



Horticultural Society: Letters Received and Sent

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St. Paul, Minnesota,
 March 14, 1917.

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

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 12th at hand. I will arrange for a hearing before the Appropriations Committee for you on Friday afternoon of this week at 4 o'clock P.M. If anything should occur in the meantime which would make it impossible for you to be here, I wish you would advise me to that effect, and oblige.

Yours very truly,

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Iowa

State Horticultural Society

Fifty-first Annual Meeting to be held at Des Moines
December 12, 13 and 14, 1916

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Secretary and Librarian, Capitol Building, Des Moines

Cedar Rapids Iowa Nov. 17/16.
A. H. Latham.

Minneapolis,
Minnesota

Dear Sir, I write you to get a list of the best pure Malacoplax in your state, or Wis. It seems as if plum breeders have gone crazy in every way and wishes to get Japan, Italy, Korea, etc. in the varieties of Japan and China plum, and many of these called China bred seedlings and find very few that are equal to our best natives. For they always manifest one weak point, romantic, and I think is time to call a halt, and give the hand of nature.

P.S. Let him see Deitz's all being that original the surprise plum. If you give me his address.

7

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Secretary and Librarian, Capitol Building, Des Moines

a chance to develop it by crossing
and to make a species; and then
plant these native hybrids along side
of the Japanese hybrids and you will see
the pure native crosses will soon
disappear. These societies owe all
their of foreign blood in them. The
American plant industry in Iowa
and Minn. must take the practices for
western climate; the same course
had to be in the American grape
industry; so far as I know, no vineyard
grows by this is a production case in
the Middle States, and when Peruvians
will use common sense they will give
it all that some day our American industry
will have a strong fruit and native spirit.
These foreign blooded hybrids are all right for
California but so far as I have watched them
here they are all much more than needed.

3) I am in my 4th year, so it is hardly
possible I shall see the end of the "career"
for Lybics that sooner or later must find
weak points, and I have tested some
fruit Japanese and Chinese places
in Iowa, than most of plain culture,
and I have my full sympathy to a great
extent with all European countries, much
less to exclude by passing them to
breed plants as a permanent foundation, or
for an essential foundation for
new Prairie horticultural and plain culture.
If I were a young man, I should have
the 2, or 3, and 4 years available in trying
to beat the American grape industry
upon the various European grapes;
and stick to, and rely principally upon
the native plant; that even without any
scientific breeding, even our rivals the
Orientals and domestic species; that have
had human culture for centuries of years, while
the native is scarcely rescued from the
woods, and plain thickets of the Prairie States.
Thanking you for any information you can
give me on the subject.
I am truly
A. B. Dennis
Box 117.

Nov. 3, 1916

Mr. A. W. Latham,
Minneapolis,
Minn.

Dear Sir:

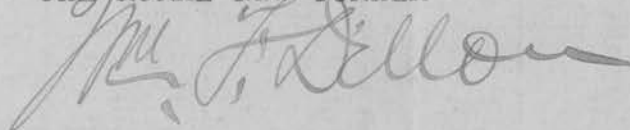
We have your letter of Oct. 30.

Perhaps the enclosed clippings will give you our views of the Gardner Nursery Company's manner of doing business more fully than it would be possible to do in the bounds of an ordinary letter. Our principal criticism, as you will deem from the items enclosed, is on the grounds that the Gardner Nursery Co. resort to subterfuge and deception in selling their products. "The Advertising Orchard" scheme is a fair example of the means this concern has employed to deceive the public as long as we have known them.

We are glad to give you this advice as to our reason for criticising the concern, and remain

Very truly yours,

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER



DUNSMORE NURSERY

Hardy Trees and Plants

Olivia, Minn. Jan 4 1917

Dear Mr Latham

you may send me "500 folders"

I heartily approve of your plan to increase
the membership of the Minn. State Hortic society
and will do all that I can to swell the number

Yours truly

Henry Dunsmore

I enclose my renewal, also some "sucker bait" that came in yesterday's mail. If I remember correctly you showed this firm up about two years ago, but I think it would do no harm to show them up again for the benefit of new subscribers. Firms that have to give Dolphin gold clocks and silverware to sell nursery stock are good ones to keep away from. You see they wax patriotic and put their circular in red, white and blue. I suppose they hope it will be read, that their prospective customers will think they will be treated "white," and know that the latter may feel "blue" when the stuff comes into bearing. Keep up your good work, and that of the Anti-Fake Club.

Massachusetts.

H. G. C.

The literature covers the proposition of the Gardner Nursery Company. Their "Advertising Orchard Offer" includes 251 trees and plants "catalog prices, \$25; agents would easily get \$30." "A Dolphin gold clock, such as retails at a good round sum." Six genuine Rogers extra plate silver teaspoons. All this for \$10, and in addition you will receive a cash commission check worth \$2.50. One of our subscribers labels it "a nice gold brick" which he cannot use. We have referred to this proposition before, and repeat our caution at this time. If nursery stock needs extra premiums to induce the sale, the question naturally arises—"What is the value of the stock?" Good trees and plants are worth the price asked without these extras, and the \$10 can be invested to better advantage with houses who are not obliged to resort to these methods.

