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The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. VI.

JULY.

NO. 5

OFFICERS OF THE STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1901.

President, Dr. T. E. Loope, Eureka.

Vice-president, F. C. Edwards, Fort Atkinson.

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THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.

"All roads at present lead to the Pan-American" writes one of our cotemporaries. But is there no road leading FROM the Pan-American? We have vainly sought for a returned tourist who could give an account of the great show from the standpoint of an eye-witness. Thus far the Exposition has been to us like the world beyond the grave,—many have gone thither but none have returned to tell about it. However, the tide of travel will doubtless flow homeward before another month passes. In the meantime we must be content with such glimpses of the Exposition as we can get through the press.

A writer in Our Horticultural Visitor says: "One of the most attractive entrances to the grounds is through the

Elmwood gate. A garden park consisting of many acres, mingling in natural harmony all known colors and tints, is the greeting extended to the visitor upon crossing the Exposition threshold.

From here the Horticultural Building is the natural objective point to which most people direct their steps. Lovers of flowers, however, are very apt to select the most circuitous route and to linger long and lovingly over some favorite.

One of the most attractive exhibits in this section is the collection of fruits, nuts, etc., sent by the business men of Los Angeles County, California. A prominent feature of this collection and the one that first attracts attention is a full sized elephant built of English walnuts, which is not only attractive in itself but is typical of this young giant industry, as it indicates the present jumbo importance of what was but a short time ago merely an experiment. Fourteen years has sufficed to develop the business of growing English walnuts in California from nothing to its present international importance.

One thousand business men of California organized and supplied the material for their state exhibit after the Legislature failed to act. It was placed in charge of Mr. Frank Wiggins and his able assistant, C. L. Wilson, and judging from appearances it could not have fallen in better hands. It makes one hungry to look at it, and a half hour spent in careful inspection gives a northern or eastern resident a new idea of the resources of California.

Fruits in absolute perfection are seen here, many of which are little known outside of their home state, though oranges, lemons, almonds, grapes, pears, peaches, raisins and other standard marketable kinds naturally take the lead. By way of variety, however, oddities in this line are very nicely represented.

Dessicated fruits are shown in neat attractive arrange-

ments that gives them a very appetizing appearance. Immense peaches, pears and clusters of raisins invite visitors to bite into them at every turn, but the guards that are everywhere present are not so willing.

Statuesque forms of two natives of early California, a man and a woman of Mexican descent, are built up of dried fruits consisting of almost every variety grown in the State. These are perched out of reach on a side wall where they have a fine opportunity to survey this wonderful representation of a progress that their race, through constitutional inertia, failed to promote or appreciate.

In the Georgia exhibit are shown one hundred varieties of cereals grown on one farm of twenty-five acres.

Louisiana exhibited sixty varieties of strawberries. One of its unique exhibits is a sweet potato called the Big Ben which weighs 122 pounds.

The Virginia State Horticultural Society sent twenty-five varieties of winter apples.

Several carloads of peaches from Alabama have already been put on exhibition.

Sixteen thousand boxes of strawberries arrived at the Pan-American Exposition from Missouri on June 3d. These came from Central Missouri in and about Springfield and Monette. They were picked on the thirtieth, Decoration Day, and sent on in refrigerator cars by freight. About 1,600 boxes were put on exhibition in the Missouri division of the Horticulture building.

These include Gandy, Bubach, Haverland, Warfield and Philips Seedling. The Philips Seedling is a new berry in the eastern market and a striking variety. It is very large and of irregular and peculiar shape.

This display has been the center of attraction in the Horticulture Building. People have flocked around it and

gone away with longing unless they were fortunate enough to get a taste of the delicious fruit.

"I haven't had a whiff of such berries since I was a child in Missouri," said a sweet old lady in a wheel chair whom the fragrance of the fruit had greeted at the east entrance.

In spite of being six days off the vines the fruit was rich in color and flavor.

The Executive Committee of the Rice Association of America, at a meeting held at Lake Charles, Louisiana, decided to raise at least \$10,000 to maintain a rice kitchen at the Pan-American Exposition, at which rice will be served in various forms, showing the value of rice as a staple article of food.

Every woman who visits the Pan-American Exposition will make comparison between her home methods of cooking and those she will find in the electrical kitchen of the Exposition. It will be an interesting study for all the ladies, and one from which they will receive benefit. Many mothers will recognize a vast improvement in the kitchen equipment and facilities of today as compared with their childhood, while hopeful girlhood will eagerly long for a kitchen electrically equipped.

Newspaper men in great numbers will be at the Pan-American Exposition this summer. Many state Editorial Associations and numerous press clubs have arranged for trips to Buffalo.

The carrot is the best adapted for horse feeding of all the roots. Horses are naturally fond of carrots and frequently when sick will eat a few sliced carrots after refusing everything else.—The Ruralist.

EASTER LILIES.

The bulbs of the true Bermuda Easter lily, *lilium Harrisii*, are imported from the Bermuda Islands and can usually be procured from the florists and nurserymen in August. A writer in the *Woman's Home Companion* says: "In forcing the Easter lily, secure the bulb as early as possible, pot it in a six or seven-inch pot, according to the size of the bulb, using a light, rich soil composed of two-thirds light garden soil to which has been added and thoroughly incorporated one-third well-rotted manure. Let the top of the bulb be about one and one-fourth inches below the surface of the soil. After potting set away in a shaded frame or very cool, shaded place out of doors, or at the base of a wall, there to remain for a season until the bulb has made roots. After the bottom of the pot is pretty well filled with roots it can be removed to lighter and warmer quarters. If possible, graduate the temperature, as sudden changes are not conducive to best results.

