senior Citizen or something as I do not get out to many of the Seminars. I spend a good deal of time in the yard taking care of shrubs and rosebushes, etc. and watching the birds and Squirrels, Woodchucks, Raccoons, etc. I get to New York occasionally to be at the Garden a few days in the office - but I still have there. I usually drop over to L. I. U. for lunch with some of the folks who were undergraduates in the 1930's and are now on the Staff of the College. Have a Good Year in 1975.

Obecino — Ralph

MAY THE WONDERFUL BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS

BE WITH YOU THROUGHOUT

THE NEW YEAR

RALPH HOLT CHENEY

Ralph Holt Cheney  
11 Park Street  
Woods Hole, Mass. 02543

## Fond Memories Spur Fund Drive for Three

Three unusual faculty members, Dr. Ralph Holt Cheney, Professor Leo Schloss and Dr. Howard K. Rice, evoke many fond memories on the part of alumni. Dr. Cheney, now retired, provided the initial impetus for the successful careers of our alumni in such fields as medicine, dentistry, allied health fields and biological research.

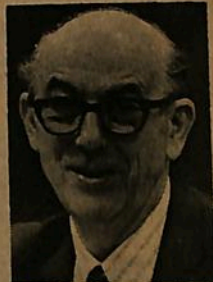
A full alumni committee is now in the process of forming to raise \$10,000 for a modern biology laboratory to be named the Ralph Holt Cheney Laboratory. Already, nearly \$1,000 has been received.

Professor Leo Schloss, an accountant's accountant and more important, teacher and counselor for over 25 years, is imbued with the same love and dedication for his profession as the day he first stepped in front of a class. Thousands of alumni have a special place in their hearts for Leo Schloss. Several started the Professor Leo Schloss Scholarship Endowment Fund which now has reached almost \$11,000, with a final goal of \$25,000.

Launched in late September, 1974, was the Dr. Howard K. Rice Scholarship Endowment Fund. Almost \$1,500 has been raised so far. Professor Rice, of the School of Business Administration, has endeared himself to countless alumni by his total commitment and concern for their well-being. This veteran teacher and advisor has been pleasantly surprised by his former students in their efforts to provide meaningful scholastic assistance to our present students and at the same time to honor him. The appeal was launched by Richard M. Post '56.



CHENEY



SCHLOSS



RICE

**I** wouldn't seem like Christmas  
 If we didn't get in touch  
 And send the Reason's Greetings  
 To those we like so much



17-XII-1979  
Baton Rouge

Dear Dr. Cheney,

I hope this finds you well and busy as ever with new projects. I know that you have had a life-long interest in your work at Woods Hole and vividly recall the deep back in the late 30s when, as your assistant at LNU, I used to send notes to you and receive others from you, concerning one aspect or other of your research projects. - Now I have another interest in Massachusetts. Our younger daughter, Doris, has just completed her 1st semester at Brandeis University. But she tells us that their pre-medical orientation seems rather overloaded. There is no general introductory course in Botany - or other Life Sciences!

Presumably, 

☼	Pax in Terra	students can
☿	Pax sur la Terre	live without
☽	Pax en la Tierra	about fungi,
♁	MUR HA ZEMAC	ferns or flowering

 plants than the famous "man in the street."

Keep well and please let me hear from you on occasion. With all best wishes to you for a vigorous, healthy and happy New Year,  
as always,  
Bernie Long

Dear Bernice and family,

Greetings from Cape Cod

I hope you and your family are all well and enjoying life in spite of the hectic national and international evening news. Are you "staying put" in the United States this year or have the Basidiomycetes and Pathogens caused you to travel?

I spend all 12 months annually here in Woods Hole and enjoy the scientific and cultural life that this community offers and I like the four seasons weatherwise as I grew up here in New England and so am used to the changes. The Autumn Season is always beautiful with its display of fall colors that the deciduous trees and shrubs produce each October. This Spring, I expect to change my pace. By shutting the door to the laboratory I have in the basement of my home here, and fly to Texas to visit with my wife's two nieces and then go on to Los Angeles to see my niece and her retired husband. I occasionally go to bicycling for a few days and in November I had dinner and an evening of reminiscing with Dr. & Mrs. Keen. You remember John Keen was with me for years at H. T. I also had Nat Reinick for dinner one night and chatted our heads off!

I chose this Card for my 1975 Greetings for the Holidays because all of these Avian species and many more, visit me daily in the yard

and entertain me at Breakfast with their merry songs and gay antics so each day starts off on a happy note.

Wishing you all the joys  
of the Christmas Season

Cherish and Best Wishes for a Healthy and very satisfying year for you in 1976.

RALPH HOLT CHENEY

Ralph Cheney

210

# Reunions Recall 'Good Old Days'

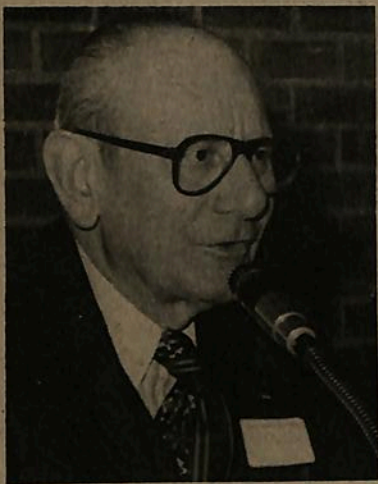
The 50th Anniversary of the founding of Long Island University was duly marked in grand style by Alumni with speeches, dining, dancing and fond reminiscences of "the good old school days" by members of the Class of '31 thru '36 which joined in reunions on The Brooklyn Center campus.

Lester J. Waldman '31, first graduate and first Alumni president, presided with his usual urbanity and inexhaustible stock of reminiscences. He was followed by other co-chairmen: Jerome Katz '32; Harry Shechtman and Dr. Alan A. Livingston, Class of '33; Jerry Harris '34; Elizabeth Schirripa Pozzuoli '35, and Dr. Joseph Kuhn '36.

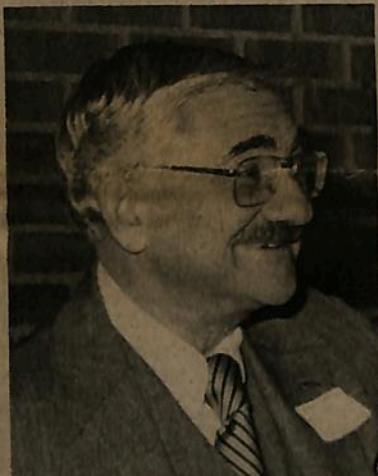
The accumulated evidence that questions the 65 cut-off by our society from the mainstream, received a strong boost that evening. The lively repartee, alertness and obvious enjoyment of the evening was capped by a standing ovation to Dr. Ralph Holt Cheney, an original member of our early faculty, when he finished his address.

