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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association. Thirteenth annual proceedings 1899-1900. Annual Convention: Gaynor's Marsh, August 15th. Annual meeting: Grand Rapids, January 9th. 1899/1900

Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1899/1900

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Wisconsin State
Cranberry Growers'
Association.



Thirteenth Annual Proceedings
1899--1900.



Annual Convention: Gaylor's Marsh, August 15th.

Annual Meeting: Grand Rapids, January 9th.

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GRAND RAPIDS, - WIS.

Wood County

National Bank,

Capital, \$50,000.00,

GRAND RAPIDS, WISCONSIN.

Officers: F. Garrison, Pres., Centralia, Wis.; L. M. Alexander, V. P., Port Edwards, Wis.; F. J. Wood, Cashier, Grand Rapids, Wis.

Directors: F. Garrison, L. M. Alexander, T. E. Nash, E. Roenius, F. J. Wood.

To Cranberry Growers:

A LIBERAL OFFER!

There can be found on any marsh a vine superior to others for the quantity or superior quality of the berries it bears. If you will send such a vine to me I will plant it at the Experimental Station and cultivate it and test its merits, without charge to you, and will give you, at the close of the fifth season, a statement of its merits and one-half of the increase, properly packed and ship same to your order, the balance to remain the property of the W. C. G. A.

If you will accept this offer, select the vine with the fruit on it; wrap it in a wet rag or green moss and enclose it in oil paper and mail to me.

JOHN A. GAYNOR,
Grand Rapids, Wisconsin.

Harvey P. Miller,

Everett P. Teasdale.

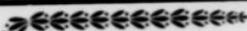
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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association.

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 of the cranberry; and publication of information of interest and value to all concerned in the industry.

The annual and only fee, fifty cents, [which may be sent in postage stamps] entitles every member to all our reports, bulletins, crop estimates, etc.

January 1900 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.



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

TO THE HONORABLE EDWARD SCOFIELD,

Governor of the State of Wisconsin:

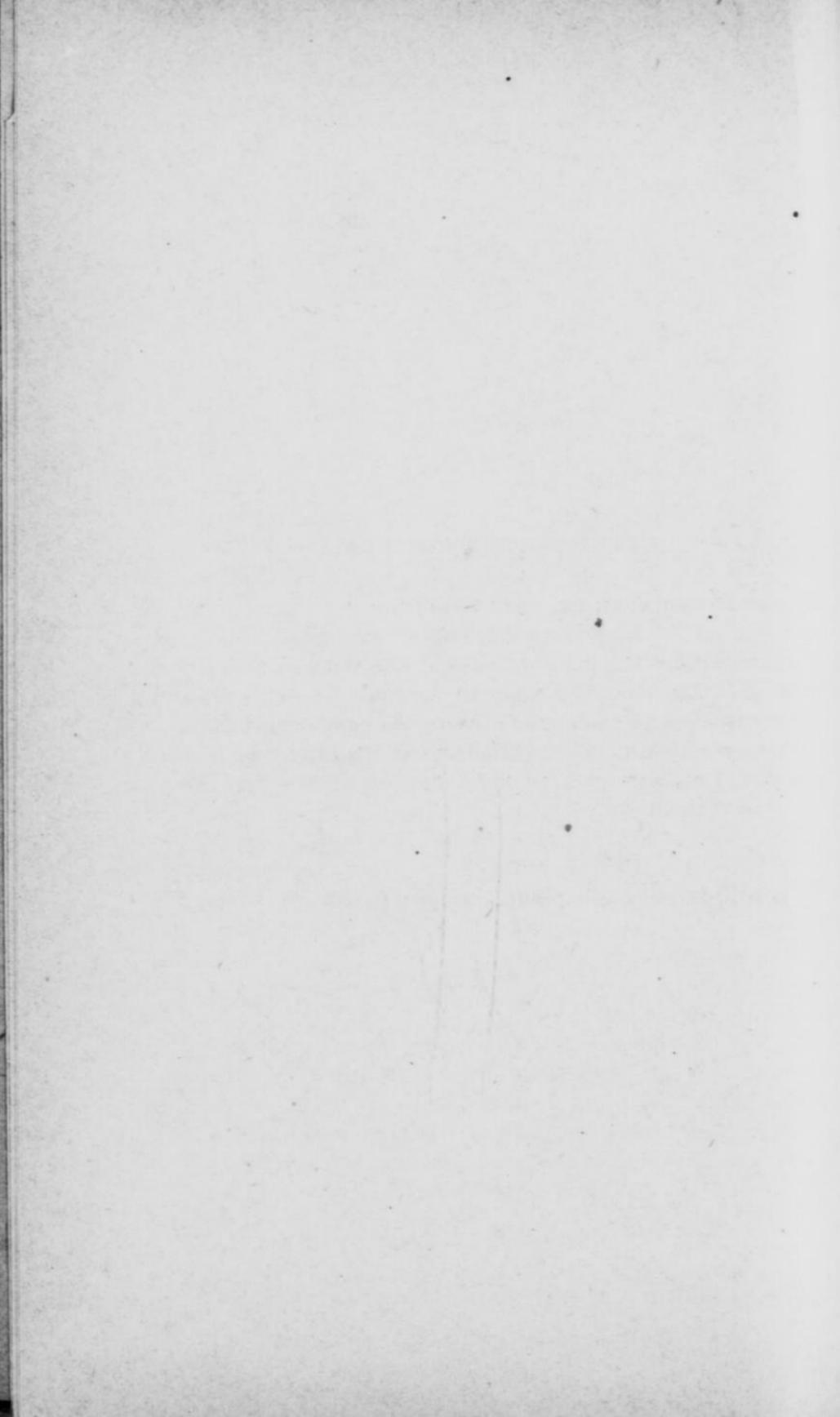
Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith in requirement of law, the Thirteenth Annual Report of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association, containing papers read and discussions thereon, together with an account of moneys received and disbursed for the year 1899.

Respectfully yours,

W. H. FITCH,

Secretary.

Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, January 9, 1900.



PROCEEDINGS

Of the Annual Convention Held at Gaynor's Marsh
in August,

GAYNOR BROTHERS' MARSH, Aug. 15, 1899.

A beautiful day, clear and cool, contributed to make the 13th annual convention of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' association a gratifying success.

There was a large attendance, and many letters of regret attested the general interest in the sayings and doings of the organization.

The morning was entirely taken up in inspecting the work done on the two experimental stations in the way of testing and propagating the different varieties of vines.

Regarding the distribution of samples of best varieties it was directed that rules and regulations be fixed and published in January report.

At noon a sumptuous repast both as to quantity and quality was heartily enjoyed.

Floral decorations were not the least attractive features of the occasion, and words of wit and wisdom made it truly a joyous feast of sense and soul.

In the afternoon the business meeting was called to order by President Briere, who read the following address:

Ladies and Gentlemen: It is customary for the president to make an address at each meeting, but I will not take much time on this line, as we have so much other work to do.

I am glad to be able to say that the association is in a prosperous condition, by the effort of our secretary, Mr.

Fitch. Membership was increased by sixty-six, from about twenty-nine in 1898 to over ninety-five this year, and it seems that cranberry men and others interested in the business are having more confidence than ever in the future prospect of cranberry culture.

We had this year $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain fall in the month of May and $11\frac{1}{2}$ in the month of June, and we had only a few days of dry air and wind balance of time, besides the rain was very moist so there is much water left on our bogs at this time.

The experimental station under the present management has proved to be a great success. Mr. John Gaynor exhibited before the agricultural society down at Madison last winter nearly 100 varieties of cranberries, grown on Station No. 1: No. 2 is a nursery for the propagation of vines. I would recommend that we make an effort this fall to have each one of the growers take time and find on his meadow one or more varieties of berries; some for their size, others for their color, shape, and so forth, mail the same to John A. Gaynor, Grand Rapids. He will see that they are properly planted on the experimental station and will be a benefit to the industry in future time.

Mr. Gaynor has interested the experiment station at Madison in planting a few square rods of cranberry vines which will be studied for insects and their diseases. It will be under Prof. Goff's management.

John Gaynor and Andrew Searls succeeded in getting the bill through the legislature, which became a law, in regard to size of barrel and bushel boxes. It was passed as you recommended a year ago with a small amendment. The Wisconsin standard barrel is now 16 inch head, 18 inch bilge and $25\frac{1}{2}$ inches high inside measure, chime $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch. I think nearly every grower used this barrel last fall and it seems to have been satisfactory all through.

I received a letter from the U. S. Commission to the Paris exposition, 1900. We are asked to participate in this exhibit of fruit. They also exhibit photograph views and illustrations. All exhibits will be transported from Washington and installed by the government free of charge. There should be a committee appointed to take charge of this matter.

I will say a few words in regard to the Cranberry Growers' association for the sale of our berries; the selling association, as it is now, has not proved to be satisfactory. I recommend that it be reorganized and try a different method, so it will prove to be more successful. We have to be patient when we start a new enterprise. If we make a success it will be a great benefit to the growers, also to those outside of this association. It will be a good deal like a big trust controlling the price of an article, some one outside of the trust has benefit also.

