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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1902

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**WISCONSIN STATE
GRANBERRY GROWERS'
ASSOCIATION.**



**FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
MEETING,**
Held at Grand Rapids, Wis., Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1902.

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PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

Grand Rapids, Wisconsin.

**WISCONSIN STATE
CRANBERRY GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.**

President, Chas. Briere, Grand Rapids, Wis. †
Vice President, S. N. Whittlesey, Cranmoor, Wis.
Secretary, W. H. Fitch, Cranmoor, Wis.
Treasurer, M. O. Potter, Centralia, Wis.
Member Ex. Committee, A. E. Bennett, Grand Rapids, Wis. □

An organization having for its objects: Improved quality of fruit; better grading and packing; extension of market; increased consumption, by making known wholesome and medicinal virtue of the cranberry, and collection and publication of statistics and other information of interest and value to those concerned.

The annual and only fee, fifty cents, [which may be sent in postage stamps] entitles one to all our reports, bulletins, crop estimates, etc., and a membership, it is believed, will be of interservice and benefit to all in any way connected with the industry.

January, 1902, report now ready for distribution and will be sent on receipt of due by addressing,

W. H. FITCH,
Secretary W. S. C. G. A.

Cranmoor, Wood Co., Wisconsin.

Please detach at this line and return with remittance.

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WISCONSIN STATE CRANBERRY GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

Office of Financial Secretary, Cranmoor, Wisconsin.

Enclosed find fifty cents (50c) [stamps accepted] for one year's fee in payment for publications, etc., of association.

Name.....

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.....

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT M. LAFOLLETTE,
Governor of the State of Wisconsin:

Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith, pursuant to Sec. 1479a W. S., the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association, containing papers read and discussions thereon, together with an account of moneys received and disbursed for the year 1901.

Respectfully yours,

W. H. FITCH,
Secretary,

Cranmoor, Wisconsin, January, 1902.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Annual Meeting Held at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin,
January 14th, 1902.

GRAND RAPIDS, WIS., Jan. 14, 1902.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association held at Grand Rapids, Wis., on Tuesday, January 14th, 1902, was highly representative and satisfactory as to number in attendance, interests involved and attention manifested.

As minutes of previous gathering had appeared in printed form their reading was dispensed with and the following program was then carried out:

President's Address.

GENTLEMEN: We have just passed through another year of success in the production of cranberries. It would seem that the elements have favored us for the last three years, as we have received a fair amount of rain, or about the average, but I really believe that the marshes will continue to get drier every year, and that the canals that are built to drain marshes will also drain the country for miles around. I merely mention this so that we may be prepared for future conditions and make arrangements to get water from other sources.

Another problem stared us in the face this year when we came to gather our crops. The cranberry picker of olden times is no more. We could not get enough to pick half our crop, and the consequence was that we had to use

rakes and in order to do this profitably we must prepare our marshes and vines so that we can rake them.

On this matter I will ask the members of the association who have had experience along this line to tell us what they think is the best method of getting the vines into shape so that the rake can be used without losing too many berries.

Another problem is the grading, packing and storing of at least a part of our crop. I have a description here of a warehouse that could be built cheaply, and if properly constructed it could be cooled off by ventilation. It can be of any size or dimensions. If the warehouse were built on dry ground a basement could be put underneath to good advantage with stone or brick. I got my ideas from a book bought by Mr. John Gaynor, who kindly lent it to me, and there are a great many pointers in it that are very instructive. The idea of cooling the warehouse by ventilation was new to me. Ice could also be used in such a building, but it could also be cooled by ventilation. The frame of the structure could be built of 6 or 8 inch studding, boarded outside and in and filled with sawdust, or it could be built entirely of lumber with 4 inch studding, two thicknesses of boards outside with paper between, and on the inside nailing strips up and down the studding for lath and plaster, and then the inside ceiled with matched lumber. This would give two dead air spaces and make a good warm house. The ventilation is created by putting, near lower floor, windows that will open, same to be about 2x3 feet and 15 feet apart. Then air flues are built to reach from the ceiling to above the roof. It is claimed that such a house can be cooled to quite a low temperature by opening these windows at night and closing them during the day. The fruit should also be cooled off before placing it in the warehouse. This house usually has about seven feet space between the floor and ceiling. The lower floor could be on the ground with some 2x4 pieces to roll the barrels on. The floor between the two stories or upper floor of one story should be made about the same as the side walls.

CHAS. BRIERE, President.

Secretary's Report.

7 Of a certain playwright it is said when asked if a late production of his was up to date answered, "Yes, up to day after tomorrow," and in this era of rapid developments, it would really seem as if modern demands were not satisfied with any closer range of view. It, therefore, behooves those who wish to be abreast of the times to look forward, not only to probable, but to possible changes, and the special articles, or addresses, assigned for consideration at this meeting, have been selected along these lines.

