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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association



Nineteenth Annual Meeting
Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, January 9th, 1906

Free, on application, to Cranberry Growers in the state, members of the Association, and others, entitled to same. Extra copies can be had by addressing Secretary's office, Cranmoor, Wood County, Wisconsin. Price 25 cents. Stamps accepted.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To the Honorable James O. Davidson.

Governor of the State of Wisconsin:

Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith in requirement of law, the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association, containing papers read and discussions thereon, together with an account of moneys disbursed for the year 1905.

Respectfully yours,

Cranmoor, Wis., Jan. 12, 1906.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.



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PROCEEDINGS

*Of the Annual Meeting Held at Grand Rapids on
January 9th, 1906.*

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers association was held at the courthouse in Grand Rapids the meeting convening at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

The meeting was called to order by vice-President S. N. Whittlesey, and there was a good crowd in attendance, there being a number of growers and others from out of town present at the meeting. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with, and Mr. Whittlesey made the following address:

Ladies and Gentlemen: In the season just past the Cranberry yield has been short and the price in the market surprisingly long. The several crops of the country, the basis of prosperity, have been great. This fact largely accounts for the demand for cranberries which has been surprisingly good this year. Especially surprising after two seasons of dis-

aster or disappointment to cranberry buyers. There are various matters up for your consideration at this meeting, but the chief and overshadowing subject before us now is, probably that of marketing, selling the cranberry crop profitably. Formerly we have mainly agitated methods of growing cranberries and the varieties. There is now little doubt that we shall produce cranberries in large quantities in the near future, quantities so much larger than the 1,000,000 bushel mark now sometimes reached in one year that another cipher will be required to represent the amount, which means at least ten bushels in place of every one we now produce. When that day comes, and it is coming, is almost in sight, we shall not be saved by our faith in the gospel of Competition." "Competition the life of trade."

Never, perhaps, was there a more

favorable fall for marketing cranberries than the one just passed, and yet, how nearly Competition wrecked or seriously impaired our market this year we may never know. We do know that when prices were at \$7.00 and above, a high level, several car loads were offered and sold at no advance over the prices paid for them and we believe the only motives for such action is the feeling of uncertainty, distrust and fear of Competition, fear that Competition will demoralize prices, and the feeling is highly infectious and inflammable and spreads rapidly sometimes without reason. That it did not result ruinously this year all concerned are to be congratulated. Conditions did not conduce toward catastrophe, but such is the legitimate fruit of Competition. Cooperation is better combination if you please. You will get it anyway among buyers sooner or later, probably very much sooner. That combination organization and co-operation among growers is better for growers, you will concede without argument.

Another matter of importance is the extension of the market, the increase of consumption. If we should put into the hands of one-fourth of the cooks of the country a receipt for properly cooking cranberries and then if one-fourth of this one-fourth should properly follow the instructions, the consumption or demand for it would be immediately quadrupled.

The report of Statistician John A. Gaynor was rather brief and gave the figures on this season's crop as being 135,000 barrels for the New England States, 73,000 for the middle

states and 22,000 for the west. This is the smallest crop that has been reported for a number of years.

The report of secretary W. H. Fitch was as follows:

It goes without saying that this is womans' era.

We mortal men in a reckless and ruthless rush for fun, fortune and fame have allowed faculties and functions to become dead or dormant which discarded opportunities have been seized and secured by the, at one time, called, and considered, weaker sex.

Witness in the theological arena Mary Baker G. Eddy, in the Socio economic world Miss Jane Addams, and in the temperance field the late beloved Miss Francis Willard. How many men have done much more good for humanity than these noble women, and others, whose words and works will readily occur to you.

The speaker has no personal acquaintance with a female Burbank but he would not be surprised, at any time, at the appearance of one; and he does know of one in our midst who thoroly understands the wholesome and culinary virtue and value of that condiment of comity and berry of benevolence our unique native and national fruit The American Cranberry.

In view of a possible "bumper" supply of fruit in the near future and the necessity from a commercial standpoint—for a correspondingly increased demand for same, I am sure I voice the sentiment and sense of the members of our association in thanking, in advance, the estimable woman who is about to address us on the sub-

ject of Cranberry Cookery and I esteem it a high privilege and experience a great pleasure in introducing to you Mrs. Anna Downs Whittlesey of Cranmoor, Wood County Wisconsin.

The following address by Mrs. S. N. Whittlesey on the subject of "Cranmoor & Cranberries," was listened to with great interest by those present:

The name of our town is suggestive and has an appropriateness distinctly its own.

Some of the old dictionaries define a "moor" as a marsh, containing fertile spots. Such a moor, is Cranmoor, covering, as it does, an extensive area of marsh lands interspersed with wooded islands. These islands supply the solid ground upon which buildings are erected and gardens tilled, also furnish the sand used in cranberry culture and in the making of roads and dams.

The valuable parts of the marshes possess the peculiar elements and natural conditions necessary for the growth and cultivation of cranberries. Every owner and inhabitant of the town is interested in and engaged in this industry. So dear friends, do not misunderstand, misuse, mispell or mispronounce the only town, Railroad Station and Post Office in existence bearing this title, but give us the plain, significant and eminently fitting contraction of cranberry-marsh, Cranmoor.

My earliest recollection of the cranberry dates back many years, when with the advent of a turkey in my Mother's larder there was always the accompaniment of a very small sack of bright red berries.

These berries looked good enough to eat. Upon my attempt to sample them, a distressed look came over my Mother's usually placid countenance as she sprang toward me exclaiming, "O, don't put that in your mouth, that's only fit to eat when made into jelly and used with turkey. That is a cranberry."

Why a cranberry or any other berry as pretty as that could hold such death-dealing qualities was a shock to my sensibilities that took many years to recover from. The next impression the cranberry made on my mind was during a visit in the east, I went with a party of friends to Lake Maratanza on Shawangunk (Shonggan) Mts. just above my native village, Ellenville, N. Y. The shores of this lake tho on the very top of the mountain and only a mile from an immense ledge of rocks, were a soft spongy, quaking marsh, upon which I feared to walk. This mossy peat was covered with a thick growth of vines which I was informed were cranberry vines. Ah! here then was where that delusive berry grew and upon that delicate looking little vine. Even one's life seemed hardly safe gathering it. I had been an instructor three years in one of Chicago's public schools and had not known till then where or how a cranberry grew.

The next time the cranberry came into my life—and this time to stay—was after my return from that eastern trip. At the first social function, I met my fate and later married the cranberry man! Since then I have learned many things about the cranberry—that it possessed medicinal as

well as edible qualities, that one can eat them raw and not die, in fact, in this state they have qualities of the lemon with the same good result if judiciously used; and like the olive, one can cultivate a fondness for them.

The raw fruit cooked in as little water as possible till tender enough to thoroughly mash, applied as a poultice, renewing as moisture is absorbed, is an excellent remedy for Erysipelas. This disease following a serious case of blood poisoning of our Nebraska family physician failed to yield to treatment and the Dr's. life was despaired of. Finally cranberry poultice was ordered. The season was mid-summer, not a cranberry in market. A five mile drive to the Whittleseys obtained the needed supply which effected cure. This Physician feelingly said to me after recovery, "Mrs. Whittlesey, your cranberries saved my life." I give you this incident for two reasons, first to show that the berry will keep the year round, second, that it is worth keeping. Cranberries do not have to be canned, jellied, or preserved at once. Sauce made from most fruits will keep but a few days unless sealed in air tight cans. Cranberry sauce if put up right may be kept a few weeks in jars that are not air tight.

Without doubt, the cranberry is the least understood and the most abused of any fruit grown. It has a great many uses other than to be made into jelly as a relish for turkey. It is as fine a condiment for any kind of meat. If properly prepared they make as toothsome a sauce as any other berry. A shortcake will

hold good with the strawberry. If users of the fruit will make the test they will discover that more sauce with less sugar can be made from a quart of cranberries than from a quart of any other kind of berry.

