



Minnesota State  
Horticultural Society Letters  
Received and Sent.

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Independence.

# Northeastern Iowa Horticultural Society

## Thirty-Fifth Annual Meeting

To be held at \_\_\_\_\_ Nov. 18, 19, 20, 1919

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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Edgewood, Iowa, Sept. 25 1919

Mr A. W. Latham

My Dear Sir  
Replying to yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> may say  
that we have not located the place  
of our next Hort. meeting as the  
matter was left to a committee  
to decide and the Com. has not  
yet acted - as our President  
has the power to appoint delegates  
and since I believe he is in the  
South just now - it leaves matters  
rather undecided in regard to  
your recent inquiries - However I  
hope we may be able to adjust these  
questions in time to meet your  
desires. The Mid West Exp. to be held  
at Des Moines the week before the  
regular meeting of our N. E. Socy -  
comes near causing a confliction in  
our natural arrangements -

Yours truly  
C. H. True Secy

The Jewell Nursery Company

ESTABLISHED 1888 INCORPORATED 1884

J. M. UNDERWOOD, PRESIDENT

LAKE CITY, MINN.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Oct. 3rd,  
1919.

Mr. A. W. Latham, Sec'y.,  
207 Kasota Block,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear friend:

Yours of the 2nd received. Mr. E. A. Smith would undoubtedly make you a good assistant while you are away this winter. It seems to me that the first thing to decide is whether you want to retain the office or give it up entirely. If you wish to continue in office, then either Smith, Cady or McIntosh would be valuable, but if you contemplate resigning, I should think that McIntosh would be the best man for the position. He is young, forceful, and competent and in a position to secure the co-operation of President Burton and the University faculty. Now, these are my private opinions confidentially expressed to you.

We have our reservations expecting to start for Point Loma on the 12th -reaching there the 15th. I shall be very glad indeed to meet your grandson, Albert Fillmore, and will try and get in touch with him.

We had a most delightful visit from Madame Tingley and her students who spent several days in our home.

I take it for granted that Mrs. Latham's condition is improving, and I hope that you will meet with no reverses and have a very pleasant winter in southern California. You know we shall be delighted to have a visit from you.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very cordially yours,

*J. M. Underwood*

JMU-AEM.

Hubert Minn Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 1917

A W Lathams

Dear Sir Yours of recent date at hand in which you give the opinion that the crab apples I sent you are the Florence and they certainly look very much like the Florence which I am growing successfully but they ripen a month earlier than the Florence. I prize the Florence highly as it is a sure and prolific bearer and does not blight and is a fairly good eating apple, knowing the apples I sent you have much like characteristics of the Florence but ripen a month earlier and when not allowed to bear too full <sup>as my trees did this year</sup> are a little larger than the Florence, and a brighter red, you will perhaps be able to place it.

Now as to my method of growing apples in this climate on sandy land. It would be a complete success if I could be at home and not have to depend upon unreliable hired men to care for the trees. As you know my method in brief is to shape the land so that all the precipitation runs to the tree in a cavity and none of it runs off from the land, concentrating at the roots of each tree, the water and fertilizing material, that would naturally run off from the land. I had 100 Wealthy trees growing beautifully in this way much advanced as a thrifty young orchard. Two years ago I went to Washington D C to present my portrait

Work, leaving a man in charge of the place that I was paying good wages giving him full instructions, when and how to apply the water that is essential to form at the surface of the porous soil in each cavity an ice blanket to prevent the long continued cold air from penetrating the porous soil and freezing the moisture out of the roots. The man proved to be a bigoted fool telling people my method of watering apple trees in winter was wrong and he would prove it, another man working for me a part of the time but not in charge began at the right time to water the trees in the right way as he had done in previous years, but the man in charge stopped him and as it was a severe winter all the trees not properly watered died the few that were properly watered lived uninjured and this year bore the largest, sweet, highly colored and beautiful Wealthy apples I ever saw, everybody says they are the finest they ever saw. Circumstances have prevented my replacing the dead trees but hope to do so next spring. I am pressed for time but am sorry I did not save and send you for your own satisfaction some specimens of the apples. With Great Respect but in haste

Freeman Thorp

2/26/51

The Jewell Nursery Company

ESTABLISHED 1888 INCORPORATED 1884

J. M. UNDERWOOD, PRESIDENT

LAKE CITY, MINN.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 25th,  
1919.