Bulletins.

In compliance with requests from a number of members, instead of waiting until publication of proceedings of January and August meetings, there have been issued, from time to time during the season, circular letters containing information of the crop, as to quantity, quality, quotations, etc. So far as advised the policy has been approved, and any suggestion by way of improvement will be welcomed.

Gathering the Crop.

The seriousness of the problem of harvesting was never more pronounced. From all quarters have come reports of scarcity of labor, while, on the other hand, the utilization of cheaper methods, through use of scoops or machines, must, necessarily, have an important bearing as affecting cost. It is claimed there are no such things as over-production or under-consumption, but that the misfits, so to speak, should be better characterized as *over-supply* or *under-demand* and applying this view of looking at it to the question of picking, it will be noted at the very time that the crop was in danger of being damaged or destroyed by the elements, there were those who would have been glad of employment if they could have reached the locality where their services were wanted. In the mutual interest, therefore, of producer and picker a system of transportation ought to be worked out so as to embrace territory beyond that of the local contingent. As to the use of machinery, perhaps no time can be lost in preparing marshes for the innovation, and the experience of those using improvements should be carefully followed and noted.

Yield.

While on account of winter killing, early frosts, hot and dry summer weather, there were few individual cases of a full crop, the increased acreage and a favorable season for gathering almost entirely made up the deficiency, and from data now available, the output was about 400,000 bbls. distributed as follows:

New England.....	240,000 bbls.
New Jersey.....	120,000 "
The West.....	40,000 "

This quantity, it is opined, may be fairly considered a normal one for the present, and, with judicious distribution, can be handled with favorable results to all concerned in the industry.

Demand.

Almost without exception, the demand has been reported

from all sections of the country as greater than last year. Reasons assigned: Scarcity of other small fruits, causing earlier and more urgent calls; high price of apples; good quality of fruit; better grading and packing, and general prosperity. While some of these causes are wholly beyond control, others are more or less subject to human endeavors and efforts and by fixing and following high standards of excellence, it is believed, the industry would be largely freed from what, otherwise would be untoward and unfortunate circumstances.

Prices.

Rates have been, as a rule, quite uniform, the producer realizing net in the neighborhood of five-fifty (\$5.50) to six (\$6.00) for standard medium grades; pie, small, bringing one fifty (\$1.50) less, and fancy, large, one (\$1.00) to one fifty (\$1.50) more per barrel. While expense of gathering was, in most of cases, more than usual, there remained a margin for reasonable remuneration, which was also quite equitably distributed, and as the cost to consumers was not such as to check consumption, an object lesson has been afforded which it would be well to be heeded by all interested.

Varieties.

Judging from mention made the Jumbo, Metallic Bell, Howe's, McFarlin's, Centerville, Bell and Bugle, Mathews, Ben Lear, lead in popular favor, although there are many others having a more or less local reputation. As many growers are investigating and studying the merits of the different kinds, their special virtues and value will be a matter of greater certainty, and through the medium of the Experimental station the adaption to particular soil and fitness for certain requirements will be more clearly exploited.

Quality.

Where fruit was gathered under proper conditions, the color, size, flavor and keeping qualities were exceptionally good and found ready sale at top prices. The market at no time was overburdened with choice stock, the increased appreciation of the better grades seeming to be ahead of the supply. This should encourage and decide those contemplating putting out new vines to exercise care and judgment in their selection.

Marketing.

The mercantile phase of the season was generally satisfactory, the few exceptions proving the rule, and these of

such a nature as to be easily remedied or precluded. But there is still scope for intelligent and industrious action as to advanced commercial methods, and while not indulging in too sanguine expectations, the future seems growing brighter for the evolution of an efficiency of management and economy of material which will redound alike to benefit of grower, distributor and consumer.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

Report of Treasurer.

RECEIPTS.

March 2, 1901.	State money.....	\$250 00
July 17, 1901.	Deposit by secretary.....	30
Sept. 30, 1901.	Deposit by secretary.....	3 65
	Advertisements.....	69 65
	Fees.....	84 00
	Total	\$407 60

DISBURSEMENTS.

Order No. 59.	C. Briere pres't acct. ex. station....	\$ 30 00
Order No. 61.	do Reporter printing circulars.	9 50
Order No. 62.	do supplies for convention....	58 16
Order No. 63.	do Drumb & Sutor printing August report.....	9 90
Order No. 64.	J. A. Gaynor, livery to ex. station...	7 50
Order No. 65.	Jas. Gaynor, services and rent ex. sta.	62 50
Order No. 66.	Drumb & Sutor, printing notices and report January meeting.....	32 25
Mar. 13, 1901.	Interest on orders.....	5 09
Order No. 67.	A. L. Fontaine, pr't'g notice Aug. con.	4 00
Order No. 68.	“ “ “ report “ “	19 80
Order No. 70.	“ “ “ Sept. bulletin..	9 00
Order No. 72.	Drumb & Sutor, printing circulars...	6 25
Order No. 73.	W. H. Fitch, money paid for sundries	153 65
		\$407 60

Dated January 14, 1902.