After the delivery of foregoing the secretary intro-

duced his report, which, as revised by the Committee on Printing, is as follows:

Mr. President, Members of the Association, Ladies and Gentlemen present: Without any disposition or desire to shirk the duties or demands of the office, yet, as the time of the convention is valuable and this report is somewhat voluminous—being to a large extent statistical and in some part disquisitive—I would suggest that its reading be dispensed with, and, instead, be referred to a committee on printing, and if anything in it be found worthy of publication, it can then be incorporated in the report of this meeting and made available for the members at their liking and leisure, while if not, then a tax on your time and temper will have been spared. I wish, however, to take this occasion, my first opportunity, to return thanks for the honor conferred upon me. Coming as it did entirely unexpected and unsolicited, it would be affectation on my part to say that I was not highly pleased, especially in view of the distinguished officers who have preceded me; Mr. Treat, for whose memory all cranberry men hold an admiring respect and affectionate regard, and who did so much for the association in its pioneer stage; and Mr. Arpin who later served so acceptably through the seasons of depression and despondency.

The past season has been almost an ideal one. High water in the spring submerged some of the low marshes, but the trouble was owing more to nescience or neglect, than a matter of necessity, since a scientific construction of ditches and dams would have averted the bad effects. To a cranberry grower a plethora of water, as a servant, is a boon and blessing, but it becomes a bane or burden as master.

To the professional or business man or to a victim of that prevalent American disorder, nervous prostration, there are but few employments where there can be a more honorable, healthy or happier combination of money, mind and muscle than the cranberry business, and when to these material factors are added, inspiration, industry and integrity, it becomes doubly attractive and alluring and a marked extension of the avocation is confidently expected in the near future. The objections of risk and rigors are met by the point of view that to the feeble and faltering should be left the so-called "soft snap," the strong and sturdy considering it a prerogative and permit to obviate obstructions and overcome obstacles.

While primarily and principally the object of our organization is to advance the interest of the cultivator, yet our association being a quasi-public affair it strikes and seems to me that it should be based and built on broad grounds, and that the interest of all concerned should be kept in mind. Certainly an *increased quantity* of an *improved quality* of berry means benefit alike to consumer as well as

the cultivator, the purveyor as well as the planter, the gatherer as well as grower.

As the common carrier is affected by the bulk of the berries to be borne from place to place, so the common chronicler, ye editor, in directing the dissemination of ideas and items of interest, instruction and importance, anent what may be considered a special American product, serves alike the publisher and public. Therefore, upon assuming the duties of office, efforts were immediately made to secure the names of all interested and your servant has been much gratified by the openness and frankness with which inquiries have been met, there being little of that spirit of reticence or secretiveness which beginning in attempts to mislead or mystify others, ends, only too often, in self deception and defeat.

From the mass of the correspondence has been selected items worthy of special attention and is referred to as appearing in another part of this report and fancies as well as figures and facts will be found therein.

Now theories, when carried to their legitimate latitude and confined within their lawful limit, have a beneficent mission, but, like fate without works, are dead if not evolved and evidenced into a thing of virtue or value.

And so, in conclusion, in reference to the thing which brings us together; namely, the cranberry. Although it is found in different parts of the world, in America it seems to have found its most congenial soil and home, and not only in America, but in certain parts of it, and inasmuch as it has come to us here in Wisconsin appealing and asking us for our friendliness and favor, should and shall we not all of us feel it a privilege, and find it a pleasure to give it a good show and send off.

I have the honor of presenting and placing my report for your esteemed commands.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

The following extracts are from a few of the many letters received from all known cranberry districts:

No. 76.

Alexander Birss, Prairie, Skagit Co., Wash., June 10th, 1899.—“Prospects for a crop this year are not good. We have had no spring. Vines used to be blossomed by this time; this year they are just beginning to blossom. It has been very cold and wet and everything is backward in growing; of course much depends on what kind of summer we get.”

No. 86.

H. H. Heald, Sandwich, Mass., June 20th, 1899.—“There are a good many bogs in Cape Cod that were damaged very largely by salt water during the heavy gale last winter and some bogs have been entirely destroyed for this season. But on the whole we think the present prospects are for a fair crop, but of course it is too early yet to tell what the crop will be this season.”

No. 93.

R. M. Girwin, Philadelphia, Pa., June 21st, 1899.—“Prices the last two years make cranberry growing a losing business. Let some of your brains be expended in inventing a cranberry picker.”

No. 99.

French & Co., N. Y., June 27th, 1899.—“Yours of the 22nd inst. received; also report of last meeting of W. S. C. G. A. which we find interesting. We note in this report that it was proposed to legalize crates of the size of the New Jersey standard and barrels of the Cape Cod standard. Will you please advise whether such a law was passed? We also note that 32 pounds was suggested as weight for a bushel. We see no objection to using N. J. crate as a standard, although we do not think that it holds a full bushel as usually packed, and doubt if this size, unless exceptionally tight packed, will contain 32 pounds net of the fruit.

“The Cape Cod standard of barrel seems to us all right, and we will be glad to see it come into general use in Wisconsin as well as in N. J. In the latter state however, their legal barrel measures only 15½ inches inside at the heads and contains just three of their standard crates. This barrel looks pretty small and is becoming unpopular. They are still used by Jersey growers. We have heard nothing specially regarding outlook of the eastern crop, except Jersey bogs that we are interested in. From these we continue to get good reports.

“Any information you can give us as to the extent of this industry in your state and the conditions of the marshes that were burned some years ago will be appreciated. When we have anything regarding the outlook in Wisconsin, we will be glad to advise you if desired.”

No. 143.

B. A. Landers, Ilwaca, Wash., July 16th, 1899.—“The rainy weather bothers us a good deal in the fall about picking, and we are bothered with the little fire worm. We will have only half a crop this year on account of them. This year I can flood, and am spraying with oil emulsion. There are very few in the cranberry business on this coast yet, but there are a number starting in on a small scale like myself. I think this coast is all right for growing berries, but it is a bad climate to handle them in.”

No. 178.

A. E. Mason, Medfield, Mass., July 28th, 1899.—“Own about ten acres of wild bog meadow on Charles river. No berries this year on account of river growing up to weeds and is too wet.”

No. 181a.

S. Small, South Harwich, Mass., July 27th, 1899.—“In my judgment there may be an average crop. Later on, when the insect pest is past, we can make a more accurate estimate.”

No. 210.

Ira Young, Mather, Wis., July 28th, 1899.—“The cranberries are practically gone here. The fires have destroyed everything. I have one small patch; I got 20 quarts last year, will get twice as many this year.”

No. 219.

James Flitcroft, Farmingdale, N. J., July 22nd, 1899.—“The most of the bogs look about as last year, but at this time the hot sun like today may blast a good many.”

No. 222.

Mr. Phelps, Berlin, Wis., July 24th, 1899.—“A fair prospect this year at the present time. My berries are Bell and Bugle, and very solid good keepers and always sought after.”

No. 230.

“The Blair marsh at Michigan City, Indiana, is running out, as the rest of the ditches have been cut all around it by outsiders and drained the water away from the marsh. 300 to 400 bushels this year. The rest of the marsh going to weeds.”

No. 233.

E. A. Cahoon, Pleasant Lake, Mass., July 24th, 1899.—“The crop for season of '99 promises 25 per cent. below last season, perhaps less.”

No. 251.

O. Ketchum, Millston, Wis., August 2nd, 1899.—“My berries are looking very fine now, very few worms; few blighted. I think they are larger than I have ever seen them this time of year and very even. I have a sand marsh.”

No. 253.

C. A. Davenport, Berlin, Wis., Aug. 2nd, 1899.—“I have 40 acres, but have the most of our berries on 15 acres. This is dammed by matched lumber driven seven to eight feet with pile driver; can flood this generally about as I wish. There is a good prospect for berries in this locality at the present time. Worms have done some damage in certain places.”

No. 254.

B. S. Hoxie, Evansville, Wis., Aug. 2nd, 1899.—“As a matter of fact there are no cranberries grown in this part of the state, but another fact; I am very much interested in your work and the worth of your society to the state of Wisconsin. I am watching the progress of your experience.”

No. 257.

Russell Case, Norway Ridge, Wis., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—“Crop light, though quite even, too much water. I think 500 barrels will be a good estimate if we get no frosts. I think a part of my crop is backward.”

No. 258.

C. R. Treat, Meadow Valley, Wis., Aug. 2nd, 1899.—
"There will be no berries to speak of at this station."

No. 259.

W. H. Walker, Jr., Glenn Arbor, Mich., Aug. 1st, 1899.
—"We have about 12 acres in vines; marsh running out on account of brakes and other causes. Our largest crop in any one year was over 200 barrels."

No. 268.

Selser Bros. & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—
"Large portion replanted this spring; does not give large expectations."

No. 272.

L. Lamberson, Warrens, Minn., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—"No berries cultivated here this year, good crop of wild berries in northern Minnesota."

No. 273.

D. R. Burr, Berlin, Wis., Aug. 4th, 1899.—"The talk of the growers was, a larger crop than last year. Now there is some complaint of worms and blast. I do not think it safe to count on more than last season, and that is subject to unfavorable conditions."

No. 274.

