



Horticultural Society: Letters Received and Sent

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Excelsior Mine 9/28/17

A. W. Latham
Secy. State Horticultural Society
— Minneapolis

Dear Sir Your favor of the 20th inst.
received, requesting a brief statement
of my experience in growing a
hip-worked orchard.

I am quite willing to comply
I wish to be understood
that I am merely an humble
worker in this branch of horti-
-culture, trying to glean from prac-
-tical experience the most perma-
-nent as well as profitable course
in orcharding in this latitude
and mid-continent location.

Although I have hip-worked

but now yielding profitable
crops. That a few years ago
grew nothing of value, I know
that by close observation and
further experiment, I can add
much to what little I know
as yet. However if my experience
is of any value to ~~others~~ ^{others} I
will be glad to help them.

I have long ago come to
the conclusion you mention
that the most successful orchards
in this climate must have fruit
of high ^{commercial} quality, growing on hardy
stocks that possess root-systems
capable of enduring low tempera-
-ture and drought.

Yours truly
J. J. Dobbin

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

DIVISION OF HORTICULTURE

Sept. 25, 1914.

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

Dear Mr. Latham:

I have your communication of Sept. 9th relative to the talk I gave last year on Operating Society Trial Stations and will say that I did not read a paper at the meeting. My talk was given off-hand. I have some notes which I used in making the talk, but I presume that this had better be held until this season closes, when it would be possible to round up all the information regarding a test of new seedlings, and present it in some form. I want to get into your office before long and talk this over with you.

Yours very truly,

M. J. Dorsey
In charge of the Section of
Fruit Breeding

MJD/D

Excelsior 8/26/14

E. W. Johnson
Secy Horticultural Society
Indpls.
Dear Sir

I am surprised to learn that the grossly
unfair regulations concerning the exhibit of apples
in class 84 at the coming State Fair was recom-
mended by the Horticultural Society. The Sup-
erintendent suggests that I write you
for regard to it.

In lots 1455 and 1456 named varieties are to be
judged with special reference to size, &c.

Now every fair-minded man knows
this is unjust, and the conclusion is that it was
put in this form to exclude from competition
the growers of new and better varieties of similar
apples.

Every practical apple grower knows that
nearly all apples develop in weight and volume
in the last 40 or 50 days of their maturing period

Every practical orchardist also knows that nearly all the high class fruit apples do not mature until well along in October, hence at this time they are only about half grown, and are thus practically shut out from competing with the low quality coarse growing early non keepers that are well size.

Men who have for years been testing out high grade apples, and have the fruits of their efforts to show, look upon this unjust discrimination as a selfish act on the part of those responsible for it!

Be known that few nursery men in this state have as yet propagated anything but the varieties grown ten years ago, hence as they cannot exhibit others must be discarded.

One may have specimens that compare well with any from the Pacific coast of Delicious Stayman, Black Ben Grimes Golden, Golden Russett, Salome, Opalescent King David and other high class apples, but that is no class made

of the state

Last year one of the most successful apple growers of the state wrote me in reference to the non-progressive attitude of the nurserymen who control our Horticultural Society, and suggested that we make an effort to start a new organization freed from this domination.

I do not favor that, but I would like to see something practical in our fruit exhibitions that tended toward putting Minnesota better than the 29th on the list of fruit growing states of the Union - where the Appl. Soc. was located.

I wished to exhibit a few plates of good winter apples, but find the door is closed on me here! I can show some nice apples of last year's crop that have kept in an ordinary cellar, and were grown from the young trees that are as hardy apparently as any we have. These would make well last spring at more than \$2. per box. I had a quantity of Apples.

Excuse this long letter, but I thought you ought to know that we feel the injustice and unfairness of expecting a well grown apple to compete in size with Duchesne. Truly yours, H. C. Drake.

Yours truly, J. J. Drake

3

For high quality long keeping stock, and the regulations are exactly, intentionally made to exclude them from showing along with the condemnation of low grade fruit that is listed.

For the long list of 39 varieties for which premiums are offered, you know that you can count off the fingers of one hand all the varieties in the lot, that have any standing in a commercial apple market. A Western apple grower who was here two years ago and viewed the assortment of low priced or unsalable varieties at the State Fair said that if Minnesota apple growers were satisfied with such low-grade fruit as shown, the Western growers would always supply the best trade in our markets.