MELVIN O. POTTER, Treasurer.

Referred to a committee composed of A. E. Bennett and H. H. Gebhardt who found same correct as rendered.

Election of Officers.

After an informal ballot had been taken in each case the old officers were formally declared elected as follows: Charles Briere, Grand Rapids, Wis., president; S. N. Whittlesey, Cranmoor, Wis., vice president; W. H. Fitch, Cran-

moor, Wis., secretary; M. O. Potter, Centralia, Wis., treasurer; A. E. Bennett, Grand Rapids, Wis., member of executive committee.

Experiment Station Report.

To the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association—Gentlemen: You have at the Experiment station 208 sections. All of these have been planted either to a single vine or to seedlings of some choice variety except about eight sections. There are about fifty sections of seedlings and 150 that were planted to a single vine.

We have, as you know, each year propagated the seedlings from such varieties as were approved by the association.

The cuttings from such sections as were recommended on account of the choiceness of their fruit have been planted at what we denominate the "nursery," under the same number as they appear in the experiment station in order to preserve their identity.

The cuttings planted at the nursery have done fairly well, but they have not borne sufficient fruit yet to make them worthy of presenting a sample.

Both the experiment station and the nursery have reached nearly the limits of their capacity, and the time has arrived, perhaps, when vines from the choicest varieties should be distributed to Wisconsin growers under such rules and regulations as this association may fix.

I would further submit for your consideration that you open a second *sanded* experiment station of not more than one quarter of an acre, to be divided into twenty sections, each consisting of nearly two square rods to be separated by paths not less than two feet wide. This could be planted forthwith by the best vines now existing on the present experiment station, taking sufficient vines from each section to make a good setting on each square in the new experiment station.

The bill for extra expense which is hereto attached will show quite fully the work that has been done at the station in addition to usual weeding.

I would further recommend that the annual salary of \$50.00 a year for the care of the Experiment station be discontinued, and that compensation hereafter be for the actual work done, and that the management of that work be placed in the hands of the president of the association, and that he visit the station about the first of June, July and August and lay out the work to be done each month and hire a man to do it, it to be done by his order and under his directions, both on the experiment station as well as in the nursery. This will prove more satisfactory to all parties concerned.

Dated January 14, 1902.

JAMES GAYNOR.

Cross-Fertilization, or the 20th Century Cranberry.

[Ex-President A. C. Bennett, Grand Rapids, Wis.]

When we consider the improvements made in our domestic animals, vegetables and fruits in the last one hundred years and reflect that the cranberry has only recently presented itself as a candidate for initiation into this transforming influence, we may well ask nature by what means have you or man wrought this mighty change, and from the remotest space and throughout vast cycles of time comes the answer that the same laws that govern their development governed the first protoplasm of earth and all nature's creation up to man. Today, as never before, mankind is studying these laws until he boldly asserts his God-given power of creating, at his will, many things that did not exist before.

Compare the largest horse, cow, dog, cat and hen of the present day with their progenitors of only one century past and see what has been done. Compare the largest variety of apples, peaches, pears, oranges and lemons with their ancient parents, and ask ourselves what magic wand has produced this change. The answer comes back, the mind of man, for the magic wand is a thing of the past.

Today, it would be as easy to produce a race of giants among men as it was in ancient times to produce a race with the Roman nose. The Japanese are a race of small people, yet their wrestlers are giants for size. The Washington navel orange was discovered to be seedless, today we have other seedless oranges and seedless lemons, apples and pears, see Bulletin No. 29, U. S. Department of Agriculture, page 66, 1901, and even the large, hard, central pit of the prune has been bred out until only the central meat part remains, and that much softened, (by Luther Burbank originator of the Burbank potato). There are many apparent exceptions to nature's laws governing the crossing and development of plants, fruits and animals, but the same general laws govern them all and we can trace these laws best through the animals and plants that we are best acquainted with. Some of these laws should be well understood *now* before we advance any further in improving the cranberry.

According to best authority, we have so far started on the right road to success by the selection of a great variety of wild plants, by the introduction of many others and by seedlings. We have now to study the effects of climate, soil, fertilizers, moisture, drouth, and many other things, for the environment of the cranberry means life or death, development or degeneration. I have observed that if we bring cranberry vines from the moist climate of Cape Cod to the drier air of Wisconsin, the result is smaller fruit,

but they become more firm and are better keepers. If carried to the Pacific coast and planted, they become still smaller, probably owing to adverse circumstances, blighting of early settings, and other climatic conditions.

