

### INTRODUCTION.

The work outlined for Session 1928-29 was a continuation of the study of Briant and Martyn in the previous Session on the Fusarium wilt disease of Sunn Hemp (*Crotalaria juncea*, L.).

At the beginning of the session, Pigeon Peas (*Cajanus indicus*, Spreng.) growing on the College Estate were, according to external symptoms, attacked by *Fusarium vasinfectum*, although this disease was unknown in Trinidad. It was decided to make a comparative study of these two diseases because of the close similarity of the causal organisms and their action on the plants.

The diagnosis of the pigeon pea disease was very superficial and was later found to be incorrect. The proximity of the dry season, however, necessitated the immediate sowing down of the experimental area and this operation was completed before the mistake was discovered. The disease of the pigeon peas proved to be of the nature of a stem and collar canker. It was fairly common in the locality and it was decided to attempt the elucidation of the etiology. The disease was studied on the plants, growing on various parts of the farm, including the plants on the experimental area which were attacked after the crop had been harvested. Disease-free plants on this area were used for inoculation purposes.