If it is desired that the plant be in bloom at Easter-time, regulate heat, light and moisture to have the buds stand out well from the stalk by six weeks before Easter, and the time of blooming can then be withheld or advanced, as above mentioned, by the heat, air, moisture, etc."

The common white garden lily, *lilium candidum*, is also frequently forced for Easter blooming. This, also, should be potted in August. Place the bulb in rich soil in a deep pot, taking care to have a layer of pure sand surrounding the bulb, so that it does not come in direct contact with the rich soil. Be sure to place bits of broken crockery or charcoal in the bottom of the pot to secure good drainage. Sink the pot to the rim in the soil in a shaded place and let remain until cold weather, then take the pot out of the ground so it will not freeze in; but let it remain out of doors until severe cold weather comes, then bring into the house and give it ordinary care with other plants.

Lilium candidum is hardy and may be grown in the garden for spring blooming. The bulbs should be planted in August in good soil. Take care to have a layer of pure sand in direct contact with the bulb, beneath it, on top, and all around it, when it is planted. Plant it so the top of the bulb will be about six inches below the surface of the ground. Protect in winter with coarse litter or leaves which may be forked in in the spring.

THE SWAINSONIA.

Eben E. Rexford in the Farmers' Review.

It is a plant having very delicate foliage, suggestive of some of the ferns. This is so plentifully produced along the slender stalks that it, in itself, makes the plant quite attractive. The habit of the plant is semi-climbing, and it must be given a trellis of some sort for support. Its flowers, which are freely and almost constantly produced throughout the season are borne in racemes three or four inches long. They are pea-shaped, not large individually, but are borne in such clusters that they show to fine advantage especially on fine, large specimens. A well-developed plant often grows to be five or six feet tall, and two or three feet across, if given a wide trellis. The effect of such a plant in full bloom with its delicate flowers showing against a background of graceful greenery, such as its dainty foliage affords, may be imagined but it cannot be satisfactorily described. Those who see the plant for the first time are always charmed with it, and are sure to want a specimen for their collection. It is well adapted to the window garden, where it grows almost as well as a geranium. It is extremely effective if given a wire trellis extending up the sides and across the top of the window, with branches drooping from it in a natural manner. The variety most extensively grown is white, but there is a rose-colored sort

which of late is attracting considerable attention. The two are pretty when trained together.

To grow the *Swainsonia* well, it must be given a spongy, porous soil, plenty of water and considerable root-room. It likes leaf mold with some sharp sand mixed in to make it light and friable. As the plant has a great quantity of fine roots, great care must be taken to prevent injury from lack of moisture. These roots rapidly extract the moisture from the soil, hence the plant will require twice as much water in a day as a geranium. Watch it carefully, and never allow it to get dry, or the flowers will blast. And as soon as the old pot is filled with roots, shift to one of larger size. Treat it in such a manner as to keep it going steadily ahead the greater part of the year. In spring, it can be cut back to within two or three feet of the pot, all its branches shortened at least one-half, and a period of rest induced by withholding water. Give only enough to keep it from wilting while in its half dormant condition. Those who are in search of something new will do well to try this plant.



THE TOMATO BLIGHT.

By Prof. E. S. Goff, University of Wisconsin.

The yellowing and dying of the older leaves of tomato plants are familiar to all gardeners. This is not always due to disease, for the oldest leaves of most herbaceous plants usually die before the end of the growing season. The foliage of the tomato is, however, subject to at least two fungous diseases that may greatly aggravate the dying of the older leaves. The better known of these diseases is the one commonly called "tomato blight" and the fungus causing it has received the name *CLADOSPORIUM FULVUM*. The affected leaves first show dark-brown spots on the under side. The upper surface of the leaves at the same time turns yellow, and the edges usually curl downward. As

the disease progresses, the leaves shrivel and finally die, leaving the stems naked. In severe cases a large part of the stems is thus defoliated.

The experiment has often been made of spraying diseased plants with Bordeaux mixture and almost always the effect has been beneficial. The treatment should be given at the first indications of the disease, and it should be repeated once in ten to fifteen days so long as the symptoms appear. It would be still better not to wait for the indications of the blight, but to make the first application while the foliage still appears healthy. Those who have not the recipe for the Bordeaux mixture should apply to our Experiment Station for Bulletin No. 34.

Experiments have shown that the blight is much more apt to attack tomatoes on land that was occupied with blighted tomatoes the preceding year.

Wisconsin Experiment Station, Madison.



NOTES ON STRAWBERRIES GROWN AT THE MICHIGAN EXPERIMENT STATION.

Bulletin 189 from the Michigan Agricultural College gives a tabulated comparison of 145 varieties of strawberries tested at the experiment station in 1900. The table gives the comparative size, form, productiveness, quality, hardiness, firmness, etc., of each variety.