The Greening and Russett apples of our northern states, when planted in the south or on the Pacific coast, become fall apples, lose their spicy flavor and soon go to decay.

The Irish potato, planted in the south and on the Pacific coast, is only good for immediate use; in a single month's time they turn black inside and are worthless.

On Cape Cod I saw some young cranberry vines just coming into bearing with many exceedingly large berries scattered here and there among a general crop of apparently a much smaller variety. I picked some of these and showed them to some resident growers and was told that this was the result of the use of guano which had been applied in an improper manner.

But our greatest improvements in the line of animals, plants and fruits have been the result of crossing and hybridizing.

If we cross fertilize a late peach with an early peach, both being peaches or fruit of the same species, we call it a cross or cross fertilization.

If we fertilize a plum with the peach, the result is called a hybrid.

The greatest improvement in animals, plants and fruits has been the result of crossing within the same species, the results are more certain and lasting. While hybridizing is called "a game of chance between man and plants," yet some of the most remarkable and valuable of our animals, fruits and plants are the result of hybridizing, but it requires many years of time and an exhaustless amount of patience, and a thousand failures to one success.

Plants and animals, under a high state of cultivation, often develop sports or freaks of nature, like the Siamese twins, giants from small parents, ears of corn growing on the tassels. Sometimes certain branches of a Greening apple tree will produce Russetts and branches of the Russett produce Greenings or a strange variety. I have seen an apple tree that bore apples one side of which was sweet and the other side was sour, the sour side was, to all appearance and taste, like the Greening, the sweet side, in appearance and taste, was a Talman Sweet. This was said to have been the result of an expert grafter (Reeves). The Navelencia orange of California was produced by a union of a bud from the Washington navel orange with a bud of the Valencia orange (by Thompson). These unions are very difficult and no doubt depend for their success upon the fact that the plant, like a starving animal, will

accept of food that it may save its life which would not be used by it under any other circumstances. These sports can be propagated by grafting. Nectarine was first discovered growing on a single limb of a peach tree.

Before we begin to cross fertilize the cranberry let us study the general laws that govern the crossing of other plants and animals so that we may know what to expect.

At the close of the civil war the negroes in Florida that were part white considered themselves better than the full blooded negro and many of them emigrated to the eastern part of the state and formed a colony by themselves. In less than forty years they have nearly run out. In slavery times many of the white overseers of plantations took wives from the halfbreeds and raised few or no children. Where they took fullblooded blacks they had many children. What has become of the Canadian French and Indian mixture?

Near Oneida, New York, there are six tribes of Indians, all belonging to one confederation which prohibits the Indians of any tribe marrying in his own tribe, and no son of any chief can succeed his father as chief. These Indians are increasing in numbers. In Arizona and New Mexico there is a race of Pueblo Indians divided into tribes that marry only in their own tribe. They once numbered thirty thousand. They now number about ten thousand of the most degenerate specimens of humanity I ever saw.

The jack and the horse cross readily, but the result is a sterile mule.

Charles Darwin said "It is an extraordinary fact that many species of flowers fertilized with their own pollen are either absolutely or in some degree sterile; if fertilized with pollen from another flower on the same plant, they are sometimes, though rarely, a little more fertile; if fertilized with pollen from another variety of the same species, they are fully fertile, but with pollen from a different species they are sterile in all possible degrees until absolute sterility is reached. We thus have a long series with absolute sterility at both ends, at one end due to the sexual elements not having been sufficiently different and at the other end to their having been different in too great a degree or in some peculiar manner."

L. H. Bailey, quoting from Fock, says: "Hybrids are distinguished from their parents by their powers of vegetation or growth. Hybrids between very different species are often weak, especially when young, so that it is very difficult to raise them. On the other hand cross breeds are, as a rule, uncommonly vigorous, they are distinguished mostly by size, rapidity of growth, early flowering, productiveness, longer life, stronger reproductive powers, and similar characteristics. Hybrids produce a less

amount of pollen and fewer seeds than their parents and they often produce *none*. In cross breeds this weakening of the reproductive powers does not occur. The flowers of sterile hybrids usually remain fresh a long time. Mal-formations and odd forms are apt to appear in hybrids, especially in the flowers."

The gourd can be crossed with the pumpkin and the squash, the product in each case is mostly gourd, the pumpkin and squash having been longer subject to domestication than the gourd, yields more readily to the environment than the gourd.

