

U.N.I.V. KANSAS
Will Honor ^{12/14/45}
Dr. Downs

Dr. Cora Downs, professor of bacteriology, will be honored on the "Women of Kansas" program at 9:30 today on station KFKU.

Dr. Downs' wartime experiences will be dramatized. During the war she was on leave from the University to do bacteriological warfare research at Camp Detrick, Md. The research is still shrouded in secrecy and all names and codes in the dramatization have been changed.

Marjorie Shryock, assistant instructor in speech, will play the part of Dr. Downs. Loren Kenneedy and Glenn Hunt will have the principal male parts. The program was written and produced by Gene Courtney.

Others in the radio cast include Jack Labowitz, Warren Bowman, Frank Rotman, Charles Howe, Rip Collins and Joanne Jacobs.

Reveals contd

Mrs. Tom R. Hamilton, 2002 Olathe, is the wife of Dr. Tom R. Hamilton of the University of Kansas hospitals. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas. She came to the University of Kansas hospitals in 1938, where she did considerable research work with her husband.

Mrs. Hamilton has been connected with the government research project since March, 1944. She and Miss Abts were already acquainted with each other thru their work in Kansas City.

Captain Hamilton was discharged in October after three years of duty in Europe. He and Mrs. Hamilton have a son, Tom Reid Hamilton, jr., aged 3 years. Doctor Hamilton was a pathologist associated with both University of Kansas and Providence hospitals before entering service.

Investigate A.I.U. C. 1

Study of Rabbit Fever ¹⁹⁴⁵

Dr. Cora M. Downs, professor of bacteriology, is conducting a study of tularemia, or "rabbit fever." The purpose is to find out why some animals become immune and others do not.

One might ask why a federal agency is interested in rabbit fever. When it is known that tularemia is closely related to bubonic plague, that no absolutely certain immunizing agent has yet been developed, and that Dr. Downs worked as a civilian during the war at Camp Detrick, Md., in the department of bacteriological warfare, the interest in the project is more understandable.

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K.U. Prof Chosen Fellow

Dr. Cora M. Downs, professor of bacteriology at Kansas University, has been elected a fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences, one of the oldest scientific societies in the United States.

Each candidate for this honor is nominated to fellowship by the council of the Academy from among the current 12,300 members, in recognition of outstanding scientific achievements.

The New York Academy of Sciences, organized in 1817, has membership in all 48 states, the District of Columbia and in many foreign countries.

Reveals contd

Detrick, Frederick, Md., and research as dramatic as that which produced the atomic bomb began.

Doctor Downs says she can't reveal the specific nature of her project for security reasons. But she says, "The knowledge we gained about bacteria and how to fight them not only put us ahead of the Axis partners but has advanced the treatment and prevention of infectious disease by fifty years."

"I want you to know that ours was dangerous work. In spite of preventive measures, a high percentage of the workers became infected but none of them died. We worked on all diseases which we thought might be used against us."

The lady professor named some of her assistants. Among them are: Mrs. Tom Hamilton, Kansas City Kansas; Lt. Winton Miller, Paola, Kan.; Lt. (j.g.) Barbara Owen, Kansas City, Mo.; Lt. (j.g.) Mary Abts, a WAVE from Iola, and Luther Buchele of Lawrence.

Lt. Abts Sister of Kansan Reporter

Lieutenant Abts is the sister of Miss Frances Abts, 853 Tauronee, who is city hall reporter for The Kansan. Lieutenant Abts received her discharge in December following approximately three years service. She is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Abts, Iola. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas, and before entering the WAVES was a bacteriological laboratory technician at General hospital, Kansas City, Mo. She is author of a text book used in the teaching of bacteriology. Miss Abts expects to return to University of Kansas to complete work for her medical degree.

THE KA
1945
KANSAS CITY

Reveals K. U. Group Studied Germ Warfare

Dangerous Bacterial Research Conducted by Woman Professor; K. C. K. Woman Had Part.

Lawrence.—(UP) A woman professor at the University of Kansas today revealed that a group of American scientists, working under her direction, spent the war years seeking preventive measures for infectious diseases which might be spread thru the United States by enemy nations.

Dr. Cornelia Mitchell Downs, professor in the department of bacteriology at the university, says her work with biological warfare was as "dangerous and important as actual combat."

She and her forty assistants began their work on the control of infectious diseases in August, 1943. Specialists from all over the nation were called into service at Camp



Dr. Cornelia Downs