Mr. A. W. Latham,  
Secy. Minn. State Hort. Society,  
207 Kasota Block,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear friend:

Our annual summer meeting is a very interesting event for me, and at the same time disappointing. I enjoy it because it gives me a chance to meet with you and a few of my associates of the society. The floral display is also a great feature and, of course, the annual picnic is always enjoyable, but it disappoints me in that it is so brief that I hardly have chance to visit with anyone and to get acquainted. There are so many that come up and greet me that I hardly know. They remember me but, unless I can see them and talk with them and get acquainted, I do not remember them. Then the exhibit is so large that there is only time to give it a casual glance. I wonder if we could have a two days' session, one day for a picnic and get together and the next for the exhibit. If we have the exhibit first, I am afraid that many would go home at its close.

We went down to the Auditorium to hear President Burton and Mr. Thatcher. They are both excellent speakers and I enjoyed them very much. I had never seen or heard of them before. Mr. Burton impresses me as being a man of exceptional ability, and after hearing him tell what

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The Jewell Nursery Company

ESTABLISHED 1888 INCORPORATED 1884

J. M. UNDERWOOD, PRESIDENT

LAKE CITY, MINN.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

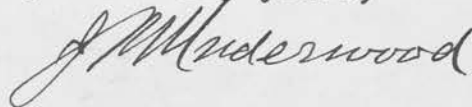
#2, A.W. Latham.

6/25/19

he did last winter with the legislature, I am confident that if the interests of our society were fully understood by him that he could get us everything we want. Would it not be well to get up next to him and make him fully acquainted with the importance of our Horticultural Society and the work it is doing? In his address he spoke at length of each activity of the University, particularly including the Agricultural College, but he never said a word about the Horticultural Society. I wonder if he realized that there was a Society on the grounds.

Now, I believe that our President, Mr. McIntosh, is very capable and quite competent to influence Mr. Burton to take up the interests of our Society as a part of his plan for the University, but I believe that you with your experience and skill can do more than anyone else. If I was well acquainted with Mr. Burton, I should visit him or write him and do what I could to make him so thoroughly interested in our Society that he would not be satisfied until it was made an important branch of the State University, and then he would want to have us given a home on the grounds.

Very cordially yours,



JMU-AEM.

The University of Minnesota  
Department of Agriculture  
University Farm, St. Paul

DIVISION OF HORTICULTURE

October 22nd, 1919.

Mr. A. W. Latham,  
207 Kasota Block,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mr. Latham:-

I have received your letter of October 19th and would say that I will be glad to speak as suggested at the meeting of the State Horticultural Society. I suggest as a topic "Horticulture in France." You submitted "Vegetable Gardening in France" but I believe that something on general horticulture would be interesting. Therefore if it is acceptable to you I suggest "Horticulture in France".

Yours respectfully,

*W. T. Tapley*

Assistant in Horticulture.

WTT/B

Grower of  
Hardy Nursery  
Stock.

# THE LONSDALE NURSERY

JOHN P. VIKLA, Prop.

Lonsdale, Minn.,

New Varieties  
A Specialty.

Oct 21, 1919

Mr A. W. Latham  
Secy State Hort Soc.  
Minneapolis  
Minn

Dear Sir: -

I am mailing you two seedling apples  
1 Flava from the original tree which is  
33 to 35 years old.

1 Red Winter Seedling that bore the first  
time. But it is from a grafted tree the  
original tree is not old enough to bear yet.  
It is a beautiful upright tree, slightly more  
spreading than the Wealthy. Good nursery  
tree and apparently hardy and heavy bearer.

If the flavor is good enough I think it will  
be the standard winter apple for Minn.

The sample is bruised from hail.

Sample the red one first because the yellow  
one is nearly pure Sweet. If you sample the  
Sweet one first you will not be able to judge  
the the red one. please let me know what  
you think of them. Do you think I will be

Grower of  
Hardy Nursery  
Stock.

# THE LONSDALE NURSERY

JOHN P. VIKLA, Prop.