The cross between the red raspberry and the blackcap raspberry has resulted in an everbearing raspberry, very hardy and very prolific and producing from early in the season till the frosts and snows of winter freeze them on the bushes, a continual succession of flowers and fruit in all stages of development. I have pulled their trailing bushes from under the snow and leaves and found large clusters of nice fruit, while the upright bushes showed hundreds of clusters frozen on their tops in all stages of growth.

A cross between the blackberry and the blackcap raspberry, produced by Judge Logan of California, is not only very productive but of unusual size, often measuring two and one-half inches in length. A single vine planted in February, 1899, has grown to the length of twenty feet in each direction and last season produced forty quarts of berries.

Others, by crossing the blackberry and raspberry, have produced a different shape of berry, more like the shape of the Wilson strawberry.

The Wilson strawberry is a cross seedling whose hardiness and productiveness is beyond question.

Plants and animals run out. I have seen it estimated that over nine hundred thousand distinct species have become extinct. It is the law of nature that this should be so. Nations and tribes have become extinct. The French nation of today has more deaths to record than births, and Spain, Turkey, India, China and many of the islands of the sea contain a large percentage of degenerate humanity owing, in part, to too close relationship within their own territory.

Plants or trees propagated by cuttings or runners tend to run out or become unproductive. The plant, in time, exhausting itself by this method of reproduction.

The Bugle cranberry, which only thirty years ago was the pride of the Berlin marshes, is a thing of the past except here and there a very few. As I remember these berries thirty years ago and as I see them now I would not recognize them.

Nearly all varieties of potatoes run out or degenerate

(see U. S. bulletin No. 29 of 1901, Plant Breeding, page 63) in about thirty years and new varieties, grown from the seed bulbs, take their place. Other fruits and trees endure much longer, generally in proportion to the time it takes to mature the parent stock. The cranberry vine raised from seed ought not to begin to degenerate in less than one hundred and eighty years.

At our experiment station I am glad to know that the cranberry vine is being produced from seeds in quantities. These plants should show greatly increased productiveness, especially in future generations, and by faithful seed planting and trimming off of runners, it may be that a cranberry could be grown that would form the habit of producing more fruit and less runners. Certainly in their infancy they would better adapt themselves to our present drier air and colder winters than the older vines which were originally started under different atmospheric conditions.!

But in crossing these seedlings which have a greater tendency to variation than the original wild berry, we can see a brighter future for the cranberry and a better prospect of blending the different qualities of size, color, form, flavor, keeping qualities, hardiness, productiveness, etc., which shall constitute the ideal cranberry of the 20th century. The blueberry and the huckleberry belong to the same family as the cranberry and it may be possible to cross them and thereby render the cranberry less sour or give to the blueberry increased value as a keeper or a better flavor.

On Cape Cod there is a cranberry grown called the blue stem. The stem end of the berries exhibit the peculiar blue color of the blueberry. I saw several barrels of them in San Francisco, but I did not taste of them as I should have done. The dealer who had them for sale was one of Mr. Wilkinson's agents and he said they had a good reputation.

If this is a cross between the cranberry and the blueberry or huckleberry, we would call it a hybrid and expect unusual productiveness only in the first crossing and propagate these by buds or runners for many years, but in crossing the different varieties of cranberries and producing seedlings therefrom we can look for increased power of reproduction, especially in the quantity of fruit and of a more plastic nature. In time we may change their form and qualities with as much certainty as is now done with our domestic animals. We would not expect from a span of wild Mexican ponies to produce draft horses weighing eighteen hundred pounds in a single season, neither can we expect great results from the wild cranberry without spending many years, but the final result is as sure in one case as in the other.

Blossom Bud.

A letter from Prof. E. S. Goff, University of Wisconsin, advised the association that he would send, in a few days, 200 excerpts of the report of his investigations in the flower formation of the cranberry, which will be duly distributed.

Preparing Ground and Planting Vines.

Mr. H. O. Kruschke, Dexterville, Wis., said he would not lay down any set rules, every marsh having its own peculiarities and what would do well on one place would not in another. The density of soil was important, whether soft or hard, also whether surface was a sod, grass or scalped one. If a grass surface, would mow or burn a few seasons. As to planting: after pulling the vines with hooks, they were separated one at a time and put in strings, then cut and bunched in small rolls; each piece was spudded in with an implement which held the end of vine. There were good and bad ways of planting, the latter leaving the vines laying on top of ground. The cut end roots the quicker and a washer keeps the cutting from going too deep. After planting, roll repeatedly; keep moist by putting on water or rolling. In sanding, grading was necessary so as not to make too wet or too dry. The level was found by putting up boards. As to season for planting, any time except July, August or September. May, June or October were preferable. Vines should be kept damp until ready for planting. Cost of sanding depended on distance to be hauled and how deep; three inches sufficed anywhere. To smother out sage brush would advise six inches of hay. Would not mow sage, but get hay, wet it, and lay on the foul growth. For sanding, used car tracks or wheelbarrow. If could plow to sand, would do so.