Among varieties tested last season for the first time, a majority are regarded as of little value. Those mentioned as "promising" or "worthy of trial" are Echo, Emma, Gamage, Gladstone, Johnson Early, Stouffer and Wool. Following is the description of these varieties, as given by Prof. Taft:

Echo—Perfect flower. Vines very thrifty, strong growers and hardy, quite well set with runners and fruit stems. Prolific bearers. Berries are medium to large in size, round

conical in form, light colored, firm and of a pleasant flavor. A promising variety.

Emma—Perfect flower. Very strong thrifty growers. Hardy, with large, rank and dark colored foliage. Runners and fruit stems are numerous, but the stems are not well set with berries. Fruit is of medium size, good form, color and quality, quite firm and solid. This variety shows considerable promise.

Gamage—Imperfect flower. Plants vigorous and hardy, with dark colored, healthy foliage. Runners and fruit stems not sufficiently numerous. Stems well filled with berries, which are of good size, somewhat irregular in shape and bright red in color. Quality and firmness fair. A promising variety.

Gladstone—Perfect flower. Vines thrifty and hardy. Foliage well colored and seems to be resistant to disease. Runners and fruit stems numerous. Berries did not set well, were large, light colored and of irregular form, mostly broad and flat. Of fair promise but somewhat soft.

Johnson Early—Perfect flower. Vines very vigorous and hardy. Runners and fruit stems are numerous. Berries are of medium size, rather dark colored and a little irregular, but approaching round conical in form. The flesh is of soft texture and has a core, is bright red in color and of good flavor. Is a good early berry.

Stouffer—Perfect flower. One of the most vigorous growers, free from blight. Runners a little shy; fruit stems numerous, but not well filled. Fruit large, irregular, round or long conical, dark-colored, sweet and of good flavor. A promising sort.

Wooll—Imperfect flower. This variety grew under very unfavorable conditions. Vines are strong growers, dark colored and seem to be a little susceptible to

blight. The berries are dark colored, irregular round conical, solid and of good quality. Quite promising.

Of older varieties grown at the Station Prof. Taft says:

Several varieties that have stood at the head of the list for a number of years, still maintain their position. Excelsior, Haverland, Warfield, Clyde, Bubach and Brandywine can be relied upon to give good crops under fairly favorable conditions, although the best results cannot be secured with the last three varieties except in rich moist soils. Glen Mary, Wm. Belt, Marshall and Nick Ohmer, also, are quite satisfactory under high culture.

Excelsior—Perfect flower. The plants are very vigorous, hardy, healthy and productive. Runners and fruit stems abundant. The fruit is of medium size, quite firm, dark colored and of good form. Quality is good but acid. One of the best early sorts.

Haverland—This variety is vigorous, hardy and prolific. One of the most profitable for general use. Fruit is of good size and quality. Medium in firmness. Its fine appearance makes it a good market variety and it is well adapted to the home garden.

Warfield—Vines are strong vigorous growers and quite productive. Berries are medium in size, of good texture, lacking a little in flavor, but the bright appearance of the berries and their adaptation for canning, make it a very good market variety.

Glen Mary—Plants of good growth and healthy. Fruit is borne in abundance, is of large size, of good quality and firmness. One of the best market varieties under high culture.

Beder Wood—Perfect flower. This variety is much used to fertilize pistillate sorts. Vines are vigorous but somewhat subject to blight. Berries are numerous, a little soft and light colored. Quality good.

Bismarck—Perfect flower. Plants are of small, low growth. Berries are large in size, dark red in color and of good form. Quality of flesh is very good, firmness medium, a very good variety to grow under high cultivation.

Bryant—Perfect flower. Plants are strong, healthy growers and quite prolific. Berries are large, broad, conical, of very bright dark crimson color. Flesh is light colored, firm in texture, but lacking some in quality. The general attractiveness of the fruit makes this a desirable market variety.

Bubach—Plants are vigorous and hardy, especially adapted to strong soils. Berries are good in size, form, color and quality.

Clyde—Perfect flower. Plants are vigorous and hardy, a little light in color. A very profitable sort on soils not easily affected by drought. Berries are light red, color extending through the berry. Are but moderately firm. Excellent to fertilize pistillate varieties.

Gandy—Vines are fairly vigorous and hardy. Fruit is large, of high quality and firmness. Season late. Only moderately productive.

Sample—Imperfect flower. Plants are strong, vigorous growers and productive; have stout fruit stalks and large healthy leaves. Berries are of large size, very regular in form, bright dark crimson in color and of high quality and texture. This variety has proved itself valuable during the two seasons grown here. Well worthy of trial.

Greenville and Timbrell are not of sufficient firmness.

Mistress (greatly scandalized): "Is it possible, Mary, you are making bread without having washed your hands?"
New kitchen girl: "Lor', what's the difference, mum? It's brown bread."—The Columbian.

RASPBERRIES AT THE MICHIGAN EXPERIMENT STATION.

Bulletin 187 from the Michigan Agricultural College gives the following notes on raspberries tested at the sub-station in South Haven in 1900:

RED VARIETIES.

Brandywine—An old variety once popular for market planting, but now largely replaced by better kinds. Lacks size and productiveness here.

Church—Ripens a little in advance of Cuthbert. Plants vigorous and usually quite productive. A good home berry, but rather soft for the market.

Cuthbert—This old, well-known variety still holds first place among the red raspberries in the station collection. None of the newer kinds equal it in plant vigor and productiveness.