Lonsdale, Minn.,

New Varieties  
A Specialty.

able to put Burbank out of commission  
if I keep on raising new fruit, I will  
have very many good ones in two to  
five years.

Stamp enclosed for answer.

Yours truly

John P. Vikla

Officers

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$1.00  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$5.00

Iowa

State Horticultural Society

Fifty-fourth Annual Meeting to be held at Des Moines  
December 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1919

...Office of...

Secretary and Librarian, Capitol Building, Des Moines

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W. P. DAWSON, Aurelia  
C. H. TRUE, Edgewood  
W. C. HAVILAND, Fort Dodge  
P. F. KINNE, Storm Lake  
C. F. GARDNER, Osage  
EUGENE SECOR, Forest City

Edgewood Ia. Nov. 1st 1919

Mr A. W. Latham

Dear Sir

I am prepared to now say that  
Mr Geo. S. Woodruff of Independence  
will be the accredited delegate from the  
N. E. Ia. Hort. Society to the Minn. State  
Hort. Society at its next session  
In return will you please notify  
me who you will send as delegate  
from your Society to our own to be  
held at Independence Ia Nov. 18, 19, 20,  
1919 - at your earliest convenience -

Yours very truly

C. H. True -  
Secy.

Lonsdale, Minn., Nov 7, 1919

Mr. A. V. Latham

207 Karota Block

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Sir: - your favor of the 3<sup>d</sup> inst at hand. I thank you for your high appreciation of my Felana apple. I will certainly send you some of them if I have any to spare next year. But the situation is such that my Felana apple trees were transplanted to my grounds from my brother's in 1917 and if they bear at all they will bear a light crop. And my brother has on his grounds just three trees (the original and two that bore the second or third crop. The first lot I grafted consisted of some 50 trees and these I mostly used up in throwing in free with large orders and I lost track of them. The 4 year old trees last year I sold thru the catalog. So I am practically cleaned up in stock except a few yearlings.

Yours truly

John P. Vikla

# Men's Garden Club of Ramsey County

Saint Paul, Minn.

November 21st., 1919.

50  
56

## OFFICERS

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H. C. BAKER, Secretary  
145 E. 4th Street  
S. L. S. TITUS, Treasurer  
Endicott Arcade  
Z. H. THOMAS, Director  
4th and Sibley Streets

A. W. Latham, Sec'y  
Minneapolis, Minn.,

Dear Sir:-

I herewith enclose check for \$56.50 in payment of enclosed list of 226 names as members to the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Kindly send me receipt for this amount and advise me what premiums these members are entitled to. Do they get the bound book that is sent out each year. This list is for a membership for year 1920 and you will find several names on same that are already members up to last of this year.

Yours very truly,

S. L. S. Titus,  
Treas.,  
140 Endicott Arcade.

## COMMITTEES

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### Prizes and Exhibits—

R. B. WARE  
PROF. LEROY CADY  
ALF. PERKINS  
JAS. H. BURNS

The Men's Garden Club of Ramsey County is affiliated with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, and its members receive all the premiums given each year by the Horticultural Society without extra charge. Such premiums, however, are given only to the members whose dues are paid in advance from April of each year.

J. M. UNDERWOOD  
POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA

Minn. State Hortl Soc  
A W Latham Secy

Dear Friends

When the first week in Dec arrives I always think of our State Hortl Soc & the splendid times we have had at our meetings. We have all been pioneers, blazing the trail over which we have worked our way through difficulties that have seemed at times unsurmountable; but our members have been courageous & determined to succeed no matter what the cost. If they could not grow the old eastern varieties of apples that they loved and remembered they soon learned to discard them for new varieties that were better adapted to our dry climate. They have also learned better ways for caring for all kinds of plants & trees, better protection better cultivation, more water, better selection of location until we rival the eastern & western states in the production of fruits & flowers. I find that here in this land of perpetual summer it requires the same application of good horse sense, to succeed in growing anything, that it does in Minn. Superficial watering wont do, sprinkling the surface isnt enuf. trees & bushes must be basined & the ground thoroly soaked, to make them grow & produce. Our Soc has brought to-gather the experience of each member & made it the most valuable and successful Soc in the world & you have been the chief factor in guiding us to success J M Underwood

\$10<sup>00</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> G Tracker  
3929 Pillsbury Ave  
Minneapolis

(File of Reps.

