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Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association. Eighteenth annual meeting, Grand Rapids, Wis., January 10, 1905. 1905

Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
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**WISCONSIN STATE
CRANBERRY GROWERS'
ASSOCIATION.**



**EIGHTEENTH
ANNUAL MEETING,**
Grand Rapids, Wis., January 10, 1905.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

To the Honorable Robert M. LaFollette,

Governor of the State of Wisconsin:

Sir: I have the honor to submit herewith in requirement of law, the Eighteenth 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 1904.

Respectfully Yours,

W. H. FITCH, Secretary.

Cranmoor, Wis., Jan. 10, 1905.

Read the Fruit Trade Journal, Weekly.

The representative paper of the Fruit and Produce trade. Gives accurate market reports, prices, and all other news of the trade from the principal cities of the United States, Canada and Foreign Countries. Subscription price **THREE DOLLARS** per year. Sample copy on application.

FRUIT TRADE JOURNAL,

76 Park Place

New York

THE CRANBERRY GROWER.

A Journal for, of and by those engaged in the industry. Published monthly by the Cranberry Grower Publishing Co., Cranmoor, Wis.

Price \$1.00 per year; 50c, six months; 25c, three months. Address all communications to

Editor W. H. FITCH, Cranmoor, Wis.

PROCEEDINGS

Of the 18th Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association.

The Eighteenth annual winter session of the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' association convened at the court house at nine o'clock on Tuesday morning. Considering the inclemency of the weather there was a fairly good attendance, altho it was not as large as it had been former years.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Whittlesey. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, as published after which Mr. Whittlesey gave a short address, which was as follows:

"Gentlemen: In Wisconsin the last year has been one of light cranberry crops and good prices for the grower. The quality of the fruit and the packing has not been wholly satisfactory. With some of us our machinery for cleaing and grading is inadequate and our efforts at picking over and packing have been

in some cases insufficient. It seems to be required that our cranberries when leaving the growers hands shall be practically free from small or pie berries and from soft or unsound berries, and shall be pressed into the barrel firmly enough to stand transportation without a rattle. Unless the buyer can be sure of the goods in this condition it is going to be difficult to sell and only those growers who will guarantee their product can find a ready market.

"The benefit of concert among growers for all purposes and all interests are manifest and probably unquestioned. Of grace and golden rule, as much might be said, but especially is combination advisable in the matter of marketing. The Wisconsin Cranberry Growers Association is not an organization for the purpose of marketing the fruit and cannot be made to serve as a sales company,

but such company may be formed and had better be. I recommend to your consideration a plan that Judge Gaynor will submit and elaborate "

There was a fine exhibit of fruit from the experimental station comprising a large number of varieties and the peculiarities were explained by Prof. Sandsten. The berries at the station were picked at three different times with a view to finding if the time of picking had any effect on the keeping qualities. Part of the berries were picked early, part later and the remainder as late as could be done and avoid the frost. It was found upon the examination of the fruit that the berries which had been picked neither early nor late had kept the best, and were in much better condition than those that had been allowed to stay on the vines longer. This part of the experiment was in accord with the facts as brought out last year.

The committee on legislation was instructed to see that the Wisconsin barrel was made to conform with the Massachusetts barrel. This will make a barrel of one hundred quarts the standard. The Wisconsin barrel has heretofore been a trifle larger than this.

All of the old officers of the association were re-elected, they being Charles Briere, president; S. N. Whittlesey, vice president; W. H. Fitch, secretary; M. O. Potter treasurer, and A. E. Bennet member of the executive committee.

S. N. Whittlesey had a paper on Water Supply and the Use of Water. He stated that the principal use of water was to protect from frost, but that in the use of it for this purpose

it was essential that there be quick drainage, otherwise there might be as much damage from the water as there would have been from the frost. He was of the opinion that water should be drawn low from the marshes early in the spring and thus give the air and sunlight a chance to get to the roots of the plants, and that later it might be allowed to go back on gradually. The opinions from different men present, all of whom are experienced growers, differed very materially on the subject of handling water. This might be explained from the fact that soils of a different character require different treatment.

