

Dr. A. P. French Retires

Dr. Arthur P. French, Head of the Department of Horticulture and Professor of Pomology and Plant Breeding at the University of Massachusetts, retired June 30 after 40 years of teaching, research and service to the fruit industry.

Nationally known for his contributions to horticulture both in and beyond the classroom, Professor French is a vice-president of the American Pomological Society and has served as Director of its True-to-Name Nursery Stock Program since 1948. In January of 1960 he received the Society's Wilder Medal for outstanding service to Horticulture—especially the fruit industry.

Dr. French also has served as secre-

tary of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association for the past seven years, a position providing an important connecting link between university research and teaching and needs of the fruit industry.

Professor French also originated the teaching of genetics and plant breeding as a departmental course in 1926. Interested in variety testing of fruits, he has done considerable research on important varieties of strawberries and raspberries being grown by commercial and home growers today.

Dr. French is the author or co-author of numerous publications used by fruit growers. He collaborated on a series of nursery stock identification publications including apples, cherries, plums, pears and blueberries. He is the author of Extension publications on strawberry and raspberry growing plus separate leaflets on small fruit varieties. He co-authored two Experiment Station bulletins on genetics of the peach.

I am pleased to be able to report that Dr. French assured me that he plans to continue his work with the True-to-Name Nursery Stock Program, and that he expects to attend the annual meeting of the American Pomological Society in Yakima, Washington, this winter.

Although Dr. and Mrs. French will include some trailer-traveling in their plans for the future, they will maintain their home at 22 Harris Street, in Amherst.



Fig. 1. Dr. A. P. French, Director, True-to-Name Nursery Stock Program.

Principal apple varieties being planted in the Netherlands are Golden Delicious, Cox, Stark Earliest, Red James Grieve. Boskoop (Goudreinnet) is losing favor. The most popular pears seem to be Conference, Legipont and Beurre Hardy.