Co. Butler Bros.)

Veget Gard  
Rep.

By U. G. Peirce

Carterton P. O. St Joseph Ind Ont.

Feb 26 - 1919

Mr. A. W. Latham

Minneapolis Minn.

Dear Sir

Please find enclosed \$2.00 Two dollars for which mail to me the following books

- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Amateur Fruit Growing           | .50 <sup>c</sup> |
| Weeds and how to eradicate them | .50 <sup>c</sup> |
| The undiscovered Country        | .25              |
| The hither shore                | .25              |
| Peony manual cloth              | .50              |
|                                 | <hr/>            |
|                                 | 2.00             |

Please mail soon.

not sent

Yours truly  
David Tait

R

Alfred Terry,  
Slayton, Minnesota.

REFERENCE: FIRST NATIONAL BANK, SLAYTON.

IMPROVED FARMS  
INSURANCE  
NOTARY PUBLIC

Mr. A W Latham  
Mpls., Minn.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mch 6. 1919

Dear Mr Latham

Your circular letter of Feb 27. reached me yesterday  
I'll do my best to do as requested in it -

On Feb 11. you wrote me that I had sent you  
\$2<sup>00</sup> nearly a year before & that it had been used  
as prize of membership - I could not find the ck  
in my book - Did I really enclose \$2 - at the  
time I asked you to obtain membership - If you find  
I did not - let me know - Otherwise don't answer this,  
Yours very sincerely  
Alfred Terry

J. M. UNDERWOOD  
POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA

Dec 24/18

A. W. Latham

My Very Dear Friend

Dec 26. - I started to write to you & Roy came over from their flat & reported Rella sick so we changed our plans to go there for Xmas dinner & I went at it to decorate house & get ready to have Julian & Roy over with us which we did. Xmas Eve we attended the usual Celebration over on the hill. Apply all the adjectives you can think of & then it will need some to describe the beautiful time Children & all had. Our Xmas day in this new home was all we could wish for except it lacked for Rella & our old home & friends I would think of them & then have to go out in the Sunshine & look at our beautiful views & surroundings to keep from packing my trunk to start back.

To-day I recd yrs of 20. Of course I am glad to concur in the proposition to acquire more land for the Experimental farm, or Fruit Breeding farm. While Hurdson is at his best we ought to make the most of him. Hold up his hands. Encourage him all we can. He is a great acquisition for the state. Whether a separate bill or W- budget I am not competent to judge. Ask Randall.

I am having a little type written to be used in society if needed. They made every body wear a mask here & it beat the flu - & so its off. It was \$5- fine not have one on. hard on smokers. Wishing you & yours a very Happy New Year  
Cordially - J. M. Underwood



Publishes a Monthly Magazine, "The Minnesota Horticulturist," also "Trees, Fruits and Flowers of Minnesota," a cloth bound volume of over 500 pages; sent free to all members of the Society; also Valuable New Fruits for trial. Send for copy of the magazine and folder containing the "Fruit List for Minnesota" and describing the work of the society its publications, methods, etc. Membership fee \$1.00 per annum. Life fee \$10.00.

## Minnesota State Horticultural Society

President, R. S. MACKINTOSH, University Farm, St. Paul

\* \* \*

(Office and Library of)

A. W. LATHAM, Sec'y

207 KASOTA BLOCK

Minneapolis, Minn. 3/8/19.

Mr. Alf. Terry,

Slayton, Minn.


Dear Friend:

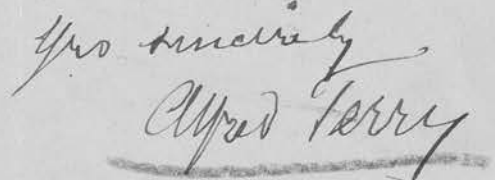
Replying to your favor of the 6th inst. would say that I don't remember anything very clearly about the matter of the two dollars, except that it seems to be in my mind that you sent me this sum for that purpose. I can't find any letter from you speaking of it. If you didn't send it and I have forgotten about it and have got mixed up over it, I ought to pay the bill. I acknowledge that as being the right kind of treatment for me, but I guess probably you sent me the money and in some way didn't make any record.

