and broadened, surrounded with a pure atmosphere and life which makes better men and better women, and we hail with joy the tendency of the turning away from the cities to country life of the young men and women of our country.

Mr. Gibbs: I have a typewritten matter that I would like to introduce into this discussion, and I would like to pass it over to the Secretary, and with your permission, have it printed.

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FAILURE OF APPLES IN PARTS OF THE STATE.

A. J. Philips.

The only places where I found an entire failure in our state in apples, plums and cherries was where a cold storm of rain followed by freezing came just at the time the trees were in full bloom, and lasted without bees, sunshine or wind for three days, thereby giving no opportunity for the pollen to be distributed. This was on cool elevated sites, for in valley or low locations the trees bloomed earlier and bore in most places fair crops. It goes to show how easy it is for a man to be disappointed. I have for twenty-five years said when I had blossoms I was sure of fruit, for on my ridge spring frosts never came; but this year the cold, protracted rain storm came and destroyed my crops. As to the second phase of my subject, I find old apples in our state like old men are passing away and are being supplanted by new ones, and we hope they will be better. I find in 1865 nearly half a century ago, that our Society recommended for extra hardy apples to plant as follows: Red Astrachan, Williams Favorite, Duchess of Oldenburg, St. Lawrence, Fall Wine Sap, Fameuse, Tallman Sweet, Perry Russett, Willow Twig, Pomme Gris and Red Romanite; and a list was recommended for favorable localities consisting of Keesnick Codlin, Sweet June, Fall Stripe, Strawberry, Yellow Bell Flower, Utters, Sweet Pear, Fall Queen, Northern Spy, Winter Wine Sap, Golden Russett, Rawles Janet, Westfield, Seek-no-Farther, Blue Pearmain, Vanderverre and Jonathan.