The Class of '51, celebrating its 25th Anniversary, chaired by Paulette Brief Liebowitz, was part of that enjoyable evening. The "youngsters" not only had their own recollections to toss about but were let in on those of the previous generation.

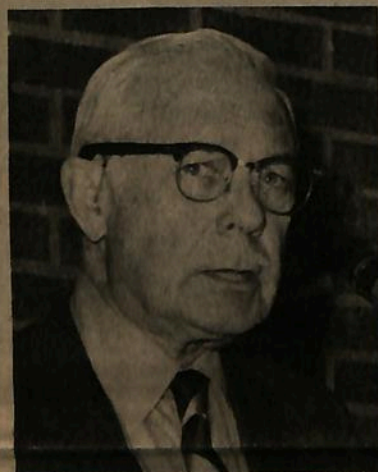
Their reminiscences had a silver lining, though.



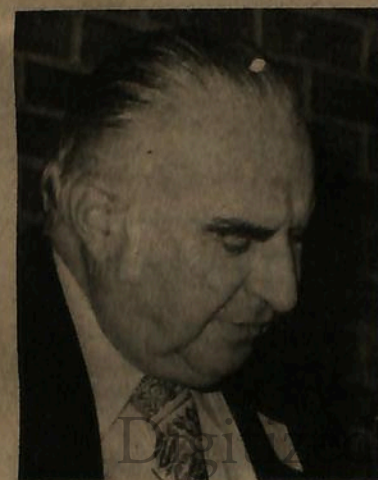
LESTER J. WALDMAN '31



HARRY SHECHTMAN '33



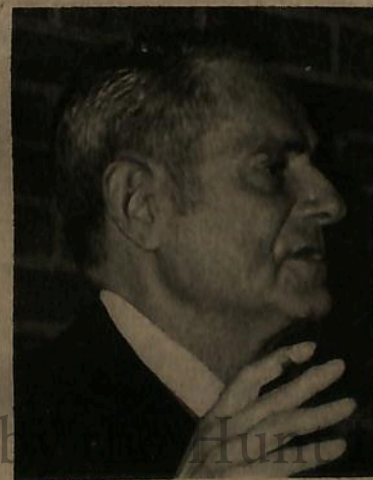
DR. RALPH HOLT CHENEY



JOSEPH H. KUHN '36



BANTER . . . Enjoying an exchange of light banter are Tony Peluso and Paulette Brief Liebowitz, classmates of '51.



JEROME KATZ '32



INVITATION TO THE DANCE . . . Connie Bacile '31 two-steps with Alan J. Butler '33 and obviously both are having a ball.



MEMORIES . . . Yearbooks were heavily thumbed through to jolt rusty memories. Jerry Harris '34 and Elizabeth Schirripa Pozzuoli '35 find their perusal absorbing.



A TIME TO BREAK BREAD . . . Classmates and friends top off a perfect evening at dinner served in the Faculty Dining Hall.

Digitized by the Department of Botany for Botanical Documentation

The Brooklyn Center/Long Island University  
**ALUMNI NEWSLETTER**

Vol. 5 No. 1

September, 1975

## Honor 'Brewed Up' for Coffee Researcher

During the 1930s and 1940s, probably more pots of hot black coffee were brewed up in the Biology labs at The Brooklyn Center in one week than at a New Year's Eve party at the Waldorf — and you know that's a heck of a lot of coffee.

But the sobering fact (pardon the pun) is that the coffee was perked and consumed in the cause of science in a series of experiments conducted by an eminent researcher on the faculty.

"The Brooklyn Center students were my guinea pigs," confided Dr. Ralph Holt Cheney, who made a professional hobby out of the scientific study of world beverages, specifically the botany, chemistry and pharmacology of coffee, chocolate and tea.

"The co-eds had capability, good humor, and a wonderful cooperative spirit tied up in their personalities," reminisced Dr. Cheney, who served as chairman of the Department of Biology from 1929 to 1946. "The guys look like jail birds facing a firing squad, but they were valuable assistants in a research project," he continued while producing the photos shown at the right.

The project he singled out for the LIU students was his experimental study of the effects of caffeine per se and of caffeine beverages (particularly black coffee) on normal healthy adults



DR. RALPH HOLT CHENEY

The results of his findings were widely published.

Many of his former students, remembering the "good old days" and the devotion of his wife, Billie (now deceased), to fund raising programs for the University, have decided to "brew up" something for him in return.

They have set up a fund drive to equip a laboratory to be dedicated in his honor. Put into words, the laboratory will be built "to honor a teacher and internationally renowned scientist, who has touched and enriched the lives of thousands with grace, with fire, with reverence for knowledge, and with help toward career attainment."

Dr. Cheney is now living in "active retirement" in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where he worked for a great many summers with the Marine Biological Laboratory which is located there. He makes occasional visits to Brooklyn to visit or to telephone former friends here and at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden where he also worked and was an honorary research associate.

In 1959, more than 13 years after he left The Brooklyn Center, he was given a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Astor by the Alumni Association and the Alumni Fund. A plaque was presented saluting him as "a great friend and teacher."

Presiding was Connie Bacile '31, then chairman of the Alumni Fund's special gifts committee, who reported that \$10,000 had been pledged in Dr. Cheney's honor.

A similar goal has been set to equip a laboratory. Contributions should be made out to the "LIU



COFFEE BREAK . . . Co-eds and coffee went together in the cause of science at The Brooklyn Center.



'BREW MASTERS' . . . Two-fisted male coffee drinkers were in vogue among Dr. Cheney's science students.

Ralph Holt Cheney Laboratory" and forwarded to the Alumni Office, Long Island University, The Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn,

N.Y. 11201, according to fund drive co-chairmen Dr. Dennis M. Gurley M.S. '62 and Dr. Jack Goldstein '46.

