

served only as grown under dryland conditions at Moscow, Idaho.

#### **Lamida (? x Lambert)**

This cherry closely resembles Lambert. In size it averages slightly larger, probably because, unlike Lambert, it does not set excessively heavy crops. The fruit is usually somewhat more pointed than Lambert. In resistance to cracking Lamida is far superior to Lambert and comparable to Deacon, which is one of the most resistant varieties now grown in Idaho. Lamida appears promising as a variety to replace Lambert where that variety is damaged extensively by cracking. In size, appearance, and quality it is an excellent cherry.

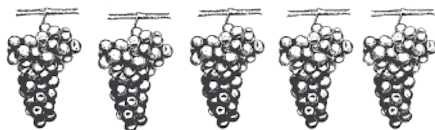
#### **Ebony (Black Republican ? x Lambert)**

This variety resembles Black Republican in form and color. It is a considerably larger cherry than Black Republican but not so large as Bing. It ripens at

about the same time as Bing, or slightly earlier. When fully ripe it is intensely dark in color, firm and very attractive. Its quality is excellent. The tree bears regularly and heavily. The fruit is but slightly more resistant to cracking than Bing and Lambert.

#### **Spalding (Deacon ? x Bing)**

This is a very large cherry, at least equal to Bing in size. It is somewhat more pointed than Bing, and has a better finish, retaining a high luster a long time after it is picked. In ripening it follows Bing by at least a week or 10 days. Before fully mature it is somewhat tart and, as grown under dry-land conditions, is hard to pick. When tree-ripe the fruit is sweet, rich, meaty and exceptionally firm. This variety should prove an excellent shipper. It appears slightly more resistant to cracking than either Bing or Lambert.—W.P.J.



### **LUTHER BURBANK: A VICTIM OF HERO WORSHIP**

By WALTER L. HOWARD, 1945

*Chronica Botanica* 9(5-6):299-506 \$3.75

According to the author "This book was prepared in a spirit of fair play to enable the reader to understand and appreciate Luther Burbank. Circumstances over which he had little control clothed

him in glittering tinsel, but a veil of darker hue was superposed when he became the tool of schemers".

"With none too gentle hands I have endeavored to tear away these hindering habiliments to see what the real Burbank looked like. And behold, a pristine figure emerges that is every inch a man of worth, a man of original ideas, a man with a definite mission in life, fully cap-

able of standing on his own feet as a lone worker in the field of science”.

This volume is organized into chapters which treat the various aspects of Burbank's life such as Burbank the man, the nurseryman, the scientist, the egotist, the world character, and the individualist. Other chapters cover Burbank's ethics, religion, admirers, detractors and his place in the hall of fame.

#### Burbank's Introductions

A section is also given over to a summary of Burbank's plant introductions. The most important introductions include (1) a variety of potato (Burbank) which was in great favor in the United States for 30 or 40 years and is still planted after a lapse of 70 years, (2) a dozen plums and prunes that have survived the test of half a century and are still very important as shipping varieties in California and South Africa, and (3) several kinds of vegetables that were more or less planted for 10 or 20 years; and annual

and perennial flowers some of which enjoyed favor much longer than is the average life of such things.

#### An Evaluation of Burbank

“For these concrete accomplishments and because he was the ferment that stirred others to advance the science of breeding, an intangible achievement to be sure, but his greatest from the viewpoint of science, he is definitely entitled to a place in the hall of fame; but all factors duly considered, the best that I can do is to assign him a front seat among the minor prophets, a front seat because of the unusual fact that here is a prophet, at least, who was not without honor among his home people”.

This book is an interesting, readable study of Burbank. The material includes a critical discussion of his virtues and weaknesses as well as the injury which some of his own acts, and those of an overenthusiastic press, did to his reputation. — W.P.J.

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