E. Baker, Green Bay, Wis., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—"Crop coming along very unevenly, some bloom yet and almost full grown berries. Hope to commence picking Sept. 4th, 1899."

No. 275.

Arthur Scott, Warrens Wis., Aug. 4th, 1899.—"This is the second year to bear cranberries. I think there will be an indifferent crop this year; the heavy rains of spring flooded them too late, some in bloom now."

No. 284.

W. V. Morrison, Bourne, Mass., Aug. 5th, 1899.—"The cranberry crop in this locality I think fully as good as last year. Picking will begin about one month from this date. The annual meeting of the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' association will be held Aug. 9th. We shall then have reports from the growers and can better judge of the size of the crop."

No. 285.

Fisher Bros., Mansfield, Mass., Aug. 5th, 1899.—"The cranberries are very uneven this year on cultivated bogs; wild bogs are doing better this year."

No. 292.

Isaac A. Braddock, Haddonfield, N. J., Aug. 4th, 1899.—
—"The crop for 1899 is looking fairly well, but the destruction by grasshoppers bids fair to be enormous and they are destroying some now promising marshes."

No. 293.

Joshua Forsythe, Pemberton, N. J., Aug. 4th, 1899.—“The crop here in Pemberton county, N. J., which is the largest producing county in the state, will be about 175,000 bushels this year according to present prospects. The crop in this county was about 250,000 bushels, the largest ever grown here. I cannot give the number of acres of cranberries in this county. The crop will be fully one-third less than last year and may be one-half less.”

No. 296.

John T. Irving, Secretary Atlantic Co., Elwood, N. J.—“Our statement is of very little service in making up statistics from the fact that we had a serious fire three years ago and our bogs are just coming in again. Grasshoppers and scald are beginning operations and promise serious results all through south Jersey.”

No. 297.

M. M. Chew, Cecil, N. J., Aug. 5th, 1899.—“The prospect now is that the crop of this year will be as last year.”

No. 309.

H. H. Heald, Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 4th, 1899.—“Our bogs now look well, but it is too early yet to take much account of it. Insects may do most damage after this.”

No. 310.

N. B. Burgess, Yarmouth Farms, Mass., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—“It is rather early here to know all the mischief likely to be done. The outlook is about the same as last year. The vine worm has destroyed nearly half the bloom and the fruit worm will do more or less mischief.”

No. 311.

H. O. Kruschke, Auroraville, Wis., Aug. 4th, 1899.—“The crop in this vicinity will not vary much from last year; while some may get more, others will get less, and it is hard to get an estimate.”

No. 315.

J. A. Atkins, Pleasant Lake, Mass., Aug. 5th, 1899.—“As far as I can learn there apparently is an increase of about 25 per cent over last year's crop.”

No. 316.

Wm. Quicksill, Hornerstown, N. J., Aug. 5, 1899.—“The present outlook is not over one-half of last year's crop in this section.”

No. 338.

G. J. Borgesius, Musselkanaal, Holland, July 1st, 1899.—“In reply to yours of the 17th of June, I have the pleasure to write you the following. In Holland are only two cranberry meadows of about 20 acres net, including canal, ditches and dike, about 23 acres. A good deal of my plants are Early Blacks and Cape Cod Bell, but I have tested also other varieties.

“We cannot sell a single berry in this country, because

all small fruits here are excellent and cheap, and people therefore will not buy an unknown fruit, therefore we export our crops. I beg you to send me *all* the reports which your association has edited."

No. 341.

Geo. B. Upton, Milton, Mass., Aug. 3rd, 1899.—"I regret that Wisconsin is too distant for me even to think of attending your August convention, but I am much obliged to you for your invitation. Were I thirty or forty years younger, I would go the length of the continent to add to my information of how to make *two* cranberries grow where *none* grew before.

"My agent in New Jersey informs me that we have every prospect on our bogs of having a larger crop of the berries than last year; he is, however, prone to be rather optimistic. I may, however, gather from four to six thousand bushels. I note your good prospects in Wisconsin for a larger crop than last year, and I trust that the crop of turkeys will show a corresponding increase."

No. 346.

B. F. Aumack, Toms River, N. J., Aug. 5, 1899.—"Prospects thus far predict short crops."

No. 354.

Waterville, County of Kings, Nova Scotia, Aug. 7th, 1899.—"The cranberry crop here promises to be very good. The fireworm has made its appearance in Aylsford about ten miles from here, and is making much trouble for the growers. They are spraying with Paris Green, with what success I have not yet learned."

No. 356.

H. A. Lowry, Day, Minn., Aug. 8th, 1899.—"Berries large, sound and healthy. Commence picking 21st inst."

No. 357.

I. W. Budd, Pemberton, N. J., Aug. 7th, 1899.—"It is very wet here now and some of the bogs are flooded, and some little damage is done."

No. 360.

James Flitcroft, Farmingdale, N. J., Aug. 7th, 1899.—"On the 22nd of July the thermometer ran up over 100 ° and blasted full half of my bog."

No. 361.

W. Maxwell, Rockville, Conn., Aug. 5th, 1899.—"Worms causing some trouble; cannot tell this early."

No. 365.

E. A. Cahoon, Pleasant Lake, Mass., Aug. 7th, 1899.—"At present more favorable than last report (July). Fruit worms eating badly in sections; scald and rot yet to contend with. Estimate crop for '99, 25 per cent less than '98."

No. 369.

H. S. Bergen, Englishtown, N. J., Aug. 8th, 1899.—

"Thus far worms are very bad; would like to know some way of poisoning them as I have tried almost everything."

No. 370.

Chas. A. Haines, Medford, N. J., Aug. 6th, 1899.—"As far as can hear, the crop for this year will be one-third less than last year. Keeps hot suns more than that, as upland bogs scald badly this kind of year. We think to get some money for berries this year."

No. 372.

John Clark, Whitefish Point, Mich., Aug. 8th, 1899.—"Our crop is going to be light, partially owing to the fact that on a portion of our meadows the water drained off during the winter, and on other portions properly flooded the bloom has failed to fertilize or inoculate for some unaccountable reason, which makes the best of them very irregular."

No. 373.

L. H. Read, Rockville, Conn., Aug. 7th, 1899.—"The reason I reported nothing last year and this year, is the fact that my crop has been ruined the past four years by fireworms."

No. 375.

J. D. Holman, Whitesville, N. J., Aug. 8th, 1899.—"All through this county the crop will be 25 per cent short of last year."

No. 377.

Jonathan Godfrey, Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 1st, 1899.—"Crop in this section looks well."

No. 380.

H. G. O. Ellis, Sandwich, Mass., August 2nd, 1899.—"It seems to be the opinion of growers in Barnstable and Plymouth counties that the crop of '99 will be a little smaller than in '98. Should the berry worm work badly, the crop will be still further reduced but it is a little early to judge their damage."

No. 391.

Martin Haines, Vincentown, N. J., Aug. 7th, 1899.—"From what I can learn the crop in this state will be one-third less than last year."

No. 392.

Geo. H. Holman, Toms River, N. J., Aug. 4th, 1899.—"So far as I am able to learn the crop in Green county, being this county, counting last year's crop at 100, this year's about 70 per cent of last year's."

No. 396.

S. H. Comings, St. Joe, Mich.—"Bloom very late this year."

No. 397.

J. A. Gaynor, Grand Rapids, Wis., Aug. 6th, 1899.—"I think the percentage of blighted blossoms is larger this

year than usual. I think we have lost 20 per cent of our blossoms that failed to fruit."

No. 398.

G. A. Goodyear, Tomah, Wis., Aug. 2nd, 1899.—"Prospects are said to be good for this year."

No. 404.

B. Field, Brockton, Mass., Aug. 8th, 1899.—"I am now staying a few days in So. Orleans, Mass. I find the bogs that I have visited looking rather better than last year at this time. Prospects seem good for a fair crop."

No. 406.

A. J. Rider, Trenton, N. J., Aug. 9th, 1899.—"The crop of N. J. will not exceed two-thirds of last year."

No. 414.

E. L. Brown, Calverton, R. I., Aug. 11th, 1899.—"You are too far away to visit your gathering. I have been in the business nearly a quarter of a century, and have hardly gained any information I would dare to impart as a certainty, and would hardly accept any conclusion of an individual as a sure thing. Places differ—even spots in a single marsh. Varieties differ in a different soil. Do well in one section and not so well in another. Nothing but a trial will prove—and this takes time.

"Hot summer days scald berries here sometimes, which in my mind starts the so called rot. Some varieties will scald where others will not. Some spots will be scalded in any variety while those around them escape—why, I can't say, but sometimes have thought cold underneath was an element helping to produce it, yet have seen scald where it could not be attributed to this. It is inscrutable."

No. 417.

Alonzo Norton, Batsto, N. J., August 12, '99—"I am in receipt of your valued favor of the 9th inst. I greatly appreciate your invitation to attend your annual convention. Rush of business, however, will prevent. Our berries are gathered largely from wild or uncultivated ground; the price for picking, which varies according to conditions, 40c per bushel being the prevailing price for uncultivated fruit. Our crop last year was 2,500 barrels marketed berries.