#-XII-1976  
Baton Rouge, La

Dear Dr. Cheney,

The end of our bicentennial year. The years seem to rush by! - Our small family is dispersed at the moment. Maxine, a graduate of Grinnell College is working as a volunteer for the Farm Workers Union in Chicago and Los Angeles. We'd like to see her in graduate school and that may come later. Our younger daughter Dois is spending her Junior Year (Brandeis U.) in Peru. Her interest is in archeology. The old folks are at home, Sera still teaching at Southern U. and I'm here as usual. Would you believe that I could now officially "retire" - after 26 years at LSU? I don't intend to yet. I'll be 61 in February but still have a lot to do. - The International Mycological Congress has made me Chairman of the Ethnomycological Section. We meet in '77 at Tampa, Fla. and

I'm busy organizing symposia and related matters. My field work in the Americas goes on and for some years now. I've been collaborating with the NY Botanical Garden in identifying Tricellales collected by their people. Peace, joy and friendship in various parts of Paix, joie et amitié Latin America. I've des - Paz, júbilo y amistad <sup>criollo</sup> spp. nov. and think Mup, pagocmb u gpyrda I have sent you 和平 快乐 友谊 reprints. New data are also coming up in ethnomycology. G.C. Ainsworth (English) in his new book (1976) "Introduction to the history of mycology" (Cambridge U. Press) cites my work and includes 2 of my papers among those he considers to have made significant contributions to mycological knowledge. He lists only 23 titles in this category world-wide between 1970 & 1974. Of course, I am pleased to

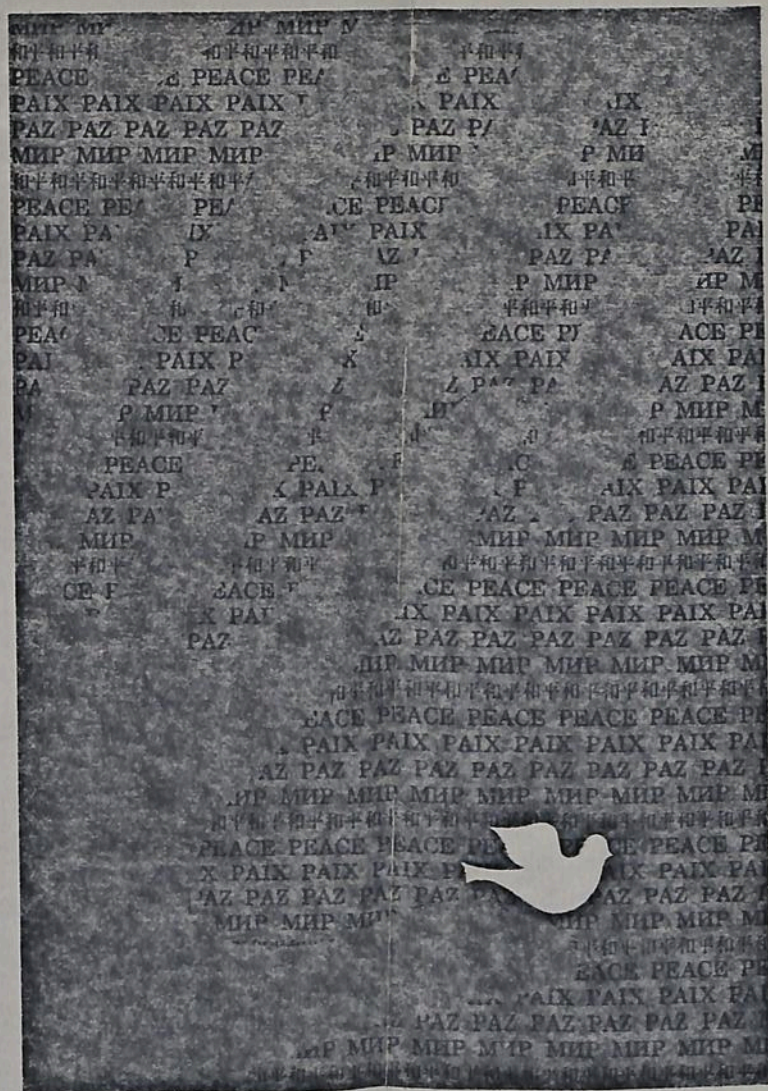
have their recognition. I continue to write reviews of mycological books for Economic Botany and several are in press.

You know the high regard in which I always have - and always will - hold you and your work! Please let me hear about your current projects. Meanwhile, my best wishes as always, from your invariable friend, admirer and disciple,  
*Bernie Lowy*

★ Peace . . . design by Jill Barber of the United States of America, contributed to benefit UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. ★ Paix . . . composition de Jill Barber (Etats-Unis d'Amérique) - offerte à l'UNICEF, le Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance. ★ Paz . . . obra de Jill Barber, de los Estados Unidos de América. Contribución al UNICEF, el Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia. ★ Мир . . . рисунок Джилла Барбера (Соединенные Штаты Америки). Подарок Детскому фонду Организации Объединенных Наций (ЮНИСЕФ). ★ 和平 . . . 吉尔·巴伯 (美利坚合众国) 制图, 赠联合国儿童基金会。



PRINTED IN U.S.A.



Ralph Holt Cheney  
11 Park Street  
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Friday, December 17, 1976

Dear Bonnie,  
Your reprint of three new species of Tremellales from Panama arrived today and as usual Bonnie they are beautifully described. Congratulations. With your reputation internationally for the Tremellales, and Sara teaching at Southern Cross, and Mapiine having graduated from Grinnell College, and Lois with her interest in archeology, the Lowy family is certainly an academic one. It is difficult for me to believe you could "retire" at 61 but I think it <sup>is</sup> wise to continue a while if you are physically in good condition and while you are at the peak of your professional recognition. On the other hand, however, don't wait too long but consider freeing yourself from the routine stress and strains of academic scheduled routines, while you and Sara are both in good health so you can enjoy many of the so-called "Femin Years" together. My one regret in my life is that I kept my nose on the grindstone until I was 70 with the idea that then Billie (Mrs. Cheney) and I would take a leisurely trip around the world. I wish I had quit or at least slowed up and taken vacation periods to travel with her while we were both still in vigorous health. But, I retired as of Sept. 1966 and in October 1966 Billie fell and broke her hip and then one thing after another happened to her so she was relatively house-bound thereafter. We had 49 years together but were not blessed with the 5 or 10 years we had anticipated in retirement. So many of my friends have had the same experience, they delayed retirement for so long that one or the other became ill before they could enjoy travel or doing whatever they had planned for pure pleasure.