They are not expensive. They are not sugar consumers compared with most fruits.

The expression is common, "If you have a barrel of cranberries you you will need a barrel of sugar." This is not true. With my prescription it needs three barrels of cranberries to one of sugar, and (providing the water supply does not give out) will make a rich, beautiful looking, jellied sauce with 100 per cent more bulk than any other fruit I know of. They should never be cooked in tin or iron ware. Use porcelain, earthenware or granite. Do not ruin the flavor or health giving properties by par-boiling in saleratus water. It is greater economy to buy a good berry than a poor one. Cranberries have varieties and qualities and about as many as the apple. Like apples they should be kept in cool, dry place 38 to 40 degrees good temperature. The demand will increase as the knowledge of preparing them in appetizing manner increases. Mary Foster Snider evidently realizes the delightful possibilities of our berry and in the 1905 November number of the Woman's Home Companion gives a long list of recipes.

I append my own method of making sauce used a quarter of a century with uniform results. Remove defective berries, wash good ones. To one quart of the ordinary bell cherry cranberry add one pint of granulated

sugar.

One pint boiling water.

As the berries begin to swell to pop, stir and mash untill every berry is broken, cook from 15 to 20 minutes.

For the Jumbo variety and by this term I mean our real Jumbo not every large berry sold under that name. Use to one quart of the berries, three-fourths quart of boiling water, one rounded pint granulated sugar and proceed as above.

If a trial of these recipes puts this excellent sauce on any table in more palatable form than usual then this article will not have been in vain.

It was moved by Mr. E. P. Arpin and duly seconded that a vote of thanks be extended to Mrs. Whittlesey for her apt and able paper and that same be spread on the minutes of the association.

Ex-president A. C. Bennett delivered the following on the subject of the "Distribution of Cranberries.

Mr. President:—

At the August meeting of our association, I suggested;

1st:—That the pure food laws of Wisconsin be extended so as to make the cranberry growers partly honest by law:—

2nd:—That wet cranberries packed in barrels would heat and mould and in that shape are very unhealthy;—

3rd:—That any grower that will put up wet cranberries ought to have his berries confiscated and himself arrested and that pure food laws ought to be made to reach him:—

4th:—That Early Blacks were shipped South too early where the

fruit worm hatched out in the barrels and spun webs that bound the berries together so that they came out in great wads. Talk about honesty!

5th:—One person lets the fruit fall four feet on to the bottom of the barrel;—

6th:—Another runs 140 barrels a day through a 50 barrel a day mill and two men sort them on the gallop as they go into the barrels:—

7th:—Talk about marketing wet, wormy and bruised berries along with good sound berries, well packed, well graded and properly cured, it never can be done, and such growers should be restrained by law from branding their berries the same as the others, and the penalty should be certain and severe, the same penalty as for forgery, which it is:—

I recommended:—

1st:—That a state law be enacted appointing a state inspector of cranberries who shall not be interested in the cranberry business:

2nd:—That he shall be recommended by the state board of health and paid by the state during the months of September, October and November to visit the marshes of Wisconsin, and report the condition in which cranberries are being put up, with power to enforce a due regard for health:—

3rd:—That a state inspector of cranberries be provided by law the same as a sealer of weights and measures, who shall not be interested in the cranberry business, whose duty it shall be to look after the grading, curing and packing of cranberries, and to brand with his official state brand all such barrels and boxes of

cranberries as he shall find to conform to certain rules in regard to size and soundness with a view of establishing uniform grades of berries in the state of Wisconsin, which can be relied on in any market where the Wisconsin Cranberry is often for sale:—

4th:—That the inspector shall brand such barrels and boxes as contain cranberries properly packed and graded of the size between $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch in diameter and containing not over 3 per cent of unsound berries as legal Wisconsin Standard with date of inspection and inspector's name:—

5th:—All packages containing cranberries of a larger size and equal soundness shall be branded as Legal Wisconsin Fancy, with date of inspection and inspector's name:—

6th:—All packages containing cranberries of a less size than $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter shall be branded legal Wisconsin Pie berries, and shall be required at the time of inspection to contain not over 5 per cent of unsound berries, with date and name of the inspector:—

7th:—The grower or owner of the berries before shipping them shall place or cause to be placed their name upon all packages so grown or owned by them:—

8th:—A severe fine for imitation of these brands:—

9th:—A severe fine for false inspection:—

10th:—By establishing these brands for the state of Wisconsin that can be relied on, we will soon see such a demand for Legal Wisconsin berries that they will readily command from 50 cents to \$1.00 per barrel more than

others not so branded, and while I would not compel anyone to have his berries so inspected by law. But would strictly forbid anyone else from using or imitating these brands. Berries so branded will sell themselves and sell for cash:—

11th:—Only three grades should be made. If more grades are put on the market the wholesale houses would find it impossible to keep up their stocks of each variety and must disappoint their customers:—

12th:—A constant supply of Legal Standards should always be kept in stock by the wholesale houses:—

The legal Standard Barrel and Crate of Wisconsin shows what law can do. Don't expect a perfect law at once if not perfect its defects can be remedied. It don't pay to bicker over minor points and defeat the object sought.

Legal Fancy Bennett's Jumbo variety of cranberries should always be sold separate at from 50 cents to \$1.00 per barrel more than the fancy brand of Legal Wisconsin berries on account of their delicious spicy flavor their uniform size, productiveness and long keeping qualities. The Metelic Bell when unmixed with other varieties should be sold separate and other varieties of real merit, so as to encourage the growing of more valuable varieties which will always bring higher prices

Remember there is nothing too good for the American people and that the best of everything always finds a ready sale. It would be very desirable to have the grading all done by one style of grader for this purpose. I know of no better machine than the one invented by James Gaynor, who

once said to me "They may improve the method of manufacture and make them cheaper but the principle can never be improved upon which, I believe to be true, and I am glad to learn that he is about to make some of one half the size, so that they can be set up against the side of a building.

I would further suggest that he divide them again in their length, cutting in two, so as to make only one-half their present length, and make only three grades, this can be done without diminishing, in the least, the capacity of the grader. These changes would greatly diminish the cost, and place it within the means of the smaller growers, and be easier to ship and much lighter to run, and would not take up over one fourth of the space that it now occupies. As originally built by the inventor it was all right for the purpose he intended it, that was to separate every imperfect berry from the sound berries without the use of the Busby Jumper or any hand picking, and avoid bruising any berries by taking advantage of a well known principle which no other man ever thought of, and would not think of with the machine before his eyes for a life time

But as a grader only one-fourth of its size will do the work and make the three grades, I would further suggest to the inventor that for sales made in Wisconsin or anywhere, that that he attach to each machine two small gauges of steel so as to adjust with them the Slides and secure an exact $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{5}{8}$ opening and not leave this to be measured by the

different growers.

By the use of this grader alone the increase in the value of a crop of 500 barrels would pay for the small sized grader in Wisconsin. The pie berries are largely immature berries that will soon go to decay, and if left in with the larger berries act as chinking and add but little to their volume. They mar their looks and hasten their decay. By taking out the Fancy berries another increase in volume is made and a Standard grade is found which can be obtained in no other way. Crop run can never be uniform or reliable in Wisconsin.

Before the fires of 1893 and 4 large amounts of Wisconsin cranberries were gathered all over on the wild marshes with rakes, put into sacks and dragged across the marshes in water or carried on the shoulders of men to the hard land. I have seen them there loaded into a wagon and the owner of the berries and all his crew pile on top of the load like they were oats, and drawn over eight miles, a part of which road was corduroy. They were run through a common fanning mill and sent to market in that shape. Others were taken to homes where there was no fanning mill and were taken up stairs and run out through a spout against the wind from the chamber window to take the chaff out, and were sent to commission men to sell. Is it any wonder that Wisconsin berries had a bad reputation and brought poor returns from the commission men?