This is a splendid spring day, and I am glad to be alive, aren't you?

Cordially,

  
A. W. Latham Sec'y.

  
I guess, friend Latham I was right & I owe the Socy \$2 - & I enclose ck for same  
Best wishes

Yrs sincerely,  
  
Alfred Terry

2/15/19

My Dear Comrad  
Latham

It is too bad that I cant keep your  
Company till the end of the journey in our Soc.  
but here I am bound hand & foot by that dear boy  
Julian, who looks and resembles our little boy Jewell  
that left us at 3 yrs. And then this delightful  
place & environments, with so many attractions  
and the new experience of planting & associating  
personally with my trees & flowers, in the most  
delightful soil I ever saw. My roses told me  
to-day that they dont want me to leave them &  
there are over 200 more plants of different kinds that  
I have set out that interest me: but we have  
set the date to start back the 27<sup>th</sup>, will visit some  
Nieces at Colo Springs & get home about the 10.  
Anything I can do to help you or serve the  
Soc. Command me

Mrs U- joins in kind regards to Mrs Latham  
& yourself affectionately yrs

J Underwood

The Jewell Nursery Company

ESTABLISHED 1868 INCORPORATED 1884

J. M. UNDERWOOD, PRESIDENT

LAKE CITY, MINN.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 16th,  
1919.

Mr. A. W. Latham,  
207 Kasota Block,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear friend:

Yes, I am at home. Reached here a week ago - just in time to enjoy this delightful winter, although the snow is too soft for sleighing. This must be a record experience for so much snow at this date.

It isn't much like Point Loma where I had such a good time with my Roses and heather. They are the most interesting of flowering shrubs and bloom all winter long. I planted with a view to having varieties that would bloom when we were there.

I will take up the matter of appropriation with our representative and do what I can to cure the condition.

I hope we shall be permitted to see each other often this summer. Bring Mrs. Latham down and camp with us.

Very cordially yours,



JMU-AEM

Carterton P.O. St Joseph Is. Ont.

May 5 - 1919

Mr Chas. Haralson

Excelsior

Dear Sir. Your favor of Apr 29<sup>th</sup> received. In reply I have telephoned to Sault Ste Marie and they informed me that there was nothing there for me I would like you to send a tracer after the trees at once. And let me know where they were held up at. They kept one box from S. Dakota

for me in the Soo for over 1 year we had quite a row over it. I was never notified. ~~On~~ Last Saturday I grafted some of Prof Hansens most hardy hybrid Pears on Russian Pear roots some of them as well as Russian pear seedlings will be sent to you next fall.

I can get things into the U.S. on the  
sly from this Island for it is so near  
the American side. I could  
send them over in a box and bill  
them seed potatoes and put some  
potatoes or oats on top of them.

It will be 2 weeks yet before  
the leaves are on the trees here.

Yours very truly  
David Tait

I set all the cions which you mailed  
me some time ago. They were not  
stopped by the Customs.

Carterton P.O. St Joseph Is. Ont  
May 14th 1919

Prof Charles Haralson  
Excelsior

Dear Sir. I just got a letter from  
the Collector of Customs, Bruce Mines  
Ontario, asking me to get him an  
Invoice of the premiums which  
you sent me. You valued them  
at \$ 2.00. Please rush Invoices  
direct to him so as to shut him up.

However he I Remain  
has done his Yours truly  
best for me & has  
rushed plants  
and trees along  
David Tait

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP, \$1.00  
LIFE MEMBERSHIP, \$5.00

Iowa

State Horticultural Society

Fifty-second Annual Meeting to be held at Des Moines  
December 11, 12 and 13, 1917

...Office at...

Secretary and Librarian, Capitol Building, Des Moines

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CHAS. O. GARRETT, Des Moines  
W. P. DAWSON, Aurelia  
C. H. TRUE, Edgewood  
W. C. HAVILAND, Fort Dodge  
P. F. KINNE, Storm Lake  
C. F. GARDNER, Osage  
EUGENE SECOR, Forest City

Edgewood Ia. 10/9/18

Mr A. W. Lathrop

Dear Sir

This is to notify you that Mr Elmer  
M. Reeves of Haverly Ia. has been  
duly appointed delegate from the N. E.  
Ia. Horticultural Society to the next  
session of the Minnesota Hort. Society  
and that he is notified of his  
appointment

Yours truly

C. H. True

Secy N. E. Ia. Hort. Socy.