It is wonderful Bonnie to learn that Arisworth is citing your work in his book. It is indeed flattering and satisfying to have one's previously published papers be referred to, or quoted from, because of their distinction in their field. I know how you must feel as I was 80 last June

and have not published anything for 3 or 4 years. All I do now-a-days of an academic nature is to serve on the Editorial Board of two European Biomedical Journals.

So I feel I'm "passé" and it was a great lift to my spirit and egoism to have ~~my~~ some of my work of the 1920-30-40-50-60's referred and quoted when I was 80 years old.

For example, - a professor from Oklahoma phoned me and wrote asking for the privilege of mimeographing a chart from my book on the "Economic species of the genus Coffea L." He wanted to pass it out to his audience when he was scheduled to give a paper on Coffee at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Econ. Bot.

Then, Professor Kihlman of Sweden wrote me last Fall for the privilege of quoting me in his book on chromosomes in plant cells (I don't know his exact title). He apparently recognizes some of work I've done on the effects of some of the chemical constituents of coffee (Caffeine, theobromine, theophylline on the egg, sperm, and early development of the sea urchin (Arbacia)).  
Anyhow, a little recognition of this sort when you grow older is "music to one's ears" even though we don't say much about it.

Extra  
Very copy  
sent by  
I had 3 make  
for my nephews.

Likewise Bernie, when you who have proven <sup>to be my</sup> the best student who established himself in botanical research; or Victor Drill, my best student in Pharmacological; or Edward Kaighn, my best student in cell physiology; (from Brooklyn College years) who is known for his "in cell physiology"; express your admiration and friendship for me, it does my soul good (even if the good lord knows it is exaggerated!). So Thank you Bernie for the last paragraph of your holiday letter.

All these happy reminiscences have occurred in my 88<sup>th</sup> year so 1976 has been a great year in my life. I am still well and enjoying life.

Cheerios and Best Wishes for a healthy, happy, and very restful year for you in 1977.

Ralph Cherry

INSTITUTIONEN FÖR GENETIK  
OCH VÄXTFÖRÄDLING

Lantbrukshögskolan  
750 07 UPPSALA 7  
Telefon 018-10 20 00

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS  
AND PLANT BREEDING

Royal Agricultural College  
of Sweden  
S-750 07 UPPSALA 7, SWEDEN

November 28, 1976

Professor Ralph Holt Cheney  
11 Park Street  
Woods Hole, Mass. 02543  
Dear Professor Cheney,

Thank you very much for allowing me to reproduce material from your publications, for the reprints you sent me, and, above all, for the copy of your fine and valuable book "Coffee". In my collection of reprints and books on caffeine and caffeine-containing beverages, it will occupy a place of honour. It is really amazing that when your book was published in 1925, I was only three years old.

As you may recall, you wrote me a kind and appreciating letter after the publication of my thesis "Induction of chromosome changes with purine derivatives" in 1952. You also sent me a number of reprints of your publications and among them those containing the passages I have asked your permission to reproduce. I have always enjoyed reading your articles on caffeine-containing beverages, a subject on which you must be the foremost expert in the world. These articles were also of great help to me when I wrote the chapter in my book which I have called just "Caffeine-containing beverages".

Of the more unusual caffeine-containing beverages I have become particularly interested in guaraná, but so far I have not succeeded in getting hold of any. As far as I know, you are the only one who has published anything about guaraná in English since Professor Stockman's report in 1912 to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (a copy enclosed). Professor Stockman's report also contains some delightful photographs of specimens of guaraná moulded in the form of native Brazilian animals. I wrote to a geneticist in Brazil with whom I have exchanged reprints and asked him if such moulded specimens of guaraná are still prepared by the natives in Brazil and if so, whether it would be possible to get any, but he had never heard about them. Have you?

I must apologize for not having acknowledged the receipt of the book and the reprints before. However, when they arrived I was extremely busy with the indexing and final proof-reading of my book. I have found the Publishers, Elsevier, very difficult to deal with. They have not allowed me sufficient time for the final checking and polishing of the manuscript and I am afraid that the constant pressure I have been working under has been bad for the quality of the book. So I am quite worried, but there is nothing I can do about it any more: the book is being printed and will be out in March or April. I would feel honoured if you would accept a copy of the published work. As soon as I get leaflets from the publicity department of Elsevier, I shall forward one to you to inform you about the content of the book.

Thank you once more for book, reprints and letter. I really appreciated very much hearing from you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Bengt Kihlman*  
B.A. Kihlman



4

# Quarterly Journal of Crude Drug Research

(since 1961)

## *Vierteljährliche Zeitschrift für Drogen-Forschung*

(seit 1961)

CHENEY, R.H. -- ALOE DRUG IN HUMAN THERAPY, Pg. 1523-30.

Publisher:

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Dr. E. F. STEINMETZ — 347 Keizersgracht — Amsterdam (Netherlands)

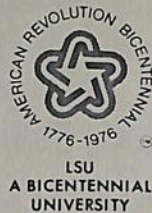
Vol. X (1970) 1

No Fungi here but just evidence that I am still functioning in the scientific world!!! — *Luigi Orlando — Ralph Cheney*

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

BATON ROUGE · LOUISIANA · 70803

College of Arts and Sciences



DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

14-III-1977

Dear Dr. Cheney,

I was glad to receive your note and reprint. Of course, you must realize that you have shattered a precedent, because unless I'm woefully mistaken it isn't Christmas!

It is also a curious coincidence that within an hour after hearing from you, a now retired member of our Department came in to speak to me about the use of Ilex vomitoria tea by southerners during and after the Civil War. I immediately thought of your monograph on Coffea, took it off my shelf and found your statement verifying its use as a beverage at that time! My colleague is gathering information for a popular article, so I loaned her your treatise for reference. Now this gives me the chance to ask something of you that I have been postponing for years. — Would you be good enough to autograph my copy if I send it to you? I would love to have it.

I'm not sure whether I sent you the enclosed

reprint before. If so, pardon the repetition.

as ever,

Bernie

March 21, 1977

Dear Bernie,  
I was interested in your last letter referring to your use of my book for information regarding Ilex vomitoria as a tea a century ago. Every once in a while I learn that someone had gotten some information from it even after so many years. Of course it always pleases me and this year I have been surprised several times. When the meeting of the Society of Economic Botany was held at the University of Illinois last year, a man from Oklahoma State phoned me for the privilege of using the large "Inset" on the Chronology of the Introduction of Coffee into the various countries of the world. I believe he was giving a paper on Coffee and wanted to quote or distribute xerox copies of it to the group at the time of his lecture. Then last November, Professor Bengt Kihlman of the Royal Agricultural College of Uppsala, Sweden wrote me a very flattering letter asking for the privilege of quoting quite extensively from the parts on Caffeine-containing beverages in my book which he wishes to include in a book he is publishing in 1977 by the Elsevier Press. Now you loaned the book for its data on Ilex vomitoria. I don't know how you ever remembered it was in it. Anyway it is always heart-warming to realize work done in the past occasionally gets some use.