A. C. Bennett had a paper on The State and the Cranberry. In this he gave some of the things which in his opinion it would be possible for the state to accomplish thru their experimental station.

James Gaynor had a paper on Methods of Planting, and explained as a preliminary that he had about as many methods as he had been years in the business, which was about a score. He then proceeded to give a very good paper of practical advice on the planting of cranberries and the different methods pursued.

E. K. Tuttle had a paper on Implements Used in the Industry. Mr. Tuttle is a great believer in the proper pruning of the vines. While the crop may be materially reduced at first it results in a greatly increased acreage.

Judge Gaynor had an instructive and entertaining article on Gathering, Cleaning and Marketing. He also spoke of a combine between cranberry growers for the purpose of

being better able to handle the crop intelligently and distribute it properly.

Prof. Whitson was present and gave a short talk on the weather and explained that a bulletin would soon be issued by the state which would give some interesting facts about frosts and probably explain why the marshes were affected in this manner while other sections escaped.

W. H. Fitch and S. N. Whittlesey were elected delegates to the meeting of the Wisconsin Horticultural society which is to be held in Madison in February.

Those present at the meeting were L. M. Purience and S. A. Warner of Warrens; John King, E. A. Grimshaw, E. Janes, E. K. Tuttle and C. R. Treat, Mather; M. O. Potter, John A. Gaynor, John Arpin, Chas. Briere, John Graither and G. W. Paulus, city; James Gaynor, S. N. Whittlesey, A. E. Bennett, W. H. Fitch and Oscar Potter, Cranmoor; Haskell Beck, Wausau; Andrew Bisig, City Point.

Secretary's Report.

The past year, it is believed, has been one of the most important in the history of cranberry culture.

The time, thought and expenditure given to the industry has been along advanced lines, and, served to put the avocation on a higher and more business like plane.

Improvement of Varieties.

Among the objects of the association are improved varieties, and, this branch has been turned over to the Agricultural College of the State University. To those who have visited the experimental station, the

object lessons there presented have been of far reaching value, and, attest to the wisdom of our legislators in appropriating means for scientific and systematic investigation.

The superior training, experience, equipment and zeal of Dean Henry, and professors Whitson and Sandsten, together with detail work by Messrs. Haskins, Ramsey and Malde give promise of most beneficent ends; while, the publication of popular and practical treatises of result of experimentation cannot fail to incite observation and study to the advantage alike of grower, dealer and consumer.

Grading and Packing.

A question of pressing importance, demanding consideration, and action at the hands of the convention is that of careful harvesting and preparation for market. In the opinion of some the "blanket" price system is to be superceeded by one recognizing differencies in sorting and branding, and, an agreement as to uniformity in this respect seems to be imperatively demanded.

Extension of Market.

The expansion of acreage and increased production give warning that the demand must keep pace with the supply, or, untoward conditions will follow, and, while, perhaps, few growers feel like entering into a campaign of education, concerted action to further popularize the product appears to be desirable if not necessary.

Reports, Bulletins. Crop Estimates, etc.

For the better collection and distribution of information relating to the industry, an official organ has been established, and, as a medium

for the interchange of ideas and experiences the hearty support of all is solicited, since, the wide field, and broader the co-operation the greater will be the influence and power for good.

Seasons Yield and Prices.

From the private and published accounts the output of 1904 is approximately estimated as follows: New England, principally Massachusetts, 700,000 bushels; the Middle States, mostly New Jersey, 230,000 bushels; the west, chiefly Wisconsin, 70,000 bushels; total 1,000,000 bushels.

The f. o. b. prices per bbl. ranged from \$3 to \$4 for "pie", \$5 50 to \$6 50 for medium; and \$7 to \$8 for Fancy. The sound stock was evenly and satisfactorily distributed, and, the feeling now is that the remaining supply will be profitably marketed.

St. Louis Fair.