100  
Winner, Minn. 1913-'18.

A. W. Latham, Secy.,  
Minn. State Hort. Soc. & Society,  
Dear Sir:—

Enclosed find the  
balance due on my  
life membership in the  
Minn. State Horticultural  
Society; please send me  
life membership card, and  
would you mind sending me  
a complete file of the  
annual reports of the society, as  
far as they are available?  
Send ship by express to  
Warroad, Minn., by V. N. Exp.  
Resp. yours, O. Edin Tollberg,  
Bx #7, Winner, Roseau Co., Minn.

# THE LONSDALE NURSERY

JOHN P. VIKLA, Proprietor

Originator of  
**Loring Prize Plum**  
a Burbank X Americana  
Hybrid 2 1-3 inches  
in Diameter

GROWER OF HARDY NURSERY STOCK  
EVERBEARING STRAWBERRIES A SPECIALTY.

Originator of  
**Flava Apple**  
The Best Flavored  
In U. S. A.

Lonsdale, Minnesota., 4-24 1918

Mr. A. W. Lathan Secy, State Hort Soc,  
Minneapolis, Minn  
Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find communication from  
Mr. Friebling in which you will notice, he  
is offering a \$100 prize for a quality plum.

Return said letter to me. Will you please  
write to him setting out the conditions, and  
qualifications, on which his offer would  
be accepted. I think I will have a new plum  
in two years that will be larger and of better  
quality than the Loring prize plum.

Please do not make one of the conditions that  
the plum must be free stone as this might  
deprive a very valuable of a prize.

Yours truly

John P. Vikla

# The Jewell Nursery Company

J. M. UNDERWOOD, President  
Bj. LOSS, Sales Manager  
G. V. ERICKSON, Auditor

R. D. UNDERWOOD, Secretary-Treasurer  
E. G. FLADWED, Credit Manager  
IRA SEVERANCE, Accountant

Founded by Dr. P. A. Jewell  
and J. M. Underwood



Established 1868  
Incorporated 1884

Lake City, Minn.,

JMU/MK.

April 3rd. 1918.

Mr. A. W. Latham,  
207 Kasota Block,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Friend :

Here I am in my own office dictating into a dictaphone. We spent our last week in Los Angeles, and had a very delightful time. The ride home was very enjoyable and we are mighty glad to be here. It is astonishing how everything has developed here, the frost all out of the ground and our business rushing. It was not more enjoyable for you to be in San Diego, than it was for us to entertain you there. The only regret is that we could not do better by you. I hope that when you come again we will have our home of our own all fixed up and that you will be our guests. I was sorry that you sent us back the check, but we can lead a horse to water you know and you can't make them drink. I bought two lots and a bungalow up on the crest of the hill overlooking the ocean and bay and the city. I think you will be pleased to visit us there.

In regard to trial stations, I think that Bertha in Todd County is a good location, but you are more familiar with the conditions than I am, and you know where the other trial stations are, so that your judgement will be perfectly agreeable to me.

It is just fifty years this month that I came up from Winona, and started in our nursery here at Lake City. In June I want to have a celebration, and you must come down and help us.

Mrs. Underwood joins in kindest regards to you and Mrs. Latham.

Very cordially,  
Your friend,

*J. M. Underwood*

*Please Return*

# THE LONSDALE NURSERY

JOHN P. VIKLA, Proprietor

Originator of  
**Loring Prize Plum**  
a Burbank X Americana  
Hybrid 2 1-3 inches  
in Diameter

GROWER OF HARDY NURSERY STOCK  
EVERBEARING STRAWBERRIES A SPECIALTY

Originator of  
**Flava Apple**  
The Best Flavored  
In U. S. A.

(1)  
Lonsdale, Minnesota. August 31 1918

Mr. A. W. Latham

Seey State Hunt Society

207 Karota Block, Npls, Minn.

Dear Sir + Friend: - Your paper of 28 inst  
received. I am unable to send you any  
samples of said cherry because it got ripe  
about 2 weeks or 10 days ahead of the compass -  
just after the Sapa and Cpatu besides it  
had only nine cherries four of which I sampled  
my self and five I mailed to Mr. Cashman.