Incidentally, don't send your copy to be autographed. I am honored to know you wish it after all these years. When the book was published by the NY Univ. Press I obtained a number of copies which have been resting peacefully in a trunk stored at the Brooklyn <sup>Botanic</sup> Garden and eventually last Fall I transferred it down to my home here in Woods Hole. It has been out-of-print for many years now and every once in a while I ~~get~~ receive a request from somewhere in the world so I blow the dust

off a copy and it gives me a lot of satisfaction  
to learn someone really wants a copy.

So, someday within a week I'll open up <sup>the</sup> trunk and a copy  
gladly autograph it for you. I am really very happy  
Bernie that you wanted the autograph of this Octogenarian!  
You know one feels a little useless when you acquire  
the title, - Emeritus. I am enclosing an article on the  
"Full Professor" which was written by Richard Armour whom  
I met at Pomona College in California when I was visiting  
my niece several years ago. He has written a number of  
humorous little books. I'm sure you will get a laugh  
from his book, - "The Academic Bestiary" from which the  
enclosed "Full Professor" is taken.

I am maintaining Good Health fortunately so far  
on life's journey on this planet. During the month of May this year,  
I shall be in London for ten days and then take a trip through  
England, Scotland + Wales and fly to Boston June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cheerio - Keep Well and have a Good Spring + Summer.  
Ralph

P.S. March 23, 1977

Bernie - when I got the book out of the trunk, I discovered I had made several  
xerox copies of "Reviews" that came out at the time it was published.  
Forgive me for including them as they seem to suggest I am blowing "my own horn"  
but I'm sure you can understand that I was pleased that such  
complimentary remarks were made by such competent people  
as Professor Coulter, Dr. White, etc.

Ⓢ

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

BATON ROUGE · LOUISIANA · 70803

College of Arts and Sciences



DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

31-III-1977

Dear Dr. Cheney,

It was most gratifying to have the laudatory lines you inscribed in your book. They will always be a source of pride to me.

It should be a great source of satisfaction to you that more than 50 years after its publication, your monograph is still sought after and consulted by specialists in the field!

Your xerox copy of a page from Arnau's "Academic Bestiary" is quite clever and I'll look up his book in our library. The title of his piece on "The Full Professor" reminded me of the somewhat acerbic-humorous way in which Dr. Mowal, back in the Old Days at LSU, used to refer to Full Professors as "Fool Professors." He also had some choice animadversions on people who wore their  $\Phi BK$ -or other keys strung on a chain over their "bellybutton." — There were some pretty distinguished professors at LSU in the late 30's

when I was a student and among the non-bio-  
logists, I still recall Kosok, Mattingly, de Barritt,  
Onís and Hazlitt. Drs. Keur, Messer and Bowen  
I remember very well. —

I hope you will have a most enjoyable  
trip to England, Scotland and Wales. About the  
time you return, I'll be heading south for Mexico  
and Guatemala.

With sincere thanks, and best wishes,  
as ever,  
Bennet

BON VOYAGE!

What, may I hear about Martha's Vineyard  
seeding from The Amen?

## The Academic Bestiary

by Richard Armour. Illustrated by Paul Darrow.  
Number two of a series.

### The Full Professor

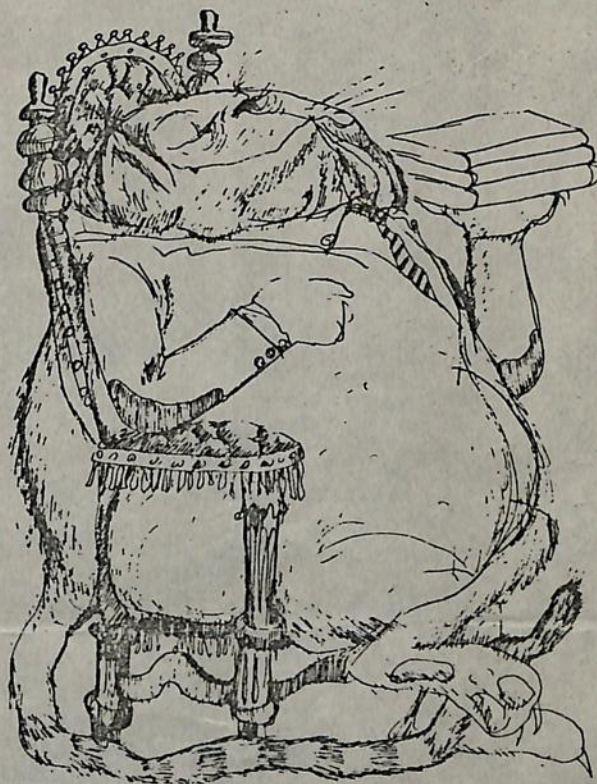
(Ad ultimum)\*

The most impressive of all the kinds of Professors is the Full Professor. It is not apparent at first glance precisely what it is full of, but there is an obvious fullness. In fact, it is so full that it seems ready to burst. It may, however, only be bursting with pride. At a closer look or, better, upon dissection, it will be seen that the Full Professor is full of such things as Information, Experience, and Authority. There may also be bites and pieces of Instructors, Assistant Professors, and Associate Professors it has chewed out or devoured because of its insatiable appetite to rise to the Top Rank and they got in the way.

The Full Professor is also full of satisfaction. Unless it goes into Administration, it is everything a Professor can hope to be. Of course it is also a Scholar, as may be seen by the brown patches on its elbows.† In fact, it is probably a Productive Scholar. Every time it produces anything it gives a copy of it to those in its Field and to the President. In order to do this, it is forced to reproduce what it produces. In the Field of Scholarship, reproduction is done with a machine and has nothing to do with sex, although the Full Professor has a Large Bibliography.

The Full Professor sits on numerous Committees. As if this were not enough, it often chairs a Committee. The Committee that has been sat on and chaired as often as

*Richard Armour, a Harvard Ph.D. in English philology, has taught at seven institutions of higher education and knows whereof he writes. Paul Darrow is professor of art at Scripps College. This selection from their book, The Academic Bestiary, is published by arrangement with William Morrow & Company, Inc. Copyright © 1974 by Richard Armour.*



once a month is, understandably, in bad shape and unable to do much.