Early King—A fairly good early berry, but not equal to Marlboro and Miller. The fruit is inclined to be rather small.

Hansell—Very early, but unprofitable, because lacking in vigor and productiveness.

Herstine—A large, bright red berry of best quality. Fruits over a longer season than almost any other variety on trial. Valuable for home use, but not productive enough for market.

Loudon—This large, handsome berry has attracted more attention than any other of the newer kinds. It was raised by F. W. Loudon of Wisconsin from seed of Turner, crossed with Cuthbert. The plants are hardy and productive, but not quite as vigorous as could be desired. The firmness of the fruit, together with its large size and attractive appearance, renders the Loudon popular as a market sort, where the plants can be made to do well. In quality it is not quite equal to Cuthbert.

Marlboro—Vigorous and productive. Fruit large, firm

and attractive. The best early variety at South Haven.

Miller—Lacks vigor and productiveness here and the fruit is inclined to be rather small. Ripens with Marlboro and in some localities succeeds much better than the latter variety.

Sarah—The fruit of this variety is of large size and attractive appearance, but the plants are unproductive.

Superlative—One of the European varieties, which as a class, are not considered sufficiently hardy for this climate. The Superlative has stood the winters here remarkably well, but the plants are poor growers and not very productive.

Turner—A good, thrifty grower and quite productive. Desirable in localities where great hardiness is required.

Among the red varieties, Cuthbert, Loudon, Marlboro, Miller and Turner gave the largest yields. For general planting Cuthbert, Loudon and Marlboro are especially desirable.

BLACK CAPS.

Cumberland—This new variety has again made an excellent showing on the station grounds. Plants vigorous and productive. Berries large, firm and of good quality. Ripens after Palmer and continues in fruiting a long time. Should be tried by all raspberry growers.

Eureka—The most productive medium early variety fruited this season. The plants are vigorous and the fruit large and attractive. A valuable variety both for home and market.

Farusworth—Cannot be recommended.

Idaho—A late ripening variety. It has been on trial here for several years and has proven to be one of the best of the late kinds. The plants are vigorous and the fruit is of the largest size.

Kansas—Rated as one of the best mid-season varieties.

Here it has proven very productive, but the fruit has not always been as large as could be desired. The plants are very strong growers.

Older—Plants are good growers, but the fruit is small and crumbles badly in picking. A failure here.

Smith (Prolific)—A good, thrifty grower and quite productive. The berries are large, firm, and have a rich, sweet flavor. One of the best mid-season varieties.

Winona—Lacks size and productiveness. A failure here.

PURPLE CAPS.

Cardinal—This variety comes highly recommended from Kansas. Here it proves to be a strong grower and quite productive, but the last two seasons the fruit has been rather small. Does not equal Columbian and Shaffer.

Columbian—Vigorous, hardy and very productive of berries of the largest size. The best of the hybrid or purple cane class. Particularly valuable for culinary purposes.

Shaffer—Ranks next to Columbian for profit. Similar to Columbian in habit of growth, productiveness and size of fruit, but of a more delicate texture and requires more careful handling.

RASPBERRY NOVELTIES.

Japanese Mayberry—Received from Parry Bros. of Parry, N. J., in 1897. The plant has grown to the height of about three feet, making a very pretty little bush, but it has not yet fruited. It is tender and requires winter protection. Its behavior up to the present time does not indicate that it will be likely to prove of any value.

Logan Berry—This widely disseminated novelty is supposed to be a cross between a wild creeping blackberry of California and one of the European raspberries. The plant is a slow grower of trailing habit, requiring winter protec-

tion. The berries are large, long, conical, of a reddish, purple color, and a mild raspberry-like flavor. Fruited sparingly last year, which was the fourth season after planting, and this year bore a fair crop. A failure so far as all practical purposes are concerned.

Rubus Xanthocarpus—A low spreading plant from Russia, resembling the strawberry raspberry. The berry is small and yellow, with few grains, and has a mild, indistinct flavor. It is difficult to see wherein this plant can prove of value.

Strawberry Raspberry—This plant has been well tested in many parts of the country, and under a great variety of conditions, and it is now quite generally known that it can be regarded as little short of a monumental humbug of the nurserymen who have disseminated it. The fruit, although showy and attractive, is worthless, and the plant, which propagates by root stocks and suckers freely, behaves like a weed.

Wineberry—Another Japanese introduction, which has no value unless it may be for ornamental purposes. The foliage and flowers are attractive in appearance. The plant is an upright grower, attaining the height of about six feet. The stout canes are of a light yellowish color; leaves large, thick, leathery; flowers large, showy, pink in color; berry a thin red cap borne upon a large peduncle. The fruit is dry and seedy, with very little flavor.

BLACKBERRIES AT THE MICHIGAN STATION.

Bulletin 187, from the Michigan Agricultural College, speaks highly of a new blackberry from Wisconsin, the Wallace. It says:

Wallace—A hardy, vigorous variety from Wisconsin. The fruit is very large, oblong, of good quality, mild and pleasant. A regular and very abundant bearer. Gave the

largest yield of any variety on trial this season.

Among the many varieties tested, we will give the notes on a few of the most widely advertised.

Childs (Tree)—A low, dwarfish, leafy grower, lacking both in hardiness and productiveness. A failure here.