When a few nurserymen, who want no apples advertised or exhibited unless they have the trees for sale, can dominate both the State Horticultural Society and State Fair its time for a new departure by the apple growers.



Publishes a Monthly Magazine entitled "The Minnesota Horticulturist." Sent free to all members of the Society. Send for copy of the Magazine and Folder containing the "Fruit List" for Minnesota and describing the work of the Society, in publications, methods, etc. Membership fee \$1.00 per annum.

Minnesota State Horticultural Society

President, THOS. E. CASHMAN, Owatonna, Minn.

Office (and Library) of

A. W. LATHAM, Secretary,

207 KASOTA BLDG.

Minneapolis, Minn. 8/31/14

J. J. Dobbin,
Excelsior, Minn.
Friend Dobbin,

I have this afternoon at hand your favor of the 26th. inst. in which you suggest some changes in the state fair premium list which you think would be an advantage. There is so much to be said in reply to your communication that I can hardly undertake to do it by letter. I will say, however, that the Horticultural Society as such has nothing whatever to do with the getting up or correction of the premium list of fruits being offered by the Minnesota State Fair, and as far as my recollection goes has never had anything to do with it, at least not in the long period in which I have been secretary. For nearly twenty years I was superintendent of that department and the state fair management looked to me to prepare the premium list, which I did usually in conjunction with Wyman Elliot, now deceased. I presume that suggestions may have been received from time to time from others in regard to this, but I do not recall them. Neither the Horticultural Society by committee nor the executive board of the Horticultural Society in person or by committee as far as my knowledge goes has ever had anything to do in preparing this premium list. The present superintendent of that department has consulted with me two or three times in regard to certain features of this list, but some of the changes that have been made seem to me wise, and I have tried in every way possible to be of assistance to him in his work as it affects directly the members of the Horticultural Society and the horticultural interests of the state.

The particular class, 87, to which you refer has not been changed I know for several years. The purpose of this class is undoubtedly to make a showing on a table by itself of the finest appearing fruit grown in the state of Minnesota, and that is the result which has been obtained from this particular premium.

The late keeping apples to which you refer in your letter as newer and better varieties may be seedlings



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Minnesota State Horticultural Society

President, THOS. E. CASHMAN, Owatonna, Minn.

* * *

Office (and Library) of

A. W. LATHAM, Secretary,

207 KASOTA BLDG.

Minneapolis, Minn. 8/31/14

#2

and for them a special class is provided, class No. 89, for which liberal premiums are offered. Undoubtedly changes can be made in this classification which would be an advantage as without any question can be done also in the case of other classes, and I am sure the management of that department and myself as representing the Horticultural Society would be very glad indeed to receive such suggestions.

That new varieties are not added to the "fruit list" of the society or special premiums offered for them is for a reason exactly opposite to the one which you indicate. For instance, two of the nurserymen in the state have bought the Perkins seedling orchard at Red Wing and are propagating largely one of these seedlings named the Red Wing. Now without doubt it would be a material advantage to these nurserymen (who both happen to be on the Executive Board of this society) if the Red Wing could be added to the "fruit list" of the society or even to the state fair premium list, but while it is apparently a variety of merit it has not been well tested throughout the state and it would give a wrong impression for the society to endorse this fruit, which would especially benefit two members of the board, and such a recommendation would certainly arouse jealousy on the part of other nurserymen in the state who had not growing a stock of this variety. The "fruit list" of the society is guarded jealously by the fruit growers of the state as well as the nurserymen to be sure that nothing goes into it just because it would be a benefit to some particular person and might result in injury to the fruit growing interests of the state. Perhaps you are referring to certain varieties of winter apples that are grown to a very limited extent top-worked on hardy stocks. The question of success for commercial orchards of this type is yet to be determined. I have felt personally encouraged that something would come of efforts to grow apples in this way, and I feel sure that the state fair management would gladly put on their list such varieties as can be grown top-worked when they are grown to any such extent that there would be competitive exhibits made of such sorts.



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Minnesota State Horticultural Society

President, THOS. E. CASHMAN, Owatonna, Minn.

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A. W. LATHAM, Secretary,

207 KASOTA BLDG.

Minneapolis, Minn.