When it is not sitting on a Committee, the Full Professor is usually to be found in its orifice, which is its nesting place, except that it is not supposed to sleep there and does so only briefly and while pretending to be actively doing something, such as thinking. It may occupy a Name Chair, which has on it the name of the Donor. One would think it would have its own name on it, but that is not the way things are done in Academe. A Name Chair is Impressive and, more important, it pays better. Only in Academe does a Chair pay, and then only when it is occupied.

It is no wonder that in time the Full Professor becomes Emeritus.‡

\*At last, finally. Or, as it may say of itself, "They should have given it to me years ago."

†Proof of the fact that it spends much time in a brown study. Or perhaps it has elbowed its way through a crowd of competitors.

‡And goes from a Name Chair to a rocking chair, though some think that by now it is off its rocker.

2-I-1978

Dear Dr. Cheney,

Another beginning. - This, incidentally, will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year since my B.S. at L.U.

- I'll remember 1977 as the year of the II International Mycological Congress (Tampa, Aug-Sept.). The Ethnomycological Section, of which I was Chairman, went off as scheduled. Five speakers, 3 from foreign countries (Mexico, Scotland, Nigeria) and about 6 hours of meetings - which took almost 2 yrs. of preparation! -

This summer I plan to return to Guatemala for more ethnomycological work. Meanwhile, I have a pile of specimens from the neotropics sent for determination by the NYBB. -

I hope that your visit to England and environs last May was pleasant. My only visit there was in the summer of 1975 when I divided about 10 days between Canterbury and London (mostly Kent). I hope to see sights and sites in the course of my travels connected with records of fungi, which makes it all more meaningful to me.

All my best wishes to you for a healthy and happy new year! as ever, Berme

P. - The illustration on the reverse is from Kent

March 7, 1978

Dear Bernie,  
Thanks very much for the two publications from your papers  
in Mycotaxon in 1977. As always Bernie they are done  
meticulously and I am always proud of your accomplishments.  
I enjoyed your article on "Hallucinogenic mushrooms in Guatemala"  
in the Journal of Psychedelic Drugs vol. 9, no. 2: 123-125 (Apr.-June 1977)  
As the last Symposium that I organized for L. Eddy before I resigned my  
position as Director of Graduate Studies in Biology in 1968, was on the subject  
of Hallucinogenic Drugs from Plants.

You certainly played a major rôle in the II International  
Mycological Congress, as Chairman of the Ethnomycological Section.  
Here hoping your trip to Guatemala this summer proves rewarding  
to your personal investigations and also another happy and entertaining  
experience for you.

My trip to England, Scotland, and Wales last May was  
delightful and rich in contacts at Oxford and Cambridge Universities  
particularly. Isn't Kew Gardens a wonderful place?

1977 was an eventful year for me.

I spent the month of May in Britain.

In June I gave a paper on "Medicinal Herbs" employed in Modern Times (Today)  
in modern medication for treatment of certain Heart Conditions, Nerve Abnormalities,  
Cancer (particularly childhood Leucemia) and contraception, at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden  
2-day Symposium on Herbs.

On October 23, 1977, I married a girl who was graduated with me from High School in 1914!

I had not seen her for over 50 years but I attended a High School Reunion in April 1977  
and we had each been alone for many years, she was a widow for 20 yrs. and I a widower for 4 yrs.

~~See Over~~ → Then in December I was hospitalized for two weeks but milder and I am both well now  
and I am selling my home in Woods Hole and in the process of buying a new home in Falmouth, Mass.  
I hope to move to Falmouth by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

It took courage to start a new life at our age but we are very happy together and hope to be blessed  
with a considerable number of years ahead.

Digitized by the [Fruit Institute](http://www.fruitinstitute.org/) for Botanical Documentation

Charlie & Best Regards to you and your family - Rysz. Chorny

P.S. On December 7, 1977, a Research Laboratory for the Biological Sciences was dedicated in my honor to be known as the "Ralph Holt Cheney Biology Research Laboratory" by the Brooklyn Center of C. I. U.

I was in the hospital at the time so I could not attend the Ceremony but I certainly appreciate the honor. I believe the contributions from the Alumni were primarily from the graduates of 1931-1941 with whom I had such happy relationships during those formative years of C. I. U. and had the privilege of founding the first research program in Biology.

You and Sadonathaw were my Assts. in those days and I realize that your services were a major factor in making it possible to conduct the research I did during those years.

Ⓟ

13-III-1975

Dear Dr. Cheney,

I am dropping everything to write to you, having just received your letter with the marvellous news that you have remarried! It is the most exhilarating news that I have had in ages. My most sincere congratulations to you both. Hungarians have a time honored tradition of proposing this toast to a couple on the occasion of their marriage: May you both live happily to be 120!

I am also delighted about the R.H. Cheney Biology Research Laboratory. The L.V. Administration has kept me informed about it and I am proud to have contributed very modestly toward its founding, along with a great number of others who hold you in the highest esteem.

Your brief stay in the hospital testifies to your great recuperative power, but please don't make a habit of testing yourself in this way.

Yes, New is beautiful. Of the ± 5 days Sara and I spent in London (in 1975), 3 of them were devoted to the Gardens.

I also visited a mycological colleague there, whom I saw again in Tampa at the II IMC.

This summer I plan to return to Guatemala via a somewhat different route than usual. Our daughter Doris will be graduating from Brandeis and we expect to be on hand for the ceremony on May 28th. We'll be staying briefly with friends who used to live in Baton Rouge but who moved to Mass. years ago to join the faculty at the Univ. of Mass. in Amherst. <sup>Afterwards,</sup> Sara and Doris will probably visit Italy together, while I go south for field work. This might be a fine opportunity to pay you a quick visit after all these years, provided, of course, that you happen to be at home during the last days of May or the first few days of June. I'll probably spend a day or 2 in NY with a sister and brother-in-law before heading for Guatemala.

It is very good to know that you and your wife are healthy, happy and active - and full of plans. It is also admirable that you are not looking backward, but toward a bright future!

With all my best wishes, as ever,

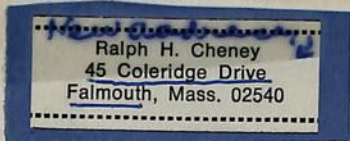
Bennie Honey

Greetings Bernice + Sarah + family.  
Hope all is well with you  
healthwise and in every way.