Crop for this year 20 per cent less, or 2,000 barrels is the estimate from present conditions. Reports reached me of a large falling off from last year. Very large yield of from 25 to 50 per cent for this (Burlington) county."

No. 418.

Leach & Brother, Vineland, N. J., Aug. 11th, 1899.—"From the best reports we can get at present we think there will be a falling off of at least 20 per cent. Our annual convention is usually held about the 25th of August. After the meeting we can report, if you wish, what the estimate of this year's crop is in New Jersey."

No. 419.

Thos. N. Emley, N. J., Aug. 9th, 1899.—“In this immediate section of Burlington county the crop is considered to be nearly as large as last year. In other sections it is much under last year's yield.”

No. 420.

S. S. Aumack, Toms River, N. J., August 10th, 1899.—“The crop of berries in this vicinity is very light; there are a good many bogs, but they are small. The most of them are from eight acres to twenty acres each. Last year we had what we would call a good crop. To average them, it would be about twenty-five bushels per acre. I don't think there will be over one-third this crop this year. Grasshoppers are eating them some.”

SUMMARY CRANBERRY CROP.

[Explanatory—Figures in thousands of barrels—3 bushels to barrel.]

District.	Fore- cast, 1899.	Yield.							
		1898	Greatest		Smallest		Avg. '80-95 16 yrs	U. S.	
			Year.	Bbl	Year	Bbl		1893	1884.
New England	170	140	1893	192	1884	43	97	192	43
New Jersey	70	100	1893	108	1882	26	62	108	42
The West	40	30	1885	88	1895	3	32	33	8
Total	280	270					191	333	93

Figures taken from reports of Secretaries Arpin and Rider, and individual returns.

Regarding the price to be paid for picking it was recommended that forty cents, (40c) be paid where berries are abundant and surroundings favorable with an extra bonus for those who remain to end of season.

The committee on legislation reported that after a great deal of correspondence and conference the following law was secured as to a legal barrel and crate:

CHAPTER 334.

An act to amend section 1668, statutes of Wisconsin of 1898 in relation to the measure and weight of cranberries.

The people of the state of Wisconsin represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 1668 of the statutes of Wisconsin, is hereby amended by striking out all of said section after the word “measure” in the eighth line of said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “The cranberry barrel shall be twenty-five and one-half inches high, sixteen inches in diameter at the heads and eighteen inches in diameter at the bilge, inside measure; and the dimensions of cranberry crates shall be twenty-two inches long, twelve inches wide, by seven and one-half inches high inside measure. Every maker of cranberry barrels shall stamp or brand on each of such barrels, his name with

these letters over it: "W. S." Any person selling cranberries in barrels of less capacity than is herein provided for, shall be liable to the purchaser in damages to three times the amount of the shortage therein; and any person who shall stamp or brand a cranberry barrel of less capacity than is herein prescribed with the words aforesaid, shall forfeit to the complainant, not less than five, nor more than twenty-five dollars for each offense. A contract for berries by the barrel or the crate, unless it is otherwise specially stipulated, shall be construed to mean barrels or crates of the dimensions herein prescribed, so that said section when amended shall read as follows: Section 1668. A barrel shall contain thirty-one and one-half gallons and the hogshead, two barrels. A dry gallon shall contain two hundred eighty-two cubic inches; the liquid gallon two hundred thirty-one cubic inches. A barrel of flour measured by weight shall contain one hundred ninety-six pounds; a barrel of potatoes, one hundred seventy-two pounds; a barrel of unslacked lime, two hundred pounds. A barrel of apples or pears shall represent a quantity equal to one hundred quarts of grain or dry measure. The cranberry barrel shall be twenty-five and one-half inches high, sixteen inches in diameter at the heads and eighteen inches in diameter at the bilge, inside measure; and the dimensions of the cranberry crate shall be twenty-two inches long, twelve inches wide, by seven and one-half inches high, inside measure. Every maker of cranberry barrels shall stamp or brand on each such barrel his name with these letters over it, "W. S." Any person selling cranberries in barrels of less capacity than is herein provided for shall be liable to the purchaser in damages to three times the amount of the shortage therein, and any person who shall stamp or brand a cranberry barrel of less capacity than is herein prescribed, with the letters aforesaid, shall forfeit to the complainant, not less than five, nor more than twenty-five dollars for each offense. A contract for berries by the barrel or the crate, unless it is otherwise specially stipulated, shall be construed to mean barrels or crates of the dimensions herein prescribed.

Section 2. This act shall take effect and be in force, from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 3, 1899.

The preparation of matter for the Paris Exposition was left to executive committee, and it was recommended that every grower send a quart of his best variety to the January meeting, due notice of time and place of which will be given.

The following communication from Judge Gaynor of Grand Rapids, in regard to Blight, was ordered printed in August report:

BLIGHT.

This term is usually applied to all blossoms that fail to mature fruit and it is applied in all cases of failure from the time that the "hook" is visible in the axle of the scale or leaf up to the time when the berry is as large as a small pea. There is considerable loss from this source every year. This year the loss was not less than 20 per cent. in this locality and no reliable explanation seems to be offered by the growers for this failure. Until the cause is ascertained, no remedy can be offered, and as I have no reliable explanation to offer, I would only suggest a line of inquiry to be pursued by those who are in a position to observe.

It looks in some instances as if the hot sun parched and killed the young berry in its infancy. It has been alleged by some that if rain or dew is on a young berry and the sun shines on it before it has had time to dry off, it is subject to be blistered or blighted. In other instances it looks as if the stigma had not been fertilized, and on that account there was no development of the ovary or fruit. This might be caused by rain washing away the pollen at or about the time of fertilization. In other instances the miniature or embryo "hooks" do not progress far enough to open up into a blossom, but seem for some cause to be arrested in their growth. It has been alleged that this is caused by leaving the water over the vines after the buds have begun to open.

That at this time the water actually comes in contact with the miniature "hook" and blasts it. It has been alleged by some that the arrested growth of the hook, which is in theory a lateral bud or branch, is caused by stimulating the growth of the terminal bud with an excess of the moisture as the terminal bud, when stimulated, has a tendency to absorb all lateral buds to which class the "hook" belong.

It is possible that by holding the water high in the early spring when the new leaves and new rootlets are being formed through which most of the nourishment is secured for the plant; that afterwards when the water is drawn off down lower, these rootlets are too high to reach sufficient moisture to furnish the required nourishment, and the hook, blossom or young fruit dies for want of nourishment. It may be that if the soil in which the rootlets are distributed is cold, the cold lessens the activity of the root and renders it unable to furnish sufficient moisture. It will probably be found that lack of nourishment is the leading cause in most instances, and coldness and lack of moisture are large contributing factors.

I give these various suggestions to induce observation, in the hope that some one will diagnose the real cause.

J. A. GAYNOR.

The following motion was introduced by Mr. A. C. Bennett and duly carried:

That James Gaynor be requested to test the California

wet smudge process of preventing frost this fall on the experiment station, and to report in full the results at our annual meeting in January.

A communication from Mr. Bennett in regard to prevention of fire running on marshes is ordered to be printed and is herewith given:

NEW METHOD OF EXTINGUISHING PRAIRIE AND MARSH FIRES

About one hundred years ago, Sir Humphrey Davy, an Englishman, discovered that the flame from the fire would not pass through small spaces and he made a practical application of his discovery by the invention of the miners safety lamp. This consisted of a cylinder of fine gauge wire enclosing the flame of the lamp on all sides with gauge wire over the top. With this lamp the miners could walk in safety through the most dangerous explosive gases in their mines.

I am surprised that this principle has not been used in extinguishing fire, not only on prairie and marshes, but also in cities. On prairies and marshes the onward march of the fire is preceded by what may be called the tongue of the fire which acts as the leader, being in advance of the main fire. To cut this off and divide the fire in sections is the first object sought. With a roll of fine wire screen, unpainted, such as is used for window screens 25x50 or 100 feet long and three feet wide or more, provided with small iron rods at each end, let two men proceed rapidly in front of this tongue of fire and standing on each side with the outstretched screen, proceed to smother it out as though the screen was a blanket. Then let others with shorter screens follow up along the divided sides. This wire screen is cheap. It is light and strong; it will not burn up and no flame will go through it.

The round iron rods at the ends are used for keeping the screen spread open and for handling. It should be two feet longer than the width of the screen so that in case of necessity the screen could be set up edgewise and these ends left fastened in the ground. In this way many screens could be formed into a fence. They would not only prevent the passage of flame, but both heat and smoke would be greatly lessened as is observed when a screen is placed before a fireplace, thus enabling men with water or other devices to approach with safety and extinguish the smoldering fires.

A. C. BENNETT.

On motion of Judge Gaynor it was taken that the general opinion of growers was that the price of berries would be \$5.50 to \$6.50 according to quality.

The matter of establishing a journal devoted exclusively to cranberry interests was discussed and favorably received.

Owing to importance of subjects and lack of sufficient time consideration of "Late vs. Early Picking" and "Early vs. Late Drawing Off of Water in the Spring" was postponed until January meeting, and all are requested to contribute as much light on same as possible.

A vote of thanks was extended to the ladies for their efforts in providing and looking after the comfort and convenience of those present at the convention, and also to Gaynor Bros. for the hospitable tender of their grounds and general thoughtful attention.

