TRANSACTIONS

WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY IN ANNUAL CONVENTION

Green Bay, Wisconsin, November 10–12, 1926

Called to order at 10:30 a. m. by President W. A. Toole.

MR. TOOLE: We are now come together for the opening session of our convention here at Green Bay. We have first on our program *Greetings from the Mayor.* Mr. Icks, who is a member of the council, will represent the Mayor.

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR

A. W. ICKS, Green Bay

(Reporter's Transcript)

MR. PRESIDENT, Members of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society, and Friends: The Mayor sends these greetings in his absence; he was called away and regrets very much his inability to be with you. He has instructed me to say a few words and bring to you the greetings of our city.

You have convened here in the interests of horticulture—we must recognize the fact that the tillers of the soil, be it the dairyman, the agriculturist or the horticulturist, are the mainstays of not only a community but the state and nation as well. We are sure that the interests you are serving, or attempting to serve, through your association is commendable, and we trust that you will be successful in your undertaking.

When I was asked in to talk this morning I looked around a little and saw the wonderful displays here, particularly of apples, and it brought to my mind the fact that it was not many years ago when the great East was the only producer of apples. We thought that unless we could ship in apples from New York state or somewhere in the far East we would have no apples to eat, but the apple industry has so grown that the far West has now outstripped and gone ahead of the East.

Now then, such associations as your horticultural society will develop the industry until soon the Middle West will not only be recognized but reckoned with in this great industry.

We all believe in advertising, so I am going to take advantage of my opportunity this morning to say a few words in behalf of our city. In other words, I would like to try advertising a little in the

interests of our city, and also in welcoming you to it. Green Bay is a wonderful place. We all think we live in the best community and best city in the state, and we pride ourselves in being one of the oldest cities if not the very oldest in Wisconsin. Our city has made history and has produced many prominent men who have made history. Green Bay, we believe, is the most famous and best situated city in the northern part of the state, and we likewise can claim that we are the hub of northeastern Wisconsin.

We, of course, do not claim to have any Luther Burbank or men of that kind in our midst, but we do say that we have amongst us, in our community, men who have through the tilling of the soil—the dairy farmer, the horticulturist or the fruit rancher—become well-known. We believe that we have in our city many people who are becoming more and more interested in garden culture. I pride myself that in my spare moments I spend a little of my time in my garden and I always go and see what my neighbor is doing and what the other person is doing; and, naturally, as we are in this game, we want to outdo the other fellow, and so the interest in flowers and in garden culture is growing; and I am sure that the class of people interested in flowers and gardens are the ones who succeed.

May I bring to you the greetings of our Mayor, and welcome you to our city? We trust your short stay will be a pleasant one; that your meetings will be successful; that you will be able to develop through your convention much that will serve and be profitable to the interest of the horticultural organization. We want you to take with you when you leave, the spirit of good fellowship of the people of Green Bay.

Should you and your friends ever come up this way when our city is in its best attire in the spring and fall, drive on over and see the beauties of Green Bay; take in some of its old historic interest; and, if you have the time, we would like to have you drive up to our sister county and see the wonderful products there. When you see the cherry blossoms out in thousands and millions you will be satisfied that the northeastern part of the state is something every person present should see.

MR. TOOLE: I only wish that I were able to respond satisfactorily to this very interesting talk of Mr. Icks. It makes one feel like coming to Green Bay again. I know we are going to enjoy our stay; this has all the earmarks of being one of the best conventions we have ever had. I wish to thank Mr. Icks in behalf of the horticultural society for the very fine invitation given us to help ourselves to the town.