Now I find that of the above twenty-seven varieties only six are now starred as recommended for Wisconsin, to-wit: Golden
Russett, Oldenburg, Tallman Sweet, Utter, Willow Twig and Fameuse, while the others are displaced by such new varieties as HibernaL, Longfield, McMahan, Lubk Queen, Milwaukee, Newell, N. W. Greening, Okabena, Peter, Pewaukee, Plum Cider, Raspberry, Repka, Scott's Winter, Switzer, Tetofski, Walbridge, Wealthy, Windsor, Wolf River, Wis. Russett, Yellow Transparent, Avista, Arabka, Anisim, Antonovka, Eureka, Charlamoff, Fall Orange and Fall Spitzenburg; twelve of them being Russians and eighteen of them being new seedlings, a majority of them being of Wisconsin and Minnesota origin—and the end is not yet. Minnesota is right up to the front with an offer of $1,000 for a seedling as hardy and productive as Duchess, good in quality as Wealthy, and that will keep as long as Malinda, and several promising competitors are already entered and being tested on their state grounds. It may be a long time before it is paid, but already it has caused a boom of interesting growers in the production of seedlings. Seventy-five dollars in pro rata prizes at their last meeting brought out about thirty different specimens which made a fine show. One which scored one hundred points under the judgment of such men as Wyman Elliott and Prof. S. B. Green attracted the attention of all visitors. I have some of them on exhibition here. I do not run to see every seedling I hear of, but when a man with the reputation for truth that Uncle Yahnke has, told me on the train that he had a seedling as handsome and productive as Wealthy, and would outsell it in the local market and would keep two months longer, it excited my curiosity and told him the story of the minister and the pup, though I made up my mind to see the tree as well as the fruit. So I spent one day and night with Mr. Yahnke on my way home and on thorough investigation made up my mind that for him on his own ground he has a grand apple and I advised him to set all the trees (about fifty) he has the coming spring, as at the rate his seven trees bore last season (fifteen bushels to a tree) in a few years it would pay him more than the rest of his farm. And I hope it will do well in other localities. To show how little we know at times, I will make another statement. Some thirty years ago I bought a piece of land for a pasture. On it were a few seedling trees bearing. The former owner said they were seedlings of the Hyslop crab. For a few years I showed the fruit with my other seedlings at state and county fairs, but they were small and
hard and as soon as I had others that looked better I discarded them. The tree continued to bear heavy on alternate years and some every year, but being over half a mile from the house the horses, cattle and stray boys marketed the fruit until the fall of 1900. We were short of winter apples and my wife suggested that as that tree was full and the apples kept well that I pick them. So I sent a boy with team and ladder to pick them October 20th. He soon came back with ten bushels of green apples. I said you picked them quick. He replied I did not pick them, I shook them off. Not a quart showed signs of decay up to February 1st, when we began to use them, and we used them for pies and sauce up to May 2nd, and found scarcely a specked one. April 1st I sent nearly a peck of them to Prof. Goff with orders to test for pies and sauce. Soon a letter came from that very careful man saying, Why don’t you propagate that apple? It is the finest in quality of any new apple you ever sent me. I answered him, Because it is too small. He replied its keeping quality and its excellence for cooking overcome its size, and top working will increase its size. I cut some scions that spring and found it grew nicely on Virginia and Hibernia. Last fall, 1902, I went to pick them myself but as the horses had eaten all the fruit on the lower limbs and the rest were high, I took the plan I found fault with the boy for doing. I, too, shook them off and picked up nearly two barrels. We are using them now and I have given some of them away in six places in Minnesota and two in Iowa to have pies made, March 15th, and report to me as to quality, and I have a few to give away at this meeting. I am ashamed to say that this tree has never been pruned, mulched or cultivated at all, and as I shook them off I have named it the Shook Crab, but Mr. C. G. Patten who has already saved the seeds of it for planting says it deserves a better name and suggests Philips Winter. I will decide what to do with it when the reports come in as to its quality, as I am satisfied with its hardiness and productiveness of fruit for four consecutive years. It is now full of fruit buds for next year. It is very good in quality as testified to by Professors Goff and Green. I am watching this with much interest. I could write for several days on the fine seedlings I have seen the past year, notably the Lyman seedlings from Wealthy at Excelsior, but these three are all I will speak of now as my veteran friend Phoenix is to follow me on this line.
Now for a few horticultural reminiscences that are constantly crowding on my mind as the years roll on. When I stop to reflect and consider, I have made up my mind while I have been surrounded with many disadvantages. I, too, have enjoyed many advantages and privileges during my years spent in horticulture, and I am free to say I ought to know more than I do and be better off than I am. When I consider that I spent nearly two years looking up new fruits for the government and spent nearly six months in Washington and had access to the correspondence on new fruits that was going on there, I say I ought to know more. But I am thankful for what I do know and for the privileges I have had. When I look back over the record and remember the first Treasurer of our Society, F. C. Curtis, and the last Treasurer, L. G. Kellogg; also our first Secretary, G. J. Kellogg, and the last Secretary, J. L. Herbst,—and will say I never became acquainted with a horticulturist in Iowa, Wisconsin or Minnesota without pumping some horticultural information out of him, I think when you read over the list that you will agree with me that I ought to know more than I do. Read the list carefully, and if any man can beat it just trot him out: J. C. Plumb, Geo. P. Peffer, Peter Gideon, A. G. Tuttle, J. S. Stickney, J. M. Smith, C. H. Greenman, E. Wilcox, J. S. Harris, E. H. S. Dart, Frank Yahnke, M. A. Thayer, Prof. H. E. Van Deman, S. I. Freeborn, Edson Gaylord, W. J. Moyle, O. M. Lord, T. E. Cashman, J. C. Ferris, E. Howlet, A. R. Whitney, A. W. Sias, P. A. Jewell, M. S. Kellogg, Dr. T. E. Loope, F. S. Lawrence, E. W. Daniels, Wm. Springer, Prof. E. S. Goff, B. F. Adams, A. D. Barnes, F. H. Chappell, N. W. Palmer, B. S. Hoxie, O. C. Cook, S. D. Richardson, Minn., Martin Penning, Minn., and Wm. Toole of pansy fame. This list includes forty prominent men and is a record I am proud of; besides I know I have forgotten some. To think you have known the originator and propagator of such fruits as the Wealthy, the Pewaukee, the Windsor, the N. W. Greening, the Wolf River, the McMahan and Yahnke apples, and the Surprise, Rolling Stone and Mankato plums is truly gratifying. But to think that about one-half of the men I have mentioned have left us and crossed the dark river has a tendency to cause a feeling of sadness; but it is pleasant to know that many of them left in their work monuments to their memories that will
last after marble shafts have been forgotten. My travels the past year included a trip (my wife accompanying me) to Menomonie, Wis., where we visited the great training schools which will be a monument to Mr. Stout's memory for a long time to come. Next we spent two days at the Jewell nurseries, where half a day was spent on Lake Pepin and the balance of the time in the nurseries, the great rose and peony gardens and the large orchards there were very pleasant. Then the session of the summer meeting at St. Anthony Park was pleasant and full of interest. A trip then to Lake Minnetonka, the home of the Wealthy and the Lyman's Prolific crab was next. The old Lyman tree produced $40.00 worth of fruit this year. Then we spent two days with our old Wisconsin pioneer, Mr. Dart. Though quite feeble he was taking great pleasure in his experimental work. I have visited him again this winter; he is confined to his house since his last paralytic stroke which occurred in September. I have attended besides the Minnesota Winter Meeting, the Annual Meeting of the Southern Minnesota Society at Albert Lea, the home of our former Wisconsin man Clarence Wedge; have also attended the North-East Iowa Meeting at Nora Springs in company with our Wisconsin Delegate W. J. Moyle. The attendance at both places was very good, the discussions were interesting and unusual interest was manifested. The latter place is the home of two noted horticulturists, to-wit: Edson Gaylord and E. R. Heisz. In looking up the records I find Mr. Heisz, with whom I stopped three days this winter, read a paper on orcharding at our annual meeting in 1870, and I could not help but notice the great interest he took this winter though his eyesight is poor and he can not hear a word of the papers and discussions. He attended every one of the sessions at Nora Springs. He seemed to enjoy being with the apples where the best of his life has been spent. There is truly something attractive, elevating, fascinating and ennobling about horticulture.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Kellogg: I want to ask Mr. Buehler if he had anything more than those four varieties that the Chicago men recommended for the markets for commercial purposes?
Mr. Buehler: No, sir, I had not. The varieties that were rejected, were: Pewaukee and all kinds of Russetts, Longfields and Hibernal, and in fact, all except those that I have named, Duchess, McMahan White, Wealthies and Alexanders.