Organity.

This is the subject assigned me by your secretary. I do not know just what the word means. I examined the dictionaries and failed to find it in any of them. I presume that it was intended to relate to organization of some kind, and as I have had some success in organizing co-

operative movements, I presume it is intended I should say something in favor of co-operative organization or action in relation to the cranberry growers.

As your secretary is of a philosophical turn of mind, perhaps he intended me to go into the philosophy of organization in general, although philosophizing is generally unprofitable and I know from experience that there is no money in it; yet I will state for his gratification a few fundamental general principles that should guide us in every attempt we make to induce men to join organizations of any kind, whether co-operative or otherwise.

No organization can be successful unless it is backed up by intelligence and integrity. It will be seen at a glance that the smallest society and even the nation itself would go to pieces unless held together by these forces. If we regard society, as some philosophers do, as a single, living *entity* as if it were one organized individual, we will find that the degree of organization which exists within it is exactly in proportion to the degree of intelligence and integrity of the people. Just as the animals of least intelligence have the lowest physical organization, and the highest or most intelligent, the highest and fullest physical organizations. It is a great mistake made by many reformers to urge reformatory organization in advance of the intelligence and integrity that is necessary to sustain it.

One of these kind hearted reformers, after examining the beautiful mechanism of the human hand and noting the fact of its wonderful adaptation to a myriad of purposes, in his kindness of heart conceived the idea that he would like to give a pair of hands to every cow instead of her front hoofs. If he were able to carry out his desire, he would have discovered, that because the hoofs are adapted to the degree of intelligence of that animal and her habits of living, they serve her purpose much better than a pair of hands.

We live in an age in which the standard of intelligence and integrity is advancing, and organization should keep pace with this advance, in fact, it will keep pace, if not in right lines, in wrong lines. This is very evident in the organization of trusts, pools and combinations of all kinds that are being formed to pick the feathers off the public goose to feather private nests rather than to promote productiveness or public welfare.

Without going further on this line, I will merely suggest a few things in which cranberry growers might co-operate to their own advantage as well as to the advantage of the public.

They should combine in some intelligent way in storing and handling water, so far as they are dependent upon the same or nearly the same water supply.

Growers situated on the same line of railway should

combine to get the railway company to carry in pickers at reduced rates of fare, and to get them in such numbers that they would be able to gather the crops without having to "steal pickers from each other."

They should combine in making experiments and actual tests as to all the merits that may be claimed for particular varieties, and in gathering and distributing information generally in relation to the cranberry business.

They should combine in getting better varieties of vines and seeking to get them in larger quantities and at reduced rates.

They should in every honorable way encourage desirable buyers to come to our marshes to make their purchases. We should combine to give such buyers "a square deal" and to prevent them from perpetrating either fraud or deceit upon our growers.

We should combine in grading and classifying our berries for market and agree on the use of the terms to be applied to this classification.

It would pay us well to combine to send a bright, intelligent man East to ascertain how the most successful growers there manage their business.

There is a vast amount of other things in which we might co-operate to our mutual advantage, but have we the intelligence and integrity to make these co-operative movements practicable and profitable?

I have often said that man is by nature a wild animal. We call any animal wild that is afraid of man, and I am inclined to think that man is born with a strong instinctive fear of his fellowman; that he inherits this because, as a matter of fact, more of his ancestors were killed and eaten by man than by all the other animals put together. He inherits this instinctive fear just as the chicken is instinctively afraid of the hawk. Civilizing men means very largely taming them, educating them and training them so as to remove this fear, and the occasion for it, which is the great impediment to all co-operative movements.

It is easy to organize co-operative movements among people who live in cities and who are in the habit of meeting their fellowmen every day; but farmers and cranberry men who live more largely in isolation and mingle less with general society are not so easily induced to enter into co-operative movements. They show more fear, distrust, suspicion and jealousy in this respect than people living in the city. They do not fully realize that every success of their neighbor contributes to their own success. They are apt to feel that their neighbors' success is, in some way or other, a hindrance to them. They seem to have no notion of their own welfare except by comparison, and it seems to appeal to their egotism or vanity to be able to look *down* upon their neighbors' failure, without realizing that that

failure will ultimately bring a measure failure to them.

You can easily see from this pessimistic view that I do not entertain high hopes as to what may be done with cranberry growers. It is hard to force organization or co-operation upon a people that are not prepared for it, and when forced upon them, it will generally prove unprofitable; and yet there is no industry that I know of in which organization and co-operation would prove more profitable if properly carried out.