Early Harvest—Largely grown for early market. A good berry, but rather small. The plants are tender and usually require some winter protection.

Early King—Better than Early Harvest this season. The berries are large and of good quality. In point of hardiness the plants are very similar to Early Harvest.

Early Mammoth—One of the hardiest of the early kinds and usually quite productive. The berries are of large size and quite good quality.

Eldorado—A hardy and productive variety, resembling Snyder in growth of plant. The fruit is of medium size, firm texture and good quality. One of the best of the newer kinds.

Erie—A very large berry of fine appearance, but rather acid. The plants are vigorous and hardy, but not very productive.

Ohmer—A spreading, rather slender grower, moderately productive of berries of large size and good quality. A good late berry.

Thompson—Plants upright in growth, moderately vigorous, inclined to be tender. Berries very large, of medium quality. Not a profitable kind.

Wilson—Plant moderately vigorous, inclined to be tender. The berries are very large and of fair to good quality. A profitable market variety.

Wilson, Jr.—Practically identical with Wilson.

Backwoodsmen of China still use the bow and arrow as a weapon and do very effective work with it.

**STRAWBERRIES TESTED AT THE GROUNDS OF THE
"RURAL NEW-YORKER."**

Many varieties are grown for market, Smith Seedling, Bubach and Gandy being the favorites for early, medium and late, respectively, and are included in nearly all plantings. Gandy probably nets the grower more than any other single variety, for no matter how low the local price may sag under the pressure of the great number of small berries gathered at the last pickings of the earlier varieties, it stiffens at once when the large, shapely and handsome Gandys make their appearance, and the demand for this reliable late variety continues as long as they are sent to market. Among the newer berries of distinct promise Gladstone, Sample and Hunn may be noted. Gladstone has proved a fine cropper this season, and its quality is very good, a little more acid than Wm. Belt, but far ahead of all the standard market berries. It is of large size, good, bright color, and firm enough to carry well. It is also very early. Sample is a great grower, and makes immense plants, which in turn bear very large and fair berries. It will be watched with great interest another season. Hunn is claimed to be a very late strawberry, but it is ripened right with Gandy. The large, dark berries, with their conspicuous brownish seeds, are attractive, and ought to find a ready sale. The quality is not high, and it will take a more trying season to form an opinion on its productiveness and resisting qualities; nevertheless, it promises well. Marshall is gaining many friends as a home berry, but is not sufficiently prolific in this locality. The fruits are handsome and high-flavored.

**ORIGIN OF THE YORK IMPERIAL APPLE.**

S. B. Heiges of Pennsylvania says that the York Imperial apple originated near York, Penn., and was introduced by Jonathan Jessup, early in the nineteenth century.

The tree was a chance seedling from the farm of a Mr. Johnson. The fruit was unattractive in appearance, and was not gathered. Mr. Johnson, being an invalid, spent some time in sitting at a window watching the country people as they passed along the road. He noticed that the schoolboys at York went to this apple tree in the Spring, saw them kick away the leaves, and fill their pockets with apples. This led him to send a farm hand to get some of this fruit, and to his surprise he found them of a bright red color, and of good quality, when other late-keeping varieties in the orchard were wilted and dried out. Mr. Jessup was a nurseryman and he was called in to help propagate the apple. He called it Johnson's Fine Winter and Mr. Jessup propagated many trees for which he could find no sale. When they became too large for nursery stock, he pulled them up and threw them into a ravine near the turnpike road. Farmers who attended the York market saw these trees along their way home, filled their wagons with them, and planted them on their own farms. When Mr. Jessup was told of this, he said, "Well, if they will not buy trees to plant, I am glad that they will take them for nothing." And thus it was that the York Imperial was started. J. J. Downing, after sampling the apple, said, "It is the imperial of late keepers, and as it originated near York, I would suggest York Imperial as an appropriate name." Mr. Heiges says that in 1863, after a long search, he located the stump of the original tree in the corner of a wormy fence, all the trees of an adjacent field having been cut down and the stumps removed.—Rural New-Yorker.

Mistress: "I wouldn't hold the baby so near the tiger's cage, Nora." Nora (the nurse): "There's no risk, mum. Th' tiger is a 'maneater' and th' child is a gur-rul."—Chicago News.

BAGGING GRAPES.

This pays for home use when you want the best you can get. Bagged bunches are much finer, ripen more evenly, have more bloom and are better in every way, but are possibly a few days later in ripening. Thin skinned varieties, especially, like Concord are very much improved. I buy 2-lb. manilla bags such as grocers use. These bags last two years and cost only a few cents a hundred. A paper of pins is also required. I slip the bag over the bunch, make a double fold of the top and stick a pin through and there you are until the bunches are ripe. The grapes should be bagged when they are about the size of small shot, but later will do, although the larger they are the more trouble they are to bag.—O. J. Farmer.



HOW TO EAT BANANAS.

The banana yields more food to the acre than any other plant, and yet it disagrees with no end of Northern stomachs. This is because we eat it the wrong way. But the wife of a missionary to the tropics tells the glad tidings from heathen shores of how to eat a banana. When you have stripped off the willing rind, just scrape off the stringy and hairy coat that lies beneath the rind, and you may eat your banana without tasting it all the rest of the day. To eat that flannel undershirt of the fruit is like eating the same garment of a missionary. Any cannibal would know better. Or it is like swallowing the woolly coat of a peach. Boys and other barbarians may have stomachs which can stand it; but the gentle pagan of the Indies knows better than to do this with his banana.



