been granted a year's leave of absence for travel and study abroad, and Dean E. K. Graham has been appointed to act in his stead; Professor M. H. Stacy, of the department of civil engineering, will act as dean of the college of liberal arts in place of Professor Graham; Robert L. James, C.E. (Cornell), has been appointed assistant professor of drawing; Parker H. Daggett, S.B. (Harvard), has been promoted from associate professor of electrical engineering to full professor in charge of the department; James M. Bell, Ph.D. (Cornell), formerly associate professor of physical chemistry, becomes full professor; W. L. Jeffries, A.M. (University of North Carolina), has been appointed instructor in chemistry.

Dr. P. G. Stiles, assistant professor of physiology at Simmons College, has been elected instructor in physiology in Harvard University.

Dr. Karl von Auwers, professor of chemistry at Greifswald, has accepted a call to Marburg, as successor to Professor Th. Zincke.

## *DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE*

### COLOR CORRELATION IN GARDEN BEANS

The note by Professor Hedrick on page 917 about the correlation of the color of the inside of the calyx cup and flesh of the peach is interesting. A similar correlation in garden beans has recently been observed at this station.

The blossom colors of many varieties of beans have been described as either white, light pink or pink, and most of the common varieties can readily be referred to one of these classes, though some varieties of the several classes may differ slightly among themselves in the depth and distribution of color.

There seem to be definite and constant correlations between these blossom colors and the color of the seed coat. A white or eyed bean is always white flowered unless possibly when the eye is very large. A white-flowered variety may have mottled or self-colored beans, but a genuine black pigment, such as seen in the black wax varieties, never accompanies a white or light pink, but always a pink flower. I do not recall any exception to this last. The bean may be pure black or mottled, with black appearing in the mottling, but in either case the flower is a pretty constant shade of pink. Sometimes a light pink flower may be associated with very dark colored seeds, yet their color is distinct from the genuine black of the black wax beans.

In general light pink flowers are associated with mottled or self-colored seeds of various shades of yellow, red and brown, but, as indicated above, never with a genuine black pigment, nor with white or eyed beans unless possibly when the eye is very large. It is probably due to the various seed coat colors that the flowers classed as light pink vary as much as they do among themselves; they are not as uniform as those classed as pink.

Just where the connection is between the blossom and seed coat color is not obvious but it is certain that there is some connection. Not only are the times of manifestation of the colors far apart, but there is no obvious resemblance between the colors. Why should a black bean arise from a pink or more exactly a purplish pink flower? Yet there must be some connection, and it would seem reasonable to believe that they arise from a common cause: that the plant possesses some pigment-producing substance capable of producing one color in the flower and an apparently entirely different color in the seed coat.

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### A NEW METHOD FOR LABELING MICROSCOPIC SLIDES

It is very desirable that permanent microscopic mounts have permanent labels. Ordinary labels, even if of the best manufacture, are unsatisfactory, because the adhesive property of the glue becomes impaired with age. The so-called "Diamond Ink" which may be easily applied to glass, produces an etched surface which may be written upon and a permanent label obtained. This ink, however, is only sold by certain firms and as a consequence is not easily obtained.