Meeting then adjourned.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Annual Meeting Held at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin, January 9th, 1900.

Grand Rapids, Wis., Jan. 9, 1900.

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' association was held in Council Rooms at 9 a. m.

President Briere delivered the following address which was received with marked attention:

Gentlemen: I am glad to meet you all as cranberry growers and wish you all a good crop again this year.

I hear that the vines all over the marshes are, in good condition for this winter and the chances are, that we will get a fair crop again this year.

In regard to varieties, the longer we are in the cranberry business the more we see the necessity of growing larger varieties, at least uniform berries: when we go in competition with the eastern fancy berries we are at a great disadvantage.

We must be careful in grading berries not to take out too many large ones and take out the three-eighth size and smaller.

We must try and plant some larger varieties, at least a few rods every year. The year passes fast and it will not be long before we will all have a good patch of fancy berries. My experience in varieties are limited. We have Berlin, Bell and Bugle, McFarlin and Howes. So far, I prefer the Bell and Bugle. They are as early as our Bell and Cherry, and grow larger in the same length of time. They also have a nice bright color. They do not turn too dark. We picked this year for the first time 150 barrels of McFarlin berries; were very nice, large and good color. The Howes are smaller, but are very fancy, uniform size and shape, as you will see by some samples, we have here.

As to correspondence and statistics, etc., I will leave that part to our secretary, Mr. Fitch. He is well supplied with anything you ask him in regard to cranberries. We have some very valuable correspondence from our ex-president, Mr. Bennett, containing pointers that are worth money to us if we try and put them into practice. Our experience this year in keeping cranberries is this: All that were in the cellar kept very well up to date and those that were in warehouses show defects more or less.

In regard to marketing our berries will say this:

About three years ago, the Cranberry Growers' Union was organized. They did not have a chance to do much, as the crops were small, but this year they have made great progress. But it is far from being perfect yet. It will require several years more and must have the help of more trowers. It costs a good deal to extend trade in a new erritory and introduce our Wisconsin berries.

The statistician reported, that owing to non-receipt from a number of large growers, of their respective yields, a detailed statement was not possible at present, but that representative advices from the different sections indicated the crop of '99 to have been about 900,000 bushels distributed as follows:

New England, 570,000 bushels; New Jersey, 210,000 bushels: The West, 120,000 bushels.

A large and fine collection of berries from the experimental station was exhibited by Judge Gaynor who explained in detail the work done and accomplished, and submitted the following communications:

Of the one hundred and eighty-five sections at the experimental station all have been planted except 15 and have now growing thereon, living vines. Of these 170 sections have living vines on them, all have been planted to a single vine, except 10, on which cranberry seeds were planted. The first seedlings were planted on sections 180, 181 and 182, and are now past four years old, and bore fruit this year for the first time. Some of our members will remember the samples exhibited before our association at its January meeting in 1894 by Herb. Tuttle. As I remember them, they were large, oval form and bright red. Our first seedlings were from these berries, and we have a sample of the fruit here on exhibition and this sample shows a high degree of variation from the parent type. We expect a considerable amount of seedling fruit next year.

Of the sections planted to a single vine, sixty-four have borne fruit this year; on some sections only a few berries were produced, others were well laden with fruit. From these we made two pickings, one on the 10th day of September, the other on the 24th day of September. These two sets of samples ought to show the advantages or the disadvantages in late picking as compared with what might be regarded as medium time for picking.

It will be remembered that the samples picked last year on the 11th of September showed a decided superiority in color, gloss and keeping quality over samples picked on the 30th of August.

It can be said in favor of our samples that the conditions during the past year have not been favorable to large

berries. It is my opinion that the ground was too hard and too dry, and that a loose fiber at the surface in which the roots can spread and that will tend to act as a mulch to retain the moisture, is desirable in order to grow large fruit. In several instances I have a distinct recollection of fruit borne by vines when so planted and fruit grown at the station, on the same vines and on the whole, the fruit grown at the station was not equal in size to the fruit grown on the same vines before planted at the station. It has not been our object to seek only for large fruit; our aim has been to get every variety known in nature, and when we feel that we have accomplished this, we can leave it to the growers to select such varieties as they may judge to be most desirable.

Although size and color are of the first importance, form and uniformity in size, color, time of ripening, keeping quality, flavor and productiveness are important considerations; and some small berries may nevertheless be good keepers of fine flavor and very prolific.

Forty-eight sections are now fairly covered with vines; from these we have taken cuttings and the cutting from each section has been tied together in a bundle and labeled with the section number; was buried in wet sand, and is held subject to the order of the association. I would suggest that you inspect the berries produced by each section, and so far as you think each especially worthy of further propagation, that you make an order directing the vines of that particular section to be further propagated, either by the association or by some of its members. If you give any of the vines to individual members I would advise that it be on contract obligating such members to cultivate some with care and attention, such as may be assigned to him; that he bring in a sample each year of the berries grown from these vines and during the last two or three years that he give to the association one-half of all the cuttings that the vines may fairly yield, in all a quantity not less than three times the amount he received from the association, and if he shall have faithfully complied with all of these conditions, then the title to the vines that remain in his possession, shall become his absolutely.

In collecting the samples of vines and filling in the sections and deepening the furrows, it took the time of one man for five and one-half days at \$1.25 per day. The contract with James Gaynor is about expired and some new arrangement ought to be entered into. The experience of the past five years will require some modification in the old contract, and it may be necessary to pay more than we have been paying to get work done as it should now be done. We had promised last year of government help and from that source we have received a few vines and a considerable quantity of foreign cranberry seed, but in regard to the same the results have not been altogether satisfactory. It is generally known that the seeds of

woody plants will not bear a large amount of drying and in order to ship vines successfully from long distances they ought to be packed in wet moss or in water and kept cool in shipping. The seeds received from the government had all been separated from the pulp and dried before shipping and as a consequence failed to grow. The few vines received were poorly packed and were dry and dead when received. I hope for better results from this source in the future.

The time has come in the cranberry industry when quality will count for more than quantity. Those who are engaged in the cranberry industry should seek to improve the quality of their berries or else go out of the business. The grower of berries of inferior quality will have to sell his fruit at a loss while those who cultivate superior varieties will secure a liberal profit. Therefore it will be necessary to continue the work of the Experimental station for the propagation of superior varieties just as long as the industry stands. Without making any reference to what may be done by hybridizing, by continuous selection from the best varieties that nature produces, it is possible to procure cranberries of much greater size than any now existing.

Besides the color and form, uniformity and time of ripening, the keeping quality and the flavor and productiveness, all may be improved. No one can afford to do this work at his own expense, it is therefore very properly the work of the state under the wise and judicious guardianship of this association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES GAYNOR,

Keeper of Experimental station No. 1, Grand Rapids, Wis.

EXHIBIT C.

The average price received for cranberries this season was not far above the cost of production; this is the normal level towards which all merchandise moves, and when it is reached the producer of inferior products can continue in the business only at a loss; while the producer of superior articles will be able to continue at a profit.

The cranberry industry is no exception to this rule and the time is not far distant when many of the present growers will quit the business because they find there is no money in it for them. Those who desire to continue and reap a profit from it, through the era of low prices that is certainly approaching us, must prepare to do it now.

Above all other things they must be prepared to put up berries better and they must offer berries of superior quality and excellence; and to be ready to do this they must begin now. Vines and fruit of unusual excellence may be found on nearly all of our wild marshes in Wisconsin and by taking the whole of one of these vines and planting and propagating it with care, the work is begun.

I now know that a hundred acres can be planted by a single vine in a period of not more than ten years. Nearly all of us feel that we have wasted valuable opportunities by not beginning with better varieties fifteen years ago. But those who wish to continue in the business had better begin now, and it is to urge you to do this that I write this article.

Every variety of plant and breed of animal should be started from a single progenitor, and in selecting your plant, for your new variety, you should study it carefully, it should appear vigorous and hardy; you should examine the fruit as to its color, form, size, flavor, time of ripening, keeping quality and productiveness; whichever of these qualities most impresses itself on your fancy, see to it that nearly all of the fruit on the vine selected approaches your ideal standard. Uniformity is of the first importance in all of the qualities I have referred to. In the vines propagated from this one, if the conditions remain the same, you will find very little variation.

Outside of the Experimental station there is no distinct variety of cranberry in general cultivation, so far as I know. The so-called "Early Black", "Bell and Bugle", "Howe", etc., are not distinct varieties: they are only a conglomeration of closely allied varieties. The originator of these started with a considerable quantity of vines found in some particular spot, the fruit of which exhibited to him a marked superiority over other berries grown in their vicinity; the result is, that these so-called varieties are lacking in uniformity, a most desirable quality. In most wild plants the seed produce true to the parental type, but fortunately for the cranberry grower, he can originate for himself, an endless variety from the seed alone and when a desirable variety is found he can fix it by using the vine for further propagation.