I enclose some literature that I received some time ago from the Gardner Nursery Co., Osage, Ia. It seems to me that a concern of this kind should be exposed in the public press. If you will read over the enclosure you will see they are trying to make it appear that they are giving about \$100 worth of trees for almost nothing. It looks to me as though this concern was the type that you are trying to protect the farmers in the country against.

H. W. B.

New York.

In our estimation nursery stock is about the most dangerous place in the world to look for something for nothing. The original cost of the stock is trifling compared to the care and expense necessary to bring it to a bearing age. If the stock proves diseased or untrue to name the damage is many times more than the cost of the trees or plants. The only security is to buy of houses with a reputation and standing. H. W. B. clearly expresses the only logical deduction that can consistently be made from the Gardner Nursery Company literature. THE R. N.-Y. has referred to the schemes of this nursery a number of times in the past ten years. None of our old readers are likely to bite on the "gift fountain pen" bait, and this item is intended for the guidance of recent subscribers.

The University of Minnesota

Department of Agriculture

University Farm, St. Paul

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

OCTOBER
Second,
1916.

Dear Mr. Latham:

I am enclosing copies of some
correspondence with Mr. C. E. Kester of
Hutchinson, Minn. I believe the contents
will be clear to you. If you care to
follow this up further, all right.

Yours very truly,

M. J. Darsy

In charge of the Section of
Fruit Breeding.

MJD/ME

C
O
P
Y .

Mr. C. E. Kester,
Hutchinson, Minn.

Sept. 30, 1916.

Dear Mr. Kester:

I have your letter of September 28th in reply to my communication of September 27th.

I agree with you that your request for everbearing strawberry plants is a small one, and I am forwarding your letter to Mr. A. W. Latham, Secretary of the Horticultural Society. Your request is one of hundreds received by us each year and in order to have a definite policy regarding the distribution of new seedlings from the Fruit Farm we went over the whole proposition last winter with the members of the Horticultural Society Board representing all interests involved and it was agreed that this should be the general method of procedure.

There is considerable to be said from your standpoint and I wish I had the opportunity to personally present the other side and if you are in the city sometime I would be glad to have you call and I will go over the proposition with you.

To meet the demands for the seedlings propagated at the Fruit Farm would turn us into rather an extensive nursery and after considering that it is our business to originate varieties rather than to propagate and disseminate, we have adopted the policy of sending out varieties for the purpose of testing their merits primarily. By sending them to our Trial Stations and out to the fruit growers we are enabled to get an early judgment of their merit. Once the merits of a particular variety are determined we assume no further responsibility as to its distribution, leaving this to the well organized channels which take care of the standard varieties.

We have made it a point to file requests such as yours and the record is kept by Mr. Latham.

I am sure that when you look at all sides of the question that you will have occasion for at least less surprise at the contents of my letter.

Yours very truly,

MJD/MH

In charge of the Section of Fruit
Breeding.

H U T C H I N S O N P R O D U C E C O .

HUTCHINSON, MINNESOTA.

September 18, 1916.

University Farm,
St. Paul, Minn.

Gentlemen:

I am informed that requests for
everbearing strawberries will be recognized
and plants sent out.

Kindly make such shipments to me
and oblige.

Very truly,

C. E. Kester

Hutchinson,

Minn.

C O P Y . .

The University of Minnesota

Department of Agriculture

University Farm, St. Paul

September 27, 1916.

Hutchinson Produce Co.,

Hutchinson, Minn.

Gentlemen:

Your letter to University Farm regarding the sending out of everbearing strawberries has been referred to me.

Let me state that we have been distributing these exclusively, with the exception of the Trial Stations, as premiums to the Minnesota Horticulturist. Kindly confer with Mr. A.W. Latham, 207 Kasota Bldg., Minneapolis, who is Secretary of the Society and has general charge of the distribution of premiums.

Yours very truly,

In charge of the Section of
Fruit Breeding.

MJD/MH

C
O
P
Y

HUTCHINSON PRODUCE COMPANY.

C.E. Kester,
Manager.

Hutchinson, Minn.

September 28, 1916.

Dr. M. J. Dorsey,

C/O University Farm

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 27th
and I am surprised indeed at the contents.

With the taxes that we are paying
to support such institutions as the
Agricultural ones, and with this the University
Farm of the State of Minnesota, and when we ask
for so small a proposition as a few ever
bearing strawberry plants, to have the information
given us that is given through this letter, I
must say that I am surprised indeed.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) C. E. Kester.

CEK-B

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

DIVISION OF HORTICULTURE

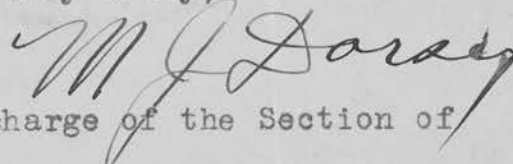
October 30, 1916.

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

Dear Mr. Latham:

Put me on the program this winter
if you like, for a talk on "Winter Injury to
the Plums in 1915-1916.

Yours very truly,



In charge of the Section of
Fruit Breeding.

MJD/ME