Deeming the Louisiana Purchase Exposition a fitting occasion for exploiting the merits of the cranberry, a display of vines and fruit was determined upon and found a success. The state officials extended a most hearty co-operation, and Secretaries Cranefield and S. M. Marshall, and Superintendent Parsons, on behalf of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society with zeal and judgment significantly contributed to making the exhibition one of the most unique features of the fair; resulting in adding, materially, to the exceptionally fine reputation established in all lines by the state of Wisconsin. While the detention in St. Louis was longer than expected, it is believed the time and outlay was well expended, as no opportunity was lost for making prominent the virtue and value of the fruit and introducing it

in places where it has heretofore been a stranger.

Duty of the Hour.

In conclusion, should not everyone study the lessons of the past, that being guided and governed thereby, whether "standing pat"—by holding fast to that which is good"—or, pressing forward—where improved conditions are desirable, the industry in which we are all so much interested may steadily and substantially progress, avoiding at the same time, extremes of haste or delay.

Standard Packages.

In this connection it is suggested that action be taken to change the legal requirements for size of barrel, so as to conform with the measurements adopted in the East. Uniformity in this respect would be satisfactory to dealers as well as growers, and necessary enactment should be secured.

Marketing.

While the spirit of combination is in the air and legalized pooling and license has so much of usefulness that can be urged in their favor, a pronounced sentiment of anti-trust is also being engendered, and, caution and care are urged, that, whatever is done, should be marked by those characteristics which have given to our country her present high position both at home and abroad; viz:—frankness, fairness and fearlessness. In other words, let the keynote of course be square dealing, a policy which has recently received such emphatic endorsement and impetus that it looks as if the world was almost entering upon a new epoch.

W. H. Fitch, Secy.

Committee on Legislation.

Judge Gaynor, chairman, reported

on behalf of the committee that with reference to contents of present Wisconsin barrel, Mr. Charles Briere and Mr. Andrew Searls had measured up several barrels and found a variation. That as a rule the bulk in dry quarts was about 102 or 103 quarts, and in liquid or the tin quart—the one mostly used—the range was from 115 to 119.

The law on the subject was in bad condition but he thought efforts at present should be confined to the cranberry package.

Massachusetts dominates in the industry, producing about four sevenths of the entire crop, and so he recommended that the so called Cape Cod barrel be followed identically, and there being no opposition the committee was instructed and empowered to secure the necessary enactment.

Water Supply and Use of Water.

Vice President S. N. Whittlesey said he had prepared no special paper, but would state that growers following the example of the beavers, built dams across the fall of the water and thus preserved the water in reservoirs, the supply coming from the clouds or small streams. The principal use of the water was for the protection in winter, but, if supply was near, and drainage good it was possible to protect from frost, but unless drained quickly the flood would do as much damage as frost.

The supply of water can be increased by using the land outside of that devoted to cranberry purposes, for holding water, and, in ordinary seasons supply is sufficient for quick flooding.

Early in season land is drained to

allow marsh to get warm, later the water may be brought nearer surface. As supply comes from neighbors principally it is necessary to arrange for drainage above and below, to the best mutual advantage. Hard for growers to look at matters alike, for while abstractly easy, actual performance has some bitter difficulties but they will have to be overcome in order to make business a success. Anything that has wrong in its construction will ultimately fail. That which is right will perpetuate itself, otherwise the reverse will prevail. Those who know what is right and do not do it will suffer, but hope that evil will be outgrown.

To a question as to whether peat marshes should be drained lower than sanded ones, opinions were expressed that showed a difference in experience. S. A. Warner advocated taking the frost out of marsh by flushing in connection with drainage. That is, submerging the vines two or three times with intervals of five or six days

John N. King thought in some cases it might be a mistake to draw off water early as there were different kinds of marshes, and early drainage would not take the frost out of the ground. Moss and other foul stuff are non-conductors and the ice therefore stays late. L. M. Purviance reported same conditions.

Implements Used by Growers.

E. K. Tuttle dwelt especially on the advantages of using the pruner and raking, that as a more general use of the scoop will become necessary, the marshes must be prepared accordingly. The suggestion was

made that the vines be first raked up and then mowed, and in his opinion if superfluous runners were removed, crops of threefold would follow.

As to the best time for pruning it was thought doing so in the fall just before flooding would give best results.