8/31/14

#3

While I have not gone into all the details in replying to your letter I have tried to touch the high points briefly. I hope you will come into the office sometime and let me talk this matter over with you when I can go into all the detail and you will appreciate more fully than you can by this short communication my standpoint. In the meantime I wish you would more definitely make suggestions of changes that you think would be advisable in the state fair list and also in the list of premiums offered by the Horticultural Society at the annual meeting, advance publication of which is to be found in the September number just out of press, probably you have received a copy. In this way the management will get the benefit of your ideas on the subject and they will I assure you receive the most careful consideration.

I might say in regard to the premium list at the winter meeting that this list is made up by the secretary upon consultation and approval of the members of the executive board.

Come in and see me as soon as convenient. Until the middle of the month I shall be in the office only Monday, Wednesday and Friday. After that hope to be in every day.

Cordially,

Sec'y.

P.S. The superintendent of the horticultural department at the state fair evidently looks upon what I may have done in connection with the premium list as the work of the society itself, but as you will see by this communication it is without authority from the association, only representing my personal opinions.

A.W.L.

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

DIVISION OF HORTICULTURE

Fruit Farm.

Aug. 18/14

Dear Mrs. Satham:

Regarding a talk before the Horticultural Society this winter let me say that unless it is necessary for you to know at once I would like to wait before deciding until we get further into the study of the plum hybrids. I could give you a talk on the surprise plum sterility question or inheritance of characters in plum hybrids or both just as you choose. The plum hybrid talk would more properly come before the Plant Breeders Auxiliary some time when you are out we will talk it over.

Sincerely

W. J. Dorsey.

Lake Crystal Minn

Apr 27-14

Mr & W Latham

Dear Sir

Some time ago I sent you
my renewal and also a text
+ you can send the book
+ mo to B. D. Hughes

New Ulm Minn R.F.D. 5
with my compliments
Thanking you

I remain yours
D. E. Davies

Apr. 18

Mr. *M. J. De Staff*

To GREAT NORTHERN EXPRESS COMPANY, Dr.

For Transportation of *Ball Trays*

From *Wm. Lathrop*

\$ _____

Charges Advanced to _____

Express Co. _____

Total Charges, \$ *50*

Weight _____

Received Payment, _____

No. and Date of W.-B. _____

*5 - 22 ✓
10 - 25 ✓*

Wm. F. Clough
Smith
Agent.

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Chicago
Superior
J. B. Smith

Anoka, Minn

Apr. 24, 1914.

A. W. Latham

207 Kasota Block,

Minneapolis Minn.

Dear Sir,

I received the package of premiums by express last Saturday. The package was in good condition but the express company charged me fifty cents for the package. Wasn't that too much? There were the four plum trees and one Beta grape seedling.

I enclose the receipt. We can do nothing at this end of the line with our express agent.

The agent said he had received a number of packages, ^{from the same place} and they were all charged the same.

I received a package nearly three times its size from Taylor's Falls and paid only thirty-five cents for it.

Can you do anything about it or is there some reason why the charges are all right."

Yours truly

Marie J. Delbreaff

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

DIVISION OF HORTICULTURE

April 3, 1914.

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

Dear Mr. Latham:

I have your favor of April 1st, enclosing list of trial stations as revised to date. Thanks to you for the same.

I am particularly anxious to keep track of the seedling material sent out from this Station because this will be so intimately connected up with my problem on hardiness in the future.

Yours very truly,

M. J. Dorsey

In charge of the Section of
Fruit Breeding

MJD/D

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WISCONSIN
STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

MADISON, WIS., Jan. 27, 1914.

Mr. A. W. Latham, Sec.,
207 Kasota Bldg.,
Minneapolis, Minn.,

Dear Mr. Latham:-

I cannot understand what has happened to Mackintosh unless a severe bilious attack in the attempt to digest all he heard here at Madison.

I sincerely hope he has recovered by this time and that you may have the pleasure of his company. Any time when you get too much of it send him down here because we like him very much.

I am sending you an alleged portrait of the "rotten apple man" which you may return at your convenience.