Mr. Kellogg: Had you marketed any Northwestern Greenings?

Mr. Buehler: Just one tree.

Mr. Barnes: I want to ask the gentleman his system of marketing his apples; did you peddle them out; did you sell to dealers, or did you consign them to commission men?

Mr. Buehler: I consigned to a commission man. The entire crop in our neighborhood was consigned to Porter Bros., Chicago; they did their own packing, furnished their packages; we had nothing to do but to pick them and deliver them to the station. We received $1.25 a barrel, and we netted $1.00 clear on every barrel we sold to them.

A Member: With that method of marketing apples, do you think you get better results than if you had sold to dealers direct?

Mr. Buehler: Well, I think this way, that when we sell the dealers direct and have our name or trade mark on the packages, we advertise our fruit and receive the benefit of competition.

Mr. Barnes: It seems to me that a dollar a barrel is a pretty small price for Wisconsin apples.

Mr. Buehler: That was for all varieties; we had some varieties that were not so desirable. They took them all.

Mr. Menn: Did you make any effort to try the northern markets, Duluth and Minneapolis?

Mr. Buehler: I shipped some to Milwaukee after I was through with Porter Brothers.

Prof. Cranefield: There is one point that is of importance. He stated that the keeping qualities of apples grown in the sod are not as good as of those grown on cultivated soil. I would like to ask if he has made any extended observations in that line?

Mr. Buehler: I had occasion to ship my crop to Madison two years ago, and was very much disappointed. The most of them were grown in sod, and Prof. Goff advised me that I should incline to cultivation more, as apples grown in the sod lacked the nitrogen and vitality for keeping qualities.

Mr. Kellogg: Have you any winter apples that are a success?
Mr. Büehler: I have the Northwestern Greening I consider a success.

The President: I would like to ask somebody if the Northwestern Greening comes within gunshot of the Wealthy?

Mr. Gibbs: Yes, it keeps longer in cold storage.

The President: I mean as a commercial apple. There are plenty here who can tell about the Wealthy and the way it bears, and the length of time from setting out the tree until the getting of fruit, and the comparison between the two, I mean commercially.

Mr. Barnes: I presume it has been my pleasure to grow more Northwestern Greening apples than any man in this state, and I will state that my Wealthies generally bring me $2 a barrel and my Northwestern Greenings bring me $3 a barrel right from the tree. I always make it a practice to sell right from the tree.

The President: In the five or six years that you have been raising the two apples, which has given you the most dollars?

Mr. Barnes: In five or six years the Northwestern Greening would give no dollars to speak of, because they do not begin to bear for six or seven years.