Insects Injurious to Cranberry Growing

While the damage inflicted by insects has not been, of late years, a serious one to Wisconsin marshes the subject is of importance, and Prof. E. P. Sandsten stated that the matter was under investigation, and results would be forth coming, in official records.

Frosts

The general treatment of the topic of Frosts was explained by Mr. John N. King as being under the special supervision of the Weather Bureau, and a bulletin would shortly be issued of much import to Cranberry Growers.

Prof. Whitson stated that a bulletin was in the hands of the state printer, in which recent researches as to the effect of drainage and sanding on formation of frost would be given. He showed how heat is absorbed by the ground during the day, and then as night comes on is lost by radiation. The surface becomes colder than the air right in contact the air loses heat by conduction and a thin layer flows down to low ground and if temperature is low enough will produce frost.

The covering of marsh by moss was similar to sawdust on ice, while evaporation of moisture also lowers temperature.

Peat marsh takes a great deal of

heat to raise temperature. Sand does not require so much, the sun warming it up more.

As pertinent to the subject the following from the 21st annual report of the Agricultural Experiment station of the University of Wisconsin for the year ending June 30, 1904 is given:

Formation of Frost and Protection Thereof

"Frost is by all means the greatest enemy of the cranberry grower. It comes so irregularly and unexpectedly, and is so destructive in its effects that only the utmost vigilance and thorough control of the means of protection can make one secure from its attacks. At no time throughout the growing season apparently can we consider ourselves free from the danger from this source. In the middle of June, 1903, a severe frost throughout the cranberry region reduced the yield by at least twenty-five per cent. Again the present year a frost early in August ruined the crop to an extent estimated at sixty per cent. Experiences of this kind, show how imperative it is that the cranberry grower provide thoroughly for frosts usually while it is true that the frosts usually come with cyclone storms that pass over our country at frequent intervals and hence are capable to some extent of prediction, the experience on the moor land of the cranberry region indicates that this prediction cannot at present be made with sufficient accuracy to be of much service to the cranberry grower. With temperatures of forty to forty-five degrees on surrounding higher lands, killing frosts have occurred on the cranberry marshes, while, at other times, of low temperature the

minimums are nearly equal.

The formation of frosts on the marsh areas has usually been supposed to be due to the settling of colder air from the surrounding higher land onto the marshes.

Our observation of the past season together with the consideration of the extent of the marsh land of this region indicates that this process is one of relatively small importance, and that the formation of frost is very largely dependent upon the temperature of the ground, and on the condition of the atmosphere, without discussing this in detail here, it may be said that the marsh itself, with reference to the drainage, whether or not it has been sanded, and to the depth and thickness of the vegetation especially of moss, seems to be the all controlling factor in the formation of frost, or, of at least its effect on the cranberries.

Experiment Station

Prof. Sandsten in relation to the exhibit of fruit, stated that a careful record had been kept of the berries picked at different intervals both with reference to comparative size and keeping qualities, and that while a marked gain in growth would be obtained by deferring the picking until latter part of September, the keeping quality of the fruit was impaired if allowed to get over ripe. That the condition of the skin was a controlling factor and a happy medium taking the season in account should be followed.

He referred to the large number of so called varieties not only of cranberries but other fruits, as being disadvantages and was of the opinion that the patient and particular study

of a few strains would be better both economically and otherwise.

Judge Gaynor thought at least twelve kinds should be studied with reference to specific characteristics such as size, form, gloss, uniformity, keeping quality, productiveness, earliness, flavor and firmness, and some combining these qualities, this being done not only for the benefit of posterity.

M. O. Potter spoke of the expectation of growers to get a supply of vines from the nursery, and, while as Prof. Sandsten explained the state did not deem it wise or expedient to make any recommendations until after thorough trial and test this matter would be kept in mind and purpose. The difference between plat and field work was referred to as bringing out surprises, and greater emphasis was now placed on the latter work, as being more reliable and practical, since in plat work a certain care could be given, not possible on a large scale, or that would be of commercial value.

Marketing Cranberries.