Bats measuring nearly five feet from tip to tip of their wings have been found in a cave near Tanga in East Africa.

POISONED BY IVY ASHES.

D. T. Evans, living south of La Crosse, was poisoned by walking over ashes of poison ivy he had burned on his farm. A creek upon his property is overrun by the plant, and to destroy it Mr. Evans ordered his hired man to burn the patch. Later Mr. Evans himself removed the ashes. The contact resulted in his being poisoned severely, not only his hands but his lower limbs, where the rising dust of the ashes had touched them. He is in a serious condition.—Sentinel.

HOW LATE SHALL BLACKBERRIES BE CULTIVATED?

When the berry pickers tramp through the rows they tread the earth down hard and thus the water rapidly flows to the surface, where it is promptly picked up by the sun and wind and carried off. At this season of the year a drouth usually prevails and the berries dry up, shrinking the number of quarts many times, to say nothing of loss of flavor of fruit, reducing its consumption and price alike.

All this will be prevented largely by having the horse and cultivator ready immediately after the pickers every time the fruit is gathered. Then the last picking will be as large and luscious as the first.

“Winter killing” are not the words to use! We should say “summer killing,” for while the actual killing is done in winter, the cause is effected in summer and is the result of bad cultivation. While we are conserving moisture, as explained, to prevent the berries from drying up, we are preparing them for winter. Everything we can possibly do to force a vigorous growth in the early part of the season should be done and anything which can prevent growth after the first of August should also be done.

Eight out of every 10,000 English people emigrate in a year.

PACKING THE EARTH HARD.

A correspondent of Green's Fruit Grower says: "I have planted perhaps 1,000,000 trees in my lifetime. I have met with but few failures and cannot remember having watered any of these trees. If the soil is made thoroughly fine before planting; if the soil about the roots is pressed in very firm, as firm as a fencepost; if the soil is left loose on the top and kept continuously loose by cultivation, the trees will live even though the season may be dry."

HOW LATE CAN WE CONTINUE TO CULTIVATE THE BUSH FRUITS?

R. M. Kellogg in Western Fruit-Grower.

This has been a question for debate in horticultural meetings for many years, but the general concensus of opinion of the "modern horticulturists" is that we have stopped too soon. No one can fix a definite date because moisture and soil conditions are prime factors for consideration. We cannot be sure a drouth shall not follow the recent almost excessive rains and extend late in the season, in which case tillage should continue. The great point is to maintain a steady, uninterrupted growth till cold weather sets in. The ripening process begins at the root and follows at a respectful distance from the rapidly advancing terminal bud so that under normal conditions all this immature wood is cut off at the winter pruning.

If the ground becomes very dry in midsummer the growth stops and buds complete themselves as if for winter and then the fall rains stimulate the fatal late growth that sends the wood into the winter full of sap and even moderate freezing is sure to destroy them. If the soil is rich, especially so in humus, so that it retains water readily and a large growth has already been made, it will do to stop as early as the middle of August, but if the ground is desti-

tute of vegetable mould so it dries out rapidly and only a moderate growth has been made the cultivation should continue as late as the middle of September. With these pointers in mind a close observation of the general growth as well as moisture will enable you to decide on "the quit" quite accurately.

TO PREVENT BLACKBERRIES DIMINISHING IN SIZE.

In reply to a complaint that the bushes fell over into the path, rendering cultivation impracticable, R. M. Kellogg says in the *Western Fruit-Grower*:

If you had your bushes established with a good system of fibrous roots and had started your cultivator early and had continued through the harvest after every picking you would have had more than double the quarts in quality and quantity to pay for all the extra work. The loss on reputation and quantity of berries as well as price by having the berries dry up and run small, is very great and should have been saved. When the bushes fell over in the path one man should have gone ahead and gently raised them up and locked them in with canes inclined to fall the other way. This work is done quite rapidly and the loose earth mulch would have held the water down. When the pickers tramp the surface down hard the earth dries out very fast and if a rain does come it cannot penetrate the ground and so does very little good. Blackberries or dewberries should never be picked oftener than twice a week and if cultivated as often the last pickings would have been very nearly as large as the first.

The strikes that occurred in the United States last year cost the country, it is said, between \$400,000,000 and \$500,000,000.

MY GARDEN.

By B. S. Hoxie.

A note from the editor lately received says "Will you kindly give us an article for the next number of the Horticulturist?" Ah! what shall I write about? I remember a number of years ago when I hunted up O. C. Cook of Oconto with my pen and asked him to give us a paper for one of our meetings on his orchard work up north. His reply was "The big fellows of the State Society have so much to say that there is nothing left for me." So I am in that fix. What does a carpenter know about horticulture?

My flower garden does not belong to the Society but to myself and the passers-by on the street. Right here I wish to raise a question, what right have we who can grow roses and flowers, to put them off to one side where the stranger can never see them? "Oh, the boys and girls will pick my flowers." Nonsense! let them know that they are part owners of their beauty with you and vandal hands will seldom or ever touch them. Besides, is there not an educational lesson in your flower garden better and more potent than the book teaches?