The President: I mean from the time they commence bearing.

Mr. Barnes: Well, it would be six of one and half a dozen of the other. You get so many more Wealthies on the same space of ground that it would be about the same; I think the cash receipts would be about the same from the Wealthy as from the Northwestern Greening.

Mr. Philips: What proportion are market apples of the Northwestern Greening?

Mr. Barnes: Ninety-nine per cent. with us.

Mr. Philips: I mean since you have raised them.

Mr. Barnes: I would not like to speak of some years. But that does not cast any reflection on the Northwestern Greening. I made the mistake of planting them right in the center of my orchard, quite a large orchard, out of the wind, you might say, and I made the mistake of planting them too thick, and one or two years I had very bad looking apples; they were not scabby but covered with a mildew, or mould on the apple, that really was some detriment, but this year they were perfect, so far as the mould or mildew was concerned.
Mr. Menn: Mr. Buehler spoke about planting early varieties for the commercial orchard; would this be a safe rule to follow?

Mr. Buehler: I consider it so; raising summer apples.

Mr. Edwards: Do you make just as much money out of them? Do you think you could compete with the southern people in selling them?

Mr. Buehler: I have not seen any winter apples in this State that I think can compete with our early apples in production. Now I would like to give you a few facts and figures, just a word about the production of early apples in my locality. This summer I had 55 trees of good Oldenburgs that bore 163 barrels of apples, merchantable apples, and a neighbor of mine had the same results from McMahan White. I think that taking into consideration the production that we get out of early apples, from anything that I have seen yet, we can make up for the price that way later and I have been advised by commercial men that Wisconsin should plant early apples, because winter apples require a longer season, and they get it further south.

Mr. Gibbs: We found out in South Dakota, where I lived twelve years, that we could put the Yellow Transparent into our market in good condition ahead of any apples that we could ship from the south, and command the market until the Duchess got ready.

Mr. Moyle: It depends a great deal on where the land is located. You cannot ship these apples very far successfully, that is, most of the varieties. Now where I am located, we have early apples; Milwaukee is our market, and we get our dollar a barrel most of the time, except when there comes a big glut. As a rule they pay much better than those other varieties. I think he is right there; he is level-headed.

The President: I would like to get to the point, if it is proper right here; as between the Northwestern Greening and the Wealthy for commercial purposes in Wisconsin. Not that I would exclude one or the other, but I would like to ask Mr. Philips, if he were going to plant 1,000 trees and had to choose between Northwestern Greening and Wealthy, what would you plant, in what proportion?

Mr. Philips: In my location I would plant 600 Wealthy and 400 Northwestern Greenings.

Mr. Buehler: I would plant Wealthies.
Mr. Gibbs: Have you ever grown the Northwestern Greening?

Mr. Buehler: I have, in my orchard.

Mr. Gibbs: How many years have you fruited it?

Mr. Buehler: It is an old experimental orchard; there is but one tree there; in my neighborhood it is considered a fine apple; I think in the future it will be a popular apple.

The President: Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Edwards: It seems, at first impression, I would put out the Greening, because we get the best price and they certainly bear heavily in our neighborhood.

Mr. Coe: I should plant more Northwestern Greening where I am located.

Mr. L. G. Kellogg: I should plant 500 Northwestern Greening and 500 Wealthy.

Mr. Payton: Is it not a fact that red apples are better than white or green; is it not a fact that they will bring more in the market?

The President: I think that is pretty well understood.

Mr. Philips: You have been free to ask questions; I want you to tell us what you think.

The President: I answered the question at Minnesota. I said, the first 100 I would put out Wealthy; and I thought the second 100 I would put out Wealthy, and then I thought I would put out about 800 more Wealthy.

Mr. Abbott: What few apples I raise for the local market are Wealthies; I have plenty of call for Wealthies, but never had a call for Northwestern Greening.

Mr. Payton: If a red apple brings more in the market than a green; if the Wealthy brings more than the Greening in the market, and it is a heavier bearer, why is it not a better apple to raise?

The President: Mr. Payton, I think I would answer that something like this, that they do not fit the same place. The Northwestern keeps very late and the Wealthy will not, unless you cold storage the apple. Now there is a great deal of difference, and I think Mr. Barnes and the others here are all right enough for their localities, they want so much of the Northwestern Greening, so much of the Wealthy, but I am right at the home of the old Northwestern, within ten miles of where it was propagated, and we ought to know something about
it. The Wealthy commences bearing two or three years before the Northwestern does. You get some years an excellent crop of the Northwestern Greening, sometimes they rot and break open.