When our crops were small we all had experience in selling our fruit in small lots to the retail trade. Later when the crop became larger we consigned to commission men, or sold to jobbers, or made sales thru brokers. Some of us have tried selling large crops in a retail way thru the traveling men of the wholesale grocery houses, but most of us, for some years past, have sold in carload lots to jobbers, and during the last

two or three years each grower has, as a rule, sold his entire crop to one jobber who came on the ground and inspected it before purchasing.

During the past two seasons the western jobbers, as you know, combined to purchase the Wisconsin crop, and this year, for the first time, the growers on the Wisconsin Valley united and sold their entire crop to one man.

Such has been the history of marketing our Wisconsin cranberries. You will note the history of marketing that the progress has been upward from small to larger deals. If you have not forgotten your past troubles when you retailed out your crop, you will confess that you have gained something by the progress made, and it must appear clear to all that we gained something by combining in the sale of our crop the past season.

The question is now, can we maintain these advantages by remaining as an unorganized mob, or should we make the advantages of the past combination permanent by organizing for that purpose.

It seems clear to me that when we act together as an organized body it will cost each one less to find out the true condition of the market and the prices our berries ought to command, and we, can protect each other against dishonest jobbers, brokers and commission men better than any man can protect himself.

You all can recall the worry and expense you sometimes have had over a single car upon which the purchaser "raised a kick". Although I

had a large part in bringing about the sale of the crop upon the Wisconsin Valley the past season, I had much less work and worry over the whole matter, than I sometimes had over the selling of a single car.

Besides the advantages in selling is only a part of what we may gain by organizing. We can get better and cheaper freight service, better and cheaper barrels. We will get greater uniformity in cleaning, grading and packing. We can promote the sale of Wisconsin cranberries in markets in which they have not yet been introduced. We can do many other things that will not and cannot be done by individual effort.

Will any one tell us why we should not organize a Sales Company to control and promote the sale of the entire Wisconsin crop?

J. A. Gaynor.

Important Report.

The twenty-first annual report of the Agricultural Experiment station of the University of Wisconsin contains a great deal of valuable information for every cranberry grower, dealing as it does, with the preliminary and preparatory work of cranberry investigation at the hands of E. R. Whitson, E. P. Sandsten, L. P. Haskins and H. J. Ramsey.

To the appropriation passed by the legislature, of 1902-3, additional aid was secured from the general government, and the study of the use of water in cranberry growing has been carried on in co-operation with the Division of Irrigation and Drainage of the Department of Agriculture as suitable for cranberry growing and

experimental purposes the University leased from the Wisconsin Cranberry Grower's association a tract of land upon which were some one hundred and fifty so called varieties of cranberries collected from different parts of the world, and in this way the university was aided by the pioneer work which had been started.

As rapidly as possible the marsh was prepared for planting and experimental work and necessary for solving the problem of adequate drainage etc. was finished in great part at the beginning of the present season.

The essential conditions given for successful cranberry growing are: proper soil, sufficient supply of suitable water, adequate drainage, suitable topography for handling water, and convenient location to railroad and other means of communication.

The nature of the soil has a great influence on the plant and amount of fruit produced; clay and other heavy soils produce heavy growth of vines without fruiting well. There is a tendency also to produce a heavy growth of weeds, which are expensive to eradicate and endanger the cranberry itself. For these reasons peat is by far the most desirable and chief soil on which cranberries are raised.

The report deals also with subject of water supply in its various phases of amount to be used, character, source, storage, depth in reservoir, loss by seepage and evaporation, location of reservoir, ditches and drainage.

Many other items of importance are also considered and as the bulletins and annual report of the station are sent free to all residents of the state upon request, growers should not fail to secure a copy.

State and the Cranberry.

[A. C. Bennett.]

Our old experiment station, also, the new one has given us an object lesson worthy of our careful study; showing, as they do, the effect of cross-fertilization where many varieties are planted near each other by a less percentage of the blight, in creased productiveness, and other marked evidences of changes in form, color and vitality.

What is found to be true of the apple we may expect to find to a certain degree to be true of the cranberry.

California, though not an apple state has advanced to the front rank in all lines of investigation regarding horticulture, and, their 30th annual state convention which closed Dec. 9, 1904, speaks of practical things over which we have some control.