I often wish our paths  
would cross and I appreciate  
your occasional letters and reprints.

Cheerio and have a good 1979.

Ralph



20-XII-1978

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Cheney,

It is time again to look back at the old year — and forward to the new. Do you realize that we have been corresponding — mostly at this time of year — with few interruptions since 1952! I believe that a letter I wrote to you last March must have gone astray. It was in response to your letter of March 7 in which you told me of your remarriage the previous October. You both have my sincere wishes for your happiness! Are you planning to go abroad again this year? From your enthusiastic comments on your trip to England, Scotland and Wales I would be my guess that you may want to return. — My plans for 1979 include a possible return to the Amazon to collect more Tremellales. Since publishing my monograph in Folia Neotropica in 1971 I have described 11 spp. nov. from the neotropics and the NYBG has asked me to write a supplement. A part from the spp. nov. I expect to include revised keys and collections that extend the geographical range of numerous species. I continue to write reviews of mycological and ethnomycological books for Economic Botany, which I find to be a pleasant task.

All best wishes to you both

for a very happy New Year! Love,

Greetings Bernie.

Hope all is well with you and your family  
so you can enjoy this Season of light  
and Joy for everyone.

Cheer's — Warm, personal regards,  
Ralph

Wishing you a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

MILDRED AND RALPH CHENEY

4-VI-1980

Dear Dr. Cheney,

A few years ago I hinted at the possibility of my retirement soon, and now the moment has arrived. As of July 1 I'll be joining that happy throng who have the status of "emeritus." For a number of reasons, I decided not to wait until I was 70 (I was 64 last February). To get off to a good start, I'll be going down to Brazil as part of a team invited by the New York Botanical Garden to participate in their "Projecto Flora Amazonica." Beginning in September I'll be making a survey of some of the fungi over a 9-month period. Many botanists, of course, have worked in the Amazon, but few have had any interest in the fungi. I feel there is some urgency about doing this now because the ecology there is changing rapidly due to the extensive road building and

other "improvements." Irwin and Goodland, and  
many others have studied the situation there  
and feel gloomy about the future of the  
Amazon. We seem bent on self-destruction.

Homo stultissimus all over again! —

Anyway, this is to let you know what I  
am up to, and I send you and Mildred  
a great abrazo, Latin American style!

Yours, as ever,

Bernie Howey

Ralph H. Cheney  
45 Coleridge Drive  
Falmouth, MA 02540

Greetings to Bernie + Sarah + children.  
Hope the December Holidays Bless you all  
with Good Health and Comfort. When  
you read the daily papers and watch  
the TV News about the hectic conditions  
in so many areas of the world, it makes  
you feel grateful to be living in the U.S.A.

Hope your research travels in 1981  
Bernie will prove to be very rewarding  
and satisfactory.

Last May we visited the Hill-Brooklyn Center  
to see the Cheney Lab for Research in the  
Biological Sciences. They (Dr. Zetner (the librarian)  
and the current biology staff gave us a  
great day. To read the plaque on the wall makes  
me eternally grateful for the thoughts and  
Contributions of the Alumni of the 1930's who were  
responsible in making it possible.

Cheerio + Keep well in have a good year - 1981.

Ralph + Mildred Cheney

June 30, 1980

Dear Bernie,

Thanks for your recent letter. Welcome to the "Emeritus Club" & I am glad Bernie that you are wise enough to retire at 64 instead of 70. I regret that I waited until I had to retire at 70 in accordance with the University regulation. As a result, as so often happens, when you wait to be 70, the health factor faces you as rendering you unable to travel or continue to do the things you always hoped to do. That happened to me when my wife's health failed that same year I retired. You are fortunate and lucky to be invited to participate in the Projeto Flora Amazonica to study the fungi. The great majority of all botanical studies in all South America have been in the Spermatophyta. The fungi have been neglected as you are well aware. You, Bernie, have a bibliography of new genera and species and I am impressed with the excellent detail and perfection of each publication. The photograph of *Neotremella guzmanii* Lowy is a beautiful example. The past twenty years have certainly enabled you to establish yourself as an authority in the Tremelleles. I am proud of you Bernie. Your contributions to the Flora Neotropica have been outstanding and the N.Y. Botanical Garden is fortunate to have <sup>you</sup> available to go to Brazil.

Congratulations also upon your translation of the poem by the Hungarian poet Petöfi as "One Thought Disturbs me..." The French professor at d.Ill. years ago would have been



From the desk

Ralph H. Cheney  
45 Coleridge Drive  
Falmouth, MA 02540

RALPH CHENEY

Greetings to Bernie and family with Best Wishes for a happy holiday season and a satisfactory year in 1982 with Good Health blessing you all.

To learn that your status is "emeritus" is hard to believe but it is difficult to believe I am 85 1/2 yrs. old. I still think of you as a loyal and very capable Assistant associated with my 1930 years! Time, however, has treated you well Bernie and I am proud of your service to Botany and attaining such nationally and international (So. America) recognition in the area in which you have made your special interest.

I can appreciate your finding ethnomycological studies more satisfying than just pure taxonomy. If you recall my first major publication, my scientific monograph of the genus *Coffea*, it was a terrific detail of classification and all my later work on *Coffea* constituents was experimental physiology which I found so much more stimulating and rewarding.

You are fortunate Bernie to have been granted "space" in which to work when you became

"emeritus": Here in the N.Y. area,  
when you retire no "space" is granted  
usually as all institutions need it for  
younger active staff members. I was lucky  
to have the Brooklyn Botanic Garden supply me  
with "Space" when I retired as long as I was  
in Brooklyn.

Well Bernie have a good year  
and continue to be blessed with Good Health  
for many, many of Retirement.

Cheerful and Warm personal regards,  
Ralph

*of all the Holidays*  
At Christmas and all through the year  
may there be peace in your world  
and joy in your heart

Ralph and Mildred Cheney



## From the Desk of

DR. DENNIS CURLEY

Chairman, Biology Department

Possibly the two most striking features of the Biology Department in 1983 are the faculty and the students. The faculty has remained constant in number since the early sixties and Biology is still one of the largest departments at The Brooklyn Center, with 250 undergraduate and 60 graduate majors. Many students are interested in professional school and the department still does a good job preparing students for this goal. So far this year, 13 out of 14 students recommended by the Pre-Professional Committee have gained entrance into a professional school. Medical Technology and Cytotechnology are very active programs and interest in graduate school remains strong. Approximately 30 percent of the graduates of the Master's Degree Program in Biology, have gone on to receive the Ph.D. degree or some other professional degree.