The crop of 1904 started at fair prices and every berry would have

been sold at fair prices if they had been put up right, but a frost in Cape Cod and in New Jersey, and berries raked wet in Wisconsin, and shipped wet were responsible for the slump in the market. Large quantities of berries in the east were rushed on to the market after the frost without sorting, expecting to have the market cleared up in about two weeks. Instead of clearing up in two weeks it took over two months and by that time the retail grocers were sick of the sight of cranberries, and the good stock could not be sold for it had depreciated in quality. Had all been in 1904 in as good shape as the crop of 1905, there would have been no such slump and no one have suffered. I tell you we need a law in every cranberry growing state to establish grades and prevent the re-occurrence of such a crisis in the future. This can only be done by the state inspectors who have no interest in the business.

The eastern men say that they know no way to prevent it as it remains to be proven, that frozen berries are unhealthy.

In the east in 1904 the commission men were freely used, in 1905 practically no commission men were used in the east or west. Compare results. They paid cash because the berries were sound. Now let Wisconsin take the lead and put up all her berries dry and sound and advance her standard from 50 cents to \$1.00 a barrel by establishing reliable brands, which shall gain the confidence of the purchasers.

Bad cranberries in Wisconsin should be quarantined and their owners

with them.

The publication of the bright side of cranberry growing without its drawbacks has resulted in spreading the industry over a vast extent of country. The readers of such literature never think of going away from their locality to invest their capital in Wood County, Wisconsin, but look to their own immediate locality every time, and the result is a lot of competition to come in in the near future from parties ignorant of the business and beyond any control by reason of their isolated locations. So far from us and from each other which means a loss to them and us.

How far and under what circumstances any publication should be carried is a serious question. In the east they say shut the door now, that there are fools enough in the business now, and until these can be educated and better disciplined, shut the door.

Large companies are being formed with unlimited capital, these are not so dangerous as the same capital invested by a large number of individuals operating separately, but the host of smaller growers soon follow them until it becomes as Darwin says "a case of the survival of the fittest." Pack up only graded berries, dry and sound and the cash buyer will be glad to order them by their brands and know what he is getting, though thousands of miles away.

In the election of officers the cumulative system of voting was used, this being recommended by secretary Fitch. The election of officers resulted as follows: S. N. Whittlesey, president; F. J. Hoffman

of Mather, vice president; M. O. Potter, treasurer; W. H. Fitch, secretary, A. E. Bennett, member of the executive committee, and John A. Gaynor, statistician.

Those present at the meeting from out of town as reported by the secretary as follows: E. Dano, F. J. Hoffman, J. P. Williams, A. E. Hackney, Mather, Henry H. Gebhart, Black River Falls; Thos. McGovern, S. N. Whittlesey, Mrs. Whittlesey, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fitch, Ed Kruger, J. J. Emmerich, A. E. Bennett, Cranmoor; S. A. Warner, L. M. Purvi-
ance, Warrens; Prof. Whitson, university of Wisconsin; Mrs. M. A. Stout, Babcock; H. R. Ling, Berlin; L. P. Haskins, Madison; B. H. Porter, Chicago; M. H. Lynn, Ne-
boosa; A. U. Chaney, Des Moines; Andrew Bissig, City Point; J. D. Potter, Pittsville. There were also a number of others who failed to register.

The Press and the Grower.

Mr. President, Gentlemen;—I have been asked to read a paper before this assemblage on the subject of the Press and the Grower. I do not know why I was asked to do so unless it was to find out what excuse I have in being one of the parties who, some three years ago this month commenced the publication of a cranberry paper. The original Cranberry Grower has been discontinued after two and one-half years of rather

a precarious existence, and since its discontinuance a column or two of cranberry news has been published each week in the Tribune and thus to a certain extent the field has been covered. The Cranberry Grower was discontinued because it received so little patronage that the operating expenses were not being paid.

However, notwithstanding these discouraging facts, I still feel that there is a place for the publisher among the cranberry growers. There are several reasons for this. One is that I have found by past experience that the cranberry grower ranks among the best of them in the matter of education and intelligence, which in itself is proof that he has enjoyed learning in the past, and most of the successful ones are too old now to change their habits, and will continue to enjoy the same things that they have in the past. I have myself been working at the newspaper business for twenty-two years, but I enjoy the reading of technical journals better now than in my younger days when I knew less but thought I knew more. I judge others by myself, because that is the only standard by which I have to judge them.

Another reason why I think that the publisher has a place among the cranberry growers is the fact that the nature of the business makes it necessary that they should be isolated to a certain extent, making it impossible for them to exchange views with the facility of other people engaged in agriculture or horticulture.

There are some, no doubt, who will contend that they do not need to ex-

change views; that the grower will be better off if he keeps all of his knowledge to himself and lets his neighbor look out for himself. This has been tried in the past and has not been found so much of a success as might be thought

Another point that is urged against the press in connection with the cranberry grower is that the publishing of the glowing accounts in newspapers has a tendency to make people who are ignorant of the business rush into it, and thus overcrowd the field, so that in a short time the production will be so great that cranberries will not be worth anything. In answer to this we might say that this year there has been more people engaged in the business than ever before in the history of the world, and yet cranberries have been in greater demand and brought higher prices than ever before. It is a mighty poor business that will not stand publicity. It must be something like the life insurance business. The people must be paying for something they are not getting. But I think that this timidity on the part of the grower is not warranted by the facts. The amount of cranberries raised today would not give each person in the world one berry apiece probably, if they were apportioned out, so that it seems hardly probable that there will be an over production right away, not within the knowledge of any of those assembled here, anyway.

The tendency of the people of the country is not to engage in cranberry growing, but rather to drift away from it. Already in the vicinity of

Grand Rapids there have been established several drainage districts, and if I remember right there were a number of cranberry growers fighting the measures, claiming that the drainage of the proposed areas was a menace to their business. They were right, too; it is a menace to them and if the fight is not taken up for them by somebody, the day is not very far distant when there will be no cranberry land in Wisconsin excepting in places where the water supply is under control, and they are entirely independent of their neighbor. We have never heard of a case where a petition for a drainage district has been denied, provided there were the proper number of signers, and we have not heard of many cases where the grower got any great amount of money for the damage inflicted on him; not any more than he was entitled to, anyway. It is barely possible that if the industry is properly exploited that the people of the country will in time come to a realization of its importance and govern themselves accordingly.

Furthermore, I do not believe that secrecy is a good way of promoting the industry. If some of the men in the business could have their way about it, they would hold the meetings of the association behind locked doors, and only give out the proceedings to those actually engaged in the business. In fact I understand that there is a cranberry association down east that does this very same thing, thinking thereby to keep others from entering into the business. It does not seem to work in the right direction, for there are

more engaging in the business every year in the east than there are in the west. They do not realize that when you keep a thing from a man you are stimulating his interest, and you naturally make him think that he is being kept away from a good thing, and the consequence is that if there is a possibility for him to do it he will get into the business for himself, being sure that if it were not a snap with big returns and no work, those engaged in the business would not be making such a secret of the matter.

Suppose that the cranberry business were kept so absolutely secret that it would be impossible for an outsider to learn anything about it; that a man would not even teach it to his son for fear the son would some day start out and make a marsh for himself and thereby come into competition with the old man, what would be the eventual outcome? Why, the cranberry growers would grow less and less in numbers until in time the consumption would be so small that it would not pay commission men to pay any attention to them and the last few growers that were left would have to eat their own product if they wanted to get rid of it at all.

I do not believe that a man who has been in the cranberry business for a long number of years and has made a success of the business should read and believe every article that is written on cranberry culture, and every time he saw something new, that it would be right to abandon old and tried methods and pick up the new. He would be in a continual state of unrest, and would never

know where he was at. However, he could carefully read what others had to say on a subject that he was familiar with, and when he saw something new he could compare it with what he had already learned, and probably after a time the thing would work out to his benefit. Within the past year I have put into use schemes in the printing business that I read fifteen years ago, and remembered all that time. They were of no use to me at that time, but they came into use later on. I feel that the horticulturalist has a hard row to hoe in many respects. It seems that the elements and nature herself combine to keep him from ever reaching his ideal in many things, and if there is any way of circumventing nature, it seems as if it could be better brought about by the liberal exchange of views than by secrecy.