We cannot control the heat of summer, or prevent chilly nights, or prevent untimely rains that wash away the pollen, or, prevent other like causes that produce blight.

All fruit growers have seen their apple trees full of bloom, and, yet, but a small amount of fruit set. To know the causes of this loss, and the prevention thereof we ask nature to explain why this extra effort in the production of bloom. Is this effort for the purpose of supplying pollen for the less than 12 per cent of the flowers that set when you have a full crop; or, is the 88 per cent for some large varieties of apples like the Newton, Pippin and Twenty ounce Pippin (or 40 per cent for an average) a superfluity? We think not. The short space of time in the life of the blossom, when it is susceptible on pollination demands more pollen than

this 12 per cent would supply hence, nature makes up the deficiency that would arise if only one-eighth of the blossoms were produced by adding,—in some cases as above—the extra 88 per cent; since the larger the individual, in any species, as a rule, the less in numbers they become.

However it is the short crop that worries us and causes us to reflect and study causes, such as unhealthy fruit buds, or injured pistles, by rain, fungi, frost or blighting winds, and, the main cause of self sterility which is that the pollen of a variety is unable to pollinize the pistils of that same variety.

Where there is a general short crop for a number of seasons self-sterility is most assuredly the cause. The grower to be certain of self sterile varieties has only to observe closely the following conditions; If you have a block of say 5 or 10 acres, the outside trees around the block have more fruit on them than the center ones self sterility is surely indicated. Other proofs of sterility are the falling of young fruit partly grown, or any radical change of shape and size when the trees are getting old, or, the lack of seed or their fertility.

It is useless to discuss the scientific reasons even if we know them of defective pistils, lack of stamens; suffice it to say there are over fifty species of plants that are sterile with their own pollen. While Darwin was not the first to find the value of cross pollination his *Origin of Species* certainly gave great impetus to the study.

Mr. Waite under the direction of the United States Department of

Agriculture published Bulletin No. 5 Division of Vegetable Pathology in 1894, which caused many other investigators to make practical use of the information imparted, and, yet, none of them seemed to put sufficient stress upon the fact (if they knew it) that any variety will do better whether they are fertile or sterile if planted together. For instance, the Bellefleur and Winesap; the very early flowers of the Winesap will fertilize the last flowers of the Bellefleur, yet, alone, both are self sterile unless under the most favorable conditions, and, yet, two varieties can be sterile alone, but will fertilize each other if blooming together as will the Newton and Bellefleur, and, while, not greatly increasing the crops of each will influence the size and shape. To illustrate; in 1888 A. N. Judd of Watsonville, California, planted an orchard, among which was a block of Newton Pippins, climatic conditions were unfavorable. After a few years the fruit lost its long corrugated or five crown shape, and very perceptibly flattened, besides growing, much smaller each year. Not desiring to lose the trees, at once, there were put in the center of each vacant square between the rows, a Bellefleur tree. When the Bellefleur began to bear the intention was to dig the Newtons out; results however prevented.

With the shelter of the larger growing Bellefleur and the cross fertilization of each other came about a radical change, and, also, a revelation to the owner. First, both varieties were greatly improved in crop, and, also, the character of the fruit. Particularly was it so with the New-

It regained its original size and shape and as when the trees were young; while the shape and size of the Bellefleurs were not so marked the disposition of the latter tree is to bear, while a solid block of Bellefleurs adjoining this of 400 trees still shy bearers, and, especially, this so in the centre of the block. It again illustrate; that much neglected family orchard, of its many varieties together, pruned and cultivated by loose stock never fails to give a crop and, some specimens are superior to those in the much neglected orchard that was planted later in solid blocks for commercial purposes.

The cause is of pollenation, cross fertilization will prevent deterioration of the true type and will also simulate each other. This is even in the whole animal and vegetable kingdom, why not in fruits? If one were to plant an orchard he could mix even self sterile varieties they happen to be desired, and, grow them together; if this more true how much more would it be necessary to mix fertile with self sterile varieties.