All that I have here suggested, requires no skill, no knowledge of botany, cross fertilization or hybridizing; it requires only judgment and care in selecting suitable varieties from nature. The field is a wide one and too many cannot be engaged in the work; if this work could be parceled out so that one would devote himself entirely to the size of the fruit, another to the color, a third to the form, a fourth to the time of ripening, a fifth to the keeping quality, a sixth to the flavor and a seventh to the productiveness, wonderful results could be attained in a comparatively short time. The whole work is too much for any one man, in short it is a work that can never be discontinued for every advance will only increase the opportunities for further advances.

There may not be much money in this work, but I think it would not be amiss if some of us would rest a while from this eternal grasping, for the almighty dollar, and engage ourselves by times in a little "pet" work that might make the world better for our having lived in it.

This work cannot be well done by one who is actuated only by mercenary motives. In short, mercenary motives are not liable to elevate the man or promote the best interest of a work that is truly missionary.

We have now a large number of varieties at the Experimental station started in the way I have indicated; we have taken cuttings from forty-eight different sections; samples of the berries produced from these cuttings are here on exhibition, and if any of these varieties seem to you worthy of propagation, I would advise that some arrangement be made for that purpose.

JOHN A. GAYNOR.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMMUNICATION OF A. C. BENNETT

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 29, 1899.—W. S. C. G. A., Grand Rapids, Wis.,—W. H. Fitch, Sec'y, Dear Sir:—There are several things I wish to call your attention to at our January meeting. One is the cranberry grader invented by James Gaynor, which I had the pleasure of seeing in operation last fall. I regard it as original in some respects and far in advance of anything heretofore used for that purpose. It can be used to grade potatoes, apples or anything of the kind without injury by bruising.

2nd. I wish to call attention again to the practice of cranberry growers in hand sorting their cranberries and letting the berries drop from the sorting board to the bottom of the barrel, a distance of 29 inches, striking the hard bottom or hitting each other with more or less force until the barrel is full. When the cranberry gets fully ripe its pulp softens like the pulp of the apple and the injury is immediately visible. The bounding of the Busby mill is as nothing compared to this. I ask for the best device for preventing both.

3rd. I would like to suggest that the two experimental stations be placed under one direction, and that special appropriation be made to conduct experiments to prevent frost, also to prevent blighting and other injurious effects of our climate. The value of the pine apples in Florida has been more than doubled by a partial covering by three inch strips eight feet above the plants and leaving spaces three inches wide between the strips, and a tight board fence surrounding them. This prevents the rapid evaporation of moisture and gives a moist conservatory air not subject to sudden changes. Special appropriation is the surest way to get this work performed.

4th. I would suggest the re-election of the present secretary by a unanimous vote with the addition of a vote of thanks for his valuable services as secretary.

5th. I would suggest a muzzel for the proposed cranberry journal under existing circumstances,

Yours truly,

A. C. BENNETT.

EXPERIMENTAL STATION NO. 2.

This station is conducted as a kind of nursery for the propagation of superior varieties with a view of distributing the same hereafter among Wisconsin growers.

Pursuant to the direction of the Association I prepared one-fourth of an acre for planting and planted about three-fourths of the same with one barrel of vines received from Hamilton, Miner & Baker, of Shinnington, Wisconsin, of the variety known as the "Metalic Bell." In October last I received another barrel of this same variety to complete the planting, of the part scalped and planting where the first planting failed. This will give us one-fourth of an acre of this variety. Those last planted are doing fairly well considering the lateness of the time at which they were planted, which was about the first of July.

Besides doing this I cleaned out all of the ditches and weeded twice all of the vines heretofore planted. I received two barrels of Jumbo vines from A. C. Bennett which I planted on the section heretofore planted to that variety, because many of the first plantings failed to grow.

I would recommend that all further planting on station No. 2, be made from approved varieties found on station No. 1; I would also recommend that station No. 1 and station No. 2 be placed under one management; I would further recommend that one of the two sections first planted to vines received from H. O. Kruschke, of Berlin, Wis., be taken out, and that the ground they occupy be used for planting vines of approved varieties from Experimental Station No. 1.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated Jan. 9, 1900.

A. C. BENNETT.

Meeting then adjourned to 2 P. M.

Meeting reassembled at 2 P. M.. Vice President S. N. Whittlesey, in chair. A communication from A. J. Rider, secretary A. C. G. A. relative to exhibit at Paris Exposition was referred to executive committee. On motion, duly carried, the secretary cast the ballot for re-election of old officers, viz: Chas. Briere, president; S. N. Whittlesey, vice president; W. H. Fitch, secretary; M. O. Potter, treasurer; A. E. Bennett, member of executive committee.

On motion of Mr. A. E. Bennett, Experimental stations No. 1 and 2 be consolidated and James Gaynor placed in charge of same.

Mr. Andrew Searles was appointed to take charge of the marking of the berries on exhibition and make selection, with necessary aid for future propagation.

The matter of spring drainage was generally entered

into and earnestly discussed and verdict arrived at, that the early drawing off of the water was preferable.

The matter of representing the cranberry interests at Horticultural society was brought up and the desire expressed that Judge Gaynor should do so and exhibit specimens and make known the progress made by the experimental stations.

The Treasurer, M. O. Potter, presented the following report—which was audited by Judge Gaynor and S. N. Whittsley and found correct.

RECEIPTS.

Jan. 10, 1899,	Balance on hand.....	\$ 26 92
May 10. "	State money.....	250 00
Aug. 7, "	Deposit of secretary.....	4 90
		<hr/>
		\$281 82

DISBURSEMENTS.

May 10, 1899.	Paid Order No. 37,	M. O. Potter lumber	\$ 1 50
" "	" " " "	38, Jas. Gaynor Ex. Sta.	
" "	" " " "	No. 1.....	62 50
" "	" " " "	36, J. A. Gaynor do	10 00
" "	" " " "	42, Fontaine Printing..	31 35
" "	" " " "	45, W. H. Fitch P. M.	
" "	" " " "	postage.....	14 57
" "	" " " "	41, E. P. Arpin Bal. and	
" "	" " " "	salary.....	44 25
" "	" " " "	44, Fontaine Printing..	8 50
" "	" " " "	43, C. Briere engraving	5 85
" "	" " " "	39, A. Searles Ex. Sta.	
" "	" " " "	No. 2.....	40 00
" "	" " " "	40, Searles Bros. do	2 85
" "	" " " "	47, W. H. Fitch Sec'y..	20 00
" "	" " " "	46, Jas. Gaynor Ex. Sta.	
" "	" " " "	No. 2.....	18 25
" "	" " " "	49, Jas. Gaynor do	22 20
			<hr/>
			\$281 82

Secretary's report of receipts and disbursements.

RECEIPTS.

Jan. 10, 1899.	Balance on hand.....	\$ 26 92
May 10, "	State money.....	250 00
	Membership fees.....	84 00
	Advertising, etc.....	27 85
		<hr/>

\$388 77

DISBURSEMENTS.

Order No.	36, J. A. Gaynor Ex. Station No. 1.	\$ 10 00
" "	37, M. O. Potter, lumber.....	1 50
" "	38, Jas. Gaynor Ex. Station No. 1.	62 50
" "	39, A. Searles Ex. Station No. 2...	40 00
" "	40, Searles Bros. Ex. Station No. 2	2 85
" "	41, E. P. Arpin Bal. and salary....	44 25
" "	42, A. L. Fontaine Jan. Report...	31 35
" "	43, Chas. Briere Engraving.....	5 85
" "	44, A. L. Fontaine Stationery etc.	8 50
" "	45, W. H. Fitch P. M. Stamped env.	14 57
" "	46, Jas. Gaynor Ex. Station No. 2.	18 25
" "	47, W. H. Fitch Sec'y salary 6 mo.	20 00
" "	48, Chas. Briere newspaper wrap- pers, etc.....	11 83
" "	49, James Gaynor Ex. Station No. 1	22 20
" "	50, A. L. Fontaine Aug. Report..	34 52
" "	51, Mary Huser Ex. Station No. 2.	6 00
" "	52, W. H. Fitch Stamped Env. printing.....	54 51
" "	53, W. H. Fitch Cash order post- age and printing.....	29 90
Cash paid for	Circular Crop estimate, etc.....	32 22
" "	Postage.....	65 03
" "	Sec'y Salary 6 months.....	20 00

 \$535 83

Unpaid balance.....\$147 06

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

Secretary's Report read and referred to committee of printing, which as revised is as follows:

SECRETARY'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President: I have the honor of presenting the Secretary's report for the past year.

As it is generally accepted, no matter what may be the subject, that the most desirable, though difficult thing is to get at the facts [truth] I have epitomized under different heads information, which appeared to have a practical bearing on the industry under our consideration, and from the different sections, respectfully submit the following:

PRICES FOR PICKING.

Mass.—“Prices for gathering six to eight cents for six quarts with large per cent gathered per hour, 25c:”

Oregon—“We pay 75c per box for picking. We require the picker to round up the box as long as the berries will stay on. Our box is 12 in. square heads and 15 in. long inside measurement making 8 cubic inches over a bushel.

New Jersey—“The price for picking berries according to conditions, 40 cents per bushel being the prevailing price for cultivated fruit.”

METHODS OF CULTIVATION.

