enough funds accumulated so that we can hire good talent from abroad and we have had Mr. Cranefield with us and we have had several speakers from other places, making the meetings very interesting. In June we have our strawberry meeting. It is quite a strawberry country and when strawberries are the finest, sometimes three or four cases are disposed of at those meetings. We also have a meeting in the fall when grapes are ripe. We get together and discuss different topics and all seem to enjoy it.

We also are troubled in our country with San Jose scale and it is a very hard pest to get rid of and I hope to get lots of information here on all these different subjects.

I am glad to be here and know I shall gain a great deal of good from the meeting.

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**WHY DO STRAWBERRY VARIETIES RUN OUT?**

**Mr. H. C. Christensen**: This is a subject that has never given me very much trouble, because I have taken it for granted that varieties did run out, but that nature is generous and gives us a better variety when one is run out. The only reason that I can think of is that the strawberry is propagated by runners and we do not get the rejuvenating effect of cross pollination as in plants propagated from seeds. And so it seems to me as plants are multiplied in this way we get deterioration, that is, the weakening of a single plant by the reproduction of a bud, they naturally weaken or run out. And then, I think, possibly there is another reason why they do run out, they get more or less diseased and in propagating we naturally get that disease with the plant and while we are not as careful as we might be to keep them always healthy, after a while they run-out. I am not carrying on any experiments along this line, except that I know that varieties do run out on our soil, and cannot give you anything more definite than the fact that it seems to me that it is largely the same as in breeding animals, that weaknesses will crop out sooner or later.

**The President**: Before I call on the next speaker, I am going to say that what they told me in Minnesota made me
think that I did not know anything about the subject that I had tried to work out for several years. I tried to explain how I took for several years just a few of the largest and strongest plants, such as we want to get our average up to, not too many crowns, a strong root and about the right number of runners, following that up from year to year we get a stronger variety of plants generated. That is what I had in mind in regard to breeding up plants. A professor from Indiana said in that state they have followed the work at the station for fifteen years, selecting the largest, strongest, heaviest bearing plants and also the ones that were weakest and showed the least tendency to bear fruit and kept selecting from the two strains to get the best and the weakest producer and after 15 years following up the work I have just started in, accomplished nothing and it took the wind all out of my sails. I felt that if we had selected plants that were strong, free from disease, we had accomplished a great deal, but in their opinion it amounted to nothing. I would not say that I took it all for granted, but that is what I was told there.

MRS. WILLIAMS: As far as my experience goes, I always select the strongest plants and plant nothing but the strongest, and plants that are free from disease and I cannot see that the plants have run out, it seems to me they are better than when I started. I think one of the most important things is clean cultivation, keep your plants thrifty and we are not bothered very much with any disease.

MR. HOLSINGER: I do not agree with what some of the speakers have said. I am more inclined to feel that the strawberries running out is due to the fact that we have developed berries that are more healthy, larger and better in quality. Years ago we grew Wilson’s Albany and Dunningham, later I have seen these same varieties grow on new soil in various communities that I think were just as good in quality, just as large and perfect as they were thirty years ago.

MR. TOOLE: I have a positive recollection of my experiences with the old Wilson that has been referred to and with our old peach blow potato. We had to give up the peach blow, as well as the Wilson, because they would run out and this matter of bringing in new soil, and different things like that, does not always help out. The Burbank is nearly as healthy a variety as the peach blow, yet the Burbank holds its own and I know of some other varieties, like early Ver-
mont, that I carried on many years and it did not fail in any way. We are simply all the time looking for new things, yet the fact remains that sometimes they do run out in spite of trying to hang on.

**Mr. Melcher:** I have had the Warfield ever since 1891 and this last season I had just as nice Warfields as I ever had in my life, and the Dunlap I have had ever since it was introduced and with that my experience has been the same. We find by selecting the plants, if the season is favorable, that we have just as good success with those varieties as we ever had and we do not allow other varieties that we cannot succeed as well with to crowd them out, so we have not had them run out as yet.

**Mr. Irving Smith:** Some fifteen years ago we started in with Glenmary and while we stuck to the Glenmary and Clyde and Warfield, after I took the place the Glenmary seemed to go down and get smaller and I was rather laughed at because I could not raise good berries. Then I fertilized the land heavily and finally the last few years, on the new land that was strongly fertilized, I soon showed that I could raise just as good berries with the same plants now as they could fifteen years ago.

**Mr. Melcher:** I have been growing the Gandy strawberry for a great many years, I think 25 years. I got the plants when they were first introduced and paid at the rate of $2.00 a dozen, or $1.00 for half a dozen. I lost two of the plants with the white grub the first year. I have been propagating from those four plants until at one time I had an acre of Gandys in bearing. I have been growing Gandys ever since and have never got a plant from the outside, and I cannot see but what those plants are just as vigorous today as the day I got them. I am only devoting a small part of my farm to small fruit culture, so I have a chance to give them a new place almost every year and I am in thorough accord with these opinions here that rotation and proper selection of plants will keep your plants from running out.

**Mr. Coe:** I have been growing strawberries for a good many years. Now I do not have a particle of faith or take a particle of stock in strawberries running out. For this reason, if we give them the same care that we would when we first got them, spray the plants and keep them healthy and take pains in selecting good plants, we will have strawberries
from these earlier varieties just as good as we had fifty years ago.

Mr. Irving Smith: I have been greatly interested in what has been said about strawberries running out. It has been suggested our family were champions for the Wilson for a number of years, but there is one point that has not been brought out, the Wilson deteriorated quite suddenly. We did not have spraying then as we have it now. The Wilson was always a weak growing variety, that is, from the plant point of view, needed a great deal of caring for and petting and it was attacked by various diseases and failed largely. We did not know then but as I look back now to the time when the Wilson failed, it seemed to me it was very largely due to what would now be preventable causes. The point of soil has been mentioned repeatedly. We planted strawberries over and over again because we did not know any better at first, and later experimentally on ground which had had strawberries on the year previous, or the second year before and I have yet to see what seemed to me a strictly first-class crop of strawberries on ground that had had strawberries on just a year or so before. There seems to be one of two things, either the dead vines are poison to the new ones, or else they use up all there is in the soil, some particular thing that they want. I have maintained for a good many years that it was the farmer, not the strawberry, that ran out and I am a great deal inclined to that opinion still.

COOKING CRANBERRIES

Mrs. S. N. Whittlesey.

Ever since the creation of man, thoughtful Eves have given consideration to the palates of their adored Adams.

We do not know whether Mother Eve stewed, fried, or baked the much talked-of apple, but we feel confident it must have presented a very attractive and appetizing appearance to have caused Father Adam's great fall.

Time and experience have made many changes in the culinary art, and though we read of the Romans using much