

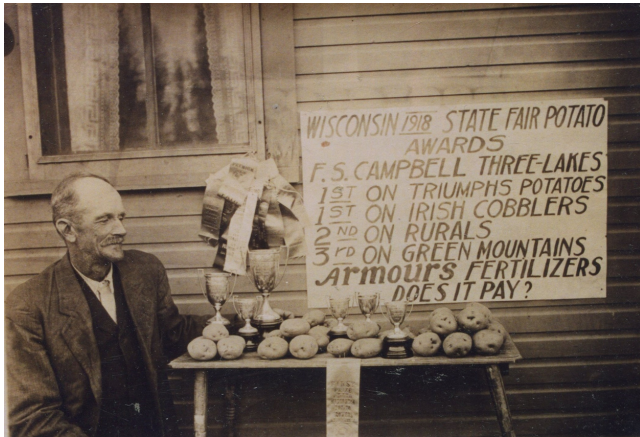
# Historical Clippings

Three Lakes Museum

October 2021

## *Fall Colors = Fall Harvest*

In the years following the logging era, with the land cleared of the great forests, an attempt was made to see what the land could produce besides trees. Traditional crops like corn and wheat failed, but in these soil and climate conditions it was found that two crops could thrive -



*"Mr. Campbell helped materially to make Oneida County the champion of potato country in the United States"*

*From The Milwaukee Journal, November 28, 1915*

This notoriety resulted in Oneida County being the first county nation wide to have a full time Ag Agent.

Other recognizable names from the early era of potatoes - Leah Starks, August Winkler, Sunset Farms, and Radcliff and Jorgenson of Oneida Farms.

## Potatoes ...

FS Campbell, who came to Three Lakes and set himself up as a merchant on Main Street, by 1908 found himself back on his farm south of town growing potatoes after an explosion leveled his brick store. There, Campbell developed prize winning varieties and was so successful, he lectured about potatoes all over the state and was recognized nationally.



## ...and Cranberries

Wild cranberries are native to the peat bogs and marshlands of central Wisconsin and Native Americans have harvested them for centuries. They were an important food source for many American Indian tribes and they introduced to the cranberry's usefulness to colonists.



For hundreds of years cranberry harvesters picked the wild berries by hand. Starting in the mid-19th century, the cranberry rake — a hand-held tool with a large comb at one end and a basket at the other increased production. The rake allowed leaves and stems to pass through the tines of the comb while collecting the berries in the basket.

Advances in technology and agricultural research has helped the industry expand over the last 100 years.

The Three Lakes area is home to a number of cranberry farms due to the foresight of Vernon Goldsworthy and Ralph Sampson who by 1946 realized the potential of the natural resources of this area.