Wis.—“Vines require cutting or replenishing once in five years to get any fruit. My experience has been to cultivate ground with buckwheat, and get it free of foul stuff and plough and drag and reset vines, either by hand or scattering them over and use a heavy roller and then keep damp and grow vines on damp land, and when fruiting keep water near surface or one inch over, until fruit sets, then little dryer.”

Mass.—“I find that the only way to keep a bog up is to resand and fertilize the light vines and prune and sand the heavy vines. My small bog is 16 years old and it is kept in such fine condition that it is now as good as its best days.”

Mass.—“Practically all the cranberries are grown on cultivated bogs, and from planted vines. We clear up the swamp and set the vines 18 inches each way. It costs on an average \$400 an acre to build and set out a bog and to this must be added 4 years interest money, taxes and care before it begins to earn any money.”

OVER PRODUCTION OR UNDER CONSUMPTION.

New Jersey.—“Too many cranberries planted for the market. They cost \$2.40 per barrel to pick, clean and deliver at depot. Cost to make bogs about \$400 per acre.”

Mass.—“The cranberry growers of the cape are feeling rather blue at this time on account of the prospect of an over production. Perhaps, however, the favorable business conditions of the country may have a tendency to increase the demand.”

SETTING OF VINES.

Mass.—“Anytime after that date (April 20) I think a good time for setting. Yet if one is so situated, that it is better, or more convenient, to set in fall before freezing weather, it is well, but I should strongly prefer spring setting.”

WINTER FLOODING AND SPRING DRAINING.

Mass.—“We usually let water on about Dec. 15 to prevent winter killing, let off same April 20.”

Minn.—“Drawed water May 1, with proper rainfall. Have not moved either gates. Vines average foot growth. Berries large, sound and healthy.”

WILD AND CULTIVATED BOGS.

Rhode Island—“I prefer the wild bogs because they are continual and the expense is not as great. A cultivated bog you have to wait 3 or 4 years before a return of expense, then again the set plants have to be reset after seven or eight years, whereas, the natural bog continues unlimited if properly handled, at least, this is the case in this vicinity and Cape Cod.”

“Mass.—In this state there are practically no wild bogs from which berries are sent to market. Some of the oldest

cultivated bogs, however, were planted with vines found growing in wild swamps and are small, very late and very firm as keepers, but bring low prices on account of quality."

VARIETIES.

Rhode Island—"The bell shaped cranberry is my favorite. They ripen earlier on low meadows."

Mass—"The keeping quality of same (Mathews) I cannot say, having no occasion to hold them later than November or December, but for an all around berry it has, with me, no equal, being very productive and ever bearing."

Wash.—"Early Blacks make best sauce but do not keep long."

Mass.—"Although we have visited most of the berry districts of Cape Cod we have taken no exact data relative to acreage of the various varieties but will give estimate according to best of our judgment as follows:

Late	Wild and unnamed varieties.....	5 per cent.
	Fancy Late varieties.....	25 per cent.
Early	Early Blacks	65 per cent.
	Early Reds.....	3 per cent.
	Champion.....	2 per cent.
	Other new early sorts.....	70 per cent.

Mass.—"I think fully half the cranberries today are Early Blacks."

CANNING.

Mass.—"If cranberries were canned, made into jelly, etc., and distributed all over the land and some foreign lands, and so eaten 12 months of the year, we could not grow enough. That's all that keeps the peach business alive."

MARKETING

Mass.—"Too many growers have saved out a goodly portion of their crop for the holidays and have just fired it into market in one rush and as a result we see a very weak Thanksgiving market and yet in two or three months the same markets are liable to be cleaned up and bidding high for berries."

Rhode Island—"My early varieties I get into market as soon as I get them red enough. If you can be the first in the market you can get a good price, say \$10.00. I sometimes have retained them until February or March and got a good price for late varieties."

New Jersey—"We sell or try to sell before December so as to let the great bulk of Cape Cod crop get out of the way."

Conn.—"The marketing of berries commences about the middle of October and are usually disposed of before New Year."

New Jersey—"We begin to sell about December 1. Usually our berries are too light to offer sooner. The first

market wants them dark so we wait until Early Blacks have their day."

Mass.—"As to date of marketing the bulk of early stock is marketed by October 15. Late stock is held back more and dropped into the market towards the holidays and if keeping well and prices advance from time to time many are held into January and a few until spring. As to just what per cent is held at any given date, only one way is liable to determine, by asking each individual grower what part of his late stock he has on hand at said date."

Mass.—"Most of the berries are sold by commission men in the cities and not to them on the bogs."

Mass.—"Early Black go to the market first of September."

THE SEASON.

Mass.—"We have had an ordinary fair season with prices ranging from \$4.00 to \$5.50 per bbl. F. O. B. here if good stock. Markets have been loaded, however, with poor grades at \$2.00 and \$3.75 per bbl., largely overripe, early stock and this, together with the hot October weather prevented prices working up to last year's standard or better."

Wash.—"Had a very late, cold spring and cool summer, picking nearly 3 weeks late. The late bloom usually blasts and goes to nothing, thus it matured small berries, that were badly in the way and had to be screened out. This is an off year for fruit in these parts."

Wash.—"The conditions this season was somewhat against the fruit anyway as the season was the latest and most backward I ever knew here in 25 years, and also we had some exceedingly hot days for this coast at a particular stage of the fruit. Also the berries were entirely exposed to the full sun's rays, shining on the white sand during the hot days."

Wis.—"Our berries average larger this season than any other season before. Blight did not hurt us much, we kept the marsh wet during growing season."

New Jersey—"We had three nights, Oct. 1, 2 and 3, very heavy frosts which froze about one-half of our crop before picked."

Mich.—"I had a fair prospect of 1200 bu. but a killing frost Sept. 14, cut me down to a little over 300. Last year my crop was killed by frost July 11."

New Jersey—"The frosts in our neighborhood were simply terrible to some growers."

Mass.—"The weather here for past four weeks, (Oct. 24) has been as bad as it possibly could be. Continuous warm, foggy, moist days and cool nights causing berries to gather wetness and keeping buyers shy of touching them. Better weather stiffen-prices soon we trust."

Wis.—"I lost about 1500 bushell of berries this year by frost the 13th of Sept."

Nova Scotia—"Quite a falling off in this country on account of fire worm."

Mich.—"Bloom very late this year."

New Jersey—"The cranberry lands of Brick Township, Ocean Co., consist almost entirely of marshes subject to overflow from freshets, and very high tides. On this account the crop for 1899 will be nearly a total failure."

W. H. FITCH,

Secretary.

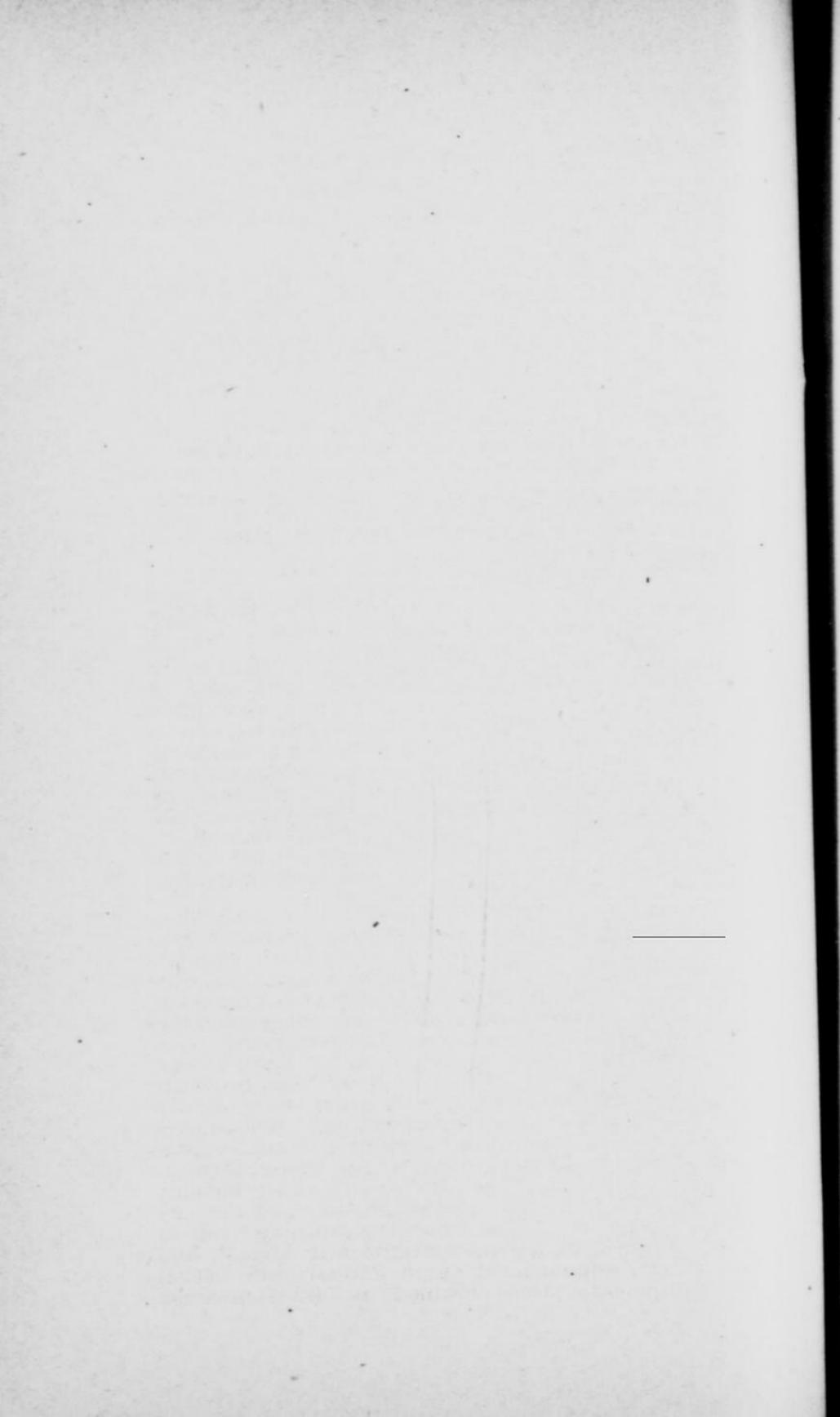
An interesting discussion came up in regard to the distribution of vines grown on the Experimental Station, and whole matter was referred to executive committee, with instruction to prepare rules and regulation regarding matter.