Another wholesome tendency comes out of publicity, and that is the acquainting one grower with another. We do not care particularly for the man we never met nor heard of, but if we know him thru newspaper notoriety we have some regard for him. It is easier to effect a combine for the mutual interest of the interested parties among men that are acquainted than among total strangers, so that if the press served only his one purpose we feel that the grower might be well paid for any damaging publicity that was given the business.

In conclusion we wish to say that the points brought out here do not apply to all of the growers, but each subject applies to a different group

of men. Anything can be carried to extremes, and what we all want is to strike the nappy medium.

W. A. Drumb.

Kansas City, 1-4-06.

To The State Cranberry Growers Assn.
In Convention at Grand Rapids, Wis
Gentlemen:—

It gives the editor of The Packer much pleasure to greet the members of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Assn.

"The Press and the Grower," the subject allotted to the representative of the press, is one that we all recognize as not only an important one, but one which is interesting, as well as being almost inexhaustible.

We of the trade press can easily recognize the relations of the grower to the fruit and produce newspaper. At all seasons of the year and especially at the harvest time, is the cranberry grower a valuable adjunct as a news provider for the produce paper.

Few among you, being busily engaged in growing and placing your products on the market, are able to grasp the energy and money expended on the part of the receiver and jobber of cranberries to get information as to the production, prices and movement of the crops at a time when they must have it, so as to carry on their business with any certainty of profit to themselves and the people they represent. In order to be successful they must keep posted up to the minute.

Through the assistance of the cranberry grower and shipper we are

enabled to give the trade this information as accurately as were it collected by them at a heavy cost. This makes our paper valuable to this particular patronage, therefore, we are aiding our own interests, because they become constant readers of our publication.

On the other hand, we print the cranberry news in all the market centers of the country and on that account The Packer is invaluable to the grower and shipper.

The very existence of the cranberry grower is valuable to the trade press, but we must also consider the relations of the press towards the grower. Take, for instance, the season just closed, we speak of the season from the view point of the grower, from whose hands the crop has already passed.

Early in the year the trade press began telling the trade and the growers news about the crop outlook. You growers of Wisconsin, no doubt read with interest our crop reports from New Jersey and Massachusetts. If you read the trade papers carefully and constantly, you were posted every week on what was happening in other cranberry growing sections, and the beauty of it all is, you got this information from an independent and impartial source. You read about conditions exactly as they are. You people of Wisconsin, if you did not have direct correspondents in the Eastern bogs, did not have to depend upon hearsay and such reports as are colored to suit the ideas of a buyer or a seller. You received facts that you could bank on, if you read The Packer, for, if there is one thing on

earth that we dearly prize it is our own sweet independence.

Yes, the "Press and the Grower" is a great subject, and we only regret that we cannot appear before you in person, meet you face to face and tell you how much we are pleased in our treatment from the grower, and the cranberry growers in particular, we are pleased to number among our best friends.

Shakespeare says that "Brevity is the Soul of wit," and wit, as used in this sense, holds an audience when the long tiresome paper is apt to "miss its target."

We wish to thank your able secretary for reading our feeble effort, and also admire and thank you for your kind attention.

Wishing a prosperous year and hoping you will keep us posted as to the way your crops are coming, so that we can in turn tell the trade where they can get the berry that needs no introduction for merit in any market, we beg to remain,

Yours very truly,
The Packer.

Secretary's Report.

Membership 1905.

Of the fifty-five(55) total active or paid up members of 1905, Wisconsin furnished thirty-four (34); Seven (7) Life and twenty seven (27) ordinary members; New Jersey Seven, (7) Five Life and 2. o. m. Mass. five (5), Four (4) Life and one (1) o. m. Missouri, Two (2) both Life members. Washington Two (2), one (1) Life and one (1) o. m. Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, New York, each one (1) Life and Pennsylvania one (1) o. m.

In no part of the world, nor at any time has there been, is now, nor, do I hope there will ever be a more Christian---I use the term in its broad and not belittled sense---democratic or American organization than the Wisconsin Cranberry Growers' Association. In it there is neither Jew nor Gentile, bond or free, male or female, native or foreign; anyone by signing the constitution and paying the fifty cents annual fee, or five dollars Life membership, can become a member.

I mention these facts for the reason that today the cumulative system is to be put in practice, so all wishing to vote will please call at the Secretary's desk and receive the necessary ballot.

New Voting Plan.

Today will be realized a "pipe dream" of your humble servant which came to him—and has not been forgotten—some thirty years ago, viz the cumulative system of voting.

Up to this time owing to its peculiar and poetic nature, it has never been regarded as coming into the domain of practical politics, but the hope has been indulged that possibly my children or grand children would live to see its realization.

Robert M. LaFollette, now so much in evidence in the public eye and ear has given his sanction to the system.

The most responsible and remunerative office in the gift of our association is that of Statistician. Keeping his finger on the pulses alike of growers and buyers he is enabled to act judiciously in the way of disposing of his stock.

Judge Gaynor has complained that the office of statistician was forced

up on him, and in order that there may be no question, it has been proposed that this year the election be by ballot and under the cumulative plan.

(The system was tried and found to be an unqualified success).

Implements Used by Growers.

Fellow Cranberry Growers, without my knowledge, approval or consent, I see you have me on the list to talk on "Implements Used by Growers." Most human beings like to talk about themselves, what they have done and the great things they are going to do, so you will excuse my egotism if I limit my remarks to the implements invented and the ones I hope to invent for the use of growers.

When I came to the cranberry marsh, 20 years ago, I found the growers had no tools made specially for the use of cranberry growers, except, it might be, the rake or scoop. The farmer's hay knife was used as a sod knife and a farmer's long handled hook-tined manure-fork was used as sod hook.

My first improvement was to take this long handled manure fork and cut the handle down to the length of about three feet, and attach to it the "D" handle usually known as the shovel handle grip.

Before my time the marsh had been prepared for planting by cutting the sod into squares with a hay knife and tearing it off with the long handled sod hook by hand. This seemed to me a great waste of human muscle, so I built and prepared what is known to you all as the scalping

plow and the sod cutter. By these two improvements the sod surface is cut into squares and cut free from the bog below. A single team of horses with these two implements will do as much work as could formerly be done in the old method by 20 men; and the surface of the marsh after the use of the scalping plow is in vastly better condition than if it were scalped by hand.

My third improvement is the barrel header. Most of the barrel headers formerly in use were clumsy and slow in operation, and failed to give to the berries a uniform pressure. By utilizing the principle of the knee-joint lever I succeeded in making a barrel-header by which one man can refill, shake-down and head thirty barrels an hour, and with a very little care on his part can feel certain that all the berries are put in under the same degree of pressure.

My fourth improvement and implement was the non-heavable bulk-head or ditch stop. The freezing of the dams or sides of the ditch with which the ends of the bulk-head are in contact caused them to heave and leak. With my new bulk-head or ditch stop the heaving of the sides does not disturb the bulk-head or cause it to leak. It requires much less lumber to manufacture it than was formerly put into the old bulk heads or ditch stop.

My fifth improvement was a machine for the cleaning and grading of cranberries. With the machines heretofore in use 50 or 60 barrels a day was nearly the limit of their capacity, when work was demanded. They were not reliable as graders and

for the purpose of the hand pickers it was a great disadvantage to them to have to work on berries of mixed sizes. Besides a man with a crop of two or three thousand barrels would have to use more than one mill to get his berries out during the marketing season, and as a grading machine, I think the principle upon which my mill is built can not be easily extolled. It divides the berries into five grades giving the hand pickers an opportunity to work on each grade by itself. These grades are carried to the barrels by the moving picking table and they may be run into the barrel together or separately at the pleasure of the operator. I have cleaned and barreled as high as 35 barrels an hour with this machine. The moving picking tables give room for a large number of hand pickers and makes it possible to clean up a crop of berries more rapidly than with any other machine heretofore manufactured.

