Table 2. Results obtained by giving equal volume of soil for each plant.

Pot size, face diameter and height (in.)	No. of plants per pot	Mean flowering duration (days)
9	1	135.3
12	4	130.1
15	7	131.7

Critical difference for comparing two-treatment means,

seems to have been noted in the case of rice, a tropical crop. On the view that a lower level of nutrition hastens flowering, the 6-in. pots with three plants in each should flower earlier than 12-in. pots with one plant in each, since the quantity of nutrients available per plant must be much lower in the former case. Still the latter comes to flower earlier than the former, contrary to expectations. This may be due to one of the following reasons: (i) starvation does hasten flowering up to a particular nutritional level, beyond which the heading time is delayed, or (ii) the principle that starvation hastens flowering does not hold good for rice. Whichever contention is correct can be verified only by further experimentation. Facilities for sand culture do not exist at this institute. It is hoped that work in institutions where such facilities exist can clarify the position.

The finding that a difference of more than 3 wk in the time of flowering can be obtained by manipulating the number of plants in different-sized pots and should be a useful addition to the methods employed for overcoming the difficulty of crossing period-fixed varieties of different durations.

We are grateful to N. Parthasarathy, director, and R. L. M. Ghose, geneticist and botanist, Central Rice Research Institute, for reading this manuscript and making helpful suggestions.

B. Misro S. V. SASTRI

Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack-4, Orissa, India

References

- W. Stiles, An Introduction to Plant Physiology (Methuen,
- London, 1936).

 E. Russell, Soil Conditions and Plant Growth (Longmans, Green, New York, 1937).
- 7 December 1953.

Emeritus House*

I have had more than half-a-century of experience in the field of glass technology and research and still study the current literature daily. I have, during this period, produced or improved practically all types and colors of glass. Since my retirement from teaching in the fall of 1951, I have had to engage in consulting practice to augment inadequate retiring allowances,

social security, and annuities. This is not a complaint, for my wife and I are able to live as well as we did on my teaching salary. Also, the work is interesting. However, posterity will be deprived of the fruits of my experience, unless their recording is rendered possible through subsidies that would enable me to devote my time to writing and would provide the necessary secretarial facilities. With 46 years of experience in the teaching of chemistry, a volume, or volumes, on "The Chemistry of Glass" should result. At present, there are no books of this title, and only occasional individual papers have appeared in science journals.

What has been cited is only one of many cases in which capable and experienced individuals, who have treasures to record for posterity, either cannot afford to do so, or lack the facilities. What shall we do to conserve this precious knowledge?

It is my thought to establish what I choose to christen "Emeritus House." Such a building purchased or constructed near a high-class library center would furnish office and study facilities for professors emeriti, who should be selected by a competent screening committee consisting of active authorities in various branches of the arts and the sciences. These terms are used in a very broad sense instead of listing the many possible fields encountered in education. Capable clerical and secretarial help and equipment that would facilitate the recording of findings should be provided. Another screening committee could evaluate the literature that is created and decide whether a project should be continued. If approved for publication, arrangements should be made for the private or licensed printing of recordings.

What about the financing of such a project? It is my thought that a haven for creative work should, be subsidized by industry (a real benficiary in the fields of science, technology, economics, and so forth), by interested individuals, and by foundations. I use the term subsidized, advisedly. Endowments bring returns that vary, and they alone are too uncertain. Let us remember that in some worthy cases it may be necessary to afford salaries or subsistence grants to appointees. Above all, it is essential to let these savants devote themselves, carefree, to their work.

After the establishment of the first "Emeritus House," say in Pittsburgh, a leading industrial center of the world, other "Emeritus Houses" could be created in other centers all over the United States. They should furnish a precious literature for those lovers of democracy who wish to perpetuate the good and the fine things of life.

This recommendation merely suggests a principle. It makes no pretext of covering the numerous details that must be considered by those who would plan and establish "Emeritus House."

ALEXANDER SILVERMAN

Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, University of Pittsburgh

* A paper presented before the Pennsylvania Academy of Science, in Pittsburgh, 17 Apr. 1954.

23 April 1954.

278 SCIENCE, VOL. 120