The matter of selecting pollenizers depends wholly, upon the individual's own immediate locality. Study all the different varieties you wish to plant; their time of blooming in your neighborhood and, especially, their natural affinity for each other, remembering always that in time we reproduce again from the seed and that if the seeds used have been produced by varieties of too great differences they tend to barrenness in the next generation or near

future. Others may do for crop raising at the present time, but let us not jump at conclusions, because a rift in the cloud discloses a valuable fact, and do not too hastily condemn until you have made exhaustive experiments with a view of getting greater additions to what we already have; but to more thoroughly interest you we suggest a perusal of articles from recent investigators, such as Waite, Goff, Waugh, Craig, Kern, Crandall and Hideman on orchard fruits.

Beach, Earl, Munson and Whitteer on grapes, and the Oregon State Board of Agriculture.

Planting.

The topic assigned me is "The Best Method of Planting." The methods I have used are nearly as numerous as the years I have been engaged in the business and would therefore not be much less than a score. The best method would not be the same method under all conditions, will outline one method that would be best under the conditions most commonly found on our Wisconsin marshes.

The ground should be prepared the year before it is planted by either scalping or plowing. If plowed the ground should be thoroughly disked and harrowed the same season it was plowed, and if scalped the disking and harrowing should be done the following spring when the surface has thawed to the depth of 1 or 2 inches.

The planting should be done the last of May; and if the vines have been cut to the length of 3 or 4 inches, they should be spread evenly over the surface and stamped in

lightly with the stampers. The man using the stamper should have a board about 12 or 15 inches wide to stand on extending across the section, and as the work of stamping progresses the board can be rolled forward on to the ground he has already stamped, and the pressure of this board with the man's weight will close up the seams left by the stampers. Of course, the ground should be kept well soaked for doing the work in this way.

When the vines are planted whole on a scalped bog, the cultivation of the surface, with the disk or spring tooth harrow, should be more thorough and to a depth of at least 3 inches. The vines should then be sprinkled on in a strip 4 or 5 feet wide across the section. Then with a six tined fork sprinkle back over these vines a portion of the loose surface enough to fasten them to the bog at intervals of 4 to 6 inches or thereabouts. Continue this until the section is planted.

The vines should be left to soak in water a day or two before planting and after planting with either whole or cut vines the bog should have as thorough drainage as one can give it. Do not flood after planting unless after a long continued drought you see that your vines are beginning to die for the want of water, and with ordinary weather they are not likely to suffer from drought at all, and at worst only in the month of August.

This is enough to open the discussion which ought to follow for the methods of planting are nearly as numerous as the growers.

Report of Treasurer.

State money.....	\$250.00
Life roll.....	30.00
Advertisements, etc.....	25.65
Membership fees.....	28.50

\$334.15

Disbursements.

Order No. 89. Exp. experiment station	\$ 30.00
" " 91. Secretary's salary 6 mo.	40.00
" " 92. Printing and postage....	30.00
" " 93. Supplies for convention	16.31
" " 94. Work ex. station.....	11.86
" " 95. Supplies for convention	19.47
" " 96. Stamped envelopes.....	21.40
" " 97. Secretary's salary 3 mo	20.00
" " 98. Circular and stationary	8.85
" " 99. Supplies for convention	24.50
" " 101. Livery to ex. station.....	6.50
" " 102. Printing and postage... Report bulletin.....	12.73
Int. on orders.....	8.38
Financial secretary bal. salary and printing....	25.51
Salary, reports, bulletins, stationery, postage.....	58.64

\$334.15

M. O. POTTER.

Report of Financial Secretary.

Year ending December 31, 1904.

Receipts.

State money due.....	\$ 250.00
Life roll.....	30.00
Advertisements, etc.....	25.65
Membership fees.....	28.50

\$334.15

Disbursements.

Order No. 103. Printing bal. on report and bulletin.....	\$ 13.00
" " 104. Advertising accounts St. Louis Fair.....	30.00
" " 105. Secretary's salary 6 mo.	40.00
" " 106. Exhibit St. Louis Fair	20.00
" " 107. Extra copies, advertising and bulletins in the Grower, official organ	60.00
" " 108. Secretary's salary 3 mo.	20.00
" " 109. Printing and postage.. Bal. due secretary ac- count of salary and printing.....	5.73
Reports, bulletins, sta- tionary, postage.....	25.51
	58.64

\$272.88

W. H. FITCH, Financial Secretary.

"FORWARD QUEST."