This machine was originally designed for the purpose of taking soft berries out of partly frozen crop. It has never been used for that purpose because we have never had a badly frosted crop since the machine was invented. The original plan was to grade the berries into exact sizes as they came from the marsh, and place each grade away by itself in the curing boxes. We found, as a matter of fact, that soft frozen and defective berries would shrink in curing more than sound berries. The plan was to readjust the screen to each of the several grades, when we got ready to prepare them for the market. Cleaning up one grade at a time and at this

second grading the soft and defective berries would pass thru the screen before the sound berries and would in that way be separated by relying on this principle of shrinkage during curing. The time may come when we will yet have to use the mill for that purpose, but with our present water protection we hope we will not soon have to take advantage of the original design.

I am now manufacturing a cranberry mill with a capacity of about 150 barrels a day, that can be put into a lean-to. It has but one moving picking table and 5 sets of jumpers. It takes the berries out on one side instead of both sides as in the mills heretofore manufactured. This mill will cost less than the mills heretofore manufactured by me, and it is adapted to buildings in which the other mill could not be used.

I think I have a scheme by which I can get rid of the soft berries without using the jumpers and without having to run them over the grader twice, as was the design of the original mill, but this is one of the big things I am going to do, I have not yet done it.

The old hand rake or scoop has practically stood unchanged for the last thirty years. No one seems to have designed a modification or improvement of it nor invented anything to take its place. I am going to add to the rake during the coming season some things I regard as valuable improvements, my main aim is to secure a tooth that will give the greatest degree of strength, stiffness and lightness. Of course for this purpose I must use some form of angle iron. I

have had great difficulty in getting a rolling mill that would run out the kind of steel and shape I wanted, but this difficulty has now been overcome. I can have the teeth manufactured and I will put up for our own use at least 100 rakes this winter.

I have erected on the Gaynor Marsh a shop with all the necessary machinery specially adapted to the manufacture of each of them now at a cost much less than heretofore, and can afford to sell them to any grower at a cost much less than he can manufacture the same things for himself by hand.

At the outset, I invented and manufactured each and all of the above tools for use on our own marsh, but will now manufacture them for other growers upon order.

James Gaynor.

Cranberry Fruit Bud Development.

By L. P. Haskins

The subject of cranberry fruit bud development is one which, probably because the conditions affecting it are not directly apparent, has been given but little attention. We study and plan carefully how to best care for our marshes to protect the existing crop and bring it successfully to maturity. This care begins with the swelling of the buds in the spring and lasts to the end of the harvesting season. Of course, it is right that this should be so, but in our care for the present we undoubtedly do much harm to the prospects for the future year's crop, by keeping the vines under unfavorable conditions for fruit bud formation.

At your January meeting in 1901, Hon. J. A. Gaynor presented a thorough and able discussion on "The

Blossom Bud," and in this discussion called attention to some of the conditions which materially affect blossom bud formation. Following this and an action taken by this organization at that time, Prof. E. S. Goff made an investigation and published a pamphlet giving the principal changes in cranberry fruit bud development and showing the time at which such development takes place. It is my purpose in again discussing this subject particularly to emphasize, and perhaps add a little to this information which we already have.

In considering the development of fruit buds by the cranberry plant, our first thought is, why does this or any other plant develop fruit buds? In other words, what is the object of the life of this plant? Is it to produce a beautiful fruit and a food for mankind? Evidently not. Scientists after long years of careful observation of the habits of plants, agree that the purpose of plants in fruiting is to reproduce others of their kind. With this in mind then, that the purpose in cranberry fruit bud development is solely the production of other cranberry plants, this question comes to our minds, what can we do, or what conditions can we supply, to the cranberry plant to increase or stimulate this tendency to reproduce. It is evident that this tendency is much stronger some years than others, because some years we have a heavy blossoming, other years a very light one. Why this difference? In answering this, I wish to call your attention to habits in plants more familiar to us in laboratory study.

Take for example, spirogyra. Spirogyra is one of the simplest of many gelled plants. It is a hair like water plant, made up of cells joined end to end. This plant increases in size by a division of its cells as do all other plants. We observe this as vine growth in the cranberry plant. When the biologist wishes to have rapid cell division or growth in his spirogyra so that all stages may be easily found for microscopic work, he furnishes the best conditions for vegetative growth. High temperature and light are the main factors in these conditions. But when he wishes a fusion of cells in his specimens, which is the first step in the production of spores, and spores here correspond to seeds in the cranberry, he takes his vigorous growing specimens and places them for a day or two in a cool dark place. Another method sometimes used is that of removing a part of the water from the spirogyra, thus partially drying it. This sudden check in the growth greatly increases the tendency to reproduce. Similar methods are practiced on other spores bearing algae to get specimens for study of their reproduction. This principle is also used in green house work to force plants to bloom. Prof. E. P. Sandsten, in a discussion before the science club some time ago, told us that the reason many women were unsuccessful in getting house plants to bloom was because they gave them too much care. He said much greater success was obtained by misusing the plants sometimes, letting them go for a few days at times without watering. The reason for the foregoing results is quite obvious. Repeating

what I said before, the purpose in plant life is to live and to perpetuate its kind by reproduction, and when the change of conditions are such as to threaten or diminish the life in the plant, there comes this increased activity on the part of the plant to leave spores or seeds, embryo plants, which may lie dormant until conditions are favorable for their growth, thus perpetuating their kind. This principle applies to the cranberry plant as it does to all others. And from it we conclude that in order to increase this tendency toward reproduction or fruit bud development in the cranberry plant something should be done to give a severe setback to the vegetative growth in the plant, thus threatening its life and increasing and hurrying this desire to leave seeds, which with the return of more favorable conditions would grow and perpetuate that particular plant life. The time at which these buds are formed is, I believe, largely within our control. During the past summer, I found many well formed fruit buds on the Experiment Station in the early days of August, while Prof. Goff found the development to come about a month later than this. In all probability this was due to a difference of conditions. To summarize then, the conditions during the fore part of the season should be such as to produce the best, most vigorous, vegetative growth, while the later part of the season should be just the reverse. The two elements which in a great measure control these conditions are heat and moisture. Over the first of these we can have but little control, but we can do much in the control of

the supply of moisture. It would seem to me that the old practice of keeping the water well up until the first to the middle of July and then drying the marsh as much as possible for six or eight weeks is a very good one. This would aid early vegetative growth, give the desired check, and have the fruit buds well developed before the necessity came for protection against September frosts. Above all, I would impress upon you the necessity of giving more attention to these conditions which affect fruit budding as you plan for the protection of your crops

The Foreign Market.

B. H. Porter.

Look out for the development of the foreign markets. It makes no difference who the man is, you want a man to get the thing before the people. He should go with a dozen women and tell them what these things are for. My idea may be crossing the bridge before you come to it.

From 1896 to 1899 the thing was in very poor condition, they were all sick of it and a good many did go out of the business, but since '99 the business is in fair shape. We are all in the business for what there is in it for us, we don't want the whole of anything but I do say and think that this matter ought to be taken up and made a record of and sent down east, feel favorably disposed to it.

But it is a different proposition there, each man is suspicious of the other, but if you take it up here and say you are in for it they all know

what is wanted in that country.

New bogs are coming up and down there and that will mean a big increase of fruit. When once you take in the foreign market you hold it. If you start some year when you have a big crop it will be so much better for you.