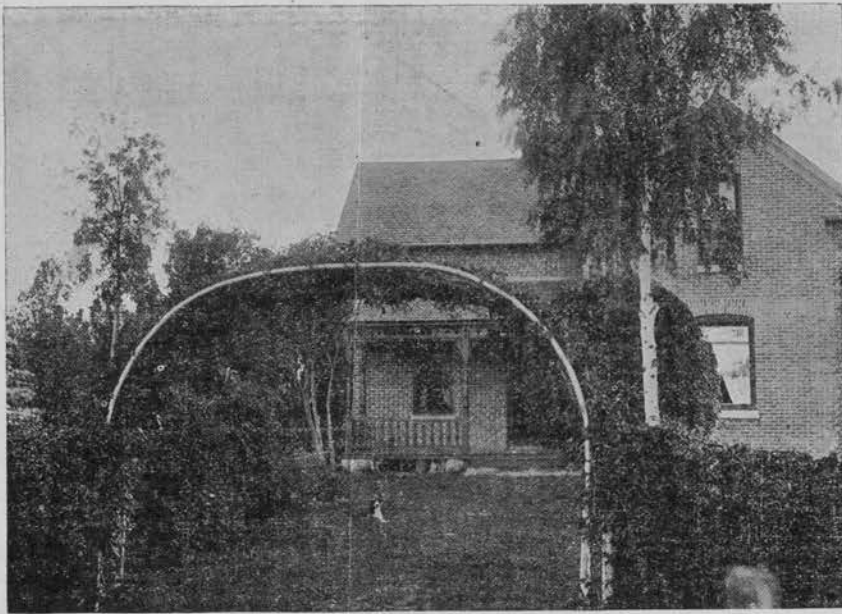
With very best wishes, I remain

Very truly yours,

Frederic Cranfield

Sec. W. S. H. S.

(Enc.)



Peonies

Phlox

Iris

Columbines

DUNSMORE NURSERY

Henry Dunsmore, Prop.

Grower of Fruit and Ornamental Trees
Evergreens and Perennial Plants

Olivia, Minn., Feb 6th 1914

Dear Mr Latham I received your check.
Thanks. Yes I am willing to go on the programme
at our next annual meeting on the subject,
"Apples for the Farmer and the Farmers Stock"
although I am a poor excuse as a speaker when standing
before an audience. Whether you would call it stage
fright or nervousness, it is a hard job for me to keep steady
enough to do justice to the subject. But with a little
practice I may get over this.
I realize that to be of real value in a community
the man who presents a subject must be in actual
touch with it. no matter what his oratorical or literary
powers may be.

Yours truly
Henry Dunsmore

Peonies

Phlox

Iris

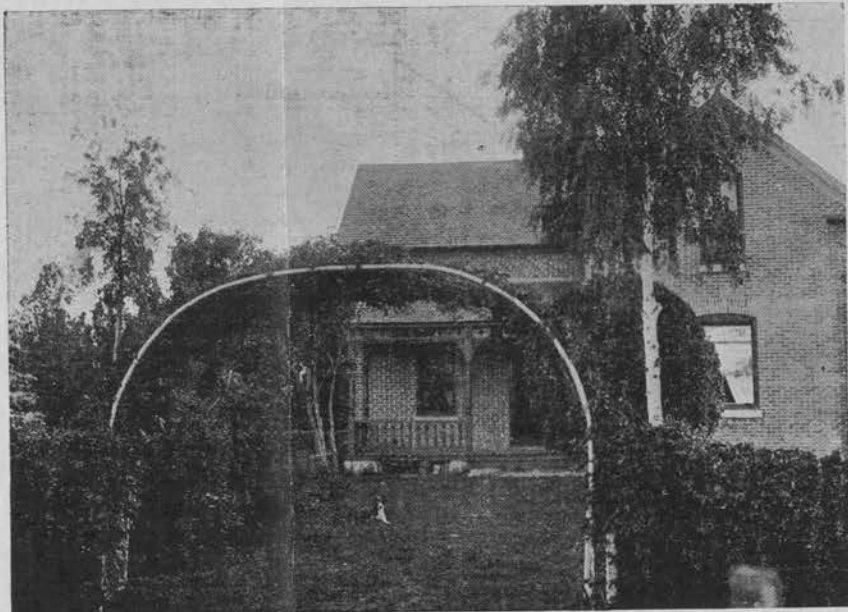
Columbines

DUNSMORE NURSERY

Henry Dunsmore, Prop.

Grower of Fruit and Ornamental Trees
Evergreens and Perennial Plants

Olivia, Minn., Mar 19, 1914



Dear Mr Latham

You will find enclosed application for membership. This is my boy he is only sixteen but I want to give him a start in the right direction. Therefore enter his name in the one acre orchard contest. Please send me a few copies of conditions governing prize orchard contest.

For some reason or other I did not get the January number which contains the conditions. This is probably the only number I have missed since I became a member. If you have one that you can send I would be pleased to have it.

Yours truly
Henry Dunsmore