Standards of Excellence.—Fine Quality, Full Quantity,

Fair Quotations.

Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers' Association

CHAS. BRIERE, President, Grand Rapids.

S. N. WHITTLESEY, Vice President, Cranmoor.

W. H. FITCH, Secretary, Cranmoor.

M. O. POTTER, Treasurer, Centralia.

A. E. BENNETT, Member Executive Committee, 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 MARK ET.—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.

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 co-service and benefit.

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

To Advertisers.—Our publications being accredited as authoritative, their value as an advertising medium is apparent, and cards from reliable firms will be received at following flat rate: Reports of January and August meeting, one dollar per card (1/8 page.) Bulletins, crop estimates, etc., one dollar per card (1-12 page.)

LIFE ROLL.

GROWERS.

ARPIN CRANBERRY, CO., Grand Rapids, Wis.

Growers and dealers in choice varieties of cranberries. Grown on sanded marshes exclusively.

ALEXANDER BIRSS, Prairie, Skagit Co., Wash. Shipping station Thornwood.

I. W. BUDD, Pemberton, N. J.

M. M. CHEW, Williamstown, N. J.

Real estate, surveyor and conveyancer. Grower and dealer in cultivated cranberries.

W. B. CLAFLIN & SON, Hopkinton, Mass.

J. J. EMMERICH CRANBERRY CO., Grand Rapids, Wis.

Growers of cultivated cranberries. Address all communications to Geo. W. Paulus, Secretary and Treasurer, Grand Rapids, Wisconsin.

R. A. EVERSON, South Hanson, Mass.

Grower and dealer in high grade fruit and vines and manufacturer of Cape Cod Champion Picker.

W. H. FITCH, Cranmoor, Wis.

President Cranmoor Cranberry Co. Cultivated marshes.

L. J. FOSDICK, 29 Bedford St., Boston, Mass.

Proprietor Springbrook Cranberry Meadows, North Carver, Mass. ILIKEIT is our trade mark for Aunt Lucy's Cape Cod Cranberry Sauce.

Put up in glass jars hermetically sealed with cork lined cap. Sold by first class dealers.

ALFRED EDGAR FREEMAN, Island Heights, N. J.

P. O. Box 24 Cranberry grower
GAYNOR-BLACKSTONE CRANBERRY CO., Grand Rapids, Wis.

All varieties carefully graded, hand picked and well packed. Keepers of the state cranberry experiment station and nursery.

H. A. LORY, Stanchfield, Minn.

Cranberry meadows bought, sold or exchanged for cranberry or other properties.

CHAS. H. PITMAN, Brown's Mills, N. J.

Shipping station Hanover. Line of Penn. R. R. to Long Branch and sea shore.

PROF. C. G. ROCKWOOD, jr., Princeton, N. J.

EMULOUS SMALL, Harwichport, Mass.

Cranberry grower. Shipping stations Harwich, Tremont and West Barnstable.

JUDD M. WAIT, Embarrass, Wis.

Proprietor Hotel Wait. Reasonable rates and first class service.

S. H. WATERMAN, Cumberland, Wis.

Cultivator and dealer.

AUXILIARY.

ARMOUR & CO., Chicago, Ill.

General offices 295 La Salle St. Produce department.

BENNETT & HALL, New York.

No. 161 West St. Commission merchants. Fruit and produce.

A. U. CHANEY CO., Des Moines, Iowa.

Wholesale brokerage and commission.

GINOCCHIO-JONES FRUIT CO., Kansas City, Mo. No. 519 and 521 Walnut St.

JOHN GRAITHER, Grand Rapids, Wis.

Manufacturer of all kinds of cooperage. Cranberry barrels a specialty in season.

PEYCKE BROS. COMMISSION CO., Kansas City, Mo.

Wholesale brokerage and commission. We are in daily contact with the jobbers of 130 cities in the Missouri and Mississippi valleys. Cranberries, potatoes, cabbage, onions. We buy for cash only. Car-load business only.