They are so suspicious down there, a body of men or two or three men could not do anything there, but if it is started up here, they are liable to say, "thank you." As a result of the foregoing remarks, a committee of three, composed of A. C. Bennett, John A. Gaynor and Jacob Searles, was appointed to project a plan for increasing the demand for and consumption of cranberries at home and abroad.

Mr. A. C. Bennett.

Grand Rapids, Wis

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 27th noted. At present writing, it looks very doubtful as to whether the writer will be in position to accept your kind invitation, as extended in your former letter.

As regards our views in reference to the marketing of cranberries, would say: This is a subject that could be discussed at considerable length.

We are fully convinced that it is for the best interests of cranberry growers to grow selected varieties, and to grow such varieties as show best keeping character.

There was a time, in years gone by, when variety and keeping character was not such an important factor as it is at the present time and no doubt these two features will be important

ones for future consideration, and should receive most careful attention on the part of cranberry growers.

No doubt the time will come when growers who have unknown varieties of cranberries, and such as possess unsatisfactory quality and keeping character, will experience considerable difficulty in finding markets for such fruit.

As to the grading of cranberries: It has been fully demonstrated, during the last two or three years, that this is a very important feature, and buyers are watching more carefully after the grading of cranberries than they formerly did.

There are some well known varieties of cranberries grown in the east that do not require grading; then there are other varieties which are greatly benefited by proper system of grading.

There is no doubt but that the Wisconsin growers have arrived at a wise conclusion in having their berries graded.

We are fully convinced that the cranberry growers of the country have realized the importance of marketing good, sound cranberries only. Poor berries, that are not known by any variety, or not properly graded or packed, will have a hard struggle for the future; but, no doubt, every crop of cranberries grown in the United States can be properly graded and put upon the market in first-class, merchantable condition, if the growers have a desire to do so.

The feature of solid packing is a very important one, and buyers are paying closer attention to solid pack-

ing than they formerly did, and growers are fast realizing the importance of having their package properly filled, so that they will arrive at destination solidly packed.

The 100-qt. barrel is the proper package. There seems to be some slight difference between the size of the Wisconsin and the Jersey cranberry barrel at the present time.

We are under the impression it would be for the best interests of growers, as well as buyers, if all the cranberries grown in the United States were packed and shipped in one uniform-size package, and no doubt the time is not far distant when such package will be recognized.

Trusting you may have a very interesting and profitable meeting of your Executive Committee January 9th, and wishing you the "Compliments of the Season," we remain

Yours truly,

Growers Cranberry Company,
C. W. Wilkinson, Sec'y.

Mr. A. C. Bennett,
Grand Rapids, Wis.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 3rd carefully noted. Glad to have your interesting letter, also view of your Cranberry Houses and the general information in connection with the views taken; they are very interesting indeed, and we shall keep them for future use.

I shall not be able to attend your meeting on the 9th, as certain matters will prevent my leaving Philadelphia. At some future time, I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you, Judge

Gaynor and other Wisconsin growers

I fully agree with you as regards the changing of the New Jersey law in reference to the size of cranberry barrels. This is a matter that I shall bring before our people, and hope the time is not far distant when definite action will be taken regarding the same.

Should you desire to read the letter before your meeting, which you received some time ago, I have no objection to your doing so.

Trust you may have a very interesting and profitable meeting on the 9th.

Presume you are aware of the fact that the cranberry crop of the country is about exhausted, especially in the East.

There have been some few lots of Howes sold recently as high as \$20 00 per barrel.

We understand George R. Briggs, Plymouth Mass., has some cranberries on hand. He deserves to receive every dollar he can get out of these berries, to help him out of the heavy loss he sustained last season by carrying berries over into the spring season. The general impression is that he lost heavily on berries which he was unable to dispose of last spring.

Yours truly,

Growers Cranberry Company,

C. W. Wilkinson, Sec'y.

Buyers Point of View.

A. U. Chaney.

This is a subject that is a very important one in the future. It means a big thing to go in a foreign country and means considerable ex-

pense and you must have much backing and co-operation. There are very few growers who can afford to sacrifice their crop or time to go out and create markets for all the others.

There is no organization that can do it, they may partially do it but they could not have the success that means wide distribution. I think the time is coming when all the cranberry growers of the country must go together in one giant organization, and when they all organize they are doing it successfully and for the benefit of the industry. Compare sections in which other fruit is grown with the sections where cranberries are grown, you can see it would naturally be much easier for them to go together than it would be for some other organization. Take the Orange Growers Organization of California. There are 30 to 35,000 cars of oranges shipped from California every year. There is no question that the Growers Exchange has very much enlarged and increased. They have spread over the United States and have reached to almost every market of the globe. The shipping lines and the railway lines make satisfactory rates. Today they can ship oranges to Liverpool as easily and cheaply as they can to Chicago.

They have opened offices in all parts of Europe. The demand has kept pace with the increase of fruit.

It is a stiff proposition for a buyer to suggest to the growers in this country that it is the time for them to organize. They don't see the necessity of organization or co-operation. Now, I believe that the

Wisconsin people will organize, but it is a different proposition to get the New Jersey or Cape Cod people to organize. When there is this organization then the introduction of cranberries to all foreign markets can be easily accomplished with the least expense to all the crop marketed.

I don't believe the Growers Cranberry Co. would care to take this up and take the chances on the expenses. It is necessary for an organization of growers to be together, in order to create wider distribution; for one buyer to get out and try to buy all the berries and then go and spend his money, it would be impossible to buy all the berries, but take an organization with 95 per cent of the berries produced in this country, and they can create this market.

It is for the interest of the growers of organization to create the demand, the creation of the demand is to the interest of all. We spend much money to get the people to think of cranberries. The result is when I make any price on cranberries I always, so far, have been able to sell all I have had. Now I think I get my money back by doing it.

You alone can not create the demand, it is necessary for the growers of the country to get together and organize in one giant organization, and demand for cranberries can be created, but I do not believe that the Wisconsin growers organization alone could afford to spend the money to attract the attention of the great shipping organizations.

They have been talking on the Cape and they say that they would like to

see the time when all the cranberry growers would get together, there is only one way to go at it and that is for the growers to do it themselves.

For the benefit of future industry, the growers ought to be together and organize and work together. Any combination of growers can get a man that knows how to manage and market for them, but the first thing is to get together, then create the demand.

It is a fact, we have a good organization down East; the Growers' Cranberry Co., has done much for the growers, the Cape Cod Cranberry Sales Co., has done much for the members but they could do much more, but they market their berries in the old style for the reason that they still sell everything on commission. They have only two or three markets and 30,000 barrels of berries in a season and know no other markets in the country. They put up fine berries and when they are willing to sell them, we always buy them. They look upon Wisconsin growers as competitors. They now have a blanket rate for anything going to the Pacific coast, but they realize that Wisconsin some day is going to produce a great many berries. The great majority of Early Blacks are sold west of Chicago. If Wisconsin organizes and some day produces the berries it is expected to, it will compel them to organize too.

You have got every advantage in the world and in an organization you can bring about the matter of rates you are entitled to, but you are not likely to get them without organization. I believe the key-note

of the organization is right here in Wisconsin. Wisconsin people seem to have confidence in each other. This is the key-note and can work in harmony. There is nobody wants organization more than the cranberry growers. I believe that the interest of the organization growers is in that thing and if success as an organization it will spread and sow the seed and if the basis is started and they are successful and show results, the growers will be glad to come in with you, and this will create such advantage, and by working together other growers will see it.

So impressed were the members present with the force and feasibility of Mr. Chaney's remarks that a committee of nine composed of A. C. Bennett, John A. Gaynor, M. O. Potter, Jacob Searles, A. E. Bennett, E. P. Arpin, H. R. Laing, F. J. Hoffman and Elmer Dano was appointed to formulate a plan for a Sales Co.

Bulkheads.

E. K. Tuttle of Mather writes he can say but little on the subject of Bulkheads, that in visiting different marshes he found each had a style of their own but that he thought the time was not far distant when cement will be used to protect sides and bottom of gates.

