

Perhaps you can manage to visit Mr. Wolf in connection with the trip to Judge Brown's. If you can get there by taxi from Red Bank, you could drive home with me and we could drive to Mr. Wolf's place on Sunday.

Elisabeth C. White

October 29, 1944

There were so many calls for help from people whose places were wrecked by the storm, and especially on weekends when it is the only time they have to look over their places, that I felt I should not be away for any length of time. I was disappointed in missing the meeting.

You will recall the hollies at St. Mary's in Centerville - the "St. Mary" and "St. Ann" trees. It would make you heartsick to see them now. "St. Mary" has hardly a leaf on it, and the other is only a little better. Most of the trees on the Island are gone. The whole place looks as though a bomb had exploded. I had an opportunity to look at some hollies farther inland; they are better but the effects of the salt spray is still evident.

I am digging out our hollies from the trees which fell around them and am surprised at so little damage.

Wilfred Wheeler

November 9, 1944

I am indeed sorry that you could not be with us on the trip to Judge Brown's last Saturday. It was a most interesting meeting. This Committee promised very solid and practical work in the advancement of holly culture.

Judge Brown has a very considerable estate at Locust on the north bank of the mouth of the Shrewsbury River. It is only a short distance from Atlantic Highlands which, as you doubtless know, is the highest point on the entire eastern coast.

There are sharp slopes in this part of New Jersey.

On Judge Brown's place is a dip full of natural growth holly. From this he has moved various trees to ornament his grounds; there are 50 or more from 6' to over 20' high, male and female, good types and fair. Most of the trees are of fine type, in excellent condition, and full of red berries. I have never seen such a fine display of our native holly.

On Sandy Hook there are many large trees with trunks a foot or more in diameter. They have been considerably protected because the area has been a military post for many years; but even at that there has been cutting and nearly all the big trees are males. None is as large as the original Griscom tree and the average is poor, though. I think good types could be found by an explorer at liberty to hunt. Our inspection was strictly limited by the military authorities.

Next came a good turkey dinner at the Humson Club. There were twelve: General Ostram, Major Anderson, and Col. Parks from the Fort; Dr. Charles H. Connors, Prof. H. R. Cox, Dr. O. Wesley Davidson, Prof. R. B. Farnham, and Dr. P. P. Pirone of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station; Judge Thomas Brown, the host, and Mr. Dilatash, Mr. Nearing and myself.

Judge Brown is a good organizer. At the close of the meal, he asked each one to review the significance that the trip had had for him. The Experiment Station plans to gather all the information possible and put it in an instructive circular for the gardening public. It has already started on a set of kodachrome slides on holly for use by lecturers. (Prof. Farnham spent a whole day at Whitesbog getting kodachromes.) There was talk of forming a holly society along the lines of the American Rose Society. The Station members reviewed the laws which other states may have for the protection of holly and will draw up one in the hope of having it passed by the New Jersey Legislature.

Elizabeth C. White