Mr. Barnes: I want to ask our friend from Missouri if there is any difference between the Gano and the Ben Davis; are they two distinct varieties?

Mr. Tippin: The Gano and the Ben Davis are not the same apple, the Black Ben Davis so-called by some are the same apple, based upon the best information we have been able to obtain so far, and there is no question in my mind that that is true and will be settled perhaps satisfactorily in the near future.

I think perhaps the question of summer apples has not been discussed quite as much as it is entitled to, in view of the fact that a great many of you are no doubt in touch with the situation as it really is. Now in my section of the country where we are growing strawberries, I will say this year about one thousand carloads, we endeavored to plant our varieties so as to drop in our notch in the market as it advanced through the season, commencing from Arkansas and going north to Missouri, and I believe I can speak intelligently when I say that in the apple belt of Missouri and Arkansas that for the past twenty years in planting commercial orchards, it has been almost entirely to the exclusion of summer varieties, and while I am one of the heaviest packers in that part of the section, I will say to you that it is almost impossible, with the exception of a few stations, to buy a carload of summer apples, and, as you all know, we are strong on winter apples in that country, and can put our winter apples in the market almost anywhere in competition, and it occurs to me that if you would give your attention more to growing good summer varieties, that is your opportunity. I believe that if you will grow good summer varieties and pack them correctly in bushel boxes where you want to ship them away, you will always find a splendid market. I know those few points down there that have summer apples get good prices for them, because they are very scarce, and it will be a good many years before we will get so we will have good summer apples, because the old family orchards are all dying out and are most of them dead and gone, while our new orchards coming in are largely winter apples, and some few fall, and I
think this is a point brought out in the young man’s paper that is worthy of considerable investigation and thought by you people of Wisconsin.

Mr. Kellogg: You spoke of the Wealthy succeeding in your state; to what degree?

Mr. Tippin: The Wealthy north of the Missouri river is doing splendidly. I will say for your edification that we shipped about 600 barrels of as fine apples as I ever saw in my life in this season from a point north of the Missouri.

Mr. Kellogg: I have been told that south of Des Moines in Iowa they do not consider the Wealthy worth planting.

Mr. Tippin: Well, they are doing very well and they are becoming more popular every year in the north of Missouri, north of the Grand river, about north to St. Joe all through that section.

(Mr. Edwards in Chair.)

Dr. Loope: The point brought out by Mr. Buehler in regard to summer varieties I think is quite an important point in Wisconsin, and our friend, Mr. Tippin, has just emphasized that by saying that they grow entirely winter apples and they cannot or do not grow summer apples. Now we can grow those early varieties successfully; take the Duchess and Wealthy and Longfield and McMahan, and they flourish. Of course you have got to select your locations, as they do not grow in some locations, but we can raise them, beautiful and large, and I think that point is a good one. It shows perhaps where our orchard interest lie. Then of course you can fall back on the Northwestern Greening, so far as we know now, for the next best apple for a long keeper.

The Chairman: Is it “do not” or “can not,” from Missouri?

Mr. Tippin: I do not mean to say we could not grow them, we simply got out of the habit of planting them.

Mr. Harris: A majority of my crop last season was Duchess and Wealthy, and I sold them largely in the city of La Crosse and in the home market, and in the fall while at the fair I met a great many men both in Minneapolis and St. Paul, looking for a future market, and every one with whom I talked, some twenty in number, said that the demand for summer apples was unlimited; that for the next two years they could dispose of all the Duchess and Wealthy apples that we could raise; that they had a supply of winter apples, that they did not want to
take winter apples, they wanted to contract for Wealthy and Duchess.

The Chairman: I would like to ask Mr. Tippin if we do not grow a prettier apple in the Northwest than they do in the southwest, in his opinion?

Mr. Tippin: In the summer varieties you do. Northern Missouri grows a cleaner, clearer summer apple than we can grow in the southern part of the state. In Kansas, further south, they are inclined to scab and be defective, that is, the earlier sorts, and the farther north you go, the clearer they are of any defects, scab, etc.

The Chairman: What do you attribute the nice color of our northwestern fruit to, soil, or climate, or what is it?

Mr. Tippin: Well, I think it is quick growth, one thing, a quick development and good warm sunshine when they mature, and your trees are not so large; I have thought that that had something to do with it.