He recommends a gate made by his brother M. F. Tuttle, a contractor and builder in Colorado, and it is suggested that a model of same for exhibition at the ensuing August convention would be very appropriate and acceptable.

O. G. Malde, keeper of the experi-

mental station, gave a very interesting talk which was supplemented by remarks from Prof. A. R. Whitson. This will be published by the state in pamphlet form which will be furnished to the cranberry growers of the state free of charge.

Treasurers Report, 1905

Receipts.

State money.....	\$250.00
Life roll.....	10 00
Adv. etc.,.....	7.00
Ordinary membership.....	16.50

\$283.50

Disbursements.

Order No. 103 Bal printing report, bulletin and int.....	\$ 14.15
104 Adv. exhibit St. Louis Exposition do.....	32.35
105 Sec'y's salary 6 mo. do....	42.90
106 Adv. Exp. St. Louis Exposition.....	21.46
107 Printing bulletin, etc., do	63.98
108 Secy's salary 3 mo. do....	20.93
109 Printing and postage.....	5.73
110 January report.....	12.00
111 Supplies for convention...	3.10
112 Printing.....	4.20
113 Bal secy. salary 3 mo. stationery.....	24.28
114 Printing and postage.....	4.89
115 Printing and postage.....	33.50

\$283.50

Question Box.

A number of inquiries were submitted from various cranberry districts and referred to keeper of experimental station for report at next August meeting. A vote of thanks to the janitor, Edward Mahoney, was

unanimously passed and meeting then adjourned.

W. H. Fitch.
Secy.

Letters of Regret.

Dear Sir:

Though the writer, Mr. Jones, expects to visit Milwaukee next week attending the League Convention, we regret we cannot be represented at your meeting. We are in full sympathy with your movement and desire to be on your list of members. Hoping for another good year for your growers we remain

Yours truly,
Ginocchio Jones-Fruit Co.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Mr. W. H. Fitch,
Sec'y, Wis. Cranberry Growers' Assn.,
Cranmoor, Wood Co., Wis.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your request that a representative of this company be present at a meeting of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Assn., to be held at Grand Rapids, Jan. 9th, for the purpose of taking part in discussion of the subject "The Common Carrier and the Producer."

Owing to important business engagements in other directions, it will, I regret to say, be impossible for us to accept your very kind invitation. I, therefore, beg that you convey the best wishes of this company and its officials to the members of your Assn.

We fully realize the importance of the cranberry interests, both from commercial and traffic stand-point and if there are at the present time,

any questions of difference between the members of your Assn., either collectively or individually, and this company, as regards rates, service, or anything else of mutual interest, I would be very glad to hear either from you as Sec'y. of the Assn., or from individual members, assuring you that such communications shall receive the most careful consideration at our hands. Again wishing your Assn. and its members all the success due in connection with their business as cranberry growers and shippers, I remain,

Yours truly,
J. M. Davis.
Genl. Fg't Agent C. M. & St. P. R.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Reply

Owing to pressure of technical matters, the subject of transportation was not reached, but,—and it is opined probably just as well—the question will be given special prominence at our next (August) meeting, which, being on the eve of the shipping season, it is suggested will be a fitting and felicitous occasion for a frank and fair interchange of views between carrier, grower and shipper.

Assuring you we will be glad at any time to see or hear from you with best wishes, I am cordially,
W. H. Fitch, Sec'y., Wis., Cranberry G. Assn.

W. H. Fitch, Sec. Wis. Cranberry Growers Assn.

Had expected to spend the day with your Assn. but was snow bound in Iowa, fourteen hours and missed connections. Wishing all happy, prosperous year

Ernest Peycke,
Kansas City, Mo.

Philadelphia, Dec. 16th, 1905.

W. H. Fitch, Sec'y, Cranmoor, Wis.

Dear Sir:—Replying to yours of the 13th, would say: At present writing I could not say definitely as to whether I could arrange to be with you on January 9th, 1906, upon the occasion mentioned in your letter.

I shall keep the matter well in sight, and in the course of a week or so, before the date mentioned for your meeting, if I should find that I can arrange to meet with you, you may rest assured it will afford me pleasure to do so.

I desire to thank you very much for your kind consideration in extending the invitation to meet with you upon the occasion and date mentioned.

Respectfully yours.

C. W. Wilkinson.

Madison, Wis., Jan 4, 1906.

W. H. Fitch, Cranmoor, Wis.

My Dear Mr. Fitch:—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your note telling of the convention and its program.

Yours very respectfully,

E. R. Sandsten, Horticulturist.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 26th, 1905.

Mr. W. H. Fitch, Sec'y., Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Assn., Cranmoor, Wis.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 11th inst., which was received by me on the 22nd, I regret very much that I am unable to attend the meeting of the association on the 9th of next month. I have just returned from a trip to Washington in the interests of the investigation which I am making into the frost conditions in the cranberry marshes, and I expect to be very busy here for several weeks

yet in making preparations for the coming season, and in assorting, comparing and studying data which have been secured from the marshes during the present year.

Very truly yours,

H. J. Cox, Professor Weather Bureau

Madison, Wis., Dec 29, 1905.

Mr. W. H. Fitch, Cranmoor, Wis.

Dear Sir:—Dean Henry directed me to write you that the papers you so kindly sent us were duly received and placed on file in the library with the "Cranberry Grower." Any publications touching the cranberry interests of the state which you may be able to send us from time to time will be appreciated, as we wish to make our file of this material as complete as possible.

The Dean regrets that the impaired state of his health and the pressure of many duties will make it impossible for him to attend the coming convention of the Cranberry Growers' Association. He thanks you for the invitation and sends his kindest regards.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs.) S. M. Briggs, Librarian.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 22, 1905.

Mr. W. H. Fitch, Cranmoor, Wis.

Dear Sir:—Thank you for your courteous invitation to attend and take part in the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Cranberry Growers' association. We have so much on our hands fear it will be impossible to do so but will gladly make notice of the meeting for the next issue of Orange Judd Farmer.

With best wishes for the continued success of the Wisconsin cranberry industry

Yours very truly
Orange Judd Farmer.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association, as Amended
at the Seventh Annual Meeting, January 9 and 10, 1894
and Nineteenth Annual Meeting Jan. 9, 1906.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall be known as the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' association.

ARTICLE 2. The objects of the association shall be to advance the interests of all engaged in the cultivation of cranberries in this state by obtaining statistics and information of the condition of the crop in this and other states, from time to time; by establishing and taking measures to insure the use of uniform packages for marketing the fruit, so as to secure the confidence of dealers and purchasers by this evidence of fair and honorable dealing; to enlarge the area of the market for this fruit through definite and direct action; and generally, by all legitimate and honorable means to advance the interests of the cranberry cultivator.

ARTICLE 3. The officers of the association shall be a president and vice president, secretary; treasurer, who shall give a bond to the amount of \$500.00, with sureties to be approved by the president. A statistician and a corresponding secretary for each of the several cranberry growing sections represented in this convention, and an executive committee, composed of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, statistician and one other, chosen annually by the members. The duties of the president, vice president and secretary shall be such as are usually implied in like offices in similar associations. The duties of the corresponding secretary shall be to gather the statistics of cranberry culture in his particular section, including the name and postoffice address of owner, amount of ground improved and in bearing condition, and the age of such improvements, and to report the probable crop in sight, on or before each annual convention in August, and to report at the annual meeting in January the actual amount of shipments, price obtained, as far as possible, and to make a weekly report to the secretary, after the August meeting, until September 30.

ARTICLE 4. The duties of the statistician shall be to correspond with, and to receive and collect the information derived from the corresponding secretaries and other sources in and out of the state, for the use of the association, and to report the same at the August and January meetings of each year.

ARTICLE 5. There shall be an annual meeting on the second Tues-

day of January of each year, for the election by ballot of officers and the transaction of general business.

