

summer. It seems hardly worth while for this tree to bother growing above the fence at all, as it is killed back each winter to the level of the protection. At the time of our visit the dead wood of last year's growth was still on it, but all the living buds were below the fence-level. As a result of these strong winds, all the plants of the island seem to grow dwarf; the common juniper, which is a variety of *Juniperus communis*, curls and twists its trunk around on the ground, while the little branchlets grow more or less upright to the height of a foot or two. Even the blackberry, *Rubus* (sp ?) creeps along the surface, which method is greatly appreciated by the visitor from the mainland, who has been accustomed to work his way through their tangle with much caution and considerable laceration of cuticle. The blueberries, which are numerous and large, are quite frequently lifted completely free of the sand in which their mother-plant is growing, but very often the sand has to be blown or washed off before eating. The meadow rue, *Thalictrum* (sp ?), which had its first leaves unfolded at the time of our visit, showed no sign of any intention of leaving the earth any further beneath it than was absolutely necessary.

Yet it would be unfair to condemn the vegetation of the island by its appearance at that period of the year, when the maximum day temperature had barely reached 60; for the residents told us that the grasses, goldenrods, etc., are "waist-high," in the late summer, and Prof. John Macoun, is reported to have found over 190 species of flowering plants there. Of ferns, we found three species—Polypody, *Polypodium vulgare*—the Lady Fern, *Dryopteris spinulosum* (var ?), and the Cinnamon Fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea*. The two latter were scarcely above ground, but roots were taken which proved to be of these species. With all this variety present, it will be readily understood that in the lower and more fertile parts of the interior, the upper layer of soil has become turfy and black, and could doubtless be used to grow fine crops were it not for the reason that, if it were turned under and cultivated, the wind would probably blow a lot of it into the Atlantic during the succeeding winter.

Gulches 50 yards wide and more, torn through the sand cliffs on the north coast, were frequently seen. Around the telephone