### Change Has Occurred

Change, however, has certainly occurred. Probably, the largest single change was the building of the pharmacy laboratory and the move of the pharmacy faculty to The Brooklyn Center campus. One of the new laboratories was made available for the use of the Biology department, and the presence of the pharmacy faculty provided the opportunity for collaborative research and teaching. During the 70's a significant effort was made to secure grants for the department from federal sources and, fortunately, we were successful. Robert Lewis together with Jordan Hershon, Sebastian Carito, and John Tseng (Chemistry) were successful in obtaining an MBS grant from the National Institute of Health to support students and faculty research. More recently, Bill Smith, Rocco Filazzola, Don Rogers (Chemistry), John Ferraro (Chemistry), and myself were successful in obtaining a MARC Grant from NIH which provides tuition for honors students and funds for faculty research.

Additional support for the department was also provided by a MISIP grant from the National Science Foundation which was obtained through the efforts of Andreas Zavitsas. All of these grants have provided research equipment, direct support of student and faculty research, tuition for students as well as stipends, and laboratory construction including a new tissue culture laboratory, renovated organic chemistry laboratory, and an instrumentation laboratory.

### Launch Cheney Laboratory

Federal Funds and alumni funds produced the Cheney Laboratory. University funds were provided to renovate Room 916 in the M-Building which many of you will recognize as the genetics-histology-physiology laboratory on the ninth floor of Metcalf Hall. This year the Charles Hayden Foundation has awarded the center a \$50,000 grant which will be used to renovate M510, the bacteriology laboratory.

This past year, the largest change in the Biology curriculum has occurred. A new concentration in Molecular Biology was approved by the faculty; a director, Dr. Clifford Selsky, was appointed to the faculty, and the first class of students commenced their studies. Funds from a Federal Title III grant obtained by the administration enabled the development of the program and the purchase of equipment. Most significantly the department was able to construct a new laboratory to house an Electron Microscope and to set up a new Molecular Biology laboratory. Both of these laboratories are housed in the pharmacy laboratory building.

As we mark the 25th milestone of the Department's existence, we look forward to continuing growth. Among the projects we would like to see launched, with the help of alumni, is a new \$25,000 research laboratory, for both faculty and students. Our students are showing a real, dedicated interest in scientific study but the space is not there. To outfit the lab, we would also need a research microscope and a Lammannar Flow Safety Hood, each costing \$5,000.

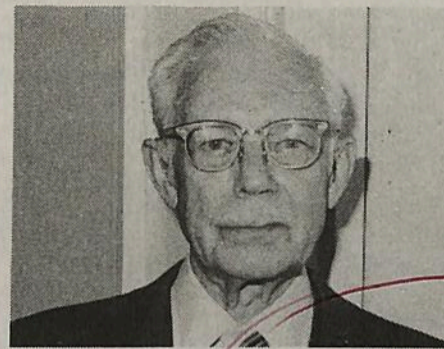
## Here Is Our Present Distinguished Faculty

Our current Biology faculty, with outstanding credentials in so many fields of scientific study, includes: Robert Ballweg: Protozoology; Anatomy and Physiology; Sebastian Carito: Microbiology--NSF grant to study genetics of *Staphylococcus* and participant in MBS grant; David Cohen: Biological techniques, director of Science Division and part-time biology professor; Dennis Curley: Microbiology, Immunology--chairman of Biology Department and program director of MARC grant from NIH; Francis Dowd: General Biology; Rocco Filazzola: Virology, Microbiology--participant in MARC grant; Domenic Firriolo: Anatomy, Ecology--chairman of the Pre-Professional Committee; Leonard Grosso: Histology; Jordan Hirshon: Botany--participant in MBS grant; David Hammerman: Physiology.

Also, Anthony Iovino: Neuroendocrinology and Animal Behavior--former chairman of Biology Department, Science Division Director, and currently chairman of Faculty Senate; Robert Lewis: Cytology; Anatomy--program director of MBS grant from NIH; June Polak: General Biology; Microbiology--formerly a member of the Pharmacy faculty. Currently on sabbatical continuing her dissertation research in Molecular Biology; Norman Rothwell: Genetics and Cytology--author of two very successful college textbooks, *Genetics and Human Genetics*; Clifford Selsky: Molecular Biology--joined the faculty in September, 1982, to be director of LIU's Molecular Biology Program; W.R. (Bill) Smith: Embryology--participant in MARC grant; and George Wendt: Microbiology.

## The Cheney Laboratory:

# A Tribute to Alumni Giving



DR. RALPH HOLT CHENEY

The Dr. Ralph Holt Cheney Laboratory Fund was established in 1974 as a result of the efforts of Leon Schulman and Dr. and Mrs. Jack Goldstein. Alumni were asked to contribute to a fund in honor of a very dedicated LIU teacher, researcher and advisor.

As a result of the interest of dedicated Alumni, \$12,000 was raised. This money was used to transform an under-utilized space on the ninth floor of Metcalf Hall into the Ralph Holt Cheney Research Laboratory.

In 1970, the "Cheney Lab" was used by Rhonda Waxman, an honors undergraduate student, to complete her research under the direction of Dr. Jordan Hirshon.

Rhonda is a student in the New Jersey College of Medicine at present.

Currently the laboratory is being used by two undergraduate and two graduate students to complete required research projects for their degrees. They are working under the direction of Dr. W.R. Smith and the research projects they are working on involves the study of proteins necessary for the fertilization of the sea urchin egg.

The Biology Department and its students extend their collective thanks to all who contributed to the building of this new laboratory, dedicated to the honor of R.H. Cheney who currently resides in Falmouth, Mass.



In 1970, Rhonda Waxman became the first LIU Brooklyn Center undergraduate to use The Dr. Ralph Holt Cheney Laboratory. With her are Dr. Jordan Hirshon (center) and Dr. Dennis Curley. (Photo: Billie Billing)



### Honor Society's 25th Year

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Alpha Epsilon Delta, the International Premedical Honor Society,



CHENEY

**DR. RALPH HOLT CHENEY**, on ~~March 4, 1984,~~ a member of the Department of Biology from 1929 to 1946. (See Dr. Elliott S.M. Gatner's and Dr. Charles Tanzer's reminiscences about Dr. Cheney on