The Chairman: There is a general impression that the eastern apples have a more smoky appearance than the northwestern apples; that is a fact, is it not?

Mr. Tippin: That is true. I have on the table there a specimen of York Imperial that if you were to ship it to the eastern market it would be hard to persuade many of the eastern people that it was a York Imperial. Theirs are smoky, and I will say for your apples, that they are very clear as compared with apples in other sections of the country.

SEEDLINGS TO GROW ON TEST.

Mr. A. P. Wilkins: I do not think Mr. Phoenix is here. I am now owning and running the nursery he operated. If there is any question you wish to ask in regard to his seedling, I will be glad to answer it. I will say that when I purchased that stock I found a large body of ground covered with seedlings, and the treatment I gave them was to put a pickax to them and rooted them all out and burned them up. Out of the whole lot there was not a tree that produced apples bigger than hickory
nuts. I know that he had produced one apple, I think the No. 50, that became quite a good apple, but it was lost track of by himself, so that there is not anything there today that is worth naming; in fact, I dug them out and burned them up, carloads of them. The treatment that he gave seedlings there would not be such as would develop any apple. The last few years of his life he was in poor health, and I do not think he has given it attention; so far as I know he has not produced anything worthy of note.

The President: I have a little inquiry here. President Francis, of the Bee-keeper’s Convention, has given me this for the Society to render him some answer, and I have no doubt you can answer the question to his entire satisfaction. The question is this, “What is the effect on the fruit if sprayed while in bloom,” and also, “Is there any law to prohibit spraying of fruit while in bloom?” He said that he would like to get the information as far as possible from this Society, as it might make a difference in some legislation that they had in view. I see Prof. Sandsten is here, of the University, and I wish to introduce him to this Society, and ask him to reply to this question.

Prof. Sandsten: In regard to the question of spraying fruits or blossoms in the springtime, as affecting insects and affecting pollination,—two years ago a series of experiments were carried on at Cornell University to ascertain that point, and it was found that two or three applications of Bordeaux mixture and Paris green did not materially reduce the amount of fruit on the trees. When the spraying was conducted for a whole week, every day, it was found that it did reduce the number of fruits set. When four applications were made it was found to be equal to a good thinning, and it did benefit the trees because the fruit was superior in size and in color.

In regard to the influence of the insecticide and fungicide on the insect, very little danger was found to exist, because the insect, you know, inserts its beak and extracts the fluid; it does not eat it, but simply extracts it, and it was found that very few insects were affected. There was an agitation at that time for the introduction of a bill to prohibit spraying at a time when fruit trees were in blossoms to protect the bees, but, if I remember rightly, the bill was not pressed. The discussion has been called up time and time again on that subject, but I feel, and I think others will agree with me, that there is very little danger from any injury to the bee.
Mr. Periam: The state of Michigan has a law prohibiting spraying while in flower; the only state that I know of that has enacted a law of that kind. The law was enacted because it was supposed that the spraying of trees during inflorescence killed the bee. That part of the question has been answered by Prof. Sandsten.

A Member: I would like to ask Prof. Sandsten whether he thinks the spraying directly injures the pistil or stamen of the flower?

Prof. Sandsten: The principal injury caused by spraying is not injury to the pollen or anthers, because the anthers do not open at one time; it is the pistil that is affected first by the spraying.

REPORTS OF TRIAL ORCHARD.

A visit to the two trial orchards located at Wausau and Eagle River the first week in November found them in as good a condition as could be expected.

At Wausau the orchard did remarkably well in growth and to all appearances the trees looked healthy and strong with the exceptions of a very few. The ground has been kept clean the past season and was gone over several times with drag to keep the soil in a loose condition. The soil was worked over around each tree and where it had been thrown up by plow and cultivator was leveled off. In the commercial orchard several of the varieties fruited a little the past season, including Longfield, Wealthy, Duchess, McMahan and occasionally some fruit was found on some of the other sorts. The plums and cherries all blossomed out full but the snow and cold rain at this time seem to have destroyed them as very few fruited to any extent. The trees in general throughout the orchard appear to be in a strong healthy condition. In the experimental part of the orchard several varieties are inclined to show some signs of weakness. Such varieties as Bryan, Hoteling, Kaump, Red Cheek, are among these while aside of these the standard sorts seem to be in a thriving condition. Most of the top-worked trees are doing remarkably well but occasionally one is found that will have to