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Santa Cruzan Developed The Loganberry

By Margaret Koch
Sentinel Staff Writer

Most long-time Santa Cruzans have heard about Judge John H. Logan's accidental development of the famed Loganberry.

Fewer have heard about his Mammoth Blackberry which he developed — on purpose.

Even fewer know that Judge Logan was awarded a first class certificate and two gold medals (1897 and 1903) by the Royal Horticultural society of London.

Almost no one realizes that while the good judge reaped plentiful berries and honors, he didn't reap one cent from his fine agricultural product.

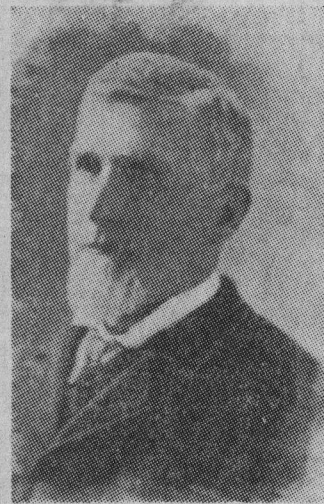
A native of Indiana, the judge came here in 1867 after studying law in San Jose. He served three terms as district attorney in the 1870s. From 1887 to '93 he was president of the Bank of Santa Cruz and in

1893 he was appointed superior court judge.

Judge Logan first lived on Church street, later on Rincon Terrace. He finally bought "Perry Heights" which became "Logan Heights." It is located on the hill up behind Holy Cross church.

In 1880 he built a \$2000 home — elegant for those days — on the brow of the hill. Architect was John H. Williams. The upper story of the nine-room house was sheathed in sheet iron, processed to look like brick.

It was in the backyard garden of the home that Judge Logan developed his famous berry in 1890. When long hours at court palled on the judge, he liked to get out and work with plants. He started experimenting, cross-pollinating blackberries, trying to put the wonderful flavor of the California wild blackberry into a tame one. As a result of his work with the wild berry and



Judge John H. Logan
(Photo from Roy Boekenoo-
gen collection)

the Aughinbaugh berry, he obtained the Mammoth blackberry. At the same time he had

casually planted some raspberries nearby. The wild blackberry crossed with the raspberry, without the judge's help, and the resulting berry was to make him famous and to carry his name around the world as the Loganberry.

Years later, in a letter dated 1934, Mrs. Logan explained that her husband had "two wonderful results for his efforts, the one unlooked for, and he was always very proud of them."

The "accidental" Loganberry soon became well-known while the Mammoth Blackberry never did create a stir.

Ten years after the appearance of the delectable Loganberry, its fame had spread across the United States. The judge gave away roots and cuttings with a lavish hand and never-a-thought for pay. But he clung jealously to his fame.

When a New York newspaper credited the Loganberry to Luther Burbank, the judge was upset. But Burbank immediately issued a statement setting the matter straight

and the two "gardeners" became good friends.

The judge's home on Logan Heights stood until 1947 when the property was subdivided and the house torn down.

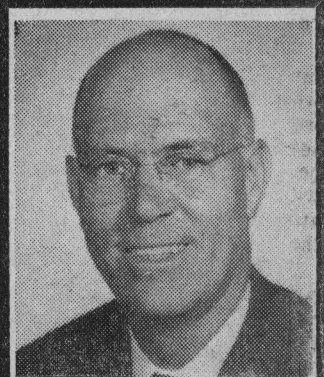
The judge's first wife, Catherine Murphy, died in 1909. Several years later he married Miss M. E. Couson, and they moved to Oakland. There the originator of the Loganberry died in 1928.



Judge Logan, originator of the Loganberry, stands with his wife and a friend, in front

of the Logan home. It was in the backyard here that the famed berry first appeared—

accidentally.
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Cuba Selects Urban Chief

Miami, Fla. (P)—Havana radio says Minister of Justice Alfredo Yabur Maluff has been named head of the National Urban Reform council, the agency which collects rent on private property confiscated by the Cuban government.

The broadcast, monitored in Miami, said Yabur Maluff would continue as justice minister.

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