Well, my shrubbery and flower garden is right on a public street, and on dark nights an electric light is at the street side. In shape the garden is like a broad horse-shoe surrounded by the carriage drive from street to barn and circling to the street again, leaving the wind mill and elevated tank about twelve or fourteen feet away from where the toe-calk of the horse-shoe would be. What would represent the first nail in the heel is a Norway spruce, the second a syringa, the third a nicely sheared hemlock, now about four feet tall; the fourth a Tartarian honeysuckle and the fifth, if there are as many nails in a shoe, is a purple barberry bush. The other side of the shoe is almost identical with this, for my mother used to say that when I was a boy I was never

content with one piece of bread and butter; it must be two pieces even if she had to cut one in two. Around next to this rim of trees on either side are most of my rose bushes; a few are in other places, while the climbers are beside the house and verandas. The center space of the foot near the toe is a large circular bed of cannas with border of spotted calla lilies and at the street entrance of the shoe is a bed of verbenas. On one side, starting from the heel-calk is a bed of coleus, while on the other side is a bed of geraniums of the various shades of red. Dahlias, gladioli and tulips have another place, but all in sight.

It will be seen that annuals do not find much space in my garden, though I admire their beauty. I find that a hollyhock now and then, in a vacant space among the rose bushes, with its spikes of bright flowers adds much of beauty later in the season when the roses are gone. And "Snow on the mountain" is ready to come in of its own accord when you once introduce it to its friends in the rose garden and it too is a welcome intruder until the frost takes all the beauty from my garden.



FROM THE CROP REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The hay crop has been badly damaged, in the middle and northern portion of the state, by rain. In the potato growing counties, complaint comes of the rotting of seed after planting, making the stand of plants thin and irregular. The weather has, however, been favorable to their growth.

Forty-five counties report soil conditions as favorable, four as too wet, and eighteen as too dry. The dryer section is that south of and including parts of Crawford, Richland, Sauk, Columbia, Dodge and Washington counties.

Severe electrical and wind storms are reported from the

middle section of the state; in many instances causing considerable damage to crops and farm buildings. These storms were notably severe in Vernon, La Crosse and Portage counties. As a whole, the outlook for farm crops is much more favorable than it was June 1st.

Much of the state received timely rains, and except upon the lightest soils, where oats suffered severely, a good showing will be made. The weather has been ideal for the growth of corn, and the gain during the last half of June was phenomenal, though a large acreage needs cultivation at once. The extreme heat, just now prevailing, makes farm work oppressive and even dangerous.

JOHN M. TRUE,

Sec. Wis. State Board of Agriculture.



FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

"Ye editor" has lately added to her kitchen belongings something so satisfactory and helpful that she is moved to tell all the Horticulturist sisters about it. This household boon is a steam cooker—the Ideal Steam Cooker. We had often seen it advertised, in fact had advertised it in our own magazine for awhile, but we first learned of its practical working through our friend, the minister's wife. We were talking about CANNING and the minister's wife said that for several years she had canned her fruit and corn and peas and beans in a steam cooker. It further transpired that she cooked meat and chickens, potatoes and peas, puddings and fruit-cake, brown bread and white bread, in this same steam wonder-box. We learned moreover that the cooker could be procured right here in Baraboo from another friend, Dea. Daniel P. Wight. We telephoned to Mr. Wight and now we are the happy owner of a No. 7 Cooker. We are as enthusiastic over it as was the minister's wife, and so are about forty other ladies here in Baraboo. Did space

permit we should like to tell you how we sat under the shade of the trees yesterday and let that cooker get dinner for a family of ten. The two chickens roasted in it were so delicious that one of our guests ordered a cooker for herself this morning. We can cheerfully deny ourself many "modern conveniences," but shall never again try to keep house in warm weather without a steam cooker.

MARY CLARK JOHNSON.



A WORD ABOUT WOOL-PULLING.

F. C. Edwards.

In regard to the purchase in northern Wisconsin, 1880 acres, I consider it the best property I can possibly hold and improve. But before I can pull much wool over the people's eyes I will have a lot of fencing to do. It is a question what kind of wool to pull. Angora goats are the best machines in this country to save backache in clearing up new lands. (Some say the nurseryman does his share of pulling wool over people's eyes.) Perhaps I can pull more wool on the fertile lands of northern Wisconsin than the average party would think. Many of the clearings in northern Wisconsin are done by the easy handle (sheep). Not all the lands in northern Wisconsin are fertile but many of them are superior in the growing grasses to southern Wisconsin.

Not many years hence all the good lands as far north as Lake Superior will be manufactured into farms. Our state is rich in its natural resources and it only needs the touch of the practical man to make it blossom into fruitfulness. I purpose to hold and operate 2000 acres of this country and I hope my estimate of its value will not depreciate. Many people have understood that I have sold out my nursery business but I wish to say that such is not the case. I seem to be getting in deeper every year. I see a great need of

the study of landscape gardening in the west and the extensive planting of trees, fruits and flowers, such a planting as this country never saw. But the planting ought to be done with trained taste. If a person has arrived at that stage when the home is to be fitted up with fruit trees, shade trees, shrubs and vines, good taste is of considerable value in the selection and arrangement to get the most satisfactory results. Allow me to say in conclusion that the rudiments of landscape gardening should be taught in our public schools, as nearly all children at some time become home-builders.