Signing bills for services rendered and expenses incurred were referred to executive committee with authority to provide for payment of same.

Meeting then adjourned.

W. H. FITCH,

Secretary.



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

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

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; a secretary; a 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 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, prices 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 Tuesday of January of each year, for the election 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.

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.

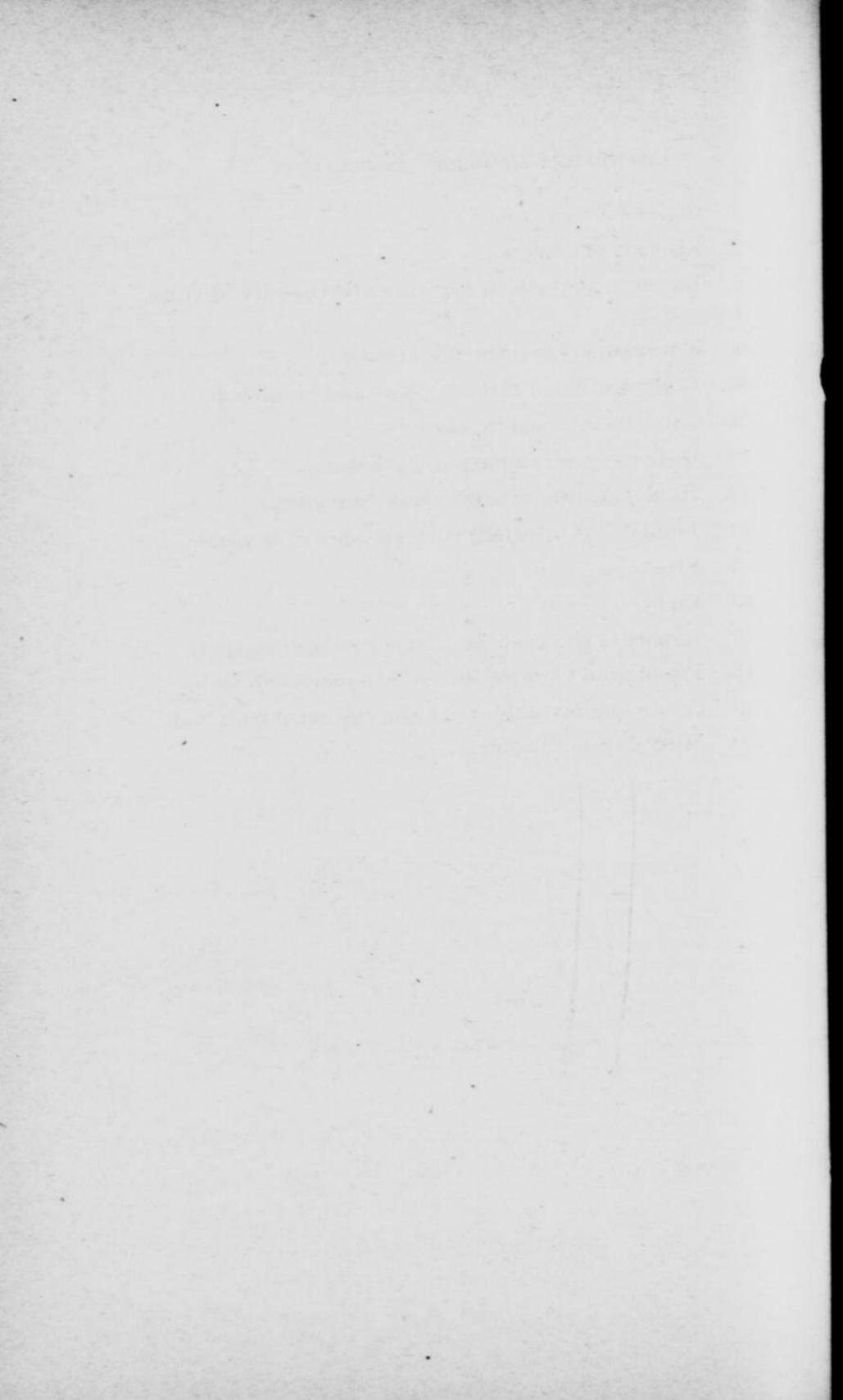
BY-LAWS.

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.

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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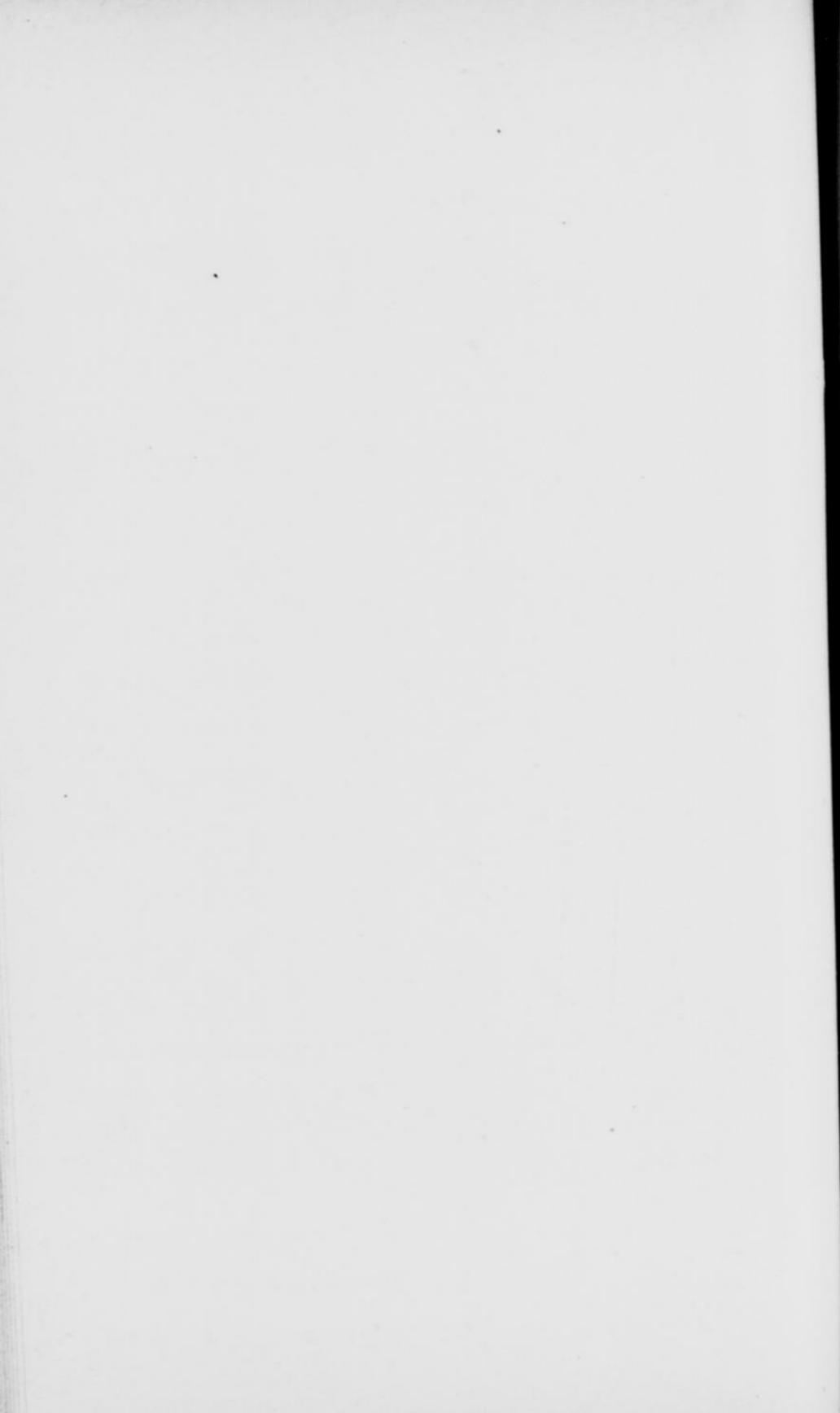
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