I verily believe that had it not been for the work done by the Wisconsin Cranberry Growers' association, both before and after the big forest fires of 1894 and 1895, in instructing and urging growers to plant vines, the cranberry industry in Wisconsin would now be insignificant and the few growers that were left after the fires would fully realize that the failure of their neighbors was a decided disadvantage to them.

Even though we fail in the attempt, let us continue to urge co-operation and organization, until we have in Wisconsin the most successful and intelligent cranberry growers in the world.

JOHN A. GAYNOR.

A Buyer's Experience.

Mr. G. H. Porter, Kansas City, said he had grown up in the business and that it was a constant guessing. For his part he kept track of the weather, as far as possible, and advised others to do so. The Wisconsin barrel he found all right. The market had got used to it. In New Jersey they had two kinds, a 90-quart barrel and they had a 28-quart crate, which made it bad for all of us. He favored grading, and the adoption by the association of definitions of size, and how far apart they should be. Some growers were very particular and consequence was, their product always sold well. All the buyer wants, or should want, is to get what he pays for. They were greatly troubled in the east with worms, and now a root worm has put in an appearance. As to cost of harvesting where raking was used, it had been done as low as 85c per barrel including cost of barrel; and he knew of a case where total cost, including insurance, taxes, interest, etc., had been \$1.40 per barrel. Mr. Porter was asked a number of questions anent scooping and explained that where vines were matted it was impossible to scoop, therefore they used

rakes for trimming out the useless vines that were taking the life out. The result was not only better and larger berries, but the bogs themselves were better for it, as it gave the air a chance to get at them. As to berries that were left on the bogs, the water was put on and they were then gathered. The time was coming when there would be big crops, a plentiful supply of other fruit and poor times, and such conditions would have to be met.

Trimming the vines should always be done in one way or direction. The first year, an inch of sand was put on; next year, another inch; after that, half inch, and so on, to get all uprights. Some used a lighter rake to keep the top runners out of way. There was not much scooping in New Jersey, vines were rank and long; but on Cape Cod they thinned them out. Seventy-five to one hundred barrels per acre was regarded a good average crop when conditions were right. Good, quick draining more important than anything else. As to varieties, for an all round berry Howe's cannot be beaten. Very good for productiveness. Generally picked from middle to twentieth of September. If Early Blacks are picked white will keep, but if picked when ripe go all to pieces. While true that the pulp and juices go to perfect the seeds, as growers can't choose time of picking, experience has shown best time to gather them is first week in September. Generally has trouble with Early Blacks in a wet year, but this year he had some trouble with a dry rot, not a soft decay. During dry, hot weather he advised running water through the ditches, but be sure to get off before the sun got hot, as object is only to moisten the atmosphere. Cool and dark best for storage, with a temperature about 40 degrees. Keep better in the chaff.

As to inspection of berries, the buyer goes to parties and tells them what he wants, then goes to the cars, and if they are not right rejects them. For self protection he has to reserve the right to inspect after screening, but the best thing to do is to establish a good reputation. As to what was the best berry was largely a matter of opinion, taste

or whim. At this point the president requested Mr. Porter to act in conjunction with Mr. H. O. Kruschke and Mr. J. J. Emmerick in selecting from the specimens exhibited from the experiment station those deemed most desirable for propagation, and eight varieties, numbered respectively, 64, 57, 44, 18, 68, 48, 11, 3, and 185 a seedling from the "Potter's field," were so chosen by the committee.

Flooding.

[G. H. Bacon, Mather, Wis.]

The subject of flooding our cranberry marshes is one of the most important things connected with the successful growing of cranberries, and in view of its importance I should have been much better pleased had it been assigned to someone more capable. There are a few things that I have learned by experience in handling our own marsh which I will mention.

First, the kind or condition of the marsh has much to do with the time and also the amount of flooding necessary. For instance, on sand very light flooding is needed at any time, except during winter to protect from winter killing, as the spring and summer frosts rarely ever damage such places to any great extent, and as a matter of fact I never saw such places badly damaged when the water was up to or a little above the surface.

Upon peat marshes it is a little different. They require more water to protect the crop from frost, but even upon them the thermometer must indicate below 28° to cause much damage where there is water one to two inches above the surface.

I have been speaking of marshes which are free from moss and fairly free from grass. If you have a mossy marsh, I have little faith in your being able to protect from frost with any amount of water the most favored may be able to command.

A grassy marsh with little or no moss I think one to four inches of water upon the surface would protect crop from serious damage by any frosts we are liable to have from the middle of May until the middle of September.

You may flood too much and by so doing damage a crop even worse than a moderate frost.

Before giving you some of my experience, that you may better understand my reasons for doing as I did, I will state that our water supply is very unsteady.