**SUMMER MEETING OF WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY AUGUST 21-22.**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The kind invitation given by Mr. S. H. Marshall to hold the Summer Meeting of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society at Madison, Wis., was accepted by the executive committee. It is the intention to make this a plum meeting, as the dates have been placed at the time when this fruit is at its best. By the assistance of Prof. Goff, Mr. Marshall expects to make this meeting a very pleasant and profitable session to all who attend. The first day session will be taken up with papers and discussions and the second day those in attendance will be under the care of Messrs. Marshall and Goff. Read carefully the program and be ready to enter into discussions freely.

PROGRAMME.

Monday Evening, August 19.

Meeting of Executive Committee of the State Horticultural Society to attend to business of importance. All having accounts against the society are requested to send them to the secretary prior to this meeting.

Tuesday, August 20, 9:00 A. M.

Invocation. President's Greeting. Appointment of Committees.

Apple Outlook for Eastern Wisconsin, A. A. Parsons, Eureka.

Apple Outlook for Western Wisconsin, J. J. Menn, Norwalk.

Small Fruits at Sturgeon Bay, A. L. Hatch, Sturgeon Bay.

Small Fruits at Sparta, Wm. Hanchett, Sparta.

Lawn Decorations, F. C. Edwards, Fort Atkinson.

Reports of delegates from local societies.

Renew your membership or become a member of the society.

Tuesday Afternoon, 1:30.

PLUM SESSION.

Planting and Cultivation of Plums, A. D. Barnes, Waupaca.

Pruning of Plum Trees, Wm. Toole, Baraboo.

Seedling Plums, E. S. Goff, Madison.

Preserving and Canning our Fruits, Mrs. Jos. Treleven, Omro.

Thursday Evening, 7:30.

LADIES' SESSION.

Music.

Floriculture and Horticulture for the Boys and Girls, Mrs. Jos. Treleven, Omro.

Music.

Floriculture and Horticulture at the Pan-American Exposition, Mrs. A. D. Barnes, Waupaca.

Music.

The Child and the Farm, Mrs. C. E. Bushnell, Appleton.

Wednesday, August 21.

The program for today as arranged by S. H. Marshall and Prof. E. S. Goff is as follows: Take cars out to University Farm buildings first thing in the morning. Go over them and down to the orchard in time to see that and have picnic dinner about 11:30 in grove on banks of the lake. Dinner to be furnished by the University. From here walk along lake to University boat house, back of Gymnasium, reaching there about 3 o'clock. From here a trip will be taken around the lake and landing at Mr. Marshall's farm, where supper will be served and farm inspected. Boats return in time for evening trains.

Premium List.

It is hoped the following premiums will bring out a large display. It being an assured fact that the society will make an exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo, N. Y., it is hoped that specimens will be shown here that may be used for that exhibit.

RULES.

No premium shall be awarded to inferior or decayed fruit.

Four apples shall constitute a plate; ten plums; fifteen cherries.

All plates must be correctly labeled. Blank labels and plates will be furnished by the society.

Competition open to all. No entry fee will be required, but all persons must be, or must become, members of the State Society.

All exhibits must be in place before noon of the first day of meeting.

APPLES.

The society offers \$1 as first and 50c as second premiums on the following varieties of apples: Best plate of Te-

tofsky, Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Yellow Sweet, Lubsk Queen, Lowland Raspberry, Red Astrachan.

PLUMS.

\$1 first and 50c second on the following: Americana—Best plate of De Soto, Wyant, Forest Garden, Quaker, Cheney, Weaver. European—best plate Lombard, Green Gage, Damson. Japanese—best plate Burbank, Abundance, Red June. Best show seedling plums—\$2 first, \$1 second.

CHERRIES.

\$1 first, 50c second on best plate English Morello and Montmorenci; any other variety.

CANNED AND PRESERVED FRUITS.

50c first, 25c second on the following: Best quart canned plums, cherries, strawberries, red raspberries, black raspberries and blackberries. Best show of preserved products of native plums—\$3 first, \$2 second.

FLOWERS.

Best display cut flowers—\$1 first, 50c second. Best display wild flowers—\$1 first, 50c second. Best display gladioli—50c first, 25c second. Best display cannas—50c first, 25c second. Best display phlox—50c first, 25c second.



EDITOR'S NOTES.

Don't miss the Summer Meeting with its prospective "good times" at the University Farm and at Maple Hill Farm. Headquarters and the place of holding Tuesday's sessions will be given in the August number of the Horticulturist.

Remember that the State Fair comes early this year, Sept. 9-13. Clarence Wedge of Minnesota is to be the judge of fruit. A first, second and third premium is offered on all exhibits of apples except single plates, also on plums

and grapes; single plates compete for a first and second premium.

A note from Mr. Hoxie says: "I forgot to say in its proper place in my article that my wind mill tank is so near my rose garden that a sixty-foot hose can water it all and such weather as we are now having it would be a dry affair without this adjunct. Does everyone know that geraniums with a good soil and the frequent use of the hoe gives fine blossoms? Indeed an abundance of water increases foliage at the expense of flowers. This is on the same principle that for winter blooming in the hot rooms of the house we must not have them in large pots."



THE

Wisconsin Horticulturist for 1901.

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Note—Frontispiece of May issue of this Journal illustrates
our "NEW PROCESS" plates.