When I found the new fruit and sampled  
it, it surprised me so much that I was  
overcome with joy. It is really a new  
thing and in a class by itself, a thing that  
the northern climate wants. If it turns  
out to be a good bearer every one will  
want it. It is full of fruit buds. I budded  
about fifty buds and will make about 50  
root or crown grafts. It had two shoots  
from the ground from which I took the buds.  
All other buds were overripe, since I cut  
of the shoots it started several new (over.)

shoots. It sets buds <sup>(2)</sup> very close together so I can expect some 30 to 35 buds from each new tree. If any one gets the Friebling Prize I will not begrudge him. I am working for humanity and so you can see I would be inconsistent if I was selfish. Such prizes serve double purpose, to encourage fruit breeding and bring before the public new fruits that are worthy of such prizes.

When I am ready to offer my new seedling there will be other prizes offered. I assure you that I will see to it.

There are things I would like to state to you but I hesitate and yet I cannot refrain from doing so. So I will break the secret to you. There are stories current that when Peter Sidon wanted any advice that he consulted the spirits. He was a spirit healer. So when I held a seance with my relatives I got into communication with that Mr. Sidon and he corroborated this statement. So I asked him if Peter is a different tree from the Wealthy and the answer was yes. I asked where can I find the Peter, and the answer was at Sidon Beach. Then I asked what varieties of apples by crossing would make the best combination to get a good winter apple and answer was "Peerless with the Wealthy, and would be a large good winter apple, would bear at four years, and about my new cherry he said it is valuable and will be popular and generally planted and advised me to place it in hands of nurseries to extend propagation. Then I asked what he thought of the Loring plum and he said it is a pretty good plum for Minnesota but another man will find a better one

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(3)

Lonsdale, Minnesota.,

191—

Then I asked whether he did not think that one of my new seedlings (not named yet) is not better flavored than the Loring and he answered, The Loring is just as good and a better bearer.

I make this mention of only a few answers I got for the purpose of inducing you to suggest to Mr. Karalson to try Peerless and Fairhault in his hand crossing. Then I asked, Will Mr. Karalson take my suggestions and follow them to get this result and he said yes. I hesitate to make the suggestion directly for fear that he might think that I pretend to know too much and that I want to run his business which of course would be a misinterpretation of my motives. When I meet you personally I will tell you more if you wish. I was really surprised at the intelligence we were getting in the answers. Now don't let this disturb you in the least there is nothing unnatural about this — all natural.

I remain Respectfully Yours  
John P. Vikla

Lonsdale, Minn Aug 26-1918  
Mr. A. W. Latham  
207 Kasota Block  
Mpls Minn

Dear Sir:

Allow me the pleasure of informing you that I have produced a new seedling cherry that fruited the first time this year. The tree is 2 yr. old counting three years.

The tree somewhat resembles the compass but has more slender twigs and smaller foliage. It is of about the same size as the Sapa trees of the same age. The fruit in appearance resembles the compass but slightly smaller. It is fleshy like the California cherries. Has a very small pit. Fruit holds

well on the tree. The flavor is very sweet, free from acidity, astringency and bitterness. The tree is very hardy as it went thru last winter without injury altho it is on a very low ground where Papas, opatas and North western screenings were severely damaged thru last winter. Considering every thing it has shown I predict that it will in a course of time be grown exclusively in place of the Compass. And will without doubt find its way <sup>to</sup> milder climates where cherries are grown. Its fleshy character indicates that it will stand distant shipments. It will

become very popular on account of its sweetness as it will require very little sugar for preserving. It is most excellent for eating from the hand.

Yours truly  
John P. Vekla

P. S. - It would please me very much if you make a mention of this in the Horticulturist.

I have also a new plum that fruited the first time last year. I will give you a full history of it later. I transplanted it last fall so it bore only one plum this year. This wonderful new plum will become a great rival of the foreign prize. I did not want to mention it to any-

Last year because I feared  
it might interfere with  
my plans with the "Spring"  
It is of the Hanska type but as  
much better than the Hanska  
as the Wealthy is better than  
the Hybernal.

J.P.V.