In the spring of 1899 I drew the water down two inches below the surface on the 25th of May. The vines came on finely and blossomed very heavy, but some of you may recollect that some time from the 5th to the 15th of June

we had very heavy and long rains which filled the marshes and gave me so much water that I could not get rid of it and it was the 25th of June before I got the water down to the surface again, with the result that more than three-fourths of the crop was ruined.

In the spring of 1900 the reverse occurred. I drew the water off at the same time and to about the same stage. The vines again showed up fine and developed even a heavier crop than the previous year, but by the 25th of June there was no water in my ditches and a slight frost on the 28th destroyed the crop. I believe, from observation, that had there been water in those ditches within four inches of the surface no material injury would have resulted to the crop.

I wish it to be understood that I am speaking only of scalped marsh, or improved and planted. Wild bogs require more water.

From my observation I would never cover vines entirely except in winter to protect them from winter killing. When the water begins to raise in the spring thaws I would let the water go as fast as it came, so that the water would not raise the ice and pull up the vines before it had thawed enough to loosen the vines beneath. I have seen much damage caused by neglect to do so, and the greatest damage occurs on those parts where the vines are best and most free from grass. The grass has a tendency to help hold the ice from raising until more vines are released from the ice beneath.

I know of no infallible rule to go by in flooding a cranberry marsh, so much depends upon the character of the marsh to be handled, but I would always aim to keep the moisture up to the surface. To do so it is not always necessary to have the ditches full. Rains may at times provide so much moisture that to keep the ditches full would make the bog too wet and become a damage. If it were practicable I would flood the vines in June and again about the middle of July to prevent the ravages of the fruit worm, but as a whole I think more depends upon the watchful care and good judgment of the man in charge than upon any general rule which can be laid down. On our peat marsh, if I had the water, I would never draw it more than four to five inches below the surface in the ditches.

Mr. R. Lyon gave a very interesting account of cranberry growing he saw in Washington. He said he never saw nicer berries. One marsh was made in a cedar swamp and varieties grown were McFarlin's, Black Diamond, Howe's, etc. They shipped in bushel boxes and calculated to get at rate of \$10.00 per barrel. There were no failures,

no frosts, no pests nor worms. He exhibited some samples of the berries which for size, etc., compared favorably with those on exhibition.

Judge Gaynor exhibited a pot of vines which he had placed in a hot house at a temperature of 70° and had hoped to have some buds in blossom, but for some reason or another the vines refused to wake up.

Some berries from D. C. Leach, Walton, Mich., kept in damp moss and in cellar with temperature at 40°, were considered best among collection.

There were also some Black Diamonds from C. D. McFarlin, Oregon, which were thought to be a modified form of Early Blacks.

A thermometer for special use of cranberry men was also shown.

After considerable discussion the care and distribution of vines from the experiment station was left to the Executive committee.

The most spirited interchange of views occurred over the matter of classification of berries. While there was practical unanimity as to the pie or small grade, when it came to standard medium there was quite a difference of opinion, some objecting to any action fearing an establishment of a rule would prove a trap to the unwary and a loop hole for the unscrupulous; but a thorough and dispassionate consideration of the subject showed there was little, if any, ground for such fears and the matter was concluded by the adoption of the following recommendations:

Be it Resolved, That as to size, small or "pie" berries shall be such as will pass through a three-eighths ($\frac{3}{8}$) screen. Medium or "standard" shall be berries that pass through a five-eighths ($\frac{5}{8}$) screen, "pie" out.

Receipts and Disbursements.

RECEIPTS.

March 2, 1901.	State money.....	\$250 00
	Advertisements.....	69 65
	Fees	84 00
		<hr/>
		\$403 65

DISBURSEMENTS.

Jan. 8, 1901.	Balance due secretary.....	\$ 28 52
Order No. 64.	John A. Gaynor, livery to Ex. station	7 50
Order No. 65.	Jas. Gaynor, services and rent Ex. sta.	62 50
Order No. 66.	Drumb & Sutor, printing notices and report January meeting.....	32 25
Order No. 67.	A. L. Fontaine, printing notices Aug. convention.....	4 00
Order No. 68.	A. L. Fontaine, printing report Aug. convention.....	19 80
Order No. 69.	Chas. Briere, Pres., supplies Aug. con.	34 93
Order No. 70.	A.L. Fontaine, printing Sept. bulletin	9 00
Order No. 71.	W. H. Fitch, secretary's salary 9 mos.	30 00
Order No. 72.	Drumb & Sutor, printing circulars...	6 25
	Balance due secretary, salary 3 mos..	10 00
	Cash expenditure reports, bulletins and stationery.....	26 57
	Stamps, stamped envelopes, wrappers and postal cards.....	168 22
		<hr/>
		\$439 54

After referring all unfinished business to the Executive committee the meeting adjourned.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

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N. B. References can be given.