



BEFORE a student can take the Cereal Husbandry Option, in his fourth year, he must work for one summer in the Cereal Department. Each summer therefore a number of students work in this department. But this number is not confined merely to those intending to specialize in Cereal Husbandry, for the department is open to other students as well. The other College Departments also employ student labour, so that altogether there were quite a number of students taying at College this summer.

The working hours were from seven to six, the regular ten-hour-day, except on Saturdays, when we got off work an hour earlier at night. At half-past-six in the morning breakfast was served, and although we did not always arrive at the dining room on time, we generally managed to report for work at the barn when the whistle blew at five minutes to seven, although very often the last mouthful was eaten on the way up to the barn. If the whistle blew before we got there, we always insisted that it must be wrong.

All of those students intending to

specialize in Cereal Husbandry, and some others not intending to specialize in this option, had thesis experiments to carry on during the summer. Most of this work was with growing crops, and therefore required considerable attention throughout the summer. This work had to be done either outside of working hours, or in time granted off work by the Department. The latter was more usually the case. These experiments, although troublesome at times, added considerable interest to our summer's work.

The plant improvement work carried on by the Department was, of all the work, probably the most interesting to us. One of the first operations in which we assisted in the spring, was sowing the cereal breeding plots. These plots contain four thousand plants, each seed being sown at a distance of one half link apart each way. One can readily realize the amount of hand labour entailed in the sowing of thirty or forty plots in this way.

Most of the hybridizing or crossing was done in July, as it must be done before the pollen is shed, in order to