ARTICLE 6. There shall be held on the first Tuesday after the 12th of August, annually, a convention to receive reports from the statistician and to adopt a scale of prices for gathering the crop, so far as may seem practicable and to transact such other business as may come before it.

ARTICLE 7. The annual meetings, conventions and special meetings shall be held at such place as may be decided upon by the executive committee.

ARTICLE 8. Any person signing the constitution and paying 50 cents may be admitted as a member, and the annual dues shall be 50 cents.

ARTICLE 9. This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting or convention, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. The president shall preside at all meetings, and in his absence the vice president.

2. It shall be the duty of each member to furnish to the statistician or corresponding secretaries, annually, information as to his own and neighboring plantations; the prospective crops, the actual amount when crop is secured, and such other information as may be of interest.

3. Any company of growers may be represented by one or more of its officers.

4. A quorum of any committee shall consist of a majority of its members.

5. No disbursements shall be made except on order signed by the secretary, counter-signed by the president.

6. All association moneys received from the state or members or from other sources shall be at once turned over to the treasurer of the association.

7. As far as practicable Roberts Rule of order shall be the rules of this association.

8. A quorum of the association shall consist of 10 per cent of its paid up membership as shown on the book of the secretary but shall not be less than ten members.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading of minutes.
2. President's address.
3. Report of statistician.
4. Report of standing committees.
5. Report of special committees.
6. Report of treasurer.
7. Election of officers.
8. The best methods of planting and the care of vines after planting.
9. Water supply and the use of water.
10. Construction of ditches, dams and bulkheads.
11. Implements used by growers.
12. Gathering, cleaning and marketing.
13. Insects injurious to cranberry growing.
14. Plants that interfere with the spread of vines.
15. Frosts.
16. Fires.
17. Report of the keepers of experimental stations.
18. Production of varieties and the merits of each.
19. Conditions favorable to the formation of fruit buds.
20. Miscellaneous business.

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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association

S. N. WHITTLESEY, President, Cranmoor.

F. J. HOFFMAN, Vice President, Mather.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary, Cranmoor.

M. O. POTTER, Treasurer, Grand Rapids, R. F. D. 3.

A. E. BENNETT, Member Executive Committee, Grand Rapids, R. F. D. 3.

J. A. GAYNOR, Statistician, Grand Rapids.

OBJECTS.

IMPROVED VARIETIES.—At the experimental station located between Elm Lake and Cranmoor, there are being tested and propagated over 100 different kinds of the best known and proved species. Cuttings from these vines will be disposed of under rules and regulations of the Executive Committee.

BETTER GRADING AND PACKING.—To establish, and take measures, to insure the use of uniform packages, for marketing the fruit so as to secure the confidence of dealers and purchasers by this evidence of fair and honorable dealing.

EXTENSION OF MARKET.—By making known wholesome and culinary virtue and value of the cranberry.

REPORTS, BULLETINS, CROP ESTIMATES, ETC.—To advance the interests of those engaged in the industry by obtaining and distributing statistics of the condition of the crop in this and other states, from time to time, and disseminate information and instruction calculated to promote the interests of the cultivator. Publications free on application to growers in the state, members of the association and others entitled to same.

MAILING LISTS.—A roll of leading growers et al in United States and Canada, revised to date of purchase, can be had of Secretary, Cranmoor, Wis. Price Two Dollars (\$2.00) Names of Wisconsin growers, One Dollar (\$1.00.)

MEMBERSHIP.

ORDINARY.—Annual fee, fifty cents (50c) which may be sent in stamps. A prompt remittance by those in arrears and others desiring to join the association will be appreciated.

AUXILIARY.—Besides growers the association makes eligible and welcomes to membership those who more or less connected with the industry, recognize a mutual good and gain in the aims and accomplishments of the organization.

LIFE.—From consideration of convenience and that the usefulness of organization may be more immediately enlarged and extended a **LIFE ROLL** has been established the fee for which five dollars (\$5.00) will cover all future dues. The names of such members will be published in annual reports of association together with postoffice address, shipping station and business card, the latter feature of which it is believed will be found of service and benefit.

To Correspondents.—Requests for special information should be accompanied by self addressed stamped envelope.

To Advertisers.—Our publication being accredited as authoritative, their value as an advertising medium is apparent, and cards from reliable firms will be received at following flat rate: Report of January meeting, one dollar per card ($\frac{1}{2}$ page), Bulletins, crop estimates, etc., one dollar per card (1-12 page.)

Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association

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 and value of the cranberry, and collection and publication of statistics and other information of interest and worth all concerned.

The annual due of fifty cents [which may be sent in postage stamps, or a life fee, \$5, including business card entitles one to all our reports, bulletins, crop estimates, etc., and a membership, it is believed, will be of interservice and benefit to those in any way connected with the industry.

Any person signing the constitution and paying above prescribed due may be admitted as a member.

Annual meetings on second Tuesday of January and first Tuesday after the 12th of August of each year, at places determined by ex com.

January 1906 report now ready for distribution and will be sent to all entitled to same on application to W. H. Fitch, Sec'y W. S. C. G. A., Cranmoor, Wood county, Wisconsin.

State Appropriation

(SECTION 1479a. R. S.)

There shall be paid out of the state treasury to the proper officer of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association two hundred and fifty dollars which shall be used exclusively for the purpose of obtaining and publishing information relative to the cultivation and production of cranberries. Said society shall hold semi-annual meetings in August and January at such place as it shall determine. The secretary thereof shall report to the governor immediately after such January meeting an itemized and verified account of all disbursements made during the previous year and shall then publish an account in pamphlet form, not to exceed two hundred and fifty copies of fifty pages each, of the transactions of the association and a summary of the information collected during the previous year relating to the cultivation and production of cranberries, which pamphlet he shall cause to be distributed gratuitously to the cranberry growers in this state.

W. H. Fitch
President

Henry E Fitch
Secretary

J. W. Fitch
Treasurer and Manager

Cranmoor Cranberry Company

Organized June 1891

Cranmoor, Wood County, Wisconsin

Organized 1872

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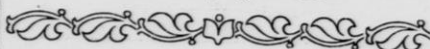


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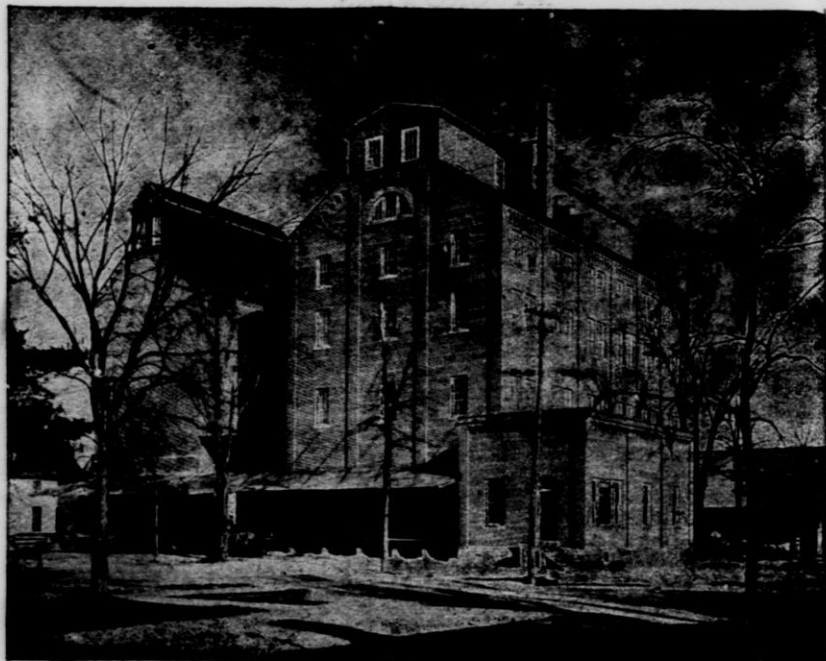
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